POLICE officers and divisional admin staff, whose jobs will change as a result of the setting up of 10 new police areas, will know their new roles by March 1.

Personal interviews with all police officers of inspector rank and above have already taken place as the new structure of Essex Police begins to take shape.

The 10 new areas will be known as Divisions, and each will have a prefix letter and name as follows:

A Division - Braintree; B Division - Basildon; C Division - Chelmsford; D Division - Tendring; E Division - Colchester; F Division - Thurrock; G Division - Harlow; H Division - Southend; J Division - Rayleigh; K Division - Stansted Airport.

Confidential discussions about the numbers of management posts needed have already taken place within the Force’s Police Group, and Chief Officers will start matching police officers with the new posts in early February. The Chief Constable has restated that all reductions in posts arising out of restructuring will be dealt with by natural wastage.

When the new Divisions become operational on April 1, the aim is to provide a consistent level of administrative support and have the new administrative structure in place.

Job descriptions and gradings are being formulated by the management services team from personnel department. They will assess what admin structures are necessary, and take account of the individual wishes and aspirations of administrative staff.

CID admin, Divisional Process Units and typing services will remain unchanged by April 1.

The existing units will service the new Divisions, with some changes in line management. The future structure of these departments will be researched at a later stage.

Territorial review teams, which are due to be created by July 1, will initially have the police staff allocated to allow sufficient research and development to be completed.

Any civilian posts within the new Divisions will be recruited only when the research is completed.

Three teams will review the 10 territorial divisions and the operational elements based at HQ.

In a slight change to the original plan for a permanent HQ review team, HQ review will now cover only management and personnel functions and will be carried out by professional heads of department and/or ad hoc teams of specialists.

A further edition of the newsletter is planned in February to give you more detailed information as the restructuring process gets into full swing.

INSIDE

Drink-drive figures - page 5

Schools working together with the police - pages 6 & 7

Improve your paperwork - page 9

POLICE officers have been awarded the Queen's Police Medal in the New Year's Honours List.

Brentwood-based Detective Sergeant Bob Davis becomes the first Essex officer of his rank to be awarded the medal.

Mr. Jim Dickinson, who returns to Essex Police as Deputy Chief Constable this month after two years as Deputy Commandant of the Police Staff College, Brummhill, also receives the QPM.

Mr. Dickinson previously served as Assistant to Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary (Crime and Technical Services), taking up this prestigious Home Office post after completing a 1 year-long course at the Defence College.

His first post in Essex was as Assistant Chief Constable (Operations) at Essex and Southend police for more than 30 years. Mr. Dickinson has also served as head of the Police Research and Services Unit Crime Group.

DS, Davis, 51, who is one of the Force’s most widely travelled officers, has also completed 30 years police service.

His CID career has taken him to Nigeria, Spain, France, Gibraltar, and Morocco in pursuit of major criminals.

He has received many commendations from Judges and the Chief Constable for his investigative work into murders, robberies and other serious crimes.

Before becoming a career detective, DS Davis served in uniform at Maldon, Chelmsford, South Ockendon, and on the then new community involvement unit at Basildon, covering the Fyrmans beat.

His first commendations came after he helped clear up a tractor ringing conspiracy which covered Essex and the East End of London.

In 1979, DS Davis was on the team investigating the Mafia killing of Joe Turone. The following year he worked with a special robbery squad on a “supersgrass” inquiry which cleared up a series of armed robberies on Post Offices and isolated pubs across the South East of England.

After promotion to Sergeant, he was involved in Operation Brinkage which netted a series of armed robbers at luxury houses in Essex and Surrey.

His inquiries in Nigeria followed the discovery of the torso of an African woman at Plane tip. The killer was working, under a false identity, as an airline pilot in Nigeria, and was also wanted for a murder in Austria. He was extradited to stand trial at Chelmsford, and jailed for life.

In another highly-publicised case, DS Davis arrested a man wanted for armed robbery during the suspect’s wedding ceremony in Nottingham.

In 1989, he travelled to Gibraltar several times to organise the arrest of a man who had previously escaped from Billericay court.

DS Davis, who is married with three children, said he considered the Queen’s Police Medal was awarded in recognition of his work but of the work of Essex Police.

“Police work is a job that can stand alone,” he said. “You have got to have support, and I have certainly received support from Chief Officers down to constables.”

DS Bob Davis.

FOR three days this week Essex Police and the RMP joined forces on horseback for the first time in history to patrol the Garrison town of Colchester.

See page 3 for full details.

Honours awarded to Essex officers

NEW ESSEX POLICE DIVISIONS

A Division - Braintree; B Division - Basildon; C Division - Chelmsford; D Division - Tendring; E Division - Colchester; F Division - Thurrock; G Division - Harlow; H Division - Southend; J Division - Rayleigh; K Division - Stansted Airport.

POLICE officers and divisional admin staff, whose jobs will change as a result of the setting up of 10 new police areas, will know their new roles by March 1.

Personal interviews with all police officers of inspector rank and above have already taken place as the new structure of Essex Police begins to take shape.

The 10 new areas will be known as Divisions, and each will have a prefix letter and name as follows:

A Division - Braintree; B Division - Basildon; C Division - Chelmsford; D Division - Tendring; E Division - Colchester; F Division - Thurrock; G Division - Harlow; H Division - Southend; J Division - Rayleigh; K Division - Stansted Airport.

