



Mar '86

No 179

## HOME SECRETARY UNVEILS MEMORIAL to Pc BISHOP

AT A SIMPLE but very moving ceremony on Wednesday 19 February, The Home Secretary, The Rt Honourable Douglas Hurd, MP, unveiled a memorial to Police Constable Brian Bishop.

Brian, better known as Bill to his colleagues, was shot and fatally injured on the 22 August 1984 at Central Avenue, Frinton by a gunman he was trying to arrest. Brian died a few days later having been on a life support machine in a London Hospital. He never recovered consciousness following the shooting. The memorial stone with its simple inscription has been erected adjacent to the spot where Brian fell.

Brian's memorial stone was funded by The Police Memorial Trust. The Trust was set up in 1984 following the death of W/Pc Yvonne Fletcher in St James' Square, London and was the brain child of Mr Michael Winner. The aim of The Trust is to erect memorials to Police Officers killed in the course of their hazardous duty on the spot where they met their death, thereby acting as a permanent reminder to the public they serve of their supreme sacrifice.

The memorial to Brian Bishop is only the third to be funded and erected by the Police Memorial Trust and the first to be erected outside of London. The other two were in memory of W/Pc Yvonne Fletcher and to the three Police Officers, Inspector

Stephen Dodd, Ps Noel Land and W/Pc Jane Arbuthnot, killed in the Harrods bomb attack.

Despite the sub zero temperatures many of Brian's friends and colleagues braved the cold weather in order to be present. Their numbers were swollen by several hundred members of the

to Brian were delivered by Mr Michael Winner, the Chief Constable Mr Robert Bunyard and The Home Secretary, The Rt Hon Mr Douglas Hurd.

Following the speeches the memorial stone was unveiled by Mr Douglas Hurd and as he did so the Force Band played a tumultuous fanfare, this



The tasteful brown granite memorial to P.C. Bishop.

general public who had been informed of the ceremony by the local and national press. A guard of honour was provided by members of the Force Support Unit.

During the brief respite from the chilling wind and driving snow flurries the sun shone whilst tributes

alone was no mean feat considering the inclement weather conditions.

Having paid his respects Mr Hurd moved to one side in order that Brian's widow, Mrs Sue Bishop, could lay a wreath at the foot of the memorial. This was followed by sprays of flowers



In addition to the dignitaries, many members of the public attend to show their respect.

from Mr Hurd and from Mr and Mrs Bishop, Brian's parents.

There followed a moments silent prayer whilst those present reflected on the passing of a great friend, colleague and Police Officer. As the formal part of the ceremony was coming to a close, Sergeant Mervin Fairweather marched alone to the memorial, saluted and marched off. A fitting tribute from a man who was present when Brian received his fatal injuries.

The formal ceremonies completed it was time for Brian's friends, colleagues and members of the public to pay their respects. Many approached the memorial gave a little nod and walked on. Others spent some time standing by the marble stone quietly in their own thoughts whilst still others approached with flowers, one old lady with a single red carnation, others with sprays, and gently laid them at the base of the memorial.

In years to come people may pass the memorial and say 'Brian Bishop who was he?'. There is a simple but noble answer; He was a member of the British Police Force, well loved and respected by all.

## Essex Police Launch Drug Link Line

MINDFUL of the ever-increasing problems of drug abuse, especially among young people, on the 1 March the Chief Constable launched the 'Essex Police Drug Link Line'.

Street seizures show a wide cross section of drugs being abused. The most common are amphetamines and cannabis but there is an increasing amount of 'hard drugs' also being seized.

It is also apparent that some young people who turn to drugs are committing crime to fund their habit, burgling houses to steal cash or the direct trading of stolen goods in exchange for drugs.

As a positive means of combating this problem the Essex Police Drug Link Line will be operating a 24-hour answerphone service. By dialling the number shown below, callers will be invited to give any information which will help to identify drug dealers.

Drug traffickers are criminals. They are people who have often turned away from other areas of criminal activity for the easier pickings of those vulnerable people who turn to drug abuse as a means of escape.

Experience in other Police Forces who operate similar services support the need for a service which allows the caller to remain anonymous if they so choose, but also to be safe in the knowledge that information given to the Police will be treated in strictest confidence.

This additional service is not, however, intended to replace the direct contact between the Police and public on this escalating problem. People may leave their names, addresses and telephone numbers in order that direct contact may be made. Similarly they can continue to contact their local Police Station direct.

Drug abuse is an escalating problem and this service is offered with a plea to the public to help Essex Police combat the drug menace.

Essex Police Drug Link Line —  
0245 252252.

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE MARINE SECTION — see page 5

# POSTBAG — Letters to The Law, Force HQ

## Fruit Flies??

Dear Sir,

Perhaps in view of my past association with this journal, you will permit me a little space to thank all those colleagues who have wished me well on my retirement, and who have contributed most generously to the retirement gifts I received.

I have always tried not to indulge in self-deception and so I did not realise you thought so well of me. It is very humbling. Neither did I think that in the sporting field I had done anything

very exceptional. One gets so wrapped up in this year's competition, in the company of this year's contestants, that it is only on an occasion such as at Basildon on January 9, when I was still (just about) fit enough to run in the cross country race on my last day in the Force, that my mind turned to all those who had run in other years but weren't there in 1986.

The casualty rate in Force cross country would have made the Somme look like a tea party. And

if all the walkers who have delighted me with their company over the years had only kept at it Essex Police would not only have been national Police champions but national as well.

Now, it's my thanks to all those readers who have been sporting, or working, colleagues during my thirty years. It has passed so terribly quickly but then I suppose it does when you're enjoying yourself. And remember, as your own retirement approaches with the speed of light:

Time flies like a bullet  
Fruit flies like bananas.

Sincerely  
John Hedgethorpe  
Stanway

### Thanks

Dear Sir,

I would like to express on behalf of my family and myself our thanks to our friends and colleagues for their support, firstly during Sharon's illness then the loss of our dear daughter.

I would also like to say thanks for the beautiful floral tributes.

Yours faithfully  
Chris Long  
HQ Comms Dept.

### Lost Touch

Dear Sir,

I write in the hope that through your columns you will be able to help me in tracing an old school friend of my wife's with whom we lost touch some 15 or more years ago.

The lady in question

who was then Miss Eline Stoye attended Grays Convent School in the late 1950's with my wife, Heidi, whose surname then was Smith. The only clue we have to her present whereabouts is that she married a chap who subsequently joined Essex Police and who hopefully is still serving and will read this letter and get in touch.

Should this letter have the hoped for result we can be contacted on either 01-200 2386 at my office or 01-882 3280 at home.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully  
M. A. Edwards  
Inspector  
Metropolitan Police  
D8(2) Branch  
Peel Centre  
Aerodrome Road  
Hendon, London, NW9

### Victoria Cross Awards

Dear Sir,

I am a Police Officer in the Kent County Constabulary and am writing to you requesting assistance from any member of your Station Staff who feels he/she can spare me a short amount of his/her private time to aid me in some research in which I am engaged.

For the past several years I have been gathering information about people who have been awarded the Victoria Cross in the hopes of writing a book on the subject, I now find that parts of my research must be carried out in various places all over Britain. As you can, no doubt,

appreciate this is, from both the point of view of expense and time, almost prohibitive, with assistance from your staff I can complete my research both relatively inexpensively and without undue loss of time.

The research I require doing is to trace the places of birth, residence, death and burial of the recipients of the Cross. I have some of the details required and in those cases it will only mean going to a stated location and taking some photographs, film for which I will supply. In other cases a small amount of research may be required at local Libraries, newspaper or Record Offices prior to the taking of photographs of the locations discovered.

Can I ask that you circulate this letter among your staff in the hope that somebody may feel able to assist me. Anyone who can be of help may contact me at the below address or Maidstone (0622 STC code) 64141 (work), or Maidstone 683127 (home).

Lastly allow me to thank you in anticipation of receiving your assistance.

Yours Faithfully  
D. F. Tillyer  
c/o Maidstone Police  
Station  
Hastings Road  
Maidstone  
Kent

### Research

Dear Sir,

Until my recent retirement I was a Chief Superintendent in the West Yorkshire Metro-

politan Police and I am now researching the subject of Police insignia and uniforms with a view to publishing a reference book for the use of collectors.

Ideally I should like to include in the book, photographs or line drawings and descriptions of the uniform and insignia of each UK Force from its formation but I realise that this will be very difficult. Obviously the amalgamation of Forces has often resulted in the loss of examples of insignia and uniform worn by Forces which are now part of larger ones. It is a sad fact that many present day forces have neither museums nor histories of its constituent Forces which would tangibly maintain a record of many once proud Forces and provide a ready means of research.

