



JOURNAL OF THE POLICE HISTORY SOCIETY

No. 31 | 2017



FINDING THE FORGOTTEN FALLEN

**ANTHONY RAE on the Roll of Honour
and Lancashire Police Memorial Garden**

RICHARD COWLEY

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and MARTIN STALLION

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**THE FIRST CHIEF CONSTABLE OF
SHROPSHIRE, CAPTAIN
DAWSON MAYNE**

By TONY MOORE

...and much more!



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Absent Friends

EDITORIAL by ADAM WOOD

It is with some pride that I present the 2017 *Journal*, the first under my stewardship. It is, however, tinged with regret, in that I've taken over the editor's chair from Dick Cowley, who sadly passed away earlier this year. I never had the chance to meet Dick personally, so don't feel qualified to comment on his legacy. Thankfully, Mark Holland and Martin Stallion have prepared a remembrance, which appears on the following pages.

We could perhaps be forgiven for continuing a downbeat theme in this year's *Journal*, featuring as it does several articles on the death of police officers while on duty. Our cover story describes the outstanding efforts over 30 years of Anthony Rae on the Roll of Honour, and the recent dedication of the Lancashire Police Memorial Garden, which saw the unveiling of 140 plaques to officers of that force.

Tony Moore salutes those officers who lost their lives in the fight against terrorism between 1975 and 1983, and Keith Foster reveals how the bravery of PC Alfred Smith, who was killed by a bomb during the Great War while saving the lives of others, has finally been recognised. Martin Baggoley describes the death of Dugald Campbell, the first name on the Scottish Police Roll of Honour, and my first article for the *Journal* looks at the fatal shooting of PC Frederick Atkins in 1881, only the second instance of an unsolved murder of a Metropolitan Police officer after that of PC George Clark in 1846.

There is therefore, unavoidably, a lot of death in this edition. But we also look at the police's involvement in some major events in history: Peter Hinchliffe examines how the forces adapted during the First World War; John Brown looks at how the Doncaster Borough Police dealt with the activities of the Suffragettes, and Dr David Smale records the first twenty years in the existence of the Glasgow Police. Robert Bartlett researches all the way back to the 16th century, when he asks if you're more likely to be murdered in your beds today than in Medieval times.

On a cheerier note, the milestone 50th anniversary of the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary is marked by Mark Rothwell and Samantha Hill, and Len Woodley, Fred Feather, Elvyn Oakes and Mick Shaw share welcome personal comment.

I very much hope you enjoy the 2017 *Journal*, and thank you all for your good wishes and support.



ADAM WOOD has been on the editorial board of *Ripperologist* magazine, the largest circulation journal dedicated to the Jack the Ripper case, since 1997, and has acted as its Executive Editor for nine years. He is co-author with Neil R. A. Bell of *Sir Howard Vincent's Police Code, 1889* and the forthcoming official history of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphans Fund. He is also close to completing a detailed biography of Det. Superintendent Donald Sutherland Swanson.

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POLICE HISTORY SOCIETY

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The aim of the Society is to promote interest in police history and to act as a focal point and network for anyone interested in the subject.

The Society's website provides a link to all UK forces, as well as museums and similar organisations. Through the website, researchers can submit enquiries on any aspect of police history for answering by our members.

The Society publishes Monographs from time to time and is prepared to consider applications for grants.

It publishes four Newsletters per year plus an annual *Journal*, and the Annual Conference is usually held in September at varying locations throughout the country.

www.policehistorysociety.co.uk

Richard Cowley: A Remembrance

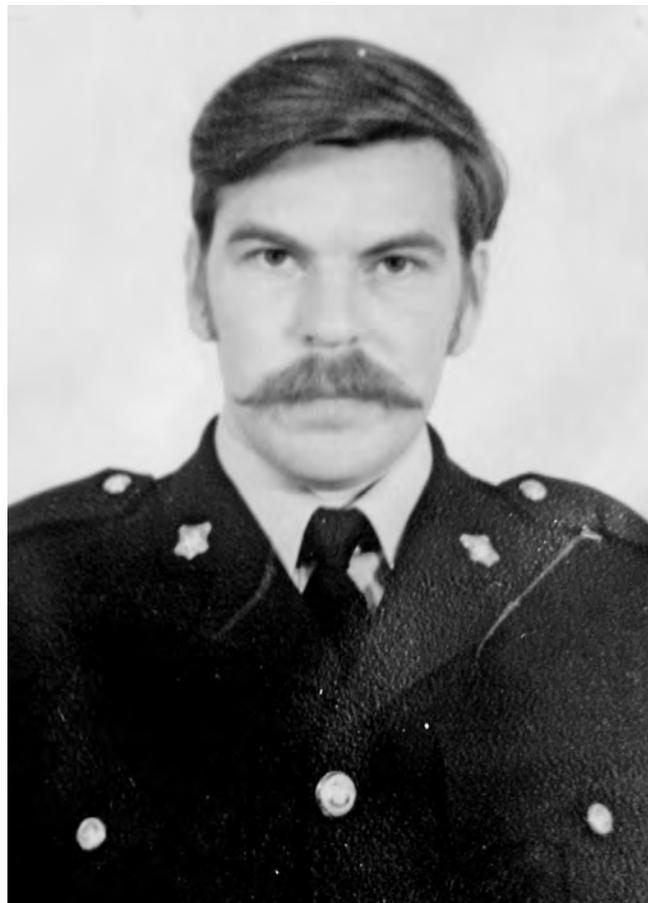
By MARK HOLLAND and MARTIN STALLION

Mr Richard 'Dick' Cowley sadly passed away on 5th of January 2017 at Kettering General Hospital at the age of 71 years.

Richard joined Northamptonshire Police in July 1970, serving two periods in the force until his retirement in June 1995. Prior to joining the regular force he was a member of the Special Constabulary for two years from 1968, and prior to that he had a career in the printing industry.

His initial posting was at Corby and he became a Traffic Officer in the Eastern Area Traffic Department. Upon re-joining the force he was always based in the north of the county, serving in the small and large towns of the area as well as at Barnwell Manor, along the way acquiring his interest in police, criminal and legal history. He graduated from the Open University with a BA in Modern History before going on to gain a Master's Degree (MA) in Victorian studies at Leicester University, where his thesis was on the subject of the Inspectorate of Constabulary.

Following his retirement from the police service in 1995, Dick continued



to develop his interest in the history of Northamptonshire Police. As the Northamptonshire Police Archivist and Historian, he diligently gathered artefacts and records from the force's long history, storing and cataloguing items of interest and preserving important documents.

Dick's legacy within his home force is a comprehensive collection

illustrating the force history and the many changes Northamptonshire Police, and indeed policing in general, has experienced over the years. The artefacts Richard has collected will enable the public, current officers and staff and future generations to better understand the journey we have been on.

Dick Cowley was one of the earliest members of the Police History Society, joining in the mid 1980s. He took part in the only (so far) contested election for the Committee in 1992, when he was narrowly defeated in his bid to become Editor of the *Journal*. As consolation, he was elected as an ordinary Committee member and a year later he took over as Membership Secretary, a post which he held until 1997.

On his second attempt to become Editor in 2014 he was unopposed, and he immediately set about improving the *Journal*, with full colour covers and a layout which reflected his skill as a printer and typographer.

He had already contributed several articles to the publication, including

one on chief constables in 1994 and the Inspectorate in 1996. His research on the Inspectorate also led to his becoming the joint author of its official history, published in 2006.

In 2010 Dick published yet another book, *Outrage and Murder*, about which he was interviewed by the BBC:

A former Northamptonshire policeman has written a book based on 800 years of criminal homicide and judicial execution in the county.

Richard Cowley, from Finedon, wrote the book 'Outrage and Murder' which looks at Northampton's violent past.

"My interest of murders in the county came from working on manslaughter

cases in the police force," said Richard. After 10 years of collecting the information, Richard completed the book.

"The earliest records go back to the 13th century where there was an average of eight murders in the county a year. Most victims of murder knew their attackers and there was a lot of alcohol related crimes," said Richard.

Information in the book dates back to 1202 running up to the 1850s.

Richard found a lot of inconsistency in the records held about sentencing.

"A man could steal a horse and get a simple fine, but another man could steal a horse and be hanged. I know we don't know all the evidence, but it

struck me as being very unusual," he said.

This is the first edition of this book and Richard hopes it will get more people interested in local history.

"Reading is great as it allows your imagination to run away with you, I hope people find the book a fascinating read whilst learning more about their local ancestors."



EDITOR'S NOTE: While browsing the articles collated by Dick for the 2017 *Journal* I discovered the following item written by him, which we're pleased to publish in this edition.

The First HMI

The Life and Times of William Cartwright: HM Inspector of Constabulary 1856-1869

By RICHARD COWLEY

Finding petty crime rampant in those counties and boroughs not having police forces, Palmerston's Royal Commission on the Police of 1853 urged the compulsory establishment of constabularies for all counties and boroughs.

Thus the County and Borough Police Act of 1856 was born, which forced the counties and boroughs that had not already done so, to form professional full time police forces immediately. And to ensure full compliance, three Inspectors of Constabulary were appointed under the Act, one for each of the three districts into which England and Wales had been divided.

The Inspector's task was to examine every force in his district annually and judge whether that force was 'efficient'

in terms of numbers, equipment and buildings.

Being mindful of the huge expense to the local rate-payers of full-time efficient constabularies, the government provided an incentive whereby each constabulary found efficient by the Inspectors, was to have a quarter of its annual wages and clothing expenses paid by central government (eventually this would be raised to fifty-one percent of all expenses).

Appointed on Friday 1 August 1856, William Cartwright, was the very first Inspector of Constabulary. He was followed in September that year by John Woodford, for sixteen years Chief Constable of Lancashire, and then in January 1857, by Edward Willis who had been Chief Constable

of Manchester for fifteen years.

Ironically, it was the only non-policeman of the trio who was to have the greatest and longest lasting influence on policing policy, and who, upon his death was to be fondly remembered as 'the policemen's friend'.

Coming from the privileged upper classes of his time, William was born on Wednesday 22 February 1797 into the wealthy land-owning Cartwright family of Aynho in Northamptonshire.

Educated privately, and then at Eton, his future appeared mapped out when he was sent to the Royal Military College at Marlow in Buckinghamshire (later moved to Sandhurst) in 1809. Having been 'Gazetted' into the 61st Regiment of Foot (2nd Battalion

the Gloucestershire Regiment), Cartwright joined Wellington's army in the bitterly fought Peninsular War of 1812-1813. Just two years later however, he transferred to the 10th Hussars, and so fought at the Battle of Waterloo, along with another army officers, one Charles Rowan by name, who was also to figure prominent in the British police, although neither then knew it.

It was at Waterloo that Cartwright acquired one of Napoleon's dinner services, which remains a possession of the Cartwright family to this day.

Cartwright retired from the army in May 1825 on half-pay, with the rank of Major. As was the custom of the time, regular promotion still came during retirement. By 1856 therefore, he was a Major-General, even though he had not worn army uniform for more than thirty years.

In 1822 he had married a wealthy London heiress, Mary Ann Jones. After living in Sussex for a time, he returned to his native county eight years later, when in 1831 he bought the Manor House at Flore, a small village between Daventry and Northampton.

At Flore, Cartwright settled down to the life of a country squire, but having time on his hands, soon became involved in local government. In particular, he took a deep interest in the Poor Law administration, and in 1833 was elected Chairman of the Brackley Board of Guardians. This was always to be the General's hobby-horse, and after he became HMI, it was his influence that led most police forces to appoint policemen as Assistant Relieving Officers, to help administer the large numbers of the Victorian destitute.

Cartwright became Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire in 1846, and permanent Chairman of Northamptonshire Quarter Sessions in 1851.

So he was not only acquainted with

virtually all the influential politicians and society leaders of his day, but also when visiting his wife's London properties would have met them fairly regularly.

Given Cartwright's interests and influence, it is not surprising therefore, when the Home Secretary, Sir George Grey, was looking for the first HMI, Cartwright was snapped up at an annual salary of £700.

His allocated district comprised the English midland and eastern counties, the north Welsh counties, and all the boroughs contained therein - a total of twenty-five counties and sixty-eight boroughs.

Journeying round his district in the first months of 1857, Cartwright made a preliminary study of the existing forces and offered advice to those forces still being established under the compulsory 1856 Act. In this cursory survey, he found only fifteen of the twenty-five counties already had forces in existence - and of this fifteen, he considered only nine to be efficient!

Returning to Flore, he set up administration machinery in his own house, employing clerks to maintain a constant stream of correspondence with the borough Watch Committees and the county Quarter Sessions. In doing this, he was completely independent of the Home Office.

So well did he influence and advise his Police Authorities, that when he came to make his 'official' inspection in the summer and autumn of 1857, he could report that all his counties now had police forces, and that with the exception of tiny Rutland, every one was efficient. But in any case, the county constabularies were never to be any problem. Rutland became efficient in 1861, and after that, no county constabulary was ever in danger of being considered inefficient, and none ever was.

But the boroughs were to be

different. In his first inspection year of 1857, of Cartwright's sixty-eight boroughs, thirty were efficient and sixteen had agreed to be policed by their surrounding counties. The remaining twenty-two, he said left him 'only with the unpleasant alternative of reporting them inefficient', and thus ineligible for the cash hand-out by central government, the so-called Exchequer Grant.

It was always the small and inefficient boroughs that would prove to be the thorn in the side of the Inspectorate. And despite repeated requests through their Annual Reports to the Home Office (the Inspectors had no power to enforce, only advise), incredibly, it would not be for another thirty-odd years that all borough forces were considered efficient. The 'wooden spoon' for the last force to be declared fit for purpose, was Congleton Borough Police in 1889.

William Cartwright remained as an Inspector of Constabulary until 1869 when he resigned. He was then seventy-two years of age, and had just seen his surviving son, Fairfax, elected as MP for South Northamptonshire. Aubrey, his other son, had been killed at the Battle of Inkerman in the Crimea, fifteen years earlier.

Not wishing to remain idle, though, he took on another post - Governorship of Northampton General Hospital - and still immersed himself in Quarter Sessions affairs. He died at his London town house in Grosvenor Square on Thursday 5 June 1873, and was buried in the 'Cartwright Corner' in Aynho churchyard.

That William Cartwright was probably the most influential of all the long line of HMIs is shown by the fact that some of the ideas that he implemented during the 1860s are still with us. Others have dropped by the wayside, being rendered unnecessary by the improvement of

social conditions in life generally.

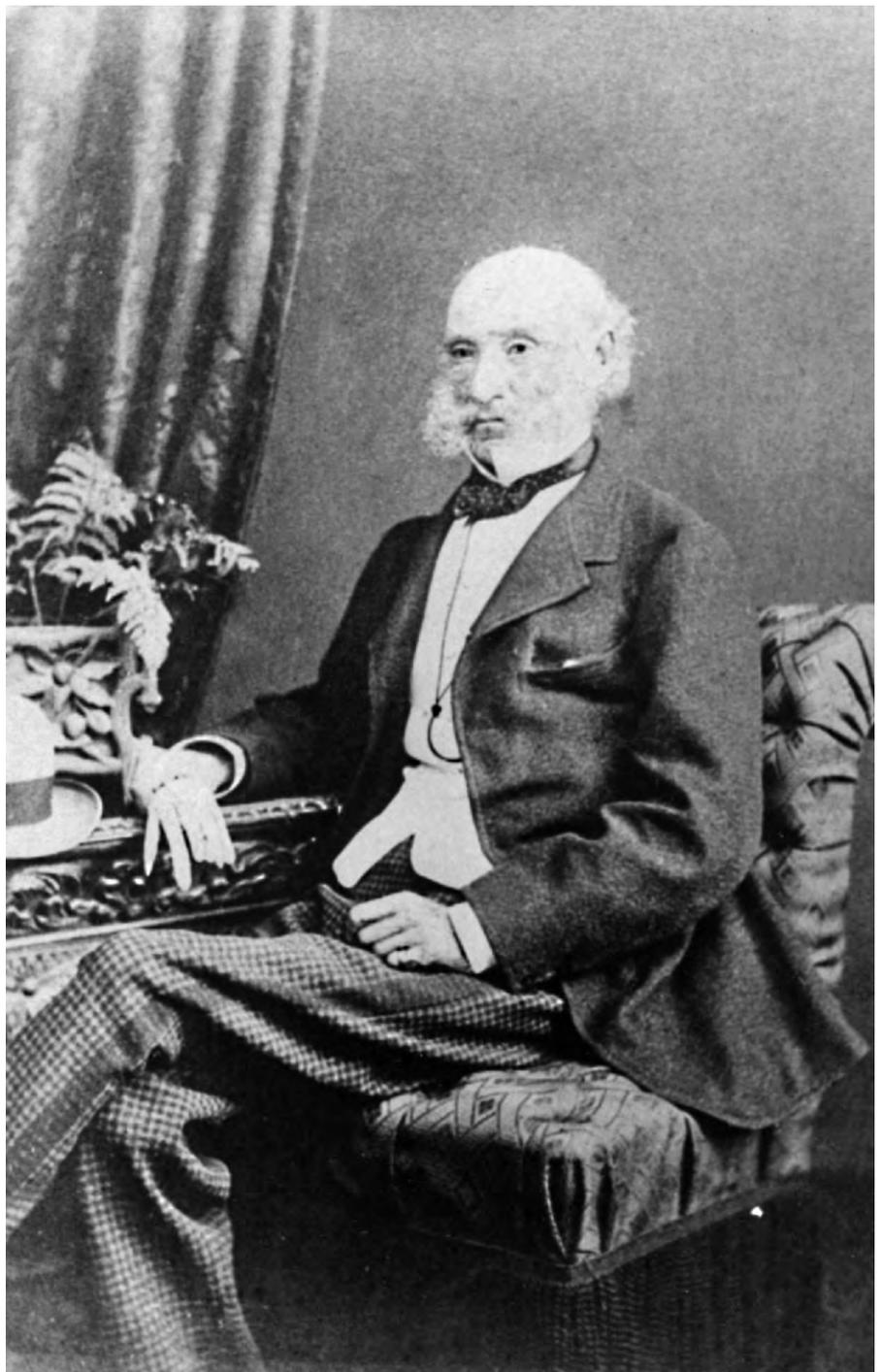
Apart from his desire to involve the police in the Poor Law, Cartwright was concerned with the welfare of police officers themselves, and judging by his remarks in several of his annual reports, certainly appreciated the social pressures a man is placed under when he joins the police service - a subject as relevant today as it was then.

Following on from that, he advocated a standard pay structure for the whole country, rather than different scales for each autonomous force, so that the drift away from the poorer paying forces was halted. He wanted to see police officers carrying their former police service with them when they joined another force, instead of having to accrue service afresh. He wanted greater and better superannuation benefits, especially in the borough forces, and he was a great subscriber to, and champion of, the Infant PMAA.

He helped to organise and establish a police orphanage at Brighton. He suggested the retention of police surgeons. He saw the benefits of larger, specially trained CID force and actually proposed in his very first annual report of 1857, a system of inter-force co-operation not very far removed from the Regional Crime Squads of today.

These benefits, because they are commonplace in today's police service, are taken so much for granted that they seem scarcely worthy of interest. But when Cartwright had felt the need to propose them, all those years ago, they were radical ideas, previously unvoiced.

Formative perceptions such as



William Cartwright
©Northamptonshire County Record Office

those were essential for the proper development of the embryo modern police service. And with his energy, astute observations, knowledge and above all, intense interest, William

Cartwright was a much a pioneer of today's mature police service, as the likes of Peel, Rowan, Mayne, Desborough and Willinck.

Finding the Forgotten Fallen

The Roll of Honour and Lancashire Police Memorial Garden

By ANTHONY RAE M.A.

Alongside the War Memorial in the reception of Lancashire Constabulary HQ are two memorial plaques to four officers who lost their lives on duty. Superintendent Gerry Richardson GC was murdered at Blackpool in 1971 attempting to arrest a gunman after other officers had been shot. On 5th January 1983 WPC Angela Bradley, 23, PC Gordon Connolly, 24, and PC Colin Morrison, 38, drowned while attempting the rescue of a drowning man from a freezing stormy sea. They were my colleagues and friends, with whom I had served at Blackpool until my transfer to London's Metropolitan Police two and a half years earlier.

Over the next three weeks, as the bodies were recovered, I attended three funerals in two different uniforms as, by chance, I transferred back to the force that month. For me, the tragedy prompted the questions, 'How many others had died on duty in the force's history and how are they remembered?' But the simple answer was no one knew. In 1983 visitors to HQ could be forgiven for assuming these were all the force's fallen. I then wrote to other forces but found none could provide a historical Roll of even their murdered officers. And so began the search for the forgotten fallen, discovering, over 30 years, what proved to be thousands of UK

deaths, with 140 in Lancashire since the Constabulary began in 1839.

With no internet or digital cameras research at libraries or record offices was slow and expensive. Finding Belton Cobb's 1961 book *Murdered on Duty* listed 95 police murders led to The Times Index and two centuries of crime reporting. Information from forces helped and in November 1985 *Police Review* published my first historical Roll of Honour of over 200 police officers unlawfully killed on duty in Great Britain since 1829. This included six Lancashire murders, the first in 1840 of Special Constable Joseph Halstead killed at Colne during rioting against the new police!



This Roll attracted police attention and enabled access to the National Police Library at Bramshill, the largest source of police publications. Police force histories revealed some answers but also part of the problem: that some 70 forces we have today are an amalgamation of some 700 existing

a century ago and with this 90% loss went many of their records.

Then the hard work really began – the search for deaths on duty through accidental and other causes. The next ten years were a slow hard slog through published resources and records. Tens of thousands of pages were checked in force annual reports and journals, plus complete runs of national police periodicals, the *Police Chronicle 1866-1952*, Christian Police Association's *On and Off Duty* since 1883, *Police Review* since 1893, and the 60,000 deaths in enemy air raids recorded on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission War Dead Roll.

By 1995 more than 3,000 UK police deaths had been identified and the research turned to official records. For such access official permission was required, gaining support from Lancashire Chief Constable Pauline Clare, the Association of Chief Police Officers and UK forces, establishing the National Police Officers Roll of Honour research project. The first Roll of Honour for Lancashire was published in 1996 with 84 names. The first Metropolitan Police Roll was researched and published in 1999.

In 2000 I founded the Police Roll of Honour Trust charity; 2001 saw the completion of the Metropolitan Police Book of Remembrance dedicated by

HM The Queen at Hendon. 2004 saw the first National Roll of Honour for the National Police Memorial Day and 2005 saw the Roll provided for the Police Memorial Trust unveiled by HM The Queen at the National Police Memorial in London. On leaving the Trust in 2012, there were some 4,000 names on the Roll including 120 for the Lancashire Constabulary. None of this could have been completed without help from many individuals,

police forces and organisations such as the Police History Society.

On reviewing the Roll in depth, many errors and omissions became apparent due to over reliance on secondary sources and little academic input. In 2016 I gained an MA degree in History from Lancaster University related to my research on history and remembrance of police casualties.

In 2017 I was asked by Lancashire Police Federation to assist with a

new Memorial Garden and provided enhanced citations for 140 plaques including 20 additional historical cases. On 20 June 2017, the Garden was dedicated to all Lancashire's fallen police officers, finally setting the record straight.



ANTHONY RAE is the creator of the National Police Officers Roll of Honour research project established 1995. See www.policerollofhonour.org.uk



The Lancashire Police Memorial Garden

Commemorative Plaque Citations

JOSEPH HALSTEAD

*Special Constable
Colne, Lancashire*

Bludgeoned to death with an iron rail during rioting against the new police.

10 August 1840, aged 43

ROBERT HIGHTON

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed and died after suffering a stroke while at Middleton police station.

10 June 1859, aged 48

WILLIAM JUMP

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Shot dead attempting to arrest an armed gang at night near Ashton-under-Lyne.

28 June 1862, aged 29

RICHARD THOMPSON

*Police Constable
Lancaster and Carlisle Railway Police*
Killed when he fell into a moving train from the railway platform at Galgate.

4 September 1858, aged 29

JOHN TAYLOR

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Collapsed and died in a fit whilst on his beat in the early hours at Heywood.

9 January 1860, aged 27

LORD PICKUP

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Died of injuries received May 1866 when struck by a horse at Manchester Races.

28 August 1867, aged 42

MATTHEW SHARP

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Drowned in a fall into a canal while on patrol on a very dark night at St Helens.

9 December 1858, aged 32

JOHN SELLERS

*Superintendent
Lancashire Constabulary*
Killed while returning from duty when his trap overturned onto him at Kirkdale.

24 March 1860, aged 43

JOSEPH GREENHALGH

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Drowned when he fell into the canal at Ince while on patrol on a very dark night.

15 April 1868, aged 22

RICHARD PICKERING*Superintendent**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died as a result of head injuries received in 1865 & 1868 during riots at Rochdale.

3 November 1868, aged 51**GEORGE HOLLAND***Police Constable**Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Police*

Killed when run over by a train while on night duty in the goods yard at Preston.

25 April 1882, aged 43**NOAH JACKSON***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of blood poisoning contracted at a post mortem of a dead horse at Prescot.

10 August 1893, aged 35**JOHN PARKER***Police Constable**Preston Borough Police*

Died from hydrophobia nine months after being bitten trying to capture a rabid dog.

29 August 1869, aged 36**JOHN BROWN***Police Constable**Accrington Borough Police*

Run down and killed stopping a horse drawn omnibus being driven furiously.

17 August 1884, aged 26**WILLIAM GRANT***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries received on duty in a fall down a staircase at Leigh Police Station.

9 November 1893, aged 53**WILLIAM HOBAN***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Pensioned in January 1872 due to injuries received on duty and subsequently died.

14 April 1872, aged 34**THOMAS HAZELDEN***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died as a result of a fall while cleaning the police station windows at Bootle.

1 October 1884, aged 22**RICHARD COOKSON***Police Constable and Fireman**Blackburn Police Fire Brigade*

Fatally injured by a fall out of a canvas fire escape chute he was demonstrating.

13 October 1894, aged 32**NICHOLAS COCK***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Shot and fatally wounded by a burglar disturbed during the night at Stretford.

2 August 1876, aged 23**WILLIAM HENRY CLAYTON***Police Constable and Fireman**Blackburn Police Fire Brigade*

Fatally injured by the collapse of a wall while fighting a fire at a cotton mill.

19 February 1885, aged 25**CHARLES PERCIVAL***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died at Carnforth six weeks after being pensioned due to injury received on duty.

9 January 1896, aged 48**ROBERT MICHIE***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Hit by a train and killed walking along the railway on his way to Burnley court.

4 December 1876, aged 25**JAMES DAWSON***Police Constable and Fireman**Blackburn Police Fire Brigade*

Fatally injured by the collapse of a wall while fighting a fire at a cotton mill.

19 February 1885, aged 33**GEORGE O'DONOGHUE***Police Constable and Fireman**Burnley Police Fire Brigade*

Died of injuries two days after a horse tender crashed returning from a fire.

25 January 1897, aged 38**WILLIAM CLARK***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Pensioned in July 1875 due to injuries received on duty and subsequently died.

12 February 1877, aged 32**WILLIAM COUTTS***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Accidentally killed on the railway after visiting a constable at night near Widnes.

6 December 1886, aged 36**JOHN THOMPSON***Police Constable**Blackburn Borough Police*

Collapsed in the street and died from heart failure whilst on foot patrol.

2 September 1897, aged 48**JONAH SEWELL***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Shot in the head by a suspect he had stopped for questioning at St Helens.

1 November 1878, aged 37**ALEXANDER MITCHELL***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Drowned in a fall into a canal on a very dark night while visiting beats near Ince.

23 February 1887, aged 44**GEORGE ROBERT NUTTALL***Police Constable and Fireman**Burnley Police Fire Brigade*

Killed when buried by the collapse of a roof while fighting a fire in a cotton mill.

20 October 1897, aged 36**JOHN LONG***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries received when run over by a train whilst on patrol at St Helens.

1 February 1880, aged 28**GEORGE HENRY LOCKWOOD***Police Constable and Fireman**Burnley Police Fire Brigade*

Fatally injured by the collapse of a wall while fighting a fire at a cotton mill.

3 April 1893, aged 28**RICHARD PENMAN***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Pensioned in April 1895 due to an injury on duty at Bury from which he later died.

5 December 1897, aged 50

ALFRED MARSH*Police Constable**Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Police*
Died of injuries received in August 1897 during a Dockyard strike at Fleetwood.**12 January 1898, aged 28****STEWART MUNGO WHILLIS***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died as a result of injury received in 1901 when attacked by four men at Standish.

15 May 1907, aged 38**THOMAS BELL***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died from injuries after a fall locating a light in a blackout at Grange-over-Sands.

16 April 1918, aged 41**FREDERICK SMITH***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injury sustained in 1898 stopping a runaway horse and lorry at Rochdale.

26 September 1899, aged 43**JOHN TAYLOR***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Pensioned in 1908 and died from effects of sunstroke suffered on duty at Preston.

13 June 1909, aged 41**WILLIAM PRENDERGAST***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries sustained when thrown off a police horse in 1917 at old Trafford.

26 October 1921, aged 38**ABRAHAM SUTCLIFFE***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Found accidentally drowned in the canal while on his beat at night at Failsworth.

22 December 1901, aged 29**ALFRED PEARSON***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Drowned attempting to rescue a suicidal young woman from a canal at Litherland.

25 June 1911, aged 25**FRANCIS WALLBANK***Police Sergeant**Preston Borough Police*

After stopping a vehicle at night he was hit by a passing car and died in hospital.

27 December 1921, aged 45**GEORGE MURPHY***Police Inspector**Lancashire Constabulary*

Accidentally knocked off his bicycle by a horse and killed on duty near Ulverston.

2 June 1904, aged 49**JOHN JAMES SOUTHWARD***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Pensioned 1 April and died from effects of injury received in execution of his duty.

11 April 1912, aged 41**ALFRED HENRY BARRON***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died as a result of accidental injuries received in the execution of duty in 1921.

23 April 1923, aged 34**RICHARD CLAYTON***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of diabetes resulting from injury on duty sustained March 1902 at Ulverston.

12 December 1904, aged 34**HARRY EDWARD HALL***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died from the effects of a non-accidental injury received in execution of his duty.

18 June 1912, aged 44**HARTLEY WILKINSON***Police Sergeant**Blackpool Borough Police*

Died from effects of exposure sustained attempting a sea rescue in August 1923.

16 April 1924, aged 45**LEWIS BOOTH***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed and died from heart failure when arresting a burglar at Seaforth.

6 January 1905, aged 50**JAMES NELSON***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died from a stroke after a fall from his horse on mounted training at Preston.

7 April 1915, aged 23**JOSIAH DAVIES***Detective Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a road traffic accident while returning from duty at Haydock races.

25 June 1926, aged 36**WILLIAM FORSYTHE***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Stabbed during an arrest at Ulverston in 1899 and subsequently died of diabetes.

12 March 1905, aged 45**JOHN DAVIS***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Found dead on railway having been hit by a train going on duty near Upholland.

5 August 1915, aged 33**THOMAS CHARLES BLANCHARD***Superintendent**Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a police motorcycle combination crash while returning from Aintree races.

7 November 1930, aged 62**GEORGE ARTHUR HODSON***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries after a fall while chasing boys throwing stones at Audenshaw.

29 December 1906, aged 28**JAMES HARDACRE KPM***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed by an explosion while fighting a fire at a munitions factory at Church.

27 April 1917, aged 34**JOHN THOMAS EDGELEY***Police Constable**Preston Borough Police*

Died of injuries received the day before in a collision with a lorry while cycling.

16 January 1931, aged 38

GEORGE RIPLEY*Chief Inspector**Lancashire Constabulary*

Hit by a car and Killed while investigating the scene of a fatal accident at Tarleton.

25 October 1931, aged 61**LLEWELYN WALFORD***Special Constable**Lancashire Special Constabulary*

Killed by a bomb assisting families into shelters during an air raid at Thornton.

18 September 1940, aged 46**DAVID RODERICK ROBERTS***Police War Reserve Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injury received 23 December from a bomb during an air raid at Old Trafford.

1 January 1941, aged 48**WILLIAM MATTHEWS***Police Constable and Fireman**Blackpool Police Fire Brigade*

Died of illness attributable to his duties as both an ambulanceman and fireman.

23 February 1932, aged 44**WILLIAM ALBERT CHIPPENDALE***Chief Inspector**Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed when Old Trafford Police station was struck by a bomb during an air raid.

23 December 1940, aged 49**CHARLES HOOLE***Police War Reserve Constable**Blackburn Borough Police*

Collapsed and died after reporting for night duty at the Police Box, Brownhill.

15 January 1941, aged 45**FRANK DYSON***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died three days after a fall off his cycle on plain clothes duty near Ulverston.

20 October 1933, aged 44**HERBERT BERRY***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed when Old Trafford Police station was struck by a bomb during an air raid.

23 December 1940, aged 28**GERARD GASKELL***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed by a bomb explosion in the early hours during an air raid at Stretford.

12 March 1941, aged 28**HARRY FORREST***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Run down and killed by a speeding car at night while on crowd control at Nelson.

7 May 1935, aged 24**JOHN HARRISON BURNS***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed when Old Trafford Police station was struck by a bomb during an air raid.

23 December 1940, aged 30**CLIFFORD ERNEST C. DAVEY***Special Constable**Lancashire Special Constabulary*

Killed by a bomb explosion in the early hours during an air raid at Stretford.

12 March 1941, aged 38**WILLIAM DEAN COUGHLAN***Police Sergeant**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries received 21 December in a bicycle accident on patrol at St Annes.

14 January 1936, aged 49**HENRY EDWARD HEATON***Special Constable**Lancashire Special Constabulary*

Killed when Old Trafford Police station was struck by a bomb during an air raid.

23 December 1940, aged 43**JOHN CLARENCE HARROP***Special Constable**Lancashire Special Constabulary*

Killed by a bomb explosion in the early hours during an air raid at Stretford.

12 March 1941, aged 32**HENRY WILLIAM WOODHEAD***Police Inspector**Lancashire Constabulary*

While investigating a road accident scene at Lea he was struck by a car and killed.

20 November 1937, aged 49**JOHN WILLIAM LAW***Reserve Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Body found the day after he was killed by a bomb during an air raid at Old Trafford.

23 December 1940, aged 51**GEORGE MORGAN VALENTINE***Special Constable**Lancashire Special Constabulary*

Killed as a result of enemy action during an air raid at Huyton-with-Roby.

4 May 1941, aged 43**THOMAS HENRY DEWHURST***Police Inspector**Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed at an air raid precautions meeting at Ormskirk and died in hospital.

4 October 1938, aged 54**HARRY DAVIES***Special Constable**Lancashire Special Constabulary*

Died of injury received 22 December from a bomb during an air raid at Old Trafford.

24 December 1940, aged 49**JOSEPH PICKERING***Police War Reserve Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of heart failure after an assault whilst arresting a man at Litherland.

31 January 1942, aged 54**THOMAS ATKINSON HODGSON***Police Sergeant**Lancaster City Police*

Died suddenly following a fall from his bicycle while on patrol during the night.

11 November 1939, aged 47**IAN DOUGLAS STEEN***Police Constable**Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries received 23 December in an air raid at Old Trafford Police Station.

26 December 1940, aged 23**FRED WHITE***Police War Reserve Constable**Preston Borough Police*

Died of illness contributed to by falling in Preston Dock on duty in November 1940.

