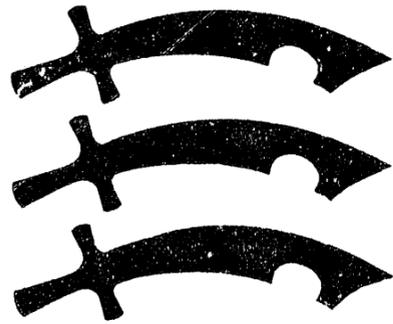


# ESSEX POLICE



83377

## CHIEF CONSTABLE'S ANNUAL REPORT 1981

To the Police Committee of the Essex County Council

Ladies and Gentlemen

I have the honour to present my report on the work of the Essex Police in 1981. I would like to thank all the members and officers of the Committee for their support throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant

R. S. BUNYARD  
Chief Constable



OK

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U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

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### INTRODUCTION

The future may well judge policing in 1981 solely in terms of riots and the subsequent Inquiry by Lord Scarman into them, but Essex remained free of the street violence which occurred in many places during the summer. At that time extra patrols were mounted in all urban areas of the County and the Force Support Unit went to the aid of Merseyside and Leicester. It became clear that no police force can ignore the lessons learned from the disorders and the Essex Police has undertaken the necessary training and provision of equipment to deal with rioting whether it occurs locally or in some other area. We played an important part in testing uniforms and equipment for riot control and the results of that research were supplied to other police forces as well as being considered in the selection of our own equipment. The Force Support Unit also proved invaluable in dealing with innumerable operations concerning public order and major crime throughout the County and, in complete contrast to their journeys North, they enjoyed the privilege of representing the Essex Police in London at the time of the Royal Wedding.

Despite the manner in which public order problems dominated the media during the year, they played a relatively minor role in the ordinary work of this Force. Our main concerns were crime and traffic. There were 55,451 substantiated reports of crime, which was 2,510 (4.7%) more than in 1980. The increase was unevenly spread, being mainly accounted for by offences of burglary, theft from motor vehicles and shoplifting. Thefts of motor vehicles, meanwhile, declined slightly to a total of 6,288. The overall detection rate for all offences remained at 42.8%.

An increase in the number of burglaries means that more householders suffered stress from the knowledge that their homes had been invaded by villains. Even the most sympathetic police officer cannot provide the long-term support sometimes needed in such cases and the Victims Support Scheme, which uses accredited volunteers supervised by the Probation Service, has proved invaluable. It now covers six of the eight force Divisions and, hopefully, will soon be in operation over the whole County.

In many cases the best method of preventing crime is to have a police officer walking the beat and that is one facet of the work of the Neighbourhood Beat Officers who are now deployed throughout the Force. For the most part they are experienced volunteers who enter wholeheartedly into community life and receive a good deal of public approbation: they also establish useful working relationships with their local schools and this also has received a general welcome. The one brighter note for 1981 has been a slight decrease in the number of detected crimes committed by juveniles; one can only hope that this is a trend for the future.

# ESSEX POLICE DISTRICT



Area : 359,415 hectares (888,114 acres)  
 Population : 1,395,365 (1981 Census)

In most cases the Divisional Headquarters building also houses the sub-divisional HQ for the town area.

- Headquarters
- Divisional H.Q.
- Sub-Divisional H.Q.
- Other Stations
- ◌ CSB Offices
- ◌ Traffic Sub-Divisions
- ⊙ Stansted Airport
- - - Divisional boundaries
- ..... Sub-Divisional boundaries

Fatal road accidents and those causing injury were fewer than hitherto, but non-injury accidents coming to notice increased from 6,796 to 7,015. As a result of a deliberate policy to give minor traffic offenders more warnings and verbal cautions there were fewer prosecutions for such offences.

It is heartening to record that all Divisions reported a generally good level of relations between the police and the press and it appears that the positive steps which have been taken to improve our interface with the public media have worked well. An additional medium for transmitting traffic and crime information and seeking public assistance was acquired with the establishment of Essex Radio, and the re-organised Force Press Office made good use of the additional facility. It also appears that relations between police and public are good; the number of complaints against police officers fell substantially and 16% fewer people registered official complaints against Essex officers.

The year has seen the implementation of the remaining recommendations of the Edmund Davies Committee on police consultative and negotiating machinery. Representatives of the Police Federation and Superintendents' Association have played a valuable part in the formulation of policies through the Standing Advisory Committee and Joint Negotiating and Consultative Committee; the new Liaison Committee provides opportunities for them to meet with members of the Police Committee in informal but constructive discussion. Once again it is pleasant to be able to record my gratitude to all members of the Force and the Police Committee for their support during the past year; a great deal of very good work has been accomplished and the Essex Police is well staffed and equipped to take on the new challenges that will undoubtedly come.

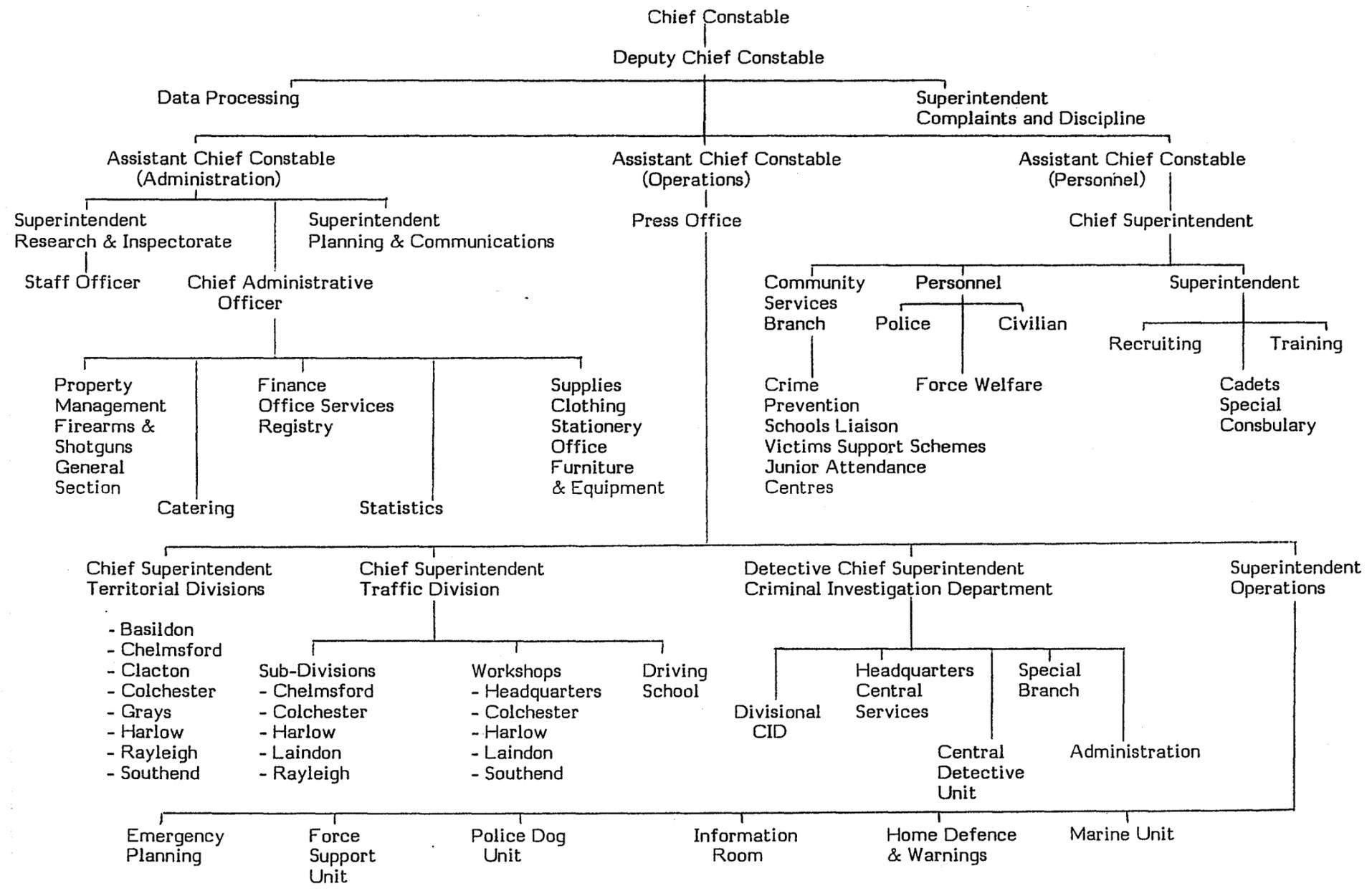
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CHAPTER I

CRIME

Review of Crime

Cases of Interest

Central Detective Unit

Technical Support Unit

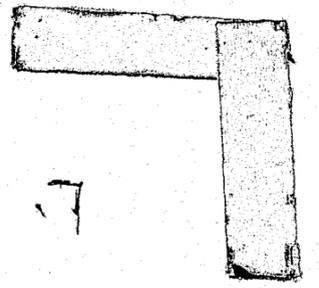
Forensic Science

Crime Index and Publications

Special Branch

Crime Intelligence

Crime Prevention



**REVIEW OF CRIME**

During the year, 58,455 reports of serious and certain summary offences were investigated. Of these, 1,750 could not be substantiated and were recorded as 'No Offence', 508 were recorded as summary offences and 746 were otherwise classified.

The total number of 55,451 substantiated offences reflected an increase of 2,510 or 4.7% over the previous year. This rise can be attributed principally to the offences of burglary, theft from vehicles and shoplifting.

The overall percentage of detections was the same as in 1980, i.e. 42.8%.

|   | <u>Substantiated Offences</u> |                  |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|
|   | <u>1980</u>                   | <u>1981</u>      |
| Offences against the person   | 2,945<br>(78.2)               | 2,859<br>(81.0)  |
| Offences against property with violence (burglary)                        | 11,355<br>(37.2)              | 12,136<br>(35.2) |
| Offences against property without violence (theft, going equipped, fraud) | 33,757<br>(43.3)              | 35,494<br>(44.1) |
| Other offences (arson, forgery etc.)                                      | 4,884<br>(30.8)               | 4,962<br>(29.9)  |
|   | <u>52,941</u>                 | <u>55,451</u>    |

(Figures in brackets show the percentage of detections in each category).

Contributing to the overall increase in crime, there were wide variations between Divisions in the percentage changes compared with 1980:

| <u>Division</u> | <u>No. offences recorded</u> |             | <u>Comparison with 1980</u> |          | <u>1981 detected percentage</u> |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
|                 | <u>1980</u>                  | <u>1981</u> | <u>No.</u>                  | <u>%</u> |                                 |
| Basildon        | 8,616                        | 9,610       | + 994                       | + 11.5   | 38.2                            |
| Chelmsford      | 5,955                        | 6,891       | + 936                       | + 15.7   | 42.3                            |
| Clacton         | 4,614                        | 4,794       | + 180                       | + 3.9    | 44.4                            |
| Colchester      | 8,509                        | 8,643       | + 134                       | + 1.6    | 43.9                            |
| Grays           | 6,063                        | 5,896       | - 167                       | - 2.8    | 40.8                            |
| Harlow          | 6,614                        | 6,697       | + 83                        | + 1.3    | 41.6                            |
| Rayleigh        | 5,319                        | 5,469       | + 150                       | + 2.8    | 44.7                            |
| Southend        | 7,251                        | 7,451       | + 200                       | + 2.8    | 48.1                            |

The 'per capita' rate of crime in Essex has increased by approximately 1% each year over the last decade. It is estimated that 39.7 offences per 1000 population were committed during 1981.

In addition to the serious offences recorded, there were 2,631 reports of minor damage each valued at £20 or less.

OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON

Offences in this group decreased by 2.9% to a figure of 2,859.

During the year 15 cases of alleged murder were investigated, all of which were detected.

