



New shifts update — see page 3

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

December 1993

No 244

Masked burglar stabbed to death

A JEWELLER who killed a burglar with a knife after disturbing him in his home has said he is lucky to be alive.

33-year-old Dean Davis was visiting his parent's house in Wickford when he was confronted by raider Patrick Halcrow who was carrying a knife, CS gas and a pickaxe handle.

After being sprayed by CS gas, and fearing he was he was going to be further attacked by the intruder, Mr Davis, is understood to have stabbed the burglar while acting in self-defence.

Mr Davis, who is single, said he was 'extremely shocked and distressed by the events.'

'While I regret the death of Mr Halcrow, I believe that I am fortunate to be alive,' he said.

Mr Davis was arrested and released without charge. A file on the case will now be sent to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Det Supt Graham Furnival, who is heading the case said he did not consider it appropriate to charge Mr Davis at this point.

'We had to look at this case in isolation,' he said. 'The two men were facing each other in a confined space. CS gas was used. Mr Davis was obviously very frightened. He is a reasonable man. What would a reasonable man or woman do in that situation? These are the circumstances we had to consider.'

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'He kept his sense of humour right until the end, he was inspiration to us all'

MAURICE LOSES HIS BRAVE BATTLE

Victoria joins the high flyers!



SOARING SANTA: The winning Christmas card drawn by eleven-year-old Victoria Nunn from Bishops School, Chelmsford.

A FESTIVE Police Christmas is on the cards thanks to talented eleven-year-old, Victoria Nunn.

For the Chelmsford youngster who attends Bishops School, is flying high after winning first prize in a competition to design a Christmas card for the Air Support Unit, based at Boreham.

Victoria's card beat more than 300 entries from 12 junior schools in the Chelmsford area. Supt Mick Hicks said standards were high and it was a difficult task for the airborne officers to choose a winner.

The competition was organised by Junior Schools Liaison Officer Pc Ron Burrell and Pc Bob Hawkins of the Air Support Unit, and Victoria's idea has now featured on all the cards sent out this year.

Second place in the competition went to eleven-year-old Carol French from Beehive Lane Primary School. Sally Beale, also

eleven, from Tyrells primary School came third with eleven-year-old Bradley Reddick receiving a merit prize.

All four children were

invited to the Air Support Unit where Victoria was presented with a plaque and the other winners received souvenirs including engraved mugs.



CHOPPER SQUAD: Pictured from left to right at Boreham are Bradley Reddick; Supt Mick Hicks; Victoria Nunn; Carol French; Insp Mike Walker and Sally Beale.

COURAGEOUS Maurice Brazier lost his brave battle against cancer this month, just eight months after he led the Essex Police team to triumph at the London Marathon.

Maurice took part in the gruelling 26-mile run in April, after being given the all-clear in his struggle against liver cancer. After the race his fellow runners said he was the fittest one of them all and his strength and humour had helped them reach the finish.

The police team's efforts raised £5,400 for the Southend Hospital Cancer Unit, but just two months after the race, doctors told him the disease had returned and Maurice, a father-of-two, died at home on Saturday December 4.

Maurice joined Essex Police in 1976 and served

both in uniform and CID, at Basildon, Southend and Grays before working as a Detective Inspector, based at headquarters. He leaves a widow, Diane and two children Nicola, 16 and Jonathan 14.

Around 500 people, including the Chief Constable, attended his funeral at Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church in Leigh-on-Sea, where his close friend and colleague, Insp Barry Ansell of Shoebury Police, spoke of his professionalism, courage and humour.

'He will be remembered most of all by his wonderful sense of humour, it was the sort that caught you unawares and had you laughing unexpectedly,' said Insp Ansell. 'Because he was so positive he made you feel good just to be with him.'

'He kept his sense of

humour right until the end, he was an inspiration to us all.'

He said that only in the summer, Maurice, a member of the Southend Athletics Club, had won the Essex Police veterans 200 metres championship in Harlow.

Evening Echo Southend chief reporter, Jon Guy, who ran in the marathon team with Maurice, said he was a 'wonderful chap' and would be sorely missed.

Inspector Brazier's family asked that no flowers be sent to the funeral but donations could be made to Little Haven appeal, which aims to build a Children's Hospice in Southend.

Insp Ansell said he was hopeful around £1,000 would be raised for the appeal, which would have delighted Maurice who lived in Station Road, Leigh and supported the setting up of the hospice.

Next year the marathon team will be putting all their efforts into raising as much money as possible for the Little Haven appeal and Insp Ansell said the spirit of Maurice Brazier would live on with them.

He said he hoped it might be possible to name a room at Little Haven after the police officer, or perhaps mount an inscription on a wall there.

The Southend Athletics Club has already raised money to buy commemorative bench dedicated to Maurice, which will be placed in Belfairs Woods, where he used to train.

JENNA IS CHIEF OF POLICE WINNER

THE GRAND draw for The Law's 'Chief of Police' game competition has now taken place and the winner is Pc Jenna Watts who lives in Shoeburyness.

Jenna answered the two following questions correctly:

1. At an accident some-

one is in shock. You should give them hot sweet tea. True or false. Answer: False.

2. What is the fastest speed a car towing a caravan is ever allowed to do: 1: Until the caravan falls off. 2: 70mph. 3: 60mph. 4: 50mph. Answer 60mph.

Jenna's prize will be on its way to her shortly.

THE LAW WISHES ALL ITS READERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

FEDERATION NOTES...FEDERATION NOTES...

Farewell to Bob, Doug and Chris. Welcome Dave, Martyn and Trish

SHEEHY CASTS HIS SHADOW OVER '94

ONCE again, we are coming to the end of another year and we have seen many chances, both locally and nationally. On the local front, we have said goodbye to our longstanding Joint Branch Board Chairman, Bob Needham, who has been replaced by Sergeant Dave Jones from Basildon. We have also said goodbye to our Sales Manager of many years, Doug Rampling, and he was replaced early this year by Marilyn Carr. Last, but not least, Chris Johnson, our part-time assistant, left us due to moving away through her husband's business and she has recently been replaced by Trish Morley.

Nationally, we have had a report from Sir Patrick Sheehy, followed by the apparent, if you believe that, turn around by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, when he spoke to the House of Commons at the end of October. We will obviously leave the year still not aware of what is likely to happen to the Police Service. The Police Negotiating Board Working Party has now met, for the first time, on Friday, 10th December, and more meetings are scheduled throughout December, January and February. They are on a very short time scale, as the Home Secretary wishes all recommendations to be with him by the 3rd April 1994. It is obvious that he will be making an early decision as to what changes he envisages making to Police Regulations and it will be interesting to see what parts of the Sheehy Report remain and what changes come about with regard to overtime and other allowances, especially pay. Obviously, as announcements are made from the National Committee with regard to these negotiations, you will be kept informed.

Housing allowance

I have been receiving many calls in the office with regard to the Home Secretary's announcement on police housing allowance. In his statement, the Home Secretary said that, from the 1st September 1994, there will be no housing allowance payable to new recruits joining the Police Service. However, what he has not said, is what protection, if any, he envisages giving to officers that are currently in provided accommodation or officers that are currently only receiving a flat rate housing allowance due to their circumstances, i.e., single officers. This is, obviously, of great concern to the Police Federation and I can tell you that, although the Home Secretary indicated that this was not a matter that the Police Negotiating Board should concern itself with as he will be making draft Regulations himself before the end of the year, the Police Negotiating Board Working Group has taken it on themselves to look at the housing allowance and, in particular, what protection there should be for officers in service. To assist them in this, your Joint Branch Board has provided information regarding the number of officers currently receiving flat rate transitional allowance and flat rate housing allowance, together with the numbers actually residing in police provided accommodation. As soon as I have any concrete information with regard to what protection, if any, will be in the Regulation, you will be informed.

Resources

Most of you will have read in the national newspapers that Essex, as all other Forces in the country, have been refused an increase in their establishments for next year. Essex have prepared what they considered to be a reasonable bid for thirty-four officers, albeit that if you take into account the Home Office's own formula for establishments, we are probably more like one hundred and sixty officers under establishment. You will also be aware from the media coverage, that the Home Secretary made a speech to the Tory Party Conference in which he spoke of giving extra power and resources to the Police

Service and yet, when he gets his first opportunity, he fails the service miserably. You could ask yourself why. I certainly did. Could the reason have anything to do with the White Paper that will shortly be coming out in the Police Bill, which will change the format of police authorities throughout the country. You will recall that we covered this item some time ago in The Law, when the Home Secretary decided that he would reduce police authorities to a number of sixteen, eight of which would be elected county councillors, three of which would be magistrates and five would be local business people appointed by the Home Secretary. The Home Secretary would also appoint his own chairman. In the same White Paper, one of the recommendations was that from April 1995, Police Forces would have their own cash limit budgets and Chief Constables would be responsible for how they used those budgets. On the face of this, it would give more flexibility for chief officers to manage. However, do not forget that, at the same time, the chairman of the police authority would be paid and appointed by the Home Secretary and obviously would be carrying out the Home Secretary's wishes.

It is also true to say that the cash limit budgets will be set on the budgets applicable to Police Forces for the year 94/95. The current budgets are set on the Standing Spending Assessment for each Police Force. Surprise, Surprise, a Standing Spending Assessment is calculated on the strength of the establishment of each Force so, therefore, if you increase the establishment of the Force you would increase your Standing Spending Assessment and you would increase the amount of money you would have for each budget. You could say, therefore, that by the Home Secretary not giving any more resources to Police Forces next year, he has, in effect, reduced the cash limit budgets that will be available to Police Forces from the 1st April 1995. So much for a Home Secretary who, at the Tory Party Conference, promised more resources to fight crime in this country. The Police Bill is expected out any day now and, obviously, as soon as we know what the Home Secretary has in mind for the Police Service, your Federation, both locally and nationally, will be putting its case.

We have been concerned in Essex, for some time, regarding the White Paper and recently your Chairman, Dave Jones, and myself, together with the Superintendents' Association Secretary in Essex, Greg Moss, visited the House of Commons to meet with our M.P.'s and to explain to them our fears with regard to the appointment, by the Home Secretary, of his own man in charge of police authorities. We saw this as a way in which the Home Secretary could actually implement any aspects of the Sheehy Report that he wanted through the back door. When the Police Bill is published, we will obviously be meeting our M.P.'s again and urging them to vote in certain ways with regard to the matters that we want resolved.

Can I take this opportunity of, once again, thanking our Members of Parliament that took time to see us at the House of Commons and who have supported us in our efforts to get the Sheehy Report thrown out. Can I also thank our local M.P., Simon Burns, who, although unable to see us in the House of Commons, made a special visit to our offices in Chelmsford and spent a considerable amount of time with us discussing the problems.

Grand prize draw

The Police Convalescent Home at Goring is undergoing refurbishment at a cost of around four million pounds and the Convalescent Committee have organised a Grand Prize Draw to raise funds.

The first prize is a Ford Fiesta motor car, the second prize is an expenses paid holiday for two and the third prize is a weekend for two in Paris plus many other prizes. The draw will take place at the Convalescent Home on the 28th January 1994. Tickets, priced at £1 each, are available from the Joint Branch Board Secretary, Federation Office, Ext. 2215.

Chelmsford Power Store is proposing any Police Officer, on production of their warrant card, is entitled to a full five per cent discount on shop/stock items. The Chelmsford Power Store is situated at Unit 3, Riverside Retain Park, Victoria Road, Chelmsford.

WILLS — The complete Will writing service at North Weald and Epping in Essex are offering special rates for Police officers. Full details available from Mr Morgan. 0992 522171 or 0850 933368.



