



March '85 No 168

### ESSEX ORDERS TWO NEW PRISONER TRANSPORT VEHICLES

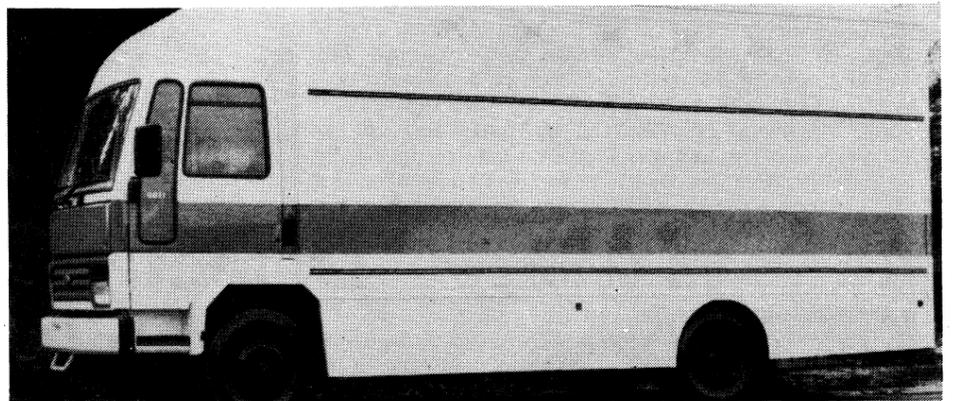
# Go to jail — cost effectively!

"THE LAW" last November featured an experiment in prisoner transport for the county, including the use of a vehicle on loan from the Metropolitan Police. Such a success has this been that the order has now been placed for two brand new prisoner

transporters to be delivered later this year. The 'in-words' of the Police Service at the moment are "cost-effectiveness" and they certainly seem to apply to this method of multi-prisoner conveyance. Superintendent Bob Storey, who

has been overseeing this project, initially aided and abetted by Chief Inspector Roy Bracey, told "The Law": "Since the present scheme using a converted Transit in the south of the County has been in being, there has been a total saving of around £20,000 just in the wages of the police officers and civilian chauffeurs. On top of this there has been a direct saving of some £27,000 in fuel costs alone and 255 police vehicles have been available for duties other than prison runs."

These figures are calculated assuming runs from Southend Police Station to Brixton Prison only. The savings will be even greater when other routes are taken into consideration. To put dates to figures it is interesting to note that between 2nd April and 30 November last the experimental vehicle, a converted personnel carrier, permitted 68 Sergeants, 275 Constables and 255 Chauffeurs to be available for beat patrol and other



Two of these vehicles are on order for Essex Police at £28,367 each. The cost will be very quickly recovered by huge savings in salary and running expenses against prisoner transport currently in use.

police duties, other than prison escorts. In salary terms that's a saving of £12,200.

The scheme is not universally popular however. There have been complaints from "passengers" of movement restriction and cramped conditions! Hence the loan of a Metropolitan Police 14 cell prison escort vehicle, which since 1st November has saved an extra £1,000 and allowed 8 Sergeants,

16 Constables, 12 Chauffeurs and 12 vehicles to be used for policing the County.

Northumbria Police also use 14 cell transporters and one of theirs has been to Headquarters for evaluation. The result is that Essex are to have two vehicles made by the same coachbuilder based on locally supplied Ford chassis cab units. They will cost £56,735 for the pair and their specification will be very similar to that

of the Northumbrian model.

The new acquisitions will allow the scheme to be expanded throughout the County. They will meet all the requirements of the Magistracy and prison service with regard to same day detention or remand and will facilitate the transport of prisoners in conditions of increased security and reasonable comfort over long distances — "cost effectively"!



Secure accommodation in reasonable comfort inside the new prisoner transporters on order for Essex Police.

CAN YOU HELP THE HANDICAPPED GET OUT 'AND ABOUT?

# WANTED — Police drivers

THE Essex Physically Handicapped Association needs volunteer drivers who would be willing to spend a week away with a group of disabled holiday makers. All expenses would be covered for any-

one who can help with trips to Westgate (Kent), Bursledon (New Forest area), or Clacton-on-Sea, later this year.

Police drivers are particularly suitable because of their training and

attitudes with people. "Our holidaymakers feel safe when they know that a police officer is at the wheel of the Association's tail-lift vehicle," organiser Mrs Barbara Anderson said to "The Law".

Anyone who is interested can contact Mrs Anderson at 90 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, or by telephone on Chelmsford 51296 or 57309.

A police officer who has been on one of these trips is WPC Tina Bradbrook of Laindon Traffic. Tina will confirm that no nursing or heavy lifting is involved, although some general care help is sometimes necessary. The main attributes needed are common-sense and a ready smile. People who have been away so far agree that they have had a great time.

In previous years Essex Cadets have helped out with these holidays. They are going again this year. Mrs Anderson commented: "They were magnificent last year and we are delighted that they want to come again."

On a longer term basis, the Association also needs drivers who can spare a

couple of hours during the week. People with some physical disablement have to be collected from their homes and taken to the Broomfield Road Centre in Chelmsford for activities such as pottery, drama and dressmaking.

PC John Tingey from Boreham has been a weekly volunteer for some time now. He gets a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction from helping out. "It doesn't take up too much time and it isn't difficult," said John. "I've made some really good friends and what you do is always appreciated!"

If any "Law" reader would like an enjoyable week away doing something worthwhile for physically handicapped people, Barbara Anderson would like to know as soon as possible. The same goes for anyone who might be able to take on helping on a more regular basis. Ring her at Chelmsford 51296 or 57309.

## Concert for Steve Greet

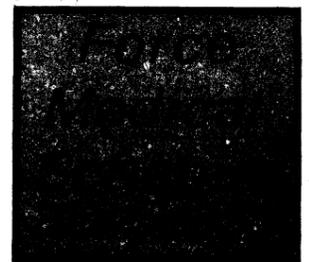
ON February 5th, the Force Band gave a concert in the Epping Hall at Epping. The proceeds were donated to the dependents of PC Steve Greet who was tragically killed whilst on duty on August 14th, 1984. Prior to his death PC Greet was a member of the Band.

The concert was organised by officers from Epping Police Station. It was very well attended. The proceeds of the concert, together with a very generous donation from the programme publishers, totalled £765.60p. Epping CID added £300 raised in a draw, making the grand total £1,065.60p.

The money was presented to Mrs Greet at a recent Band rehearsal by Band Leader Bob Coxon. (A picture is on page 3). Mrs Greet also received another cheque for £20 from Mrs Gill Ford, a Band member, who is a teacher at Latton Green Junior School, Harlow. This money followed a visit made a few weeks ago to the school when the Band gave the children the chance to play their instruments.



Constable John Tingey of Boreham with members of the Essex Physically Handicapped Association. The vehicle, which is fitted with a tail lift, is one of two that need police drivers urgently.



# POSTBAG — Letters to The Law, Force HQ

## George says "Good-bye"

Dear Sir,  
 Could I please use your newspaper as a means to say farewell and thanks you to my friends in the Force? I have been overwhelmed by the many expressions of goodwill and by the numerous gifts which are much treasured by Joan and myself.

I have many happy memories of both my "Borough" and "Essex" days and I thank those that share them with me.

Due to the fact that my retirement came upon me rather suddenly, I was not able to say "goodbye" to those brave ladies (The Police Widows) that I was fortunate enough to visit during the last few years. I

would like to thank them for making me welcome in their homes and for sharing their memories of by-gone days.

I wish everybody health and happiness in the future.

Yours sincerely,  
 George Sage  
 Benfleet

### Red carpet

Dear Sir,

The occasion of the Class of February 1935 50th year re-union luncheon at headquarters is referred to in another part of this paper so I will not go into detail.

I think, however, it would be remiss of us not

to express appreciation of the red carpet treatment afforded us throughout the lunch and afternoon guided tour.

Enthusiasm for and interest in the job was shown by all with whom we came into contact and this gave us great satisfaction. If these are the kind of chaps to whom we handed over the Force, no worries!

Your sincerely  
 Ron Bearman  
 for the Class of February 1935  
 Springfield,  
 Chelmsford

### Floral tribute

Dear Sir,  
 May I through "The

Law" columns express on behalf of my family and myself, our very sincere thanks for the beautiful floral tribute sent from the Chief Constable and members of the Essex Force, in tribute to my late husband "Ray" — known to most as "Mick", also to old colleagues who contacted me.

