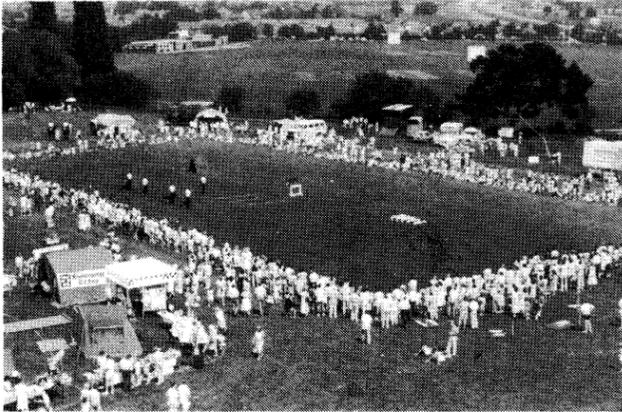


FABULOUS FIRST FORCE FUN DAY

£14,000 raised for local and national charities.



Above — The arena attractions were very popular.
Below — Driving school undercover cops?



SIR ELDON GRIFFITH MP contacted all Police Forces in this country and asked them to help in raising cash to enable a group of mentally handicapped athletes attend their own Olympic-style events in the USA.

Essex, under the Chairmanship of Mr Jim Dickinson, ACC(O), formed a Committee (something we are good at) and immediately pledged £2,000 to Special Olympics UK. The same amount was pledged to the Police Convalescent Home, and from those promises was born the Force Fun Day.

In order to give the Day local appeal, each team which was entering "The Race" (or the half mile of torture if you were a competitor) was in addition to sponsorship for the two main charities, encouraged to raise cash for local charities.

The day arrived after a frantic couple of months' planning — and what a day it turned out to be. The weather was wonderful (the hottest day this year) and thousands of people descended upon the Headquarters Sports field intent on thoroughly enjoying themselves. In that, they succeeded completely!

Two celebrities turned up, Grotbags the green Witch, to keep the kids in order, and the new holder of the World Light Welter Weight boxing crown, Terry Marsh, who acted as starter for the race.

It is impossible to list all the attractions that were available, but mention must be made of the staff of the Driving School who spent the whole day skidding round in circles; of the cooks who after a day of barbecuing burgers and sausages, could have each given an impression of a freshly-smoked kipper; of each of the 250 competitors (many last-minute substitutes) in 'The Race'; and for all the stallholders, caterers and helpers who made the day one to be remembered.

Thanks to their efforts, and that is what it was, a great effort, the signs are that with sponsorship still to come in, over £14,000 will have been raised.

Some of the photographs taken on the day appear on this page and an album of all of them has now been prepared.

Any Division which will be having a 'do' to hand over the cash raised to its local charity is quite welcome to borrow the album — maybe to show to some of those very generous people in Essex who donated the many valuable prizes. Contact the Press Officer at Headquarters to arrange the loan.

Meanwhile 'The Law' understands arrangements are in hand to plan for next year!



Above — 'The Race' winners, the Southend team. Below — Lady Griffiths, ably assisted by Mr Robert Bunyard, The Chief Constable, served ice-cream.



Loise Goodear, a competitor in the Special Olympics 200m and 800m events, ran a lap of 'The Race' with DC Bill Clark of Chelmsford.



World light welterweight boxing champion Terry Marsh made an early public appearance after his recent victory.

PRESS LADY



OTHER newspapers can have Page 3 girls. We are going to have a Page 2 girl. This issue its Carol Rivers, our Assistant Press Officer. So the next time you speak to us, and you wonder who that charming lady can be — you'll know! It's our Carol.

CATHOLIC POLICE GUILD

THE Guild is open to all Catholic Police Officers, serving or retired, Special Constables, Cadets and Police Officers whose partners are Catholic.

Families

One of the Essex Branch's intentions is to involve the family, so why not come along to our next meeting on Thursday, September 3, everyone is welcome. It will be held at 8pm in the Conference Room, next to Our

Lady Immaculate Church, 128 New London Road, Chelmsford.

If you cannot attend the meeting, do not worry, contact one of the members and let us know of your interest.

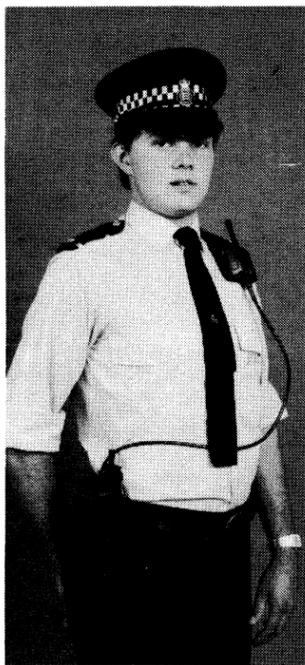
For further details, contact: Dick Madden or John Parkinson at Brentwood Police Station; Adrian Scantlebury at Grays, SOC; Mick Wood at FSU, HQ; or John McCabe at Colchester.

Improved radios

OVER the next six months a new type of Personal Radio will be introduced to the Force on a Division by Division basis, starting with Chelmsford. This new multi-channel radio is manufactured by Motorola and will be worn with a remote microphone assembly similar to the type already used by the Operations Department.

Each officer will be issued with a leather/nylon holder for attaching to their belts. For those who do not have belts (yet) then the long double ended strap on the current harness can be attached to D-rings on the new holder. This new arrangement has been designed so that the current high level of damage to radios is reduced through them not having to be handled so much. In other words an officer should put the radio in his belt holder at the start of his tour of duty and it will stay there until he finishes, although he may need a battery change if he works in excess of 8 hours. The radio and harness have been designed to suit female officers equally well. A set with battery weighs only 675 grams.

The sets have been tested by the Directorate of Telecommunications and they report a considerably improved performance over the existing Burndept radios. The higher transmitter power output will give effective



coverage in a variety of urban and rural environments. Local experience with some loan sets confirms this.

As the Force gets more and more technically based then the need for the skilled use of equipment becomes imperative. When the radios are introduced to each Division local training sessions will be arranged. The radio can be a lifeline and thus everyone should know how to use it correctly. Amendments to the Force Telecommunications Handbook will include these instructions; or advice can be sought from Technical Services on Headquarters 393.

ROY WEEDS RETIRES

A WELL-KNOWN figure leaves us, retiring on October 4. For the last two years our Principal Officer, he originally joined HQ as the O.I.C. Registry in 1975. He plans to move from his Springfield home to be nearer his married son. His dry sense of humour will be missed, and we wish him well in his retirement.

Bright Bobbies Bring Business Brains to Beat

OFFICERS and civilians seeking intellectual stimulation should now be carefully scanning FOA 72/87 of 21.5.87 for details of this years HNC in Business Studies at Essex Institute in Chelmsford.

Star graduates include Superintendent Bill Pirie, Chief Inspector Bob Good, Chief Inspector Roger Grimwadé and Inspector John Coyle who went on to a degree at Essex University. You will see from the Force Order that the Force assists with costs and some time off and Chief Inspector Bob Hayes at the Training School X 361 has further details or you might try Sarah Hope, (a nice lady) at the Institute on Chelmsford 354491.

Co-Operation

Over 100 officers have taken advantage of this example of co-operation between Essex Institute and Essex Police since it started in 1981.

NEW EDITOR



Our picture shows Roy Clark, the new Press Officer, contemplating his appointment and wondering if he can spell RESIGNATION!!

"ADMIRAL" SHEPHERD RETIRES

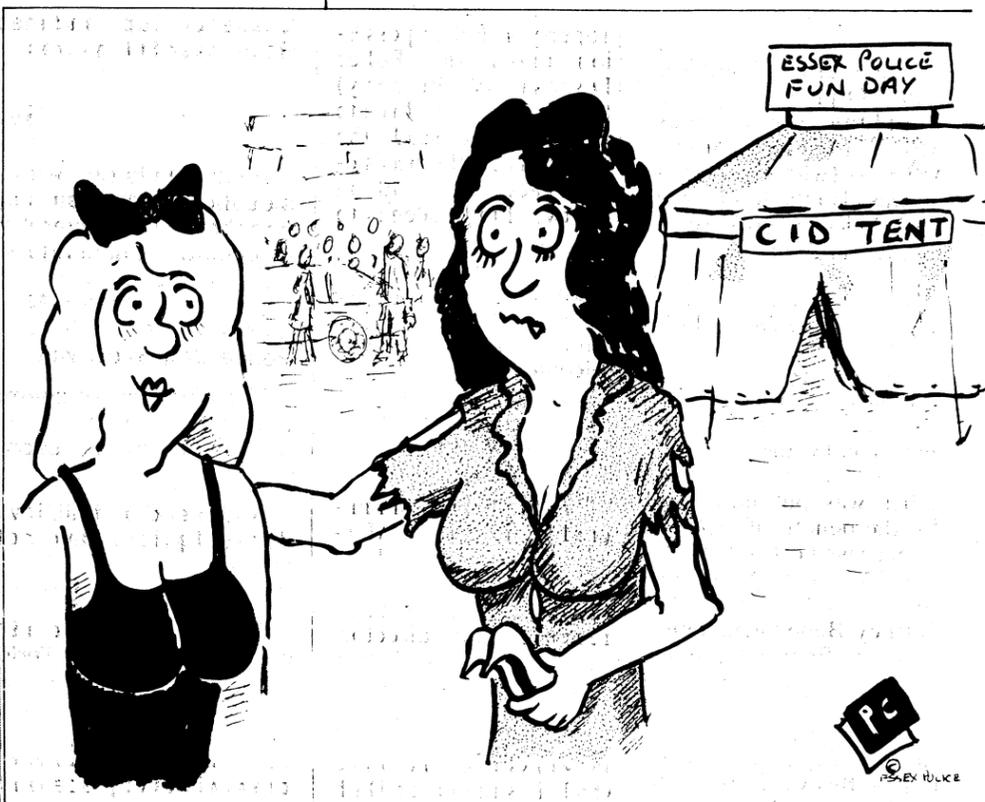


AT HIS RECENT retirement "do" at Rayleigh Police Station, Chief Superintendent Frank Shepherd turned the tables on his friends of many years and made a presentation himself.