Confidential discussions about the numbers of management posts needed have already taken place within the Force’s Police Group, and Chief Officers will start matching police officers with the new posts in early February.

The Chief Constable has restated that all reductions in posts arising out of restructuring will be dealt with by natural wastage.

When the new Divisions become operational on April 1, the aim is to provide a consistent level of administrative support and have the new administrative structure in place.

Job descriptions and gradings are being formulated by the management services team from personnel department. They will assess what admin structures are necessary, and take account of the individual wishes and aspirations of administrative staff.

CID admin, Divisional Process Units and typing services will remain unchanged by April 1.

The existing units will service the new Divisions, with some changes in line management. The future structure of these departments will be researched at a later stage.

Territorial review teams, which are due to be created by July 1, will initially have the police staff allocated to allow sufficient research and development to be completed.

Any civilian posts within the new Divisions will be recruited only when the research is completed.

Three teams will review the 10 territorial divisions and the operational elements based at HQ.

In a slight change to the original plan for a permanent HQ review team, HQ review will now cover only management and personnel functions and will be carried out by professional heads of department and/or ad hoc teams of specialists.

A further edition of the newsletter is planned in February to give you more detailed information as the restructuring process gets into full swing.

INSIDE

Drink-drive figures - page 5

Schools working together with the police - pages 6 & 7

Improve your paperwork - page 9

POLICE officers have been awarded the Queen’s Police Medal in the New Year’s Honours List.

Brentwood-based Detective Sergeant Bob Davis becomes the first Essex officer of his rank to be awarded the medal.

Mr. Jim Dickinson, who returns to Essex Police as Deputy Chief Constable this month after two years as Deputy Commandant of the Police Staff College, Brummhill, also receives the QPM.

Mr. Dickinson previously served as Assistant to Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary (Crime and Technical Services), taking up this prestigious Home Office post after completing a 1 year-long course at the Defence College.

His first post in Essex was as Assistant Chief Constable (Operations) at Essex and Southend police for more than 30 years. Mr. Dickinson has also served as head of the Police Research and Services Unit Crime Group.

DS, Davis, 51, who is one of the Force’s most widely travelled officers, has also completed 30 years police service.

His CID career has taken him to Nigeria, Spain, France, Gibraltar, and Morocco in pursuit of major criminals.

He has received many commendations from Judges and the Chief Constable for his investigative work into murders, robberies and other serious crimes.

Before becoming a career detective, DS Davis served in uniform at Maldon, Chelmsford, South Ockendon, and on the then new community involvement unit at Basildon, covering the Fyrmans beat.

His first commendations came after he helped clear up a tractor ringing conspiracy which covered Essex and the East End of London.

In 1979, DS Davis was on the team investigating the Mafia killing of Joe Turone. The following year he worked with a special robbery squad on a “supersgrass” inquiry which cleared up a series of armed robberies on Post Offices and isolated pubs across the South East of England.

After promotion to Sergeant, he was involved in Operation Brinkage which netted a series of armed robbers at luxury houses in Essex and Surrey.

His inquiries in Nigeria followed the discovery of the torso of an African woman at Plane tip. The killer was working, under a false identity, as an airline pilot in Nigeria, and was also wanted for a murder in Austria. He was extradited to stand trial at Chelmsford, and jailed for life.

In another highly-publicised case, DS Davis arrested a man wanted for armed robbery during the suspect’s wedding ceremony in Nottingham.

In 1989, he travelled to Gibraltar several times to organise the arrest of a man who had previously escaped from Billericay court.

DS Davis, who is married with three children, said he considered the Queen’s Police Medal was awarded in recognition of his work but of the work of Essex Police.

“Police work is a job that can stand alone,” he said. “You have got to have support, and I have certainly received support from Chief Officers down to constables.”

DS Bob Davis.
Changes ahead for 1994

WE ARE now into a New Year in which we are about to see some changes, both locally and nationally.

On the local front, we have the re-structuring of the Force into 10 units, whether they be called basic command units or divisions.

By now, all members will have received a briefing package which highlights the proposed changes that are due to come into force on April 1.

At the same time, it is hoped to introduce new variable shift patterns for the Force which were reported on in the last edition of The Law.

Shift Patterns

We have been receiving many calls in the Federation office regarding the proposed changes and also with regard to the change in the start time of the Force working day from 6.00am to 7.00am.

The matter was raised with the Chief Constable at the last Joint Negotiating and Consultative committee meeting where it was agreed there would be a full review of the working day after six months.

If this was not successful then the Force would consider returning to a 6.00am start or looking at other options.

This will be closely monitored by your Joint Branch Board and you will be kept informed.

The new variable shift package has now been circulated and is causing concern to some members, especially with regard to what is known as the "slow changeover" pattern.

This is to do with working one six hour day and one 10 hour day within an eight hour cycle of shifts, which will enable officers to do away with the quick changeover and also not to be sleeping on a rest day.

Your Joint Branch board is concerned with regard to the slow changeover in that it may be used in other instances for operational needs outside of what might be proposed in a shift pattern.

There have been lengthy discussions at the Joint Branch board meetings and at the Joint Board Executive Meetings and it was agreed that further legal advice be obtained from the Federation solicitors, Russell, Jones and Walker, with regard to the slow changeover implications and also as to the variable shift package in general.

