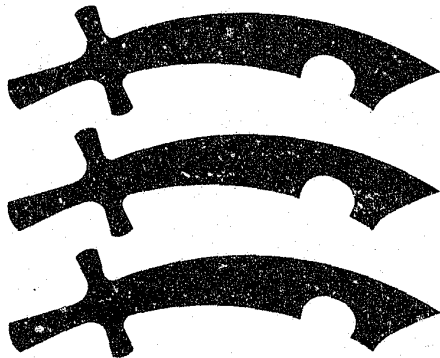


County (MA) -

ESSEX POLICE

**CHIEF
CONSTABLE'S
ANNUAL
REPORT
1974**



66161

To the Police Committee of the Essex County Council

Ladies and Gentlemen

I present my report for 1974 on the last three months work of the Essex & Southend-on-Sea Joint Constabulary and the first nine months of the new Essex Police.

I am sure the new force will be a worthy successor to its predecessor.

I would like to thank the members of the former and new authorities for their support and the officers of the County and the former County Borough for their wholehearted co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen
Your obedient servant

J. C. NIGHTINGALE

Chief Constable

INTRODUCTION

On 31 March 1974 the brief five year life of the Essex & Southend-on-Sea Joint Constabulary came to an end. On 1 April it was succeeded by the Essex Police which has precisely the same area of jurisdiction. All officers serving in the Joint Constabulary were transferred to the new force.

The strength of the force increased by 52 during 1974, a smaller rate of growth than in recent years. This gives some cause for concern but present indications are that more recruits will be coming forward in 1975.

During 1974 the crime rate increased by 20% over the previous year. This is the highest increase recorded in Essex in a single year but the problem is shared by other forces. It is difficult to be specific about causes; there seems to be some evidence of a collapse of social morality and a total lack of respect for authority but this is only speculation. There has been a marked rise in the number of offences committed by juveniles and some unease that this could be connected with the raising of the school leaving age.

Road accident casualties were reduced by nearly 9%. This reduction is probably attributable to the increased cost of motoring but is none the less welcome.

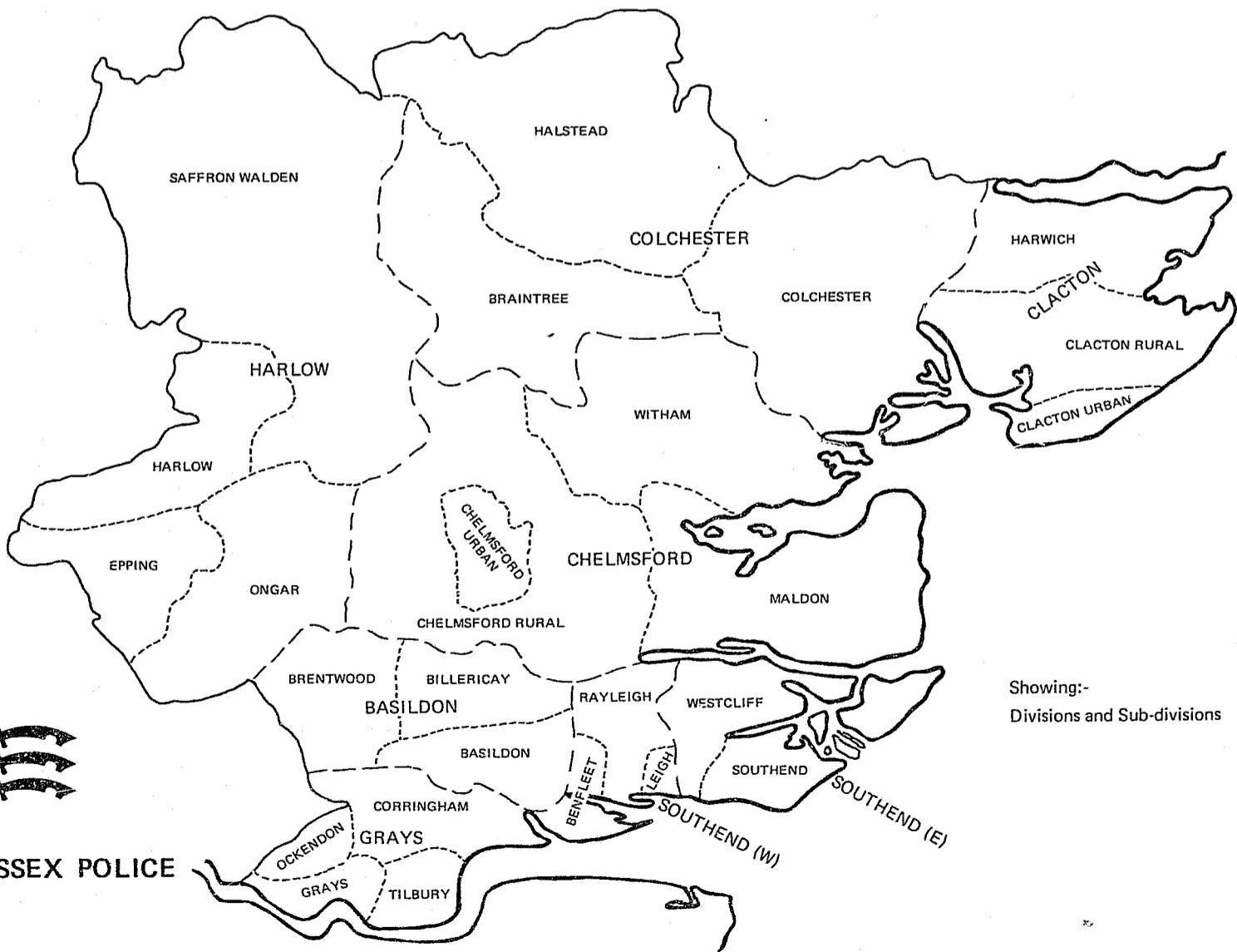
In April an experiment was started in Basildon with the establishment of a community involvement unit, described in the body of the report. In its first few months of operation the scheme has achieved some successes and it deserves to be watched with interest.

Terrorist activities have caused concern in the County as a whole. Fortunately Essex has been spared any serious trouble but we have had to deal with 891 calls to alleged or suspected bombs and similar incidents. All these calls, be they false and malicious or merely groundless, need a police response and place yet another burden on the force.

All ranks are working harder than ever and have reason to be satisfied with their achievements. The police committee and the people of Essex can look forward to loyal service in 1975.



ESSEX POLICE



Showing:-
Divisions and Sub-divisions

FORCE ORGANISATION

CHIEF CONSTABLE

Deputy Chief Constable

Superintendent
Complaints & Discipline

Assistant Chief Constable
(Administration)

Assistant Chief Constable
(Operations)

Assistant Chief Constable
(Personnel)

Chief Superintendent

Chief Inspector
Staff Officer
(Administration)

Chief
Administrative
Officer

Superintendent
Research &
Planning

Personnel

Superintendent
Force Training

Cadet
Corps

Property Management
& General

Finance
& Stores

Office
Services

Police

Civilians

Superintendent
Women Police

Chief Superintendent
Territorial Division

Chief Superintendent
Traffic

Chief Superintendent
Operations

Detective Chief
Superintendent
Criminal Investigation
Department

Basildon Chelmsford Clacton Colchester Grays Harlow Southend (E) Southend (W)

Force Support Unit Dog Section Information Control Room Home Defence and Warnings Marine/Under-water search Central Firearms Unit Community Relations Headquarters Security

- Indictable Offences
- Young Persons
- Cases of Interest
- Central Investigation Office
- Criminal Intelligence Section
- Fraud Section
- Motor Vehicle Section
- Drugs Section
- Regional Crime Squad
- Crime Prevention
- Forensic Science — Scenes of Crime Branch
- Crime Index and Publications
- Juvenile Liaison
- Incendiary and Explosive Devices

INDICTABLE OFFENCES

During the year, 45,867 reports of indictable and certain non-indictable offences were investigated; 2,024 could not be substantiated and were recorded as 'No offence'; 1,457 were recorded as 'Non-indictable' and were otherwise classified, leaving a total of 42,386 substantiated offences, an increase of 7,240 or 20.6% over the previous year.

This increase was largely in the offences of burglary, shoplifting, thefts and unauthorised takings of motor vehicles, thefts from vehicles, thefts of pedal cycles, criminal damage and frauds, whilst the main decrease was in thefts from auto. machines/meters. Five years' comparative figures are shown below. The percentage of each class detected is shown in brackets.

	SUBSTANTIATED OFFENCES				
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Offences against the person	1664 (79.3)	1878 (78.9)	1977 (81.7)	2171 (80.8)	2352 (81.1)
Offences against property with violence (Burglary)	9373 (37.2)	8778 (34.9)	7952 (37.5)	7346 (40.3)	9175 (38.0)
Offences against property without violence (Theft, going equipped for theft and fraud)	22940 (43.4)	24611 (45.7)	23144 (48.1)	23416 (46.1)	28075 (47.3)
Other offences (Arson, forgery etc.)	433 (60.3)	624 (61.4)	1469 (47.7)	2213 (44.0)	2784 (45.6)
	<u>34410</u> (43.7)	<u>35891</u> (45.0)	<u>34542</u> (47.6)	<u>35146</u> (46.9)	<u>42386</u> (47.0)
Number of offences per 1,000 estimated population	27.0	27.8	26.2	26.4	31.6

During the year proceedings at the lower courts were taken against 8,477 persons, an increase of 1,596 over the previous year, resulting in:

6,342	found guilty summarily
1,270	committed for trial, and
865	charge withdrawn, dismissed or otherwise disposed of

At the higher courts, 996 persons were convicted and 169 discharged or otherwise disposed of.

PROPERTY STOLEN

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Value stolen (£)	1,912,319	2,256,106	2,677,497	2,631,639	3,299,261
Value recovered (£)	662,758	852,560	1,248,870	1,220,456	1,562,123
Percentage value recovered	34.7	37.8	46.6	46.4	47.3

YOUNG PERSONS

The following table gives comparative figures for years 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973 and 1974 of offences known to have been committed by young persons under 17 years of age:-

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	Change during 1974
Offences they are known to have committed						
Offences against the person	272	365	376	454	399	- 55
Burglaries	1,491	1,572	1,630	1,550	2,224	+ 674
Theft	3,258	3,825	3,968	4,003	5,419	+ 1,416
Frauds, Arson etc.	450	555	672	795	966	+ 171
TOTALS	5,471	6,317	6,646	6,802	9,008	+ 2,206
Number found guilty of indictable offences	1,136	1,308	1,357	1,486	2,072	+ 586
Percentage of detected crime they were involved in	36.4	39.1	40.4	41.2	45.2	

CASES OF INTEREST

MURDER AT MESSING

On 19 December 1973 the body of a 16 year old girl was found lying in a field at Messing near Witham. There were no signs of a struggle, the deceased's clothing had not been disturbed but she had a yellow duster crammed tightly in her mouth. A pathologist established that death had been caused by manual strangulation.

Police enquiries made in the vicinity of the girl's home at Clacton revealed that two days prior to her death she had been seen talking to a man with a mustard coloured sports car and had probably been in his company the night prior to her body being discovered. The owner of the sports car, a 32 year old man from the Colchester area, was eventually arrested in Leicestershire and charged with the murder. He admitted being with the deceased girl on the night prior to her death, but maintained that he had no knowledge of killing her or of any incident which could have contributed to her death. He claimed to suffer from mental blackouts.

At Chelmsford Crown Court on 26 April 1974 he was convicted of the murder and sentenced to life imprisonment.

MOTOR VEHICLE FRAUDS AT RAYLEIGH

During January 1974 two detective constables commenced enquiries in relation to a motor vehicle in possession of a man at Rayleigh. The investigation revealed that the vehicle had been obtained fraudulently from a motor company in London and that other vehicles had been similarly obtained.

The enquiries widened and the two officers worked full time on the investigation which centred in London. A good liaison was effected with Metropolitan police officers, which eventually resulted in the arrest of 14 men who were charged with offences of Theft of Motor Vehicles, Obtaining Vehicles/Money by Deception and handling Stolen Property. The total value of the 15 vehicles involved was in excess of £25,000.

At Chelmsford Crown Court on 4 December 1974, after a lengthy trial, 12 of the men were convicted and received sentences varying from 5 years imprisonment to fines of £150. At the conclusion of the proceedings HM Judge commended the two officers concerned in this investigation.

Valuable information obtained during the course of the enquiries was passed to the Metropolitan Police Serious Crime Squad, who conducted enquiries into offences of long firm frauds, demanding money with menaces, assault, etc. This resulted, at the end of August 1974, in the arrest of some 90 persons, 45 of whom were charged with offences of Conspiracy, Blackmail, Fraud, etc., committed in the Metropolitan Police District.

There is little doubt that the initial enquiries carried out by the two detective constables were instrumental in uncovering a lot of serious crime in the London area.

ARMED BANK RAID AT STANSTED AIRPORT

About 6.10 p.m. on Sunday, 3 February 1974, three bank officials at the National Westminster Bank, Stansted Airport, were closing the bank for the day when they were held up by two armed masked men. The two men appeared to have Irish accents and, from small pieces of notepaper produced, purported to represent the IRA.

Two of the bank staff were immediately bound, gagged and secured with padlocks and chains, whilst the third official was forced at gunpoint to enter the bank premises and open the safe. He was then instructed by one of the raiders to put currency and travellers cheques into a black plastic waste bag, which he did. He was then similarly chained and padlocked.

The raiders then made good their escape from the premises with £13,425 in English currency, £4,504 in foreign currency and £11,843 in travellers cheques.

Despite intensive police enquiries, which included the setting up of a special Incident Office at the Airport and circulating details of the offence and property stolen throughout the country, there were no developments of interest until Wednesday, 2 October 1974.

On that date, a husband and wife from Stansted, Essex, were stopped at the small border village of Le Perthus, near Perpignan, France, where the woman had entered five change bureaux and cashed a number of travellers cheques negotiable to the National Westminster Bank. When doing so, she had disguised herself by wearing a wig and sunglasses and used a forged passport. The couple were in possession of a hired car, and, when this was searched by the French Police, National Westminster Bank travellers cheques to the value of £10,269 were found, plus a forged British Visitors Passport. Furthermore they were in possession of over 14,000 French francs and £380 in English money.

They were arrested and taken to Perpignan Criminal Police Station and, with the aid of an interpreter, were interviewed at some length. They both gave a long and involved false account of their possession of these cheques and it was decided that they should be prosecuted for their possession and use of the forged documents, whilst further enquiries were made regarding the origin of the travellers cheques.

The French Change Bureau established through banking sources that the travellers cheques were the proceeds of the Airport robbery and, as a result, this Force was contacted and a Detective Superintendent and Detective Inspector who had been engaged in the initial investigation went to France to pursue the matter.

The man eventually admitted being one of the persons involved in the armed robbery.

The couple were eventually extradited from France to stand their trial in this country.

Shortly afterwards the second man concerned in the robbery was arrested in Hertfordshire. Both men were Stansted Airport employees.

The two men and the woman subsequently appeared at Chelmsford Crown Court. The men were each sentenced to 10 years imprisonment; the prosecution offered no evidence against the woman and she was discharged.

KIDNAPPING AT FYFIELD

About 6.30 p.m. on 5 December 1973 a motor trader from Ongar was driving home from his place of business at Ilford when he was overtaken by two men in a Mini saloon which collided with the front of his vehicle, forcing him to stop. When the motor trader alighted from his car one of the men forced him back into the vehicle at gunpoint, and both men then got in with him and drove off. The Mini, which was left at the scene, later proved to be a stolen vehicle.

