



**CS spray training - P3**



**1997: A year of firsts - Centre**



**MBE for Shirley - P10**

## Budget axe set to fall

CUTS will be needed across a range of Essex Police budgets when the 1998/9 spending plans are finalised next month.

The budget settlement announced by the Home Office in December has given Essex the power to increase its annual spending by 3.7 per cent, in line with the national average increase in police spending.

But the increase is insufficient to meet anticipated pension costs in full or to fund the full-year cost of the planned appointment of 55 additional police officers during 1997/8.

With additional planned increases in spending on Information Technology and building maintenance seen as high priority, a review of spending has taken place to identify cuts elsewhere.

●Continued on page 2.

# FIR IS FULLY OPERATIONAL

**THE new Force Information Room is now fully live, providing single-tier control to all divisions.**

The final division to go on-line was Basildon which joined the southern area at 6am on January 11.

Stansted remains the only territorial area not controlled by FIR, as its specialist role in airport policing means it will retain its own control room.

The last few handovers have been the smoothest in the gradual transfer of control rooms from across the county.

by Ruth Collin

In fact, some divisional officers have appeared unaware that they are no longer being controlled from their local station.

FIR's Superintendent Ian Gruneberg says he thinks this is due to the high level of local knowledge being retained with staff moving from divisions to headquarters.

The last few divisions to roll out have also benefited from significant lead-up times in which FIR shifts have been able to take control for longer and longer periods of time. This has enabled any problems to be identified and solved before

the final handover is completed.

In fact, FIR operators dealt with the initial stages of the baby snatch operation in Basildon last month. Their handling of information received and passed on was commended by both the local divisional commander and the SIO.

This and other successful operations handled by FIR have been helped significantly by the 36 extra staff who transferred to the department in the latter part of last year.

Looking ahead, Supt Gruneberg says his priority is to ensure that all FIR staff

know what standard of service is expected of them.

He said: "Work is being done to look at and agree fully the role, priorities and performance standards of not only FIR, but also helpdesks and crime desks across the county."

In addition, staff are working on producing guidelines for FIR operators detailing the basic steps to be taken when handling incidents.

Although experienced operators know which staff or resources should be contacted when dealing with a specific type of incident, Supt Gruneberg is keen for definitive guidelines to be produced so that all operators know what is expected of them.

But he said: "I would stress that this document is intended as simply a guideline. It is vital that our response remains flexible to the requirements of the individual incident."

## CS spray training

**MORE than 3,000 Essex Police officers have now been trained in the use of CS spray.**

All divisions have now completed their initial training sessions with most regulars, specials and CID officers receiving tuition.

Full details - page 3.

# Stirred - but not shaken . . .

## New Bond car's secrets revealed

TWO eagle-eyed Harwich officers got the chance to see what it's like to be James Bond recently when they stopped a car transporter.

Whilst on routine patrol, Pc Gregory Radley and Sc Shane Wills spotted a lorry loaded with high quality cars all displaying the same registration plates.

They stopped the driver, who explained that the vehicles were for use on the latest James Bond film, "Tomorrow Never Dies" and were on their way to Germany.

After being pointed in the right direction, the officers took the chance to have their picture taken in the BMW 7 series which is seen in the film being controlled by Bond via an Ericson mobile phone, which acts as a radio control unit.

As you can see from the photo, in reality the car has been modified and is really being driven from the rear passenger seat.

As far as we are aware, there are no current plans to modify Essex Police vehicles in a similar manner!



● SC Shane Wills gets to grips with the latest technology which has been helping movie spy James Bond to save the world.

## Budget cuts set to bite

●From page 1.

The Home Office funding announcement means the 1997/8 budget of £157.8 million could be increased to a maximum of £163.6 million for the 12 months from April 1. The budget will be set by Essex Police Authority on February 16.

Essex Police Director of Finance and Administration Philip Onions said, "On a national basis, the settlement providing additional spending power of 3.7 per cent for police is reasonable, given overall funding constraints and in the context of wider public service settlements."

He explained, however, that the new spending limit would not allow for an increase in the number of police officers in Essex.

"While the proposed savings have not yet been finalised, the emphasis will be on maintaining operational performance," he said. "This will include at least maintaining the number of constables in operational roles, and enhancing police performance through information technology."

## Book on offer: Memoires of S019

FORMER Metropolitan Police sergeant Steve Collins joined the elite S019 tactical firearms unit in 1989 as team leader, specialist firearms officer, national firearms instructor and tactical adviser.

He was with the unit for five years and, since leaving the force in 1996, after more than 20 years' service, has turned his hand to writing.

### Offer

His latest book - *The Good Guys Wear Black* - tells the inside story of S019 and its dealings with Yardies, international drugs barons, IRA enforcers and celebrity south London gangsters.

Published by Century at £16.99, the book is available at a £2 discount by calling Tiptree Book Services direct on 01206 255800, with credit card details (postage and packing free).

## A big thank-you



●Young handicapped children who were taken on an outing to an off-road centre in Kent sent a big thank-you card to organisers Gary Smith, right, and David Jones.

The event took place last year, when magician Paul Daniels turned out to wave the 40 vehicle convoy off on its way.

UNISON

ESSEX POLICE BRANCH

# A call for extra support

DELEGATES from the Essex Police branch attended this year's Police Support Staff National Seminar in Hull. Matters on the agenda included the ongoing terms and conditions negotiations, job evaluation, the new National Crime Squad, best value, health and safety and new powers for police support staff.

Our secretary Lee Robson, took the floor and criticised both the National Executive and the Head of Communications for the way in which police support staff are currently undervalued and poorly represented within Unison. Police staff are a growth sector as more and more people realise the benefits of membership. We want to see more publicity for police staff, tailor made recruitment and retention services and a higher profile.

This was well received by all the delegates and progress has been made. Seminar coverage was comprehensive and changes are in motion.

Essex Police have been asked to assist in the compilation of new recruitment literature aimed at police staff, to this end some of our members will be photographed at work and these images will be used to advertise Unison's police sector on a national basis. The branch extends thanks to the Chief Constable and Mr Broughton for their co-operation.

On the health and safety front, Unison is

looking to challenge the "reasonably practicable" clause which the UK Government introduced when legislating the European Directives. Unison believes this clause is against the spirit, and indeed wording of the directives and leaves UK employees at a disadvantage when compared to their European colleagues.

We are also looking at the policies of best value and the private finance initiative - each one has a potentially harmful affect on our members jobs and conditions.

### FIR Meeting

Locally, Unison will be calling for a meeting with FIR management to discuss the concerns of staff about management practices - particularly in relation to sickness.

SOAs are also reporting their concerns about rumours which are circulating, particularly in Braintree division, which may have detrimental affects on their employment. This is an ongoing issue and the Personnel Department have previously assured us that any formally proposed changes will involve consultation and negotiation with the staff involved and with Unison. So far there has been no such consultation in this instance.

Lastly, the branch AGM takes place at the end of this month. If you are a member don't forget you have a vote and a say. The regional officer, Mr Harry Lister will also be attending.

Lee Robson

## Travel insurance

IT'S still not too late to join. Marilyn Carr on extension 54555 can give you details if you are still not sure. With the proposed changes that mean your tour company cannot insist on you taking out their insurance to obtain discounts, it makes even more sense to join - "£17" a bargain!

## Federation Newsline

by Terry Spelman



## Conditions of service to be raised by PNB

MORE good news is that the official side of the PNB have given notice that they wish to review the following Conditions of Service:

Subsistence, Refreshment and Lodgings  
Overtime, Rest Days and Public Holiday Working  
Dog Handlers Allowance  
Plain Clothes Allowance  
Detective Expenses Allowance  
Gratuity for searching, fingerprinting dead, decomposed bodies  
Temporary Promotion

Obviously, it's early days yet but we will keep you up-dated as soon as we have anything further. It's only the depth that changes!

# Difficult decisions ahead

WE start the New Year with interesting times ahead - and that's probably putting it mildly. We are looking at a £4 million plus deficit in our spending budget for this year, so cuts will have to be made.

I don't take away the difficult decisions this will entail but we should look carefully before decisions are made. We hear talk about further civilianisation. We have accepted that some jobs needed reviewing and have nothing but praise for the majority of our civilian colleagues but surely enough is enough.

### Cheaper

You cannot keep saying it's the cheaper option so it's got to be done. How many posts given up have been re-graded up to higher salaries and quite rightly so. Are police officers that overpaid that we can say you can do that job to our civilian colleagues but you're not worth that much? Let's just civilianise everything, call us by a different name

and pay us all peanuts. You know what they say about that, don't you. Let's not try and kill ourselves off. We all have our jobs to do but they are different.

### Ill health

Let's stop reading about police officers all going out on ill health pensions. I'm not surprised if there are no jobs now where officers can recover rather than be off sick. If you can't do the job, you're out. Never mind the experience we lose and the extra costs involved, i.e. one police officer pensioned out replaced by a civilian - two lots of costs equals more money than keeping the officer working. I'm told we are even advertising for civilians to replace our civilians. Is this best practise or, again, a cost-cutting false economy?

I know the decisions are hard and I don't pretend to know all the answers but let's not take one step forward and two steps back.

# Staying tough on drink-drivers

THE Christmas anti-drink drive campaign showed a slight increase in the number of positive breath tests compared to last year.

In total, 11,448 people were tested by traffic and divisional officers across the county. Of these, 342 were positive - an average of 3%, compared to 2.47% last year.

Traffic Division managers say the number of drivers failing breath tests still gives

cause for concern. National statistics have this year looked particularly at the number of failures following road accidents. In Essex, the percentage of drivers giving a positive reading following a crash was almost double the overall average. The total number of tests carried out at road accidents was 1,173 with 69 proving positive, an average of 5.9%.

## Hard core

Chief Inspector Mick Thwaites, head of opera-

tions for Traffic Division, said: "There is a hard core of drivers out there who are still willing to flout the law, risking their own safety as well as the safety of other people on the road."

As well as the high number of positive tests, we have had a number of very high readings, with some measuring over 100 microgrammes. The legal limit is 35. This gives us much cause for concern.

Having said that, the extremely high number of tests carried out throughout the campaign reflects the commitment of Essex Police to enforcing drink drive legislation, and we will continue to get tough."

## Want to be in The Bill?

WOULD you like to be on TV?

Do you watch The Bill every week?

BBC1's television programme - Whatever You Want - hosted by Gaby Roslin, is looking for police officers who would love to spend a day on set with The Bill and have a small speaking part.

