

The Law

including Essex Police Magazine

April 1991



JAM-BUSTER TAKES SHAPE AT THURROCK — CENTRE PAGES

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

No. 212

Royal opening marks new era for air travel in Essex

QUEEN TOUCHES DOWN AT SOARING STANSTED

EVERYBODY'S DOING THE STONK!



BRENTWOOD traffic wardens Peter Stevens and the aptly-named Rod Jolly, got into the spirit of Comic Relief Day by donning red noses while on the beat. For more comic capers in the force, see page 11. Picture supplied by courtesy of the Brentwood Gazette.

Security tight as Essex's big day arrives

ONE of the biggest security operations ever mounted by the Force swung into action for the Queen's official opening of the new terminal at Stansted.

Months of planning, checking, cross-checking and searching paid off on the day with everything running smoothly to plan.

The week before the Queen arrived at the airport, the entire complex was put under very tight security with everything and everyone wishing to enter any part of the new building being checked and searched.

On the day, everyone of the invited guests, as well as air-



Every precaution taken to ensure the Queen's safety. Photo by kind permission of the Essex Chronicle.

port workers, police officers and members of the press were subject to a physical search before being allowed access.

Everywhere you looked there were police officers and

security staff watching you watching them.

Supt Brian Tyrell, head of police at Stansted Airport, was delighted the day went so well: "I am extremely pleased with the commitment and effort given by everybody involved in this operation," he said.

"This is one of the most comprehensive and complex operations that I have had to deal with and all credit must go to all those who planned and executed the operation. The whole day was a great success and reflected well on Essex Police."

In the past, Stansted has received a reputation as a sleepy hollow, but the Queen's opening of the new terminal and BR station

marks a new era for the county.

With a site 50 per cent bigger than Gatwick, planners are already talking about increasing capacity to 15 million people a year.

The new terminal, covering eight acres, has 84 check-in desks, 24 ticket desks and can handle 2,000 passengers an hour.

There are more than 10,000 car parking spaces at the airport with room to expand to 20,000.

British Rail has spent £44 million on a new rail link between the terminal and the main Liverpool Street to Cambridge line with the "Stansted Express" running every half hour to Liverpool Street, a journey of just 41 minutes.

A NEW chapter in aviation history has begun in Essex with the Queen officially opening the new £400 million terminal at Stansted Airport.

The new development puts Stansted firmly on the map as London's third airport, bringing with it fresh challenges for the Force as the county becomes a major gateway to the world.

Amid tight security, the Queen arrived aboard one of the new Stansted Express trains at British Rail's new £44 million station directly underneath the new terminal building, designed by Sir Norman Foster.

Her Majesty was welcomed to the county by the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Admiral Sir Andrew Lewis, who introduced Sir Bob Reid, chairman of British Rail and other dignitaries including the Chief Constable, Mr John Burrow.

After officially opening the new station, by unveiling a large plaque, the Queen was escorted into the main terminal building where she met Sir Norman Payne, chairman of the British Airports Authority, representatives of the B.A.A. board and others who had worked on the project.

Sir Norman then escorted the Queen as she toured the new terminal, with photographers and cameramen spearheading the Royal walk-about with reporters bringing up the rear.

During her tour, Her Majesty was shown paintings by local schoolchildren — the winners of a competition for a painting about the airport and entered by 38 schools in the area.

by Mick Davies

The young artists were introduced to the Queen as was a ten-year-old blind boy from Bishop's Stortford. A friend of his had written to Buckingham Palace saying he had always wanted to meet the Queen and his

opened the new terminal, which has won high acclaim for its innovative design, geared towards making air travel as easy as possible.

"Although I travel by air a great deal, I know that other travellers find the going a bit tougher," she said.

"This new terminal with its excellent communications of rail and road, its



Flowers for Her Majesty as local schoolchildren Alison Hayes, 10, (left) and Ellen Rayment, 11, welcome the Queen to Essex.

wishes came true.

After moving through the immigration area to the departure lounge, the Queen was introduced to Supt Brian Tyrell, head of police at Stansted Airport.

The airport police station will have 14 extra officers this year to meet the growing demands expansion will bring.

After enjoying a ten minute musical interlude by the Wren Orchestra and the choir of King's College, Cambridge, the Queen then officially

exceptional facilities and its internal good looks will make that going, for those sensible enough to use Stansted, a great deal easier," she added.

After the ceremony, Her Majesty boarded the airport shuttle and was whisked to the airport satellite, from where travellers will board their aircraft.

To mark the historic occasion a Royal Navy Sea Harrier flew past, bowing its nose to the Royal party as it passed.

Federation Notes



by
Brian Pallant

Insurance hopes for POT go off the boil

YOU WILL all be aware that for sometime, just over two years, your Joint Branch Board has been trying to get the Police Authority to take out a form of insurance to protect you when undertaking compulsory Public Order Training.

At the December Police Liaison Committee meeting it was accepted somewhat reluctantly by the County Treasurer's Department that we could ask the Police Committee to receive a full report on our proposals for Public Order Training Insurance.

The full Police committee agreed that an agenda item could be submitted for the March Police committee meeting.

On the 11th March 1991 this agenda item was placed before the Police committee together with a short video presentation.

The committee sympathised with our plight, but were not prepared to pay

Lease saga runs on

THE car leasing scheme, as you are all aware is another long running saga.

However, I have now received a response from the Home Office. The response was very negative and only refers us to a copy of a reply sent to our own Chief Constable on the same subject.

They promised to inform the Force as soon as they had prepared a draft regulation which would then be sent to the Police Negotiating Board for their agreement.

This appears to be a backward step as we thought that we already had

for the insurance which would in their eyes and those of the Home Office be illegal under the Police Regulations. However they agreed that the Chairman would write to the Home Office and the Police Negotiating Board asking them to expedite the matter nationally.

However I should tell you that we are not too hopeful that this will result in any movement as the matter has been on the agenda of the Police Negotiating board since 1986.

At a recent National Federation meeting in London a question was asked of the National Federation Secretary as to the chances of getting any success.

The official side apparently were not prepared to move on all items in our proposals and was very unlikely that agreement would be reached in the foreseeable future if at all.

an agreement at the Police Negotiating Board going back to the 28th March 1990.

Our Parliamentary Adviser Michael Shersby, has discussed the matter with the National Federation Secretary and will take the matter up with the Home Secretary if nothing materialises in the near future.

At a recent National Federation meeting in London we were told that a draft regulation was anticipated from the Home Office shortly.

Only time will tell how the Home Office interpret the word "shortly".

FEDERATION NEWS... FEDERATION NEWS... FEDERATION NEWS... FEDERATION

FED FEARS FOR THE FUTURE

THE POLICE SERVICE at the present time is facing its biggest challenge for many years. Everyday you can pick up the newspaper and read of media attacks on the service and individual officers.

All that seems to be reported are the things that go wrong, not too much coverage of the many good things that are done by officers throughout the country. The demand from the media and the Home Office is value for money.

But just how do you qualify the value of the Beat Bobby spending 8 hours patrolling his beat with perhaps very little if

any process to show for it at the end of the tour of duty?

Who's to say though just how many thefts, burglaries or motoring offences have not been committed just because people were aware of the uniform presence on the street.

Judicial

In a month where the release of the Birmingham Six followed on from the release of the Guildford Four, there has been increasing demand for the Home Office to set up a Royal Commission to look at the judicial system and the police.

At the National

Federation Open Meeting held on Thursday 14th March 1991 at Westminster, London the Federation National Chairman, Alan Eastwood, welcomed the idea of a Royal Commission to look at the whole area of the Police Service.

Budgets

There are certainly problems throughout the country with the management in the service, however Chief Constables have not been helped by the changes imposed on them by the Home Office when they drastically cut their capital expenditure budgets last year.

In Essex there was very little effect last year, however, this year the situation could be entirely different with the Budget being cut by the Home Office once again from the proposed figure of £7,406.00 million to just £3,255,000 million.

Cut-backs will obviously have to be made. The Force has already had to abandon its very successful vehicle purchase scheme in favour of a complicated leasing arrangement. This will only lead to further difficulties in the future.

Suffer

Overtime and mileage has also been cut to the bone.

In the end the one thing that must suffer is the service provided to the community. It just cannot be avoided.

What has happened to the concept of the Home Office Value for Money? It will certainly not be achieved this way.

Constraints

The operational effectiveness of the Force will be hampered by these constraints imposed on us by the Home Office.

The above is being addressed Nationally the Federation, Superintendents Association and ACPO.

DIARY NOTES

SHIFTING CONDITIONS

DURING 1990 the Staff side of the Police Negotiating Board have been pressing five claims on the members behalf.

They are:

1. Improved Annual Leave entitlements (reported in an earlier issue).

2. A shorter working week.

3. Improved rates of enhancement for overtime, rest day and public holiday working.

4. Two days extra statutory leave (claim submitted in October 1990).

5. Three days maternity leave (claim submitted in October 1990).

The Official side responded to these claims by highlighting the ever increasing pressure on Police Authority finances and the potential that they saw for improving flexibility in deploying manpower, so that it was used more effectively.

In July 1990 the Official side proposed that a working party be set up from both sides to look at all the Staff side claims together with the current shift system arrangements and the regulations concerning notification of working times and rest days together with possible alternatives.

The Federation nationally did not accept the issue of going

into such a working group and in fact proceeded with the Annual Leave claim which went to Arbitration in January 1991.

The claim submitted was:

Under 2 years service — 25 days.

2 or more years service — 30 days.

10 or more years service — 35 days.

The Arbitration Tribunal felt that there was general merit in taking matters as a whole.

They appreciated the great financial pressure arising from the continual demands for efficient policing would make negotiations difficult, however, it was their view that a full consideration of the best use of police time was opportune.

They therefore decided that all the relevant matters should be discussed in the best interests of the Staff side.

They were, however, mindful of the delay and decided that they would adjourn the Arbitration hearing until October 1991 or any earlier date on which parties tell them they have available firm plans for changes to the patterns of work.

All the above matters were discussed by the National Federation at their meetings last week. It was decided that the Federation would not be joining the proposed working group to look at all matters.

JOINT BRANCH BOARD OPEN MEETING

6.45pm. Monday 8th July 1991.

Marconi Athletic & Social Club Beehive Lane, Chelmsford.

Admission by Warrant Card

Transport provided if required by Divisional Representatives.

ALLOWANCES

MEMBERS are reminded that these allowances are not normally reviewed until July/August time, although backdated to 1 April 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.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

THE FIRST surgery of advice takes place on Wednesday 27th March 1991, at the time of going to press the appointments were almost full for the whole day. It is hoped to hold another surgery early in June. Details to follow. In the next edition of the Law, Sid Foster from George Burrows will give a report on the affects of the latest Budget.

MEMORABILIA

DOUG Rampling is still selling off 150th Anniversary goods at sale price, only a limited number now available.

The new Rupert Tie is under design and it is hoped to be available for sale by early May.

If you need any memorabilia give Doug a ring on extension 2215.

AA MEMBERSHIP

IN ORDER to reduce administration costs it has been decided to hold bulk supplies of application forms at their Bristol offices.

Members requiring appli-

cation forms should therefore ring the AA direct on 0272 251519.

