

**Policing the docks - P8**



**Solving crime with science - P6**



**World canoe triumph - P11**

Essex will be country's first force to test new equipment

# BODY ARMOUR TRIAL AGREED

## Top read in East Anglia

*THE LAW* newspaper has been declared the top business newspaper in East Anglia.

Following its re-style last year it was entered into the annual British Association of Communicators in Business award.

The competition aims to highlight best practice in corporate communication and is open to all levels of regional industry and commerce, attracting more than 1,200 entrants annually.

Judge Ken Hurst, business editor of the Eastern Daily Press, said: "*The Law* has the look and feel of a proper newspaper rather than an over-designed in-house journal. It is a real working document with regard to its design and its content."

The winner was announced at a gala dinner in Ipswich where Kim White accepted the award on behalf of Essex Police.

Miss White said: "*The Law* has never before been entered into a competition, so it was both an honour and a surprise to win.

"The editorial team work extremely hard to produce a document which is both informative and entertaining to a very broad audience. It is satisfying to know that the commitment has paid off."

**FEMALE officers, who have been campaigning for specially designed body armour, are a step closer to their goal as Essex Police prepares to take part in a trial.**

For years the only armour available to women has been a

**By Kim White**

cut down version of the male vest as this is the only armour which currently meets the strict safety standards set down by the Police Scientific Development Branch (PSDB).

But Essex Police, along with designers and manufacturers, Dupont Europe, and suppliers, Aegis, have recognised the problem and intend to produce and trial armour at a standard acceptable to PSDB. If successful, Essex will be the first force in the country to test the equipment.

At a presentation at headquarters, female officers were given the chance

to voice their views and concerns and gain a clearer understanding of the difficulties faced by designers when they attempt to 'shape' armour.

Sue Kelly, who has worked as a firearms officer at Stansted Airport since 1991 and wears armour almost daily, is well aware of the problems.

She said: "Ballistic body armour is supposed to be in contact with the body. Clearly men and women are vastly different in shape, therefore when we wear men's armour there are cavities under the armour putting us at greater risk.

"In addition the armour is incredibly heavy and I know of some women who have bought their own shaped armour, which doesn't meet the PSDB standard, simply because they feel they can't do their job in the armour available."

## Shock absorbency

The current standard allows a certain amount of knife or bullet penetration and a certain amount of shock absorbency. On male armour there's no problem as they are dealing with just flesh and muscle over the rib cage, but women also have soft tissue to contend with. That's the problem the designers face.

Other forces have chosen to adopt shaped armour which doesn't meet the required standards and it could be argued that something is better than nothing. But Pc Kelly said: "On the other side of the coin if a job's worth doing it's worth doing well and I think the Essex Police approach has a good chance of success."

A number of Essex officers are being measured up for tailor-made armour and once a safety standard has been agreed, the experiment will commence.

continued on page 3



● Pc Nicola Lane with two types of body armour. On the left is a sample of female armour which will be adapted to a specific safety standard and tailor-made for the officers taking part in the trial. The size shown is 'large'. On the right is a sample of male armour, the only protection available for many female officers, and is, surprisingly, a size 'extra small'.

## Changes to redundancy procedure

THE Essex Police redundancy policy for support staff has been updated.

This is part of an ongoing procedure to update existing policies in relation to support staff.

The policy was formulated following consultation with UNISON and the SSC.

There are a few changes, one of which is an additional appendix which outlines the criteria for redundancy compensation payments, where applicable.

To date Essex Police has avoided a redundancy situation.

If any support staff wish to view the updated policy, copies are held with divisional admin, departmental managers at HQ or employee services on Ext 58622.

# Planting the seeds of security



● Essex constables Tony Ashdown and Heather Alston with Metropolitan Police Community Safety Officer, Pc John Gridley, who were on hand at Hampton Court to explain the concept of burglar-proof gardens to the visiting public.

A PROTOTYPE shed, which is virtually impossible to break into, formed part of the Police Secure Garden display at the Hampton Court Flower Show.

The garden, a joint venture between the Metropolitan Police and Essex architectural liaison officers, Pc Tony Ashdown and Pc Heather Alston, was designed to show ways of protecting gardens and homes from intruders and preventing theft of plants, tools and ornaments. Also supporting the venture were students from Capel Manor Horticultural College.

Other features in the garden included methods of securing hanging baskets and garden ornaments and a "grow your own security" display of thorny plants.

Most burglaries are committed through the rear garden and therefore it makes sense to make it as difficult as possible for someone to enter, without making the property look like a fortress.

As burglary rates drop because homes are being made more secure, thieves are turning to easier targets of sheds, garages and gardens.

Sponsorship for the display was provided by Civil Engineering Development Ltd, Forest Fencing, Autumn Garden Centres and Chubb Alarms.

One of the reasons the Royal Horticultural Society offered the site at Hampton Court was because the group is planning to produce a book on the subject and this presented an opportunity to visually display the concept and monitor the reaction.

# The real issues in the private patrol debate

## No definitive answers yet

WE have had lots of inquiries regarding the EEC Working Time Directive.

The national Federation is obviously in talks with the Home Office but no definitive answers have been forthcoming, bearing in mind the intended date for implementation is October this year.

I will keep you informed as soon as we hear anything.

ONCE again, the debate on private patrolling rears its head. The constant demand for cost cutting makes this a topic which will, undoubtedly, not go away.

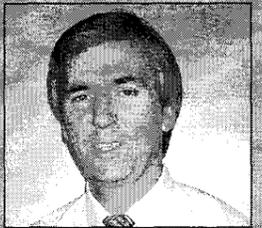
What we need to do is make the public aware of the real issues and not to try and hoodwink them into thinking you can put a uniform on a clone and expect it to deliver everything the public have grown to demand from the police service we now have.

Let's not kid them that it will be cheaper because, without doubt, if you give the security industry a more sophisticated role to perform, they will need to raise the quality of staff and management.

The cost differential would soon close and we would, once more, be looking for Group Nine

## Federation Newsline

by Terry Spelman



(Mk. 2) to come in yet again.

Yes, we have been given more money by the Government and yes we agree we have to show continued efficiency savings but overall benefits need looking at closely.

We need approximately 6 per cent increases just to stand still with the government figures we have phased in, increases in spending of approximately 2.7 per cent next year, followed by 2.8 per cent and then 4 per cent.

So, without doubt, everything in the garden is far from rosy.

Let's have a properly funded police service that the public can adhere to once and for all.

## New Chief's plans for Essex Police

THE Police Federation open meeting is to be held on Monday, October 5 at 7pm in the assembly hall at police headquarters.

This will be your chance to meet the new Chief Constable, David Stevens, listen to his plans for Essex Police and, most importantly, to put your views and questions across.

Don't get lethargic - come along. Refreshments will be provided.

## Federation bowled out in memorial match

THE Police Federation took on the suppliers of its membership services at cricket, and lost.

Serviceline, which provides competitive rates for car insurance for both police and support staff, hosted the inaugural Tony Green Memorial Cricket Match in June, which was sponsored by the suppliers.

Played in memory of Tony Green, a popular chairman of the Hampshire Federation, who died last year, the match was staged by Serviceline Insurance with players travelling from throughout the country to play in Brentwood.

A number of federations were represented with national Chairman Fred Broughton, and General Secretary Jeff Moseley, present to lend their support.

The match, played in far from ideal conditions, was an enjoyable and keenly fought affair in which the membership services team won with a blend of youth and experience.



The picture shows the Tony Green Memorial Trophy being presented by Tony's widow, Mary, to victorious membership services captain Oliver Gravell of solicitors, Russell Jones & Walker. Also pictured is Business Development Manager of Serviceline Insurance, David Denyer, who arranged the game and the subsequent hospitality on behalf of the membership

services providers.

Man of the match was Stuart Nicholls, chairman of the West Midlands Federation, for his wicket-keeping excellence and stubborn rearguard action with the bat.

The gauntlet has already been thrown down by the Police Federation, with a rematch scheduled for June 1999, hosted by Hampshire Federation in Southampton.

## Armour trials

continued from page 1

If successful, Essex Police would need to look at the cost of supplying personal issue armour to all female officers

Pc Kelly said: "The force has always said it is working towards a programme of personal issue to everyone but the financial implications are incredible. I really do hope this trial succeeds as it is technically clear that we need different armour, but we would not want it to compromise any plans to issue equipment to our male colleagues."

ACC (S) John Broughton reassured there would be no compromise.

He said: "The organisation remains committed to moving down the road of the best protective equipment for all individuals."

"The issue with female officers is clearly different so it is only right that we take the opportunity being presented to us by the suppliers. It is a step in the right direction."

## Offbeat

YOU would think they would know better.

Police were called to an address where the occupant was locked out and the oven was left on.

Fortunately the fire brigade turned up to deal with the off duty fire officer.

Meanwhile a police officer answering an alarm call entered the rear yard of the premises to check all was well, only to find that the gate he entered by could not be opened from the inside.

He made his escape via an outhouse and over the wall.

Perhaps if there was a partnership approach?

Police attendance was requested by the fire brigade to help the security guard who had locked himself out of the premises he was guarding.

Perhaps if they all tried the door together?

## Searching for missing people

ESSEX Police is looking at ways in which it can improve its investigations involving missing people.

The Operations Managers Group, chaired by Supt Julian Field, acknowledged that the current policy could be developed, and has set up a working party to try and better the good service already provided.

It will look at issues such as search techniques and the definition of a 'vulnerable person' researching all the advice and guidance currently available.

