

The Law

including Essex Police Magazine



**Crime Awareness
Week - see
centre pages**

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

May 1996

No 271

Partnership takes flight

ESSEX Police is to embark on an airborne partnership with neighbouring Cambridgeshire after the Home Office approved a bid for almost £1m.

The proposal was put to the Government earlier this year after it was agreed that a consortium would not only be of great operational benefit, but also lead to a substantial reduction in costs.

Now the money is available it could be all systems go by the end of the year.

Initially there will not appear to be any change for Essex. It will continue to lease its Twin Squirrel craft while the grant will pay for the purchase of a second craft to be based in Cambridge.

However, by working together the two forces will be able to provide back-up during hours currently unmanned, cover two separate incidents occurring at the same time, and, on the rare occasion, operations which would benefit from two helicopters.

Savings

In addition there will be substantial savings each year on the cost of providing two separate units.

Eventually it is hoped that a second craft will be purchased to replace the current Essex lease and that other neighbouring forces may be considering an involvement providing Essex with further benefits.

Chief officers behind the proposal are very pleased with the outcome.

Superintendent Mick Hicks said: "We are clearly happy we have been given a grant. It would have been nice to receive enough to fund two craft but one was always a more realistic outcome."

"We are working very closely with Cambridgeshire and hope to have the consortium up and running towards the end of the year, subject to find the necessary craft and finalising contracts which need the backing of the Police Authority."

"Initially for Essex there will be some financial and operational benefit, but we must be clear this is only the first phase of a partnership which, it is hoped, will provide much larger benefits in the long term."

Back to the beat

Officers return to policing as civilian posts are increased

Catering team eat up award



● Pictured are Group Manager, Rob Willis, Essex Police Food Services Adviser, Sandra Halsey, North Essex Health Promotions Manager, Anne McEwan and former Unit Manager, Jeremy Sumer. Photo courtesy of Essex Chronicle Series.

EATING out at Essex Police Headquarters has never been so good for you and now the team who prepare the tasty grub have an award to prove it.

Gardner Merchant, the caterers who prepare and supply the food for the staff restaurant, have picked up a 'Heartbeat Award' for dishing up healthy food.

The accolade from North Essex Health Promotion and Chelmsford Borough Council, was presented to Gardner Merchant for providing customers with healthy option

choices and conforming to health and hygiene criteria.

Congratulating the Chelmsford team, Jackie Tosic Health Promotion Adviser for North Essex Health Promotion said: "Many people have been following healthy eating advice for some time now. Caterers too are responding to this trend."

The restaurant is a non-smoking environment and all food handling staff are trained and instructed in food hygiene matters.

ESSEX Police has committed itself to an intense programme of civilianisation over the next 12 months to push more police officers back to operational duties. And it's envisaged the trend will continue for at least the next three years.

By April 1997 an estimated 27 police officers will be relieved from desk bound duties to make way for civilian staff. A further 28 new recruits, funded by the Home Office, should ensure a total of 55 officers available for operational duties.

The civilianisation programme follows comments in last year's report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate which noted concern at the number of posts which were still held by police officers and not civilians, despite the considerable civilianisation which had previously occurred.

Suitable

The programme approved by Policy Group, identifies two ways in implementing the change. Firstly retiring police officers whose posts have already been identified for civilianisation will be replaced by a civilian member of staff. Secondly posts have been identified by Divisional Commanders and departmental heads which are suitable for civilianisation. The civilianisation programme requires a transfer of funds from the police to the civilian budget.

Resource Management staff say the transition will be beneficial for the public who will see higher visibility policing, an area targeted in the Key

By Ian Deal

Operational Goals. It is also recognised trained civilian staff with specialist skills would have much to contribute to the Service.

Above all the programme will release police officers back to operational duties to carry out the tasks they were employed and trained to do.

Areas identified for immediate civilianisation include posts within Information Technology, The Essex Police Training Centre, Personnel, Traffic and Crime Prevention. Posts identified by Divisional Commanders range from Researchers to Local Intelligence Officers.

Jim Conlan, Assistant Chief Constable responsible for personnel matters said: "Many posts suitable for civilian staff had been identified in the Essex Police Business Plan published two years ago. We are now looking at a wider arena. Our primary concern will always be to give the best possible service to the community."

Any officer concerned about the civilianisation programme can contact their departmental or divisional head or Resource Management at Police Headquarters.

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FEDERATION NOTES . . . FEDERATION NOTES . . .

Subsistence policy has misconceptions

POLICY guidance with regard to subsistences and refreshments came into effect from April 1.

Since its publication we have received many telephone calls and visits from members concerned over the contents of the guidance and whether or not it actually complies with the appropriate police regulations.

Legal

As reported in the last edition of *The Law*, I applied for legal advice from solicitors Russell, Jones & Walker.

I have now received this advice which I shall share in the near future with chief officers to try and resolve the situation.

However, to up date members, I can tell you the view of the solicitors with regard to two areas:

1) Receipts must be submitted with a claim.

Receipt

It is quite clear that under police regulations it is not a requirement to enable a member claiming subsistence or refreshment allowance to produce a receipt. It is their view that any pre-condition imposed on a member that there will be no payment without receipt will be unlawful.

2) Usual way of obtaining food.

In their view the usual way of obtaining a meal may well vary depending upon the timing of the meal in question and depending on shifts undertaken. Also, particularly where the issue of subsistence and refreshment allowance arose because the member had been

engaged beyond their normal tour of duty, it is likely that the usual way of obtaining the meal would be determined by reference to how the member would have enjoyed it if not on duty.

Justify

The solicitors also pointed out that it is the member that has to certify with regard to the claim and therefore has to justify that certification, otherwise it may lead to disciplinary or in some cases criminal action against them.

There are other areas in the policy guidance we feel, as do our solicitors, contain misconceptions on the part of the Force and I will be taking these items up. Members will be informed as soon as the situation is clarified.



● By Brian Pallant

House sales

I HAVE received many telephone calls as the current regulations on the sale of Essex Police houses.

The working group which has been looking at the future of police housing has a report which will be discussed at the next Policy Group meeting and CCG meeting.

If the recommendations are agreed, the paper should then proceed to the Police Committee meeting on June 10.

PLC'S are go

STAFF side representatives have given the green light for PLCs based on job evaluation to go ahead.

Before giving their agreement, the representatives insisted on several pre-conditions being met:

a) There will be a comprehensive scoping study ('dummy run') in advance of the PLCs proper

b) Leading job evaluation consultancies will be invited to submit outline proposals so as to provide a range of options

c) An independent expert will be invited to assess the relative merits of the options proposed

d) Members of the PNB Working Group on PLCs will be provided with training in job evaluation

Survey forges ahead

SINCE PLC Update No2, focus groups, led by Hay Management Consultants, have been held in a number of forces.

Each focus group has been attended by Tony Mason, CCC Secretary or Dave French, CCC Chairman, or Ken Crossman, CCC Deputy Secretary. Their purpose in attending has been to listen and learn rather than to contribute. The only contribution that counts is from members themselves.

The response from focus groups so far has been excellent. Ken Crossman reported "the focus groups I attended in West Yorkshire and North Yorkshire were attended by professional officers who responded to the group in a willing and positive way".

Dave French said: "I'm sure we're on the right track. We've got to get underneath how the job's described to find out how the job's done right. Focus groups will enlighten our search."

Group review

ALTHOUGH things are going well, the PLC Working Group have met with Hay for a review.

The Group wants to ensure that every aspect of the constable's role is being identified in the focus groups

and, if any element is missing, to remedy this in the focus groups yet to come.

Another important consideration in the review is the identification of constable roles which need further in depth assessment by means of extended personal interview.

More terminology

HERE'S some definitions of terms relevant to PLCs.

Pay level checks are a method of comparing the pay and benefits of the employees of one organisation to those of another. Movements are usually measured in pay leagues using published data, by using job evaluation, pay levels of employees doing different work but work of equal value can be compared.

Remuneration is salary and benefits taken together.

Remunerations package has the same basic meaning as remuneration but emphasises that everything, including non-money benefits has been taken into account.

Relativities are the differences in pay and benefits between employees or one organisation to another.

Differentials are the differences in pay and benefits between employees in the same organisation.

Scoping study is a preliminary stage prior to a survey, designed to test and evaluate the methods proposed for the survey itself.

Method (rather than methodology) is the term used to describe how data will be collected for a survey or study.

Your views

THE Constables Central Committee is very keen to hear members' views about PLCs.

Do you have a role which is unusual and which should be taken into account? Has your role been analysed into competency profiles? If you have anything to tell us please do so through your Constables Branch Board Secretary, Mick Englefield on extension 54540.

Federation abstains from newspaper bravery awards

THE National Police Federation in conjunction with *The Sun* newspaper are holding a Bravery Award ceremony from 1996.

Each Police Federation in the country are entitled to submit one nomination from their Force for this award. The full details regarding the award were sent to Joint Branches at the end of January and it was fully discussed at the Joint Branch Board meeting on February 20.

It was agreed at that meeting that for the 1996 award, the Essex Police Federation would not be nominating anyone from Essex.

The reasons for this are as follows:

1) It was agreed that we would have difficulty within the time scale given to put together criteria for judging which officer from Essex we should put forward as the bravest officer of the year.

It was generally felt by the Branch Board that all our officers put themselves at risk during the course of their service and therefore could be considered as brave.

2) There was concern

by some members as to whether the setting up of the award with a tabloid newspaper was the correct way forward and whether any money they may wish to donate could be better spent within the police service.

3) There was also concern if we nominated an officer as to the publicity that officer would get and whether they would in fact be in jeopardy and a target for attack and challenged because they had been identified as our bravest officer.

4) The closing date for nominations was April 30 and it was felt at the meeting in February that this was not sufficient time to consider setting up such a scheme.

5) The matter was further debated at the Joint Branch Board meeting on Monday, April 15 and the matter remains the same as the decision made on February 20.

The Joint Branch Board will reconsider the decision after the first award takes place on May 23 as to whether we should take part in 1997 if the award becomes an annual event.

The Law

OPINION

Police officers should do the jobs of police officers!

For years Essex Police has attempted to justify placing, often, high ranking officers in specialist posts when they are clearly not suited.

Now there is talk of further civilianisation and it's not a day too soon.

But has the programme been initiated for the right reasons or just cheap labour.

The immense salary savings made by recruiting civilians and not police is clearly a bonus.

