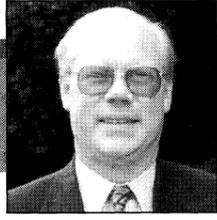
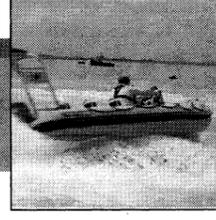




Mobile cameras
to crack crime - P3



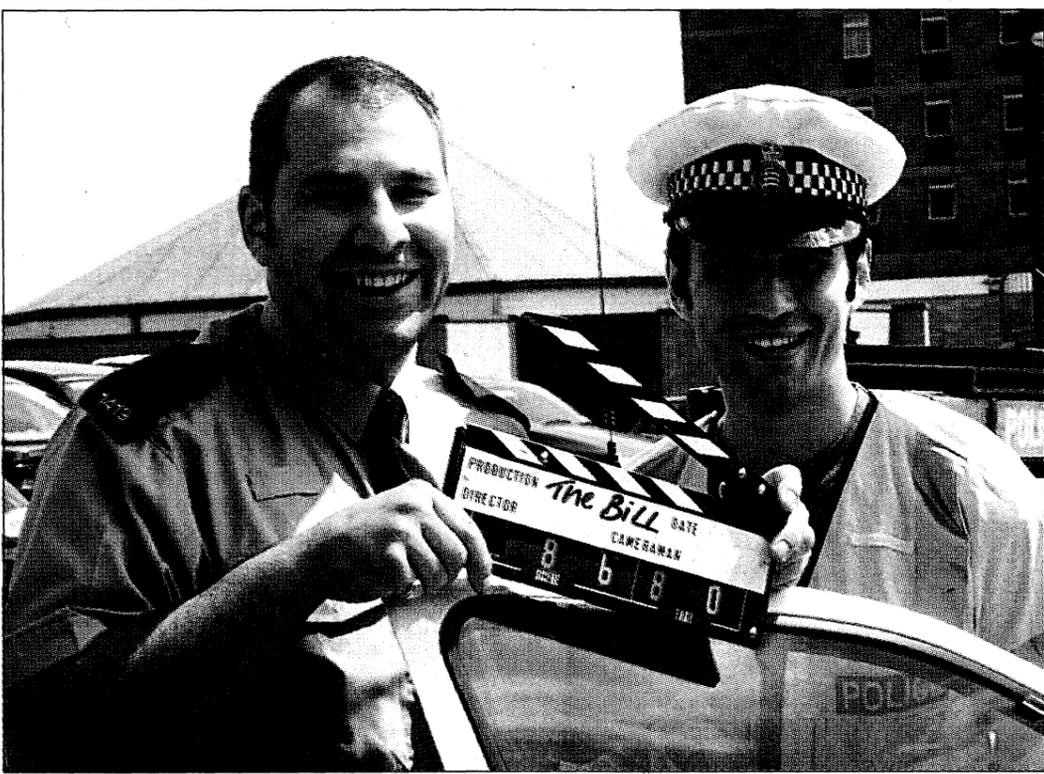
New Chief Crown
Prosecutor - P9



Celebrating 50
years at sea - P6/7

Elaborate conspiracy led to historic course of action by Essex Police

BODIES EXHUMED IN FRAUD CASE



● Rene Zagger researches his new role with the help of his brother Rube.

Brothers in 'law'

ESSEX Police met *The Bill* last month when two brothers teamed up for an unusual assignment.

Chelmsford Traffic's Pc Rube Zagger was joined on shift by his brother, actor Rene Zagger. Rene has just started filming with the popular TV series, *The Bill*.

He will become a regular

character when he hits our screens in September as new recruit, Pc Nick Klein.

Rene has just finished a tour with the stage show of *Summer Holiday*, but has appeared in other TV programmes as well.

"I was in *Grange Hill* for a while about eight years ago. It must have been popular

because people still say to me 'Did I go to school with you?'. 'I've also been in *The Bill* before as a baddie; so it'll be nice to be on the good side," he said.

Rube Zagger is very proud of his brother's success: "He's worked very hard to get where he is and I think he's very talented."

THREE members of a family have been jailed for attempting to inherit £1.8 million through a false will. And the case is the first time in living memory that Essex Police has arranged the exhumation of bodies.

David Spillman (45) from Shoebury was found guilty of conspiracy to defraud by a majority verdict at Basildon Crown Court and sentenced to seven years imprisonment.

His estranged wife, Annette, 47, and her mother Annette Russill, 65, had already pleaded guilty to their part in the plot to inherit the estate of an elderly woman. They received five years, three months, and three years respectively for conspiracy to defraud.

The case dates back to 1996, when an elderly spinster, Annie Kay, and her companion Patrick Wedd moved into the Spillman's home in Southend. In January 1997, Patrick Wedd died leaving his estate of £165,000 to Miss Kay. Their solicitor was instructed to draft a new will for Annie leaving her

By Ruth Collin

estate to charity and two small bequests to friends. Soon after, the Spillmans approached another firm of solicitors and arranged for an impostor to pose as Annie Kay to make a false will, changing the beneficiaries to themselves.

The court heard that in an elaborate plot, the couple conspired with Annette Russill for her to pose as Annie to make the new will. Russill had practiced forging Annie's signature and dressed as the elderly woman to con the new will maker.

Diligent investigation

Annie Kay died at the age of 87 in March 1997. Eight days after her death her original solicitor discovered the existence of a new will and was informed of her death. Because of his suspicions, he contacted one of the charities who would have benefited and informed them that they would not be receiving a substantial legacy. The charity appointed a solicitor and through diligent investigation discovered that the signatures on the false will were forged. Essex Police were then informed and a criminal investigation began.

continued on page 3

Police paper pipped at the post

THE Law newspaper has been awarded a Certificate of Merit after reaching the finals of the 1999 Editing for East Anglia Awards.

It is only the second year that the Essex Police newspaper has been entered into the competition, which is run by the British Association of Communicators in Business.

Last year *The Law* won the

newspaper category but this year was pipped to the post by Eastern Electricity's *Cable* newspaper.

Judges described the *The Law* as "hard-hitting and a delight to read". They also said the "thoroughly credible and professional" publication "seems to be a paper for officers by officers and succeeds admirably in this aim".

Pay rise agreed

THE good news is the announcement that a pay increase has been agreed.

At a meeting held between the Federation and the Police Negotiating Board agreement was reached to increase the pay of federated ranks by 3.6 per cent.

The Home Office did not reserve their position on this agreement so it should now go through without any problems, but I would add that such agreement statutorily still requires the approval of the Secretary of State.

Now the bad news. Beware of Greeks bearing gifts. The attack on our allowances is still going on.

We have failed to reach any agreement to date so the discussions still continue.

The new Pension Regulations have still not appeared but, again, it is only a matter of time before we have what I believe will be a two-tier pension scheme in the police service. New recruits will again come under a different package and I wonder how long it will be before we have another commission into the police service because of lack of recruitment, morale, etc.

Shift systems update

AFTER much discussion and projected debate, agreement was reached at the Force Development Group that if, after balloting the members, the view is in favour of an extended hours shift system, and a trial in two or three divisions (the number and Divisions still to be decided).

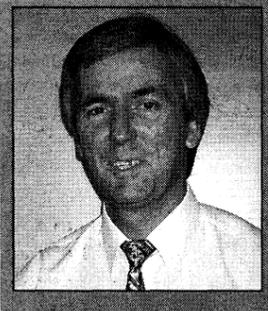
The trial will not start until April 1, 2000 and will last for six months, during which time it will be constantly reviewed so that the benefits and pitfalls are highlighted.

If successful, then the extended hours would be opened up to other divisions by October 1, 2000. The ballot date is hoped to be in October this year.

For more details on shift review see page 3.

Federation Newsline

by Terry Spelman



Planning for retirement

ONE of the features that contributes to an officer's successful retirement is adequate planning taking place at least 10 years from the retirement date.

There are, of course, many matters to direct your attention to and, in a lot of cases, adequate time is not given to preparation with a subsequent disappointing end result.

To take full advantage of financial planning advice for officers in these circumstances, the Federation has increased the number of Financial Planning Clinics held at Stable Lodge. These will now occur once a month until

the end of the year on the following days:

Friday, September 10

Friday, October 8

Friday, November 5

Wednesday, December 1

George Burrows Group Insurance will continue to provide these clinics, and advice is given without obligation to the officer concerned.

Should you not be able to attend on any of these dates given, individual appointments may be arranged.

When making appointments, please initially contact the Federation on extension 54560.

Informal resolution of complaints

SINCE it was introduced as a way of disposing of public complaints, many officers have expressed concerns about the informal resolution system and how they are affected if a complaint against them is dealt with in that way. Even though the system has now been in operation for some years there remains a lack of confidence in it. In order to allay some of your fears I have detailed answers to some of the questions that have been raised.

It must always be borne in mind that informal resolution is based on the principle of 'The customer is always right'.

Q. If a complaint is informally resolved, is it recorded on an officer's personal record?

A. No. The details of disciplinary proceedings are only included on an officer's personal record in circumstances where there has been a finding of guilt after a full disciplinary hearing in front of the Chief Constable or the Deputy Chief Constable.

Q. Are any records of informal resolutions kept?

A. Yes but only those that are required in law for administrative purposes.

Q. Who decides whether a complaint is informally resolved or not?

A. Providing the circumstances are appropriate, the complainant.

Q. Who can deal with an informal resolution?

A. In reality, anyone from the rank of acting sergeant upward, but it should be an officer of higher rank than the officer who is the subject of the complaint.

Q. If a complaint is being informally resolved, does the officer have to sign anything and, if they do, are they, in effect, admitting the allegation?

A. No, the officer is

not compelled to sign the informal resolution form and, if they did, they certainly would not be admitting anything. All they would be doing, by signing the form, would be acknowledging the certificate on the form which actually affords the officer protection.

Q. Can a complaint be resolved if the officer isn't admitting it?

A. Yes. No one expects an officer to admit something that they haven't done. If a complaint is informally resolved, it does not imply that the officer is guilty.

Q. Does the officer or the force have to apologise to the complainant for a matter to be resolved?

A. No, neither the force or officer need apologise. In fact, no one is allowed to offer the complainant an apology unless the officer specifically requests it.