The show gives three contestants the chance to compete for one dream-come-true prize that money cannot buy.

The new series begins filming in March. To take part, send a photograph to The Bill, WYW Research, PO Box 2467, London, W1A 2XH, or phone 0171-434 1062, or e-mail: wyw@hat-trick.co.uk.

## Protection for officers to carry out their duties

# CS spray success

MORE than 3,000 Essex Police officers have now been trained in the use of CS spray.

by Ruth Collin

All divisions have now completed their initial training sessions with most regulars, specials and CID officers receiving tuition. In addition, the majority of officers seconded to non-operational posts have also now been trained.

Since its introduction to the force in October, the spray has been used nearly a hundred times across Essex to protect officers in the course of their duties.

The feedback from officers on the streets has been that the spray has become a key protection tool which helps them feel more confident in carrying out their work. This was particularly true for one officer, Pc Karen Shanahan of Southend Division, who used the spray for the first time last November.

### Confident

Pc Shanahan, of the Town Beat Section, had been called to a late night disturbance in the town. Amid the shouting and confusion, fights were breaking out amongst small pockets of people. A number of units attended and some members of the public became aggressive towards the police. Karen found herself threatened by a man lunging towards her and she was able to protect herself and her fellow officers by using the spray.

She said: "I had only been trained to use CS three days earlier, but having it has definitely made me feel more confident in carrying out my job. I am slightly built and have

always been concerned that I may not be able to protect myself or my colleagues by just using the baton." She says she welcomes the introduction of the spray and sees it as another tool enabling Essex Police officers to carry out their work more effectively.

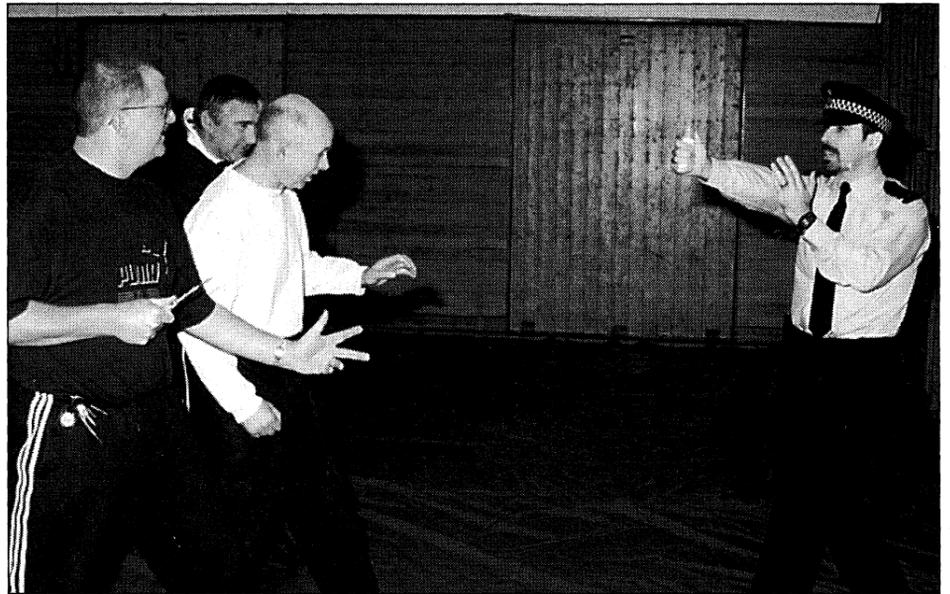
Other officers say that when batons were first introduced, they soon wondered how they ever managed without them; they now feel the same about the spray.

### Assaulted

Sergeant Jon Butcher of Harlow Division has been assaulted by suspects several times during his 14 years of service. His first use of the spray was at a disturbance in the town in which he found himself alone dealing with two aggressive men. He said: "I have been involved in several incidents where batons have been used and the problem is they can cause long-term injuries. From my first experience of using CS, the benefits were the instant effect that it had on the person sprayed and the fact that no long term damage was caused to their health."

He added: "When I used it, I was also slightly affected by the spray, but the training had prepared me for that and at the end of the day it was better than getting beaten up."

The Police Federation continues to support the use of CS spray by officers in protection of themselves and their colleagues. Sgt David Jones said: "We are very pleased that the spray has finally been introduced in Essex and has been seen to work so successfully. We see it simply as another piece of protective equipment enabling officers to carry out their duties effectively in what can often be dangerous situations."



● A CS spray training session

## Special role for Rita

A COLCHESTER Special is preparing to take up another very important role in the town this year. Beat Supervisor Rita Hunt has served in the constabulary for 6 years, but this summer takes up her place as Colchester's Deputy Mayoress.

Rita's husband, Councillor Martin Hunt, was formally elected by the council as the next Deputy Mayor earlier this month. The Borough's traditional 'mayor making' ceremony will be held in May, when Rita and Martin will officially take over.

As deputies, under the Colchester tradition,

it means that Rita and Martin will become the town's Mayor and Mayoress for the millennium celebrations of 1999/2000.

Rita has lived in Colchester for 20 years and, as Britain's oldest recorded town, she's well aware of the historical importance of the mayor's role. She says she's looking forward to taking up her formal duties, attending fetes, church services and representing Colchester at other events.

We think Rita is the first Special to become a mayoress - if you know different, please contact the Press Office at HQ.

## Karli success to be used as national model

A REORT on Essex Police's successful operation to reunite newborn baby Karli Hawthorne with her parents is being prepared for the National Crime Faculty.

The aim of the report is to share experience and best practice, both internally and externally, and help to inform the national approach to investigating similar offences.

A force debrief has already highlighted key decisions which led to Karli's heartwarming reunion with her parents at Basildon Hospital within 14 hours of her disappearance.

The decision to open up the Information Bureau at Headquarters to ensure calls from

the public could be handled speedily was critical, with more than 400 calls being made in the six hours to midnight on the day of Karli's disappearance last month. Among these calls was the vital one which led to her recovery.

Equally important was the decision to dedicate Senior Investigating Officer Det Supt David Bright to front the media, to ensure maximum coverage during the early stages of the incident. A photo of a woman taken from the hospital's CCTV cameras, and an E-Fit likeness of the alleged baby snatcher, were released in time to make the front page of all the next morning's national papers. Subsequently Chief Constable

John Burrow wrote to all the media, via the Press Association, to thank them for their co-operation in effecting Karli's safe return.

As the operation to recover Karli, which involved more than 80 officers and support staff, swung into action, Essex detectives were able to draw on the experience of their colleagues in Nottinghamshire, who dealt with the abduction of baby Abbie Humphries in 1994.

Now the review being drawn up by Supt Jim Noakes and Det Insp Graham Bull will be provided to the National Crime Faculty at Bramshill to ensure other forces can benefit from Essex Police's experience.

## Offbeat

YOUNGSTERS have been getting up to some strange things this month!

A boy from Chelmsford was reported as a missing person after a row with his mum, but we found him hidden under a pile of cuddly toys in his bedroom.

A young lad from Grays found what was believed to be a human ear in his garden. Officers took advice from the hospital who suggested wrapping it in wet gauze and putting it in a plastic bag in a fridge, where it could survive for up to three days. The search for a person without an ear contin-

ued until SOCO examined the item and declared it was made of foam rubber - although it was very realistic....

Officers in Leigh were called to a car fire on the seafront late one night. The vehicle had suffered a fuel pipe leak and the driver had got his cigarette lighter out to inspect the damage when the fire started. Advice from ECFRS followed.

And there was some seasonal cheer in Brentwood on Christmas eve, when officers were called to assist a disabled couple who couldn't get their 15lb turkey out of the oven. GR51 attended and retrieved the bird so the couple could enjoy their festive dinner.

# Law letters

Send your letters to:  
The Law, Press Office,  
Police Headquarters,  
PO Box 2, Chelmsford,  
Essex, CM2 6DA.

## A messy problem

THE letters page in a recent local newspaper contained a complaint of a police horse ridden by a female officer defecating on the public highway. Similar action by a canine creature might have amounted to a bylaw offence by the person having control of that animal.

Another writer pointed out that in the days of mainly horse traffic their waste product was highly prized by gardeners.

I read somewhere that in Victorian times dog faeces were used in the leather tanning industry and this material was sought eagerly by collectors to earn money in those hard times.

It's just common sense that any noxious fluid or material on the public highway must be wrong and its unlawful depositing amounts to an offence.

I am left wondering about the official line on this about all horse riders and police riders in particular.

Phil Pewsey  
Southend-on-Sea.

## Watching the pennies

WE are reminded on an almost daily basis that Essex Police faces a substantial budget cut next year. In light of this, I seek reassurance through your publication that every item of current expenditure is carefully examined and justified.

I do this as I sit beside a pile of no less than 25 (unread) copies of Essex Police History Notebook Number 27 that have been delivered to my unit. Printed on high-quality paper, by outside printers these and presumably the preceding 26 issues seem to be of little or no relevance to Essex Police today and, judging by the number left lying around, of little interest.

Those interested in such matters should visit the force Museum, which surely exists for this purpose.

Sgt C Booth  
Chelmsford Traffic

THE Museum is a registered charity which receives donations from visitors. Those donations pay for the History Notebooks, which are highly sought after by both serving and retired officers as well as members of the public. Back issues are always being requested.

Extra copies of the History Notebooks were asked for by Traffic Division. If they are not required, please let us have them back as we have plenty of requests for them.

Tina Starling  
Public Relations Officer

## Thanks to the Fed

AS a pensioner and having to watch the pennies, I took advantage of the Travel Insurance Scheme.

Having to cancel a holiday to America at the last minute, because of the wife's hospitalisation, I claimed.

No fuss, no queries and payment inside ten days. Congratulations to the Federation. I recommend it to all!

Ex-Ds Dave Rogers

# Remembering the floods of '53



## Thank you for the kind wishes

MAY I take the opportunity through the pages of *The Law* to say a great big thank you to everyone who contributed to the 58 cards, 28 presents, two cakes and numerous bouquets of flowers I received on my retirement on 12 December 1997 after completing 26 years.

I am not sorry to retire, but I will certainly miss all the friendships I have made over the years, but no doubt I will be calling in to see you all at Grays. Once again, thank you very much.

Norah Gant  
Ex-TW Controller  
Thurrock

MAY I thank the many friends and colleagues, past and present, with whom I have worked over the last 32 years.