However, the low grade salaries offered can only entice either high quality civilians who will 'stop-over' until a better offer comes along, or those not quite as qualified as the job demands.

Many established and respected members of staff have been lost due to a lack of opportunity within the organisation and the tempting financial benefits being offered in the private sector.

It is surely demoralising for a civilian to see police officers on £30-40k compared their £20-25k, despite, in most instances, being better qualified.

Yes, we all want to see more police officers on the street but we have to be realistic in our selection procedures.

In the long-run Essex Police will only boast the best recruits if it is prepared to pay the price.

The Editors would like to make it clear that the views expressed in this opinion column reflect those of the editors and not those of the Chief Constable or any other member of Essex police.

Roaring success expected from new equipment



● Mark Heard (left) accepts the generous contribution from Lion's President Graham Kirkland.

VITAL technological equipment which will help Essex Police gather information on drug dealers in the county has been funded by local Lions Clubs.

Over a thousand pounds was handed over to Essex Police recently to pay for special computer equipment, which will help identify drug dealers and their associates.

Details of the equipment are being deliberately kept under wraps, but detectives investigating crime involving drugs are confident the computer soft-

ware will be a bonus to their enquiries.

A bumper cheque for £1,287 was presented to Dc. Mark Heard from Essex Police HQ by Graham Kirkland the local Lions President.

Graham Kirkland said: "The Lions Clubs will do anything they can to help in the fight against drug abuse. We are delighted to help."

Money was raised by Lions Clubs based at South Woodham Ferrers, Wickford, Rayleigh and Leigh On Sea. A further contribution came from South Woodham Ferrers Lionesses.

Off Beat

Nudist boob

TWO police officers attending a report of a dangerous dog at West Bergholt near Colchester, had a close brush with nature recently - the incident was reported at a nudist camp!

On attendance the two-some made an in-depth area search they saw many sights but no dogs.

On attempting to leave the colony the police officers, who are alleged to have remained clothed throughout, came across the next problem - the gates had been padlocked shut and the combination number had been forgotten.

But the blushing bobbies had their helmet and truncheons at the ready to cover their bits should they have needed to strip off - it is not clear whether an Arnold or ASP was required.

Traffic titters

TRAFFIC officers do get called to unusual incidents sometimes. A unit was asked to attend a road traffic accident in Basildon last month involving a car and a council lawnmower - allegations were made the car driver had been 'cut up' at a roundabout.

Meanwhile officers were called to deal with a slow moving vehicle moving north-bound on the A12 at Dedham close to the Suffolk border. Further details confirmed the vehicle was in-fact an elderly woman with a zimmerframe. On police arrival she could not be found - obviously the zimmerframe had got faster stripes!

Stating the obvious

TIPTREE police officers reporting a death of a pig after it was involved in a road accident recently were at a loss to find its owner. Though after carrying out exhaustive enquiries one officer managed to ascertain the pig had been 'living rough'. How else does a pig live?

What a banger

CID detectives from Chelmsford were called to a department store in the town recently to deal with a suspicious and potentially dangerous package.

The package was said to have been secured "in a similar way to how a butcher would tie a bag."

The intrepid CID officers sniffed for clues and identified the mystery package as 11 lbs of sausages.

Inquiry takes detectives across the world



● Rose Sims

DETECTIVES from Southend, investigating the disappearance of an Essex couple, took their inquiry to the Phillipines last month.

Det Chief Insp. Steve Reynolds, accompanied by DC Fred Simkins, were anxious to speak with Geoffrey Paston, a former lodger at the Lonsdale Road, Southend home of David and Rose Sims, who have not been seen for three years.

Mr Paston was detained by Phillipine immigration authorities in Tacloban, Leyte, on April 10. He is currently being held in custody in Manila, for suspected immigration violations.

Following his detention, DCI Reynolds and DC Simkins were able to interview Mr Paston about his part in selling the Sims's house, after they left it in March 1993.

"We are satisfied that we now know all we need to know about the sale of the house and there are a number of other lines of enquiry we will be following now that we have had the

chance to speak to Mr Paston and to Rose Sims' family, who still live in the Phillipines," said D/CI Reynolds.

The two detectives visited the family on April 13, Rose's 32nd birthday. "They were very pleased to see us and to know that we were doing everything we could to solve this mystery," said D/CI Reynolds.

"We are very concerned for the welfare of Rose Sims, as it is inconceivable that she would not have made any effort to contact her family for three years. They are all very close.

"I believe they are prepared for the worst and we certainly learned nothing while we were over there to alter our fears, which we have had from day one, that something may have happened to her," he said.

David Sims' whereabouts are not known, but it is believed that he is not in either Great Britain or the Phillipines.

Cracking crime at dawn

A DAWN Patrol has been launched in the Maldon and Burnham areas in an attempt to combat crime.

Under the initiative, 16 milkmen who deliver in the district will be on watch as they make their rounds. Each one will have a mobile phone to report suspicious incidents over the 999 system.

A recent appeal resulted in 20 mobile phones being donated to the scheme with the promise of a further five.

Similar schemes in other areas of the county have proved a resounding success.

A degree of equality

A NEW degree level study scheme, devised solely for Essex Police, looks to provide a fairer system to both police constables and civilian employees.

Historically two sergeants have been seconded annually to a three year full-time degree course. Other officers and civilians requesting financial backing for individual courses have had their applications considered on merit.

Whilst money for individual courses will not now be automatically provided, a part-time degree course has been set up which could benefit up to 25 officers and civilians each year.

And anyone who has already embarked on a course prior to the new policy will have their agreement honoured.

The scheme replacing the old secondment system has been set up in conjunction with the University of Essex and ultimately leads to a BA degree in Society, Law and Policing.

It has been specifically devised as a broad programme to be of relevance to both civilians and police officers combining optional modules ranging from mod-

ern languages to psychology and health to criminology and politics.

Essex Police has entered into an agreement which will mean places for 25 applicants in the first year, one day each week, with one residential weekend each year. The number of candidates in future years will depend on finance available.

Prospective candidates will be invited to apply later in the year, making a case for their potential and why Essex Police should support the application. The selection process will take the form of a panel interview. Successful candidates will be expected to remain in the employment of Essex Police for two years after graduation or pay part or all of the costs.

Chief Inspector John Coyle, who has been handling the review, said: "The new policy doesn't necessarily rule out financial assistance in other areas. If an individual wants to develop in a particular area of the organisation and there is a course better focused, the case will be considered

"But we have to bear in mind that there

By Kim White

needs to be a return on our investment and we can only assist depending on the size of the budget.

"I would like to think that this new system will be fairer to both civilians and lower ranked officers."

An Open Day will be held for anyone thinking of applying for the course. For further information contact Ch/Insp Coyle on 01245 491491 ext 51112

The new rules also apply to some extent to non-degree courses of a lesser duration. There were a wide range of courses which people undertook prior to the review, some stand alone courses in their own right and other preparatory courses for those who were considering more long term study.

Essex Police wants to continue to support as many of these as possible but may not be able to provide 100% funding.

Working to a fixed budget, money available will be divided up equally each year among all applicants.

Banning drugs from pubs



● Promoting the anti-drugs posters, Mayor Jenifer Howlett, licensee Anne Adams and Insp Ian Kennedy. Photo courtesy of Yellow Advertiser.

A POSTER campaign aimed at educating youngsters to the dangers of drugs has been launched in Castle Point thanks to a local licensee.

Anne Adams, like many, was touched by the death of Leah Betts and felt she wanted to help convey an anti-drugs message.

The idea of a poster to be placed in all the area's pubs was agreed both by Essex Police, Castle Point Borough Council and Don Quinn of the Essex Drugs Prevention Team, who provided financial backing.

On the day of the launch-attended by Mayor Jenifer Howlett, every pub put up

posters stating 'Do not use, buy, or sell illegal drugs on these premises as being nicked often offends'.

Insp Ian Kennedy, from Canvey Island, said: "I was very pleased to become involved in what transpired to be an excellent joint agency initiative carried out in partnership with representatives of the local community.

"Everyone involved hopes this will reinforce the anti-drugs message which has had a high profile since the tragic death of Leah Betts."

Faring well in comparison

ESSEX is still one of the safest places to live with just six other forces in the country boasting a lower crime rate per head of population, according to an Audit Commission report.

The report, the second of its kind to compare the performance of the 43 police forces in England and Wales, also shows that despite a lower ratio of police officers, Essex has a high success rate when responding to emergency incidents against tough target times.

Indicators show that during the 12 month period up until March 1995, a total of 68 crimes were recorded per 1,000 population, compared to 73.8 the previous year and a national average of 91.

In particular incidents of burglary were down 4.4%.

Essex Police have also set challenging targets for responding to emergencies - 16 minutes for rural locations and

12 minutes for urban locations. In attending over 85,000 emergency calls during 1994/5, Essex Police achieved an 85% success rate, an improvement on the previous year by 2%.

Assistant Chief Constable (Designate), Jim Dickinson, feels Essex has compared favourably in the report and the figures reinforce the commitment to providing a quality service.

He said: "While I acknowledge the Audit Commission provides some value in assessing police performance, I am cautious that it does not place too great an emphasis on a limited range of indicators.

"We mustn't forget that performance indicators are purely a guide, they enable us to consider how we can improve our service to the community but they must be interpreted against the wider background of policing responsibilities."



You stand alone with your views

THE letter in your March issue from ex Pc Pepper, about reducing costs, reveals that his violent and often publicly expressed obsession with the Special Constabulary cannot go unremarked.

His well known opposition to its members in this sub-division were a byword among his colleagues.

His often repeated gripe "they are taking our overtime" was, I think, the basis of his animosity. In that, I fear, he was not very well supported by the majority of his regular colleagues.

He is, of course, entitled to his opinion, which was entirely unfounded, and I am surprised that it still rankles with him after 30 years.

The Special Constabulary, then, as now, performs a well-regarded service to their regular colleagues and my own feeling was that his was a voice crying in the wilderness. It did not affect the continued use of the Specials.

S. Brown,
Ex Inspector
(Special Constabulary)

Thanks to colleagues after road trauma

ON March 21, members of my shift, including myself, attended a serious RTA in Thorpe Bay, only to find my wife Caroline was involved.

As can be appreciated, this was quite a shock to myself, the rest of the shift and those who know us.

Although Caroline was in intensive care and spent nine days in hospital, she was extremely fortunate to have only a broken nose and severe bruising. She still has some pain and slight memory loss. She has not yet recovered full use of her right leg, but is expected to make a full recovery.

