ESSEX POLICE have begun to slow the rate of crime increase over the last six months — but there's no room for complacency.

That was the message from the Deputy Chief Constable, Mr Ronald Stone, at last week's meeting of the Force's senior officers.

The Crime Conference was told that the overall rate of increase in reported crime has slowed from 26 per cent in the first quarter through 20 per cent for the second, to the present level of 10.8 per cent. "It is a success" said Mr Stone, "but a limited success and there is no room for complacency."

Det Ch Supt Roger Richardson went on to give a more detailed break-down of the figures, high-lighting some problem areas. Breaking offences have risen by 11.9 per cent, just above the average for all crime, but the load is spread unevenly. Some Divisions are much worse off than others for no apparent reason.

Another "growth industry" is woundings, which are now running at a 20 per cent increase rate. Balancing this worrying statistic is the high number of detections of this type of crime — 78 per cent so far this year. Essex's success with robberies is reflected in a very small increase of only 8 per cent this quarter. But still over a third of these offences are "opportunistic muggings," which gives cause for concern. Theft from vehicles has now the category of crime with the greatest increase. It runs at 31.8 per cent for the nine months, with 8,427 reported offences and a low detection rate. It was pointed out that crime prevention measures could make a real impact on this area of crime. Thefts from vehicles can be prevented.

Victim Support Scheme Covers County

Anglia TV personality Christine Webber pictured with Supt George Harris of Essex Police CSB during the filming of a feature commemorating the completion of the County-wide Victim Support Scheme.

SOUTHBEND Division's Pc Tony Chaplin spoiled Harlow's chances of making it four-in-a-row, with his decisive win in the Bennett Trophy Competition this month. Tony, stationed at Great Wakering, won the competition against a field that was much smaller than usual. Fewer recruits at training schools means less probationers eligible for the competition, but the entry of only 23 competitors, was a disappointment to the organisers.

The day's activities, organised by the Force Training School, were immediately supervised by Insp Terry Horton, and the examiners were the ACC(P) Mr Peter Simpson, A/Ch Supt George Harris and Ch Insp John Page.

The Bennett Trophy was presented to the Force in 1959 by Alderman W. J. Bennett CBE, JP, to be competed for annually by probationary constables. Various written and oral tests covering police duties, home defence and first-aid take up the contestants' day — each giving a graded number of points towards the grand total.

The second and third places in the competition were taken, respectively, by Pc Bob Rowlingson stationed at Wickford, and Pc Stephen Card from Halstead. If the force stays at full establishment, recruits will become a decreasing minority of the force, and there could be fewer probationers to compete each year. No problems for the competition though. As Insp Terry Horton explains: "I can't see there ever being less than 100 eligible probationers in the foreseeable future."
MANNERS

REFUSING to apologise for the shouting and barracking that the Home Secretary was subjected to by the Metropolitan Police Federationists, their spokesman alleged that it was "no worse than he gets from time to time in the House of Commons".

Opposition close to the scene confirms that this is true and that although there was some cat-calling, Mr Whitelaw also received cheers and applause.

Strange isn't it, that such a high standard of behaviour, both professional and personal, is expected of police officers, while no other public figures required to maintain these almost impossible standards (except, maybe, the clergy). Some of the things they get away with would, if perpetrated by a police officer, lead to admonishment, or at the very least total destruction of a career.

WEAKNESS

It is, of course, these very high standards that make us a 'special case'. It is the recognition of our dutiful acceptance of the trials and tribulations of our task that gives us the power to negotiate for proper pay and conditions. Paradoxically, it is our weakness that gives us power.

If we move away from this pleasant position, if we lose our dignity and our 'special' designation, we will have abandoned the authority we support our negotiating stance.

For me it is an unarguably great truth, but if those who would support Mr Whitelaw's tormentors cannot agree with the logic of the argument, then such a move would be adverse to the application of some old-fashioned good manners.

RENT ALLOWANCE 1

Dear Sir,

Before you read this letter please let it be understood that in no way is this meant to be a personal attack on Jim Rodgers, but a reflection of my feelings and those of many others, regarding the pending rent allowance.

