



Treat for young heroes - P2



Special off-road excursion - P7



Michael's mad moment - P12

Major investigation launched as sex attacker strikes a second time

JOINT HUNT FOR SERIAL RAPIST

Designed to be a winner



THE artistic talents of Sherrie Comer won her a day out with the Essex Police marine unit in Rayleigh.

The prize was the result of a competition run by the newly formed Five Links Partnership which recently won a £2m bid to renovate a Laindon

housing estate.

It is hoped that Sherrie's contemporary design will reflect the eventual new and improved image of the estate, known previously by the community as 'Alcatraz'.

Photo: Sue Brazzill, HQ Photographic.

OFFICERS and support staff, across the south of England, are being asked to assist on a major investigation by Essex Police and British Transport Police.

Operation Catchment has been launched to hunt down a rapist who has struck twice, that we know of, in the last six years.

The first attack happened in January 1992, when a 25-year-old office worker walked to her car, parked by Brentwood railway station. He quickly, but quietly, grabbed her from behind, forced her to drive to an isolated area of the car park and raped her. Her handbag, which she dropped during the attack, was never recovered.

In March this year, on waste land adjacent to South Bermondsey railway station, a second woman was

By Kim White

attacked. Again she was grabbed from behind and raped before a small sum of cash was stolen.

Comparative work has revealed a number of striking similarities which indicate the same man is responsible and these were released to the public through a high profile press conference last week.

Led by Det Chief Supt Lee Weavers, who was flanked by senior investigating officers Det Supt Steve Reynolds and Det Supt Graham Satchwell (BTP), the message was clear - we will catch this man but we need the help of police officers, the media and the community to do so.

Mr Lee Weavers, said: "It is vital that all officers, as they go about their day to day duties, never lose sight of this inquiry. It may be they arrest someone, or simply suspect someone, capable of committing these horrendous crimes, even if they are only known to us for more minor offences.

"And, of course, support staff, particularly those dealing with prisoners, may be able to provide quality intelligence to help bring this man to justice."

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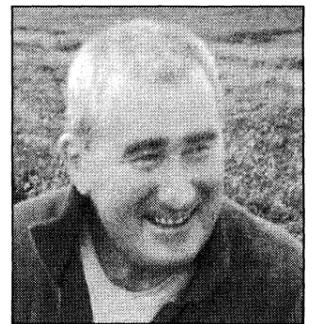
Sad loss of an extraordinary officer

THE sudden loss of weapons trainer, Bob Foster, has touched the hearts of many.

Assistant Chief Constable (Operations), Geoffrey Markham is just one friend and colleague who has paid a personal tribute to the former constable.

He said: "He was an extraordinary, well-known character who always gave his best. Employed as a weapons instructor he was able to pass on his skills and abilities to others. Many an officer has reason to be grateful to him. I shall miss him greatly."

A full tribute to Bob Foster can be found on page three with family letters on page 4.



● Bob Foster.

New photo driving licences

SINCE August this year photocard driving licences have been issued for new full and provisional licence holders.

Photocards for a full licence holder are pink, with green for provisional licences.

The plastic photocard licences are based on a handy to carry credit card format and they are accompanied by a paper counterpart which will hold similar details and a copy of the driver's signature but not the photograph.

The paper counterpart is similar to the old driving licence format, recording the different vehicles the driver can learn to drive, the driver's licence entitlement history and any endorsements or qualifications.

All licences issued after 2001 will have to have a photograph on them to meet conditions of an EC directive, with a gradual phasing out of the old licences.

The new licences will reduce instances of licence loaning to people unable or disqualified to drive and eliminate impersonation at driving tests.

Both parts must be produced to be a valid document.

Traffic treat for two young heroes



● Ross and Grant with Supt Doug Adams. Photo: Mark Frost, HQ Photographic.

TWO young brothers who prevented a crash when their mother fainted at the wheel of her car, were treated to a VIP day out by Essex Police traffic division.

Mrs Suzanne Kardhordo, of The Street, Rayne, passed out as she drove along remote Pods Lane, Shalford, with her sons Ross (8) and Grant (6) in the back seat.

Grant shouted: "There's something wrong with mummy."

Ross leant forward, took the steering wheel, directed the Ford Fiesta away from the bridge support and a deep ditch and brought it to a halt pulling on the handbrake and removing the ignition key. No-one was hurt and no other vehicle was involved.

Traffic officers were so impressed that they arranged a special day out for the boys with Essex Police.

They visited the driving school, force information room, the air support unit and the dog unit.

Supt Doug Adams, head of the traffic division, praised the boys for their good work and presented both with a certificate of outstanding achievement, a special commendation signed by the Chief Constable, an Essex Police tie pin, key ring and whistle and a bumper bag of sweets.

Significant step for injury claims

MEMBERS may have noticed the recent media coverage relating to the cases of *Page v Sheerness Steel*, and *Wells v Wells*, which have only recently been adjudicated upon by the House of Lords.

Interest may have been heightened by the fact that the lawyers responsible for the pursuit of this case were the Police Federation's retained solicitors, Messrs Russell, Jones and Walker.

This is one of the most important decisions in personal injury litigation since the Second World War. The ruling given by the House of Lords will result in a substantial increase in damages awarded for future long term care and future long term loss of earnings.

It is estimated that personal injury awards where there is a continuing loss element will be increased by approximately 30 to 40 per cent.

Accident victims will now recover full compensation

Federation Newline

by Terry Spelman



to cover their future loss of earnings and the cost of future care. In the past accident victims have received lesser compensation awards and were expected to gamble their damages on the Stock Market hoping that higher returns would be sufficient to replace their future losses.

The Law Lords ruling is a major victory for accident victims. No longer will they be expected to gamble their damages on the Stock Market. They will now be entitled to invest in Index

Linked Government Stocks and be assured that these are risk free with a guaranteed inflation proof return of approximately 3 per cent per annum.

By assuming that an accident victim will receive a lower return on invested damages the courts will now make larger awards for future loss of earnings and the cost of future care.

It is anticipated that where there is a continuing loss the awards accruing to successful plaintiffs will be increased by up to 40 per cent.

Pay award is still not final

AS I write this the pay award, which was recently negotiated at the Police Negotiating Board, is still with the Home Office for ratification.

I have purposely not published any details as the Secretaries of State for the Home Department have reserved their position which could mean everything in the garden is far from rosy.

If I receive any relevant information, I will inform you by message switch.

Increased benefits, same premiums

I HAVE recently negotiated an increase in benefits to the Group Life insurance scheme for the same premiums as from September 1. The revised benefits are:

Officers	£96,000	from £90,000
Officers' spouses	£32,000	from £30,000
Retired officers	£48,000	from £45,000
Retired officers' spouses	£16,000	from £15,000

Retiring into religion

AN Essex officer has taken early retirement to train as a Baptist minister in Kent.

As Jerry Newson, who was seconded to NCIS from 1991 until his retirement last month, starts a new life as a student at Spurgeons Bible College next week.

During his three years of training he will also live and work in Ashford as a part time student minister, supervised by a local senior minister.

Despite some predictable offers of Holy Water, Jerry says he has been overwhelmed by the positive reaction of his colleagues.

"Most people have recognised that this is not something that's happened overnight. The thought of doing it has actually been kicking around for well over five years and you don't go into doing something like this lightly," he adds.

His early retirement - he would have been too old to train had he waited until his 30 years were up - means he won't be able to claim his pension for a few more years.

But he says: "That's a sacrifice we're prepared to make and we think it will do us good, having been very comfortable for the past 26 years."

"From my point of view the last thing I wanted was for people to say it's OK for you, you're on a pension, you're only treating this as a hobby."

Jerry and his family have already been welcomed by the community at Ashford, who will be holding an official church service to welcome him. They have funded his post as a student minister.



● Jerry Newson

"I'm hopeful that in the next three years that I'm there to start with I will be able to help the church grow and develop, certainly in attendance numbers, and obviously provide opportunities for the community," he says.

"At the end of the period when I qualify, either the church will be built up a little and will be able to ask us to stay, because they can afford it, or alternatively I could move to any other church in the country by agreement with the church."

Jerry is also keen to make contact with the Kent branch of the Christian Police Association as well as keep in touch with his fellow members in the Essex branch.

"Retiring from NCIS means I've missed the opportunity saying goodbye and I would like to wish all those officers and folk in Essex who know me, the best for the future," he adds.

Anyone who would like to keep in touch with Jerry can write to him at 28 Brookfield Road, South Ashford, Kent TN23 4EY.

Offbeat

YOU know you're in for a bad day when you don't even make it out of your driveway without crashing your car.

Police were called to assist when a woman was moving her car from her steep driveway when the wheels dropped into a flower bed pushing the car over onto its side.

Fortunately the woman only suffered minor injuries.

□ □ □

TRAFFIC officers were clearly concerned when a motorist on the A12 spotted a motorcycle lying on the grass verge with no sign of the rider.

On arrival, however, police discovered it was, in fact, an inflatable parrot!

The workings of the crime line

MANY people have heard of Crimestoppers Trust, the charity that fights crime, but not many people know how it actually works.

Callers with information are asked to dial the national freephone number 0800 555 111. Information for Essex Police is taken on an allocated phone in the Force Information Bureau (FIB) weekdays between 8 am and 7 pm.

Outside those hours an answerphone message will ask callers to phone between the designated times as better information is received with personal contact.

The anonymous caller is given a code expression if they want a reward, although many callers do not, and are asked to call back in three months time.

All information received is sent to divisions for actioning.

Feedback forms are sent to FIB and if there has been a successful result an award is negotiated with the chairman of Crimestoppers for the informant.

The majority of calls are drug related with an average pay out of £250.

When the informant calls back after three months quoting their code they are told if they are entitled to a reward.

If so, a pre-arranged appointment is made for them at a bank in a town of their choice where they quote their code and receive their money with anonymity guaranteed throughout.

To celebrate its 10th anniversary a Crimestoppers Week will be held in October to raise funds.

A total of 85 people were arrested and £150,000 of drugs were recovered in Essex last year as a result of calls to Crimestoppers.

Detective Inspector Malcolm Oakey will be happy to give more information and provide links to local Crimestopper board members who may be able to assist divisions in marketing crime initiatives. Contact him on ext 52410.