When that legal opinion is to hand, we will act on it in the best interests of you, the members.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

FOLLOWING recent instances within the Force area, it has become necessary to clarify Essex Police policy with regard to the security of information on the Police National Computer and, with this in mind, I would point all members to Essex Police Policy Guidelines P5/93 and would suggest it to take careful note, especially in relation to the first paragraph and the definition of official Police purpose, so they will not fall foul of the discipline system in future.

Conditions of Service

On the national arena, negotiations are still going on with regard to Conditions of Service at the Police Negotiating Board.

There is no information available to date but it is understood, as reported previously, that the Home Secretary is expecting recommendations by April 3.

As soon as we are aware of any proposals that have been agreed, then you will be kept informed.

Housing Allowance

With regard to all aspects of the housing allowance and the changes from September 1, 1994, I received many calls after the latest Police Review when the National Secretary, Dick Coynes, was saying that the members should consider purchasing properties prior to September 1 to be sure of receiving a housing allowance.

At this stage, we are not aware of any agreement that has been reached regarding housing allowance, although I am aware that one of our detached beat officers did write to the Home Office with his concerns and received a response which I have sent to the National Secretary at Surbiton.

That response tended to indicate from the Home Office that all officers in service as at August 31, 1994 would be protected and that would include the change in provided accommodation.

I have yet to have this clarified but I would say from this stage to hang fire in rushing into purchasing property until you know the full circumstances.

Even if we do not receive confirmation until April, it will still allow members six months in which to purchase property or rent property to enable them to receive a housing allowance.

If any member has a particular problem which they would like clarified, I will be happy to advise them.

I can be contacted on extension 2797 at Headquarters.

November Budget

BY SID FOSTER - GEORGE BURROWS GROUP INSURANCE

Mr Clarke has taken the opportunity to introduce the first ever combined financial statement and budget report.

Changes to National Insurance contributions and social security benefits were also announced.

A large number of proposals were included.

Some of the most important tax changes were the further reduction to mortgage interest relief and married couples allowance to 15% in 1995/96, the replacement of the business expansion scheme, the increase in retirement relief and a new roll-over relief for investment of gains into unquoted trading companies.

Financial advice

GEORGE Burrows provide advice on financial matters on a regular basis at surgeries held at the Federation Office at Headquarters.

Surgery dates are as follows:

Tuesday 12th April 1994

Tuesday 25th April 1994

Tuesday 10th October 1994

Should these dates not be convenient, alternative arrangements may be made. Please telephone the Federation Office to organise your appointment.

German minicruise

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

The cruise will be made on the Swedish line's Seaways vessel, MS Hamburg. Amenities include cinemas, disco, night club, hairdressers, bar, restaurant, ladies' sauna, fishing tackle, etc.

Accommodation is available in two, three and four berth cabins, each with shower and toilet.

Time Table

1350 Sunday 13 March Depart Harwich

1350 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.

Mounties patrol Garrison town

The festive season is decided to paint the known for prompting some stranger emotions but the woman from Westcliff painting a lampost green surely takes the biscuit.

When questioned on Christmas morning, the lady in her 30s told officers at the Windsor Road home that she was a bit bored and surely takes the biscuit. She thenPainting the unsightly lamppost outside her house with a fresh lick of paint to cheer it up.

The six PCs and one police horse that had wrapped itself around the man's arm.

Storm in a soft top

One man's spirits were dampened when he broke down on the M11 last week.

HORSE owners in the South Woodham Ferrers area of Essex could be galloping towards a more crime free environment with the launch of the Woodham and District Horsewatch Scheme. The Woodham Ferrers Association Ltd. had been set up with the help of the Essex Police and the Woodham Ferrers Town Council.

The scheme has been a success and has already been set up in the county and has proved to be great success. Four horses have been stolen and there has been an increase in the number of stolen horses. The Woodham Ferrers area has had a number of horse thefts and owners are being urged to be more vigilant. The police have also been more proactive in investigating horse thefts.

Get off your horse and fight that crime

A MOTORIST miraculously walked away from his crushed vehicle after an horrific crash on the A12 last week.

Officers from the emergency services were amazed to find that the driver had escaped the devastation pictured. The accident blocked the A12 for two hours causing massive jams and it prompted renewed calls for improvements to that particular stretch of the road which has claimed the lives of eight lives in the last five years.

Campagne Keith Biggles, who lives beside the A12, said: "I see an accident there almost every day - some minor, some major. It has to be one of the most dangerous stretches of road in Essex."

A public consultation has been promised in the summer by the Department of Transport. However, councillors from Braintree have been told at a planning committee meeting that a local relief road proposed, south of Witham, and the removal of dangerous slip roads in the area, were not included in current road spending programmes.

Video link for child abuse victims

Facilities for interview of child abuse victims in Chelmsford are being improved. The Mounties patrol room with a video link to enable parents to watch their children being interviewed, and a special downstairs interview room for disabled children are being added to the police sympathetic interview suite.

Dance aid for Croatia

LUMPY Trousers have been raised nearly £700 to send an aid convoy to Croatia. The dance evening with live Rock 'n' Roll, Blues and 60s music, played by the Halstead fun band called "Lumpy Trousers" - featuring Pc Pete Crufields from Hedingham - raised the cash. It will help fund the convoy of food, bedding and medical aid being organised by Halstead-based Pc Alan Diver, due to depart in March.