Yours sincerely  
 Dorothy Sweeney  
 Sussex

### New projects

Dear Sir,

Would you please through "The Law" pass my sincere thanks to all colleagues and friends in the Force who contributed

to my retirement gifts and for helping to make my retirement party such a successful evening. No doubt I shall be missing the comradeship I have enjoyed over the passed 30 years but looking forward to new projects in the future.

Bob Rickett  
 Ex PC 535 Harlow CSB

### Grateful thanks

Dear Sir,

My sons and I would like to thank all our friends — old and new — for their kindness shown during my husband Reg's last illness.

To all those who visited him in hospital, for the flowers, and all the messages of sympathy our grateful thanks.

Yours sincerely  
 Linda, Michael and  
 Graham Hurst  
 Chelmsford

### Pen pal

Dear Sir,

I shall be joining the Fire Service in the New Year. I would like to exchange letters with a recruit to the police. We could compare our training and experiences. I am interested in rifle shooting and parachuting. My age is 19 years.

Yours sincerely  
 Stephen Duffy  
 57, Broxted Park,  
 Streatham,  
 London 3AU

### Praise indeed

Dear Sir,

Please find attached the poem that was given to me by a Nottinghamshire miner while I was on duty at Silverhill Colliery, N. Notts. recently. For obvious reasons he wishes to remain anonymous.

Yours faithfully  
 Ernie Fosker PC 1262  
 Elmstead Market Police  
 Station

### Boys in Blue

When this strike is over,  
 And all the picketing has done,  
 The copper can go home again,  
 And have himself some fun.

Life for him has not been "Rosey",  
 Nor "Dixon of Dock Green",  
 Don't believe he gets any glory,  
 As portrayed on the silver screen,

His job it is a thankless one,  
 Enforcing the rule of law,  
 He works all of God's hours,  
 But takes on the jaw.

When he's on the picket line,  
 His thoughts they wander far,  
 To Essex or maybe Dorset,  
 To where his loved ones are.

And in this time of trouble,  
 His resilience has brought him through,  
 For I, as a working Notts miner,  
 Give thanks to the Boys in Blue.

Anonymous Miner,  
 Silverhill Colliery  
 North Notts.

**SEND  
 YOUR  
 LETTERS  
 TO  
 THE LAW**

## MORE DAYS IN 1985

FOR those who know him, for years Constable Roger Parker has been saying there are not enough hours in the day. Now, thanks to Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Roger has found that 1985 has more days than the normal 365.

Opening the diary issued to him he found it was to be a normal year — until toward the end of the year. January had 31 days, February 28, etc., until he got to July, August, September, July, August, September, October...

Yes, he suddenly found he had gained three whole months! The problem he has is how to fit his leave in the right period. Does he really have a Chief who would believe that Roger started his leave in September and finished it in July? It may turn out that he will be owed annual leave this leave year.

## Farewell George



Joan and George Sage pictured at his recent retirement 'do' at HQ bar. For the last six of his 27 years' service, George was the Force Sports Secretary. He was also very active on the welfare scene and will be sadly missed and fondly remembered throughout the county.

## Detectives chosen for intelligence!!

A collector of antique books, DC Mick Sears, Leigh, has come across the article below entitled "1,000 Ways to Earn a Living". Published by "Tit Bits" in 1888 for one shilling (5p), it is a sort of career guide. Note the pay and promotion prospects!

### EARN A LIVING — JOIN THE POLICE

In order to enter the Police Force, the primary qualification is a good character. In most provincial towns, the police are chosen from men who have been under the eye of the chief inspector for a number of years.

In most towns the minimum standard of height is 5ft 8in. A medical examination somewhat similar to that undergone by recruits is stipulated. The other qualifications are simple reading, writing, and arithmetic, with special regard to spelling.

If the candidate is accepted, he spends a period of time on probation, and then makes a declaration that he will serve our Sovereign Lady the Queen loyally and dutifully. The Metropolitan Police Force pay commences at 24s a week, with an increment every two years until 30s has been reached. The "Reserves", whose duty is to fill up vacancies in case of illness, &c, are paid on a slightly higher scale.

It is possible to rise to the rank of sergeant in eight years, though few achieve this distinction under ten. Sergeants receive from 34s to 38s a week. Sergeants of the Reserve are better paid, as are those who do duty of a responsible

kind. Sergeants rise in five years to superintendent. Superintendents receive from £2 14s to £3 a week.

The uniform is provided, and consists of two pairs of boots, a tunic, a helmet, and two pairs of trousers each year, and an overcoat every three years.

The rules of the force are very severe with regard to breaches of discipline. On the completion of twenty-eight years' service the constable can retire and receive a pension equal to two-thirds of his salary.

Detectives are a distinct class of the service, having their headquarters in Scotland Yard, SW. They are selected from the police, and are chosen for their intelligence, aptitude for tracking criminals, superior education and knowledge of foreign languages. They receive salaries in accordance with their talents.

On reaching the rank of superintendent the officer of the police undergoes an examination at the hands of the Civil Service Commissioners. Applications for admittance to the Metropolitan Police should be addressed to the local station. In provincial forces applications should be sent to the head constable of the district.

## Don't drink and drive in Turkey

IF YOU are thinking of taking a policeman's holiday in Turkey, take a tip — don't take a tippie. The Turkish police don't use a breath testing device on drivers. If an officer just thinks that a driver has been drinking, that's enough for a hefty fine or maybe 15 days in jail.

PC Alan Addison of Harlow Traffic has acquired a copy of the "Turkish Daily News" ("Turkey's first and only English daily") dated 21 January 1985. He passed it on to "The Law" because of an article headlined "Turkish police wage battle against drunken drivers." This is the gist of the piece.

### Campaign

It appears that Turkish police have launched an extensive drink and driving campaign that makes the Christmas efforts of Essex pale into insignificance. At the beginning of

the campaign in Istanbul alone, they arrested an average of 250 drivers a day. By January this figure had dropped to a mere 30 or 40 a day!

Just to smell alcohol on the breath of drivers and to judge by general appearances is sufficient for an arrest in many Turkish cities. There is no legal definition of what constitutes drunkenness and a decision as to whether a driver is intoxicated is up to individual police officers. Even when they do use a device to guide them, if it registers in the slightest degree that's good enough it seems.

### Accidents

A police official is quoted in the article as saying "We want to keep drunks off the road, because they are the ones who often cause serious accidents, and this is the

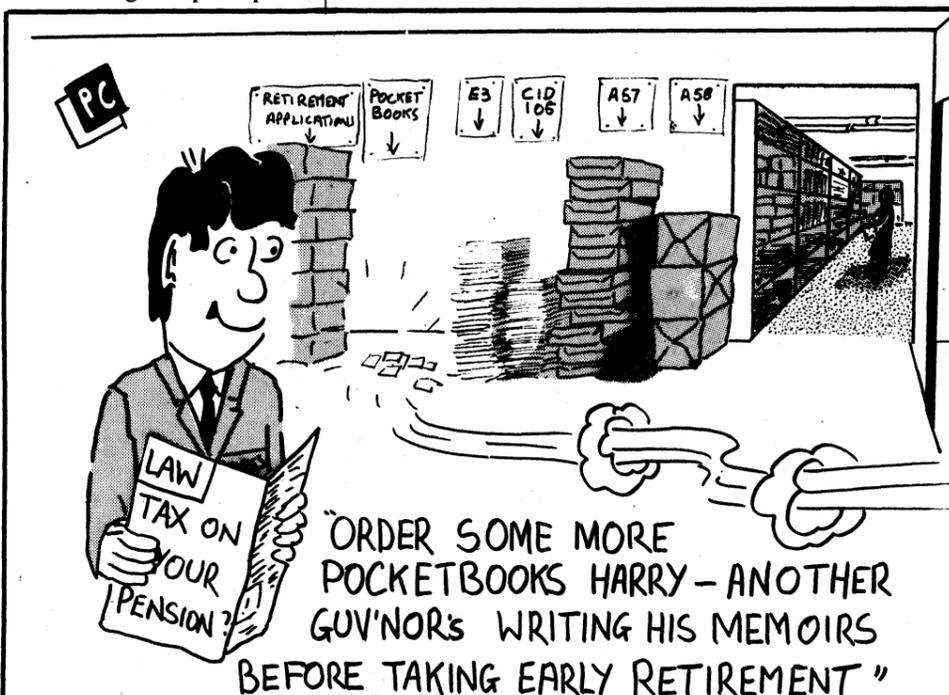
only way to do it." He has a point! Traffic accidents are reported to claim 8,000 Turkish lives a year. Since it was launched the campaign has resulted in a threefold increase in the number of arrests and a 40 per cent drop in drink-driving associated accidents. That's one statistic that it is surely in everyone's interest to "Keep Low".

