



THE CHIEF CONSTABLE'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

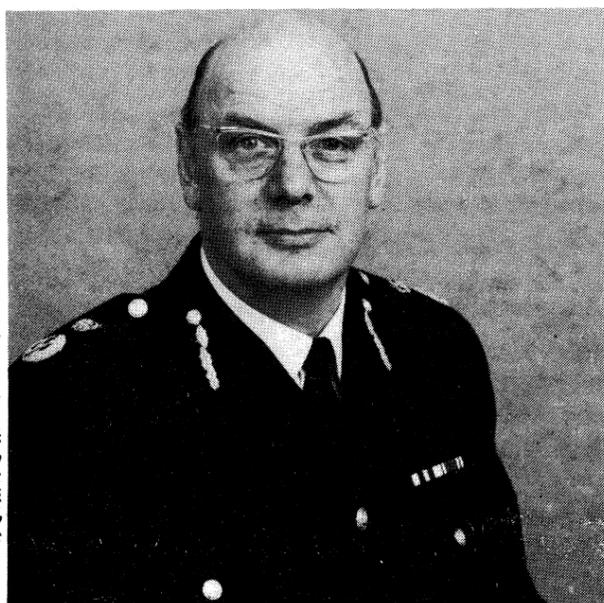
...and from the
Chairman of the
Police Committee



Councillor G.
Waterer

AS ANOTHER year draws to its close, it gives me the opportunity to wish every member of the Essex Police Force not only a Happy Christmas, which I hope you will enjoy with your families, but also a satisfying year ahead in 1983.

I do not believe it will be an easier one than 1982, but I know I speak on behalf of the vast majority of Essex residents when I also express sincere gratitude for your efforts during the year that has passed. Good fortune to you all.



"AT THE end of last year, I wrote of my optimism about the future of the service and the confidence with which we could look forward to a challenging but satisfying 1982. Looking back on the year, I now realise that I under-estimated the extent of our challenges and consequently the satisfaction that we can feel at having responded to them so well.

Against a background of growing financial pressures, with no increase in resources, we have had to contend with an increasing crime rate and no diminution in the demands for police to curb public disorder. A hijacked aircraft at Stansted posed problems never previously faced by a provincial police force but, thanks to excellent teamwork, the Essex Police took it in their stride. During the year, it has been clear that we received very strong support from the public and this has been a major factor in achieving so much success against criminals despite the increasing work load. To sustain the support of the public which is so vital to the operations of any British police force we have to maintain the reputation of our service and adjust our policing to fit changing needs. This is just one of the challenges we face in the future.

Thank you for the loyal service you have given during the past year. Given the qualities the Force has shown in the past year, we can confidently look forward to tackling whatever 1983 brings."

It is a great pleasure to be able to take this opportunity to wish all members of the Force, Police and Civilian, a Very Happy Christmas and an enjoyable and prosperous New Year.

Civic Reception For Horse Patrol



Photo courtesy of Evening Gazette.

ESSEX police horses 'Cromwell' and 'Conquest' received a civic reception when they visited Colchester last month.

The horses have been called-up to police the busy town on Fridays and Satur-

days up to Christmas, and on their first visit were met by Colchester's Mayor, Mr Eric James.

It wasn't exactly a Mayoral banquet, but 'Cromwell' and 'Conquest' seemed to enjoy the bag of apples Mr James thought-

fully took along with him.

The horses were ridden by PS Paul Hemmings and PC Paul Sheffield, and laid on by Chief Superintendent Bert Dawson to provide extra and more interesting policing, leading up to the holiday period.

*'The Law' staff wish you
all a very happy Christmas
and the most prosperous
New Year*

BEGINNER'S LUCK!



PC KEN HOWARD of Headquarters Planning and Communications Dept recently decided to try his luck at pike fishing for the first time. The result, pictured above, was this 19½lb monster, measuring 39 inches long which is believed to be the largest ever lifted from the River Stour at Sudbury. It's a good job the camera was there to record the occasion, for who would have believed this fisherman's story of the one that got away, especially since it was then put back into the river, perhaps a little wiser about accepting those tasty morsels offered as bait in the future.

Editorial

BALANCE

Isn't it strange how the English appear to like their society to be run as a sort of amateur, rather haphazard eccentric club?

Only an attitude like that could account for the almost incomprehensible mess that represents the legal relationship between the powers of the police and the rights of the individual.

A bit of legislation, a lot of case-law, a modicum of custom and a pinch of tacit agreement seem to have been the recipe that a police officer needed to understand if he was to make head or tail of his power to coerce his fellow citizens.

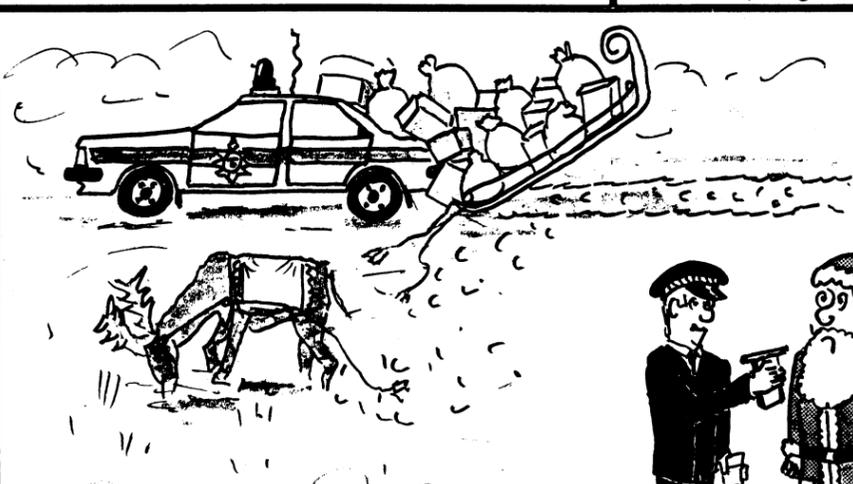
The New Police and Criminal Evidence Bill should put an end to this uncertainty. To quote 'The Times' the Bill is "the first comprehensible and coherent attempt in England to define the balance between the powers of the police and the rights of the individual in a free society."

A lot of people won't like the new Bill — certainly police officers will be aghast at some of the provisions. But it does hit some sort of balance, and nobody knows how it will work until it is actually put into operation. It should give us the power to do our job properly. Time will tell.