I read Jim's article in "The Law" with some discomfort last week and was reminded of the fact that soon gave way to sheer horror. I am quite sure that many a year, and those of many others, stood that in no way is this comment directed at Jim for whom I have great respect and who shares Roger's dismay and concern. All I am sure of is that I wouldn't paint too rosy a picture. The preceding paragraph explains my misgivings.

Where I can see a problem is if the negotiation and arbitration falls down, the most militant step we can take is to walk out of the Police Negotiating Board. This could not be expected to be as effective as it was in 1976 and might damage any remaining credibility the Federation has. Remember we were refused the right to strike when Edmund Davies gave us our Pay Formula, so perhaps we should take this along that path. If the Home Office can break their agreement with Edmund Davies and us, why should we not do the same?

Of course, Mr Carrington holds the police photographer responsible for some of the photographs produced in the August issue and is quite prepared to insuit the photographer's skills.

May I take the opportunity of replying to the letter written by E. J. Carrington and published in the last month's issue of the 'Law'?

It would appear that Mr Carrington holds the police photographer responsible for some of the photographs produced in the August issue and is quite prepared to insuit the photographer's skills. The photographer took the official serious looking passport photograph had no idea that these photographs would ever be used in an issue of the 'Law'. He knew, a different approach would, I am sure, have been made.

The serious looking passport type photographs is held by personnel department, for record purposes and the law obtained their supply from that department when needed.

In addition to this may I also point out that any reproduction of this photograph to be half toned and plated. This process alone does not enhance any reproduction value especially of old photographs which may have been held in filing systems for some considerable time. So please let's have less criticism of the photographer who I am sure can give you a photograph well within your category of a laughing stock.

Certainly if there is any news of how our Rent Allowance is under threat I will tell everyone how we intend to avert the threat.

Yours Truly,

J. Rodgers,

Secretary - Joint Branch Board.

PHOTOGRAPHIC

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AN ESSEX police officer has just returned from a once-in-a-lifetime holiday in Jordan, as the personal guest of King Hussein's 20-year-old son, the Prince Abdullah.

DC Gary Egerton was invited to the Middle East as a result of his six month attachment to the squad responsible for the security of the Prince, who was carrying out his duties as a British Army subaltern in the 3/18th Hussars at Carver Barracks at Debden. The young officers are required, each year, to arrange a short training trip for their squad, and most spend a few days in some remote part of the United Kingdom. Prince Abdullah, of course, had a few extra facilities available and when he took his troop home to Jordan he invited Gary too.

No charter flights for the Royal party! In August Gary and the young soldiers joined the Prince on his personal Royal Flight at Heathrow to arrive in Amman to begin an unbelievable week's holiday.

Since the trip was basically for the military, on the first day Gary found himself invited to take part in some of the exercises with the Jordanian armed forces. Parachute training and assault courses figured prominently, followed by a visit to an armoured regiment. That evening the Prince was their host at the Palace, and they found out afterwards that the pleasant but apparently undistinguished wine he served them had cost £110 a bottle.

Raw

The next day a trip into the desert was laid on, and Gary found himself sleeping under the stars that night, with one eye open for scorpions.

The day had been spent rock climbing and desert training, but they didn't have to carry their evening meal — it walked there itself. A live sheep was killed for dinner and eaten warmed but almost raw.

During the third day they all flew to Akabar by helicopter and Prince Abdullah took his guests to see the lost city of Petra. Almost inaccessible on the ground, the city was built into the desert cliff faces by the Carthaginians and only re-discovered comparatively recently. Gary was overwhelmed by this sight. "It was absolutely incredible" he said. "Most of us agreed it was the highlight of the week". This flight took them near to the Israeli border and the military manoeuvring could easily be seen — but there was no actual fighting.

The "training" part of the trip over, the Royal guests returned to the King's Palace for a holiday. Everything was laid on - water skiing, surf riding, the £1,000,000 Royal yacht and lots of fascinating sight-seeing.

One special excursion took them to the Dead Sea. As part of a military zone the Dead Sea is not available to the average tourist, but Prince Abdullah seemed to have a bit of "pull". They had a swim in the exceptionally salty water, and came home with the usual photographs of swimmers floating unaided on their backs, reading newspapers or sipping cool drinks.