Help us to bring rapist to justice

continued from page 1

There are a number of key similarities which need to be kept in mind.

Firstly, there is the description. It is believed the man is likely to be in his mid 20s to late 30s, 5ft 6ins to 5ft 11ins tall with a slim to medium build. He is white, but probably tanned and has short hair which is probably dark. He is likely to be clean shaven and have a London, but not particularly distinctive accent. Clearly this description is fairly broad but an E-fit and artist's impression is currently being circulated among officers.

The second similarity is his Modus Operandi. In both attacks he made a quick but quiet approach. He instantly took control with strong verbal instructions, threatening to hurt his victims if they didn't comply. However, he remained calm and at times was reassuring, implying his only motive was robbery. It is likely he had a knife, or another sharp implement but these were never clearly seen.

Most notable was the great efforts he went to to ensure his victims did not see his face. This was not done by any sort of mask or disguise, but by

the way in which he held his victims, and the verbal instructions he gave.

Both attacks also happened on land near railway stations. Experts, however, have suggested that railway stations may not be his only target. Any areas frequently used by lone females, need to be considered, such as parks, universities, hospitals etc.

Said Mr Weavers: "Police personnel need to digest all of these aspects and consider how they might be relevant to people or crimes they have dealt with in the past, or are dealing with now. Any intelligence, no matter how insignificant it might seem, needs to

be brought to the attention of the inquiry team to ensure an arrest is made at the earliest opportunity."

A freephone number has been set up, linked to both BTP and Essex Police to ensure any information from the public is received and dealt with as quickly and as efficiently as possible. This number is 0800 389 2873.

In the meantime any officers who have any information which might be relevant to this inquiry are asked to contact the Brentwood incident office on ext 76492 or via the freephone number.

Tribute to a man who was everybody's friend

By Kim White

FAMILY, friends and colleagues have been paying tribute to Bob Foster, an Essex constable who tragically died during a training exercise.

Pc Foster, usually based at headquarters as a weapons trainer, was on a rifleman's course in Yorkshire on August 10 when the shock news that he had collapsed and died of heart failure reached Essex.

Aged just 44, Pc Foster, had joined

Essex Police as a teenage cadet where he met, and later married his wife Roz. A keen interest in physical fitness saw him serve as a diver, a physical training instructor and eventually a weapons trainer. A 28 year career and three children later, his commitment continued with swimming and rugby lessons, just two of his extra curricula sports.

It is a characteristic his family will always remember. Roz explained: "Bob was very sporty. It was through his encouragement that I took up women's rugby at the age of 40 and loved it. In fact, when he died we'd only just come back from a holiday in Cornwall where we'd cycled 30 miles on a tandem and did a lot of hill walking. There was certainly no sign that he was ill."

A true family man, he always made time for his children Paul, Robert and Emily. Said Roz: "It was a side of him that a lot of people didn't see. He

always said our time together was precious and thought the world of the kids, making time to spend with them."

In time honoured tradition Pc Foster's funeral was held at Chelmsford Cathedral complete with Guard of Honour and the Essex Police Band accompanying a moving rendition of *Abide With Me*. The service was conducted by the Provost, The Very Reverend Peter Judd and Chelmsford Police Chaplain, The Reverend Katy Hacker-Hughes and *Against All Odds* by Phil Collins was chosen by Pc Foster's family to mark the occasion. It was standing room only as an overwhelming number arrived to pay their last respects.

Assistant Chief Constable (Operations) Geoffrey Markham addressed the congregation, as did friend and former colleague Pc Kevin Nowell who talked of Bob's "impressive strength of character".

Pc Nowell said: "Bob was blunt, straight-talking and liked to call a spade a spade. He would never have been invited to Mrs Bucket's dinner parties but if the going got tough it's Bob I would have wanted in my corner. He was my friend and will be sorely missed."

The grand send-off was of great comfort to his family as friends arrived from all walks of life. Even Harry Fuller, the couple's drill sergeant from their days as cadets, was present.

"I was so pleased that so many people were able to come," said Roz. "I wanted the funeral to be a celebration of his life. As much as he would have said he didn't want the fuss, deep down he liked a bit of pomp and ceremony and I am sure he was looking down on us all and smiling that day. We think he deserved it."



● An overwhelming number of people paid their last respects to Bob Foster at his funeral in Chelmsford.

Photo by HQ Photographic

User friendly for the year 2000

THE Chief Constable's Year 2000 Project Group has been formed to concentrate on IT items which fall outside the major development programme for IT systems.

This includes the unknown extent to which computer systems and other items containing electronic chips will be affected by the millennium.

A full audit and risk assessment of items concerned has been carried out

with technical and logistical strategies put in place to test suppliers claims that high risk items are year 2000 friendly.

There will be a phased overhaul of items with a lesser risk.

Thanks are due to all IT staff who have volunteered to be on hand for the millennium holiday which will be from December 31 to January 4 to deal with any problems which arise.

Court puts CS to the test

OFFICERS using CS spray against suspected drink-drivers need to be aware of temporary guidelines which are in place.

In an ongoing court case, a defendant has claimed that the alcohol propellant within the spray led to a positive reading on the Lion intoximeter.

As a result, the Forensic Science Service is in the

process of carrying out a number of tests and the CPS has suggested an interim measure while the case and the tests are concluded, which should be some time in October.

Police officers should ensure there is a full one hour delay between the actual discharge of the spray and the taking of any samples.

Law letters

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

Criminals profit from progress

I WAS amused at the observation of the Poetical Prisoner. He finishes: "I shake my head and wonder is this what they call progress?" It is.

Human nature is less vicious from the days of hanging, drawing and quartering. But the opportunities for profitable crime are more today! And criminals are more enterprising.

Eric Naylor
Thundersley

Final reminder to comrades

THIS is a final reminder that the Comrades' Association 74th anniversary autumn luncheon will take place on Friday, October 16 at 1pm at police headquarters.

If you have any special dietary requirements let me know as soon as possible.

The bar will be open from 11.30am to 3.30pm. Please ensure that your booking forms, together with a cheque for £13.50 are sent to me at the police federation office at headquarters, no later than Monday, October 5. Tickets will be issued on October 12.

Unfortunately, for administrative reasons, any bookings after this date can only be included in the final numbers, in exceptional circumstances.

Those attending are reminded that there are parking restrictions in several of the streets surrounding police headquarters.

Dave Jones, Federation

Videos have got your security covered

I WAS interested to read George Harnett's letter in *The Law* (August) reference NW information videos.

South Woodham Ferrers NW has for the last three years attempted to generate interest in developing a NW training/information video using a modular concept.

Each module would be able to be viewed independently without having to watch the whole video. For example if you're about to launch a new group it would only be necessary to show the NW best practice for this aspect; if you are postcoding possessions you watch the security marking section; if you need to train members on how to describe a

suspicious character you view the appropriate part of the video. We have tried local companies, voluntary organisations and the Police Video Section without a positive response, although the Video Section was extremely helpful. We have also written to the Steering Committee for the new Essex NW Association - still awaiting a response.

If Mr Harnett needs information on the Essex Police Video library, the contact is via the Community Safety Group (Crime Prevention Office) at Police HQ. They hold a number of NW information videos. Unfortunately, it's a long way to go to pick them up.

Free home security information videos can be obtained from a number of insurance companies - HOME BEAT presented by Nick Berry can be obtained from Guardian Royal Exchange/Suffolk Constabulary. The Prudential also issue a free home security video. We have for many years now broadened the base of our NW scheme by making it a community safety group and, consequently, we additionally use first aid videos and an excellent fire safety video presented by Andrew Kazamia (London's Burning) which can be obtained free of charge from Guardian Insurance, 84 Princes St., Ipswich, IP1 1RY, Tel 01473

205600. The videos distributed by insurance companies normally require you to ask for an insurance quote of some description.

Mr Harnett may also be interested to note that the National NW Association is about to issue a training package including, would you believe - two information videos.

And finally, there is an interesting article in this quarter's (April, May, June) issue of the Crime Prevention News entitled "Partnership video - the secrets". If anyone else has any other information of NW information videos please let me know.

Barry Smith
South Woodham Ferrers

Us dinosaurs had it tough too!

Thanks for kind wishes

MAY I through your paper and, on behalf of my brother Terry Cochrane, thank Essex Police, and those in the service who knew Pamela Cochrane, for all their support and kind wishes during her long illness and subsequent death.

I know Terry has sent many personal letters of thanks to those he knew, but I would like to thank everyone else, most of whom I did not know, for their support and kind wishes.

Pamela fought long and hard against all odds with fortitude and without losing her wonderful humour, an inspiration to us all.

Thank you all again, especially to those who attended the funeral at Wickham Bishops. I am sorry that the arrangements did not allow time to thank all in attendance. I know Terry took great comfort in the knowledge that so many attended from Essex Police and, in particular the Information Room.

Ex Pc Brian Cochrane
Chelmsford

I WAS interested to read in the August edition of *The Law* of a proposed new probationer training system. From what was printed in the article this did not sound very 'new' but rather a return to something nearer the old.

At the introduction of the last system, ie modular with self assessments, I had been involved with the tutoring of probationers for over 16 years. I was then told, in order to learn how to do it, I must attend a course.

I found it impossible to muster the necessary degree of commitment to continue in this role so I withdrew from 'official' tutoring. I had also heard from recruits coming back from training school that 'young blood' was required for future tutors. Upon my decision to

step down I was told I was a 'dinosaur' who could not accept change.

I also had to smile when I read of the complaints from our latest new recruits about the difficulties arising from the latest system trial at Harrogate. Please don't feel too hard done by.

I recall that during my initial training I had a 200 mile round trip if I wanted to make a weekend home visit. Many of my then colleagues from farther flung outposts of, the then, No.5 District had even more travelling than that. I should also add we had to fit this in with what was left of the weekend after not being able to get away until classes ended at lunchtime on Saturday.

On top of this, for the first two months of this course, if anyone had the luxury of owning a motor vehicle, it's presence on training school property was strictly forbidden. So any private vehicles had to be 'lodged' some two miles away, following a 'cloak and dagger' deal with a local coach operator who had some highly valuable plots, so long as you didn't

mind running the risk of your car being hit by the occasional double decker. The extra travelling to collect your transport added to the risk of being killed in the rush when those precious few hours of the weekend finally arrived. This again was only if you were lucky and your name didn't come out of the hat for the dreaded weekend 'duty squad' who had to remain to patrol the grounds of the training school for security reasons whilst everyone else made the great escape.