2 defendants were convicted of murder, 4 were convicted of manslaughter, 1 was convicted of infanticide, 2 committed suicide (one involved in two offences), 1 awaits trial and 4 await committal for trial.

|   | 1980         | 1981         | Comparison with 1980 |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
|   |              |              | No.                  | %            |
| Murder  | 14           | 15           | + 1                  | + 7.1        |
| Attempts, threats to murder                     | 43           | 36           | - 7                  | - 16.3       |
| Manslaughter                                    | 4            | 12           | + 8                  | + 200.0      |
| Woundings                                       | 2,167        | 2,044        | - 123                | - 5.7        |
| Unnatural offences                              | 92           | 109          | + 17                 | + 18.5       |
| Rape, incest, unlawful sex/int.                 | 116          | 113          | - 3                  | - 2.6        |
| Indecent assaults on females                    | 245          | 247          | + 2                  | + 0.8        |
| Robbery   | 212          | 233          | + 21                 | + 9.9        |
| Other offences including bigamy, blackmail etc. | 52           | 50           | - 2                  | - 3.8        |
| <b>Total offences against the person</b>        | <b>2,945</b> | <b>2,859</b> | <b>- 86</b>          | <b>- 2.9</b> |

OFFENCES OF BURGLARY

Burglaries continue to account for approximately one-fifth of all recorded crimes. Within the overall 6.9% increase on 1980 figures, an escalating number of offences were recorded for residential properties particularly:

|                                      | 1980          | 1981          | Comparison with 1980 |              |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|
|                                      |               |               | No.                  | %            |
| Burglary in a dwelling               | 3,843         | 4,492         | + 649                | + 16.9       |
| Burglary other than in a dwelling    | 7,500         | 7,623         | + 123                | + 1.6        |
| Aggravated burglary - dwelling/other | 12            | 21            | + 9                  | + 75.0       |
| <b>Total offences of burglary</b>    | <b>11,355</b> | <b>12,136</b> | <b>+ 781</b>         | <b>+ 6.9</b> |

OFFENCES OF THEFT

More than half of all the offences recorded in 1981 were thefts (60.0% compared with 59.7% in 1980).

The most significant increases occurred in thefts from vehicles (+1502) and shoplifting offences (+680).

During the year there were 6,288 substantiated offences of theft of motor vehicles, a decrease of 356 or 5.4% over 1980. There were 1,859 vehicles not traced at the end of the year; this figure includes 1,152 private cars, 117 goods vehicles and 590 in the motor cycle class.

Offences of unauthorised takings totalled 3,707, a decrease of 580 or 13.5% on 1980.

|   | 1980          | 1981          | Comparison with 1980 |              |
|---|---------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|
|   |               |               | No.                  | %            |
| Going equipped for stealing                     | 49            | 70            | + 21                 | + 42.9       |
| Theft from the person                           | 184           | 150           | - 34                 | - 18.5       |
| Theft in a dwelling                             | 915           | 998           | + 83                 | + 9.1        |
| Theft by an employee                            | 615           | 530           | - 85                 | - 13.8       |
| Theft of mail bags etc.                         | 18            | 18            | -                    | -            |
| Abstracting electricity                         | 188           | 161           | - 27                 | - 14.4       |
| Theft of pedal cycles                           | 2,899         | 2,636         | - 263                | - 9.1        |
| Theft from vehicles                             | 7,316         | 8,818         | + 1,502              | + 20.5       |
| Shoplifting                                     | 4,840         | 5,520         | + 680                | + 14.0       |
| Theft from auto machines                        | 434           | 505           | + 71                 | + 16.4       |
| Theft and unauthorised taking of motor vehicles | 6,644         | 6,288         | - 356                | - 5.4        |
| Other thefts and unauthorised takings           | 7,502         | 7,567         | + 65                 | + 0.9        |
| <b>Total offences of theft</b>                  | <b>31,604</b> | <b>33,261</b> | <b>+ 1,657</b>       | <b>+ 5.2</b> |

OFFENCES OF FRAUD ETC.

The total number of frauds (including false accounting) increased by 115, or 5.0% on 1980 to a figure of 2,425.

Offences of handling stolen goods decreased by 96 (-9.5%) to 914; offences of forgery showed a 22.3% rise from 157 in 1980 to 192 in 1981.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Offences within this group include only those crimes where the value involved exceeds £20. This criterion is not inflation indexed and increases in line with the rate of inflation are therefore to be expected. The 1981 figure represents an increase of 0.9% over that recorded in 1980. The total number of offences of criminal damage, 4,742, accounted for 8.6% of all recorded crimes in 1981. Within this category, offences of arson increased by 21.1% to 614.

JUVENILE CRIME (See Community Services Branch, Chapter V)

STOLEN PROPERTY

The value of property stolen in 1981 amounted to £11,942,186 of which property valued at £3,341,573 was recovered (28% of the total). This compares with £12,118,747 in 1980, of which £3,990,718 or 32.9% was recovered.

COURT PROCEEDINGS

During the year, proceedings at the lower courts were taken against 9,652 persons, a decrease of 1,107 (-10.3%) over the previous year, resulting in:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
|  | comparison |
|  | with 1980  |
| 6,829 found guilty summarily                               | (-11.8%)   |
| 1,572 committed for trial                                  | (-5.5%)    |
| 1,251 charge withdrawn, dismissed or disposed of otherwise | (-7.4%)    |

At the higher courts, 1,214 persons were convicted and 358 discharged or disposed of otherwise, compared with a total of 1,663 dealt with in 1980.

CASES OF INTEREST

MURDER AT HARWICH

A 56 year old woman lived with a lodger and her 31 year old son of a former marriage. About 12.50pm on Thursday 5th February 1981, the son attacked his mother in the hallway of their home with an axe, the first blow being delivered from behind. The attack was witnessed by the lodger.

The assailant inflicted 20 to 30 extremely violent blows with the axe and a poker to the head and body of his mother, from which she died immediately. The lodger, who suffered from ill health, was unable to do anything to protect the aggrieved but ran from the house for assistance. The assailant remained at the scene and was arrested on arrival of the police.

The son is mentally disturbed and had no obvious motive for the murder other than disapproval of his mother's divorce from his father several years ago. Until 1980 he had lived with his father in Berkshire, where he was arrested for his father's murder. The charge was reduced to manslaughter because, although it was originally thought he had strangled his father, the older man in fact choked on vomit, from which he died. He was subsequently acquitted on the count of manslaughter and came to live with his mother at Harwich.

He was dealt with at Chelmsford Crown Court and detained under the Mental Health Act.

MURDER AT BASILDON

About 2.20 am on 1st January 1981 a youth was walking towards an underpass at the junction of Southernhay and Long Riding, Basildon accompanied by another youth. Upon hearing his name called, he turned around and was punched in the face by an 18 year old male. He collapsed to the ground, whereupon another youth joined in, kicking him about the head. Seeing the attack, his friend went to his aid but was felled by a blow to the back of his head, delivered by a third youth.

Witnesses stated that the three assailants kicked both youths on numerous occasions before decamping into the underpass.

Enquiries resulted in the three youths being arrested and charged with murder. All three appeared at Chelmsford Crown Court on 21st May 1981, were convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to 6 years, 4 years and 7 years imprisonment respectively.

MURDER AT LITTLE WAKERING

About 12.30 pm on Thursday 19th March 1981, a 57 year old woman, with her sister, drove to Little Wakering, some ten miles outside Southend on Sea, where they took a leisurely country walk. They became lost and stopped at an isolated farmhouse where they asked directions of a 16 year old boy who later transpired to be the accused in this case. He directed them to the sea wall a few hundred yards away, from where they could then walk back to their car.

Having watched the women walk to the sea wall, he caught them up, attacked the aggrieved, pulling a cord around her throat, and pushed both women down the sea wall, demanding that they should undress.

One woman managed to escape and ran along the sea wall, intending to go for assistance. Being an isolated area, no assistance was immediately available. In the absence of the second woman, the boy attacked the aggrieved, beating her about the head and body with a piece of wood, seriously sexually assaulting her and causing massive head injuries from which she must have died almost immediately.

He was detained under the Mental Health Act without limit of time.

ROBBERY - BROADLEY COMMON, HARLOW

About 4.50 pm on Wednesday 10 June, 1981, two men effected a robbery at the Post Office and General Stores at Broadley Common, Harlow. One, armed with a hammer, attacked the 73 year old Post mistress and stole approximately £41 in cash. Both accused persons made off from the scene in a motor car. The index number was taken and immediate circulations were made. Officers located this vehicle at Epping and as a result, the two men were arrested and subsequently admitted a number of robberies in the Home Counties.

#### MURDER AT GRAYS

About 8.45 am on Saturday 7th March 1981, the dismembered body of a female was found on waste ground in Grays near to the main A.13 London to Southend Road. The legs had been severed from the body and were contained in a military kit bag, the remainder of the body was in another kit bag. The postmortem revealed massive bruising all over the body together with seven broken ribs. The cause of death was established as being due to multiple injuries.

The deceased was a 34 year old prostitute, last known in the North London area. Since the age of 18 years she had been part of the drugs/prostitution dishonesty scene in London.

A major police operation was set up at Grays and a large number of officers carried out intensive enquiries in the North and East London areas and in Scotland.

In the early hours of Monday 9th March 1981, a flat in London was entered by officers and two men were arrested. Violence had obviously occurred at the flat, which was bloodstained throughout.

Both men appeared at Chelmsford Crown Court. One was sentenced to life imprisonment, the second to imprisonment for 18 months.

#### ROBBERY AT WITHAM

On 10 August, 1981, an armed robbery occurred at the premises of a bookmakers at Witham.

About 10.00 am, shortly after the Betting Office had opened and the shop Manager was on the premises, two men burst in. One man remained by the door and the other man, who appeared to be holding a hand gun, climbed over the shop counter, forced the Manager to lie down on the floor and demanded money. The Manager indicated that the money, approximately £2,000 from the weekend's takings, was under the counter. The attackers missed this but took £180 from the till. The shop manager then had his hands tied behind his back, was taken into the toilet and locked in and the offenders made off.

Road blocks were set up, enquiries made locally and details published in newspapers and on television but without any immediate success. Scenes of Crime Officers attended and a positive fingerprint search was made of the shop counter and articles left behind by the offenders.

On 20th October 1981, C.I.D. officers in Cornwall searched a caravan and found an imitation firearm. The man was arrested and later admitted being responsible for the armed robbery in Witham. He also named the other man who was later arrested. Both are awaiting trial at Chelmsford Crown Court.

#### CENTRAL DETECTIVE UNIT

The Unit has a Major Investigation Section, a Fraud Section, a Drug Squad and a Motor Vehicle Investigation Squad.

#### MAJOR INVESTIGATION SECTION

The team of mobile detective officers is used to assist in murder investigations and other major crimes.

#### FRAUD SECTION

During 1981, sixteen fraud investigations were finalised, involving £1,334,000. Seven cases resulted in prosecution, three resulted in prison sentences and four suspended sentences were imposed. The D.P.P. advised no further action in eight cases and one elderly defendant was cautioned.

A further eighteen fraud cases are currently under investigation involving money totalling almost £1.5 million.

Fraud Squad officers were attached to five major enquiries during the year and, since April, two officers have been seconded to the Kent Fraud Squad which is dealing with a large corruption investigation in both Kent and Essex.

#### DRUG SQUAD

The Drugs Intelligence Unit is staffed by a Detective Sergeant and three Detective Constables. The Unit maintains an intelligence index and collates information on all aspects of drug abuse. Responsibility for the inspection of Chemists' Registers has been transferred to a Detective Inspector and two Detective Sergeants at Chelmsford Divisional Headquarters, who also act as Crown Court Liaison officers.

There is evidence that drug abuse is spreading from Essex towns into more rural areas. Cannabis continues to be the most prevalent abused drug, although the use of heroin, morphine and cocaine appears to be increasing. (The 1980 figures were heavily inflated by Operation Lager).

A large seizure of 'hash oil' and Cannabis resin with a street value of about £130,000 was made during the year. A traffic of amphetamines and cannabis from the Continent to the U.K. through Essex ports has resulted in one large seizure for drug smuggling in 1981.

**Drug Offences**

|  | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Unlawful possession of Cannabis              | 92          | 215         | 170         |
| Unlawful supply of Cannabis                  | 6           | 13          | 25          |
| Using premises for smoking Cannabis          | 4           | 5           | 3           |
| Importing & Excise Evasion Cannabis etc.     | 15          | 38          | 14          |
| Possession with intent to supply             | 6           | 9           | 10          |
| Unlawful possession/supply of:               |             |             |             |
| Heroin & Methadone (including Opium)         | 2           | 19          | 9           |
| Cocaine                                      | 1           | 8           | 4           |
| Amphetamine                                  | 12          | 45          | 22          |
| L.S.D.                                       | 2           | 28          | 6           |
| Mandrax                                      | -           | 4           | -           |
| Cultivation of Cannabis                      | 11          | 31          | 13          |
| Conspiracy to contravene Misuse of Drugs Act | 33          | 93          | 36          |
| <b>Total drug offences</b>                   | <u>184</u>  | <u>508</u>  | <u>312</u>  |
| Persons detected                             | 136         | 336         | 205         |
| Miscellaneous crimes detected                | 24          | 8           | 18          |
| <b>Search Warrants</b>                       |             |             |             |
| Number obtained                              | 42          | 48          | 64          |
| Number used                                  | 38          | 47          | 56          |
| Negative                                     | 10          | 8           | 19          |
| Persons arrested                             | 38          | 70          | 53          |
| <b>Stop Searches</b>                         |             |             |             |
| Positive                                     | 22          | 36          | 59          |
| Negative                                     | 35          | 27          | 47          |
| <b>Addicts</b>                               |             |             |             |
| New addicts                                  | -           | 1           | 15          |
| Re-registered                                | 44          | 44          | 42          |

**MOTOR VEHICLE INVESTIGATION**

473 re-licensed vehicles were examined during the year. In addition, 51 vehicles were identified as having been altered or falsified, to a total value of £64,740.

