

The

# Law

including Essex Police Magazine



Win a week in  
Lanzarote -  
see page 5

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

November 1994

No 255

# Hijack drama puts Essex to the test

## Focus image sharpens up

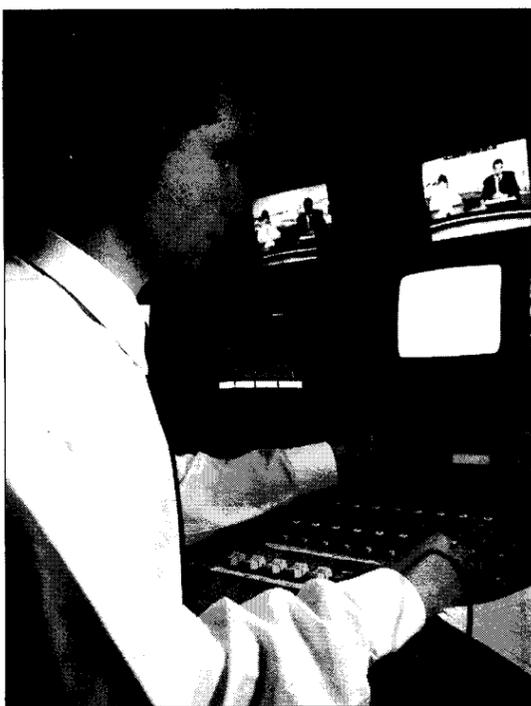


**AN ARRESTING COMBINATION:** Members of the award-winning Focus production team, from left Jamie Turner, presenter Marc Berners, David Tyler and producer Neil Shand on the programme's new set.

A TOP national award has been snapped up by the producers of the new look Essex Police video Focus.

The team, which celebrates its 50th programme next month, won the prestigious 'In-Force News Category' of the National Police Video Awards for the first time.

Last week the team received its trophy at the



**POST-PRODUCTION** editor David White, the technical wizard behind Focus's modern new look, puts the finishing touches to the programme.

Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London. The annual event, sponsored by Police Review and JVC, again attracted entries from many UK forces.

The winning September programme was the first video to be produced since a two month break and £5,000 facelift, and proved the right combination to impress the judges, who included former BBC Crimewatch producer, Nikki Cheetham.

Ms. Cheetham said, "The range of the programme was excellent. It really was 'In Force News', covering policies as well as general interest items and the whole approach kept everything fast moving." The success brings the total of awards achieved by the unit to eight.

Deputy Chief Constable Jim Dickinson, who accompanied the team to London, said, "The Force should be proud of its TV Unit. This award reflects their high standards."

Programme presenter, Marc Berners said the team was delighted as "In-Force News" was probably the most difficult category to win. Producer Neil Shand said he saw the award as recognition for the expertise and dedication of the TV Unit staff. "The team are tremendously enthusiastic and worked through the night to ensure the video was produced in time for the judging", he added.

The TV Unit has received further acclaim for its contribution to this month's hijack exercise. Media services boss at Lincolnshire Police, Tony Diggins, who organises the press input into similar exercises nationwide, said they were the best technical team he had worked with, and performed professionally and coolly under intense pressure.

by Ian Deal

A HIJACKED plane was forced to land at Stansted Airport earlier this month and immediately put 600 Essex Police officers and support staff to the test.

It was all part of an exercise to test Essex Police and other agencies who would become involved in such an incident.

To make the scenario totally realistic a British World Airlines BAC 1-11 plane took off and was actually hijacked in mid-air to mark the start of the exercise.

The scenario began at 3.00am, and as the plane prepared to land a full-scale emergency response plan swung into action. The exercise deliberately started in the middle of the night to monitor the speed of response from officers, the majority of whom were awoken when they received news of the incident.

The exercise, which had been six months in the planning continued for 48 hours both day and night.

Observers from other police forces nationwide scrutinised decisions that were made and studied the general running of the operation from the command



**Tension was high at Stansted as armed officers monitored the situation during the hijack exercise.**

structure to catering requirements.

Exercise Planning Team member, Inspector Mick Thwaites said, "As an exercise it all went extremely well. Very quickly it identified areas that should be addressed to help with any future incidents that we may be called to deal with.

### Impressed

"We have already received favourable comments from observers who said they were impressed with how well the organisation worked together."

Deputy Chief Constable, Jim

Dickinson said, "It would have been a disappointment if we had run an exercise of this nature and had not learned any lessons from it.

"We are going to ensure that we get the best possible benefit from it, and I invite any member of Essex Police to let us have their comments. Even if it is a small issue it is still important, and I promise we will address any matter raised."

He apologised to officers who had to work excessively long shifts, and those who did not get refreshment breaks, and said these problems were being addressed for the future.

## Blaze heroes save pensioner

TWO ESSEX police officers who risked their lives to save a South Ockendon pensioner from his smoke filled home earlier this month have been praised for their bravery.

Special Constable Ian Walker (28) and Pc. Geoff Edwards (25) forced their way into the house in Dart Green to be faced by a blanket of smoke, and began to search for survivors.

In a front room the 70 year old owner was found in a disorientated state suffering from the effects of smoke inhalation with his trusty dog at his side.

The officers not only pulled the man out of the house to safety and returned to save his dog, but also put out the fire which had started in the kitchen.

Praising the officers' courage, Thurrock Division Chief Inspector, Mike Holyoak said, "The two officers acted in the finest traditions of Essex Police. We are very proud of them."

### INSIDE

Building a better deal for Harlow

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## FEDERATION NOTES . . . FEDERATION NOTES . . .

**IN ORDER** to enhance the service to members, the Joint Branch Board has formed a specialist team to deal with disciplinary matters.

The team members, five constables, five sergeants and two inspectors, are all experienced representatives who have developed expertise in this field. They are trained to deal quickly and efficiently with all aspects of disciplinary proceedings, from initial interviews through to discipline hearings and appeals.

During the course of disciplinary proceedings, an officer who is the subject of investigation, has the right to call upon the services of a "friend" for advice, guidance and support. The nominated "friend" may be any officer, but is often the local Federation representative. Forming the discipline team does mean, however, that the Federation is able to provide more comprehensive support and assistance to officers that find themselves in difficulties.

If you are the subject of a disciplinary investigation, the Federation Discipline Team is there to help you. To arrange assistance, contact Dave Jones, the Joint Branch Board Chairman on Headquarters ext. 2799.

### Informal Resolution System

Since it was introduced as a way of disposing of public complaints, many officers have expressed concerns about the Informal Resolution system and how they are affected if a complaint against them is dealt with in that way.

Even though the system has now been in operation for some time, there remains a lack of confidence in it. In order

Discussions are still going on nationally with regard to the impending judicial review which, as you are aware, concerned the lack of protection under Regulations for inspectors and also with regard to the loss of half an hour's overtime on any four occasions in a seven day period.

With regard to inspectors, the position has been clarified by a P.N.B. Agreement which, I understand, the Home

# A friend in difficult times

## DISCIPLINE ISSUES UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

to allay some of your fears about Informal Resolution, we have detailed answers to some of the questions that have been raised.

**Q.** If a complaint is informally resolved, is it recorded on an officer's personal record?

**A.** No. The details of disciplinary proceedings are only included on an officer's personal record in circumstances where there has been a finding of a guilt after a full disciplinary hearing in front of the Chief Constable or the Deputy Chief Constable.

**Q.** Are any records of Informal Resolutions kept?

**A.** Yes, but only those that are required in law for administrative purposes.

**Q.** Who decides whether a complaint is informally resolved or not?

**A.** Providing the circumstances are appropriate, the complainant.

**Q.** Who can deal with an Informal Resolution?

**A.** Anyone from the rank of Acting Sergeant upwards, but it should be an officer of higher rank than the one who is the subject of the complaint.

