Honours for Essex Police

Services rendered recognised

D.C.C. Peter Simpson, OBE, FBIM

In this New Year's Honours List, the Deputy Chief Constable, Mr Peter Simpson, was created an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.).

A Policeman for almost 31 years, Mr Simpson came to Essex in May 1951, from Hertfordshire, when he was appointed A.C.C. (P). He was promoted D.C.C. in October 1986.

Essex born and bred, (his father was also an ‘Essex Queen at D.C.C.)

Mr Simpson regards his award as bringing credit to the whole Essex Force. As he says “Obviously, I am delighted to receive this award, but these things are seldom achieved by one person alone. They are achieved by being part of a team, and I am particularly fortunate in having a fine team of professionals to work with.”

Mr Simpson will collect his award from Her Majesty The Queen at Buckingham Palace later in the year.

SGT GEOFF LEE

ONGAR police sergeant Geoff Lee was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year’s Honours List.

The honour is made in recognition of his charity work, general community work and his police work during his 27 years with the force.

Sgt Lee joined Essex Police in 1983, serving at Basildon and South Benfleet before being promoted to sergeant in October 1992, when he was posted to Ongar.

Since then he has received two police bravery awards, as reported in the Law.

With Ongar Police Constable, Mr William Page, Sgt Lee built a patio in the grounds of Ongar’s sheltered accommodation for the elderly — Frank Bretton House in Bannons Way — and recently was instrumental in getting a solar water garden constructed at the house for the work being paid for by local groups, individuals and businesses.

He has also raised money himself by taking part in sponsored events.

B.E.M. For S.D.O.

Gordon Austin

Gordon Austin, Special Sub-Divisional Officer responsible for the Saffron Walden Sub-Division was awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in the New Year’s Honours.

A Special Officer for 32 years (he joined 2nd July 1958) he is another Essex Boy born and bred.

He was promoted Special Sergeant (now Section Officer) in 1965 and Sub-Divisional Officer in 1986. He received his Long Service Medal in 1967 and now has two bars, thereon.

Gordon, who is the General Manager of a Caravan Company is married and lives at Stansted. He had four grown-up children, and six grandchildren. Asked about his medal, he said “I see it as a reflection on the Essex Special Constabulary as a whole.”

Sixty years old this year and due to retire from the Service in July he says “I shall miss it very much. I have enjoyed myself immensely.”

He is very active locally, apart from his Police duties, being Chairman of the Tukeley Parish Council, Chairman of the Dunmow Road Safety Committee, and of the Youth Club Advisory Committee.

One of the high spots of his Service, he says, was an invitation to the Queen’s Garden Party in 1988. The award of the B.E.M. was the seal on a long and dedicated period of Public Service. Congratulations and a happy retirement!

Mr Jim Dickinson

Mr Jim Dickinson, Ex-ACC of the Force, has been appointed to a prestigious Home Office post as, Assistant to Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary (Crime and Technical Services).

He took up his post in December after completion of his year-long course at the Defence College. This appointment is of two years duration.

The job involves liaison with Forces throughout the country. Mr Dickinson, who has previously served at the Home Office as head of the Police Research and Services Unit Crime Group, says that now he has had time to settle down he is enjoying the new challenges. The post gives him “new opportunities to see the Police Service from a new perspective.

An Essex and Southend policeman for 28 years, Mr Dickinson will continue to live in Southend.

William Gray

Aftet six years as the Force’s Assistant Chief Constable, Mr William Gray (right) was appointed Deputy Chief Constable of Bedfordshire Police on October 18.

Mr Gray, 53, succeeded Mr Michael Taylor, who has returned to the Metropolitan Police as a Deputy Assistant Commissioner.

Mr Gray was a Police Cadet and served with Essex Police before moving to Bedfordshire. He is married with sons aged 16 and 21, and his hobbies include garden- ing, walking and carpentry.

In 1985 he raised £400 for St Francis Hospice in a sponsored run, raised £6,500 the following year by running from Lands End to John O’Groats, and in 1987 raised £1,500 for Frank Bretton House.

For four years he has been a member of Ongar Rotary Club and for three of those has been its community services chairman. Elderly residents of the Ongar area know him best as the organiser of the annual senior citizens’ Christmas party held at the Bugsworth Hall.

To mark his contribution to the community he was presented with the Community Service Medal of the Epping Forest District Council in April 1999. The medal is awarded annually to an Essex or Metropolitan police officer.

The Chief Constable’s High Commendation Award was presented to him in March 1998 after he and Pc Mick Page, who also received an award, foiled a kidnapping attempt at a house in Marden Ash, Ongar.

Several years earlier Sgt Lee claimed a man after being called to a house in Beauchamp Roding.

He has lived in Ongar for 17 years with his wife Edna. He has a married son David and daughter Helen.
Dear Sir,

I thought that you might be interested in the story I am about to write for The Law newspaper. So that you know who the writer is I will tell you that I am Ex Det Con 371 Long and I served in the Essex Police for 25 years and was discharged on medical grounds on 31st December 1976.

In April, 1989, my wife and I went to visit Bert and Marion Atkinson at Yevacole, USA. They are my brother and sister-in-law. While staying with them we also went to Sylvania, California, and we met and stayed with Jack Woodards and his wife, for a few days.

So that this letter is not too long I will try and keep matters short for you and will give details of Bert Atkinson and Jack Woodards, and then this story will unfold.

On 28th March, 1946, Bert joined the Gloucester City Police and transferred to Essex County Constabulary in 1948. For a time Bert was stationed at Clacton-on-Sea where he was on the beat and then he went into Admin. He was only in Admin for a short time and was then posted to Harlow and took over from the late PC Bill in the Admin office. He remained in the Essex Police until 1975, when he and Marion left the area and went to the USA to start a new life. In fact the year 1953 will not be forgotten because in March 1953, I married Marion’s sister Janet and Bert and Marion left for the USA in the same year. For the first five years in the States, the police employment was hard to get, but they managed and it was during these years that Bert got a job in the SAA and was dealing with ‘stolen’ cars.