The kidnapped man was then driven to a garage at Dagenham, within the Metropolitan Police District, where the two men demanded money from him. On being told that he only had £1,000 at home he was taken to a public call box and made to telephone his girl friend, who was at his residence. On the instructions of his captors it was arranged that she would take the money to Romford, where she would be contacted at a given location. The kidnappers then bound and gagged the motor trader and dumped him in an isolated field at Stapleford Tawney, Essex.

In the meantime the girlfriend went to Romford, where she was met by two women who took her to a garage at Dagenham, relieved her of the £1,000 and kept her prisoner all night.

The motor trader, having released himself, returned home where next morning he received a telephone call from one of the kidnappers demanding £12,000 for the release of his girlfriend, and threatening that if he informed the Police she would be shot.

The Police were informed, however, and an incident office was set up at Ongar Police Station. A large scale surveillance operation was then organised involving Essex, Regional Crime Squad and Metropolitan Police.

Acting on advice the motor trader withdrew £6,000 from his bank and took it home to await further instructions from the kidnappers. These he later received by telephone, being told to take the money to a given location at Ilford. He was also told that his girlfriend would be released when the money was handed over, but she would be shot if any contact was made with the Police.

The motor trader then left home with the ransom money and the surveillance operation commenced. The money was handed over at the rendezvous point and the operation was successfully concluded by the arrest of the two men and two women kidnappers, the recovery of the money and the safe release of the woman.

The four accused persons subsequently appeared at Chelmsford Crown Court on 6 May 1974 and sentences of life imprisonment and 10 years respectively were imposed on the men, one of the women received a suspended sentence, the other was placed on probation.

The trial judge commended all the Police officers involved in this difficult but most successful operation.

MURDER AT BASILDON

On the afternoon of 10 June 1974 a taxi driver was seen to stagger from his vehicle at Laindon, bleeding profusely from chest wounds. He died shortly afterwards in hospital and a post mortem examination revealed that he had been stabbed seven times.

On the arrival of the Police the rear near side door of the taxi was found open suggesting that the person responsible had been sitting in the back of the vehicle. A blood-stained stainless steel carving knife was found lying in the road to the rear of the vehicle. As a result of scientific examination finger and palm impressions were found on the knife and on both handles of the open door of the taxi.

Following Police enquiries an 18 year old youth was arrested but he denied all knowledge of the offence, although a person of his description had been seen running from the direction of the scene at the material time.

A carving fork, bearing an identical inscription to that on the knife found at the scene, was found in the house where he had been residing. In addition his finger and palm prints were found to be identical with those found on the knife and the taxi. Blood found on his clothing was established as being of the same group as that of the deceased. In spite of this evidence, however, he strongly denied the offence.

At Chelmsford Crown Court on 8 October 1974, the youth pleaded not guilty to Murder, but guilty to Manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. His plea was accepted by H M Judge and he was sentenced to Borstal training.

This case was a good example of where initial preservation of the scene enabled a successful and positive scientific examination to be carried out.

ATTEMPTED JEWELLERY RAID AT SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

At 9.45 p.m. on 23 April 1974, a young lady living in a flat above a jewellers shop in Southend was invaded by five masked men, one of whom was armed with a shotgun. Whilst one of the men stood guard over her, the others went to her bedroom and commenced to rip up the floorboards in an endeavour to gain access to the jewellers shop below.

Unbeknown to the intruders the alarm was raised by the jeweller, who was still working in his shop, and two Police officers quickly attended the scene. They were unsuccessful in arresting the raiders, however, who fled empty-handed, leaving behind the shotgun.

Initial Police enquiries led to the recovery, near the scene, of items of discarded clothing which were carefully preserved for scientific examination. All vehicles parked in the vicinity were checked and kept under observation overnight. This resulted, the following morning, in two cars being found near the attacked premises on parking meters which were showing the 'Excess Time' flags. Observation was maintained on these vehicles and one person was arrested when he returned to his car. The second car owner made good his escape but was quickly arrested at Romford by patrolling Metropolitan Police officers.

The suspects' houses were searched for scientific evidence to match the discarded clothing and this resulted in good conclusive forensic evidence being obtained.

The two men concerned, both hardened London criminals, appeared at Chelmsford Crown Court on 12 November 1974, indicted with Aggravated Burglary. They pleaded guilty and received sentences of 4 years and 3½ years imprisonment respectively.

ILLEGAL ENTRY OF IMMIGRANTS AT AUDLEY END

During May 1974 information was received by New Scotland Yard via Interpol that a well known London criminal, who was strongly suspected of drugs smuggling and currency offences, would be returning to this Country in a hired aircraft with a consignment of drugs and/or illegal immigrants, and would be armed. It was expected that he would land on a private airfield at Audley End, near Saffron Walden.

An operation was arranged involving Essex and Metropolitan Regional Crime Squad officers and officers of the Essex Police Central Firearms Unit. Observation was kept but the aircraft did not arrive on the expected date. A similar operation was mounted during the early hours of Sunday, 9 June 1974, and at 6.10 a.m. that morning a small aircraft made a circuit of the airfield and landed shortly afterwards. The plane, which was quickly surrounded by the surveillance team, was found to contain a German pilot, the London criminal and six illegal immigrants.

At Chelmsford Crown Court on 9 September 1974, for facilitating the entry of illegal immigrants, the Englishman was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment and the German pilot to 12 months imprisonment.

CENTRAL INVESTIGATION OFFICE

This section is a mobile team of officers, including two women detectives, divided into three specialised units which is also used in major incidents and in assisting Divisional officers.

Fraud Section

Drugs Section

Motor Vehicle Investigation Section

Officers from the Central Investigation Office were involved in a Westminster Bank robbery at Stansted Airport, murders at Colchester and Basildon, a rape at Chelmsford and assistance was given to Hertfordshire Constabulary in the investigation of a murder.

Lectures have been given to 46 courses held at Force Headquarters, including the C.I.D. Selection Course, Sergeants Course, Local Procedure and Refresher Courses. The number of drug talks has been reduced as the local authority assumes more responsibility for lecturing to schools and outside bodies.

FRAUD SECTION

During 1974 four fraud cases involving £24,700 have been finalised, three being prosecuted to conviction and one resulting in no action. Two cases are awaiting trial and two further cases are pending the arrest of those responsible.

Eleven fraud cases of the value of approximately £675,000 are at present under investigation. Assistance is also being given to Divisions on five other investigations.

Three Detectives were given training on Financial Investigation Courses (two at Birmingham and the other in the City of London). In addition the Detective Inspector has attended a Senior Officers Fraud Appreciation Course held by the City of London.

MOTOR VEHICLE SECTION

The activity of the Section is illustrated by the following:-

	1972	1973	1974
Relicence notifications received during year	510	931	999
Relicence notifications not examined on 1 January	19	59	3
Examinations carried out	267	592	526

Motor Vehicle Section (contd.)

	1972	1973	1974
Number not examined due to age or value	183	370	380
Transferred to other Forces for examination	20	25	23
Awaiting examinations at 31 December	59	3	73

Motor Vehicle Thefts

Number investigated	133	378	217
Stolen vehicles recovered — number	30	37	30
approx. value	£24,000	£19,607	£24,440

The record of motor vehicles stolen is now maintained by the Police National Computer.

46 lectures on motor vehicle investigation were given during the year to various training courses at Force Headquarters.

DRUGS SECTION

Action against drug offenders has continued, in particular against 'drug pushers'. The Section has operated with Divisional and Special Branch officers, HM Customs and other Forces in detecting drug offences. In one particular operation a man and his wife were arrested with 40 lbs of cannabis, valued at £25,000 in their possession.

OFFENCE	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Unlawful possession of Cannabis	124	154	187	201	278	236
Unlawful supply of Cannabis	15	22	32	19	45	42
Using premises for smoking Cannabis	21	26	24	24	13	19
Using premises for dealing in Cannabis	—	4	—	5	7	2
Importing & Excise Evasion Cannabis etc.	14	4	12	4	32	34
Possession with intent to supply *	—	—	—	1	4	51
Unlawful possession of Heroin & Methadone (including Opium)	5	8	22	42	13	13
Unlawful possession of Cocaine	—	—	—	2	—	6
Unlawful possession of Amphetamine	46	29	50	44	46	42
Unlawful possession of LSD	†	47	62	51	51	45
Unlawful possession Mandrax	—	—	—	—	—	14
Unlawful supply Mandrax	—	—	—	—	—	5
Aid & Abet possession of Amphetamine (includes supply)	—	1	2	3	3	18
Aid & Abet possession of LSD (includes supply)	—	5	8	19	9	15
Obstructions under D D A Warrants	—	—	2	—	1	1
Cultivation of Cannabis	—	—	—	6	5	19
Supply of Methadone — Heroin	—	—	—	13	2	6
Conspiracy to contravene Dangerous Drugs Act	—	—	—	5	2	—
TOTAL OFFENCES	225	300	401	439	511	568

*(1969/1974 figures for procuring Cannabis)

†(Not recorded, included in Amphetamines)

FORENSIC SCIENCE — SCENES OF CRIME BRANCH *contd.*

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
— evidence called for drinks/drugs driving cases	360	680	1,084	1,264	1,257
— evidence called on other occasions	76	165	138	237	252

Four officers attended Scientific Scenes of Crime Courses at the Metropolitan Detective Training School.

The Branch held a training course in photography and fingerprints which was attended by four officers from this Force. Lectures in these subjects were also given to courses attending the Force Training School, to the R.A.F. Police and to selected outside organisations.

CRIME INDEX AND PUBLICATIONS

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
1) Criminal Record Index Persons recorded	68,793	74,379	79,855	86,297	93,219
2) Nominal/Wanted Index Number of Searches	Not available	Not available	Not available	8,664	10,127
Number of identifications	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	3,044
3) Property and Cycle Indices Number of identifications	159	173	129	85	140
4) Force Information — Editions	257	243	277	272	271
5) Special Bulletins — Editions	12	17	16	20	22
6) Total of (4) and (5) published	115,425	103,810	117,900	110,100	112,720
7) 'Photo-fit' Kits — usage	Not available	108	146	153	146

JUVENILE LIAISON

The main offences committed by juveniles are shoplifting, theft, criminal damage and burglary. In collaboration with schools, youth club leaders, the Probation Service and the Social Services, Divisional Juvenile Liaison officers attend to the many juveniles coming to their notice. Some are dealt with by cautioning, others by advice or supervision.

INCENDIARY AND EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

This increased hazard to public safety has emphasised the need for clarification on the responsibility of owners and/or occupiers of the premises affected. Police will continue to give full assistance to searching and evacuating premises but it must be clearly recognised by those concerned that the decision for declaring that an area should be evacuated or for declaring it safe for reoccupation cannot rest with the Police Officer.

During 1974, 869 suspected incendiary and explosive devices were examined. They were initially screened by Scenes of Crime Officers and in 3 cases the services of a Home Office explosives expert were obtained. 7 cases in the Colchester Division were dealt with by local Army experts. 754 hoax bomb calls were received.

For screening explosive devices 1 portable fluoroscope, 1 portable explosive detector and 1 metal detector and probe are available.

Bomb Squad

In view of the increased incidence of bomb attacks in this country a bomb team consisting of a senior Scenes of Crime officer from Headquarters, supplemented by sections of the Support Unit, has been established to operate directly under the Assistant Chief Constable (Operations).

Consequently trained officers are available to assist Divisional Commanders by further appraisal and re-screening of suspicious packages and articles, searching of premises and places where it is suspected that explosive devices have been left, and, when considered necessary, the evacuation and sealing off of an area.

The team is self supporting in respect of transport and equipment and in the event of an explosion will also be responsible for searching for scientific evidence under the direction of a Home Office explosives expert.

CHAPTER II

ROAD TRAFFIC

Road Accident Casualties
Road Safety
Motoring Offences
Drink and Driving (Road Traffic Act 1972)
Fixed Penalty System
Special Equipment
Traffic Patrols
Vehicle Checks
Police Motor Vehicles
Vehicle Repair and Maintenance
Bonus Incentive Scheme
Radar Speed Meters
VASCAR
Fog Patrol System
Transport of Dangerous/Noxious Chemicals by Road
Road Surveys and Highways Liaison
Traffic Wardens
School Crossing Patrols
Foreign Goods Vehicles

ROAD ACCIDENT CASUALTIES

Casualties from road accidents in the Force Area showed a decrease of 791 or 9% compared with 1973. The number of fatal was 172 compared with 161 for the previous year.

The total number of recorded fatal and injury accidents during the year was 5,763, a decrease on 1973 of 558.

TYPE OF ROAD USER

	KILLED			SERIOUS			INJURY SLIGHT		
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974
Under 15 years of age									
Pedestrians	12	6	10	269	241	227	420	390	338
Pedal Cyclists	6	1	1	94	79	92	244	170	160
Other Persons	—	7	8	89	90	89	326	328	337
	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>452</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>990</u>	<u>888</u>	<u>835</u>
Variance	+12.5%	-22.2%	+35.7%	+4.9%	-9.3%	-0.5%	+11.4%	-10.3%	-5.9%
15 years and over									
Pedestrians	42	32	22	248	293	231	397	362	352
Variance	+27.3%	-23.8%	-31.2%	-7.1%	+18.1%	-20.8%	-0.7%	-8.8%	-2.7%
Rider or Driver of:									
Pedal Cycle	9	16	8	111	136	102	255	248	224
Moped	—	3	3	65	168	132	91	245	227
Scooter	2	—	1	47	26	13	63	49	31
Motor Cycle	15	16	12	295	281	280	400	353	430
Combination	1	1	—	5	11	6	10	9	8
Car or Taxi	54	42	45	839	859	689	1,682	1,606	1,497
PSV	—	—	—	2	1	3	3	8	6
Goods Vehicle	6	6	17	139	130	130	305	309	255
Other Vehicle	1	2	—	15	21	11	16	24	21
TOTAL	<u>88</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>1,518</u>	<u>1,633</u>	<u>1,366</u>	<u>2,825</u>	<u>2,851</u>	<u>2,699</u>
Variance	+14.3%	-2.3%	—	-1.3%	+7.6%	-15.7%	+3.5%	+0.9%	-5.3%

	INJURY								
	KILLED			SERIOUS			SLIGHT		
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974
Passenger in or on:									
Moped	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	3	4
Scooter	—	—	—	8	2	1	7	6	5
Motor Cycle	—	1	2	42	22	17	43	42	51
Combination	—	—	—	1	4	—	4	5	3
Car or Taxi	30	24	36	645	589	495	1,340	1,185	1,054
PSV	—	—	4	15	36	23	87	97	111
Goods Vehicle	3	4	3	67	53	48	142	108	102
Other Vehicle	—	—	—	15	13	4	18	17	11
TOTAL	33	29	45	793	722	588	1,642	1,463	1,341
Variance	-17.5%	-12.1%	+55.2%	—	-9.0%	-18.7%	+1.9%	-10.9%	-8.3%
GRAND TOTAL	181	161	172	3,011	3,058	2,593	5,854	5,564	5,227
Variance	+9.0%	-11.0%	+6.8%	-0.6%	+1.6%	-15.2%	+4.0%	-5.0%	-4.3%

ROAD SAFETY

The general overall Police Road Safety programme, although principally directed towards educating Infant and Junior School children, has become increasingly involved in the basic theoretical instruction of pre-driver training to upper 5/6th form pupils, as a direct result of the extended schooling period. The Force has actively supported the general campaign themes introduced by R.O.S.P.A. and the Department of the Environment through distribution of literature and displays at shows.

During the year the Auto Tutor Simulator has visited 16 schools, and instruction was given by police officers to 1,050 pupils.

Headquarters Unit, liaising with Divisional Sections, has arranged numerous safety displays/demonstrations at the principal County and Town Shows, at Schools, Village Associations and other group activities, fetes etc., throughout the Police District. In addition Headquarters Unit has operated the Essex County Mobile Roadcraft Exhibition which over the years has provided an excellent means of communicating safety principles and legislation to the general public. This year it was visited by 23,500 persons.