In the course of my research so far I have studied the reports of the Home Office Committee of 1934 and the Committees of the Police Council of 1947 and 1958, on the standardisation of uniforms and insignia, and the reason of the first report was of course the wide variety of uniforms and insignia in use at that time. Whilst those reports resulted in some standardisation there has continued to be variations right up to the present time.

Having regard to this and in addition the differing uniforms of the various ranks the subject becomes increasingly complex. My aim is to make the reference book as authoritative and comprehensive as possible and I should be grateful for any assistance you can provide concerning your Force and the amalgamated Forces of which it comprises.

I seek examples, photographs, descriptions or drawings of all types of insignia and uniforms.

It may be that there are members of your Force who are collectors and they may be willing to assist me in my research.

I do hope that you can assist me and I should be pleased to reimburse any expense incurred.

Your faithfully  
J. Alderson  
34 St Mary's Rise  
Netherthong  
Holmfirth  
Huddersfield  
West Yorkshire HD7  
2XW

Send your  
letters to  
*The Law*

## Editorial

The wind of change has once again drifted through the Press and Public Relations Office and in consequence there is a new 'volunteer' for the Editor of The Law.

Having taken up my new post on February 17 I am sure that I will find the job both challenging and rewarding. I will endeavour to maintain the standards set by my predecessors and it would be fitting at this stage to mention one of them personally, ex-Chief Inspector John Hedgethorn.

John has been an ambassador for the Essex Police for many years especially in the field of athletics. He has encouraged and cajoled many young officers to participate in road walking and cross country running; this could only be to the benefit of the force in general and those officers in particular. As one of those 'young' officers in his time at Grays, I take this opportunity of wishing John a long and happy retirement and I am sure that these sentiments are echoed by all those who knew him.

Now with regard to the future of The Law, remember it is your newspaper. The Law is always telling you about what is happening around the Force but are you telling The Law.

We are interested to hear from you if you have constructive views about matters covered. Additionally there are plenty of good ideas out there, so let us hear from you — especially if you can add a touch of humour.

Finally I will usurp my power as Editor on this one occasion by sending a personal vote of thanks to my Police and 'non-Police' colleagues in the Harlow Division. Without your help and friendship my work would not have been so easy and I thank you most sincerely for your support.

ART



graphs of visiting Americans to Force headquarters only to find, when they had left, that he had no film in his camera.

★★★★★

Rumour has it that a certain 'Tiny' PC recently called at HQ Garage in order to collect his newly allocated Vauxhall Chevette beat vehicle. However it was found that his contours did not match the said vehicle and he had to be allocated an Austin Maestro in its place.

★★★★★

The Headquarters Press Office has always been proud of its professional ability. It came as a bit of a surprise therefore when a certain officer was 'beaver-ing' away taking photo-

This Force has a reputation for rapid and progressive technical advance...? Well anyway they issued Superintendent Bill Pirie at Harlow with a new pager. Keen to check its operation, in his own time in the evening, he several times telephoned the appropriate number but to no avail, his pager would not work. I understand that a Chief Superintendent in the South of the County was a bit put out, however, when after several calls to the information room he could find no one to accept responsibility for activating his pager. (I believe the last call was received at 3am).



"AS FAR AS THE HIGH ST. WOULD BE A START JENKINS!!"

# BOOK REVIEW

## "The Fingerprint Story"

by Gerald Lambourne

Published by Harrap at £8.95

WHEN we go to a break-in or theft from unattended, it should be an automatic reaction to ask for a Scenes or Crime officer to attend to search for fingerprints. Just how much does the average police officer know about the background to fingerprints and the uses to which they are put? Unless one has been on a CID course or one has a special interest, then the answer is probably "not much".

This book supplies most of the answers and a good deal more besides. Gerald Lambourne retired in 1980 as Commander of the Fingerprint Department of the Metropolitan Police and has won a reputation since as an author writing on various aspects of police work. In this book he has researched the origins of fingerprints and their uses, blending the results of his researches with personal reminiscences written in a pleasing fashion.

It seems incredible to us now that before the Fingerprint Bureau was set up the main way of identifying travelling criminals was by what was known as the 'route form'. This was a document containing a photograph and written description

by Maureen Scollan

of a prisoner charged with a criminal offence which was circulated to all police and prison authorities likely to have had him in custody. To this cumbersome means of identifying prisoners was added the inspection of prisoners remanded in the Metropolitan Police District. Three times a week warders had to travel from the prisons at Wormwood Scrubs, Pentonville, Wandsworth and Chelmsford to Holloway Prison where they met up with detectives from the then 22 Met divisions and the City of London Police. All of them then had to view the unconvicted prisoners whilst they were exercising, and as a result those who were wanted elsewhere or who had given false details were often picked out. In 1893 alone 1,949 identifications were made by this method.

We can also read about how William Herschel first realised the individuality of fingerprints in his work as a magistrate in India; how Francis Galton worked on the interpretation of fingerprints as a method of identification, and about the work of the Belper Committee which led to the establishment of the first Fingerprint Department at New Scotland yard in 1901.

The author also records his personal involvement with more recent cases, the most notable of which are, perhaps, the Great Train Robbery of 1963 and the earlier IRA atrocities in London. He was also given the job of working out how the computerisation of the national fingerprint collection should be carried out a task which is now completed.

This book is easy to read and has a lot of fascinating photographs. It will be a 'good read' for any police officer interested in increasing his or her awareness of one aspect of the wide range of skills and knowledge that make up the overall heading of police work.

## Basildon Cultural Relations

DURING the evening of Friday, January 10, a social event with a difference was held at Basildon Police Station in the shape of an authentic Caribbean Evening.

The event was the brainchild of Superintendent Cooper and Inspector Rensch who have been fostering good relationships with the Basildon Multi-Cultural Society, 99 per cent of whom are of West Indian origin. Having attended one of the Society's functions, Mr Cooper and Mr Rensch made an offer to act as hosts for a social evening at Basildon Police Station.

The Multi-Cultural Society provided West Indian food and their own Reggae Calypso type music. Some 180 people attended and a wonderful evening was enjoyed by all concerned, apparently the only thing missing was a limbo dancer.

During the course of the evening £83 was raised, which is to be donated to St Luke's Hospice. This money will be presented on a future occasion at Basildon Police Station.

Such was the success of this first evening, that a second is already on the cards, scheduled at the moment for September.

## She's Fed 1,000's

THE retirement took place on 3 March of Mrs Marianne Hehn, canteen manageress at Police Headquarters. Mrs Henn has worked with the Police Authority since 1970, originally as Canteen manageress in the Force Training School. Whilst more recently her area of responsibility was enlarged with the subsequent opening of the dining facilities in the main Headquarters building.

Born in Freidwaldn, Czechoslovakia, Mrs Hehn spent her formative years in the village of her birth. As a teenager she was a student at Karls University for two years during the war time period. Her studies were disrupted as the Russian army advanced on the retreating Germans, whereupon she, her family and the local community generally were forced to work on the land. Mrs Hehn and her family were subsequently transported to Germany to work for the Russians.

Following the war years Mrs Hehn completed her education at Ludwig University in Munich. She came to England in 1950 ostensibly to study; however, once here she met Ludwig the man she eventually married and has remained ever since.

Mrs Hehn was never a person to "mince" her words and always favoured the direct approach to problems that presented themselves to her. She was undaunted in her efforts to improve canteen services and was always among the first to come and provide emergency facilities at very short notice.

At her Presentation held at Police Headquarters on 20 February by A.C.C. 'A' Mr Mathew Comrie, Mrs Hehn said to The Law: "I was very touched by the gifts presented to me and I shall treasure them always."

The Law takes this opportunity on behalf of the many members of the Essex Police who have met Mrs Hehn, to wish her a long and happy retirement.



A.C.C. Mr Comrie presents flowers to Mrs Henn.

## Hatfield Peverel Luncheon Club

HARDLY an issue of The Law passes without some mention of Essex Officers becoming involved in fostering good community relations.

This particular issue is no exception for in the backwoods of Hatfield Peverel the local officer, Pc Jim Knight, has succeeded in setting up and running a Luncheon Club for the elderly and retired.

Jim moved to Hatfield Peverel from Chelmsford some 15 months ago. Whilst at Chelmsford as a Neighbourhood Beat Officer he had witnessed the conception and rise of a Luncheon Club. Although not directly involved with it he was impressed by the results achieved.

Whilst testing the tea at the Hatfield Peverel village school Jim enquired as to whether such a club existed within the village, or indeed whether there was a demand or need for one.