Q. If a complaint is informally resolved, what is the complainant told?

A. They are only given details of the result; they are not given any other details.

Q. If a complaint is informally resolved, can it be investigated later?

A. Yes, a complaint can be investigated further after it has been resolved, if the complainant changes his or her mind. However, in many cases where that occurs an application is made to the Police Complaints Authority for a dispensation from investigation and the matter goes no further.

Q. If an officer says something during the course of an informal resolution, can it be used against them later if the complaint is subsequently investigated?

A. No, in accordance with the rules of evidence, nothing the officer has said

in relation to the complaint can be used later. It is important to note though that this applies only to the specific complaint that is being resolved. That protection does not extend to any other unconnected matters that the officer might talk about.

Q. How many complaints are informally resolved?

A. Since it was introduced the use of informal resolutions in Essex remained steady at around 20 per cent of total complaints received, until last year, when the figure was just under 29 per cent. This was as a result of comments made by the H.M.I. recommending a greater use of the procedure.

FEDERATION VIEW

IT is not pleasant to be the subject of a disciplinary investigation regarding even the most trivial complaint.

However, informal resolution should not be feared but should be welcomed. It should be seen for what it is - a useful tool for the speedy disposal of the many minor and irritating complaints that are made against police officers.

We are satisfied that, when complaints are dealt with by way of informal resolution, the position of the officers involved is not compromised. When a complaint is resolved, there is no implied admission of guilt nor is there any record made on an officer's personal file. The main benefit of informal resolution is the speed in which a complaint can be finalised. We would like to see confidence in the system grow and the number of informal resolutions increase again this year.

**D G Jones
Chairman
Joint Branch Board**

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Offbeat

IT never rains but it pours. Flash flooding in Essex and a typing error prompted a road message to be sent out asking drivers to dive with care.

Strangely enough it was not on the same day that a woman driver collided with a motorcyclist after swerving to avoid a duck.

A recent fault reported to the IT service desk appeared to be caused by an animal. The mouse was not working correctly as the mouse mat was too small for the cursor to go all the way round the screen!!!

Drivers fail to belt up

OVER one hundred drivers stopped during road checks in Uttlesford District were found not to be wearing seatbelts.

Research has shown that people involved in accidents in that particular part of the county are more likely to be killed or seriously injured than anywhere else in Essex.

The road checks were launched as part of a joint community safety strategy involving both Essex Police, the local council and Essex County Council.

During the checks anyone found not wearing seatbelts were given two options, an on-the-spot fine, or 20 minutes of their time. Those who opted for the latter were shown a video demonstrating the consequences of ignoring seatbelt law and given advice by a road safety officer.

Out of the 3,199 cars which passed through the road checks, 103 were not wearing belts, representing 3.22 per cent. Of the total breaking the law 71 were drivers, 17 were front seat passengers and 16 were rear seat passengers. In Dunmow the drivers were mainly men driving delivery vans. In Saffron Walden women with children, and pensioners were the main culprits, while in Stansted the population was mixed, including a honeymoon couple on their way to the airport.

Road Safety Officer, Christine Stearn, said: "We need to keep reminding people who use cars that seatbelts are fitted for their safety and should be worn at all times. We also need to encourage companies to make sure their drivers wear seatbelts, and that they are fitted to all their vehicles."

Three jailed for callous fraud

continued from page 1

The inquiry was codenamed Operation Fools Gold, an incident room set up and Det Supt David Bright was appointed senior investigating officer. Officers in the case, Dc Adrian Thomson and Dc Marion Tyson of Fraud Squad, worked closely with the solicitors involved throughout the case.

Questions surrounding the death of Annie Kay and Patrick Wedd were raised during the investigation. Both had been buried shortly after death and lay in the same grave at Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend.

Dc Adrian Thomson said: "We could not find any record of any

exhumation ever having been carried out on behalf of Essex Police. We researched the procedure and in liaison with the coroner the exhumations were carried out."

Post mortem examinations were held and forensic tests carried out. Dc Thomson said: "Evidence gathered from the bodies showed the presence of a sedative drug. However, there was no evidence to suggest how this drug came to be present or its causes and effects on embalmed bodies." For this reason, the coroner recorded an unascertainable verdict on the deaths.

The case at Basildon Crown Court marked the end of a complex inquiry. Dc Thomson said: "This was a callous and calculated crime which exploited an elderly couple who deserved better. Their actions were premeditated and the impersonation of an elderly and vulnerable woman was a cold-hearted attempt to obtain money by deception."

One of the charities named in the original will, Scope, has been monitoring the case. Officers now hope Annie Kay's wishes are carried out and the correct recipients benefit from her estate.



● Annie Kay as a young girl.

Human rights legislation will have huge impact on policing

New act affects all

NEW legislation focused on human rights is to have huge implications for the police service.

By Heather Watts

The Human Rights Act 1998, which the Government is committed to introducing next year will not only affect the service as a corporate body, it will also mean that every individual officer will have to alter certain practices.

It will change the filling in of the policy book to the pocket book.

There will be a substantial impact on criminal cases and the criminal justice system.

The Association of Chief Police

Officers (ACPO) set up a working group last year to assess the impact and consequences of the Human Rights Act on police forces.

The Act, which brings the European Convention in Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms into British Law, will have profound implications for operational policing.

In the light of this, Essex Police have set up their own Human Rights Working group which met last month.

Force Solicitor Adam Hunt who is a member of the Essex Police working group said: "I see one of our key tasks to be the education of officers. Because the Act will be retrospective, any decisions made by police officers now may be examined in court next year and thereafter in the context of the Human Rights Act."

Breaches of the Human Rights Act may mean acquittal of people convicted of crime.

Any appeals presently brought under the European Human Rights Convention take years to appear before a court in Strasbourg, but under the Human Rights Act appeals will be heard in the court hearing the case.

Plan to trial new shift system

FORCE policymakers have given their backing to an extended hours shift system for officers and support staff providing operational shift cover.

But nothing will happen until everyone who will be affected has been asked to give their views.

The force development group decided on the proposal to trial 11-hour shifts, at their July meeting. Chief officers support the group's decision

If officers and staff back the proposed scheme, the next stage would be a trial run involving a number of volunteer divisions, scheduled to start in April next year.

Consultation

However, whether or not this goes ahead is subject to consultation, in which the Federation and UNISON are closely involved.

"The consultation has to take place even for a trial on a limited basis," explained Supt Ian Brown, head of corporate support.

Any trial would not be held until April next year to allow the force to other changes, for example the deployment policy.

And because of the planning involved in policing the Millennium holiday, it was considered wiser to delay the proposed trial until after this had taken place.

If consultation results in the green light being given for the trial, then officers will be asked to volunteer to take part. Consultation is planned for October.

The extended hours system would involve working three 11-hour days followed by three rest days. Shift systems currently in use in the force are based on the traditional eight-hour shift with seven rest days in any 28 day period.

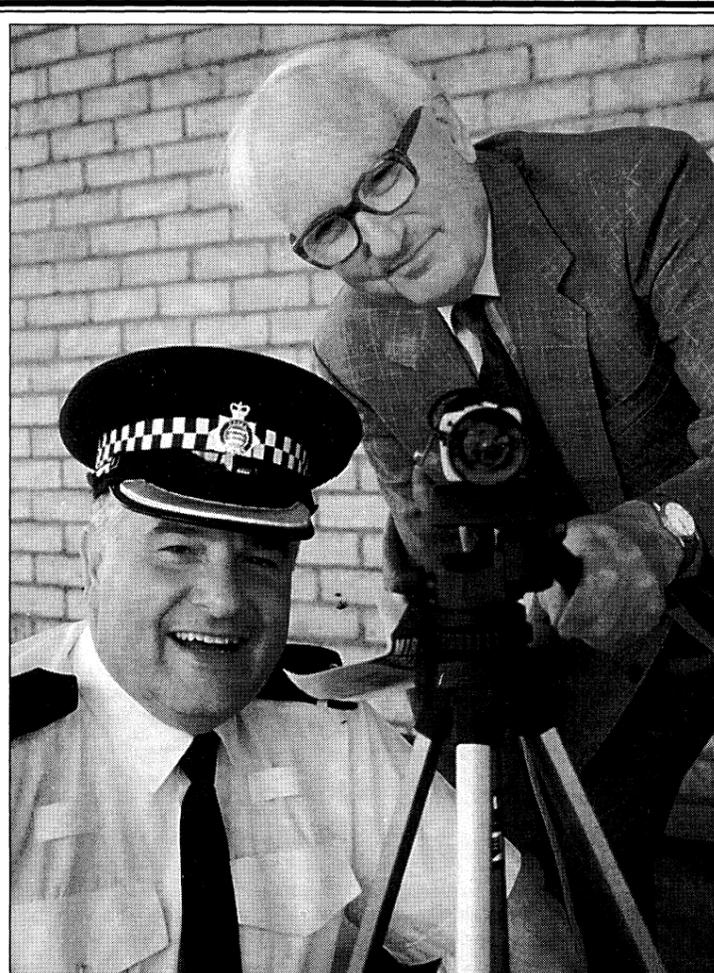
New payroll procedures

ANY information that would normally be sent to Essex County Council Payroll Department must be routed via Police Headquarters Finance Department, Exchequer Services.

This is to enable the Finance Department to maintain an up-to-date record of changes to pay details during the implementation of the new payroll system.

Input for police officer's temporary duty allowance and overtime is not affected by this change in procedure.

For any further information contact the Exchequer Section on ext 50812.



● Chelmsford's Divisional Commander, Supt Brian Storey and Chairman of the Chelmsford Crime Reduction Group, Geoff Ireland, try out the new mobile camera.

Upwardly mobile!

EXCELLENT partnership work has led to yet another mobile CCTV in the Chelmsford division, according to Divisional Commander Supt Brian Storey.

The latest kit, consisting a camera, a video recorder, tripod and viewing screen, has been donated to Chelmsford Crime Reduction Group. The equipment has cost £2000 and will be used in the town to identify those responsible for minor crime and nuisance in local hotspots.

Mr Storey said: "This camera, together with the other systems already in use in the division, is really going to enhance our response to these types of crime."

Law letters

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

Cameras are just about cash

I READ in the June edition of *The Law* of a speed enforcement camera office opening at Billericay.

The article states "Camera enforcement is not about issuing tickets etc".

