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The Newspaper of the Essex Police

January 1995

No 257

## Drink-drive campaign hailed a success

THE hard work and campaigning of traffic officers paid off when the Christmas drink-drive figures were released this month.

The percentage of drivers caught positive fell from 3.44 in 1993/94 to 2.54 in this latest initiative.

A total of 5,036 tests were carried out with 128 drivers failing.

And divisional uniformed officers should not go unsung as they carried out their fair share of the total tests.

Traffic Superintendent Des McGarr, based at Headquarters has hailed the campaign a success.

He said: "Our main aim was to raise the perception of detection in the minds of the driver who was tempted to drink.

### Positive

"I firmly believe that the commitment and enthusiasm of the officers was reflected in the overall number of tests performed, and the low percentage of positive tests shows that the public is responding to the initiative."

Despite the successful reduction drink-driving remains a problems and Mr McGarr reiterates the fact that a year round awareness campaign is necessary.

He said: "I would like to thank all the officers for reflecting Essex in such a positive light. But it is an on-going problem and we need to really keep up this initiative extending the rationale to include the speeding driver."

Officers thanked for showing restraint during animal rights demo

# Conduct praised during protest

## Dog has a lotta bottle



● IN THE DOG HOUSE. Shep with owner Nichola Avery.

**A HOPELESS love affair with a Labrador called Rosie was the only defence Shep the collie dog could give after he was arrested last week for milk pilfering by Burnham Police.**

The crime that had Burnham police baffled started when a home owner in Barnmead Way rang the police to report that her milk was either being stolen or smashed.

In an attempt to stop the bottles from disappearing the local dairy started delivering the milk to the back door but still it continued.

"I was getting quite paranoid about the situation, it was really very worrying. I thought there was a prowler in the area," said victim Mrs Kennedy.

Local police then decided enough was enough and launched an undercover early morning lookout on the house.

All seemed quiet until out of the darkness came a dubious looking suspect who was seen to walk up to the crate of milk, and remove a pint of milk.

Then holding the bottle by the neck the villain, who was later confirmed as Shep, trotted off along Barnmead Way.

Police challenged the collie who then dropped the milk an off, apparently this

was the first prisoner lost by Pc Christopher Gilgan for some time.

Later when tracked down Shep was 'milked' for information and admitted he had been barking mad to carry out the stunt.

A close examination in Sheps garden confirmed the hideous crime, under the bushes sticking out of the soil could be seen several milk bottles foil tops

A relieved Mrs Kennedy said she was pleased the mystery was solved and had to admit to seeing the funny side to the saga. "I think he is in love with Rosie our labrador and was showing off", she said.

Trouble flared when animal rights demonstrators converged on the usually peaceful dock of Brightlinsea to protest about the shipping of live animals to mainland Europe.

But officers have been praised for the way they handled the situation during the protest which is expected to continue for several more days.

Emergency contingency plans were set up when it was announced that the small north Essex port was to become the latest to carry out the controversial shipments.

On Monday, the day of the first planned export, over 1,000 demonstrators, mainly local residents, stood in the cold to express their opposition.

Wielding banners, they staged a mass sit-down in an attempt to stop the lorries reaching the boat. Six arrests were made.

With children, pensioners and disabled protestors in the crowd, and with "public safety paramount" Assistant Chief Constable Geoffrey Markham

By Kim White

made the decision to turn the lorries back.

The previous evening hundreds had turned out for a public meeting.

The operation was mounted when plans were finalised for several loads of sheep and calves to be shipped out on the Danish livestock carrier MS Caroline, over a period of days.

At a briefing to all officers taking part Mr Markham made it clear that the aim was to allow the lorries access to the boat, but that if he felt at any time that it was a danger to proceed he would not hesitate in suspending the proceedings.

**"It's the most sensitive public order situation I have ever known in Essex"**

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

# Cuts won't bring redundancies

**THE new formula recently announced by the Home Office for working out Police budgets between 1995/96 onwards has been well reported in the Press which means the cuts for Essex Police budget next year are between 4.7 and 6 million pounds.**

Meetings have been taking place at Headquarters to decide just where these cuts can be made and options have been put to the new Shadow Police Committee which will meet on the 23rd January 1995.

That meeting will decide on the nature of the cuts but it would appear at this moment in time we would be looking at cuts around the 5 million mark on the estimated budget for 1995/96.

There have been reports in the Press with regard to where those cuts might actually come from and because a large proportion of the budget is police and civilian manpower, which is 83% of the budget, then cuts must have to be made in this area.

## Manpower

Obviously this is an area that the Joint Branch Board in Essex would be very much against however, to achieve 5 million cuts over the course of the next year, there would have to be some reduction with regard to manpower. This would not mean redundancies but would probably mean recruiting will be put on hold for the forthcoming

financial year. In fact if you look back over the previous 9 months, there have been cut backs with regard to recruits and since the changes in the PNB regulations on the 1st September, we have actually had only one intake of 23 Officers in December.

## Concern

Your Branch Board are very concerned with regard to the proposed cuts and I have written to our M.P.'s in Essex asking for a meeting with them at the end of this month to discuss the way that the budgets are now worked out from the Home Office formula. We will have to live with the formula for 1995/96 however, I understand that the Home Office have set up a Working Group to actually reconsider whether they have got the formula right on this occasion and therefore there is a need for us to talk to our MP's to make sure that the formula is changed so we will not be in the same position with regard to our budgets in the 1996/97 financial year.

Once the Shadow Police Committee make a decision with regard to budgets and the cuts, I will be in a better position to let you know just where those cuts will be coming from and how it will affect the operational capabilities of the Force this year. We will probably be in a position to update you in the February edition of "The Law".

It is ironic that at a time when the Government is talking of restructuring and putting more Officers back on the beat, because of the way the formulas are worked out, Essex is being penalised to the effect that we will be reducing the strength of operational Police Officers for the next 12 months. This comes at a time when the Government is introducing again more legislation on Health and Safety issues and other matters including D.N.A. testing etc. which is considerably costly not only in setting up but in training which the Government do not seem to take account of.

## MP's

Your Joint Branch Board treat these cuts in the budgets very seriously almost on par with the problem we were facing with the Sheehy report of 18 months ago. We would ask you, if you get the opportunity, to meet with your MP's at their surgery to bring to their attention your concern that the cuts have come about as a change in the formula which will mean that there will be less Officers on the street of Essex for 1995/96 and therefore the service that we actually provide to the public of Essex will be curtailed.

I will keep members apprised of the situation as it develops and will certainly give you a fuller report after our meeting with our MP's at the end of the month.



● By Brian Pallant

## Members' Services

### Midas Security Services

RETIRED Police Officer, Peter Saunders, from Midas Security Services, is pleased to confirm that the company is offering 15% discount for any of their services.

Midas Security services is based at Rivermead House, Bishop Hall Lane, Chelmsford, Essex, telephone 01245 264040.

For a full range of their services, please contact either Midas Security Services direct or the Federation Office on extension 2796.

### Woolwich Building Society

THE figures with regard to mortgages for Essex Police officers from the Woolwich under our discounted scheme are as below:

1993 - £915,000

1994 - Up to and including 31 October - £848,000.

Scheme are available from the Federation at Headquarters on extension 2797 but, briefly, the Scheme is set up to pay amounts in relation to diagnosis of breast or cervical cancer or where mastectomies etc. have to take place. The premiums are payable on age banding and vary between £14.50 per annum at the age of 18 and £52 per annum at age 56-65.

The benefits payable are £10,000 on first diagnosis of breast or cervical cancer, 5,000 in the event of a mastectomy and £5,000 on death from natural causes within 12 months of first diagnosis. There are obviously conditions with regard to the commencement of cover and full details are available from the Federation Office.

## Lady care scheme

**Your Joint Branch Board has negotiated with Stuart Harvey Insurance Brokers with regard to a new insurance scheme known as Lady Shield.**

This Scheme is already up and running in some of the surrounding Forces and appears to be well received by their members. Briefly, the Lady Shield Scheme is available to:

- Serving Policewomen
- The wives of serving Policemen
- Civilians and their spouses

The cover can be continued in retirement to age 65 years, if required. Full details of the

## Officers pay their respects across the Channel

TWO Essex Police officers took part in a goodwill gesture last month when they crossed the channel to and visited the French town of L'Aiguillon sur Mer.

The town, which is twinned with Burnham-On-The-Crouch, was marking its annual day of remembrance in memory of dead firefighters.

Other emergency services paid respect and Essex officers Sergeants Kevin Wakefield and Fred Winter represented Essex Police.

The officers, who had taken annual leave for the visit, also took part in a parade and wreath laying ceremony in the town's cemetery.

A mounted Fireman's Axe with an inscribed plaque was presented to leading fire fighter Jean Claude Boutet who was honoured for his 20 years with the service. The stand was made by Sergeant Wakefield's father, himself a retired Burnham firefighter.

Other highlights included visiting an old peoples home and singing Christmas carols in French. And a trip to a local restaurant where an enjoyable eight course meal took an incredible four hours to consume.

## Life savers honoured



● Pc's John Boland and Jo Smith together with nurse Hilary Bate receive their accolade from the Mayor of Brentwood, Councillor Dave Higgins and Assistant Chief Constable Geoff Markham. *Picture courtesy of Brentwood*

THE EFFORTS of two Brentwood police officers who helped save the life of a seriously injured man last March have been recognised by receiving a top award.

Pc's Tom Boland (27) and Jo Smith (25) were on routine patrol in London Road when they spotted a man covered in blood staggering along the pavement. The man, who had been involved in an accident and as the officers approached he collapsed and stopped breathing.

With the aid of a off-duty nurse who also came to the rescue the three started attempts to revive him. The man stopped breathing twice but the three persevered and successfully started him breathing again - he later made a full recovery in hospital.

All three have now been presented with the prestigious Royal Humane Society award in recognition of their efforts.

Brentwood Inspector Simon Coxall both, then collapsed and stopped breathing as the officers approached.

said, "We are very proud of Jo and Tom, they have every right to be proud of themselves, their actions undoubtedly saved the man's life."

But Pc Jo Smith said they were just doing their job, "We both felt very proud to get the award but any police officer would have done the same thing", she said.

## Legal helpline hand

**A HELPLINE provided by Hambro Legal Protection Limited forms a part of the package of benefits to which members of the Federation, who opted for the Legal Expenses Scheme, have had access to since 1992.**

The helpline is available to discuss all personal legal matters of concern to the member be they work related or not and your call will be answered by a specially trained lawyer 24 hours a day on any day of the year including weekends and Bank Holidays. We recognise the fact that, due to the nature of their occupation it is not always convenient for members to contact during office hours, so the out of hours service is especially of benefit.