WANTED BY
MILITARY
COURT FOR
CRIMINALS



"I wish he'd never started watching Shogun"



"ONE CONTINUOUS BREATH....."

HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM PC

THANKS

To The Force,

Thank you for your kind expression of sympathy at the time of the death of my father, George William Britton, ex Pc 142.

J. E. Britton

MUSICIANS

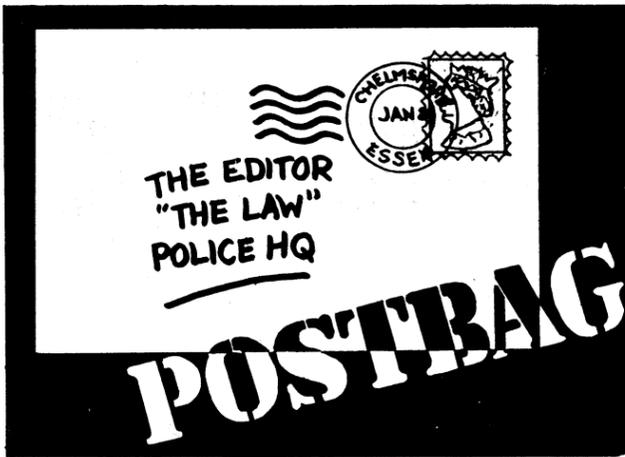
Dear Sir,

Wondering how we could get the word to as many friends as possible, we decided that a short note through The Law would be to our best advantage.

Three of us at Witham have formed a group and have been rehearsing in our spare time up to a fair standard. Thus, having got so far we would like to put our talent to the test.

We would, therefore, like it known that we would be interested in playing at small functions such as OAP charity parties or just to kids in local village halls, etc (for free).

Roy Burnett has a small Yamaha electric organ, Bill



Chaplin plays drums and Steve Shoemsmith the clarinet.

We appreciate that we are not first-class musicians but we can turn out a fair tune.

Roy Burnett
Steve Shoemsmith
Bill Chaplin

STAMPS

Sir,

I am collecting used stamps on behalf of the 2nd Rivenhall Brownie Pack, who in turn will send them

to the Children's Ward of The Great Ormond Street Hospital. The Funds raised from the stamps will go towards improving conditions both in the Ward and the amenities for parents who need to stay at the hospital with their very seriously ill children.

Jacky Merrison
HQ, CID Extension 511

RECOGNISED

Dear Sir,

With reference to your photograph in the Septem-

ber issue — of the Section House at Grays Police Station in the year 1912 — the Mrs Bannister was my great grandmother. She lived in Sherfield Road, Grays and her maiden name was De la Rue, I understand she had a brother who owned Bon Marche at Gravesend. This was a departmental store which probably doesn't exist now. She was over eighty when I remember her and was blind for about the last fifteen years of her life, due to cataract of both eyes. Her Christian name was Emily and her grave is in the churchyard at Grays Parish Church.

Yours faithfully,
Barbara J. Harvey (Mrs)
Harston
Cams

Letters to
The Law,
Force H.Q.,
Chelmsford

A HARROWING TIME AT HARLOW

The 'deliberate' mistake in our motorway map in the November issue of 'The Law' put Harlow firmly in the centre of the MPD. Yes, of course, it should have been Harrow — not Harlow — as was soon pointed out in the following report from the far west!

1. TO: Duty Sgt

I have just been handed a copy of "The Law" dated November 1982 (No 147) and on page 3 you will see details of the Proposed London Orbital Route (M25). Although very clever in its design and structure I find that having to move the town of HARLOW from its present position to a location some 20 miles away, well within the Metropolitan Police District, is both unnecessary and extremely expensive. Surely there was no need for this?

We were not consulted and on speaking to other officers on this matter you will find that very few are in favour of the move, except that they will be entitled to the London Allowance. Because of Government Policy, it seems that we will have to move, and therefore I hereby apply for this allowance, together with

my white shirt and a copy of the Lord Scarman Report.

Respectfully,
A. G. Henry
Police Constable 536

2. TO: Duty Inspector

Forwarded for favourable consideration. May I be permitted to include an application, on my own behalf, for a transfer to the Royal Protection Department.

R. F. Doe
Police Sergeant
394

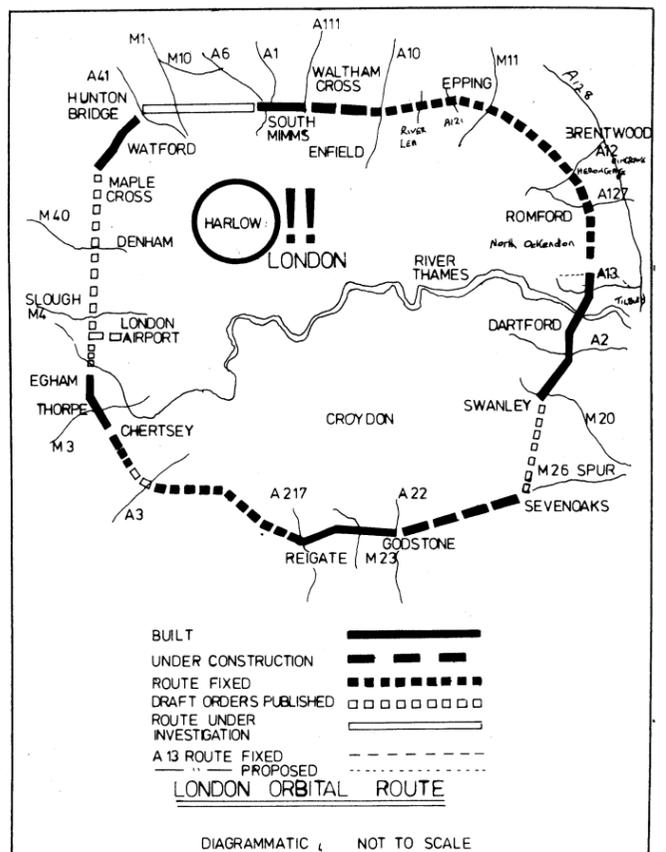
3. TO: Chief Inspector

Forwarded and claims for payment recommended. I also ask that conditions mentioned above apply to the whole of Harlow Sub-division and that a reward under Section 20 of the Police Act, 1964 be awarded to PC Henry.

