

The Law

including Essex Police Magazine



**Brave Adrian
is battling back
— see page 3**

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

February 1991

No 212

**Chief's
goal is
quality
service**

THE Force has spelt out its commitment to serving the public.

The Essex Police Statement of Common Purpose, and the force's Key Operational Goals for 1991, were issued this month. And they are being given a high profile, having been published in poster form for display in prominent areas of every police station.

Chief Constable John Burrow has pledged to the public: "This statement, issued to every policeman and woman, is a benchmark against which our performance is measured."

"We have a dual role, enforcement is important, but also we have a caring role. We are putting a great emphasis on the level of service we provide and service delivery."

Partnership

But Mr Burrow stresses that society has a partnership role to play with the police in maintaining law and order.

He said: "The maintenance of law and order is the responsibility of society itself, not solely that of the police."

Mr Burrow was ahead of the game when he introduced Key Operational Goals, as a basis for a programme of planned policing, two years ago.

Other forces are now following suit, following a national statement by ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers). ACPO recommended that each individual force should publish its own statement on quality of service, backed up by a framework for achieving its aims.

ESSEX POLICE STATEMENT OF COMMON PURPOSE

"To provide the highest level of service, ensuring that everyone is treated with civility, patience and good temper, acknowledging that these virtues should not be lost when firmness is necessary."

"To take positive action to encourage the involvement and co-operation of the public, to enhance the working relationship between the community and officers and civilian staff of the Essex Police."

Army LandRovers help police reach stranded drivers

FORCE FIGHTS THE FREEZE

IT WAS the worst weather the county had seen for years. Motorists were stranded on motorways, many of the smaller towns and villages were virtually cut off.

As Britain slithered to a virtual halt, it was the police who were in the front line. While police appeals were broadcast through the local media urging people not to travel, our officers had to find a way through the snow to help others.

The struggle to get to emergencies and rescue stranded drivers was eased by the Army, who loaned 14 four-wheel drive vehicles to the force. These were spread around the six divisions.

Meanwhile, the Information Room was under siege from members of the public ringing in for individual assessments of various roads. Insp David Burrell said: "There is no way we can produce sufficient

resources to deal with these individual inquiries."

Information

The role of the police was very much one of monitoring, co-ordinating and providing information. This was why a BBC Essex reporter spent virtually two days in the Information Room, constantly updating the public of road closures, providing a vital service.

Fortunately, said Insp Burrell, crime drops off to a minimal level during bad weather.

Thankfully motorists took heed of the constant warnings broadcast on radio, and although the roadsides were littered with abandoned, shunted and even overturned cars,

there were few serious accidents. The major roads remained passable although they were mostly down to one lane.

Abandoned

But the volume of abandoned vehicles on the motorways became so great that police had to appeal to owners to arrange their removal. They were obstructing snow ploughs and gritters from opening additional lanes.

The snow came back with a vengeance on the Tuesday night, February 12, with six mile tailbacks on the M11, as HGVs were unable to negotiate the gradients.

Police also appealed to youngsters not to speed on their sledges, and to keep off the roads. Two teenage girls were seriously injured in Benfleet when their sledge crashed into a tree on a steep slope. Two other youngsters were spotted sledging

on the A12. Meanwhile, police in Harwich were called to the aid of a pregnant mum who had gone into labour. The ambulance could not get up the hill to her home in Edward Street, Parkeston, and two officers were asked to help carry her.

She later gave birth to a healthy 7lb 11oz boy, safely installed at Harwich Maternity Unit.

In the small villages of Essex the community spirit prevailed. Neighbourhood Beat Officers called in on the old and vulnerable, checking they were coping and offering assistance.

In Stisted, near Braintree, where Pc Terry Neafsey was grounded for three days, he rounded up local youngsters to clear the paths at old peoples' cottages.

In Danbury, officers were called by a man reporting his £400 pair of skis had been stolen



A LANDROVER on loan from the Army kept these two Southend officers on the move.

from his back garden.

And finally, an incident at Canvey Island proved police really are not immune to getting stuck in the snow.

Responding to a concerned caller's report of youngsters tobogganing down the slope of

the sea wall straight into the road, officers discovered they were playing safely with parents present.

The message back to base recorded: "No danger to children, who then helped push the police car out of the snow!"

Big kick off for kids

AFTER RAISING more than £52,000 for charity at last year's Fun Day the force has already kicked off for a bumper fund-raising campaign in 1991.

This year, Essex Police is teaming up with hundreds of schoolchildren and local sportswear giants Hi-Tec in a bid to make the July 14 event bigger and better than ever.

As well as the usual star attractions and side shows the charity spectacular will be featuring the finals of an exciting county-wide football and netball tournament.

Hundreds of excited youngsters are already signing up to join in the fun, but to make sure the event is on target Neighbourhood Beat Officers countywide are being asked to get involved.

The tournament is an

by Paul Dunt

excellent opportunity for NBOs to meet their local children in a relaxed informal atmosphere and forge a trusting working partnership between the police and the community for the years ahead.

The tournament is open to netball and football teams in two age groups - 7 to 11 and 11 to 12. Teams will then battle it out to become champions of the six Essex Police Divisions - Harlow, Chelmsford, Southend, Colchester, Basildon and Grays.

Each divisional final will be a mini-fun day in itself, making the tournament, which is being backed by the Essex Schools Football Association and the All-England Netball Association, one of the largest school sporting

events the county has ever seen.

The Essex Police Roadshow will be at each final, displaying the latest equipment in the fight against crime and it is hoped each mini-fun day will attract a host of side shows and stalls. All money raised from these days will go to charities chosen by the schools themselves.

"There are NBOs that have gone round to all their schools and have received a positive result from all of them," said Fun Day Secretary, Bob Craven. "If we had 20 schools from each division that amounts to 800 participants at each mini-fun day!"

"This is a great opportunity for us to team up with the local youngsters and Hi-Tec to raise money for

charity," he added. "We are really looking forward to meeting the kids out on the sports fields and netball courts and showing them the human face behind the uniform."

"The message to officers is get involved! Above all this competition is going to be great fun." The overall winner from each division will go on to compete at the main fun day, which attracted more than 20,000 people last year.

Hi-Tec are hoping to attract local and national sporting personalities to the events and will be presenting the divisional champions with medals. The overall winners will receive the Hi-Tec cup (for football) and the Hi-Tec Shield (for netball) as well as Hi-Tec boots or trainers.

If you would like to get involved please contact DS Bob Craven at Basildon CID.



Chief Constable John Burrow launches the fun-day countywide Netball event. Picture supplied courtesy of the Evening Echo.

Federation Notes

FEDERATION NEWS ... FEDERATION NEWS ... FEDERATION



by
Brian Pallant

COMPENSATORY GRANT

I HAVE had numerous enquiries in the Federation Office as to whether officers will be receiving a Compensatory Grant this April.

The answer for those officers receiving a Transitional Rent Allowance is YES. Officers on the New Housing Allowance do not receive Compensatory Grant.

In April the Old Compensatory Grant will be grossed up and disappear. That is to say officers will get back the tax they paid on last years Compensatory Grant, this will be grossed up and then tax deducted.

In addition officers on Transitional Rent Allowance will receive a Transitional Compensatory Grant. This will be based on the basic rate tax paid on your Transitional Rent Allowance for the year ending March 31, 1991.

This year you will receive two Compensatory Grants which will be shown separately on your pay slips. This means officers will receive probably slightly more this year than last year.

In future years officers whilst continuing on Transitional Rent Allowance will continue to receive in April a Transitional Compensatory Grant.

As soon as circumstances change and officers go onto the new Housing Allowance or leave the service then their Transitional Compensatory Grant will cease and be grossed up in a lump sum as in the past.

To assist members in calculating what is due to them I have set out below some examples based on Maximum, Flat Rate and two other amounts.

The figures in the examples assume a base rate of income tax at 25%. If this rate changes then the rates will vary slightly.

Will members please note that from this year only the Basic Rate of tax is taken into account when working out the Transitional Compensatory Grant, irrespective of the fact that you might have been paying tax on your Rent Allowance at a higher rate.

| Example 1 | | | |
|------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Officer on Maximum Rent Allowance as at 31.3.1990 | Transitional Compensatory Grant | Existing Compensatory Grant |
| April 1991 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 (paid before tax) | say £1,500 (paid £375 after tax) |
| April 1992 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1993 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 + £304.22 = £1,521.12 | NIL |
| April 1994 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1995 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 + £380.28 = £1,597.18 | NIL |
| April 1996 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1997 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 + £399.29 = £1,616.19 | NIL |
| April 1998 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1999 | £4,867.63 | £1,216.90 + £404.04 = £1,620.94 | NIL |
| Example 2 | | | |
| | Officer on Flat Rate Rent Allowance at 31.3.1990 | Transitional Compensatory Grant | Existing Compensatory Grant |
| April 1991 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 (paid before tax) | say £750 (paid £187.50 after tax) |
| April 1992 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1993 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 + £152.11 = £760.57 | NIL |
| April 1994 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1995 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 + £190.14 = £798.60 | NIL |
| April 1996 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1997 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 + £199.65 = £808.11 | NIL |
| April 1998 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1999 | £2,433.84 | £608.46 + £202.02 = £810.48 | NIL |
| Example 3 | | | |
| | Officer on Rent Allowance of £3,000 as at March 31, 1990 | Transitional Compensatory Grant | Existing Compensatory Grant |
| April 1991 | £3,000 | £750 (paid before tax) | say £1,000 (£250 after tax) |
| April 1992 | £3,000 | £750 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1993 | £3,000 | £750 + £187.50 = £937.50 | NIL |
| April 1994 | £3,000 | £750 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1995 | £3,000 | £750 + £234.37 = £984.37 | NIL |
| April 1996 | £3,000 | £750 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1997 | £3,000 | £750 + £246.09 = £996.09 | NIL |
| April 1998 | £3,000 | £750 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1999 | £3,000 | £750 + £249.02 = £999.02 | NIL |
| Example 4 | | | |
| | Officer on Rent Allowance of £4,000 on March 31, 1990 | Transitional Compensatory Grant | Existing Compensatory Grant |
| April 1991 | £4,000 | £1,000 (paid before tax) | say £1,000 (£250 after tax) |
| April 1992 | £4,000 | £1,000 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1993 | £4,000 | £1,000 + £250 = £1,250 | NIL |
| April 1994 | £4,000 | £1,000 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1995 | £4,000 | £1,000 + £312.50 = £1,312.50 | NIL |
| April 1996 | £4,000 | £1,000 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1997 | £4,000 | £1,000 + £328.12 = £1,328.12 | NIL |
| April 1998 | £4,000 | £1,000 + Tax on above | NIL |
| April 1999 | £4,000 | £1,000 + £332.03 = £1,332.03 | NIL |

Annual Report — Joint Branch Board Claims Secretary

1990 HAS proved to be another busy year for claims submitted by members of Federated ranks within the Force, for both Criminal Injury claims and Civil claims under the Federation Fund Rules.

Criminal Injury claims settled in 1990 have increased from 31 to 68, with a total settlement figure of £108,552.60, an increase over last years figure of £51,334.00.

This is partly due to the CICB having pressure brought to bear from outside sources to speed up their procedure and finalise claims quicker.

Civil claims settled, have

also increased from 39 in 1989 to 46 in 1990, with a settlement figure of £201,601.64 a decrease over last years figure of £278,548.36.

I have a total of 136 CICB claims in various stages of progress, a slight increase over last year. 10 CICB claims are in preparation for 'appeal'.

Current Civil claims total 108. These are being pursued by our Federation solicitors, messrs Russell Jones & Walker, again a slight increase over last year.

Each claim, both CICB and Civil is strictly monitored. Regular joint consultations

between the member making the claim, the solicitors' representative and myself take place to ensure that the Civil claim or the CICB 'appeal' are progressing properly.

This arrangement has proved most useful, identifying problem areas in advance and so make for a more realistic settlement once negotiations have taken place.

The "Surgery" introduced to assist members with their legal problems has not proved to be successful.

Members usually require an immediate answer to their problem and are not prepared

to wait for an appointment in the future.

