



THE CHIEF AND THE COAL PORTS

"This issue of The Law illustrates Essex Police response to problems created in certain small ports in the Colchester Division by the miners' strike. The 'spread' is intended to portray the manner in which the operations have proceeded and to explain the rationale behind the whole exercise.

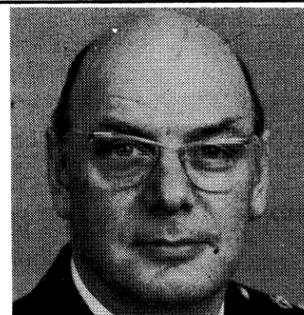
"It is important to stress that the police do not take sides; indeed, many officers will have a degree of sympathy with men who have a real fear of losing their jobs, but we have a clear duty to enforce the law of the land, and

to stand aloof from flagrant breaches of the law would be an unacceptable abdication of this duty. Mob violence and intimidation by numbers must be prevented at all costs.

"I have been pleased to note the good humour and high morale which prevail among the officers involved in these duties despite the long hours often worked and the frustrations experienced; establishing the correct relationship with 'demonstrators' lies at the very heart of the matter and, in this respect, our efforts

have not been found wanting. I have every confidence that tolerance and understanding will continue to be much in evidence.

"As a final note I need hardly mention the strain which these additional duties have placed on the force at a time when our manning levels are being viewed critically, but I must also congratulate those who have managed to provide such an effective police coverage to the rest of the force area. I can only say that I expected nothing less."



The Chief Constable, Mr Robert Bunyard

PIT STRIKE OVERFLOWS TO ESSEX

Miners come to Colchester

THE MINEWORKERS dispute has come to Essex, stretching the resources of the Force and bringing us into the public eye to an extent without local precedent.

When "The Law" visited Nottinghamshire last month, it was with no thought that there would be similar problems in Essex. Yet here we

are with five hundred strikers, their wives and sundry other supporters at our tiny port towns. But still we cope, and still the job goes on!

A feature of their time in Nottinghamshire for many officers was the friendliness of the people. It was almost impossible to walk a street without someone being complimentary. Now the same sort of thing is happening in

Essex. For example Mrs June Watson, a resident of Wivenhoe for 20 years, told Sergeant Mike Beaveridge "They're marvellous. They're charming and we'll miss them when they go." Mrs Agnes Baker, a Wivenhoe resident for 64 years said: "I think they're wonderful. They make us feel so secure. They are so polite."

For the opposite point of

view, with some difficulty, an elderly gentleman of 82, who asked not to be identified, was found. Having lived in Wivenhoe for 20 years he said: "I don't like the police. Never have! I've got a brother who was a policeman so I know what they're like." Then he added with a chuckle: "The beggars used to nick me twice a week in Fulham for getting a bit merry."

There is the side of the miners to be considered of course, and they have their own axe to grind. This they do long and hard in the press, on television and in their own publications. Nationally however, we've come out of it pretty well and it's largely down to the good humour of the majority of the people involved.

That this is the case is in no small way due to those behind the scenes who have fed and watered the troops on the ground and worked so hard to keep morale high. The same is true of the colleagues who have maintained the everyday role of the Force.

FOOTBALLERS IN PENALTY CLIFF-HANGER

PENALTY SHOOT OUT

The most dramatic scenes in the history of the Force football team resulted from the clash between Essex Police and Merseyside in the semi-final of the National P.A.A Football Competition.

It took two games, two lots of extra time and finally a penalty shoot out, to decide who should face the Royal Ulster Police in the final.



The Captains Shake Hands — Mick Allen (left) of Essex and Steve Finnigan (right) of Merseyside at the start of the tie at Springfield on 10 May.

Match report — back page

'TWINNING' TRIP FOR FORCE BAND



TWINNING ESSEX Police with the community, the Force Band will visit the German district of Roth, which is twinned with Brentwood, between 29 May and 5 June.

The trip results from an invitation from the Roth Twinning Committee who visited Brentwood last September. Whilst they were here, our merry music-makers entertained the German party by playing for them in a shopping parade. Now, with Musical Director Bob Coxon from Col-

chester Division, the band are off to play in Roth and other towns in the area.

Band Secretary PC Wilf Kennedy told The Law, "We will travel from Dover to Zeebrugge and motor down to Roth through Belgium and Germany. We shall be giving five concerts during our stay."

But it won't be all Play and no play for our musical ambassadors. Shopping and sightseeing tours are planned and there will be a day as guests of the Nuremberg Police.

'THE LAW' at WIVENHOE

See Centre Pages

POSTBAG — Letters to The Law, Force HQ

Cycle ride is go!

Dear Readers,

Look up! It's Superman!! Well not exactly — it's SuperSue, Jean and Sue!! By the time most of you get round to reading this page before you use it to wrap the fish and chips, we'll be winging our way up to "see you Jimmy" land, courtesy of Air UK to start The Epic Bike Ride.

But it's not too late to sponsor us! Elsewhere in this issue is yet another sponsor form. You're not getting off that easy, those of you who have thus far escaped!

Still it's all in a good cause, and the support we've received has been overwhelming. Thanks to your generosity, we're

well on the way to raising £5,000, with more on the way.

My doctor informs me that the Scanner costs something like £30,000 so we will be making a substantial contribution towards it.

As you're all buying it, we thought you might like to know something about it.

Apparently ovarian cancer is one of the biggest killer of women, because very often it isn't detected until it's quite advanced, and if it doesn't prove fatal at that late stage, then it at least means major surgery and chemotherapy (yuk) to effect a cure. The new Scanner

will mean that young girls can be diagnosed whilst the disease is in the early stages, and surgery will not, in the majority of cases be necessary. Those of you who remember me waddling about like an over-inflated balloon in the early stages of my illness will agree that if possible, potential victims should be spared this distressing ordeal. It will be used exclusively on disorders of this kind, whereas the existing scanners are overloaded with routine scans of pregnant women etc. Scientists are discovering more about the causes of this nasty, indiscriminate disease than ever before,

but for now our only hope is to detect carcinomas earlier, so that they can be more easily "zapped" by use of chemotherapy, radium, and more recently, laser.

The ride is now organised down to the last tea stop (bucket of tea and three straws, please) and we can't wait to start.

So thank you (in advance) for helping us to help others, for without you lot, we might as well stay at home!

Cheers
Sue Watts
Jean Seager
Sue Kelly

Ed: This is the very last opportunity you'll have to help the girls raise a huge sum for their worthy cause. The girls have worked hard, why not give

them your support and see if we can't raise enough to pay for a large part of the scanner?

and I'm sure The Law would oblige if anyone cares to reply.

