



Essex policemen raise over £13,000 to help children in need.

EXPOL 853

EXPOL 853 was the eventual and fancy name given to an original idea by Frank Ruggles, Dave Grimshaw and Mike Benning for a huge charity event involving Essex policemen. The idea was for a non stop run from John O'Groats to Lands End.

From its conception it was intended that a child or children should be the beneficiaries. The outcome involved both these, with the suggestion by Geoff Lee of Ongar that little Matthew Kayne a local cerebral palsy victim, should be provided with a walking brace and that BBC Children in Need Fund should receive the remainder.

853 was the number of miles for the journey, at least according to the route supplied by the AA computer, and 20 was the number of runners needed to do it. One reserve runner, a back up team of 10 and four vehicles completed the team that made the journey. There is neither time nor space to detail the mammoth admin task taken on by the gang of three 'originals', but it took six months to arrange accommodation, transport, fuel, food, collection permits, rail tickets, cooking equipment — the list goes on for ever. All those tasks had to be completed preferably with no expense being incurred. As the momentum grew the rest of us were dragged into organising this and that.

The journey north on May 31 was for 21 of us by courtesy of BR and for the rest in the vehicles; a transit, a camper, a Sierra and the force coach. The culmination of all that was that during Saturday evening we all met in Wick having bumped into each other at Inverness. The enormity of the task was driven home by the cold uninviting Caithness Hills and the thick mist and drizzle which dominated the

last 100 miles north. Running the other way seemed daunting. All these thoughts were dissolved by the warmth of the welcome by Sergeant George Harper and his merry men at Wick, a hotel dinner and a room at the top of the station to sleep.

I like the others decided that a diary of thoughts and actions for the week was necessary to stop the passage of time altering or obscuring what happened. The journey south is described using excerpts from my diary which I tried to keep up as events took place.

Sunday June 1

Hotel breakfast — good to have a solid start, then all hands sorting stores and equipment before the ten mile trip to John O'Groats. First problem. The cannister of stew supplied by the army for Sunday night has putrified which vindicates complaints about the smell on the coach, thrown away — even the seagulls refuse it.

1000: John O'Groats: No wonder everyone runs, walks, hops and cycles away from here, it's a bit desolate and bare but fascinating with the nearest Orkney Isles in view. A hardy few take a swim which can't have done a lot.

1100: Weather is awful so having done the photos and presentations we got underway a few minutes early. Mass start but quickly left to Ray Powell and Mike Benning who are the first official runners.

1230: Hit problem number two — hot tea is necessary but the gas regulator in the camper is u/s. Again the local generosity saves the day — a local shopkeeper came out on a Sunday and donated a new one to smooth talking Mick Spalding. Ken Fos-

ter runs through the first town, Wick, he is going like a train and sweating like only Ken does.

Mid afternoon: Weather cleared now and we are all lapping up the clear air. Phil Carter the cook loaned to us by 45 Field Reg Royal Artillery has joined in a run and is settling in with us strangers. Buster Footman the Southend United physio who is along for obvious reasons is impressed by the fitness of the runners and sees fatigue as the major problem.

Late afternoon: Descended upon the tiny police station at Helmsdale and set up the field kitchen. All hands helping with an enormous stew.

2000: 'A' Squad leave on the coach for a night's sleep at Loch Ness. (The plan demanded that half the team slept each night so that everybody slept every other night).

Monday June 2

0745: Inverness. First major re-think. Two of the night runners meet us to say that they are hours ahead of schedule. Collected £20 in Inverness and Ralph Young tells of some English people who stopped and donated a £20 note during the night.

0915: Aviemore, the ski centre, Andy Down going at his usual speed despite being up all night. We hung on behind to collect — and did quite well with donations of bread, milk and petrol. Generous these Scots.

1030: Now What! We've all lost each other and the mobile 'phones don't work this far up, so we travel ahead and wait on the A9 with Geoff Lee asleep on the grass verge. It will help him forget his blister.

1200: Drumochter summit. Glorious day, warm sun but snow on the peaks. The coach has stopped and there are sandwiches for lunch plus cold dip in the mountain stream.

1445: Pass of Killiekrankie quarter distance already (215 miles since mid-day Sunday).

1700: Chris Lay gets his treatment on an office desk at Pitlochry Police Station — Buster using his 'infrasound' kit and some strapping.

1900: Perth already — the other half (B squad) go off to sleep at the Scottish Police College and it's out turn for an all night stint.

2100: 'Cross checked' the stores from the coach and set off in the pouring rain to catch up with Allan Barley and Paul Watson who have gone the wrong way out of Perth — not their fault, a few signs would have been handy. Local Sergeant helped us out but he is more concerned that the coach has not turned up at the college. (It had run out of fuel!).

Evening meal of tinned mince and onions, beans and yoghurt (in retrospect that menu sounds dangerous).

Tuesday June 3

Midnight: Nearly at the Forth Road Bridge, its very wet and cold.

0100: Cross the Forth Bridge but it might as well have been the Chelmer Bridge for all I saw in the dark and wet.

0200: Edinburgh City Centre. Cruelly left Dave Salmon running on his own while we went into city centre nick for a hot shower. Quick refuel and away.

Very generous in the city, taxi drivers, late night revellers etc.

0330: Out of the city and getting light — past Bilston Glen Colliery — infamous during the NUM dispute. Buster Footman suggests plenty of hot tea on this cold wet morning. Chris, Ian and Mick the drivers are doing well driving and tea making.

1000: Out in the country, Mike Benning and I make our 'phone calls to Essex Radio and our Press Office (daily duty!).

1130: Up to the summit of Devils Beef Tub. Spectacular, although I doubt if Buster and Mike Benning thought so, they ran up it. Steve Woods and Mervyn Fairweather picked up blisters running down it.

Early pm: Moffat — lovely town, clean, tidy with gentle pleasant people. Borders TV arrived to film for their evening news. Steve Woods feeling it a bit and was not improved by Buster's 'operation' on his blisters carried out on top of a concrete waste bin on the A74.

Late pm: Running on the A74 is dangerous, rather like going jogging on the A13. Ken Foster didn't like it one bit.

Into Carlisle — approaching halfway already. Another major problem. A simple mistake in communication leads to harsh words. If the phones had worked it wouldn't have happened. We all lost each other and after several circular tours of Carlisle all was patched up, and 'A' squad off to bed at Lanes Training Centre, Preston. 'B' squad had collected £900 in Edinburgh before meeting us. They took their food for the night and we ate in MacDonalds in Preston — on the house.

Wednesday June 4

0900: All ready for the off. Kate Snell from BBC Radio is with us for our collection in Preston — on street interviews etc.

1200: £500 in Preston. Chris Woodward banked about £1600.

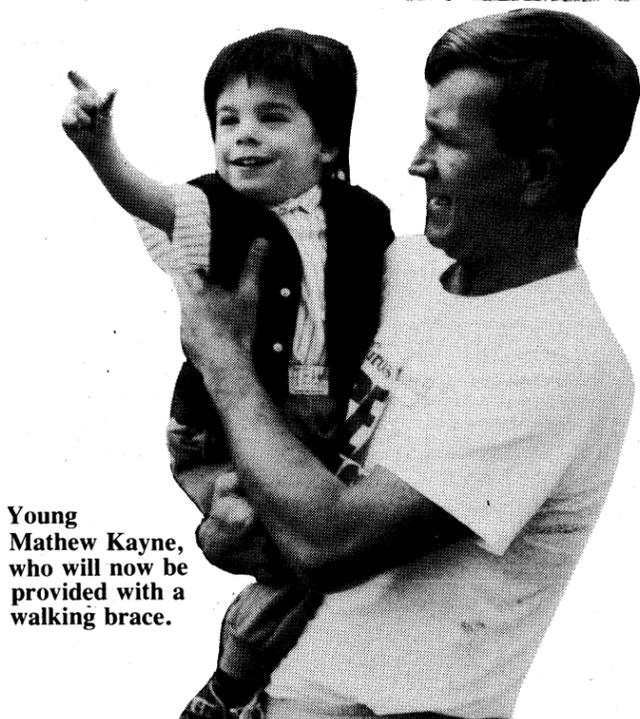


Tired but happy, the runners and other team members at their journey's end.

1230: Radio 'phone now working and we head for Shrewsbury to meet the runners. (Carlisle to Shrewsbury overnight — not bad).

1530: Frank on the 'phone obviously tired — thinks we ought to make more major changes. (The diary records this point as a difficult time — character clashes, fatigue etc. which it's difficult to remember now).

Despite the harsh words we all laughed ourselves silly at John Andrew's expense. He sat on an electric fence during the night



Young Mathew Kayne, who will now be provided with a walking brace.

while relieving himself. Came out quicker than he went in.