### Garlic

The campaign does have its critics however. As a result of public pressure the discretionary powers of the police will be limited by a new law to be introduced next June. In the meantime one restaurateur offers a taxi ride home and others recommend chewing garlic or raw parsley leaves to disguise the smell of alcohol on the breath.

What is it about people the world over that puts

alcohol and automobiles on a pedestal above life itself! Arrogance, selfishness and greed perhaps?



# One man and his Jeep

FOR the past 7 years, Sergeant Gus Gowers of Headquarters Firearms Unit has followed his hobby of collecting World War 2 military vehicle parts and rebuilding them into working order. He spends the winter months searching for bits, servicing and putting them together and the summer showing off his finds at rallies and displays all over the country.

Pride and joy of Gus's collection is his Jeep, which is one of the 277,896 built by the Ford Motor Company in



Man in tune with technology! sergeant Gus Gowers astride a wartime folding commando cycle at a military vehicles rally.

America between 1942 and 1945. He believes that it is one of only about 5,000 now remaining from 639,245 manufactured both by Ford and the possible better known Willys Overland company.

## Fleep

Gus is a mine of information about the Jeep. As he explained to 'The Law,' these vehicles were built initially to replace horses and motor cycles for light reconnaissance duties. It soon became apparant however that almost nothing was too-much for this little workhorse

and an almost unbelievable range of field modification kits were produced. For example railway wheel kits, ski kits for the front wheels, pulley kits to allow it to cross impossible terrain on a steel line and even a flying kit in the form of rotary powerless wing. The idea of this latter — known as the 'fleep' was the Jeeps could be flown into enemy territory slung beneath an aircraft and allowed to 'flutter' to the ground. "Mercifully" says Gus "the need was gone before the 'fleep' was passed the prototype stage."

There was even an amphibious version called the 'seep', but the famous standard Jeep itself had many advanced features. These included sealed beam lamps and headlamps on hinges so that they could swivel to shine into the engine compartment. The flat top front wings and rear tool compartments allowed the vehicles to stacked three deep on supply ships.

## Legends

Jeeps were so popular that sayings and legends sprang up around them whilst they were still being built. "If my Jeep can get me there, I will get it back" gives an indication of the faith a soldier had in his vehicle.



Gus Gowers at the wheel of his Jeep. He took 3,500 hours to rebuild it, making some parts from scratch.

Another war time saying was "A Jeep can do anything except the knitting." it was the only vehicle to have an official nickname and was even given an official 'Honourable Dishcharge' at the end of the War.

The Imperial War Museum has appointed Gus as a judge of the Jeep class at displays but this honour is a mixed blessing. He told 'The Law', "I end up being the only Jeep owner who knows that his vehicle can't win an award before the judging starts." The most famous scowl in the Essex Police melts into a mischievous grin as he adds "It took me five years to build her and that sense of achievement is matched only by the sensation of driving on a fine day with the screen down." Greater love has no man!

# Ashford spreads the word

ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL at Ventnor on the Isle of Wight caters especially for children with serious language impairment. A pupil at the school is Phillip Williams, the son of Grays Inspector Michael Williams. Students at Ashford Police Training Centre have given the school £500 for special equipment.

Phillip has been at the school for just over a year now. He has an I.Q. which is above average, which is not unusual for such children, but at the age of 8 had a 'talking age' of only three and a half. After only twelve months at the school, in a small specialised class, he improved to the point that he was only a year behind for his age.

Students at Ashford Police Training Centre are very good at raising money for worthwhile

causes. As the then Sergeant Williams was a popular instructor at the Centre, St Catherines seemed to qualify. Events were organised, including scantily clad young ladies raiding the Instructors bar and holding a member of staff to ransom. He turned out to be worth £48 to his colleagues! "That puts a price on popularity!" one of them was heard to remark.

As a result of all their efforts, the Centre Charities committee have enabled the school to buy four word building kits. This is just one example of many charities that have benefited from sponsored swims, runs, relays and the like that are a feature of life at Ashford. Each month a cup is presented by the Commandant to the student who makes the most money for the charity committee.

# Help for Hospice

AT THE Colchester CID dinner held last November, a raffle raised £115 for charity.

In January a cheque for that amount was presented to Mr Christopher Holmes, who has been leading the drive to raise £800,000 to build a Hospice at Colchester.

That target has now been reached, and efforts are underway to raise a further £100,000 to run the Hospice.



Pictured from left to right are Det Sgt Roy Dennis, Mr Christopher Holmes, Det Cons Alan Brierley, and Det Ch Ins. Barry Murphitt.

# Post Coding Works



Thanks to post code marking and prompt action by Det Cons, Bob Warwick of Chelmsford, this cycle was quickly returned to its owner.

WHO says so? Well for a start Essex Police do. So does a cyclist from Chelmsford who is the first in the county to get his stolen bike back as a result of post code marking.

Chelmsford's DC Bob Warwick was doing bike checks at an auction. He used post coding to establish that a particular cycle was apparently not in the hands of its rightful owner. As a result an offence was detected and a delighted owner was reunited with his machine.

Those officers not already aware may like to note that a call to HQ MO Ext 348, or to any main post office, will secure a "reverse check" — in other words, identify an address from a post code.

Some very special offers from SEAXES:—

Chloride Portapower, maintenance free 60amp hour battery — for boats and caravans — £37.95. Order by post to Bob Cordery, FTS or Derek Arber, Traffic Management, HQ.

SEAXES SHOP open 12.45 to 13.15 weekdays for motor spares at discount prices. Brake shoes and disc pads at trade price. £550 worth of stock must go!



Essex Police Band leader Bob Coxon presents a £1,065 cheque to Mrs Sue Greet: see story on page one.

ESSEX JBB PRESENT

a  
Charity Football Match

In aid of RUC injured officers, (see page 7).

**KO 3.00pm Sunday  
April 28.**

CHELMSFORD CITY FOOTBALL GROUND

Essex Police XI V Dennis Waterman's XI

Admission by programme, 50p from Federation office or representatives, or at the gate.

(Children under 12 free when accompanied by an adult).

HOW THE PRESS OFFICE WENT TO THE DOGS

The 'bitten' end for Jaws by Sue Watts

MY FIRST assignment would have been a baptism of fire, were it not for the blanket of snow at the Sandon Dog Section

Police dog "Bruce," whose bite is definitely worse than his bark, was retiring after seven years' service.

On instructions to "get as much publicity as possible," I arranged the venue for



"Jaws" Bruce shows off his steel canines. 2pm and then spent the morning organising photographers, reporters and TV all eager to inspect "Bruce's" famous gnashers.

Sgt Mike Beaveridge (dragged along 'cos I didn't really know what I was doing)

and I swept the shivering media into the office, where handler PC Mick Mercer told the story of "Jaws."

It seems that as a youngster, "Bruce" had gnawed the wire around his compound in excitement when watching the other dogs training. Finally, with little more than stumps remaining "Bruce" faced the prospect of an early retirement. He was whisked away to the Bristol University Veterinary College, and became the first dog in the country to be fitted with steel teeth. Mick added that the sight of "Bruce's" fearsome jaws, glinting in the streetlamps, had been the source of much consternation amongst the more rowdy element!

Outside, in the sub-zero temperatures, Mike and I took turns with the cameras as our ungloved fingers grew numb with the cold.

The photographers and film crew jostled for the best shots of Mick and "Bruce" in their natural habitat, while I got in the way a lot, trying to be helpful.

The highlight of my day was when I suddenly spotted Steven Cole. (News Reporter — Anglia TV) strolling around the field in a raging blizzard apparently holding an earnest conversation with himself, whilst BEING FILMED! Chortling merrily, I dug Mike (by now disappearing into the depths of his overcoat) in the ribs, and pointed at the film crew. "Ere, what's he doing?"

