

County (UK)

ESSEX POLICE



5/7/28

**CHIEF
CONSTABLE'S
ANNUAL
REPORT
1978**

ESSEX POLICE



NCJRS

MAY 9 1979

ACQUISITIONS

WITH COMPLIMENTS

To the Police Committee of the Essex County Council

NCJRS

MAY 9 1979

Ladies and Gentlemen

ACQUISITIONS

I have the honour to present the annual report on the work of the Essex Police in 1978.

On 30 June 1978, after serving over 20 years as a senior officer in this County, for more than 15 of them as Chief Constable, Sir John NIGHTINGALE, C.B.E., B.E.M., Q.P.M., D.L., B.A., retired. I would like to place on record a tribute to the leadership he gave to the police service during a long and distinguished career and to register my personal gratitude for the counsel he gave me prior to my taking office on 1 July.

I would also like to thank all members and officers of the Police Committee for their unfailing support and encouragement during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R S BUNYARD
Chief Constable

In 1978, for the first time in many years, the total amount of crime recorded fell slightly. It is too early to assess whether this represents a change in the trend of rising crime that has marked the past three decades. The fall of 3.4% in recorded crime was largely due to decreases in offences against property, although motor vehicles continued to be a prime target for thieves, thefts of and from motor vehicles having risen by 7.2%. Vandalism is also still a growing problem giving concern, with 2931 recorded cases, an increase of 14.6% over 1977. Encouragement has been given wherever possible to public spirited citizens to use the emergency '999' system to alert the police when they see damage being committed.

A welcome feature of the year was the decrease in crimes known to have been committed by younger people. Once again it is necessary to exercise caution in drawing conclusions from this, since it is usually only when a crime has been detected that the age of the criminal becomes known, but any indication of a lessening in juvenile crime is to be welcomed.

The incidence of people injured in traffic accidents continues to be unacceptably high. The actual number of reported accidents was similar to the two previous years, but the number of people killed rose sharply to 170. This appallingly high figure re-inforces the need for the police to continue paying close attention to driver behaviour. Undoubtedly the most tragic single accident during the year was on Sunday, 14th May, 1978, a schoolteacher and six children being killed when the mini-bus in which they were travelling was involved in an accident at Earls Colne, near Colchester.

On a more positive note, in 1978 was published the report of the Committee on Police Pay and Conditions, chaired by Lord Edmund DAVIES. That report recognised the seriousness of the police manpower situation and recommended improvements in police pay. The implementation of these proposals produced a marked increase in recruiting and a decline in wastage during the last three months of the year. As a result, the Essex Police may soon reach its existing, but inadequate manpower establishment, thereby enabling the Force to improve the level of service it can provide. It has been apparent during the past year that the resources of the Essex Police have been sorely stretched on occasions. Despite this a consistently high standard of performance has been maintained, largely due to the willingness of members of the service to contribute extra effort when needed.

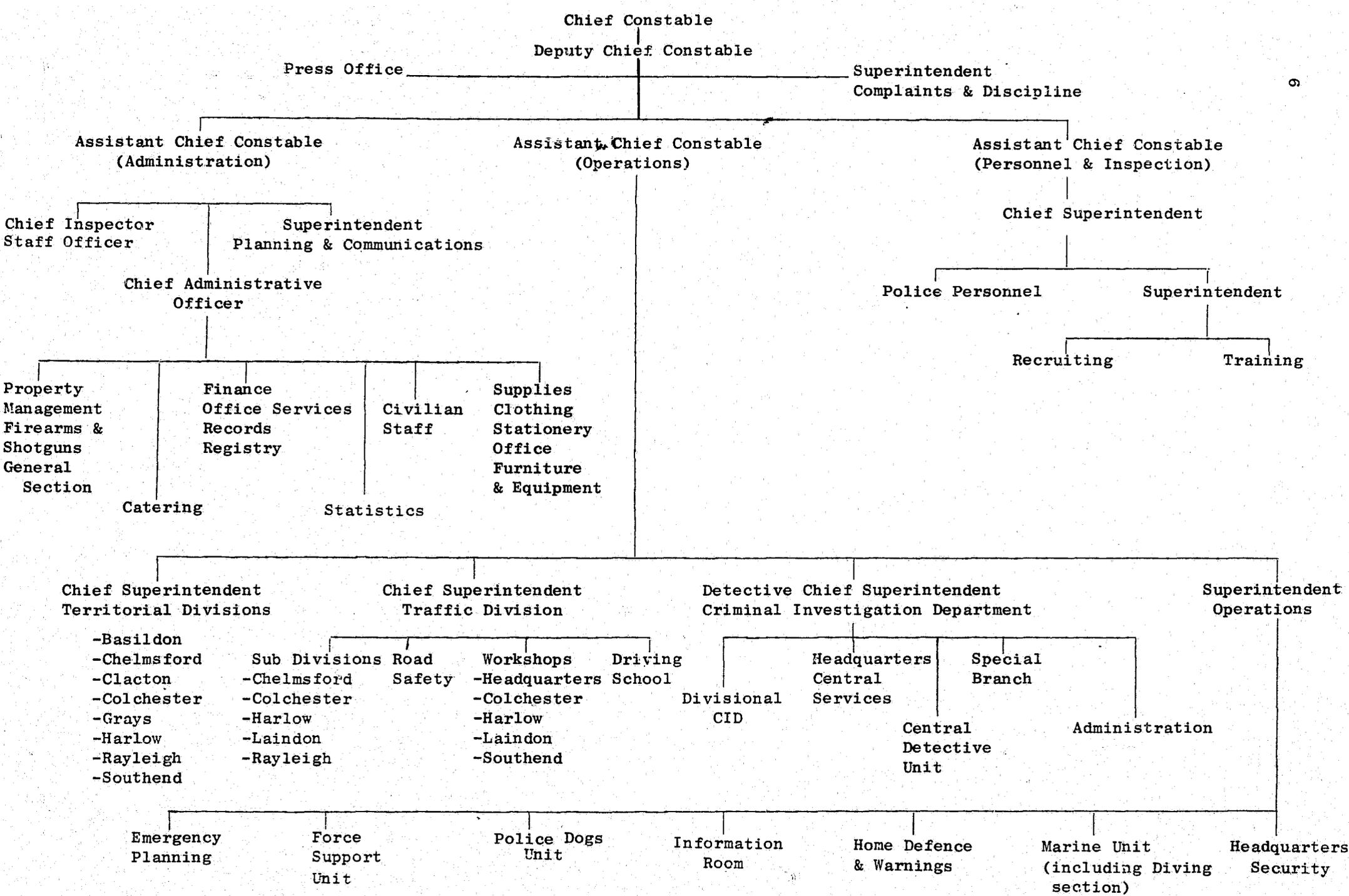
During 1978, a number of steps have been taken which point the way to the future. A Community Service Branch has been designed and this will work closely with County Council departments and other social agencies to deal more effectively with juvenile offenders, children at risk, schools liaison and missing persons. A division by division review of the policing of the Force area has been undertaken with a view to making the most effective use of existing resources and to indicate the true level of police manpower required.

Advisory committees have been established to enable the Superintendents' Association and the Police Federation to play a more positive role in framing policies aimed at improving the welfare and efficiency of the Force. A new Civilian Staff Advisory Group makes recommendations on all matters relating to personnel policies and practices applicable to civilian staff.

In all of these ventures, ready co-operation has been forthcoming from police and civilian staff within the service and from County Council departments, Courts, the Probation Service and many other sectors of the community. This has been one of the most encouraging features of my first year in Essex.



ESSEX POLICE



CHAPTER 1

CRIME

Indictable Offences

Property Stolen

Young Persons

Cases of Interest

The Grays Building Society Enquiry

Central Detective Unit

Fraud Section

Major Investigation Section

Crime Intelligence

Crime Prevention

Forensic Science - Scenes of Crime

Crime Index and Publications

Incendiary and Explosive Devices

Special Branch

INDICTABLE OFFENCES

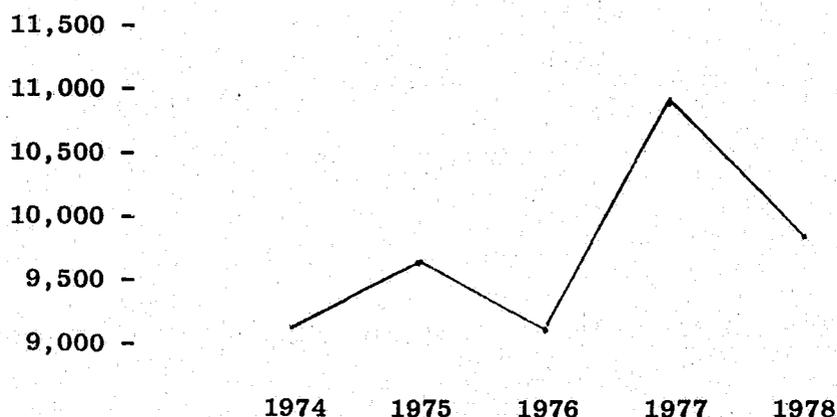
During the year 50,444 indictable offences were recorded, a decrease of 1863 offences or 3.6 per cent, due largely to fewer offences of burglary, shoplifting, thefts of pedal cycles and other simple thefts.

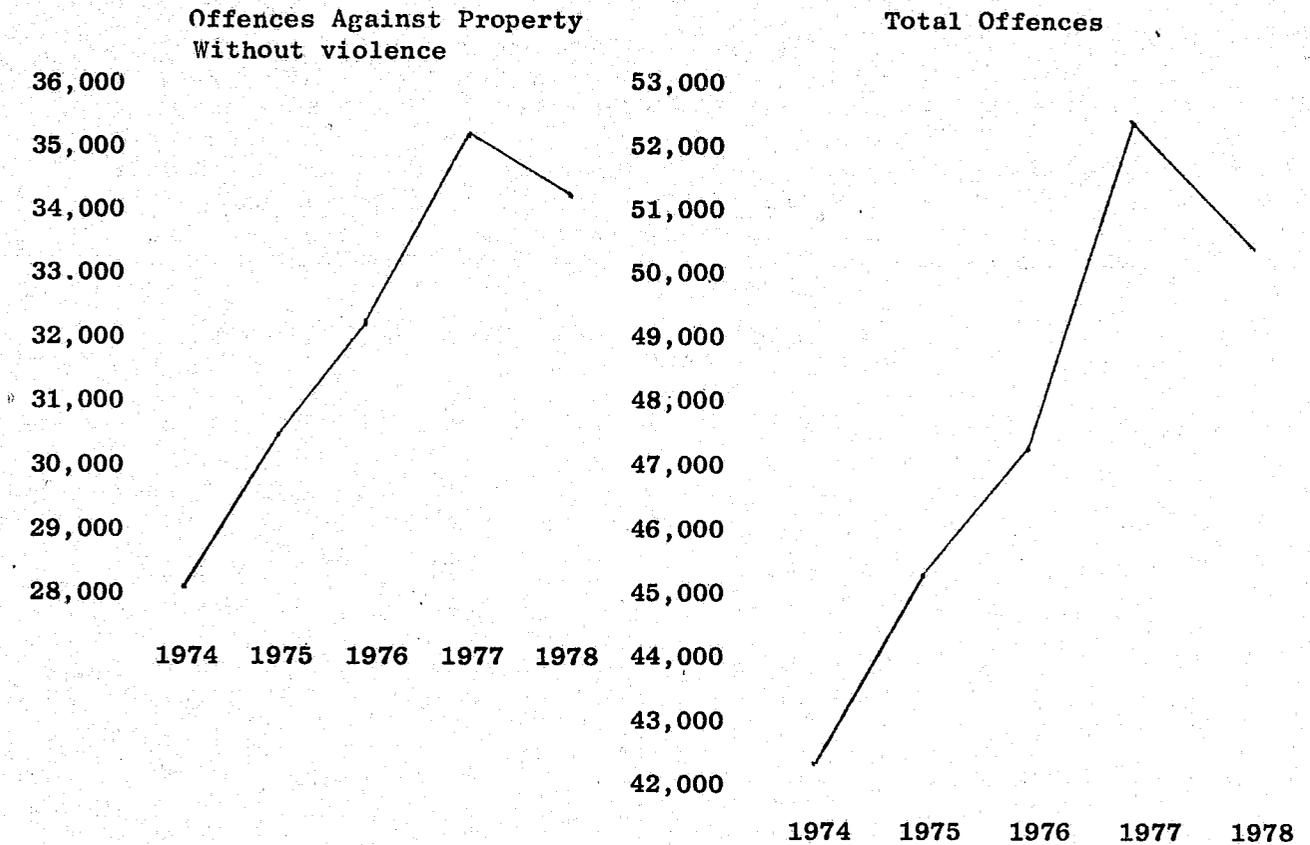
The total number of indictable offences reported to the Police during the year was 53,375. Of these 1678 were not substantiated and were classified as 'No Crime'; 418 were recorded as 'Non Indictable' and 835 were otherwise classified.

