House fire horror

THE FUNERALS of three children, all killed in a horrific house fire at Witham, were held last week.

The fire, which investigators say appears to be nothing more than a tragic accident, swept through the house in seconds entirely gutting the mid-terrace property in Cornel Close.

It is believed that four children had been playing upstairs in a bedroom when the fire took hold. Eleven-year-old Jordan Pierce was the only child to escape the blaze after he jumped out of the bed-room window to safety.

The children who died were later named as 6 year-old Anthony East, who lived at the house, and sisters Trisha and Aimee Collingwood aged six and two, also from Cornel Close.

One of the first police officers to attend the scene was Braintree Inspector, Malcolm Oakey, who said witnesses were totally bewildered by what they saw.

Many of the bystanders were in a semi-hysterical state and were at a total loss to understand what was happening. It took some time to be able to confirm who was in the house, he said.

Concern of camera results

TRAFFIC officers are alarmed by the results from speed cameras which have been installed on Western Esplanade in Southend.

In a joint initiative by Essex Police, Essex County Council and Southend Borough Council, the cameras have been placed to reduce the number of accidents in the area.

Over 2,000 speeding motorists were caught on camera exceeding the 30mph limit between April 9 and 17. One motorist was caught speeding at an unbelievable 99 mph.

Traffic Management Officer Brian Ladd that said although the initial figures gave rise for concern the numbers of offenders had begun to decline. “About 900 motorists were caught in the first two or three days but people are beginning to conform to the limit now,” he said.

Costing £50,000 and providing 24 hour enforcement, the equipment uses radar to calculate the speed of passing vehicles. If a motorist passes a camera at a certain speed it will automatically take two photos one second apart. The unit will record the vehicle’s registration number, speed, day, date and time.

The photo can then be used to prosecute offenders, who will receive a summons or fixed penalty ticket by post.

The cameras on Western Esplanade will be a permanent fixture as the road is heavily used particularly in the summer by day-trippers and other road users.

Brian Ladd said: “The cameras are an additional method of reinforcing the message to those motorists unwilling to heed speed limits. We do not want to fill the courts nor issue vast numbers of fixed penalties but those who ignore the speed limit will be prosecuted. It is the joint aim of Essex County Council, Essex Police and Southend Council to change attitudes to speeding making it as socially unacceptable as drink-driving.”

This week saw further bad news for road traffic offenders, as traffic light cameras have been installed in three Essex towns, Basildon, Chelmsford and Rayleigh.

ESSEX may not have an ideal number of police officers, but it is still riding high in the performance stakes, according to a recent report.

And chief officers have praised the commitment to quality which is clearly continuing despite significant pressures.

In the first national report of the Audit Commission, comparing performance levels of different forces, not only were there reductions in Essex crime and increases in detection, but also good responses to 999 calls and incident attendance.

Statistics revealed that crime levels were at 73.8 per cent (per 1,000 population) while the national average was as high as 96 per cent.

Reaction to immediate response incidents showed an 83 per cent success rate. These figures are working within the standards of 12 minutes to an urban location and 16 minutes if rural.

And yet the indicators used by the Commission for 1993/94 show that in Essex there are fewer officers per 1,000 population than the national average, coupled with a lower than average expenditure.

Remarking on the report, Deputy Chief Constable James Dickinson, said: “It is the joint aim of Chelmsford and Rawreth.

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**Federation Notes**

**Concern over Brightlingsea**

WE are now in our fourth month of certain demonstrations by animal rights protesters at Brightlingsea. To date the cost to Essex Police is almost £2m.

Most members will be aware of a letter written by Mr Markham to the residents of Brightlingsea recently, setting out clearly the problems and concerns and bringing to their attention the Public Order Act 1986 which covers such protests and to facilitate the use of the highway.

The provisions of this Act regarding processes have been used since April 18, 1995.

We are concerned to an escalation in the demonstrations but hopefully the matter will be quickly resolved so that Brightlingsea can revert back to some normality.

**Abuse**

Your Joint Branch Board has been concerned over the past months regarding the strain on officers, the abuse from some of the demonstrators and the psychological affect this is having on all the officers and their families.

I have raised the matter with the Police Committee and the Chief Constable and they have both echoed our concerns.

**Fumes**

Carole Anness from the Occupational Health Department has been asked to look at the effect on officers from the early starts, long duties, abuse and walking alongside the lorries inhaling diesel fumes and general level of sickness and morale.

We are also concerned regarding the affect on all other officers left to carry out the mainstream policing function. Resources are being stretched to the limit. Chief Officers are aware of our concerns and Mr Markham mentioned this in his letter to the Brightlingsea residents.

**Complaints**

Finally with regard to complaints made against police officers at Brightlingsea, if you need any advice or support give Dave Jones a ring on 01757 405612. He is the JBB Discipline Liaison Officer.

IT IS still no news from the Home Office regarding the proposed changes to the Police Pension Scheme.

It is now unlikely that we will hear anything about the Federation Conference in May. However, reassurances have been given that all officers in service will be protected under the old regulations.

**Overtime deal clarified for acting inspectors**

Since the pay negotiations that took place during 1994 and the new rates of pay for Inspectors, which included a lump sum buy out of overtime provisions, there seems to have been some confusion as to the entitlement to overtime for sergeants acting as inspectors.

This was clarified by the official of the Police Negotiating Board, the regulation dealing with temporary salary was not amended to deal with the question of overtime.

**Agreement**

On March 28 this year, an agreement was reached which will clarify the situation for the future as and when overtime is bought into the negotiations.

The situation which has existed since September 1, 1994 is as follows: During the 14 day qualifying period, an acting inspector is paid at the sergeant’s rate of pay and is entitled to claim any overtime, including rest day and bank holiday working.

After the 14 day qualifying period, an acting inspector would be paid at a proportion of the inspector’s rate of pay.

They would, however, still be entitled to receive payment for any overtime, including working rest days with less than 15 days notice or bank holidays.

This, according to our legal advice, should be based on the inspector’s rate of pay.

Any officer who feels he or she is entitled to payment, as outlined above, should submit a claim to the Finance Department.

**Difficulties**

If their claim is not met or they experience any difficulties or require further advice on this issue, can they please write with full details to Brian Pallant, the Joint Branch Board Secretary.

When new regulations come out later this year, the situation will be as follows:

After the 14 day qualifying period, an inspector will be paid at a proportion of the inspector’s rate of pay and no claim will be entertained in respect of overtime worked on ordinary day’s duty.

If they are required to work on a rest day with short notice or on a bank holiday, the rate of pay will be paid at the substantive rate of pay for a sergeant.

At present, we do not have a date for the new regulations but, as soon as they change, we will let you know.

**Police house discount scheme**

For some years in Essex, we have enjoyed a scheme for the discount sale of police houses.

The Inland Revenue has now stated that it thinks the amount between the discount price and the market value should be taxed.

I have written for legal advice on the matter as to (a) whether there is a tax allowable for employees and (b) if the answer is yes, should it be the member or Police Authority that is liable for any such tax.

All those affected would have received a letter from the Force setting out the position. I will keep you apprised of any developments over time.

This does not include the substantial likely costs of funding industrial tribunal in the future. However, there is some concern from members as to whether the increase levels are correct.

Any comments you might have should be directed to your local representative.

**Spectacles**

Nationally negotiations are going on with the Home Office as to whether officers should continue to receive reimbursement for their allowed spectacles.

In Essex they are supplied free of charge.

At the same time the Inland Revenue are suggesting that it may be a tax trap for the future.

I am also seeking advice on this.

**Sick Pay**

New regulations with regard to sick pay came into effect in September.

They affect officers on long term sick leave after September 1.

I am currently in negotiations with the ACPO concerning protection for officers injured on duty.

When we have agreed a feasible force policy, then your J.B.B. will consider whether or not there is a need to negotiate any additional insurance cover to meet the shortfall in pay.

At the same time, the agreement on April 13 has changed the way sickness benefit and invalidity benefit are paid. The two are now replaced by an incapacity benefit.

The incapacity benefit is only payable after an officer has been off sick for a continuous period of 8 weeks.

Any person on long term sick that needs financial help, give me a ring in the Federation Office.

**Success for Rayleigh at Crime Awards**

The Rapide team, Ch/Ins Ray Newman, PC Mo Chaplin and DI Steve Currell accept their award.