During the first six months of this year, we have received approximately 250 calls from Essex Police Federation members out of a total scheme membership of 1500. Whilst some members obviously call more than once, on average, by the end of the year, we will have spoken to one third of the Scheme membership in the 12 month period, with the total for the three years since inception being equal to the full membership.

We feel that the figures in themselves show that the facility is valued by Federation members, a point underlined by the fact that many members, having used the service once, do call again to discuss their problems.

With regard to the nature of the subjects dis-

cussed, these are both as diverse as they are numerous, topics ranging from disputes with Local Authorities to problems with pets.

Due to the manner in which we operate the helpline, we are able to keep the annual premium payable to a modest level, particularly when bearing in mind the cost of visiting a solicitor. It should also be remembered that the helpline forms only part of the package. There is also up to £25,000 worth of legal costs available for the member's protection in a variety of situations, both at work and at home. Cover also extends to the members dependants.

We have been happy to provide this service to members of the Federation over the past three years and hope to continue doing so in the future.

With regard to the nature of the subjects dis-

Off  
beat

## Touching tail

TWO police dogs helped find a missing 10 year old girl after she became separated from her sister.

On Christmas Eve in the Basildon Eastgate Centre, Laindon Dog Unit officers Pc's Elsegood and O'Connell were talking to the informant when dogs Khan and Jack became restless and started pulling to a nearby escalator. Behold who was coming down it hidden among the crowd? Yes the missing sister.

As White Christmas played over the tannoy system people were clearly moved by the scene with alleged reports of shoppers with tears in their eyes and others applauding loudly.

## Hairy moment

RAYLEIGH officers had to giggle when they saw the funny side to a poster displaying news of the grand re-opening of the station's bar.

The author of the poster had made a bit of a boob with the bold lettering at the top of the poster which read, the bar was re-opening once again due to enormous PUBIC demand.

## DIY disaster

POLICE raced to an address in Leigh last month when they had reports of a woman in danger shouting from a rooftop.

Fearing the worst, police calmly talked to the woman to encourage her down.

All became clear though when she explained that she had been painting her bedroom. The door became stuck because of the wet paint and then whilst pulling the door knob it came off in her hand, after two hours she climbed onto the roof to shout for help.

Police later successfully rescued the woman.

## Small-time crime

A WORRIED woman from Weeley rang the police reporting a burglary at her home. Ornaments and £300 in cash had been stolen and the back door was found open.

Only ten minutes later the crime was solved when the lady rang again. She explained her children were responsible, they had been playing burglars and had hidden the cash and opened the door - the little darlings!

## Welcome to Stansted

A WOMAN had a bumpy landing at Stansted Airport when she was nearly knocked out by a bottle of duty-free Gin that fell from the overhead locker onto her head - strong stuff.

## And finally . . .

AN officer who answered the phone at Dovercourt police station had to keep a straight face when a man from a freezer company rang reporting the theft of some goods.

The caller was a Mr Frost.



● ABOVE. The wreckage of the French artic in which one man died. RIGHT: This traffic car was shunted 100 yards along the hard shoulder with a constable still in the passenger seat.

TWO traffic officers are lucky to be alive after a 38 ton artic ploughed into the back of their patrol car on the hard-shoulder of the M25.

The accident happened on Thursday when constables Jim Tarbox and Ernie Davis were carrying out a routine check on a

Rigid. The French artic collided with the rear offside of the Rigid which in turn shunted the patrol car about 100 yards along the hard shoulder onto the embankment.

Pc Tarbox who was inspecting the nearside of the Rigid at the time was hurled over the road-

side crash barrier and down a 15ft tree-lined verge, suffering severe bruising. Pc Davis was treated for whiplash and shock at Oldchurch Hospital as was the driver of the Rigid. The French driver died at the scene.

A section of the motorway between the A127 and A13 was

closed for several hours and traffic investigators are now trying to establish the cause of the accident.

The collision was almost identical to one on the M11 just two days before, when one officer attempted to capture a dog running around in the carriageway.

A car hit the dog before crashing into the back of the patrol car. One police officer suffered torn ankle ligaments, an observing council officer, in the passenger seat of the patrol car, suffered whiplash and the driver of the second vehicle was treated for head and chest injuries.

# Two officers injured in motorway smash



# Budget cuts could mean less officers

THERE could be fewer officers on the streets of Essex if police chiefs can't find alternative ways of saving over £5 million.

Announcements by the Government that it was to plough £180m into the police service nationally, an increase on previous years, was initially welcomed.

But now the budget has been divided up some forces, including Essex, are facing real cuts. Even if the Council Tax is increased to the capping limit £4.5 million will have to be found. If the Police Authority is not prepared to take this stance the figure will rise to £5.9m.

But Chief Constable John Burrow has vowed to fight to keep bobbies on the beat while facing the fact that the service has to suffer.

He said: "These cuts come on top of efficiency measures already undertaken in Essex to reduce senior management and they will mean a reduction in policing services. Every effort will be made to keep police officers on the streets but cuts in mileage, overtime and other areas of support to the front-line officers means that the service provided will suffer."

The basis of the changes in funding is a new formula which has meant some forces will receive millions of pounds while other face cuts.

But Mr Burrow has said he will "strongly challenge the formula" over the coming year to try and reflect, more accurately the policing needs of the county.

A special team has already been set up to work out where the cuts will come from but until the Police Authority meeting next month the exact figure the force needs to save will not be known.

Fears that the force will not be able to provide proposed protective equipment to officers, have already been expressed by the Federation.

Batons and stab resistant vests are already on trial with a view to all officers being given the best possible equipment. But there are concerns that the funding announcement could put paid to the proposals.

Federation secretary Brian Pallant said: "We accept that there are large

cuts to be made and realise that one of the areas of growth predicted was body armour and batons. However, we see the issue of these for operational officers as a necessity and that cuts should be found if at all possible from other areas."

Mr Burrow said: "The protection of officers is a high priority and the longer batons and protective vests will be provided if at all possible. However, the enormity of the cuts means difficult decisions to be made between cutting the number of officers on the streets, overtime, mileage and the purchase of long batons and protective vests. In addition £280,000 must be found for the DNA database and there is the likely withdrawal of £500,00 from our

By Kim White

budget in 1995 to fund private prisoner escorts in Essex, to be faced."

Officers are being warned to think carefully before using secondhand body armour obtained through private sources.

The warning has been issued by ACPO and has been backed by the Essex Police Federation.

While some protection is better than none at all, there is concern that officers may place themselves in dangerous situations trusting in products which may not meet the requirements.

Secretary Brian Pallant said: "We are currently taking part in trials to ensure that officers are provided with best equipment available."

## A fond farewell to Cardinal

POPULAR police horse, Cardinal, has died from kidney and liver failure after only three and a half years with Essex Police.

The nine year old thoroughbred had what looked to be a promising future ahead of him showing all the qualities demanded from a police horse.

Cardinal's rider, Pc. Jim Haldane, spoke of his fondness for his companion, "I'm gutted that he has died, it is like losing a family member, you can't help but get attached when you work together for eight hours a day."

The horse had shown signs of illness over the last few months. Numerous tests at Newmarket followed to try and pinpoint the problem but sadly nothing could be done and he was put to sleep.

Pc. Haldane was with Cardinal when he died. Cardinal will be remembered for his good temperament especially with children and for his off duty frolics when he liked nothing more than a good splash around in the sea at Southend.

Now the section are looking for a suitable replacement to work alongside the three remaining horses.



● HAPPY MEMORIES. Pc Jim Haldane with Cardinal at the 1993 Essex Show. Picture by Les Brand.

## Abbreviated files showing signs of success

THE idea of not having to submit full files to the CPS if a guilty plea is assured, is a police officer's dream come true when it comes to paperwork.

And a pilot scheme aimed at making this possible has been proving a success.

The Abbreviated File scheme has been in full swing since October and file adjudicators agree that the planned benefits are increasingly being experienced.

One adjudicator has claimed that "a greater proportion of files are being accepted by CPS on first submission than previously and I am returning fewer files to officers for more work to be done."

However, indications are that more statements are being obtained than necessary and that some summaries of tape recorded interviews are overlong and others only refer to the interview without using direct speech questions and answers.

Although the pilot scheme is scheduled to end on February 28, it may be extended over the evaluation period so that the momentum of the improvements is not lost.



## It was a great send off

I WOULD like, through *The Law*, to thank the 200 odd people who came to my retirement do on Friday, December 9.

These people included my old boss Ch/Insp Ian Clarke (who came down from Scotland), former Ch/Supt Ian Wright, Ch/Insp Bob Williamson, Ch/Insp Ian Hunt, nearly all the Essex dog

Handlers and a few retired one's - Ian Terry, Ray Little, Colin Ball - I could go on forever. There was also HQ's TIU, Southend's SES, Pete Frost to mark my long association with Complaints and Discipline and, would you believe, the South Wales netball team.

I would also like to thank Gwen (HQ bar

manageress) and her staff for working so hard and the canteen ladies for the great buffet.

I have received some beautiful gifts and have had a send off that was second to none. In fact, looking back, (and I always will) I could have sold tickets for it.

Allan Gilfillan  
Great Baddow.

## Fundraising Scheme adds sparkle to Neighbourhood Watch

I AM an Estate Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for the whole of the 'Ryfields' estate in Feering.

At our last NW meeting suggestions were asked for ideas of fund raising for the Kelvedon and Feering Watches.

As a part-time 'Cabouchon' Jewellery Consultant, I came up with the idea of donating 50% of my commission on any jewellery parties/presentations, made in the villages, of the total sales value, towards our local NW. They found this to be a very helpful idea and I am now waiting for people to phone me and book a party/presentation. I am also prepared to hold such evenings at my home.

I then thought that perhaps other NW areas might want to fund raise as well. I am prepared to do parties in the Braintree, Chelmsford and Colchester areas in the evenings and weekends as well. This way people don't just donate money and wonder how much actually gets to an organisation - this way people know that 50% of my total commission goes straight into the hands of their

local neighbourhood watch scheme.

I have had backing for this idea from the Chairman of the Police Authority, Richard Boyd and Witham Crime Prevention Officer, Mick Hall.

They agree that this is not only a good way to raise funds for Neighbourhood Watches in Essex but to publicise the Watches themselves in their own right and draw peoples interests, which may make them 'join up' into their local Watch.