The 'doubting Thomases' said it had all been tried before and had proved both unpopular and unsuccessful. However, our Jim, never one to shirk a challenge, set out to prove them wrong.

In any community there is an increasingly large number of elderly residents. Some live alone and through infirmity or lack of transport often go weeks on end without seeing friends or relatives. The idea of Luncheon Clubs is to provide the opportunity and facilities for people to socialise in a warm and friendly environment and at the same time enjoy a hot meal. For some, the Luncheon Clubs provide the

only hot meal of the day.

Jim's initial problems in setting up the Luncheon Club were numerous. His overriding priority was to keep things as simple as possible and in the traditional manner of Policemen avoid paying for anything wherever possible! Advertisements



Pc Jim Knight with Club Members

were placed in the local parish magazines for helpers, drivers and in fact to get some indication of the number of likely participants.

Initial response was so encouraging that Jim approached the Village Hall Committee to hire the hall. They in turn were so taken with the idea that they decided to offer the hall and all its facilities free of charge.

Having successfully arranged a venue the next problem Jim faced was the provision of food to provide a substantial meal at an economic price. By using the WRVS as negotiators a subsidy was obtained from the local District Council, thereby reducing the cost of each meal to 60 pence per day.

Provision was made for the food to be supplied by the Essex County Council and cooked by the local school with the daily schoolmeals. The food

would then be supplied to Jim and his merry bunch of helpers in heated trays ready to be served to the Club members.

At this stage Jim admits to 'bullying' his wife, Sylvia, and several friends into volunteering for kitchen and transport duties. Similarly, local business

financial grants from national and local charitable organisations and this money will be put to good use for the purchase of equipment.

The Club's membership has now risen to over 60 members who regularly attend the Club's function twice a week and membership is still growing.

Said Jim, "We only have to look at all the old peoples' faces to remind ourselves that all the hard work has been worthwhile."

Should anyone have the time and energy to set up a Luncheon Club in their area Jim would be only too pleased to give whatever help he can. Contact him at Hatfield Peverel Police Office.

## Essex Home Workers' Scheme

THERE is a scheme operating in Essex whereby Physically Handicapped, Blind or Retired people are able to earn money by the sale of their own handicrafts.

The scheme is operated by the Essex Home Workers, a registered charity, who are willing to sell the work and give the participants 90 per cent of the selling price.

If you know of any physically handicapped, blind or retired person who is able to make saleable crafts — woodwork, basketwork, leatherwork, knitting, toymaking, needlework, etc, and who would wish to participate in such a scheme, further details can be obtained from: Essex Home Workers, 90 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford CM1 1SS. Telephone Chelmsford 265557.

people were approached and were so taken with the idea that donations for the provision of tea, coffee, etc, were soon forthcoming.

Most arrangements having been made, all that remained was to decide how frequently the Luncheon Club was to be held and the date of the inaugural meeting. Jim and his helpers finally decided on two meetings a week and that the starting date would be Tuesday, December 10.

The big day soon came round. The transport team worked well and some 22 elderly people turned up to be fed and entertained. The food arrived wholesome and hot and the recipients were most appreciative.

Since the inaugural meeting the Luncheon Club has gone from strength to strength. Successful applications have been made for

# Headquarters Musical Society 21 Years On

by Roy Clarke

SOMETIME in 1965, Peggy Welham went to a meeting of Amateur Musical enthusiasts at the Plough public house, Springfield Road, Chelmsford. A new Society was to be formed and "You can do the make-up", Peggy was told. "That's the last I shall hear of that," Peggy thought as she went home. Now 21 years later she is still doing the make-up, and the Society that Jim Allen (ex SOC Sergeant) and Derek 'Taffy' Thomas (ex-Inspector) started that evening is still going from strength to strength.

The first show was 'Calamity Jane' performed in January 1966 and produced jointly by Jim and Derek. In the cast of that show, and still with the Society were Johnny Johnson (ex DC — Car Squad), Jopie Lawson (wife of Mick Lawson of the Driving School) and Norma Richardson (wife of ex Ch/Supt Roger Richardson). Back-stage were Chris Godbold (HQ Garage), Edna Johnson (John's wife), the ever enduring Peggy, and Vick Wade was playing the organ.

Jim Allen produced the

next four shows 'Waltz Time', 'The Boy Friend', 'New Moon' and 'The Desert Song' in 1970.

During this period the late Lewis Minshall (ex-Detective Superintendent) had started his period of great influence on the Society, first as Chairman 1967-69, and then as President, and he is still remembered with great affection by many of the older members.

Another great influence was Jim Allen, who although he handed over the role of producer to the late Cy Smith in 1971, for the first 'Oklahoma' continued as actor and Stage Designer.

Also by this time two other names were appearing in the programmes, Bryan Cass as pianist, and Clara Smith as Susan in 'The Desert Song' and then as Assistant Producer.

The next two shows 'Carousel' and 'South Pacific' in 1973 were produced by Harry Smith (ex-Chief Superintendent) with Cy taking over as Musical Director.

The Society seems to have been strongly influenced by people called Smith, although none are actually related.

'White Horse Inn' in 1974 was produced by a Smith, this time Clara with Cy as M.D. Johnny Johnson was still going strong playing Leopold, and a chap called Derek Lee (Traffic Motor Cyclist) had kept cropping up since 'Desert Song'.

Clara also produced 'The Merry Widow' in 1975, and Choreographed 'Viva Mexico', in which she played a leading role with Derek opposite, with Jim Allen returning as Producer.

Jim Allen again produced 'The Lilac Domino' in 1977.

1978 saw Clara producing and starring in 'No, No, Nannette', which started a straight run of nine shows which she has produced, up to the present 'Half a Sixpence'.

Bryan Cass had also become Musical Director, a post which he too still holds.

'The Bryan/Clara phase', as it were, of the Society's history has produced 'Guys & Dolls', 'Bells Are Ringing', 'Vagabond King', 'Kiss Me Kate', the second 'Oklahoma', the Society's first G & S — 'Pirates of Penzance', 'Fiddler on the Roof' and now 'Half a

Sixpence'. It has established Derek Lee, Eileen Kligermann, Linda Barkway, Pat Evans, George Lambeth, and now Mandy Cooper as players of principal roles, and hopefully worthy successors to the likes of Jim Allen, Ron Bearman, Harry Smith, and the 'Red Shadow' — Ted Davidson.

It has produced two worthy Chairmen, Johnny Johnson (1972-1978) and Roger Richardson (1978-1985), who have each quietly administered the Society's affairs to allow the real business, that of putting on shows, to go on uninterrupted.

It is most unusual for Police forces to produce full-scale Musical Societies. Bands — yes, choirs — yes, but music societies — no. Our Society may be unique in Britain; consultation of NODA literature suggests it is.

If it is, then it is of immense credit to the group that first told Peggy she could do the make-up, that they had the vision and enthusiasm to pull it off. Congratulations Headquarters Musical Society on your coming of age.

# 'IRIS'

Continued . . .

THE Police National Computer (PNC) interface is the means of accessing the PNC at Hendon through the use of the IRIS system even though they are totally separate computer systems.

The interface is completely transparent which means that the PNC can be interrogated by using the same keyboard and VDU as the Force computer, provided that the operator has been trained and is authorised to access the PNC.

When an operator enquires on PNC, he is, in effect, requesting the Force computer system to make an enquiry for him. The Force computer accepts the request and passes it on to the PNC.

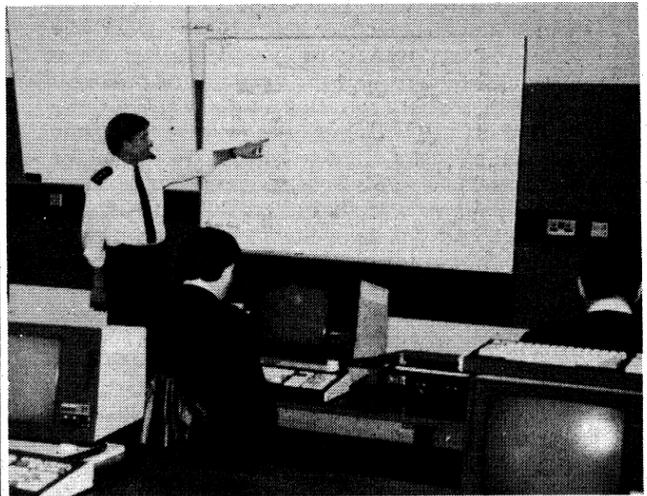
The PNC checks its files and sends a reply to the Force computer which immediately informs the operator at the terminal by way of a message. The operator may then display the reply on the screen of his VDU.