However, a "Hot Line" service is available for those urgent cases. Members who are prepared to wait, can be offered expert advice and guidance, in confidence, on any legal matter free of charge.

Appointments are made through me and take place on the day of consultations for those members with claims and are held at the Federation Offices.

CICB claims for the Country are up by some 24% over last year in spite of the increase, the number of claims

resolved has remained the same, 38,620. The Board have some 87,000 cases outstanding but are confident that with the extra increase in staffing, 50% of claims will be settled within 12 months of acceptance.

I have no doubt that in 1991, if the current trend continues in this Force, that claims for both CICB and Civil will rise.

It is my intention to expand my home visits in the coming year to injured officers making claims, in an effort to improve the service offered through this office.

Phil Charters
Claims Secretary JBB

MEMBERS SERVICES

DOUG Rampling tells me in order to make room for the new stocks now that the 150th Anniversary has finished, he is having a grand clearance sale.

Prices will be slashed for mugs, ties, headsquares, and a limited number of medallions.

Also arrangements are in hand for a new design of Rupert Tie. The tie will be in navy blue and will depict a Running Rupert. Watch this space for details.

If you cannot get to the Office give Doug a call on extension 2215.

ALTON TOWERS THEME PARK

THIS year the admission charge to the Theme Park will be £9.99 per person. However, the Police Federation have been offered the facility of the Company Discount Scheme.

The Staffordshire Joint Branch Board Office has agreed to carry out the Administration of the above scheme.

To meet costs of undertaking this exercise a small charge has been added to the ticket price together with a 50 pence charity charge which will be divided equally between the two Police Convalescent Homes at Harrogate and Goring-on-Thames.

The discount price is £7.00 which still represents a discount of almost 30% on the normal price, for tickets for Individual Police Officers and their families together with Civilian Employees.

Contact Miss Jane Dulson at the Federation Office, Hearn Court, Rising Brook, Stafford ST17 9QN, telephone number 0785-42215. An after hours answerphone service is available.

SUBSISTENCE/ REFRESHMENT ALLOWANCES

MEMBERS are reminded

that these allowances are not normally reviewed until July/August time, although backdated to April 1, 1991. They should keep a record of all claims made on their gold forms for the months of April onwards if they wish to claim the back arrears due.

It has not been possible at this stage to update the County Computer to have this done automatically.

CAR LEASING SCHEME

HAVING written to the Home Secretary Kenneth Baker and our own Federation Parliamentary Advisor Michael Sheresby, I am still awaiting for some response.

ANNUAL LEAVE

THE Staff side claim for an Annual Leave increase went before the Arbitration Tribunal in January.

The Arbitrators have now reported, and have decided that as the Official Side are still awaiting to negotiate within the overall framework of conditions of service, overtime, shifts, reduction in working week, that the annual leave situation should be looked at in the same way. There is no offer for any additional Annual Leave at this time.

I understand the Joint Central Committee of the Police Federation will be discussing whether or not to join the working group on the above at their next meeting early in March.

A full update will no doubt be given by your national secretary Vee Neild at the JCC open meeting at the QE2 Centre, Westminster on Thursday, March 14.

Contact the Federation Office is you want to attend and require transport.

FINANCIAL ADVICE

THE Joint Branch Board at its meeting on January 28 agreed to appoint George Burrows Group Insurance as its Financial Advisors.

Advice will be available on any financial matter

from Investment to Borrowing including Mortgages. All initial advice to members will be FREE and to this end it is hoped to run periodic Surgeries at the Federation Offices.

However urgent advice will still be available either through Federation

Secretary Brian Pallant or direct to George Burrows and Sid Foster who will be running the Financial desk.

Included below for your information is the first article from Sid Foster introducing the Financial Services of George Burrows.

For your information the

Introducing Financial Services by George Burrows Group Insurance

SINCE the 1950s, George Burrows Group Insurance has arranged life, accident and general insurance cover on behalf of many Police Federations throughout the country.

This association means that a comprehensive working knowledge of the many factors which apply in respect of police officers and their financial environment, has built up within the company.

We are therefore pleased to announce that George Burrows has been appointed by the Essex Police Federation to provide financial advice to its members. This confidential service is entirely free of charge and can be made available at a member's home or the Federation Offices by arrangement with your Secretary, Brian Pallant, or by contacting George Burrows direct.

Advice is provided in accordance with the Financial Services Act regulations and a wide range of matters can be discussed, including pre-retirement planning, inheritance tax and investment. In conjunction with this service, we will be producing a series of articles which the Federation has kindly agreed to publish, designed to assist officers with their planning and selection of investments. Initially, we describe below Tax Exempt Special Savings Accounts, or

TESSA for short, which currently have a high profile.

These contracts are issued by many financial institutions and the choice may be difficult. There are both fixed and variable rates of interest, offered with various incentives.

Save and Prosper appear very competitive at the moment, offering 15.25% for investments in year one, thereafter reducing to 14.25%. This contract does however carry a charge of £50, should you wish to change to another institution.

The Gartmore contract offers great flexibility, there being no transfer charge, but at a lower rate of 13.65%

TESSA allows an overall investment of £9,000 per person to be made over 5 years. The maximum investment in the first year is limited to £3,000 per person and thereafter £1,800 per person per annum.

No tax is charged on

first proposed surgery will be held at the Federation Offices, Stable Lodge, Police Headquarters on Wednesday, March 27.

Any officer who wishes an appointment at the above surgery should contact Brian Pallant in the Federation Office on extension 2797 asap.

the contract, so long as the original capital invested is not withdrawn. However, the interest can be withdrawn, but becomes taxable at source, with the tax being returned at the end of the five year period.

However, it should be remembered, that if you or your spouse do not pay tax, interest can now be received gross on ordinary building society investments.

This can be arranged from April by special registration using Form R85, which is available at local branches or prior to that date, by opening an offshore account.

This approach for the non-tax payer is preferable to TESSA, as switching charges are not incurred.

In conclusion, this type of contract is particularly efficient for saving over a 5 year period, so long as you are not likely to have need of your money during this period.

S.V. Foster,
Assistant Director,
George Burrows
Group Insurance,
Broadway Chambers,
1 Cranbrook Road,
Ilford,
Essex IG1 4DX,
Tel: 081-514 1000.

Offbeat

Flying flop

EAGLE-eyed fliers from the Air Support Unit snapped a special shot of their boss's house as they hovered overhead on return from a call out.

And they "fixed" a raffle at an evening get together so his ticket could be drawn to win the mystery prize.

But the red-faced sharpshooters bungled their aerial swoop — and filmed a first class close-up of Chf Supt Ian Wright's neighbour's house!

The ill-fated raffle had already got off to a flier, when the first prize of flying lessons was won by the 'copter's pilot.

Postie Pat on the back

OUR SYMPATHIES go out to staff in the Post Room at HQ, whose job it is to ensure sackfuls of mail, often incorrectly addressed, reach their intended destination.

Some clever joker sent a letter addressed as follows: THE 4" x 2" (1031) EFF ESS YEW, PEE OH BOX 2, SEE EMM TOO (6DA).

We think the postman did pretty well too!

Citrogen

HOT on the heels of the super-quick Lotus Carlton it looks like Essex Police have discovered a new rapid racer to watch out for — the Citrogen 2CV6.

This French hybrid, thought to be a souped-up version of the evergreen 2CV, was spotted by a sharp-eyed PC on a county road, and provides yet another challenge to enforcing the 70mph limit.

At this stage, reports that the vehicle runs on liquid Hydrogen are yet to be confirmed but it already looks set to replace old Jags and Granadas as a favourite get-away car.

Gulf Course

MEANWHILE, Saddam Hussein's embattled forces may well have been trying to replace their bomb-damaged equipment during undercover raids in the South Ockendon area.

At least that's what local police seem to think. A crime circulation fresh into the Press Office reports that — "Persons unknown removed property from the Gulf course."

Perhaps tempted by its performance in the sandy bunkers, thieves made off with an off-road motorbike. More used to dodging errant golf balls, the all-terrain bike could by now be dodging the Apaches.

Under fire

NOT coming under quite so heavy fire was a pumping station in Colchester Division. A worried caller who reported strange youths armed with some sort of pistol, taking photos of the station, was relieved to discover all was not what it seemed.

Officers discovered the youths were members of a photographic club. The pistol was a plastic toy being used as a prop. Good job they didn't start shooting.

SCRABBLE ace Deby Coles stunned judges in a national competition when she created 830 different words using letters from the word "intermediary".

The words whizz-kid from Bristol was given a choice of prizes — a hamper, champagne, free private medical or a day out with Essex Police!

Deby chose to come to Chelmsford with husband Nigel, and proved to be a hotshot on the force firing range as well.

She started her marathon word-search when she spotted the competition in "Broker Bulletin", the magazine of the medical insurance scheme Private Patients Plan.

Deby, who works in an insurance brokers, spent a whole Sunday looking up

by Jenny Bullus

words which had to be of three letters or more — and continued in her spare time throughout the following week.

She beat the second placed competitor by a margin of 300 words, even though only 740 of her entries were accepted.

It was a shock for the judges too, as an unfortunate reporter for Broker Bulletin had to spend a whole day checking Deby's marathon entry.

Adventurous

The young couple battled through the snow to travel to Chelmsford earlier this month, looking forward to an adventurous day out.

Deby, who had always

fancied a career as a pathologist, was particularly keen to see the Scenes of Crime laboratory.

But at the end of her action-packed day, which also included visiting the information room and the Driving School, it was her slip round the skid pan she enjoyed most.

The programme of activities, organised by Federation Chairman Bob Needham, included lunch with Acting Deputy Chief Constable Geoff Markham, who presented the couple with an Essex Police shield to remind them of their special day out.

They left treasuring their targets, showing a frighteningly accurate grouping of shots, and their spent car-

tridges — with Deby planning to convert hers into an unusual pair of earrings.

Essex Police has a close

working relationship with Private Patients Plan through its involvement in the force group medical

scheme, and was more than willing to help out when approached regarding a competition prize.



Hotshot Deby Coles takes aim on the force firing range, as Bob Needham recoils.

Brave Adrian is battling to get back on the beat

by Paul Dunt
SOME STRANGE sounds have been emerging from the CID office at Colchester police station over the past few weeks. Amid the familiar background of police talk and cigarettes being lit, a young policeman is singing.

He is also running six miles a day, copying copious pages of text from books and is just about to start speech therapy lessons. It's all part of a rigorous programme Pc Adrian Sharp has set himself to get back to fitness after a horrific road accident while on duty in November 1989.

A former British police 100 metres sprint champion and a member of the British police rugby team, Adrian's life was shattered that night when his car crashed on the way to check on an acid house party near East Bergholt.

WPC Jo-Ann Jennings, who was in the car with him, died, while Adrian, now 24, suffered serious head injuries, a broken arm and shoulder, three broken ribs and a punctured lung. He spent months in a coma and when he finally came round the chances of him making a full recovery did not seem high.

Determined

But Adrian was determined to overcome his terrible injuries. After more than a year in hospital he has just returned to work where his courage has already won enormous respect from his colleagues.

"I've always been determined to get back because it's what I always wanted to do, I just couldn't give up," he said. "I'm the only one who can get me there now, I've got to get there with my own effort."

"There's nothing mentally wrong now, my speech is improving all the time. My co-ordination isn't perfect but it's getting better. I could sit here and let it happen, but I want to assist it to get better as soon as possible."

"I realise it will be long and hard, but I'm prepared to put in that effort." To that end, he is attached to CID, but is officially a sick officer. He has been stationed at Colchester to be nearer his parents and twin brother, Andrew.

Although enjoying his chance of rehabilitation into the force, Adrian is aching to return to the beat

and get more involved again. "I usually get out as an observer, but I have done some statements as well, I'm just giving them a helping hand. In the long term I would like to be a dog man."

Safety

Meanwhile, he has been trying to put his tragic experience to some good by speaking to young people at Thurstable School, Tiptree, on the importance of road safety. "I felt I could give them back a bit so none of them would have to put up with what I put up with," he said.

"They get knowledge of road safety from the schools liaison officer, but he could not give them first hand experience." During a 35-minute talk Adrian was able to tell the 14 and 15-year-olds how the accident not only affected him but family, friends and col-

leagues in the force. "I never thought a crash would happen to me," he told them.

