

The Law

including Essex Police Magazine



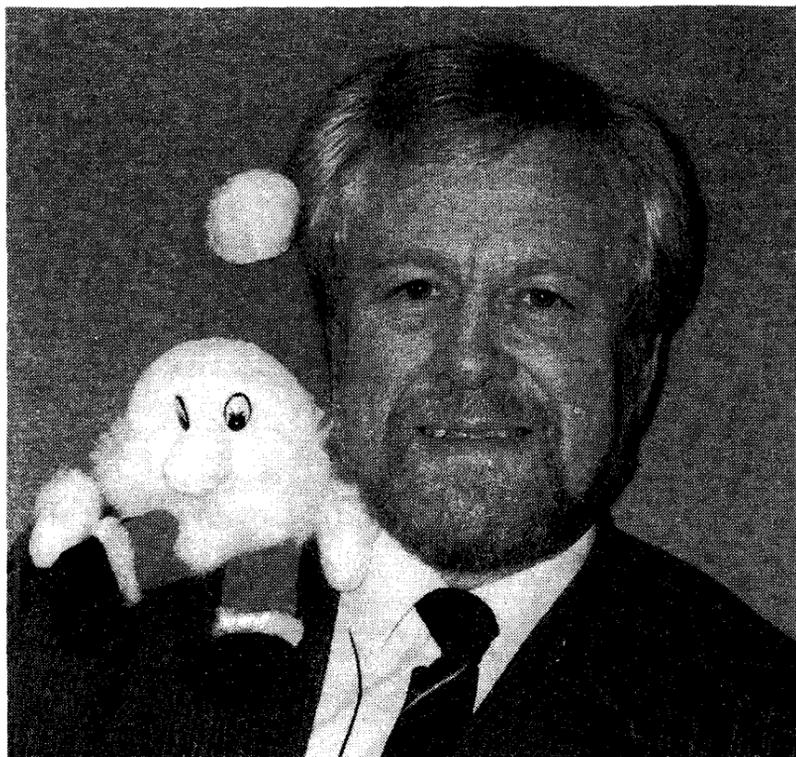
Chips in Chicago - see page 8

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

December 1992

No 233

Santa caters for charity



CATERER'S CHRISTMAS CAPERS: Graham Martin and Santa.

CAN YOU spot Santa Claus? It's *The Law's* special Christmas teaser!

Well, the chap with the white hair and beard has been playing Santa to police charities — by selling off the cute little fellow with the big nose pictured perched on his shoulder.

For those who remain confused, our festive tale began when the Christmas decorations went up in the bar at Headquarters.

Beard

Catering chief Graham Martin (the one with the beard) supplied five of the cuddly santas to hang among the tinsel.

But when a bright spark suggested that a light-fingered Santa snatcher might half-inch the cheeky chap-pies, Mr Martin came up with a glittering idea.

Another 30 Santas were purchased to sell at the bar, with profits going to charity.

At £2.50 a time, they sold out in half an hour, and a new order for 30 more Santas sold out in the same time.

Already the sales had raised £40 for charity. And now Essex Food Services, which runs the bar and the Force's canteens, is asking the real Father Christmas to help the search for more stocks to sell in the bar.

From festive riddles to a competition with a definite Post-Christmas flavour.

Next month, *The Law* in conjunction with Essex Food

Services and the Force's Look After Your Heart committee, will launch a Healthy Choice recipe competition.

The aim will be to bounce back from the Christmas bingeing and focus, once again, on enjoying healthy eating.

We will be asking for original and appetising healthy recipe ideas. So get your thinking caps on and look out for more details in the January edition of *The Law*.

More police despite freeze

THE FORCE could see an extra 54 officers on the beat next year despite a spending freeze by the Home Office.

The Force's initial bid for 22 new officers was turned down by the Home Office at the end of November, but increased civilianisation should release officers from their desks to return to the beat.

The Police Authority has already agreed a bid to civilianise 32 posts and the County Council's Policy and Resources committee are currently studying proposals to civilianise a further 22.

The Police Committee heard it would be cheaper for the force to employ new civilians than to take on new police officers.

The 22 new officers would have cost £191,000 but around £70,000 could be saved through civilianisation.

Police Committee vice-chairman Brian Kelly said he was pleased at the sensible way Essex Police had presented its case, which would mean the county would not be adversely affected by the Home Office freeze.

ESSEX Police has teamed up with leading brewer Courage and eight other police forces to launch a high profile Christmas drink drive campaign.

It is the first time a brewery has joined forces with the police for a coast to coast drive to hammer home the "think before you drink" message.

And in a two-pronged publicity and enforcement campaign, Essex officers are carrying out a countywide series of roadside stop checks over the Christmas period.

Traffic officers have been stopping vehicles and, if the driver has committed a moving traffic offence, has any visible vehicle defects, or if he or she is suspected of drinking alcohol, a breath test has been carried out.

In the early stages, the publicity appears to have had the desired effect, with very few positive tests recorded.

Supt. Des McGarr, head of traffic, has stressed that the aim is not to ruin the festive season for drivers, but to target those who continue to put others' lives at risk.

"We hope that by publicising what we are doing, we will deter them from taking that chance," he said.

Essex officers will consider in every case whether to ask the courts to use their new powers to confiscate the vehi-

by Jenny Grinter

cle of any motorist convicted of drink driving.

In the Northern Traffic area, officers from the Motorcycle Squad have been helping to target midday drinkers with high visibility patrols both in towns and country lanes.

Insp. Monty Montgomery of Chelmsford Traffic said, "Our message is that motorists are not safe anywhere in the Division if they drink and drive."

"Why should they spoil Christmas for innocent people?"

Commuters

The Christmas campaign will also target commuters, who drink in London, when they collect their cars at Essex stations.

The Force is supporting a City of London Police initiative which offers breath tests to commuters before they catch their train.

The Courage-sponsored publicity drive is specifically aimed at motorway users, with eye-catching displays at service stations on the M25, M27, M1, M2, M3, M4 and M5.

Exhibitions including dramatic photographs, posters and "Alcohol Free" car stickers are positioned inside each service station, with police officers on hand to give advice.

In Essex, publicity is centred on the Granada Service Station on the M25 at Thurrock, which is visited by

an estimated 90,000 motorists per week.

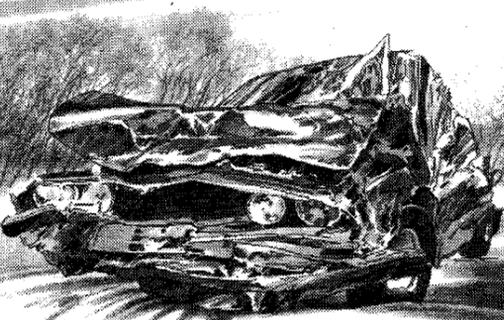
The Courage-sponsored campaign runs until Christmas Eve. Other forces taking part are Kent, Metropolitan, Herts, Thames Valley, Avon and

Somerset, Surrey, Hampshire and Wiltshire.

Courage's executive chairman Mike Foster said, "The irony of a brewery asking people not drink is not lost on us."

"Of course we want people to enjoy our products. What we are saying is don't get behind the wheel of a car after drinking alcohol."

CHRISTMAS SLAY RIDE!

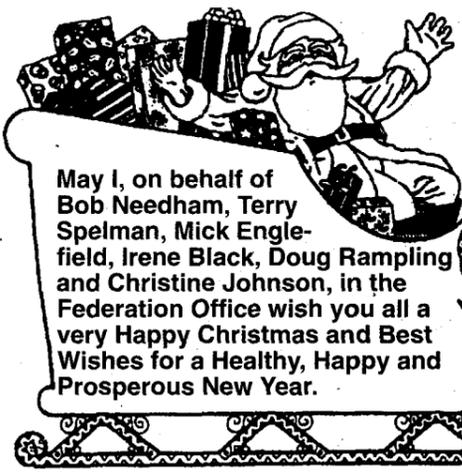


DON'T DRINK & DRIVE

POLICE ANTI-DRINK & DRIVING CAMPAIGN SUPPORTED BY COURAGE

Merry Christmas to all our readers

FEDERATION NOTES



May I, on behalf of Bob Needham, Terry Spelman, Mick Englefield, Irene Black, Doug Rampling and Christine Johnson, in the Federation Office wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year.



Sheehy debate goes on

ALL the evidence to the Sheehy Inquiry has now been submitted by all parties. The last group to submit evidence was the Home Office who were the only group late with their evidence, submitting theirs to the inquiry team some two weeks after the November 2nd deadline.

I am at present evaluating the evidence of all the other groups totalling over 15 documents and I will give you a full report in the January Edition.

At this time I can say that the evidence of some groups does not do the Police Service any favours.

The sub committees of the National Police Federation are at present evaluating all the other groups' evidence and will be meeting on the 18th and 19th January 1993 to prepare their statement to the Sheehy Inquiry with regard to this other evidence.

This verbal response will be given by our national negotiators on the 25th January 1993.

If any member would like to discuss any of the evidence submitted by the other groups please give me a ring on extension 2797 at Headquarters.

CHEQUE OUT YOUR ALLOWANCES

MEMBERS will no doubt be aware that the County Council was going to bring in a new system for the monthly attendance payments to be paid direct to the member's main bank account.

We have been in negotiation on behalf of the membership and have reached the following

An equal say on opportunities

by Brian Pallant

THE Police Federation launched its Policy Statement of Intent on Equal Opportunities at its seminar on the 1st December 1991.

Our aim is to create a discrimination-free workplace, which will then guarantee fairness and equity in our service to the public.

As a progression of our policy, the following letter has been published in Police magazine and Police Review.

You will see that we are trying to find out what is happening, both good and bad, throughout the country, to try to establish patterns which will assist us in the future to help eradicate discrimination within the service.

Vee Neild, the General Secretary, has asked that the letter be reproduced in Force Orders and other Force publications. It is hoped the Force Order will be published shortly, however to help members I reproduce Vee's letter below:

Dear Colleague,
HELP US TO HELP YOU. STOP HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION.

Over the past 30 months you will have noticed the stance of the Police Federation on equality issues.

We have instigated an Equal Opportunities Sub-Group answerable to the Joint Central Committee who adopted a policy statement on equality.

The Federation has met with various bodies and groups to try to establish what the problems within are.

We have assisted officers at tribunals with an aim of achieving a non-discriminatory service.

We have promoted the European Council's directives on sexual harassment and have joined with other bodies to design a genuine grievance procedure that will be acceptable nationwide.