Janice Crombie  
Feering

## Thanks for your kind support

MY wife Gladys and I would like to convey our very sincere thanks for the very sincere messages of sympathy from friends and former colleagues of the Force and for the offers of help from the Police welfare in the recent bereavement of our dear son Martin.

Martin passed away at the Royal Brompton, Heart and Lung Hospital, West London, on December 2, aged 28, suffering from Cystic Fibrosis.

Many thanks to all.

Ex Pc Brown  
Colchester.

R. Mackman  
Great Dunmow.

Bob Craven  
Assistant Secretary.

L  
A  
W

# Letters

## A policeman's lot can't always be a happy one

I ENJOY reading *The Law* and I especially enjoyed reading your story about Lucky the Sow badger.

How dreadful it must be for those animal loving officers of Essex who are summoned to fox hunts to fairly observe and take any unbiased action.

How dreadful it must be for those animal loving officers to know that

- unlike Lucky, foxes are coaxed from their dens, only to be chased by dogs trained to kill.

The beautiful fox is then torn apart to the delight of onlookers who deny it is barbarous.

All in the guise of a countryside sport.

Rosemary McCarthy  
West Mersea.

## We have a Millie too

POTENTIAL patients in South East Essex do not need to envy Addenbrooks Hospital support from Millie Birch (The Law - November) - Southend & District Hospital has it's own Fairy Godmother.

Pensioner Joyce Long of Rayleigh has already raised £32,100 for the hospital's Magnetic Resonance Imager Appeal in addition to many thousands for other hospital causes.

With about £50,000 now needed to achieve the £1 million target, work is underway on the MRI Unit buildings and contracts will shortly be signed for a state-of-the-art Siemens scanner so that this fantastic diagnostic equipment can be in operation early in 1995.

Well done the clubs, pubs and generous people of SE Essex.

F. Peacock  
Appeal Treasurer.

## Tell me your stories

I AM shortly to retire from the Police Service and whilst the remainder of you enjoy the financial fruits of your labours, I will be reduced to the rank of a pensioner.

In order to escape DIY, gardening, destitution and 'her indoors', I intend to develop a career as a freelance writer, with some emphasis on travel and the unusual. As there is little which is new in the world, there is already a wide range of material to be culled from existing written sources by way of research.

There is, however, a further vast and untapped source. By the nature of their professional curiosity or plain

straightforward nosiness, police officers know more about most people things and places, past and present, than the rest of the population combined. It is this information that I would now like to tap into to.

I would ask for anyone to provide me information at the following freepost address: Don Williams, C/O Metropolitan Police, Islington, Freepost SW64, London N1 0BR.

In the first instance the briefest of notes and a contact number will suffice. I would stress that anything of interest, unusual, the biggest, the smallest etc, is of potential use to me.

Don Williams  
Potters Bar  
Herts.

## Mac would have approved

MY husband Alec Mackman (generally known as Mac) would have hated a big, official type funeral, so I did my best to see he got the send off he preferred.

I must thank everyone who managed to come and to say that after 30 odd years as a police wife I quite understand that some people were unable to come in person, but

were there in spirit.

We had no service as such. Mac's chosen music began and ended the proceedings with a very moving and humorous piece in between, delivered with sincerity and style by Iain Munro.

Mac would have approved, come to think of it he did, as he and Iain had discussed points beforehand. I found myself thinking - how did he know that - once or twice.

People came from all parts of Mac's police service from as far afield as Northumberland to Kent and places in between.

My thanks to the Chief Constable for the Force tribute which toned in beautifully with the family flowers.

I am sending donations to Imperial Cancer research.

## Mind Your Own Business

The column of the Ex-Essex Police Business Association

DID you know what your current financial position is at this time and are you getting the best out of your money and the appropriate tax allowances?

Well or members should no longer be totally in the dark as at our last meeting Bernadette Luxford, an Independent Advisor of Grapevine Financial Management at Manningtree gave us extremely wide, varied and informative advice on many personal financial issues.

These included Income Tax, Insurance, Investments and DSS matters. Most of us as serving officers found little time for these but having left the service now find them so very important not only for the business aspect but more so for our dependants.

We anticipate many more such excellent guest speakers to assist us in our diverse interests and activities.

## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

This has now been circulated to all members and a Trades Directory will be formulated as membership increases.

## NEW MEMBERS AND ENQUIRIES

Contact Dick Bloomfield - Secretary on Tel/Fax 01702 202959 (Note - New Number)

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 8 March 1995 - 7.30pm - Sandon Dog Section.

ALL MEMBERS WISH ALL OUR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES IN ESSEX POLICE A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Bob Craven  
Assistant Secretary.

## Police views on private security

THE issue of private security patrols has been at the forefront of discussion in recent months and a matter of concern for forces around the country.

Essex Police has now produced a policy on the subject in which it accepts the presence of such patrols but does urge that they are properly licensed.

### Reduce crime

Community and commercial initiatives which help reduce crime and the fear of crime are always welcomed by police chiefs as it recognises the vital part the public plays.

But at present private security companies are not required to be licensed, or their staff vetted, and Essex in support of ACPO feel they should be regulated by some sort of legislation.

In the meantime Essex Police have started keeping a register of companies privately patrolling the county, offering them advice on matters such as reporting crime to the police.

# Top honours for trio

THREE members of Essex Police have been recognised for their outstanding efforts to the community in the 1995 New Year's Honours List.

RAYLEIGH based Inspector, Dave Perry, has been awarded the Queens Police Medal for "distinguished service" in his role as the Essex Police Drugs Prevention and Education Co-ordinator.

The Inspector's work takes him into schools and the general community to warn and educate people of the dangers of getting caught up in drugs.

Surprised Dave (48), said he was delighted to receive the award, "I am proud to be honoured in such a way, it doesn't just represent the work I do it's an award for the force as well," he said.



● Inspector Dave Perry.

The first news Dave had of the award was two days before Christmas when a letter arrived from the Home Office including a congratulatory message from the Home Secretary. He said it was a superb Christmas present for himself, his wife Elaine and their teenage children Thomas and Helen.

The Inspector had already been commended for his work last year by Chief Constable John Burrow.

SPECIAL Constabulary Commandant, Tom Rodgers became aware of his MBE when the local media started ringing for interviews.

The 65-year old retired police officer has carried out his voluntary role as head of the Special Constabulary for five years and was delighted to hear of the honour. "I am absolutely over the moon, I can't think of a better New Year's Day present. It came totally out of the blue, the first I knew of it was when I returned from a holiday in India before Christmas. A letter was waiting on the doormat from Downing Street saying I was in with a chance of receiving some type of honour. It was such an official looking envelope at first I thought it was the tax man after me", he joked.

Tom said he believed the honour reflected the importance of the 700 volunteers of the Essex Special Constabulary and said they too should take much of the credit for it.

Tom, who lives in Southend, is married with two children, his son is a serving Metropolitan police officer. Now Tom and his wife Betty are looking forward to their trip to Buckingham Palace, "It will be a splendid day", he said.

LOLLIPOPASTIC Irene Anderson thought she was having her leg pulled when the letter with news of her of MBE arrived in the post.

The 64 year old lollipop lady from Tilbury has been helping generations of youngsters across the road in all weathers for 34 years. But to be presented with the award was the last thing she expected, "It's an honour, I didn't expect it, I'm only doing my job", she said.

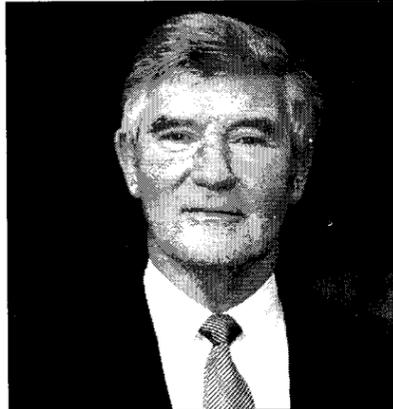
Pc. John Lane who helps co-ordinate crossing patrols in the area said, "Irene was one of our many unsung heroes always



● Irene Anderson with proof that her MBE was no practical joke. Picture courtesy of the Thurrock Gazette.

there serving the children who are the vulnerable members of the community. She is a person most certainly deserving of this award."

Irene is widowed but has one son, a daughter in-law and three grandchildren to keep her busy when she's not holding her lollipop stick.



● Commandant Tom Rodgers.

CID boss Ralph Barrington recently received his Queen's Police Medal after he was named in the Birthday Honours.

Detective Chief Superintendent Barrington, a policeman for 30 years, said at the time: "I believe the award to a large extent reflects the good work of Essex CID."

"The credit belongs to this excellent body of men and women of which I consider myself very privileged to have been



at the head for such a long time."

Also secretary to the Association of Chief Police Officers crime committee, Mr Barrington was a key figure in the national development of the HOLMES major incident computer system and was actively involved in the introduction of IRIS command and control system.

He received his medal from Lord Braybrooke at a presentation at Abbey House, Audley End.



● Detective Chief Superintendent Ralph Barrington accepts his QPM from Lord Braybrooke.

## What a winner

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr P. Blythe from Shoeburyness who has won two free tickets to see Gary Wilmot starring in the hit West End musical, 'Copacabana'.

His name was picked from nearly 80 people who took advantage of The Law's special reduced price ticket offer to see the show. The others have still done well by obtaining the best seats in the house for nearly half the normal cost - Enjoy the show!



● Grateful charity workers with their cheques.

## Charities benefit from police Fun Day

SIXTEEN local charities had a brighter Christmas and New Year when cheques totalling thousands of pounds were handed out by Chief Constable John Burrow.

The staggering £24,000 hand-out was raised mainly through the Essex Police Fun Day held in July and a Gala Band Concert in Westcliff in September.

Many divisions and departments nominated charities to benefit from the proceeds but Little Havens children's hospice was to receive the most substantial donation of £10,000.

Receiving sums of £1,000 were Tabor Centre for the Physically handicapped in Braintree, Basildon District Voluntary carers, Chelmsford branch of BLISS, Tendring's Limborne House,

Donyland Lodge School in Colchester, Thurrock's 1st Tors Oak Scout and Guide Group, St Martin's Residence in Southend, National Playing Fields Association in Rayleigh, Stansted's Stort Trust, EASBAH, Chelmsford Playbus, Arthritis Care Support Group and the Chelmsford Asthma Campaign. Another sum of £1,000 was split between the Alzheimer Association and Hargrave House.

