



SUMMER IS A-COMIN' IN!

THE SIGNS of summer are all around us. The days grow longer; the contented hum of lawn-mowers fill the air and every thug and trouble-maker who can scrape together the weekend fare is heading for the seaside.

Essex will undoubtedly get their share of trouble again on the Marine Parade at Southend, but there's no reason to expect it to be any more troublesome than previous years.

The proper level and quality of policing has always kept the resorts relatively trouble-free and the now, almost routine, operation will be repeated this year.

At Easter the arrest figure of 123 sounds more serious than it really was.

There were a large number of suspects to a particular crime, but only a few were actually charged. There were about 60 changed over the whole weekend.

The early May day holiday has been quite quiet—only 17 public order arrests at Southend.

Essex was not hit by the wave of violence that some cities suffered last year and there is no reason to expect any change. Still, nobody's going to get



A familiar sight to visitors to Southend during the summer. Gangs of youths being contained and controlled by Essex officers. *Photo courtesy of Evening Echo.*

caught out like that again.

Let's hope for a sunny summer, no trouble, and an end to the scenes pictured here.

POLICE
ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION'S
CHAMPIONSHIPS
REPORT
BY
JOHN
HEDGE THORNE
SEE
BACK PAGE

Robbery Awards

WHEN TWO armed men held-up her father's off-licence in Little Waltham last October, Susan Guilfoyle didn't lose her head. Following the raiders into the street she was able to give the investigating officers a graphic description of the vehicle and part of the index number.

Her clear-headedness and the subsequent excellent police work resulted in three men receiving terms of imprisonment at Chelmsford Crown Court earlier this year.

At the trial Judge Greenwood ordered that Mrs Guilfoyle's actions should be rewarded with a sum of £100, and at Chelmsford Police Station, last month, the County's High Sheriff, Colonel R. B. Gosling, OBE, TD, DL, made the presentation.



The County's High Sheriff with Susan Guilfoyle and the police officers in the case.

Mrs Guilfoyle's husband was present to see the Colonel congratulate his wife and hear him go on to praise the work of the police officers involved.

The presence of the

police team was requested by the High Sheriff—the detectives under the leadership of Det Insp Tony Kavanagh, and the Force Support Unit represented by Ps Mick Barry.

New Horse Dies

ESSEX'S newest police horse, "Grace", died suddenly on patrol last week. The five-year-old bay mare was being ridden by Pc Les Smith in Basildon town centre when she collapsed, throwing him to the ground.

Les Smith and "Grace" were on routine patrol with PS Paul Hemmings on "Cromwell" in Great Oaks at Basildon, when the mare, for no apparent reason, reared high into the air. As she came down she fell hard against the kerb, throwing Les to the ground and trapping his legs.

The vet who attended immediately certified the horse dead. Les received severe bruising to his arms and legs.

A post mortem examination of the horse showed that she died of a severe heart attack, but specimens have been sent for further tests to try to find out as much as possible about this inexplicable death.

Mounted Section Sergeant, Paul Hemmings, spoke of their loss. "She was a very good horse and we're sorry to lose her. She



"Grace" as she was when she joined the Force in February of this year.

worked very well on the Easter Bank Holiday and we had great expectations of her."

Les Smith is reported to have been upset at the loss

of the horse, but he has recovered from his shaking-up and is back at work.

"Grace" will be replaced as soon as a suitable mount is found.

Editorial

FREEDOM

SO MUCH of that which is good and valuable in our society is implied or significantly under-stated, that it takes a major incident to jolt us out of our complacency, and truly realise the benefits of living in a free parliamentary democracy.

Last summer when some of our inner cities erupted with violence the British police force responded with a determined, yet restrained, firmness that is the hallmark of their activities. Probably no police force in the world would have responded with such effective restraint and most thinking people must have felt a sense of relief that water cannons, tear gas and bullets are just not our style. And yet all police officers still feel the constant pressure that the recognised checks and balances impose — quite rightly — on their day to day working life.

Critics

Another group who seem subject to this constant pressure must be the press. Complaining about newspapers and television programmes is as much a part of the British way of life as complaining about the weather.

Certainly most police officers seem able to find the odd complaint or two about journalists. Yes — they appear insensitive at times — particularly when intruding on personal grief; yes — they can certainly hit a man when he's down; yes — they can be a real pain when they get in the way of police operations, and so on. But when the trouble really starts, as it is in the South Atlantic right at the moment, isn't it a great comfort to know that our press and their jealously guarded independence are telling the truth — or they'll want to know the reason why?

A comparison of the British press coverage with that of the Argentinians' makes so very clear the obvious advantages of living in a free society, with a free press and accountable leaders. What a terrible strain it would be on the relatives of British servicemen if they could not rely on the truth of the battle reports. It doesn't bear thinking about.

Truth

When Brian Hanrahan of the BBC said from the deck of HMS Hermes that HE counted the Harriers out and then back in and they were all there, surely, everybody in the country breathed a sigh of relief. If the press saw it and will say that, then — irrespective of any military propaganda — you can believe it. Not so in Argentina. What the military government says is the truth; and nobody or nothing except the guns of a revolution can do anything about it. The fact that it is so inconceivable, can sometimes make it very difficult to understand what it is to live like that, and can make us take our own system for granted.

If the much protected freedom of the press is to be effective at times of crisis, then it must have its roots in the day to day matters which concern all our newspapers, down to the most meagre of local publications. If the journalists, as a profession, don't jealously guard their freedom of action at all levels, their strength and virtue disappear.

Their struggle can certainly cause problems. Excessive zeal or stubborn righteousness can be an embarrassment, and certainly police officers often feel themselves on the receiving end. Well maybe that's a healthy thing — but there's sure to be a lot of mileage left in THAT particular debate.

One thing is certain — that despite the day to day niggles and the universal complaints about our newspapers, their presence and their role in our society is an infinite improvement on their counterparts in Argentina.

THANKS

JUST like to say thank-you to John Hedgethorpe for stepping in at short notice last month to edit "The Law." It was nice to see the old master's touch again. We can be sure most readers recognised the style — even if he did remain anonymous.

Shifts

Dear Sir,

Having just read your article by Sgt Ward respecting the new shift system at Witham and closely studied Appendix A & B, I find it hard to comprehend that efficiency and health were borne in mind when this was devised. Theoretically it appears a Police Officers dream — but practically and the latter still remains foremost in the duties of an Officer who is a valuable asset to his Force, I feel sure that two shifts here, there and everywhere must appear to him that they have been selected by a computer.

I am now a "civvy" working as a Communications Operator with the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary at Bodmin. I am lucky, I have two four day week ends a month with two days off midweek (in the dead week), but the Police personnel here could not believe the assortment of duties at Witham. Their system, as outlined below, has been carried out for ten years and they would not change. It gives them two three day weekends following each other. Put these into a fourteen day leave period and see how many annual leave days are used up.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
L	L	L	L	RD	RD	E
E	E	E	E	E	E	RD
RD	RD	9-5	9-5	9-5	9-5	RD
RD	RD	N	N	N	N	N
N	N	RD	RD	L	L	L

During my twenty five years as a regular Police Officer I have seen many shift systems. I wish Sgt Ward all the best, but I assure you that my "body clock" is still working perfectly at fifty two and my social life doesn't need Phyllosan either!!!

BRIAN N. LAY
Ex Pc 1282 Marine
"Tregarthen,"
St Breward,
Nr Bodmin,
Cornwall.

