

# The Law

including Essex Police Magazine



Has equality gone too far? - see centre pages

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

November 1995

No 265



● **MISSING.** Rose and David Sims.

## Hunt for missing couple

SOUTHEND CID officers attempting to trace a married couple, who have now been missing from the town for two years, hope a press conference held last week could help locate them.

Rose and David Sims from Lonsdale Road, Southend, were last seen together at a family gathering at Wix near Manningtree.

Rose Sims, aged 31, was born in the Philippines and met her English husband David (51) while he was in the country on a business trip, they married and moved to the UK.

At the packed press conference held at Police Headquarters, an appeal was made for information which could lead to the couple's whereabouts. Rose's sister, Joy Acres made a plea for people to come forward and help the police. Joy said she was concerned at her sister's disappearance and knew the couple's marriage was going through a rocky patch.

Rose Sims wasn't reported missing by her family for nearly a year as it was felt she could be in the Philippines on business with her husband.

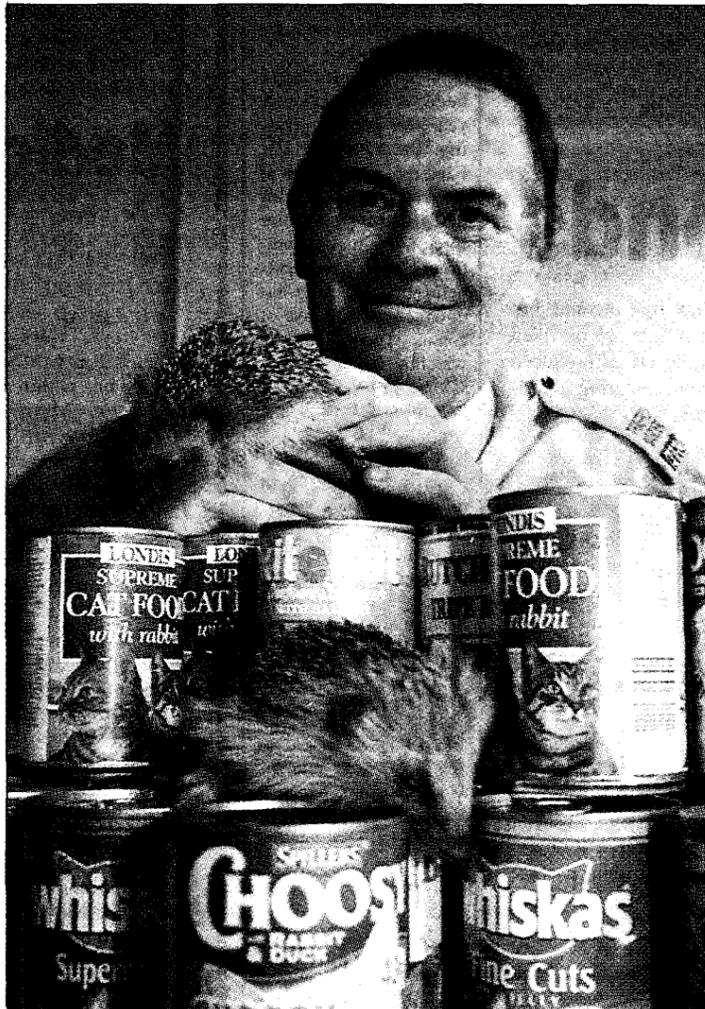
Enquiries are still ongoing in the Philippines and detectives hope renewed publicity from the press conference will generate leads.

Dc Fred Simpkins who headed the press conference said: "I was amazed at how many media organisations turned out and have publicised our appeal. I have taken over a dozen calls and we are in the process of talking to people who have called us. I still have good reason to believe both David and Rose Sims could be in the Philippines but we have to explore all avenues."

## Shipments through Brightlingsea are suspended

# AS YOU WERE!

### Duncan is just the ticket



● **But where is the tin opener?** Duncan with his prickly friends.

Photo courtesy of the Brentwood Gazette.

WHEN it comes to hedgehog preservation, Traffic Warden Duncan Ward is the man for the job. The Brentwood-based officer has taken on the challenge of collecting cat food to help our prickly friends through the winter.

Because of an extremely dry summer hedgehogs have found it difficult to feed on worms and slugs.

Duncan said: "The Brentwood Bird and Animal Sanctuary asked us if we would collect cat food, which hedgehogs eat, and I was given the job."

Duncan, who says he has always been an animal lover, now keeps his eyes especially peeled when dishing out his

tickets, and will give a cursory look under a vehicle just to check if there is a hedgehog in need.

Having taken on celebrity status after being featured on Sky News and in various national and local papers he's become known locally as The Hedgehog Man.

"I've had people come up to me offering money for cat food, I even had one man say he would swap his parking ticket for a tin of cat food, but I won't go that far," said Duncan.

Cans of cat food can be taken to Brentwood Police or contact Duncan at the station on 01277 262212.

AFTER 10 exhausting months of animal rights protests at Brightlingsea, policing in Essex is returning to normal.

By Ian Deal

The move comes after exporter Roger Mills told Essex Police he would be suspending shipments as a "temporary measure".

Mr Mills blamed the development on a current decline in demand for animals - he also blamed the temporary cease in trading on restrictions imposed by Essex Police.

Responding to the claim Assistant Chief Constable Geoffrey Markham said: "I consider the restrictions we imposed to be entirely reasonable and fair. Since January 16 we have escorted 174 convoys comprising 783 lorries carrying 152,472 sheep, 67,499 calves and 185 cattle. We have made 598 arrests, sustained 18 injuries to police officers and spent over £2.25m not previously budgeted for. Should the trade at Brightlingsea cease entirely, it will not be through any lack of commitment from Essex Police."

Protesters in Brightlingsea have claimed victory at the temporary halt in trading but seem sure that temporary means permanent.

Local Brightlingsea officer, Pc Andy Thorpe said it was nice to see the town returning to normal: "The town seems very quiet compared with recent weeks, I'm looking forward to the community returning to how it was before the protests, and hope all the people in the town will act reasonably. We are trying hard to get back to providing the traditional Brightlingsea policing the local people have always known here."

Elsewhere in the county divisional staff are returning to duties neglected since January. Southend Commander, Supt Mick Benning said "The last 10 months have put an enormous strain on our division, we have lost on average eight officers from our station every day to police the Brightlingsea dispute. We have more public order trained officers than anywhere else in the county and at the height of the troubles we were losing in excess of 50 officers per day to Brightlingsea. I hope it is more than a suspension of operations at Brightlingsea so that we can get back to providing good policing for Southend."

Mr Benning said the division had not reached many of its policing targets such

as high visibility policing, also burglary and autocrime objectives had been partly quashed by demands for police to attend animal rights protests. "I received a number of letters from school teachers in the district showing concern over the lack of police input into the schools programme. Unfortunately school liaison officers were the first to be pulled away from their duties," he said.

But Mr Benning was keen to praise some of the less experienced officers left behind on division who had been tasked with an increased work load "Many were forced to deal with particular offences much earlier in their service than they would normally do", he said.

Meanwhile the Gunfleet control room at Brightlingsea remains closed - but ready to go operational should the need arise. ACC Geoffrey Markham said "We cannot rule out shipments starting again, if Mr Mills wishes to continue trading in the town we will be involved with further discussions with him, as we have been in the last 10 months. We have always acknowledged he is carrying out a legal trade, and upheld his lawful right to use the highway."

## INSIDE

Drugs haul - page 5

Award winners - page 8

Safety update - page 9

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

# Tax relief

**THE Inland Revenue has agreed that, with effect from April 6, all subscribing members of the Police Federation of England and Wales are entitled to tax relief on their subscriptions.**

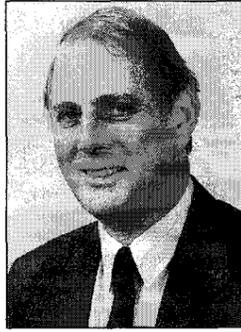
A letter of approval under Section 201, Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, has been received by the National Police Federation and the name of the Police Federation will appear in the

next edition of the list of approved bodies which is due for publication in 1996.

Local Inspectors of Taxes will not receive notification of the Police Federation's approved status until 1996. If members wish to obtain a deduction for

their subscriptions before the new list is published, they should explain to their local Inspector that the Police Federation has only recently been approved quoting the Inland Revenue Head Office reference- SAPP/T1644-/23/82/MA.

If members require any further details or explanation, please contact the Federation Office at Police Headquarters.



● By Brian Pallant

## Education scheme

MEMBERS may not be aware of the existence of the above fund and the Education Scheme which is available for police officers' families. I reproduce below details of a recent circular issued by our General Secretary. You will note the closing date for the awards is November 30, so officers will need to move quickly if they are looking for awards for the academic year 1995/96. A copy of the details of the scheme can be obtained from the Federation Office.

Arrangements have been made for many years for making grants from the National Police Fund for the education of any child of a present or past member of a police force. The main conditions attached to grants being that the child has obtained the promise of continued education from which he or she is considered to be capable of benefiting fully and that financial assistance is needed to enable the proposed course of education to be pursued.

Concern was expressed at the last meeting of the National Police Fund - Education Scheme, over the level of publicity of this Fund within police forces and highlighted by the lack of applications from certain areas of the country.

It is therefore brought to your attention and also for the attention of Force Welfare Officers, that the closing dates for application for awards for the academic year 1995/96 is the November 30. The maximum individual grant is £700 and total family income must exceed £20,000 (except in special circumstances). Application forms are available from your Chief Constable and when completed should be submitted to the Secretary of the Fund, Mr A C Ashwin, at the National Police Fund, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AT (Tel: 0171 273 3684).

Full details of the education Scheme can be found in the National Police Fund booklets.

## Federation elections

EHE Elections as reported in the last edition of *The Law* are currently taking place. Nominations have been received and as a result ballots have to be held in the following areas.

**Chelmsford** - for the position of sergeant - Sgt 868 G Heard and Sgt 963 G D Seal.

**Harlow** - for the position of sergeant - Sgt 1341 T J Crux and Sgt 1887 P J O'Riordan.

**C.I.D.** - for the position of det active sergeant - DS 29 E T Toomey and DS 1655 D A Hudson.

**Southend** - for the position of constable - Pc 1155 D Duncan and Pc 2286 P McMahon.

Ballot papers will be sent out to all officers entitled to vote by November 24. Closing time to be 12 noon on Friday, December 8.

## Corporate bonds

A LARGE number of companies have already issued their contracts, but a number of institutions are still holding back, therefore if you are considering a Corporate Bond PEP it would be sensible to wait a little longer in order that you might assess the full range of products available.

The main attractions of these contracts are that the rates of income can be anything up to 9% tax free compared with building society returns of 4%.

When assessing the risk profile of these PEPs it should be appreciated that they are, in fact, a middle ground between deposit accounts and equity investments with the PEPs being invested in bonds, convertibles and preference shares. There is therefore still an element of risk to this type of investment and fluctuating interest rates will effect the income.

### Projected

Most companies offer a projected income yield or a running yield and this can be between 5.6% to 9.1% net, these yields do vary and should be checked from time to time.

A Corporate Bond PEP is geared to the production of income in a middle risk area, therefore it is not likely to produce as greater growth as a general PEP, for instance invested in unit trusts, but its risk profile is not as great.

It is important when selecting your Corporate Bond PEP to establish how charges are levied on the fund. Are they taken out of income or capital? Also is there an initial charge and how does it compare with any annual management charge?

Access to capital is not immediate and there may be early withdrawal penalties. In conclusion this new contract appears to be very useful way of achiev-

ing relatively high tax free income, but as the contract is mainly based on fixed interest investments the yields produced would be less competitive during a period of rising interest rates.

## Bullying in the workplace

AT the Federation Conference in May, the National Committee launched its leaflet, *Bullying in the Workplace*. That leaflet should now have been delivered to all members of the Force which gives advice to the victim and draws to the attention of all officers what bullying is all about.