"What I have put up with is nothing compared to the mental pain my family have put up with," he explained. Throughout his recovery, family and friends have been there to help him, and he has not forgotten the days they spent by his bedside while he lay virtually lifeless in a coma.

Adrian's return to the force has been particularly encouraging for Colchester Chief Inspector Pete Tanner who used to coach him as a teenager at rugby. Now in charge of assessing Adrian's chances of returning to the force as a fully able policeman, he is under no doubt there is a long hard struggle ahead.

"Adrian is a very honest young man and we are being honest with him," he said. "He is under no illusions

about the mountain he has got to climb to become a fit and able police officer again."

"But his determination is quite extraordinary and I am seeing his confidence grow every day. He is now saying it is not a question of if but when."

"The courage it took for him to go to that school and speak to those young people about his accident was immense."

"We are trying to extend him on a gradual basis so he is continually having to make an effort. There's a gap between mind and body — we just have to fill that gap. If people see him weak in those areas it will affect his credibility."

Balance

C/I Tanner has also started taking Adrian rugby training with him and has been working on a programme of exercise to improve his balance and co-ordination. "I think he's going to make it but there's a long long way to go," he said.

"I think it's because of his determination that he has been so readily accepted here. They know he is a policeman and they know the problems he is facing. There's going to be no bullshit, it's going to be straight down the middle because they know one day they could be working with him again."

And a chance to return to the job he loves is all Adrian really wants. "It's hard work but nothing that comes easy is worth having, and the police seem to be pleased because I'm putting in a lot of effort," he said. "I'm happy with how far I have gone but I am not satisfied. I've come a long way but not far enough."



Back behind a desk, but Adrian Sharp can't wait to get back on the beat.

Southend holiday home

THE NEW hiring season for Southend Police Club's mobile home at the Holimarine Holiday Park, Dawlish Sands, Devon, will commence on March 2 and continue through until November 9.

Letting rates are from £60 per week (Low Season). Vacancy dates may be confirmed and booked through Southend Club Secretary on Extension 6246 and where demand allows the facility may be hired for shorter periods, i.e. weekends.

The home is fully equipped and furnished and consists of three bedrooms (one double), bathroom, kitchen and lounge/diner.

This Holimarine site is well maintained and facilities include heated swimming pool, children's play area, and club house.

Holimarine brochure in which site and location are well illustrated, may be obtained from any travel agent.

Vacant dates at time of writing as follows: March 2-9, £60; 16-23, £60; 23-30, £60; 30-6/4, £60.

April 6-13, £105; 13-20, £105; 20-27, £105; 27-4/5, £105.

May 4-11, £105; 11-18, £105.

September 14-21, £150, 21-28, £105; 28-5/10, £105.

October 5-12, £80; 12-19, £80; 19-26, £80; 26-2/11, £60.

November 2-9, £60.

Stop Press

STEEPLE BUMPSTEAD bobby's wife Elaine Howard has reached the national final of the Weight Watchers Slimmer of the Year competition.

She will travel to the Dorchester Hotel in London on April 10 for the event.

SEE STORY ON PAGE 5

Pc Gutteridge remembered

Dad was Village Postman

ON READING in the January issue of *The Law*, the article on the memorial erected to the late Pc Gutteridge, I wish, through your column, for Mrs Alexander to know I too was reminded of the death of her father.

At that time, 1927, my father Arthur North was a young postman at Romford GPO. He delivered mail to Stapleford Abbots, and was well acquainted with Pc Gutteridge.

Though a young child, I vividly remember him reading in the Sunday newspaper the account of the death of George Gutteridge, and being both

furiously and saddened by it.

Now, long since dead, my father would, I know, be so happy for Mrs Alexander that, after all these years, this memorial has been erected, and also grateful to the police officers who made it possible.

Lillian Channon,
(widow, Sgt Hugh Channon, Thaxted),
Rochelle Close,
Thaxted.

On duty together

I READ with interest the article by Jenny Bullus in "The Law", on the brutal murder of Pc George Gutteridge in 1927.

My father, ex-Pc 459 Len Bannister, joined your Force in 1921, serving as a probationer at Shoeburyness, then as a beat officer at Warley, near Brentwood, and Walton-on-Naze, before retiring in 1946.

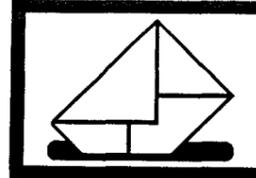
He knew Pc Gutteridge well, and recalls that his wife came from Junction Road, Warley. Together they often did duty at Galleywood and Rochford Pony Races, and remem-

bers in detail the murder and subsequent enquiries and conviction of the two men responsible.

My father is 93 years old and in good health, living in sheltered accommodation at Flat 10, Holly Court, Surrogate Street, Attleborough, Norfolk.

He still receives, and reads with great interest and pleasure "The Law", and wonders if he is one of the longest receivers of a Police Pension from your Force.

Alan Bannister,
(Retired Norfolk Constabulary Pc)
Drake Close,
Hethersett, Norwich.



Law

Letters

Night drive to Brighton

I READ with interest about the history of the Essex Police Driving School (The Law, January), which brought my mind back to October 1947 when I attended a four-week course of advanced driving.

I thought I could drive well, but I learnt a great deal more, which I think has stood me well up to the present time at the age of 95. I drove 200 miles into Wiltshire in 1989.

The Driving Instructor was Sergeant Priestly, there was also Chief Inspector Pilbury, and Sgt Green in the same car.

There was an amusing side to it. One night we

went on a night drive to Brighton, we each took a midnight snack to eat.

Just before we arrived, Sgt Green had his snack, and on the return Chf Insp Pilbury decided to have his. He opened the bag and found he had bread, cheese and onions, which he hated.

He said: "This is not my supper", and it turned out that Sgt Green had picked

up the wrong bag and eaten Pilbury's supper. Priestly and I laughed, but Pilbury was fuming!

There was another occasion on the Skid Pan. A Sgt Dyer was a bit too sharp on the take-off and ran up the bank. He had to be carefully eased back onto the track to avoid overturning.

I wish you all well for 1991.

Harry Salmon,
ex-Chf Insp
Bixley Road,
Ipswich.

Bill's in South Africa

ON A recent holiday in South Africa I, by pure coincidence, ran into a former Essex Police officer who is now living and working out there.

He is Bill Hinks (Ex Pc 236) who was stationed at Leigh from 1969-1972 (Bill now lives outside Johannesburg and owns a company that prints sticky labels). He asked to be remembered to the Force.

He also said that any former colleagues out in S. Africa are very welcome to give him a ring and get together.

Bill Hinks,
PO Box 781433,
Sandton 2146,
South Africa.

Phone:

011-804-4431 (home)
Pc Mike Hall, HQ, FSU

Grays Memories

WITH reference to the letter of Ex Pc 276 Keeble published in the last edition of *The Law* under the title of "Long Service in Grays", I think it only fair to explain to Mr Keeble that I did not receive a personal invitation to attend the Re-union Social at Grays Police Club, on Friday, October 5.

In common with many others, I read of the event when it was advertised in No. 208 edition of *The Law* in September, with a RSVP to Club Secretary, Constable Ian Lodge.

When serving in the Grays Division, I heard often of Mr Keeble but as he had departed from that Division before I joined it, I never met him. I hope he has a good response from his former colleagues to contact him.

William E. Mead,
(Ex Con 568),
Thelma Avenue,
Canvey Island.

From the family of Inspector Graham Stewart

Dear Mr Burrow, THANK you so much for your letter of condolence on the sad loss of my husband Graham. Only now have I felt able to express my sincere thanks to you and all those friends and colleagues from Essex Police who attended Graham's funeral.

The manner in which your officers organised and conducted the service, and the respect and floral tributes which were paid made me feel so very proud.

It was impossible for me at the time to personally thank everyone so may I take this opportunity to do so now.

I feel very said that Graham who was so full of hope and enthusiasm for the future will not have the chance now to prove he had the potential to succeed in his career, and moreover to share with me the joy of our children, Benjamin and Adam.

May I end by saying it is a great source of comfort to know that so many

people are concerned with our future welfare. Once again my sincere thanks.

Sally Stewart,
Leaside,
South Benfleet.

Thanks

Dear Mr Burrow, WE WOULD like to take this opportunity to thank you and your fellow officers for attending the funeral of our late son-in-law Inspector Graham Stewart on January 13.

It touched our hearts on such a sad occasion to see such respect shown with so much dignity.

It is a great source of comfort to us that our daughter Sally and her children have the help and supported needed now and in the future from the Police Force, and we thank all those concerned in their welfare.

Mr and Mrs A. Cowling,
Savern Terrace,
Watchet,
Somerset.

THE Surrey Constabulary is in the process of setting up a Force Museum, and I am writing to appeal for help.

Are there any ex-Surrey officers out there who are collectors of memorabilia?

The loan or donation of any photographs, uniforms, or other items of historical interest would be greatly appreciated. Acknowledgement will be given.

The museum will mainly centre on the polic-

ing of Woking, being situated in Woking police station, but it will also encompass the whole of the Surrey Constabulary.

If you can help, please contact myself on 0483 571212, or Inspector Dave Cook or Pc Ken Halls on 0483 761991.

Julie Willson,
Assistant Press & Public Relations Officer,
Police Headquarters,
Mount Browne,
Sandy Lane,
Guildford, GU3 1HG

Colchester Cares



Chf. Supt. Mike Blackwell (right) hands over nearly £6,000 to local charities.

CARING coppers and civilian staff from the Colchester Division raised a total of more than £8,000 for local charities during 1990.

They organised a whole range of sponsored events, discos, raffles and collections to raise the cash. And at a presentation evening on January 23, Divisional Commander Chf. Supt. Mike Blackwell handed over cheques for almost £6,000 of this amount.

The town's St. Helena Hospice received £2,100, bringing to £2,470 the total raised for the hospice last year. This was raised by the Colchester Police Sports

Club, which selected the hospice as its charity for the year.

In 1991 the sports club will raise funds for the Colchester and District Victim Support Scheme.

A cheque for £1,250 was handed over for Acorn Village at Mistley, part of the income from the Force Fun Day. Acorn Village also had a stall at the event in July, and raised £650 themselves.

Roger Marney of BBC Essex attended to collect a cheque of £1,066.50 for the Children in Need Appeal. Officers took part in the Chelmsford Jail Break, the Walton to Southend Pier

Chase, and a quiz night. A collection carried out by the cleaners within Colchester Police Station raised over £100.

A representative of the Sir Malcolm Sargent Home for children with cancer, in Jaywick, collected a cheque for £1,250 from the Fun Day income, plus £250 raised from a Christmas raffle at Clacton Police Station.

This adds to the £1,356.26 presented six weeks earlier to this charity by Clacton officers, as a result of a concert by the Essex Police Band at the Town's Princes Theatre.

Harlow hands over Fun-Day cash

IT WAS celebration time at the Huw Johnson Club's Christmas Party when Harlow Division officers handed over a bumper cheque for £1,250.

The club is named after Huw Johnson, a local lad who died shortly before his 15th birthday from Muscular Dystrophy, in 1974.

His parents Tom and Marion, together with other locals, formed a club for handicapped children in the area. Today, it has over 30 members, not all of whom are handicapped - brothers and sisters of handicapped children are encouraged to join.

Divisional Commander Chf. Supt. Mick Brewer said, "Although I had represented Harlow at the headquarters evening when the bulk of the Fun Day cheques were handed



Huw's father Tom Johnson receives the cheque from Sgt. Roger Burrows. Also pictured are fun day committee members Pc Fred Britnell and Mrs Kathy Hibberd, and Chf. Supt. Mick Brewer. Photo supplied courtesy of IN-PRESS PHOTOGRAPHY.

over, the Harlow committee very much wanted to present their cheque directly to the club.

"We were made very welcome, helped out with the party games and ensured Father Christmas arrived safely."

The donation will provide the youngsters with a week's holiday at Kessingland in August.

Band Aid

ESSEX Police Band is on the look-out for talented new members. With an action-packed programme, and a tour to Austria coming up in September, now could be the time for eager musicians; police, civilian or retired officers, to join up. Contact Pc. Wilf Kennedy at police HQ.

