

The Law

including Essex Police Magazine



Compete for a luxury cruise - see page 9

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

March 1995

No 258

Kidnap inquiry

A MAJOR undercover police operation was launched earlier this month when a 24-year-old Southend man was allegedly held hostage by a gang demanding a £2,200 ransom from his father.

Essex Police called a news blackout while a rendezvous was arranged at a phonebox in Leigh-on-Sea.

Karl Wilson was recovered nearby, having suffered a broken nose and a stab wound in his hand during his 19-hour ordeal.

Up to 100 Essex and South East Regional Crime Squad officers were called onto the inquiry after Mr. Wilson's father David Defrond alerted police on the evening of March 6.

Under a voluntary national agreement between police and the media, individually signed letters from the Chief Constable, requesting a complete news blackout, were delivered to national and local editors.

Det/Chf/Supt Ivan Dibley, who headed the police operation, said: "A kidnap investigation is the most difficult inquiry of all to conduct, because the kidnapers are always in charge.

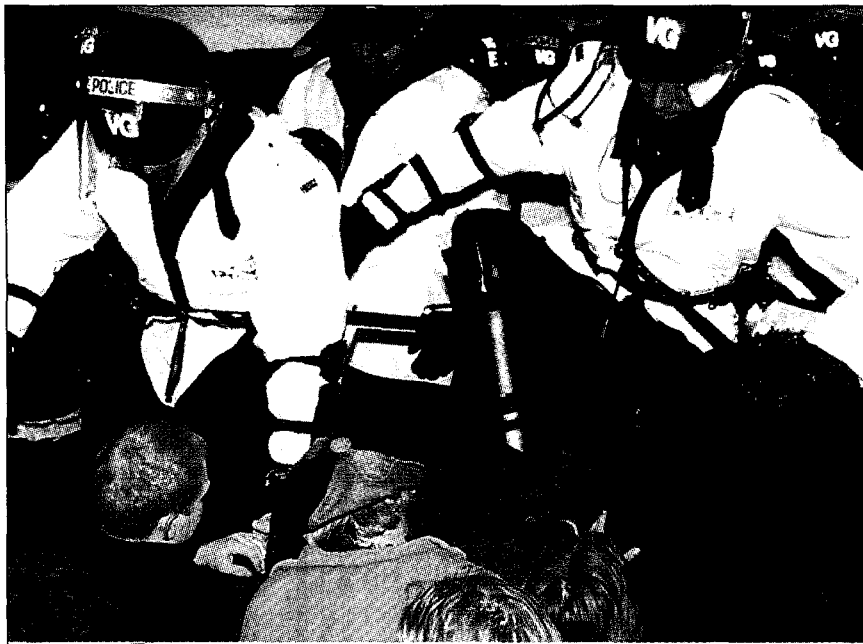
"They are mobile, and they can cause the victim serious harm. We have to brief up ordinary members of the public to negotiate with them.

"Our main concern is the safe recovery of the victim."

●Two men have been charged with kidnapping and demanding money with menaces.

Force feels the strain after 10 weeks of Operation Gunfleet

£1.5m cost of policing protests



THE INTIMIDATING sight of police officers dressed in protective helmets and leg guards provoked a storm of criticism from residents of the quiet coastal town of Brightlingsea.

Dramatic images of "riot police" wading in against peaceful demonstrators were portrayed on TV.

The top picture used on the front page of the East Anglian Daily Times on January 19 created an impression of violent police tactics in the minds of many Brightlingsea people.

But the picture (right) shot seconds later by the same photographer indicates there was no intention to harm any of the protesters.

It shows the officer with his foot raised was actually stepping over demonstrators who unlawfully blocked the road with a sit-down protest.

LIVE animal exports at Brightlingsea have now entered their 10th week and the additional costs of policing daily demonstrations have topped £1.5 million, writes Jenny Grinter.

While police numbers have been significantly reduced since the first weeks of protest, the daily support calls for Brightlingsea have put considerable strain on policing the rest of the county.

One Colchester constable said: "The people on division are struggling. I think it affects the shifts more than the people down there. They haven't got enough manpower."

Short-handed

And Tendring Divisional Commander Supt Jim Kynnersley said: "The shifts have been working very short-handed with a lot of changes to duties. The neighbourhood and detached beat officers have been used unmercifully, and the special constables have been absolutely magnificent.

"There has been a lot of extra work for the civilian staff, and our station officer's assistants and telephonists have had to bear the brunt of a lot of abuse over the phone. There have been some distressing times as they have fielded a lot of anti-police calls."

The first week of animal exports back in January led to clashes between police and demonstrators, who were determined to block the road and prevent the animals reaching the port.

National media interest focused on Essex Police, caught in the middle of two powerful and strongly competing views.

The officers were faced with an unfamiliar situation, the majority of protesters being not activists but ordinary local people, including children, the elderly and disabled.

Their commitment was to peaceful protest, but their determination was to stop the lorries by illegally blocking the road. From the outset, Essex Police has defended the right to demonstrate lawfully, but equally it has a duty to keep the highway open for lawful trade.

For more details of "Operation Gunfleet" and its effect on Essex Police, turn to page 5.



● Pictures reproduced courtesy of the East Anglian Daily Times.

Keep up the good work

by Assistant Chief Constable Geoff Markham

POLICING live animal export demonstrations at Brightlingsea has put an enormous strain on Essex Police as an organisation, individual police officers and members of our support staff.

I know the strain is felt equally by those involved at Brightlingsea on a daily basis, and by those back on division carrying on their normal work with such a shortage of resources.

Daily changes of working hours, often at short notice, and repeated early starts have made demands on your family and social lives as well as your professional capabilities.

I am proud of the restraint and patience shown by officers policing the demonstrations in the face of, at times, considerable abuse and resistance.

I am equally proud of the consistent good work done by those left to deal with our normal work - well done.

There has been much criticism of police actions at Brightlingsea, but I can assure you there is also a lot of public support for the difficult job you have had to do.

Please accept my personal thanks for the positive way you have responded to these additional demands, and the way you have maintained our high standards despite the odds.

It has been a difficult task, and one we may have to carry out for several more months. We have to continue providing sufficient levels of policing at Brightlingsea to maintain public safety and uphold the law.

At the same time we must maintain our levels of service in the rest of the county.

I have every confidence in your character and your ability to keep up the good work.

INSIDE

Meet the new Police Authority - page 6

Dennis is back - see page 3

Sporting successes - pages 11 and 12

FEDERATION NOTES . . . FEDERATION NOTES . . .

MPs meet over police budget

Members will be aware from newspaper reports of the problems that we have undergone in Essex with cutbacks to our proposed budget for 1995/96.

The Joint Branch Board decided before Christmas to arrange a meeting with our Essex MPs at The House of Commons to put forward our views with regard to the way the Home Office has changed funding arrangements for the Police Service.

We were joined at this meeting by Assistant Chief Constable Charles Clark and chairman and vice-chairman of the Police Authority. The members of Parliament present: Andrew Mackinlay, Thurrock; Dr. Michael Clark, Rochford; John Whittingdale, Maldon; Alan Haselhurst, Saffron Walden; Eric Pickles, Brentwood and Ongar; Bernard Jenkin, Colchester North; Simon Burns, Chelmsford; Teresa Gorman, Billericay; Paul Channon, Southend West; Researcher for David Amess and Tony Newton, Braintree.

I report below the representations made on behalf of the Joint Branch Board.

The first area of concern was that some two or three years ago,

Concerns over Brightlingsea

A MESSAGE switch was sent to all stations in January with regard to the problems at Brightlingsea.

For those who didn't receive it below is the message repeated.

"The Branch Board, at its meeting on Monday, January 30, discussed problems that had come to their notice with regard to the operation at Brightlingsea.

On the question of problems with rest day working and compensation, these have been dealt with in responses direct from the Federation Office during the past few weeks. However, during the meeting, two areas were highlighted by a member and these were:

1. Officers that had been walking alongside the wagons carrying the sheep were breathing in diesel fumes from the engines of the lorries and, in some instances, were complaining of sore throats. The matter was raised directly with Gold Commander ACC (O) Mr Markham, who will look at the deployment of officers for the future and also look to the Occupational Health Unit for advice, if necessary.

Any Officer who has suffered as a result of breathing in any diesel fumes should seek medical attention and is advised to bring the matter to the attention of either their

the Government introduced a formula which said that Essex Police establishment was 168 below what it should have been. With that in mind, the Police Authority had applied over the past three years for increases in manpower to try and achieve an establishment figure as per the Home Office document. On each occasion the manpower bid was rejected.

Detriment

The new formula is complex and takes into account such things as motorway lengths, one parent families, the number of council houses, etc. However, 50 per cent of the formula is based on the current establishment figure. Our argument was that if the establishment figure had been put right in the first instance, this formula used would not have been to the detriment of Essex and, in fact, we would have had the extra 168 officers we would have been entitled to on the old formula.

Also pointed out was the increase in legislation over the

local Federation Representative or the Federation Office at Headquarters.

2. Concern was expressed with regard to the evidence gatherers sitting on the front of police vans and also on the roofs whilst filming. A directive has been given by the Operational Commander that officers should not do this as it will place them in danger and the Federation would concur with those comments.

If any officer has any problems with regard to the operation concerning either deployment, welfare or safety, they should contact either their Divisional Federation Representative or, if they are not available, then the Federation Office at Headquarters."

Going on from there, can I say that we are concerned with comments that are being made by high ranking politicians in Essex with regard to the policing at Brightlingsea and the actions of some of our members. At this stage, I can comment no further as the matter is sub judice but I have sought legal advice from our solicitors before taking any further action which I might deem to be necessary to protect the interests of you, the members, who are doing a most difficult job upholding the law of the land.

last 10 years from the Police and Criminal Evidence Act of 1984 up to the current day, which all entailed extra resources on the Police Service in training and manpower, which has not been taken account.

Mentioned was the introduction of the M11 and M25 motorways, when it was agreed we needed 45 officers for the M25 and ended up with none. Although we accepted that there had been an increase from the last year's budget, it was not an increase on the actual budget at the end of the year. The end of year budget was due to outside influences on the Essex Police, many of those created by Government centrally.

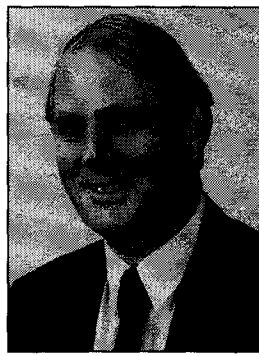
Concluding comments covered the cuts that the service in Essex would have to make this year to keep within the budget and highlighting overtime reduction and the possible non-recruiting of police officers.

Supportive

Mr Clark gave a presentation with regard to the formula and the budget for Essex and gave the members a briefing note which was the same as the briefing note given to the Minister of State, Mr. Maclean, when he met with the Chief Officer and the Executive from the Police Authority. The Chairman of the Police Authority, Mr Boyd, also spoke at the meeting and was very supportive and covered the areas that myself and Mr Clark had covered and reiterated that all three of us were there jointly with the same objective, the benefit of the Police Service in Essex.

It was apparent from the meeting that the MPs were going down the Party Line and had a briefing note from the Home Office, with the exception of Andrew Mackinlay, who is the only Labour MP in Essex. However, they were prepared to listen to any proposals that we might have with regard to changes in the formula and we indicated that we would actually provide them with that information by the end of the month.

I think it fair to say that we will have to live with the cuts for this year but we intend to continue to make representations to our MPs to try and get the formula changed for 1996/97 so that the same problems will not affect us for future years.



By Brian Pallant

Legal costs

A FORCE order was recently issued with regard to the increase in the Legal Expenses Scheme of Hambro Life from the February 1. This is the first increase that we have had for three years and is based on present claims experience plus the fact there have been changes in taxation on such schemes.

We have managed to negotiate the increase down and the new rate for members from February 1 has increased by 20p per month from £2.20 to £2.40. However, with regard to new recruits and new members to the scheme we have also negotiated a special offer where the first three months membership is free. In respect of pensioners, there will be no increase in their subscriptions. If any member has any problems with regard to the increase, would they please contact myself on extension 2797 or Marilyn Carr on extension 2215 at Headquarters.