Oh yes, we also had to learn the Law and sit exams. In fact, some learned the Law so well we were still trying to put the same Law into practice some 29 years later. Pity it had the habit of changing!

I'm pleased that at least, more recently, dinosaurs have enjoyed an upsurge in popularity with the advent of Jurassic Park etc, so perhaps it wasn't so bad being branded as one after all!!!

Dave Rose,
Cambridge

Amazed at how many lives he touched

TO all our friends,

I would like, through *The Law* to thank everyone for all their kind thoughts since Bob's death.

Although Bob was very special to myself and our children, I have been amazed at just how many lives he touched.

I would especially like to thank Kev Nowell for his speech at the

funeral. His words drew a true picture of Bob as we will remember him.

Once again, Paul, Robert, Emily and myself would like to thank everyone for all their love and support during this sad time.

Thank you.

Roz Foster
Chelmsford

I AM writing to express my gratitude, and that of my family's, to Essex Police and everyone who showed such kindness and consideration after the untimely death of my brother Robert Foster.

The help and support that was so freely given has been a great comfort to all his family and made a difficult time a little easier to bear.

I know that all the arrangements took so much time and effort, particularly for the formal funeral,

but altogether this was a very sad occasion.

It also allowed his family to feel some peace in the tributes that were made, and the fact he had touched so many peoples lives.

All the flowers cards and messages of sympathy have meant so much to us.

On behalf of my parents, sisters, (Jo Clare and Ellie) and brother (Tom) please accept our thanks.

Julia Jeapes
Chelmsford

A Euro contradiction

YOUR correspondent Dave Hurrell contradicts himself in his letter fulminating against the European Union in your June issue. On the one hand, he says that we might as well shut the Houses of Parliament down and sell them brick by brick, since EU law supercedes UK law, but on the other, he says that our MPs only enact the directives they want to.

The truth is that EU law has precedence only in those areas - consumer protection, consumer credit and data protection for example - where, because of an international element, it would be anomalous to have differing standards in different countries. In other areas, the law is left in the hands of each state.

Where a directive is produced, our Parliament is required to enact it. One recent example of that has been the directive requiring a new Act to replace the Data Protection Act 1984, bringing all EU countries broadly into line. This in the UK has just been done.

Going off at a tangent, Mr Hurrell then tells us that the EU is a form of communism. Pardon? We are talking about the same EU, are we? The largest economic unit - a pretty capitalist one, too - outside the USA and Japan? Communism centralises everything to the state. But in his first paragraph, he says we are part of a federalist state - the very opposite of communism, since the nations within a federal state retain autonomy on internal matters. Having it both ways again.

There is, it has to be admitted, plenty wrong with the EU; it is, after all, run by human beings. But those opposed to it do their cause no good by the type of xenophobia displayed in Mr Hurrell's letter. If the EU is indeed dominated by France and Germany, we should ask ourselves why - could it be because until very recently we have been so half-hearted about it right from the start?

Frank Card
Braintree

Changes should help plans for increased community safety

Officers set to cross the boundaries

By Heather Watts

THE announcement by the Home Secretary to change the boundaries of the Metropolitan Police District by April 1, 2000, has led to a working group consisting of senior representatives from Essex, Surrey and Hertfordshire.

They will address matters of mutual concern, including effective liaison with staff from all the forces involved.

The change has come about with the forthcoming elections of a Mayor for London meaning that the police boundaries fit in with the local populations political boundaries.

Deputy Chief Constable Charles Clark said "The changes will bring the whole of the Epping Forest District Council area within the Essex Police boundary. This will improve working arrangements as the Crime and Disorder Act is implemented."

Areas coming into the Essex Police District will be Buckhurst Hill, Waltham Abbey, Debden, Chigwell and Loughton.

This will lead to a population increase of 4.8% in the Essex Police District, to a total of 1,586,159 people.

An in-force project team under the chairmanship of Deputy Chief Constable Charles Clark together with the Essex Police Authority will manage the transition of policing from

the Metropolitan Police to Essex Police.

Chief Inspector Steve Currell has been appointed project manager heading a small team of staff working at Headquarters.

There will be major short and long term financial implications for Essex Police, and negotiations are currently taking place with the Home Office regarding transitional funding.

Research is ongoing into the impact of the change.

Initial research has highlighted the main issues to be the police funding formula, personnel issues, pay and allowances, pensions and the transfer of assets.

To aid the transition it is proposed that two new temporary bodies are established, the Central Consultative Group and the Essex Consultative Group.

The Central Consultative Group

will monitor progress of all the parties involved in the changeover process establishing common criteria and approaches where appropriate. They will resolve issues where agreement cannot be found.

The Essex Consultative Group members will be responsible for liaising with the Central Consultative Group, providing a forum for hearing views, representation and concerns from members of the public and local bodies in Essex in relation to the boundary changes.

Essex Police employees will be kept up to date with proposals and an "In Touch" leaflet will be produced at a later date. All staff associations are being consulted, however if there are any issues that staff feel the project team should consider they should route them through their command team or staff association representative.

Points from the past

ONE YEAR AGO

A DATABASE was set up to help keep track of paedophiles in Essex and plans got under way to produce a new digital radio system for officers.

FIVE YEARS AGO

WARTIME sirens wailed out to herald the launch of the new county flood plan.

Prickly crime prevention initiative - *Burglaris Disembowlis* grew on the public imagination.

The initiative, which promoted the strategic planting of particular shrubs to form an impenetrable boundary around properties, proved an overwhelming success.

15 YEARS AGO

LADY Daphne Margaret Peel, widow of former Chief Constable Jonathon Peel, died aged 71.

25 YEARS AGO

FOLLOWING a trial period the visual average speed computer and recorder, VASCAR, was introduced into Essex Police patrol cars.

Officer loses leg in accident

AN Essex constable has lost his leg after being involved in a road accident in Billericay.

Justin Baker (25), based at Stansted Airport, was a pedestrian when he was struck by a Ford Fiesta.

Despite excellent efforts by surgeons, they had no option but to amputate his leg a couple of days after the accident.

Justin is now recovering in Orsett Hospital and will face about eight months of out-patient appointments once he is back home.

While he decides what to do with his future, Essex Police is providing him and his family any support they require.

Justin's divisional commander, Supt Allan Taplin, said: "He's a very nice lad and it's tragic that this accident has put paid to the bright career that he had ahead of him. We wish him all the best in his recovery."

Meanwhile Justin is keen have visits from his colleagues. If you want to visit you should contact Sgt Greg Potter at the airport or Sgt Dave Joseph at Pitsea.

Super sleuth Sherlock finds missing woman

FOLLOWING their training super sleuths Sherlock and Morse will be operational from the beginning of October.

The bloodhounds, who have been trained to follow a specific scent, can be used to track suspects making off from crime scenes and will be particularly useful in finding missing people.

Sherlock had his first sniff of success recently when he managed to find a missing 59-year-old woman.

To a bloodhound, a person's smell is as individual as DNA. They can trace individuals even through a jumbled crime scene.

However, Pc Fish said: "It is vitally important that when a scent article has been identified, it is not disturbed

or handled by anyone other than the bloodhound handler.

"If for any operational reason the article needs to be moved it should be picked up using a stick, coat hook etc, and placed in a clean paper or plastic bag. Secondly be as accurate as you can regarding where the suspect was last seen and preserve that area as best as possible."

Items could include anything handled, touched or worn, body fluids, the interior of a car or point of entry/exit of a crime scene.

It should be remembered that a bloodhound is not trained to restrain any suspects, so although not useful in every case advice will be given by the handlers who can be contacted via FIR.

Chernobyl children's special day out



● One young lad leaves his mark at Corringham Police station.

CHILDREN on a special trip to England, staying with host families in Corringham and Stanford Le Hope, had a day out at Corringham police station.

This is the third year that Belarussian children from Chernobyl have come to England for a month to recuperate. The five girls and six boys all aged 11 or 12 were accompanied by an interpreter.

Most of them have medical problems as a result of the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl. Some of them are orphans.

Sponsors raise money for the children's visit throughout the year, the air fares alone costing nearly £4,000.

They have stayed at a holiday camp in Caister, visited the Houses of Parliament and been on various other trips.

They thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the police station which included a tea party. Police horse Cormack and two police dogs came along but the highlight was the sirens and lights on the police car and motorbike. They all found the fingerprinting fascinating, taking home a print of their fingers as a souvenir of the day.

It's a gas

FORD dealers Perrys have handed over a bi-fuel Ford Escort car to Rayleigh Division.

The innovative car will be on loan for a year and will be used by two inspectors responsible for community safety under the new Crime and Disorder Act.

Representatives from partners Rochford District Council and Castle Point Borough Council were also present.

This is the first bi-fuelled car for Essex Police. It can run on conventional petrol as well as liquified petroleum gas which is stored in a tank in the boot well.

The tank which is the same shape and size as a spare tyre holds enough fuel for the car to travel 250 miles.

At the moment outlets for the fuel are limited but there are plans to introduce them at garages throughout the country.

Just the flick of a switch changes the choice of fuel.

Liquified petroleum gas is ecologically friendly, particularly important in an urban environment, as well as being economical.

It costs just 39p a litre which includes duty at 10p.

Perrys and Essex Police will closely monitor the car's performance and economy.

Ensuring there's no p

PUTTING the right people in the right place at the right time, doing the right job in the right way.

That's the ultimate aim of changes taking place under the recently introduced Crime Division - refocusing policing towards intelligence.

The intelligence service and crime squad nationally (NCIS and NCS) now concentrate their work on the top criminals which leaves county forces to take stock of those lifestyle criminals committing offences in more than one area.

Director of Intelligence, Det Supt Mick Payne, explained: "It means there is a need for Essex Police to tackle the problems of criminals who transcend both

divisions and force boundaries. The refocusing of FIB will target those criminals."

Clearly the officers within the department will continue to facilitate intelligence which is developed by the national organisations, setting the standards for the intelligence process within Essex Police. In addition, however, there will be enhanced support to officers.