**Q.** If a complaint is being informally resolved, does the officer have to sign anything and, if so, is he or she, in effect, admitting the allegation?

**A.** No, the officer is not compelled to sign the Informal Resolution form and, if they did, they certainly would not be admitting anything. All they would be doing, by signing the form,

would be acknowledging the certificate on the form which actually affords the officer protection.

**Q.** Can a complaint be resolved if the officer isn't admitting it?

**A.** Yes. No one expects an officer to admit something that they haven't done. If a complaint is informally resolved, it does not imply that the officer is guilty.

**Q.** Does the officer or the Force have to apologise to the complainant for a matter to be resolved?

**A.** No, neither the Force or officer need apologise. In fact, no one is allowed to offer the complainant an apology unless the officer specifically requests it.

**Q.** If a complaint is informally resolved, what is the complainant told?

**A.** They are only given details of the result; they are not given any other details.

**Q.** If a complaint is informally resolved, can it be investigated later?

**A.** Yes, a complaint can be investigated further after it has been resolved if the complainant changes their mind. However, in many cases where that occurs an application is made to the Police Complaints Authority for a dispensation from investigation and the matter goes no further.

**Q.** If an officer says something during the course of an Informal Resolution, can it be used against them later if the complaint is subsequently investigated?

**A.** No, in accordance with the rules of evidence, nothing the officer has said in relation to the complaint can be used later. It

is important to note though that this applies only to the specific complaint that is being resolved. That protection does not extend to any other unconnected matters that the officer might talk about.

**Q.** How many complaints are informally resolved?

**A.** Since it was introduced, the use of Informal Resolutions has remained steady. In 1992 eighty-six cases, 22% of all complaints received, were informally resolved. In 1993, that figure was seventy-seven cases, 23% of all complaints. Some Forces have seen increases from around 20% to over 30% during the same period. We would like to see confidence in the system grow and the number of informal resolutions increase again this year.

### The Federation View

It is not pleasant to be the subject of a disciplinary investigation regarding even the most trivial complaint. Informal Resolution should not be feared but should be welcomed. It is a useful tool for the speedy disposal of the many minor and irritating complaints that are made against police officers. We are satisfied that, when complaints are dealt with by way of Informal Resolution, the positions of the officers involved are not compromised. When a complaint is resolved, there is no implied admission of guilt nor is there any record made on an officer's file. The main benefit of Informal Resolution is the speed with which a complaint can be finalised.



By Brian Pallant

## Coloroll Court Update

**THE long awaited decision from the European Court on the Coloroll case was eventually announced at the end of September.**

Just to up-date members, this was with regard to the ITL Forms that you completed in July 1993 concerning the possible equalisation on commutation table benefits between male and female. The original decision was expected in September 1993 but it has actually taken a further twelve months for the decision to be made known by the European Court.

Although I say the decision has been made known, I have yet to see sight of that decision, either as Joint Branch Board Secretary or even in my position as National Committee member. I understand that the decision is complex and before an announcement is made, the General Secretary of the Police Federation has sent it off to our legal advisors for clarification on some of the points. However, from what I have heard, it is not too hopeful that there will be an equalisation of benefits upwards for male officers. Obviously, I will keep you informed as soon as I have details from the National General Secretary with regard to the legal advice.

## Festive Cheer

Christmas Cards are now available from the Federation Office.

Two types are for sale - the traditional Christmas card with Essex Police motif decorated with holly and the words "Seasons Greetings", or a set of four humorous Christmas cards. Both types are four for £1.00. Also for sale are knitted Christmas stockings at £1.00 each. To place an order or for further information, please contact Marilyn Carr, extension 2215.

## Money matters

Secretary is to honour and hopefully this will come out shortly in Regulations. This, in theory, will give inspectors the same protection that superintendents now receive under existing Regulations.

Negotiations are still taking place with regard to the loss of half an hour's overtime and the seven day period and, if this is resolved, then there will be no need to go

to judicial review.

However, from your Joint Branch Board's point of view at our last meeting at the end of October, we were concerned over the loss of half an hour's overtime for constables and sergeants rank on any four occasions in a period of seven days and it is our intention to sponsor a Motion to the Federation Conference in 1995 to try and get the matter redressed.

### Pensions review

The Pensions Review being undertaken by the Home Office still continues and it is anticipated that they will not report now until early 1995. I have no further news, other than the assurances that we still keep getting from the Home Department that officers in service will still be protected under existing Pension Regulations.

## News in brief...

### Whirlwind tour for Home Office visitor

**THE HEAD** of the Home Office's police department went out on patrol in Essex this month to get a frontline view of life on the beat.

Deputy permanent under-secretary Mr. Ian Burns made Essex Police his first port of call when he was appointed to his post several years ago, and he returned to see how the force had progressed.

His two-day tour, part of a programme of visits to different forces, saw him meeting operational officers and support staff at Southend, and discussing the recent multiple fatal road accident at Harlow with constables from the traffic section.

Mr. Burns also viewed the thermal image camera on board the helicopter, which played a vital part in the recapture of two IRA terrorists who escaped from a Cambridgeshire jail in September.

Mr Burns was shown the conflict management techniques being developed by two officers from the Training Centre (see report on page 3), and visited the new Force Information Room.

Presentations about Service Delivery Standards and the Force restructuring were also provided at Headquarters.

Chief Constable John Burrow said, "Mr. Burns wanted to see the initiatives being taken by the Force and the quality of the work being undertaken on a day to day basis.

"He found it extremely informative and took away a number of ideas which he felt were good practice."

### We've got your number!

**AS BT** continues to offer further services on its digital phone systems, two new facilities available later this month are already causing controversy.

The arrival of the 'Caller Display' and 'Call Return' facilities on November 22 will in effect mean people with special new phones will instantly be able to see the number of the person calling them. And any phone user who has received a call can dial 1471 and will then hear the number of the person who last called them.

Although there are obvious advantages to the system, especially for victims of nuisance calls, there is a drawback for police officers with ex-directory numbers calling anyone from home.

Amid the controversy, the go-live date of the new service has already been put back with BT saying, "We need to do more to tell people what is going to happen."

Michael Biden, BT's Sales and Marketing Director, said, "These services remove the anonymity of phone calls as they allow the customer to know who is calling. However we are sensitive to the fact that there are occasions when revealing the number of the caller could cause problems."

The advice from BT for people who do not want their number identified is to dial 141 before dialling the telephone number. A freephone helpline has also been set up for people who are concerned about the system or who may want to have their number permanently barred from being accessible to other phone users - the number to phone is 0800 801471.

## ESSEX POLICE BAND presents Annual Christmas Concert

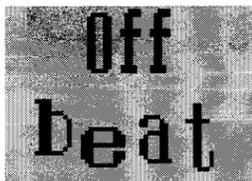
at Marconi Club, Chelmsford

on

**Monday December 19 & Tuesday December 20 at 7.30pm**

**Tickets £3**

**Cheque and SAE to Band Secretary Bill Brightmore at Police HQ, Chelmsford.**



## I'm Free

A PRISONER held in custody at Maldon police station had to be rescued by the local fire service when the key being used to unlock his handcuffs snapped in the lock.

## Attention all cars

THE description of a pedestrian spotted walking alongside the M25 was entered onto the police computer as - 'Male pedestrian - aged 14 years - has a limp anticlockwise junction 28 to 27.'

## What a stinker

ESSEX Police always tries to help the public when possible - but Pc. Tim Turner at Ongar thought he had met his match recently.

A lady called at the station and enquired "Where can I get hold of some ferret dung?" The woman went on to explain that apparently the smell keeps rats away.

After a few moments Tim came to the rescue with the telephone number of the Essex Ferret Welfare Society.

## A hiss on the line

TWO police officers were in for a shock when they were called to a house in Herongate, near Brentwood.

