

# DAY A FIREMAN WORE A MINI

**'Lady' in distress  
shock for police**

By STUART HIGGINS

**TWO young policemen rushed to help when they saw a motorist in distress . . . dressed in a white mini-skirt and fishnet stockings.**

But the leggy blonde peering under the bonnet of a broken-down car turned out to be a 35-year-old fireman in drag, a court heard yesterday.



Rees yesterday . . . "It was a childish bet"

Father-of-two Keith Rees's saucy outfit was complete with black panties, suspender belt and wig.

He explained: "I dressed up to win a bet. It was childish."

The policemen were not amused when they looked in the car—and saw a 2ft wooden truncheon on the floor.

They booked him for having an offensive weapon.

Rees, of Hartcliff, Bristol, told the court at nearby Long Ashton: "The truncheon had nothing whatever to do with my dressing up."

"I have no legal authority to carry it, but I believe I had reasonable excuse because I have been the victim of unprovoked attacks."

## Open

Court clerk Mr Harry Blake told Rees he was not accused of dressing up, but asked him if he would like to say anything because it was "so unusual."

Rees answered: "I was carrying out a wager, but unfortunately the police took a different view of it."

Miss Rosaleen Collins, prosecuting, told how the two patrolmen saw Rees's Standard Vanguard stationary in a country lane.

"The car bonnet was open. It appeared there was a lady requiring assistance," she said.

## Victim

"There was someone leaning over the bonnet trying to repair the car."

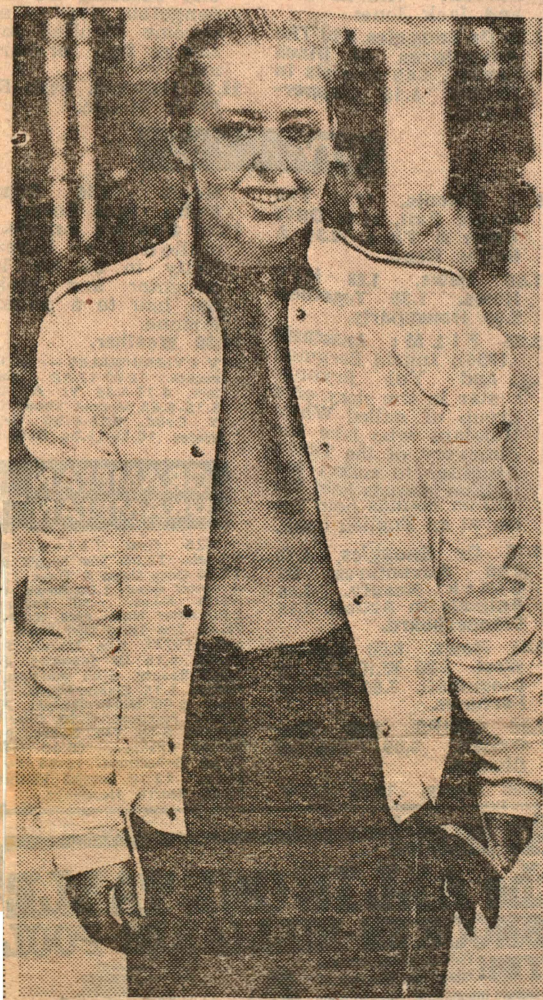
Rees, a fireman for 15 years, was fined £75 and ordered to pay £15 costs.

Rees has been suspended from duty with Avon Fire Brigade since the incident three weeks ago.

The brigade's Chief Officer, Mr Fred Ponsford, will consider yesterday's court case before deciding whether Rees will keep his job.

## END OF THE LINE

The post of mayor of King's Lynn, Norfolk, is abolished from today after 800 years in a council shake-up.



Michele Howard Picture by MARTIN LAWRENCE

## Michele in drug fight

THE blonde who inspired the Beatles' hit song, Michele, walked free from a court yesterday after proving she had kicked the drug habit.

Michele Howard—whose name gained an "L" in the song title—was given a final chance last July when she admitted having heroin and cannabis.

Yesterday her solicitor Robert Berg told Marlborough Street Court in London that she had succeeded in beating drugs and had not taken them since her last court appearance.

Michele, daughter of former Beatles publicist Anthony Howard, was sentenced to three months imprisonment, suspended for two years.

## Happy

The 23-year-old . . . duty, of York Man- . . . as, Prince of Wales . . . re, Battersea, left . . . t smiling. . . e said: "I have . . . er been a drug . . . ct in the strict . . . e of the word, . . . y future is going . . . be organised, . . . s-free and very . . . y."