

The Law

including Essex Police Magazine



Free Holiday Offer - see Page 11

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

APRIL 1992

No 226

All smiles for Denise 21 years on



Hug of Love: Denise pictured with parents Pat and Terry shortly after being found.

THE GODFATHER!

BABY look at you now! Kidnap victim Denise Weller was only five months old when she was snatched from her pram in Harlow but she has never forgotten the police who helped find her.

So when she celebrated her 21st birthday recently, Essex officers Pc Rosie Palmer, Ex-Det Ch Supt Len White and recently retired Peter Harris, were all guests of honour.

The Weller case captured the nation's heart back in July 1971 when a nationwide search was mounted after Denise was taken from her pram outside Boots in Broad Walk, Harlow.

It was five weeks before the tiny tot was found hundreds of miles away in Hull. A concerned social worker and vigilant registrar put police on the trail.

She had been taken by a woman trying to get back at an ex-boyfriend and the length of time she was missing remains the longest in British criminal history. The woman was eventually sent to prison.

During the search the Weller family were thrown into the public eye, with

the press camped on their doorstep and their pictures all over the front pages.

But Denise's mum, Pat and dad, Terry, were determined not to lose touch with the people who traced their baby and honoured

Len White by making him their daughter's Godfather.

Rosie Palmer, who spent so much time at the family's home during those long five weeks, has also kept in touch over the years so was delighted to be invited to the celebrations.

"It was a wonderful day," she said.



Happy ending: Denise celebrates her 21st birthday

ELECTION SECURITY TIGHTEST EVER

by Jenny Bullus

WHEN John Major finally set the date for the General Election, a massive security operation swung smoothly into action in Essex.

With three key marginal seats among its 16 constituencies, the county was set to become a major battleground for the political combatants.

Under an increased threat of terrorist activity, Essex

Police mounted its biggest-ever election security operation.

For a month, a special command room was in action around the clock, to ensure the time-honoured process of democracy could run its course.

Entourages

Within days of the campaign launch, major political players such as Paddy Ashdown and Douglas Hurd visited the county, their

entourages swelled by the national media circus.

When Labour leader Neil Kinnock visited Harlow it was the press pack who jostled him, frantic to question him on the erupting health broadcast row.

Other high profile visitors included former Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and Edward Heath.

Disruption

For Essex Police the aim was to avoid disruption to the

election process, whether by individuals, groups or terrorist organisations.

The problems this posed were demonstrated in Colchester, where former Tory chairman Norman Tebbit was pelted with eggs, smashing a lens from his glasses.

As well as protecting prominent politicians, officers equally had to provide security for more than one million voters in Essex.

● Turn to Page 6.



ACC (A) Terry Rands.

ASSISTANT Chief Constables Terry Rands and James Conlan have swapped jobs.

From April 1, Mr Conlan took responsibility for Personnel and Training, while Mr Rands took charge of Administration.

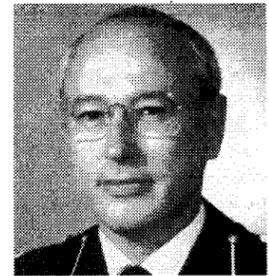
Since September they had been learning aspects of each other's jobs.

Mr Conlan had been ACC (Admin) since joining Essex Police on promotion from the Metropolitan Police in July 1988. Mr Rands had been promoted to ACC (Personnel) in January 1989.

Explaining the change, Mr Rands said, "It is always healthy to have a change of management, to introduce new ideas into both areas of responsibility."

Mr Conlan said, "I have had nearly four years as ACC (A), and I am looking forward to doing something different. I am looking forward to all aspects of working with personnel, including CSB, Crime

Job Swap at the 'Big House'



ACC (P) James Conlan

Prevention and training.

"But I won't be making changes for change's sake."

Mr Conlan obtained a Bachelor of Law Degree from London University in June 1980 and subsequently qualified as a Barrister at Law.

He has been a policeman for more than 30 years.

Mr Rands, 49, has served in all departments of Essex Police, and has also travelled to the Middle East and Scandinavia to study police work.

He said, "Whilst I thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of Personnel, I am looking forward very much to the responsibility of administration."

"As in Personnel, there is tremendous dedication, enthusiasm and hard work, all of which is aimed at providing support to the operational staff of Essex Police."

Mr Rands will continue in his role as Force Wildlife Liaison Officer.

Federation Notes



by
Brian Pallant

Home Secretary Allows Change

YOU WILL no doubt recall that we have been waiting for sometime for the Home Secretary to respond to our claim over some anomalies that have been thrown up due to the changes in the rent/housing regulations.

I am glad to report that he has now agreed with the suggestions made by the Staff Side Secretary Vee Neild with regard to the situation where two police officers are married and living together in their own property and one subsequently leaves the service.

An example of this could be a women officer leaving to have a family or a male or female officer leaving on pension etc.

The Home Secretary has agreed that where this happens the remaining officer will not go onto housing allowance as was first indicated. Instead the remaining officer will receive a Transitional Rent Allowance based on what he or she would have received on the 31st March 1990 under the old system.

This would then become their protected Transitional Rent Allowance.

I am aware that the above decision does affect some officers whose partner has left the service between the 1st April 1990 and the present time.

If in doubt I suggest that you either contact me in the Federation Office or direct to Mrs Slade in Finance.

As soon as the official Home Office circular is issued then the alterations will be made.

Special Loans

JUST to remind members that the Halifax Building Society have a Special Loan Scheme for Police Officers.

Currently the rates are 3%(APR) reduction on the usual loan rate.

With this Unsecured Xtraloan you can apply for £1,000 to £7,500.

All the benefits and current repayment tables are available in a leaflet available from the Federation Office at Headquarters. Extension 2797.

FEDERATION NOTES... FEDERATION NOTES... FEDERATION NOTES...

Essex Constable to represent No.5 Region

Pallant is Pcs' rep. as Gray retires

ON THE 29th April 1992 Mick Gray, the Chairman of the Hampshire Joint Branch Board and National Constables Representative for No 5 Region retires from the Police Service.

Mick has been a very good friend of Essex officers over the years he has served as a Federation member, having been the Chairman at Hampshire since 1976. This alone must be something of a

record.

Since 1987 Mick has been the Constables Representative for No 5 Region serving the Region very well and always keeping us up to date with national matters.

On behalf of the Joint Branch Board can I thank Mick for his service over the years and wish him all the best for the future.

On a personal note can I thank Mick for his friendship and guidance since I first met him back in 1979. I found him to be a very strong man, very fair and of the highest integrity. He

will certainly be a difficult act to follow.

I wish him and his wife Pam all the very best for the future and a long happy and healthy retirement.

From the 15th April 1992 when Mick relinquishes his position on the National Committee I will be moving into his seat as

the No 5 Region Constables Representative.

Mick will certainly be a hard act to follow, however I intend to give the same commitment to the Region as Mick did, ever mindful that the Police Service is going through a very difficult period and to achieve success we must go ahead as a united body.

Pension News... Pension News... Pension

AT the Police Negotiating Board Committee E meeting on the 12th March 1992 an agreement was reached with regard to an increase in Pension Benefits for both male and female officers.

From 1st September 1992 Policewomen's Pension Contributions will increase from 8% to 11%.

This is as a result of the case of Barber v Guardian Royal Exchange at the European Court on the 17th May 1990, concerning equal pension rights for both male and females.

The decision of that court made the Police Pension Regulations illegal. To address this situation it was agreed on the above increase to bring male and female officers on parity.

Therefore from the 1st September 1992 Women Officers will receive the same Pension rights as their male counterparts i.e. a full widower's benefit in respect of future service and widowers' injury benefits.

The above additional benefits are retrospective to the 17th May 1990 the date of the Barber judgement. The male contribution rate will remain at 11%.

I understand that women

officers will not have to pay for the back contributions from 17th May 1990 to 1st September 1992.

Also from the 1st September 1992 "Lump Sum Death in Service Benefit" will be payable as per our original claim i.e. 2 times Annual Salary.

This additional benefit for all officers will be at no extra cost — The pension contributions remaining at 11%.

BENEFIT

The principal new benefits available to female police officers, in addition to a lump sum death in service benefit, would be:

(1) **Widower's Ordinary Pension (Regulation C1)**

A pension equivalent to half the pension of the police officer (or notional pension where the officer died in service) accrued in respect of service for the implementation date of an amendment to this Regulation.

(2) **Widower's Special Award (Regulation C2)**

A pension of 45% of final pensionable pay. Would apply where the officer died as a result of an injury received in the execution of duty.

(3) **Widower's Augmented Award (Regulation C3)**

A pension of 50% of final

pensionable pay. Would apply where the officer died as a result of an injury received in the execution of duty but where the injury was sustained in certain circumstances e.g. from an attack or in the course of saving a life.

(4) **Widower's Accrued Pension (Regulation C4)**

Would apply to the widower of an officer who had left the police service and would have been entitled to a deferred pension. It would be half the amount of the deferred pension accrued in respect of service from the implementation date of an amendment to this Regulation.

(5) **Widower's award where no other award payable (Regulation C7)**

Would apply where the officer had less than three years' service.

(6) **Widower's Flat Rate Pension (Regulation E10)**

Minimum award payable to a widower eligible for an ordinary pension.

(7) **Death due to Qualifying Injury — Lump Sum Payment**

The Police (Injury Benefit) Regulations provide, where an officer dies as a result of an injury sustained in the execution of duty, a gratuity of approximately five times pensionable pay. In future this would also be paid to widowers.

Insurance Scheme Rises

THE POLICE Federation Houseplus Insurance Scheme which is endorsed by the National Police Federation, has been available to the membership for over 25 years. During that time it has provided competitive rates and an excellent claims service.

As you will be aware from the comments in the press, household insurance has proved very costly to all insurers over the past few years, due to increases in burglaries, thefts and subsidence of buildings due to the dry weather.

As a consequence claims have increased and therefore there has been a need for the insurers to increase premiums.

Unlike other schemes there has been no increase in the Houseplus Scheme for the past four years, therefore, some of the increase may well be substantial.

The Joint Central Committee have given an undertaking to monitor the situation closely with our brokers and if circumstances dictate they will consider possible alternatives.

From information reaching our office it would appear that the Houseplus Building Insurance is the one most affected. A lot depends on the area where you live as to what the increase is.

If you think your increase is too high give us a ring in the Federation office and we will put you in touch with an alternative quotation.

The Houseplus Contents Insurance has not had the same increases, and therefore seems to be still competitive.

N.B. A note of warning for any officer taking out contents insurance with any insurer. If you want to cover goods outside of the home you should take out All Risks insurance cover for those articles.

If you do not and they are stolen then it must be by way of a break-in.

Insurers define break-in as an actual forced entry, not as police officers might define an entry for a burglary.

SHIRT SURVEY - THE BREAKDOWN

THE OVERALL result of the Federations Shirt survey was published in the last edition of The Law.

However to assist members we have broken down the returns from Divisions.