MORTGAGES

THE Woolwich Building Society in Chelmsford is offering preferential terms to police officers. Further details available from the Federation Office or contact the Woolwich helpline direct on 0245 266174.

DISCOUNT TRAVEL '91

Ffestiniog Railway I AM pleased to be able to report that the above offer

is once again available to all members of Essex Police.

The rates for 1991 are:
Adult £9.80; ordinary £6.00 discount
Child (5-15) £4.90; ordinary £3.00 discount.
Senior Citizen £4.90; ordinary £3.00 discount (over 60 years)
Adult & Child £9.80; ordinary £8.00 discount.

All bookings must be made via the Ffestiniog Railway Travel Offer, 43 Kildonan Road, Grappenhall, Cheshire WA4 2LJ. Telephone 0925 602760.



I always had you marked as a high flyer, Manning.

FEDERATION NEWS... FEDERATION NEWS... FEDERATION NEWS... FEDERATION NEWS...

Offbeat

No place to hide

THINGS are clearly getting bad at Police HQ, as the hard-hearted Home Office puts the squeeze on police spending.

When a suspect package was found at an Essex railway station, a conscientious PC radioed through for a senior officer to be told.

The incident record read, "Supt. Rhymes informed, in cardboard shoe box."

Well, it just shows you can't hide anywhere! Still, maybe they'll find him an office one day.

Police Aware

AN ABANDONED car near Pitsea tip aroused attention when, after a couple of days, two men in a truck turned up and started acting suspiciously round it.

Keen cops raced to the scene dreaming of busting a daring robbery attempt, but alas, the suspicious couple were two officers putting a "Police Aware" sticker on it.

Doggy tales

NO END of doggy tales come our way in the Press Office, and it seems whenever the police and dogs get together, there's trouble ahead! (Dog Section exempted).

There was the unfortunate SOA at Brentwood, who tried to coax a timid found dog into the kennel. The SOA was badly bitten, sustaining bruising and puncture wounds, and wryly recorded, "It has been fed...preferred my arm."

* * * * *

But a poor PC at Wickford got a shock when he went to deal with a complaint about two Alsatians which had allegedly attacked a horse rider. The terrible twosome chased his police car down the road. He shouldn't have turned up in a Rover!

* * * * *

Then there was the well-intentioned call about a distressed dog at a Saffron Walden pub, which had been barking till late at night for three days.

An apologetic barmaid explained to officers that her excitable Alsatian barked and rolled over on his back every time he was patted by a customer.

* * * * *

But it's not just the police who have a hard time... Called out to an abandoned Alsatian which was snarling and threatening passers-by in Basildon, officers found it belonged to a Security Guard. Unfortunately he had been rushed to hospital, you've guessed it, he'd been bitten by his dog.

Well handled

SPARE a thought for the hapless detective who couldn't handle it in the interview room at Chelmsford after questioning a suspect.

He had to phone through to HQ in the middle of the night when he found himself locked in, thanks to a dodgy door handle.

To make matters worse, because he was from another station he didn't know the internal phone numbers. Nor did he have a directory on hand — hence the embarrassment of calling HQ.

No doubt the poor chap hasn't been allowed to live it down, so to save his blushes, we won't name him. But we won't shed any tears for him either.



The Boro' Boys line up with their vehicles in the Royal Mews, Southend, in 1938. Among them are Mick Sweeney, Don Hudson, Bernard Broad, Bill Thorogood, Walley Sheard and Frank Bonnett. Can anyone identify the others?

Remembering the Southend Boro' bloodwagon

Popeye and pals turn clock back

by Jenny Bullus

REMINISCENCES of the boro' bloodwagon and the Southend beat of the late 1930s will turn the clock back when "Popeye" Phillips, "Floaty" Turner, "Larry" Adlington and pals are re-united at police HQ this week.

Before the advent of the National Health Service in 1948, the three ex-Police officers helped provide the forerunner of the ambulance service. All three drove the Southend-on-Sea Borough Constabulary ambulances, in those days poorly equipped Sunbeam Talbots.

First Aid

Seventy-eight-year-old Paul "Popeye" Phillips, who retired

from the force in 1966, recalls, "It was a case of Pick 'em up, take 'em and dump 'em at the hospital."

The ambulances had a stretcher, oxygen bottle and mask and a standard First Aid satchel.

It was thanks to the research of PC Steve Wynn of the Force Support Unit that the three will get together again on March 28, when the Chief Constable will present them with replica model ambulances.

They will meet up with three other ex-Boro boys, Jack Ladds, Cliff "Sooty" Fenton and George Rushworth.

PC Wynn said: "It's amazing how they still manage to talk about the job with such passion, I could sit and listen to them for hours."

PC Wynn commissioned the model ambulances, a limited edition of 1,000 to raise funds for the Essex Police Memorial Fund, which will provide a memorial stone to all who have died in police service.

His enthusiasm for coming up with an accurate replica of the old force ambulances has drawn him into the memories of the War and Post-War period.

He discovered the forerunner of the Force Support Unit wagon, which doubled up as an ambulance in those days.

Seafront

Also a Sunbeam Talbot, it was dubbed the "bloodwagon" because of its Friday and Saturday evening role of rounding up the drunks and troublemakers on Southend

seafront. Have times changed that much?

The six men who helped PC Wynn with his research will each receive one of the model ambulances, with a special personalised serial number — their former collar number. Popeye Phillips is driving himself up from Dorset for the occasion.

Meanwhile, PC Wynn has drawn a blank in finding any information about vehicles used by the Essex Constabulary of that period. He would still like to hear from anyone who can help, as he would like to commission another replica.

The models are based on the Matchbox Yesteryear series, and the Southend Borough Ambulance costs around £17.

New force policy aims to strike a balance

PUTTING THE LIGHT OUT ON SMOKERS

HOT on the heels of the recent National "No Smoking" Day with its "Packet In" slogan, comes a new Force No Smoking policy, set to be introduced within weeks.

No doubt it will be seen by the capillary-hardened smokers as a further erosion of their personal freedom.

led to a majority in favour of the policy on the Joint Branch Board.

this policy is a significant step forward."

Smoking will be banned in all meetings which last no longer than one-and-a-half hours. After that time, smoking may be permitted at the discretion of the chairperson — but only in conference rooms which have not been designated as Smoking Prohibited areas.

In all headquarters conference rooms smoking will be prohibited at all times. Elsewhere this will be at the discretion of the officer in charge of the building.

Flexibility

In many other areas smoking will be permitted by consensus. But if an agreement cannot be reached which satisfies

all those permanently working in a particular officer or area, then a no smoking rule will apply.

However, the onus is on managers to identify areas for smokers. They should be prepared to re-arrange shared working space to accommodate smokers and non-smokers. What is sought is flexibility.

The policy says, "Every effort should be made to provide facilities for smokers ... especially in areas where the majority of employees are non-smokers."

But it is recognised that the physical layout of police stations may create difficulties in setting aside smoking space, and sub-divisional commanders may have to improvise!

The new draft policy is currently being studied by the civilian staff associations, having already won approval from the police side, both staff and senior officers.

Some of the No Smoking rules were already in force, with the ban continuing on smoking in front offices, police vehicles and food preparation areas.

Smoking is also banned in lifts, computer rooms, classrooms, control rooms and areas of fire hazard.

Tensions

The draft force order states that, when interviewing applicants for posts in non-smoking offices, this fact should be pointed out.

Breaking down barriers

THE FORCE has spelt out its commitment to equal opportunities with a promise to identify any barriers to fair treatment.

Its new policy statement for the first time introduces a formal grievance procedure for any officer who feels they are being held back, or harassed, because of their sex, marital status, ethnic origin, colour or race.

A policy on discrimination was adopted in 1984, but the new statement will give equal opportunities a higher profile.

And it applies equally to police and civilian staff. A senior civilian manager is being tasked with the responsibility of equal opportunities for civilian staff.

Meanwhile, Inspector Jo Collins has been attached to the Personnel Department with a specific responsibility for monitoring equal opportunities and making recommendations for further progress.

Responsibility

In addition to fulfilling a legal responsibility, and one heavily promoted by the Home Office, the force sees an active equal opportunities policy as a way of making best use of the skills of its staff, enlarging its recruitment pool and improving staff satisfaction and morale.

Initial statistics compiled show that of the force's 2,951 serving police officers, 11 per cent are women. Six per cent of the officers in Support Division are women, and 7 per cent of those in CID.

Around 5 per cent of the Force's Sergeants and Inspectors are women.

Policies and practices in the force will be monitored, and changes made if necessary to eliminate any barriers.

Posters are being used to publicise the policy. The grievance procedure has been formulated to ensure any complaints of discrimination are dealt with effectively.

This procedure does not apply to civilians who would use their existing grievance procedures.

A working party consisting of representatives of the staff associations, police and civilians personnel will meet to monitor progress.

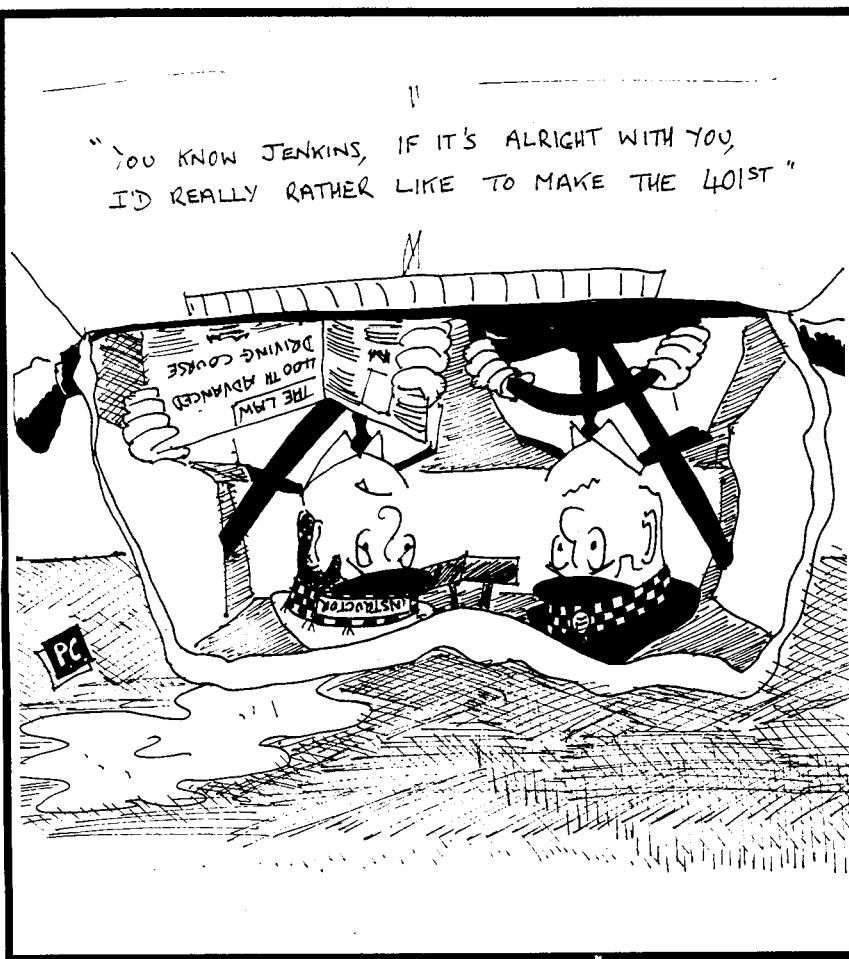
Initiatives being examined by other forces will be kept under review, particularly those intended to retain women officers after maternity leave. These include career breaks, part-time working and job sharing.

