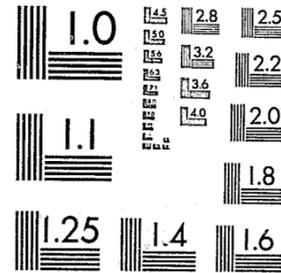


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ESSEX POLICE



93414

CHIEF CONSTABLE'S  
ANNUAL REPORT  
1983

93414

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 1983. 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

93414

U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

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INTRODUCTION

Last year I reported that our greatest problem had been to contain a marked rise in crime. This year I am pleased to be able to report that crime has only risen by a modest 2.4%, although various categories of crime show rises or falls in a pattern for which it is difficult to find any rational explanation. For example, a reduction of 11.8% in robberies is a welcome achievement and it is, perhaps, significant that this type of violent crime has been vigorously pursued by the Police and severely punished by the Courts. On the other hand 1983 saw an increase in burglary/dwelling house of some 8.4%, whilst a rise in offences of a sexual nature and in unlawful activity involving both hard and soft drugs also gave cause for concern. Another worrying feature was the escalating commission of arson in the county, to which additional police resources had to be directed. On the credit side, the overall detection rate moved up by 1% to 41%, which reflects creditably on all officers concerned and is a clear indication of the priority which the Force affords to offences of an anti-social nature. This order of priority will remain and police activity will continue to be directed against those who commit serious crime.

On a slightly different note, during the year the Force received congratulations from a number of sources for its enlightened approach to offenders who are elderly or 'at risk'. The number of elderly offenders whose cases were considered showed little change from last year, but those 'at risk' increased from 185 to 244, clear proof that our methods of identifying such cases are becoming more efficient. It must be stressed that cautioning is not a soft option, but is part of a flexible approach, fully in accord with our prosecutions policy, which is designed to take deserving offenders before a court, but which eliminates uncalled for prosecutions. The cautioning of most juveniles for the first offence is another branch of this philosophy which is bearing fruit and for the fifth consecutive year since the introduction of the Community Services Branch the proportion of juveniles involved in detected crime, as opposed to adults, has fallen. This is a comforting situation which also shows the value of the intensive schools programme. As a final note on crime, it is interesting to record that whilst detectives played a major part in crime investigations, such is their role, the greater proportion of arrests for all offences continued to be made by uniformed officers.

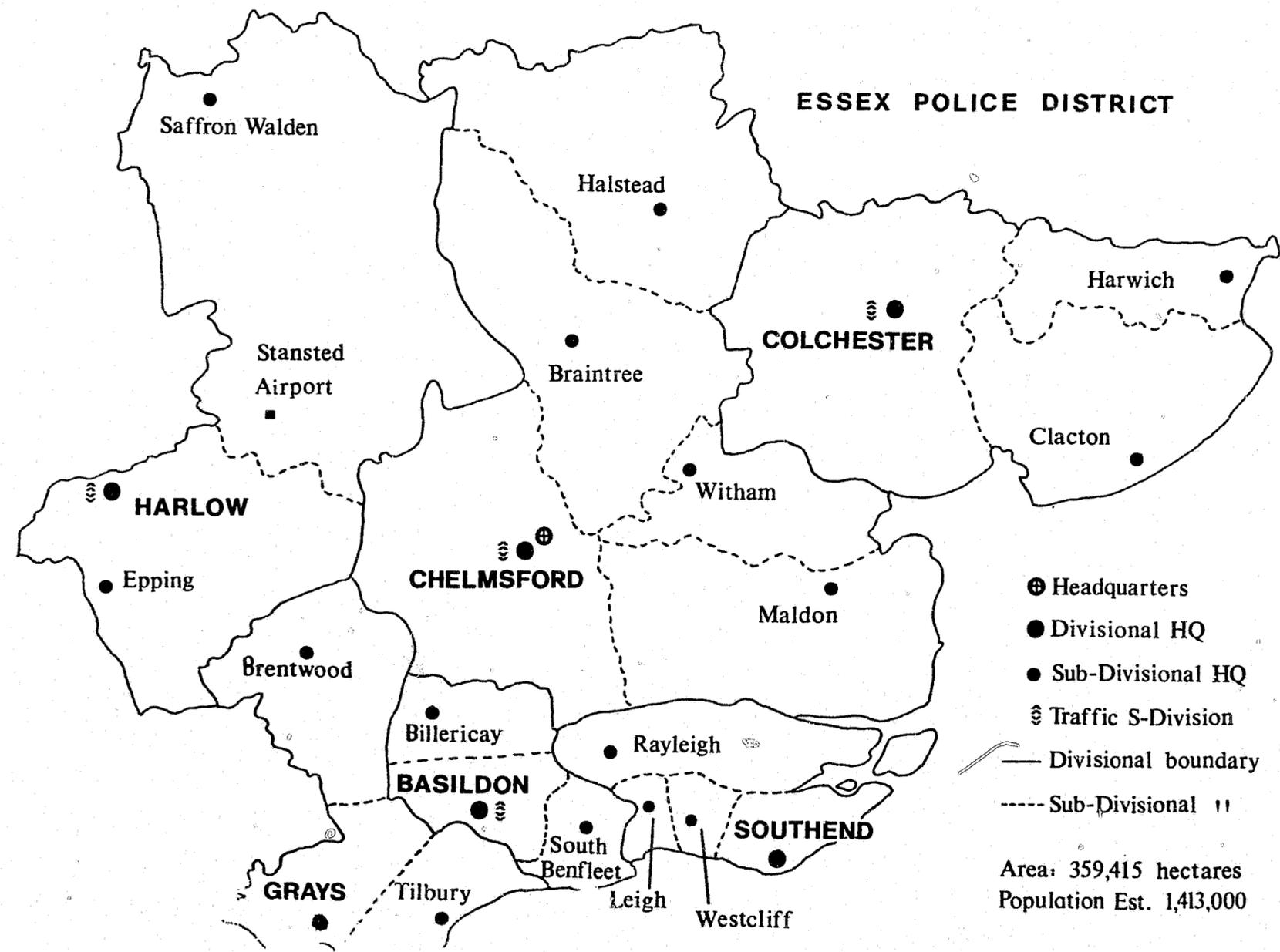
The year brought forth renewed demands from central sources for improved efficiency and cost-effectiveness in all areas of the public sector from which, quite properly, the Police were not excluded. The Force has striven to achieve greater efficiency, despite the problem of manpower limitations, and more officers have been returned to operational patrol duties where their presence on the streets has given an added sense of security to those who like to see a policeman in uniform. This was made possible by a modest increase in the civilian staff together with the savings on administrative staff achieved in the force re-organisation which took place at the beginning of the year. Similarly, by a combination of personnel redeployment and economy of effort the Traffic Division has been able to absorb the responsibility for providing the necessary police cover on the M11 and M25 motorways without any improvement in its strength. It is obvious that deployment of manpower must be under regular

review if the best use is to be made of this very finite resource. In this respect the re-organisation of territorial divisions, which reduced their numbers from eight to six, and enabled two new Headquarters divisions to be formed, has proved to be a success. The support available centrally is now organised more efficiently and the duplication of administrative effort has been much reduced.

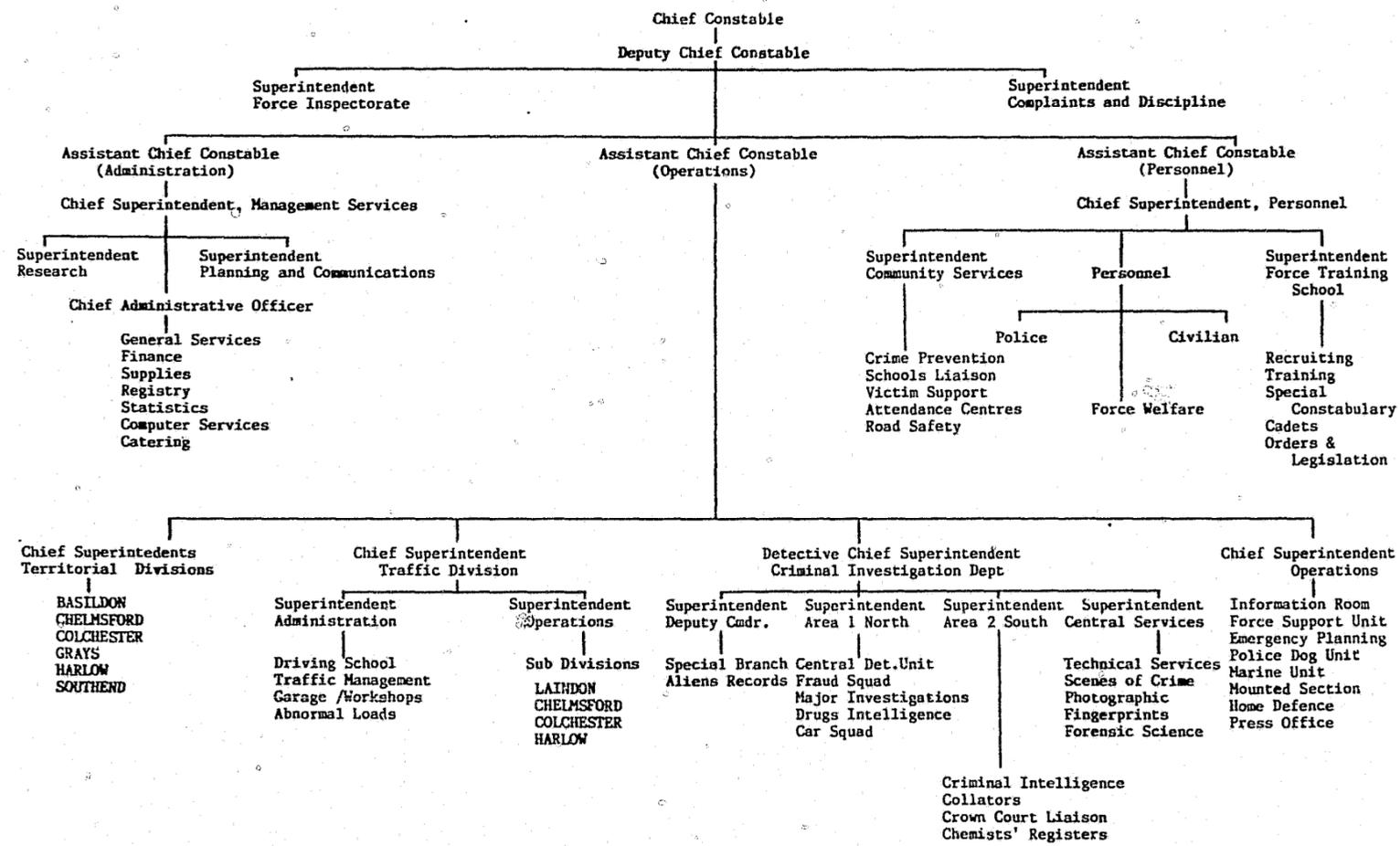
Road accidents continued to be a depressing feature, although fatal and injury accidents fell by 2.4%. It is hoped that the seat belt regulations introduced on 31st January 1983, will play an even greater part in the future in reducing the number of casualties among drivers and front seat passengers and that the motoring public will co-operate by observing the law. Over the eleven days of the Christmas period accidents were 66% below the average daily accident rate and, doubtless, the publicity given to the dangers of drinking/driving on the one hand and the possible consequences of subsequent conviction on the other played their part in this achievement. During the period in question the Force carried out 333 initial breath tests resulting in 80 arrests from which 72 prosecutions were taken. Traffic resources were stretched to the limit in June when the United States Space Shuttle 'Enterprise' visited Stansted Airport where it was on display to members of the public. Over a quarter of a million people visited the site over the four days, thus creating tremendous pressure on the roads, but the good humour shown by most motorists plus extensive pre-planning helped to make the visit a great success.

As remarked upon in last year's report, police training has retained its high priority status with all the signs pointing towards an even greater commitment in 1984 as the new probationers' programme gets into full swing and forces prepare for the training implications of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill at present going through Parliament. During the year under review a full training programme was followed at the Force Training School and additional courses were held to prepare experienced officers to act in the role of Tutor Constables in anticipation of the new probationary training scheme. The analysis of attitudes and the development of inter-personal skills were given due recognition in view of their importance. It is only by adopting a professional approach to policing that the full co-operation and confidence of the public can be maintained and this message forms part of every training course now held, whatever the rank of officers concerned. The need for consultation and dialogue between officers of all levels has been met by Chief Officers visiting divisions and discussing important issues with supervisory officers and it is intended to continue the process in 1984 embracing all ranks as an ongoing programme.

In conclusion may I record my appreciation of the wholehearted support which I have received from members of the Police Committee and express my gratitude to the members of the Force, both regular and civilian, for their loyalty and devotion to duty.



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CHAPTER 1 : CRIME

**REVIEW OF CRIME**

During the year, 66,214 reports of serious and certain summary offences were investigated. Of these, 2,181 could not be substantiated and were recorded as 'No Offence', 412 were recorded as summary offences and 839 were otherwise classified.

The total number of 62,782 substantiated offences represented an increase of 1,492 (+ 2.4%) over the previous year. The rise consisted principally of the offences of burglary, theft of pedal cycles, shoplifting and criminal damage.