They had been told to attend the house and investigate why a 4-foot stake had appeared in a man's garden. The telephonist who took the original call obviously misheard - on arrival they were confronted instead by a 4-foot SNAKE.

## Animal antics

DEVON and Cornwall colleagues sent two officers to round up a loose herd of cows - Pcs Bullock and Bull attended.

Meanwhile also in Exeter, a pig was sniffing out its rightful owner in an identity parade after four people claimed it was owned by them.

## Merry band

GET into the festive spirit with a cassette of Christmas Carols played by the Essex Police Band.

"Brass at Christmas" is available for just £5 from Band Secretary Bill Brightmore at Police Headquarters.

It includes a mixture of traditional hymns and popular Christmas songs.

# Controversial Criminal Justice and Public Order Act becomes law Attacking crime or human

## Belter of an idea!



Chelmsford-based Pc.s Dave Bird and Karen Penn size up the new equipment belts.

CHELMSFORD has become the second division in the county to take delivery of new style equipment belts.

Officers at South Ockendon have already been trialling them for several weeks and comments so far have been favourable.

But Chelmsford will be using the belts specifically to hold the ASP retractable batons during their three month trial which started last week.

The belts fasten to an inner velcro covered belt making the removal of it a simple operation. Special holders carry batons, torches, first aid kits, personal radios, Quik-Kuffs and pagers.

As a result of the South Ockendon trials there have already been minor changes made to the belts' design. Chelmsford officers views will also be taken into account when the final specification for the Essex belt is drawn up.

### Changed

Some forces in the region have already changed over to the new style belt and others like Essex are looking at the idea.

Chelmsford Officer Pc Ken Crawley was the

first on the division to use it and reeled with enthusiasm over its design. "The belt is so easily removed, you only have to unbuckle it rather than take off all the individual items.

It's a lot sturdier, more comfortable and practical. I've found it a great improvement", he added.

by Jenny Grinter

NEW police powers to deal with unlicensed raves, New Age travellers, and hunt saboteurs came into force this month when the controversial Criminal Justice and Public Order Act became law.

The wide-ranging new law covers such diverse issues as young offenders, bail, court procedures, DNA samples, prevention of terrorism, pornography, prison services, and the age of homosexual consent, as well as curbing the traditional right to silence.

However, many of the Act's provisions will not come into force until well into next year.

The new legislation is hailed by the Government as a comprehensive attack on crime, but condemned by opponents as a comprehensive attack on human rights. It has been the subject of numerous protests.

Taking effect immediately is the new offence of "aggravated trespass" - when a trespasser "obstructs, disrupts, or intimidates" a lawful activity or those intending to take part in it - a clause directed primarily at hunt saboteurs.

A package is currently being circulated to Essex Police commanders who oversee the policing of hunts giving fuller details of the

law.

Police have also been given power to remove people attending or preparing for an unlicensed rave, defined as an open air gathering of 100 or more people at which amplified music is played in the night, which is likely to cause serious distress to residents.

The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) has stressed that the new powers to deal with public order will "need a careful exercise of discretion". However ACPO has welcomed the criminal justice section of the Act, particularly the crackdown on bail bandits and the wider powers for DNA testing, as "altering the criminal justice system in favour of the victim."

Brian Pallant, from Essex Police Federation, voiced support for the Act, saying, "It will enhance the status and ability of the criminal justice system to reduce crime, bring criminals to justice and significantly reduce the fear of crime."

Provisions of the Act which come in immediately include:

**Sexual offences** - An offence of male rape is created, and the age of homosexual consent is reduced from 21 to 18.

**Ticket Touts** - It becomes an offence for an unauthorised person to sell tickets for a designated football match in a

public place.

Other provisions, which are due to come into force next year include:

**Young Offenders** - a new secure training order sentence for 12 to 14 year olds and tougher sentences for 15 to 17 year olds.

**Bail** - No right to bail for a person charged with an offence while on bail.

**Powers of search** - Wider police powers of search on arrest, including a suspect's mouth, power to take non-intimate body samples for DNA analysis, and wider power to stop and search pedestrians and vehicles where reasonable grounds for suspecting violence exist.

**Court procedures** - Committal proceedings abolished, new offence of intimidating jurors or witnesses, inferences may be drawn from defendant's silence.

**Squatters** - It will become a criminal offence for squatters to fail to leave premises within 24 hours of receiving a court possession order.

**Pornography** - Possession of child pornography simulated by computer graphics is an offence.

A Legal Update (formerly Force Order C) is currently being circulated, detailing the parts of the Act which came into force on November 3.

## Martial arts face the chop

SELF-DEFENCE training for police officers could soon be turned on its head if a new approach being trialled by Essex Police gets Home Office approval.

The new style of training, known as 'Conflict Management', seeks to help officers deal with every day conflict and arrest situations.

Two headquarters based Physical Training Instructors, Kevin Nowell and Justin Beacher, are at the centre of a campaign to update what they say is "outdated and complicated self-defence training."

Traditionally officers

receive a form of gym-based 'Taiho-Jutsu' style training during their probationary period. However there are drawbacks to this technique, some find the training too complicated and easily forgotten with many of the locks and restraints beyond their capabilities.

The Conflict Management training seeks to simplify self-defence by developing strate-

gies to deal with specific incidents. It also looks at how to avoid potentially violent situations by officers using new found skills and abilities including understanding physiological changes that occur at times of conflict.

Justin Beacher said self defence training should no longer be confined to the gymnasium. "We need to teach officers how to deal with every day problems like escorting a violent man down a staircase and into a car. We need to take training away

by Ian Deal

from fancy gym mats."

In a straw poll of 32 Colchester based Pc.s and Sergeants, almost half had never used the self defence techniques taught.

The duo have carried out extensive research, and trials are currently taking place with probationers.

Positive feedback has come from officers and interest has been shown by other forces including Thames Valley, Kent and Derbyshire.

The ACPO working party for self-defence has been looking at the scheme.

The two PTIs also plan to outline the benefits of the scheme to the Home Office. Recently they had the opportunity to explain the initiative to senior Home Office official Ian Burns during his visit to Essex Police.



LEFT: Away from the gymnasium, probationers learn how to put a violent person into a car without causing injury to either party.

## Keeping speeding drivers in the frame

SPEED cameras have been introduced on the A12 for the first time, to improve safety at the roadworks on the Colchester Northern by-pass.

A 40 mile-per-hour speed limit has been imposed at the roadworks, which started last week and are due to be completed in December. The cameras will operate throughout.

When cameras were introduced at roadworks on the M11 earlier this year, 2,701 motorists were caught exceeding the 50mph limit in the first 14 days. The average fine for the first 250 of these to appear in court was £100, plus four penalty points.

The cameras were re-introduced on the M11 in September, and a total of 2,418 speeding drivers were caught in the first month.

Brian Ladd from Essex Police Traffic Management department said, "The whole purpose of introducing the cameras is to improve the safety of the workers and the motoring public. We don't want to catch anybody, but if they are not prepared to slow down they will be caught and prosecuted."

## Mind Your Own Business

The column of the Ex-Essex Police Business Association

THE second meeting of the E.E.P.B.A. produced much thought and discussion on the aims and purpose of the Association and there is no doubt that during the initial stages we will be identifying our objectives in accord with our membership.

What was paramount in our thoughts was the need for the Association to be open and of assistance to all retired officers and those who are still serving and reaching retirement whether you wanted to go into the fast lane of full employment or the more relaxed casual occupations.

### Inspiration

The collective thoughts, experiences, knowledge, ideals and inspiration within the Association could produce much in favour of any individual member.

Already we have formed a network of similar occupations and are feeding from each other's success, exchanging ideas and planning joint strategies for future work together.

A Trades and Occupations Directory will be circulated to market the diversity of work that members carry out.