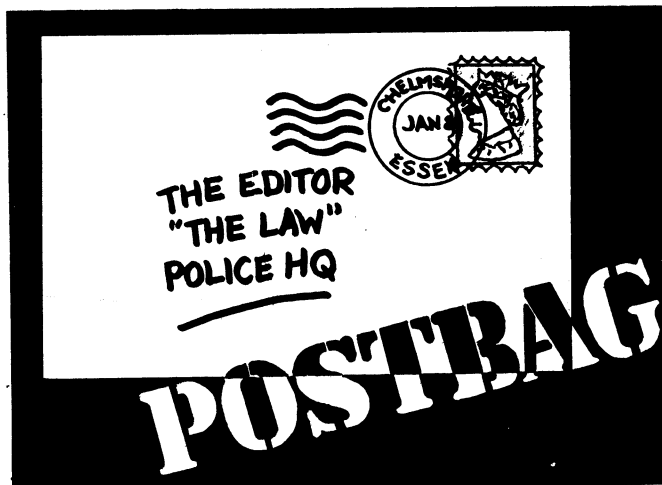
Sad Story

Dear Sir,

I am a pensioner from the Essex Police. In the last issue of The Law, on page three, col six, there is an account of a "lavish evening" given to a Sgt Wright which was poorly attended by colleagues. At the foot of the column you, Sir, wrote — "one hopes this is an isolated example."

I can assure you it is NOT. When I retired on completion of service no-one said "Good-bye" and no-one subscribed to a parting gift. My wife and I closed the door of the police cottage and cycled away to a new and happier life.

But wait — worse was to come, a few evenings later when going home from my new job, I was stopped



the street by my late Sgt and served with an order requiring me by Regs 45, Police Regs 1952, to return FORTHWITH to the Essex Standing Joint Committee two uniform shirts, as the two I had already handed in did not suit the Superintendent from whom the order emanated. I still have this order.

I am very old now, but I am always saddened when I read of these farewell "Do's" and compare them with my own.

Name and address supplied

Mounted-Men

Dear Sir,

I think I can help Mrs Clive Yulett, regarding the photo of mounted police. My late husband, PC H. N. Waterfield, the one on the left, joined the Essex Mounted Police Force on February 17, 1913.

That is when I first met him, controlling crowds in Chelmsford High Street. The event was Chelmsford Assizes, August 4, 1914. He posted bills around outlying districts declaring war on August 5, 1914. He left early to join his old Regiment, the Royal Horse Artillery, and was posted right away. He came home on three days' leave, 1915, and we got engaged, and then again in 1916 on five days' leave and we were married June 7. He was 27 and I, 22. When he re-joined the Force we lived in the new Rochford Police Station. My daughter was born there July 20, 1920. After some years we were moved to Epping Division and lived in a new police house at Sheering, Harlow, Essex. He retired from there in March 1936 and was presented with a beautiful chiming clock

(still going strong). Also Mr Guy Gilbey's butler and friend collected quite a sum of cash from villagers and the very big houses around, I can tell you there was quite a few. Of course, he had to get permission from the Chief Constable to accept same. Later Supt Rolf and Insp Ruggles passed on the cheque. I got a pretty table lamp one evening in the village hall.

After my husband died, I had four enlargements taken for my granddaughters, two in Johannesburg and two in Devon.

We were married over 62 years, and on our Diamond Wedding a model was given to us of his horse mounted on a stand with a small gold plaque — Spida 1916-1976 Diamond Wedding. I am 88 years old.

My daughter has just been in and said "they will not be interested in your past, just tell them facts". Why shouldn't I, if they laugh, so well and good (a good laugh does me good).

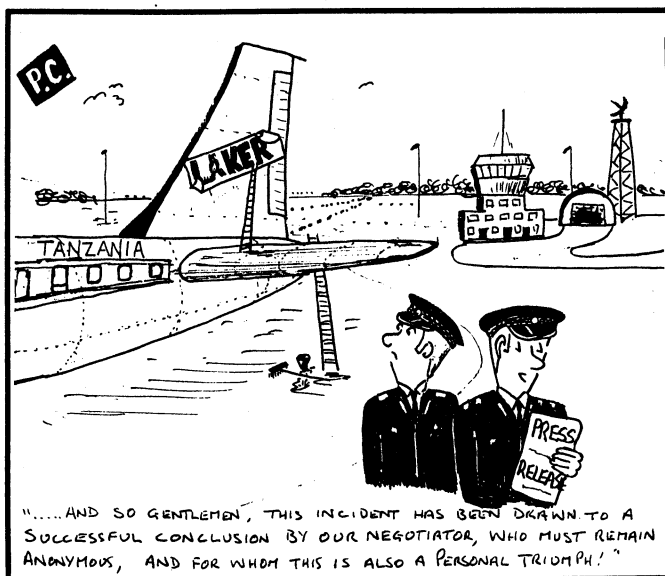
Yours faithfully
Florence B. Waterfield
Netherton,
Newton Abbot,
Devon.

Guards

Dear Sir,

I have been asked to write to you and inform you about our Club. You will know how proud we are to have served in the Brigade of Guards, and it was on this basis the club was formed.

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at Hut 6, TAVR Centre, Colchester, at 8.00pm. Twice a year we also meet at the Tudor Inn, Walton. Our membership is open to all past and present



members of the Household Division. Subscriptions are £2 pa. Our AGM is to be held in March in future, instead of January. Ladies are welcome to come along and we do hold other social gatherings during the year. We have a nucleus of some 15 regular attenders and our membership is 28. There is a bar in Hut 6 and we would welcome new members to swell our ranks. Possibly there are some ex-Guardsmen among the Force who would come along one evening to see us.

Your help in publicising us would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
RAY K. GANNER,
Hon Sec

The Old Guard Club
(Colchester Branch),
"Karavia",
19 Errington Road,
Colchester,
Essex
CO3 3EA.

Reminiscing

Dear Sir,

It is always a pleasure to receive The Law each month to see how the Essex Constabulary progresses in this day and 'age of pressure', and particularly to 'live letters' published from old colleagues. Unfortunately, these are very few and far between these days and it is only on reading of Cyril Jeffrey's retirement — with photo — in this last issue, that I was once again reminded of those days gone by.

I served with 'Jeff' at Romford and had to turn him out in the middle of the night on many occasions whilst on night area car patrol. That was three decades ago, or nearly, for I retired in 1959, so that dates me Jeff. I also worked at Headquarters as a civilian for a very short spell in the CID, and Jeff was just next door in the Fingerprint Dept, so we met quite often.

I expect he is glad to put behind him the 'whorls' and 'loops' after so many years, and I wish him many happy years of retirement.

I suppose we are fortunate in being able to witness present day life, we have all the time in the world, but it is sometimes nice to look back and say they were happier days although we hadn't the material possessions we enjoy today. There weren't so many people about, fewer cars on the road, less crime, and beer was only 10 pence a pint.

Well, one could go on reminiscing but, I hope this letter, if published, might cause a ripple and perhaps we may hear from 'old buddies'. In any case, let us hope we all meet again at the annual Garden Party in July.

Yours sincerely,
GORDON HONEY.
216 Haynes Park Court,
Slewins Close,
Hornchurch.

Private Patients Plan '82

MAY 1 is the second annual review date of our Force Private Medical Scheme.

As far as I am aware, we are still the only Force in the Country whose scheme embraces virtually all members, should they choose to subscribe, that is — Serving Officers (Chief Constable to Cadet) — Serving Civilians — Retired Officers and Retired Civilians.

The negotiating team — comprising representatives of all groups covered — recently finalised agreement on the coming year's subscription rates with Private Patients Plan South East Area Branch Manager, Mr. Alan Atkinson.