Behind the new guidelines is the wish to "reduce tensions which may arise between smokers and non-smokers working in close proximity to one another."

Essex Police are not alone in introducing a No Smoking policy. It was drawn up after studying the instructions already introduced in neighbouring Herts, and the Metropolitan Police are also looking into the subject.

Bob Needham recognises that smoking is perhaps more prevalent amongst police than other groups, probably because of the pressures of the job.

But like elsewhere, smokers in the force are becoming a threatened species. "I remember the JBB when you had to buy a packet of cigarettes just to be admitted," he joked.



Remembering Romford

REGARDING the letter in the February issue of The Law, "Night Drive to Brighton".

I served in the Romford Division during Chief Inspector Pilbury's days. I had a really good laugh on reading the article as, like all who knew him, I could imagine what he said at the time.

His favourite expression was "Pissing", hence his nickname Pisser Pilbury. Ex PS 282 Dick (Jack) Sanderson, Fairway, Grays.

Colchester Course

THE POLICE Entry Support Course is taught at Colchester Institute, Sheepen Road, Colchester, and so far has a 99 per cent pass rate!

It costs £50, which includes 10 work books, a mock test and six tutorials in Maths and English.

For further details contact Dr John Knight or Toni Butcher on Colchester 43843.

A MAJOR new crime novel published this week plots the brutal murder of the Marriott family and the protracted police investigation.

It is fiction, but police officers will see an authentic CID investigation unfolding.

ONE OBLIQUE ONE is 26-year-old Keith Wright's first crime novel. He is a serving Detective Constable in the Nottinghamshire Constabulary, based at Bulwell.

It is an exciting and fast-moving book. The killings involve asphyxiation, a savage clubbing and what looked like rape.

Courageous threesome tackle trolley thugs

by Jenny Bullus

A BRAVE Billericay supermarket manager and a shopper came to the rescue of an off-duty PC as he grappled with a robber.

Although the robber's accomplice threatened PC. David Bishop with a shopping trolley and a claw hammer, he hung on grimly, helped by the two civilians.

The courageous threesome have all been commended for their outstanding actions, which resulted in two men being arrested and subsequently jailed.

At this month's police committee, store manager John Phillips and shopper Jeffrey Buller received their certificates for Meritorious Acts. PC. Bishop received the Chief Constable's High Commendation.

The robbery happened last June at a supermarket in South Green, Billericay. The robber, an escaped prisoner with several convictions for armed offences, stole money from the till but was tackled by PC. Bishop.

As they struggled, Mr. Phillips came to help restrain the robber. Then his accomplice arrived, and picked up a shopping trolley and raised it threateningly over his head.

Hammer

Brave Mr. Phillips snatched the trolley and threw it to the ground. But the accomplice quickly returned with a claw hammer and attempted to free the robber.

Mr. Buller, hearing the commotion, grappled with the accomplice, restraining him until the hammer could be removed from his grasp.

Both men helped restrain the violent villains until police arrived. In commending them, the police committee stressed that PC. Bishop could have sus-

tained serious injuries, without their assistance.

In January this year the men were sentenced to 15 years and five years in jail respectively.

Splash dash

A BRITISH Transport Policeman is hoping to make a big splash for the national appeal to buy a Mersey class lifeboat by hitting the rails for a sponsored dash around Britain.

Sergeant Rogerson is hoping to travel over 1,600 miles in just 50 hours from April 16 to 18, in an attempt to visit mainland lifeboat stations nearest the four furthest corners of the British Rail Network with a terminal station.

This will take him East to Lowestoft, West to Penzance (Penlee), North to Mallaig and South to Thurso. The £450,000 appeal to buy a Mersey class offshore lifeboat was launched by the Chief Constable of Grampian Police. Sponsorship forms are available from HQ Registry (Ext 2618).

moneyed foppish Charles Lyon, who had been enraged by the girl's sexual taunts, ran him close.

Keith Wright, who joined up as a Police Cadet aged 16, says of the book, "It is fictitious, but has an authentic base of life within the police force, notably the CID, and it pulls no punches."

Published by Constable Publishers, the 224-page book will be available from bookshops, or can be ordered from Constable and Co. Ltd, 3 The Lancasters, 162 Fulham Palace Road, London, W6 9ER, quoting ISBN number 0 09 470330 2, costing £12.99.

Crime fiction rings true

The "one oblique one" call brought DI Stark and the Scenes of Crime Squad to the house at 43 Maple Close, where a forced window and a missing video were the immediate clues.

Why did the killer disguise his entry to look like a burglar? Had he gone there specifically to rape and murder the promiscuous Faye

I AM writing to express my thanks for the publicity you kindly gave, last year, to my limited edition Port of London Police diecast model ambulance.

Sales of this model have raised £2,000 for the Police Convalescent Home, much of it resulting from the

memories of another former Tilbury colleague, Ralph Jones, and enjoyed them.

Regrettably now, many of the colleagues, whose names I have mentioned, are now patrolling other beats.

Happy memories.

'Mac' Harris, Ex Det. Ch. Insp. Camberley, Surrey.

PS: I too did not attend the great night at Grays but that was because of the distance involved. Incidentally, I remember Ex PC. Keeble's amazing faculty for remembering car numbers and owners.

Law Letters

Tilbury's Three Musketeers

I READ with interest the letters and comments in your last two issues, regarding 'Harry Lamb', Ex PC. 276 Keeble and Ex PC. 568 Mead.

I am sure my record of service in the Grays Division, surpasses that of Mr Keeble. I was posted to Grays Division in 1937 and served in that Division, being stationed at Grays and Tilbury. I served as a PC. then a D/c. and attained the ranks of D/Sgt. and D/Insp., until I was posted to the former Brentwood Division in 1959, as Det. Ch. Insp. eventually resigning, in 1964, whilst serving at Basildon.

No doubt Mr Keeble will

remember the various shifts, which included such persons as PC. Fred Dawes, PC. Knocker White, PC. Taffy Williams, PC. Spurgeon, PC. Jordan, PC. Bob Brett, PC. Steady etc and the Sergeants, PS. Pop Pearson, PS. Goddard, PS. Thorogood, and others.

I spent two years at Tilbury with Insp. Havers, PS. Akers, etc. and well remember Harry Lamb, PC. Robinson, another PC. Keeble, also my very good friends Wilf Partis and Charlie Waller, the latter two and myself being known as the three Musketeers, by the Sergeants.

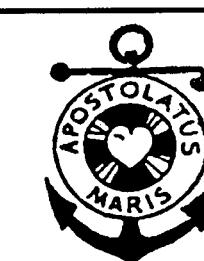
I frequently, less so now,

SGT. SEAN HOLLANDS, PLA Police, Police HQ, Tilbury Docks, Tilbury RM18 7DU

NB. I also have Stella the Seahorse (see below), Leslie Sealion and Lesley the Lady Sealion police badges for sale at £1 each.

publicity you gave.

Your readers may like to know that although these models are selling at collector's fairs at up to £45, I still have a few left at the original price of £17.25 including post and packing. (Cheques payable to S. Hollands).



APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA

Episcopal Agency for England and Wales

"STELLA MARIS"

66 DOCK ROAD,

TILBURY

ESSEX.

RM18 7BX

The Apostleship of the Sea was founded in 1920's by a group of dedicated lay people in Glasgow. They were concerned about the lack of witness the church was showing to seafarers, whose lifestyle dictated that a great part of their lives was spent away from their families and loved ones. It is thanks to their commitment that many more throughout the world have followed in their footsteps and have given so much to assisting seafarers. In ports worldwide, seafarers of all colours, creeds and status are welcomed into "Stella Maris" clubs and are looked after spiritually, socially and materially.

STELLA THE SEAHORSE has been created in the form of an attractive 4 colour enamel badge to raise funds for this worthwhile cause.

STELLA THE SEAHORSE is 17mm high with a russet colour body; pale blue fin and a black Police helmet, all on gold.

STELLA IS A FELLA, despite the name - he has an identity crisis that can only be resolved if you help him raise loadsa loot for The Apostleship of the Sea!!



(Available April 1991)

STELLA THE SEAHORSE ORDER FORM

Federation/Force/Other: Contact Name:

Address:

Post Code:

Tel:

Badges required @ £1.00 each. Payment enclosed: £.....

(If not paying in advance please send your remittance within 28 days from invoice date)
(Cheques payable to Sean Hollands, 8 Saxons Drive, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5HS
(0622 758043))

FORCE NEWS . . . FORCE NEWS . . . FORCE NEWS . . . FORCE



A WORLD APART. The young Romanians enjoy a rare taste of freedom as they visit the capital.

FROM ROMANIA WITH LOVE

by Paul Dunt

DEPRIVED youngsters from two Romanian orphanages were whisked to the UK for the holiday of a lifetime thanks to help from kind-hearted British bobbies.

A plan to bring more than 50 children over was swung into action by rugby referee Peter Wakefield from Morton near Ongar, after the British Rugby Police Team visited the orphanages while on tour in the troubled country.

Shocked

They were so shocked by what they saw they were determined to do something about it and despite major problems with travel arrangements — the Romanian airline went on strike the day they were due — all the children arrived safe and sound.

Morton officer PC Brendon Foy was one of many officers in the region who played host to the young Romanians and the experience has left a lasting impression on him:

Appalling

"The conditions they live in in Romania are appalling. I've seen some photographs of the orphanage where the girls come from and it looks like Strangeways. 328 girls share four toilets which are just a hole in the ground," he said.

The British hosts were also very surprised at how little the Romanians had been used to eating.



FAMILY LIFE. Mariana Calugaiu settles down at home with Mrs Carol Foy and daughter Lauren, 2.

Having milk on their cereal seemed completely alien to them. Tangerines and oranges were an unheard of luxury: "They ate them until they came out of their ears," said Brendon. "Everyone said they were going through kilos."

The trip to Britain was also a major culture shock for the children, used to a very strict regime with little, if any love or affection. According to Brendon, the boys, living under the sternest conditions, really had to be prised out of their shells.

"A bath was a real shock to the system — they were so unused to it that many of them wore underwear in the bath. But they were bright, very very inquisitive. Two or three of them could even converse in pidgin English by the time they went home," he explained.

Outcasts

Many of the children were not actual orphans but had been left at the orphanages because their parents could not cope with the number of children they were forced to have, he said. Back home, the children were outcasts, not even considered part of the town, he added.

Organisers of the trip had even foiled a plan to replace children from the orphanage with local towns children so they could enjoy a visit to Britain instead.

But while over in Britain the host families were determined to give the youngsters a holiday to remember and arranged

various visits including a tour around New Scotland Yard, a trip to the House of Commons and a day out watching Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane.

Essex Police were able to do their bit by providing organisers with the force coach to take the kids out and transport them to and from the airport. Officers from the Mets and Cambridgeshire Forces also played a major role in the holiday.