He gave a bosun's whistle to Sergeant

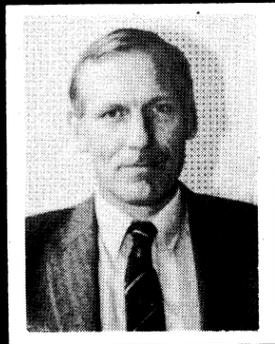
Tony Moore the skipper of the police launch "Vigilant III" which is based at Leight on Sea.

As Chief Superintendent of Operations Division, the County's Marine Section was one of his many responsibilities.



"LISTEN, IT MAY BE A FUN DAY FOR YOU HILDA - BUT I AM NOT GOING BACK IN THERE, AND THAT'S FINAL!"

Federation Notes



by
Jim Rodgers

Rent Allowance

THE HOME OFFICE have approved the new Maximum Limit Rent Allowance for Federated Ranks at £67.87 per week; the Lodging Allowance will be £33.94 per week.

Finance Department have been beavering away at the valuations since this approval was given, and those whose ACC 3A's were submitted in time, will receive the new allowance, and the back rent allowance due, in their August pay packets. If it isn't there, you had better check that you put in the forms.

I think at this juncture it would be in order, on behalf of all ranks of the Force to thank the Finance department for the effort they have put in to the calculation of and finalisation of the back rent allowance due, to enable it to be paid so promptly after the Home Secretary's decision. A very enthusiastic "Well Done" — something we tend to forget to do too often.

The Gurney Fund

MANY of you will have heard of this fund. Many of you will be unaware of its existence. In spite of this, most of you donate to the upkeep of the fund at the rate of 10 pence per week. This donation is included in the contribution you make to the Force Benevolent Fund.

The Gurney Fund for Police Orphans, to give it its full title, was set up by Miss Catherine Gurney, OBE — (who incidentally, was also the founder of the Police Convalescent Home, and in the very distant past, The Southern Provincial Police School and Orphanage).

Following the closure of the School and Orphanage in 1948, the proceeds of the sale of the properties was put into trust for the benefit of orphans of deceased officers of the 22 subscribing forces. The Gurney Fund and the Gurney Benevolent Fund provide financial assistance for orphans still in full-time education — or in some instances undergoing occupational training — this varies from £9 to £19 per week according to the family's circumstances.

Of recent years the children of officers who have been retired on ill-

health grounds, who are incapable of earning a living, have also been included in the beneficiary of the two schemes.

The two funds benefit from the contribution from members of the 22 forces, as well as public donations and the sale of property in Police possession under the Police (Disposal of Property) Regulations 1975. Private donations also swell the coffers, as do the occasional legacy. The load on the two funds seems to increase year by year, and any support or additional finance that can be diverted to this worthy cause will be most welcome.

Trustees

The funds are administered by a board of Managing Trustees — all of them serving officers, together with a chairman, treasurer and director, who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the funds. The director is Mrs Pamela Nicholls, and she works from the office which is situated at Bath Road, Worthing, she is a delightful lady who is looked upon with affection by all the children (and most of the managing trustees as well, if the truth be told!).

FEDERATION NEWS...FEDERATION NEWS...FEDERAT

PAY AWARD IS 7.75%

THE POLICE Negotiating Board on Tuesday, July 21, met and agreed the 1987 Pay Award of 7.75 per cent, which is based upon the May 1986 to May 1987 movement in the Average Earnings Index (New Series).

This award is operative from September 1, and given a fair wind and early production of the rates of pay applicable to each point of the Scale, we should be able to expect the new rates to appear in the pay packets that month.

As soon as the new rates are available, I will prepare the usual chart showing its break down for Federated Ranks, and hopefully we can include this in the next issue of The Law.

However, be warned — again — the Official Side of the Police Negotiating Board have already given notice that they intend to take a long, hard look at the way the Police are remunerated. Remuneration includes Pay, with Rent Allowance and any other allowances. It also could be interpreted to include your Pension entitlement, and the

contribution the Authority has to pay towards it. In the coming months, the Police Service, and that includes all the Staff Associations, will have to pull together to avert yet another attack.

The attack seems to be focused on "the Edmund Davies Formula;" as an automatic uprater of Pay Scales it has served the Police Service very well over the past eight years. The higher level of pay enabled most forces to get up to strength, attracting more applicants, giving a higher grade of candidate to boot! The vast increases in number that this achieved has only been stemmed by the Home Office's resolute resistance to increasing establishments in Police Forces up and down the country — even though good arguments have been put forward.

When one looks at the range of subjects that Police officers need to be able to cope with, then the salary does not look to be too vastly inflated. In fact the sort of work load that many officers carry; the increase in technology that has been introduced; alone would have begged for

productivity bonuses and the like, in industry.

The sort of jeopardy that many officers find themselves in, even our female colleagues, would warrant an emolument for danger far beyond the difference there may be between the pay of differing employments.

The attack may well also focus on Rent Allowance. I firmly believe that their last attack on Rent Allowance resulted in their defeat through the arbitration procedures, to such an extent that they will lose again if they attempt to change the calculation, or try to reduce the allowance by some mechanical shenanigans.

They may try to either abolish it for new entrants to the service, or bring about a gradual reduction in its worth, by consolidating the allowance into pay, as they did with Boot Allowances some years ago.

Whatever form their attack takes, we, the Police Service, must stand united against the erosion of our hard won scale of remuneration. We may have to call on you to support us in whatever action is needed to bring the PNB to its senses!

FORCE FUN DAY

THE FORCE FUN DAY on Sunday July 5, must surely go down as one of the happiest days this Force has ever experienced. One of the happiest and most successful this Force has ever stage managed. One of the most financially successful fund raising ventures the Force has ever taken on.

It was originally intended that two main charities, "Special Olympics UK," and the "Police Convalescence and Rehabilitation Trust," would benefit by £2,000 each, then to add spice to the fund raising it was agreed that any additional money which was received would be split amongst the chosen charities of the Divisional Relay Teams involved in the sponsored run.

The teams of 25 runners were each asked to raise at least £20 in personal sponsorship, and the Joint Branch Board put up "The JBB Fun Day Challenge Cup" and medals for the winners of the Relay over 800 metres.

Success

Each Division was then asked to supply sideshow, or fun fair stalls to add to the attraction, and there were several Arena events including the Chelmsford Challengers Drum & Bugle Corps, The Essex Police Dog Unit, Stock Shotan Karate Team and the Southend Majorettes Display Team. In another part of the Force Playing Field the Essex Police Dog Show was a resounding success.

The whole event seems to have raised in excess of £12,000, which means that a donation of £1,000 or so will go to each of the nominated local charities.

At the end of it all, it was discovered that certain donated prizes have not been won!! Much to the chagrin of the organisers! What to do? We decided to hold A Fun Day Residue Raffle.

The prizes include a £150 gold wrist watch (male or female), a giant Teddy Bear, an assortment of bottles of drink, and an assortment of assorted cuddly toys, a Yoghurt maker, some tickets for the Harwich to Hook crossing to the continent, plus many more. Tickets will be 20 pence each and the draw will take place on September 3.

The Tickets will be circulating amongst you in the very near future, to raise the last bit to put the seal of approval on the Fun Day.

The books for the Fun Day will be closed on September 3, the cheques will be distributed to the Divisions concerned.

POLL TAX

THERE has been some concern expressed amongst the membership with regard to the Governments proposed changes in the present rating system.

The proposals are to abolish the rates as we know them and to replace them with a Pole Tax. In Scotland a bill has already gone through to abolish the rates by 1992 and substitute a Pole Tax. The system in Scotland is to be based on persons residing in property over the age of 18 years.

It would appear that a similar system to that in Scotland is likely to be implemented in England and Wales.

In the Scottish bill clause 7 allows for calculations still to be made on

the rateable value of property with regard to rent allowance, and therefore there appears to be no problem with regard to keeping a similar system as present for calculating their rent allowance.