During the course of the last 18 months, the Police Federation nationally has launched three leaflets covering sexual harassment, racial harassment and bullying. It is at present developing an extensive training package for Federation representatives as advisers in Industrial Tribunal matters.

In a future edition of *The Law*, I shall give a full report on Equal Opportunities and Grievance Procedures for advice for officers in general.

## Industrial tribunals

THE Federation nationally has been looking at the problems concerning conflicts of interest regarding members in Industrial Tribunals. It has been decided that in future all complainants who request assistance will be dealt with by their own Separate Rank Central Committee whilst all respondents who require assistance, will be dealt with by the Joint Central Committee. I would remind officers in the first instance that any request for assistance must come through the Joint Branch Board Secretary or his assistant prior to onward transmission to Central office.

In the Federation Office we have a system with regard to conflict of interest whereby the Joint Branch Board Secretary will deal with complainants and respondents will be forwarded via the Chairman who is also the Discipline Liaison Officer.

## Police housing

ALL officers affected should have by now received a letter from the Force explaining that the Inland Revenue have agreed that for Essex officers there will be no tax implication for those who bought their house under the discount sale scheme.

Can I thank all those officers who provided us with information and who wrote to their MP's. The combined effort from all quarters has resulted in a successful conclusion for all Essex officers both serving and retired.

## Memorabilia sales

DO not forget that Christmas is fast approaching and that Marilyn Carr in the Federation Office has Christmas cards for sale and other nic nacs.

There is a new card this year which depicts the Force Headquarters and they will be sold at 50p each.

## Federation diaries

AT the time of going to press, I have been promised by the printers that the diaries should arrive week commencing November 6. These will be distributed to your divisional representatives for your collection.

As last year, there will be no charge for the diary. However, if members wish they can make a donation to the Essex Police Benevolent Fund.

Law

# Opinion

### CAN a leopard really change its spots?

There is no doubt that Essex Police has placed the subject of equality securely on its agenda, and it is commendable, but not necessarily workable.

Will it ever be able to honestly say that is an Equal Opportunities employer?

It has been argued that until there is 40 per cent of women in any organisation, Equal Opportunities cannot exist.

Set these kinds of targets, however, and allegations of tokenism will soon begin to fly - hiring a woman just to make up the numbers.

Isn't the whole idea, after all, artificial and hasn't it gone too far?

By making equality such a big issue, with the introduction of training courses, and paying attention to targets, aren't we losing sight of the 'real' issue, which is 'the right person for the job'?

Chauvinism and cynicism will always exist regardless of Gender Awareness courses, it's just every individual's professional responsibility not to show it.

Most of the women we spoke to admitted they still saw the police force as a male bastion, but few recounted tales of disrespect, and certainly felt they were dealt the same hands as their male counterparts.

Even our highest ranking female officer, Supt Joan Eason, claims she has never, in 30 years, been subjected to discrimination.

Now she is about to retire and the next closest ranking woman is an inspector.

No amount of awareness training will rid us of the cynics who were no doubt placing bets on who would fill her shoes - or should we say stilettos?

● *The views expressed in this column are those of the editors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Chief Constable or any other member of Essex Police.*

## Medical benefits

BY the time you read this article you may well have received a package from the Hospital Savings Association. (HSA) in your tray at work. If you haven't you will certainly receive one within the next few days. Many of you who are currently members of the Private Medical Scheme, (PPP) may be tempted to cancel your subscriptions with them and transfer to HSA. Please don't be tempted towards such a rash course of action.

There is no contest. They are two totally different products, and some people may feel there is a benefit in being a member of both.

PPP is a medical scheme that gives you the opportunity to have private medical treatment far sooner than you would otherwise be able to obtain it through the National Health Service. HSA on the other hand is purely and simply a cash back scheme. If you are unfortunate enough to end up in hospital, either through the National Health Service or through any private medical insurance, then as a member of HSA you can expect to receive certain cash benefits. Indeed some of the cash benefits you can expect to receive will be for areas not covered by private medical insurance. They will include reimbursement for optical charges which includes eye tests and the provision of spectacles, and also reimbursement for some dental charges.

HSA is, I believe, a beneficial scheme for employees of Essex Police. I must, however, stress most strongly current members of Essex Police Private Medical Scheme with PPP should not consider terminating their membership and joining on board HSA as an alternative. It is not a different product, product which is no less well worth considering. If you require further information contact the Federation Chairman David Jones on extension 5450 Headquarters.

Chairman Jones

## Off beat

### Beans means trouble

DUNMOW police were 'stalking' the driver of a jack-knifed lorry who shed his entire load of broad beans all over a road in the town.

Perhaps pantomime was starting early this year - Dunmow's very own *Jack and the Beanstalk*?

### Going down

HARLOW officers may be proud of their new-look, modern premises, but the station's lift is a rather sore point at the moment.

Half of a late turn and half a night shift got to know each other well, when the lift became stuck between floors for 45 minutes last month.

The trapped officers were eventually freed by the fire service.

### A slippery tale

CONCERNED motorists in Grays rang the local police when they spotted a 10 foot snake with strange markings in West Thurrock Way earlier this month.

Fearless officers on control decided it was a job for the council, who in turn promptly refused the offer. Eventually it was a police Wildlife Liaison Officer who was passed the task to capture the offending snake - or as it turned out to be - piece of rope!

### Assault was no yoke!

A PARENT rang police in Rayleigh complaining her teenage son had been assaulted whilst trick or treating in Thundersley.

Asked was he injured the woman said no, but the eggs her son had with him had been crushed. Anyone for an omelette?

### Take care out there

YOU see the most amazing ways officers are injured in this job. Earlier this month a sergeant from Corringham chasing after a runaway horse ended up with the horse running after him.

As the horse stampeded towards him it knocked the officer flying into a nearby stream. Thankfully he escaped without serious injury.

Meanwhile in Rochford a constable managed to get locked in the front office and had to escape through the public hatch. While climbing through, the officer lost his footing and fell. After administering first aid to two fingers the officer was able to commence with police duties.

# Domestic disputes lead to awareness training

# Knocking violence on the head

**HUNDREDS of Essex police officers and support staff are to receive awareness training on domestic violence issues.**

Starting in January, training will centre on the importance of dealing with domestic violence in a positive and sensitive way, in accordance with a newly revised policy on the subject due to be published shortly.

Currently the document is being fine tuned and is hoped to be approved next month.

Essex Police Community Relations Co-ordinator, DI Steve Currell said: "We will have the policy in place, we've got to make sure everyone understands what it says so we are actually providing the service that we are committed to in the policy."

Training will be provided to any police officer or member of support staff who may come into contact with victims of domestic violence. DI Currell said: "There is a training programme being devised at the moment involving myself,

## Report by Ian Deal

Domestic Violence Liaison Officers and the Divisional Development Training Officers. Awareness training will take place on division lasting around two hours. Everyone from the switchboard operator to the Divisional Commander will be included - as the training is localised it will minimise the amount of time personnel spend away from their duties."

Already Essex Police has made important

steps in dealing with the issue by placing full-time Domestic Violence Liaison Officers at offices in Rayleigh and Southend. The second half of last year saw related arrests across Essex rise by 91% and related calls attended dropped by 33% compared to the previous six months. It is hoped the positive approach being adopted will make offenders think twice before committing further offences.

"Essex Police has made strides over the last year with how we deal with domestic violence. Officers who have already received training have greatly improved the service we provide to victims," added DI Currell.

## Snowed down in Southend

PC YVONNE Taylor could hardly see her desk after returning to the domestic violence office after a week away - 61 incidents of domestic violence sat waiting to be dealt with.

The Southend domestic violence office has been running since January, and PC Taylor believes she is dealing with roughly three times more incidents than staff at the nearby Rayleigh office.

She is hoping that extra staff will be allocated to help with the deluge of work but admits one is better than none: "This was long overdue, it really works there is far better liaison between us and the womens

'refuges and other agencies involved with domestic violence. Victims say they like to speak to me in confidence rather than somebody in the front office of a police station. They like to speak to someone who will be non-judgmental, it's important what they tell me I won't criticise them for. They walk out the door knowing they can come back and see me anytime."

A thick file of appreciation letters held in the Southend office shows that the scheme does work. One woman in her late 40's wrote: "You gave me great support and encouragement to stand up for myself. I'm now rebuilding my life and find myself so much happier and safe."

● Domestic Violence Liaison Officer, Pc Yvonne Taylor.



## Home sweet home

THE nomadic lifestyle has ended for police at South Woodham Ferrers, with the opening of a showpiece £1.4million base they can truly call home.

As South Woodham Ferrers grew during the past 20 years from a small village to a bustling new town, its combined police house and office was superseded by premises in a school and then accommodation in a former Post Office.

At the end of October, a feeling of permanence was achieved when the new, purpose-built town centre police station in Tyler's Ride went operational.

### Community

And the new building has brought warm praise from its staff - 24 regular officers, nine specials, and one civilian and the community itself.

Mrs Maureen Moulds, who is chairman of South Woodham Ferrers Town Council and the local Crime Prevention Panel, and also a member of Chelmsford Borough Council, is impressed with the station's 'welcoming' appearance and the way it blends with the new town's architecture.

On a tour of the building with officer-in-charge Insp Ted Higgs, she said: "The new facilities will further encourage community involvement with our police."

Insp Higgs said: "I am delighted that we have a purpose-built station where we had a free hand with the interior design."

The new benefits it offers include:

- Accommodation which can be used for either major incidents, conferences or training.
- Three cells and a detention room,

eliminating the manpower drain of transporting prisoners 12 miles to Chelmsford.

- Vehicle examination facilities.
- Capacity for future computer system developments.

## Brightlingsea at national conference

ESSEX Police Principal Press Officer, Jenny Grinter, addressed delegates at a National Conference in Bournemouth this month on how the service is coping with media pressure surrounding the Brightlingsea animal rights issue.

Speaking alongside Sussex Press Officer, Chris Oswick who spoke of the protests at Shoreham, Jenny explained the Essex Police media strategy to police press officers from all over the UK.

Both Jenny and Chris repeated their presentation at a national press officers course in Lincolnshire this week.

## Porky problem

A PROBLEM pig was banged up in Colchester's dog kennel after being found roaming the town's streets.

Pc Smithers managed to capture the porky pet after he spotted it in Avon Way.

## Murder case features on crime show

THE investigation which led to the conviction of a vicious murderer in Essex has been reconstructed for a special Crime Monthly programme.

Barry Bradford was maliciously stabbed to death in the grounds of Highwoods Hospital, Brentwood, back in March 1993. He was left half-naked with a daffodil laid either side of his head.

With little forensics evident, police were initially baffled by the motiveless killing.

But within 10 days Lawrence Mullins, of Pilgrims Hatch had been charged with his murder. He is now serving life.

An LWT film crew descended on Brentwood last week to re-trace the murder, investigation and eventual arrest.

The case file will be shown this Friday (November 17) at 10.30pm, with interviews with former DCI Walter Whitehill and former DS Bob Davies.

Headquarters FIB detective, Ernie Carr, who co-ordinated the filming, said: "LWT have provided us with a good opportunity to show the people of Essex how their help and information can help us detect serious crimes and rid Essex streets of vicious criminals."



● An illegal slaughterhouse was discovered by police officers raiding a farm in Chelmsford. Photo courtesy of Fred Hammerton, Essex Chronicle.

## Gruesome discovery

Officers searching for stolen property, drugs and pornographic material, raided a farm in Chelmsford to face an even more alarming sight.

In one of the farm buildings the bodies of nine dead goats were found

- the remains of an illegal slaughterhouse. The environmental health department were called in.

Other items were seized during Operation Mammoth and arrests were made. Enquiries are continuing.



## Could you be a governor?

I write on behalf of Keith Harris and the other governors of Bluehouse Schools.

We would like to hear from any members of Essex Police who would be interested in becoming governors of Bluehouse County Infant and Junior Schools in Basildon.

If so, please contact either myself on 01268 542828 or Mr Harris on 01268 412261, and we will be happy to give further details.

Mrs Pat Styles  
Basildon

## Many thanks

MAY I, through your letters' column thank all my many friends and colleagues who attended my farewell party at Grays Station on October 14.