2100: Pleasant, quiet evening through Shropshire cattle country, spoiled by Mike Benning falling over and cutting himself. John Seavers took him to Leominster Hospital. Not bothering with much cooked food now just toast and cold stuff.

Thursday June 5

Night: Through to Wye Valley, so obviously beautiful but again lost in night — no moon this week. Just light enough to see the Severn Bridge as we cross it.

1000: Burnham on Sea — duty 'phone calls to the usual places. I did it Mike Benning sound asleep. (Diary entries noticeably shorter now).

Late am: Taunton already — we should be sleeping here tonight but we are so far ahead of time that won't happen.

Met 'B' squad after their night's sleep at Edgbastone, they look bright which is more than we do. The runners have been doing short sessions to try and save energy. Sent some fresh runners on their way and discus-

Friday June 6

0500: This it it, everyone up early, the night runners are near now, so its all into running kit for the big finish.

0700: On the coach, passed the last runner Keith Fitzjohn a few miles out, he resembles a corpse moving at 7½ miles an hour — the pace for the whole run.

0740: Into Lands End, loads of music from the amplifiers that have brought us in so much money. John Seavers selects 'Land of Hope and Glory' and its all smiles and handshakes at the end. (Ray Powell is still asking why in nearly five days the cook only did him one meal! — a question he kept asking never to get an answer).

Epilogue

The end of the event was sudden with the usual emotions of elation, contentment and then that flat feeling that is inevitable. A success no doubt about that despite difficulties at times, but £3,700 in the Bank from collections alone is marvellous and everyone is thinner but well.

Warm thanks to all our suppliers and sponsors for their

CHIEF CONSTABLE AWARDED C.B.E.



HER MAJESTY Queen Elizabeth II has appointed The Chief Constable, Mr Robert Bunyard Commander of the Order of the British Empire in the 1986 Birthday Honours List.

Mr Bunyard told The Law "I am greatly honoured to receive this award which I feel reflects the reputation and achievements of the Essex Police rather than me as an individual. I have been Chief Constable of Essex for 8 years, during this time all officers have shown determination and commitment to overcome all obstacles put in their way in order to provide an excellent service to the people of Essex and I feel that this award reflects the quality of that service which members of the Essex Police have provided.

Mr Bunyard was previously honoured in 1980 when he received the Queen's Police medal.

At the time of going to press over £13,000 had been raised and the Funds Treasurer Tony Bragg told The Law that money was still flowing in daily.

POSTBAG — Letters to The Law, Force HQ

Cricket in the garden

Dear Sir,
Following last year's success of the Veterans' Cricket XI the fixture is now to become an annual event for which Roger Parker, our scorer, has very kindly offered to donate a trophy.

This year's match will be at Headquarters, Chelmsford, commencing at 2.30pm Friday, July 4. As you will no doubt appreciate this date is the Pensioners' Garden Party. The cricket match will give some background entertainment for our retired colleagues.

Remember last year "The Team" won quite convincingly with some notable performances from the likes of John Rhymes, Alf Henry and co.

It is difficult to know who will be available to play but I hope that eleven will be available from the fourteen names.

Fred Nicholls, Roger Culham, John Rhymes, Barry Tarbun, Nigel Grainger, Alf Henry, Mike Benning, John Johnson, John Croot, Errol Greene, Brian Mead, Rod Ellis, John Stonehouse and Dave Wilkinson.

May I through the columns of The Law extend an invitation to all spectators to this "Fun" event. I can promise some good entertainment and first-class cricket.

Yours faithfully,
J. Johnson

Gratitude

Dear Sir,
My family and I would like to express our gratitude for the many messages of sympathy and floral tributes on the tragic death of my dear husband Taff Jones.

We were overwhelmed by the tributes and support at the Thanksgiving

and Crematorium services.

We would especially like to thank the Chief Constable, Mr Bunyard, Chief Superintendent G. Harris, and Taff's CID office and all uniformed colleagues at Chelmsford Town. Also all DCIs and Divisional offices, No 5 Regional Crime Squad and Division Commanders and colleagues in all departments.

The tributes paid to Taff by his colleagues made us feel very proud indeed.

We would also like to thank everyone for their contributions to Taff's Memorial Fund. It is a comfort to know that much good can come out of such sadness in the form of medical equipment for the Children's Ward, Broomfield Hospital.

From the moment of Taff's accident we have never felt alone, we have

been completely enveloped in the care and support of Essex Police and for this, we thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Maureen Jones
Chelmsford

Sincere thanks

Dear Sir,
Please allow me to extend to all my friends, colleagues and Chief Officers at Headquarters my most sincere thanks for their kindness and help following the death of my wife and mother-in-law.

Yours sincerely,
David Burrell
Information Room

Retired?

Dear Sir,
I retired from the Force some years ago and took up employment with Holdsure Motor Policies, The Broadway, Wickford. I have been extremely happy working for this

company and they have been very good to me.

The Company are now looking to increase their personnel in the Motor Claims Engineering Section and would be pleased to receive applications from retired or retiring police officers who have a knowledge of motor vehicles.

If any such person requires further information I can be contacted on Wickford 5522.

Yours faithfully,
John T. Johnson

Memories

Dear Sir,
May I have the opportunity through your columns of expressing my sincere thanks to my friends and colleagues in the Essex Police for all the good wishes received to mark my recent retirement.

My retirement evening at Basildon Police Station Bar was a night I shall never forget. It was wonderful to see so many 'old' friends there. I will have lasting memories of the Force and in particu-

lar the Traffic Division with whom I spent so much of my service. The presents I received will be a constant reminder of my times with the Essex Police.

Yours sincerely,
Fred Firkins
Isle of Wight

Steady progress

Dear Sir,
I would like to thank all the friends and colleagues who have sent cards and letters containing good wishes to my husband Michael Simister, PC 2143, who is in the London Hospital, Whitechapel, following a kidney transplant operation on Saturday, May 17.

The messages have been coming so thick and fast it will be impossible to acknowledge them individually.

At the time of writing Michael is making steady progress and hopes to be back among you all before too long.

Pat Simister
Thundersley
Essex



BIGGLES RECENTLY took to the air in the shape of Inspector Brian Williams of Chelmsford Traffic. The facility was made available by courtesy of the Essex Radio Jambuster on the occasion of the Annual Essex Show at Great Leighs and proved to be a novel way of supervising the traffic problems.

Royal Wedding B.B.Q.

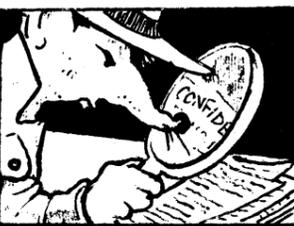
FOLLOW THE festivities of the day with a Caribbean-style barbecue at the Force Training School quadrangle 8-12pm, Wednesday, 23rd July. The Austin Baptist Coral Reef Steel Band has been engaged for the event.

The cost of tickets include the provision of a barbecued meal are only £4.75. They can be obtained from HQ extensions 512, 204 or 495. Profits from the venture will be donated to the Royal Ulster Constabulary Injured Officers Fund.



A RECENT newcomer to the Press and Public Relations Department is Pc Neville Leach replacing Jon Hill who has been promoted and posted to Harlow.

Neville has been in the Force for 26 years and previously worked in the Welfare Department. Prior to that he served at Chelmsford, Roxwell, Support Unit and Maldon.



A RECENT advertisement for a clerk/typist in the Complaints, Discipline and Inspection Department at Force Headquarters stated that "Applicants must be competent typists."

Traffic vehicles hurried to an incident on the M25 recently when a "young woman" was seen to be thrown from a vehicle. Searching the area the crew found a very large rubber doll apparently discarded by a dissatisfied



customer.

Rumour has it that the Chief Superintendent, Traffic and Superintendent Operations recently tested an amphibious vehicle on the River Crouch. On entering the water someone forgot to close the sun roof and Chief Superintendent,

Traffic was not impressed with his impromptu shower. However, Superintendent Operations saw the funny side of it, that is until such time as he realised that he had left the side window open and got a lapful of Crouch water as well. He who laughs last...

Baddow Hall School
New Road
Great Baddow
Chelmsford
Essex
16th May

Dear Sergeant Probyn,

It was very nice watching you and your dog perform together at the Dog Centre.

The talk was good as well.

From Karen.



WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO SPEND YOUR EXTRA TWO DAYS — ANTIGUA OR LANZAROTE.



SPECIAL CONSTABULARY MUSTER PARADE

Grays Careers Convention



The Chief Constable inspecting the parade



S.D.O. Harry Matthews receiving his Certificate from The Chief Constable.

THE SPECIAL Constabulary Muster Parade took place at the Force Training School recently and this year it was accompanied by glorious sunny weather. This broke the trend set over the five preceding years when, to say the least, the weather had been somewhat unkind.