Subsequent grants could depend on ability to make savings

# Essex forecasts budget shortfall

**THE Government has recently announced the findings of its comprehensive spending review.**

This is the first time that a government has undertaken such a wide ranging and fundamental review of public spending, including areas such as the National Health Service, education and the police service.

As a result of the review they will be funding the police service with an extra 2.6 per cent in 1999/2000.

This figure includes the assumption that inflation will be at 2.5 per cent.

Currently inflation is run at 2.5 per cent to 2.6 per cent but this figure does not take into account any pay awards running at between 3% and 4%.

## By Heather Watts

The Association of Police Authorities says that nationally we need at least 6 per cent to maintain essential services and the growing pensions bill.

The 1999/2000 preliminary forecast for Essex Police is that the Force is likely to have to find savings of 3 per cent of its budget, but it could be higher.

Additional costs just to police the Millennium in Essex could total £1m.

The Home Office is also expecting all police forces to achieve 2 per cent efficiency savings each year to reinvest in services.

The receipt of a full government grant in subsequent years will depend on individual forces achieving these savings.

For Essex Police this means £3.5m efficiency savings are required.

Once the government grants and capping limit are set in the autumn Essex Police will know its exact position.

Whatever the grant level we know that significant savings will have to be made from our £190m budget.

Good financial housekeeping must be the order of the day.

The positive side is that we now have devolved budgeting. Divisional commanders are responsible for their own budgets. They have been successful in identifying savings which are used to deliver their policing plan priorities. It does work.

A new financial newsletter issued bi-monthly by the financial services department will keep divisional commanders and divisional admin officers up to date on these corporate issues.

## Hi-tech overtime system

A NEW computer system is being introduced to deal with overtime payments to police officers which total approximately £4m a year.

Not only will it generate payments, it will also record what we are using the overtime for, enabling statistics to be prepared and analysis to be made.

The new technology will free divisional admin resources and be more economically viable as the current technology which is approximately 15 years old is no longer economic to maintain.

The force will see savings of £50,000 as a result.

There will be no changes to the rules and regulations governing the payment of overtime for police officers.

## Changes to flight times

THE Essex Police helicopter has changed its operational hours for a trial period of three months.

The changes were put in place on August 3 in order to reflect the need for air support later into the night.

The changed times for immediate response are 10am to 2am, replacing the 12.45am finish.

Sunday remains the same due to the county being covered in conjunction with Cambridgeshire until 2am.

There will be no changes to the deployment criteria or availability of the helicopter for out of hours call out.

## CCTV success

COLCHESTER division is one of 32 successful applicants in its bid for cash from the national Home Office Crime Prevention Agency's CCTV Challenge Competition.

The Home Office award of £7,000 will enable them to equip the division with two mobile closed circuit television systems to be used locally in identified problem areas.

The cameras will be an important asset in the drive to reduce the area's crime rate.

## A proud moment with the PM



IT was a proud moment for Braintree constable Paul Inkley when he was photographed shaking hands with Prime Minister Tony Blair.

The courageous acts of Pc Inkley were recognised when he was nominated for the Police Federation and Sun Newspaper Police Bravery Award.

Pc Inkley was nominated after risking his own life to pull a trapped 12-year-old boy from a burning car seconds before the petrol tank exploded.

The accident happened on the A12 last February when Pc Inkley was off-duty.

Joining him at the plush presentation in London was his girlfriend Maxine.

# Law letters

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

## Top treatment at garden party

I WAS pleased to attend the pensioner's garden party and wish to thank the organisation for giving me door to door treatment with maximum efficiency.

The band and food at the party were, as usual 100 per cent.

I met many old colleagues including Ernie Dark, Peter Cable, Fred Nash, Len Saunders, Reg Hooper, Jack Bridge and Maureen, Peter York-Wade, Phil Pewsey, Mick Robertson, Tom (Sam Rowe, Dave Ashworth, Bob Wallis and many more.

As a matter of personal interest, next month I shall be pleased to join the 30/30 club. That is I shall have completed 30 years in service and 30 years on pension, one of a privileged few.

Archie Rickwood  
Southend-on-Sea

## Can you help?

I AM writing a book on the use of MG cars by the police at home and abroad from 1930 to 1985, and would like to contact serving or retired officers who may have driven the cars and know of their use. I am looking for experiences with the cars, details of specification and colour, and personal photos.

The book will be, not only about the cars, but the people who drove them.

Anyone who writes to me will receive a reply and photos will be treated with great care. You can write to me, Mrs Andrea Green, at Knowle House, Hooke Road, East Horsley, Nr Leatherhead, Surrey KT24 5DT.

Andrea Green  
Surrey

# Confusion over promotion exams

POLICE officers are probably aware that there is still some confusion surrounding the materials available to candidates sitting the promotion examinations. The purpose of this letter is to put an end to the confusion once and for all.

Following a national survey, the syllabus for the qualifying examinations for the ranks of sergeant and inspector have been revised.

There will now be ONE syllabus against which both sets of candidates will be assessed.

Each examination will be written to a 'blueprint' which focuses - in both quantity and the nature of its questions - on those areas of the syllabus which have been identified as being relevant to the respective roles of sergeant and inspector.

The syllabus is cross-referenced to a series of new publication, *Blackstone's Police Manuals*, which have been officially endorsed by both the Police Promotion Examinations Board and National Police Training.

The new syllabus will come into force in September 1998, immediately following the Inspectors' Part 1 examination.

The Local Government Management Board (LGMB) which formerly produced the Law files for examination candidates were given limited authority to make

these Law Files available to candidates wishing to buy them, up to the end of December this year. Although the LGMB wished to continue selling the Law Files after this date their content is subject to Crown copyright and permission to reproduce that material has been expressly withheld.

Despite assurances from the LGMB, it would appear that they are continuing to market their own 'new' product, a product which does not contain the new syllabus. Although the co-operation of the LGMB has been sought, candidates are still receiving conflicting and confusing messages.

An example of this is an advert by LGMB in the last two editions of *Police*

*Review*. The advert states: "Pack content queries should be directed to Training Support, Harrogate, please contact Andrew Clayton or Andrea Copham". Training Support had no knowledge of this, do not endorse this material and will not be answering content queries for a commercial company.

Given the degree of consultation and negotiation which has taken place between the Police Promotion Examinations Unit and the LGMB, it is disappointing that such a letter is necessary.

Hopefully this ensures that future promotion examination candidates are suitably informed.

ACC G. Wilkinson, Harrogate

## Broaden your horizons

I AM currently the president of the British Association of Women Police (BAWP) and am writing to attract new members.

BAWP exists for both male and female officers to contribute to a more professional police service.

It is a ready-made network for social and work-related contacts and can link you to other professionals in this

country and abroad. It can also keep you informed of training opportunities and conferences and allow you to share your expertise and specialist knowledge with others.

For membership details write to BAWP, PO Box 999, Lichfield, WS13 8YQ, or telephone 01543 278699.

Judy Davison  
Acting Assistant Commissioner

# Poetical view of progress

FOR most police pensioners The Law is their only link with the service we loved.

In it we read of the many changes that have, and are

taking place, in what seems to us a desperate effort to keep pace with the demands of a so-called modern society.

I have written a poem for

publication to give the young men of today a small glimpse of what it used to be like almost 50 years ago.

George Raven, Spain

### Progress

(A pensioner's eye view)

A young man looking forward, in the year of fifty three,  
Healthy, keen, alert and optimistic that was me.

To be an Essex constable, what better way to serve,  
Ones fellow worthy citizens, but did I have the nerve?

To protect their lives and property, that's what I'd have to do,  
Then maintain law and order, I supposed I'd do that too.  
Prevention and detection of all cowardly and vile crime,  
Then prosecute offenders to make sure they did their time.

So I swore that without malice, fear or favour, or ill will,  
I'd serve the folk of Essex with my strength and zeal and skill.  
I followed those brace fellows who had walked the beat before,  
And took up the mighty challenge and the baton of the law.  
We often saw the pensioners in those days, so long ago,  
Called in to see if they were well, how else were we to know?  
They told us of their memories, old cases they'd recall.  
We'd listen with polite restraint to all these stories tall.

But we were young, they were old, their tales we would not heed,  
Their day was done, ours just begun, their wisdom, we'd not need.  
We were a modern police force with our whistles and our sticks,  
Our helmets on, with chinstraps down, we'd give our boots a lick.  
Capes and tunic brushed well, to remove the slightest specks,  
Our collar numbers on our collars high around our necks.  
Strong handcuffs tucked well out of sight, no stick straps in view,  
For fear the sergeant's wrath as we paraded two by two.

But it was not to stay that way, as years passed we advanced.  
Our cycles were replaced by cars and we stood by entranced.  
The river of old father time flowed gently but with pace,  
New system after system was installed and then replaced.

The Pandas and the Noddy bikes, they came and went, no doubt  
Because they turned out not to be so much to shout about.  
The wheel was re-invented and the 'funny toys' we'd see,  
As detecting crime relied more on this new technology.

The pace of change increased so fast as new brains followed old,  
And crime too seemed to multiply more than a hundredfold.  
The years rushed by, but now it seems so little was achieved,  
To stem the tide of mayhem 'gainst the public, the aggrieved.  
New laws appear to plug the holes, whenever gaps were seen  
Within societies conscience, politicians' hands were clean.  
Equipment, zeal and effort were not short in this great fight,  
Among the men in blue who's thankless task was just and right.

But all too soon today's young men will reach their final day,  
When they will hang their tunics up and put their boots away.  
A day I dreaded in my time, the police force was our joy,  
Each day a new experience to relish and enjoy.  
But now I hear the young men as they talk of their arrest,  
Relaxing after duty, heaving off their armoured vests.  
Looking forward to retirement, counting days to reach the end,  
Of a job they do not relish even though some do pretend.

