New dimension in fight against crime

HELIICOPTER TRIAL GETS LIFT OFF

By Steve Gravenor

ESSEX Police's new helicopter trial should lift off at the beginning of July, senior officers have confirmed.

A hand-picked team of an inspector, a sergeant and four constables are ready and waiting to bring a new dimension to the fight against crime in Essex.

Insp Mike Walker, who joined the Air Support Unit from Harlow on April 2, said final negotiations were being carried out to find a suitable operational base for the force helicopter.

He expects an announcement to be made in the very near future.

The closing date for tenders from companies wanting to supply a twin-engined helicopter complete with pilots, maintenance, fuel and insurance, was at the beginning of this month and are currently being studied by force bosses.

However, the helicopter most likely to be chosen is expected to be either a Aerialspatual Twin Squirrel, as used by the Metropolitan Police, or a Bell 407, which is used by Sussex Police.

Mr Walker said he was looking forward to getting the new unit operational.

"It will be used as an aircraft which will supplement ground operations."

"We will do all we can to help the officers on the ground in any incident where we can be of use," he said.

"The helicopter will be particularly useful in following suspect vehicles, locating acid house parties and quick-response to major incidents."

AN AERIALSPACE TWIN SQUIRREL HELICOPTER.

Marathon Kate’s big break

PLUCKY WP: Kate set the pace for the first Marathon — but it was two days later before she learnt she had completed the course with a BROKEN LEG.

The 26-year-old officer, stationed at Leigh-on-Sea, completed last month’s London Marathon in 4 hours 20 minutes to raise more than £600 for the mental health charity MIND.

Kate had to cut her visit to her two-year-old son, Tony, a skipper at Graves.

"I thought it was just a pulled muscle, but I was in two minds whether to run," she said.

She went ahead and completed the 26-mile race, and when the pain got worse after the event, she went to hospital two days later for an X-Ray.

"I couldn’t believe it when the doctors said I had broken my right fibula," she said. "It’s ridiculous, I thought it was just a strain."

Now Kate is hoping for a lucky break — to get her plaster off in time to go on a planned holiday to France.

Crimestoppers van takes to the road

A CRIMESTOPPERS van has hit the streets of Essex to keep the successful scheme in the public eye.

On Monday, 14th May Essex Police took possession of the Ford Transit van that passed the Force ahead of others throughout the country.

The white van is on a permanent loan as the first special vehicle for the Force Crimestoppers Scheme.

Essex based Ford Motor Company is impressed by the Essex Police Crimestoppers Scheme which, in one of the few in the country to be totally financed and run on a local basis rather than as part of the Community Action Trust Crimestoppers Project.

After talks with Crimestoppers Co-ordinator, Chief Inspector David Bright, Ford agreed to provide the Transit, which is branded with the Essex Crimestoppers logo, and carries the special dedicated Crimestoppers telephone number 22222.

Chief Inspector Bright said, "This great gesture from Ford is typical of the kind of support we have enjoyed throughout the county.

Crimestoppers has captured the imagination of local councils, businesses and various other organizations who have offered their support readily with funding and other help and the scheme has attracted considerable public support also."

He added, "Since the Essex Police Crimestoppers Scheme was officially launched in July 1988, 77 people to date have been arrested and charged with a wide variety of offences and a considerable amount of criminal intelligence has also been received."

It is believed that the Ford Transit will help even further to boost the Crimestoppers image across Essex because it will be evident at all police events and at major incidents as a mobile advertisement of the programme. The success of Crimestoppers depends upon the concept maintaining a high public profile and as such the vehicle will be in daily use on the roads throughout the county.

Photographed receiving the keys to the new vehicle on behalf of Essex Police is Assistant Chief Constable, Mr Terry Ranso, from Mr Geoff King, of Ford Motor Company.
Rent Allowance

In the last edition of the ‘Law’ I gave you all a preview of the present position with regard to the Rent Allowance. I am still firm on the time of going to press that there is no further news on this front nationally. We are still waiting for the date for the debate on the Regulations in the House of Commons. Likewise there is no further update with regard to the Judicial Review.

With regard to the implementation of the new Regulations, there has been no apparent problem in Essex. Agreement was reached at an early stage, with Finance and County Treasurers, the only delay being the length of time it has taken for the calculation of the new Force Housing Allowance.

This has been due to the complex way that the Regulations were set out by the Home Office for the calculation of the amount through no fault of our own. We have worked hard to get the maximum figure, which we achieved for the May pay day.

The new Force Housing Allowance will be £42.10 per month.

When calculations are done this will be backdated to the 1st April 1990.

Transitional Compensatory Grant

I am still getting questions in the Federation office with regard to the above. Suffice it to say as per the given example in the last edition of ‘The Law’, if you were with us before the 31st March 1990 you will continue to receive each year a Transitional Compensatory Grant.

This will be paid until such time as the new Force Housing Allowance is greater than the combination of the Red Cored Rent Allowance and National Compensation Grant.

Other Anomalies

If you need clarification on any other point of the new Regulations, give me a ring on extension 2797 at Headquarters and I will endeavour to answer it for you.

As reported in the last edition some of the agreements regarding the anomalies are only verbal and I am still waiting for written agreement from the Police Negotiating Board.

Provided Housing

As reported in the last edition your Joint Branch Board intends to look at easing the plight of officers in provided accommodation, by direct negotiations with the Police Authority.

However we are unable to proceed on this tack until the decision in Parliament and the Courts has been made.

However, I am aware from discussions with the office that several members are already experiencing trouble in meeting their additional financial burden.