I would, as a road user, mainly in Chelmsford and Southend, categorically say that speed and light cameras are just a money-spinner.

You only have to watch the brake lights at Gatco cameras.

Vehicles pass me at sometimes 100mph in 50 and 60mph limits, the brakes go on at each camera and the vehicle then returns to its high speed.

The fixed cameras are known to every high speed driver. The best bet would be a series of blow-up rubber police cars at junctions!

I would say the camera is a nice little earner, with little use.

RA White, Chelmsford

Worth every penny!

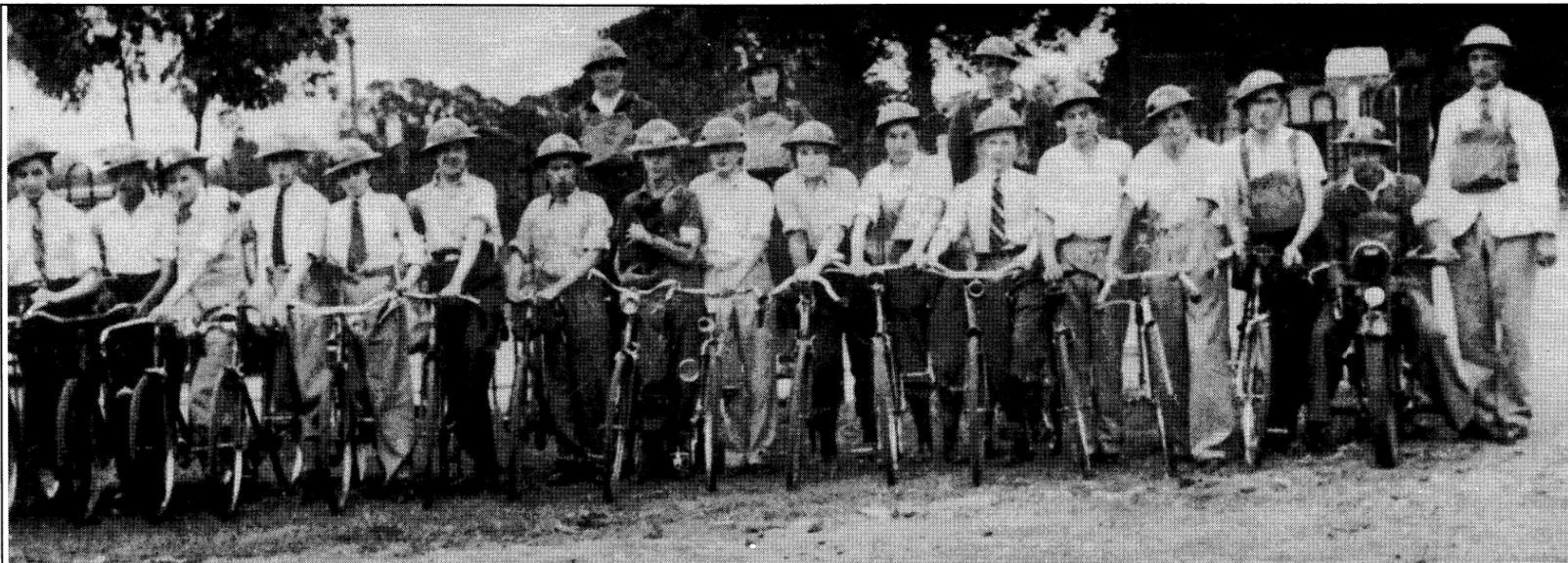
WITH reference to the letter printed in the July edition of *The Law*, written by M.A. Holland, Southend.

I heartily agree that we should all pay a subscription, if only to cover postal costs, for our copy of *The Law*.

I receive mine as a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator and find it a most interesting little publication - well worth a small subscription, particularly if this proved a worthwhile contribution to cutting police costs.

Mrs P. Evans
Braintree

Note from the Editor: A small subscription for *The Law* is something which the editorial team have considered. However, the cost of administration would, in fact, outweigh the benefits.



● Jack Faulkner (third from the left) was a teenage member of the Civil Defence Messengers in the Second World War before eventually become an Essex police officer.

Proud of my days pedalling messages

WITH reference to a previous article in the *The Law* regarding Civil Defence Messengers, I was a messenger (third from the left in the photo).

I was 15 when war was declared and living in the then village of Pitsea. The messenger service was entirely voluntary. Not given a uniform, we were supplied with a steel helmet and gas mask and provided our own pedal cycles.

If there was a breakdown in communications, the object was to convey messages to and from police, fire and ambulance stations and air raid

warden posts.

We were trained in first aid and fire fighting and sent through a gas chamber to get used to wearing our respirators. Just before leaving the chamber we removed our masks to get a whiff of tear gas, just enough to make our eyes water.

There were countless exercises and we would carry messages as far as Wickford and Laindon. I remember on one occasion being stopped by a War Reserve policeman who told me off for cycling too fast. So proud I almost asked him to put it in writing but

thought it might come in the form of a summons.

During the day I was a shipping clerk at Fords, Dagenham, and reported for messenger service in the evenings, weekends and whenever the air raid warning sounded.

In our spare time we would help elderly residents build shelters.

The incident I remember the most was when bombs damaged the telephone wires and two of us were sent to contact the air raid warden to get a damage assessment.

As we approached a crater a member of the public told us there was a body lying nearby. To our relief we found that it was soldier who had had too much to drink.

The leader of our group was a man named Charles Western and incidentally our group's motto was: "We may be slow on the uptake but we're fast on our bikes".

As we reached 18 years of age all of us lads joined the Armed Forces. I had volunteered for and joined the Royal Navy. But that is another story.

Jack Faulkner, Southend

Doesn't loyalty count anymore?

AS with a majority of police officers I read with interest "Striking a Balance" - the new deployment policy (*The Law*, July).

Senior officers can dress this up as much as they like "being able to be more flexible and more responsive to the organisation's needs". The bottom line is that the potential disruption likely to be caused by moving experienced police officers with local knowledge away from their area of

expertise will far outweigh any benefit.

Have we forgotten that police officers ARE the organisation? The knock-on effect of officers having to incur additional expense and time, travelling further to work, couple with the proposed extended shift working hours and the virtual disappearance of overtime and subsistence (which would to some extent make up these shortcomings) will affect the welfare of a lot of officers in this force.

I know that other people reading this will already be thinking that when we joined we knew that we could end up serving anywhere in the county. But then the 'organisation' was

thoughtful enough to provide an ever increasing rent allowance or police housing to compensate for these circumstances.

As usual it is the 'organisation' which continues to move the goal posts not the police officers.

Putting square pegs in round holes does not work. Having de-motivated officers working in areas they do not want to be in, will not serve to benefit the "organisation" or the people of Essex we serve.

Good morale and reward for loyal service do not appear to be at the top of the list of 'management speak' these days, but given the choice I know the kind of officers I would like to have working for me.

Pc Kevin Bailey
Chelmsford

Motorcycles were part of the police image

YET another edition of *The Law* has arrived with no letter about the demise of the force motorcycles which, like the Fleet Air Arm and the Royal Tournament have been similarly disbanded.

The bikes were not just for PR or for picking up forgotten pocketbooks, audio and video tapes, or exhibits for forgetful officers at crown court. They were part of the police image.

Through our service we get to know and work with many departments and

branches. We should all be grateful for the work that the motorcyclists did, whether it was Doug Richards from the Southend Borough days, who taught so many of us to ride, or Bernie Beesley, who likewise did the same at the driving school.

I could go on to mention Rod Daniels, possibly the most commended motorcyclist in the force, if not the land. And not forgetting the dynamic duo Mick O'Sullivan and Andy Stevenson.

I can remember one particular run - a

motorcyclist to NSY with fingerprints in an attempt to identify a prisoner arrested for armed robbery, and what a result we got! All within the space of two hours, and at the cost of a tank of fuel.

So to all those who were part of that elite unit I say thanks and maybe one day you will be on the road again. What about the Fleet Air arm? That's another story.

Ken Wright
Benfleet

Bernard rekindled happy memories

I WAS delighted to read the letter sent in by ex sergeant Bernard Camp as my late husband, known by all as Paddy, being an Irishman, served at Harwich with him.

I would like him to know I have a photograph of them both taken there. We married there in 1936, me being a Dovercourt girl and Pc Norman Bull was our best man. I'm sure Bernard will remember him and George Roseblade.

Inspector Parrot was in charge and the housekeeper was Alice. I didn't realise wages were so small while we were courting. No wonder they were so hard-up.

At least they got free travel on the local buses and free admittance to the cinema.

I see they all had to be in by 11 o'clock. I had to be in by 10 so that was OK.

I did use to meet him on his evening shift sometimes and have hidden under his cape at times - those were the days.

Thank you Bernard for bringing back some very happy memories.

Gwen McEntee
West Mersea

High profile Essex murders lead to new national guidelines

ESSEX murder inquiries have led to new guidelines surrounding the early release of bodies being issued.

The Home Office has circulated a memorandum of good practice which it's hoped will assist the bereaved, while keeping essential rights for defendants.

Religious

The move follows experience gained in Essex in two very high profile cases. When Julian Shone was shot dead in his jewellers shop in Billericay, it was necessary to release his body quickly for religious reasons. Soon after, the family of one of the victims of the Rettendon shootings suffered a second bereavement and called for the body of Tony Tucker to be released quickly for a joint family funeral.

As a result of these experiences, the then Head of CID, former Chief Supt Ralph Barrington, approached an ACPO working group with a view to looking at how victims' families could be helped in this situation without jeopardising the legal process.

ACPO, together with groups such as the Coroners' Society and the Law Society looked into the issue and have now published guidelines for all parties involved in a suspicious death.

Post mortem

The senior investigating officer should designate an officer to liaise with the Coroner, defence teams and pathologists and ensure that all post mortem examinations are carried out quickly. In addition the SIO should co-operate with the Coroner in meeting requests from the defence and ensure that the victim's family is kept informed of developments.

In general the proposals suggest that the police and the Coroner will work closely to ensure that the initial PM is carried out straight away, with the pathologists report completed not later than within 14 days. Then, the Coroner will retain the body for a further 14 days unless all parties, including the defence, agree that the body can be released.

The circular also details changes to procedure for the Coroner, pathologists and the Law Society.