By Brian Pallant

Motor insurance

Just a note to let members know that our local motor insurers, Summit Motor Policies, have been re-named as Serviceline UK. Limited. They are still offering an excellent service to Police officers and civilians in Essex Police. Details are available from the Federation office or direct from Serviceline on 0245 496496. For those members of the boating fraternity, Serviceline are introducing a new insurance for boats with Haven Yacht Insurers at Lloyds. Details are available via Serviceline the above number.

Financial advice

George Burrows Group Insurance have been providing financial planning clinics for Essex officers for the past two years.

These have been very successful and the times of the meetings are published on this page in The Law. However, if you need advice at any time, then Sid Foster at George Burrows is only too willing to receive your call. He can be telephoned on 081 514 1000. He can give advice on all areas with regard to matters such as AVC's and pensions, mortgages, taxation, stock market advice, TESSA's, PEP's and life cover for insurance. Any meeting, either at the clinic or personally with Sid, is at no cost to the members. In the January edition of The Law Sid Foster will be giving his views on the recent Budget from Kenneth Clarke.

THE LAW OPINION

"Maurice Brazier was an inspiration to us all," says Barry Ansell, his colleague and friend. How true.

Everyone who met the courageous inspector and athlete speaks of his love of life and sense of humour.

Indeed when the marathon team were running the gruelling 26 miles of the London Marathon, it was Maurice's words of encouragement that kept them going when the going got tough.

And even when he was very ill in hospital, visitors to his bedside have stories to tell of his sharp sense of fun which stayed with him right until the last.

It is those happy memories of the man which will help his wife Diane, his two children, Nicola and Jonathan, and others close to him come to terms with their sad loss.

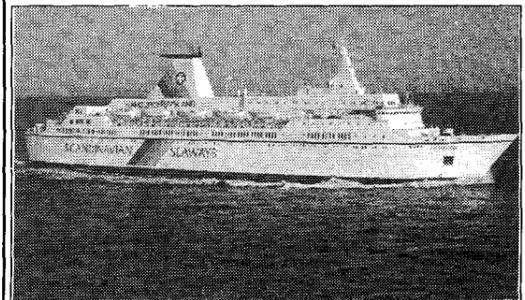
Before he died Maurice gave his backing to the building of Little Haven, a children's hospice in Southend and already the marathon team have vowed to run again with all the money raised going to that cause.

And there's no doubt that the spirit of Maurice Brazier will be with them next year as well, helping them to cross that finish line.

His inspiration will live on to motivate others for many years to come.

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

German minicruise



Three day minicruise to Hamburg, Germany from Harwich (Parkeston Quay) on Sunday 13 March 1994. A 20 hour cruise across the North Sea with the last 5 hours sailing up the River Elbe into Northern Germany and into the city.

The cruise will be made on Scandinavian Seaways vessel, MS Hamburg. Amenities include cinemas, disco, night club, a la carte restaurant, smorgasbord restaurant, cafeteria and shops.

Accommodation available consists of two, three and four berth outside cabins, each with shower and toilet.

Timetable

1530	Sunday	13 March	Depart	Harwich
1300	Monday	14 March	Arrive	Hamburg
1630	Monday	14 March	Depart	Hamburg
1200	Tuesday	15 March	Arrive	Harwich

COST: £38 per person

This includes the coach transport for the ferry terminal to the City Centre and return.

If you are interested, please complete the reservation slip and return to DS B R Firmin, Essex Police Port Unit, c/o Police Station, Harwich, CO12 3LW.

Cheques payable to B.R. Firmin. Bookings no later than 17 February 1994.

PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED

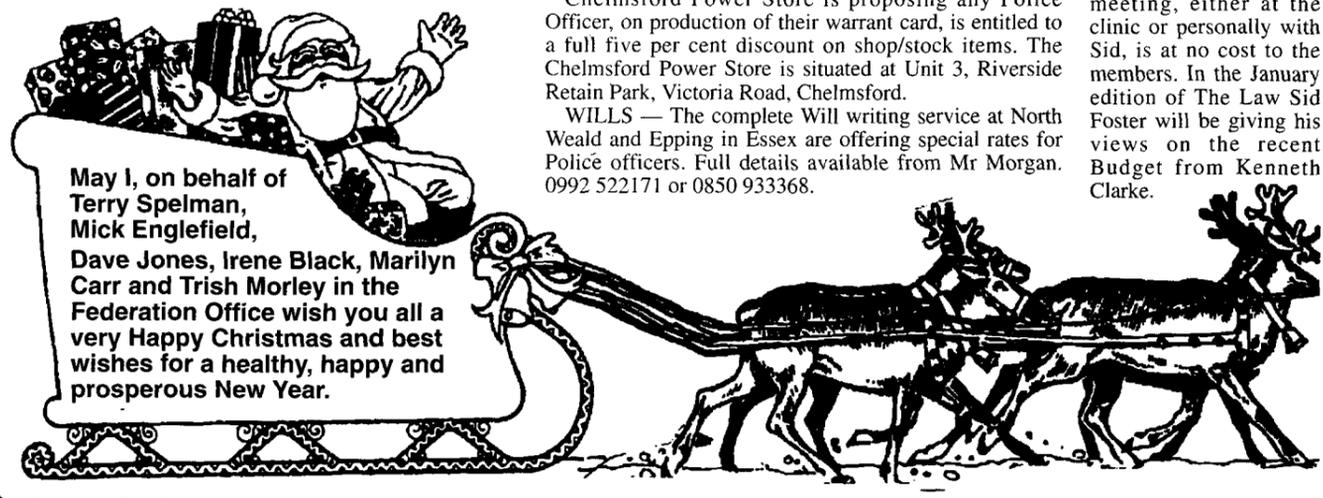
Surname

Christian name

Station

I require a two/three/four berth cabin

Telephone number



May 1, on behalf of
Terry Spelman,
Mick Englefield,
Dave Jones, Irene Black, Marilyn Carr and Trish Morley in the Federation Office wish you all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Changes to traditional shift pattern will be decided at local level

YOUR CHANCE TO CHOOSE

MAUREEN MAKES HER MARK



INSPECTOR Maureen Scollan signs copies of her book "Sworn to Serve".

INSPECTOR Maureen Scollan's eagerly-awaited book documenting the history of Essex Police was published this month.

"Sworn to Serve" is a well-researched account of 150 years of policing the county, published at a time when the Force faces far-reaching changes. It emphasises the fact that, whatever the future holds, Essex Police will continue its tradition of service to the community of which it is an integral part.

The 150-page book, published by Phillimore and Co., contains more than 40 photographs and

illustrations. While personal recollections bring its pages to life, its historical value is enhanced by comprehensive references and appendices.

Around 800 pre-publication orders for the book were received, and Inspector Scollan, a former Essex archivist, spent a morning at police HQ signing copies.

But two weeks after publication, around a dozen pre-paid copies

remain unclaimed. Spidery, illegible handwriting has made it impossible to decipher names on the order forms, leaving a handful of officers one Christmas present short.

Any officer who has not yet claimed their pre-paid copy should contact Inspector Scollan on Ednet 2825, or through the Essex Police Museum on 2395.

If you have not placed an order for the book, it is on sale at most major Essex bookshops, priced at £14.95.

By Jenny Grinter

CHANGES to the traditional Essex Police shift pattern have been approved in attempt to provide better working conditions and more local choice.

After nearly a year's research, the Shift Systems Project found an eight-hour shift pattern to be more beneficial to workers and managers than any of the Ottawa-type extended hours patterns.

However, a number of shift patterns have been approved with the onus on local areas to choose the best pattern to suit their needs.

Each pattern includes four basic shifts to provide 24-hour policing cover, as in the current system, but further shifts are also included in an attempt to increase flexibility.

SLEEP

Providing improved sleep patterns and a better social life figured prominently as the project recommended a "continental" mixture of shifts in place of seven consecutive days on the same shift. "Continental" patterns include a mixture of earlies, lates, nights and days off within a seven-day period.

A forward rotation of earlies, lates, nights was also favoured, on health grounds, ahead of the existing rotation of earlies, nights, lates.

START

One change which will take place forcewide from January 17 moves the start time of the day from 6am to 7am. While there is some opposition to this decision, it is in line with the Project's survey of 450 Essex Police shift workers, in which 73 per cent said they would prefer a later start. Research also

FROM THE FEDERATION : by Sgt Dave Jones

IN THE mid-eighties, morale among shift workers in parts of the Force seemed to be taking a nose-dive. A survey, initially set up by the Federation and subsequently taken over by the Force, showed the present earlies, nights and lates shift pattern was the main cause.

At that time the "Ottawa" shift pattern was being trialled in other forces. A Shift System Working Party was set up in Essex, and members of the Force were enthusiastic about the Ottawa system. However, a policy decision was made that Essex Police would not consider any shift system that did not comply with police regulations.

This took us to last year, when a formal Shift Systems Project was set up, chaired by Supt. Greg Moss. The Federation was represented at the highest level on the Project Board.

The project team, led by Sgt. Mark Schofield, carried out extensive research with a

view to designing shift systems with improved benefits for both management and workers.

Consultation with shift workers took place throughout the project, including a survey which was completed by 44 per cent of shift workers.

All members of staff were given the opportunity to contact the project board direct, although only 13 contacts were made.

On December 1, Policy Group approved the Project Board's recommendations, which had also been agreed with the Federation. The research showed that certain eight-hour shift systems had clear benefits over Ottawa-type extended hours systems.

The implementation package amounted to some fifty pages and will be widely circulated. Formal consultation will take place on a local basis.

Shift workers will now have the opportunity to be involved at local level in determining, within set

parameters, the shift system most suitable for their local policing requirements. This will be your chance to have an impact on the choice of shift pattern you will be working.

One issue which does seem to have caused reaction is the decision to change the start of the Force day from 6am to 7am.

This decision was not only in line with the wishes of shift workers who were surveyed, but has also been shown to be more beneficial on health and welfare grounds.

There will be an ongoing evaluation of this, and the proposed new shift systems, by way of a survey, which will allow Policy Group to take account of all views expressed by members of the Force.

It is anticipated that this survey will be carried out in October 1994.

These proposals may not totally satisfy everybody, but they have been based on the wishes of the majority.

New look at road safety

IF YOU think the roads of Essex are hazardous today, the latest production from the Essex Police Museum will shed a new light on road safety.

Historians and classic car lovers will be among those to delight in the video, "Essex from a Police Car circa 1947".

The video, which costs £12.99 (plus 50p postage for external mailing), was produced after the discovery of several reels of black and white cine film highlighting the bad habits of post-War road users.

From scores of cyclists flooding out of the factory gates, to mums with prams dodging buses and High Street traffic, the video gives a unique glimpse of life in the county nearly 50 years ago.

Buildings and roads in Chelmsford, Colchester, Clacton, Brentwood, Rayleigh and Romford are easily recognisable.

A reminder too of a popular cassette tape available from the museum. "Famous Crimes of the Victorian Era" features five murders, including the well-known Moat Farm Murder, and costs just £4 (plus 50p postage).

For further information, contact Museum curator Fred Feather on Ednet 2395.

Unique film from the archives of the
ESSEX POLICE MUSEUM

SHOWN AT NORMAL SPEED WITH ORIGINAL COMMENTARY
AND REPEATED IN SLOW MOTION FOR CLOSER STUDY

Christmas greetings to you all



From the Chairman of Essex Police Authority Gerard Rice

THIS past year has been an interesting and somewhat disturbing year for the police service in our county.

There was the Sheehy Report, which threatened to introduce ten-year fixed term contracts, abolish overtime payments, introduce the Sheehy matrix for performance-related pay and increase the retirement age for all officers.

Then the police service launched an impressive campaign to change the Home Secretary's mind, and people power won.