Have you made a will?

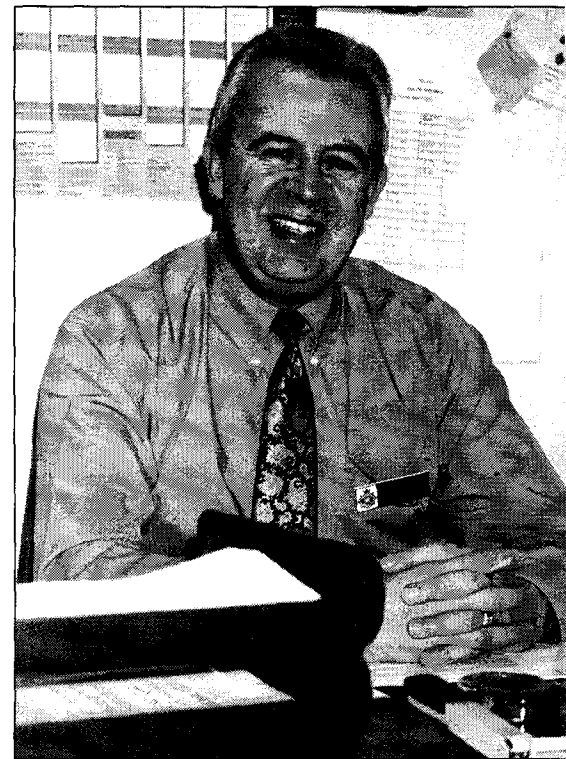
RETIRED Chf/Supt Keith Southgate, who retired in May 1994, has launched his company, Assured Wills Ltd, providing a home visit Will writing service. He is offering up to 25 per cent discounts to officers and civilians of Essex Police.

The company has been operating for four months with many police officers as clients for reference. He is about to be joined by former Chf/Insp David Hudson as a consultant. If you need their services, contact Keith Southgate's office on 01375 892666 or Dave Hudson on 01268 781256.

Breakdown discount

THE RAC has a special employee membership for the Police Federation with up to 25 per cent discounts. If you would like further details regarding joining, please ring 0800 581077 and if you are a current RAC member, you can ring 0345 331133.

Working in UNISON



● Full-time Branch Secretary Terry Lack.

CIVILIAN members of UNISON, the country's largest union, now have a better deal after Essex Police agreed to allow a full-time Branch Secretary.

Terry Lack has set up office on the first floor of the Headquarters garage complex and now dedicates all his time to union affairs.

Previous to his full-time union man status, Terry worked as a station officer's assistant in Basildon and in his time has also been a member of the Special Constabulary. He replaces Jim Hibber, who retired as Essex Police Branch Secretary earlier in the year.

Terry said he was delighted that the union now had a higher profile in Essex Police and welcomes any union enquiries either in person or on the phone - extension 54995.

Victim care under the spotlight

MORE than 100 volunteers and members of the county's six Victim Support Schemes met at Essex Police Training Centre this month to learn more about the ways they can provide help and support to victims.

They were told of a new scheme to help witnesses giving evidence at court.

There was a strong emphasis on dealing with victims of domestic violence, an area in which Essex Police has developed its policy and practice in the past year.

The bi-annual Essex Association of Victim Support county conference also covered bullying, racial harassment suffered by gypsies, and personal safety issues.

Southend Victim Support Scheme co-ordinator Maureen Longley said: "The conference brings volunteers together from across the county so they can share ideas and experience, we can update them on new areas of work, and develop their training and skills."

The six Victim Support Schemes in Essex received more than 19,000 referrals in 1994.

ESSEX POLICE BAND

**Park Pavilion,
Dovercourt
at 7pm
on
Sunday, May 21 1995**

**Tickets £3.50 available from Harwich
Police Station (Admin.) on Ext. 4710**

Off beat

Apt name

TALK about names to fit the job... A Brightlingsea live animal exports campaigner couldn't believe it when he overstepped the mark and was arrested by Tiptree based officer - Pc Gary Veal.

That sinking feeling

MEANWHILE there was more trouble at Brightlingsea when an off-duty Information Room sergeant did not carefully check his tide times and found his car marooned on the quay.

The red-faced officer who had been fishing, donned waders to rescue the disappearing Vauxhall Cavalier and just saved it being swept away on the high water.

Watching paint dry

A PAINTER and decorator at Chelmsford Police Station did not have a good start to his day when he decided to use the service lift. The lift doors closed and then remained closed, in fact the thing refused to budge. The painter complete with cans of paint was eventually rescued by the fire service an hour later.

Red alert

INFORMATION room staff jumped to it when an emergency alarm was activated in a Chelmsford police car. Tense seconds passed until an embarrassed officer announced over the radio he was fine, it was his side handled baton which had knocked the alarm button.

Meanwhile a lady in a Colchester street had no need for a side handled baton, she used 'Veg Power' when a man attempted to snatch money from her. The man hobbled off when the woman hit him in the privates with a cabbage.

Full house

A CHILD caused a right to-do when an estate agent rang his house in Cold Norton to speak to his mother. The child told the man she couldn't come to the phone as he was unable to wake her.

The local police, estate agent and ambulance crews raced to the scene but found the woman alive but with the flu in bed. She sent the son out to buy milk for cups of tea just in case anyone else turned up.

Lives saved by police patrol

THE LIVES of a 59 year-old woman and her 32 year-old son were more than likely saved due to two vigilant police officers from Harwich.

The officers were on a midnight patrol when they saw smoking bellowing from a house in Kings Head Street. A woman was trapped in a bedroom on the first floor of the house because of the fire downstairs, and her son was stranded on the roof, having climbed out of a second floor window.

While the Fire Service were on route

Pc. Neil Pudney and nearby Alma Pub Landlord, Richard Watts, broke the front door down and tackled the blaze with fire extinguishers from the pub.

Meanwhile other local officers arrived at the scene with a ladder and rescued the woman from the bedroom, her son was finally rescued by the Fire Service.

A senior Fire Service officer said the stranded couple were lucky to have escaped without injury.

It's believed the fire had started under the stairs in the electrical system.

Dennis Rensch walks 700 miles across the desert - solo

Making history the 'hot' way

By Ian Deal

CAMEL liver is not the most appetising of meals, but when you're stuck in the middle of the Sahara Desert there's not much choice on the menu.

It's just one of the unusual meals that Chief Inspector Dennis Rensch encountered recently on his amazing 700 mile trek across the west African Desert.

The trip has raised thousands of pounds for hospice charities in Essex but initially looked doomed to failure after Dennis was turned back by Moroccan authorities. Political unrest in the area had raised suspicions of him and his back up team, the authorities believed they were members of the SAS and would not allow him to proceed.

"I came back to the UK feeling gutted, we had a major exhibition planned and thousands of pounds of sponsorship at stake. I felt let down, and that I had let down the hospice patients", said Dennis.

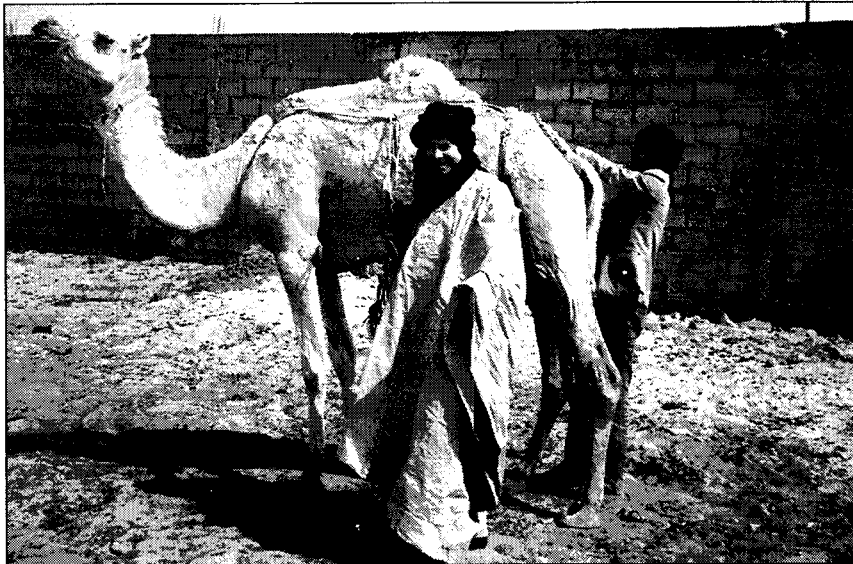
After further advice from Interpol the unstoppable officer flew out from Heathrow again on January 22 to Mauritania. After a re-think Dennis left the UK with no back-up team only a rucksack with army food rations and not a lot more.

"My arrival was eventful, there was a full scale riot going on in the town because of a price rise on bread," said Dennis.

Here he met up with a woman, born in Essex and now an honorary British Consul, who assisted him to put together his expedition team. He was offered a camel for £150 but was told it would only last for 200 kilometres. Instead Dennis hired two 4-wheel drive station wagons and a French speaking mechanic and desert guide, both Mauritanian, Moses and Mohammed.

On January 22 Dennis set off to Tijika, the starting point of his walk and the last major civilisation for miles. From there it was an eight day walk to Tichit, temperatures soared over 100 degrees even though it was the middle of the Sahara winter. Mohammed would regularly check Dennis for sunburn. "At the first sign of any he would don me in a turban", said Dennis.

Meals of camel, mutton and goat kept his strength up, this was no place for a



● When told the camel would only last 200 kilometres Dennis opted for the more comfortable alternative, a station wagon.

vegetarian.

On reaching Tichit, he was met by a local police officer and introduced to a doctor who offered him a place to rest. "Pre-medieval is an understatement, the doctor's house had four inches of flies on the floor, it was horrendous", said Dennis.

The following morning Dennis set off on the first of a 17 day trek to Oulata. He became quite a tourist attraction, one man and his family even walked 100 kilometres to see Dennis, they shared a meal with the strange white man. On another occasion some inquisitive armed Arabs on camels followed him all day. Later they joined him round a fire and ate with him. They referred to Dennis as "this mad Anglais".

Eventually the blister-footed explorer reached the tiny Arab town of Oulata which was nothing more than a collection of mud and brick built huts. The town was gradually being taken over by the wild un-stoppable desert sands. From there it was on to Nema, three days later it was all over. Dennis had been walking for 28 days and 700 miles - it's believed he's the first European to walk solo across the desert.

"The distance was colossal, many people thought I would fail but that spurred me on to succeed. I've promised my wife it's the last trip of this kind I shall do. I've been to the hottest, coldest and highest but not the deepest. People don't believe I've finished," said Dennis. We will see.

News in brief**Chosen charities**

THE three forcewide charities have been chosen for the 1995 Essex Police Fun Day. They will be Baby Life Support Systems (BLISS), the Essex Voluntary Association for the Blind, and the Little Havens Children's Hospice for Essex.

The territorial and headquarters divisions are currently choosing their nominated charities.

New caution

THE NEW 37-word caution will be introduced on April 10, along with changes in the law relating to a suspect's right to silence.

New powers for custody sergeants to give conditional bail and additional PACE codes of practice also come in.

These changes come under the new Criminal Justice and Public Order Act. Further details are available on Force Policy Guidelines.

Phoenix to go live

PHOENIX, the new high-tech national criminal record system, is set to go live in late May or early June.

The exact date is due to be announced shortly, and this will coincide with the forcewide distribution of an information package including aide-memoire cards, leaflets, posters and a video.

In line with these changes ECRO (Criminal Records Office) has expanded and is now known as the PNC Bureau. Look for more details in next month's *The Law*.

Future plans due to be published

THE POLICING priorities for Essex have been set out in two documents due to be published shortly.

The Long Term Plan provides a blueprint for the future, looking at how policing will develop, and what work needs to be done.

It sets out Essex Police's aims in five key service areas: preventing and detecting crime, maintaining public order, reducing death and injury on the roads and maintaining traffic flow,

Sorry about the delay

THE staff in the press office would like to apologise for the absence of a February edition of *The Law*.