K. C. Rowe
Inspector

4. TO: Superintendent

Having recently taken on a mortgage the extra money will be handy to pay my oil bill for central heating.



Conditions cannot apply to PC Henry alone. I therefore consider that this application should be forwarded to the Federation Officer in order that representation AGAIN can be made to the Executive for payment of the London Allowance which we are now quite obviously due.

John Johnson
Chief Inspector

5. TO: Chief Superintendent

Forwarded. The recent boundary changes were said not to affect Harlow Division, it is quite clear that the working party weren't looking in the right direction as they would have seen that "we went that-a-way". May the appropriate

noises be made to HQ to effect early payment of the due allowances.

F. Reed
Superintendent

6. TO: Editor of The Law

In recent times I have been asked to break down the walls surrounding the Harlow Division. I was somewhat confused by the request but you have unwittingly provided the answer. It is apparent that our lack of visitors stems from inefficient Headquarters maps and that futile attempts have been made to enter Harrow Public School rather than Harlow Police Station — always a difficult task since the walls are made of more than mere brick.

G. R. Markham
Chief Superintendent

Code of Conduct could replace Judges' rules

STRONG OPPOSITION TO NEW POLICE BILL

● Stop and search powers to combat street crime would apply to the whole country — not just London and a few other cities.

● The out-of-date Judges' Rules would be replaced by a Code of Conduct covering the arrest and detention of offenders.

● Custody Officers would be appointed to be responsible for the treatment of prisoners and the completion of custody records.

● A new procedure for dealing with Complaints against the police would operate a three-tiered system.

THE NEW POLICE and Criminal Evidence Bill, published by the Government last month is already coming under fire from its critics.

The National Council for Civil Liberties are quoted as saying that it contains "inadequate safeguards against the abuse of police power" and that it fails "to introduce an independent public prosecution system".

The NCCL further claimed that the Bill was highly selective, introducing the most objectionable recommendations of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure concerning the arrest, detention and investigation of suspects, but omitting vital safeguards.

Misgivings were also published by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Criminal Bar Association in a letter to "The Times". Besides their discomfort at the haste with which the Bill has been subjected to debate, they expressed concern at inroads being made into the liberty of the subject, and found that public disquiet concerning police powers would not be diminished.

Consolidatory

Police Officers will tend to see the provisions of the Bill as consolidating and clarifying all aspects of his relationship with a member of the public he sees as suspect. If police powers are widened or strengthened in some cases, then a balance is struck by the increased safeguards for suspects, particularly when they have been actually arrested.

Police powers and the

procedures for dealing with suspects have developed piecemeal over the years.

There has been no consistency in the development of police powers, and the new Bill is an attempt to bring some semblance of order to an otherwise fragmented situation.

Every aspect of a police officer's dealings with a suspect are dealt with — from the first moment of suspicion through to the time when the suspect appears before a Court.

Search

If the new Bill becomes Law, the provisions of Clause 1 will extend the power to "stop and search" to the whole of England and Wales.

Like their colleagues in the larger cities, all police officers would have the authority to search any person or vehicle in a public place for stolen or prohibited articles on a reasonable suspicion.

This extension of powers would be stringently controlled. Officers making the search would have to identify themselves by

name and tell the suspect the purpose and reason for the search. An on-the-spot record of the search would have to be made, and — although not required to give his name unless subsequently detained — the person stopped would be entitled to a copy of this search document.

Except in emergencies, road stops would only be permitted if authorised by a Superintendent or above. His authority would last for seven days only, and both stops and road checks would have to be included in the Chief Constable's Report.

Code

The 70-year-old Judge's Rules would go under the provisions of the new Bill, and be replaced by a Code of Conduct issued by the Home Secretary.

This Code of Conduct would have to be followed by any police officer detaining and interrogating suspects. A breach of the Code by a detaining officer would have serious consequences, not just for the admissibility of evidence improperly obtained but also for the officer who would be liable to disciplinary proceedings.

Non-compliance with the Code of Conduct could have severe repercussions in the Court Rooms. The Judge's discretion to allow evidence, even if obtained

by dubious means, would disappear under these new legal provisions; and if the defence claimed misconduct by the police, the burden of proof would lie with the prosecution to show otherwise.

Custody

Although most Forces operate a clearly defined system of "Charging" or "Station" Officers, the new Bill would introduce legal requirements to appoint a Custody Officer for each detainee.

This Officer would be totally responsible for ensuring the legality of detention and the correct treatment of a prisoner.

Custody records would have to be scrupulously maintained, and made available to a prisoner on his release or at any time within three months.

A prisoner would have to be released or charged within 24 hours, although a Magistrate could add another 24 hours on application. A further 48 hours would be available — but only after a full hearing before the Justices.

Complaints

The new Bill includes a proposed new procedure for dealing with Complaints against Police, the seriousness of the particular complaint would decide which of three levels of response would be used.



Mr William Whitelaw — law and order is his big problem.

Minor complaints of a trivial nature would be able to be dealt with informally, whilst more serious complaints would be fully investigated, and then considered independently by the Police Complaints Board or the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The most serious complaints would be under the control of an independent body, although the investigation would still be in the hands of the Police.

Lord Scarman's recommendations as to the setting-up of local consultative committees to assist with the relationship between Police and public would get legislative backing from the new Bill, although in Essex the intro-

duction of the scheme is well under way.

Debate

The Bill will undoubtedly continue to stimulate heated debate, and changes are almost certain to take place before it becomes law in the late Spring at the earliest.

The polarisation of opinion can be seen clearly in two newspaper quotations. Home Office Minister Patrick Mayhew is reported as describing the Bill as "a major step towards effective enforcement of the law in this country". The National Council for Civil Liberties said the Bill "would set back the cause of Law Reform by 20 years".

Traffic experience on tap



The new Traffic Investigation Unit on their refresher course at Force Headquarters

A new support unit is to start work in the New Year to assist, throughout the County, with specialised Traffic problems.

Under the command of the new Traffic Management Chief Inspector, Mike Benning, a Sergeant and five PCs are being prepared to handle the intricacies of modern traffic policing.

"The problem has been," says Superintendent Dave Bennet, "that, although we have a number of traffic officers trained in specialist techniques, they often just do not get the necessary involvement to keep them right on top of the job."