The Police Federation has demonstrated its commitment to end discrimination within the Service but needs your help to plan and execute our next phase.

We need to know of your experiences of harassment or discrimination and also of good practice which has ended such acts.

Please write to me giving full details of your experience. You do not need to give your name but I would appreciate the following information for statistical purposes:

Force, Age, Length of service, Rank of Perpetrator, Gender of Complainant and Perpetrator, Sexuality, Colour, Reason for complaining if appropriate, Other Action taken.

News... News... News... News...

DIARIES

THE NEW diaries for 1993 are available from your Federation Representative or from the Federation Office at HQ. The cost is 50 pence, which is donated to Police Charities.

The local representatives dealing with the diaries are: Southend - Mick Tarbin; Basildon - Andy Roa; Grays - Miss Reed Admin Department; Harlow - Tony Rayner; Chelmsford - John Maloney; Colchester - Lance Williams.

WELL DONE!

MY congratulations to Terry Spelman, the Joint Branch Board Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, who has been elected onto the Conference Arrangements Committee.

This is a National appointment responsible for the organisation and running of the National Police Federation Conferences.

LOANS

THE Halifax have reduced interest rates under the Federation Loan scheme.

CAR COVER

THE Essex Federation has a scheme with Summit Motor Services at Chelmsford.

Up to 25 per cent discount is being offered for Police Officers, their families and police civilian employees.

Please ring Chelmsford 496496 for details or obtain an application form for a quote from the Federation Office.

HOLIDAYS

THE Federation still has a deal with Tjaereborg Holidays, the direct sale company, and members booking will receive free holiday insurance.

The holidays are also cheaper because you are dealing direct with the company.

Please ring (0293) 554444 or contact the Federation office for details.

When special offers are available these will be circulated as soon as possible via message switch.

Council tax update

AS REPORTED in the last edition an agenda item was placed before the Police Committee meeting on the 30th November 1992 regarding the Council Tax. This read:

1. That the Police Committee acknowledges the suggestions of the Police Federation.

2. That the Chief Constable, in liaison with the Clerk and the Treasurer, seeks the advice of the Home Office and quantifies the financial and other implications, reporting back to the next Police Committee with recommendations.

The above was agreed by the Police Committee. It was also agreed that if any action needed to be taken sooner than a small group would reach that decision and then report back to the next meeting on the 22nd March, 1993.

I will keep you all informed of the developments.

THE LAW OPINION

IT IS heartening in the run up to Christmas to know the Force Fun Day has once again turned up trumps and provided much-needed cash to 23 Essex-based charities.

The Chief Constable distributed more than £10,000 at the presentation evening this month, but even this impressive sum was only half of the total raised for charity by the 1992 Fun Day. That sum should not be under-estimated.

At a time of recession, many charities have hit hard times, and the efforts of officers and civilians are bringing cheer to those in need.

Fun Day, now approaching its seventh year, is always well supported by police and public, and it is a first class way of improving liaison with the community.

But behind the scenes it takes a hell of a lot of work to organise and co-ordinate the events. And that effort goes on year round, not just on one day.

Typically, this work tends to fall upon a handful of dedicated helpers.

Out on Division, perhaps understandably, many officers and civilians see it as a Headquarters event, and concentrate their energies on local fundraising efforts.

Perhaps the time has come to take stock. Any event needs fresh ideas and enthusiasm. Otherwise there is a danger that it will become more of the same, and the energy which drives it may fade.

This year, unfortunately, the band concert had to be cancelled, and ticket sales for the Grand Draw — with a glittering first prize of a Mediterranean Cruise — were disappointing.

If Fun Day is to continue as a soaring success, it needs all-round commitment. People can be quick to criticise, but altogether more reticent when it comes to offering to help.

The ethos of Fun Day is about giving, the time has come to give it your wholehearted support.

The Editors would like to make it clear that the views expressed in this opinion column reflect those of the Editors and not the Chief Constable or any other member of the Essex Police.

Brass at Christmas

FEELING festive? Need something to get you in the mood? Then get hold of some Christmas spirit with the Essex Police Band.

The band has just released a new tape of Christmas carols entitled "Brass at Christmas".

All the old favourites are there, including O Come All Ye Faithful, Away in a Manger and Hark the Herald Angels.

But there are also some more up-to-date pieces such as The Snowman, White Christmas and Jingle Bells Rock.

Either way, the tape is sure to bring Christmas cheer to all and would make an excellent Christmas present.

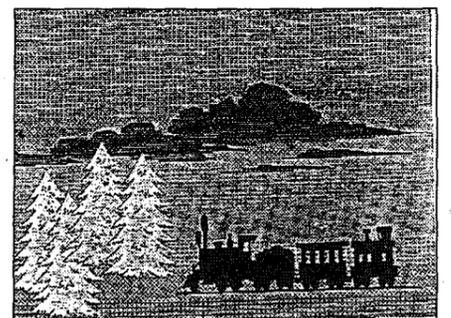


Brass at Christmas
The Essex Police Band
Conductor R.O. Casan

The tape costs just £5 and is available from Band Secretary Bill Brightmore at Chelmsford Traffic Section, Police HQ. Cheques should be made payable to the "Essex Police Band."

Essex Police Musical Society presents

CALAMITY JANE



15 - 20 February 1993

Tickets available from:

Rod Clare Headquarters CID

Tel: 0245 452527 or Ednet 2527

Cop Capers

Saint Nick

WITH CHRISTMAS just around the corner, Father Christmas is bound to be the most popular person around, especially in the eyes of the Dorset Police.

For officers in the Force have discovered why the jolly fellow is also called 'Saint Nick' after Father Christmas Derek Smith gave them an early Christmas present by catching a shoplifter in a Boscombe shoe shop.

Targeting Crime

Mind you, they will have to go to the USA if they want to paint the town red. Paint guns, long the reserve of bored executives, are now being issued to officers in the New York State.

The aim of the idea is that patrolmen and women will use the special pistols to pelt any stolen cars that race past with blobs of fluorescent paint!

Russian Courage

Policemen in Moscow also have their hands full, but for very different reasons. They have been rushing to join their trade union after hearing the shop steward is about to receive a shipment of pure alcohol from the Ukraine.

The union plans to sell the alcohol on a 'closed shop' basis. I guess we'd better keep the fact that Courage have sponsored our motorway drink-drive campaign well under our hats!

"Sadly time has finally done what the Turkish Army couldn't" Fred Joslin is laid to rest - 77 years late



A young Fred Joslin pictured while on duty on his Hadleigh beat in the 1920s.

Alarm bells ring for Rod Stewart

ALARM bells started ringing at Epping Police Station recently when the fax began churning out an important message all the way from Los Angeles.

But rumours that Wildlife Liaison guru Sgt Tony Ellis was about to be whisked off to Hollywood to host a new series of 'Skippy' were quickly dispelled when it emerged the message was from rock star Rod Stewart.

And after reading his communique thanking officers for the speed with which they responded to an alarm going off at his house, staff were 'Sailing' happy for the rest of the day.

"It's nice to know

that, when the need arises, the old black Maria can get you boys in blue from A to B a bit sharpish," the musician wrote. "So when it comes to the time for the Policeman's ball collection, send a constable round and he will leave with a full helmet."

Alertness

"I want to thank you for your speed and alertness. It is very reassuring to me, being that I am 8,000 miles away in California."

The speedy officers who attended the call were Ps Andrew Bray and Special Constable Sandra Ramin, but fortunately the house was fully checked and all

was found to be in order.

A Happy Christmas to you all

FROM THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

AS 1992 comes to an end, it would be all too easy to be distracted by the major policing issues being progressed nationally and overlook the consistently fine performance produced by all police and civilian personnel of Essex Police.

Despite the inexorable rise in demand from every quarter we have coped, and coped well, achieving an eight and nine per cent reduction in thefts from and of motor vehicles, a seven per cent reduction in domestic burglaries, a 34 per cent reduction in fatal and a 31 per cent reduction in serious road accidents.

Other community and

crime prevention initiatives have served to underline the diverse nature of our role and the work we do.

Looking ahead to 1993 one can only anticipate it becoming a watershed in policing terms as firstly, the Citizens' Charter, Performance Indicators and Force Service Delivery Standards will be added to existing measures of performance.

Secondly the Royal Commission and the Sheehy Inquiry will report around May/June and we can expect the Home Secretary's reviews of Financing, Structure of Forces and the Tripartite Arrangements of Police Accountability to all culminate in a series of significant proposals for change by the late summer of 1993.

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Geoffrey Waterer



Births, bodies and the SAS at Braintree Nick

I read your recent article concerning Braintree Police Station with interest, particularly the reference to present "cramped quarters".

Few of your readers will realise that in the late 1920s, the Fairfield Road complex was home to some 14 people, as well as accommodating the then staff of Braintree Division.

My birth certificate shows I was born at the Police Station at 21 Fairfield Road, Braintree on 29.7.28 and I lived there with my parents and five sisters for the next five years.

My father was the Inspector, and the Superintendent. Mr Saich and his wife occupied the house facing on to South Street.

Our immediate neighbours were the Arnolds — husband, wife and two children — Pc Arnold being the office man-cum-jailer.

Battle

In later years, my father told me he had fought a long and bitter battle with the Establishment at Headquarters before a bathroom was constructed for our use and he was constantly reminded of the expense which the Standing Joint Committee had incurred for the benefit of the Layzell family!

I do recall a lean-to shed near our back door which housed the "ambulance", which was a two-wheeled apparatus like a coster monger's barrow with a stretcher and straps, which was used for the collection of dead bodies from remote areas in the Division.

Alas, the old stable no

longer housed a horse, but the Divisional Morris 12 car was kept there. The Civilian Chauffeur and handyman, Mr Herd, was my special friend as in those days, I saw little of my own father.

On Court days, the police children were not allowed to play in the yard, but on other days, we did have the opportunity of playing ball with the prisoners through the bars of the exercise yard, which we used to call "The Cage".

In 1933, my father retired and our family moved. I did not return to Fairfield Road until July 1944, when I commenced employment as a Civilian Clerk — later re-christened Cadet Clerk.

By this time, my old home had been converted into offices and I actually worked in the CID office on the first floor, which had formerly been my parents' bedroom and the room where I was born.

The ground floor of our house had been reinforced with baulks of timber and sandbags abounded round the window spaces.

Everyone carried steel helmets and gas masks and the staff consisted of Regular Officers, members of the First Police Reserve, War Reserves and full-time Special Constables. We also had two WAPCs, the forerunners of the Women Police.