Campaign message vows to keep county safe and well-informed

Pledge to the public

ESSEX Police has sent a Millennium message of reassurance to the county that its police will keep them safe and well-informed, writes Peter Laurie.

The message featured in the launch of the force's Year 2000 public relations campaign.

With police leave cancelled, Essex will see its biggest-ever policing presence during the night shift straddling December 31 and January 1.

At least 1,500 regular officers will be on duty, backed up by Specials and support staff.

A gold command centre will be set up at a special operations room at police headquarters, under ACC(O) Joe Edwards.

Millennium countdown

Alongside him will be senior police officers and representatives from Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, Essex Ambulance Service, Essex County Council and Essex and Suffolk Water Company.

Mr Edwards said: "We are hoping for a Millennium people will enjoy and remember as a happy event, rather than a date they would rather forget."

His message to the public is: "Make the most of it, but be sensible about drinking and driving and treat people the way you would wish to be treated yourself."

There is still no news of any major public events in Essex, but pubs will be able to stay open for 36 hours, from 11am on December 31 until 11pm

on January 1.

Essex Police Television Unit is making a special Millennium operational briefing video for distribution to all divisions in late November or December.

Chief Constable David Stevens says it should be regarded as compulsory viewing by everyone involved in policing the Millennium, and managers should ensure there are ample opportunities and facilities to make this possible.

Meanwhile, all but one of the 43 police forces in England and Wales received an amber status for their state of Millennium preparation last month, following assessments conducted on behalf of the Government.

Amber means that rectifi-

cation and containment plans are in place to counter any disruption.

One force, Dyfed-Powys, received blue status, signifying that no risk of disruption

had been identified.

The assessment programme will continue at Essex Police with a visit by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary on August 13.

Support staff terms

CIVILIAN support staff terms for the Millennium have been put forward by the Essex Police Year 2000 Group.

The terms are in line with Government policy and guidance from ACPO.

All support staff, whether full-time or part-time, who are on duty between December 31 and January 4 inclusive will receive payment at the normal enhanced rates for working during a weekend or public holiday.

There will be a special standby payment to support staff who are not

contracted to work, but agree to make themselves available for duty, should the need arise.

They will receive the nationally-agreed payment of £19.82 for each 12-hour period they are on standby during the five days.

The payment will not apply to support staff who are normally contracted to provide public or bank cover.

Personnel Department is issuing guidance to managers on seeking the support of staff regarding provision of cover during the Millennium period.

Minister views work to improve estate

HOME Office Minister of State Paul Boateng visited Pitsea to hear for himself of the ground-breaking initiatives being successfully implemented there.

On a private visit, Mr Boateng met Chief Constable David Stevens, police and council officers and representatives of Felmores estate residents, for a round-table discussion about Operation Carrick and other inter-agency enterprises being run as part of Basildon Division's crime reduction strategy, under the Crime and Disorder Act.

Billericay MP Theresa Gorman was also present.

Mr Boateng was told that in recent years the Felmores estate has suffered from high crime levels, deprivation and problems associated with its design.

Residents felt isolated and had no faith in the police and local authority to address their concerns.

A public meeting in May gave residents, police officers, Basildon council representatives and members of Neighbourhood Watch the chance to air their concerns.

These included anti social behaviour by youths, including criminal damage, motor-cycle nuisance, theft, poor communication between residents, environmental issues, problems resulting from drug



● Home Office Minister of State Paul Boateng, pictured with Pitsea Community Liaison Officer Pc Diane Capon and Insp Glenn Caton with a plan of a proposed skating park for children from East Basildon.

and alcohol abuse and a perceived lack of interest or response by police to local problems.

Operation Carrick was devised by Pitsea Inspector Glenn Caton, in response to these concerns and has since been implemented.

A pledge was made by the police to commit resources to the estate in return for a tangible and lasting commitment by residents.

Said Insp Caton: "In the long term, we are seeking to change attitudes on the estate, to the extent where there is widespread participation in community-based crime reduction projects and crime itself becomes socially unacceptable."

During the first six weeks of the operation, constables Matt Bradford and Colin Ellis, both based at Pitsea

police station, worked exclusively on the Felmores estate, responding to the needs of residents and dealing with problems.

They have worked closely with Pitsea Community Liaison Officer Pc Diane Capon and there has also been a major contribution from Pitsea-based Specials, taking part in the full range of police activity, including high visibility policing, covert observations and plain clothes operations in off-licences.

Since the campaign began on June 1, there have been more than 30 arrests; a residents' hot-line has been established, to enable them to report crimes and other incidents directly to Pitsea Police Station; there has been an anti-crime leaflet drop by police to homes on

the estate; 16 abandoned vehicles have been removed and crushed and Basildon District Council have undertaken several projects for improving the environment and reducing the risk of crime and nuisance.

Ron Livesy, of the Joint Estate Management committee, told Mr Boateng that residents welcomed the current campaign, but had concerns about its future.

"There is a concern among residents that this operation will stop one day and the problems we have had in the past will come back," he said.

He was reassured by Mr Stevens and other officers that the intention is to follow up Operation Carrick with longer term solutions, involving all agencies working together.

Mystery body is first case on HOLMES 2



THE next generation of HOLMES (Home Office Large Major Enquiry System) went live in Essex this month.

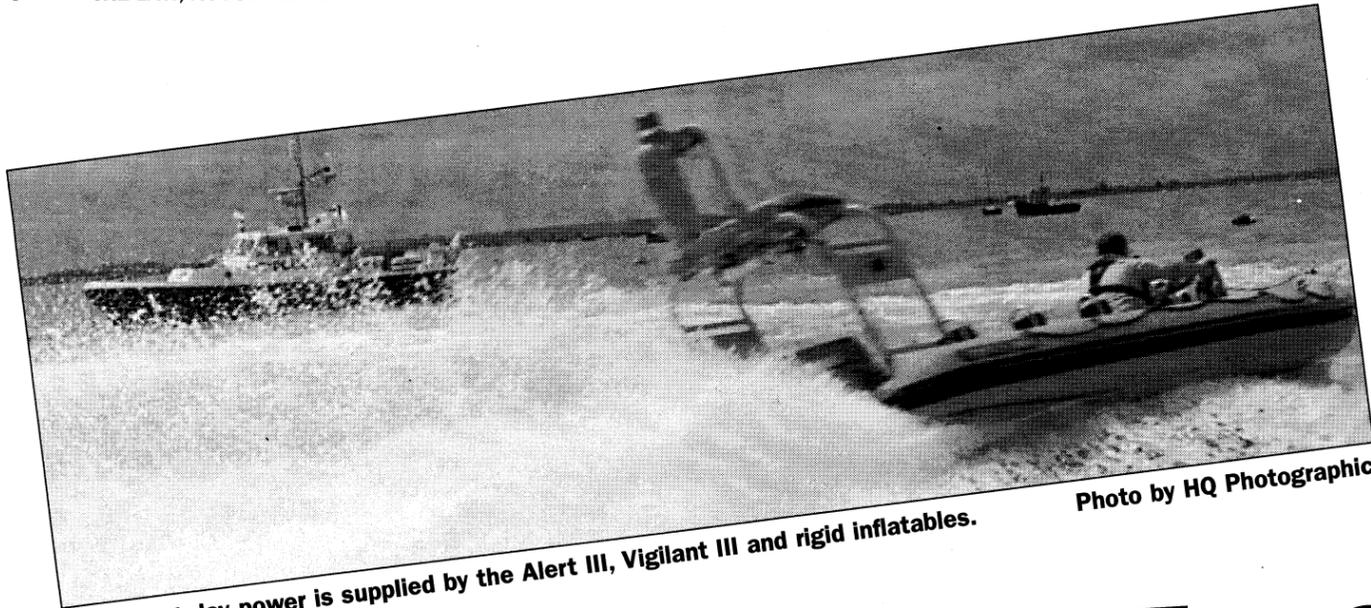
The year 2000 compliant system has been under development for more than two years and was being given its final adjustments at the end of July.

The first installation was at Stanway, where it was intended to transfer Operation Hardwick - the investigation into the discovery of a charred, mutilated body in a wartime bunker at Harwich - onto the new system.

The new system can link incidents where there are known or suspected connections and includes new features for disclosure, automatic document mark-up, exhibits and resource management, and access to information on PNC.

Further advantages include the ability to cost operations, a casualty bureau facility for major incidents and overall greater administrative functions.

Details of HOLMES 2's progress will be featured in future editions of *The Law*.



● Present day power is supplied by the Alert III, Vigilant III and rigid inflatables.

Photo by HQ Photographic

Heather Watts Unit's annivers

Keep

a watchful eye

THE Essex Police Marine Section is celebrating the anniversary of 50 years of policing Essex inland waterways and the county's coastline.

Watchful, alert and vigilant are bywords for an operational unit with a difference.

They police the waterway equivalent of the M25, the busy Thames estuary from the Metropolitan police boundary, the rivers Blackwater, Colne, Stour and Crouch and their numerous creeks and inlets, and the Essex coastline up to Harwich.

Colchester Borough Police undertook the first river policing in the county, forming the Colne River Police in 1891 to protect the lucrative oyster industry, until 1947 when Colchester Borough Police amalgamated with Essex County Constabulary.

The Port of London Authority were concerned about the lack of policing of the lower reaches of the Thames and in 1914 suggested that Essex, Kent and the Metropolitan Police should link up to police the stretch from Dagenham to the sea but it was not until 1948 that this idea was considered by Chief Constable, Captain Peel.

In 1949, it was decided that Essex County Constabulary should operate a river patrol on the River Thames and an ex-RAF sea plane tender was purchased

for the newly formed River Section which was made up of a sergeant and four constables.

The *Vigilant*, as the boat was named, commenced duties in September 1949 based at Tilbury.

Vigilant's finest hour in police service was probably in 1950 when boat and crew assisted at the scene of the sinking of the submarine HMS *Truculent* in the Thames estuary with the loss of lives.

The *Vigilant*, constructed during the war, did not, however, last long and was replaced by 42 foot launch *Vigilant II* in 1959.

By 1966 it became obvious that with the increase of private boating and a rise in crime that another boat was required and this led to the purchase, in 1966, of a 22 foot Todd Tuna small cabin cruiser.

Initially based at Burnham-on-Crouch, named *Alert*, was crewed by a sergeant and a constable to patrol the River Blackwater route to the coast.