I have greatly valued the support, friendship and kindness show to me and it has been a privilege to have worked with you all.

I have been overwhelmed by the many cards and good wishes received on my retirement and by the lovely presents given to me.

I would like to thank everybody who attended my retirement party and made it such a memorable occasion for Sue and I.

Finally, good luck in the future to all, particularly the Tendring Division. It was a pleasure to have been your Divisional Commander.

Jim Kynnersley  
Retired Supt  
Tendring

I thought readers may be interested in this photograph taken at Long Road, Canvey, 45 years ago during the East Coast floods of January 1953.

The officer is my father, Pc 155 (later 955) Bill Pilgrim. The photograph appeared on the front page of the Daily Mail and can also be seen to this day in the film which is shown to visitors at the Thames Barrier.

I was only 13 years old at the time of the great flood, but I remember it well. My father was the only Pc on night duty and as a keen fisherman he often went up onto the sea wall to see the state of the tide. He did this on that night and was amazed to find the water only a couple of feet from the top of the sea wall with still about two hours before high water. There was no warning system then and the high tide had already caused chaos at Harwich.

### 58 Deaths

On the night of the floods, 58 people died. My father told me that most most people died of exposure rather than drowning, mainly elderly folk having woken up to find very cold sea water up to their mattress. They managed to get onto the roof of their bungalows still in their nightclothes, and they just couldn't survive the conditions.

Some years later, after I too had joined the force and dealt with my first major incident, I asked him how coped on that night. He told me that he woke up a resident in each street and asked him to alert the rest of the road. The problem he found was getting the residents to believe him - he was told to "clear off" on more than one occasion. What a task he had to deal with that night, all in the course of duty. There must be many past members of the force like my father, and they must never be forgotten.

All police families on the island were given the chance to leave for the mainland. My mother and I were evacuated from our homes to Pitsea where mum stayed with one of the Dcs and I lived with one of the duty sergeants.

My father joined the force in 1946 and was based at Hornchurch before moving to Canvey. We left the island in 1955 and dad later served as a detached beat officer at Bures and Rayne. He retired in April 1972 and died in July 1980 of heart failure; my mother died five months later.

I bought the ex-Rayne Police House and retired in 1990. My second son, Andrew, is now in 'the job' and stationed at Saffron Walden. Let's hope he is never faced with a situation like his grandfather faced at Canvey Island on that fateful night in 1953.

Bob Pilgrim, Ex Pc 1054, Rayne

## A challenge for the 'Borough Boys'

IN recent issues of *The Law* you have published records of the oldest police officer still on pension. Although I do not yet qualify for any records in this field, I would like to hear from any "Borough Boys" regarding the following, to find out if I hold the record for serving in every station in the Borough.

They are: Southend (old and new), Westcliff, Leigh-on-Sea, Shoebury (old and new), Eastwood and all the seasonal mobile stations at Marine Parade, Chalkwell and East Beach Shoebury.

This needn't stop here. How about any of the "County Boys" who have served in several stations across the county? It is interesting to know. Here's hoping my record has not been broken.

Please publish my full address, as I would like my former colleagues to know where I am living now.

Tom Rowe (ex Pc 80), 14 Home Farm Road,  
Stanion, Kettering NN14 1DQ.

## Where's the badge?

I WAS interested to see the photograph in December's issue of *The Law* of the collection of police badges held at Harwich Police Station.

However, I could not distinguish the badge of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. I hope it is there and, if not, a badge is obtained before the Government placates the Nationalist sections in Ulster even more by disbanding this proud force.

I see reported that recruits to the RUC are now no longer required to swear allegiance to the Crown.

A G Robinson, NW Co-ordinator, Colchester

Editor's note: We have checked with Harwich Police Station and can happily confirm that the RUC insignia does feature in the display.

For more Letters  
please turn to  
page 11

# Woman's bravery commended by Chief

THE bravery of an elderly Essex woman in tackling two burglars at her Thorpe Bay home has been recognised by the rare award to a member of the public of a Chief Constable's commendation.

Awards to the public for meritorious acts normally come from the Police Authority, but the actions of Mrs Pamela Lynes, who is 72, were felt to be such as to deserve a commendation from the Chief Constable.

It was at 4.15am on July 15 last year that Mrs Lynes was awoken by her alarm company phoning to say she was being burgled.

She heard noises downstairs, pushed a panic button next to her bed and shouted a challenge to the intruders from the landing.

## Violent

Suddenly a man ran up the stairs, tackled Mrs Lynes and put a hand over her mouth to stop her screaming. She struggled violently and fell

back against a book case. She regained her footing and continued to struggle, at which point a second man appeared up the stairs, brandishing a small garden fork.

There was a further violent struggle involving both men at which point her phone rang again and both men ran downstairs.

The first man - later sentenced to four years in jail - was caught at the garden gate by Pc Mark Britton, who had arrived in the Shoebury area car with Pc Susan Allen. The second man escaped.

Retired Dc Ken Wright, who was the officer in the case, recommended Mrs Lynes for her award. He said: "I felt that under the circumstances Mrs Lynes' action should be recognised."

"I found her to be a very strong and capable person who acted admirably, considering her age and domestic circumstances."

Mrs Lynes remains modest about her actions on that summer day. She said of her award: "I was so amazed



● Pamela Lynes MBE receiving her commendation from the Chief Constable, John Burrow

to get the Chief Constable's invitation to come along, because I do not think I was very brave. It was a very nice episode in my life to receive this award."

Mrs Lynes, who has a nephew serving in the Metropolitan Police and a brother-in-law who was a Detective Inspector with Manchester Police, was especially thankful to the police officers who attended her home and dealt with the incident and also to John Ansell, of Victim Support.

## Helpful

She said: "Because the police and John Ansell were so helpful to me, and because of all the help and attention I got, it became not so much an ordeal as a bit of an adventure."

"Afterwards I thought 'Oh God, what could have happened to me', but I try not to think about that side of it."

Mrs Lynes received the MBE in 1962 for services to the Air Ministry, where she worked at the time.

She is a past President of Shoebury Park Ladies' Bowling Club and said she tries each year to organise a fun

garden party for the club at her home.

"As luck would have it, the party was planned for that particular afternoon, but by the time the police had gone and Ken Wright had come along to take a statement, I was getting in a bit of a state about how I was going to get the sandwiches cut and the scones buttered!" said Mrs Lynes.

"However, two of the girls from the committee came along and did all the work for me. The club secretary said to me: 'Surely you are not going ahead with the party?' But I said why should we let those two so-and-sos put us off?"

The party went ahead and Mrs Lynes said it had turned out to be a wonderful afternoon.

"I think I get strength from somewhere or other to cope with things. Shock is an awful thing and it does take a bit of combatting. Because of all the things that went with it, the garden party, the police catching one of the men concerned, the help I had from everyone, including friends and neighbours, I really tried not to let it bother me too much."

# New nick opens in Laindon

THE Chief Constable, Mr John Burrow, will formally open Laindon's new police station at a ceremony at the Durham Road site on January 26.

The new station was bought by Essex Police on a design-and-build basis, via Suon Ltd, and was handed over ahead of schedule and within budget, complete and ready to use, in September. The main builder was Jackson Building Ltd, of Ipswich.

The new station is home to the Laindon beat officers, as well as Prosecutions and the tape librarian from Basildon police station, thereby freeing up more office space at the divisional HQ.

There are no custody or Scenes of Crime facilities at Laindon, which is primarily a beat station.

The entire project, including land purchase, fees and furniture, has cost around £1.7 million, which will be offset partly by the sale of the old

## Points from the past

### FIVE YEARS AGO

Service Delivery Standards were introduced for the very first time to inform the public of the service they could expect from Essex Police.

'Pc Ted' was introduced as a way of making an experience of crime more bearable for children.

The first Ford Mondeos joined the Essex Police fleet, two months before going on sale to the public.

### 15 YEARS AGO

Collar numbers reached the '2000' milestone for the first time in the force's history.

Women officers joined the Force Support Unit for the first time.

The seat-belt law came into force.

### 20 YEARS AGO

Mr Robert Bunyard joined Essex Police as Deputy Chief Constable.

An Essex WPC became the first policewoman in the country to be appointed to full-time underwater search duties.

Specials had a new look - they adopted the chequered hat band and new rank badges.

### 25 YEARS AGO

A special recruitment drive edition of *The Law* reported that starting salaries for police officers were £1,251 for men, £1,188 for women and £522 for cadets.

# In memory of Rod

THREE charities have received almost £1,000 between them, in memory of the late Pc Rod Leake, who died in a road accident while he was on duty in August 1996.

His widow, Mrs Joan Leake handed over cheques for £306 to each of the charities - Colchester General Hospital's Special Care Baby Unit, the National Handicapped Skiers Association and the East London Handicapped Children's Fund (which organises the annual cabbies' outing to Essex for deprived children).

The money was donated from all parts of the country, from other Forces, members of the public and anonymously, as well as from Rod's friends and colleagues.

Mrs Leake, thanking all those who donated, said that Rod had held a personal interest in all three beneficiaries and she had been keen that they should all receive money in his memory.

Insp Noorman Crabb, of Chelmsford Traffic, where Rod was stationed, said it good that out of everyone's sadness, some deserving causes could be given some happiness.

The presentations were made at Chelmsford Traffic unit in Kingston Avenue, where a tree has been planted, dedicated to Rod's memory.



● Mrs Joan Leake, third left, with representatives of the three charities to benefit from donations in memory of her late husband, Pc Rod Leake, beside the tree planted in his honour.

# A very special visit

HOME Office Minister Alun Michael made a flying visit to Stansted Airport as part of national Specials Week.

The minister, who is meeting Special Constables in forces throughout the country this week, flew into the airport from Hampshire for a brief look at the unique role of the Specials based there. A full report will follow in the next edition of *The Law*.

The week, which promotes the voluntary area of the Police Service, runs until January 18.

Specials in Essex have also been getting in on the act - quite literally - by starring in their own 60-second video which is being shown in shopping centres throughout the county during the week.

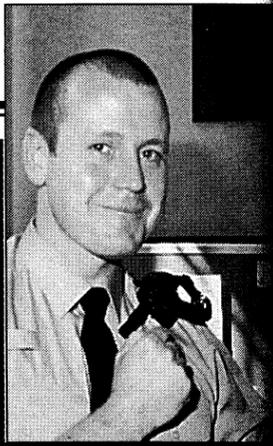
## Skills

Produced in-house by the Essex Police TV Unit, the video shows the range of skills people from all walks of life bring to being a Special. Entitled Ordinary People - Special

Qualities, it is being shown on a 20-screen video wall at Lakeside, Basildon and Southend throughout January.