RAYLEIGH Police has won the individual category at the Essex Against Crime Awards for its Rapide project.

The initiative aims to deal more effectively with domestic violence, reducing domestic crime by demonstrating a positive attitude to, the police will arrest if a criminal offence has been committed. They will also reduce risk of attack and fear of crime by issuing victims with panic alarms and mobile phones.

As a result of the project over 90 per cent of persons arrested did not re-offend.

Around 200 guests and dignitaries from all over the county joined Chief Constable John Burrow for the High Sheriff’s awards at County Hall. This out of more than 30 entries, competition was fierce with prize winners in other categories this year as diverse as play schemes, security for the elderly and anti-drug and bullying.

Public Agencies Category - Help the Aged/Eastern Electricity Home Safety Project for Elderly Police. The initiative included installing home safety equipment including smoke detectors and security devices; Commercial Organisations Category - LTS Rail, Southend for cutting the levels of assaults and vandalism in the Tilbury area by 80 per cent.

**OASIS**

Help the bullseye

DARTS fanatics will love a charity fundraising event being organised by HQ Purchasing Assistant, Dave Hatwell.

Dave has put together an evening of fun, based on the popular tv quiz show Bullseye. Players will be tasked with answering general knowledge questions and then with a dart of a dart would stand a chance of winning some great prizes including a weekend in Paris. All prizes have been donated by businesses in the Braintree area.

All proceeds from the event will go to The Little Haven Children’s Hospice in Southend.

All the fun will take place at Braintree Rugby Club on Friday, May 19 from 7.30pm to 1am. Tickets cost £5 which includes a buffet and a bar will also be open for those with a thirst. Numbers are limited to 150 people and you are advised to buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment - Dave Hatwell can be contacted on ext 51526.

**ESSEX POLICE BAND**

PARK PAVILION, DOVERCOURT

SUNDAY 21st MAY 1995

7PM

Tickets £3.50

Available from Harwich Police Station (Admin), Ext 19110
called the police when
SHOCKED holiday
told the sex organs
an examination,
which had been cut off
the garden overnight.
Unfortunately things
got from better to
good. A note pushed through
the letterbox that she had given her
the family, the mother
promised it
wouldn't happen again!

Ken will be badly missed

AFTER a brave six month
battle against cancer, headquartred
sergeant, Ken Dodd has
lost his fight against the
disease. Ken, who was only 50,
died peacefully at home
on March 29 with his
wife Jean and four
children at his bedside.

Described as fun-loving and a dedicated family
man, Ken will be missed
by the many people he
met during his 15 years
with the service.

Colleague and close friend Sgt Neil
Seymour, who worked with Ken in HQ Crime Prevention,
said he felt he had lost his right arm

"Ken was dedicated to Crime Prevention, and
was very highly thought of throughout the Force. He was very much the
good guy and always ready to listen," he said.

In 1992 Ken received a national award for
pioneering the highly successful Sold Secure
scheme - which encourages car dealers to sell
both new and used cars with a range of security
devices fitted. Today the scheme continues to
be popular across the country.

Ken was diagnosed with cancer last
September after he was treated in hospital for a
routine appendix removal operation.
Neil Seymour said Ken showed real bravery in
this last battle. "He coped very well knowing
the end was coming, he never moaned while he
was in pain with the cancer and still managed a
joke."

Even in his last days Ken showed his humour
when ACC Jim Conlan paid a visit, Ken sat up
in bed and gave a smart salute as the ACC entered the room.

The funeral took place at St Mary’s Church
in Corringham, Kent. Ken’s coffin was draped with the
Essex Police flag, on top of which was
placed his police helmet.
The Chief Constable and many other police
officers including some from Ken’s previous
posts at Tilbury, Grays, Corringham and
Canvey, joined with his family for the service.

Police officers everywhere Essex have been issued with lami-
nated cards to help them remember the new lengthy caution
to be used at the time of arrest, writes Ian Deal.
The 37 word caution introduced on
10 April gives suspects a clear warn-
ing that it could be to their disadvan-
tage if they choose to remain silent either at, or after arrest.

The previous caution containing around 20 words had remained
unchanged for over 30 years but the 1994 Criminal Justice
and Public Order Act prompted a re-wording. At one stage
a new word caution looked likely but it was seen as unman-
ageable and the figure was reduced.

Criminal Justice Department
Inspector, Lionel Thomas,
stressed that suspects must be
read the caution at the time of
arrest. “Minor deviations from
the wording do not matter as long
as the sense of the caution is
preserved,” he said.

If the suspect does not appear to understand
the meaning of the caution, the officer
should explain it in their own words.

 Federation Secretary Dave Jones
said: "The new caution is far more
understandable and it has the right
touch of silence issue has been addressed.

The length of the new caution is far
to firmly establish the innocence of suspects. Newly
designed forms have also been phased in on subjects relating to identification parades, stop and
search powers and the new condi-
tional bail powers. The new-style forms published by the Home Office in conjunction with ACPO, require
the input of more information than ever before.

Inspector Thomas admits the introduction of the forms had been rushed: “We have had very
tight deadlines imposed by the Home Office to produce the forms, prepare back-up materials and
give it all out to the divisions. There is a lot of new information for officers to take in including
many changes to the Police and Crime Evidence Act Codes Of
Practice. The Act and its provi-
sions have been very fragmented in implication.”

Recent editions of Policy Guidelines (Green) explain the
changes further - there are also
distance learning packages available from the Training Centre
which relate to the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act.
Further sections are likely to be added to the Act later in the year,
gen generally relating to court procedure.

You do not have to say
anything. But it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence.

Essex officers join in with VE celebrations

NEARLY 30 police officers from across Essex have been given
the chance to assist with VE
Celebrations on May 7 at St
Paul’s Cathedral.

Many of the officers attending the event have been chosen as they have
spent much of their time dealing
with stressful situations at Brightlingsea.

Representing Essex Police, the
officers will join with other Forces in policing the route to the Church’s West Door.

The event will be attended by members of the Royal Family and over 50 heads of state.

Insp Dave Halsey from Tendring said: “To be part of a national occa-
sion 50 years from VE day is very nice, it only happens once. It will be a
very special day, but I’m sure we will enjoy the atmosphere. It will be a
nice change from Brightlingsea, policing a happy
crowd,” he said.

A month of change

Friday, May 12

A month of change

A month of change

A month of change

A month of change

A month of change

A month of change

A month of change

A month of change

Sickness levels drop

ESSEX police officers were second healthiest in the
country in 1993, averaging just 8.4 days sickness per
officer. The past year has seen this figure drop to 7.6
days, including long-term illness and injuries on
duty.
The civilian sickness record has also dropped by
almost 50 per cent bringing Essex Police among the
healthiest in the country.

In 1992, Essex officers took a total of 18,968 sick days, an
average of 14.8 days per person. A year on, the
figure averages 8.9 days per person, a total of
12,940 days.

Effectively the difference means that an extra 25
staff were available throughout the year compared to
the previous year.

The success in reducing sickness absences has been
attributed to the Force sickness monitoring pol-
icy and the introduction of an in-house occupational
health team under the leadership of Carol Anness.

Excellent news

From September 1, police officers will be under
the same conditions of sickness as civilians. This
means that in any rolling 12 months, if any officer is
sick for six months then he/she goes on half pay.
If sick for 12 months the officer goes on full
pay.

However, regulations do allow for an officer to
take up to 12 months leave to deal with
sickness and conditions be

equal in the country.

The HML’s have made favourable comments regarding our low sickness figures.

THE LAW, MAY 1995

for sea rescue

A CONSTABLE, who
helped save a drowning
man, has been awarded by
the Royal Humane Society.

Pc Neil Green, along with
civilian Michael Cane, of
Canvey Island, gallantly
saved the life of a man
who was trapped in the Thames
at 4.30am on May 1.

At a ceremony last month, the pair were presented with
Royal Humane Society cer-
tificates by the High Sheriff
of Essex, Christopher
Povey.

Woman saved by air crews

THE police helicopter’s
thermal imaging camera
proved it’s worth again
when it helped locate a
missing suicidal woman.
The incident happened
in the north of the county
about 11 in the evening.
The woman had driven
off her car and was in
homeless and moments
when the camera located the heat source.