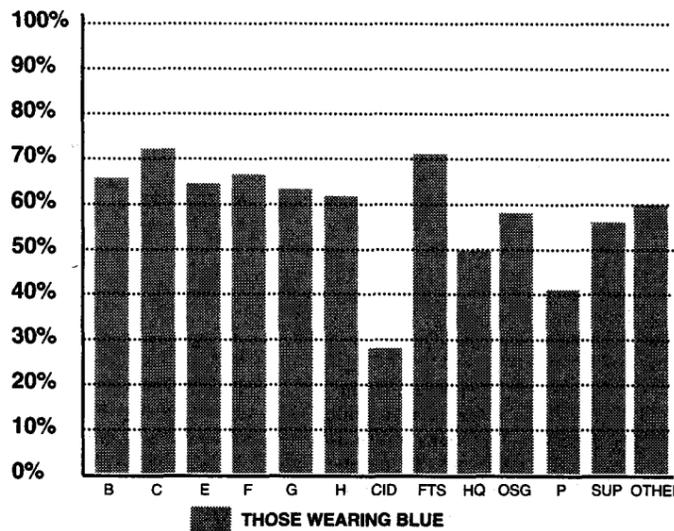
The first graph shows the number of Pcs and Psgts in favour of blue shirts as a percentage of the total strength for just those ranks in the Division.

The second graph shows the percentage in favour against the whole strength of the Division.

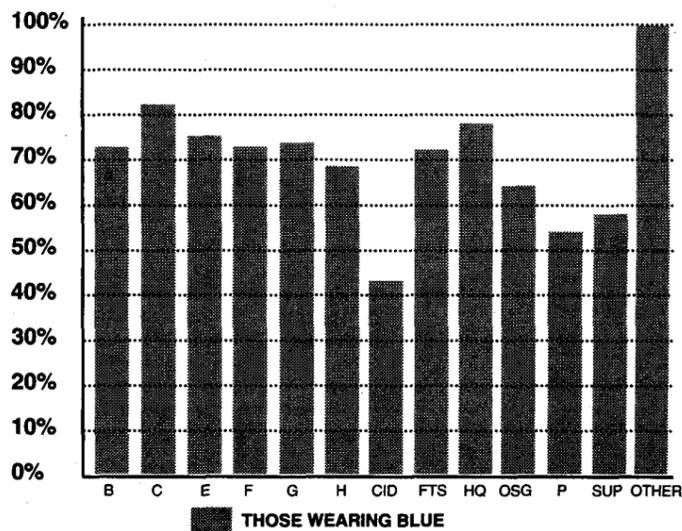
The Key for the Divisions is as under:-

B — Basildon; C — Chelmsford; E — Colchester; F — Grays; G — Harlow; H — Southend; CID — All CID returns; FTS — Training School; HQ — Headquarters; OSG — Support Unit; P — HQ Personnel; SUP — Traffic; Other — Returns where officer did not complete Division.

SHIRT SURVEY RESULTS
% OF ALL PC'S & PS'S FOR BLUE



SHIRT SURVEY RESULTS
% OF ALL WHO REPLIED FOR BLUE



Off
Beat

Bubbling Up

AT LAST! *The Law's* intrepid investigators have discovered the secret why Fairy Liquid has more bubbles than other well known brands.

Police were called to a factory in West Thurrock, following a spillage in the Fairy Liquid "mating" department.....

Salad Days

But then, there's some strange people in Thurrock, judging by four youths who called at the M25 service station recently. Maybe they were after fast food, but they legged it, carrying off their plates of salad without paying.

Was it a plot to spring the onions? Were they embarrassed when they saw the salad dressing? If you can root out any info, lettuce know.....

Lettuce Alone

PERHAPS the lettuce leaves were for a lorry driver stopped by police on the M25. The incident records an "overweight driver" and adds "he has been prohibited to go further due to being overweight."

I understand he was given a dressing down and sentenced to a 1,000 calories a day diet.

Haring to the rescue

ANOTHER candidate for the missing lettuce leaves could be the person who stole a rabbit from Boreham. But police were soon on top of the case when they sent Pc O'Hare to investigate.....

My old man

But spare a thought for the distressed lady who reported a burglary at her home near Basildon, with some of her jewellery stolen.

She called back sheepishly half an hour later to explain she hadn't been burgled — her husband had tidied up.....

Ozone Friendly

But the last word this month goes to Pc Hanson of Harlow who noted the new environmentally friendly efforts of Essex County Council's supplies department.

He observed, "they are obviously making a supreme effort to protect the ozone layer with the issue of the new lead free pencils" — and he attached one, with just a hole through the centre.

National Crime-Buster Lifts Off

STARS IN STRIPES



'ELLO, 'ELLO, 'ELLO: The Hadley brothers celebrate as young Joe makes it a hat-trick of promotions to Sergeant in the Essex Police. Pictured from left are Chris, 36, Joe, 27, and Graham, 34.

OH BROTHER! It was enough to make Neil Hadley turn to drink when his three elder brothers joined Essex Police one after the other.

Instead of following suit, Neil went into the wine trade. But he was popping a cork with his family this week as brother Joe made it a hat-trick of promotions to Sergeant.

It is the first time the force has had three brothers serving as Sergeants at the same time.

The story of the Hadley brothers and Essex Police began back in 1976 when the eldest, Chris, joined up aged 19.

There was no family connection with the force, until brother Graham

joined up four years later. Then came Joe in 1985.

To add to the confusion that comes with mis-directed paperwork and pay packets, the lads have a habit of following in each others footsteps.

When Graham was promoted to Sergeant, he took over Chris's job on the same shift at Grays.

And when Joe left Tilbury to join CID at Corringham, he took over the desk Chris had used ten years before.

All Grammar School educated in Southend, the

brothers all passed their Sergeant's exams in the top 200 in the country, with both Chris and Graham winning the John Peel trophy for being top Essex officer in the exam.

All three favour CID, although Joe, 27, went back into uniform this week on his promotion to Sergeant at Southend.

Graham, 34, is currently Detective Sergeant at Tilbury and Chris, 36, serves as a Det Sgt at Harlow.

The next step could be for three Inspector Hadley's Chris and Joe having already passed the qualifying exam...

THE NATIONAL Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS) began work at the start of this month with former Essex officers playing a major part in its role of co-ordinating intelligence on serious crime.

Those to join the fledgling organisation from this Force include DI Mick Higgins, formerly of FIB, who is now DCI Personnel and Training at NCIS HQ, currently in Marsham Street, London.

Dc Keith Marsh and Dc Alison Bourne, have both joined as Regional Intelligence Officers and Ds Bob Craven is now a DI, acting as Field Intelligence Coordinator responsible for RIOs in the South East Region and is currently working from New Scotland Yard.

In addition Ds Jerry Newson has been heavily involved in the development team for NCIS.

Serious

NCIS will, for the first time in the UK, provide a national body capable of gathering, collating and assessing information and intelligence about serious crime and major criminals of regional, national and international interest.

It grew from numerous reports over the past 15 years pinpointing the need

By Paul Dunt

for a national level of criminal intelligence gathering.

It is hoped it will play a key role in providing Forces and Regional Crime Squads with relevant and co-ordinated intelligence to help target major criminals.

Overseeing around 240 police and 160 civilian staff, plus 40 customs officers that make up NCIS, is Director General Tony Mullett, formerly Chief Constable of West Mercia.

NCIS's work will hinge on the vital efforts of the RIOs, the "worker bees" who will be spending most of their time with individual forces and RCSs. They will nurture a two-way flow of information between NCIS and individual forces.

By the summer, NCIS, which has an annual budget for 92/93 of £25 million, will move into a new national HQ building on the Albert Embankment.

Drugs

Five Regional offices have been set up in London, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester and Wakefield with their staff varying in number from 20 to 60 — the latter staffing the large South East office covering Essex, which will be co-located with NCIS HQ.

Under NCIS's national

wing will come the seven Regional Criminal Intelligence Offices, the National Drugs Intelligence Unit, the National Football Intelligence Unit and Metropolitan Police Specialist Operations Departments such as the Paedophile Index and the UK Bureau of Interpol.

It is planned that NCIS will have a highly sophisticated computer, known as NIX, with an in-built free-text retrieval and a Crime Pattern Analysis capability — but it is understood NIX will not be available until late 94.

Squads

In the meantime other computer packages will be employed, with the South East Regional Office also having access to the Mets INFOS computer.

But whatever the changes, those at NCIS are keen to point out the new organisation is not a British FBI, pointing out that individual Forces and Regional Crime Squads will continue to carry out crime detection and prevention.

"The overall objective of NCIS is to help Forces and RCSs by providing them with relevant and coordinated intelligence to help them target major criminals, not deal with all crime," said Press Officer Tim Mahony.

"The majority of criminal activity remains local in character and will continue to be dealt with by the Forces," he added.

Changes planned for Chelmsford

CHANGES are planned for Chelmsford Division, which will see the number of sub-divisions reduced to two.

Under proposals due to be put to next month's policy group, the four sub-divisions of Chelmsford, Maldon, Braintree and Witham will be combined to form two larger sub-divisions.

The Chelmsford sub-division would include Maldon and South Woodham Ferrers as sections headed by an Inspector, and boundary changes would also include parts of the former Witham sub-division.

Boundary

The boundary changes would help conform with local authority boundaries, bringing villages such as Tollesbury, Great Totham and the Tolleshunts into the Maldon section.

The new Braintree sub-division would include Witham and Halstead sections, again headed by Inspectors.

Chelmsford's new divisional commander Chf Supt John Rhymes said the aim of the proposals was to improve the command structure and efficiency of the sub-divisions.

The target date to implement the changes is July 1.

"The public will not really notice the difference in terms of the officers on the ground," said Mr Rhymes. "But we are hoping the manpower, facilities and support available in Chelmsford, for example, will become more readily available in the rural areas."

Imbalance

He explained that under the present system there is an imbalance between the demands on the four sub-divisional commanders.

Bodies such as district and parish councils are being consulted about the

proposed changes.

"It is not intended as a cost-saving measure, the

aim is to improve the command structure and organisation," said Mr Rhymes.



Peter pulls a fast one!

HEEL BOY! This was the moment when a South Woodham detective was caught taking his car for walkies.

And it prompted a senior CID colleague to observe, "Having used the mileage allowance, officers at South Woodham Ferrers are reduced to taking their cars for a walk."

We think it shows his dogged devotion to duty, but reckon it must be a bit tiring!

Apparently Dc Peter Sutton was on his way to an incident when he reversed into a ditch, and had to send a Sierra Oscar Sierra call for help to his Scenes of Crime officer.

A word of advice, if ever you get caught in an embarrassing situation, never ask a man with a camera to help you out...

If any of our readers can come up with a funny caption, please send it to *The Law* at the Press Office.

Essex Police Musical Society

presents

A Charity Concert

In aid of Chelmsford Samaritans and the Schizophrenia Fellowship

Thursday 25th, Friday 26th & Saturday 27th
June 1992

Licensed Bar, Ploughman's Buffet, Raffle, etc
Tickets £5.00 available from:

R.A. Clare
Essex Police Headquarters,
CDU/Fraud,
P.O. Box 2,
Springfield CM2 6DA
Tel: 0245 452180

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO OUR PAPER?

I would like to say that this is the first time I have written to "The Law" and for reasons I will now explain, it will probably be the last.

I have always considered "The Law" to be our newspaper - a publication of special interest to serving and retired police officers and our civilian colleagues.

The items featured have had a unique reference to us. It has always been the source of information concerning rates of pay, Federation updates and often controversial issues affecting our working conditions and our welfare. "The Law" has also sought to inform us of changes within the force that will directly influence our daily lives.