Due to operational commitments at Brightlingsea, staffing levels were not sufficient to produce a newspaper.

We regret any inconvenience caused.

responding to emergencies and consulting with the public to tackle community concerns.

The Annual Policing Plan has been drawn up to spell out targets for the year ahead. Responsibility for this plan rests with the new Police Authority and it acts as an agreement between the authority

and the Chief Constable as to the policing priorities and standards of service which Essex Police aims to provide.

Every department and division of the Force has been required to produce its own plans in support of the forcewide plan. Look out for April's *Focus* video for more details.

'Cluster' crime initiative

NEIGHBOURHOOD Watch groups in the Rayleigh area have launched a scheme aimed at increasing their vigilance against crime.

'Cluster Security' takes the Neighbourhood Watch concept a step further by grouping homes into clusters to be on the alert for suspicious activity.

Its introduction follows reluctance among local groups to support the Home Secretary's Street Watch scheme, which encouraged citizens to patrol the streets. Watch members believed these patrols might put their safety at risk.

Cluster Security gives members the names and numbers for each household in their 'cluster' plus advice on what action to take.

They are encouraged to alert each other as well as the police of anything suspicious, by acting collectively they are likely to be more effective in deterring criminals.

Watch the birdie

● Pc David Clark with his feathered fiend Miss Polly. Photo courtesy of Maxine Clarke, *Evening Echo*.

MISS Polly, the parrot, was back behind bars after a brush with an Essex Police officer earlier this month.

Feathers started flying when Ambulance Paramedic, Phil Wall, was called to an old people's home in Basildon where a woman had suddenly died.

It was then that the South American parrot decided to become territorial and gave the paramedic a right nasty bite.

Police action was needed and who better to call than Wildlife Liaison Officer and parrot fanatic Pc. Dave Clark. Dave not only lectures on parrots and judges competitions but became so attached to Polly, she's now in custody at his home in Westcliff and has become part of the family.



A fox is no saint

ROSEMARY McCarthy describes foxes as beautiful. Beauty is surely in the eye of the beholder? (*The Law*, January).

Has she ever seen the distress, ruthless killing and destruction that a fox can do? Killing often, without the need to feed, leaving dead chickens, geese, lambs and family pets torn apart and attacking babies in prams.

My grand-daughter does not think that the crafty fox is beautiful. A fox recently killed her 16 pet chickens! There are no natural forms of culling foxes, verminous animals which rapidly breed. The only means of controlling over-population is to shoot, snare, poison or hunt.

Foxes are carriers of rabies. In Europe, they place poison pellets down for the wild animal population. In the UK quarantine of all animals from

abroad has in general, prevented rabies spreading like wildfire, destroying both animals and human beings.

Foxes, rats, cats, pigs, rabbits and others have devastated the fauna of Australia and New Zealand and wiped out whole species on many islands throughout the world.

If wildlife is not controlled, vegetarians would starve. Anglers catch fish by impaling hooks into their mouths. Turkeys hate Christmas - five million have recently been slaughtered and eaten. Have any council pest-controllers been attacked for ridding rats, mice and other vermin for grateful householders?

In Italy, they shoot every bird on sight. In France, they force-feed ducks to create enlarged livers for producing foie gras, which they consider is a delicacy.

One must agree with Rosemary's opinion that it must be dreadful for police officers being summoned to fox-hunting, particularly when certain protesters with their illegal activities have also killed dogs. However, what is more dreadful is that valuable police resources are being directed to control those engaged in illegal animal demonstrations when such resources would be better spent in fighting crime against human beings.

Robbery, rape, child abuse and murder is sadly, now an every day event. We read of a 79-year-old Chelmsford man sitting in his house, reading his bible, being murdered. Who demonstrated against this? I place the welfare of human beings before any animals, acknowledging that others do not.

Walter Ablett
Chelmsford

It would be a triumph if you could help

I am writing to you at the suggestion of Mr Fred Feather, curator of the Essex Police Museum, in the hope that one of your readers can assist me.

I am trying to trace the history of 10 Triumph motor cycles, purchased by the Essex Constabulary in 1931. A photograph of these machines appeared in the December 1931 issue of *The Truncheon*, and I have been able to obtain a copy of this photograph from Mr Feather, who was also able to tell me the registration numbers - EV 2801 to EV 2810, and the names of the riders shown in the photograph - PCs Cole, Southgate, Nichols, Borthwick, Tucker, Waters, Oddy, Tomlin, Hockley and Pinch.

I visited the Essex Records Office, and found in the Minutes of the Police Committee dated November 8, 1933, a report from the Chief Constable indicating that he was not satisfied with the usefulness of these machines, and recommend-

ing that they be sold for £75 (for all ten). It would seem likely that the machines were sold early in 1934.

I would be most interested if any of your readers could confirm this, and, in particular I would very much like to know to whom they were sold. Almost certainly it would have been to a dealer, but not necessarily in Essex.

Mr Feather informs me that Pc Pinch is still around, and I wonder if he can recall anything.

I would mention that my interest stems from the fact that I am presently restoring a Triumph similar to those mentioned, and also from the fact that my late father was a special constable in Essex, from 1930 to 1953.

Any information would be most gratefully received.

Roger Sheppard,
396 Dorset Avenue,
Great Baddow, Chelmsford, CM2 8HD.

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Letters

Let's go continental

I WISH to express my opinion on the way that yet another disruption to our lives has been imposed by a shift change.

Headquarters Information Room was one of the last sections to try the Continental mix shift pattern which was introduced to us at the end of September, long after the summer nights had gone.

It now seems that to please just a few, and by no means a majority, we have to revert to the 'straight seven' pattern of working, albeit for a trial.

I wonder how many years a trial takes, most of us have worked that system since joining the Force as either police or civilian.

If this trial is, as we are given to believe, for the new people, then they must be considered the select

ones as some of us have waited 20 or more years for a change of shift pattern, not just a few months, which is all they have been with us.

It appears that the main factor against the Continental shift system is the loss of 24 hours over a week-end off.

This time is of course only relevant to those few lucky people who want to go away and travel home Monday instead of Sunday night.

Most of us, however, are not fortunate enough, as we have partners outside the Force who invariably work on the Friday, Saturday and Monday, or children at school who have to be back for Monday mornings.

Let's hope that we revert to the Continental mix system for a further trial, this time during the

summer months when we can appreciate it. Or are we destined to have three months trials for each new intake of staff.

Pc MaCauley
Information Room

Retirement thanks

I WISH to thank every one of you civilians and police alike for your generosity and kindness shown to me on my retirement on Friday, March 3.

It was overwhelming for me that so many of you thought enough of me to come along to say farewell (or was it to make sure I had gone at last).

I can't thank you enough for all the fantastic gifts. I'm sure I'll make use of them.

It was a very special day for me, and I owe it all to every one of you. It is a day I will always remember for all the nice things that were said and done.

I am not going to try and name anyone as I am sure to leave someone off the list and that is the last thing I would wish to do.

So its thank you all once more for the generosity, kindness and all the memories that I take with me into retirement.

Best wishes and good health to you all from your most affable ex-tailor.

Ron Parks
Shoeburyness

Special thanks

COULD I through your letters' column thank all friends and colleagues for their presents and good wishes on my retirement.

A very special thanks to Sergeant Alan King of Ipswich Road Police Office, Colchester, for organising my farewell get-together, presentation and for all his help and support during the past year prior to my retirement.

Tom MacMahon
Lawford

Gratitude

My family and I wish to thank you all for the flowers and letters of sympathy in our sad loss of Charles.

May we also express our gratitude for the support and police presence at the funeral.

Barbara Fleming
Galleywood

Anything Goes . . . Will everything go?

THE Essex Police Musical Society's production of *Anything Goes* was due to have been performed last month - at the third attempt. However, the show did not open.

It was first to have been performed one year ago in February '94 but was cancelled when producer and leading man Derek Lee had a spot of heart trouble. Thankfully, he is now fully recovered.

With the use of the Assembly Hall denied to the society for long periods, the Society's charity show in June and a re-scheduling of *Anything Goes* to October were both postponed.

Anything Goes was re-scheduled to last month but, alas, a local society was producing the same show. So *Anything Goes* 1994 and 95, as rehearsed to within four weeks of production - went!

All productions and rehearsals have now ceased pending the AGM of the society in April.

I have been involved with the society for the past 12 years, and would like to thank everyone who has

played a part in its outstanding success, whether on stage or behind the scenes.

To anyone who has ever wondered what it is like to go on stage - my advice is to try it.

My thanks also go to HQ Sports and Social Club, the society's financial backers, and all the Chief Constables who have given us permission to use the Assembly Hall and its fine facilities.

I understand it is possible that the Musical Society, as I have known it, may cease to be. This would be a great pity as it has given untold pleasure to its members and many, many members of the public. Do not let it fold.

Please give some thought before the AGM to what you could do for the society, and make your views known.

Anyone can go along. The EPMS is open to all members of Essex Police and their friends to join.

Ex-Pc John Bray
Chelmsford

Your support is still needed

MAY I take this opportunity to thank Essex Police for their continued support for the RUC Benevolent Fund.

During 1994, your donations totalled £7,800 and have assisted us in continuing to care for those who have suffered over the years or have fallen upon difficult times.

Despite entering what we all hope will be a peaceful future, the needs of our dependants will continue for many years to come and as a consequence demands on the Fund will remain.

I pass on our heartfelt thanks for your continued friendship and support.

Richard Walker
RUC Benevolent Fund

WE must never lose sight of the extreme difficulties that our colleagues in the RUC have faced over the past 25 years.

There has been a price for them to pay and their widows, orphans and injured officers will continue to need the help and support of us all.

If you are not already a subscribing member to the RUC Benevolent Fund, can I please urge you in the strongest terms to give consideration to becoming one. Application forms can be obtained from our office.

Dave Jones
Federation Chairman

On the road to health

IF YOU care about your health, don't miss the roadshow which is coming to your division next month.

A variety of health and fitness tests and advice will be available. So whether you are worried about smoking, drinking, diet, exercise or stress, there should be something for you.

The roadshows have been organised by the Force's "Look After Your Health" committee in conjunction with local health authorities.

The dates are as follows: HQ - April 4 and April 11 (Assembly Hall); Grays - April 5; Tendring - April 7; Braintree - April 12; Colchester - April 13; Basildon - April 18; Rayleigh - April 20; Southend - April 24; Harlow - April 26; Stansted - April 28.

Roadshows will be open between 10am and 4pm. Look out for posters in your station giving details of venues.

Go five '95

FOUR digit telephone extensions will be a thing of the past from April 2, when Essex Police launches a new system improving the communications network.

From April 2 all telephone extensions will contain five digits; four digit extension numbers will no longer work; it will no longer be necessary to dial 7 before the extension number when dialling other stations; a new internal directory will be issued and there will be new dialling codes for such agencies as NSY, CPS and GTN.

On April 16 it is Phoneday when all area codes will increase by one digit, for instance 0245 will become 01245 and 0206, 01206 etc.

More information is available by ringing 55595.

Concern over disruption in town as demos continue

Protestors told 'be noisy but lawful'

AS daily demonstrations at Brightlingsea continued towards the February half-term holiday, Assistant Chief Constable Geoff Markham wrote to every household in the town asking for their co-operation in keeping the community safe.

The letter followed the death of an animal rights protester in Coventry and emphasised Essex Police's concern to ensure public safety as well as applying the law equally and fairly. It urged demonstrators: "Be noisy, make your protest in accordance with your legal right to do so, but please stay within the law."

From the outset Essex Police has made clear its commitment to allow lawful demonstration, but equally the service has a duty to allow the highway to be used for legal trade.

Mr Markham, who has headed the police response at Brightlingsea, said: "Unfortunately many people are testing the definition of lawful to suit themselves and behaving in a blatantly unlawful way."

The majority of arrests at Brightlingsea to date have been for obstruction of the highway, although increasing levels of abuse hurled at officers could see arrests for public order offences rising.