The remaining items have been delegated to the Police Negotiating Board, this must be watched with care.

On a brighter note, detection rates increased during the year and, with the advent of new technology like the Automatic Fingerprint Recognition Scheme, this will encourage higher detection rates to make our streets a safer place.

I wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

FROM THE CHIEF CONSTABLE JOHN BURROW



1993 will be remembered as the year of change, when radical proposals were announced for the reform of policing.

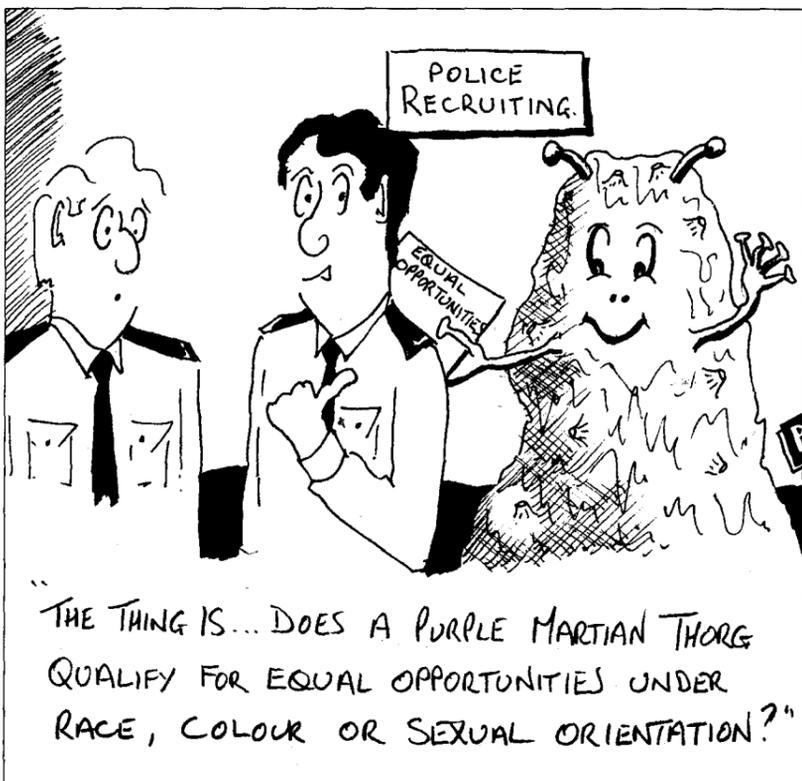
Such changes inevitably give rise to uncertainty and anxiety. We must therefore

work together in the coming year to remove those uncertainties, and use the reforms to ensure we continue to serve and support the people of Essex.

Against this background of change, the timelessness of Christmas and the Christmas message is reassuring.

As we look forward to the New Year, may that message of peace and goodwill give us hope and, in the midst of all the changes, may we hold fast to those beliefs, customs and traditions which provide stability, and on which we can depend and build for the future.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.



'New shifts steam-rolled through' Thorn in side of a retiring Rose

I have just been informed that as from January 1, 1994, our shift times are to alter by one hour, i.e. 7am to 3pm etc.

I find it appalling how this change has been steam-rolled through with obviously little or no regard for the feelings of those to be affected. I have yet to find one officer in favour of this system.

The reasons for objection are not motivated by selfishness but through genuine concerns about some of the problems this system will inflict on the job and those trying to run it.

Overtime: It is obvious to me with a mere 30 years service (all on shift so it can be done) that extra overtime will be caused.

Everyone knows the potential for overtime-inducing work for the existing night shift is greatly increased between 6am and 7am. The same problem will be encountered on the new late turn when officers will pick up night shift jobs as they are work-

ing closer to the turning out of pubs etc.

If concern for health has anything to do with this decision I cannot see how stress levels will be reduced if officers are regularly expected to work longer hours especially with the possibility of the future loss of paid overtime.

Briefings: We have been told briefings are important and of course they are - but put yourself in the position of the supervisor. At present he has a good chance of an un-interrupted briefing at 6am and 10pm but chances of having an "audience" at 7am and 11pm will be greatly reduced for reasons already stated. This has got to be a backward step.

P.E.P.: We are being told to improve our efficiency. Many times on our present night shift I have been able to clear up outstanding

routine matters at the start of the shift. I certainly will be very reluctant to trouble the public after 11pm for routine matters. This will mean a delay of at least a week efficiency?

Social Interaction: Many shift colleagues currently socialise after the present late turn. I am told this is a great help for some officers who need to unwind and discuss day to day events whilst relaxing. This will disappear and may again increase stress. A sad loss for many officers, but who cares?

I could go on but The Law isn't big enough.

Most officers are very disappointed that this far-reaching change is being implemented in a very undemocratic fashion. They should be listened to if moral is not to plunge yet again from an internally motivated source. I can now retire with a clear conscience!

Dave Rose
Saffron Walden

SERGEANT MARK SCHOFIELD OF THE SHIFT SYSTEM PROJECT REPLIES...

Entering into subjective argument in this forum serves little or no purpose. It may be appropriate to reiterate the open invitation that has existed throughout the Shift Systems Project (and received only 13 replies). This invitation has been repeatedly published as part of the continuous updates in 'The Law', on 'Focus' and in force orders, not to mention the extensive June survey and the ongoing involvement of the Staff Associations.

Any member of staff wishing to discuss

the new shift package can contact me at the project office (0245) 382469, or from mid January 'C' shift at Clacton Police Station.

May I suggest to any of your readers sharing the views of PC Rose, that they examine the contents of the whole package (which will be circulated to Sub-Divisions and Departments shortly) before surrendering their views to the idle gossip and misinformation that is in present circulation.

Thank you from Joyce Plunkett

MAY 1, through the columns of 'The Law' thank the Chief Constable and all ranks for the beautiful floral tribute sent for my husband, Ex PS. 239

Plunkett, who passed away on November 28 of this year.

Thank you for kind words of comfort at this sad time. Jim was proud to

have served in the Essex Force for 30 years.

Joyce Plunkett
Hedon
Hull
North Humberside.

L
A
W

Letters

Bob Cordery finds missing bobbies

Write policy over taped interviews?

Where have all the police(men) gone? asks Phil Pewsey in the November edition of *The Law*.

They are all at home, my friend or in the station writing. In 1962, as you recall there was a three shift system, which at Laindon where I was stationed, was manned (sorry — officered) by three constables (who all happened to be men!) with two sergeants who worked discretionary duties (to make you think there were more, you see).

Each shift was of a fortnight about and only one officer per shift was allowed a rest day at any one time. I cannot now recollect the actual shift patterns but you might start nights on the Monday night with a rest day on the Tuesday, so you had Tuesday night off and were back to work on the Wednesday night.

Only one rest day per week was taken, with three rest days each month being paid and the shift pattern was such that you had one weekend off every seven weeks.

Quick change-overs were common place to compensate for sickness and annual leave; I recollect that on one occasion my shift was required to cover the 24 hours of one day as all other six officers were away! No suggestion that officers from another station should be brought in to cover.

However, there was always a uniformed presence on the streets of Laindon, but as I recall that did not prevent a smash and grab raid when a car was reversed into the television shop in the High Street. Oh sorry! Is 'ram raiding' something new?

And all for £50.00 per month. The County was prepared to pay the overtime to keep the officers or the streets in those days — they could afford to, of course!

Nowadays, we have the tape recorded interview to the benefit of both the officer and accused person. However, even for the most minor of crimes, the accused is arrested so that the interview can be tape recorded. Once over, the officer then has to make a transcript of the tape recording for the prosecution file. This is very, very time consuming and there must be scores of officers at any one time in police stations throughout the country, writing tape transcripts.

Tape recorded interviews have protected the police officer but the sooner a policy of transcribing by word-processing is adopted within the police service, the sooner these officers can be out and about. Once the transcript has been typed, it can be quickly edited by the officer and quickly reprinted for the file.

There are many who will challenge my assertions that this method is beneficial but the Audit Commission will one day, perhaps soon, realise its benefits and dictate to Chief Officers that it is 'the way forward.' (Oh, by the way, the Audit Commission is a quango of Civil Servants that tells Chief Officers how their Police Service should be run!)

ROBERT J. CORDERY
Detective Sergeant
Fraud Squad

Grave concern for women in the force

There seems to be a lot in the media nowadays of the activities of women in the Police Service.

Some time ago now it started with a senior woman officer in a northern force engaged in litigation with the authorities of her lack of promotion or something of that nature.

We are hearing of women officers subject to attack, as within the last year or so the unfortunate victim on a Rayleigh industrial estate attacked by a person breaking into premises when she went to investigate.

More recently a woman officer was seriously injured on an emergency call during the night in the Southend area as a result of a collision. Luckily she is now out of intensive care in the local hospital.

These are but a few of the incidents brought to light and it seems that having regard to the proportion of women to male officers, unusual.

Now the spotlight is women officers complaining about sexual and physical harassment by male officers both supervisory and their own rank.

Having had the pleasure and benefit of serving in the early post war years with officers who came up in the service in the old style of policing, I often reflect and no doubt, many of your older readers also, on what those old time policemen would be thinking if they saw the service now.

It is of course appreciated that progress has to be made in all spheres of life, but some of those old timers would "turn in their graves" to quote an old adage, if they knew.

Phil Pewsey
Hamstel Road
Southend

The long !*?!* of the law

THEY say a policeman's lot "is not a happy one" But in the future it could be much better for some. We all love the bobby, our admiration he arouses, Though he has only a small truncheon tucked in his trousers.

We now hear the small truncheon is on its way out, The new one is much longer, so he is happy no doubt.

The old one was too short, not adequate you see, The new ones much longer, will reach down to his knee.

A sergeant once told me it would help out the law If his truncheon was longer, just a few inches more, So don't blame him if the criminal don't seem to be caught

The reason is quite simple, his truncheons too short. Now the new one is longer that will not be the case, He will catch all those criminals with a smile on his face.

Now don't stare if a bobby walks stiff legged around the houses

It's just that long truncheon he has got down his trousers.

P.W. Laidlaw
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator,
Clacton.

Offbeat

IN THE last edition of The Law we heard how Essex Police always endeavours to send along the most appropriate officer for the job and this month was no exception.

So when police were called to a building in the Chelmsford sub-division where a man was threatening to jump from the third floor, who was sent up on the roof to speak to him? Pc Bird of course!

But as officers in Clacton discovered when they were called to a man trying to break into a house, things are not always what they seem. It turned out the man had drunk a few too many and had mistaken the house for his own.

In Harlow recently an abandoned 999 call at 2.20 in the morning caused major concern until officers discovered that the household's cat had knocked off the telephone receiver and was walking over the buttons!

And a certain Chief Superintendent also came unstuck recently for taking things on face value. Driving down a country lane and seeing a car coming towards him, flashing its lights, the irritated Chief Super furiously flashed his back in retaliation.

But after negotiating a sharp bend and ending up swamped in a large puddle, he soon regretted his mistake!

Yet spare a thought for an embarrassed Southend woman who frantically rang the police at 3am in the morning to tell officers her car was being broken into.

She sent her husband out to check it out, but after discovering no trace of anyone she realised she had been dreaming. There's a message about fear of crime there somewhere?!

A report of a woman screaming again caused an alert in the Chelmsford area, but when the boys and girl in blue arrived they discovered nothing more than a red-faced young man who had been tickling a young woman.

But its not only our actions that can be mistaken. Language too can easily be misconstrued as officers in Bures discovered when a frantic man rang up to exclaim: "I have just run into the Baptist Church in the fog." It begs the question: had they seen the light or missed it entirely?

But finally here's a story from South Woodham that's bound to raise a smile.