It is also being shown at supermarkets and shopping centres in Braintree, Colchester, Clacton, Harlow, South Woodham Ferrers and Rayleigh Weir, as part of a travelling exhibition, during Specials Week.

The video features parish Specials from Great Notley and Tillingham, and Specials based at Southend, Basildon, Chelmsford, Braintree and Witham.



**JANUARY** - Teenagers helped Essex Police crack down on off-licences selling alcohol to under-age drinkers. *Operation Bagpipe* ran in Tendring and Basildon and involved youngsters making test purchases from local outlets. Early results showed that retailers in Basildon refused just over 10 per cent of attempts, whilst in Tendring nearly all youngsters were refused.

Service Delivery Standards were re-launched in the county to be more accessible to the public. New folders, leaflets and posters were distributed to all police stations and some libraries to give public access to information.

The Special Constabulary in Essex received a £45,000 boost for training and equipment in the latest round of Government grants.

**FEBRUARY** - A major new recruitment programme to attract 180 new officers was launched in Essex. A huge response was expected by the Personnel Department.

Essex Police communications officer Susan Sullivan helped save a child's life when she answered a 999 call. A distraught mother from Epping was panicking as her 14 month old son had stopped breathing. Susan was able to give vital first aid advice over the phone and the little boy was taken to

hospital as a precaution but was later released fit and well.

The long-awaited new police station was finally opened in Clacton. The new building, based on a nautical design, replaced the old premises which had been the town's station and divisional headquarters on and off for 99 years.

**MARCH** - The new £4 million Force Information Room went live. The first stage of the gradual transfer to a single tier control system for the county came into operation.

Following the results of a trial in Basildon, it was announced that the civilian volunteer scheme would be extended elsewhere across the county. The volunteers manned the front office of Pitsea police station offering basic assistance to callers.

Two Essex Police officers were awarded grants to carry out vital research work. Insp Steve Currell looked into domestic violence amongst the Asian community in Thurrock. And Insp Pete French was selected to carry out research into young offenders and drug misuse in the United States.

**APRIL** - Essex Police was given a Home Office grant to buy its own helicopter. The announcement followed the formation of an Air Support Consortium between Essex

and Cambridgeshire.

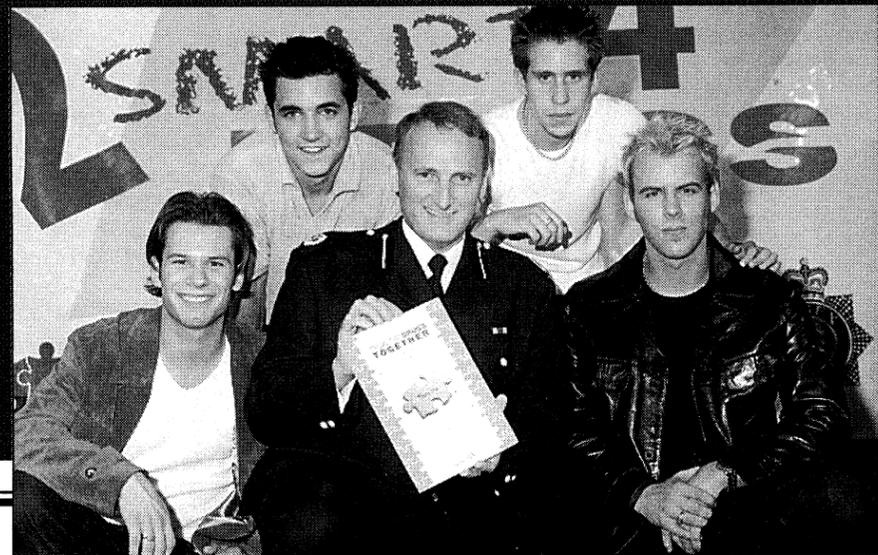
Neighbourhood Watch hit the net in Chelmsford - thanks to COLIN. The Community Off Line Intelligence Newsreader has linked Chelmsford's NHW co-ordinators to the internet allowing them to receive up-to-the-minute information.

**MAY** - A new Special Constabulary Section was formed to help in the policing of Stansted Airport. The new unit of nine, was introduced following the successful involvement of the Essex Specials at a number of major events at the airport.

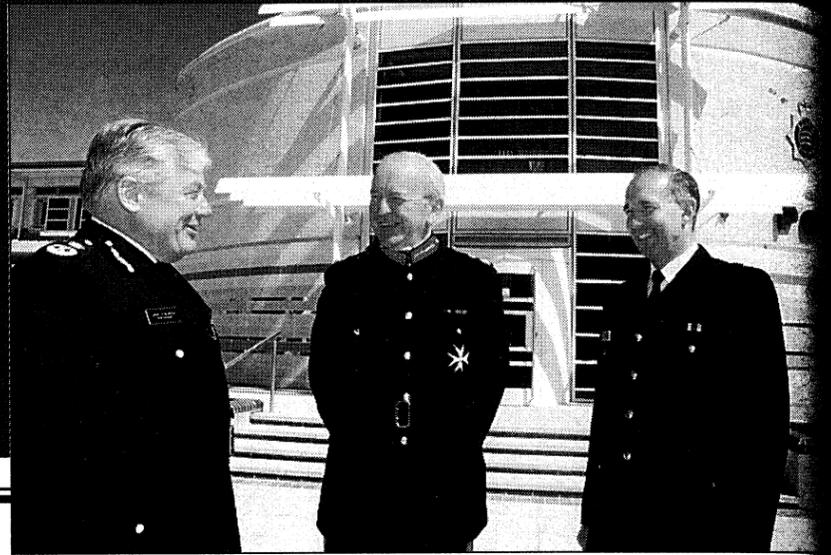
The Essex Police Football Squad romped into the final of the PAA championship for the very first time in the competition's history. The team faced the Mets in the final but it was the end of their winning streak - they lost 1-0.

**JUNE** - The first ever privately 'sponsored' Specials went on patrol at Great Notley Garden Village, near Braintree. The estate developers, Countryside Properties PLC, pledged £5,000 to support the work.

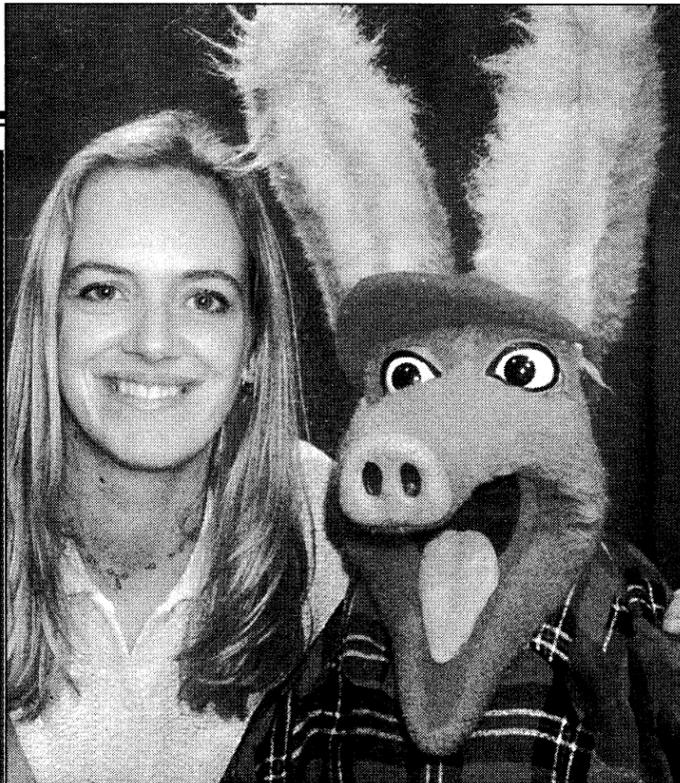
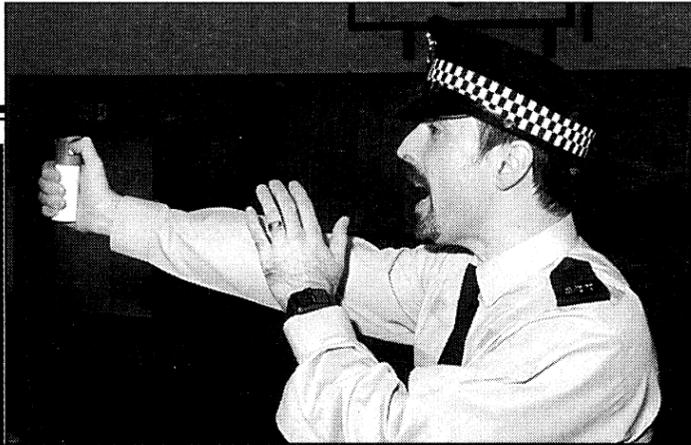
E-fits took over from photo-fits as a key detection tool in Essex. Photo-fits which have been used in Essex since the '60s, were updated with the computer-based system. The programme holds an infinite number of facial variations producing high-quality images.



● The 2 Smart 4 Drugs campaign was relaunched in OCTOBER. Chart band Orange Orange announced a number of roadshow dates at Essex schools.



● FEBRUARY saw the opening of the new police station in Clacton. *Photo: East Anglian Daily Times.*



# of firsts



**JULY** - The summer anti-drink drive campaign marked a "black month" on Essex roads. Eleven people were killed on the county's highways - four deaths as a result of alcohol related incidents. Throughout the month a total of 4,393 drivers were stopped and 151 proved positive or refused the test.

A cheque for £3,000 was presented to a young Chelmsford boy for cerebral palsy treatment following a charity cycle ride by the Essex Police Underwater Search Unit. The divers made the 140 mile trip from Whitehaven to Sunderland to raise money to enable six-year-old Matthew Urch.

**AUGUST** - A new grading system giving a fifth response classification - was introduced in Essex. The new "high" category bridges the gap between "immediate" and "routine" grades for dealing with calls from the public.

Mr Charles Clark was appointed the new Deputy Chief Constable of Essex. Mr Clark took over from Jim Dickinson who retired after 36 years in the service.

**SEPTEMBER** - The Sex Offenders Act 1997 came into force to give police greater powers to monitor known paedophiles. The Act is based around a database

which contains intelligence on a number of known or suspected paedophiles.