Five years' comparative figures are shown below. The percentage of each class detected is shown in brackets.

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Offences against the person	2352 (81.1)	2338 (79.8)	2515 (58.9)	2484 (90.2)	2513 (75.0)
Offences against property with violence (Burglary)	9175 (38.0)	9620 (35.1)	9156 (30.6)	10840 (34.9)	9799 (33.3)
Offences against property without violence (theft, going equipped for theft and fraud)	28075 (47.3)	30468 (46.4)	32275 (35.7)	35167 (51.1)	34047 (44.8)
Other offences (Arson, forgery etc)	2784 (45.6)	2919 (44.0)	3313 (30.1)	3816 (38.6)	4085 (35.6)
	42386 (47.0)	45345 (45.6)	47259 (35.5)	52307 (48.7)	50444 (43.3)
Number of offences per 1,000 population	31.9	33.8	34.9	38.4	36.6

Offences Against Property With Violence





PROPERTY STOLEN

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Value Stolen (£)	3,299,261	4,225,047	4,743,705	6,278,996	14,573,776
Value recovered (£)	1,562,123	1,413,298	1,740,393	2,325,118	2,908,264
Percentage Value recovered	47.3	33.5	36.7	37.0	20.0

N.B. The increase in property stolen during 1978 was due largely to a case of theft at a Building Society in Grays when £7,000,000 was reported stolen, nil recovered.

YOUNG PERSONS

Comparative figures for years 1974 to 1978, inclusive, of offences known to have been committed by these persons:

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	Change during 1978
Offences against the person	399	421	321	425	363	- 62
Burglaries	2224	1632	1380	1898	1501	- 397
Thefts	5419	5250	3774	6502	5618	- 884
Frauds, Arson etc.	966	871	914	1015	1056	+ 41
<i>TOTALS</i>	9008	8174	6389	9840	8538	-1302

Percentage of detected offences committed by young persons	40.4	37.5	34.7	34.9	35.1
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CASES OF INTEREST

FORGERY AT SOUTHEND

When a man was arrested for burglary he was found to be in possession of six forged driving licences and a forged certificate of insurance.

On the 15 January 1978, search warrants under the Forgery Act 1913 were executed at two addresses in the Southend area and at one of them was found what could only be described as a sophisticated printing shop, together with forgeries of various documents and the printing plates, photographic negatives, photoprints and experimental art work necessary for their production.

Amongst the documents seized were forged driving licences, certificates of insurance, cheques, Irish driving licences, shotgun certificates, food vouchers for national foodstores and fictitious business letter headings.

Evidence was also found of experimentation in the production of forged vehicle excise licences, vehicle registration documents, certificates of competence to drive motor vehicles, international motor insurance cards, Giro cheques and clearing banks cheques.

The person responsible for these expert forgeries admitted that he had been printing them for a man from London, who is the subject of enquiries by the Metropolitan Police and City Fraud Squad in connection with cheque frauds, but who so far has evaded arrest, and that some of the forgeries were already in circulation in the Metropolitan Police District.

The forger appeared before Southend Crown Court on the 9 June 1978 indicted for 14 offences including forgery, obtaining property by deception, burglary and handling stolen goods, and was convicted and sentenced to a total of nine years' imprisonment.

MURDER - GRAYS

On Friday 30 June 1978 police were called to a semi-detached house at Chadwell St. Mary where they discovered the body of Mrs Vera BULLOCK, bound and gagged on the floor of a small cupboard in the hall. Mrs BULLOCK was a widow who was known to live alone at that address.

A post mortem examination was carried out which revealed that she had been sexually assaulted and had been asphyxiated by the gag tied over her mouth and nose.

The following day the body of a man was found hanging from a tree on Tyrells Heath, Chadwell St. Mary, having committed suicide.

Fingerprint evidence proved beyond all doubt that this man was responsible for Mrs BULLOCK's murder, not merely because his fingerprints were at the scene, but that they were in such positions and at various places throughout the house, that they would only have been left whilst he committed the sexual assault and murder.

This was supported by other forensic evidence and there is no doubt that because of the painstaking methods to retrieve the forensic evidence, the man may never have been connected with the murder as there was no personal history likely to have put him into the category of a suspect.

FIRE - CHELMSFORD PRISON

During the early evening of 20 March 1978 a fire broke out at Chelmsford Prison, extensive damage being caused to the main complex.

218 prisoners were evacuated and temporarily housed in other buildings within the curtilage of the prison and a joint operation was mounted by the Police and Prison Service not only in the control of the fire incident but in the security of the prisoners.

It was necessary for all prisoners to be transferred to other prisons in the London area and they were escorted by both the Essex and Metropolitan Police, the operation being carried out without incident.

A full scale enquiry was carried out by the Police and Home Office Forensic Officers and investigation suggested that the cause of the fire was not deliberate.

The damage was considerable and resulted in the closure of the establishment for repairs and rebuilding.

MURDER - COLCHESTER

On Sunday, 5 March 1978 the body of Sonia Veronica BALFOUR was found in an unmarried mothers home owned by the Christian Quakers Housing Association at Colchester. She had lived in a room with her four year old daughter who was alone with her in the room when the body was discovered.

A post mortem examination revealed that the cause of death was due to stab wounds and asphyxia.

Scenes of Crime officers at the scene discovered a fragment of a footprint at the side of the body, together with a footprint impression on the linoleum in another part of the room.

Enquiries made by officers engaged in this operation caused them to interview a soldier. On examination of his boots it was found that the soles were of similar pattern to the impression found at the scene of the murder.

The accused admitted that he had stabbed Mrs BALFOUR and had also strangled her and stated that he had thrown the knife away.

A search was carried out by uniformed officers using dogs and the knife was found in a heap of tyres nearby. Although the knife was in a pool of water, following an examination a fingerprint of the accused was exposed on the knife.

This man appeared at Norwich Crown Court, pleaded guilty to the murder and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

ROBBERY AT HARLOW

This case concerned a local man who had been suspected of being persistently engaged in crime for many years although he had only been convicted on two previous occasions. Over a period he contacted a number of detectives of junior rank and, in an endeavour to direct suspicion from himself, cunningly provided them with false information about alleged crimes.

Just before the end of 1977 it was thought that this man and an unnamed accomplice were carrying out armed robberies and that they intended to commit similar offences in the Harlow area.

Enquiries showed that they had already committed one robbery and had planned a further one.

Using intelligence gathered, it was decided to arrest the two suspects. During the subsequent interviews both admitted three armed robberies in Harlow, Enfield and Barnet and three sawn off shotguns with ammunition and other property were recovered. A third man was arrested in connection with the robbery at Barnet.

At Chelmsford Crown Court the three received sentences totalling 12 years 9 months, 12 years and 7 years imprisonment respectively.

ARSON - GREAT SAMPFORD

Between July 1977 and March 1978, five house fires were reported in Great Sampford and Little Sampford villages, North Essex. All houses were of thatched roof construction and considerable damage was caused. The circumstances surrounding the fires indicated that the house had been deliberately fired, and as a result they were treated as cases of arson.

A full scale police operation was mounted in the area over a period of four weeks, using uniform and CID officers. Numerous persons were interviewed, both in Essex and Suffolk and observation and patrols were carried out in these areas. A man was subsequently interviewed and admitted being responsible for the five fires and a number of other offences of burglary and theft.

He was charged with the offences and in December 1978 appeared at Chelmsford Crown Court when he was convicted and sentenced to be detained at Broadmoor for an indefinite period.

THE GRAYS BUILDING SOCIETY ENQUIRY

On the 17 March 1978 police were called to 1 Park Avenue, Hutton, Essex, where the body of Harold Percy JAGGARD, aged 79 years was found in the bathroom where he had apparently taken an overdose of drugs. JAGGARD was a Director and Secretary of the Grays Building Society, a small society with one office in New Road, Grays.

Following JAGGARD's death the other directors decided that they would invite the Woolwich Building Society to take over the Grays Building Society rather than appoint a new executive and remain an independent concern. Consequently the Woolwich commenced a full accountancy check at Grays. This audit revealed that there was an apparent discrepancy of £7 million between the actual and recorded assets of the Society.

This was reported to the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies who appointed two Inspectors under Section 110 of the Building Societies Act, 1962, The Essex Police Fraud Squad were also informed.

At the inquest the Essex Coroner, Dr Charles Clark, recorded that JAGGARD took his own life with a drug overdose.

The Fraud Squad enquiry was mounted to establish who was responsible for this large discrepancy and to locate the missing assets. The enquiry has revealed that JAGGARD was solely responsible for defrauding the society since the early 1930's. A reconstruction of his life-style from the statements obtained shows that until his death he had spent approximately £2½ million of the Society's money. Allowing for the accrual of interest recorded in the records of the Society, this represents the audited discrepancy.

The Inspectors anticipate that in January 1979 their report will be forwarded to the Chief Registrar who then will probably publish the majority of the report as it is of public interest. It is anticipated the Inspectors will recommend some amendments to the Building Societies Act to prevent such a situation recurring.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

1. On 14 April 1978 a live 2,000 lb German Aerial Bomb was uncovered in a gravel pit at East Tilbury. 250 persons were evacuated from Bata Housing Estate. The bomb was defused by the Royal Engineers Bomb Disposal team.

2. Between February and May 1978 a large number of burglaries occurred in the Stanford le Hope area. Special observation was kept by members of the Police Support Unit, the Central Detective Unit and Divisional officers, for three weeks. As a result, three persons were arrested and received lengthy periods of imprisonment.