Worried

"I think they have gone back with a wider spectrum of life," said Brendon, who like many other hosts was worried about what effect the trip would have on children used to having so little. "I think it's done them a lot of good but I think a lot of them wanted to get back home to get back into the regime they are used to."

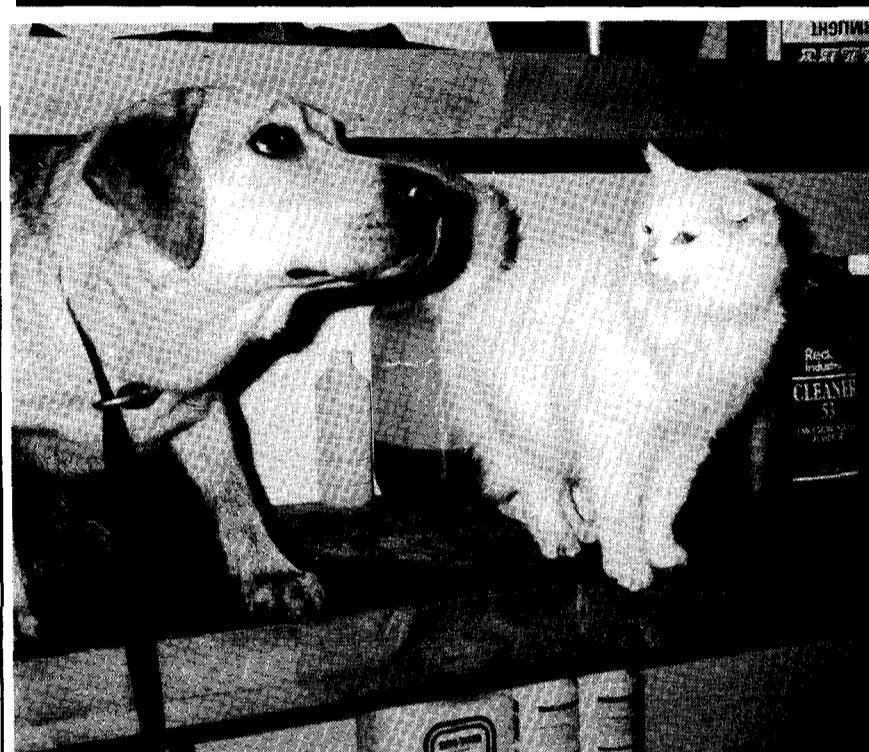
Since the visit some families have been out to Romania to see the children and lorry loads of supplies have gone out to help make life easier. Plans are already afoot to give other children at the orphanages a similar holiday.

At the girl's orphanage, Panciu, there are thought to be as many as 480 children, while at the boys Odobesti numbers possibly top 370.

But nobody for sure quite knows how many there are.

Although virtually forgotten in their own country those police rugby players were determined they would not be forgotten here.

A DOG'S LIFE FOR PUSS



Force sniffer dog Hardie and feline friend Puss.

PURRFECT PALS

DOGGONE it! You've heard the one about putting the cat among the pigeons, but new force mouser, Puss, has ended up well and truly in the dog house.

After the sad demise of their last kennel cat many years ago, the Dog Unit at Sandon decided it was time to adopt another feline friend and was given Puss by an animal charity.

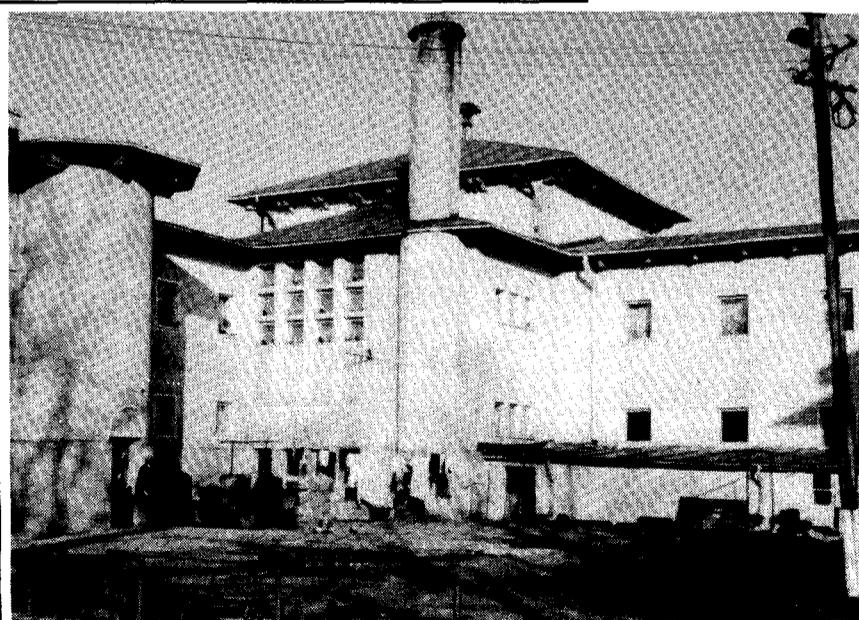
Puss initially entrenched herself in the laundry, but has now taken up residence in the main kennel block sharing scooby snacks with a multitude of German Shepherds as well as Labradors and Springer Spaniels.

Although very fond of humans, the snow-white kitty is not a great lover of dogs, but at least her presence is the purrfect way to get the canine cops used to encountering their furry cousins on patrol.

"When you go out working at night-time

there's hundreds of cats all over the place," said PC Martyn Garwood. "It's all part of preparing the dogs — I think it's good for them to all be brought up together."

Handler PC Mick Mercer is also understood to be very fond of Sandon's new inmate, but for some reason has been rather reluctant to fetch its dinner from the fridge.



ROMANIAN HOME. The grim exterior of Panciu, the girl's orphanage. Inside conditions are appalling by Western standards.

Cop Caper\$

LEICESTERSHIRE PC Graham Bowler has been running rings round his colleagues since he adopted a new style of policing his Kegworth beat.

No doubt local youngsters have been wheely impressed with the cool cop as he whisks round the streets on a pair of roller skates.

Not quite so happy however, was BBC Radio Gloucestershire presenter Anna King.

She had to hastily cancel a crime prevention show because her home was burgled just before she was due to start the programme.

Crime prevention has also been proving a problem in Lincs. Hi-tech security cameras put up at Grantham bus station are to be replaced after being wrecked by vandals.

But up there in Bradford, police are urging people to watch out for the birdie after two men stole a one-eyed Urdu-speaking grey parrot from his Yorkshire home.

Officers are busy solving the polly poser and a long stretch of bird could be in store for the offenders.

Meanwhile police in Bournemouth have come to a dead end after finding a brand new empty pine coffin in a lay-by.

Grave-faced officers moved it to their lost property department and are digging deep to find the owner.

And finally a teenager suspected of making a heavy breathing call on 999 has breathed a sigh of relief.

All was well when it was discovered the caller from Pickering, North Yorks, was suffering from appendicitis.

NEW THAMES CROSSING SIG

Frustrated motorists loo



THE 430 feet high main piers of the new £86 million bridge dominate the Thurrock skyline. The one and three quarter mile long crossing runs parallel to the two tunnels. It is due to open this autumn, although the two ends should meet nearly 200 feet above the Thames in May.

EVERY MORNING thousands of frustrated motorists gather along the banks of the Thames to watch Europe's largest cable-stayed bridge take shape above them. They are back again every night, often staying for hours.

Snaking back miles into Kent and Essex and held captive in their cars, there's plenty of time to examine every last detail of the enormous structure, sweeping majestically skywards from both banks, yet teasingly failing to meet in the middle.

But lately, as they finally descend underground into the two over-worked tunnels, they are beginning to see the light. Some are even dreaming of the open road, four-lane highways and getting to work on time.

By the Autumn, if the engineers, the Department of Transport and Dartford River Crossing Ltd have got their sums right, those dreams could well come true as the river's new £86 million landmark comes on stream for the waiting masses.

Notoriety

It couldn't come a minute too soon. Since the completion of the M25, 80,000 vehicles a day have been heading for the tunnels, far exceeding their capacity and ensuring national notoriety as one of the county's worst snarl-up spots. According to employer's agent Sidney Telford the opening of the bridge will halve congestion overnight, allowing up to 130,000 vehicle a day to cross the Thames between Dartford and Thurrock.

Both tunnels will carry traffic north into Essex while the bridge, running parallel with them, will take four lanes of traffic south into

Kent — the first time such a set-up has been used on one of Britain's major bridges.

It is also the first time this century that the Government has fully involved the private sector in the financing, design and management of a major road project in the UK and could set an important precedent for plans to build privately-funded motorways.

After winning the contract to build the crossing in September 1986, Trafalgar House and its partners set up a new company, Dartford River Crossing Ltd, to design and construct the bridge.

The Department of Transport then leased the two tunnels to Dartford River Crossing for the amount of their outstanding debt — £43.5 million. The company has also taken on the job of funding the entire cost of the bridge and will operate it and the tunnels for a maximum of 20 years.

Existing tolls will fund construction costs and debt payments and the company are hopeful the crossing will have recovered all the costs and repaid all debts within 14 years. At that time, or within the 20 year maximum, both tunnels and the bridge will be handed back to public-owner-ship debt-free.

By that time the bridge will still be very young. With a design life of 120 years it may still be open for business in 2111, ready for Buck

Cautionary note of high winds and vertigo

IT IS BEING heralded as bringing to an end years of motoring misery for tens of thousands of commuters.

But Inspector Jerry Moore of Brentwood Traffic is not so sure.

Few could dispute the awe-inspiring magnificence of the 200 foot high cable-stayed steel structure that will, this autumn, provide another four lanes for traffic crossing the Thames at Dartford.

Insp Moore is no hard-bitten pessimist. But he fears the free flow of traffic may be short-lived as more drivers choose to use the route, this, indeed, was witnessed with the opening of the M25, where forecasters had seriously underestimated the rate of traffic growth.

Traffic flows at the tunnels have peaked at 90,000 a day, with a design capacity of just 65,000.

While, in the short term at least, the new bridge may bring an end to the problems associated with constant queuing it will undoubtedly bring

by Jenny Bullus

new problems for Insp Moore's team of traffic policemen to tackle — with high winds the major issue envisaged.

There has been no lack of preparation on the police side, with more than a year of discussion with the private consortium set up to finance, design, construct and operate the crossing.

Emergency

Insp Moore is currently re-writing the joint Essex and Kent emergency plans to deal with a major incident, to take account of the bridge as well as the tunnels.

Existing arrangements with Kent Police have worked well. The new bridge will carry four lanes of traffic from Essex southbound into Kent, while the tunnels will carry all north-

Essex and Kent police — bridging the gap

bound traffic.

So the theory is that Essex officers will deal with the bridge, while Kent officers deal with the tunnels, going with the flow of traffic.

But contingency plans are laid for police to travel contraflow, as this may get officers to the scene of a crash quicker. Basically, the first to arrive will deal with the incident.

Inspector Moore is certainly the right man for the job. He worked for four years at the Severn Bridge, as an officer of Avon and

Somerset Police.

He would like to send his officers to other bridges, like the Severn or Humber, to get a feel for the work. "Until you try it, you don't know what it's like, standing near the edge in the wind."

Unfortunately this may not be feasible because of distances involved.