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT UNIT**

During the year, the Technical Support Unit carried out 313 operations, of which 18 were for other Forces. These resulted in the arrest of 66 persons and the detection of 105 offences.

**FORENSIC SCIENCE - Scenes of Crime**

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 subject were also given to courses attending the Force Training School and to selected outside organisations.

The rising cost of materials and a substantial increase in the number of fingerprints to be photographed by the Scenes of Crime Department led to research into finding alternative methods of photographing.

In 1981, the Photographic Section developed and introduced two camera systems which have resulted in a 50% saving in cost of materials and time.

|  | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Searches for fingerprints              | 10,583      | 11,316      | 13,198      |
| Fingerprints identifications made      | 1,702       | 1,708       | 1,782       |
| Searches for other scientific evidence | 3,133       | 3,342       | 3,772       |
| Photographic prints made               | 135,082     | 128,112     | 130,994     |
| Usage of forensic science laboratory   |             |             |             |
| - for drink/drugs driving cases        | 2,001       | 2,325 *     | 2,049       |
| - other scientific aid                 | 844         | 1,160 *     | 1,164       |

\*1980 adjustment to Home Office laboratory figures.

**INCENDIARY AND EXPLOSIVE DEVICES**

There were 104 calls made to Scenes of Crime officers to attend this type of incident, an increase of 43 on the previous year.

After initial screening, eighteen calls were made for the attendance of an expert from the Explosive Ordnance (Bomb) Disposal Unit.

**CRIME INDEX AND PUBLICATIONS**

|                           | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Criminal Record Index     |             |             |             |
| Persons recorded          | 132,326     | 140,943     | 148,828     |
| Nominal/Wanted Index      |             |             |             |
| Number of searches        | 33,014      | 32,110      | 35,938      |
| Number of identifications | 12,040      | 13,840      | 13,294      |
| Property & Cycle Indexes  |             |             |             |
| Number of identifications | 163         | 173         | 273         |

**SPECIAL BRANCH**

In 1981, the department carried out specific investigative tasks as agreed by the Detective Chief Superintendent and Assistant Chief Constable 'O'. Public order and terrorist incidents were of particular interest.

**IMMIGRATION**

Police Headquarters central register of foreign nationals shows that the number of aliens registered with the Force on the 31st December 1981 was 1,889. 16% of the registered aliens were citizens of an EEC member country.

**CRIME INTELLIGENCE**

In 1980, the role of the Section was amended to include the collation of information related to marine, traffic, itinerants and antiques as well as criminal intelligence. The Section now consists of a Detective Chief Inspector, an Inspector, a Sergeant and four Constables. Supervision of divisional and part-time collators also falls within the scope of the Section Commander's responsibilities.

During the year there has been valuable interchange of information at monthly 'Border Collators' conferences attended by officers from Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent and Metropolitan Police Forces, bi-monthly divisional collators conferences and quarterly divisional CID current crime conferences attended by Inspectors, Sergeants and Constables.

Liaison with other intelligence gathering agencies has been maintained, including cross-Channel liaison with various police forces in Holland.

**CRIME PREVENTION**

This Department is the responsibility of the Community Services Branch.

|   | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Surveys conducted                               | 1,324       | 1,757       | 2,291       |
| Talks to Organisations                          | 291         | 250         | 339         |
| Crime Prevention displays                       | 62          | 40          | 109         |
| Crime Prevention lectures<br>to police officers | 18          | 18          | 13          |
| Total number of alarm installations             | 4,005       | 4,178       | 4,534       |
| Average number of false calls<br>per system     | 3.3         | 3.5         | 3.2         |

The number of intruder alarm systems increased from 4178 to 4534. False calls from such alarms fell by 85 to 14,510 which is 98.7% of all alarm calls received in the year. 184 genuine calls were received which enabled 67 arrests to be made.

**CHAPTER II  
ROAD TRAFFIC**

**Road Accidents and Casualties**

**Road Safety**

**Drink and Driving (Road Traffic Act 1972)**

**Fixed Penalty Tickets**

**Traffic Patrols**

**Police Motor Vehicles**

**Vehicle Repair and Maintenance**

**Traffic Wardens**

**School Crossing Patrol Service**

**ROAD ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES**

In 1981, a total of 6,389 fatal and injury accidents was recorded in the Force area, 61 fewer than in 1980 (-1.0%). The number of reported non-injury accidents increased from 6,796 in 1980 to 7,015 (+3.2%).

| <u>Injury accidents</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> | <u>% Change</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Fatal                   | 141         | 123         | -12.8           |
| Serious                 | 1,965       | 1,876       | -4.5            |
| Slight                  | 4,344       | 4,390       | +1.1            |

The total number of casualties from these accidents decreased by 9 or 0.1%. The groups of road user who became casualties are shown below:

| <u>16 years and over</u>  | <u>Killed</u> | <u>Serious</u> | <u>Slight</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Pedestrian                | 31            | 228            | 376           | 635          |
| Rider/Driver of:          |               |                |               |              |
| Pedal cycle               | 7             | 87             | 281           | 375          |
| Moped                     | 4             | 112            | 268           | 384          |
| Motor Scooter             | -             | 10             | 34            | 44           |
| Motor cycle               | 22            | 428            | 766           | 1,216        |
| Combination               | 1             | 2              | 6             | 9            |
| 3 wheel vehicle           | 3             | 9              | 14            | 26           |
| Invalid tricycle          | -             | 3              | 2             | 5            |
| Car (4 wheeled)           | 30            | 563            | 1,922         | 2,515        |
| Minibus/Motor caravan     | 1             | 2              | 10            | 13           |
| Public Service Vehicle    | 1             | 2              | 11            | 14           |
| Goods n/o 1½ tons UW      | 3             | 45             | 173           | 221          |
| Other motor vehicle       | -             | 1              | 9             | 10           |
| Other non-motor vehicle   | -             | 1              | 4             | 5            |
| Passenger in/on:-         |               |                |               |              |
| Motor cycle               | 2             | 45             | 92            | 139          |
| Moped/scooter/combination | -             | 1              | 9             | 10           |
| 3 wheel car               | -             | 3              | 17            | 20           |
| Car                       | 16            | 360            | 1,183         | 1,559        |
| Minibus/motor caravan     | -             | 2              | 8             | 10           |
| Public Service Vehicle    | -             | 14             | 61            | 75           |
| Goods n/o 1½ tons UW      | 2             | 23             | 91            | 116          |
| Goods over 1½ tons UW     | -             | 2              | 11            | 13           |
| Other motor vehicle       | 2             | 2              | 2             | 6            |
| <b>Totals</b>             | <u>125</u>    | <u>1,954</u>   | <u>5,410</u>  | <u>7,489</u> |

| Children under 16                                       | <u>Killed</u> | <u>Serious</u> | <u>Slight</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Pedestrian  | 4             | 140            | 342           | 486          |
| Rider/Driver of:  |               |                |               |              |
| Pedal cycle   | 1             | 75             | 235           | 311          |
| Motor cycle/moped/car/<br>non-motor vehicles            | -             | 4              | 5             | 9            |
| Passenger in/on:  |               |                |               |              |
| Motor cycle/moped                                       | 1             | 4              | 5             | 10           |
| Car   | 3             | 45             | 299           | 347          |
| Minibus/motor caravan                                   | 1             | 1              | 13            | 15           |
| Public Service Vehicle                                  | 1             | 2              | 18            | 21           |
| Goods vehicle n/o 1½ tons UW                            | -             | 5              | 14            | 19           |
| Other vehicle (pedal cycle,<br>taxi, heavy goods, etc.) | -             | -              | 10            | 10           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <u>11</u>     | <u>276</u>     | <u>941</u>    | <u>1,228</u> |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                      | <b>136</b>    | <b>2,230</b>   | <b>6,351</b>  | <b>8,717</b> |

**ROAD SAFETY**

Road Safety is taught in both junior and senior schools. In the junior schools, the Neighbourhood Beat Officers talk about the Green Cross Code. These talks are reinforced by the Road Safety Demonstration Unit, which gives indoor and outdoor demonstrations. In secondary schools, Community Services Branch liaison officers give pre-driver education talks.

The Road Safety Demonstration Unit has also arranged road safety displays and seat belt demonstrations. The Mobile Exhibition has visited 35 sites.

**DRINK AND DRIVING (Road Traffic Act 1972)**

|  | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>At Roadside</b>                               |             |             |             |
| Number of requirements made<br>for breath tests  | 6,095       | 6,141       | 6,500       |
| Number failed or refused                         | 342         | 404         | 466         |
| Number proved positive                           | 1,846       | 1,887       | 1,798       |
| Number arrested on impairment                    | 85          | 82          | 116         |
| <b>At Police Stations</b>                        |             |             |             |
| Number of requirements made<br>for breath tests  | 2,232       | 2,334       | 2,341       |
| Number failed or refused                         | 201         | 269         | 271         |
| Number proved positive                           | 1,807       | 1,839       | 1,831       |
| <b>Laboratory Analysis</b>                       |             |             |             |
| Number of blood/<br>urine cases proving positive | 1,436       | 1,555       | 1,569       |

**FIXED PENALTY TICKETS**

|                             | <u>1979</u>  | <u>1980</u>  | <u>1981</u>  |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total tickets issued        | 61,481       | 63,449       | 61,962       |
| Penalties paid              | 33,815 (55%) | 39,272 (62%) | 35,952 (58%) |
| 'No further action'<br>etc. | 12,281 (20%) | 12,650 (20%) | 12,463 (20%) |
| Process issued              | 3,020 (5%)   | 3,236 (5%)   | 2,694 (4%)   |
| Outstanding at<br>31-12-81  | 12,365 (20%) | 8,291 (13%)  | 10,853 (18%) |

**TRAFFIC PATROLS**

Traffic Division is commanded by a Chief Superintendent with a Superintendent responsible for administration and another for operations. There are five Traffic Sub-Divisions, each commanded by a Chief Inspector, with a total establishment of 6 Inspectors, 29 Sergeants and 216 Constables.

The main objectives of the Traffic Division are, firstly, to help prevent road accidents by ensuring compliance with legislation designed to achieve safety and, secondly, to deal with accidents. Police officers engaged on traffic patrol duty must be able to deal with increasingly complex legislation. This is achieved by Traffic Patrol Courses in the first instance and then more specialised courses such as Accident Investigation (where the cause of accidents is largely reconstructed mathematically) and Tachograph Calibration Courses.

Enforcement and increased activity does not necessarily involve more prosecutions, as many traffic offences are adequately dealt with by advice or warning, either by the patrolling officer at the time or later by written or verbal caution. A new warning and verbal caution system will increase the instances where minor offences are dealt with on the spot. The number of prosecutions for careless driving after involvement in road accidents continues to reduce as it is considered that the negligent driver is often aware of his fault and has already learned by experience. Blatant disregard of Traffic Laws will continue to be investigated and prosecuted, especially where innocent road users suffer. In the more serious cases, accident investigation techniques will be used to determine whether a particular accident justifies prosecution.

Some areas of investigation are the responsibility of other authorities, so traffic patrol officers continue to liaise with officers of the Consumer Protection Department, the Department of Transport, Customs and Excise and the Post Office Telecommunications Department. Assistance was given at 323

checks organised by these bodies, in addition to which they were represented at a number of checks organised by Traffic Sub Divisions on principal roads.

The main objective of these checks is to control the continuing contravention of traffic laws and serious crime involving vast sums of money in relation to heavy goods vehicles.

Traffic patrol personnel, although normally engaged in road traffic matters, involve themselves in other aspects of police work. They have been responsible for many arrests for theft, burglary and assault and have dealt with public order incidents.

It is known that about 25% of serious traffic offenders have a criminal record or criminal involvement. Intelligence collected about the use of heavy goods vehicles has resulted in an increasing number of vehicle licensing and control offences being detected. Stolen vehicles and trailers, as well as stolen and forged vehicle documents have been recovered. An officer at Police Headquarters maintains a comprehensive record of this work. The information has proved useful in assisting the Traffic Division as well as CID and other Forces. Considerable emphasis is placed upon liaison between the Traffic Division and other departments of the Force in an effort to combat crime.