Name and Address Supplied

WPCs

Dear Sir,

There has been a lot of press recently about women police officers not being used in Nottingham on the picket lines, some of which is due I think to the fact that their male colleagues are apparently earning a fortune in overtime, but some senior officers have said that women may be more a hinderance than a help.

I am a WPC and though I like to consider myself capable of dealing with any incident I am sent to or that I come across, I must agree that in general female officers are not physically built to help tackle the average picket line as in Nottingham at the moment. I think this puts women in a difficult position as it only adds fuel to the fire that women cannot be equal in the police force.

I personally believe that WPC's can be equal in all aspects of the job except physical strength, and on many an occasion their very weakness has proved to be their strength.

I know that many of my male colleagues do not agree with me, and that is why I prefer to remain anonymous. However, I would be interested to know the opinions of other officers both male and female,

Fan-belt

Dear Editor,

Would the person who left his fan belt for my attention, please note that it is ready for collection.

D/Supervisor
Force Training School

Thank-you

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Saturday Club of Charnwood Mencap, may I use your paper to sincerely thank some Essex Police officers. Inspector Mike Frost from Chelmsford has sent me £50 from your men on the picket lines in Nottingham, for our mentally handicapped children's toy library.

Mike has long been a friend of our Saturday Club but it is this sort of unexpected donation which makes so much difference to us. It is also good for people like me who sometimes worry about what the police are up to, to see a side of you that can easily be missed in situations such as we now have in the Midlands.

Again, my sincere thanks to you. I believe that those involved in collecting the money will know what I mean if I "swear" that they took the "right" course of action.

Dr Ray Meddis
for Charnwood Mencap

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

SPONSORSHIP FORM

I (name) of

..... (address) wish to sponsor

SUE WATTS SUE KELLY

JEAN SEAGER (tick as required)



for the sum of £ payable ONLY on completion of the ride.

(Please return this form to W/Chief Inspector Lorna Baker, Community Services Branch, Police HQ, Chelmsford.)

On Watch

THE LAW EDITORIAL

MEDIA TECHNIQUE

IF you take a course on media interviewing techniques, you will be told "Listen to the question, then 'respond' to it!" Note, you don't have to "answer" the question, just "respond" to it.

Miners leader Arthur Scargill gave a prime example of the technique on the BBC Radio 4 "Today" programme on May 10. Asked "Is there anything you can do to help the members of your Union who are on strike and who are suffering considerable financial hardship, men who are being driven to acts of desperation and violence?" Mr Scargill's "response" was "Like you, I deplore the acts of police violence and the Police State we now have in Nottinghamshire."

ARE THE PUBLIC GULLIBLE

Are the Great British public really so gullible as to be favourably disposed towards the miners' cause by such rhetoric? Will they find favour in acts of intimidation, or of sabotage such as the severing of brake pipes on lorries, which endangers innocent lives?

Or will they rally to the police officer who bandages up a demonstrator's injured arm? Will they warm to the blind girl with her guide dog who needs a policeman to escort through a torrent of sexual innuendo, to catch her regular morning train at Wivehoe Station? Will they read with revulsion and indignation of PC Ian Learmonth being beaten up at the dock gates?

Some might say that with friends like some of theirs, the miners need no enemies; and many who might say it are miners themselves.

REALISTIC POLICING

Surely, the way to the hearts of the public is via open, fair, good humoured and realistic policing; where any semblance of physical force is kept to a level which is readily publically acceptable.

Let our "response" to the question "How should the police react to these troubled times?" be "With the dignity and integrity that have made the British Police the fairest, finest and most highly respected in the world!" Then let our actions illustrate our words.



EDITORS CHAIR

CH. INSP. MIKE FROST
EVLIN



"BUT IT'S ONLY A TEENY WEENY CHANGE OF IMAGE CHIEF"

MIKE BARRY — THE FSU NATURALIST



**ESSEX
BIRDMAN
meets the
FLYING
PICKETS**



**Woman
Special's
bravery
trophy**

"THE LAW" is on the look-out for readers with unusual hobbies. One such is Sergeant Mike Barry of the Force Support Unit. Like many Essex officers over the past few weeks, he has been out on the "picket lines" at Wivenhoe. Away from the rigours of his job however, he looks after and breeds birds of endangered species.

During his 18 years' service Mike has experienced many facets of police work including the joys of a country beat at

Rowhedge. He was firearms trained in 1972 and in 1981 became a firearms training instructor. Now he spends his working hours helping divisional officers as only the Force Support Unit can — today it's a public order problem, tomorrow it's hours in a ditch on a crime observation!

The other side of Mike Barry lives in a modest semi in an Essex village. has a large garden in which he keeps eleven beautiful raptors (birds of prey) in airy enclosed

aviaries. These include Common buzzards, Kestrels, Tawny Owls, Barn owls, and Bengal Eagle Owls.



Keepers of raptors are registered to ensure that the birds are not ill used. Mike's interest is in the conservation of the species and so in breeding. The problem is that with the exception of the Kestrels, the birds tend to be so much alike that they can be difficult to sex — though they can presumably tell the difference! Nor is it easy to provide the conditions for them to successfully produce offspring. Mike says "Experimenting can take years but if in the end young are reared, then it

is all worthwhile."

The Kestrels produced three chicks last year and Mike believes that they have again heeded the call of spring. He also has high hopes of his buzzards producing the flutter of tiny wings before too long.

Charity workers, conservationists, youth leaders, Christians — isn't it amazing how much police officers resemble ordinary people?

THE LAW would like to know of anyone who we might feature here. Ring us on HQ Ext. 406.

Colchester Police Sports Club

present a

"CARIBBEAN EVENING"

to be held at

156 Provost Company, Royal Military Police, Cavalry Barracks, Colchester.

★ **FRIDAY, JUNE 29,** ★

8.00pm to 1.00am

Dancing to "TRINITY STEEL BAND"
Tickets £4.75

from: Moria Green, Colchester 574444

ext. 291; Bob Needham, Colchester 842553;

and Ray Finch, Colchester 570343 ext. 24.

Medal for PC

PC John Cousins of Ongar has been awarded the Epping Forest Council Police Medal for Community Service. The presentation was made by Chairman Mr F. Limer at a recent council meeting.

Receiving the medal for his devoted services to the people of Epping Forest district, John said "It's an honour which I accept on behalf of the Essex Police."

The award reflects the esteem with which John is regarded by both colleagues and the public.



Photo Courtesy of Guardian and Gazette Newspapers

DOUBLE YELLOW LAUGH LINES

"DON'T Even Think of Parking Here" reads a sign recently put up in the streets of Manhattan by New York City's Department of Transportation. The idea is to try to discourage New York's errant motorists from illegal parking, with a smile! What's more — it seems to work!