The overall detection rate was 41.0%.

	<u>Substantiated Offences</u>	
	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Offences against the person	3,184 (74.2)	3,275 (78.9)
Offences against property with violence (burglary)	13,758 (31.9)	14,013 (32.2)
Offences against property without violence (theft, going equipped, fraud)	38,700 (41.7)	38,856 (42.8)
Other offences (arson, forgery etc.)	5,648 (28.2)	6,638 (30.0)
	<u>61,290</u>	<u>62,782</u>

(Figures in brackets show the percentage of detections).

Divisional crime figures are shown below:

<u>Division</u>	<u>No. offences recorded 1983</u>	<u>Detection Rate 1983</u>
Basildon	11,230	40.3
Chelmsford	10,403	37.7
Colchester	12,785	39.4
Grays	9,405	41.2
Harlow	7,212	45.7
Southend	11,747	43.3
TOTAL FORCE	<u>62,782</u>	<u>41.0</u>

The 'per capita' rate of crime in Essex continues to increase steadily, averaging 1% per year. It is estimated that 44.4 offences per 1,000 population were committed during 1983 compared with 43.5 crimes/1,000 population in 1982.

In addition to the serious offences recorded, there were 3,138 reports of minor damage each valued at £20 or less.

#### OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON

Offences in this group increased by 91 (2.9%) to a total of 3,275 crimes.

During the year 6 cases of alleged murder were investigated; all were detected. Of the defendants, one was convicted of manslaughter and two committed suicide. One awaits trial and two are awaiting committal for trial.

	1982	1983	Comparison with 1982	
			No.	%
Murder	8	6	- 2	- 25.0
Attempts, threats to murder	47	32	- 15	- 31.9
Woundings	2,405	2,451	+ 46	+ 1.9
Unnatural offences	55	99	+ 44	+ 80.0
Rape, incest, unlawful sex/int.	112	127	+ 15	+ 13.4
Indecent assaults on females	223	255	+ 32	+ 14.3
Robbery	271	239	- 32	- 11.8
Other offences including bigamy, blackmail etc.	63	66	+ 3	+ 4.8
<b>Total offences against the person</b>	<b>3,184</b>	<b>3,275</b>	<b>+ 91</b>	<b>+ 2.9</b>

#### OFFENCES OF BURGLARY

Burglaries continue to account for almost one-quarter of all recorded crimes. Within the overall 1.9% increase on 1982 figures, an escalating number of offences was recorded for residential properties in particular:-

	1982	1983	Comparison with 1982	
			No.	%
Burglary in a dwelling	4,858	5,264	+ 406	+ 8.4
Burglary other than in a dwelling	8,877	8,733	- 144	- 1.6
Aggravated burglary - dwelling/other	23	16	- 7	- 30.4
<b>Total offences of burglary</b>	<b>13,758</b>	<b>14,013</b>	<b>+ 255</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>

#### OFFENCES OF THEFT

As in previous years, nearly three in every five crimes recorded were offences of theft (58%).

There was a significant increase in the number of pedal cycle thefts and shoplifting offences.

During the year there were 6,200 substantiated offences of theft/taking of motor vehicles, a decrease of 434 or 6.5% over 1982. At the end of the year there were 1,810 vehicles not traced; this figure comprised 1,157 private cars, 146 goods vehicles and 507 motor cycles. Offences of unauthorised taking of vehicles totalled 3,619 a decrease of 154 or 4.1% on 1982.

	1982	1983	Comparison with 1982	
			No.	%
Going equipped for stealing	75	77	+ 2	+ 2.7
Theft from the person	168	227	+ 59	+ 35.1
Theft in a dwelling	906	943	+ 37	+ 4.1
Theft by an employee	515	468	- 47	- 9.1
Abstracting electricity	160	137	- 23	- 14.4
Theft of pedal cycles	2,788	3,044	+ 256	+ 9.2
Theft from vehicles	10,791	10,141	- 650	- 6.0
Shoplifting	6,019	6,462	+ 443	+ 7.4
Theft from auto machines	449	502	+ 53	+ 11.8
Theft and unauthorised taking of motor vehicles	6,634	6,200	- 434	- 6.5
Other thefts and unauthorised takings	7,656	8,009	+ 353	+ 4.6
<b>Total offences of theft</b>	<b>36,161</b>	<b>36,210</b>	<b>+ 49</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>

#### OFFENCES OF FRAUD AND FORGERY

The total number of frauds increased by 31 or 1.1% on 1982 to a figure of 2,812. Offences of handling stolen goods increased by 49 (+ 4.8%) to 1,064; offences of forgery showed a 31.0% decrease from 242 in 1982 to 166 in 1983.

#### CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Offences within this group include only those crimes where the value involved exceeds £20. This criterion was introduced in 1977 and is not inflation indexed. Increases in line with the rate of inflation are therefore to be expected. The 1983 figure represented an increase of 16.7% over that recorded in 1982. The total number of offences of criminal damage (6,285) accounted for 10.0% of all recorded crimes in 1983. Within this category, offences of arson totalled 802 compared with 612 in 1982 (+ 31.0%).

#### STOLEN PROPERTY

The value of property stolen in 1983 amounted to £16,038,359 of which property valued at £3,941,549 was recovered (24.6% of the total). This compares with £15,549,981 in 1982, of which £4,834,383 or 31.1% was recovered.

#### COURT PROCEEDINGS

During the year, proceedings at the lower courts were taken against 10,728 persons;

7,600 found guilty summarily

1,812 committed for trial

1,316 charge withdrawn, dismissed or disposed of otherwise

The committals for trial at lower courts and the total of cases finalised at Crown Court are not comparable. There is a necessary time lapse between committal and Crown Court appearance; of the 1,535 persons dealt with at Crown Court in 1983 the majority would have been committed for trial in the same year, but 1982 and earlier cases are also included.

At the higher courts, 1,303 persons were convicted and 232 discharged or disposed of otherwise. The conviction rate at the higher courts for 1983 was therefore 84.9% compared with 81.3% for 1982.

JUVENILE CRIME (See Community Services Branch, Chapter 5)

#### CASES OF INTEREST

##### LORRY LOAD THEFTS, HARLOW

On Tuesday 31st May 1983 a trailer laden with cosmetics with a retail value of £87,000 was stolen from the premises of C.M. Transport, Riverway, Harlow. The cosmetics were owned by Elizabeth Arden Ltd. The trailer was subsequently found minus its load in Jenkins Lane, Barking.

On Sunday 19th June 1983 a trailer laden with shoes, books, clothing and handbags with a retail value of £700,000 was stolen from the premises of A.M.G. Interfreight, North Weald Airfield, near Epping. The trailer was subsequently found minus its load of exclusive Italian shoes and boots in Beaconsfield Street, Beckton, E. 6.

Extensive enquiries were made and on 14th July 1983, as a result of information received, a search warrant was executed in London. 350 pairs of shoes were recovered and a couple were arrested and charged with handling stolen goods. Following further enquiries and surveillance, on 26th July 1983 Operation 'Hide and Seek' was mounted with Divisional and No. 5 Regional Crime Squad officers executing warrants at three addresses.

A number of arrests subsequently took place and a large quantity of property from both loads was recovered. Over £500,000 of goods are still outstanding and enquiries are continuing. Eleven persons have been committed for trial at Crown Court.

#### BANK ROBBERY AT CLACTON ON SEA

About 9.50 am on Monday 4th July 1983 a Security Officer for Securicor Ltd. attended the Co-op Bank, Rosemary Road, Clacton on Sea.

The Security officer went to the Bank, situated behind the furniture department on the first floor and collected a bag containing £3,015 in cash and three metal cash tins. He then walked unsupervised towards a staircase and started down; he observed a man standing on the landing with his back to him. Half way down the first flight he felt a cold sensation on his neck and heard a male voice say to him "Drop it". The officer did not react but was challenged again more forcefully whereupon he dropped the security bag. The assailant ran down the stairs picking up the bag as he made off, and, at the same time, the man standing on the landing made his escape.

On leaving the building, both men ran about 50 yards to a parked car in which they drove off. A member of the public noted the index number of the vehicle which was traced within 5 minutes, abandoned at Clacton Railway Station car park. Examination of the scene and the vehicle produced fingerprint marks.

Enquiries revealed that the getaway car was stolen from the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, on the Saturday preceding the robbery. The vehicle had travelled 125 miles from the time it was taken and bore false registration plates.

Extensive enquiries were made in Essex and the Metropolitan Police District to trace the shop or garage where the false index plates were made up and garages between Hampstead and Clacton were visited to trace any purchase of petrol, without success.

The robbery appeared very similar to that which occurred at Barclays Bank, Clacton on the 3rd September 1982, when two people were shot. The bullet recovered in that incident compared with one removed from a security guard shot in an armed robbery at Tunbridge Wells. Another identical bullet was found in an offence of robbery and attempted murder at Broxbourne, Hertfordshire.

Subsequently, four men were arrested by Regional Crime Squad Officers, but identification parades were inconclusive and the men had to be released. All suspects are being searched against outstanding fingerprint marks but this task is incomplete and enquiries are continuing to detect the offence.

#### ROBBERIES - GRAYS DIVISION

During the period January to October 1983, 21 robberies occurred within the Grays Division. 9 offences were committed at Sub-Post Offices and in 12 of the offences, shotguns were used as a means of threat to the victim. In one case a shotgun was discharged.

A total of £61,320 was stolen, including £49,407 taken from the Sub-Post Offices. Two offences have been detected and £4,000 recovered.

The most serious of these offences occurred on 16th August 1983 at a Sub-Post Office in Chadwell St. Mary. A Post Office employee making a cash delivery was threatened by two men, one of whom sprayed ammonia liquid into his face, and the second was armed with a crowbar. £20,000 in cash was stolen and both made good their escape in a Ford Cortina car stolen from Edmonton. Another vehicle used in the getaway was eventually found abandoned in Upminster.

#### RAPE AT SAFFRON WALDEN

Just before 23.30 hours on Friday 15th July 1983, a girl aged 19 left the White Horse Public House in Market Street, Saffron Walden to walk home alone. She left the town centre and began to walk along a diagonal footpath which crosses 'The Common', a large expanse of open grassland.

Half way across the Common she was approached by a young man walking on the footpath towards her. He pulled her down onto the grass, threatened the girl with violence and then raped her. The girl left and continued to walk towards her home.

The young man followed and after only a matter of yards he grabbed her, pulled her to the ground and raped her again.

The girl then went home and, accompanied by her father, reported the offence at Saffron Walden Police Station.

At 10.25 am the next day a young man, visiting the area to attend a family wedding, was arrested at Saffron Walden. He was interviewed and made a full confession verbally and a statement under caution. He was charged with two offences of rape.

The man appeared before Chelmsford Crown Court on 17th October 1983 and was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment.

#### MISSING PERSON/MURDER ENQUIRY, COGGESHALL

On 1st August 1983 a woman was reported missing by her husband. She had not been seen since the night of 23rd July, but her absence had not been immediately reported because of previous disappearances, after which she had always returned home eventually.

Enquiries began on a more intensive basis than for a normal missing person.

The woman's home was situated close to a major road and extensive publicity was given to try to find persons who might have seen her in the vicinity. During the course of enquiries a road improvement site was excavated and thorough searches made of the surrounding countryside. Other aspects, such as examination of the family car, were investigated in detail, but without result.

On 22nd October 1983 the woman's body was found in a copse at Martlesham Heath, Suffolk. A full scale murder enquiry is being conducted by the Suffolk Constabulary assisted by the Essex Police.

#### ATTEMPTED MURDER AT WESTCLIFF, SOUTHEND

About 13.00 hours on Wednesday 12th October 1983 a young woman was alone in the hairdressing salon where she worked. A man who earlier that day had made an appointment, walked in and asked if the time could be changed. As the girl bent over the desk to alter the appointments book she was pushed down and stabbed in the back receiving serious wounds. The attack was without motive or provocation.

The incident was widely publicised and an artist's impression of the offender issued. The Major Incident Room Index Action Management System (MIRIAM) was used for the first time to assist in a major enquiry.

From a witness account of a car seen 'speeding away' from the scene of the crime, the car was traced and a man arrested. It was established that he was wanted for other offences of assault by two other forces. He has been charged with attempted murder and three incidents of assault on police officers, and currently awaits trial at Chelmsford Crown Court.

#### MURDER AT ARLESFORD, COLCHESTER

In 1945, a Polish refugee couple came to live in Derbyshire where the man took employment as a coal miner. As a result of creating a disturbance at a Derby Police Station in 1954, the man was sent to a psychiatric hospital.

The man had a history of violent behaviour towards his wife and children. In 1967 he attacked his wife, stabbing her five times and attempting to asphyxiate her with a cushion. He believed she was dead and then stabbed himself in the chest. Both recovered and he appeared at Derbyshire Assizes on a charge of attempted murder. He was made the subject of a Section 60(1) Order under the Mental Health Act 1959 and sent to Broadmoor where he was diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic.

In 1970 the man was transferred to Severalls Hospital, Colchester and in 1971 was conditionally discharged. He obtained employment as a cook at a Clacton hotel and later returned to Severalls Hospital as a kitchen worker/cook. He retired on the grounds of ill health in 1982.