After last year's dramatic increase of approximately 100%, it was with some trepidation that we studied claims experience since that time, and saw that the average monthly short-fall in monies received by P.P.P., was £3,583 against their outgoings for treatment. Bearing in mind that P.P.P., whilst not a profit

making body, obviously have to meet overheads, also the projected increase in medical charges for the ensuing year being estimated at 15%, we initially thought that subscriptions would again "go through the roof."

In fact, it will be seen from the table below, that the increase is 36% across the board.

Those in the "retired" columns will see that this year we have combined the "Officer" and "Civilian" groups — thus the bold statement of a 36% increase across the board is in fact slightly modified. We are still unable to embrace retired members over 65 years who were not subscribers prior to attaining that age.

Each subscriber will be receiving renewal notices and covering letters; as in the past the appropriate increased amount will automatically be deducted at source for serving members. A separate letter will be sent by the Group Secretary to each retired

medical charges paid in full by P.P.P., apart from some who chose to receive treatment in London Teaching Hospitals and were aware that they would have to find the balance.

It has always been the policy of the negotiating team that each sub-group

...by Ted Davidson

subscriber requesting a change in the Standing Order Mandate. An improved scale of benefits to keep pace with inflation will also be circulated. However, as far as I am aware, no subscribing member has not had his

should stand on its own feet and have subsequent reviews based on its own performance in the preceding twelve months.

The Essex Police Scheme has, since its inception, evolved to meet requirements in the light of

MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION RATES COMMENCING 1st MAY, 1982

	Serving Officers	Civilians	Retired Officers and Civilians (Under 65)	Retired Officers and Civilians (Over 65)
Single Rate:	£6.12	£7.23	£7.75	£11.89
Married Rate:	£12.24	£17.00	£15.40	£23.98
Family Rate:	£15.18	£21.98	£19.05	£27.20
Single Parent				
Family Rate:	£9.06	£12.21	£11.40	£15.11

".....from a personal point of view....."



SIR, David McNee, the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, recently indicated his intention of retiring after fulfilling his contract with the Home Office and immediately there began in the press speculation as to why this was. In a national paper for which I have till now always had the greatest respect, I read that Sir David McNee in his five years at "The Yard" had "failed to stem the rising crime rate." Is this how the man is to be judged by the public he has served for so many years? Surely there can be no greater success in life than to have reached the peak of your profession particularly in the service of others?

Society, it seems to me, want to have their cake and eat it. On the one hand they require to live in a crime-free state with the protection of the Police and on the other they want leniency, humanity and even forgiveness for the evil doers within in. It must be nearly time someone told the public that they can't have both. Great men and politicians in the past have advocated soft treatment for criminals. One in particular, I recall, kept telling people to turn the other cheek, well where did that get him? There has got to be a balance between law enforcement and the effect of it upon society as a whole.

FIGURES

Let us look briefly at statistics or rather non statistics. Who was it that said that statistics are like bikinis. "What they reveal is interesting but what they conceal is vital." This guy, whoever he was, knew what he was talking about.

"THE PRICE OF MERCY"

By
G. P. Raven

The Metropolitan Police have come under a great deal of fire recently for publishing figures which distinguish between crime committed by coloureds and whites. There are a number of points about this which bear examination. First of all how are the figures arrived at? It can surely only relate to crime which has been detected, some 30 per cent or so and the implicit statement is that the same percentage of undetected crime was committed by whites and coloureds. This is illogical and there are many factors not included in the statisticians' data which in my view could alter the percentage drastically.

For example, the 30 per cent detections are generally those offences which are relatively easy to detect, shoplifting for example. White collar crime on the other hand is not. What evidence is there that the majority of crime in the 70 per cent undetected area is committed by coloured people? None, I would venture to suggest. Not, that is, unless we are prepared to issue figures based upon what a witness said happened even when the crime is undetected. Is this what we are doing? If we are prepared to announce that the offence was committed by a coloured man before that man is charged or convicted, then we are entering a strange area of statistics.

Statistics tell us for example that, say, 20,000 crimes are committed and that a certain number of these was committed by whites and a certain number by coloured people. This simple

statement without comment says also, although it is quite untrue, that there are the same number of criminals as there are crimes. Not so. The figures do not tell us how many crimes each criminal commits. It might well be, therefore, that there are far more white criminals than coloured although the coloured committed more detected crime than did the whites. This may well be true.

VICTIMS

What the figures do tell us, of course, although no one often mentions it, is that there are 20,000 victims and this figure is growing all the time. I have a point of view that whilst the crime rate is growing rapidly the number of criminals is not. I believe that this is the price we are paying for our mercy towards the evil within our society. Statistics do not tell us how many of the 20,000 crimes were committed by persons on bail. It is my experience that in the past 10 years there has been a vast increase in this type of crime.

The Bail Act has made it practically impossible in many courts to get a criminal remanded in custody and so he goes out and commits more crime thereby adding to this crime rate for which it seems the Police are being blamed. Tell me any police

officer who was in favour of the Bail Act.

But what about the victims of crime? What about the effect of the upward surge of crime upon this growing army of citizens who now feel that they have a personal axe to grind in this war? The most important factor just beginning to dawn on politicians who are only now beginning to talk of taking a firmer line, is that there are more and more victims every day who have a vote and who want young thugs and thieves, and old ones for that matter, to be locked up so that they cannot commit offences.

Only in this way can the police help to stem the tide. The police at the moment keep on arresting Uriah Heap, there has never been a time when the Police were more successful in making arrests, trouble is we've got to go out tomorrow and arrest him again.

RIGHT TO KNOW

The media who blame the police for many things, do so because they are in business to peddle news, good or bad. They do not have a responsibility to make society a better place to live in and justify all they print on the basis that the public have a right to know.

So be it. But what is the effect on the crime rate? There was a recent series on the TV called "Police", and involved the Thames Valley Police. We have all seen or heard of it and the BBC claim it was a great success. I'm sure it was from a commercial point of view.

experience — thus individual group performance has been somewhat shrouded due to the changes invoked.

On accepting the overall 36% increase from May 1 this year, it was agreed that from 1983 onwards we would be able to achieve reviews which truly reflected individual group performance.

That there is a need for private medical treatment in the Force is self evident from the enormous use to which it has been put — 1,500 claims per annum — and the frequent letters/verbal thanks received from subscribers.

I am fully aware that some members are against private medicine on a variety of grounds. Their views I respect — but to those who hold no such views and who have not as yet joined, take positive action now by obtaining an Application Form from your Divisional Administration, completing it and then forwarding it to the Group Secretary at Force Headquarters. If you wait until treatment is needed you will almost certainly be faced with exclusion clauses.

There have since been two public opinion polls which, the BBC proudly tell us, show that the public now have more confidence in the Police than they did before the series. They don't tell us what effect the programme has had on the criminals who watched it. Or are they the two per cent the polls tell us now have less confidence in the police than before?

CRIME RATE

The police who were unfortunate enough to take part came over as amateurs which, as actors, of course they are. The "enemy" staching the programme must, I feel, have had a good laugh and were also admitted to some areas of police practice and procedure which should, I believe, be reserved for our customers only. The effect upon the criminal, I believe, is to give him more confidence in his ability to "beat the rap" and therefore more incentive to increase the crime rate even further.

After all, Napoleon had lost the battle of Waterloo if the Duke of Wellington and von Blucher had allowed him to examine their defences for 12 weeks before it took place?

There are signs, I believe, that the tide is turning. Public opinion will be heard, and this nonsense that the crime rate is the fault of the police will be exposed. Many years of experience shows that the crime rate is directly proportional to the number of criminals in circulation and that the number of criminals is the responsibility of judges, magistrates and governments, not of the police.

Everyone of us should have a responsibility to do our part in making society safe from violation by those who refuse to obey the rules and those whose chosen work in life involves exposing others to the masses should do so with the same humanity they would have us meet out to the criminal. Never mind so much the quality of mercy, feel the price!

