THE CHIEF CONSTABLE'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"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."

Civic Reception For Horse Patrol

The horses have been rallied up to police the busy town on Fridays and Saturdays 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 thoughtfully 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.

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 19lb 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.
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
The New Police and Criminal Evidence Bill should get the word to as many friends as possible, the police and the rights of the individual in a free society.
Isn't it strange how the English appear to like their eccentric club? society to be run as a sort of amateur, rather haphazard way, 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.

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 under
put an end to this uncertainty. To quote 'The Times' the police and the rights of the individual in a free society.

The Bill is "the first comprehensible and coherent attempt in

the Children's Ward of
The Great Ormond Street Hospital. The Funds raised from the stamps will go towards improving con-
tions both in the Ward and the amenities for parents who need to stay at the hospital with their very seriously ill children.
Jacky Merrison
HQC, CID Extension 511

RECOGNISED
Dear Sir,
With reference to your photograph in the September 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

THE EDITOR "THE LAW" POLICE HQ
POSTBAG

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 MDP. 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 A. G. Henry that they will be entitled to Police Constable London Allowance.

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 Subdivision 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 representa-
tion 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 wording the party weren't looking in the right direction as they would have been 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
Stop and search powers to combat street crime would apply to the whole country — not just London and a few other cities.

The NEW POLICE and Criminal Evidence Bill, published by the Government last month is already coming under fire from its critics. Published by the National Council for Civil Liberties as saying that it contains "inadequate safeguards against the abuse of police powers" 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 disappointment 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 its 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 and application 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 moment of suspicion through to the time when the suspect appears before a Court. The new Bill becomes Law, the provisions of Clause 1 will extend the diminished 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.

Search
If the new Bill becomes law, 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 reliability 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. The 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 the three levels of response would be used. 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 introduction 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".

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

The new Police Bill has been subjected to a 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".

Consolidatory
Police Officers will tend to see the provisions of the Bill as consolidating and clarifying all aspects of its 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 and application 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 moment of suspicion through to the time when the suspect appears before a Court. The new Bill becomes Law, the provisions of Clause 1 will extend the diminished 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.

Search
If the new Bill becomes law, 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 reliability 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. The 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 the three levels of response would be used. 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 introduction 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".

Mr William Whitleaw — law and order is his big problem.
A PICTURE

REORGANISATION
SPECIAL ISSUE

POPE’S VISIT

Promotion Board disappointment

'I had to choose 21' — D.C.C.

100,000 vehicles a day

Ready for anything

Essex Police dogs in procession.

M25 ready for tunnel traffic

CHIEF GOES
'DOWN-UNDER'
REMINDER OF 1982

Litham's New Shift System

NEW CROWN COURT OPENING

WALDEN'S FALKLAND FAMILIES

ROOFTOP SEARCH ENDS IN DISASTER

Federation Notes

Force acts on videos

If everyone stays put for a few weeks this is how it should look on Jan 1!!
The Theatre and I are indeed grateful for the effort of you and your colleagues and seasonal greetings which are reciprocated. It is not possible to reply individually but please accept this as a general acknowledgment.

Notification of deaths of pensioners
I apologise for an apparent delay 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 the purpose. Ex Ps George J. Roseblade, died on December 5, funeral service fixed for 10.30 hours on December 10. The telephone message to be a lack of 'follow-up' which will have to be taken up at higher level if our system is to be maintained.

Rent Allowance
It was established in the line of communication, Rent Allowance notification of deaths and apparent breakdown in our system is to be maintained. Police Pensions—Index Linking
It is interesting to note that the Police Federation has 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 contributors believe that this has thrashed out but there still seems to be little hope of a nationally considered decision. I cannot remember reading the police regulations for the additional four per cent pension contributions, was it to enhance the pension of the newcomer (and his widow) who will contribute.

Welfare Officers are in no position to publish any of the cherry blossom to keep the present pensioner and his family they serve.

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

The Police Review intends to publish a 'Flag of Honour' fund raising, 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, any event during 1982, please, pick up a telephone and let "The Law" office know as soon as possible.

**Force lottery**

RESULT of the draw held at Braintree on 24 November, 1982: 1st prize: Mr D. G. Collins, Chelmsford Cmty House, 2nd prize: Mr J. W. Smith, Weasenham (TW), 3rd prize: Mr J. W. Smith, Weasenham (TW), 4th prize: Mr J. W. Smith, Weasenham (TW). The telephone message to be a lack of 'follow-up' which will have to be taken up at higher level if our system is to be maintained.

**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 (no 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 "Photographic Competition."

Closing date for entries — 31st December, 1982.

**Charities**

"The Law" continually reports the efforts of all officers over the country 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 events that go unnoticed, but reflect the continual strong relationship between Essex Police officers and the communities they serve.

**Market Place**

FOR SALE: Bedroom suite, each £50. Contact R. Donovan, FTB, tel 03752 308.