CENTRAL DETECTIVE UNIT

This Unit provides a mobile team of officers who are available to assist in murder investigations and other major crime enquiries. It is divided into two Sections:

Fraud section

Major investigation section, comprising Stolen vehicle squad, Intelligence & Drugs sections

FRAUD SECTION

During 1978 nine major fraud cases were finalised and five cases are awaiting trial. Sixteen cases are currently being investigated, involving money and property valued in excess of £1,000,000.

Assistance has also been given to Divisional Officers in a number of cases and to other Forces in four cases requiring enquiries in this Police District.

MAJOR INVESTIGATION SECTION

This Section has undertaken a number of enquiries regarding persons engaged in serious crime in this County and surrounding Force areas. One such large scale investigation was carried out into a series of burglaries committed at multiple stores, clothing shops and Electricity Board Showrooms in Essex, Kent, Hertfordshire and the Metropolitan Police District. Protracted observations and enquiries resulted in eight persons being arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit burglary, burglary and handling stolen property. Five have been dealt with and three offenders await trial. Sixty offences were detected as a result of this investigation.

MOTOR VEHICLE EXAMINATION

Three Officers were engaged in the identification of suspect and abandoned vehicles, making enquiries relating to thefts of high value vehicles and the examination of 934 re-licensed vehicles. 431 motor vehicle thefts were investigated and 71 stolen vehicles valued at approximately £125,000 were recovered.

CRIME INTELLIGENCE

Liaison continues to be maintained with other Law Enforcement Agencies resulting in useful exchanges of information and successful operations.

Liaison with the Dutch Police has been continued during the past year resulting in invaluable exchanges of information concerning criminals both in Holland and the United Kingdom. Increased movement of criminals between the two countries has become apparent.

DRUGS

Three Officers were concerned with obtaining information regarding illegal suppliers of drugs and assisting Divisional Officers on drugs searches etc. Liaison has been maintained with the Central Drugs Intelligence Unit at New Scotland Yard, H.M. Customs and other Forces.

DRUG OPERATION 'LAGER'

At the beginning of 1978 Operation 'LAGER' commenced and as a result a very large quantity of Cannabis, Heroin, Cocaine, Amphetamine and other listed drugs has been seized together with a very large sum of money.

This is probably the biggest drug operation ever and has used in all 84 officers over a prolonged period. It has also involved officers from the Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Metropolitan and the National Drugs Intelligence Unit.

Enquiries are still being made and to date 80 persons have been arrested.

DRUGS OFFENCES

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Unlawful possession of Cannabis	236	185	155	143	156
Unlawful supply of Cannabis	42	13	19	25	9
Using premises for smoking Cannabis	19	12	23	13	9
Using premises for dealing in Cannabis	2	2	-	1	-
Importing & Excise Evasion Cannabis etc.	34	25	15	38	17
Possession with intent to supply*	51	16	12	12	14
Unlawful possession of Heroin & Methadone (including Opium)	13	13	10	5	8
Unlawful possession of Cocaine	6	1	1	-	7
Unlawful possession of Amphetamine	42	35	18	21	28
Unlawful possession of L S D	45	36	3	2	5
Unlawful possession of Mandrax	14	5	3	-	4
Unlawful supply of Mandrax	5	-	-	-	3
Unlawful supply of Amphetamine	18	5	4	5	7
Unlawful supply of L S D	15	4	-	1	6
Obstruction under Misuse of Drugs Act (Warrants)	1	1	-	-	-
Cultivation of Cannabis	19	12	9	17	9
Supply of Methadone - Heroin	6	2	-	-	3
Conspiracy to contravene Misuse of Drugs Act	-	-	2	9	84
TOTAL OFFENCES	568	367	274	292	369

* 1974 figures for procuring Cannabis

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Persons Detected	307	240	169	190	225
Miscellaneous crimes detected	95	29	19	58	139

SEARCH WARRANTS

Number Obtained	35	9	41	32	92
Number used	29	8	32	31	86
Negative	3	2	12	2	20
Persons arrested	65	14	53	67	132

CRIME PREVENTION

	1976	1977	1978
Surveys conducted	1224	1059	1114
Talks to Organisations	192	214	285
Crime Prevention Displays	24	23	26
Crime Prevention Lectures to Police Officers	31	21	18
Force Alarms - Usage	90	123	112
Force Alarms - Arrests	22	16	17
Total number of Alarm Installations	3002	3179	3534
Average no. of false calls per system (Direct 999 & Central Station)	3.9	4.0	3.5

More stringent steps taken to reduce the number of false calls from Intruder Alarms would appear to have been effective. The total number of false calls received in 1978 was 301 less than the previous year and there were 355 additional installations at the end of 1978 compared with the end of 1977.

In an effort to reduce criminal damage in educational establishments, Police Alarms were installed in many schools during the summer holiday period. These measures, coupled with the efforts of Essex County Council to install more commercial alarms in schools, appear to have been successful, in that no alarmed school was attacked and fewer offences of burglary and criminal damage were reported compared with the same period in 1977.

The number of direct line intruder alarms terminating at Police Stations has increased considerably over recent years. These are very demanding on the limited space available in control rooms and also absorb personnel for the effective 24 hours supervision of the alarm equipment.

Therefore it was decided to accept no more direct alarms into Police Stations and to have removed by no later than August 1979 those already in existence, thereby releasing police officers for other duties. Advice was given on suitable alternative arrangements available to users.

FORENSIC SCIENCE - SCENES OF CRIME

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Searches for fingerprints	8970	9349	9341	10706	10672
Fingerprint identifications made	1476	1601	1531	1569	1586
Searches for other Scientific evidence	2640	2907	3243	3505	3398
Photographic prints made	104354	111115	105225	112154	119755
Usage of forensic science laboratory - for drink/drugs driving cases	1592	1757	1352	1507	1923
- other scientific aid	507	478	491	706	875
- evidence called for drink/drugs driving cases	1257	1361	978	1164	1452
- evidence called on other occasions	252	229	361	432	430

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 two officers from this Force. Lectures in these subjects were also given to courses attending the Force Training School and to selected outside organisations.

CRIME INDEX AND PUBLICATIONS

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
(1) Criminal Record Index, Persons recorded	93219	100831	108465	116219	124455
(2) Nominal/Wanted Index Number of Searches	10217	11272	13394	24744	21139
Number of Identifications	3044	3133	3851	7387	7289
(3) Property and Cycle Indices Number of Identifications	140	150	147	165	140

INCENDIARY AND EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

There were 77 calls made to Scenes of Crime Officers to attend this type of incident. After initial screening twelve calls were made for the attendance of a Home Office explosives expert.

SPECIAL BRANCH

In 1978 60 Naturalisations and Registrations as Citizens of United Kingdom and Colonies were completed and 13 more are being processed.

Detective Officers employed on full-time Port duties comprised: 1 Inspector, 7 Sergeants and 12 Constables, one being attached to the National Joint Unit at New Scotland Yard. Their activity is shown below:

	Southend	Stansted	Harwich	Tilbury
Aircraft movements	38,366	32,830	4,189	9,184
Passengers	257,230	370,600	1,711,888	86,109
Arrests	9	2	174	5
Assisted Arrests	2	9	20	27

CHAPTER II
ROAD TRAFFIC

Road Accident Casualties

Road Safety

Drink and Driving (Road Traffic Act 1972)

Fixed Penalty Tickets

Traffic Patrols

Police motor vehicles

Vehicles Repair and Maintenance

Traffic Wardens

School Crossing Patrols

ROAD ACCIDENT CASUALTIES

Casualties from road accidents in the Force Area showed an increase of 183 or 1.9% compared with 1977.

The number killed was 170 compared with 128 for the previous year.

The total number of recorded fatal and injury accidents during the year was 6,838 a decrease on 1977 of 30 and in those accidents the following number of persons were casualties.

TYPE OF ROAD USER	KILLED			SERIOUS			SLIGHT		
	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978
<i>UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE</i>									
Pedestrians	3	7	8	185	188	196	384	442	390
Pedal Cyclists	5	2	3	93	88	86	257	262	217
Other Persons	3	4	6	99	77	91	389	394	416
TOTAL	11	13	17	377	353	373	1030	1098	1023
<i>16 YEARS AND OVER</i>									
Pedestrians	33	26	32	213	205	222	400	383	427
<i>Rider or Driver of:-</i>									
Pedal Cycle	3	5	8	118	110	102	227	277	246
Moped	3	4	6	196	198	155	452	399	321
Scooter	1	-	-	16	11	5	19	15	13
Motor Cycle	27	24	32	459	453	438	713	788	722
Combination	1	1	-	5	3	3	7	5	2
Car or Taxi	47	27	45	648	622	707	1662	1858	2055
P.S.V.	-	1	-	2	1	2	10	14	8
Goods Vehicle	3	6	5	94	90	75	254	234	261
Other Vehicles	1	1	1	10	10	13	16	28	29
TOTAL	86	69	97	1548	1498	1500	3360	3618	3657
<i>Passenger in or on:</i>									
Moped	-	-	-	3	1	3	12	3	4
Scooter	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	4	1
Motor Cycle	4	1	5	58	52	39	88	100	103
Combination	-	-	-	4	3	1	3	2	2
Car or Taxi	24	15	19	403	372	429	1203	1310	1335
P.S.V.	1	-	-	14	19	11	99	95	100
Goods Vehicle	-	3	-	42	35	33	101	100	112
Other Vehicle	-	1	-	4	4	9	18	14	27
TOTAL	29	20	24	530	487	525	1524	1628	1684
GRAND TOTAL	159	128	170	2668	2543	2620	6314	6727	6791
VARIATION	+24.2%	-19.5%	+32.8%	-0.9%	-4.7%	+3%	+13.1%	+6.5%	+0.9%

ROAD SAFETY

The programme incorporated training and demonstrations in schools, a cycle training scheme, examination of pedal cycles and attendance at shows and fetes, lectures, films and static displays at motoring events have remained popular as was the use of the Auto Simulator in schools.

Officers engaged in Road Safety attended suitable conferences and meetings.

DRINK AND DRIVING (ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1972)

		1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
AT ROADSIDE	Number of requirements made for breath tests	4279	5231	5781	6824	6527
	Number failed or refused	252	298	320	341	349
	Number proved positive	1805	1832	1431	1539	1728
	Number arrested on impairment	79	56	67	58	73
AT POLICE STATIONS	Number of requirements made for breath tests	1911	2152	1773	1692	2094
	Number failed or refused	183	199	206	214	193
	Number proved positive	1484	1631	1220	1376	1657
LABORATORY ANALYSIS	Number of blood/urine cases proving positive	1268	1376	1106	1195	1339

FIXED PENALTY TICKETS

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Total tickets issued	44549	48106	36519	38412	49052
Penalties paid	32569(73%)	36061(75%)	26348(72%)	22861(60%)	28457(58%)
"No further action"etc	4493(10%)	4813(10%)	4359(12%)	8478(22%)	12226(25%)
Process issued	1579(4%)	1668(4%)	1674(5%)	2697(7%)	2859(6%)
Outstanding	5908(13%)	5564(11%)	4138(11%)	4376(11%)	5510(11%)

The fall in the number of tickets issued in 1976 and 1977, which was attributed to the reduction in the number of Traffic Wardens and the increase in the penalty to £6.00, has now been reversed. The 1978 figures showing an increase of 28% over 1977. This was accompanied by a sharp increase in the number of tickets on which the penalty remained unpaid for various reasons, a 44% increase

on 1977. This undoubtedly arises from the issue of Fixed Penalty tickets for "failure to display Excise Licence," an offence for which there may be several acceptable explanations. However, this offence does not adversely affect the smooth flow of traffic, the maintenance of which is the Traffic Wardens' primary function.