Watchful, a 27ft Cheverton wherry boat commenced service in 1971 to supplement *Alert* and the section was increased by a further sergeant and two constables.

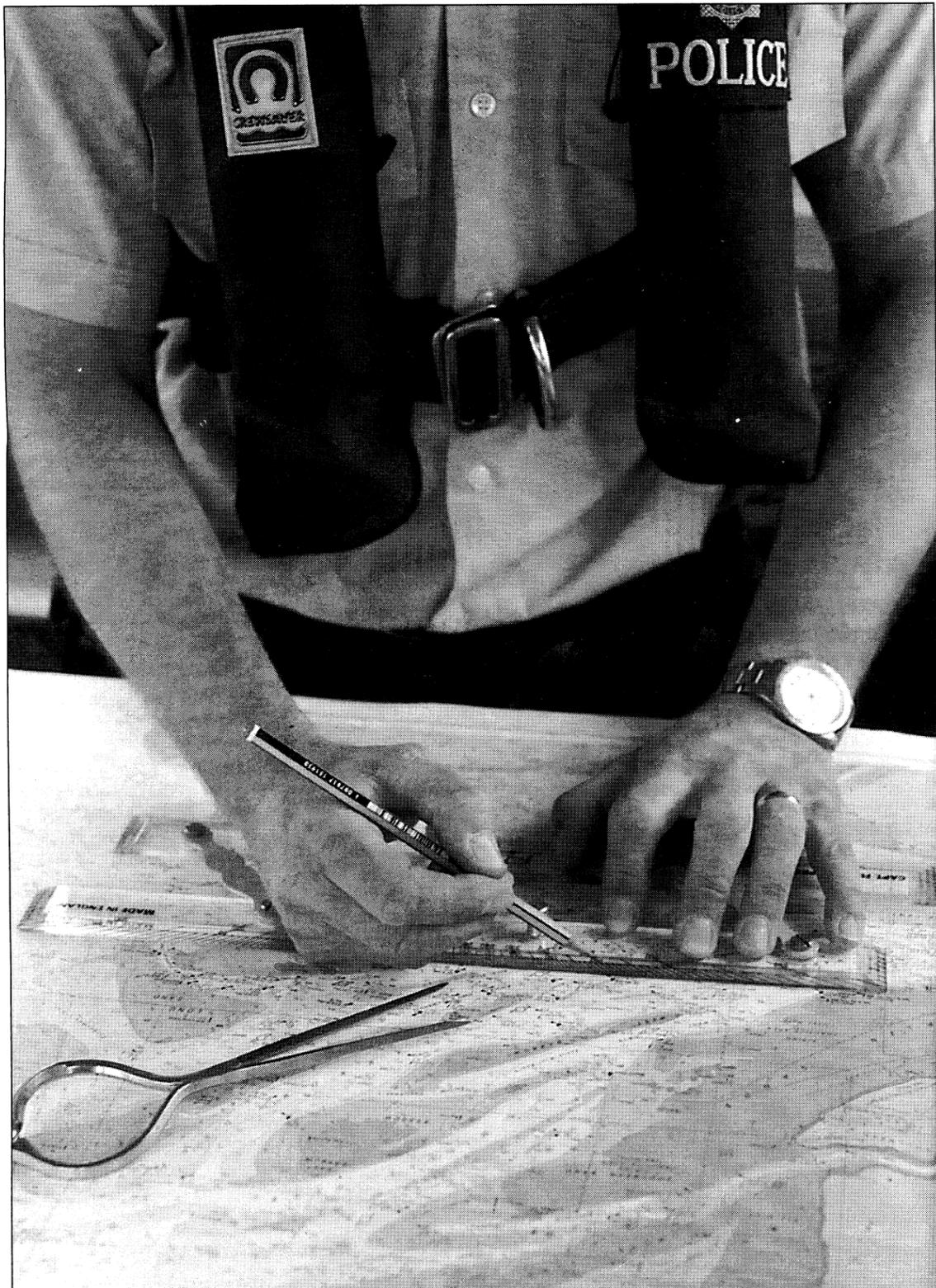
An inspector was appointed to oversee the enlarged River Section which was renamed the Marine Section.

In 1974 the 33 foot adapted angling boat *Alert II* replaced the original *Alert* and a dory was purchased.

Twenty-year-old *Vigilant II* was replaced in 1979 by *Vigilant III*.

In January 1982 the Operational Division officially came into being incorporating the Marine Section. *Alert III* took over from predecessor showing the strength and the old dory was replaced.

Today the Marine Section has two units based at Rayleigh and Burnham, each section having a sergeant and five constables.

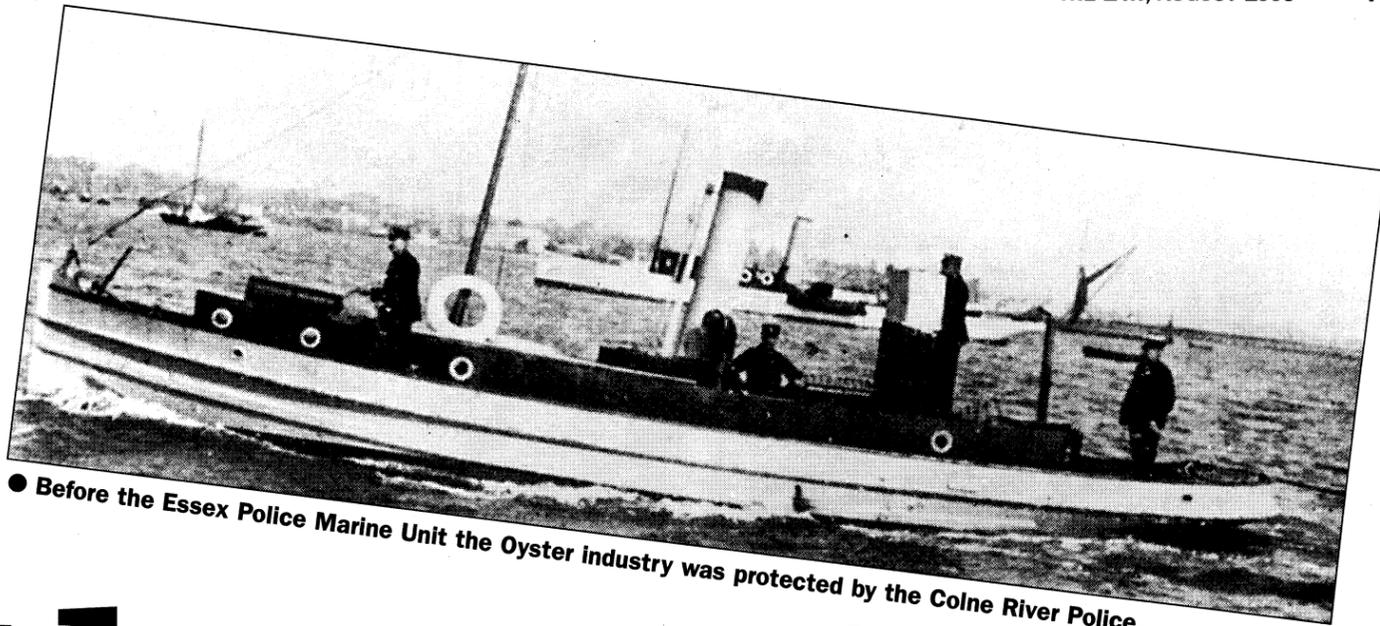


● Officers on the Marine Unit prefer to use navigational charts and individual knowledge than the state-of-the-art electronic systems. Photo: HQ Photographic

oins the Marine y celebrations

oing

e on the water



● Before the Essex Police Marine Unit the Oyster industry was protected by the Colne River Police.

Three officers at Rayleigh are divers and two divers are based at Burnham.

The *Alert III* and *Vigilant III* are still in service supplemented by a rigid inflatable craft at each section and the dory.

The boats are fitted with the latest navigational aids and safety features but officers, who have to complete a six week coastal patrol course, prefer to use navigational charts supplemented by their own knowledge gained over the years of the many sandbanks and channels.

Rivers and coastline are patrolled, weather permitting, and although Marine Section officers first priority is to maintain law and order, officers will go to the rescue of anyone in trouble.

Summer holidays cause an increase in crime with children trashing moored boats. Expensive equipment is stolen and distress flares, which can be lethal in the wrong hands, are often taken.

Officers work with Marine Watch which is the marine equivalent of Neighbourhood Watch, having marking days for boat equipment and they regularly attend boat jumbles on the look out for stolen goods.

Large shipping will be checked alongside immigration officials, and wanted people have been found following checks on crew.

Operations are carried out with customs and excise to tackle smuggling around the many isolated creeks.

Marine officers were also involved with sea saboteurs against live animal exports at Brightlingsea and more recently had to maintain law and order in a cockle war off the Essex coast.

Marine policing has moved on a long way from catching oyster poachers.

Sgt Andy Masson from Rayleigh Marine said: "I moved to the Marine Section from division a few years ago. I do have an interest in boats, as many of the officers in the section have, and enjoy the variety of policing work on our rivers and around the coastline."

Past members of the Marine Section are invited to a special event at Benfleet Yacht Club on September 11. Please contact Sgt Andy Masson on 01268 775533 or Sgt Bob Hollington on 01621 785961.

● The Essex Police divers are invaluable to the Marine Section with the large areas of water and vast coastline of Essex.

They can assist with searches for missing people, recover bodies, people trapped in vehicles and carry out crime and security searches.

Drugs, murder weapons and other evidence are items which have been recovered by the divers.

Each diving job has its own dangers and difficulties and unless there is an immediate threat to life officers on division should contact the unit rather than attempt recovery.

A diver can be contacted at any time.

In 1989 two officers, Stephen Taylor and Andrew Morrison, tragically died while on a routine diving exercise at Dobbs Weir, Nazeing.

The duo were attempting to attach a line to a sunken barge when one of them came across what he thought was an air pocket.

Unfortunately there was no oxygen and when the diver removed his air supply he collapsed.

His colleague went to his rescue but he too suffered anoxia, or oxygen deficiency, and died.

The tragedy led to changes for police divers nationally.



● Sgt Andy Masson climbs aboard Vigilant III in preparation for another day at sea.

Photo: HQ Photographic.



● Essex Police has also used divers for many years to help carry out underwater searches. They now form part of the Marine Unit.