On the first day of protests, the presence of a small element throwing stones, coins and bottles forced the decision to wear protective helmets to avoid injury to officers. This provoked criticism of police tactics. But one constable with seven years service, said: "One of my colleagues was hit by a bolt, and a bottle thrown over the top of the crowd smashed at my feet."

"My wife didn't want me coming home with an eye missing or a scar across my face. Our safety was more important than what people thought of us."

This aggressive element was made equally unwelcome by the Brightlingsea community, and the police were able to revert to normal helmets by the second week.

In the first week, Mr Markham instigated

daily meetings with community representatives and members of the protest group Brightlingsea Against Live Exports (BALE).

Through these discussions, the police were able to scale down their operation as agreement was reached for the demonstrators to walk slowly in front of the convoys of animals.

Discussions also focused on minimising the disruption to the business and social life of the town.

Chief Constable John Burrow reported to the Police Committee this week that local elected representatives who are voicing increasing concern over the reputation Brightlingsea is gaining and the disruption to the life of the town.



● ABOVE: Age is no objective when there's a principle at stake. Even the schoolchildren join in the animal rights protests at the small Essex port.



● ABOVE LEFT: And the media said it was the police doing the pushing! Two elderly women give officers a helping hand through the port. Photos courtesy of the East Anglian Daily Times.

On a lighter note

A LIGHTER moment on the police line in Brightlingsea came as the officers formed up in a single belt cordon across the dock entrance.

A protester shouted: "You put your left leg in, your left out..." and 30 policemen responded with an impromptu hokey cokey.

ASSISTANT Chief Constable

Geoff Markham proved a winner in Brightlingsea, when he was asked to draw a raffle organised by protest group BALE in the community centre.

He pulled out his own ticket - but in true spirit he handed back the bottle of booze and the raffle was re-drawn.

What the officers say

INSP Peter Anderson, Colchester: "Neighbourhood Beat and other support officers have been drawn onto shifts. It does mean our community liaison is suffering. Brightlingsea is putting extra pressure on the officers left behind."

"We have to support the shifts so we can provide a sufficient immediate response capability. It has a knock-on effect when we are trying to provide police for football matches and other events in the town."

"I do feel for the officers down at Brightlingsea who don't know the time of their duties from one day to the next, it is affecting their family and social life. They

are being subjected to abuse every day, and their restraint is outstanding."

COLCHESTER constable on regular Brightlingsea duty: "The vast majority of the demonstrators are ordinary people, and I fully defend their right to demonstrate. Many of us agree with their principle and are against live animal exports, but I can't relate to the people who burst into tears and call us murderers."

"It's very embarrassing being there in convoys of police vehicles. I accept that we have got to be there, but it is incredibly frustrating when the crowd chants what a waste of money. We are there because they are

forcing us to be there."

PC Jon Dodman, Colchester: "Because the demonstrators see it as a moral issue they think it's all right to break the law. But we have to deal with it. We can't be selective about which laws we are going to obey."

"We wouldn't take the type of abuse we are getting at Brightlingsea on the streets of Colchester, we would arrest people. Our policy of minimal arrests is frustrating."

DET Supt Ivan Dibley: "As a direct result of the situation at Brightlingsea, I was unable to call out our main house-to-house inquiry team - the Force Support

The local viewpoint

by Sgt Peter Gardner, Brightlingsea

BY now most uniform officers have been involved either directly or indirectly in Operation Gunfleet at Brightlingsea.

To all these officers and their families I would like to say thank you. Although I have not been policing the demonstrations, as the station sergeant I am keenly aware of the efforts made by all of you. Overall it has been a job well done.

The purpose of writing this article is not to keep on about the demonstrations and the protesters but to point out what may appear obvious.

The town of Brightlingsea and the majority of its population are law-abiding and very pro-police. People are prepared to come forward and help without fear or favour.

The small town is used not only by local residents but by many people in the surrounding villages. Many of these people are having their lives disrupted by the current demonstrations.

While some of the demonstrators have been abusive towards the police, the vast majority of people who you come into contact with are law-abiding citizens. The relationship we have with all of them is generally very good.

I would ask all individuals involved with policing Operation Gunfleet to bear this in mind and, even though you may face abuse and obscenities, to act responsibly at all times. Don't respond with a gesture or remark that gives cause for complaint.

Many of the officers who work on the section live locally, they and their families get the backlash of any unprofessional behaviour.

Despite the difficult circumstances, please continue to be professional. Once again, thanks.

Unit - to assist with the Julie Norman murder inquiry at Southend.

"I had to call on a team of detectives, and the divisions had to manage minus those detectives."

SUPT Jim Kynerley, Tendring: "Officers' morale has fluctuated. People are getting very tired. The Brightlingsea officers are under great pressure, they have born the brunt of people's grumbles. They have handled it with good humour. All our officers have responded extremely well.

Town unit is re-housed



● No escape. Marathon runner Eamonn Martin has no choice but to open the new Basildon town unit.

Home Secretary visit

HOME Secretary Michael Howard paid a private visit to Essex Police headquarters earlier this month.

Senior officers discussed the cost of policing Brightlingsea with him, as well talking about the Partners Against Crime initiative, Long Term and Annual Plans, the role of the new Police Authority, and the way the Force deals with fatal road incidents.

HERE'S one prisoner who won't be making a run for it. Basildon officers Pc Henry Garrod and Pc Kelly Offord proved too quick for top marathon man Eamonn Martin and brought him in to open the new portable police station.

The station has been funded entirely by the town's traders and landlords to ensure a police presence in the heart of the shopping centre.

The traders got together after the old town centre police caravan fell into disrepair and faced closure.

Sergeant Dave Adams, who heads the Town Police Unit, said: "It is all part and parcel of trying to improve the image of the town centre."

Independent body takes shape

THE NEW Essex Police Authority takes over responsibility for providing a police service for the county on April 1.

Under the Police and Magistrates Court Act 1994, the new authority becomes independent from Essex County Council.

It is made up of 17 members, nine councillors (three from each of the main political parties), three magistrates and, for the first time, five independent members.

With the new authority comes a different funding formula which has provided significantly less money than was required to maintain the existing level of service. The new authority has approved a budget of £147.8 million, set at the Government's capping limit to restrict cuts to the minimum.

This means cuts of £3.5 million, which will be made mainly in support areas including computer and communications equipment, furniture and refurbishments, in order to maintain maximum numbers of police officers.

The Police Authority now has power to agree numbers of police officers for the county, formerly a decision taken by the Home Secretary. But plans to use savings from the restructuring of Essex

Police to increase numbers of officers have been scrapped to meet the budget shortfall.

Subject to the 'capping limit' the new Authority also has the power to set its own Council Tax. After allowing for Government grants and other income, this meant setting a 1995/6 Council Tax for police purposes of £47.25 for an average family house.

The transition to the new authority has been aided by the creation of a "Shadow Authority" which has been running parallel to the police committee since December. This allowed preparation of the budget and drawing up of a working constitution.

In addition, the Police and Magistrates Court Act required the new authority to publish a plan for the policing of the area for the year ahead.

Although it is an independent body, the Police Authority will purchase a number of services from the county council to ensure a smooth changeover. These include legal, financial, personnel, property and commercial services.



● Members of the new independent Essex Police Authority

INTRODUCING THE NEW ESSEX POLICE AUTHORITY

County councillors

Company director **RICHARD BOYD** has been elected chairman of the new Essex Police Authority. He was chairman of Essex Police Committee, having served on the committee since 1982. He is a Liberal Democrat councillor for Rayleigh North, and was first elected to the council in 1981.

GERARD RICE (Lab.) is an insurance advisor and a former chairman and vice-chairman of the police committee. He was elected in 1989 and represents Chadwell.

MARGARET FISHER (Lib Dem.), a lecturer, represents Colchester Old Heath on the council, and has served on the police committee since 1993.

LIONEL LEE (Lib Dem) is a company director and retired police officer who was elected to the council in 1993. He represents Brentwood South.

BILL ARCHIBALD (Lab.) has served on the police committee since his election to the council in 1973. He is Leader of the Council and of the Labour group, and represents Basildon Fryerns.

ALAN HURST (Lab.) is a solicitor, who represents Orsett and Stifford on the council. He has served on the police committee since 1993.

GEOFFREY WATERER (Con.) is a farmer and was chairman of the police committee between 1981 and 1993. He represents Hedingham, and has been a member of the county council since 1973.

ANTHONY PEEL (Con.) is a solicitor and has served on the police committee since 1989, and represents Tiptree.

BRIAN KELLY (Con.) is a company director and a former vice-chairman of the police committee. He represents Southend Southchurch.

Magistrate members

JULIE BARKER has been a magistrate since 1981, and serves on the Braintree and Halstead Bench. A former company director of a family business, she has previously served on the Essex Police Committee.

JENNIFER HINDLE, a former senior manager at Marks & Spencer, has been a magistrate since 1985 and is a member of the Chelmsford Bench. She has served on Essex Police Committee since 1988 and is spokesperson for the Magistrates' group.

DEREK MCBRIDE is a managing director, and has been a magistrate in Thurrock since 1991. He has served on the police committee since 1993.

Independent members

MARTIN EASTEAL (47) is the Chief Executive of the Local Government Commission. He has previously served as Director of Audit at the National Audit Office, and has lived in Harlow for the past 15 years.

WILLIAM GARLAND (62), who lives in Frinton, currently works part-time in the Science Department at Colchester Institute. He was previously Deputy Secretary of the Hurlingham Club and prior to that was Plant and Project Manager for Imperial Chemical Industries.

NORMAN HICKS (42) lives in Colchester and has been employed by BT since 1968. He is currently a professional engineer on video systems.

GEOFFREY NASH (55) currently works for Essex Training and Enterprise Council on a part-time consultancy basis as Development Advisor, Youth Credits Project. He was headteacher at St. Peter's High School, Burnham-on-Crouch, for 13 years. He has lived in Leigh on Sea for the past 13 years.

GITA SOOTARSING (45) runs a consultancy and training agency, having previously worked as a manager at the Bank of England. She lives in Theydon Bois.



Proud day for dog unit

SIX CANINE cadets have come through their police training with flying colours after a year of intensive work.

It was just over a year ago that readers helped choose names for the first litter specially bred by Essex Police. Now Acer, Alfie, Abbey, Abraham, Arrow and Jo-Ann are following in the footsteps of their mother, Essex Police dog Carla.

Earlier this month the six hounds were on best behaviour at a passing out parade to mark the end of training and the start

Trained and ready to go: The six new recruits and their respective handlers.
Picture: HQ photographic.

of their demanding duties.

The Chief Constable together with families and friends of the handlers were able to see the puppies put through their paces in a variety of demonstrations including obedience work and tracking. It was a proud moment for Pc Martin Garwood who had masterminded the training.

Section boss, Insp Rod Barrett, said he was proud of what his officers and their dogs had achieved in a year, "The venture has been an outstanding success, it's the first time we have specially bred dogs for training, and the fact that all six dogs passed shows the level of commitment from all those involved."

Does p

HQ

The so

THE media's fasci
any fashion trend.

As millions were g
to their televisions e
Monday to watch
drama series *Cracker*
national newspapers
full of success stories
as the James Bulger
der and Abbie Humpl
kidnap.

But then came the s
news that Colin Stagg
been acquitted of the b
killing of Rachel Nicke
Wimbledon Common.

The press pointed the f
at psychologist Paul Britt
the judge declared that S
had been the victim of "di
tative conduct of the gro
kind".

For a few weeks the v
system of offender prof
came under heavy criti
and then the subject palec
insignificance just as fast

The Essex Police view

ESSEX Police has itself
two offender profiler
recent years for the mu
investigations of M
Broom and Ron Cousins.

When 30-year-old bac
Broom was found battere
death at his Boreham hon
1989, police spent mo
exhausting every enquiry.

A number of people v
interviewed as suspects
the inquiry was unabl
establish sufficient evid
for a prosecution.

In 1994 Pc Mark Heard
ited Doctor Richard Bad
in West Yorkshire and
studying photographs of
scene and post mortem
drafted a profile.

The case remains unsol
as does the Ron Cousins
der but Pc Heard feels the
most definitely a place in
Police Service for the med
profession.