Guest Speakers are planned at meetings to give advice on relevant issues such as Income Tax, marketing, insurance etc. It matters not whether you are a plumber, mechanic, chauffeur, will-writer or high flying consultant, the Association welcomes everyone wishing to improve their quality of life in retirement.

The next meeting of the Association will be at 7.30pm on Thursday, December 14 in the Conference Room at Sandon Dog Section.

Secretary Dick Bloomfield, will welcome any enquiries on (0702) 258364.

Bob Craven

# Changes in store as independent Police Authority is formed

## New faces for new body

by Jenny Grinter

### Tilbury's terrific for Pete's sake



**FOR PETE'S SAKE:** Pc Pete Hewitt at Tilbury Fort, one of the historic attractions which he believes could make the town a tourist hotspot. Picture courtesy of the *Thurrock Gazette*.

**A TILBURY police officer is so fed up with the town's bad image that he is taking it upon himself to do something about it.**

Pc. Peter Hewitt, who has worked in the area for 22 years, says Tilbury could lend itself to become a tourism hotspot with a little effort from local people.

Only recently Peter encouraged a team of six local charities to tidy up just over a mile stretch of a little known public footpath, known as the 'Two Forts Walk', which runs along the foreshore of the River Thames.

After a weekend of hard work six skips had been filled with all types of rubbish, including a complete three piece suite which was removed from

beside the footpath.

There is still another mile to be cleared before the footpath, which runs along the river to the historic Tilbury Fort and Coalhouse Fort, is restored to its former glory.

Peter hopes it will be possible to stage a festival on the site next year which will herald the launch of the Riverside Trust, which will go towards promoting the area.

Peter hopes that once people realise the area's historic links they will come flooding to the town, leading to more jobs for local people.

"Don't believe what people tell you about Tilbury, come and look for yourself", he added.

MAJOR changes in the way the policing of Essex is organised and funded move a step closer next month when the first meeting of the newly-constituted police authority is due to take place.

The changes will make Essex Police Authority independent from the county council, with staff and property being transferred to the new free-standing authority.

The new authority, made up of councillors, magistrates and, for the first time, independent members, will assume full responsibilities on April 1 next year under the provisions of the Police and Magistrates Court Act 1994.

However, the process of appointing members is nearing completion, and the new authority will run in parallel, shadowing the existing authority, between December and April.

Assistant Chief Constable Charlie Clark, who is overseeing the changes, reassured Essex Police staff that the transfer to the new authority would not change their jobs.

"None of our staff will be working under different arrangements as from April 1. No-one needs to feel threatened about the

changes within this Act," he said. "We will consult and inform staff about the future."

To ensure a smooth changeover, it is intended to continue with administrative and financial services currently provided by the county council for at least the first year. For the future these support services will be closely examined to ensure the best value for money is obtained.

The new legislation gives the Chief Constable, in consultation with the police authority, greater flexibility to determine spending priorities, particularly in relation to staff numbers and building programmes.

Funding arrangements have yet to be finalised, but the new authority will continue to receive a percentage of its funding direct from the Home Office, and will also be entitled to levy its own rate demand on local councils.

Currently the police committee has to compete with other county council committees for a share of the county rate demand. However, the new authority will be subject to Government limits on

spending. A reserve fund will be set up by the authority to allow for emergencies or unforeseen costs.

The new authority will have 17 members, made up of nine councillors, three magistrates and five independent members.

Its first task will be to elect its own chairman, the Government's original intention for the Home Secretary to appoint the chairman having been scrapped following fierce opposition.

The magistrate and councillor members (three from each of the main political parties) have already been appointed. More than 130 applications were received for the five independent positions on the authority and a shortlist of 20 was submitted to the Home Secretary.

He has whittled these down to ten, leaving the councillor and magistrate members to select the final five. The first meeting of the "shadow" authority must take place within 21 days of the final selection.

Further updates on the new police authority will be provided for Essex Police employees between now and April 1.

## Arresting encounter with The Bill

by Burnham-on-Crouch Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator Alex Jennings

LAST month the popular TV drama series *The Bill* celebrated its tenth birthday.

The occasion was marked by the appearance of the producer and members of the cast on the ITV programme *The Time, The Place*, which is a public forum hosted by veteran presenter John Stapleton.

I was among the invited studio audience which was

encouraged to fire questions about the programme.

In attendance were Trudie Goodwin (Wpc. June Ackland), Kevin Lloyd (Dc. Tosh Lines), Andrew Mackintosh (DS Alistair Greig) and producer Richard Handford.

A selection of audience questions were answered with conviction.

I gather from the answers that *The Bill* continually strives for authenticity and realism, so the public can relate to incidents that surround, and are likely to confront us, on a day to day basis.

Several police officers were in the audience so they could give their views on the practical daily round of duties in a real nick, as opposed to the fictitious Sun Hill.

Towards the end, a celebratory cake in the shape of a policeman's helmet was brought in to mark *The Bill's* anniversary.

The audience then mingled with the cast, and I had the chance to chat to the actors. I discovered that Kevin Lloyd (Tosh) negotiates a daily round trip of 300 miles by train, to return to his family after a day's filming in London.

Judging by the effort that goes into producing *The Bill*, Richard Handford can be justly proud of all involved.

However, one thing does strike me as being amiss. How is it that such a popular and realistic series, which is screened thrice weekly for something like 13 million viewers, as well as a huge international following, has not yet received an award?

Come on you award arbiters, show appreciation, and bestow on *The Bill* the accolade it has both earned and richly deserves. And what better time to do it than now, when it is celebrating its tenth birthday.



**LEFT:** Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator Alex Jennings meets Trudie Goodwin, who plays Wpc. June Ackland in *The Bill*, at a London television studio.

## Excitement builds at Harlow

**HARLOW Police are to receive a present with a difference just in time for Christmas - in the shape of a brand new three storey extension providing a working environment worth getting out of bed for.**

The extension completes the first part of a three phase project to transform the drab 1960's divisional headquarters into a modern purpose-built police station.

Once contractors hand over the new extension, which is presently 14 weeks behind schedule, all staff currently in the old station will move to the new block while phase two begins. This work will

include the refurbishment of the old building, a new custody area extension, seven new cells and a more welcoming front office.

The third phase will see the useful addition of a modern identification suite in place of the old canteen.

While work on phase two and three is completed a temporary reception area will be located,

together with a control room in the rear yard with public access. The remaining building work is set to take up to 8 months to complete and will cause further disruption to staff while work continues.

Estates Manager, Cliff Collings explained rather than build a new station it was a cheaper option to refurbish the current building. "This extension and refurbishment is costing us £2.3 million to complete, a new police divisional headquarters would cost in excess of £4 million to build, it would also be difficult to find another

suitable site in the Harlow town area," he said.

Mr Collings added he was grateful to the staff at Harlow for their patience while contractors continue with the conversion.

Prisoners will also experience disruption during the building. Cells will be out of use during the day, except for prisoners attending Magistrates Court. Because of the noise from the building work, other prisoners will be taken to Epping, Brentwood or Stansted Airport police stations.

**We want 100 comrades next year**

**by Dave Jones**

**THE 70th Anniversary Autumn Luncheon of the Comrades Association was held last month at Police Headquarters.**

Once again, it was an excellent opportunity to enjoy the company of colleagues, both present and past.

To mark the 70th anniversary, printed menu cards were prepared, which included a brief history of the Association, written in 1961.

This year the programme included musical entertainment performed by Wally Thurgood. Wally sang a couple of solos and then everybody joined in the sing-a-long.

The occasion also saw two firsts. This was the first time catering had been carried out by Gardner Merchant, and it was the first time that I, as Association Secretary, had organised the event.

I learnt some lessons from speaking to Comrades, and I intend to ensure that next year the bar opens earlier and closes later!