There have also been the numerous other items of achievement, humour and sometimes great sadness, that have all been personal to us, the Essex Police

The Editor replies:
The Law has always been, and will always be, primarily a newspaper for serving and retired police officers and civilians.

However, with the force's policy of openness, it has never been intended that The Law should be confidential, nor would

Family.

It is because I hold this view that I see the distribution of our newspaper to Neighbourhood Watches as a retrograde step. I have nothing against the Neighbourhood Watch ideal and certainly nothing against the Coordinators.

But my view is that "The Law" is not another crime prevention publication, it's "our" newspaper.

Neighbourhood Watches currently receive a regular newsletter from their NBO or DBO. They also receive the new Beat Newspaper, which is a publication conceived and produced with them in mind. Local officers visit coordinators on a regular basis and dedicated telephone line contacts have that be possible to achieve.

Copies of The Law have always been sent to non-police readers, such as county councillors and the local media. We will continue to air controversial issues affecting Essex Police.

The decision to include Neighbourhood Watch coordinators, an initiative

now been set up.

I notice that the editorial, in the March edition, informed coordinators that "The Law" was now their newspaper and that they were entitled to send in letters, ideas or articles.

They were also encouraged to "pass copies around." Bearing in mind their issues will be delivered by Royal Mail and on my division we have to fight for a copy, I'll ask one of my locals what my pay scales are next September.

I appreciate the "The Law" will never be "The Thunderer" but is it too much to ask that this one thin tabloid publication retain its special identity?

Pc Alan Caley
Police Station
Mistley.

from Deputy Chief Constable Peter Simpson, is aimed at building better relationships with and providing a better flow of information to these important groups.

You will see from the letter below that Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators can feel very isolated from the force.

Crime Prevention Officers who I have met and I have been promised that the situation will be looked into and they will get back to me to arrange a meeting to see what could be done.

So far I have heard nothing more. Does this also indicate an apathetic attitude by the Police?

My own village Police Officer, Clive Bonner, is an excellent colleague to work with and he always supports and encourages Neighbourhood Watch throughout the district he covers, but there is no limit to what he can do and it is really a matter for the Crime Prevention Unit to back up Neighbourhood Watch.

I hope the message in this letter does not fall upon deaf ears.

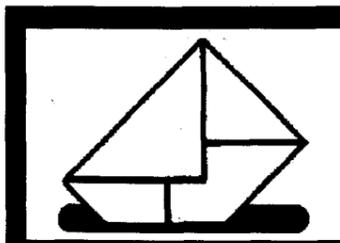
R.E. Withers
Elsenham
Nr Bishops Cleeve.

CHIEF Inspector Bob Hayes
from Crime Prevention HQ,
replies:

I accept the points R E Withers raises, and am the first to acknowledge that relationships between Crime Prevention Officers and Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators are not always as good as they should be.

It is a problem we are treating very seriously and sending The Law to co-ordinators is a first move in improving those relations. It is also hoped that our move to appoint Crime Prevention Officers in every Sub Division will help bridge the gap.

In the next edition of The Law I will be tackling this very issue and explaining the steps we are taking to weld our partnerships with co-ordinators.



Law

Letters

Sexism debate over (W)Pcs rumbles on

Let's have common sense and humour!

IT WAS sad to read the letter from Charles Cadwallader in the March Law on the subject of sex discrimination.

Despite it being unlawful, against Essex Police policy and against good sense and reason he believes discrimination on the grounds of sex is quite correct.

I wonder what he would make of Yvonne Taylor (still given the WPC tag) on the centre page spread on the same issue of The Law.

This mother of two children chased an alleged bank robber, overcame him, arrested him and recovered the 10,000 pounds from where he allegedly dumped it. All single-handed.

No doubt he would say to her that she was a woman and therefore unfit for a public disorder support call.

All he is being asked to do is treat people as individuals and not make broad assumptions based on the sex of the person. In this case the obvious example is height and strength.

The ranges of each sex overlap considerably and there are many women taller and stronger than some men.

If you have a genuine need for an attribute then choose those that have it regardless of their sex. Is that not

good sense?

However having policed virtually every Southend football match for four years and been on many support calls I have found the image of all support calls ending in hand to hand fighting of Police with rioters to be rare.

What is most needed is common sense, communication skills and good humour and it is these qualities which we should seek most.

Peter Dolphin, Westcliff.

Charles Cadwallader replies...

HAVING invoked Peter Dolphin's pity, I find it incumbent upon myself to reply to his letter.

To discriminate, Mr Dolphin, means to discern, to distinguish between, and I know of no law, no Force Policy which makes it unlawful to distinguish between male and female.

The whole point of my letter, which Mr Dolphin appears to have completely missed, is that occasions arise when it is foolhardy and counter productive NOT to discriminate, to distinguish between the sexes.

And one such occasion is most definitely NOT the courageous and commendable actions of Yvonne Taylor and by singling out WPC Taylor Mr Dolphin is himself being unnecessarily discriminatory.

As for the rest of his letter, I think I dealt quite adequately with the subject of outraged personal opinion concerning this matter in my last missive and stand 100% by every word I wrote.

(W)Pc Jan Chown,
Basildon.

How about speaking to us first say (W)Pcs

WITH REFERENCE to comments made by Dave Rose, Saffron Walden and Charles Cadwallader Clacton, in the March issue of The Law, I would just like to point out that there seems to be a lot of fuss over something which us 'mere' WPCs have had no control.

As a WPC (which I am proud to be called) I find it sad (and speak for numerous other WPCs) that we were not in fact consulted as to whether or not we wished the 'W' to be dropped, or indeed whether or not we felt discriminated against because of the fact we had the 'W' or indeed had a collar number starting with '3'.

A quote I heard recently from someone returning from training school,

having spoken with a Ps (female) was "The WPCs on division were not consulted as they wouldn't understand the higher meaning of the reasoning behind getting rid of the 'W'".

Well I am sorry if us 'WPCs' on division are too 'thick' to understand, but should female officers other than the rank of WPC wish to drop the 'W' then fair enough, let them be called Sgt or Mam, but as a female

officer, and I am told that is what it is all about, I feel discriminated against by female officers other than the rank of WPC who feel WPCs are too thick to understand.

So come on, let us WPCs have our say as to whether or not we wish to be called WPC, as Charles Cadwallader stated "we are here for the public" and believe me, in certain instances where females come into the station the first thing they state is "I would rather speak with a WPC", the public know us as WPCs, so why change?

THANKS

THANK you very much indeed for publishing my letter regarding the loss of my dear wife - I am very grateful.

A lot of former colleagues and friends have contacted me about it and I'm pleased to say that the fund for Cancer Research has now risen to £865 - a great tribute to her!

Best Wishes,
Bob Palmer.

Proud to be a woman

IN REPLY to the letter from Dave Rose, Saffron Walden, in the March issue I would like to point out that I am proud of being a woman, but when it comes to my job title I do not need my sex announced each time my name is mentioned.

I have been employed to carry out the duties of a Police Constable, the fact that I am a woman does not and should not make any difference.

The title Police Constable is a rank only, NOT a statement of 'Masculinity'. If the men wish the sex of each Pc to be announced with their rank I would willingly

refer to myself as WPC if they refer to themselves as MPC.

As for the blue shirts, I was promised in 1975 that all women below Inspector rank would go into blue shirts. I am still waiting. I would much prefer to wear a blue shirt and a tie.

Pc Caroline Loader
Colchester

Galloping Apathy- Can it be prevented?

I AM the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for the village of Elsenham and I welcome the inclusion of Neighbourhood Watch in your publication and being sent a copy of this each month.

I have been the village co-ordinator since the Watch was set up over three years ago but I have found that my most difficult and frustrating task as co-ordinator is to maintain interest and vigilance among members.

While public response shows much favour with

Neighbourhood Watch the actual application to it by members is sadly lacking or as a colleague in my next village quoted "galloping apathy abounds", and because of this his village watch folded.

I have mentioned this matter a number of times to various



ESSEX POLICE CHOIR

present

"SONGS FROM THE SHOWS" and "Captain Noah"

at

The Assembly Hall, Police Headquarters, Chelmsford

on

Friday, 24th April, 1992 at 8.00 pm

Tickets £1.50 from Inspector Maureen Scollan, Police Headquarters (0245) 491491 ext 2395

or

Chief Inspector Roger Grimwade, Police Headquarters (0245) 491491 ext 2457



IT MAY be Car Crime Prevention Year, but motorist John Turner must be wishing he'd hung up his keys and bought a bike.

The crime-conscious driver wrecked his car and broke his collarbone after forgetting to take off an anti-theft lock on the brake pedal.

John, 25, from the West Midlands realised his mistake when he tried to brake and ploughed into a wall.

Safety Fast

Cars were not the flavour of the month either for safety campaigner Carole Lawson, who led a three-year battle against speeding traffic in Fareham, Hants. She has just been fined by magistrates for doing 48mph in a 30mph zone.

Looks like both could have done with a little spiritual intervention — perhaps from psychic Andrietta Prince, 40.

She gave police a description of burglars who stole her crystal ball while she was out, but told the Sheffield Police: "They'll be caught quickly."

If only someone could predict falling crime rates.

Shrub Swipe

But nursery owners in Ashton, Lancs, had no trouble in identifying culprits who swiped £2,000 worth of shrubs and ornaments from their garden centre because they left a message:

"Thanks very much, we'll be seeing you soon. Let us know when your new stock is in — Bill and Ben, the Flower Pinching Men.

Graham Gent, boss of Snipe Nurseries, has offered a £200 reward for the arrest and conviction of the two Flowerpot men. Little Weed has been ruled out of the investigation.

Actor Factor

And finally spare a thought for schoolboy Marcus Blackburn who was collared by an OAP who recognised him as a mugger on TV's Crimestoppers.

Unfortunately the 70-year-old vigilante didn't realise Marcus, 17, was only an actor who had played the part for ITV.

Move over Kindergarten Cop — Pc Sheridan is top of the class!

Canvey to Köln for School Pc



Off the Cuff: Pc Sheridan demonstrates the use of handcuffs — but there's not a gun in sight. Picture courtesy of Michael Stegers, Köln.

Force 'Oscar' for TV team

SHARP-SHOOTERS in the Force's Television Unit have had their outstanding work praised by Chief Constable John Burrow.

Mr Burrow may not have any Oscars to hand out, but he has done the next best thing by commending the entire TV unit which is staffed solely by civilians.

The Force movie-makers shot to fame last year after winning national awards for keeping the Force in the picture with their training videos and monthly news magazine, Focus.

Judges at the annual Police Video Awards ceremony held in London voted the Essex unit outright winners in two of the five competition categories and Highly Commended in a third.

The results in the competition, which was sponsored by JVC Professional Products in conjunction with Police Review, were among the best ever achieved by any force and came in a year which attracted 144 entries from 35 forces.

Such is the reputation of the up and coming unit, led by manager Marc Berners and Deputy David Tyler, that they have been chosen by the Home Office and police Staff College Bramshill to produce videos for them.

The Chief Constable said: "I commend all members of the Force Television Unit for their exceptional initiative and exemplary standard of video productions during 1991 culminating in achieving two national awards receiving both local and national recognition."

The commendation was awarded to: Marc Berners, David Tyler, Ian Deal, Caroline Knight, Gary Clark, David White and Tracey Larcombe, who has recently returned to Essex from the U.S.A.