He then stayed with the company and was in Real Estate. He retired from the company and it was at this time that Bert was Branch Manager for Sotheby’s, very well for himself and also Marion gained employment as hairdresser/manicurist and they also ran a Travel Agent business.

Both are in very good health and ‘do not look their age’. Bert plays a lot of golf these days and in fact has a very nice house which backs onto the Golf Course - very nice.

Jack Woodards joined the Essex County Constabulary in March, 1955. No. Pe 965. At that time Romford and Collier Row. (At that time Romford was in Essex Police District). During the war Bert served in the Royal Air Force and when discharged he came back to Romford Division. In 1956. Jack was promoted to Sergeant No. 52 and was posted to Harlow. You will notice that this is when he met Bert and this is where the link comes in with this story. Jack rejoined from the Forces in March, 1953. Since being in America, Jack has been a carpenter and of course he has now retired and is aged 75. He has a son and he is a Sergeant in the California Highway Patrol at King City, California.

When Bert and Jack left the Essex Police there was a story in the local paper about them. Briefly the story was that Bert put his ‘ticket’ in and unknowingly to him, the very same day Jack put his ‘ticket’ in. When Bert spoke to Jack about it, Bert stated he was going to USA, California. To this Jack’s assistance Jack stated that he was doing the same thing. After further conversation they found that they were both going on the same boat on the same day. That really was an unbelievable coincidence. Naturally enough they have remained friends ever since.

While staying with Jack naturally enough a lot of talk in the “Tuesday Club” there was about “The Essex Police”. One group is at Romford Police Dance on 21st November 1997. Another is Jack Class on joining the force and the third other is of 4 classifications. Jack could not remember all the names of the classmate but he knew who they are and they were, Williams, G. Sutton, Ron Beeman, Don Morter, Ken Watson, Bill Simpson and George Holliday. He would be very interesting to know if a retired member could remember any more of the colleagues in the photographs. Should anyone inform you of this I will be only too glad to inform Jack and also if any one wants Jack and Bert’s address I will assist them in any way I can.

Yours faithfully,

WALLY LONG
Rent Allowance:

WITH just two months to go to the deadline of the 1st April 1990 we still do not know what the outcome of the many discussions and changes in Rent Allowance will be.

Since my last article in the December edition of "The Law", where I reported the then Home Secretary Douglas Hurd letter, further meetings were held and the matter was reached at the Police Negotiating Board with regard to the Arbitration agreement.

This agreement was then sent to the new Home Secretary and as far as I understand the Home Secretary decided to accept the Hurd letter that he agreed with and changed or threw out entirely those parts that he did not agree with. As a result of this decision all our members would be severely financially disadvantaged come the 1st April 1990.

On the 27th December 1989 I fully circumscribed a copy of the letter setting out the Home Secretary's intentions and the Home Secretary's proposed changes. Draft regulations have been prepared and sent to our National Negotiating Board for their comments by 26th January 1990.

These Draft Regulations have never been sent out from our National Offices at Surbiton. We have it on good authority that the letter of the 27th December 1989 nothing further has been received in writing from Surbiton with regard to the situation.

I did manage to obtain a copy of the letter in question, but as far as I am concerned this letter furnishes to me a history lesson.

Many of the areas are open to different interpretations.

On the 20th January 1990 I attended a Joint Branch Board meeting at our National Offices at Surbiton. Vee Nield our National Secretary gave a full explanation to that meeting setting out the current position regarding the Rent Allowance negotiations.

The Staff Side working group on Rent Allowance had responded to the Home Secretary's letter to the new Draft Regulations by the 26th January 1990. Their response was that the Regulations were totally unacceptable to them.

On the 17th January 1990 the Staff Side Secretary Vee Nield accompanied by the Chairman I. Anderson and our Parliametary Advisor met the Home Secretary at the Home Office. They had a long discussion putting the views of the Federation with regard to the Draft Regulations and also the problems that would arise for our members if these Regulations went ahead.

The Home Secretary listened to all the points raised and agreed to go away and reconsider the position. He will give his response to the Staff Side in the near future.

As soon as this response is received I will circulate it to all as to the way ahead.

Can I take this opportunity of thanking all Members and wives who took it on themselves to write direct to their respective H.Q.'s about the situation of Officers in Presenting Accommodation. These letters have added considerably to the pressure that have been sent on to the Home Office by the Joint Branch Board during the past few weeks.

We have had many positive responses in the Community with regard to the situation on Rent Allowance, but it is where possible to answer some of these that we do not know the answer.

To assist members further I have decided to do a series of articles based on the Rent Allowance Regulations. These articles will commence in next edition of 'The Law' and continue for the next four or five editions.

Legal Expenses Insurance

Car Leasing Scheme

In the last edition I reported that the matter would be discussed at the Police Negotiating Board on the 26th November 1989 where a decision was reached on the subject of the Joint Car Leasing scheme.

We have now completed the second year of the scheme and I am pleased to announce that last year has proved more successful than the first. More members have joined the membership now standing at over 5000 members. We also have a number of retired officers that are considering the scheme. Because of our good claims experience over the past year I am pleased to announce that there will be a 10% increase in the premium for the next 12 months. The new premium will continue to be £1.70 per month for members of the Police Negotiating Board and £1.90 per month for Police Officers who are not members of the Police Negotiating Board.
NOT ANOTHER CAUTION

It has finally filtered through (who said 'and about to hear') that the juvenile cautioning system is less than popular and does on occasions cause alarm and despondency.

If I could impose a little on your time perhaps a brief explanation is in order.