Bag-carrier

A lady clerk, Nancy South and I were responsible for the admin, although I quickly aspired to become unofficial "bag-carrier", "prisoner's escort

and general factotum.

Life was certainly not dull at this time — US Service personnel from the 8th and 9th Air Forces, Polish fighter pilots, an SAS Regiment from Mushroom Farm Wethersfield, to say nothing of the Irish Workers at Felsted Sugar Beet factory and internees from Italian and German POW Camps gave the three CID officers plenty and sometimes, very unusual, crimes to solve. In the evenings, the American Military Police (Snowdrops) with very long "night sticks" used the Police Station as their local base.

At the end of the war in 1945, Class "B" Release from the Forces came into operation and amongst other special categories, Police Officers were released early to resume their former occupation. I recall one Lt Colonel and two Flight Lieutenants resuming work as a DC and PCs respectively.

Enlisted

However, National Service continued for many more years and my days as a Cadet were numbered as well. I enlisted in the RAF the following year and it was a further three years before I returned to join the Essex County Constabulary.

Over the years, I have returned to Fairfield Road on a few occasions to attend social functions (or to carry out internal investigations) and whilst the move to more salubrious surroundings is long overdue, I shall always have many happy memories of Braintree Nick — remember, there's an awful lot of history in those buildings.

Tom Layzell,
Spenslow Drive,
Chelmsford.

LAW Letters

A lot to learn as Prague springs into Democracy

IN THE November issue of *The Law* I was interested to read about the three officers who spent some time in Prague. I certainly could have done with their assistance during a very upsetting experience I had when I spent a week in that beautiful city last September.

One night I had unfortunately been locked in the bathroom of my hotel room. It took the hotel staff two hours to release me during which time they were moving freely about my room.

Some days later I discovered my English currency purse had disappeared. I went immediately to the Prague main police station to report the loss, and this was when my troubles really began.

Embassy

The fact I speak English, German and French did not help at all. I eventually managed to persuade the police officer to dial the British Embassy for me by showing him the number in my guide book.

They listened to me and translated back to the officer over the phone. When he heard where it had happened he decided I would have to go to the sub-station, and with one finger he typed something on a scrap of paper, which included the address.

The station proved very difficult to find hidden amongst large blocks of flats.

It all became like something from a film — a large policeman, big black moustache, red shouldertabs, fierce-looking behind a desk. I could see him through a glass door but it was locked.

Whispered

There I was, holding my scrap of paper to the glass but he would not even get up and look at it for a long while.

I eventually got inside the room with the assistance of a helpful Czech man who spoke good English and was concerned for me, but the outcome was negative: he would not accept anything from anyone other than an "official interpreter."

Thank you for your support

Please may I use *The Law* to convey the thanks of myself, Sarah and Steven for all the offers of support and messages of condolence we received from ex-colleagues, both police and civilian, after the death of Pat, my wife, in Chelmsford Hospice recently.

Roger Clough,
Little Tweed,
Chelmer Village.

Fond memories for Dick Bloomfield

MAY I through your column pass on my sincere thanks to everybody who attend my retirement reception on Friday 13 November at HQ bar, or who sent their good wishes to me.

It made a most memorable occasion for my wife Joan and myself which reflected the rewarding and enjoyable career I have had in the Police Service.

I will ensure that I will remain in touch.

R. R. Bloomfield,
Paglesham,
Rochford.

All this had taken most of the day and I had to give up as I was flying home the next morning. I should really like to know whether the three police officers came across that aspect of policing in Prague.

I am a senior citizen, so age made no difference to the treatment I got.

It really was a very traumatic experience indeed — if they want to become 'westernised' they have a lot to learn.

At one point, the kind man who translated for me whispered: "Don't forget, the revolution happened only three years ago and these are still the same people sitting behind the same desks."

I should be interested to hear Pc John Mertl's comments to all this.

Marianne Geernaert,
N. W. Coordinator,
Ipswich Road,
Colchester.

From Chief Inspector Roger Grimwade

AS Pc John Mertl is on leave I am replying to your letter.

I sympathise with your experience in Prague and hope you have recovered.

It is a tribute to all British police officers that representatives of differing ranks have now carried out three visits to Czechoslovakia to advise on policing.

It has taken 150 years for British police officers to establish the relationship we have with the public we serve. In the short time since the dramatic changes in Czech society have occurred it is not surprising there are still instances of 'old style' behaviour. The transition for the Czech police from the strong arm of the state to servants of the public will take time but I hope that the contact with British police officers will speed the process.

I will forward your letter to Pc Mertl on his return from leave.

More charts please?

AS a faithful reader of *The Law* here at County Hall I would like to congratulate you on your excellent publication. I was wondering if you had any plans to produce revised versions of your centre page

spreads "Headquarters Updated" and "Territorial Divisional Update".

We find these most useful as reference aids. However, as they were last produced in 1988 and 1990 respectively, they are now somewhat out of date.

P J WYATT
Acting Group Auditor.

FROM THE EDITORS:
Thank you for your comments, it's good to know you are enjoying reading *The Law*.

We have many requests for such updates, but with only 12 pages a month to include them would mean many other interesting articles would have to be left out.

Often they are out of date almost as soon as they are printed but most importantly the nature of newspaper-quality paper means they quickly fade and yellow if displayed.

We feel it would be more useful for departments to produce their own charts, printed on good quality paper, and provide regular "stick-on" updates.

THANKS FOR HELP FROM MRS BURKE

ON BEHALF of my family I would like to express our gratitude to the members of the Force for their help at the time of John's sudden death. Our thanks also for the beautiful floral contribution.

It was uplifting to see past colleagues at the funeral, a reminder of the happy days in the Force.

Joan Burke,
Wenham Green,
Maldon.

OFF
BEAT

Detective's hunch switches search to Wales

Crimewatch
clue snares
kidnap gangThe Canny
Scot

AS WE approach Hogmanay, here is a tale to delight every Scot.

HQ-based Purchasing Officer Ian Steele was planning a trip to the USA and went into Barclays Bank, Colchester, to purchase £1,000-worth of dollars.

The bank had insufficient dollars and said they would order them for Ian.

However, as he passed Thomas Cooks, Ian saw they had dollars and obtained them there.

Several weeks later he received a call from Barclays telling him to collect his dollars. When he told the bank he no longer needed them, they insisted that, having ordered them, he must take them.

"What happens if I sell them back to you?", he asked. After a quick calculation the bank replied, "We owe you £192."

Leaving the ERM has left one Scotsman with a big grin on his face.

Plagued by
misprints

The Law has got wind of an interesting new custom being promoted by the Mid-Essex branch of the IPA.

In true spirit of international comradeship, our account last month of the branch's Rheinland tour told of a last night presentation.

"As is usual on these occasions, our Chairman presented a plague to our host."

Could it have been locusts, or frogs? And I thought we were friendly with the Germans now.

On the subject of typographical slips, several newspapers carried an interesting quote from our own Chief Constable when he launched an 11-point Code of Ethics for the police service.

These principles, he allegedly said, would be "the basic tenants that will provide the bed-rock of all our actions."

Surely it should be the landlord who adopts these principles? Finally back to IRIS for an amusing mis-print. Police called to a roadside fire near Saffron Walden were warned that "smoke is belowing across the road."

I wonder what it was shouting out. How's about, "Oi, come over here and light my fire?"

IT WAS the BBC's Crimewatch programme which sparked off the dramatic chain of events leading to the capture of the evil kidnap gang which had terrorised Tesco manager James Andrews and his family.

Already the team of detectives led by Det Supt Malcolm Hargreaves had built up a detailed picture of the gang leader, known as "The German".

The breakthrough they were looking for was a name and address, and they were confident that the programme could help. The lines were buzzing from the moment the appeal went out on October 10 last year, and a total of 300 calls flooded in.

Paratrooper

Three of the calls were crucial, leading them to the address in Eltham, South London, where ex-paratrooper John Calton lived with his Irish girlfriend Lorna Burns.

But when police swooped on October 13, Calton had already gone. For five years he had duped Lorna into believing he was German, and she knew nothing of his life of crime.

WHEN Edna Andrews and her two teenage sons were released from their 18-hour kidnap ordeal on August 2, 1991, a massive police operation swung into action.

Led by Det Supt Malcolm Hargreaves, the dedicated team of detectives vowed to track down the evil gang which had terrorised the Colchester family throughout the night, forcing James Andrews to hand over £55,000 from the Tesco Superstore he managed.

JENNY GRINTER describes the exhaustive 15-month investigation, which ended at Chelmsford Crown Court last month when the gang was jailed for a combined total of 65 years.

When Lorna's sister rang to say he fitted the description of a wanted man given on Crimewatch, he told her not to be silly. But the next day he disappeared, after asking Lorna to meet him in a Tesco car park and give him £500 cash because of some trouble at work.

Lorna later found a sawn-off rifle, pump action shotgun, silencer and ammunition in a bin liner stuffed under the sink unit at their home.

Invitation

The next crucial stage in the inquiry was a combination of good police work and the intuition of a detective. Ds Graham Bull, having painstakingly pieced together the clues about "The German," highlighted his love of hill-walking.

The decision was taken to concentrate the hunt on

North Wales. As Ds Bull and a colleague headed for Wales, the Welsh Police were asked to check every hotel for Calton's distinctive Daihatsu four-wheel drive car.

"You guys have been watching too much T.V."

The Essex duo were just ten minutes away when Welsh officers swooped on Calton at a hotel in Capel Curig, Snowdonia. He coolly told them "You guys have been watching too much TV."

But now the hunt switched to the other members of the ruthless gang. Det Supt Hargreaves had decided early on to concentrate the hunt on "The German", in the belief that his arrest would lead

police to the rest of the gang.

Ds Bull was anxious to get hold of Calton's "black book". In it, police informer Lee Fair had told officers, were the phone numbers of all the gang members, written in code.

The book was found in Calton's anorak, and it took fellow Ds Deirdre Nowell just 14 minutes to crack the code and extract the phone numbers of schoolfriends Sean Wain and Robert Moore. They were arrested in Essex two days later.

Adrenalin

Mr Hargreaves said, "It had been the most exciting, adrenalin-charged seven days of my life. But for the excellent work by Graham Bull and Deirdre Nowell we might have lost the whole team."

He was full of praise for the whole inquiry team. "This was a horrendous crime and there was great determination from all the officers to clear it up," he said.

"Crimewatch did crack the job without a doubt. We would have got there, but it would have taken us months and months without 'Crimewatch,'" he added.