Miraculous escape from crushed car

Offbeat

Painting the town green

The festive season is known for prompting some stranger emotions but the woman from Westcliff painting a lampost green surely takes the biscuit.

When questioned on Christmas morning, the lady in her 30s told officers she was a bit bored and decided to paint the unsightly lamppost outside her Windsor Road home with a fresh lick of paint to cheer it up.

A Christmas snake bite

Meanwhile a 29-year-old man spent Christmas afternoon in hospital after being treated for a snake bite after a tussle with a python.

Officers were called to the Lower Barn Pet centre in London Road by the man's wife who were unable to remove the python which had wrapped itself around the man's arm.

Strained relations

TIPSTEER tea drinkers became so browned off with Sgt Martin Piper after his non-stop moans regarding unwashed mugs, that they motioned their noisily mugs and sprang a Christmas surprise for him.

The six PCs and one De delivered a cassette with a "Brown Stains In The Cup." and he had tears in his eyes when he listened to it.

Meanwhile there was no New Year's Resolution in sight in the Tiptree Station kitchen - mugs remained unwashed.

In a unique move, Essex Police joined forces this week with the Royal Military Police to carry out mounted patrols of Colchester Town.

Outside the showing season the RMP usually just use their horses for patrols in Aldershot, where they are based.

But in an attempt to increase high-profile policing in other Garrison towns, two members of 156 Provost Company joined Constables Michael Caunce and Paul Sheffield.

Accessible

Other schemes have already been set up in the county and have proved to be great success. Four horses have been stolen and there has been an increase in the number of stolen horses. The Woodham Ferrers area has had a number of horse thefts and owners are being urged to be more vigilant. The police have also been more proactive in investigating horse thefts.

Experience

Although no arrests were made a number of people were spoken to, mainly motorists, and both parties found the idea a good learning experience.

Pc Paul Sheffield explained on Tuesday: "It was very successful, I think the public liked it and the military definitely like it. The two officers are going back to recommend that the patrols be carried out regularly.

"On smaller horses and wearing red instead of black riding hats, the military took to the streets alongside Clouseau and Closeus.

"Pc Sheffield: "Because the military deal with the public and with the military they are used to people obeying their orders. They are used to people answering back, so town centre experience can only be advantageous.

"On the other side of the coin we can learn from policing the ranges, learn angle technique, which can only be a bonus for when we have to carry out searches."

The RMP mounted troops will also be seen later this year when they attend the Essex Police Fun Day.

"Closeus, the latest recruit in the Southend Mounted Section having joined in February, celebrated his 8th birthday on January 18.

The Ring

In The Ring they had com-
The subject of arming the police has reared its controversial head in the Southend Evening Echo, in which retired CID officer Ron Sewell pleads for the police to be armed as "Law and order in this country is at its lowest ebb and completely ineffectual," to quote from the article. Other reasons for arming the Police are also mentioned.

I refer to your article in Letters Extra in your December issue, "Who Cares for the Police Officers?", where DS Robert Cordery, states that he was ashamed to read a civilian staff member's letter concerning Year holiday entitlement for civilian employees. He wonders if the fact that civilians are to receive only three of the six days holiday entitled to Police Officers during the Year holiday.

DS Cordery would not be so ashamed if he was a civilian SOA. I have worked for five years in this capacity, these three days spent on night duty in the control room at Basildon, over the Christmas Holidays. This year I have worked three of the Bank Holidays (including Christmas Day) as part of my normal duties and the other three have fallen on my normal Rest Days.

Perhaps DS Cordery would like to say which three days he feels I am most entitled to claim compensation for.

I wonder how it has escaped DS Cordery's notice that civilians are working alongside their police colleagues at HQIR and in control rooms and front offices throughout the Essex Force, on the same 24-hour shift rota covering the full 365 days of the year.

Surely, he would be the first to express concern at exactly the same duty, week in, week out, while those civilians are taking full advantage of their three days off. Is it not time for the Essex Police to listen to its civilians and partake in the same uniformed activities, instead of being a front line manager, seated behind a desk, out on the streets where we can communicate with the public.

In fact, back to basics.

John CARRINGTON, Station Officer, Basildon.
Police deal with 74 road accidents from midnight to midday on January 1

**FREEZE AND FLOODS BRING ROAD CHAOS**

By Jenny Griner

ICY weather brought New Year chaos to Essex roads as 74 accidents were reported to police in the first 12 hours of the year.

Meanwhile, the road acci-
dent figures for 1993, which have yet to be finalised, sug-
gest the significant annual reduction in the number of deaths and serious injuries on the county's roads seen in recent years has slowed.

The unconfirmed total of 82 road deaths in 1993, compares with 83 fatalities in 1992, and the number of casualties appears similar to the previous year's figure.

But 1994 got off to a bad start when a 20-year-old pedestrian was seriously injured in a collision with a car in Laindon before the New Year was one hour old.

And unlucky driver Robert Barker was run over twice after his car devel-
oped a tyre problem on the M1 near Harlow.

He was walking along the verge of the off-slip road to summon help when he was struck by a car which had skidded on ice.

As a doctor and ambul-
ce crew treated him on the verge, a second car skidded past a police Range Rover, cones and signs and on top of him, causing mul-
tiple injuries. A passer-by who had stopped to help and an ambulance woman were also injured.