All updating of PNC files is carried out by staff at HQ. It is intended that all police stations connected to IRIS will be able to access the PNC for enquiry only. Certain terminals at HQ which have no requirement for PNC work will not be authorised to perform these transactions.

## Action Plans

The "Action Plan" sub-system is linked to incident logging so that an operator, on realising that he is dealing with, say, a train crash or airport emergency, may select a plan appropriate to the circumstances. The operator is then presented with a list of tasks for that plan prompting him to take the necessary action. The plans allow for unsuccessful attempts being made to perform the tasks, all attempts being logged, but guiding the operator towards eventually completing each one. Free text entries may be made independently of the specified tasks and the permitted maximum length of the log is extended to 99 pages.

It is the intention that all Force and Divisional contingency plans will be available on the system. It should be appreciated that the system in no way replaces the need for setting-up incident posts/offices. It is



Chief Inspector Malcolm Hargraves explains the IRIS System.

available to ensure that the correct action is taken in the initial stages of major incidents, eg, the urgent deployment of police vehicles to certain checkpoints and the notification of specified senior police officers.

## Directory Enquiry

This facility enables operators to assess quickly useful agencies and telephone numbers on a forcewide, divisional or sub-divisional basis. The Force training team has already put onto the computer all the useful information presently recorded in books at sub-divisional level. Additional records will be input from details currently held in the Information Room. The "DE" facility will also hold indexed useful information concerning the operation of the IRIS system and for the future there will be sufficient spare capacity to enter any useful records which police officers suggest should be added in the interests of efficiency and speed of retrieval.

## Training

The latest news is that the first one-week PILOT course for operators started on Monday, March 3. Delivery of terminals permitting the intensive training period will commence on schedule on April 1.

International Police Association  
present a

**"HOLLYWOOD NITE"**  
Saturday May 17 at  
Marconi Club, Beehive Lane,  
Chelmsford.

(See page 6 for full details)

## RADIO ORWELL VISIT HEADQUARTERS



Recent visitors to Police Headquarters were Sally Gordon and Simon Cornes of Radio Orwell. Radio Orwell is an independent radio station broadcasting from Suffolk but covering the northern part of Essex. Sally is the head of the "features" department and Simon the head of news.

During their visit, Sally and Simon were shown around headquarters Information Room and the Driving School. Sally tried her "skill" on the skid but to save her blushes, a different photograph of the visit has been chosen with Inspector David Hicks in the Driving School!

## All at Sea — All for SEE

HOW do you fancy being "All at Sea" for a very good cause? On Thursday, April 3, the Essex Youth Orchestra, together with a 750-voice choir made up of singers from throughout Essex, will be performing at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

The concert is entitled "All at Sea — All for SEE" and is being given in aid of SEE (Save Eyes Everywhere). The

concert will be sponsored by Essex Radio, and no doubt broadcast at a later date.

Should you wish to attend this occasion, check the noticeboard at your station, it should have full details and a specimen booking form. Seats are priced from £2 to £7 and may also be booked direct from the Box Office, Royal Albert Hall, London, SW7 (01-589 8212).

## Basildon Division Sports and Social Club Re-Union Evening

At 8pm on Thursday April 17 a Re-Union Social will be held at the Club Room, Basildon Police Station. All former members of the Division, and those retired members of the Force living in the area of Basildon Division are invited to attend.

All serving members of the Force will be most welcome.

Please come along and meet your old friends and colleagues.

Light refreshments will be provided and in order to assist with catering arrangements please notify Sergeant Leslie Bramhill at Pitsea Police Office if you are able to attend.

Telephone Basildon 558899.

## The Law

THE 'LAW', despite the criticism from time to time levelled at it, tries hard to be a newspaper which provides you with the information you want to read. It can only do that if you make your views known, and that could be done by a letter to 'Postbag' or by writing or providing the background for an article to be written on any interesting subject.

In particular, 'Law' readers are notorious competitors — and if you are one — then please tell us. We are always particularly happy to carry articles about unusual sports or activities.



George Lambeth and Mandy Cooper as Kipps and Ann with one of Kipps' room-mates.



Roy Clarke as Mr Chitlerlow, who proved to be the key to Kipps' fortune.

ABOVE RIGHT: John Crisp, Laurie Calkin and Ron Cook doing a fair impression of HQ Scenes of Crime Officers.

RIGHT: Melanie Lee, Hayley Barkway and Michael Cook, with Claire Jepson who played their tutor and Kipps' first love.

BELOW RIGHT: The whole cast of a wonderful show assembled at the finale.

# Half A Sixpence

By  
Samantha Brannon



'HALF a Sixpence', this year's show from The Essex Police Headquarters Musical Society is probably one of the best amateur productions I have seen and will certainly help to keep the audience flocking in for another 21 years.

The colourful costumes, splendid scenery and most enthusiastic performances from all, made songs such as 'Money To Burn', 'If The Rain's Gotta Fall' and 'Flash Bang Wallop' come alive.

Solo performances too were most impressive notably, Mandy Cooper, Pat Evans, Roy Clarke, Derek Lee and of course George Lambeth, about whom a member of the audience was heard to comment, 'Ah isn't he lovely, I bet he's just like that in real life'. Well I don't know about that, but his youthful and exuberant performance as Arthur Kipps ensured that the show was a great success.

All of the musical numbers were lively and entertaining and 'Economy', sung by George Lambeth, Stuart Giggins, Andrew Shepherd and John Hart, and 'The Old Military Canal', sung by the company, showed the group's singing talents at their best.

Credit must also go to the backroom boys, the orchestra, and of course the producer/director/choreographer, Clara Smith whom with hard work, determination, and a great deal of talent have brought the story alive.

It was a most memorable show and all the applause was greatly deserved.

## Belgium Christmas Trip

HQ GARAGE in conjunction with HQ Sports Club are currently taking bookings for the 4th Annual pre-Christmas trip to Belgium. This year the venue will be Ghent. A Viscount aircraft has been booked for the charter flight from Southend Airport and a luxury coach from Ostend to Ghent. After visiting they the hypermarket at Ghent for Christmas shopping

there will be a sightseeing/shopping excursion of Ghent itself.

The date of the excursion is Saturday, November 22, leaving Southend at 8am and returning at 7.30pm the same day. The total cost of the trip is £39.50 per head.

Contact Mr R. Wake-ling or PC Bridgeman at HQ Garage for further details.

## The History Of The Essex Police Marine Unit

THE first 'River' Policing that took place in Essex, in fact was under the Colchester Borough Police, who operated out five Sailing Smacks on the River Colne. Their principal duty was the protection of the Oyster Beds on that River, and they were involved in many cases of Oyster poaching. These Smacks ceased operating prior to the amalgamation of the Essex County Constabulary and the Colchester Borough Force just after the war.

In 1949, following the above amalgamation it was decided that the Essex County Constabulary should operate a River Patrol on the River Thames, to extend to the Estuary the patrols already being made by the Metropolitan Police Force Thames Division.

To this end the force made several enquiries, culminating with the Purchase of an ex-RAF Seaplane Tender from the Air Ministry (as it was in those days). A River Section was formed and the First Sergeant appointed to run the new Section was Sgt Sydney Cranfield, an ex-Colchester Borough Officer who had served on the 'Oyster' Smacks with many members of his family, when they had been operating on the River Colne.

The Launch named the 'VIGILANT' was based at Tilbury, mooring at the Landing Stage, and the crew was made up of a Sergeant and four Constables. The Vigilant was a timber built hard chine fast patrol boat capable of about twenty knots, and she soon became a regular face on the River. Her crew involving themselves in the detection of River Bye-Law and Merchant Shipping Offences as well as the Criminal Offences such as 'Larceny'.

The launch however, having been built during the war was not of the best construction and began to deteriorate quite fast by boat standards, and in 1958 a new launch was ordered.

The new launch to be called the VIGILANT II was built at Taylors boatyard in Shoreham. The hull was Taylors own River patrol craft design but the superstructure and layouts were completed by a Metropolitan Police boat Architect following consultations with the crew of the Vigilant.

The launch was a 42 foot teak on oak round bilged patrol craft powered by twin diesel engines, and the only design fault that could be attributed to the boat architect was the headroom, which allowed for 6ft police officers wearing helmets.

The boat was launched in 1959 by Lady Peel, wife of the Chief Constable and went straight into service on the Thames, taking over from the now almost derelict Vigilant.