It is hoped that a similar system will apply in England and Wales and that the same clause 7 will be contained in the English Act. However, to date there has been no assurance given that this will happen.

If the Bill in England and Wales is different and does not allow the same ability then the Joint Central Committee will be pressing for a new system of working out the rent allowance so that it can be retained in a similar way as at present.

POLICE PENSIONS

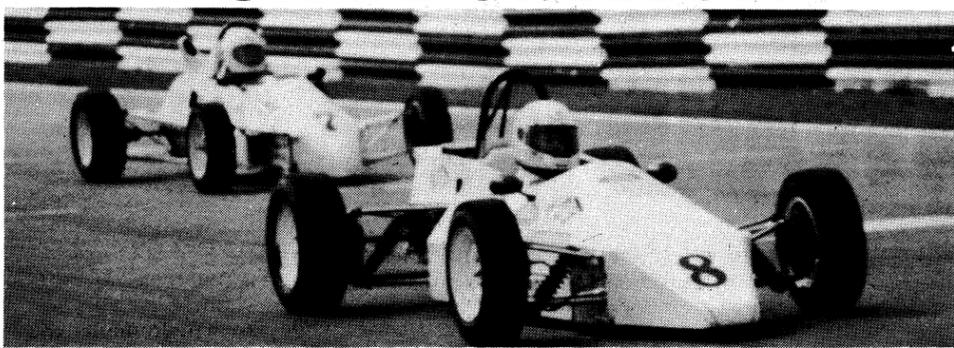
THE PULLOUT Supplement provided with the April issue of The Law, appears to have achieved its purpose, if the response is anything to go by. I have had numerous enquiries from other forces — as well as individual members of other forces — who have used the basis of the article to get the message across in their locality. In addition I have been given a challenge by an Insurance Broker, that she will be able to come up with a scheme to match the Police Pension Scheme — which was rather spoiled by her follow-up request for details of the Police Pension Scheme for her to compare!

I must thank Tony Warren for confirming that for the early retirement benefits and ill-health advantages, there is no known scheme to match the Police Pension.

I do thank him most sincerely, because I know that a lot of people take notice of what he says.

(On reading that over, I can see that it could be interpreted as "personal," my apologies in advance, Tony!)

POLE POSITION



DURING 1986, the Metropolitan Police ran their POLTREK 86 competition which involved entrants estimating how many miles three Metropolitan Traffic Officers would travel whilst visiting all the Police Headquarters in England and Wales.

Pc Bob Higgs, from Fyfield, was one of

the ten winners.

His prize was a half-day course at Brands Hatch Motor Racing Circuit.

Our prizewinner enjoyed a splendid sunny day driving an XR3 and Formula Ford around Brands. Opinion after the experience — Golf Golf 45 will never seem the same again!

More computer power for divisions

AN EXPERIMENTAL crime system installed at Basildon DHQ at the beginning of 1986 has proved so successful it is being extended to all divisions this year.

A powerful microcomputer capable of storing two years crime records will be installed in each DHQ. There will be two terminals, one of which will be available 24 hours a day, and a printer. The computer replaces the manual indexing system in CID administration offices where the information from the crime complaint is entered onto the computer by the civilian staff. The completion of a crime complaint by operational officers remains the same as at present but more benefit can be gained from the computer by including as much detail as possible.

The major difference between the new system and the manual system is that every piece of information on a crime complaint is indexed and subsequently searchable. An example of the computer's power to search for minute detail is that it took just 90 seconds to search 18,000 crime records at Basildon to identify a house burglary where the entry was through a window and a JVC recorder was stolen.

Other advantages are the ability to analyse crime, producing the information graphically if required, and the provision of a crime report management system.

Installation has commenced and will be continued division by division over the coming months. The system will meet the present urgent need for a low cost, effective method of recording reported crimes and provide crime pattern analysis.

Custody offices

Another experiment was conducted at Chelmsford during June this year with the aim of reducing the administrative burden of custody officers by automating the production of charge sheets. Recent research has indicated a clear demand for this facility.

The programme, which has been written "in house" by Julian Robinson of the Computer Department and is based on a "cheap" microcomputer, stores charge formats and is intended to be simple to use, prompting the custody officer for the information required.

The experiment was successful and very well received by the

custody officers at Chelmsford and having made a few minor alterations, the system will hopefully have been extended to all DHQs by the time you read this. It will also contribute to the current national research into the feasibility of computers in custody offices.

Divisional computers

In the longer term, research is being carried out to assess all computer needs in divisions. Delegates from each division, representing all ranks and civilian staff, have been consulted and priorities established.

Distributed computer power to sub divisional level, rather than several stand alone microcomputers, is envisaged because there is a need for most information to be shared. Targets for computerisation include lost, found and miscellaneous property, keyholders, custody offices, overtime and many other administrative tasks.

These projects, and others related to headquarters, are managed by the computer development team. All members of the team are police officers and can be contacted on HQ extensions 391 or 472.

WILLIS VICKERS



ANY number of Serving and Retired Officers probably wondered where Willis Vickers' career might eventually lead him. Those at Eynsham may even have had their own little plans for him. However, few would have guessed that he would one day be the Mayor of a Borough with full robes and chain of office.

Here we show him in his regalia as Mayor of Congleton in Cheshire where he has been a Councillor since 1979. Mr Vickers, who is 68, served in Essex from 1946-76. He still keeps in touch through the "Law", and we would like to send him our congratulations on achieving this high honour.

Those were the days

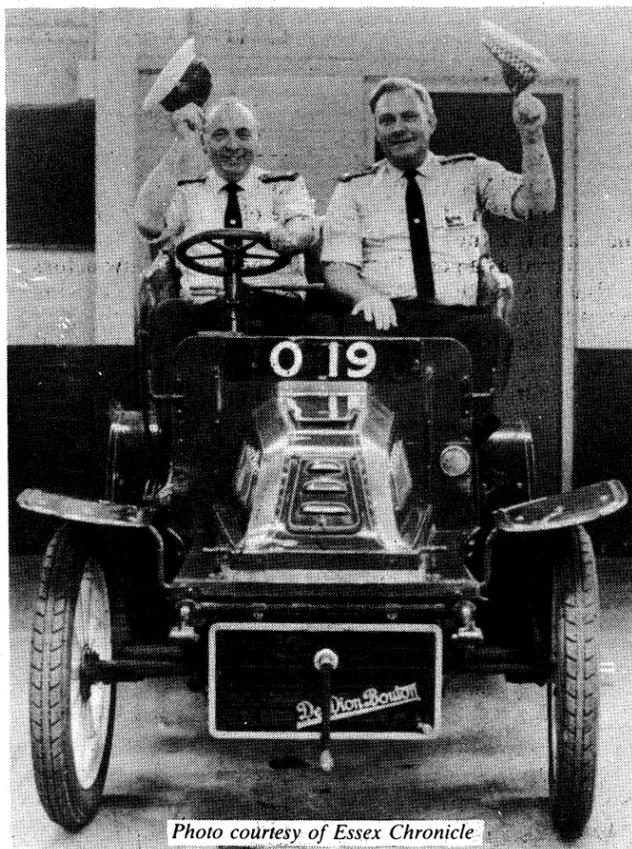


Photo courtesy of Essex Chronicle

Civilian driver Les Howman and Pc Vic Wilcoxon raise their hats to an old timer.

"LAW" READERS will doubtless recall last issue's article which featured a history of the Driving School and the open days which were planned. You may even have caught sight of the school on BBC television.

Both open days were a great success, aided by super weather and tremendous efforts by the staff of the Driving School. The exhibits, as you can see, brought to mind a veteran age of motoring. The cars were old as well!

Strawberries and cream and memories



AS USUAL, the Force Pensioners' Annual Garden Party attracted over 570, and the weather also decided to be good-natured.

Bathed in sunshine, filled with good things (strawberries and cream), old, very old, and some really quite young officers and ex-officers swapped tales of the "Good Old Days".

Our correspondent spoke with pre-war old-timers ex-Sgt Hymas (see our letter column) and ex-Pc Bill Ringer (see photos) as well as "Dinger" Bell (FTS), Jock Watson (Traffic), Tony Chadd (Clacton) from more recent times, and as they say, "many, many more".



Second Ben is first

POLICE dog "Ben" recently won the Metropolitan Dog Championship at Imber Court. This involved tests of his proficiency at criminal work and obedience. He is a bit



of an all-round champ having won quite a few competitions before.

Interestingly enough he is the second dog called "Ben" to win this Championship (perhaps all Essex dogs should be called Ben).

In winning this trophy he outpointed dogs from nine other Forces and he is to be congratulated.

"Ben" is shown on the lawn outside Thorpe home with his Chauffeur/Valet "Howard."



Top — Ex PC Bill Ringer and his good lady enjoying the afternoon sunshine. Centre — Bill as he was as PC 294. Bottom — Two future pensioners, Tony Robinson and Alf Henry from Harlow Division.