Back in August the investigation team had made an



TESCO manager James Andrews relives his horrific ordeal as he faces the press at the end of the five-week kidnap trial. Picture: The Essex Chronicle.

early breakthrough with a tip-off suggesting a couple of Ipswich names.

Shane Snowling, Jack Marsh and Lee Fair were arrested within the first week, and all later admitted conspiracy to rob. Fair had been expecting his share of the cash to arrive in the post which police replaced with a dummy package.

Breakthrough

Fair was arrested as he ran outside believing he had received £2,000.

Although Fair did not know the identities of gang members, over the next week he gave police detailed descriptions and information about their habits.

He described Calton's car, and the dog toys in the back. And it was Fair who helped compile the videofit pictures of the gang used on Crimewatch.

At an early stage, police had linked the kidnap at the Andrews' family home in Colchester with the Barclays Bank robbery at Kelvedon in April 1989, in which assistant manager Simon Culling and his family were held hostage overnight.

There were striking similarities between the two robberies. After the Crimewatch programme last October, Mr Culling's family phoned police to say they were convinced it was the same gang.

Praise for
police team

UP TO a dozen officers are to receive commendations from the Chief Constable for their role in helping to crack the Tesco kidnap case.

Three of the team, Det Supt Malcolm Hargreaves, Det Insp Dick Block and Ds Graham Bull, were also commended by Judge Peter Greenwood.

More than 20 other officers and civilians, including some from North Wales and Suffolk Police will receive letters of congratulations.

Masqueraded

The five-week trial ended at Chelmsford Crown Court last month. Gang leader John Calton, 39, who masqueraded as "The German" Hans Schultze, was jailed for 25 years. Accomplices Sean Wain, 24, and Robert Moore, 23, each received 20 year sentences.

All three had denied, but were convicted of robbing Tesco manager James Andrews of £55,000 from his store in Copdock, near Ipswich, in 1991, and robbing Barclays Bank in Kelvedon two years earlier.

They were cleared of two other robberies in South London in which families of bank managers were taken

hostage and terrorised.

Wain's father Robert, 48, was cleared of handling and conspiracy charges and walked free from the dock.

Calton had previous convictions for a series of building society robberies in London, in which he coolly claimed a bomb was strapped to his waist and demanded cash.

Terrorist

During the investigation detectives discovered an Army report which said paratrooper Calton had no regard for human life and was "better suited as a terrorist than a soldier."

Following the verdicts, Simon Culling and his family, and Mr Andrews, agreed to appear at a Press Conference. As they prepared to get on with their lives, and tried to come to terms with their horrific ordeal, they thanked police for the "wonderful job they have done."

Mr Culling's stepfather, Keith Cullum, praised officers for their integrity and dedication.



BARCLAYS Bank executive Simon Culling (left) and his stepfather Keith Cullum told journalists their night of terror back in April 1989 still seemed like yesterday. And the strain still showed on their faces. Picture courtesy of the Essex Chronicle.

ESSEX POLICE BAND

Christmas Concert

Marconi Sports and Social Club
Beehive Lane, Chelmsford.

Monday 21st December
7.30pm

Tickets available from Band
Secretary

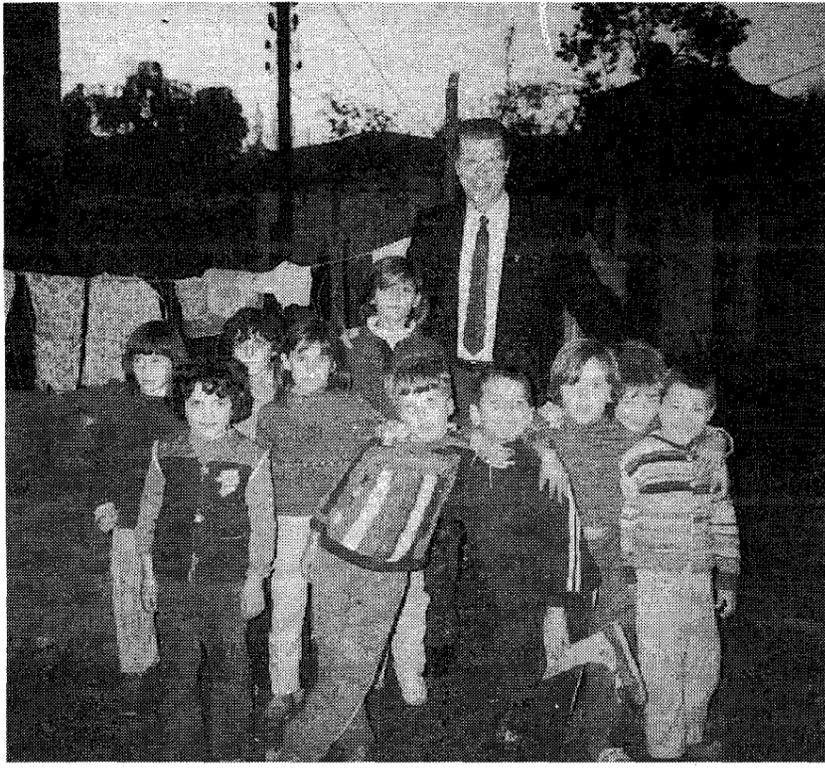
Tuesday 22nd December
7.30pm

Tickets from Band Secretary or
Marconi Club

Top Essex officers join with United Nations team to share their

On the road to democracy

by Jenny Grinter



DCC Peter Simpson meets Albanian children in the village where the group's interpreter lived. The youngsters were intrigued by the camera and squealed with delight when the flash went off.



The vegetable market in Tirana, showing typical Albanian blocks of flats in the background.



Former Essex officer Ralph Crawshaw (left) with Mr Simpson and Mr Barnington in Scanderberg Square, Tirana. The high rise building behind them is their hotel, the Hotel Tirana.

A HAIR-RAISING experience on the crumbling roads of Northern Albania summed up, for Essex Deputy Chief Constable Peter Simpson, the problems facing the police in this emerging democracy.

A heavy goods lorry came thundering towards his car on the treacherous unlit mountain road displaying no lights whatsoever.

"He was travelling by moonlight in a very ancient vehicle," said Mr Simpson. But when he questioned his police guide about the country's traffic law, he was told that, although this was illegal, there were two major problems.

"The lorry was taking goods to a remote village, and the people there would have suffered if it was taken off the road," Mr Simpson explained.

"The second problem was that, even if the driver could afford the lights, he could not buy them anywhere because there are none in Albania. The police have to adopt a pragmatic approach."

KNOW HOW

Mr Simpson travelled to Albania with CID boss, Det Chf Supt Ralph Barrington, under the auspices of the Foreign Office's "Know How" Fund, which aims to help the new democracies of Eastern Europe.

The journey was like taking a step back in time. As they travelled from the airport into the capital Tirana they saw horses and carts, oxen and cattle drawing farm implements, and people labouring in the fields.

A contrasting, but striking sight was of row upon row of concrete pill boxes built by the communist regime to protect Albania from invasion.

It is just two years since the old regime was overthrown and the Democratic Party of Albania, which forms the Government, is struggling for stability against a backcloth of poverty and collapsing infrastructure.

Only in the last two years have private cars been permitted, and the condition of vehicles, standards of driving and state of the roads have combined to produce a high casualty rate and a major headache for the police.

Petrol is scarce, and at the only petrol station Mr Simpson saw in Tirana, the two pumps were set inside a steel cage guarded by an attendant, who



An Albanian feast was served up for the Essex officers at their interpreter's home. Pictured are members of the U.N. team and the Albanian drivers.

collected the money before allowing the motorists to take the exact amount they had paid for.

The buildings in Albania, although of varying architectural styles including Turkish, Greek and Italian, were characterised by their advanced state of disrepair. Much of the population lives in the high rise flats built by the communist regime.

Mr Simpson and Mr Barrington started their journey in Rome, where they met Chief Inspector Gus Jones of Kent Police, who currently works for the National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS) on drugs liaison. He had visited Albania to help the authorities with drug enforcement.

The Albanian Police need training about how to search for drugs, as the country could become a staging post for the movement of drugs across Europe.

For their first five days in Albania, the Essex officers

worked with a multi-national United Nations team advising on human rights.

This group included former Essex Chief Superintendent Ralph Crawshaw, and two officers from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who specialise in providing training on human rights issues.

The group gave a series of presentations to audiences including police, military, representatives of the Ministry of Public Order, and prison staff.

The remaining five days were spent largely at the Police Academy in Tirana, where Mr Simpson and Mr Barrington debated a wide range of policing issues with the country's most senior officers and training staff, and were impressed by the depth of their questioning.

In Albania, the roles of police and military were not clearly defined. The prisons were run by the military and maintenance of public order was a joint

responsibility. Mr Simpson said: "There seemed to be no training between the police and military, including firearm training, and police officers at the Academy were learning skills which would teach to the military, such as orienteering and the use of deployment of land mines."

An obvious problem at the Police Academy was the lack of equipment. The firing range had just one set of ear muffs, the photographic department had only one camera, and the gymnasium just two pairs of boxing gloves.

"They are doing an excellent job, with almost no facilities," Simpson said. The Essex officers hope to help by providing books and journals for the Academy library — including copies of *The Law*.

They also hope the International Police Association (IPA) can help out with equipment for the gymnasium.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms were a further problem for the Albanians. Mr Simpson told they had run out of police uniforms, and some policemen were having to wear military uniforms.

Whilst at the Academy, Essex officers provided advice on information about training methods, conditions of service, entry and promotion standards, the criminal justice system, scenes of crime and use of police dogs.

They also supplied the Albanians with an information pack from the Prison Service, dealing with prisoners' rights and issues such as visits and prisoners' mail.

When they travelled to Burrel in the North of the country they visited a now disused prison, where political prisoners were held by the communists. "It was pretty horrific and would have breached all human rights standards," said Mr Simpson.

While their hosts showed a ke



A woman wearing traditional Northern Albanian dress beside a spring fountain in the mountain region.

"Know How" with Albania



The disused prison at Burrel, where political prisoners were held. The Albanians plan to convert it into a museum, reminding the people of the communist regime.

interest in British policing, and a commitment to develop a system of criminal justice to suit Albanian society, it proved extremely difficult to explain many concepts of our own system.

Mr Simpson explained, "It was difficult for the interpreters to relay the message when they couldn't visualise the concept we were trying to put across."

Phrases such as the Crown Court, Crown Prosecution Service, Sub-Divisions and community policing proved difficult to describe.

FIRST HAND

Mr Simpson believes the best way forward is for a small number of Albanian officers to come to Britain to see our policing methods first hand.