1 October 1942, aged 48

JOHN TOWERS

*Police War Reserve Constable
Blackburn Borough Police*

Died of injuries received 22 December when assaulted by a man while on patrol.

27 December 1943, aged 39

LEONARD SMITH

*Chief Inspector
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died as result of injuries received in 1930 when assaulted in an arrest at Beverley.

22 December 1949, aged 45

IVOR ALLAN OATES

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died four days after a physical training accident on a recruit's course at Bruche.

6 March 1956, aged 25

JACOB MURRAY

*Police Inspector
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a road accident while seconded to Army Civil Affairs Duties in Germany.

25 June 1945, aged 41

HARRY WALTON

*Police Sergeant
Lancashire Constabulary*

Accidentally shot by a colleague in 1940 contributing to his subsequent death.

30 March 1950, aged 39

JOHN MICHAEL GILLETT

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed while helping a lorry driver repair a light when hit by a car near Garstang.

24 March 1956, aged 24

ARTHUR RICHARDSON

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injury sustained 25 May rescuing a woman collapsed in bath at Fleetwood.

2 July 1945, aged 45

FRANK HOLDAWAY O'CONNOR

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed and died on a call with his sergeant late at night at Skelmersdale.

19 November 1950, aged 40

ISAAC TAYLOR

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries from 19 May in patrol car crash pursuing a vehicle at Chadderton.

24 May 1956, aged 30

ALBERT EDWARD HOLGATE

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed at Nelson Police Station at night and died in hospital next morning.

7 May 1946, aged 45

JOHN POUCHER

*Reserve Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Fatally injured when struck by a drunk driver on bicycle patrol at Cleveleys.

7 January 1951, aged 59

THOMAS CLIFFORD WALKER

*Chief Inspector
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a traffic patrol car crash in the early hours on icy roads at Penwortham.

24 December 1957, aged 41

LESLIE SHAW

*Police Constable
Burnley Borough Police*

Struck by a car which failed to stop on the night of 15 July and died of injuries.

19 July 1948, aged 27

RIVERS GEORGE H. SHERWOOD

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries the day after he was hit by a car while on bicycle patrol at Rainhill.

28 February 1952, aged 51

JAMES O'DONNELL QPM

*Detective Inspector
Blackburn Borough Police*

Fatally shot negotiating with a gunman knowing he had already shot two others.

13 December 1958, aged 47

JAMES HENDERSON DUNCAN

*Detective Chief Inspector
Lancashire Constabulary*

Pensioned 1947 and later died of illness related to Fingerprint Department duties.

12 January 1949, aged 50

CHARLES MOORE KPFSM

*Police Sergeant
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died on pension of injuries received 1944 when stabbed in an arrest at Little Lever.

1 November 1952, aged 57

JAMES FIRTH BATTY

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed when his motorcycle collided with a lorry returning to duty at Walkden.

29 May 1959, aged 19

ALLAN SWIFT

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of illness resulting from conditions in a damp police house at Worsthorne.

12 February 1949, aged 33

GEORGE NIXON

*Detective Inspector
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of head injuries received 1929 when assaulted going off duty at Fleetwood.

4 January 1953, aged 65

JAMES THOMAS BRINDLE

*Police Constable
Blackburn Borough Police*

Died of burns four days after a fire while working on a car at the police garage.

13 September 1959, aged 33

SYDNEY ARTHUR TYSOE

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died as result of injuries received in 1940 when assaulted in an arrest at Prescot.

29 November 1949, aged 38

JOHN THOMAS HILL

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Pensioned in 1951 and died of a disability occasioned by his police duties at Crosby.

19 January 1954, aged 50

PHILIP PETER GIBBARD

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a collision of his Traffic motor cycle and a stationary lorry at Fulwood.

5 May 1961, aged 32

ERNEST SOUTHERN*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died after collapsing while dealing with an affray against the police at Kirkby.

27 January 1962, aged 35**JOHN DAWSON***Police Sergeant
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died six days after a motor cycle accident going off duty at Chadderton.

14 June 1969, aged 50**ROLAND CREE MCGOWAN***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed responding to an emergency call when his patrol car crashed at Bacup.

22 January 1978, aged 20**DAVID COLIN BROWN***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of injuries seven weeks after a police van crash escorting a prisoner at Kirkby.

11 February 1965, aged 24**LESLIE ALWYN MARSON***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed and died of heart failure while installing radio equipment.

29 September 1969, aged 47**WALTER LACEY***Acting Sergeant
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of heart failure during a violent struggle to arrest a suspect at Colne.

12 September 1978, aged 42**MYRA WALLER***Police Woman
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died the day after her traffic patrol car crashed attending an accident at Halton.

20 June 1965, aged 24**GERALD IRVING RICHARDSON GC***Superintendent
Lancashire Constabulary*

Shot and fatally wounded attempting to arrest an armed robber at Blackpool.

23 August 1971, aged 38**MALCOLM READER***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died in a car crash on the Edenfield bypass returning home from duty at Bacup.

4 January 1979, aged 36**GEORGE LESLIE HIGHAM***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Struck and killed by a drunk driver while investigating a road accident at Kirkby.

7 November 1966, aged 37**BARBARA LYNNE WILKINSON***Police Woman
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a car accident while returning home from a police first aid competition.

13 November 1971, aged 20**JOHN STANLEY ROBERTS***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed and died of heart failure while driving a patrol car at night at Preston.

29 January 1979, aged 25**THOMAS EDWARD H. WOODS***Chief Inspector
Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed and died during a Federation working party meeting in London.

13 December 1966, aged 49**KENNETH RICHMOND FLETCHER***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed on an advanced motorcycle course when he fell from his machine at Turton.

23 November 1972, aged 26**DAVID WHITTLE***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Fatally injured with PC Bromilow in a car crash escorting a prisoner at Blackburn.

12 August 1979, aged 20**GRAHAM ROUGHLEY***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a patrol car crash attending a bank alarm call at Ashton-under-Lyne.

13 June 1967, aged 22**JAMES JOPE MCKENDRICK***Detective Inspector
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a traffic accident while crossing the road outside Police HQ at Hutton.

18 December 1974, aged 52**JOHN EDWARD BROMILOW***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died after the car crash with PC Whittle while escorting a prisoner at Blackburn.

18 August 1979, aged 23**BRIAN MARSH***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died of a sudden illness while attending his initial training course at Bruche.

23 April 1968, aged 19**IAN DOUGLAS MCPHERSON***Police Inspector
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died suddenly while at Scarborough with the police examinations marking panel.

25 November 1976, aged 45**JOHN HARWOOD***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Died 9 days after a crash on an advanced motorcycle course at Charnock Richard.

28 September 1979, aged 23**STANLEY EDWARD MOORE***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Drowned during an underwater search for two missing children at Warrington.

11 February 1969, aged 37**GEORGE ANTHONY SPENCER***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed when his Traffic car crashed on an emergency call in a thick fog on the M61.

3 December 1976, aged 24**ROBERT MILNE***Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed and died after dispersing a hostile crowd while off duty at Fulwood.

21 October 1979, aged 50

GERALD CHARNLEY

*Police Sergeant
Lancashire Constabulary*

Killed in a fall on Helvellyn Mountain during police cadets adventure training.

14 December 1982, aged 53

PETER HEATON

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*

Collapsed and died while attending a course at the training school at Hutton.

16 September 1986, aged 47

MARTIN EDWARD BAKER

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Killed when his car collided with a lorry while travelling to duty at Blackburn.

24 December 1992, aged 25

ANGELA BRADLEY

*Woman Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Drowned with two colleagues trying to rescue a man from the sea at Blackpool.

5 January 1983, aged 23

IAN WAIN WOODWARD

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Shot dead off duty when he challenged a poacher armed with a shotgun at Chorley.

25 February 1987, aged 33

ALAN WEST HOUGHTON

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Died two days after he collapsed and crashed his police vehicle at Catterall.

17 March 1998, aged 50

GORDON ALEXANDER CONNOLLY

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Drowned with two colleagues trying to rescue a man from the sea at Blackpool.

5 January 1983, aged 24

RONALD ANSELL

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Collapsed and died of heart failure during public order training at Inskip.

9 November 1989, aged 56

CATHERINE MARGARET SUTCLIFFE

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Collapsed 8 August at a routine incident at Waddington and later died in hospital.

20 August 2004, aged 34

COLIN MORRISON

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Drowned with two colleagues trying to rescue a man from the sea at Blackpool.

5 January 1983, aged 38

PETER BURNETT

*Police Constable
Lancashire Constabulary*
Collapsed and died dispersing rioters who were attacking police at Barnoldswick.

7 October 1990, aged 42

‘LEST WE FORGET’



The Lancashire Police Memorial Garden

The Hogmanay Riot

The first name on the Scottish Police Roll of Honour is that of Dugald Campbell; this is an account of his death

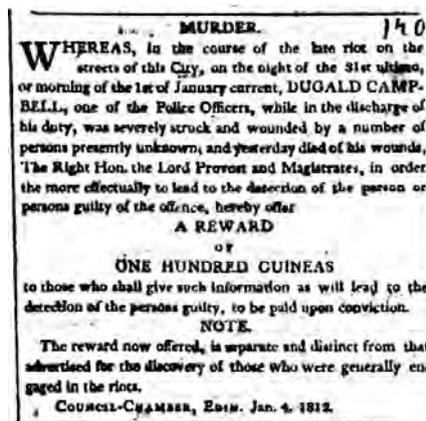
By MARTIN BAGGOLEY

It is often said that gangs of delinquent youths are a relatively modern phenomenon, but the events in Edinburgh on Hogmanay 1811 disprove this. From nine o'clock that evening until the early hours of the next morning, the centre of Edinburgh was the scene of widespread and organised disorder.

Those responsible were a number of gangs from various districts of the city. Many were as young as fourteen years of age, and all were armed with knives and other weapons with which they attacked and robbed the townsfolk out enjoying the celebrations. Anyone who attempted to resist was severely beaten, and two men died of their injuries sustained during the night.

James Campbell, a clerk, was beaten and robbed on the South Bridge at one o'clock and his head injuries were so bad that he could not be saved. The night's other casualty was Dugald Campbell, who had been singled out by the mob not to be robbed, but because they knew he was a member of the town's watch. The town's authorities were quick to respond to these events and within days had offered what was then a huge reward of one hundred guineas to anyone who provided information

leading to the arrests and convictions of those responsible for the deaths.



The Reward Notice, published in the Caledonian Mercury

The gangs' preferred booty was cash, but so many watches were stolen that the following notice was issued on 4 January;

The Right Hon the Lord Provost and Magistrates request that such persons as may have lost watches in the riot of the 31st ultimo, will transmit to this office, notes of the makers' names and numbers so that they may be immediately advertised. Meanwhile, watch makers and others are requested to be careful in purchasing watches from persons unknown to them and to secure all suspicious persons offering watches for sale. Sufferers will also please transmit a particular note and description of any other article of property they may have

lost. It is entreated that those who have sent anonymous information to the Magistrates respecting the late riots, will call in person at this office. Council Chambers, Edinburgh.

Sixty-eight arrests were made on the night and in the days that followed. Many of those detained accepted the crown's offer to testify against those considered guilty of the more serious crimes, so that they might escape prosecution. The information provided by these informants also demonstrated just how well the gangs had planned the night's events.

Those who eventually stood trial were John Skelton, Robert Gunn, Alexander McDonald, George Napier and John Grotto, all of whom were charged with robbery; Hugh McIntosh, Neil Sutherland and Hugh McDonald were charged with robbery and the murder of Dugald Campbell, who died on 3 January; nobody was ever charged with the murder of James Campbell.

Skelton was convicted of robbing three men of valuables, which included watch chains and a purse. He had denied the offences, claiming to have found the items in the street. Former employers, among them Mr Innes, a gunsmith, spoke highly of him and described him as a young

man of good character. Nevertheless, he was sentenced to death but later reprieved and transported for life. A similar fate awaited Gunn and Alexander McDonald, following their convictions of robbing their six victims of a silver watch and snuff box, cash, a silk scarf and hats.

Napier and Grotto were suspected initially of involvement in the murder of Dugald Campbell, but were only accused of two robberies, to which they pleaded guilty. They had taken hats, a gold watch, a pair of gloves, a handkerchief and five shillings in silver. Grotto was arrested that night but Napier fled to Yorkshire. However, he returned to Edinburgh voluntarily to face justice, explaining he had been suffering from a guilty conscience. Both youths were sentenced to be transported for fourteen years.

There should have been four defendants in the dock to be tried for the officer's murder, but one suspect, James Johnston, avoided capture and was destined never to be caught to stand trial for the crime. When the trial of Hugh McDonald, Hugh McIntosh and Neil Sutherland, who were also accused of ten robberies, opened on 20 March 1812, the absent Johnston was declared an outlaw. The three accused pleaded not guilty to all matters.

However, all of their alleged robbery victims identified the three as having played leading roles in the crimes. Furthermore, John Tasker, who in common with the accused was a member of the Niddry Street gang, gave extremely damaging evidence against them. He told the court that their gang had been responsible for intimidating passers-by and causing a nuisance in the town in the months leading up to the Hogmanay disturbances. This had led to the police targeting them to put an end to their activities, and the events of New Year's Eve were

intended by the gang to be a reprisal for this increasing attention. Tasker identified the three accused as the ringleaders, and confirmed he had been made responsible for cutting down branches suitable for use as bludgeons.

It was decided to cause as much mayhem as possible by committing robberies and, importantly, attacking any police officers who attempted to intervene. Members of the rival Canongate and Grassmarket gangs were invited to participate and they readily accepted. The gangs agreed that all the proceeds of their crimes on the night were to be handed over to McIntosh, who would be waiting at the South Bridge. He was to dispose of the stolen property and the gangs would share whatever money he received. It became clear that each gang had its own distinct whistles, which were used to communicate with their members and on the night they were used to co-ordinate activities and contributed greatly to what those caught up in the riot felt was a well-organised event.

McIntosh had arranged to sell the stolen valuables to John Dunkinson, a notorious Glasgow criminal and fence, but he had been arrested and put in gaol. McIntosh therefore persuaded two sisters, Janet and Anne Gemmel, to take the booty to him, past the notoriously lax and easily-bribed guards. As a reward, Dunkinson, who intended selling the goods from his cell, gave the sisters a watch, which in turn, they handed to a friend named William White. He was a soldier with the 25th Foot and became suspicious, having by then read of the events in Edinburgh. He approached the authorities, which led to almost all of the stolen property being recovered and the identification of many of those who participated in the riot.

The court then heard details of the attack on Dugald, firstly from a

number of respectable citizens. John Gilchrist and George Brown saw a group of youths rush towards him and confirmed that McIntosh played a leading role in the attack. However, they had not seen Sutherland strike him and heard McDonald urging the others to stop, telling them their victim had suffered enough. John Thompson saw the officer moments before he was attacked and had warned him that he faced being injured and should wait for assistance. He replied "Damn the fear", but on seeing the large group heading towards him attempted, unsuccessfully, to escape. When the attack began Mr Thompson attempted to intervene, but he too was hit repeatedly and was forced back.

When the youths finally dispersed, the witness helped carry the badly injured officer to the police office, where watchmen John Monroe and James Walker were shocked at the sight of their colleague's horrific injuries. They took him immediately to the Royal Infirmary, but he was beyond help.

Damaging testimony was also given by gang members John Kidd and James Black, who witnessed the assault. They were among a group of thirty youths, one of whom saw Dugald and shouted "It's the Royal Arch", which was the nickname given to him by the gangs. He had played a prominent role in attempting to curtail their earlier criminal activities, hence the decision to attack him with such brutality. Despite his attempt to make for safety, the group caught up with him near the Stamp Office. Neither witness saw Sutherland play any part, but they did see McIntosh strike him with a large club and McDonald kick him as he lay on the ground, screaming as he did so "Campbell is well out of the way".

In their defence, the accused provided alibi and character witnesses.



The Tolbooth Gaol

McDonald called sisters Janet and Margaret Ross, who testified that on the night of the crime he arrived at their home at nine and remained there until well after midnight. He drank a large amount of alcohol and was very drunk, which, it was argued, meant he could not have taken part in the riot. His friend James Cameron and former employer, shoemaker James Anderson, both spoke of his excellent character, describing him as honest and trustworthy, and neither could imagine him committing the crimes of which he was accused.

Mary Moffatt and Mary Murphy swore they were in Sutherland's company in the home of Robert Scrimgeour, all of whom testified on his behalf. They insisted he was with them at the relevant time and was innocent of the charges. Three witnesses spoke up for McIntosh, who stated he was at work on Hogmanay and did not leave his workbench until after midnight. These were his employer, shoemaker George Petrie, his workmate John Riddler and Catherine Ferguson, who lodged at the premises.

The crown acknowledged that all of these witnesses were respectable individuals, but they nevertheless failed to persuade the jury. McDonald and Sutherland were cleared of murder, but convicted of the robbery

matters. McIntosh was found guilty of murder and all of the robbery offences, and the jury added that many others, who had not been identified, were no doubt also guilty. After announcing their verdict, the jury members said they had collected a sum of seven guineas, which they asked to be passed on to the murdered officer's widow. The judge sentenced the three prisoners to death, and there would be no reprieves.

They were held in the town's Tolbooth Gaol to await their executions and received regular visits from friends and distraught family members. They were also comforted by a number of clergymen, and on the eve of their hangings they wrote brief entries in the Bibles they had been given. Sutherland wrote the following;

This blessed book has been my instructor and comfort when I thought of my grave. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all appreciation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners of whom I am chief. This Bible has been my candle when I was in the darkness and I have found more riches in it than in all the world, for I have found peace to my soul when it was weary and faint and it has made my chains light. It has turned a den of thieves into a house of prayer and made me happy even in going

to death, by defying its sting. NEIL SUTHERLAND born March 1794 died April 1812.

The others made briefer entries; McDonald wrote "Jesus Christ is my salvation and all my desire and the Bible all my hope." McIntosh included a brief note denying involvement in the murder and added: "I feel deeply grieved for my sins but trust for a free pardon through my Lord Jesus Christ."

There was a sad incident in the days leading up to the executions. As a convicted murderer, McIntosh could not be buried in consecrated ground, so instead his corpse would be handed to Dr Munro at the university to be dissected, a source of great shame to the criminal and his family. His parents were therefore greatly relieved to have a visit from a respectable-looking woman who claimed to be the cook in the home of a very good friend of Dr Munro. She assured them that in exchange for a fee she would be able to persuade her employer to use his influence with the doctor to have their son's intact body returned to the family secretly, so that a Christian burial could be arranged. They were poor but managed to raise what was for them a substantial amount, which was handed over to her. However, the woman was a confidence trickster, who subsequently disappeared with the money.

Executions were traditionally highly-ritualised and carried out in public to reinforce their deterrent effect. Given the circumstances of the condemned men's crimes, it was decided that the executions would not take place at the usual spot in the Grassmarket, but the gallows would be erected close to the scene of the murder, on High Street. This was a custom reserved for what were regarded as the most heinous crimes, and preparations began five days before the hangings, when a section

of pavement was removed to make space for the structure.

At twenty minutes to three on 22 April, as they were being pinioned in the Tolbooth, the youths were given wine, which they shared with their guards. They declined the offer of a coach to take them to High Street and instead opted to walk. The procession was an impressive sight as it made its way along the streets lined with thousands of onlookers. A contemporary report gave details of its composition;

The Moderator and a party of High Constables.

The City Officers, bareheaded

the four Magistrates in their robes, with white gloves and their Rods of Office.

The Principal Officer of the City with his Baton and Badge

Neil Sutherland accompanied by Reverend Dr Fleming, in his Gown and Bands

Hugh McIntosh accompanied by Dr Campbell

Hugh McDonald accompanied by the Reverend Mr Andrew Thomson

The procession was escorted at the rear by a large party of the Extra Constables, of which one hundred and fifty had been sworn in for the occasion.

At either side there was a contingent of the City Guard.

To ensure against a possible rescue attempt by their friends, the route was lined by four hundred soldiers of the Royal Perthshire Militia and the scaffold was surrounded by the Renfrewshire Militia. Key parts of the town were guarded by men of the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, the 1st Regiment

of the Edinburgh Local Militia and troops from the 6th Dragoon Guards, together with a large number of police officers.

The condemned were placed on the drop at three thirty and, having said their farewells to each other, Sutherland gave a signal to the hangman that they were ready. Seconds later, they were dead and after the customary one hour, the bodies were cut down. Those of Sutherland and McDonald were returned to their families for burial, and that of McIntosh was taken to be dissected.



MARTIN BAGGOLEY is a retired probation officer, who has written extensively on the history of crime and punishment for magazines in the UK and USA. He is also the author of several books on historical murders and his latest, on the murder of police officers during the Victorian era, is due to be published in the near future. He and his wife Claire live in Ramsbottom.



High Street, where the executions took place

The Police in the Great War

By PETER HINCHLIFFE

The First War changed everything in the way of British life. Until that point, in 1914, the British people were a class-conscious society, with each man and woman “knowing their place”, with the entire country divided into those who were educated, the rich, and the uneducated poor. Basic, elementary education was free, but higher education had to be paid for.

Although the railways had brought some degree of movement, the population was virtually static; you lived where you were born, worked for the local enterprise, and saw your days out being respectful to the same employers, as your predecessors had.

Through Victoria’s reign and the Industrial Revolution, the working man had, if anything, become more subservient. The start of the new century saw the rumblings of discontent amongst the common man, and strikes began to occur. Men demanded a share of the wealth they were creating for their employers. The owners invariably withstood the demands of the workers, and the situation deteriorated to confrontation.

The police were controlled by committees drawn from the people who represented the owners; sometimes the owners themselves

were on the committee. In many cases, the police were used to break the strikes. Discipline in the police was “draconian”, and wastage rates high. The majority of constables did not serve long enough to receive a pension; police pay was below that of a skilled artisan, but there were always plenty of men to recruit from.¹

In 1911, with the war clouds gathering, meetings were held to discuss the establishment of reserves for the police. One favoured answer was the establishment of the unpaid Special Constabulary, and some planning was undertaken to form a reserve should war break out.²

In 1912, the Plymouth Corporation decided that all its employees, including policemen, should have one day off each week. This was around two years before most police forces granted their men one rest day in every fourteen.³

In 1913, the Government appointed the General Officer Commanding the Fortress. Initially this was Major General Arthur Penton, who commanded the strategic port and Garrison of Plymouth and the Coastline adjacent to it. The First War was anticipated for some time before it was actually declared.

In January 1914 Penton claimed that the three towns of Plymouth,

Devonport and East Stonehouse should be amalgamated into one local authority, for reasons of military efficiency. There was some initial opposition to his plan. After war was declared on 4th August the General became more forceful, and the unification occurred on 30th November, 1914.⁴

General Penton had far-reaching powers and authority over the Chief Constable, who enforced the General’s orders. In August 1914, the General closed all the pubs in the Plymouth area and they stayed closed for six weeks. When they re-opened, he placed further restrictions, allowing them to sell alcohol between 9.00am and 9.00pm.⁵

In October 1914 Penton ruled that women could not buy drinks after 6.00pm. No civilian could buy drink for a serviceman, and no pub could sell to a serviceman for consumption off the premises. He also created the ‘no treating’ rule, which prohibited the practice of purchasing drink for any other person. In effect, women could not drink after 6.00pm. These rules became nationwide in 1915, enforced by DORA.⁶

There were 185 separate Police Forces in England in 1914. They were really two differing types, City and Borough Forces, comprised of



The port of Plymouth was the point of landing and embarkation of Empire troops, on their way to and from the Western Front, and was also a major centre for VAD Hospitals treating the wounded and injured

'professional policemen' and County Constabularies often formed of men with a 'background in the county'. This is illustrated locally by the selection policy of Senior Officers. In Plymouth and Exeter the Chief Constables were career policemen who had served through the ranks of Leeds and Bradford respectively, whilst in Devon there had been a policy of appointing 'gentlemen' (usually military types) directly as Superintendents, to impose their more 'feudal style' on the Constabulary.⁷

The HMI's Annual Report for 1913 shows the strength of the Police in the West Country:

CORNWALL 252 (Specials 208)
Penzance 15 (Specials 30)
Truro 12 (Specials 60)

DEVON 440 (Specials 924)
Barnstaple 14 (Specials 29)
Devonport 92 (Specials 45)
Exeter 67 (Specials 58)
Tiverton 11 (Specials 40)

Plymouth 146 (No Specials recruited at date of report)⁸

It is estimated that about 10% of

all constables in 1914 were former soldiers and military reservists. The declaration of war came after a slow build up, on Tuesday, 4th August 1914, and on this day all the military reservists travelled to rejoin the colours. Every Force sent men; eleven (of the total strength of 67) went from Exeter.⁹

The War Office had issued plans in the event of war that vulnerable buildings and railway installations should be guarded, day and night, by armed policemen.¹⁰

In Exeter, this posed two problems: they did not have any arms, and there were insufficient constables to man the places that required supervision. The Chief Constable was ordered to buy 12 pistols, despite the national emergency; he could find only two (I think that these two weapons were still in the safe at Heavitree Road in 1966!) To solve the manpower situation, he employed Boy Scouts and paid them a shilling a day, which might have been the start of "Bob a job".¹¹

In Cornwall, the Chief Constable advised the force that he had acquired 20 revolvers and 25 rifles from HM Coastguard, and invited

any member of the Constabulary who thoroughly understood the use and care of either of these weapons, and believed he required one, to notify the Superintendent of his division.¹²

The Chief Constable of Exeter was prepared for the war. On Tuesday, 4th August, he cancelled all leave and had every man on duty for the full 24 hours. This continued the following day, and the day after that - three days without a moment's rest! I have been unable to find any documentation to show how the policemen were employed on those days, but assume they were guarding the vulnerable buildings and railways.¹³

The shortfall of men was resolved by recruiting 'Temporary Constables', who were employed on a month's notice. Exeter City recruited 20 men, Cornwall took 17 men, Plymouth 26, Tiverton Borough 6 and Devon County 28 men. These men were paid about the same amount as Constables, with an annual increment. They came with a different view of discipline, and were an early sign of things to come.¹⁴

1 Ron Peters thesis (SW Police Heritage Collection: 2016.0021.001)

2 Plymouth Borough Watch Committee Minutes for 22nd November 1911

3 Plymouth Council minutes 20th December 1911

4 Plymouth Museum pamphlet (www.plymouth.gov.uk/4)

5 Plymouth Museum pamphlet (www.plymouth.gov.uk/4)

6 Plymouth Museum pamphlet (www.plymouth.gov.uk/4)

7 *Out of the Blue: History of the Devon Constabulary* pp 195-198 by W J Hutchings

8 HMI Reports for 1913 (SW Police Heritage Collection: A2004.04708)

9 *Express & Echo*, 5th August 1914

10 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 25th August 1914

11 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 14th September 1914

12 Cornwall Constabulary General Orders p391

13 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 4th August 1914

14 "One and All", PWC minutes (SW Police Heritage Collection: 1975.00311.001)

The Devon Standing Joint Committee met on 7th August 1914, when they agreed to allow the Chief to recruit 200 of his Specials at 6 shillings a day to guard bridges and tunnels until the Railway companies made their own arrangements. He was later to use Boy Scouts to assist in patrolling the railways, receiving payment for their assistance.¹⁵

All Magistrates' Quarters Sessions and County Courts were adjourned for two months and closed on 4th August 1914.¹⁶

The very first casualty of the war in Exeter was PC33 Gilbert Parker, a mounted officer. On 6th August he was supervising a parade of the Highland Light Infantry in Fore Street when his horse was startled by the bagpipes, and threw him off before rolling on him. Parker was off work for several weeks.¹⁷

The Exeter Temps discovered they were working 67 hours for 27 shillings pay, whilst the Devon Temps were paid 42 shillings for 56 hours. The Exeter men complained to the Chief Constable who tried to resolve the situation, but he could not provide more money. The men did not go on strike immediately, but one turned up for his next shift drunk. He was arrested and placed in the cells. Another was found to be asleep at his post; he too was arrested and both appeared before the City magistrates, where the drunk was given one month imprisonment and the other man warned as to his future conduct, and both were dismissed from the Force.¹⁸

The use of pedal cycles by police to patrol their beat became official, and men were paid an allowance to use their cycles. In Exeter, all men were paid this allowance and this remained the policy until the amalgamation in 1966.¹⁹

When a man enlisted in HM Forces as a reservist, volunteer, conscript etc, he was required to resign from



The Special Constables recruited were not issued with uniforms, they wore an armband and a lapel badge as illustrated

the Police force (except in Plymouth, where the council agreed that any employee serving HM would be retained, and his military pay subsidised to the equivalent sum of his council pay until he was able to resume his council duties. (I think this enlightened policy came from the influence of the Co-operative society on the Borough Council).²¹

At the start of the War the reservists, in particular, were suffering great hardship. Police pay at that time was about 30 shillings a week. When recalled for active service they were paid the same rate they had achieved before demob, or at the usual rate of 7 shillings a week (whichever was the greater). Most of the men were married with children, and many lived in police houses which their families were forced to vacate.

On 14th September the Exeter Chief Constable called a special meeting of the Watch Committee to express his concern for the welfare of his reservists and their families, who were struggling financially. At the end of a long meeting, the Committee agreed to pay the wives of reservists a subsidy of 12 shillings and each child 3 shillings per week. This was still a shortfall, but a much better result than achieved in Cornwall, where the Standing Joint Committee declared that as the men were no longer policemen their welfare was not of

their concern!²²

The same day the Committee also issued a warning to any of its constables considering volunteering for military service. They were warned that if they did so they would lose their job, their pension, their seniority, there would be no re-entry to the police until a vacancy arose, and finally, if they were in a police house, their wife and children would be evicted!²³

In November 1914 the Devon Standing Joint Committee agreed to subsidise their reservists, but they also left the men very much out of pocket.

In 1915 the Exeter Chief was having difficulty in recruiting men for the force. He reported that he had advertised in the *News of the World* and successfully recruited three men. He also reported that he had allowed one Constable to ply his former trade of chimney sweep to subsidise the cost of his growing family.²⁴

The Police (Emergency Powers Act) 1915, part of Defence of the Realm Act 1914 (DORA), was brought into force in June 1915 with far-reaching effects on the police. It decreed that all police serving in the military would be paid the equivalent of their police rate of pay. It seems also to have protected their home, if that was police accommodation. The act prevented any man leaving the force, or retiring,

without the permission of their Chief Constable. Later, when conscription was introduced, it allowed Chief Constables to decide which men could be spared from the force, because police forces were becoming seriously depleted.

We have a certificate relating to PC102 William Broad of the Cornwall Constabulary who had volunteered to enlist in December 1915, but the police refused to release him. It is actually signed by the Deputy Chief Constable, because the Chief, Hugh Prothero Smith, had himself been recalled to the Colours as a reservist.²⁵

Contrary to the writings of Hutchings in *Out of the Blue*, page 106, I have found that very few, if any, Constables volunteered to join HM Forces before the 1915 Act; most 'transferred to the military' after their pay and future was assured, but still the majority of those who joined the armed forces waited for conscription from March 1916.

The 1915 Act also allowed Chief Officers to nominate suitable men for commissions in the military. The Plymouth Chief nominated six of his men and promoted each of them to Police Sergeant, when they were appointed Second Lieutenants in the army. One man, William Wyatt, he promoted to Police Inspector whilst he was serving at Ypres. Wyatt had never performed duty as a police sergeant.²⁶

The war was taking place on the near continent, and it seems that very little was happening in Devon and Cornwall except for a drive to recruit volunteers for Kitchener's New Army. The reality of recruiting was very different from the accounts we now hear of the thousands of men rushing off to get part of the action, before it was all over by Christmas!

The young men in Devon showed little inclination to join the King and Kitchener. The only county to

show less enthusiasm to serve was Cornwall. A recruitment drive was held in Exeter between 7th and 12th December, 1914, when the Mayor had hoped to raise a 'Pals Battalion' of 250 men, to be called "Exeter's own" and part of the 2nd Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment. Although supported by stage productions at the Hippodrome, many parades and the promise of the coming Christmas at home, the week's patriotic effort produced only eight volunteers.²⁷



New 'recruits' coming from the County Grounds sports arena in Exeter?

The War Office Analysis of Recruiting shows the results for the period until 1915. In Devon, 0.062% of the target population volunteered, whilst in Cornwall it was 0.028%. By comparison, the figure for Warwickshire was 3.72%, which was about the national average.

I wonder if the photos we see of 'enthusiastic' crowds of men queuing to enlist at recruiting offices are genuine, or were they in fact propaganda. Consider the state of photography at that time: such pictures would have to be posed using tripod and cover, not a quick operation as today.

There is also a well-known photograph of 'recruits' coming from the County Grounds sports arena in

Exeter, giving the impression that they had just volunteered. On close examination you can see the men in civvies are keeping a formation that would credit the Brigade of Guards. This would not have been achieved without practice. I cannot believe that they had been enlisted a few moments earlier.

The shortage of police manpower was a problem throughout the war and exacerbated by the introduction of conscription, because the majority

of constables fell into the category of men liable for conscription. Cornwall,

15 Devon Standing Joint Committee minutes for 7th August 1914

16 *Express & Echo*, 4th August 1914

17 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 25th August 1914)

18 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 14th September 1914

19 Ibid

20 Plymouth Borough Watch Committee minutes for 10th August 1914

22 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 14th September 1914

23 Cornwall Constabulary General Orders pp393-394

24 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 25th February 1915

25 SW Police Heritage Collection: A2004 03512

26 Plymouth Borough Watch Committee minutes for 23rd December 1914

27 *Express & Echo*, dated 14th December 1914

Devon and Exeter City lost all their Temporary Constables and many other men. Exact numbers are not available, but it is estimated that over a third of the strength were called up for military service.

The Chief Constable of Exeter attended a London meeting where they discussed the use of police dogs as a solution to the manpower shortage. They were told that the most suitable breed for police work was an Airedale terrier. The Chief reported that he had a mature Airedale and would donate it for use by the Force. Neither the dog or its many handlers received any additional training. Opposite is a photograph of the dog and a PC Bullen on patrol in 1915.²⁸

In Plymouth, the General Officer Commanding was concerned that the port and borough may suffer bombing or bombardment, so a scheme was devised so that policemen, using long bamboo poles (a stock of which had been strategically placed around the town), could rush around and extinguish the gas streetlights at the first sign of attack.²⁹

When conscription was introduced it was known as the Derby Scheme. Men between 18 and 41 years were required to register, but for varying reasons they were not called up immediately. As they went about their ordinary activities they were sometimes set upon, mainly by young women, and subjected to the 'white feather treatment', implying that they were cowards, avoiding their patriotic duty. Such men could wear an armband to show that they had registered. Young Plymouth constables were issued with a black armband bearing a red crown, which was worn on the left arm.