Transport

Transport was no problem to the Royal household. In the Palace garages the King has a helicopter and two Rolls Royces, and Ferraris, Aston Martins, and BMW's. Gary didn't get a ride by the handful. "On one occasion" Gary recalls, "Prince Abdullah decided we could all go out for a motor cycle ride around Akabar. There were 30 to 40 BMW's and Hondas, and so on to choose from. It was unbelievable." Gary got stopped in a police road-check, but the popular Prince's guests are well looked after. "I was soon on my way again," he says dryly.

Prince Abdullah's mother, the Princess Muna, ex-wife of King Hussein, invited her son's guests to a barbecue at her palace. The Jordanians themselves do not drink but they look after their guest very well. "I've never seen so much food and drink," Gary said, and went on to explain how he met the Princess' parents. "They come from Ipswich originally and were staying in Jordan with their daughter and grandchildren. As I live at Colchester I was able to exchange a few memories with them. They were all very charming."

The traditional markets made an ideal place for souvenir buying and they were told how to bargain to get a good price. In fact, when the shopkeepers heard they were the Prince's guests, it was very difficult to pay at all. Besides all sorts of souvenirs for his sons, Gary found a silk robe for his wife and an unusual hand-made Jordanian sword. The Prince gave him a gold watch, engraved with the Royal crest as a personal gift, and in return received an Essex Police tie and shield.

Surprise

The Prince had one last surprise for them as they left for Heathrow. In retaliation for a prank he had suffered at their hands some weeks earlier, he arranged for a special escort, across the busy commercial airport, to their plane. As they started across the apron their vehicles were joined by every emergency vehicle on the airfield. Fire engines, police, ambulance and emergency vehicles surrounded their plane with lights and horns full-on. "Really embarrassing," says Gary. "He certainly got the last laugh."

The evening meal was easy to transport — it walked to the kitchen itself.

The Prince's little run-about — it cost £1,000,000!

That's the picture you expect from the Dead Sea. It really works, Gary says.

Essex Bobby's Trip Of A Lifetime

Jordan holiday by Royal Command

Gary presents Prince Abdullah with his Essex Police mementos.

This is a Bedouin Com-munity Policeman, very stuff from Gary.

Very "Lawrence-of-Arabia", Gary recalls, Gary is a very tough individual.

The lost city of Petra. You need to be the guest of a Prince and the owner of a helicopter to get to see it.
FSU GET NEW WHEELS

MEMBERS of the Force Support Unit accepted a challenge of a different kind when they visited Colchester recently.

Whilst on a working visit to the county’s ancient town, Constable Brian Wilkins was faced with a request from a member of a local paraplegics club to put up a team of his super-fit support unit men to play a basketball match with a difference.

The difference was that our normally sure-footed officers were to play in wheelchairs in order to make them equal to their wheelchair-bound opponents.

Not surprisingly, the Police team, with their feet whipped from under them, found the going tough but moment of pressure. Above: Inspector Tony Davies (centre) displaying intense concentration at a found the going tough but moment of pressure. Below: Members of both teams get together and manage a few smiles after a hard evening’s work.

Above: Inspector Tony Davies (centre) displaying intense concentration at a found the going tough but moment of pressure. Below: Members of both teams get together and manage a few smiles after a hard evening’s work.

POLICE WOMENS ANNUAL DINNER
AT
HQ FRIDAY DECEMBER 3

All serving and retired women officers welcome

Tickets £6.85 from Inspector Kaye, Southend ext 220 closing date November 15


The organisation of the police, the strategies they employ and the laws they enforce have drifted into a state of uncertainty. What has gone wrong? The authors present the case for radical change in policing methods, the law and the political context of policing. The key issues of computerisation, community policing and police powers are dealt with as are the proposals of the Scarman Report and the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure. These are discussed in detail and set against the authors’ researches and first-hand experience of police work.

Baldwin and Kinsey argue that in a democratic society the politics of policing must be faced openly and that the law should do more than merely follow developments in police organisation and strategy.