"I think the greatest help we can give them is to train their trainers," he said.

He hopes training can be provided in Essex, possibly as early as March next year.

Despite the country's poverty, Mr Simpson said the Albanians were generous hosts and genuinely welcomed their visit.

As well as dining with the deputy Prime Minister, they were invited to dine at their interpreter's home, with his family and villagers outside the official party.

The family prepared a five-course feast of Albanian delicacies, including a main course of sheep's head stew, and a starter made up of cold chips, liver, veal, boiled egg, tomato and vegetables.



Mr Simpson tests out the range at the Police Academy.



The former Yugoslavian Embassy in Tirana.



Homes in Tirana were in a poor state of repair. Mr Simpson took this picture from his hotel window.

Pat Butcher is Top of the Pops



Here's looking at you lollipop! Pat Butcher on patrol in Mile End. Picture courtesy of Essex County Newspapers.

My Girl Lollipop

NOW there are not many people who can say they have been going to the same school for 22 years, but that's the proud record of Colchester lollipop lady, Pat Butcher, who reckons this is a job that has the others licked!

Mrs Butcher, 51, has become a familiar sight in the streets of Mile End, standing on one particular corner for all of those 22 years. In her time she has seen her young charges grow up and have children of their own.

Not only has she braved

wind, snow and rain, but she once had to hurl her lollipop at a car, which refused to stop at her crossing outside Myland Primary School.

She became a lollipop lady in 1970 when her son Ralph, now in his late twenties, was reluctant to go to school. He later became a teacher at a comprehensive school, so her decision paid off.

Now most drivers know her well and usually stop

long before they see her sign.

Every Christmas she gives each of her youngsters a lollipop, but this Christmas it will be Pat who is receiving a present as she is presented with a long service certificate.

It will be presented by Supt. Brian Legon at Myland Primary School, on December 18 where the police and pupils will pay a special tribute to her.

A cracker of a campaign

A DARING abseiling chase down the side of Colchester Town Hall marked the dramatic start to the town's Christmas Cracker campaign for 1992.

But it was far from plain abseiling for Father Christmas who, away from his usual habitat of smoky chimneys and snow-topped roofs, found himself suspended over the High Street when his beard became trapped in his abseiling gear.

Fortunately, Santa (student Steven Birring) was soon brought down to earth to re-join his fellow Essex University Students whose daring stunts helped launch the campaign.

It is hoped the Christmas Cracker initiative will go a lot more smoothly. Last year

it achieved a 25 per cent reduction in city centre crimes at a time when nationally crime was on the up by about the same amount.

The campaign, which is run by Colchester Crime Check, the police, the borough council, military police and traders, will keep going into the New Year.

More than 100 Specials will be on patrol in the town centre, there will be increased security in council car parks and special measures will be brought in to help prevent traffic chaos as part of the campaign.

Christmas Concert

by

Essex Police Choir

in aid of

Victim Support - Mid Essex

on

19 December 1992 at 7.00pm

Christchurch, Chelmsford

164 New London Road.

£2.50



**Chelmsford 250799
or Police HQ 2457**



Data Protection Officer goes Stateside to develop computer security policy

Burger and micro-chips

Strachan's on the ball

in Chicago

by Jenny Grinter



TOP TEAM: Pc Colin Ball and Strachan show off their trophies.

THE NAME Strachan may be synonymous with success on the soccer field, but another Strachan is definitely on the ball in Essex.

Police dog Strachan, also something of a veteran with six-and-a-half years service, showed he was top dog by winning three major awards at a recent championship trial.

With his handler, Colchester-based Pc Colin Ball, Strachan was the highest-placed German Shepherd dog at the trial which attracted around 150 dogs from all over the country.

Strachan also won trophies for Best Tracker Dog, and best-placed club member at the Icen German Shepherd Dog trials held at Salcott.

In total, Colin and Strachan scored 197.5 marks out of a possible 220, giving them third place overall.

FORCE Data Protection Officer John Black joined more than 1,000 delegates in Chicago last month for a major Computer Security Conference.

With Essex Police's EPICS computer project soon to come on line, John said the knowledge he gained could save him months of work as he compiles a computer security policy for the Force.

"I came back buzzing. The classes were very pertinent to the work I'm doing within Essex Police," he said.

"I hope now to be able to write a computer security policy, develop security awareness programmes and computer security audits."

Viruses

John said computer crime, such as hacking, is prevalent in the United States, and there is a major problem with computer viruses.

He said it was important to prevent people bringing their own software to work, especially computer games which are frequently the source of viruses.

In addition, systems are vulnerable to physical threats such as fire and storm damage.

For example, he said, when the hurricane hit Florida many companies were put out of business by the loss of computer data. A figure quoted at the conference was that 46 per cent of companies hit by computer disaster never open their doors again.

Whilst, hopefully, this fate would not befall Essex Police, there is a need for contingency plans, particularly with the advent of EPICS, to ensure the Force can operate efficiently if computer systems crash.

John said, "What happens in the States today, can happen over here tomorrow." He said the force could be vulnerable to unauthorised access, as it holds sensitive information such as criminal records.

"I am trying to identify the risk areas in advance, and prepare preventative strategies," he explained.

Contacts

Delegates from as far afield as Venezuela, Mexico, Israel, Norway, Saudi Arabia, and the Philippines travelled to Chicago for the two-and-a-half day conference.

Companies represented included Pepsi Cola, Lockheed Missiles and

Siemens. John said, "I have made contacts with people from many other agencies, whom I can seek advice and information from."

The 19th Annual Computer Security Conference was held in the Chicago Hilton Hotel, a massive complex taking up a whole block on 8th Street and South Michigan Avenue.

It has 27 floors, 16 lifts, 30 classrooms and conference rooms, plus swimming pool, gym, sauna and a running track on the eighth floor.

John, who had never visited the States before, said "I was overawed by the size. But the people were friendly and helpful, and made me feel very welcome."

His hectic programme involved ten classes, which he had chosen in advance from a list of more than 100, and three general sessions. In the evenings there were exhibi-



John Black

tions, and trade stands selling security products.

"I didn't have much time to see the city, but I did go out to find the biggest hamburger possible," he laughed. "It was the experience of a lifetime, and I certainly gained an awful lot from it," he said.

John has been asked to give a presentation on Data Protection and Computer Security as it relates to the police in the UK to next year's conference, which will be held in California.

Medal for Ex-Dc



Colin Wiggins (left) receives the BEM from Lord Braybrooke. Picture courtesy of the Essex Chronicle.

RETIRED Essex officer Colin Wiggins received the British Empire Medal from the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Lord Braybrooke, last month.

Ex-Dc Wiggins, whose son Pc Chris Wiggins was tragically killed on traffic duty on the M25 in October, was honoured for his dedicated work in the criminal intelligence field.

Mr Wiggins joined the force in 1966 and served at Benfleet before his flair for administration saw him being transferred to HQ.

His meticulously maintained and comprehensive records soon built up his reputation, and he was seconded to New Scotland Yard, where he became an international authority in certain criminal intelligence work. He retired in the summer.

Chorus Lines

THE EVENING of Saturday, December 5 saw the first of the choir's Christmas concerts in the picturesque setting of East Mersea Church.

Singing by the light of candles and oil lamps added to the seasonal atmosphere. Profits from the concert are going to the Crossroads Care Attendants Scheme.

Our next concerts are at St Botolph's Church, Colchester on December 15, at Christchurch, Chelmsford, on Saturday, December 19 and at the Brentwood Centre on the following day.

With a well deserved break over Christmas, the choir will next meet on Tuesday, January 12 to get the New Year off on the right note.

Roger Grimwade

ACPO Chief launches 11-point Code of Ethics

ESSEX Chief Constable John Burrow has launched a police Code of Ethics aimed at restoring public confidence in the service.

In his role as President of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), he introduced an 11-point draft statement spelling out the ethical principles of policing.

These, he said, would be "the basic tenets that will provide the bed-rock of all our actions."

Discretion

They include a promise to be fair and impartial, to make proper use of discretion, to uphold fundamental human rights and to display respect and compassion towards every individual.

They further commit officers to accept personal

responsibility for their own acts and omissions, and actively draw attention to malpractice by colleagues.

Commitment

Addressing a "Quality of Service" seminar at the Police Staff College, Bramshill, last week, Mr Burrow said, "We need to take forward a commitment to change that comes from the heart and not just the noticeboard."

Mr Burrow admitted there might be some cynicism and suspicion of the statement, but stressed it was part of a continuing commitment to take the service forward and change its culture.

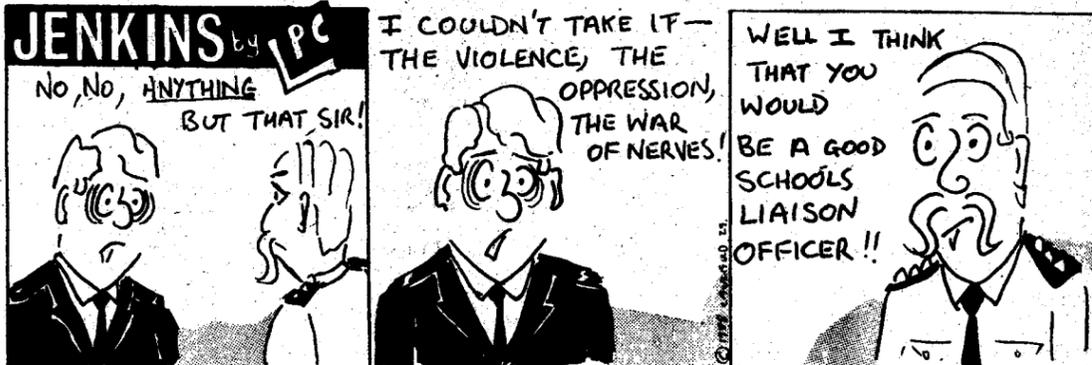
During the 1980s, there was an increasing realisation that police relationships with the public, particularly certain

minority groups, were deteriorating, he said.

"We set out together to address declining public confidence, a growing perception of remoteness from parts of the community and a recognition of the need to take stock and re-strike the balance between our service and enforcement roles," he said.

The draft code will be discussed by all ranks, before a final agreed statement is published.

However, the Police Federation has described it as unnecessary. National Chairman Alan Eastwood said the existing oath of office and police discipline code rendered it superfluous.



"There are no losers in equal opportunities - we all benefit"

FIRST AMONG EQUALS?



Chief Constable John Burrow presents one of the Fun Day charity cheques.