## January

ICY weather conditions brought a bad start to 1994 with more than 70 accidents reported in the first 12 hours. One unlucky driver Robert Barker was run over twice after his car developed a tyre problem on the M11 near Harlow.

Mutterings of discontent were heard after the shift start time moved from 6am to 7am and letters flooded into The Law from disgruntled workers.

In Wickford customers watched in horror as a man was gunned down and crippled in a roadside cafe. A man was later acquitted of attempted murder at Southend Crown Court.

Meanwhile the widow and colleagues of traffic officer Chris Wiggins were at Snaresbrook Crown Court. They were await-

ing the sentence of the driver of the lorry which ploughed into his marked car on the M25 near Brentwood. The driver received a suspended prison sentence and was disqualified from driving for two years.

In Colchester military police joined forces with Essex officers in the first combined mounted patrols the town had seen. The idea was to increase high profile policing and crackdown on crime in areas such as Castle Park. It was deemed a great success.

And finally honours were awarded to two Essex officers, namely Deputy Chief Constable Jim Dickinson and Ds Bob Davies who were both presented with the Queen's Police Medal.

## February

IT was a month for animal antics.

Over 400 readers helped choose the names of the first force bred puppies. Ten cuddly canines were born to Sgt Paul Probin's German Shepherd Carla. Six are now being trained as working dogs.

Pinky and Perky, the Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs ran riot through Colne Engaine while four hot-hoofed ponies were rounded up in West Bergholt and kept in custody in a local bobbie's garden.

Officers at Brentwood were commended for their work following the conviction of murderer Lawrence Mullins. Mullins left shy

30-year-old Barry Bradford half-naked in a pool of blood after a frenzied, unprovoked attack in the grounds of Highwood Hospital.

Thousands of pounds worth of drugs and stolen property were seized following Operations Gemma, Wellington and Linda in Grays, Chelmsford and Harlow. Officers in Chelmsford were later alerted that they had been wading through mud infested with the lethal Weils disease.

Two specials found themselves becoming the first parish constables in a pilot scheme set up in Hockley and Southminster to promote better community policing.



● Having a lolly good time at the Essex Show in June, one youngster is fascinated by the underwater search unit.

## March

MARCH started with good news with figures indicating a fall in crime for the first time in more than five years.

But crime was still hitting the headlines as an all-night siege closed off a complete section of the A127 at Dunton. A man, who had barricaded himself into a mobile home, was later arrested and two replica firearms recovered.

Pro-active policing brought crime in Grays to a virtual halt for three days as officers carried out dawn raids executing over 100 warrants. Television crews followed the operation known as Rolling Thunder giving view-

ers and insight into the work of Essex Police.

Foreign charity treks were on the agenda with Halstead constable Alan Diver unable to accept a Man of the Year Award due to commitments helping orphans in war-torn Bosnia. Chief Inspector Dennis Rensch was warming up to brave the Arctic wastes to raise money for the NSPCC.

Wildlife enthusiast Assistant Chief Constable Terry Rands retired to Norfolk after 32 years with the Force.

After many years Essex Crimestoppers fell in line with the national trend and adopted a new freephone number - 0800 555111.

## April

MANY officers were saddened to see the historic six Essex Police divisions become 10 in the first major phase of the restructuring plan.

Easter weekend brought a catalogue of near disasters beginning with the loss of nearly 800 explosive mines from the Shoebury army base. An intense four day search began and all eight boxes were eventually recovered, some as far away as Suffolk.

Within minutes of recovering the final box, a passenger in former RAF training plane plunged to the ground when his seat ejected during a victory roll over Colchester. Miraculously his only injury was a sore neck. The plane, flown by his brother landed safely at North Weald. Later that afternoon, over 10 sail boats and catamarans capsized in the Blackwater. Police, army and coastguards launched an emergency rescue but fortunately no-one was seriously hurt.

Plans were unveiled for Braintree officers to trial the tape-recording of pre-planned arrests.

Meanwhile the skyline was ablaze over the sleepy village of Barling when over a million pounds worth of construction equipment was torched. The site was a controversial new dump and detectives still believe villagers are hiding the arsonist's identity.

New mums welcomed the introduction of part-time working for police officers.

● A group of officer tackled a gruelling 2000 mile yacht race in hazardous conditions in October.



2,700 speeding motorists on the M11 were in for a shock when they were caught on camera, in temporary road works, exceeding the 50mph limit.

Charles Clark returned to the county as Assistant Chief Constable (Support). He spent 24 years as an Essex officer before serving in Leicester. Meanwhile Councillor

Richard Boyd became the first Liberal Democrat to serve as Chairman of the Police Committee.

Praise was received from Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for the creation of Service Delivery Standards. They were seen as being at the leading edge nationally to promote quality of service.

## May

BBC's Antique's Roadshow Toot with Euro Pc from were fictic Weal

stopped off at Colchester Leisure World. Valuable advice was offered by FIB detective Ernie Carr to visitors wishing to protect their treasures. Still on the subject of television, five Southend officers were whisked across the Channel after appearing on Channel Four's Don't Forget Your



● Motorway drivers got their first glimpse of the brightly coloured Battenburg car in February.

# Look back

## June

AN amnesty was declared on weapons in the first campaign of its kind since 1988. Collections points were set up at 16 stations around the county for four weeks with a no questions asked policy.

Chief Superintendent Ralph Barrington, Head of CID, was named in the Queen's Birthday Honours list to receive the Queen's Police Medal.

Following the death of Labour leader John Smith on the day he was due to visit Basildon, Tony Blair made a goodwill visit to the town and police station.

The unsolved murder of Martin Broome

received renewed publicity when LWT's Crime Monthly staged a reconstruction. The programme marked the fifth anniversary of the night 29-year-old Martin was bludgeoned to death in his own home.

The rights of children to be protected from abuse was at the centre of a week-long campaign. Keepsafe saw Essex Police join other health and education organisations raising awareness about Child Protection issues.

Airport Watch took off at Stansted to combat crime and increase vigilance against terrorist attack. It followed mortar bomb attacks at Heathrow Airport.

## July

SWELTERING heat melted sections of the A12. Drivers were spotted travelling the wrong way along the dual carriageway in an attempt to avoid traffic jams. But the scorching conditions were welcomed at the annual police fun day. Attendance records were at their highest with thousands of pounds raised for charity.

The support unit received a new piece of equipment to help search for missing people and criminals. The thermal imager fixed to the helicopter picks up on heat sources. It was

later used successfully to track IRA terrorists who escaped from a Cambridge prison after shooting a warden.

Meanwhile in the unit's dog section, Yenna the sniffer dog proved to be no dope when she detected £3,500 of cannabis resin on her first assignment. The find was in a house in Braintree.

Athlete Graham Snellin, from Saffron Warden cycled to victory in the PAA 25 mile championships. It was the third year in succession he clinched the title.



● American style bar Ian Ellison took part in November.

WITHAM Police Station good when it was awarded in the town. Pc Dave Je breaking hours of his own tiling and watering the g the Britain in Bloom compe

Tragedy struck at a Manningtree when one to another was seriously injured, watched, horrified, as the from the top of a Ferris investigation was launched

rush. They spent the weekend the entire studio audience in sney. ce and emergency services Essex and the Metropolitan area tested when they dealt with a ul motorway pile-up at North



● New shift times made many workers disgruntled but Pc Pete Caulfield still managed to see the funny side.

**September**

SHIFT workers won their fight to start at 6am. Following a survey in which the majority of workers gave a thumbs down to the revised times, Chief Constable John Burrow approved the backward move.

Focus, the force video produced by the TV unit, received a stylish re-vamp which in turn won a prestigious award.

Basildon man Ricky Antioch was convicted of raping a 13-year-old schoolgirl in a town park. He was, however, acquitted of a similar attack on an 8-year-old child.

Work put in to setting up a nursery group in Purfleet won a nomination for Alison Campbell as the UK Community Police Officer of the Year.

Young Hayley Taylor received a warm welcome back by colleagues at Southend. The 21-year-old constable has been off work for nine months after being seriously injured in a road accident on duty.

Celebrations took place to mark the 25th anniversary of the Essex Police Training Centre.

TERRORISTS hi-jacked a plane which landed at Stansted Airport and killed passengers on board before police and military managed to bring the siege to an end. Fortunately it was a pre-planned scenario known as Operation Black Swan. Hundreds of officers along with representatives from the Government, military and other agencies took part in the two day exercise to test their responses to a real life incident.

The controversial criminal Justice and Public Order Act became law and Essex Police put it to the test when hundreds of hunt saboteurs descended on the county for an ani-

mal rights demonstration. Thirty-three arrests were made, the majority of which were charged under the new Act with aggravated trespass.

Two officers were hailed heroes after risking their own lives to save a pensioner from his smoke-filled home. Special Constable Ian Walker and Pc Geoff Edwards also managed to save the old man's dog AND put the fire out.

A fond farewell to the familiar face of Chief Superintendent Mick Brewer who left Essex to become Assistant Chief Constable for Warwickshire.



● Proud Inspector Rod Barrett shows off one of the first Essex Police pups born in February.

**December**

DETECTIVES still baffled by the horrific murder of pensioner Ron Cousins took part in a BBC Crimewatch reconstruction and were overwhelmed by the response. In the initial hours after the broadcast 40 calls were received both at the London studio and Police Headquarters. Police are now looking into the information received.

It was a tragic Christmas for one family when a light aircraft plunged into a field in Stapleford Tawney killing all four occupants.

The accident happened on Boxing Day when it's though the aircraft clipped a pylon cable as it prepared to land.

The first batch of drink drive figures were welcomed by Essex Police showing a fall of 1.5 per cent on the previous year.

A new scheme was introduced to bring cases to court quicker. The Fast Tracking system is designed to reduce trauma suffered by child victims and witnesses by laying down a strict timetable.

at 1994

**October**

POLICE swooped on over 100 homes across the county in an attempt to combat house burglaries. The dawn raids were part of Operation Home Safe and a total of 77 people were arrested with goods recovered ranging from credit cards to furniture and bicycles.

An announcement was made that officers were to trial American style batons and stab vests. Demonstrations were held for the press and Police Committee members at County Hall by the public order team.

Other trials unveiled included video cameras in charge rooms and Stinger - the latest device to bring a swift and safe end to high speed pursuits.

The force agreed to back the Home Secretary's Partnership Against Crime initiative by agreeing to pilot the controversial Street Watch schemes. Chelmsford, Thurrock and Colchester are expected to be the first guinea-pigs.