I am an old man looking back, my burden lighter now,  
As I sit here in the Spanish sun, with sweat upon my brow.  
There's little else to do but contemplate the years gone by,  
And consider the world's troubles, wars strife and adversity.  
The police with riot shields and helmets, CS spray and guns,  
There are helicopters, too to keep the villains on the run.  
The crime rate up, detections down, the public in distress.  
I shake my head and wonder, is this what they call progress?

# Video is the way to the Watch

I AM a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and at our meetings have been pressing for more videos to pass round to Watch members.

Our video supply seems extremely limited. The few available relate to general security, provided by insurance companies.

Is it not possible to considerably extend and exploit this convenient manner of transmitting information and advice to Watch members?

I am sure major companies, if approached, will sponsor this, and a few adverts in the video content will not matter - after all we are well used to them.

I have in mind a series of fairly short videos, along the lines of the very popular *The Bill*, but focusing on Neighbourhood Watch matters.

There are, I am told, six million Watch members nationally, perhaps half a million in Essex. Give them advice and information through the medium of video.

I believe it will pay dividends in engendering more interest in providing support to the police.

George Harnett  
Clacton-on-Sea

## Thanks for the farewell

MAY I, through your paper, thank all the people who attended my 'farewell bash' at Roxwell. Also thanks for the kind wishes from those unable to attend.

A few 'sensitive' memories are always recalled at functions such as this, and mine was no different, thanks to Andy Loveridge at last doing some detective work.

It has, in the main, been a privilege serving with Essex Police, especially with the grass roots officers who have yet to lose touch with reality and the real meaning of policing.

I shall now watch with interest the slow development of plans for the rural areas of the county.

To those still serving I have only a few words of advice - Keep a sense of humour in most things, it helps to keep things - and people - in perspective. No one is superior in life, everyone is equal, even though his or her rank may differ.

Keith Brookes,  
Chelmsford

## Points from the past

THIS time last year a new grading system for 999 calls from the public was introduced.

Charles Clark was appointed Deputy Chief Constable to take over from Jim Dickinson on his retirement.

### FIVE YEARS AGO

Essex Police set up a hotline to answer officer's questions and offer advice following the publication of the Sheehy report into police responsibilities and rewards.

### 15 YEARS AGO

A new Assistant Chief Constable was appointed. Geoffrey Markham was the first Essex officer to be appointed to this rank since 1971.

## Don't be loose with your licence

**FOLLOWING Operation Bottlesop, an initiative to combat underage drinking in Harlow, an important verdict was reached. Alcohol was purchased by an underage test purchaser, who was closely supervised by police officers.**

**The licensees of the Co-op Stop and Shop in Bush Fair were found guilty of selling alcohol to persons under the age of 18.**

**Revocation proceedings could follow any subsequent licensing offences.**

**This sends a message to any licensee who may consider flouting the licensing laws that they may face serious consequences and the possible loss of their livelihood.**

## Minding your coppers

POLICE officers looking for potentially higher returns on their investments should consider the Investment Funds launched by Police Mutual Investment Services.

Two new investment funds have been introduced in response to members' requests for more flexible investments and have been designed to complement the current range of Police Mutual products, not replace them.

Investors' money is pooled together and each investor is given shares in the fund, the value of which reflects the underlying value of the fund's investments.

The UK Growth Fund is designed for long term capitals growth and for a minimum investment of £1,000. Investors in the Income Fund receive regular quarterly payments as income,

with a minimum investment of £3,000. The funds do not have a fixed term, but should be considered as medium to long-term investments, that is for five years or more.

The two new funds provide the opportunity for those who want potentially higher returns on their money, whilst accepting that the value of capital and any income can fluctuate and is not guaranteed.

An additional benefit is the

eligibility for PEP investment for tax efficiency. (PEPs will be replaced by the new Individual Savings Account in April 1999).

● Peter Sharpe, the Chief Executive of Police Mutual Assurance Society, was appointed an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Mr Sharpe has seen the society's assets grow from £220m to over £1,000m since he joined in 1986.



## New system has heavy emphasis on the law

# Probationers pilot training course

ESSEX probationers are taking part in two courses at the National Police Training Centre, Harrogate to pilot the new probationer training system which is due to go live nationwide in September.

The 14 recruits were visited recently by ACC (S) John Broughton and Head of Training, Supt Bob Good to discuss the new course.

There are significant changes with the extended course, much more structured in its approach. Exams have replaced self assessment and the first five weeks of the course are very intensive with a heavy emphasis on knowledge of the law.

The changes were introduced following concern expressed at national level among senior officers that previous probationer training led to a knowledge of interpersonal skills but not enough knowledge of the law.

Initial feedback from the Essex probationers has indicated that they felt unprepared for the demands at Harrogate following an initial two weeks at the Essex Police Training Centre.

Other issues raised were the difficulties of travelling long distances, adding unnecessary pressure to a full schedule, lack of opportunity for physical fitness work, and concerns about

uniform and equipment.

ACC (S) John Broughton said: "We will look at all the issues raised by the probationers. I feel that the course, which has been designed over a number of years to help them, will better equip them to undertake the increasingly difficult and challenging role of constable in the early part of their service."

Staff from the training centre at Shotley, who are currently working on the pilot course in Harrogate, confirmed the demanding nature of the course. Although they feel there are a number of teething difficulties to overcome they are confident of success.



● Insp Glen Mayes and former Deputy Chief Constable Peter Simpson with the Slovakian guests.

## Visitors study review process

AS part of the ongoing East European Police Development Programme funded by the Foreign Office, Essex Police hosted visitors from the Slovakian Republic.

They were here to study the current arrangements in place for conducting inspections by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary.

To put a perspective on how the inspections affect Essex Police their four day tour included visits to Southend division and Rayleigh traffic.

They also attended various presentations and meetings at HQ for briefings on the review and inspection process.

## New public order policy

FOLLOWING the animal rights demonstrations in Brightlingsea in 1995, research was carried out by Essex Police into a number of public order issues.

As a result of the work of this sub-group a new public order policy has been drawn up.

There has always been a public order policy but Brightlingsea was a good learning curve and the new document gives Essex Police the most up to date and comprehensive guide.

It does not supercede the ACPO National Public Order Policy.

The new policy

document offers any officer, particularly managers the fullest details that would be required to deal with any public order incident

It highlights the specialist areas and knowledge of public order trained personnel, such as ground commanders and mutual aid officers.

Copies of the new policy document are held on Divisions by Command Teams for any officer wishing to view them.

Public Order Trainers will be happy to answer any questions relating to the public order policy on Extension 53657.

## Wise up to road safety

A SPECIAL project, aimed at driving home the road safety message to children ahead of the summer holidays, has been launched in Essex.

The joint initiative between Essex Police Traffic Division, Thurrock Road Safety Department and a local school, was named *Road Wise*.

The two-day project involved 120 Year 7 pupils of Ockendon School, who visited police headquarters to use the skid pan and receive road safety instruction.

They also visited Arena Essex motorsport centre, where Alan's School of Motoring gave them experience of what it is like from a driver's point of view, also emphasising passenger safety and personal attitudes. Ford Motor Company's crash centre at Aveley was also in the programme.

The pupils also worked on various projects at school, including cycling proficiency training, drama classes and designing road safety campaigns, with prizes for the best provided by arts suppliers Hussey and Greaves.

Chief Insp Mick Thwaites said: "More than 1,000 children were killed or injured on roads in Essex last year. Clearly, this is far too high a figure and the aim of this project was to help reduce child casualties throughout the county."

Key road safety messages were used and another aim was to raise awareness within the local community about a safe environment. It is also hoped children will influence their parents' driving behaviour.

Head of The Ockendon School, Michael Batten, said: "We are always concerned about the safety of our pupils."

"We have for many years had an on-going programme of road safety awareness as part of our personal and social education programme. However, when other professionals join us in delivering such a programme, then I believe it can only be an advantage to our youngsters."

# Outwitting the villa

"IT is like a jigsaw puzzle, you have to put together the various pieces of evidence, information gathered from witnesses and use common sense to complete the picture," said Dc Dave Sweeney, scenes of crime officer based at Southend.

"Soco work has an aura of mystique to many people but really it is common sense coupled with an enquiring mind and a meticulous approach," he added.

Dave Sweeney is still enthusiastic about his job, he enjoys meeting people and considers himself a good listener which he believes is a vital tool in his job. He says letting people talk can often unwittingly provide a clue to fit into the jigsaw puzzle. He also enjoys the challenge of outwitting the villain.

At the scene of a break-in he has the advantage of time

whereas the burglar has to be quick and can make mistakes. He has also attended more premises which have been burgled than the burglar has, and has one big advantage - "I've caught people like him many times before".

Dave explained that a fingerprint follows one of the guiding principals of forensic science - where two surfaces meet there is an exchange. With a fingerprint sweat is deposited which could be invisible to the human eye but with the aid of a variety of powders this can be developed to reveal a unique print. Fingerprints can be lifted or photographed from a variety of surfaces such as windowsills

or frames where a burglar climbs in.

Any marks are then sent to the fingerprint bureau to see if there is a match. Each member puts 10p into a kitty for a positive identification.

The developments which have taken place with DNA over the last few years have probably

caused the greatest advance in forensic science. In the last year, in Southend alone, over 20 scenes have been matched to suspects by DNA samples.