A number of 'Open Evenings' have again been organised at Force H.Q. when riders and drivers have been invited to attend lectures, films and demonstrations about matters related to road safety, during which they have discussed aspects of driver behaviour. Officers have also attended schools, clubs and commercial organisations to talk about these subjects. These lectures and demonstrations are well received.

Escorts were provided when members of the Royal Family visited the Force area. Assistance was given also at cycle races and time trials and to convoys - usually of taxis - conveying disabled or deprived children to coastal resorts. Statutory notification of high value and abnormal indivisible loads increased during the year and escorts were provided.

The Fog Patrol System was again implemented when visibility was severely reduced at rush hour times on the A12 and A127 trunk roads. No multiple accidents have occurred in these conditions on either road or the M11 motorway.

Until recently, with the exception of the M11 motorway, traffic patrols finished duty at 2am; the patrols now cover 24 hours.

Construction work on the M11/M25 interchange at Theydon Bois and the remainder of the M25 in the Essex Police District is well under way. When completed the motorway will be the responsibility of the Laindon Traffic Sub-Division. It is anticipated that it will become one of the busiest urban motorways in Europe and will also increase usage of the M11 motorway. Additional police strength to deal with the new motorway commitment has been approved by the Police Committee.

### POLICE MOTOR VEHICLES

The total fleet will be 580 vehicles on 31st March 1982.

- 60 Traffic Patrol Cars
- 30 Traffic Patrol Motor Cycles
- 5 Traffic Patrol Accident Tenders
- 1 Traffic Patrol Land Rover
- 4 Traffic Patrol Range Rovers
- 24 Driving School Cars
- 19 Driving School Motor Cycles
- 1 Driving School Personnel Carrier
- 1 Driving School Van
- 68 CID Cars (includes 14 Regional Crime Squad Cars)
- 5 CID Vans (includes 1 Regional Crime Squad van)
- 1 CID Motor Cycle
- 24 Scenes of Crime Vans
- 16 Dog Vans
- 52 Area Patrol Cars
- 36 Personnel Carriers (includes 1 coach)
- 144 General Duty Cars (includes Beat Cars)
- 8 General Duty Vans (includes Beat Vans)
- 47 Unit Beat Policing Cars
- 34 Miscellaneous Vehicles, includes:
  - 1 Removal Van
  - 1 Heavy Recovery Vehicle
  - 5 Workshops Vans
  - 5 Support Unit Vehicles
  - 1 Mobile Kitchen
  - 1 Home Defence Car
  - 1 Command Vehicle
  - 1 Mobile Workshop
  - 2 Recovery Land Rovers
  - 8 Divisional Goods Vans
  - 1 Firearms Unit Van
  - 1 Canteen Van
  - 1 Underwater Search Unit Van
  - 2 Road Safety Vehicles
  - 2 Force Training School Vehicles
  - 1 Horse-box

### VEHICLE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

The central workshops at Force Headquarters provide facilities for the repair and servicing of all vehicles in the Force Fleet. In addition to repairs and maintenance, the Garage staff design and instal interior fittings in dog vans, scenes of crime vans and other specialist vehicles such as the new communications vehicle.

Supporting the central workshop, there are four district garages which carry out routine servicing. During the year, exhaust gas analysing equipment was installed at all of the garages, which enables carburettors to be set to the correct mixture, thereby saving fuel. On the Ford Cortina model, a saving in fuel of 11% was achieved.

During 1981, 27 police vehicles were criminally damaged, other than in road accidents. These included dented panels, broken windows, bent and broken aerials and one vehicle which was turned over whilst unattended. Where possible the offenders were prosecuted for criminal damage and compensation claimed.

The fleet mileage was:-

|  | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | 11,443,860  | 12,163,979  | 12,626,392  |
|  | -4.4%       | +6.3%       | +3.8%       |

### TRAFFIC WARDENS

During the year, 15 Traffic Wardens resigned and 19 were recruited, making the total strength 109 at 31st December 1981.

In addition to the Induction Course which all newly appointed Traffic Wardens attend, Refresher Courses are now held for those with 12 months service. Thereafter, training is arranged every two years. These non-residential 4 day courses have proved most successful.

### SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL SERVICE

This is administered by the Police on behalf of the Essex County Council. During 1981, 2 patrol sites were withdrawn and 1 new site approved, bringing the total to 318. There continues to be a high turnover of staff, 50 patrols resigning in 1981. Four posts remained vacant at 31st December 1981.

## CHAPTER III

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE FORCE

Force Establishment, Strength and Seconded Personnel

Civilian Staff

Housing

Force Planning and Communications

Research and Inspector

Firearms and Shotguns

Annual Inspection

Public Relations

Catering Services

**FORCE ESTABLISHMENT, STRENGTH AND SECONDED PERSONNEL**

The Police Establishment of the Force at 31st December 1981 was 2633 and the strength (excluding seconded personnel) was 2612.

|                           | <u>Authorised<br/>Establishment</u> | <u>Effective<br/>Strength</u> | <u>Seconded<br/>personnel</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chief Constable           | 1                                   | 1                             |                               |
| Deputy Chief Constable    | 1                                   | 1                             |                               |
| Assistant Chief Constable | 3                                   | 3                             |                               |
| Chief Superintendent      | 11                                  | 11                            | 2                             |
| Superintendent            | 28                                  | 29                            | 2                             |
| Chief Inspector           | 59                                  | 58                            | 3                             |
| Inspector                 | 117                                 | 118                           | 11                            |
| Sergeant                  | 425                                 | 413                           | 18                            |
| Constable                 | 1988                                | 1978                          | 14                            |
| <b>TOTALS</b>             | <u>2633</u>                         | <u>2612</u>                   | <u>50</u>                     |

The secondments from the Force were as follows:

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| Regional Crime Squad | 26 |
| Central Services     | 15 |
| Universities         | 7  |
| Papua New Guinea     | 1  |
| Elsewhere            | 1  |

Application has been made by the Police Committee to the Secretary of State for his approval to an increase in Establishment of 45 to 2,678.

**CIVILIAN STAFF**

The Authorised Establishment for Civilian Staff, and the number actually in post on 31st December were:-

|                    | <u>Establishment</u> |             | <u>Strength</u> |             |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
|                    | <u>1980</u>          | <u>1981</u> | <u>1980</u>     | <u>1981</u> |
| Traffic Wardens    | 176                  | 176         | 105             | 109         |
| Cadets             | 140                  | 140         | 15              | 14          |
| Others (Full-Time) | 805                  | 805         | 624             | 638         |
| Others (Part-Time) | 103                  | 103         | 169             | 165         |

The turnover of civilian staff in 1981 was 157 engaged and 143 left, of whom 64 and 69 respectively were manual employees. 24 out of the 51 people who retired did so as a result of the policy adopted this year requiring all staff to retire on reaching the age of 65 years. During the year 3 Civilians died in service, and 6 were retired on medical grounds.

Eleven civilians were promoted to fill vacancies created by resignations and retirements; 41 employees had the salary bar removed, and 20 posts were regraded.

During the year 72 civilian employees have been involved in injuries on duty, resulting in a loss of 208 working days. Most injuries were of a minor nature, with only 10 necessitating more than 7 days absence from work.

#### HOUSING

|   | <u>1979</u>  | <u>1980</u>  | <u>1981</u> |
|---|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Owner Occupiers   |              |              |             |
| New applications to purchase  | 135          | 120          | 162         |
| In occupation   | 1,241        | 1,525        | 1,608       |
| Permission given but not yet taken up                                     | 89           | 85           | 22          |
| Applications deferred   | 2            | 3            | 2           |
| Houses Declared Surplus   |              |              |             |
| County owned - police occupied  | 13           | 7            | 42          |
| County rented - police occupied   | 3            | 1            | 1           |
| Houses Built  | (2 bought)-  | -            | -           |
| Status at year end of houses for police purposes                          |              |              |             |
| County owned pre-war  | 92           | 92           | 88          |
| County owned post-war   | 927          | 918          | 880         |
|   | <u>1,019</u> | <u>1,010</u> | <u>968</u>  |
| Less houses on short term lease to other Committees of the County Council | 329          | 287          | 264         |
|   | <u>690</u>   | <u>723</u>   | <u>704</u>  |
| County Hired  | 10           | 9            | 8           |
|   | <u>700</u>   | <u>732</u>   | <u>712</u>  |

Officers' interest in purchasing their own houses shows a revival this year. 42 Police houses have been declared surplus to requirements and where these have been sold, the proceeds of the sales have been used to modernise other houses which are to be retained. Sixty-five houses have been modernised in 1981.

#### FORCE PLANNING AND COMMUNICATIONS

The department is staffed by a Superintendent, Chief Inspector, Inspector, Sergeant, 2 Constables and one civilian clerk.

The department is responsible for the purchase and maintenance of all communications equipment, reviewing procedures within the Force to effect economies and to improve efficiency and progressing capital building projects in conjunction with the Home Office, County Architect and Clerk to the Police Authority.

During the year, alterations to the kitchen/dining area and construction of a women's toilet at Basildon Police Station have been completed. The construction of a two storey extension to contain a Prosecutions Office and typing centre was started in November and is due for completion in September, 1982.

Conversion of the old Shoebury Council offices commenced in November. When completed, the building will house the Shoebury Section and the present Police Station will be sold.

The Planning Department has been involved in a number of research projects including computerisation of the records of the Magistrates' Courts of Southend and Rochford. This will result in a more efficient system of application for summonses and checking of court appearances.

A working party chaired by the Chief Inspector, Planning, has been set up to examine all aspects of property coming into Police possession.

Under the Force Suggestion Scheme, 37 items have been submitted covering a wide range of subjects.

#### TELEPHONES

Due to the survey of equipment last year and continued monitoring since then, rebates totalling £10,500 have been received from British Telecom. A further estimated £3,000 is expected.

To assist management in assessing the cost effectiveness of the network, logging equipment has been used at Colchester and Headquarters. This has revealed areas where improvements and economies can be made.

Automatic exchanges have been provided at Stanway and Laindon Traffic, Wickford and Harwich Police Stations. A lower capacity P.A.B.X. has been installed at Brentwood which is less costly.

**PRIVATE CIRCUITS**

New circuits have been provided from Harlow to Dunmow and the Newport Motorway Post.

A circuit from Headquarters to Braintree has been ordered and is expected to be operational early in 1982.

To cater for emergency incidents at Stansted Airport, a direct line has been provided from Stansted Police Station to the Information Room at Police Headquarters.

**U.H.F. RADIO:**

A repeater unit has been installed at Dunmow Police Station to provide a UHF/VHF link between patrolling Officers and Headquarters Information Room. This enables Officers on foot patrol to be in radio contact even when a Station is unmanned. Following the successful operation of this scheme and another at Ongar it is hoped to equip some other larger rural Stations, which are not continually manned, in the same way.

Police UHF personal radio schemes were introduced into this Force in 1968. Since that time several locations of the radio base stations have become unsuitable. In 1981, 20% of the base stations have been re-located. This has facilitated easier access, better servicing and improved reception on those schemes.

**V.H.F. RADIO:**

Work carried out at the V.H.F. radio site at Swards End, near Saffron Walden has improved radio reception on the northern part of the M11 motorway. V.H.F. radio coverage of the Dengie Peninsula has also been improved.

The majority of rural beat vehicles have now been fitted with VHF/UHF repeaters and it is hoped to fit the remainder during 1982. This enables Officers to remain in contact with Headquarters Information Room when they are away from their vehicles, thereby providing better utilisation of limited rural resources.

**INFORMATION ROOM**

Overall use of the Police National Computer decreased slightly in 1981 (-0.3%), although there were substantial changes in the types of transaction recorded. Greater use of the visual display units was countered by a decrease in the number of data printer transactions due to a different system of recording and installation of a fast printer.

Visits to the Information Room are included in all training courses to encourage greater use of the Police National Computer.

During the year, the Command Room was used on several occasions, particularly during the period of civil disturbances and as a 'road condition/weather centre' in December.