Around 30 people were gathered at the station for the launch of the local Horsecatch Scheme and the expectant masses were quickly ushered upstairs for a talk on how the scheme would work.

However, officers were somewhat upset when, following the opening address, two members of the audience promptly upped and left.

When the talk was over, enquiries were made as to their departure and it transpired they were two Americans who had only visited the station to produce their documents after an road accident and due to officers' enthusiasm for the launch had found themselves whisked upstairs by mistake!

Latest update on Force's restructuring programme now available

KEEP IN TOUCH

DAWN PATROL HAS A LOTTA BOTTLE



DAWN raiders will be finding it hard to keep their bottle in the future thanks to a gold-top idea from Essex Police and milk firm, Lord Rayleigh's Dairies.

The launch of 'Dawn Patrol' means early morning crooks may find their bread and butter work is as dead as the fastest milkcart in the west as milkmen join up in the fight against crime.

Essex Police Crime Prevention officers will brief milkmen to report any suspicious incidents and the scheme will be backed up by distinctive window stickers and

Dairy and police in gold-top link-up

leaflets for customers explaining 'Dawn Patrol'.

Householders who do not have milk delivered will also receive free newsheets and in the future it is planned to include children's colouring books on the scheme to keep interest going.

Witham Crime Prevention officer, Pc Mick Hall said Essex Police recognised that the sharp-eyed milkman can provide up to seven hours of on-the-street surveillance per day.

"His average round begins at around 2am and last until 9 in the morning - times during which most crime is committed," he said. "We are not encouraging milkmen to become vigilantes, we will urge them to call 999 if they see anything that needs immediate attention."

David Paget, Finance director of Lord Rayleigh's Dairies, said he saw the early morning presence of the milkman as a significant deterrent to car crime and burglary."

The "Dawn Patrol" scheme, the first of its kind ever to be started in Essex is a response by the dairy top recent comments by the Home secretary, Michael Howard, who called for "fresh impetus" to be given to community policing at the national Neighbourhood Watch conference in November.

The scheme will begin its operations from Lord Rayleigh's Bury Lane retail depot in Hatfield Peverel and at the Braintree depot. Other company depots in Colchester, Newmarket, Hutton, Ilford and central London will introduce "Dawn Patrol" in the new year.

Watch out for Colne Engaine

A CRIME-BUSTING idea from villagers in Colne Engaine has seen them voted regional winners in the 1993 Neighbourhood Watch Award.

The community-spirited villagers won high praise for their innovative ideas, which included a property marking exercise and compiling a list of the contents of 180 homes which was then given to the police to help track down items if a burglary occurred.

Colne Engaine Neighbourhood Watch was one of around 100 groups that entered the nationwide competition and their entry was judged by a panel which included senior representatives from the Home Office and the West Midlands Police.

The judges praised Colne Engaine for its "motivated policy to reduce not only the opportunity for crime but also the fear of crime."

The group is only a year old and has also organised topical talks on crime. To mark the village's achievement, the group received a plaque and £180 worth of door locks from the competition's sponsor, ERA Security Products, which will be installed in all senior citizens' homes in the village.

Such is the success of the Colne Engaine's initiative that it has reached two-thirds of the homes in the village and all the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators have done their very best to keep interest in the scheme alive by organising talks and events.

After the James Bulger murder they arranged an evening on what women with young children should do when out on their own.

SAYS TEAM

In Touch

ESSEX Police's ambitious programme to replace its 20 existing divisions and sub-divisions with ten policing areas by April 1 is surging forward with liaison officers now appointed all over the county to speak to any staff worried about the changes.

The second "In Touch" newsletter has just been published and every member of staff should now have a copy to keep them fully informed and up to date with the most recent news.

With this latest edition is a detailed chart giving clear contact points for everyone involved in the restructuring programme, including the newly appointed territorial and departmental liaison officers.

A senior officer has also been appointed to reassure worried staff and every officer of the rank of Inspector, Chief Inspector, Superintendent and Chief Superintendent will have a personal interview by mid-January.

These are the officers directly affected by the Government's plans to abolish the ranks of Chief Superintendent and Chief Inspector, as well as being affected by the Force's own programme to flatten the management structure. Personal interviews for civilian staff will also be arranged where necessary.

The restructuring team is also currently studying how the management tiers of the new operational command units will look and researching how the changes will affect Essex Police's relationships with other bodies, such as the court and local government.

The restructuring programme is also being looked at in the context of the national decisions on the Sheehy report and the White Paper.

Det Insp Wil Kennedy, who is working on the project team, said it was hoped that by early February the Chief Constable would be appearing in a video, produced by the TV Unit, which would outline the current position to everyone in the force.

But Det Insp Kennedy made it clear that for the project team to work effectively it relied on good feedback from the force and he urged anyone involved in answering questionnaires, personal interviews or meetings with liaison officers to make their feelings known so the team could respond.

"Wherever possible it will be a case of the personal touch," he said and urged people to make sure they read the latest edition of "In Touch" to ensure they are fully informed on the changes afoot.

GALA BAND CONCERT

by the Clacton-on-Sea Co-operative Band in aid of the local Victim Support Scheme

on Sunday 20th February, 1994 at 3pm

to be held at The Princes Theatre, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea

Tickets £2 each (Children free when accompanied by an adult)

★ Giant Raffle ★

Tickets available from the Victim Support Scheme Office: Barnes House, 92 Pier Avenue, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1NJ. Tel: 0255 424934

Mon-Fri 10am-4pm or at door



TOP JOB: The Chief Constable 'tops out' the new FIR building in April, picture Essex Chronicle Series.

JANUARY

1993 was always going to be one of the most challenging years in the history of the police service, as officers of all ranks anxiously awaited the Government's far-reaching plans for reform.

At the forefront of the national debate was Essex Chief Constable John Burrow, as President of the Association of Chief Police Officers.

The year started under the threat of amalgamations of Forces, amid rumours that no-nonsense Home Secretary Kenneth Clarke was embarking on moves towards a national police force.

In Essex, the brutal attack on Rayleigh-based Pc. Kirste Snellgrove heightened the debate about side-handled batons and better protection for police officers.

There was violence too at Stagden Cross, when the Essex Fox Hounds encountered more than 250 saboteurs and anti-hunt demonstrators. The clashes led to 26 arrests, and left five police officers injured.

But there was success for Essex Police on the drugs front, with a £10 million seizure of cannabis resin, after two clued-up officers stop checked a van on the M25.



TOP DOG: With Sheehy on everyone's lips, the Chief was at the centre of the debate throughout '93.

FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY saw a major development in the policing of Essex with the introduction of Service Delivery Standards.

For the first time, the Force set down in black and white the quality of service the public is entitled to expect, and laid down standards telling every member of Essex Police what is required of them.

More than 1,000 officers and civilians attended the launch of the first five standards at the Essex Showground, and subsequent roadshows took the message around the county.

The Force went on flood alert as Spring tides and gale force winds threatened to breach sea defences but, while Norfolk and Suffolk suffered, the tide turned just in time to prevent major flooding.

There was double tragedy at Stansted as a jealous husband shot his wife dead, then turned the gun on himself.

But there was a "Tour de Force" triumph for three bobbies from North West Division who completed a 1,500-mile round Britain drive to raise thousands of pounds for the Mid-Essex flying doctor service.



THE SHARP END: Pc Kirste Snellgrove recovers after suffering a horrifying attack in January.

MARCH

THERE was a sigh of relief from police forces across the country when the Home Secretary announced greater freedom for Chief Constables over their budgets and manpower levels. Amalgamations were ruled out for the time being, but there was concern about plans for Chairmen of Police Authorities to become Government appointees.

Despite plans for reform, Deputy Chief Constable Peter Simpson was encouraged to find the British Police are held in high regard by East European countries. Following on from last year's visit to Albania, he spent five days in Romania on a human rights mission.

But it may have seemed that Big Brother had come to Britain to motorists in Colchester who were caught out by new automatic speed detection cameras.

Kids in Basildon, however, were unlikely to be caught out by real life dangers after taking part in Crucial Crew, an action-packed programme tackling problems like fire, a gas leak, an unconscious patient and stranger danger. Crucial Crew events were subsequently held in Epping and Canvey.



TRAGIC COUPLE: Cheryl Franklin who died in a car crash on the way to her honeymoon in August. Her husband Herbert was seriously injured.

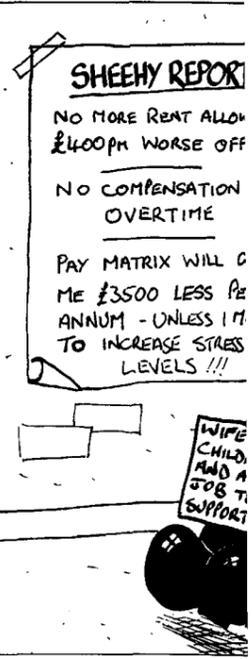
APRIL

ESSEX officers were getting a grip on the problem of arresting violent prisoners with the introduction of "Quik Kufs". The new handcuffs with a rigid handle were aimed at reducing the risk of injury to officer and suspect, while providing better control and restraint.

Another new system, PIRS, was introduced to speed up the identification of criminals. The high-tech video database allows descriptions from victims and witnesses to be matched up with pictures of potential suspects.

From PIRS to FIR, and a milestone in the development of the new Force Information Room. The Chief Constable performed a traditional "Topping Out" ceremony from the bucket of a crane, as building work neared completion. The new nerve centre of Essex Police communications is due to go live next year.

Meanwhile classroom crime-fighter Johanna Charnley hit a nerve with a special "assembly" for teachers to learn how pupils can help beat crime. Her Head Teachers Conference proved a big hit, tackling problems like bullying, drugs and truancy.



ON THE LINE: The L Caulfield hit the nail on the implications of the Sheehy



IT WAS the year the police were under scrutiny like never before with the Sheehy Report, the White Paper and the Royal Commission all vying to change the face of British policing for ever. It was the Sheehy Report, published in

June, that caused the greatest concern and even the Home Secretary's decision to water down most of Sir Patrick's recommendations has done little to cure the

JU

THE SHEEHY report was ev feared. It attacked not only the their pensions, housing allowan future of the police service no Constable's delicate negotiati Michael Howard and the Fede opposition.

But before the Sheehy repo Government's White Paper, rec to police authorities, and the I Justice to consider.

On a more positive note, Mr. trials on several different types commitment to providing more beat.

In an already hectic month fr the CBE in the Queen's Birthda China lecturing about British po Foreign and Commonwealth Off

The flood of proposed refor different kind, when torrential r area. A nine foot wali of water with such force that two walls v miraculously escaped unharmed safety.

JU

WITH opposition to the contro day by day, Essex officers join colleagues and converged on V protest organised by the Police

And with the Chief Consta spotlight fell again on Essex, w views on BBC TV's Newsnight

The Force Fun Day providec and raised around £30,000 for c

Meanwhile there were big c staff said farewell to their old, moved into a £2m purpose built lock the door at the old nick who was actually born in the Vi

And police workshops staff bracket when it comes to vehi the first police force in the coun standard from the British Stand



GET A GRIP: Officers all over the force were getting to grips with Quik Kufs in April.

MAY

THE RAPE of a 13-year-old Basildon schoolgirl in broad daylight sent shock waves through the community. Detectives quickly linked it with a similar attack on an eight-year-old girl the previous September. Thanks to the teenager's presence of mind, a local man was arrested just days later and charged with both rapes.

Meanwhile there was a special day in store for three long-serving members of the Special Constabulary. Divisional officers Peter Boston (Colchester), George Cook (Southend) and Brian Corbu (Brentwood), who between them have clocked up more than 90 years' service, received awards from the Chief Constable at their Annual Parade.