There was some reluctance to register for conscription, and some men did their best to avoid the call up. It was not uncommon for the police to be involved in actions to

ensure that men had registered. In September 1916, the Truro City Police were involved in such an operation. They attended a film show at The County Picture Theatre in the town. At the conclusion of the film the Chief Constable told all men to remain in their seats; all the doors were locked and every man interviewed to establish whether he was registered for conscription.³⁰



The War and the many Orders enacted under DORA were a new challenge for the policeman on the beat. He was required to ensure that such things as the Bread and Cakes Order were complied with. We have an undated newspaper clipping relating to a case initiated by PC Mentry of Topsham, who had visited a local tearoom in plain clothes and ordered afternoon tea. He was served with six slices of bread and butter, clotted cream and jam at a cost of nine pence! The regulations specified that he should have received only two slices of bread and butter. The tearoom proprietor was duly summoned to appear before the local magistrates, where he was fined 3 shillings for breach of the order.³¹

Another offence under the DORA regulations was committed by the upper classes, who were often summoned for "employing a manservant of conscription age".

The X Division of the Devon Constabulary faced an age-old problem that occurs amongst soldiers taking 'Rest and Recuperation'. There was a tented camp close to Kenton to which troops returned from Flanders. It was occupied by various regiments, including at one time some Portuguese soldiers. Nearby there was another camp accommodating some Prisoners of War and some Canadian Military, this camp was engaged in Forestry, supplying timber for use in the frontline trenches. The Canadians had been *in situ* for some time before the Portuguese arrived, and had struck up relationships with the local village girls and were not pleased when the Iberians showed interest in their girls. There followed several incidents which led to a major confrontation between the Portuguese and Canadian soldiers which required several policemen to cycle from their normal beat to Kenton in to assist the military in keeping the peace.³²

In 1917 the War Office expressed concern about the mainly German monks at Buckfast Abbey, asking the Chief Constable to take action to ensure that the resident monks were in fact *bona fide*, and not some "fifth column".³³

The industrial scale of slaughter and casualties began to be felt at home. Men were returning with broken bodies and other effects of the conflict which had not been previously considered. Fit young constables were returning on demob as 'broken old men', seeking to take up where they had left off, and some were quite incapable of continuing to perform police duty.

The first man I have found in these circumstances was PC188 Dalling, who had joined the Devon force in 1907 as an Army reservist. He had been recalled in August 1914 but was injured in action and discharged



Hospital train brings more casualties to the V A D Hospitals in Exeter

from the Army on 15th March 1915. By 27th April 1916 he thought he was fit enough to return to police duty, but on 22nd January 1918 he resigned due to ill health. He made some recovery and passed a medical examination to rejoin the force on 25th February 1919, but five years later, on 30th September 1924, he was forced to retire on pension due to 'war wounds'.³⁴

PC Alexander Rigg returned to Exeter City on 25th January 1916, in receipt of a War Disability Pension of 20 shillings and 9 pence, and sought to rejoin the force. At his medical examination the Police Surgeon decided that he was not fit, but should be given a few months to recover. The Watch Committee gave him 5 shillings and 3 pence a week. After six months he was deemed fit to return to duty, but he was not fit enough to continue and was discharged "unfit through war wounds". He died in 1917.³⁵

More than 280,000 men were discharged from the Army as "Invalids" (not including amputees) before November 1918. There are no obtainable figures to show how many of those men died before 1925 (when most war memorials were

consecrated). They are known as the 'Totally forgotten'. Some suggest that the facts and figures have been manipulated by the Government to keep the declared 'War dead' at no more than one million.

Late in 1918, the Government realised that many men returning from the War would be less fit than they were at the outset. The Home Office pleaded with Police Forces to re-employ, wherever possible, suggesting the less fit men be used for supporting roles within the service.³⁷

I have found only one example. Devon Constabulary re-employed PC68 Albert Clements, who had originally joined the force in 1912 and volunteered for the Army in December 1915. He was wounded in 1917 and had a foot amputated. He rejoined the force and served at Torquay from 29th January 1918 until he retired on pension in 1938.

At the outbreak of the war, Plymouth Council was generous towards its men who had joined the colours. This generosity did not stretch to its Temporary Constables or to the men who had completed their pensionable service but were

not allowed to retire due to the war.

In most police forces, these 'time served' men were treated as Temporary Constables, paid their pension and re-employed at the rate of a Temporary.

In Plymouth, these men were paid the rate for the rank they held, and could not draw their pension. From February 1918, the 'time served' men were paid an extra 8 shillings a week. In Plymouth the Temporary Constables did not often receive the war bonus paid to policemen at various times through the War.³⁸

As the war progressed, many people were engaged in the manufacture of equipment needed by the military, and production was relentless. Wages increased and police pay was left behind, and with the added restriction of not being able to resign and take up a job with better remuneration, discontent within the police mounted. The Government were forced to give more war bonus payments to the police to ensure their co-operation. These were regularly given from 1915 onwards, sometimes amounting to an extra week's pay.³⁹

On 8th January 1918 the Home Office called a national meeting at the Castle, Exeter, to discuss discontent

28 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 25th February 1915

29 Plymouth General orders 5th October 1917

30 *Cornwall Gazette*, 16th September 1916

31 Undated newspaper clips in SW Police Heritage Collection: 2017.0009.013

32 Undated newspaper clips in SW Police Heritage Collection: 2017.0009.013

33 Devon Standing Joint Committee minutes for 1917

34 Devon Standing Joint Committee minutes for 31st March 1916

35 Exeter City Watch Committee minutes for 17th February 1916 and SW Police Heritage Collection: A2004.04473

37 Home Office circular 27th November 1918

38 Plymouth Council minutes 7th July 1918

39 Several recorded in Plymouth and Exeter Watch Committee minutes

caused by the pay and conditions in the police forces. It was chaired by the Conservative Marquis of Bath.⁴⁰

By 1918 the country was in turmoil; there was great unrest amongst workers and strikes were commonplace. Much of Plymouth was on strike. Newton Abbot was effected, the clay industry was closed down, the railway was at a standstill, dockers and Council workers all stopped work. Much of Europe had suffered revolution and Britain seemed to be heading in the same direction.

Plymouth had the second largest Co-operative Society in the UK, with numerous retail outlets, and were involved in every aspect of trade and life. They had recently built warehouses and other installations on their own quay and harbour. The Co-op was the major importer of coal for the town, and most industry was dependant on it for supply. They were the largest employer in Plymouth except for the Royal Naval Dockyard. In 1918, in an unprecedented action, the Co-op staff went on strike. Plymouth came almost to a standstill.

On 7th July 1918 the Plymouth Chief Constable advised the Watch Committee that there had been a meeting of all ranks of his men to discuss their pay and conditions, and he had agreed to the formation of a committee to further their cause.⁴¹

A Police Union had been formed. It initially had difficulty in recruiting members, but by August 1918 it had about 6,000 members in the Metropolitan Police and some in the major cities. On 30th August there was a strike at a police station in London. It was reported in the press that the strike was restricted to one station, and all the men who had taken action had been dismissed. This was an example of manipulation of the truth by the press, and proved to be lies.⁴²

The Metropolitan Police at that time were 12,000 strong, and the following day several thousand were 'not available for duty'. (Press reports vary between 6 and 10 thousand). Prime Minister Lloyd George was forced to intervene. The Met's Commissioner Sir Edward Henry resigned immediately, and all police were granted a 'war bonus' of about a week's extra pay. All the strikers were re-instated.⁴³



Striking Police Constables

By the end of September 1918, the membership of the Police Union had reached 50,000. In the Heritage Collection, we have personnel records for Exeter City, which indicate that the majority of Constables were subscribing members of the Union.⁴⁴

The strike led to the establishment of the Desborough Commission, which examined all aspects of the police. In effect, it brought the service into the modern era, introducing national standards of pay and conditions. It gave the police a substantial pay rise.

Because the records are not available, I cannot say exactly how many policemen from Devon and Cornwall served in the military forces during the Great War. Several men served as Drill Instructors on secondment from their police force. I estimate that over 350 West Country policemen enlisted. 27 were killed. I cannot establish how many men were unable to continue their police career due to injury sustained in the war.

The Special Constabulary in Plymouth was abolished on 1st February 1919.

Several men recruited as Temporary Constables returned to the police force after military service and continued to serve as policemen; one in Exeter became the Deputy Chief Constable.

At the start of the war Plymouth had no policewomen; the wives of constables were employed on an ad-hoc basis to search and oversee detained female offenders. Representations were made to the Council that women should be appointed to serve in the Police. Foremost in these came from the Womens Co-operative Guild.

When the Watch Committee decided not to employ women, various other women's organisations joined the campaign, advocating the need for a female presence in policing. Some Christian groups, and others concerned with morality, were providing ladies to accompany the police on patrol, "to give advice to young soldiers found in the company of prostitutes, or to offer guidance to young women of the flapper type."

In June 1919 two women were appointed by Plymouth Borough Police, they were Inspectress Carney and Policewoman Taylor.⁴⁵

⁴⁰ *Express & Echo*, 8th January 1918

⁴¹ Plymouth Council minutes 7th July 1918

⁴² There is much information online

⁴³ Ibid

⁴⁴ *Cornwall Gazette*, 16th September 1916

⁴⁵ Plymouth Council minutes 22nd December 1915; 24th January 1917; 20th June 1917; 19th June 1918; and 9th February 1919



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Are You More Likely to be Murdered in Your Beds than in Medieval Times?

By ROBERT BARTLETT

The Home Office publish the annual homicide figures to which they add a summary encapsulating, in a few short paragraphs, all the horror and distress caused by the loss of so many lives. We live in violent times; maybe but was the threat of murder far worse for our ancestors?

Main Points Homicide in the Year ending March 2015 in England and Wales

The Homicide Index showed there were 518 homicides (murder, manslaughter and infanticide) representing a decrease of 5 offences (1%) from the 523 recorded for the previous year.

- Over recent years, the number of currently recorded homicides has shown a general downward trend and the number at 518 the lowest since 1983 (482).
- There were 9.0 offences of homicide per million of the population (0.9 per 100,000). As in previous years, children under 1 year old had the highest rate of homicide (35.8 offences per million population) compared with other age groups, the highest since year ending March 2004 (42.8).
- With the exception of those aged under 1-year, adults generally had higher incidence rates of being a victim of homicide than children.

For children aged 1 or over, homicide rates were higher for 1 to 4 year olds (4 per million or 0.4 per 100,000) than for 5 to 15 year olds (2 per million 0.2 per 100,000).

- Just less than two-thirds of homicide victims (64%) were male, the lowest since 1996 (64%).
- There were differences between males and females in the pattern of relationships between victims and suspects. **Women were far more likely than men to be killed by partners/ex-partners** (44% of female victims compared with 6% of male victims), and **men** were more likely than women to be **killed by friends/ acquaintances** (32% of male victims compared with 8% of female victims).
- There were **54 homicide victims aged under 16 years**. Three-fifths of these victims were killed by a parent or step-parent (60%, or 31 offences).
- The most **common method of killing continued to be by knife** or other sharp instrument with 186 victims killed in this way, accounting for over 1 in 3 (36%) homicides.
- **Killed by shooting** were 21 homicide victims (4% of the total) 8 fewer than the previous year and the lowest number since 1980 (19 homicides).

When comparing statistical evidence in this case one thing is obvious and certain. The population is now far greater than it was and whereas the measure for crimes within the community was based on numbers per 100,000 they are now measured against crimes per million. Yet the murder rate 1780-1800 is the same at 0.9 cases per 100,000 of the population as 2015.

Collecting and interpreting crime figures is and never has been an exact science given the way they are collected and changes made to practices and procedures over the generations. Crime figures from long ago probably like statistics need to be treated guardedly and in this case seen as indicators of trends.

The Population of England up to the Middle Ages¹

At the time of the Domesday Book (1086) England probably had a population of about 2 million with about 10% living in towns. (Much less than in Roman times). However the population grew rapidly. It may have reached about 5 or 6 million by the end of the 13th century.

At the time of the Domesday Book London had a population of about 18,000. By the 14th century it had

¹ www.localhistories.org/population.html

risen to about 45,000. Other towns were much smaller. York may have had a population of about 13,000 by 1400 but it then fell to about 10,000 by 1500. Most towns had between 2,000 and 5,000 inhabitants.

Between 1348-49 the Black Death reached England and is thought to have killed about a third of the population. The plague returned again and again and the population of England was severely reduced. In 1400 the population of England was probably about 2.5 million.

The Population of England 1500-1800

By 1530 the population of England and Wales had risen to around 3 million and by 1600 it was about 4 million. London grew from a population of about 60,000 or 70,000 at the end of the 15th century growing by 1600 to about 250,000. The next largest town was probably Bristol with a population of only around 20,000 in 1600.

At the end of the 17th century it was estimated the population of England and Wales was about 5.5 million and Scotland about 1 million. London had a population of about 600,000.

In the mid 18th century the population of Britain was about 6.5 million. In the late 18th century it grew rapidly and by 1801 it was over 9 million. The population of London was by then almost 1 million.

During the 18th century towns in Britain grew larger though most still had populations of less than 10,000. However in the late 18th century new industrial towns in the Midland and the North of England mushroomed. The population of Liverpool was about 77,000 in 1800. Birmingham had about 73,000 people and Manchester had about 70,000. Bristol had a population of about 68,000. Sheffield was smaller with 31,000 people and Leeds had about 30,000

people. Leicester had a population of about 17,000 in 1800. In the south Portsmouth had a population of about 32,000 in 1800 while Exeter had about 20,000 people.

The Population of Britain After the Industrial Revolution

In the 19th century Britain became the world's first industrial society. It also became the first urban society.

1801	8,893,000 ²
1811	10,164,000
1815	The population of Britain not just England had reached 13 million ³
1821	12,000,000
1831	13,897,000
1901	41,000,000

By 1851 more than half the population lived in towns.

About 15 million people left Britain between 1815 and 1914 averaging 150,000 a year about 5 times the population of Portsmouth!

There were many immigrants to balance out the lost population. In the 1840s people came from Ireland, fleeing the famine.

Remarkably, between 1857-1901 reported indictable offences declined by almost 50% whilst the population grew from 19 million to 33 million. The number of serious crimes fell from 92,000 to 81,000.⁴

During the 20th century the population of Britain grew more slowly however the population of Britain is now 64.6 million.

By 1991, recorded crime was ten times that of 1955 forty times that of 1901.⁵

The 1881 population of the county of Surrey was 188,830.⁶ See table on opposite page for population of the county's larger towns.

The Godalming Division was formed in 1893 with a population of

21,109 and there were 21 constables. The Guildford or Headquarters Division had a population of 35,018 and thirty-nine constables including eleven stationed at HQ where there were no civilian clerks. Farnham with a population of 24,767 had twenty-six constables.⁷

When recording the population of the county of Surrey and relating that to policing is difficult. There was no formalised policing in Surrey before the Metropolitan Police were formed in 1829 encompassing the north of the county, including after 1839 as far out as Epsom. When the Surrey Constabulary was formed in 1851 it did not police the northern more urban parts of the county, this pleasure was delayed until 2000.

Population for the whole of Surrey up to the Thames⁸

Census Year	The whole of Surrey
1801	269,043
1821	398,658
1841	582,678
1861	831,093
1881	1,436,899
	Surrey County Council area
1881	266,200
1891	319,600
1991	1,000,900

It is essential to understand the part population growth plays in the development of policing. For Guildford, it may account for the growth and level of violence associated with the Guy riots as there were always large groups of young, many moving into or close to the towns seeking work and a better way of life than was offered within isolated villages. The young are known to be hot headed and prone to violence and crime – the more mature person

UK Census starting with 1801^{9/10}

Census	Population	Number of commitments for trial	Proportion per 100,000
1841	15,914,148	27,760	174.6
1851	17,927,609	27,960	156.2
1860		15,999	
1861	20,066,224	18,326	91.3
1862		20,001	
1863		20,818	
1871	22,712,266	16,269	71.6
1881	25,974,239	14,704	56.6
1891	29,002,525	11,605	40.0
1901	32,528,000		
1911	36,070,000		

*Population of the larger towns of rural Surrey*¹¹

Location	1841	1851	1861
Farnham	6,651	7,264	9,278
Frensham	1,583	1,559	1,750
Seale	428	508	669
Dorking	5,638	5,996	6,997
Chertsey	5,347	6,025	6,589
Egham	4,448	4,482	4,864
Godalming	4,328	4,657	5,778
Guildford	4,506	5,171	5,425
Merrow, Guildford	252	278	363
Stoke next Guildford	2,054	2,507	3,797
Reigate	4,584	4,927	9,975

adapts his way of life to take account of increased responsibilities of family and work.

As towns grew and law enforcement became more frequent, complex and difficult. The one-year only untrained, amateur constable fulfilling a civic duty, often at great financial loss, encouraged the search for alternative methods. The formation of the Metropolitan Police in 1829 gave another model but the rural parts of the country were not yet ready for such dramatic and potentially costly change. Government were to legislate,

cautiously and with great care as there was opposition to police, particularly when not under the direct control of the magistrates and hence the county gentry. They feared a loss of control.

Additional pressures upon policing came from the growth in population density, the coming of the railways from 1830 leading directly to the growth of new towns at Woking and Redhill. For Farnham the development of the Camp at Aldershot was from the evidence contained in this paper, to have an effect on the levels of violence. Added

to these problems were a number of agricultural depressions in a county where the number of agricultural labourers formed a high proportion of the population. Amongst other policing issues were the criminal gangs, many itinerant, many living on the heaths and woodlands of the county, including Farnham. More will be set out later of a criminal gang operating from West Surrey that burgled and murdered in the 1840s and the start of the 1850s.

The 2011 census showed that Surrey has a population of approximately 1.1 million people. Its largest town is Guildford, with a population of 66,773; Woking comes a close second with 62,796 followed by Epsom and Ewell with 39,994 people and Camberley with 30,155. Towns of between 25,000 and 30,000 inhabitants are Ashford, Epsom, Farnham, Staines and Redhill.

Due to its proximity to London there are many commuter towns and villages in Surrey, the population density is high and the area is one of the richest parts of the UK. Surrey is Britain's most densely populated county, excluding Greater London, the metropolitan counties and Bristol. Much of the north east of the county is an urban area contiguous to Greater London. In the west, there is a conurbation straddling the Hampshire/Surrey border, including

2 www.teacherlink.org/content/social/instructional/pop/popstud.html

3 www.uk.filo.pl/uk_history_9.htm

4 Letter in the *Spectator*, 3 May 2014 by Will Orr-Ewing Gertrude Himmelfarb: The Demoralisation of Society

5 Ibid

6 Durrant page 21

7 Ibid

8 www.ons.gov.uk 200 years of census in Surrey

9 *The Story of Scotland Yard* by Sir Basil Thompson, 1935. Reprint Kessinger Publishing Rare Reprints, page 100

10 *A History of Police in England* by WL Melville-Lee, 1901. Reprint Kessinger Rare Reprints 2012 page 339

11 www.wsfhs.org

in Surrey Camberley and Farnham¹²

Population estimates for District and Borough Councils in Surrey 2016

Surrey	1,168,809¹³
Elmbridge	132,670
Epsom and Ewell	78,950
Guildford	146,080
Mole Valley	86,104
Reigate and Banstead	144,100
Runnymede	85,594
Spelthorne	98,469
Surrey Heath	88,067
Tandridge	86,025
Waverley	123,315
Woking	99,435

The Growth in Crime¹⁴

During the first two decades of the 20th century the police in England and Wales recorded an average of 90,000 indictable offences each year, a figure, which increased to over 500,000 during the 1950s.

The crime rate consequently quadrupled from 250 crimes per 100,000 people in 1901 to 1,000 by 1950.

But the history of crime in the 20th century is dominated by the even sharper rise in offences recorded by the police since the late 1950s. During the 1960s there was acceleration in recorded crime: it was the only decade in the century where crime doubled. Crime continued to rise according to this measure for much of the remainder of the 20th century, with an average of over one million crimes recorded each year in the 1960s, increasing to two million during the 1970s, and 3.5m in the 1980s.

There is no simple answer as to why crime rates increased so markedly in the second half of the century. Over the period, there were significant changes to the types of offences

recorded as crime, and how they are counted, making it difficult to accurately assess underlying trends in 'real' crime. Recorded crime levels have also been affected by the behaviour of the public in reporting crimes to the police. An increase in the number of burglaries reported, for example, may partly be due to the relatively recent need to inform the police in order to make an insurance claim, rather than an indication of any real increase in the level of burglary.

New inventions, creating new opportunities for misdemeanour, a growth in the value of ordinary people's personal property, and the criminalisation of drug use have had real effects on crime levels during the 20th century. The most obvious example of an invention that has spurred crime is the motorcar: by 1991, a car was being reported stolen on average once every minute across England and Wales. Aeroplanes made international transport and smuggling easier, while the growing use of computers has created new kinds of offences.

The puzzle for today's criminologists is to explain falling crime.

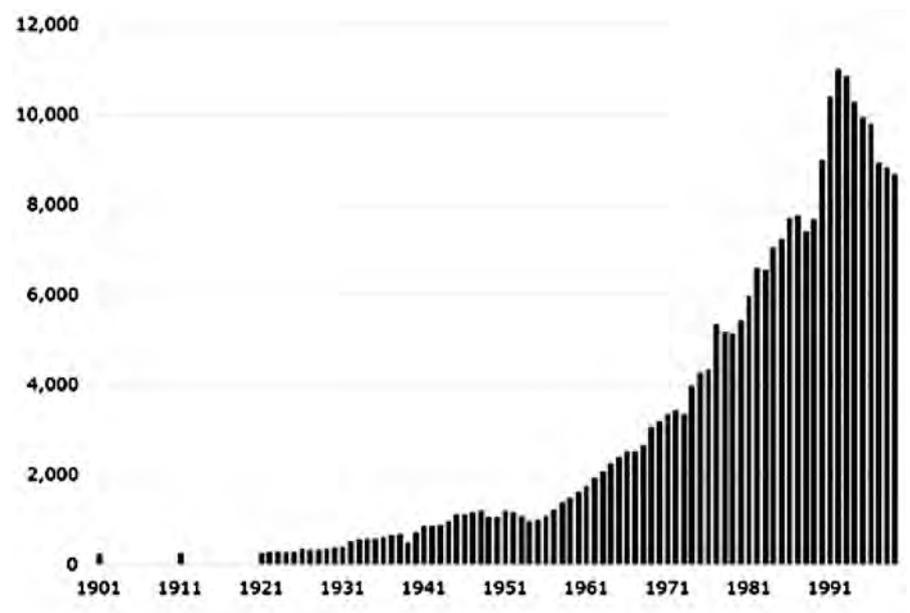
Recorded offences reached 6m in 2003, and a steady decline has since been seen in most kinds of recorded crime, with particularly steep falls in some offences such as burglary. Some argue that improvements in security, particularly modern systems to prevent vehicle intrusion, have significantly reduced the opportunities for committing crime. Others contend that imprisonment, policing or demographic factors play the most important role.

Getting Offensive

The chart below shows recorded offences per 100,000 people in England and Wales during the 20th century.

"A Fiery & Furious People"

So how was it for our ancestors long ago? Did they sleep soundly and safely in their beds? James Sharp a recently retired history professor at York University and an early supporter of the PHS, a man who has studied crime and violence throughout our history in a recently published book *A Fiery & Furious People* has lots of



Recorded offences per 100,000 people in England and Wales during the 20th century

examples that are strangely redolent of modern times.

1201-1276¹⁵

In 1977 James Buchanan Given undertook research covering 1201-1276 across Bedfordshire, Kent, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, London and Bristol. He traced 2434 victims of homicide with a total of 3492 perpetrators. That is about 32 potential homicides a year across a significant part of the South and Midlands. However there was a wide variation in numbers:

Rural Norfolk

9 homicides per 100,000 of the population

Warwickshire

47 homicides per 100,000 of the population

Bedfordshire

22 homicides per 100,000 of the population

Kent

23 homicides per 100,000 of the population

Oxfordshire

18 homicides per 100,000 of the population

Given deduces that a working average for rural homicide in the 13th century was 20 per 100,000 of the population, which he considers to be a high number.

1244-1276

Given traced 199 victims in London or 12 homicides per 100,000 of the population

1227-1248

In Bristol there were 16 murders or 4 homicides per 100,000 of the population

1278

6 homicides in London with a population of 40,000 or 15 homicides per 100,000 of the population.

The Crime of Homicide

1300-1420

In the book the work of Barbara Hanawalt is explored. She reviewed the surviving coroner's records for Northamptonshire between 1300-1420 recording a total of 575 homicides. Men were responsible for 99% of the offences and were victims in 94% of the recorded inquests. (i.e. women 1% and 6%)

In London during the same period women were the perpetrators in 7% of the cases and were victims in 10%.

Victims outside the family dominate the recorded cases with 255 killed during fights or burglaries. People were more likely to kill on a Sunday 21% in Northants and 38% in London. Monday was also a dangerous day with 15.4% in Northants and 23% in London. Northants was more dangerous in the spring and summer. Was this the consequences of too much drink on a Sunday; too many pints in the public house?

In Northants 33% killed indoors and 50% in the fields or street with evening or night-time 86% in Northants and 90% in London.

In Northants the weapon of choice was a knife, 42%, 25% staves which many workingmen carried, fists or feet 0.6%. 50% of the deaths followed a sudden altercation.

There was of course no formalised police and the justice system relied on the parish constable and magistrate. In Northants 50% of those suspected of homicide did not turn up for court and were therefore outlawed, 5.9% of 529 or 31 who went to court were executed.¹⁶

1485- 1688 Sussex¹⁷

Records of Coroner's inquest for Sussex have survived.

1485-1558

244 surviving inquest records covering homicide:

65 murders
7 cases of manslaughter
14 verdict of self-defence

1558-1603

582 Sussex inquests:
53 murders
53 cases of manslaughter
12 verdicts of self-defence

1603-1688

521 inquests:
96 murders
69 cases of manslaughter
4 verdicts of self-defence

1560-1619 Sussex¹⁸

1560-1619 153 homicides (excluding infanticide) traced with 169 suspects. 150 of the victims and 169 of the suspects were male. Female victims were 26, 10 killed by other women. Few cases were within the family.

Homicide was spread across all classes:

- 50 of the Sussex accused were labourers
- 36 craftsmen or tradesmen
- 26 husbandmen - small to middling farmers
- 26 Yeomen

Of the 169 accused:

- 45 of the accused, 33 men and 12 women were acquitted
- 1 man and 1 woman are discharged by the Grand Jury (committal)
- 15 men were at large
- 13 there is no information
- 21 cases pardons, reprieve or self defence

¹² en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surrey

¹³ www.surreyi.gov.uk/Viewdata.aspx?P=Data&referer=%2fViewPage.aspx%3fC%3dbasket%26basketid%3d288

¹⁴ www.parliament.uk/business/publications/research/olympic-britain/crime-and-defence/crimes-of-the-century/

¹⁵ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 46

¹⁶ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 50

¹⁷ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 116

¹⁸ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 108

- 36 men and 4 women hanged
- 33 claimed benefit of clergy i.e. could read the bible and were a part of the church establishment so dealt with by ecclesiastical courts
- 1 women pleaded she was pregnant and could not be hung
- Over 25% acquitted

Sussex Homicide Rate for a Population of about 90,000

1560,1570,1580s

3-4 homicides per 100,000 of the population of Sussex

1590s

5-6 homicides per 100,000 of the population of Sussex

1560s early decades

4 homicides per 100,000 of the population of Sussex

Manslaughter became the accepted verdict when death was an unintended consequence.

By 1800 this figure was 1 homicide per 100,000 of the population by 1873 250 annually in England and Wales.

By 2015 this figure was 1.5 homicides per 100,000 of the population.

According to official statistics, there were 55,453 trials and 45,039 convictions for serious ('indictable') offences in 1901, figures, which showed no significant rise in the numbers of such types of crime. There had been, however, a steady increase since 1886 in the number of lesser ('non-indictable') offences, which were tried without a jury before summary courts, roughly equivalent

to today's magistrates' courts. Such lesser offences included petty larceny and drunkenness, which 210,342 people were charged in 1901.

Violent crime was not as much of a concern in 1901 as it is today and was seen as falling. A report by the Criminal Registrar, published in 1901, noted that the period had 'witnessed a great change in manners: the substitution of words...for blows... an approximation in the manners of different classes; a decline in the spirit of lawlessness'. This was partly due to policing: the historian V.A.C. Gatrell has argued, in his article in *The Cambridge Social History of Britain*, that the Edwardian working classes were heavily regulated and that the falling indictable crime rate between 1860 and 1914 reflected a period when policing was able to obtain 'a peculiar and transient advantage...over ancient forms of popular lawlessness visible on the street'²⁰

Homicide (includes murder, manslaughter and infanticide)

1898	328
1908	321
1918	204
1928	284
1938	305
1948	341
1958	261
1968	425
1978	532
1988	624
1997/8	748
1998/9 (old rules)	750

The Home Office hasn't actually recorded a 'murder rate' for several decades, as since 1972 the crimes of murder, manslaughter and infanticide have been compiled to make a homicide rate.

Using the Home Office's recorded crime statistics and population estimates from the Office for National Statistics, we can see that the homicide rate (recorded per million of the population but transcribed per 100,000):

2006

1.4 per 100,000

2009/2010

1.12 per 100,000 compared to 0.63 per 100,000 in 1964

2015/2016

1 per 100,000

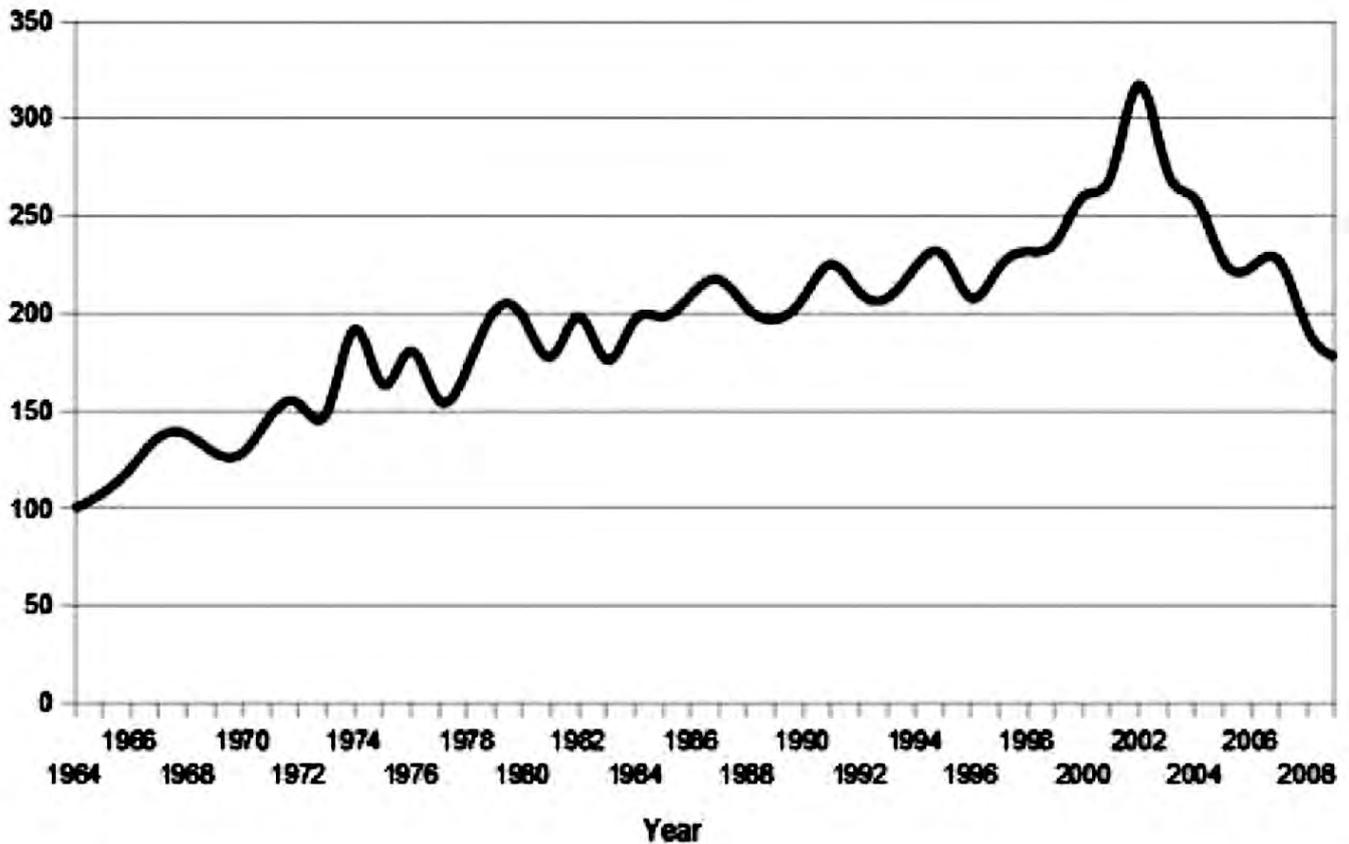
March 2016 there were 571 homicides recorded by the police in the latest year (2015/16), which represents a rate of 10 per million of the population or 1 per 100,000. The latest number was up 34 on the previous year and among the highest recorded in the last 5 years. However, the homicide rate has fallen from 14 per million of the population a decade ago (year ending March 2006).²¹

In 1998 the Home Office made a change to the way police recorded homicide, which had a significant impact upon the results produced. Whereas before 1998 multiple murders were considered as a single incident, afterwards each death was considered separately. In 2002, the figures included the 173 murders committed by Harold Shipman, whereas if these had been committed in 1964, they would have only counted as one incident for the purposes of the Home Office statistics. 2017 terrorist attacks will disrupt the downward trend.

Of course this could also mean that the difference between the most

Homicide Rate Surrey and Sussex

	Homicide Rate Sussex¹⁹	Homicide Rate Rural Surrey	Homicide Rate Urban Surrey
1660-1679	2.6 per 100,000	4.3 per 100,000	8.1 per 100,000
1700-1719	1.2 per 100,000	3.5 per 100,000	3.9 per 100,000
1780-1800	0.6 per 100,000	0.9 per 100,000	0.9 per 100,000



Indexed changes to the homicide rate, 1964-2009

recent year from which there is data and 1964 might also be exaggerated. To do a true like-for-like comparison there would be a need to limit the analysis to the years 1964-1997.

However even within this timeframe it would appear that the homicide rate did indeed double. In 1997 the homicide rate stood at 0.14 per 100,000 still more than twice the 1964 level.

But there are some factors that need to be considered. In particular, it is worth noting that the homicide rate itself is not a static figure, and is frequently revised in response to developments in cases. The reported homicide rate totals the number of incidents initially treated as murder,

manslaughter or infanticide by police when they begin investigations. However this can fall in subsequent months and years in response to new information (for example, as cases initially considered murder are revised to suicide).

If we look specifically at cases still considered homicide at the end of the period then the change in the murder rate between 1967 (the earliest year for which data is available) and 1997 is more modest. In 1967 this rate stood at 0.73 per 100,000 and reached a peak of 1.28 per 100,000 in 1995, falling slightly to 1.24 per 100,000 in 1997. In this analysis therefore, the homicide rate did not quite double.

¹² en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surrey

¹³ www.surreyi.gov.uk/Viewdata.aspx?P=Data&referer=%2fViewPage.aspx%3fc%3dbasket%26basketid%3d288

¹⁴ www.parliament.uk/business/publications/research/olympic-britain/crime-and-defence/crimes-of-the-century/

¹⁵ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 46

¹⁶ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 50

¹⁷ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 116

¹⁸ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 108

¹⁹ *A Fiery & Furious People* page 125

²⁰ www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/census/living/crime/c1901.htm

²¹ Crime in England and Wales: year ending March 2016



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The First Chief Constable of Shropshire, Captain Dawson Mayne

By TONY MOORE

Richard Mayne, later Sir Richard, is one of the most famous policemen in Britain, if not the world. With Colonel Sir Charles Rowan, he was appointed by Sir Robert Peel in 1829 to set up the Metropolitan Police in London.