It’s a tough message, but one that can’t be ignored. Published by Quartet Books Ltd of 27/27 Goodge Street, London W1, it costs £9.95.

ON THE "Letters" page in this and the previous issue, there have been some harsh words about police photographers, both professional and amateur. Enough of these recriminations! Let’s find out what policemen can really do with their cameras! We thought. So if you fancy yourself as a budding David Bailey send us your favourite photograph of a police related subject. We’ll publish the best, there will be prize money for the top entry as selected by our carefully chosen panel of incorruptible experts. It’s only a bit of fun — but we still need a few rules so:

- Photo must be of a police related subject.
- Photo must be taken by police officer, civilian employee of the police authority or a retired type of either species.
- Photo’s should have a nom de plume (nom de camera!) or a codeword on the back and be accompanied by a sealed envelope with the codeword and your name and address etc.
- Entires sent to “The Law”, Force HQ, Chelmsford, in an envelope marked “Photography Competition.”
- Closing date for entries — 31st December, 1982.

DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE DENNIS GILMORE, alias TV Crossroads. The present charity football match held by Police and a team of The which was organised by

ON THE command (WAIT FOR IT . . . !)

Our model Supt P ‘Perce’ Parsley — Commander

Designate for the new Foulness Sub division

GRANHAM ‘REORGANISATION’ BELTLESS LOOK FOR 1983

— On the command (WAIT FOR IT . . . !)

(1) . . . ‘hitch!’ (2) . . . “at ease!”

TV WIN

THE LAW, OCTOBER 1982

/
Dining Club Ladies’ Night highlights poor turn-out

THE Essex Police Dining Club held its ladies evening this month, and although the function was a great success, the organisers were not satisfied.

The Secretary of the Club - Supt John Watson said: “39 couples attended, which is very disappointing when you consider that membership is open to all ranks of Inspector and above and all civilian employees of AP3 grade and above”.

The Chief Constable’s guests were the Commissioner of Tasmania Mr Max Robinson and his wife, who were his hosts when he visited Australia.

Guests are usually from nearer home, being members of the public who work closely with the Police. “Surely”, says John Watson, “in every Division there must be many of our friends who would be pleased to visit Headquarters and enjoy our hospitality. The Dining Club is a first-class opportunity to do this sort of thing”.

The annual subscription is £2 and although dining-in nights are usually all male occasions (except for ladies nights which are eligible to attend), there is a ladies’ evening each year.

Supt John Watson is stationed at HQ and would be pleased to supply details to any person wishing to join the Dining Club. He’s even more pleased to see the next Club function better supported.

The first history of the Essex Police force has just been completed and is on its way to the publishers. Ingatestone’s PS John Woodgate has finished his mammoth 3 year task this month, and his manuscript will be in the hands of the editors before Christmas.

John became an author almost by chance. When he was posted to Ingatestone a chance remark started him looking at his station’s history. He found that in the last 50 years there had only been 5 or 6 Sergeants at Ingatestone and considered what kept them there for so long. He discovered more and more about his own section, and then decided to look more closely at the whole Division.

It wasn’t long before he was totally engrossed, and when his wife suggested he look on the whole county’s history it seemed like the obvious thing to do. Since then John has spent every rest-day and annual leave day on his project — an average 25-30 hours a week. The result is four mammoth 3 year task this month, and although the function was a great success, the organisers were not satisfied.

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It wasn’t long before he was totally engrossed, and when his wife suggested he look on the whole county's history it seemed like the obvious thing to do. Since then John has spent every rest-day and annual leave day on his project — an average 25-30 hours a week. The result is four mammoth 3 year task this month, and although the function was a great success, the organisers were not satisfied.
Conferences at Cambridge, September 2/3, the Autumn bulletin has arrived and members will get a very comprehensive report of the proceedings.

One cannot help but notice the efficiency of our General Secretary, Alex Faragher, and the NEC in the matter of setting up the conference which is conducted throughout. It was a relief to be informed that one observer was impressed by the efficiency and knowledge evident on the platform and was genuinely moved by some of the more elderly members, who physically made laboured progress to the rostrum, but the delivery of their addresses belied their frailty and they spoke with such alert command of their subject as to put many of the speakers to shame.