Special occasions too for the Essex Police Choir, whose first trip abroad took them to Canada for an International Police Music Festival, and for Stanway Traffic, which celebrated its 25th anniversary.

AUGUST

ESSEX Police mums were in the news after the force won national acclaim from the Home Office for its pioneering efforts to help women officers and support staff combine babies with the beat.

Essex became the first police force in the country to win a Home Office Award for Equal Opportunity Achievement for setting up of the Essex Police Maternity Network to give support to women officers and support staff during pregnancy, maternity leave and on their return to work.

But August brought tragedy for bride Cheryl Franklin, who died in a car crash on the way to her honeymoon. Her husband, Herbert, was seriously injured in the accident on the A12 near Colchester.



Cartoonist, Pc Peter Deal in June as the full picture became clear.



PRICKLY PLANTS: Burglaris Disembowelis was the order of the day in September as Inspector John Emmerick discovered when he fought through this rose bush.

WIVENHOE 1993

...ers, with major decisions still to be made on pay, conditions and pensions.

introduced to Service Delivery Standards, and the Wivenhoe Conference decided to streamline the Essex Police command structure down to 10 policing areas.

Law editors Jenny Grinter and Paul Dunt look back over a hectic twelve months.

...bit as bad as officers had and job security, but also sick leave, and overtime. The seemed to rest on the Chief with new Home Secretary's mounting campaign of

...as published there was the pending significant changes Commission on Criminal

...ward gave the go-ahead for ation, after signalling a new protection for officers on the

...r. Burrow, he was awarded honours and spent 12 days in g on a tour arranged by the

...was preceded by floods of a brought chaos to the Ongar a house in Stanford Rivers ripped off. Two small boys r being hauled up a tree to

...ial Sheehy Report growing more than 20,000 of their abley Arena for a national eration.

...s high profile, the media Basildon Police airing their gramme.

...me relief from the politics ty at the same time.

...ges afoot at Braintree as 'me' in Fairfield Road and tion in The Avenue. Last to

...65-year-old Tom Layzell an building.

...ved they were in the upper maintenance by becoming to be awarded the BS 5750 Institution.



FUN DAY: Ian Deal serves up do-nuts at the seventh annual Fun Day in July

SEPTEMBER

THE DIRTY dozen were in town as Saffron Walden introduced the world to Burglaris Disembowelis - a campaign to promote the strategic planting of shrubs and plants to keep burglars at bay.

The 'twelve' were all plants chosen for their special defensive qualities, but they did nothing to keep the press at bay who quickly twigged they were onto a good thing and gave the thorny issue widespread publicity, both locally and nationally.

Meanwhile sirens were wailing across Essex for the first time since the war, but they warned not of enemy bombs but of the threat of flooding. The four-minute test heralded the launch of the new County Flood Plan.

But by the end of September everyone had heard of Pc Tony Barton's innovative board game 'Chief of Police' which was thought up by the Southend bobby to help stop youngsters turning to crime.

Tony came up with the idea while recuperating after being assaulted on duty and the game looks set to be a big seller this Christmas.

And two tiny moggies were counting how many lives they had left after being rescued by Chelmsford traffic officer, Pc Jym Grant after being discovered dodging the traffic in Beehive Lane.



HOMEWARD BOUND, Edna the eagle.

OCTOBER

AFTER a police investigation lasting nearly six years, the killer of 18-year-old Fiona Gallant was brought to trial and received six life sentences for his evil crimes. John Bell, 37 raped and strangled Fiona at Copford in December 1987 as she was walking to her grandmother's house.

The Stockport aircraft technician was also found guilty of raping and attempting to murder a 15-year-old schoolgirl and raping a 24-year-old woman.

The long awaited decision on the Sheehy report was announced. The B.A.T. man's ideas on performance-related pay, fixed term appointments and forty years service before a pension were mostly thrown out, but three ranks, housing allowance and the Edmund-Davies Pay Formula are all to go.

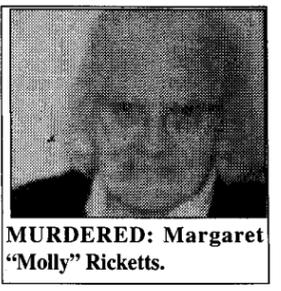
But the shadow of Sheehy will hang over 1994 with many key areas still undecided.

A rare Golden Eagle was winging its way home to Scotland after being discovered being kept illegally near Chelmsford and Peter Simpson's time came to quit the roost, retiring from his post as Deputy Chief Constable.

NOVEMBER

A MURDER hunt was launched in Chelmsford after the body of an 85-year-old woman was found in her mid-terrace home. She had been sexually assaulted, beaten and strangled. Unemployed labourer Leonard Michael Cartell, 47, has since been charged with murder.

Chief officers emerged from the Wivenhoe 'think-tank' Conference to announce a major restructuring of the force with ten policing areas replacing the existing twenty divisions and sub-divisions. The ambitious programme, which aims to remove a layer of management and increase responsibility at local level, should be in place by April 1.



MURDERED: Margaret "Molly" Ricketts.

A new in-house newsletter 'In Touch' was launched to keep staff up-to-date with the latest developments.

Thick fog brought chaos to the roads with the A12 grinding to a halt with 19 accidents in just one and a half hours. Elsewhere across the county the story was the same with drivers failing to slow down and keep their distance.

But there was good news for the county's charities as the Police Authority chairman dished more than £54,000 to worthy causes. The money was raised from selling off recovered stolen goods not claimed by their owners.

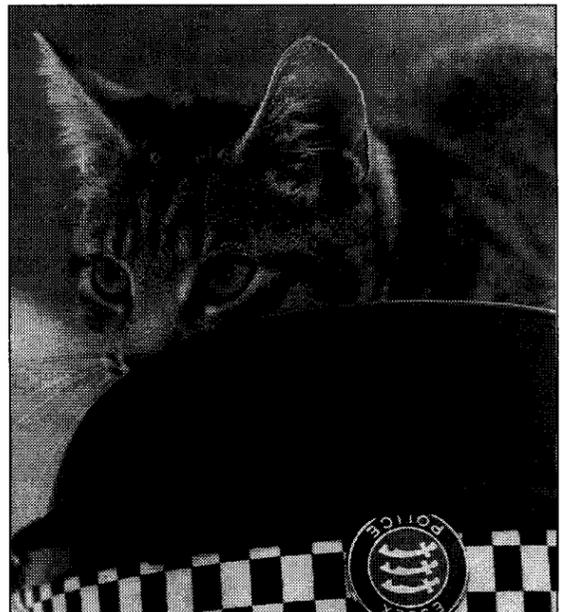
DECEMBER

Inspector Maureen Scollan's long-awaited book 'Sworn to Serve' was released, bringing the history of Essex Police alive through facts, anecdotes and pictures.

A major change to traditional police shifts was also announced to provide improved sleep patterns and improve officers' social lives. Early shift will now start at 7am with a mixture of shifts introduced within the week. Specific options will be decided at local level.

Inspector Maurice Brazier, who was given the all-clear in his brave battle against cancer and ran with the Essex Police marathon team at the London Marathon in April, died after the disease returned.

The national media spotlight fell on Essex once again when 33-year-old Dean Davis killed a burglar after disturbing him in his parents Wickford home. Detectives believe he acted in self defence.



NINE LIVES: A lucky escape for this little moggy in September, picture East Anglian Daily Times.

Choir on song for busy '94

1993 has proved to be an eventful year for the Essex Police Choir.

The year began with a hectic series of concerts with the choir being joined by Derek Lee, the Braxted Singers, Folklore, TCP - the Singing Hedingham Policemen and organist Keith Kent for a concert at Christchurch, Chelmsford on April 17.

Holy Week saw the first performance of a setting of Robert Louis Stevenson's "Requiem" by Braintree's local composer, the late Frederick Roerig, which was broadcast by BBC Essex.

The high spot of the year was the visit to Victoria, British Columbia in May to take part in the International Police Music Festival. Many lasting friendships were formed and fond memories remain of a truly magnificent time.

Our return to Essex saw further concerts in the run up to summer and included 'Songs of Praise' at Tiptree with a surprise appearance by Canadian conductor Alan Jacobs.

The second half of the year found the choir concentrating on learning new material and included a "workshop" in October under guest conductor Malcolm Boulter.

Autumn also marked the retirement of our President, Deputy Chief Constable, Peter Simpson, who had been a driving force in the formation of the choir and whose efforts on our behalf have seen the choir achieve so much in its relatively short existence.

Our best wishes go to Peter who continues as an active member of the choir. We were greatly honoured that the Chief Constable has accepted our invitation to succeed Peter as President.

The year has ended as busily as it began with a series of three Christmas Concerts at Leigh-on-Sea, Stanway and Chelmsford.

Already plans are in hand for 1994 with a concert in Chelmsford Cathedral on January 29 with South Woodham Ferrers Male Voice Choir and Folklore in aid of the Kidney Appeal. May finds us travelling to Dersingham, Norfolk at the invitation of the former DCC Ron Stone, followed by a five day visit to Croissy - Sur - Seine to sing with the choir of Danbury's twin town.

Underlying all of next year's activities will be fundraising and planning for our hosting of the Second International Police Music Festival in Essex in July 1995.

We cannot close the year without expressing our thanks to three individuals who have made its successes possible, our conductor Norman Eastbrook and accompanists Jo Dudley and Clive Eastbrook.

Boys in blue are heroes too!

THE BOYS in blue cured the birthday blues for two distressed brothers recently after their birthday cards, complete with a ten pound note, mysteriously disappeared into the wrong letter box, never to be seen again.

Joseph and Samuel Grimwade of Ilfracombe Road, Southend, knew which address the cards had gone to, but after all attempts to recover them failed they turned to local Pc's Jeff Appleby and Ian Harlow to help out.

And the boys were so delighted with the officers' response that they wrote a poem to express their thanks.

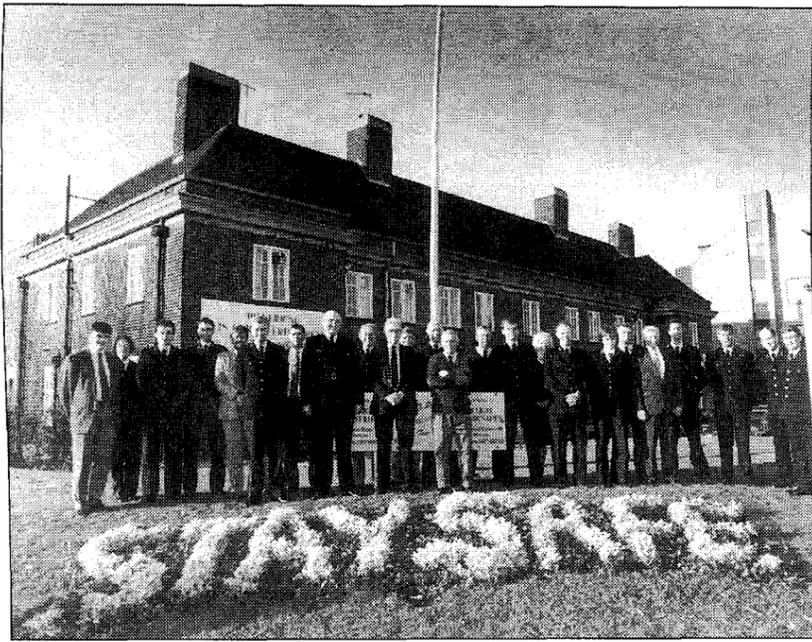
As shift inspector Phil Saunders remarks — "how do you measure this one Mr Sheehy?"