By shining a spotlight
on the area it was then
able to guide an ambu-

ance crew to the woman
who was now back in the
care of her family.

Had it not been for
the camera it is believed
the suicide attempt
would probably have been
successful.
**Compassion is not rationed**

HAVING just received the March issue of *The Law* and having read the letter with the contentious headline ‘A fox is no saint’, I feel I must write to you to answer some of the rhetorical rubbish Walter Ablett has written.

In saying that if wildlife were not controlled, vegetation would starve, is being, quite frankly, ridiculous. The only time that could grow nothing without rabbit-proof fencing, wire cages etc. But we decided any venison control would be done naturally.

We farmed for wildlife by increasing available cover, leaving untouched headlands, actually building up dens suitable for foxes. Quite quickly foxes took up residence and the rabbit problem is kept under control by these natural poachers.

In saying that if wildlife were not controlled, we are a ‘Holiday Park’, it’s not always easy. We get vandalism, but now-a-days because there are atrocities in animal husbandry and welfare going on all the time we should give up and do nothing about it if any of them.

We all have something we feel strongly about. It must be dreadful for some people to think we all have more than enough to go around.

Whatever that final straw is, is immaterial, the cheering thing is there is in the human spirit enough compassion to take that step.

What Mr Ablett is in effect saying is that because there are atrocities in animal husbandry and welfare, we should use all the power at our disposal and have no effect whatsoever on our wellbeing.

We started the original issue of *The Law* in 1995. It is now receiving on animal rights are beginning to drift a little from the original issue involving the policing of such events as Brightlingsea and fox hunts. While I would think that the animal rights debate be brought to a close, I would still welcome letters from serving and non-serving officers and staff on the subject of Brightlingsea or any other issue affecting the police service.

Kim White.

**Grateful support at a time of need**

THE family of Les Digings would like to thank the Essex Police and his colleagues for their total support shown at his funeral on March 16.

A very sad occasion will always be remembered and treasured.

Mrs Joyce Digings
Leigh-on-Sea

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**LAW and Order will continue to wear my uniform**

**In June 1989 I took the bold step of becoming Co-ordinator for Neighbourhood Watch on Kings Holiday Park. I took it on because I felt that it was a very worthwhile scheme, also the fact I wanted to keep my ‘grey matter’ active.**

We started with eight of us, but now we are down to six. We have had so much literature to issue out to over 200 homes, cups and cycles marked, marking valuables in the home, I admit it hasn’t been too successful as people think you are being nosey. We have tried to explain it to people, I say if you’re not happy do something about it, don’t just moan among yourselves.

Public and force pensioners have been very helpful towards us. We have had no reply I get the next neighbour, if I get no reply I get the next neighbour, I feel this is essential more so if the occupier is his or her own.

The public are the hardest to deal with. I have been told ‘I want my brains tested’, why so much do I get paid for it, ‘you shouldn’t be doing police work’ , I don’t do police work, I don’t feel the beat and we are not vigilantes.

This park to me is like a village and we should be watchful of each other, because we are a ‘Holiday Park’, it’s not always easy. We get vandalism, but now-a-days who doesn’t, but we must all try to combat it.

I say if you’re not happy do something about it, don’t just moan among yourselves. I haven’t shares in the police force, but with the cutbacks etc, they are doing the best and they can’t be in two places at the same time.

I hope they know that myself and the helpers are doing their time in this noble ability, and I have always been treated by them and fellows with the utmost courtesy.

Roll on Spring so we can get out and about on looking at animals and meeting new neighbours.

Ivy Turner
NW Coordinator
Kings Holiday Park, Castle Point

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**Help your local hospice as you earn**

IT IS five years since the Essex County Council introduced the Give As You Earn scheme through this scheme. Of course one of the Essex hospice fundraisers and knowing that a number of forces are still working hard to support their local hospice.

Surely these people knew, how much do I get paid for it, ‘you shouldn’t be doing police work’. I don’t do police work, I don’t feel the beat and we are not vigilantes.

As a thought, I would remind you on shift, on division, the civilian staff are vastly outnumbered by uniformed officers. Would they expect the shift to change out of uniform on dividend? If that is the case, would they feel more at ease? I think not, why should they happen at the Training Centre.

Mrs Mary Jordan and family

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**Consultative Committee, The Training Centre**

JUST a note to let you know what the holiday I went to last winter at the Oasiz Lanz Club was like.

The weather was good and the complex was lovely. Everything was in working distance.

We had free use of the gym, sauna and jacuzzi. I’d recommend the resort to anyone.

Lauren Crane
Traffic Warden, Southend

**Sincere Thanks**

I WOULD like to thank all colleagues and friends for the floral tributes in memory of my husband Ken.

It was wonderful to see so many representatives at the funeral service. Ken enjoyed every minute of that time with Essex Police and made many, many friends. Thank you all, you are magnificent.

Jean Dodd
London E-Dep.
Standing orders thrown on scrapheap

LOVE them or loathe them, Standing Orders have had their day and are being phased out of Essex Police.

The documents, referred to by many as the ‘Bible’, have for years laid down the do’s and don’ts of how things should be done in Essex Police. But none to it should have be done “this is how it should have be done” echoing around the station.

Modern

It is respected that Standing Orders did have their place in the Service but in today’s Essex Police, which is striving to become a modern thinking Police, which is striving to take in.

Every do’s and don’ts attached to Standards many areas of policing theory were re-examined and it soon became apparent that many of the documents did’s and don’t’s attached to them needed updating.

On May 15 bright red folders will start appearing in stations - labelled Operational Policy and Guideline (OPG), the contents will complement existing SDS’ and will eventually replace many of the Standing Orders.

Every SDS will be cross referenced with an OPG so for instance the SDS Dealing With Road Death will have a corresponding OPG which will have additional guidance on the subject.

User-friendly

Headquarters Chief Inspector, David Westoby, said: “The new OPG’s should give officers a better idea of what is expected of them. The design of the documents will be more user-friendly to follow. Because of this, we hope, more often referred to.”

Initially 11 OPG’s will be introduced to support all but one of the current SDS. The missing OPG’s, Preparation and Submission of Evidence Files, will follow shortly.

Later in the year a further black folder will appear labelled General Policy and Guidance of which will contain any remaining information left over from Standing Orders not contained in a SDS.

Legal demos at Brightlingsea could help reduce police presence

THE TIDE may have turned at Brightlingsea, according to Assistant Chief Constable Geoff Markham, “I can see things gradually becoming quieter, with the town returning to the type of normality it has not seen for some-time,” he said.

The bold statement follows a difficult month for the Force, with protests at times turning violent after demonstrators were told they had to comply with the Public Order Act 1986 from April 18.

The decision to use the Act came after movements in the town were restricted to normal working days and concerns that the onset of warmer weather could lead to beat exhaustion for animals if lorry’s are kept moving. There were also concerns over the increase cost of policing the protest, and the drain of police resources, together with further complaints from residents in the town regarding congestion.

The Act stipulates six days written notice must be given if it is the intention to hold a public procession. It can impose any reasonable restriction on the procession.

Letters were sent to every resident of the town giving them over a week to digest the meaning of the Act.

First to react was BALE (Brightlingsea Against Live Exports), the group decided to demonstrate against the Act, and with sensible negotiation, it would be possible for the numbers of officers at Brightlingsea to be reduced, for demonstration to make their point heard, and for lorry’s not to be held accountable for the unlawful behaviour of others when they have made a serious attempt to comply with conditions laid down to the procession.

Mr Markham said he was sure that by working within the confines of the Act, and with sensitive negotiation, it would be possible for the numbers of officers at Brightlingsea to be reduced, for demonstration to make their point heard, and for lorry’s not to be allowed their lawful use of the road.

To have reached this stage Mr Markham says it is down to the professionalism of the officers on duty at the port.

“Officer’s have come under intense pressure but have yet again acted professionally, they have done a marvellous job. I am convinced that it is because of this we can go forward and continue negotiations with the community,” he said.

Aiming for racial equality

IN a continued and determined effort to eliminate racial harassment, Essex Police has held its fourth annual Race relations Conference.

The aim of the conference was to provide a forum to share information, identify good practice and devise an action plan for the year - the ultimate goal being racial equality.