There were, I am told, almost 300 people there, certainly far too many for me to thank personally.

My family and I were really very touched by the kindness of so many people who gave us gifts and who sent us cards and letters and who brought back so many memories of all the good times over the past 31 years.

I have many such memories of good friends and very professional police officers who I have had the privilege of working during my service and to all of them I send my sincere thanks and very best wishes for the future.

Ex DCI  
Walter Whitehill  
Thurrock

## On the mend

I AM a serving police officer at Shoeburyness and some three weeks ago I was subject to an off duty attack on myself, which resulted in me being kept in hospital overnight with a very messy face, two teeth kicked out and a broken nose.

The support and offers of help that my wife and I received have been overwhelming. These people are too numerous to mention or begin to thank individually and I would like to show my thanks through *The Law*.

This letter is to all the wellwishers, card senders, help offerers, officers involved in the investigation and subsequent arrest of the miscreant.

Grateful appreciation to friends in the job and especially those colleagues on D and A shift at Southend, D shift at Westcliff, all at Shoebury and those at Southend CID.

There are people that I could name for their individual contribution but they are the kind of people who shy away from such public appreciation.

Wendy and I would like to thank everybody who has been involved in assisting my recovery and I hope to return to work as soon as I feel able.

Once again, thank you all.

Mark and Wendy Britton

## Grateful thanks

TO all my friends and colleagues, on behalf of my family and myself, I would like to extend my thanks and best wishes for your support and the beautiful floral tributes at Gill's funeral.

She has gone but will be never forgotten.

Thank you again and God Bless.

Les Blyth, Headquarters

## Immediate response

IN response to the letter from Dave Rose in *The Law* (October) it will probably interest him and many others to learn that I, with my crew of three in the Austin van DJN 230, responded to a call in naught seconds.

The circumstances occurred just after the Second World War in about 1948. It was a usual busy Sunday in the summer, at 'check-out time' on Southend Sea Front, with many thousands of trippers between Pier Hill and the Kurssal (11 licences).

We got a call to the Olympia and I had just turned out from Hartingdon Road driving DJN 230. I shot along and went upstairs to the restaurant above the Olympia and spoke to the agitated waitress as she was still speaking to the control room at the police station.

There was a party of men (mostly), drunk, throwing crockery and chairs. We went in and gave them a bit of 'first aid' and told the girl to charge a little extra to cover the damage, which she did.

We quietened it down without making arrests, but as they started to be naughty again outside on the highway, we had to take two or three in.

George Rushforth  
Parkstone Drive, Southend

# LAW Letters

## Have your democratic say on Brightlingsea

'VOTE of confidence' screamed the headline in the October issue of *The Law* over the report of the findings by Commander Luckhurst for the Police Complaints Authority on the policing of live animal export protests at Brightlingsea earlier this year.

But do Essex Police officers approve of having to uphold a law which the majority of public opinion is opposed to? Enforcing the law is all very well, but this one does nothing to help police-community relations.

So why don't the Police Federation engage the services of an independent organisation, such as the Electoral Reform Society, to conduct a secret ballot to discover what police officers think?

I count police officers as personal friends, from what I can gather, not one of them (nor their families) feel that what they are being called upon to do at Brightlingsea is what they joined the police for.

They want to serve the community, not police the community - there is a world of difference between the two words. They want to work with the community, not against it.

The police are part of society - therefore surely

their views are important when an issue such as live animal exports and the associated protests are causing so much damage (both immediate and long-term) to police-community relations? Not to mention the cost to the public purse.

I have been an elected councillor in Colchester for nearly 25 years. Throughout that period I have tried to work towards improved police-community relations.

It saddens me to say that, because of Brightlingsea, I have never known police-community relations to be so bad.

I have family in the north, in a mining area. More than 10 years on, the bitterness of the Miners Strike is still there.

Police-community relations have not returned to what they were before the strike. My fear with the Brightlingsea situation is that, with every day that passes, we shall be experiencing the same ill-feeling

in our area for many years to come.

Is this what Essex Police want?

I cannot believe that rank and file officers do. So let them have the opportunity to express an opinion, via a secret ballot. What justification could there be to oppose this?

And then let the results be passed to the Government who are the ones who should be taking action - not leaving the police to escort trucks taking live animals for export, a trade which the majority of the community do not approve of and which it would seem that most police officers would much prefer not to be associated with.

Perhaps if the Government knew the strength of police opinion they would act. We live in a democracy - let's have the

confidence to ask police officers to express their views on animal exports. Asking police officers what they think? Now that would be a vote of confidence.

Bob Russell  
Prosper. Parliamentary Candidate  
Colchester Liberal Democrats

IN RESPONSE: Police officers, like the rest of the public have wide views on all sorts of laws.

Their duty is to uphold the law, which is something they will continue to do whatever their personal views on the particular issue may be.

Dave Jones,  
Chairman  
Essex Police Federation

## Good news from the tax man

AFTER consulting with my colleague in Head Office I am able to confirm that a decision has been taken that it would not be appropriate to pursue tax liabilities from police officers who have in the past bought, or who are currently buying, their homes under the existing terms of the Essex Police Authority Scheme.

I can also confirm that the Revenue is currently reviewing this area and will obviously keep you informed of any changes in the tax treatment of sales of this kind which result from the review.

However, any changes introduced will not affect officers who bought houses at a discount prior to the changes being notified.

B. Dunn  
Inland Revenue, North

## A professional team

BETWEEN May 8 and October 4, I completed a five month attachment with Essex Police at Harlow, part of a trial scheme set up between Essex Police and the Metropolitan Police to enhance working relationships and share good practices between the two forces.

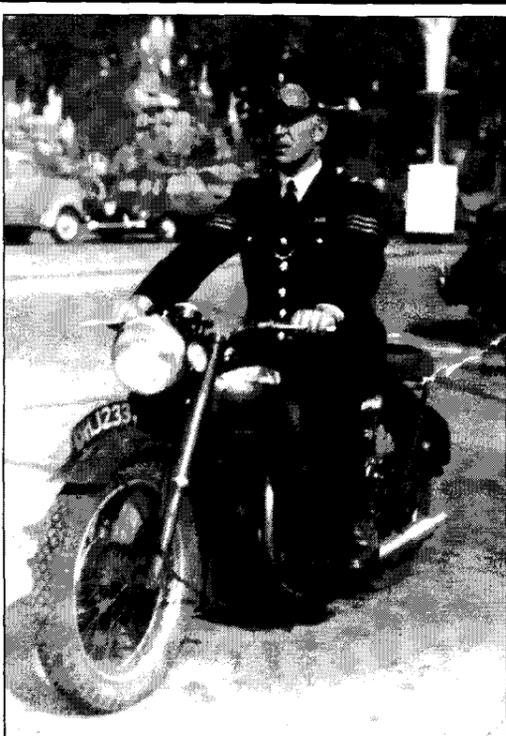
I currently serve on Barkingside Division based at Loughton but at the start of my attachment, joined 'D' shift at Harlow.

I was immediately made to feel welcome on the shift having to rely heavily on all the officers for the first two weeks to guide me through the differing paperwork and procedures. Such help enabled me to quickly adopt such different practices and for the rest of my attachment I managed to cope reasonably well.

I would like to thank all the officers and support staff at Harlow who went out of their way to help me during my stay, including those at TG and Dog Section.

I would like to extend my thanks to Inspector Dave Falkard and all the officers and SOAs on 'D' shift for making me feel so welcome. I have never worked with a more professional and helpful team of officers.

Pc Mark Edwards  
Metropolitan Police



● Transport from the era to bring back those memories of the good old days.

Letters continued from page 4

## Questioning the seatbelt theory

I REFER to your article 'Seatbelts save lives' in the October issue of *The Law*.

I have no argument with that statement because there can be no doubt that seatbelts do save lives.

On the other hand it can be argued that they cost lives too. Around about 1960, when studies were made, it was discovered that for every life saved by the wearing of a seatbelt another life was lost.

A few years ago I was involved in a road accident in which the other driver was prosecuted to conviction. Had I been wearing a seatbelt there is no doubt I would have been killed.

I applaud any measure aimed at preserving life, but I doubt the wisdom of adopting a blinkered attitude towards the use of seatbelts, and I believe it irresponsible to recommend to the general public that which could cost them some of their lives.

I am well aware that the law demands that seatbelts should be worn, but surely it should be a matter of personal choice.

Rev Glaister, Suffolk

## More ale and merriment

I WAS interested to read the letter from Ralph Jones in the September issue of *The Law* which concerns *Nine Pints Of The Law*, the painting by Lawson Wood, 1890.

I also have *Nine Pints Of The Law* exhibited within a frame which Ralph Jones mentions is depicting nine rogue policemen carousing with giant pots of ale.

Well Ralph, I remember you, but I don't expect you'll remember me. Your penultimate paragraph mentions that No Jury would convict....

I am pleased to hear that since *Nine Pints Of The Law* is actually concerned with an occasion when a representative from Mazawatt's Tea Company visited the 'cink' in question and your nine rogue policemen were invited to sample their latest blend on offer, hence the nine identical white mugs with their blue bands thereon!!!

Carry on with your pills as prescribed Ralph.

Derek Morbey  
Sawbridgeworth  
Hertfordshire

## Devon is heaven

I RECEIVED my copy of *The Law* and I read an article in it from a Dc Head of Tavistock.

My late husband George Reid, myself and three sons moved from Takeley to Grays in 1947 to 1953 and he became a CID officer when he was sent to Tilbury Police Station.

I agree with remarks of dirt, rundown houses in Gays and Tilbury and all around that area.

I could never understand why the grass and leaves of plants and trees looked grey after everything so green at Takeley.

I noticed the pram and babies never seemed clean and then I realised it was the cement dust. I remember days when we had smog badly and we could sweep the cement dust from the paths in shovel fulls and a film of grease and oil over everything.

My late husband was promoted to a uniform sergeant and we moved to Laindon in 1957 and to Hadleigh until his retirement in 1967 when we came to Devon to live.

Here the grass is green, air fresh and clean and I certainly wouldn't swap living here for Grays. I have a lovely view across to Dartmoor.

We may have water shortages in summer-time and a bug in our drinking water but Devon is a bit of Heaven on earth.

Mrs J. Reid  
Newton Abbot  
Devon



## Christmas cards now on sale

A COMMISSIONED painting of Essex Police Headquarters dons this year's Christmas card, now on sale through the Federation office.

The watercolour, by Frederick Tuck, depicts the old section of Headquarters, which back in 1900 cost £19,000 to build.

Members of Essex Police have to pay just 50p for a copy of the card, and the added advantage is a blank message enabling employees to purchase them as notelets throughout the year.

## Taking the right action for mentally disordered offenders

# The responsibility is yours!

OFFICERS are being asked to brush up on their law with regard to offenders suffering from a mental disorder, following recent concerns over the handling of these prisoners, writes Kim White.

Essex Police is currently reviewing its procedures, and it is hoped that changes will help officers make more confident judgements and increase their knowledge of the system.

Crown Court Liaison Inspector, Elizabeth Saunders, who has headed the review, said: "Virtually every division has an agreed procedure with the local authority, health department, social services etc. This procedure makes it clear where these people should be taken and it's important that every officer is aware whether that place is the police station, a mental health clinic or a hospital."

## Charity provides the missing link

A LONDON based charity threw open its doors to the police last month to provide a better understanding as to what support they can offer.

The National Missing Persons Helpline founded three years ago is devoted to finding missing people and supporting the families left behind.

Over 50 trained volunteers man the freephone confidential helpline 0500 700 700 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The charity is committed to helping reunite the estimated 250,000 people who go missing every year.

The charity is always pleased to assist the police and can offer a variety of unique services such as the printing of *Missing - Can You Help* posters and accelerated access to media who offer appeal facilities.

The helpline staff also have access to an 'ageing computer' system where an operator can artificially age a photographic image of a person to show how they may currently look. This system was used recently in the Fred West case in Gloucestershire.