The weather certainly drew the crowds and an estimated 800 people turned out on the day to mark the occasion. Not only were they treated to a fine parade but also an afternoon of entertainment.

The "Inspecting Officer" was the Chief Constable

Mr Robert Bunyard and following his inspection he presented Long Service awards to a number of officers who had completed in excess of 9 years



service.

In addition to the presentation of medals Mr Bunyard also presented Certificates about to retire having served many years of faithful service. Between them they had given no less than 241 years of service to the Special Constabulary. Recipients of these certificates were as follows — Special Constables Swan, Harlow, 33 years; Sub Divisional officers Trimmell, Harlow, 33 years, Kinley, Harlow, 31 years, Matthews, Harlow, 26 years, Croxhall, Colchester, 23 years; Woman Special Constable Trim-



Section Officer Phil Munns receives his Long Service medal.

nell, Harlow, 22 years.

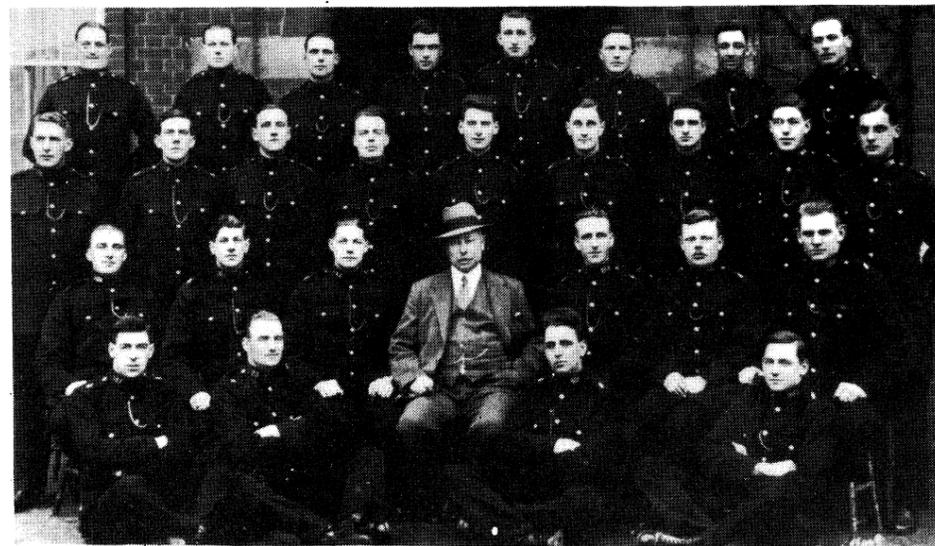
The formal presentations completed a buffet luncheon was provided for the officers, their families and guests.

The afternoon commenced with a display by the Dog Section and continued with a variety of static displays manned by the Crime Prevention Department, Traffic Department, Mounted Section and Diving Unit. The Driving School and Information Room also entertained large numbers of visitors, and to make the day complete the Force Band played throughout.



Long and faithful service is honoured

Where are they now?



THE ABOVE photograph has been received from ex police constable 343 George Steam who is currently living in the Hornchurch area. George remembers some of the faces in the picture, ex Pc Lamb, ex Pc Durrant, ex Pc

Hows and ex Pc Daws, and would like to hear from any of the others. Any correspondence can be forwarded on, either through The Law or via NARPO secretary Doug Rampling.



SUB DIVISIONAL Officer Charlie Trimmall, stationed at Saffron Walden was recently honoured by the people of Saffron Walden for his service to the community. Charlie has been a member of the Special Constabulary for over 33 years, all of which have been served in or around Saffron Walden.

In recognition of his service, the Mayor of Saffron Walden, Mr Stephen Neville, presented him with an engraved watch.

A CAREERS convention with a difference was recently held within the Grays Division. Mindful of trying to improve community relations Inspectors Mike Williams and Bert Wallace arranged the convention in a Sikh Temple at Maidstone Road, Grays.

Contact was made though a local community leader, Mr Gulsham Raghinder Singh and arrangements were made for the convention to take place in the temple during the afternoon of Sunday, June 8.

In order to make the event as interesting as possible Headquarters Crime Prevention and Force Training School Departments were contacted and they agreed to provide static displays.

On the day of the event Mike was ably assisted by the local Neighbourhood Beat Officer, Pc Odell and his Sergeant Steve Nuttall. Sergeant Howard Laverick from the HQ Crime Prevention and Sergeant Dave Pery from the Force Training School were also in attendance.

Mike was unsure of how the convention would be received and was therefore pleasantly surprised to find that between 60 and 70 persons turned up on the day, all of whom were Sikhs from the local community.

The audience were somewhat suspicious at first and seemed reluctant to come forward and speak to the assembled officers present. Mike and his team had to go out to them but gradually barriers faded away and a free and useful dialogue was set up.

There was a genuine interest shown by those present in recruiting methods and crime prevention, the latter being of particular interest to the many women present.

Mike told The Law that the convention could be regarded as quite a success. This had been an effort to encourage ethnic and religious minority groups to join the police and the general feeling was that if they didn't make the initial approach we were more than willing to go to them and speak on any policing matter including recruitment. As a result of the convention not only have there been a number of firm enquiries to join either the regular constabulary, Special Constabulary or cadets, but also a better understanding between the Sikh community and the police that served them.

Essex Police Band visit to France

AS MANY readers will already know, the Essex Police Band has just returned from a six-day visit to L'Aiguillon Sur Mer, France. The visit was made in conjunction with the Burnham on Crouch Town Twinning Committee, and a coach of their members accompanied the new Force coach to L'Aiguillon.

The Committee acted as our guides on the way, taking us through many small French towns and villages we might never have seen. After the long and tiring journey we arrived in L'Aiguillon to be met by their Twinning Committee and our first taste of local wine. Then it was on to the hotels; the Band was split into three for accommodation purposes, simply because such a small town could not cope with our numbers.

Many of us were surprised at what a small town L'Aiguillon is, but although small, the community spirit was great, as we were to find out at the many activities that took place in the salle de fete over the following days.

Those in the band who thought all Frenchmen spoke English were quick-

ly disillusioned; they didn't, only a few, but "Two beers please" and a smile is the same in every language. Fortunately we took with us Brian Higgleton from Chelmsford CSB

called him, "Brian, my Bobbeee."

Packed in the four days the band was in L'Aiguillon were a wreath-laying service at the local cemetery for six British war

heat, stopping only occasionally for a rest and a glass of wine; a L'Aiguillon-style buffet/disco — dancing led by Marie, a fun-loving local character who admitted to being in

night we were entertained by the people of L'Aiguillon in the salle de fete.

There is a moving story attached to this particular evening which cannot be left untold and came about by pure chance.

Mr and Mrs Balcomb from Ormskirk happened to be British holiday-makers touring this area of France and passing through L'Aiguillon. They saw the salle de fete decorated with French and British flags and lots of people so they decided to stop. Mr Balcomb had been an airgunner during the Second World War and was in the sister squadron to that of the airmen shot down and buried in L'Aiguillon cemetery. Mr Balcomb was himself shot down in the area and hidden by the local resistance. Sadly the remainder of his crew were captured and executed but his escape was assisted by the local people. Naturally Mr Balcomb has deep feelings of gratitude for the local people, hence his visit to the area. He had already visited L'Aiguillon cemetery and seen the wreaths laid in our small service and was the happiest man in France that night to be

among people who remembered and cared. He became our guest hero for the evening and was treated to the band's rendering of the popular RAF tunes by way of a salute to him and his colleagues.

A few words of thanks must be said to those from the Essex Police Band Committee, the Burnham Twinning Committee and their L'Aiguillon counterparts who organised the trip and made it the success it was and also to the long-suffering drivers — there's nothing worse than being sober when everyone else is "merry"!



The Band playing at the St Benoist War Memorial, before marching through the town.

who acted as our interpreter and bravely stood in front of the band as a bilingual comper, or as Josette, a very prominent member of the L'Aiguillon Twinning Committee

dead, a rehearsal and Grand Concert with the local band L'Harmonie Municipale; what seemed like a two hundred kilometre march around the town in insufferable

her seventies; sight-seeing trips to Les Sables D'olonne and La Rochelle; an outdoor evening concert and more wine at St Benoist; and several large, lengthy meals. On the last

Now available
on cassette only

A new recording by
Essex Police Band

"20 Years on
the Beat"

Commemorates
the Band's
20th year

Contact Pc Kennedy,
Press Office, HQ
Chelmsford

Saffron Walden "Twinned"

SAFFRON WALDEN, that far flung outpost of the Essex Police in the North Western corner of the county, has at last caught up with all those other towns in the county inspired by the idea of Town Twinning and part of this inspiration came from five police officers who either work and/or live in the area.