It was also suggested that orange juice was not the most appropriate beverage for the Toasts, and we will consider providing wine with the meal next year.

The total number sitting down for lunch was 89, which was slightly disappointing. Not only would I like to see more of our retired Comrades attending, but I would also like to see a greater membership and greater attendance from serving officers.

Membership of the Association is open to any police officer who has completed ten years service.

Let us hope that through an increase in membership, when we sit down together in October next year, there will be well in excess of one hundred.

## Ray's stamp of authority

**AN ESSEX detective made his mark at the National Stamp Exhibition in Ireland last month by winning a silver medal.**

Dc. Ray How, of the Fraud Squad, Headquarters, a stamp collector for over 38 years and secretary of Rayleigh Philatelic Society for the past 20 years, won his medal in the Airmails Specialised section at the exhibition in Dublin.

Entrants came from as far afield as America, Germany, and Switzerland.

Ray's entry, consisting of 48 sheets of a mixture of stamps and covers (the actual envelopes with stamp) was under the title "The Acceleration of Irish Mail by Air".

The entry, with an insurance value of £5,000, was marked by independent judges, for quality of material, presentation and completeness of the subject matter.

His entry included a "Balloon Monte" a cover from the siege of Paris in 1871, which actually came out of Paris by balloon, then overland through France to England, across two channels by sea to Ireland.

Ray now has a collection in excess of 15,000 stamps, his specialist subjects being Ireland and Law and Order.

# Win a sunshine break in Lanzarote

**HERE'S your chance to beat the winter blues and escape to the sun and sands of the Canary Islands.**

This month *The Law* has a week's holiday in Lanzarote for two people up for grabs in our easy-to-enter competition.

The winners will stay at the luxurious Oasislanz Club just minutes from the beach at Costa Tequise. The top class complex boasts its own swimming pool, jacuzzi, sauna, gymnasium, tennis courts, bar, restaurant and pool bar.

Waiting for you is a one-bedroomed apartment with twin beds, lounge with double sofa bed, fully-fitted kitchen including microwave, satellite TV, six days a week maid service, ironing board and iron.

The Canary Islands are situated just off the coast of Africa and enjoy pleasant weather all year round. On Lanzarote, average temperatures range from 21 degrees in winter to 29 degrees in summer.

Our lucky competition winners can take their week's holiday any time between January 1 and June 30, 1995, subject to availability. You can fly from any UK airport which serves Lanzarote, including Stansted.

The prize includes flights for two people and the apartment for a week. All you have to provide is your own food, transfers to and from the airport in Lanzarote (a taxi costs around £10, journey time 30 minutes) and insurance.

Remember the apartment can sleep four, and if you wish to take children or two other adults there will be no additional accommodation cost. If you wish to go for two weeks, a second week's accommodation can be booked for just £139 (for the apartment, not per person). See hotline number below.

## HOW TO WIN

All you have to do to win our superb prize is answer this simple question:

**Q: Lanzarote is one of the Canary Islands. Name three other holiday islands in the Canaries.**

Entries on a postcard to Lanzarote Holiday competition, *The Law*, Press Office, PO Box 2, Police Headquarters, Springfield, Chelmsford, CM2 6DA. Closing date for entries is Friday, December 2. Don't forget your name and address, where you work, and daytime phone number.

Only one entry per person please. Entry is open to all Law readers except members of the Press and Information Department and their families. The Editor's decision is final. This prize is offered by Travel Certificates of Twickenham and Essex Police accepts no liability.

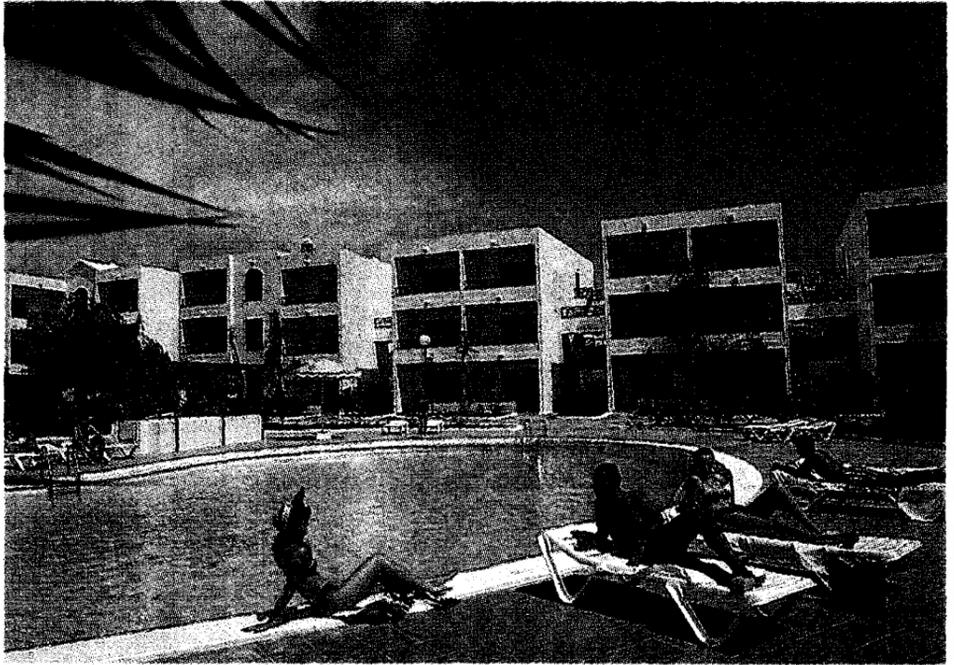
## HOLIDAY HOTLINE OFFER

If you don't win our fabulous holiday, you can still visit the Oasislanz Club for our special price of just £139 per week for a one-bedroomed apartment, which sleeps up to four people, between January 1, and June 30 1995.

That's the price for the whole apartment, not per person, but does not include the flight. Flights can also be arranged at reasonable rates by ringing the holiday hotline on

**081-898-2150**

and quoting *The Law* holiday offer.



The luxurious Oasislanz Club in Lanzarote

# Street Watch short on support

**by Ian Deal**

**HUNDREDS of Essex residents braved the rain earlier this month in a show of support to mark the first ever national Neighbourhood Watch Week.**

Meetings took place around the county and attendance figures were excellent despite Autumn downpours.

Crime Prevention boss, Chief Inspector Duncan Bright said his aim was to see the number of schemes in Essex rise from 3,400 to top the 5,000 mark. He also encouraged more younger members of the community to join Neighbourhood Watch.

Co-ordinators attending the evening meetings were given

the chance to talk to local police, to share ideas and discuss problems with the scheme.

## Enthusiasm

In Castle Point over 200 co-ordinators turned out to the District Council Offices. Enthusiasm for NW was high but Street Watch was given an overall thumbs down, and members did not wish to become involved with the scheme.

Reaction was similar in Basildon where views were put across that Street Watch was

nothing more than a form of vigilante patrol. Crime Prevention Officer, Pc. Ray Williams said, "There are a lot of people out there who are very positive about Neighbourhood Watch but are just not interested in Street Watch."

"People say they already keep their eyes open when they are out and feel there is no need for it".

Basildon NW co-ordinator Glynis Horvath spoke for many when she said, "It's all right to watch out for neighbours while you walk your dog, but to do what is asked from Street Watch is just too much."

Away from Street Watch controversy other general criticisms came out at the meeting including a lack of communication and feedback between the co-ordinators and the police.

Pc. Williams said the gathering had been an ideal way to exchange views, and criticisms were already being acted on.

**What is your view on Street Watch? - Write to *The Law* letters column.**

# Getting into shape with business plan

**ESSEX Police is getting into shape to face the future by preparing a high level business plan.**

Force policymakers went back to basics at Wivenhoe Park, near Colchester, last month to agree the main aims and policies to take Essex Police forward and provide the best possible service to the public.