Don't forget the 25th Anniversary Concert on Saturday, March 2 in Christ Church, Chelmsford.

Musical magic from the London slums

Like OLIVER the audience asks for more

by Paul Dunt

MORE! Those who battled through snowy blizzards to watch this performance of *Oliver* by the Essex Police Musical Society were treated to a spirited production warm enough to thaw any winter chill.

From the minute the curtain rose to a high-pitched chorus of "Food, Glorious Food", the audience were already in the London slums, immersed in the shady world of the Workhouse, the Artful Dodger and the pompous Beadle, Mr Bumble.

Despite numerous TV, film and stage adaptations of this evergreen musical, the cast threw a new light and vitality on the colourful characters with gutsy performances and sheer strength of interpretation.

"I shall scream," sung

moment on there was no doubt this was a quality performance.

Also in no doubt was the enthusiasm of the audience. If myself and the row behind me were anything to go by, everybody was just itching to join in with such classics as "Consider Yourself," and "Pick a Pocket or Two".

John Hart's antics as the old rogue Fagin were marvellous. Watching him teach the young Oliver (Jonathan Collard) the skills of pick-pocketing were magic. A true graduate of the Ministry of Funny Walks, Hart's exuberant Fagin had the audience eating out of the palm of his hand.

George Lambeth as Bill Sykes was menacingly mean while Claire Jepson as Nancy was a true East End gal if ever there was one with a superb rendition of "He Needs Me". Full credit must also go to the quality of the scenery, which was excellent, as was the orchestral accompaniment.

"Where is Love," sung by young Jonathan Collard got the emotions going. His entire performance produced a very believable Oliver, very relevant even today.

This was the 26th musical presented in the Assembly Hall and like young Oliver, left the appreciative audience asking for more.

by Derek Lee (Mr Bumble) and Clara Smith (Widow Corney) was pure delight. From that



THE cast of *Oliver*, another success for the Essex Police Musical Society.



ARTFUL Dodger Russell Williams has a word of advice for young Oliver (Jonathan Collard).

COP CAPERS

Cardboard City Gi'ss a kiss sarge

THE HOME Secretary may have approved an increase of just 17 new Essex officers this year but if we took a leaf out of the Shropshire Force's book we could have as many as we like.

For only the cost of some cardboard, a pair of scissors and a jolt of artistic licence, officers in Telford are now working alongside cardboard cut-out colleagues in a new bid to crack crime.

I'm told their conversation is rather flat, but think how many you could get in a Sherpa for a major incident! But mocking aside, the cardboard coppers, bearing a placard reading: "Don't be Tempted, Theft is a Crime," have been credited with a 90% reduction in shoplifting at a Telford toy shop.

It just goes to show that in 1991 no job is for life. But to be replaced by a computer is one thing — a piece of cardboard quite another. Apparently Robocop is heartbroken.

NOT quite so content with his lot was a Trafford sergeant who was mistaken for a kisser in a pub. A boozy prankster planted such a passionate kiss on him that he had to be prised off by other officers.

But Sgt Matthew Gallagher was not amused and arrested his amorous admirer. A 33-year-old bus driver admitted using threatening behaviour in the pub and was fined £50 with £18 costs by magistrates.

What a gem!

MIND you, Diamond setter Fred Hauser of Ohio, USA, could have been forgiven for kissing anyone in relief after his lunch bag was stolen by hungry thieves. Though the bag contained 12 diamond rings the snack snatchers only kept his ham sarnies!

Animal Quackers

AND finally if the Telford story caused you concern over the future of the force spare a thought for our boys in blue down in Devon and Cornwall. According to one recent report the West Country force have a Pc Rabbitt, two Pc Bunneys, a Pc Fox and senior officers called Hare, Squirrel, Lion, Duck, Hawke and Parrot! Do you know any Essex officers who are animals? Answers on a postcard please!

Skier Nigel beats blizzard

MEANWHILE Pc Nigel Wells of Yorkshire Police has been making sure the cold weather hasn't prevented him getting to work at Bradford central police station. While the rest of his colleagues battled against the blizzards Pc Wells, a member of the British Police ski team, happily donned his skis to travel the two miles to work.

Elaine wins battle of the bulge

by Jenny Bullus

STEEPLE Bumpstead bobby Ray Howard is proudly showing off his new wife — but wait a minute, look closer, isn't that the same woman he married 13 years ago?

Elaine Howard has undergone a transformation, shedding a staggering seven stone to become the East Anglia region slimmer of the year.

The new trimmer, slimmer and fitter Mrs Howard has realised her ambition

to take up tap dancing, while Ray is counting the cost of her wardrobe half full of new size 12 clothes.

After years of half-hearted cranky diets, Elaine finally fought the flab by joining her local Weightwatchers group.

In ten months she slimmed down from a hefty 17-stone heavy-weight to just under ten-and-a-half stone. And her success story has won her the regional Weightwatchers award.

Proud Ray, who has been the local beat bobby for two years, said, "People in the village are absolutely stunned, a lot of people don't recognise her now."

Confidence

He said his wife's weight loss had given her more confidence, and helped her land a job in a Cambridge department store.

Now Elaine is waiting to hear if she has reached the national final, but that would just be an added bonus. "I consider I've won already, I've lost weight and maintained it after 23 years of being overweight."



BEFORE: Elaine had been overweight for years.

She was helped by the fact that Ray also wanted to lose weight. So they ate the same meals — with Ray, and her 21-year-old son, having larger portions!

Back pains

It was brought home to Elaine just how much her extra pounds were affecting her after climbing the stairs in Chelmsford's multi-storey car park, and

finding she just couldn't breathe. She was also suffering from back pains.

Joining a group helped give her the motivation to shed the pounds. "It just doesn't work trying to do it on your own," she said. "By joining a club you get so much support, and so much in the way of information."

And Ray, as well as getting a new-look wife, managed to shed a stone-and-a-half himself!



AFTER: Trim and fit Elaine Howard shows off her new shape.

ESSEX POLICE IS GOING TO THE

Pet pooches star at Crufts

ESSEX POLICE is going to the dogs! — at least that's how it seemed at Crufts this year as many of the Force's pet pooches snapped up the top honours.

While the force's own hounds were out sniffing the beat, their canine cousins have been strutting their stuff on the catwalks at the world's most celebrated dog show.

Carefully coiffured examples of man's (and woman's) best friend descended on the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from all over the country to join their chums in the tail-

wagging event of the year.

Among them were two rather special Essex dogs — Pachris Lovepotion — better known as Bliss the Collie and Tilegreen Tornado, or Syd the Whippet to his friends.

Young Syd is only three years old but is already building quite a reputation for himself. He beat all the other Whippets at the show —

by Paul Dunt

332-lean racers — to win the coveted title of best of breed.

This means on the day he was the best Whippet in the country and his fame is already spreading far and wide. Magazines from as far afield as Sweden and America are already clamouring for a photo of his classic profile.

Syd is no stranger to success, but winning best of breed was the icing on the cake for proud owner

Maureen Blanks, admin clerk at Laindon traffic. "You have got the eyes of the world on you at Crufts," she said. "It's the best I've ever had a dog achieve."

Dachshunds

"He's a nice dog without being exaggerated," added Maureen, who has been showing dogs for around 20 years and now keeps five whippets, as well as Syd there's Kizzie, Brooke, Oliver and William, and three miniature wire-haired dachshunds.

And Syd seems to have passed his award-winning form onto his pups. His son, Oliver, also known as Westmount the Cyclone, won the special yearling class, much to Maureen's delight.

"I've got high hopes of Oliver becoming a champion," she said, as she dished out another round of doggy snacks, courtesy of Crufts, to her lively menagerie. "He lives up to his name because he's always asking for more."

The Crufts judges certainly wanted more of 13-month-old Bliss, a blue Merle collie belonging to Chelmsford DC Chris Brown and his wife Pat, a former police woman.

Still a little young to

win the top prizes she made her name known among the 450 other collies at the show by beating 42 of them to win the junior bitch class.

Triumph

The result was a great triumph for Chris, who was handling his first dog at the No 1 show after years of watching Pat leading their top dogs out before the sharp-eyed judges.

"She has got enough to be a champion; she has done very well in a short space of time," said Pat at the family's cottage in Stow Maries, which they and 11-year-old daughter Becky, share with six collies, Coco the Sheltie and Thara, a German Shepherd.

Indeed, Bliss wasn't the only dog to go to Birmingham. Her father, Ralph, also known as Pachris Mystic Warrior, went along too and picked up a very respectable fourth place in the mid-limit dog class.

But though happy with their success and ready to trek all over the country with their collies or whippets, only one thing is really important to Pat, Chris and Maureen — the happiness of their animals. Show stoppers or not they are all stars in their eyes.



PROUD Jackie Cross meets

Carla is the youngest

MEET cuddly Carla, the force's newest and youngest recruit.

She joined up at just seven weeks old, and has

already won over a few hearts in a traditional male world.

Up 'til now the dog section has preferred to recruit male German Shepherds, to avoid too many doggy distractions.

But there are high hopes the Carla could be the first Essex dog used for breeding, to produce a strong litter of potential police dogs.

Section boss, Inspector Rod Barrett, explained: "The purpose of it is to try to improve the stock of the dog section, to get good quality German Shepherds for police training."

"Normally we take dogs as gifts from members of the public, but it's becoming more and more difficult to get suitable dogs. There is a national shortage of suitable dogs."

Carla was provided from the Metropolitan Police dog school. Her



SYD the whippet, with proud owner Maureen Blanks.



CHRIS and Pat Brown with their classy collies.

DOGS: AT WORK AND AT HOME



Brett and handler John Broad.

force's t recruit

father competed in last year's national police dog championships, while her mother had already produced two successful litters.

Meanwhile, a few weeks older and just as cute is Jet, also earmarked as a canine crimefighter of the future.

From a working line, Jet was supplied by Beaumont Kennels of Wickford as a pup, but is now a strapping 15-week-old mischief-maker, and growing fast.

He is being groomed for Pc Keith Foster of the Laindon section, whose current trusty partner Kess is due for retirement.

All the dogs have different personalities, and it will be strange for Keith going from a fully trained dog, which does exactly what he wants, to a new puppy.

"Usually you get a dog at 12 months old with its faults, but having Jet as a puppy means its my fault if she has any," said

Keith.

In September Jet and Keith will go on a training course at the Regional Police Dog Training School in Surrey. Until then he will just receive basic puppy training and exercise and get used to people.

Insp Barrett said, "With gift dogs, the problem is they often lack the right upbringing for police dog purposes."

Carla will live in a kennel outside, and only be exposed to short periods of adoring attention from Rod's wife Jan and their four children.

At 44 weeks she will be X-rayed to check her hips are sound, and when she is a year old will start training as a police dog.

"She will have to prove her ability as a working dog. But if she is suitable I'm hoping she will be able to produce puppies for the section for the future," said Insp Barrett.

Famous five pass out with pride

by Jenny Bullus

IT WAS rather like that first school Sports Day as the group of excited adults gathered at the edge of the field waiting for their charges to perform.

But this was the Passing Out Parade at Sandon dog section, and the assembled group were the proud former owners of five dogs about to demonstrate their newly acquired skills to a very appreciative audience.

Carole Roberts was amazed by the change in Tag, as he was put through his paces by rookie handler Pc. Dennis Oliver.

"He's great, he's really calmed down," said Mrs Roberts of Springfield, who is expecting her first child.

Powerful

Carole and her husband David realised Tag would have to go when Carole became pregnant. He was their first

German Shepherd, and proved to be a handful — a powerful dog and very mischievous.

"That's why I couldn't handle him," said Carole, "but they say he's calmed down and does all he's meant to do."

"It's nice to see him, how's he's getting on and how he's behaving," added David. "We're happy that Dennis is looking after him."

Jackie Cross of Chelmsford was anxious to know whether Brett, formerly known as Zeus, would recognise her.

Carpets

But he was a changed dog, having been under the strict and watchful eye of Pc. John Broad, his third dog.

Jackie explained, "I couldn't control him and look after him. He ate his way through the house."