In 1985, the Saffron Walden Town Twinning Association was formed and the town chosen as its "partner" was Bad Wildungen, in Hesse, about 25 miles from Kassel in Western Germany.

This town was chosen due to its links going back to 1968 with the Saffron Walden County High School when many pupils began exchange visits.

After several fund raising functions in 1985, the Association being self supporting, an advance party of members and their families went to Bad Wildungen on the occasion of their "Fest Der Begegnung", a local carnival, in September, taking with them a group of local Morrismen.

All were very well received and the usual high level of German hospitality extended on what was a very enjoyable weekend.

Arrangements were then finalised for the formal Town Twinning Cere-

monies, the English one to take place during the first weekend in April, 1986 and the German one in August, 1986.

Seeking to find an involvement with our counterparts in Bad Wildungen, an approach was made to their Chief of Police and in due course six German police officers from Bad Wildungen

considering we only had their names to work on to allocate our guests, everything worked out well with all of us "hosting" somebody of our own age group or interests.

Having briefly made a stop at each of our homes on the Friday night what next but an introduction to an English Public House for our guests and

insignificance. One family even managed to "mislay" their guests and those that know Saffron Walden will realise just how difficult it is to lose two Germans in a town of that size. Fortunately they eventually turned up at 3 in the morning with smiles on their faces.

All too soon the weekend was almost over but not without a final visit to yet another English public house, this time the Cross Keys in Saffron Walden and joined by the local Fire Brigade and the German Fire Brigade band a good time was had by all.

After presentation of suitable gifts to our German guests and promises of seeing them all again in August when the German part of the ceremony takes place, it was off home to bed. Another early start on the Monday morning saw us all in the Lord Butler Leisure Centre Car Park, Saffron Walden to say a final farewell to our guests.

The local Fire Brigade planned a farewell hosing down ceremony as the coaches left, but unfortunately the fire engine went left and the coaches right so the opportunity was lost.

Very much an enjoyable, but hectic weekend and all of us involved look forward to the return in August.



A presentation to the German guests at Saffron Walden Police Station by Ins Keith Delaney.

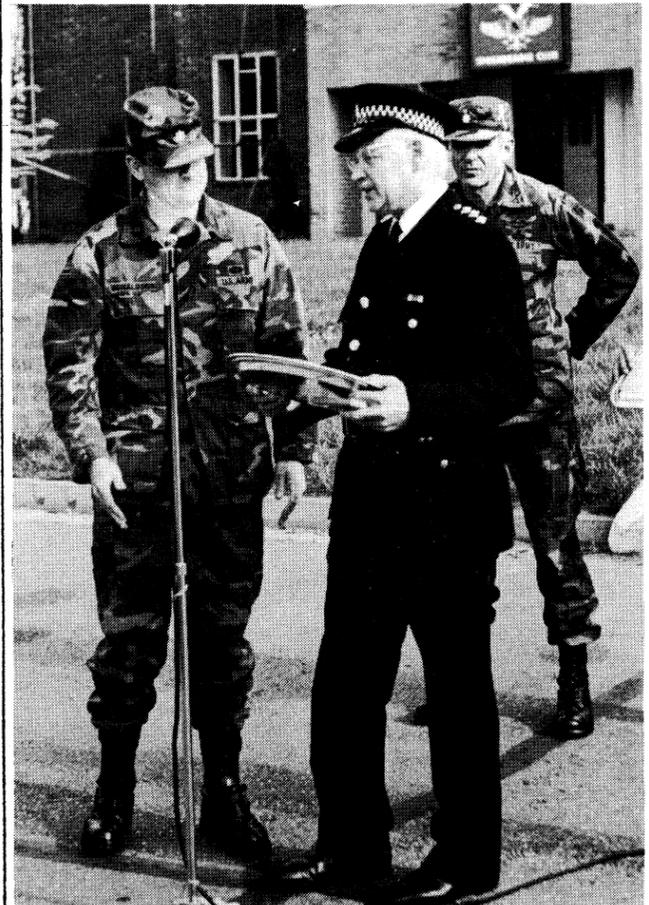
arrived in Saffron Walden, together with some 200 residents of their town for a weekend visit.

Five police officers either living or working in Saffron Walden Sub Division, John Kennet, Keith Delaney, Barry Wright, Don Gilroy and Ian O'Sullivan, volunteered to play host and

so to "The Swan" in the centre of Thaxted, a central meeting place where, initially introductions were improved upon aided by several beers.

What followed was two days of socialising, official receptions and general revelry which would have made even the most hectic of IPA trips pale into

Americans thank Saffron Walden



AT A recent ceremony held at Carver Barracks, Debden, Chief Inspector Ken Rowe was presented with a silver salver by Colonel Donaldson of the American 4th Infantry Regiment.

The Regiment was one of two American Army Regiments who have recently spent a month at Carver Barracks as part of an exchange visit with members of the 1st Queens Dragoon Guards.

The presentation was made to thank members of the Saffron Walden Sub Division for their assistance and co-operation extended to the American troops during their stay in England, or as Colonel Donaldson put it "for not arresting any of them." Ken Rowe was quick to point out that the need for such action had never arisen!

The inscription on the salver reads: "Presented to the Constabulary of Saffron Walden for their excellent assistance and co-operation, from the 4th Battalion 40th Armoured Regiment and 4th Infantry Division (Mechanised)."

REFLECTIONS OF AMERICA

Part
Two

By
Charlie Clark

CHIEF INSPECTOR Charlie Clark recently completed a course at the FBI National Academy in America. In last month's issue of *The Law* he gave an account of the Course and the Academy itself. He concludes his story in this month's issue by giving an account of the more social aspects of his visit.

I found, somewhat to my surprise, that policing attitudes and problems are very similar the world over. Also, to a large extent, the ways of tackling day-to-day problems are very similar. By this I mean that although cultural, political and legalistic differences allow for significant variations, there are not that many varia-



The three revolver ranges, one rifle range, duelling range, surprise range and four 'skeet' fields.

tions within the confines of normality, that police forces can readily adopt, policing is policing.

However, moving away from the general day-to-day problems I found differences which were fascinating. A couple of examples are, firstly, the Los Angeles Police Department's "Battering Ram" which has a 30 foot long steel ram on the front of an armoured car. This is used for "entering premises" of mainly drug dealers who would be reluctant to readily open doors to police officers with warrants. The ram is not used on doors, however, but is used on a corner section of the ground floor of premises to ensure adequate means of entry for foot officers to rapidly enter and preserve evidence and arrest suspects who are likely to be armed.

SWAT

The second example I can give is the use of helicopters with SWAT trained officers equipped with high powered automatic weapons to be used as necessary. The photograph in the last 'Law' showed SWAT trained officers absailing (repelling as the Americans called it) from a hovering helicopter. Techniques such as these are far more aligned with the military than law enforcement bodies in England.

I could mention numerous other examples but I want to go on to talk about how I perceived the standing of the American Cop in their society relative to the British police officer. One of the principal features was the high standard of living of the American Cop. I shared a room with a Lieutenant from San Francisco who earned in the region of £47,000 per annum. He owned four houses, ran a BMW, a Volvo and a "station wagon type" general purpose truck.

To show that this was not peculiar to my room mate, the photograph shows a house belonging to a Captain (equivalent rank to Chief Inspector) in the Illinois State Police. From what I saw this was not untypical of a great number of those officers on the course.

However, on the other hand, a single New York Lieutenant, although earning high wages, lived in very small one bed roomed flat on the east side of

Manhattan, the cost of buying or renting property in New York was extremely expensive.

Another feature of American life which seemed rather odd to me which only became apparent when I was invited home on various weekends by other police officers, was eating out at breakfast time. I was assured that this was not uncommon in America and my hosts on the respective occasions said that they tried to accomplish this every weekend to give their wives a break from preparing meals.

Even though I thought the gesture was fine, I found it hard to rationalise as it seemed quite common for Americans to eat out two or three times a week in any case.

I could relate my experiences about travelling America but I feel that I should not bore you with repetitive descriptions of different states and cities, but I want to briefly talk of my experience in New York.

24th Precinct

I spent three days in New York and although much of my time was spent with relatives I also got to two of the many Police Precincts. I was taken to New York by a Lieutenant who was on the FBI course and on the journey into the city he showed me some of the sights; George Washington Bridge, Times Square, Central Park, the site of John Lennon's murder and a number of other famous sights. We then turned into a fairly narrow side street which was full of parked police cars. There were police cars parked along both sides of the road, on pavements, in fact there seemed to be police cars everywhere. The Lieutenant whom I was with carefully reversed his car onto the pavement next to a police vehicle and left it parked, completely blocking the footpath. When I queried the parking I was told that it was common to New York.