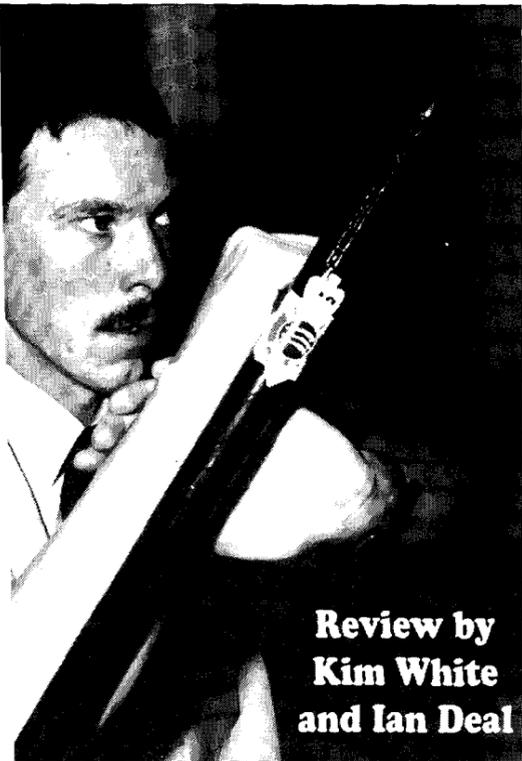
Ex-Chief Superintendent George Hodges died aged 95 - the oldest Essex Police pensioner.

And it was another tragic month for families in the Harlow area following a collision between a car and a mini-bus which killed four youngsters including a brother and sister.

But justice was served when Leonard Cartel was imprisoned for life for the brutal murder of pensioner Molly Ricketts. He pleaded guilty to the charge at Chelmsford Crown Court.



● Amazing the driver of this Ford Orion escaped unhurt after a crash in icy weather on the A12 in January. Picture courtesy of the Essex Chronicle.



Review by Kim White and Ian Deal

als were announced and public order sergeant onstrations for the press and Police Committee

**August**

blooming premises t back-nting, fer-as part of

ound in died and /itnesses n urgent inquest

later recorded a verdict of accidental death. The culinary delights of the county's canteens took on a different flavour when Gardner Merchant won the police contract. It meant territorial divisions such as Chelmsford, Colchester and Basildon now had access to evening meals.

A handful of Essex officers completed a gruelling 2,000 mile yacht race, but were lucky to get back in one piece. Among the hazards they faced were shark-infested waters and a complete capsiz.

## Health check

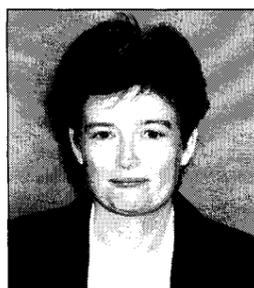
by Carole Anness

### Were you tucked up by the turkey and trimmings?

IF, like many, you now find your waistband groaning under the strain of having to cope with the after effects of the festive seasons offering, DO NOT PANIC! Panic induces erratic behaviour such as crash dieting; and that is generally what will happen - the diet will crash.

You need a plan - one that is acceptable to you and your lifestyle.

The reason you have put on weight is because your energy intake has exceeded the energy output. Therefore, to reverse this trend the opposite needs to occur. Your aim should be to re-work your lifestyle and eating and drinking habits.



● Carole Anness

#### Action Points:-

1) Try not to do everything at once - start slowly with small changes and as you find they fit into your everyday routine then you can try further ideas.

2) Eat a healthy diet - the right amount for your weight. Well balanced in essential nutrients, low in fat and sugars, rich in starch and fibre.

3) Drink plenty of fluids, such as water and low-calorie soft drinks. Cut down on alcohol, which is high in calories.

4) Take more exercise. This will help in the reversal of energy input/output - it will make you feel physically and psychologically better.

5) Whatever you do - enjoy it. The aim is to re-educate your lifestyle. If you do not enjoy it you will not continue.

6) If you are very overweight, do not initiate a programme without taking advice.

In-house, you can get advice from your Headquarters based Physical Training Instructors, Kevin and Justine, for exercise programmes specifically suited to you. For dieting and health advice, the Occupational Health Department, where Carole or Ashley will be willing to assist.

**GOOD LUCK!!**

# Air crash horror



● The remains of the light aircraft which crashed on Boxing Day killing all four on board. Picture by Vikki Lince, West Essex Gazette.

A TRAGIC air accident cost four people their lives when their light aircraft clipped a power line and plunged into a field as it prepared to land.

The Robin HR100/210 plane had been taking part in a Boxing Day rally in Dover and was returning to Stapleford airfield in Essex when the accident happened.

Three of the victims were a mother and her two sons the other was the woman's boyfriend who was piloting the plane at the time of the crash.

Fire service personnel from the airfield were

first at the scene and found all four occupants dead, two still strapped into their seats in the tangled wreckage.

The dead were later confirmed as - Pilot, Brian Davies (45) from Harold Hill, Jennifer Lane (47), from Gidea Park and her sons Stephen (23) and Stuart (25), both from Romford.

Wreckage from the plane was taken to Farnborough in Hampshire where it is still being investigated by the Air Accident Investigation Branch.

DC Mark Bedding from Epping CID said,

"We are ruling out foul play, the plane wreckage is being meticulously examined and the final results are not likely for some time yet."

An inquest into the deaths has been opened and adjourned pending the final report from Farnborough.

The post mortems results showed all four occupants of the plane died from multiple injuries.

Police received dozens of calls from the public claiming they had witnessed the plane prior to the crash.

## Death crash was an accident

OFFICERS are satisfied with a verdict of accidental death recorded at the inquest of a young joyrider.

Anthony Winterburn (17), from Colchester, was killed when the stolen car he was driving rolled several times down a country lane after hitting a tree and embankment in West Bergholt.

He was being followed by two marked vehicles when the accident happened in the early hours of a September morning.

It is believed the Volvo estate was travelling at about 100mph when it went out of control.

Anthony's mother is considering a complaint against Essex Police.

# New unit to stamp out fraud

RISING cheque and credit card fraud has prompted the opening of a new police department dedicated to bring a halt to the trend.

## By Ian Deal

But the problem is so massive that it is unlikely to be solved overnight, last year £240 million was fraudulently obtained from counterfeit credit cards in the UK with a similar amount reported for cheque fraud.

### Incredible

And fraud goes a lot further these days than the normal run of the mill stolen credit card from the handbag scenario. The modern day fraudster has gone high-tech and will go to incredible lengths to obtain money through the credit card system.

It was after the Home Office received pressure from leading financial institutions that the setting up of new departments was ordered in every UK police force.

The Essex 'Stolen Cheque and Credit Card Unit' is staffed by three detective constables. The unit holds details relating to every stolen or fraudulently used cheque or credit card in the county.

Unit member Dc., Ken Foster said, "We gather intelli-

gence to try and identify areas and usage, patterns of theft or fraud are identified and we take a broad over-view of the situation. Really we are the middleman between the financial institution and the officer on the beat".

Essex has no bigger problem than most forces with fraud, though it is one of the most vulnerable counties because of its closeness to London where a large amount of fake cheques are printed.

Credit cards can spring up from almost anywhere, currently a large amount are being produced in the Middle East and many have already turned up in Essex retail outlets.

### Measures

The problem is not helped by some major credit card companies who seem reluctant to make cards fraud proof by introducing such measures as a setting photographs of the registered holder into the card.

Ken Foster explained, "Currently a normal credit card costs around 20 pence to produce, to make the necessary security improvements would mean cards costing around five

pounds to produce. And with most people owning up to three cards each the cost would out-weigh the current loss".

The unit, which also deals with forged currency and documentation, appeals for officers to liaise with them. The team are interested in any information relating to credit card or cheque fraud including any information that is passed on from prisoners during interviews.

The officers also stressed they were always willing to visit police stations to explain the workings of the department and how they can be of help. The unit deals with the major

money lending companies every day and have access to information which may be of use to officers with their enquiries.

The officers who cover your areas are:

**Southend/Rayleigh** - Dc Maggie Hendy.

**Tendring/Colchester/Harlow/Braintree/Stansted Airport** - Dc Steve Myall.

**Chelmsford/Grays/Basildon** - Dc Ken Foster.

The unit, based within the Force Intelligence Bureau, is open weekdays between 8am and 6pm extensions 2829/2531.

## Intrepid traveller turned away

CHARITY walker Dennis Rensch was forced to pull out of his 1,300 mile Sahara Desert challenge and had more bad news when he returned to find his wife had undergone micro-surgery.

The Chelmsford Chief Inspector was refused entry to Morocco by the local authorities despite prior permission.

He said they were perplexed by the Marconi Omniphone which he carried with him. They also thought one of the Land Rovers looked too much like a military vehicle.

Dennis said: "The Moroccans were extremely tetchy. They did not want us to set out. It has taken me four months to organise the walk. I am very disappointed."

But Dennis could set off again next week, this time from Mauritania.

In the meantime his wife Diane is recovering from surgery to her hand following a fall.

## Charity dash

IF YOU fancy a weekend break in France, for just £5 or less, then read on.

A major annual fundraising event known as the Champagne Dash is just around the corner and you could be a part of it.

Teams are challenged to get from start points in the South and East of England to Reims, France in 24 hours, in fancy dress and are only allowed to spend £5 per person.

They also have to raise as much money as they can for Scope - formerly known as the Spastics Society.

This year the group is hoping to raise over £30,000 for people suffering from cerebral palsy and claim the event is a barrel of laughs.

Champagne Dash '95 will be held on March 4 and 5 and obviously requires a lot of planning so teams are needed now. Anyone interested should contact Ingrid Hulek on 01480 218468.

## Cracking success

CHRISTMAS Cracker, the annual initiative to combat crime in the Colchester borough, reached a high point this year with the best results to date.

The campaign's main aims were to make the town a welcome place for residents and shoppers, reduce crime, particularly in shops and car parks, improve parking, reduce accidents and encourage trade and improved security for shop owners.

Inspector Patrick Rice of Colchester said: "It has been a very successful campaign once again this year. There has been a real reduction in cases of credit card fraud and few reports of organised shop-lifter teams."

"During the whole of the campaign there was only one report of a car being stolen. This year has been the most successful 'Cracker' campaign so far."

## Animal rights protest

Cont'd from page 1

Mr Markham said: "I asked all officers involved to act with the greatest restraint so we could achieve our objectives."

"They behaved magnificently under intense pressure."

He added: "I was thanked at the end of the evening by many local residents and congratulated on the conduct of individual officers."