Another reads "No Parking, No Stopping, NO KIDDING".

Maybe we should issue Traffic Wardens with baggy trousers and red noses (who said nobody would notice any difference?).

Have a nice day.

Chelmsford Hospice Appeal

* 'MAD MONK' DISCO *

at Marconi Sports and Social Club, Beehive Lane, Chelmsford.

Tickest £3.00 (including buffet).

from:-

John Woods at Chelmsford Police Station or Jackie Merrison, H.Q. ext 512.



Chief Superintendent Charlie Harper, President of Grays Police Recreation Club, presents a cheque for £712 to the Grays NSPCC Lady Chairman Mrs Jennifer Cloughton. The money was raised from a

lottery run by Sergeant Peter Spensley for the Club. It promoted a lot of local interest and received a good press. Everyone benefits from events like this. Thank-you Grays!

WIVENHOE HITS



Hey Sarge! What do I do if this lot cuts up nasty? PC Graham Pinder meets up with a group of Kent miners' wives, supporting their husband's cause. Photo courtesy of Colchester Evening Gazette.

THE Olde Worlde charm of Wivenhoe is the backdrop to a twentieth century drama, as demonstrators object to coal imports and Essex Police officers strive to allow ordinary people to go about their everyday affairs.

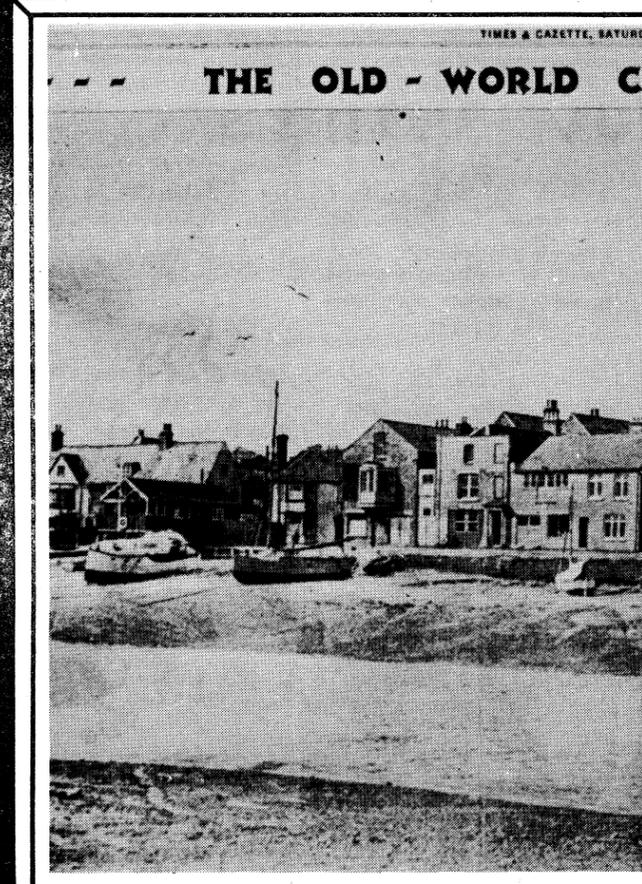
If we believed some of the reports, the Chief committed more men than the total Force establishment — and then some! Tis true, we borrowed a Unit from the Mets for one day and Suffolk helped out on other days but one ill-informed report spoke of 3,000 men! We should be so lucky!!

WELFARE PROBLEMS

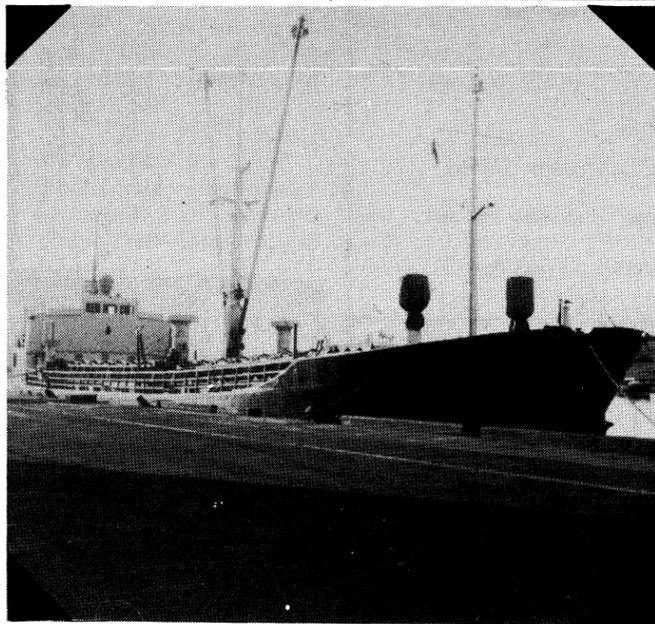
Nevertheless the people who were deployed created a huge problem in terms of accommodation, welfare and feeding.



This picture must high-light one of the major problems in policing the pickets. If we used only our shortest officers at least they'd be able to see the lorries!



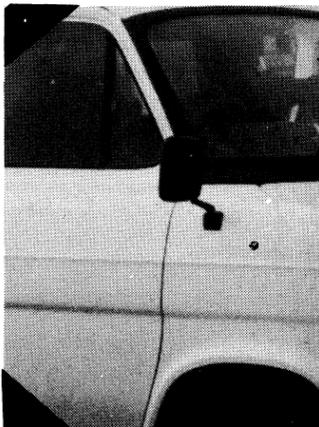
"Bicycle Bobbies" on the Picket Lines — Sergeant Terry Hymas with his Support Section of Colchester Division Neighbourhood Beat Officers.



One of many coal boats to berth at the sleepy port of Wivenhoe, since the dispute began.



Waiting at the cookhouse and a whole slice of bre



Left: Despite a large number of lorries carrying coal from the Essex ports, stocks are still very high. The size of the lorries used has caused some problems and brought complaints from the locals.

Right: — "Where Have All The Transits Gone?" — Every Division in the County has been short of personnel carriers since the start of the miners dispute. If you've lost a transit, try Wivenhoe Football Club!

THE HEADLINES

'The Law' unfortunately missed a photograph of 6 foot bobbies on chairs for babies at Millford School where the first base was set up. Then Wivenhoe Football Club came to the rescue and the operation moved to their club room. Many thanks Wivenhoe FC!

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Thanks also to the staff from Headquarters canteen who, with the cheerful assistance of ladies from just about every department, set to and provided countless packed meals. And let's not forget the mobile canteen team, who smiled from very early morning to late afternoon, providing up to 200 hot meals an hour.