Whilst in Broadmoor his first wife divorced him and after his release he remarried. During the second marriage the man showed signs of strange behaviour.

On 3rd April 1983 he appeared at Severalls Hospital and gave a large sum of money to an employee in the kitchens in the belief that his wife and daughter were "ganging up" against him and he wanted to put his affairs into order.

Later that day it was discovered that the second wife had been stabbed to death and their home completely wrecked with central heating oil poured around ready to start a fire. When the Police arrived the man ran off, but was found a short distance away with slashed wrists. He admitted murdering his wife and was remanded in custody to Norwich Prison. On 7th April 1983 he was found hanged in his prison hospital cell.

**CENTRAL DETECTIVE UNIT**

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

**DRUG SQUAD**

The Drugs Intelligence Unit is staffed by a Detective Sergeant and six Detective Constables. The Unit maintains an intelligence index and collates information on all aspects of drug abuse.

From 1st January 1983 certain drug offences became 'crimeable' and this has increased the amount of time spent on investigation of such offences. During the year a system of cautions was adopted and a 'guilty' plea system for possession of small amounts of cannabis introduced.

Intravenous drug misuse has increased and there is evidence of a trend towards multi-drug abuse including barbiturates. Cannabis continues to be the most prominently used oral drug; large quantities of the resin form have been seized during importation from Holland through the port of Harwich.

Drug misuse is not restricted to town areas and intelligence suggests that Heroin addicts are moving into rural areas. London continues to be the main source of supply for 'hard' drugs.

**Drug Offences**

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Unlawful possession of Cannabis	170	218	333
Unlawful supply of Cannabis	25	19	40
Using premises for smoking Cannabis	3	9	13
Importing & Excise Evasion Cannabis etc.	14	35	14
Possession with intent to supply	10	17	20
Unlawful possession/supply of:			
Heroin & Methadone (including Opium)	9	17	53
Cocaine	4	2	3
Amphetamine	22	47	90
L.S.D.	6	9	10
Cultivation of Cannabis	13	35	44
Conspiracy to contravene Misuse of Drugs Act/Obstruction	36	-	13
<b>Total drug offences</b>	<u>312</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>633</u>
Persons detected	205	284	356
<b>Search Warrants</b>			
Number obtained	64	101	156
Number used	56	86	150
Negative	19	28	43
Persons arrested	53	134	147

**MAJOR INVESTIGATION SECTION**

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

**FRAUD SECTION**

The Fraud Squad investigated 34 cases during 1983. The enquiries were mainly into the activities of Managers or Directors of limited companies behaving in fraudulent manner, but also included offences committed by persons involved in Local Government and large conspiracies to steal.

14 of these cases were finalised during 1983 and every case prosecuted resulted in conviction. 3 Fraud Squad officers were commended during 1983 for the manner in which they had conducted their investigations.

The 20 investigations still being conducted by the Squad cover frauds totalling a value of more than £3.5 million. During the year 10 enquiries were undertaken for Fraud Squads elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

**MOTOR VEHICLE INVESTIGATION**

710 vehicles were examined during the year; 81 were identified as having been altered or falsified, to a total value of £284,702.

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT UNIT**

During the year, the Unit carried out 502 operations including 42 for the Regional Crime Squad and 18 for other forces, resulting in the arrest of 78 persons.

**CRIME INDEX AND PUBLICATIONS**

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Criminal Record Index			
Persons recorded	148,828	158,433	170,125
Nominal/Wanted Index			
Number of searches	35,938	32,708	35,442
Number of identifications	13,294	13,399	14,523
Property & Cycle Indexes			
Number of searches	7,076	4,595	4,779
Number of identifications	273	331	367

**FORENSIC SCIENCE - Scenes of Crime**

During 1983, a county-wide system for photographing prisoners was introduced. All charging stations have been equipped with fixed position cameras which can be operated by any police officer. The system has eased the pressure on local Scenes of Crime Officers and has extended prisoner photograph coverage.

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Searches for fingerprints	13,198	14,752	15,168
Fingerprints identifications made	1,782	2,077	2,082
Searches for other scientific evidence	3,772	3,917	4,189
Photographic prints made	130,994	133,106	141,780
Usage of forensic science laboratory			
- for drink/drugs driving cases	2,049	2,901	1,543 *
- other scientific aid	1,164	997	755

\* This reduction is accounted for by the introduction on 6th May 1983 of substantive breath testing equipment and the resultant need to take significantly fewer blood/urine samples.

**INCENDIARY AND EXPLOSIVE DEVICES**

During 1983 Scenes of Crime Officers were called to deal with 58 suspected explosive devices throughout the County, seven of which necessitated the attendance of the Army Bomb Disposal Group.

**SPECIAL BRANCH**

In 1983 the Department, under the direction of the Assistant Chief Constable Operations and the Detective Chief Superintendent, undertook a number of protection and anti-terrorist operations together with specific investigative tasks. The Department remains at its previous strength.

**IMMIGRATION**

Police Headquarters central register of foreign nationals shows that the number of aliens registered with the Force on the 31st December each year was:-

<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
1,889	1,945	1,654

**CRIME INTELLIGENCE**

The Criminal Intelligence Section continues to collate and supply information on all aspects of crime and criminals. The flow of information is achieved through contact with many agencies and conferences held both internally and with neighbouring forces.

A number of crime trends have been identified and intelligence and evidence gathered, leading to successful operations. In particular, intelligence in connection with heavy goods vehicles has expanded rapidly in relation to the thefts of lorries and valuable loads. The strong liaison with European police forces has been maintained.

During the year, the Criminal Intelligence Section published 118 Essex Police Informations, 14 Antiques and Property circulations and 7 Traffic Intelligence bulletins.

**CRIME PREVENTION**

This Department is the responsibility of the Community Services Branch.

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Surveys conducted	2,291	2,706	3,078
Talks to Organisations	339	364	381
Crime Prevention displays	109	44	89
Crime Prevention lectures to police officers	13	26	96
Total number of alarm installations	4,534	5,020	4,553
Average number of false calls per system	3.2	3.0	3.0

Numerous systems were installed during the year, but a comprehensive search of records, with close co-operation from the alarm industry, revealed that approximately 10% of systems recorded in 1982 had ceased.

False calls from systems dropped from 15,085 in 1982 to 13,911 in 1983, a reduction of 1,174 calls (- 7.8%). False calls represented 97.7% of all alarm calls. Genuine calls increased by 75 over 1982; 329 genuine calls were received which enabled 103 arrests to be made.

**CHAPTER 2 : TRAFFIC**

**ROAD ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES**

In 1983, a total of 6,383 fatal and injury accidents was recorded in the Force area, 156 fewer than in 1982 (- 2.4%). The number of reported non-injury accidents increased significantly from 7,046 in 1982 to 7,932 in 1983.

<b>Injury accidents</b>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Fatal	128	117	- 8.6
Serious	1,904	1,786	- 6.2
Slight	4,507	4,480	- 0.6

The total number of casualties from these accidents decreased by 311 or 3.5%. The groups of road user who became casualties are shown below:

<b>16 years and over</b>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Serious</u>	<u>Slight</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pedestrian	26	203	427	656
Rider/Driver of:				
Pedal cycle	7	109	346	462
Moped	2	135	297	434
Motor Scooter	-	29	55	84
Motor cycle	22	407	655	1,084
Combination	-	9	6	15
Invalid tricycle/3 wheeler	-	6	13	19
Car (4 wheeled) incl. Taxis	32	483	1,864	2,379
Minibus/Motor caravan	-	6	6	12
Public Service Vehicle	1	1	8	10
Goods n/o 1½ tons UW	1	34	142	177
Goods over 1½ tons UW	2	18	64	84
Other motor vehicle	-	1	5	6
Other non-motor vehicle	-	2	7	9
Passenger in/on:-				
Motor cycle	2	46	89	137
Moped/scooter/combination	-	9	13	22
3 wheel car	-	2	9	11
Car/Taxi	15	286	1,109	1,410
Minibus/motor caravan	-	3	3	6
Public Service Vehicle	-	12	92	104
Goods n/o 1½ tons UW	1	22	58	81
Goods over 1½ tons UW	1	5	10	16
Other vehicle	1	1	7	9
<b>Total adult casualties</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>1,829</b>	<b>5,285</b>	<b>7,227</b>

**Children under 16**

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Serious</u>	<u>Slight</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pedestrian	5	139	358	502
Rider/Driver of:				
Pedal cycle	3	81	280	364
Motor cycle/moped/car	-	1	6	7
Non-motor vehicles	-	3	2	5
Passenger in/on:				
Motor cycle/scooter/comb.	-	1	7	8
Car	2	45	345	392
Minibus/motor caravan	-	-	-	-
Public Service Vehicle	-	2	27	29
Goods vehicle n/o 1½ tons UW	-	4	13	17
Other vehicle (taxi, heavy goods)	1	4	7	12
<b>Total child casualties</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>1,045</b>	<b>1,336</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>2,109</b>	<b>6,330</b>	<b>8,563</b>

**ROAD SAFETY**

This Department is the responsibility of the Community Services Branch.

During 1983, the Road Safety Demonstration Unit held indoor and outdoor demonstrations at schools, arranged Road Safety static displays and visited 24 sites with their Mobile Exhibition.

Regulations introduced on 31st January 1983 required drivers and front seat passengers to wear seat belts. The legislation is apparently effective; against a 2.4% decline in the total number of accidents in the County, fatal and serious injury accidents have reduced significantly. A comparison with average figures for the last four years has shown that for drivers and front seat passengers, fatalities have decreased by some 35% and serious injuries by 29%, whilst slight injuries have increased marginally. The general public has co-operated fully after an initial period of advice and warning and few prosecutions have been made.

**SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL SERVICE**

Overall responsibility for the 317 sites operated by the Police on behalf of the Essex County Council was transferred from Traffic Division - Road Safety Department to H.Q. Personnel - Civilian Staff Office, in October 1983.

Divisional Administration Departments together with the local Road Safety Officers administer daily on site supervision of School Crossing Patrols.

At 31st December 1983, 307 people were employed, and there were 10 vacant posts. The annual turnover of staff has been 74 resignations and 71 new appointments. 2 people died in service.

At the request of the Police and Highways Committees, a Working Party was convened at Chief Officer level to report upon the manner in which the patrols are administered. The County Education Officer, County Treasurer, County Surveyor and Chief Constable were represented on the Working Party which was chaired by The Chief Executive. The outcome of the enquiry is awaited.

**TRAFFIC WARDENS**

During the past year, thirteen Traffic Wardens ceased employment in the County; 5 retired (2 on medical grounds), 1 died in service, 6 resigned and 1 transferred to a clerical post. Fourteen new members were recruited.

Seven Wardens were promoted during the year to fill vacancies: 3 to Traffic Warden Supervisors, and 4 to Senior Traffic Wardens.

The now established programme of training for Traffic Wardens continues to play an effective role in maintaining the standards required of the Traffic Warden Service.

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

As a result of the changeover on 6th May 1983 to evidential breath testing, it is not possible to provide detailed comparative statistics with previous years.

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
No. initial breath tests	6,500	8,641	10,140
No. tests at accidents	1,690	1,813	2,015
No. laboratory samples	2,049	2,901	1,543
No. positive samples	1,569	2,385	1,074

**Drink and Driving Campaign**

In the weeks before Christmas and over the New Year an intensive publicity campaign was carried out to warn and deter motorists from drinking and driving. A static display of a crashed vehicle which had been driven by a person involved in a Drink Driving offence, together with relevant posters, leaflets, etc. visited major towns in the County. The general public also saw the Alcolmeter roadside screening device. The co-operation of the media was sought and they raised the level of their coverage of drink driving offences appearing before the courts.

**FIXED PENALTY TICKETS**

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Total tickets issued	61,962	53,024	52,682
Penalties paid	35,952 (58%)	34,418 (65%)	35,199 (67%)
'No further action' etc.	12,463 (20%)	7,438 (14%)	5,625 (11%)
Process issued	2,694 (4%)	3,694 (7%)	4,487 (8%)
Outstanding at 31st December	10,853 (18%)	7,474 (14%)	7,371 (14%)

## TRAFFIC PATROLS

### ESTABLISHMENT

The establishment of Traffic Division, which also includes a Regional Driving School, is 1 Chief Superintendent, 2 Superintendents, 7 Chief Inspectors, 9 Inspectors, 56 Sergeants, 225 Constables; a total of 300 officers, plus Civilian support staff.

Traffic Division manpower and equipment continues to be available to assist CID and Territorial Divisions in dealing with serious crime and public disorder, both on a day-to-day basis and specifically in organised crime operations.

### PATROL AREAS

Against a background of an additional 24 miles of motorway (M25), and the need to police it to an acceptable level, on 1st January 1983, Traffic Division was reorganised with a reduction from five Sub-Divisions to four. Rayleigh Sub-Division was reduced to Section status within Laindon Sub-Division; 20 Constables and other ranks were transferred to Laindon to provide manpower for motorway patrols. Extra training and equipment were given to Divisional Area Car Crews to enable them to deal with more accidents than hitherto. Traffic Patrols continued to deal with the more serious accidents, particularly on trunk roads.