YOU COULD be forgiven for thinking Canvey Island Pc Bob Sheridan took a wrong turn when he headed off the island for his latest school visit — he ended up in Cologne, Germany!

But the globe-trotting Schools Liaison Officer was right on course in a unique European link-up which saw him swap visits to local schools, such as Deanes, for the likes of the Johann Bendel Reaschule.

It all started with a chance meeting with a German teacher, Miro Schmitz-Honoff, who was visiting a Benfleet School and was amazed to see Pc Sheridan taking a class.

Idea

After school she met the Essex bobby and explained she had never seen anything like it in Germany and wondered if the popular Pc would spread his patch to the continent for a week.

The Force agreed to the novel idea and Pc Sheridan flew to Cologne on March 16. Before long many of the 300 pupils at the German school were getting a first hand view of policing UK-style.

"At first the youngsters treated me cautiously," said



Top of the Class: Pc Bob Sheridan reveals all about the British Bobby to German youngsters in Cologne. Picture courtesy of Michael Stegers, Köln.

Pc Sheridan, who was taking about five lessons a day during his visit. "I talked to them about England, the Police, Essex Police and my job as a Schools Liaison Officer."

Piper

But they soon warmed to his friendly approach and he quickly became known to the pupils, aged 14-17, as "the policeman who doesn't carry a gun."

"Within the first couple of hours the kids were talking to me all the time — later in the week I sometimes felt like the Pied Piper," he explained adding that German policemen rarely visit schools except on investigations or to give Kindergarten lessons on road safety.

As well as teaching at the Johann Bendel Reaschule, he also spent a day at another school — the Stadt Hauptschule, which had a large number of Turkish pupils — and

again he found that they like the idea of having a policeman in the school.

Amazed

So when he was offered the chance to spend a day at the local police station, he jumped at the chance of introducing the German officers to the idea of school liaison and the benefits it can bring to policing.

"They were very interested in our school scheme and thought it was a good idea, but they were amazed how friendly the children were towards me. I think they found it a little bit unbelievable what I did."

This 'barrier' between the German force and the youngsters may be fed by their militaristic image, he suggests, not only in their uniform but in the firearm and tear gas gun they seem to carry everywhere.

Media

"I never saw any police-

man or woman out walking on the street," he said. "The only time I saw them was in their cars rushing past in a hurry."

But thanks to Pc Sheridan who is Schools Liaison Officer for Canvey and Benfleet, that relationship may well change in the future. His visit attracted a lot of attention from the German media and both pupils and police liked the idea of school liaison visits.

The schools are keen for him to return and he would like to help initiate a German Schools Liaison programme — firstly by asking a German officer to accompany him to school to show how responsive the pupils can be.

"I believe I am the first ever policeman to talk to the kids in this way and I would be delighted if this led to a new initiative in police-community relations there," he said.

Life-saving Pc dies, 77

BRAVE Ex-Pc William Green, who was the first ever winner of the force's Wilson Trophy in 1961, has died, aged 77.

Pc Green a married man with two children, was based at Laindon Traffic when his brave and quick actions saved a man from electrocution.

He risked his own life to drag the driver of an Essex River Board excavator clear after the vehicle's 50ft jib came in contact with an 11,000 volt overhead power line.

Flame

The incident happened on the Southend Arterial Road at North Benfleet in March 1960, as the excavator was being unloaded

from a trailer.

It was pouring with rain, and, according to reports of the time, there was a vivid flash followed by sheets of flame arcing down the jib.

The driver, Leonard Smith, was knocked unconscious, and despite the risk that the trailer might still be charged with electricity, Pc Green dragged him clear and gave him the kiss of life.

Humane

For his bravery, Pc Green became the first recipient of the now annual Wilson Trophy, donated by

Mr W. W. Wilson of Stanford-le-Hope, for the officer performing the most meritorious act in the course of his duty.

He also received a cheque for 20 guineas — Mr Wilson having upped it from 10 guineas when he heard of the outstandingly brave act.

Ex-Pc Green, who died on April 2, also received a Chief Constable's commendation and the Royal Humane Society's Testimonial on vellum, and resuscitation certificate.

Ex-Pc Green joined the force in 1936, aged 22, and his service included stints at Clacton, Chelmsford and Epping.

New hope in search for Dinah

CRIME-BUSTING TV programme, CrimeWatch UK, are to feature the mysterious disappearance of Tillingham teenager Dinah McNicol on national TV next month.

Dinah, 18, has not been seen since last August when she was attending a rock festival with friends in Liphook, Hampshire. She left with an unknown man who has never been traced.

Maldon Det Sgt Derek Nickol, who has been heading the investigation into Dinah's disappearance, has exhausted all lines of enquiry on the case, but is hopeful CrimeWatch could bring forward some missing pieces to an unexplained puzzle.

"There is absolutely no reason why Dinah would just vanish and after eight months of searching I really do fear she is dead," he said. "I only hope information coming to CrimeWatch UK proves me wrong."

The CrimeWatch programme, which was instrumental in bringing arrests after the kidnapping of the Andrews family in Colchester last year, will feature the case of Dinah McNicol on May 14.

PRIVATE MEDICAL SCHEME

THE ANNUAL round of contract renewal discussions took on an extremely competitive edge this year.

A number of companies were invited to quote and the Committee dealt with applications from Norwich Union Healthcare, Western Provident Association, BUPA, and PPP.

At the end of the day only two companies were left in the field with BUPA vying with our current insurers.

The obvious competition was effective and PPP were able to provide a

quote that took the edge off BUPA's offer.

In consequence, the scheme will continue to be insured through PPP for the forthcoming contract year. Even though they cut their bids to the bone, the increases are still quite hefty.

Members will be advised individually from PPP what their new premium rates are. Please note a new method of payment

this year, via Direct Debit instead of salary deduction.

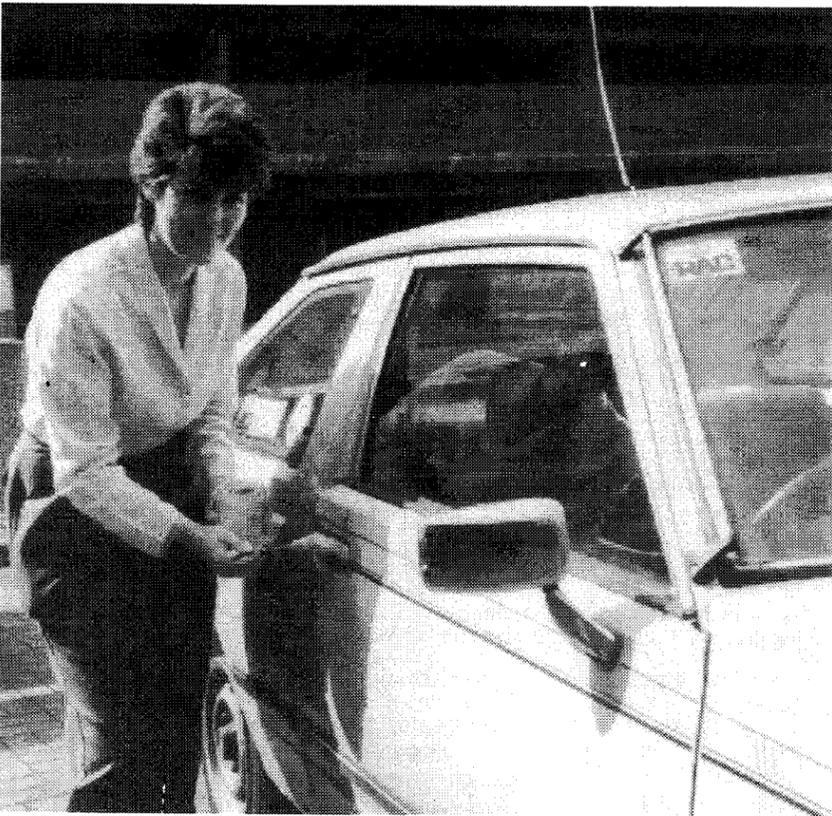
It is imperative that members promptly respond to correspondence to ensure that payments are made direct to PPP once deductions cease via County Hall.

Pensioners will be advised of their own arrangements.

Please Note: As from May 1 the Group Membership number will change to 95494.

BOB NEEDHAM

Force's first female Scenes of Crime officer Jan makes her mark



JAN checks a car door for prints during her recent posting at Basildon.

Election Security tightest ever

● *contd from page 1*

Their job included preventing public disorder, and providing maximum vigilance, including close checks for suspect packages.

On Polling Day itself, all officers had their rest days reallocated to ensure the best possible security at polling stations and counting stations.

Chief Inspector Doug Adams, who co-ordinated the police effort said, "We

feel it was a very successful operation."

A senior officer, of Chief Inspector rank or above, was always on duty in the command room, to ensure a prompt and efficient response to any eventuality.

Meanwhile, in each constituency, a senior officer was nominated as constituency liaison officer.

Det. Chf. Insp. Bob Wilkinson said, "The command room removed the administrative load from divisions. They were

told who was going to visit and when, and what response the command room suggested in policing terms.

"This policy was a relatively new innovation, brought in because of the terrorist threat, and we have had a very favourable response from division."

Mr Wilkinson said there was close liaison with the Metropolitan Police, with Essex Police acting as a focal point for onward communication with neighbouring forces.

The aim was to achieve a uniformity of response when politicians travelled for one force area to another.

Whilst Essex Police, of course, remained impartial in their dealings with each political party, there was nonetheless a huge sigh of relief on April 10 when it became clear there would be a conclusive result.

When the election debrief was arranged for early May, senior officers feared they could face another election campaign before the end of the year.

Although they are pleased with the election security procedures now in place, they will not be sorry if it is another four or five years before the large-scale operation need be mounted again.

BY THE second night of her police career Jan Harrison had decided she wanted to be a Scenes of Crime officer.

What she could not have predicted was that, seven years later, she would become Essex Police's first ever woman Scenes of Crime

Officer.

That night she attended her first post mortem examination and was fascinated by the work.

"No-one told me then that we had never had a woman,

by Jenny Bullus

or how long it would take to get a place on the department," she laughed.

She completed her Scenes of Crime training course at Hendon, on which there was only one other woman, two years ago.

But being a woman in a male-dominated world has not bothered Jan — who has been readily accepted by her colleagues. Her biggest problem has been what to wear.

"I have already ripped one pair of trousers, and it's almost impossible to find shoes with a good grip in a size four and a half," she said.

Jan officially joined the Scenes of Crime team at Southend this week, but for the past three months she has been working on a temporary posting in the department at Basildon.

It is dirty and often physical work, Jan said. "You are lifting things, climbing

ladders, often bruising your legs, but there is nothing that a woman can't do.

"I'm not exactly wonder-woman," added the 31 year old politics graduate. Her colleagues call her Minnie Mouse.

Jan's clothing dilemma was picked up by the fashion department of *Woman's Own* magazine, which ran a two-page feature on her after she successfully completed her Scenes of Crime training.

Jan became a fashion model for the day, and was pictured wearing three different outfits designed to be smart and practical, whilst remaining stylish and feminine.

In practice, it has proved more difficult, with clothes needing frequent washing to combat the fingerprint powders.

"There are lots of nice clothes on sale for women to wear to work, but they don't make women's clothes to do this job," Jan said.