"When I let him out, he'd run off and wouldn't come back." For the town's long-suffering dog warden, Zeus became a familiar sight, and he



FIVE men and their dogs: John Broad with Brett; Dennis Oliver with Tag; Graham Knight and Glen; Tony Spong and Bodie; Bill Prowse with Buster.

helped arrange the dog's placement with the police.

"We did love the dog, but knew we couldn't keep him," said Jackie. "He was so full of life. He ate the carpets in the hall, and ate through a chair. I was working so I wasn't there all day."

Sgt Bill Prowse was pleased with the progress of Buster, his second dog.

His first dog Tebo had retired through ill health.

"He's got his weaknesses, but he's a young dog. He's quite professional on all the exercises. I hope to have him for at least four or five years."

Buster, formerly known as Floyd, was donated by Mrs Zara Perez Strobbridge of Leigh-on-Sea. Also pass-

ing out were Pc. Graham Knight with Glen, and Pc. Tony Spong with Bodie.

Searching

The dogs gave an impressive demonstration of tracking and searching work, obedience, and detaining criminals. It was hard to judge who was most proud, their new handlers or their former owners.

ACC (O) Geoff Markham, presenting certificates to the successful handlers, explained to the assembled group just how important the dogs were, and stressed that the animals enjoy their job.

He also presented certificates to two handlers passing out on the drugs course. Pc. Alan Jones and Pc. Michael Mercer demonstrated how their Springer Spaniels Harry and Monty sniff out drugs in both cars and buildings.



IT'S a dog's life. Carla (right, with Insp Rod Barrett) meets Jet and Pc Keith Foster.



CARLA the force's newest recruit won't need to keep pace with the paperwork.

Tony's in the top bracket

WHEN IT comes to motor mechanics Tony Crabb is certainly in the upper bracket.

For Tony, an apprentice in the Essex Police HQ Garage, has just been named top student in his class at Colchester College, making him the proud holder of this year's Craftsman Trophy.

The prestigious award, begun by the Royal Engineers, was presented to the hard-working 19-year-old for his outstanding achievements both behind a desk and under the bonnet. It is the first time an apprentice from the Force's garage has won the award and it has delighted workshops

manager Chris Biggs as well as Tony's proud father.

Tony is one of four trainees at the garage, each undertaking a four year apprenticeship leading to a City and Guilds qualification.

Tony, in his second year, wanted to be a mechanic since school and, with indentured apprenticeships becoming rare, was delighted when he was offered a place in the Police workshop.

The wide range of police vehicles means Tony has been able to work on all kinds of machines from motorbikes to trucks and has also helped with maintenance and repair of the

Force's marine equipment.

"The work is very varied, it's the sort of experience you can't get anywhere else," he said. "I get to work on all makes of vehicle where most trainees only see one type."

And with qualified technicians scrutinising the apprentices' work they learn fast. "They know all the short cuts which can be helpful at times, the quicker we can get the cars in and out the better — just as long as I am kept busy I am happy."

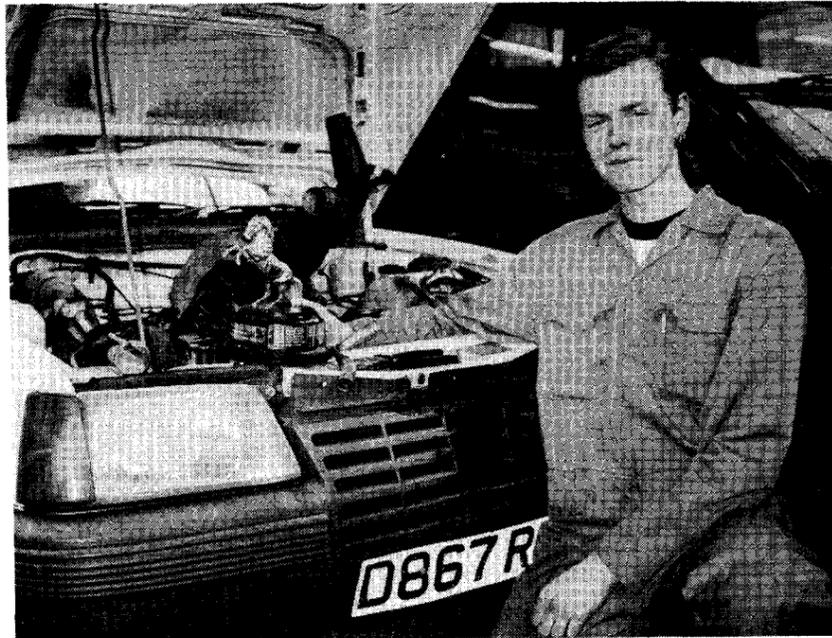
But one aspect Tony admits he does need help with is getting the cars in and out of the garage.

For although he could strip down your gearbox he couldn't move your car off the driveway — the driving test is still to come, he smiles.

Once Tony's apprenticeship is finished the future looks good. Their wide experience means apprentices leaving the garage are highly prized and few have trouble finding jobs.

Although he would quite like to stay on at the garage Tony is also thinking of going on to become an engineer.

But in the meantime his sister is making sure his valuable skills are not going to waste after hours — by lining up a variety of jobs on her car!



Tony Crabb . . . top student and holder of this year's Craftsman Trophy.

Tackling tension with community policing

BETHNAL GREEN is a far cry from Chelmsford. Although little more than a block away from the commercial world of the City of London, it is an area of deprivation and poverty.

It has the largest Bangladeshi population outside Bangladesh, so much so that its main street, Brick Lane, has been dubbed 'Banglatown'.

It is an area with a long history of housing immigrants. And in policing terms it is an area of tension and potential confrontation.

A lot of effort has gone into community policing, including

by Jenny Bullus

the opening up of a police 'shop' in Brick Lane.

This was the area Inspector Mike Todd found himself posted to for six months when he was selected for a job swap scheme which took Metropolitan Inspector Trevor Hermes to Chelmsford.

There were some shocks in store. The first was when he

saw Bethnal Green Police Station. It looked a bit ancient from the outside, but Insp Todd said: "When I saw the accommodation people were working in, I couldn't believe it."

"There were holes in the roof, and there were pools of water on the floor in the Inspector's office."

"There was one area car, one van and one duty officer's car, and they were always breaking down."

What there is no shortage of in the Metropolitan Police is officers and an officer making a 10/9 call can expect back-up within a minute. They can

afford to wade in and make an arrest, where Essex officers have to step back and try to calm a situation.

Nightmare

Every police officer's nightmare of paperwork is also significantly reduced, with an efficient civilian staff back-up system designed to get the officer straight back out on the beat.

It was a testing time for Insp Todd, right from his first week when he had to deal with a double fatal road accident, involving a car being pursued by a police car. And with a police thrown in for good measure!

This helped win him the respect of his shift, and the shift quickly won his respect too.

"I went up there with a fixed view of the Mets, but I completely revised my opinion. I was incredibly impressed with the quality of service they provide."

"I was impressed by the quality of the Pcs, they have a really difficult job and are doing it very well. They showed phenomenal restraint."

Mr Todd explained: "In Essex you almost always get support from the public. If you say you intend to do something, the majority of the population accept it."

"Up there, I found you were being challenged all the time —

by the community, by local politicians and by community groups.

"You have to think on your feet all the time, you have to think of all the implications. The people are a lot more questioning."

"You can't sit back and let things run themselves, you have to have your finger on the pulse the whole time."

Violent

The area is more violent, and there is anti-police feeling among its youth. There is racial tension between Asians and Europeans. Mr Todd said: "A very small incident has the potential to spark off a much larger incident."

Police resources are available to combat this threat, but it is always a tough decision whether to call for assistance or to try to keep things low key. Officers often patrol in plain clothes.

"On my say so I could have called up 2,000 officers. You mustn't be afraid of using these resources if you think the wheel is about to come off," said Insp Todd.

The role of an Inspector in the Mets was one of the surprises in store for him. "The Inspector is a pure leadership role, rather than management. You're expected not to be in the station at all."

Being out on the beat was one

aspect of his six-month attachment Insp Todd particularly enjoyed. But he did find the Sergeant's role much reduced, and encouraged his relief to place more responsibility on the Sergeants.

His patch at Bethnal Green was just one and a half square miles, yet his shift comprised five Sergeants and 24 Pcs. They were certainly kept busy.

● Mr Todd was promoted on his return to Essex, and is now serving as Det Chf Insp in Headquarters CID.



Mike Todd

CHORUS LINES

WHAT is it about sopranos and tenors that allows their numbers to grow while the altos and basses remain static? Do they get together between rehearsals and breed?

Seriously, while membership of the choir increases, we could do with more altos and basses.

If you are interested, and enjoy singing, contact John Bray 3543, Bob Hayes 2162 or Roger Grimwade 2457.

The choir gave a concert on January 26 to a full house at Coggeshall, which was enlivened with monologues from Roger Richardson and Peter Simpson, and horn solos by our guest Haydn Oakey.

As a sign of our growing confidence the choir has entered the Leigh Music Festival in March, and we are taking bookings through to December with performances around the county.



BETHNAL GREEN: Run down and poor, yet just yards from the City.

What a Fun Day

FUN DAY monies have been handed over to two of Basildon's chosen charities.

Cheques for £1,250 each were presented to Kim Oakes of Wickford Toy Library, and Hazel McLaughlin of the Bader Centre, Basildon.

They are pictured at the presentation in Basildon Police Station, with Insp Leslie Bramhill, Mrs Grace Cox, and other members of the division.



THE NOT-SO FLEXIBLE FRIEND

IMAGINE the scene: You've gone into a major High Street store, paid cash for an electrical item marked at £100, but then been stopped by the store manager as you were leaving.

Although the receipt for the goods is tucked into your wallet, he is demanding another £35.

Doubtless you would think he had been hitting the wine gums too hard, or you'd look around for Jeremy Beadle lurking behind the cosmetics counter in a wig.

But isn't that what happens to all of us who purchase goods using the bit of plastic offered by most of our large stores, and many of the smaller ones too.

For every £100 spent using charge cards we pay

on average an additional £35 for that item.

A survey in my local High Street in Colchester, showed that Debenhams charge rate is 2.65 per cent per month or 36.8 per cent per annum; Marks and Spencers 2.5 per cent per month or 34.5 per cent per annum. Dixons charge 36 per cent per annum with the repayment spread over either three or five years. Rumbelows asked a 5 per cent minimum deposit and charged a staggering 41.9 per cent.

Not only is it expensive it is also far too easy to obtain. M&S, Debenhams and Rumbelows offered me on the spot credit of between £250 and £1,000 as I had my bank details on me with my cheque guarantee card and carried a warrant card which

showed I was a special constable. These were apparently sufficient to prove my credit worthiness.

This easy credit can have a kick-back. In this time of "I want it and I want it now" it is not difficult to be caught in the trap and to overstretch resources, especially with escalating interest rates.

Suddenly you find there is a choice between paying the monthly bills to the creditors or doing the monthly "Tescos". You cannot do both and something has to give.

Possibly one creditor is more demanding with his letters than another so he gets his money while the other doesn't. This is followed by the threatening letter from the solicitor or debt collection agency,

talking of "taking the matter further" and "court action will be considered".

That obviously cannot be ignored, so the mortgage isn't paid "just for the one month". Next month is a repeat of the last and so on.

Used wisely the occasional purchase using our flexible friend is useful, used to excess the consequences can be terrifying.

Why can't we use more restraint and do as our grandparents did — save until we can afford to pay cash for the new washing machine, compact disc player or holiday. We will enjoy them more in the knowledge we are not going to have them repossessed.

For a free and confidential talk on any financial or debt matter please ring Mrs Frankie Knight on 0206 823274.

Real life drama of police under pressure

by Jenny Bullus

STREET BEAT, Remould Theatre Company, Cramphorn Theatre, Chelmsford, February 4 and 5.

IF THE aim of the Remould Theatre Company in "Street Beat" was to accurately portray the pressures and the reality of every-day policing, then this it surely achieved.

It is, perhaps, one of the most thoroughly researched plays about the police ever written.

Playwrights Peter Spafford and Rupert Creed spent five months with the Humber-side police researching every aspect of their work, and tape recorded interviews with 80 officers and their families.