Unease

Although his traffic crews have shown great interest in the progress of the new bridge, he says a number have voiced unease about working on it.

"When I first went to the Severn, I used to drive across as quickly as possible so if it fell down I wasn't on it!", he said.

It is no place for an officer without a head for heights. Insp Moore is adamant that his crews should carry full harnesses in their cars to lash themselves to the bridge when dealing with incidents in high winds.

I worked on the Severn in winds of 50 to 70 miles an hour. You had a job to stand on your feet."

"Most bridges have a cycle track or safety margin, here

there are only a couple of feet beyond the crash barrier and then you're off."

"One of the main dangers on a motorway are vehicles moving towards you. On a bridge there is no avenue of escape, you can't just jump out of the way."

Weather-proof

Insp Moore believes harnesses are essential, and would also like his crews to have special weather-proof suits.

He is certain traffic Officers will have to deal with vehicles blown over on their sides.

And because the bridge will be privately run, which means it is of necessity a profit-making venture, he is anxious that the decision to close it to high-sided vehicles, or to change a tunnel to two-way traffic, may sometimes be delayed too long.

"The difficulty is that we have 199 miles of the M25 which the police control and attempt to keep free flowing. The linking mile in the middle belongs to a

private concern whose motive must be profit."

"They have total control of that mile. This has the potential to cause us problems."

Insp Moore is not negative, but it is his job to try to anticipate difficulties. "I'm looking forward to the fact that we will get better traffic flows, if the bridge solves traffic queuing it should make policing the motorway more pleasurable."

"The beauty of what we have here is that if something is wrong with the tunnels you still have the bridge. If the bridge closes you revert to what we have now. If the Severn or the Humber shuts, traffic stops."

The fact that traffic flow is one-way means accidents will tend to be shunts rather than head-on collisions. But, of course, freer traffic flow means higher speeds, increasing the seriousness of accidents.

If tailbacks do build up at the toll booths; they may be met by vehicles travelling at speed over

ALS AN END TO MOTORING MISERY

forward to the light at the end of the tunnel

Special report by Paul Dunt

Rogers and Co to hop across Lakeside for earthly goods for some intergalactic friends.

If so, let's hope they spare a thought for the engineering involved in constructing a bridge with a clear span of 450 metres between the main piers and using up 145,000 cubic metres of concrete. The steelwork alone is connected by 750,000 high-strength bolts.

The two main piers (there are 39 in all) are constructed on two massive caissons, built in Holland and then towed 150-miles across the North Sea to Dartford.

After precision positioning above the river bed they were lowered into place by flooding them with water.

Collision

Gradually the water was replaced by concrete, leaving each caisson weighing 85,000 tonnes - tough enough to take the collision impact force of a ship as big as the

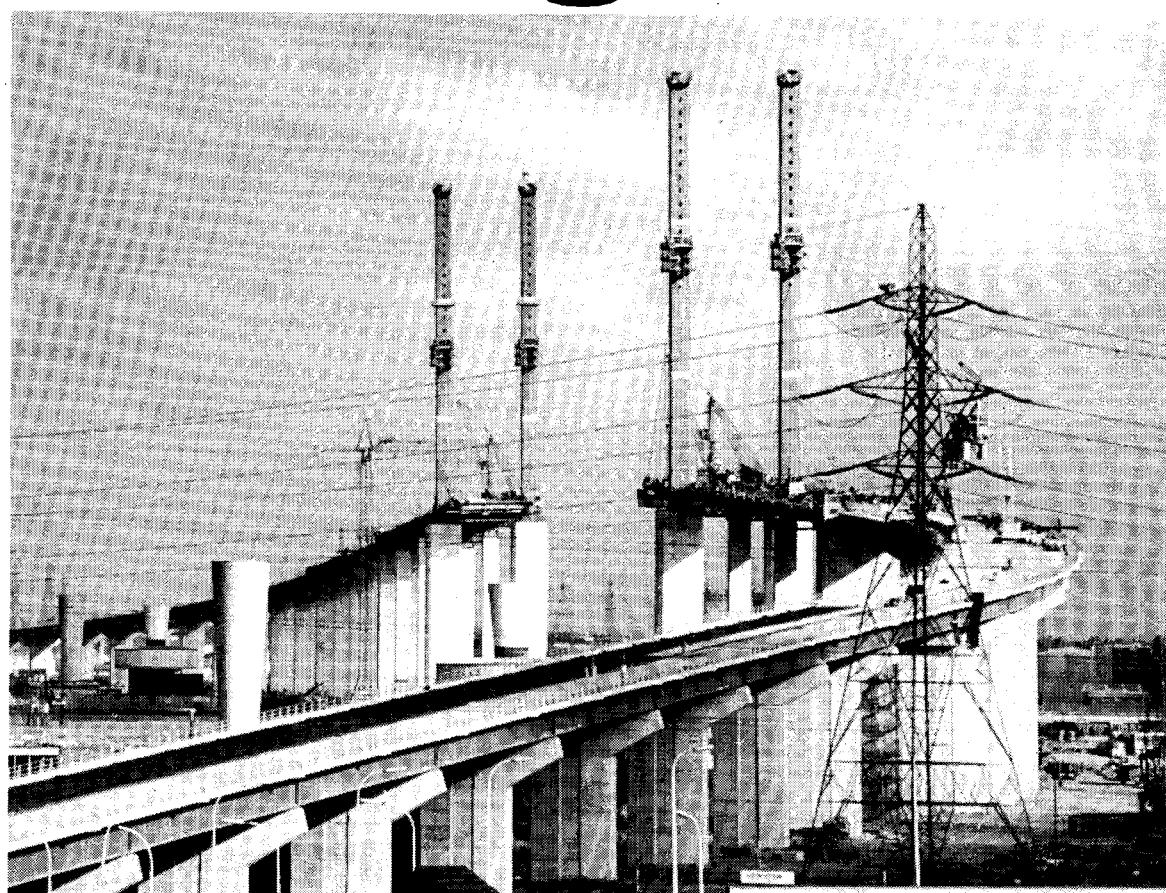
QE2 striking the pier at the worst possible angle at a speed of up to 10 knots.

However, it is hoped that most shipping will choose to pass under the middle of the bridge, where the clearance height has been set at 57.5 metres - enough to take some of the tallest ships in the world.

Up top, 112 separate cables varying in length from 46 to 226 metres, help hold the central span in place. They go up in diameter to 164mm, the largest size of bridge cable ever made in Britain and with a breaking strength of 2,240 tonnes.

But despite the staggering statistics it's all proven technology says Mr Telford, Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Ltd, one of the two main contractors for the project are well versed in bridge construction all over the world.

Their experience includes such famous landmarks as the Sydney Harbour Bridge in Australia, the Forth



A BRIDGE too far: Drivers using the twin tunnels dream of the day that they make ends meet.
Picture by the Air Support Unit.



REACHING for the sky: The new Dartford Bridge promises an end to commuters' daily queuing.

sufferers

the brow of the bridge.

But perhaps the most bizarre, though very real, problem to face will be caused by verti-sufferers, those with a dread of heights.

Horrible

"It concerns me that some people may find it fairly horrific," says Insp Moore. "As you drive towards this bridge you can see how high it is."

"If you have to stop on the bridge because of stationary traffic you will be able to feel it moving, which is quite an experience."

"When people get up there, they may not want to continue."

Frightening

"When you are 200 foot up, stationary in traffic and unable to go anywhere and the road is moving in the wind, it can be quite frightening."

There have already been difficulties to face, with roadworks preparing to link the new bridge into the network.

Earlier this month diversions on the Kent side led to tailbacks stretching beyond the A12 junction with the M25.

It was taking four hours to get from Brentwood to the tunnel.

Conditions

Such conditions lead to irate motorists and appalling driver behaviour, like using the hard shoulder and reversing back up slip roads.

Insp Moore said he and his officers would be delighted to see an end to the daily queuing, at least for the first couple of years, but as to what else the bridge might hold in store for them, "We'll just have to suck it and see."

SPOTLIGHT ON THE FORCE PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION

ONE of the force's most specialized, skilled and civilianised departments has won an award for the quality of its service.

The ever-busy Headquarters photographic section processes more than 20,000 films a year.

It produces 320,000 prints a year. And on top of that it maintains an immense and vital scenes of crime photo library of approaching half a million negatives.

Despite its workload, and the urgency of many of the jobs, the Essex Police photographic department has won an award from Champion Photochemistry for consistently maintaining high standards of processing during 1990.

Champion is a major supplier of photoprocessing chemicals to commercial photographers, processing houses and Developing and Printing centres. But its quality control monitoring service identified Essex Police as providing the highest standards of processing.

Civvy specialists win quality award

Photographic boss Ken Linge, a Fellow of the British Institute of Professional Photographers, joined in 1973, and has seen some major changes in equipment and techniques since then.

Machines

"You have got to keep up with contemporary technology," he said. And major changes in the industry are still in store, with the advent of electronic imaging systems heralding the age of the filmless camera.

The photolab's automatic film and print processors have made the department more like a factory, said Ken, but it still needs operators to monitor the machines.

Ken's deputy George Allen joined as long ago as 1954, although he had a four-year break from police photography in the early 70s.

"In 1954 we covered the whole county from headquarters," he said. "There were no Scenes of Crime photographers. At that time there were only about 15 civilians at HQ."

The photographic department, became entirely civilian some six years ago, and now has 11 staff, including a clerk.

Fingerprints

Much of the department's work-load is made up of photographically recording all fingerprints. Getting the best out of the finger mark is one of the

highly specialised areas of the work.

In fact it was Essex Police that designed the now widely-used fixed focus camera for fingerprint work. The department processes 13,000 black and white films of fingerprints every year.

Photographic staff are trained as both photographers and technicians. They attend a London further education college on a day release basis to qualify for their B/Tec or City and Guilds at basic or advanced level.

Ken Linge is also responsible for the training of the force's Scenes of Crime photographers. It is four weeks of intensive training to ensure they can make the best of any situation, day or night, minute

detail or wide angle.

Other work of the department includes studio photography, for example warrant card pictures, printing photofit pictures, and maintaining a file of prisoner photographs strictly adhering to Police and Criminal Evidence Act regulations.

Other specialist areas the department is moving into include the investigation of forged documents and the use of video mixing techniques.

Murder

Ken said, "We try to maintain standards as high as possible while getting the work out quickly. We may be pushing through hundreds of jobs, but for a murder we may spend a week on one mark."

"If it gets a conviction, it is worth every moment."

But despite the department's award for its quality processing, there's a rumour going about that they put something strange in the photographic chemicals...



PHOTOGRAPHIC boss Ken Linge (right) receives the quality award from Champion Photochemistry's Peter Smart.

In the past year, three of Salmon left to have a baby, and photographer Keith White's wife had a baby too! Jenny Bullus



Firearms boss Mick Fidgeon demonstrates the force's computerised records to the Soviet visitors.

Russians' visit

OFFICIALS from the Soviet interior ministry visited police HQ on 26th February. They were concerned with the control and possession of firearms in the USSR, and examined the UK licensing system, as operated by Essex Police.