I am a probation officer for the Harlow Division of Essex Police, just long enough to really get to grips with the scheme. Before that I shared the view of many of you out there. I would scream and shout, gnash my teeth and sulk. "The *******CSB have cautioned another one!" Then I was offered the job of dealing with the decisions. Nowhere is a word and I hope that some common sense, I seriously considered sending a memo to the CPS saying "OK, WAKE UP AND BRACE YOURSELF. YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO WORK WITH THIS MODERN JUVENILE LIVING SYSTEM!"

Then a strange thing happened. Contrary to all known police practice I was given instruction about the job but actually took it. The instruction and information, coupled with my own research, has, much to my surprise, made me temper my views somewhat.


I have to tell you that I am now just convinced of the value of the cautioned system. I HAVE NOT BEEN BRAINWASHED! I felt that it deserved a bit more positive attention than we’ve allowed late.

Please consider just what the system sets out to achieve. I used to think it was political — good election propaganda to show that juvenile court appearances are down. Not so. There is in existence a Home Office White Paper; if so that it’s interest’s — ‘Youth Offenders’ 1991 — and that worthy document sets out the mechanics of the system. All available evidence suggests that the decisions which can be diverted from the criminal justice system at an early stage in their offending are less likely to re-offend than those who become involved.

In English that translates as only about 13% of first-time offenders are cautioned every year for more of those of first-timers who are questioned post-reoffence we can make statistics read any way we like to re-offend than those who show that only 13% are dealt with at all.

For example, the figures which you can quoted to back up your argument are the mechanics of the system.

To start with the offence and the offender has to be resident in the force area and is the registered person. In fact, you’d be surprised how many of you out there. I would scream and shout, gnash my teeth and sulk.

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The first caution in real terms is the Divisional var. It is for a first offender and is administered by the local Uniformed Divisional Commander. It is for the most effective and in the one that stops the 83% in their tracks.

If, however, the client likes the service we offer any comes back for more then we can offer him a CSB caution. This one is administered by a CSB officer (that took a lot of working out, didn’t it) and is usually the final effort. By now the wee person has probably enough points for qualitative for a summons. Except that in appropriate cases we can try just one more tack . . .

The desk-effort has different names around the County but in essence it’s the same and I shall, therefore, call it a ‘Supported Caution’. The wee customer is given a CSB caution in the usual way but then is required to undertake three sessions, each of two hours, with a counsellor from an organisation called Juvenile Justice Who? Quite. I’d never heard of them prior to this either, but the Standing Advisory Panel advises that it ‘offers a wide range of services to the suitability. We are one the same side and we’ll be pleased to help."

In the course of further research will be carried out, by officers from the FSU, which will be recorded in a bound book for display.

The following has answered your queries and settled the dust a bit, I’m then going to phone your local CSB office to confirm the situation. But now I’ve been glad we were with red cheeks! So deciding on case files. Just put a fair number before the figures which you can quoted to back up your argument are the mechanics of the system.

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Dear Sir,

As a serving officer and an ex-member of the Essex football team I was dismayed and extremely disappointed on Monday December 11, 1989, to find the entire Devon and Cornwall football team together with visiting supporters in the H.Q police bars with no apparent opposite numbers from the Essex police team who they had played that afternoon.

Only two Essex officers were present, Inspector Clarke and Bob Stem both of whom attempted to show the visiting side some form of hospitality.

Allowing for the extreme bad wiring of the sporting activities that have gone you all sat round exchanging stories, making friends, and making new contacts with your fellow police officers, as was certainly the case in my day.

Come on Essex football fans, it’s nice to be important but more important to be in control. Regardless of the result, win or lose, let’s make visitors feel welcome to our force.

Yours sincerely,

Dear Sir,

I read with interest the recent editions sports columns, that there was some difficulty experienced by the organizers in getting enough players to make up teams for the Force Badminton Matches in numerous matches.

Could I bring to your attention and perhaps you would pass on the information that there in Colchester, Chelmsford and Basildon Police Officers who actively participate in both indoor and outdoors bowling.

To assist a few, there is Cliff Barham, Jock Youngs, Peter Clarke and Denis Redgewell, Dave Passfield and also Brian Squirrel (who retires in a few weeks time).

I am sure if we had written to ‘fill a gap’ and of course, keep the flag flying for Essex Police.

Yours sincerely,

On Monday January 14, police standing in for striking traffic wardens were rushed to answer the 993 call when Mrs. Susan Ellington went into labour at her home in Orchard Road, Southend. On the way to the hospital the baby Kimberley decided to make an early entrance and her father was not present at the birth, police arranged for a short ambulance stop, where the baby was taken to a specialist unit in London. There is a report a name has been chosen for the little girl.

The police have been in touch with Mrs. Ellington’s parents to inform them of their daughter’s arrival. The baby’s condition is critical and is deteriorating rapidly.

On Tuesday 19 December 1989 Mathew Easton aged 9 years, along with members of London Transport (Essex) Buses, paid a visit to the Driving School. Mathew, who suffers from cancer of the spine was given a Christmas dinner in the H.Q. canteen before taken on to the skid pan followed by a tour of Headquarters.

In the photograph members of London Buses and Driving School staff (As you look at the photo Mathew and his father are dead centre, Inspector Slowe is on the left and Pc Booth is on the right). Mathew’s condition is critical and is deteriorating daily and his life expectancy is minimal.

A.R. Booth Pc 1300
THE lone petrol bomber carefully sizes up the human targets. His deadly missile, taper burning, hangs smouldering in his right hand.

As he slowly exs the his chance and his right arm arcs. The milk bottle, half filled with petrol, performs a lazy loop. As it bounces on the ground, in front of the advancing police cordon, there is a stunning roar which I can feel fully 30 feet away. Flames, seven feet high, lick devovingly up police shields and there is a subdued roar as the blazing lethal liquid slithers over the concrete.

The police advance is relentless. Without a hint of flinching the close knit group bursts through the flames.