TRAFFIC PATROLS

Traffic Patrol cars and motor cycles, operate from five bases, each commanded by a Chief Inspector. Where necessary they include smaller detached sections providing patrols for areas which cannot be adequately covered from the sub divisional stations. All except Rayleigh and Chelmsford occupy purpose-built premises which include workshop facilities.

The locations of the Traffic Sub Division and their areas of responsibility are:

CHELMSFORD

(situated within Headquarters) - Responsible for Chelmsford Division

SOUTHEND

(situated at Rayleigh DHQ) - Responsible for both Southend Division and Rayleigh Division

LAINDON

(including Tilbury Section) - Responsible for Grays & Basildon Division.

HARLOW

(Including Saffron Walden Section)- Responsible for Harlow Division

COLCHESTER

(including Halstead & Thorpe Section) - Responsible for Clacton and Colchester Division.

The strength of the Traffic Division was 258 on 31.12.78 and includes personnel at Headquarters engaged on specialist duties such as Driving School Instruction, Road Safety, Traffic Management and Administration. The number of officers of all ranks directly employed on, or supervising traffic patrols was 225.

The principal objective of Traffic Division is to prevent road accidents by enforcing, either by prosecution or caution and advice, the legislation intended to achieve safety on roads. Unfortunately 1978 has seen an increase in road accidents although the activity of the division has been maintained at and in some respect above the level of previous years. There are no obvious reasons for the increase in road accidents and adjoining Police Forces have experienced a similar increase.

Personnel of the Traffic Division deal with the majority of reported road accidents and almost all of those involved in loss of life and serious injury. The most serious of these in terms of deaths, occurred on the A604 Road at Earls Colne on 14 May 1978. A school mini bus

carrying young children and driven by a teacher was in collision with a lorry when returning from an outing organised by Ramsey Primary School. The driver and six of the children were killed.

A disturbing feature of road accidents has been the high casualty rate in young persons involved in motor cycle accidents. This is a national problem and is receiving the attention of the Department of Transport which is examining the possibilities of preventing such accidents by education and training. Similar efforts have been made by the Traffic Division for some years. Liaison has been maintained with the Schools Training Educational Programme and the RAC/ACU Schemes which are organised in various parts of the Police District. More recently traffic patrols have become involved with the accident research project being carried out by the London Hospital Medical College to study the correlation of motor cycle injuries with various crash helmets. Meetings have been organised by Traffic Sub Divisions, usually on Police premises where motor cyclists have been invited to attend lectures, films and displays by police officers who are engaged on traffic patrols or police driver training. These invariably attract an excellent attendance and will be continued.

Similar events are organised for motorists generally and Police Officers have also been invited to attend and address organisations catering for heavy goods vehicle drivers and, particularly in the Southend area, to lecture and promote displays at schools and colleges.

Many road accidents, especially those involving death or serious injury, are investigated by analysing skid marks, damage and debris. Many traffic patrol officers have been trained in the special technique used.

The consumption of alcohol is a prominent cause of road accidents and more drivers have had to provide samples of breath to establish whether excess alcohol was present in the blood. Some drivers fail to stop after accidents, hoping thereby to avoid being subjected to the 'Drink & Drive' legislation. Information obtainable through the Police National Computer has enabled many such drivers to be traced and dealt with but the 'Hit & Run' driver remains a problem that may require additional legislation.

Excess Speed is another major cause of road accidents and the enforcement of speed limits is an important role of traffic patrols. 10089 drivers were reported in 1978 by Traffic Patrols with a view to being prosecuted for exceeding limits and a further 23354 were verbally cautioned where the margin by which they had exceeded permitted speeds did not justify prosecution.

Traffic Patrols employ various technical aids to enforce speed limits. VASCAR (Visual Average Speed Computer and Recorder) is fitted to 28 patrol cars and 2378 offences were detected by this means. The use of Vascar in this country was pioneered by this Force and Traffic Division Officers have trained personnel from every other Force, except the City of London, in England, Scotland and Wales. This programme has now been completed but military personnel serving in BAOR are now being trained. Training of new members of Traffic Division continues and most officers are now qualified to operate this equipment.

PETA (portable electronic traffic analyser) meters were used in the detection of 5140 of the speed offences reported. Three machines are used but being prone to frequent breakdown they will have to be phased out. A National Police Working Group has examined the various types of radar speedmeters now available and some have been evaluated by Traffic Division. Approval has been given for the purchase of a hand-held radar device and further equipment will be purchased to replace PETA meters.

Drivers of foreign heavy goods vehicles are not now found exceeding speed limits as often as they used to be. They are now prosecuted through United Kingdom based agents and this has brought about a greater respect by such drivers for speed limits in this country.

Notifications of abnormal indivisible loads in 1978 fell slightly to 11277, 2050 of which required escort by one or more traffic patrol units. Most of the loads require attention because of their excessive width but there is an increasing number of high loads which are unable to negotiate overhead bridges on main roads, and often require the attendance of GPO and Electricity Board staff. They are particularly time consuming and cause considerable frustration to the motoring public.

Escorts were provided for high security loads and for certain categories of prisoners where there was considered to be a security risk.

The fog patrol scheme has been operated on the few occasions when weather conditions made it necessary. This entails marshalling and escorting convoys of vehicles along the A12 and A127 Trunk Dual Carriageway Roads during times of peak traffic flows. This appears to be appreciated by the public and no multiple accidents have occurred in these conditions.

1978 has been exceptional year for escorting members of the Royal Family as there were 8 such visits to the Essex Police District. The most notable was the visit of HM the Queen to the Essex Show in June when for the first time a hired helicopter was used to assist the control of the escort and the traffic arrangements.

Organised cycle events were escorted by traffic patrols and for the second successive year a large International Professional Cycle Race has been so assisted. The 4 days 'Tour of Britain' Glasgow to London Cycle Race was routed across the county from the Cambridgeshire border to Southend and involved a considerable Police presence. Plans are now being made for a similar event in 1979. Cycle racing is becoming popular and the statutory notifications of races and time trials are administered by the Traffic Division. The Essex Division of the British Cycling Federation is one of the most active in the country and organises a number of national events requiring police assistance and escort. The organisers were met to discuss ways of dealing with the problems associated with the 75 events which were notified and held in this Police District in 1978. These were in addition to the 658 time trials which are organised by a different controlling body with whom we intend to arrange a similar meeting.

There has been an increasing number of foreign (mainly Dutch) holidaymakers touring the United Kingdom on cycles. About 4,000 disembarked at Harwich during the Summer of 1978 and most cycled along the A12 Road to or from London. This road has few facilities for cyclists and is generally unsuitable. A pamphlet was designed and distributed by patrols and the English Tourist Board illustrating and describing routes which avoid the A12 where possible. This was apparently understood and appreciated by the cyclist and will be repeated in 1979.

All Traffic Sub Division have organised "Impact" campaigns dealing with different aspects of legislation or road safety. Vehicle Lighting checks have been held at the finish of British Summertime; attention has been given to car parking in the vicinity of schools; motor cycle crash helmets have been inspected and attention has been given to the general condition of vehicles. They have been carried out over relatively short periods but to a more intensive level than can be continuously maintained. The emphasis has been on advice and warning rather than prosecution and this has attracted favourable comments from the Press and general public.

Traffic patrols have assisted the Department of Transport Vehicle Examiners and the Essex County Council Consumer and Protection Officers in carrying out 364 static checks, mainly to detect over-laden goods vehicles but also the general mechanical condition of vehicles of all sorts.

Heavy goods vehicle operations have continued to increase and the avoidance of licensing and control restrictions by the use of forged documents has again been detected. Dealing with these offences requires a degree of knowledge that can only be obtained effectively by specialising in this form of work. It was intended to form a small team of officers to deal with these types of offences but manpower difficulties have so far prevented this. Thefts and forgery of car test certificates is prevalent and requires the attention of experienced traffic officers able to devote more time to conducting the numerous and wide ranging enquiries to successfully detect and prosecute. Tachographs are not yet required to be fitted to heavy goods vehicles but can be used instead of written records. Another tachograph has been purchased and fitted to a traffic patrol accident vehicle to enable officers to become familiar with the type of records which they provide.

The M11 Motorway is patrolled from Harlow Traffic Sub Division. Of the 24 miles now in use between London and Bishops Stortford, 15 are in the Essex Police District and a further 14 miles between Bishops Stortford and Stump Cross on the Cambridgeshire border will be opened in the Autumn of 1979. This will coincide with the completion of other sections being constructed in Cambridgeshire so that the entire length of the M11 Road between London and Cambridge will be opened. This will undoubtedly bring about a large increase in traffic and the M11 will require a higher level of patrol. Meetings have been held with Cambridgeshire Police and Emergency Services, such as Fire Brigade and Ambulance, to formulate plans for dealing with the increased traffic. Exercises on Motorway Accident Procedures have been held.

Work has started on a small section of the M25 Motorway which will eventually encircle London and link all main roads radiating out from it. This Force is represented on a Working Party formed by the Department of Transport to examine Police Control and Communications.

Traffic patrols comprise cars, motor cycles and specially equipped accident vehicles. Cars currently used are Ford Granadas and Cortinas for general patrol and Range Rovers for the Motorway. A new and more conspicuous police livery is now used for the normal traffic patrol car fleet. This consists of the recommended saturn green and red reflective material, supplemented by Police chequer side markings and an enlarged Essex Police Crest on the front doors. This livery was designed by the Force and has attracted favourable comment from other Forces.

Such highly conspicuous vehicles have a deterrent effect on road users but they do require to be supplemented by plain unmarked vehicles if all aspects of traffic legislation are to be adequately enforced. Each Traffic Sub Division operates an unmarked car, but with a uniformed crew, to deal with those offences which cannot be effectively enforced by the more conspicuous vehicles.

The motor cycle fleet consists solely of BMW's which have proved to be very reliable and effective.

The accident vehicles are Ford transits and a Land Rover is used on the Motorway. Each Traffic Sub Division has one or more of these vehicles which are equipped with generators and floodlights, pneumatic cutting gear and hydraulic jacks. These are mainly used to release persons trapped in vehicles when the Fire Brigade is not in attendance. They proved invaluable during the Fire Brigade Industrial Dispute.

1978 has been a very busy year for traffic patrols. They have reported 34559 offences with a view to prosecution in addition to administering verbal cautions for 49529 offences of a more minor nature. In addition traffic patrol officers arrested 1711 persons of which 466 were for crime or matters of non traffic nature.

