THE QUEEN, rightly, and reasonably, wants to raise no barriers across the private lives of her children at school. No fuss, no preferential treatment—and a good idea it is. If it works out. Which is impossible.

Princess Anne starts school at Benenden on Friday. A few carefully prepared unprepared arrangements have been made.

Constable David Grove, a bachelor in his early twenties, is Anne's bodyguard. His instructions are precise. He will keep strangers from the school grounds. He won't be constantly following Anne about the school—or worrying about cherry brandy. No problems so far.

Road Closed

But yesterday, the first barrier was bolted into place. A road across the school estate which had been open for forty years was closed. No one will now be allowed within sight of the three entrances to Benenden unless they are on business. Local villagers were angry.

David Cox, a young stockman who tends cattle grazing on the estate, was not in right royal humour.

"If I have to show a pass every time I go through—then my boss can take the cows in," he said.

Gordon Greenwood, Benenden's Bursar, explained.

"Both gates to the grounds will be manned and a four-hour road is having a gate across it. We are sorry to do this—but the security authorities have requested it."

RICK ALLORD, former skipper of Errol Flynn's yacht "Zazca" has spent twenty-four hours adrift in an open speedboat in the Mediterranean after its engine stopped—which is not the most comforting thing to happen.

Lord Avebury in his Cannes-based yacht "Erna" came to the rescue. Said Rick: "He took me aboard, gave me coffee and dry clothes and helped to mend the engine."

CHUBBY CHECKER, 21-year-old King of the Twist, is planning to settle in Paris. There they should find Chubby quiet, retiring, un-twisted—and keen to learn French, which is always handy in France.

Catharina Loders, Miss World, Miss Holland, and a very beautiful Argentinian, has found a new home, and has been invited by Chubby to lunch at the Chubby Club in London. She has become so much of a socialite that she was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire. She is a very lovely girl, and Chubby is very fond of her. They are planning to get married soon, and Chubby is very happy about it.

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THE DUKE OF BEDFORD hesitated over a publicity stunt (and this makes history). A man parachuting into his Woburn estate clad only in tuxedo underpants was tasteless, he thought. The parachutist will now wear a kilt.

I applaud the modesty of that lusty voiced operatic bass OWEN BRANNIGAN. Holidaying in Cornwall, he had to put in a bit of rehearsal. I thought, oh boy! I'd love to hear such songs as the "Maid of Orleans". It's a bit of a shame, but he did put in a bit of rehearsal. "We're sailing the sea in a little boat, and I'm the captain," he said. "And I'm the captain of the ship, and we're sailing the sea in a little boat."

MAURICE CHEVALIER has been making it known that he would like to make a film with Brigitte Bardot.

"When I woke up, I don't know what it was. I just want to be alone."

JAGUAR WIFE IN CONVOY TO JAIL

AN attractive brunette in a light-blue Jaguar followed a police convoy that took nine men accused in the mail train robbery case back to prison yesterday. Earlier, while the nine men appeared at Linlithgow, Buck's, she had heard a Scotland Yard detective allege that her husband, a solicitor's managing clerk, was a member of the gang that robbed the Glasgow-London train at Cheddington, on August 8. Her husband, Brian Arthur Field, 26, was making his first appearance in court after his arrest on Monday night on a charge of being concerned in the £25,000 mail robbery.

Field, smartly dressed in a grey suit, stood in the crowded dock in the tiny courtroom with the other eight men and Miss Mary Masson, who is charged with receiving £205. Mrs. Karen Field, of Bridle-road, Whitchurch, Hill, Oxfordshire, sat in the public benches during the thirty-minute hearing.

Mrs. Brian Field then climbed into her Jaguar outside the court and was waved into the convoy by a policeman.

Escorted

The black maras in which the nine men were taken to Bedford Prison were escorted by five police cars—and Mrs. Field's Jaguar. At Bedford she was allowed to see her husband. After the prisoners had been remanded in custody until September 26, strict security precautions were taken by police on the fifteen-mile drive to Bedford.

This followed rumours that attempts to release some of the prisoners might be made.

Another man making his first appearance in court was Leonard Dennis Field, 31, merchant seaman of Green-lease, Newham, London. He is not related to Brian Field.

Mistake

Detective Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler said when he told Leonard Field that he would be charged, with being concerned in the robbery. Field replied: "I didn't take part in any robbery. You are making a mistake.

"I know the firm and myself were involved in the business at the farm with Lenny Field, but that is not robbery. "This is serious and I can see my part will require some explanation. "No bail was refused for Robert Pizzini, 26, of Lonsdale-road, Nothing Hill, who is charged with receiving £205. The court has asked the District Officer to try to contact Roy James, nicknamed The Weasel, whom police want to question.

POP GOES BBC—TILL MIDNIGHT

By CLIFFORD DAVIS

THE Light Programme on BBC radio is to launch a two-hour-a-night pop music show—ending at midnight.

The new show, "Music to Midnight," is a pilot show for the BBC's plan to broadcast pop music into the early hours of the morning.

This plan has been shelved because of copyright problems.

Names

"Music to Midnight" takes the BBC back to the days before the last war, when the big-name bands of Big Four, Low Stone and Ambrose played late-night music.

The new series, starting on September 28, will include the BBC Dance Orchestra, the Bill Shepherd Orchestra, and the Band of the Royal Artillery, under the baton of Gunner B. J. H. Latham. The conductor and harpist is the late John Scott, who was also known as the "Harpist of the Guards."