If this is the case you please give me the details in writing with regard to the difference between what you have been receiving and what you are currently being paid.

Car leasing Scheme

Most of you will by now be aware that agreement was reached between the two bodies at the Police Negotiating Board on the above matter.

We are now waiting for the telephone in a Regulation which will then permit the Police Forces to run their own Fleet Leasing Scheme alongside existing Casual andEssential User Allowances.

We have already had talks with the Superintendents Association and ACPO. As a result a meeting was held with the Treasurers Department at County Hall where agreement was reached on a scheme for Essex Officers.

Basically the scheme will be very similar to the Essex County Council Rent Force Housing Allowance Scheme with only officers receiving Casual or Essential User Allowance being eligible. Full details will be published shortly in a Force Order.

However Officers requiring any information should contact the respective Staff Association Secretary namely Brian Pallant for the Federation, and Chief Superintendents Bill Piers for the Superintendents Association.

It is envisaged that the scheme can start so as the Regulation is approved by Parliament.

Members Services

Doug Ramping still has a scheme on the go for the force in the Federation Office with the 150th Anniversary memorabilia deal of which we are enclosed.

Loans

TSB Direct have negotiated a deal nationally with regard to cheap loans nationwide. This is similar to the previous deals negotiated with the Co-op Bank and the Halifax.

Full details and application forms for those interested and the others are available from the Federation Office at Headquarters.

The decision on who you chose at the end of the day is the Members.

Cheaper Holidays are still available with Tjornberg-wacht Federation Noticeboards for last minute deals.

Coming Soon on Iris. Full Federation updates on matters of importance to you the Members.

It is hoped that in the near future the Federation will have a facility to dial into this system to view the Television Teletext network up to date the member on matters of importance to you.

Your local Joint Branch Board is now sponsoring the following matters for this year’s Joint Conference:-

- Regulations 60 to Car Mileage Allowances
- Disclosure of Joint Central Committee Policy on terms for conference.
- This is to enable your Joint Branch Board to get a view of the Central Committee to the actual Conference.
- Employment of Part Time Police Officers.

Your Branch Board has amended this motion from Thames Valley to include Job Sharing, and only relating to the employment of Part Time Police Officers on a Part Time basis.


Federation Open Meeting — 1990

The Federation Open Meeting will once again be held at the Marconi Athletic and Social Club, Beehive Lane, Chelmsford at 6.45pm on Monday, 9th July, 1990. Please note this year the meeting is two weeks later than usual.

Full details will be published shortly on Federation Noticeboards. Please indicate at an early stage if you will be attending to assist catering etc.

MADE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARIES NOW.

Federation News...Federation News...Federation News...

Police Pensions Scheme Part 2

In this edition I shall be discussing the changes in the Police Pensions and the Irregular Allowances. No longer will they be paid monthly, but on a quarterly basis at the end of each quarter. This change, much needed, will enable the Treasury to more closely control the amount paid to each pensioner.

In the last edition of the Federation News, I explained the new system of Police Pensions and how the new system worked. In this edition, I shall be discussing the changes in the Police Pensions and the Irregular Allowances. No longer will they be paid monthly, but on a quarterly basis at the end of each quarter. This change, much needed, will enable the Treasury to more closely control the amount paid to each pensioner.

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Chiefs tuck in at celebration dinner

FRENCH soup, French wine, and Vintage Chief Constables helped to make the meetings of the Essex Police Dining Club on 27th April a very special one.

To celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Force, the Club invited two former Chief Constables, Sir John Nightingale (1963-1978), left, and Mr. Robert Banyard (1978-1987), right, to join the present Chief Constable Mr. John Burrow as principal guests for the occasion. In all 120 members and guests attended.

150th Anniversary Memorabilia — from the federation.


Mag: Tankard style coffee mug in cream colour with Essex Police Dining Club logo incorporating Essex Police badge. Red white and blue diagonal stripe above and Essex Police badge.

Cupro nickel salver 1990. Complete with presentation box.


 Mellotin approx £4: £3.50m Cupro Nickel medallion in presentation case. Front of medallion featuring Essex Police crest and Essex Police Dining Club logo.

To: J.B.B. SECRETARY, Federation Office, Headquarters.

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING

NECK TIE COFFEE MUG TIE TACK MEDALLION SALVER CRYSTAL GOBLET PLAQUE

NAME: (Please tick where appropriate)

STATION:...
Civilian commended for murder probe work

A CIVILIAN employee has received a commendation from the Chief Constable for the first time.

Alison Midmer, from HQ management and technical services, was a member of the team investigating the murder of teenager Jason Swift, Alton, 22, collated thousands of inquiries for two and a half years of the investigation, which lasted four years.

A total of 15 officers were commended in conjunction with the inquiry, which resulted in the conviction of four men last year.

Chief Constable Mr John Burrow presented certificates to Detective Chief Inspector Donald Cass (Grays); Chief Inspector David Bright (crime prevention); Detective Sergeant Terence Cook (HQ CID); Detective Sergeant Andrew Down (Southend); Detective Constable David Bates (HQ CID); Sergeant David Murray (Basildon); Detective Constable Kenneth Foster (Chelmsford) and Police Constable Mark Pickett (Chelmsford). Also commended in connection with the Jason Swift inquiry, but unable to attend, were Detective Inspector Colin Seal (Basildon); Detective Sergeant Peter Clare (HQ); Detective Constables Albert Garner (Basildon); Neal Evans (Stanssted); Geoffrey Benton and Ernest Carr (both HQ).