By 1966 it became obvious that with the increase of private boating especially on the Rivers Crouch and Blackwater that another boat was required, for although the duties of the Vigilant II had been extended to include occasional four day patrol around the coast visiting these Rivers, the work-load being created by the private boats was demanding a more regular patrol.

In 1967 a 22ft Todd Tuna small cabin cruiser was purchased and brought into Service. The original idea behind this purchase was that it was a small boat easily towed around on a trailer, and as private boating was mostly seasonal, it would only be used

during the Summer. The boat was named 'Alert' and was initially based at Burnham. The first Sergeant in charge of this new boat was Sergeant George Thurkle, who had been a crew member aboard the Old Vigilant and subsequently the Vigilant II for several years, before moving to Maldon on promotion.

The boat was not an ideal purchase as it was not built as a workboat and although it was small, the problems of launching and recovering not as easy as was first envisaged. However despite the problem she did sterling work in the area, including many patrols round the coast to the River Blackwater. The crew was made up of one Sergeant and one Constable.

By 1970 it has become obvious that the 'Alert' was insufficient to carry out duties, and the patrol the area that she had to, and after extensive enquiries it was decided to purchase a 27ft Cheverton work boat, equip it with twin diesel engines, and use it on patrol all the year round. The section was increased by a

In 1973 the Vigilant II was also re-engined, using for the first time twin turbo powered Ford diesel engines. Although these greatly improved the performance of the launch they also created their own problem.

At the same time as this was going on attempts had been made to improve the performance of the Alert, but even with experimental engines and a great deal of work, breakdowns proved that she had outlived her working life. So again after some research an Aquabell 33 powered again by turbo powered twin diesel engines was ordered. In 1974 the ALERT II came into service, she was 33 ft long and although the boat was basically an angling boat in the look and design, the hull had also been adapted by Pilot Stations, especially in Yarmouth, where two operated very successfully as pilot cutters in all kinds of weather. She proved a speedy boat capable of 27 knots and her crew were very pleased with her.

By this time the overall Marine Section had now increased to one Sergeant and five Constables on the



Vigilant III on patrol off Canvey Island.

further Sergeant and two Constables. The 'WATCHFUL' came into service in Summer 1971 and was again based on the River Crouch at Burnham. The alert was kept in service to supplement this patrol, and to be used when the Watchful extended her patrol to the River Blackwater.

Meanwhile back on the Thames by 1971 and wear on the Vigilant II required that she went to Woolverston Marina on the River Orwell in Suffolk for a major refit and overhaul, including the replacement of her keel.

Up until this time each launch had fallen under the operational supervision of the Divisional Commander of the area in which it was based, but now it was decided to bring all the administration for the two sections under one roof, and the post of Inspector (Liaison) for the two sections was created. At the same time the name River Section was re-entitled Marine Section. The first Inspector appointed to the post was Inspector Robert George, who had served both as a Police Constable and Sergeant aboard the Vigilant and Vigilant II before moving on promotion to Information Room.

Thames, operating two shifts a day for the best part of a week, but decreased by one Sergeant and two Constables, increased by a further four Constables to a total of one Sergeant and seven Constables who were now based at Southminster Police Station, operating both the Watchful on the River Crouch and the new Alert II on the River Blackwater.

Another change of thinking at headquarters led to the formation of the Headquarters Operational Division, in which the Marine Section was to be included. Superintendent Alan Gilling was the first Divisional Commander.

In 1975 our Liaison Inspector retired, and his place was taken by Inspector George Thurkle, whose experience in having served with both Sections was invaluable.

In 1978 with a change of Chief Constable the duties and locations were looked at closely with regard to current crime trends, demand etc, and it was decided to relocate the Thames Section in the Southend Area, where an increase in the overall crime figures in the private boating and general increase in the private boating scene demanded a greater police presence. The section was eventually

based at Rayleigh Police Station, and the launch moored in the Ray off Leigh on Sea during the Summer and Holehaven Creek off Canvey Island for protection from the storms during the Winter.

At the same time as the move was made, a local unit operated along the Southend Foreshore, the Police Rescue Unit, a Sea Rider dinghy with an outboard towed behind a police van, to answer distress calls was disbanded. In order to replace this service as well as provide a tender for the crew to reach the launch, a Del Quay Dory powered by twin 50hp Mercury outboard engines was purchased, this has also proved invaluable in shallow water and crime patrolling.

Permission now came through for the replacement of the Vigilant II, which was now twenty years old. By chance it was found that a North Gael 40 was on the stocks at Anderson, Rigden and Perkin Boatyard at Whistable, this boat appears eminently suitable and a quick decision resulted in the VIGILANT III being delivered on the May 31, 1979.

In January 1982 the Operations Division officially came into being, it was made up of Marine Section, Information Room, Dog Section, Mounted Section and the Force Support Unit.

In 1982 it was also decided to replace the Alert II as the hull was not standing up to the strain, and again as luck was on our side, a Lochin 33 was available, having completed 300 hours as a demonstration boat. Renamed the ALERT III she has been in service at Bradwell on the River Blackwater since being commissioned. She has a very successful hull, which has since been adopted by the RNLI as the hull for their Brede Class Lifeboat.

The other change made was that the Dell Quay Dory used by the Thames Section had reached the end of its useful life and was replaced by a Q18 Dory, also powered by twin 50hp Mercury outboard engines. Over the past two years this boat has been slightly adapted by the crew and has been very successful as a small patrol craft. The old Dell Quay Dory was then taken in to use on the Rivers Crouch and Blackwater where it is still used today.

More recently the Vigilant III has had a major refit which included the provision of two Volvo Penta engines by Volspec Engineering at a cost of £28,000. During 1985 The Marine Unit enjoyed one of its most successful years in its history. It carried out 821 patrols afloat. There were 173 marine related crimes dealt with or referred to the Unit. 21 persons were arrested for offences connected with Marine crimes resulting in more than £100,000 worth of stolen property being recovered.

A policy of reporting persons committing Bye-Law offences was maintained with details being passed to the respective Local Authority to implement proceedings.

The Marine Unit attended to 61 vessels which had either broken down or in distressed circumstances and was responsible for the rescue of 54 persons at risk. 8 bodies were recovered from the water.

In September 1985 Inspector George Thurkle retired and the Unit is now commanded by Inspector Phillip Baxter.

## Private Medical Scheme

IN MUCH the same way that motor manufacturers improve their specifications from time to time introducing new vehicles to the market, so does the insurance industry.

Private Patients Plan have a policy of improvement and the company have produced a new model to replace Police Masterplan, called Family Health Plan. The scheme has been developed to adjust to the needs of the subscriber and to the direction in which the industry is moving.

In all cases, the high cost of hospital accommodation charges form a substantial element in costings for private medical treatment. Family Health Plan has been designed to take account of these factors by placing hospitals into four bands according to accommodation

charges. Hospital banding reflects only costing and is not representative of the quality of treatment received.

Within the new plan, the most expensive London hospitals are Band A. The more expensive London NHS pay beds, the majority of London private hospitals and the more expensive provincial hospitals are Band B. Medium priced provincial private hospitals are Band C, whilst most provincial NHS pay beds and the lower priced provincial private hospitals are Band D. Therefore the selection of Band C is appropriate for most subscribers in the Essex Police Scheme.

by Bob Needham

Premiums are of course related to the band of hospitals chosen and this measure is one of the steps where savings in monthly subscription rates can be made. The plan also caters for those subscribers who wish to reduce their subscriptions further by optionally accepting a reduced scale of benefits. A saving of 15 per cent on your premium cost is achieved by taking the following benefits out of the plan:

i) Nursing at home; ii) Consultations, physiotherapy and diagnostic procedures; iii) Psychiatric treatment, and iv) Pregnancy complications.

All other provisions of the Plan would continue and these include incidentally a full refund on complex operations irrespective of the hospital band chosen.

Having begun by suggesting features of the motor industry have a relationship to our subject, then the next option certainly does!

Familiar to all motorists when negotiating insurance cover is the excess. That is to say the insured person agrees to pay the first part of an insurance claim up to an accepted figure. An identical feature is proposed in Family Health Plan. An additional saving of 15 per cent can be achieved by agreeing to an optional excess to meet the first part of each year's costs. In the case of a member subscribing to hospital Band C for example, this optional excess is £100. In a nutshell. The plan can be as extensive and inclusive as you require it, or you could take one or both of the options provided thereby trimming the extent of cover to the needs of yourself and your family.

The new proposals are intended to replace the current Police Master Plan at our renewal date on May 1. The new rates have yet to be determined. Civilian members of the group will continue with Family Masterplan 3. Members are assured of full circulation of PPP's written material on the Plan and another information evening is planned at Headquarters on March 12 when representatives of PPP will be on hand to discuss the proposals with all enquirers.