### MOTORWAY POLICING

The Essex stretch of M25 motorway (24 miles) now links the M11 motorway with the Dartford Tunnel. At the junction of the two motorways, junction 6 (M11) and junction 27 (M25) the sharp bends have caused problems to drivers of articulated vehicles. Six heavy goods vehicles, all articulated, have overturned or shed loads whilst exiting from the M25 to the M11 causing lane closures, extensive delays to other road users and potentially serious danger by spillage onto the M11 carriageway. At the instigation of the Essex and Metropolitan Police, meetings and consultation with the Department of Transport have taken place and this has resulted in extra signing. Additional warnings and engineering solutions are being considered.

Extensive roadworks on the Kent side of the Dartford Tunnel have caused tailbacks through the Tunnel into Essex, particularly at peak periods. The problems are closely monitored and the Department of Transport is regularly informed. Hourly information to television and radio networks has been provided as necessary.

Over the total 55 miles of motorway in Essex (M25 and M11) no Service Areas exist and consequently no Motorway Police Post. The M25 is policed from the Laindon Traffic Garage with some support from Brentwood (respectively 7 miles and 1 mile from the motorway). The M11 is policed mainly from Harlow with the Newport Section located 1 mile away on the B1383 (formerly the A11). Long term plans are for a Service Area at Birchanger on the M11.

## OTHER PATROL ACTIVITIES

The policy continues of encouraging Traffic Patrol Officers to gain experience in areas of general policing whilst their specialist skills and expertise are being maintained. During the year, Sergeants from all of the Traffic Sub-Divisions undertook a prosecuting role in Magistrates' Courts. Valuable experience was gained and the scheme will continue on a regular basis.

On a permanent basis, two officers (from each of the Traffic Sub-Divisions in rotation) undergo a three months attachment to Force Information Room. As well as sharing their knowledge of the problems and requirements of serious road incidents, the Traffic Patrol Officers become aware of Information Room problems.

During 1983 the Criminal Investigation Department and Regional Crime Squad undertook extensive enquiries into thefts of lorry loads in south west Essex. One Traffic Patrol Officer was attached to No. 5 Regional Crime Squad at Harlow for ten months. His particular knowledge of heavy goods vehicle operators and their documentation contributed to the successful enquiry.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

All processions, motorcades, moving demonstrations, carnivals, etc. received assistance and policing was given to cycle races, time trials and similar events. Escorts were provided when members of the Royal Family visited the Force area on official visits.

### Marathons/Cycle Races

The year has seen a proliferation of marathons, fun runs, cycle races, time trials and cyclathons. All of these events, some nationally organised, require pre-event consultation and policing at varying levels. The growing number of events may necessitate more control over the routes and race timing.

### ABNORMAL LOADS

During 1983, nearly 15,000 abnormal loads were notified to Essex Police. 2,700 required escorts to ensure the safety of other road users and to minimise delays to traffic.

## SERIOUS ROAD ACCIDENTS 1983

### Double Fatal Accident, Hullbridge

On 15th September 1983 a motor vehicle was involved in a head on collision with a Mini car containing two women who had just collected their children from school. Both women were killed instantly and the children in the back seats were trapped and received serious injuries. The first police officers at the scene found the children unconscious in the wreckage and had to break the rear window to release them. The Fire Brigade freed the women and two ambulances were summoned for the injured children. Two other Traffic cars were required at the accident, which completely blocked the road, and a police motor cyclist was deployed to relay messages and make enquiries to trace families. A Woman Police Constable looked after other young children at home pending return of the husbands.

The violence of the crash and immediate investigations required that the road was sealed off and diversions operated for three hours. A Scenes of Crime officer photographed the vehicles in situ and the immediate scene. The Accident Investigation Unit carried out a complete reconstruction involving precise measurements and skid test. The following day further scientific investigations were made by a scientist from the Metropolitan Police Laboratory. An officer from the Technical Support Unit produced a video recording of the scene and the damaged cars for evidence at court. The Police Collator at Southend notified the County Victim Support Scheme and visits by this voluntary body were made to the families of both women killed. The Police Coroner's Officer was involved on behalf of H.M. Coroner.

The man has been committed for trial at Crown Court. The accident highlights the amount of police activity which takes place additional to initial response and attendance at accidents.

### Accident Involving Police Vehicles - M25 Motorway

On 30th June 1983, three members of Laindon Traffic Sub-Division were seriously injured whilst dealing with an incident on the M25 motorway at South Weald. A number of paving slabs had fallen from a passing lorry and the officers were removing these from the nearside carriageway and the hard shoulder. They had first carried out the procedure to protect themselves by coning off and placing Police vehicles in safety positions. They had just completed the task when a heavily laden lorry drove on to the hard shoulder, hitting both police vehicles and all three officers. The police vehicles and officers were thrown down a 30 foot embankment and wreckage was strewn over 100 yards to where the lorry eventually turned over.

Doctors attended the scene to assist in dealing with the injuries; one of the officers has not yet returned to duty. Both police vehicles (a new Transit Incident Van and a Ford Granada Patrol Car, total value £25,000) were completely destroyed in this incident. The driver of the lorry, which was laden with iron girders appeared at court where he was found guilty of careless driving, fined £75, paid costs of £25 and received 5 penalty points.

## Multiple Accidents and Fire - M25 Motorway

On 23rd November 1983 an accident occurred on the elevated slip road which runs north between the Dartford Tunnel roundabout and the Mardyke Interchange (Junction 30), parallel to the M25. At this time road surfaces were covered in a thin layer of ice, and drifting fog limited vision to 50 yards in places. An unknown vehicle in the outer lane went out of control on the ice, crashing into the offside crash barrier and causing all vehicles immediately following to brake violently to avoid it. Further back in the line, an 8 wheel rigid bulk lorry stopped in the outside lane but was struck from behind by a Ford Capri motor car. A Ford Cortina ran into the back of the Capri and another Ford Cortina in the inside lane skidded sideways into these cars and immediately burst into flame. Yet another car, also travelling in the inside lane braked and skidded into the wreckage, and all five vehicles were destroyed by fire. The blocked road caused severe traffic congestion with tailbacks on to the M25 to the Dartford Tunnel. Traffic on the Dartford Tunnel roundabout was blocked and, due to the combination of heavy traffic and adverse weather conditions, emergency vehicles had difficulty reaching the scene. Large numbers of police officers were required to attend and safeguard other road users on the motorway. A Traffic car displaying emergency lights was also struck by a vehicle which had skidded out of control. This multiple accident highlights the need for extensive policing particularly during adverse weather conditions and illustrates that, whilst motorways are normally the safest of roads, they have the potential to generate major incidents very quickly.

## TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The reorganisation of the Traffic Management Section has allowed greater expertise to be applied to fatal accident analysis, school crossing patrols, pedestrian crossing location, lorry restriction, bus route and speed limit planning. With increasingly complex legislation and technology, specialisation in these areas is inevitable. Consultation with all organisations involved in Traffic Management takes place and there are regular meetings with County Highways at both Member and Officer level. There are ad hoc meetings with various groups to consider their needs and proposals and acquaint them with Police views on particular highway problems. Meetings with other forces and the Department of Transport deal with motorway and trunk road traffic movements, engineering problems and sign posting.

### Traffic Investigation Unit

A small Traffic Investigation Unit works within the Traffic Management Section and during the year carried out specialist investigation into 58 fatal and 139 injury road accidents. Examination of 66 vehicles in respect of tachographs took place, 19 of which were for criminal offences. Additionally, 16 tachograph calibrations and 11 specific heavy goods vehicle examinations were carried out as part of general duties. Officers in the Section were called to attend a total of 36 courts.

Officers undertook the following courses in 1983: Accident Investigation Refresher (6), Tachograph Calibration (6), Heavy Goods Vehicle Driving (5), Vehicle Examiners (2) and Traffic Data Collection System (2).

### Portable Traffic Data Collection System (Project 2002)

In October 1983, the Traffic Investigation Unit took delivery of equipment which will provide greater accuracy in highlighting the worst areas of speed limit abuse and enable traffic patrols to concentrate their resources appropriately.

**FORCE FLEET AND REPLACEMENT OF VEHICLES**

The policy of replacement of Police vehicles remains unchanged but is continually monitored to achieve maximum financial savings coupled with the high demands of operational requirements.

The total fleet consists of 580:

- 60 Traffic Patrol Cars
- 30 Traffic Patrol Motor Cycles
- 5 Traffic Patrol Accident Tenders
- 1 Traffic Patrol Land Rover
- 4 Traffic Patrol Range Rovers
- 26 Driving School Cars
- 18 Driving School Motor Cycles
- 1 Driving School Personnel Carrier
- 68 CID Cars (including 14 Regional Crime Squad Cars)
- 5 CID Vans (including 1 Regional Crime Squad van)
- 1 CID Motor Cycle
- 24 Scenes of Crime Vans
- 17 Dog Vans
- 52 Area Patrol Cars
- 36 Personnel Carriers (including 1 coach)
- 198 General Duty Cars (including Beat Cars)
- 34 Miscellaneous Vehicles, including:
  - 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 fleet mileage was:-

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
	12,626,392	12,699,767	12,977,817
	+ 3.8%	+ 0.6%	+ 2.2%

Accident damage to Police vehicles was slightly higher than in 1983 and reflects the increasing number of criminal, public disorder and general police incidents. Lower damage levels are reported for the two categories of vehicle extensively involved in emergency response situations, whilst damage to general duty vehicles and miscellaneous categories has increased.

35 police vehicles were damaged other than in accidents, mainly in circumstances where police were called to public disorder situations. The damage varied from tacks inserted in tyres, aerosol spraying, blue lights and radio aerials removed, windows and doors kicked in. In 25 cases, offenders were traced and brought before a court.

**BUILDING AND WORKSHOP FACILITIES**

Home Office approval has been received for a scheme to remodel the Police Traffic Garage, Traffic Sub-Divisional Headquarters at Laindon. The scheme will provide additional office areas, a parade room, an increased locker room and extend social area/kitchen facilities. An extended hard service parking area will be provided and an automatic car wash bay will be sited adjacent to the compound.

At Force Headquarters a body jig and hydraulic lift is being installed to allow more body repair work to be undertaken 'in-house' with resultant savings in labour charges. It is anticipated that this will speed up repairs and reduce the "down time" on operational vehicles. The Headquarters Garage and Workshop complex is now almost totally self-sufficient. The preparation of new vehicles of all types is carried out and Garage Staff undertake both design and interior fitting of many specialist vehicles in the fleet. In addition to the central workshop there are four district garages where the general servicing of vehicles is done.

**DRIVING SCHOOL**

The Essex Police Driving School has a Regional commitment to train officers from other Forces. Some 13 different Forces take advantage of the excellent training provided by the School, which historically is one of the oldest Police Driving Schools in the country. Commanded by a Chief Inspector, with an Inspector as deputy, there are 23 Sergeants or Acting Sergeants together with 3 Civilian Instructors. Courses include Elementary Driving, Standard Driving, Advanced Driving, Instructor Driving and Refresher Courses; Motor Cycle Standard, Advanced, Refresher and Instructor Courses. Traffic Patrol Courses include Hazardous Chemicals, Speed Detection and Tachograph Instruction. Accident Investigation, Heavy Goods Vehicle and Weighing instruction is also given and the Advanced Traffic Law Course to City and Guilds standard is taught.

In December the Force organised the first Traffic Patrol Course Instructors' Seminar held nationally. 33 delegates from Sergeant to Chief Inspector attended from various Forces. The seminar enabled officers exchange information about Traffic Patrol Courses held by the individual Forces.

**CHAPTER 3 : ADMINISTRATION**

**FORCE ESTABLISHMENT, STRENGTH AND SECONDED PERSONNEL**

The Police Establishment of the Force at 31st December 1983 was 2,653 and the strength (excluding seconded personnel) was 2,628.

	<u>Authorised Establishment</u>	<u>Effective Strength</u>	<u>Seconded 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	119	8
Sergeant	425	415	20
Constable	2008	1991	15
<b>TOTALS</b>	<u>2653</u>	<u>2628</u>	<u>50</u>

Secondments from the Force were as follows:

Regional Crime Squad	25
Central Services	19
Universities	2
Papua New Guinea	2
Hong Kong	2

**CIVILIAN STAFF**

The Authorised Establishment for Civilian Staff, and the number actually in post on 31st December 1983, were:

	<u>Establishment</u>		<u>Strength</u>	
	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Traffic Wardens	176	176	113	114
Cadets	140	140	14	20
Others (Full-Time)	805	803	633	640
Others (Part-Time)	103	103	167	173

The turnover of Civilian Staff in 1983 was 141 engaged and 127 left of whom 49 and 41 respectively were manual employees.

Of the 127 people who left the service, 31 retired and 96 resigned. Included in these figures are 4 retirements under the Job Release Scheme.

During the year, 3 civilians died in service and 7 retired on medical grounds.

Civilians promoted to fill vacancies created by retirements and resignations totalled fifteen. 55 civilian posts have been evaluated resulting in 16 posts being regraded.