Essex Grid Iron



HOW BIG IS a nose-guard? 6 inches. What about the fellow on the right? He's the nose-guard (Offensive Centre) for the Cherokees, the American Football Team based in Chelmsford. And why does he wear all that padding when our brave Rugby lads do it in their shirts? Well about two feet from an Offensive Centre's nose is a Defensive Centre who

every 60 secs or so tries to run straight through him. Personally I'd think metal plating would be more appropriate.

By the way the two lads without padding are not tougher — they're referees. If you'd like to see the chaps in action, why not go along to Melbourne Park at Chelmsford. — It's a great game.

Where are they now?



DID YOU, or anyone you recognise, attend a children's party outside the old Laidon "nick" just before the Second World War. (It was pulled down in the 70's).

The "Law" would be very interested to hear from anyone who can identify the people or the occasion. We will pass on all information to Inspector Barry who sent us the photograph.

'BREAK A LEG'

The story of one PC who got well and truly plastered.

Illustrated by 'PC'

I'VE ALWAYS thought of actors as being 'a funny bunch' but I'm afraid their sense of humour is beyond me when it comes to the above statement. I understand it is offered as a good luck gesture between fellow actors in that it is bad luck to wish someone good luck. Having recently broken and dislocated my ankle I see no good luck in this offering at all. I mean how would you like it if I said to you, "Go catch German Measles," or "Go crack a rib." No, actors are a strange bunch indeed.

dispelled by day three when Dad has retrieved them and warmed the backside of the miscreant heir. By now you have had your first bath with the injured limb out of water resting on a piece of wood placed across the bath. More about that later.

Soon it is apparent that the plentiful supply of books which you have been meaning to read, but had yet to find the time for, would not last long or not get read because of interruptions from the heirs.

A collection of jigsaws is amassed but none are done because to do them requires you to be seated at a table. When seated in the upright position the leg swells and becomes painful. Therefore you continue to lie on the settee with the leg in the elevated position.

Week five, six and seven blend into each other and soon you lie there on the settee with bloodshot eyes, beard unkempt, just gawping at the TV. Some of the visitors mistake you for Arthur Fowler from 'Eastenders' and ask you for your autograph. The heirs are living on borrowed time, while the wife remains the stalwart that she is.

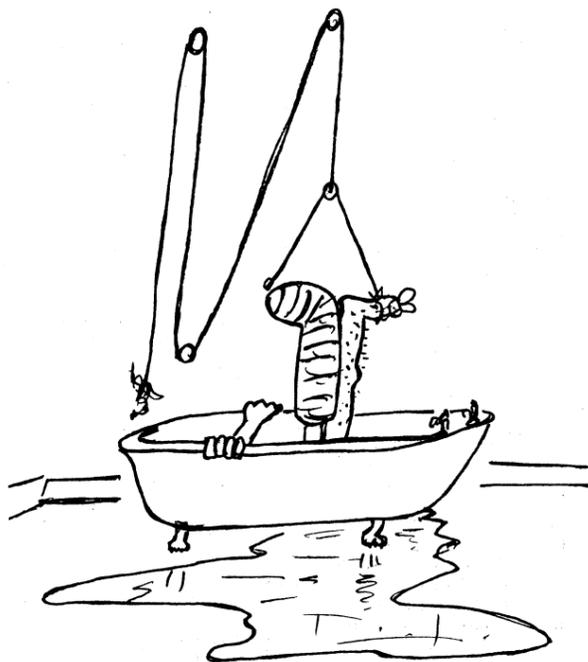
By the end of week seven you visit the vet. He says that, even after the bashing your leg received falling down the stairs last Thursday when your crutch slipped on a stair rod as you were getting your daughter her fourth bedtime drink, the leg is healed and the plaster can come off. You visit the plaster room and meet the attendant. He stares at you with a faraway look while wielding his miniature 'Black and Decker' saw



But what, if like me, you do end up plastered. How do you survive the custodial sentence at 'Chez Nous'? How do you get by on a liberal dose of daytime Australian television, sprinkled with a smattering of children's programmes and cat shows? One must not forget the occasional cookery classes and early 1930's blockbusters which were a failure when originally shown and are just as much a failure now. The answer is not all that easy.

Apart from the initial uproar when the wife rushes to your sickbed and arranges your homecoming, things soon settle down. On leaving the hospital you are given a pair of crutches and the 10 second lecture on how to use them, together with the list of do's and don'ts with the plaster. Now you're off into the big wide world on your own. The big wide world is of course your home as both you and your leg don't feel like going very far for the first week or so.

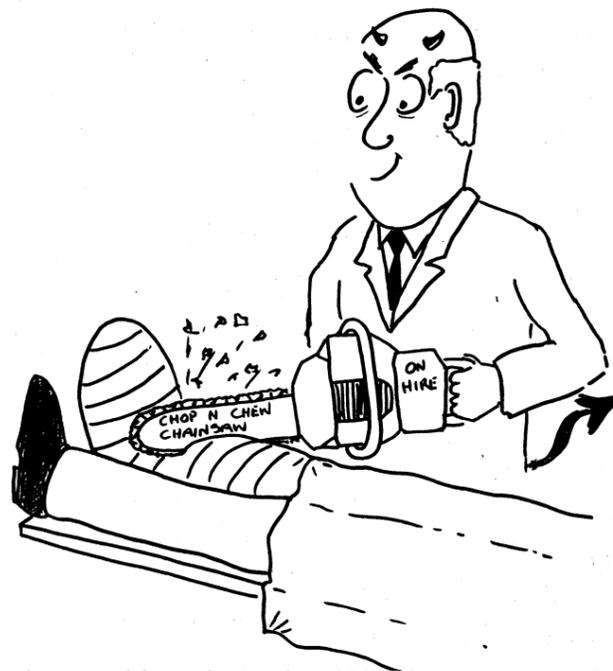
Initially the world and his friend come to visit on day one. There is a feeling like a mother with her newborn as all and sundry arrive at your doorstep at any time between 7pm and 7.05pm. They come for a multitude of reasons ranging from gloating to hysterics at your predicament. Some even offer sympathy at your predicament. On day two there is comparative silence,



The ingrowing toenail on the other foot is becoming unbearable. You visit the chiropodist who, after treatment doesn't like the idea of you leaving his

by Sean J. O'Brien

surgery on crutches as it looks bad for business. Now you've a dressing on that foot and have to bath with both feet out of the water. By now day three has become week three and you are becoming proficient on the crutches. You are an acknowledged expert on childbirth, cat shows, cookery, the Australian way



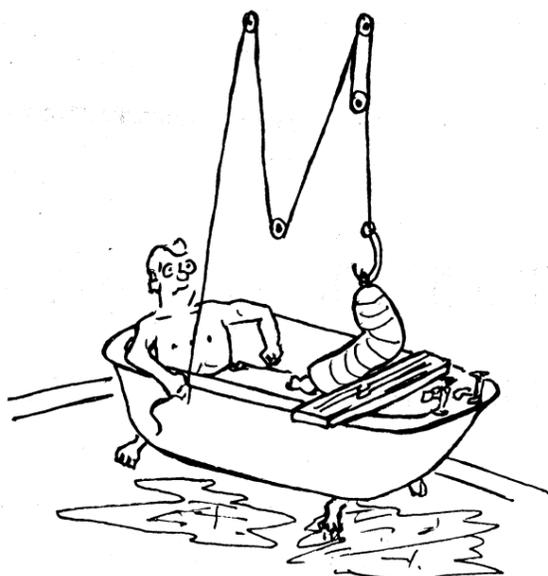
borrowed from the local tool hire shop. He's impatient as he is mumbling something about got to be back before 5 o'clock or he loses his £20 deposit.

Then all of a sudden the plaster's off and you stare at the purple shining limb that was once your leg. It refuses to do anything it's told and starts from day one to ache all over again. It gets its first bath, 'oh-what ecstasy'.

As day two enters day three and the visits to the physiotherapy department continue, you begin to wonder "will I ever be normal again". You are by now an acknowledged expert on 'Neighbours' and consider appearing on 'Mastermind.' The leg feels like it is dropping off. The crutches have given way to sticks and then nothing at all. It is apparent that the aphrodisiac qualities of the pain killers that you are taking are giving way and that they are making you constipated. Out go the pain killers and your love life stinks. The bathroom gets visited on a regular basis again.

By week twelve you find that the aches have eased and you can wear normal shoes. You have only a slight limp. You are convinced that not all of Hitler's SS Fraulein were banished at the trials of Nuremberg, but that some escaped and became physiotherapists. Now the end is in sight. You have been to hell and back, The heirs are by a miracle still with us and your marriage is still intact. When the doctor hands you your sick note, giving you the date you can return to work, he will also be giving you something you never thought you would see again, 'SANITY.'

So cheerio for now and don't forget 'Break a Leg.'



broken only by the slanging matches between patient and heirs who are running riot in the lounge. It doesn't take the elder heir long to realise that if he nicks Dad's crutches Dad becomes totally immobile and that he can now get away with anything. This theory is soon



of life and 1930's blockbusters. The family have been close to being heirless on a number of occasions and the beard is coming on nicely.