One of the group, who is now safely clear of the hot heat, realises there are flames still clinging round a left boot and stamps to clear the last droplets of petrol. The flames die.

This is Public Order Training Day for Essex Police Force Support Unit.

The danger is many. There is no point in side stepping what could be experienced on the streets, we perhaps in this County, but as back to another front.

One of the sargeant instructors is doing a good job as the petrol bomber. An unerring aim, time and again, causes the high octane fuel to ignite directly in front of the PSU group, flinced out in their special equipment.

The flame proof overall, helmet and visor protect from the fiery hazards but it is a blood Relatives - order from Inspector Dave Westoby, deputy commander of the PSU.

Eight huge police horses, in their own riot gear, which includes visors, clatter dazed along.

The several tons of charging horses is an awe inspiring sight.

One of the 'rioters' tries to cow, but remains standing fast as the 45 horses move in. He is hit by one of the horses' hooves and bunted along.

The sight is a sobering one. The mighty animal easily could have knocked down a hand drenched man as if he were a cardboard cut out.

A running battle ends the last droplets of petrol. The flames die. There is a sub-ded roar as the blazing lethal liquid slithers over the concrete.

The PSU later team up in an impressive display with Essex Police Mounted Section and their Crowd Control counter parts.

The PSU horses, in their own riot gear, which includes visors, clatter dazed along.

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The Essex Police Mounted Section, Sgt Paul Hemmings onConquest, P.C. Luc Smith onConquest, P.C. Michael Caunce on Cavalier and W.Pc Caroline Dunn on Crusader show up well against their more hardened colleagues from the Met.

As with the PSU, the skills must be honed, just in case.

Photographs courtesy of the Evening Echo and Essex Chronicle

Never let it be said the Force Support Unit is not fit.

Just one second into the last of five exercises which PSU officers must pass to remain in the squad, I knew I was in trouble.

I was supposed to be doing stride jumps on and off a bench but I was having a distinct problem. I was experiencing enormous difficulty getting my feet off the shiny gym floor.

Where was the almost youthful dash I had showed in the early press-ups and burpees? In one little word, DONE.

It's easy watching others grunt, grimace and swear, so instead I joined the PSU doing its quarterly physical assessment tests, based on Marine exercises.

The airy Essex Police HQ gym was already filled with a bemedled looking bunch of lads and two svelte ladies playing a bustling, noisy game of what looked like a baseball derivative.

I tried to manage a confident smile as I was introduced to Insp Westoby.

We split into two, but my partner who had previously passed his assessment and would not be doing the test was assigned to me, primarily I believe, to instil confidence. This play was successful.

But I should have taken heed of his two repeated questions "are you fit enough to take part?"

Ebullient Rob Foster, the wide shouldered training instructor, certainly didn't have any intention of letting us have any extra seconds rest between the work it was.

First it was burpees for a minute. No sooner had they been completed the partner holding the legs would not be doing the tests (to make sure I don't slope off?)

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FBI's recovery. My 49-year-old body could do with three hours. My thighs are lifeless and my soles are blistered.

Behind the scenes - Fred Hammerton, formerly with the Evening Echo and now Essex Chronicle deputy news editor, looks at the sophisticated approach to modern policing within the Essex force.

He found specialist teams of officers well trained and dedicated.

ON THE sandy bank three intent individuals play out and occasionally tag lengths of floating line, slightly thicker than the average clothes line.

One of the three, Sgt Nigel Dormont becomes slightly more intense. "We are up to the orange 75 metre long line, marked off by tape in three metre lengths so on the move again. He answers his own question. "It's clearing some water."

This is training day for Essex Police Diving Unit. The mid Essex stretch of murky, weed strewn water is typical of the search conditions divers usually experience when they are operational.

The 45 minute underwater stint for each man is an integral part of their work. Like aquatic sniffer dogs they rummage among the jetsom.

All have learned the meaning of the 30 different tags on the line which the attendant on the bank may use.

Light relief is provided when one of the divers suddenly produces a pair of men's swimming trunks on his head. There are some raucous remarks and then it's back to the murky depths.

Sgt Dormont will put "no problems" on his report sheet. But it's training like this which keeps the unit, which is recognised as one of the most professional in the country, up to its high standard.

As well as looking after Essex the divers are available to...
THE LASHED RAIDER, grappled with two heavily armed men, faced the shooter's gloomy lighting.

His movement so swift there is no time for the "armed police" warning.

As the trooper spins deadly round with the shotgun, Police have returned fire.

The raider slips to the floor, quickly bleeding. He is wounded.

Inside the flat, the body lies motionless. Some have turned white. Ten is the sharp end of training at Essex Police Tactical Firearms Group. Dusk's knowledge only blankly in the room. They ramped South East Essex mansion has been a good training choice by TFG.

The eight strong men are dispersed. The quarters of possibly two heavily armed men have been spotted in the vicinity of the house following a robbery.

Now it is their job to warn them out.

None of the group know the layout of the house. The police support van used is too low, too wide-gap training on horse mounted as an extra behind shielded, bullet proofed shields is made in the front of the entrance.

From the start there is paramount importance placed on safety and making mistakes.

A deep voice barks out: "We don't want any gory. This can all end nice and peaceful."

TFG men, including one of the six instructors are on assignments.

The dialogue continues. "Make it simple—make it easy, we're going to find the raider and kill him."

But it's a stinky one. At one point there is a chance that contact has been made. It is a false alarm.

Safety

The necessary porter continues. "We're told you are in place and surrounding. You've been seen coming in. We know who we are, you know who we are."

As the search of the lower floor is completed, while the police know the TFG east their way up the stairs.

Special doubts on various lengths, of thick have been helping them to look round corners.

At various stages of the search, multiple shots fired. They are to send down.

The debriefing, at which point can be used without malice, the instructors ask why the magic man has been made. They are never to be seen again. The box is opened.