The visitors were Mr Anatoly Churzin, Head of Permits Section and Mr Eugeny Camakhin, Deputy Head, Ministry of the Interior. They were accompanied by Mr Victor Kulikov of the Russian Trade Legation. The visit was arranged in

conjunction with Mr Robert Nash of "Sportsmarketing", Colchester, who are importers of Russian made "Baikal" shotguns. During the day the computerised system used to handle firearm and shotgun records by Essex Police was demonstrated by Firearms Officer manager Mick Fidgeon, who also gave an insight into the Law and Regulations.

The group also visited the Information Room, Firearms Range, Colchester DHQ and Chelmsford Prison.

ESSEX Police will be pedalling the Crime Prevention message by joining in a world record attempt at cycle coding.

The force will launch into the first National Crime Prevention Week by lining up against 19 other forces to chase the record set by the Newcastle Division of Northumbria Police of 267 bikes in four hours.

Northumbria is co-ordinating National Cycle Coding Day, when it is hoped to establish two world records to be submitted for the Guinness Book of Records.

The first target will be the venue record, with the Newcastle target to beat, and the second, a Ford Record — for force's with more than one location participating.

In Essex, the postcoding session will take place between 10am and 2pm on Sunday April 14, at Chelmsford Police Station.

Special constables will be in action, and are hoping for a big public response.

In the Essex force area, a staggering 4,333 cycles were reported stolen in 1990, almost 12 a day on average, and with a value which probably approaches half a million pounds.

This was a 43 per cent increase on the previous year, and has led many sub-divisions to target cycle thefts as a problem to tackle.

National Cycle Coding Day has been sponsored by the National Westminster Bank, which has donated a £500 voucher for a cycling holiday on the continent for a national draw winner.

Further sponsorship has come from McDonalds, with a voucher for a bag of French Fries to be given to every cyclist who gets

post-coded.

There will also be a draw at every venue, including Chelmsford, with winners receiving a £10 McDonalds meal voucher.

Inspector Raymond Mitchell of the Crime Prevention Department at Northumbria Police HQ said, "I think our record of 267 can be beaten, but it will take a lot of hard work."

Other Crime Prevention Week initiatives in Essex include Personal Safety for Women seminars at Saffron Walden Town Hall, a Bank Watch scheme being launched in Epping, an Open Day at Brentwood Police Station, and a Countryside Properties show house at Hutton Poplars open for a day, displaying alarm systems, locks and other security devices.

For more information contact local CPOs or HQ Crime Prevention.

REMEMBER NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION WEEK

Monday 15th April 1991 — Saturday 20th April 1991

Theme for each day:

Monday 15th AUTOCRIME

Tuesday 16th BUSINESS AND CRIME

Wednesday 17th VIOLENCE

Thursday 18th YOUTH AGAINST CRIME

Friday 19th BURGLARY

Saturday 20th NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Are you planning anything?

Open doors at Colchester

COLCHESTER Police are throwing their doors wide open to townsfolk, to show them how to keep criminals out.

To help combat rising crime rates, a home security and personal safety exhibition has been laid on to coincide with National Crime Prevention Week.

Officers hope, while demonstrating practical ways of avoiding becoming a victim of crime, to help reduce people's personal fears of crime.

The exhibition is not just a police one, with the Fire Service, Age Concern, British Gas, the Victim Support Scheme, plus representatives of lock and alarm companies, also available to give practical advice.

The police station at Southway will be open to the public on Thursday and Friday, April 18 and 19, between 11am and 7pm.

A special visit has been laid on for around 100 of the town's pensioners who will be shown round the exhibition on Wednesday, April 17. The Mayor of Colchester, Ken Cooke, and the Acting Deputy Chief Constable Geoff Markham will also be present.

Chief Inspector Peter Durr said, "We are faced with an increase in crime, which can be reduced by members of the public applying some simple measures, which this exhibition will demonstrate."

Jailbreak cops fund Disney dream

THREE caring coppers are set to travel 7,000 miles in a daring Jailbreak to help send a sick Canvey child on a dream holiday.

Brave five-year-old Russell Blake has already undergone 14 months of intensive chemotherapy at Great Ormond Street Hospital, in his battle

against the rare Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma, a disease with only a 50/50 survival rate.

The three Essex officers, George Lambeth, Dave Manders and Andy Nunn, are seeking sponsors to raise enough cash to send Russell and his family to visit Disneyworld.

Their plan is to take part

in the annual Chelmsford Jailbreak event on October 2, when the aim is to travel as far as possible in 14 hours.

Their intended destination is Phoenix, Arizona — where they will be seized by the authorities and detained for repatriation.

Companies and individuals are urged to support

their bid.

Any money left over after Russell's holiday will go to Imperial Cancer Research.

Sponsors should contact George Lambeth, 134 Heath Drive, Chelmsford, CM2 9HH.

Any cheques to be made payable to "Russell Blake Holiday Fund".

OBITUARIES

20.2.91 Ex Ps H. J. RILEY, aged 68 years, who retired in 1978.

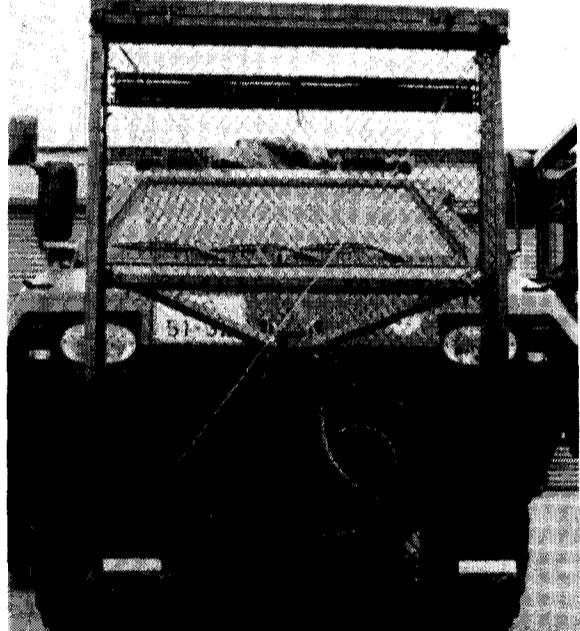
24.2.91 Ex Pc H. KING, aged 74 years, who retired in 1964.

27.2.91 Ex Pc S. SMERDON, aged 86 years, who retired in 1952.



LOVEJOY on location: Ian McShane and sidekick Chris Jury (Eric) filming in Stoneham Street, Coggeshall. Picture by Diane Baker, reproduced with kind permission of the Braintree and Witham Times.

CEMENTING RELATIONS AS GERMANY LIVES WITHOUT THE WALL



RIOT CONTROL — German style.

ESSEX POLICE BAND require experienced BRASS PLAYERS

If interested, apply in writing to

**BAND SECRETARY
POLICE HEADQUARTERS
CHELMSFORD, ESSEX**

or telephone

0245 491491 ext 2735

BRENTWOOD Inspector Denis Sheppard has returned from newly-unified Germany with a fascinating insight into policing after the fall of the Iron Curtain.

He spent more than a month at the German equivalent of Bramshill, The German Federal Police Academy, at Hiltrop, near Munster, taking part in a German language course for senior police officers in Europe.

The course was full of surprises, not least when he met his colleagues on the course who included a Chief State Prosecutor from Holland, a French military commander and the department head of Interpol in Jerusalem.

It soon became clear that the continental definition of policing was very different to that in the UK.

Flee

What was also clear was the immense obstacles still to be overcome to unite the former East German Police with the former West German Police. Special four week courses — "Policing in a Democracy" have been set up to re-educate the few leaders of the eastern police who didn't flee when unification came.

But it seems it will take more than courses to bring them together. According to Insp. Sheppard there are still big problems in Berlin where the East German police feel like second class citizens earning about a quarter of what their western colleagues take home.

Guns

Their pride has also been hurt. They are no longer permitted to carry guns and can only go out on patrol if accompanied by western

New Neighbourhood Watch phone line LOVEJOY HELPS LAUNCH BRAINTREE CRIMELINE

TELEVISION'S most loveable rogue, Lovejoy, is taking a break from filming in Essex to introduce the Braintree Crimeline, a new telephone service for Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

The dodgy antiques dealer turned detective, played by Ian McShane, is recording a short message to introduce the new answerphone service giving information about crime trends in the area.

The force linked up with British Telecom to launch Crimeline this month in ten major Essex towns.

The scheme was piloted for six months in Colchester two years ago,

sponsored by BT, who carefully monitored usage and success of the line.

The aim is to bring important up-to-date information on local crimes to members of the community schemes. Until now Neighbourhood Watch members have relied on newsletters from the police for information.

These are time-consuming and expensive, and the information is often dated.

The new, regularly updated Crimeline should help Watch members to reduce and also detect crimes.

Other areas to benefit from the new dedicated lines, with easily remembered numbers, are Brentwood, Basildon, Grays, Harlow, Chelmsford, Clacton, Southend, Saffron Walden and Witham.

In Braintree, Supt. Bernie Beesley and Crime Prevention Officer PC Geoff Butler hit on the idea of enlisting Lovejoy's help. They have made the num-

ber public, in the hope of encouraging more people to set up Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

Meanwhile filming continues in locations throughout Essex for the next series of Lovejoy, which will be screened in January. The current series has just ended.

But fans should keep a look out for Lovejoy's tatty Morris Minor convertible which will be out and about in the Braintree and Dunmow area for the next six months.



ON COURSE FOR UNITY: Law enforcers from all over the world team up at the German Federal Police Academy to take part in a German language course and experience life in Berlin after the wall.

He was one of the most positive people I have ever met."

"As we try to manage our changes it's very interesting to see how a substantial change is being managed," he said.

The Germans are also having difficulty attracting qualified people into the force — which is not held in such esteem as its British equivalent.

Control

A major consultancy firm was employed to find out what people actually expected of the police and came up with the conclusion that they wanted more community-type policing.

It also became clear that all policemen needed to amend their ways and move away from the old control image of policing. This survey led to a whole new corporate image for the force to create the type of force the public wanted. This included an extensive media and poster campaign putting a young or better face to the force.

First

"What their survey came up with was that the German people wanted a force more like our own," he said. "The Germans

thought their new approach was a first for Europe but it's what we have been doing since the Force began."

"We perhaps should be a little more confident about the achievements of our police. I was surprised how good we were in comparison. It seems other country's want to be more like us."

The German image of the police is certainly being changed, he explained as their force attempts to adapt to these new demands from the public as well as attracting younger people to the ranks from an ageing population.

Crime

New police posters show young female officers listening to Walkmans while surrounded by local youngsters — a stark comparison to the old action-packed style — officers jumping out of helicopters like comic-book crime fighters.

In Coesseld, a computer town for Munster, Insp. Sheppard was able to make a direct comparison with his home beat of Brentwood, also a large commuter area and of about the same size — a sub-division of about

50,000 people.

"What was interesting was that the station always seemed to be empty and their detection rate appeared to be twice as good. But here the Insp hit upon an important point which is sure to become an issue come 1992."

Control

It is inevitable that more and more crime rates for British towns will be compared with rates for towns of similar size and composition of the continent. But here care needs to be taken, he says. In Coesseld detection rates were measured very differently to those in Britain.

Also important in a comparison is to take into account the public service role the British police fill, something which is looked upon very differently in Germany.