At week four you long to be able to wash the mummified limb which by now is starting to itch and has to be attacked with knitting needles, 12 inch rulers and plastic packing case tape.

PRIVATE MEDICAL SCHEME

THE Springfield Medical Centre comprises Britain's most up-to-date private hospital and nursing home, designed and built to meet the needs of Chelmsford and surrounding areas.

The hospital has 32 private bedrooms, each with en suite bathroom. There are two operating theatres and a day surgery unit.

Commissioning activities are proceeding smoothly and the hospital will shortly be opening to receive its first patients.

The hospital has been categorised as 'C' band for accommodation charges; however, members of the Essex Police Private Medical Scheme will be allowed the concession of 'D' band admissions. This means that members in the latter category would normally share facilities in a twin room. This is a negotiated facility which applies to Essex Police only and should be mentioned by members on admission to the hospital.

Another facility provided by the hospital which is exclusive to our members is the 'direct billing' system. This means that your hospital charges will be settled direct between PPP and the hospital.

Claims forms are only available from the Medisure Helpdesk. Telephone Chelmsford 268281.

Law Letters

Many thanks

Dear Sir,
May I, through your column, thank all serving and retired officers who attended Nick's funeral on July 17 at Canvey Island.

Also for the beautiful floral arrangements and messages of sympathy from everyone.

A special thank you to Police Welfare Officer, Charlie Howlett, for support at this sad time.

Our many thanks to you all.

Yours Sincerely,
Valerie Cook,
Canvey Island.

G4FSW

Dear Sir,
My wife and I recently spent a very happy long weekend with Mary and Frank Woodward (ex Inspector HQ Photography and Ham Radio call sign G4FSW) at their home near Gloucester. Whilst there we visited Dorothy and Ron Payne (ex Insp, Ongar) at Monmouth so, naturally, the job and colleagues from 1935 to circa 1965 were well and truly discussed and taken apart in a long session of nostalgia.

All four of them are still Essex people basically and the two chaps are (and will continue to be) coppers at heart and they have happy memories of all with whom they served and they remember.

Yours sincerely,
Ron Bearman,
(ex Insp, Traffic Admin)
Chelmsford.

Edwardian uniform

Dear Sir,
As the NBO for Thun-

dersley I am trying to collect an old Edwardian uniform and require an old Essex Constabulary helmet badge and an old Essex Constabulary belt buckle.

It will be used at functions and at school talks locally. If you can help collection can be arranged.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,
G. J. Sinclair, Pc 805
Telephone 0702 553214.

Companion

Dear Sir,
Police Review has recently published a new edition of the Traffic Officer's Companion by Superintendent Gordon Wilson, Warwickshire. It has proved very popular over the years with traffic officers and this new third edition includes the revised 1986 Con. and Use regulations as well as the new EEC regulations covering drivers' hours and records together with the relevant Statutory Instruments.

The Traffic Officer's Companion is available now from Police Review at £4.25, including postage and packing. Advertisements appear regularly in Police Review but orders can be taken over the 'phone (on 01-242 1432) or by writing to Police Review Publishing Co Ltd, 14 St Cross Street, London EC1N 8FE. Payments can be made by Access or Barclaycard.

Yours Faithfully,
David Pead
Managing Editor,
Police Review,
London.

Colleagues around

Dear Sir,
My many friends will be saddened to hear of the death of my dear wife Freda, mother of Chief Inspector Hindley, and William and Maureen.

Her death took place at St Francis Hospice on Monday June 29, and the funeral was at St Mary's Church, Shenfield, Friday July 3.

I retired from the Force in 1958, but I'm sure some of Freda's friends and my colleagues are still around.

My kindest regards to you all.

A. Hindley,
Ex Pc 253,
Shenfield.

Thanks

Dear Sir,

I spent a very enjoyable day at the HQ Driving School on Friday, 26 June, and seeing some of my old mates of the early Motor Patrol before the Driving School was thought of and would like to thank those responsible.

When the School started I was at Brentwood in charge of the Mobile Section and responsible for what is now the A127 Southend Road, which was at that time a single two way road. I returned to Headquarters in November 1937 and attended the School when it was at the old police station, Witham, the cars were kept at Headquarters.

I noticed on reading a local paper some of the facts were not quite accurate as the two Vauxhalls (AVW 49 and AVW 50) were added in 1933 — Ford V8 (BPU 48) was added in September 1934 — I should know as Pc 526 Waters and myself (I was then Pc298) were the drivers of this car until Pc Waters went as driver to

MONEY MATTERS



by
Tony
Warren

This article is aimed specifically at married and engaged Police Officers.

One again, one of my friends has been approached by a persistent little chap who represents a company who "specialise" in Policemen, Ambulancemen, Firemen and postal workers, (in actual fact, they specialise in anyone who'll buy their policies!)

The salesman spent the evening trying to convince the Officer that he was in a dangerous job (on Traffic — or what used to be called traffic!) and that he had a duty to protect his wife and children from his untimely exit from life's toil and trouble. Well, I agree with the agent, but thank goodness we have legislation coming in to insist on the agent finding out more about his client.

My friend tells me that at no time during the whole interview was he or his wife asked whether or not she had any insurance. Not only that, but the agent's view of the Officer's insurance situation amounted to this: "If you die, your wife's only got the pension." No mention of Group Insurance.

In view of the amount of insurance agents out there preying on Police and civilian alike, attracted by your good (did I say good?) income, I have a bit of advice

for you — and I stress that this is only general advice because individual cases obviously vary.

If you're in the Group Insurance Scheme, gents, it is unlikely that you desperately need insurance (apart from mortgage cover) unless you have a special situation. Most of you are worth in excess of £75,000 before you get out of bed (Pension and Group Insurance benefits). That represents £7,000 per year tax free investment for your heirs on top of the accrued pension benefits, without any mortgage or rent costs to find.

The time to think about insurance — specifically Whole Life cover, is when you are ten years or so from retirement if and only if you want to provide on-going protection for your wife (the nearer you get to retirement, the more expensive it is).

Here's the problem no-one sees, and I make no bones about the directness of the question — "If an officer with children loses his wife, should he continue to work (Children lose Dad for most of the day then) or should he stay at home permanently (Dad loses his income)?"

Insure your wives, gents, the group cover just isn't enough!

the Assistant Chief Constable and then I had Pc Abrahams as a partner until I was promoted in 1935. This V8 was made in Canada and we used to go to Fords at Dagenham every month for the car to be checked over.

Also, I think you will find that police motorcyclists were first used in Essex in 1928 — when Ps Bareham, Pc Jock Sutherland, Pc Bertie Wood, Pc Sid Oddey and myself were loaned to the military for manoeuvres — we were stationed in the Cavalry Barracks in Butt Road, Colchester, with the MPs and Queens Boys (2nd Dragoon Guards) and we used the NCOs Mess — I cannot remember what motorcycle Pc Bareham had, but Jock and Bertie had Triumphs

and a BSA and I had a Rudge (VW 4867). We were paid 3½d per mile.

Later I had the pleasure of being the Captain of the first team the Essex Police entered in the Services Trial at Bagshot. We did not win but we all finished the course which was an achievement and we had only AJS road machines. This was 1952.

In conclusion I would like to say I have held a Full Licence for over 65 years and hold a Police First-Class (advanced Wing) driving certificate.

Yours Sincerely,
H. E. C. Hymas
(The first Ps 76)
Braintree.

History

Dear Sir,

I have taken over as Membership Secretary of the Police History Society and we now have nearly 400 members in the UK and in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United States, Germany and several other countries.

The second volume of our annual Journal has just been published and includes 15 articles on a range of topics, including public disorder, the history of police surgeons, several borough forces and a complete bibliography of force histories.

Our third Annual Conference will take place on 25 to 27 September at the University of York and has as its theme the policing of public disorder.

If anybody is interested in joining the Society membership enquiries should be directed to me at the address below.

Yours Sincerely,
R. Stallion,
18 Cornech Chase,
Leigh-on-Sea.

RETIREMENTS

Dc J. A. Line, Southend SOC, 5 July, after 27 years 257 days service.

Pc R. F. W. Knight, Colchester/Claughton, 16 July, after 30 years 27 days service.

Pc A. D. Gunn, Southend/Rayleigh, 2 August, after 11 years 148 days service.

Pc G. D. Hall, Southend/Westcliff, 2 August, after 21 years 328 days service.

Pc B. A. Laurence, Traffic Rayleigh, 2 August, after 27 years 257 days service.

Pc J. G. Loader, Chelmsford Court Escort, 14 August, after 29 years 295 days service.

Pc B. M. Davey, Chelmsford/Halstead, 15 August, after 30 years 148 days service.

Pc J. M. B. Beckwith HQ CID Crown Court, 7 September, after 30 years 1 days service.

Ch/Supt J. R. Watson, Personnel, 7 September, after 30 years 1 days service.

Pc F. Boyle, Chelmsford/Southminster, 27 September, after 25 years 8 days service.