Mike sighed and informed me with a long-suffering air that Steven was doing his "Noddies." Of course, that tickled me. "Noddies," explained Mike, ever so patiently, "are what the interviewer does after the interview has concluded. For example, as only Mick and Bruce have been filmed, Steven has to be filmed in the same background so that they can cut the two films together. Geddit?" "Oh," I said.

I was wondering how long it takes for your toes to drop off from frostbite when they finally announced they'd got all they wanted.

begin to express by heartfelt gratitude for all your support and generosity during my long illness, and last year's John O'Groats to Lands End Bicycle Ride, which raised



PC Mick Mercer and "Bruce" face the media — here the Anglia TV crew — during a blizzard, at Sandon. It was just after this shot that the "Noddies" were filmed.

Mike and I heaved sighs of relief, and, after thanking Mick for his time and patience, headed back to the office.

Having had my Editor breathing fire and muttering "Deadlines" under his breath at me, I have finally produced my first assignment.

It's also my last, since by the-time you read this, I will be in South Wales, shortly to be married, with an instant family of two little boys, to boot. To all my friends and colleagues in the Force, I cannot

£5,135 towards a Cancer Scanner at St Barts Hospital.

Goodbye and thank you, one and all!

Ed: Sue's stay in the Press Office has been brief but eventful. We shall miss her and so will the people we deal with. Her bubbling personality and style have been a real asset. Thanks Sue and our very best wishes for the future go with you to the wilds of Wales.

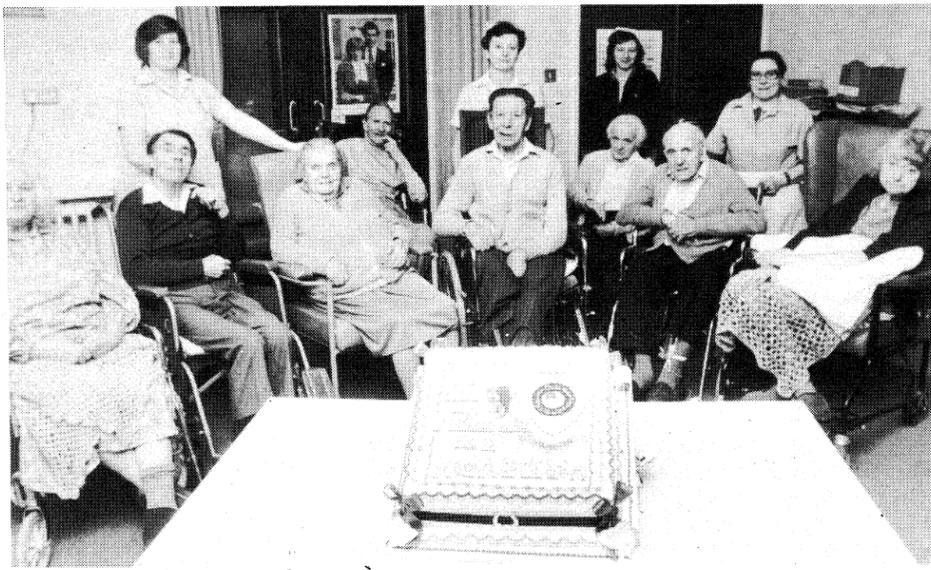
RCS HOSPITAL PRESENT

EVERY year, the Brentwood Office of No 5 Regional Crime Squad hosts a hospitality evening. The object is to thank those people who have been of help to the office during the preceding year.

Friends of the office are connected with Sunblest Bakeries, who for two years have presented the squad with a huge cake.

The officers decided that there are others more deserving than they, and in 1983 presented the cake to the Children's Ward at the Billericay Burns Unit. This year the cake was given to the residents of Masters Ward at Westcliff Hospital.

The presentation was made by Detective Chief Inspector John Clark who



said it was "a gesture of the squad officers' sympathy and concern for people less fortunate in life

than themselves." Doesn't it make a refreshing change to the usual media image of

Police Officers doing that sort of job. Compassion, thank goodness, is alive and well.

Slim for Hove

The police convalescent home at Hove, in Sussex is to move to a new site with improved amenities. PC Ivan Jacklin of Harlow has put his weight behind the effort to raise much-needed funds.

Over seven weeks Ivan lowered his bulk by 20lbs to a sylph-like (?) 12 stones 2lbs. At the same time he raised more than £200 from sponsorship.

The home, of which Her majesty the Queen is Patron, is seeking to better its orthopaedic and physiotherapy facilities. It's done wonders for Ivan already! Efforts like this will benefit police officers for years to come.



A cold day but citizens of Grays get a warm welcome from their new Neighbourhood Beat Officers in the Essex Police caravan.

Grays NBO's Revitalised

"I WANT police officers on the beat, not in offices" says Superintendent Terry Roberts of Grays. To this end he has re-vamped his sub-divisional neighbourhood beat system and using his own inimitable brand of positive man-management, motivates his people to play a full role in their own community.

"They will be doing the job of a village bobby — just as if they were on detached beat" Sergeant Mick Johnson who heads the team told "The Law." "They are all volunteers and they all want to do a worthwhile job for the people of Grays" he said.

Hand picked men

Mick, who has been at Grays for 4 years, has hand picked his crew and knows them all well. Taking into account personalities and workstyles he has selected officer with around seven years' service and of an average age just under 30 years.

In Grays they will work two to an area and in South Ockendon there will be one officer to each beat. They will work their own rest day and shift pattern to ensure as far as possible that someone who is familiar with each area will be on duty most of the time.

Get to know people

The emphasis in the early days will be on getting to know the people on their respective patches, as well as making themselves known to the people. This will be done by displays, exhibitions and just being on hand in places like libraries and community centres. There is even a specially made video tape to be played in the windows of local shops announcing the new scheme.

Public relations

On March 8th, Superintendent Roberts has organised a band concert, featuring the Essex Police Band, at Blackshots Civic Hall. All the proceeds of a collection will go to a local school for educationally sub-normal children and his NBO's will be well to the forefront of the exercise. Positive public relations is the name of the game in Grays division.

## THE CLASS OF 50 YEARS AGO VISIT HQ FOR A REUNION

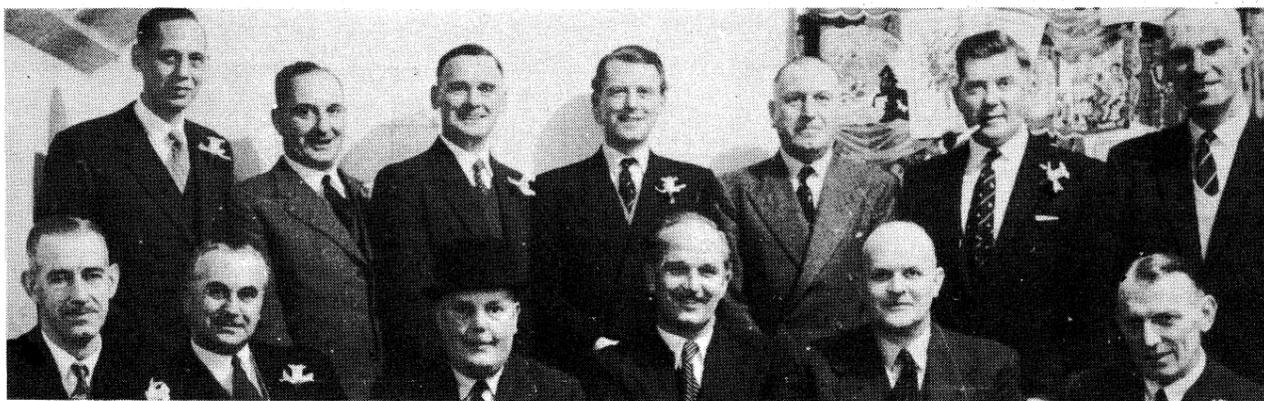
# February '35 — A vintage year!

THE "quiet room" at Headquarters in February, 1985 was anything but "quiet" when the recruit course of February 1935 met to celebrate their golden reunion. Eight of the original intake of 24 attended the lunch with their wives. Among the number was ex Sergeant Sammy Langford sporting the same bowler and broly he used at his induction.