The task is brought its results. A masked robber himself has been found and led away.

Heavily confident, he instinctively answers the question that he is apparently surrendering.

Repeated warning are given to stop short. With the hands up and to keep looking.

With one robber out of the way the host continues.

There is no warning that the second man is going to open fire. He starts away with his shotgun from the landing window.

STAYING FIT!

As simple jumps onto the couch.

The main is for without jealousy. There's literally crying out the legs and I entity elsewhere whether I be able to complete one. Only way I can get is in a pathetic flat, and stop. The usually uncontrolled pin won't answer the trying messages from the living creature.

My partner suggests I new and he already does that means give up my own fat. With seconds remaining I submit, but even regret it and I might have managed one or two more.

What is firing, is hearing fees still rattle away behind me on the breeches. I absolutely didn't look back. Some do that.

Shaving and sweaty strained faces mirror the exercises.

During the interlude, sip a cup of tea in the corner. I learn I have just passed with 55.4 per cent which I come from the top of the form is "satisfactory".

My repaired rubs of pain as individuals matter the holds.

I am to shattered I house have difficulty handing this story out on the campsite.

Pleasing distinctly wobbling I decide to watch the self defence. This is based on the Aikido, a Japanese art focused by Essex Police for recruitment.

Bob Foster and his long-suffering "patient" Simon Hasford, Essex Police Physical Training Instructor demonstrate the various holds.

There are genuine shouts of pain as individuals matter the holds.

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For clues

The sharp end of firearms training

TOP: Briefing for the Mounted Sections of Essex and City.

LEFT: Spared your hands out. The TFG disarm a suspect.

Below: "Don't shoot gun, I'm giving up" but is he? The TFG men keep weapons trained on the robber with gun in his belt.

Safety — the watchword

The action is so fast that armed police shout doesn't get past the latter. It's hit go, ignore what if lead inside the room house is followed by the police response. The raider goes down in the drawer.

It's a new imperative that the victim is made to hospital, but to reach him will put police officer's lives at danger.

The landing is an open target should anyone else be about.

Wounded

The TFG instructor manages to get the serious wounded raider a free gun to throw himself towards the doorholders and as he land ing is contained the training robber is pulled out of sight into a side room.

Part of the TFG equipment is a stretcher which, when deflated hold the patient in a comfortable clamp.

The original use was in mountain rescue. After you plug its close to form you can chuck for the comfort, comfortable manner it would give to a wounded person.

It appears the police officer who shot the raider asked why he pulled the trigger.

His response is quick. "Because there was life in immediate danger." That reply is what the instructions want to hear. But the police are also to warn that any of the police officer will open fire.

It's only when lives are in danger that a TFG officer will open fire.

After his morning break
THE LAW, FEBRUARY, 1990

ESSEX POLICE DOG TRIALS

The annual force Dog Trials took place on 3,4,5 October 1989, and as in other years we had visiting judges to make sure we didn’t cheat! Cons­table Barry Burrell from Suffolk came at short notice to judge the ‘hard surface’ track at Wethersfield. Inspector Beecham came over from Hampshire to judge the obedience and criminal work at Police Headquarters. Sergeant Kerr from Hertfordshire judged the long tracks at Horndon-on-the-Hill and PC Brian Marks from Kent judged the searching at Prested Hall, Kelvedon.

To cut a long story short, Colin Ball with Strachan won the trial with an ‘Excellent’ qualification, so well done ‘Frances’ (that’s Colin’s wife), she kindly donated the dog to the force a little while back. We swear blind she trained him anyway.

Coming second was Peter Hewitt with ‘Toby’ also with an ‘Excellent’ qualification, a terrific result here­ bringing in mind Colin had his wife to help him! Well done Peter.

Third was Tony Ames with ‘Dukie’ with a ‘Good’ qualification. Tony usually gets in the top three or four every year, a very good result with his first dog. Fourth was Pat Kenby with ‘Kika’, a dog which was re­allocated to him when he returned to us to take over the Southend unit. A difficult task but a great trial result.

Usually our ‘Trials Week’ is blessed with the worst weather of the year, of course this year was perfect and everything ran smoothly.

On the last day a dinner was held at police head­quarters attended by Mr Conlan (ACCA) and his wife, C/Supt Rogers and Superintendent Taplin. Apart from the winning ‘Kate’ cup going to PC Ball other prizes went to: Murray Shield Best Obedience — PC Hewitt Paddy Shield Best Criminal Work — PC Ball Sergeant’s Shield Best Tracking — PC Kirby Jeff Lawrence Shield Best Searching — PC Ball Novice Trophy — PC Ball Sandon Trophy — (Darwin with highest marks) — Col­ deners

Circomer Memorial Trophy (Handle with highest marks at regional trials) — PC Howard (Col­ dchester)

Eduard Trophy (handler who has consistently produced good police and dog work throughout the year) — PC Smith (Birchwood)

The trials are carried out in a Home Office schedule every year to find the top three­dags and handlers to rep­ resent the Force in the Regional trials. Representing Essex this year will be PC Colin Ball and Strachan, PC Peter Hewitt and Toby and PC Tony Ames and Dukie (Mrs Frances Ball (Honorary coach to Colin).

If there’s one thing about — it was claim­ ing on a contents insur­ ance policy — what do you tell them? For all these years, they just say, as “the loss adjuster”.

When you make a substantial claim on your policy, this is the man the company hires to see to it.

When the Good Lord above decided it was time to raise the water level in my area, it was a glad that the remembers he had just re­ viewed his insurance policy, updating the cover and deducting that all the risky items were specially covered. With happy heart and a merry tune, I promptly rang the insurers who told me a helpful man would call shortly to look at the dam­ age.

They were very wrong, it was a loss adjuster that called. He was quite good, very quickly, that man’s sense of humor was not to help me, but to reduce my claim by as much as he could.