#### Health and Safety

During the past year, 92 civilians sustained injuries on duty, resulting in a loss of 666 working days. None of these injuries was of a very serious nature, and more than half were suffered by Traffic Wardens and School Crossing Patrols whilst patrolling on public highways. Where an injury occurred on police property appropriate remedial action was taken after investigation.

#### HOUSING

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Owner Occupiers			
New applications	162	225	232
In occupation	1,608	1,714	1,834
Permission given but not yet taken up	22	50	74
Applications deferred	2	1	3
Houses Declared Surplus			
County owned	42	23	96
County rented	1	1	4
Status at year end of houses for police purposes			
County owned pre-war	88	84	71
County owned post-war	880	854	771
County hired	8	7	3
Less houses on short term lease to other Committees of the County Council	<u>264</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>223</u>
Houses available for police occupation	<u>712</u>	<u>676</u>	<u>622</u>

The number of officers purchasing their own homes continues to increase. 96 police houses have been declared surplus to requirements in 1983. The proceeds of sales have been used to modernise other houses; 96 properties have had full central heating installed and 3 houses have been fully modernised during the year.

#### FORCE PLANNING AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

#### PLANNING

The Laindon Traffic Garage is to be extended (commencing December 1983) to provide improved facilities for the increased manpower now operating there following the opening of the M25 motorway.

Theydon Bois police house/offices replacement is well advanced in the planning stage and design plans have been approved. Purchase of the proposed site is progressing and building is expected to commence early in 1984.

Approval has been received for the building of a new Section Station at Brightlingsea and the existing station, in a complex incorporating four houses, will be sold. Design plans for the new station are being prepared and the proposed site (at present owned by the County Council) has been identified.

Plans for a new Divisional Headquarters at Colchester are well advanced.

#### Central Ticket Office

The operation of a Central Ticket Office to deal with all Fixed Penalty Tickets and linked to the Magistrates' Courts computer at Southend was delayed because of problems with the software package to run the program. It will commence operating early in 1984.

#### Magistrates' Courts Computer System

The computer installed at Southend Magistrates' Court is working effectively and has helped to improve the processing of summonses in the Prosecutions Department. The system will be extended to Grays and Basildon Divisions early in 1984.

#### Force Suggestion Scheme

In 1983, thirty-two suggestions were received ranging from the use of videography cameras to the re-education of drivers through newspaper articles. Four monetary awards were made.

#### Substantive Breath Test Machines

Eleven Lion Intoximeter Breath Testing machines were purchased and taken into use in May 1983. They are sited so that a machine is available in any part of the County within a radius of ten miles. The system means that a driver can be dealt with speedily rather than under the long procedure that was necessary when using a doctor to take a blood sample.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Telephones

Telephone call logging equipment purchased in September 1982 has been used extensively throughout the Force in 1983. Purchase of additional connecting leads has expanded its use to 16 stations. The initial dramatic cost reductions have now decreased, but the equipment remains invaluable in educating staff to use private wires and delay exchange line calls whenever possible to take advantage of cheap call rates. Additionally, system planning and staffing have been assisted by use of the equipment.

The upgrading of switchboard equipment has reached implementation stage and the first unit has been ordered for South Benfleet Sub-Division.

### Private Circuits

The Force Reorganisation on 1-1-83 meant that a considerable number of private telephones and UHF radio circuits had to be re-routed. This was undertaken by British Telecommunications in association with Telephone Rentals Ltd. and Home Office radio engineers. Some minor problems were experienced initially but were resolved by upgrading lines in the Southend area.

### Message Switch

Plans are progressing towards the implementation of a fully integrated message switch system designed on the placement of VDU/printer terminals at all Divisional, Sub-Divisional and other designated departmental positions within the Force. This will replace the current TP 15 Teleprinter Network which is now nearing the end of its working life with no possibility of equipment repair or replacement. Additional VDU terminals will be installed in a proposed reorganised telecommunications training room at the Force Training School.

### U.H.F. Radio

A new UHF base station has been installed at Aveley to provide better coverage in the South Ockendon area. Grays Police Station is now the radio control centre for the revised Grays Division (with the exception of the Brentwood Sub Division).

During the year special radio equipment was purchased for the Tactical Firearms group. A lightweight radio base station and personal radios have proved to be extremely successful.

### V.H.F. Radio

WARC frequency changes due to commence in 1985/86 have meant that no additional VHF equipment is available. Strict management of mobile sets will have to be maintained and although difficulties until 1985/86 are envisaged, the problem does not appear to be insurmountable.

No additional VHF channels will be made available until about 1990 and with the severe problems of Citizens Band Radio interference on one of our existing 3 channels, this will mean overloading of the VHF network for some years. The Directorate of Telecommunications is assisting the effort to eliminate interference problems at source because no further remedial action on police equipment is possible. Occasionally it has been necessary to close one of the VHF channels because the level of interference was too high for it to be safely used.

Car style VHF radios are being fitted on Traffic motorcycles and have been found to greatly improve transmission problems; the programme will continue. Further improvement of car-to-car radios on surveillance vehicles has begun.

The Home Office has undertaken a number of surveys to identify a suitable hill-top site for VHF equipment in the Southend area. The Southend Civic Centre site cannot be expanded and a new location is required for the WARC conversion in 1985/86.

### Emergency Communication Vehicle

The new Communications vehicle brought into use in January 1982 has been used on a number of occasions during the year, the most publicised of which was the visit to Stansted Airport of the Space Shuttle. Minor improvements have been made to enable operators to use headsets and a self regulating pump was installed to automatically maintain the mast height.

### INFORMATION ROOM

Total message traffic was 6.9% higher than in 1982 with 974,540 actions recorded. The decreased movement of teleprinter messages was attributed to the issue of a specialised handbook to all teleprinter stations. This encouraged direct communication from station to station rather than through the central teleprinter room at Headquarters.

The number of normal emergency 999 calls has remained fairly constant. To ensure the best use of police resources, an experiment at Chelmsford Sub-Divisional Headquarters has been set up to evaluate a system of immediate and delayed response. The number of motorway calls rose by 43.1% in 1983 with the opening of the M25 and further increases are anticipated as the 'orbital road' is extended.

Police National Computer transactions continue to increase, although the system is under-utilised and officers are constantly instructed to recognise its full value. The decrease in fast printer messages is due solely to technical use of the equipment.

Interest in the Information Room remains high and several groups and individuals visited the complex in 1983.

INFORMATION ROOM	NO. OF ACTIONS		VARIATION	
			No.	%
<b>Total Message Traffic</b> (excluding radio)	1981	901,322	- 10,950	- 1.2
	1982	911,342	+ 10,020	+ 1.1
	1983	974,540	+ 63,198	+ 6.9
<b>Teleprinter Messages 1983</b>				
	Incoming	57,204	- 3,397	- 5.6
Outgoing	27,547	- 593	- 2.1	
<b>Police National Computer</b> Visual Display Units	1981	596,314	+ 32,906	+ 5.8
	1982	666,747	+ 70,433	+ 11.8
	1983	674,299 *	+ 7,552	+ 1.1
Data Printers	1981	117,831	- 35,323	- 23.1
	1982	91,302	- 26,529	- 22.5
	1983	80,572	- 10,730	- 11.8
<b>Emergency 999 Calls</b> (Including Motorway - Figures in Brackets)				
	1981	63,285 (7,388)	+ 2,533	+ 4.2
	1982	65,055 (7,869)	+ 1,770	+ 2.8
	1983	69,052 (11,257)	+ 3,997	+ 6.1

(\* including 44,981 Essex Criminal Record Office transactions)

**RESEARCH**

The earlier part of the year was taken up by implementing restructuring of the Force and divisional boundary changes which had been the major project of 1982. The extensive research of the previous year resulted in a satisfactory change over period and few problems were experienced.

A review of the Force Establishment was begun soon after reorganisation, but this project was abandoned when it became apparent that the Home Office planned to restrict manpower requests.

Because of the need to improve, where possible, both manpower resources and financial commitments, a number of relevant areas were examined. These included a review of petrol supply/allocation and a survey of prisoner escort activities. A pilot scheme, involving the use of a specially designed prototype escort vehicle, is currently being monitored. Apart from financial savings which will accrue, a noticeable reduction in the number of escorts required is anticipated, resulting in more officers being available for patrol duty.

Several minor projects have been carried out during the year by the Research Section, which is part of Management Services Division.

**COMPUTER DEVELOPMENT**

A Working Party on Crime Information and Statistics has recommended that a Crime Information System be implemented with the message switch system at a moderate increase in Computer capacity and a corresponding moderate increase in capital cost.

Minor improvements have been achieved during the past year. Following reorganisation considerable effort was involved in reprogramming for the six new territorial divisions and changes to beat codes. With changes in legislation, the Force Systems Analyst, besides giving system and application support, has been responsible for devising and modifying existing systems for Sickness Records and Breath Test Statistics. The appointment of a Systems Programmer has released the Analyst from support tasks to concentrate on development work, such as interim improvements to Crime Statistics output to provide better management information.

Following a review by Essex County Council Management Services Department, work is proceeding on a joint computerisation project for all supplies and vehicle fleet management.

**ANNUAL INSPECTION**

Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary, R.S. BARRATT Esq., C.B.E., Q.P.M., inspected the Force from 29th November to 1st December 1983. He visited Operations, Management Services, Colchester and Basildon Divisions, Harwich Sub-Division and Port Office and the Traffic Sub-Divisions at Stanway and Laindon.

**FIREARMS AND SHOTGUNS**

	1981	1982	1983
<b>Current Certificate Holders</b>			
Firearm	4,978	5,052	5,025
Shotgun	26,653	25,947	25,300
<b>New Certificates Granted</b>			
Firearm	414	346	395
Shotgun	2,046	1,805	1,877
<b>Certificate Renewals Refused</b>			
Firearm	17	1	12
Shotgun	11	1	8
<b>Certificates Cancelled</b>			
Firearm	419	272	422
Shotgun	1,871	2,511	2,524

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

The Press and Public Relations Office continues to be an integral part of the Force Operations Division. It is available for media enquiries for eleven hours each working day, and maintains a centralised response to press, radio and television enquiries.

The number of police/media contacts has remained at a high level, with a greater tendency for television companies to be interested in police work during 1983.

The press relations policy is designed to ensure the widest dissemination of information and the maximum coverage for police appeals when public assistance is required.

Television and radio broadcasts have been made regularly by a wide range of police officers, and it is expected that this trend will continue, hopefully bringing the police into closer daily contact with the public.

The Force has attempted to push back the traditional boundaries that exist between press and police, with encouraging results, thus giving scope for more progress in future years.

Twenty eight visits were made by groups to Force Headquarters, resulting in more than 550 people seeing Essex Police at work. A total of 1,286 outside organisations visited divisional stations. Members of the Force gave talks to 1,128 groups representing a wide variety of interests.

**CATERING SERVICES**

The police canteens cater for a large number of police officers, civilian staff and visitors at Force Headquarters, Force Training School, 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 mobile canteens have been used extensively throughout the year at major incident sites and during training exercises.

**CHAPTER 4 : PERSONNEL AND TRAINING**

**RECRUITMENT**

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Applications pending 1 January	147	156	123
Application forms issued	1,117	812	1,156
Forms not returned	582	265	469
Forms returned	535	547	687
Failed to reach required standard	292	157	472
Pending at 31 December	156	123	77
Called for interview	101	133	129
Rejected by Police Surgeon	3	1	0
Rejected by Selection Board	16	11	38
Withdrawn after acceptance	5	3	1
Selected for appointment	77	118	90 *

\* 12 accepted for appointment in 1984.

**Breakdown of those appointed in 1983**

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
Direct Entrant	69	21
Transfers from other Forces	5	1
Transfer on promotion	-	-
Re-instatements	4	-
Force Cadets	3	2
<b>Totals</b>	<u>81</u>	<u>24</u>

The average ages of appointees in 1983 were 24.1 years (men) and 22.8 years (women). 43% of the men and 10% of the women were married.

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Recruits with GCE 'A' level passes	20	27	13
Recruits with GCE 'O' level passes	42	43	47

**RETIREMENTS AND WASTAGE**

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Retirement on Pension	39	36	55
Voluntary Resignations without Pension or Gratuity			
(a) Probationary Constables	24	18	9
(b) Constables with over 2yrs service	22	22	26
Transferred to other Forces	2	10	7
Required to Resign *	1	-	1
Dismissed	1	-	-
Died	1	1	3
Discharged under PR 17	-	-	-
Pensioned on Medical Certificate	6	9	10
<b>Totals</b>	<u>96</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>111</u>
As percentage of strength at beginning of year	3.7	3.7	4.1
* Includes probationary officers who resigned as an alternative to dismissal under PR 17	1	-	1

**FIREARMS TRAINING**

The Firearms Training Section continues to provide a high standard of instruction. Non-firearms trained officers attending courses at Force Headquarters now receive basic instruction in dealing with a firearms situation in the course of their daily duties. The Section consists of two fully trained instructors and two student instructors who will attend Firearms Instructor Courses during 1984.

281 permit holders undergo regular refresher and requalification training; 31 are members of the Tactical Firearms Group. The percentage of trained officers in the Force is approximately 10%.