Deputy Chief Constable Mr Ronald Stone joined the party for a pre lunch sherry and was regaled with reminiscences thick and fast. Some of the stories may well have been a little coloured with age, but nonetheless entertaining for that. What is certain is that the day was certainly not one for recalling any gloomy moments of service. If one could believe all that one heard, those certainly "were the days".

After lunch a tour of headquarters included the information room and ended up on the firearms range. Here Inspector Monty Montgomery and his merry men reassured the party that policemen who carry guns are very fully trained and very competent. Some of the visitors even took part in a little "training" themselves, much to their pleasure.

At the end of the day they left happy to have met once more and inspected with the progress of the Force. To quote ex Inspector Ron Bearman, "If we have handed over to people like that, the force has little to worry about!" Praise indeed Ron!



Above: The class of '35 at their 25th anniversary reunion.

Below: At their recent 50th anniversary.



### JOIN THE POLICE AND SEE THE WORLD

# Four years in Papua, New Guinea

**SERGEANT Mike Carter of Leigh Police Station has recently returned from four years service as a Chief Inspector in the Constabulary of Papua New Guinea. He was an Essex Sergeant before he went and was well known as an experienced police motor cyclist. This is his story:**

"Oh to be in Papua New

Guinea where the sun shines nicely thank you! A lot of people have asked what it was like out there (as well as 'Where was it did you say?' and 'What was that name again?') Well, there is no way I can reduce four years of fantastic experience into a

few lines for 'The Law' but I'll do the best I can. "From the outset it was intended to be a shared family experience and the experiences started virtually straight away! We missed a connection flight at Singapore and had to stay overnight. The next morning we had to go on to Sydney and then to Papua New Guinea where

"The next problem was that because of our delayed flight, our hotel booking had been cancelled. Still, the local police came up trumps and got us into the best place in town whilst we sorted out the essentials of housing and schooling.

"Housewise we were in fact very lucky. We were allocated a good house in

and enjoyed himself. Not so our daughters, Sharon and Marion, who were placed at International High School. The educational system was based on Australian lines and was not at all compatible with British teaching. As a result after 21 months the girls came back to the United Kingdom to set themselves up for their 'O' and 'A' levels.

"As for 'the job' well, really in many ways it was 'out of this world' — literally! To anyone without experience of the third world it will be very difficult to comprehend the many problems and frustrations. There were many good times as well of course, but let me try to paint the picture.

"On arrival I was put in the road safety office with the dual responsibilities of running the show and instructing both learner and advanced motor cyclists. After three months they gave me the driving school as well in its entirety and a year later they added the command of the National Capital District Traffic Sub-Division.

"Over the next 18 months I did manage to palm off the road safety office and the traffic 'sub' and concentrated on the driving school. The biggest problem here was the dismal lack of funds to do almost anything. In the end I just could not get through the system and left behind an incompleated task, which obviously goes

against the grain.

"In retrospect I think that I enjoyed the traffic 'sub' most of all. There was a serious shortage of



Mike Carter now safely ensconced in his office at Leigh Police Station

manpower throughout the force but here I had com-



Chief Inspector Mike Carter, beside his patrol car, a Mazda 929 Estate.

mand of 106 men and 34 vehicles.

"It is a distinct advantage in Papua New Guinea that every offence is

'arrestable' because as there is no address system as such, (which in 1980 led to 21,000 summonses being destroyed), bail or remand are the only ways to get people to court! Bail, incidentally, is always set at the amount of the expected fines and has to be paid in advance.

"At the end of the day it was the experience of a lifetime. I have a fund of stories to tell and it was with mixed feelings that we returned to England and its weather. We had made many friends and we enjoyed the climate and the social life — but now its back to the reality of Leigh Police Station.

"I suppose I'm a bit like a fish out of water just now (despite the English rain). Still, they say you

can get used to anything in time — which of course must be true — the Carters got used to Papua New Guinea didn't they?"



Highlight of 1984 was the honour to meet His Holiness Pope John Paul during His visit to Papua New Guinea.

Guinea where the sun shines nicely thank you! A lot of people have asked what it was like out there (as well as 'Where was it did you say?' and 'What was that name again?') Well, there is no way I can reduce four years of fantastic experience into a

few lines for 'The Law' but I'll do the best I can. "From the outset it was intended to be a shared family experience and the experiences started virtually straight away! We missed a connection flight at Singapore and had to stay overnight. The next morning we had to go on to Sydney and then to Papua New Guinea where

the grounds of the Police College on the outskirts of the town. This was very pleasant environmentally as well as being good for security reasons.

"Schooling was another story however. Our son, Richard, settled into junior school very quickly

# MONEY MATTERS



by  
**Tony Warren**

## Money to burn?

WHO could afford to burn two one-pound notes every week?

Not a lot of response there, but many of us are already throwing money away at an alarming rate.

The Magic Plastic Money Machine that we all carry with us can be a very costly device. The difference between a bank loan and a card loan for £500 can be about £2 per week. To show this more graphically, I've set down the interest rates of some common cards — obtained on February 19, 1985.

The following are the APR (Annual Percentage Rates): Debenhams 34.4%; Debenhams (by banker order) 29.8%; Texas 30.6%; Dixons 29.8%; British Home Stores 29.7%; Access 26.8%; Barclaycard 26.8%; Keddies 26.8%; Tescos 26.8%; Marks and Spencer 25.3%; Nat West Personal Loan 23.0%; Mortgage/Re-mortgage 13.5%.

Lenders charge according to risk. If the loan is not secured on your house, that pushes up rates. If you don't pay by bankers order, that can push it up further.

There is a darker side to all this — cards can get badly out of hand.

For ardent card-bashers, one of the most popular remedies is to BORROW from the Access card to PAY the Access card! This is like trying to blow out the fires of hell — the more you blow, the worse they get!

Remedy number two is to borrow from the Bank to clear the cards. This only falls down if you forget to make a bonfire of the cards. At this point caution MUST be exercised because when you breathe that eternal sigh of relief at having cleared off the card debts, you suddenly find they have increased your limit. "Well, if you can pay it off in one go, you must be able to afford more! Insidious, isn't it.

Grand daddy of them all is the re-mortgage route. The above paragraph applies here as well.

We were recently told by one of our clients that if you re-mortgage, you cannot continue to enjoy tax relief on the bit that was to buy the house. This is of course NOT the case and we obtained confirmation from the Revenue to that effect.

My next article covers budget changes — have a peaceful month.

# SPECIALS' LAW

## Jailbreak Cheque Presentation

JANUARY saw the presentation of the money raised by the Special Constabulary team from the charity jailbreak held in October 1984. A large group of people came to the presentation evening held at Police Headquarters, including representatives of the organisers, the Essex Association of Boys Clubs and the charities selected by the team.

The evening started

money raised goes to the Essex Association of Boys Clubs and the other half is divided into three and presented to the charities nominated by the team.

The Assistant Chief Constable, Mr Markham, (who is the Specials' Commandant) was there to present the cheques to the charities.

Paul's charity was the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The cheque for



low administration costs 92 pence in every pound in used directly in cancer research.

Peter's charity was the Broomfield Hospital Heart Equipment Fund. Dr Murray, received the cheque for £1,129.66. This is a local Essex Charity and the money raised goes to improve the care of people admitted to the hospital. Amongst other uses it will help to purchase specialist Heart Equipment for the new ward of 24 beds that is being built in the New Block at Broomfield Hospital. This cheque was enhanced by a generous donation of £500 by a local business house.

The team then presented the reserve team and Mrs Markham with bouquets of flowers. Mr Markham was presented with a plaque with the badges of the Tampa Police Force and the Tampa Police Auxiliary, who are the equivalent of our own Special Constabulary.

Well done to the team on a tremendous escape.

Look out for next month's issue as I have advance news of our Muster Parade 1985. It proves to be quite exciting this year, so keep your eyes peeled.



with a video of the jailbreak. The team, Paul Delaney, Peter Wright and Melvin Willin were videoed from the breakout in Chelmsford all the way to their record arrival in Tampa, Florida.

The came the presentation of the cheques. The money raised was divided into two sections. Half the

£629.66 was presented to Mr J. Nolan. During 1984 over six hundred children needed the intervention of the NSPCC in their lives.