ESSEX POLICE MAGAZINE

THE committee of the Essex Police Magazine met on March 9, 1982 under their chairman, the Deputy Chief Constable, and received with regret the resignations of both the secretary, Chief Superintendent John Challis and the editor, Chief Inspector Bill Pirie. Thanks were expressed for the excellent work that both had done for the magazine over the years, and their successors were elected as editor, Detective Sergeant Maureen Scollan, of HQ CID Fraud and as secretary, Sergeant Mick Stanbury, of HQ Personnel.

On a proposal put to the committee, it was decided that the price of the magazine, which has remained at 5p for nearly 20 years, will be increased to 10p per copy from the Summer 1982 edition, the increase enabling the magazine to improve the sum of grants made to various Force charitable institutions. There will be no increase in postal subscriptions at the present time.

Contributions to the magazine are continually sought, and in many cases payment is made for items published. The press date for the Summer 1982 edition is April 1, by which date all contributions should reach the editor.

The committee and divisional correspondents are as follows: Chairman, Deputy Chief Constable Mr R. W. Stone; Editor, Detective Sergeant Maureen Scollan (HQ ext 517); Secretary, Sergeant Mick Stanbury (HQ ext 314); HQ Force Training School, Inspector Roy Clark; HQ Operations, Pc Mick Smith FSU.

Traffic: Ps Ted Stanley, Harlow; Basildon, Vacant; Chelmsford, Ps Mick Ashton, Witham; Clacton, Ps Dick Jones, Clacton; Colchester, Pc Tom Morrison, Black Notley; Grays Wpc Sue Kelly, Grays; Harlow, Wpc Jean Seager, Harlow; Southend, Pc C. Banks, Southend, Ps S. Jeffrey, Southend; Rayleigh, Ps Fred Feather, Rayleigh; Force Sports, Pc George Sage (HQ ext 389).

Garden Party

The Annual Garden Party will be held on Friday 2 July, 1982, at the Force Training School, Police Headquarters at 3 p.m. This is advance information and the usual invitation forms will be sent out in due course. The Party will follow the usual lines with appropriate music by Essex Police Band. The licensed bar at Police Headquarters will be available from 5.30 pm.

If you have something to say "The Law" will give you the space to speak "from a personal point of view"

CHURCH GIFT



Graham Elliott with his creation. Picture courtesy of the Evening Echo.

WHEN the St Katherine's Worship Centre on Canvey Island needed a new font Pc Graham Elliott's wife didn't hesitate. She volunteered him for the job immediately.

The result, which he made in just over a week, was dedicated on Mothering Sunday at the morning service and used that afternoon for the first time.

Graham and Barbara are both members of the Canvey Island Parochial Church Council and so were well aware of the new Centre's need for furniture. The vicar, the Reverend Martin Webster, had a photograph of a wooden font used by another parish church and Graham used this for his basic design.

Made of parana pine and set with a stainless steel bowl, the font only cost £24 for the materials and was donated by Graham and his wife to St Katherine's. Since the estimated cost of a wooden font was £150 — the centre not only received a work of fine local craftsmanship but saved vital funds. Graham has been stationed at Canvey Island for 17 years and previously served at Romford, Plough Corner and Lambourne End.

BETTER'N JIM'LL



Ready to go on the skid-pan with PS Gerry Tattell.



A ride with Mounted Section Sergeant, Paul Hemmings and "Cromwell".

Photos courtesy of Evening Gazette and The Yellow Advertiser.

TEN YEAR OLD Kenneth certainly knew where his wanted to spend a day with. Thousands of other young Savile would be able to do them but Kenneth, recognising one, took the initiative and approach.

The tactic worked a treat the recent school holiday knock at the door only to waiting to whisk him away.

It was only after he had that he discovered that his true.

In a secret deal arranged Training School staff and that he will certainly remember organised.

The day was packed with session of self-defence in the a ride on the Sergeant's Section.

Highlight of Kenneth's the skid-pan and demonstration Gerry Tuthill.

The day was rounded off Kenneth of an 'Essex Police Not quite as famous perhaps carrying with it memories Police, all the same.



The skid-pan is really the driving position.

Police Headquarters Musical Society

Present

A 1920's TO 1940's REVIEW

on

Friday and Saturday—21st and 22nd May

Assembly Hall at Police H.Q.

(By kind permission of The Chief Constable)

COST £2.50 INC. SUPPER

COMMENCES 7.30 p.m.

Entire proceeds in aid of the "Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust"

Band Hosts Welshmen

THE HIGHLIGHT of the Force band's year was their hosting of the Bridgend and District Police Choir at two concerts this month.

The concerts were given before good audiences at the Cliffs Pavilion at Southend and the Odeon Cinema at Harlow on consecutive nights, and the choir's superb performance under their Musical Director, Aldwyn Humphries, was obviously enjoyed both by the audience and the band themselves.

Proceeds

The proceeds of the concerts are to be donated to Lady McAdden's Breast Screening Unit, and the band are hoping to hand over a cheque in the near future.

The Welsh visitors and



The Bridgend and District Police Choir responding to their Musical Director, Aldwyn Humphries.

their families were looked after by band members and other volunteers for their weekend, which was rounded-off with a lunch party at Force HQ on the Sunday.

The band are looking forward to the return match in Wales and are to take up the invitation from the choir to make their way to the "land-of-song" during the early part of next year.

FIX IT

a Bond of Chelmsford
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made a bold and direct

because one day during
Kenneth answered a
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covered from the shock
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enneth's parents, a day
ber for a long time was

h things to do, from a
Training School gym, to
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ay came with a visit to
ation of skill from Sgt

with the presentation to
fixed it for me' badge.
ps as Jim's badge, but
of a day with Essex



y. Especially from this

Rutland & Woodhall Estate
Chelmsford
Essex
CMI 4 BN

Dear Sir

I am writing to you to ask how old I have to be to be a policeman. I have wanted to be a policeman for years.

I am 11 years old in November. I want to learn all about being a policeman. My cousin is a policeman in Liverpool. I was going to go and write to him but he gets a lot of letters he might miss mine. I hope you won't forget me.

your hopefully
Kenneth Bond.

The letter that started it all.

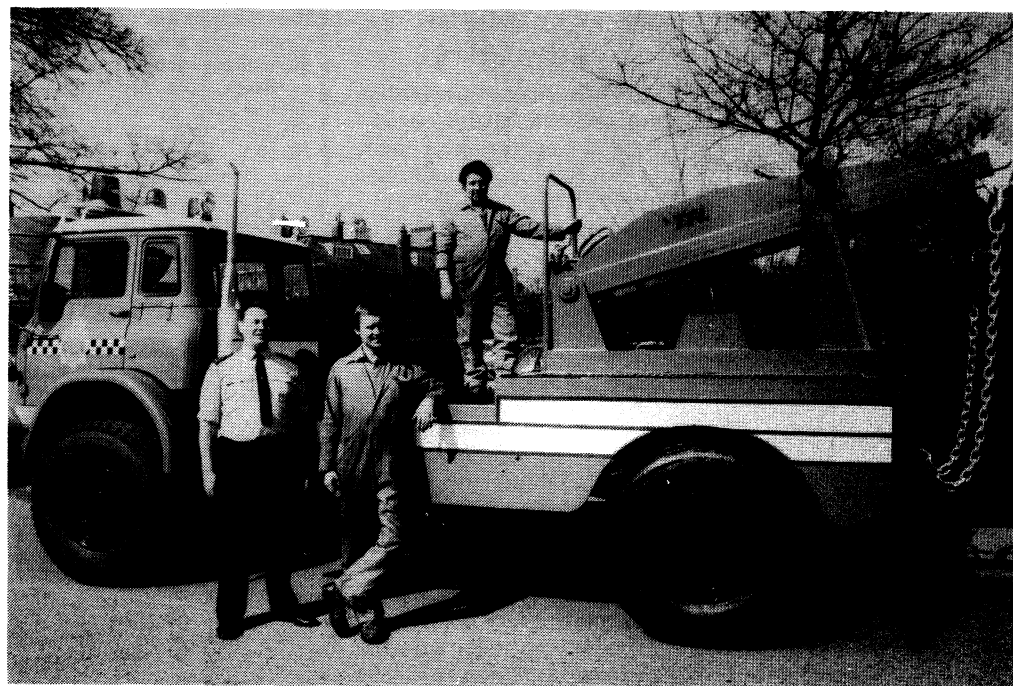


Kenneth with Pc Martin Garwood and "Bruin".