The Essex Police Driving School celebrated its diamond jubilee with a special Open Day and a cavalcade of police vehicles, old and new. The Chief Constable John Burrow, described the birthday celebrations as "a very proud day".

**OCTOBER** - Training in the use of CS spray began in Essex. The rolling training programme has been carried out on division with every officer being allocated a canister of spray on completion of the training session. The move to introduce the spray went ahead as planned, in spite of extensive press speculation as to the safety of it. However, the Home Office was in favour of the spray being introduced and the Chief Constable, John Burrow, said he was confident the spray would become a key defensive tool for officers.

The 2 *Smart 4 Drugs Roadshow*, now in its second year was highly commended in the government's Tackling Drugs Together awards. The roadshow - a partnership between Essex Police, Essex FM and the Essex Drugs Action Team - now features Orange Orange as its resident band. It's thought about 5,000

pupils will have seen the roadshow in 1997.

**NOVEMBER** - More changes amongst our Chief Officers, with the appointment of a new Assistant Chief Constable (Support). Mr John Broughton moved to Essex on promotion from Northumbria Police.

Latest Home Office figures showed crime in Essex to be at its lowest level for seven years. From July 1996 to June 1997 a total of 96,255 crimes were reported - a drop of 4,240 on the previous 12 months. Head of Crime, Superintendent Lee Weavers put the success down to improved intelligence and community safety initiatives.

**DECEMBER** - A call from Basildon Hospital led to one of the most intense operations ever held by Essex Police. Baby Karli Hawthorne was taken from her parents when she was just 3 hours old. Over a hundred officers joined in the search for the child, sifting through the huge amount of information phoned in by the public. Karli was found 14 hours after her disappearance and re-united with her parents. The incident was front-page news in most of the national papers for several days. A woman has been charged with abduction.



● Easter eggs collected at an Essex Police Band concert were delivered to youngsters around the county in APRIL. Photo: Essex County Newspapers.



● Officers and support staff dug deep into their pockets in MARCH to raise cash on behalf of Comic Relief.

## Health Check

# Healthy teeth for life

EVERYONE remembers, when they were children, being told by their Mums 'Don't forget to brush your teeth'.

But brushing your teeth regularly should not stop when you have grown up!

It is just as important to carry on with this practice and maintain good oral hygiene.

● A good toothbrush is essential. Use a medium textured nylon toothbrush with a small enough head, which allows you to reach all parts of the mouth easily. Never use a hard brush as it will not clean as well and can damage the gums and teeth. The brush should be changed regularly, usually after 4-8 weeks.

● It is recommended to clean your teeth twice a day, taking at least two minutes each time, removing all plaque, the sticky deposit of bacteria which is the cause of both tooth decay and gum disease.

● Brush the lower teeth first, going slowly around the outer surfaces from left to right, with a gentle scrubbing action aimed at the necks of the teeth. Do the same for the inner surfaces and then brush the biting surfaces. Repeat for the upper teeth.

● Do not panic if your gums bleed. This happens when you do not brush away all the plaque from where your teeth and gums meet and it inflames the gums and makes them bleed. Keep brushing the problem areas gently and the bleeding should soon stop.

● Your dentist or hygienist may advise you to use dental hygiene aids, such as dental floss for cleaning between your teeth or disclosing tablets, which will show where you have left plaque on your teeth after brushing.

● Visit your dentist twice a year, so he can check your teeth and remove any calculus or tartar, hard deposits that sometimes form on your teeth.

● If your family or friends cannot recommend a dentist, contact your local Health Authority for more information.

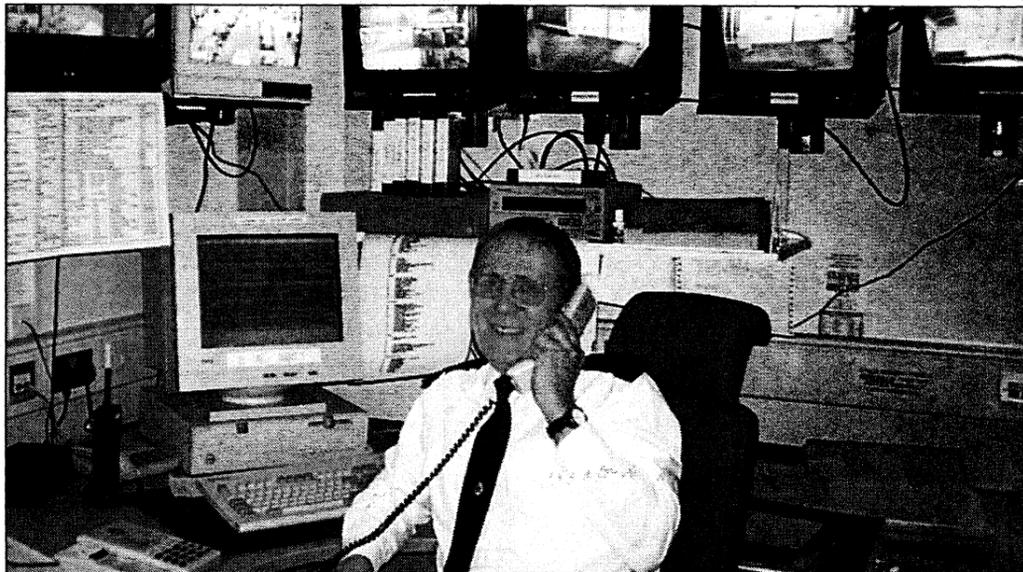
*Don't forget to look after your teeth!*

## Cheaper parking

ESSEX Police Sports Association has arranged discount car parking at Gatwick Airport for its members.

Anyone interested please contact the force sports secretary, Chris Jacob, on 01245 452926 or Ednet 58888.

## Role of a Station Office Assistant



● Derek Marshall: "I've enjoyed every minute of it."

# Derek makes an impression

**FIRST** impressions count.

At Essex Police, responsibility for creating the right image with callers at the front counter has, increasingly, become vested in civilian station office assistants.

The number of SOAs working in police stations across Essex has grown to 133, occupying what their job description calls "a high profile post, often providing the first point of contact for members of the public."

Important as this personal contact is, it is not the whole job, however.

Other tasks can include clerical duties, taking elimination fingerprints, operating a switchboard, incident computer terminal and other communications equipment and looking after everything from found children and confused elderly people to lost dogs.

### Smooth

Since its inception in the mid-1980s, the post has gained a reputation akin to oil which facilitates the smooth running of the policing machine and, in turn, enables more officers to spend more time out on the streets.

Twelve years ago, Derek Marshall was among the first intake of SOAs at Essex Police, starting in Colchester and moving on to Clacton.

As a devout disciple of the "first impressions" creed, he says: "It may be a person's first visit to a police station and the way they are received will make all the difference."

"I want people to be treated the way I would want to be treated, regardless of their status."

by Peter Laurie

One of the biggest mistakes we can make . . . is not being able to talk properly to another human being

Ironically, his own first impression of life as an SOA was not good. This new breed of civilian was not welcomed universally by the police officers they were to augment.

"At first I was cold shouldered and almost sent to Coventry," Derek recalls.

After two miserable weeks, he took the problem to his divisional commander and there was an instant thaw in the chill climate.

"Since that first fortnight I have never known a day when I haven't been happy in my job," he says. "I've been punched, kicked and bitten and I've enjoyed every minute of it!"

"Now we have been accepted and SOAs are very much part of the job."

"We are a very important part of Essex Police now. We have enabled the provision of more police officers on the streets and we have a very important relationship with the police officer."

Derek, aged 51, who is mar-

ried to a district nurse and has two teenage children, has experienced life at Essex Police from different dimensions.

Before becoming an SOA he was a traffic warden at Witham and he has also served as a Special.

*What lessons has he learned from this long and varied association?*

"One of the biggest mistakes for anyone in the police is not being able to talk properly to another human being," he confides.

A calm, civil attitude can take the heat out of most situations. The opposite approach will all too often result in a flare-up which could easily have been avoided. Consequently he believes the importance of inter-personal skills in police training cannot be over-stated.

The revolution of Derek's life around Essex Police has additional orbits. He is now getting down to organising Tendring Division's fundraising Fun Day for the third year and at work he is also divisional first aid officer.

### Arrest

On top of all that, in the 1980s he twice won the Essex Police Betts Trophy for a meritorious action by a traffic warden and he has received two commendations.

This recognition followed his arrest of three men shoplifters, arresting a robber who used a knife and resuscitating a heart attack victim.

"My whole life revolves around working with the police," he says.

*His motivation?*

"I just love dealing with people."

## What's new in policy

THE following items are detailed in Policy Guideline 54/97:

Prisoners giving false details to conceal previous convictions - New PHOENIX procedures to expedite investigations following fingerprint comparisons.

PNC & DVLA Matters - PNC Liaison (FIB) has launched a new quarterly publication entitled 'PNC/DVLA News and Views' which provides the latest PNC and DVLA information.

Bank Holiday Leave entitlement for job share and part-time support staff - definitive guidance on how to calculate the amount of time-off/remuneration for staff employed on this basis.

The following items are detailed in Policy Guideline 55/97:

Execution of non-payment of fine warrants - reinforced guidance on what type of warrant needs to be in possession of the officer executing it.

Betting, Gaming & Lotteries PRONTO - A new nationally based on-line lottery game launched last month through venues countryside, including pubs and licensed clubs.

It is lawful, although the Government will be legislating to restrict its repetitive and frequent sequence of plays.

For a £1 stake you can win up to £25,000 every 5 to 10 minutes.

Essex Police Equal Opportunities Survey Report - This 'Policy Guideline' summarises the full report, copies of which are held by Command Teams and Volunteer Grievance Advisors.

Annual Leave carry over for Support Staff - Reminds support staff that they may unconditionally carry over five days annual leave into the following leave year.

Further information may be obtained from John E Johnson and Christine Claypole in the Publication Unit, EPTC, Headquarters (Ext 55815/55816).

## Success for 'Cracker'

COLCHESTER'S Christmas Cracker initiative has been hailed a success once again this year.

The campaign targets shoplifting in the town during the busy Christmas period.

At least ten officers from the division were on foot patrol in the shopping areas every day throughout December.

Divisional Commander, Supt Julian Field said: "The initiative is heavy on resources, but it pays dividends."

"This is the seventh year we've run the scheme and it is now well accepted amongst local residents and businesses - it's an extension of our working in partnership approach to policing the town."