Melvin's charity was Cancer Research. The cheque for £629.66 was presented to Brigadier Tilbrook. The money raised is used in all aspects of cancer research and due to

# National Association of Retired Police Officers by Doug Rampling

tion of the Royal Warrant, culminating in the member receiving his medal, albeit several years late, "well done NEC."

Much speculation is abroad concerning the Governments' "plans" to tax lump sums awarded to people retiring with occupational pensions. The Chancellor has given various assurances, but it remains to be seen what he will decide. Those of us fortunate enough to have secured our "lumps" must be ready to do what we can to assist our serving colleagues in maintaining the right to choose whether or not to receive similar payments when they retire.

Remember the old saying, "A snowflake is a small thing, but look what happens when they bind together."

### RETIREMENTS

Insp Edward G. Howell, stationed at Corringham, retired 3 February, after 30 years 162 days service.

PC 477 Donald F. Avenal, stationed at Clacton, retired 22 February, after 25 years 96 days service.

Insp Ivor M. Humphries, stationed at Southend, retired 28 February, after 31 years 184 days service.

WPC 3035 Susan T. Watts, stationed at HQ, retired 4 March, after 7 years 363 days service.

PS 145 Robert T. White, stationed at HQ, retired 4 March, after 15 years 364 days service.

Supt David E. W. Bennett, stationed at HQ, retires 10 March, after 31 years 105 days service.

D/Ch Insp Frederick Stannard, stationed at Grays, retires 12 March,

after 30 years 17 days service.

PC 1078 Arthur Brymer, stationed at Brentwood, retires 15 March, after 26 years 77 days service.

PS 332 Graham G. Sargent, stationed at Southend, retires 17 March, after 29 years 296 days service.

WDC 3027 Pamela D. Arnold, stationed at Chelmsford, retires 30 March, after 30 years service.

PC 1633 Colin P. Bracken, stationed at Grays, retires 22 April, after 3 years 115 days service.

### OBITUARIES

On January 22, 1985, ex Insp Thomas W. A. Eborall, 59 years, who retired from Maldon in 1983.

On January 26, ex PS Sidney P. Millington, 69 years, who retired from Southend-on-Sea Borough Constabulary in 1966.

On January 28, ex Insp Reginald J. Swinyard, 66 years, who retired from HQ in 1976.

On February 5, ex Insp Frederick W. West, 77 years, who retired from Rochford, 1964.

On January 13, ex PC Harold W. Dunn, 86 years, who retired from Purfleet, 1954.

## FORCE LOTTERY

RESULTS of the draw held at Rayleigh on 5 February, 1985: 1st prize PC Butler, Laindon Traffic, £1,500; 2nd prize PC Ager, Laindon Traffic, £700; 3rd prize PC Gilbranch, Laindon Traffic, £300. Consolation prizes at £50 each: PS Yee-King, Basildon; PC Green, Hatfield Heath; PC Bastow, Clacton; PS Sergeant, Rayleigh; PS Hudson, Clacton; PC Bowler, Basildon; WPC Washbrook, Southend; DC Avenal, Clacton; DC Box, Epping; DC Webb, Basildon.

## Market Place

RANK XEROX 3100 dry powder photo copier £355 inc VAT. Seaxes Auto Club. Contact Graham Oakley HQ Ext 435.  
**HOOVER TWIN TUB** deluxe. Good condition £35. WPC Partridge HQ IR "B" shift or tel: 57992.  
**CORTINA 2.0GL T** reg, good condition, stereo, child's seat fittings, genuine reason for sale, £1,100 ono. PS 72 Coleman, Witham Station or 0206 210492.  
**FORD CORTINA Mk 5, X** reg., 2.0 GL auto, sun roof, 36,000 miles, metallic green, for quick sale £2,400. PC Golding, Rayleigh or South Benfleet 57628.  
**VOLVO 264 GLE, S** reg, air-conditioning, electric windows, 54,000 miles, one owner, full service records, just serviced and new exhaust system, £1,750. WPS 3013 Callow, FTS.  
**SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE**, Freehold, quiet cul-de-sac, Wickford, well maintained, 3 beds, large kitchen, insulated walls, gas central heating, large detached brick built garage, own drive, secluded rear garden backing south, easy access to schools,

park, sports centre, shops and bus route, £37,950. Mr Draper Wickford 5964.  
**CARAVAN** Thompson Glen 4 berth, awning, full cooker, good condition, £495 ono. PC 858 Olver, Chelmsford Station or Chelmsford 84218.  
**YAMAHA XS850 1984(A)**, 1,500 miles only, immaculate condition, as new, £900. PC 881 Williams, Grays, or Tel: 78956.  
**SECONDARY DOUBLE GLAZING**, good condition, window sizes 2 at 92 1/2 in x 46 in; 1 at 69 1/2 in x 46 in, £75. K. McCall, D shift IR HQ.

**POLPERRO**, Cornwall, modern holiday chalet on pleasant site, all mod cons, sleeps 4/5, heated pool, club, very reasonable terms, Craig Bailey 0279 53570.

**ROAD TRAILER** chassis only, suit dinghy 14ft, £15, and motorcycle boots size 11, £5. PC Mason, Southend Station or 528362.

**GOLF CLUBS** left hand, 2 and 4 woods, 2-SW irons, bag, putter, Bob Charles make, £100. DS Rogers, Braintree Station, or 0376 47169.

**RIDGE TENT**, "The Giant Pearle", sleeps three persons, Bell-end, height 5ft, sewn in ground sheet, blue, canvas type, vgc, £40 ono. WPS Callow FTS, HQ.

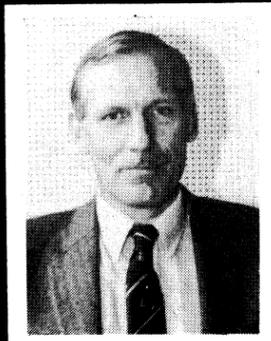
THIS is your FREE small-ad service. Please use this form as we regret that ads cannot be accepted over the phone or on plain paper. Send your ad to "Market Place", The Law, Police HQ, Chelmsford. Thank you.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE — ONE WORD PER BOX


Name and Rank  Station

Home telephone  Signed

## Federation Notes



by

Jim Rodgers

## AIDS — details you should know

THIS is a description of a condition of the body, rather than a specific disease. The initial letters stand for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, which in effect means that the body is unable to combat infection by natural means, so that normally innocuous medical problems become more severe, even deadly.

The CAUSE is a virus. The INCUBATION PERIOD is 4 months to 5 years. There is at the moment NO specific diagnostic test for AIDS. Blood tests only tend to confirm a clinical diagnosis.

Recorded cases of AIDS in the United States and United Kingdom have been exclusively confined to 3 high risk groups and predominantly to homosexuality. The groups are: Homosexuals; intravenous drugs abusers; haemophiliacs (people whose blood does not "clot" normally). Homosexuals make up 82 per cent of the cases which occurred in the UK.

The mode of transmission of AIDS is predominantly the result of intimate sexual relationship between two males, one of whom suffers from the condition; the second and far less common method is by means of contaminated blood or blood products, this being introduced into the system by means of direct transfusion or injection in the case of haemophiliacs, or by a drug abuser using a needle which has first been used by a sufferer from AIDS.

Far less likely is accidental inoculation by contaminated blood, or handling blood in the course of their work, or through blood spillage at a road accident.

The body fluid, other than blood, which may cause transmission of AIDS is seminal fluid. The AIDS virus has been isolated from saliva.

Urine and even faeces, unless blood stained, are not considered to be high risk body fluids in the spread of this condition.

The risk of catching AIDS is remote for anyone who is not in one of the HIGH RISK GROUPS.

NO ONE in the American Penal System has contracted AIDS as a result of their work. NO ONE in the American or UK Health care of AIDS victims (nurses, doctors or hospital staff) has developed AIDS as a result of their work.

The INTERIM advice and precautions to follow in dealing with any case of AIDS victims are identical to those which have already been sent out with regard to INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS.

The above information is taken from guidelines put out by the Royal College of Nursing for the benefit of the Prison Service.

Having said that, it is incumbent on all officers to treat the problem with commonsense and where possible use the equipment provided, if called upon to aid a person who he suspects may suffer the disease.