After being joint-commissioner with Rowan for 21 years, until 1850, joint-commissioner with Captain Hay for the next five years, and sole Commissioner for a further 13 years, he died in office in December 1868.¹ But, what is often overlooked is that a younger brother of Richard's, Dawson Mayne, set up the Shropshire County Constabulary and served as its chief constable for the first nineteen years of its existence.

Early Life

Dawson Mayne was born in Ireland on 24 December 1799, three years after Sir Richard. Their father was Edward Mayne, a barrister whose final appointment before his retirement was as a Justice of the King's Bench Division. Edward was a descendent of the Sedborough-Maynes of Ireland and married Sarah Fiddes, the brothers' mother, in June 1780. They were two of thirteen children born to the couple between 1782 and 1807.² Dawson joined the Royal Navy in



*Sir Richard Mayne,
elder brother of Dawson Mayne*

1812 at the age of 13 years. During a successful naval career, he took part in the bombardment of Algiers in 1816 - an attempt by an Anglo-Dutch fleet to put an end to the slavery trade generated from there - where he was wounded, before going on to serve on various ships in the seas around North America and the Caribbean. Returning to England in 1834, he spent the next six years as an Inspecting Commander in the Coast

Guard Service,³ during which he resided, for some of the time at least, at 34 Norfolk Square in London.⁴ He remained on the navy's active list until retiring from it in 1856.⁵

Shortly after his appointment as chief constable, Dawson Mayne married Elizabeth Mary Hewitt, daughter of William Hewitt of Jamaica, on 14 May 1840.⁶ Hewitt was a cousin of Rowland Hill, the Member of Parliament for Shropshire from 1821 to 1832 and, on the re-alignment of boundaries, for North Shropshire from 1832 to 1842 when, on the death of his uncle, he succeeded to the title of 2nd Viscount Hill. Between 1845 and 1875 Viscount Hill was Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire. Whether his future wife's relationship to Hill was influential in his appointment as chief constable is not known, but it would later be the cause his undoing.

Chief Constable

On 6 February 1840 Mayne took up the appointment of Chief Constable of Shropshire, having been selected twelve days earlier from a short-list of four, and immediately set to work creating the new constabulary. He divided the county into six police divisions, each with a superintendent

in charge. In addition to the six superintendents, the initial strength of the force was 43 constables but by 9 March, when it became operational, only 31 constables had been sworn in. Mayne's problems with finding men of the right calibre were similar to those experienced by brother Richard in London. Many only lasted a few days before being dismissed for drunkenness or neglect of duty. The first officer to be sworn in to the Shropshire force, Edward Butler, was caught and convicted of poaching after serving for a mere nine days. For their uniforms, Mayne chose a rifle-green frock-coat and trousers, a black stove-pipe hat, with a stock around the neck and a belt around the waist, each made of leather. An Oxford-grey overcoat was provided to wear in cold weather. For protection they carried a truncheon with the addition of a cutlass at night. Each constable was issued with a rattle with which to summon assistance; a lantern was carried at night. In the first six months of operations, over eight hundred offenders were brought before the magistrates, leading the Shropshire Constabulary to acquire the nickname 'Paddy Mayne's Grasshoppers'.⁷

Given these successes, it must have been a surprise to Mayne that only a year after becoming operational, the June County Quarter Sessions of 1841 appointed a police committee to inquire into the workings of the constabulary. Whether Mayne had sought the guidance of his older brother who had, by this time, been Joint-Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police for eleven years, is unlikely given the committee's report to the October Quarter Sessions. Amongst the criticisms, of which there were a number, it accused the chief constable and his superintendents of not administering the force efficiently, claiming Mayne 'was not sufficiently aware of the importance of frequently inspecting

the operations of his force at their different stations' which he was told he should do 'at least four times a year'. Mayne responded positively and undertook to implement all the recommendations contained in the report.⁸

In 1842, industrial strife, caused primarily by massive unemployment and a reduction in wages for those who were in work, spread through much of England. In Shropshire, the job of the police in preserving order was made more difficult by an influx of Staffordshire miners, who smashed machinery in the pits where Shropshire miners were still working. As a result, in August, Mayne concentrated 50 of his 58 constables in the Wellington area, 'while other parts of the county were left at the mercy of bands of beggars.' Nevertheless, led by Mayne, the Shropshire Constabulary showed itself to be 'capable of handling the disorder' that occurred. In his report to the October Quarter Sessions that year, Mayne described the conduct of his force during a difficult period as being 'exemplary' and he subsequently received letters expressing approval of his actions from the Lord Lieutenant and the Home Secretary.⁹

Older brother Richard was in the habit of sending his wife out of London during the summer months because of the heat and stench that reverberated around the capital at that time of the year. When his third son, Edward William, fell ill soon after birth, it was not surprising that his wife and the sick child should end up at the house of Dawson and Elizabeth in Shrewsbury for the summer of 1844. Unfortunately it was to no avail, for poor Edward died on 25 August. He was less than 2-years-old.¹⁰

From June 1847 to April 1849 there were regular outbreaks of disorder in the county involving navvies from

the railway construction companies. For one ten-day period in 1848, the disorder was so serious in Wellington that Mayne again deployed most of the constabulary force to that area and order was only restored with the help of a detachment of the 87th Prince of Wales' Own Irish Fusiliers. Tragically, right at the end of this troublesome period Police Constable John Micklewright was killed, the only Shropshire officer to be murdered in its 127-year existence.¹¹

In 1850 it was agreed that Bridgnorth Borough Police would amalgamate with the Shropshire Constabulary, but Bridgnorth Corporation insisted that the Constabulary employ its Chief Constable, Richard Evans. Mayne agreed, providing he was found to be efficient. However, Mayne found him to be illiterate and refused to accept him. The Mayor of Bridgnorth therefore reneged on the agreement, even though it had been signed by both parties. Six months later, Bridgnorth Corporation found another post for Richard Evans and the Shropshire Constabulary took over the policing of Bridgnorth.¹² However, Mayne was faced with a more serious problem that year, when one of his senior officers, Superintendent

1. See for instance Reith, Charles (1943). *The British Police and the Democratic Ideal*. Oxford: Oxford University Press; Reith, Charles (1956). *A New Study of Police History*. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd.

2. For Dawson Mayne's full family background, see Sedborough-Mayne at www.scribd.com/doc/75988391/Sedborough-Mayne-of-Ireland accessed 17 March 2017.

3. For more details about Dawson Mayne's naval career, see the entry in Elliott, Douglas J (1984). *Policing Shropshire 1836-1967*. Studley, Warwickshire: Brewin Books, p.231.

4. *Morning Advertiser*, 15 May 1838, p.3.

5. *Hampshire Advertiser*, 5 October 1872, p.8.

6. See Sedborough-Mayne, op. cit.2.

7. Elliott, op. cit. 3, p.19-22.

8. Ibid, pp. 27-28.

9. Ibid, pp. 31-34.

10. *Morning Post*, 28 August 1844, p.4.

11. Elliott, op. cit. 3, pp. 48-49; see also *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, 27 April 1849, p.3.

12. Elliott, op. cit. 3, p.50.

William Baxter, who had been with him since the beginning, was found to have embezzled a large sum of money. When initially questioned about the missing monies, he decamped to Liverpool. Brought back to face trial,¹³ he was sentenced to three months imprisonment. In its subsequent report, the Police Committee was 'highly critical' of Mayne and it is suggested he was only 'saved from more serious repercussions because of his wife's relationship with the Hill family'. But Mayne had enemies in the county. Sir Baldwin Leighton JP was an early critic of the force's command and administration, and was of the view no chief constable should have personal connections with the magistracy.¹⁴

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary was created in 1856 by The County and Borough Police Act.¹⁵ At the time, there were 246 police forces in England and Wales and each borough and county received a grant from the Exchequer to assist with the running of their respective forces. But before the Exchequer handed over the money, the Inspector had to be satisfied the force was 'efficient in discipline and numbers'. Most of the county forces passed the initial inspection, but Shropshire was amongst seven that did not. The Inspector, General William Cartwright, found the Constabulary 'greatly lacking in numbers' and suggested the number of 1st class constables should be raised from nine to twenty, a new 3rd class of constable should be introduced, and inspectors' pay should be raised by a shilling a week. To their cost, the Police Committee initially ignored Cartwright's recommendations. He therefore declared the Shropshire Constabulary 'inefficient in numbers' and no Exchequer grant was forthcoming for that year. This prompted the Police Committee to quickly authorise an increase of

twenty-six men. Twenty were to be constables, five were to be sergeants, a rank that had not existed in Shropshire previously, and there was to be an additional inspector.¹⁶



*Oil painting of Sir Baldwin Leighton MP
Courtesy Shropshire Museums*

But danger loomed for Mayne. Sir Baldwin Leighton had been appointed Chairman of the Shropshire Court of Quarter Sessions. Another committee was set up to examine the efficiency and discipline of the force, and when it reported that 'in a number of cases investigated by them' it did not appear that 'the intelligence and activity displayed' was of the standard to be expected 'from the chief constable and his superintendents',¹⁷ Mayne's position had become untenable. On 3 January 1859, Mayne wrote to Leighton:

Having for some time been aware that the constabulary committee of this county have not that confidence in me that the chief constable ought to possess and feeling under such circumstances that I cannot, with benefit to the public service or justice to myself, continue to hold that office which I have now done for 19 years, I beg through you, as chairman of

quarter session, to state that it is my intention to resign at such time as the court shall find it convenient to place the duties in other hands.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

*D. Mayne*¹⁸

The resignation took effect from 1 April 1859.¹⁹

Retirement

Following his retirement, Dawson and Elizabeth continued to live in Shrewsbury, attending various social events such as the wedding, in 1867, of Captain Hopton Scott Stewart of the 11th Regiment to Miss Woodward, daughter of Ratcliffe Woodward in the village of Tixall; the toast was proposed by the Earl of Shrewsbury.²⁰ Dawson also attended the funeral of his elder brother, Sir Richard Mayne, at Kensal Green in London on 30 December 1868.²¹

The couple frequently visited his native Ireland following his retirement.²² But, towards the end of his life, it appears he left his wife in England and returned to Killaloe in County Clare to live with his youngest sister, Frances Rebecca Mayne, better known as Fanny, who had never married. He died there on 25 September 1872. Less than a month later, on 23 October 1872, Fanny too was dead. A memorial to them can be seen in St. Flannan's Cathedral in Killaloe:²³

*In memory of
Captain Dawson Mayne
Royal Navy
who died at Killaloe
on the 25th September 1872
in the 75th year of his age.
Also of Frances Rebecca Mayne,
sister of the above
who died at Killaloe
on the 23rd October 1872
in the 65th year of her age.*

Interestingly, the memorial stone makes no reference to him being the Chief Constable of Shropshire for nineteen years!

His wife died less than a year later, on 21 September 1873, at Sidmouth in Devon.²⁴

13. *Wolverhampton Chronicle and Staffordshire Advertiser*, 6 March 1850, p.4.

14. Elliott, op. cit. 3, p.51.

15. For the setting up of the Inspectorate and particularly the role of General William Cartwright, see Cowley, Richard and Peter Todd (2006). *The History of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary: The First 150 Years*. London: HMIC.

16. Elliott, op. cit. 3, pp. 62-64.

17. Ibid, p. 67.

18. *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, 7 January 1859, p.6.

19. Elliott, op. cit. 3, p.68; another source suggests Mayne's replacement was in place by 7 March, see Stallion, Martin, and David S.Wall (1999). *The British Police: Police Forces and Chief Officers 1829-2000*. Bramshill, Hampshire: The Police History Society, p.159.

20. *Staffordshire Advertiser*, 27 April 1867, p.4.

21. *The Morning Post*, 31 December 1868, p.5.

22. See *Saunders's News Letter*, dated 19 October and 14 November 1964; 16 November 1968; *Morning Post*, 2 October 1972, p.8.

23. www.igp-web.com/IGPArchives/ire/clare/photos/tombstones/iheadstones/st-flannans-mems.txt accessed on 17 March 1017.

24. *London Evening Standard*, 25 September 1873, p.7.



Former police officer TONY MOORE is a member of the Police History Society, the Metropolitan Police History Society and London Historians.

Not Many People Know That!

By FRED FEATHER

Whilst consulting the *Stratford Times and Bromley News* for 8th September 1879... No, I am not behind with the newspapers, I was looking for stories of the career of Inspector Tom Simmons of the Essex Constabulary at Romford, murdered in 1885.

I came across the East End story of two boys who were charged with "Robbing a Missionary Box." The officer in the case was reported as Constable 310K Penno von Augiwitz.

Intrigued, I wrote to Keith Skinner of the Friends of the Metropolitan Police for endorsement, and back came the welcomed reply:

Stratford Times were close with his name which was Eugen Benno Von Langiwitz.

If I had known about this chap, I would have definitely worked him into Ripper Street somehow. He was born in Dresden, Germany (Saxony), formerly a baker, he joined the Met on April 28th 1879 as PC K310 aged 22 years and resigned on July 26th 1889 as Constable 117J with a good conduct certificate.

It seemed to me that had Keith, with his Thespian connections, woven Eugen into *Ripper Street* or even better *From Hell*, then Michael Caine (aka Inspector Fred Abberline) would be doing the rounds with this anecdote – Not Me!



The recent memorial to Inspector Simmons placed in near the scene of his murder
L-R: Susan Harrison, retired ACC Essex (now part of England Ladies Football Team Staff); Dennis Rensch, Retired Superintendent and Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Essex; Fred Feather, Treasurer and retired Sergeant; Geoffrey Markham, retired ACC, Essex; Charles Clark, Retired DCC and Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex; Andy Bliss, retired Chief Constable of Hertfordshire and former DCC Essex.

50th Anniversary of Devon & Cornwall Constabulary

'Honouring Our Heritage, Inspiring Our Future'

By MARK ROTHWELL and SAMANTHA HILL

This year saw the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary. On 1st June 1967, the Cornwall Constabulary, Devon & Exeter Police and Plymouth City Police amalgamated into one force by order of then Home Secretary Roy Jenkins.

Although it largely went by without a hitch, it was a union that not everybody wanted.

The Cornwall Constabulary, which had existed since 1856, was a perfectly happy force that proudly policed its unique county for more than a century. Likewise Plymouth, an even older force evolved from a watch and ward system, was two years into a three-year reform plan when the force, led by Ronald Gregory of later Yorkshire Ripper investigation fame, was abolished.

Fierce battles raged during the first meeting of the new joint police authority, with the organisation of the top corridor and the siting of the force headquarters high on the agenda.

In the end, Devon won the day and Lt. Col. R.B. Greenwood, the chief constable of Devon & Exeter, was appointed leader of the amalgamated force with the chief constables of

Cornwall and Plymouth relegated to ACC and DCC respectively. Former Plymouth City officers, unwilling to accept the inevitable, refused to work beyond the city boundary for a short time, while those with strong allegiance to the Cornwall Constabulary continued to wear their Cornish uniform accoutrements for many years after amalgamation.



Over time, the scepticism and parochial-thinking eroded, largely thanks to the charismatic John Alderson, chief constable from 1973 to 1982, who gave the force much to focus on by championing community policing in earnest and oversaw his force's abolition of the women's department, bringing women constables on par with their

male colleagues in 1976. A talented academic, he also made great strides in improving the public image of the force in light of national changes to the criminal justice system.

In the present, the growing pains of amalgamation are long forgotten. Indeed, many young in service don't realise the counties were divided as they were, and the fiftieth anniversary was an opportunity to change that misconception.

On 1st June 2017, the force initiated various projects to celebrate the occasion, planned in the six months to June by the '50th Anniversary Working Group' consisting of officers and staff from all disciplines across the peninsula.

Historic Patrols

Inspired by the war centenary patrols, the South West Police Heritage Trust (founded in 2015 to manage the force's heritage collection) provided 1960s uniforms for a series of historic patrols in the region's three cities – Exeter, Plymouth and Truro. Despite the scorching June sunshine, Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer and Deputy Chief Constable Paul Netherton took to the streets in full Sixties' kit, including capes,



*DCC Paul Netherton
at Exeter's Cathedral Green*



Class of '66: (Left to right) Brian Tapley, Jim Shand and Reg Davison

whistles and wooden truncheons.

50 Years, 50 Voices

It was opportune that 1st June 1967 remained in the living memory of many, making a project to encourage officers and staff from pre and post-amalgamation to submit their written reflections wholly justified. Chief Inspector Jo Arundale and civilians Reg Davison and Mark Rothwell spent five months collating stories, anecdotes and photographs into a short written account titled *50 Years, 50 Voices*. Making the best use of technology, an opportunity to interview serving officers on film saw the creation of four video shorts; Steve Toms, the detective constable who helped the FBI crack the large-scale smuggling of Egyptian antiquities into Devon in the 1990s, was interviewed on film and also discussed his relentless pursuit of a Spanish gang caught smuggling millions of pounds worth of cannabis into North Devon by trawler. Harry Tangye, Devon & Cornwall's best-known serving AFO and Traffic Officer, also told his story, describing how he first applied to join the force at the age of ten by writing to the local inspector! Finally, seizing on

the opportunity to interview the force's up-and-comings, six trainee constables were plucked from their lunch breaks at headquarters and asked about their aspirations, providing a tender and forward-thinking look at the police constables of the future.

Chief Constable's Luncheon

A luncheon of old and new, past and present. Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer welcomed attendees and marked the beginning of the 50th Anniversary celebrations by inviting officers and staff to a luncheon at Devon and Cornwall Police HQ. The event marked the first time that three of the Force's longest members of staff were in the same place. Brian Tapley, Jim Shand and Reg Davison all joined in pre-amalgamation in 1966, and between them had racked up over 153 years of police service. Previous Chief Constable Sir John Evans was in attendance, as were the Cornwall High Sheriff Sarah Coryton and the Devon High Sheriff Helen Lindsay-Fynn.

Class of '66

It was remarkable to learn in the

planning phase that three members of the force would also be celebrating their fiftieth year of service. Reg Davison, who joined the Cornwall Constabulary as a cadet in 1966, completed thirty years' service as a constable before starting work as a civilian in the force's misconduct investigation department. Brian Tapley and Jim Shand, both former Devon & Exeter Police, also celebrated their half-centuries, with Brian now working in Witness Care and Jim a Resource Deployment Officer at Force Headquarters. With none of the three showing signs of retiring any time soon, there certainly could be some length of service records broken over the next few years.

The Tardis on Tour

Although not strictly a relic of the past fifty years, Devon & Cornwall Police's very own collapsible 'TARDIS' police box went on tour around the counties. Built several years ago by the Friends of the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary Heritage Resource, the iconic blue behemoth drew attention wherever it went and 'selfies' were the order of the day.



Call Handlers Chloe Savin and Mark Rothwell with the 'TARDIS'

Devon and Cornwall High Teas

Celebratory High Teas were arranged throughout the region and were attended by the Force's LPA Commanders, cadets, street pastors, and officers and staff, both past and present.

The Plymouth High Tea was attended by Plymouth's recently-appointed Chief Superintendent Dave Thorne and Plymouth's former Chief Superintendent, now Assistant Chief Constable, Andy Boulting. Both dressed in historic uniform during the afternoon tea to mark the anniversary. The event was held at the Plymouth Lord Mayor's residence at Eliot Terrace.

Exeter High Tea was held at the Guildhall in Exeter and was attended by Chief Superintendent Jim Colwell, Superintendent Sam De Reya, Superintendent Toby Davies and Inspector Jane Alford-Mole, with a guest appearance from former Chief Constable, Sir John Evans.

South Devon High Tea took place in Torquay and was attended by South Devon Superintendent Jacqui Hawley, Devon Commander Chief Superintendent Jim Colwell, South Devon Critical Incident Manager Inspector Si Jenkinson, and Police

Chaplain Mr Slade. The Police Drones Unit made a special appearance and treated attendees to a drone launch. Crowds watched as the drone took to the skies, showing off its operational capability and highlighting how the Force and its technologies have evolved over the past 50 years.

Badges, Epaulettes and Lanyards

Officers and staff were offered the opportunity to purchase special fiftieth anniversary epaulettes and lanyards to wear for the remainder of 2017. The black sliders were embroidered with gold thread and displayed the officer or staff member's collar number with the words 'Devon & Cornwall Police 50 Years.' All proceeds of the sales went to charity. In addition, 6,500 enamel pin badges were produced and gifted to every officer, staff member and cadet.

Oral History Project

A liaison between Plymouth University's Professor Kim Stevenson, also a PHS member, and historian Mark Rothwell saw the interviewing of twenty-five retired police officers from the past fifty years. Students from the School of Law, Criminology & Government toured the counties for eight months taking oral histories which were generously transcribed by Devon & Cornwall Police at the project's conclusion.

The variety of views, particularly of amalgamation, was remarkable. It was always assumed that it was a 'takeover' by Devon, and sentiments were predictably negative among many of the Cornish and Plymothians we interviewed. It was interesting to hear from some of the latter that amalgamation was a blessing for constables desperately seeking their inspector's pips; the sudden expansion of the suitability pool meant it was much easier to obtain promotion.

Time Capsule

On Friday 30 June 2017, Devon and Cornwall Police marked an end to their 50-year anniversary celebrations by burying a time capsule which will remain underground for 50 years. The ceremony took place around the flagpole at Police Headquarters at Middlemoor in Exeter, and contained materials ranging from a police choir record to that week's regional newspapers, all representing a snapshot of life to be unearthed in 2067.

In a speech, Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer said:

We don't reside in history, we refer to it. You make history every day in what you do. I thank you all for coming from the bottom of my heart. If you look at any opinion poll, Devon and Cornwall Police stand out as number one as respected by the public, and that is hard earned. Hard earned by the previous generation and by this generation. In 50 years' time who knows where the Force will be, but if its values are still about fairness, respect, pride, courage and compassion then we won't go too far wrong because that is what our Force is about today.

The Chief Constable, along with the Police and Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez, laid the first piece of turf over the capsule before its burial, which was witnessed by officers and staff both past and present. Granite was then moved from a previous spot on HQ to the burial site and three heathers were planted, all representing Devon and Cornwall Police with a nod to Dorset Police and acknowledgment of the Alliance.

This was then topped with a plaque which read 'Honouring our heritage, inspiring our future.' The capsule was packed with police memorabilia, symbolising the transition from old to new and included, among other things, Annual Reports from 1967-2017, an Exeter Police & Community



Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer and PCC Alison Hernandez burying the time capsule.

Choir recording, old photos from the past fifty years, a police mobile data device, an old police radio, letters from police cadets, *Policing the West Country* book written by police staff Mark Rothwell, a police chaplain epaulette and Bible, various items from the force support groups, video and audio recordings, posters, leaflets and ephemera from the past half-century.



MARK ROTHWELL is a police historian and author with an interest in policing in the counties of Devon and Cornwall. He has worked for Devon & Cornwall Constabulary as a control room operator since 2009. He is currently working on his second book *Invicta: A Biography of R.C.M. Jenkins*, who was the chief constable of Penzance from 1937 to 1941.

SAMANTHA HILL is a Press Officer for Devon and Cornwall Police based in Police Headquarters.

Station at Blandford Forum?

LEN WOODLEY

Whilst on holiday at Bournemouth recently I strayed to Blandford Forum.

As I wandered around the town I noticed a building with a notice describing the place as the original police station. Also inscribed, which you can possibly just make out, is an imprint announcing 'Borough Police'.

Naturally I took a photograph or two.

According to Martin Stallion and David Wall, Blandford had its own police 'force' from 1835 until 1889.



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to the Editor via email to editor@policehistorysociety.co.uk

Doncaster Borough Police and the Suffragettes

By JOHN BROWN

Following his appointment as the Chief Constable of Doncaster Borough Police, Mr William Adams did not have to wait long before his force made the national press as a result of militant suffragette activity.

The Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) had been founded in Manchester in 1903 by Emmeline Pankhurst, and had become one of the more militant groups of the women's suffrage movement. In 1912 the group had stepped up their campaign with a series of arson attacks aimed at forcing the government to accede to their demands for suffrage.

A small group of suffragettes had gathered around Miss Violet Key Jones, who maintained a house on Osborne Road in Doncaster. Miss Jones had been a prominent organizer for the WSPU in York, and in May of 1913 she took part in an open air meeting of suffragettes in Waterdale, Doncaster. Unfortunately for the suffragettes, a hostile crowd had gathered and, not content with heckling main speaker Barbara Wylie, the crowd started to throw orange peel and other objects, causing the meeting to break up. The suffragettes and their supporters had to be rescued from the crowd by borough police officers.

In the weeks after the break-up of this meeting, and possibly

motivated by revenge, a corrosive substance was poured onto the greens at the Doncaster golf club in Rossington, and an incendiary device was discovered under the stairway in Wheatley Hall, but fortunately the device failed to ignite. Due to the campaign for suffrage being conducted at that time, the WSPU were suspected of both incidents. Wheatley Hall was vacant at the time and in the process of being sold, so it was quite easy for the culprits to break a window and enter in order to leave their device. The fact that the device was badly assembled and wrapped in WSPU literature undoubtedly helped confirm police suspicion against the WSPU.

However, the suffragettes had not finished, and between 1.00 and 2.00am on the morning of the 3rd June two persons, a male and a female, broke a window and entered

Westfield House in Balby. The house was also known locally as "Fisher Park" after the owner, Mrs Alice Fisher. At that time Mrs Fisher was away from the premises and it is believed that the two persons who entered thought that the house was unoccupied. It must have come as a complete surprise therefore when the housekeeper, 72-year-old Miss Mary Temple Beecroft, appeared at the top of the staircase holding a candle. Miss Beecroft had heard the sound of breaking glass and with considerable bravery on her part had decided to confront the "burglars".

It was the normal practice of the suffragettes not to attack properties which may have endangered the life of occupants, and as a result they targeted empty premises during their campaign of arson. The two "burglars" apologised to Miss Beecroft and promptly left the premises.



Westfield House, Balby, target of the suffragettes



Lillian Lenton in the prison exercise yard at Armley gaol in 1913

The housekeeper noticed that the intruders appeared to be carrying a bundle when they left the house.

The police were sent for, and Sergeant Needham arrived by tram at about 6.30am. The officer searched the house and grounds, and found a cardboard box containing paraffin, cotton wool and firelighters. He also found some newspapers and a label containing the name Violet Key Jones, the suffragette who maintained a house on Osborne Road in Doncaster.

As a result of discovering this evidence, the police arrested two suspects Harry Johnson and Augusta Winship, from amongst the small group of suffragettes at Osborne Road. Both suspects were then identified by Miss Beecroft. Harry Johnson was a junior reporter on a local newspaper who supported the suffragette movement. He was often to be found in the company of the Doncaster suffragettes.

When the two suspects appeared at Doncaster Borough Police Court, because of the considerable local interest the court was packed with residents. Also in attendance were a number of suffragettes and their supporters, and there was a minor sensation after proceedings had

commenced when one of these suffragettes stood up in the public gallery to claim that the police had arrested the wrong person. This particular lady, who gave the name May Denis, stated that it was she, and not Augusta Winship, who had been the companion of Harry Johnson at Westfield House at the time of the incident in question.

Eventually Johnson and Denis were charged with being found on enclosed premises with intent to commit arson and both were committed for trial at Leeds Assizes.

Unfortunately for the Doncaster force, the young woman who gave her name as May Denis was in fact a well-known suffragette called Lillian Lenton, a prominent activist in the WSPU. Together with another suffragette, she had set fire to the tea house in London's Kew Gardens in February 1913 and had been sentenced to 18 months in prison, where she went on hunger strike and became seriously ill with pleurisy before being released quietly and without publicity by the authorities.

The government, concerned that these activities of the suffragettes would probably end in a death - and martyrdom - before too much longer, rushed through a piece of legislation called the Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Ill Health) Act 1913, which became known as the "Cat and Mouse Act". The legislation provided for the release of any prisoner who became ill in prison as a result of a hunger strike. The intention was to return them to prison as soon as they were well enough to resume their sentence. This legislation was primarily aimed at the suffragette movement,

Lillian Lenton was therefore the woman at Doncaster Police Court who admitted forcing entry at Westfield House. It was common practice for the suffragettes to give false names

when arrested in an effort to obstruct police enquiries.

Attempts were also made to obstruct the court process and constantly deny the authority of a male-dominated justice system.

In addition, once sent to prison on remand or on sentence their strategy was to take advantage of the "Cat and Mouse Act" and either threaten or begin a hunger strike which then usually forced the authorities to free them from prison.

Lillian Lenton duly went on hunger strike at Armley gaol in Leeds, until she was released to a safe house pending her trial. Doncaster detectives were positioned at the house to ensure that she did not escape, but Lenton was experienced at foiling the police and, dressing up as a man, she left the house and escaped, much to the embarrassment of the Doncaster force.

Lenton committed further offences before being arrested in Liverpool in 1914 and was then returned for trial at Leeds Assizes for the Doncaster offence. She was found guilty and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment, but again went on hunger strike and was released after a short time in prison.

The unfortunate Harry Johnson was sentenced to 12 months hard labour in Wakefield prison.

In her later life Lenton was to become the financial secretary of the National Union of Women Teachers and died in 1972. She never married.



Originating from Doncaster, JOHN BROWN is a retired Police Inspector, having worked for 33 years in the Lincolnshire and the West Midlands forces. On retirement from the police service he worked as a law instructor in Police recruit training at the regional police training centre, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, and also trained Immigration and Customs officers. John then became a Senior lecturer in Policing at the University of Northampton.

Longest and Possibly Youngest!

Burglary with Violence at Stansted

By FRED FEATHER

This matter came to notice when, amongst the papers of a former researcher, was found a note marked “Distribution of the Force 1857.” It had been captured from an Essex Record Office Document Q/ Apr 10.

The extract featured Superintendent Henry Flood, who had a 40 year career (minus a few days) with the Essex County Constabulary. In August 1857 he was said to be “Temporarily employed in executing a Warrant against Alfred Phillips in Canada.” Another note, in September: “Proceeded to Canada to appr [Apprehend] A. Phillips on a Warrant.” Then in October “In post at Newport again.”

Henry Flood was born in Ruckland, a village six miles south of Louth in Lincolnshire. He joined the Essex County Constabulary at the age of 32, having previously been a glassblower. He was 5 feet 8½ inches tall and married with a child. He was already 31 when he joined the force, receiving the collar number 1 and proved to be a Number One contender for promotion. Another note informs us that he was posted to Newport from 24th July 1857, in the rank of Second Class Superintendent. His service had commenced on 26th June 1841

and he soon became an Inspector. On 30th April 1846 he became a Superintendent (2nd class) and was posted to the north west of the county. In 1857 he travelled to Prescott in Ontario, Canada, to serve a warrant on Arthur Phillips. The latter then appeared in an Essex court in October 1857.

The case concerned an incident of 16th April 1854 at Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfichet. The *Essex Standard* described it thus:

On Monday morning, about one o'clock, a daring burglary was committed in the dwelling house of the Misses Norwood in the same parish. It seems that an entrance was effected by two men, by cutting away a portion of the kitchen window shutter, from which a piece of glass was taken. The burglars thus having gained admission, found a formidable obstacle to further progress in a door which leads upstairs. This they attempted to break open, but the noise they made in doing so awoke the Misses Norwood, who immediately opened their bedroom and shouted “Murder” “Police”. Hearing this, the burglars attacked the ladies from the outside with a long pole, and upon the face and head of one of the ladies who persisted in calling out for assistance the miscreants inflicted several severe

wounds. After some minutes the neighbours were alarmed, and upon their proceeding to the house, the fellows decamped, without taking any property. Elizabeth was cut and bruised about the face and body and Sarah was cut. Elizabeth was still suffering from the effects some months later.

Inspector Sweetman and a constable were on duty at Birchanger at the time of the outrage, and on receiving information they repaired to the spot, as did Supt. Dunne, who was put on the track of the supposed burglars. On the previous night an unsuccessful attempt had been made to break into the dwelling-house of Mr James Pigram in the same parish.

Suspicion fell on Alfred Phillips, the son of a local farmer of Hole Farm, Bentfield nearby.

But the investigation proceeded slowly and was only brought fresh impetus when it was discovered that Phillips apparently approached Elizabeth Norwood in 1855 and offered her money to “Withdraw the warrant.” When she refused he told her to get legal help and said that he had more than enough money to counter her claims. A similar offer was made to, and rejected by a serving policeman. Phillips senior, his father, farmed



Newport Gaol

170 acres at Bentfield, employing 12 men, the 1851 census adding that an unnamed tramp was also living on the farm. Edridge Phillips died during the June quarter of 1856 leaving Alfred in funds and the prisoner was at his trial described as “a man of wealth.”

This remand court sent him for trial at the 1858 Lent Assize. It is likely that he was on bail, although some spells inside Newport Prison must have occurred. The trial began at Shire Hall, Chelmsford in March 1858. Before it opened the judge made it clear that the evidence supported there being a case to answer. His Lordship’s comments:

The Victims

Elizabeth and Sarah Norwood were described as “Maiden Ladies” and this may have given the impression that they were advanced in years, but the 1851 census showed them to be only 45 and 50 in 1854. They lived near their brother William, all three

were born in Amersham, and he, a retired coal merchant, had married a local girl Mary. Their occupation was described as “Leasehold Property.” One sister was injured facially by the burglars and modern thinking might speculate on other reasons than the judge mentioned, for male burglars, perhaps in drink, to try such a blatant entry into their home.

The Alleged Burglars

It may be that Phillips’s attempts to compromise the case has to do with the identity of the burglars. Certainly the father of Potts, one of his companions, had been seen burning a pole. Was it the offender’s weapon? Perhaps it was not actually Phillips, but he may have associated with them. At one time he was described as “a dissolute young man” but, in 1856, he had come into money on his father’s demise. Enough to get to Canada, and to thus be hard to find? It may be that records of the Quarter

Sessions at Chelmsford later in 1858 may show more details of the funding of the trip to Canada.

The Investigators

It might be here apposite to explain the rank system within the Essex Constabulary. The force was only formed in February 1840, under the leadership of Chief Constable John Bunch Bonnemaïson McHardy. Initially there were only two ranks, Constable and Superintendent (although there were grades within those ranks). In 1841 the rank of Inspector was added, though mainly deployed in towns or areas with a number of Constables. It was not until 1855 that the rank of Sergeant was added. There were no plain clothes detectives.

Second Class Superintendent Flood had brought Phillips back from Canada and was not involved in the trial. He retired on 31st March 1882 to Saffron Walden on £93-6-8d annual

pension and was to be found there in subsequent censuses. An interesting sideline on the investigation was that several officers who were involved in this case left the force during the four years of investigation: Inspector William Sweetman, aged 44 had 14 years service but was “permitted to resign” on 31st July 1854.

Inspector John Jonas (Jones in some accounts) born in 1818 (who gave evidence and who in 1858 was a superintendent in North Yorkshire at Pickering) served from 22nd April 1842 as Constable 115 and resigned on 30th November 1856.

Constable Richard Wilkinson, who also had made enquiries, joined on 28th December 1844 aged 23 and served until 13th October 1856. He was later permanently injured by a gunshot wound on duty and died on 10th September 1873.