"This is not the first example of the kind of incidents officers on 'C' shift have responded to," said Inspector Saunders. "No doubt there are many other officers who could give examples of community policing. You see we are community conscious at Southend!"

Here is the poem written by the grateful youngsters:

Last week it was our birthday
And our Uncle Clive he sent,
Two birthday cards and a ten pound note
But to the wrong address they went.
We knew which house they went to,
We saw them on the mat,
But when we said "Return them please"
They'd vanished "just like that".
Our mum she sent a letter
Saying it was our tenth birthday,
The letter was not answered
So cards and tenner went astray.
Our mum got cross and said:
"I've done my very best,
To get your cards and money back
We'll let a policeman do the rest."
So down the town she hurried
To the Police station entered in.
A big tall bobby listened,
While this tale she did begin:
"Somebody's nicked their money,
Please can you get it back?"
"I'll try my very best," he said,
"I promise I won't be slack."
He took down all the details
And on Tuesday morn we sat
A great big huge policeman came
A knocking at our door.
"I've got the tenner back for you,"
He told me and my brother.
The one who had it, put the
cards in the bin. Oh bother!
Thank you so much for your trouble,
Mum says we always ought
Go tell a policeman if
There's a problem she can't sort.
One day when we are grown enough,
We may wear a suit of blue
And sort out all the villains
and be hero's. JUST LIKE YOU.

PETAL POWER!



When it comes to getting the message across you can't do better than saying it with flowers, as this colourful display at Billericay police station demonstrates.

But there is a double message here as the photo bears another story—the retirement of Inspector Les Bramhill who retires on January 4th, after serving 30 years. The flowers are provided and maintained by a local nursery.

LETTERS EXTRA...LETTERS EXTRA... LETTERS

What's this Jurassic lark?

I JOINED Essex Police in October 1965 and have, since then served wholly within the Saffron Walden area on shift work. I am old enough to recall the old 'fortnight about' shifts with seemingly irregular days off. I can also tell you of the relief when the present shift system was introduced with seven fixed working days and a regular rest day pattern. The hours of duty based on shifts starting 6am, 2pm and 10pm have well stood the test of time.

Now it seems that if you speak out against change you are being a dinosaur. Well I intend to be positively JURASSIC. The move to base the working day on a 7am, 3pm and 11pm start is completely ill-conceived. The operational disadvantages from my points of view are too numerous to list individually, and the personal disadvantages of this one hour change make it totally unwelcome. I am afraid I can see no benefit to the Service or to the shift working personnel in this change.

We now also face a new shift system of 'local arrangements'. I say what is wrong with what we already have? Come April who knows what we will be working. With a still young family I have to make arrangements well in advance, but how can I when my rota after April is unknown. What do I put on my MG files?

I am afraid that the management consultation initiative that I spent a whole day at Stansted Airport for only recently seems to have been forgotten. I have found NO ONE with whom I have daily working contact who has had their views on these matters canvassed.

One well informed source tells me there are under 1,000 full time shift workers in Essex Police. I wonder what percentage of those Federation representatives that voted in these moves actually work full shifts. I wonder exactly how many of the personnel involved in changing shift rotas will actually work those shifts. I would be surprised if it were more than half.

As one of the front line Constables I can say that at this end, the street level, given the right conditions and back up, the war is there for us to win, but if those who sit in judgement do not give us those conditions it is they who will lose us the ground we have gained. If this is being a dinosaur then I stand in the cave entrance to be counted.

Could someone please tell me how I can get my body to respond to the new times after 28 years of the old? Perhaps someone would like to suggest we start an hour earlier rather than later? Now there's a thought...

Neil Everard, Newport traffic.

HIGH FLYING OFFICERS!



Pc Ray Cole flies the Essex Police flag at RAF Bruggen.

STANSTED Airport officers PC Ray Cole and Inspector Steve Smith were flying high recently when they jetted to Germany to promote Essex Police.

The officers were part of a large group flown to RAF Bruggen in Germany to promote British World Airlines (BWA) contract to fly troops to and from Germany.

As well as manning their display, the officers also got the chance to meet some of the servicemen and their families and make some useful contacts at the same time.

Who cares for the police officer?

I WAS somewhat amused to read the Civilian Staff Memorandum 08/93 concerning the Christmas/New Year holiday 1993/1994 which makes reference to "a considerable difference in the Public Holiday entitlement of police officers and civilian employees" and concludes 'This matter which is the cause of considerable concern.....' To whom?

Readers may not be aware that because Christmas Day/Boxing Day fall on Saturday/Sunday and the two following days have been declared Bank Holidays and, similarly, New Year's Day is Saturday with Monday 3 January 1994 the Bank Holiday, under Police Regulations police officers are allowed a day's leave for each of those days. Consequently if the officer's usual rest day falls on

the Saturday/Sunday that day is re-rostered to another day, in effect an extra three day's leave.

Why is this so? If compensation was given only for working the Bank Holidays (which is the civilian employees compensation for the celebration days falling at the weekend,) the police officer who actually worked on Christmas Day/Boxing Day/New Year's Day would receive no extra pay or compensation and his colleague who worked on the designated Bank Holidays, which are nothing special, would receive extra compensation. Would this be fair?

So once every so many years, when these festive days fall at the weekend, police officers gain a little over their civilian partners.

What 'considerable concern' is there for the police officer who is on night duty at these times EVERY

YEAR who works until 6am (soon to be 7am) into both Christmas Day and New Year's Day, without any compensation in pay or time off, then has to sleep before being able to enjoy the rest of that day. No New Year's celebration for them! And only if the officer then works the next night duty — when the festivities are mainly over — does he receive any compensation.

Let us not forget that the Bank Holidays were designated by Parliament to allow the general public an extra holiday period for Christmas and New Year

when falling at the week-ends. Should we return to days when no allowance was given for Christmas Day and Boxing Day at weekends and New Year's Day was a normal working day?

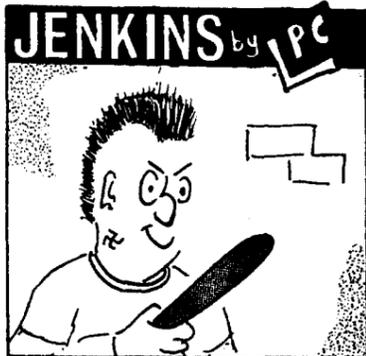
So once in a while, police officers benefit from the legislation — cause for considerable concern!

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, particularly to any civilian employee who might be contemplating a police career.

ROBERT J. CORDERY
Detective Sergeant
Fraud Squad.

KIDNEY UNIT APPEAL CHORAL FESTIVAL

Saturday 29 January at 7.30pm
CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL
featuring
South Woodham Ferrers Male Voice Choir
Folk Lore
Essex Police Choir
Music, Bach — Beatles and Beyond
Tickets £7.50, Concessions £6.00 from Civic Theatre and Chancellor Hall.



YOU GIVE ME BACK MY TRUNCHEON, NOW!



Child abuse came to light after 20 years

CLOSE work between child protection officer Dc. Beryl Fennell and social worker Barbara Wood helped crack a difficult case of child abuse, which was reported 20 years after the abuse began.

The case involved a woman who was repeatedly raped and indecently assaulted by her stepfather between the ages of nine and 15, when she lived in Liverpool in the 1970s. The abuse only came to light last year.

Rayleigh-based Dc. Fennell, who took a 30-page statement from the woman, was awarded a commendation by the Chief Constable for her "professionalism, sensitivity, skill and dedication over a protracted period in

leading the investigation." She worked closely with Barbara Wood, particularly in supporting the victim throughout her court ordeal, which involved spending five days up in Liverpool.

A man was subsequently convicted and jailed for eight years for the offences.

In recognition of the support she received from Mrs. Wood, who works at

the Roche drug and alcohol advisory unit in Rochford, Dc. Fennell invited her to police HQ to share in the commendation ceremony earlier this month.

CHIEF Constable John Burrow presents a Certificate of Commendation to Dc. Beryl Fennell (right), who was accompanied by social worker Barbara Wood.



At the touch of a button



IS THERE ANYBODY THERE? Insp. Les Bramhill tests out the new emergency phone set into the wall at Billericay Police Station.

HELP is on hand at the touch of a button, thanks to new emergency phones being installed at part-time police stations in Essex.

Emergency callers who arrive to find a police station closed will be able to make contact with the nearest continuously manned police station simply by pressing a button, saving vital minutes.

Some seventy police sta-

tions throughout the County will have the flush fitting vandal resistant phones installed over the next eighteen months.

The emergency phones are to be installed on the outside of all police stations which are not

manned 24 hours a day, including detached beat offices.

Billericay is the first police station to have one of the new phones installed, and it is intended that Wickford, Witham, Halstead, Shoebury and Dunmow will have them installed within the next few weeks.

Debriefing helps officers to deal with Post Traumatic Stress

Coping with trauma after horrific cases

IT CAME almost as a postscript to a BBC news bulletin that three members of the emergency services had attempted suicide following the Warrington IRA bomb blast.

But, thankfully, the stresses of dealing with major disasters and other harrowing day-to-day police work are at last being professionally recognised.

Force Welfare Officer Derek Lee researched an article on "Post Traumatic Stress", as part of his Welfare Studies course.

It is an area in which the police service has identified a need, and Essex Police is no exception.

CRITICAL

"Critical incident debriefings", which encourage officers to talk their feelings through, have taken place in Essex on both individual and a group basis, following traumatic incidents such as horrific road accidents or suicides.

Derek Lee and senior welfare officer Jeanette Poston have both received training in this key area, and the Force is considering extending the training to other officers and support staff.

Derek explained, "The idea of critical incident

debriefing is early intervention to diffuse and lessen the impact of a traumatic incident.

UNEXPECTED

"The trauma usually comes from encountering the unexpected, where officers are not prepared for what is going on. They may feel a lack of achievement, for example if they have failed to save someone's life. What they need is to normalise the experience."

Further trauma can be created for police officers by the anger, aggression and violence which they suffer on occasions at the hands of members of the public.

Derek said Post Traumatic Stress arose from the brain's inability to take in what has happened.

The confusion and panic of the incident prevents the brain from processing the information it is receiving, so it overloads and closes down.

Derek's study explained that these images would be re-run in the mind later, often producing disturbing flash-

backs or nightmares.

The key to debriefing is to make sense of the events, and go over them with the sufferer to lessen these effects.

Post Traumatic Stress does not affect everyone. "It is normal to be affected but you do not have to be affected to be normal," Derek explained.

It can affect people's feelings about themselves, and their relationships with partners, family and colleagues.

It can manifest itself through re-experiencing traumatic events, by avoidance of people and places which remind a sufferer of the incident, and by denial of a need for help.

A wide range of feelings of pointlessness, anxiety, vulnerability, depression, anger and isolation are common.

People may behave irrationally or irritably, and may suffer physical symptoms of sickness, headaches, tiredness or hyperactivity. Derek said, "Post Traumatic Stress can change people's char-

acters and values completely."

While all the Emergency Services are trained and equipped to some extent to cope with the sort of incidents they are likely to be subjected to, sometimes the horror of it is just too much, Derek explained.

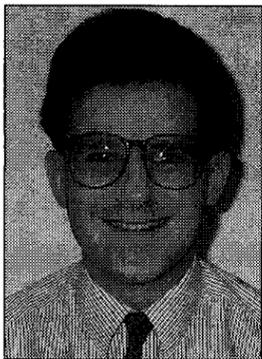
RECOGNITION

"Another way of helping is to educate and make people aware. Hopefully with recognition, early intervention and debriefs, we may be able to lessen the impact."

In concluding his study, Derek quoted expert Dr. Douglas Duckworth, who stated:

"So long as the police service requires that from time to time its officers face situations which take them past the limits of their psychological adaptability, the least it can do in return is to have ready for them the most sophisticated monitoring and training/treatment facilities that are currently available."