## Enrolment fee payable

WE would like to advise anyone interested in contacting Uniqwin Investigations (as mentioned in the December *Law*) that we understand an enrolment charge is made for their services.

A charge of £6.50 is made to cover post, packing, documentation and a book.

Applicants will also be asked to supply names and addresses of local solicitors firms, which may be approached for business.

# Helping to make Essex roads safer

**IN addition to the police run Driver Advisory Courses (DACs) there are a number of groups now serving Essex to provide further driver training for members of the public.**

There is a RoSPA group, Southend Advanced Drivers' Association (SADA) and groups affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorists in Colchester, Harlow, Southend and North East London, as well as now a group in Chelmsford.

The Chelmsford group was established in September 1996 with 47 members. It now has 216 members and has had 56 members pass the advanced test. The Chelmsford group now meets monthly in the ground floor room at the Police Sports and Social Club at HQ.

Group nights are basically social, but often with a

safer driving element. Guest speakers have included the Accident Investigation Unit and Mr Peter Simpson, formerly Deputy Chief Constable.

In January the speaker will be the Chief Examiner of the IAM, Bryan Lunn, formerly from Hendon. Other speakers planned include Brian Goodwin, Essex County Council's Area Highways Manager (NE), who will be talking about the engineering aspect of road safety.

## Road Safety

The aim of the Institute of Advanced Motorists and of all the groups is "to advance road safety by improving the standard of driving".

They provide training for the advanced driving test by means of observed drives, supervised by members who have undergone further training, after themselves passing the advanced test.

Observers, on a voluntary basis, help others to get their driving up to the required standard.

Observed drives are either conducted on a one-to-one basis or, following lectures at the Essex Police Driving School on the theory side of advanced driving, by two Associates and an observer working in teams.

The Chelmsford group currently has 20 observers working with some 78 Associate members.

Now it is planning to work with the road safety officers and police to provide the facility for those members of the public who take part in the driver advisory courses run by Essex Police to have their driving monitored if they wish to progress beyond the theory side, a demonstration drive and a stint on the skid pan.

But to be effective in this approach to road safety they need more observers and they invite police drivers to

work with them in this respect.

If anyone is interested in helping to make Essex roads safer in this way they should contact Inspector Mike Carter, the group's vice-president, Pc John Clements, Chelmsford group's chief observer, at the Driving School, or Mike Corbett, group chairman, on 01621 818226.

## Operation tackles traffic chaos

TRAFFIC log jams around the Lakeside shopping centre have been kept to a minimum over the festive season thanks to Operation Manx, run from Brentwood Traffic unit.

Sgt Paul Moor said: "The parking capacity of the centre is 12,000 cars. On December 27 we had in excess of 42,000 cars in the Lakeside site during the day, as well as the retail parks and Ikea, which were also full.

"It was a similar story the next day, when trading finished early, as it was a Sunday. Despite that, there were still 13,000 cars on the site by 4.50pm.

"The police operation, using six motorcycles, ensured that this very high volume of traffic ran in and out of the site as smoothly as possible and it was commented upon by the traders themselves that we did make a big difference," said Sgt Moor.

Operation Manx was also run in the pre-Christmas period, although there were not so many vehicles trying to access the site then.

"Because the centre was staying open until late each evening, the main problems occurred between 9pm and 10pm when shoppers were leaving," said Sgt Moor.

## Charities gain from crime!



● Chairman of the Police Authority, Anthony Peel and the Chief Constable John Burrow (back row) presenting the Police Property Fund cheques to local charities.

MORE than £21,000 has been presented to charities from the proceeds of the Police Property Act Fund. The fund was set up to deal with money and property recovered as part of criminal charges. Any items which remain unclaimed after 12 months can be sold and the proceeds given to charitable organisations.

This year the Essex Police Authority has made donations to 12 charities, all of which are concerned with crime prevention, support of victims or the rehabilitation of offenders.

£9,800 was presented to Essex Victim Support and £600 to the Crime Stoppers Trust. Several thousand pounds were presented to various youth groups including Scouts and Guides.

## National award for innovative project

A GROUND-breaking Essex-based teaching project which aims to raise awareness among children about paedophile behaviour has won a national award.

Broken Trust - Shared Feelings, the brainchild of the South East Essex District Child Protection Committee, picked up an Enterprise Award from Community Care magazine at a presentation ceremony in London recently.

The project, which has been successfully piloted in Southend features a series of teaching sessions which revolve around a video entitled In Any Town in Any Place which was produced and directed by the Essex Police Television Unit.

The video was produced to tight deadlines and a second video is now being put together by the Unit and will soon be available to schools. TV stars, Pauline Quirk and Linda Robson will be presenting the video. The stars presentations will be aimed at the teachers who are delivering the pack to children.

Essex Social Services and the county's Education Department were heavily involved in the project with staff producing briefing papers for teachers and providing their knowledge and expertise of paedophile behaviour.

The award was collected by Jean Imray of Essex Social Services and Graham Brown from the Essex Education Department.

## Memories of Southend

A NEW video, featuring archive film of major events in the Southend area, has gone on sale, stirring memories for ex-Pc Alan Watkins, now a coroner's officer at Rochford.

He said: "There is a section in the film which covers the Southend Pier fire of 1976.

"I was one of two police constables who, once the extent of the fire was known, was dispatched in a panda car to the pier head, to liaise with the other local emergency services

and to control the local media and other people who had made their way to the fire location.

"The producer of the video interviewed me last summer regarding the incident and my recollections of that night have been dubbed in over the film of the event," he said.

### Video

The video - Southend Memories I - celebrates the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Southend Standard newspaper.

Other incidents recalled include the

East Coast floods, the Floral Hall fire, the Kursaal Flyer story, the opening of the Astoria, High Street shopping, post war seafront and the resort's carnivals.

Costing £12.99 each, the videos are available from the Evening Echo offices in Clarence Road, Southend or Chester Hall Lane, Basildon, or you can order by sending a cheque or postal order for £14.49, including postage and packing, and your name, address, post code and phone number to Vidia Productions, 110 Blenheim Crescent, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 3DX.

## Sporting dinner raises over £3,000

OVER £3,000 was raised for charity during a sporting dinner, the first such event held in honour of our Chief Constable John Burrow.

The event was held at Five Lakes Golf and Country Club and guests speakers for the event were sports legends Henry Cooper and Graham Gooch.

An auction of a whole hosts of prizes including a set of golf clubs and signed sports memorabilia raised the majority of the cash with a raffle topping up the total.

The Essex Police Band provided further entertainment for the evening.

A total of £3,387 will go to Mencap Essex Blue Sky Appeal with a further £250 going towards the Police Benevolent Fund.

# New year honours for two staff

TWO members of Essex Police have received recognition for their work in the New Years Honours list.

Support Staff member Shirley Carman, who receives the MBE, has worked for the force for nearly 42 years. She worked at Colchester from 1956 to 1964 and has been based in Harwich ever since.

Her award has been given for long service to the police. Shirley, who lives in Dovercourt, said: "I was absolutely shocked! I had no idea that support staff could be commended in this way".

And Pc John Mertl, who joined Essex Police in 1975, has been awarded the Queen's Police Medal (QPM) for services to the police. Pc Mertl is currently on secondment to Humberside Police. John, who has Czech origins, was recently in Essex during an information gathering visit by Police from the Slovak Republic.



● Shirley Carman MBE



● Pc John Mertl QPM

## News from NARPO

MAY I start by wishing you all a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

The first piece of good news is that subscriptions have once again been held and there will be no increase this year. NARPO is continuing to maintain pressure to uphold the position of pensioners and to continue to press for better conditions for the less fortunate of our members. We may not succeed, but we will carry on trying.

Members services have grown throughout the past year and many of our colleagues have saved the cost of their subscriptions by taking advantage of the many services on

offer.

In May this year, Chelmsford branch will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. To mark this milestone in our history, we shall be holding a Gala Dinner and Dance at the Three Rivers Country Club, Cold Norton on Friday 15 May. There will be a five course meal followed by dancing to a band. Our guests will be the Chief Constable and Mrs Burrow, Cllr and Mrs Peel and Peggy Sandford, our representative on the NEC.

All Chelmsford members will receive a circular giving full details, however if anyone else is interested in joining us, please contact me (Doug Rampling) on 01245 353541. You will be very welcome. The cost is £12.50 a head - a bargain for 1998!

### Market Place

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX


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

**ALGARVE**, two bedroom apartment, sleeps six. Fifteen minutes walk from sea with swimming pool in complex. £150 per week, anytime. Contact Brian Spiers, 01268 558211

**AQUARIUM** for sale, 3ft x 12in x 10in, some pumps and gravel etc £25, Richard Houghton 0966498428.

**CALIFORNIA** Cliffs Holiday Park near Great Yarmouth, six berth holiday home for hire, March to November 1998, £150 p/w all in. SOA Jodie Price 01992 574244.

**CALPE**, Spain apartment sleeps four, 2 bthrs and WCs, lge lounge, kitchen and balcony, beach five mins walk, town location, £100 p/w, RA Naden (DI ret) 01255 815140.

**CORNWALL** Polperro. Chalet sleeps 4/5. All mod cons. On pleasant site with heated indoor and outdoor pools. Club and all facilities included. From £70 to £230 p/w. Craig Bailey 01279 653570 or 01279 832837.

**FLORIDA** Gulf coast, one bedroom sleeps four, heated pool, golf courses, 20 miles Busch Gardens, £200 p/w. Dave Rogers 01376 550954.

**FORD** Sierra, C Reg, 2.0GL Automatic.

4-speed 'DE' Gear box. Red. MOT Aug 98, excellent mechanics, original rad/cassette. £595. Jenny HQ Ednet 50600 or 01245 452457.

**FOR SALE** three Witter tow bars to fit Volvo models 240, 740, 850. £30 each. Ex Pc Peter Murray, tel 01702 544375.

**HIGHLAND HOLIDAYS** in Inverness shire. B&B, full or half board in magnificent secluded home with superb food. Shooting, fishing, skiing, walking and wildlife nearby. 20% discount for Essex Police personnel - serving or retired. Contact Andrew Nunn (ex Chelmsford Traffic) 01479 841717.