Det Supt Ralph Barrington, head of CID, said: "It is important we work in partnership with this organisation we recognise the help, support and expertise it offers, it can only help with the service we provide to the community."

Anyone who would like further information on the National Missing Persons Helpline can contact them on their freephone number or can contact SOA Lee Robson at Brentwood Police who is in regular liaison with the charity.

Many interviews have been rendered inadmissible in court due to a lack of an appropriate adult.

Said Insp Saunders: "If a police surgeon says a person is fit to be detained or interviewed, it means that the person's health is unlikely to suffer. A lot of officers feel that because the police surgeon has said that the person is 'fit', an appropriate adult is not needed."

This is not necessarily the case and it is the discretion and judgement of the officer which counts along with the passing on of any relevant information.

"It is most important that if there is any information which shows that a person could be a danger to themselves or others, or require medication of any sort, that information should be passed on."

Policy guidelines will be issued in due course.

## Take your driving skills up a gear

COURSES are being offered for civilians and relatives of police officers wanting to improve their driving techniques and road safety knowledge.

Known as Driver Advisory Courses, the schemes have been run by the Police Driving School for over 20 years, primarily for groups of people, organised through the Council Road Safety Officers.

The courses consist of a series of talks, videos etc (at a venue suitable to all), and culminate in a visit to the Driving School, where there is a demo drive and a spin on the Skid Pan in your own car under tuition.

Senior Instructor, Mike Carter, said: "While we have been busy with this

system over the years, we have not perhaps given those nearest to us the opportunity to improve their driving technique and further the road safety cause closer to home."

Mike needs to know how many people are interested as there are a limited number of places,

possibly only two or three courses per year.

Anyone interested should complete the coupon and forward it to him at the Driving School. A fact sheet will be forwarded to you with dates and places to be confirmed at a future time.

### DRIVING ADVISORY COURSES

Yes, I am interested. Please send a fact sheet and add my name to your list

NAME .....

TELEPHONE NO.....

STATION .....

Driving Experience .....years.

# Just how much have we evolved?

SECRET marriages were the product of strict regulations about women within the police service.

Historically women were expected to resign from their posts in return for tying the knot, a regulation which led to some rebellion.

Dorothy Watson (pictured) was a prime example. Born in 1897, Dorothy became a member of the Women Police Service in 1916, taking up a post in her native Colchester Borough in 1925.

At this time police forces were reluctant to recruit women, however Garrison towns recognised their uses.

In 1937 Dorothy, by then a sergeant, broke regulations by getting hitched to constable colleague David Kirk.

It wasn't until 1944, when David was killed in action, and Dorothy applied for a widow's pension, that the shocking news was revealed.

"The environment needs changing. It's not right that both men and women have to change in the same place."  
Male officer, HQ FSU

After great debate, the relevant authorities agreed to pay the pension, and with her marital state now acknowledged, Dorothy began to use her married name of Kirk.

Although, as Dorothy Watson has proved, there were female officers in boroughs, the first county officer in Essex wasn't enlisted until 1946, at which time the criteria was an age of 22 to 35 and single or widowed.

## Female prisoners

Police work was considered an exclusively male preserve well into the 20th century with many stations relying on the wives of policemen to care for any female prisoners.

During the First World War groups of female uniformed volunteers patrolled army camps and railway stations warning girls of the dangers of associating with soldiers.

These volunteers liaised with police but had no power of arrest. The Force did, however, contribute to their uniforms and supplied them with a notebook.

In 1941, a few year's prior to the first recruits, the

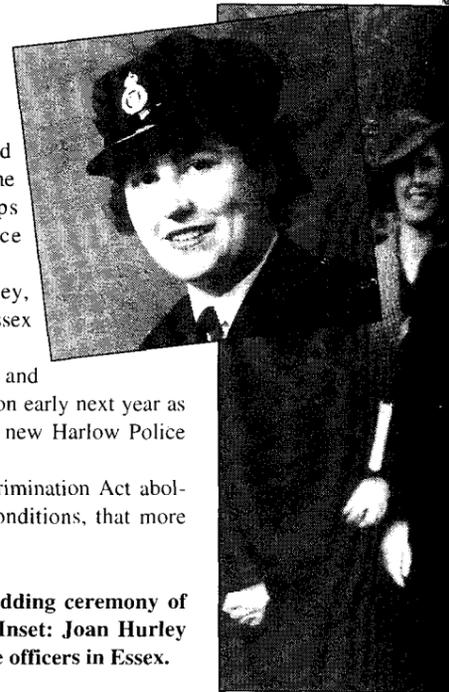
Essex Chief Constable was persuaded to employ 21 full time members of the Women's Auxiliary Police Corps (WAPCs) who again had no police powers.

One of these WAPC's, Joan Hurley, went on to become one of the first Essex regulars serving at Epping.

Joan retired in 1970 as a sergeant and will, in fact, be returning to her division early next year as a special guest at the opening of the new Harlow Police Station.

It was not until the 1975 Sex Discrimination Act abolished separate rank structures and conditions, that more chances were opened up for women.

● Pictured right is the secret wedding ceremony of Dorothy Watson and David Kirk. Inset: Joan Hurley one of the first regular women police officers in Essex.



## No regrets

"I COME to work, I do my job and go home. I've never expected preferential treatment."

They are the words of the highest ranking woman officer in Essex Police, Superintendent Joan Eason. The Southend based officer is adamant she has never been exposed to any discrimination during her years in the police service and says she is proud to have reached her high status.

"When I joined 30 years ago it was unusual for women to join the police for a career so I didn't then expect to reach my rank. Today is different, part time working and career breaks help a woman but it is still quite difficult being a police officer on shift and looking after a family."

Supt Eason retires later this month and says she would like to see more "competent" woman fill the place she leaves behind.

She says: "The opportunities are there if a woman wants to go for it."

Joan Eason started her police career in Lancashire, coincidentally the home



● Supt Joan Eason

of the newly appointed first woman Chief Constable. "I wish her every success, good for her, I wish it had been me, she made the choice and the opportunity was there", said Supt Eason.

Admitting she will be sad to retire the Joan said: "I wish I was 30 years younger and starting again, preferably at Southend!"

# ♂ Battle

THERE was a time when women in the police force were left 'holding the nursemaid to other members of the fairer sex.

Equality has evolved in leaps and bounds over the years. But within the police service are women getting a fair deal or has the issue of equality gone TOO far?

In terms of numbers Essex Police is on a par with the national average - about 13 per cent, but attitudes are somewhat more difficult to calculate.

There is no doubt there are male officers still of the opinion that police work isn't women's work, and female counterparts who feel they are discriminated against on the grounds of sex.

The question is how much is a realistic problem and how much is a perceived problem? Are women letting perception and not reality stand in the way of their careers?

One unit which still appears to be a male bastion, boasting just three women, is the Force Support Unit. There are 42 men.

Each year the unit is disappointed by the

**Feature by  
Kim White  
and Ian Deal**

number of applications received from female officers.

To qualify for the unit officers must hold a response driving permit and must also, as part of the selection process, undertake a basic firearms course.

Inspector Kevin Doyland told The Law: "There is an operational role for women in their own right and particularly in the firearms field."

"If we are running covert operations we need to establish a degree of normality, and a couple in a car or in a crowded High Street provides far better camouflage than a group of men. In that respect women play a very

prominent role."

In fact, there can't be under includes rural s order and rapid e also available for

Insp Doyland the work every fairly upfront an women expect: involved to the counterparts."

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Said Insp Doyl if the proportion equal. Two to thr create a better wc understand that shift may make a lated."

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As well as the organisation, then give female (and ty to see what lif entails.

Said Jan: "We there are any pa women officers fr posts or promotie they're happy bei

"As an organis developing and s and we are not lo but clearly we n remove unnessa that may be put in

## Dispelling the myth of the 'male bastion'

THE provision of child care facilities is one way to entice experienced female officers back into specialist posts, according to a recent report carried out on the Traffic Division by an Essex officer.

Her Majesty's Inspectors were disappointed, during visits earlier this year, by the small representation of female officers on Traffic, just 4 per cent.

As a result Rayleigh sergeant Mark Furneaux carried out some research and compiled a report.

A number of female officers were interviewed by Mark and their reasons for not applying to join Traffic ranged from not wanting to carry guns (as ARV officers), not knowing about car mechanics and the poor attitudes of traffic officers.

"Women don't have the physical attributes that men have. They don't have the ability to push and shove and stand up to the jobs in our society. But there are a lot of things they do better. They are excellent when dealing with kids and tragedies and passing agonies"  
Male officer, Clacton

At the time of his research there were 270 men and 11 women on the division.

Those actually eligible to apply (two years or more service) totalled 276 and of those just 50 had the required driving ability (Response Trained).

Mark points out: "On the face of it, the

situation is concerning, but when the figures are analysed Traffic Division has a high percentage of eligible female officers.

"Having said this, Essex Police should be looking at encouraging more female officers to join specialist departments by inviting them away from their traditional roles or encouraging more probationers to consider Traffic as an option later in their service."

As well as the more obvious recommendations such as a working party to look at options, a more detailed survey of women, Open Days and attachments, Mark also recommends greater encouragement for

women who leave to have children.

He explained: "The HMI highlighted the fact that there is one female officer working part-time after maternity leave."

"It may be that it is cheaper to re-employ a trained, experienced officer and have some form of child care facility, than to lose the wealth of knowledge and skills together with the cost of training a replacement probationer, who may also leave."

Head of Traffic Division, Superintendent Des McGarr is also keen to see more women taking an interest.

He said: "We have some of the most efficient and productive women officers on Traffic who enjoy the work. It is stressful and not everyone's cup of tea but no woman officer should feel inhibited."

"I am keen to increase the number of the right quality female officers on the division and welcome applications."



# Constable or kissogram?

ONE officer who has taken a particular interest in police equality is Inspector Chris Bainbridge at Harlow.

On a part-time basis Chris recently completed a Master of Arts in Women's Studies with her dissertation entitled *Constable or Kissogram? - An Exploration Of Representations Of Police Women*.

With 16 years service, Chris was, in fact, Equal Opportunities Officer before Ian Watson was employed.

It was during this period in her career and her work alongside Ian that Chris became conscious of an under-representation of women in specialist posts and a lack of willingness for them to offer themselves up for selection.

As a result a survey was carried out in 1993 questioning all constables who had more than two years service and weren't in specialist posts, a total of 179.

Said Chris: "We wanted to find out from them why they weren't applying, and the results made interesting reading."

Seventy per cent of the women surveyed responded. Of those, 72 per cent had made career considerations and 63 per cent had an interest in promotion.

A higher percentage of married women showed an interest in promotion than single women.

It was, however, also made clear that officer's with longer service were suffering from past discriminations when it came to career development.

One woman said: "Because of obstacles in my path in the early years I gave up planning for a while...my fourth application for a CID selection course in 1984 was 'binned' by my boss, after receiving a glowing recommendation from a detective sergeant. My boss wanted me to be an NBO."

Similar worrying comments were made on the subject of specialist posts.

"There are plenty of women in this job with skills for specialised posts who should be appointed and would be if it wasn't for the 'jobs for the boys' attitude of some, not all, senior officers."

Another believed it was "not what you know but who you know".

When the different available posts were looked at in closer detail it was the FSU which fared worst. Of 14 women considered for a post, six felt they were not welcome because they were women, five felt they were unsuccessful due to perceptions of culture and the other three felt they were actively discouraged.

## Inequalities

While the results of the surveys did raise concerns no specific retrospective action was taken, although other positive moves by Essex Police to combat inequalities shouldn't go unnoticed.

Insp Bainbridge said: "There is still the issue of what is women's work, it does still tend to be gendered. However, there is a new breed of officer coming through now with a new breed of training."

"There has been a vast improvement and probably on both sides. Women perhaps have more confidence and feel more comfortable in the more general role of police officer, and men are becoming used to patrolling with women."

There is no job within the police service, according to Insp Bainbridge, that women aren't capable of carrying out, and physical ability isn't necessarily an issue when there are women larger and stronger than some male officers.