Headquarters Unit also gave playground instruction to 28,160 and indoor demonstrations to 25,250 Infant/Junior pupils. Road Safety films were shown to 25,850 children of all ages. Divisional Road Safety Officers gave further instruction to 42,825 senior pupils, 131,135 junior pupils and 71,478 infant pupils.

Examination of pedal cycles at schools resulted in 2,952 out of a total 22,181 being found defective, the principal cause being defective brakes. Percentage comparisons for defective cycles were 14.5% 1970, 11.9% 1971, 12.3% 1972 and 13.28% 1973.

The Mobile Cinema visited 3 sites and was seen by approximately 500 people.

Divisional and Headquarters Road Safety Officers have actively participated in local district Driving Competitions, arranged Highway Code Quiz questions for competitions, given talks and shown films to various associations connected with the elderly.

Police Road Safety Officers attended the R.O.S.P.A. Course at Blackpool and also the National Road Safety Congress held at Eastbourne. Police representatives attended all the Eastern Accident Federation Meetings, and Principal County Education, County Council and District Council Road Safety Meetings held during the year.

4,001 Road Accident Reports and 156 Accident Returns were supplied to Local Authorities, Solicitors and Insurance Companies.

MOTORING OFFENCES

Prosecutions were instituted in respect of 61,485 offences, a decrease of 12.7% over 1973, and written cautions were issued in respect of 6,676 offences, a decrease of 6.4%.

The principal offences subject to prosecution were:-

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Exceeding speed limits	7,287	9,549	9,374	14,105	10,576
Obstruction and parking offences	6,488	4,360	7,428	5,795	4,368
Driving licence offences	5,172	6,147	7,141	8,463	7,727
Lighting offences	4,404	4,147	4,423	4,160	4,455
Vehicle Test offences	4,157	4,312	4,910	5,213	4,415
Insurance offences	4,153	4,954	5,811	7,125	6,665

In addition, Police Officers dealt with many minor infringements by giving advice on the spot.

The figures for prosecution do not include cases under the fixed penalty scheme in which drivers paid the fixed penalty.

DRINK AND DRIVING (ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1972)

During the year, 4,279 drivers of motor vehicles were required to take breath tests on the road under this Act, the results of which are shown in the following table:

		1972	1973	1974
AT ROADSIDE	Number of requirements made for breath tests	3,774	4,268	4,279
	Number failed or refused	178	223	252
	Number proved positive	1,560	1,785	1,805
	Number arrested on impairment	41	55	79
AT POLICE STATIONS	Number of requirements made for breath tests	1,748	2,022	1,911
	Number failed or refused	142	153	183
	Number proved positive	1,331	1,608	1,484
LABORATORY ANALYSIS	Number of blood/urine cases proving positive	1,083	1,297	1,268

Prosecutions for driving or being in charge of a motor vehicle whilst under the influence of drink were instituted as follows:

	1972	1973	1974
	1,200	1,690	1,584

FIXED PENALTY SYSTEM

	1974	
	Numbers	Percentages
Total number of tickets issued	44,549	
Penalties paid	32,569	73
No further action taken, cautions issued or tickets cancelled	4,493	10
Process issued	1,579	4
Outstanding at 31.12.74.	5,908	13

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

The seven operational accident tenders carry a considerable amount of accident rescue equipment over and above that carried by patrol cars. To cover the northern, southern and central parts of the County, four of the vehicles carry portable generators and flood lighting equipment, and three vehicles carry 'Rippagun' and 'Cengar' saws. The latter items are special metal cutting tools, operated by compressed air, for the speedy release of trapped persons from crashed motor vehicles.

This type of equipment is complementary to that carried by some Fire Brigade vehicles and it is considered that the right balance has been reached for the time being.

Preparatory for the opening of the first section of Motorway (M.11) within the County, now delayed to June/July 1975, a quantity of extra signs and other equipment has been purchased. A 3 litre car and Land Rover for motorway use have been delivered. A Range Rover has also been ordered.

TRAFFIC PATROLS

Traffic Division patrols are superimposed over the normal territorial Divisions. They are carried out mainly on the large network of Trunk and other principal roads within the Force area, operating from five strategically located Sub-Divisions at Chelmsford, Colchester, Harlow (still in temporary accommodation at North Weald Airfield pending imminent opening of new premises on the re-developed site at Harlow), Laindon and Southend. Additional sections are based at Thorpe, Halstead, Saffron Walden and Grays. Following a minor re-organisation, Traffic Division is no longer responsible for operating the six incident cars in the two Southend Divisions. These now operate from those Divisions, as in the remainder of the Force area. This transfer reduced the strength of the Traffic Division by 29 officers and, in consequence, the Traffic Section at Rayleigh was discontinued. The Traffic Divisional strength on 31 December 1974 was 238 officers which includes 5 policewomen. The establishment of the Division is 301.

Traffic Patrols were maintained at as high a level as manpower permitted to deal with ever increasing road traffic. The numbers of serious and fatal accidents and the incidence of drink and driving offences are matters of prime concern. The use of trained operational patrol officers in deep accident investigation techniques, vehicle examination and vehicle weighing continues, enabling officers to investigate much more thoroughly incidents and accidents with which they have to deal.

Escorts were provided for 2,069 abnormal indivisible loads, many of which posed special problems in relation to size or weight.

Traffic officers gave assistance at many major events including the Essex Shows, Royal Visits, Carnivals and Point to Point Races. They also helped in emergency situations, provided escorts for prisoners in the high risk security category and effected a total of 1,203 arrests in respect of miscellaneous crime and offences. Special patrols were again maintained on Bank Holidays and busy weekends. Limited use of unmarked Traffic Patrol cars driven by uniformed officers continues to be effective in dealing with the offences of excessive speed and inconsiderate driving in instances where some drivers would have conformed to the law only if a marked patrol car had been visible.

The Traffic Fleet consists of Triumph 2.5 P.I.'s, a Range Rover, a Land Rover, Ford Cortina G.T., 1.8 Marina G.T., BLMC 2.2 and Ford Transit vans fitted out as Accident Vehicles. The motor cycle fleet, comprising Norton and Triumph police model machines has suffered some problems through non-delivery of machines and spare parts.

VEHICLE CHECKS

Assistance was given by Traffic Patrol officers in 105 checks of motor vehicles carried out by the Department of the Environment Vehicle Examiners and in 261 checks by Weights and Measures Inspectors.

Help was also given in connection with Local Authority Surveys.

POLICE MOTOR VEHICLES

The total fleet will be 540 on 31 March 1975.

48	Traffic Patrol Cars
29	Traffic Patrol Motor Cycles
9	Traffic Patrol Incident Vehicles
23	Driving School cars
1	Driving School Van
20	Driving School Motor Cycles
1	Driving School Personnel Carrier
46	C.I.D. cars (including 10 Regional Crime Squad Cars)
19	Scenes of Crime Vans
8	C.I.D. Vans (including 1 Regional Crime Squad Van and 2 'Q' vans)
1	Regional Crime Squad Motor Cycle
15	Dog Vans
17	Beat Duty Motor Cycles
39	Area Radio Cars
30	Personnel Carriers (including 2 team Policing Vehicles and 2 Coaches)
40	General Duty Vans
92	General Duty Cars
77	Unit Beat Policing Cars

POLICE MOTOR VEHICLES *contd.*

25 Miscellaneous Vehicles including	
2 Removal Vans	2 P.S.U. Vehicles
1 Underwater Search Unit Vehicle	1 Command Vehicle
1 Mobile Maintenance	1 Divisional Van
1 Small Canteen	2 Road Safety
5 Workshop Vehicles	1 Mobile Kitchen
2 Land Rovers	1 Executive Car
1 Emergency Vehicle	1 Estate Car
1 Heavy Recovery Vehicle	1 Prison Vehicle
	1 Civil Defence Car

540

VEHICLE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

The central vehicle workshop at Chelmsford provides for the major overhaul of all police vehicles, the repair of accident damage and the service and minor repairs to vehicles based in the area. All new vehicles for service and all old vehicles for sale are prepared here.

Minor repairs, service and maintenance are carried out at the four district workshops based at Laindon, Southend, Colchester and Harlow. The new district workshop at Harlow will become operational in March 1975. This will provide much improved and expanded facilities for a greater number of vehicle repairs.

Since May 1974 two civilian technical vehicle examiners have been employed to ensure that the fleet vehicles are maintained at a high standard of efficiency and cleanliness. The examiners carry out routine and random checks on vehicles at workshops and police stations to ensure that repairs are promptly and properly completed and that vehicles are maintained in good and efficient operational condition. These examiners have produced encouraging improvements in standards.

The total number of staff employed at 31 December 1974 was as follows:-

Headquarters	1 Foreman
	16 Mechanics (including 2 apprentices)
	3 Drivers
	3 Unskilled Handymen
	2 Technical Vehicle Examiners
Sub-Divisional Garages	12 Mechanics
	6 Drivers
	6 Unskilled Handymen

 49

The mileage of the fleet was :-

1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
9,574,702	10,115,988	10,874,991	10,918,706	10,684,392
+ 3.6%	+ 5.7%	+ 7.5%	+ 0.4%	- 2.1%

BONUS INCENTIVE SCHEME

The Bonus Incentive Scheme introduced in July, 1972 for mechanics in all five workshops in the Police District has now been accepted as a permanent feature.

The Scheme has increased efficiency, reduced overtime working and is now producing a fair degree of financial benefit to the mechanics.

The Scheme unfortunately becomes unstable, particularly in the smaller workshops, when there are absences through change of staff, sickness etc. This requires a close and constant watch by work study staff and management to counter adverse trends by slightly altering factors and calculations.

A series of meetings between management, employees and work study staff has resulted in a greater understanding of the Scheme and better Management/Staff relations.

RADAR SPEED METERS

Some reduction has been made in the use of Radar Speed Meters within the County, commensurate with the increased use of V.A.S.C.A.R. as a means of detecting speed offences.

However, there is still a use for Radar speed meters in connection with both detection of speed offences and for carrying out various checks. It is intended to retain the three meters owned by the Police Authority but to return the two hired meters to the Home Office at the end of this financial year. Radar Impact Schemes are still held from time to time throughout the Force area in an attempt to deter the public from exceeding the speed limits and to decrease accidents in selected areas or known problem places.

VASCAR (VISUAL AVERAGE SPEED COMPUTER AND RECORDER)

Following a successful evaluation period the Force now has 23 instruments fitted to traffic patrol cars distributed throughout the Force area.

So far 838 persons have been reported by this method. Some have not yet attended Court but all those who have appeared have been convicted.

The policy of demonstrating the instruments to Magistrates prior to cases being presented in their Courts has continued. Magistrates from all parts of the County have been afforded the opportunity to attend a demonstration.

Training in the use of Vascar is given to every Traffic Patrol Officer to a certified standard before he may use the instrument operationally. This Force has trained 66 of its own officers so far and training will continue as required.

FOG PATROL SYSTEM

This system is designed to restrict the speed of motorists on the dual carriageway routes A127 and A12 roads. Conspicuously marked and illuminated police cars are strategically placed and driven along the selected routes. Following motorists are specifically discouraged from overtaking. It is considered that the incidence of dangerous driving has thereby been reduced. Fog occurred only infrequently in 1974, but the limited use made of the system was well received by many motorists involved.

TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS/NOXIOUS CHEMICALS BY ROAD

Following occasions in 1973 where Traffic Patrol Officers (and others) were contaminated or exposed to dangerous chemicals in roadside incidents or accidents, the subject has been examined at national level resulting in recommendations being made to improve the system of labelling and safe carriage of such commodities.

Following a local working party report, two sergeants from this Force are to attend a training course organised by Cleveland Constabulary. On their return they will carry out a programme of instruction to all other uniformed officers within the Force about the correct methods of approach when dealing with dangerous chemicals in emergency situations.

Preliminary joint roadside checks by Police and Petroleum Officers reveal a considerable tonnage of dangerous and noxious chemicals being transported by road throughout the County, some for disposal as waste at sites within the Police area. Offences against the Petroleum Acts and Labelling Regulations have been detected and further checks will continue in an effort to secure compliance with the Law.

ROAD SURVEYS AND HIGHWAYS LIAISON

Close co-operation has been maintained with all of the newly constituted District Councils. Traffic Regulation enquiries, which fell in number during the period of local government re-organisation, are now increasing.

The comparative figures are:	1970	946	
	1971	1,138	+ 20%
	1972	1,181	+ 4%
	1973	1,065	- 10%
	1974	1,064	-

TRAFFIC WARDENS

The Traffic Warden service continues to deal with day-to-day traffic problems, freeing Police Officers for other duties.

At the end of the year, 134 Traffic Wardens were employed against an establishment of 181. No additional posts are being created during the financial year 1975/76. Recruitment of suitable candidates continues to be difficult, and whilst 57 were recruited during the year, 49 terminated their employment. Retention of this type of employee will continue to be difficult while there are limited prospects and a short incremental scale.

The style and quantity of uniform are currently under review.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS

333	Approved as at 31.12.1974
128	Enquiries during 1974
8	New sites approved during 1974
107	Posts resigned during 1974
30	Posts vacant as at 31.12.1974

FOREIGN GOODS VEHICLES

A high number of Foreign Goods Vehicles continues to use the main trunk roads. They add considerably to patrol officers' problems when dealing with road accidents, traffic control and law enforcement.

As the law stands, there is no really effective means of dealing with a foreign driver for many offences if he is not resident in this country. When he returns to his own country he is outside the jurisdiction of our Courts. However, a pilot scheme pioneered by officers of the Chelmsford Traffic Sub-Division has shown that, with the help of Special Branch officers at Harwich Port, summonses for infringement of the law can be effectively served on the regularly visiting foreign driver. The scheme is necessarily limited but to date has resulted in 6 foreign drivers appearing before the courts and 8 further summonses are in hand for service in due course.

CHAPTER III

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FORCE

Force Establishment

Civilian Staff

Promotions

Retirements and Wastage

Housing

Force Planning

Firearms and Shotguns

Immigration

Population and Acreage

Annual Inspection

Visit by Minister of State

Informal Consultative Committee

Force Newspaper

Press Relations

Cost of Policing

Capital Programme

Canteens

FORCE ESTABLISHMENT

The Police establishment of the Force is 2,436 and the actual strength (including seconded personnel) on 31.12.74. was 2,214; 2,104 men and 110 women. The deficiency was 222 or 9.11%.

	Authorised Establishment	Effective Strength	Seconded Personnel
Chief Constable	1	1	
Deputy Chief Constable	1	1	
Assistant Chief Constable	3	3	
Chief Superintendent	11	11	
Superintendent	23	22	5
Chief Inspector	58	59	5
Inspector	101	94	9
Sergeant	390	357	13
Constable	1,726	1,512	12
Woman Superintendent	1	1	
Woman Chief Inspector	1	1	
Woman Inspector	3	3	
Woman Sergeant	14	12	
Woman Constable	103	91	2
TOTALS	<u>2,436</u>	<u>2,168</u>	<u>46</u>

The secondments from the Force were as follows:-

Regional Crime Squad	25
New Scotland Yard	2
Home Office	2
University	9
Central Service (Training Centre Staff)	4
Central Service (Police College)	1
S.E. Regional Link Unit	1
Northern Ireland	1
Dog Master, Hong Kong	1

CIVILIAN STAFF

The authorised civilian employees and the numbers actually in post on 31 December 1974 were:-

	Establishment	Strength
Traffic Wardens	181	134
Cadets	140	109
Others (Full-time)	689	586
Others (Part-time)	107	165

Due to difficulties experienced in recruiting full-time staff, many posts are filled by part-time employees. A recent trend has been the employment of part-time typists as a means of overcoming the problem of finding suitable full-time typists.