The question is, will Wivenhoe ever be the same again?



Pat Collins from HQ Data Processing happily 'processing' bread and butter pack-ups! Pat usually makes her bread and butter number crunching statistics.



Crime Prevention find their vocation! Sergeant Terry Parker and Pc Lionel Lee Cha-'charing' at Wivenhoe Football Club after the daily pic-nic.

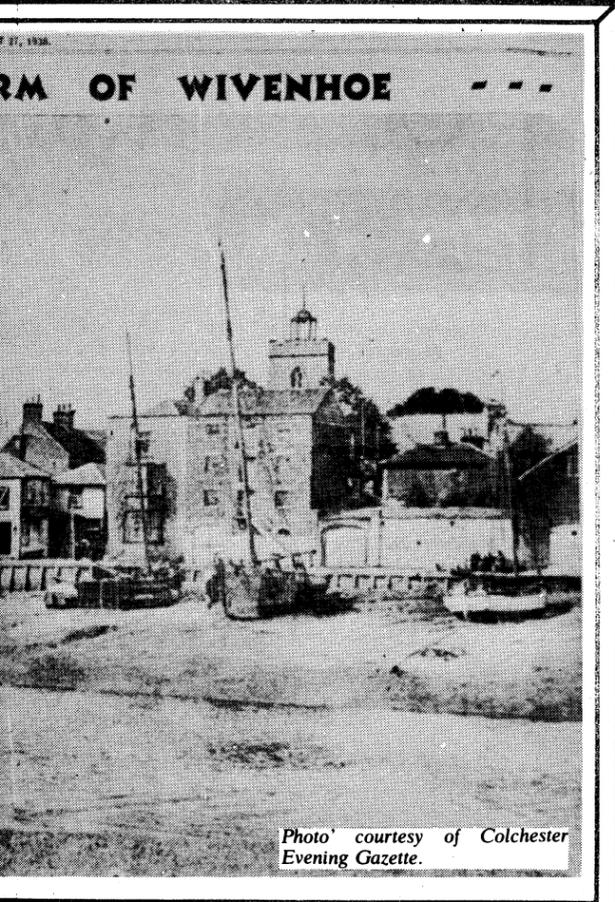
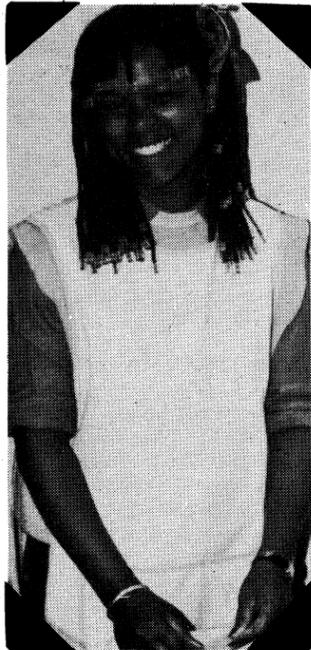


Photo courtesy of Colchester Evening Gazette.



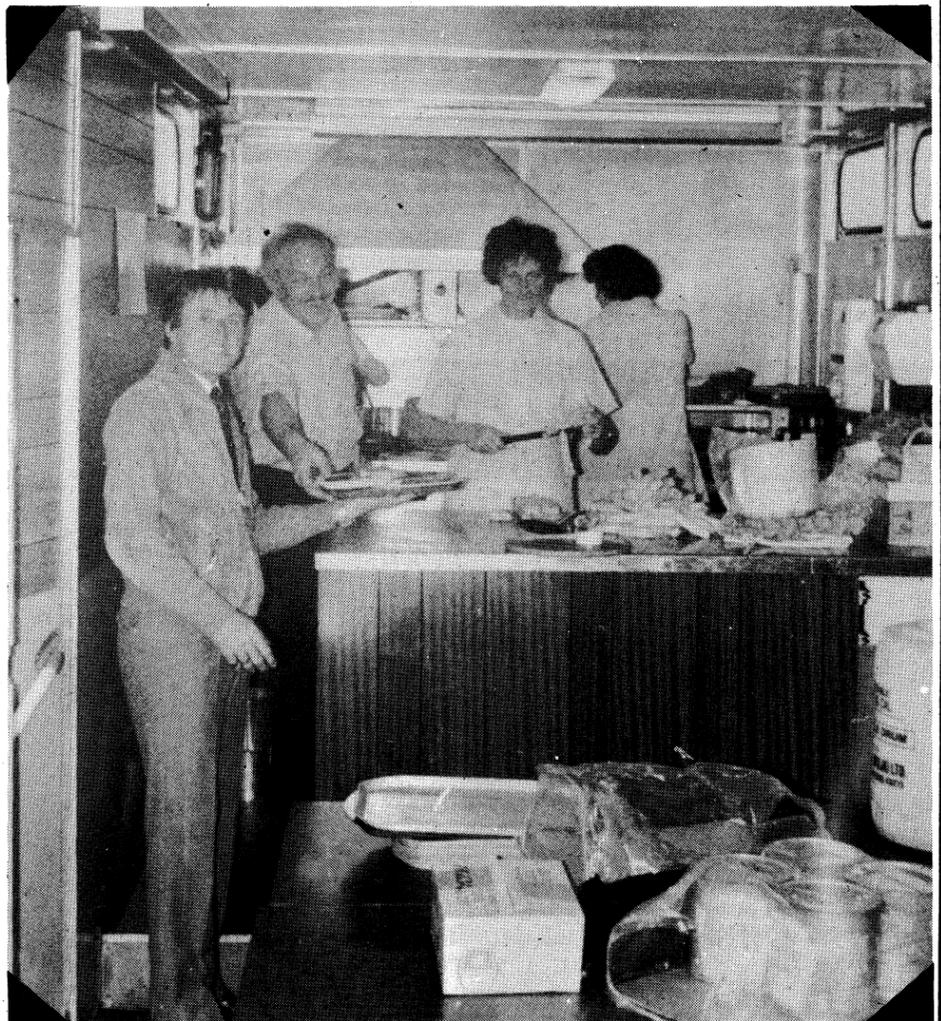
Smiling Sonia Kenlan Seals Sarnies



Headquarters Ladies pressed into sandwich making service for Police Officers and their "Guests". Up to 1000 packed meals a day were provided to feed both officers and others from the demonstrations.



— mouths watering with anticipation of breakfast, Essex officers queue for bacon, egg served with a smile of course. What a shame we had no space for the "after" picture!