The Wednesday evening saw four excited tourists setting off for the overnight ferry at Harwich for a night crossing to the Hook of Holland. On the Thursday morning an early start insured quiet roads for a little practice at driving on the other side before the royal hour. Then it was full tilt in torrential rain along the Grüningen Autobahn for an afternoon rendezvous with the local papers or caravans.

The Chief Constable welcomed all members and gave a brief outline of the forthcoming alterations in Divisional board meetings. He informed us of the forthcoming changes to be made to the preserved reserve widows' pensions.

**FOR SALE:**

PUPPIES: Guinan-Browne at Chelmsford CID, ext 262. For Sale: Electronic organ, two £195. Contact DC 358 Currell at Wickford, 7146.


FOR SALE: Semi-det. 3 bedroom house, Colchester, Leigh, seven years old, many extras, carpets, curtains, gas central heating, £29,750. Contact PC Scott at Rayleigh or Tel. Southend 278780.

FOR SALE: Dining room sideboard, 4ft dressing table, twin top box, £260. Contact Audrey Ward, telephonist, Maldon, 70785.


FOR SALE: Cabley De Luxe caravan and new trio awning, 4-5 berth, cooker, fridge, battery pack, many extras, £1,250. Contact PC Waltham, F5U, or Chelmsford 393515.

FOR SALE: Perfectly preserved aluminium frames 20'0 wide by 11'0 tall, 80in by 60in, £314. Contact Mr Blackburn, MP, on 0702 712151.

FOR SALE: Block of lights from the Congress Hall we all took to an Autumn bulletin. A number of international friendships were formed during the Congress and the Chief Constable will be made more mobile by the provision of a Ford "B" motor car as became a golfer, complete with bag containing tripod, etc.

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**Market Place**

PUPPIES: For Sale: Top pedigree Beagles, for show or pet — Contact PC 766 Quarman-Brown at Chelmsford CID, ext 262.

FOR SALE: Cavalier 1980 4-4-berth caravan, 1970, good condition, must be sold, bargain £500. Contact PC Roulston, Colchester, or Tel. Colchester 4071.


FOR SALE: Maldon or Tel. 0702 712151.


FOR SALE: Cabley De Luxe caravan and new trio awning, 4-5 berth, cooker, fridge, battery pack, many extras, £1,250. Contact PC Waltham, F5U, or Chelmsford 393515.

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POLICE WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION

Some comment has been made that the women officers have been given a one per cent increase in pay as a result of only having to pay an extra three per cent contribution as against the four per cent paid by male officers. Traditionally women officers have paid less because they do not benefit to the same degree as male officers within the scheme.

For a start many women officers do not achieve pensionable service, and so even if they do not benefit fully from the scheme, they become entitled to a limited reduced form of contribution, or at best a preserved pension for payment at age 60, or an ability to transfer their service to some other pension scheme. They do not have a widow's pension in the event that they die while in service on pension, and so it is proper that they pay a smaller contribution than male officers.

The four per cent imposed on male officers is a 57 per cent increase in their contribution, which the ladies have had their contribution increased by a massive 60 per cent. Bear in mind that many of them will not draw full benefit from the scheme and you will see that they have been treated more badly than us. They have not only been discriminated against in fact before they pay the pensions of us all. Don't let us divide the service. A little appreciation would be greatly appreciated and let's be grateful for their help in our time of need!

OUTSTANDING MATTERS AT PNB

These include the preserved rate widows pension; the restriction on officers joining after August 1961 who can only take a pension if they have served 30 years, or are 50 years of age, and many smaller changes which could and should have been dealt with long ago.

The long debated matter of accident insurance for Police Officers will also be encompassed within improvements to the pension scheme. What is envisaged here is a payment of a sum equal to five times salary where an officer is killed on duty to be able to ensure to his chosen profession. This facility is already available for many Public Service employees, including civilians employed by the Police.

The Joint Central Committee have employed an actuary to look at the pension scheme overall. One of his first observations concerns the Commutation Tables, which he says are at least 30 per cent too low!