It was reported in *The Law* in May that Essex Police had recruited its first ever principal analyst, Allison Bowers, who has already got her teeth into many projects liaising closely with divisions. This support will be further increased by the recruitment of two other analysts - Ed Mansfield and Steve Dorman - who will be in place shortly.

Their role will be to identify and monitor the cross border operational crimes and criminals and ensure FIB is able to paint a complete picture of the problems.

This will be done via a central desk dealing with specialisms such as prisons and paedophiles, but also through area desks.

Akin to the set up in the force information room, the area desks

will be responsible for close liaison with their respective divisions sharing intelligence and offering them the support they require.

Det Supt Payne said: "In the future FIB will be able to assist divisions in both disrupting and arresting cross-border and lifestyle criminals. The centrally-based officers will also be able to give them strong leads and a direction to follow in the furtherance of intelligence."

Weekly co-ordinating and tasking meetings attended by crime, traffic and operations divisions will ensure all identified problems are discussed along with the demand on resources. The aim of the meetings is to place the resources with the most appropriate jobs, not only providing best value but also falling in line with force objectives.

"These meetings will ensure resources are better allocated to divisions," said Det Supt Payne. "It will result in better communication across Essex Police with divisions aware of where resources are being tasked. This way everyone can be confident that the right jobs are getting done."

CENTRAL DESK
Dc Pauline Foreman

NORTHERN
Dc Kevin S

Kim White takes a look at changes within the Crime Division

SOME of the more serious crimes criminals within the county are targeted by a new Drugs and Serious Crime Squad, formed from elements of the CI. From October 1, two tactical teams replace the current major investigation drugs and crime ops sections in headquarters' offices, moving to a new at Brentwood next year.

Headed by DCI Peter Hamilton, teams will each comprise an inspector, sergeants and 14 constables. DI N Clark, with sergeants Robin Wyatt Barry Wix, will run one, while DI Go McIntyre will be backed by Brian W and Dave Cook.

DCI Hamilton said: "It is a fact that of serious crime is connected to it. Therefore these officers will be dealing a similar type of work to before but with a comprehensive team approach rather than concentrating on individual aspects of crime."

Research into crime investigation shown that there appears to be a gap at a level of the middle to serious offences, lifestyle criminal and drug dealers particularly since the regional crime squads were merged to form a national squad.

IN a "natural split" scientific support has become separated from FIB and TSU and, under the guidance of DCI Tom Harper, now forms part of the Crime Division.

Bringing Essex in line with the national model of good practice, encompassing fingerprints, photographic and chemical enhancement, the moves also take divisional scenes of crime officers back under central control, another national recommendation.

DCI Harper said: "It makes sure we are only dealing with scientific support and not getting bogged down with other issues. We now have the right mix. Although officers are under central control they are physically working alongside the right people."

It is an area of police work which plays a vital role in intelligence and therefore has a place firmly within the newly developed Crime Division.

"Everything we do is gathering intelligence," said DCI Harper. "That's why we're working very closely with the rest of the division so that we can know the value of the intelligence we are supplying in terms of detections."

Until now it's been difficult to keep track of how much of the intelligence obtained is converted into detections, once the evidence has been passed on to divisions.

Other national changes will also have an impact on the use of scientific intelligence within Essex.

Officers will already be aware of the current 16 point standard, the submission of fingerprint identifications as evidence in court. This standard, however, is due to be abolished.

DCI Harper explained: "The abolition of this benchmark will bring fingerprint evidence in line with forensic science evidence. The advantage is that it will allow, for the first time, fingerprint experts to put their opinions before the court, backed by qualifications and experience."

The disadvantage is that it will allow the defence to challenge the credibility of those experts, something, to date, they haven't had to face.

But in the view of DCI Harper it is definitely the way forward.

He said: "Most scientists can eliminate evidence or, on the other side of the coin, can see there's a good indication that the officer is on the right track. More and more scientists are providing officers with intelligence, even if it's not conclusive, with all partial identifications in Essex sent to the OIC."

"As the abolition of the 16 point standard will make these partial identifications admissible, it can only be seen as a positive move. It will also make it a necessity that our experts are properly trained and our documentation is spot on."

In addition to these changes it has been previously reported in *The Law* that Essex Police will join NAFIS, the National

Automated Fingerprint Ident System, eventually releasing itself from the Automated Fingerprint Register (AFR). The date of this move has been brought forward to May.

DCI Harper said: "We are heartened by the move. It should give us access to matches with the Met, Hertfordshire and Kent."

Divisional Commander, Crime Lee Weavers says of the changes:

"WE have put together a new, but highly experienced, team to reshape and lead the Essex Police response to crime."

Through savings and additional money being made available by chief officers, over £1m is being spent on staff, accommodation, IT and operational equipment.

A fresh approach to intelligence gathering and analysis, major crime investigation, cross-border and inter-divisional crime, along with readily available support for territorial divisions is essential if we are to respond to the challenges of the Crime and Disorder Act.

As well as my operational role, I am also looking at forcewide policy and procedures with a view to improving our performance in crime reduction, detection and reducing the fear of crime.

The divisions new focus and revision of policies for divisional intelligence, crime desks and crime reporting will, I am certain, have immense operational benefit to everyone on the ground.

Eradication of duplicated effort, unnecessary bureaucracy, and an end to ALL officers constantly having too little time to conduct successful, good quality investigations is now a key objective in our overall crime strategy. "

EXTRA resources are to be fed into divisions to help maximise intelligence and provide consistency in terms of the way intelligence on division is handled.

By introducing an intelligence analyst post on division it is hoped this approach to policing will be enhanced, providing police assistance to operational officers.

FOUR senior investigating officers are working across the county in response to the increasing number of major incidents that require more detailed investigation and the need for 24 hour cover.

A new policy on the staffing of major inquiries is about to be published and the approach to inquiries to be reviewed in preparation of the introduction of HOLMES II next year.

Six additional indexers will also join the Incident Room Support team in response to demand and the high level of divisional abstractions.

DUE to difficulties with the intelligence of EPICS, it has been agreed for FIB to introduce a new system in October. If successful, it will be a roll out programme next year.

The system will be simplistic, time-saving and integrated with the ability to even search across crime recording and intelligence recording and should lead to better quality intelligence packages.

RECENT legislation changes paved the way for many opportunities within the Crime Division.

A key aim of the Crime and Disorder Act is to form leadership groups and community partnerships to help target specific problems within the county.

This has already proven worthwhile with the introduction of the Sex Offenders and Abusers Database. The project not only enables different agencies to share

information about known sex offenders, it has the potential to identify unknown paedophiles and abusers.

The data is invaluable for both monitoring and supervising offenders and protecting youngsters from the threat of abuse.

It is hoped that work within the Crime and Disorder Act will identify other areas of intelligence which lend themselves to a partnership approach.

Place to hide

DESK SUPERVISOR

Glen Maleary

SK

WESTERN DESK
Dc Mick Barlow

SOUTHERN DESK
Dc Jeff Herbert

April.

The new squad aims to address this problem but still provide support to territorial divisions.

The teams will be self-sufficient, with the exception of specialist assistance such as technical support. Officers from the teams will do all their own background inquiries, covert armed and unarmed surveillance, arrest and deal with their own prisoners and cultivate their own intelligence sources, targeting the criminals rather than the crime.

The new teams will only become involved in the most serious of major inquiries, or when demands on the force reach very high levels. Then they will be deployed en bloc and for specific tasks of a set duration.

Although operationally self-sufficient, the tactical teams will still rely heavily on divisions to feed them intelligence via FIB. It is through this route that the new squad will accumulate most of its inquiries.

They will take on those packages which have, in the past, been simply too resource intensive or difficult to be handled at divisional level, but not serious enough to meet

the criteria of the regional crime squad.

DCI Hamilton said: "From my experience there are people in most divisions who officers know are involved in high level crime, and unless divisions strike lucky during a stop check or specific incident or piece of intelligence, divisions just don't have the resources to deal with them."

"With the new system we should both fill an unsatisfactory gap in crime investigation, and increase the opportunities, among all officers, to become more involved in intelligence-led policing and major crime."

Working in conjunction with the Drugs and Serious Crime Squad will be a specialist investigative unit comprising the fraud, cheque and stolen vehicle squads. The roles and duties of these sections are currently being reviewed to ensure they are dealing with the right level of inquiries and enable them to become more proactive, either alone or in conjunction with the tactical teams, particularly in areas such as financial investigation, money laundering etc.

This third team should be in place by April 1.

ALTHOUGH divisions won't notice any significant changes in respect of Special Branch there have been management changes which serve as an opportunity to remind personnel of the work the unit does and the intelligence it is seeking.

Head of Special Branch, DCI Peter Coltman is now also Deputy Director of Intelligence. Meanwhile the two headquarters-based inspectors have had their responsibilities realigned, with one taking the role of senior port officer and the other, a divisional role.

The new position allows a lot more emphasis on policing the ports, and issues such as illegal immigration, targeting the organisers of human trafficking.

In the broader sense the major concern on the unit is still to combat the threat of terrorism.

Said DCI Coltman: "Developments in Northern Ireland indicate a real chance of some lasting peace. However we cannot ignore the fact that there are some people who are as intent today on acts of terrorism as they have ever been."

The other, equally worrying prospect is some form of attack from

international terrorists.

Public order is an area which can also gain great support from Special Branch providing vital intelligence to commanders who then pre-empt situations involving groups such as animal rights activists.

In addition there is a role to play in ensuring that innocent companies don't inadvertently assist any major weapons programmes through the supply of products or equipment.

There is currently an international agreement banning the spread of nuclear and biochemical

weapons. Special Branch officers regularly liaise with companies to raise awareness on these issues and then share information with Customs and other agencies.

Last, but not least, officers provide an armed protection service to VIPs and royalty on county visits.

Although very complex issues divisional personnel are a prime source of information.

DCI Coltman said: "Any officers with knowledge of intelligence about anything going on in these areas should share it with SB so that it can be assessed."

TEST purchasing has become a field of expertise for Essex Police with officers regularly being consulted by other forces.

This and other specialist operations, such as undercover work and witness protection, now form part of a new unit within the Crime Division.

The day to day operation is being run by Ds Arthur Brown and has already proven a success in both supporting officers in their operational objectives and putting the 'untouchables' before the court.