**LUXURY** one-bedroom Spanish pueblo style house overlooking Mijas golf course and Fuengirola. Malaga airport half hour drive; beach two miles. Recently refurbished. South facing terraces. Three pools with children's paddling facilities on site. For two people £150 p/w, 3-4 people £200 p/w. Contact DI Gary Glassfield on 01245 328262 or 75115.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC** equipment. Top quality outfit. Ricoh XRX camera, Ricoh flash. Kiron 28/210 Macro zoom, Tokina doubler, 8 x Kokin filters, carry case,

tripods, books. Cost new £800 plus Price £295 complete, or may split. PS John Rickards, 01702 543727.

**RENAULT** Laguna 1.8RT 1995 N, silver, 24,600 miles, electric windows and sun roof, immobiliser, power steering, RDS radio/cassette. £8,250 ovno. Jill Lambert 01255 815616.

**SONY** CM H333 mobile phone, not linked to any airtime agreement. Includes charger. Offered for £15. Sgt Kalar 0410 889115.

**SOUTHERN SPAIN** Holiday villa, 2 bedrooms for rent in Nerja. Swimming pool on complex, 6 minutes walk to beach, close shops and restaurants. From £100 per week. Further information or brochure, phone 00 345 2533 298.

**TRAILER** wanted with sides, approx 6ft x 4ft, sound condition, sensible price please. Contact Belinda Chapman 01268 418265 or Ednet 30860.

**VERY** good condition child's bicycle, Halfords Apollo, blue. Suit 3-6 yr old boy or girl. 14 in wheel, stabilisers, handlebar bag. Contact Anita, Ednet 30611.

## Names in the news

### Retirements

ANOTHER Essex MBE retires this month after 30 years of service. Supt Mike Jackson joined Essex Police in 1968 and, most recently, has been heading the EPICS project. He was awarded the MBE last year for his services to police and the community. His community role includes his work with the Presidents Sporting Club charity.

Over 150 years of service have been clocked up by five officers who retire this month. Sgt Royston Perrett leaves Harlow, Pc Malcolm Jones retires from Thorpe Traffic Unit, Pc Geoffrey Mason leaves Basildon, Pc Philip Cane retires from FIR and Traffic Division says goodbye to Pc Graham Oakley.

Pc James Cunningham of Southend retires on medical grounds after 25 years of service.

Also retiring on medical grounds are Pc Martin Farrant of Traffic Division, Pc David Flack of Basildon and Pc Joseph Wellham of Thurrock.

And Thurrock has also said goodbye to Traffic Warden Controller, Norah Gant, who retired last month after 26 years of service.

### Obituaries

Retired Chief Inspector John Drage has died, aged 78. He served from 1946 to 1975 and was based at Romford, Harold Hill, Basildon and Grays.

Ex-Sergeant Duncan Gray, who retired in 1966 after 30 years service has died at the age of 85. Mr Gray joined the service in 1936 and was based at Saffron Walden, Dunmow, Clacton, Romford and Halstead.

Retired Sgt Gordon Thake who served at Grays, Tilbury, Hockley, Harlow and Dunmow has died at the age of 69.

## Graduation success

CONGRATULATIONS to seven members of Essex Police who recently graduated from the University of Greenwich with Certificates of Education.

The staff attended the Barbican last month for the Certificate presentations. They were; Sgt Chris Kirby, EPICS Training Manager; Bill Middleditch; Sgt John Smith, DTO; Pc Terry Irving, Trainer; Insp Mervyn Fairweather, Training Manager; Sgt Kevin Wakefield, EPICS Trainer and Pc Kathryn Charlesworth, DTO.

## Learning from the USA

BRENTWOOD'S Inspector Peter French returned last month from a ten week Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellowship visit to the USA.

Insp French visited Washington, Chicago, Turks and Caicos Islands and Miami to look at good practice in relation to youths and drugs.

Whilst in Washington he visited the White House and met President Clinton's senior advisors on US Drug Policy.

His Fellowship took him to several jails where some of the country's most dangerous prisoners were housed. He also worked with undercover narcotics teams in Washington and Miami, taking part in SWAT Teams raids and recovered three Uzi sub-machine guns, several kilos of cocaine and thousands of dollars in cash.

A major part of his visit was to examine the Drug Courts and Juvenile Drugs Courts which allow those arrested for drug offences to obtain counselling and de-toxification, and

in some cases acupuncture. He discovered that if the offender remains drugs free for a year they graduate, and quite often the conviction is removed from their record, allowing the individual to seek employment. He was guest of honour at one of the first Juvenile Drugs Courts and also gave a presentation to the judiciary and two hundred former drug addicts at the Fort Lauderdale Drug Court.

### University

The visit enabled Insp French to become the first British citizen to visit and examine the Drug Court Clearing House Project at the American University - one of the main research departments for drug-related crime and drug courts in the USA.

Insp French said: "Having examined the Drug Court style and various other aspects as to how juveniles are dealt with, I feel strongly that the Drug Court system is a way forward. In the UK we have the edge on partnership with other agencies, in particular Drug Action Teams. That, coupled with the good practice I have seen in the United States is a way forward."

## Support your swimmers

THE Croker Cup swimming gala takes place at Gloucester Park pool, Basildon on Sunday, January 18, starting at 6pm.

This year's competition is the closest it has been for a number of years, so that it would be encouraging if every division was well represented at this event.

## Look what I've got . . .



●THREE-year-old Alex Cook meeting Father Christmas at the HQ Sports and Social Club children's Christmas party. Nearly 80 children joined in the fun last month which included a disco and magic show.

# Vote to decide shop's future

MEMBERS of the Essex Police Sports Association are being asked to pay an extra £1 per month on their subscriptions to keep open the force sports shop.

If the 5,000 members fail to support the increase, the shop will close on April 1.

The Association's executive committee was told by chairman Geoffrey Markham last month that from the same date the role of secretary can no longer be performed full time by a police officer.

He also said that in order for the shop to remain open, he had been advised that one and a half posts would be needed to run it. Again, this cannot be funded by the Force.

The committee agreed that the shop should close in

April, but at the association's annual meeting later the same day it was agreed to try to keep it open, subject to members backing the increase in subscriptions to pay for it.

Of the proposed £1 increase, half will go to Divisional sports clubs and the other half to the EPSA.

The funding issues were discussed at this month's meeting of Policy Group, where it was agreed that the Force would meet the cost of paying a civilian for 20 hours a week to be secretary of the Association.

The police officer fulfilling this role currently will be returning to normal policing duties. This will require a change in the Association's constitution.

Essex Police will continue to provide the building, heating and lighting for the Association's premises.

Chief Constable John Burrow, commenting at Policy Group on the decision to support the civilian post of EPSA Secretary, said: "I think there is an obligation on the service for it to provide for its sporting and social life."

Chris Jacob, the present secretary, said: "The shop will shut on April 1, subject to the referendum which is being circulated around the Force."

## Disco date

A VALENTINE'S disco will take place at HQ Sports Pavilion on Saturday, February 14 at 8pm.

Tickets cost £5 each and there will be a bar and refreshments. Tickets are available from Shirley in Firearms Licensing at HQ, on Extension 50666, fax 50665.

# Canoeists needed to help Aiden's fund

THE Metropolitan Police are looking for help to organise a major charity canoe event in the year 2000.

The Mets have joined up with a Kent charity called the Aiden Turner Trust, based in Rochester.

Aiden Turner was born prematurely and now suffers with profound deafness, partial sight and other health problems.

His mother set up the trust with a view to establishing an international charity helpline network, a database of all voluntary organisations, support groups and services.

Mrs Jan Turner, Aiden's mother, runs the charity from home and would like to arrange

a sponsored canoe event around the coastal waters of Britain in the year 2000.

The money raised will help finance a building project, "The Turner Centre", which will be a tactile and sensory pre-school nursery also offering facilities for seminars, counselling and training.

The project has been adopted by officers at Bexleyheath Police Station. They are looking for advice and support from any colleagues who have ever organised an event like this or anyone who knows anything about canoeing!

If you can help, contact Pc John Sackett in the Youth and Community Section at Bexleyheath on 0181 284 9264.

## Have you won the lottery?

THE following were successful in the January force lottery:-

£1,500 Insp Patricia Byford, Clacton; £1,000 Mary Sillett, Chelmsford; £500 Sgt William Horsman, Rayleigh; £300 Pc Richard Howman,

Criminal Justice Dept; £200 Lorraine Whiting, Brentwood; £100 Pc Malcolm Jones, Thorpe Traffic.

Consolation prizes of £50 each go to: Pc Simon Gallile, Stansted Mountfitchet; Pc David Clark, Rayleigh; Daniel Mead, HQ; Supt Doug Adams, HQ; David Sargeant, Stanway; Pc Terrence Hobbs, Southend; Barry Hilton, HQ; Sally Griffiths, HQ; Pc Geoffrey Saunders, FIR; Pc Tanya Steele, Harlow.

The following were successful in the December force lottery:-

£1,500 Pc Richard Parrish, Grays; £1,000 Lee Robson, Brentwood; £500 Pc Norman Stone, Witham; £300 Patricia Hazeltine, Colchester; £200 DI Glyn Evans, Harlow.

Christmas hampers went to 20 people as consolation prizes. They were:-

Pc Terrence Rackley, Harlow; Pc Keith Bartlett, SB Southern; Insp James Hutchins, Benfleet; Pc Simon Parkes, Westcliff; Sgt Edmund Travers, Benfleet; Insp Janet Letham, Southend; Edward Kirk, Laindon workshop; Christine Claypole, HQ; Barbara Colbridge, Rochford; Sgt Frederick Britnell, Dunmow; Supt John Coyle, HQ; Pc William Davies, Grays; Pc Martin Faulkner, Harlow; Ian Hunter, Colchester; Sgt Robert Emberson, Clacton; Pc Philip Whitehead, HQ; Pc Terrence Lambert, Westcliff; Supt Desmond McGarr, HQ; Anita Somerville, HQ; Laura Hughes, HQ.

## Letters

from page 4

## Boro' Bobbies meet up again!

ON Thursday, December 18, the "Borough Bobbies" met once again for their Christmas get-together at Southend Police bar.

Thanks to the hospitality of Southend Police Club, in total more than 1,500 years of police service enjoyed its favourite tippie, the buffet and remembering when . . .

Best wishes to all at HQ for a happy and healthy 1998.

Jack Faulkner, Southend-on-Sea.

# Group fighting for widows' rights

I AM pleased to inform you that there is one organisation out there fighting for the rights of widows who receive a one third rate pension or those from post retirement marriages who do not receive a pension.

The group is The Officers Pension Society, which represents members of the armed forces.