This matter will be tabled with the outstanding matters to try to gain some improvements for the additional contribution if the action in Parliament is unsuccessful.

RENTER ALLOWANCE

Elsewhere in the paper you will have seen a letter from Roger Clough concerning my last column on this subject. I realise that the line in that column does appear defeatist if not explained. I sat in this chair through the troubled years of 1976 and 1977, and I kept my fingers crossed — as you all did, through to the Edmund Davies Award made in 1978. I know what a disastrous effect those years had on the Police Service as a whole, with officers leaving in droves to take jobs of a lower status merely to be able to keep their heads above water; with Forces up and running on a smaller budget you may be in the same category; and advising officers how to qualify for Family Income Supplement! I just do not want us to go back to that situation.

If the attack on Rent Allowance is successful, then our standards of remuneration will have been eroded to the same level as appertained in 1976 — if calculated in conjunction with the pensions increase. If the attack is successful, the Home Secretary and his Party will keep their heads above water; with Forces up and running on a smaller budget you may be in the same category; and advising officers how to qualify for Family Income Supplement! I just do not want us to go back to that situation.

PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS

As reported in the last issue of The Law this house has written to all the MSPs asking for their support in amending the Statutory Instrument which imposes the additional contribution on the Police Service. We have just gone a step further with a letter of a signed by Lord Elton on behalf of Mr Whitelaw, from 10 different MPs. The letter is over two pages long. In it Lord Elton has stated that if we do not get a 10.3 per cent increase in pay thrown up by the Edmund Davies criteria was a potential embarrassment to the Government — which in any case would be less than the imposition of an additional four per cent to our contributions was a political ploy.

It goes on to point out that the Fire Service pension contribution is the next to be looked at — information which has already percolated through to the Fire Service Union who have stated quite categorically that they will not stand by and placidly allow a similar alteration to the pension contributions of their service.

With regard to the many matters affecting Police Pensions which have been tabled for negotiation at the Police Negotiating Board, by no one side by the Official Side, the letter states that matters concerning such a complicated subject as the Pension Scheme must of necessity progress at a deliberate pace! The imposition of the increase in contribution was by comparison deliberately accepted to what was envisaged when Mr Silvan Jones later in the same paragraph the letter says that the Home Secretary has instructed his officials to progress these outstanding matters as soon as possible.

The letter goes on, and on like a television adver for Andex in a similar vein and does not place us any more off their attempt at negotiation. The Police Union's reply has already been forwarded to the local MPs, together with a request that when this matter is discussed in Parliament that they give support to the prayer which has been laid against the Statutory Instrument by members of the SDP/Liberal Alliance. This will at least ensure that the matter is debated.

RENT ALLOWANCE continues...
Autumn Meeting

TWENTY-TWO members and three guests attended the Autumn Meeting at The Warren on Friday, September 17, 1982. Unfortunately, due to a very misty start to the day, the morning round was abandoned and only the afternoon round counted for competition purposes.

Barry Price Trophy — Best net score of 64 — Tom Jones (cut three shots to 15) — runner up with net score of 70 John Woods. Two J's Cup — Winners with a combined total of 66 points, Bob Hayes and Tom Jones. Runners up with a combined total of 66 points, Richie Griffiths and Jim Macdonald.

Three Meetings Challenge Shield — Winner with a three round net total of 217 — John Woods. Runner-up with a total of 222 — Peter Rouse. Best All-day Scratch — Fred Faulkner with gross 81. Best All-day Handicap — Ritchie Griffiths with net 70 (count back on last round) — won the Captain's Prize.

Our guest prize, for the best individual handicap score, was won by Roger Gibbon, with 27 points, Dave Rogers won the prize for the best individual handicap score with 32 points.

Captain next year will be Paul Krelzing, Vice Captain, Fred Faulkner. John Clarke was unanimously elected as the new Chairman of P.E.G.S. Fixtures for 1983 will remain as 1982 but each of the three Society Meetings will be held at the same venue next year. (The Warren).