Insp Bainbridge said: "It does of course have to be the right woman, but there is certainly a myth of what women are and aren't capable of doing."

But is Essex Police doing it right?

"The Force has put an awful lot of effort into raising awareness and it has to have some impact on people's sensitivity. But you will never get rid of the argument completely," said Insp Bainbridge.

"It has been argued that until there is at least 40 per cent of women in any organisation you won't be able to affect changes in culture."

## Training is leading the way

GENDER awareness training is pushing the message home to Essex Police that discrimination in the workplace will not be tolerated.

Assistant Chief Constable (Personnel and Training), Jim Conlan said: "We have an on-going programme of equal opportunities and gender awareness training for Pc's, Sgt's and support staff. Inspectors and their civilian equivalents have been through two day courses on equal opportunities. In a nutshell, we are a police service where everyone has got to be treated fairly and equally and we need to be conscious of the hurt that can be caused by an unfortunate choice of words."

But the ACC admitted abolition of discrimination was not an easy path and the problem starts in the

recruitment programme. "The police service is still seen by many people, particularly many outsiders, as a male dominated job. Many women do not wish for advertisements to deliberately infer women are especially invited to apply. If they are appointed the perception may be they achieved their appointment purely because they are a woman."

However the ACC said senior officers were not blinkered to the problem of women coming forward to take up specialist posts. "We are listening to the concerns expressed by officers and are acting on those concerns. Special open days for women are proposed and we are firmly behind such sensible suggestions."

# f the sexes ♀

## aby' or playing

roles on the unit which... by females. Work... llance, level 2 public... and raids. Openings are... le divers.

ned: "By the nature of... the unit needs to be... going. And each of the... take a chance and be... extent as their male

have in fact been nom... k-Kuf and baton train... re women, but because... the best for the job.

I would be quite happy... n to women were more... a shift would no doubt... environment and I can... the only female to a... an feel somewhat iso-

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we are committed to... ing all of our people... to single out women... work to identify and... d unjustifiable barriers... way."



And Jan reiterates the point that Essex Police is not attempting to meet any set targets.

"While we want to see a more equal number of women in post, setting targets can lead people to thinking women are only being hired to meet those targets - tokenism."

"It's a question of culture and getting people to look at their attitudes. This is still the root of a lot of problems and something which needs to be addressed more within the individual work-way."

**● ROLE REVERSAL?**  
FSU constable Kevin Parker is more than happy to be left holding baby Jack, while colleague Kay Blackman arms up with an MP5.

## It's the numbers which count?

- Total
- 2518 men
- 438 women
- Superintendents
- 30 men
- 1 woman
- Chief Inspectors
- 46 men
- 0 women
- Inspectors
- 127 men
- 13 women
- Sergeants
- 448 men
- 27 women
- Constables
- 1862 men
- 397 women
- Traffic
- 265 men
- 11 women
- CID
- 108 men
- 33 women
- FSU
- 42 men
- 3 women
- Dog Sections
- 44 men
- 2 women
- Mounted Section
- 6 men
- 1 woman
- Part-timers
- 1 man
- 34 women

"The are more old women in this force wearing trousers than there are skirts."  
Female officer, Southend

## Minding your coppers

### To commute or not to commute

POLICE officers approaching retirement have many decisions to face, many of them of a financial nature.

Perhaps the first decision is whether to commute part of the pension for a lump sum or to take the full pension.

As the vast majority of police officers opt for that lump sum this would seem a fairly simple matter. It is worth bearing in mind, however, that there are disadvantages as well as advantages and individual circumstances should be taken into account.

First consider some of the advantages:

**Flexibility** - a large sum gives far more flexibility, more options, than an extra few £1000 per year.

**Investment** - the lump sum can be invested to replace the income lost whilst still giving the prospect of some capital growth in the future.

**Tax Free** - the lump sum comes tax free - the extra pension benefit, if taken, would be taxable at your highest rate.

**Dependants** - in the event of your death, the dependants still have the benefit of the lump sum, but the widow's pension is not reduced. (Different rules apply to widowers).

**Spending** - part of the fun of planning for retirement is looking forward to what you are going to do. Why not reserve some of that lump for a special holiday - you deserve it!

What about the disadvantages?

**Statistics** - these can be used to prove anything. However, it is a fact that on average, a retiring police officer lives for over twenty five years. So you stand to get more money overall if you take the full pension. (This, however, ignores the fact that you can invest the lump sum to make it grow, or provide an additional income, often on a more tax efficient basis).

**The Police Mutual Society** is an incorporated friendly society regulated by the Personal Investment Authority.

# Essex TV team make the news

**THE Essex Police Television Unit has received a national award for its monthly in-force news programme *Focus*.**

It is the second year running the unit has won the In-Force News category in the Police Review/JVC Police Video awards.

Essex Police is also Highly Commended in the Training Category for its 10-minute video *Drawing the Line* which defines the responsibilities of police drivers, particularly in pursuit situations.

There were 100 entries for this year's awards, which were presented in London last week.

The judges praised the winning *Focus* video as being "the blueprint of what in-force news should be". They said: "Focus follows the format of national news programmes - it features a very professional panel of presenters and keeps its news stories short, punchy and informative."

*Focus* producers Phil Kenchington and Jo Curtis said: "It's great to have won, but what counts most is the reaction

from those we actually produce it for - if the officers and support staff of Essex Police enjoy it and find it informative, that's very rewarding."

The judges said *Drawing the Line* filmed a difficult subject very well. "It was very clear in its message, the continuity was superb, there was a good strong voice over, a good summing up at the end, a tight edit - all in all a very effective package."

## There's no clowning around in award-winning department

THIS colourful character is the product of the creative talents of the Crime Statistics section, who teamed up to assemble him in their spare time.

Although he has not yet been given an official name - his pet names are not

**By Jenny Grinter**

Head of Essex Police's Press and Information department, Ch/Insp Bob Hayes said: "The awards reflect the consistently high standard of video production achieved by the TV unit, and all the team are to be commended for their professionalism."

The unit has now won nine awards in the annual Police Review/JVC competition since 1987.

repeatable here(!) - he has already endeared himself to section manager John Stanbrook, who was presented with the clown to celebrate Crime Stats being awarded the coveted kite mark and certificate of the British Standards Institute. The BSI's international accreditation of ISO 9002 was formally presented to Mr Stanbrook, by Chief Constable, John Burrow and follows 18 months hard work.

Mr Stanbrook said: "The Crime Statistics section is committed to quality throughout its activities and strives to continuously improve the service it offers to its customers.

"However, it has been crucial that we should not change any of our working practices without good reason and any changes that we have made have been to improve our control over the quality of the statistics," he added.

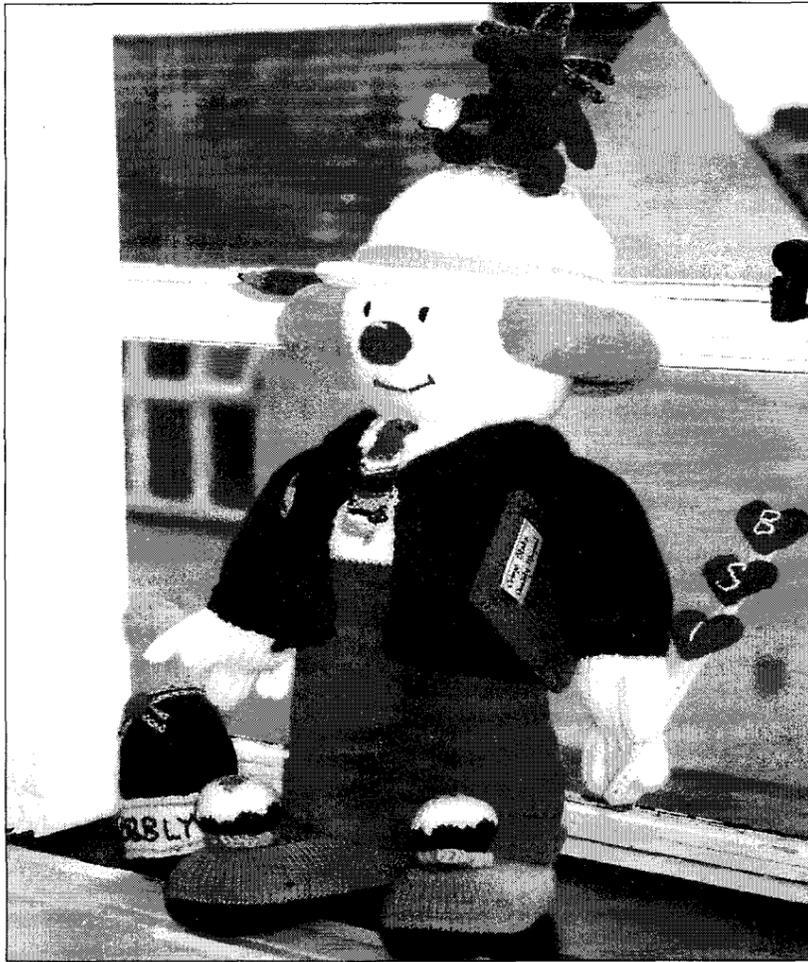
The setting up of a formal quality control system prompted close examination of what the section does and why.

As a result, the section is now in a strong position to continue offering a quality service to Essex Police, the Home Office and public, using existing and new technology, said Mr Stanbrook.

The BSI accreditation has been achieved with the help of independent consultant Ron Ibbitson, whose advice has been invaluable, he said.

Mrs Jennifer Luscombe, Administration Services Manager, commented: "This is a well-deserved award that recognises and validates the section's work towards continuous improvement in its practices and procedures."

The knitted clown was the result of a team effort by the staff in Crime Stats and features a number of departmental in-jokes, as well as references to the award.



● The unnamed clown marks an award-winning department.

## Apply now for Holiday Fund

THE Holiday Fund for 1996 begins on January 15 and application forms will shortly be forwarded to every current members and spare forms to Divisional Admin Offices.

When completed they should be returned to Mr L. Seals c/o Sports Club Office, Southend Police Station by no later than Saturday, December 9.

All existing participants must complete a new application form.

The fund is open to police officers and civilian employees and is intended as a

means to saving for annual holidays. Subscriptions are deducted at source from salaries and the amount cannot be changed during the year.

Three quarters of a members yearly entitlement may be withdrawn on written application between April 1 and September 30.

At least 14 days notice of requirements must be given for withdrawals. The remaining quarter will be paid early December without application.

## Search for body

A VAST search of a field in Wethersfield failed to reveal the body of a young girl thought to be buried there.

Three days were spent digging the field after a teenager told Metropolitan Police Child Protection officers that she had witnessed the burial back in 1991.

The allegation could not be linked with any existing missing person nationally.

## Mind your own business

The Column of the Ex-Essex Police Business Association.

JOHN VINEY

We will all miss John, who passed away last week after a long illness. Being a founder member and our first treasurer his inspiration and wit will always be fondly remembered.

Our best wishes and deepest sympathy go to his wife, Teresa.

AGM

The first year of the Association was considered to be very successful with members forging their own business futures, gaining personal experience with the exchange of ideas and receiving advice and guidance from the many specialist guest speakers who gave presentations at our meetings.

The concept of the Association continues to be governed by the needs of the members and a second year is eagerly anticipated to provide even more useful assistance to all.

The Officers of the Association continue as before with the exception of a new Treasurer, Ian Wright.

## RETIRED OR RETIRING SOON?

You do not have to be employed or actually retired to join the Association, if you are approaching retirement or have retired but are looking for ideas as to what to do then who better than to speak to than those who have seen it, done it and got the T shirt.

Contact Dick Bloomfield or Bob Craven for a run down on the Association. You will be surprised what you can gain from it.

THE LAW

The issue of *The Law* that showed the diverse occupations of our members was a tremendous boost to promoting their skills and the aims of the Association.

Several new members have joined since then and hopefully some increase in customers has resulted.

XMAS GATHERING

Our next meeting on Wednesday 13 December 1995 is to be twinned with Xmas Lunch at The Crown Inn, Sandon.