These people are trained professionals, independent from the insurance company, who will look to see just how little they can recommend the company to pay. The one that visited me was an abrupt individual with eyes like a snake — he didn’t miss a trick. Thankfully, I was fully covered and I stood my ground when he suggested that carpets should be cleaned and not replaced. While I walked around the damaged areas with the adjuster, I was putting together plans on dealing with their little ways. Here then in the Anthony Warren guide to dealing with the loss­ adjuster.

1. Remember why he’s there, and whose interests he is looking out for!

2. Stand your ground as you are in the right.

3. Be polite but firm.

4. Be careful what you say, you will not miss a trick, as he will use it against you.

5. Carefully note everything he says.

6. As a matter of habit, he will suggest you are under­ insured and that your claim should be reduced accord­ingly. Take no notice, they all say it, just tell him you are fully insured ... (if you are, that is!).

And here are some rules about claiming:

1. Take photographs of the damage if possible.

2. Keep all damaged items.

3. Never submit a claim form without some support­ ing documents, quotes or bills.

4. Keep a strict record of the progress of your claim, together with copies of all documents and notes of any discussions and conversa­tions.

MATTERS

by Tony Warren

LETTERS

Worse off

Dear Sir,

It is finally happened ... with the introduction of the new Housing Allowance in April 1990, the powers that be have succeeded in financially crippling a great many ordinary people, even those who had been ‘red circled’.

Take my own case for example, I would expect the Government to match my gross rent allowance, currently £30.00 per month. And the new allowance is to be part of taxable pay, I can eas­ily lose approximately £90 per month. This deduction will not be re­ turned by way of the Com­ pensatory Grant which is being phased out. I can therefore expect to be about £1,000 per year worse off. Forget the contribution to the pension fund. We need the money in our wallets.

My thanks to all concerned. Perhaps they will understand my family way a dilemma in their standard of liv­ ing only working now because I’m sure I don’t have the heart!

Yours sincerely,

P. J. Clatfield.

Castle Hedingham

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY AWARDS

ROYAL ALBERT HALL, 7.30pm, Saturday, 10th March, 1990

Traffic Warden Robert Malseed

SUPERINTENDENT

D. RULTEY

TRAFFIC WARDEN

BRIAN NURSE

At Colchester Magistrates Court on 10 October 1989, Traffic Wardens Robert Malseed and Brian Nurse were presented with a Royal Humane Society Commendation Certificate for successfully reviving a pedestrian who had stopped breathing as a result of being struck by a car. As a result of their efforts the pedestrian has made a full recovery.

Can you help?

Amongst the many activities planned throughout the year, we have been invited to provide a substantial contribution to the bi­annual Colchester Mardigras Tattoo. This major event is accepted as one of the most startling and colour­ful spectacles in Britain and contains the largest marching of mili­ tary, pipes and other bands assembled for public display.

Part of our contribution will be a light­hearted view of some of the more memorable years of Essex Police History. This will include moving pages, representing the transition developments in technology, vehicles and manpower deployment, from the end of the Great War, to present times and into the 1990s.

Central to the pageant will be the changing styles of uniform worn by Essex Officers, during the past seventy years. To develop this, the Roads Committee require examples of past uniform badges and other accessories. We are looking for women of the Essex Force at St Albans and the Southend­on­Sea Constabulary to assist with thealamination in April.

Thank you

Please forward your contribution to Chief Ins­ pector Jim Nokes at Headquarters CSB (ext 2783) and don’t forget to ensure that anything donated back after the Tattoo, is clearly marked with your name and address or current sta­ tion.

Flavie Ferrin, ex Ps, Dog Unit Harlow.

STOP PRESS

The Bank is back from 1st February 1990

The Co­op Bank will be at F.H.Q. (in the Link passage) 11.30am – 2.30pm every Monday and Thursday, offering a full range of banking services to their own customers and those of any other bank.

Obituaries

November 26, ex Inspector J. L. Durkin, aged 80 years, who retired from the Force June 1958.

December 3, ex Inspector W. T. Cook, aged 87 years, who retired from the Force July 1977.

December 12, ex Ps A. A. Hill, aged 70 years, who retired from the Force January 1974.

December 26, ex Ps L. H. Finch, aged 85 years, who retired from the Force July 1957.

December 28, ex Ps F. Breenoff, aged 75 years, who retired from the Force September 1967.

December 31, ex Ps R. G. Collinson, aged 81 years, who retired from the Force in 1960.

January 2, ex Ps B. F. Howard, aged 72 years, who retired from the Force Feb­ ruary 1964.

Ticket prices:

Stalls, £15, 2nd Tier Boxes £60 (£5 seats), Grand Tier Boxes £175 (10 seats), Balcony £5, Balcony £6.50.

Tickets may be secured from: H.R. Promotions, 4 Victoria Terrace, Nantlle, Gwynedd LL54 6BP. Tel: 029 6881 777 (Mrs I. Roberts)

Proceeds in aid of special equipment at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children.

SECOND FESTIVAL OF POLICE MALE VOICE CHOIRS

ROYAL ALBERT HALL,
7.30pm, Saturday, 10th March, 1990.

TRAFFIC WARREN

BRIAN NURSE

AT COLCHESTER MAGISTRATES COURT ON 10 OCTOBER 1989, TRAFFIC WARONS ROBERT MALSEED AND BRIAN NURSE WERE PRESENTED WITH A ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY COMENDATION CERTIFICATE FOR SUCCESSFULLY REVIVING A PEDESTRIAN WHO HAD STOPPED BREATHING AS A RESULT OF BEING STRUCK BY A CAR. AS A RESULT OF THEIR EFFORTS THE PEDESTRIAN HAS MADE A FULL RECOVERY.
Constable Britnell presenting a £1,000 cheque to Dr John Eaton of Medics, the Harlow Division charity for 1989.