The key to the Long Term Plan is to identify priorities, spell out the work which needs to be done and the resources required to focus on those priorities, and measure the Force's performance against them.

Every division and department throughout the Force is now being asked to prepare its own plan by April 1 to show

how it will contribute to achieving the Forcewide plan.

Previous years' work in producing Action Plans will now be developed to ensure a co-ordinated forcewide strategy supporting key service areas such as preventing and detecting crime, maintaining public order, reducing road accidents, responding to emergencies, and tackling community concerns through consultation and partnership with the public.

Superintendent Andy Drane, who has been appointed by the Deputy Chief Constable to manage the publication of the Long Term Plan, explained, "The plan should help to make officers on

the ground more effective, by giving them clearer leadership, and resolving conflicts of priorities. It will improve our accountability and encourage decisive action."

Each division and department should end up with a clear view of its position within Essex Police, how it can improve its own performance and help to improve the Force's performance.

Supt. Drane said a package was currently being prepared to provide support and guidance to divisions while producing their plans.

The development work of the past five years incorporating the Statement of Common Purpose, Key Operational Goals, and Service Delivery Standards will be central to the Long Term Plan, which will be a public document telling the community what it can

expect from Essex Police.

The Annual Policing Plan, required by law as an agreement between the Chief Constable and the Police Authority, will be published as a separate document setting out policing priorities and spending proposals for the year ahead.

## Guilty of raping teenager

**A JURY found a Basildon man not guilty of raping an eight year old girl, last month, but convicted him of a vicious attack on a 13-year-old schoolgirl.**

Ricky Antioch (29) is currently in Chelmsford Prison awaiting sentence.

The court heard how the teenager kept her composure enough after the rape to persuade Antioch to give her a phone number which he wrote on the back of her hand.

He was arrested three days later but maintained throughout the trial that the 13-year-old girl had consented.



## WELL DONE CHRIS

WE WOULD be very pleased if you could add in your next edition our congratulations, long overdue, to Pc. Chris Caten for his citizen's award for our area (Epping Forest District Council's community service award), which is so well deserved.

Eileen Stannard,  
Station Road residents,  
North Weald.

## Not a crease in sight

Could I through your letters column thank all my friends and colleagues for their presents and well wishes on my retirement.

After the comments at the retirement party I did buy the trouser press with the cheque you kindly presented to me.

To all the people I was not able to speak to before departing I would like to extend my thanks for the help and assistance given to me during my service.

Dave Keenan  
Rochford.

## Dancing a wild fandango

THE PASSING of ex-Chief Supt. George Hodges prompts me to recall a spot of Force folklore. Perhaps some other antique may care to confirm or condemn as apocryphal.

During the time-honoured organised demob chaos circa 1919, two khaki-clad young squaddies collided in

the canteen.

Both carried battered violins which induced instant camaraderie. Soon every man in sight was dancing a wild fandango at his release from servitude. The pintas flowed equally furiously.

Both youngsters were talented performers on the gazunda that gazunda the chin loik.

One was George Hodges.

The other, bound for the stage, pressed George to make up a duo with him.

George Hodges shook his head. "I'm hoping to join the Force", he said.

The other violinist was Stanelli, a name to conjure with. He built up an enduring international reputation between the wars. Makes you think.

Ralph Jones



YOUR item about the Essex Police Tug of War team (The Law, August) reminded me of the old Essex Police team of the fifties.

Three times PAA champions in 1955, '56 and '57, the average weight of the members was just over 16 stones.

In the photograph, from left to right are, back row: Ray Skillen, Bob Brookes, George Breeding, Bill Brooks.

Middle: Peter Cousins,

Wally Hammond, Des Biggs, Chalkie White, Eric Robinson, Arthur Mills, John Smith.

Front: Stan Edwards, Supt. Hodges, Sir John Peel, Assistant Chief Constable George Sutton, Les Watts, coach Bob Cracknell.

We used to train on the

# LAW Letters

## I know you are out there

WHERE were you at 1pm on Friday, October 28? It was the annual members' lunch of the Essex Police Comrades and only 89 of us were at headquarters canteen to enjoy a meal and a chat over old times.

It appears the message that serving officers after ten years and all pensioners can join has not been

received and understood.

We spent a lot of time talking about absent friends - why be absent next year? Come and reminisce. You could try to get there before Bob Palmer - he is usually first and he comes from Yarmouth.

Gordon Oakley,  
Grange Avenue,  
Wickford.

## Special Thanks

MY FAMILY and I wish to express our thanks to the Chief Constable and friends and colleagues at Police Headquarters for their kind wishes and floral tributes, and also the support shown at the time of Mick Rooney's sudden death.

We would like to give special thanks to Supt. Alan Taplin and Mrs Jeanette Poston for their support at the hospital and after. Finally we would like to thank Pc. Terry Peet from Maldon for his support and help which went well beyond his normal duties and which made Mick's death less traumatic.

Linda Rooney,  
Maldon.

## Forget prison vans use an Austin Seven

EX-PC Snowling's account of his trusty Austin Seven (The Law, September) reminded me of the time in 1950 when my motorcycle suffered a major breakdown on the A1 near Newark.

Within a couple of minutes of depositing the bike at a nearby garage, I was offered a lift to London by the driver of a pre-War Austin Seven.

Seeing me notice that from inside the car all means of opening both the passenger door and

window had been removed, the driver identified himself as a police officer and explained that he was on his way to West End Central Police Station (where we parted) to collect a prisoner and transport him back to Yorkshire.

His Austin Seven was often used for this purpose, hence the anti-escape measures.

C. Featherstone,  
Neighbourhood  
Watch co-ordinator,  
Billericay.

## Gun debate continues

I refer to my letter of 8th March and the responses it attracted.

Those people that responded really should read my letter more carefully. I did not say "Ban all Guns" - I said "what is wrong with say: Ban all Guns". This is an invitation to discuss, and not to "knee jerk" as somebody said.

To PC Miller, I would say I agree with your reply - however you are ignoring the point that if guns were stored

in police custody then there will not be so many scattered around. Since my letter I see that thieves raided a gunsmith and removed the safes with heavy equipment!

This brings us to the gentleman who wrote to the local paper, who asked to remain anonymous because he has guns in his house! Enough said I believe.

To Mr Wells of Chelmsford I would say that my suggestion of police custody would not be a drain on police resources because my idea is that Mr Wells should pay.

It should be noted that these responses - other than PC Miller - come from gun holders who considered only the restriction on keeping weapons, but not a mention of stronger laws to protect the community. Even the Met Commissioner is now talking about stronger Laws.

K.L. Brown,  
Glovers Field,  
Brentwood.

## Have your say in your paper

If you have a view or an issue you would like to bring to the attention of our 10,000 readers put pen to paper

Write to:

The Law Newspaper, Essex Police Press  
Office, PO Box 2, Chelmsford, CM2 6DA.

## The class of 1935

have a long "Do you remember?" session at a local hostelry.

There are still seven of the class of 1935 (the vintage year!) going strong in the UK and it is hoped to have a diamond anniversary get together next February which, it is believed, would be unique to this force.

Ex-Insp. Ron Bearman  
Springfield,  
Chelmsford.



Ron and Eddie meet up again after 57 years

IN 1935 Eddie Woodards and Ron Bearman joined the Force; Eddie was posted to Romford and Ron to Clacton.

In 1937 they returned to headquarters for the confirmation of probation exam, and have not seen one another again until now - 57 years on, with both now in their 80s.

Eddie, who subsequently emigrated to California, recently returned for a family wedding, so the two of them with their wives (Ellen and Kay respectively) were able to

# Chorus Lines

AS the first golden leaves of autumn fall, a group of sixty men and women, each clutching a book inscribed with strange symbols, can be discovered making nocturnal visits to the Essex Police Training Centre.