Team dive for Anglia's first day



DIVING SECTION operations are always a favourite of the media and so when Anglia Television opened their new office in Chelmsford their first days outside broadcasting included searching training in Central Park, Chelmsford. Being interviewed is Sgt 'Knocker' White, Sgt Doug Adams is seated. Emerging from the water is Pc Mark Chapple, assisted by Pc Nigel Dermot. Picture by Essex Chronicle.



SAVING MONEY is what it's all about these days, and what a fine example of this motto is the latest effort from Sgt Paul Adams and the staff at HQ Garage. A new communications vehicle was featured in a recent issue of 'The Law' and out of the ashes of the old QEI has arisen this heavy break-down vehicle at a fraction of the cost of a similar one bought new or even second-hand.

THE METROPOLITAN POLICE

Present their

54th Horse Show and Tournament

AT
THE MOUNTED POLICE TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT,
IMBER COURT, EAST MOLESEY, SURREY
(Near HAMPTON COURT PALACE)

on FRIDAY, 30th JULY & SATURDAY, 31st JULY, 1982 at 1.45p.m.

Attractions included in this 4 hours non stop show are -

BEST TRAINED POLICE HORSE
SHOW JUMPING SKILL AT ARMS TENT PEGGING
MUSICAL CHAIRS ON HORSEBACK
THE METROPOLITAN POLICE MOUNTED BRANCH
MUSICAL AND ACTIVITY RIDES
THE METROPOLITAN POLICE BAND
THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DOG DISPLAY TEAM
PLUS OTHER ATTRACTIONS.

LUNCHEON & TEAS
AVAILABLE

ADMISSION 60p - £2.00
(Children under 16: half-price both days)

FREE CAR AND COACH PARKING

For further details please write or telephone: The Secretary,
MP Horse Show and Tournament, MP Training Establishment,
Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey (01-398-0855)



Paras Pay For Party

ESSEX Police officers and civilians are to earn money for charity by jumping out of an aeroplane next month.

The idea was hatched when it became clear that money was needed to help support the annual outing for handicapped children that is run each year by the East London Taxi Drivers.

For the past 30 years the taxi drivers have been bringing children from their London schools for the physically handicapped to Maldon for a day out. The convoy, gaily decorated with balloons and streamers, is a well known sight and very much a part of Maldon.

For 20 of the 30 years the outing has been running, the convoy has been escorted by motorcyclists of the Essex Police, and this year they decided that their long association put them in the front line to help deal with the ever increasing costs.

Nobody will admit to coming up with the crazy scheme of a sponsored parachute jump — but it did catch on and the team has been selected.

Volunteers so far include Chief Superintendent Mike Humberston, PS Dave Hicks, Traffic PCs George Lambeth, Trevor Hall, Bert Bentley and John Rose from Copford. The ladies are represented by WPC Taryna Humm and Mary German from the Information Room. John Downing from CRO completes the team.

None of the group has jumped before — but they're not going out completely unprepared. With the help of the Parachute Club of the City of London Police, plans have been made to attend a two-day course with the Army Parachute Team at Netheravon in Wiltshire.

Of course, the whole thing will be a failure if the sponsorship money is not forthcoming. Organiser, George Lambeth from Traffic Headquarters said, "We're asking the force to help us and sponsorship forms are being taken round to all divisions. We hope our colleagues and friends will put their hands in their pockets and give to this very worthwhile cause."

To help you get your money into the right hands 'The Law' is providing the sponsorship form below. So fill it in and send it with your money to Dave Hicks or George Lambeth c/o Traffic Division, Force HQ, Chelmsford.

SPONSORSHIP FORM

"I would like to sponsor the
parachute team with the sum
of £ - - - - , which I enclose"

Signature.....

Address.....

Receipts will be issued.

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

Pensioners Welfare

IT IS very gratifying to know that each Widow within this Police district has been visited by the Welfare Officer during the last 12 months. The time taken to visit each widow is at least six months but it is hoped that each one will be visited at least once a year. I am sure everyone concerned will appreciate the efforts made by the Force Welfare Officer on their behalf. As a Branch Secretary, I know the amount of calls made on the Welfare Officer, not only from this Force but from other Forces and I am grateful for all the work and effort put in for the benefit of pensioners. It has often been emphasised in this Column that there are many pensioners, especially widows, who require advice or assistance but are very reluctant to come forward. The Benevolent fund and the Association exist for their benefit but unless someone drops a hint at some odd time the case goes unnoticed.

Chelmsford Branch AGM

Notices and the Agenda for May 15 have been sent out and I look forward to a good response. Our Chairman, George H. Hodges has occupied the 'hot seat' since 1964 and will not seek re-election. The new Chairman will be elected at this Meeting. Our usual hard core of about 40 are expected but let us give both the retiring Chairman and the Chairman elect a good reception and send off.

The ACC(A) Mr H. A. Taylor unfortunately will

be unable to be with us, owing to sickness, we wish him well and a speedy recovery to normal health. Mr P. J. Simpson, ACC(Personnel) has kindly consented to come along and meet the pensioners. We look forward to meeting Mr Simpson on his first visit, and I know our members will be eager to hear what he has to say.

Spring Bulletins

The bulletins, as expected, would not arrive in time for posting before the AGM. This is unfortunate because it will mean withholding them till the Summer issue. Rumours are current as to the amount of pension increases which will be granted in November. In March the Retail Prices Index was 12% but in April it was down to 10.4% but there still remains the 2% which we lost erroneously in 1980/81 which the Chancellor said in his budget speech would be rectified in November. If any news is received by May 15 it will be announced at the Meeting.

Index Linking

Considerable mention is made in the media on this subject and for the benefit of pensioners who do not receive our quarterly bulletins I will endeavour to enlighten them. At present no changes are proposed, the present arrangements are supported by both Houses of Parliament. Index linking is applied to our pensions and those who oppose the system are still trying to bring the subject into debate so that changes can be made. The more we participate in the debate they are trying to create, the more guilty we will be of supplying them with the necessary ammunition. The NEC has obtained good advice from our Parliamentary Advisor and others in the negotiating field and those advices are being followed which is why the NEC say to all members that whilst Index linking works in our favour and already the 1982 increase is being spoken about, then no pensioner who is in receipt of a public service pension has any cause for complaint.

HISTORY OF THE ESSEX POLICE DRIVING SCHOOL

THE Essex Police Driving School was founded in 1937, being one of the original three police driving schools. From the early days they have maintained a book containing photographs and press cuttings covering the formation of the Courtesy Cops and the history of the driving school.

This pictorial history is currently being put into a new presentation album, and the senior instructor would like to hear from anyone who has any old photographs, press cuttings or documents, especially dating back to the first years at Witham or the pre-fab building at Headquarters.