"THERE are no losers in Equal Opportunities, at the end of the day we all benefit," says Ian Watson, who is just settling behind his new desk after being appointed as the Force's first full time Equal Opportunities Officer.

Carlisle-born and bred, his last position was working as Equal Opportunities Officer for electricity company Norweb. Before that came a spell at ICI Fibres and a string of academic qualifications centred mainly in management and industrial relations.

But before writing him off as a talking textbook, he is ready for a few surprises. Despite his fresh looks, he has nine years military service under his belt, and his approach to Equal Opportunities is every bit as action-packed as his soldiering once was.

Of the many problems he faces during his work, he admits one of the first will be to tackle people's misconceptions about the role of the Equal Opportunities Officer itself.

"There is a lot of confusion, for a lot of people Equal Opportunities is only equated with feminism or racism and recruit-

by Paul Dunt

ment and selection procedures — but it's much more than that," he said.

"I'm not just here to provide an interpretation of Equal Opportunities Law, but to be a catalyst of change. It is my belief that true equality of opportunity can only be achieved if equal opportunities is built into all our human resource activities."

Participation

"An essential part of this process is the active participation and commitment of every individual in this organisation. This point is crucial as equal opportunities is for and about every single member of Essex Police," he added.

Coming from outside the Force, he said that compared to many other commercial organisations Essex Police is ahead of the game on equal opportunities, both in the systems it is adopting and the attitudes of senior management.

But, he warned, there was still a long way to go and felt that in the light of recent equal opportunities cases such as those of Pc Singh and Alison Halford, the police as a whole were

not perceived as equal opportunities employers.

Yet the benefits at the end of the day would be enormous, he made clear. "It does involve a significant cultural change going against the flow of tradition and history — people don't like change because they fear it," he said.

"The more I study business and human resource management in organisations it still amazes me that people make business-related decisions on other people based on stereotypical views and preconceptions."

"It just doesn't make much managerial sense to make subjective decisions," he said. "If anyone tells me a woman can't do this or that, that is a lot of rubbish. At the end of the day the decision should always be made on the person's ability to do the job."

Positive

And Mr Watson, who is a keen backpacker in his spare time, also said he was against positive discrimination. "I'm not in favour of positive or reverse discrimination and as far as I know nor are any senior managers."

But he made it clear there was a need for positive action and if he saw an area the Force could improve on he would do so.

In forming the force's equal opportunities strategy, Mr Watson will be consulting with management, the Federation, trade unions and staff.

But in order to 'feel the pulse' of the organisation, he will be carrying out an equal opportunities 'health check' in January involving a series of personal

interviews, a questionnaire and invited discussion on equal opportunities issues.

In the meantime if you would like to discuss any aspect of equal opportunities do not hesitate to phone him on (0245) 491491 ext 2242, or write to: Ian Watson, Equal Opportunities, Police HQ, PO Box No 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA.

Alarm bells silent after threat

A SHARP-SHOOTING boss of a Brentwood car and motorcycle parts company has come up with a sure-fire way of stopping the number of false alarms recorded against his security system.

When HQ Crime Prevention wrote to Belvin (UK) Ltd recently to bring to their attention the number of false alarms received from their premises, officers were amused at the firm's less-than-usual reply!

"Of the four false alarms this year two were caused by birds which we were unaware of being in the warehouse at the close of play and the other two were unfortunate brain fade with our staff who left an inner door unlocked which subsequently blew open during the night triggering the alarm," wrote Managing Director Tony Beesley.

"We have corrected the first problem by purchasing a suitable air rifle and will correct the second problem in the same way should it happen again!" he added!

FUN DAY TOTAL TOPS £20,000

THE 1992 Fun Day raised more than £20,000 for charity, bringing the total amount of money raised since Fun Days began in 1987 to an incredible £174,819.

Despite the recession, the crowds still turned up in their thousands for the Force's annual extravaganza and this month 23 charities were each presented with cheques for £450 by Chief Constable, John Burrow.

Apart from the £10,350 handed over to the charities, £1,469 has already been distributed to worthy causes and the charities themselves raised £9,000 on the day, making a grand total of £20,819.

Effort

"Without them there would be no Fun Day — their efforts are much appreciated," he said.

The charities benefiting from this year's Fun Day were as follows: (The list includes the divisions which nominated them.)

- League of Friends of the Marillac, Grays;
- Little Highwood, Grays;
- Thurrock Womens Refuge, Grays;
- Elizabeth Venture Playscheme, Southend;
- Southend Old Peoples Welfare Committee, Southend;
- Southend Disabled in Action Sports Club, Southend;
- Barrow Farm Riding for the Disabled, Inspectorate;
- St Christopher Sports Club for the Handicapped, Support;
- Basildon and District Special Olympic Group, Basildon;

Support

Fun Day Committee Chairman, Chief Inspector David Bright, said he was delighted at the amount raised and praised the public's support in what were hard times: "The public, as ever, have been fantastic," he said.

"Although money is tight they still dug deep into their pockets to help our charities and we are very grateful to them.

"CI Bright also praised the efforts of dedicated officers, civilians, specials and volunteers who all worked extremely hard to make the Fun Day possible.

Basildon Toy Library and Saturday Club, Basildon;

Canvey Island Senior Citizens Association, Canvey Island;

Ada Cole Memorial Stables, Harlow;

Huw Johnson Club for Handicapped Children, Harlow;

St Clare West Essex Hospice Care Trust, Harlow;

St Clare's Day Hospice, Chelmsford;

Edith Borthwick School, Chelmsford;

National Deaf Children's Society, Chelmsford;

Harwich Multiple Sclerosis Society, Colchester;

Hamilton Lodge, Colchester;

The Windsor School, Colchester;

Kingsdown Adventure Playground, CID;

League of Friends of Chelmsford Training Centre, CID;

The Children's Centre, Moulsham Grange, Management.

The main winner of this year's Fun Day charity lottery was Wally Thurgood who won a 14 day Mediterranean Cruise for two. Second prize went to Mrs Jones of Romford who will enjoy a mini cruise to Holland for two people.

Clue-up for kids



Looking for clues in Grays CID Admin.

OK! Any clues as to what's been going on here? Looks like it was Colonel Mustard in Grays CID Admin with the candlestick!

Or maybe it was Mrs Peacock in the Superintendent's office with the revolver?

In fact this colourful bunch all work in Grays CID Admin (or should I say the murder scene?) and donned their Cluedo outfits for the day to raise money for Children in Need.

And the clued-up team tracked down plenty of money for the worthy cause. With a raffle, home-made produce for sale and 20p charged for every crime report number required that day, they raised £205.

"We would like to thank everyone for their support," said Kate Bryant, who became Mrs Peacock for the day. "It was very much appreciated.

The rest of the characters were:- Miss Scarlet (Anne Ellis), Col Mustard (Gina Brymer), Prof Plum (Angela Low), Parlour Maid (Louise Outram), Undertaker (Terry Kimmings), Mrs White (Sandra Luff), Rev Green (Diane Steele).



THE BOROUGH MEN
THE POLICE IN SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 1840-1969

'The Borough Men' is now available from the Essex Police Museum, £1.50 including postage and package. Cheques should be made payable to the 'Essex Police Museum'. Further information from Fred Feather on (0245) 254395



I.P.A. NEWS

MID-ESSEX BRANCH
Fred Dyson

Mid-Essex I.P.A. goes to the dogs

WE all went to the dogs on the evening of 13th November, when 48 members, wives and friends visited Romford Dog stadium.

Having previously booked into the restaurant we settled down at our tables overlooking the race track.

We were served with a three course meal during which time we were able to watch the twelve races from 8pm to 11pm.

For many this was the first time at a dog race track. From a programme, we were able to select our dogs and place our bets which were collected by young ladies and any winnings were brought back to our tables.

Hare

The dogs were paraded before each race and there was much excitement as the hare set off, electronically controlled around the track, eventually releasing the dogs to try to catch the "hare".

All eyes were on the dog on which individuals had placed their bets, hoping their particular dog would be a winner. It was nice to know that some of our members were successful.

Everyone spoke well of the evening and seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed it — even the losers.

Our thanks go out to our member Bill Fancourt who organised this evening.

Venue

I am sure this must be a venue again, at a later date.

May I take this opportunity of thanking all members, wives and friends who have supported the Branch in attending events throughout the year to make it a success.

I sincerely hope 1993 will be another successful year and look to non-active members to give their support.

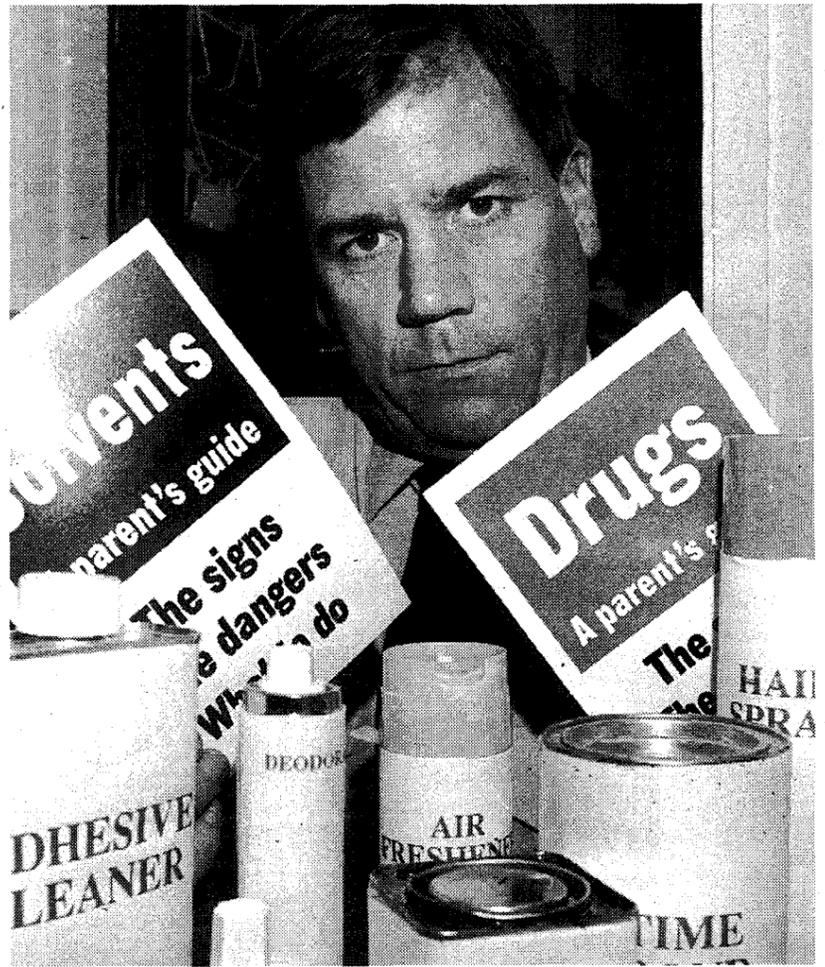
May I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Forthcoming Events

Friday 22nd January - Branch Annual General Meeting at HQ.