Little time is spent on issues such as crime prevention which is left to the local authority. "Police there don't take on the same sort of extra jobs we do so they have more time for patrol work," said Insp. Sheppard. "It seems to very much a hands-off approach to crime prevention."



I.P.A. NEWS

MID-ESSEX BRANCH

Fred Dyson

Oriental evening

ON FRIDAY 8th March, an Oriental evening was held at the Police Cadet Training School.

Our member Derek Thomas, who had served for six years in the latter part of the 1980's in Hong Kong with the Special Branch, showed a colourful display of picture slides of Hong Kong, the New Territories and Thailand, and gave a talk on the way of life in those countries.

Appropriately the evening ended with most members enjoying a Chinese meal obtained from a local "Take Away".

ANNUAL DINNER

NOW we come to food again! What would life be

like in the I.P.A. if at some time it did not involve eating and drinking — our Annual Dinner.

This was held at the "Rivenhall Resort" on Friday 15th March, when a total of 55 members and wives sat down to a three course meal of their choice.

Afterwards our Chairman Roger Richardson gave a vote of thanks to all present for supporting the function.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Branch, to thank our Social Secretary Dick Giggins, aided by Roger, for the hard work he did in organising this Dinner, which should have been held on the 8th February, but due to the heavy snow falls at that time it had to

be postponed, and a new date arranged.

Forthcoming events:-

Sat 20th - 24th April
Our 5 day trip to Rouen, Northern France.

Friday 17th May

Barn Dance in a marquee on the sports field at Police HQs. Tickets available from Committee members £3 each, this includes sausage and chips supper. Bring your own drinks.

Friday 14th June

A walking Treasure Hunt in Witham, ending with an American supper at Witham Police Station. (Ladies you have been warned).

IPA SOUTH ESSEX BRANCH

Thanks Marion

RAY Hanson, Chairman of 10 Region, attended our AGM on February 6, having travelled from Leman Street in the snowstorm.

He made the presentation to Marion Young, who has given up her position as secretary, that she has held since our branch formation.

Marion was formerly the Regional Treasurer. We shall miss her on the committee, but look forward to seeing her at some of our events during the year.

The branch's new committee and divisional reps were voted in as follows:

Chairman
Gordon OAKLEY
0268 734692

Vice Chairman
Derek GIBBONS
0702 420460 (also retired officers rep)

Secretary
Steve COWLAND
H. - 0268 753150
W. - 0375 26781

Treasurer
Dave FOX
H. - 0277 624785
W. - 0277 631212

Accommodation Officer
John JOHNSON
0702 298799

Specials Rep
John SWANBOROUGH
0268 735473

Grays Rep
Steve HUNT
W. South Ockendon CID

Basildon Rep
Helen FOX

W. Basildon 'C' Shift
Southend Rep
Marion YOUNG

W. NBO Southend
Calendar of Events

22/3/91 -
Cockney Nite at P.L.A. Tilbury

26/4/91 -
Quiz Nite at Grays. 4 per Team

20/4/91 to 27th -
With K Division to Ludwigshafen

12/5/91 -
Car Treasure Hunt starting from Wickford (good for kids)

20/6/91 -
Ladies Day, Ascot (fully booked)

28/6/91 -
Bar-B-Q at Brentwood Police Station

July 91 -
Visit to a television show

September 91 -
Visit to the Black Museum at N.S.Y.

4/10/91 -
Elizabethan Night at Hatfield House

8/11/91 -
Belgian Beer Festival. This will be a 3 day trip at a cost of £68.50 per person.

If you are interested in any of the above events or wish to find out more about the I.P.A., contact any of the above listed.

We look forward to seeing some new faces at our events.

Dave Fox

I am pleased to say the coach trip to Spalding is filling up and I anticipate we shall have a full coach on the day.

I am informed that the 29th March will be a very special day for Tom Whalley (Retired Laindon Traffic 1976) and his wife Christine — it is their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Congratulations and best wishes to you both from all your friends and colleagues in Essex.

May I please request members to come along and support the meeting.

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Doug Rampling

CUDDLY COPS SCALE DOWN

WEIGHT A MINUTE!
What's all this going on here then? Looks like those lads over at Information Technology have really taken to heart plans to scale down the number of police officers in their department.

Sizing up to moves to civilianize their operation, the portly peelers decided to tighten their belts and make the force's job easier by shedding an officer all on their own.

Visitors to IT since January may have noticed there's more room around the offices, the general feeling that something or someone is missing. But no one it seems can put a name to a face.

But gone an officer certainly has — all 8.5 stone of him — and his colleagues are delighted. You could say they have cut out the middle man for that's the amount the magnificent seven have lost in weight since the beginning of January.

"We all wanted to lose a bit



Pictured from left to right are: Sgt Andrews; Sgt Sheern; Sgt Day; C/Supt Nevitt and Sgt Paul Hand.

of weight and this seemed a fun way to do it what with plans to replace us with civilians," said Sgt Terry Sheem, who has lost two stone.

As it fitting with the technology buffs, the diet has been

carefully monitored with weighing sessions every Monday morning and computer bar graphs showing their fight against the slab.

Also looking for new clothes are Sgt Ray Andrews,

who has lost two stone; Sgt Richard Day, one stone; Chief Supt Peter Nevitt, one stone; Sgt Paul Hand, one stone; Inspector Mike Jackson, one stone; and consultant Keith Boxhall, half a stone.

RETIREMENTS

with a retirement gift from Essex CID, paying tribute to his dedication, and to the unstinting support he has received from his wife Pam throughout his service.

In recognition of his service to the Harlow community, Mick received a gift from David Brown, head of Harlow District Council Housing Office.

OTHER RETIREMENTS

13.4.91 Ps Raymond FRENCH Grays/St Ockenden, 24 yrs 273 days.

14.6.91 Pc John MILNE, Basildon/Billericay, 30 years.

17.3.91 Mr R J WHEELER, Clerk, Chelmsford, 10 yrs.

19.4.91 Ds Peter HARRIS, Seconded NSY Interpol, 30 yrs.

5.5.91 Ps Raymond FRENCH Grays, 28 yrs, 88 days.

14.6.91 Pc John MILNE, Basildon/Billericay, 30 years.

17.3.91 Mr R J WHEELER, Clerk, Chelmsford, 10 yrs.

19.4.91 Ds Peter HARRIS, Seconded NSY Interpol, 30 yrs.

5.5.91 Ps Raymond FRENCH Grays/St Ockenden, 24 yrs 273 days.

14.6.91 Pc John MILNE, Basildon/Billericay, 30 years.

17.3.91 Mr R J WHEELER, Clerk, Chelmsford, 10 yrs.

19.4.91 Ds Peter HARRIS, Seconded NSY Interpol, 30 yrs.

MARKET PLACE . . . MARKET PLACE . . . MARKET PLACE

TRAILER TENT, Conway Coniche, 4 berth, kitchen, good condition, £400. Contact Pc Jude, Rochford or 0702 340856.

CHALET, Polperro, Cornwall, sleeps 4/5. Reasonably priced off season vacancies. Club, in and outdoor pools, sauna, jacuzzi. Pleasant site. Contact Craig Bailey, 2 Collins Cross, Bishops Stortford, Herts. CM23 2DD. Tel 0279-653570.

CARAVAN, Piper, 14' with fridge. £1,600. Contact Ps Matthams, Shotley. Tel 0376 45328.

GROUND FLOOR FLAT, Stansted, for sale. Two bed, garage, garden quiet position. Vacant possession. Contact Pc D. Counsell, Stansted. Tel 0279 813686.

LUXURY 6 BERTH STATIC HOME, Polzeath, Cornwall, to let, some dates still available.

3 BED SEMI-DETACHED CHALET BUNGALOW within

easy walking distance of HQ. Lounge-diner, kitchen, conservatory, separate garage, gas central heating, un-overlooked rear garden approx 90 foot long and greenhouse. Situated in a cul-de-sac. £89,500 o.n.o. Tel Chd 267487.

DETACHED HOUSE, Great Leighs, close Chelmsford, 4 bedrooms, large lounge, plus 2 reception rooms, double garage, secluded garden, village location in quiet mews, £125,000 o.n.o. Contact Ray/Ann Levett 0245 362366.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE — ONE WORD PER BOX.

Name and Rank	Station
Home telephone	Signed

New force initiative offers helping hand to addicts

FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS NOW ON THE CARDS

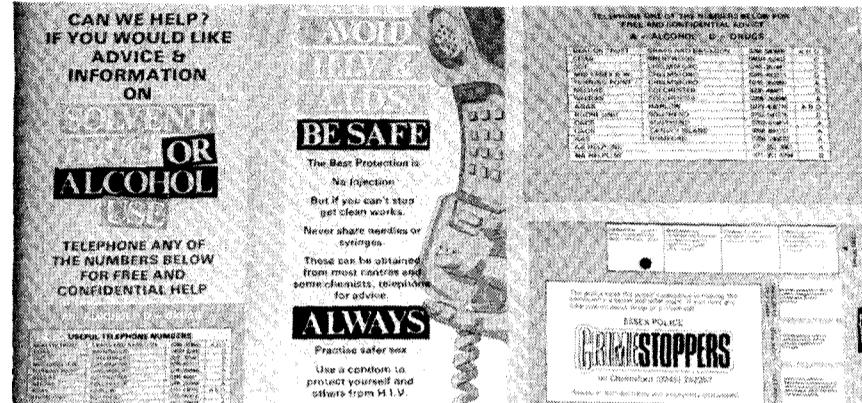
THE Force has laid its cards on the table in a fresh campaign in the fight against drugs.

From now on, anyone in the county arrested for drug, solvent, or alcohol-related offences will be given a referral card highlighting vital helpline numbers they can contact for advice, counselling or treatment.

At the same time, schools and community groups, as well as police officers, are being sent specially produced drug guides to help spot the physical symptoms of drug-taking and the dangers to watch out for.

Illegal

Also illustrated on the guide are basic life-saving



HELP AT HAND: The new force cards are packed with important information.

techniques, the Essex Police Crimestoppers number and telephone numbers for confidential advice on alcohol and drug problems. Both the cards are being

promoted by Drugs Prevention and Education Co-ordinator, Inspector Dave Perry, based at HQ. It is hoped they will prove to be effective new tools in

the battle to stamp out illegal drug-taking and solvent and alcohol abuse.

Pocket

The Drug Guide, which fits neatly into a pocket, purse or wallet, has been sponsored and produced by the Clacton Jubilee Rotary Club in an important link-up between the force and local community.

Now Inspector Perry is hoping other clubs across the county will step in to boost the initial production run of 5,000 copies, which have already been distributed all over Essex.

"The Rotary Club's support has been fantastic," he said. "This new card fulfills a need not only for educating police officers but as an aide-memoir for anybody that encounters illicit drugs."

The Referral Card, which

also highlights advice on H.I.V. and A.I.D.S. has been paid for by the force, but future runs will receive health authority backing. It has now been sent to every police station in the county and has been attractively designed to appeal to young people and aims to teach rather than preach.

Problem

To measure the effectiveness of the Referral Card, custody records will be marked in the front top right hand corner with the letter "R" to show that an arrested person has been given one of the cards.

Each division has been asked to provide a monthly return of Referral Cards issued so that the relevant drug agencies can get some idea of the number of persons referring themselves for help.