We had a lot of visitors and mes-

sages from friends and colleagues while Caroline was in hospital, and since.

Unfortunately Caroline, although able to converse with visitors remembers little about her stay.

I took photographs of the many bouquets she received and she has kept herself busy writing 'thank you' cards.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of her family to thank everybody for their kindness and support.

Pc Paul Bradford
Southend

Off to Scotland but I'll always be an Essex man

AFTER nearly eight years with Essex Police the escape tunnel is complete and I will shortly be leaving the Service.

I have very much valued my time with Essex Police and have met some interesting and worrying people along the way. I consider myself as privileged to have seen the real work of Essex Police, certainly in my role as Press Officer. Now I'm off to Edinburgh as my career moves on and it is with some sadness I take my leave.

My father spent 30 happy and valued

years with the Service and even though I served only a fraction of that time, I'm proud to have been an employee too.

I've been warned that the Scottish people enjoy a good Essex Man joke, I hope they're ready for me.

To those who have helped me along the way, thank you and good luck for the future.

Ian Deal
Press Office

LAW Letters

Scrap 'The Law' to save the pennies

FOR the first time in ages I picked up a copy of *The Law* (one of the few that doesn't end up in the bin unopened) and see that more cost cutting is to take place - this time its the refreshment/subsistence allowance that's under attack.

Anyway, I've had this great idea about another cost cutting exercise - let's scrap *The Law*!

Come on, let's be honest, it's a rubbish paper anyway - unfunny, uninformative and unread - so let's do it.

Or maybe in this enlightened day of referendums we should hold one. But don't announce it only in *The*

Law as I doubt half the Force would ever know one is to take place.

By the way how much does it actually cost to produce each year?

Dc Charles Cadwallader
Clacton

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Unlike many Forces *The Law* is produced in-house seeking to retain a more personal relationship with its 10,500 readers, and providing an important link for the many retired officers.

In fact, the editorial team, juggling its production with the running of an extremely busy Press Office, regularly work evenings and weekends, at their own expense, to ensure the print

deadline is met.

The result - *The Law* was voted the best means of communication for Essex Police in a survey held towards the end of last year.

As you can see from the publication of the above letter, we don't shy away from criticism

In fact, the newspaper will soon be undergoing a complete restyle and we would welcome any views, preferably more constructive than those of Dc Cadwallader.

However, to answer his question *The Law* costs about £1,300 each issue.

Kim White, Managing Editor

Collection shame

LIKE Bob Farrow (Letters - April edition) I too am saddened that the request to organise a 'forcewide' collection for the retirement of civilian driving instructor Les Howman was refused.

As a former Essex Police Driving School senior instructor, I find such a decision deplorable.

During his 20 years as an instructor Les has trained hundreds of police officers from this and other Forces in the 'Roadcraft' system of driving.

Many of those officers are now senior officers in Essex Police and several are current driving instructors - surely these

achievements alone are sufficient to "... have had an influence on the Force in general ... " and thereby qualify for such a collection.

Les, I take this opportunity of wishing you and Joyce a long, happy and prosperous retirement.

Additionally I convey my sincere thanks for the loyalty and support you gave me during the six years I proudly held the post of Essex Police Driving School senior instructor.

John Johnson
Publication Unit Manager

Peter would have been proud

I AM writing to thank all the colleagues of my husband - ex manager of clothing stores, Peter Harris - for the wonderful attendance at his funeral.

He would have been very proud to have had such a police presence, particularly the police horses and my grateful thanks must go to Sgt Paul Hemmings

and his colleagues from the Mounted Section for this.

I would also like to thank everyone for the cards and messages which I received. I do hope I shall be able to keep on touch.

Monica Harris
Bicknacre
Chelmsford

An ode to Neil

Following the retirement of Headquarters Crime Prevention Officer Neil Seymour this tribute flooded in to *The Law* office - how could we not publish such an impressive work of literature by Pc June Saunders.

Neil Seymour is the man who knows
About the locks and bolts and throws,

A sergeant almost in his prime they say,
But he has decided to call it a day

Bomb talks with a bang they go,
Before he even starts the show

And go off to pastures anew
To set up a business or two

No more will we hear his dulcet tone
On his ever ringing mobile phone

And we wish him good luck
As at last he goes to earn an honest buck

Bad luck on being bowled out

FOR a number of years, we the Pegasus Bowls Club, have invited Thurrock Police Bowls Club to our 'Invitation Triples' and I as a reader of *The Law* have watched them with interest.

This year on April 20 and 21 I saw them win three very good games to reach the final.

The first was against Orsett Bowls Club and it was an excellent game but sadly someone has to lose and Orsett won.

We would like to congratulate them for reaching this final. They played against some very good teams.

G Wilson
Stanford Le Hope



● Much work to do for new Resource Management Services Officer, Angela Jones.

Latest recruit

STAFF around Essex Police will soon become familiar with the face of Angela Jones, the latest recruit to join Essex Police Personnel Department.

Angela will visit many departments in her new role as Resource Management Services Officer. Her duties will include undertaking reviews on specific areas, measuring value for money and evaluating organisational development.

Much of Angela's time will be spent scrutinising staffing resources and working procedures, assessing staff grades and identifying training needs.

With eight years of Management Services experience at Essex County Council Angela is looking forward to her new role. "I'm glad to have the chance to use my qualifications and experience to assist in shaping the Service for the future", she said.

Opening doors at Pitsea thanks to volunteers

VOLUNTEERS are to man Pitsea Police Station in a trial scheme to increase its opening hours and help keep police officers out on patrol.

And on Friday Liz Heard, the first volunteer took up her position in the front office, supervised by Station Officer Assistant Meg Lovell.

Pitsea has been chosen as the first station in Essex to pilot the Civilian Volunteer Scheme and four volunteers have been trained to deal with front

office duties such as helping the public, answering the phone, dealing with lost and found property and filling in forms.

Volunteers include a council principal officer and a lab technician.

The scheme means Pitsea police station will be open on Sundays, and for longer hours on weekdays and Saturdays.

Head of Basildon Police, Supt Ian Cotgrove, said: "There are many local people who are eager to play an active

part in making their community safer. Callers hate to find a police station closed and the volunteer scheme will enable us to increase opening hours and ultimately put more officers out on the streets where the public want them."

Chief Constable John Burrow said: "At this stage it is very much a pilot scheme and we will need to see how it works before making a commitment to extend it elsewhere. If it genuinely helps us to improve our service to the public

then we will look to develop it."

Callers to the station will be told they are being dealt with by a civilian volunteer and their views on the standard of service received will be vital in assessing the scheme's success.

Volunteers will be able to call on immediate police back-up if it is needed.

Similar schemes have already been introduced in Lincolnshire and Gloucestershire and received considerable public support.

Positive moves for police patrols

POSITIVE steps are being taken by Essex Police to further improve the effectiveness of its street patrols. Many issues raised in the recent Audit Commission Report are already being tackled, writes *Kim White*.

Three territorial divisions of Essex took part in the research and the report acknowledged a significant increase in demand over the past 14 years with a leap in 999 calls of 150% against a growth in the number of police officers of just 8%.

The report also accepted that in 1993 forces were encouraged to target criminals rather than crimes leading to an inevitable shift away from uniform patrol. However the Audit Commission does feel that many forces could manage existing demand better and make better use of patrol time between incidents.

Accepting that public expectations are not wholly realistic, the

report advises forces to:

- give advice about using the 999 system
- consider the costs and benefits of a multi-agency helpline offering advice on services including the police
- encourage better communication between police and local communities
- improve co-ordination between different agencies on community safety issues
- consider paying special constables and revise regulations governing shift systems
- improve graded response systems
- encourage patrol supervisors to spend more time on the streets

● make optimum use of CCTV, Specials and multi-agency partnerships

● set objectives and targets for patrol officers and monitor the progress.

Assistant Chief Constable Jim Dickinson, said: "Research carried out for the report has simply confirmed what the Service has known for some time, that the public's main concerns focus on 'quality of life' issues such as noise and anti-social behaviour, which often fall outside the criminal law.

"The dilemma of how to use overstretched resources to deal with these issues in line with public expectations, while at the same time under pressure to achieve targets for tackling crime, has seen forces often unfairly criticised."

Essex has, however, made positive headway in a number of the

areas pinpointed in the report.

The Community Safety department is already making an impact on the partnership approach, while a review of shift patterns and the introduction of flexible rostering ensure resources are available at times of peak demand.

Policing and annual plans have enabled front line officers to become involved in determining objectives, crime desks have relieved some of the burden of investigating crime from patrol officers and analysis is regularly conducted to ascertain, among other things, the amount of time supervisors spend outside police stations.

Based on the report Essex Police will carry out a review of patrol during the summer concentrating on the management and organisation of patrol duties.

DNA proves successful tool in fight against crime

DNA is proving an increasing powerful tool in the fight to solve crime.

And as the national database celebrates its first anniversary, Essex is beginning to see some marked successes, partly due to the efficiency of the officers collecting the samples.

The system, based in Birmingham had its teething problems in its early days but has now taken on board 3,287 samples from Essex alone.

The majority of these (99%) are mouth swab samples but there is the facility to obtain a hair sample by force if the prisoner in question refuses to co-operate.

In addition to the samples taken in custody, 70 specimens (usually blood) have been recovered from crime scenes, seven of which have led to the identification of an offender when compared to the database. In one case - for legal reasons we can't go into too much detail - a cigarette butt found at the scene of a crime has resulted in an arrest.

In another case blood recovered from scenes in separate counties have been matched. Unfortunately the suspect in these cases is not on the database and has yet to be caught.

Detective Inspector Trevor Crosby, of Headquarters Scenes of Crime, said: "It was always realised that the DNA database was going to be a sound investment for the future and Essex is already starting to benefit.

"The first year has provided reassurance about the way officers deal with offenders, particularly as there have been no problems in obtaining samples."

Although Essex has to date taken samples on all suspects arrested for burglary or more serious crime, the law allows a sample to be taken for any recordable offence.

If any Essex officer has any suspicion that an arrested person may be involved in a crime, other than that for which he is in custody, he should use discretion as to whether a sample should be obtained.

Points from the past

FIVE YEARS AGO

SPECIAL constables stamped their way into the record books when they carried out a four hour stint coding bicycles. The 500 bikes they coded beat the previous world record of 267.

The Federation surveyed officers for their views on arming the police force.

Film crews returned to Headquarters to film a new series of The Chief, starring Tim Pigott-Smith as the fictional chief constable.