As well as the areas outlined in this feature, the Crime Division also embraces the Child Protection, Technical Support, Incident Room Support, Drug Trafficking and Financial Investigation, Disclosure and Phoenix Support.

Smiles for miles



● Jamie Robson (8) and Christopher Deboik (9) enjoy a trip in a police off road car with the able assistance of Sc Dermot McGoudrick. Photo courtesy of the Essex Chronicle Series.

BOXER Frank Bruno helped bring smiles to the faces of 56 children, when Essex Police organised a special day out.

The youngsters, all from special needs schools in Baddow, Billericay and Basildon, began their day at a photo call at Granada Services in Thurrock with Assistant Chief Constable (Operations) Geoffrey Markham.

Frank Bruno met the group in Thurrock having presented every single child with a special t-shirt and medal.

Organiser DCI Dave Halsey, said: "Frank chatted to the children and signed autographs. All of them were completely knocked out."

The children were then taken by bus - supplied by Eastern National and Arriva Transport - to The Hop Farm Centre in Kent.

Here they were given a barbecue lunch, supplied by the army, and an exhilarating trip around an off-road 4x4 course in a variety of vehicles, many privately owned by police officers and civilians.

Landrover also took their famous Judge Dredd vehicle, featured in the Mad Max movie, to the site.

Other attractions included shire horses and an animal farm.

Dave Halsey said: "It was a complete success. All the cars got very very muddy but there wasn't a child in sight who didn't have a grin from ear to ear."

The Federation donated £500 to the event and other money was raised through local businesses.

The voice of support staff

THE views and concerns of support staff across the county are represented at regular meetings of the Support Staff Committee.

Individuals have recently been elected to be the voice of their individual department or division.

They will use the forum for consultation

regarding all matters on the JNCC agenda, and for other matters raised by support staff which are not the prerogative of the recognised trade unions.

If you have a concern you want raised you will find the name of your representative in the list below.

Represented area	Name	Ext number
Braintree	Robert Malseed	63536
Basildon (including CJD)	Sheila Hicks	42850
Chelmsford (including CJD and crown court liaison)	Trudie Livermore	60707
Tendring	Marilyn Mayo	19320
Colchester (including CJD)	Reg Burling	10091
Thurrock (including CJD)	Alan Platt	70712
Harlow (including CJD)	Pauline Ellis	20517
Southend (including CJD)	Jacqui Barrett	30600
Rayleigh (including central ticket office)	Sandra Cotton	36920
Stansted	Lydia Coen	22307
Traffic (including Laindon, Harlow and Stanway)	Kerri Francis	58322
FIR	Hazel Hallsworth	53340
HQ: crime support, EPTC, media and public relations, CID OPs and operations	Ian Steele	50850
HQ: admin and technical services and finance	Sheila Johnson	50650
HQ: information technology, personnel, complaints and discipline, corporate support, CJD (HQ only) and community safety	Sara-Jane Claydon	54052

Emergency services fayre raises charity funds

THE weather may have been unpredictable this summer but the sun burned through for the annual 1998 Fayre in Thurrock, with huge numbers flocking to East Tilbury.

Organised jointly by Essex Police, Essex Fire and Rescue and the ambulance services, the event is a charity fundraiser.

Attractions included a dog display team, wild west show, Second World War gun demonstration and a mock major incident involving all of the emergency services.

Special constables from the division also manned their own information stand.

Proceeds from the day went to the Emergency Services Benevolent Fund and other local charities.

Minding your coppers

POLICE Mutual is offering a unique opportunity to make savings go further with the 1998 Money spinner 10 year savings plan.

The plan is one of the most successful and popular policies offered by the society, with high guarantees and Double Death Benefit security.

Open to all members of the police service, including support staff, officers' spouses and their adult children, the offer was taken up by over 13,000 last year.

Individuals are free to decide their level of saving and there's no limit to the number of policies that can be taken out, so members can top up their savings as often as they wish.

For more information contact the Police Mutual Assurance Society on 01543 414191.

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



● Traffic wardens at Hadleigh police station show off their flower display.

Blooming good show

CASTLE Point in Bloom was a recent competition which was entered for the first time by Hadleigh Police. Due to the hard work of the ladies at Hadleigh police station they received a special achievement award in the shop front category.

Many of the containers used for plants were very innovative. A redundant policeman's helmet made an excellent hanging basket and a pair of boots too worn for pounding the beat provided a snug home for some geraniums.

Wake up to fatigue

IN conjunction with Essex Police, Commercial Motor and Volvo, the road safety organisation Brake is holding a one-day seminar on fatigue for road transport professionals.

Unlike drink-driving or speeding, fatigue is not easy to identify as a cause of a crash, but the seminar will explore both possible causes and best practices for elimination. Academics, police, manufacturers and operators will also provide practical ways to reduce the risks of fatigue.

The event will take place on September 15 at the UCI cinema at Lakeside Shopping Centre, Thurrock.

Detective went to Rwanda for three months - three years later he's back

War crimes work changed Steve's life

WHEN detective Steve Myall volunteered to work in Rwanda as an investigator and analyst, he didn't realise the trip would change him forever.

Sent on secondment, his brief was to work for the International Criminal Tribunal, set up to investigate the genocide that took place in the country in 1994.

Up to one million men, women and children were slaughtered in an ethnic conflict that defied human dignity with shocking images being broadcast around the world.

The International Tribunal was set up for the sole purpose of prosecuting those responsible for genocide and other serious violations.

An independent country situated in central Africa, Rwanda has three ethnic groups - Hutu forming the majority, the Tutsi and the Twa. Ethnic conflict has continued since 1959.

Events in 1994 spiralled an already volatile situation when the ruling Hutu president was shot down in his aircraft. He was returning from a meeting of the warring factions which should have led to power sharing.

By Heather Watts

There followed a non stop attack by those loyal to the former president, and those who were influenced by an endless stream of propaganda.

Military and locally supported militia groups used garden implements, such as machete and panga to attack, dismember and kill.

Bodies were stuffed into latrines, dead or alive or left to litter the streets and countryside. Whole families and communities were systematically wiped out.

By mid July the conflict ceased. In May 1995 Steve Myall was part of the first group of tribunal staff to arrive in the country and his first impressions were not auspicious.

The airport was damaged by bullet holes and shrapnel. His hotel, previously used by refugees, was made servicable by removing 850 tons of rubbish.

Bloodstains remained on the walls and bed with shards of glass still embedded in the walls. There were few windows.

It was several months before staff

could undertake meaningful investigations.

Steve led a group to Kibuye, where some of the worst atrocities had taken place. The arrival was something else.

Even the proud silverback gorillas in a land made famous by Diane Fossey's *Gorillas in the Mist*, were affected by the conflict and forced to move.

Steve said "Carnage in such a beautiful place to me was totally unbelievable."

Up to 80,000 people lost their lives at this most tranquil of beauty spots.

The Catholic church where Tutsi had sought sanctuary was the scene of a siege.

Those who managed to escape into the adjoining banana grove were cut down. The remains were still visible a year later. A mass grave that was exhumed contained nearly 500 bodies.

Steve said "What brought it home to me was the skeletal remains of a mother with a child on her back in its blanket."

Investigating the crimes proved difficult. The investigators had to work through interpreters. French is the main language with the peasant's only speaking Kinyaworwanda.

Investigations culminated in the first indictments against members of

the former local administration and business community, whose trials are nearing completion at the tribunal headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

Steve said "There isn't anybody living in Rwanda who has not been touched by genocide. I had a local man working for me who had to look after seven relatives' children as he was the only adult member of the family left."

"It would insult them to say I understand the pain and suffering they went through. When I came home for a visit one Christmas and my family were gathered around the table I tried to imagine how I would feel if I closed my eyes and then opened them to find they had all disappeared. This was the reality for many Rwandans."

Steve was the co-ordinator of the evidence and information unit, responsible for all documentation, in excess of 50,000 pages, and exhibits coming in to the tribunal.

Honoured to work with people who care passionately about fellow human beings, his work with the tribunal will bring about justice for some of the many thousands of victims.

Steve went for three months and stayed for over three years.

How to protect yourself against hepatitis

HEPATITIS is inflammation of the liver. The common viruses are hepatitis A, B and C. The main differences are transmission and the effects on your health.

Most people recover from hepatitis A with no lasting liver damage but hepatitis B and C can cause long term disease and even liver cancer. However, there are often no early warning symptoms until liver damage is advanced.

Outlined below are the ways you can become infected.

Hepatitis A

- countries with poor hygiene and sewage treatment;
- eating raw or undercooked food prepared by an infected person;
- salads and fruit washed in contaminated water;
- sexual activities which involve oral/faecal contact.

Hepatitis B

- sexual intercourse without a condom;
- sharing injecting items such as syringes, needles, filters and water;

Health check

- infected blood through an open cut or sore, accidental injury with a contaminated needle, or by sharing razors, toothbrushes or scissors;
- infected secretions such as semen, vaginal fluid and saliva.

Hepatitis C

- sharing any injecting equipment including syringes, needles, filters etc;

- sharing items such as razors or toothbrushes where dried blood may be present;

- blood transfusions and blood products given before screening for hepatitis C began in the UK in September 1991;

- sexual intercourse without a condom, although the risk is thought to be low.

You can protect yourself by:

- vaccination against hepatitis A before visiting high risk countries and then avoiding inadequately cooked shellfish, salads, fruit, tap water, ice cubes and

unpasteurised milk;

- vaccination against hepatitis A and B if you work in a high risk occupation, inject drugs, or are at risk through sexual practices;

- practising safe sex and not sharing injecting items;

- preventing blood or body fluids getting into your body;

- not sharing personal items such as razors

For further information please contact your family doctor or the Occupational Health Department on ednet 58611.

Breath-test reminder

OFFICERS are being reminded that whenever they attend a road crash they MUST breath test all the drivers involved.

Circumstances which lead to a specimen not being taken need to be overwhelming and in these rare cases it should be clearly recorded in the accident report book.

The power extends to all officers whether or not they are in uniform.

For more details see policy guideline P139/98.

Staff step out for charity

MEMBERS of IT, and their friends and families, deserve to put their feet up after raising a huge amount of cash for sick children.

The group decided to take part in a sponsored walk and thought Chelmsford's Admiral McHardy walk, named after Essex' first chief constable, was appropriate.