Dave Sweeney said that many criminals have a certain bravado when searching around someone's house. They may take a drink from a bottle from

the fridge or discard a cigarette at the scene but now samples from the bottle or cigarette could be DNA tested and matched back to them. The DNA database is increasing all the time and his message is that the criminal had better watch out.

The forensic science element also includes matching fibres taken, for example, from a splinter of wood, or matching a fleck of paint found on a tool with the paint of a door frame that has been forced open.

The final element of the Soco's work is photography. Dave said: "You can often tell a great deal more from a photograph than you could by describing something verbally. We are called out to provide photographic evidence at the

## Helen Cook's insight into the officers who use science to solve crime

### What can scenes of crime do for you?

THE six strong team of scenes of crime officers based at Southend have many years of experience between them.

Two members, Dave Sweeney, who has 15 years' service and Steve Atkins with 22 years' service, are now in the countdown to retirement but another former detective, Barry Eves, returned after retiring and his knowledge is invaluable as clerk to the team.

The other members are Sgt Jude Stevens and detective constables Michael Horigan, Paul Howard and Mark Bloxham.

The Soco's are part of Scientific Support Services and provide a service to both uniform and CID officers.

There are three basic elements to the job - fingerprints, photography and forensic science, and all officers wishing to join the team have to attend an intensive nine week course at the national training centre at Durham and pass exams in the

three elements. This is then followed up with another two week course at a later date.

The Soco office in Southend is one of the county's busiest.

Open from 8am until 10pm, it also supplies and out of hours officer on a callout basis each night.

They would be called out to any serious crime such as rape or murder and will also attend serious road crashes to record the scene.

Southend also covers half of Rayleigh division including Rayleigh and Hullbridge which does mean double book-keeping for statistics.

The scenes of crime office on early turn will usually start his day with a list of premises to visit where a break-in has occurred overnight.

Attendance is quick to ensure schools and businesses can get back to work.

This also avoids the inconvenience caused by preserving scenes from contamination.



● Dc Dave Sweeney dusts a window frame in search of fingerprint evidence.

### Research funds to be given a boost

#### Projects pay dividends

SOME hard work has paid off for scenes of crime officer Stephen Armon-Smith who has just been awarded a pass with credit for a Diploma in Scientific Support Skills.

The detective, who is based at Chelmsford, received the qualification after completing a number of projects which were assessed at the national training centre at the University of Durham.



● Dc Stephen Armon-Smith.

THE Forensic Science Service, which already spends £3m a year on research has recently announced that it is looking to increase that sum year on year so that it is trebled by 2002.

The success of scientific breakthroughs in the fight against crime has prompted the intended increase.

The FSS is a national service which supports 43 police forces in England and Wales.

It is only 10 years since DNA was first presented as evidence in a criminal trial. Its introduction has been described as being as significant as the introduction of fingerprints was at the beginning of this century.

The FSS believe that their advances in technology could increase significantly the percentage of offences detected through DNA, fingerprints and footwear, particularly in areas such as burglary and vehicle crime.

in

a road accident, to show layout, or the layout of a bar where, for there was a fight."

also photograph d stolen property that n be returned to its owners and have the RSPCA in phing ill-treated to provide evidence for ion.

the more gruesome jobs o's are required to is photographing the tem examination a murder. DC Steve nds this one of the most tasks."

from the obvious of the situation there is for error. You only have chance the get the of injury etc which timately convict the ;" he said.

rk of the Soco is heavy work, there are forms ything and the job a methodical approach job is different in some It is this variety that ve Sweeney and Steve thused even after all rs in the job.

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# All's well that ends well!

CONTACT Chelmsford traffic officers Bill Brightmore and Rube Zagger if you want to turn a crisis into a great way to finish a day out.

The children from Parkhill Infant School, Ilford, and their teachers will not forget their day trip to Colchester Zoo in a hurry.

On the journey home their coach broke down on the A12 between Hatfield Peveral and Boreham. The coach was only half off the road and a replacement coach was not going to arrive for some time.

Officers Bill Brightmore and Rube Zagger were very concerned for the children's safety. The prospect of a coach load of children aged five to six standing on the verge or remaining in the coach was not viable. The children had to be moved.

The Essex Police coach, with Pc Ian Donaldson at the wheel, was deployed. The children were taken to Essex Police Training Centre canteen which was opened up by Chief Insp Mervyn Fairweather where they were given cold drinks.

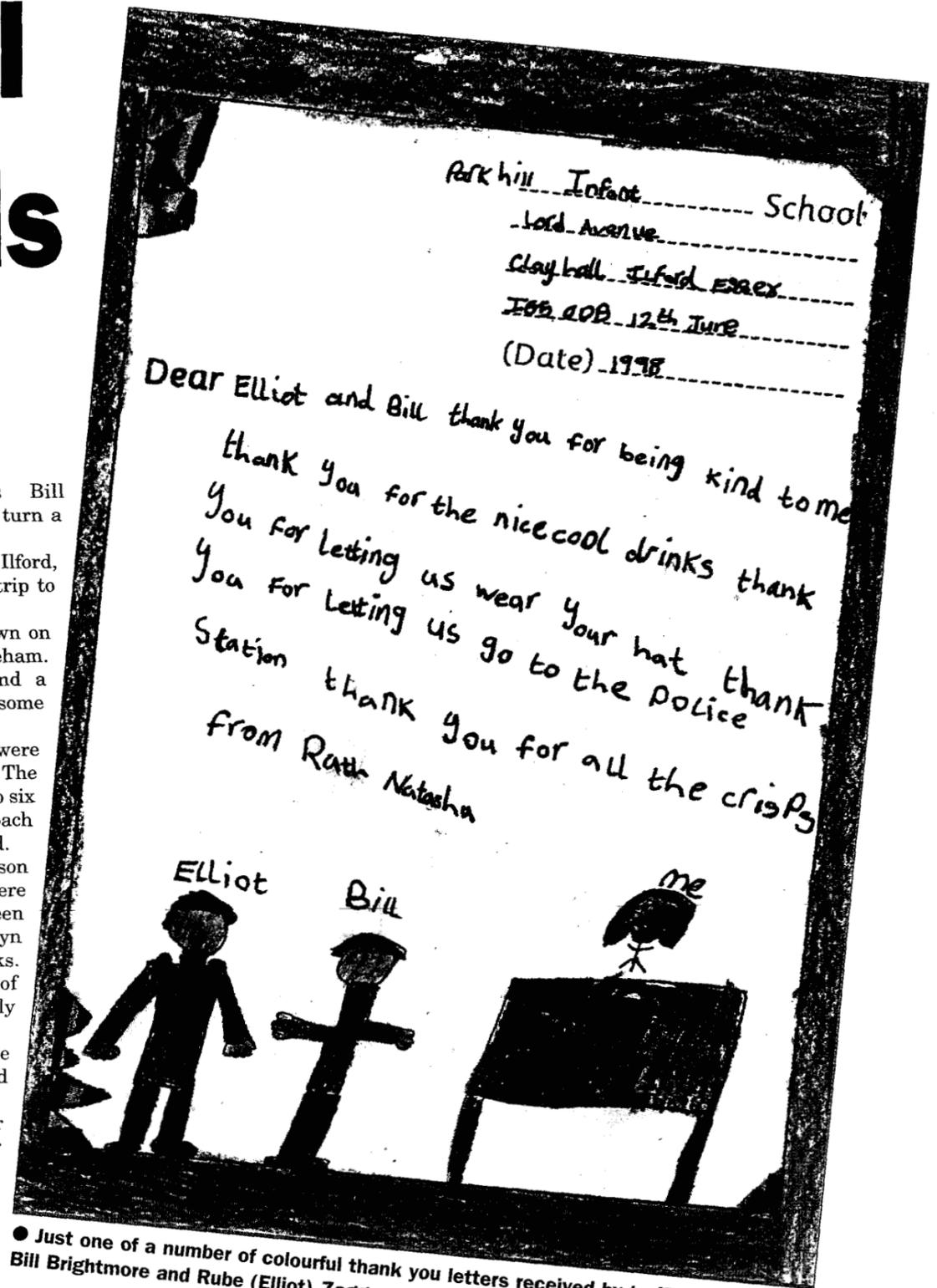
Judging by the numerous letters of appreciation, most of which are beautifully illustrated, a good time was had by all.

The children were allowed to wear the officers' hats and look at their truncheons and handcuffs.

Their teacher Hazel Swile also sent a letter saying that the children didn't remember much about their day at the zoo. "Even the elephant's unusual toilet habits had paled into insignificance" compared with the adventure they had at the police station.

Hopefully this positive image of the police will remain with them for years to come.

● Just one of a number of colourful thank you letters received by traffic constables Bill Brightmore and Rube (Elliot) Zagger.



## We want YOU!

If you are interested in helping young people to achieve, then the Essex Army Cadet Force is looking for adult helpers. Regimental Sergeant Major for the Essex Army Cadet Force, Jeff Walker has worked in headquarters reception since January.

Jeff's interest in the army started when he joined the Territorials in 1963, enlisting in the Royal Fusiliers at the Tower of London.

Jeff had various jobs with them including recruiting and weapon training.

He joined the Essex Army Cadet Force in 1981 as Staff Sergeant leaving for a short time to join the City of London ACF.

In 1993 he was awarded the Army Cadet Force medal and in February 1998 was appointed Regimental Sergeant Major for Essex with responsibility for 700 cadets and adult instructors.

The Army Cadet Force is the army's youth organisation open to boys and girls aged 13 to 18. They are instructed in various activities including drill, first aid, map and compass, PT, shooting and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

If you are interested in helping then Jeff can be contacted at headquarters reception or you may phone the Army Cadet Force on 01245 462302.