Superintendent (Sir) John Dunne, born in 1821, was an Irish lad. He lied about his age - he was only fourteen at the time, but six-foot tall and well-built - in order to join the newly formed Manchester police force in 1839. Police work was not easy in Manchester for the untrained officer, in the days before the Chartist riots. On at least three occasions he faced mobs and saw fellow officers so severely beaten that they later died. Within three years he transferred to the Essex Constabulary and in 1846, when he was twenty-two, he was made Inspector. After a further three years in Bath, and two in Kent as a Superintending Officer, John Dunne became the Chief Officer of the Norwich City Police in 1851. He transferred to Newcastle Police on 8th August 1854 and, after a brief spell there he presented himself in Carlisle in January 1857, to assume the leadership of the new joint

police forces of Cumberland and Westmorland. He was knighted in 1897. It is suggested that he was the longest serving policeman in this country! Also the youngest! The founding members of our museum have been contacted but they were then unaware that one of our colleagues had been knighted.

The Witnesses

Superintendent Jonas (Jones) came from Yorkshire to give evidence. In November 1854 he had been stationed at Wanstead when Phillips came to him and said “This is a nice job about Miss Norwood. I know where the pole was found.” On 6th December he visited the officer’s home on horseback and said “I only wanted to have a lark with the old lady.” He then got out a purse and offered the officer money to forget the previous conversation. The officer went looking to apprehend him the following day but never saw him again. He agreed with the defence that “he had heard that the prisoner was very much addicted to drinking, and his brain was to some extent affected. He was always a very nervous young man, and he had on one occasion asked him to accompany him home, because he was afraid of being alone in the dark.”

Other witnesses included two women named Plasted and Smith and a John Smith alleged that the prisoner had admitted that he was concerned in the outrage. Evidence was thin and may have become confused over the four years of the investigation.

Mr Rodwell appeared for the defence. The evidence of Mr Jonas, he explained, was that Phillips was of a nervous disposition, was sometimes in drink, and was prepared to pay

to close the case as he did not like suggestions that he was responsible. The two ladies who told about the pole had not done so for some time afterwards and had their own agenda. He said “The case for the prosecution rested mainly on the foolish statements made by the prisoner himself.

The suggestion that he tried to pay witnesses to drop the case did not help his cause.

The Misses Norwood could not identify the attackers. He then called witnesses who flatly contradicted the two women and in the course of their examination the jury interposed and said they did not wish the case to proceed any further, as they did not consider that there was sufficient evidence to justify them in convicting the prisoner. A verdict of “Not Guilty” was accordingly taken. After five hours of trial Phillips was acquitted.

The various reports on this case have made further research desirable. Importantly how did Constable Wilkinson come to be shot in June 1856? Next, it might be interesting to find out what happened to Alfred Phillips after the trial and what was his connection with the Ontario village of Prescott.? A Canadian researcher will be sent a copy of this article.



My thanks to Police Historian Martin Stallion, researcher at the Essex Police Museum, for his help and advice with the complicated career of Sir John Dunne.

FRED FEATHER served with Saint Albans City, Southend-on-Sea Constabulary and Essex Police between 1957 and 1988. He was Force Public Relations Officer for Essex Police (1990-1998) and founding Curator of the Essex Police Museum. Fred was Editor of the family history magazine the Essex Family Historian from 2002 to 2016, acting as Chairman of the Essex Society for Family History and is now a Vice President.

Glasgow Police: The First Twenty Years, 1800 - 1820

By DR DAVID SMALE

This article is a continuation of an earlier work published in this journal in 2000. Written by Alastair Dinsmor, *Glasgow Police Pioneers* convincingly argued that Glasgow established the first 'new' police in Britain. He rightly objected to using '1829 as the historical base line' and emphasised the example of Glasgow.¹

This work will look at the composition and work of this new system of policing between 1800 and 1820 in a city that had more than doubled its population in the second half of the eighteenth century to 77,000, and had developed into Scotland's trading and industrial hub.

Dinsmor detailed the two false starts for the police in Glasgow in 1779 and 1788. The City Council persisted, and on 30 June 1800, royal assent was given to the Glasgow Police Act. This piece of legislation was successful because of the financial stability provided by rates on property in the city; the police could now be afforded. Another factor crucial to its success was the acceptance by the magistrates that the elected Commissioners should be pre-eminent in police affairs. The Act became a pattern for other towns to follow, and the first quarter of the nineteenth century saw the growth of new police systems throughout Scotland's cities and

burghs.

On 4 August 1800 Police Commissioners were appointed to the 24 wards in the city. The occupations of these Commissioners in August 1800 are illuminating; dominating the group were 13 Merchants, then four Manufacturers and the remaining seven were shopkeepers or tradesmen.² These men, with vested interests in the city, sought to impose the police for economic and social reasons; the rapidly expanding city with accompanying social tensions had to be stabilised and regulated to allow trade to grow; indeed, Glasgow's motto became 'Let Glasgow Flourish'.

On 29 September 1800, the meeting of the Police Commissioners considered the election of a Master of Police. Being pioneers they saw no example to follow, so naturally enough, they elected one of their own number; John Stenhouse, merchant. This was followed by the election of Sergeants and Officers of Police.

One of the sergeants was Donald McLease, a Sergeant in the Argyllshire Fencibles, and, 'to be police officers, Bryce Davidson, cook in Glasgow, William Barry, shoemaker, James Buchanan, weaver, Andrew Anderson, shoemaker'. The full complement was a Master of Police, three Sergeants, six Officers and 68 Watchmen.³ They also

agreed that the Watchmen were to act as scavengers and sweep the streets, echoing the practices of the past.

In a trend that was to be followed in police forces all over Britain, the large turnover of men leaving and joining the police started; one officer resigned before the force was mustered on 15 November.⁴

The initial plan was for three shifts; one Sergeant and two Officers were on duty in the police office for 24 hours, one Sergeant and two Officers on patrol, and one Sergeant and two Officers were on a rest day. The table on the rank structure on of the Glasgow Police on the following page shows the growth of the establishment in the first 21 years.

This new force took to the streets of the 24 wards of the city with the officers instructed to 'constantly patrol through such districts' to deter crime.⁵ They also had the additional

¹ Alastair Dinsmor, "Glasgow Police Pioneers," *Police History Society Journal*, November 2000, 9.

² E/1/1/1 Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 4 August 1800, Mitchell Library, Glasgow.

³ *Ibid*, 29 Sept. 1800.

⁴ *Ibid*, 6 October, 1800.

⁵ John Scott, *Abstract of the Police Acts with a Summary of the Powers and Duties of Special Constables* (Glasgow: James Hedderwick, 1821), 9.

Glasgow Police Rank Structure 1800-1821

	1800	1811	1814	1816	1817	1821
Master of Police	1	1	1	1	1	1
Serjeant	3	?	N	N	N	N**
Officers	6	Y	Y	Y	Y	25
Watchmen	68	Y	Y	Y	Y	134
Patrolmen		?	Y	Y	Y	Y***
Lieutenants		?	2	N	N	N
Head Constable		?	N	3	2	Y
Secret Service*		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Criminal Constable					2	6
Total	78					168

* It is not known if the Secret Service had any officers, however it did have a committee.

** Master of Police designated Superintendent, however he was known as Captain.

*** Watchmen and Patrolmen combined.

? It is not clear if the rank was used.

N Rank not used.

Y Rank was used but it is unclear how many men held the title.

Source: E1/1/1 – 21. *Minute Books of the Police Commissioners, Glasgow.*

duty of keeping ‘a sharp look-out after the Watchmen...(to)...ensure that they are all sober.’⁶ The majority of the servants of the establishment were Watchmen wearing greatcoats with their number painted on their backs, and issued with a lantern and a stave. They manned sentry boxes at fixed points in the city and maintained elements of the old system of policing.

From the very start the efficiency of the Watchmen was questioned. Within the first three months, they had to be warned not to wander off their station or go home when on duty, and particularly not to sleep on duty.⁷ It is clear that many of these men were old and decrepit, and proved to be easy targets for drunks, particularly students, who took great delight in fighting with them and overturning the boxes.⁸

It is clear that the Police Commissioners were extremely ‘hands on’ and concerned themselves with the efficiency of their police. In January 1802 one commissioner had requested a ‘List of Defaulters’ from police

officer McMurrish and been refused. The Sergeants and Officers were instructed to fully co-operate with the commissioners and to call on them every second morning.⁹

By March 1802, the Sergeants and Officers were instructed to keep an eye on the Watchmen to ensure they were sober. The watchmen’s’ regulations were restated. They worked from 10pm to 5am between April and September, and 9pm to 6am, between October and March.

He must attend at the Police Office with his great coat and staff every night half an hour before he begins his watch... He must go through his ranges or rounds every half hour and call the time distinctly.

There were more warnings regarding being drunk or sleeping on duty, and instructions to apprehend vagrants and disorderly persons and escort them to the Police Office, to look out for suspicious persons, inspect the lamps, turn out for fires, monitor road traffic and sweep the

streets. The Master of Police reminded them, ‘Watchmen... you have taken a great and solemn oath... to faithfully perform your duty as a Watchmen under the Police Establishment’.¹⁰ Nevertheless, forty of the watchmen protested, considering these new guidelines too strict and threatened to leave. In the end, only seven resigned.¹¹

In September 1802, Stenhouse was again elected as Master of Police against opposition from two merchants and two ex-military men.¹² He was informed that his uniform should be; to dress in black with a cocked hat, a medal suspended by a ribbon and with a white rod or baton.¹³

It appears that relations between Stenhouse and the Commissioners had deteriorated, as they found it necessary to remind him that while he had ‘charge of the other servants, Master of Police was their servant’.¹⁴

It is difficult to ascertain what the people of Glasgow thought of this new institution. Correspondence in the *Glasgow Herald*, which did not reflect the musings of the working class, displayed a broad support for the police. Nevertheless, the newspaper is peppered with examples of the establishment failing in their duty, with watchmen unable to hold onto prisoners, ignoring crime and in the case of one lame ex-soldier working as a watchman, breaking into a shop and stealing liquor. He absconded and the Commissioners offered a reward of ten pounds which was matched by the watchmen, anxious to show their outrage at one of their number betraying the establishment.¹⁵

In August 1803, Stenhouse was replaced by another merchant, Walter Graham, who also lost his job two years later.¹⁶ James Mitchell, who had served in the Lanarkshire Militia, replaced him. In a trend that followed the election of each new head, Mitchell, ‘the tallest master of police

we ever saw', set about improving the efficiency of the force.¹⁷ He complained that 'the whole officers have been very remiss in the execution of their duty'.¹⁸ A committee enquiry, agreed and reported a catalogue of failures by the officers; they were insolent, drunk on duty, unfit for duty and neglected their duty. Four were dismissed.¹⁹ The Commissioners also received regular complaints about the Watchmen, including failing to deter thefts, sleeping on duty and allowing prisoners to escape. They decided to inspect the Watchmen 'as a number of them appear old and infirm'.²⁰ They marched past the Watchmen and Lamps Committee, and appeared to be satisfactory. The complaints continued and the Commissioners agreed not to employ Watchmen who were 'wanting an arm or otherwise disabled'.²¹

In November 1811, the Police Commissioners asserted their privilege to intervene in police business and set up a committee called the Secret Service. This nascent criminal investigation department did not have any officers, but met to try and formulate 'some Regulations for the more effectual detection of Robberies, housebreakings, etc'.²²

In September 1817 another committee which had been formed to look into investigating crime decided 'it will be most expedient to employ two persons... to devote their time, solely to the criminal department', and the following month two men were appointed.²³ Two months later the Police Commissioners noted that the Criminal Constables 'have been very active' and they considered rewarding them with 5 shillings each. It appears that much of the success of these officers was because they openly bought information regarding crimes. In just their first month, they had paid out 6 shillings and 8d 'procuring information'.²⁴ By 1820 the Secret Service Committee were so

alarmed by an increase in crime that two more Criminal Constables were appointed.²⁵ Unlike in London 20 years later, the minutes do not reveal any debate over the morality of using detectives.²⁶

Throughout the early years of the force the Commissioners received a constant stream of complaints about the efficiency of the police, and in April 1812 they moved that they were 'not satisfied with the conduct of any of the Officers during the year' and proposed to dismiss them.²⁷ However, the conditions of service imposed by the Master of Police and the Commissioners also led to a large turnover in men. One of the officers, Henry Anderson, asked to be allowed to leave because of fatigue after night shift. A surgeon supported his case, incredulous at the conditions officers were expected to endure:

*If the duty of an officer of police requires that he be kept constantly employed for thirty-six hours at a time without any interval for sleep and more especially if that duty is required of him twice a week I am decidedly of the opinion that he is totally unfit for it.*²⁸

By 1817 a pattern was established whereby extra officers were periodically employed to campaign against beggars, and the Special Constabulary was extended to 700 men to address the frequent disturbances, food riots, New Year celebrations and the riots that accompanied the King's Birthday. On the King's birthday in June 1819, all of the police establishment paraded and were supplemented by 40 of the local militia's Sergeants.²⁹ The magistrates pasted posters around the city asking the public to show some restraint, and they prohibited 'all Bonfires, carrying of Burning Tar Barrels... and the Firing of Pistols and other Fire Arms, on the Streets and Public Places in the City'.³⁰

Mitchell continued to eradicate

drunkenness and improve efficiency, and the Police Commissioners' Minutes are sprinkled with rewards given to members of the force. For example, 'one guinea be given to William Lennon, Watchmen for his activity in apprehending two persons carrying a dead humane [sic] body'. Clearly the Watchmen were not all decrepit, infirm and ineffective. However, at the same meeting, another committee on efficiency decided to sack one Head Constable, one Officer, eleven Watchmen and three Patrolmen - around 11% of the force.³¹

6 John Scott, *Abstract of the Police Acts with a Summary of the Powers and Duties of Special Constables* (Glasgow: James Hedderwick, 1821), 10.

7 E1/1/2, Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 11 December 1800.

8 Ibid, 16 January 1801.

9 Ibid, 18 January 1802.

10 Ibid, 25 March 1802.

11 Ibid, 6 May 1802.

12 Ibid, 21 September 1802.

13 E1/1/3, Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 19 October 1802.

14 Ibid, 19 October 1802.

15 *Glasgow Herald*, 4 April 1806, p. 2.

16 E1/1/1, 3 June 1805.

17 Peter Berresford Ellis and Seumas Mac a'Ghobhainn, *The Radical Rising: The Scottish Insurrection of 1820* (Edinburgh: Birlinn, 2016) 17.

18 E1/1/4, Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 1 April 1806.

19 Ibid, 8 July 1806.

20 E1/1/6, Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 25 January 1810.

21 E1/1/7, Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 1 November 1811.

22 Ibid, 21 November 1811.

23 E1/1/9, Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 18 September 1817.

24 Ibid, 6 November 1817.

25 E1/1/4, 3 February 1820.

26 Haia Shpayer-Makov, *The Ascent of the Detective* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011), 33.

27 E1/1/7, 23 April 1812.

28 Ibid, 24 September 1812.

29 E1/1/10, Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 31 May 1819.

30 SR22/62/1 King's Birthday Poster, June 1819, Mitchell Library, Glasgow.

31 E1/1/10, 9 September 1819.

In the decade following the Napoleonic Wars, Glasgow was the scene of much violent disorder and rioting. Economic distress, declining wages and the return of thousands of soldiers and sailors to the labour market was met with little or no assistance from Lord Liverpool's government. The Lord Provost set up a scheme to assist the 'Industrious Poor' and a number of public works were initiated to alleviate poverty in the city.

Notwithstanding this, the condition of the working people did not improve and support grew for the radical movement, which called for representation in Parliament and annual elections to address the people's distress. This article will not examine the events which culminated in the Radical War of April 1820, however it is important to note that this attempt at an uprising was countered not primarily by the police officers and watchmen, but by the use of government and police spies to infiltrate and report back on the radical's plans and the use of that blunt instrument, the army.

In November 1819, the Lord Provost was so concerned by the threat of revolution that he called on the police to assist in 'establishing an armed association... for the protection of the peace'. All of the police were armed 'to guard against any invasion of our established laws and constitution by the promoters of sedition and dissatisfaction'.³² It is clear that the Lord Provost and his fellow merchants in the Commissioners had the most to lose by any disturbance, whether it be a food riot or revolution. Nevertheless, Hugh Thomson, No. 1 Officer, refused to take-up arms along with the rest of the police and he was immediately dismissed.³³ James Mitchell's views on the radicals were the same as his Commissioners; they were 'vipers' and 'vermin', but he ordered the police to ignore the crowds of people



Contemporary sketch of a Glasgow policeman c1800

unless they were being assaulted or there was the chance of damage to property. Mitchell had by a system of spies, a form of intelligence-led policing, restricted the revolt to the posting up of the proclamation and there was no large uprising.

Even at this time of social upheaval, normal policing continued with reports on the dirty 'state of the closes [sic]', beggars apprehended and three bakers charged with walking on the pavement with baskets on their heads.³⁴ This emphasises the role of the police to impose a safe, clean, orderly environment where the wheels of business could roll along unimpeded.

The first twenty years of policing in Glasgow were eventful as they strived to impose a new order on the streets; the period ended with the involvement of police spies to defeat a revolutionary movement.

The first 25 years of the force saw the Police Commissioners select five Masters of Police, three merchants, a Justice of the Peace and a military

man. After 1832, every leader of the Glasgow police had experience of commanding another police force.

Dinsmor is correct to state that preventative policing had been established in the majority of eleven cities and towns who had their own police Acts prior to 1829. Barrie, however, has added a note of caution on the issue of whether they were new police. He rightly asserts that all of the new forces continued with components of the old system.³⁵ This is most clearly shown in Glasgow with the employment of watchmen. Despite the many concerns over the calibre of watchmen employed, they did walk their 'ranges' or beats, and acted as a preventative police.

I believe that Glasgow started a process that developed and continued until the Police (Scotland) Act of 1857. Only with the establishment of an Inspector of Constabulary insisting on efficiency and the incentive of government money did most county, burgh and city forces move towards a recognisably new police model.

³² Ibid. 15 November 1819.

³³ E1/1/11, Minutes of Glasgow Police Commissioners, 16 December 1819.

³⁴ E1/1/11, 20 April 1820 and 8 June 1820.

³⁵ David G. Barrie, *Police in the Age of Improvement: Police development and the civic tradition in Scotland, 1775 - 1865* (Cullompton: Willan, 2008), 6.



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A Winter's Tale

By MAURICE ELVYN OAKES

I was recently talking to a serving member of our local police. We were discussing the use of plastic, and the reduced use of cash in present society. I explained how the police often assisted in the transfer of large amounts of cash. He said that this is not now part of police procedure – it is left to private companies to facilitate.

This reminded me of an incident approaching Christmas time, 1975. I was then a Detective Chief Inspector in the Greater Manchester Police, 'A' Division, Manchester, city centre. The head of CID rang and asked me to organise security for a large transfer of cash to and from Northern Ireland. It was a one-off job; apparently the cash was required urgently for the Post Office Christmas bonus pension payment. It was a sensitive issue because of the tension in Northern Ireland at that time. I liaised with the security officer at the Bank of England in Manchester to arrange the highly unusual transfer details.

On the appointed day my officers and I escorted two flat backed vehicles, each carrying a large container to Manchester Airport. We were all armed with .38 revolvers. On arrival we drove to a secluded loading bay where a propeller-driven twin engine aircraft was waiting. A stacker truck was used to remove a large number of metal cages on wooden pallets from the bowels of each container. I saw

that the cages were filled with new banknotes of various denominations - £5, £10, £20 etc. It was the first time that I had ever seen actual banknotes in any movement of cash. I asked the Bank of England man what was the value of the shipment and he replied 31 million pounds.

The cages were loaded onto the aircraft, completely filling the left side, which left an aisle down the right-hand side. I queried this with the pilot who assured me that this made no difference to the balance of the aircraft. He said a tail or front load would certainly affect the balance.

We took off, and once airborne the pilot invited me to sit in the co-pilot's seat and explained the controls. We flew between radio beacons on automatic pilot. I thought briefly about all that cash, my revolver and what a trip to South America would entail. It all seemed like a dream. We had an in-flight meal and after around 45 minutes landed at Aldergrove Airport, Belfast.

As we taxied to a halt, we were surrounded by a ring of steel. There were all kinds of heavy machine guns, light anti-aircraft guns and a very large number of seriously armed police and soldiers. I saw that there were a similar number of metal cages on the ground, containing the old notes as is usual in these exchanges. This meant that at the time of unloading there

would be a total of 62 million pounds on the tarmac. It was a very sobering thought!

Whilst the unloading was in progress, I asked the officer in charge if I may go into the airport building to buy a present for my wife. I reminded him I was armed. He agreed to my request and made the arrangements. I walked over to the airport security guard at the door. As he expertly frisked me down I muttered "I've got a .38 revolver in my left shoulder holster" He said, "Yes, I know" and continued with the search. I entered the airport building and bought a Celtic brooch, and returned to watch the loading.

Our return flight was equally uneventful, and we repeated the procedure in reverse.

My wife clearly did not at first believe that I had been all the way to Ireland to buy a brooch!



ELVYN OAKES served with Cheshire Constabulary and Greater Manchester Police, mainly in the CID, from Detective Constable to Detective Superintendent. He was Deputy Commander of Salford Division, GMP at retirement. For 20 years he was the representative for Stockport Branch and later Chair of Manchester East Branch of the International Police Association. For the past 17 years he has been a volunteer with the National Trust.

Women Policing the Area of Avon and Somerset Constabulary, 1916-1945

By CLIFFORD WILLIAMS

During the First World War, the idea of women police was promoted by people such as Margaret Damer Dawson (1874-1920), a wealthy philanthropist and campaigner on women's issues. She set up women's patrols to deal with two issues arising out of the war. The first was an influx of Belgian refugees; the second was prostitution and molestation of women and girls around the army camps that had sprung up in Britain.

Damer Dawson established the Women Police Volunteers in 1914, changing the name to the Women Police Service (WPS) early in 1915. The government utilised the WPS to police the munitions factories.

In addition to the WPS, Voluntary Women Patrols were created and organised by the National Union of Women Workers, later called the National Council of Women. These voluntary patrols sprung up all round the country, including in Bath, Taunton and Bristol, during World War One. They often worked with the approval of the local Chief Constable, but they did not wear 'police uniform', usually just an armband. The patrols concerned themselves with girls and young women; protecting their

decency and preventing molestation by soldiers. In some towns and cities they provided clubs for young women and girls to meet in safety. As such they were not policewomen, but many of those who took part on such patrols went onto become policewomen.

The voluntary 'preventative' patrols in Bristol were organised by Geraldine Cooke (lent by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies; NUWSS). Flora Joseph was involved in organising and promoting patrols in Somerset and in particular in Weston-super-Mare and Bath. One woman on patrol was Miss Lenny Smith, an artist, who patrolled Taunton and Bristol. Miss Joseph was clear that the patrolling women were 'neither Rescue workers or Detectives', and that 'one of our duties is to walk up and down the danger zones of the places we are in and by the mere fact of our presence avert evil.'¹

The preventative 'social work' of the NUWW and similar groups was not seen as police work as such. Only when women were involved in investigating offences and taking action according to the criminal law could they be viewed as 'police'. However, they did take on a 'quasi police' role and some patrols pushed

the boundaries and identified themselves, or were known, as 'the women police'.

Lock (2014) and Jackson (2014) describe the political differences between the women's organisations and the complexity of women's involvement in policing during and after the First World War.

Whether or not a police force employed policewomen was usually down to the wishes of the Chief Constable and the Watch Committee. Some were happy to have the patrols of the NUWW preventing nuisances and crimes against women and girls, but did not feel the need for women to be involved in dealing with women and children as witnesses. Others saw the usefulness of having policewomen to take statements from women and children, particularly in matters of indecency. Many forces resisted having policewomen, and it was not until the Second World War that the government required each force to at least have a Women's Auxiliary Police Corps (WAPC). The majority of police forces did not employ any policewomen until the Second World War. Many Chief Constables argued that policemen's wives and matrons could do the work which otherwise

would be done by more expensive paid police women.²

Bristol is important in the national history of women police. A training school for policewomen was set up in Bristol (BTS) in 1915 on the initiative of Flora Joseph, who had already founded the Somerset District Nursing Association, and who from her home in Bath was involved in advising on women's patrols. Flora Joseph, Dorothy Peto and the Bristol Patrol Committee found a suitable small house in Bristol for training.³ They appointed Mrs Gent as director of the school. They approached Miss Margaret Damer Dawson (based in London), and took many of the ideas for the BTS from the WPS in London.

However, the WPS and the Bristol Training School did not see eye-to-eye and split in 1916. The BTS continued to train women for patrols but did not actually supply the Bristol Constabulary with their first policewomen. They provided shorter courses for voluntary patrol women. Some of their students ran women's patrols in Somerset, and although these patrolling women were neither officially appointed or sworn in, they wore a police-type uniform. They were known as 'the Lady Police' in Taunton, Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon, and were referred to as 'Super Patrols'.

The Training School's Annual report of 1917 states;

We have already trained and placed the following women, 23 in all;

Bath 2 Policewomen members of the City Force.

Coventry 2 Policewomen " " " "

Others listed are either Munitions Policewomen or voluntary women patrols. Taunton, Clevedon and Weston-super-Mare were provided with trained patrol women.⁴

Miss Dorothy Peto, who later served in Birmingham City Police,

went on to become head of the Metropolitan Police Women. In her memoirs, she described the voluntary patrols she took part in as 'having no police powers to deal with crowds, we learned to combine bluff with discretion'.⁵ Many prominent early policewomen trained in Bristol.



*Bristol P W Doris Denbury 1921.
Doris married Walter Montague in 1922.*

*Photograph reproduced courtesy of
Avon and Somerset Constabulary History
and Heritage Group*

Bristol Constabulary

The first policewoman appointed in what is now the area policed by Avon and Somerset was Mary Richardson. She was appointed by Bristol Constabulary on February 10th 1916. She was followed soon after by Patience Lawrence and Alice M. Robinson. All three were appointed as 'Lady Detectives'. During the course of the next few war years, the Bristol force employed another 29 'Lady Clerks', including Ethel Gosney, Elsie Wagland, Doris Denbury and Kathleen Richardson.⁶ 'The first

uniformed woman constable appears to have been employed on August 10th 1917 and by the following year there were eight of them.'⁷

They formed a separate police unit and it was said that the Bristol policemen 'did not look upon the women police as part of themselves, though they have every respect for them. The women police are a sort of force apart.'⁸

Woman Superintendent Jesse Ferguson of the Bristol City Police submitted a written statement to the 1920 Baird Committee. She was one of the first women Superintendents in the country. The Baird Committee concluded; 'We consider the experience of the War has proved that women can be employed in the performance of certain police duties which, before the War, were exclusively discharged by men.'

Many police forces who had employed police women during the First War decided that they no longer needed them when the war ended.

1 Miss Joseph also recommended carrying whistles 'as they do in Bristol' but 'never to use them except in case of extreme emergency'. Letter from Miss Flora C Joseph to Mrs Carden 11 February 1915. (Metropolitan Women Police Association Archive). Extracts are reproduced by permission of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

2 See Derek Oakensen (2015) 'Antipathy to Ambivalence; Politics and Women Police in Sussex, 1915-45' in *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 153 pp.171-89. Also Williams 2016 p 34.

3 The Bristol School was set up in September 1915, first at 77 Queen's Road and later based at 6 Berkeley Square (Burlton and Byrne 2014; page 109; and page 111 of this book shows a class in progress).

4 *Bristol Training School for Women Patrols and Police Annual Report* for year ending August 31st 1917, page 2.

5 Peto 1992 pp.10-15 'On the Beat in Bristol'.

6 Bristol Record Office ref POL/St/4/4. Ethel Gosney served for five years, retiring to get married in 1922. CID officers presented her with an oak biscuit barrel as a wedding gift on her retirement (*Western Daily Press*, 1 July 1922).

7 Burlton and Byrne (2014); p.108.

8 Baird Committee 1920: Committee on the employment of women on police duties (Cmd 877).



Bristol Constabulary Policewomen around 1919 including Florence Beatrice Kathleen Rawlings (rear row on far right).

Florence Beatrice Kathleen Rawlings, known as 'Rawlie', joined Bristol Constabulary on May 1st 1919 and served until August 1950. At her retirement she was the longest serving policewoman in the country. She earned the British Empire Medal.

Photograph reproduced courtesy of Avon and Somerset Constabulary History and Heritage Group

The employment of policewomen dropped again after nationwide police budget cuts of 1922.⁹ Bristol Constabulary, however, continued to employ policewomen in the inter-war years. In 1919 they had 13 unattested police women, rising to 14 the following year. But following the 'Geddes cuts' the numbers dropped.

In 1930 Bristol Constabulary were employing five policewomen at a time when only seven police forces in England were employing five or more policewomen. Somerset had none. Gloucestershire had eight (the highest number outside London). The following year, Bristol had six policewomen.¹⁰ In February 1932 the Bristol policewomen were given the power of arrest.

In 1935, Bristol still had six policewomen; four in uniform and two plain clothes. There were also four female warders at the Central Station.¹¹

The *Western Daily Press* of Thursday, 25 August 1938 reports of a case where WPC Daisy Horner visited

a fortune teller to collect evidence. The fortune teller, Mrs Stella Street, who told Daisy she would live to be over 90, was successfully prosecuted. Before she was sentenced, Mrs Street complimented WPC Horner on the

way she gave evidence, and said that she 'was too young and pretty for the police force'. There was laughter in the court house. Mrs Street was fined £3 with 10s costs.¹² The use of policewomen undercover to detect offences such as this appears quite common at the time.

Gloucestershire Constabulary

During the First World War, Damer Dawson's Women's Police Service reached an agreement with the government to provide police women for the munitions factories around the country. When the war ended, many of these munitions police women joined police forces such as Gloucestershire, where the Chief Constable was a strong supporter of policewomen.

Gloucestershire then included parts of what are now Avon and Somerset's police area. For example, from 1928 until 1936 Miss Rosa Rouse was based at Staple Hill, Bristol, headquarters of the Bristol Division of the Gloucestershire



Bristol Constabulary Policewomen in 1936; there were six policewomen - four in uniform, two in plain clothes.

(from The Policewoman's Review Vol 9 no 12).

force. Rosa originally served in the Bristol Constabulary but was attracted to Gloucestershire because of the opportunity to patrol on motor bicycles (and they also paid more). Her work consisted mainly of taking statements in all cases of indecency, and offences against women and children, and attending to, and conveying, all female prisoners. Her advice was often sought by 'mothers and mistresses in respects of daughters and maids who are uncontrollable or in trouble.'¹³ She travelled round her district by motorbike, for which she received a petrol allowance. Miss Rouse later wrote up her memoirs, and extracts of these were published in *Police Review* in 1984.¹⁴

Somerset Constabulary

I have referred earlier to the voluntary 'Super Patrols' which covered parts of Somerset during World War One. The patrolling women wore a form of 'police uniform', although they were not officially policewomen.

In 1921, the Somerset Chief Constable reported that 'it would be doubtful economy to employ police women generally' and that he felt the police men could do any work policewomen might do ('with or without the assistance of their wives').¹⁵

In 1933, the Chief Constable of Somerset 'allowed the appointment of a member of the Woman's Auxiliary Service [name by which the WPS was known after 1921] to assist the worker for the Society of the Welfare of Women and Girls of Weston-super-Mare during summer holidays. She will be engaged mainly in patrol work and will wear uniform.'¹⁶

In 1934, when Somerset had no official policewomen, the County Federation of Women's Institutes passed a resolution urging their appointment 'in the interests of



Believed to be a member of one of the Somerset voluntary 'Super Patrols'

Photograph reproduced courtesy of Avon and Somerset Constabulary History and Heritage Group

women and children.'¹⁷ By the beginning of WW2 Miss Alice Baker was serving in Somerset.¹⁸

Second World War

The Home Office gave authority for the appointment of Women's Auxiliary Police Corps (up to 10% of the approved establishment of a force) in 1939. At this time, few women were appointed Special Constables.

Gloucestershire and Somerset were quick to create WAPC sections. Somerset decided to have a full strength of forty-two in uniform

(10% of the force).¹⁹ The Bristol Constabulary also employed Auxiliary Police Women.

The WAPC was created by the Home Office to allow women to replace men in clerical, telephone, wireless, driving, vehicle repair and maintenance tasks in police stations and force headquarters.²⁰ Auxiliaries were not sworn in as constables, although as the war progressed a number were sworn in as temporary constables.²¹

Mabel Hephzibah Cowlin, a Bristol woman and former schoolmistress who had been involved in women police in Liverpool (up until 1927), was back in Bristol during the Second World War campaigning to get more women police in Bristol. In a letter dated 2nd July 1943 to Mrs Peel of the National Council of Women, she wrote; 'Two of our 7 policewomen have been working for 20 years here and not one of the policewomen has

⁹ Cuts known as 'The Geddes Axe'. The Geddes Committee on National Expenditure recommended disbandment of women police (see Lock 2014 ch 16).

¹⁰ *Policewoman's Review*, February 1931 Vol 4 no 46.

¹¹ Annual Report of the Chief Constable for the year ended 31 December 1935.

¹² *Western Daily Press*, 25 August 1938.

¹³ *Policewoman's Review*, March 1930 Vol 3 no 35. I am grateful to Sue Webb, who was working 'for the Record' Project of Gloucestershire Constabulary, for details of her service record.

¹⁴ Rosa Mary Rouse born 15th August 1903, joined Gloucestershire Constabulary in 1927 and served until 1941. *Police Review*, 14 September 1984 and 21 September 1984. A scrapbook kept by Rosa Rouse from 1928-1932 is held at Gloucester Archives (Ref Q/Y/1/28), along with a photo album (Q/Y/1/29).

¹⁵ *Wells Journal*, 7 January 1921.

¹⁶ *Policewoman's Review*, August/September 1933 vol 7 no 4 /5 (joint edition).

¹⁷ *Policewoman's Review*, June 1934 vol 8 no 2.

¹⁸ *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette* of 2 September 1939 announces that Miss Baker, already serving with the Somerset Police, is appointed to serve in Bath.

¹⁹ *The Police Review*, 20th October 1939.

²⁰ Ingleton (1994) p.179.

²¹ Ingleton (1994) p.180.



Bristol Constabulary WAPC 2nd World War.

*Photograph reproduced courtesy of
Avon and Somerset Constabulary History and Heritage Group*

been given the rank of a sergeant.²² The following year the strength of women police in Bristol improved and more APW were appointed.

After the war, both Somerset and Bath City police forces recruited policewomen.

Marion Stewart, who was a Land Army girl during the conflict, joined the Somerset Constabulary at the end of the war. In 1955 she transferred to Hampshire and had distinguished service there and in Cyprus.²³

Bath City

Bath City Police was a separate force until 1967. The force had employed some notable policewomen during the First World War.

Florence Mildred White (1873-1957), who became Salisbury's first policewoman, trained at Bristol and then served briefly in Bath. She joined Birmingham City Police in 1925.²⁴

Ethel Gale, who was born in Bristol in January 1885, served (unattested) in Bath (May 1917-May 1918) before transferring to Gloucestershire where she became the first woman Sergeant in that county. She served in Gloucestershire until July 1929.