Kim Harvey, Lynda Hart and Heather Hammond, from Broomfield Hospital, initially undertook a trial walk.

When they agreed it was suitable they did it all over again with over 20 other walkers and one German Shepherd dog.

They did really well to raise £1,200. Then there was an added bonus from Lloyd's TSB Foundation which matched the £253 raised by Lisa Warwick, the wife of IT's Jason Warwick and an employee for Lloyd's, bringing the total to £1,453.00.

A celebration barbecue was then held with a cheque presented to representatives from the Sunshine Ward, Janet Mattin and Rachael Davies.

The money will be used at St John's Hospital in Chelmsford to help furnish and equip a special needs room for children.

Commitment to making partnerships work

Joint approach to crime reduction

A RECENT workshop has set the wheels in motion for the Crime and Disorder Act in Essex.

All decisions regarding crime were previously centrally driven but the new act means local problems will be identified and dealt with locally.

All 14 council districts, which along with Essex Police are the responsible authorities in each division, met with other agencies to decide how organisations, whose core business is not crime and disorder, can contribute to its reduction.

Chief Inspector Dave Murthwaite said: "It was very heartening to see the willingness of all those attending the workshop to make the partnership work."

All the agencies involved had a very positive view of the way forward and the

By Heather Watts

day proved to be very successful with an agreement that statistical data held by individual agencies would be shared.

This numerical data identifies such items as attendance at A & E for drugs overdoses, and assaults, number of truants, housing profiles, noise nuisance, vandalism and benefit fraud.

The population data will include unemployment figures, the number of people with learning difficulties, youth offenders and general public health data.

Cash raised for cancer vaccine

SUFFERING from cancer hasn't stopped one retired officer from doing his bit for charity.

Phillip Rowe, was forced to retire from his job as a constable at Clacton, when his illness led to him needing a series of intensive hospital treatments.

However, Phillip was determined to keep busy and, in between draining sessions of chemotherapy, he set about raising cash for the

This numerical data of which these are only a few samples, cover a diverse range of subjects, but when they are all pooled, will paint a picture of Essex which will highlight local problems.

It will also show what the problems are, where they are and the scale of them.

Previous work done by divisions will be considered.

Following the workshop it was also agreed that a generic survey will be offered to the public in all Essex police divisions to enable three year strategies for responsible authorities to be written by April 1 next year.

Cancer Vaccine Campaign.

While he trawled local businesses and assisted with local news coverage, his son ran in the London Marathon and a triathlon, asking friends and colleagues to sponsor his efforts.

Although Phillip's illness is too advanced to be aided by any cancer vaccine he has raised £426 for the campaign and hopes it will stop others suffering in the future.

They're in full possession of the 'fax'

MEMBERS of South Woodham Ferrers District Neighbourhood Watch scheme have improved communications by setting up a fax network.

The system, known as FaxNet improves the circulation of community safety information including the latest incidents, and crime prevention initiatives and measures which may affect the residents. Information is collated at the police station.

Members receiving this information by facsimile pass it on to co-ordinators and members by a cascade procedure.

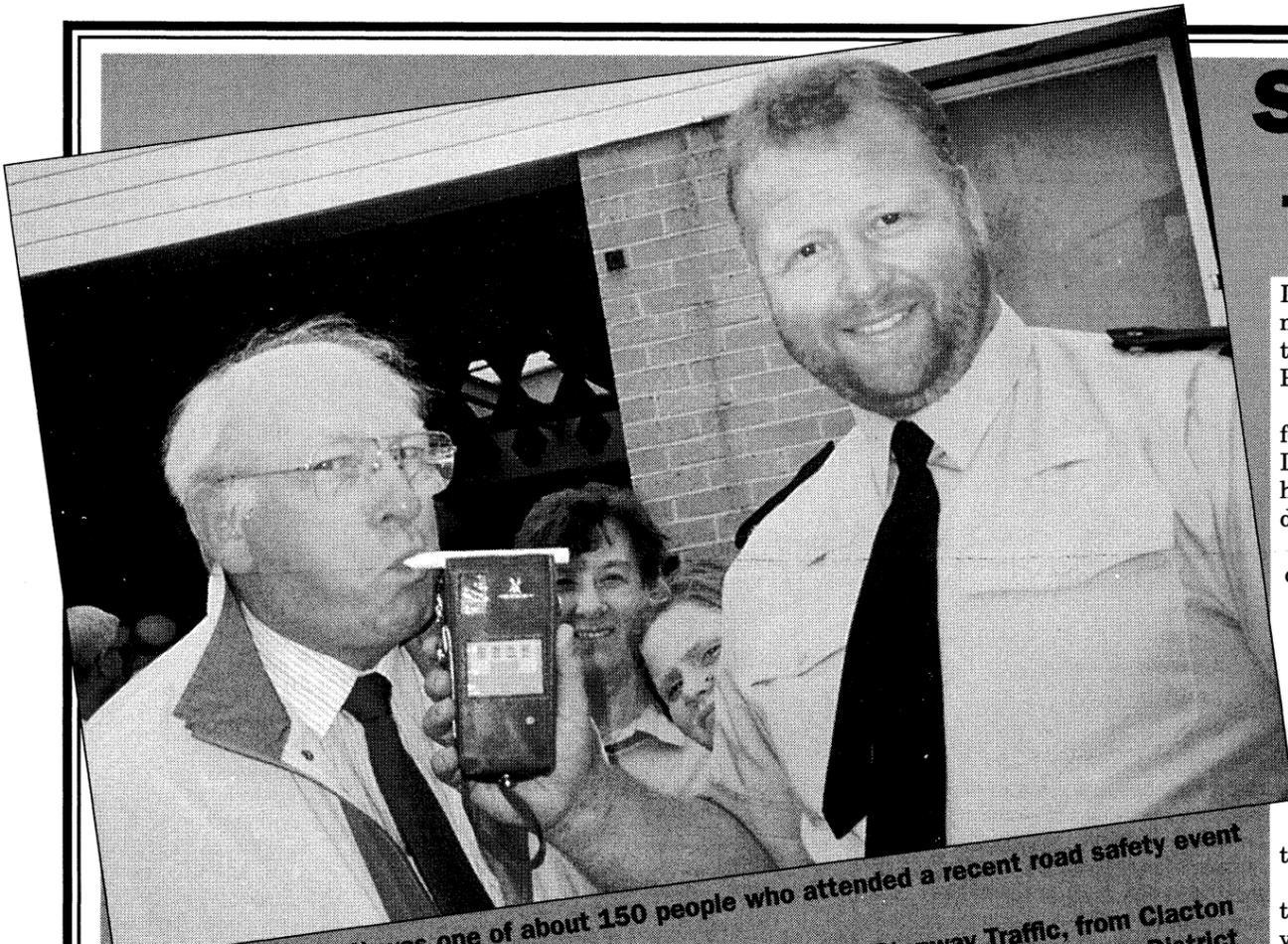
Non urgent information may be sent to the police using facsimile machines by members using the standard Incident Report form.

Not only do they have improved communications they also have technological links to the Essex Police internet site.

Thanks to the help of Essex Internet Services they now have their own web page.

This carries general information, including the latest newsletters and also acknowledges the help that local groups and companies give to community safety initiatives.

The web site address is <http://www.lot1.com/eisuk/swfnw>.



Safe motoring for everyone

IN a drive to make sure that women enjoy safe motoring Maldon District Council have joined together in a community safety initiative with Essex Police.

Recently, special free evenings have been arranged for women motorists, the most recent being held at Doe Motors. The 20 women attending were shown how to prepare for any problems that may arise while driving alone.

Service Manager, Tony Ware, explained what to check before starting out on a journey, giving a brief run down of how a car works. He stressed the importance of regular servicing.

Trainee technician Emma Hughes demonstrated how easy it is to change a tyre.

Although the initiative was launched after women expressed their fears of driving alone, Insp Noorman Crabb made the point that being attacked was more a fear than a reality.

He spoke about safe motorway driving and what to do in the event of a breakdown.

Personal safety is an issue here with a chance that the broken down car will be struck by another vehicle.

A motorway marker post and a motorway SOS telephone were taken along to explain the marker post signs and how to use the telephone.

Other personal safety measures can be taken. One of those recommended is the importance of having a mobile phone. This will enable any woman who feels threatened or intimidated while driving alone to call 999 or summon help if the car breaks down.

● Colln Savage (64) was one of about 150 people who attended a recent road safety event aimed at the older driver. The Essex Police coach transported the guests into Stanway Traffic, from Clacton and Frinton, for the event which was held in partnership with Tendring District Council and Colchester Borough Council Road Safety Unit. After presentations and advice, visitors were able to test a brake reaction test, eyesight screening and, like Mr Savage, a breathalser.

NARPO

BY now you should all have received my letter and details of the French trip. If you want to go, you have from receipt of *The Law* until September 14 to pass all your requests and cheques, made payable to NARPO (Chelmsford) to Frank Shepherd, Copper Beech, London Road, Wickford, SS12 0ET (01268 732028).

All those already booked and not paid please send your cheque as above. Passports will be required.

Nothing fresh to report. Next edition of *The Law* will carry information gleaned from the NARPO annual conference.

Tony Cooper

Don't forget your helmet

IT'S that time of year again when all former Southend Borough officers are invited to have a drink and renew old acquaintances at a special white helmet reunion.

The event will be on Thursday, December 17 at the Southend police bar at lunchtime with a free drink for those who bring their white helmet.

Enthusiastic volunteer needed to deal with police insignia

SINCE the installation of the Essex Police web site on the internet, there has been a marked increase in the number of requests from individuals and organisations to swap or obtain Essex Police insignia.

To date these have been dealt with by the museum curator, but after October this facility may no longer be available.

Any member of the service who would like the opportunity to take over dealing with this as a hobby

should contact Public Relations Officer, Tina Starling, on 01245 491491 ext 50770.

Police vehicle experts to visit Essex archives

ON Sunday, October 4, the Police Vehicle Enthusiasts Club has arranged an all day trip to Essex. The club includes Modellers, photographers, and is one of the best sources of information on the subject of police cars.

During the morning they will visit the Ministry of Defence police headquarters at Wethersfield, including the MDP museum and the Millard collection of historic police cars. In the afternoon they will visit police headquarters in Chelmsford.