## Marine police join in regatta

ESSEX Police Marine Unit will be at the 160th West Mersea Town Regatta Day on Saturday, August 29.

The regatta is non profit making with funds being raised for the Rotary Club and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. As well of a host of sailors from along the east coast, the regatta also attracts a great many non-sailors.

Family entertainment is provided from start to finish with a display of all the sailing craft gathering in full view of the

shore in the morning and finishing with a spectacular firework display.

Various races and water sports take place throughout the day including a round island race where the competitors have to carry their boats across the Stroud.

Other activities will include a band concert and a marching band display. There will also be various trade stalls and a fair in the evening.

## Take to the floor with security advice

THE International Police and Security Expo 98 was held at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre recently.

Over 3,400 senior police purchasing officers and private security buyers from all over the world kept the 200 exhibitors busy.

Top of the visitors' list of interests was information technology, followed by communications equipment and CCTV.

Following the success of this year's show floor space will be increased next year.

International Police and Security Expo 99 will run from September 21 to 23, 1999, at the National Exhibition Centre.

## Recruitment hotline

ESSEX Police is planning to identify 200 new recruits during the nine months to April to fill vacancies caused by retirement.

A recruitment telephone hotline has been set up at HQ. The number is 01245 452277. It is manned between 9am and 4.30 pm Monday to Friday.

## Mind your own business

The column of the Ex-Essex Police Business Association

BOB Craven's change of vocation to gardening has identified a need for those skills and a number of other types, by a cross section of society, from the elderly to the career minded.

Skills also required include decorating, plumbing, brick laying, electrical, motor engineering, driving and many more.

Without any advertising or marketing he has been able to pass on work to a number of members.

If you have such skills or require such work carried out, contact Bob on 01702 546615.

### Internet explained

DICK Bloomfield gave us an in depth insight into the wonders of the internet in his presentation at our last meeting.

How it works and of what use it could be to us as individuals was the aim.

The sometimes mystical world of the internet was broken down into easily understood language and a number of members offered their advice as to its use in their occupations.

### Indemnity insurance

A VERY necessary back-up to the possibility of some accident or similar in a number of occupations, professional indemnity insurance can be obtained at reasonable rates from: Gerry Norris & Co, 248 High Street, Beckenham, BR3 1DZ. Mention EEPBA membership for group rates.

### Annual meeting

THE AGM will be held on Wednesday, September 2, at 7.30pm in the HQ sports and social club. All members are required to attend and new members will be very welcome.

### Presentations

AT the next meeting we will be having a presentation on investments, particularly relating to stocks and shares, coming away richer in knowledge, and later financially, we hope!

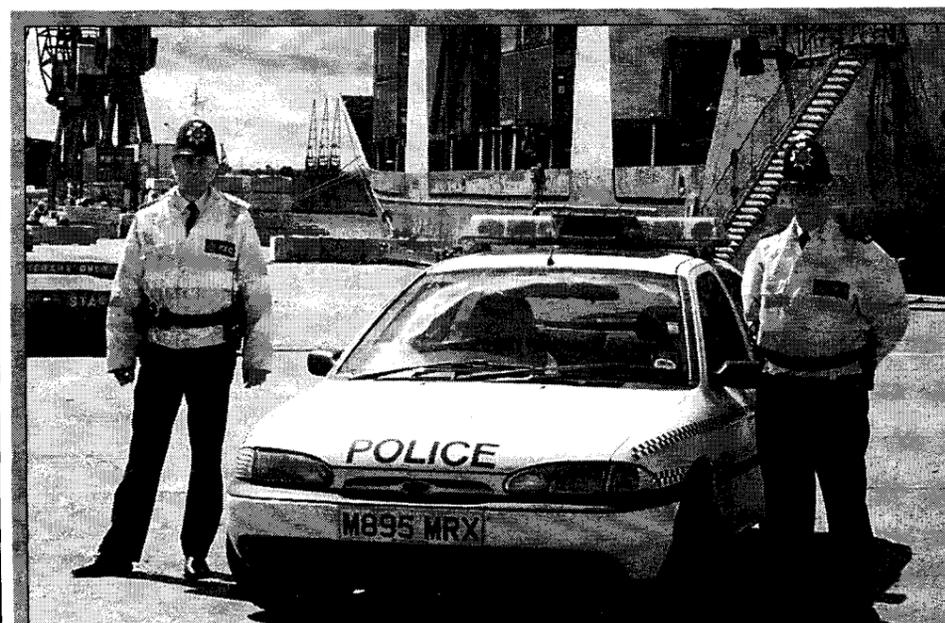
Other future speakers will include the many other aspects of business and retirement.

### Diary dates

MEETINGS in 1998: September 2; December 9, 7.30pm at HQ sports and social club.

New members and for further details about EEPBA, contact Dick Bloomfield on 01702 202959 or Bob Craven on 01702 546615.

Bob Craven




● Acting Sgt Robin Aylward and Pc Andy Ringrose on patrol at the Port of Tilbury.

# Policing the docks

● London and Indian Dock Co. Police used a stop and search technique known as 'rubbing down' in 1900.

ONE of the oldest police forces in the country operates within a very special area of Essex and occupies a unique position in the history of policing in the county.

Port of Tilbury Police, founded in 1802, became a private force in 1992. Until then it had come under the control of the Port of London Authority.

Force historian Insp Alan Bazzone told the Law: "Although it is a private force its officers are Home Office trained and have the same powers as other forces. They are also subject to the scrutiny of the national Police Complaints Authority."

Historically, Port of Tilbury Police started with the formation in 1798 of the River Thames Police.

At that time shipping companies were suffering tremendous losses on the river, with entire shiploads disappearing.

Between 1799 and 1800 work started on the first enclosed, fortified wet dock, in the belief that shipping would be safe from thieves if contained within an enclosed area.

The dock was officially opened in 1802. Military officers from the Tower of London were at that time responsible for security at the new docks, but were not really up to the job.

It was decided, therefore, to have a dedicated officer for the role and on October 25, 1802, Capt Robert Bartlett was sworn in as Head Constable.

A week later he submitted the names of six suitable candidates for the role of constable to work under him, all of whom had military connections. From then on, until as recently as the 1960s, the port police drew only on recruits with a military background.

Now there are just 20 covering the Tilbury Docks area and one mile outside the boundary.

Their powers are set out in the Port of London Act and the Ports Act. Constables are trained in the same way as other forces and are attested by a magistrate in the same way.

They respond to all incidents happening within the docks area, from routine crime to major stolen car exporting rings. Grays is used as the designated police station, but the Port police do all their own CPS work.

For serious crimes, such as murder or rape, investigations would be handed over to Essex Police officers.

They work closely with Immigration in dealing with a rising number of illegal immigrants, many of them entering the UK hidden in ships and container lorries which have travelled from Eastern Europe and other trouble hot spots.

"A lot of our work is to do with high value stolen cars being shipped out of here to West Africa. In recent years we have seized more than £5 million worth," said Insp Bazzone.

## The way to a safe and healthy sex life

SEXUAL health is about being able to enjoy your sexuality in such a way that also protects your health and well-being. Although sex is a normal and healthy aspect of most adult lives, it is wise to bear in mind the following points:-

1. Anyone can get an infection if they have unprotected sex. These are common and there are often no obvious symptoms.
2. One in three pregnancies in the UK are unplanned - a moment of thoughtlessness can lead to a lifetime of responsibility.
3. Sexual problems are common, about one in five people experience them at some time.

### Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's)

As previously pointed out STD's can be easily contracted and occur frequently in both men and women. In some cases there are no

### Health check

symptoms, however, if you fear you have put yourself at risk please contact your GP or local Genito-Urinary Medicine Clinic. Other warning signs are:-

- A pain or burning sensation when you pass water.
- Urinating more frequently than usual.
- Itching, rashes, sores, blisters or pain in the genital area.
- Pain or discomfort during sex.
- Unusually thick or watery, cloudy or smelly discharge.

Get medical advice straight away if you think you or your partner might be infected. Most can be quickly and easily treated, but some can cause serious problems like infertility if not treated.

Your GP could offer treatment, alternatively you can get free, confidential treatment and advice from any Sexual Health Clinic.

HIV is the most serious sexually transmitted infection. It damages the body's defence system so that it cannot fight off certain infections. Most people with HIV look and feel healthy for a long time, sometimes ten years or more. They may not even know they have the virus, but they can still pass it on to others through unprotected sex or by using needles, syringes or other infected drug-injecting equipment.

A woman with HIV can pass it to her baby during pregnancy, birth or through breast feeding.

HIV can also be passed on through oral sex but the risk is lower.

Male and female condoms, used on their own or with

other contraceptive methods, can help protect against sexually transmitted infections if used properly every time you have sex.

### Contraception

Many different types of contraception are available and your GP, practice nurse or Family Planning Clinic will help you choose the best method for you. Emergency contraception can help to prevent pregnancy.

### Sexual Problems

Sexual problems are common. A lack of interest, fear of intercourse, premature ejaculation are just a few examples.

Possible causes include stress, tiredness, anxiety, too much alcohol and recreational drugs. Talk about the problem with your partner and try changing your lifestyle.

If the problem continues do not be embarrassed, see your GP.

## Management roles clarified

MANAGEMENT roles have been defined in the recently produced document, Management Roles in Essex Police.

It applies equally to police and support staff managers who will be held fully accountable for their actions in the performance of their role. Tasks may be delegated but not accountability.

The management framework consists of four distinct roles. Supervisor, first line manager, operational command or department Management and chief officer.

It is accepted that not all departments fit neatly into the model, but all managers should seek clarification of their role and accountability.