"It was an occasion for Essex Police where we came away from a most volatile situation with credit - credit which speaks volumes for our officers."

### Difficult

Demonstrations of this kind place police officers in a most difficult position. The majority of demonstrators are local law-abiding residents who are fundamentally opposed to their town being used to export animals in this way.

And while they have the right to freely assemble and protest, there is also a right for the lorries to have free access to the boats.

The police service has to react to this conflict, trying to balance the rights of the two groups.

Said Mr Markham: "There are a lot of people at Brightlinsea who are determined in their principles."

No-one is clear what will happen over the next few days but Mr Markham says a lot of lessons have already been learned in this first day's demo.

He said: "I now have to consult with my colleagues and we have to determine what options there are for the way forward."

## Shadow seminar

MEMBERS of the new shadow Police Authority have had an introduction to Essex Police in the form of a day-long seminar held at Police Headquarters.

The seminar, held earlier this month, helped explain the managerial and structural set up of the organisation.

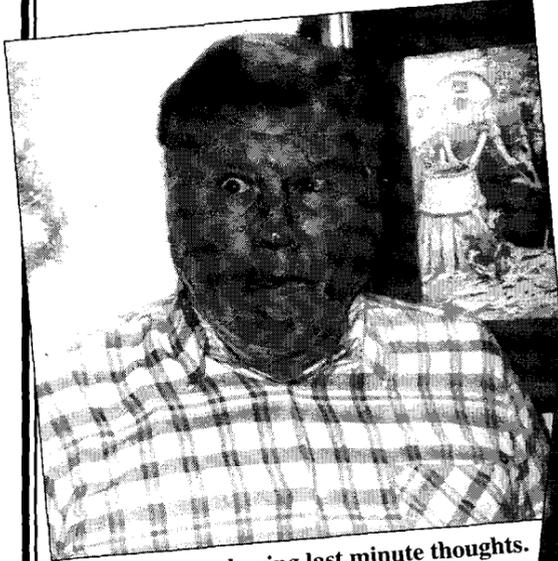
Members were informed of the many issues surrounding today's modern policing including the introduction of Service Delivery Standards, Divisions structures, Key Operational Goals and budgets.

General feedback indicated the session had been informative and useful.

Follow-up visits to many headquarter's departments are planned in the near future by authority members.

The shadow Police Authority headed by Cllr Richard Boyd will replace the existing authority on April 1.

## Hair-raising new look for Dave



BEFORE. Dave having last minute thoughts.



AFTER. The new look Dave - would you be a used car off this man?

IT was a close shave recently for Headquarters based Dave Park after he chose to lose his locks for charity.

Dave and three others at the White Hart pub in Witham sat nervously as the trimmer buzzed away turning them all into Kojak lookalikes.

A grand total of £3000 was raised as a result of the event, which will be shared out between the 'cash for kids' appeal, part of the Helping Hands Trust. A percentage of the money raised will also go to helping under-privileged elderly members of the community.

Dave said he was delighted so many people, including his work colleagues had been so generous for such a worthwhile cause.

But quickly added that he had no intention to stay with his new look.

## Uniform exchange

ANYONE interested in police memorabilia might take a fancy to a touch of uniform exchange.

American corporal Jim Dietz collects hats and helmets (no badges) and is keen to swap with UK officers.

Jim is based at the Public Information Office, Alexandria Police Department, 2003 Mill Road, Alexandria, Virginia VA 22314. But if anyone wants more details SOA Lee Robson on 'B' shift at Brentwood is the man to speak to.

Meanwhile retired German officer Hans Joachim Greve recently called in at Harwich Police station leaving behind a few items of German police uniform for the Force collection. We in turn were able to let him have some Essex Police items.

Hans is also a serious collector and would like to contact others who share his hobby. His address is Schenkendorfstr, 5, 22085, Hamburg.

# A fighting chance for abuse victims

By Kim White

**RESEARCH has shown that some women take up to 35 beatings before they turn to the police for help.**

But with the first full-time Domestic Violence Liaison Officer in the force proving such a success, these frightening figures could well begin to reduce.

Since June 1, Pc Mo Chaplin has been providing a full-time service to victims and creating files on each offender, during a pilot scheme on the Rayleigh Division.

A total of 366 files have been created and over 100 suspects have been arrested.

It is often the case with domestic violence, that victims are reluctant to take action, and those who agree to prosecution later withdraw their allegations. In these situations there would be no further police action - until now.

Part of Mo's job was to train up 120 officers, raising their awareness of domestic violence and encouraging them to take

positive action, remembering the wide ranges of offences available.

She explained: "Now, even if a complaint is withdrawn, the offender will still be interviewed and fingerprints taken. Then the victim will be contacted at a later date to see if there have been any further problems or if she has re-considered her decision."

"We also make more use of the cautioning procedure."

### Desired effect

In the Rayleigh Division alone there are at least 50 cases of domestic violence each month, mainly coming to light through 999 calls.

But as Mo points out: "In several cases, arresting the offender has had the desired effect. I can only think of a few cases in which someone arrested has had to be seen again."

As part of the pilot a Domestic Violence Liaison Panel has been set up comprising agencies such as Rape Crisis, local housing authority and the Probation Service. The idea is to provide a communications link through meetings planned to take place at least quarterly.

There are also mobile phones available which are programmed for 999 calls only and provided to victims in case of emergency. It is later hoped that a freephone hotline will be set up as many women need to run to a phonebox to escape the violence and seek help.

Southend Division has now picked up on the scheme with Yvonne Taylor taking up the post and Chelmsford is in the process of advertising for a part-time officer.

## Sandra — the success story

SANDRA is one of the Rayleigh Unit's recovering victims.

After 16 years subjected to domestic violence, she and her three children are gradually rebuilding their lives.

The abuse began just three days into their marriage. The beatings came one after the other until on one occasion, while seven months pregnant, Sandra fled with fear.

She said: "He caught me at a bus stop and dragged me back by my hair through the snow."

When she first got married Sandra weighed 10-and-a-half stone. Two years later she weighed just five stone 11 pounds.

She explained: "The longer it went on the more severe the beatings. Until our first two children were four years old he would beat me in front of them. They would scream at him not to beat me."

There was no mercy from her husband. Returning home after a major operation he kicked her so hard the stitches in her stomach burst.

She said: "It was not just the physical hurt. The bruises and cuts would heal but not the mental hurt. It was the mental trauma which was long lasting. It took away everything I had." The beatings then turned to

rape.

She said: "As it went on I started to build a wall to block it out and then seven years ago I suddenly sat down one morning having been like a zombie for months and thought to myself that I no longer loved this man or liked him for what he had done to me."

At her lowest ebb, the only reason she looked forward to birthdays was because it took her one year nearer her grave.

Finally after one horrific beating Sandra fled to a friend who contacted her brother. He had no idea what had been going on, and in the police station Sandra remembers him "sitting in the corner of the room crying as I gave my statement to the police."

Pc Mo Chaplin and DCI Ray Newman of the Rayleigh Unit made the decision to arrest her husband.

Court proceedings are continuing but Sandra is full of praise for the unit and in particular Mo.

She said: "It has given me a second chance in life. I really feel like someone has taken away all the dark clouds and said I can live again."

"Mo is there for me and the children when I need her and we are beginning to learn how to live again."

## Dates for your diary

**Saturday, February 4** - Concert at Chelmsford Cathedral with South Woodham Ferrers Male Voice Choir to raise funds for the Chelmsford Hospice and the Kidney Unit Appeal.

**Friday, March 3** - Concert at the Moot Hall, Colchester in aid of the Mayor's charities.

**Good Friday evening, April 14** - Olivet to Calvary with the choir of All Saints' Church, Springfield.

**Tuesday April 25, 8.45pm** - Concert at Nabbotts Hall School for Springfield WI. Saturday, April 29, 7.30pm - Concert at St Peter's Church, Hutton to raise funds for new Memorial Wall at All Saints, Hutton.

**Tuesday, May 30** - Concert at St Augustine's Church Hall, Thorpe Bay to raise funds for the Lady McAdden's Breast Screening Unit.

**July 15 to 29** - Police Music Festival including The Charter Hall Colchester (July 20) The Brentwood Centre with the Greater Victoria Police Choir, the Choir of Hong Kong Police and Force Band (July 21) and The Cliffs Pavilion, Westcliff (July 22).

**September** - Possible concert at St Nicholas Church, Witham to be confirmed.

**Saturday, November 11** - 50th anniversary concert of the Chelmsford branch of RAF Association at Christ Church, Chelmsford with CAPRICE.

**Saturday, November 25, 7.30pm** - Concert at St Nicholas Church, Witham.

**Saturday, December 16** - Christmas Concert at Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford in aid of Cancer Research.

By R Shelley

THE Colchester and North East Essex branch of NARPO had a very successful 1994 with something held once a month for the membership and sometimes two events each month.

In addition to the normal quarterly meetings (always with an outside speaker) we had a number of other Friday morning get-togethers with such items as a film show by the East Anglian Archive.

We had the first branch dinner on February, a coach trip to the Theatre Royal, Norwich in March to see Pickwick, a charity supper at Heath Lodge, Lexden in early June and a coach trip to Hampton Court the same month.

In August we were involved with Colchester Police Sports Club at their hospitality marquee at the Colchester Cricket Festival (which was very well utilised by NARPO members) and in November, again linked with Colchester Police Sports Club at the Annual Police Charity Ball at the Garrison Officers Club.

The year culminated with a pre-Christmas social at Colchester Police Station on December 16.

During the course of the year we raised funds at a number of our events to go towards the NSPCC (Colchester Centenary Appeal, primarily for the children's refuge recently set up in the town).

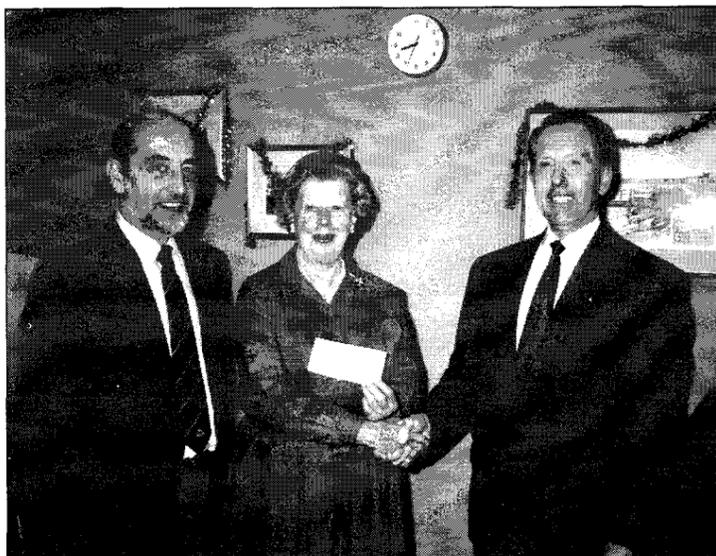
In August, at the Cricket Festival, I handed a cheque for £350 to Keith Fellows of the NSPCC who is in charge at the refuge, which was used to pay for a pool table in the over 9s amenity area.