Commencing at 12 midday we will be holding a short meeting followed by a three course meal at a cost of £12 per head.

New members will be welcome. Contact Bob Craven on 01702 511567 for the appropriate forms.

NEW MEMBERS & ENQUIRIES

Contact Dick Bloomfield - Secretary on Tel/Fax 01702 202959.

Bob Craven,  
Assistant Secretary

## Video evidence wins assault case and award

A VIDEO, showing evidence of a nightclub brawl in Southend, has led to four successful convictions and an award for the technical expertise of two HQ based support staff.

David White, from the Television Unit, and Ken Linge, from Photographic, were able to enhance the video showing an incident of violent disorder, and provide photographic and facial mapping evidence for Chelmsford Crown Court.

### Recognised

Last month the two were recognised for their achievements by receiving commendations for their high quality work.

David White said: "This isn't our usual type of work but it is important to use high quality video equipment when using video for evidential purposes.

"Video is an ever increasing medium for gathering intelligence. I feel quite embarrassed to receive the award but it's nice to have the diversity of the TV Unit's ability acknowledged."

Ken Linge said the facial mapping system, which provides a new way of electronically laying one picture over another to prove points of similarity, was an exciting development in the effective use of CCTV footage.

### Evidence

"The evidence gathered from surveillance cameras can only be put to good evidential use with the use and development of this system. It's nice to have recognition for the work we do," he said.

DS Martin Poole from Southend CID said: "The people attacked in this incident refused to make any statements and so the successful prosecution relied solely on the strength of the video and the facial mapping system. If it had not been for the video there would not had been a conviction."

Four local men were each sentenced for two years for violent disorder, GBH and ABH.

# Essex on target to meet objectives

ESSEX Police is pleased with its achievements in quality policing published last month in Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary's annual report.

The report for the first time included all police forces performance against the Home Secretary's five key objectives for 1994/5.

The first two objectives dealt with increasing the detection rate of violent crimes and burglaries.

The force performed well in both areas with an increase in detections in both categories - violent crime detections rose from 74.5% to 76.3% while the burglary detection rate rose greatly from 25.8% to 33.3%.

The third objective looked at tar-

getting and preventing crimes which are a problem in a particular area. Here Essex Police was able to identify many areas being singled out including drugs, drunkenness and public order.

Car Crime showed an encouraging fall in offences 15.1% down on the previous year while burglaries too dropped by 20.7% from 17,556 to 13,921.

Essex Police had not conducted surveys into the fourth objective - to provide high visibility policing to reassure members of the public.

However, the service is seeking to achieve an appropriate balance between high quality policing and operations aimed at arresting persis-

tent criminals.

Essex Police did receive 2,747 letters of appreciation from the public writing in relation to the service we provide.

The final objective looked at two areas, firstly the percentage of 999 calls answered within the Essex Police target of 10 seconds.

Though the figure fell slightly from 87.8% in 1993/4 to 84.6%, this year there were nearly 5,000 more calls handled by the service.

A survey carried out by Essex Police showed 92.5% of callers were satisfied or very satisfied with the way they were dealt with on the phone.

The second part of the objective focused on how promptly we attended immediate response incidents.

The target being 12 minutes for urban areas and 16 minutes for rural areas, it was achieved 85.4% of the time.

Assistant Chief Constable, Jim Dickinson, said: "The achievements in crime reduction and the detection of offences reflects not only on the members of Essex Police, but is also a reflection on the spirit of co-operation and partnership being developed within Essex to reduce crime. We will continue to improve the service we provide to the people of Essex."

# New vest on trial

PURCHASES of protective vests have being put on a hold while a new style of vest is developed by Metropolitan Police.

The vest, known as a *Metvest*, is being kept under wraps while the prototype is being made, but members of the Essex Officer Safety group are aware of certain claims.

The *Metvest* is both ballistic and stabproof, unlike our current vests, and is designed to be lighter and more comfortable.

The drawback is that it achieves a

### By Kim White

slightly lower level of protection than the national standard. It does, however, contain other advantages.

In the meantime, as a result of a survey finished in June, there are currently 180 of our standard vests on division, available immediately.

Before the end of the year the Met will be field testing the vest with the aim of completing their evaluation in January.

Staff officer, MSD, Sgt Chris Macintosh, said: "The bottom line is that this vest promises to be better than anything currently on offer and it's worth waiting to see what the facts are before we purchase."

The Officer Safety Group, chaired by ACC Jim Conlan, is also keen to update officers on the shield and Quik-Kuf situation.

More small shields are to be purchased following feedback from officers who have used them in violent situations.

There are currently two shields in the boot of all response vehicles and the additional purchases will enable all marked vehicles to be equipped.

Meanwhile, those officers not yet trained to use the new Quik-Kufs can expect to be trained once baton training has finished.

A new batch is being delivered and Defensive Skills Instructors will be tasked to exchange them for current issue.

An externally worn equipment belt has been trialed in the county with attachments for radio, torch, first aid pack and the new cuffs. Holders for the new batons also fit the belt.

Some officers have said that it was uncomfortable worn with the leather belt so an 'inner' belt has been designed and is being trialed.

Any views or ideas with regard to equipment should be sent to Sgt Chris Macintosh at HQ MSD.

## A special exercise



WHEN large nurt Office.

men, ambulance, a feeling of per-white hard hats gather together, it is either because of a major incident at a building site, or because someone has spent the past 18 months planning a multi-agency exercise!

At the former RAF base at Wethersfield there was just such a gathering for *Exercise Special Reserve*, when Essex Specials teamed up with volunteers from the Essex Fire and Rescue Service and St John Ambulance to put their training to the test.

Devised by Braintree Divisional Officer John Salmon, the exercise involved rival protest groups clashing in the High Street, with a multi-vehicle fatal road accident giving this volatile public order situation its flashpoint.

With the Casualty Union making their own gruesome contribution to the mayhem and other volunteers throwing themselves into the fray with enthusiasm, the Specials taking part in this exercise had their work cut out to keep the situation under control.

DO Salmon told the 'players' at the pre-exercise briefing: "The purpose of the exercise is team building. For the fire service, it is something you do all the time, but my officers do not get a lot of opportunity for that.

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CC is important to remember that with thing like this there is no right and wrong way of doing things. You are going to be presented with a situation and you will deal with it. If you make a mistake today, learn from it. That is what it is all about."

Witham Section Officer Derek Hopkins said he hoped all those taking part in the exercise would find something in it to which they could relate and he urged everyone to 'get into your roles'.

Taking Derek at his word was his wife Julie who, at short notice, and with no previous experience of this type of exercise, played the part of an hysterical mother whose baby had been trapped in a burning car.

So realistic was Julie's performance that many observers agreed she deserved an Oscar!

Insp Mike Smith, from Witham, was on hand to see fair play and to record the event on video for future training sessions.

He said afterwards that it had been a good chance for co-operation between the services taking part.

"We rarely get opportunities to get together, but when we do, we work together well," he said, adding that he had been very impressed by the amount of effort put into the exercise by all those who took part."

## Essex Police Band Annual Christmas concerts 1995

Monday, December 18  
&  
Tuesday, December 19  
at  
7.30pm

Marconi Social Club  
Beehive Lane, Chelmsford

Admission £3

Tickets for December 18 available direct from  
Marconi Social Club on 01245 269422

Tickets for December 19 available from  
Pc Bill Brightmore, Chelmsford Traffic.

Cheques with SAE made payable  
to Essex Police Band.

**Market Place . . Market Place**

**BMW K100LT 1989, 'G'** touring motorcycle, red, superb condition, £4,000. Contact Paul Mower on 01279 868160 or 01992 893111.

**CARAVAN** top box, 1.3m x 0.8m, white, £75. Contact John Green on 01371 875841.

**CYPRUS**, Limassol. One bedroom apartment, sleeps four, from £150 per week. Contact John Green on 01371 875841 for further details.

**DRUM** tuition lessons in all styles, jazz, rock etc. One to one tuition. Contact Garry on 01621 855635.

**FOR** sale. Ford Escort 1.7D, 'L' Reg. 1993, good condition, many extras, three year warranty, £7,250 ono. Contact Kieron Dale on 01245 223616 or 01245 226585.

**FOR** sale. Large 4 bed detached house fronting marina on River Blackwater, Maylandsea. Space for boat, caravan, £85,500. Contact Edna Bennett on 01702 302773.

**FOR** sale. Mobile home sited at Blackmore, two beds, lounge, dining room, kitchen, central heating, garden, £40,000. Contact Ann at Brentwood on 01277 262212.

**FREEZER** chest, 3ft deeps, 3ft by 2ft wide. Contact Mark Osborne on 01245 321770 or 69288.

**GOOD** homes wanted for cats and kittens. Contact Miss Parsonson on 01206 211237.

**KAWASAKI GPX 600R**, 1988, 'F' reg, full service history, MOT, tax, 19,900 genuine miles, white/red, superb condition, £2,300 ono. Contact Pc Spink at Harlow Traffic on 01279 641221.

**LODGER** required to share house in Witham. Large size bedroom share use of bathroom/kitchen/lounge etc. £300 pcm inclusive of all bills except telephone. For details contact Philippa on 01376 520516 or mobile 0378 068297.

**K-REG** Ford Granada Scorpio, black, leather, full service history, CD, stereo, alarm immobiliser, air conditioning, immaculate condition, £7,600. Contact Pc Gardner at Brentwood.

**LEATHER** motorcycle jacket. TT leathers, 38-40 chest as new, £65. VW

Passat continental headlights, 1989, £30. Contact Mr Newbury on 01245 266335.

**MEGA** drive games, F22, Super Thunder Blade, World of Illusions, £15 each. Echo the Dolphin, £20, Mortal Combat £25. Contact Karen on 01621 855635.

**OPEN** University. Would anyone who has done course EU208 contact Ex Sgt David Matthams on 01376 345328.

**RACING** bike Titanium Dynatel as new. Suit gent 5ft 8ins to 6ft worth £800, will sell for £500. Contact Simon Payne at Harlow.

**SWAGMAN** motorcycle saddlebags, £20. Top Tek Spectra open face helmet and visor, white, £50.

**SEGA** mega drive, fully boxed, including two joy pads and five games, £99. Great Christmas present. Contact Karen on 01621 855635.

**THREE** bedroomed house, attached garage, UVPC glazed, brick shed, rear patio, gas heating, Rayleigh, £69,995. Contact Paul Lamb on 01268 778400, ext 33424.

**TRITON** power shower, still under guarantee complete with pump etc, £125. Contact Pc Rowe on ext 58141.

**TRIUMPH** Bonne Ville T140V, 1976, MOT, UK and US tanks, recent overhaul, alloy rims, powder coated frame, electronic ignition, new valves/guides, excellent condition, £2,500 ono. Contact Mr Newbury on 01245 266335.

**TWO** bedroom Victorian terrace house in Halstead, good condition, great location, £39,500. Contact John Denton, 'B' shift, Harlow.

**WANTED** for charity shop in Chelmsford, clothes, books, toys, bric-a-brac. Collection can be arranged. Contact Rod Clare on 52008 or 01245 250826.

**WANTED**. Enamel badges. Collector requires all types especially ASP memorabilia. Contact Sgt Jed Stopher at HQ FU on ext 53073.

**YAMAHA** 750 motorbike, 1988, taxed and tested, very good condition, £2,200 ono. Contact Kevin Ferrer on 01371 876413.

THE fifth anniversary of IPA Erfurt (ex East Germany) was a very successful event.

I managed not only to represent Essex but the whole of the British section, resplendent in my uniform with stripes and my old collar number.

Also present in uniform was an officer from Latvia. Our conversation was limited as my German friend, who spoke Russian, translated to my Dutch friend in German so that he could interpret into English.

I did learn that they hope to start an IPA branch in Latvia. I think I also conveyed that I collect police hats and I await a parcel with a Latvian postmark.

Our treasurer and Peter have entertained an IPA member from Kenya. Helen met him whilst on holiday.

Another visit to the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower was enjoyed by members from Mid Essex and South East Essex. Such was the demand for places that another visit is booked for February 27. We also have in mind a Jack the

**—I.P.A.—**

Ripper tour on January 26.