## Selection of short seminars

A NUMBER of different seminars are being offered to police officers and support staff as part of a special management development week.

The event will take place in November but nominations for places must be received by the start of September.

The objective of the week is to provide short, focused seminars to managers, providing the latest information, knowledge and skills on some of the key issues for Essex Police.

Interest expressed to Management Development has led to the following seminars:

- Better evidence (three hours)
- Capability procedure (three hours)
- Focused operational briefings (two hours)
- Intelligence led policing (two hours)
- Introduction to finance (two hours)
- Successful meetings (all day)
- Budget holders finance (two hours)
- Crime and disorder (two hours)

It is hoped that the short timespan of the seminars will minimise abstractions from the workplace.

Requests for places on the programme should be forwarded to Management Development bearing in mind the development needs of those nominated.

It is anticipated that most of the seminars will be oversubscribed, therefore guarantees cannot be made on initial nominations.

Places will be allocated from the names forwarded and confirmed by September 30 with the aim of achieving a fair distribution across the Force.

Nominations must be received by no later than September 2.

## Death case re-opened

ESSEX Police has reopened its investigation into the death of Jamie Collins aged 24 who died following a night out in Southend two years ago.

Jamie was found unconscious behind Brocketts nightclub.

There were many people around who may have witnessed something but have never come forward.

Det Supt Lee Weavers said "We are reaching out to people hoping they realise the enormity of what has occurred. This terrible tragedy has scarred the family."

Jamie never lived to his baby daughter born. She was named after him.

## Round the clock support for victims

THE National Victim Support Scheme now has an all year round, 24 hour a day telephone support line for victims of crime, staffed by volunteers.

The helpline, telephone number 0845 30 30 900, is in addition to the six area offices of the Essex Victim Support scheme which are staffed 9am to 5pm on weekdays.

This will enable victims to get information immediately.

Last year Victim Support offered help to over a million people who had suffered crimes ranging from burglary

to the murder of a relative.

Victim Support's Crown Court Witness Service supported nearly 100,000 victims, witnesses and their families attending trials.

The charity also runs support services in magistrates courts.

Director of Victim Support, Helen Reeves, was a member of a recent Working Group looking at the rights of victims and witnesses who have suffered threats or even further violence when they have reported the crime to the police.

Victim Support has made recommendations with regard to the protection of witnesses and to procedures in the criminal justice system which it believes, if they are implemented, could result in radical changes for the benefit of victims and witnesses.

Officers dealing with victims of crime out of local Victim Support office hours should refer non urgent cases to the national helpline if the victim wishes to talk to Victim Support for guidance. Helpline volunteers will also

refer callers to their local office if necessary.

In an emergency, as previously, the local Victim Support workers may be contacted by mobile phone.

Police officers who have heavy demands on their time may now rest assured that any victim of crime will receive help at any time night or day.

Posters will be sent to all divisions with the new national Helpline number of 0845 30 30 900. All calls will be charged at a local rate.

## Road safety for the older driver

A SPECIAL road safety afternoon has been planned, aimed at the more mature driver.

The event has been organised by Essex Police working in partnership with Tendring District Council and Colchester Borough Council Road Safety Unit.

Two speakers have been asked to make presentations at the Older Road Users Advisory Campaign, to be held at Stanway on August 25.

They will be a doctor who will talk about the effects prescribed drugs have on your ability to drive, and Supt Des McGarr, former head of traffic, who will talk in general about driving and the older road user.

There will also be an opportunity for invited visitors to try a brake reaction test, eyesight screening and breathalysers.

Officers will be on hand to give advice on all aspects of driving.

Those unable to attend the Stanway event will have a second opportunity when the campaign goes on the road at the Clacton Airshow on August 27 and 28.

# On the way to a technical future

**THE recent signing of a formal agreement to cease the Essex Police Integrated Computer System (EPICS) does not end the Essex Police commitment to information technology.**

Part of EPICS, the current GEC Marconi custody system will remain until a new system supplied by Securicor Information Systems is ready to take its place. This National Strategy for Police Information Systems (NSPIS) accredited custody system will be available from April 1999 and fully installed by September 1999.

An interim solution for crime recording has been developed and tested "in house".

**by Heather Watts**

The current BOS micro-computer based crime recording system is not year 2000 compliant and is bursting at the seams. There is an NSPIS crime recording system under development, but it will not be available until the end of 1999.

The new in house application, which is available for examination and evaluation by appropriate users will be networked. It uses a "search engine" which can search on free text in the crime description and property fields. The system will be important for intelligence as the more information that is put in will lead to greater possibilities to look for crime links.

An exciting new development is the installation of a Police National

Database System using intranet.

If you have any legal questions this is for you. In addition to national legal information the application offers the ability for local documents to be published.

It includes Stones and it is intended that policy guidelines, personnel bulletins and emergency procedures will be available on-line. All of PACE is on the system which will be particularly useful for custody officers along with charge codes and previous case laws.

And finally IRIS, which has served Essex Police since 1984, will have to go as it is not year 2000 compliant. The proposed new Command and Control System, which will be fully operational by September next year, has been developed by Bull Information Systems.

It is hoped that the system will become the national NSPIS application and allow Essex Police to move to total compliance in the future.

## As time goes by

THE weather had been instructed to stay nice and dark clouds obligingly scuttled away overhead while about 400 people enjoyed the annual pensioners' garden party in the grounds of the training centre at police headquarters in Chelmsford. Sipping tea and enjoying strawberries and cream and cakes, friends were able to catch up with former colleagues and hear their news.

The Essex Police Band played a selection of well-known tunes and on display was the picture specially commissioned by Essex Police, which depicts the history of the Force. Admiring the picture was former Pc Roy Smith who appears in the painting on his 'Noddy' bike. Roy was stationed at Harlow police station in 1961 when the local paper took his photograph. It was the first time radios had been fitted and at last they had communication with the

station. He remembers cleaning his bike and polishing it with chrome cleaner every Sunday morning.

Roy hasn't missed a garden party since his retirement and had met up with five of his former colleagues from his original shift at Harlow.

### Memories

Another two old friends reminiscing were Bill Fletcher and George Ashworth, now both in their 90th year. Bill and George joined the police in Southend borough in 1930 and, although Bill has been retired now for some 43 years, he still has sharp memories of events and places from his police service. Both have attended many, many garden parties over the years and thoroughly enjoy them.

Former superintendent Olive Butler, who retired in 1976 from headquarters, was chatting to Vera Bayliss, who retired from



● Roy Smith admires the new Essex Police picture.

Fraud Squad in 1978. They have been coming to the garden party every year and like to meet up with the people they served with, hearing all their news and enjoy the camaraderie.

Vera also remembered that back in 1973 the police-women in the county undertook a 10 mile sponsored walk along Southend seafront. The money raised went towards setting up the garden party for police pensioners which 25 years later is still going strong.



● Regulars to the annual soiree are Vera Bayliss and Olive Butler.



### Baa-gain grass cutters

THE grass in the Child Protection Unit in Harlow was extremely overgrown and just not getting cut. So Dc Lee came to the rescue and contacted Pets Corner. The local organisation loaned CPU a few eco friendly grass cutters and Pc Jones penned the following ditty:

So the grass is long  
Her voice repeated  
Everyone's complaining  
Each day she bleated  
Poor ewe, I replied

Give us a cutter, for goodness sake  
Right outside our office  
A riot will break  
So the grass is long, look what has come  
Sheepishly I think we've won

### NARPO

I AM now the official Honorary Secretary of the Chelmsford branch of NARPO having been appointed at a committee meeting in July. I would thank those committee members of that day for their help, and hope as time goes by to be able to return some of it.

If any member out there can let me have any information that would help the other branch members, do not hesitate to call me.

The next event in the 'get together' side of the branch is a day trip Bologne via Le Shuttle. No details have been fixed but we are looking towards the middle of October 1998 and during the week, possibly a Wednesday. As soon as I have details I will pass them on.

It should be noted that there are three branches of NARPO in the Essex Police area - Colchester, Southend and Chelmsford.

I am aware that Colchester produces a newsletter and no doubt Southend has a way of letting its members know of what is happening. I make mention of this as any opinion/thoughts shown in this article are those of the Chelmsford branch only, unless otherwise stated.

Tony Cooper

# Retiring amid TV stardom

**BEST wishes for a grump free retirement to Sgt Tony Kirvell, Thurrock/Lakeside who retires after nearly 30 years on August 31.**

He has recently appeared on the television programme *Lakesiders* where he has become well known for his grumpometer.

### Names in the news

Pc Victor Jackson, Southend, retires on August 8 after 27 years.

Sergeant Jeremy Newson seconded to NCIS is retiring on August 15 after 26 years service.

Colchester officers retiring are Pc Terence Astbury on August 31 after

25 years, and Pc Christopher Avieson on August 27 with 30 years service. Ill health has forced the retirement of Colchester constable Hayley Burton with five years service.

Sadly, HQ, Force Information Room officer Mrs Pamela Cochrane died on July 15.

Pensioner, former Pc John Andrew Walker died on July 22 aged 83. He retired in 1969 serving at Romford, Hornchurch, Upminster and Brentwood. The funeral at Chelmsford Crematorium has taken place.

Former constable Leslie Griffiths, aged 87, died on June 25. He served at Pitsea, Brentwood, Billericay, Harlow, Epping and Great Wakering, retiring in 1960. The funeral has taken place.

### IPA

AFTER a brief lull in IPA activities for a few months, members enjoyed two events in July.

On July 10 almost 40 members and friends gathered in the sports and social club to sample French wine and cheese, kindly donated by Mr Lodge of Lodge Coaches, to get us in the mood for the trip to Rheims at the end of the month.