During the year specialised tactical training was increased and more intensive specialist training is planned for the future. The Basic Course has been increased from one week to two to include new subjects and to intensify tuition; 2 courses were held in 1983.

Contact with other Force Firearms Instructors is being maintained as valuable lessons are learned from incidents occurring in other force areas.

**FIRST AID TRAINING**

During the year, 18 officers qualified as "suitable persons" for the purpose of the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981.

The Force competition team has been successful, winning the "Ipswich Open" First Aid Competition and the Driscoll Trophy. Essex Police hosted the Police National First Aid Eliminating Competition for No. 5 Region.

**AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT PROCEDURE**

Eight senior officers attended the Aircraft Accident Procedure Course held by the Sussex Police at Lewes, Sussex. The course content was well received and it is intended to continue sending officers on the Sussex Course. Attendance at the Civil Aviation Authority Fire Service Training School at Teesside Airport has been discontinued.

**DETECTIVE TRAINING**

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

Twenty-four officers attended Initial Detective Training Courses, and ten officers undertook Advanced Detective and Refresher training. Seven other officers attended the following specialised training courses: Drugs Courses, Fraud Investigation Courses, Stolen Motor Vehicle Courses and Scenes of Crime Courses.

In-force CID Refresher training was commenced and five courses of two weeks duration were attended by a total of fifty-four Detective Sergeants and Detective Constables. Two CID Selection Courses were held, each of three weeks duration, assessing thirty-one potential candidates for attachment/posting to the Criminal Investigation Department.

With the implementation of the Major Investigation - Incident Room Standardised Administrative Procedures in January 1984, sixteen officers participated in a one week course of training and updating which was held in October. Further courses are planned for 1984. In addition, twenty officers have also been trained in various roles in connection with the Home Office MIRIAM Project - computerisation of Incident Rooms.

**PROBATIONER CONSTABLE TRAINING**

The recommendations of the Working Party of the Police Training Council will be implemented in their entirety.

Tutor Constable Courses have been introduced and sixty experienced officers were trained as tutors in 1983. These officers are responsible for a probationer constable's training during the first ten weeks of operational service, following return from initial training at the District Training Centre. The Force is prepared therefore to adopt the new style Initial Training programme due to commence at District Training Centres on 9th January 1984.

During 1983, Essex recruits have achieved various individual successes at the Police Training Centre, Ashford. One recruit was awarded the "Baton of Honour", another recruit won the "Commandant's Cup" and the individual First Aid Trophy has been won on two separate occasions. In September an Essex officer was "Top Student" on Course 6/83 and this achievement has been recorded on the Honours Board at Ashford.

**TUTOR CONSTABLES**

A two week tutor constable training and selection course was begun in order to give consistency and continuity to the early stages of a probationer constable's practical training. Officers were nominated by Divisional Commanders but the ability to demonstrate tasks and promote a high standard image was assessed by training school staff. 60 officers have been trained in the year. Further courses in 1984, and subsequently, will ensure a flow of replacement officers.

### TRAINING OF SPECIAL CONSTABLES

During 1983 the training for members of the Special Constabulary was changed from evening to Saturday lessons.

The present system consists of an 8 hour Induction Course. No new officer is permitted on patrol until he has attended the Course and passed all examinations.

The Induction Course is followed by six Saturdays (1 per month), 9 am - 5 pm, when officers attend the Force Training School and take part in practical tests which are run in conjunction with law lessons. Initially there were some problems with attendance, due mainly to civilian occupations, but these have been resolved. The training is well received and is of a high standard. The greatest benefit of the new system is that an officer completes his compulsory training in 6 to 8 months instead of 3 to 4 years under the previous system.

### COURSES FOR POLICEWOMEN

One week courses continue to be held at the Force Training School for Policewomen from Essex, Hertfordshire, City of London and British Transport Police. 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

18 civilian employees (11 clerical, 7 manual) are currently undertaking courses on a day release basis to enhance their skills. The courses cover many subjects and levels, and range from basic typing to a B.A. degree.

'In-house' training continues for staff in specialised fields and includes communications officers, fingerprint searchers and the staff involved with Univac computer. During the year, 8 female employees from different departments were trained in word processing for the 'MIRIAM' project to ensure adequate coverage for major incidents.

### INTOXIMETER TRAINING

136 officers were trained in the use of the Intoximeter prior to the introduction of the machines in May 1983. Since then, Force Training School staff have held two day training sessions at Divisional Stations to ensure an adequate supply of operators to cover each 24 hour period. Officers trained were usually Station Sergeants but some Inspectors and Constables are now qualified to operate the equipment.

### HOME DEFENCE

Two-day Home Defence Refresher Courses continue to be held for Constables in their fourth year of service. All other officers receive Home Defence instruction (1 day) as part of the standard Constable and Sergeant Refresher Courses. Eleven Chief Inspectors and Inspectors attended the Regional Home Defence Instructors Course, and one Superintendent attended an Armed Forces Home Defence Course.

### FORCE TRAINING

Type of Course	No. held	Essex Students		Other Students		Total
		M	W	M	W	
Potential Student Instructors (2)	2	13	2	-	-	15
Inspectors Development (6)	4	16	1	30	-	47
Sergeants Refresher (2)	4	44	1	-	-	45
Sergeants Preparatory (3)	4	23	1	21	1	46
Sergeants Pre-Promotion (2)	1	16	-	-	-	16
Constables Pre-Promotion (2)	1	34	3	-	-	37
Constables Refresher (2)	15	204	11	-	-	215
Probationer Training Stage I (2)	7	80	19	-	-	99
Probationer Training Stage II (1)	6	69	20	-	-	89
Probationer Training Stage III (1)	7	79	20	-	-	99
Dealing with Women & Children (1)	5	-	20	-	36	56
Recruits Induction (1)	10	75	22	-	-	97
Recruits Local Procedure (1)	10	81	18	-	-	99
Teleprinter Training (2)	8	32	14	18	4	68
First Aid Lay Instructors (2)	1	9	1	-	-	10
First Aid at Work (4 days)	1	9	-	-	-	9
First Aid Competition (4 days)	1	13	1	-	-	14
Pre-Retirement (3 days)	2	39	-	-	-	39
Schools Liaison (3 days)	4	45	3	-	-	48
Surveillance (2)	2	10	-	28	-	38
Cadets Induction (4)	1	6	7	-	-	13
Police Vocational Course (1)	1	3	7	-	-	10
Traffic Wardens Induction (1)	2	8	6	-	-	14
Traffic Wardens Refresher (4 days)	3	16	5	-	-	21
Firearms (2)	1	10	-	-	-	10
Crowd Control (3 days)	14	767	-	-	-	767
Home Defence (2 days)	9	99	16	-	-	115
Senior Officers Management (1)	1	11	3	-	-	14
Incident Room Micro Computer (1)	2	6	-	-	-	6
Incident Room Manual Card System (1)	1	6	2	-	-	8
Incident Room Supervisory Officers (3 days)	1	8	-	-	-	8
C.I.D. Constables Refresher (2)	3	31	1	-	-	32
C.I.D. Sergeants Refresher (2)	1	10	-	-	-	10
C.I.D. Selection (3)	2	29	2	-	-	31
Alcometer-Substantive Breath Test Operator (2 days)	10	132	4	-	-	136
Tutor Constables (2)	5	55	3	-	-	58
Police Undergraduates Familiarisation (4 days)	1	7	4	-	-	11
Miriam - Incident Supervisory Officers (3 days)	3	3	-	-	-	3
Miriam - Senior Investigators (2 days)	2	6	-	-	-	6
Miriam - Index (4 days)	1	5	-	-	-	5
- Index (1)	2	6	2	-	-	8

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

The number of student weeks was:	1981	1982	1983
	3,067	2,889	3,041

**DRIVING SCHOOL COURSES**

Student Training Programme

	<u>Number of Courses</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Student Weeks</u>	
<b>Cars</b>				
Instructors	3	8	48	
Advanced Refresher	16	101	202	
Advanced	14	163	652	
Standard Refresher	12	93	186	
Standard	9	149	745	
Standard (Customs & Excise)	14	42	126	
Standard (Elementary)	3	7	35	
<b>Motor Cycles</b>				
Instructors	1	3	18	
Advanced Refresher	6	24	48	
Advanced	3	10	30	
Standard Refresher	1	2	4	
Standard	3	12	36	
<b>Traffic Law</b>				
Traffic Patrol Refresher	1	15	30	
Traffic Patrol	5	56	280	
Advanced Traffic Patrol (City and Guilds)	1	15	45	
<b>Others</b>				
H.G.V. Class I	3	6	12	
Accident Investigation	2	30	30	
Weighing of vehicles	2	16	48	
<b>Grand Total in</b>	<b>1983</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>2,575</b>
	<b>1982</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>2,659</b>
	<b>1981</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>2,676</b>

27 Police Driver Advisory Courses for members of the public were organised in 1983 with tuition for 540 people.

**CADET CORPS**

For the 1983 intake, 456 enquiries were received. 198 application forms were distributed and subsequently 117 firm applications were returned. 6 boys and 7 girls were finally selected.

The Corps strength is now twenty-one - 12 males and 9 females.

Cadets continue to give community service by being attached to local hospitals and to a home for physically handicapped persons. Assistance is also given at holiday camps organised by the Red Cross for severely handicapped people.

All cadets passed the St. John First Aid Examination (Adult) and nine senior cadets obtained a Bronze award of the Royal Life Saving Society.

Cadets took part in a number of national sporting events this year. One senior girl cadet obtained second place in the Butterfly Event at the Cadet National Swimming Championships held at Hendon.

**PROMOTIONS/DEMOTIONS**

During 1983 the following promotions were made:-

Constable to Sergeant	38
Sergeant to Inspector	19
Inspector to Chief Inspector	15
Chief Inspector to Superintendent	10
Superintendent to Chief Superintendent	5
Chief Supt. to A.C.C.	1

(2 Chief Superintendents to Chief Officer rank on transfer to other forces)

During 1983 the following demotions were made:-

Inspector to Sergeant	1
Sergeant to Constable	2

**POLICE PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS**

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
<b>Constable to Sergeant</b>			
Held in November			
Sat	403	402	322
Passed	67	42	49
Percentage of passes	16.6	10.4	15.2
<b>To Inspector</b>			
Held in April			
Sat	47	36	36
Passed	26	17	16
Percentage of passes	55.3	47.2	44.4

To prepare officers for the promotion examinations, pre-examination residential courses were held. Courses were arranged in preparation for both the Sergeants and Constables examinations as recorded below:-

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Attended course	29	18	17
Passed examination	20	14	11
Percentage of passes	69.0	77.8	64.7

\* 7 in the first 200 for Country.

\*\* 3 in first 200 for Country.

\*\*\* 8 in first 200 for Country.

**POLICE COLLEGE AND HIGHER TRAINING**

**POLICE COLLEGE, BRAMSHILL**

The Force continues to take advantage of the facilities offered by the Police Staff College, Bramshill, and 18 officers have attended courses in 1983.

One Superintendent attended the Intermediate Command Course designed to train officers of that rank for divisional command responsibilities. 1 Chief Inspector and 3 Inspectors have attended the Junior Command Course designed for potential sub-divisional commanders.

A recent innovation at the Police Staff College has been a series of 'Carousel' courses. These represent wide ranging subject areas and provide short problem centred training in areas of direct and contemporary need. Eleven officers from the ranks of Inspector and above have attended these courses during the year.

**UNIVERSITIES**

Degree courses attended during 1983 were:-

Course successfully completed	2 Inspectors	) LL.B, Law
Second year completed	3 Inspectors	) BA, Policy Making & Administration

**REGIONAL TRAINING FOR SENIOR OFFICERS**

Inspectors' Initial Courses, held in Hertfordshire, have been attended by 16 Essex officers during the year.

**INSPECTORS' REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES**

These Courses, designed for Inspectors with about 18 months service in that rank, are held at the Force Training School. During 1983, four courses, each of six weeks duration, were completed. Essex officers attended, together with representatives from Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, City of London and British Transport Police. Students continued to be involved in the National Examinations Board for Supervisory Studies (NEBSS) which leads to a Diploma in Supervisory Management awarded by that body.

**POLICE TRAINING CENTRES**

The following number of officers attended District Police Training Centres in 1983:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Initial	75	22
Continuation	90	21

**OFFICERS STUDYING IN THEIR OWN TIME**

The Force provides financial assistance to 80 officers who are studying in their own time to improve their academic qualifications. Since the scheme began eleven years ago, 293 officers have been assisted and many have gained qualifications ranging from GCE 'O' levels to University degrees. The most popular course continues to be the Higher National Certificate in Police Studies which 34 officers are undertaking.

**CHAPTER 5 : OPERATIONS**

**POLICE DOG UNIT**

The Unit is staffed by 1 Inspector, 5 Sergeants and 30 Constables. Thirty-four Alsatians are used as general duty patrol dogs, 3 Labradors are explosive search dogs and a Springer Spaniel is used for drug searching.

All training, including that of specialised dogs, continues to be carried out within the Force. Five replacement dogs will shortly become operational and a new Labrador has replaced the original explosive search dog.

Training with the Force Support Unit continues and has been extended to Divisional Support Groups.