A second Essex officer's first road death of 1994 also came in the early hours of New Year's Day. An 85-year-old woman whose Mini car had broken down in collision with a Transit van at Writtle on December 31 lost her fight for life early the following morning.

A third Essex officer, the driver of a Renault 25 died minutes after crashing his car on the M11.

As the icy snap con-
tinued, the toll of accidents increased with 85 reported between 7.30am and 10.40am on January 7.

Torrential rain caused further problems for Essex motorists as minor roads flooded and surface water made driving conditions treacherous.

An elderly Metro driver at White Notley found him-
self out of his depth when he attempted to drive across a street flooded to a standstill. He waded to safety, but police and the AA spent half an hour recover-
ing his vehicle.

And it was certainly the weather for fish as two for-
rries loaded with sprats got into slippery situations on the icy roads in the Chelmsford area.

On January 3, an artic, loaded with 28 tons of sprats went in a ditch on the A148 road at South Woodham. The following day, an artic, with 20 tons of sprats on board skidded on a road along a one-and-a-half mile stretch of the road from North Fambridge to Woodham.

The road was covered with a foot of water.

And several accidents on the A12 on January 11 caused an afternoon of traf-
cic chaos. The trouble start-
ed when a Volvo articulated lorry carrying pasta swerved out of control and into the grass verge at Galleywood and overturned, forcing its front wheels into the air.

The driver was unhurt, but the 45-ton load caused further problems as numerous motorists were con-
tinued to a crime to right the road.

Further north, at Hatfield Peverel, a car was crushed under the wheels of a lorry and miracu-
ously the driver escaped unharmed.

**A NATIONAL Roll of Honour in memory of more than 500 Special Constables who have died in the course of duty has been dedicated at a spe-
cial service in Coventry Cathedral.**

The service is that of Parish Constable Henry Trigg of Berden, Essex, who was shot dead in front of his elderly par-
tient during an armed rob-
bery at his shoemaker's shop in Colchester.

A second Essex officer's death was recorded, that of Southend-on-Sea War Reserve Constable Edward Gillingham, who was killed when his horse was bunted in October 1940.

The service of dedication was performed by the Bishop of Warwick on January 16, and attended by the Princess Royal. Those remembered includ-
ed 147 officers of the Ulster Special Constabulary and the RUC Reserve whose deaths were mainly due to terror-
ism and accidents.

Many of the 529 officers listed were War Reserve Constables killed as a result of enemy action dur-
ing World War Two, while others died on duty through accidents or natu-
ral causes.

But by far the best-known name is that of St. Glenn Goodman, whose death at the hands of the IRA fol-
lowing a routine stop check of a car in North Yorkshire, highlighted the dangers faced by these vol-
unteer officers who work side by side with their reg-
ular colleagues.

St. Goodman, who died in 1984, was a serving Special Constable to be unfailingly killed during the course of the Second World War. The National Association of Special Constabulary Officers decided in 1990 to com-
pile a "Book of Remembrance". While the Special Constabulary has been in existence in various forms for more than four cen-
turies, it was decided to start the Book from 1801, the year in which the first statutory reference to spe-
cial constables was made in the Constables' Expenses Act. In 1813, the Special Constabulary Act established a firmer legal basis.

All volunteers who died on or as a result of police duty are listed, including Extra Constablies. Police

---

**For Charity**

**RAISE CASH FOR CHARITY**

**HIGH FLYERS**

---

**Messages, Police Reserves, and Centeniers (The Honorary Police of Jersey).**

"Further information about the Staying of Paul Constable Trigg at Berden is available in a History Notebook leaflet from the Essex Police Museum."
Jailbirds clock up air miles

JAILBREAKERS from Essex Police clocked up nearly 3,000 miles by air, land and sea in just 15 hours to raise hundreds of pounds for charity.

Two teams from Grays Division showed how to make a quick getaway to win the top titles in the annual Chelmsford Charity Jailbreak. The Thurrock team of Sgt Peter Redman, Pc Carol Manning and Pc Tony Boughey arranged a 28-hour return trip to Khartoum, courtesy of Sudan Airways.

Meanwhile the Tilbury Traffic team of Pc Steve Holgate, Pc Dave Homes and non-police pal Tony Edwards also leapt into a new Mondeo car, provided courtesy of Sally Line Ferries, before completing their journey of nearly 250 miles into Paris, accompanied from the outskirts by French police motorcyclists.

Prison at 9am, wearing their full prison attire - including ball and chain - the team leapt into a new Mondeo car, provided complete with driver by Ford dealer Colin Rate. After a stop at the Granada Services on the M25 to appeal for charity cash from customers, using their police helmets as collecting buckets, the team travelled to Heathrow Airport where a similar collection was made before boarding the flight.

These collections raised more than £90, helping the team to a fund-raising total of £760.

Cash collected is divided equally between the Essex Association of Boys Clubs, which arranges the event, and a charity of the team's choice - in this case, the Coach House, a nursing home for the young physically disabled at Woodward Heights, Grays.

The Thurrock team of Sgt Peter Redman, Pc Carol Manning and Pc Tony Boughey had arranged a 28-hour return trip to Khartoum, courtesy of Sudan Airways. Sgt Redman said: "As we were actually airborne at the midnight deadline the plane had certified our exact location some 130 nautical miles south of the Egypt/Sudan border approaching Khartoum."