Her other problem has



LIKE A HAND IN A GLOVE: Jan struggles to get to grips with the man-sized plastic gloves supplied for her work, but apart from these practicalities she has had no problems fitting in with the small Scenes of Crime team.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed going to

A NEW BEAT

Policeman's son and former Editor of the *Evening Echo* Jim Worsdale pays tribute to retiring Southend Chief Superintendent Peter Blythe

A CHANCE meeting with an old school pal who had become a bobby on the beat led Peter Blythe to a career in the police force. On Friday April 3 he retired as commander of Southend and district division after 36 years and 288 days service.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed going to work every single day and I still do," he says, "But I wanted to go out while still on top of the job and fit enough and young enough to look for a change of direction and lifestyle."

Celebrating his 57th birthday on April 9 Mr Blythe retires as a Chief Superintendent in charge of the force in the town where he was born and where he began his career in June 1955 after that brief meeting in the High Street.

He and Pc Jim Rodgers had been together at Southend High. Peter was newly out of national service in the Royal Navy, a career as a copper on his mind. "And when Jim confirmed to me what a grand life it was, I did not take any

convincing," he recalls.

CROWNED

He signed on, went for 13 weeks training at Eynsham, Oxford, as recruits did in those times, and then began a career which saw him first as a Pc and then a detective constable in Southend, before he went to the then separate Essex force in 1966 at Chelmsford.

He became a sergeant on Canvey in 1967 then detective sergeant at Basildon and was at county headquarters criminal intelligence section before promotion to Detective Inspector at Grays in 1969.

In 1971 he was made Detective Chief Inspector in charge of Southend CID and stayed eight years until stepping up to Detective Superintendent at Essex HQ.

By 1983 he was Chief Superintendent in charge of operations at HQ and, two years on, Divisional Commander at Grays.

In 1988 his career was crowned when he went back for the second time to Southend as commander of division that now included much of Rayleigh district.

It was here he had pounded the beat, when the borough had its own white-helmeted force led by Chief Constable Mr William McConnach.

And here too, that his father Gordon, a High Street jeweller, had long served the town as a justice of the peace until he retired to Cornwall in 1966.

Peter Blythe was proud and he was happy. But he was



SWANSONG: FORMER Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was in buoyant mood as she spent her final day of political campaigning in Essex, before flying to the United States.

The Iron Lady visited Maldon (pictured above), Chelmsford and Basildon, where she boosted Tory candidate David Amess' campaign to retain his crucial marginal seat. Picture courtesy of the Essex Chronicle.

er brushes up for duty



LOOKING FOR CLUES: Jan Harrison searches for evidence during her Scenes of Crime training.

When the plastic gloves
of Crime Officers use
when taking samples.
Designed to be tight-fitting,
the looseness on Jan's small
hands severely limit her
dexterity.

Already Jan has been kept

busy taking fingerprints and
photographs at many crime
scenes. "It's like a totally
new job. I enjoy it so much
that it's not like going to
work," she admitted.

Since joining the force,
she has served at Basildon,

Laindon, Benfleet, Hadleigh
and Canvey, and in the last
Sergeants exams she
qualified in the top 200 in the
Country.

But now she is breaking
new ground, and springing a
few surprises when she

arrives on crime victims
doorsteps carrying her two
heavy metal cases of
photographic and fingerprint
equipment.

"The majority of them
aren't expecting to see a
woman," she said.

work every single day," says Blythe

FOR PETER

are, too that the young men and women under his
command faced more trying, demanding, stressful times
than did he and his contemporaries in his years on the beat.
Dixon of Dock Green was still saying "Evening all" and
changing smiles with almost everyone on his TV patch
when Peter was a Pc. He has seen society change, to become
more questioning, more demanding, more violent, where
formerly there has been deterioration in respect for any sort of
authority.

He adds: "Productivity in the police, like the demands on
officers and women, has gone up tremendously. We are a
more accountable and more open service.

CONFRONTATIONS

"When I started out, we had a beat and were allocated specific
beats, with check points at specified times. Now our younger men
and women are radio controlled and the incidents they deal with
during a working shift can be phenomenal.

I believe the police service to be in good hands. And the
standard of recruits today is exceptionally high — smart,
dedicated, dedicated young people from ordinary families. But
they are not superhumans. They need the support and
understanding of the public."

Mr Blythe believes the police do still enjoy the support of the
majority of the public, even though confidence is sometimes
shaken by isolated and occasional failings which, he says, cause
police to be castigated by the Press and the media with its
merciless hindsight.

But he adds that confrontational situations do arise with

depressing regularity.

He personally has suffered only one serious physical assault in
his long career. Yet he has chalked up a string of commendations
from judges and from senior officers for his record of arrests, for
clearing up cases, for precise presentation of cases in court.

He has forgotten the numbers of murder cases dealt with. He
does recall that there was only one in Southend during his own
first seven years in the police. And then in one year as a detective
inspector, he investigated seven murders.

Two killings remain on file — very much still open so he
retires hoping that successors will be able finally to track down the
murderers of a Brentwood businessman shot dead on his doorstep
and a woman in Southend.

He says: "We have long had a good relationship with solicitors,
but there has been a recent increase in the attitude of a few trying
to clear defendants at almost any cost. That is not in the interests
of justice or the public.

"Neither do I think it acceptable that accused should have the
right to remain silent at all times. That is something the legal
system may well wish to consider.

"I have tried to do my job in clearing up crime and bringing the
guilty to Court. Most have accepted the situation and, when they
have paid their penalty, we have harboured no grudges."

Mr Blythe and his wife Anne — who have a son and daughter
— plan to take a holiday soon. Then he will look for part time
work in or near the town he has served for so long and with
distinction.

Article republished by courtesy of the Evening Echo.

Robber trapped after sky chase



THE motorbike powers up the A12 tailed by the force helicopter. This still was taken off the Air Support Unit's video of the sky chase.

A ROBBER has been convicted following an historic sky chase involving the Essex and Metropolitan Police helicopters.

The link-up between the
two neighbouring force
helicopters was a first for
Essex Police.

And for the first time, a
video recorded from the
Essex helicopter was used
as evidence at Crown
Court.

The video showed a
high-powered motorcycle
with two youths on board
weaving in and out of
traffic at speeds in excess of
100mph on the A12.

The major success story
for the helicopter started
with a stroke of luck, as it

happened to be airborne
nearby when the call came
through about a robbery on
a Post Office van at Great
Baddow last May.

The 'copter crew spotted
a black and red bike fitting
the description near Howe
Green, and tailed it as it
joined the A12 and sped
towards London.

The Met helicopter, India
99, took up the chase as the
bike raced through red
lights near Gallows Corner.
Eventually the two riders
were arrested near
Chadwell Heath.

The arrests took place
just 36 minutes after the
robbery.

At Chelmsford Crown
Court recently, Steven
Stanford and Mark Ellett,
both of Elgin Road, Seven
Kings, denied robbing
postman Mark Owers of
£2,577 cash and cheques.

Ellett was convicted,
Stanford was cleared but
convicted of theft. Both
admitted taking the
motorcycle without
authority from London.

Stanford also denied, but
was convicted of reckless
driving. He was jailed,
while Ellett was remanded
in custody pending social
inquiry reports.



The helicopter crew fly off on another mission.

Danbury sharp-shooters head for Highbury chasing Car Crime Trophy

On the road to Wembley

FOOTBALLERS from St John's School, Danbury, have won through to the semi-finals of the national Car Crime Prevention Trophy.

The Under-11 team will travel to Arsenal Football Club's Highbury ground to compete against six other teams for the chance to reach the national finals at Wembley Stadium.

The 6-a-side team from St Johns beat Heycroft School from Southend 4-3 after an exciting penalty shoot out. The game had ended 0-0.

The match was played at police headquarters in Springfield, on March 24. The two teams were asked to contest the Essex round because they were finalists in Essex Police's Fun Day football tournament last summer.

The match was organised in conjunction with Mr Frank Banks, community officer for the Professional Footballers Association attached to Southend United Football Club.

St John's School will represent Southend United in the semi finals, which will be played on Wednesday April 29 at Highbury. They will be competing against school teams representing Arsenal, Millwall,

Wimbledon, Fulham, Gillingham and Aldershot.

The Wembley finals will be held in May or June.

After the match at police HQ, both winners and losers were presented with individual plaques, and a team shield by Chief Inspector Bob Hayes of the force's Crime Prevention department.

The aim of the tournament, sponsored by NCP, is to promote Car Crime Prevention year.



Chief Inspector Bob Hayes from the Force's Crime Prevention Department congratulates Roy Brown, captain of the victorious St John's School team from Danbury. Pictured from left are team-mates Richard Shrosbery, Chris Headon, Simon Houlst, Paul Cranley, James Guy, and Kevin Maslin. Picture by Derek Winger of HQ photographic department.



The unlucky runners-up from Heycroft School, Southend.

Pictured from left, back row, Gary Window, Darren Wood, Steven Green, Carl Moore, Gareth Lea. Front row, David Kreyling, Daniel Gulley.

Pedlars and Pushers 463 mile summer

1991 saw three charity cycle rides completed by officers from the Central Detective Unit (including Drug Squad officers — hence the team's title!) raising about £1,000 for charity.

For 1992 the following organised and police approved rides have been agreed as suitable undertakings (perhaps the wrong choice of word, as some are 100 miles!).

Tendring 50, Sunday 12 April, from Harwich around the Tendring peninsula — in aid of Action Research against MS(ARMS).

Cambridge — Woburn Abbey — Cambridge, Sunday 31 May (Action Research for the Crippled Child) 50 miles each way Return by coach from Woburn if needed! Highly recommended as a good day out!

London (Clapham Common) to Brighton, Sunday 21 June (British Heart Foundation) 58 miles.

London (City to Southend on Sea, Sunday 28 June (Rainer) 45 miles.

Heritage Bike Ride — Essex/Suffolk borders, Sunday 5 July (Action Research for the Crippled Child) 50 miles.

London (Picketts Lock, Enfield) to Cambridge, Sunday 19 July, (World Wildlife Fund) 60 miles.

Century Ride, Norwich, Norfolk, Sunday 4 October (Choose your own charity) 100 miles.

More information and entry forms with details of cost, sponsorship arrangements and organisation to ensure a good time for all from Bob Cordery, Central Detective Unit, Police Headquarters, Extn. 2191.

LETTERS EXTRA LETTERS EXTRA

Coach cost should shame the Force

NO UNIFORM OPINION ON SOA STYLE

I KNOW that like many other forces we at Essex Police have to be "cost effective".

In many ways this is right and proper that the Government and members of the public can see that money allocated to this force is spent and used in a right and proper way.

However, I believe the latest item that has come to my notice is nothing more than "extortion".

An Inspector of over 30 years service retiring on ill health grounds had arranged a social evening in order that his friends and fellow officers could say farewell.

Bearing in mind the drink-driving laws and to set an example, he attempted to make use of the force coach to collect and return those wishing to attend the function. He even offered to pay for the driver.

The result? On the day before the function he was told the cost would be £110. Needless to say he declined and then arranged the hire of a coach at considerably less than that being asked by the gentlemen from the "Big

House". Apart from anything else is this really how we treat officers who have given loyal service for many years.

Shame on you Essex Police.

Pc John Johnson, Essex Police, High Street, Ongar

Chief Inspector Paul Adams of HQ Garage told The Law the rates charged for using the Force coach, although slightly lower than the normal

commercial rate, had to be economic, or the cost for a private function would fall on the county.