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Incidents attended	6,573	8,050	9,101
Direct Arrests	547	736	743
Assisted Arrests	438	736	609
Property Recovered	182	231	235
Missing Persons Found	47	59	30
Explosive Searches	45	75	57
Drugs Searches	17	47	63

**MARINE UNIT**

The Launch Vigilant III continues to police the lower and sea reaches of the River Thames.

Launches Alert III and Watchful operate on the navigable waters of the Rivers Crouch, Blackwater and Colne.

The Underwater Search and Recovery Section performed 100 operational underwater searches for stolen property and evidence in connection with crime. An extended search was carried out in the Coggeshall area for a missing person. Nine officers working within the Force Support Unit are fully trained for underwater searching. Four officers attended the Police Diving establishment at Strathclyde. During the year, 8 displays to various organisations and 20 talks in connection with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme were given by the Section.

The Marine Unit as a whole carried out 698 patrols afloat and 269 offences were reported.

In addition to dealing with crime and the enforcement of navigational byelaws, assistance was given to vessels broken down or in distress on 96 occasions; rescues of persons at risk totalled 50 and 6 bodies were recovered.

Exercises involving other agencies - HM Coastguard, Port of London Authority and Helicopter Rescue - were carried out on 17 occasions. Liaison has been maintained with HM Customs, Immigration and Special Branch.

All major yachting events have been attended.

Assistance has been given to the Community Services Branch in relation to their work. The Unit has played an active part in promoting water safety among young children by participating in projects organised by Essex Schools and involving HM Coastguards and Air Sea Rescue.

From 7th to 9th February 1983, on the River Blackwater, a major fire occurred on board the Greek ship Protoklitos. Extended assistance was given to the Essex County Fire Brigade.

#### **MOUNTED SECTION**

The Section, based at Southend, is staffed by one Sergeant and three Constables and has a complement of three horses.

Due to extensions of the stable block at Southend during the summer months, the Section was based at Towerlands Equestrian Centre, Braintree. This temporary move to a more central point in the county extended patrols to all the main towns of Essex. Weekend seaside patrols were alternated between Southend and Clacton.

The Section attended 30 engagements during the summer months, including the Essex Show, the NATO Air Pageant at RAF Wethersfield, the Space Shuttle visit to Stansted and town shows at Brentwood, Braintree, Tilbury and Harlow. Duties are now performed at Saturday afternoon matches of Southend Football Club. The Section was involved in four extensive searches for missing persons.

The Section continues to maintain a close liaison with local schools in Southend and schools in Brentwood and Braintree have also been visited.

Constables posted to the Section undergo refresher training at the Metropolitan Police Mounted Department, Imber Court. Two officers attended courses in November 1983.

#### **FORCE SUPPORT UNIT**

The establishment of the Force Support Unit is 1 Chief Inspector, 2 Inspectors, 10 Sergeants and 59 Constables.

During the year, the Unit received 653 requests for assistance compared with 455 in 1982. Seventy-two of these operations were either cancelled or could not be met because of other commitments. Six major crime investigations and 129 general crime operations were carried out, an increase of 23% on the previous year.

119 public order operations were mounted in 1983, thirty-two of which were concerned with anti-nuclear and animal liberation groups.

154 armed operations were carried out by members of the Tactical Firearms Group. Armed security duties at Stansted Airport and thirty operations to combat a series of armed robberies accounted for the significant increase (+98) over last year's figures. 16 arrests were made by armed officers, without incident.

The Diving Unit made 112 operational dives compared with 65 in 1982. Assistance is given to other police forces when necessary.

The Force Support Unit is responsible for training approximately 400 officers in riot control techniques. The Force was not called upon to supply Mutual Aid in 1983.

#### **SPECIAL OPERATIONS**

##### **Voluntary Services Peacetime Civil Emergency Exercises**

Force Emergency Planning personnel and officers from Grays Division assisted the Essex County Council Emergency Planning Staff on 27th March 1983 in the running of Exercise 'March Hare'. The exercise was staged to train and test members of the British Red Cross Society, St. John Ambulance Brigade, W.R.V.S., Civil Aid, Raynet and other voluntary organisations following a simulated explosion. A similar exercise took place in December at North Weald Airfield.

The police presence was maintained to provide the 'services' with a clearer understanding of how they might work with the police in the event of a major disaster and to provide traffic control and Press liaison facilities in the immediate vicinity.

##### **Bank Holidays**

Contingency plans were prepared and put into operation as in previous years to deal with rival teenage factions likely to cause disturbances at the resort towns of Southend and Clacton on Bank Holiday dates in April, May and August.

##### **Water Authority Manual Workers Dispute - Operation 'Keelman'**

Contingency plans were drawn up for the provision of police assistance to other emergency services during the water workers strike early in 1983. No serious incidents were reported within the Essex Police District.

LICENSING

LICENSED PREMISES

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

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Full publicans licences	1,346	1,358	1,332
Publicans' licences with conditions	282	295	331
'ON' Beerhouses	5	4	1
'OFF' Beerhouses/licences	875	903	907
Restaurant licences	354	382	410
Residential combined with restaurant licences	65	68	70
Residential licences	70	69	60
Licensed clubs	75	75	78
Registered clubs	684	705	692
Theatre licences	1	1	2
Seamen's canteen licences	2	2	2
	<u>3,759</u>	<u>3,862</u>	<u>3,885</u>
No. Special Hours Certificates	154	145	162

LICENSING OFFENCES (no. of persons)

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Supplying of liquor after hours	4	-	4
Failing to quit licensed premises upon request of licensee	2	2	2
Consuming liquor after hours	-	7	9
Supplying unauthorised persons	27	10	-
Purchasing liquor when under age	8	6	-
Consuming liquor when under age	-	3	-
Allowing consumption of liquor to person under age	-	7	2
Selling liquor without a licence	-	4	3
Unlicensed entertainment upon licensed premises	1	-	3
Adults convicted for being drunk and disorderly or drunk and incapable	619	632	539
Young persons under 18 convicted for drunkenness	24	31	32
Other licensing offences	6	11	5

BETTING

Licensed facilities for betting in the Force area were:-

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Bookmakers' permits	157	155	138
Betting agency permits	1	1	1
Track betting licences	2	2	2
Betting office licences	209	205	165
Betting offences	2	-	2

GAMING

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Licences issued under the Gaming Act 1968 (includes casino licences in Southend)	273 (2)	289 (2)	345 (2)
Gaming offences	3	-	2

SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
Strength at 1-1-83	284	67	351
Enrolments during 1983	41	16	57
Resignations during 1983	56	19	75
Strength at 31-12-83	269	64	333

Five men transferred from the Special Constabulary into Essex Police during 1983. One male left to join the Metropolitan Police.

A County wide campaign is being undertaken by Territorial Divisional Commanders to increase the numbers of the Special Constabulary. This exercise began with a recruiting display at the 1983 Essex Show.

The annual competitions, together with the Muster Parade, were held in May with the following results:-

Salter Cup	-	Chelmsford Division
De Rougemont Cup	-	Southend Division
Nelson Mitchell Shield	-	Chelmsford Division
Neville Trophy	-	Colchester Division

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. In 1983 it was awarded jointly to Ex Woman Special Constable 956 A.P. BANNISTER, Special Constable 253 J. WILCOX, Special Constable 543 R.W. HEARN, Woman Special Constable 946 L.M. SMITH and Sub Divisional Officer J.J. BOND. These officers displayed exceptional control and initiative in assisting regular officers at serious incident on 7th August 1982 at Thornwood, North Weald which resulted in the deaths of two youths and serious injuries to several others.

	<u>No. of Commendations</u>	<u>No. of Officers</u>
By Chief Constable	1	2
By Courts	2	3

### ROYAL VISITS

On 28th July 1983, HRH the Princess Anne, Mrs. Mark PHILLIPS, visited Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford to open the Scanner Unit which has been paid for by the Essex CAT Cancer Scanner Fund. Later that day she visited the Britvic Soft Drinks Plant on the Widford Industrial Estate and then continued to Peldon where she unveiled a commemorative plaque at the Essex Autistic Society Home for Children.

On 13th May 1983, HRH the Princess Margaret visited Tilbury Fort, a relic from the Napoleonic Wars, to inspect the restoration work being carried out by the Department of the Environment.

On 25th May 1983, HRH The Duke of Gloucester opened a new Day Centre attached to the Harwich District Hospital.

### FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

The flood warning sirens and their control equipment were maintained at a state of readiness throughout the flood tide warning season. Monthly flick testing of the sirens has been carried out.

The siren at Jaywick has been dismantled and removed from its site; it will be relocated at a nearby school. A siren at St. Lawrence Bay is to be resited and negotiations are proceeding for the use of a site owned by the Anglian Water Authority.

The programme to update British Telecom equipment for the operation of sirens is progressing and it is anticipated that the work will be completed early in 1984.

The third edition of the Essex Flood Order came into operation on 1st January 1983 to take into account changes in Police Divisional boundaries.

There were a number of flood warning alerts during the flood season of 1983 (all at levels between 1 and 3) but no instances of flooding or evacuation were reported.

### PROCESS SERVERS

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

### COMMUNITY SERVICES BRANCH

The Branch continues to exercise discretion to prosecute:

- (1) 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

The number of young persons under the age of 17 years found guilty of serious offences was 1,437, a decrease of 33 compared with 1982 (- 2.2%).

These juveniles were involved in 28.2% of all detected offences compared with 29.7% in 1982.

Offences known to have been committed by juveniles	1982	1983	Comparison with 1982	
			No.	%
Offences against the person	460	437	- 23	- 5.0
Burglary offences	1,386	1,484	+ 98	+ 7.1
Thefts	5,269	5,164	- 105	- 2.0
Frauds, arson etc.	868	928	+ 60	+ 6.9
<b>Total juvenile crimes</b>	<b>7,983</b>	<b>8,013</b>	<b>+ 30</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>

### JUNIOR ATTENDANCE CENTRES

The centres are run by senior police officers who are, or have been, in charge of Community Services Branch Offices. They are assisted by other officers from the Community Services Branch who work to a rota to provide adequate supervision of Attendance Centre activities. When necessary, assistance with specialist subjects is available from qualified teaching staff.

**Wickford** - (Mixed) 113 new orders were made; 111 boys, 2 girls. Two boys were taken back to court for non-attendance.

**Colchester** - (Boys only) 59 new orders were made. There was one referral to Court for non-attendance.

**Chelmsford** - Preparations are well advanced for a Senior Attendance Centre at a site in Chelmsford and the premises will be opened early in 1984.

SCHOOLS LIAISON

The Police/Schools Liaison Programme entered its fourth academic year in September 1982. During 1983 further efforts have been made to improve liaison and the quality of the programme that is offered to both primary and secondary schools.

The course for Neighbourhood Beat Officers introduced in 1981 continues and eighty-six officers have now received training to assist them in their schools work. The resources that are available are constantly under review by Community Services Branch officers in consultation with the Education Authority, County Highways Department and Health Education.

Senior officers of the Community Services Branch meet head teachers throughout the County to evaluate the schools programme.

ELDERLY OFFENDERS (60 + YEARS)

During the year, 582 elderly offenders were reported or charged with 585 offences. Of these offences, 402 (69%) were thefts from shops. 405 of the offenders were cautioned (70%) and 99 prosecuted (17%).

<u>Comparison</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Offenders	484	572	582
Prosecuted	12%	18%	17%
Cautioned	77%	69%	70%
No Further Action	11%	13%	13%

"AT RISK" OFFENDERS (17 - 59 YEARS)

The third year of the 'at risk' offender policy produced a further marked increase in referrals of persons thought to be in this category. The rise was expected as a result of greater awareness of the policy among operational officers, outside agencies and shopkeepers.

<u>Comparison</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Offenders	59	185	244
Prosecuted	6%	19%	21%
Cautioned	88%	69%	62%
No Further Action	6%	12%	17%

AT RISK (GENERAL)

During the year, Community Services Branch officers attended a total of 1,107 case conferences called by Social Services or other agencies to discuss suspected child abuse or children 'at risk'. The Criminal Investigation Department carried out an investigation in 12% of these cases but, in the majority of instances, the attendance and contribution by the Community Services Branch officer was considered valuable in other ways.

Community Services Branch officers visited 362 persons who had been reported missing from home. These included missing persons considered to be at some continuing risk, juvenile absconders and mental patients missing from hospital. 53 referrals were made to another agency for further help to be given. The majority of referrals were to Social Services but the Probation Service, Family Guidance Units and General Practitioners were also consulted.

Reports of solvent abuse (commonly referred to as 'Glue Sniffing') throughout the county were monitored by the Community Services Branch and families were visited when a solvent abuser was notified. Advice was given concerning the dangers of solvent abuse and the family encouraged to seek the help of their General Practitioner. Referrals were also made to Social Services or other agencies where considered appropriate.

VICTIMS SUPPORT SCHEMES

As a result of the boundary changes in January 1983, the number of Victims Support Schemes within the County was reduced from seven to six by the amalgamation of Clacton with the Colchester Scheme. The Chelmsford Scheme was extended to include Braintree and Halstead Sub-Divisions; elsewhere minor area changes were made.