The turnover of civilian staff during the year was:- engaged 286, discharges 247, of which 100 and 71 respectively were manual employees. 23 Civilians were promoted to a higher grade to fill vacancies caused by resignations and retirements. The high turnover rate is a matter of concern, although it is pleasing to note that there are 21 employees who have each completed 20 or more years civilian service with the Police Force.

PROMOTIONS

During 1974 the following promotions were made:-

Constable to Sergeant	42
Sergeant to Inspector	14
Inspector to Chief Inspector	10
Chief Inspector to Superintendent	3
Superintendent to Chief Superintendent	—
TOTAL	69

RETIREMENTS AND WASTAGE

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Retirement on Pension	8	24	13	14	24
Voluntary Resignations, without pension or gratuity:					
(a) Probationary Women Constables	5	1	8	5	3
(b) Women over 2 years Service	11	4	6	2	6
(c) Probationary Male Constables	17	9	23	28	15
(d) Men over 2 years Service	49	21	22	21	26
Transferred to other Forces					
(a) Male	28	15	7	11	20
(b) Female	1	3	1	2	3
Required to resign	1	1	1	5*	—
Dismissed	—	—	1	—	—
Died	4	5	3	—	3
Discharged on PR.16	—	—	1	—	7
Pensioned on Medical Certificate	—	—	—	—	2
Discharged on Gratuity — ill health	1	—	—	—	—
	<u>125</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>109</u>

*Includes four officers on probation who resigned as alternative to dismissal under PR.16.

HOUSING

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
(a) Owner Occupiers					
New applications to purchase	Not available		263	133	92
In occupation	540	675	904	946	952
Permission given but not taken up	45	244	137	92	50
Applications deferred	82	15	10	6	3
(b) Houses declared surplus					
County owned, police occupied	11	45	98	25	3
County rented, police occupied	2	24	22	13	1
On short term lease by others	—	—	—	70	106
(c) Houses modernised	36	17	17	13	34
(d) Houses built	20	13	35	11	8
(e) Housing status at year end					
* County owned, police occupied, pre-war	184	165	138	133	128
* County owned, police occupied, post-war	1,000	987	953	946	956
County hired, police occupied	72	48	26	13	12

*Includes property used as offices.

All houses previously owned by the Joint Police Authority now belong to the County Council by whom they are held for police purposes.

New applications to purchase have fallen and the number of owner occupiers has stabilised.

FORCE PLANNING

The Research and Planning Department at Force Headquarters is staffed by a Superintendent and an Inspector, who are concerned with all aspects of Force Planning. The establishment of the department was increased by a civilian AP 1/2 during the year to assist with research projects and administrative functions.

Projects undertaken during the year included an appraisal of the Police Establishment and distribution, following the increase in Establishment approved by the Home Office in April 1974, and an examination of the area/incident car scheme operating in the Force area which resulted in the redistribution of personnel and vehicles. A pocket size aide-memoire booklet will be issued to all members of the Force to provide advice and information on twenty of the more complex aspects of police responsibility.

Much has been done to effect savings in stationery, equipment, cleaning materials and printed forms by examining the needs of the Force, standardising requirements, streamlining the Stores and ordering procedures and making maximum use of existing stocks. A new type of pocket book in a plastic folder was introduced which has more than halved the cost of the previous type of book. The Department was also involved in the continued examination of the Capital Building Programme and Estimates for 1974/75 and 1975/76.

In the final planning stages of the new Force Headquarters extension block preparation of the site and determination of the furniture and equipment, a close liaison with the Architects and Engineers of County Hall, the Home Office and future occupants of the building was maintained.

Talks on planning are given to the various courses at Force Headquarters, when plans of proposed buildings are shown, projects discussed and comments and suggestions invited.

FIREARMS AND SHOTGUNS

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Current certificate holders					
Firearms	5,414	5,193	5,069	4,850	4,946
Shotguns	25,196	26,586	24,528	25,145	24,126
New certificates granted					
Firearms	589	498	489	454	500
Shotguns	2,071	1,390	2,313	2,274	2,153
Certificate renewals refused					
Firearms	56	36	35	30	19
Shotguns	37	16	12	13	17
Certificates cancelled					
Firearms	—	683	578	643	*385
Shotguns	—	—	4,359	1,644	†3,155

**includes 2 revocations*

†includes 21 revocations

I consider that the number of small arms held by the public could and should be reduced. Where there is a change of circumstances or needs the applicant is asked to dispose of his weapons either by sale or by surrender to the police for destruction.

Plans for the computerization of the Firearms Register have been delayed due to staffing problems in the computer department of the County Council.

IMMIGRATION

Force Headquarters Central register of foreign nationals shows:-

1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
2,553	2,480	2,353	2,164	2,114

Citizens of EEC member countries comprised 8% of registrations in 1974. 8 deportation orders made by the Secretary of State were served upon immigrants in the force area.

POPULATION AND ACREAGE

The population of the area policed by the Essex Police was 1,339,200 as at the 30 June 1974.

The acreage is 888,114



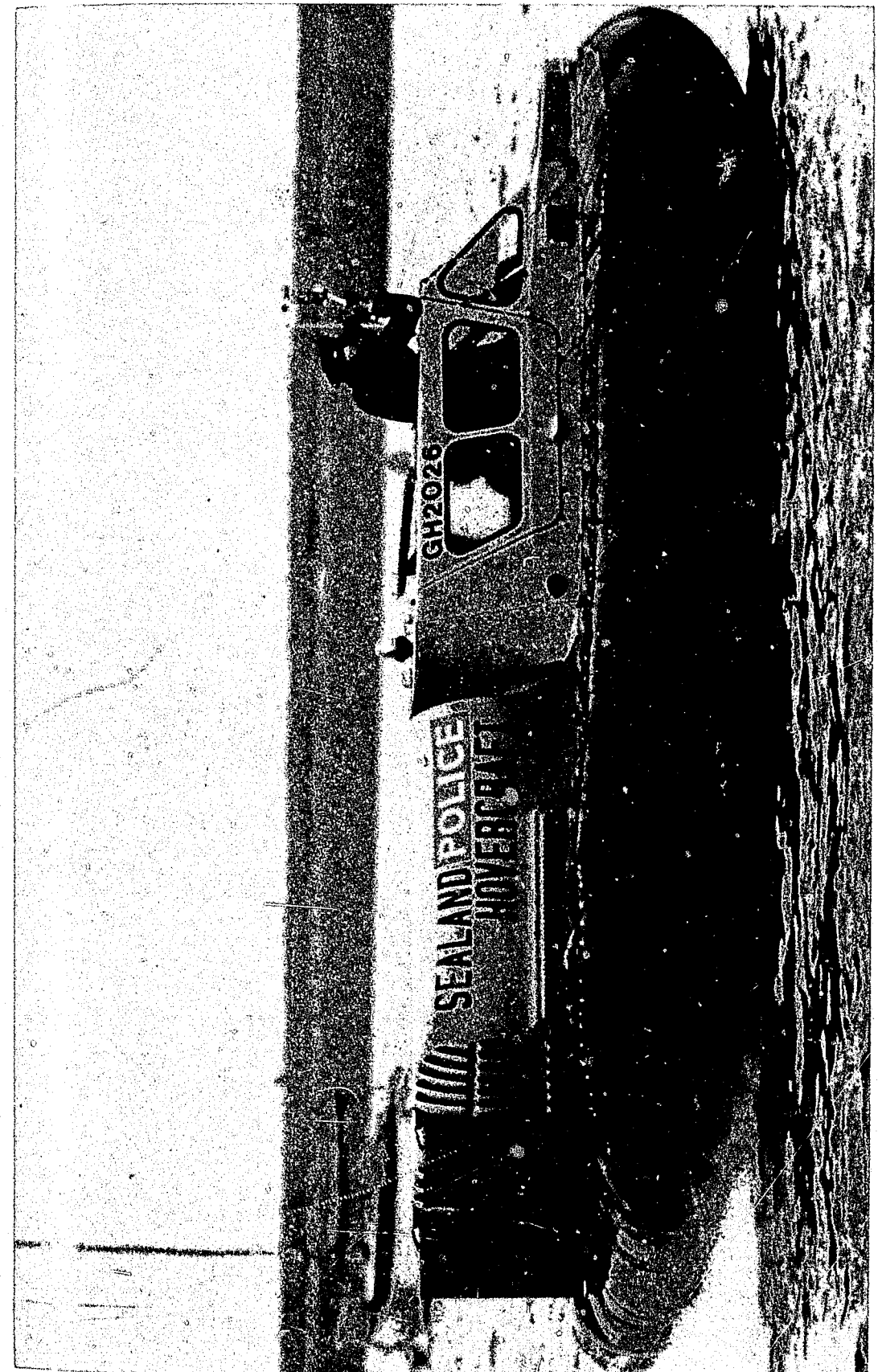
Cadet Michael DUNION winning the National Youth race walking championship in October, 1974.



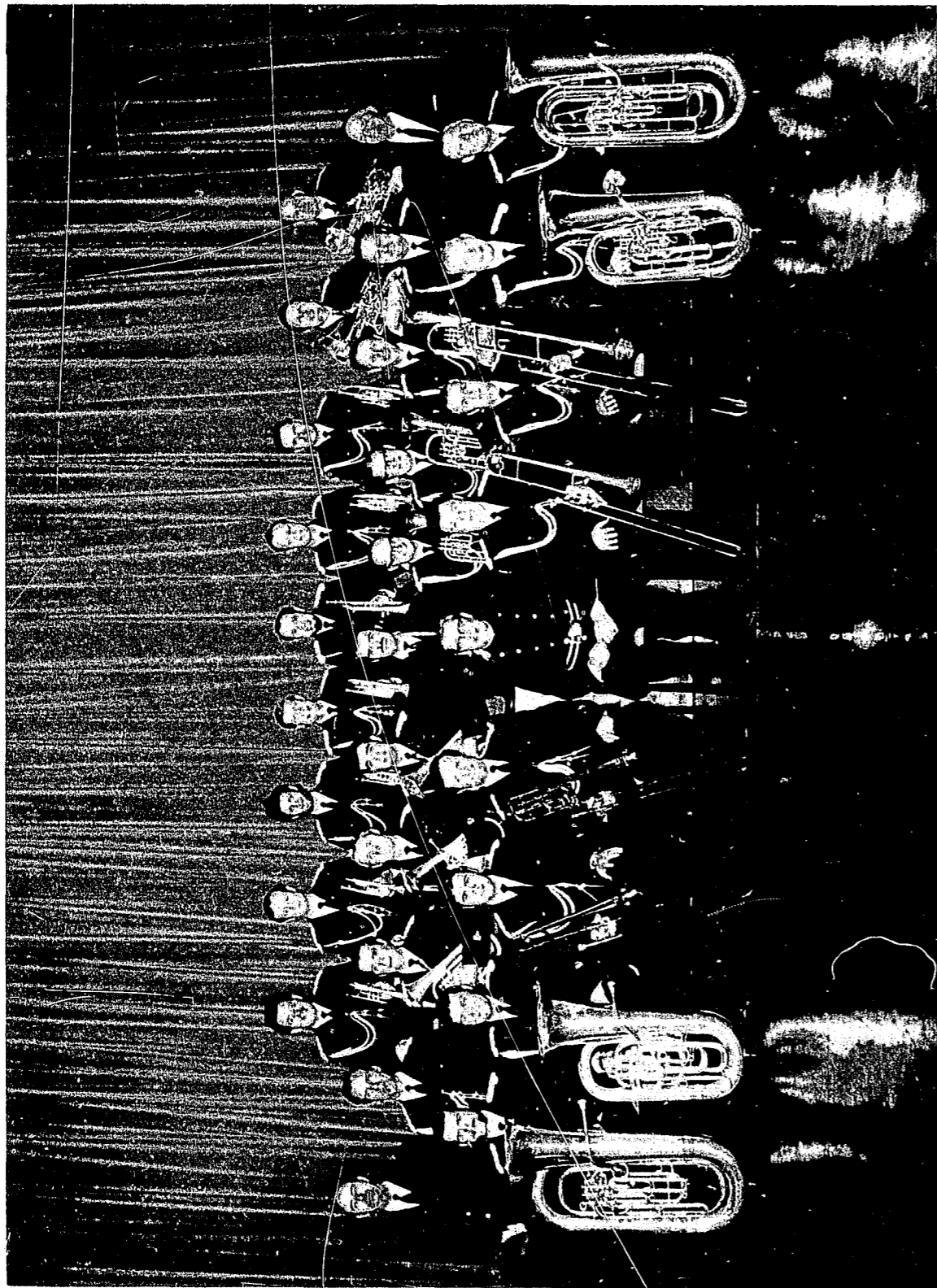
Trials on the Maplin Sands with an amphibious sand vehicle.



Force Headquarters Control Room.



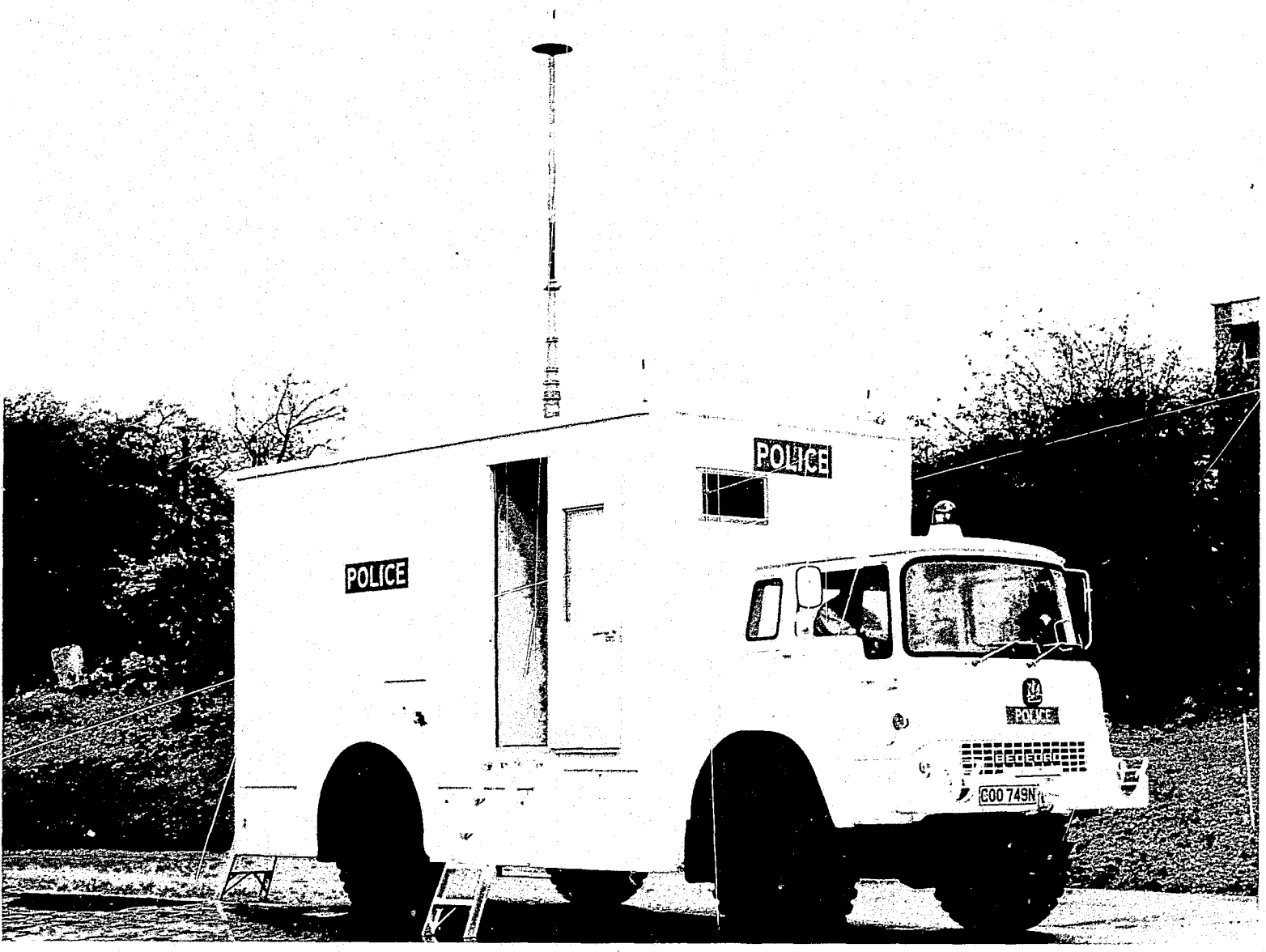
The Marine Section experimenting with a hovercraft on Maplin Sands.