Frightening as the condition may be, I believe that the public should still accept that Police Officers — as always — will render First Aid or resuscitation, as and when it is needed. To give a contrary impression could invoke panic among the aged and infirm, where the problem is least likely to be established anyway.

## RUC VISIT

ON Saturday, September 21, a party of Injured Officers from the RUC will be visiting the Essex Police District as the guests of the Joint Branch Board. The programme for the day is still being worked out.

However to raise funds for the venture we are holding a charity Football Match between Essex Police XI and an All Stars team. It is hoped at this stage that it will be the Dennis Waterman XI (star of Televisions Minder).

Make a note in your diaries now and bring the family along to what should be a great day.

The date, Sunday Apr. 28. Kick-off 3.00pm with pre-match entertainment.

Venue — Chelmsford City Ground, New Writtle Street, Chelmsford Admission will be by programme, price 50 pence each. Children under 12 free when accompanied by Parent.

The programmes are at present still being designed but should be on sale from early April. If you cannot attend please support the venture by buying a programme. Each will be numbered and will give you the chance of winning a prize in the draw.

If any member knows of any person who may be prepared to donate a prize towards the raffle please contact Brian Pallant on Extension 386 at Headquarters.

The Committee looks at the options for the future

## PRIVATE MEDICAL SCHEME

CRUSADER have now given your management committee details of the new contract premiums for the year commencing 1st May 1985.

These show an across the board increase of 55% — together with a £50 compulsory excess. The excess applies in much the same way as that applied to motor car insurance. It means that the subscriber will be required to pay the first £50 of the cost of his claim (or any insured person) in any period of consecutive 12 months.

### Disastrous year

The management committee consider that these renewal terms are unlikely to be accepted by most subscribers. Fair to say, that the premiums are related to the group's claims experience, and it has been a disastrous year for Crusader in terms of trading with Essex Police Medical Scheme members.

The Committee has set itself two tasks.

FIRSTLY: to seek the most favourable insurer reducing the full refund cover presently provided. And, should a change be considered desirable, to affect a direct transfer of members to the new scheme without the pre-requirement to disclose medical history.

Several different schemes have been looked at; some have been discounted

for us by their restrictive nature, and some like BUPA are still under consideration. The standard BUPA CARE 'C' Band Scheme with discounts is available, and gives cover for all Essex Hospitals, but subject to certain limits on cost being imposed. The discounts are 25% for members over 25 years of age, and 40% for those under 25.

Whilst initially sounding attractive, there is no full refund on operations, so that a member who requires a major operation, may well have to fork out the difference from his own pocket.

PPP on the other hand will take on all existing members of the Essex Scheme on a direct transfer basis. It provides a full refund of the cost of operations. They have suggested that civilian members of the scheme can be accommodated within their Family-plan 3 Scheme, at a discounted rate. Although there are some limits within this scheme, the committee are satisfied that these are within those generally set by Essex Hospitals.

Serving and retired Police Officers will be under the PPP Masterplan 1, with premiums discounted from the standard rates. The Management Committee recommends a change to PPP.

SECONDLY: To research ways of reducing the Group's claims experience, with the hope that reduced claims will mean lower renewal premiums.

The Committee have decided that they will instruct a company of professional Medical Insurance Brokers. Who will provide a management service to run in tandem with the Scheme, and actively devise measures to reduce costs.

These include, for instance negotiating better terms with local hospitals, specialists, etc. for Group members, as well as a programme of education for subscribers to consider alternatives before opting for private medicine.

### Letter to members

In order to obtain as clear a picture as possible of the wishes of the members of the Scheme, a letter has been sent out which tabulates the various proposed rates indicated by the three major insurers. Only these companies have been shown as they are the only ones who will accept members on a transfer basis on terms which are no worse than those that already apply to each individual.

**The importance of replying to that letter cannot be stressed too much.** The survival of the Medical Scheme depends on us getting our house in order for the future. The Scheme is good value for money. Once you have decided that you need Private Medicine then the benefits of group membership are reflected in the discounted costs, without reduction in cover or service.



## Police Pensions Scheme

OVER the next month or so, I will be serialising the various aspects of the Scheme, set out in the simplest possible terms. The Regulations are of a very complicated nature, and it will not be possible to cover every possible circumstance, but I will try to give general guidance. At the same time, I invite you to write to me with questions of a specific nature, which I will reply to personally.

I understand that the Editor is prepared to place these articles in the same sized block on the Federation page, so they can be collected together to form a fairly complete aide memoire on the subject which you can cut out and keep.

All Police Pensions are paid as a proportion of the officer's Average Pensionable Pay, (henceforth referred to as APP). The proportion is decided by several factors. An ordinary pension is one paid to an officer with 25 years reckonable police service, or more — (but less than 30 years). For each of the first 20 years of service, an officer earns a pension of 1/60th of his APP. Each year after 20 earns him 2/60ths more of his APP, so that an officer with 25 years' service has 20 plus 10/60ths, which entitles him to a half pay pension.

If the officer joined before the 7th August 1961, he can take his pension at the time of retirement, and can commute a portion of it to achieve a Lump Sum Payment.

If he joined after that date, he can only take his pension immediately, if he has reached 50 years of age, or attained 30 years' service. If he falls short of these two points, his pension is deferred until he attains 50, or the anniversary of the date on which he would have achieved 30 years' service WHICHEVER IS THE SOONER.

It follows then that an officer who has served 26 years will achieve a pension of 32/60th, 27 years will earn 34/60ths and so on, SUBJECT TO A MAXIMUM PENSION OF 40/60ths for 30 years or more service. Even if an officer serves for 40 years, he cannot get more than 40/60ths of APP.

An officer who is required to retire on AGE LIMIT will be allowed to take a pension related to his service at that age. If for example he has 29 years' service, he will have a pension of 38/60th.

The age limit for Constable and Sergeant is 55 years,

60 years for Inspectors and above, and 65 years for Chief Officers.

Under certain circumstances, officers of the lower ranks may obtain extensions of the age limit from 55 years onwards on a 12-monthly basis, which may add entitlement to pension, but not beyond 60 years.

An officer required to retire on ILL HEALTH GROUNDS will receive a pension which is enhanced beyond his actual years of service. There are some basic rules which govern these enhancements. They can be summarised as follows:

- (i) Service from 5 to 10 years reckons as double;
- (ii) 10 years plus to 13 years counts as 20 years;
- (iii) 14 years and above attracts an additional 7 years (that is to say an extra seven sixtieth of APP).
- (iv) The normal double reckoning after 20 years continues and the seven sixtieths enhancement is applied after double reckoning has been taken into account.
- (v) All enhancement is subject to the qualification that reckonable service aggregated with the enhancement must not exceed what could have been earned by the officer to the age of compulsory retirement.

For the purposes of calculating the officer's entitlement to pension, the following definitions are necessary:

AVERAGE PENSIONABLE PAY is normally the amount of pay received in the last year of service, excluding overtime and allowances. For those whose pay declines towards the end of service (ie, he has been demoted) "APP" is taken as pay in the best of the last three years.

RECKONABLE SERVICE is the lengths of service which counts for police pension, and it may include service "transferred" from other employments. There is a comprehensive list of "other employments" who have agreed to pay a transfer fee into the Police Pension Scheme for service to be reckonable. (On a reciprocal basis, the Police also pay a Transfer Value if an officer wishes to take up employment with one of the other organisations before completing pensionable service with the Police).

NEXT MONTH: Pension contributions, Widows' Pensions, Children's Allowances.

**LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT**

# Colchester wins again

By John Hedgethorne

WITH temperatures touching the frostbite belt, Colchester took on Headquarters in the 1984 tennis final. Not only was it not summer, it wasn't even 1984 as the two teams met at Brentwood on January 8th.

Yes, January. To tell the truth Colchester had yet to serve a ball in the contest, ace or double fault, having "won" their way into the final by default of their opponents.

And the Colchester team, Susan Watson, Debbie Barrett and Phil Passfield, duly won the final. And as this was the last event of the 1984 Coker Cup contest it signalled the fourth successive Colchester victory in this year-long all-sports campaign.

And the very next day Eastwood Park was the scene of the first event in the 1985 Coker Cup season, men's and women's cross country. In fact it was more like skating as runners slithered about on the packed snow.