If you have any queries, come to the Quiet Room at Headquarters at 7pm on March 12 and discuss the matter.

new condition, £180. DC Bird, HQ extension 550.

**CHEST** freezer, 13 cu ft, £35; brand new roofrack, never used, £18. J. Mertil PC 1629, 0277-210603.

**CORNISH** Holiday? Fully equipped mobile home, six-berth, two doubles, shower/toilet, mains electric, sited at Polzerth, pleasant site near beach. D. Turner Ex PC, 03752-6704.

**RECORD** collection, Matt Monroe LPs 1952-1964, excellent condition, in total, reluctant sale. J. Dorling Insp, Basildon.

**NEW** parts Triumph 1500TC, front silencer pipe, water pump, £8 each. Ken Ross Chelmsford 261021.

**LOSE** that extra weight before the summer, start now on the Herbalife diet programme. For full details call Bob Goddard PC 664. Tilbury 77876.

**RALEIGH** lightweight touring gent's cycle, 'Clubman' 12-speed, 23in frame, 27in wheels, new condition, £150. P. S. Burgess, Harlow 39387.

**HOLIDAY** bungalow to let, 100 yards from Suffolk beach, sleeps maximum 7, available all year round, competitive rates,

## MONEY MATTERS



by Tony Warren

**FIRST** point on this month's agenda — Thanks to the BTP Federation Chief and to Jim Rogers, both of whom (coincidentally) responded to my "Winds of Change" article, and who provided bags of useful info about the Police pension schemes. Very informative, but, just like my views, a little biased towards one side — (and, although I didn't notice it, some thought a little personal!).

For our part, we are commission earning salespeople who specialise in personal and company pension schemes, totally professional and independent of all companies. Just as Federation Executives are experts on Police Pension, we are experts on private ones, and we too glean a lot of our info from actuaries.

Now to this month's foray into the world of money. I suppose you could call this, "Winds of Change — second coming."

The Financial Services Act is on the way!

This new legislation is going to sweep all insurance and investment salesmen into self-regulating bodies so that, if we are naughty, we can get penalised.

To become licensed or registered, we are going to have to open up our books

and submit accounts to prove solvency. We are also going to have to show competence in carrying out the business, so a lot of smaller brokers and insurance men may soon feel the chill.

On the commissions side, there are going to be two main levels; those companies that pay a lot of commission, and those that stick to an agreed lower level. We'll call them High and Low.

If a man sells a policy for a High company, he'll have to declare his commissions and he won't be able to give the client a choice of companies. He certainly won't be able to sell products from the Low companies without a stringent penalty, backed by legislation.

If a man registers as a Low commission seller, he can sell for any of the Low companies, each of who restricts their commissions to agreed lower limits.

Most brokers will stick with the Low companies, earning reasonable money by offering a choice of Low commission paying products.

It's going to be an interesting year for the financial services industry.

## RETIREMENTS

PS J. A. Barcham, stationed at Braintree, retired February 28, 1986, after 31 years' 215 days' service.

PC P. J. Cartwright, stationed at Colchester Traffic, retired February 28 1986 after 25 years' 314 days' service.

PC G. P. Ginn, stationed at Rayleigh, retired March 8, 1986, after 19 years' service.

PS A. H. Gowers, stationed at HQ Operations, retires March 31, 1986, after 30 years' 191 days' service.

SUPT J. W. Smith, stationed at HQ Complaints, Discipline and Inspection, retires March 31, 1986, after 35 years' 122 days' service.

## Market Place

**POLPERRO**, Cornwall, Modern holiday chalet on pleasant site overlooking Talland Bay, all mod cons, fully equipped, sleeps 4/5, heated pool, shop, club. Craig Bailey 0279-53570.

**SPACEMAKER** caravan porch awning, will fit any size van, little used, £75;

Calor gas bottle, £7. Barry Daymond at Brentwood 024533-556.

**SINGER** sewing machine with zig zag stitching, serviced, vgc, £35. HQ extension 512.

**TENT**, Trio Trinidad, six-berth, separate kitchen area, large living area,

**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

close to Norfolk Broads. PC Millbank, Chelmsford 460306.

**FANCY** dress hire, The County's leading fancy dress costume hire specialists, reduced rates for Police Authority employees, pensioners and families. Ex PS Coombes 0702-74436.

**FIVE-BERTH** caravan to let at Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk, all mains, shower, gas and VAT included, prices from £83 pw low season to £128 pw high season. Mrs E. Gepp 0702-587263 or PC Seago at Rayleigh.

**TRAILER** tent — Camplet GT (Trio), Danish make, used only four times, sleeps four, many extras, kitchen, cooker, etc, may be fully assembled in 10 minutes, cost £1,400, price £875. Cherry Sub Div clerk, extension 281 at Harlow.

**HOLIDAY** accommodation, would suit anyone requiring convalescence, in house in village of Drumguish, in Spey Valley, Inverness-Shire, own transport an advantage. Details from W. D. Mackenzie, 'Croila', Drumguish, Kingussie, Inverness-Shire. Telephone 05402-604.

were encouraging in the amount of continued home and international activity by members throughout the year.

It was with regret, however, that the meeting heard that the IPA house at Leigh has had to be relinquished, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed in their absence to Chico and Joan Bates for the efforts they have put into the house and the entertainment of its guests since 1976.

The Chief Constable, our Branch Chairman was unable to attend the meeting, but through the Vice-Chairman expressed his concern that as Chairman he was unable to play an active role in Branch activities due to his many commitments. He expressed his continued full support and interest, and the members were pleased to elect him to the post of Honorary President of the Branch.

George Harris was elected to the post of Chairman, and a newcomer to the Branch Committee is David Taylor, elected as vice-Chairman. Marion Young continues as Treasurer, and Mike Stanbury as Secretary, with Johnny Johnson continuing to represent the retired members.

The Treasurer reported that Branch funds were in a very healthy state, and the meeting agreed that, where necessary, subsidies could be given for the entertainment of official IPA visitors to Essex.

Two recommendations were put forward for discussion at the Regional AGM to be held at Harlow on February 26, concerning National status for Brian Boon as Secretary of the IPA Amateur Radio group of the Hobbies Section, and a recommendation against a proposal for members of certain quasi-police organisations to be admit-

ted to IPA membership.

### IPA Seminars

Notification has been received of the programme of 25 IPA seminars in 1986 to be held at Gimborn Castle (between Dortmund and Cologne) on a variety of police related themes. Most of these events last 4/5 days and cost DM125, which included all meals and accommodation, and up to DM50 can be paid towards travelling costs. In particular, Seminar No10 from 25-30 May is entitled 'Drugs — Social Aspects of an International Problems.' This seminar will be in English, and although the majority of seminars are in German, instantaneous translation facilities are available. Full details are available from the Branch Secretary at Witham, and in the past the Chief Constable has granted Special Leave for officers attending such seminars relative to their duties. Further financial assistance will be considered on application to the Branch.

### Chelmsford Section

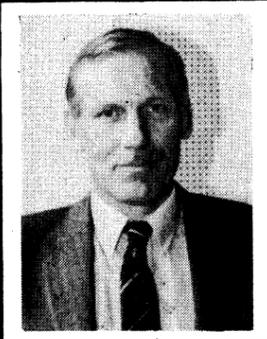
Just to remind you again that Chelmsford and Headquarters Section meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at Chelmsford Police Station, and don't forget to book early for the 'Hollywood Night' dance at the Marconi Club, Beehive Lane, Chelmsford on Saturday 17 May with the Rod Blake Big Band. Tickets at £6.50 including buffet are available from Dick Giggins on Chelmsford 51082

### Southend Section

Chico Bates is organising a Disco at Southend Police Station for 8pm on Saturday 12 April with supper, and tickets are available from Chico on Southend 612174 or from Graham Sargent at Southend Police Station.

Mike Stanbury

## Federation Notes



by  
*Jim Rodgers*

### RENT ALLOWANCE

YOU will have been aware over the past several years, that attacks have been made against the system, the criteria and the whole principle of Rent Allowance.

Not least damaging of these attacks, was in fact made by the then Home Secretary Mr Leon Brittan, in a circular to police authorities in which he laid down certain alterations in the rules of the game, which had not been agreed at Police Negotiating Board.

As a direct result of this circular a number of Forces were prevented from making agreements on their bi-annual review of the allowance, without going through a time wasting and costly exercise to change the "Force Selected House".