Thanks

On behalf of P.E.G.S. I wish our outgoing Chairman, Derek Peck, all the very best of health and fortune in his retirement and thank him for his support over many years. Good luck to you and your wife, Derek — thanks again!

Finally, to all you members, thanks for your efforts and support throughout another successful season. Once again, P.E.G.S. has maintained the Essex Police tradition of true sportsmanship coupled with good public relations. Thanks again — I look forward to another successful season next year.

County Football

THE NEW football season is underway and the Force team has started its programme with mixed fortunes. After lengthy and at times intensive training, the football team started their campaign with three pre-season friendly matches. These matches saw the team notch a draw, a win and a defeat. But the results were rather academic as the games were used to assess new players and to see if those who had been with the club in the past still possessed their talents.

On Saturday, September 4 the preparation and training continued, but this time when the Force team entertained Upminster FC at H. E. Olympian League. The game was played at a hectic pace on a very hot afternoon which was a testimony to the hard training that had gone before. The result was a pleasing 3-0 victory with goals being scored by Brian Ganly, 2, and Phil O'Connell.

After the first league performance, the following Saturday the Force were again involved but this time, went to Raleigh Athletic, a new team to the Olympian League. The Force started very well, but almost 10 minutes into the game a back pass was intercepted by the opposing forward and the visitors took the lead.

Shortly before half time Raleigh Athletic were two up; a quickly taken free kick from the left and an accurate centre into the Police penalty area saw the ball deflect convincingly put away.

The second half started with Raleigh Athletic on top but the Police team were beginning to fight back and in the first substitution and a variation in the pattern of play the Force team pulled a goal back through Roy Scanes. For a while it looked as though the Police would get on level terms, but they were caught short at the back and in the second half, the Rayleigh Athletic broke away and scored number three.

The result was disappointing after the week before, but the following weekend saw the Force team at home to old rivals Benfleet. Again it was a very hot afternoon and thus very demanding on the players. However, Powered up to the occasion and played some very good football bringing back some much needed savings from the Benfleet goalkeeper.

The break came in the 70th minute, when Mick Allen picked up the ball just inside the Benfleet half and with just the goalkeeper to beat, he put the ball into the roof of the net for Essex to take a well deserved lead.

The Benfleet team, suffering in the heat, looked the best and the Police looked to be coasting to a comfortable victory, but two minutes to go a defensive mistake let in a Benfleet forward who beat Bob Scott from close range to take the lead.

The result was very disappointing but the actual performance was encouraging. At the next game on Saturday, September 25, the management were demanding consistency for the whole 90 minutes. The players responded well, running strongly all day and the Police team faced two fairly regular intervals throughout the game by Paul O'Connell (penalty), Brain Ganly, 1; and John Stewart, 1 (penalty). On Saturday, October 2, saw the opening rounds of the Essex Intermediate Cup. This competition is open to all teams of intermediate status in Essex and is therefore likely to produce opponents from different leagues and areas. The Force team were drawn away to Clacton Town Reserves.

Dog Team in Marathon Swim

FOR THE second year running, a charity swimming event has been organised by 'A' Division H.Q. Colchester Fire Station.

Known as the Colchester Fire Swim, the event attracted six-man teams of swimmers from all walks of life and lasted for 36 hours during the weekend of 18/19 September at Colchester Sports Centre.

With all six lanes of the pool in constant use whereby an individual team occupies the pool for one hour, swimming in a relay, the number of participants in the event was over a thousand! The whole aim of the venture being to attract and break the world record and record for the greatest amount of cash raised by a sponsored activity.

A team from Essex Police Dog Unit took part on Sunday morning and achieved a total of 101 lengths of the pool, and in doing so raised £175. This money is destined for local Essex Charities and the Fire Service Benevolent Fund. The event as a whole raised a grand total exceeding £1,100.

The Dog Unit Team was — Insp. Bob Williamson, PS Rod Barrett, PS Bob Needham (Manager), PC's Martin Garwood, Ian Learmonth, Ken Smith, and the mystery "Dog" who wishes to remain anonymous.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.

Photo courtesy of Mark Stoward

The Law

H.Q. phone extensions

374 and 375

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