IPA

FORTY members and friends gathered in bright sunshine at 7am on Friday, July 31 for a weekend trip to Rheims. The weekend was a hectic round of eating, drinking and sightseeing with stops in Lille on the outward leg and Arras on the way back. The weather was kind to us and Rheims turned out to have an excellent selection of restaurants, which were thoroughly explored by the party.

With a visit to the Mercier champagne cellars at Epernay, and a river cruise, the coach was fairly quiet as it made its way back to Blighty on the Monday morning. Final delights were purchased at the Cite de Europe at Calais before boarding the Shuttle. Thanks to Frank Joslin for his work in making the arrangements and Trevor, of Lodge Coaches, for being such an excellent driver.

In August 24 members and friends set off for a day trip to Norfolk. After lunch at a pub in Castle Rising the coach moved on to Sandringham for a tour of the house, gardens and of course the gift shop. Once again the weather stayed perfect for the whole day.

Future events

Plans for this year include a return visit to the Romford Greyhounds Stadium on Friday, November 20. The cost for the evening will be £20 and this includes 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 Year's 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 Weston Hotel, Weston Flavell, near Northampton. Total cost for the trip is £155 and if you'd like to book or want more details please call Dick on 01245 251082.

Bill Fancourt

Harlow's top man retires

SUPERINTENDENT Graham Furnival, divisional commander for Harlow, retired on September 4 after 33 years' service.

Sergeant David Smith, also from Harlow, retired on August 31 after 31 years.

Sergeant Peter Layzell, Chelmsford, retired on September 6 after 30 years' service.

Also retiring after 30 years' service, on September 15, is Pc Peter Watts based

Names in the news

at HQ Operations.

Sergeant Robert Wright from Grays has retired on September 4 after exactly 30 years.

Chelmsford sergeant Kenneth Herring, retires on September 13 after nearly 27 years' service.

Ill health has forced the retirement of Pc Errol Greene, Harlow, after nearly 27 years service.

Also retiring with ill health are Pc David Bennett,

based at Newport Traffic, and Pc Alan Weston of Brentwood Traffic, both officers having served nearly 20 years.

Obituaries

Former Pc Stanley Miller who served from 1957 to 1983 at Chelmsford, Braintree, Romford, Halstead, Billericay and Rochford died on July 26, aged 64. He leaves a widow, Valerie.

Walter Faulkner, a sergeant for 30 years with Essex Police, died on August 13, aged 83. Mr Faulkner, who served at Braintree, Billericay, Laindon and Colchester, before his retirement in 1967, was living in Australia when he died.

Ex Pc John Walker died on July 22, aged 83. He retired in 1969 having served at Romford, Hornchurch, Upminster and Brentwood.

A well known Southend Borough constable has died.

Charles Petty-Major, who was also a former commodore of the Halfway Yacht Club in Thorpe Bay, died on September 2.

Market Place

ALGARVE, Portugal. Two bedroom apartment, sleeps six. Swimming pool on complex, 15 minutes walk from sea. £150 per week. Contact Brian Spiers on 01268 558211.

BEDFORD Rascal, red, 'F' reg, taxed, year's MOT, clean and corrosion free. Vgc, first to see will buy, £1,400. Telephone 01787 477537 or 0410 715987.

BRIGHT, spacious flat let in luxury home at Shoeburyness, overlooking sea. Superior accommodation, own facilities, share only kitchen, £300 pcm. Call Stephanie Stamp on 01702 292475.

CALPE, Spain. Apartment sleeps four, 2 bathrooms

and wc's, large lounge, kitchen and balcony. Beach 5 minutes walk, town location, from £100 per week, £150 July and August. Contact R.A. Naden on 01255 815140.

COLLECTORS books. Five volumes of *The Book for Police* published by Caxtons 1958. Covers police duties, traffic law, criminal procedure etc etc. Offers? Contact Will Saul on 01799 524668.

CITREON AX, white, 'L' reg, excellent condition, five door, taxed, year's MOT, sunroof, two owners, £2,100. Contact Jenna or Matt on 01702 217035/298519 or ednet 30128.

CARAVAN 1200T. Cavalier, 4 berth, toilet, gas fire, cooker, full size awning, 240v, 12v, ready to go. £475 ono. Excellent condition. Contact Pc Spink on 0958 429998.

DISNEY WORLD. Three bedroom luxury villa ideally located 15 minutes from Disney World. Has private 25ft pool, air conditioning. Sleeps up to eight. £425 per week. Quiet location. Contact Stephen Warwick on 01245 464768.

ELODIE tent, sleeps six. Three bedrooms, many extras including trailer, £300. Contact Lyn Tolhurst on 01245 468753 or ednet 60395/60396.

FISHING pole for sale. Maver FX1, 11 metres, two spare top threes, one spare top four, vgc. Joint saved from new, no breakages, £110 ono. Contact K. Taylor on 01206 395173.

GENTS handbuilt racing cycle. 531 frame, Shimano 105 groupset, Cinelli bars, Mavic wheels, Hutchinson Kevlar tyres, Gelflex saddle, suitable for time trials, vgc. £180 ono. Contact Roy Smith on 01621 852116.

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.

ISUZU Trooper (SWB) 1990, 'G', 2559 cc, petrol, 77,000 miles, air conditioning, electric windows. Contact Lyn Tolhurst on 01245 468753 or ednet 60395/60396.

KAWASAKI ZX10 red and

white, 'G' reg fsh immaculate condition, maintained regardless of cost, £3,150 ono. Contact Pc Spink on 0958 429998.

KIA Sportage 4x4, 2.0l, reg May 1996, 20,200 miles, alloy wheels, electric windows, mirrors, immobiliser, fsh, 10 months manufacturers warranty, immaculate condition, £9,500 ovno. Contact Peter Phillips on 01702 207634.

N REG Nissan Micra, red, 21k, still under guarantee. One year's servicing, two careful owners and taxed for six months, £5,000 ono. Contact Leonie Darby on ext 40106 or 01375 361864.

TO LET. Florida, 10 minutes from Disney World. Four bedroom, two bathroom luxury villa with own pool. Sleeps 8 to 10. Close to all major attractions and golf courses. Owner by serving officer. For brochure and price list for late 1998, 1999 and 2000 contact Stev or Lyn Parry on 01446 749137.

PEARL tiara and short scalloped ivory veil, £8. Contact Sally Hart on 01245 491491 ext 52568.

RED Ford Orion, 1986, GHIA. One previous owner, full service history, MOT until May 1999. Tax until February 1999, £950 ono. Contact Richard Harle on 01245 471270.

RELIVE the golden great of the 50s and 60s. Retirement parties a speciality. Live music and all proceeds to a nominated charity. Contact Bill Roberts on 01206 826927.

SMALL calor gas SER GT, two heat settings, hardly used, with original bottle. Contact Sally Hart on 01245 491491 ext 52568.

SPAIN, Javea. Select resort on the Costa Blanca.

Furnished, newly decorated villa. Three bedrooms, garage, quiet secluded garden with south facing terrace, beautiful shared pool. Spectacular mountain views. Beach 250 metres. Freehold sale, £75,000. Contact Angela Ashley on 01255 475550 or 0481 823365.

SPRITE Super-6. Six berth., 1993, one owner, excellent condition, fridge, cooker, full size awning, hot water system, shower, toilet cassette, double glazed windows. £6,250ono. Contact 01376 585522.

SWALEDALE. Yorkshire Dales. Owned by serving officer, two traditional cottages in the heart of Heriot country. Excellently furnished and equipped with many extras including real log fire. Directly on coast to coast footpath, ideal for hiking, cycling or sightseeings. No pets or smokers. Bookings being taken for winter 1999. Ten per cent discount for police personnel. Contact Christine McKay on 01482 659430.

TENERIFE, Loss Cristianos, two bedroom apartment, sleeps six. Balcony, sea views, sea 15 minutes walk. Restaurants and three pools on complex. Poolside bar snacks. From £250 per week. Contact Reg Hooper on 01702 555604 after Oct 18.

VOLKSWAGEN Golf MK 3 accessories. Roof rack system and 6 storage boxes for central consul. £50 and £20 respectively. Contact D. Hawkins on 01245 491491 ext 58134.

VOLVO 940. 'H' reg, auto, fsh, tax and MOT, good condition, £5,200 ono. Contact 01206 763759.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and Rank

Station Home Tel

Date Signed

Sport and Leisure

September is full of summer song

AFTER a few lazy weeks with no rehearsals choir members are now preparing for a busy concert schedule in September.

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 in Warley.

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

The 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.

We have called it *Music for a summer's evening* and it will start at 7.30pm on Saturday, September 26 in the Assembly Hall at Police Headquarters, Springfield.

Bill Fancourt

Sports and social club

Wine is the drink of the day on Wednesday, September 16 with a special vineyard trip to Purleigh organised by the sports and social club. The event which includes a ploughman's supper costs £6.50.

For those who prefer a French Wine there is a ferry day trip on Saturday, September 26 to Boulogne and Cite Europe at £12.

An American line dancing evening will take place at HQ assembly hall on Saturday, October 3 in aid of the Little Haven Children's Hospice, cost £5.

If you really want to savour the flavour then four nights b&b and evening meal have been arranged to the Mosel for the weekend of October 15 to 19 at an incredible £120. This includes all excursions.

For further information contact Shirley on Ednet 50666 or fax: 50665.



● Albie Moorhall, Chris Heaffey, Rob Dicks and Dec Clusky during celebrity golf day.

Golfing celebrities swing in to action

THREE golfing officers helped support local special schools when they took to the course with a host of celebrities.

The event was organised by Stansted Airport's Marketing and Public Affairs Director, David Field in association with the Variety Club

Golf Society.

A total of 25 celebrities from the sporting and entertainment worlds took part raising around £35,000.

Each team had a guest celebrity with Dec Cluskey, of *The Bachelors*, lucky enough to land Albie Moorhall, Chris Heaffey and Rob

Dicks of Essex Police. Other celebrities included former Spurs player Clive Allen, comedian, Jimmy Tarbuck and soap star Mike Reid.

However, it was the airport's finance director Andy Mears who was the hero of the day scoring a hole in one.