The Force Band.



The new Force Communications vehicle — a view of part of the interior.



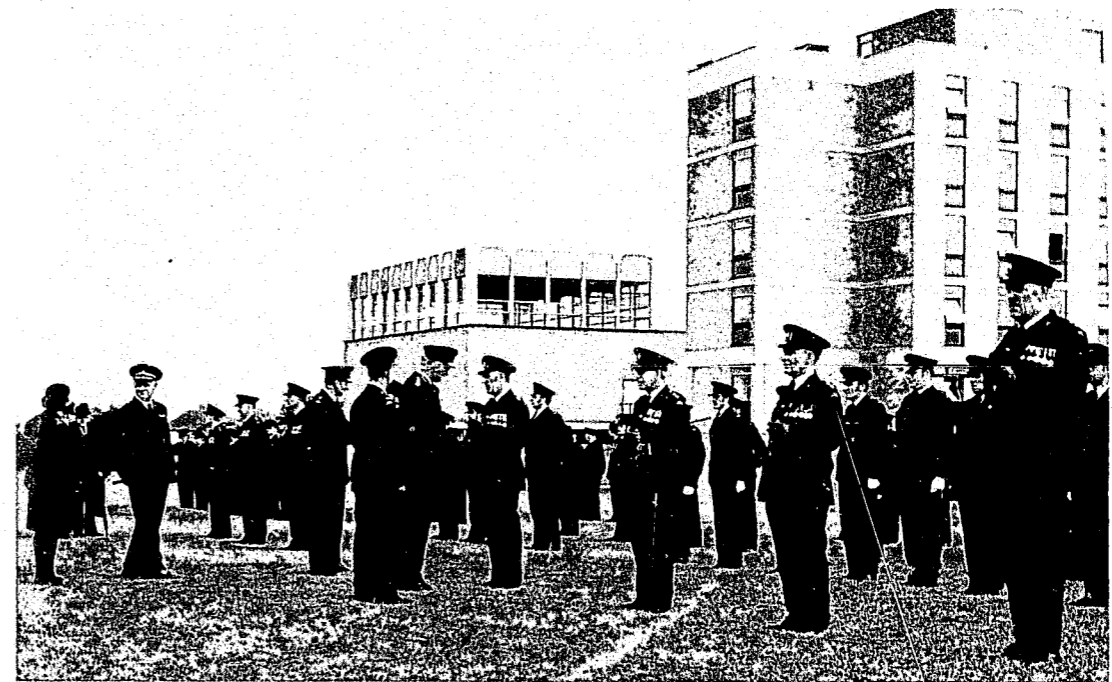
The new Force Communications vehicle showing pump-up wireless mast.



Site clearance at Force Headquarters in preparation for the building of the new Communication, Office and Amenity Block.



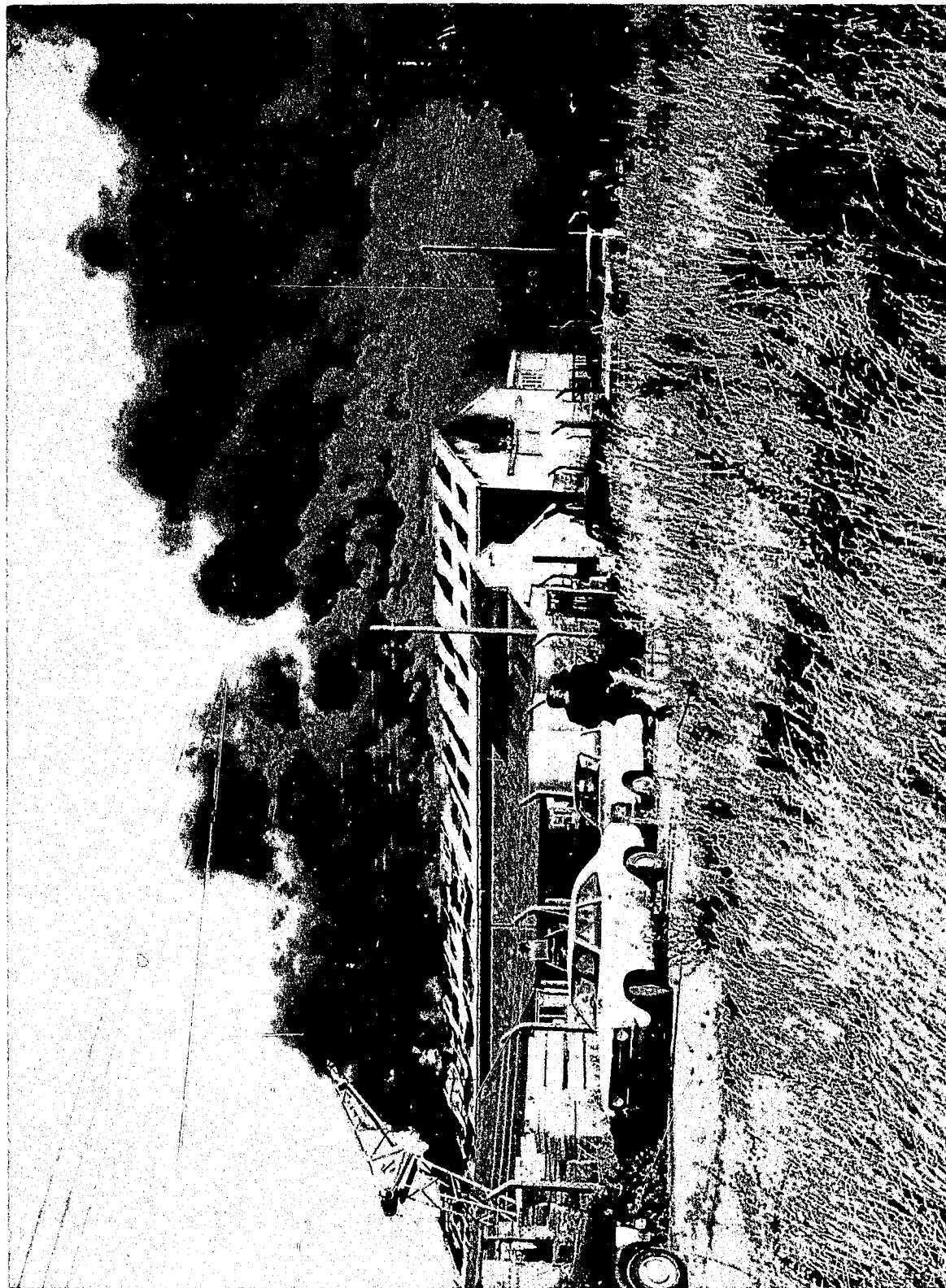
Mr. W. A. PETHERICK, Assistant Chief Constable (Operations), who in 1974 was awarded the Queen's Police Medal for distinguished service.



The Special Constabulary annual Muster Parade being inspected by Sir John Hill, CBE, DFC, QPM, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary.



W/Pc. 78 M. A. WINDEBANK of Southend Western Division being awarded the Bennett Trophy by Sir Jonathan Peel, CBE, MC, DL.



The scene at an industrial fire.

ANNUAL INSPECTION

Mr. G. Twist, CBE, QPM, one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary, inspected the Force from 26 to 29 November, 1974. He visited Force Headquarters and stations in the Basildon, Southend Eastern and Southend Western Divisions.

Miss J. S. Law, OBE, QPM, Assistant Inspector of Constabulary, visited the Force on 2 October, 1974, and inspected women police from various Divisions at Force Headquarters. Miss Law's Staff Officer, Woman Chief Superintendent N. Hughes, QPM, inspected women police from several Divisions at Southend Divisional Headquarters on 3 October, 1974.

VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

The Minister of State at the Home Office, Lord Harris, visited Force Headquarters and Harlow Division on 29 March, 1974.

INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Informal Consultative Committee for civilian employees has continued to meet regularly, and many useful opinions and suggestions have been put forward. A very high proportion of eligible employees voted in the November 1974 elections of staff representatives, indicating a large degree of interest in this form of consultation.

FORCE NEWSPAPER

During 1974 "The Law" continued to record each month the duties, social and sporting activities of the Force. Every special constable, traffic warden, cadet, civilian employee and police pensioner as well as every Force member receives a copy.

PRESS RELATIONS

There is good Press coverage of the activities of the Force and events involving the Police. Local press conferences assist in maintaining sound relationships which complement the efforts made to publicise the police role in the community.

COST OF POLICING

NET COST PER 1,000 POPULATION

Years	Net Cost (1)	Force Area (2)	Police Authorities National Average (3)
	£	£	£
* 1969/70	2,774,290	2,228	2,347
* 1970/71	3,384,111	2,658	2,802
* 1971/72	3,844,411	2,980	3,257

COST OF POLICING *contd.*

Years	Net Cost per 1,000 Population		Police Authorities National Average (3)
	Net Cost (1)	Force Area (2)	
* 1972/73	4,483,853	3,405	3,676
* 1973/74	5,002,485	3,765	†
** 1974/75	6,092,715	4,550	4,672 (est.)
*** 1975/76	6,997,255	5,199	Not yet available

* The net cost figures for these years (Col. 1) are actual

** The net cost figure (Col. 1) is the revised estimate

*** All figures shown are estimates

† Not produced by The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

Columns (2) and (3) have been calculated using the Registrar Generals Yearly Population Estimates where these are available.

All amounts in column (1) represent about half total police costs, the bulk of the remainder being met by specific grants from the Central Government.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

A Capital Building Programme indicating the requirements of the Force for the next five years was prepared for the Home Office and submitted to the Police Committee.

Two major projects are due to start during 1975/76, a divisional station for the Southend Western Division at Rayleigh and a sub-Divisional station at Tilbury. Both these projects were deferred from 1974/75 due to cuts in Government expenditure.

The remainder of the programme caters, either by way of replacement or by extending existing premises, for various Divisional, Sub-Divisional and Section Stations, Traffic Garages and a Motorway Post.

Work on the new Force Headquarters Communication, Office and Amenity Block has started and should be completed by January 1977. This was the only project started during 1974/75.

The new Traffic Sub-Divisional Headquarters, garage and workshop at Harlow is due to be completed early in 1975. Extensions to the Traffic Sub-Divisional Headquarters at Laindon were completed and negotiations are in hand to purchase additional land to improve vehicle circulation.

CANTEENS

Police canteens operate at Force Headquarters and at Southend, Chelmsford and Harlow Divisional Headquarters. They are managed by local elected canteen committees. Charges have had to be increased to meet the general severe increase in all types of costs.

CHAPTER IV

RECRUITING AND TRAINING

Recruitment

Schools and University Liaison

Training

Driving School

University Training

Detective Training

Police College and Higher Training

Divisional Training of Probationers

Police Training Centres

Weapon Training

First Aid Training

Cadet School

Careers Conventions

Police Promotion Examinations

Personnel Appraisal

Officers Studying in their own Time

Traffic Management Courses for Senior Officers

Training in Aircraft Crash Drill

Home Defence

RECRUITMENT

The improved rate of recruitment of recent years was maintained. Regrettably the wastage rate was again high but, nevertheless, the actual strength of the Force had increased by 52 by the end of the year, compared with 98 in 1972 and 72 in 1973.

During the year the Home Office arranged recruitment advertising in the national press. Advertisements were also published in local newspapers both in the Force and adjoining areas. The response was encouraging.

Every opportunity was taken to stimulate recruitment at various shows and exhibitions staged within the Force area.

RECRUITING DETAILS ARE SHOWN BELOW:

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Applications pending on 1 January		61	72	71	55
Application forms issued	600	803	748	739	785
Forms not returned	289	370	300	406	425
Forms returned	311	494	520	404	415

These completed applications were dealt with as follows:

Failed to reach required standard (physical, educational etc)	158	216	215	172	152
Pending at 31 December	61	72	71	55	70
Called for interview	161	206	234	177	193
Rejected by Police Surgeon	17	6	15	3	4
Rejected by Selection Board	24	30	24	18	15
Withdrawn after acceptance	3	4	11	6	8
Selected for appointment	129*	166**	184***	150****	166*****

* Includes 12 accepted for appointment in 1971

** Includes 28 accepted for appointment in 1972

*** Includes 29 accepted for appointment in 1973

**** Includes 18 accepted for appointment in 1974

***** Includes 24 accepted for appointment in 1975

Breakdown of those appointed:

	1970		1971		1972		1973		1974	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Appointed from civilian sources	83	11	101	14	99	12	94	13	88	16
Transfers from other forces	2	—	5	—	10	2	9	—	6	1
Transfer on promotion	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Reinstatements	5	2	7	5	7	—	4	—	6	1
Former Cadets (Local)	8	3	11	6	38	15	35	6	32	9
TOTALS	100	17	125	25	154	29	142	19	132	28

The average ages of 1974 appointees were 22.69 years men and 21.07 years women. 45.11% of the men and 12% of the women were married.

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Recruits with GCE 'A' level passes	6	3	9	8	16
Recruits with GCE 'O' level passes	45	63	77	73	84

SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITY LIAISON

Liaison work in Schools, particularly with Career Advisers, has been maintained throughout the year.

Two senior officers have been specially selected to promote the Graduate Entry Scheme.

TRAINING

Courses run within the Force:

Type of Course	Duration in weeks	No. Held	Students				Total
			Essen		Others		
			M	W	M	W	
Inspectors' Pre-Police College Courses	4	3	9	—	30	—	39
Sergeants' Refresher	2	8	97	2	—	—	99
Examination Preparatory — Sergeants	2	1	15	—	—	—	15
Examination Preparatory — Constables	2	1	17	1	—	—	18
Sergeants' Preparatory	2	2	22	—	—	—	22
Constables' Refresher	2	20	245	1	—	—	246
CID Selection	3	2	31	3	—	—	34
Policewomen's Specialist	2	2	—	14	—	17	31
Recruits' Local Procedure	2	11	121	21	—	—	142
Recruits' Induction Course	1	10	119	27	—	—	146
Teleprinter Training	2	13	48	13	45	23	129
Community Involvement	4	1	13	3	—	—	16
First Aid Lay Instructors' Refresher	1	1	8	1	—	—	9
National First Aid							
Competition Training	1	1	10	—	—	—	10
Use of Firearms/Tactics —							
Senior Officers	1 day	11	149	2	—	—	151
Control and Command Seminars —							
Senior Officers	1 day	8	106	1	—	—	107
Surveillance Training	3 day	3	26	—	—	—	26
Letter Bomb and Explosives Procedures	1 day	2	19	—	—	—	19
Safe Handling of Firearms	1 day	6	37	2	—	—	39
Pre-Retirement	3 day	1	36	—	—	—	36
Communications (Civilian Staff)	1 day	3	6	10	—	—	16
Induction (Civilian Staff)	1 day	1	—	3	—	—	3

The number of student weeks was:

1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
1,453	1,849	1,526	1,882	1,995

DRIVING SCHOOL

Student Training Programme

	Number of Courses	Number of Students	Student Weeks
CARS			
Instructors	3	12	72
Advanced Refresher	4	42	84
Advanced	8	90	356
Standard Refresher	7	100	199
Standard	9	145	723
Standard (3 week)	5	33	95
Standard (Elementary)	8	48	236
MOTOR CYCLES			
Instructors	2	6	33
Advanced Refresher	4	14	28
Advanced	6	20	60
Standard	1	2	6
Lightweight	1	1	2
Short Lightweight	1	1	1
TRAFFIC LAW			
Traffic Patrol Refresher	3	44	88
Advanced Traffic Patrol	1	10	20
Traffic Patrol	5	74	296
GRAND TOTAL 1974	68	642	2,299
GRAND TOTAL 1973	71	683	2,390
GRAND TOTAL 1972	79	705	2,450
GRAND TOTAL 1971	90	659	2,401

Of the above number for 1974 only 10 students failed to qualify.