At the Christmas Social, Michael Blackwell, the branch chairman handed over a cheque for a further £350 which is to be used to purchase a Kitchen Activity Unit in the under 9s amenity area.

1995 looks to be an equally full one for the branch, beginning with a dinner in February and a trip to the Theatre Royal, Norwich in March to see *Run For Your Wife*.

Any of you retired officers out there living in the Colchester

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



● Chairman of the NSPCC fund raising committee, Miss Mary Beattie, gratefully receives a cheque from Mike Blackwell (right) and Keith Fellows.

and North East Essex area (or even further afield) who have not joined NARPO (or who have left) do join (or rejoin) - we do try to give good value for your £10.80 subscription.

It merely leaves me to wish you all a very happy New Year.

By Doug Rampling

MAY I firstly wish each and every one of you a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

**Christmas Social 1994.**

THE Christmas Social held at Headquarters on 2nd December was attended by some 64 members and friends and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all. Our thanks to the staff of Gardner Merchant for the excellent buffet and the festive decorations.

**New Year trip to Norwich**

32 members and friends enjoyed a most pleasant stay at the Hotel Norwich over the New Year. Excellent accommodation, food and a lively New Year's Eve party was followed on New Year's Day with a trip to Yarmouth and Sheringham then back to the Hotel for an evening meal. Blizzards thwarted plans for a few hours in Norwich so a stop was made in Cambridge instead.

**50th Anniversary**

TO commemorate the anniversaries of V.E. and V.J. days the government is planning various functions which will take place throughout the country.

6th May - Opening event in Hyde Park.

7th May - St. Pauls - service. Heads of state ceremony.

8th May - V.E. night party in Hyde Park.

19th August - Open air service in London.

20th August - Beating retreat and sunset ceremony in London, Edinburgh and Cardiff.

20th August - Church services in Belfast, Edinburgh and Cardiff.

If any member wishes to apply for tickets to any of the above events they should let their Branch secretaries know as soon as possible so that the necessary application forms can be sent to the N.A.R.P.O. General Secretary by the 8th February at the latest.

## I.P.A by Fred Dyson

**Festive Evening**

ANOTHER successful year came to a close on Friday 16th December when members and their wives assembled at Police Headquarters for the Annual Christmas Social. The wives did us proud again by preparing a splendid buffet of delicacies.

Our Vice Chairman Martin Garwood came to the fore having organised a quiz game whereby one hundred pictures of prominent people were displayed on sheets of paper. The object was to name them. This kept us all occupied for quite a while.

Afterwards it was time to eat and drink followed by a raffle with many prizes.

**Forthcoming events**

**Friday 20th January** - At 8pm will be the Branch A.G.M. at Police Headquarters. All members of the present Committee are prepared to stand for re-election. We look forward to some suggestions from members towards the programme of events for 1995.

**Friday 10th February** - The Annual Dinner, to be held once again at the New Times, Tiptree. Names to Dick Giggins as soon as possible for a three course meal.

## Retirements

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

**Sgt Ronald Taylor**, Southend, 23 years (5.2.95).

**Sgt Donald Windus**, Billericay, 30 years (8.1.95).

**Dc Laurence Nevin**, FIB, 30 years (15.2.95).

**Pc Susan Woollard**, Southend, 24 years (8.1.95).

**Pc Peter Hewitt**, Tilbury, 23 years (8.1.95).

**Pc David White**, Corringham, 30 years (12.2.95).

**Pc Lester Elkington**, HQ Driving School, 31 years (15.1.95).

## Obituary

ESSEX Police extends its sympathies to the following police pensioner who died:

**Ex-Pc Charles Fleming**, of Chelmsford, who joined Essex Police in 1948 and retired as an officer in 1976 and a civilian in 1987. He died on January 2, aged 72.

## War Memorial Fund

**THE Essex Police Benevolent Fund incorporating the Essex Police War Memorial Fund hereby give notice that the funds and assets of the War Memorial Fund are to be transferred to the Essex Police Memorial Trust.**

This resolution was passed at the Essex Police Benevolent Fund Committee Meeting held on October 7, 1994.

It has long been felt that the funds of the War Memorial Fund could be better used by the Memorial Trust in order to honour the memory of officers who have lost their lives in the service of the people of Essex.

Any interested person wishing to make representations regarding this resolution may do so, quoting the charity reference 258273, within a period of six weeks from the date of this notice, by writing to the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales at St Alban's House, 60

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

**ACE** Viceroy caravan. Large awning, toilet, fire, cooker with oven, new curtains and carpets, other extras, very good condition, serviced, cassette radio, £750 ono. Contact Sgt J. Smith on 0255 551764.

**BLUE** cream Citroen 2CV Dolly, 44,000 miles, good condition, D reg, £1,250 ovno. Contact Anne Ochiltree on 0279 437039.

**CITREON AX** 1400 diesel, red, December

'89, year's MOT and taxed, very economical (70 mpg), £3,500. Contact Teresa Frost, HQIR on 0245 491491 Ednet 2222.

**CORNWALL**. Polperro, chalet sleeps 4/5, heated indoor and outdoor pools, club, all facilities, fully equipped, £60 to £200 per week. contact Craig Bailey on 0279 653570 or 0279 757601.

**FOR** rent. Spacious unfurnished two bed maisonette, private gar-

den, garage, fitted kitchen, Economy 7, including carpets and curtains, secluded close at Highwoods, Colchester, £375 pcm. Contact Pc Paul Dean on 0206 854850.

**FREE** to good homes. Baby rabbits ready to leave on January 11 and february 11. used to be being handled and being with children and other animals. Contact WPC Rosenwoud on 0621 741755.

**FRENCH** cottage to let. Sleeps up to six people. Comfortable and fully equipped. situated in pretty hamlet amid the lovely rolling countryside of the Loire Valley. Easy access to all of the Chateaux of the Loire. Local wine, good food, peace and quiet. Contact John New on 0604 703206/8 or 0604 33144.

**MOTOR** cycle, MZ 125cc, F reg 1989, XR model with fairing, year's MOT, £395. Contact Sgt Roger Pearson on 0375 361212, Ednet 5241.

**SOUTHERN** Spain, Nerja, 2 double bed, self-contained apartment in private villa, own pool and gardens. price per week for apartment is £100 (winter), £150 (August only) £170 (summer). Contact Sue or Mike Gosling on 0103452533298.

**STATIC** six berth caravan, Polperro, Cornwall, five minutes walk from sandy beach, self-contained, colour TV, most dates available, regret no dogs. Contact D. Turner on 0375 846704.

**VAUXHALL NOVA** 1.4 SR, G reg, July 1990, blue, vgc, six months tax, MOT, £3,500. Contact Sharon on 0245 491491, ednet 2726 or 0245 322568 (after 6pm).

**WANTED** Rayleigh Chopper bike, any condition considered, money paid (not much). contact Mark Galbraith on 0702 471212, Ednet 6573.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX


Name and Rank .....  
 Station ..... Home Tel .....  
 Date ..... Signed .....

## LAW SPORT . . . LAW SPORT . . . LAW SPORT . . . LAW SPORT

# A holiday in the Costa Del Sol could be yours

# Sun, sea and sport

## Cruise news

CRUISING secretary Roger Burrows is soon to hang up his hat and is looking for any replacements, although he has vowed to carry on through his retirement if no-one takes up the offer.

In the meantime plans are underway for *Calais 1995* from June 22 to 26.

Roger is now the proud owner of an Elizabethan 30 *Callisto of Parkstone* while Graham Curtis has sold his Jaguar 25 for a UFO 31, believed to be called *Blue Streak*.

Nick Beavins is having growing pains and is reputedly lurking around the east coast boat yards looking at larger boats.

Finally Brian Croucher and Dave Counsell say their new boat *Piglet II*, a 26 Eventide sloop is nearing completion and promises to be ready for Calais 1995.

Happy sailing.

## ★ Win ★

ONCE again two lucky people are in for a treat as *The Law* offers yet another relaxing sunshine holiday in an easy to enter competition.

In November Traffic Warden Mrs Lauren Crane won a sunshine break to Lanzarote, now it could be your turn to pack the castanets for a trip to southern Spain.

The competition winners will be

whisked away by plane to Malaga then it's just a 45 minute journey to undoubtedly the most famous leisure resort in the world, the Costa del sol.

You will be staying in the stylish community of Bena Vista which is situated between Marbella and Estepona. Described as the ideal holiday location, sun sea and sand combine with the rolling Andalucian countryside providing the essential ingredients for a superb holiday.

Sports fanatics will find the resort a must, leisure facilities are unrivalled with a never ending list of activities.

Golf players will love the 18-hole championship golf course designed by fanatic Gary Player. Other facilities

include tennis courts, squash, bowls, four swimming pools, a fully equipped gymnasium and relaxing jacuzzi.

But it's not all just sport, a couple of hundred yards away lies the beach to help while away the odd hour or two. And then treat yourself to a meal at one of the resort's restaurants before retiring to your superb accommodation. All apartments have satellite television, fitted bathrooms and a kitchen equipped to the highest standard.

Competition winners have up until the end of June '95 to take their holiday and flights can be taken from any UK airport serving Malaga.

The prize includes return flights for two people and the apartment for one week. You are responsible for providing food and transfers to and from the airport.

## How to win

The holiday could be yours by answering this easy question.

What currency would you use in Bena Vista?

- a) drachma
- b) peseta
- c) lire

Entries on a postcard or sealed down

envelope to Bena Vista Holiday competition, The Law, Press Office, PO Box 2, Chelmsford, CM2 6DA. Closing date for entries is Friday February 10 1995. Don't forget to include your name and address, where you work and your 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. The prize is offered by Travel Certificates of

Twickenham and Essex Police accepts no liability.

## Reader holiday offer

In the event of you not winning our superb holiday don't despair. You can still make it to Bena Vista at a great price of just £139 per week, per apartment - (apartments can sleep up to four people). The offer is open from now until the end of June subject to availability.