In company with 'The Boss'

By Laurie Rampling

THE Force athletics squad was in good company for the nationals at Bedford Stadium last month.

The new Chief Constable, Mr David Stevens, joined them in his role as Chairman of the Regional PAA and 'The Boss' was arguably the busiest member of the squad with a marathon presentation of awards to victorious athletes from all over the United Kingdom.

It was task he fulfilled with great vigour, surely taking a great deal of satisfaction presenting medals to our own Samantha Barr, Tanya Payton and the relay team.

The day was marred only by the ominous lack of competitors, a great pity given the time and effort taken to host the event. For that reason Bedford must

be congratulated for some of the highest quality competitors.

Samantha Barr was once again Essex star performer. Winning the 100-metre title for the sixth consecutive year, albeit by the narrowest of margins, and taking second place in the 200-metre event behind former international athlete Jennie Pearson, now representing Kent.

Tanya Payton again won silver in the Javelin competition, and the ladies relay squad comprising of Sam Barr, Sue Bunting, Sue Clark and Sue Tyler took bronze behind the RUC and eventual winners Devon and Cornwall.

The remainder of the squad also put in good contributions to the cause. Ian Thompson took a fine 4th place in the men's Javelin, pipped from the bronze position with the last throw of the final round.

Steve King, despite injury, battled to a valiant 4th place in the men's walk, although looking hopeful for the bronze.

Mick Bond took a superb 4th place in the men's 500 metres, considering the winning trio were at least 15 years his junior. Mick is now proud to be included in the veteran ranks, a great shame his efforts could not be rewarded in that category.

Gary Webb found himself in an enormously competitive 400-metre field, but still performed with great spirit.

Finally, yours truly. I finished last, but by no means least in the men's 500 metres. I was lapped a maximum of four times, and subjected to the torment of completing the final two laps of the event on my own, and I still didn't achieve my goal of a sub 22 minutes.

But I thoroughly enjoyed it, and as Max Boyce would say "I was there", I was taking part in the nationals, "The only place to be" and I was in good company.

First time veterans

ESSEX Police Veterans Football Club have entered the Police National Veterans Cup competition for the first time although this is the second season for the event.

A total of 20 forces are taking part, split into five regions with the top team and best runner up in each group qualifying for the quarter finals.

The remaining runners up in each group will have to play a knock out competition to find two regional teams to complete the quarter final draw.

Essex has been drawn in a group consisting of Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Kent.

Each team plays each other both home and away on a league basis.

The fixtures for Essex are Wednesday, September 23 versus Hertfordshire; Tuesday, October 6 versus Cambridgeshire and in November either the 3rd or 4th against Kent.

All of these matches will take place at Essex Police HQ and kick off will be 2 pm.

The remaining matches are to be arranged.

For any further information contact Chris Dicks at Chelmsford traffic unit on Ednet 58141.

Lottery results

THE results of the September lottery was: £1,500 Pc George Lambeth, Bocking Traffic; £1,000 Pc Michael Burch, Laindon Traffic; £500 Dc Vernon Fleming, Harlow CPU; £300 Sgt Debra Grafton, EPTC; £200 Insp Tony Sale, Halstead; £100 Pc Dominic Graham, Chelmsford.

Consolation prizes of £50 were awarded to Pc Ian Lander, Chelmsford Traffic, Dc Deborah Campbell, Basildon CID, Dc Stephen Smith, HQ Crime Ops, Dc Keith Gurney, HQ Drugs Squad, Pc Jonathan Hill, Westcliff, Robin Frost, HQ Information Technology, Pc Emma Blakeborough, Benfleet, Sheila Aturges, HQ Criminal Justice, Pc Paul Keely, Brentwood and Pc Michael Johnson, Grays.

JULY and August saw a number of important bowls fixtures for Essex Police, with mixed results.

The No 5 regional singles and pairs championships took place in Bedfordshire. John Stewart and John Anderson arrived with other competitors to do battle for the PAA finals in Belfast.

John Anderson was drawn to play one of the pre-tournament favourites, Roy Mercer of Hertfordshire. Disappointingly, John lost 21-14 although he played his usual strong game. Roy went on to win the tournament.

The afternoon provided an opportunity for him to get his own back when he and John Stewart were

Mixed fortunes for Essex bowlers

drawn to play Mercer and Malcolm Driscoll in the pairs. This year Essex came out on top securing an impressive 27-10 victory.

The second day saw Essex face Kent in the semi-final and, after a shaky start, their experience pulled them through to a good win.

The Essex pair started the final against Beds badly, dropping behind 1-13. They faced an uphill struggle and eventually went down by eight shots to become regional runners up for the second year in succession.

Essex lost out in the regional fours championships when they went down to Hampshire.

Essex fared better in the triples. Staged at Dunmow the Essex team saw off a strong Bedfordshire squad with a fine display of accurate bowling. Graham Williter, Clive Anthony and Alan Rees took an impressive 27-8 victory whilst on the other rink, Peter Brown, Ray Howard and John Anderson saw off a very experienced trio 24-10.

The victory secured a semi-final place against Kent.

After a slow start Ray Howard, John Stewart and John Anderson overcame their opponents 26-14.

It was a completely different story on the other rink. Peter Brown, Alan Rees and Brian Taplin won the first end and then trailed, at one stage falling some nine shots down. But they worked their way back with steady bowling. Trailing by just two shots as they entered the final end, they scored a three to lead for only the second time in the game and won 18-17, giving Essex a place in the regional finals.

Essex hosted a British Police fixture against the Civil Service that was played in Chelmsford.

The police side won five of the six rinks and by an overall shot margin of 20.

The outdoor season is coming to a close but there are still some important matches to be played. Essex plays Hampshire in the Regional Triples Final. A win there will secure a place in the national finals.

On September 17 they face the full Essex county side at Braintree bowls club and the Croker Cup final between Braintree and Rayleigh will take place during September.

Sport and Leisure

FALLING from the sky at 120 mph might not be everybody's idea of fun but for traffic officer Michael Spink it was just another mad and enjoyable way of raising cash for charity.

Michael, a constable, based at Newport, took the plunge in Nottingham taking just six minutes to plummet 14,500ft.

The first 50 seconds was a freefall at 120mph before the parachute opened for a more sedate journey to terra firma.

Proceeds of £2,000 were raised and will be donated to the cancer unit at Addenbrooks Hospital.



Six minutes of madness

Of national note

AT this year's National Powerlifting Championships at Crystal Palace, Pc Eric Turnball from Colchester retained his heavyweight 125+ national title, and the masters title with a total of 715kgs beating last years total by 115kg.

A marvellous feat, well done!

Pc Michael Aldridge from Rochford represented the PAA Full Bore Rifle Team at the target rifle shooting competition at Bisley in July.

Pc Chris Jacob, Rochford and SOA Julie Askem, Southend, are to represent the British police in the European Table Tennis Championships being held in Montpellier, southern France from the September 21 to 27.

Ski holiday

ANYONE wishing to slope off for a bargain ski holiday next year, from January 2 to 9, should contact Sgt Dave Bouckley at Witham, on ext 66155.

There will be coach transport to and from the airport and plenty of apres ski. The trip will shortly have to be booked.

Chance to represent divisions in Cup walk

Take the challenge

THE new venue for the annual Croker Cup walk this year is the Colchester Garrison.

The start will be 11am prompt on Saturday, October 18.

Traffic-free and predominantly flat, the lap course is ideal for getting a good time.

The format will remain the same, five miles for men and two-and-a-half miles for women.

To encourage a good competition there are also some new prizes this year, including prizes for veteran categories, a strider award and the first three men and three women will also receive prizes.

There will also be a prize for the highest placed division's 20th man and 10th woman.

Last year there was an excellent turn out for the walk with Colchester beating Southend for the first time.

Anyone interested in taking part is asked to enter via their divisional sports rep.

Any queries regarding this event please contact Steve King on Ednet 13303.

Champion life savers

THANKS to the reserve member from Tayside Police, the Essex Police Life Saving Team won the National Life Saving competition held in July at Teeside, Cleveland for the second time.

Unfortunately an Essex team member was forced through illness to drop out but this did not stop sergeant Dave Salmon and constables Sarah Pike and

Melanie Bainbridge from winning the competition's two sections.

They came first in the land based first-aid and resuscitation, and first in the water-based rescue making them overall winners.

The team members with their coach Diana Kedge from the Royal Life Saving Society were presented with their trophies by Chief Constable David Stevens at HQ.

Rugby database to be launched

A NATIONAL database of UK women's rugby players is about to be drawn up, to help select a top national team.

Dc Gillian Jew, based in Leeds, said: "A Police Athletic's Association Womens' Rugby Union section has now been officially established. We want to expand the database

throughout the UK, with a view to facilitating inter-regional competitions, leading to selection for a national squad."

Any current or potential female rugby players should contact Dc Jew at Weetwood Police Station, 300 Otley Road, Leeds, LS16 9EU. Telephone 0113 241 3516.

Come and cheer the girls on

ESSEX Police's netball team is hosting the PAA Netball championships for the first time at Highwoods Sports Centre, Brinkley Lane, Colchester, on September 12 and 13 and would appreciate a bit of support to cheer on their two teams.

There will be 17 teams from 15 police forces across England, Scotland and Wales including City of London, Devon & Cornwall, Dyfed Powys, Gwent, Humberside, Lincolnshire, South Wales, Norfolk, Staffordshire, Strathclyde, Metropolitan (North), West Mercia, West Yorkshire and two teams from both Greater Manchester and Essex.

Teams will be playing 20 minute games on a knockout basis for bronze, silver and gold medals. Spectators are very welcome during the two days and refreshments will be available.

The competition times are 11am to 5.30pm on the Saturday and 10am to 4pm on the Sunday. Presentations will then take place.

Anyone who can donate a raffle prize or wants further information should contact Inspector Janet Letham, Corporate Support HQ on Ednet 54202.

Sport diaries now available

THE Force Sports Association has produced some diaries incorporating the winter sporting programme.

The diaries contain a great deal of useful information including the current rules of the association and Croker Cup, time off for sport and the rest day rota for 98/99.

They are free to EPSA members. The force sports secretary is distributing the diaries to divisional secretaries for each committee member and sporting section captain.

The remainder will be kept at the sports shop, and will be available on a first come first served basis.



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