Bacon, Eggs and Bangers scintilatingly served from the Force mobile Ritz by the seemingly never tiring catering staff. Pictured here: Waiter Lionel Lee with John Edwards, Elsa Mueller and Florrie Hamilton.

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

AT THE Annual General Meeting on May 12, the following changes were made in the Officers, occasioned by the outgoing Secretary (B. G. Brinkley) and Treasurer (H. S. Phillibrown) not seeking re-election.

Secretary, Mr D. C. Rampling, 11 Orford Crescent, Chelmsford; Asst Secretary, Mr B. G. Brinkley, 93 Sandford Road, Chelmsford; Treasurer, Mr C. E. Storrar, 164 Galleywood Road, Great

Baddow, Chelmsford. At the close of the meeting the retiring Secretary and Treasurer were each presented with a cut class decanter, suitably inscribed. Both recipients suitably replied and thanked the Branch for this very kind gesture.

Members are asked to make special note of these changes when submitting material for the Branch.

To date for this year's bowls fixture between pensioners and regular police has been fixed for Tuesday, June 26, 2.30pm, 4 rinks, on the green of the Princess Marie Louise Bowling Club, Bradford Street, Chelmsford (off New London Road). The charges per player to be collected by the skips is 45 pence. (20p green fees, 25p for use of green). Light refreshments will be available at a small charge which also will be collected by the skips. We are indebted to the PML Bowling Club for the facilities provided who have also arranged for the licenced bar to be open for our use after the game. It is essential that an early start be made as the Green will be required for Club purposes at 6.30pm.

Names of those wishing to partake in the game — pensioners — to be submitted to the Social Secretary — Mr F. D. Clark, 4 Maizey Court, Danesway, Brentwood. Tel: Coxtie Green 72402.

Obituaries

On 26 March, 1984 ex-Inspector John A. C. Mumford, aged 86 years, who retired from Chelmsford in 1958.

On 11 April, 1984 ex-Inspector John J. Enright, aged 66 years, who retired from Southend in 1968.

Retirements

PC 136 Douglas W. Anderson, stationed at Traffic/Rayleigh retires May 24, 1984 after 30 years 61 days service.

PC 244 Eric C. Widdecombe, stationed HQ Personnel, CSB retires May 31, 1984 after 29 years 97 days service.

PC Robert T. Burns, stationed at Southend, retires May 26, 1984 after 30 years service.



Officers and their wives from West Berlin, recently visited this country as guests of Cambridgeshire officers. On April 27, they visited this Force Headquarters and had lunch at Chelmsford Police Station. They were entertained at a social at Harlow that evening, before returning to Cambridgeshire.

SPECIALS' LAW

CALLING ALL 'SPECIALS'

HI, I'm Jan Williams a special constable based at Braintree for 2 years. I noticed when reading past issues of "The Law" that very little was said about us, so it's been suggested that we have our own column.

Now this is where I need your help. I'm looking for news, views and any tidbits that I can use to put in this new column. It's your chance to say the things you want to say, so, serious or funny, get cracking and get your items off to me via the internal mail to Braintree Station (that will

save you a 16 pence stamp). Your reward, your name in print in the newspaper of the month.

As I sit writing this, some of us are in the final stages of training for the Salter and De Rougemont Cup to be held along with the Muster Parade on May 20. Only 3 divisions, Chelmsford, Colchester and Harlow are taking part this year. Whatever happened to the south of the county, maybe last year's weather put them off? Well, lets hope the sun shines on us this year, as I must admit standing on



parade in the pouring rain was not exactly my idea of fun. Perhaps they heard a rumour being put around by a certain Inspector, that Chelmsford Division was training three teams and the best team would be entered. Well you know what they say, never believe what an Inspector says — well not this Inspector anyway.

Well, I will be getting in touch with The Bosses etc to get this spot going. Please don't be afraid, get pen to paper and let me hear from you about your Division.

by: Jan Williams

Force lottery

RESULTS of the draw held at Rayleigh on 3 May, 1984: 1st prize PC Menzies, Hadleigh, £1,461.87; 2nd prize PC James, Saffron Walden, £730.93; 3rd prize WPC Edwards, Rayleigh Traffic, £365.47; 4th prize Insp Montgomery, Harlow, £182.73. Consolation prizes at £36.55 each; PC Wylie, Clacton; PC Bines, Laindon Traffic; PC Thomas, Ramsey; PC Howlett, Harlow CSB; PS Walker, Harlow.

Market Place

POLPERRO, CORNWALL, modern holiday chalet on pleasant site. All mod cons, sleeps 4/5. Heated pool, club. Reasonable terms, especially off-season. S. BAILEY, 0279 53570.

FOR SALE, holiday chalet. Mains services, two bedrooms, furnished, Maldon, Essex. £6,300. For details PC Bob HAWKINS, Harlow Town, or Harlow 442265.

BUGGY DOUBLE, complete with rain canopy. Blue "lie-back" seats. All in perfect condition. Cost new £95, now £50. Sgt P. J. BURGESS, Harlow CSB, or Harlow 34664.

TOPPER SAILING dinghy. Red deck, two sails, trolley. Ready to sail £350.

Joan ABSOLOM, Southend Prosecutions or Southend 522982.

OAK gate-legged table, will seat six. Very good condition. Buyer collects, £50. A. GOSS, HQ CRO, or Chelmsford 84865.

SPRITE ALPINE four-berth caravan, 1985. Cooker, fridge, heater, hot water system. Self-contained electrics, £650. DC K. GURNEY, Chelmsford Station, or Chelmsford 466872.

SAILBOARD TENCATE Hunter, 1982 model, including extra mast, foot straps. Good condition, £270 ono. PC 1420 K. H. FRY, Westcliff Station, or Southend 206490.

TWO CRASH helmets. Good condition, £6 each.

Leather jacket size 42, £30. Garden strimmer, £6. Offers WPC CUMMINGS, Information Room "D" shift, or Chelmsford 461214.

ELECTRONIC ORGAN. Two keyboards, foot pedals. Large selection of "voices". Vibrato, reverb and percussion sections. Excellent condition, £125 ono. PC 1699 MILBANK, Information Room "A" shift, or Chelmsford 461316 after 7pm.

WROUGHT-IRON gate 6ft x 3ft with hinges. Buyer collects, £5. A. GOSS, HQ CRO, or Chelmsford 84865.

FOR SALE: Sprite Alpine 12ft, 4-berth caravan, fridge, cooker, full awning. All good condition, £600. D/I Ken Kelly at Basildon Station.

BEDFORD AUTO-SLEEPER "K" reg, good condition. 43,000 only.

Two owners only. Regularly serviced, records available. C/w fridge and hot water system. £1,500 ono. Telephone Clacton 429557.