OBITUARIES

27 May, ex Pc A. Nicholls, aged 81 years, who retired from the Force 1954.

22 June, ex Ps J. Wadley, aged 69 years, who retired from the Force 1975.

3 July, ex Supt. T. Rush, aged 70 years, who retired from the Force 1977.

6 July, ex Ps M. D. Cook, aged 55 years, who retired from the Force 1984.

15 July, ex Ps R. A. Young, aged 72 years, who retired from the Force 1968.

25 July, Pc A. E. Ruggles, aged 47 years, a serving officer at Laindon Traffic.

Market Place

BALDWIN FUN MACHINE organ, 17 preset rhythms, 8 solo instruments, special effects, complete with stool and music books, bargain, £199. Pc Caulfield, Heddingham or 0787 477537.

SAILBOARD, TENCATE 360, footstraps, adjustable boom, 5.9 sail, vgc, £220 onvo. Pc Batchelor, Southminster.
HONDA CBX550 F2, 1983, tested to October, £750. Pc Gilbranch, Laindon Traffic.

COMPUTER DISCS, AMSOFT 3in, £2.50 each, blank 3½in from £12.95 per 10, blank 5¼in from £5.99 per 10, all guaranteed. Pc Walters, Harlow or 0279 411845.

TRAILER, PLUS 4/6 berth frame tent and many accessories, £400, excellent condition. Pc Egerton, Colchester or 020630 5122.

GOOD HOMES wanted for cats and kittens. Miss S. Parsonsons, Colchester 211237.

NORTH CORNWALL HOLIDAY cottage, well appointed 18th century cottage in quiet hamlet, 2 miles from Port Isaac, sleeps 6, bookings 1988. Dc David Ward, Harlow SOC or 0277 364838.

AMERICAN POLICE patches, entire collection, price to be negotiated. Pc Bates, Laindon Traffic or Billericay 656160.

TRIUMPH SPITFIRE, X reg, 54,000, MoT, yellow, new exhaust, good condition, selling owner abroad, £2,750. Bendall 0245 465807.

HONDA 250cc SUPER DREAM DeLuxe, X reg (1982), black, 7,500 miles, MoT, tax, good condition, one owner, £300 ono, including helmets. Pc Beck, Harlow or 0279 445604.

FUJICA CAMERA ST605N, 35mm, plus autozoom, 2000 electronic flash unit and camera holdall, £85. Pc Bates, Laindon Traffic or Billericay 656160.

BRITAX CHILD'S CAR seat and two child full harnesses (suit 5-14 years), plus all fittings, £5 and £7. Pc Coxhead, Grays or 0375 672137.

LATE '79 (V) CAVALIER 2000 GL saloon, MoT August '88, good condition, £1,200 ono. Chelmsford 266355 or 352079, D. Newbury, FTS.

CARTOONS BY PC, framed originals on any topic, ideal wedding, birthday, retirement gifts or office decor, rush orders considered. Pc Caulfield, Heddingham or 0787 477537.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE — ONE WORD PER BOX

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Name and Rank Station

Home telephone Signed

New Vehicle Radios

by Ian Walker (Communications)

AS MOST of you will be aware the programme to remove 'old' radios and replace them with the new ones in the vehicle fleet is now well under way and, by the end of July, all but a few specialist vehicles will have been completed.

The disruption caused by vehicles having to be called into one of the three fitting centres has, at times, been aggravating but, in general, has been small. The co-operation of the Support Division (Traffic) at Harlow and Stanway has helped to smooth the transitional period as has the understanding of all officers.

It has been noted that use of the car-to-car channels (21 and 22) is increasing, particularly by CID units and the advantage that a standard CID car can be used in this way is obvious.

The next stage of the programme will be to change all 'fixed mobile' equipment (the VG sets at DHQ's, etc) and the WARC conversion has allowed us to increase and standardise these sets. The 'norm' will be for VG transceiver (also capable of being switched to any of the other Police VHF channels) to be installed at all Sub-Divisional stations — a great improvement on the hotch-potch of monitors available previously. As in

the past, however, use of these sets for transmissions will be limited by Information Room to emergencies to preserve valuable air time.

There has been a delay in delivery of certain pieces of equipment and, until all is delivered, it will be necessary to run both the old and new frequencies from our hill-top sites. This causes another problem because, until a single system is in operation, it is not possible to fine tune the new to its optimum efficiency.

A policy decision was made to retain 'old' sets in all personnel carriers to maintain our Mutual Aid capability to Forces not yet converted to the WARC frequencies. In Sherpas, the 'old' set is mounted on the shelf over the driver's head and the new set is mounted in the dashboard. In Transits, the 'old' set is mounted in the glove compartment.

In conjunction with the provision to the territorial Divisions on the new Motorola personal radios (due to commence August) all the 6-channel Burn-dept radios will be re-crystalled for use on repeater-equipped vehicles. This will allow the channels of surrounding stations to be added to the hand-held unit and, thereby, give the user better communications.

HEADQUARTERS MUSICAL SOCIETY

AN AMOUNT in excess of £1,000, that is the result of three nightly performances of "The Fabulous Forties" recently staged by the Society.

The charities earmarked to benefit are D.E.B.R.A. (Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association) a disease in which children born with the inability to form skin, and the Essex County Council's fibulator appeal, both very worthy causes.

The Society thanks all those who helped in any way towards the magnificent result.

RAC Membership

THE RAC is offering special rates for Essex Police who join through a group arrangement. The normal joining fee of £5.00 is waived, and renewed subscriptions attract a saving of 10 per cent if all the services available are included.

Contact Anita Hodgkins on 0923-33543, Ext 223 for details.

DANISH CRUISE

THREE day mini-cruise to Esbjerg, Denmark from Harwich (Parkeston Quay) on Sunday, October 18, on the MS Tor Scandinavia.

The cost is £21 per person sharing a two berth cabin and £16 per person sharing a four berth. All cabins have shower and toilet. Children under four years travel free.

The timetable is as follows:-

| | | |
|------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1700 hours | Sunday, October 18 | Depart Harwich |
| 1345 hours | Monday, October 19 | Arrive Esbjerg |
| 1730 hours | Monday, October 19 | Depart Esbjerg |
| 1230 hours | Tuesday, October 20 | Arrive Harwich |

If you are interested please complete the reservation slip and return to DS 231, B. R. Firmin at the Port of Harwich no later than September 30. Cheques should be made payable to B. R. Firmin and can be post-dated September 30.

Tickets for the cruise will be issued on the day of departure at Harwich.

This offer is open to all members of the Essex Police, retired Police Officers, Civilian Employees and their immediate families.

For those who do not have access to the Internal Mail system, please send your bookings to Essex Police, c/o H.M. Immigration, Parkeston Quay, Harwich, Essex.

Passports are required.

| | Surname | Christian name | Station |
|----|---------|----------------|---------|
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |

Address.....

Tel no.....

I require a two/four berth cabin.

Nuremburg 1987

A TRIP of hard work, adventure, drama, beer, food, exhaustion, more beer, more food and more hard work.

Hard work? I hear you scoff — No, it's true. It was a 12-day trip, a day's travelling each way, two Sundays "off" (off means not playing, not exactly "off") which left eight playing days, into which we managed to play 14 times. A wedding, 11 outside concerts, 2 concerts in concert halls, one in the famous Meister-signer Halle in Nuremberg, not to mention the rehearsals with the Musikzug Bayer, Bereitschaftspolizei, Polizeicheur Nurnberg and mannercher Der Stadt Werke Nurnberg. Even to non-musicians who know nothing of "ups that have gone" that must sound quite exhausting. So, the band worked hard, and the band played hard.

The Essex Police Band were the guests of the Nuremberg IPA who were celebrating their 30th Anniversary. The celebrations were organised by Carl-Heinz Strauss, an old friend of the band from our previous visit 3 years ago.

The band travelled in convoy with a coach of Essex IPA members who were very pleased to meet and mix with at several IPA junctions.

Two gentlemen from the Nuremberg IPA that must be mentioned here are Hans and Alfred, who although they did not speak English, were our constant companions, guides, helpers, and friends, and who, in the words of Band President Mr Markham "Helped us with all our problems, some small and some not so small."

We never found out how they managed to see us to bed each night/morning and be there again smiling and cheerful as we (nearly) all got up for breakfast the next day, but they did and took their holiday to do it.

Here seems an appropriate place to thank a lot of other people too. Hans and Alfred were in fact representative of the hospitality shown to us by the Bereitschaftspolizei and the many other people that met and entertained us in Germany. Without giving long lists of names, thanks also to all the organisers, both English and German, to the official interpreter and the unofficial interpreters, to our guest soloist and players, to the drivers and to the Bereitschaftspolizei chief who now wears a policeman's helmet under his white hat.

Twelve days is a long time for any group of people to survive together 18 hours a day without incident, but I am pleased to tell you that none of the drama encountered was of our own making. We did however, find out one or two things about each other, for instance, did you know that the Bandmaster, Robert O. Coxon collects wild flowers? — Yes, it's true, he could be seen dangling over a cliff in the middle of beautiful Franconian Switzerland indulging in this pursuit.