The commendation read: “With each other’s officers and a civilian member of staff for work in conjunction with the Metropolitan Police in a long and arduous investigation concerning the murder of two young boys (from November 1985 until the end of the trial in May 1989) which resulted in the conviction of four men.”

Certificates of commendation were also presented to: Pc Gary Myers — Southern Area Traffic; “Together with five other officers, for his bravery and initiative in apprehending a woman who was believed to be in possession of a loaded shotgun at Puffinett on 16 October 1988.”

Pc Mark Routh and Pc David Wilton — Canvey Island: “For bravery displayed in entering a burning house without regard for their own safety in order to rescue 11 persons whom he had reason to believe to be inside. In the event, no persons were in the house, but two of the household were rescued.”

Pc Michael Turner — Western Area Traffic, Pc Anthony Bayliss — Harlow, WpC Susan Canham — Harlow: “Bravery and perseverance in apprehending an extremely violent man under difficult circumstances. The man was subsequently convicted of previous bodily harm on police constable 1358 E. W. Gibson and sentenced to 3½ years imprisonment.”

Pc Leslie Gibson was unable to attend to receive his certificate.

Part of the Jason Swift enquiry team receive their certificates.

Battle to cope with yellow lines

NO more yellow lines please! That’s the message from jaundiced traffic management officers begging to find an effective way to ease country-wide congestion.

The problem with things like double yellow lines, or single cones, is that they’re used to enforcing the law. It’s all very well for local authorities to paint them, but if there aren’t enough police officers or traffic wardens around they will soon be ignored.

Due to increasing requests for more traffic regulations, like speed limits and weight restrictions as well, the Chief Constable, recognising his often limited resources, has put a bit of a curb on how many new regulations are introduced and for what reasons.

For instance if you are perhaps a neighbourhood beat officer sitting in a council meeting and someone complains about the speed motorists are doing through the village or town, or how much congestion there is around the schooltime in certain areas you will no doubt be asked to do something about it — to reduce speed limits or put more yellow lines down.

This is all very well to keep the public happy but if there aren’t the police officers to enforce the new regulations people will begin to notice it and those speed limits and yellow lines will be ignored.

So, basically, the key to points of the new policy, are that the Chief Constable will only consider proposed new traffic regulations if:

• There is a serious traffic problem requiring it.

• The order will definitely be an effective way of solving the problem.

And finally, if the use of personnel is efficient and doesn’t create any serious problems elsewhere.

Obviously, the Chief Constable recognises the difficulties faced by the local authorities in dealing with the problems of today’s traffic, but would urge them to consider means of achieving their objectives other than relying simply on enforcement by police officers and traffic wardens.

Sign of the times

CHILDREN playing with police caps and truncheons in the force’s mobile museum at the re-opening day event at Chelmsford police station started playfully hitting each other and chanting: “No poll tax, no poll tax.” That’s what you call a sign of the times.

Mass murder!

SPOTTED on an IRIS message under the heading ‘Rabbits Killed’ I’ve had three rabbits killed over the last three days and my neighbours are also dead on the law.” Yes, we are a nation of animal lovers!
Achtung! Band takes Germany by storm

Eliza (Hayley Barkway), and Henry Higgins (George Lambeth) in My Fair Lady

MUSICIANS of the Essex Police band have just returned from an action-packed concert tour of Germany. As well as two major concerts, the band also gave more informal entertainments, playing in shopping precincts and town squares.

They played at an international benefit concert held to celebrate the National Pensions Association's 25th anniversary in Bayreuth. All profits from the concert, which attracted around 1,000 people, were handed over to the international children's charity UNICEF.

The orchestra, alongside the Music Corps of the German Army Band and the Eindhoven Police Orchestra from Holland, were invited to participate in the Bayreuth festival, which is some 15 miles from the Czechoslovakian border. They were accommodated on the tour by Deputy Chief Constable Peter Simpson.

The band's home for the week was the border police barracks in Bayreuth, which is some 15 miles from the Czechoslovakian border. They were accommodated on the tour by Deputy Chief Constable Peter Simpson.

ARE you one of those people who are completely turned off at the mention of Local Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Societies? When sitting in an audience do you feel quite embarrassed if a presentation falls below the professional standards you are used to on television and in the theatre? I used to be one of those, and rarely ever went to any performances, whether Police related or otherwise. Two years ago, more from a personal interest, than from any professional standards I had been taught, I went to one performance presented by the Essex Police Musical Society at Headquarters and liked what I saw.

On 22nd February this year I went to see the Society's 25th Anniversary production of My Fair Lady and what a treat it was. Most of us know the music and the story very well. However, it was a far different experience to those of Musicals to present, demanding a great deal from all those taking part not least from the cast. Hayley Barkway, George Lambeth, Andrew Shepherd and Roger Richardson were all excellent. Auditions had been convened on September 7, and

Many of the members, including conductor Bob Cooper, have their background in military music while others have made playing in the band a family affair by encouraging wives and children to pick up an instrument and join.

During the trip to Germany at the beginning of this month, the band was given substantial press coverage in the local newspaper, the North Bavarian Courier, seen here.

The news story here is that the band were able to return home safely. A kind-hearted driver, Mr Borley, of the Five Bells pub, came forward and picked up the injured badger. As it was 11 O'clock at night, he eventually turned to police to find an emergency number. He drove Betty to Beaconsfield, where he paid the £18 vet's bill and left without giving his name and address. Badger liaison officer Pc Chris Holton realised the animal needed to be returned to its own set to survive, so he found the driver and the accident happened.
LAKESIDE is the first regional out-of-town shopping centre to be built directly alongside the M25. Developer Capital and Counties estimates that 20 per cent of England's total population lives within one hour's drive of the huge shopping and leisure complex at Thurrock. Within half an hour's drive is a population of 3.6 million people.