After being released from Chelmsford Prison at 9am, wearing their full prison attire - including ball and chain - the team leapt into a new Mondeo car, provided complete with driver by Ford dealer Colin Rate. After a stop at the Granada Services on the M25 to appeal for charity cash from customers, using their police helmets as collecting buckets, the team travelled to Heathrow Airport where a similar collection was made before boarding the flight.

These collections raised more than £90, helping the team to a fund-raising total of £760.

Cash collected is divided equally between the Essex Association of Boys Clubs, which arranges the event, and a charity of the team's choice - in this case, the Coach House, a nursing home for the young physically disabled at Woodward Heights, Grays.

Meanwhile the Tilbury Traffic team of Pc Steve Holgate, Pc Dave Homes and non-police pal Tony Edwards also leapt into a new Mondeo car, provided courtesy of Sally Line Ferries, before completing their journey of nearly 250 miles into Paris, accompanied from the outskirts by French police motorcyclists.

The team raised around £500 to split between the Essex Association of Boys Clubs and Cancer Research.

By Jenny Grinter

Schools warned of drugs hoax

SCHOOLS in the county are being issued with information on LSD following a large number of hoax letters warning parents about drug-laced tattoos. During the last three years letters, usually on single-sided A4 paper, have been circulated claiming that a form of transfer or tattoo soaked in LSD is being sold to children and that when applied to the skin the drug is absorbed causing harmful effects.

It has even been suggested that the transfers have been laced with strychnine.

Investigation has shown that the letters are boxed and that there is no evidence of the existence of these tattoos anywhere in the UK.

There are, however, paper tabs, which are taken orally and range from 5mm to 5mm. These are usually perforated.

Two of the more common designs are pictured.

Since issuing 1,000 leaflets to schools, explaining the different types of LSD available and giving details about the hoax information, Inspector Dave Perry, Drugs Education Officer, has received a number of telephone calls from around the county telling of more collections raised.

“MR Perry says Essex is an hard-hit as any other county and in one case a stack of the hoax letters was left on tables at Southend Hospital’s Accident and Emergency Department leading innocent readers to believe it was advice being given by hospital staff. Anyone wanting more information about the letters or the leaflets should contact Inspector Perry or Schools Liaison Officer Sergeant Roger Hill on 0268 773399.”

By Kim W

Students tread the board

Final curtain

culture class

INE times out of 10 a teenager’s view of the police is negative. But one group of enterprising youngsters is trying to dispel the illusions by writing and staging a theatre production.

As part of it’s GCSE Community Theatre project drama students at Moulsham High School have produced Police and Young People - Perceptions and Misconceptions.

The idea of the year-long project is to pick a subject of social significance and investigate the role theatre can play in solving its problems.

Now the production is ready for staging the group will begin its series of presentation with a Primary School in Southend on Sea for children aged 11-13.

ACC Jim Conlan has permission for a press preview to be held at the Headquarters of Essex Police on April 22.

Head of drama at the School, John Collins, with the results so far, said: “It has been a challenging experience with students and the public.”

WHEN Harlow crime prevention officers decided to crack down on house burglaries in the area they enlisted the help of the local schools.

Operation Autumn Breaks was launched after statistics showed that there was a surge of burglaries across the county between the months of September and January.

As part of the initiative Pc Lindsay Reeve had 33,000 colour leaflets printed and delivered to residents advising them on security.

He and Special Constable Reg Smith also manned a Crime Prevention Shop in the town for two weeks dishing out Home Protection advice

Although the schools got to work on prize winning posters.

About 30 children from the area entered the competition but Maunds Wood School was the...
s to improve the image of the British bobby

...
Subscriptions to Support Staff Benevolent Fund increase to 50 pence a month

**FUND HELPS 43 FAMILIES**

By Jenny Grinker

**WHEN a long-serving member of Essex Police support staff had a stroke, his wife clocked up more than 2,500 miles visiting him daily during his four-month stay in hospital.**

Quite apart from the emotional stress involved, the travelling costs placed a tremendous strain on the family finances.

But, thanks to a grant from the Essex Police Support Staff Benevolent Fund, the couple’s financial difficulties were eased.

There was one of 43 claims dealt with by the Fund during the last year. It was typical in that sickness was behind the majority of claims received by the Fund, which was set up in 1975 for all civilian employees and ex-employees “to alleviate poverty, distress and suffering”.

In the 12 months to the end of October, the Fund paid out a total of more than £22,000, two thirds in round and the remainder in 26 different grants.

Claims were helped mainly with mortgage, rent and council tax, debts, household bills, funding for hospital visits and travel made up 40 per cent of claims.

The Fund, which has recently changed its name from the Civilian Staff Welfare Fund, is financed mainly by subscriptions from more than 1,000 civilian staff.

After remaining at 26 pence per month for the last five years, the subscription increased this month to 50 pence.

**IN the diagram below each of the symbols has been given a value. You have to find the values and then discover what should replace the question mark.**

**Your trivia question for this month is: What is the name of the ancient mixture of spices and gums burnt for its aroma and employed widely in pagan rituals?**

The answers to last month’s quiz are:

1) After 76 years, the inner planet will be 180 degrees in its orbit while the outer planet will be back at its start position.