RALEIGH CYCLE to suit girl age 7-12 years. Two-speed. Good condition. £25 ono. Contact Insp M. FROST, HQ extension 406, or Colchester 331085.

FOR SALE: Mustang "Arabian" GJS luxury caravan. Double glazing, carver heater, full cooker, fridge. Awning with inner tent. £2,000 ono. Chelmsford 269901.

12H WELSH MOUNTAIN registered mare. No vices. Ideal first pony. Sadly outgrown. Good home only. £300 ono with tack. Jacky BRYANT, Ongar Station, or Ongar 364447.

SKIPPER 12-foot sailing dinghy. Complete sails,

pairs, launch trolley and Good condition. Very

stable boat. £350. K. GURNEY, Chelmsford Station, or 466872.

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

'MONEY MATTERS' - by TW

What a nice reaction we had to our article on using a small micro to keep your finances in order. If you decide to get involved, ring me on 556096 during a weekday afternoon and I'll point you in the right direction. I have some printed specimen spreadsheets here which I'll send you.

Computer Progress

Rather than dish out advice this month, I thought it might be interesting if I sketch out how we progressed from a dining room table and two brown folders to the computerised organisation we have today.

It all started when a company provided us with a Sinclair Spectrum and software which we take to peoples houses to show on their TV's what the various rates are. It can also work out their financial planning for them.

From there we moved to a BBC computer and massive disc drives for memory, which another company was kind enough to provide for us. That machine keeps scores of letters and forms on disc so we can send the right letter to the right person without having to employ a secretary. It also keeps all our clients with their details and sorts them in any order we like. We use a large spreadsheet to keep the business and private accounts, so we can produce our last years accounts at the touch of a button.

With arrival of our mortgage specialist, we

developed a system which matches up a lender to a proposed borrower. Now we feed in the details of the client and ask the computer for a list of likely lenders out of perhaps 40 or 50 sources, and it puts them in order of interest rate.

Another system we use provides the last 52 weeks performance figures for about ten different investment companies, and prints the result in graph form on a letter heading — that one was designed and perfected by a 14 year old schoolboy during his maths lessons - positively makes me feel old!

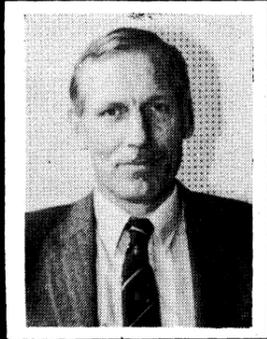
City Link

We use PRESTEL, linked through the British Telecom system to the city business information service, and we also link into a major insurance companies quotation and policy services computer. This is particularly good for sending messages after hours to insurance companies, so that they get them first thing in the morning — it's cheaper than a stamp and much more reliable!

Finally, there is our old friend TELETEXT which provides main city information and reviews after hours.

Next month, I believe I shall have to say something about pensions as I hear the Government is about to change the rules about tax free commutations — I hope I'm wrong.

Federation Notes



by
Jim Rodgers

Rent allowance

SINCE the last issue of *The Law*, there has been some information received, which I immediately put out to the Force on teleprinter. This has resolved some of the difficulties being encountered — but quite clearly there are still gaps in the information being supplied by the Official Side of the Police Negotiating Board.

The first meeting of the Arbitrators will be about the 30th/31st August 1984. One cannot envisage them publishing a result much before the end of September or early October, and then it will be necessary for the Home Secretary to publish a Statutory Instrument to effect any alteration that may be agreed. There is therefore some respite for those who are currently in the process of selling and rebuying, but completion dates must now be arranged before the Regulation is published — ideally before the end of September.

As information comes in you will be supplied with it, the saga will obviously go on for some time yet. If you have any particular queries, we will endeavour to answer them for you, just give us a ring on Headquarters extensions 398 or 386.

Auditor's advice

AS promised some time ago, now, we have available to us in the Federation Office advice from our Auditor on various aspects of Income Tax. This is in the form of a precis of the more common enquiries that he has received over the year's. He has expanded his knowledge to Brian Pallant and so the latter may be able to answer your queries off the top of his head. If not then he will address your problem to the professional, and relay the answer back to you, Brian's extension is Force Headquarters 386. The list of headings dealt with at the moment are:-

Single and Married persons allowances:
Wife earned income allowance:
Additional personal relief for children:
Age Allowance:
Housekeeper relief:
Sons and Daughters services:
Widows bereavement allowance:
Life Assurance relief:
Mortgage interest relief:

Deeds of covenant:
Pension Contributions:
Election for Separate Assessment of Wife's earnings.

As a sample of the advice we have in the office the last heading, is followed by the following precis:-

"If you and your wife's joint earnings, excluding investment income, are sufficiently large eg £23,800 or above, it may pay to file this election which must be submitted within 12 months of the end of the relevant tax year. This results in your joint earned income not being aggregated into the higher rates of tax. (The 40% band starts at £15,401), but the penalty is that the husband loses the married man's allowance, which is substituted by the single persons allowance. Do not forget the claim may have to be withdrawn the following year if circumstances change."

You can see from this that fairly useful advice is available to you for the cost of a phone call and the time taken to make it

FEDERATION NEWS...FEDERATION NEWS...FEDERATION NEWS...

Miners dispute

You will recall that in my last column I referred to the problems encountered by officers on Mutual Aid to Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire in connection with the Miners Dispute.

I have spoken to the Joint Central Committee Secretary at a recent meeting of JBB Secretaries at Surbiton, as I did not receive satisfactory answers to the two long epistles that I penned to him on the subject.

With a certain amount of reluctance, but in front of at least 42 witnesses he did finally agree that the Police Negotiating Board agreement on officers held in reserve away from their normal place of duty, should be further defined. He was loathe to commit himself to a definition, but under questioning did in fact agree with a definition as set out below.

PNB Agreement

The PNB agreement is thus worded:

"This agreement applies to officers held in reserve away from their normal place of duty, when they are required to sleep in a specific location. In such cases all hours shall be counted as duty hours except for a period not exceeding 8 hours in every 24 providing that in respect of that period.

- (1) proper sleeping accommodation is provided; and
- (2) the officers are stood down from immediate operational availability and, according to the particular circumstances, are allowed reasonable freedom of movement while remaining in contact in case an emergency requiring their recall should arise."

The words "in contact", were replaced by "contactable" at the request of the Staff Side, and this was agreed providing that the agreement would be interpreted with goodwill and commonsense".