POLICE MOTOR VEHICLES

The total fleet will be 567 vehicles on 31 March 1979:-

- 54 Traffic Patrol Cars
- 30 Traffic Patrol Motor Cycles
- 7 Traffic Patrol Accident Tenders.
- 1 Traffic Patrol Land Rover
- 2 Traffic Patrol Range Rovers

- 24 Driving School Cars
- 19 Driving School Motor Cycles
- 1 Driving School Personnel Carrier
- 1 Driving School Van
- 57 CID Cars (includes 15 Regional Crime Squad Cars)
- 7 CID Vans
- 1 CID Motor Cycle
- 21 Scenes of Crime Vans
- 15 Dog Vans
- 40 Area Patrol Radio Cars
- 33 Personnel Carriers (includes 1 Coach)
- 113 General Duty Cars (includes Beat Cars)
- 42 General Duty Vans (includes Beat Vans)
- 66 Unit Beat Policing Cars
- 33 Miscellaneous Vehicles, includes:
 - 2 Removal Vans
 - 2 Recovery Land Rovers
 - 1 Heavy Recovery Vehicle
 - 8 Divisional Goods Vans
 - 5 Workshop Vans
 - 1 Firearms Unit Van
 - 3 Support Unit Vehicles
 - 1 Canteen Van
 - 1 Mobile Kitchen
 - 1 Underwater Search Unit Van
 - 1 Defence & Warnings Car
 - 1 Executive Car
 - 1 Command Vehicle
 - 2 Road Safety Vehicles
 - 1 Prison Van
 - 1 Recruiting Estate Car
 - 1 Mobile Workshop.

VEHICLES REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

The central workshop at Chelmsford provides staff and facilities for the servicing of police vehicles based in the area in addition to major mechanical and accident repairs to all vehicles. The reception and preparation of used vehicles for sale is also carried out at there.

The district garages at Laindon, Colchester, Harlow and Southend provide limited facilities for service and repair of vehicles based in the areas.

The 3 launches and 26 emergency generators at police establishments in the Force District are also serviced and repaired by the workshop staff.

The mileage of the fleet was:-

1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
10,684,392	11,127,689	11,067,894	11,499,355	11,975,899
-2.1%	+4.1%	-0.5%	+3.9%	+4.1%

TRAFFIC WARDENS

No additional posts are being created for the financial year 1979/80. During 1978, 28 employees were recruited and 25 terminated their employment.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS

- 318 Approved as at 31 December 1978
- 70 Enquiries during 1978
- 2 New sites approved during 1978
- 85 Posts resigned during 1978
- 18 Posts vacant as at 31 December 1978.

CHAPTER III

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FORCE

Force Establishment, Strength and Seconded Personnel

Civilian Staff

Promotions

Appointments

Housing

Force Planning

Firearms and Shotguns

Immigration

Population and Acreage

Annual Inspection

Public Relations Office

Costs of Policing

FORCE ESTABLISHMENT, STRENGTH AND SECONDED PERSONNEL

The police establishment of the Force is now 2525 and the actual strength (including seconded personnel) on 31 December 1978 was 2414. The deficiency was 111 or 4.03%.

	Authorised Establishment	Effective Strength	Seconded Personnel
Chief Constable	1	1	
Deputy Chief Constable	1	1	
Assistant Chief Constable	3	3	
Chief Superintendent	11	11	1
Superintendent	25	24	3
Chief Inspector	60	62	3
Inspector	106	110	10
Sergeant	419	406	14
Constable	1899	1749	13
	-----	-----	-----
	2525	2370	44
	-----	-----	-----

The secondments from the Force were as follows:-

Regional Crime Squad	24	
New Scotland Yard	5	
Home Office	2	
University	7	
Central Service	4	
Hong Kong	1	
Royal Fiji Police	1	

	44	

CIVILIAN STAFF

As at 31 December 1978 the position was:-

	Establishment	Strength
Traffic Wardens	176	119
Cadets	140	Nil
Others (Full time)	758	593
Others (Part time)	109	166

The turnover of civilian staff during the year was: 216 engaged, left 235, of whom 80 and 71 respectively were manual employees; 16 civilians were promoted to a higher grade to fill vacancies caused by resignations and retirements.

During the year 4 civilian employees died in service.

PROMOTIONS

During 1978 the following promotions were made:-

Constable to Sergeant	48
Sergeant to Inspector	17
Inspector to Chief Inspector	8
Chief Inspector to Superintendent	2
Superintendent to Chief Superintendent	-
	—
<i>TOTAL</i>	75
	—

APPOINTMENTS

1.7.78 Deputy Chief Constable R S BUNYARD, D.M.S.,
M.I.P.M., M.B.I.M. to Chief Constable

On transfer to this Force:

18.9.78 Assistant Chief Constable B D K PRICE, M.B.I.M.,
Northumbria Police to Deputy Chief Constable.

HOUSING

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
a) Owner Occupiers					
New applications to purchase	92	93	121	149	231
In occupation	952	1027	1030	1021	1189
Permission given but not yet taken up	50	51	22	80	108
Applications deferred	3	5	6	7	3
b) Houses declared surplus					
County owned - police occupied	3	2	5	1	16
County rented - police occupied	1	1	3	1	4
On short term lease to other authorities	106	80	160	183	292
c) Houses modernised	34	6	15	-	-
d) Houses built	8	1	9	2	-
e) Status at year end of houses for police purposes					
County owned - pre war	*128	97	97	96	93
County owned - post war	*956	952	957	955	938
County hired	12	17	14	17	13

* includes property used as offices

As anticipated in last year's report the rate of growth in owner occupiers within the Force has increased and is now some 16% above the previous figure.

Some of the surplus housing stock has been sold and a simplified modernisation programme started, the programme being financed from the proceeds of sales.

FORCE PLANNING

Force Planning is currently carried out by an Inspector and a Sergeant under the control of the Superintendent (Planning and Communications).

The Department examines all aspects of Force procedures including systems, usage of forms and projects which potentially lead to economy and increased efficiency.

Research has been undertaken into the manner of execution of money warrants in an attempt to streamline the system. A further experiment has been carried out in conjunction with the Justices Clerk in the Billericay Petty Sessional Division to extend police bail by letter.

Other projects include the provision of sample kits for drivers arrested under the breathalyser procedures, and disposable containers for waste syringes and sample kits.

The Department is also responsible for the Police Capital Building Programme and works closely with the Home Office, County Architects and the Clerk to the Police Committee. Because of the current financial restrictions, the Capital Building Programme is under continuous review, but the following projects are in progress; the Police Headquarters extension (completed January 1979) and the new Divisional Headquarters Building at Grays (completion date May 1979).

In addition, improvements and extensions have been planned for the Clacton Divisional Headquarters. The new town of South Woodham Ferrers is currently being built and planning is now being undertaken to provide adequate police presence in the town.

Some smaller projects include a motorway post/traffic section at Newport and extensions to the Divisional Headquarters at Basildon and the Traffic Workshops at Laindon.

FIREARMS AND SHOTGUNS

Current Certificate Holders	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Firearms	4,946	5,024	5,073	4,988	4,907
Shotguns	24,126	24,975	25,217	25,744	25,350
New Certificates granted					
Firearms	500	493	517	429	447
Shotguns	2,153	2,258	2,322	2,103	2,005

Certificate Renewals refused	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Firearms	19	21	19	9	5
Shotguns	17	19	20	22	27
Certificates cancelled					
Firearms	385	423	468	521	531
Shotguns	3,155	1,409	2,080	1,599	2,399*
* includes 18 Revocations					

IMMIGRATION

Force Headquarters Central Register of foreign nationals shows:-

1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
2,114	2,226	2,196	2,343	2,445

15% of the registered aliens are citizens of an E.E.C. Country.

POPULATION AND ACREAGE

The population of the area policed by the Essex Police was as follows:-

1974	-	1,339,200
1975	-	1,341,600
1976	-	1,355,000
1977	-	1,362,500
1978	-	1,379,500

The acreage is 888,114.

ANNUAL INSPECTION

Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary C J PAGE, C.B.E., Q.P.M., inspected the Force from 31 October 1978 to 3 November 1978. He visited Headquarters, Clacton, Harlow and Southend Divisions.

W/Chief Superintendent P SIGSWORTH, Q.P.M., H. M. Assistant Inspector of Constabulary visited Force Headquarters on 19 July 1978 where she saw women officers from each Division.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

In its first full year of operation the Public Relations Office, manned by a Chief Inspector, Woman Sergeant and a civilian, has given every attention to fostering a good relationship between the Force and the public by talks,

visits to police establishments and press releases on matters of interest. This Office is also responsible for publication of "The Law," the Force Newspaper.

The Driving School also does good work through its own programme of visits and lectures.

COSTS OF POLICING

Year	Net Cost	Net Cost per 1000 Population		
		Force Area	Police Authorities National Average	Percentage Variation
	(1) £	(2) £	(3) £	(4) £
1974/75	6,026,072	4,500	5,269	- 14.6
1975/76	7,809,493	5,821	6,875	- 15.3
1976/77	9,299,756	6,863	8,188	- 16.2
1977/78	10,643,369	7,876	9,029	- 12.8
*1978/79	11,316,210	8,203	9,744	- 15.8
**1979/80	13,496,610	9,784	N/A	-

Years 1969/70 - 1977/78 - Net Costs (Col. 1) are actual.

* Columns (1) and (2) are revised estimates, Column (3) is original estimate.

** All figures shown are estimates.

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

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

RECRUITING AND TRAINING

Recruitment

Retirements and Wastage

Training

Driving School

Detective Training

Police College and Higher Training

Training of Probationers

Police Training Centres

Weapon Training

First Aid

Cadets

Police Promotion Examinations

Officers studying in their own Time

Training in Aircraft Crash Drill

Home Defence Training

Research and Inspection

Civilian Training

RECRUITMENT

The Edmund DAVIES pay award stimulated recruitment in the second half of 1978 and it is anticipated that this will continue to enable the Force to reach establishments in 1979/80.

RECRUITING DETAILS

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Applications pending on 1 January	55	70	104	85	86
Applications forms issued	785	1658	1451	1215	1695
Forms not returned	425	884	660	649	1031
Forms returned	415	844	791	566	750
Failed to reach required standard	152	406	439	235	223
Pending at 31 December	70	104	85	86	210
Called for interview	193	334	267	245	317
Rejected by Police Surgeon	4	5	15	5	12
Rejected by Selection Board	15	44	24	30	53
Withdrawn after acceptance	8	5	16	10	7
Selected for appointment	166	280	212	200	* 245

* 77 accepted for appointment in 1979

Breakdown of those appointed in 1978

Appointed from Civilian sources	114 men	43 women
Transfers from other Forces	10	1
Transfer on promotion	2	-
Re-instatements	11	-
Forcer Cadets	16	8
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	153	52

The average ages of appointees in 1978 were 20.8 years (men) and 20.9 years (women) 32.8% of the men and 5.8% of the women were married.