The cards are all part of the force's efforts to encourage people with drug, alcohol or solvent problems to seek help and advice before they end up in court.

The Drug Guide was officially handed over to the force at a special ceremony with members of the Clacton Jubilee Rotary Club at Clacton Police Station. Anybody who would like more information about either card should contact Inspector Perry at HQ Community Services Branch.

NOSEY FUNDRAISERS SNIFF OUT A WINNER



NOSE JOKE: Staff in the CID Admin office at Grays don their conks for Comic Relief Day.

HELLO, Hello! Anybody nose what's been going on here then? Seems staff in Grays CID Admin Department were determined not to let Comic Relief Day go past without getting a sniff of the action!

So to do their bit along with Lenny Henry and Co, the team pinned a notice to their office door declaring to all and sundry that the department was well and truly a red nose zone.

Anybody making enquiries to the office that day found themselves digging deep into their pockets to make a contribution to

the "stonker tin" while anybody popping in found themselves held hostage until they coughed up an escape fee.

Then as the day went on inc smiling six decided it was time to widen their efforts so they set off on a stonk-about, collecting even more money and laughs for the nationwide appeal.

Despite their rather strange appearance and that even stranger Everton F.C. ten-gallon hat, the bunch escaped arrest and managed to bank a grand total of £75.64 towards the starving in Africa and projects in the UK.

SPORTS EXTRA . . . SPORTS EXTRA . . .

LOTTERY WINNERS

THE result of this month's Force Lottery is as follows:
£1,500 DCons D. Box, Southend;
£700 Cons V. Brown, Basildon;
£300 Cons M. Spalding, Stanway Traffic.

The following will

receive £50 prizes:

Cons D. Ashbolt, Brentwood;
Cons P. Sutton, Chelmsford;
Cons A. Gepp, Corringham;
Mrs A. Cornwall, Maldon;
Cons P. Roe, Clacton;
Mr D. Barrell, HQ;
Sgt J. Bowman, Chelmsford;
Cons J. Woodcock, Clacton and
Cons W. Lang, Harlow.

RUGBY P.A. RUGBY

ESSEX POLICE will be hosting the No 5 Region P.A.A. Rugby 7 a side championships on Wednesday, 17th April, 1991 on the Force Sports Field.

Any spectators requiring details, please contact Mick Hall on 2441.

The Long and Winding Road . . .

Chas Elliot serves up a slice of life in the force in the first of a new series for The Law.

BODGER, was a transferee from Devonshire. He had spent his early service as the only policeman in one of those beautiful fishing villages and tourist attractions.

There were no cars allowed in his village, which meant no traffic offences, so one must assume that, apart from fairly minor crimes, he had led a peaceful life.

In appearance, Bodger could have been a model

for the laughing policeman. He was fat with red cheeks and twinkling brown eyes. One could imagine that he was an expert in the consumption of pasties and cream teas.

He had never been to London before and his experience of large towns was confined to an occasional visit to Exeter, which he pronounced as "Exeketer".

Bodger had some difficulty in coming to terms with a city the size of London and would frequently lose

his way.

Those of us who had transferred from other forces were required to attend a weekly course at a neighbouring police station.

Bodger would, occasionally, miss the class. His excuse was usually the same: "I'm sorry Inspector," he would say, "but I got lost again."

When asked why he hadn't asked for directions, he would say: "That'd look right silly wouldn't er, with me in uniform an all."

"Mind you, some chap did ask me the way and I was able to tell 'im. I had my A-Z with me, but that don't show police sta-

tions."

The inspector would abandon the unequal task at this point.

Protest

In those days, (I expect it is the same now), when people, such as political exiles, wished to go by procession to organise a protest at their embassy or high commission, they would be allowed to do so, so long as they followed a route specified by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

To ensure that the correct route was followed, a constable would be assigned to lead the procession.

A number of people who were exiled from an

African nation, applied for permission to exercise their right to make such a protest. The request was granted and a large number of people, some with banners, assembled in Trafalgar Square.

The authorities had decided, because the embassy was in our sub-divisional area, that a constable from our sub-division would be assigned to lead the procession.

For a reason that I could never understand, they chose Bodger for this onerous task. Some time after the procession had left the square, we received a telephone call at the station. It emanated from Shepherd's

Bush and said: "We've just had one of your blokes passing through with a lot of foreign chaps with banners. Do you know what it's all about?"

This was followed by more calls, each one getting further and further away.

Eventually, the procession had narrowed down to two men, still carrying a banner, and Bodger.

Chortle

I saw Bodger some days later. "I got lost again," he chortled. "They were nice chaps though. We came back by taxi and they shared the fare."

I suppose one way of preventing civil unrest is to take everyone for a long walk.

CHAS ELLIOT served with Kent Police from 1950-55 after which he transferred to the Met. Previously he had been in the army for seven years and as a young paratrooper was captured during the Allied campaign at Arnhem, later escaping. After life in the force he joined an electronics firm and then spent 24 years with Marconi, eventually becoming a lecturer at the Marconi College. He is now retired.



Divisional Tournaments under way from April 20

FUN DAY KIDS ALL SET FOR KICK-OFF

HUNDREDS of excited schoolchildren are already getting into training for the first Essex Police/Hi-tec football and netball tournament which kicks off on April 20.

The event, at Stanway School, Colchester, will be the first of six mini-fun days taking place in each police division and so far 17 schools in the town have signed up to enter teams.

Alongside the action on the courts and fields will be the Essex Police Roadshow, with officers getting a chance to meet their local youngsters and demonstrate some of the force's latest crime-fighting equipment.

Hi-tec are also hoping to attract some sporting stars to the tournament, which is also being used by the schools to raise money for their chosen charities. In Colchester these include

Guide Dogs for the Blind and Great Ormond Street, Children's Hospital.

Fun Day Secretary, Sgt Bob Craven, said he has been encouraged with the response to the tournament so far. "It's going well," he said. "This is the first time we have tried anything like this and we are learning as we go along."

"There is room for more applicants to join in and some schools are bringing many teams," he added.

A week after the Colchester tournament, the Southend Division mini-fun day is being held. Thirteen schools are so far taking part and the youngsters have selected a host

of charities to raise funds for, including Nazareth House — an old people's home, the Special Care Baby Unit at Rochford Hospital and Kingsdown School.

On a wider front, the force Fun Day committee have now decided on a header charity for this year's event, which raised more than £52,000 for charity in 1990.

The main charity will be the Essex Kidney Unit Appeal, which is trying to raise £1 million to set up a central renal dialysis unit for the county at Broomfield Hospital.

According to Sgt Craven, at present there is only one unit of this type in the whole county, based at Southend, or else patients have to travel to London.

Once the unit has been paid for through voluntary funds it is hoped the regional health authority will pay the running costs.

With the aftermath of the Gulf War still very much in the headlines, money raised at the Fun Day will also be going (as well as to many other charities) to The Star and Garter Appeal for disabled and injured servicemen and headed by Falkland's veteran Simon Weston.

Anybody wanting information of the first two tournaments should contact Pc Chris Jacob on (0206) 762512 extension 4490 for the Colchester event and C/Insp Keith Bevill on (0245) 491491 extension 2720 for the Southend event, which will be held at Prince Avenue School, Southend.

FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Squash

THE No 5 Region P.A.A. Squash championships were held at Reading on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th February 1991. Adrian Bunting reached the quarter final of the open singles, losing to the eventual winner, Malcolm Johnson and Nigel Cook both reached the quarter finals of the over 35's and Malcolm Johnson won the plate competition.

If anybody is interested in playing for the force at Squash, could they please contact Malcolm Johnson on 4474.

Marathon Dates
THE No 5 Region Half Marathon will be held at Elmbridge, Surrey on Sunday 28th April 1991 and the National P.A.A. Marathon will be held at Telford on Sunday 5th May 1991.

Any officer requiring further information about either of these events please contact Roy Kebbell on 3236.

Croker Cup

THE following first round matches in the 1991 Croker Cup have got to be played before 29th April 1991. Failure to do so, could result in the matches being declared null and void.

Snooker: Colchester v Basildon, Braintree v H.Q., Grays v Southend and Harlow v Chelmsford.

Billiards: Grays v Colchester, Southend v Harlow and Clacton v H.Q.

Table Tennis: Colchester v Grays, Harlow v Southend, Basildon v Braintree and H.Q. v Chelmsford.

Football: Clacton v Colchester, Chelmsford v Southend, Braintree v Grays and H.Q. v Basildon.

Darts: Harlow v Grays, Southend v Chelmsford and H.Q. v Colchester.

CROSS COUNTRY

THE 1991 Croker Cup cross country was held at Southend on Sunday 17th March 1991, with the following result:



Barry Ansell, captain of the winning Southend team at the recent Croker Cup walk receiving the cup from Mick Benning.

Mens: 1st Andy Down, 2nd Mick Kliskey.

Ladies: 1st Wendy Brown, 2nd Rachel Owen.

Veterans: 1st Andy Down, 2nd Barry Ansell.

Overall result:

1st Colchester 893 pts 6 Croker Cup points
2nd Southend 880 pts 4 Croker Cup points
3rd Chelmsford 270 pts 2 Croker Cup points
4th Harlow 220 pts 1 Croker Cup point
5th Grays 186 pts 1 Croker Cup point
6th Clacton 120 pts 1 Croker Cup point
7th H.Q. 87 pts 1 Croker Cup point
8th Basildon 72 pts 1 Croker Cup point.

Essex victory in Portsmouth Shield



JUST CHAMPION: Essex retained the Portsmouth Shield as indoor games champions for No 5 region. The Table Tennis team is pictured with the shield.

ESSEX POLICE have held the Portsmouth Shield for the second year in succession after storming to victory in the No 5 Region P.A.A. Indoor Games Championships.

This year the championships were held in two stages at different venues with the darts, billiards and snooker kicking off the contest at the City of London Police on Friday February 15.

The Shield is presented to the team that achieves the best overall result in all the indoor competitions and Essex got off to an excellent start in the capital with Steve Goodair winning the snooker and Rod Booth toasting victory in billiards.

Essex was also right on target in the darts with national champions Mo Chaplin and Sue Woolard winning the ladies doubles, Mo winning the ladies singles and Sue, along with Graham Harvey, winning the mixed doubles.

Men's doubles pair Julian Chadband and Paul Bates also chalked up some more points towards the Shield being coming runners-up.

Despite their success, however, the results left a cliff-hanger finish for the table tennis championships held at Colchester Police Station on Saturday February 24, with Essex needing to win two out of the six events.

Competitors from as far afield as Portsmouth came to Colchester to compete, but the day got off to a

Layzell came back from 20-15 down to win the match, but the force were beaten in the final by Kent pairing Keith Lythgoe and Roger White.

The men's final proved a real nail-biter with Essex's Chris Jacob coming up against Kent's Keith Lythgoe. The match saw until, at 15 all, Chris discovered some good attacking shots and took the first leg 21-18. This seemed to fill him with confidence and he took the second leg and match with ease.

The results mean Essex will be sending a team to contest six events in the National Championships a representatives of No 5 P.A.A. Region.



Mo Chaplin and Sue Woolard — National Dart Champions — receiving force trophies from Mick Abraham.

The Law

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