Advanced driving was resumed in April 1974 after the 1973/74 fuel crisis.

169 tests, not associated with courses of instruction, were conducted for various driving and riding permits. 12 of the officers tested failed to reach a satisfactory standard.

76 statutory driving/riding tests were conducted, resulting in 75 passes.

18 Heavy Goods Vehicle driving tests were conducted, resulting in 16 passes.

722 routine eyesight tests were given to holders of driving permits.

44 Senior Cadets received Standard Driver training before joining the Force.

10 Traffic Patrol Officers on the Advanced Traffic Patrol Course undertook the City and Guilds of London Institute Examination in Motor Vehicle Construction and Usage for Traffic Patrol Officers and all passed.

Public Relations	Number				Numbers involved			
	1971	1972	1973	1974	1971	1972	1973	1974
Organised visits to The Driving School	53	54	66	96	1,159	826	1,235	1,747
Talks to various organisations	9	10	10	14	198	430	239	500
Police Driver Advisory Courses for members of the public	24	21	19	16	562	588	516	461

The Driving School Staff took part in, and in certain cases organised, driving tests and exhibitions at:

The Essex Show	The Harlow Town Show
The Physically Handicapped Rally	The Orsett Show
Harlow Police Station Open Day	

UNIVERSITY TRAINING

Under the Authority's Scheme there were, at the end of the year, seven officers on degree courses at Essex University. One Chief Inspector and two Inspectors were in their final year, two Inspectors in their second year and one Inspector and one Sergeant in their first year. In addition, a Superintendent was on a one year's Master of Arts Course in Local Government at the University of Kent and an Inspector was in the second year of a degree course in Management Sciences at Manchester University.

Chief Inspector H. J. Sutton and Inspector J. R. Watson, who attended Essex University, graduated in 1974 and returned to the Force. Chief Inspector H. J. Sutton was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree with lower second class honours in politics and sociology, and Inspector J. R. Watson was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree with upper second class honours in politics and sociology.

The officers' University careers are closely followed and I consider that the aims of the Scheme are being fulfilled.

DETECTIVE TRAINING

Two courses, each of three weeks duration, to assess the suitability of applicants for detective duties were held at Headquarters during the year.

Training courses at the Home Office Detective Training Schools at Preston, Wakefield and Birmingham were attended during the year by one Detective Inspector, five Detective Sergeants, one Woman Police Sergeant, twenty Detective Constables and three Women Police Constables.

POLICE COLLEGE AND HIGHER TRAINING

Chief Superintendent J. C. H. Graves and Chief Superintendent A. R. Mitchell attended the Eleventh Senior Command Course and six Inspectors attended Inspector's Courses at the Police College, Bramshill.

Chief Inspector G. B. Kay was appointed a member of the directing staff of the Police College on 4 November 1974.

DIVISIONAL TRAINING OF PROBATIONERS

Training of probationer constables is conducted by 6 full-time Divisional Training Officers in the rank of Sergeant at 8 study centres throughout the Force area. Each probationer attends for a full day each fortnight.

Periodically, Training Officers' Conferences are held at Headquarters and Divisional Training classes are visited by Headquarters Training Staff.

POLICE TRAINING CENTRES

Students from the Force attended various District Police Training Centres in the following numbers:-

	Men	Women	Total
Initial Courses	118	27	145
Continuation Courses	123	18	141

The following officers were seconded to Police Training Centres:

T/Superintendent K. E. Hunter, BA	Commandant, Ashford
Chief Inspector R. Stansfield, LLB	Deputy Commandant, Ryton
Inspector R. M. Law	Chief Instructor, Eynsham Hall
Sergeant J. E. Stenson	Instructor, Eynsham Hall

WEAPON TRAINING

Two 5-day residential courses were held at R.A.F. Debden. A total of 29 officers attended.

Two hundred and forty-nine officers from Regional Crime Squad, Police Support Unit and Divisions received training at regular intervals.

All Chief Inspectors and Inspectors attended a one-day seminar followed by a half-day practical demonstration on the Range.

FIRST AID TRAINING

Training at Divisional level was given throughout the year to ensure that members of the Force retained a current certificate. This instruction was given by 28 police officers, stationed throughout the Force area, who are qualified First Aid Lay Instructors.

Teams comprising men, women and cadets have trained centrally and have entered various local and national first aid competitions.

The Headquarters Divisional team won the Force Competition (The Chief Warden's Cup).

CADET SCHOOL

Course No. 4 passed out of the Cadet School in July 1974 to begin their period of practical training which includes attachments to police departments and to outside organisations such as hospitals, homes for the physically handicapped, remand homes and a local newspaper.

During 1974, 31 males and 9 females from the Cadet Corps were attested as Constables. 12 male and 5 female cadets resigned, some of them shortly before their 19th birthdays, thereby reducing the anticipated Force recruitment from the cadets.

During the year 40 cadets obtained first aid certificates and 11 passed the examination for the life saving bronze medallion. In GCE examinations 41 cadets passed subjects at ordinary level and 8 at advanced level.

Recruitment of cadets caused problems in 1974 as the number who were able to pass the entrance examination fell dramatically. Steps have been taken to avoid these problems in 1975 by wider advertising and a fresh look at entrance requirements.

Adventure training included short courses in Essex but longer expeditions went to Brecon and Snowdon in Wales, to Derbyshire and to Scotland. A party of Cadets camped near Rouen, France, for a weekend during which they also competed in road walking events. On another weekend a visit was made to Leeuwarden, Holland, where the police establishment was visited and cadets again took part in road walking events. Full use was made of the Outward Bound Scheme.

33 boys and 11 girls attended courses at the Police Driving School. 8 were graded as class 3 drivers and 17 as class 4, the remainder as class 5.

During the year 118 talks on the work of various police departments were arranged by members of the Cadet School staff in connection with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

In October the Police Cadets who compete in race walking events as part of "Essex Police" staged the Race Walking Association National Juniors', Youths' and Boys' Championships at the Police Cadet School. Essex Police Cadets in the "youth" (15-17 years) won the team championship against opposition from all over Great Britain. This was the first national championships Essex Police have won. Cadet Michael Dunion won the individual championship to add to the Amateur Athletic Association track title he won in June. In the junior (18-21 years) category, Essex Police, comprising one cadet and two constables were placed third.

CAREERS CONVENTIONS

These, together with the entertainment of school parties at the Police Cadet School and careers talks in schools, continue to form a valuable part of recruitment as well as public relations. Cadet Corps staff and cadets were regularly involved in this activity throughout the year.

POLICE PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS

Constable to Sergeant

Held in November	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Sat	254	227	236	239	251
Passed	46	51	36	33	21
Percentage	18.1	22.4	15.3	13.8	8.4

To Inspector

Held in January	1970		1971		1972		1973		1974	
	Sgts.	Pcs.	Sgts.	Pcs.	Sgts.	Pcs.	Sgts.	Pcs.	Sgts.	Pcs.
Sat	68	76	58	56	45	58	33	55	36	60
Passed	26	32	17	26	15	20	11	16	4	3
Percentage	38.2	42.1	29.3	46.4	33.3	34.5	33.3	29.1	11.1	5.0

Promotion Study Courses and Discussion Groups were arranged within the Force. Pre-examination Residential Courses were given to those officers passing an eliminating test. The Course results were:-

	1969/70		1970/71		1971/72		1972/73		1973/74	
	Sgts.	Pcs.	Sgts.	Pcs.	Sgts.	Pcs.	Sgts.	Pcs.	Sgts.	Pcs.
Attended Course	16	30	15	40	12	40	12	40	20	38
Passed Examination	15	27	10	32	11	30	8	26	4	16
Success Rate — Percentage	93.8	90.0	66.7	80.0	91.7	75.0	66.7	65.0	20.0	42.1

PERSONNEL APPRAISAL

Police

The staff appraisal system introduced in 1972 has been continued and works satisfactorily.

Civilian Staff

The staff appraisal system, commenced in September 1973 for certain grades of civilian employees, has been continued. It is designed to give those employees concerned a formal opportunity to discuss their progress and prospects with a senior officer at least once a year. The arrangements appear to be satisfactory and it is intended to continue them.

OFFICERS STUDYING IN THEIR OWN TIME

Arrangements for giving financial assistance to officers studying in their own time continued during 1974. During the year a total of 53 officers were engaged in studying as follows:-

- 3 were studying for external degrees
 - 6 were engaged upon degree courses under the Open University arrangements
 - 10 were studying one or more 'A' level GCE subjects
 - 11 were studying one or more 'O' level GCE subjects
- The remainder were undertaking miscellaneous courses.

By 31 December 1974, 6 officers had successfully completed their courses, 3 had withdrawn for various reasons and assistance to 3 others had been discontinued, following failure to pass examinations.

During the year 3 officers obtained 'A' level passes, 2 obtained 'O' level passes in the subjects which they were studying, 2 were awarded Ordinary National Certificates in Business Studies, 1 a Diploma in Management Studies and 1 a Bachelor of Arts degree of the Open University.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COURSES FOR SENIOR OFFICERS

During 1974, two Senior Officers of the Traffic Division attended a Traffic Management Course of two weeks duration at Hampshire Constabulary Headquarters at Winchester. Only one such Course was held during the year as the syllabus is currently being re-structured.

TRAINING IN AIRCRAFT CRASH DRILL

The substantial flow of air traffic creates a need for special training in crash drill. During the year fourteen senior officers attended 5 day courses, specially designed for the police, at the Civil Aviation Authority's Fire School at Stansted Airport.

HOME DEFENCE

Ten senior officers attended National Courses at the Home Office Civil Defence College at Easingwold and eight attended Regional Courses at Cambridge.

Six officers attended Instructor Courses at Regional level and qualified. Training in Police War Duties is included in the syllabus of Refresher Courses at the Force Training School and in probationer training.

Home Defence continues on a 'Care and Maintenance' basis.

CHAPTER V

OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Operations Organisation

Unit Beat Policing

Women Police

Police Dogs

Mounted Section

Marine Section

Support Unit

Operations and Communications Department

Special Operations

Pop Festivals

Licensing

Centralisation of Driver Licensing

Process Servers

Special Constabulary

Royal Visits

Home Defence

Flood Warning System

OPERATIONS ORGANISATION

On 18 November 1974, a Chief Superintendent, Operations, working directly to the Assistant Chief Constable (Operations) was made responsible for centrally co-ordinating the operational functions, with administrative support, of the Force Support Unit, the Dog Section, Information/Control Room, Home Defence and Warning, Marine/Underwater Search Section, Central Firearms Unit, Community Relations and Headquarters Security.

UNIT BEAT POLICING

This system is still used in various parts of the Force area, but its full potential is not realised because unit beat officers have to be diverted to activities which are more immediately important.

WOMEN POLICE

The establishment of the Women Police Department is:-

1 Superintendent
1 Chief Inspector
3 Inspectors
14 Sergeants
103 Constables

On 31 December 1974 the strength was 112, an increase of 15 over the previous year.

Of this number 32 are ex-cadets.

The policy of integration is continuing. Women are taking a full part in the policing of their areas and welcoming the greater variety of duties.

The first woman Detective Sergeant was appointed during 1974; 7 women are serving as Detective Officers on Divisions and 2 are attached to the Regional Crime Squad; 1 woman Sergeant and 4 Constables are employed as Juvenile Liaison Officers; 2 women are with the Community Involvement Unit at Basildon; 4 Constables are in the Traffic Division and 1 is in the Training Department at Headquarters.

One Inspector and 4 Sergeants have been nominated to liaise with the Social Services for cases of non-accidental injury to children.

During 1974 a number of Women Constables have been trained as photo-fit operators.

Women Police cleared up 2,172 crimes and made 674 arrests, dealt with 2,796 cases of persons missing from home, took 4,325 statements, dealt with 327 road accidents and reported 2,979 persons for summons other than crime.

Dance Halls, Bowling Alleys, Coffee bars and other places frequented by juveniles have been visited regularly by women officers. 715 visits were made to licensed premises.

24 juveniles were taken before the Court as being in need of care and 346 cases were referred to the Social Services Department. 90 talks were given to outside organisations.

POLICE DOGS

The Police Dog Unit has remained at its full authorised strength of 31 handlers with 31 police dogs and 2 dogs trained in the detection of drugs.

Six handlers with replacement dogs attended a 13 weeks basic training course organised by Surrey Constabulary. Three refresher courses of 14 days duration were held at the Force Training Establishment at Sandon. The Home Office recommended continuation programme whereby each dog receives 38 days continuation training annually, has been fully implemented.

In the Force Dog Trials in October Pc. McKenna with 'Sherriff' achieved 1st place. Four handlers from these trials will compete in the South East Regional Police Dog Trials in 1975. In the February 1974 trials three of the four dogs from this Force were awarded certificates. At the City of London & Home Counties Police Dog Competition organised by the Metropolitan Police, Pc. McKenna with 'Sherriff' won the competition and Pc. Gilfillan with 'Drummer' gained third place. Dogs have been entered in Kennel Club Working Trials on four occasions, resulting in two dogs qualifying as Working Dog (Excellent) and four Utility Dog (Excellent).

The Dog Unit gave a ten minute display at each of the six public performances of the Colchester Searchlight Tattoo held in the summer.

The Unit assisted in searches for missing persons, at the scenes of serious crime, and in dealing with rowdiness, especially at football matches. The two dogs trained to detect cannabis have given successful assistance to the Drug Squad and H.M. Customs during the year.

The work of the handlers and dogs is shown below:-

Incidents attended	3,912
Foot patrols	538
Mobile patrols	5,132
Arrests	387
Arrests by other branches with assistance of dogs	241
Missing persons found	37
Incidents where property was recovered	59

The following are examples of interesting cases dealt with by the Unit.

Track

Pc. Garwood with 'Brett' attended after a stolen car had been found abandoned. 'Brett' followed a most difficult track for approximately 500 yards through a built up area. This led to another parked vehicle in which the thief was hiding.

Track/Search

Pc. Blake with 'Sabre' was called to club premises which had been attacked. 'Sabre' followed a track for approximately ¼ mile during which nine items of property were recovered. On the track being lost through outside interference the dog was set to search nearby woods. He quickly located the two men responsible who were in hiding.

Missing Person

An 81 year old mental patient was reported missing and, despite an all night search, was not found. The following morning a team of seven dogs and handlers commenced a search of the area. One hour later one of the dogs indicated the man, who was lying in the bottom of a six foot ditch. He was partially immersed in water and covered by overhanging blackberry bushes. Although suffering from severe exposure, the man recovered.

MOUNTED SECTION

This comprises four Constables and three horses. The section maintains daily three hour patrols and during summer weekends and Bank Holidays patrolled the sea front. Members of the section performed duty at the Essex County Show, Southend Carnival and other similar events. The Constables are also used for other duties such as prison escort and court work.