Florence Glover was appointed as an unsworn policewoman for Bath in 1916, and later went to Coventry.²⁵

Quite why they did not stay long in Bath needs to be examined by more research. During the inter-war years Bath had no women police. In 1925 the Watch Committee examined the issue, and concluded that there is 'not sufficient duties appropriate to women to justify the appointment of a policewoman.'²⁶

Bath did employ policewomen during the Second World War. In 1939, they advertised and had 20 applicants for two posts.²⁷ In 1943 Policewomen Coombs and Spriggs

were serving.²⁸ In November, the number of policewomen was doubled from two to four, and by September 1944 there were six policewomen (including APW).

Conclusion

The early years of women policing presents a confused and very fragmented approach across England. Avon and Somerset's current police area demonstrates the variety of types of women police and 'quasi police', as well as the differences between police forces. This was often due to the personal views of Chief Constables. Individual forces such as Bristol Constabulary and Gloucestershire Constabulary were very supportive of having policewomen as part of their organisation. Somerset County were less supportive, and Bath City appears to have been partially supportive (only employing policewomen during

the war years).

Bristol Constabulary distanced itself from the First World War Women's Training School, but the fact that the school was set up in Bristol, and trained many women who went on to become policewomen elsewhere, is another reason that the City is so important in police women's history.

Much research is still to be done in this field. Archive material is still coming to light, and like so much police historical material is often uncatalogued and sometimes inaccessible.

22 Letter from Mabel H. Cowlin (1877-1960) of Park Cottage, Cleve, Bristol, to Mrs Peel at the National Council of Women, London. In a further letter of 1st June 1944, Mabel Cowlin reports that 'the town clerk has now informed me that the Watch Committee has decided to increase the numbers of regular policewomen to 17 (includes one with the rank of Sergeant or Inspector) and the number of attested WAPC from 2 to 6. That is a great step forward'. This correspondence is held by the Metropolitan Women Police Association Archive and I am grateful to Sioban Clark for allowing me access to it. Extracts are reproduced by permission of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

23 Williams (2016) p.44.

24 Brazier and Rice (2017), and *The Reflection in the Pond; A Moonraking Approach to History* by Dr John Chandler (The Hobnob Press, 2009) page 93.

25 *The Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette* of 5 August 1916 reported that Miss Glover had recently been appointed. Peto (1992) p.20 mistakenly states she was appointed in 1918.

26 *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, 3 January 1925.

27 *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, 3 June 1939.

28 *The Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette* of 10 April 1943 reported a case where PW Coombs and Spriggs (on special duty) detected three women stealing from shops. In all 200 items were recovered and one of the women was sentenced to 4 months' imprisonment.

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Acknowledgements

Thanks to Alan Vowles of Avon and Somerset Constabulary History and Heritage, Sue Webb (Gloucestershire) and Sioban Clark (Metropolitan Women Police Association).

Avon and Somerset Constabulary History and Heritage Group have a impressive collection of digital images on Flickr.

Gloucestershire also have many photos and associated information on a new website: gloucestershirepolicearchives.org.uk



CLIFFORD WILLIAMS is a retired police officer and now a volunteer historian for Hampshire Constabulary. Clifford studied History and Anthropology at the University of London, Criminology at the University of Cambridge and has a PhD from the University of Bradford. He is author of numerous articles and books. He is still researching pre-WW2 women police, as well as a number of other topics, including policing of homosexuality post war. He has been a member of the PHS for nearly 30 years.

WRITING POLICE HISTORY

The joys and sorrows of writing a book on the British Police during the First World War

Dr Mary Fraser, Honorary Secretary at the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow, has started writing a blog to record progress on a book she is currently writing about the British Police during the Great War.

Entries to the blog so far have included food shortages in 1917 and police involvement, the struggles of the policeman's wife as she attempted to feed her family, as well as related topics such as Mary's experiences of researching and obtaining copyright permissions.

Follow Mary's progress at writingpolicehistory.blogspot.co.uk



Police Officers who Died in the Fight against Terrorism between 1975 and 1983

By TONY MOORE

Following the tragic death of Police Constable Keith Palmer in the Westminster Bridge terrorist attack on 20 March 2017, Tony Moore looks back on those occasions between 1975 and 1983 when police officers and explosives officers were killed in terrorist-related incidents in London.

During a vicious campaign on the British mainland by Irish terrorist groups between 1975 and 1983, four police officers and two explosives officers employed by the Metropolitan Police were killed by the Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA). Three of the police officers and the two explosives officers were killed by improvised explosive devices. The fourth police officer - in fact the first to die - was shot.

Police Constable Stephen Tibble had been in the Metropolitan Police for only six months when he was shot dead on 26 February 1975 by Liam Quinn, a United States citizen from an Irish Republican family in San Francisco who had become a PIRA volunteer. Quinn was part of what was originally a five-man PIRA Active Service Unit (ASU),¹ which had a base at 39 Fairholme Road, Hammersmith, West London.

There had been a number of

housebreakings in the area and, on that day, four police officers in plain clothes were keeping surveillance. Quinn was seen loitering in Fairholme Road before entering number 19. When he re-emerged, he was followed by a member of the surveillance team, who stopped him in nearby North End Road and found him to be in possession of a quantity of Irish bank notes.

Still thinking he may be a housebreaker, the officer asked Quinn to return to Fairholme Road with him, at which he fled, pursued by other members of the surveillance team. Police Constable Tibble, dressed in an anorak, jeans and wearing a white motorcycle helmet, was on his way from the home he shared with his wife of two years in West Kensington to his place of duty at Fulham, riding his Honda 125 motorcycle. He was flagged down by one of the surveillance team, who identified himself as a police officer and told Tibble what had occurred, without realising he was on off-duty police officer. Tibble promptly gave chase on his motorcycle, rode past the pursuing officers and Quinn and pulled to a stop at the junction of Charleville Road and Gledstone Road. He then leapt off his motor cycle

and confronted the now approaching Quinn.

As PC Tibble tried to catch hold of him, Quinn pulled out a Colt .38 and shot the officer twice in the chest. Rushed to hospital, he died two hours later with his wife at his side.

Quinn fled from the scene and back to the Irish Republic. Subsequently, the police discovered that the flat in Fairholme Road which Quinn had been seen leaving was a PIRA bomb factory.² After a lengthy battle over extradition, firstly from the Irish Republic and then from the United States, Quinn was eventually tried for the murder of Police Constable Tibble in 1988 and sentenced to life imprisonment, with a minimum tariff of thirty years minimum. Police Constable Tibble was posthumously awarded the Queen's Police Medal for bravery.³

The remaining members of the ASU, who would later become known as the Balcombe Street Four,⁴ relocated to Hackney and Crouch End in North London. After a temporary lull, they recommenced operations but realised that the former military explosive officers now employed by the Metropolitan Police⁵ had become adept at defusing the devices they were making. Joe O'Connell, bomb-

maker and commander of the ASU, decided to up the stakes. He gave each device 'two arming circuits, one false circuit, on the exterior of the bomb and one live circuit concealed inside the device in a section hollowed out in the explosives, making it extremely difficult for any bomb disposal [officer] working on the device to find, without moving the bomb to get a better look.'⁶

On 29 August 1975, following a telephone call to a national newspaper, two police officers found a suspicious package placed in the doorway of K shoe shop in Kensington Church Street. When one of the officers took a closer look, he saw a pocket watch fixed to the top of the contents with adhesive tape; it was almost certainly an improvised explosive device.

The area was cleared of pedestrians and residents were instructed to go to the rear of their premises and stay well away from windows.

When Roger Goad, formerly a captain in the British Army who had been awarded the British Empire Medal for gallantry in 1958 for repeated acts of courage in the disarming of bombs and booby traps set by terrorists in Cyprus and now an explosive officer with the Metropolitan Police arrived, he was briefed by a senior police officer as they walked towards K shoe shop.

The police officer stopped at a safe distance, leaving Goad to continue alone. He entered the doorway, was seen to bend over and was in the process of defusing the device when it exploded, killing him instantly. He left behind a wife and two children.⁷ He was awarded the George Cross posthumously.⁸

The device had been prepared by O'Connell, who had gone to Kensington High Street with another member of the ASU, Eddie Butler, to plant it.⁹

Goad's murder was one of twenty-

five faced by the Balcombe Street Four when they came up for trial in January 1977. O'Connell and Butler each received twelve life sentences, with the judge recommending a minimum tariff of thirty years.¹⁰



Memorial erected by the Police Dependents Trust to Stephen Tibble



*Kenneth Howorth
Courtesy Peter Howorth*

A new PIRA ASU had already launched two attacks on military targets in London in October 1981,¹¹ when it changed tactics to hit commercial targets.

On the 26th of the month an anonymous telephone warning was received that three bombs had been placed in a busy shopping street in

London which would explode in thirty minutes. Within twenty-five minutes, police found two suspicious packages in the basement toilets at the Wimpy Bar restaurant in Oxford Street.

The restaurant and surrounding area were quickly evacuated, by which time explosives officer Kenneth Howorth had arrived at the scene. Nearly an hour had elapsed between the original telephone call and Howorth's entry into the restaurant. From the brief description of the packages given by a police officer, Howorth thought it was almost certainly an improvised explosive device of some kind. He entered the confined toilet area but within three minutes the device exploded, killing him instantly.

Like his colleague Captain Goad, he left behind a wife and two children. He was awarded the George Medal posthumously.¹²

1. Moysey, Steven P (2008). *The Road to Balcombe Street: The IRA Reign of Terror in London*. New York: The Haworth Press, p.37
2. Ibid, p.80-86; see also Mark, Robert (1976). *Report of the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis for the year 1975* (Cmnd 6496). London: Her Majesty's Stationary Office (HMSO), p. 13.
3. www.policememorial.org.uk/index.php?page=metropolitan-police accessed on 21 June 2017.
4. The Balcombe Street Four were arrested in December 1975 after holding elderly occupants of a flat they had sought refuge in to escape the police. See Moysey, op. cit. 1 for the full story.
5. These officers were part of C7 Branch working with the Anti-Terrorism Branch, formerly known as the Bomb Squad,
6. Moysey, op. cit. 1, p.92.
7. Ibid, p.93; see also Mark, op. cit. 2, p.14.
8. *London Gazette*, dated 30 September 1976, supplement 47027, p 13305.
9. Moysey, op. cit. 1, p.93
10. Ibid, pp. 240-243.
11. A device had been placed outside Chelsea Barracks and an attempt had been made to assassinate the Commanding Officer of the Royal Marines, Sir Stuart Pringle,
12. *London Gazette*, 11 August 1983, supplement 49446, pp. 10721-22; see also McNee, David (1982). *Report of the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis for the year 1981*. London: HMSO, p. 13.

In 1985, Paul Kavanagh and Thomas Quigley, both members of PIRA, were convicted of his murder, along with other attacks, and sentenced to life imprisonment, with a minimum tariff of thirty-five years.

On 17 December 1983, at 12.44 p.m., a coded telephone call to the London branch of the Samaritans charity claimed there was a bomb in a motor vehicle, registration number KFP 252K, parked outside the prestigious Harrods store in Knightsbridge and another bomb had been placed inside the store; the caller also claimed bombs had been left in Oxford Street. No further information was given.

The call sent police officers hurrying to the scene, amongst them, in a police car, the Duty Officer from Chelsea Police Station, Inspector Stephen Dodd, with three other officers. Being mid-December, the streets were full of vehicles, parked bumper to bumper, and pedestrians, many doing their Christmas shopping in Harrods and the surrounding area.

Not knowing the make of car, and faced with a huge number of locations where it might be, the officers 'faced a task of Augean proportions'.

They had just spotted the car, a 1972 blue Austin 1300 GT saloon, when it

exploded; it was 37 minutes after the initial telephone warning.

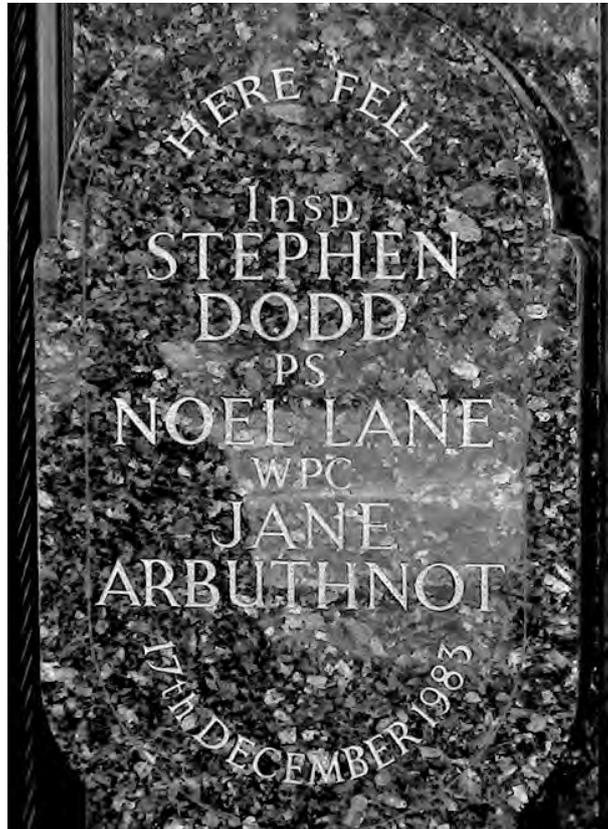
Much of the force of the blast, caused by the 14 kilograms of explosive packed into the Austin, was absorbed by the police car and undoubtedly this saved lives. Nevertheless, six

in the car, dog-handler Constable Jon Gordon, survived but lost both his legs and part of one hand in the blast; his dog, Queenie, was killed. Twenty-four cars were damaged by the explosion; only the two front wheels of the car in which the device had been placed were recognisable.

All the windows along one side of the Harrods building were shattered, and eight of the distinctive sage-green and gold canopies above the store's windows were in tatters.¹³

No-one was convicted of carrying out this attack.¹⁴

None of the PIRA members convicted of killing either police officers or explosives officers in London served their recommended terms. They were all released in 1998 as part of the Good Friday Agreement which brought an end to the thirty years of sectarian conflict.¹⁵



The memorial plaque dedicated to the officers who died as a result of the Harrods car bomb

people, including three of the four police officers in the patrol car died in the explosion. Sergeant Noel Lane and Constable Jane Arbuthnot died immediately. Inspector Stephen Dodd fought for his life for a week but eventually succumbed to his injuries on Christmas Eve. The fourth officer

13. *Guardian*, 19 December 1983, see also Newman, Kenneth (1984). *Report of the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis for the year 1983* (Cmnd 9268). London: HMSO, p. 17.

14. Harley, Nicola (2015). 'IRA bombings and the Hunt for Justice'. *The Daily Telegraph*, 21 March 2015.

15. www.bbc.co.uk/history/events/good_friday_agreement accessed on 21 June 2017.



TONY MOORE, a member of the Police History Society, was a serving officer with the Metropolitan Police from 1958 to 1986.

Submit your articles for the 2018 Journal to the Editor via email to editor@policehistorysociety.co.uk

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Metropolitan Police Constable Alfred Smith

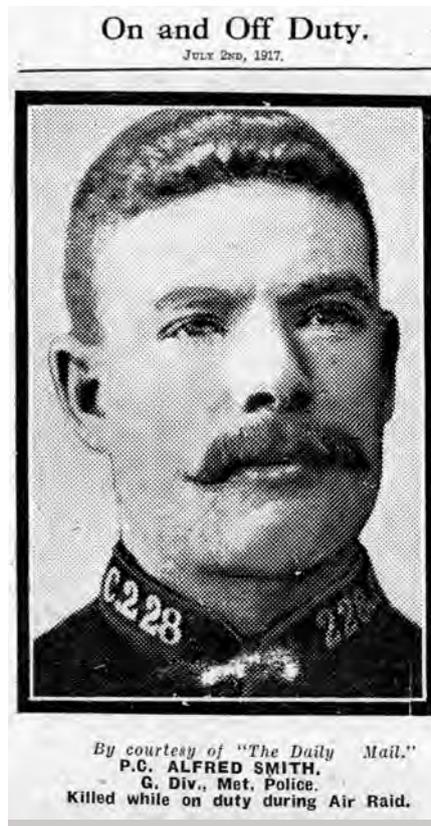
59 'GR', Warrant No. 89106
Killed on Duty: 13th June 1917

By KEITH FOSTER

Continuing to expand and share their research knowledge, the team of Keith Foster and Anthony Rae, working in support of the Islington Borough Police, organised another memorable occasion to record the centenary of the death of PC Alfred Smith, killed during an air-raid in 1917. On this occasion it was most suitably accompanied by a Islington Council's People's Plaque, chosen by a public voting competition, which has resulted in a lasting memorial at the site where PC Smith died.

The memorial was led by the Metropolitan Police Senior Chaplain, Rev'd Jonathan Osborne, who was joined by Supt Nicholas Davies and officers from Islington Police, the Mayor of Islington, Alfred's great nephew Rob Jeffries, formerly a Thames Division officer, and many other guests with a keen interest in the history of policing in the metropolis.

Alfred had joined the Metropolitan Police in 1902 having moved to London a year earlier from the agricultural community in Wokingham, Berkshire where he grew up. He had met and married a local Islington girl, May Titlow, in 1910, and by 1914 they had a young son named George. At some point during his career he became



part of the G 'reserve', which in those days of the Met signified an officer of imposing demeanour and appearance, such officers being called upon for ceremonial duties as they occurred.

By June 1917 Londoner's had already endured two years of German air raids by the Zeppelin airships, and with no effective anti-aircraft defences, once they had dropped their bombs the

majority returned home unscathed. The public were left in grave fear of their safety each time the 'silent menace' returned – typically on a night with a full moon.

More terrifying though was the air raid to occur in daylight just before midday on 13th June, when a squadron of Gotha bombers arrived to the east of the London, first dropping their bombs at Barking and Poplar followed by more in the City at Fenchurch and Liverpool Street stations. Next in line was Finsbury and Islington where Alfred, attached to City Road Police Station, had already taken up his duty in the area of Old Street and Lever Street.

Much of the area at that time was crowded with factories and warehouses, serving and served by, the City Road Basin part of the Regent's Canal. Hard to imagine nowadays since the German's did much to virtually obliterate the location on their 'return visits' during WW2. Many of us are familiar with the standard WW1 image of a bobby-on-a-bike adorned with a placard "Take Cover", and blowing a whistle. But seriously, this was the only regulation method of public air raid precaution before the advent of the ARP siren system put in place by 1939.

The policeman on patrol however, in this case Alfred, would already have heard the earlier explosions first hand a short distance away in the City. As he ran along Central Street, ahead he could already see a crowd of mainly women workers gathering at the main entrance to the City Sylicia factory, this left him in no doubt they were about to put their lives at great risk by running in all directions. By now the planes were almost overhead, and the only option available to him was to coerce them back inside and bar the doors with his own body.

This was to prove not a moment too soon, although in so doing he sacrificed his own life as a bomb exploded in the street close to where he was standing, killing him outright. At the Coroner's Inquest the factory manager of

the City Sylicia factory was recorded as saying in praise of PC Smith's gallantry: "The death roll would have been very heavy but for Smith holding back the 153 women who were present".



It is altogether sad to reflect upon the fact that although a posthumous King's Police Medal had been awarded a few months earlier (PC Greenoff - Silvertown munitions explosion), no record could be found that Alfred Smith's name had been put forward for a similar accolade. In part that has now been put right, and everyone can see his gallantry recorded at 43/45 Central Street.



KEITH FOSTER is a police historian, and has been researching for the National Police Officer's Roll of Honour since 2001.

Photograph P1159

Taken in Stratford Road, Wolverton showing a Sergeant and a Constable

By MICK SHAW



Studying the photograph shown on the opposite page, I was intrigued by the identities of the sergeant and constable captured, so endeavoured to trace them. First of all I sought advice from Bryan Dunleavy to help date the photograph.

Bryan has done considerable research into Wolverton and the surrounding area. He dated the photograph as some time between 1920 and 1926, the year of the General Strike. Apparently the tram company never recovered from the effects of it. My research is therefore centred between these two dates. Without collar numbers I will not be able to say definitely who the police officers are, but I think I will be able to say "The Sergeant and Constable are likely to be..."

Judge for yourself by reading the following research.

List of Wolverton Police Constables between 1920 and 1926

*PC 33 Edwin Randall
1919 to 1945; Wolverton from
22nd December 1919 to 17th April 1923*

*PC 85 Albert Edward Garrett
1920 to 1947; Wolverton from
19th July 1920 to 2nd December 1920*

*PC 41 Leonard Wheatley
1919 to 1932 Wolverton from 2nd
December 1920 to 18th January 1922*

*PC 118 Leslie Walter Randall
1920 to late 1940s (exact date
unknown); Wolverton 18th January
1921 to 17th December 1921*

*PC 159 Charles Henry Marsh
1921 to 1950; Wolverton 30th May 1921
to 8th April 1924*

*PC 4 Thomas George Pollard
1920 to 1945; Wolverton 17th
December 1921 to 26th July 1923*

*PC 155 Charles Bonner
1903 to 1929; Wolverton 17th April
1923 to 16th December 1929*

PC 94 Bertie William Gee

*1923 to possibly around 1948;
Wolverton (PC) 8th April 1924 to
14th August 1922*

*PC 28 Percy Frank Brewer
1921 to 1948; Wolverton 26th July 1924
to 17th October 1925*

*PC 198 Alex Alfred Trevener
1914 to late 1940s (exact date
unknown); Wolverton 8th December
1924 to 24th July 1925*

*PC 160 Basil Edward Horn
1920 to 1925; Wolverton from 24th
July 1925 to 26th September 1925*

*PC 138 Edwin Lord
1921 to 1932; Wolverton 1st October
1925 to 21st May 1926*

*PC 154 William Joseph Bragnell
1922 to possibly around 1947;
Wolverton 27th October 1925 to 14th
December 1925*

*PC 106 Robert Cameron Pointer
1919 to 1948; Wolverton 14th
December 1925 to possibly when he
retired, 6th December 1948*

*PC 117 Christopher William Goddard
1923 to 1950 (died); Wolverton 21st
May 1926 to 27th May 1927*

List of Wolverton Sergeants between 1920 and 1926

*Sergeant 34 Albert Honour
1904 1932; Wolverton 22nd April 1919
to 2nd October 1923*

*Sergeant Bob Rollings
1911 to 1946; Wolverton 2nd October
1923 to 2nd November 1928*



I have been researching the Bucks Constabulary now for over 20 years. I have around 2,000 photographs and around the same number of full or part records, which are being updated all the time. Many of the police officers have become 'old friends', and when I first saw this photograph I looked at the sergeant and something told me he was an officer named Albert Honour, but I set that thought aside and started to research the names

of the sergeants that were posted to Wolverton between the two dates.

I found there were two just sergeants during that period:

*Sergeant 34 Albert Honour,
Bucks Constabulary 1904 to 1932.
Wolverton 22nd April 1919 to 2nd
October 1923*

*Sergeant Bob Rollings,
Bucks Constabulary 1911 to 1946.
Wolverton 2nd October 1923 to 2nd
November 1928*

Yes, Albert Honour was one of the sergeants!

I earlier mentioned the phrase 'old friends', and Bob Rollings also falls into that category. The photographs I have of Bob show him as having a stout figure. His record when he joined in 1911 states he was 6 feet 2½ in tall and he was of proportionate build for his size. The photograph here shows him with his wife Fenella



who, during the Second World War, was either a Special Constable or War Reserve Officer, so this photograph of them both dates sometime between 1939 and 1945. Unfortunately I do not have a photograph of Bob Rollings going back as far as the 1920s and I would assume his figure would have

been less 'stout' during his younger days.

Looking at the Wolverton photograph, the sergeant, holding the pedal cycle, is not of a large build and not 6 feet 2½ inches tall. Comparing him with the constable, the sergeant looks the shorter of the two. Sergeant Albert Honour was described as 5 feet 11 inches tall and of proportionate build.

Bob Rollings served in the Royal Navy Air Service during WW1 on number 12 Balloon Section. He joined on 6th September 1915 and was demobilised on 26th February 1919. Consequently, he would have been awarded the the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal; he was also recommended for a gallantry award during his service, but I have been unable to find out if he was awarded it. Bob would have worn the medal ribbons on his tunic when he joined the police, but the sergeant in the photograph has no medal ribbons.

Albert Honour had no military service. It is also worth noting that Albert had a moustache and Bob did not. The sergeant in the photograph is sporting a moustache.

Out of the two sergeants posted to Wolverton on the "balance of probability", Albert Honour, pictured below in 1913, would be the sergeant in the Wolverton photograph.



For the moment this dates the photograph in question to between 22nd April 1919 and 2nd October 1923, the dates of his posting to Wolverton.

On this basis, I looked at the constables at Wolverton between these dates. As you can see, the constable is taller than the sergeant (also taking into consideration he is very slightly nearer the camera) and would therefore be taller than 5 feet 11 inches, Albert Honour's height. Out of the seven constables who served under Albert Honour during the period, I can exclude the following:

PC 85 Edward Garrett
5ft 10 ¾ inches tall

PC 41 Leonard Wheatley
5ft 10 ½ inches tall

PC 159 Charles Henry Marsh
5 feet 9¼ inches tall

PC 4 Thomas George Pollard
5 feet 10¾ inches tall

PC 155 Charles Bonner
5 feet 10 inches tall

This leaves two constables:-

PC 33 Edwin Randall
5 feet 11 ½ inches tall (just ½ inch taller than Albert Honour)

and

PC 118 Leslie Walter Randall
6ft ¾ inches tall.

Looking at the remaining officers, the taller of the two - Leslie Walter Randall - is more likely to be the constable in the photograph. I have also taken into consideration that although he saw military service, Leslie was not awarded any medals and would therefore have no medal ribbons. The other possibility, Edwin Randall, was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

So again, on the "balance of

probability", the constable is PC 118 Leslie Walter Randall, and looking at his photograph below, taken around 1922, and comparing it with the Wolverton photograph, this is a very good likeness, taking his height and build into consideration.



Edwin was posted to Wolverton on 18th January 1921 until 17th December 1921 when he was posted to the Chief Constable's Office, so if I am correct about the two officers the photograph could be dated to between these dates. Narrowing it down a bit more, the sergeant and constable are not wearing capes, which would suggest this was not taken during the winter.

So, in conclusion, the two police officers are Sergeant 34 Albert Honour and Police Constable 118 Leslie Walter Randall, and the date of the photograph would be sometime between January and December 1921.

Albert Amos Honour

Albert Amos Honour was born on 25th August 1879 at Lambeth, south London, to Amos and Elizabeth (nee Wood). Amos was a constable in the Metropolitan Police, and had been born in Bierton, Bucks. He would serve a total of 40 years in the Met. Albert was baptized on 14th September the same year. Albert and Elizabeth already had a daughter, Alice, two years older than Albert,

and the family lived at 9 Oakden Street, Lambeth. In 1887 tragedy hit the family when Elizabeth died in Guilford, Surrey, aged just 31 years.

On 26th September 1889 Amos married 34-year-old Sarah Garnett at St James Church, Richmond Upon Thames. Their son Richard was born a year later.

By 1901, Albert was living with his grandparents Richard and Francis Honour at 3 High Street Berton, Bucks. Albert was a bricklayer.

He married Nellie (Ellen) Saunders, born at Steeple Claydon, on 10th February 1880. In the spring of 1902, their son Alex was born at Berton, Bucks, where Albert continued his trade as a bricklayer, working for a Mr. G. Parsons at Prestwood, Bucks.

On 7th November the following year, at the age of 25, Albert joined the Bucks Constabulary as a 3rd Class Constable, following in his father's footsteps. He was described on joining as 5ft 11 inches tall with an oval visage and fresh complexion; he had brown eyes and dark brown hair and was of proportionate build.

After his initial training Albert was posted to the Northern Division at Newport Pagnell, where his son Aubrey was born on 24th April 1905. On 13th November that year he was promoted to a 2nd Class Constable.

The photograph on the right was taken was taken of the Northern Division in the summer of 1908. Albert is standing on the back row, fourth from the left as you look at the photograph. Just as a matter of interest, Police Constable 155 Charles Bonner, mentioned in the list of Wolverton constables (1920/26) at the start of this report is sitting on the ground in the front row first on the left.

On 6th October 1908 Albert and his family were posted to Whaddon, still on the Northern Division. On 16th November he was promoted to

a 1st Class Constable, and in 1910 to a Merit Class Constable. Alex was now earning 26s and 3d a week.

On 14th February the following year he was posted to Wolverton. The family moved into 27 Bedford Street. On promotion to Sergeant on probation on 8th April 1912, Albert was posted to Olney, still on the Northern Division. He was confirmed in the rank on 8th April 1913. The following year he was awarded a pay rise and was now earning 31/- a week.

While at Olney Albert earned a commendation which was placed in General Orders for the other Bucks Constabulary officers and men to read:

*Chief Constables Office,
Aylesbury,
23rd August 1915.*

Sergeant Albert Honour is commended for courage and determination in affecting the arrest of John Soul, who had committed murder and attempted suicide at Olney on the 30th July last. Soul was armed with a knife, barricaded himself in his house at Olney, and violently resisted apprehension, attacking Sergeant Honour.

*sd/ Otway Mayne Major,
Chief Constable*

On 22nd April 1919 Albert was

again posted to Wolverton, this time as sergeant. It was during this period that the Wolverton photograph was taken (if I am correct). While at Wolverton Albert he earned another commendation, which read:

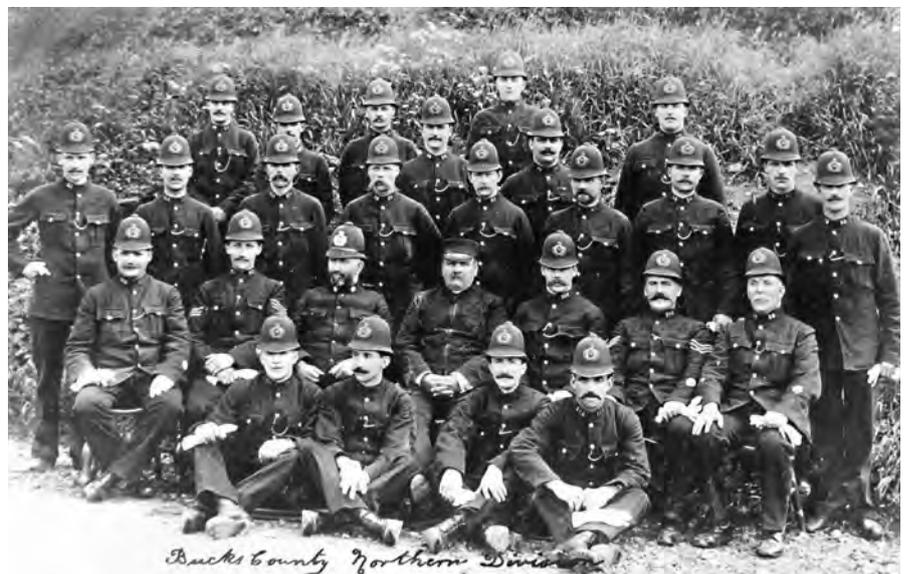
12th April 1922.

For good work in detecting a case of Housebreaking and other similar cases at Wolverton "Commended".

As with all General Orders at the time it was short and precise, keeping the records straight.

Albert studied hard for promotion and took the exam for Inspector on 6th March 1923, which he passed, and as a consequence he was given the rank of Acting Inspector on 1st October the same year, being posted to the Southern Division at Eton the following day. He was now earning £310 a year. He was confirmed in the rank on 7th April 1924; he was still at Eton.

On 30th July 1928 he was promoted to Superintendent and posted to the Eastern Division at Chesham, where he was in charge of the Division. In 1930 he was earning £430 a year, which went up to £445 the following year, and £460 the year of his retirement. He remained in charge of Chesham until his retirement on 14th November



1932, the General Order read:

3rd September 1932.

Superintendent Albert Honour, whose pension was guaranteed on the 7th October 1930, having notified his intention to retire will be struck off the strength of the Force from the 14th November inclusive, and will be admitted to the Pension List £306.13.4. on that date.

*Signed T.R.P. Warren Colonel,
Chief Constable.*

During his 28 years' service in the Bucks Constabulary Albert was very keen on sports and athletics, and ran the Bucks Constabulary tug-o'-war team.

In the meantime, his son Alex Lionel Richard had himself joined the Bucks Constabulary, on 29th October 1923, making three generations of policemen in the family. Alex is pictured below. It is part of a group photograph taken in 1926.



Alex married Constance Ivy Coy during the summer of 1929 at Potterspurty, Northants, and lived at 92 Buckingham Street, Wolverton. His trade at the time was described as a storesman, employed at the Wolverton Railway Works.

During his service in the Bucks Constabulary he saw service at

Aylesbury, Checquers (the Prime Minister's Country Retreat), Linslade, Great Missenden, West Wycombe, Great Kingshill and finally Maids Morten. During his service he attained the rank of sergeant, and would have seen further promotion but for his untimely death at the early age of just 33. During his service he received one commendation, which read:

10th October 1932

Police Constable 96 Honour is commended for effecting the arrest at West Wycombe on the night of the 2nd September 1932, of three men who had stolen a motor car at Gerrards Cross on that date. At the Bucks Quarter Sessions on the 3rd instant the prisoners were each sentenced to three months hard labour for stealing the car and three months concurrent for being in possession of housebreaking implements, and the Constable was commended by the Chairman.

*Signed T.R.P. Warren Colonel,
Chief Constable.*

The Wolverton Express 13th March 1936 described his death as follows:

Police sergeant Honour, whose funeral is reported in another column, died in the City of London Chest Hospital on the 3rd March (1936) whilst undergoing an operation.

At the opening of the inquest on the following Thursday Mrs Constance Honour said that her husband had influenza in October and was sent to the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury. He did not improve and was transferred to the City of London Chest Hospital in February. He was told an operation was necessary and he was quite willing to have it done. Dr H K Childs said sergeant Honour was admitted to the hospital suffering from a suspected abscess on the lung and it was decided to operate. Whilst the operation was being performed he collapsed and died shortly afterwards in the ward. He was in a very toxic condition when admitted and his

condition never improved.

Dr Francis Temple Grey, pathologist of Harley Street, W: who performed a post Morton examination stated the death was due to toxæmia from lung abscesses and bronchiectasis. The operation had almost been completed and had been performed with great skill. Death had been accelerated by the shock of the operation.

At the adjourned inquest on Saturday Dr Robert Beaver, who was deputizing as anaesthetist at the hospital, said an operation was essential, although there was a grave risk owing to the fact of deceased's toxic condition. Witness administered the aesthetic and the surgeon had found the abscess in the lung and was opening it when the deceased collapsed.

Summing up, the coroner said he was quite certain that everything was done for the deceased. They were simply giving him a last chance by performing the operation.

A verdict of death by misadventure was recorded.

FUNERAL OF PS HONOUR

POLICE MOURN AN ESTEEMED COLLEAGUE

Uniformed members of the Buckinghamshire Constabulary, representative of all ranks and of all divisions of the county, were present at Wolverton on Saturday last to pay tribute to the memory of a colleague, Sergeant Alec Lionel Richard Honour, who was buried at Wolverton that day. The Chief Constable (Col. T.R.P. Warren C.B.E.) four superintendents, two inspectors, twelve sergeants, and thirty constables were among the mourners, and in addition there were one superintendent, one sergeant, and two constables, stationed in the Towcester Division.