One of the changes made was that the "Force Selected House" had to fall within a 10 per cent up or down from the "average rateable value of the Force provided housing". In Essex our house was 10.75 per cent above the average, and it took some neat footwork from within the Force to get approval to continue to use it, but we did, and the rest is history.

At the time though, on a national basis the Staff Associations, with the Police Federation to the

fore, claimed that the Home Secretary's actions were unlawful.

We as an organisation did something about it, and recently — on the 13th of this month actually — we won a very significant High Court victory, which ruled that parts of the circular were ultra vires, and so were of no effect. Costs were awarded against the Home Office.

The result of the Judgment is as follows: The Home Secretary has only a supervisory role in the determination of Rent Allowances and not the power to review proposed maximum limits on their merits.

The Police Negotiating Board was set up by Parliament to consider points arising concerned with pay and allowances for police officers. By not consulting with the Staff Associations when he set out his circular altering the criteria for Rent Allowances, Mr Brittan had departed from practice and the expectations of Parliament.

This result would seem to protect the Police Service to some extent from rash moves by Secretaries of State, if only to ensure that consultation takes place before attempts are made to change policies.

### New Year's Honour

IT GOES without saying that I was extremely pleased to have been awarded the British Empire Medal in Her Majesty's New Year's Honours List.

I owe a great debt to the support and loyalty of the Branch Boards over many years, otherwise I am sure that my efforts would not have come to notice. I have been somewhat humbled by the number of letters and personal good wishes that have been showered on me (and anyone that knows me, know that I find it hard to be humble!).

I have always deemed it a privilege as well as a pleasure to serve the Branch Board and be of service to my fellows, I hope I will always be of the same frame of mind.

## FEDERATION NEWS...FEDERATION NEWS...FEDERAT

# RIOT TRAINING

I HAVE been asked to set out the policy applicable with regard to training and deployment for Crowd Control; Support Unit; or Riot Training — whichever term you happen to use.

Not the Force policy on the training itself, but the policy which has developed over the years, and should be universally accepted within the Force.

- 1 The nature of crowd control duties is likely to involve considerable physical exertion and it is desirable that those officers participating in the training should be physically fit, under 35 years of age, and should have a minimum of 18 months' service.
- 2 It is accepted that many supervisors are above these age limits, but can still be required to participate and be deployed.

- 3 Anyone over the age of 40 years, who does participate in the training is advised to take advantage of the "Medicals for over Forties Scheme" which is in existence. The Doctor should be informed of the fact that the officer will be undergoing the strenuous training involved — any advice he gives after his examination should be complied with for obvious reasons.

- 4 All officers may at some time or another become embroiled in a Crowd Control situation at the time it flares up — and for this reason a series of "Familiarisation Courses" have been undertaken, so that officers who may not fall into the accepted age group, or may even be in CID or offices, can be made aware of the various procedures peculiar to the new equipment being used.

- 5 This familiarisation training until very recently included Women Officers, but this has been suspended pending an enquiry into the equipment available which can be used by women, and it is hoped that as soon as this problem has been resolved they can again be included in the training sessions.

- 6 In spite of this it is NOT intended that Women Officers will be deployed in Crowd Control situations, where we have prior knowledge of a problem, but like all officers they may at some time be involved with a spontaneous fracas!

- 7 Don't forget that injuries sustained in training should be reported and recorded at the time, at the training ground. A written report should also be submitted for personal file purposes.

## Injuries

IT SEEMS pertinent to follow a piece about Riot Training, with a reminder to officers who are off duty through injury to make sure that they follow procedure.

Primarily, any officer injured ON DUTY, must report the fact in writing so that the injury can be properly recorded as an "Industrial Injury".

This applies to any injury. Even those which appear to be quite innocuous at the time, can be responsible for future complications. If these complications result in your being cast on Medical Grounds from the Service, then that original report will be very important in supporting a claim for an Injury Award Pension.

Even if this isn't the end result, the record of injuries sustained is one which highlights to those outside, who care, that this is a dangerous job! You know it, they may need to be reminded!

### CICB

If the injury is sustained as a result of Criminal Conduct, then the officer may have a claim to make with the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. In these circumstances a report will obviously be made internally

to the Force, but in addition claim forms have to be prepared and submitted to the CICB.

Constable Phil Charters, at Harlow Traffic Office (Extension 37) is the Claims Secretary for the Federated Ranks, and will be only too pleased to assist with all stages of the claim. He it is who will provide you with the claim form, and advise on what follows.

### Group Insurance

If the injury is caused and entails your absence from duty for more than seven days you may make a claim against the Group Insurance Scheme, whether the injury was caused ON or OFF DUTY. For each week in excess of the first seven days, the Scheme pays £10 — which helps towards the fruit and barley water, whilst you heal.

I must stress here that the Insurance Covers INJURIES ONLY; sickness absence is not compensated under the Scheme.

It does cover the odd fall whilst decorating, the sport injury, as well as the assault on police, or Riot Training injury, or the domestic tussle come to that!

Claim forms for the Group Insurance can be obtained from the Federation Office (Extension 398). Make sure you are in the Scheme (Pay roll code 81).

In the event that the injury requires medical treatment not readily available under the National Health Service, don't forget we have a Force Medical Scheme, the Secretary of which is Bob Needham (Extension 495).

## Members services

LAST MONTH you will recall I made mention of the Police Federation Christmas Cards. I have just learned that throughout the country over 52,000 of the cards were purchased, over 2,500 of them in Essex. As a result, from the money raised the Police Convalescent Homes will benefit to the tune of some £1,600, and a cheque will shortly be forwarded to me made payable to the Essex Police Benevolent Fund for £152.25, being our share of the profits related to pro rata sales of the cards.

This is all thanks to your generosity and support of the idea, and makes the extra work for this office so much more worthwhile.

### Car purchase

We have been contacted by The Ray Powell Group, which has offered

to members of the Essex Police and Civilians employed by Essex Police, a discount of 14 per cent. This may be slightly less on base models, but the offer is on Ford, Austin/Rover, Vauxhall/Opel, Peugeot/Talbot and Nissan cars or light commercial vehicles.

Part-exchange is welcome, and personal loans can also be arranged at current bank rates.

Anyone interested in taking advantage of the facility should make initial contact with the Sales Executive — Mr Richard Watts — on (0279) 32111 (That's a Harlow number!) and he will be delighted to sort something out for you. Just mention the facility arranged with the Essex Police Federation.

### Financial advice

Shortly appearing on Federation Noticeboards will be details of Schroder

Financial Management Limited, a company who can provide advice and assistance in matters relating to tax planning, life assurance, investments for children, unit trusts and a variety of investments.

This is a company with a difference, they came to my notice through a member of the Force, and I was quite impressed when I met members of their staff.

Any company of this sort, would in the normal course of events be looking to earn commissions and royalties from the service they provide, and this would normally swell their coffers.

Schroder have for some time been working together with the Down's Children Association, and in addition to giving advice the Association on investments to help them reach their long term objectives, they have been paying to the

Association a percentage of any business profits they may make, in the form of a royalty.

If any of you wish to seek their advice or assistance, Mike Taylor, Jenny Ellis or Bob Watts, will be pleased to oblige, ring them on 01-734 8070.

### New tie

A tie which incorporates the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal Ribbon in its design, is being produced. The tie costs £3 and it is in navy blue with the relevant medal Ribbon colours diagonally placed in two bands across the toe of the tie.

I hold a limited supply at the Federation Office, but if stocks are not sufficient for demand, I will gladly order more. The profits from the sale of the ties go to a charity.

These are not "collectors Items," anyone purchasing the tie, must have qualified for the 22 year Medal.

## LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT

## GOLFING DIARY

Andy Smith  
Secretary PEGS  
(Epping 72211)

ONCE again our Golf Season is about to emerge from its winter hibernation and burst into activity. However, during the winter months and snow-covered courses full fixture lists have been drawn up and final dates have been finalised, mainly through the work of my Assistant Secretary, Steve Bardwell. Thank you, Steve.

Members should have received their copy of the fixture list and for the interested non-members this season we are taking part in 23 matches and four National Tournaments; on top of this we have our three Society Meetings and our Internal Knockout Cup.

The first of our Society Meetings is to be held on Wednesday, April 9 at Thorpe Hall Golf Club. The meetings comprises of two 18-hole rounds of golf competing for various trophies and prizes. The day is started off at 7.30am with coffee and ends in the evening with a 3-course meal. The cost of this meeting for members will be £12.50, non-members £14, and non-Police guests are welcome at a cost of £17.50. Any golfer in the county will be more than welcome to join us. Just contact me at Epping Police Station or Steve Bardwell at Harlow Police Station.