The standard charge per mile is 80p, he explained, adding that if a driver was required, as in the case, the Force must pay them an agreed waiting rate of £10 an hour.

This particular case may well have worked out more expensive than booking through a local firm because

of the distances and time involved, he said.

It would have meant the coach making four journeys — from Chelmsford to Ongar to pick up the party, back to Chelmsford for the function, then another return trip to take everyone home again.

"We don't make a profit by hiring the coach, but at the end of the day we have to ensure the county doesn't have to pay up the bill," he added.

I REALLY must say that I disagree with the letter published on your letters page (March issue) sent in by T Lack.

I think that we are lucky to have any type of uniform, and in Essex we are fortunate that it is of a modern and refreshing design.

Quite regularly customers at the front office in Southend Police Station comment on how smart we look, and on a recent holiday in Florida USA, I was able to swap some of my old uniform with that of my American counterpart.

I am now the proud owner of a Fort Lauderdale civilian Station Officers cap, shorts and holster.

I say three cheers for the designer of our uniforms...hip hurrah.

Robert Adcock
SOA Southend Police Station
Victoria Avenue
Southend.

Come on The Law figure it out

YOUR headline, March 1992, "Worrying Rise in Crime," conveys the same gloom and doom as the national media. Why not highlight the achievements of the crime-fighters — all of us, uniform and CID?

On your figures of an increase of 6650 offences detected to a total of 33,518, the percentage increase over 1990 was a staggering 24.75 per cent.

Any employees in industry achieving such a remarkable performance

increase would be looking for the Queen's Award for Industry.

Can we not give ourselves a little pat on the back even if the media keep knocking us!

Det Sgt Bob Cordery
HQ CDUz

International farewell amazed retiring Roger

I WOULD be grateful if I could be allowed a few lines in your newspaper to say "thank you" to all those who wished me well on my recent retirement from the Essex Police.

I would have liked to have

left the police service quietly, without fuss, but it was not to be.

I was amazed at the number of people who either rang or called at the office to wish me well on my last day in "the job".

I was forced into "having a bash", and if you were left out of the invitation to attend it was not

intended — in the end I got confused regarding those I had invited and those I had not.

It turned out to be an international affair, with representatives from the Garda, Belgium, and Det Chief Inspector Alan Hill, who is seconded to Spain attending.

I promise, in time, to send a letter of thanks to all who gave me

presents (they were put into boxes at the venue of "the bash", and it took three — yes three — large boxes to hold them all).

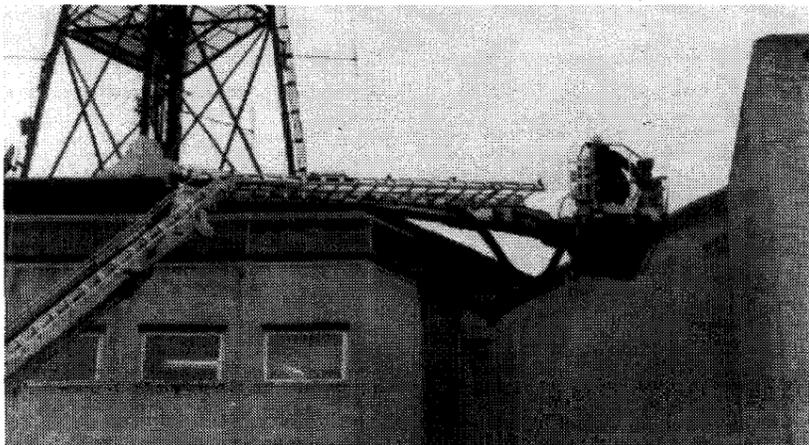
Many thanks to you all, and my good wishes for the future.

Roger Parker
(ex-Constable 567)
Crocus Way
Chelmsford.

Catering choice for a

healthy heart

WHAT GOES UP ...



GOING UP: The Fire Service's aerial ladder platform stretches up to the top of the communications building at police HQ.

Reaching the places other ladders won't reach

WHAT GOES up can go down...that's the theory, and to prove it Essex Fire and Rescue Service brought their latest rescue equipment to police headquarters one Sunday morning recently.

They parked the £365,000 aerial ladder platform outside the communications building and proceeded to raise it to roof level, stopping at each floor to bring the platform close up to the wall.

The platform was then lowered into the basement area, proving that what goes up will go down.

The aerial ladder platforms have been bought to replace the old turntable ladders, which had given good service for the past 25 years.

Essex Fire and Rescue Service currently have two in use, at Chelmsford and Basildon, with a third planned for Southend this month.

The cradle-like platform is suspended on the end of a hydraulically-operated telescopic arm. The operator standing in the cradle has total control of the horizontal and vertical movement of the platform.

A second operator sits at the control panel at the back of the vehicle and they are in telephone communication.

This operator has the facility to over-ride the platform controls if he feels

by Mike Davies

the platform is moving into a dangerous position which the platform operator may not have noticed.

It also allows the platform to be used as a remote unit, when it needs to be put in a high risk situation, such as being placed over a flaming oil storage tank.

Compressed air equipment, and water and foam appliances can also be used from the platform. Powerful lighting is available.

The underside of the platform has remote sensors which prevent it from coming into contact with anything underneath it.

The platform extends to 30 metres in height, and will extend eight to ten metres horizontally at that height.

It will go down to a depth of six metres, and extend 13 metres at the depth. At its base level it will extend 19 metres horizontally.

There are few places where it will not reach.



TESTING the latest fire and rescue equipment at police HQ.

DO YOU eat a hearty meal at lunchtime? And if so, are you eating for a healthy heart?

The choice is yours. But as from April 1, DSO Catering, which runs seven canteens throughout the force, has launched a Healthy Eating Charter for those who want a low-fat, high fibre diet.

Lettuce

It doesn't mean compulsory lettuce leaves and nut cutlets, and catering manager Graham Martin promises your favourite stodgy puddings will still be on offer.

But, under the new

by Jenny Bullus

charter, DSO Catering has undertaken to offer:

- Semi-skimmed milk and decaffeinated drinks as an alternative.

- Flora margarine as an alternative to butter when required.

- To ensure sugar substitutes are available.

- To use wholegrain products such as wholemeal flour and pasta where possible.

- Lo Salt if required.

The charter, which will be displayed in all the DSO's police canteens, also promises to use natural products in all recipes where possi-

ble, to use low fat cuts of meat, and to remove as much fat as possible by cooking methods used, to always offer freshly made salads, and to use products carrying the Healthy Eating logo.

Regime

Mr Martin said, "We are saying to the customer, it's not our job to force you into a healthy eating regime, but we want to give you a healthy option if you choose to take it."

"We will still have plenty for those who want to indulge".

Sample menus include dishes like Turkey wholemeal



lasagne, Broccoli in tomato and onion sauce, Vegetable and nut risotto — each bearing the healthy choice symbol of two triangles underlined.

The Healthy Eating charter applies to canteens run by the DSO at HQ, Force Training School, Chelmsford, Colchester, Harlow, Basildon and Southend police station.

On to a crime? — call QH99

by Mark Shelley

THERE may be many of you, police or civilian, who think you are fully aware of the capabilities of the force helicopter.

But, believe it or not, there are still a great deal who are not. We hope a few articles like this in The Law will help clear up any questions you may have about Air Support in Essex.

We have now been up and running since July 1990 and have had terrific support from everybody.

We would also like to think we have helped you at the "sharp end".

Touting

We are not touting for business, as we are kept busy already, but we think there are more of you who could use our help.

Out on division, when you get that call to suspects on premises or persons making off from a burglary, you arrive and

quickly assess the situation.

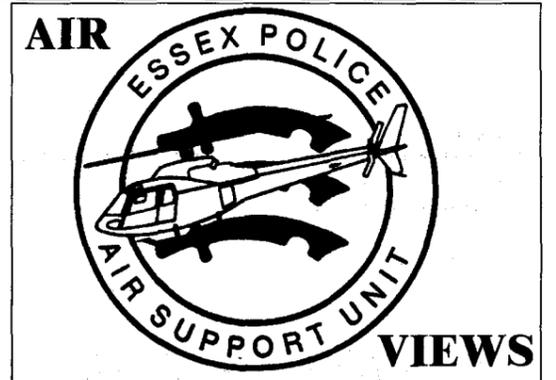
Without a second thought you request a dog unit to attend, but how many of you would think of calling for the helicopter with the same breath?

On traffic duty you attend an accident with allegations, or fatal R.T.A., with vehicles and debris everywhere. At this scene you call for S.O.C., Duty Inspector and Traffic Investigation unit as a matter of course.

But what happens when you come to do a sketch plan or detailed statement, would a set of aerial photographs giving an overall view of the scene help you? or prove a case? This applies to minor as well as fatal R.T.As.

An informant telephones C.I.D. and gives you good information regarding stolen goods in your area.

You might have difficulty in finding the exact location, or when you drive past the yard it is surrounded by high fencing you cannot see through.



Apart from the information and a hunch, which is not enough to get a warrant or arrest anyone, what can you do?

What about a covert fly-by with you on board? the crew taking photographs or video for evidence or planning purposes.

All it takes is a radio request via V.G. or telephone call on 0245-451564 from YOU, no matter what rank, directly to ANYONE of us here at the Air Support Unit flight office.

Do not worry about any criticisms, we will take full responsibility for turning out or not.

Just think about situations you may have attended where the helicopter could have been useful to you.

Any queries or requests concerning any aspect of Air Support please do not hesitate to contact us.

- **This is the first of an occasional column giving news and views from the Air Support Unit.**

Chorus Lines

THINGS are on the up for choir master Norman Eastbrook.

Having recently gained promotion within the Headquarters photographic department, the choir is now buying him a purpose-built podium so he can see us, but more importantly, we can see him.

With a hectic programme for the next few weeks, thoughts are turning to some purely social activities.

A pub meal is planned at the Onley Arms, following a performance of "Olivet to Calvary" at Stisted on April 15, and Sunday Lunch at the New Times, Tiptree, in June.

Rehearsals are well underway for "Songs from the Shows" at HQ on Friday April 24 at 8pm, and tickets at £1.50 are available for Maureen Scollan or choir members.



I.P.A. NEWS

MID-ESSEX BRANCH
Fred Dyson

Quiz night at HQ

ON FRIDAY 13th March at Police HQ, a quiz night was held and our guests for the evening were members of "M" Division and their wives.

A total of just over 80 were present and, after introductions and drinks, we adjourned to the canteen where tables for eight had been arranged for the quiz and to see who would win the "friendship" trophy, "M" Division being the holders.

After questions on

various subjects had been answered, our Branch regained the trophy.

The quiz was organised by John Bray and his wife Sylvia, it was well done.

This was followed by a raffle and a buffet which had been prepared by our wives and as

usual they had done us proud.

Forthcoming events:-

Monday 27th April: Visit to a B.B.C. Radio Show. "Ken Dodd" and "Frank Carson". Tickets limited to 50.

Friday 8th May Barn Dance in marquee, HQ Sports Field. Tickets £5 per person i/c fish and chip supper. Available from all Committee members.

Bahamian inducing holiday amount but every little helps.

For the information of members who contribute to the police federation legal expenses scheme and have not as yet received their new information card and outline of scheme, I have to inform you that as yet they have not been received from the new insurers due to printing difficulties.