In addition its location is convenient to attract day trippers and short break visitors from the Continent, particularly once the new Dartford river crossing is completed.

The American-style shopping space has already been let.

Together with the retail park the other side of the 20 acre lake, Lakeside will almost certainly be a multi-screen cinema, the largest shopping complex in Europe. If it takes to run Wolverhampton.

As well as a bus station at the north end of the complex, there is a 256-space coach park and parking for some of the 4,500 to 5,000 staff who will be employed there.

Lakeside will also be served by a new railway station, Chafford Hundred, which is being built in conjunction with the neighbouring 5,000 home new mini-town development.

The Lakeside shopping centre is being built on reclaimed land, which a decade ago was an unsightly rubbish in-fill site. To make the environment more attractive, the developers are planting some 65,000 trees and shrubs at a cost of £1.8 million.

Capital and Counties has already developed major shopping centres in Nottingham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Stoke-on-Trent and Wakefield.

Lakeside's operations manager Chris Fear said the centre's aim was to encourage visitors to turn a shopping trip into a family outing. A variety of entertainments will be organised in the Pavilion, there will be a children's playgroup, and a selection of restaurants, bars and cafes overlooking the lake.

Another important aim, said Mr Fear, is security of shopping, with well lit car parks and the centre's own security staff patrolling the complex.
Policing for nsted-sized challenge

The law, May 1990

Artist's impression of the central dome area at Lakeside, showing the food court on the third level.

POLICING the 1990s presents a wide range of new challenges to Essex Police. The implications for the force at the expanding Stansted Airport have long been recognised. Another huge, and perhaps under-estimated demand is presented by the new Lakeside shopping and leisure complex at Thurrock. JENNY BULLUS toured the centre with Inspector GARY SKULL, newly appointed to face up to the task.

In the 1990s presents a wide range of new challenges to Essex Police. The implications for the force at the expanding Stansted Airport have long been recognised. Another huge, and perhaps under-estimated demand is presented by the new Lakeside shopping and leisure complex at Thurrock. JENNY BULLUS toured the centre with Inspector GARY SKULL, newly appointed to face up to the task.

Insp Skull believes the key to successfully policing the new complex lies in good liaison with the traders.

Insp Skull believes the key to successfully policing the new complex lies in good liaison with the traders. It may not be a community in the same sense as a village or residential area, but Insp Skull's approach is one of community policing. "Community policing can apply, by having police who know the area and know the people within it. "I will be expecting good liaison between us and the shops. They have been very supportive so far, and I expect their continued support," he said.

Insp Skull is considering setting up a shoplifting squad, specifically targeted on tackling thefts from the shops. As Lakeside is the only major shopping centre around the M25, experienced teams of criminals could be attracted from London and further afield.

When the new shopping mall opens the police will also have an office within the complex.

Insp Skull is looking into problems of charging suspects and processing prisoners, for which the police accommodation on site is unlikely to be suitable.

At the moment Sergeant Tony Kirvell organises the policing of Lakeside. He has just seven constables in the West Thurrock section, which also covers Purfleet, the London Road and the Waterglade industrial part.

Sgt Kirvell said, "It's a completely new town. We can't police it with the numbers we've got, no matter how much we shuffle the plates around."

They operate out of Chelmsford, an unrealistic distance away for responding quickly to a call. The plan when Lakeside is fully operational is to have four sergeants and 22 constables on the section, under Insp Skull.

In addition he hopes to have a Detective Sergeant and two Des.

"At the moment I am primarily responsible for developing the police response to the opening," he said. "It's certainly going to be an exciting challenge, the development here is astronomical, there's nothing like it in this country.

"I'm looking for officers that are keen and enthusiastic, able communicators and dedicated to policing a retail complex with all the problems that go with it - theft from shops, credit card fraud, auto thefts and a certain amount of public disorder offences.

With shops turning over hundreds of thousands of pounds, and with vast amounts of stock, plus ten banks on site, the possibility of major robbery and burglary attempts is recognised.

Insp Skull added, "I believe that a high profile will help deter shoplifting and other crimes."

The complex will also have its own security staff patrolling 24 hours a day. Insp Skull said his team would keep in close contact with the Lakeside security officers.

By next month Insp Skull hopes to have an on-the-spot presence down at Lakeside, with a portable building which will be used as a mini police station, situated in the Tesco car park.

Insp Skull believes the key to successfully policing the new complex lies in good liaison with the traders.
Lakeside — mixing shopping and leisure

Lakeside is the first regional out-of-town shopping centre to be built directly alongside the M25. Developer Capital and Counties estimates that 20 per cent of England’s total population lives within one hour’s drive of the huge shopping and leisure complex at Thurrock. Within half an hour’s drive is a population of 3.6 million people.

In addition its location is convenient to attract day trippers and short break visitors from the Continent, particularly once the new Dartford river crossing is completed.

The American-style shopping space has already been let.

Together with the retail park the other site of the 20 acre lake, Lakeside will almost certainly be the largest shopping complex in Europe.

The mall will house four major department stores: Debenhams, House of Fraser, Marks and Spencer and Lewis, and 346 shops including ten banks on two levels. Beneath the central glass dome, on a third level, will be the food court.

The £300 million development also includes a waterfront Covent Garden-style Pavilion with craftsman’s barrows, a multi-screen cinema, and 9,000 free car parking spaces. It is expected to attract 20 million shoppers a year, with as many as 130,000 visitors on peak days.