MARINE SECTION

Motor Launches

The replacement launch for the ALERT will have greater endurance and sea capabilities which will enable additional patrols to be made in the Walton-on-the-Naze and Harwich areas from January 1975.

The new launch (ALERT II) is of 33' length overall x 10' 6" Beam with draught of 3 feet. It will be constructed of fibreglass (Glass Resin Plastic) to Lloyds specification and powered by two Ford Marine "Mermaid" engines of 180 bhp. The builders are Aqua-Bell Limited, Waterside, Brundall, Norwich. Kelvin Hughes type 17 Radar and VHF Marine Radio will be fitted.

Liaison with HM Immigration, Customs, Coastguard and Port Authorities has resulted in the tracing of stolen property, arrests made and goods recovered. Persons have been reported and cautions given for dangerous navigation and other offences. Operations on the high seas off the Essex coast with the Metropolitan Police have been successful.

Sea Rescue Patrol

The unit was employed full time from 1 April to 30 September and was called out during the winter period. During the summer season members of the unit attended 172 calls for assistance; 74 persons were brought ashore and no deaths by drowning were recorded in the area. On 15 March 1974 a second amphibious sand vehicle - All Terrain Vehicle 'BAZOO' - was received for trial purposes from the Home Office Research Services Branch. The vehicles have been used to patrol the Maplin Sands, two persons have been brought ashore and on 4 occasions they have attended persons appearing to be in difficulties.

During patrols officers give attention to moored vessels against thefts and damage. During the year six persons were arrested, first aid rendered to the public and assistance given at incidents ashore. On one day the crew attended 10 calls for assistance.

Underwater Search and Recovery Unit

Divers have attended incidents on 75 occasions, to search for persons and objects used in crime and to recover property and persons.

One unit attended continuation training at the R.N. Officers Training College, Dartmouth for one week, exercising with Naval divers and taking a refresher course at HMS Vernon, Portsmouth.

Air Sea Rescue

The R.A.F. has returned with its Wessex helicopters to R.A.F. Station, Manston taking over from HM Coastguard the responsibility of rescue from the air. A training flight exercise has been held with launches, Divers and Inshore Rescue boats. There will be continuation training with the R.N.L.I., HM Coastguard and R.A.F. round the Essex coast.

71 lectures and 22 displays have been given by the Marine section on water safety, diving, sea rescue and the work of launch patrols on the coast and rivers. The Diving Unit attended outside functions, talks, shows and lectures to Schools under the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Letters of appreciation have been received from Officers in Charge of other Police Forces, the public and HM Coastguard for diving operations, for bringing ashore persons in difficulties and assisting vessels involved in incidents.

SUPPORT UNIT

The strength of the Unit remains at 1 Chief Inspector, 1 Inspector, 3 Sergeants and 27 Constables with an establishment for an additional Sergeant and 3 Constables.

The Unit is now equipped with three large Personnel Carriers, one Mini van and one Estate vehicle. The Personnel Carriers are fitted with VHF/UHF radios enabling them to act as base stations at the scene of incidents. They also carry equipment enabling personnel to carry out searches, road checks and similar operations in any conditions. During the past 12 months the Unit has provided assistance to all territorial Divisions and most non-territorial Departments within the Force area. It has been engaged on a wide variety of duties, including protracted observations, major crime investigations, club raids and counter terrorist measures.

OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The difficulty of recruiting civilian staff for the Police National Computer Terminals has been largely resolved by a pay increase and sufficient applicants of the right calibre are now coming forward for interview. There has been increased demand from Divisions for communication facilities for special events and at scenes of major crimes.

Total Message Traffic (excludes radio messages)

Year	Telephone Messages	Increase Numerical	Percentage
1971	209,417		
1972	286,480	77,063	36.8
1973	364,622	78,142	27.3
1974	428,095	63,473	17.4

Teleprinter Network

No major changes have taken place in the Force Teleprinter Network although plans are going ahead to include Tilbury within the system. Improved machines are being fitted into the Headquarters installation. In the Force Teleprinter School 60 operators were trained for this Force and 69 operators for other Forces.

Teleprinter Messages

	No.	Incoming Increase		Outgoing Increase	
		No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
1971	47,401			35,207	
1972	78,400	30,999	65.4	62,304	27,097 77.0
1973	103,969	25,569	32.6	90,428	28,124 45.1
1974	101,963	- 2,006	- 1.94	91,993	1,565 1.7

(NOTE: The decrease in incoming teleprinter traffic reflects the use of the Police National Computer for vehicle checks instead of telex).

Telephones

No alterations have been made to the Headquarters switchboard although all Divisional Stations now have automatic telephone facilities. It is planned to extend those facilities to Sub-Divisions.

Private Wires

The Force private wire telephone network extends to all Divisional and Sub-Divisional stations. It has afforded some protection against large increases in public exchange line call rates. The network is sufficiently well engineered to accommodate this traffic without undue strain.

Police National Computer

The Police National Computer commenced live operation to this Force on 1 August 1974 with an extremely smooth change-over from manual to computer records with a very low error rate. The enquiry traffic on vehicle checks increased by 400% in the first 3 months of operational use.

Usage figures from 1.8.74 to 31.12.74 were — Visual Display Unit 38,754; Data Printer 2,399.

The training of the Information Room staff, both police and civilian, in terminal operator procedures continued and all civilian staff who have completed their probation have attended courses at Hendon. Some police officers are being trained as courses become available but priority is given to the civilian operators. It is anticipated that in the next 12 months the names index will start to become available on the computer.

UHF Radio

Little change has taken place in the pocket radio schemes in the last 12 months. The Force is still not fully equipped with personal radios although 15 sets were obtained for use with the Police Support Unit. Additional sets are frequently borrowed from the Home Office by Regional wireless depots to cover events such as football matches and public occasions. The results of the surveys carried out last year have been examined and several of the 12 schemes under re-engineering at that time are now operational. The important scheme at Southend is still awaiting planning permission as is the scheme for Ongar. Schemes for Harlow, Chelmsford, Grays, Basildon and Brentwood have been satisfactorily concluded. There are now 460 personal radios in daily use and as no deliveries of new sets have been received the failure rate remains much as it was 12 months ago.

VHF Radio

Considerable difficulties have been met in trying to obtain land in the High Garrett area and to develop properly the installation at Great Bromley. The property is owned by the Defence Land Agent and restrictive covenants at the time of the original purchase have prolonged the purchase procedure. The site at High Garrett will probably be

purchased in early 1975. This essential development of the Force radio scheme will provide cover in the very poorly served area north of Witham as far as the County boundary and will enable a third channel to relieve the heavily overloaded existing two channels. There are 345 cars, 47 motor cycles and 3 launches fitted with radio.

The Emergency 999 System

Number of '999' calls.	Increase		
	No.	No.	Percentage
1970	39,061	4,611	+ 13.4%
1971	39,807	746	+ 1.9%
1972	44,313	4,506	+ 11.3%
1973	48,128	3,815	+ 8.6%
1974	49,813	1,685	+ 3.5%

The 999 system still continues to provide satisfactory service for the majority of the time. However, because of the increasing use of the level 9 for dialling local remote telephone exchanges there are occasions when members of the public dialling 999 get an engaged signal. Steps are being taken at national level to try and resolve this problem.

Visitors to the Department

The number of foreign visitors visiting the Department decreased in 1974. An officer from the Royal Hong Kong Police spent 3 days studying the application of personal radio in the Force. Visits of students from Marconi and the Mid-Essex Technical College who are studying telecommunications have continued but members of the public are not normally admitted to the Department.

Items of Special Interest

A new Force Communications vehicle has been purchased to replace the existing pre-war ex-Civil Defence vehicle. It has the most up to date facilities being fitted with a small 6 line telephone exchange, a 50 ft pump up mast and a 2½ kilowatt generator. It can be fully operational immediately on arrival at the scene of any incident to provide radio and telephone communications and office facilities.

Portable Teleprinters

The Force, in conjunction with the Home Office Directorate of Telecommunications and Messrs. National Cash Register, has developed a portable teleprinter which is virtually silent and works through the medium of a normal standard telephone line.

Talks to Outside Organisations

There is a steady demand for talks on Police communications and more recently on Police Computers to both schools and teachers organisations. These have all been given by the Superintendent, Communications and have been well received. Many schools in Essex now include computer science as part of their GCE examinations and many requests have been received from students for literature on Police applications of computers. This has been provided as a brief set of notes.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Apart from major crime matters which are described elsewhere, significant operations include the disturbances at Essex University, extending from early March to the end of May, which ranged from harassment of supply vehicles to student demonstrations and mass picketing.

There have also been numerous bomb hoaxes to be investigated and special security precautions to be taken against terrorist attacks.

POP FESTIVALS

Six Pop Concerts were organised by the Harlow District Council in the Town Park at Harlow. They were held on Saturday evenings throughout the summer. These concerts attracted some disorderly elements but in general they were well run and the spasmodic disturbances easily dealt with. Minor drug offences were detected.

A Public Enquiry has been held into the desirability of holding these events in 1975. There was some opposition by residents living in the vicinity of the park but this seems to have had little effect and plans are already being made for similar events to take place in 1975.

LICENSING

Licensed Premises

Intoxicating liquor licences in force in the Force area at the year end were:-

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Full publicans' licences	1,304	1,308	1,326	1,370	1,330
Publicans' licences with conditions	180	125	149	174	186
'ON' Beerhouses	4	3	2	2	2
'OFF' Beerhouses and 'OFF' licences	540	573	590	644	657
Restaurant licences	168	193	220	238	235
Residential combined with restaurant licences	39	47	52	54	53
Residential licences	35	35	40	36	34
Licensed clubs	*	61	63	66	65
Registered clubs	510	533	558	604	603
Wine and spirit dealers	4	8	76	6	5
Theatre licences	5	4	5	4	5
Seamen's canteen licences	2	2	2	2	2
TOTAL	2,791	2,892	3,083	3,200	3,177

*Included in 'publicans' licences with conditions'

Licensing Offences

	1972	Persons 1973	1974
Supplying liquor after hours	5	14	3
Failing to quit licensed premises upon request by licensee	7	18	—
Consuming liquor after hours	19	3	1
Supplying liquor to unauthorised persons	24	5	2
Purchasing liquor when under age	11	5	1
Purchasing liquor for an under age person	12	1	—
Consuming liquor when under age	24	1	—
Allowing consumption of liquor to person under age	2	—	—
Selling liquor without a licence	21	11	4
Unlicensed entertainment upon licenced premises	—	1	—

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Adults convicted for being drunk, drunk and disorderly or drunk and incapable	436	498	436	495	504
Young persons under 18 convicted for drunkenness	16	4	27	17	26

Betting

Licensed facilities for betting in the Force area were:

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Bookmakers' permits	154	146	146	153	152
Betting Agency permits	1	1	1	1	1
Track Betting licences	4	4	3	3	3
Betting office licences	244	221	222	227	229

Gaming

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Different licences issued under the Gaming Act 1968 (includes 3 Casino licences in Southend)		307	368	363	364

CENTRALISATION OF DRIVER LICENSING

The delays experienced in receiving replies to enquiries have been steadily reduced during the year, but still remain longer than desirable. The system is potentially an improvement once these initial difficulties have been overcome.

PROCESS SERVERS

The 18 Process Servers in Divisions have again serviced the majority of warrants. They have also dealt with the majority of summonses which require personal service and have thus relieved police officers of these time consuming tasks.

SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

	Men	Women	Total
Strength at 1.1.74.	414	37	451
Enrolments during 1974	69	19	88
Resignations during 1974	59	5	64
Strength at 31.12.74.	424	51	475

Mr. C. T. Rainbird, Commandant of the Special Constabulary since 1966, retired in January after completing 48 years service. He was succeeded by Mr. M. J. Giller formerly Special Superintendent in the Chelmsford Division.

The Annual Special Constabulary Competition was held in May when Harlow Division won both the "De Rougemont" and "Salter" Cups. The Neville Trophy Competition was arranged by the Metropolitan Police and held at Romford Police Station in June. The trophy was won by the Metropolitan Special Constabulary.

The Annual Open Day was held at Headquarters in conjunction with the May competition. The inspecting officer was Sir John Hill, CBE, DFC, QPM, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary.

I wish to express my appreciation to members of the Special Constabulary for their valuable and unfailing assistance at all times.

ROYAL VISITS

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh visited the Youth Camp at Danbury and the Bradwell Field Station and Sailing Centre on 31 May, 1974.

HRH The Princess Margaret visited the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, Great Bromley and later opened an Antiques Fair in Colchester on 11 September, 1974.

HRH The Queen Mother visited Chelmsford and the Home of St. Giles, East Hanningfield on 21 November, 1974.

HRH The Princess Anne made a private visit to open the Riding School for the Disabled in Belfairs Park, Eastwood, Southend-on-Sea on 3 December, 1974.

HOME DEFENCE

The attack warning sirens have been maintained at a state of readiness and routine tests proved the system to be in a very satisfactory state.

The renewal of wooden support poles which have deteriorated was delayed due mainly to supply problems but these have now been resolved and necessary work will be carried out as soon as possible.

All except 9 Fire Service sirens were transferred to the Police Authority from the County Fire Brigade when the part-time stations concerned were equipped with the Brigade's new calling-out system.

Routine tests of the Carrier Line Broadcast System carried out during the year showed the system to be in a very satisfactory state.

Instructions given to civilian warning point operators has been supplemented by the issue of a booklet prepared by the Home Office United Kingdom Warning and Monitoring Organisation which sets out various aspects of the warning system including the responsibilities of the Police to warn the public in the event of an emergency. A copy of the booklet has been issued to all Police Stations within the Force.

On two weekends large scale fall-out exercises over the whole of the United Kingdom, except Northern Ireland, organised by the Home Office United Kingdom Warning and Monitoring Organisation were held in which the Police participated.

FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

During the storm tide warning season which lasts from mid-August to mid-April, the system of 22 sirens stretching from Tilbury to Harwich was tested monthly and found to be in a satisfactory state.

CHAPTER VI

MISCELLANEOUS

- Complaints against the Police
- Disciplinary Proceedings
- Letters of Appreciation
- Visits to Police Stations and
Talks to Outside Organisations
- Community Relations
- Community Involvement Project
- Awards and Decorations
- Commendations
- Awards to Members of the Public
- Police Federation and
The Superintendents' Association
- Officers with Degrees
- Participation in Youth Organisations
- Royal Humane Society
- The Society for the Protection of Life from Fire
- Force Welfare
- Force Sports
- Force Trophies
- The Force Band
- National Association of Retired Police Officers

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE

The procedure for dealing with complaints from members of the public is well established and is prescribed by Section 49 of the Police Act 1964. Each complaint is fully investigated under arrangements laid before the Police Authority. At the conclusion the complainant is informed of the result, usually in writing, on occasions personally, in an endeavour to satisfy a genuine grievance. Where appropriate, remedial action is taken to avoid any repetition of a similar nature.

The individual aspect of each allegation is regarded as one complaint although made on one occasion by one complainant. Proposals are being considered nationally said to be aimed at introducing what are claimed to be desirable additional independent elements to the procedure. It is by no means clear at this stage how this would work.

Comparative figures are:-

	1971	1972	1973	1974
Number of complainants	380	261	297	219
Complaints finalised	517	437	395	301
Number substantiated	56	57	49	21
Number not substantiated	461	380	346	280
Cases pending at 31 December	—	—	62	70

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

There are statutory provisions which provide a uniform method of dealing with breaches of discipline. These are supplemented by a sound tradition of advice or admonishment by respective Commanders where minor indiscretions or lapses of good conduct are apparent. This system provides the desirable flexibility distinguishing the more rigid and formal procedures from the essentially prompt and personal controls necessary in a good ordered service. At the same time it allows the distinction between the serious defaults and the otherwise human shortcomings which needs to be recognised to maintain morale in an essentially person service.