I can assure members that their cover remains, and should you need the service all that is necessary is for you to phone the helpline 0206 867775 and you will receive attention. The new documents will be sent out as soon as received.

The Essex Police Comrades Association will be holding their events this year as follows:- Spring buffet Saturday 9th May, annual luncheon Friday 16th October.

All members should

have been circulated by now with details.

At the AGM this year, the chairman Mr W Petherick reluctantly stood down after some 20 years in office.

His place has been taken by Mr J Conlan (ACC) (P) who was welcomed by the secretary Bob Needham.

Mr Needham paid a warm tribute to the outgoing chairman for all his work on behalf of the association, and wished him well for the future.

Anyone looking for part time employment on an as and when basis? Major Security Services of 41, Totterdown Road, Weston Super Mare, Telephone 0934 625633 are seeking to employ retired police officers for statement taking, process serving, accident and criminal investigations, tracing enquiries etc.

If you are interested give Mike Beer a ring on that number.

Caring CID helps hospital



HARLOW CID boss Det. Chf. Insp. John Soanes (left), Divisional Commander Chf. Supt. Mick Brewer and Det. Sgt. Dave Burden hand over the charity cheques to representatives of Harlow League of Hospital Friends, and Rowan Ward at St Margaret's Hospital, Epping.

CARING CID office from Harlow Division have raised £800 to help hospitals in the area.

They handed over cheques of £400 each to the Harlow League of Hospital Friends, and Rowan Ward of St Margaret's Hospital, Epping, during a CID Hospitality evening at Harlow Police Station recently.

The former is using the money towards purchasing resuscitation equipment, whilst Rowan Ward is purchasing a special mattress for nursing terminally ill cancer patients.

The money was raised through a charity raffle held during Harlow Divisional CID Annual Dinner and Dance in January.

Holiday down in Devon

THE Southend Police Club are the owners of a 6 berth Mobile Home, on the Holimarine Holiday Park at Dawlish Sands, South Devon.

The site is well appointed, within walking distance of the sea, and close to various facilities and amenities, about 12 miles from Exeter and the Torbay area, and a short drive from Dartmoor National Park.

The mobile home is well maintained, with three bedrooms sleeping six, a well equipped kitchen and lounge/diner, toilet and shower room. Gas and

electricity are included in the hire fee.

It is ideal for a family holiday in the high season, or for a short break or second holiday at any time between March and October.

On site, the Holimarine Company have a licensed clubhouse with nightly entertainment and children's club. There is a small swimming pool, miniature golf course,

restaurant, fast food take-away, food market and launderette, together with several sporting activities, which are available to hirers of our facility.

Although the facility is being well booked, there are still periods available for hire, particularly early and late, which members of the Force and its affiliated sports clubs are very welcome to take option on.

Any enquiries should be addressed to Det Constable Stan Czuba (Southend CID) or Mr David Alston (Ednet Ext. 6118).

OBITUARIES

12.3.92 Ex Pc H. Willet, aged 56 who retired in 1980.

24.3.92 Ex Pc G. Young, aged 61, who retired in 1983.

27.3.92 Ex Pc M. Waspe, aged 59, who retired in 1984, serving civilian General Stores Supervisor, HQ.

02.3.92 Ex Pc W. Green, aged 77, who retired in 1967.

03.3.92 Mrs I. Lewis, serving civilian Caretaker, Harlow.

National
Association of
Retired
Police
Officers by
Doug
Rampling

CHELMSFORD Branch AGM will probably have been held by the time this gets into print.

I have not had any member of the committee inform me that they do not wish to continue, so as far as I am aware it is carry on as before.

Everyone should have by now received their pension increases, at 4.1 per cent not exactly a

Christian Police Association

THE Christian Police Association is a national organisation with its headquarters situated in Leicester.

The General Secretary, Harry Spain, will be visiting Essex Branch on Thursday 30th April.

The Meeting will be at the Branch Secretary's house, The Ark, 73 Eastwood Rise, Leigh on Sea and starts at 7.30pm.

An open invitation is extended to all Christians

involved with the Force, whether as serving or retired officers or in a civilian role.

It is an open meeting and all are welcome, so if you've never been before then come and find out what occurs.

There will be refreshments, so please let Branch Secretary, Simon Werrett, know if you intend coming. He can be contacted at Leigh Police Station on 0702 471212 extn 6573.

RETIREMENTS

THE force extends its good wishes to the following officers and civilians who are retiring:

30.4.92 Pc D. Mason, Colchester, 30 yrs, 76 days.

10.5.92 D/Insp D. F. Smith, Basildon/Benfleet, 30 yrs, 2 days.

11.5.92 Pc J. H. Johnson, Harlow/Ongar, 25 yrs.

31.5.92 Insp A. C. Horne, Harlow/Saffron Walden, 27 yrs, 3 days.

29.3.92 Mrs H. Clark, p/t cleaner, Billericay, 3 yrs.

MARKET PLACE... MARKET PLACE...

'LEWIS' MOTOR CYCLE LEATHERS, Waist 34, Chest 42. Excellent condition £150. Pc G. C. Lambeth, Chelmsford Traffic Extn 3579.

MAGLITE, Five battery C cell size, full working order, also belt holder for same, £15 o.n.o. Pc Howell, Burnham Police Stn.

3 BEDROOM SEMI, Lenmore Ave, Grays. Own drive, g.c.h. excellent decorative order, many features, must be viewed. £78,000. Mrs A. Ellis, CID Admin, Grays, Extn 4828.

3 BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW, Beccles, Suffolk. Oak fitted kitchen, double cooker hob, g.c.h., s.u.d.g., large garage, N.H.B.C. Nice garden. £64,000. Ex Insp L.

Godwin, (0502) 715981.

COMPUTER MONITOR, Mono VGA, 11 months old, £50. S. Powl 0621 772195 or Laindon Traffic.

SPRITE MUSKATEER CARAVAN, fridge, oven, awning, all extras, stabiliser, £800 o.n.o. Pc Spink, HQIR or 0787 223211.

BEDFORD CF VAN, C Reg, v.g.c. approx 60,000 miles, taxed. M.O.T. July £1,350 o.n.o. Mr T. Carter, 0279 435551 after 6pm.

TWO BEDROOM, fully furnished flat, walking distance to Chelmsford Town Centre, comfortable and very well appointed. £235 p.m. H. A. Norman, Chelmsford Police Station.

MERCEDES 190 'F'

registration, metallic blue, full body kit. An eye-catching car in first class condition, £12,500 o.n.o. Debbie Clark, HQ Extn 2369.

GARDEN ROTAVATOR Merry Tiller Major 5hp with accessories, excellent condition, cost new £700, will accept £400. Ps Swann, HQ Extn 2778.

GAS COOKER Standard design. Good condition. Offer to clear £25. Available to view Springfield. T. Roe, Brentwood Police Stn.

ROWING MACHINE almost new. Digital milometer, cost £110, will accept £60. Janet, HQ Extn 2634.

NINTENDO Zelda game and watch (duplicated gift-still in packaging) £15 o.n.o. J. Arkley, HQ Extn 2825.

VAUXHALL Chevette, Blue, W Reg, very good running order, tax, MOT

June, £325 phone after 6pm. T. Carter 0279 435551.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE — ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and Rank Station

Home telephone Signed

FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Sealink Stena discounts

SEALINK Stena Line have offered all members of the Force Sports Association a five per cent discount on the published tariffs of all their holidays and sailings from Harwick to the Hook of Holland.

All of these bookings must be made via the Force Sports Secretary.

Once a month in the

Law I will publish details of any special promotions they are doing.

As an introductory offer Sealink have offered a free holiday for two adults to Efteling in Holland, this is the Dutch equivalent to Alton Towers.

This holiday will include return sailing on two night sailings, two buffet breakfasts, a berth

in a cabin, with en suite facilities, entrance fee to the theme park and coach transfer to Efteling.

Any member of the Force Sports Association who would like to be included in the draw for this holiday should put their name, collar number and station in a sealed envelope and send it to the

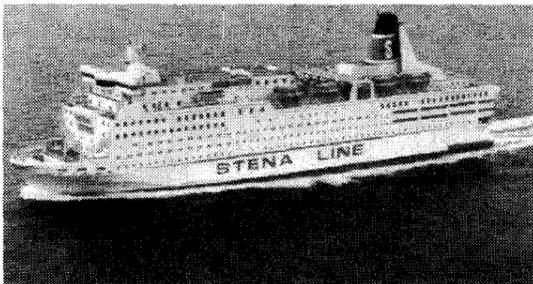
Holiday offer

Treat the whole family to Efteling — Holland's most exciting leisure park.

This is a picture book world full of fantasy, magic and adventure.

If you dare, there are breathtaking rides such as the White Water Rapids, the Python Roller-Coaster or why not experience the wonders of Fairy Tale Forest?

There really is something for everyone — the young and the young at heart.



THE Stena Britannica on the Harwick to Hook of Holland crossing.

The entrance fee, which is included in the package, entitles you to free rides and attractions all day long.

The price includes return rail and coach transfer to Efteling. Return sailing on two night sailings, two buffet breakfasts, a berth in a

cabin with en suite facilities. Prices Adult £46, Children £28, Family Fun Special, two adults and two children in a four berth cabin £136, Car supplement £40. Remember you must take 5 percent off these prices.

Force lottery

THE result of this month's Force Lottery is as follows:

£1,500, D Cons Geoffrey Herbert, Headquarters; £700, Sgt Anthony Tilman, Colchester; £300, Cons John Tracey, Stanway Traffic; £200, Cons James Hollick, FSU HQ; £100, Cons Alan Husk, Southend.

The following will receive £50 prizes:

Cons Alex Lockyer, Tiptree; Sgt Richard Chaplin, Saffron Walden; Cons Daniel Torrance, Wickford; Sgt Bob

Bourne, Stanway Traffic; Sgt Gordon Thorpe, Harlow Traffic; Susan Wilson, Leigh-on-Sea; Cons Paul Dines, Witham; Cons David Ashpole, Westcliff; Cons Martyn Cartwright, Clacton.

This will be the last draw that £50 consolation prizes will be issued. The committee have decided that instead of the £50 prize, ten prizes of weekend breaks for two people inclusive of full English breakfast at the following Hilton Hotels will be given instead.

The Hilton Hotels available are in: Wembley, London,

Basinstoke, Bracknell, Watford, Gatwick, Hornchurch, Portsmouth, Southampton, Newbury, Nottingham, Leeds, Huddersfield, Newport and Swansea.

Most of these hotels have heated indoor swimming pools, sauna, steam rooms, jacuzzi and exercise rooms available free of charge to guests.

The cost of one of these weekends would normally be approx £250, but the Hilton Hotel group are offering members of the Force Sports Association good discounts.

Into Europe for Essex cricketers

by Phil Mellon

ON JULY 20, a party of intrepid Essex Police cricketers, led by Detective Chief Superintendent Ralph Barrington, embark upon a nine day tour of Europe, taking in the cities of Antwerp, Frankfurt, Munich, Zurich and finally Paris.

With travel arrangements courtesy of that reputable local agent 'Adams Travel', it is hoped that not only will the itinerary allow excellent cricket, but also ample time for sight-seeing and other activities, for example, on the journey between Frankfurt and Munich a visit to a vineyard has been arranged.

British Police powerlifting

DORSET Police propose to hold a National Powerlifting Championships in September 1992. This event will be open to lifters of all standards and both sexes. Any officer who requires further information contact the Force Sports Secretary.