One of the new fixtures this year is against London Weekend Television. No, not against the television personalities but the technical staff. However, who

knows in the future we could be playing against (yes, against) Pamela Armstrong. Food for thought!

Another forthcoming event which is being planned by PEGS is an Essex Police/Junior/Pro-Am Tournament. This event is being planned to take place on a date during the last week of May 1987 and the winners will go forward and represent Essex Police in a National Police/Junior/Pro-Am. Our chairman, Alex Mackman, at Stansted Airport will be organising our event and even at this early stage I will be looking for willing helpers. Please bear this in mind and if you are willing to help in any way, contact either Alex Mackman or myself. Sponsors are also being sought.

New Members — I am pleased to say are on the increase and it is pleasing to see novices joining. Novices are the future of PEGS so don't be put off because your handicap is 28 plus, come and join us and you'll see there are others like you. Our Society exists to promote golf for pleasure and give members an opportunity to compete against other members and other Societies. We do play to win but in doing so we enjoy ourselves. Everybody is welcome.

Members one and all enjoy your season and Good Golfing for everyone.

## Crocker Cup

By John Hedgethorne

WITH THE 1985 Crocker Cup competition not quite finalised, the 1986 campaign got under way at Basildon on January 9.

Roy Kebbell, veteran cross country runner and local coroner's officer had laid out a two lap course in Gloucester Park which very nearly produced him at least one customer, writes John Hedgethorne, who had been persuaded to compete on his last day in the job.

Colchester's Chris Turner was in charge throughout, though Tony Robinson of Harlow was in close attendance and took the runner-up spot. Moira Hewitt, HQIR, took the ladies' title. Colchester, looking for their sixth successive Crocker Cup win, could place only third as Grays and Southend turned out big squads to finish in this order with Rayleigh fourth.

On Sunday, January 19, it was over to Colchester for the 15kms walking race which involves three circuits of the hilly Essex University road course. The home team had a big team out, but Rayleigh had a smaller though fitter

outfit and looked determined.

Mike Dunion was on cracking form winning not only the police championship but also the Essex League race combined with it. Clearly Mike's bid for a Scottish vest at this year's Commonwealth Games has begun.

Denis Sheppard, well below form, nonetheless took second place with Rayleigh's Gary Myers third. The team scores had to be recounted before the presentation at Colchester Police Station when it was found that the home team had it by one point.

But there was no mistake, and Colchester had come back from the dead, even without 'him' who was there to organise the race and walk in the civilian event.

So the 1986 Crocker Cup competition set off with Grays and Colchester each getting a first and a third for nine points each, while both Southend and Rayleigh have a second place though Rayleigh have a fourth to add. But it's a long time until December.

## Seaxes Auto Club

I WOULD like to open the Seaxes Column by thanking all those who supported the New Year's Eve disco and to Lloyd Shelley for organising another successful event.

Lloyd is to be congratulated in another area, in that he came first in Class in the Spruce Howlett Stages Rally on February 2, at Snetterden, which is a round of the Lada Challenge. He came 14th overall out of a field of 32 competitors. Not bad, eh, for a Social Secretary!

Our first 12 Car rally of 1986 was organised by Dave White and Pete Horscraft and this attracted 10 entries, and was enjoyed by those who entered and marshals. The overall winners were Ian Weatherly and John Vallance. Unfortunately one of our first timers decided to go straight on at a 90 degree right, but all was not lost due to their swift recovery by Peter Johnson and Dave Rickett. We were assured by the crew that we would see them on the next event.

The dates of our next 12 car rallies are April 4 and April 25.

Other dates to put into your diary are Sunday, May 4; this is our usual marshalling event for the Aston Martin Owners' Club at Brands Hatch. For those who would like to

make a weekend of it there are facilities for caravanners and campers. There is a motor-cycle event on the Saturday with usually a fair amount of thrills and spills.

Another event that can be made into an enjoyable weekend is the AMOC meeting at Silverstone on Saturday, June 21 (first day of Summer hopefully).

Other dates you may wish to note are as follows:-

April 4/5 — Priestley Road Rally — CMC.

April 15 — Langer Park Stages — ECMC & WECC

April 23 — Ted Cleghorn Stages — SCCON

April 13 — Essex Chronicle auto test

June 1 — RCC/WCC Stages

July 13 — Mid-Summer Stages — SCCON

Aug 24 — Kettering Stages — WAC

Aug 31 — Britvic Stages — CMC

Sept 14 — Suffolk Stages — WSCC & SCCON

Oct 12 — Cambridge Stages — CCC

Oct 26 — Walkers Premier Stages — Dukeries

Nov 2 — Lynn Regis Stages

Brian Jaggs,  
HQ Ext 472.

ON SATURDAY, February 15, Derek Stone died in Broomfield Hospital, following a sudden heart attack. Derek had collapsed whilst trying to help a lady whose car had broken down. It was indicative of his character to always help others.

Derek was well-known to large number of Essex Police personnel following his long involvement with Seaxes Auto Club.

From the very early days of Seaxes, Derek had always been a very enthusiastic competitor and in latter years organiser. For several years Derek had been Competition, Secretary of Seaxes Auto Club, Chairman of the Forest Car Club and Competition Secretary of the Southern Region F.B.P.M.C. His commitment was so much that his life seemed to revolve around motor-sport, there was hardly an event he did not attend, from 12 car rallies to observing on stage rallies and from marshalling at Brands Hatch to the RAC rally in Yorkshire.

Derek was a true professional and good friend to all who knew him. He will be greatly missed.

We extend our condolences to his widow, Christine, and assure her that our thoughts are with her.

## FOOTBALL REPORT

by John  
Weatherly

HAVING beaten old rivals, Kent, in the area final, the Force side now face Durham in the quarter-final of the National PAA.

The area final proved to be an exciting, high quality game. Early on the Kent wingers were causing problems for the Essex defence, but as the game went on we were gradually taking a strangle hold.

Shortly after half-time a free kick found Phil O'Connell away from his marker and a great glancing header gave us a deserved lead.

Within 10 minutes Joel Henderson had sewn up the game with an unstoppable header from a corner. From then on the result was never in doubt.

Mention must be made of Mick Allen who proved what a quality player he is at centre forward and Cliff Haines who had one of his best performances for the

Force.

In the South Midlands Cup the reserve team travelled to Cambridge and came away unfortunate 1-0 losers after extra time.

Having dominated the game for long periods we could just not find the opposition's net and paid the price in the second period of extra time when a Cambridge forward stole in behind the defence to beat Andy Spink who had an otherwise faultless game.

The League programme has been decimated by the weather in recent weeks but the first team remain top with points to spare and the reserves have found some improvement. They are now playing more as a team.

When the weather clears we have some important Cup games to look forward to and the more support we get the better.

## Marathon

IF YOU are a marathon runner, a date to keep free is Sunday, 8th June. The Colchester marathon and half marathon events will be held on that date starting at 10am, over a fast flat course.

The event is being professionally organised by John Hedgethorne. Entry fees are £5 for the marathon and £4.50 for the half marathon, with proceeds going to local charities. Entry forms can be obtained from the offices of Essex County Newspapers or from John Hedgethorne, Bridge Farm, Halstead Road, Stanway, Colchester.

The 1988 National Police Marathon has been applied for. If you want to compete here is your chance to run the course first.

Orienteering —  
Is it for you?

ON A COLD, wet day in December, a small band of Essex officers travelled to Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield, to compete in the 3rd British Police Orienteering Championships. There were entries from 13 forces taking part and with little previous experience between them, the Essex team did well to finish third.

The event was held over a tough 9.5km, 22 control course of woodland and open parkland. The winner was D. Budden (Avon and Somerset). First home for Essex

by Chris Reed

was Chris Reed (10th in 100.59 mins) followed by Keith Fitz John (12 in 105.10 mins). Phil Barrett (13th in 110.11 mins) completed the scoring team. Mervyn Fairweather finished in 167.08 mins.

For those who don't know, Orienteering is a fast growing sport, originating in Scandinavia and introduced to this country in 1964. It involves navigating a course on foot to locate numerous 'controls' with the aid of a detailed map and compass. Courses are usually over pleasant parkland and forest, and range in distance from 1.5km for beginners to 12km for fit, experienced orienteers. It is a cheap form of exercise which can be treated either as a serious sport, or a family outing (dogs often included). There are events on most Sunday mornings either in Essex or within easy travelling distance. If anyone is interested, and would like further information, contact Pc Chris Reed at Chelmsford Town.

The Law

H.Q. phone extensions  
374 and 375

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