Entering the 24th Precinct through its front public entrance was like walking into an American television set as one might see on *Hill Street Blues* or a similar American Cop story, except, the reality seemed much dirtier and scruffier than could ever be imagined.

Dirty

I commented on the dirty, scruffy appearance of the place and was told that it was one of the better Precincts. The Detectives Office on the second floor was little better; the Captain's Office was small, dark and again very scruffy. The furnishings were chipped and scratched, the walls looked as though they hadn't been painted for 20 years or more and the detectives I met were all dressed in sweat shirts and track suit bottoms, apparently they only dress in their work clothes when they have to go out on the streets.



Would this house qualify for maximum rent allowance in Essex?

However, despite what I have said so far about the 24th Precinct, the whole place had the air of an extremely busy police station. This impression was somewhat borne out by some figures for murders within the square mile covered by the precinct — 1984 — 38 murders; 1985 — 29 murders. 1986 had been a good year so far with only 8 murders.

Impression

Whilst in New York I was taken out in a police vehicle for a short while just to have a "cops-eye-view"; we did not get involved in any of the work however. I was driven through Harlem and although it was only a fleeting visit I could feel a certain hostility in the air; it was not the sort of area to go walking alone.

My overall impression of New York was that of any large cosmopolitan city, it was big, dirty, noisy and busy but it nevertheless had a fascination all of its own and I felt that the violence and crime often associated

with New York was overstated. The common held belief that Central Park is a dangerous place would be hard for me to ascribe to as I spent over a hour walking through there with an elderly relative. The biggest danger was the possibility of getting knocked down by one of the many, many joggers.

National Academy

Whilst discussing New York I feel I must mention an extremely interesting afternoon spent at the FBI National Academy when retired New York cops, Deputy Inspector Danny St John and Captain Frank Bolz came and gave a 4 hour talk on hostage rescue and SWAT tactics.

What I found fascinating was the move towards tactics very much the same as those practiced in Essex. Danny St John said that for years New York Cops had got the reputation of "shooting first and then asking the questions" but that since the early 1970s that had all changed. The tactics were now to contain and negotiate; it heartened me greatly to hear that these were the preferred policing methods in arguably, one of



Charlie Clarke about to receive a bruise at the hands of a .357 Magnum.

the most violent cities in the world. I could also relate to many of the practical problems experienced especially those where internal battles had to be fought over the number of men needed and the range of equipment needed to give hostage negotiations and SWAT operations the best chance of success.

The talk given by the two retired officers finally ended late that evening over a drink in the bar at the Academy where the two men recounted experiences from domestic hostage situations to the hi-jacking of a bus full of passengers that ended up at Kennedy Airport in July 1977.

So far I have not mentioned one of the, if not *the* fundamental difference between the American and English police, ie: the carrying for firearms. Without exception, every police officer I spoke to wanted to know how the British Police carried out their day-to-day duties without being armed. The explanation I gave never really satisfied anybody but I could see their point of view as it was unusual for them to walk outside their own house, whether on duty or not, without a firearm of some sort. Even in the summer months when their style of dress made it impossible to conceal a weapon, their wives or girlfriends would have to carry a gun in their handbag.

Firearms

American Police Officers, in most states, can own virtually whatever firearms they want. I stayed with a police Captain and he had an armoury of almost 50 weapons ranging from very small, concealable .22 revolvers though an assortment of semi-automatic pistols to a fully automatic Heckler and Koch. He maintained that they were just a hobby and that although he used a number of different weapons for work purposes, depending on the assignment he was undertaking, he mostly used them for the pleasure of shooting on the surrounding open land near to his home. You can see a photograph of me shooting a .357 Magnum with a 3in barrel on some farm land owned by my host's uncle. I had not fired a Magnum with a 3in barrel before but the bruising on the base of my thumb caused by the recoil left me with a lingering memory. I can see why Clint Eastwood has the longer barreled version.

However, enough of my ramblings, I just want to conclude by saying what a marvellous opportunity I was given and that if anybody else should be so lucky they should grasp it with both hands and make the most of it.

MONEY MATTERS



by
**Tony
Warren**

Watch the interest

"NICE little runner" said the car dealer. "Only one owner, absolutely giving it away, I don't know how I can afford to survive with our low prices." Sounds like a familiar tune, doesn't it? My heart goes out to the poor old car salesman who's pitiful little profit margin has to feed and clothe his family.

Still, I witnessed an interesting event last month which rather diluted my compassion and gave me an idea for this month's article.

I was with a friend who was after a secondhand BMW, being offered at a car sales showroom for £3,750. My friend had allowed himself £115 per month for HP on the car, and had been offered £750 for his old Mk 3. The salesman worked out the credit for the remaining £3,000 and came up with £126 per month. "No, sorry," said my friend, "I'd only allowed for £115 a month, have you something a bit cheaper."

The salesman went into his office and made a quick phone call. He came out and said, "£115 a month is fine." When he wrote out the sale agreement, the purchase price was still £3,750 less £750 deposit, but

the monthly payments had mysteriously gone down by £11 a month.

In my role as a Money Matters "investigative reporter" I made some enquiries with contacts in the credit industry. As a result I discovered that the credit company pays substantial commissions to dealers who arrange credit with them. Nothing wrong with that, business is business. It's worth bearing in mind, though, that if you are after a nice big article on HP, you can often negotiate the terms so that the dealer, as in my friend's case, waives his commission on the credit agreement just to get the sale.

Whilst I'm on the subject, I'll end with a perennial warning to **WATCH THOSE RATES**. Ask for the APR every time. Bank loans are about 20 per cent, Barclay and Access are about 26.8 per cent, 11 per cent mortgages are about 11.6 per cent, and Store credit cards are about 32.9 per cent. Provident Cheques are well in excess of 100 per cent, but they are the only ones who actually call to collect the money. Our advice is, if you're borrowing your money, start at your bank and work upwards! If you're large after amounts, consider a re-mortgage.

Protect your commutation with the PMAS

OFFICERS APPROACHING retirement will be eagerly looking forward to picking up a substantial lump sum payment on commuting. Have you considered, however, that if you should die before your retirement date, the right to commute dies with you and your family will not have the benefit of that payment.

You can ensure that they would not lose out by effecting a PMAS Commutation Protection Policy. This is designed for the officer within ten years of retirement and it guarantees to pay a lump sum in the event of death during the policy term. For instance, an officer aged 50 next birthday can ensure a tax-free payment of £20,000 if he dies during the next five years, for a weekly deduction from pay of just £1.88.

For further information contact your local authorised officer or PMAS Head Office at Alexandra House, Queen Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire WS13 60S (telephone Lichfield 52411).

FORCE LOTTERY

RESULT of the draw held on 2.6.86: 1st Prize — DC Kerry, Wickford, £1,500; 2nd prize PC Brown, Chelmsford Traffic, £700; 3rd prize — PC Onyons, Laindon Traffic, £300. Consolation prizes at £50 each: PS Anderson, HQ Traffic; PC Lawson, Southend; PC Lamiday, HQ; PC Miller, Silver End; DS Bedford, Westcliff; DC Scott, HQ; PC Howell, Colchester; PS Kirvell, South Ockendon; PC Lever, Westcliff; PC Manners, HQ.

PRIVATE MEDICAL SCHEME

RECENT NEGOTIATIONS on behalf of the group have secured B and D costings at two local hospitals. This means that subscribers who are on B and D premium rates will be able to receive treatment at both the Southend Wellesley and Brentwood Hartswood Hospitals with no lowering of standards of medical attention. Therefore, members who are living in those areas and who are contributing to B and C hospital rates should consider transferring to B and D and thereby make a savings in monthly premium rates. Transfers can be made by a notice in writing to the Group Secretary, Police Headquarters. Claims Forms and Help Desk.

Our insurance brokers still provide their Help Desk service and they are now responsible for issuing all claims forms. Dial Chelmsford 268281 for this service. **NEW ENROLMENTS**. There has been a recent distribution of PPP material to enable new members to enrol, any officer requiring further information about the scheme can contact the Group Secretary on HQ 495.

Late Federation Notes from Jim Rodgers

FOR the past several years, the bulk of the Force have been donating, by way of a direct debit from their pay packet, the sum of 10 pence per month to the Royal Ulster Constabulary Benevolent Fund.

This sum is a token contribution to the above Charity to assist that organisation to cope with the welfare needs of the Ulster Force, which arise as a result of the continuing hostilities.

For some time we have been under pressure to raise this contribution, and this culminated in the obvious demand made at the Force Open Meeting on Monday night.

The Joint Branch Board have made an Executive decision to increase the monthly sum to 25 pence and the Payroll Division at County Hall will be advised to com-

mence the deductions at that rate with effect from the July Pay Packet.

Anyone who does not wish to participate at that level should write to me to that effect, but before you do so think what 25 pence actually purchases for you, and then consider the people who will benefit from your generosity.