Croker Cup Football

NO results have been received by the closing date (25.02.92) for the first round matches of the Croker Cup between either Chelmsford v Basildon or Headquarters v Grays.

In accordance with the rules of the Force Sports Association these matches have now been awarded to the away sides and no Croker Cup points will be given to Chelmsford or Headquarters.

The draw for the semi-finals is Colchester v Grays and Basildon v Harlow. These matches must be played before 24th April 1992.

The following matches

The total cost of the trip should be approximately £225 per person, and an invitation is extended to all members of the Force — players or supporters — to join the tour.

We have arranged a good standard of accommodation and will be playing civilian teams.

The full itinerary is shown below:

2200 Monday 20 July — depart Felixstowe to Zeebrugge.

Tuesday 21 July — play Mechelen Eagles C.C.

Wednesday 22 July — travel Antwerp to Frankfurt.

Thursday 23 July — play Frankfurt C.C.

Friday 24 July — travel Frankfurt to Munich. (Vineyard tour AM).

Saturday 25 July — play Munich League XI.

Sunday 26 July — travel Munich to Zurich.

Monday 27 July — play Zurich C.C.

Tuesday 28 July — travel Zurich to Paris.

Wednesday 29 July — play Sri Lanka XI.

1645 Thursday 30 July — Calais to Dover.

We are fortunate to have been granted permission to use the Force coach, which will allow us not only to travel at our own pace, but should also ensure we arrive for each game looking like an organised team.

Anybody interested, please contact Detective Inspector Phil Mellon (ednet 5551) at Harlow CID for further details.

Meanwhile, the Essex Police Veterans cricket team go on tour to the West Midlands in June. All places on this trip are already filled.

Calais rally

CALLING force yachtsmen and women. Don't miss the annual Essex Police Sailing Club Calais rally which takes place between June 18 and 21 inclusive this year.

Anyone interested should contact Cruising Secretary Roger Burrows at Stansted Airport, ednet 5906.

PAA SWIMMING

THE No 5 Region PAA Swimming championships were held in the City of London on Friday 28th February, with the following success: Ladies Backstroke: 1st Sarah Kedge, Grays; 3rd Lynn Smith, Colchester. Ladies Breaststroke: 2nd Sara Kedge, Grays. Mens Breaststroke: 1st Phil Whitehead, Laindon Traffic. Ladies Butterfly:

3rd Angela Simmons, Grays. Mens Butterfly: 3rd Paul Eveleigh, Basildon. Ladies Medley Relay: 1st Sarah Kedge, Lynn Smith, Angela Simmons and Nicola Coote and Ladies Freestyle Relay 1st. Mens Medley Relay: 2nd Phil Whitehead, Paul Eveleigh, Davis Mathlin (Basildon and Mark Pickett (Thorpe Traffic) and men's Freestyle relay 2nd.

ESSEX POLICE PRESENT

THE INAUGURAL EUROPEAN POLICE GOLF TOURNAMENT



PROGRAMME:

TUES 5th MAY:
MID-HEARTS G.C.
WHEATHAMPSTEAD
TEE OFF AT: 1300 hrs

WED 6th MAY:
WARLEY PARK G.C.
NR. BRENTWOOD
TEE OFF AT: 0900 hrs

THURS 7th MAY:
WARREN G.C. WOODHAM
WALTER
TEE OFF AT: 1000 hrs

A reminder to everyone that they are welcome to attend any of the venues to support the teams, enjoy the day and even walk the course!

Any inquiries: Peter Moyes x 5201
Bob Hayes x 2730
Tony Kitching x 2171/2326

Note! Thursday at the Warren is the BIG day!

Invitation to retired officers and Civilians

APPLICATION TO JOIN THE ESSEX POLICE SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND FORCE LOTTERY

To Cons Chris Jacob, Secretary, Force Sports Association, Stanway N.B.O. Office, Colchester.

I wish to make an application to join the Essex Police Sports Association and Force Lottery:

Name.....Address.....

I understand that tickets are priced at 50p each and that the maximum number of tickets that I can have is 16. Would like to have:

Tickets I enclose a cheque for £....., made payable to the Essex Police Sports Association, for tickets, for a six month period, together with £3 membership fee.

IF YOU WISH TO KNOW YOUR LOTTERY NUMBERS PLEASE ENCLOSE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE

The Force Lottery is now open to retired Police Officers and retired Civilians. If you wish to participate you must pay in advance for a six month period. Lottery shares are 50p each and you are allowed up to a maximum of £8, together with a 50p per month membership fee to the Essex Police Sports Association. If you wish

to know your lottery numbers please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Please note this form is intended for retired personnel only.

Tickets

Serving police or civilians who wish to join the lottery or increase their number of tickets should contact the Force Sports Secretary.

The Law



SPORTS
SPORTS
SPORTS

HQ hit top form to take 'sevens' title RUGBY JOINS CROKER CUP IN STYLE

THE inaugural Essex Police Inter Divisional '7's rugby tournament took place at Police Headquarters on Wednesday 1st April, an auspicious date.

I watched the weather forecast the night before and faced the day with some trepidation. However, God plays rugby, and the sun shone all day.

After a few minor hiccups, inevitable with a new tournament, and some hasty work by some electricians, a large and enthusiastic group of players kicked off at 12.15.

The initial rounds of the tournament were played in a league format with a group of five teams and a group of four.

From the start it was obvious that the teams to beat were Colchester 'A' in Group 'A' and Headquarters in Group 'B'.

by Mike Hall

Having said that, Group 'A' was tight, with Basildon and Grays giving Colchester a run for their money.

Sudden death

The highlight of this stage of the competition was the Basildon v Colchester 'A' fixture with Basildon winning 10-6 after the fourth period of sudden death extra time.

The winner and runner up of each group went through to the final stages of the main competition and third and fourth through to the Plate competition.

The Plate competition was a hard fought event. Grays and Harlow were both well organised and some fine rugby was played.

These teams contested the Plate final with Grays running out winners 14-0. It proves that old heads can win in a young man's game!

The main competition's final stage produced some thrilling rugby. Both semi finals were hard fought with Colchester and Headquarters running to form and going through to the final.

It was unfortunate for Colchester that they came up against a Headquarters team that had improved all day and hit top form for the final.

Headquarters showed a wealth of talent and experience and through organisation of possession won a good game 28-6.

I must thank Clive Gildersleeves and his small

band from the Essex Referees Society. Their hard work and enthusiasm contributed to the success of the day.

Represented

The day was a roaring success. Every division was represented, admirably, with Harlow and Colchester fielding two sides.

Sevens involves a few minutes of activity and a lot of hanging about, but everybody was entertained by rugby of a very high standard.

Nobody got seriously injured, although a few old muscles wondered what hit them, John Bowman!!

Special mention must go to Jed Stopher of Headquarters who finished the day with nine tries.

Thanks to everybody for coming along and for the support they gave the players and the event, helping to launch rugby into the Croker Cup in such fine style.

RESULTS: Main competition — Semi finals Colchester 19 Southend 6, HQ 14 Basildon 0. Final HQ 28 Colchester 6.

Plate Competition — Semi finals Harlow A 20 Chelmsford 6, Grays 26 Colchester B 0. Final Grays 14 Harlow 0.



THE Force's Madcap Marathon men warmed up for their big event, the London Marathon, by taking part in the Sandon "Four Villages" run on April 5.

A ten-strong team of Essex officers hope to raise at least £3,000 to send three-year-old Matthew Walters from Kelvedon to the Peto Institute in Hungary. Matthew suffers from cerebral palsy.

They were running in their distinctive attire of police uniform from the waist up. Picture by kind permission of LES BRAND.

THE LAW

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May 1992

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Brave Essex blown out



THE Essex Police football squad lines up before the national PAA semi-final against West Midlands Police at HQ.

by Dave Murthwaite

TWO HUNDRED supporters braved the rain and high winds to watch Essex take on West Midlands Police in the semi-final of the National PAA football competition.

After a tough battle, Essex went down 3-1 to the stronger Midlands force, who were competition favourites.

Watched by the manager of the British Police side, Essex were down by a goal in the first four minutes, when hesitancy outside the penalty area was punished by a fierce left foot shot, giving 'keeper Phil Robinson no chance.

An excellent opportunity to level the scores went

begging after superb approach work by front men Steve Cross and Daryl Heffer saw Tony Dale, free in front of goal, blast the ball over the top.

Hard work and determination got Essex their reward five minutes from half-time, when Chris Green headed in bravely at the near post.

The second half started with constant West Midlands pressure, and against the now stronger wind, Nigel Cockrell's chance that shaved the post was the best opportunity Essex had to go in front.

An own goal by Joel

Henderson and a speculative shot by the Midlands substitute ensured a final place for West Midlands Police.

The match was played at HQ in Chelmsford on March 24. Essex Team: Phil Robinson (Lt. Clacton), Alex Deacon (Rochford), Joel Henderson (South Ockendon), Steve Bennett (Clacton), Cliff Haines (Basildon), Tony Dale (Colchester), Chris Green (Harwich), Graham Moore (Southend), Nigel Cockrell (Rayleigh), Steve Cross (Clacton), Daryl Heffer (Colchester), Shaun Frost (Leigh), Graham Rendell (Saffron Walden).

Southend are snooker champs

THE Southend Police Snooker team has won the Wednesday League team knockout competition for the first time.

The team played in, and won, the final on Monday March 30, beating the Southend Supporters Social Club. This was the first competition they have won since joining the league many years ago.

The final was played at

the Services Club in Hamlet Court Road.

Congratulations are due to the winning team: Keith Wooderson (captain, Southend), Doug Pyatt (Southend), Peter Scott (Marine), Tom Stott (Rochford), Phill Marriage

(Rochford) and Dave Box (ex SOC).

Well done also to players who helped the team through previous rounds: Duncan Horner (Rayleigh Traffic), Tony Golab (Shoebury), Chf. Insp. Dick Bloomfield (HQ), Ed Coates (ex Southend CID).

A total of 14 teams took part in the knockout competition.

Honours even in 10-goal thriller

ON WEDNESDAY 11th March the mens' hockey team played Sussex Police at Newhaven on astroturf.

Once again due to other commitments we were unable to raise a full team, and went with only 10 men.

However, as it was a friendly game and Sussex had a spare player, he was loaned to us.

Sussex started the match strongly and we were defending desperately for much of the first half.

Not desperately enough though, as we conceded three goals and although we had some of the play we never really looked like getting on level terms.

A tactical change for the

second half, by bringing an extra man back into defence, saw us able to contain the Sussex attack and get the ball out to our own forwards.

This, added to some nice individual play, enabled us to score two goals.

Sussex then came back quickly with another two making the score 5-2.

However, at this point the game turned in our favour and in the last 10

minutes we scored three times to level the score with a minute to go.

A result we were thoroughly happy with, but which left Sussex feeling somewhat aggrieved as two of our goals were scored by the player that they had loaned us.

The mens' hockey team at its best can be quite successful, as we proved in our progress in the PAA tournament this year.

We do need more players to enable us to field a decent team when other commitments, (work, injury, family etc) have to take precedence.

If you play, or are interested in playing contact either Chf Insp Bob Ward at Colchester, Pc Marvin Rothman at South Woodham Ferrers or Pc Mick Kliskey on the Air Support Unit.