Members of the media were invited along and speakers included Aubrey Rose, from the Commission of Racial Equality, ACC (O) Geoffrey Markham, Social Services Director Mike Leadbetter, County Education Officer Paul Lincoln and Richard Howin MEP on behalf of the European Committee Against Racism.

Preparation and SDS. The missing OPG, the information left over from Standing Orders not contained in a SDS.

DOG handler Phil O’Connell did Essex proud last month when he achieved 9th place in the national dog trials held in York.

Along with German Shepherd Jack, Phil competed against 30 of the top pairs in the country in very strong competition. He had already gained first place in the regional trials in the early part of this year.

While Dog Section Inspector Rod Barrett praised him for his excellent performance, Phil was a touch more modest.

“Personally I’m disappointed, but I’m pleased with our best. The competition was very tight and the winning dog was cracking.

“It’s just unfortunate that on a couple of exercises Jack didn’t perform as well as he could have.”

Even so top 10 in the country is not to be sniffed at.

THE LAW, MAY 1995

5

Any old iron?

Billerica officers and support staff make use of the station’s front lawn as they wait patiently for donations of gym equipment.
Vehicle repairs to remain in-Force

VEHICLE repairs and maintenance work is not to be contracted out under the Government's Compulsory Competitive Tendering Scheme.

Initially it was agreed that 40 per cent of the work, excluding accident repair, would be contracted out.

Since the announcement the vehicle services department has become a highly competitive unit.

A business plan outlining the major influences on vehicle services was devised for approval by the then Police Committee back in March 1994.

The unit currently operates from five locations, namely Headquarters, Southend, Laindon, Stanway and Harlow but with a continuing decline in vehicle maintenance work it was decided that five sites were clearly not needed.

It was thought the best option would be to reduce the number of locations to four. This would be centralised in Southend, introducing extended working hours at the other locations and a collection and delivery service between Southend and Laindon.

On the eve of the presentation of the plan to the Shadow Police Authority the Home Secretary announced that Compulsory Competitive Tendering would no longer be extended to vehicle maintenance.

But a decision was made to continue with the business plan regardless.

Head of Administrative and Technical Services, Peter Crook, said: "Vehicle Services will not now be put out to tender but the business unit will enjoy stability as an organisation and develop its services within force requirements."

Future plans for tender

PLANS to extend Compulsory Competitive Tendering to white collar support services were announced in February by the Home Secretary.

The interpretation of this is that Essex Police should prepare itself to comply with any implementation, parallel with Essex County Council, which at present is subject to reorganisation.

The timetable for services to be put out to tender are currently set out as follows:
- 45 per cent of legal services by April 1999;
- 65 per cent of construction and property services by April 1999;
- 35 per cent of finance by October 1999;
- 25 per cent of personnel by October 1999;
- 70 per cent of information and technology by October 2000.

However, Essex Police has been developing a strategy for Compulsory Competitive Tendering over recent years under the direction of a CCT steering group.

Headed by Assistant Chief Constable Charles Clark the group will continue to consult and negotiate in the best interests of Essex Police and its employees, fully aware of the uncertainty surrounding CCT.

The Force will be looking to deal with the requirement to tender services in the best possible way both for the Force and those involved.

Full consultation will take place with staff and their representatives and a helpline will be available.

A helpline has already been set up for anyone concerned about the implications.

The number is 54054.

Healthy roadshows

IT was well past Valentine's Day, but the dozens of headquarters staff who visited the health promotion roadshows in April had just one thing on mind - looking after their hearts.

Displays in the Assembly Hall included advice on healthy eating, the perils of smoking, the benefits of alcohol and safe alcohol limits and how to exercise effectively.

Organised by the Essex Police Look After Your Heart Committee, the roadshows, run by North Essex Health Promotion, visitors had the chance to test the amount of carbon monoxide in their breath, drink a non-alcoholic cocktail and to monitor their heart rate.

After taking in all the information on offer, visitors also had the chance to enter healthy eating competitions.

Training Centre PTs Justin Beacher and Kevin Nowell were on hand to give advice on healthy exercise.

Look out for similar displays in your division.

The familiar livery of the Battenburg car.

THE chequered livery of the Battenburg car has become a familiar sight on the motorway and looks set to become a permanent feature.

It was back in 1989 that the late HM Inspector of Roads, Dave Hughes explained: "The fingerprint is unique, unlike DNA where identical twins and triplets all have the same make-up, no one has the same fingerprint."

Two thirds of the fingerprints from scenes are recovered fairly easily, though the rest need to be enhanced and require further attention at the Headquarters Scenes Of Crime Laboratory.

Essex has one of the best equipped and most professionally staffed laboratories in the country. The team of police and civilian staff operate a type of production line chemically enhancing fingerprints on objects from knives to doorknobs.

The work is time intensive and requires high concentration and patience. When 78-year-old Ron Couiss’ was murdered laboratory staff chemically enhanced over 500 prints.

A variety of methods can be used to enhance fingerprints, some systems have been used for years, others modern techniques use lasers.

The system in use is the super glue cabinet, fumes from the glue are passed over the objects and any fingerprint present reacts with the fumes and shows up in white.

Essex is the only Force in the country lucky enough to have a Periphery Camera, there are only two others in England. Although the camera is technically the property of the Home Office it is on indefinite loan to Essex Police.

The camera, which Scenes Of Crime staff say is priceless, can be used to photograph curved surfaces without distortion. The object rotates on a turntable at the same rate at which the film moves across a stationary slit through which light is focused.

In the 1993 Molly Ricketts murder, again in Chelmsford, laboratory staff were able to obtain a clear photograph of fingerprints found on a cable that had been pulled out of the telephone socket.

Previous this would have been difficult to obtain a good enough reproduction of the fingerprint for the force.

The success of the Section is down to team work within the Scientific Support Department which includes the Fingerprint Bureau and Photographic Department.

Last year the Fingerprint Bureau came fourth in the country for matching fingerprints, over 2,000 successful identifications were carried out.

"We entirely rely on the expertise of the staff in all sections of the department, they can't afford to rush their jobs, they know they have to obtain the best results," said DH Hughes.

DNA database

CRIMINALS who re-offend have an increased chance of being traced with the introduction of a national DNA database.

See as the biggest breakthrough since the fingerprint, the system went operational earlier this month.

All police forces in Essex have been trained on how to take DNA samples from people. Any person charged or reported for such offences including rape, murder, robbery assault or even burglary would be liable to have an entry on the database. Samples can be taken from blood, body hair or most commonly, by using a swab to extract saliva from the mouth.

The 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act dictates that force can be used to take a sample from a person should they resist.

Prison collection

GROUP 4 will take over all prison collection services from July 1 saving the police officers precious hours spent on transport and court duties.

Essex is the third Force to be affected by the programme which aims to put these services out to tender nationwide. Humberside and the Metropolitan Police areas have already successfully marked their territory.

Although it is essentially an agreement between the Home Office and the prison service it obviously has the potential to reduce the amount of time police officers need to spend on escort and court duties.

When Group 4 Court Services Ltd won the

Feature by Ian Deal and Norman Hicks

First up front

Essex Police ranks top place in the UK when it comes to finding fingerprints at the scene of a crime, according to 1994 Home Office figures.

The Scenes Of Crime Department attended nearly 24,000 incidents last year and successfully recovered fingerprints from over half of them.

The humble fingerprint is today still seen as the chief clue to solving many crimes. Scenes Of Crime DI Dave Hughes said: "The fingerprint is unique, unlike DNA where identical twins and triplets all have the same make-up, no one has the same fingerprint."

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A credit to Essex as demos continue

Officer rescues pensioner from fire

The life of a pensioner was saved when a special constable and a regular officer dragged him from his smoke-filled home. Sc Ian Walker and PC Geoff Edwards risked their own lives when they were called to the fire back in November last year.

The officers, aged 28 and 25, forced their way into the house in Dart Green, South Ockendon to be faced by a thick blanket of smoke.

They began to search for signs of life and discovered the 70-year-old owner of the property in a front room.

He was in a disorientated state, suffering from the effects of smoke inhalation, and had his trusty dog by his side.

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

COURAGE

Praising the officers’ courage, Thurrock Division Chief Inspector Mike Holynak said: “The two officers acted in the finest traditions of Essex Police. We are very proud of them.”