Southend Police Ski Club

SOUTHEND POLICE Sports Club are organising a skiing trip to Sansicario, Italy, in March 1987. The deal includes good apartment-style half board accommodation, lessons, skis, boots and full insurance. The holiday caters for novice and expert skiers alike. For further details contact Brian Taylor, the Southend Club Secretary on ext 318.

Get fit!

STARTING ON Thursday, 3 July, and every Thursday thereafter, an "Aerobics Class" and Weight Training tuition will be available at Southend Police Station, in the main hall.

Aerobics will be held at 7pm and Weight Training at 8pm.

Go along for either aerobics or weight training or both, which will cost you £1 per session.

The evenings will be suitable for either men or women and will be supervised by Ricky, a qualified instructor from Lindisfarne Health Club.

All club members will be welcome, and remember that includes husbands and wives.

Now is your chance to get into shape for summer.

Retirements

PC C. G. Caffyn, Traffic/Colchester retired June 15 after 23 years 59 days service.

DS K. N. Lingwood, Rayleigh CID, retired June 20 after 30 years service.

PC T. A. Weavers, Traffic/Halstead, retired June 29 after 19 years 141 days service.

DC M. J. Radford, Southend, retires July 12 after 24 years 311 days service.

PS R. G. Mann, CSB Hadleigh, retires August 31 after 30 years 38 days service.

Supt L. N. Brewer, Traffic, retires August 31 after 30 years nine days service.

Obituaries

April 29, ex Ps Frederick T. J. Hiscock, 62 years, who retired from the Force 1974.

May 28, ex Pc Albert James Light, 72 years, who retired from the Force 1965.

June 18, ex Ps Louis Henry Martin, 71 years, who retired from the Force 1963.

Market Place

FANCY DRESS Hire, the county's leading fancy dress costume hire specialists, reduced rates for police authority employees, pensioners and families. Ex PS Coombes, 1597 London Road, Leigh on Sea or 0702 74436.

ELMO SUPER 8 sound ST180 two track projector, sound 230SXL camera and 912D dual editor, vgc, £310 ono, will sep. TW116 Raja, Westcliff or 0702 343331.

TRAILER 5ft x 3ft with spare wheel and extension rods. Hardly used, £90. Mrs I. Bentley, Harlow Station or Harlow 34202.

HOLIDAY — WOOLACOMBE BAY, North Devon. Small, comfortable, friendly guest house or large mod fully equipped caravan, sleeps 6, No VAT. Contact Clive Ferrie Ex Ps 0271 870540. **GAS FIRE**, good cond, £10 ono. PC Kennedy, Press Officer HQ or Chelmsford 263910.

ENGLISH SPRINGER Spaniel puppy (dog) born April 1986, liver/white, from good working stock, £30. Insp Rowe, Basildon or Maldon 828501.

LADIES WET SUIT, 2-piece, in exc cond, fit size 10/12, £30. Mike Bearidge, Press Office HX ext 374/5/6.

CHEST FREEZER, 13 cu ft, £35; Brand new roof rack, never used, £18. PC J. Mertl, Information Room or 0277 210603.

CORNISH HOLIDAY? Fully equipped mobile home, 6 berth, 2 doubles, shower/toilet, main electricity, sited at Portreath. Pleasant site nr beach. D. Turner Ex PC Laindon Traffic, tel 03752 6704.

SINGER SEWING MACHINE with zig zag stitching. Just serviced, vgc, £35. Mrs J. Merrison, Tel: Witham 519136.

TENT TRIO Trinidad, 6 berth, sep kitchen area, lge living area, as new,

£180. DC Bird, HQ ex 550 tel 359190.

SPACE MAKER CARAVAN porch awning, will fit any size van, little used, £75; Calor gas bottle, £7. Barry Diamond, Brentwood Station or 024533 556.

HOLIDAY BUNGALOW to let, 100 yds from Suffolk beach, sleeps max 7, available all year round, competitive rates, close to Norfolk Broads. PC Milbank HQ I/R "A" or Chelmsford 460306.

DINING ROOM table, smoked glass top, chrome legs, 4 wicker and chrome chairs to match, exc cond, £65 ono. PC Milbank, HQ I/R "A", or Chelmsford 460306.

BRADWELL 18 SLOOP, GRP, outboard, trailer, cooker, 4 berth, nav lights, £1,450 ono. PS Goding, Clacton or 427983.

REAL FLAME gas fire, ornate brass surround, £85. Mahogany and brass chiming pendulum Dutch repro wall clock £50. Insp Waller, Harlow Traffic or Harlow 38421.

WINDOW DOUBLE glazed aluminium unit 4ft x 4ft with opening fanlight, exc cond, £35. Insp H. A. Norman, Chelmsford Station ext 204 or Chelmsford 51024.

TOW BAR, Ford Cortina incl ball etc, £15. DC K. Gurney, Chelmsford or 466872

WIND SURFER, ideal for beginner or intermediate 5.4m sail, vgc, complete, £175. DC Gurney, Chelmsford or 466872.

LADIES BICYCLE, five gears, drop handlebars, carrier, lights, new tyres and cables, as new cond £65 ono. PC Leake, Chelmsford or 0621 817831.

ESCORT XR3, A reg, 1983, Caspian blue, factory sunroof, radio cassette, £4,500 ono. PC Banks, Stanway Traffic, or Colchester 41518.

SINCLAIR SPECTRUM plus tape recorder, joystick and games, £90, will sep; double divan bed, nearly new, good cond, £75. PC Boorman, Dogs (Brentwood) Ext 41.

KAWASAKI KC100, "X" reg, only 4,750 miles, MoT/tax till Sept, good cond, just serviced, £200 ono. Topbox available. C/I Tedder, HQ ext 391 or 466202.

HONDA C90 motor-cycle, "X" reg, year MoT, top box incl, exc cond,

£225 ono. PS Brown, Driving School or Chelmsford 322208.

FLOWERS for all occasions, weddings, birthdays etc, fresh or silk, qualified florist, wife of PC. Disc given to officers/families. PC Astbury, Hadleigh or 552804.

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

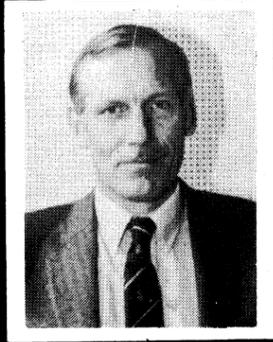
Name and Rank

Station

Home telephone

Signed

Federation Notes



by
Jim Rodgers

Birthday Honours for Chief Constable

I HAVE no doubt that elsewhere in this paper, an item appears announcing the award in the Birthday Honours List of the CBE to the Chief Constable. I have already given him my personal congratulations, and a letter from the Joint Branch Board to the same end, but it would be remiss if no comment appeared in this column. After all is said and done, if the first half of this year has been devoted to my award, the next six months ought to be concerned with his!

In all of our dealings with Mr Bunyard since his arrival from Leicester, we the Joint Branch Board have always found him to be understanding, compassionate and fairminded. We have perceived that he has put his other Forces behind him, and has concern only for the Essex Police, and that concern has led to the high esteem in which the Force is now held. It is obvious therefore that that is the reason for his award; it also reflects the good work being done within the Force by all of its members — in the same way that my award reflected the good work done by the Branch Board.

We, and I am sure this is endorsed by all of the members of the Essex Police Federation, heartily congratulate you on the award, Sir. It is an honour richly deserved and earned in the hardest way possible — forever under Public scrutiny, and always accountable directly to the population of Essex County, through the Police Committee.

Long-service and Good Conduct Medals Investiture

At long last a Presentation of Medals which went some way towards restoring its true value to the Service.

Much of the credit for the excellent arrangements must go to Jennie Luscombe who was pitched in at the deep end a few short weeks ago — the remainder goes to the Chief Constable for approving the expenditure on the truly splendid buffet which was provided for the recipients of the Award and their treasured guests.

The ceremony itself was the largest ever held

at Force Headquarters, with 55 men of all ranks receiving the medal, each was well-supported by wives, children and parents in some cases. The medals were presented by the Lord Lieutenant of the County, Admiral Sir Andrew Lewis, who was ably supported by the Chief Constable, and the Deputy — Mr Stone.

I think that when news gets around about this Investiture, many more officers in the future will opt for the presentation, rather than having the medal sent through the post.

FEDERATION NEWS...FEDERATION NEWS...FEDERAT

FORCE OPEN MEETING 1986

On Monday, June 16, 1986 we held our Annual Force Open Meeting at the Marconi Club. The attendance was surprising considering the number of points which could have counted against it — the World Cup competition, the steaming hot weather, and Clint Eastwood on television. We were very content with the numbers who came along, and although there weren't many questions we believe everyone had an enjoyable evening.