The new scheme will mean that the selected officers, all very experienced anyway, will be able to improve their expertise by constant practice throughout the whole force area.

"One of their major concerns," explains

Mr Bennet, "will be accident investigation, but they will also be handling the calibration of electronic tachographs, some chart analysis, vehicle examinations, and the new traffic data gathering equipment."

To be able to help with larger motors all the unit are receiving extra training in the driving or heavy goods vehicles.

The new specialists will be available to take over a serious and complicated road traffic accident if asked, or to provide a technical backup for the officers dealing.

Describing this new role Superintendent Bennet said: "I see them in much the same situation as Scenes of Crime Officers and other technical support units. They're there to help all officers in dealing with complicated traffic matters, and to improve the efficiency of the force."

A PICTURE

**REORGANISATION
SPECIAL ISSUE**



Very "Lawrence-of-Arabia" stuff from Gary.



POPE'S VISIT

**Promotion Board disappointment
'I had to choose 21' - D.C.C.**

**100,000
vehicles
a day**

Smiling Jogger



Essex Police dogs in procession.



Ready for anything

M25 ready for tunnel traffic

CHIEF GOES 'DOWN-UNDER'



REMINDER OF 1982

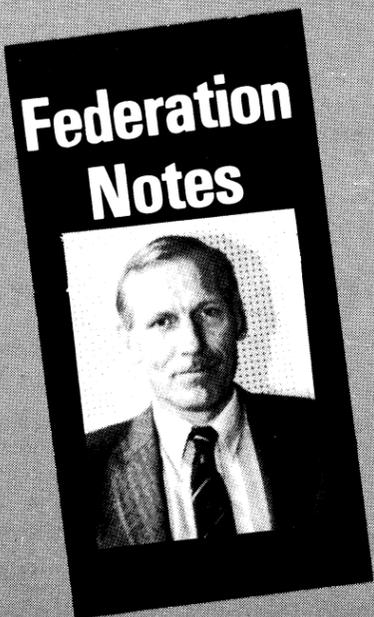
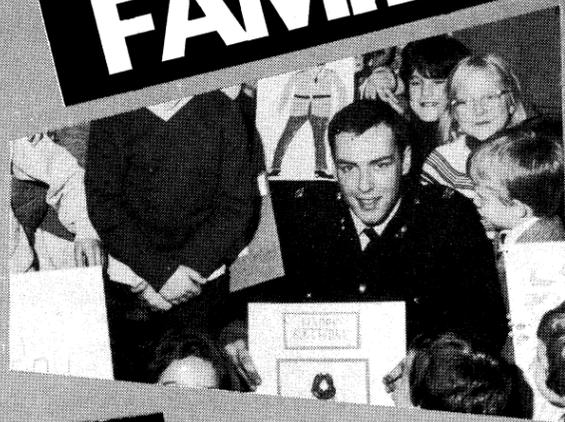
Witham's New Shift System

NEW CROWN COURT OPENS

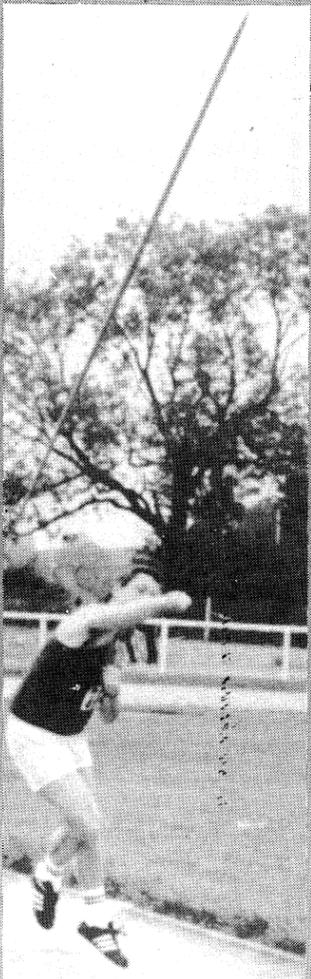
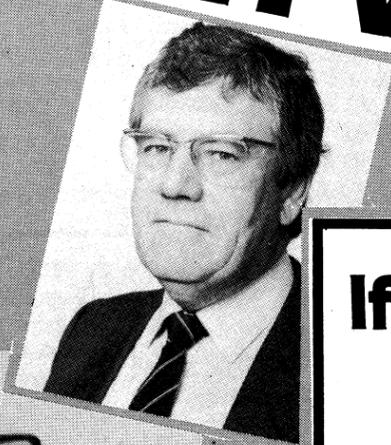
WALDEN'S FALKLAND FAMILIES



ROOF-TOP SEARCH ENDS IN DISASTER



Force acts on videos



Bob Bourne displays his talents with the javelin.



All dressed-up and with a long way to go.

If everyone stays put for a few weeks this is how it should look on Jan 1 !!

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

THE Treasurer and I are indeed grateful for the expressions of good-will and seasonal greetings which are reciprocated. It is not possible to reply individually but please accept this as a general acknowledgement.

Notification of deaths of pensioners

I apologise for an apparent breakdown in our line of communication, resulting in delay of notification of deaths and funerals.

Ex Ps Bill Pink died on December 6, date of cremation not yet fixed, no further information was received. I saw the Executors at 11.30 hours on December 10, only to learn that the cremation had been fixed for 1400 hours that day, too late to serve any useful purpose.

Ex Pc George J. Roseblade, died on December 5, funeral service fixed for 10.30 hours on December 10. The teleprinter was not received by me until 1500 hours December 10.

I am satisfied the Force Welfare Officers are in no way to blame. There seems

to be a lack of 'follow-up' which will have to be taken up at higher level if our system is to be maintained.

Police Pensions — Index Linking

It is interesting to note that the Police Federation have an agreement that Index Linking of Public Service pensions will not be interfered with. Our NEC also received this assurance which was published in our last Bulletin.

It is amusing reading some of the letters in 'The Law' on the subject of Pension contributions and rent allowances. Many Committees before have thrashed this out but there still seems to be little hope of a really conclusive decision. I cannot remember reading the reason for the additional four per cent pension contributions, was it to keep the present pensioner on a respectable level, or to enhance the pension of the newcomer (and his widow) who will contribute.