2) The Phoenix.

A network of local representatives exists to assist you, and applications for financial help should be made to your divisional representative. However, Mr. Coxon stressed that, if they preferred, applicants were welcome to contact him directly in the Welfare Office on HQ extension 2790.
Setting standards in paperwork

BY NOW everyone should have received a copy of the latest Service Delivery Standard in which Essex Police spells out the importance of a properly prepared and submitted evidence file.

When the CPS first looked at the files of Essex officers it became clear that there was great room for improvement. The main two areas in which officers were falling down were with late submission and lack of evidence.

To overcome the problem someone was nominated from each division, usually of Inspector or Chief Inspector rank, to identify the areas and the officers needing help.

Since then there has been a marked improvement but as Chief Superintendent Mick Branning points out, Essex Police is still not home and dry.

“Police is not just about going out and arresting people, that’s just the first 50 per cent of the job on behalf of the victim. If the second part of the job isn’t done properly it’s the victim who suffers.”

You’d be hard pushed to find a police officer that enjoys paperwork but this first internal SDS makes it clear that it should never be considered “an unproductive, arduous task that can be placed low in the order of priorities.”

It also emphasises the need to be accurate and ethical making sure that all evidence gathered during the course of an investigation is disclosed to the CPS even if it strengthens the case for the defence.

Charity disco

A NIGHT out at Time disco in Basildon could help two young twins suffering from cerebral palsy. Anton and Ashley Tolson, both of six, are the foster brothers of Canvey Island’s Ex-officer Stan Taylor, who has been responsible for a couple of years we

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 Chanceller Hall.

Trio of success

1993 closed with three very successful Christmas Concerts.

The first, at Belfairs Community College, saw the involvement of the College choir, jazz band, wind band and recorder group.

The second was at Stanway Village Hall where the audience qualified to buy their “I Sang With Essex Police Choir” badges and contributed 50p to choir funds.

The final concert at Trinity Methodist, Chelmsford raised over £500 for Cancer Research.

On each occasion Olive Otter sported her Rudolph antlers for the singing of Jingle Bells - for a lady who celebrated her Golden Wedding on 1 January 1994 you would think that she might have learned to behave herself.

Penalty

Dave Jepson also paid the penalty for persuading the choir to sing Sir Sarge Counsell's arrangement of The Cowboy Carol when Roger Richardson plonked a ten gallon hat on his head, but then Dave, as a tenor, is used to singing with a cowboy hat on.

The first rehearsal of ‘94 saw a non-stop thrash through the programme for the Kidney Appeal Concert to be held in Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 29 January.

As some of the music had not been looked at for a couple of years we were all impressed with our performance.

We look forward to joining South Woodham Ferrers Male Voice Choir and our Bedfordshire colleagues “Folklore” to perform in such a prestigious setting and for such a worthwhile cause.

Tickets are still available from Roger Richardson, the Civic Theatre and the Chanceller Hall.

The first rehearsal of ‘94 saw a non-stop thrash through the programme for the Kidney Appeal Concert to be held in Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 29 January.

As some of the music had not been looked at for a couple of years we were all impressed with our performance.

We look forward to joining South Woodham Ferrers Male Voice Choir and our Bedfordshire colleagues “Folklore” to perform in such a prestigious setting and for such a worthwhile cause.

Tickets are still available from Roger Richardson, the Civic Theatre and the Chanceller Hall.

A ‘Psion of the times

By Kim White

THE irritating bleep of the Psion Organiser may be all that officers have taken part in its trial, remember.

But their patience throughout the 16-day activity sampling trials has not been for nothing - the data has brought the high-tech gadget in during the autumn of 1992 after its Home Office launch in the summer. The aim was to find out how police resources were being used. This was done by each officer programming in, every 15 minutes, what he or she was working on.

In October 1992, inspectors took part in a pilot study. A Force-wide study then began in April 1993 for officers of all ranks including CID.

Brentwood, Basildon, Colchester and Rayleigh have all been guinea-pigs.

Visibility

The results have proved invaluable aiding the production of a future Service Delivery Standard on high visibility policing.

Chief Inspector Dave Westoby, speaking on behalf of the SDS Measurement Group, said: “Psion organisers are proving very useful, not only for sub-divisionsal command, but as a tool to measure the performance of Essex Police.

“One way we measure our performance is by looking at operational officers in an area and the percentage of time they spend visible to the public and try to ensure that we are using our resources to the fullest.”

Supt Dennis Sheppard of Career Development, also feels the test provided worthwhile information while he was Chief Inspector at Brentwood and feels a future trial one year on would be of further benefit.

In a questionnaire he said: “The measures provided a valuable indication that the objective of sharing workload and directing activity had been broadly achieved.

“Also it provided a valuable opportunity to compare our level and type of activity with other sub divisions which will be able to use to justify bids for staff in the future.

“In a year’s time when the latest changes have had a chance to consolidate, a repeat exercise would be very useful.”

Branerree is next on the list with its trial beginning on the 24th of this month. The whole programme is due for completion by April next year.

Old friends reunite

It was nice to hear this month that The Law was responsible for reuniting two long lost friends.

Ex-officer Stan Taylor, who now lives in New Zealand sported a letter in the The Law from his East Clayon, now living in Australia.