He said: "It is a recogni
scientific approach as oppo
to another wild idea."

Profiler Dr Badcock wo

Psychological profiling have a place in the police service?

Help or hindrance?

Scientific approach

ion with offender profiling rose and fell just like

Feature by Kim White

had hit the headlines.

But the intense publicity did raise the obvious question - is there a place for psychologists within the police service?

Most of us probably don't know enough about the subject to stand in judgement but one police officer who can claim to be an 'expert' is Dc

Rupert Heritage of Surrey Police.

In 1986, Dc Heritage worked alongside the renowned profiler Professor David Canter on a murder case, before gaining his own Master of Philosophy and Psychology.

He now runs an offender

profiling crime analysis unit, the only one of its kind, specialising in sex attacks.

And he remains reluctant to put too much control in the hands of the medical profession.

"I agree there is a place for other disciplines including psychology, pathology and psychiatry, but these must be police led," he said.

"There are always dangers when a layman comes into contact with an expert. With profiling the psychologist is seen as the expert with an acceptance by the layman, in this case the officer, that he has the greater knowledge.

"If these experts begin to

give advice on such subjects as interview techniques they are putting officers in jeopardy leaving them open to doing something unlawful and unethical.

"This is why we should be concentrating on training officers and developing our own skills, rather than relying on outside consultants."

The system used at Goldalming is a software programme written by DC Heritage himself.

Data collected throughout a case is keyed into the system and the programme uses the information to produce a profile.

Said Dc Heritage: "We are

customer led. Forces come to us with a case or a set of cases from anywhere in the country. It doesn't mean the detectives have reached a dead end, it may just mean they have hit a barrier.

"The outcome is more or less the same, the difference is we are data driven whereas psychologists base their argument on gut feeling.

"One thing which must be made clear, however, is that any profile should be used simply as a guide and not as

evidence. The only person who is ever qualified to discuss a case or decide on evidence is the Senior Investigating Officer."

Dc Heritage is currently in the process of networking with two other offices, one in South Yorkshire with a homicide data base and child abuse in Lancashire.

Any officers interested in speaking to Dc Heritage or making use of the system can contact him on 0483 571212.

Cracking entertainment but are TV dramas a danger?

CRACKER was a series which kept many viewers waiting with anticipation for the next episode.

Fitz, played by Robbie Coltrane, was the psychologist called in by the local police on major crimes to help pinpoint the guilty party.

In the Granada Television drama he was seen to solve the

and viewing for millions of people.

In the last year, the number of fly-on-the-wall documentaries has greatly increased while on the other side of the coin dramas are becoming more realistic through research.

But all this could be seen to be helping the criminal.

Dc Rupert Heritage, who runs a crime analysis unit on sex crimes, in Surrey, watched only one episode of Cracker and was appalled.

He explained: "Rapists are not dummies, many of them have high IQs. Cracker showed its suspect pushing his victims into water after a rape and combing hair to rid it of semen and other forensic evidence. How much help have we got to give criminals?"

"I personally feel this is inappropriate and produced to a level which is dangerous. I realise it is good press, but what the media seem to forget is that for each victim of a crime there are family and friends and all of these people are affected."

To a certain extent one of our own officers, Pc Mark Heard, who works with the major incident database HOLMES, agrees. But he feels that short memories often rid of the dangers.

He said: "I personally feel that too much is probably given away. Although it's wrong that they should show our methods there is a hunger from the public to know about these things.

"The good thing is that they will see them and more often than not forget about them. It's incredible these days that people are still caught by fingerprints when the media portrays the criminal as wearing gloves."



● Fitz, played by Robbie Coltrane, is assisted by detectives as he attempts to prize a confession from a serial rapist during the concluding episode of *Cracker*. Photo courtesy of Granada Television.

at a psychiatric hospital and over the years has interviewed a number of murderers, kidnapers, rapists and other criminals.

"He has simply asked them why they did it and what was in their minds at the time," said Pc Heard. "Once convicted offenders are much more prepared to talk about their crimes, which is why there is a value in using psychologists etc."

With this kind of experience these 'experts' are able to study evidence and compile a

picture of the person involved. This can range from gender and social background to motive.

Said Pc Heard: "We certainly give the method more credence than clairvoyants and mediums, but it must be kept as an extra avenue of enquiry. What we should never do is put all our eggs into one basket. The offender profile is nothing more than an extra investigation tool, it's not the be all and end all of an inquiry - it's a guide.

"But there is most definitely

a place for it in the Police Service. When you are looking at an unsolved murder you can't afford to turn your backs on anything."

What is your view?
Drop us a line at The Law,
c/o Press Office, Police
Headquarters, Po Box 2,
Springfield, Essex CM2 6DA.

● A profiler was consulted after the brutal murder of Martin Broom.

crimes rather than aid the police, even to the point of enticing confession under interview.

But although it may have great entertainment value it can also be seen as damaging to police work.

Nobody has any firm control over the media and as perverse as it may seem, crimes of sex and violence make good reading

Don't stop the music!

FOR nearly 30 years the Essex Police Musical Society has provided a rewarding pastime for its members and many hours of enjoyment for its patrons, who have come to see its productions from all parts of the county.

In recent times, with one or two shows a year, many who would not otherwise have had the opportunity, have been able to have "a night out at the show" and for them, I know, it has been a memorable feature to enjoy and look forward to.

With such support many thousands of pounds have been raised and donated to local charities.

All this could not have been achieved without the support of its members and the chief officers who have enabled the use of the facilities at Headquarters.

That support and commitment of senior officers is still there in the form of the Society's President, Deputy Chief Constable Mr Jim Dickinson.

The Society needs new members with commitment and enthusiasm to continue. If you have ever thought you might enjoy taking part in the Society, either on stage or behind the scenes, then contact Rod Clare on extension 2527 or at home on 01245 250826, to find out more.

Watch out for details of the AGM at the end of April, open to all, in next month's *The Law*.

Go to the dogs

MEMBERS of Essex Police and their families are invited to an Open Day at Sandon Dog Section on Saturday, May 6.

Visitors will be treated to demonstrations by police dogs, including drug searches, and have the chance to see the newly-refurbished facilities. Pop along any time between 10.30am and 4pm.

Disappointing response to BBC Crimewatch appeal on Southend murder Hunt for Julie's killers

goes on

by Ian Deal

DETECTIVES investigating the vicious murder of Southend woman Julie Norman, have had a disappointing response to an appeal shown on BBC TV's *Crimewatch UK* programme last week.

Julie, who was 32, was discovered dead in her bed at Sherwood Way, Southend, by her father on the morning of February 1. She had been bludgeoned to death with a blunt instrument, possibly a hammer.

The circumstances surrounding Julie's death were outlined in the Incident Desk part of *Crimewatch*. A photograph was shown of the front of Julie's house, together with a photo of a black leather handbag, similar to the one stolen from her home.

Only six calls were received by detectives during the programme, but such a response had been feared because of the

numerous house-to-house enquiries already made in the area.

However, detectives are hoping the renewed publicity will help jog people's memories.

Neighbours saw two men outside the house just after 12.30am on the night of Julie's murder, they were dark haired and wore dark clothing.

Detectives also wish to eliminate a Mark One dark brown Ford Fiesta that was seen outside the murder scene - no-one in the area owns such a car.

DI Dave Frampton from Southend CID said: "After eight weeks into this investigation I hope the *Crimewatch* publicity will prompt someone with information to contact us

who may not have contacted us before.

"It was an horrific murder. It's essential the murderer is found, both for the family and the community."

Skin Bank appeal

A RETIRED chief superintendent from Essex Police has appealed to Force fundraisers to support the Stephen Kirby Skin Bank Fund, a charity set up last year to help fund the country's first purpose-built skin bank.

Father-of-two Stephen Kirby from Norwich died last summer after suffering horrific burns while trying to save his family from a tent blaze in France. His five-year-old son died in the fire.

Stephen's widow, Kim, is Ex-Chf/Supt. Harry Smith's goddaughter. Kim's father Eric Robertson also served with Essex Police between 1937 and 1967, retiring as a traffic patrol sergeant.

Mr Smith said: "In view of the association with Essex Police (Kim was in several of the early Musical Society shows), I feel there may be many serving and retired officers who would like to help this charity."

The appeal aims to set up a pioneering skin bank at Queen Mary's Hospital in Roehampton, where Stephen was treated. More than 50 of his friends and relatives offered to donate skin.

The skin bank will build up a reserve of skin, which could save the lives of burns victims. Donations, made out to *The Stephen Kirby Skin Bank Fund* can be sent via Mr. Smith at 67 The Street, Little Waltham, Chelmsford, CM3 3NT.

Pilot killed in plane crash



● The wreckage of the World War Two plane after the crash at Woodham Walter. Picture courtesy of the Essex Chronicle.

DOZENS of callers lit up the switchboard at Essex Police Headquarters after they witnessed a plane dramatically crash into a field at Woodham Walter near Maldon.

The incident, which tragically killed one man and left his son seriously injured, happened on the afternoon of Saturday, March 4.

Witnesses say the aircraft, a World War Two Harvard Trainer plane, went into a spin and then failed to recover from the manoeuvre due to insufficient height.

The plane which had taken off from North Weald Airfield broke into three main chunks and dozens of other pieces were scattered over the nearby countryside.

An air ambulance was called to the scene and took the 24-year-old survivor to the London Hospital in Whitechapel.

Wreckage

Police then assisted officers from the Air Accident Investigation Branch to gather information relating to the circumstances of the crash.

Wreckage was taken to Farnborough in Hampshire where it is being examined, it is likely to be at least three months before the result

is known.

Many who witnessed the crash had been out enjoying the weekend weather including golfers at a nearby club and one nine-year-old boy who witnessed the horrific incident whilst fishing. He was later offered counselling.

The man who died was Ewan English (48) from Norfolk. His son Nicholas is in a stable condition and is generally improving.

● Wreckage examined from a plane crash near Stapleford Airfield on Boxing Day, killing four people, has shown no mechanical defects were present.

Mind Your Own Business

The column of the Ex-Essex Police Business Association.

UNEMPLOYED or made redundant?

Sadly many of our colleagues have suffered being made redundant or not being able to find work after retiring from the police service.

The financial reality of such a thing happening, even to us on a pension, can be humiliating.

Our Business Association cannot offer you total salvation, but through the exchange of ideas and talking through your own personal skills and circumstances, could be that lifeline you have been waiting for.

The Association aims to assist former Essex officers in retirement and we may be able to point those seeking employment in the right direction.

Setting up a new business?

Many of us have some terrific ideas and innovations but setting up your own business does have its problems. The Association has the experience to assist you.

Networking is the exchange of ideas and passing on of work to colleagues, especially those in similar lines of business, and has already been successful through the Association.

The beauty of the situation is that we have the trust born of knowing each other for years.

New members and enquiries, contact Secretary Dick Bloomfield on 01702 202959.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 7, 7.30pm at Sandon Dog Section.

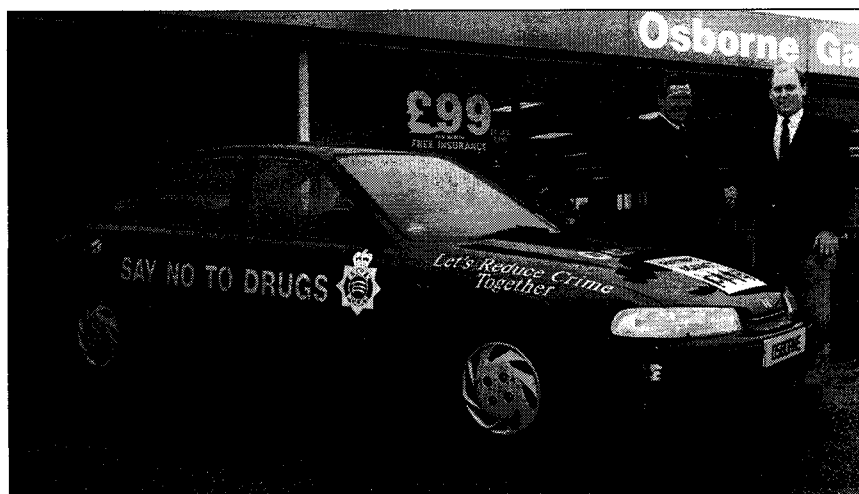
Bob Craven - Assistant Secretary

N.A.R.P.O.
Chelmsford Branch

A.G.M.
Saturday, April 22
HQ bar

10am for 10.30am

All members welcome. Contact Doug Rampling on (01245) 353541 for details



Travelling in style

GETTING from A to B for Colchester police officers has been made easier thanks to local car dealers Osborne Honda.