Sergeant Honour, who was but thirty three years of age, passed away on Tuesday 3rd March at the City of London Hospital where he had entered to undergo an operation.

He was the elder son of ex-Supt. A. Honour and Mrs Honour of the

Bungalow, Bierton Hill, Aylesbury, and spent his younger days in Wolverton where his father was twice stationed, first as a constable and later as a sergeant. Deceased entered the Bucks Constabulary in 1923 at about the same time his father was promoted to the rank of inspector and transferred on promotion from Wolverton to Eton. The young officer was first stationed for duty at the county town of Aylesbury and afterwards was at Linslade, Great Kingshill, Great Missenden, and West Wycombe. It was on the 13th April 1933 that he rose to the rank of sergeant and was transferred to the North Western (Buckingham) Division and stationed at Maids Morton; where during his illness intervened in October last.

His untimely death at such an early age, came as a great shock to the many who knew him, especially so to his near relatives. It also cut short a very promising police career for throughout his thirteen years of service he had shown marked ability, a keenness for his work, and very conscientious duty. He was held in the highest esteem by all his colleagues, and he was much respected by the residents of Maids Morton and district with whom his duties brought him into contact. He also will be remembered with affection by residents of those neighbourhoods where his police service had taken him.

Sergeant Honour married a daughter of Mr and Mrs W Coy of 81 Windsor Street, Wolverton, seven years ago, and to her and the bereaved relatives most profound and sincere sympathy has been extended.

There were many mourners at the funeral service, the first portion of which was conducted in the Wesley Methodist Church. From the house of the parents of Mrs Honour to the church the funeral cortege was headed by an escort of twelve constables of the Buckingham Division under the charge of Inspector W. Heritage the escort consisting of PC Slatter, PC Goodall; PC Turney and PC Ewens (Buckingham) PC Darville

(Tingewick) PC Marsh (Padbury), PC Hammond (Preston Bissett) PC Trevener (Twyford) PC Lawrence (North Marsden) PC Melia (Brill) PC Carter (Westbury) and PC Smith (Steeple Claydon).

Immediately following the escort was the motor-hearse bearing the coffin of plain oak which was draped with the Union Jack and which had rested upon it the helmet, truncheon and handcuffs used by the deceased. Six sergeants, the bearers, walked on each side, these being sergeant P. Woodward (Olney), sergeant W. Merry (Bletchley) sergeant W. Chilvers (Winslow), sergeant G. Blake (Brill), sergeant J. Dore (Aylesbury) and sergeant A. King (Linslade).

The main body of police constables followed behind the hearse under the charge of Inspector R. Browning (Newport Pagnell), and at the rear were Superintendents J. Cleary (Aylesbury), F. Bryant (Buckingham), E. Callaway (Bletchley), M. Williams (Towcester), and A. C. White (Aylesbury) the last named being Deputy Chief Constable of Bucks.

Col. T.R.P. Warren walked immediately in front of the motor containing the family mourners.

As the congregation was assembling in the sacred building Mr R. Nicholls played a number of suitable voluntaries including "I know that my Redeemer liveth", and during the service he rendered accompanying music for the hymn "Jesu Lover of my soul" which was feelingly sung.

The Rev. F.B. Hudson the Superintendent Circuit Minister, who conducted the service, in the course of a short address, said it was not an occasion for one to speak at length, but the company was one of tribute. It was a representative assembly – they were assembled to pay tribute to a worthy man. In the presence of so many comrades and of others who represented other societies as well as the church, he would speak an affectionate word of sympathy. Their brother and friend was brought up in connection with the Sunday

School there, and they remembered his early associations and those of his father and family with the town. There were those present who thought of him in those early days and they had followed his career with interest and high regard. He was reminded that deceased was married in that church about seven years ago to one who herself had been closely identified with them as well as her family. Little did they realize seven years ago that this occasion would come all too soon. As minister, for the time being, and behalf of those who had known him for so many years, he expressed sympathy very sincere and condolence with the widow, parents, relatives, and friends. It looked as this was of the mysteries of life – a man of fine physique, apparently in splendid health, gifted in his work, devoted to it, efficient, with promise of life before him – now strangely this had fallen upon him. They knew he had borne his illness with courage and they hoped he would have won through. They had to leave the mysteries of life in higher hands but they could pay tribute to character and service and it was that which they did that day. They had come from distances to pay tribute and they would pay it very affectionately.

At the conclusion of the service in the church the organist feelingly rendered the Dead March in "Saul" and as the cortege left the sacred building Mr Nicholls played Mendelssohn's "O rest in the Lord".

At the entrance to the church the police escort formed a guard of honour, whilst at the entrance to Wolverton Cemetery where the interment took place, the whole of the uniformed police formed a guard through which the body of their colleague was borne to its earthly rest. The Rev. F. B. Hudson performed the last rights and as each member of the Constabulary filed passed the open grave they saluted the coffin, Masonic brethren present let fall sprigs of acacia into the grave.

The family mourners present were

Mrs Alec Honour (widow), Mr and Mrs A Honour, Aylesbury (father and mother). Mr and Mrs Aubrey Honour, Wolverton (brother and sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs W Coy, Wolverton, (father-in-law and mother-in-law), Mr and Mrs E Wilson, Neasden, Mr and Mrs F Herbert, Castlethorpe, (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law), Mr and Mrs J Coy, Chadwell Heath, (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mr W Saunders, Butlers Cross, Mr A Saunders, Bierton, (uncles), Mr and Mrs A Holes, Leighton Buzzard, Mr and Mrs J Saunders Wicken, (uncles and aunts), Mrs G Saunders Bierton, Mrs G Ellis, Willen (aunts), Mr and Mrs L West, Newport Pagnell, Mr and Mrs F Holes, Deanshanger, Miss N Holes, Leighton Buzzard, Mr E Saunders, Wicken, Mr C Thorne, Bierton, and Mr C Burt, Harrow (cousins), Mrs J Cleary, Aylesbury, and Mr and Mrs R Tompkins, West Wycombe, (friends).

Others present in church and at the cemetery were: representing the Grenville Lodge of Freemasons, of which the deceased was a member, Messers Phillip Wood, T Osborne, J P, W Bunker, C E Bonner, F N Hillier, and G Creed, the Rev. H Pickles (Vicar of West Wycombe), D Randall (Rector of Leckhamstead) ex PC Dillow and Mrs Dillow, (Stony Stratford), Mr R Browning (Newport Pagnell), Mrs Chilvers, (Winslow), Mrs F Bryant and Mrs Heritage (Buckingham), Mrs C Marsh (Padbury), Mr and Mrs Snelling and Mrs Darville (Tingewick), Mrs B Gee (Wolverton), Mrs Merry, (Bletchley), ex PC Dickens (Newport Pagnell), Mrs R Pointer (Wolverton), Mr W Watson, Mr H Mapley, Mr R Bardin, Mrs Cook, Mr D Faulkner, Mrs A Faulkner, Mr C Keeves, Mrs King, Mrs T Robinson, Mrs H Mapley, the Misses Wildman, Mrs W Cox, , Miss Holes, Miss Wilson, Mr B Wilson, Mrs W Watson, junior, Mrs H Rainbow, Mrs W Wildman, Mr A Rolfe, Mr C Jones (Maids Morton), Mr L Faulkner, (Stony Stratford), Mrs Taylor, Mrs Parris, Mr A Emerton, senior, Mr H Clarke, Dr R Williams, and others.

The Towcester Division Police,

in addition to Supt. M Williams, were represented by Sergeant E Johnson (Pottesbury), PC Neesham, Deanshanger), and POC Kellett (Towcester).

Members of the police stationed at Wolverton, who carried out the traffic duty on the route of the funeral procession under PS B Gee, were PC R Pointer and PC Haynes.

Beautiful floral tributes bore the inscriptions; To my darling husband with all my love, from your broken-hearted wife: I loving remembrance of our dear Alec, from mother and father: In loving memory of our dear brother, from Aubrey and Peg: To dear Alec with fondest love and loving memories from Mum and Dad, 81 Windsor Street, "Thy will be done": In loving memory from Grandma and Grandpa, Horley: With deepest sympathy, from Gerty and Albert (Plumstead) and Elsie and Buff (Croydon): In loving memory from uncle Will, Aunt Nellie, Nellie, Irene, and Dorothy Butler's Cross): In loving memory from Auntie Pollie, Uncle Albert, and family (Leighton Buzzard): With deepest sympathy from Uncle Joe and Aunt Carrie, and family (Hill Top, Wicken); With deepest sympathy from Uncle Alf and family, Auntie Gerty and Evelyn; In loving memory from Auntie Rose, Uncle George, and family (Willen); With deepest sympathy from Charlie and Doris; In loving memory of a dear Alec from Lily, Ivy, Marjorie, and Eric; With deepest sympathy from Jim Connie and Ian (Luton); In loving memory of our dear brother from Nellie and Ted; To dear Alec in loving ad affectionate memory from Dot, Frank and John (Castlethorpe); With love and deepest sympathy, from Jack and Elsie; To my dear Uncle Alec, with love from Baby Alan; In loving memory of Uncle Alec from Ken and Mary; To dear Alec with fondest memories from all at Syresham; In loving memory of dear Alec from Uncle Fred and Auntie Livy (Towcester); With deepest sympathy and fond remembrance from Tom and Nan, and family, Agnes, Arthur, Lil and Reny, "There is a sweet rest in Heaven";

In affectionate remembrance from Cousin Fred, Alice and the children; With deepest sympathy from Gladys and Billie (Harrow); In affectionate memory and deepest sympathy of a dear Alec from sincere friends Mr and Mrs Cleary, Joan and Reg; In ever loving memory of our dear friend Alec from Rene and Reg; With deepest sympathy from Mr and Mrs Shepherd, Doris and Bill (High Wycombe) "We shall always remember you"; With deepest sympathy from all at the Pedestal, High Wycombe; With deepest sympathy from Sid and Kath (Great Missenden); In loving memory of Uncle Honour, from Betty and Walter (great Missenden); With sincere sympathy from Mrs Wilson, Ethel, and Bert, (Wolverton), "Thy will be done"; In loving remembrance from all at "Rosemary", Wolverton Road, Newport Pagnell; In kind remembrance of Alec from an old friend Miss L Cave; In fond remembrance of Alec from Arthur and Win (Oxford); To Alec with affectionate remembrance of happy days in the past, from Doris and George; With sincere sympathy from Frances and Billy; In loving memory of Alec from Mr and Mrs Osterfield (Aylesbury); With deepest sympathy from Mr and Mrs Walton (Castlethorpe); Sincere sympathy from Charlie, Dorothy and Alan (Padbury); With deepest sympathy from Neighbours and Friends Wolverton; With deepest sympathy from the Chief Constable, officers and men of the Buckinghamshire Constabulary: In remembrance from his comrades of the South Western Division; With deepest sympathy from Superintendent and Mrs Bryant (Buckingham); With sincere sympathy from Superintendent and Mrs Callaway (Bletchley); In remembrance from Inspector and Mrs Heritage; A token of respect from the Grenville Lodge of Freemasons (No. 1787); With deepest sympathy, from 1st Maids Morton Boy Scouts.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs Winsor Bros., and Glave of Jersey Road, Wolverton."



The grave of Alex and Constance Honour at Wolverton Cemetery is shown above. On the grave is

Sacred to the memory of Alec Lionel Richard, beloved husband of Constance Honour who fell asleep March 3rd 1936 aged 33 years

Alex's wife Constance died 44 years later having never remarried.

*Also his wife Constance Ivy
Died 8th September 1990
aged 86 years*

To return to Albert; on retirement, he and Ellen moved to Berton, Aylesbury. He was a very keen gardener and became the first president of the Berton Allotments Association. During 1957 they moved to Wolverton to be nearer their son Aubrey, who was chief draughtsman at a local firm, and his wife Margaret, moving into 100 Aylesbury Street West where they were living when Albert died four years later at the age of 81 on Thursday, 5th January 1961 at Northampton General Hospital following an operation.

The funeral service was held at the Wolverton Methodist Church on Monday the 9th and was conducted by the Rev. P.W. Trembath. A tape recording was made of the service by the funeral directors, Gurney and

Son, for Ellen, who was unable to attend owing to ill health. Amongst the many mourners were son Aubrey and his wife Margaret, along with Alex's wife Constance. The Bucks Constabulary was represented by Superintendent Lawrence Harman (Bletchley) representing the Chief Constable Brigadier John Cheney, Chief Inspector Joseph Wilson (Bletchley), Sergeant Douglas Stratham (Stony Stratford) and PC J. Burt (Wolverton).

Albert was buried in Wolverton Cemetery not too far from his son Alex. He left £2,628 11s and 8d to his wife Ellen.

Albert's simple grave at Wolverton Cemetery reads:

In loving memory of Albert Amos Honour who passed away on January 5th 1961 aged 81 years.

"At Rest"



Aubrey died on 23rd November 1983 at the age of 78, three years after his wife Margaret, who had died on 23rd December 1980 aged 74. Albert's widow Ellen died at Manor House, Broughton, on 27th November 1969 at the age of 89; she had seen the death of not only her husband but also her two sons, Alex and Aubrey. I have been unable to find where she was buried.

On Aubrey and Margaret's headstone at Wolverton Cemetery is written:

*In Loving Memory
of
Margaret Kathleen Honour
Died 23rd December 1980 Aged 74
Years
Also of
Aubrey Victor Honour
Died 23rd November 1983 Aged 78
Years
Reunited*

Albert is also pictured in a photograph taken at Newport Pagnell in 1913. He is sitting on a chair third from the right. There is an interesting story with regard to this photograph which I have included below.

A few months before my retirement from the police in 2011, with the help of one of Milton Keynes Police Station's facilities officer, Robert, we found an original of this photograph in the garage roof-space at Newport Pagnell Police Station. No-one had been up there for a number of years. Also found were a number of old property books from the early 1970s and several old road-side lamps from the 1950/60s.

The original photograph was very dusty, and after I had cleaned it up I was able to clearly read, with a magnifying glass, many of the collar numbers and so could name these officers. I also recognised a number of them from other Bucks Constabulary



photographs I had. Some of the other numbers were not so clear, but where I could make out part of the number, from a process of elimination of where a particular officer was posted at the time and in some cases by promotion, I was able to also name many of these. Out of the 37 officers I was able to name 28.

The original photograph was named 'Bucks Constabulary, Northern Division Newport Pagnell 1913'. I had this photograph framed and it now hangs in the CCTV room at Central Milton Keynes Police Station with a number of other original Bucks Constabulary photographs.

Leslie Walter Randall

Lesley Walter Randall was born on 15th October 1898 at Bromley, Kent, to Walter and Elizabeth. He had an elder sister, Alice Naomi, born two years earlier. His father was a cowman/domestic and in 1911 the family lived in Parks Dairy, Hinkton, Great Chesterford.

Leslie joined the 21st Training Reserve Battalion at Watford on 23rd February 1917. On 14th August the following year he transferred to Number 5 Officers Cadet Battalion at Cambridge, then transferring to The Rifle Brigade in November that year. On 2nd March 1919 the records state that he "proceeded from Cambridge to Winchester", but in May that same year he was discharged having suffered a nervous breakdown. He served a total of 2 years and 3 months. During this period he received no medals.

After leaving the Army Leslie obtained employment as a gardener until 25th October 1920, when he joined the Bucks Constabulary as a Temporary Constable. The General Order read:

*Chief Constables Office,
Aylesbury,
25th October 1920*

Leslie Walter Randall is appointed Temporary Constable from this date inclusive, for employment at the

Slough Depot, at the sole expense of the Slough Trading Company, Ltd.

*Signed Otway Mayne Major,
Chief Constable.*



From what I have been able to make out, during WW1, and for a time after, the Bucks Constabulary took on Temporary Constables. These were untrained constables that were

effectively given 'Guard Duty' at important locations at the expense of the companies concerned. I think it was just to have a police uniformed presence at these locations. Leslie decided that the police could offer him a good career and applied to join the Bucks Constabulary as a full time constable; the General Order read:

*Chief Constables Office,
Aylesbury,
15th November 1920*

*Leslie Walter Randall joins the Force
on probation from this date inclusive.*

*Signed Otway Mayne Major,
Chief Constable.*



His first posting, after his initial training at Aylesbury where this photograph was taken, was to Wolverton on 18th January 1921. It is during this posting that the 'Wolverton photograph' was taken. He remained here until 17th December the same year, when he was posted to the Chief Constable's Office at Aylesbury.

The next photograph, above, shows the Chief Constable's Office at the time Leslie was posted there. Leslie is standing at the back, first on the right. The person in civilian clothes is the Chief Constable, Major Otway Mayne O.B.E. D.L.

I think when you compare the Chief Constable's Office photograph (below) with the constable in the Wolverton photograph there is a more than a good likeness, taking his height and build into consideration.

I would think that this was a posting Leslie would have been pleased to take, bringing him in personal contact with the Chief Constable and this would not do his career any harm.

He remained at Aylesbury until April 1923, when he was posted back on the Northern Division at Newport Pagnell where he remained until he was posted to the Southern Division

at Salt Hill. From what I have been able to find out it, would appear Leslie remained single throughout his police career, during which time he would have lived in lodgings approved by the Chief Constable.

The police records become unclear but it looks like he was posted to Burnham in 1929, as he was "Commended" for good police work at Burnham on 1st January 1929. The commendation is dated 19th March that year.

Leslie took an examination for Sergeant in June 1929 which he failed, but on the next attempt, on 22nd May 1939, he passed and was promoted to Sergeant on probation on 30th August.

During my research I found another General Order dated 1937 which refers to Leslie. It reads:

12th June 1937.

Police Constable 48 Leslie Randall has passed an examination in Anti-Gas measures held at Aylesbury on the 10th instant.

*Signed T.R.P. Warren Colonel,
Chief Constable.*

During the Second World War a lot of police officers were prevented from retiring, owing to the fact that

many officers went to fight in the war and there was a shortage young men. As you can see below, Leslie was prevented from retiring:

10th December 1946

Permission to retire withheld. Pension guaranteed in accordance with Home Office Circular 49.1945.

Sergeant 118 L. Randall Relevant Date. 7th December 1946. Amount of annual pay upon which calculated £429.

*Signed A.F. Wilcox Lt. Col.
A.C.C.*

Aylesbury Records Office have a 70 year ban, so police records towards the end of the Second World War are not available. Leslie remained in the rank of Sergeant up until his retirement, which would not have been too long after the above General Order.

Leslie has been difficult to research, but he seems to have married towards the end of 1945 to a Betty Smith.

I have been able to find out little more, but Leslie died at the age of 78 in December 1976 at Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

As I mentioned at the beginning of this report, I cannot say that I am going to definitely name the Sergeant and Constable in the Wolverton

Photograph numbered P1159, but I think I can say the following:

The Sergeant is likely to be 34 Albert Honour and the Constable is likely to be 118 Leslie Walter Randall. That being the case, the photograph is likely to be dated between 18th January and 17th December 1921.



MICK SHAW has been retired from Thames

Valley Police for the past 6 years, having served 33 years. He served 17 years as the village Constable for Hanslope and became interested in the Bucks Constabulary and police history in general during 1994, when the local school staged a display on the formation of the Hanslope Parish Council in 1894. As Area Beat Officer of Hanslope Mick was asked to assist with a small display on the police from that period and in particular the village constable. He wrote to the Records Office at Aylesbury and was informed that the officer's name was PC 42 Joseph Lorton. Amazed at the information held on Lorton,

even the colour of his eyes, Mick decided to research all the village constables since the formation of the Bucks Constabulary back in 1857. He found that he was the 39th constable. From there he became hooked and started his research; at this point in time he has well over 2,000 photographs and around the same number of full or part records of service of police officers who served in the Bucks Constabulary up until the amalgamation in 1968.

Visit his website: www.mkheritage.co.uk/bch.



Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault, 1855

By PETER MOORE

Is drug facilitated sexual assault new, arriving with rohypnol? A report in the *British Medical Journal* of 1855 confirms something that any experienced police officer knows; there are few really new crimes.

The discovery of general anaesthetics in the mid-nineteenth century was, according to the *British Medical Journal*, “alas too speedily followed by the application of these agents to criminal purposes”.

Anaesthetics had been used in robberies, and even professionals had “taken advantage of the temporary helplessness of their patients and attempted to perpetrate a crime.” The government responded by making the use of chloroform in a crime a felony.

In Philadelphia, a dentist was convicted of raping a patient when she was anaesthetised. The *British Medical Journal* did not agree with the guilty verdict, having reviewed the evidence in the *National Police Gazette* of Philadelphia.

The *BMJ* report begins “A young lady, of unimpeachable character, who had for some time been engaged to be married, was accompanied by her betrothed to the house of an ancient and highly respectable dentist, for the purpose of having one of her teeth plugged.”

Her statement began:

I went to the office; took off my bonnet, and Dr B. went to the washstand to wash his hands.

But after giving her ether, she claimed that he

put his hand under my dress; on the bosom; he put his hand on my person, under my dress... he drew me down to the edge of the chair; ...he did enter my person.

Under cross examination she said:

I did not see any part of his person exposed, nor the application of any part of his person to me; I don't know, except from the pain, what part of his person was applied to me.

When she left she made another appointment, and several witnesses including her dressmaker and a young man in the street “did not perceive anything peculiar in the appearance of this young lady.”

In court, the prosecution tried to introduce “evidence of individual acts of impropriety committed by the defendant on former occasions with different persons,” but the judge ruled this evidence inadmissible.

Her family doctor was highly qualified. He was formerly Professor of Obstetrics in Jefferson College, and now Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics. He correctly pointed out that rape can occur without any injury, but had not examined her as she was menstruating. He claimed that ether, like brandy, could bring on a period.

Although the jury found the dentist guilty of rape, the *British Medical Journal* did not agree.

The only evidence was from the patient, and her experience could be explained by the known effects of ether on the “hyper-sensitive frame of an American lady.” They argued that ether is known to “excite the erotic propensities”.

The case for the prosecution, they argued, broke down without an examination of both the alleged victim and her clothes.

After over 160 years it is difficult to know whether the jury were correct. There were no SARCs, DNA profiling or trace evidence. Arguing that American ladies have a “hyper-sensitive frame” might not go down well in a 21st century court. “Exciting the erotic propensities” is no longer a known side effect of ether, but then ether is no longer used.

But there are two clear messages given in the report which are important for today's FMEs. First of all have a chaperone, and secondly “professional men should receive with extreme circumspection declarations made before them... and both in their written reports and verbal depositions should endeavour to enlighten magistrate and jury upon the relative value and credibility of such revelations.”

Today I would have to add professional women.



DR PETER MOORE DMJ MFFLM FRCGP is a retired FME and clinical consultant to Devon and Cornwall Police.

Extract from 'An Ordinary Copper'

Article Response to PHS *Journal* 30 (2016)

By DAVE LEACH

The following is an extract, pages 253 to 256, of *An Ordinary Copper* which was published in 2015, and I give consent for this extract to be published in the *Police History Society Journal* as an expansion upon the piece referred to in edition 30 under 'Police launched Bristol Raids to Make Area Safe (extracted from *The Daily Telegraph* of Saturday, 13th September, 1986).

The largest operation for which an Operational Order was required during my two years in the Logistics Office came from a meeting in the ACC (Operations) office at teatime on Thursday, 4th September, 1986. A new Superintendent had recently been posted to command the subdivision at Trinity Road and it had been identified to him that the premises subject of the drug and unlicensed alcohol sales raid in 1980 was re-emerging. The 'softly-softly' approach encouraged by the most senior officers, to seek to avoid another riot, had brought the unintended resultant feeling among the drug dealers that they could operate with impunity. The Superintendent had brought the issue to the ACC as he was not prepared to allow this trade to continue, but needed support in order to combat it. The Deputy Chief Constable was asked to the meeting, as were senior officers from the Community

Relations Department and Traffic Department. It was decided, in a short meeting, that action was required but it would need to be well planned and there would need to be a significant element of surprise if it was to be successful. The following morning, the outline of the prospective operation was presented to and agreed by the Chief Constable.

The team, with me acting in the coordinating role, went about furthering their respective parts in the plan. The local station at Trinity Road found and manned an observation point with a view of the section of Grosvenor Road in front of the Black and White Café. The Traffic Department set about hiring coaches and, crucially, three soft-sided lorries and established timings for the journeys to Grosvenor Road from variously distant holding areas, one some miles away out near J1 of the M32. In addition to drawing together the overall operational order, with which I received the assistance over the weekend of the War Duties clerk typist, I had to plan how we were to draw together the largest single deployment of our force manpower on the targeted day, Thursday, 11th September.

Our presence in the Logistics Office over the intervening weekend could not go unnoticed as there was a routine for the Control Room staff

to carry out security checks of all the floors in New Bridewell. The visit from a Constable was soon followed by one from the duty Inspector, hoping that I would tell him more, but there was a real need for the number of people knowing what we were doing to be extremely limited.

It was a tradition at the time for all planned operations to carry an invented title which had the same initial letter as that of the Division on which it was to take place. In recent months the repercussion of the newspaper dispute in London, as production moved away from Fleet Street, had been demonstrations at a distribution depot near J18 of the M4 at Old Sodbury. We, therefore, called it 'Operation Delivery' and all bar those on 'D' Division seemed to have accepted, as more had to become involved, that the newspaper transfer point was the venue. Those on 'D' Division were sceptical that they would gain such support!

With a draft order and the other departments having been busy, the next phase of this unusual operation was agreed by the ACC. Over preceding months he had held, with some significant input from our office, a series of seminars to familiarise senior officers and key players from all parts of the Force, especially headquarters departments, with what was required to confront

large scale operations. This training now brought its full benefit as he called the many sector commanders and their deputies to Kingsweston House on the Wednesday.

I had, the day before, contacted all Divisional Commanders with the 'shock' request for many more PSUs than they would normally be able to supply. Their relief was audible when I explained that the overtime bill was to be handled from headquarters. This contact also required the senior officers they nominated to be at the pre-briefing on the Wednesday. Knowing that our internal demands for manpower would exhaust our capabilities, I contacted the ACC Operations in each of our neighbouring Forces to pre-warn them, confidentially, that we may be seeking urgent support from them on the Thursday night.

The sector command teams were provided with copies of the overall plan which the War Duties clerk/typist had produced from my dictation, and were required by the ACC to go to separate training rooms in Kingsweston House to create their own micro-plan for their own part of the operation. They then returned to the conference room and presented their 'bit' to the rest of us. With some minor fine-tuning, their sector plans were incorporated into the overall Operational Order. This necessitated another late night; there had been no other kind since the previous Thursday, and the production of a composite order for the final briefing on Thursday lunchtime. The benefit of the process adopted by the ACC was that every sector commander had a really intimate knowledge of his own planning within his area of responsibility and had heard more than he would have read from the Order through the presentations in the conference room.

The timings by the Traffic

Department proved to be invaluable and, when the time to move was established, each holding area sent its units away at appropriately slightly different times to reach their locations in the St Pauls area on time. The three soft-sided lorries had to take the journey from the M32 J1 slowly, as each contained three PSUs, a total of 69 Officers. The intention and briefing was for them to stop in Grosvenor Road, one directly in front of Brighton Street and the others front and rear of that vehicle. They arrived in the road with the first lorry outside the Black and White Café and the others close behind. Although the slight variation from the intended point at which the Officers jumped from the lorries was not overly problematic, it did point up, for the debrief, the importance of adequately briefing such key personnel as the three Constables driving the lorries. A mixture of hired coaches and our own crew busses brought officers to other strategic points from different start-off points and coaches were used again to convey the relatively few arrested back to Trinity Road Police Station.

The timings by the Traffic Department were 'spot-on', with all of the near-600 Officers deployed to their planned locations within less than a minute of each other.

The surprise element was achieved by the use of the lorries, which had been very easy to obtain by Constables with HGV licences simply hiring them for the day. More difficult, certainly in 1986, was the obtaining of coaches. All coach operators hired out their coaches complete with their own employee as driver. The Traffic Department managed this aspect by going to coach operators well outside the Bristol area and offering the owner an operational necessity argument for our own qualified drivers to have the vehicles for the day.

We had looked at avoiding the mid-afternoon, mindful of that timing problem in 1980, but had to 'go' when the observation point told us that dealing on the street was visible.

Despite the timing difficulty, the operation itself was a resounding success and the disturbances that followed it, which lasted a couple of evenings, were contained.

A point of self-criticism had to be that we stuck too long to the sectors and deployments for the operation which made redeployment to confront the moving street disorder situation less fluid than was ideal. On the plus side, of course, there was no shortage of immediately available, equipped and trained, Officers and, thanks to the seminars at Kingsweston, those capable of commanding the units.

As the situation went on beyond what was really the end of the planned operation, I made the calls necessary to bring in the mutual aid from the Forces I had contacted a couple of days before and all arrived to look after the night shift and, importantly, relieve much of our own manpower after a long, and in places strenuous, day.

One of the lessons learned from 1980 was the importance of fully debriefing the operation and its, fortunately not too serious, aftermath. This we most certainly did and involved most of the key players in the exercise. The most significant effect of the operation was that it restored police authority in an area where it had definitely slipped and made the task of the local Officers somewhat easier.

The operation had demonstrated to the law breakers and, more importantly, to the law-abiding in the area, that policing the street had returned to what was, then, the expected norm. In the early aftermath, we set up foot patrols

around the immediate affected area with Officers in pairs but each pair monitored from a visible distance by a Task Force Unit of a Sergeant and five or six Constables. A few days working in that way to safeguard the patrolling Officers soon enabled us to reduce the back-up.

An aside – a comment on the evening of Operation Delivery demonstrated to me that it is never safe to speak too soon.

With the small control room at Trinity Road monitoring a successful operation as we reached teatime on that Thursday, I went into the side

office in which the Logistics Office Inspectors were ready for what may come next. At the time there was a popular programme on television called *The 'A' Team* and I quoted one of the common sayings from it, "I do like to see a good plan coming together!" Almost immediately from behind me the noise level in the little control room grew louder as the follow-up disturbances started.



DAVID EDWARD (DAVE) LEACH joined the Somerset Constabulary in 1965 and served through the amalgamation with Bath in 1967, and that with Bristol &

South Gloucestershire to form the Avon and Somerset Force, from 1974 until his retirement as Superintendent in charge of the Communications Department in 1996.

An Ordinary Copper is the story through that progression of Police Service and includes his attendance at the Police College at Bramshill, brief attachment to Notting Hill in London and much longer involvement in the National Reporting Centre at New Scotland Yard before and during the 1984/85 National Union of Mineworkers Dispute.

For anyone who would like to get the full story, the cost of the book is £10.00 + £4.00 post & packing. Please contact Dave at dleachcmc@blueyonder.co.uk or consult the PHS Directory of Members (member number 1195). Cheques for £14.00 to be made out to D. E. Leach.

Murder at The Knoll

The Fatal Shooting of PC Frederick Atkins

By ADAM WOOD

Although fatal shootings of policemen in the Victorian era were rare - in fact, since the formation of the Metropolitan Police only two London-based officers had been killed through gunfire up to 1881 - the carrying of firearms by burglars was becoming alarmingly more frequent. The notorious criminal Charles Peace had shot and killed PC Nicholas Cock at Manchester in 1876, and two years later injured PC Robinson when firing five shots at the officer who had disturbed the burglar at Blackheath.

Those constables patrolling remote, outlying locations were becoming increasingly at risk. And so it proved when, in the early hours of Thursday, 22nd September 1881, PC Frederick Atkins approached The Knoll, a large house on Kingston Hill in the Met's V Division.

Mr. Short, the butler, was woken by the sound of a pistol firing and got up to search the house, on his rounds meeting the housekeeper, who had also heard the shot. Each door proved to be secure, but as they approached the front entrance they heard a groan coming from outside. On opening the door they found PC Atkins, unconscious on the ground and bleeding profusely.

The two members of staff immediately alerted their employer, Mr. Powyskecki, who telephoned the police station on London Road, Kingston. Several local inspectors, along with Divisional Surgeon Dr. Roots, attended The Knoll, where they found PC Atkins in a perilous condition, unable to be taken to hospital. He was, however, moved to Kingston police station, where he was examined by Dr. Roots. It was

discovered that the constable had been shot three times, once in the chest, with the bullet entering a lung, and also in the abdomen and left thigh.

The 22-year-old Atkins, who had been transferred to V Division just two months earlier, was gently questioned by Inspector Bond and Dr. Roots as to the attack, and, with great difficulty, was able to make a statement:

I did not see anybody or hear anything which should cause me to imagine there were burglars at work. I went along the avenue slowly, accordingly to my usual custom when on duty there, but there was no-one about. Before I was aware of anything I saw something like the gleam of a lantern, and then whispers, after which there was a report, and then I felt I was struck by something sharp in the chest. I turned to one side quickly,

when another shot was fired, and that's all I can remember.

Inspector Bond, with colleagues Crowther and Rushbridge, examined the grounds of The Knoll and a lantern and a jemmy were found underneath some bushes. An iron bar had been removed from the window of a lavatory at the side of the house, and it was here that the officers suspected the burglars were about to enter the house when they were disturbed by PC Atkins.² With that window sitting in a dark recess, it would have been impossible for the constable to see his assailants.

The young officer survived for another twenty-four hours before succumbing to his wounds. The primary cause had been the bullet which passed through his lung, it still being lodged in his back. A second bullet had been found near the lantern and jemmy, with the third and final dropping from Atkins' clothing as he was undressed at the station.³

Reporting his passing, the newspapers commented on a similar case which had also occurred at Kingston Hill, when a PC Kerrison was shot by burglars, although thankfully not fatally.⁴

Although the Kingston police diligently searched the grounds of The Knoll and investigated their usual suspects, no clue was found as to the killer or killers, and Scotland Yard was called in. Howard Vincent wasted no time in sending Det. Inspectors Swanson, Andrews and Shaw to Kingston.⁵ A local blacksmith named Brockwell was soon arrested, and interviewed at Kingston police station. His boots were found to match footprints found in the grounds of The Knoll, but, despite being questioned for over five hours, no evidence could be found against him and he was released.⁶

Despite a Government reward of £100, which was added to by a



The murder and funeral of P.C. Frederick Atkins from *The Penny Illustrated Paper*, 8th October 1881

consortium of Kingston businessmen,⁷ no clue was found as to those responsible for PC Atkins' death. His killer was never identified.⁸

When the funeral of the tragic constable took place a week after his death, nearly two thousand policemen from all divisions attended, most travelling by special train from Waterloo to Walton-on-Thames, where Atkins' family lived.⁹

As the funeral procession made its way to Walton parish church, every shop in Kingston was closed as a mark of respect, with blinds drawn on the windows along the route.¹⁰ As they marched along, the band of the V Division played the 'Dead March' from Handel's *Saul*, with Frederick Atkins' former colleagues acting as pall bearers.¹¹

As PC Atkins was laid to rest, perhaps inevitably calls came to arm the police:

A few weeks ago we called attention to the perils of the policeman's vocation, and to the courage which they need to possess while doing the work which nightly devolves them. The soldier has few dangers to encounter in comparison with those which many of our policemen are exposed in their nightly rounds. Soldiers are

not always on the field of war or threatened by a sudden attack from ruthless foes; but policemen have very often to face lawless men who seem to set little value upon human life. The question has, therefore, very naturally been raised, can we do nothing by way of enabling policemen to defend themselves against the species of ruffianism which revels in outrage and blood? Ought we not to be able to protect them from the attacks of cowardly wretches who, protected by darkness, will shoot down an unfortunate policemen before he has had a moment's warning?