Rent Allowance

It was established in the bygone days that a fair calculus for owner occupiers, was 125 per cent Gross Schedule "A". This worked very well for a great number of years until a change was apparently made for 'changes sake'.

Police regulations defined the grant as being rates and rent free, a condition of employment, single men received half the standard rate. Regulations soon followed making the allowances taxable with the provision that any income tax so paid would be refunded in the shape of the 'Compensatory Grant', this being so, the Taxing authorities were not slow in requiring their second bite of the cherry by taxing the Compensatory Grant.

Force lottery

RESULT of the draw held at Braintree on 24 November, 1982: 1st prize: Wpc L. Odell, Chelmsford CSB, £1,378.70; 2nd prize: R. Weal (TW), Rayleigh, £689.35; 3rd prize: Pc G. Sharpling, Westcliff-on-Sea, £344.68; 4th prize: Pc B. H. Mason, Southend, £172.34. Consolation prizes at £34.47 each: Pc R. Parkman, Chelmsford Traffic; Pc A. Williams, Stanway Traffic; Ps R. Frost, Southend; Dc J. Lawman, Rayleigh; Dc R. Kerry, Canvey Island.

Market Place

FOR SALE: Bedroom suite, teak. Comprises dressing table with 3 mirrors plus matching stool and chest of drawers. £50. Contact Ps Nisbet Brentwood or tel Chelmsford 64661.

FOR SALE: Peugeot 103 Moped, good condition, S reg, taxed, MoT until June 1983, £90. Contact Ps Nisbet, Brentwood, or Mrs Nisbet, Chelmsford Switchboard. Home tel Chelmsford 64661.

FOR SALE: Cortina, 1974. N reg, 2000E (auto), vgc, £600 ono. Contact R. Donovan, FTSB, tel 03752 3083.

FOR SALE: Full range kitchen units, excellent condition, s/s sink. Available week 20.12.82. £75. Collect. Roy Weeks, Terling 322.

FOR SALE: 3 piece suite, 3 seater settee, 2 chairs, fabric with wooden arms, good condition, £30. Ps Norman, Chelmsford Town.

FOR SALE: Wall unit (free standing) with shelves, LP space, concealed lighting, smoked glass cupboard and 2 drawers. Approx 5ft tall, 6ft long, good condition, £30. Ps Norman, Chelmsford Town.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Don't forget this opportunity to win big cash prizes! Send us your favourite photograph of a police related subject.

Our specially selected team of highly trained experts are poised to exercise their professional expertise.

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.

- Entries sent to "The Law", Force HQ, Chelmsford, in an envelope marked "Photography Competition."

- Closing date for entries — 31st December, 1982.



HEADQUARTERS Section enjoyed a pre-Christmas celebration at Headquarters recently. Under the Chairmanship of George Harris, the Bamber Gascoigne of Headquarters, and with verbal contributions from Doug Rampling, Johnnie Johnson and Dick Giggins, a riotous evening was had by all. We regretted, though, the absence of Joyce and Harry Smith, due to Harry's spell in hospital, and we send them our best wishes.

Next meetings of Headquarters Branch are on January 7, February 11, March 11 and April 4, 1983.

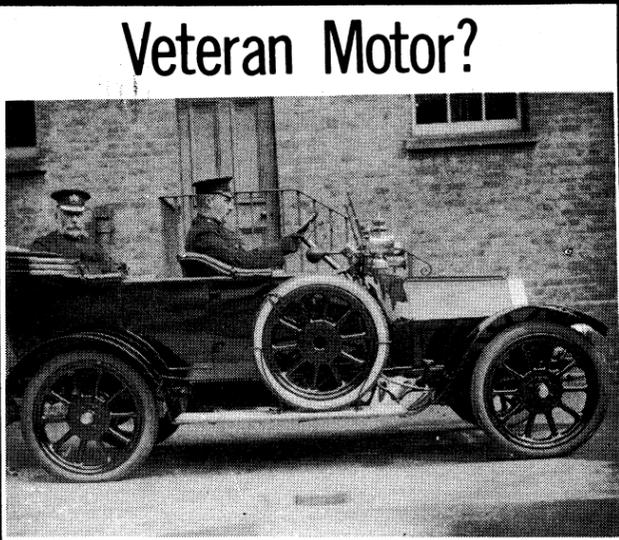
We are to host the 10 Region Annual General Meeting at Headquarters at 8pm on Wednesday, January 12, 1983, and it is expected that the Essex Section Annual General Meeting will take place early in February.

FOR SALE: Myers 2ft 6in bunk beds with mattresses, ladder etc, excellent condition, £50. Mrs Jackson, Chelmsford Admin, Ext 306, or Chelmsford 63911.

FOR SALE: Gas hob with four burners, £40. Electric Hood, £15. Will split. Contact Ds Pennock, Colchester, or Colchester 841179.

FOR SALE: Honda CB100N, taxed and MoT May, 1983, T reg, good condition, £225 ono. Pc I. Dunn, Brentwood, or Brentwood 232384.

FOR SALE: Honda CD200, W 81, 3,300 miles, just serviced, rack and top box, taxed 1983, as new £395. Contact Ps Waller, Harlow Traffic, or Harlow 38421.



THIS CAR was a Belsize Open Tourer, 10-12 hp and was purchased by the Essex County Constabulary as its first Police Patrol Car in early 1917.

The Officer sitting in the rear of the vehicle was Superintendent Lindsay James Fulcher. He joined the Force in November, 1886, and retired in September 1920. He served at Rochford, South Weald, Romford, Tilbury and Braintree.

The name of the driver is unknown, and it is believed that the photograph was taken outside Braintree Police Station.

The car was bought for £175 and was sold in 1923 for £100.

In 1918 the car covered almost 4,000 miles at 26 miles per gallon with petrol selling at 3s 9d (19 pence) per gallon.

Total running costs for the year were £68 4s 9d as compared with the running costs of the county horse which were £62.10s 0d.

If you can identify the driver, the staff at The Law Office or the Driving School would like to know.

FOR SALE: Circular dining table, wood veneer with 4 chairs, good condition, £30. Ps Norman, Chelmsford Town.

FOR SALE: Compressor. Ingersoll-Rand Air-cosse, single stage, single phase electrics. Pressure switch, air lines etc. All virtually unused, £300 ono. R. A. Young, Rattlesden (Suffolk) 663.