Anti-crime groups tread the boards

BENFLEET crime prevention panel and Neighbourhood Watch have found an innovative way to highlight the dangers of bogus callers.

Three short scenarios are acted by Neighbourhood Watch and police thespians for the benefit of any clubs or groups.

The first shows an elderly resident faced with an alleged workman who is let in.

Secondly a cunning woman tricks her way into the home by pretending the residents have won a competition.

Both instances lead to money being taken.

The audience are so involved that they usually boo when the wad of cash is

taken.

Finally the audience are shown how it should be done, keeping a chain on the door and only letting callers in once identification is verified.

Actress and Neighbourhood Watch member, Maria Awang said: "We are always surprised at these shows how many elderly people admit they have been targeted by bogus callers. Acting out these scenarios really gets the message across."

Maria will be happy to help any Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators from other areas who are interested in the roadshow.

She can be contacted at Benfleet police station on 01268 756221.

Blood donors needed

MORE volunteers are needed for the next blood donor session at headquarters training school on the 2 September.

The donor sessions are held in the gym between 10am and 12.30pm then 2pm to 4.30pm.

Although over 90 people attended the last blood

donor session at the training centre at least 120 people are required to give blood to make the blood donor session worthwhile.



Flying high - Sally joins the ASU

CONSTABLE Sally Brown's love of flying has led to her becoming the first woman to join the Essex Police Air Support Unit.

Sally, who joined as a cadet in 1979, has served as a uniformed police officer and experienced CID work.

This is not the first specialist post that she has held as HOLMES training has involved her with major investigation work.

A spell as a reserve with the Air Support Unit in 1997 helped build up her knowledge.

Sally, who is enjoying her role with the Air Support Unit said "It is very different to any other job I have done. I like the role we play and the way we can pull everything together. I know we are a great help to people on the ground."

One arrested in road check

PROBLEMS were found with more than half the coaches and buses stopped by Essex Police in a nationwide safety crackdown codenamed Operation Tourist.

More than 40 police forces in England, Scotland and Wales took part in the spot checks on buses and coaches, supported by the Vehicle Inspectorate.

The Essex checks took place on the M25 at Granada Services, Thurrock, on Saturday, July 24.

Of 23 vehicles stopped, only 11 were found to be problem-free. A total of 24 offences were

detected.

One driver was arrested with regard to an outstanding warrant issued in respect of previous driving allegations.

Two Polish drivers were found to be driving British-registered vehicles without the required authorisation and exceeding tachograph hours. Both drivers were taken off the road and their passengers had to wait while the coach operator, based in the Midlands, sent replacement drivers to Essex.

Another six drivers were found to have committed tachograph offences.

Six vehicles were issued with delayed prohibition notices in respect of minor defects. This means they were able to continue, having been given a deadline for the defects to be rectified.

New police complaints leaflets

CHANGES to police misconduct procedures which came into force recently have led the Police Complaints Authority to produce new leaflets.

Available in English, Welsh, Chinese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu, the new leaflets explain to the public their right to make a complaint against a

member of the police service.

Hoping to spread the word far and wide, Police Complaints Authority Chairman, Peter Moorhouse said: "The leaflets are available from most police stations and we are seeking to distribute them to public libraries, Citizens' Advice Bureaux and law centres."

Special skills training to continue

SUPERVISORY Skills Training for Special Constables will be continuing this year for officers who are already supervisors or acting supervisors.

It is a requirement for officers to complete this training as part of their role and it is vital that officers complete the distance learning package prior to the first day's training.

Four to six hours introduction to Supervisory Skills Training will be at EPTC HQ

on September 18, Southend, October 16 and Colchester, November 20.

Foundation Module Workshops will be held on November 13 and 14, at EPTC Headquarters, Southend, and at Colchester on January 15 and 16, 2000.

The People Workshop Module will be at EPTC on February 12 and 13, 2000, Southend, March 18 and 19, and Colchester on April 15 and 16.

Dates and locations will be

advised for the third module, the Operations Module, at a later date.

To put your name forward for training a TS1 form will have to be submitted via your divisional officer and forwarded to Specials Administration Management Headquarters.

Further details of the content of each module can be obtained from Sgt Eveleigh, Sgt Rickard on ext 56146, for any other queries please contact the Specials Coordinator on ext 54154.

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Developing ideas for the future

A NEW unit has been set up to look at areas of the police service which require development.

Until now, officers would be pulled from divisions to review and research different projects.

This is now the task of the Force Development Unit, based at headquarters Corporate Support Department and led by Insp Nick Hale and Pc Graham Perks.

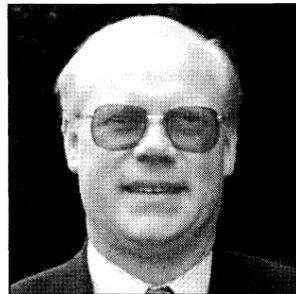
The unit first projects entail a review of crime desks, help desks and the crime recording system. The development of a call handling strategy for the force is also a current responsibility and next year they will evaluate a pilot scheme for the proposed new shift system.

The impact of each of the projects goes beyond single divisions and departments but must be carried out within existing resources.

Formation of the unit will keep members up-to-date with developments, reduce duplication of work and lead to best value practice.

Pc Graham Perks said: "If we make recommendations for changes, although they may be short term solutions, they will be changes for the better."

New chief prosecutor appointed



FOLLOWING the recent reorganisation of the Crown Prosecution Service John Bell is the new Chief Crown Prosecutor appointed for Essex.

Mr Bell has worked extensively with the police since qualifying as a solicitor in 1974. His links with the police however go back further as John's father was a chief superintendent with Durham Constabulary.

When the Crown Prosecution Service was formed in 1986, Mr Bell took on more responsibility eventually becoming a Branch Crown Prosecutor.

He was appointed Assistant Chief Crown Prosecutor in 1996.

Mr Bell said: "I am looking forward to working closely with the Chief Constable to reduce crime and the fear of crime in the county."

Part of the close working relationship is the establishment of a new Essex Criminal Justice Board.

The group, which includes Chief Constable David Stevens is responsible for taking forward initiatives to improve the criminal justice system in the county.

Three nines celebrate 20 years

WHO would believe that the Thurock 999 fayre all began with a chariot race.

In the early 70s crews of Tilbury and Grays fire stations ran a number of events to raise money for their benevolent fund. Around 1977 this developed into a one day Fireman's Fayre on the British Bata Company sports field in the wilds of East Tilbury.

A challenge was sent out to other groups including the local police and ambulance to join in a chariot race, with teams of six pulling some unfortunate volunteer around an arena.

From there early fayres came the idea of a joint emergency services event.

The first of these was held in 1979. Open to the public it offered arena acts, displays, refreshments, vehicles and local charity stalls.

Throughout the last 20 years the fayre has maintained this formula whilst adapting to the many changes in the demands made on service time and equipment. Many a rest day has been swallowed up with fayre business.

Chariot races, tug-'o-war and the well loved wellie throwing competition have all been seen, together with the well liked major incident scenario. From burning cars at an RTA to a crashed aircraft, drunk

drivers and casualties have all been paraded for rescue or arrest.

A number of stars have also been attracted to the events from Professor Magnus Pike, to Jimmy Jones and *The Bill's* Billy Murray to athlete Fattima Whitbread.

As well as benefiting the emergency services benevolent funds, many other local charities have received cash raised from the event.

History lesson over it would be amiss not to mention this year's event, particularly as it marks the 20th anniversary.

With its home now in the grounds of Thurrock College, Grays, gates open from 11am to 5pm and it hopes to pull a bumper crowd with its offer of endless entertainment for adults and children alike. While the kids enjoy the bouncy castles and fairground rides, the more mature can sample some driving experience over a short course, listen to the Sutherland Pipe and Drums band, admire the vintage emergency vehicles as well as the police cars of the future.

Refreshments will be plentiful and displays include the Solent-Eagles Motor Cycle Display Team with death-defying fire jumps and the John Evans Strongman act.



● A young member of the Solent-Eagles Motor Cycle Display Team demonstrates a fire jump.

Steps taken to deal with extra non-emergency queries

Coping with extra calls

STEPS are being taken to reduce the number of non-999 telephone calls being handled by Force Information Room.

Non-emergency calls to FIR rose from 60,074 in January to 96,504 in May - an increase of 61 per cent.

The increase resulted from calls made by divisional personnel and members of the public being transferred from a police station.

A range of measures to combat the problem has now been put forward by the FIR Working Practices Group, which includes representatives from the Police Federation and the civilian staff union UNISON.

The group is striving to achieve an effective balance of responsibility which is in line with the force's single-tier incident management policy.

Group chairman Supt Bob Ward said: "I am grateful for the input which has been given and would encourage anyone with a suggestion to offer it to their representative on the working practices group."

"It's not a question of trying to find fault with FIR or any division. It's a matter for the organisation as a whole and finding solutions which will benefit everyone."

The group has identified a link between the increase in non-999 calls transferred to FIR and the introduction earlier this year of the new STORM command and control system.

Divisional personnel who cannot access STORM for the required information have

By Peter Laurie

been passing callers to FIR.

By October, all divisional police officers and operational support staff will receive advice on how to view STORM.

Uniformed sergeants and operational managers will receive divisional training by the end of this year on how to add text and close incidents on the command and control system.

Another objective is to ensure that by October, at least 25 per cent of divisional operational personnel are trained to call taker standard on STORM, enabling them to create an incident on the system, then send it to FIR if police attendance is required.

It is planned to increase the number of divisional operational personnel with call taker ability to 40 per cent by the end of the year.

The top skill target in this area is to train up to 50 personnel in each territorial division by December 31 to operate STORM to dispatcher level, giving them the ability to send officers to the scene of an incident - should the need arise - and to monitor local resources. Tuition will take place at the Essex Police Training Centre.

At divisional police stations where an incident is spotted on a CCTV monitor, Help Desk personnel will be able to send police officers to the scene and control the initial stages of the deployment.

Also, among the

improvements is an increase across the force in the number of personnel who have access to the Police National Computer.

These measures have been approved by the Operational Policing Policy Group.

Other steps in the pipeline

include circulating an aide memoire for infrequent users of STORM, computerised divisional key holder lists and personnel off-duty contact details and production of an updated FIR working practices document.