Mr Taylor wrote: “I look forward each month to receiving my copy of your interesting journal. I had lost touch with Essex for many years and on reading his letter in The Law immediately wrote to him and received a very interesting letter from him in return.

Comrades’ meeting

THE Annual General Meeting of the Comrades Association will be held in the Chief Constable’s Conference Room, Police Headquarters, at 11am on Friday, February 11.

May readers be reminded that membership of this Association is open only to all retired officers, but also to serving officers with 10 or more years’ service.

The annual subscription is only £1 and the Association welcomes an increase in the number of serving officers.

If you are interested and would like more information contact Dave Jones at the Federation Office on Ednet 2799.

BENFLEET-BASED Pc. Brian Stanbridge may have hung up his uniform, but it will remain on display in the Essex Police Museum.

Brian had his 19th Century police uniform specially made from drawings by Del Tailors of Stanbridge may have hung up his uniform, but it will remain on display in the Essex Police Museum.

Brian had his 19th Century police uniform specially made from drawings by Del Tailors of
The Christmas Social held at Chelmsford on Sunday, May 8. Cost of this trip will be £200 per week. Contact Jill Law on 0692 635357 or 0279 757601.

The weekend of May 6, 7 and 8 has been set aside for this trip.

We shall head to Headquarters on Friday May 6 and travel to Durham, staying at the Royal County Hotel overlooking the river Wear.

On Saturday May 7 we are planning a full day at Chelmsford. I would expect there is plenty to keep everyone amused. For those who wish to visit Beamish I understand that Durham has plenty to offer.

We make our return journey to Chelmsford on Sunday, May 8. Cost of this trip will be £200 per person based on two persons sharing a Twin/Double room with full facilities. Single room supplement of £7.20 per night. If you are interested please get in touch, John will be pleased to send you full details. 0244 353541.

**Catering**

Beef Lasagne with salad £3.50

Creamed Chicken and Mashed Potato £3.20

Kidney Pie £3.20

Cheesecake £1.50

Both main courses include a soft drink in a glass of our house wine. For those who do not wish to visit the HQ, the hotel will be happy to provide a packed lunch for £1.80 per head.

**Dessert**

Cheesecake £1.80

Custard Pudding £1.50

Ice Cream £1.80

**Beverages**

House Wine £2.50

House Ale £1.80

House Juice £1.50

If you are interested please contact Jill Law on 0692 635357 or 0279 757601 in advance. Will be finalising numbers on the 1st May.
THE Essex Police team at the 1993 PAA ski-ing championships in Scotland, from left, Steve Millbourne, Trevor Hall, Rod Leake and Bob Hunter.

**Great feat**

Colchester Police...12 Shotley Police Training School...8

This was the second game the Colchester Police side had played at the training school and with the side from Shotley able to draw on a number of players from the region, this was always going to be a close fought contest. The Shotley side had played a number of games together before this match and Shotley were first to score a try to lead at half time with two tries being scored in quick succession by Dave Bigg and Daryl Heffer, both of whom had troubled the Shotley defence with pace in attack.

Even with a late penalty by the Shotley side, the Police were deserved winners of well fought match.

A special note of thanks from all the team went to second row player Malcolm Dyer, still playing for the side at the age of 46 years and who broke his leg just before half time but has since recovered fully. Man of the Match was Daryl Heffer.

Heffer, both of whom had scored another try. With two further penalties being shared by both sides the final score ended as a draw, with some of the best defensive work being done by the back row of the Police through Marc Barry, Fraser McRae and Pete Thompson. Man of the Match was Marc Barry.

Colchester Police...17 Gt. Bentley...8

After losing to Bentley last year, the team consisting of players from the Claxton, Brightlingsea and Colchester clubs, this too was a good test of the Police side.

Bentley were first to score and dominated the first half with their forward play. However the Police were able to score two break-away tries by Daryl Heffer and after a superb try from the half way line by Andy Simpson on the wing.

In the second half Bentley continued to dominate through their forwards and were able to score another try. With two further penalties being shared by both sides the final score ended as a draw, with some of the best defensive work being done by the back row of the Police through Marc Barry, Fraser McRae and Pete Thompson. Man of the Match was Marc Barry.

Colchester Police...12 Brightlingsea Rugby Club...4

Brightlingsea kept the game well within their forwards, who successfully were able to tie down the Police running game and were first to score a try.

After this the Police soon scored through Daryl Heffer and with one further try by Marc Barry, George Meagham, Pete Thompson and Bob Blake, the move for which had been started by full back Jason Boots for the Police try line. With two touch-down conversions by Tim Heffer the Police had played the first half as a complete team, which was commented on by the opposing side and spectators. Man of the Match was the Police.

The Police side, having been outscored throughout the game, were due to play another five games at least before the end of the season.

Memorial for the Essex Polices Sports Association can now join the Club Excel discount travel club for an annual membership of £29.50 per year (normal membership is £69.95 per year).

Club Excel are so confident that you cannot buy cheaper that they can beat any retail travel price on a like for like basis, if not they will refund your entire membership subscription fee without delay.

They guarantee 10% off any ABTA Holiday “whenever and whenever you go, 10% off any charter flight and 7% off any scheduled flight, and that’s off the lowest fares available.

Any members interested please call Club Excel direct on 081 958 3919 or Fax 081 958 3931 and quote that you are a member of the Essex Police Sports Association.