Anybody who would be willing to lend any such articles so that they can be copied should contact Acting Chief Inspector B. Beesley at the driving school. Needless to say anything lent will be treated with extreme care and will be collected and returned by the driving school.

I.P.A. notes

THE ANNUAL General Meeting of the Essex Branch of the International Police Association was held at Headquarters on 25 January, when 24 members heard the chairman, the Chief Constable, express his pleasure in the continued activities of the IPA in Essex, and his delight in meeting many overseas visitors to this Force under the auspices of the IPA. He was also pleased to hear of the numbers of overseas visits made by our own members which foster such good relationships between our own and overseas Police Forces.

The retiring Secretary, Mick Dunman, expressed his concern over the declining activities of some of the local branches of the IPA in Essex, the only really active branches being Headquarters, Harlow and Southend. However, Southend representative Chico Bates expressed his concern over a recent lack of interest even at Southend.

The Branch Officers were returned to office en bloc, but Mick Stanbury replacing Mick Dunman as Secretary, retiring with a vote of thanks for his work since 1977. Mick continues in office as Vice-Chairman of 10 Region.

In discussion it was generally agreed that there was a poor response to membership from younger officers, who are, in the majority of cases perhaps, in the best position to take advantage of the facilities offered by membership of the IPA.

So, you youngsters of the Force, if you want to broaden your horizons and travel, and reach those parts that other tourists never reach, contact any

of the IPA Officers listed below, who will be thrilled to twist your arm to sign a membership form. IPA membership is one of the best holiday travel insurances you can have!

County IPA Officers are:
Chairman: The Chief Constable.
Secretary: Ps Mick Stanbury, HQ Personnel, (Ext 314).
Treasurer: Inspector Ken Rowe, Harlow.

Branch Representatives are:
Headquarters: Dc Mick Dunman, HQ CID Car Squad, Ext 522;
Colchester: Dc Robbie Wolton, Scenes of Crime. Clacton: Pc Dick Jones, Clacton. Grays: Inspector Vic Hunter, Tilbury.

Harlow: Pc Roger Howlett, CSB; Basildon: Ps Ron Woodley, Prosecutions; Southend: Ex-Ds Chico Bates, Southend 612174, or Ps Graham Sargent, Southend.

And just a note on current activities, Headquarters are making a return trip to Arnhem in April, and are considering plans for a return visit to this country from their friends in Berlin. For those interested in caravanning, Ps Paul Adams of HQ Garage has a full programme lined up for this year, and will be pleased to give you full details of forthcoming events.

Ps Mick Stanbury

Force lottery

RESULT of the draw held at Grays on Friday March 26th, 1982.

1st prize PS L. Williams, Colchester, £1327.74; 2nd prize PC B. Taylor, Southend, £663.87; 3rd prize PC C. Howard, Benfleet, £331.94; 4th

prize PS J. Jacobs, Clacton, £165.19.

Consolation prizes at £33.19 each — PS G. Nisbet, Brentwood; PC A. Diver, Braintree; DC A. Skedge, Canvey; WPC A. Wendon, Basildon; Chief Insp. J. White, Laindon.



THE BAND is enjoying continuing success under the direction of its new Bandmaster, Bob Coxon, and amongst recent engagements were a Concert at the Technical College at Basildon on February 26th, and at Colchester Moot Hall on March 6th.

The highlight of this year's playing was undoubtedly the weekend of 23rd to 25th April when we entertained the Bridgend and District Police Choir and played together with them at the Cliffs Pavilion at Southend on 23rd and the Odeon Cinema, Harlow on 24th.

I would like to express the gratitude of the band to all those civilian members of staff who looked after the Welshmen so well during the weekend and, of course, to all those who worked so hard to ensure that the Lunch was such a success, including, though not necessarily more importantly, Graham and his colleagues in the bar. The band has been invited to return the visit so we hope to be going to Wales in the early part of next year.

Finally, on an old theme, may I remind any of you out there who can play an instrument, that you are more than welcome to come and play with the band on Wednesday evenings; we meet in the assembly hall from 6.30 to about 9.30pm.

CIVILIAN STAFF WELFARE FUND

BACK in 1975 the Civilian Staff Welfare Fund was set up for the benefit of all members of the civilian staff, to relieve distress and suffering caused by financial difficulties which can arise from time to time. Help can be given by means of either a grant or a loan, whichever the committee decides.

The group insurance scheme has been operating since 1976, and carries a life coverage up to the age of 55 years of £2,000 and from 55 to 65 years of age this reduces to £1,000. There is also a spouse option clause, and in the event of the demise of the spouse of any member, a sum of £400 is payable up to the age of 65 years. The cost of this has again remained the same figure set at the start which is 10p per week.

At the annual general meeting of the Civilian Staff Welfare Fund it was brought to the attention, that whilst all new employees are given literature on both the Welfare Fund and the Group Insurance Scheme, quite a few of the longer serving staff had not taken advantage of the schemes simply because they were either unaware that they existed or did not know enough about them to be really interested.

Fund honorary secretary is Mrs P. Bishop of the Headquarters Civilian Personnel Office who says: "Without any reservations I would recommend membership of both schemes, the cost really is nominal compared with the benefits received at times when you most need help."

Civilian personnel who wish to avail themselves of either or both of these schemes should contact their Divisional admin office or welfare representative.

Market Place

RENT-FREE — Colchester — 2-bed cottage available in return for some help in the house and garden. Not suitable for young children. Good references essential, but must like animals. Telephone Colchester 42017.

FOR SALE. Frame tent — 2 single and 1 double bedrooms, large kitchen and lounge area, plus outside canopy. Good condition. Together with trailer — plus lights — £225. Contact PC 356 Chilvet, Brightlingsea 3680.

FOR SALE: Mirror 14 (Marauder) No 751, trailer, cover, self bailers — £350, or part exchange for Mirror Dinghy. Contact PS 402J. W Goding at Walton-on-Naze, or tel. Clacton 27983.

FOR SALE: Elldis Whirlwind 12ft caravan, 2-berth with end kitchen & toilet, fridge, heater, fully equip including portable T.V. Good condition — £900 Contact WPC Birdseye, H.Q. Ext 538.

FOR SALE: 14 foot Motor Boat with outboard motor and trailer £275 ono — Contact PC 821 Cornell, Chelmsford.

FOR SALE: Suzuki X5 m/cycle, vgc, T reg (May 1979) 4,000 miles. Faring. Hazards, crash bar and buzzer, helmet and waterproofs — £300. Telephone Chelmsford 69330.

FOR SALE: Puch Tunturi Executive Exercise Byke, as new — £95. Telephone Southend, ext 202, or 330479.

FOR SALE: A 17½ Sloop Express Pirate GRP three/four berth, sails, outboard, all new June 1981; £2,250. Contact Ds Naden, Colchester or telephone Clacton 815140.

FOR SALE: 8 hp Yamaha outboard motor; in perfect condition; £175, ono, complete. Contact, Mrs Burdett, Civilian Cleaner, Laindon Traffic.

WANTED—Reliable and economical medium sized family saloon or hatchback motor car, approx 4-5 years old. Must be in good condition. Foreign or English make considered. Please contact Sgt Julian Field HQ Ext 376.

PLEASE let me have your used postage stamps for charity. Send any amount to Pc Darby at Ongar.

FOR SALE: Two good condition fireside chairs, green covering on seat and high back — 4 months old — £30. Contact HQ Exts 374/375.

FOR SALE: Lawn aerator (Tudor). As new £9. (Retail price £15.99). Contact Mrs Brunton, HQ ext 335.