The Ipswich Road based dealership has donated a new Honda Accord car for neighbourhood beat and section officers to carry out their visits in the division.

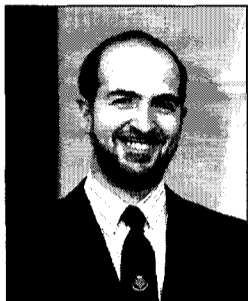
On loan for six months, the car has been professionally sign-written and bears crime prevention logos.

Crime Prevention officer, Pc Mark Harvey said the car would raise the profile of crime prevention and promote the partnership approach to tackling crime.

● LEFT: The keys to the new Honda are handed over to Colchester Police boss, Superintendent Julian Field.

Clamping down on underage drinking

Detective qualifies in crime exam



● Michael Horigan.

SCENES of Crime officer Dc Michael Horigan has qualified for an internationally-recognised award in crime scene examination.

Southend-based Dc Horigan, 44, is only the third Essex officer to obtain the Forensic Science Society diploma, and last month became the first to be presented with his certificate by Chief Constable John Burrow at a commendations ceremony.

Dc Horigan, who has worked as a Scenes of Crime officer for six years, studied in his own time before undertaking written, practical and oral exams to gain the Diploma.

File scheme continues

THE abbreviated file pilot scheme running since October was due to end in February.

Although that is still the case as far as being a pilot exercise is concerned, the scheme will continue to be operated until an evaluation report has been produced and fully considered with a view to deciding where we go from here.

In the mean time the scheme will continue best without the need for any more questionnaires to be completed.

Early signs are that the scheme has positive benefits and is likely to become a permanent feature although possibly with some modifications.

The scheme should not be modified or expanded in advance of a final version being adopted. In particular CPS has asked that officers refrain from using the form MG1A on files other than those submitted within the scheme.

Also the scheme should not be used for minor traffic report for process files, including careless driving.

POLICE in Maldon have launched a crackdown on underage drinking and believe the initiative will help cut juvenile crime in the area.

"Operation Bottlestop" targets youngsters who get older youths to go into off-licences and buy alcohol for them.

Publicans and off-licence holders are raising their glasses to the success of the scheme, which has already attracted national interest.

Influence

A loophole in the law means, apart from in a pub, it is not an offence to buy alcohol and supply it to someone under-age. But under the scheme, the Crown Prosecution Service has agreed to consider a prosecution file for "aiding and abetting" against any adult who purchases booze for a juvenile, if the juvenile goes on to commit a crime under the influence.

Operation Bottlestop was the brainchild of Crime Prevention Officer Pc. Peter Furlong, who noticed an increase in teenage drunkenness in the Maldon and

Heybridge area.

Additionally, local officers believe offences of criminal damage, theft and public disorder by juveniles are often related to drink. Inspector Craig

Robertson quoted an example of a 15-year-old boy who admitted stealing money to fund his drink problem.

Children as young as 12 have been found drunk in the street, and on occasions juveniles have been taken to hospital to have their stomachs pumped.

Posters publicising "Operation

Bottlestop" have been issued to off-licences and supermarkets, and the scheme has featured in the national trade newspaper "The Licensee".

Now it is hoped to extend the scheme to Burnham, and other areas both within and beyond Essex have also expressed interest.



A Pc's goose chase

BILLERICAY officers were in a flap when a goose on the loose was running amok outside the Pilgrim Pub in Radford Way earlier this month.

The skills of Pc. Chris Newham were put fully to the test in the demanding chase to catch the escapee. Chris, who was previously a butcher, finally caught up with his feathered friend outside a nearby factory estate.

While police attempted to find the owner, the goose was held in custody in a dog kennel at Billericay Police Station.

After no-one came forward to claim the goose it was taken to a bird sanctuary in Brentwood and eventually was returned to its owners.

However chaos took off again later in the week when the goose was again spotted in another Billericay street.

● In custody. Pc Chris Newham and his prize goose together with Sgt Dave Birkett. Photo courtesy of the Essex Chronicle.

All aboard a luxury liner



FANCY a short break? Then why not enter our competition and win yourself a luxury cruise to one of two destinations.

The lucky winner will sail from Harwich or Newcastle aboard one of Scandinavian Seaways sleek white liners and be carried over 700 miles of sea in style.

On board, accommodation for two nights will be in an air conditioned cabin with shower and toilet. Arriving at the chosen destination, there will be a city sightseeing tour, giving an opportunity to experience some of the many attractions the country has to offer.

The Esbjerg sightseeing tour includes free admittance to the maritime museum which paints a picture of past and present day life, as well as being home to the many sea inhabitants from around the region. In addition, the former capital of Denmark, Ribe, will be visited. As Denmark's oldest town, many of the buildings reflect its age. There will be time for shopping and refreshments before returning to the ship.

The tour of Hamburg contrasts the infamous street, The Reeperbahn, with the elegant houses built around Hamburg's city lakes. Hamburg is a chic city, situated around the Alster lakes. Its sophisticated

is evident in the shops housed in the many malls.

To win one of these fabulous trips just answer the following simple question sending your entry on a postcard to Seaways Competition, The Law, c/o Press Office, Police Headquarters, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA.

What is the capital of Denmark?

Reader offer

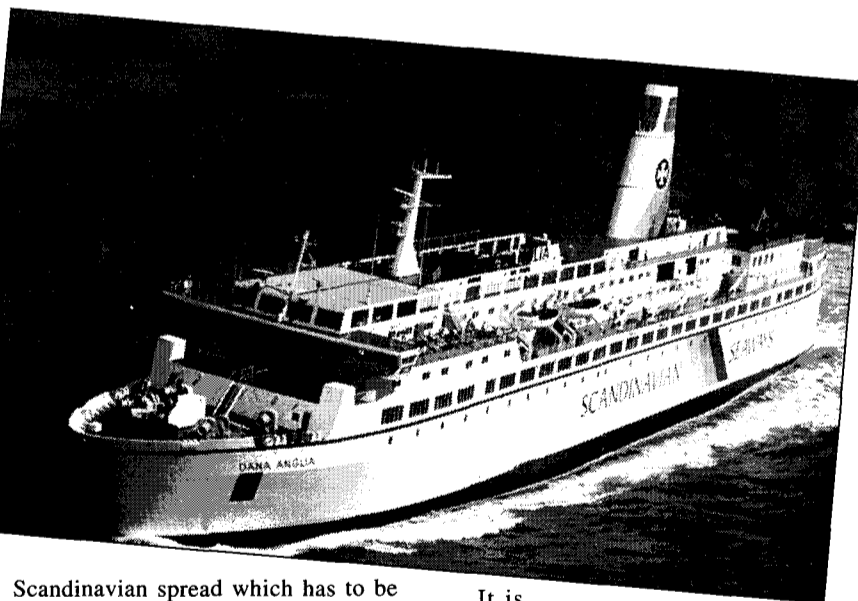
IF you aren't a winner but still want to experience the luxury of a three-day cruise with Scandinavian Seaways why not take advantage of a specially priced offer for readers of *The Law* - from only £59 per person between March and June.

All the AA ships are four or five star and the price includes breakfast, the best inside cabin available at time of booking and a guided tour by coach in the city of your chosen destination - which for the reader offer is not only Denmark and Germany but also Gothenburg in Sweden.

The ships are stabilised and air conditioned and there is a friendly crew to look after you. From the moment you step aboard, all you have to do is sit back, relax and enjoy the excellent amenities your ship has to offer.

On board all the ships are a variety of facilities to keep you entertained throughout your voyage - bars, restaurants, disco, live bands, cinemas, there are even saunas, solariums and casinos on some of the ships.

Sample the Smorgasbord, a traditional



Scandinavian spread which has to be seen (and tasted) to be believed. There is also the a la carte restaurant and a good value cafeteria.

Once you have decided on the period you would like to travel, call us to check the availability. The offers are not valid for Bank Holiday sailings and are made subject to availability with a minimum of two persons per booking, and a maximum of two children per adult.

Children's reduction is £20, outside cabin supplement is £10 per person and Friday departure supplement is also £10 per person.

To book this special offer simply call Scandinavian Seaways Reservations Department on 01255 241234 and quote Y304.

It is strongly recommended that all travellers have adequate insurance cover which can be provided at a premium of only £6 per person for a three day cruise, payable at the time of booking.

All bookings are subject to Scandinavian Seaways rules and regulations and all mini cruises are subject to availability.

Costa Del Sol winner

JETTING off for a free week to the Costa Del Sol is Chief Inspector John Coyle of Headquarters Career Development. He was first to be picked from over 200 entries from our January competition.

The answer to the question, 'Which currency is used in Bena Vista', was Peseta.



FEBRUARY and March have been marked by two further successful concerts; the first at Chelmsford Cathedral when we again joined the South Woodham Ferrers Male Voice Choir and Folklore to raise funds for Chelmsford Hospice and the Broomfield Kidney Unit, and the second at the Moot Hall, Colchester in support of the Mayor's charities.

This was all the more enjoyable as we combined with the choir and orchestra of St. Benedicts School whose vitality and talent provided a great incentive to us.

Preparations for the International Police Music Festival continue, with visits to the accommodation at Anglia Polytechnic University's Riverside Campus and three concert venues of the Charter Hall, Colchester, the Brentwood Centre and the Cliffs Pavilion. Tickets for three concerts on 20, 21, 22 July are now on sale at each of the box offices. "Friends of the Choir" are holding a Craft Fair at St. Lukes Church Hall, Tiptree from 9am to 12 midday on Saturday, 25 March, as a further effort to raise funds for the festival.

The choirs next engagement is on Easter Saturday, 15 April, when we have been invited to join the choir of All Saints, Springfield to sing *Olivet to Calvary*.

I.P.A.

South East Essex Branch

AT the AGM at Southend there was a change of committee member. John Johnson has taken over as Secretary and can be contacted on 01702 585697.

Our plans for the next few months are:

Thursday, March 30 - Quiz night at Grays Police Station

Friday, April 21 - Branch dinner at Lantern Restaurant, Leigh-on-Sea (booking to John Johnson)

Thursday, May 11 - Ten Pin bowling contest at Chelmsford (entries to Derek and Hazel Gibbons)

Sunday, July 30 - Afternoon family barbecue with bouncy castle at Brentwood Police Station

Tuesday, October 10 - We hope to fix a visit to the Tower of London for the Ceremony of the Keys to coincide with the visit of friends from IPA, Washington DC.

by Gordon Oakley

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Mid Essex Branch

THE meeting was opened by Chairman Roger Richardson who reported that 1994 had been a successful year in the way of organised events.

Unfortunately like the AGM it is usually the same faces who give their support. We have over 100 members in the Branch. I only wish some of these would occasionally give their support.

The success of these events can only be attributed to our Social Secretary Dick Giggins for the hard work he has done to get them organised, and is doing so to make 1995 a successful year.

Those serving committee members were re-elected en-bloc. After the meeting the Chairman of SE Essex branch, Gordon Oakley, gave an excellent coloured slide show of our previous functions in Europe.

On Friday, February 10, we once again held our annual dinner at the New Times Inn, Tiptree. This was well supported with excellent food in a friendly atmosphere.

Forthcoming events:

Thursday, April 20 - 9am tour of Houses of Parliament. Lunch and then a tour of Docklands.

May 19 to 21 - visit to Bruges - FULL.

Friday, June 23 - 4pm at Newmarket races.

Sunday, July 2 - 2pm walking tour of Saffron Walden followed by a meal.