Is this the gathering of some peculiar cult, or merely the first sign that Christmas approaches and that members of the Essex Police Choir, each with their copy of "100 Carols for Christmas" are rehearsing for a series of Carol concerts?

The first of these will be a joint venture with Bedfordshire Police Choir on December 3 at Dunstable Abbey, followed by Rettendon Parish Church on December 10, St. Barnabas, Hadleigh, on December 15, and a Christmas "Songs of Praise" at Maldon United Reformed Church at 4pm, Sunday December 18.

## Hospices

On October 8, a group from the choir joined other local singers at Chelmsford Cathedral to sing Handel's Messiah. This was part of the nation-wide event "Hallelujah for Hospices", supported by BT and Radio 2, to raise funds for the hospice movement.

This was a memorable event, joining 150 voices locally and an estimated 120,000 throughout the UK.

A choir workshop took place on November 12 when members received professional advice and instruction on technique and also provided the opportunity for a social gathering over lunch.

The newly formed "Friends of Essex Police Choir" held their first meeting at the home of Peter and Marjorie Simpson to discuss both fund raising and practical support for the choir. Their next meeting is on November 22, new "friends" are welcome.

We have received confirmation that a party of 63 will be travelling to Essex from Greater Victoria to take part in the Musical Festival in July 1995. Precise numbers from the Royal Hong Kong Police Choir are awaited.

As part of our fund raising efforts a Quiz night has been arranged for Saturday November 26 in the Training Centre and all are welcome to come and compete.

Roger Grimwade



The Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Lord Braybrook (left), and Millie Birch (centre) hand over Millie's latest £1,000 fund-raising cheque to Professor Adrian Dixon from Addenbrookes Hospital.

# Marvellous Millie raises £22,000

MARVELLOUS Millie Birch, who celebrated her 90th birthday last month, has raised a staggering £22,000 for Addenbrookes Hospital in 20 years, writes Mick Davies.

Millie has been raising money for the hospital's Scanner Appeal Fund by way of coffee mornings, raffles and street collections.

At a coffee morning held at Saffron Walden Town Hall on October

22, the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Lord Braybrook presented a cheque for £1,000 on behalf of Millie and her helpers to Adrian Dixon, Professor of Radiology at Addenbrookes Hospital.

At that same coffee morning Millie started on her next £1,000.

Millie, who never married, was born in Newport and at the age of two moved to Saffron Walden where she has

lived ever since.

For 27 years Millie worked as a clerical assistant at Saffron Walden Police Station retiring in 1969, and on the same day her brother died.

After a couple of years of retirement Millie thought she ought to do more with her life and remembering her brother she decided to raise funds for the Addenbrookes Scanner Appeal Fund.

## N.A.R.P.O. Notes

by Doug Rampling

I HAVE little to report this month as the up-to-date news has recently been published in the latest bulletin.

However, I have been notified of a job vacancy for a retired police officer.

Systems Publicity Ltd. of Colchester, are seeking to recruit a part-time chauffeur for their lady managing director.

The post would entail countryside driving and some irregular hours for two or three days a week. Salary is negotiable.

They want to fill the post before Christmas. Anyone interested should contact Ms. Claire Walker at The Old Brew House, 75, East Hill, Colchester, CO1 2QW.

## Ray's seen it all at Stansted

CELEBRATING 25 years with Essex Police is nothing new, but staying on the same division for the entire period is something to shout about.

Pc. Ray Cole joined the BAA Constabulary at Heathrow Airport in 1968, transferring the following year to Stansted. In 1975 the Government decided that the policing of Stansted should be transferred from the BAA to Essex, and Ray became an Essex Police constable.

Since then he's moved from "a small wooden hut to a bigger wooden hut" and finally to Enterprise House, and seen high fences popping up around previously security-free sites.

He explained: "When I first joined there was no such thing as airport security. We had a shift of five officers, one per shift, who dealt with general policing matters. Now we have 50 officers, some carrying weapons."

"I may have been here 25 years but it's never been tedious. I've seen two hi-jacks, 10,000 Ugandan Asian refugees shipped through, the space shuttle visit and endless VIPs, and passenger figures rise from 200,000 to three million."

Now, as the Local Intelligence Officer he monitors all staff and visitors using the airport and keeps checks on high value and hazardous cargos, working closely with Customs.

He said: "Working on airports has become a way of life. I've thoroughly enjoyed my time here, have never wanted promotion and never wanted to leave."

But when Ray does eventually retire in a few years time, he intends to find a job - at the airport.



THE SILENCE of the Wethersfield countryside was broken last month when police dealt with two major incidents of mass public disorder.

But the incidents were both staged as part of a regional exercise to test the effectiveness of bronze and silver public order commanders.

More than 300 police offi-

## Protesters take control

cers from Essex, Thames Valley, City Of London, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire came to the ex-US Air Force base.

The day-long exercise, which had involved several months of planning, consist-

ed of two scenarios. Officers were firstly confronted by demonstrators who took over the control tower (pictured above) plus others who laid on the runway to prevent an in-coming plane from landing.

The afternoon saw officers dealing with petrol bombs and flying bricks at a disturbance. Essex Fire and Rescue also took part.

## Obituaries

ESSEX Police extends its sympathies to the families of the following officers who have died:

**Ex-Sgt. Frank Wetherall**, of Frinton, who joined Essex Police in 1948 and retired in 1975, died on October 29, aged 71.

**Ex-Pc. Sydney Charles Bartley**, of Westcliff-on-Sea, who joined Southend Borough Constabulary in 1938 and retired in 1968, died on October 30, aged 80.

## Holiday Fund 1995

THE Southend Police Club Holiday Fund for 1995 will commence on January 15.

Application forms will shortly be forwarded to all members and spare copies will be available at the divisional administration offices.

When completed they should be forwarded to Mr. L. Seals, c/o Southend Police Station, by no later than December 7.

All existing participants must complete a new application form.

The club is open to all police officers and civilian personnel. Subscriptions are deducted at source from salaries and there can be no variation during the year.

Three quarters of a member's subscription may be withdrawn on written notice at least 14 days in advance between April 1 and September 30. The remainder will be paid in December without application.

No payment will be made before April 1 unless in extenuating circumstances to be considered by the club committee.

## Market Place... Market Place...

**TO LET** studio apartment, Witham, purpose built, part furnished, all appliances, storage heating, £235 PCM, Contact Pc Andy Kenny (0245) 442715 Ednet 3922.

**LINTEK** quilt lined fully water proof motorcycle over suit will fit up to 42" chest and up to 6'2" tall. As new one price only £45. Contact Ken Elliott, Ednet 6548, Rayleigh.

**FIESTA** 1.1, 5 door, December 1992, 19,500 miles, immobiliser, 5 speed £4550 ovno. Contact Ps I. Smart, 0376 562049.

**VW VARIANT** original yellow 1972 1600cc good body work but chassis needs welding hence for sale £850 ovno. Contact Linda, Ednet 2703 at HQ.

**HONDA CBR 1000F E-Reg** 22,000 miles tax + MOT Silver / Grey £2,500 ovno. Contact Phil Golding 0268 757628.

**VAUXHALL** Cavalier

1800 CDI 1985 MOT June 1995 taxed, black, power steering electric windows £1350 ONO. Contact Pc Andy Bannerman, D Shift, Clacton, Ednet 4622, 0255 221312.

**SONY** Discman with headphones and speakers, battery or mains operated, hardly used, bargain £75, contact Linda Farrell on Ednet 3438, Brentwood Traffic.

**CARAVAN** tourer swift corniche 1987. Two berth, fully equipped, porch, awning, excellent condition, shower, fridge, oven. £4000 ONO. Contact Ron-0277 215078.