It is anticipated this

document will confirm that command of an on-going incident lies with the supervisory divisional officer at the scene, rather than FIR.

The working practices group intends to have all its improvements in place by the end of this year.



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Special plea

IF you were a special constable during the Second World War, or a regular officer who worked alongside the Special Constabulary during that time, then you may be able to help a student with his inquiries.

Paul Abdey who is currently studying at the University of Essex would like to hear from you to discuss your experiences. Please write to him at 22 Cheriton Road, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0EU.

Traffic trio retire

THREE Stanway Traffic officers are retiring this month with over 94 years' service between them.

Head of the unit Inspector Chris Lay leaves after over 35 years' service.

Names in the news

Also retiring is Sgt Frank Ruggles and Pc Christopher Woodward, who has served over 30 years' service.

Sergeant Patrick Cannon based at Harwich Port retired in July after serving over 30 years.

Also serving over 30 years Sgt Jacqueline Seal, Southend, retires this month. Another sergeant retiring after over 30 years' service is Braintree officer Ronald Ricks.

Clacton constable Clive Anthony retires after 30 years service.

Ill health has forced the

retirement of constable John White from his post in the Force Intelligence Bureau after over 15 years' service.

Retired DCI Peter Croxford died on June 26, aged 76. Formerly serving at Southend he retired after 28 years' service in 1982. The funeral has taken place.

Market Place

1998 Triumph Trophy, 900cc only 900 miles, alarm, top box, heated grips, Scott oiler plus more extras, £6,000. Contact Steve Nessling on 01279 814930.

BAY Gelding, 14.1 hands. Excellent all rounder, good to shoe and clip, ideal teenage pony. Genuine reason for sale including tack and rug, £600 ono. Contact R. Douglas on 01702 216856.

CARAVAN awning for sale. Will fit 16ft caravan. Used once, slightly damaged, easily repairable, £350. Contact Dc Brochen on 0589 055771.

CUSTOM built GRP family canal river cruiser. four berth, c/cockpit, colvic hull, 25ft by 6ft 6ins, 35hp, diesel. H/c water, BSS safety certificate, moored River Nene. Licensed cruise ready, £6,000 ono. Contact I. Goldsmith on 01845 537653.

DEEP sea fishing, Littlehampton, Sussex, with Mike Walker, ex Air and Marine units) on Encounter. Phone 01279 433721 or 0411 212808. Email encounter@marina99.freeseer ve.co.uk.

DISNEYWORLD holiday villa, three bedrooms, private 24 foot swimming pool, gas BBQ, air-cond, sleeps 6 to 8 and is 12 minutes from Disney. Prize location, tranquil yet close. Competitive rates, occasional late offers. Contact Stephen Warwick on 01245 464768.

FORD Escort SI, 1800, 'M' reg, 24,000 miles, immaculate condition, £5,000 ono. Interested? Contact Clare on 01245 491491 ext 53050.

FLORIDA. New 4 bedroom holiday home on private estate. Extended screened pool and deck, air-con, 2 bathrooms, sleeps 10. 15 minutes from Disney and other attractions. Nearest golf, one mile. Available from December. Contact Dave Yarwood on 01928 735609.

FLORIDA near Disneyworld. New luxurious air-conditioned 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom villa with private heated pool. Sleeps up to 10. Located on private estate, 11 minutes from Disneyworld and major attractions. About 150 yards from new golf course. Clubhouse, communal pool and soccer pitch facilities. Other villas for sale or rent. Contact 0191 3856549 or 01670 713489.

HOLIDAY bungalow. Bempton nr Bidlington, East Yorkshire heritage coast. Privately situated. Sleeps 4. Maintained and equipped to high standard. Dc Pat Oxley on 01964 527531.

LATHAMS pine farmhouse table, 4ft 6ins x 3ft. Immaculate. Buyer collects, £100. Tel 01992 613012.

JADE pet/home sitting - TLC provided during your absence. Professional/secure service by retired DCI. N.A.D. registered, insured. Discount for police officers and civilians. Tel 07974 275369 for details.

PEUGEOT 405GR 1.6. Four door, 'K' reg, blue, good condition. MoT and tax until August, 45,000 miles, fsh, £3,000. Contact Tony on 01277 262511 or 0411 484102.

PINE Lodge Hotel, Newquay, Cornwall. Ideal location for town centre and beaches. All bedrooms ensuite with tea-making facilities and colour televisions. Refurbished for 1999 season. Large car park, heated outdoor pool. Contact Roger Wheeler for brochure and tariff on 01637 850891.

SEATON, Devon. Detached canadian cedarwood chalet on small, select park. Heated and fully equipped, two bedrooms. Full details on request. Tel 01404 891188.

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SUITE. Three piece light cane with coffee table, vgc, £50. Ferguson VCR, £25. Pioneer hi-fi cassette deck, new, boxed, £50. Clive McQuire on 07931 307676.

SUZUKI Swift 1.3 GSI. Three door hatchback, white, immobiliser, 'K' reg, removable clarion stereo, Mot, tax, very reliable and economical. Service history, £2,850 ovno. Tel 01702 354875.

TO LET. Florida - 10 minutes from Disney World. 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom luxury villa with pool. Sleeps 8 to 10. Situated on quiet Lindfields Development close to major attractions and golf courses. Private rental. Owned by serving officer. Prices from £325 per week. Price reductions on late availability. For colour brochure and price list for 1999 and 2000 ring Steve or Lyn Parry on 01446 411961.

YAMAHA RXS 100cc motorcycle. Excellent commuter/learner. 'G' reg, 19,500 miles, full year's MoT, vgc, very reliable. Top box, £395 ono. Contact Jason Snow on 01787 227104.

VW Golf 1.3, 1990, 3dr blue, 85k, sunroof, very reliable, £2,200. Tel 07788 728148.

WICKFORD. Two bedroom, unfurnished house for rent. Close (5 minutes) to amenities and police station. Own garage, garden, satellite, w/machine, fridge/freezer, £610pm (£570pm for police). For details tel Donna on 01245 491491, ext 53628.

Schools in need of governors

ESSEX County Council, the local education authority, have a recruitment campaign for governors of maintained schools in Essex.

Schools need members of the local community who come from a variety of backgrounds and who have a range of skills and experiences.

If you are interested please contact the Governor Support Service at Essex County Council on 01245 436669.

Any staff wishing to become a governor should refer to Policy Guideline P38/98 and officers should refer to section 6 of the General Policy Guideline Manual, paragraph 42.30, page 126F.



● One of oldest pensioners present, 91-year-old George Rushford shares tea and cakes with Chief Constable David Stevens. George, a former sergeant retired in 1960.

Garden gossip as pensioners reunite

MORE than 400 Essex Police pensioners took up the invitation to attend a garden party at the training centre on a hot July afternoon.

After a warm welcome from Chief Constable David Stevens, the former officers and support staff tucked into a tasty buffet and cream teas, while the Essex Police Band provided musical entertainment.

There was also an opportunity to check old photographs of police activity in the county, to help the Essex Police Museum identify the officers pictured.

Several groups of pensioners joined tours of the Force Information Room and Scenes of Crime laboratory during the afternoon, while others simply took the opportunity to chew over old times and catch up with their former colleagues.

Ramsey research needs you help

THE terrible year experienced by Ramsey Village in 1978-1979, is to form a feature in the Harwich and Manningtree Standard, and the newspaper is seeking some local knowledge.

During that year Alison Morris was murdered, a school minibus crashed

in Earl's Colne killing six youngsters from the village and there was a siege at the Castle Pub.

If you had involvement in any of these incidents or have any information about the cases, Jenny Chapman would like to hear from you. She can be contacted in 01255 221221.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and rank

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Send to The Editor, The Law, Press Office,
Essex Police Headquarters.

Sport and Leisure

Essex Police Choir

THE summer months are generally a fairly quiet time for choir members in terms of concerts, and this year has been no exception with our only outing being a return to one of our favourite churches at Great Bromley on Friday, June 18. Once again we were able to assist with raising funds.

The autumn will see us getting back into full swing and our first concert will be in the south of the county on Saturday, September 25 at St Margaret's Church, Stanford-le-Hope. More details of tickets and start time in the September issue but please make a note in your diaries.

Saturday, October 9 will see us at Christchurch in Chelmsford for our 10th anniversary concert. We will be joined in the celebrations by a wealth of musical talent including the Essex Police Band, the Hertfordshire Police Choir, our friends from the Essex Police Musical Society and Bedford Police, Folk Lore.

With such a wide selection of singing and music there should be something to suit all tastes so we expect the night to be a sell out. Tickets are £6 and can be obtained by telephoning Julie Brown on 01245 494811 or Norman Eastbrook on 01621 817697.

Top brass tribute

THE Essex Police HQ sportsfield echoed to the sounds of brass, drums and a steel band last month, for a charity concert in honour of retired Assistant Chief Constable Geoffrey Markham.

On a scorchingly hot Sunday afternoon, around 600 people turned up with their picnics to hear performances by the Essex Police Band, HM Royal Marine Drum Corps, Norfolk Constabulary Steel Band, the Royal Airforce Brass Ensemble and The Receeders Rock Band.

The event raised £3,000 for the hospices of Essex and the Macmillan Nurses.

There were a number of stalls and other attractions during the afternoon, but the highlight was an RAF flypast by two Harrier jets, whose arrival coincided with Essex Police Band's rendition of the theme from the film *The Dam Busters*.

Mr Markham and his family were guests of honour at the event and said they were delighted with the tribute to his 42 years' service with Essex Police.

Organiser Det Supt David Bright said he had been very pleased with the concert and thanked all those who had helped with its organisation.

He said: "Raising £3,000 for the hospices and Macmillan Nurses was a superb bonus, considering



that this was secondary to the main purpose of the event, which was to pay tribute to Mr Markham for his service to Essex Police.

"The piece de resistance was the RAF flypast. I would also like to thank all the bands who took part, who helped to make it such a success."

Chief Constable David Stevens, who attended the concert with his wife and daughter, commented in the programme foreword: "I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who has assisted in the preparation of today's concert, in particular the musicians and to the audience for supporting Essex Police in our charity endeavours."

Essex Police Sports and Social Club

WHETHER it's the theatre or a historical day out that takes your fancy, the Essex Police Sports and Social Club has just the trip for you.