Friday, August 11 - 7.30pm barbecue and wine-tasting at Sandon Dog Section.

by Fred Dyson

Fond farewell to Larry

COLLEAGUES bid farewell to the familiar face of detective Larry Nevin last month as he retired after 30 years with the Force. And he was given an extra special send-off when officers from BTP, with whom he often liaise, arranged a day trip to the House of Commons.

As well as being presented with a bottle of Scotch signed by Prime Minister John Major, Home Secretary Michael Howard, Speaker Betty Boothroyd and MP Simon Burns, he was made an honorary member of the bar.

Later at a farewell drink at Headquarters he was showered with gifts from his friends and workmates.

DI Ken Luxford, head of the Force Intelligence Bureau where Larry worked, said: "Larry was a dedicated CID officer with a wealth of experience in the drugs field and will be a hard act to follow."

Larry, whose wife Maggie also works at Headquarters, joined Essex in 1964 moving to Headquarters about 10 years ago.



● Detective Larry Nevin with Simon Burns MP on a visit to the House of Commons.

Shocked by sudden death of Special

FAMILY, friends and colleagues were shocked in January by the sudden death of **Special Divisional Officer Ronald Ames**.

A BT engineer by occupation, Mr Ames had been a special since 1976 receiving the Long Service Medal 10 years on.

He died on January 16, having suffered pains throughout the day resulting in a heart attack. He was 45 years old and lived in Chelmsford. He leaves a wife and two daughters.

Essex Police also extends its sympathies to the families of the following police pensioners who died:

Ex-Insp Donald Bowler, of Suffolk, who retire from Essex Police

in 1964 having worked at a number of stations. He died on January 19, aged 88.

Ex-Sgt Edward Greenland, of Chelmsford, who retired from Essex Police in 1954 having worked at Grays and HQ. He died on February 15, aged 91.

Ex-Pc Eric Cummings, of Tiptree, who joined Essex Police in 1951 working at Romford, Harold Hill and Tolleshunt D'Arcy, and retired in 1980. He died on february 15, aged 81.

Former cleaner Edith Smith who worked at Witham Police Station between 1972 and 1994 when she retired on medical grounds.

Market Place . . . Market Place . . . Market Place . . .

1976 Sprite caravan, 4 berth, oven, cooker, fridge, stereo-radio, spare wheel etc, good condition, £725 ono. Pc Mowday on 0245 491491, Ednet 2778.
AMIGA A500 Computer with two disk drives, machine expanded to 2 meg, some software, £130. Rental Genlock for the budding video enthusiast, £40. Panasonic Vision Mixer. Digital production unit WJ-MX10, £400. Pc Alain Heaysman, on 0245 491491, Ednet 2674.
BMW 320, 4 door, PAS,

fully loaded alloy wheels, tax and MOT, red, 'C' reg, 1986, £2,695 ono. Contact Pc Allen on 0702 558636.
CORNWALL, Polperro. Chalet, sleeps 4/5, heated indoor and outdoor pools, club, all facilities, fully equipped, £60 to £200 per week. Craig Bailey on 0279 653570 or 0279 757601.
CYPRUS, Limassol, one bedroom apartment, sleeps four, all amenities. Two people £150 per week, £25 each additional person. Contact John Green on 0371 875841.

ELECTRIC organ. Elka C92, double keyboard with base pedals, seat, operating manual and songbooks, excellent condition, £300. Contact Pc George Lambeth on 0376 330722.
FAMILY caravan, Walton-on-the-Naze. Sleeps six, quiet site, five minutes from beach, TV, cooker, microwave, fridge, £100 any week includes gas and electric. Sgt Alan Smith on 0279 864330.
FIVE bedroom extended semi-detached house, separate dining room, utility room, ground floor cloaks, good sizes all round including garden, Rochford area, £92,500 ono. Contact Sgt Harle on 0702 545567.
FLYMO petrol cultivator, Briggs and Stratton 3.5 HP, engine, excellent condition, instruction sheets. No longer required. £100. Tony Blake on 0255 674601.
FOR rent, specious unfurnished two bed maisonette, private garage, fitted kitchen, Economy 7, including carpets and curtains, secluded close at Highwoods, Colchester, £375 pcm. Contact Pc Paul Dean on 0206 854850.
FOR sale, three bed end of terrace house in Southend.

UVPC double glazing to front, gas central heating, off street parking, some secondary glazing, vacant possession, freehold, £50,995. Contact Pc Groom on 0702 541483.
FRENCH cottage to let. Sleeps up to six, comfortable and fully equipped, situated in a pretty hamlet amid the countryside of the Loire Valley. Easy access to all the Chateaux of the Loire. Ideal to relax and unwind. John New on 0604 70320/8 or 0604 33144.
GIRLS cycle, pink, very good condition, suit 6-9 years, £35. Sgt Rawlingson on 0245 268661.
HOLIDAY farmhouse in Mide Pyrenees region of France. Sleeps 4, peaceful rural location, swimming, tennis and fishing close by. Jill Lambert on 0255 815616.
TWO girls cycles, Rayleigh Apple, 4 years, Honeybee 8 years, £10 each or £17 for both. Contact Supt Cotgrove on 0245 360262.
SOUTHERN Spain. Nerja, 2 double bed, self-contained apartment in private villa, own pool and gardens. Price per week for apartment is £100 (winter), £170 (August only) and £150 (summer).

Sue or Mike Gosling on 010-3452533298.
SPACIOUS two bed flat for sale, North Springfield, quiet location, off road parking, communal grounds, walking distance Chelmsford Town, well-maintained, £35,995 ono. Sue on 0702 231664.
STATIC home, six berth sited at Polzeath, Cornwall. Five minutes walk from sandy beach, self-contained, colour TV, most dates available, regret no dogs. Contact D Turner on 0375 846704
SUNBED, 5 x 5ft tubes, foldaway canopy, goggles, vgc, £75. Contact Sarah on 0245 491491, Ednet 2716 or 0277 217869.
VILAMOURA, Algarve Portugal, apartment to let. Two bedrooms, sleeps six, fully equipped, barbecue, patios front and rear. Contact Ex Pc Brian Spiers on 0268 748134.
VW Polo, 900cc, 'T' reg, white, eight months MOT, taxed, vgc, £420 ono. Contact A. Humphreys on 0245 468500.
WANTED, childminder, Roxwell, Writtle, Chelmsford area, from April for police officer's child,

five months old. Contact Pc Peter Mayo on 081 366 1212 ('D' team) or 0245 248829.
WANTED, motor cycle leathers, chest 42-44, leg 32-34. Reasonable price paid. Contact Mick Franklin on 0621 840110 or 0245 320333.
WANTED. Owners/users guide for Commodore PC20 personal computer, purchase or loan. Please help a computer illiterate. Pc Grant on 0245 491212, Ednet 3543.
BOOKS, clothes, bric a brac, required for charity shops in Chelmsford and Braintree (can collect). R. Clare on HQ 2527 or (01245) 250826.
FORD POPULAR 100E deluxe, white, 30,000 miles, immaculate cond., history, original 1962 logbook, MOT and tax, totally original and affordable classic car. £1,550. Pc. Spink, Harlow Police.
GOLF CLUBS, ten ping eye 2 beryllium copper irons three ping eye 2 woods. £450 ono. Pc. J. Coleman, Brentwood Police or 0245 227461.

House of Commons used in the series *First Among Equals*.

Returning to the hotel in the afternoon we will have evening dinner and leave after breakfast on the Sunday. It is hoped to travel home via Holmfirth (see Nora Batty's house) and *Last of the Summer Wine* country, then stop for lunch, arriving home early evening.

The Avant Hotel is a Croft Hotel situated some five miles from Manchester. It is furnished to a high standard and all rooms have private facilities, TV, phone, hairdryer and hospitality tray.

The cost of this trip will be between £90 and £100 per person according to admission charges to Granada.

The cost will include all coaches, half board at the hotel and entrance costs to Granada.

To gauge whether or not this would be a viable proposition (I need at least 40 people) I would be grateful if you could let me know if you are interested. I will then let you have full details and a booking form if I get enough support. Please phone me as soon as you can on 01245 353541.

Retirements

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

Insp John Worland, IT, 20 years (26.3.95).

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

Dc Barbara Washbrook, HQ CID, 30 years (30.4.95).

Dc Colin Campbell, HQ CDU, 30 years (4.4.95).

Pc Patrick Hanson, Harlow, 30 years (10.3.95).

Pc Suzanne Weekes, Colchester, 2 years (15.1.95).

Pc Paul Wilgress, Hullbridge, 30 years, (31.3.95).

N.A.R.P.O Notes

by Doug Rampling

EVERYONE by now should have received their copy of the new style *Narpo News* which has replaced the old *Bulletin*.

What do you think of it? Have you any comments about the make-up and content? If you have please let me know and I will pass anything constructive to the editor.

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WE should soon know what the pension increase will be for next April, but please do not get too excited as I doubt it will be much above two per cent, if that.

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IT is proposed that we run a weekend trip to Granada Studios and *Last of the Summer Wine* country, staying at the Avant Hotel in Oldham over the weekend of October 13, 14 and 15.

Leaving Chelmsford on the Friday we will travel to Oldham for evening dinner. Following breakfast we will travel to Granada Studios for a full day tour, which I understand is very interesting with attractions including visits to *Coronation Street* and the set of the

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

Blue Knights ready for the touring season

IT'S that time of year again, gently pushing your motorcycle out from the garage, with thoughts turning to the forthcoming riding season and the chance to renew old friendships across Europe and beyond.

The battery has been on charge for a couple of weeks, and the bike has had its pre-season service.

All you need now is some sunshine and dry roads.

At this time of year, every chapter announces its rally venue and dates, and the club members match those with long weekends off and booked annual leave. Well here we go:

France II: April 15 to 17 at Metz.

France V: May 6 to 8.

Belgium II: May 26 to 28.

Germany IV: May 26 to 28 at Bonn.

England II: June 9 to 11 at Redmire, Wensleydale.

Germany V: June 30 to July 2 at Merheart.

Belgium I: July 7 to 9 (European Conference)

England I: July 7 to 9 at Leasowe Castle, The Wirral.

Germany VI: July 21 to 23 at Munich.

Sweden: July 28 to 30 (£160 return ferry from Teesport).

England II: August 18 to 20 LONDON 1995 International Rally (based in Harlow).

Luxembourg: August 25 to 27.

Benelux: September 1 to 3.

If you fancy any of these rallies, or you are interested in marshalling at motor cycling events at Brands Hatch, or if you just want to ride out on a weekend, contact either Dave Knight on 0279 641212 ext 5691 or Dick Greaves at HQIR.



● **Marathon champion Eamonn Martin gives some training tips to Essex Police stalwarts Laurie Rampling (left) and Allan Barley. Picture courtesy of the Evening Echo.**

Searching for coppers on the streets of London

THE London Marathon for 1995 is upon us and the Force Marathon team is again going through its paces in readiness for the big event on Sunday, April 2, writes Laurie Rampling.

So successful was the fundraising effort on behalf of the Little Havens Children's Hospice appeal in last year's event, the decision was made to raise more cash for this worthwhile cause.

Memory

In doing so, the team aim to keep alive the memory of the man most responsible for their efforts, Maurice Brazier.

The team this year will consist of Pc Allan Barley (Chelmsford), Dc. Ian Rayner (Chelmsford), Sgt. Pete Bryan (HQ), DI Steve Bright (HQ), Insp Mervyn Fairweather (HQ), Pc Laurie

Rampling (Grays), Wpc Ronnie Potter (Chelmsford), Wpc Jan Adcock (HQ), Wpc Angie Scothern (Brentwood) and guest runner Jon Guy of the Southend Evening Echo.

The team has been greatly assisted once again, by Marathon winner of 1993, Basildon's Eamonn Martin, who has helped with the promotional side of the charity effort.

Sponsorship

Our sincere thanks to him and the Evening Echo for their support.

The message is the same this year as in the past. If you are offered a sponsorship form please dig deep.

The lads and lasses will certainly be digging deep into their reserves of energy over the gruelling 26.2 miles, in an estimated time of something approaching five hours. Please support them.