The AGM will be at Southend bar on February 5 (be pleased to see more members there).

**Gordon Oakley**

ONCE again the festive season draws near and arrangements have been made for our annual get together to be held in The Barn, Sandon, adjoining the Police Dog Section on Friday, December 15.

I am sure you will not be disappointed with the chosen venue. It will be classed as an American Supper, with the ladies preparing their usual delicacies, with the men supplying the drink.

Do come along and make it an enjoyable evening. There is ample car parking facilities.

**Forthcoming events:**

**Friday, January 19** - The AGM to be held in the Function Room of the new Sports and Social Pavilion at HQ. Followed by a talk from Peter

Simpson on one of his many travels.

**Friday, February 9** - Our annual dinner is to be held at the New Times Inn, Tiptree. Arrangements are being made for the Force coach to be available to convey those who so wish to travel from HQ and back.

**Friday, March 8** - This will be a home venue. Arrangements are being made for a person to give a talk on a matter interesting to all. Anyone who may know such a person should contact Dick Giggins.

Members may have already received a letter on the Edinburgh Tattoo, from **Friday, August 16 to Monday August 19**.

Staying at a good quality hotel in Northumbria, for three nights on a bed, breakfast and evening meal basis, Saturday would probably be spent in Edinburgh and the evening at the Tattoo.

I understand the cost would be £123 per person plus the cost of the entry to the Tattoo, expected to be between £12 to £14. Anyone interested please contact our Social Secretary Dick Giggins.



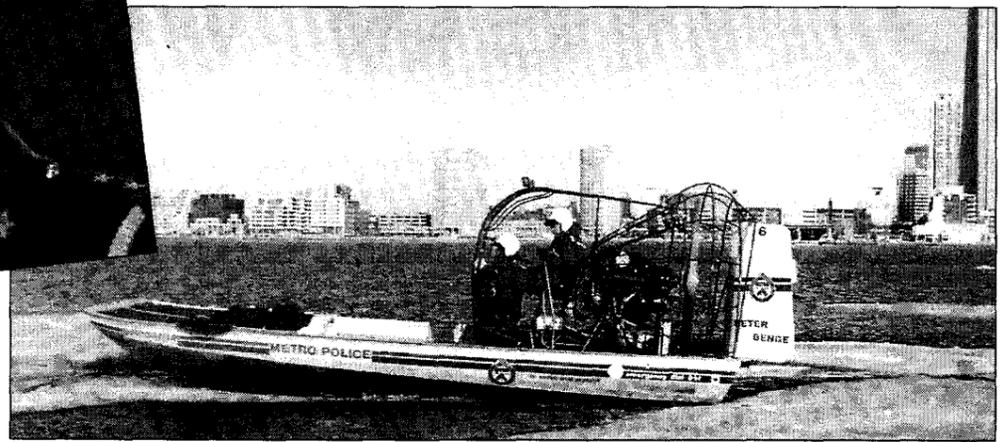
ON Tuesday, September 5, I arrived in Toronto, Canada, to undertake some work on behalf of the Ontario Provincial Police.

My arrival followed the crash of the RAF plane in Lake Ontario the previous weekend. Television and the media were still running stories in relation to the search which was taking place for the crew of the plane.

During this I became aware that Metropolitan Toronto Police were engaged in the search and, as part of their search procedures, they were using a turbo-propelled boat which had been designed for winter rescues named the 'Peter Benge'.

Peter Benge was a police officer who joined Southend Borough Police in the early 60s, emigrating to Canada to join the Metropolitan Toronto Police in 1966.

I met him in Canada in 1985 when he was then serving with the Morality Squad, dealing



● Rescue boat christened the 'Peter Benge' in memory of former Southend officer. **TOP LEFT: Peter Benge**

predominantly with drug investigations. I know he was held in very high esteem for the work he undertook in this area.

Sadly, about three years ago, I became aware that Peter had been unwell and was suffering from cancer. He transferred from the Morality Squad to the Marine Unit which completed a circle - before he joined the Southend Borough Police he was a licensed pilot on the River Thames.

Whilst in Canada I was able to obtain a copy of the obituary of Staff Inspector Peter Benge and a photo of the boat named after him. I know there will be some members of the old Borough Force, who will

remember him, including Albert Garner, who served with him in Toronto and Fred Feather.

My fear with the warning area. I have not returned to the same ill-feeling with every day that we shall be experiencing the same ill-feeling



**AFTER** am ab that it ties fro or who existin I can this are changes from the Howe who bou notified.

**NARPO notes**

THE annual dinner held at the Arlington Rooms on October 12 was, despite a small drop in numbers, one of the best.

The meal was excellent and Syd Uren's entertainment kept the evening going throughout, and everyone on their toes.

An added bonus (for me at least) was to see quite a few new faces, both members and their guests. I have arranged a tentative date for next year, subject to committee approval, which is October 24.

Whilst on the subject of dates, I have arranged the Winter Social at Southend Police Club on Wednesday, February 21, at 8pm.

Last but not least, we welcome a number of new members to the branch - Ron and Francis Kelsey, Tony and Pauline Moore and, on their return from the wilds of Norfolk, Ken and Josephine Sylvester.

**Brian Taylor**

I VERY much regret that due to circumstances beyond our control the Christmas Social planned for December 8 this year will not be held. I have written to all those people who had already booked and refunded their money.

We hope that next year the situation will have been clarified as to the bar at Headquarters and that we will once again be able to get together.

I am pleased to report that we had a very pleasant trip to Granada Studios in October, during which we visited Holmfirth where some of our friends were caught on camera with Compo whilst others visited Sid's Cafe.

We enjoyed a trip down Coronation Street, visited various studio departments and had a lively debate in the House of Commons. On the way home on Sunday we called at Eyam and Bakewell in the Peak District.

**Doug Rampling**

**John does a runner**

THE OLDEST level two trained inspector in the county, possibly the country, is hanging up his shield at the grand age of 53.

Energetic Inspector John McCabe, who has spent the last 10 months of his service at Brightlingsea, says he had no pleasure in coming into conflict with the local people but was proud with how professionally he and his colleagues dealt with the situation.

John, who has managed to survive 34 years of non-stop shift work, met his wife Heather when he was stationed at Brentwood, Heather was also stationed there as a special constable.

Now after a tour of the county, John finishes his service in Clacton, the town where he was born. He intends to carry on with his keep fit activities including race walking and Croker Cup events and is already planning to run in the 1997 London Marathon.

John who lives in Colchester, is also looking forward to spending more time with his two

grandchildren and continuing his involvement in church voluntary work.

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

- Supt Joan Eason, **Southend, 30 years (5.12.95).**
- Insp Gordon Nisbet, **Basildon, 30 years (16.11.95).**
- Sgt Keith Hardy, **Laindon Traffic, 30 years (10.12.95).**
- Ds Tony Rulten, **CSB, 30 years (30.11.95).**
- Dc David Watson, **Special Branch, 27 years, (4.12.95)**
- Pc Michael Ager, **Braintree, 26 years (7.8.95).**
- Pc Julian Cooper, **Witham, 33 years (23.11.95).**
- Pc Raymond Finch, **Stanway Traffic, 32 years (13.11.95).**
- Pc Paul Blake, **Stansted Airport, 28 years (26.11.95).**
- Pc Stephen MaGregor, **Southend, 25 years (19.11.95).**
- Mrs K. Hibberd, **Harlow Process, 25 years (1.7.95).**

**BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX**


Name and Rank .....

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

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

**LAW SPORT... LAW SPORT ... LAW SPORT ... LAW SPORT ... LAW SPORT****County team run out of luck**

THERE were mixed fortunes for the Essex Police squad in the first race of the season at Welwyn.

While the 'A' team packed three into the first six, there was some reason for rejoicing, but there was little else to celebrate as most of the others languished well down in the field and the women failed to put out a full team.

Trying to be positive, however, the performances of Martin Gormley (2nd), Mick Bond (3rd), and Mike Kliskey (6th) were all worthy of note and if we can provide some good quality back-up for the remainder of the season, Essex might figure in the honours.

It was nevertheless disappointing that both the men's 'B' team and the ladies were one runner short.

The next SEPAA race is today (November 15) at Oxford and the next home fixture is on Thursday, December 14. Race start time is 2.30pm but help would be appreciated before and after with marking out and collecting in equipment.

If you fancy some extra races then you could try the delights of RAF Marham (November 22) and the UEA in Norwich (December 6). Speak to Roy Kebbelle for details.

**Sports Pavilion Opens**

A BRAND new purpose built sports pavilion was officially opened at police headquarters last month, providing the best in sport and leisure facilities.

Built at cost of around £300,000, the 'L' shaped complex boasts two welcoming bars, a sport shop, and a general function room available free of charge for weddings etc.

The building was officially opened by Chairman of The Police Authority, Councillor Richard Boyd.

The pavilion, partly funded by the sports shop, can be used by any member of the Sports Association. Anyone who would like further information on the Sports Pavilion should contact the Force Sports Secretary, Pc. Chris Jacob on extension 58888.



● Richard Boyd unveils a plaque marking the opening of the pavilion with Essex Chief Constable, John Burrow.

# Essex hockey teams are on the ball

**ESSEX Police Men's Hockey Club have gone from strength to strength since joining the Adnams League this season.**

The team is unbeaten in five games are currently top of their division. The 'Esprit de Corps' generated from playing every Saturday has spilled over to the PAA competition and this year Essex have knocked out two of the favourite sides beating Gloucester 4-1 after extra time, and Devon and Cornwall 5-1.

Some excellent performances from Matt brooking and Mark Shaw have earned them mentions in the local press and the team's

reputation is of the highest.

They travel to Hampshire, as we go to press, for the next round of the PAA and a win there will give them a place in the zone final for the second year running, something which has never previously been achieved in the club's history.

This year's achievements would not be possible without the support of supervisors all over the county who allowed officers the time off to attend matches and I would like to thank them on behalf of the team.

Geordie Tyson.

## Success over Thames Valley

THE start of the 1995/96 season saw the ladies and men of Essex Police amalgamating.

The men have joined a league and play their games on a Saturday, the ladies are attempting to play their games on a Sunday, opting to remain committed to their respective club teams at present. However it is proving difficult to field a complete side.

Despite these difficulties a lot of effort has been contributed and results so far are a win over Witham (5-0), a PAA win over Thames Valley (9-0) and a loss to Basildon (2-0).

In the match against Thames Valley, Essex made a good start scoring two goals

## Rugby seasons starts well

FSU 33 - HARLOW 0

HQ Force Support Unit were celebrating success after playing their first rugby match of the year against Harlow.

Harlow players, Cliff Roomes, Gary Cootes and Dave Grighton - Smith put in a particularly good performance but the overall strength of the FSU team held to the end.

Any divisions interested in arranging a fixture should contact Nick Cohen at the Diving Unit on extensions 53091 or 53075.

### Scottish Rugby Tour

A rugby tour to Scotland is being arranged for early next year - any standard of player is welcome along to join or support the team.

Interested parties should contact either Paul Daly or Nick Cohen. The event will last three days and will be hosted by the Strathclyde Police in Glasgow.

(Debbie Grainger and Wendy Brown) in the first 15 minutes.

Unfortunately, at the same time Theresa Lucas hobbled off the pitch with an injury to a calf muscle, leaving Essex with just 10 players.

There was some excellent team play and by half time a third goal by Kay Blackman had gone in.

### Tactics

In the second half Essex consolidated their position with the whole team giving 100 per cent with some excellent passing and switching tactics between the halves and the forwards.

The goals continued to go in, scorers being Bev Fenning, Sue Harrison and another three from Debbie Grainger, which included a penalty flick.

The game concluded with an unfortunate incident, a minute and a half before full time, with Kay Blackman and the Thames Valley goalkeeper colliding in the penalty area, Kay having put the ball in the net. The goal stood, but Kay was left injured with a suspected broken nose.

In a mixed hockey home game against the Harlequins, Essex lost 5-0.