Broadcasting news from 'The Law'



Paul Dunt

THE LAW says goodbye this month to co-editor Paul Dunt who leaves Essex Police to resume his journalistic career as a researcher for BBC Essex.

Paul, 28, has worked in the Press Office at HQ for three years, and his flair and fresh ideas have helped make *The Law* a brighter, newsier read.

Paul was also behind the launch of *The Law's* sister

publication, "Special Edition" — published each year to coincide with the Special Constabulary's Annual Parade.

But a familiar voice from BBC Essex's flagship programme "Essex This Morning" will be filling Paul's shoes.

It will be farewell to the cheeky chat of Ian Deal, bringing news of traffic and travel chaos, and hello to hot gossip as Ian joins *The Law's* editorial team.

Ian, 28, who has worked in the award-winning Essex Police Television Unit for five years, and produced the in-house "Focus" news videos for the past two years, has been equally well-known for his freelance input into breakfast-time radio.

Ian, who takes up his new post on January 4, will have a key role in the press office team, promoting the image of the Force through good media liaison.



Ian Deal.

Essex Police Musical Society

Presents

Anything Goes

At the Assembly Hall
Police Headquarters

Monday 14th to
Saturday 19th February 1994

Tickets may be obtained from:
Rod Clare HQ/CID
Extension 2527

Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter, Book by Guy Bolton, P.G. Wodehouse, Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, by arrangement with Musicscope and Stage Musicals Ltd of New York



By Fred Dyson

Christmas Social

A FESTIVE evening was held on Friday, December 10 at Police HQ, when 40 members and wives got together in the bar.

Once again, the wives excelled themselves by providing us with a super

Mid Essex IPA News

buffet, while the men provided the drinks.

There were several quizzes, a raffle, and it was an enjoyable evening which rounded off a successful year.

We look forward to 1994, events of which have yet to be arranged.

I would like, on behalf of the committee, to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to some new faces at our events.

Please make a note of these dates:

Friday, January 21 - Branch AGM at HQ canteen. We would like as many non-active members as possible to attend, with some suggestions for future events. Also we may be looking for a new Chairman and Treasurer.

Friday February 11 - Annual dinner at the New Times, Tiptree. Please book with our social secretary on (0245) 225569.

N.A.R.P.O. Notes

ONCE again that time of year has arrived when I must sit down and write the final column before Christmas. It does not seem five minutes since I was writing the first 1993 edition.

NARPO has had a very busy year with a good many changes taking place both locally and nationally.

The association has maintained a very good level of co-operation from all the serving officers associations and together with other bodies has persevered in an effort to preserve the rights and living standards of retired police officers throughout the land.

At local level, a very fruitful meeting was held at Headquarters in November between the chairman and secretaries of Chelmsford and Colchester branches.

By Doug Rampling

Apart from discussing boundaries it was agreed that a letter should be sent to every officer retiring from the force setting out the aims and objectives of NARPO together with details of county branch secretaries in order that the retiring officer may have a choice as to which branch he would like to join. It is hoped that this letter will be ready soon.

BULLETIN

A National working party has been set up with a view to improving the Bulletin. It is suggested that an A4 type magazine carrying advertisements should be looked at, with distribution direct from printer to member by post. This seems a good idea and the national secretary invites your comments

provided they are constructive and progressive.

75th ANNIVERSARY
To commemorate the 75th anniversary of NARPO a special anniversary plate has been produced which is available from the national secretary priced at £8.50 inclusive of postage and packing. Orders direct to the national office please.

It only remains for me to say a big thank you to everyone who assisted me throughout the year especially the senior officers of the force and the Essex Police JBB without whom it would certainly be a struggle. Your help is very much appreciated and I look forward to further co-operation in the year ahead.

May I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy, Prosperous and Happy 1994.

RETIREMENTS

ESSEX Police extends its good wishes to the following officers and support staff who are retiring.

- Supt. Michael Frost, HQ seconded CPTU Harrogate, 30 years 10 months (15.1.94).
- Supt. Keith Free, Grays, 29 yrs 8 mths (9.1.94).
- D.C.I. Bob Wilkinson, HQ CID, 23 yrs 5 mths(9.1.94).
- Insp. Chris Snow, HQ Driving School, 32 yrs 1 mth (9.1.94).
- Ds. David Rogers, Braintree, 30 yrs 3 mths (3.1.94).
- Pc. David Jones, Grays, 30 years (12.1.94).
- Dc. Stan Czuba, Southend, 26 yrs 2 mths (31.1.94).
- Miss A Fickling, typist, Brentwood, 36 yrs 10 mths (31.10.93)
- Mrs M Sewell, audio typist, Grays, 17 yrs (31.10.93)
- Mr M O'Keefe, cleaner in charge, Witham, 7 yrs 6 mths (21.11.93).
- Mr. P. Cooper, clerical asst., HQ Crime Prev., 13 yrs 4 mths (26.11.93).
- Mr. R. Walton, cleaner in charge, Billericay, 9 yrs 8 mths (28.11.93).

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

TEAK veneer wall unit on castor wheels. 5ft by 5ft by 16" deep. Sliding glass display section. Lower sliding cabinet area. £35. Steve Tyrrell. F.S.U.

Ext 2429. **THREE** bedroom semi. Quiet location off Nobles Green Road, Eastwood. Excellent decorative order. New UPVC

windows, doors. Large heated conservatory. New light oak kitchen. Bathroom with electric shower. Gas central heating. £64,995 ono. Dc David Blaxland. Basildon Scenes of Crime.

SONY Video 8, Autofocus video camera, plus accessories. Six years old. £75ono. Dc Bell, Maldon. Ext 3727.

WORKBENCH. Wooden 6' long 2' wide 3' high. Brand new. £30. Two new wooden gates 2' 9" wide, 6' high. £15 each. D Edwards (0376) 328799.

HOUSE share. Large

Eighty officers pay tribute to Byron Bastow



Jane and Byron Bastow.

Guard of honour for popular Pc

NEARLY 50 uniformed officers formed a guard of honour in a tiny village churchyard to pay tribute to popular Clacton constable Byron Bastow.

A total of 80 policemen and women, including Chief Constable John Burrow, made the journey to the Suffolk village of St. James South Elmham last month for the funeral of the 58-year-old officer.

A well-known local musician and brass player, Pc. Bastow was a former member of the Essex Police Band, and more recently played with the Essex Concert Band and the Abbeygate Players.

He had served almost 30 years with Essex Police, the last 22 in the Clacton area. Apart from a short

spell as property officer, he had worked as a controller for many years.

He met his wife, former WPC. Jane Willcock, after the two first made contact on the IRIS computer when Jane was temporarily working in control at Chelmsford.

They started writing to each other, and quickly found they shared identical tastes in books and music.

They eventually arranged to meet five years ago, and married in 1991, the year Jane took medical retirement from the Force following a serious car accident.

The couple had bought their bungalow with an acre of grounds near Halesworth ready for Byron's retirement next summer.

He died on November 6, within weeks of cancer being diagnosed. Jane paid tribute to his colleagues for their support during Byron's short illness, and for the turnout at his funeral.

Donations to the Halesworth Community Care Fund in Byron's name have raised several hundred pounds.



Colleagues of Clacton Pc. Byron Bastow form a guard of honour at his funeral, filling the Suffolk churchyard.

Death of former Chief Supt. Willis Vickers

FORMER Essex Chief Superintendent Willis Vickers died last month, aged 74. Mr. Vickers, who served for 30 years at Colchester, Romford, Pitsea, Epping, Basildon and Harlow, retired in 1976.

Mr. Vickers joined the Colchester Borough Police in 1946, after nine years Army service. His police career included a three-year secondment as Deputy Commandant of the No 5 District Police Training Centre between 1961 and 1964.

He was promoted to Superintendent in 1965 and became Staff Officer to the HMI.

He also served as Chairman of "D" District of the Superintendents' Association and a member of the National Executive Committee.

Mr. Vickers was awarded the Queen's Police Medal for his service. He died on November 29, leaving a widow Olive. The couple lived in Congleton, Cheshire.

OBITUARIES

The Force extends its sympathies to the families of the following officers:

Ex-Sgt. Arthur Plunkett, aged 69, who retired in 1979, died 28.11.93.

Ex-Sgt. John Davies, aged 74, who retired in 1976, died 29.11.93.

Ex-Pc. Keith Artis, aged 87, who retired in 1960, died 25.11.93.

Ex-Sgt. James Young, aged 77, who retired in 1962, died 6.12.93.

ARE YOU USING THIS FREE FACILITY?

Essex Crime Prevention Library

Located at
**The Crime Prevention Section,
Essex Police Headquarters,
Gainsborough Crescent,
Chelmsford.**

A COMPREHENSIVE CRIME PREVENTION LIBRARY COMPRISING:-

- BOOKS
- POSTERS
- BROCHURES
- LEAFLETS
- HARD COPY AND COMPUTERISED CATALOGUE
- VIDEOS AND SLIDES

AVAILABLE TO ANYONE INTERESTED IN CRIME PREVENTION
Contact HQ Crime Prevention
on Ednet 2435

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and Rank
Station Home Tel
Date Signed

FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

ENGLAND TEAM

Pc. Sarah Kedge of Grays was selected to represent the England speed swimming and Lifesaving team on December 18 and 19.

EPEE

Sgt. John Sones of Braintree came second in the British Police Epee championships, held at the Metropolitan Police Training School in November.

BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER

The Force billiards and snooker championships were held at Shoebury in November. Dc. James Cousen of Westcliff won the billiards, and Pc. Steven Goodair of Colchester won the snooker. Both will go on to represent Essex Police in the No. 5 Region championships.

CROKER CUP

Due to the Wivenhoe report concerning the

restructuring of the Force areas, the 1994 Croker Cup will not start until April 1.

The following 1993 Croker Cup finals were due to be played before December 20:

Billiards - South East v HQ; Darts - South East v North East; Snooker - North East v South; Table Tennis - North East v Central.

BADMINTON

The Croker Cup badminton was held at Hockley on December 8, with the following results:

HQ 16 pts (5 Croker Cup pts).

South East 16 pts (5 Croker Cup pts).

Central 12 pts (2).

North East 3 pts (1).

South 0 pts (1).

South West 0 (1).

North West were not represented.

SQUASH

South East have claimed a walk over against North West in the Croker Cup squash final. 6 Croker Cup points to South East, none to North West.

Five gold medals for Essex ladies in Guernsey MICHELLE MAKES A BIG SPLASH

NEWCOMER Michelle Picot led the Essex challenge with a hat-trick of victories as the Force swimming team made waves at the National Police short course championships in Guernsey last month.

Sarah Kedge added two more gold medals for the Essex ladies, and the team picked up two silvers in the relays to round off a superb performance.

The nine-strong Essex team proved themselves a major threat against strong opposition.

CONFIDENT

Michelle was the first to knock the confident Metropolitan team, as well as surprising her own team mates, when she took the 50m butterfly title in a time of 33 secs.

Then came Sarah's gold in the 50m backstroke, beating the Met. swimmers into second and third place with a time of 34.78 secs.

Lynn Smith swam well to take fifth place with a time of 37.73.

In the 100m freestyle Sarah narrowly missed a placing, coming fourth in a time of 1 min 10.41 secs.

Joined by Angela Hack, the ladies 4 x 25m Medley team provided a tough challenge for the Mets, who narrowly beat them into second place, with Sussex third.

Michelle, claiming fatigue, still managed to take the 50m freestyle title in 29.55 secs, with Sarah taking fourth place in 31.22.