We were able to give our congratulations to the Chief on his Birthday Honours Award, and also present him with a bottle of Champagne to celebrate the occasion. He very kindly shared this with selected members of the top table in the VIP Lounge afterwards.

Addresses were given by Bob Needham, the Chairman of the Joint Branch Board which covered the work of the



Mr Robert Bunyard CBE, was obviously delighted by the presentation of a bottle of "Bubbly".

Board over the past twelve months. The Chief Constable was in sparkling form, talking without a script, but nonetheless informative and to the point. I think all those

present took the point he was making.

This was followed by Peter Cripps, the Constable's Central Committee Secretary, who was deputising for Leslie Cur-

tis. He made a witty speech covering the various aspects of current problems nationally.

This speech was particularly appreciated by those on the floor of the meeting because Peter aimed it at the membership rather than at the Press, which has been a criticism in the past.

In the Closed Session, Ted Davidson, appearing at an Essex Force Open Meeting for the last time, gave a very concise update on matters before the Police Negotiating Board at the present time, and made himself available for questions from the floor.

After the formalities there was a buffet meal and then an up-and-coming young comedian entertained those who did not have to leave to get back on duty.

All in all, a very pleasant evening. If you missed this year's, make a point of coming next year.

SCARBOROUGH 1986

FOR the first time ever a political party in Great Britain has used the Police Federation National Conference venue to hold its own mini political meeting to inform the members of the Police Federation that it supports law and order.

The Labour Party spokesman on Home Affairs, Gerald Kauffman, was invited by the Police Federation to their Annual Conference, this year held in Scarborough, as an observer. He readily accepted the invitation then had his own "fringe" meeting arranged for the evening of the main conference's first day. A hall capable of holding about 200 people was booked in the town's main library. Despite a late finish to the main conference it was surprising to find that the "fringe" meeting had a capacity audience.

Mr Kauffman started the "fringe" meeting by telling the audience, 99% being police officers, that despite recent statements made by members of the Labour Party attacking the police and their actions he wished it to be known that Labour leader Neil Kinnock wanted the apparent anti-police approach of certain members of the Labour Party stamped on. "The Labour Party never has been, is not, and never will be against the police in the United Kingdom. Law and order must be maintained by a civil body and that body is obviously the police force" said Mr Kauffman. He continued in the same vein as he answered questions put to him by the audience for the next three hours. At the end of the meeting he said: "I hope we will be able to hold further meetings of the same kind where we are able to discuss items that affect

both the police and the Labour Party, whether or not we are in government."

I asked Sir Eldon Griffiths, the Conservative MP who is also the Parliamentary advisor to the Police Federation, what he thought of Mr Kauffman's "fringe" meeting. Sir Eldon said: "If Mr Kauffman and the Labour Party want to hold a political

By
Roger Parker

meeting at the same time and in the same town as the Federation Conference is being held that is fine. There is nothing against that. But if Mr Kauffman is using that meeting in order to tell the attending police officers lies then both he and Mr Kinnock ought to re-think." Sir Eldon Griffiths did not attend the "fringe" meeting.

Sir Eldon backed the call by the Essex contingent for an allowance to be paid for searches carried out in unhygienic conditions, but the conference did not and defeated the motion.

Conference Chairman and Chairman of the Police Federation, Leslie Curtis, told the conference that tighter controls should exist with regard to the purchase, possession, and storage of shotguns. This supported the concern expressed by the Chief Constable of Essex, the Essex Police Federation and the Essex Police Committee after what appeared to be an abortive attempt

to change the law on the subject. The Home Secretary, Douglas Hurd, was present during Mr Curtis's speech but made no comment on the subject when he addressed conference. But Mr Hurd did not escape the subject so easily, for at a later press conference he was asked about Leslie Curtis's comments. Mr Hurd said: "We are looking into the matter at present and if we consider the law dealing with shotguns needs changing then we shall put it before Parliament." When asked if this meant that the law may be changed he said: "I have told you that we are looking into the matter. I have nothing further to add at this stage."

On the final day of the conference the secretary of the Northern Ireland Police Federation received a standing ovation after telling the conference to resist any attempt to turn the police into any form of para-military organisation. He was a guest speaker winding up a special debate on The Police, Firearms and Society. He told the assembly: "The British Police are respected throughout the world because they do not carry guns during the normal course of their duties. You must not in any circumstances allow any government or any part of society to change that image."

Time alone will tell whether or not the image of the British policeman is to change, but one thing is for sure: if the police are to effectively fight the increase in crime they must be given the resources, which includes the money to provide the resources, and manpower. They must also be supported by whichever political party is in power and by Parliament.

LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT

SPORTS REPORT

John Barrett,
Secretary.

THE Essex Police Sports Association makes a levy on all sports club members of £3 per member per year. This works out at a little under 6p per week. This money is extracted from your sports club subscription by the Association Treasurer and the balance, which is far in excess of that, is returned to your individual divisional clubs. This money is used by your division to finance the various activities in relation to sport or for whatever purpose your Committees see fit.

The levy taken by the Association, together with any profits from the Force Lottery, is used to finance the Essex Police as a whole in all of its sporting calendar and to assist with the groundsman's salary at Headquarters. More importantly in some respects, it helps individual talented sportsmen and sportswomen within the Force to pursue their sometimes 'minority' sport. So far so good.

I have to say that your Association has no plans to alter or increase the per capita levy.

Within the Force there are eight main sports clubs each with the right to set their own sports club subscriptions. Perfectly reasonable and democratic I hear you say. The problem is that amongst the various clubs the subscriptions are not all the same. Some ask for 50p per month, some ask for 75p per month and two clubs are considering asking £1 per month. So far so good.

Readers of Force Orders B will notice that each

month the movements within the Force are quite considerable for whatever reason. Can you see a problem emerging? The problem is that, within that movement of personnel, you have members leaving a 50p division and moving to a 75p division and soon possibly, to a £1 division. The reverse example applies in the same way. To keep on top of this irritating problem is a vexing chore which is very rarely undertaken. Can I say that the computer readout shows members subscriptions still being taken from their pay for, in some cases, the division they were at two postings ago. Wouldn't it be sensible to have the same sports club subscriptions for everyone?

I think it would. At a recent meeting at Headquarters I tried to get this underway. Without any success. To put you in the picture, a compromise of 75p per month for everyone could have been agreed. I had suggested a £1. If for some of you this would have amounted to an increase, I can assure you that extra money would have been returned to your clubs to be spent on you. The association would still only have taken their levy as described above.

I have taken the trouble to write on this subject in this issue of our newspaper to make you aware of what the Association is trying to do should you be on a Committee within one of the clubs where the subject may be brought up. Or maybe an interested member who agrees with what we are trying to do.

Grays win Force Athletics

GOOD WEATHER helped the Essex Police Athletics Championships get off to a prompt start at 1.45pm on May 28, at Blackshots Stadium, Grays. Several of the events, the men's shot, javelin, and high jump took place simultaneously. Some of the more experienced competitors opted out of the early stages of these disciplines, beginning their attempts when the standard had reached their levels. Pc's Evans and Halford of Harlow and HQ respectively started late in the high jump for men, and continued their battle to the end with Evans taking first place with a jump of 1.85 metres. In the men's shot Husk of Southend took first place again with 12.50 metres. In the javelin, Tyrrell of Basildon was the clear winner with a throw of 52.60 metres.

Shortly after 2pm the final of the men's 1500 metres was run, with Turner of HQ winning the first of three events for him. This was quickly followed by the finals of both the mens and womens 400 metres, these being won respectively by Phimister (Chelmsford) in 52.70 secs, and Hewitt (HQ) in 72.00 secs.

By this time a stiff breeze was bringing in some rain which started lightly but quickly developed into a real downpour. However, this didn't seem to dampen anybody's enthusiasm, and Evans (Harlow) took his second victory of the day by winning the long jump with 6.35 metres. Owers (Grays), and Partridge (HQ) won the women's shot and javelin respectively.

HQ were by this time building a good lead. A guest from the City of London Police in the shape of WPC Gerard, was obviously an athlete of some standing as she comfortably won the women's 100, 200 and 800 metres finals. By now the heavy rain had all but

finished making the running conditions almost perfect.

Tyrrell (Basildon) took his second win of the day by running the men's 100 metres final in 12.1 seconds. HQ increased their lead over Grays when Turner won the men's 3000 metres steeplechase in 10m 22.8 secs. Husk (Southend) took an easy second victory in the men's hammer with a throw of 45.62 metres. A win in the women's long jump for Owers helped Grays move into the lead overall, in front of HQ.