Another act of bravery earned Special Constable Philip Wors, of Pines, a Chief Constable’s Commendation, which was presented to him in January.

The award was made for Philip’s "prompt and positive actions", when he discovered a fire in a downstairs flat, while he was off duty.

He called the rescue services and forced his way into the flat, immediately above the seat of the fire, and led to safety an elderly man, who was suffering from smoke inhalation.

Come for a special tour of FIB

Out of the hundreds of people who visited the HQ Force Intelligence Bureau last year, not one of them was a member of the Special Constabulary.

Now staff are throwing open their doors in a bid to encourage specials to pay a visit and find out how FIB can help them in their policing tasks.

Bureau Detective Sergeant, Pat McCarthy said: “The specials are just as much a part of the service as any other officer, they have as much right to use our services and we would love to show them around and explain what we do.”

The Bureau collates large amounts of information each day relating to drug dealers, armed robberies, burglary trends, identity offences and much more besides.

Information is fed through to the department from all divisions in the county together with other forces across the UK and beyond. Information is then fed into a variety of computer systems so data can be called up instantly at the touch of button. For instance, one of the computers holds details of the serial numbers of all stolen property from across the county.

Any member of the Special Constabulary who would like a tour of the bureau can give Lyn Paton a call on extension 52460.
**Town centre trial hailed a success**

SOUTHEND’S High Street Unit has been using Specials on temporary attachment for the past six months and has hailed the experiment a success.

The first batch of Special Constables to complete their attachments were Tim O’Rourke, Terry Hobbs and Gary Bailey, who responded well to their initial training and were soon able to perform most tasks with a minimum of supervision.

Sgt John Walker, of the High Street Unit, commented: “All the Special Constables were soon able to work independently, or as part of a team, and became a valuable part of the unit.”

Between them they arrested more than 100 prisoners and, once the Brightlingsea operation got under way, were often the only officers available to liaise between the unit and Southend’s High Street stores.

Said Sgt Walker: “Perhaps the most pleasing aspect of the attachments has been the response of the regular officers to the Specials. They readily accepted them and treated them as equals.

“I think that if the Special Constables in the future show the same enthusiasm and endeavour, then this new attachment scheme will be a tremendous success,” he added.

**Medals of long service**

AT today’s Muster Parade, Chief Constable John Burrow will present long service awards to eight specials.

Medals will be awarded to Section Officers Terence Hills and Gary Taylor; Beat Supervisor Paul Shewbridge and Special Constables Ian Beatwell, Donna Hindle, Richard Legg, Andrew Potter and Mark Rowley-Guyon, who have each completed nine years’ service.

Mr Burrow will present the Norman Dooley Trophy to Special Constable Michael Reed, for his actions in going to the assistance of a shopkeeper, who was being robbed outside his shop.

**Decrease**

The Salter Cup will be presented to Basildon for the most duties.

The Special Constabulary of Essex Police stood at 690 at the end of 1994, compared to 751 in the previous year - a decrease of 8.1 per cent.

This represents 453 male officers and 237 female officers.

Recruiting, which had been suspended in January and February, has re-started, with application forms being sent to those on the waiting list.

A Home Office advertising campaign last year attracted more than 500 enquiries from men and women wanting to find out more about joining the Essex specials.

**Foreign visitor watches officers swap roles**

WHEN the Sri Lankan Police Force decided to improve its public order techniques, Essex Police were put forward by the British Commonwealth Office as the ideal tutors.

As a result, Ignatius Canagaretam, from Colombo, visited a training exercise at Wethersfield, in which the role of animal rights activists was played with great enthusiasm by members of Essex Police Special Constabulary.

After watching the demo, Mr Canagaretam sat in on long truncheon training.

He said: “We have a public order problem in our country and we are keen to see the latest techniques.

“Our resources are limited and we are interested in the system used over here whereby each county has its own public order resources, which are pooled together in the event of a national incident.”

**How time**

- Ron Wiffen (front row, second from right) stands on ceremony with the rest of Brentwood Division who were competing against the City of London and Southend-on-Sea Borough Specials for the Neville Trophy.

A RECENT addition to the Essex Police Museum is a set of photographs from former special constable Ronald Wiffen.

One of the events the photos depict are the Salter Cup and De Rougemont Trophy competitions over 30 years ago.

- Police Headquarters may be a familiar site. These photos were taken in the 1960s competitions.

- Winners of the trophies that year were Ron’s division at Brentwood. The smiles say it all.
Learning the language of the Law

DAY ONE. Here I am, suited and booted, standing in the front office of the station. Outside it is raining and the weatherman says it is for the day.

"Special Constable Shane Bartley, you are out today with PC Radford," says the "A" shift sergeant. Nervous and overstimulated by it all, I grab my radio and follow the largest figure leading me through the station to the yard at the rear.

I am checking my kit. I grab the telephone handset and offer it awkwardly to PC Radford.

"Call me Steve, and it's coming through your PR!" Again he answers the voice. We are moving, quick to now.

"We're going to a crime in Chadwell." Well, I understood the Chadwell part.

We arrive in Chadwell, near to the flats, only to find that the person's responsible have disappeared.

Out of the car and walking around the scene, we find glass from a telephone box lining the pathway, but there is no one about.

"Shane, call FD on your PR and update them. We have arrived on the scene, only to shout. The glass from the TK is broken and persons unknown have left the scene...oh, and ask who the person reporting was and their HA."

Gulp! OK Shane, think straight. What did Steve do earlier?

Press the small switch built into this speaker on my shoulder and just talk as he did, slowly and clearly.

"PR 10-7. We are trying to call, we did not understand your last, please 10-7?" There was the voice again and what the hell was a 10-7? I do not understand this.

The past 12 months has seen a big increase in the use of the Special Constabulary in the Southend Division. Notable examples include the important role specials have played in many of the Southend Divisions various initiatives.

For example, assisting in the more profile patrols in the Southend area: accompanying every NBO out on duty, assisting in much more patrols around the Southend High Street on regular basis to assist the Licensee. Our teams have been seen in many of the main areas of the city.

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In recent years, the increased demands made upon the regular officer have naturally led to an increased reliance on the Special. With the vast majority of Specials intent on joining the Regular Force, this expansion of responsibilities has been most welcome, according to ASO Smith of Thurrock.

Acting Section Officer Lay continues her sterling efforts with an enthusiastic team at Billericay and Witham.

Turnover within the division is still a problem, although a good proportion of losses have been to the regular force, sadly not all to Essex.

The Divisional strength has increased from 49 to 59, with a fair number of new applicants being processed.

The level of commitment by the specials continues to be high, with some 7,000 duties and 28,000 hours being carried out during the past year, winning the Division the Salter Cup.

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Walking the Essex Way

SPECIAL Constabulary Commandant Tom Rodgers was "over the moon" when he learned that he had been awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours this year. He was first alerted to the award when the local media began phoning him for interviews, but then received official confirmation in a letter from Downing Street.

The incident occurred as Mr Grout was locking up his premises in the early evening of Thursday, February 9. He was approached by a man in his 20s, who demanded the keys and told Mr Grout that unless he handed them over he would be "cut from his ear to his mouth".

Another man allegedly appeared at the scene and a fight ensued, during which an alarm sounded. Sc Reed, who was shopping nearby, heard the noise and ran to help the shopkeeper.

Michael showed his warrant card and was told by Mr Grout what had happened. As Sc Reed tried to arrest one suspect, he ran off, with Michael in hot pursuit.

The chase continued and eventually Sc Reed brought his man to the ground and handcuffed him.

The man continued to struggle, kicking out violently and bashing Michael's back. At this point a second man arrived and Sc Reed, fearing for his safety, called for assistance from other police officers who had also arrived at the scene.

Returning to where he had left his handcuffed suspect, Sc Reed discovered that he had made his escape. A second man was taken into custody.

The Essex Police Band will be playing during the parade.

Off-duty officer uses his loaf

Constable who foils baker's robbery is awarded trophy

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Phenix goes live

A DATE has finally been set for the new high-tech criminal record system, Phoenix, to go live - May 22. Although the setting up of the system has not been without its teething problems, the benefits to operational officers will, without a doubt, increase.