Flights can be arranged for approximately £100 per person - book your apartment and flights by ringing Travel Certificates on 0181 - 898 - 2150 and quote The Law holiday offer.

## ★ Win ★



● Stay in one of Bena Vista's luxurious apartments (above) each with a swimming pool close by. And soak up the sun on the club's 18-hole championship course.



## Force Sports Association . . . Force Sports Association . . . Force Sports Association

### Force Lottery

WINNERS of this month's lottery were £1500 Brian Rabbett, Colchester; £1000 Lindsay Anderson, Southend; £500 Robert Johnson, Burnham Marine; £300 Kathleen Jeakins, Headquarters; £200 Bob Hills, pensioner; £100 Graham Crisp, Basildon.

The following will receive £50 consolation prizes: Francis Norris - Headquarters, Mrs Ann Burrow - Pensioner, ACC James Conlan - Headquarters, Robert Dalton - Harwich, Paul Chesney - Laindon Dog Section, Gloria Bond - Pensioner, Sandra Parratt - Headquarters, Harry Sexton - Chelmsford Traffic, Collette Kisingbury - Westcliff and Carran Brierley - Harlow.

### Croker Cup

THE Croker Cup Cross Country championships were held at Essex University on January 5, with the following results:

1 Southend, 729 points, 6 Croker Cup points; 2 Colchester, 562 points; 4 Croker; 3 Basildon, 287 points, 2 Croker; 4 Harlow, 253 points, 1 Croker; 5 Headquarters, 206 points, 1 Croker; 6 Clacton, 188 points, 1 Croker; 7 Chelmsford, 178 points, 1 Croker; 8 Braintree, 146 points, 1 Croker; 9 Rayleigh,

58 points, 1 Croker; 10 Grays, 20 points, 1 Croker.

Individual results were as follows: Mens: 1 Martin Gormley - Headquarters, 2 Michael Bond - Colchester.

Ladies: 1 Wendy Brown - Headquarters, 2 Moira Ainsley - Colchester.

Veterans: 1 Barry Ansell - Southend, 2 David Grimshaw - Colchester.

### Race Walk

THE Croker Cup race walk will be held at Colchester University at 11am on Sunday, March 12. Hot soup and roll will be provided free to all competitors after the event at Colchester Police Station. For further information please contact Insp John McCabe at Calton Police Station or the Force Sports Secretary.

### Canoe Championships

ON Friday, June 2 Surrey Police will be hosting the Police National Canoe championships. Anyone requiring further information please contact DCons 324 M.J. Daughters at Egham Police Station, High Street, Egham, Surrey, TW20 9HJ Telephone No. 0932 845544 Ext 5643.

### Anglia TV Show

HAVE you got attitude? If so Anglia Television's Vanessa show wants to hear from you. This lively afternoon chat show is looking for lively studio audience guests who aren't afraid to speak their mind or keep questions rolling.

Each week Anglia television are looking for studio guests, these are divided half and half between a morning and afternoon show. Free transport is laid on from Chelmsford every Monday to take guests up to Norwich. You can participate in either the morning or afternoon show and have the rest of the time to do some shopping or sightseeing in Norwich.

If you have sufficient numbers Anglia Television are prepared to run a free coach from anywhere in Essex. If you are interested please contact Anglia television on 0245 494815.

### Rugby trip

TICKETS for the Middlesex rugby 7s at Twickenham are available price £17.50 each from John Bowman Ednet 2419. Transport is being arranged at an additional cost of £5.

### Sea Angling

THE Croker Cup Sea Angling championships were held on Thursday 24th November 1994 at Bradwell Marina, with the following result: 1 Rayleigh, 283 points, 6 Croker Cup points; 2 Colchester, 256 points, 4 Croker; 3 Basildon, 245 points, 2 Croker; 4 Braintree, 239 points, 1 Croker; 5 Southend, 235 points, 1 Croker; 6 Chelmsford, 229 points, 1 Croker; 7 Harlow, 209 points, 1 Croker; 8 Grays, 199 points, 1 Croker; 9 Headquarters, 190 points, 1 Croker; 10 Tendring, 177 points, 1 Croker.

### Swimming

THE Croker Cup Swimming Gala will be held at Colchester on Sunday, February 19, starting at 6pm. Anyone interested should contact either Brendan Cox at Colchester or the Force Sports Secretary, Chris Jacob on Ednet 2718.

### Annual Award

EACH year the Essex Police Sports Association makes two awards, to a member, or group of members, who, in the opinion of the Management Committee, have made an outstanding contribution in the ser-

vice of sport and the Association and an outstanding performance in sport. Nominations for this year's awards have to be submitted in writing, along with a brief pen picture of the candidate, stating the reasons for the application, to the Force Sports Secretary not later than February 6.

### Cricket Club Tickets

THE Force Sports Association have again purchased 2 Executive Suite tickets for all the Essex first eleven fixtures for this year.

The tickets can be collected from the secretaries office on the morning of the match and returned after the game, before you leave. Each member will be given both tickets which will allow you to take one guest free and two further guests upon payment of the appropriate charge.

To use the Executive suite you must be dressed "smart casual" - no jeans, shorts or t-shirts. A draw will be made at the beginning of the season to allocate these tickets and this list will be published to all interested persons. A supplementary charge of £5 will be made. Anyone interested in being included in this draw, must submit their names in writing to the Force Sports Secretary, at Police Headquarters, before March 17.

# LAW SPORT . . . LAW SPORT . . . LAW SPORT . . . LAW SPORT

## Boxing

ESSEX Police will be hosting the PAA Novice Boxing Championships at Garons Sporting Club in Southend on March 30.

Novice is defined in the rules as follows: Class A shall be all novice boxers who have not competed in more than 10 senior bouts. A limit of 10 junior bouts will be permitted in addition to the senior limit.

Class B shall be for all novice boxers regardless of the number of bouts that he has completed in whether junior or senior provided always that the boxer medical record card classifies the boxer as Novice.

Anyone interested in representing the Force at these championships should contact the Force Sports Secretary.

## Volleyball

FANCY trying your hand at volleyball?

The Essex Police Exiles are on the look out for new talent.

The team meet for training at 7.30pm every Tuesday in the Headquarters gym and now play in a local league.

Each year they also enter a team in the PAA National Cup.

Police and civilians are both welcome to have a shot, so if you're interested contact Sgt Nick Banks at Braintree Police Station.

## Right on target

THE Essex Police Clay Target Shooting Section is also on the look out for new members, although it is happy to welcome back any old-hands.

Over the last three or four years the group has experienced reasonable success gaining good results in team and invitation police events.

It is currently waiting for the new fixture list but Pc Richard Grimes needs a list of all members by March 1.

He can be contacted at Laindon Traffic.



● An artist's impression of how the new pavilion will look.



● X MARKS THE SPOT: Sports Secretary Chris Jacob (left) and John Rhymes prepare for work to begin.

# Boost for sport fans

FOUNDATIONS will be dug next month to mark the start of a much awaited Sports complex for members of Essex Police.

**By Ian Deal**

Plans have been on the table for several years to have a new sports pavilion built, but only recently was the go-ahead given by the Police Committee for work to begin.

The £300,000 brick-built 'L' shaped complex, partly funded by sports shop profits, will double up as a club-house and will be located adjacent to the gymnasium at the Training Centre. Facilities will include Changing Rooms for home and away players with separate rooms for referees. Two bars will help quench the thirst of players after a game and a brand-new sports shop, twice the current size, will sell a large selection of sports goods.

Force Sports Secretary Pc. Chris Jacob said, "It is a facility the force needs, I'm very pleased it has been given the go ahead."

A steering committee has been set up to see the project through to completion headed by ACC's Charles Clark and Geoff Markham.

As well as being of benefit for sporting fixtures there will also be a general function room, designed to take up to 100 people. Adjacent to the room will be a bar and a kitchen large enough to cater for any function room event.

Committee member, Chief Superintendent John Rhymes said, "We expect it to become the new social centre for Headquarters. It won't be a spit and sawdust type of place with stacked plastic chairs, it will be somewhere people will want to go to that has a nice club atmosphere."

The complex will be run as a registered club under the control of the Essex Police Sports Association.

It was decided to build the pavilion at Headquarters because of its central position also many of the hundreds of police officers and support staff who pass through the

Training Centre each year will have access to its facilities.

John Rhymes said, "There will many moans and groans from people who feel they won't get adequate use from it. But even now Sports Shop customers travel here from all over the county, plus most major sports matches are normally played here in Chelmsford."

Work on the pavilion is hoped to be completed by the end of July it will then make the Headquarters site one of the best equipped police centres in the region for sport facilities.

"It has brought a halt to the erosion of sports facilities seen here over the last few years. It is easy to forget that the bowling green and tennis courts were removed with the building of the new Force Information Room complex", said John Rhymes. "There was some goodwill that needed to be replaced because of the facilities that were withdrawn", he added.

One main benefit of the new complex will be the freeing up of operational parts of the building including the current space taken by the sports shop at Kingston House.

And it seems likely that the current HQ bar hours will be reduced when the new bars open in the pavilion which will stop the need for people entering secure parts of the Headquarters complex for social reasons.

Builders Hutton Construction Limited have been awarded the contract for the work. Estates Manager Cliff Collings said, "It will be a building the sports club will be very proud of and brings a purpose built function area to one location."

The brick-built building will blend in with the Training Centre complex and will take on the appearance of a chalet style single storey building. However there will be a second floor in the roof space where the second bar and lounge will be located.

## Mud, mud glorious mud

AIR support officer Pc. Mike Kliskey has trudged to success in this year's Maldon Mud Race beating over 60 other competitors.

The crazy Boxing Day race involves competitors taking part in a 400 yard dash as best as they can from one river bank to another, through sticky, smelly and very thick mud.

Mike, (32), last took part in the race 14 years ago and decided to give it a go again after the event was resurrected again after a five year break.

A sporting Boxing Day is no unusual thing for Mike, infact he usually spends the day out some-

where in the UK taking part in a cycle race - but this year he thought he'd be different.

The mud race champ said the race was far more exsusting than any cycle race: "I could just about walk after the race, it was very heavy going on the legs", he said.

Already Mike is planning his tactics for this year's race and will be keen to beat his 15 minute record he set this time round.

As well as contending with newspaper interviews the muddy winner was interviewed on Chinese television who closely followed the event.

"It's just the crazy sort of thing they love," said Mike.

## THE LAW

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