Avenger 1500 Estate. 1973. Turquoise, good condition, taxed and tested, £200 ono. Pc Seago, Rayleigh Station, or Southend 612718.

FOR SALE, two Ottersports Adult Life Jackets, little used, £12 each. PS Stanbury, Headquarters 314 or Braintree 26400.

FAN MAIL

THE FORCE Press Office regularly receives letters from school children asking for literature about the Police Force. The correspondence is always welcome and often amusing. The letter below was received from a young man in Billericay. It made it all seem worthwhile — well, for a few minutes, at least!

Dear sir
please could you send me some information about the police. I am quite interested in police and I have got a few friends in the police force. And I know that you do alot of things so we do not get run over and los more things to keep us happy.
your sincerely

CHARITIES

"THE LAW" continually reports the efforts of officers all over the County who give their time and energy to raise money for charity. Although many stories are published, it is often regretfully impossible to find space for all the events we are told about. There must also be many, many runs, swims, walks, and so on that go unnoticed and unsung, but reflect the continual strong relationship between Essex Police officers and the communities they serve.

The Police Review have circulated all forces so that they can publish a nationwide survey of sponsored events run by police officers during 1982.

It is not the Review's intention to publish a "league table" of fundraisers, but rather to present an overall picture of the immense amount of voluntary work undertaken by police officers for the benefit of the community.

So, if you organised, or took part in, a sponsored event during 1982, please pick up a telephone and let "The Law" office know as soon as possible.

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

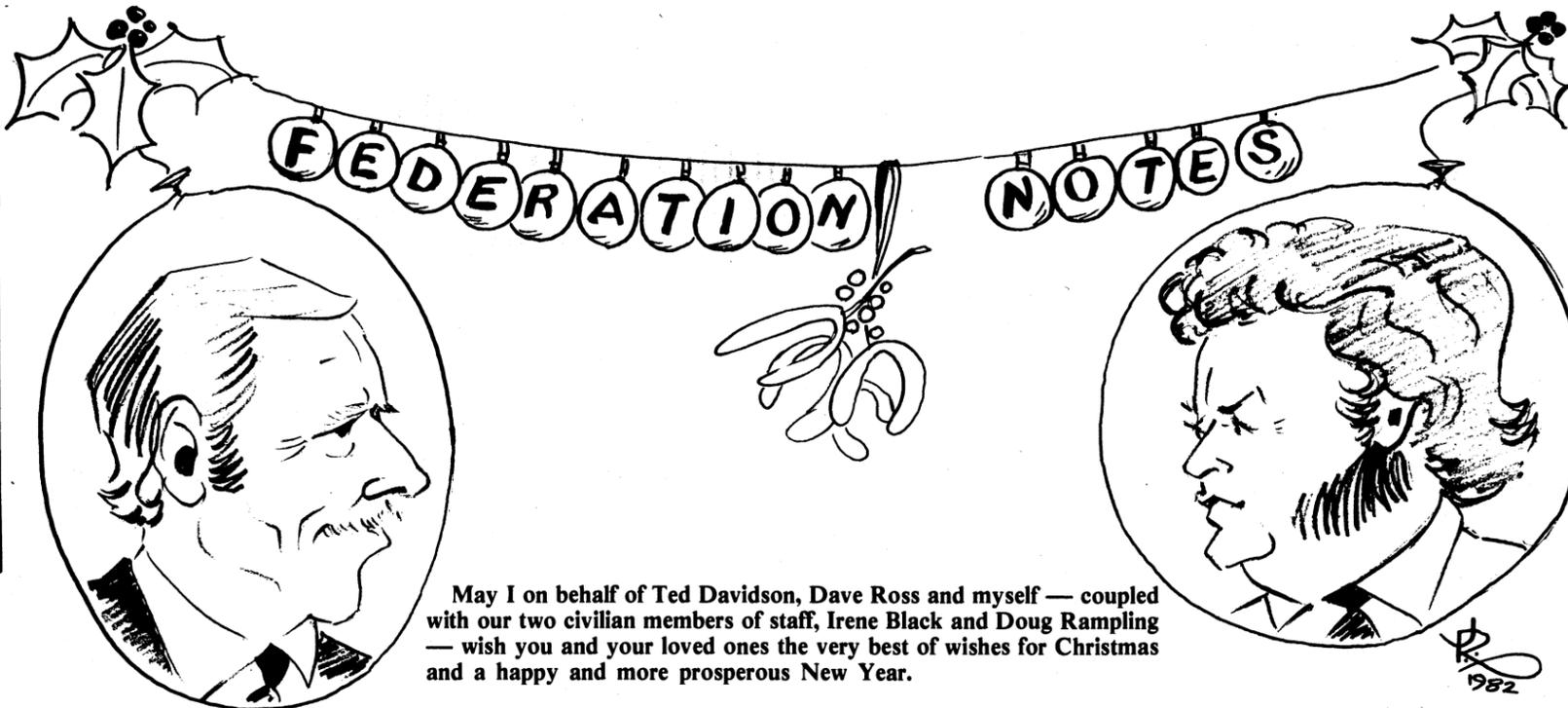
Name and Rank

Station

Home telephone

Signed

Federation Notes



May I on behalf of Ted Davidson, Dave Ross and myself — coupled with our two civilian members of staff, Irene Black and Doug Rampling — wish you and your loved ones the very best of wishes for Christmas and a happy and more prosperous New Year.

NATIONAL INSURANCE

The new rates and levels of national insurance contribution for contracted out employees (that means us), effective from 6th April, 1983, were recently announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The lower earnings limit for Class 1 contributions is to be increased to £32.50 per week and the upper earnings limit to £235 a week. In addition there will be an increase of 0.25 per cent for earnings within the lower earnings limit and 0.6 per cent on earnings between the upper and lower limits.

The reduced contribution rate payable by certain married women and widows will go up from 3.2 per cent to 3.85 per cent.

Examples of the present and proposed new rate of contracted out employees contributions are given below:—

	1982/83	1983/84
Employees weekly Earnings	8.75% to £29.50	9% to £32.50
£	6.25% thereafter	6.85% thereafter
£	£	£
100	6.99	7.54
170	11.36	12.34
220	14.49	15.76
230 & above	14.49	16.79

by
*Jim
Rodgers*

PENSIONS

THE Parliamentary Standing Committee which was convened to debate the Statutory Instrument which increased our Pension Contributions, has met and debated, but unfortunately there seems little likelihood of the matter being debated in Parliament itself. Mr Cyril Smith, made an excellent job of presenting the Federation's point of view and in fact covered every aspect that we would have asked him to cover, had he been our Parliamentary adviser.