**SOUTH** of France, 6 Berth Mobile Home, 5 miles Nice, 12 Monaco, 24 Italy. All Amenities on site £100 - £300 P.W. Contact Llandudno 879108.

**TOWBAR** to fit Volvo 940 Saloon, as new, used once, Cost new £90 will accept £35. Contact ex-Pc. Murray - 0702 544375.

**CHILDRENS** 11+ and English tuition, small friendly class, 7yrs onwards, proven results. Contact Margaret 0245 265987.

**AMIGA** Software for sale - 50%+ off shop prices, titles include:- Jaguar

XJ220 £8, Batman £3, Turbo out run £3. RVF Honda £3 Kinowords word proc Program with manuals £15. Others available (golf, football) also Blank three and a half disks 4 for £1. DI Currell HQ X 2784.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX


Name and Rank .....

Station ..... Home Tel .....

Date ..... Signed .....

## Sport in brief

### Frostbite challenge

HARDY competitors are invited to enter the sixth Frostbite hillsport challenge organised by Cheshire Constabulary, which takes place on February 18 and 19.

The route covers the beautiful South Cheshire Way and Sandstone Trail, and the event is open to all serving and retired police officers, employees and their families throughout Britain.

Organised by the Hillsports and Hikers section of Chester divisional sports club, the event is based at the Bishop Heber High School at Malpas. Participants will be bussed to their start points each day, and are welcome to run, walk or pub crawl their way along the route.

The route is well marshalled with full medical and first aid facilities. All food is provided, plus hot showers, a bar and floor accommodation.

Anyone interested in taking part should contact Pc.160 Paul Thompson, A Block, Chester Division, County Police Headquarters, Nuns Road, Chester, CH1 2PP, or telephone (0244) 571361 (24-hour fax and answerphone).

### Boxing

The British Police Novices Boxing Championships for 1994 will be held on Thursday 30th March 1995 at Garons Club, Southend-On-Sea.

All boxers aged under 35 years with less than 10 bouts are eligible to compete.

Anyone interested should contact Inspector Robert Miller at Braintree Ednet x3904 or Detective Constable Dave Lowe at Southend C.I.D. Ednet 6160.

### Cricket

The Gentlemen of Essex C.I.D. Cricket Club is open to all serving members of the Department.

We play six fixtures at venues throughout Essex, some for charity, and are considering a long weekend tour somewhere in East Anglia next season.

Any reader eligible who would like a game should contact Team Manager, Inspector Robert Miller at Braintree Police Station or Team Captain, Detective Inspector Phil Mellon at C.I.D. Harlow.

# Southend team is the business

THE Essex Police team finished seventh in the national finals of the Gardner Merchant Business Team golf championship at San Lorenzo last month.

The Southend-based team of Graham Anslow, Roger Culham and Peter Donovan recorded a combined stableford score of 143 points to finish 47 points adrift of the winners from Cheshire Constabulary.

A total of 1,500 teams entered the event, which is open to any

company in Britain and Ireland with more than 100 people on site. The championship is now in its 16th year.

### Winning

Essex Police had qualified for San Lorenzo after winning the Eastern regional final at John

O'Gaunt in September. The finals were played over two rounds on the 6,000 yard championship course.

Peter Donovan led the way for Essex with 52 points off his 15 handicap. Roger Culham finished with 47 off 13 and Graham Anslow came in with 44 off his 12 handicap.



**NATIONAL FINALISTS:** The Essex Police team in the Business Team Golf Championships with representatives of the sponsors, from left, Peter Donovan, Graham Anslow, Phil Hooper (Gardner Merchant), Roger Culham, Peter Alliss and Nick Drabble (Gardner Merchant).

# Good show despite missing veterans

ESSEX Police had a good turn-out for the first SEPAA Cross Country League race of the season, although for the first time since the league was formed they failed to field a veteran.

There were good individual performances from Mick Bond, who was first Essex man home in 5th place, and the injury-plagued Chris Turner, who

returned to form to take 21st position.

The race was held at Lordwood, Southampton, a venue which proved so difficult to find that Andy Down missed the start, leaving the Essex B team one man short.

A total of 85 men and 12 women from the nine

forces in the league ran in the race. The Essex men's A team finished seventh, and the B team fourth, with Sussex winning both events.

The ladies team of Janet Adcock, Angie Scothern and Liz Boothman did well to finish third behind Hants and Kent, and with

another runner to complete the team would have been first.

Other Essex positions were: A team - Alex Vowles 39th, Ian Jennings 47th, Brian Murnaghan 63rd and Steve King 65th; B team - Gary Matthews 73rd, Ian Rayner 80th and Andy Eves 81st.

A combination of injury, holidays and work commitments swallowed up Essex's traditionally strong veteran contingent, but they are threatening to return with a vengeance.

The next league fixture is on November 17, hosted by City of London, with the third race at Maidstone on Thursday, December 15.

### East Anglian Cross Country League

A reminder that Essex Police are registered in this league, although we do not formally organise a team for each race. The next fixture is at the University of East Anglia in Norwich on November 23. If you wish to run in any of the races contact Pc. Roy Kebell at the Coroner's Office in Basildon on (0268) 593770.

### Croker Cup

No firm date has been fixed but the Force Cross Country championships are likely to take place at Essex University on either January 5 or February 2.

by Roy Kebell

## Netball Knockout



THE winning team: (back) Paula Furneaux, Sian Mayo, Janet Letham and Michelle Picot, (front) Vicky Denmark, Sue Tyler and Sue Schwarz.

The NETBALL season got off to a flying start with a victory over Norfolk in the PAA Knockout Cup.

Having lost the first quarter Essex pulled back to take a 31-26 lead at half time.

A swap of players brought some fresh legs and some excellent

shooting from Sue Schwarz and Sue Tyler.

As Norfolk started to tire Essex kept the pace clinching a final score of 66-41. In the next round they face South Wales.

Meanwhile in the annual PAA National Cup, held in Nottingham, Essex again showed their class taking bronze.

Anyone who would like to play Force netball - civilian or police - should contact Pc Sue Schwarz at Southend. Any standard of player is welcome.

## FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

### PAA DARTS & SNOOKER

The No. 5 Regional eliminator for Darts and Snooker will be held in the City of London, with Darts at 1750 on January 19 at Wood Street Police Station, and Snooker at 1400 on January 21 at Bishopsgate.

Any officer wishing to attend either event should contact the Force Sports Secretary before December 1.

Essex will host the Table Tennis and Billiards elimination championships, dates to be confirmed.

### TABLE TENNIS

The European Police Table Tennis championships were held in Norfolk last month. Essex's Pc. Chris Jacob, representing Britain, won one gold and two silver medals in the team and individual events.

### DUATHLON

Essex's Pc. Mike Kliskey from the Air Support Unit won the Police National Duathlon championship in Cleveland last month. The

event consisted of a six-mile run, followed by a 24-mile cycle ride, then another three-mile run.

### SEA ANGLING

The Croker Cup Sea Angling event will be held at 8am on November 24 at Bradwell Marina.

### TENNIS

The Croker Cup tennis championships will be held on November 24 at Earls Colne Leisure Centre, starting at 1pm. Each division can enter one doubles pair, male or female.

### BADMINTON

The Croker Cup Badminton competition takes place on November 23 at Clements Hall, Rochford. Contact Pc. Michael Thorp at Rochford for more information.

### GOLF

The Croker Cup golf, held at Ballards Gore, was won by Braintree Division with 132 points. They are awarded 6 Croker Cup points. Southend came second with Thurrock and Rayleigh joint third.

### HEADQUARTERS SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Charity Quiz Night  
in aid of BBC Children in Need  
Friday, December 2 at 7pm  
Training Centre canteen  
Contact Rosie Durr x2575  
Cost £2.50

## THE LAW

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### Next Issue

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