THIS is your FREE small-ad service. Please use this form as we regret that ads cannot be accepted over the phone or on plain paper. Send your ad to "Market Place", The Law, Police HQ, Chelmsford. Thank you.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE — ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and Rank

Station

Home telephone

Signed

Federation Notes



Insurance-General

I have been taken to task for not including reference in this column to the very good facilities and service provided by the Police Mutual Assurance Society. This company gives very good value for money for Police Officers, and also provides a valuable advice service.

The only reason it has not been mentioned by me in the past is that I have used this column to inform the membership of useful alternatives. Alternatives who have been vetted at this office. The need for this vetting became necessary because some officers were approached by certain 'cowboy' insurance agents, who sold what appeared to be very attractive policies — but which when closely scrutinised put the officer at some disadvantage.

It has always been my view that the P.M.A.S. policies were sold by agents with impeccable backgrounds, and so there was no need for the 'vetting process' to be undertaken, hence they did not get a mention. I hope this redresses the balance.

Return of Premium Scheme

There is still no definite news on the increase of benefits under the Force Scheme, which is due for further discussion at the next Joint Branch Board Meeting.

This precludes officers of

45 years of age and over from cover or extension of cover, so the Police Federation have arranged a new Insurance for the Over 45's (Using the service of the P.M.A.S.) to enable officers to 'top up' their insurance requirements. A small number of brochures have been circulated to Divisional Representatives, who will be only too pleased to acquaint you with the facilities on offer.

These are basically Life Cover only for a premium of 20 pence per week, various units of cover ranging from £1,125 at age 59 on joining the scheme to £2,537 at age 45 on joining the scheme.

Group Insurance

The second scheme is for Life cover plus Endowment Savings, at a premium of

£2.50 per week for various benefits — which include a guaranteed return after 10 years, and a guaranteed Minimum Death Benefit.

Ask your local representative for further details.

Car Insurance

A local agent has been to see me bringing a car insurance scheme based on

by
*Jim
Rodgers*

Taxation of Plain Clothes Allowance

EVERY effort has been made by the Central Committee through Standing Committee 'D' of Police Negotiating Board, to obtain tax relief on plainclothes allowance. The problem has been that it will only be deemed allowable against tax if the clothing purchased would not be worn for any other purpose than the duty performed. There are certain categories of officer who fall within this spectrum, ie, officers engaged on drugs squads or regional crime squads, and the like who are forced to purchase garish or outlandish clothing which they would not wear at any other time.

It is suggested that the only way that HM Inspector of Taxes can decide, would be for officers who feel they have an individual right of claim for tax relief should do so under Section 189 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, and below is a suggested format for the letter of claim.

I would recommend that receipts be obtained for the clothing and submitted with the claim to Gateshead (3) District, Aidan House, All Saints' Office Centre, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 1BR. I would be interested to hear of anyone having made a successful claim.

SPECIMEN LETTER

Dear Sir,

Claim for Expenses — Year Ended 5th April 19.....

For the year ended 5th April 19.....I have been taxed under PAYE on the Plain clothes allowance paid to me amounting to £.....

I hereby wish to claim that £..... of the previously mentioned amount has been expended by me in the performance of my duties as a plainclothes officer, as detailed below:-

Date of Purchase

Description of clothing

Cost

Purpose of Purchase &
Nature of Assignment

I do/do not wear the clothing purchased for off duty wear and I would/would not normally purchase such clothing privately.

Date

Signature

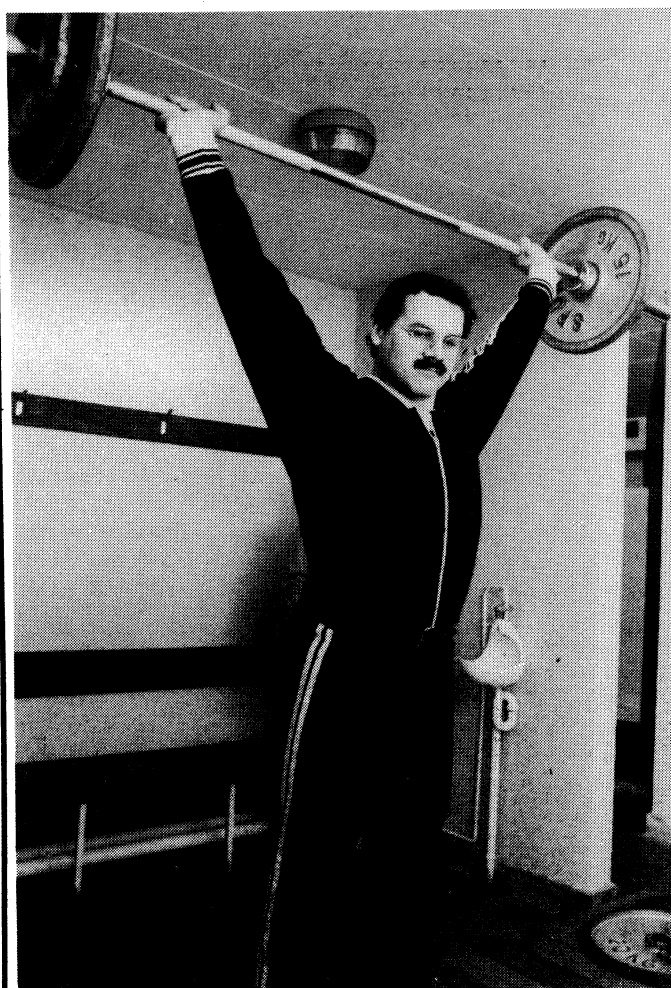
Rank

Police Driving Qualifications which has indicated a saving premium for at least three people who obtained quotes from him. If you wish further details, obtain a brochure from your local representative, you can then judge the benefits against your present insurance company, and make a decision when renewal time comes round.

Cadets — Voluntary Funds

The Joint Central Committee have considered the contributions made by Cadet Members of the Police Federation, in the light of their recent Pay Award, and have decided not to increase their subscription, which will remain at 15 pence per week until further notice

LIONEL'S LAST LIFT



THE PAA Weightlifting Championships which were recently held at Police Headquarters saw Sergeant Lionel Thomas of Brentwood competing for the last

time. Lionel, who has represented Essex for many years, now hopes to become a referee in the sport.

Nun's cheque



ST VALENTINE'S DAY disco DJ was Hadleigh's PC Bob Sheridan, when the children of Appleton School in Benfleet raised £60 for the children and old people's home at Nazareth House in Southend. Seen here are the organisers and helpers presenting the cheque to the Reverend Mother.

BOOK-REVIEW

THE LATEST offering from Police Review Publications is "The Traffic Officer's Companion — A Practical Handbook of Road Traffic Law," by Gordon Wilson.

A paperback of moderate thickness it will sit nicely on the dashboard or, if you're embarrassed at not having all this knowledge in your head, might slip secretly into a pocket.

The book is packed with information on traffic law, from definitions up to the most complicated technicalities. The format has the appearance of being produced by a combination of typing and letteraset reduced to page size: perhaps this has kept the price competitive at £2.75.

A good buy for budding "snow-drops" — apply to Police Review Publishing Co Ltd, 14, St Cross St, London EC1N 8FE.

Essex Police Federation

ANNUAL OPEN MEETING

Lion and Lamb Banqueting Suite

Duke Street, Chelmsford

Monday 14th June 1982 6.30 pm

MEAL PROVIDED — PROFESSIONAL ENTERTAINMENT

PAA CHAMPIONSHIPS REPORT by JH



CROSS-COUNTRY hurts even when you win. Miss J. Prictoe, Greater Manchester, recovers after winning the women's race.

Danbury courses were severe

WITH OVER 300 competitors contesting the three events of the day, the Police Athletic Association cross country and race walking championships, held at Danbury Park, near Chelmsford, on April 7th, were a considerable success.