Interest in the Information Room complex continues and more than 150 visits by various groups have been recorded.

|   | <u>NO. OF ACTIONS</u> |                | <u>VARIATION</u> |          |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|----------|
|   |                       |                | <u>No.</u>       | <u>%</u> |
| <b>Total Message Traffic</b><br>(excluding radio)                           | 1977                  | 624,558        | + 38,080         | + 6.5    |
|   | 1978                  | 901,261        | + 276,703        | + 44.3   |
|   | 1979                  | 922,691        | + 21,430         | + 2.4    |
|   | 1980                  | 912,272        | - 10,419         | - 1.1    |
|   | 1981                  | 901,322        | - 10,950         | - 1.2    |
| <b>Teleprinter Messages 1981</b>  |                       |                |                  |          |
| Incoming  |                       | 59,130         | + 320            | + 0.5    |
| Outgoing  |                       | 26,330         | - 2,141          | - 7.5    |
| <b>Police National Computer</b>   |                       |                |                  |          |
| Visual Display Units  | 1977                  | 370,266        | + 144,528        | + 64.0   |
|   | 1978                  | 619,043        | + 248,777        | + 67.2   |
|   | 1979                  | 615,088        | - 3,955          | - 0.6    |
|   | 1980                  | 563,408        | - 51,680         | - 8.4    |
|   | 1981                  | 596,314        | + 32,906         | + 5.8    |
| Data Printers   | 1977                  | 40,968         | + 11,729         | + 40.1   |
|   | 1978                  | 98,083         | + 57,115         | + 139.4  |
|   | 1979                  | 122,161        | + 24,078         | + 24.5   |
|   | 1980                  | 153,154        | + 30,993         | + 25.4   |
|   | 1981                  | 117,831        | - 35,323         | - 23.1   |
| <b>Emergency 999 Calls</b><br>(Including Motorway -<br>Figures in Brackets) |                       |                |                  |          |
|   | 1977                  | 54,977 (2,700) | + 2,700          | + 5.2    |
|   | 1978                  | 54,237 (3,015) | - 740            | - 1.4    |
|   | 1979                  | 58,792 (3,430) | + 4,555          | + 8.4    |
|   | 1980                  | 60,752 (6,644) | + 1,960          | + 3.3    |
|   | 1981                  | 63,285 (7,388) | + 2,533          | + 4.2    |

**RESEARCH AND INSPECTION**

Following the riots elsewhere in the country, the Research and Inspection staff (1 Superintendent and 1 Inspector) carried out research into the effect of petrol burning on Essex Police uniform and equipment.

The tests showed the uniform was able to withstand a moderate level of burning because of its full wool content. Nylon and synthetic based materials used in some showerproof garments, shirts and underwear proved to be totally unsuitable.

A video recording of the experiments has been made for instructional purposes and to assist future planning. Research carried out in conjunction with the Police Scientific Development Branch and the Ministry of Defence has resulted in a police riot helmet, face protection and an ankle/shin guard being designed and produced.

A Performance Improvement Team has been established to examine and evaluate all aspects of general policing with the aim of optimising use of resources and overall efficiency throughout the Force. During the year, two territorial divisions and eight sub-divisions together with five traffic sub-divisions have been inspected.

The Department has carried out research into the comparative levels of, and possible reasons for, acquittals at Crown Courts and non-convictions at Magistrates Courts. It has also provided assistance to the Home Office Research Unit in their Community Policing Project. A review of manning levels to get more officers into operational positions is continuing, as is a major project on the present and future functions of the Force Computer.

**FIREARMS AND SHOTGUNS**

| <b>Current Certificate Holders</b>  | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Firearm                             | 4955        | 5000        | 4978        |
| Shotgun                             | 25,954      | 26,378      | 26,653      |
| <b>New Certificates Granted</b>     |             |             |             |
| Firearm                             | 414         | 500         | 414         |
| Shotgun                             | 2065        | 2105        | 2046        |
| <b>Certificate Renewals Refused</b> |             |             |             |
| Firearm                             | 4           | 6           | 17          |
| Shotgun                             | 4           | 17          | 11          |
| <b>Certificates Cancelled</b>       |             |             |             |
| Firearm                             | 362         | 455         | 419         |
| Shotgun                             | 1594        | 1681        | 1871        |

**ANNUAL INSPECTION**

Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary R.S. BARRATT, Esq. C.B.E., QPM., inspected the Force from 17th to 20th November 1981. He visited Headquarters, Clacton, Rayleigh, Basildon and Harlow Divisions and Stanway Traffic Sub-Division.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

In 1981 the Press and Public Relations Office was transferred to the Force Operations Department. It is available for media enquiries for 16 hours each working day thereby extending the centralised response to press, radio and television. The media have responded most favourably to this initiative and the number of police/media contacts has multiplied significantly. Media reaction to major incidents has been excellent, giving massive coverage when public assistance has been required.

New procedures are being introduced to reinforce Press Relations policy and to ensure the continued quality of police/media contact.

A local radio station has provided a completely new media outlet since September, of which this force has made full use - including daily morning traffic broadcasts and weekly crime bulletins.

Over 500 visits were made by groups to police stations and to Force Headquarters. This resulted in more than two thousand people seeing the police at work. Over 1,200 talks were also given to outside organisations.

There have been no problems affecting minority or ethnic groups and there has been a very positive response, from informed sources, to the initiative of our Community Services Branch.

**CATERING SERVICES**

Police canteens cater for resident and visiting police officers and staff at Force Headquarters, Chelmsford, Southend and Harlow. A Central Canteen Committee, on which the County Treasurer is represented, formulates policy and monitors Income and Expenditure Accounts. Each canteen has its own Local Committee which handles the day to day running of its services.

The Force Training School Canteen has been re-opened for more than a year and has successfully eased the congestion in the Headquarters Canteen.

New kitchens and canteens are being installed at Basildon and Colchester Divisional Headquarters.

The large mobile canteen has proved once again to be a great asset and has been used on numerous occasions during the year.

CHAPTER IV

PERSONNEL AND TRAINING

- Recruitment
- Retirements and Wastage
- Firearms Training
- First Aid Training
- Traffic Management Courses
- Aircraft Accident Procedure
- Detective Training
- Probationer Constable Training
- Home Defence
- Training of Special Constables
- Courses for Policewomen
- Civilian Staff Training
- Force Training
- Driving School Courses
- Officers Studying in their own time
- Promotions
- Police Promotion Examinations
- Police College and Higher Training
- Police Training Centres
- Cadet Corps

RECRUITMENT

|                                   | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Applications                      |             |             |             |
| pending 1 January                 | 80          | 132         | 147         |
| Application forms issued          | 1,979       | 2,233       | 1,117       |
| Forms not returned                | 1,199       | 1,368       | 582         |
| Forms returned                    | 780         | 865         | 535         |
| Failed to reach required standard | 112         | 568         | 292         |
| Pending at 31 December            | 132         | 147         | 156         |
| Called for interview              | 382         | 282         | 101         |
| Rejected by Police Surgeon        | 5           | 4           | 3           |
| Rejected by Selection Board       | 64          | 58          | 16          |
| Withdrawn after acceptance        | 22          | 10          | 5           |
| Selected for appointment          | 291         | 210         | 77 *        |

\* 15 accepted for appointment in 1982.

Breakdown of those appointed in 1981

|                             | <u>Men</u> | <u>Women</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Direct Entrant              | 70         | 14           |
| Transfers from other Forces | 3          | -            |
| Transfer on promotion       | -          | -            |
| Re-instatements             | 2          | -            |
| Force Cadets                | 6          | 3            |
| <b>Totals</b>               | <u>81</u>  | <u>17</u>    |

The average ages of appointees in 1981 were 23.65 (men) and 20.29 years (women).

52.86% of the men and 7.14% of the women were married.

|                                    | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Recruits with GCE 'A' level passes | 26          | 26          | 20          |
| Recruits with GCE 'O' level passes | 135         | 96          | 42          |

**RETIREMENTS AND WASTAGE**

|  | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Retirement on Pension                              | 47          | 36          | 39          |
| Voluntary Resignations without Pension or Gratuity |             |             |             |
| (a) Probationary Constables*                       | 61          | 32          | 24          |
| (b) Constables with over 2yrs service              | 19          | 21          | 22          |
| Transferred to other Forces                        | 8           | 6           | 3           |
| Required to Resign                                 | -           | -           | 1           |
| Dismissed  | 3           | 1           | 1           |
| Died   | 2           | 3           | 1           |
| Discharged under PR 16                             | -           | -           | -           |
| Pensioned on Medical Certificate                   | 4           | 8           | 6           |
| <b>Totals</b>                                      | <u>144</u>  | <u>107</u>  | <u>97</u>   |

As percentage of strength at beginning of year                    5.9                    4.2                    3.7

\* Includes probationary officers who resigned as an alternative to dismissal under PR 16                    5                    5                    1

**FIREARMS TRAINING**

The Firearms Training Section has continued to provide a high standard of instruction. There are 302 permit holders undergoing regular refresher and requalification training and five basic courses have been held.

The training has covered all foreseeable events including criminal and terrorist incidents with different training grounds providing as much experience and variation as possible.

The training inspector and a sergeant attended the first National Seminar of Firearms Instructors at Exeter in September.

**FIRST AID TRAINING**

The recommendations of the Working Party chaired by the County Director of the St. John Ambulance Association for Essex led to formalised training arrangements within the Force. The Force Training School will assume responsibility for overseeing training, which will continue on Divisions.

The Men's competition team has been active both nationally and locally. This year the Force again won the Hertfordshire Open Competition. A Cadet team has been formed and is competing nationally, as is the Womens' team. Initial and Refresher Courses for Cadets, Special Constables, and Traffic Wardens now include instruction in First Aid.

The Chief Warden's Cup was won by Headquarters Division.

Mr. T.N. STOTT, a civilian Process Server at Southend was admitted to the Order of St. John as a Serving Brother.

**TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COURSES**

During 1981, 2 Senior Officers from the Traffic Division attended the No. 5 Regional Traffic Management Course at Hampshire Constabulary Headquarters, Winchester.

**AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT PROCEDURE**

The Civil Aviation Authority Fire Service Training School moved from Stansted Airport to Teesside Airport in August. During 1981, a total of twenty senior officers attended the above venues for specialised training in aircraft crash drill procedures.

**DETECTIVE TRAINING**

Detective Officers from this Force attended Regional Training Centres at Birmingham, Maidstone, Preston and Wakefield.

Thirty five officers attended Initial Detective Training Courses; twenty one officers undertook Advanced Detective and refresher training. Thirteen other officers attended the following specialised training courses: Drugs Courses, Fraud Investigation Courses, Stolen Motor Vehicle Investigation Courses.

**PROBATIONER CONSTABLE TRAINING**

With regard to recent governmental enquiries, the training of Probationer Constables is under review in order to increase the quality of instruction in the development of inter-personal skills in relation both to cultural minorities and to the general public.

Following the closure in May 1981 of Eynsham Hall, Oxfordshire, recruits now receive initial training at the Police Training Centre, Ashford, Kent, the Commandant being a Chief Superintendent from the Essex Force.

**HOME DEFENCE**

Two day Home Defence Refresher Courses for Constables and Sergeants continue to be held at the Force Training School. These ensure that the latest information is available to all ranks.

A Regional Home Defence Instructors Course was held in February 1981 and this was attended by officers from a number of Police Forces within the Region.

An Inspector attended the National Police War Duties Course at the Home Defence Staff College and two Sergeants attended a Regional War Duties Course. Senior ranks continue to attend courses held at Cambridge and Easingwold.

**TRAINING OF SPECIAL CONSTABLES**

Since February, training for the Special Constabulary has included a one day Induction Course, and a Phase I (Continuation) course of two hours per month for 9 months, at the end of which there is an examination. Phase II includes one evening of two hours per month for 2 years, with examinations every six months and a final examination and practical test.

Special Constables who have attended Phases I and II regularly, and pass all examinations, are then invited to attend Phase III. This is a residential weekend course during which considerable time is given to syndicated exercises.

**COURSES FOR POLICEWOMEN**

Each year, a number of 1 week courses are held at the Force Training School for Policewomen from Essex, Hertfordshire and the City of London.

All are probationers and they are given specialist training in dealing with reports of sexual offences, including rape and indecency.

Theoretical and practical instruction covers the law, statement taking, interviewing victims and interrogation of suspects.

**CIVILIAN STAFF TRAINING**

In the past year, 13 civilians commenced courses on a day release basis to improve their skills and knowledge. In addition, 2 apprentice Motor Vehicle Fitters started the four year City and Guilds Course as part of their apprenticeship. Most training for the more specialised fields, such as communications officers, fingerprint searchers and staff involved with the new Univac computer is done in-house. Where a higher level of training is thought to be of benefit to an employee, full use is made of facilities offered by manufacturers, technical colleges and other Forces.

During 1981, three one day Induction Courses were held for new civilian staff and included an introduction to the objectives of Essex Police, rank structure, conditions of service and a tour of H.Q. departments. These courses have proved to be of great benefit.