Colchester got their act together right away as Chris Turner won the race by three minutes. Race organisers, Andy Down, took second place with Len Perrott, Basildon, another minute away, third. Len led Basildon into a lead backed up by Ganley, 5th, Kebbell, 6th and Fitzjohn 7th. But Colchester plugged away with Williams, Grimshaw, Fairweather and Farmer all in the first 13 home. Neither were Southend far

behind with another five getting into the top 20 to back up Andy Down.

In the ladies race Moira Hewitt won easily from Alison Bourne and Marion Tankard, both Chelmsford. And there at the back of the field were the Colchester tennis team, Watson and Barrett, scoring just enough points to give Colchester the title by a single point, 207 to Basildon's 206 with Southend 202, Chelmsford 86 and HQ 7.

Colchester's 1985 effort was on the way.

On to 20th January when Colchester themselves staged the race walking, 15kms round Essex University. It was only to be expected that on home ground and with BBC and ITV cameras there to record their success, that Colchester's all rounders would step smartly.

In cold conditions the turnout was down on last year. Denis Sheppard, HQ, was on cracking form to win in 72.34 while John Hedgethorne took second place in his best time for several seasons, 80.14. In third place

came Len Perrott, also third at running, to show a super span of ability.

Colchester were never in trouble in the team event with Turner, Warriner, Fairweather and Williams finishing in the top eight.

Winner of the ladies 5kms was Colchester's cross-country tennis walker, Debbie Barrett. Colchester have pledged to go through 1985 as they did 1984, not so much coping with manpower problems as ignoring them — but then, so could all the others.



Photo courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times.

The start of the Essex Police and Essex League 15kms walk on January 20. Winner was GB International Roger Mills, 34. Police walkers are Jim Witham, 18, Merv Fairweather 2, and Paul Warriner 36.

# SPORTS NOTES

By John Barrett

BEFORE writing about matters concerning sport and the Essex Police Sports Association, I would like to use this occasion to express my sincere thanks to all the nice people, too numerous to mention, who have contacted me and wished me well in the position of Sports Association Secretary. I will, of course, try my best to make things run smoothly. Just try to be a little patient until I get into the swing of things. What does give me concern is following someone like George Sage. He made the job look so easy.

Possible the most important project in hand at the moment is for the Treasurer, Dick Soward and myself to tackle the need for a more comfortable situation with regard to the finances of the Association. Please do not be alarmed. We are not broke, but it must be said that with increased costs and more successful sporting teams the reserves in hand are not so healthy as they were a couple of years ago. The Force lottery is still the main source of income and I would urge each and every one of you to go through the simple process of increasing your chances to the maximum, ie 16 chances at a monthly outlay of £4.

The prize money has just been increased and the more we get in, the more the Association will benefit and the more chances of winning will be available to everyone. Apart from a minimal grant from County funds, the only other source of income is your subscriptions to your sports clubs which the Association levy the sum of £2 per head per year. At a recent meeting of the Management Committee it was agreed to increase this levy to £3 per head per year. I have written to all the Sports club Secretaries, with the Treasurer's Report attached, informing them of this increase.

I have suggested, and it is only a suggestion, that sports club subscriptions be increased. At the moment some divisions pay 40p a month while others pay 50p a month. The amount of subscriptions I have suggested to the Secretaries is 75p per month. I expect they will report to their respective Committees and do what they think is best. Just for the record subscriptions have been the same for at least three years. You all know how everything has risen during the time.

The main sporting competition in the County is the Coker Cup. The winners again for last year were Colchester. On your behalf I wish them well deserved congratulations. Having said that I must say that it is rather tiresome to keep recording Colchester's success on this trophy. They seem to have won it more years than I care to remember. I think it is about time that other divisions got themselves organised and give them a run for their money during 1985. I know that there are plenty of good sports people throughout the County who could win points in this competition. Chase up your secretaries and team captains. For the record the points awarded for the competition were as follows: Colchester - 47; Headquarters - 27; Southend - 26½; Grays - 21; Chelmsford - 17; Basildon - 16; Clackton - 15; Braintree - 14½; Rayleigh - 13; Harlow - 9.

I wish all participants the best of luck in the forthcoming PAA events and hope that Essex Police sport will flourish during 1985.

## SEAXES Auto Club

OVER the past few years Seaxes Auto Club has been very active in organising and competing in all manner of motor sport events, marshalling on road/stage rallies and at race meetings. Unfortunately we have had to rely on a large number of associate members, being non-police personnel. Last year out of 62 members who represented our club only 18 were serving police personnel.

This year we would like to see the balance altered so the emphasis will be on grass roots motor sport which can be undertaken in the average family car and with good results. Every encouragement, assistance and tuition will be given to all those interested.

Do not be put off by the word 'rally', our 12 car rallies are basically a test of driver/navigator co-ordination on public roads. All the speed, airborne and sideways driving you see on television does not play any part in these types of events. If you enjoy watching live motor sport why not marshal? Training is not essential, and there are not many opportunities where you can get so close to the action.

We urgently need more members, including representatives at various stations throughout the county to assist in publicising our events.

Our type of motor sport is relatively cheap and immensely enjoyable. If you are interested, all you have to do is pick up the phone and contact me at Chelmsford Police Station. We will do the rest.

Remember it is our motor club, started by Police Officers for Police Officers.

Future events:  
March 9: Langer Park Stages Rally, Suffolk. Marshals required.

March 15: March Hare 12 car rally — 60 miles. Start 8pm Seaxes Shop, finish Braintree Police Station, Maps 1674168.

March 16/17: 'Priestley' Road Rally, 115 miles local to Chelmsford, restricted to Maximum 30 entries.

March 23/24: 'Ted Cleghorn' Stages Rally, Norfolk. Marshals required.  
Seaxes AGM is Wednesday ???  
March, 8pm Police Headquarters. NB 1985 Membership is now due.

By Brian Jaggs

## GOLFING DIARY

GOLFERS, the Sun's coming out and the grass is beginning to grow through the Winter mud. So bring out your niblicks and putters and start to master the golf courses and of course join PEGS.

Yes, time again to remind you that your membership subscriptions are now due and by now all existing members should have received their fixture list for 1985. Anybody else who is interested in joining the growing gang of golfers just drop me a line and I will be pleased to inform you of our activities for the forthcoming season.

Our format includes 19 matches, the first being at John O'Gaunt Golf Club against Bedfordshire Police on Friday, 29 March. Society Meetings, the first of these is on Monday 13 May at Cannons Brook Golf Club, Harlow as well as PAA competitions. A busy season is envisaged.

Our captain this year is Tom Jones who can be found in his official position as Detective Chief Inspector at Chelmsford and he will be responsible for team selection. I wish him an enjoyable year as Captain.

I look forward to seeing all our existing members and any new members in the forthcoming Season which only leaves me to say "Good Golfing".

By Andy Smith



Photo courtesy of Harlow Gazette.

# LIZ SCOOPS THE POOL

AT THE PAA National swimming championships which were held at the Peel Centre, Hendon, WPC Liz Fox took two trophies. She won both the 100 metre breast-stroke and butterfly and was also equal first in the medley. She also came third in the 100 metres backstroke.

Liz, a former representative of the British Police Swimming team has been involved in competitive swimming since she was 11 years old.

## Football report

IN THE last few weeks the weather has taken its toll and very little football has been played. In the games that have been played the results have been mixed.

Unfortunately the first team have lost two games in a row which has been unheard of over the past couple of years. In a disappointing intermediate cup tie at home to Rochford town we lost 3-1 and fielding a weakened team away to Burnham in the league the result was the same.

Not all bad news though. In the South Midlands Cup we decided to make it a competition predominantly for the second teams. In a game at home to Northampton we finally fielded a combined team and ran out winners by 2-1. Paul Gammon playing in an unusual role in mid field still managed to score both goals. One or two of the second teamers experienced their first taste of Police Cup Football rose to the occasion and the final result was very pleasing.

In the League Cup away to Benfleet from H Division above us, the second team had a tremendous win by 3-1 and in the area semi-final of the Junior Cup we won 3-2. This leaves the second team still unbeaten in cup games and they are now looking forward to taking on Boreham in the area final of the Junior Cup. Could this be their first trophy?

In the next few weeks there will be plenty of football in both police and domestic competitions so come and support us and join us in our new club room afterwards.

By John Weatherley

# The Law

H.Q. phone extensions

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