Sarah then took her second gold in the 100m backstroke, with Lynn taking

the bronze.

Michelle made it four out of four for Essex in the ladies 50m individual events, with first place in the breaststroke. Angela took fifth place in this event.

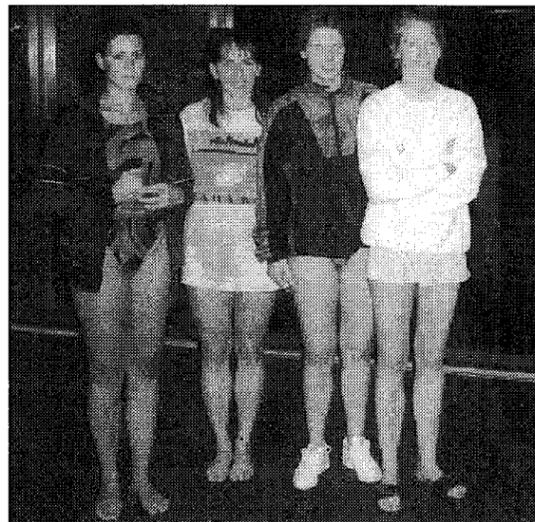
The ladies went into the final, and probably most important, event of the tour - the freestyle 4 x 25m relay - in hot competition with Sussex and the Mets. As their opponents busily rearranged their teams, the buzz going round the pool was that the Essex Beavers were a major threat.

That proved to be the case, with the Mets, again narrowly taking the title with a time of 58.64, Essex finishing one tenth of a second behind in 58.74 and Sussex coming in third with 59 secs.

The men also performed well, with Steve Casey getting 6th place in the 100m breaststroke, and Chris Mathlin coming 4th in the 100m backstroke.

PIPPED

In the 4 x 50m medley relay, the Essex men took fourth place, and Brendon Cox was pipped into 4th place in the 50m breast-



MAKING WAVES: The successful Essex ladies team at the National Police Short Course Swimming Championships in Guernsey last month.

stroke, recording the same time, 37.64, as the bronze medal winner.

Ian Wright, a newcomer to the team, took a creditable 7th place in the Over 40s 25m backstroke, and 10th place in the 50m freestyle.

The men rounded off a good championships with 6th place from 15 teams in the 4 x 50m freestyle relay.

The Essex Beavers now look set to mount a serious challenge at the Nationals in Sheffield in April 1994.

Essex team: Ladies - Dc. Angela Hack (Canvey), Pc. Sarah Kedge (Grays), Pc. Michelle Picot (Braintree), Pc. Lynn Smith (Braintree). Men - Steve Casey, Brendon Cox, Paul Clarke, Chris Mathlin, Ian Wright.



THE Essex men's team at the championships.

TRIBUTE TO BRAVE MARATHON MAN



INSPECTOR Maurice Brazier (pictured second from left) was the inspiration behind the 1992 Essex Police marathon team which raised more than £5,000 for the Southend Hospital Cancer Unit.

Maurice, who ran the London Marathon in April after overcoming cancer, died this month after the disease recurred. A member of Southend Athletic Club, he was well known for his contribution to Force sport. Full story on front page.

Picture courtesy of the Evening Echo.

Champion lifesavers

THE ESSEX Police A team won the Metropolitan Mixed Life Saving championships, which were held at Hendon last month. The Essex B team was placed third.

The following officers competed: Pc. Patricia O'Toole, Pc. Lynette Smith, Pc. Helen Kosky, Pc. Susan Schwarz, Pc. Michelle Picot, Sgt. Edward Travers, Pc. Philip Dodd, Pc. Derek Davies, Pc. Steven Casey.

Fun Day cash boosts children's hospice appeal

ESSEX Police became the first in the county to make a major donation to the Little Haven Children's Hospice Appeal, when the Force handed over a £5,000 cheque from its Fun Day monies.

The £3 million appeal fund has been launched to set up the first children's hospice in the county at Southend.

The Essex Police Marathon team has also pledged to support the appeal in 1994.

A total of £225,000 has now been donated to Essex-based charities over the past seven years from the proceeds of the Force's annual Fun Days.

A further £5,000 of Fun Day monies was distributed on November 2 as follows:

Basildon Scouts £100, 999 to Albania £100, Maldon/East MS Society £200, Friends of Chelmsford Training Centre £200, Acorn Village £250, Colchester Headway £100, Society for Colitis and Crohn's Disease £100, Bliss (Baby Life Support Systems) £200.

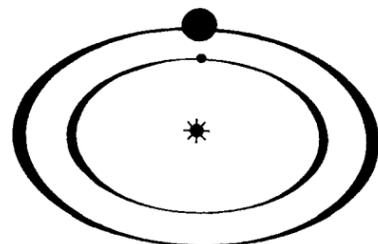
Mind £200, Relate £100, Redwings Horse Sanctuary

£100, Victim Support (Southend) £500, Victim Support (Colchester) £500, St. Christopher's School for the Disabled £100.

Thaxted Youth Club £200, Woodacre Home for Mentally Disabled £200, Essex Voluntary Association for the Blind

£200, Medics £200, Riding for the Disabled £200, Colchester Football £100, Brentwood Children's Hospital £250, 7th Rayleigh Scouts £300, Peter Sheldrake's Polish lady £500, Remus Horse Sanctuary attended and made £100.

Mindbender



This month's quiz is based on two planets in orbit around a sun with which they now form a straight line.

Both orbit in a clockwise direction and the outer one takes 19 years to complete an orbit. The inner planet takes 8 years to complete an orbit. When will they next form a straight line with each other and the sun?

For your trivia test name the fabulous bird associated with sun worship and representing resurrection and immortality?

The answers to last month's brain teaser are:

1) Vowels are each worth 8 and consonants are each worth 9. They are then totalled to give the answer.

2) Henry Moore.

LAW SPORT...LAW SPORT...LAW SPORT...LAW SPORT**Mike's celebrity guests give handicapped kids a knockout Christmas****Sporting lunch packs a punch****By Mick Davies**

THE main hall at Harlow Sports Centre was transformed into a festive arena earlier this month when more than 500 disabled youngsters were treated to a special Christmas lunch.

The youngsters, aged between five and eighteen years, came from special schools and organisations in Essex and Hertfordshire to enjoy the feast, which was laid on by the Harlow-based President's Sporting Club.

DISCO

In a party atmosphere, the youngsters enjoyed a disco and cabaret, and were able to be photographed with the host of TV and sporting personalities that gave up their time to make the youngsters' day one to remember.

The star attraction was Big Frank Bruno, who has been President of the Sporting Club for the last seven years.

Other stars from the world of sport included John Childs, Essex and England cricketer, Eamon Martin, London Marathon winner and Commonwealth Games gold medalist, Debbi Marti,



JUST CHAMPION: The President himself, boxing hero Frank Bruno, chats with Sporting Club chairman Chf. Insp. Mike Jackson.

AAA high jump champion, Jenny Stoute, Commonwealth Games gold medalist in the 4 x 400m relay, Wendy Jeal, Commonwealth Games silver medalist in the hurdles, plus Micky Hazard and David Kerslake from Tottenham Hotspur.

TELEVISION

From the world of television there was Graham Cole, who plays Pc Tony Stamp in 'The Bill', Anna Morgan from London's Burning, and some of the cast of Byker Grove and Grange Hill.

The President's Sporting Club was formed thirteen years ago with the specific aim of raising money to provide sports facilities for handicapped youngsters. Since its formation more than £160,000 has been raised.



ALL SMILES: Athletics stars Jenny Stoute (left) and Debbie Marti join in the festive fun at the Sporting Lunch.

CRICKET TOUR TO ZIMBABWE**THE ESSEX Police Cricket team is proposing to avoid the winter chill next year and head off to the warmth of Zimbabwe for a 1994 Winter Tour.**

The team needs to get together 25 people to make the tour worthwhile and this number of people can be accommodated by Police families in Harare.

The estimated cost of the tour is £1,175 per person, although the cost and the length of time spent in Zimbabwe can be trimmed to suit individual

needs.

Wives and girlfriends are invited, as are supporters who would enjoy this type of holiday, but the mainstay of those travelling must be Force cricketers who together with Don Topley and perhaps John Stephenson from Essex County Cricket Club, will provide

the opposition for some quite strong cricketing teams throughout Zimbabwe.

Anyone interested in the tour should get in touch with tour manager Det Insp Bob Miller on Ext 5890 or anyone else on the tour committee which is: Dc Lorrie Austin (CSB HQ), DI

Phil Mellon (Harlow CID), Pc Martin Orley (F.S.U.) and Dc Rob Dix (Stansted Mountfitchet).

If there is sufficient support it is hoped a meeting can be arranged for the end of January so interested parties can discuss the finer details of the tour with the committee.

Years can't get Andy down**By Roy Kebbell**

"AFTER its most successful season last winter, the S.E. Police League is once again likely to attract good fields and sharp competition and Herts will be keen to hold onto their title.

The Force should show better this year than last winter's sixth place. Cadet runners like Mick Barlow, Richard Madden, Graham Blois and John Pickford, our top scorers last year, are 12 months older and reinforced by Andy Down."

The above is an extract from *The Law*, September 1970, and I am pleased to report that Andy is still going strong even if some of the others are well past their sell-by dates. By this time I had 'retired'

from the squad, having first run for the Force before the league was officially formed, and there was to be a wait of 13 years before I donned my shorts again. I've renewed my kit but need the legs to match.

Anyway, enough of the nostalgia, let's get back to the present campaign. There was another excellent turnout from Essex for the last race at Guildford. I have not yet received details of the placings, but on numbers alone we should win the 'B' team competition.

The first league race of the season, held at Basildon in October, saw the Sussex men coming home first with 68 points followed by

Thames Valley, Hampshire and Essex with 86, 100 and 123 points respectively.

The first two individual places went to McHarg of Thames Valley and Lelliott of Sussex but there were some fine performances from Essex men Mick Bond (4th), Mike Kliskey (6th), and Andy Down (11th).

Ian Jennings was next placed for Essex in 36th position but with some good packing behind him we were worthy winners of the 'B' team competition with 360 points, ahead of Sussex who gained 433 points.

The other Essex placings were Cakebread (45), Mathlin (52), Murnaghan (53),

Williams (59), Eves (64), Rayner (65), Matthews (67), Kieran (69) and Barley (72). The veterans minus Barry Daymond, Barry Ansell, and Roy Kebbell did rather badly to finish fifth.

The Essex ladies finished fourth thanks to the efforts of Alison Stewart (6th), Janet Adcock (9th), and Liz Boothman (joint 16th).

The fourth race of the season is at Wimbledon on Wednesday 19th January 1994, at 2.30pm. Transport from Headquarters Training School at 11am.

The Croker Cup cross country event will not be staged until the Autumn of 1994 because of complications with the change to the new command units.

Step up and get in shape**AFTER all that Christmas dinner and pudding how about starting the new year with a resolution to shape up and keep fit?**

Two classes are currently being run in Chelmsford with qualified RSA instructors Catherine Railton, Maggie Goodchild and Derek Sewell putting people through their paces.

Every Thursday night between 7.30 and 8.30 High and Low impact aer-

obics is taught at Police HQ and is free to members of the Sports and Social Club, and costs only £2 for non-members. There is no need to book for this class, everyone is welcome so just turn up.

On Tuesday nights there is Step Aerobics at

Chelmsford Police Station with two classes running from 7-8pm and 8-9pm. The cost of these classes is £2 for members and £3 for non-members. Places are limited so book well in advance.

The classes are open to everyone, including non-members of the Force. For further information and to book classes please telephone (0245) 491212, ext 3559.

THE LAW

The Law was edited this month by Paul Dunt and Jenny Grinter.

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