The shops will be open until 8pm each evening, with 9pm opening on one, or maybe two, evenings a week. As well as a bus station at the north end of the complex, there is a 250-space coach park and parking for some of the already established retail park, provides two million square feet of retail space.

Development in West Thurrock began when Tesco opened its supermarket in late 1984. This was followed by firms like MPI, Halfords, Courts, Queensway, Dolholti, Texas Homemake, Habitat, Comet, World of Leather, and B & Q. A drive-in MacDonalds opened recently.

Associated with the new centre, the developers have spent £17 million putting in new roads, to link up with the M25 and A13.

The Lakeside shopping centre is being built on reclaimed land, which a decade ago was an unsightly rubbish tip. To make the environment more attractive, the developers are planting some 65,000 trees and shrubs at a cost of £1.8 million.

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Lakeside’s operations manager Chris Fear said the centre’s aim was to encourage visitors to turn a shopping trip into a family outing. A variety of entertainments will be organised in the Pavilion, with a children’s playground, and a selection of restaurants, bars and cafes overlooking the lake.

Another important aim, said Mr Fear, is to keep the centre’s own security staff patrolling the complex.

IT IS hard to imagine the scale of the new Lakeside complex at Thurrock. The massive out-of-town shopping area, reckoned by the developers to be the largest in Europe, is three times the size of Basildon shopping centre, and requires as much electric power as it takes to run Wolverhampton.

And the policing challenge it represents, according to Inspector Gary Skull, is equal to that posed by Stansted.

Lakeside, taken in January, with the shopping mall in the foreground and retail park the other side of the 20 acre lake. The good road links can be clearly seen.
28 bobbies get medals

TWENTY EIGHT police officers were presented with long service and good conduct medals at a ceremony at police headquarters, Springfield, earlier this month.

The medals, awarded on completion of 22 years’ service, were presented by the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Admiral Lord le Fevre, on May 15. Here is a list of the officers, pictured right, who attended:

Sergeant Raymond Andrews, HQ Management & Traffic Services, Sergeant John Lawrence, Colchester, Special Constable Yvonne Oldham, Manningtree, Special Constable Andrew Cutler, Southend, Sergeant Richard Collins, Colchester, Special Constable Jon Bagley, Colchester, Special Constable Graham Treadwell, Colchester, Special Constable Richard Doherty, Colchester, Special Constable Mark Smith, Colchester, Special Constable Graham Wood, Colchester, Special Constable John Harvey, Colchester, Special Constable John Ruffle, HQ Management & Traffic Services, Special Constable Brian Hutt, HQ Management & Traffic Services, Special Constable Gary Lysiak, HQ Management & Traffic Services.

News from the branches

Southend branch

On 30th May the force athletics will be held at Southchurch Park commencing at 1pm. The branch would like to see retired members of the force present and only to speculate I hasten to add!

In conjunction with the 150th anniversary there will be a grand gala dinner and ball at Galatas on the 9th June. Tickets £25 each from Brian Taylor at Southend Police Club.

Southend branch

NARPO will be holding a social at Southend police station on 13th June. Again full details from Brian Taylor.

On the 21st/22nd July there will be a pageant of policing on the sea front with an 1840 theme including old uniforms.

DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE, Peter Simpson presented cheques for £50-£250 for ideas accepted under the Force Suggestion Scheme. Recommendations ranged from streamlining paperwork, encouraging officers to obey simple safety rules by participating in a short play in front of classmates.

Firm gives £500 to force fund

Top attractions at charity fun day

THINGS are hotting up as plans for the Essex Police fun day in July are being finalised.

A host of attractions have been booked for the event over the weekend July 7 and 8 and it promises to be a real hit with the public.

Just some of entertainment includes the Queen’s Regiment Flying Dragon Parachute Display Team, the Royal Signals Regiment White Helmets Motorcycle display team, the Montego display team, pictured right, Metropolitan Police Motorcycle team and many, many more.

There will also be a vast assortment of stalls and fun-of-the-fair events.

However, it should be remembered that while providing entertainment, the purpose of the event is also to raise cash for charity to benefit the less fortunate and those in need of specific help.

PICTURED are just some of the people who are to receive the force’s support this year, namely the King’s School for Handicapped Children, St John’s Hospital (Materinity Ward), Oakley Home for the Elderly, St Helena Hospice, Dysphagia Epilepsy Bolivia Research Association, all who attended police headquarters last month when Mr J. Duffett, regional director of Wimpole Homes, presented £500 cheque to John Conlan, ACC A, as the firm’s contribution to the force fund-raisin efforts.

THIS month I would like to bring your attention a serious situation which almost certainly exists with many of you who have a mortgage or a security on your property.

You may need to be careful with regard to your buildings and contents policy.

There has been a lot of criticism lately of the exorbitant premiums being charged by societies for the home insurance.

I went to see a young couple on Christmas last week and they had a thirty thousand pound mortgage on a three bed semi, worth around £70,000.

In this house there were the couple and their two year old and a family of four. I imagine that they would think that their contents probably cost at least £25,000 pounds, if it even reached half of that.

I asked them about their home insurance as a matter of course and they had been doing through the building society and that they paid monthly.

They showed me their payment account and it showed a total of £35.35 per month. My horror, I worked this out to be an annual premium for contents and buildings of 4000 — an incredible amount.

I discovered that the building society had taken the building for a rebuilding cost of £35,000 and an accidental damage, policy very poor, but had also insured the contents also on an accidental damage and the clients had not realised it was not covered.