Franconian Switzerland was one of the places visited in our "free time". It is a very beautiful area of Germany, most of which was seen from a hot, sticky coach, but by a stroke of German ingenuity we suddenly found ourselves at an almost deserted panoramic beauty spot where there was produced more cold beer than the whole band could drink. The only other person at this pleasant location was a topless sunbather, who for some unknown reason decided to leave as 40 policemen rushed off the coach.

We gave concerts at some very beautiful places too. One particular day, with two concerts played

and one still to go, feeling hot, tired and weary the band was to play at Abendberg, a lovely little town we had visited on our previous trip.

We were given a welcome by the Burgermeister in the newly-renovated bank, then had to walk a short distance to give our concert. I could hardly believe it, the whole town had turned out and could be seen walking up the hill like hundreds of extras in a film. It was quite heartwarming, and the band found that little something extra for them at the end of that long day.

Should this be read by our German friends I would like to say that Abendberg was not the only beautiful place where the band enjoyed playing, there was also Weissenberg, Rothenberg, Roth, Schwaback, Landwasser and various other locations in Nuremberg itself which were just as enjoyable. Our other "free time" activities included a trip round a cable factory, a guided foot tour of Nuremberg, a Franconian midnight buffet and an evening as guests of Hern Max Schleiheiter in his garden.

The drama I mentioned earlier was provided by the IPA hot air balloon launch.

Picture the scene, a small German square in the centre of Nuremberg, Jakobsplatz, the band are setting up ready to play for the launching, the balloon is being inflated, crowds are gathering, tension is mounting and so is the mind.

The balloon is ready and being held down. Willie, another of our Nuremberg IPA friends is in the basket with the balloonist, both are dressed in costume for the occasion. Ready.

The band strikes up, the bal-



Above:- The Band gives a concert outside Nuremberg Police Station. Below:- Brian Grant, a guest cornet player with the band plays the Post Horn Gallop — very popular it was as you can see.



loon is released and is blown directly into a nearby building and catches — gasps from the band between beats. The balloon rips, but it's still caught and the basket begins to tip; more gasps and sounds of churning stomachs mix with the wailing strains of what should have been a stirring march.

After a few seconds seen in slow motion the balloon breaks free with half the side ripped away, but it still goes up and up, then down and down and out of sight behind buildings.

A horrible sick feeling descends upon the band at the end of the march, only to be heightened by the shrieking of fire engine sirens as they rush from their nearby stations, but the band played on.

We were told a short while later that the balloon had landed safely on a building with no more injury than cut fingers to the two on board, and just to prove it, the intrepid Willie presented himself to us before we had finished our concert.

That was the drama now, as for the fun and adventure, I think I will leave that for the magazine when all will be revealed unless I receive money in a plain brown envelope... joke, really.

Hand on heart, it can honestly be said that no band member or anyone in the party did anything at all to tarnish the good name of Essex Police in Germany, and the band was heartened to find that the organisation of German Police runs much along the same lines as our own.

In all it was a successful and enjoyable tour, the memory of exhaustion having faded.

By Heather Sheldon

Heard the one about...

... The Officer who "ADDER" nuff

Pc Morris owes Pc Rowley a lot.
Pc Rowley knows about snakes,
And Pc Morris does not,
So when the lady made her reptile call,
From the garden of her home
It was Pc Rowley who saved the day.
(Whilst Pc Morris drove as quickly as anything back to Epping nick, sat down, had a cup of tea, and thanked his lucky stars that he had met Pc Rowley off duty and therefore didn't have to become).
The hero of this poem.

★★★★★

The Ceremony of the keys took on a whole new meaning at the latest Royal Visit when a well known Inspector set his seal of approval on the proceedings. Dropping the keys of the police car through the planks of the pier is certainly being security conscious, but there must be easier ways of doing it.

★★★★★

Technology — Are we ready for it?

We all know about car-phones don't we? Where would you keep one? — dashboard. Right on — So why did this group of plain clothes officers we heard about keep it in the boot? — "No room in the car, Guv — creases the old whistle."

Any problems with this approach? Well, yes. Every time it rings you have to stop the car and unlock the boot to answer it — and? Well by the time you've done that its' stopped ringing!! Nice one. Makes Clausau look quite efficient.

Instructors reunion

THERE will be a reunion for ex-Instructors from Newby Wisks, Pannal Ash and Dishforth on Friday, October 30, to be held in Durham.

Those interested should contact Sergeant 285 Hutchins (HQ, ext 364) for further details.

FOOTBALL REPORT



THE 1986-87 Football season proved another successful one for the Essex Police Football club in the re-named Essex Intermediate League. Having been the last winners of the old Essex Olympian League, the Essex Police first team became the first winners of the new league winning senior division one by eight points and losing only three games. As this was the first season with Mick Wood and Charlie Clark in charge the victory was even more welcome.

The reserve team, under the managership of John Weatherly and John Stewart, in only their third season in existence finished runners up in reserve division one, a tremendous achievement, and congratulations must be given all round.

Having won the 'Kershaw Cup', played between the previous seasons league and cup winners, at the start of the season and the 'City of London Plate' in the regional five a side competition at Highbury, further cup success eluded us losing in one final, two semi finals and one area final, still there's always next time.

The first team were superbly led this year by John Walker who was assisted by tremendous performances from Joel Henderson, Vaughn Mulender and Cliff Haines.

The player of the season was Mick Allen who, along with Glyn Evans, was selected to represent

England Police against both Wales Police, and Scotland Police, helping them to win the 'Chapman Trophy'. Congratulations to them both. Tim Stokes was the reserve team player of the season and Andy Spink a very worthy Clubman of the Year.

Although the players get the trophies, the whole Force must take credit for these victories. Not only must thanks be given to the Senior Officers and Sergeants who allow players time off to play, but also to other Constables, who have to cover to allow their colleagues to 'swan off' and play football. A successful football team in local football reflects well upon the Force and we thank you all for helping us achieve this.

The 1987-88 season starts on August 22 with the first team under Mick Wood meeting Bishops Stortford Swifts at home in the Kershaw Cup and the reserves, under John Stewart, away to Cossor in the reserve version of the same trophy. Your support is always welcome at Headquarters on Saturday afternoons and, if the football doesn't tempt you, our Clubhouse and Bar might. We look forward to seeing you.

If you are interested in playing for the Force or require information of any kind regarding the teams Mick Wood and John Stewart can both be contacted on Headquarters Ext 207.

It's a long walk

THE trophy for first Essex finisher in the Barking to Southend Police Race Walking event shows that it was first won in 1961 by one Constable J. Dickinson. It was perhaps in the hope that success in this event would lead to similar success in their police career that led to the largest ever police field of 21 toeing the start line outside Barking Football Club, along with about 150 other officers from all over the country.

As an amazing 20 out of the 21 staggered into Southend Football Stadium and crawled to a finish line 34 miles later, most agreed that perhaps it was too high a price to pay.

The event now carries points towards the 'Croker Cup' and this ensured that the entrants represented members of five Sports clubs; Grays through their large numbers winning the 'Footers Shield' for the first divisional team for the first time, taking the trophy from Rayleigh, winners for the previous three years.

Rayleigh had some consolation through Dave Seago who has become something of a Barking

to Southend addict, winning the first Essex Veteran award.

As it was now Croker Cup it was clear that Colchester would send a team and their efforts were rewarded with Lance Williams winning the new trophy donated by the recently retired but still affectionately remembered mammoth of Police sport, John Hedgethorpe. For the first Essex novice (that is newcomer to the strange art of road walking as opposed to cross country hill walking (running at which I believe Lance is a bit of an expert).

Barry Daymond was first Essex Police finisher for the second year running in his 15th start, catching Denis Sheppard at 26 miles and pulling away by over half-an-hour as Denis staggered to a halt at the top of the dreaded Bread and Cheese Hill at Benfleet before getting up to average less than three miles an hour to finish, having coned lots of others into having a go with the words 'Anybody can do it provided they are determined enough!!'

The last man to finish of the Essex team and indeed in the

race overall was LFJ (Little Fat Jack) Frost of Grays. The time limit for the event was 7hrs 45min and as Jack, by now not so fat, entered the stadium he had just three minutes left in which to finish otherwise it would have all been in vain. The crowd erupted into a roar, similar to that which greeted Southend's promotion to Division Three, led by the sympathetic Steve Bottrill and this pushed Jack into the fastest lap of the stadium of the day to finish well within the time limit.

In the overall event, Essex had their best result for some years, regaining the Tom Kent Cup for being the first Force to finish eight competitors and completing 'the set' winning 'silver' in the Novice team event. (Lance Williams, Steve King and Spencer Williams being the scorers).

All the team have asked me to thank those who turned out to cheer them on and especially the 'handlers' who put up with a torrent of abuse as they valiantly sponged the walkers down and forced them onto the 'finish'.

Training starts in January for next year's race!!

Fun Day Pull

AS A departure from normally running the Tug-o-war Championships incorporated within the Athletics Championships, it was decided to have the 'pull' amidst the Force Family 'Fun Day.'