Friday 12th February - Our Annual Dinner at the "New Times Inn" Tiptree. All those interested please contact Bill Fancourt on Chelmsford 225569.

Pc gives drugs advice



Neighbourhood Beat Officer Pc Steve Simmans gives drugs advice to parents. Picture courtesy of the MALDON AND BURNHAM STANDARD

RETIREMENTS

The Force extends its good wishes to the following officers who are retiring and thank them for their many years of service.

De G. A. Wass, 13.12.92, Central/Halstead CID, 26 yrs 6 days.

Pc B. C. Stanbridge, 13.12.92, Sth/Hadleigh, 30 yrs 1 day.

Pc D. B. Foster, 20.12.92, Support/Harlow Tr 30 yrs 92 days.

Det Ch Insp T. Scotchmer, 31.12.92, HQ CID, 30 yrs, 194 days.

Pc A. Flaherty, 03.01.93, S.E./Southend, 10 yrs 61 days.

De B. W. West, 16.01.93, HQ CID, 30 yrs.

Ds D. L. Conner, 30.01.93, HQ CID, 30 yrs 15 days.

Pc T. D. Popkin, 31.01.93, SE/Rayleigh, 18 yrs 233 days.

Pc Sandra Hilton, 06.02.93, SE/Southend, 30 yrs.

Pc K. D. Wilkins, 07.02.93, NE/Colchester, 31 yrs 147 days.

Mr K. C. Drain, 31.10.92, Process Server, Brentwood, 8 yrs.

NARPO Notes

ONCE AGAIN the time of year has arrived when I must sit down and write the final column prior to Christmas.

I suppose it is as good a time as any to reflect back on the year and look at what has gone by and indeed to also look forward to the challenge ahead.

Nationally NARPO has had a very busy time. We have seen a change in Secretary with Alec Faragher retiring from the position after many years of sterling service and his place taken by David Bloxham who comes to NARPO after serving for many years on the Joint Central Committee of the Police Federation.

To Alec and his good lady we say thank you and wish you well for the future.

To David and his good

lady we extend a warm welcome and wish you well in the post. Knowing David as I do I can assure members that we remain in safe hands.

The present financial climate with its very low inflation rate does not bode well for future pension increases in 1993. I recall saying that somewhere in the region of three per cent might be on the cards, I hope I am right but it looks ominous at the moment.

The feared rise in NARPO subscriptions I am pleased to say did not occur. There was a considerable amount of debate on the subject at the Annual Conference, culminating in the defeat of all motions seeking increases.

This means subscriptions remain the same for 1993, however I feel sure that we have not heard the least of

this item and that it will be on the agenda at Blackpool again in September.

Membership of the various branches in Essex has remained steady and although sadly we have lost some good friends during the year, we have new members to whom we extend a hearty welcome.

On the social side we have had the Force Garden Party which was again well attended, the Comrades spring buffet and annual luncheon and our coach outings, all of which have been very pleasant activities.

I am pleased to say that the proposed trip to Cadbury World on Saturday April 10, 1993 has proved to be so popular that I have had to book two coaches, one of which is full and the other at present half full.

by Doug Rampling

If anyone would like to come along on this trip please give me a ring at Headquarters Ext 2215 and I will let you have full details.

All those already booked should have had confirmation from me that their seats are reserved.

So there it is. Nothing now remains but to strengthen our resolve to maintain the aims of our association to ensure that the members receive the service that is expected from it.

I will endeavour to do all I can to see that this is achieved.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me throughout year and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy, peaceful and prosperous New Year.

MOULSHAM-BASED Pc Steve Simmans found parents were anxious to know more about drugs when he mounted a series of displays in Chelmsford, Maldon and South Woodham Ferrers.

As Chelmsford Sub-Division's response to European Drug Prevention Week last month, Pc. Simmans set up displays giving advice about solvent abuse and drugs that youngsters might encounter.

Display sites included the foyer at County Hall, Asda at Chelmer Village, the High Chelmer shopping precinct and the new Meadows Shopping Centre.

Hundreds of people stopped to talk to Pc. Simmans, who had informa-

tive leaflets as well as badges, stickers and balloons to hand out.

He explained, "Children are taught about drugs in schools, but there appears to be a lack of information being given out to adults."

Father-of-three Pc. Simmans added, "Drugs do exist in schools, and I should imagine most parents are worried about them."

His eye-catching display featured a range of household solvents which can be sniffed, including correcting fluids, dry cleaning fluids, aerosols such as hairspray, air freshener or deodorant, and various glues.

Pc. Simmans said, "The idea of the display was to bring to the attention of parents the dangers that there are — the types of drugs on offer, especially so-called designer drugs, the signs to detect drug abuse, how to deal with it and the services and groups available to give help."

"The emphasis was that the police are not just out to catch people, we want to help with education."

As a result of the displays, Pc. Simmans has now been booked for several talks on drugs to schools, youth groups and community groups.

OBITUARY

Ex Pc John Burke, 7.11.92, aged 69 years retired 1976.

MARKET PLACE... MARKET PLACE...

ENGLISH LAKES, Keswick. Four-bed cottage. Parking available all year. Keith Davey, (06973) 20721

PINBALL MACHINE, the real thing. Coin operated or free play. Excellent Christmas present. Beats video games. Only £200. G. Radley (0245) 252007.

HILLMAN Super Minx, automatic, 1965. Only 22,000 miles. Genuine. One recorded owner. Original 1965 log book. Unmarked interior. Bargain £995. G. Radley (0245) 252007.

CORNWALL, Polperro. Chalet. Sleeps 4/5. Heated indoor and outdoor pools. Club. All facilities inc. £55 to £195 pw. Craig Bradley (0279) 653570 or (0279) 757601.

OLYMPUS OM20 SLR

Camera. Complete outfit. 58mm, 28mm and 200mm Lenses. Motor Drive. Electric Flash. All VGC. £120 ono. Pc Toms (0799) 523530.

ONE BEDROOM House in Boreham. Fully fitted bedroom. All kitchen appliances to remain. Recently decorated and carpeted. Communal gardens. Parking. £36,500. Sandra (0245) 467998.

MOTOR HOME Ford Advantage. 1984. Four berth. Shower. TV. Central heating. Cooker, Fridge, Awning, Sink. Good Cond. £4,900. De Ailwood, Walton CID ext 4693. BMW R80. MOT, Tax, VGC. £900 ono. T. Storrar. (0245) 74225.

CLARINET. Buffet make in

excellent condition. Strong Lockable case. £150. Ps Piper (0621) 815544.

KEEJAY BABYSEAT. Excellent condition. 0 months to 3 years. Recliner or upright facility. Additional baby nest fits inside for younger baby. Colour grey, blue, pink. Reasonable offer accepted. Anita Parsons (0702) 293229.

THREE BED SEMI. Ex County House. Gas fires. No GCS. Fires, Curtains, Carpets to remain. Garage. Good decorative order. Basildon Pc Pearmain. (0268) 541816.

CINE TO VIDEO. Transfer your favourite Cine Films onto Video cassette. Your choice of music added. Kevin Bristow. (0245) 328730.

SOUTH OF FRANCE. Large mobile home. Toilet. Shower. Situated between St Tropez and Cannes. Microwave oven. Barbeque, sunbeds. Two swimming pools on site. Disco. Tennis. From £25 per person pw. Stewart Calligan. (0430) 441709.

WADEBRIDGE, Cornwall. Large four-bedroomed house built 1984. Excellent cond. close to golf courses, coast. Wonderful views, carpets, oil heating. £126,000 ono. Pc Thomson, Chelmsford Crime Unit (0245) 491212.

DRUMS Five piece kit. Paiste cymbals. Hi-Hat seat. Nice sound. Good condition. £250. Pc Caulfield (0787) 477537.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and Rank

Station Home Tel

Date Signed



Eastern Counties title challenge continues despite cup upset

Defeat at Dagenham for Essex braves

GOLFERS BUILD CHARITY LINKS



ACC Jim Conlan and members of the Force Golf Society (right) present cheques to representatives of the Chelmsford and District Kidney Unit Appeal, the Peto Andras Centre, the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust and the Essex Badger Protection Group.

ESSEX Police golfers have presented £2,500 to local charities, following their successful European golf tournament earlier this year.

On Friday December 4, Golf Society President, Assistant Chief Constable Jim Conlan, presented cheques for £750 each to representatives of the Peto Institute, Hungary; the Chelmsford and District Kidney Unit Appeal and the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust. A cheque for £250 was presented to the Essex Badger Protection Group.

The presentation took place in the bar at Police Headquarters. In May, PEGS (The Police of Essex Golf Society) hosted police teams from France, Denmark and Holland for the three-day event, aimed at building both sporting and social links with neighbouring European forces. The event was funded by commercial sponsorship and it was decided that any money remaining should be distributed to charities.

ESSEX Police were up against it in the first round of the Essex Presidents Shield at May and Baker. Three of the police team failed to get to Dagenham and they took the field with only 12 players.

by Mike Hall

The police held their own for the first 30 minutes, and missed two penalty chances to go ahead.

Finally May and Baker were able to over-run the fierce cover tackling, and Jacobs went over in the corner.

This was followed by a similar effort from Scanthorn, making the score 10-0 to May and Baker at half-time.

May & Baker 22 Essex Police 5

In the second half the police were again ferocious in defence, but eventually gave away a soft try. This was followed by a short penalty try under the posts from Wilson, which was converted by Scanthorn.

The police became adventurous in defeat, which led to the try of the game. A tap penalty was taken from the police 22, every player on the team handled the ball, and eventually Simon Payne crossed the line.

This was a game played in a fine competitive spirit, and left the police wondering what might have been with a full side.

Meanwhile, the police side continues to challenge

for the league title in the Eastern Counties League.

Storming

The team's unbeaten run continued with a 31-10 victory over Stanford le Hope, despite the police fielding a makeshift side. The police had a storming start, with two tries in the first ten minutes, scored by Lowe and Schwartz.

Despite a complacent period, during which the police allowed a soft interception try, they came back in the second half to overwhelm their opponents.