Eldon Griffiths — who IS our Parliamentary adviser — also contributed to the debate, and emphasised some of these points quite well, but then went on to make a political attack on Cyril Smith's motives for bringing the matter forward for discussion.

This in my view was an unforgivable attack,

especially in view of the fact that Eldon Griffiths had not entered the Prayer which the Federation had sought. I believe it would have been better if he had taken the opportunity of thanking big Cyril for his support in the issue rather than use that particular forum to score fairly cheap political points. Perhaps it might be time to reconsider Eldon's worth to the Federation cause!

Also fairly vociferous in the debate was an Essex M.P. who supported the Government's policy — which is in line with the three line Whip we were warned would be imposed on Conservative Members of Parliament.

So all in all it does not look as though our contributions will be reduced from the 8 and 11 per cent which appertains at the present time.

However, all is not lost.

True to his word the Home Secretary has given instructions for the Official Side of the Police Negotiating Board to sort out some of our outstanding problems. One of these has been a lump sum benefit for the widows of officers killed on duty, and some real benefit for those whose who are totally disabled from employment. I understand that at a recent meeting of the PNB it was agreed that the widow of an officer killed on duty would be paid a gratuity equal to five times his then annual salary, as well as the pension due under the Police Pension Regulations. And additionally that any officer totally disabled would be paid a similar gratuity and pension.

This is a considerable benefit to be afforded Police Officers and in part does offset some of the extra cost in contributions.

COMMUTATION TABLES

On Thursday 25th November, 1982, at a Meeting of Standing Committee "E" of the Police Negotiating Board the official side secretary announced that new tables were in the course of preparation by the Government Actuary and the Home Office for Police and Fire Service Pension Schemes.

However, I can dispel one part of what I had reported in a previous column, so far as it relates to what the Federation Actuary was alleged to have stated.

I said that the Actuary employed by the Federation had stated that the present commutation tables are "at least 50 per cent too low". I reported this information from what I had been told by the Secretary of the Joint Central Committee at not one, but several Open Meetings which I have attended recently, up and down the country.

So it was with dismay that I learned, he was projecting his figures for the length of service ahead of him, for an officer joining at the present time. He had presumably taken account of increases in pay, contributions and a projection of a longer life expectancy which might apply in the year 2012. When looking at the present figures in the same way as the Government Actuary looks at them — that is to say, as they apply to an officer going onto pension at the present time — his figures do not come out too dissimilar than the present tables.

So, anyone who was hanging on in the hopes of getting a much larger lump sum, as a result of what I had written, I can only apologise. I gave the information in the belief that it was accurate.

And in accordance with that last statement, I can report that I have fairly accurate reports that some preliminary tables have been made known to the Fire Service — and they share the same common source of Home Office responsibility as do the Police which have not given the Fire Service Union any cause for rejoicing.

The proposed new tables give an increase in the tables per hundred pounds of pension commuted, of only between 5 and 7 per cent. I don't know the exact figures but this means that at best the lowest aged officers would get something like £1,500 per hundred pounds of pension commuted, if they are male; and somewhere in the region of £1,720 if they are female. I believe that these tables will be put forward to both the Fire Service and the Police, with a suggestion that they become operative as near as possible to the 1st January, 1983, as can be agreed.

Whatever, it is obvious that even this small increase will have a distinct effect on the lump sum available to officers who commute, and since some officers will be going onto pension around that time, the Joint Central Committee will have to make a soul searching decision.

Whether to hold out for more, as a result of our Actuary's figures — and in the process prevent some of our members from benefitting from the new rates, or accept the Government figures for the benefit of these officers, but hope to improve on the tables when our actuary's figures are available. Heads you win, tails you lose!

UNIFORM

A portion of the order for anoraks to replace the present Car Coat has been received from the manufacturers. Mr Challis has given instructions that these can now be issued as replacements for unservicable, damaged or worn car coats, where applications have already been made. This will be done according to availability of sizes required and initial issues will be made from this stock also. As further supplies become available the car coat will gradually be phased out of use, in order to maintain a uniform standard of dress within the Force.

The Chief Constable has agreed to the issue of reinforced toecap boots to Divisional Support Unit officers, for use in Crowd Control Training as well as for actual Support Unit operations. Officers will be expected to maintain the boots in a good state of cleanliness and repair, and Unit Commanders will inspect them from time to time.

This move by the Chief Constable at our request should save a few toes from being bruised, in the years ahead.

Lamp Allowance: It has been decided that from the new financial year 1983/84 the Lamp Allowance will cease to be paid in this Force, and with effect that date each officer will be issued with a two cell

rubber torch for duty purposes. Supplies of bulbs, batteries and replacement torches will be available on Divisions for issues to be made with the least amount of administrative effort, as and when these items are needed.

Warrant Cards: The present Warrant Card has for some time caused some concern, because it looks so similar to Credit cards and Identity Cards for many other employments. A small working Party has been set up to look at styles and means of display, used in other Forces, so that they can make some firm recommendations to the Chief Constable.

At a preliminary meeting it has been suggested that the card should be contained within a leather wallet suitably embossed with the Force Crest, and that the card itself should contain security information on a magnetic tape which will enable it to be used in the future for some highly sophisticated electronic data recording. That is to say that the card may be used for gaining entry to Police Premises via special locking devices; that the information invisibly recorded on the magnetic tape can be printed out by a simple computer terminal; or for booking on and off duty through the same type of terminals.

Sex equality gone wild?

Seen in a recent Staff Appraisal:

"He is expecting his third child shortly, and though there are some medical complications, at present he can cope."

It has to be the understatement of the century!

LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT

Football Round-Up

A GOOD RUN in various cups is some compensation for the County Football Team's disappointing League form. The Force team, so far this season has not lost a Cup game in the four Cup Competitions they have played. However, the League form is not so encouraging with only four points from six games.

The excellent Cup form was finely demonstrated with a 1-0 win over Runwell Hospital in the Olympian League Cup. A very determined performance was put on, in particular, by John Rhymes who was deputising in goal for Bob Scott.