Derek Thomas once again kept us amused with two quizzes that taxed our

knowledge of the differences between American and English expressions.

On Sunday, July 19, 28 members set off from HQ for the Tower of London, where we joined with a total of 150 members for the annual IPA church service in the Tower chapel.

There wasn't a seat left in the chapel for the service and members were full of praise for the singing of the choir.

After the service, members had a couple of hours to visit the crown jewels and other attractions before making their way to St Catherine's Pier, where we boarded a river boat for a leisurely cruise down river to the

Thames Barrier.

During the trip an excellent commentary on the many riverside scenes was provided by a very knowledgeable member of the crew.

The afternoon was rounded off with an excellent finger buffet.

#### Future events

The whole day had been organised by an IPA member from 6 region, Derek Hergest.

Future events planned for this year include a return visit to the Romford Greyhound Stadium on Friday, November 20. The cost for the evening will be £20, to include coach fare,

entry to the stadium, a three-course meal in the restaurant and a race card.

Previous visits have proved a great success and we recommend an early booking to ensure a place.

As we have proved during past visits, no experience of betting techniques is necessary to enjoy yourselves, as the ladies who collect your bets from the restaurant tables can advise you on how to lose your money!

Our December meeting will be a dinner dance at the sports and social club on Friday, December 11. This will be the third year for this event and as the previous two have been very popular,

we once again recommend an early reservation.

To make a reservation for either the greyhound racing or the dinner dance, please call Frank Joslin on 01245 602872.

Our final event for the year is our New Years trip. After two successful years at Brighton, we felt that a change was called for and Dick Giggins has negotiated a two night stay at the Westone Hotel, Weston Flavell, near Northampton.

Total cost for the trip is £155 and if you would like to book or want more details, please call Dick on 01245 251082.

Bill Fancourt

### BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX


Name and Rank .....

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

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

**ALGARVE.** Two bedroom apartment, sleeps six. Pool on complex, 15 minutes from sea. Some weeks still vacant due to cancellations, £150 pw. Contact Brian Spiers on 01268 558211.

**CALIFORNIAN** King Snake, very friendly and healthy. Complete vibrarium and books etc. Easy and cheap to keep, only £60 ono. Contact Dave Rout at Harwich on 19320.

**CARAVAN** Swift Corniche 15/2E vgc, May 1997, serviced. Many extras, still under warranty (three years), £10,500. Contact 01245 264661.

**CHESSINGTON** World of Adventures, four adult tickets for September 9, £25. Contact 58601.

**CYPRUS** villa for rent. Beautiful Pissouri Bay. Ten minutes from the sea, own pool, sleeps eight, still dates available in August and September. Contact Mick Rees on 01603 259989.

**FLAT,** Chelmsford, ground floor, one bedroom, fitted kitchen, patio doors to communal garden. Carpets to remain, very good decor throughout. Sought

### Market Place

after location, £48,995. Contact Matthew Kimber on 01245 490876.

**FOR sale.** Medium oak country dresser, 70ins high, 38ins wide, 18ins deep, vgc, £100. Matching medium oak dining table and four solid wood chairs, £100, vgc. Contact Debbie or Steve on 52568 or 01245 325864.

**HIGHLANDS** holidays, bed and breakfast and evening meal in the comfort of an Austrian Style home in its own grounds. En-suite, shooting, fishing, walking, skiing, bird-watching or just relaxing. A 20 per cent discount for Essex Police personnel past and present. Call Andrew Nunn on 01479 841717.

**MOTORCYCLE** leather jacket. Classic rocker style, 36/38 inch chest. Not armoured. Hardly used, £25. Contact Pc Ian Parker on 01708 861075.

**ROOM** to let. Quiet cul-de-sac in Chafford Hundred with own garage and driveway. Male non-smoker preferred, £300pcm. Contact Graeme Roberts on 01375 413590.

**SWALEDALE.** Yorkshire Dales. Owned by a serving officer, two traditional cottages situated in the heart of Heriot country. Excellently furnished and equipped with colour tv, stereo/CD, fridge, cooker, coffee maker and many extras, including a real log fire. Directly on the coast to coast footpath it is ideal for hiking, cycling (hire available) or sightseeing. Sorry no pets or smokers. bookings being taken for winter and 1999. Ten per cent discount for police personnel. Contact Christine McKay on 01482 659430.

**TWO** bedroom flat, Benfleet, close to the station. Garage and car parking, £54,950. Contact John Collins on 07970 413679.

**WORD** processor, Sharp FW550 fontwriter, full instructions and spare discs. Suit student or person learning basics of computing. Includes spreadsheet, spell checker and Thesaurus, £120. Contact Peter Hesketh on 01277 364213.

**Hectic singing schedule**

SEPTEMBER will see the choir back in full swing, with three concerts in two weeks.

The first venue is St Bartholomew's Church at Holland-on-Sea, where we will be performing at 7.30pm on Friday, September 11.

The following weekend, on Sunday, September 20, the choir will be taking part in the Thanksgiving service for the emergency services at Christ Church, Warley.

This service starts at 10.30 and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Our final concert during September is a special one for us as it is intended to raise funds for the choir to assist in the purchase of music. See the advert on this page for more details.

Bill Fancourt

**Catch of the day**

FISHING isn't a sport renowned for illness and injury but a recent sea angling competition left one Essex officer so sea-sick he had to pull out.

The event was an invitation by the Metropolitan Police to Essex to take part in their Open Championships.

Two four man teams fished in rough and windy weather with Pc Clive Skingley winning the championships. Clive, Sgt Bob Sandford, ADs Dave Clark and Sgt Richards were the four man team who were runners-up.

The PAA Boat Sea Angling Championships were held with similar conditions.

At the end Dave Clark was pipped to the post by a Hampshire competitor.

Dave took runner-up and Clive Skingley, Dave Clark, Bob Sandford and Pc Corbett have been selected to fish in the nationals.

**Tough challenge**

WHEN a group of Essex constables tackled one of the best but most difficult orienteering areas in England they all performed well.

The men, all competing in the Novice event in Cumbria, had a tough course. Gary Simpson and Jason Burnham were competing for the first time and whilst Jason retired after a valiant effort, Gary finished in a creditable 5th place. This placement was just behind Steve King. Andrew Eves also competed.

Wendy Welham won the women's open event for the second time in three years.

Next year's PAA championship will be held at Malvern in Worcestershire.

Anyone who is interested in more information about local events or wants to try orienteering for the first time should contact Sgt Dave Birkett or Pc Wendy Welham at Chelmsford police station.

**Paul powers through the world rankings**



**AN Essex traffic officer has paddled his way into the canoeing world's top 20.**

Pc Paul Anderson, who lives and works in Chelmsford has just returned from the World Cup and World finals in Italy, Austria and Switzerland representing the 1998 Great Britain team.

The 26-year-old travelled to Europe ranked 31, but after six dramatic races in

very high water levels following a month of storms, he is now just 18th in the world.

This incredible feat makes him the highest ranked British athlete in the sport.

Paul began canoeing as a young cub scout and continued during his school days in Billericay.

Now he trains twice a day, and in addition to tough stints on the river, he runs long distance and lifts weights.

He said: "I have been canoeing for 11 years and my ambition is to be in the top six in the world."

Back from Europe he is now preparing for the 1999 European Championships in Slovenia and the 2000 World Championships in France.

● Paul Anderson canoeing in Mezzana, Italy, during the World Cup.

**Unlucky not to win**

SEVENTY-FOUR of the best golf players in the region travelled to Essex when the Police Golf Society hosted the No 5 Region PAA Golf Championships.

The competition was held at the prestigious Five Lakes Golf and Country Club, near Maldon.

There were four trophies to play for. These were individual competitions in both scratch and handicap, an individual Stableford competition, and a team category.

The standard of golfers was quite high, with over 10 players of less than five.

The weather, however, was not kind which spoiled an excellent competition over an excellent course and venue.

The practice day was windy and overcast, with all the visitors enthusing over the course and accommodation.

The rain began early on the championship day, with strong winds, but it was still

playable, and some good scores were entered.

Then in the afternoon it rained with a vengeance, and some players decided they had had enough and only played half their round.

The Essex players all played well but were unlucky not to bring home the silverware.

Winner for the individual scratch was Malcolm Reid from Thames Valley, Terry Brannan, from City of London, won the individual handicap. Stableford victory went to Bedfordshire's John Quigley and the team winners were City of London 'A'.

The prizes were presented after the championship dinner by ACC (D) Charles Clark, who is president of the Police of Essex Golf Society. Next year's championships will be hosted by City of London.

**Fire service win banger race**

ARENA Essex was the host for the third 999 Fayre Charity Banger Race, held in support of this year's fayre.

Local emergency services entered nine drivers in a ten lap race for the 999 Challenge Shield.

The race was a close set final between the fire service and the police. Essex Fire and Rescue Service were first across the line, winning the Doug Smith Memorial Trophy.

The crowd donated nearly £300 towards the fayre and together with the sponsorship raised by the drivers, the fayre which is being held at East Tilbury on Sunday August 16, promises to be one of the best ever.

Various acts and displays commence at 11 am starting with the Vander Brothers Aerial Display. There will be a Wild West Show, a dog display team and music by the Sutherland Pipe and Drum Band.

Personnel from the

emergency services will be on hand plus access to emergency service vehicles and equipment.

All profits made will go towards fire, police or ambulance benevolent funds and other nominated local charities.