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Recruits with GCE 'A' level passes	16	18	26	15	36
Recruits with GCE 'O' level passes	84	110	94	80	114

RETIREMENTS AND WASTAGE

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Retirement on Pension	24	37	83	74	40
Voluntary Resignations without Pension or Gratuity					
(a) Probationary Constables	18	27	49	45	44
(b) Constables with over 2 years service	32	23	31	66	42
Transferred to other Forces	23	24	17	9	13
*Required to Resign	7	12	16	11	2
Dismissed	-	2	-	-	1
Died	3	-	5	4	2
Discharged on PR16	-	-	1	-	-
Pensioned on Medical Certificates	2	1	4	5	6

<i>TOTALS</i>	<u>109</u>	<u>126</u>	<u>206</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>150</u>
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As percentage of strength at beginning of year	5.0	5.7	8.7	9.0	6.3
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*Includes officers on probation who resigned as an alternative to dismissal under PR 16	7	11	15	11	1
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TRAINING

COURSES RUN WITHIN THE FORCE

Type of Course	Duration	No in weeks Held	Students				Total
			Essex		Others		
			M	W	M	W	
Essex Command Course	2	2	19	-	-	-	19
Inspectors Pre-College Courses	5	4	19	1	40	1	61
Sergeants Refresher	2	5	60	1	-	-	61
Sergeants Preparatory	3	7	64	1	24	-	89
Examination Preparatory-Sergeants	2	1	16	-	-	-	16
Examination Preparatory-Constables	2	1	18	2	-	-	20
Constables Refresher	2	13	143	4	-	-	147
Probationer Training Stage 1	1	11	117	47	-	-	164
Probationer Training Stage 2	1	10	96	33	-	-	129
Probationer Training Stage 3	1	11	106	28	-	-	134
C.I.D. Selection	3	3	49	6	-	-	55
Dealing with Women and Children	1	6	-	36	-	57	93
Recruits Induction	1	10	131	53	-	-	184
Recruits Local Procedure	1	11	142	50	-	-	192
Teleprinter Training	2	15	59	32	31	10	132
First Aid Lay Instructors	2	1	7	-	-	-	7
First Aid Lay Instructors	1	1	9	-	-	-	9
National First Aid Competition Training	1	1	8	1	-	-	9
Pre-retirement	3 days	2	27	1	-	-	28

The number of student weeks was:

1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
1,995	2,355	2,476	2,486	2,676

DRIVING SCHOOL

STUDENT TRAINING PROGRAMME

	Number of Courses	Number of Students	Student Weeks
CARS			
Instructors	2	12	72
Advanced Refresher	9	71	142
Advanced	12	136	544
Standard Refresher	8	122	244
Standard	7	135	675
Standard (Elementary)	7	48	240
MOTOR CYCLES			
Instructors	1	3	18
Advanced Refresher	3	7	21
Advanced	4	11	33
Standard	3	9	27
TRAFFIC LAW			
Traffic Patrol Refresher	4	46	92
Traffic Patrol	5	69	345
OTHERS			
H G V Class I & III	9	11	22
Accident Investigation Refresher	2	26	10
GRAND TOTAL 1978	76	706	2485
GRAND TOTAL 1977	67	690	2382
GRAND TOTAL 1976	62	624	2363
GRAND TOTAL 1975	77	682	2343
GRAND TOTAL 1974	68	642	2299

Of the above number for 1978 only 3 students failed to qualify

HGV - In addition to the above, 16 HGV tests were carried out for other Forces 163 tests, not associated with courses of instruction, were conducted for various driving and riding permits; 19 of the officers tested failed to reach a satisfactory standard.

51 statutory driving/riding tests were conducted, resulting in 51 passes
22 Heavy goods vehicle driving tests were conducted resulting in 22 passes
867 Routine Eyesight Tests were given to holders of driving permits.

DETECTIVE TRAINING

During the year, three courses, each of three weeks duration were held to assess the suitability of officers for detective duties.

Junior Initial and Advanced Courses in Criminal Investigation were held at Birmingham, Preston and Wakefield. 5 Detective Sergeants attended the Advanced Courses (6 weeks) and 25 Detective Constables attended the Junior Initial Courses (10 weeks).

It is planned to send officers on Advanced Refresher courses at Wakefield in 1979. These are designed for supervisory ranks from Detective Sergeant to Detective Chief Inspector who have attended an Advanced Course at least three years previously.

POLICE COLLEGE AND HIGHER TRAINING

During the year Superintendent H DAWSON, Superintendent G R MARKHAM and Superintendent R W RICHARDSON attended a Senior Command Course Part 1 at the Police College.

Ten Inspectors attended Inspectors' Courses at the Police College.

Chief Inspector R M LAW attended a two week man-management course at Honiley Hall, Warwickshire.

TRAINING OF PROBATIONERS

The centralised training of Probationer Constables currently requires their attendance on three 1 week residential courses during their first 2 years of service.

POLICE TRAINING CENTRES

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

	Male	Female	Total
Initial Courses	129	51	180
Continuation Courses	119	28	147

WEAPON TRAINING

Three 5 day residential basic training courses were held at Colchester and Headquarters during the year. 36 officers attended.

Two hundred and forty four officers from Headquarters C.I.D. Regional Crime Squad, Special Branch, Force Support Unit and Divisions have received regular in-service refresher training throughout the year.

FIRST AID

Training has continued for officers on Divisions. Almost all below the rank of Chief Inspector now hold a valid First Aid Certificate. Special Constables have been given the shortened "Emergency Aid" Course. All training has been given by officers qualified as Lay Instructors.

A First Aid Lay Instructors Course was run at Headquarters in November 1978 when further Divisional Officers qualified. This course was also used as a refresher course for Instructors who qualified 2 years previously. Each territorial division now has at least two instructors who are able to use modern teaching aids and techniques.

The Force First Aid teams, entered The Police Regional Eliminating Competition The Hertfordshire Police Open, and Ipswich Open. The first team represented the area in the national final of the Buxton Trophy run by Casualties Union.

In January 1978, we were host to the No 5 Region for the eliminating competition for the Pym Trophy (Police National First Aid Competition)

Certain officers continue actively in their own time through St John Ambulance. Recognition of the work done by Constable D HUGHES, stationed at Clacton, was rewarded earlier in the year when he was made a serving Brother of the Order of St John of Jerusalem. The majority of our Lay Instructors are engaged in their own time in First Aid Training in Adult Education and Youth Organisations.

CADETS

Due to financial stringency the Cadet Corps was disbanded. Following a Working Party report it has been decided to reintroduce Cadets in September, 1979.

POLICE PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS

CONSTABLE TO SERGEANT

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Held in November					
Sat	237	321	311	338	301
Passed	18	37	45	49	34
Percentage	7.6	11.2	14.5	14.5	11.3 %

	1974		1975		1976		1977		1978	
	Sgts.	Pcs	Sgts	Pcs	Sgts	Pcs	Sgts	Pcs	Sgts	Pcs
Held in April										
Sat	36	60	40	38	35	24	71	70	83	68
Passed	4	3	7	5	2	2	10	7	24	10
Percentage	11.1	5.0	17.5	13.2	5.7	8.4	14.1	10.0	28.9	6.8

Pre-Examination Residential Courses were arranged. All students for this course were selected by the results of an eliminating test.

	1973/74		1974/75		1975/76		1977		1978	
	Pcs	Sgts	Pcs	Sgts	Pcs	Sgts	Pcs	Sgts	Pcs	Sgts
Attended course	38	20	18	15	19	15	22	12	20	16
Passed examination	16	4	8	2	12	-	15	4	11	10
Percentage	42.1	20.0	44.4	13.3	63.2	-	68.2	33.3	55.0	62.5

OFFICERS STUDYING IN THEIR OWN TIME

Officers are encouraged to study in their own time in order to improve their academic qualifications. In the six years since the scheme began a total of 130 officers have benefited from the financial assistance offered. Currently 25 officers are engaged on a variety of courses ranging from those offered by the Open University to GCE "O" levels in a number of different subjects.

TRAINING IN AIRCRAFT CRASH DRILL

Training in crash drill procedures was given to 16 senior officers who attended specially designed courses of 5 days duration at the Civil Aviation Authority's Fire School at Stansted Airport.

HOME DEFENCE TRAINING

Training in Home Defence is given to students attending Refresher Courses at the Force Training School.

The following courses held at the Home Defence Civil Defence College, Easingwold were attended by officers from this Force.

Chief Officers' Home Defence Exercise	1 officer
Standard Home Defence Course	3 officers
Information Officers' Home Defence Course	1 officer

One Sergeant attended a 5 day Home Defence Course for Police Instructors at Haleworth, Suffolk.

Eight inspectors attended a 5 day Regional War Duties Course at Churchill College, Cambridge.

Two police officers attended a 3 day Home Defence Air Reconnaissance Training Course at RAF Wyton, Cambridgeshire.

RESEARCH AND INSPECTION

On 10 July 1978 the Research and Planning Department was divided; Planning is now linked with Communications under the Assistant Chief Constable (Administration); Research (now Research and Inspection) has been transferred to the Assistant Chief Constable (Personnel).

The Superintendent (Research and Inspection) working with an Inspector, is responsible for major research and development within the Force involving evaluation of equipment, manpower establishments and methods of policing. He maintains a close liaison with Planning and Communications on matters allied to Force organisation such as Police Stations buildings and the Force Suggestion Scheme. He liaises also with in-Force Working Parties also with Research and Planning Departments of other Forces and the Police Research Services Unit. Both officers also assist the Chief Superintendent Personnel and Inspection in the internal inspection of the Force.

Since the reallocation of responsibilities, the Research and Inspection team has concentrated on a comprehensive review of the Force establishment, visiting all Divisions/Sub Divisions and Departments and consulting Commanders and Section Heads and the Staff Officer to Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary. It has examined crime and population trends, special local considerations and some workloads. Comparisons have been made with Forces of similar area and population.

The completed review will be submitted to the Police Authority early in 1979.

Once the review is submitted a greater involvement in the inspectorate function and other major research projects can be undertaken.

CIVILIAN TRAINING

7 Civilians, 4 of whom were Job Creation Employees, applied for and were granted day release for further education to improve their skills. Of these only 3 remain current employees and are continuing with their courses at an annual cost for courses and books of approximately £250 per annum.

27 Traffic Wardens attended an induction course at Force Headquarters.

CHAPTER V

OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Public Relations

Police Dog Unit

Mounted Section

Marine Unit

Force Support Unit

Communications

Licensing

Process Servers

Special Constabulary

Royal Visits

Flood Warning System

PUBLIC RELATIONS

A Police Exhibition was presented at Colchester Castle from the 2nd to 14th October, 1978. The theme was policing 'then and now'. It received very favourable coverage from both press and television and was attended by almost 10,000 people. Apart from the help of a great many private individuals, local commercial firms and members of the Force, assistance was given by the City of London Police, the Metropolitan Police, the Police College and the Home Office Telecommunications Department in the form of loans of rare and valuable exhibits.

POLICE DOG UNIT

The Unit consists of 1 Chief Inspector and 32 handlers, with 32 police dogs, 1 drug search dog and 1 explosive search dog. All training is now done within the Force and during the year eight replacement dogs were trained at Sandon.

This Force organised the South East Region Police Dog Trials, when 28 dogs from the Region competed. Pc GILFILLAN with 'Drummer' was one of the four who went on to represent this Region at the National Police Dog Trials held in Dorset. Pc BARKETT with 'Rocky' won the City of London and Home Counties Police Dog Competition organised by the Metropolitan Police. The Unit gave a ten minute display at each of the six public performances of the Colchester Searchlight Tattoo.