M. Dunion (Chelmsford) has been in the media lately for his fund raising charity walking, and he got another mention today when he won the 3000 metres walk in 13m 24.9 secs. Erysthee (guest from the Met), the current 200 metres PAA Champion, won this event by a huge margin, showing what a class runner he is. His style of running was a real pleasure to watch.

Some light rain was again beginning to fall when Turner (HQ) had a comfortable win in the men's 5000 metres, bringing HQ close behind Grays in the overall stakes. May (City) won the men's 800 metres final, and as the guests didn't score any points, Grays division remained the overall winners, with HQ a close second (helped by a large contingent from the FSU).

The general feelings seemed to be that the facilities were first class and that the whole event was run as smoothly as possible, considering the occasionally inclement weather, and the fact that many of the competitors were entered in several events. A good days athletics.

Golfing diary

By Andy Smith Epping

BY THE time you read this we would have completed half our fixtures and I am pleased to say our run of success is continuing and at the time of writing we have only suffered two defeats and amassed four wins and three draws.

Our campaign in the No 5 Regional P.A.A. event which was held on 20 May on Hayling Island, didn't result in us bringing back any trophies but we certainly held our own and our representatives were a credit to the Force. Individually, all eight participants, except two, finished in the top half of a field of 68 competitors and in particular in the morning round Steve Bardwell (Harlow) recorded a nett score of 74 to finish joint 12, closely followed by Fred Faulkner (Rayleigh) who returned a nett score of 75. In the afternoon round Steve Bardwell headed the Essex Scores with 32 Stapleford Points and 13th place. We entered two teams of four in the same event and out of the 17 teams entered both ours came joint eighth.

Over the same period of time the National P.A.A. Championships were being held in Northern Ireland. This event was over several days (Monday, 19 May to

Thursday 22 May) and two of our members braved the snow, hail, rain and wind, to take part. Their ordeal I understand started at Euston Station. Both arrived there to find that the boat train via Stranraer wasn't running and they had to be re-routed through Wales and the Irish Republic before eventually ending up in Belfast, however, that is another story which no doubt by now Colin Muir has related.

Anyway, back to the golf, I am proud to say that in these championships Keith Davies (Chelmsford) recorded a first for Essex in that he reached the top 24 to qualify for the final day championships play off. He ended up 21st overall, a very creditable performance and he shows promise for the future. Well done Keith!

On Wednesday 28 May we entertained Norfolk Police at Cannons Brook Golf Club in the first round of the National Police Team Knock-Out Cup. This is our first venture into this competition and I am pleased to say we won handsomely 4 games to 1. This now takes us into the Area Finals.

Well, I can only say that major golfing successes are on the horizon as our society grows stronger and stronger. This year

we have 78 members, throughout the County, and places in National and Regional Competitions are becoming harder for players to earn which in turn is producing better and better golfers. Our standards are improving as our match results show and interest in the sport is still increasing and of course new members are always welcome. Try us!!

Good golfing.

Angling Lines

ON THE 6th May, 1986 nine members of the Southend Police Club Fishing Team held their spring competition at Brighton. On the day nine 9lb specimen spurdogs were caught and a selection of smaller spurdogs and whiting.

The results were as follows — Dave Clark 67lb; Graham Garnham 54lb; Peter Garnham 42lb; Mick Bannister 53lb 4ozs; Alan Husk 45lb 1ozs; Robert Ross (telephonist) 40lb; Tony Chaplin 38lb; Bob Rowley 53lb; a total amount of 445lb 5ozs.

All in all an excellent day's fishing.

Essex retain title

THE ESSEX team looked thin and depleted as they set out to retain the PAA SE Regional Athletics champions' title. Most notable absences were in the middle distance events where there were no participants representing the force.

As the afternoon progressed the Essex representatives were achieving good results and the overall team positions had Essex and Thames Valley running neck-to-neck.

Steve Tyrell from Basildon had an excellent win in the javelin with 54.84 metres in the first event.

From this point on it was our ladies and the men's field events that pulled us through.

Glynn Evans of Harlow was in fine form winning both men's long jump and high jump. Moira Owers had a good afternoon with a win in the ladies' long jump; 4th in the 100 metres and a 6th in

the high jump. Other winners were Dennis Shepard of Grays who won the 3,000 metres walk. Alan Husk was 2nd in both shot and discus, events for which he held the title. Elaine Partridge came 2nd in the ladies' javelin and 3rd in the high jump.

The star performance of the afternoon must go to Neil Phimister. Having come 2nd in the 400 metres, he took the anchor leg in the relay. Seven teams were in the race and he took over in 6th position to complete the last 400 metres. As he rounded the track he overtook the other runners one by one until at the home straight, the crowd rose to Neil's efforts as he passed the finishing line just ahead of the Thames Valley anchor runner. A truly fine performance, which in the last event brought the meeting to an exciting close and saw Essex retain the City of London Challenge Trophy for the 16th consecutive time.

PAA SHOOTING

EARLIER this year the PAA Shorrange Rifle and Pistol Championships were hosted by Devon and Cornwall Constabulary at Torquay. Essex were well represented with Rob Wolton, Colchester and Graham Harvey, Southend, both having won through the preliminary rounds to represent the Eastern Region in the individual Championships. It is not often Essex are represented in the rifle event and Rob's success with the 'long' gun was well-deserved and most welcome.

Graham Harvey, having competed with pistol at National and International level has in previous years succeeded in reaching the Championships but never before achieved the coveted title 'PAA Shooting Pistol Champion.' At last his name is engraved upon the champions cup. With a score of 285 ex 300 he was 6 points ahead of the nearest rival, Mac Nicholls of West Midlands, who has dominated this event for the last three years. Graham's name joins that of Phil Webb, Colchester who

has been successful twice in past years and was Regional runner up on this occasion. Unfortunately Rob had a disappointing shoot, competition nerves at this level, dropped him the vital points necessary for a placing. The individual rifle title was won by Paul Hatton, Lancashire with the excellent score of 298 ex 300.

Graham Harvey following his success in the PAA Championships shot as a trialist for a place in the England team for the forthcoming Commonwealth Games. Shooting .22 rapid fire pistol he finished joint-second with

a score of 582. This forced a shoot off with British National Squad member Brian Girling.

Three strings of five shots in 4 seconds, each shot on a separate target ended with a very close result and Graham was defeated into third place and became travelling reserve — a position held for the 1982 Australian Commonwealth Games!

Scores were as follows: G. Harvey 48 49 48 — 145. B. Girling 49 47 50 — 146.

It is good to see first place was achieved by another Police Officer — Terry Turner of Cambridge.

LADIES' HOCKEY

WELL, THE SEASON is over, with a final fling at organising the ever-improving team. Unfortunately, the bad weather at the beginning of the year brought a temporary end to the season (for two months!) but a couple of hurried games were fixed for April.

The first was a triangular tournament scheduled against Suffolk and Cambridge forces, but a "crimewave" in Suffolk took their team, depleted Essex and Cambridge and nearly doomed the evening before it started. However, Witham ladies stepped in, Essex and Cambridge joined forces and a match was played. Witham managed a 4-2 win over "Camsex" (who incidentally fielded 12 unnoticed by the opposition!) and proved to be an enjoyable evening.

The last game, against Essex University, was played on their new "astro turf" surface. The game proved hard and fast with goals being scored by both teams. University were the first to score, early in the game whilst the police tried to work out what the surface would do. Shortly before half-time, the police pulled one back with a combined effort by Sue Woods, Chris Adams, Marian Tankard, Pat Ellis, Tracy Martinez and Yvonne Taylor. I can't say who actually scored the goal since they all claimed it, and I am too short sighted to be certain! The second goal for University was the result of mistake by the defence who gave the ball to the waiting forward line, who could not miss having left the 'keeper stranded.

The second-half was almost goal-less with University having the advantage of playing regularly on the surface, but who could not find the back of the net due to good defence work. Essex Police had their chances as well, and were unlucky not to equalise.

As the final whistle blew, the ball was dribbled into the Essex goal, but one wonders if it counts. We claim a 2-1 defeat, a good result under the circumstances.

Lastly, our thanks must go to the stalwarts of the team Sue Woods, Chris Adams, Tracey Martinez, Yvonne Taylor, Marion Tankard, Kay Potter, Pat Ellis, Lou Hutton and Chris Gillingham, who have played throughout the season supported by Nicky Pocock, Debbie Bilner, Jane Hutton, Julie Baker, Nadine Harrington and Angela Noakes.

Well "team", clean your boots and get ready for the new season 1986-87. by JEAN SEAGER

FOOTBALL

Anyone who wished to play Force Football next season should contact HQ extension 203, Ch Ins Clark, Pc Wood or Pc Weatherley. Details of training will appear later.

The Force second team will require a linesmen for next season. If you are interested, contact HQ ext 203 as soon as possible.

The Law

H.Q. phone extensions

374 and 375

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