Essex wins trio of titles

THE No 5 Region Badminton Championships were hosted by Hampshire Police at the Mountbatten Centre in February.

The Essex team consisted of Andrea Hewitt, Julie Gowen, Martin Reed, Alec Draycott, Nick Treadway, Richard Edwards and Mick Thorp.

Julie Gowen successfully defended her Ladies Singles title by once again winning the Brighton Police Cup. Julie also managed, with Andrea, to win the ladies doubles by taking the Portsmouth City Police Cup away from holders Surrey.

Andrea had won this cup five times in the 1980s, playing with Sue Powl.

Martin and Alec took the Tony Armfield Cup from holders Thames Valley by winning the veterans men's doubles. This trophy was last won by Essex in 1982.

In the men's singles Richard played Surrey in the semi-finals. Surrey were in top form and put Richard out 15-5, 15-6, before going on to win the final.

In the men's doubles Nick and Richard were beaten in the semi-finals playing Surrey, losing 15-11, 15-10. It was a hard game

with some thrilling rallies. Hampshire took the men's doubles cup in the final against Surrey.

In the ladies singles Julie played a girl from Kent in a nail-biting semi-final which went to three sets. Julie eventually won 8-11, 11-3, 11-7.

In the final Julie had found her form as she took the game in two straight sets, 11-1, 11-1.

In the ladies doubles Julie and Andrea played Thames Valley in the semi-finals, winning 15-7, 15-5. They went on to win the finals against Surrey beating them 15-8, 15-12.

In the mixed doubles Andrea and Nick managed an easy win against the Hertfordshire pair in straight sets 15-3, 15-1. In the semi-finals they came up against an on-form Kent pair. Andrea and Nick took the game to three sets with some fine shots and exciting rallies but were eventually beaten 15-18, 15-3, 15-10. Eventual winners were the holders Surrey.

In the mixed veterans doubles Andrea and Martin beat Kent in the semi-finals 15-4, 15-8.

The final was the last game of the competition and the pair played well, taking defending champions Thames Valley to



● **Julie Gowen**

three sets but losing 15-10, 14-15, 15-8.

In the veterans men's doubles Martin and Alec played Thames Valley in the semi-finals taking the game 17-14, 15-10. The final, a hard game with some extremely long rallies against a pair from Sussex, went to three sets. Martin and Alec won 13-15, 15-10, 15-10 taking the Tony Armfield Cup home to Essex.

The winners now take part in the PAA 44th National Badminton Championships at the York Railway Institute on April 8 and 9.

Christmas shopping in the USA

FOLLOWING last year's successful long weekend Christmas shopping in New York, Essex Police Sports Association has arranged two separate weekend trips to either New York or Boston for December 1995.

1. Long Weekend in New York departing on Thursday, December 7, with four days and three nights in the Pennsylvania Hotel, which is a two star hotel situated in the heart of Manhattan, opposite Madison Square Gardens and near the Empire State Building. The cost is £299, this will include return flights on a regular scheduled airline to New York, transfers from airport to hotel and return, three nights accommodation and assisted airport check in.

The price does not include, insurance, taxes and air passenger duty, (last year this amounted to an

additional £57).

2. Long weekend in Boston, Massachusetts departing on either Thursday, December 7 or Friday, December 8, with four days and three nights at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, which is a four star Hotel, situated in the city centre. The cost is £310, this will include return flight with Virgin, all airport taxes and air passenger duty, transfers from airport to hotel, local Virgin representatives and 12 months membership to Club Excel, (which guarantees to beat any Holiday price you get by a minimum of 10 per cent).

This price does not include holiday insurance but they have agreed you can use the General Accident policy supplied by the Force Sports Association.

Both of these trips have optional excursions at special group rates.

BOOKING FORM

Please book..... places on the fabulous four day weekend shopping experience to New York/Boston. Departing on(date).
I/We enclose a deposit of £50 per person. This amount represents £27.20 deposit plus £22.80 recommended travel insurance, so I/we are fully covered from day one of booking.

Please accept my cheque made payable to Essex Police Sports Association
OR my Access/Visa card number is
Expiry date
Signed (cardholder)

Name: Mr/Mrs/Ms
Address.....
.....
Telephone number.....
Stationed at
Telephone number
Rooms required:
Double..... Twin..... Triple..... Single.....
(single rooms are subject to a supplement of £85 per person).

FORCE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

British Police Selection

DC John Stewart, Stansted Airport, has been selected to represent the English Police against the Welsh Police at Bowls, on April 5 in Cardiff.

Pistol Shooting

INSP Philip Webb, Clacton, Dc David Brooks, Basildon, Dc David Blaxland, Basildon and Pc Ian Pryke, Headquarters, have all been selected to represent the British Police in a series of matches against the Civil

Service on April 5 and 6, the Army on May 11 and 12 and the RAF on June 14 and 15. All these matches will be held at Bisley range in Surrey.

Force Lottery

£1,500 Pauline Jordt, Headquarters; £1,000 Sgt Kevin Jacobs, Colchester; £500 Ch/Insp David Wilkinson, Headquarters; £300 Pamela Dawson, Grays; £200 Patricia Rigby, Colchester; £100 Pc David Tidder, Brentwood Traffic.

The following will receive £50 consolation prizes:

Sgt Norman Britcher - Saffron Walden, Margaret Shaw - Grays, Pc Julien Loftus - Stanway Traffic, Gordon Oakley - Pensioner, Pc Janice O'Mahony - Clacton, Sgt Jack Lawman - Southend, Insp James Hutchins - Benfleet, Mr Geoffrey Markham - Headquarters, Dc Toby Larkin - Southend and Sandra Janman - Headquarters.

Croker Cup winners

SOUTHEND Division has retained the Croker Cup following its success in the race walk

event held at Essex University on March 12.

Table Tennis Final: Southend 7 Tendring 2.

Darts Final: Southend beat Rayleigh 4-1.

P.A.A. Squash

THE No5 Region PAA Squash Championships were held in February in Sussex.

The winner of the men's singles was Pc Jason Foster, Harlow, who will now compete in the national PAA event in Leicester.

Join the crew for the Fastnet

SKIPPER Richard Houghton is looking for crew for the third Essex Police entry into the Fastnet Yacht race.

The race starts on August 5 at Cowes, Isle of Wight. It proceeds out into the English Channel, then due west around Lands End and onto the Fastnet rock, situated just south of south west Eire.

Having rounded the rock it's all guns blazing back to Plymouth where, having spent five or six days at sea, there is a monumental party.

The total distance for the race is 606 miles but then the yacht has to be returned to the Hamble which adds to the mileage and the days on board.

Skipper Houghton said: "This will be my third and probably last entry into this race and I am looking for fit enthusiastic people to crew it."

"Positions are open to anyone who is an Essex Police employee. I am currently looking at yachts in the 40ft range and the cost will be approximately £300 per person. You would be required to take a week's leave.

Tenacity

"A common question is that of previous experience but I believe that character takes precedence over competence. Skills can be taught but you cannot teach someone tenacity.

"It takes a great deal of willpower to force yourself out of a warm sleeping bag and don your foul weather gear to face four dark hours with the wind screaming through the rigging being constantly drenched with sea spray. This race is not for the inconsiderate or faint hearted.

"I will predict that at times the crew will be wet, cold, scared, hungry and exhausted.

"However, you will experience wildlife at its best with visits from dolphins and maybe the odd shark, plus incredible stars and sunsets.

"And you will make life long friendships born of a shared endurance, because you will have participated in an exclusive, famous and respected yacht race.

If you feel you have the right character and the courage to join the crew, then drop me a line with your basic details.

I will send you an uncomplicated application form which will lead to interviews and final crew selection." Enquiries to Richard Houghton, IDU, Training Centre, Police HQ.

Making hockey history

IN the entire 14 year history of Essex Police men's hockey the team have never reached the finals of the nationals - until now.

In February the zone final was held at Chelmer park in Chelmsford with Essex Police playing host to Gloucester hockey team.

The winners stood to gain a trip to the national finals in Norfolk in April and the losers had the daunting task of facing the RUC in Belfast.

FULL OF PRIDE. The Essex Police men's hockey team pose for a team shot after beating Gloucestershire in the semi-finals of the PAA. It is the first time they have reached the finals in 14 years.



The game started with a vengeance and within three minutes, after a run down the right wing by Matt Brooking, a cross to Gary Franklin resulted in a superb goal.

Clearly disturbed by the bad start Gloucester lost momentum for the remain-

der of the first half and for a while it seemed that Essex were running the game.

The second half started somewhat differently however with Gloucester having all the play and making everything hard work for the whole team. With such pres-

sure on the defence a goal was inevitable and it came in open play about 20 minutes from full time.

During the remainder of the game frustration showed in both teams.

Seven minutes to go and people were already looking at extra time when a cross from Gary Franklin which eluded the Gloucester defence was forced home by Vic Murphy to put Essex in front.

What followed can only be described as Custer's last stand as every Essex player was committed to defending the lead, and when the final whistle went huge sighs of relief were made by one and all.

A tremendous effort and a place in the final for Essex for the first time.

Special thanks to our loyal supporters especially ACC Jim Conlan and his wife and Mrs Conlan for that extra boost when it was needed most.

On the ball!



● FANCY FOOTWORK. Insp John Stonehouse takes control of the ball but Great Wakering schoolboys home in for the tackle.

A TEAM of schoolboys came face to face with the long leg of the law, when Essex Police chief officers swapped their smart uniforms for a soccer strip to launch a charity tournament.

Assistant Chief Constable Charles Clark and Chief Superintendent John Rhymes led the attack for the launch of the Essex Police/Hi Tec football and netball tournament.

The team of senior officers took on youngsters from Great Wakering Primary School near Southend and the game came to a nail-biting end with a penalty shoot-out won by the schoolboys.

Top netball players from Lee Chapel School in Basildon also took on their police counterparts and this time it was the girls in blue who came up trumps.

The tournament was launched by Chief Constable John Burrow and Hi Tec Sports Managing Director Ashley Reynolds, both the schools taking part were winners of last year's event.

This year it is anticipated that 5,000 children will take part making it the most prestigious schools competition in the county.

It is the fifth consecutive year it has been held, providing a unique forum for all junior schools in Essex to show their sporting excellence, raise funds for charity and enable police to mix with youngsters giving them advice on crime prevention, drugs awareness and local crime.

The event gets underway with nine preliminary rounds, one in police division (excluding Stansted Airport).

The dates are Basildon (April 1),

Braintree (April 29), Colchester (May 6), Chelmsford (May 13), Thurrock (May 20), Rayleigh (May 27), Southend (June 3), Harlow (June 10) and Tendring (June 17).

Each round will be a family fun day with police displays, community officers giving advice and stalls raising cash for local charities.

The Grand Final will be held at Headquarters on Sunday, July 2.

Cruising the Med

A FABULOUS seven-night Mediterranean cruise is on offer through Essex Police Sports Association from just £399 per person.

The cruise sets sail on board the S.S. Symphony on June 24. The price includes return flights to Genoa and full board.

From Genoa, it sails to Barcelona, Palma, Ibiza, Tunis, Palermo and Capri, with optional excursions available at each port of call.

The £399 price is for a two-berth inside cabin, with supplements payable for twin or outside cabins.

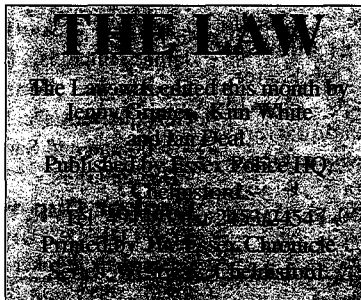
To take advantage of the special price, bookings must be made prior to April 24. For more information or to make your reservation, contact Force Sports Secretary Chris Jacob.

Watch the boxing

THE PAA Novice Boxing championships will be hosted by Essex Police at Garons Banqueting Suite in Southend on Friday, March 31.

A limited number of seating-only tickets are available, contact Dc Dave Lowe at Southend or Paul Maleary, Braintree CID.

If you require a dining table, contact Insp Bob Miller on ext. 3904 at Braintree.



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