The helicopter took to the Essex skies for the first time. The Aerospatial Squirrel which had been loaned to the force for trial was transferred to Kuwait and replaced by one built specifically for police work.

TEN YEARS AGO

ESSEX joined forces with the Metropolitan Police to investigate the child murders of Jason Swift and Barry Lewis. The operation was codenamed Stranger.

Possession was taken of a 55 seater Volvo coach whose first task was to ferry the Police Band to France.

The Law reported the sad loss of Chief Inspector "Taff" Jones who died after falling from a ladder at his home. He had served Essex Police for 22 years when the tragic accident occurred.

TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

ESSEX hosted an annual international conference on crime. Subjects discussed among the foreign officers included caravan thefts and illegal immigrants.

The Federation urged officers to co-operate with Home Office psychologist Miss D Newton during an investigation into the cause of police wastage.

Exhibition gives sound sense

A CRIME prevention and home safety exhibition, staged jointly by Essex Police and Burnham Town Council attracted over 150 visitors to Burnham's Carnival Hall recently.

The event held every two years featured trade stands and displays by voluntary organisations. Children were also given the opportunity to take a look around police and fire service vehicles. Motorists took advantage of complimentary wheel security marking by ATS Tyres and cyclists had the chance to have free cycle coding, one parent even had their pram post-coded.

The event was given the seal of approval by local MP John Whittingdale, who also attended the exhibition.

● Good tyres make good sense. Pictured (left to right) are event organiser Ken Sarling, John Whittingdale MP and Insp Chris Markham. Photo courtesy of Derek Argent.



Crime issues put spotlight

CHELMSFORD'S first Crime Awareness Week got off to a prestige start with a VIP launch at Anglia Polytechnic University's Queen's Building.

Among the guests were Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, Braintree MP Tony Newton; the High Sheriff of Essex Peter Thistlethwayte; Deputy Mayor of Chelmsford Janet Potter; the Chief Executive of Chelmsford Borough Council, Martin Easteal; the Vice Chancellor of Anglia University Michael Malone-Lee and the Chief Constable, John Burrow.

Mr Burrow told the 200 guests at Friday night's reception that the aim of the week was to "bring people together in partnership to address the issue of crime and turn around the rising tide of crime".

Crime in Chelmsford has fallen for three successive years, due in

**Feature by
Norman Hicks
Photos:
Essex Chronicle**

part to the links being forged between the police, the public, civic and business communities. It was the intention of the organisers of Crime Awareness Week that, by raising public awareness of the issues involved, a further reduction in crime figures could be achieved in future years, said Mr Burrow.

Mr Newton congratulated Chelmsford Crime Reduction Group and Chelmsford Police for this joint venture, which he said would also help to reduce the fear of crime, which was often much worse than the reality. "No-one can be in any doubt that crime is very high on the agenda of almost everybody in our society," he said. "The battle is not

lost. We do not need to despair. What we do need is for people to work in partnership with the police and that is what this week is all about here in Chelmsford."

Highlights of the week, which has attracted the support of more than 40 organisations and businesses, included

Monday (April 22) launch of Farmwatch, at Pleshey Village Hall; Tuesday, the launch of W.A.S.P. (Women Alone Seeking Protection), at King Edward VI Grammar School (guest speaker Diana Lamplugh, of the Lamplugh Trust); Wednesday, launch of Caravan Watch, St John Payne School; Thursday, drugs awareness presentation to parents, at Great Baddow High School; Friday, Neighbourhood Watch anti-burglary campaign, Boswells School, Burnham Road, Chelmsford.

Throughout the week, a Crucial Crew personal safety and crime prevention event, aimed at 10

and 11-year-olds, took place at the Essex Showground, Great Leighs.



● Crime Awareness Week had the backing of MP Tony Newton pictured with Essex Chief Constable John Burrow.

Soun

Wo

WOMEN Also Safely Prepared campaign to reassure women and advise them on personal safety - was launched as part of Chelmsford Crime Awareness Week at a packed public meeting at King Edward VI Grammar School.

Guest speakers included Diana Lamplugh, mother of missing Essex agent Suzy Lamplugh.

Keeping a policing tradition alive

POLICE officers like Richard Buckland know their place.

They represent high-visibility policing in the traditional sense, occupying a key place in the fabric of village life, writes Peter Laurie

Their beat bicycles may have been superseded by more powerful transport, but they remain at the heart of the community and, like few police officers, are probably known by name to many of the people they serve.

PC Buckland is one of Essex Police's detached beat officers and revels in his place at the grass roots of the job, covering five picture postcard villages which occupy 30 square miles of rural north Essex.

He lives at the combined police house and office at Wethersfield with his wife and two teenage daughters and his beat also takes in neighbouring Shalford, Panfield, Great Saling and Bardfield Saling. A population totalling 4,000 looks to him as the face and voice of Essex Police, but routine cover for his absence is available from detached beat officers in neighbouring districts within the Braintree Division.

The back-up is reciprocated. As a qualified response car driver, he joins the town shift in Braintree whenever the need arises. This now happens about four times a month.

PC Buckland, 44, joined Essex Police in Braintree 17 years ago and after two years made the move to Wethersfield.

He quickly became aware of the subtlety required from a detached beat officer in the countryside. "You try to become part of the community," he says. "It takes a long time to get it right and there is a happy medium between being both a friend and the local law enforcer. But gathering information involves

gaining the trust of the community."

An important aspect of this bonding is maintaining contact with four parish councils and five Neighbourhood Watches.

Three years ago, he launched the Pant Valley Farm Watch, which has grown to a crime prevention telephone network taking in 60 farmers, supported by Essex agricultural equipment dealer Ernest Doe.

Village life has changed since the young Richard Buckland introduced himself as the new detached beat officer.

In that time, Wethersfield has lost a butcher, a baker and a general store.

Thefts from cars and sheds and some dabbling in drugs are no longer shocking and better road links have made country houses more accessible to burglars.

"Each village seems to have become more a satellite to bigger

places," he says. "So many people are now commuters. Some of the neighbourliness has gone. Once everyone looked after everyone else. Now we are trying to bring some of this back in the form of Neighbourhood Watch."

The police service has also changed. Even a detached officer like Richard Buckland is conscious of more internal accountability and appraisal and a consequent sense of diminishing freedom and discretion.

For all that, the satisfaction of serving country people radiates from him as he steers his Land Rover through the lanes which dissect the green patchwork of the Wethersfield beat.

He has no regrets about his decision to abandon his previous trades as a gas fitter and later a maintenance engineer and follow his father (a fireman) and father-in-law (a police officer) into uniformed service.

Life is all about changes and Wethersfield has seen more of it than most villages. The United States Air Force base which once sat on the parish boundary brought the place the nickname Little America.

By the time PC Buckland arrived, the fighter crews had gone, but life returned to the base with the arrival of the American Red Horse Rapid Runway Repair Corps, which brought more than 600 airmen into the community.

He remembers it more for the good rapport he established than any of the problems associated with a large contingent of young men deposited in a faraway field with old friends like Budweiser and Jack Daniels to remind them of home.

The local police officer's verdict? "They were a good bunch of lads. They added to the colour of the community and were a boost to the local economy."

Today, the site which once flew the Stars and Stripes is the Ministry of Defence Police Training School.

Richard Buckland is keen to see the next of life's changes from his vantage point as a country police officer. The job and his appearances on the cricket field, when duty permits, with the Essex Police Veterans, Braintree Division, Wethersfield and Shalford keep the adrenalin flowing.

And to those who might see it all as something mundane, he can point out that during his service he has arrested a man for murder and, as local liaison officer, worked with the SAS when they came to Wethersfield to practise for a hijack rescue at Stansted Airport.

● Pictured left: Richard Buckland. His home village in his hands.



Under the

Caravaners hitched up with security hints

ATTENTION switched to auto crime with the launch at St John Payne School of Caravan Watch.

Sgt Andy Loveridge, of Chelmsford Police, said: "Many people just do not appreciate that to a caravan owner, having a caravan stolen is like losing an extension of your home."

"By launching Caravan Watch we aim to get the message across to every Chelmsford caravan owner to protect their caravans from being stolen."

Owners will be invited to register

their caravans with Essex Police, including all identification details, providing photographs if possible.

They will also be encouraged to protect their vehicles by fitting security devices; to personalise internal items, even to the extent of selecting a hidden area and marking it with information known only to the owner; and to display an Essex Caravan Watch sticker on the rear window of the caravan, giving details of the make and registration number of the usual towing vehicle.

introducing one or two changes for next year as we are hoping to make this an annual event. Some of the things we started during the week such as WASP, Caravan Watch and Farm Watch will of course be continuing throughout the year.

"I believe that having a small group of people works best provided they are enthusiastic and keen which my group certainly are."

advice given by mother of missing woman Suzy Lamplugh

Women's safety issues debated

who disappeared while out with a client ten years ago.

Mrs Lamplugh told an audience of more than 400 people that until her daughter's disappearance she had known nothing at all about women's safety issues.

She said: "I had to recognise that Suzy had made some mistakes and so had her employer. I called a seminar of experts and we did a survey and discovered that there was a problem and that it was much bigger than we thought."

The result was the establishment of the Suzy Lamplugh Trust - a non-profit-making national



● Diana Lamplugh.

charity which aims to reduce fear and enable all people to live safer lives.

Mrs Lamplugh outlined the legislation relating to employee safety and said

that aggression in the workplace was not only confined to physical intimidation, but could also include innuendo, deliberate silence, verbal or sexual abuse.

Of every 10 people suffering aggression in the workplace, seven would be men and only three women.

Mrs Lamplugh also gave advice on how women can best counter a personal attack in the street, but stressed that more than 80 per cent of such assaults are by men on other men.

It was important to practise relaxation and tension control, she said. It was also advisable in social

groups to avoid aggressive body language and not to make eye contact with someone you do not want to be bothered by later.

Her daughter had suffered from the attentions of a stalker before her disappearance, someone she had met socially at a wine bar.

"Everybody thought he was the friend of someone else, but it turned out he was just hanging around Suzy's friends at the wine bar they went to after work, hoping to get closer to her," said Mrs Lamplugh.

On the day she went missing Suzy had not let her office know who she

was meeting.

"It is always important, if you are meeting a strange person for the first time, to log them in and out. Let someone know who you are meeting and where, how long you will be and make sure you notify your friends, family, or employer if you are going to be delayed for any reason."

"Suzy did none of these things and she paid the penalty."