I filled in the paper work and they had a quote for cover on buildings and contents with a full priced company and arrived at £177.17 per month — an instant halving of their monthly insurance costs.

Here are my words of warning. Wont out for your mortgage company when it comes to home insurance — here is a general guide to what you should be paying.

Contents cover costs around £23.00 per thousand (new or old) and about £5 per thousand to include accidental damage.

Buildings cover costs around £2 per thousand of rebuilding of our house and around £2.50 if you had extra accidental damage included.

A three bed semi probably holds around £15,000 in contents and costs about £70,000 to rebuild. They would put the premium at around £250 per year, or £20 per month — and that is twice of full accidental damage cover — with accidental cover, it would be around £260 per £17.10 a month.

If you want to update your own insurance, you can get free advice from your local society charge you about £12 for a one off — I would recommend it, because it brings your home insurance back into your control.
**Camp cadets’ reunion**

**DID YOU ATTEND EITHER OF Sedgefield Camp or Aycliffe’s two 90th anniversary reunions held earlier this year? And did you meet any police cadets who attended either of the camps in the 1960s?**

**Anyone who is interested in this reunion can contact Derek or Sue at the Community Relations Department, Police Station. The telephone number is Guisborough 31533.**

**Skidpan spin**

A FAMILY of four from Busfold had a spin round the skidpan at the headquarters and helped raise £50 for the Essex Radio Helping Hand.

That was the sum Mr Frank Kitch bid at auction for a day out with his daughter and two of his grandchildren. He took up the offer and had a blast.

**The police also donated £25 to the marine liaison section of the fundraising auction.**

**Banquet to mark 150 years**

AN Anniversary Police Ball is being staged by officers at Southend as part of the force’s 150th celebrations.

The top-up meal and dance performed by an international orchestra and band is being held on Sat- urday (May 30) at the Grosvenor One Banquet.

It will cost just £25 to be put up with a top-up meal and dance and tickets are limited to 250.

**Tickets are available on first-come, first-served basis.**

**Anybody who wants further information should contact Brian on extension 240 or Tony Fireby on 429 or 629.**

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**Kids told crime does not pay**

**Weekend cruise to Calais**

**ATTENTION all boating buffs! The Essex Police Sailing Club is holding a summer cruise to Calais which includes meals, wine and champagne. Starting at Ramsgate Harbour on June 14, the six-boat flotilla of sports boats will head for the French port on the early morning tide for the following day.**

**Last year nine boats took part in the weekend cruise and had a thoroughly enjoyable time. This included an after- noon of windurfing on Calais beach and a game of croquet in the castle grounds.**

**Cruising Secretary Roger Bowres, who is stationed at Stansfield and is hoping that this year’s cruise will attract more boaters.**

**The force has a fairly enthusiastic sailing section which has an East Coast Rally and Rand Island Race already planned.**

**And it now has a Wayfarer dinghy for use by all club members.**

**So if you fancy life on the open ocean waves — even if it’s just on Saturday afternoons — get in touch with Roger.**

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**Sports John steps down**

**FORCE Sports Association secretary John Garrett has stepped down as his position as secretary after nearly six years.**

**But he was at Greys Community Centre when his position was announced.**

**Mr Garrett went on to explain that the club was in a great supporter of activities which maintain both good diet and exercise for police officers and those still serving and will continue to support the annual garden party reunion at Greys.**

**Meanwhile the Benevolent Fund committee.**

**Now working as a claim investigator for an insurance firm, he firmly intends to keep in touch with ex-colleagues.**

**His job as FSA secretary has been taken over by Chris Jacob. John said, “Force sport is an important part of the overall structure of the police and is an important part of their social and community.”**

**But he said there were often problems with officers who needed the money and it was necessary for them to pass the neces- sary time off to participate.**

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**RETIRED**

**FCJ, R. C. Ash, Stockton, 01 April — 20 years, 4 days.**

**P. E. B. Avison, Stockton, 20 April — 20 years, 36 days.**

**Why R. M. Nicholas, Tynemouth, 20 April — 10 years, 290 days.**

**D. B. Shelley, Rayleigh, 20 April — 10 years, 290 days.**

**P. E. Brown, Bacup, 20 April — 10 years, 36 days.**

**M. J. Marson, Seaburn, 20 April — 10 years, 42 days.**

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**OBITUARIES**


25 April ex Ps Robert Throck aged 59 who retired as civilian in 1988.

Rockeytrip for members

Once again another successful and enjoyable weekend was had, when a total of 41 members with their wives and friends set off early Friday morning 20th April for the City of Chester, staying at the “Westminster Hotel”.

In the evening we were invited by Chester IPA to visit their HOs. We were greeted by Paul Wenlock Secretary of their Branch and other members who were awaiting us. It was a very friendly evening with plenty of refreshments. An exchange of a plaque and a pennant was made by our Chairman Roland and their ACC Phillip Armstrong.

The first half of Saturday morning we were taken on a guided tour of Old Chester which included the Shropshire Union Canal, part of the walled City and the Benedictine Monastery which was once the Chester Cathedral in 1536. The second half of the morning was free to do as we pleased.

After lunch our coach took us on a tour of North Wales including Llangollen returning via a mountain drive around “Horseshoe Pass”. A beautiful and pictoresque view was had at the very top.

In the evening we assembled in the “Sister” Hotel next door where there was a resident organist. A good old sing song was had by all. Four members of our party took to the floor and entertained us with a song or two, and very good they were too.

At 9 o’clock Sunday morning we had a Fradl a small pleasure boat and took a trip on the River Dee to view the grandeur of Public Buildings and places that line the River.