The police pack established dominance, taking seven scrums against the head, and the back line had a field day. A try from Payne, and two more from Nigel Lowe resulted.

Two penalties from Crighton-Smith, and a second try for Stanford le Hope completed the scoring.

The following week Essex Police maintained their unbeaten record, but only just, on a wet miserable day at Springfield.

They scraped a 3-3 draw against Swaffham with a late penalty by Simon Payne. Credit goes to Swaffham whose youngsters were able to snuff out the flair in the police team.

Despite dominating most tight situations and getting superb ball from second phase, the police conceded a penalty in the first half which was neatly converted by Robinson.

The police turned the screw in the second half, and spent 35 of the 40 minutes in the Swaffham half. With some key players missing because of duty commitments the police were unable to convert this pressure into points.

Payne's penalty levelled the score, and the police team's frustration was summed up when a snap drop goal attempt from Rawden came off the crossbar on the stroke of full time.

Quagmire

Essex Police 2nd fifteen had a good match against Braintree on a quagmire at Notley School. The first score came from Mark Dinsdale who surged over the line from a loose Maul.

A penalty followed, converted by Mike Hall. The police then conceded an excellent try which belied the conditions, with the ball being tossed around skilfully by the Braintree backs.

The police came back with a power try from Steve Wynn that was converted from the touchline by Mark Britton, making the final score 15-5.

BOWLED OVER BY STRONG WIND

by Ray Little

OUR bowlers had a reasonably good season outdoors in 1992.

The Force Singles Championship was won by Tom Sanderson of Grays, and the Force Pairs winners were Dick Croft & Tony Kirvell, also of Grays Division.

These bowlers moved on to represent Essex Police in the PAA Championships held at the end of July in Kent, unfortunately all were defeated in the preliminary rounds.

The Force had three Triples and a Four entered in the SE Region PAA Competition, having won through to the semi

final we unfortunately drew Hertfordshire away in both.

However, honours were even on the day, Essex won the Four and were narrowly beaten in the Triples.

The Four then met Surrey in the final, held at Guildford Bowls Club in August.

Conditions on the day were tricky with a strong cross wind blowing, after a close match Surrey won by three shots.

Essex will be hosting the final of this competition in August 93.

We played only three club matches outdoors during 1992, all resulted in wins for the opposition.

The 92/93 Indoor season is now under way, we have played one club game, this was against Essex County Indoor Club at Westcliff, we were unfortunate to lose by three shots.

A number of fixtures have already been arranged for 1993, and bowlers interested in playing for the Force please drop a line to the captain, Sgt Ray Little, Basildon Police Station, stating experience, club etc.

Don't forget "Little rings on the inside."

FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION... FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION... FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION...

Christmas Lottery Draw

THE result of this month's lottery is as follows:

£1,500, Cons Simon Norris, Saffron Walden; £700 Mrs Ronald Parks, Southend; £300 Insp Iain Logan, Seconded Staff; £200 Cons Paul Sheffield, Mounted Section, Southend; £100 Cons Ian Wilding, South Ockendon.

The following will receive a Christmas Hamper:

Cons John Seavers, Basildon; DSgt Bruce Firmin, Harwich; Sgt Peter Smith, Colchester; Sgt Stephen Nuttall, Grays; ACC James Conlan, Headquarters;

DCons Christopher Arnold, Billericay; IW James Webster, Laindon; Cons Mark Umbreville, Maldon; Christene Evans, Firearms

Headquarters; Cons Raymond Stannard, Chelmsford; Cons Grahame Bell, Saffron Walden; DCons David White, Corringham.

WEST END SHOWS

FOLLOWING successful trips to Starlight Express and Cats, a great deal is on offer for "Buddy", which is based on the life story of Buddy Holly and features most of his music. A really great show!

Essex Police Sports Club have 100 tickets reserved for the best seats in the house, normally £26, which we are able to sell to Sports Club members at the great price of £12 per seat for the evening performance of Wednesday, March 10, 1993.

Reserve your seats by contacting PS Peter Layzell or SOA Carol Wilkins at Burnham on Crouch, Tel 0621 782121 or Iris 89 or Fax 0621 783052.

CHANCE TO JOIN

ANY retired police officer or civilian who would like to join the Force Sports Association and Lottery can now have the deductions taken direct from their pension by County Hall.

If you wish to join, please fill in the attached form and return it to the Force Sports Secretary at HQ.

Pensioners who have already joined should complete a form and send it once their current subscriptions expire.

APPLICATION TO JOIN THE FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

To: Constable C. J. Jacob, Secretary, Force Sports Association, Headquarters.

Date:

I wish to make an application to join the Essex Police Force Sports Association and my Divisional Sports Club.

NAME:
(including Rank and No. where appropriate)

ADDRESS:

PAYROLL NUMBER:

Signature

APPLICATION TO JOIN THE FORCE LOTTERY

To: Constable C. J. Jacob, Secretary Force Sports Association, Headquarters.

Date:

I would like to join the Essex Police Force Lottery. My name and address is:

PAYROLL NUMBER:

I understand that tickets are priced at 50pence each and that the maximum number of tickets that I can have is 16.

I would like to have: TICKETS

Signature

LAW SPORT... LAW SPORT... LAW SPORT...

LAW SPORT... LAW SPORT... LAW SPORT...

Running with the stars



CHARITY COPPERS: International runner Eammon Martin gives a few tips to the force's marathon team. Picture courtesy of the Evening Echo

TOP British distance runner Eammon Martin has been giving our boys in blue a few hot tips as they get in training for the London Marathon.

For the third year running, a team of Essex bobbies will be tackling the gruelling 26-mile course, and raising thousands of pounds for charity.

Eammon, who represented Britain on the track in the Barcelona Olympics, will also be running the NutraSweet-sponsored marathon — although the Essex team don't expect to see more of him than a clean pair of heels as he challenges the front runners.

But the Essex lads will

be joined by a distinguished runner, although he is better known for his running between the wickets.

England and Essex cricket captain Graham Gooch has promised to run with the team, along with former Essex player Alan Lilley and club physio Keith Tomlin.

Ambitious

The team hopes their star-studded line up, which also includes guest runner John Guy, crime reporter of the Evening

Echo, will help them reach their ambitious fund-raising target of £10,000.

The Echo is helping to promote the appeal for their chosen charity, the Southend Cancer Unit.

The choice is particularly poignant, because of the death from cancer of our own officer Peter Walker. Det. Insp. Maurice Brazier, who has recently been given the all-clear after a year-long fight against cancer, will be running with the team of bobbies.

For more details, see next month's edition of *The Law*.

FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION



Christine Evans with her Christmas hamper

IT'S GOING to be a bumper Christmas in Christine Evans' household after she scooped one of a dozen festive hampers up for grabs in this month's Force Lottery.

"It was a lovely surprise, I've never won anything anywhere before," said Christine, who works in Firearms Licensing at HQ.

Fortunately she had not yet done any Christmas shopping, so the £150 hamper was right on time, joked Christine who has worked at HQ for three-and-a-half years, but who only joined the lottery three months ago.

The full information on this month's lottery can be found on page 11, complete with the other lucky hamper winners.

New chapter in Knights' history

FOLLOWING the outstanding success of the events of 1992, membership of 'The Blue Knights' International Motor Cycle Club has grown to such an extent that there are now enough members to form two new chapters.

Ian Hancock, a DC from Sussex, has taken up the challenge, and on Sunday, 1st November, at Brighton Police Station, the inaugural meeting of 'Blue Knights (England 2)' was held.

The turnout, despite horrendous weather, was tremendous. Officers from all over the south of England were there to show support.

In order to comply with the rules of the club, various officers were elected. It was decided that because of the large area that the new club covered, the three required 'Directors' should be drawn from the outlying counties.

To that effect yours truly was elected to the post of 'Regional Director'.

Whilst our allegiance will be to Ian, it was felt that in order for the club to prosper still further, 'local' events should be organised, and efforts are under way to secure a venue for a bi-monthly meet.

Membership of the club entitles officers, both serving and retired, to attend all rallies organised by other 'Blue Knights' Chapters. Projected events for 1993 look tremendous.

The European calendar has just been published, and England 2 are planning a series of 'cross-channel' rides.

If you are interested in promoting the image of motorcycling, or simply love riding motorcycles, contact me and I will fill you in on how to join us.

Dave Knight
(Harlow, North West Division).

Croker Cup

Sea Angling
The Sea Angling championships were held on Thursday, 19th November at Bradwell, with the following results: (1st) South East, 6 Croker Cup points; (2nd) Central 4; (3rd) North East 2; (4th) South 1; (5th) Headquarters 1; (6th) South West 1.

North West were not represented at these championships.

Football

The Croker Cup Football Final was played between North East and South on Monday, 9th November, which was won by North East 4-1. Six Croker Cup points to North East, 4 to South.

Croker Cup Race Walk - 1993

The first event in the Croker Cup for 1993 will be the Race Walk. This will be held at Essex University, Colchester on Sunday, 17th January, starting at 11am. The men's event is 15 kilometres and the ladies 5 kilometres.

Canoeing

On Saturday, 12th September, Cons Paul Anderson, Grays represented England at the Liffey International Canoe Race, Dublin and obtained 1st place in the Canadian Single class.

FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 12 January
2.30pm

Conference Room, HQ
All members welcome

Items for the agenda by 1 January



NEWS EXTRA... NEWS EXTRA... NEWS EXTRA...

Festive thieves steer clear of special offer!

AN EYE-CATCHING Crime Prevention Poster could mean the writing's on the wall for festive shoplifters in Basildon and Thurrock.

When the Basildon Crime Prevention Panel put on their thinking caps for this year's anti-theft campaign, Chief Inspector Dave Hudson came up with a real Christmas cracker that's proving as popular as hot-cakes!

The witty poster has captured the public's and retailers' imagination to such an extent that an initial print run of 200 has already been upped to 400 and hundreds more have been specially printed for Thurrock Lakeside.

The real beauty of them is they can be 'customised' to use at any time of the year in any division or for other types of crime added Pc Williams, Basildon Crime Prevention Officer, who said the cost of the initial run had been met by the Panel with the second batch kindly donated by printers Screen House Limited.

After Christmas the poster campaign will be evaluated to see what effect it has had on crime. For more information please contact Pc Ray Williams on Ext 2957.

SPECIAL

A FREE RIDE IN A POLICE CAR

FOR ALL OUR SHOPLIFTERS

Basildon Crime Prevention & Safety Panel

THE LAW

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