Future fixtures see the ladies playing a PAA match on November 26 and a meet with Northants on December 3. The mixed team meet Elmstead on November 19.

Anyone interested in playing hockey for Essex should contact Kay Blackman, ext 53075, Vic Murphy, 'D' shift at Chelmsford, or Theresa Lucas at Colchester.

## Intatravel discounts

The Sports Association has arranged with Intatravel Holidays, the largest independent Travel Agent in south east England, for its members to become VIP customers.

Discounts range from 7% for overseas package holidays, 5% on flight only bookings, 4% on ferries and up to 20% on selected campaigns.

To become a VIP card holder contact the Force Sports Secretary.

## Force Sports Association

### Boxing

South Ockendon boxer Pc. Daniel Stoten will represent the British Police against the British Army on Thursday 16 November in London.

### Duathlon

The Police Duathlon Championships held in Cleveland on Sunday 8 October (six mile run, 23 mile cycle and three mile run) - won by Pc. Mike Kliskey, Air Support Unit.

### Women's Rugby Football Union

West Yorkshire Police are seeking to form a British Police Women's Rugby Football Union Section. Anyone interested should contact Chris Jacob on extension 58888.

### Croker Cup

FOOTBALL - Tendring beat Thurrock.

TABLE TENNIS - Headquarters beat Basildon.

Harlow received a walkover against Rayleigh.

DARTS - Tendring beat Rayleigh.

BILLIARDS - Southend beat Tendring. Harlow received a walkover against Rayleigh.

SNOOKER - Southend beat Harlow.

GOLF - At Stisted Golf Club on 28 September - First Braintree, then Southend and Colchester.

BADMINTON - At Westcliff on 25 October - First Headquarters, then Chelmsford and Southend.

### Lottery

This months lottery result is as follows:

£1500 Pc. David Innes - Westcliff. £1000 - Les Howman - HQ. £500 - Philip Pewsey - Pensioner. £300 - Pc. Ray Stannard - Chelmsford. £200 - C/Insp Micheal Holyoak - Grays. £100 - Supt. Graham Dossett - Braintree.

The following receive £50 consolation prizes. Pc. Philip Golding - Laindon Traffic. Pc. Victor Russo - HQ. Pc. Derek Lee - HQ. Insp Peter Hudson - Harwich. Pc. Colin Reynolds - Moulsham Lodge. Pc. Anthony Welham - Clacton. Anthony Hubbard - HQ. Brian Simpson - Clacton. Pc. Haydn Oakey - Brentwood. Grace

**CHILDRENS WORLD**

**Save 10%**

**Exclusive Christmas Shopping Evenings**

on  
**29th November**  
for all employees  
**6.00pm - 9.00pm**  
**SAVE 10%**  
ON ALL  
**PURCHASES MADE DURING THE EVENING**  
Queensgate Centre, HARLOW

**Close cup competition**

ON Wednesday, October 24 the Croker Cup Badminton Tournament was held at Chase Sports and Fitness Centre. This is the fifth year badminton has been included in the competition, the event organised by Mick Thorp and assisted by resident referee, Alan Lancaster.

Seven teams took part but unfortunately Basildon, Thurrock and Tendring were unable to field a team.

There were some very close and competitive games especially in the mixed doubles. The first round game between Southend (Julie Gowen and Steve Davey) and HQ (Kathy Flegg and Peter Ramsey) was a very long game, with both pairs playing extremely well. Southend eventually won 15-9, 15-13.

They went on to win the event overall, but not before another close and exciting game against Colchester, S.O. Meara and Richard Edwards. Julie and Steve managed to keep up their momentum winning 17-15, 11-15 and 15-10.

Unfortunately Richard had to play his singles event against Peter Ramsay almost immediately after that marathon. He also kept up his momentum winning the last game of the tournament 15-0, 15-8.

This year there was a new event, the veteran mixed doubles for men over 40 and women over 35. This event was included in the PAA last year for the first time. Although there were few entries, mainly due to it being the first time of inclusion and not familiar to the captains, it proved to be an interesting event.

As usual headquarters put in a very strong team making them eventual winners of the tournament with Chelmsford runners-up and Southend third.

**Headquarters - 54 points (12 Croker)**

**Chelmsford - 51 points (10 Croker)**

**Southend - 42 points (8 Croker)**

**Harlow - 39 points (7.5 Croker)**

**Colchester - 36 points (5.5 Croker)**

**Braintree - 36 points (5.5 Croker)**

**Rayleigh - 18 points (4 Croker)**

The PAA No 5 Region Championships Tournament will be held in Sussex Police Headquarters at a date to be fixed some time in January or February.

This year the team I hope to take to Sussex will be of a very high calibre since the new ruling that civilian personnel are allowed to take part.

At present we hold the ladies singles and doubles title, along with the vets mens doubles.

# The oldest goalie in town?

**SHANKLIN Football Club, from the Isle of Wight, were the hosts for the Essex Police Football Club tour in October.**

**And Essex was proud to boast goalie Bob Cordery, thought to be the first police pensioner to represent the club, who didn't concede a single goal.**

**Unfortunately the Essex Police 1st team was poorly represented, the mainstay support being from the Basildon Divisional team.**

The tour party stayed at the Altavia Hotel, Sandown, which was totally at the disposal of the 29 guests. John Tatum, proprietor, is possibly better known for his personal sponsorship of Basildon United FC. The food and accomodation was excellent and John will always make any Essex Police personnel most welcome.

Any suggestions that our hosts were having difficulty in getting together a squad for the Wednesday afternoon kick off were soon dispelled, by 2.32pm

when they took the lead.

Having won the toss, Essex had chosen to kick into the wind hoping to contain their opponents. However, it was soon evident that the Shanklin team are a very fit side with plenty of movement both on and off the ball.

## Disallowed

Within a short time, the ball had been struck to the back of the Essex net on five occasions, the last being disallowed and the result looked likely to be an

embarrassment for the touring side.

On the occasions that Essex were able to penetrate the Shanklin defence, the shooting was way off target and their goalkeeper was hardly troubled. A serious appeal for a penalty went unheeded but towards the close of the half, a Shanklin defender handled the ball when under very little pressure and Essex were awarded a penalty. Glynn Evans struck the ball hard and low to the keeper's left and the teams changed round with the score at 4-1.

Kicking with the wind, the Essex team began to take more control of the game and managed to contain the Shanklin forwards' movement. From a long and deep cross into the Essex penalty area, Bob Cordery, the Essex second half goalkeeper, seized the ball, a quick long wind-assisted kick found Murthwaite (junior) deep in the Shanklin half. He ran onto the through ball and slotted it past the 'keeper. Essex took heart from this success and a greater determination became apparent.

About midway through the second half, Cliff Haines latched into a through pass from Matt Clark and coolly fired beyond the reach of the Shanklin 'keeper to make the scoreline more respectable.

Despite several strong attacks by Shanklin later in the game, the Essex defence remained resolute and conceded no further goals and might actually have scored on several occasions but it was not to be. The result was a respectable scoreline of 4-3.

After the match our hosts entertained the team and supporters in their bar and there were the usual exchanges of memorabilia before the return to the hotel.

Arrangements are already in hand for a Shanklin Veteran's team to visit Essex next year with a return veteran's team visit to the Isle of Wight in 1997.

## Mud, glorious mud

ROLLING about in the mud on New Year's Day might not seem like everyone's cup of tea but according to Air Support Unit officer Mike Kliskey, you can't beat it.

In fact he is looking for a host of people to join him.

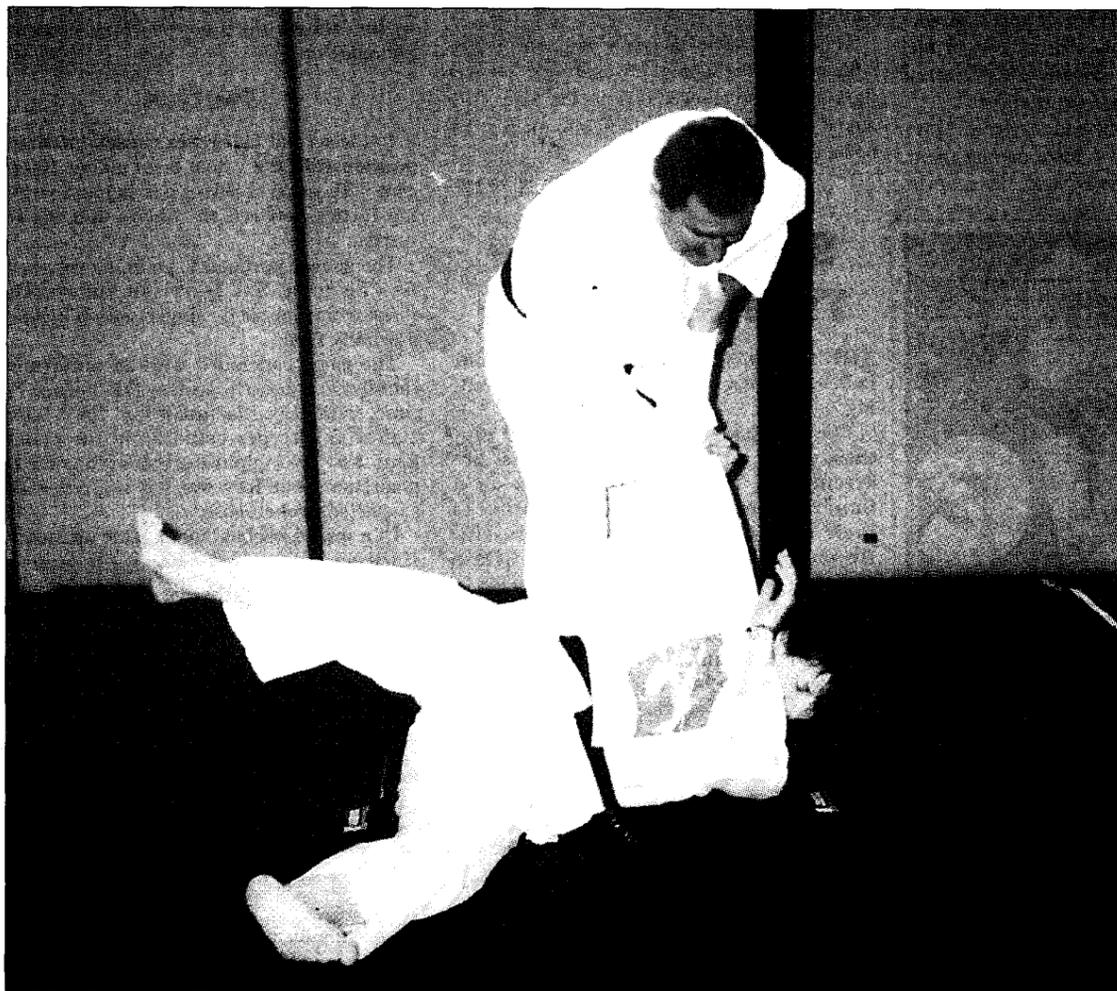
The reason is actually the Maldon Mud Race, an annual event which entails trudging 400 yards through the mud at Maldon from one bank of the estuary to another, and it's all in the aid of charity.

Teams need to have a minimum of four competitors but no maximum.

It's an event which attracts a lot of attention and was in fact filmed, last year, by a Chinese television company.

So if you think it's the ideal way to rid of that New Year hangover, contact Mike at the Unit on 01245 451564.

## Throw yourself into judo



*FED up sitting around on Sunday afternoons with nothing to do? Why not join the Essex Police Judo Club.*

*Blackbelts Pc Bob Foster and Pc Lynda Morris hold the club between 3pm and 5pm every Sunday afternoon at the Sports Hall in The Headquarters Training Centre. It began at the beginning of this month.*

*Said Lynda: "We will teach anyone who shows an interest, be it for a hobby, or to compete in competitions.*

*"It's early days, but it would be nice to eventually enter a team into PAA competition."*

*Anyone interested should contact Bob at Stansted Airport on ext 22320 or Lynda at HQ FSU on 53075.*

Next Issue

**DECEMBER**

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