As I personally saw the agreement,

there are four elements in its compilation:

- i) sixteen hours duty, and a period of 8 hours for sleep; providing that
- ii) proper sleeping accommodation is provided, and
- iii) the officers are stood down from immediate operational availability, and
- iv) are allowed a reasonable freedom of movement.

The Joint Central Committee Secretary agreed that 16 hours duty payment will be made in respect of each 24 hour period. The remaining 8 hours would be for sleep, so long as proper sleeping accommodation had been provided *and* the officers are stood down from duty *and* allowed a reasonable freedom of movement.

It therefore implies that if the four elements are not all present, then the officer is entitled to claim a further 8 hours payment for duty within the 24 hours period of retention away from his normal place of duty.

I am aware that many officers have received very large pay packets as a result of this spate of Mutual Aid, and that many are more than satisfied with what they have received so far. It is not our intention to wring the last farthing out of the Police Authority, but the Police Negotiating Board agreement does not suggest any alternative method of compensating officers for living in the adverse conditions of such camps as Proteus, RAF Cottesmore and Garretts Hay or Beckingham, than money!

There is no other method of compensation suggested for being "confined to camp", nor on 15 or 30 minute standby duty.

The reason for the need to make sure that the agreement is not compromised at its first using, is to ensure that the standard of accommodation at these camps is not setting the standard for Chief Officers to designate as "Proper sleeping accommodation".

What we want to show is that it

may be more economical to provide proper sleeping accommodation at modest hotel prices — together with a full 8 hours relaxation from duty *and* a reasonable freedom of movement *and* to "stand down" officers from immediate operational availability — than to pay the compensation of a further 8 hours overtime to all the officers involved in Mutual Aid.

So far as the membership is concerned, after some ten weeks of the long, tiresome and sometimes dangerous duty involved in maintaining the rule of law in Nottinghamshire and Leicester (and elsewhere), it is quite clear that the pressure is beginning to tell. Especially now that the strike has hit home in Essex itself, with the dock picketing at Wivenhoe.

Well-being

In spite of the money, long protracted periods of overtime and odd (very odd!) hours of duty being performed; in spite of the pride we have that we are coping with these manpower draining calls on the Force, individual officers are beginning to relish the thought of getting back to some sort of normality.

Some are declining to work on their rest days, preferring to relax with their families than keep their Bank Managers happy.

Now, we are looking at a summer long continuation of the Miners Dispute, we must hope that we can cope, not only with the calls to deal with the dispute, but also maintain coverage for the rest of the Force area, without the need to cancel or interfere with Annual Leave arrangements. Even if this means that the Force has to call for Mutual Aid from other Forces! I believe that the health and well being of the membership demands that there be no interference with Annual Leave and any moves in that direction will be countered most strongly by the Joint Branch Board.

Annual Conference

THIS year's conference will be held at Scarborough, and by the time this gets onto the News stands, your Force delegates will be hard at it.

Once again we have put forward some interesting motions which will provide some improvements both within the Federation itself and for members generally.

We have proposed that a Training School be set up to train Federation Representatives for the future. It has become increasingly obvious of late that your representatives are becoming more and more involved in things related to the good running of the Service. A more professional approach has to be taken to ensure that your interests are properly looked after, by ALL reps. We are being involved more and more in the Working Parties which seem to abound in the Service and this requires members of the highest calibre possible.

Another motion relates to the provision of a uniform Cash Book for Federation Funds. This is becoming a necessity because of the large sums of money being

handled through Branch Board Treasurers' offices.

A further motion relates to the travelling allowance for officers on Regional Crimes Squads and Motorway Patrols, both of which categories have an increasing affect within this Force Area.

Seconded Officers rights and entitlements need to be standardised, in order to protect members who give their services to, some facility away from the Force Area, and we are seeking Joint Central Committee action to remedy the situation.

In these days of intensive football hooliganism, there is a need to ensure that policing football matches — whether they be association or rugby — does not detract from the manpower available to provide adequate cover in the Force area as a whole, this is another of our motions.

In addition I am sure we will, as a delegation, be involved in other debates and are looking forward to hearing our new Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan. Wouldn't it be novel if he came to the conference with a different speech to the one which has been used for the last few years since Edmund Davies!

Open Meeting

THE Annual Meeting of the Joint Branch Board has now been arranged for Monday June 25. This year it will be held at the Marconi Sports and Social Club in Beehive Lane, Chelmsford.

There will be addresses by the Vice Chairman of the Police Authority, Mr Norman Clarke; The Chief Constable Mr R. S. Bunyard; the Chairman and Secretary of the Joint Central Committee — Les Curtis and Peter Tanner — as well as Inspector Ted Davidson.

This will be your opportunity to hear first hand the progress of the Pay Working Party, and Rent Allowance, as well as have the chance to ask questions of not only the national leaders of the Police Federation, but your own Board.

There will be a Buffet Style meal available for those who attend, and coach transport will be laid on by Divisional Representatives.

We are also providing a Cabaret which consists of 'Talisman' — a folk group who have achieved international fame and acclaim. They will be backed up by an East London comedian — Keith O'Keefe.

Make an entry in your Diary now!

LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT

TABLE TENNIS TOPICS



HQ 'B' Team were recent winners of Division 8 of the Chelmsford and District Table Tennis League. Above with their trophies are Ian Hockley, Simon Marshall, Gerry Tuthill and Wayne Campbell-Harvey.

AT THE National PAA Indoor Games Championships held in Wales recently, the Essex pair of Dave Birkett and Chris Jacob, who have been the No 5 Region Table Tennis Champions for the past three years, did very well. In the singles Dave beat the Welsh champion in the first round, but was unfortunate to come up against one of the top table tennis players in Europe, Keith Roger, who has recently joined the Police Force, and obviously was a class above any other player at the championships.

In the Doubles after reasonably easy games in the earlier rounds, they came up against the current holders of the title in the quarter finals and played very well to win 17-21, 21-14, 21-16. In the semi-final they had to play the Met champions, who are both County 1st team players. Both Dave and Chris raised their games to play better table tennis doubles than either of them have ever played to win by scores of 21-9, 21-10, which considering the standard of the opposition, were remarkable scores. In the final their opponents were the Cheshire pair representing the North West, who have both played for England and have won the National Doubles title eight times in the last 12 years. Unfortunately Dave and Chris could not raise their games as much as they had in the semi-final and lost 19-21, 19-21, to be National runners-up for the second time in three years. Everyone in the crowd said that the men's doubles final was easily the best one played during the finals and Dave and Chris have now both been selected to represent the British Police for the forthcoming season.