So many of the competitors required overnight accommodation, either on the night before, or after, or both, that every bed in the Training School plus another forty in another school nearby had to be taken over. Administration was in the hands of Ch Insp John Hedgethorne, Colchester, who as championships secretary received all entries, arranged accommodation and programme printing, booked officials, and so on.

In charge of the course was Insp Barry Daymond, Info Room, so members of the Force who took part and found it rather severe know who to thank. A decision was taken early by the Committee — Hedgethorne, Daymond and D.S. Andy Down of Southend — that the proper cross country championship distance is seven miles. And this distance at Danbury feels more like eight, especially when three trunks are dragged across the course to add to the test. Three laps of the park made $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles for men, the women ran three

miles, and the race walkers covered ten miles on roads immediately outside the park.

The events were attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Chelmsford, Councillor and Mrs Van Tromp, who started the races and made presentations afterwards, Councillor R. Daniels, Chairman of Essex County Council, Councillor G. Waterer, Chairman of The Police Committee, The Chief Constable and other Chief Officers of the Force.

Guests and race officials were entertained to a buffet tea at the Training School following the events and presentations were made in the dining room.

These were done "Olympic style" with the victors mounting a victory plinth to general applause after which the Mayor or Mayoress hung medals round their necks.

Perhaps the greatest applause was reserved for veteran champion Ernie Pomfret of Durham, regular GB steeplechase representative in the sixties, but competing as a veteran for the first time after an absence of several years. He finished 17th overall in perhaps the strongest cross country field ever and colleagues' applause clearly said, "Welcome back."

Walkers' success

SEVERE is the only word to describe the road walking course for the PAA ten miles at Danbury. It had been measured to a correct ten miles yet times were several minutes behind those put up by competitors in other races.

From the start the top three set off in close attendance. For Met Police, Blagg and Seddon, who have both been selected to represent GB since this race, being shadowed by Staniforth, South Yorkshire. The Metro pair worked a team job on the Yorkshireman and he finished 3rd. Blagg was the winner.

For Essex Denis Sheppard, Harwich SB, took fifth place in one of his better walks this winter, while championships organiser Hedgethorne took time off from admin to finish 8th.

Only two Essex walkers took part and both won PAA colours in the annual match against Civil Services and Combined Services at Chigwell the following week, an event where Sheppard placed 11th and Hedgethorne 17th in the 27 man field.

Peter Ryan missed the national police event to save himself for the Essex 50kms championship three days later. Despite aggravating the team captain his move paid off as he won the Essex title in a championship best performance (and of course, Force record of 4hrs 18mins

30secs, a time which could gain him representative honours this year.

Sheppard and Hedgethorne also completed this race, clocking 4.58.06 and 5.22.00 respectively, Sheppard taking the Essex bronze medal. Two weeks later all three were back in action in the Essex 20 miles championship, held at Enfield. Here Ryan once again captured the Essex title, clocking 2hrs 39 mins 27 secs, not his best time but pretty sharp just the same.

Ryan has also finished second in the Essex 10,000 mts championship this year and it looks as if 1982 could turn into his best season yet.

In the Essex 20 miles Sheppard finished 4th in his best time for some seasons, 2.54.22, while Hedgethorne was on average form clocking 3.08.31 to finish 10th.

BARKING

Essex Police walkers are now preparing for the annual Barking to Southend event which will this year be over 34 miles, the additional distance coming from a detour to avoid the new enlarged Orsett Cock roundabout. A team of nine from Rayleigh will contest the novices event and will hope to do as well as the Essex novice entry of 1981 which took second team place. It starts at Barking at 9am on Sunday May 16th and the leaders will arrive at Roots Hall, Southend about 2pm.

Mixed day for Essex in cross country

CATASTROPHE followed disaster among the ranks of women competitors in the Essex team for the PAA championships. Only a week before Essex had upheld their reputation by taking gold and silver in the National Cadet event through the Lamb sisters and with the Dodd sisters backing up had taken team bronze medals.

But the women's team evaporated and what looked like a strong squad six months before finally bowed out with two days to go when Moira Owers twisted an ankle training. So Essex did not contest the womens' event.

MEDAL HOPES

The men's team, on the other hand, had high hopes of a best ever place and perhaps even some medals to show for their efforts. Things began well for Chris Turner, Colchester, as he settled among the leaders on the first of three testing laps.

But during the first lap he fell heavily and scraped his knee so badly that he went from the finishing funnel to hospital for treatment. This might have cost him a medal because he was only 11 secs adrift of the bronze in taking the

highest position ever by an Essex runner, 5th.

Not far behind throughout the race, team captain Andy Down got into the top ten despite losing a place up the last long hill. In his best season for years Andy, stationed at Southend, was within two minutes of the winner, Anning of Avon & Somerset.

When Len Perrott, Benfleet, arrived in 21st position the quest for medals seemed to be going well. This was also a good run and Len's marathon training obviously stood him in good stead on the longer-than-usual course.

TOO FAR BACK

But it was not to be, and with Steve Pearmain, 71st, and Chris Read, 76th, finishing next, medal hopes had gone. Another Essex bunch completed the scoring Dave Salmon finishing 147th, just ahead of Paul Pratt, 149th and Martin Atkinson, 150th.

This gave the six Essex scorers a total of 330. The winning total by Surrey was 141 so it can be seen how much was needed. If three more Essex men had finished within ten places of Perrott we would have won — just!

But fifth place was the highest position Essex have ever

taken in this event and when the increase in standard is remembered, the 1982 cross country team is the best the Force has ever produced.

But Essex also had a 'B' team in the field who, far from contesting for the lead were blowing hard in an effort to avoid last place. The squad was made up of an amalgam of novices and veterans with Alex Masson, HQ, possibly falling into both categories.

At the outset John Hedgethorne had tried to persuade the Essex team of 1959, the last time the PAA event was staged in Essex, to turn out again. They all said they would but in the event Ano Domini overtook one, another injured himself in a half marathon the week before, which left Alex and John as sole survivors. John was in the walk while Alex brought up the rear in the cross country.

In 1982 the opposition was too good for Essex 'B' and they had to be content with 28th team place but with their score totalling 1323 they were only 27 pts behind Northants.

Essex 'B' team places were as follows: R. Greenfield 158th; B. Ansell 207th; B. Mason 236th; A. Watkins 238th; T. McGregor 240th; C. Banks 244th and A. Masson 246th.

WEST MIDLANDS

The women's event run over three miles saw gold and silver positions filled by Greater Manchester girls but for all that their team could only finish second West Midlands getting home first to beat them 50 to 59 with a delighted Royal Ulster team in third place.



LEN PERROTT on his way to a great 21st place.

TEAM RESULT

1. Surrey 141
2. West Yorks 148
3. Metro 'A' 150
4. Leicester 284
5. Essex 'A' 330
6. Sussex 338
7. Thames Valley 348
8. West Mid 350
9. Merseyside 355
10. Royal Ulster 403
11. Metro 'B' 453
12. S Yorkshire 476
13. Kent 563
14. Avon & Som 'A' 568
15. Warwickshire 593
16. Devon & Corn 621
17. Lancashire 689
18. Lincolnshire 797
19. Manchester 868
20. West Mercia 870
21. Cleveland 981
22. South Wales 997
23. City of London 1025
24. Lothian & Bdrs 1058
25. Avon & Som 'B' 1131
26. Humberside 1183
27. Northants 1296
28. Essex 'B' 1323



NATIONAL POLICE team at Chigwell on April 14th. Blagg, PAA champion, is standing far left. Essex men Sheppard and Hedgethorne are third from left in each row.

The Law

H.Q. phone extensions
374 and 375

NEXT ISSUE

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