**FORCE TRAINING**

| Type of Course                     | No. held | Essex |    | Other Students |    | Total |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|----|----------------|----|-------|
|                                    |          | M     | W  | M              | W  |       |
| Potential Student Instructors (2)  | 1        | 7     | 2  | -              | -  | 9     |
| Inspectors Preparatory (5)         | 1        | 5     | -  | 3              | -  | 8     |
| Sergeants Refresher (1)            | 8        | 99    | 4  | -              | -  | 103   |
| Sergeants Preparatory (3)          | 5        | 42    | 1  | 16             | 1  | 60    |
| Sergeants Pre-Promotion (2)        | 1        | 14    | 1  | -              | -  | 15    |
| Constables Pre-Promotion (2)       | 1        | 36    | 4  | -              | -  | 40    |
| Constables Refresher (1)           | 23       | 291   | 42 | -              | -  | 333   |
| Probationer Training Stage I (2)   | 6        | 64    | 20 | -              | -  | 84    |
| Probationer Training Stage II (1)  | 11       | 130   | 36 | -              | -  | 166   |
| Probationer Training Stage III (1) | 13       | 161   | 36 | -              | -  | 197   |
| C.I.D. Selection (3)               | 3        | 39    | 5  | -              | -  | 44    |
| Dealing with Women & Children (1)  | 9        | -     | 33 | -              | 35 | 68    |
| Recruits Induction (1)             | 8        | 71    | 21 | -              | -  | 92    |
| Recruits Local Procedure (1)       | 8        | 64    | 16 | -              | -  | 80    |
| Teleprinter Training (2)           | 15       | 60    | 25 | 16             | 18 | 119   |
| First Aid Lay Refresher (4 days)   | 6        | 52    | -  | -              | -  | 52    |
| First Aid Competition (1)          | 1        | 20    | -  | -              | -  | 20    |
| Pre-Retirement (3 days)            | 2        | 27    | -  | -              | -  | 27    |
| C.S.B. Beat Officers (1)           | 2        | 10    | 2  | -              | -  | 12    |
| C.S.B. Seminars (1 day)            | 4        | 48    | -  | -              | -  | 48    |
| Surveillance (1)                   | 2        | 30    | -  | 2              | -  | 32    |
| Cadets Refresher (1)               | 1        | 7     | 2  | -              | -  | 9     |
| Cadets Induction (4)               | 1        | 4     | 6  | -              | -  | 10    |
| Traffic Wardens Induction (1)      | 2        | 11    | 7  | -              | -  | 18    |
| Traffic Wardens Refresher (4 days) | 4        | 23    | 20 | -              | -  | 43    |
| Firearms (1 day)                   | 5        | 51    | 1  | 3              | -  | 55    |
| Crowd Control (1 day)              | 10       | 411   | -  | -              | -  | 411   |
| Home Defence (2 days)              | 39       | 514   | 31 | -              | -  | 545   |
| Staff Appraisal (1 day)            | 2        | 170   | -  | -              | -  | 170   |
| Inspectors Management (2)          | 3        | 35    | 1  | -              | -  | 36    |
| Incident Office (2 days)           | 4        | 26    | 15 | 4              | 1  | 46    |
| Police Vocational Course (8 days)  | 1        | 10    | 6  | -              | -  | 16    |
| Sergeants Seminar (1 day)          | 1        | 28    | 1  | -              | -  | 29    |
| Neighbourhood Beat Officer (1 day) | 7        | 15    | -  | -              | -  | 15    |
| Civilian Induction (1 day)         | 2        | 7     | 15 | -              | -  | 22    |
| Regional War Duties (2)            | 1        | 2     | -  | 10             | -  | 12    |

(Duration of course shown in brackets - weeks, unless stated otherwise)

|                                  |             |             |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| The number of student weeks was: | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|                                  | 2,929       | 3,046       | 3,067       |

**DRIVING SCHOOL COURSES**

| Student Training Programme                   | Number of Courses | Number of Students | Student Weeks |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>Cars</b>                                  |                   |                    |               |
| Instructors                                  | 5                 | 18                 | 108           |
| Advanced Refresher                           | 9                 | 104                | 208           |
| Advanced                                     | 13                | 163                | 652           |
| Standard Refresher                           | 7                 | 89                 | 178           |
| Standard                                     | 8                 | 132                | 660           |
| Standard (Customs & Excise)<br>(Three Weeks) | 7                 | 21                 | 63            |
| Standard (Elementary)                        | 6                 | 32                 | 160           |
| <b>Motor Cycles</b>                          |                   |                    |               |
| Instructors                                  | 1                 | 2                  | 12            |
| Advanced Refresher                           | 5                 | 12                 | 24            |
| Advanced                                     | 4                 | 18                 | 54            |
| Standard Refresher                           | 1                 | 2                  | 4             |
| Standard                                     | 2                 | 5                  | 15            |
| <b>Traffic Law</b>                           |                   |                    |               |
| Traffic Patrol Refresher                     | 2                 | 30                 | 60            |
| Traffic Patrol                               | 5                 | 76                 | 380           |
| Advanced Traffic Patrol<br>(City and Guilds) | 1                 | 15                 | 45            |
| <b>Others</b>                                |                   |                    |               |
| Tachograph Calibration                       | 1                 | 14                 | 4             |
| H.G.V. Class I & II                          | 3                 | 5                  | 10            |
| Accident Investigation                       | 1                 | 16                 | 32            |
| Vascar                                       | 10                | 28                 | -             |
| Weighing of vehicles                         | 2                 | 25                 | 7             |
| <b>Grand Total in</b>                        |                   |                    |               |
| 1981   | 93                | 807                | 2,676         |
| 1980   | 80                | 787                | 2,497         |
| 1979   | 77                | 792                | 2,532         |
| 1978   | 76                | 706                | 2,485         |
| 1977   | 67                | 690                | 2,382         |

106 Tests, not associated with courses of instruction, were conducted for various driving and riding permits; 27 of the officers failed to reach a satisfactory standard. In addition, 12 H.G.V. Class III and 5 H.G.V. Class I tests were carried out resulting in 17 passes. 725 routine Eyesight Tests were given to holders of driving permits.

**OFFICERS STUDYING IN THEIR OWN TIME**

Officers are encouraged to study in their own time in order to improve their academic qualifications. In some cases financial assistance is provided. In the nine years since the Scheme began, 217 officers have benefited from the financial assistance offered. Currently 52 officers are engaged on a variety of courses ranging from those offered by the Open University to G.C.E. 'O' levels in a number of different subjects. The increase during the year has been caused by the introduction of the Higher National Certificate in Police Studies which has attracted 18 officers.

**PROMOTIONS**

During 1981 the following promotions were made:-

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Constable to Sergeant                  | 33        |
| Sergeant to Inspector                  | 15        |
| Inspector to Chief Inspector           | 9         |
| Chief Inspector to Superintendent      | 9         |
| Superintendent to Chief Superintendent | 4         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                           | <b>70</b> |

**POLICE PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS**

| Constable to Sergeant | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| Held in November      |      |      |      |
| Sat                   | 399  | 317  | 403  |
| Passed                | 66   | 52   | 67   |
| Percentage of passes  | 16.5 | 16.4 | 16.6 |

| To Inspector         | 1979 |      | 1980 |      | 1981 |      |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                      | Sgts | Pcs  | Sgts | Pcs  | Sgts | Pcs  |
| Held in April        |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Sat                  | 58   | 40   | 48   | 41   | 47   | 46   |
| Passed               | 18   | 6    | 30   | 13   | 26   | 7    |
| Percentage of passes | 31.0 | 15.0 | 62.5 | 31.7 | 55.3 | 15.2 |

To prepare officers for the promotion examinations, pre-examination residential courses were arranged. All students for these courses were selected by means of an eliminating test. Courses were arranged in preparation for both the Sergeants and Constables examinations as recorded below:-

|                      | 1979 |      | 1980 |       | 1981 |       |
|----------------------|------|------|------|-------|------|-------|
|                      | Sgts | Pcs  | Sgts | Pcs   | Sgts | Pcs   |
| Attended course      | 16   | 45   | 27   | 35    | 29   | 40    |
| Passed examination   | 8    | 38 * | 20   | 34 ** | 20   | 35 ** |
| Percentage of passes | 50.0 | 84.5 | 74.1 | 97.1  | 69.0 | 87.5  |

\* 12 in the first 200 for Country.

\*\* 7 in the first 200 for Country.

**POLICE COLLEGE AND HIGHER TRAINING**

During 1981, courses at the Police College, Bramshill were attended as shown:-

|                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Junior Command Course       | 5 Inspectors           |
| Intermediate Command Course | 3 Superintendents      |
| Senior Command Course       | 1 Chief Superintendent |

University degree courses attended during 1981 were:-

|                               |              |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Course successfully completed | 3 Inspectors | )BA, Policy making & Admin<br>)BA, Govt. & Sociology<br>)BA, Economics |
| Second year completed         | 2 Inspectors |  |
| First year completed          | 3 Inspectors |  |
| First year commenced          | 2 Inspectors |  |

**POLICE TRAINING CENTRES**

The following number of officers attended District Police Training Centres in 1981:

|              | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Initial      | 55          | 14            |
| Continuation | 166         | 32            |

**CADET CORPS**

The Cadet Corps intake for the year 1981/82 is six females and four males, thus bringing the present strength to a total of fifteen cadets.

Twenty cadets have joined the regular Police since the re-formation of the Cadet Corps in 1979. The cadets live at home and work at nearby police stations.

In the field of Community Service the cadets have assisted at local hospitals and with severely handicapped persons of all ages; all cadets have obtained First Aid certificates.

All senior cadets have passed the examination for the Royal Life Saving Society bronze medallion and the the new intake is being trained for this award.

**CHAPTER V  
OPERATIONS**

**Police Dog Unit**

**Mounted Section**

**Marine Unit**

**Force Support Unit**

**Licensing**

**Special Constabulary**

**Royal Visits**

**Flood Warning System**

**Community Services Branch**

**Victims Support Schemes**

**Process Servers**

#### **POLICE DOG UNIT**

The Unit consists of 1 Inspector, 5 Sergeants and 30 Constables with 37 dogs including 2 which have been trained to search for explosives and one for drugs. All training is carried out within the Force. During the year, 10 replacement dogs were trained and others were given refresher and continuation training.

The Unit attended 6,573 incidents; 547 arrests were made and assistance given with 438 other arrests; 47 missing persons were found (including 4 unconscious due to drug overdoses) and at 182 incidents property was found.

In addition to its patrol response commitments, the Unit has been engaged in a number of public order and security operations.

Several groups have visited the Section at Sandon and officers frequently give talks to various organisations throughout the county.

#### **MOUNTED SECTION**

The section, comprising two horses and two officers, maintains a daily patrol. During the summer, they patrol the seafront area and, when required, assist with crowd control. The two existing horses are to be replaced and an additional horse purchased.

#### **MARINE UNIT**

The launch 'Vigilant III' operates on the lower and sea reaches of the River Thames; launches 'Alert' and 'Watchful' continue to police the navigable waters of the Rivers Crouch, Blackwater and Colne.

A new Lochin B3 launch, 'Alert III', came into operation during December to replace 'Alert II'. It has an enhanced sea-going capability and will increase the operational flexibility of the Marine Section.

#### **UNDERWATER SEARCH AND RECOVERY**

This section performed 64 operational underwater searches for stolen property and evidence in connection with crime; 3 bodies were recovered. Ten officers are qualified for operational diving and with the introduction of the new Diving at Work Regulations, officers are now being trained at the Police Diving Establishments in Northumbria and Strathclyde.

#### **MARINE INTELLIGENCE**

This unit, which operates as part of the Criminal Intelligence Section, continues to build up an index of yachts and boat users; there are now 8500 records which are widely used by Customs and Excise, Immigration and other Forces.

GENERAL

The Marine Unit as a whole carried out over 1000 patrols. In addition to dealing with crime and the enforcement of navigational orders and bye-laws, exercises have been carried out with H.M. Coastguards, R.N.L.I., Helicopter Rescue, Essex Fire Brigade and Bradwell Power Station. All major yachting events have been attended. Assistance to vessels in distress or broken down has been rendered on 76 occasions. Rescues involving persons at risk numbered 67. The Marine Unit has co-operated with all locally based yacht clubs.

A close liaison has continued with H.M. Customs and Excise, Immigration and Special Branch. The Crime Prevention Campaign which began in 1980 has continued with more than 10,000 leaflets being distributed.

The Marine Unit has played an active part in promoting water safety among young children through talks and exhibitions including 25 schemes for the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

FORCE SUPPORT UNIT

The Establishment of the Force Support Unit is one Chief Inspector, 1 Inspector, 6 Sergeants and 60 Constables. During the year the Unit received 453 requests for assistance from within the Force. In addition, there have been 5 support calls to other Forces and manpower was provided for the Royal Wedding in London. The Unit mounted 77 crime operations and were involved in 10 major crime enquiries. The Unit's operations vary greatly, but mainly consist of static observations, surveillances or house to house enquiries, resulting in many arrests.