For a number of years the Society has campaigned to improve the pension rights of these widows. In 1989 and again in 1995 they were denied these improvements in the House of Commons.

Having exhausted all legal applications in the UK the society decided to

turn to Europe. They were advised by Queen's Counsel that there appeared to be grounds for arguing human rights discrimination on these two pension issues.

On this basis the Society unanimously agreed to present a case to the European Commission on Human Rights in Strasbourg.

In June 1997 they made formal application to the Secretariat of the European Commission on Human Rights. The Society has been granted permission by the Secretariat to proceed with their application.

We must now wait for the Commission to go through the proce-

dures. It will assess the admissibility of the evidence submitted solely from a legal standpoint.

If they judge that there is a case to be answered, then the two opposing organisations, the Ministry of Defence and the OPS will be bought together, under the arbitration of the Commission to find a friendly solution. We should not expect to hear whether the case is admissible for about six months.

Alun Michael MP, Home Officer Minister, has been made aware of the action taken by the OPS and is awaiting the outcome of the application.

Eric D Carter, Southend

## Can you help her?

I AM a serving officer in the Norfolk Constabulary, currently researching my family history.

I have discovered that on July 14, 1956 my great aunt, Phyllis Eva Rouse (nee Edens) was murdered at Clacton. I understand that a man stood trial for the murder and was convicted at Chelmsford Crown Court. I am interested in finding out any more information about this case and would especially like to speak to any officers who were involved in the investigation.

Gina Edens, 5 Dereham Road, Hingham, Norfolk NR9 4HU

## Good old days?

I WAS sorting out some old papers and came across this note showing the weekly deductions from my police pay when I joined the Southend on Sea Constabulary in November 1951.

Federation 1s 0d;  
Widows & Orphans 1s 6d;  
Recreation Club 2s 0d;  
Gurney Fund 6d; St Dunstons 1d;  
Convalescence Home 4d;  
PMAS 13s 5d; Total 18s 5d

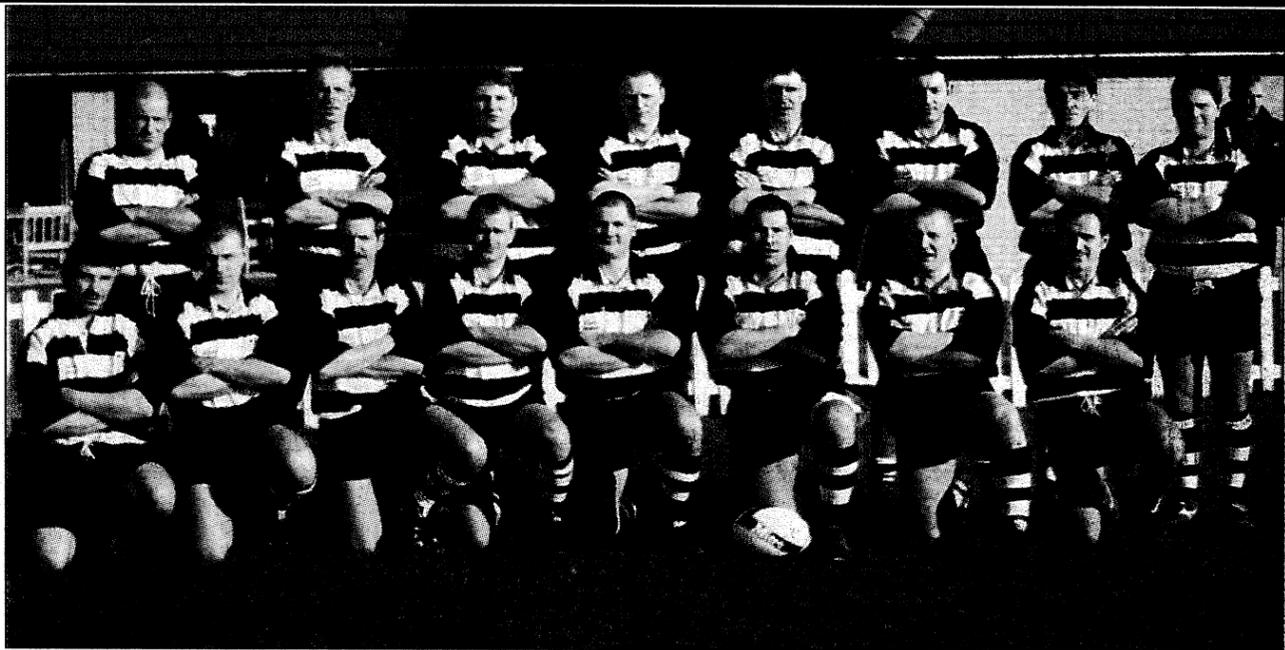
My pay at the time was £4.10s a week, plus boot, light and rent allowance.

When on nights I would have to cycle the three miles from my home in Leigh-on-Sea to Southend to collect my pay from the Borough Treasurers Office in Alexandra Street, before it closed at 3.30pm, whatever the weather.

Jack Faulkner  
Southend

## Sport and Leisure

●The successful 1997/8 Essex Police rugby squad, pictured last year after receiving their new strip.



## Tennis win for Chelmsford

THE Croker Cup tennis tournament took place at Earls Colne, with the following results:-

1 Chelmsford (12 Croker Cup points); 2 Harlow (10); 3 Southend (8); 4 Basildon (7); 5 HQ (6); 6 Braintree (5); 7 Colchester (4).

Rayleigh, Tendring and Thurrock were not represented.

## Briefly . . .

CONGRATULATIONS to Sgt John Sones of Traffic Management, who came fourth in the Essex County Fencing Union 1997 Individual Epee Championships.

The event was held last month at Anglia Polytechnic University in Chelmsford.

Sgt Sones who is a member of the Colchester and District Fencing Club and also the National Veterans Association, was placed fourth, just missing the bronze medal.

\* \* \*

THE PAA Karate championships take place at Hendon Police Training Centre on March 28 and 29. Anyone interested in entering should contact the Force Sports Secretary on 58888.

\* \* \*

CHRIS Jacob, HQ, will represent the British Police at table tennis in Nottingham against the fire service on January 15.

\* \* \*

THE Croker Cup darts competition will take place at the Sports Pavilion, HQ, on Sunday, February 22, starting at 2pm.

# Rugby team hits new heights

by Kim White

**THE Essex Police rugby squad has made history by reaching the last 16 in the PAA Cup for the first time.**

Essex started as the underdogs, not only facing an away game at Hertfordshire Headquarters, but also two players short due to traffic hold-ups.

Essex put pressure on from the start and a chip ahead by scrum half Lee Harron saw him beat the

retreating defence to score. It was unconverted.

Herts came back at Essex but some good defence kept the home side out and Essex were able to add a penalty to go into an 8-0 lead.

From the restart the Herts' backs ran at Essex and a couple of mis-tackles enabled their centre in to score under the post, the try being converted for an 8-7 Essex lead.

Essex exerted pressure and from a Herts scrum, five metres from their own line, forced them backward. The

Herts scrum half picked up a kick but the kick was charged down by blindside flanker Rube Zagger who went over for the easiest of scores. This try was converted for a deserving 15-7 lead.

Essex had the chance to increase their lead when winger John Cannings dropped the ball over the line so the half time score remained at 15-7.

Scrum half Lee Harron added another try after the break when he broke away from a scrum 10 metres from

the Herts line. This was converted to give Essex a commanding 20-7 lead.

Another chance was lost as Rube Zagger dropped the ball while attempting to put it down between the posts.

This could have proved costly as the last 20 minutes forced Essex into defending their own line. Herts only added one more converted try and Essex defence was superb. Final score: 20-14.

Essex now face the toughest match so far, away at Northamptonshire on

Wednesday, January 21 (supporters' coach leaves HQ 9am). The winners of this clash will host South Wales in the quarter finals.

Captain Rube Zagger said: "Bearing in mind it is the first time we have ever reached the last 16, the whole squad have played superbly. If we go to Northants with the same attitude I can't see any reason why we won't be hosting South Wales and that would be something to look forward to."

Anyone wanting to go to Northants contact Rube at Chelmsford Traffic.

## 'Frostbite' event will be a challenge

CHESHIRE Constabulary Hillsports and Hikers are again running their popular 'Frostbite' event next month.

Hikers taking part can enjoy good food, pleasant pubs, stunning scenery, semi-comfortable accommodation and, of course, 50 miles of footpaths, blisters and bulls!

The event is open to teams of two, racing to complete the course in the fastest possible time.

The course is fully marshalled and qualified medical staff will provide first aid cover. All meals from the Saturday morning to Sunday evening are provided - including packed lunches.

For the faint-hearted who do not want to do the full 50 miles, or perhaps prefer more 'quality time' in the bar, there is a fun event run over 35 miles, which is open to teams of any number.

Entry is open to all police employees, family and friends. Cost per person is £25 with any profits going to charity.

The event is being held on the weekend of February 14 and 15.

If you would like further information or an entry form, contact Sgt Paul Thompson on 01244 571361 or at the Cheshire Constabulary Training Centre on 01244 612311.

## Mick shows way home

COLCHESTER hosted this season's Croker Cup Cross-Country Running Race last month.

The event was held in the town's Abbey Fields with over 120 men and women taking part, representing all divisions.

Colchester's men had an impressive first, second and third over their five-mile course.

Veteran Mick Bond led home, with his third victory in as many years, followed by team mates Don English and Paul Phillips.

The Ladies' race over three miles saw Moira Anisly denied her hat-trick by the recently recruited Alison Cotter (South Woodham), with Lucy Bradley (Chelmsford) third.

Southend once again retained the overall team event, with Harlow second and Colchester third.

Mick Bond was again successful when he travelled to Bristol to represent the PAA against HM Prison Service and the Fire Service and won the veterans' race.

## Carl keeps Essex at forefront

AN Essex officer was chosen to play in the PAA Great Britain Badminton Team against Denmark at the end of last year.

Pc Carl Chinnery won the singles against Kim Busted in a very hard fought match, 17-15, 5-15, 15-9. In the men's doubles he partnered Paul Hume from Strathclyde and they won convincingly 15-2, 15-5.

The event, held in Lancashire, was the first international competition that Carl had played, but he has certainly impressed the selectors as he has been picked to play in the next match being held in Northern Ireland this month.

Congratulations to Carl for this achievement in representing Essex Police at international level, keeping us in the forefront of police sporting activities.



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