At the touch of a button, the system will provide, not only more description of a suspect, but also information not previously available such as bail conditions, nicknames, known associates etc.

Most forces will directly link in to Phoenix, however, Essex, along with a dozen others, have taken a slightly different route.

It was felt within Essex that there was a need to replace the existing CID Admin, custody and DPU systems. This was done by expanding the Photographic Image Retrieval System (PIRS) allowing Essex to send information to Phoenix electronically, thereby reducing a lot of extra work.

More than 100 ICD terminals have already been installed around the county ready for May 22 and training has been on-going since earlier this year.

New faces in the press office

IT’S all change in the HQ Press Office as two new members of staff join the department this month.

Norman Hicks, (44) joins the service from Essex County Newspapers where he was Assistant Group News Editor responsible for the Colchester Evening Gazette. Married with two daughters he lives in Witham and is President of the local Lions Club.

Nina Stratford (39) jumps from one emergency service to another. Nina spent three years with the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service as Press and Public Relations Officer. She is married with two children and lives in Chelmsford.

Both new officers will be seen at major incidents and currently regularly at HQ. They will also join the team responsible for producing The Law.

The two posts became available after Sergeant Nick Davies transferred to Complaints and Discipline and Jenny Gunter was promoted to head the department.

As seen on TV

TWO new faces will be appearing on video monitors throughout Essex Police.

Philip Kenchington (23) joins the, the Force’s magazine programme, Focus, as co-host.

He has just finished studying drama, film and television at the University College in York and says he is thrilled to be joining the programme.

Jo Curtis (28) joins to produce and direct all the other programmes made by the Headquarters based TV Unit.

Initially the workload will seem increased. Each officer will need to complete a six-page document with details of the suspect, offence, court information etc, but obviously the more detailed the information the greater the advantage Phoenix will offer in future years.

The document will ask for firearms checks, details of scars, tattoos and any habits or mannerisms which may lead to identification in future or unsolved crimes.

Working with new technology is never without its problems and Det Supt Jim Noakes, who has overseen the project, explained: “It has been a challenging process in which IT have worked extremely hard alongside SISC and Sam Systems in its development. Now all that is left to do is to encourage people to do their best, to try hard and to make it work for them.”

There is a 10-minute video available at each station, each officer should have received a pocket-size information card and posters and leaflets have been issued throughout the Force. Anyone, however, who has any questions about the system should contact the Helpline on 0951.

Fingerprints

A day in the life of a SOCO officer

Bloodstains needed.

Fingerprints and photography, SOCO’s trinity, but for our first incident it will be Stephen’s skills with a camera that are needed.

A fatal RTA somewhere near Chingford and the response car wants TIU and SOC to map and record the evidence for the Coroner, as they do for all road accidents involving a death.

This one’s a bit different though.

An elderly man has suffered a heart attack while riding his bicycle along a country back lane and has been found lying in the road, with his machine on top of him. There is a mark on the soft grass verge left by a bicycle tyre.

“Better get one of the skid mark, just in case,” says Stephen, focusing his camera. And he’s not really joking.

If the post mortem shows that the victim did not die of natural causes, but was knocked off his machine by another vehicle, it becomes a criminal investigation.

Our next job is at Bocking, where a lorryload of second-hand furniture has been stolen over the weekend. This time it is fingerprint and forensic evidence.

The cab and interior are dated for prints. Not much, but there could be a print on the inside of the alarm control box on the dashboard.

Then, already wrecked by the thieves is carefully removed by Stephen for taking back to Chelmsford, where other techniques are available for isolating prints.

Samples of paint are taken from the yard gates, rammed by the thieves in the victim’s own Transit van, used as the getting-away vehicle.

This one’s a bit different though.

A long-haired youth in a Metro and two older men, wearing dark glasses, and a bicycle along a country back lane and has been found lying in the road, with his machine on top of him. There is a mark on the soft grass verge left by a bicycle tyre.

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The van has been found on a nearby housing estate and we enter the white Escort van, where forensic work since the discovery of DNA 10 years ago.
CLOSED circuit television is to be installed in Chelmsford after it won the highest available Home Office grant.

The borough council, police and Chamber of Commerce submitted a bid last year, and while 107 places were successful, nationally, only a handful were granted the top funding of £100,000.

Local business have already almost doubled this sum with their own contributions.

The aim of the scheme is to prevent crime, creating an environment in which people are confident to live, work and visit, day or night. During the submission of the bid, Divisional Commander, Superintendent Bob Ward, explained: "Crime on the beats covering the town centre is high, running in on a rolling 12 months at 2,760 offences, or over 50 per cent of all crime on my division."

And with a police/population ratio well below the national average for such a wide area the need for crime prevention initiatives has increased.

Targeted for the scheme is Duke Street, High Street and Mootsham Street and surrounding areas, along with pin-pointed subways.

The contract is currently out to tender and completion is expected in the latter part of this year.

Harlow was also successful in a similar bid, securing £50,000 from the Home Office towards its scheme. Essex has already seen the success of CCTV with another trial carried out in the Brentwood area.

The system went live in April last year and a six month evaluation of crime statistics saw an overall reduction of 39.5 per cent. Non-dwelling burglaries was the biggest success with a 68 per cent decrease, while theft of and from vehicles, criminal damage, assaults and shoplifting all fell. Also in that period a total of 35 arrests were found to be directly attributable to the cameras.

Minister launches major new crime initiative

Minister launches major new crime initiative

Win a day of fun and adventure

In addition Thorpe Park have just spent £2.5m on two new jungle adventures in Ranger Country with exciting live shows. In a lush and leafy jungle giant pop-up story books tell the legend of the Rangers in 3D. It's a show which will keep the children entertained with its magic.

For all the family is the unique stunt dive, sponsored by Konica and avash with comic aerobatics. The highest most spectacular dive in the UK into just 10 feet of water, it is higher than the top cliff in Acapulco, the equivalent of six double decker buses.

To win simply put your name, address and telephone number on a postcard addressed to Thorpe Park Prize Draw, and send it to The Law, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford CM2 0DA.

Winner

The lucky winner of a cruise to one of three European destinations is Deborra Truman, who works in the Headquarters PNC Bureau.

The competition, run in the March edition of The Law, was supplied courtesy of Scandinavian Seaways.

Dressed for the occasion are Michelle Green, PC Yvonne Taylor, June Lambert and Vicki Bennett.

DRESSING up in gypsyails to sell coffee and cakes led many an officer at Southend to dig deep into their pockets for charity.

A grand total of £134 was donated to Comic Relief when Michelle Green, PC Yvonne Taylor, June Lambert, Vicki Bennett and PC Laurie Pipe discarded their usual attire for a slightly younger image.

The goodies they sold were all provided by staff on division.

An insight into stress

Over 600 police officers responded to a questionnaire about stress sent out by Essex officer, Jenny Mitchell-Gibbs.

The information gleaned from the questionnaires will be used for a psychology degree which the inspector is working towards. She admits the findings from the questionnaires had proven extremely interesting.

She said: "I'm very grateful to all who filled in and sent back forms they have provided a substantial contribution to academic research."
BURGLARS across Essex were targeted recently when two major police opera- tions uncovered thousands of pounds of believed stolen property. Figures for burglaries in Essex have shown a steady fall in recent years and officers are deter- mined to continue the trend.

Harlow Police swung into action with Operation Icebreaker on March 29. The carefully planned initiative, targeted active burglars, not only within the area, but also on those criminals who travel to Essex to commit crime.

A team of 70 officers swooped on premis- es and executed over a dozen search war- rants in Harlow, Brentwood, Epping and Ongar. Other raids took place in London and Norfolk.

Property recovered included, hi-fi's, car radio's, mobile phones and weapons such as swords, knives and an imitation revolver.

Two of the more unusual items recovered were an old Bible, measuring 18 inches in height and an old brass chess set.

Nearly 40 people had been arrested by the end of the day.

In Southend a similar number of arrests took place on April 2, after a series of suc- cessful raids under the codename Operation Ivy.

Here, 230 officers took part in dawn raids on over 40 homes in the Southend area. The operation had been planned over sever- al months in an attempt to rid the division as having the worst figures for burglary in the county.

Again thousands of pounds worth of hi-fi equipment, televisions and videos were recovered and placed in a room which resembled an Aladdins cave by the end of the day.