Not realising that there would be so many people at the Fun Day communications proved difficult and the teams had difficulty with their organisation, with some of their members fully engaged as 'runners' in the nearby relay race.

Nevertheless, seven sports clubs entered teams, the standard was the best for a number of years. The number of spectators attracted to the event was also large and they were rewarded by a keen competition. Colchester got off to a good start pulling two pulls to nil against Grays. Harlow, the holders and Southend had a long struggle resulting in a 2-1 win for Harlow. Basildon beat Chelmsford 2-0 and Clacton had a bye.

In the semi-final Clacton beat Basildon 2-0 and Colchester by now looking good, beat the holders Harlow 2-0.

After some of the hard struggles of the preliminary rounds the final held in the main arena resulted in a two straight pulls win, with Colchester beating Clacton. The Colchester Captain, PC David Underwood was immensely pleased with his team's result, and so was Supt Mike Blackwell, who saw the representatives of the two Sports Clubs in his Division pull it out in the final.

PISTOL COMPETITION

THE Force Pistol Competition will be held this year at Stansted Range on Wednesday, September 16.

The range will open at 10am and shooting will start at 11am.

Each Division may enter two teams of two officers, each of whom must be a current permit holder.

Any queries to Gordon Bennett on HQ ext 208.

SMALL BORE SHOOTING

ANY serving member of the Essex Police interested in shooting in the PAA small bore rifle leagues should contact DC Ron Missenden at the Essex Police Office, Parkstone Quay, Harwich. Also if any members are interested in taking up the sport and would like information on their nearest club, Ron is the man to contact.

ANGLING LINES

I THOUGHT that it would be a good idea to hold this year's Kingfisher Cup Match as near to the start of the new season as possible, the second day in fact. Unfortunately nobody told Ardleigh's Roach, who, as is well known locally, spend his winter in the deeper water around the 'Dam' end of the reservoir, out of bounds for Coarse Anglers at this time of year.

Out of the 35 Anglers present, only 15 caught fish, from the North-Eastern arm of the water used for all our early-season matches.

Top weight of the day was Kevin Taylor's (Mistley) 3-4-4, followed by Graham Garnham's (FSU) 1-14-4, and Mick Lawrence's (HQIR) 1-0-8. Kevin takes the cup back to Colchester for the second year running.

The following week, after much heaving — in of groundbait and bronze maggots, things

looked up a bit for Round One of our League Series (South East Police Angling League) a few more Perch had ventured up the arm, although still very few Roach, and most of the fifty matchmen present caught fish.

As you may remember, he is the current League Champions, and I'm delighted to report that once again the Team's vast reservoir-fishing experience shone through, with all the regular members doing well, some of the lower weights from difficult swims proving as important as Steve Adam's (Southend) 5-3-0, for third place overall. John Eldred (City of London) bagged up on the day with 12-8-0 and helped his team to a joint first (with us) place. Our main opponents, Surrey, have yet to grasp the complexities of Reservoir fishing (because they haven't got any!) and finished in last place, some 50 points adrift, a deficit they will find very hard to overcome throughout the

rest of the year.

The Surrey Open Match, held at Willow Park, Aldershot, on June 30, in scorching conditions, with randy Carp leaping and spawning all around proved predictably difficult for us, not helped by one prominent Team member oversleeping, guaranteeing a no-hope situation! Small Tench and Crucian Carp were the order of the day, our only success being Mick Lawrence's 12-3-0, netting him second place in 'E' Section.

A full report of our League match, at the Royal Military Canal, in Kent, will appear in the next issue.

Finally, there are a few places left, but not too many, for membership of the 'Essex Police Angling Club' formed at the start of this season. If you would like to become a founder-member, contact Bob Hunter at Chelmsford Traffic or on Maldon 892037.

Golfing Diary

OUR season now being well under way is continuing to be successful with Keith Davies (Chelmsford) representing us in the National PAA at Meon Valley Hotel Golf Club, Hants, during the week of June 1 to 5. His efforts produced a 14th place, again a best-ever for our Essex players. Well done Keith!

Following on from this, Warley Park Golf Club, Brentwood, staged a '999' Golf Tournament for golf teams from the three 9's services. This tournament also marked the 50th anniversary of the '999' system. Essex Police were represented by six teams from various stations in the county.

In all 23 teams took part including teams from Kent and West Midlands. A team consisting of Keith Davies (Chelmsford) John Wood (Maldon), Ian Brown (Epping) and Andy Smith (Epping) took second place and Bernie Emslie (Brentwood) took the prize for the Best Essex Score of the Day. A very enjoyable day and a fine way to bring our Services together.

On Friday 10 July we played our annual match against Mets 'J' Division and we retained the 'Campion Cup' for which we play.

Our next event was the Summer Meeting which was held at

Stisted Golf Club on 15 July. The weather continued to favour us all day and for the 50 participants a good day was had by all.

As a result of this day our new Club Champion, winning the Scratch Cup, was Andy Smith (Epping) with a gross 157; runner up was George Meek (Harwich) with a gross 158.

Other prize winners were as follows: Presidents Cup (Pairs Stapleford):

Winner: Nic Padmore (Harlow) and Dave Hammersley (Chelmsford) with 78 points. runner-up Paul Kreyling (Southend) and Andy Smith (Epping) with 69 points. All Day Handicap prize: Dave Hammersley (Chelmsford) 129 points. Morning Scratch Prize: Kevin Maleary (Clacton-Traffic) 78 points. Afternoon Stapleford: Tony Kitching (HQ-Drugs) 38 points. Afternoon Handicap: Charlie Ryan (Brentwood) 62 points.

Mr Simpson attended in the evening and presented the trophies and prizes to the winners.

Our Autumn meeting is being held at Canons Brook Golf Club, Harlow, on Friday 9 October. Again, all are welcome, just contact me if you are not a member of P.E.G.S. otherwise members will receive notification in due course.

Grays hat-trick

GRAYS Division came through as winners for the third successive year, finishing this year 61 points ahead of Basildon. Third place was Clacton.

With the tug-of-war missing from the event, the afternoon was left clear for a good afternoon's sport.

Most events were won by the previous title holders, but an interesting feature of these championships was the newcomers. David Gibb of Colchester, won both the mens' 100m and 200m. Neil Phimister from Maldon, won the 400m and 800m. Newcomers, Nigel Lowe (Basildon) and Richard Merry (Braintree), came second and third in the 100m.

Alan Husk (Westcliff), won all four throwing events and Glyn Evans asserted his position as the top jumper in the Force by winning the mens' long jump and high jump. Tony Robinson of the FSU, had a good afternoon, winning both the 1500m and 5000m. It was good to see the veterans race well supported. Inspector M. Hicks, won the 200m in fine style, followed closely by Alan Barley (Hadleigh) and Laurie Rampling (Grays). Roy Kebell who has worked hard for years at his training achieved a victory in the 5000m.

In the womens' events, Elaine Partridge won the high jump, long jump and javelin. Marion Tankard (Brentwood) had good wins in the 200m and 400m. Other individual winners were Kay Potter (Harwich), 100m; June Hutton (Basildon), 800m; D. Fraser, shot.

Both weather and the stadium provided good conditions for the championships. The Mayor of Thurrock, Councillor John Dunn and Mr G. Markham, ACC (P) were in attendance showing great interest and presenting the prizes.

RUGBY ROUND-UP

THE Essex Police Rugby Club enter a new era this coming season when they move all games to a Saturday and will be competing with many of the recognised Rugby Clubs in the county.

This is a massive step for the EPRFC and to help out with the change all home games will be played at Witham Rugby Club who have kindly offered us the use of their clubhouse and facilities.

A full commitment to Rugby is needed by the players and non playing members of the club to ensure a strong playing side every Saturday.

Training has already started at Witham RFC on Tuesday evenings at 7pm.

I hope that all playing members will make every effort to be available for both training and matches. Any persons wishing to be considered for the team should contact Pc Hall at the FSU office or why not turn up for training.

FLYING RALLY

THE Police National Flying Rally was recently held at Stapleford Airfield, Essex.

Detective Constable Ray Oliver of the Force Technical Support Unit together with his brother Adrian, a Police Sergeant with the Metropolitan Police, entered as a two man team representing Essex Police. They flew a single-engined four seat Beach Sundowner aircraft which is owned by Sergeant Oliver.

42 teams entered the competition which is split into three sections, namely Navigation, Precision Flying and Spot Landings. Ray and his brother came third in the Navigation Section and first in the Precision Flying Section for which they were awarded the 'Police Review' Cup.

The Precision Flying Section is of 42 minutes duration during which each team has to fly over set locations at set times, incurring penalty points for each second they are out at each stage. The Essex team managed to cover the whole circuit only five seconds outside the allotted time.

This result now qualifies Ray to fly in the European Police Championship, which are to be held in France this September.

The Law

Published by Essex Police, H.Q., Chelmsford. Tel: 267267

H.Q. phone extensions
374 and 375

NEXT ISSUE

October '87
Copy in by 14SEPT

Printed by Essex Chronicle Series Ltd, Westway, Chelmsford