About an hour later we commenced our journey back calling at the Cheshire Workshops at Barberswold, where a good old sing song was sung.

Fred Dyson Mid-Essex Correspondent.

We saw a video and a young lady gave a talk on the making and designing of the coloured candles.

We returned home after from with pleasant memories and plenty to talk about concerning Chester. If this weekend is anything to go by, I am sure our weekend to York on October 12th will be another success. I am told there are 10 seats left for this trip, so if anyone is interested please contact Dick Eiggins, Social Secretary, Tel: Chelmsford 251082.

Thanks thanks once again Dick for organising the Chester trip — you never let us down, keep up the good work. Forthcoming event is on Friday June 15 when we make an evening visit to Stansted Airport. The coach is fully booked and all those members that are going will be notified of the times of departure from HO.

New force welfare officer

A NEW force welfare officer has been appointed to succeed Neville Leach, who was retired.

Derek Lee took up the job on May 8 and has moved from Chelmsford division.

The post was advertised in Clacton, Essex, CID support services and CSIR.

Derek is a keen supporter of the force’s musical society and has been its chairman since 1970.

He is looking forward to the challenge of the new post in looking after the welfare of the serving police of the force.

John dispels Big Brother myth

THE DATA Protection Officer — a job title, which like the tax inspector, breeds fear and suspicion. Is he a green-eyed monster, whose sole purpose is to make life difficult, or is he an anonymous figure at headquarters with little relevance to getting on with the job of policing the country?

The answer to both questions should be no.

John Black, who took on the post months ago when it was civilised, sees his role as protecting both the public and members of the force.

His workload is increasing as more people become aware of the 1984 Data Protection Act and their right to know what information about them is held on computer.

The date the Act was introduced, 1984, adds weight to the myth that the age of “Big Brother” has dawned. But information, Essex police officers make no misuses the Act, that information stored is correct and is held legally.

An important part of the Data Protection Officer’s job is to make police and civilian employees aware of the Act and for undertakes sessions of several courses at the Training School, where anyone interested in these matters can attend.

People who look at data protection as a millstone probably haven’t consulted me. He says no one expects the police to be a big brother.

However, he says people should not be afraid of it. It is his job to help answer a wide range of questions that arrive.

“People who look at data protection as a millstone probably haven’t consulted me. He says no one expects the police to be a big brother. Black, who took on the post ten months ago when it was civilised, sees his role as protecting both the public and members of the force.

His workload is increasing as more people become aware of the 1984 Data Protection Act and information about them is held on computer.

The Act makes it an offence for bodies to keep data on individuals without the person’s consent.

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John Black, Data Protection Officer

New controls were needed because information could be processed and transferred so quickly by computers, said John.

“You can’t have 1980 practices in 1990. Technology moves on and so must the force.”

The Data Protection Officer also deals with all requests by members of the public for access to information held about them. Last year there were 259 requests but the number is increasing.

John said many people expect the police to hold personal information about them, but unless they have been in trouble or had dealings with the police this is not the case.

MARKET PLACE

CINDICO canopy pram buggy/grey, tray immediately £50.00 Contact PC G E Cottages 0256 767147

VEDIO unit and case £30. Contact Insp. Leslie Bramhill. Home number 0289 7594574

PORTWOOD look display unit & products, £50.00. Contact Insp. Leslie Bramhill. Home number 0289 7594574

TWO illuminated cabinets with shelves, cupboards. £15.00. Contact PC T Anthony, Home number 0268 7594574

RALEIGH Flyer 10-speed bike, £80.00. Contact PC A R Mitchell, Home number 0268 7594574

LEIGH and terrace three bedroom house, through agent, £99,950. Contact PC J Bocci, Home number 0268 7594574

WESTON SUPER MARA guest house lovely garden, children welcome, tourist centre, discounts. $30.00/£50.00 Contact Insp. E. S. John Beigton, Home number 0268 7594574

SHARP Music Centre (Model SG330) £75.00. Insp. Leslie Bramhill. Home number 0268 7594574

CORNWALL Mangon Porth, Twist, Newquay-Padstow Off Road. Ideal for beach lovers, ideal walk, lovely sea views. Bed & Breakfast. £15.00 per person. Contact PC J Beigton, Home number 0268 7594574

BARRONFive tier room divider and display unit. Dark glass shelves £25.00. Contact PC Derek Holtsden, Home number 0268 7594574

FREE glass five panes double glazed, back £25.00. Contact Insp. Leslie Bramhill. Home number 0268 7594574

 pals £115.00. Indie bike, good working condition. 1½ in. £25.00. Contact PC Peter Johnson, Home number 0268 7594574

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ESSEX SAILING CLUB

TWO boats from Essex competed in the West Midlands Police Regatta held on Wednesday 25 April 1990, at Malvern in Worcestershire.

The Essex team held on to beat the Camden and London Borough of Greenford west of Birmingham and 3 races were sailed in sunny and clear blue skies, but light and fickle winds.

The event was well supported with 22 boats with the ships coming from the West Midlands, North East, London and Kent.

Malcolm Gould sailed brilliantly to win all three races in the Challenge Cup regatta for Essex. Simon Hawkes from Avos & Somerset came second and Nottingham third. Tony Britten came 16th.

ESSEX POLICE SAILING CLUB

Are you interested in something for NOTHING? Well £5 per year is virtually nothing. The Sailing club offers the following to police and civilian staff.