FOR SALE: Peugeot 103 £50. Moped, good condition, S reg, taxed, MoT until June 1983, £50. Contact Ps Nisbet, Brentwood, or Mrs Nisbet, Chelmsford Switchboard 06. Contact R. Donovan, FTB, tel Chelmsford 64661.

FOR SALE: Myers 2ft 6in bunk beds with mattresses, ladder etc., excellent condition, £50. Mr. Jackson, Chelmsford Town.

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

FOR SALE: Gas hob with four burners, £40. Electric Hob, £15, will split. Contact Ps Pennock, Colchester, or Colchester 061 179.

FOR SALE: Honda CB1000, taxed and MoT May, 1983, T reg, £2225. Contact Ps Dunn, Brentwood, or Brentwood 22328.

FOR SALE: Honda CD200, W 51, 3300 miles, serviced, original engine box, taxed 1983, as new £395. Contact Ps Walker, Harlow Traffic, or Harlow 38421.

FOR SALE: Compressor, Ingersoll-Rand Air-coool, single stage, single phase, electricity. Pressure switch, air lines etc. All virtually unused, £2000 ono. R. A. Young, Rattlesden (Suffolk) 663.

Avenger 1500 Estate 1973, Turquoise, good condition, taxed and tested, £2000 ono. Ps Seagoe, Brentwood Switchboard 671218.

FOR SALE: two Oistersports Adult Life Jackets, little used, £12 each. Ps Stanbury, Headquarters 314 or Braintree 26400.

FOR SALE: Compressor, Ingersoll-Rand Air-coool, single stage, single phase, electricity. Pressure switch, air lines etc. All virtually unused, £2000 ono. R. A. Young, Rattlesden (Suffolk) 663.

The Police Review regularly receives letters from school children asking for literature about the Police Forces. 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!
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 I contributions is to be increased to £3.50 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 contracted out employees (that means us), namely married women and widows will go up from 3.2 per cent to 3.8 per cent from 6th April, 1983.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employees weekly (Earnings)</th>
<th>1982/83</th>
<th>1983/84</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.99</td>
<td>7.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>170</td>
<td>11.36</td>
<td>12.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>14.49</td>
<td>15.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230 &amp; above</td>
<td>14.49</td>
<td>16.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMUTATION TABLES

On Thursday 25th November, 1983, 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.

Whether or not 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 no one, but several, Standing Meetings with which I have attended recently, and do not the country.

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 into account the increase in contributions contributed on 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 on pension at the present time — his figures do not look 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 which have not given the Fire Service Union any cause for regret.

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.

I hold out both 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!

PENSIONS

THE Parliamentary Standing Committee which was convened to debate the Statutory Instrument which increased the 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 we enjoy 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 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.

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

UNIFORM

A portion of the order for anoraks to replace the present Car Coat has been received from the manufacturers. Mr Chalins has given instructions that these can now be issued as replacements for unserviceable, damaged or worn car coats, where applications have already been made. This will be done according to availability of sizes required and initial concern, becaust it looks so similar to the present coat.

As far as 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 condition. Divisional Unit Commanders will inspect them from time to time.

This is to be done 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 leaf that will suitably embossed with the Force Crest, and that the card itself should contain security information on a magnetic strip 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!
Football Round-Up

by Charles Clark

As was reported in last month’s ‘Law’, Colchester are the latest winners of the Croker Cup. Picture 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 runners but for 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 be of some help to 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 and 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 you 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 it will be.

by Barry Daymond

Ladies Hockey Section

THE ESSEX POLICE Women’s Hockey Team have had a busy season with plenty of lively matches against Cambridge, Suffolk and Sussex Police, all of which proved to be hard-fought contests. Other teams played have been the Women’s Royal Army Corps, Brentwood R.C.S., and Bramshill Staff College. During the R.C.S. game (against the female members of R.C.S) 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 Hampstead and all battened down to play the “officers and gentlemen” of a Staff College for a robust game took place. Members of the opposing team included a representative of Oman Police and Inspector Peter Whent of Branttree 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 Commander.

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.

by WPC Jean Seager

WANTED URGENTLY

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

Contact WPC Jean Seager
Dunmow Police Station or phone Bishops Stortford 870441

by Mike Hall

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.

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 the University leading most of the way, the police turned out triumphant, taking the game 15-14.

One of the club I which 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

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 won 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 depuising 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.

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 Lower scoring the fourth for a final score of 4-2 and a match against Cambridge in the next round.

Late in November the Force team were again on Cup duty, this time entertaining Hamlet Court from Southend Alliances League in the 3rd round of 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 to 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 goalkeeping performance by Bob Scott.

Four days later saw Essex take on Hertfordshire in the PAA National Cup. In an attempt to strengthen the Force Tony Snow from Clacton was drafted in and a fine performance by him gave the team the lead. A few minutes into the second 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.

by Barry Daymond

The Law

H.O. phone extensions 374 and 375

NEXT ISSUE

JAN. 1983

Published by Essex Police, H.Q., Chelmsford. Tel 67267.