This was no action-packed "Cops and Robbers" drama

like *The Sweeney* or *The Bill*, it was down to earth dealings with domestics, sudden deaths and paperwork, all liberally sprinkled with the very familiar police humour.

Documentary

But, if the Hull-based company's aim was to create an entertaining and meaningful drama documentary for a wider public than those with police connections, then perhaps it faltered a little.

If this can be a criticism, then after five months the writers understood the police too well. Certainly they came too close to capturing the

police humour because it is tasteless, and simply not funny to the uninitiated.

However, this play is surely a must for anyone connected with the police, wives and civilians as well as serving officers.

Those police in the audience would have seen something of their own shift in the characters on stage, and could not have failed to relish seeing their life styles so strikingly captured.

The script switched quickly and realistically from the deadly serious to the light-hearted, shaking off numbingly shocking experiences

with flippant frivolity.

It was well acted by the five-strong cast, and at times it was easy to forget they were not real police officers. Peter Courtenay touched a nerve as Griff, going through a private torment which insidiously ate away at his marriage and his career.

Fiona Welbum gave a versatile performance in her first major tour since graduating from drama college.

The play's humour was reinforced by clever improvisation as the cast responded to the audience. Sadly, on the first night, the audience



The final scene of **STREET BEAT**, performed by the Remould Theatre Company.

wasn't much bigger than the cast.

Creed and Spafford subtitled the play, "The real life drama of the boys in blue", which it unquestionably is. It captures the nature of mod-

ern-day policing, the moral dilemmas and a glimpse of the people behind the uniforms.

But the people of Chelmsford chose to stay at home and watch *The Bill*

instead.

For any officers living in the north of the county I'd recommend a trip to Ipswich to see *Street Beat* at the Sir John Mills Theatre on March 7, at 7.30pm.

New look stations face the future

by Paul Dunt

TWO Essex Police stations have been hitting the architectural headlines recently — one old, preserving the force's past, one new, pointing the way to the future.

Rochford Police Station is celebrating its 77th birthday this year and as such the grand old lady is enjoying a well-deserved facelift.

Built at the beginning of the First World War, the building was originally a police station flanked on each side by a small house — one for an inspector, the other for a sergeant.

But times have changed. After being empty for more than a decade, the two houses are being knocked through to the main station creating more room for the two sergeants and 17 constables who now work there.

Sited in Rochford's South Street, the building is in a conservation zone, so little change can be made to the exterior. But once the underpinning is finished, the unsightly wooden supports will be removed from the front.

The work is costing £206,231, of which Essex County Council is giving £28,340 towards the underpinning. Chief Inspector Paul Stanley, planning officer, said:



Rochford Police Station — enjoying a well-deserved facelift.

"The outside was cleaned and decorated last year. The front gardens are also going to be replanted so it should look really good."

Meanwhile, Sgt David Harvey and his team are making themselves comfortable in four portable buildings airlifted in by crane to a spot behind the main police station.

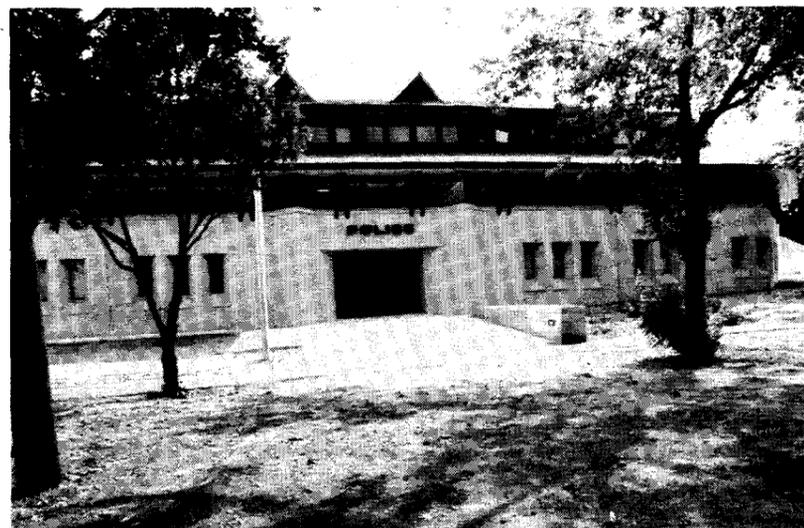
"It's a bit of a tight squeeze," he said. "The biggest problem is that you have to keep going out of one building to get into the next."

But come October, the conversion work should be complete and there are plans to move the Westcliff dog section and possibly some admin staff into the new expanded station.

Eventually, Rochford will also have a new car park at the back and barrier control will be introduced.

But while it's all change at Rochford, staff at Colchester have been learning to live with new-found fame after their station, opened in 1989, won a commendation in the Civic Trust Awards 1990.

But the new divisional head-



Colchester Police Station — pointing the way to the future.

quarters, opened by the then Home Secretary, Douglas Hurd, is buzzing with history.

The site contains part of a Romano-British cemetery which was fully excavated before work began and the remains of a fourth Century Church, thought to be one of the earliest Christian buildings in England, which have been left exposed for the public to see.

Boffins

Architectural boffins said the £4 million building "reconciles the often conflicting demands for public access and openness with those of security and privacy."

"Careful site planning has ensured that the building presents an appropriate public front to the new ring road with smaller buildings and a walled courtyard alongside the residential areas on the other boundaries of the site," they commented.

The award came as no surprise to Chief Inspector Peter Tanner, who has been singing the building's praises since it opened. "It looks right and it feels right when you are inside it. It looks like a police station ought to look."

"I would argue this is the

best sub division in the county and our effectiveness is helped enormously by the quality of surroundings we work in."

The circular-style building includes some innovative and practical ideas which C/I Tanner feels should be included in police stations of the future.

These include a superb gymnasium and exercise room. More than 200 officers are now signed up members of the sports club.

Prisoners

The custody section is a clever concept with a secure docking bay, complete with turntable, to make the transfer of prisoners as secure and quick as possible. Nobody has escaped from the new station.

Security tags at almost every door ensure only the right people get into the station. This sometimes raises the backs of visiting officers, but C/I Tanner defends the right to know who is walking around his station.

Atop the station is living quarter for 12 people in single rooms, but the station's pride and joy is its identification suite, unique outside London and Manchester.

Complete with two-way mirror, video and recording facilities, it is already in great demand. "The Mets have used it which is quite an accolade," said C/I Tanner. £10 a time now ensures there is no shortage of willing parade volunteers.

But it's the attention to detail that makes Colchester special. Everything is colour-coded for a comfortable working environment — even the cells have been specially painted to make prisoners feel more at home.

Graffiti

"If I prefer to sit in quiet surroundings why shouldn't prisoners," he said. So, some cells have been painted pink, others yellow. Graffiti has fallen off since the colour change.

"I would be surprised if this didn't become a model for police stations all over the country."

Such is the success of the station that it is proving to be a top tourist attraction. A viewing screen has been set up in the control room and C/I Tanner is now taking bookings for August 1991.

Promote yourself

GO FOR PROMOTION! The results of the Sergeant's exams were published at the end of last month, and career development officer Supt Julian Field is encouraging policemen and women to apply for a board.

Officers seem to fight shy of that first all-important promotion, whether through fear of the written exam or of facing the three-strong Promotion Advisory Board.

But Supt Field said the exam is practically based, or based on the most common elements of criminal law, and with adequate preparation should not be too daunting.

And he urged officers both young and old to go for promotion. "People are unnecessarily sceptical of early promotion."

"If you have got the skills and the abilities, the opportunities are there for you."

"You shouldn't be put off trying because you think you are too young in age or service."

But he also stressed that the force wants a mixture of officers being promoted, so experienced officers should not be discouraged from applying later into their service.

This was well illustrated by the last Promotion Boards, held between September and November, in which 41 constables were successful.

These ranged from Pc.s Ramdat and Moore, who joined up together four years earlier, now aged 22 and 23 respectively, to Fred Britnell, of Harlow Division, who at 44, had served 21 years as a Pc.

The average age of the successful candidates was 31, with an average length of service of nine years.

Any constable with two years service, who has had his or her appointment confirmed, and has passed the exam, is eligible to apply for a board.

Supt Field and the career development team are there to give advice on how to prepare for a board. And they will also

help officers who are not successful to develop their careers in preparation for their next board.

"Everyone gets feedback," said Supt Field. Last year the results were published within hours of the final board.

"The board only comprises a small part of the assessment procedure in determining an applicant's suitability for promotion. The board is the final hurdle, it is a bit like a job interview."

"The aim is to give each individual the opportunity to state his or her case."

Once a candidate is successful, they will be asked to indicate their preference for postings to particular areas. "Invariably a posting on promotion from Constable to Sergeant does not involve a move of house," said Supt Field.

The following officers were successful in passing the qualifying examination, which was held on 30 October, for promotion to the rank of Sergeant:

Pc P. Clayton, Pc M. A. Locker-Boyes, Pc S. M. Shoesmith, Pc J. A. Hadley, WPe J. A. Mawby.

The above officers were in the top 200 who qualified.

Pc T. H. Wills, Pc S. J. Mailes, Pc S. F. Warwick, Pc D. G. Elford, Pc A. R. White, Pc B. J. Murnaghan, Pc D. D. Wiles, Pc M. C. Fumeaux, Pc S. K. May, Pc P. M. Steele, Pc M. Afford, Pc R. R. Norcup, Pc C. Rowland, Pc P. J. Eveleigh, Pc K. A. Harvey, Pc D. A. Cook, Pc A. E. Gooden, Pc M. P. Broad, Pc S. J. Tolliday, WPe D. L. Enstone, WPe C. Thatcher, WPe N. Norris.

The following officers passed the paper in which they were previously referred:

Pc P. S. Hadley, Pc C. R. Vale, Pc P. Sutton.

Comrades Association

HERE are two important dates for your diaries, comrades. A Spring buffet will be held on Saturday, May 4 and later in the year, the Autumn Luncheon will be on Friday, October 25.

Both events will be held in the restaurant at HQ, at 1pm, with a get-together in the bar beforehand.



I.P.A. NEWS

MID-ESSEX BRANCH
Fred Dyson

Wedding Memories

ON FRIDAY evening, January 11 the AGM was held at Police HQs attended by 25 members and their wives. Our guest for the evening was Ray Hansen, Chairman of No. 10 Region. During the evening our ladies excelled themselves again by providing an excellent buffet.

Members had been asked to bring wedding photographs taken many years ago. These were set out on a table and we had to guess who the bride and groom were. It was amazing how some people had changed. A raffle was also held to support branch funds. All members of the

Committee were re-elected en-bloc, after which a cheque for \$171 was handed to our member Sam Tuck for the charity CHARMS. The money was raised at a Barbecue evening last year. Due to inclement weather our annual dinner which was to have been held on Friday, February 8, had to be postponed. It will now be held on Friday, March 15 at the same time and place.

Forthcoming events:-

Friday, March 8 — Police Cadet Training School Canteen.
A talk and slide show on Hong Kong by our member

Derek Thomas who spent a few years working there. During the evening, if anyone is interested, orders will be taken for Chinese take-away meals, to be eaten in the canteen.

Saturday, April 20-24
Our five day French trip to Rouen, Northern France.

Friday, May 17
A social occasion to be arranged in a marquee on the sports field at Police HQs.

Friday, June 14
A walking treasure hunt in Witham followed by an evening meal.

motion on the agenda of the House of Commons the wording of which states:- "That this house recognises that the standard of living of a significant percentage of British pensioners has declined over the last decade and urges the Government to improve the position of all pensioners by a substantial increase in the basic state retirement pension."

The main object of the campaign is to obtain a better increase in state retirement pensions and for future increases to be linked to the increase in either (a) retail price index or (b) earnings index, whichever is the greater.

In the meantime the 1990 increase, effective as from April 1, 1991, is to be 10.9%.

The NEC of NARPO have now negotiated a Legal Advice Scheme with Russell Jones and Walker, the Police Federation Solicitors, whereby NARPO members can seek legal

advice with a view to pursuing claims for personal injury sustained in accidents of Criminal Injuries Compensation Board claims.