Mrs Lamplugh was thanked for her fascinating talk by Jack Levett, chairman of Chelmsford Crime Reduction Group, co-organisers with Chelmsford

Police of Crime Awareness Week.

Mr Levett said WASP had been launched to try to address the fears many women have about their personal safety.

"There is an awful lot of insecurity among ladies generally when they are out on their own. Tonight, what we are trying to do is to reassure you," said Mr Levett.

He said that the speakers had all produced much food for thought and this would be reflected in a pamphlet on the subject of personal safety being produced by the Crime Reduction Group

later this year.

Other speakers were Nikki Chambers, of Chelmsford Victim Support, Chief Insp. Julia Jeeps, of Chelmsford Police and Janine Lamont, area communications manager of sponsors British Gas.

A lot is happening down on the farm

VILLAGERS to the north-west of Chelmsford have joined together for a pilot Farm Watch scheme, launched at Pleshey Village Hall as part of Crime Awareness Week.

The villages of Great and Little Waltham, the Chignalls and Pleshey cover some 30 square miles and are mostly comprised of agricultural farmland, with some 18-20 farms in the area.

A successful Village Watch network has operated in the area for the past three years in the residential areas, but does not, for the most part, cover the outlying rural areas.

The proposed Farm Watch scheme will enable local beat officers to notify farmers of any crime trends relating to agricultural premises as soon as they have occurred, via a telephone network.

Farmers will then ring the next farm in rotation and will also instruct farm workers on their tractors to report any suspicious activity via their CB radios.

Sgt Andy Loveridge, of Chelmsford Police, said: "This scheme has attracted almost total support amongst the local farmers. This pilot scheme, if successful, will be extended to the rest of the Chelmsford Division by the end of the year."

Learning from Leah tragedy

THE focus of Chelmsford's first Crime Awareness Week turned to drugs awareness on Thursday.

Following the tragic death of Leah Betts, the effect of drugs on young people has been highlighted by the media.

Drug abuse, of course, is not new and the dangers have been long recognised by Essex Police and other agencies.

The Chief Constable of Essex, John Burrow, is the chairman of the Essex County Drugs Action Team, a multi-agency approach to tackling the

problems associated with drugs, not only from a detection and prevention point of view, but also involving the health and education services.

To complement work already being undertaken in the Chelmsford Police Division, the Drugs Awareness Day will have the specific emphasis of educating parents.

It ended with a presentation at Baddow High School, Great Baddow, where various expert speakers were on hand to give advice and answer questions.

Neighbourhood Watch success speaks for itself

ON the Friday of Crime Awareness Week, Chelmsford's thriving Neighbourhood Watch schemes turned the spotlight on burglary.

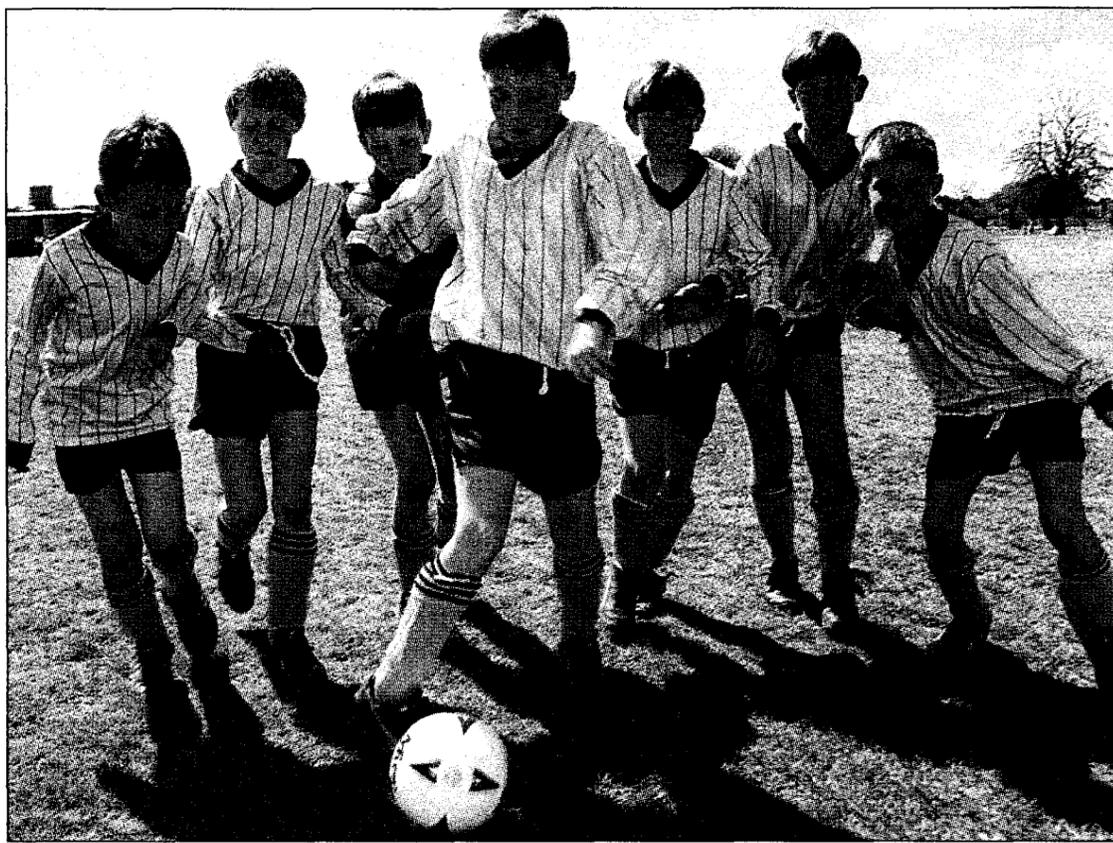
There are currently more than 10,000 members of Neighbourhood Watch in the Chelmsford area, covered by a network of over 100 districts and 850 street coordinators.

Sgt Andy Loveridge, of Chelmsford Police, com-

mented: "Neighbourhood Watch has been successful in reducing crime in the Chelmsford area and is proof of the on-going co-operation between local police and the public that they serve."

The burglary initiative took place at Boswells School, Springfield, where Det Insp Robert Seals addressed a public meeting on police progress in the fight against the burglar.

Youngsters are on the ball



● Crime Awareness Week culminated in a battle on the football and netball pitches of local schools. Each year Essex Police backs an annual tournament and Chelmsford decided the week-long campaign was the best opportunity to stage the divisional finals. Photo courtesy of Essex Chronicle Series.

Police get to grips with Cherokees

SIX Jeep Cherokees have become the latest edition to the Essex Police vehicle fleet.

The purchase came after Traffic divisions identified a need for a 4x4 vehicle. At the time only the Range Rover seemed a viable option, but Jeep have since begun providing a Cherokee for police trim and Essex

embarked on a trial.

Officers who tested the vehicle were happy with the results, providing an off-road facility with the performance and capability of a car.

Around £9,000 cheaper than other 4x4 vehicles, Essex agreed to the purchase of six to be placed around the county.



• The six new Cherokees will enable police to get to the most remote of locations

Publican partnership

IN an attempt to promote a better family environment in licensed premises, Thurrock today (Wednesday) launched Pub Watch.

The scheme, which is a partnership initiative, will include a proof of age scheme and an anti-drugs policy.

It will also boast a common banning policy where a person banned from one licensed premises will automatically be banned from all pubs in Thurrock. Bans will occur if an offender assaults a member of staff or customer, causes damage, uses or deals illegal substances or behaves unsocially.

Response from the local licensees has been very encouraging with 95% agreeing to join to date. It's hope all will eventually join.

Each pub will be provided with two posters indicating they are members and what the scheme is.

Superintendent Bob Good, who attended the launch at the Shell Club in Corringham, said: "It is a very good initiative, a chance

to build to relationships between the agencies involved.

"With any public house there is always the potential for a problem and we are trying to reduce the probabilities. As a result we have had a very good response from the local licensees."

All in a good cause

A CLUB extravaganza for the emergency services is to help raise cash for a good cause.

Special Constable Gennie Hurst and traffic warden Jackie Smith, from Southend are manning a display stand at this year's Fun Day promoting the cause of the MacMillan nurses.

To help raise funds for the work of the nurses a Three Nines night is to be held at Club Art, Elmer Approach, Southend, on Wednesday, May 22.

Admission is free but a request is made for a donation of £1 per person.

New course unearthed

A COURSE in forensic archaeology has been launched at Bournemouth University and, as the only one of its kind in the UK, will be of interest to many serving officers.

It has been recognised that a wide range of specialist skills are required for effective scene of crime investigations.

Forensic archaeology applies archaeological methods and principles but within the framework of the criminal justice system.

Although it's an area which has been developed in the USA it is relatively new to the United Kingdom.

The new course runs part-time over an 18 month period for a Post Graduate Diploma, or two years for the MSc, and draws on expertise from both the schools of Conservation Sciences, Finance and Law.

The course will be headed by Dr

Margaret Cox, who has assisted on many police investigations.

She said: "The programme is aimed particularly at police officers with an appropriate academic background who wish to gain specialist vocationally-based knowledge to improve their professional capabilities, or practising archaeologists."

The course comprises eight modules of four day duration (Thursday to Sunday) and has been designed specifically for those in full-time employment.

Provision will be made, particularly in the case of police officers, for entry on the basis of professional experience or qualifications, rather than first degree status, provided an ability to succeed is demonstrated.

For more details contact Sarah Aldous on 01202 595444.

New system will mean greater accountability

A SYSTEM designed to improve levels of service is undergoing a trial in Essex Police and if successful should dispel the myth of Headquarters as a "black hole".

Service Level Agreements (SLAs) have been in use in business for several years and are agreements between a service user and a service provider which aim to quantify the service the customer is receiving.

In theory it will help raise the profile of ter-

ritorial divisions as customers and Support Departments as service providers, encouraging a clearer identification of needs and greater accountability.

The trial, which will last for six months, started on April 1.

HQ Operations Division and CID Operations Division both have a service level agreement with

all territorial divisions.

Copies are now on division and state clearly what level of service each can expect from the various units such as dogs, helicopter, fraud squad etc.

If anyone has any observations to make on SLAs or the trial they should contact Insp John Meggison at MSD on 01245 491491, ext 51041.

Time to talk shop

A SHOP promoting all aspects of crime prevention from security through to drugs education was set up for two weeks in Colchester last month.

Based in the Culver Centre the shop was donated free of charge for the initiative.