Operation Icebreaker boss, Det Chief Inspector Steve Reynolds said: "I am delighted with the result of the raids. We have recovered an incredible amount of property that we have good reason to believe has been stolen from local homes. "Southend will no longer be the soft option for burglars."

ORGANISERS of the 1995 Essex Police Funday are aiming to beat last years charity fund-raising target and hit the £40,000 barrier. Proceeds from the 1994 event raised £36,000 and if the target is reached this year, a total of £300,000 will have been raised in the events nine year run.

But help is desperately needed for the dream to come true on Sunday 9 July. Once again vol- unteers are needed to help run all the many side shows and attractions.

Charities to benefit include The Little Havens Children's Hospice at Southend, the baby care group BLISS, and Essex Homes for Elderly Blind People. Each division will also nominate their own individual charities.

The Funday starts at 10.00am and goes through until 5pm. Entrance for adults is by programme (£1 beforehand or £1.50 on the gate) and children and OAP’s come in for free.

After last year's popular introduction of live- stock and coming bears to the event, the theme will once again be continued this year with every- thing from Owls to Shetland Ponies. A spectac- ular staged display featuring the Force Support Unit is also planned, giving people an insight into their often dangerous work.

Organiser, Det Insp Steve Bright said, "As usual the object of the day is for people to have a good time and to raise lots of money. It's a great day out for the family with all the old favourite attractions people have to come expect over the years."

As usual there will be the free park and ride scheme available with special buses taking peo- ple right to the event site at Police Headquarters.

Among the many side stalls will be a second- hand book stall, anyone who would like to donate books should contact Wendy Holden on extension 51510. Any other offers of help will be gratefully received - please ring either David Bright at Basildon Police Station on ext. 40007 or Dick Maddens at HQ CID Support ext. 57002.

Last year’s popular Band Concert at the Cliff's Pavilion in Southend contributed significantly to last years Funday total. This year’s concert will again feature the Royal Marines and The Essex Police Band on Wednesday 22 November.

Tickets from Wendy Holden ext.51510.

Hitch free switch

BT and Essex Police Systems Support staff successfully switched over 3000 internal tele- phone extensions to new numbers earlier this month.

The mammoth task which involved chang- ing over all old four figure extensions to five figures went smoothly according to Chris Long from HQ Systems Support.

"BT engineers were placed in all divisions and within the space of just a few hours all the numbers had been suc- cessfully changed with no major problems," he said.

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Conditions of bail change

A DEFENDANT regular- ly reporting to a police station has long been a condition of bail issued by the courts.

But research into the condition has shown its cost exceeds its value, which is why Essex Police have made moves to change the system.

Officers should note that they should not only request this condition in court if the attendance of a defendant at a police sta- tion at a particular time is likely to prevent the com- mission of an offence.

This change should be especially noted in the light of the recent Criminal Justice and Public Order Act which allows custody sergeant to attach conditions prior to court appearances.

Quality of files is improving

THE quality of evidence files submitted to the CPS has risen, according to results of its Service Delivery Standard annual survey.

In 1993 70.9 per cent of files were deemed to be acceptable, 62.9 per cent of which were presented on time to the CPS.

In last year a per- formance indicator was introduced to monitor the system and as a result 77 per cent of files are now of acceptable quality, with 76.4 per cent of which were on time.

It should be noted that a dip sample provided by the CPS in the same year produced even greater results with 82.3 per cent of acceptable files, 84.7 per cent of which were on time.

Although the results have been based on limit- ed information they do show that performance is improving.

Working dog needed

FELLOW police Swindon is on the lookout for a new dog.

The German Shepherd needs to be aged between 10 months and 18 months and is required for a course beginning on May 9.

If anyone can help they should contact Pc England on 01793 528111.
A TOTAL of 40 members, wives and friends attended a meeting on Friday 10th March at Police HQ's to listen to a talk by Mr Dennis Hance, a member of the National Trust.

We are shown coloured slides of beautiful gardens and buildings which they help to preserve throughout the country.

The meeting ended with our Chairman Roger giving a vote of thanks to Mr Hance for giving a very interesting talk on the work of the National Trust.

The Annual General Meeting of No.10 Region was held at Police HQ's on Friday 17th March with Roy Hansen taking the chair. It was a very poor turn out with only 15 voting members being present, out of a total of 687 members in the whole Region.

Those members of the present Committee agreed to stand again and were re-elected.

Other matters were dealt with and the date of the next A.G.M. has been fixed for the 15th March, 1996 at Colchester Police Station.

After the meeting was closed, those members that were present, some with their wives enjoyed a very nice buffet that had been prepared by the Secretary's wife, Shirley Stanbury.

For the buffet followed by a meal.

The cost is £9 each and bookings should be made through Secretary Dave Jones.

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**Market Place**

**Market place**

**Market Place**

**Market Place**

---

**3 BED semi, Great wakering. Double glazed, gas central heating, garage, convenient location, £49,950. Contact Paul Gridley on 01702 217766 or 01245 452918.**

**BADGES.**

**Breaking up semi, Great Springfield area, near town centre. Fully furnished, includes washing machine, fridge freezer etc. Recently redecorated in first class condition. References required of tenant, no smokers, non-smokers only, £275 per week. Contact H.C. Bailey on 01279 655790 or 0279 756701.**

**DINING table, round, smoked glass top, four chairs, tablecloth beech, brown/white covering, £45. Contact Angela Biggart on 01245 268783 or 01245 491491, Ednet 54326.**

**EDEN lean-to greenhouse, 12ft long, good condition, fully mantained, full instructions supplied. Any offers. Contact Angela Biggart on 01245 268783 or 01245 491491, Ednet 54326.**

**GAME gear as new. All boxed with three games, Wonderboy, Colours and Bart Simpson, with adaptor, for only £45 ono. Contact Sgt Thornton on 01277 632635.**

**FLAT for rent. Springfield area, near town centre. Fully furnished, includes washing machine, fridge freezer etc. Recently redecorated in first class condition. References required of tenant, no smokers, non-smokers only, £275 per week. Contact H.C. Bailey on 01279 655790 or 0279 756701.**

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**FOR sale. Fiat Panda 1000CL, 1988, immaculate condition, low mileage, fully service history. Lady owner, 12 months tax and MOT, recent full service, £1,350. Contact Insp Norman on 53201.**

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**FRANKING machine, model 240, £595. Contact Angela Biggart on 01245 268783 or 01245 491491, Ednet 54326.**

**FRONT door to SMT.**

**GREAT semi, Lady owner, 12 months' tax, high mileage, lady owner, 12 months tax and MOT, recent full service, £1,350. Contact Insp Norman on 53201.**

**HEDON semi, £5,250. Contact Angela Biggart on 01245 268783 or 01245 491491, Ednet 54326.**

**HISTORIC car for sale.**

**MPG 50 per gallon, £750. Contact Angela Biggart on 01245 268783 or 01245 491491, Ednet 54326.**

**N.A.R.P.O. notes.**

**LEGAL advice obtained by NARPO appears to indicate that it may be possible to secure his or her spouse for maintenance under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1972 if the following circumstances apply: his or her spouse has been treated as a pensioner of the Rabo.
Marathon relief

ESSEX Police hosted the Friday 3 run, which was down on previous commitments, Lee Davies of Colchester and Chris Lasley of Benfleet were unable to participate.

In the “A” Class a Super heavyweight Joe Brewer (Colchester) came up against the Metropolitans champion Rod James-Bowen (Grays) at last win the Bantam weight in a very evenly matched contest, equivalent of 80 degrees on the run, all went well and the team held together superbly, to record a time of 5 hours 2 mins.

Although 20 minutes down on previous times, still very respectable, taking into account the warm conditions. Congratulations must go to our marathon debutantes in Angay Southwood and Ronnie Potter who truly led the side home from the front.

High of the very gruelling 26.2 miles, was once again the trial of being involved "live" on BBC National television by Roving reporter Sue Barker, and, of course Steve Bright’s quick witted response.

The team now hope to follow up the last two year’s bumper fund raising efforts, on behalf of “little havens”, by raising further £3000 towards this very worthwhile cause, and more poignantly in the name of Mo Bazaeri. So be on behalf of every member of the team, thank you for your generous donations. We now look forward to 1996.