The advice would be as to whether or not a claim would be likely to succeed.

If the advice was that the claim would most probably be successful, Russell Jones and Walker would be prepared to conduct the case with the member as a private client and would deal direct with that member. Anyone interested in this please contact me for application forms.

I must stress that this scheme is restricted to personal injury claims for the member only and does not cover any other incident.

A very comprehensive legal insurance scheme is operated locally by Essex Joint Branch Board. The premium for this scheme is £1.95 per month. I am also able to supply details of this scheme to anyone interested.

Man with £117 million in his hands



SPOTLIGHT

ALAN GOLDING
Force Accountant

ONE legacy a decade of Thatcherism has left this country is a keener awareness of money management.

It is a philosophy which has spread from the housewife to the multi-national company. And Essex Police ranks as a big business, with a budget of £117 million.

Now for the first time it has employed a force accountant. But it is not Alan Golding's job to be a glorified book-keeper.

Police officers, as we know, are expected to be instant experts. And in the past officers have been put in control of massive budgets with only limited financial training.

Mr Golding's job at the head of the force's finance section is to provide advice and guidance to spending managers and help improve budgetary control.

Of course, no-one wants to see the day when a divisional Chief Inspector has to count the pennies before deploying resources to a major incident.

Mr Golding says: "Financial management must be done, taking account of the opera-

tional needs of the police. The activities the police undertake must come first.

"What people have got to start thinking is how can they do it better?"

His role, as well as formulating a training programme, is to "make sure budget holders get meaningful, timely and accurate information."

Financial services are provided to the police by the county treasurer's department, but the future is for more local control. Financial management, devolved as far as possible, is getting a high priority.

Mr Golding, who joined the force in November, sees his job as providing a service to the operating arm of the police. "Anything you decide to do will have a spending consequence."

"My role is to provide the best advice to make sure you're doing it the best way to minimise pounds lost and maximise pounds gained."

"My aim is to make people feel they want to come to me,

and use me to help them with day to day decisions."

He can be contacted on HQ extension 2604.

Mr Golding, 39, who lives in Chelmsford, has a financial background in both commerce and local government, having worked as audit manager for the London Borough of

Newham for three years.

His career began working as a management trainee for shipping firm P & O in London. He studied for his accountancy exams at evening classes, and was admitted as a Fellow of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants in 1977/78.

National
Association of
Retired
Police
Officers by
Doug Rampling

THE CAMPAIGN by the Public Service Pensions Council, of which NARPO is a member, continues in an effort to improve the standard of living of all pensioners in this country.

The most recent development has been the setting down of an early day

RETIREMENTS

TYRANT'S LAST KNIGHT

THERE can be no officer with less than twelve-and-a-half years service who cannot recall his or her first encounter with Inspector Peter Knight. In his time at the Force Training School as both Sergeant and Inspector he has been responsible for probationer training, which ranged from 'bulling' boots to the Bennett Trophy. His unforgettable, and unprintable, selection of parade square phrases will long serve to remind and amuse.

But underneath the resplendent uniform lay a determination to fight the corner of all his probationers, and he was often their first call when in difficulty.

Peter retires on March 6.

- Other retirements:**
15.2.91 Pc HAROLD WALKER, Harlow/Stansed, 30 years.
3.3.91 Ds ROBERT WOODCOCK, HQ/Stansed Airport, 12 years 349 days.
4.3.91 Chief Insp JOHN PUDNEY, HQ/O&L, 32 years 17 days.
6.3.91 Det Chief Insp MICHAEL PATRICK, Harlow, 31 years, 17 days.
24.3.91 Pc EDWARD GLOVER, Colchester/Claughton, 23 years, 199 days.
28.3.91 Pc KEITH DAVEY, Southend Traffic, 30 years 104 days.
28.4.91 Pc DONALD ROBERTSON, Harlow/Stansed, 23 years 52 days.
5.5.91 Pc JOHN GAUT, seconded Brentwood, 29 years, 361 days.
13.1.91 Mrs L. GISSING, audio typist, Braintree, 5 years.
10.2.91 Mrs E. LEE, part time cleaner HQ, 22 years.

LAW DATES

YOUR favourite force newspaper is now publishing 11 action-packed issues each year. Apart from the holiday month of August, we will be bringing you 12 pages of news and views from around the county every month.

Here is a list of printing dates, and copy deadlines — so make sure you get your contributions in on time. Anyone who has trouble obtaining a copy of The Law let us know by ringing the Press Office, ext. 2454 or 2453.

| | Copy deadline | Printing date |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| MARCH | Fri March 15 | Wed March 27 |
| APRIL | Fri April 12 | Wed April 24 |
| MAY | Fri May 10 | Tues May 21 |
| JUNE | Fri June 7 | Wed June 19 |
| JULY | Fri July 5 | Wed July 17 |
| AUGUST | | No issue |
| SEPTEMBER | Fri, Sept 7 | Wed Sept 18 |
| OCTOBER | Fri Oct 11 | Wed Oct 23 |
| NOVEMBER | Fri Nov 8 | Wed Nov 20 |
| DECEMBER | Fri Dec 6 | Tues Dec 17 |

DATES FOR DIARIES

(Subject to approval)

- Saturday, April 27
Chelmsford Branch AGM, Police HQ 10am
- Saturday, May 4
Comrades Buffet Police HQ
- Friday, July 5
Force Garden Party, Police HQ
- Sunday, July 14
Force Fun Day Police HQ
- Saturday, August 31
Chelmsford NARPO Luncheon, Police HQ
- Thursday 12 to Saturday 14 September
NARPO Conference, Llandudno
- Friday, October 25
Comrades Luncheon, Police HQ
- Friday, December 6
NARPO Chelmsford Christmas Social, Police HQ

The date for the annual coach trip has not yet been fixed.

SITE REPORTS, an independent monitoring service employed by outdoor advertisers to inspect and report on roadside billboards, are looking for inspectors to work locally on a part time basis.

The only requirements are that members should have a 35mm camera and private transport. Anyone interested should telephone 021-499-9052 during office hours and ask for Rachel Stanhope.

Market Place . . . Market Place . . . Market Place . . . Market Place . . .

NISSAN STANZA 1.6 'C' Reg, 6 mths tax, MOT 1yr. Sunroof, radio, cassette. Reliable, vgc, £2500 o.n.o. Contact SOA Boylan, Basildon Police Stn or 0277-651205.

TRAILER TENT, Conway Coniche, 4 berth, kitchen, good condition. £425. Contact Pc Clancey, Billericay or 0268-780856.

LADA 1200 estate, T Reg. 1 year MOT, Taxed, ideal first car. £350. Contact Phil Golding, Laindon Traffic.

ALGARVE, Vilamoura Portugal. Two bedroom apartment. Sleeps six, swimming pool and bar on complex. Contact Ex Pc Spiers (Rtd) 0268-558211.

AMSTRAD COMPUTER CPC 464. Colour monitor, joystick, lots of games £175. Contact Pc Oxlade, Coggeshall, 0376-561244.

SPAIN (Costa Blanca). Apartment with sea view in Cabo Cervera, south of Alicante. Furnished to high standard, all mod cons. Self catering. Cost £35 per person per week (reduction for children). Contact Mr B. Petre, Palo Verde, Church View, Willington, Co Durham, DL15 0UP or Tel 0388 746219.

SPAIN (Costa Blanca). Two bedroom bungalow at La Siesta, sth of Alicante, Self catering. Furnished to high standard. Cost £35 per person per week (reduction for children). Contact Mr B. Petre, Palo Verde, Church View, Willington, Co Durham, DL15 0UP or Tel 0388 746219.

ORLANDO. Is this your holiday destination? Would you like the opportunity to receive an award of \$100 (one hundred dollars). Just spend one hour of your holiday to visit either Marriott Royal Palms (World Centre) or Marriott Cypress Harbour (International Drive) no hard sell. Introductions from Leslie Bramhill, Extn 3219 or 0268 756474.

PIANO, FUCHS AND MOHR. Iron Frame, light wood. Very good condition. £750. Contact C Day, Harwich, 0255-431851 evenings only.

WANTED— any old maps, especially Ordnance Survey, any age, scale, condition and Town Maps, Road Atlases etc. Contact Insp R. Malcolm HOIR.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE — ONE WORD PER BOX.

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Name and Rank _____ Station _____
Home telephone _____ Signed _____

FOCUS ON THE FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

TITLE

The title of the Association shall be Essex Police Sports Association.

(a) The Headquarters of the Association shall be Essex Police, Headquarters, Chelmsford and each branch of the Association shall have its Headquarters at Divisional or Sub Divisional Headquarters.

(b) A Branch of the Association is construed as being any Divisional or Sub Divisional Sports Club in association with the Essex Police Sports Association.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

"The members of the Force Sports Association shall be members of the Sports Club of their normal 'place of duty'."

OBJECTS

(a) To foster sport within the Force by all suitable means including the organisation, control and management of Inter Club Competitions. The Croker Cup.

(b) To co-ordinate representative

sporting activities of all kinds.

(c) To maintain the Force Sports Ground, buildings and facilities. It has been noticed that some members of the Force, both Police and civilian, are not members of the Essex Police Sports Association.

If this is so you are not allowed to use the Sports facilities and Bars provided by your Divisional or Sub Divisional Sports Clubs.

To find out if you are not a member, look at your next pay slip and see if you are paying for Police Sports.

If not, please contact your Divisional Representative, who will advise you how to join.

Whilst looking at your pay slip, check if you are in the Police Lottery.

At the moment this pays out over £35,000 per year and as the rules have recently been amended, this should increase quite considerably.

The main change is that the cost of each chance will now be 50p instead of 25p.

The maximum number of chances allowed to be held will still be 16.

These changes will begin on April 1.

If you want to join the lottery or increase your chances please submit a Form A57 to the Treasurer: Sgt Dick Soward at Rayleigh.

Give your name, rank and number, where you are stationed, the number of tickets you require and your payroll number. If you want to increase your chances you must submit Form A57, as members at the moment holding 16 chances will automatically be reduced to 8 chances. You must be a member of the Essex Police Sports Association to be in the lottery.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

President: The Chief Constable
 Vice Presidents: The Deputy and Assistant Chief Constables
 Chairman: Mr Geoffrey Markham ACC (0)
 Secretary: Cons Chris Jacob
 Treasurer: Sgt Dick Soward

DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Basildon: Cons Roy Kebbell, Billericay: Braintree: Cons Chris Derrick, Braintree; Chelmsford: Sgt Peter Layzell, Burnham; Clacton: Cons Don Wakefield, Clacton; Colchester: Cons John Bolinbroke, Colchester; Grays: Cons Ian Lodge, Grays; Headquarters: Mrs Linda Hart, Headquarters; Harlow: Insp John Baddley, Harlow; Southend: Mr Brian Taylor, Southend.