**Lottery winners**

THE result of the August lottery was: £1,500 Pc Atkinson, Chelmsford Traffic, £1,000 M. Owers, Braintree, £500 Andrew Runyard, Colchester, £300 Pc S. Jarvis, Braintree, £200 Sgt N. Morris, Grays, £100 Sgt T. Haines, Rayleigh CPU.

Consolation prizes of £50 were awarded to Pc S. Keeble, Harwich, Sgt Baines, Southend, Pc W. Clark, EPTC, Dc R. Houghton, Basildon, Jenny Grinter, HQ, Pc M. Clark, FSU, Dc P. Chambers, Leigh, Moira, Green, HQ, Insp P. Culligan, FSU and Pc P. Moyes, Rayleigh.

**Band night will help orphans**

ROMANIAN orphans are to benefit from a musical extravaganza to held at headquarters Sports Pavilion.

The event takes place on Friday, August 14 from 8pm and will see two bands take to the stage.

First up are Rocking the Pig followed by The Dirty Stopouts. Both groups have police personnel in their line-up including Colchester SOA Craig Garwood and Chelmsford sergeant Jack Bentley, the contacts for each band.

Tickets are £4 each, which includes a buffet, and all proceeds will go to the Love and Light Foundation. A licensed bar will be available.

Tickets are only available in advance and can be obtained from Pc Tina Jenkins at HQ FIR, Craig Garwood at Colchester or Jack Bentley at Chelmsford.

  
**ESSEX POLICE CHOIR**  
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# Trio paddle into the record books

## Top team in cycling time trials

A TOTAL of nine medals were picked up by Essex at the National Cycling team trials.

The most notable achievement was the fastest veteran in both the 10 and 25 mile events. This victory went to Terry Anderson, from HQ General Services, with times of 23.22 and 1.00.34 respectively.

In the team event the Essex lads picked the fastest times in both categories.

The team comprised Pc Graham Waller, from Westcliff, Pc Mick St Leger, from Newport Traffic and Terry Anderson.

Although the individual placings didn't increase the medal tally, the performances were worthy of note.

In the 10 mile event, against 51 competitors, Graham Waller was 4th, Mick St Leger was 6th and Terry Anderson was 22nd.

In the 25 mile event, against 41 competitors, Graham Waller was 5th, Mick St Leger was 6th and Terry Anderson was 15th.

Other Essex competitors were Peter Carr, Alex Webb, Gary Webb and Tim Turner.

## Sports sale

THE sports shop at headquarters continues to open on Wednesday lunchtimes and Saturday mornings and there are still hundreds of bargains to be had.

Current giveaways include EPSA wrist watches being sold at the clearance price of £10. Seasonal oddments include cricketing and golfing apparel being cleared at huge discounts.

Due to annual leave the shop re-opens on August 10. Until then inquiries are being dealt with by Pc Chris Jacob on 01702 200033.

THE record books will now bear the name of Essex constable Ian Wilson, who canoed across to Ireland from Wales in the world's fastest time.

Ian, a detective in Harlow, was joined by Devon and Cornwall constable Sean Morley and Jim Morrissey, from Southern Ireland, for the attempt.

They knocked over one-and-a-half hours off of the previous record of

12hrs and 45mins, which was held by two men from Poole in Dorset.

The ordeal began at 6.30am on August 1 at White Sands, St David's in Pembrokeshire.

The good old British summertime was against them as they set off in gusts measuring four to five: It was cold and the swell was rising about two to three feet.

Ian explained: "The conditions meant we were paddling virtually into the wind. The waves were continually hitting us in the face for five hours and all of us were suffering some form of sea sickness."

But the trio battled on as the gusts gradually reduced to a three and then

a two allowing them to paddle flat out to the finish.

Visibility was good, however, and the group only lost sight of land for an hour. Reassuring to you and I, but frustrating for them.

"Seeing the land constantly can, in fact, be very annoying, because no matter how long you paddle it never seems to get any nearer."

Added to which both Global Positioning Systems broke leaving them with no true navigational picture. Using a VHF radio they had for emergencies, they contacted a ferry and used its position to ensure they were headed in the right direction.

After a gruelling 11 hours and six

minutes, surviving on a diet of bananas, carbohydrate drinks and muesli bars, they reached Rosslare ferry port to met by a welcoming committee of Jim's family.

No matter how horrendous this sounds, it isn't the most difficult feat Ian has tackled. Twice now he has taken part in the Devizes to Westminster which is 125 miles non-stop, having to get out and run with canoe around 79 locks. He intends to take part in that race again next year. And not settling for being top in the world, the trio hope to break their own Pembrokeshire to Rosslare record again next year, assuming no one else does it first.

## Training for the triathlon

AN Essex team is preparing itself to take part in the gruelling London triathlon on September 20.

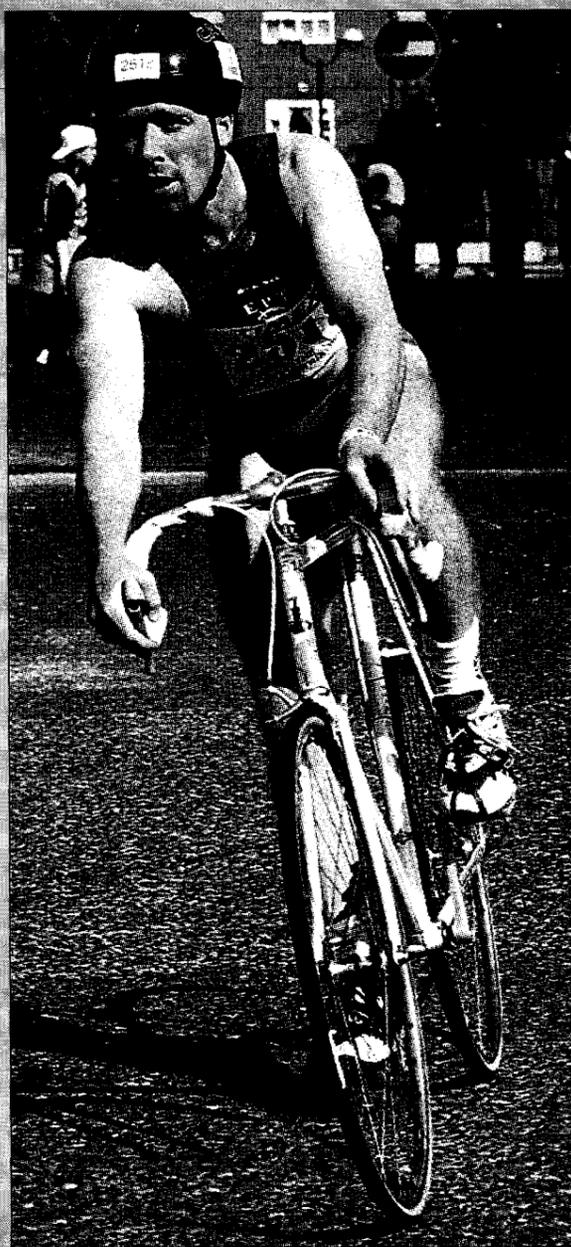
The televised event takes part in the Docklands area of the city with an Olympic distance swim of 1500m in Canary Wharf. This is followed by a 40k cycle and a 10k run.

This year's team comprises Sgt Pete Bryan, from Chelmsford Traffic, Pc Chris Mathlin, from Pitsea, Pc Paul McFadyan, from Brentwood, Pc Paul Purkiss, from Ongar, and Insp Mark Harman of HQ FIR.

Coming 4th last year, the team hope to better their times and at the same time raise money for charity.

Proceeds this year are being donated to the Dyslexic Institute, of which there is one in Chelmsford.

If anyone is prepared to sponsor the team they should contact Sgt Pete Bryan at Chelmsford Traffic.



● Paul McFadyan, pictured here in last year's event, hopes to help the Essex team to victory.

## Bowled over by John's hard work

AFTER at least a decade, the first competitive matches have been held on the infamous HQ cricket square.

Back in the 80s the square became notorious for its inconsistency, being declared too dangerous to play.

Now, after months and months of hard work from volunteer groundsman, John Rhymes, it is playing very well indeed.

The Force veterans have played three matches on their new home ground, actually winning one, with the other two going the distance.

What a great pity that now there is a ground and wonderful facilities, it is such hard work to put out 11 veteran players.

If there is anyone out there, around the 40 mark (or looks it), who wants a few mid

week games each season, the Force Sports Secretary would love to hear from you.

The details were:

Essex versus Cambridgeshire - Cambs 176 - Mark Frost 4 for 19, John Croot 3 for 37. Essex vets 157 for 6 - Chris Martin 52, Mark Merry 35 not out.

Essex versus West Midlands - Essex 124 - John Painter 37, John Stonehouse 34. West Midlands - 128 for 4 Alex Lockyer 2 for 24.

Essex versus West Midlands - West Midlands 211 for 8 - John Stonehouse : for 23, John Croot 2 for 42 Essex 215 for 7 - Chris Martin 63, John Croot 32 not out.

A heartfelt thanks is in order for John Rhymes for making the venue possible.

## For the love of cricket

THE Gents of Essex CID were asked to represent the P.G. Wodehouse XI v Dulwich College in the inaugural match, to celebrate the writer's life and love of cricket at his old school.

The college also educated the likes of T.E. Bailey and D.R. Wilcox, both of whom went on to captain the Essex County team.

Both teams played in a spirited fashion in a 25 over game. The college made 186, whilst the police responded with 126 and Peter English scoring 30 not out.

It is intended to be an annual memorial fixture and any CID officer wishing to play or attend the dinner afterwards should make contact with the club captain Det Insp Phil Mellon via HQ Special Branch.



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