The Unit attended 5499 incidents, made 389 arrests and assisted in 426 arrests made by other branches. 55 missing persons were found and there were 137 incidents where property was found.

MOUNTED SECTION

This comprises 3 Constables and 2 horses, performing a variety of patrol duties including participation in ceremonial occasions.

MARINE UNIT

The Vigilant II which was purchased in 1960, had the capacity of patrolling the coastal waters of the Essex Coast line from Tilbury to Harwich. This formed the greater part of their operational patrol when the Tilbury and London docks were fully engaged with commercial shipping.

In view of the closure of many of the docks it was felt that this launch could undertake a more positive role of policing by patrolling those areas in the lower reaches of the Thames where many valuable craft were moored at the marinas and where there were constant reports of theft and vandalism. Towards the end of 1978 a suitable mooring was found at Benfleet and the operational Headquarters of this section was transferred from Tilbury to Hadleigh. Arrangements have been

made for the Vigilant II to be replaced early in 1979 by a more suitable craft, capable of patrol and operations in shallow water.

The other two launches namely, the 'Watchful' and 'Alert II' continue to carry out patrols in the navigable waters of the Blackwater, Stour and Crouch and make checks concerning the importing of drugs and offences involving rabies.

The Marine Unit has carried out 800 patrols during the year and has met a variety of demands for its specialist services. Apart from enforcing navigation order and byelaws it has performed joint operations with HM Customs and Excise, Immigration Service and Air Sea Rescue services.

Numerous patrols were carried out giving advice on safety measures involving speeding and dangers created by water skiers.

Enquiries into theft have led to the recovery of 6 outboard motor engines and 1 speedboat..

DIVING UNIT

Over 105 operational dives have been carried out by the Sergeant and 5 Constables of this Unit, in tidal and inland waterways, mainly in the recovery of bodies, and searches for stolen property and murder weapons.

Many stolen cars have been recovered having been driven into disused sandpits filled with water.

FORCE SUPPORT UNIT

The Unit received over 400 requests for assistance from Divisions and Central Units during 1978, almost double the previous year.

It has undertaken enquiries in respect of major crimes, public order duties, regular duty at Football League grounds, drugs raids, raids on licensed premises and numerous crime observations. 194 arrests were made during the year.

Since July 1978, the Unit has been responsible for all firearms operations in the Force area. There were 82 firearms operations during 1978 and weapons were issued on 48 different occasions.

Surveillance courses, crowd control and raids training have been given to the Force.

COMMUNICATIONS

TOTAL MESSAGE TRAFFIC (EXCLUDES RADIO MESSAGES)

YEAR	NO. OF MESSAGES	INCREASE	INCREASE %
1974	428,095	63,473	17.4
1975	533,360	105,265	24.6

YEAR	NO. OF MESSAGES	INCREASE	INCREASE %
1976	586,478	53,118	10.0
1977	624,558	38,080	6.5
1978	901,261	276,703	44.3

TELEPHONES

In pursuance of the development of the Police Telephone Network, an automatic system has been installed throughout Rayleigh Division, obsolete switchboards at Colchester and Braintree have been replaced and a scheme engineered for the new Grays Divisional Headquarters.

POLICE NATIONAL COMPUTER TRANSACTIONS

YEAR	VISUAL DISPLAY UNITS			DATA PRINTERS		
	TOTAL	INCREASE		TOTAL	INCREASE	
		NO.	%		NO.	%
1975	147,070	-	-	15,660	-	-
1976	225,738	78,668	53.5	29,239	13,579	86.7
1977	370,266	144,528	64.0	40,968	11,729	40.1
1978	619,043	248,77	67.2	98,083	57,115	139.4

At the end of 1977 the Police National Computer could be used for numbers searching (vehicle index marks, chassis and engine numbers, owner enquiries etc.) and criminal names searching. In April 1978 the Wanted/Missing Index was introduced. This meant that any person subject of police enquiry had to be searched not only on the Criminal Name file but also on the Wanted/Missing Index, thereby doubling the number of transactions for name searching. In December 1978 there was a technical development in the computer which enabled a single action search once again. The "double searching" between April and December 1978 has inflated the number of transactions, though allied to this there has been a marked increase in the use of the computer due to the overall efficiency of the system.

The introduction of the Wanted/Missing File and a change at the Criminal Record Office, New Scotland Yard in recording convictions has brought about a marked increase in utilisation of Data Printers.

RADIO

In collaboration with the Hertfordshire Constabulary and the Home Office, arrangements were made for a radio mast installation at Rye Hill.

NUMBER OF '999' CALLS

YEAR	TOTAL	MOTORWAY CALLS INCLUDED		VARIATION	
				NO.	%
1974	49,813	-	-	1,685	+ 3.5

YEAR	TOTAL	MOTORWAY CALLS INCLUDED	VARIATION NO.	%
1975	48,018	-	-1,795	-3.6
1976	52,277	1,108	4,259	+8.9
1977	54,977	2,700	2,700	+5.2
1978	54,237	3,015	- 740	-1.4

LICENSING

LICENSED PREMISES

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

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Full publicans' licences	1,330	1,313	1,332	1,334	1,318
Publicans' licences with conditions	186	215	219	238	248
'ON' Beerhouses	2	2	2	2	3
'OFF' Beerhouses and 'OFF' licences	657	696	721	730	826
Restaurant licences	235	251	277	290	305
Residential combined with restaurant licences	53	52	55	49	51
Residential licences	34	32	42	37	51
Licensed clubs	65	63	61	62	72
Registered clubs	603	609	619	625	650
Wine and spirit dealers	5	5	1	2	2
Theatre licences	5	5	4	4	3
Seamen's Canteen licences	2	2	2	2	2
TOTAL	3,177	3,245	3,335	3,375	3,531

No of Special Hours Certificates		94	78	105	131
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LICENSING OFFENCES

	Persons				
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Supplying liquor after hours	3	-	1	2	4
Failing to quit licensed premises upon request by licensee	-	-	13	6	4
Consuming liquor after hours	1	-	8	6	9
Supplying liquor to unauthorised persons	2	-	1	2	12
Purchasing liquor when under age	1	-	4	1	2
Purchasing liquor for an under age person	-	-	4	-	-
Consuming liquor when under age	-	-	8	-	1
Allowing consumption of liquor to person under age	-	-	-	-	-
Selling liquor without a licence	4	-	-	-	-

	Persons				
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Unlicensed entertainment upon licensed premises	-	-	-	1	-
Adults convicted for being drunk drunk and disorderly or drunk and incapable	504	585	542	641	568
Young persons under 18 convicted for drunkenness	26	25	33	30	45

BETTING

Licensed facilities for betting in the Force area were:-

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Bookmakers' permits	152	156	144	164	176
Betting agency permits	1	1	1	1	1
Track Betting licences	3	2	2	2	1
Betting Office licences	229	229	206	219	213
Betting Offences	-	-	1	-	-

GAMING

Different licences issued under the Gaming Act 1968 (includes Casino Licences in Southend)

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Offences	364(3)	385(3)	393(3)	397(2)	385(2)
	-	14	-	-	13

PROCESS SERVERS

In 1978 the 18 Process Servers dealt with 82% of the 13982 Warrants issued and with 61% of the 9731 Summonses requiring personal service, thereby relieving police officers for operational duties.

SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

	Men	Women	Total
Strength at 1.1.78	351	46	397
Enrolments during 1978	27	16	43
Resignations during 1978	72	13	85
Strength at 13.12.78	306	49	355

The Annual Special Constabulary Competition was held in May. Harlow Division again won the 'De Rougemont' and 'Salter' Cups.

The 'Neville Trophy' competition was staged this year by the City of London Police. Harlow Division represented the Force and won the competition.

ROYAL VISITS

Her Majesty the Queen visited the Essex Agricultural Show at Great Leighs on 16 June 1978.

H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent opened the new Fire Brigade Headquarters at Hutton Poplars on 12 June 1978.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visited Roman Barracks, Colchester on the 6 July 1978 in order to present new Colours to the 1st Battalion Kings Regiment.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales visited Grays on 7 July 1978 where he opened the Thurrock Waste Management and Land Reclamation Centre, London Road, West Thurrock.

H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester visited various clubs belonging to the Essex Association of Boys Clubs at Basildon, Broomfield, Canvey Island, Chelmsford, Colchester, Ingatestone and Ingrave, on 11 October 1978. He also visited the Ransome, Hoffman and Pollard factory at Chelmsford.

H.R.H. Princess Margaret visited Purfleet on 5 December 1978 where she attended a Gala Charity Show in aid of the Duckland Settlements at the Circus Tavern.

FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

The flood warning sirens and the control system for their operation have been maintained at a state of readiness and "flick tested" monthly.

During the storm tide warning season (August to April) the G.P.O. lines and equipment were tested monthly. Proposals for the inclusion of an additional siren at Jaywick Sands are at present being examined.

CHAPTER VI

MISCELLANEOUS

Complaints against the Police

Letters of Appreciation

Awards and Decorations

Commendations

Consultative Committees

Participation in Youth Organisations

Royal Humane Society

Force Welfare

Force Sport

Force Trophies

Essex Police Band

The National Association of Retired Police Officers

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE

The procedure for dealing with complaints made by members of the public against Police Officers was provided by Section 49 of the Police Act, 1964, and with effect from 1 June 1977, the Police Act 1976 added an independent element by way of the Police Complaints Board. The Board receives and considers the report of the investigation into every Section 49 complaint and reviews the decisions made by the Deputy Chief Constable in respect of disciplinary charges that should be brought against the officer concerned. The Board is empowered to recommend that disciplinary charges should be brought and as a last resort may direct that this should be done, although in 1978, as previously, it has accepted every recommendation of the Deputy Chief Constable.

The Police Complaints Board concerns itself only with consideration of disciplinary matters arising out of complaints made by members of the public and not with internal discipline, whilst criminal allegations against police officers are still the province of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The new procedures concerning recording and processing complaints against the police which brought about the above legislation have now had a full statistical year over which to be assessed.

During the first seven months these procedures were in operation a general increase in complaints was detected which was believed to be accounted for by the more stringent method of recording and classifying individual items of complaint and the earlier stage at which recording occurred.

COMPARATIVE FIGURES OVER FIVE YEARS.

TABLE 'A'	1974	1975	1976	1977*	1978*
Complainants	302	257	208	292	472
Complaints	436	384	329	470	671
Substantiated	30	17	15	19	9
Not Substantiated	406	367	314	440	390
Outstanding	-	-	-	11	272

* Some adjustment to the figures for these years will be necessary when cases under investigation are finalised.

TABLE 'B'	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Caution	-	-	-	-	-
Reprimand	2	4	3	3	2
Fines	3	5	1	4	5
Reduced in rank	1	-	1	-	-
Required to resign	-	1	2	-	2
Dismissed	-	2	-	-	1
Found not guilty	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>

It is difficult to make meaningful comparisons from the figures in Table 'A' because the new procedures of recording were introduced midway through 1977. The year now under review is the first to be completed under the new system and the increase in the number of complaints and complainants can be misleading.