Crime prevention officers, schools' officers and local beat officers were all on hand to give advice and information, with a whole host of leaflets available for visitors to take away.

There were also displays and advice from Open Road, who specialise in drugs education and rehabilitation with the Headquarters drugs unit providing an input.

Crime Prevention officer Mark Harvey is extremely pleased with the response to the scheme. He said: "There has been a lot of interest. I would say we've had between 200 and 250 people through the door each day with the drugs display attracted the most attention."

Detective has the clue to solving boredom

KEEPING youngsters occupied in the more remote areas of Essex has always posed a problem for the police as boredom leads to petty crime.

But the teenage boys of Burnham can now look forward to a more interesting social life as a sergeant from Brentwood Child Protection launches an army cadet scheme in the area.

The scheme, based at the youth centre in Station Road,

Southminster and set up by Ds Iain Fraser, will take on boys between the ages of 13 and 18 and teach them skills, most people wouldn't get the chance to try.

As well as sporting activities such as canoeing and abseiling, they can learn map reading, survival techniques, weapon handling, first aid, and care in the community through a series of practical events, training weekends and camps. And all for

just 50p per session (there is a separate cost for participation in camps).

Iain said: "The army cadet scheme teaches boys to accept responsibility and become self reliant and self disciplined. It's hard work at times but can also be great fun."

Anyone who knows of youngsters wanting to join the scheme should contact Ds Fraser on 01277 262212, ext 75660. He will be setting up

the cadet's base on the weekends of May 4 and 5, 11 and 12, with a view to a starting date of May 13.

He would welcome any help on these occasions with the youth centre number being 01245 353043.

Alternatively any police officers or civilian staff interested in helping out an army cadet group or training to be an instructor should also contact Iain.

Help complete 'The Law' archives

IN an attempt to bring *The Law* newspaper archives up to date, the editorial team and museum curator Fred Feather are keen to obtain a number of missing copies.

The following editions appear to have gone astray: December/January 1980 (Issue 130), February 1985 (Issue 169), June 1986 (Issue 182), February 1990 (Issue 204), April/May 1991 (Issue 213), May/June (Issue 215), January 1993 (Issue 234), February 1993 (Issue 235), May 1993 (Issue 238), August 1993 (Issue 240), October 1995 (Issue 263) and November 1995 (Issue 264).

If anyone owns any of these copies and wouldn't mind donating them to the museum, please send them to Fred Feather, Police Headquarters, PO Box 2, Chelmsford CM2 6DA.

Fred also urgently requires back issues of History Notebooks for officers and staff wishing to complete their collection. The notebooks are numbered 1 to 10.

Please send any unwanted copies to the museum.

E-fit technology is not just for CID

THE benefits of E-fits have been proven with many a conviction resulting from the publication of one of the computer images.

But until now it has been a system used primarily by detectives, and the two county operators are keen for uniformed officers to make use of the facilities available.

Serious

Currently the Essex operators are Dc Angie Seavers and Pc June Saunders, and the system is used solely for serious crimes such as GBH, armed robbery, rape and, on occasions, burglary artifice.

By interviewing the victim the operator is able to turn a detailed description

By Kim White

into quality computer image. It may take hours of painstaking work, but when you compare some E-fits against the photos of those eventually convicted the benefits become more than apparent.

But using the computer equipment isn't the sole skill in producing a good E-fit.

Dc Seavers explained: "It is vital that we go through the crime scenario three or four times before we even start to do an E-

fit. It is important to establish a rapport with the victim who may well still be traumatised."

Essential

Another essential rule is for officers not to show consider PIRS or show the victim any photos prior to the creation of an E-fit as this could contaminate the memory of the victim and affect a conviction.

Said Angie: "Many are aware of the system we have but it has, in the past, been concentrated on CID and other officers need to

know what facilities there are and, more importantly, the circumstances in which the facilities should be used."

Advise

Obviously with just two operators in the county and other duties to perform, Dc Seavers and Pc Saunders have their work cut out, but both are more than willing to help and advise officers investigating a crime in which they feel an E-fit may be appropriate.



● This E-fit was produced with the help of a 12 year-old girl, traumatised by an indecent assault in Essex. As you can see by the photo of the man eventually arrested and convicted of the crime, the likeness is uncanny.

Give yourself a health M.O.T.

HARLOW divisional police and support staff will be given the opportunity to take a close look at their lifestyle and take advice from a team of experts this month.

Two Look After Your Health roadshows will be run to give people healthy guidance from how they can improve their diet to information on keep fit activities. Staff will be offered the chance to have their blood pressure and lungs tested too.

Importance

Organiser Stella MacKenzie stressed the importance of using the facility: "We want everyone from the division to attend it really will be beneficial to them. A lot of hard work goes into organising these events and if they are not supported they will have to cease", she said.

The first roadshow for Brentwood and Ongar staff takes place at Brentwood Police Station on Thursday May 16. Harlow and Epping staff have their opportunity to have a health check on Thursday May 23. Both roadshows take place between 10.00am and 3.00pm.

New bridge opens and it's toll free

VISITORS and staff with disabilities at last have easy access to the Headquarters assembly hall since the unveiling of a specially designed link corridor.

The project, which included the addition of a disabled toilet and the refurbishment of the current toilets, cost £62,000 in total.

A number of options were considered including an external lift, but the link corridor, made from double skinned glass reinforced fibre, proved the most viable and cost effective.

Mermaid makes a splash

A HOST of vehicle and driver offences were discovered when Essex traffic officers took part in a national blitz on motorists recently.

Operation Mermaid which targeted heavy goods vehicles, involved many additional agencies such as, Customs and Excise, Department of Social security, Vehicle Inspectorate, RSPCA Essex County Council and the local Vehicle Excise Licensing Office.

Over 80 vehicles were stopped at junction 31 of the M25 during an intensive eight hour check which reaped a staggering list of offences. 57 hours of tachograph offences were discovered, with five drivers falsifying their records. 17 vehicles were defective and prohibited, six were in such bad condition they were prevented from continuing with their journey.

Other horrors included three drivers with no Operators Licence, ten with no Vehicle Excise Licence and 18 vehicles which were overweight.

Seven drivers were found to be claiming benefit from the DSS and another had a disability which he claimed rendered him from working, yet he was able to drive a 38 tonne articulated lorry.

There are no spots on TCP



ONCE again the "antiseptic officers" known as TCP have come up trumps in their fundraising efforts for the orphans of Essex Police.

This year they "cleaned up" the princely sum of £1,200 in donations and collections after their paid their superb accompanist Marion and covered the cost of the odd costume or two for John Taylor, Steve Card, and John Pheby.

They presented the cheque to Assistant Chief Constable Jim Conlan, Chairman of the Police Benevolent Fund. John Taylor said: "We

would like the money to go to the orphans again this summer, as it did last year. We were touched by the unexpected letters of thanks and cards we received from them."

How do they do it? Well they give up their own time to perform their humorous songs, stories and ditties at functions prepared to give them a donation.

"We are still looking for further venues to perform", said John Taylor. "We will go anywhere, performing in Devon recently."

So if you are looking to "clean up" at the end of your function, don't reach for the rubber gloves, send for TCP.

Galleywood villagers have their say

TIME is up on a year long pilot scheme to evaluate the benefits of a Community Officer in the village of Galleywood just outside Chelmsford.

Pc. Kevin Bailey was deployed to look

Murder inquiry

POLICE in Clacton launched a murder investigation following the death of an 86-year-old man who was jostled by burglars at his home.

The man died less than 24 hours after three burglars conned their way in to his home claiming to be from the Gas Board.

They stole £3,000 cash which the man had recently withdrawn to buy an invalid car.

Badly shaken he was admitted to hospital the following day but later died.

Detectives believe the burglary could be linked to other similar incidents in the area.

after the Galleywood and Rothmans Estate area and now local police managers are consulting with members of the public on the effectiveness of the scheme.

Sgt. Andy Loveridge from Moulsham Police Station said: "The pilot scheme is being reviewed. We are asking the public their views on whether they would like to see a Community Officer permanently based in the village."

Feedback has, not surprisingly been favourable so far: "The people of Galleywood certainly seem keen for the placement of a Community Officer to continue", added Sgt. Loveridge.

Janette Potter, coordinator of Galleywood Village Watch said: "The site of a village police officer walking the streets gives a lot of reassurance to locals. Because we have just the one village bobby everyone gets to know his face. Pc. Bailey has a good relationship with the Parish councillors, the local youngsters and the villagers generally.

Animal exports in photo display

A PHOTOGRAPHIC exhibition depicting events during the live animal export trade through Brightlingsea is on display in the town at this weekend (May 4 & 5) and officers and support staff are being invited to attend.

The exhibition, entitled The Battle of Brightlingsea 1995, is the work of David Ames, a local resident.

David works full time as a delivery driver but was still able to find time to capture scenarios from the nine months of protests and shipments.

Admission to the exhibition is free and it will be open between 10am and 5pm on both days. The venue is Red Cross Hall and can be found in Victoria Place, Brightlingsea.

I.P.A

by Gordon Oakley

WITH the promise of the lovely weather about to begin the following events are proposed for the next few months.

July 14 - Fun Day. I hope you read all about it in the last Law and are planning the help and cakes.

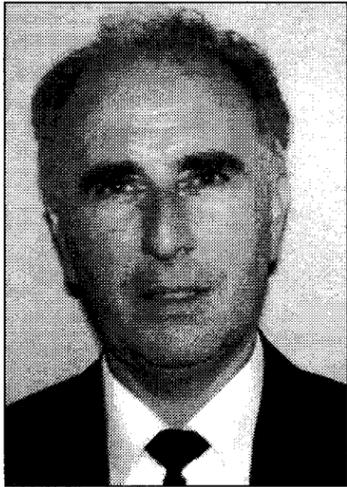
July 27 - trip on MV Princess Pocahontas from Tilbury to Greenwich, Westminster and, tide permitting, Chelsea. Departs 10.15am, cost £11. All bookings to Derek Gibbons (cheaper for the elderly and very young).

August 17 (provisional) - evening barbecue at Brentwood Police Station bar, commence 6.30pm. Contact John Swanborough or Steve Hunt.

September - Quiz night on date to be arranged at Grays Police bar.

Just in case you have a 1997 diary, next year's AGM will be in south east Essex on Friday, March 14. Members from all branches and regions are welcome to join us.

Also a reminder that on June 9 there is a service at the church in the Tower of London at 10.30am. This includes free entry to the tower. Anyone interested should contact Gordon Oakley.