104 Public Order operations have been carried out. In addition, the following support calls to other Forces were made:-

|               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Hertfordshire | 1 (British Movement March) |
| Leicester     | 3 (Riots)                  |
| Liverpool     | 1 (Riot)                   |

69 operations were mounted during 1981 with officers carrying firearms. No shots were fired except to destroy a possible rabid cat on board a ship at Harwich. In total, the Force Support Unit made 197 arrests, including 11 by armed officers.

Training has continued in the use of equipment and tactics to combat riots.

LICENSING

LICENSED PREMISES

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

|   | <u>1979</u>  | <u>1980</u>  | <u>1981</u>  |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Full publicans licences                       | 1,323        | 1,333        | 1,346        |
| Publicans' licences with conditions           | 253          | 263          | 282          |
| 'ON' Beerhouses                               | 3            | 3            | 5            |
| 'OFF' Beerhouses and 'OFF' licences           | 831          | 870          | 875          |
| Restaurant licences                           | 325          | 337          | 354          |
| Residential combined with restaurant licences | 53           | 61           | 65           |
| Residential licences                          | 56           | 67           | 70           |
| Licensed clubs                                | 72           | 68           | 75           |
| Registered clubs                              | 664          | 675          | 684          |
| Wine and spirit dealers                       | 2            | -            | -            |
| Theatre licences                              | 2            | 1            | 1            |
| Seamen's canteen licences                     | 1            | 2            | 2            |
|   | <u>3,585</u> | <u>3,680</u> | <u>3,759</u> |

|                                |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| No. Special Hours Certificates | 161 | 185 | 154 |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|

LICENSING OFFENCES (no. of persons)

|  | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Supplying of liquor after hours  | 12          | 10          | 4           |
| Failing to quit licensed premises upon request of licensee             | 3           | 5           | 2           |
| Consuming liquor after hours   | 25          | 8           | -           |
| Supplying liquor to unauthorised persons                               | 12          | 18          | 27          |
| Purchasing liquor when under age                                       | 3           | 15          | 8           |
| Consuming liquor when under age  | 2           | 14          | -           |
| Allowing consumption of liquor to person under age                     | -           | 14          | -           |
| Selling liquor without a licence                                       | 3           | 4           | -           |
| Unlicensed entertainment upon licensed premises                        | 4           | 2           | 1           |
| Adults convicted for being drunk and disorderly or drunk and incapable | 684         | 732         | 619         |
| Young persons under 18 convicted for drunkenness                       | 47          | 30          | 24          |
| Other licensing offences   | 1           | 1           | 6           |

BETTING

Licensed facilities for betting in the Force area were:-

|                         | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bookmakers' permits     | 162         | 172         | 157         |
| Betting agency permits  | 1           | 1           | 1           |
| Track betting licences  | 1           | 1           | 2           |
| Betting office licences | 209         | 217         | 209         |
| Betting offences        | -           | -           | 2           |

GAMING

|  |         |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| Different licences issued under the Gaming Act 1968 (includes Casino licences in Southend) | 289 (2) | 249 (3) | 273 (2) |
| Gaming offences  | 5       | 3       | 3       |

SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

|                          | <u>Men</u> | <u>Women</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Strength at 1-1-81       | 308        | 51           | 359          |
| Enrolments during 1981   | 50         | 33           | 83           |
| Resignations during 1981 | 60         | 10           | 70           |
| Strength at 31-12-81     | 298        | 74           | 372          |

3 men transferred from the Special Constabulary into Essex Police during 1981.

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

The 'Nelson Mitchell' Shield was awarded to Rayleigh Division who had attained second place in the 'De Rougemont' Competition.

The 'Neville' Trophy Competition was organised and won by the City of London Police; Essex Police, represented by Harlow Division, were second.

The 'Norman Dooley' Cup is awarded annually to the member of the Special Constabulary who performs the most meritorious act, or who renders exceptional service to the community. It was awarded in 1980 to Section Officer D. CROSLAND of Basildon Division for disarming a man who was subsequently convicted of aggravated burglary and criminal damage.

The 150th Anniversary of the Special Constabulary was commemorated in Essex by a parade held on 20th September 1981 when the Inspecting Officer was the Lord Lieutenant, Admiral Sir Andrew LEWIS, KCB, JP. The parade was followed by a service at Chelmsford Cathedral conducted by the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt. Rev. John TRILLO, and afternoon tea at the Force Training School. All Divisions were well represented.

ROYAL VISITS

H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh visited St. Clements Church, West Thurrock and the Thurrock Management Centre, Love Lane, Aveley on 19th March 1981.

H.R.H. the Duke of Kent visited the Marconi premises in Chelmsford on 6th May 1981.

Her Majesty the Queen visited South Woodham Ferrers and Grays town centre on 21st May 1981.

H.R.H. the Princess Alexandra visited the 13/8 Royal Hussars at Carver Barracks on 27th May 1981 when the Regiment played host to various organisations for the handicapped people of Essex, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire. On the same day H.R.H. also opened Gilbert School, Severalls Hall Lane, Colchester.

FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

The flood warning sirens and their control equipment have been maintained at a state of readiness throughout the year.

Regular testing of the GPO lines and equipment has been carried out and proved to be satisfactory. The sirens have also been 'flick' tested each month.

A newly erected siren at Jaywick Sands is now fully operational for flood warning purposes.

Two sirens in the flood warning system which have been temporarily out of action at fire stations due to the replacement of drill towers are now operational again.

In conjunction with the Anglian Water Authority, the Flood Warning Manual was updated during the year.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BRANCH

From 1 January, 1981, the elderly offender age was lowered to 60 years and an 'at risk' offender referral policy introduced. The Branch exercised the discretion to prosecute:

- (1) Elderly offenders who have attained the age of 60 years for all offences except traffic.
- (2) Offenders aged from 17 years to 59 years inclusive who are referred to the Branch by Divisional officers as possibly being 'at risk' due to their physical or mental condition or domestic situation.
- (3) All juvenile offenders (under 17 years).

JUVENILE CRIME

Changes in the statistical recording system were implemented at the beginning of 1981. It is anticipated that C.S.B. data for all offences committed by juveniles will be made available when the new Univac computer is fully operational and it will be possible to make comparative studies from 1981 onwards. However, from existing statistics, juvenile involvement in crime can be assessed partially by reference to the proportion of detected crime for which they are ascertained responsible.

The number of young persons under the age of 17 years found guilty of serious offences was 1,317, a decrease of 360 compared with 1980.

Juveniles were involved in 30.6% of all detected offences compared with 32.0% in 1980.

| Offences known to have been committed by juveniles |             |              | Comparison with 1980 |              |
|--|-------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
|  | 1980        | 1981         | No.                  | %            |
| Offences against the person                        | 511         | 462          | - 49                 | - 9.6        |
| Burglary offences                                  | 1,648       | 1,449        | - 199                | - 12.1       |
| Thefts   | 5,043       | 5,283        | + 240                | + 4.8        |
| Frauds, arson etc.                                 | 956         | 890          | - 66                 | - 6.9        |
| <b>Total juvenile crimes</b>                       | <b>8158</b> | <b>8,084</b> | <b>- 74</b>          | <b>- 0.9</b> |

JUNIOR ATTENDANCE CENTRES

Junior attendance centres are now available for referral by most of the juvenile courts in the Force area. Each centre is run by the local Community Services Branch Inspector and is staffed by Police Officers and a teacher.

**Wickford** - During the first full year 120 orders were made. 119 boys and 1 girl attended (extended for girls from 10.10.81). 2 boys were referred back to court for non-attendance; 22 have re-offended.

**Colchester** - Commenced on 5.9.81 and receives boys only. 23 orders were made during the first four months. 2 have re-offended and there have been no referrals.

POLICE/SCHOOLS LIAISON PROGRAMME

The Police/Schools Liaison Programme entered its third academic year in September 1981. During the academic year 1980/81, only fifteen schools out of the 766 in the Force area did not receive any input from a Schools Liaison Officer. The Branch is directly responsible for the programme in secondary schools and for providing training and resources for the Divisional Schools Liaison Officers who are responsible for the programme in the primary schools. All Neighbourhood Beat Officers attend a three day Schools Liaison Course at HQ when appointed as Liaison Officers. The Branch, in its monitoring function, has regular contact with Divisional Police Officers and County and Area Education Officers.

ELDERLY AND AT RISK OFFENDERS

During the year 484 elderly offenders were reported or charged with 488 offences. Of these 362 (74%) were thefts from shops. Only 58 (12%) of the offenders were prosecuted, 358 (77%) were cautioned and no further action was taken in respect of 53 (11%).

The first year of the 'at risk' offender policy resulted in 59 offenders being referred to the Branch by Division for 61 offences, including 48 thefts from shops. Only 3 (6%) were prosecuted; 52 (88%) were cautioned.

AT RISK (GENERAL)

Branch Officers attend all children at risk case conferences convened by the Social Services Department and other agencies (approx. 1200). Inspectors attend all non-accidental injury District Review Conferences held in their area. The Assistant Chief Constable (P) and Senior Officers from the C.S.B. are members of the County Area Review Committee.

During 1981, the Branch was notified of 3,099 missing persons, including 748 juvenile absconders and 468 mental patients. Branch officers visited 620 people on their return home, 61% of whom were already known to the C.S.B. These were people whose circumstances indicated that they may be at some continuing risk. A further 124 'at risk' files were opened as a result of the follow-up visits. 84 referrals were made to other agencies including 54 to Social Services, 12 to Child/Family Guidance Units and 5 to the Probation Service. The remainder were referred to doctors, Education Welfare officers and members of the teaching profession responsible for pastoral problems.

VICTIMS SUPPORT SCHEMES

During 1981, Victims Support Schemes were introduced in Rayleigh and Basildon, thus extending cover to six Divisions. 1637 victims were referred to the Schemes operating in the Force area. It is anticipated that the whole of the Essex Police District will be covered by Summer 1982.

The Schemes are supervised by members of the Essex Probation and After Care Service who recruit and train accredited volunteers. Training includes a 'Police role' input and the local Crime Prevention Officer assists with practical advice, making property surveys when requested. All Police Officers are issued with a Divisional Instruction describing the operation of their local Scheme and given every encouragement to ensure that appropriate victims are referred without delay.

A senior divisional officer sits on the local Management Committee and the Superintendent, Headquarters Community Services Branch, is a member of the County Committee from which delegates are sent to the National Association of Victims Support Schemes meetings. Each Division has a linkman, usually a senior C.I.D. officer, who is responsible for the daily referral of the details of victims to the local Scheme Co-ordinator.

The victims of recent offences of burglary in dwellings are referred automatically and others at the discretion of the linkman. Although the vast majority of victims require little more than 'tea and sympathy', during the year there have been several instances where constructive help has been rendered by volunteers and considerable distress alleviated.

In addition, victims of other tragedies have been referred and valuable support given to the dependants of those involved in fatal road and industrial accidents, sudden deaths, including cot deaths etc.

#### PROCESS SERVERS

The Process Servers continue to deal with most Warrants issued and Summonses requiring personal service, thereby releasing police officers for operational duties.

## CHAPTER VI MISCELLANEOUS

Complaints against the Police

Letters of Appreciation

Awards and Decorations

Commendations

Joint Consultation

Royal Humane Society

Participation in Youth Organisations

Force Welfare

Force Sport

Awards to Members of the Public

Force Trophies

Essex Police Band

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 remains as laid down by Section 49 of the Police Act 1964 and the Police Act 1976. The Police Complaints Board was established by the 1976 Act and provides an independent element in the disciplinary aspects of complaints against individual police officers up to the rank of Chief Superintendent. The Deputy Chief Constable of the Force is required to arrange for such complaints to be investigated and, unless he is satisfied from the report of that investigation that no criminal offence has been committed, he must send the report to the Director of Public Prosecutions for the Director to decide whether any criminal charges should be preferred against the officer concerned. In the light of the Director's decision, the Deputy Chief Constable must then consider whether to initiate proceedings against the officer under the Police Discipline Code. If he decides not to do so, the Board can, after consultation with him, recommend and in the last resort direct that disciplinary charges be brought.