At the end of 1983 the six Schemes had 161 fully trained volunteers and during the year 3,302 victims were helped. The victims of burglary in dwellings are referred automatically and victims of other serious offences and incidents are carefully screened.

The Schemes continue to be supervised by members of the Essex Probation 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.

A senior divisional officer sits on the local Management Committee and the Superintendent, Community Services Branch, is a member of the County Committee. Each Division has a linkman, who is responsible for referring victims to the local Scheme Co-ordinator.

**CHAPTER 6 : MISCELLANEOUS**

**COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE**

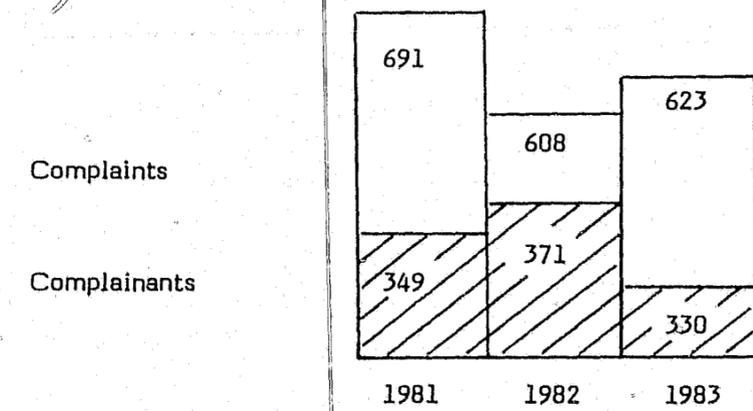
The procedure for dealing with complaints made by members of the public against police officers remains as laid down by Section 49 of the Police Act 1964 and the Police Act 1976. The Police Complaints Board was established by the 1976 Act and provides an independent element in the disciplinary aspects 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 1983, as previously, no such directions have been made concerning an officer of this Force. Comparative figures for the last five years are shown below.

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982*</u>	<u>1983*</u>
Complainants	351	392	349	371	330
Complaints	582	677	691	608	623
Substantiated	17	24	10	14	10
Not Substantiated	565	653	681	527	286
Outstanding	-	-	-	67	327

\*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 1983, of the 608 complaints received in 1982, 541 had been finalised. This figure includes 336 (55.26%) which were withdrawn or not proceeded with by the complainant.

The 296 complaints received and finalised in 1983 include 198 (66.9%) that were withdrawn. As most withdrawals occur in the early stages of the 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 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 327 outstanding complaints from 1983 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 investigations are carried out immediately if it is considered advisable.

Of the complaints finalised in 1983, 66% (i.e. 196) arose from the arrest or reporting for process of an offender. During the course of the year almost 59,000 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 the Deputy Chief Constable or Divisional Commanders by way of admonishment or, where appropriate, by giving suitable advice. Five years comparative figures show that this aspect remains stable.

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Caution	-	-	-	-	-
Reprimand	-	4	2	3	-
Fines	7	4	4	1	7
Reduced in Rank	-	-	-	-	3
Required to resign	1	1	1	-	1
Dismissed	1	-	1	-	-
Found not Guilty	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	9 (1)	9 (2)	8 (1)	4 (3)	12 (4)

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

**AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

During 1983 the following Awards and Decorations were made:-

Queen's Police Medal	Deputy Chief Constable R. STONE
British Empire Medal	PC 876 J.H.H. DOUBLE for outstanding work to charity, particularly 'Riding for the Disabled', over a number of years.
The Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal	61 officers as a mark of Her Majesty's appreciation of Long and Meritorious Service.

**COMMENDATIONS**

Members of the Force received commendations during 1983 as follows:-

	<u>No. of Commendations</u>	<u>No. of Officers</u>
By Chief Constable	34	63
By Chief Constable (Highly Commended)	2	3
By Courts (Including HM Judge, HM Coroners or Justices)	47	132

(excluding Special Constables - see Chapter 5)

**ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY**

The following awards were made to members of the Force in 1983:-

PC 1108 David M. SALMON	Testimonial on Parchment
DC 1458 Michael LEECH	Testimonial on Parchment
PC 1726 Andrew J. HOWARD	Certificate on Parchment
PC 652 Robert K. HURRELL	Certificate on parchment

On April 7th 1983, a man and two youths were rescued from the sea after one of the boys had inadvertently fallen through the trapdoor of Clacton Pier whilst clearing ice. His fellow workers had tried to rescue him but were themselves then in difficulty. PC SALMON swam 35-40 yards in icy water to reach and calm them. He then swam back to shore with the two boys and was assisted, on reaching shallower water, by PCs HOWARD and HURRELL. The third man who was clinging by a fire hose to the Pier was rescued by DC LEECH who reached him by means of a lifebelt and rope payed out by his colleagues.

WPC 3154 J.A. GOLDSBOROUGH	Resuscitation Certificate
PC 1946 D.A. SMITH	Resuscitation Certificate

On 10th September 1982, PC SMITH AND WPC GOLDSBOROUGH were called to a beach shelter at Clacton where an elderly woman was found unconscious. Her breathing suddenly stopped and immediately the officers commenced mouth to mouth resuscitation and heart massage. This prompt action undoubtedly saved the woman's life.

**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 1,188 in 1983.

**PARTICIPATION IN YOUTH ORGANISATIONS**

During 1983, voluntary activities assisting youth organisations were undertaken by 147 officers.

**FORCE WELFARE**

Force Welfare duties are performed 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 Dependant's 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 are visited and assistance given where necessary.

**POLICE DEPENDANTS TRUST**

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

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Nos. assisted in this Force	12	8	11
Total of Grants made (£)	5,645	3,448	4,660
Contributions to the Trust (£)	752	1,085	879

**GURNEY FUND**

Regular weekly grants are made from this Fund to police orphans.

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Children assisted	23	16	16
Total benefits paid (£)	6,333	5,343	5,785
Subscriptions from Force members (£)	5,478	8,127	5,788

**ESSEX POLICE FORCE BENEVOLENT FUND**

This Fund is administered 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 1983, £13,744 was allocated to assist in maintaining and running the Convalescent Police Seaside Home at Hove; thirty-one serving officers and one pensioner attended the Home as patients and a total of £751 was paid out for their travelling and out-of-pocket expenses.

The Benevolent Fund made the following grants during 1983:

Serving Police Officers	£3,984.12
Dependants	£4,352.04
Pensioners	£ 50.00
Orphans	£3,300.00

**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 1983, the total income was £450, including donations of £368. Total assets amounted to £4,078. A number of grants were made during the year.

**CIVILIAN STAFF WELFARE FUND**

Membership	760
(Subscription 13p per month or 3p per week)	
Grants	£1,000
Interest Free Loans	£410
Excess of Income over Expenditure	£1,223
Total Reserve	£7,365

**CIVILIAN STAFF GROUP INSURANCE SCHEME**

During 1983, 24 claims were made on the Group Insurance Scheme: 2 death claims, 4 under the spouse option clause and 18 accident claims. Weekly/monthly premiums remain very realistic, ensuring continued support for the Scheme, which gives both good value and excellent service.

**JOINT CONSULTATION**

There is an 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.

## FORCE SPORT

Serving officers and cadets are involved in many sporting activities. Competitions and matches are arranged against other police forces and teams formed by members of the general public.

**ATHLETICS** - The Force achieves good results in most sports, but is particularly successful in Athletics. The Force Team became Regional PAA Champions for the 14th successive year.

**BOWLS** - Members of the Force are regularly selected to represent the National Police Bowls Team.

**FENCING** - Woman Constable T. SEWELL regularly represents England in international events.

**JUDO** - Woman Constable P. ELLIS is National PAA Champion for the fifth successive year.

**SHOOTING** - Superintendent J. PAGE, Inspector G. HARVEY and Sergeant P. WEBB are members of the British Police Shooting Team.

**SOCCER** - The Force Team continues to participate in PAA and local Civilian leagues.

## FORCE TROPHIES

The Wilson Trophy, donated by the late W.W. Wilson Esq., of Stanford-le-Hope is presented for the most meritorious deed by an Essex Police Constable. For the year 1982 it was awarded to Inspector G.B. SHARPE of the Southend Division who rescued an unconscious woman from the sea off Westcliff.

The Betts Trophy is donated by Mrs. E. BETTS for award to the Traffic Warden who performed the most meritorious action when assisting the Police. The award was presented to Traffic Warden 125 D. MARSHALL of Chelmsford Division who gave resuscitation to a 72 year old man who had collapsed in the street.

The Millard Trophy, donated by Alderman S. WOODFULL MILLARD is awarded to the member of the Force who makes the greatest contribution to social service in the community to the furtherance of police/public relations. Police Constable 1089 G.G. ELLIOTT received the award in 1982 for dedicated service to the Scout and Girl Guide movement on Canvey Island. Constable ELLIOTT is also a member of the local Parish Church Council and devotes much time to fund raising, church restoration and tending the Church gardens.

## AWARDS TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

### ESSEX COUNTY NEWSPAPER AWARD SCHEME

The Essex County Newspaper Annual Monetary Award Scheme continued in 1983. These awards are made to members of the public who have been of outstanding assistance to the Police. An award is made for each area covered by each newspaper of the Group.

7 nominations were considered and 6 awards made as follows:

**BRAINTREE AND WITHAM TIMES** - The recipient tackled and disarmed a man who had just murdered his wife's lover, severely injured his wife and was in possession of a seven inch fishing knife. Although in a state of frenzy, the attacker was restrained for several minutes by the recipient, until the police arrived.

**CHELMSFORD WEEKLY NEWS** - Two schoolboys received this award, jointly. They witnessed a theft from a shop in Chelmsford, reported what they had seen to the Police and, after being driven around the town, identified the offenders.

The Newspaper proprietors felt that a second award under the auspices of this newspaper was deserved. A resident of Ongar was driving along the A.12, near Margaretting, when he witnessed the theft of a police car. He followed the vehicle to the point where the thief abandoned it, noted the man's description and reported what he had seen to Ingatestone Police Station.

**MALDON & BURNHAM STANDARD** - A resident of Maylandsea witnessed the theft of a motor car in that village. He gave chase and detained one of the two thieves involved, holding on to him despite a violent struggle, until the police arrived.

**ESSEX COUNTY STANDARD** - A member of the public cycling through Colchester saw two masked men, one carrying a pick-axe handle, running from a Sub Post Office as the alarm was ringing. He pursued the men for some distance before he lost sight of them and noted where they had thrown their equipment. He reported the location to the police who were then able to trace the robbers.

**HARWICH & MANNINGTREE STANDARD** - A woman who worked part-time in a Dovercourt Post Office recognised a case of mis-use of a pension book. She informed the police and kept watch on the thief until an arrest could be made.

## ESSEX POLICE BAND

During the year, 32 engagements were met. Sixteen of these were new venues and the remainder were annual events including visits to the Colchester Hospitals, the Essex Special Constables' Parade and the Pensioners Garden Party which is held at Police Headquarters. The Band attended Ashford Training Centre, and also provided music at a Garden Party held at Police Headquarters for the retirement of senior officers.

During January the Band united with the Metropolitan Police Band to give a charity concert in Chelmsford. This was the first occasion both bands had played on stage together. Many of the Band's engagements throughout the year were performed in aid of various charities and considerable funds were raised. In April the Band played host to the Royal Ulster Constabulary Male Voice Choir giving concerts in Chelmsford and Colchester. At the Chelmsford concert, the Band and Choir were joined by HM Irish Guards Band and a concert was given to a large attentive audience. At the conclusion of this weekend, £800 was donated to the Force Benevolent Fund. During the summer, the Band visited various parks throughout Essex and also gave three Sunday afternoon concerts in London parks.

The Band again played in Westminster Abbey, at the Wethersfield USAF Open Day, and attended the opening of a Marks and Spencer store in Brentwood. Two concerts were given in Brentwood and Grays, both organised by the Brentwood and Grays Police Sports Clubs.

During October, the Band made a master recording to produce a long playing record for public release. Proceeds from sales will be used to purchase new instruments. At the Annual General Meeting the Alston Cup donated for musical ability and services to the Band was presented to PC M. FORD and his wife Gill. This was the first time the cup had been presented to a married couple.

The Band continues to operate as a voluntary trust organisation without sponsorship from public funds and membership currently stands at thirty four.

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS

Membership of the Association is being maintained, but about one-third of all pensioners in the County are not yet members. All possible steps are being taken to increase membership through the Force media, quarterly bulletins and by talks to Pre-retirement Courses.

Much work has been done during the year on the Preserved Rate Widows Pension with particular assistance from the Association's Parliamentary Adviser - Dr. John Blackburn M.P. Although no increases have been made to the basic pension, the matter is continually being brought to the notice of Home Office officials.

One of the issues raised at the Annual Conference at Harrogate in September was the Age Advance Supplement to the Retirement pension: 25 pence per week for pensioners attaining the age of 80. This allowance is the only item under the Pensions Act 1971 which has not been index-linked. All three Branches - Chelmsford, Colchester and Southend - were represented at the Conference and many interesting Motions were debated.

The Pensioners Garden Party in July was well attended by over 600 pensioners and their wives. The Association is indebted to the Chief Constable and Senior Officers for the facilities made available for meetings and functions.

**END**