WPC Jackie Edwards delivery of toys and tins to Essex Radio's Gavin Britnell for the elderly on Monday evening last Monday.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year. Yours sincerely,
CHRIS BIRD
Branch Chairman

FORCE EFFORTS REWARDED

HEALTH, INDEPENDENCE, DIGNITY, CARE, SECURITY, HAPPINESS are just some of the things that go towards ensuring a good QUALITY OF LIFE, the greater majority of us enjoy. Resulting from the Fun Day activities of the Force during 1989, a total of £25,422.79 was donated to Charities, as shown below.

Space prevents the reproduction of all cheque presentation photographs and letters of appreciation but shown is a selection of these including photographs of the 10 Guide Dogs provided as a result of the fundraising efforts of the Force.

A great Surprise Christmas Present for 10 blind people, all of whom have benefited at some time or another, both directly and indirectly, from the services of the Guide Dogs. Two of the first dogs, unable to work due to disease or old age, were returned to the kennels with all 10 Guide Dogs now in work.

The message received from all the benefitting charities with regard to the various donations are many and varied but in essence come down to two small words which mean so much - THANK YOU for helping to improve the QUALITY OF LIFE.

These THANKS together with those of all Fun-Day Committee Members, are passed on to all Force personnel who assisted in the Fun-Day activities in any way whatsoever.

The Asthma Society
£1,000.00

Royal North Hampshire Hospital
£1,000.00

The Academy
£1,000.00

Middlesex Hospital for Children
£1,000.00

The Royal Marsden Hospital
£1,000.00

Rochford Hospital
£1,000.00

The Benevolent Fund
£1,000.00

British Heart Foundation
£1,000.00

The Rotherham Hospital
£1,000.00

St John's Hospital
£1,000.00

Debra - Dysstrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association
£1,000.00

The Asthma Society
£1,000.00

Southend Hospital
£1,000.00

The British Cystic Fibrosis Trust
£1,000.00

North East Essex Doctors Emergency Service
£1,000.00

The Essex Hospital
£1,000.00

Mid Essex Doctors
£1,000.00

Wishing you a happy New Year and to the people of Essex we say thank you.
ANOTHER Christmas has passed and a New Year begun. It has been a busy year for the Society it has looked back on with pride.

As this column is being read 'Eliza Doolittle' will have completed her elocution lessons and checked that the teapot is to do' at Ascot, thus ending the week's work. The Smoke and Mirrors Production, a report of which will hopefully be found in the next edition of this publication.

In June, a show for charity fund raising will consist of songs from past productions and will be a time for renewing old acquaintances and friendships with folk connected with the musical society attending a special performance in the final evening (more details later).

In July/August we have been asked to make a contribution to the 150 years celebrations of the Essex Police by taking part in the pageant to be staged at the Colchester Tattoo, for which we may need to call upon others to increase our numbers.

Whilst preparations for all these events are going on, the society is still waiting to respond to requests for concerts in the area, these are comprised of chorus numbers, solo's and chorus items taken from previous shows and concerts.

Anyone wishing to arrange entertainment for a function should contact the Secretary or any member of the committee.

AUSTRIA, AMERICA, British West Indies, Canada, Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Zanzibar.

These are some of the events which members have invited to perform at in the future. As this is a short time frame, a shrewdly looking to double its strength on a number of dates on April and Towns sections. Come along to Towns evening at the Training School for hints on how to raise your profile - and apply now for your passport.

The Choir opened its performing season in a masterly way at Boreham in England, in September by receiving - even the choirmaster's support.

So pleased in fact that he permitted another performance in Tiptree (also England) two weeks later.

The ice is now broken - no bricks or rotten fruit was thrown, as it is now the custom to do with the rest of you singers to come out of hiding and show their true colours!

The Choir is contracted to perform in France, Italy, Canada, France, British West Indies, Zambia.

To go on and apply now for your passport.

*COVENTRY* 

For details contact Miss H G Hunter, Secretary, 13 Scarbrook Road, Boreham, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 6EE.

ON 1st January this year Mr Peter Cook took over as Chief Administrative Officer at Force HQ. He is a fellow of the British Institute of Management (FBI) and a graduate of the Dartbury Park Management Centre with a Diploma in Management Studies (DMS).

Mr Cook, who is now responsible for the 136 civilians who staff the finance, property, supplies, statistics, firearms licensing, catering, general services departments and the central ticket office, came to the Force as the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer in April 1984. Before that, he had enjoyed a successful 30-year-long career with the Co-op in administration and accountancy, during which time he gained a Diploma in Secretarialship at Co-Operative College, Loughborough.

He sees himself in a general management role, "co-ordinating staff and material resources in support of the Force Operational goals." He does how- ever have some goals of his own, for his departments. "Pride in your work" is one of them. As he puts it "I don't walk past poor quality" however much time may be taken in the Improvement. Civilian staff he says should be proud of the role they play, and the service they support. And he hopes that this pride can be used to help the civilian support roles throughout the County in a major recruitment drive.

Born in Malta, and brought up in Sussex, Peter lives in Springfield with his family. He has a wide range of interests including music (he was a student at the Royal Marine School of Music), sport, and GY.

The Choir is contracted to perform in France, Italy, Canada, France, British West Indies, Zambia.

To go on and apply now for your passport.

*COVENTRY* 

For details contact Miss H G Hunter, Secretary, 13 Scarbrook Road, Boreham, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 6EE.

ANDREW 

I have been approached by Mr. S. Boardman of Gordon Oakley to invite the Choir to perform in the United States of America for the 1990 season. We hope to meet our friends of that country in the near future.

Tuesday, March 27

An informal AGM 6pm Police HQ.

Barn Dance at Rayleigh Village Hall

Saturday, May 19

Another visit to New Hall Vineyards for a "Champagne Toast", this time by coach from HQ.