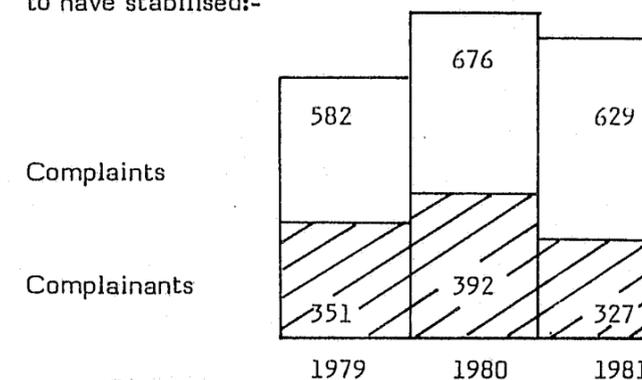
In 1981, as previously, no such directions have been made concerning an officer of this Force.

#### COMPARATIVE FIGURES OVER FIVE YEARS

| TABLE 'A'         | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 | 1980* | 1981* |
|-------------------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Complainants      | 292  | 472  | 351  | 392   | 327   |
| Complaints        | 470  | 721  | 582  | 676   | 629   |
| Substantiated     | 19   | 21   | 17   | 19    | 3     |
| Not Substantiated | 451  | 700  | 565  | 620   | 400   |
| Outstanding       | -    | -    | -    | 37    | 226   |

\*Some adjustment to these figures will be necessary when cases still under investigation are finalised.

The procedures relating to the recording, classifying and processing of complaints against the Police which came into force on 1st June 1977 by virtue of the 1976 Act, were believed to be a major factor in the significant increase in complaints which was apparent up to the end of 1978. However after this initial upsurge the numbers appear to have stabilised:-



At the end of 1981, of the 676 complaints received in 1980, 639 had been finalised. This figure includes 384 (60.09%) which were withdrawn or not proceeded with by the complainant.

The 403 complaints received and finalised in 1981 included 241 (59.8%) that were withdrawn. As most withdrawals occur in the early stages of complaints procedure, it is anticipated that this figure will be reduced as outstanding matters are finalised.

This particular aspect of the complaints procedure appears to be relatively stable, the high figure being mainly due to my strict adherence to the requirement to record a complaint immediately following a verbal or written indication that a member of the public has a grievance against an individual police officer. When a complainant has been afforded the subsequent opportunity of a full and frank discussion with a senior officer concerning the matters complained of or the matter has been aired at Court, it frequently results in greater understanding and acceptance of the action taken by the police and a wish for no further action to be taken.

The 226 outstanding complaints from 1981 reflect policies adopted on the implementation of the 1976 Act whereby complaints that are closely connected with forthcoming Court proceedings are not investigated (unless there are exceptional circumstances) until the conclusion of the hearing. However, this procedure is closely monitored by the Deputy Chief Constable to ensure that only those cases where it is absolutely necessary to delay investigations are in fact delayed.

Of the complaints finalised in 1981, 68% (i.e. 278) arose from the arrest or reporting for process of an offender. During the course of the year 52,699 persons were dealt with in this manner and it is against such a figure that the number of complaints received should be considered.

#### DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

The formal disciplinary procedure for dealing with alleged breaches of discipline is the responsibility of the Chief Constable. Minor breaches, however, are dealt with by Divisional Commanders by way of admonishment or, where appropriate, by giving suitable advice. Five years comparative figures show that this aspect remains stable.

| TABLE 'B'          | 1977  | 1978   | 1979  | 1980  | 1981  |
|--------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Caution            | -     | -      | -     | -     | -     |
| Reprimand          | 3     | 2      | -     | 4     | 2     |
| Fines              | 4     | 5      | 7     | 4     | 4     |
| Reduced in Rank    | -     | -      | -     | -     | -     |
| Required to resign | -     | 2      | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| Dismissed          | -     | 1      | 1     | -     | 1     |
| Found not Guilty   | -     | -      | -     | -     | -     |
| <b>Totals</b>      | 7 (0) | 10 (0) | 9 (1) | 9 (2) | 8 (1) |

Figures in brackets indicate disciplinary action taken against an officer arising by way of complaint.

#### 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: | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 |
|-----------------|------|------|------|
|                 | 938  | 1169 | 1270 |

#### AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

During 1981 the following Awards and Decorations were made:-

The Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to 48 officers as a mark of Her Majesty's appreciation of Long and Meritorious Service.

#### COMMENDATIONS

Members of the Force received commendations during 1981 as follows:-

|   | No. of Commendations | No. of Officers |
|---|----------------------|-----------------|
| By Chief Constable  | 29                   | 96              |
| By Courts (Including HM Judge of Crown Courts, HM Coroners or Justices) | 46                   | 138             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>75</b>            | <b>234</b>      |

#### JOINT CONSULTATION

There is a now well established system of advisory groups which discuss and make recommendations on a wide variety of subjects affecting police and civilian staff.

There are facilities for representative organisations to have direct access to the Chief Constable on matters coming within their terms of reference.

#### ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY

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

PC 217 D.C. MURFITT  
PC 1698 K.J. JACOBS

Testimonial on Parchment  
Testimonial on Parchment

**PARTICIPATION IN YOUTH ORGANISATIONS**

During 1981, voluntary activities assisting youth organisations were undertaken by 119 officers.

**FORCE WELFARE**

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 their personal problems.

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

An Assistant Welfare Officer, who is also a Police Constable was appointed during the year. He is the Force Sports Club Secretary and assists the Welfare Officer on a part-time basis in visiting police widows and pensioners resident in the Essex Police district.

**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.

|                                | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Nos. assisted in this Force    | 12          | 11          | 12          |
| Total of Grants made (£)       | 3,854       | 4,668       | 5,645       |
| Contributions to the Trust (£) | 1,260       | 821         | 752         |

**GURNEY FUND**

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

|                                      | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Children assisted                    | 19          | 19          | 23          |
| Total benefits paid (£)              | 4,784       | 4,038       | 6,333       |
| Subscriptions from Force members (£) | 3,538       | 4,081       | 5,478       |

**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 1981, £6,848 was allocated to assist in maintaining and running the Convalescent Police Seaside Home at Hove; 42 serving officers and 5 pensioners attended the Home as patients and a total of £1,153.58 was paid out for their travelling and out-of-pocket expenses.

The Benevolent Fund made the following grants during 1981:

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Serving Police Officers | £1,551.06 |
| Dependants              | £2,528.79 |
| Pensioners              | 331.20    |
| Orphans                 | £3,080.00 |

**ESSEX POLICE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY BENEVOLENT FUND**

The Fund, founded in 1944, 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.

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 1981, grants of £325 were made; the total income was £830, including donations of £525. Total assets amounted to £2600.

**CIVILIAN STAFF WELFARE FUND**

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Membership                                  | 767    |
| (Subscription 13p per month or 3p per week) |        |
| Grants (7)                                  | £522   |
| Interest Free Loans (1)                     | £500   |
| Excess of Income over Expenditure           | £1,039 |
| Assets                                      | £4,646 |

(Financial report as at 31-7-81 Balance Sheet)

**CIVILIAN STAFF GROUP INSURANCE SCHEME**

During the year, 6 claims were made to the Insurance Scheme: 3 death claims, 2 under the spouse option clause and 1 accident claim. Support for the Scheme is increasing.

**FORCE SPORT**

Essex Police Officers and Cadets are actively engaged in many sporting activities both at Force and Divisional level with events being played against other Forces and teams formed by members of the general public.

Success has been achieved in the following sports:

- ATHLETICS      The Force team is Regional PAA Champion for the twelfth successive year. The Team gained promotion in the Civilian Club League.
- JUDO            Woman Constable P. FOSTER is National PAA Champion for the third successive year.
- RUGBY          The Force Team is Regional PAA Champion, with Constable S. HALFORD a regular member of British Police Team.
- TABLE TENNIS   Constable P. ROUSE was this year's Regional PAA Champion.
- BADMINTON     Chief Inspector R. CAMERON and Constable G. BENDALL are Regional PAA Champions.
- TENNIS         This Section has achieved its best results for several years. Woman Constable M. WHINE and Constable L. JARMAN are Regional PAA Champions.
- BOWLS          The Force Team is Regional Champion in both the Singles and Rink Competitions.
- SHOOTING      Members of this Section participate in national and international events and regularly represent the British Police.
- SOCCER         The Force Team continue to do extremely well in both PAA and Civilian League matches. The Team were league Champions in the 1980/81 season and gained promotion to a senior league.

**AWARDS TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**ESSEX COUNTY NEWSPAPER AWARD SCHEME**

These awards are made to members of the public who have been of outstanding assistance to the Police in Police Sub-Divisions served by newspapers within the Essex County Newspaper Group. During 1981, awards were made as follows:-

HARWICH & MANNINGTREE STANDARD - awarded to a member of the public who kept observation on a man carrying a tumble drier in a wheelbarrow, under suspicious circumstances. He noted where the tumble drier was stored and reported the matter to the police. Subsequent enquiries, under a search warrant, revealed that the tumble drier and other equipment had been stolen by a person who was eventually convicted of burglary and theft.

BRAINTREE AND WITHAM TIMES - awarded to a member of the public who surprised an armed 'raider' in the course of a raid on a shop till. He followed the person, on foot, until the gun was dropped, then recovered the gun, passed information to the police about the person's location and continued to follow until the arrest. The gun proved to be an imitation, but at no time was this obvious until it was recovered.

ESSEX COUNTY STANDARD - awarded to a member of the public who spotted two youths removing items from a display stand in a car showroom. They realised they had been seen and made off. The member of the public gave chase and detained one until the police arrived.

**FORCE TROPHIES**

The Wilson Trophy, donated by the late W. W. Wilson Esq., of Stanford-le-Hope, is presented annually for the most meritorious deed by an Essex Police Officer during the year. It was awarded in 1980 to WPC 3068 P. FOSTER who disarmed a man brandishing a .22 automatic pistol in one hand and a claw hammer in the other. The man had entered Rayleigh Police Station, attacked the glass doors with the hammer and was behaving in a threatening manner.

The Millard Trophy, donated by Alderman S. Woodfull Millard, is awarded to the member of the regular force who makes the greatest contribution to social services in the community or to Police/public relations. In 1980, it was awarded to PC 876 J H DOUBLE who devotes almost the whole of his spare time, assisted by his wife, to the organisation "Riding for the Disabled".

The Betts Trophy, donated by Mrs. E. Betts, is awarded to the Traffic Warden who, whilst on duty, performs the most meritorious action in assisting the Police. In 1980, it was awarded to Traffic Warden 4 I. H. MERFIELD who pursued a "shoplifter", maintaining contact, through his personal radio, until the man could be detained by the Police.

#### ESSEX POLICE BAND

The Band continues to operate as a voluntary trust organisation without sponsorship from public funds.

During the year 23 engagements were met; 10 were new venues and the remainder were annual events including the pensioners garden party, the Special Constables parade and visits to the Colchester Hospitals. In November the band united with the Harwich Band and another combined concert was given in the Grays area with the Sussex Police Choir. The highlight of the band year centred on the weekend visit of the R.U.C. Male Voice Choir. Two mass concerts and a band dinner with the bandsmen's wives were given. As a result of the venture over £1,100 was raised for charity and the reputation of the band enhanced. The Band also played at the closing ceremony of Eynsham Hall Training Centre and for a change of command ceremony at Wethersfield U.S.A.F. Base.

In October, the Band Master Geoffrey BROOM resigned after holding the position for six years, during which time he brought the band up to the high standard it now holds. Band membership currently stands at 30 (21 police officers and 9 civilians).

At the Annual General Meeting, the Alston Cup was presented to Mrs. Wendy NORTON who has been the principal solo cornet player with the Band for a number of years. This cup is presented for regular attendances, musical ability, enthusiasm and back stage work undertaken.

#### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS

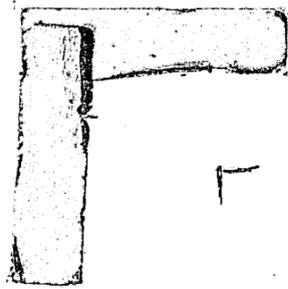
Membership of the Association is increasing; talks given to pre-retirement courses have encouraged enrolment.

In liaison with the Police Federation, NARPO has continued to press for an increase in the preserved rate widows pensions, in order to achieve a more realistic level, particularly for pre-1956 widows.

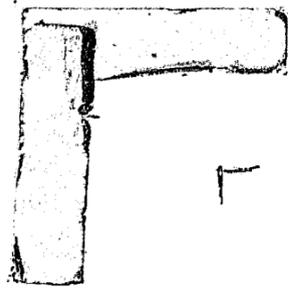
The much appreciated Garden Party in July was well attended by over 700 pensioners and their wives.

Chelmsford and Colchester Branches were represented at the September Annual Conference in Southport, when John BLACKBURN M.P. was appointed as Parliamentary Advisor.

The Association is appreciative of the assistance given by the Chief Constable in enabling the Branches to hold their quarterly meetings and functions at various police stations.



**END**



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