● **Norman Rea.**

COLLEAGUES, friends and the family of SOA and former police officer Norman Rea, are still in shock following his sudden death at work.

Norman, aged 62, was just starting his shift at Ongar Police Station when he collapsed in the back yard following a heart attack. Commendable attempts were made to revive him by constables Terry Collinson and Paul Richards along with typist

Sad loss of a popular colleague

Jackie Brown.

Sgt Tony Ellis from Ongar said the officer was a popular character in the town. "Norman was so loved by the people of Ongar and he too loved the town. He spent much of his service as a police officer in Ongar and had a reputation for doing anything he could to help people. He was delighted when he was able to come back to Ongar as an SOA. The whole town was in mourning following his death."

Norman's popularity shone through at the funeral service held at St Mary's Church in Ongar. Many former colleagues turned up to pay their respects together with many residents from the town. The church was so full people were forced to stand in the doorway. Local officers provided a guard of honour outside.

He leaves his wife Caroline, who lives in Chelmsford, and three daughters.

● Essex Police also sends its sympathies to the families of the following pensioners who have died.

Ex Det Supt Leslie Poole from Westcliff, who joined the Service in 1932, serving in Southend, and retired in 1964. He died on April 2, aged 84.

Ex Pc Walter Payne from Colchester, who joined the Service in 1937, serving in Clacton, Wivenhoe and Walton, and retired in 1967. He died on April 3, aged 81.

Miss Millie Birch, former civilian from Saffron Walden, who went on to become part-time matron in the town after her retirement, providing a permanent tea stop for anyone with an hour or two to spare.

N.A.R.P.O. notes

by Brian Taylor

HERE we go again - but I promise not to mention Princess Di or mad cows.

Thank you to all those who have paid up their subs. There was just one slight hiccup, the proper price is £10.80, not £10 as appeared in the last issue. However, please don't shower me with 80 pences - keep it until next year and add it on.

Since my last letter, Mrs Barbara Bonnett, one of our widows, died.

Newcomers to the branch are Phil and Patricia Marriage and Leslie Blyth. Welcome to you all, we shall look forward to seeing you at the club.

Talking of that, there are two items for your diaries. Wednesday, May 29 at 8pm in the clubroom, is the AGM. On Wednesday, June 26, at 8pm is the summer social evening (which of course translates into sitting about nattering).

With the AGM in mind, I am sure by now that it is common knowledge that I would like to resign as secretary/treasurer. I have been doing this now for some 10 years and as the annos domini, I believe it would be to the benefit of the members for somebody with some new ideas and enthusiasm to take over. A volunteer would be most welcome.

● A FIRM managed by retired police officers are short of investigators in the Essex area.

Major Investigations and Security Services currently have about 35 investigators around the country, engaged mainly in commercial type enquiries.

It is important that applicants have an investigative background preferably in CID.

If interested write with brief details of experience to 100 Wick Road, Brislington, Bristol BS4 4HF or telephone 0117 971 6678.

● WS Atkins Census Department undertakes various types of traffic studies throughout Essex and the south east.

They currently employ a number of ex-police officers and similarly experienced personnel are urgently required.

Duties could include speed data collection, traffic counting, roadside interviews, video analysis and site assessments.

The work is on a casual basis and you will be called upon as and when required. Shift times vary but may mean starting early or finishing late. Applicants must have use of a car and a home telephone. Current rates of pay are £4.05 per hour plus travelling expenses.

If interested apply in writing to Mr D.J. Young, WS Atkins Consultants Limited, Transportation Department, PO Box 3106, Chelmsford CM1 1JQ.

Market Place . . . Market Place . . .

BODYBY exercise bike, new condition, £55. Contact Spittles on 01245 256545.

CAR trailer, 7 x 4, overrun brakes, lights, drop tail, new tyres, £250 ono. Contact Peter Terry on 01621 859585.

CORNWALL, Polperro. Chalet sleeps 4/5, heated indoor and outdoors pools, club and all facilities, £55 to £210 per week. Contact Craig Bailey on 01279 653570 or 01279 832837.

FOR sale, Marks Tey, 2 bedroom first floor flat, replacement windows, Economy 7 heating, allocated parking, close to A12 and railway station, £37,995. Contact Pauline Barker on 01206 212875 or Stanway Traffic.

FOR sale. Complete windsurfer, ideal for beginner, Telephone

01279 443160.

HONDA Concerto 1.6 G reg, dark blue, vgc, fsh, abs, power steering, electric windows, electric sunroof, electric wing mirrors, Blaupunkt stereo, 59,000k, £6,750 ovno. Tel Linda Kemetmuller on Ednet 60010 or 01621 742478 (evenings).

HOUSE required to let, 3 bedroom, approx £450 pcm in Leigh-on-Sea or Rayleigh. Retired constable moving back into area with family from Sussex. Contact Kevin Blake on 01702 523096.

ISLE of Wight, Bonchurch, cottage to let, pets, children and police welcome, 10% discount through this advert. Contact John Neagle on 01279 437560.

KUNNAN St Andrews Boron graphite golf clubs, full set, 18

months old, cost £1,000, sensible offers around £500. Many extras. Contact Pc Greaves at HQIR or 01245 494506.

RED Vauxhall Nova Flair, 1.2 F reg, 4 months tax plus MOT, stereo and sunroof, £2,300 ono. Contact Kathy Heaysman on 01245 491491 ext 52010.

SIERRA Sapphire 1.6LX, 12 months MOT, taxed, August 1996, red with matching mirrors, spoiler and bumpers, alloys, G plate, £2,399 ono. Contact Mark Shaw, B shift Basildon or 01245 328929.

SPAIN, Nerja. Villa, 2 double bedrooms, lounge, kitchen and bathroom, large pool, 5 minutes to beach, lovely quiet area but close to supermarket and restaurants. Villa per week, low £100, mid £150, high £200. Also service from airport. For further information contact Mr Gosling on 00345 2533298.

TRIUMPH Bonneville 750cc T14OV, 1976, MOT, excellent condition, alloy rims, electronic ignition, new valves and guides, front end overhaul, fast and fun, £2,500. Contact D Newbury on 01245 609819.

VW Passat, continental head lights, 1989, £30. Leather motorcycle jacket, TT leathers 38-40 chest, as new, £60. Contact D Newbury on 01245 609819.

A tidy retirement

AFTER cleaning Mistley Police station for 31 years, Jean Gunfield has hung up her dusters and broom.

To mark her retirement, past an present officers, including four of the six sergeants in charge of the New Road station, held a farewell party.

They were Wally Johnson, Dennis Murfitt, John Rose and current officer-in-charge Ian Poyser.

Mr Murfitt, who was at Mistley for more than 20 years, said that Jean's integrity, with regard to the confidential nature of police work, was 100 per cent. She had always been a reliable and 'lovely lady'.

Jean, from Lawford, was presented with a clock and a bouquet.

Retirements

Essex Police sends its good wishes to the following officers and support staff who are retiring:

DI Rod Clare, HQ Inspectorate, 30 years (20.5.96).

Ch/Insp Anthony Fraser, Rayleigh, 28 years (5.5.96). **Sgt Dudley Ball**, Rayleigh, 31 years (31.3.96).

Dc Alan Brierley, Colchester, 24 years (5.5.96).

Dc Stephen Holloway, Rayleigh, 23 years (22.4.96).

Dc Allan Wilkinson, HQ CID OPs, 30 years (29.4.96).

Pc Stewart Collins, Harwich, 30 years (13.4.96).

Pc Alan Inglis, HQ Driving School, 30 years (1.5.96).

Pc Peter King, HQ SOC, 28 years (2.5.96).

Pc Alan Bennett, Dunmow, 25 years (31.3.96).

Pc Dinah Labouchere, Colchester, 12 years (31.3.96).

Pc George Atkins, HQ Stolen Vehicle Section, 30 years (28.5.96).

Pc Ronald Burrell, Melbourne, 30 years (15.5.96).

Pc John Batchelor, Southend, 30 years (15.5.96).

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and Rank
 Station Home Tel
 Date Signed

ESSEX POLICE CHOIR
CHOIR OF CROISSY SUR SEINE

SPRING CONCERTS

Saturday, May 25, 1996
 at 7.30pm

The Moot Hall, Colchester

Tickets: £5 and £3.50 from Colchester Borough Council or Choir Members

Sunday 26 May 1996
 at 8.00pm

Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Danbury
Retiring Collection

Essex Police Choir has vacancies for singing members for past and present Essex Police staff or their partners. We meet on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Essex Police Training Centre

Get on your bike to help abused children

A CHILDREN'S charity hopes to raise around £30,000 for abused and neglected youngsters with the help of Essex Police officers and support staff.

The NSPCC is holding a sponsored bike ride on the Herts/Essex border and is looking for participants to join in on Sunday, June 2.

Although open to cyclists of all ages and abilities, it will be no easy task.

The ride features a 25 mile route and a 50 mile route and is set in some of the most beautiful countryside in the region, taking in picturesque villages such as Thaxted, Pleshey and Great Bardfield.

The cost of entering is £10 per adult for the 25 mile, £12 per adult for the 50 mile ride and £6 for children on either route.

The fee includes insurance, route maps, first aid cover, marshalling and a commemorative certificate.

Anyone wishing to enter should contact Tracy Cadman at the NSPCC on 01293 571616 for an entry form.

Calling all law enforcers

Proving just how widely read *The Law* is, a detective from America has written in appealing for help from "fellow law enforcers".

Jim Bradford works in the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, in Tampa, Florida, covering 1,038 square miles, including the west central coastline, along with 1,700 other deputies and 750 civilians.

Like many officers across the world his hobby is collecting insignia and memorabilia from shoulder patches to pins and uniforms to old photographs.

He said: "I recently read an edition of *The Law* and was quite impressed with the magnitude to which you keep everyone informed as to what is happening.

"Anything to do with law enforcement interests me and I was wondering if any of your readers would be interested in trading with me."

Jim can be contacted by writing to him at 720 Fortuna Drive, Brandon, FL 33511, USA.

A wee problem to solve

WOMEN police officers called to Brightlingsea during animal rights clashes found themselves with one big problem and it wasn't the protesters - it was answering the call of nature, writes Ian Deal.

The problem was the boiler suit type protective clothing issued to public order officers is a bind to get off in a hurry but help could soon be at hand.