ESSEX POLICE SPORTS ASSOCIATION — DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

HARLOW — John Baddley

BASILDON — Roy Kebbell

GRAYS — Ian Lodge

HQ — Linda Hart

BRAINTREE — Chris Derrick

COLCHESTER — John Bolinbroke

CHELMSFORD — Peter Layzell

CLACTON — Don Wakefield

SOUTHEND — Brian Taylor

SECRETARY Chris Jacob

CHAIRMAN-ACC Geoff Markham

SECTION SECRETARIES

Athletics
 DCons Laurie Rampling, Grays x4870

Judo — Tia Ho — Jutsu
 Cons Bob Foster, FSU HQ x2438

Angling, Fly
 Cons Eddie Green, Traffic Chelmsford 0245-491212

Angling, Sea
 Cons Keith Mower, Westcliff x6322

Badminton
 WPC Andrea Blake, Crime Prevention Southend x6157

Billiards/Snooker
 Sgt Rod Booth, Halstead x3983

Bowls
 Insp John Stenson, Epping x5704

Basketball
 Cons Nick Daws, FSU HQ x2429

Boxing
 Cons Mick Newstead, Colchester x4526

Cricket
 Sgt Dick Argles, Basildon

Cricket Vets
 Ch Insp John Johnson, Driving School x2772

Cross Country
 Cons Roy Kebbell, Billericay x3226

Cycling
 Cons Gary Matthews, FSU HQ x2429

Darts
 Cons Peter Hyem, Shoebury x6272

Football
 Ch Insp Keith Bevell, Complaint & Discipline HQ x2720

Golf
 Sgt Rod Booth, Halstead x3983

Hockey, men
 Insp Paul Grover, HQ

Hockey, women
 WSgt Gwynn Corbett, FTS HQ x2752

Netball
 WCons Jenny Cooper, Chelmsford CID x3560

Rugby
 Cons Mick Hall, FSU HQ x2420

Swimming
 Cons Phil Whitehead,

Traffic Laindon x3408

Swimming (Long Distance)
 Sgt Tony Sheern, Technical Services HQ x2137

Shooting
 Insp Dave Perry, HQ CSB x2788

Sailing
 DCons Dick Houghton, Rayleigh x6560

Squash
 Sgt Malcolm Johnson,

Stanway Traffic x4474

Table Tennis
 Sgt Peter Layzell, Burnham 0621-782121

Tennis
 Sgt Stu Bowman, Crime Prevention HQ x2731

Ten Pin Bowling
 Cons Nick Stoneman, Southend 0702-431212

Walking
 Insp John McCabe, Clacton x4604



Marathon madness is here again

VICTORY FOR VETERAN JOHN AND HIS CADETS

VETERAN Race Walker John Hedgethorpe showed a clean pair of heels to some of his younger rivals when he was first past the post in the 1991 Force championships, held at Southend.

John, 59, retired from the Force five years ago, so was disqualified from winning the title. Otherwise, the same competitor would have won in 1966 as in 1991!

This was the 26th Essex Police Race Walking Championships, and was won by Gary Matthews of Headquarters. Denis Sheppard displeased the judge while leading the race, and was also disqualified.

This championship has for several years been combined with a civilian Essex Walking League race.

Back in 1966, Hedgethorpe took the lead only in the last half mile — the race was ten miles then, the Force was Essex County Constabulary, and, far from Southend winning the team race, they were not involved.

In 1980 the venue moved to Colchester, the

distance became 15kms, and the ladies switched to 5km. In 1991 their race was one lap of the men's four lap course, making 3,750m.

The ladies race was won by several times winner Rita Warriner representing Halstead, who had among her rivals entrants less than half her age.

She was followed home by Kate Sale and ten other Southend girls, who just about stitched up the team race.

In the men's event, Gary Matthews stayed safely ahead of the Southend veteran pair Barry Ansell and Andy Down, the latter far enough into the veteran status to have a daughter in the ladies race.

Four of the first eight to finish were veterans, including John McCabe of Clacton and Mick Benning, of Southend. Thanks to McCabe's enthusiasm, Clacton took second place in the team event.

It was pleasing for Hedgethorpe to see that part from the veterans, everyone

else in the men's top ten was a former cadet.

His address to new cadets at the residential school used to be the same every year, "I'm a race walker. That means you're all race walkers. The 1991 championship proved he was right.

RESULT:

Police championship 15 kms walk

1 G. Matthews, HQ 91.13.25; 2 B. Ansell, Vet, Sou, 92.01.24; 3 A. Down, Vet, Sou, 93.05.23; 4 A. Bunting, Sou, 94.04.22; 5 K. Fitzjohn, Sou, 94.20.21; 6 J. McCabe, Vet, Clac, 98.21.20; 7 P. Gamman, Sou, 99.59.19; 8 M. Benning, Vet, Sou, 100.05.18; 9 C. Vale, Sou, 100.37.17; 10 P. Warriner, Clac, 105.38.16; 11 P. Carter, Col, 106.09.15; 12 J. Brock, Sou, 106.27.14; 13 J. Bolingbroke, Vet, Col, 106.53.13; 14 E. Lester, Sou, 108.70.12; 15 J. Newberry, Vet, Gys, 108.47.11; 16 C. Mitrovic, Sou, 109.07.10; 17 M. Cornish, Sou, 111.18.09; 18 C. McQuire, Sou, 111.18.08; 19 C. Hennessy, Sou, 122.41.07; 20 J. Appleby, Sou, 122.45.06; 21 D. Gillis, Clac, 123.29.05; 22 M. Mallett, Clac, 123.29.04; 23 C. Roomes, Clac, 123.29.03; 24 B. Nubburt, Vet, Col,

132.25.02; 25 B. Chard, Gys, 132.25.01.

Ladies one lap race (370m)

1 R. Warriner, Vet, B'tee, 27.11.26; 2 K. Sale, Sou, 27.36.25; 3 G. Marr, Sou, 30.00.24; 4 D. Jones, Sou, 30.00.23; 5 S. Bakewell, Sou, 30.00.22; 6 C. Simmons, Sou, 30.00.21; 7 K. Hearn, Sou, 30.00.20; 8 V. Brown, Sou, 31.48.19; 9 L. Haslam, Sou, 31.48.18; 10 J. Todd, Sou, 33.43.17; 11 S. Wilson, Sou, 33.43.16; 12 R. Lusk, Sou, 34.12.15; 13 C. Breeze, Clac, 34.13.14; 14 D. Cann, Clac, 34.33.13; 15 A. Blake, Sou, 34.34.12; 16 J. Wells, Clac, 34.34.11; 17 C. Dunn, Sou, 34.35.10; 18 K. Scholefield, Clac, 34.36.09; 19 M. Davies, Sou, 34.36.08; 20 M. Young, Sou, 37.09.07; 21 M. Chaplin, Sou, 37.10.06; 22 J. Adams, Sou, 37.10.05; 23 C. Down, Sou, 38.00.04; 24 L. Heggie, Clac, 38.03.03; 25 A. Baker, Clac, 38.04.02; 26 M. Spinks, Clac, 38.05.01.

Team scores —
(20 to score rule has been applied) —
1 Southend 390
2 Clacton 101
3 Colchester 30
4 Braintree 26
5 Headquarters 25
6 Grays 12

IT'S TRAINING time for THE marathon of the year, and the force's many madcap entrants will range from first timers to a team in full uniform.

Running her first marathon on Sunday, April 21 will be plucky WDC Angie Noakes from Chelmsford.

Meanwhile, a squad of the force's finest will be tackling the tough 26.2 mile London Marathon course in uniform, that is helmet, shirt, tie and truncheon. And they've set themselves a time limit of 4hrs 30 minutes.

The team will be aiming to raise a substantial sum for the Essex Kidney Unit Appeal.

Members of the squad are: Steve Wynn, who himself has completed over

100 marathons, and heads a strong FSU contingent, including Terry Astbury, Eddie Smith, Phil Smith, Bob Rosenwold and Keith Bishop. Allan Barley is one of three Chelmsford men in the squad, alongside Ian Raynor and Ray Burman.

The final three members of the squad are the 'Guvnor' Mick Barry from Witham, Dave Birkett from the training school, and Laurie Rampling from Grays.

As a warm up for the big day, the squad will get together in April for the Reading half marathon, a mere 13.1 miles.

At least two of the squad, Allan Barley and Laurie Rampling, will also compete in the Hastings half marathon in early March with other members of the squad competing in

local events.

Whilst it is hoped to obtain sponsorship from local firms, colleagues of the intrepid band can expect a certain amount of pressure to 'dig deep' and obviously it is anticipated you will all respond.

Many other members of the force hope to compete on the big day. These include Dc Ken Foster from Chelmsford, Superintendent Mick Benning who will again be dragging those battle weary legs around London, this time in company with the Southend crowd, and Chief Inspector Barry Daymond from Headquarters, who will be running with his daughter, surely a new dimension in parental guidance.

Give them all a cheer, they deserve it.

Laurie Rampling.

FORCE LOTTERY

THE result of this month's Force Lottery is as follows: £1,500 Cons G. Frost, Corringham; £700 DSgt T. D. Shearn, H.Q.; £300 Cons J. L. Panting H.Q.

The following will receive £50 prizes:

Traffic Warden G. Stock, Basildon; Sgt P. Gamman, Shoebury; Insp T. Chaplin, Rayleigh; Cons R. Gregory, Rayleigh Traffic.

Cons K. Sewell, Driving School; Ch Insp P. Stanley, H.Q.; Mrs L. Hart, H.Q.; WSupt J. Eason, Rayleigh; Ch Insp K. Bevell, H.Q.; D Cons J. Bowler, Basildon.

Mo is double tops

ESSEX is on cue for Portsmouth Shield success after potting a healthy collection of trophies at the no.5 region PAA snooker, billiards and darts championships, hosted by the City of London force.

In the Darts, Southend's Mo Chaplin won the ladies singles and scored a double top by winning the ladies doubles with Sue Woolard.

In the mixed doubles, Sue had a second success, partnering Graham Harvey of Leigh.

Halstead's Rod Booth won the billiards, and Steve Goodair (Great Horkeley) won the snooker.

CROSS COUNTRY

CROSS Country runners please note two changed fixture dates. The SEPAA championships will now be held on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13 (not March 6).

These are being held in Surrey, transport will leave Brentwood Police Station at 11.30am.

The 1991 Croker Cup race has been re-arranged for Sunday, March 17, 11am start. This is at Edwards Hall Park, Bosworth Road, Eastwood.

FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

TABLE TENNIS

FOLLOWING the Force Table Tennis championships, held on 6th February, the following officers have been selected to represent Essex at the No.5 Region P.A.A. Championships, to be held at Colchester Police Station on Sunday 24th February: Peter Layzell (Burnham), Gavin Price (Clacton), Chris Jacob (Colchester), Moira Owers (Basildon) and Mo Chaplin (Southend).

CHEVIOT 2000 FELL RACE

THIS event will be staged as a National Competition (NOT P.A.A.) by the Northumbria Police on Saturday 8th June, in the Cheviot Hills of the

Northumberland National Park.

The event is a team race, and follows a circular, prescribed route of approximately 22 miles, over eleven points of or in excess of 2000ft.

Competitors will only be allowed to participate in teams of three, not as individuals.

To win, or be placed, all three named members must complete the course together.

Entry open to all members of Essex Police Sports Association, further information, please contact the Force Sports Secretary.

CROKER CUP 1990

THE winning sports club was Southend (78 points), with Colchester attaining second place (44 points).

SNOOKER

THE Force Snooker championships were held on 28th January and won by Steve Goodair, (Colchester), who will now represent the Force at the No.5 P.A.A. Championships in London on Friday 15th February.

WEIGHTLIFTING

THE 1991 P.A.A. Weightlifting championships will be held on Saturday 18th May at Kent Police HQ, Maidstone. Any officer wishing to be considered please contact the Force Sports Secretary a.s.a.p.

BRITISH POLICE BOWLS

Brian Amell, Southend, represented the British Police at

Bowls on Wednesday 30th January, against the Fire Service at Blackpool.

CRICKET

INDOOR nets are being held at the Cricket School, County Ground, New Writtle Street, Chelmsford, every Wednesday, 2pm — 4pm, until the end of March.

Anyone interested in representing the Force, either attend the nets, or contact Dick Argles at Basildon (Ednet 3134).

CROKER CUP

THE following preliminary round matches in the 1991 Croker Cup have got to be played before 25th February. Failure to do so could result in the matches being declared null and void.

Snooker: Clacton v

Colchester; Billiards: Chelmsford v Basildon; Table Tennis: Colchester v Clacton; Football: Clacton v Harlow; Darts: Braintree v Basildon.

P.A.A. SHOOTING

IN the 1990 P.A.A. Centre Fire League, the Force team won Division 2. In the individual championships Ray Carpenter, Hutton, gained 1st place and Dave Perry, H.Q. gained 3rd place in Division 1.

CYCLING

THE Annual General Meeting of the P.A.A. Cycling section will be held on Tuesday 12th February. Any officer wishing to attend or to put forward an agenda item please contact Gary Matthews at H.Q. (Ednet 2429).

BADMINTON

THE Force Badminton championships were held on 22nd January.

The following officers have been selected to represent the Force at the No.5 P.A.A. Championships, to be held on Monday 11th February in Southampton: Mick Benning (Southend), Nick Treadway (R.C.S. Harlow), Mick Thorp (Rochford), Andrea Blake (Southend) and A. Porter (Epping).

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