Sunday, November 14

Another visit to New Hall Vineyards for a "Champagne Toast", this time by coach from HQ.

S. E. BRANCH

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MARATHON RUNNING IN 1990

To some it may seem strange that anyone could enjoy running 26.2 miles, but I don’t have to. There is something about a marathon that captures the imagination and compels one to complete the distance in order to fulfill a dream.

To those who do a bit of trying to keep fit or just to lose weight, you would recommend that they seriously consider taking part and overcoming this ultimate event. It is surely the one event where every finisher is a winner and proud of it, whether you’ve just broken the three-hour, four-hour or just the five-hour barrier. You never feel worse against another runner, it’s just you, you and time. I瓷砖 home after finishing another marathon and my kids still believe I have just won the race because I’ve got a medal, and in a way they are correct. Every time I cross that finishing line I feel as if I have won.

It may take one of the big marathons in London to get you going but I am here to tell you that there are over forty marathons throughout the year around the country and some of these are the best.

For those looking for a real challenge there are three cross-country marathons, which take place on the South Downs in Sussex. Early in the year is the Chichester Marathon on 12.3.90 just outside Sinking.

The route isn’t that much fuller description is supplied and only a small section of the 26-mile route is on the roads. The next cross-country marathon is the Rottingdean Windmill, just outside Brighton on 8.7.90. A very demanding course but there is no better way to see our countryside. The Seven Sisters Marathon on 23.10.90 is the really big race with over 1,500 competitors, I have been rejected more times for this race than I have for London. It takes place in the Seven Sisters National Park and finishes at Beachy Head. This race is highly recommended.

For those not wishing to travel for here are some of the local marathons:

11.3.90 Suffolk and Essex Border Run, Sudbury, 8.3.90 - Bungy Black Dog, Suffolk. (Two-lap fast course, modern medal).

11.4.90 - Isle of Thanet, Margate, Kent. (Highly recommended), one lap, half-string across from Pegwell Bay to Margate.

2.5.90 - Poole Marathon, Poole, Dorset. (Excellent course, especially the last part through Sandbanks and around Poole Pottery park to every finish line.)

8.5.90 - Midland Marathon, Sutton Coldfield, half-marathon, half-ups and half-downs, recommended. Various other local marathons throughout the year.

15.5.90 - Luton Inter-Car Club Marathon (New event being organised by the world record holder for the most competitive marathons run in one year (172) (Rain). Medal promises to be a well-organised event and another highly recommended.)

19.5.90 - Hollow Marathon, Essex. (If you can’t make the Seven Sisters Marathon there is a good alternative. Flat parks, hills covered by the cycle track, field medal).

26.5.90 - Harrow Marathon, Middlesex. (Two-lap course around Harrow parks. Huge field around first lap for the half-marathon race which isn’t distorted on the second lap. Excellent medal, highly recommended.)

6.6.90 - St Albans Marathon, Hertfordshire. (Unrising countryside. Last race of the year near a big field, good medal.)

13.6.90 - Reading Marathon and here are a few more that we recommend. If you wish to travel a bit further: 4.7.90 - Exeter Great Pile marathon, (The amended date has finally been confirmed and anyone wishing to represent the force should confirm as much as possible on 23.6.90)

30.8.90 - Birmingham Marathon. (Latest field after London but now organisations this year.)

If I have encouraged anyone to think this London Marathon I have achieved my goal. For those wishing to lose weight a word of warning — after 57 years I still haven’t lost an ounce and remain one stone overweight.

For more details of any races, whether they are 10k, half-marathons, half-marathons or even walks, please telephone to contact me at Southend.

David Starr Ps 2081.
FIRST TEAM FIGHT BACK
But Reserves crash to defeat

COMMITMENT is an important attribute to have in any club, hand in hand with enthusiasm and ability it can make the difference between a side threatened with relegation to one with real hopes of winning a championship.

Looking around the club since last we spoke through this column it has been a pleasure at times to see all three qualities displayed in people, namely Andy Spinks and Sue Bishop, who both put so much time and effort into the organisation which keeps the club ticking over.

Sure they get their disappointments when players and people associated with the club fail to respond and give them their support but both Andy and Sue always bounce back with a new idea and renew their efforts to make the club stronger both on and off the field.

You may say what happens off the field does not affect the playing staff but I would strongly disagree and say that a good ‘behind the scenes’ team can lift a club and make it successful.

What has surprised me this season has been the lack of support the club has received from former players; it can’t be right that the first team manager ends up carrying the bucket, sorting out the kit and more often than not running the line. Even small things like buying and cutting up the programme per week without seeming to ever be asked.

I could add 101 other things that Stewart is left to do and I can’t help but feel sad that all of the faces that stood out from former team photographs in the clubhouse some time has come forward and offered to help.

The first team have turned things round and are having a good second half from kicking players to ticking the ball and have been the pick of the defenders for the past two weeks.

It’s certainly a lot tighter at the back now and Haines has been the player to benefit. Haines has slotted in. I can’t fault his approach but both good players who deserve praise among the others.

Playing with and against Boz on the field Shaun Frost has taken time off from his studies to show what he can do.

On the 25th October a similar result saw Police officers sell off for Amphil Park, Brentwood, for the first South East PAA Cross Country League, the season. The demanding, and challenging course, including the notorious ‘beast hill’ attracted a large field of 93 men and 50 women.

At the start Roy Kebbell led the Essex charge but on the first leg he was soon overtaken by Brian Moore, Barry Ansell, Len Perrott, and Roy Kebbell. The treble back then took them to the end of the race. Len Perrott took it all and now stood strong and gradually moved up the field to take his second Essex win of the year as he welcomed back Tony Dale.

How the mighty have fallen. The reserves, top of the league and looking comfortable, have had a disastrous month, losing important games to sides both at the top and bottom of their league.

On the field Sharon Frost has taken time off from her head son, The Thumb.