During 1974, 6 officers were dealt with at formal hearings as compared with 11 in 1973.

The cases were disposed of as follows:-

	1971	1972	1973	1974
Caution	1	1	2	—
Reprimand	4	4	5	2
Fined	—	4	1	3
Reduced in Rank	—	1	1	1
Required to Resign	1	1	2	—
Dismissed	—	1	—	—
Found not guilty	—	—	—	—

One officer subsequently appealed against the finding and punishment. The Secretary of State has dismissed his appeal against the finding of guilt but has varied his punishment.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

Members of the public often write expressing their appreciation of the service they have received from members of the Force.

These totalled:-

1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
1,394	1,125	1,135	1,244	1,051

VISITS TO POLICE STATIONS AND TALKS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

In 1974 the following visits were made to Force Headquarters:-

Evening	12 children in one party 480 visitors in 24 parties
Part day	230 children in 12 parties 80 students in 6 parties 67 visitors in 2 parties
All day	29 R.A.F. Officers in 2 parties 14 Military personnel in 1 party 63 Education Welfare Officers in 3 parties 1 student

The Training School Staff gave 14 talks to local organisations, including lectures at the County Ambulance Training School.

390 talks were given by Divisional Officers and over 100 visits were made by various groups to police stations. Harlow Division held an 'Open Day' in July which attracted 1,350 visitors.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

There are no special problems in the Force area as there are no markedly divisive groups. Police Officers regularly give talks to local associations on police matters.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECT

During 1974 a Police Community Involvement Unit was established in the new town area of Basildon. It consists of two Sections — The Schools Liaison Officer Section and the Community Liaison Officer Section.

Each of the 6 Basildon Comprehensive schools and their associated infant and junior schools form a group which has its own Schools Liaison Officer. He deals with all crime prevention, road safety and juvenile liaison work in the schools. Talks and film shows on police subjects are given and there is involvement in school sporting activities and educational visits. He works mainly during school hours with occasional evening duties in attending youth clubs, parent/teacher association meetings and visiting parents.

Each Community Liaison Officer is allocated a territorial beat to patrol on foot or cycle. He gives talks and film shows on police subjects, gives crime protection advice, is involved in sports activities, youth club leadership, community projects and is consulted on many social, domestic and personal problems. He and the Schools Liaison Officer co-operate on juvenile liaison matters in the area. His work is carried out mainly in the early morning and late evenings and involves visiting dance halls, discotheques, youth clubs, cafes, community centres and other public places on his beat.

The Project has already generated a good police/public relationship, supported by some local and national Press coverage. Unit members are becoming increasingly and directly involved in many community activities, as the following statistics show:-

Conferences and meetings attended	151
Number of people attending talks and film shows	71,644
Numbers visiting the Police Station	73
Number of posts held by Unit Officers in various community and youth organisations	28
Letters of appreciation received	34

It is too early to assess the success of the unit but preliminary results are encouraging.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

During 1974 the following Awards and Decorations were made:-

The Queen's Police Medal for distinguished service	to	Assistant Chief Constable W. A. Petherick
The Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal	to	57 officers as a mark of Her Majesty's appreciation of Long and Meritorious Service

COMMENDATIONS

Members of the Force received commendations during 1974 as follows:-

	No. of Commendations	No. of Officers
By Chief Constable	30	57
By Courts (including H.M. Judge of Crown Courts, H.M. Coroner and Justices)	55	113
TOTAL	85	170

AWARDS TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

ESSEX COUNTY NEWSPAPER AWARD SCHEME

In January 1974 the proprietors of Essex County Newspapers Limited instituted a series of annual monetary awards to members of the public who were of outstanding assistance to the Police. The awards are made for acts of public assistance in the various Police Sub-Divisions covered by local newspapers published by the Essex County Newspapers Group as follows:-

The Maldon & Burnham Standard	—	Maldon Sub-Division
Braintree & Witham Times	—	Braintree & Witham Sub-Divisions
Chelmsford Weekly News	—	Chelmsford Sub-Division
Essex County Standard	—	Colchester Sub-Division
East Essex Gazette	—	Clacton Town & Rural Sub-Divisions
Harwich & Dovercourt Standard	—	Harwich Sub-Division

The following awards were made for 1974:-

The Maldon & Burnham Standard

£25 to Master Ian Playle, age 13 years, of Heybridge for his prompt action in summoning the help of the Police, as a result of which a Mr. Butcher of Heybridge was rescued from a serious house fire.

Chelmsford Weekly News

£25 to Miss Jennifer Anne Rush of Chelmsford, whose assistance, following a robbery at her place of employment, resulted in the identification and subsequent conviction of the offenders.

Essex County Standard

£25 to Mrs. Dorothy Rendell of Castle Hedingham who made water colour sketches of two youths she saw in peculiar circumstances. The sketches were of such quality that the two youths were identified and were later convicted, with others, of various criminal offences.

East Essex Gazette

£25 to Mr. Stephen Hill of St. Osyth, Mr. Michael Lynn and Mr. Stephen Barrett, both of Clacton, for their help in recovering a body from the sea at Clacton during a south westerly gale last November.

Harwich & Dovercourt Standard

£25 to Mr. George Eleftheriades of Dovercourt who saw two men on three days outside a bank in Harwich at about the time business premises are closing and making use of the Bank Night safe. As a result of his information the two men were arrested and were later convicted of possessing a loaded firearm.

WILSON AWARD SCHEME

The scheme originated and financed by Mr. W. W. Wilson and known as the Wilson Award Scheme ceased on 31 December 1973. I am most grateful to Mr. Wilson for sponsoring the scheme for so many years.

PROVINCIAL POLICE AWARD

This award of medals or certificates is made annually on a national basis for acts of bravery by members of the public in support of law and order. During the year certificates of commendation were awarded to Mrs. Moira Patricia Lynch-Gardner of Clacton and Mr. Charles Augustus Sedin of Walton-on-Naze for the courageous manner in which they dealt with an armed youth who was resisting arrest at Clacton Hospital.

POLICE FEDERATION AND THE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

I have given careful consideration to matters brought to my notice at periodic joint consultations with the Executive Committee of the Joint Branch Board and representatives of the Superintendents' Association. These related to the welfare and efficiency of their members and included police housing, transportation of dangerous substances, pre-retirement courses, prison escorts, reimbursement of medical expenses, the motor car assisted purchase scheme, winter annual leave and Promotion Advisory Boards.

At the annual open meeting for federated members I also have an opportunity to speak on the work of the Force to the large number of officers who invariably attend.

These channels of communication are invaluable in finding acceptable solutions to problems and I am appreciative of the co-operation and assistance given by the officers' representatives.

OFFICERS WITH DEGREES

At 31 December 1974 there were seventeen members of the Force with University degrees:-

5 LLB	Bachelor of Law
9 BA	Bachelor or Arts
1 MSc	Master of Science
1 BSc	Bachelor of Science
1 B.Ed.	Bachelor of Education

PARTICIPATION IN YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Apart from those involved in the Basildon Community Involvement Scheme, at minimum 88 Officers assist many different types of youth organisations in various ways.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY

The following award of the Society was made to a member of the Force during the year:-

Pc. 483 J. R. Cooper Testimonial on Vellum

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF LIFE FROM FIRE

The Society awarded Certificates to:-

Ps. 234 D. J. Hull

Pc. 488 P. J. Clark

Pc. 11 R. P. Mills

FORCE WELFARE

FORCE WELFARE OFFICER

He is a Police Sergeant who is available to assist any member of the Force who has a personal problem. He is the Force Gurney Fund representative and Secretary to the Benevolent Fund and combined Welfare Fund. During the year, numerous Police Dependant Trust claims from this and other Forces and applications for Hove Convalescent Home have been dealt with.

Personal visits have been made to Police Widows and pensioners of this and other Forces.

WELFARE FUNDS

Police Dependants Trust

This National Fund was established to provide financial help to police officers injured on duty and to the dependants of others killed on duty. Income is derived from subscriptions from members of the Force, donations from the public and fund raising schemes.

For this Force:-

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Numbers assisted	9	12	12	13	9
Total of grants made (£)	1,075	1,210	1,832	1,300	995
Contribution to the Trust (£)	9,202	1,850	1,901	5,669	1,724

Gurney Fund

This Fund makes regular monetary grants to police orphans.

	1971	1972	1973	1974
Children assisted	25	25	21	21
Total benefits paid (£)	1,992	2,382	2,405	2,587
Subscriptions from Force members	2,578	2,720	2,880	3,042

Essex Police Force Benevolent Fund

This is a Charity controlled by a committee of elected representatives from each Division and with the approval of the Charity Commissioners. It also acts as trustees of the Essex Police War Memorial Fund. There is a small grant made to the Fund from the National Police Fund but the greater part of income is derived from subscriptions received from Force members and donations from members of the public. In 1974 £2,000 was allocated to the Convalescent Police Seaside Home at Hove to assist in maintaining and running it. 21 serving officers and 3 Police pensioners have attended the Home as patients and a total of £152.07 was paid out by way of travelling and out-of-pocket expenses.

The Benevolent Fund made the following grants during 1974:-

Serving Police Officers	£670
Pensioners	80
Widows	565

Essex Police Orphans Fund

This local Fund, administered by the Joint Branch Board of the Police Federation, has, since its inauguration in 1938, made annual donations to orphans of former members of the Force at Christmas from monies donated by members of the public and from social events run by members of the Force.

Despite tax problems the previous level of £60 per orphan has been maintained with a total of £1,380 being distributed.

FORCE SPORTS

Angling

The Force were hosts to the No. 5 (S.E.) Region P.A.A. and a good day's fishing was had at Southend on Wednesday, 9 October 1974. The Essex 'A' team was placed third and represented the Force at the National Championship held at Shoreham on 28 October 1974.

Athletics

The Force won the Regional Championships by a margin of 50 clear points. Constable Tim Mildinhal represented the Force in the National Police Championships. He won the high jump and as a result represented the British Police in the European Police Games held in Berlin.

During 1974 the Force walkers competed throughout England, and in France and Holland.

Badminton

A team competes in the Chelmsford and District League.

Bowls

During the season many friendly matches were arranged, four of them at Group level. In the P.A.A. Triples we lost in the quarter finals and in the Fours the Force team lost the first round to Hampshire.

Cricket

Many friendly matches were played during the season. The team reached Regional finals where they tied with Sussex.

Football

Most Divisions of the Force have a team playing regularly in local leagues.

The Force team played in the Essex Olympian League.

Golf

This section is enjoying great popularity and 53 members of the Force Sports Association participate. 14 matches have been played during the season. Two members played in the National P.A.A. at Durham.

Life Saving and Swimming

The Police Womens Team won the Southern Eliminating Heat for the Alington Cup and qualified for the National Finals. This is the third year in succession that the team has reached the finals. The men's team competed in competitions at Leicester, Reading and Bournemouth but was not placed amongst the winners. The long distance swim held on 1 August 1974 was a great success and for the first time the event was won by a cadet, Cadet Kevin Nowell.

Rugby

Home games are now played at Coronation Park, Chelmsford and the section is benefiting from this central position. A number of friendly matches have been played.

Tennis

There has been increased interest in tennis and during this season 20 persons have represented the Force on a number of occasions. In June the team represented the Force in the P.A.A. competitions at Guildford and Inspector Miller reached the semi-finals of the men's singles.

Rifle Shooting

In June 1974, 8 members travelled to Bisley to compete in the small bore rifle shooting for Police Forces.

Pistol Shooting

This section has had a successful season. Chief Inspector Sutton took third place in the National Police Combat competition and represented England against the French Police.

Women Police Sport

The Netball and Hockey sections continued to thrive.

The Force Netball team won the National Final by beating Lincolnshire after extra time. One team has been entered again this year and has reached the zone final.

The Hockey team is stronger this year due to the inclusion of a number of girl cadets. Several friendly matches have been played and the team reached the second round of the National Competition.

A number of policewomen and girl cadets have participated in Force Athletic competitions. A woman constable won the South East Region 80 metre event and was second in the 100 metre. She was also placed third in the National 100 metre.

Policewomen have also participated in Badminton, Table Tennis, Darts, Shooting and Sailing.

FORCE TROPHIES

The Bennett Trophy, presented by the late Sir William Bennett, CBE, JP, DL, goes annually to the probationer gaining top marks in an annual competition and was awarded to Wpc. 78 M. A. Windebank of Southend Western Division.

The Wilson Trophy donated by W. W. Wilson, Esq. of St. Cleres Hall, Stanford-le-Hope, is presented for the most meritorious deed by an Essex policeman during the year, and for 1974 was awarded to Pc. 483 Julian Richard Cooper of Harlow Division.

Sir Jonathan Peel Trophy, awarded annually to the Constable gaining the highest marks in a promotion examination, was won by Wpc. 10 E. M. Falconer of Traffic Division.

The Millard Trophy, presented by Alderman S. Woodfull Millard, is awarded annually to the member of the Regular Police Force who has made the greatest contribution to social services in the community or to Police/Public relations. For 1974 it was awarded to Wpc. 21 Daphne Ann Hagger of Chelmsford Division.

The Chief Wardens Cup, presented by the Chief Warden of the County during the 1939/45 war and awarded annually for inter-Divisional first aid, was competed for on 28 April 1974. Five teams took part including a team of policewomen. The cup was won by Headquarters Division.

No award was made for 1974 in respect of the Betts Trophy which was presented by Mrs. Betts to be awarded annually to the Traffic Warden who performs the most meritorious action when assisting a police officer.

The Murray Shield, presented by Councillor Trevor Murray to be awarded annually to the winner of the Obedience Section of the Force Police Dog Trials, was won by Ps. 125 R. K. Jackman with "Jase".

THE FORCE BAND

The Band comprises 22 serving Police Officers of various ranks and 7 civilians.

The vacancy for a band master occurring in late February 1974, was filled by Mr. James Bearman. Until his retirement in 1970 he was for a number of years the Deputy Director at the Royal Marines School of Music.

During 1974 the Band has performed at 21 public engagements including the Special Constabulary Muster Parade, the Ceremonial Pass Out Parade No. 5 District Police Training Centre, Eynsham Hall, Police Cadet School Pass Out Parade, Police Pensioners Garden Party, The Chelmsford Arts Festival, and a large concert at Clacton in aid of Police Charities.

Requests from outside bodies for the services of the band are numerous but duty often precludes acceptance.

The Band is a voluntary association and is not sponsored by public funds. Audiences in 1974 have totalled in excess of 4,500 and some £586 has been directly raised as a result of band performances.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS

The membership of the Association is steadily increasing although not all new pensioners are joining on leaving the Force, though each pensioner is invited to join the Branch of his choosing.

The National Executive is pressing forward on the following matters with the present Government:-

- (a) the introduction of six-monthly pension reviews to combat the rapidly escalating cost of living and the abolition of the 5 month delay in paying the increases.
- (b) payment of the pensioner's pension to a widow for a period of three months after the death of a pensioner. In addition, it is intended to seek amendment to the Pensions Increase Act so that a pensioner's widow shall be granted a Widow's Pension even though the marriage did not take place until after the pensioner had left the Service.

Two delegates from the Chelmsford Branch and one from the Colchester Branch attended the Annual Conference at Harrogate in September.

The garden party arranged by the Women Police for all pensioners on 17 July was very much appreciated and it is hoped is but a forerunner of many more such events.

The Association has now been give representation on the Committee of the Force Welfare Fund and close liaison is maintained with the Welfare Officer on all matters affecting pensioners.

The revised scheme for notification of deaths of pensioners appears to be working well and few complaints have been received.

END