Southend Cricket Week

ONCE AGAIN Essex County Cricket Club have been kind enough to offer this Club an opportunity to sponsor a marquee for the Southend Cricket Week at Southchurch Park, Saturday 7th to Friday, 13th July inclusive. We intend to provide refreshment and catering services as before. Teams for the championship

match on 7th, 9th, 10th and John Player League on 8th Glamorgan. Championship 11th to 13th Lancashire. Ticket prices this year Sunday £2.50, weekdays £1.25. This is an ideal opportunity for you to entertain friends and to return hospitality. Ticket requirements to Brian Taylor, Secretary, Southend Police Club.

Send your sports reports to The Law at HQ

Seaxes Win

ON SUNDAY, May 13, Seaxes Auto Club triumphed over teams from Fords R Department and the Met Police Auto Club (Bow Bells) to take the Ford Challenge Cup by over six minutes.

The event which was staged at the Ford's Warley complex, tested competitor's driving skill and speed, and varied from blind driving with a co-driver standing through the sunroof shouting instructions, reversing a tractor and trailer, a flat out autotest in a Fiesta Finesse, to a smooth driving test in a Sierra with a rubber ball in a dish on the bonnet. Tests also included a straight line reverse with a transit and trailer, reversing a Ford Orion through a tight and twisty course and guiding radio controlled cars around a miniature autotest.

For most of the competitors it was their first attempt at driving many of the vehicles. The tractor and trailer seemed to cause the most problems for even the most experienced drivers, with a selection of 8 forward and 4 reverse gears!

Driving blindfolded sounds easy, but you soon get confused with left and right and even if you are moving I suggest you try it some time, but not on the public highway, and allow plenty of space.

With the Formula Finesse test smooth driving is the order of the day, with a ball balanced in a very shallow bowl on the bonnet; and sudden movement will result in losing the ball and time penalties to replace the ball. The course was kidney-shaped but included a 360 degrees turn at one end, and two laps of the course had to be completed.

The autotest started with a slalom up the course, a 180 degree loop and back down through the slalom, forward into a garage, reverse across into the second garage and back to the finish. Most people achieving at least some blue smoke from the spinning wheels, but the best, or should I say worst handbrake turn was by Lloyd Shelley managing to get the car onto two wheels. It's great when somebody else supplies the vehicles.

Last year Seaxes were just beaten into second place by Fords, but the determination this year showed with Seaxes obtaining four fastest times.

Blind Drive — Peter Johnson; Tractor and Trailer — Derek Stone; Tansit and Trailer — Lloyd Shelley; Radio Cars — Ady Wardman.

Best Seaxes were second overall after losing a run with the radio cars — Lloyd Shelley, third overall Ady Wardman, and team captain Brian Jaggs eighth. Overall team results: Seaxes AC 5777 seconds; Bow Bells 6139 seconds; Ford's PR 6779 seconds.

Our thanks must go to the organisers and the marshalls and Fords for the venue and use of their vehicles.

by Wayne Campbell-Harvey

FOOTBALL REPORT — Essex miss Final



John Stewart Paul Gamman Roy Scanes Steve Wynn John Henderson Bob Scott Cliff Haines John Weatherley
(FSU) (Westcliff) (Basildon) (Benfleet) (Grays) (Chelmsford) (FSU) (FSU)
Chris Dicks Nigel Cockrell Phil O'Connell Glynn Evans Mick Allen Paul Pratt John Rhymes
Trainer (Sandon Dogs) (Dunmow) (FSU) (Harlow) (Harlow) (Grays) Manager (FSU)

THE FORCE football team have just failed to reach the final of the national PAA Football Competition. Having travelled to Merseyside and drawn 3-3 after extra time the replay at Police Headquarters ended with Essex losing 5-4 in a penalty shoot-out amid the most dramatic scenes in the history of the Force team. The replay had also gone into extra time with the scores remaining 1-1 which meant the teams had been locked in combat for four hours without producing a result.

In the first game the Merseysiders proved the better team but the enthusiasm and fighting spirit of the Essex team pulled them through. Three times they hit back to level the scores with goals from Stewart, Gamman and O'Connell, and it was Essex who looked the stronger in the closing stages. Mention must be made of man of the match, Mick Allen and goalkeeper Bob Scott who both produced superb displays.

And so to the replay and very much a different story. Backed by fantastic support from the line the Essex team did themselves proud. A defensive error after ten minutes let in Merseyside for an early goal but from

then on it was Essex who produced the best football and came close to scoring on several occasions. Phil O'Connell was tormenting the Merseyside defence with his speed, Paul Gamman had the beating of the National Police centre-half and the Essex midfielders were in command. To the dismay of the supporters the equaliser didn't come until the very last minute. Seconds before the final whistle a long ball into the Merseyside goalmouth, a brave challenge from Phil O'Connell and there was Roy Scanes to hammer home the equaliser. The supporters went mad and manager John Rhymes was actually left speechless.

Merseyside goalkeeper kept the scores level.

And so to the penalty shoot out which many people just could not watch. The atmosphere was electric but silence fell over the sportsfield as five men from each team stepped up to shoot. It was all up to the goalkeepers now and a brilliant save off the third Essex penalty was the deciding factor. Neither team deserved to lose. It couldn't have been closer, a fact which was reflected by the sportsmanship shown by both teams after the game.

As for the supporters, well, just thanks very much, you were great, and on behalf of the team I would like to mention the Merseyside team and in particular Secretary Geoff Swinerton who not only made us so welcome in Merseyside but also made it a pleasure to be part of such a sporting occasion down here. We'll look forward to seeing you again.

On the domestic front the Force side won their league by the considerable margin of 13 points and in doing so won every game except two which were drawn, a fantastic achievement and there is still the Southern Counties Cup Final to be played.

by John Weatherley

But there was still more to come. Five minutes into extra time and Essex full-back Glynn Evans fell and broke his leg, to be replaced by John Weatherley. Still the Essex stranglehold on the game did not break and only excellent saves from the

MARATHON RUN FOR WHEELCHAIR

EIGHT Basildon officers took part in the London Marathon on Sunday, May 13. Chief Inspector Mike Benning, PS Ray Burman, PS Maurice Brazier and PCs Alan Barley, Tony Rustman, Paul Watson, Brian Ganley and Roy Scanes. All eight completed the 26-mile run around the capital.

The lads took part in the London run to help raise money for an electric wheelchair for the 4-year-old son

of a colleague. It is hoped they will have enough money for it in a few months.

They have all had to train hard for the run and have already taken part in 3 recent half-marathons, at Epping, Canvey Island and Basildon. Only two of the lads, Ray Burman and Brian Ganley had ever run a complete marathon before yesterday, but now they are all looking forward to the next one.

The Law

H.Q. phone extensions 374 and 375

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