1. The use of WAYFARER SAILING DINGHY - fully equipped, and kept at THORPE BAY Y.C. (showers and changing facilities available).
2. A training cruise to Calais.
3. Compete and represent the force sailing team in National P.A.A. and inter force competitions.
4. Compete and represent the police and civilian sailing teams in the Counties of Essex, Kent, Herts, Beds and Bucks.
5. Have a go at sailing or windsurfing, days to be advertised.
6. Access to Thorpe Bay Yacht Club, East Mersea, with Ban-B-G.
7. Free entry to Essex Police REGATTA.
8. Social events.

Discount Membership of Thorpe Bay Y.C. (£84.33p.a.)

CRICKET

The annual six-a-side competition was held at Chelmer Park, Chelmsford on Tuesday June 19.

This is the one where the result really matters. It is the one that you want to win.

ATHLETICS

The event was held on Wednesday May 30.

LADIES' HOCKEY

Essex Police ladies hockey team intend to keep up their hard training to be on top for the summer period. It is anticipated that this will be either on Monday evenings or Tuesday evenings and will be played in conjunction with the men's hockey team. All players are requested to contact WPC Blackman PSU out 4245.
Close shave as firsts avoid the drop

THUMBS DOWN!

AN OFFICIAL of the Essex Police Football Club has called for more commitment from players and members after a disappointing season.

Bob "The Thumb" Sloan said the club had failed to attract the enthusiasm necessary for the team to once again become a success.

He said: "In my association with the club I have heard some of the same excuses and called on members to show they cared about the club.

In the past the management has been criticised but Bob said it would be difficult to persuade someone to give up a Tuesday evening for training when only four or five people turned up.

"Bob was outstanding and called for members to show they cared about the club."

"In the past the management has been criticised but Bob said it would be difficult to persuade someone to give up a Tuesday evening for training when only four or five people turned up."

Lucky

He went on to say the team was lucky to avoid relegation this season. "Everything is laid on for the playing staff at the club but still we fail to attract the enthusiasm needed to become once again a successful club."

"That's not to say it can't be done. Rayleigh Town won the league this year at a time when no side was outstanding and our football club is not vintage stuff, but you could see when they took the field they meant business and looked professional in the appearance and attitude," he added.

However, it is not all doom and gloom, said Bob, who pointed out that there were performances, goals and incidents which had given him great pleasure over the past season.

He said in the first team Joel Henderson had given 100 per cent and had shown the commitment necessary to succeed.

Shaun Frost, Phil Smith and Alan Deacon came up from the reserves and grabbed that opportunity to impress and retained their positions throughout the season.

Heroes

Phil Robinson improved as the season wore on, probably down to his efforts in goal that the first team avoided relegation.

Bob said the forgotten heroes on the reserves bench also deserved a mention. "Steve Bennett and David Finn, two full backs who look to have the ability and Bob Trigg and Mark Harrison in midfield are players in my opinion who give the reserves their shape and style."

The new Ladies Doubles champions.

As a result of Essex winning the Portsmouth Shield in the No 5 PAA championships in Oxford recently, a full contingent of members from Essex see the Lady Doubles championship in Oxford. Well done. Sue also reached the semi-final of the Ladies singles.

Mo managed to carry the momentum of the Mixed Doubles into the darts. Bob also played in the Men's Doubles but Peter Hyem but they lost early on in the competition, as did Rod Booth in the darts.

In the table tennis, Dave Bickett and Chris Jacob lost in the quarter-final of the men's doubles but as did Dave in the men's singles. Both also lost in the semi-final of the veterans event.

All of the losses went to the eventual winners and overall it was a very good year for Essex, who all did well to get to the first place.

Peter takes third place

GOLF club stalwart Peter Donovon, based at Shoebury, took a credible third place in the PAA golfing event held at Welwyn Garden City on May 9.

Peter was the most successful of the eight Essex members competing. He retires from the force next month, having completed 30 years service, and club members wish him well.

Results of the club's spring meeting, held at Wareley Golf Club on May 4: Winner, Vic Brookes; President's Trophy: Graham Bull; HQ Presidents Trophy: John Woods, Maldon; Vice President's Trophy: Ian Brown, Epping; All-day Scratch: Keith Davies, Braintree.

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BASKETBALL

It is hoped to establish an ESSEX POLICE BASKETBALL SQUAD

This team would be entered in Local Leagues & PAA Events.

Interested?

Experience desirable but not essential

(and if you are 6ft 6in so much the better!!)

Please contact:
Pc NICK DAWNS or
Pc MARK CHAPPLE
HQ/Force Support Unit extn 2429.

ON TOUR

THE FORCE cricket team will be on tour to Norfolk for the fourth year running in July.

Five matches have been lined up for the week-long tour, and the team will stay in bed and breakfast accommodation in Cromer.

The tour, which costs £95, runs from Monday July 1 until Friday July 6. Anyone interested in having a good time, and playing some cricket, should contact Inspector Phil Melon at the club in Chelmsford, or PC Adrian Scase at the essex police

Anyone interested in playing for the force cricket team this season should contact the above. New players will be welcomed.

Deadly duo are darts champions

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Come to cricket week

MEMBERS of the Force Sports Association have been invited to the hospitality tent set up by their club at Essex County Cricket Week.

The cricketing week is being held at Colchester Castle Park between Wednesday July 18 and Tuesday July 24.

Anybody interested in attending the hospitality tent should contact Sgt Keith Beerehweek at Colchester who will then send an official invite free of charge.

Then all you have to do is pay at the gate to get entrance and you get to enter the tent where you will be able to see an uninterrupted view of the cricket, with cheap, light refreshments.

I DON'T CARE WHAT IT SAYS IN HERE ANYMORE

THERE ARE LIMITS!!