On the athletics front - Due to the ongoing Brightlingsea dispute, I am unable to confirm any definite date for the force track and field championships.

Regional Half Marathon Championships, will this year be held as an integral part of the St. Albans Half Marathon on Sunday June 1995. If you are interested in running a tough 13.1 miles, then please contact me at Grays Schools Liaison as soon as possible.

The force coach has been booked for all these events, and further details to be circulated in due course.

 Laurie Ramping

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Vice Chairman, Mr Charles Clark - ACC (S)
Secretary, Ps Christopher Jacob - Headquarters (58888)
Assistant Secretary, Ps Peter Layzell - Burnham on Crouch (61140)
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KEEPING fit is essential in the police service and officers from Brentwood sprung into action recently by trying out one of the borough council’s promotions.

The scheme running throughout May and June at The Brentwood Centre and Shenfield Sports Centre is a card entitling unlimited use of the Heartbeat Fitness Centre. This includes a personalised exercise programme, swimming pool, hotpots (jacuzzi), steam room and sauna and bodywork classes for just £30 per month.

Group discounts are available for 10 cards or over so if there are divisions who want to join up they should contact Janette Dean on 01277 60111, ext 365.

The Essex Police team completed yet another gruelling London Marathon in anticipation for you generous donations. We now look forward to 1996.

Further date to put in your diaries - Regional Half Marathon Championships, will this year be held as an integral part of the St. Albans Half Marathon on Sunday June 1995. If you are interested in running a tough 13.1 miles, then please contact me at Grays Schools Liaison as soon as possible.

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Section Secretaries
Athletics - Ps Laurence Ramping
Cornering - Ps Anthony Lewis
Gliding - Ps Anthony Blythe
Pilateering - Ps Charles Lasley
Angling - Ps Andrew Bryan
Lawn Bowls - Ps Roy Kebbell

Spring into action

ONCE again - the dust has finally settled on the NatWest London Marathon, and now is the time for all the “footpounding” to be turned into pounds, by those, who were generous enough to once again sponsor the Essex Police Marathon team, in their support of the Little Havens Children Hospice project which is due to start soon at Davies Heath.

This years miserable training weather, put serious doubts on several members of the team with the subsequent chills and flu symptoms not being the ideal preparation. Fortunately only “Merv” Fairweather fell by the wayside, an unfortunate victim of a hamstring injury, and Steve King from Chelmsford, snapped in as an eleventh hour replacement, having been a member of the 1994 team.

On the day despite soaring temperatures, equivalent of 80 degrees on the run, all went well and the team held together superbly, to record a time of 5 hours 2 mins.

Although 20 minutes down on previous times, still very respectable, taking into account the warm conditions. Congratulations must go to our marathon debutantes in Angay Southwood and Ronnie Potter who truly led the side home from the front.

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The force coach has been booked for all these events, and further details to be circulated in due course.

The Essex Police Sports Association has arranged a trip to The Royal Marathon, for the evening 09.30 on the morning of July 26. The seats are situated in a very good position and a good discount has been obtained. The price per ticket is £12.50, this includes a discount on the coach fare. The coach will be leaving Headquarters at 1630 hours.

Anyone interested should contact Sgt Peter Layzell or Station Officer Assistant Commander John Watts at Burnham on Crouch Police Station (61140).

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An historic battle with the giants

FOR the first time in its 10 year history Essex Police made it to the finals of the PAA Hockey Tournament. The other three teams participating in the battle of the giants were the RUC, Metropolitan Police and West Midlands.

To say the task facing Essex was awesome is an understatement. We were facing the best of the best and boy did we find out just how hard.

Having travelled to Norwich late on Tuesday, the remainder of the evening was spent discussing team tactics over the occasional light ale and a not so quiet game of bowls.

Wednesday the first day of tournament saw the Mets and West Mids at 1-1 up until 30 seconds before full time when the Mets snatched the winning goal putting them in to the final.

Next it was Essex v the RUC - our first and it had to be against the favourites. To give an indication of the opposition, if I tell you that in the 15 years since PAA hockey has been with us, the Irish lads have made the finals on 11 occasions and won it no less than 9 times.

We had all taken it upon ourselves to train hard for this tournament and it was clear throughout the match that Essex were superior in terms of fitness - We had to be as they had us running all over the place.

Despite fighting to the end we were unable to get near their goal. Sadly the same cannot be said at our end. At least they didn't get eight goals past us!

Clearly they were a superior team yet humble in their victory. All due credit to them.

Having been knocked out of the finals and just the third and fourth place to play for, the pressure was off and we were able to relax a little more. A slap up meal and cultural visit to an historic Norfolk Castle.....well the Dog & Castle, pre-empted a stroll down 'Fifth Avenue'!! Our Manager and Lee Weaver however, decided to make a 'shump' exit.

The next day we were on first against West Mids, another very strong team who had also raised the fruits of PAA glory on a number of occasions.

Sadly just before the start our Captain Geordie Tyson was rushed off back to Essex. The good news is that his young son Jack is well on the mend and God willing will make a complete recovery.

With Vic Murphy now at the helm, it was decided with the Manager Bob Ward to make some last minute changes and introduce plan 'F'. If the Mets could get two goals past their strong defence then so could we.

Much to the delight of the Mets (who are not the West Mids' best friends!!) and thanks to Gary Franklin and Mark Shaw we did just that with two superb goals. Unfortunately they too knew how to score the final result being 6-2.

The tour was rounded off with a presentation dinner and our very own Sean Heckles winning a very different kind of competition!

The final position of Essex Police in the 1994/1995 PAA championships out of 26 teams was 4th, but with the building of a new club house and hockey pitch at H.Q. and Essex entering the winter league for the first time, we will have the added benefits of playing together regularly as a team and next year could well see us bringing home the cup.

My thanks go to all those who participated whether as organisers, players or spectators especially ACC and Mrs. Conlan for giving up their time to come and support us.

If any member of Essex Police Sports Club would like to join us, experienced or otherwise please contact either: Supt. Ward at Chelmsford ex 6000, Pc 408 Murphy at Chelmsford 'D' Shift or Sgt Tyson at Brentwood...You will be very welcome.

By Vic Murphy

Fitness challenge

FITNESS fanatics, constable Alan Barley and Coroner's Officer Derek Sewell, took on the ultimate challenge on Friday, the Fire Service Entrance Physical.

A group of six comprised - the others being fitness instructors, three of whom were women - and all successfully completed the test.

The Bleep Test, ladder climbing, circuit training and hose rolling were all included and tested their strength to the limits.

Derek explained: "It was a real challenge. The test has now changed so we were the last group to ever take this particular physical."

"It's a lot more demanding than the police physical and aimed at young fit people."

"We averaged about 42 and three were women, who usually have difficulty passing the test due to the strength involved, but all six of us passed."

The group were sponsored for the event and are now collecting their money which will be split between the Fire Service National Benevolent Fund and the Essex Police Fun Day charity.

Cup winners

CHELMSFORD Police Football Club beat Maldon 3-0, winning the Sunday League's '17th July Walters Memorial Cup.'

Goalscorers on the day were Davy Hartin (2) and Darren Pitt.

Plummet to the summit

 dredged to great depths five Essex divers are to climb over 11,000ft in a bid to raise cash for charity.

Along with sales executive Terry Adams, constable Nick Cohen, Rob Trigg, Steve Milbourne, Paul Ashworth and Cliff Roome we take on the Three Peaks Challenge with 24 hours in June.

The aim is to climb Ben Neviss, Scafell and Snowdon between 4pm on June 9 and 4pm on June 10 and raise money for EASBAH, the Essex Association of Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus.

Sponsors

Each of the team has already embarked on a personal training programme and in the meantime are looking for sponsors to supply equipment, accommodation, and so on, to ensure that every penny raised goes to the cause.

Hartwell Ford and Ford Motor Company have already started the ball rolling by supplying vehicles which will be driven by Chief Inspector Doug Adams and Pc Bob Lay.

Doug has himself conquered all three peaks over a period of time and admits it will be a tough task for the team.

He said: "None of the men are hill-walkers or climbers so it's going to be both a personal challenge as well as a team challenge.

"Extreme weather conditions and walking in darkness are just two aspects they will have to face but they know it can be done within 24 hours and are determined to meet the deadline for such a good cause."