First up is a visit to **Hampton Court Palace**, gardens and maze, on Sunday, August 22. The coach leaves the headquarters training centre at 9.30am.

New reduced prices, including coach and entrance to the palace, gardens and maze, are £13 for adults, £9 for children and £11 for pensioners.

On Thursday, September 23 you get the chance to go and see the show which you've all heard about - **The Mousetrap**. Tickets for the longest running West End show are £23.50 including coach.

Another West End show on the bill is **The Lion King**, which can be seen on Wednesday, November 17. Coach trip and tickets for this event cost £30.

And as the year and century come to close, why not enjoy the very popular **Thursford Christmas Concert**. The event is on Saturday, November 20 and tickets, including coach, are £19.50.

If you're interested in any of the events contact Shirley Turner on 01245 491491 ext 50666 or fax 50665.

Lottery results

THE result of the July lottery is as follows: £1500 Dc Ian Box, Fraud Unit; £1000 Pc D. Sims, Epping; £500 Pc T. Drewett, Pitsea; £300 Pc E. Blakeborough, Benfleet; £200 Chief Insp Andy Down, Colchester and £100 Sgt T. Slater, Basildon.

Consolation prizes of £50 go to the following: Pc Bill Brightmore, Chelmsford Traffic; Pc J. Newling, Benfleet; Dc Jim Cousen, Rayleigh SB; Peter Layzell, retired; R. Purslow, Stanway Traffic; Sgt C. Jones, Rayleigh; Pc Terry Spelman, Federation, Pc P. Allardyce, Harlow and Sgt Tim Enstone, FIR.

Music to the ears of charity

A CHARITY dedicated to providing musical therapy to pre-school children with learning difficulties, is to benefit to the tune of £1,000 thanks to the Essex Police Musical Society.

Open Door, has centres in Colchester, Chelmsford and Brentwood and helps children who have mainly suffered as a result of cerebral palsy, autism and Downs Syndrome.

A annual Musical Hall concert held recently at headquarters by the Essex Police Musical Society raised half of the cash being donated. It was doubled when the employers of the society's secretary, Mrs Claire Lambeth, heard what she was doing. Warburg Dillon Read, a financial institution in the city offered to match any profits made.

The Society itself broke new ground in this year's concert with the second half of the show made up of modern songs. It was also a showcase for the newer young members who performed excellently. Every member of the cast was a star, so, this time, no individuals will be mentioned. It must be said that one of the show stoppers was the society's version of *The Full Monty*.

The next production will be *Anything Goes* to be held at Police HQ assembly hall during the week of February 21 to

26, 2000. Anyone wanting tickets for the show are advised to have their details recorded on the mailing list held by the Box Office Manager, John Bray at 2 Wallasea Gardens, Chelmsford CM1 6JZ.

Should you wish to take part in this next show it is not too late. For further information please contact Lynda Barkway at Corporate Support, HQ.

Trek to no man's land

AN Essex Police employee is preparing to trek across the Sahara Desert in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief.

Steve Lewis, a temporary Systems Support Technician in IT, will be hiking 100km across sand dunes, hills and rocky terrain, where few other than camels have ventured before! Steve and his wife will be joining around 50 other people in the challenge this November and they have to raise at least £1,800 each.

The money raised will enable Macmillan to continue their work to provide the best care possible for people living with cancer and their families. Macmillan funds specialist nurses and doctors as well as buildings for cancer treatment and care and grants for patients facing financial difficulties.

Anyone wishing to support the cause can raise money in any way - perhaps through a BBQ, a car wash, coffee morning or quiz night. Cheques, made payable to Macmillan Cancer Relief can be sent to Steve Lewis at 27 Stamford Lane, Warmington, Peterborough, Cambs PE8 6TW.

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Sport and Leisure



● Making history for Essex Police are the tug-of-war team at Cardiff's track and field championships. As well as a bronze team medal, Pc Alan Lambert (left) and Pc Dave Woodhouse (second left) were selected for the British squad.

Sweet revenge

PG Wodehouse Society

v

Dulwich Dusters

A CORKER day with victory over the cricketing foe, The Dulwich Dusters, and dinner in the Great Hall of Dulwich College for 120 enthusiasts and guests. And then there was Trevor Bailey recalling his delightful days at the college as a schoolboy cricketer.

The sun poured down as The Society XI (now called The Gold Bats) raced to 134 for 8 wickets in 20 overs. David Cazalet, Lorenzo Austin and Alan Hurley the major contributors.

The Society bowling was varied and effective. Only Duster's skipper, Danny Kent (59 off 25 balls) could stem the PGW advance.

Gold Bats skipper, Hurley, took 3 for 5. The Dusters polished off for 101. Last year's opening fixture defeat was avenged.

Gentleman of Essex CID

v

Audley End

THE loss of Payne and Coxall to police duties and Greene to other business, reduced the detectives chances in this game against the beautiful backdrop of Audley End. Skipper Mellon and Richards (Essex County Cricket Club) picked up 37 runs a piece which helped the police secure a not unreasonable 150 runs.

It was not to be enough, however. Miller took three wickets with only 50 runs on the board but Audley End dug in and reached the required total with four wickets to spare.

Bronze winners pull for Britain

TWO Essex officers have been picked to pull for Britain following a national championship in which the entire tug-of-war team walked away with a bronze medal.

To our knowledge Essex has never, in police history,

been placed in this event. In fact, it is the first time for years a team has even been entered.

But the track and field championships in Cardiff proved the place to make history with the team winning a bronze medal in the 720kg event and two officers, Pc Dave Woodhouse and Pc Alan Lambert being picked for the British squad.

Prior to Cardiff the team entered a number of carnival events and have picked up two trophies for their efforts.

The rest of the team are Dave Gorbitt, Darren Pitt, Stuart Byrne, Shaun Hammond, Andy Thorpe, Steve Gibbs and trainer Chris Medicott.

Constables Woodhouse and Lambert have since competed in a tri-services in Wiltshire where Pc Lambert added a silver medal to his collection in the 640kg class.

Anyone interested in tug-of-war

shouldn't be fooled into thinking you need to be built big. With various weight classes, it is those officers weighing in between 80kg and 90kg who are required.

The team train weekly at a venue in the north of the county and they are planning to make their next event Kessingland, Norfolk in October.

If you are interested in joining the team and want to know more, contact Brightlingsea police station on ext 17140 or 01206 302515. Alternatively leave a Voice Mail message for Andy Thorpe or Alan Lambert on 01206 307460.

Know your sports representative

RE-ELECTIONS have taken place for the 1999/2000 season of the Essex Police Sports Association.

Below are listed the nominated representatives.

Management committee: Chairman, Mr Charles Clark; Vice Chairman, Mr Geoffrey Markham; Secretary, Mr John Stonehouse; Assistant Secretary, Pc Chris Jacob; Treasurer, Sgt D. Bouckley; Asst Treasurer, Mr John Watts.

Divisional representatives: Basildon, Pc Steve Wynn; Braintree and Stansted Airport, Pc Jim Nash; Chelmsford, Dc Ian Shead; Colchester, Pc John Bolingbroke; Harlow, Pc Bob Bruce; HQ, Christine Evans; Rayleigh, Pc Peter Moyes; Southend, Pc Paul Bates; Tendring, Mr Charles Day; Thurrock, Pc Laurie Rampling.

Section Secretaries: Athletics, Pc Laurie Rampling, Thurrock; **Angling (fly)**, Pc A. Lewis, Gt Dunmow; **Angling (freshwater)**, Pc Bob Hunter, Chelmsford Traffic; **Angling (sea)**, Pc Dave Clark, Hadleigh; **Badminton**, Pc Richard Edwards, Colchester; **Billiards**, DI Peter Orpe, Braintree; **Cricket**, DI Lorrie Austin, HQ SB; **Cricket (vets)**, John Stonehouse, HQ;

Cross country, Pc Mick Bond, Copford; **Cycling**, Pc Graham Snellin, Braintree; **Football**, Pc Chris Dicks, Chelmsford Traffic; **Golf**, Pc Nick Padmore, Epping; **Hockey**, Chief Insp Sue Harrison, Chelmsford; **Indoor games**, Pc Chris Jacob, Hockley; **Ladies 5-a-side football**, Pc S. Bakewell, Southend; **Netball**, Pc S. Clark, Westcliff; **Orienteering**, Sgt Dave Birkett, Chelmsford; **Rugby**, Pc Elliot Zagger, Chelmsford Traffic;

Shooting, Pc Mick Aldridge, Rochford; **Skiing**, Pc Bob Hunter, Chelmsford Traffic; **Swimming**, Pc D. Mathlin, Wickford; **Squash**, Pc A. Bunting, Rayleigh traffic; **Sailing**, Dc Richard Houghton, HQ IT projects; **Tennis**, Stuart Bowman, HQ crime prevention; **Triathlon**, Sgt Pete Bryan, Chelmsford Traffic; **Volleyball**, Sgt Nick Banks, HQ public order training; **Walking**, Pc S. King, Colchester.

Police cricket down under

THE Commissioner of the Western Australia Police Service is inviting all forces to attend the 3rd international Police Cricket Festival, to be held in Perth from February 24 to March 10, 2001.

An event like this takes a great deal of planning and the organisers need to know prospective numbers at the earliest possible time.

Anyone seriously interested should contact Sgt Joe Wrigley on HQ ext 54201 or John Stonehouse on ext 58888 for more details.

Sports shop still trading

THE Force Sports and Leisure Shop continues to trade Wednesday lunchtimes between 12 noon and 2pm, plus one Saturday each month. The next two Saturdays are August 28 and September 11.

The shop is, however, currently closed and remains so until August 16.

More medals for Essex athletes

AT the National PA Athletics meeting in Cardiff Essex picked up a number of medals, aside from the tug-of-war (see article above).

Pc Sue Bunting, from Southend, won gold in the long jump, Supt Dennis Shepherd, from Basildon, took bronze in the walking and Pc Tanya Payton, from Brentwood Traffic took two bronze medals for shot put and javelin.

Future events

KNOWN forthcoming sports section events are as follows:

Netball on September 5, HQ, organised by Insp, H and Pc Clark, Westcliff; golf on September 17 at Orsett, by Dc Terry at Basildon; rowing on October 3 at Colchester, by Pc King; snooker and billiards on November 23 at Halstead, by DI Orpe at Braintree.



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