Roy Scanes and Phil O'Connell worked hard in the front line creating problems for Runwell and were rewarded after 20 minutes when Roy Scanes scored what proved to be the winning goal.

Outstanding

The next match was a League visit to Rayleigh Athletic which saw Rayleigh comfortable winners by 2-0. The score line could have been much worse but for an outstanding goalkeeping

performance by Bob Scott.

Four days later saw Essex take on Hertfordshire in the PAA National Cup. In an attempt to strengthen the defence Tony Snow from Clacton was drafted in and a fine performance by him gave the stability required.

A few minutes into the second half Hertfordshire scored the first goal of the match and began pushing forward for number two. Their dominance was short lived as Roy Scanes climbed well to meet a right wing cross and send a looping header into the Hertfordshire net.

Finely balanced

This goal gave a spur to the Force team as a few minutes later Phil O'Connell scored goal number two and 10 minutes later made it 3-1 with Stuart Lowe scoring the fourth for a final score of 4-2 and a match against Cambridgeshire in the next round.

Late in November the Force team were again on Cup duty, this time entertaining Hamlet Court from Southend Alliance League in the 3rd round of

by
*Charles
Clark*

the Essex Intermediate Cup. The half time score was a finely balanced 0-0 but the second half was completely different with the Police having all the game but failing to score and taking the game to a scoreless draw even after extra time.

The next game was in the Southern Counties Cup when the Force team were away at Chigwell against the Metropolitan Police G District side which proved to be a hard match.

The first Essex goal came in the second half from a penalty scored by Roy Scanes who had been pulled down by a defender.

The second goal was not long in coming again from a penalty scored by Scanes.

By this time Essex were getting well on top with Tony Snow scoring an excellent third goal, followed shortly afterwards by a fourth from Dave Birkett. The final result of 4-1 was well earned and gave the Force team a boost for the Essex Intermediate Cup Replay against Hamlet Court, the next week.

Positive performance

In that match the Police remained generally on top throughout the game and with about five minutes left of the match Scanes ran in to score a single goal for a 1-0 win and a place in the fourth round of the Cup.

All that remains is for the team to turn some of their Cup success into a more positive League performance and lift themselves out of their lowly League position.



AS was reported in last month's 'Law', Colchester are the latest winners of the Croker Cup.

Pictured above with the cup are some of the contestants and committee members who were gathered at Colchester police station when the cup was presented to Divisional Commander Chief Superintendent Bert Dawson by the Deputy Chief Constable Mr Ronald Stone. Also present was Assistant Chief Constable (P) Mr Peter Simpson.

POLICE MARATHON FEVER

A COLUMN NOT for the seasoned athlete, but the individual who has decided to complete a marathon — 26 miles 365 yards. If you are considering joining the masses taking to the road, training to compete in one of our hundreds of marathons each year I hope that this column will assist you. The object is to get as many complete novices as possible to run and finish the PAA Marathon in Rugby in May 1983. Come on, have a go, it's a marvellous feeling crossing the line with the knowledge you've conquered the challenge of "The Marathon".

Of course, it should be taken for granted that every Police Officer is "fit" but if you're not too sure get your doctor to clear you first. The next consideration will be kit. It doesn't matter what clothing your wear but do buy a good pair of shock absorbers, shoes with good cushioning and heel support.

Comfortable jog

Now the crunch! Don't wait for the New Year, start straight away, not running like a maniac (as you did . . . years ago in the school cross-country) but a nice comfortable jog. Have a schedule and stick to it. If you want some guidance, follow the schedule given each month in this column, you won't win the PAA Marathon (The Essex Police Cross-Country Team WILL do that!) but you will complete the course, tough though it will be.

Aim to make your running interesting and stay injury-free by varying the running surface — road — country — parkland, and run with friends as often as possible. Get the Shift — Department Team going!

Half hour session

Between now and the end of January break yourself into running gently. Start jogging out five minutes and back five minutes (jog and walk if necessary). When you can manage to jog 10 minutes non-stop comfortably, train five or six days a week depending upon time you have available. When that's comfortable, progress to 10 minutes out, 10 minutes back, and so on in steps of 10 minutes overall running time.

Distance is irrelevant, it's time running that matters and at this stage don't push it — enjoy it. If you run an out and back course for this first six weeks, it will ensure you don't misjudge your distance and end up on what feels like a marathon.

Ready? Go! But don't forget to TAKE IT EASY to start off with and by the end of January you'll be running for about half-an-hour a session.

Good running.

by *Barry
Daymond*

Rugby Review

THE LATEST match played before going to press saw the Force Rugby team travel to Colchester to play against the University of Essex. A hard match was expected, particularly as the County team could only field fourteen players.

From the beginning fitness was obviously going to be the key to the game and on that front it looked likely that the County team would lose out.

Reverting to tactical play saw the police winning most of the line-outs and turning the scrum well.

At the final whistle, despite such a hard-fought match with the University leading most of the way, the police turned out triumphant, taking the game 15-14.

On behalf of the club I wish all players and supporters a Happy Christmas and would ask for your support for the many fixtures yet to be played in 1983.

by *Mike Hall*

Ladies Hockey Section

THE ESSEX POLICE Women's Hockey Team have had a busy season with plenty of lively matches against Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Sussex Police, all of which proved to be hard-fought matches. Other teams played have been the Women's Royal Army Corps, Brentwood RCS, and Bramshill Staff College. During the RCS game (against the male members of RCS) the match result was not as important as the

spirit in which it was played and the trip to Bramshill Police Staff College was certainly the highlight of the hockey year so far.

The team arrived at the magnificent grounds in Hampshire all bustling to play the "officers and gentlemen" of a Staff College and a robust game took place. Members of the opposing team included a Chief Superintendent of Oman Police and Inspector Peter Whent of

Braintree who can run incredibly fast for an Inspector. Also present was Chief Superintendent Alan Gilling who had divided loyalties of whether to support his home Force or the College of which he is currently Commandant.

Since there are four months of the season left, anyone who is interested in being considered for a place in the team should contact WPC Jean Seager, of Dunmow.

WANTED URGENTLY

Male hockey players for new hockey team for the 1983-84 season.

Contact W'PC Jean Seager

Dunmow Police Station or phone

Bishops Stortford 870441

The Law

H.Q. phone extensions
374 and 375

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