Two male police officers from Public Order Training Pc's Tim Johnson and Jim Hollick could have the answer, a new fully versatile two piece suit, and what's more it's machine washable.

The problem of the current design had already been identified and two years ago work began on designing a new suit which would best suit the needs of both male and female officers.

Now with the design completed and agreed Essex Police is in negotiation with a clothing manufacturer to run up an initial 50 suits to be trialed.

Pc. Tim Johnson said: "Brightlingsea really highlighted the problem with officers working long hours in the kit, many female officers complained how long it took to take off their protective clothing to answer a call of nature."

The current protective clothing has an added problem that women have to remove clipped on equipment before removing the suits. Equipment includes leg and arm guards, fire extinguishers, helmets, radios, batons and first aid kits.

Pc. Johnson said: "The initial plan when we receive the suits is they will be trialed by the Force Support Unit as they will get the greatest use from them. This will ensure the product has been carefully checked before others are produced for issue to all other Level Two officers later this year. The two-piece suits we use will be of a better quality than elsewhere in the



region."

● An artist's impression showing the design of the versatile suit

Sickness levels show encouraging trend

SICKNESS figures which have just been released show a tremendous commitment by Essex Police officers who have suffered assaults and illness during 1995.

Only a fractional increase in sickness days has been reported showing an average of 8.7 days per officer over the last twelve months despite immense strains on officers at Brightlingsea last year. The Essex sickness level compares favourably to other forces in the region who registered an average of 12.9 days per officer during 1995.

Praising officers, Assistant Chief Constable Jim Conlan said: "Brightlingsea put strain not only on

those at the protests but on other officers left on division where fewer colleagues were left to cover duties. But overall there was a magnificent response by police officers and they are to be congratulated."

At the height of the Brightlingsea protests an incredible 25 per cent rise in illness and assaults had been reported though this levelled out throughout 1995.

A total of 25,533 days were lost in all over the year comprising of 1,827 officers receiving injuries off duty, 2,109 on duty and 749 officers suffered assaults.

Mr Conlan added: "Everyone is to be commended for the efforts particularly Occupational Health and Welfare for their tremendous efforts."

SPEEDING motorists will be targeted by Essex Police throughout May, with the aim of pressing home the message that *Speed Kills*.

Department of Transport figures show that speeding is responsible for between a quarter and a third of all road accidents, equivalent to around 28 deaths and 2,800 injuries on the roads of Essex during 1995.

The problem of speeding is especially noticeable in built-up areas, with 69 per cent of motorists ignoring the 30mph speed limit,

Speed campaign launched

according to Government estimates.

If every driver kept to these limits, then 380 lives could be saved and 37,000 injuries prevented across the country.

A national speeding campaign gets underway next week, but in Essex the problem is already being targeted.

Throughout Essex, on all types of roads and at all times of the night

and day, a variety of sophisticated detection devices are being used.

The last speed campaign in Essex, last September, resulted in 6,234 motorists being dealt with.

Chief Inspector Roger Anderson, of Essex Police Traffic, said: "People have got to understand that speed kills. Policemen know it, they see the results every day. That is why we have mounted this campaign. Nobody has the right to put other people's lives at risk in this way."

Sponsored tournament kicks off to an energetic start



THE Essex Police / QED Tournament kicked off last month, when the first of the 250 schools taking part in the countywide football and netball competition began battling it out for a place in the county finals in July.

Sponsored this year for the first time by Halstead-based project and facilities management company Quality Environmental Design Ltd, the tournament was launched at a reception

in Southend, by Assistant Chief Constable Charles Clark, together with QED directors Steve Pearson and Karl O'Brien.

Mr Clark thanked the sponsors for their support, Southend United FC for providing the venue for the launch - the First Division club's training ground in Eastern Avenue - and the club's players for taking part in the demonstration matches.

"This tournament

involves over 3,500 young people across the county," said Mr Clark. "It is important from the community perspective, in that it is all about involving young people in the county in worthwhile sporting activities."

Mr Pearson said QED was pleased to be associated with the tournament. "In future years we hope the involvement of QED will help to raise the profile of the tournament in Essex," he said.

The Southend United players then took on Thorpe Junior School at six-a-side football, the match resulting in a 2-2 draw. Then, to show their versatility, the soccer players had an energetic netball match against last year's tournament winners Lee Chapel School, Pitsea, when again honours were even at 4-4.

The county final takes place at Police HQ, Springfield, Chelmsford on Sunday, July 7.

Essex haul in four titles at indoor games

THE 1996 games were hosted by Norfolk Constabulary and proved a great success for Essex Police who won four of the 13 National Titles on offer, which was the best performance by any force in the county with no other force winning more than one title.

In darts it was another super show with Mo Chaplin (Rayleigh) winning the ladies singles by being unbeaten in

the round robin and the knock out stages and including a 140 checkout to demoralise the 1993 ladies champion en route. She joined with Sue Jenkins (Harwich) to take the ladies double title in a tense final which saw Sue make vital doubles.

Paul Bates (Southend) was unable to make much progress in the mens finals but Bob Fugl (CSB) and Peter Hyem (Shoebury) played superbly in the mens doubles to reach the semi final

which saw them miss a shot at double 20 by just the wire at two sets all before the eventual winners managed their double and went on to an easy final win.

In table tennis our team was strengthened by the eligibility of civilians which allowed SOA Julie Ascombe (Southend) to enter for the first time and with Julie ranked 20 in the English Table Tennis Ladies she was able to dominate the competition

and take the ladies title in front of the watching English table tennis secretary Mr Johns. Julie then joined Chris Jacob (HQ) to take the mixed doubles title for Essex against some strong opposition for the first time ever although Chris has previously lost in the final when Mo Chaplin displayed a talent at table tennis to compliment her darts. Dave Birkett (Chelmsford) in the mens singles, Dave and Gavin Price (Clacton) mens doubles and

Chris Jacob all won through the preliminaries stages but 1st in the Quarter Finals of their respective events.

We were not represented at snooker or billiards but the haul of four titles is the best Essex Police have ever managed and continues the incredible rise of success which Essex has enjoyed over the past few years at national levels despite a shrinking of players of police representative sides in local leagues.

Best game yet for Colchester

Colchester Police 14,

Colchester Rugby Club 12

THIS game was always going to be the toughest test for the Police side, with Colchester Rugby Club fielding a strong team selected from their 2nd and 3rd team sides, as a result of the Police victories against Tendring and St Osyth.

The first half was end to end stuff with strong tackling going in from both sides, eventually though resulting in a try from Colchester Rugby Club just before half-time, which was converted.

The second half continued as the first with a second try for Colchester soon after the break, making the score 12-0.

With five minutes remaining the Police had no option other than to run all the possession they had, resulting in a try from Billy Teatheridge, which was converted.

The game looked destined for a Colchester win when with 30 seconds remaining with a sudden break setting up Alan Simpson to run the full length of the pitch to score a try beneath the posts. With the last kick of the game, Tim Johnstone converted the try to give Colchester a hard earned victory.

Tim Johnstone.

Try the triathlon

AS the triathlon season begins, members of Essex Police are being sought to represent the organisation at a variety of events.

Peter Bryan from Chelmsford Traffic wants to encourage people of all standards to come forward and not to be daunted by the high achievements of some competitors.

Discount to golf competition

GOLF enthusiasts among Essex Police personnel are being often discounted tickets to the first round matches of the European Championships.

With an elite field of 32 players representing 12 countries and 463 victories world-wide, the competition promises to be a thriller with the field dotted with former Ryder Cup, Presidents Cup and World Cup veterans and major championship winners.

Set to be played at The Oxfordshire Golf Club, Thame, Monday, May 20 will feature matches between Olazabal and Torrance, Langer and Parnevik and Montgomerie and Rocca.

Anyone interested in attending can buy tickets at the reduced rate of £10 per person (usually £12), on condition they are purchased prior to May 20.

You can book tickets by ringing 01753 892270 and quoting the name Essex Police.

Marathon team gather speed

ESSEX officers used teamwork to conquer yet another London Marathon and raise a hefty £3,000 for charity.

The team beat last year's time by three minutes crossing the line in 5 hours, 2 minutes and 10 seconds.

Pc Laurie Rampling, who plans to run next year coincid-

ing with his 50th birthday, said: "I suppose we are all used to teamwork, but five hours on the road in warm weather is a very long time. We all really enjoyed it. The crowd was absolutely brilliant.

"We will never forget the deafening noise as we crossed Tower Bridge and are all keen

to have another go."

It was the Police team's 11th entry into the race and as usual they ran in police helmets and shirts.

The money raised will go to the President's Sporting Club which gives sports opportunities to disabled children in Essex.



● The Essex Police team: DI Steve Bright, Pc Tony Conniford, Pc Jan Adcock, Sgt Pete Bryan, Pc John Woods, Pc Laurie Rampling, Pc Allan Barley, Pc Chris Layley, Sc Nigel Wright, Dc Ian Rayner, Pc Dave Joseph and Pc Rick Matthews.

Auto club folds

ATTEMPTS to generate greater interest in the Seaxes Auto Club have proved in vain and it is to formally close.

The decision was made at the Annual General Meeting on April 25 and was made with great regret after some 29 years in existence.

Over the years Seaxes has enjoyed considerable success but the membership of Essex Police staff has dwindled to just seven.

Operating on the support of non-police personnel it is no longer possible to satisfy the requirement of being the motor club for Essex Police.

As the club wraps up, some good will come of the bad with funds of just over £2,000 being donated to CHARMS (Chelmsford Action for Relief of Multiple Sclerosis) and NEEDES (North Essex Emergency Doctor Service).

Force sport

The result of this month's lottery is: £1,500 Pc Graham Garnham, Sandon Dog Section; £1,000 Sandra Short, Rayleigh; £500 Rod Booth, Pensioner; £300 Pc Roy Kebbell, Basildon; £200 Frederick Croot, Saffron Walden; £100 Sgt Keith Beechener, HQ.

The following receive £50 consolation prizes: Philip Daws, Colchester; Pc John Manners, HQ; Supt Mick Benning, Southend; Pc Ian Steele, Chelmsford; Pc Gordan Bennett, HQ; Sgt Frank Ruggles, Stanway Traffic; Roger Culham, Southend; Pc Kenneth Bambury, Chelmsford; Susan Tickner, HQ and Fred Feather, HQ.

● Congratulations to Southend Division for finishing top of the table in the Croker Cup competition.

● For further Force Sport see Personnel Bulletins.

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June 1996

Copy 24.5.96
Printed 5.6.96