Of the 399 complaints finalised at 31 December 1978, 65.6% were subsequently withdrawn or not proceeded with. The relatively high figure is a direct result of the strict adherence to the new procedures in that a complaint is recorded immediately following a verbal complaint or receipt of a letter of complaint. Many of these arise from police action in relation to their law enforcement activities and an investigation is not commenced until the completion of court proceedings unless special circumstances demand otherwise.

A high proportion of these complaints are withdrawn and it would seem that the complainants are either satisfied at having aired their grievance in the course of the proceedings or that they see police action in a more favourable light when the full circumstances are known.

The vast majority of complaints arise from incidents where officers are dealing with offenders. To put the number of complaints in perspective they must be set against our overall activity in the law enforcement field where in 1978 we dealt with more than 55,000 persons by way of arrest or reports for process, etc.

Although the position regarding the number of complaints that require a full investigation remains relatively stable the net rise in the numbers dealt with has meant a considerable increase in the workload of personnel in the Complaints Department. To alleviate the pressure caused by this situation, the present establishment is under review in liaison with Home Office representatives.

OUTSTANDING COMPLAINTS

It will be noted that a large number of complaints are outstanding and there are two main reasons for this. Reports of complaints investigations have to be referred to the Police Complaints Board and this produces a delay of from six to eight weeks. Furthermore, under the new system, most complaints from people who are to appear before a Court cannot be investigated until after the conclusion of the case and this means that a number of complaints are at present pending a court hearing. In general, where the complainant is a defendant who has been committed to the Crown Court on bail, there will be a period of six months before completion of proceedings and the complaint investigation commenced.

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:-

1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
1051	948	1055	1033	941

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

During 1978 the following Awards and Decorations were made:-

The Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to 51 officers as a mark of Her Majesty's appreciation of long and meritorious service.

COMMENDATIONS

Members of the Force received commendations during 1978 as follows:-

	No of Commendations	No of Officers
By Chief Constable	24	35
By Courts (including H M Judge of Crown Courts H M Coroners or Justices)	<u>42</u>	<u>132</u>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<u>66</u>	<u>167</u>

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

The Force has the following Main Committees which are constituted as follows:

THE POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chaired by the Chief Constable and comprising all Chief Officers, Chief Superintendents and the Chief Administrative Officer, aimed at standardising policies throughout the Force, highlighting divisional and departmental problems, and advising on Senior Staff appointments.

THE STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable and comprising representatives of the Police Federation and Superintendents Association, dealing with topics referred to it because there are issues involving the welfare, in its broadest sense, of members of the Force and which merited detailed discussion. This committee is also the parent body for small working parties set up to examine specific issues

JOINT CONSULTATION

The representative organisations have direct access to the Chief Constable to resolve matters within their terms of reference and at which representatives could, if necessary, be made concerning decisions emanating from the two previous committees above.

CIVILIAN STAFF ADVISORY GROUP

Chaired by Assistant Chief Constable 'A', the Civilian Establishment officer, Chief Administrative Officer, the County Personnel Officer,

as a Group advise the Chief Constable on matters concerning the development and application of personnel policies and practices of the Police Authority in respect of its Civilian Staff.

Further committees deal with such matters as:

INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Chaired by Assistant Chief Constable 'A' and comprising members of Civilian Staff and Police Officers this enables Civilian employees to raise matters of general interest directly with the Assistant Chief Constable 'A'.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK COMMITTEE

Chaired by Assistant Chief Constable 'A' and comprising members of Police and Civilian Staff. All Health and Safety problems are raised at this committee.

CENTRAL CANTEN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chaired by the Chief Administrative Officer and comprising representatives of Local Management Committees, the Canteen Supervisors, the Force Welfare Officer, the Secretary of the Joint Branch Board, the Senior Finance Officer and a representative of the Treasurer to the Police Authority.

PROPERTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON POLICE BUILDINGS HOUSING AND DECORATIONS AND REPAIRS

Chaired by the Assistant Chief Constable 'A' and comprising Police Officers from Divisions, Police Federation, Superintendents Association, County Architects and Property Management Personnel. This committee will deal with anything concerning Police Buildings.

PARTICIPATION IN YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Exclusive of those officers engaged in the Basildon and Colchester Community Involvement Schemes, 97 officers were engaged voluntarily in activities which assisted youth organisations.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY

The following awards of the Society were made to members of the Force during the year:-

D/Police Constable 497 A L LAY	Certificate of Resuscitation
Police Constable 1336 JP WIMBLETON	Certificate of Resuscitation
Police Sergeant 331 K P. DOYLAND	Certificate of Resuscitation

FORCE WELFARE

FORCE WELFARE OFFICER

This duty is performed by a Police Constable on a full-time basis. The Force Welfare Officer is Secretary to both the Force Benevolent Fund and the Combined Welfare Fund. He deals with Police Dependants Trust claims for this and other Forces, Benevolent Fund claims and admissions to the Police Convalescent home at Hove. He assists members of the Force and civilians with personal problems.

Many Police widows and pensioners of this and other Forces resident in Essex are visited and assistance given where necessary.

POLICE DEPENDANTS TRUST

This is a National Fund which was established to provide financial assistance to Police Officers injured on duty and to the dependants of others killed on duty. Income is raised through voluntary subscriptions by Force members, fund raising schemes and donations received from members of the public.

For this Force:-	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Numbers assisted	9	11	15	10	10
Total of Grants made (£)	995	2215	1985	3147	4481
Contributions to the Trust (£)	1724	1393	1320	2972	1670

GURNEY FUND

Regular weekly grants are made from this fund to Police Orphans.

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Children assisted	21	18	27	18	19
Total benefits paid (£)	2587	2379	3375	3525	4377
Subscriptions from Force members (£)	3042	3180	3420	3391	3533

ESSEX POLICE FORCE BENEVOLENT FUND

This fund is operated by a committee of elected Divisional representatives and is registered with the Charity Commissioners. Members of the Committee also act as trustees of the Essex Police War Memorial Fund. Income derives mainly from contributions from serving officers and donations from members of the public, supplemented by a grant from the National Police Fund.

In 1978, £4,920 was allocated to assist in maintaining and running the Convalescent Police Seaside Home at Home; 48 serving officers and one pensioner attended the Home as patients and a total of £698.10 was paid out for their travelling and out-of-pocket expenses.

The Benevolent Fund made the following grants during 1978:

Serving Police Officers	£1,248.00
Dependants	£1,517.80
Pensions	55.40
Orphans	£2,480.00

THE ESSEX POLICE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY BENEVOLENT FUND

This Fund was founded in 1944 and is registered with the Registrar of Friendly Societies. All serving Special Constables within the Force area are eligible for membership at an annual subscription of 50p and approximately one-third belong. The Fund is managed by a Committee of Special Constables under the Chairmanship of the Commandant and assists Special Constables and their dependants in time of need. In 1978, grants of £225.00 were made; income from donations was £580.00, whilst the assets amounted to £1753.00

CIVILIAN STAFF WELFARE FUND

Membership	721
(Subscriptions 13p per month or 3p per week)	
Grants (14)	£395
Interest Free Loans (4)	£237
Excess of Income over Expenditure	£793.50
Assets	£2421.61

The Divisional representatives assist the Force Welfare Officer in visiting members of the civilian staff who are sick or in any other way may benefit from the provisions of this Fund.

CIVILIAN STAFF INSURANCE SCHEME

At 31 December 1978, 311 clerical employees and 274 manual employees were members of the Group Insurance Scheme. Four persons died, and a total of £4,400 was paid out to dependants.

FORCE SPORT

Social and recreational activities include angling, athletics, badminton, bowls, cricket, cross country running, soccer, golf, hockey, billiards, darts, life-saving, netball, race walking, rugby, sailing, shooting, squash, swimming, table tennis, tennis and volleyball.

Competitive successes were achieved:-

Angling	P.A.A. Regional event was won for the second successive year .
Athletics	The Regional Police team title was gained for the 9th successive year
Soccer	The Force team won the Police Regional Cup for 1977/78 season.
Billiards & Darts	The Police Regional Championship was won in these games.
Life-Saving	The team won the West Ham Trophy
Race Walking	Pc M DUNION won the Police Regional 3000 metres race and Pc P RYAN was selected for the British National training squad.
Shooting	Superintendent J SUTTON, Police Sergeant G HARVEY and Police Constable P WEBB have been included in the National Police Squad training for the 1980 European Police Championships. Police Constable P WEBB is also a member of the British National Squad.
Swimming	The 40th Force Long Distance Swim was won for the first time by a woman officer, W/Police Constable J PACKER

Table Tennis

In the Police Regional Championships, Police Constable J GRAHAM won the men's singles whilst W/Police Constable M J CHAPLIN and W/Police Constable A M MOSS won the ladies doubles.

Volleyball

Promotion was gained to Division I of the S.E. Essex League whilst the team also won a local tournament.

FORCE TROPHIES

The Bennett Trophy, presented by the late Sir William Bennett, CBE. JP. DL, is awarded annually to the probationer constable gaining top marks in a written and oral examination. This year Police Constable 858 D BATES of Colchester Division won the competition.

The Sir Jonathan Peel Trophy, awarded annually to the constable gaining highest marks in the national promotion examination, was won by Detective Constable 1644 M SLADE in Harlow Division.

The Chief Wardens Cup, presented by the Chief Warden of the County during the 1939/45 war, is awarded annually for Inter-Divisional First Aid. The competition, held at the Force Training School on 23 April 1978, was won by the team entered by Basildon Division. Police Sergeant 218 I J KENNEDY of the Basildon Team was awarded the St John's Ambulance Trophy for obtaining the highest individual score in the Chief Warden's Competition.

The Murray Shield, presented by Mr Trevor MURRAY annually for the winner of the Obedience Section of the Force Police Dog Trials, was won by Police Constable 276 R C BARRETT with "BEN".

ESSEX POLICE BAND

The Essex Police Band still operates as a Voluntary Trust organisation, without sponsorship from public funds.

Membership comprises 21 serving Police Officers of varying ranks and 13 civilians who are retired Police Officers, employees of the Police Authority or otherwise closely associated with the Force.

During the year the Band played at 18 engagements including parades, fetes and concerts - many for charitable purposes. They also included Sir John NIGHTINGALE's retirement dinner and a meeting of the Norfolk Police Association at Norwich.

In an attempt to establish itself amongst other Brass Bands in the area the Band decided to compete and accordingly joined the London and Home Counties Brass Band Association. In October the Band performed in a competition at Clacton and was placed equal 8th from 13 entries

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS

Thanks to the assistance of the Force Welfare Officer the Association is now able to contact potential pensioners almost as soon as they retire and membership has increased.

The question of Public Service Pensions increase has not yet been finally resolved.

The Garden Party in July was well attended by over 600 pensioners and their wives. Similarly, the Comrades Luncheon was well supported by over 100 pensioners and serving officers.

The Christmas card of 1978, sent to all Widows, signed by the Chief Constable on behalf of the Force was well received.

The Association is grateful for the assistance and guidance given by all serving officers thus enabling the work of the Branches to function so successfully.

END