...The Standard suggests that we

1 PCs Timothy Daly in 1842 and William Davey in 1863.

2 *The Penny Illustrated Paper*, 8th Oct. 1881.

3 *Huddersfield Chronicle*, 26th Sept. 1881.

4 *Pall Mall Gazette*, 23rd Sept. 1881.

5 *Huddersfield Chronicle*, 26th Sept. 1881.

6 *The Daily News*, 24th Sept. 1881

7 *Morning Post*, 27th Sept. 1881.

8 The case of PC Frederick Atkins was only second instance of an unsolved murder of a Metropolitan Police officer, after that of PC George Clark in 1846, and the last until 1991. A plaque was erected in Kingston's Police Memorial Garden in Atkins' memory in 1996, and a replica erected in the Watchman public house, on the site of the former New Malden police station.

9 *Gloucester Citizen*, 30th Sept. 1881.

10 *Ibid.*

11 *Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer*, 30th Sept. 1881.

should arm the police on night duty. A policeman on dangerous duty, it argues, carries his life in his hand, and we ought to afford him the opportunity of protecting himself. But what would be the effect of such an arrangement as this? Would it tend to the security of human life or the reverse? Would it, in short, be the means of saving the lives of the police, or of endangering the life of everyone who goes out at night? A revolver is an exceedingly dangerous weapon, but nowhere is it so dangerous as in the hands of an easily startled or nervous person.

A policeman deficient in nerve and coolness might fire in hot haste without pausing to consider what he was about. He might suspect

where there was no real ground for suspicion. He might mistake for a burglar some stupefied drunken fellow trying to force open the wrong door or to get into his neighbour's house.¹²

While attitudes ran high in the wake of Atkins' murder, it took the fatal shooting of PC George Cole by a burglar the following year and the attempted murder of PC Patrick Boans in 1883 to force the authorities to seriously consider arming their officers. It was decided to give Superintendents of the outer-lying divisions the opportunity to arm their constables on night duty, an option which received mixed reactions from within the force.

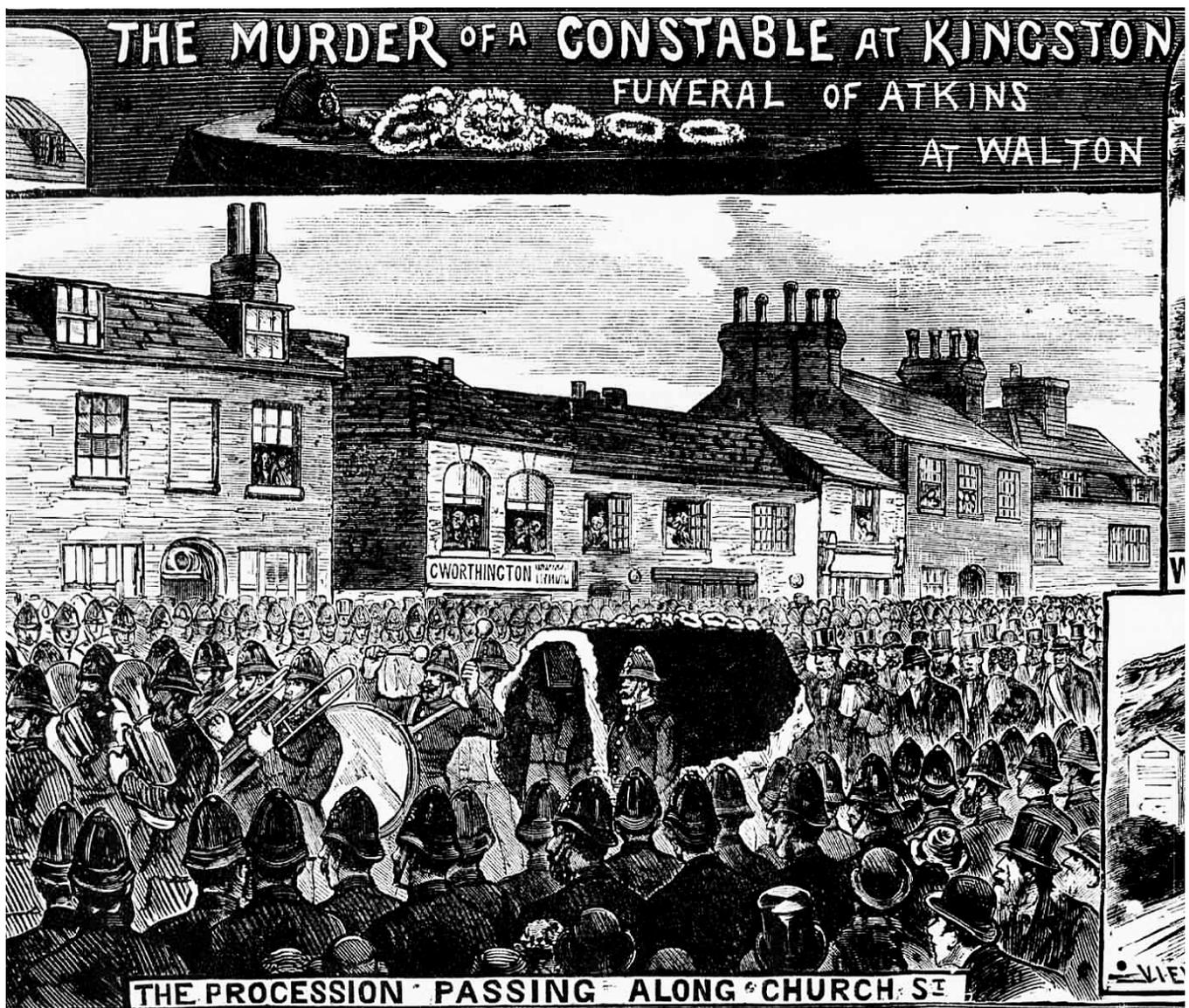
Despite this availability, it wasn't until four years later that the first revolver was fired by a Metropolitan policeman while on duty, when, on 18th February 1887, PC Henry Owen fired six shots into the air in an attempt to wake the residents of a burning house after his shouts had failed to rouse them.¹³

¹² *South Wales Daily News*, 24th Sept. 1881.

¹³ *The Official Encyclopedia of Scotland Yard* by Martin Fido and Keith Skinner (2000 revised edition).



This is an edited extract from ADAM WOOD's forthcoming book *Swanson: The Life and Times of a Victorian Detective*, due out later this year.



The Murder of Mrs Reville

By JAN BONDESON

Hezekiah Reville was born in Linton, Cambridgeshire, in 1843, the son of the farmer John Mackintosh Reville. He became apprenticed to a butcher, and made good progress in his chosen trade. In 1874, he married Mary Ann Chudley at the London Street Chapel in Reading; both bride and groom were 21-years-old. In or around 1876, he purchased a butcher's shop at Windsor Road in Slough, and set himself up as a master butcher.

An *Illustrated Police News* illustration shows him looking quite dignified, with a large bushy beard to match his venerable Biblical name. The Revilles had two daughters: Alice Jane, born at Slough in 1876, and Emily Gertrude, born at Eton in 1878. They were both steady, industrious people, and the butcher's shop made good progress. The shop opened at seven in the morning, and remained open until eight in the evening. Mrs Reville served behind the counter, kept the books and handled the accounts. In 1881, Mr Reville employed two young assistants: the 16-year-old Alfred Augustus Payne and the 15-year-old Philip Glass; both of them had been at the butcher's shop for around two years.

On Monday, 11th April 1881, everything seemed well at the little butcher's shop in Windsor Road. Hezekiah Reville and his two assistants were butchering away, and Ann Reville sold meat and hams behind the counter. The shop was a small one, just about 18 feet by 12 feet,

and equipped with a chopping-block and a counter with the scales. Behind the shop was a parlour, with a window to the shop; when doing the books, Ann Reville used to sit at a desk just by this window, so that she could see the customers coming into the shop.

After a hard day's work, Hezekiah Reville went out around eight in the evening, to speak to some fellow tradesmen and empty a pint or two of beer. He told Payne to stay late at work, to rub salt into some hams. In spite of the late hour, the butcher's assistant obediently got to work. Glass left at 8.25pm, leaving Payne alone with Mrs Reville, and the two little girls sleeping in their bedroom upstairs. Payne claimed to have left at 8.32pm; he later claimed that Mrs Reville told him to turn the gas down and shut the door before he went out. Just a few minutes later, Mrs Eliza Beasley, who lived next-door-but-one to the Revilles, came to keep the butcher's wife company in the evening. She was horrified to find that Ann Reville had just been murdered with a chopper: there were two frightful wounds on the top of the head, breaking the skull open, and another deep wound in the neck.

Mrs Beasley ran out of the shop to summon assistance. She met a coach builder named George John Leight, who offered to stand guard at the murder shop while she ran to fetch a doctor; he later estimated that he reached the shop at 8.40pm, indicating that he had met Mrs Beasley at around 8.38pm. On her

way to Mr Edward Dodd, the local surgeon, she met Police Sergeant Hebbes in the street, and explained to him what she had just seen. The experienced policeman consulted his watch when he reached the butcher's shop: it was 8.45pm, and he had met Mrs Beasley two minutes earlier. Mr Dodd also had a look at the clock in his consulting-room when the excited Mrs Beasley came to call: it was 8.45pm. The surgeon then made haste to Reville's butcher's shop, where he found Mrs Reville dead but still warm; she was far advanced in pregnancy, and sitting on the chair reclining backwards. He estimated that death had been instantaneous, due to the severity of the wounds, each of which had been sufficient to stun her. A bloody chopper was lying on the table, along with a handwritten note.

Supt. Thomas Dunham of the Buckinghamshire Constabulary, who had been instrumental in the arrest of John Owen, the Denham mass murderer, back in 1870, was swiftly alerted, and he arrived at the murder shop as early as 8.45pm. Sergeant Hebbes pointed out that there an obvious clue to the identity of the murderer had been found: namely the handwritten note found on the table:

Mrs Reville: You never will sell me no more bad meat like you did on Saturday. I told Mrs Austin, of Chalvey, that I would do for her. I done it for the bad meat she sold me on Saturday last - H. Collins, Colnbrook.



The butcher's shop, the corpse of Mrs Reville, and the hall where the inquest was held, from the Illustrated Police News, 23rd April 1881

This threatening missive was filed in a folder marked 'evidence', and some constables went to Colnbrook to find the man Collins, and to Chalvey to find Mrs Austin. By this time, Hezekiah Reville himself had been alerted by a boy sent to the White Hart nearby, where he had sat swigging from his pint glass. Since Superintendent Dunham knew that the husband was often the guilty party in cases of wife murder, he considered the butcher as a prime suspect, but Reville was able to give a good account of his movements that evening, and he seemed genuinely distraught at the loss of his wife, to whom he had been devoted. When Reville was asked if he had any suspicions, he immediately mentioned the lad Alfred Augustus Payne, who had been suspected of stealing meat in the shop. Superintendent Dunham and Sergeant Hobbes went to see Payne, whose father kept the Royal Oak public house in Slough. Young Payne seemed strangely detached when the policemen told him that his employer's wife had just been brutally murdered, something they found odd and incriminating. They took Payne into custody, and ordered him to provide samples of his handwriting for comparison with the writing of the note from 'Collins', which had clearly been written by the murderer.

On the afternoon of 12th April, Mr Frederick Charsley, the Coroner for South Buckinghamshire, opened the inquest on Ann Reville at the Crown Inn in the High Street. Captain Tyrwhitt-Drake, the chief constable of Buckinghamshire, and Superintendent Dunham were watching the proceedings for the police.

Philip Glass, the first witness, testified that he had been employed by Mr Reville for two years; Payne had been engaged some time before him. When Glass had left the butcher's shop at 8.25pm, Mrs Reville had been sitting in the back room, and Payne had still been on the premises. The saw and two steels had been on the block, but the chopper was nowhere to be seen. Glass had heard Mrs Reville complaining of Payne's conduct once or twice, and a month ago Payne had been going to leave his employment, although Mr Reville persuaded him to stay.

Hezekiah Reville testified that when he had left the butcher's shop at a little before eight, Payne and Glass had both been on the premises. He had pointed out some hams to Payne and ordered him to rub them with salt, but it later turned out that the careless butcher's boy had done the wrong ones. He had seen Payne writing on a piece of paper when he

left the shop.

Reville himself had gone to see two fellow tradesmen named Wilmot and Green, before having a pint or two at the White Hart. Both he and his wife had more than once complained about Payne's work: in spite of his youth, he liked to go to the public house, leaving Glass to do all the work. Reville had once found a beefsteak hidden under a blade bone in the shop, and when he had told his wife that he would like to find out who was the thief, she had said "Oh, you'll never do that. You have not seen half that I have."

Reville had been to see Mrs Glass, trying to ascertain who it was who had been stealing meat in the shop, and he had told both her and another woman that he was going to dismiss Payne. Mrs Reville had once said that if he did not dismiss Payne then she would do it, and the truculent butcher's boy "had been greatly annoyed since, and there had been a great difference in his manner to his mistress."

Mrs Mary Ann Glass confirmed that Reville had been to see her, complaining about losing a quantity of steak, and Philip Glass had been told why his master had come to call, although he denied mentioning this to Payne.

Alfred Augustus Payne was the next

witness: dressed in his blue butcher's frock, he seemed to be as cool as a cucumber. He merely confirmed that he had left the shop at 8.32pm, and at that time the chopper and other tools had been on the block, except the knife, which had been put by the scales and weights.

The mysterious note from 'H. Collins' was read aloud in court, but police inquiries had showed that no such person was a resident of Colnbrook. There was a Mr Robert Collins in Chalvey, and he was a customer of Reville's, but he denied any knowledge of the note. The constables had found two Mrs Austins in Chalvey, but both of them denied knowing anything about a 'H. Collins', or any complaint about bad meat.

Sergeant Hobbes testified that there had been a great deal of blood about the murder room, and that the kitchen table behind the murdered woman was liberally splashed with gore; the murderer's clothes were likely to have been equally stained with blood. When Payne's shirt had been examined, two stains of blood had been found on the left sleeve, but the butcher's boy said they had come from killing sheep the week before.

The inquest was adjourned for a week.

The police belatedly removed all of Payne's clothes, for examination by an expert. They had time to compare the witness testimony, being amazed that the murder had clearly been committed between 8.32pm, when Payne left the shop, and 8.38pm, when Mrs Beasley discovered the body; a short interval indeed for some murderous individual to burst into the shop and make use of the chopper to dispatch the butcher's wife.

It was also noteworthy that she seemed to have been struck down from behind: had the murderer entered the house through the side entrance and sneaked up to her from

behind? If some thief or old enemy had come running into the shop, Mrs Reville would have been unlikely to remain sitting on her chair, since she had a good view of the shop through the window.

She had been given a florin by a customer, and put it in her dress pocket, but this coin could not be found at the scene of the crime, so it had probably been stolen by the murderer. Some small coins were strewn on the floor, and Mrs Reville's watch lay in front of her. It also turned out that one of Mrs Reville's little daughters had walked downstairs for some water and heard the shop door slam, most probably by the absconding murderer; the girl had then seen her mother sitting in the chair dreadfully injured, and giving a choking noise as she breathed her last. The frightened little girl had run back up to bed and hid underneath the bedsheets, shivering with terror all night.

Ann Reville was buried on the evening of 14th April. The neighbouring shops were closed, and all blinds had been drawn. Hezekiah Reville and his fellow tradesmen followed the coffin on its hearse, with Philip Glass carrying a basket of primroses and violets. The Rev. P.W. Phipps conducted the service as Mrs Reville was laid to rest in St Mary's Churchyard at Upton, where her headstone, albeit very worn, is still legible. Many people attended the funeral, and in the coming days, numerous London murder enthusiasts travelled to Slough to see the murder shop in Windsor Road, and Mrs Reville's gravestone.

When the coroner's inquest resumed on 19th April Mr Reville's memory had improved, and he delivered some further hostile testimony against Payne, including that his wife had once said "If you do not get rid of Payne, I will, for I know

that he is robbing us." Payne could swing a heavy chopper with alacrity, Reville said, and in spite of his youth, he was an expert on killing sheep.

Importantly, the witness Kate Amelia Timms testified that she had met Philip Glass in the High Street at 8.28pm; she had met Alfred Augustus Payne a few minutes later, and he had been walking rather hurriedly. When she had come home to her lodgings, the time had been 8.36pm.

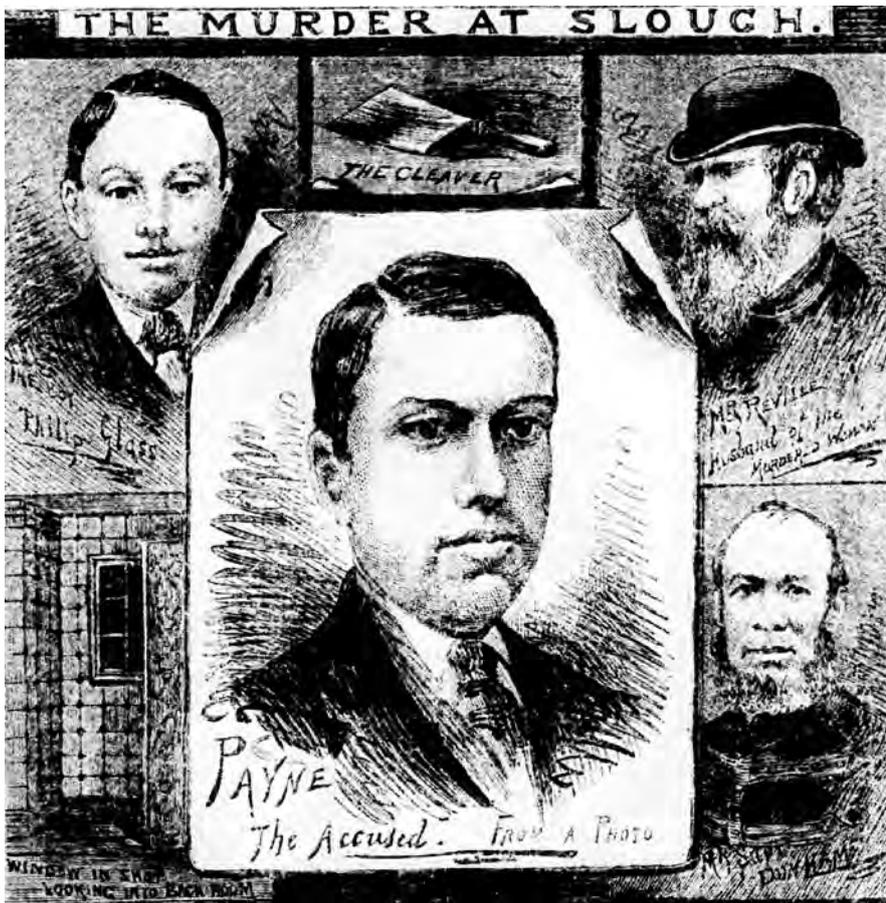
The brick-maker George Roll, who knew Payne, had seen him coming out of the Reville butcher's shop at around 8.30pm; he had wished him 'Good night' and Payne had returned the compliment.

Then it was time for the London graphologist Mr Charles Chabot to give evidence. He had been provided with handwriting samples from Mr Reville, Payne and Glass, and compared them with the 'H. Collins' note. Chabot was 66-years-old, and he had 30 years of experience in his chosen field. He declared that the handwriting on the 'Collins' note was that of Alfred Augustus Payne, although the miscreant had clearly tried to disguise his writing.

As a result of Chabot's confident identification of the handwriting, the inquest returned a majority verdict of wilful murder against Alfred Augustus Payne, and he was committed to stand trial for murder at the Aylesbury Assizes.

The mills of justice ground at a more rapid pace in those days, and as early as 28th April 1881, the trial of Alfred Augustus Payne opened at the Aylesbury Assizes, before Mr Justice Lopes. The prosecution was led by Mr J.C. Lawrance and Mr Bullock, and Payne was defended by Mr Walter Attenborough and his junior Mr Whiteway.

Hezekiah Reville, who was said to be deeply affected by the occasion, this time said that he had gone out



Drawings of Payne, Glass, Mr Reville and Superintendent Dunham, from the Illustrated Police News, 7th May 1881

at 8.10pm, leaving his wife and two children alone with Payne and Glass. He repeated his hostile testimony against Payne, but on cross-examination, he had to admit that although Mrs Reville had complained of Payne's slovenly work, this was a full month before the murder, and she had not found any faults with him since then.

Mrs Maria Barber, whose husband had a dairy next door to Reville's shop, testified that she had a dog, and that this animal would have barked if some person had tried to approach the house through the side entrance. Mrs Beasley, Mr Leight and the surgeon Mr Dodd repeated their evidence from the inquest, without any addition, as did the important witness Kate Amelia Timms, who had met Glass and Payne the evening of the murder.

When it was the turn of the star

witness Charles Chabot to perform, the peppery Mr Attenborough soon had him in serious difficulties. It turned out that Chabot had been looking at an accounts book where some entries had been made by Payne; others he had merely assumed to have been written by the butcher's boy, although this could by no means be proven. Nor could Chabot deny that graphology was far from an exact science, and that he himself sometimes made mistakes.

Mr Attenborough concluded with an eloquent speech for the defence. Although at least a florin had been stolen from the murdered woman's pocket, not a farthing of money had been found in the prisoner's possession. Both Mr Dodd the surgeon and Sergeant Hobbes had given evidence that the clothes of the murderer must have been extensively bloodstained; yet an expert had found no trace of blood on Payne's clothes,

apart from the minor stains on the sleeve of his shirt. The prisoner had not been in Reville's shop for any felonious purpose on the evening of the murder, but he had merely been doing his duty for his master. Since Payne knew that R. Collins of Chalvey, was a bona fide customer of Reville's, why would he sign his forged letter 'H. Collins, Colnbrook'? The note had been written by an uneducated person, who could not spell; yet in a letter Payne had written while in police custody, his spelling was very good. The handwriting evidence had very little value, he assured the jury, and he himself had seen several words in the 'Collins' note that very much resembled the handwriting of Mr Reville!

Mr Justice Lopes delivered a scrupulously fair summing-up, warning the jury that if the circumstantial evidence presented in court did not establish the guilt of the prisoner, then they must acquit him.

The jury was out for 25 minutes before returning a verdict of Not Guilty, and Alfred Augustus Payne was a free man.

The police investigation of the murder of Mrs Reville was completely deflated by the acquittal of Payne, and despite a £100 government reward there was never any further progress. The police would seem to have thought Payne a lucky lad to get away scot free at the Aylesbury Assizes, thanks to the muddled evidence from the elderly Mr Chabot, and the exhortations of a first-class barrister.

Payne joined the army later in 1881, enlisting in the King's Royal Rifle Corps. He would remain in Slough for many years to come, leaving butchery alone to become a general labourer; he married in 1890 and had a daughter. He served gallantly in the Great War, and was promoted to sergeant, finally dying in 1941 at the age of 77.

As for Hezekiah Reville, he was

presented with a purse containing £64 10s, collected by the Slough vicar, postmaster and coroner, among other benevolent local worthies, as “practical proof of the sympathy felt for him in the town and neighbourhood”; it is noteworthy that Superintendent Dunham was another of the contributors. Reville remarried in 1883 and moved to Brighton, where he ran a small bakery, and later worked as a bath chair attendant. He remarried again in 1913 after the death of his second wife, and died in 1933 aged 91. Both the Reville daughters married and had offspring.

At regular intervals, the unsolved Slough murder was mentioned in alarmist newspaper articles about unsolved slayings in London and its vicinity. In 1907, a *Lloyds' Weekly News* journalist went to Slough, where he found the butcher's shop in Windsor Road still standing, and not much changed since the murder back in 1881. Today, most of central Slough has been carted off by the developer's lorry, however, and the murder shop is long gone.

In an analysis of the murder of Ann Reville it is important to note that the murder was clearly premeditated. The murderer took care to write the ‘Collins’ note, before attacking Mrs Reville and putting the note next to the bloody chopper on the table. This means that the ‘usual suspects’ can be excluded: tramps, thieves, robbers and lunatics. The murderer was either Philip Glass, Alfred Augustus Payne, Hezekiah Reville, or some unknown enemy of Mrs Reville.

As for Glass, he was just 15-years-old at the time of the murder, he did not have any motive, and he left the shop prior to Payne, being spotted by a witness walking away from the butcher's shop; to my mind, he can be excluded as a suspect.

As for Payne, he was a slovenly worker and a suspected thief; if we



*Mrs Reville's desk
from Lloyd's News, 13th October 1907*

are to believe Mr Reville, he disliked Mrs Reville, and was seen writing on a piece of paper prior to the murder. The police thought him guilty, from his callous reaction when informed of the murder, and his general behaviour while in custody. At the inquest, Glass had testified that Payne had told him that he would be staying another half an hour to rub the hams; yet according to his own version of events, he left just five minutes later. Chabot may well not have been a leading light in his profession, but at the coroner's inquest he declared himself certain that the ‘Collins’ note had been written by Payne. The idea that such a note would divert police suspicion away from the real murderer is a preposterous one to a grown man, but perhaps not to an adolescent. The motive for Payne to murder Mrs Reville might well have been a combination of revenge against herself, and against her annoying husband. Payne was physically capable of committing the murder, being a strong and sturdy lad, and experienced at killing sheep.

In Payne's defence, it must be objected that after all, the lad was just 16-years-old. Was he capable of planning and executing the perfect murder? Well, some adolescents are clever sociopaths who can keep their

cool even under trying circumstances, and the mass murderer Graham Frederick Young poisoned his first victim when he was just 15-years-old.

Most of the incriminating evidence against Payne came from Mr Reville, who might well have had reasons of his own to inculcate his young assistant. At the trial, Mr Attenborough pointed out that money had been stolen, and that Payne had no money on him when he was arrested, but he could have hidden the money, or thrown it away. Mr Attenborough successfully challenged Chabot's evidence, and it must be admitted that the elderly graphologist made a most unsatisfactory impression in court; he clearly was a sick man, and would in fact die the following year.

Importantly, Payne's clothes were not bloodstained, whereas those of the murderer would have been hit by blood-spatter when he struck his victim down from behind. It is difficult to think of any stratagem by which Payne could have avoided getting blood on his clothes. Moreover, Payne was just an ordinary man, who did nothing newsworthy or interesting before or after the murder, whereas the murderer was clearly a person of superior cunning and cleverness.

In 1929, the old crime writer Guy

Logan suggested that Hezekiah Reville was the guilty man: he had entered the butcher's shop through the side entrance, murdered his wife, and then deliberately tried to incriminate Payne. The crime writer Jack Smith-Hughes agreed, pointing out that although Reville had been seen by several people, calling at fellow tradesmen, and visiting two pubs, his alibi was far from rock solid. It would have been possible for him to return to the butcher's shop, either through the front or the side entrances, murder his wife, and then return to the White Hart to fake an alibi. The motive might well have been that he secretly resented his wife, and wanted to remarry, as he did in 1883.

Neither Logan nor Smith-Hughes seems to have appreciated that Mrs Reville was heavily pregnant at the time of the murder, however; what kind of monster would murder both his wife and his own unborn child? Furthermore, Reville seems to have lived perfectly happily with his wife, and he was an ordinary man who did nothing interesting neither before nor after the murder. The police thought him innocent, and there is nothing to suggest that his clothes were stained with blood.

Finally, we have the scenario that a secret enemy of Mrs Reville committed the murder, waiting outside until Payne left, and then negotiating an entry through the side door, and striking Mrs Reville down from behind. There was a dog next door, however, and its owner testified that this animal made it its business to bark at people trying to make use of the passage between Reville's shop and that of the dairyman Barber. Moreover, Reville testified that this door was kept locked, and any person with an ambition to open it had to



understand a system to retrieve a key suspended with a piece of string.

The murder of Mrs Reville is one of twelve unsolved murder mysteries discussed in my book *Victorian Murders*, and it is the most enigmatic of the lot. It is possible to narrow down the search to just two credible candidates, namely Payne and Mr Reville, but both of them have multiple arguments in favour of their innocence, in particular a lack of both motive and technical evidence.

If either Payne or Mr Reville managed to get away with murder, they did so with impressive coolness and cunning, in a sanguineous cataclysm that lit up in brightest crimson an otherwise perfectly ordinary and humdrum existence.

It is noteworthy that neither of the prime suspects did any further butchery after the murder; did Payne flinch at the crushing sound as a sheep's skull was broken, or did Reville abhor the weight of the chopper in his hand?

Personally, I would favour Payne as the murderer, with a narrow margin; if this otherwise model citizen, with

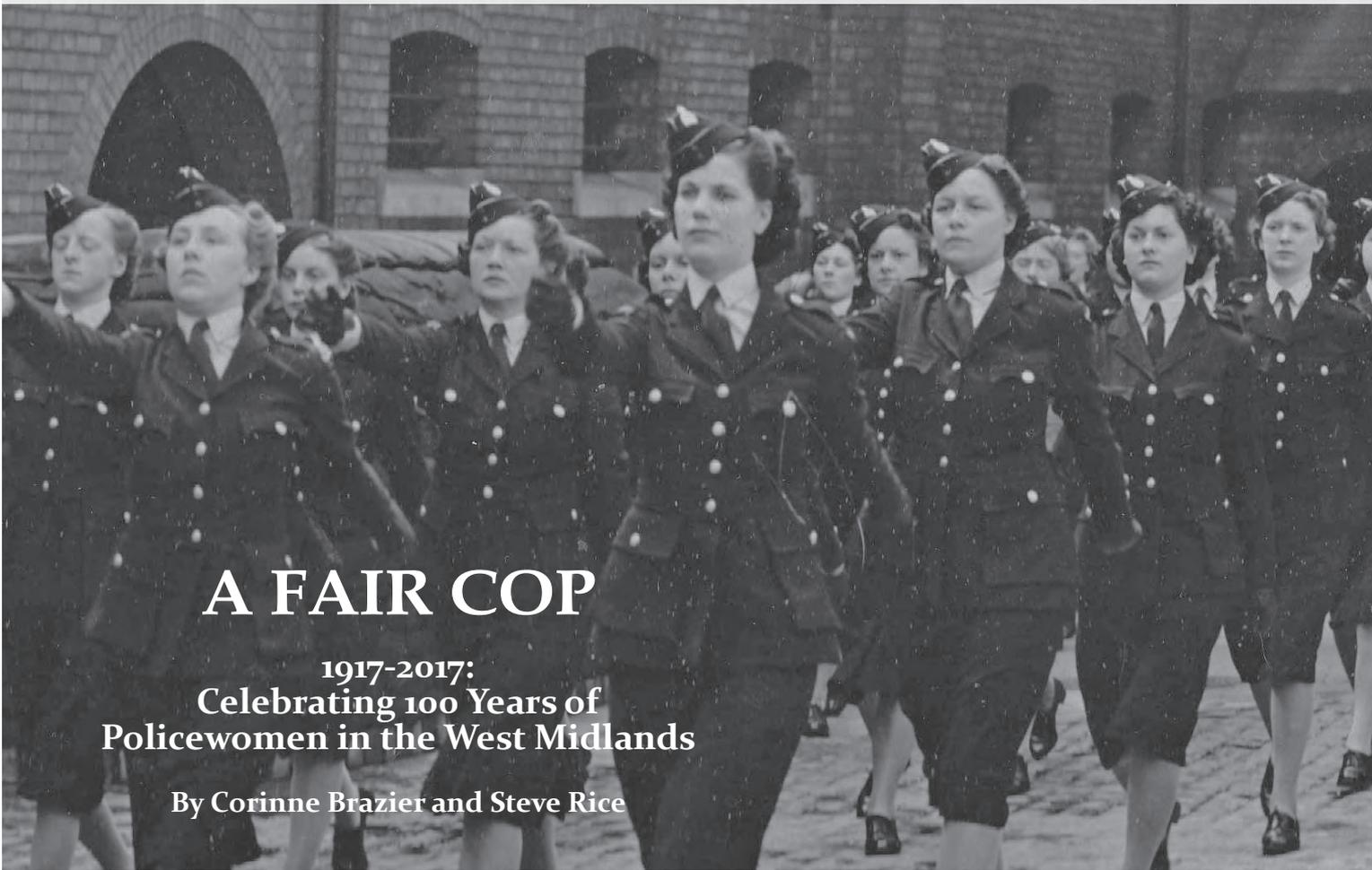
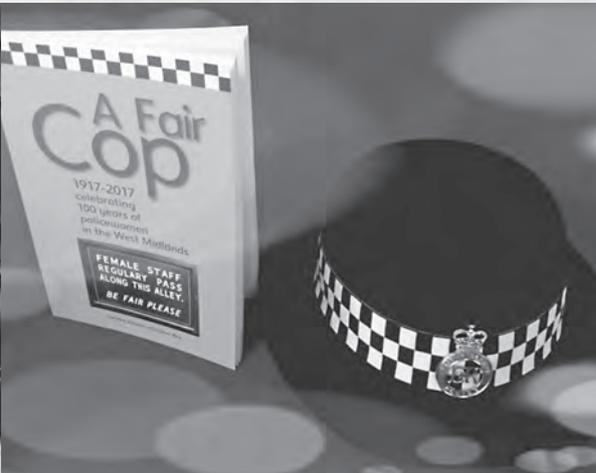
gallant wartime service, was really the guilty man, he would have been able to write a murder story that would outshine the mawkish ruminations of Agatha Christie, based solely on his own experiences back in 1881.

SOURCES

Illustrated Police News, 23rd April and 7th May 1881; *Pall Mall Gazette*, 12th April 1881; *Daily News*, 13th, 14th, 20th, 29th and 30th April 1881; *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*, 17th and 24th April and 1st May 1881; G.B.H. Logan, *Guilty or Not Guilty* (London 1929), pp164-80, J. Smith-Hughes, *Nine Verdicts on Violence* (London 1956), pp1-22, J. van der Kiste, *Berkshire Murders* (Stroud 2010), pp65-71, J. Oates, *Buckinghamshire Murders* (Stroud 2012), pp78-88.



JAN BONDESON MD PhD is the author of many critically acclaimed true crime books, including *The London Monster*, *Blood on the Snow*, *Queen Victoria's Stalker*, *Murder Houses of London* and *Rivals of the Ripper*. This is an edited extract from his most recent book *Victorian Murders*. He lives at the Priory, Dunbar.



A FAIR COP

1917-2017:
Celebrating 100 Years of
Policewomen in the West Midlands

By Corinne Brazier and Steve Rice

100 years ago, back in 1917, the first two female police officers were appointed in the West Midlands. Evelyn Miles and Rebecca Lipscombe, both lock-up matrons in the Birmingham City Police, became the first policewomen in May after much campaigning by women's groups and petitioning of the Watch Committee during the early part of the First World War.

To commemorate the centenary, and the achievements of women in policing over the last 100 years, Corinne Brazier and Steve Rice (serving members of West Midlands Police and volunteers with the West Midlands Police Museum) have written a book to share the stories of the pioneer policewomen who paved the way for many to follow.

The first print run of A FAIR COP is being sold for £9.99 with all profit going to local women's charities across the West Midlands, to echo the social element of the early work of the Women Police Department in Birmingham. The charities that have been nominated by officers working in domestic abuse

teams in West Midlands Police are Coventry Haven, Black Country Women's Aid and Anawim in Birmingham.

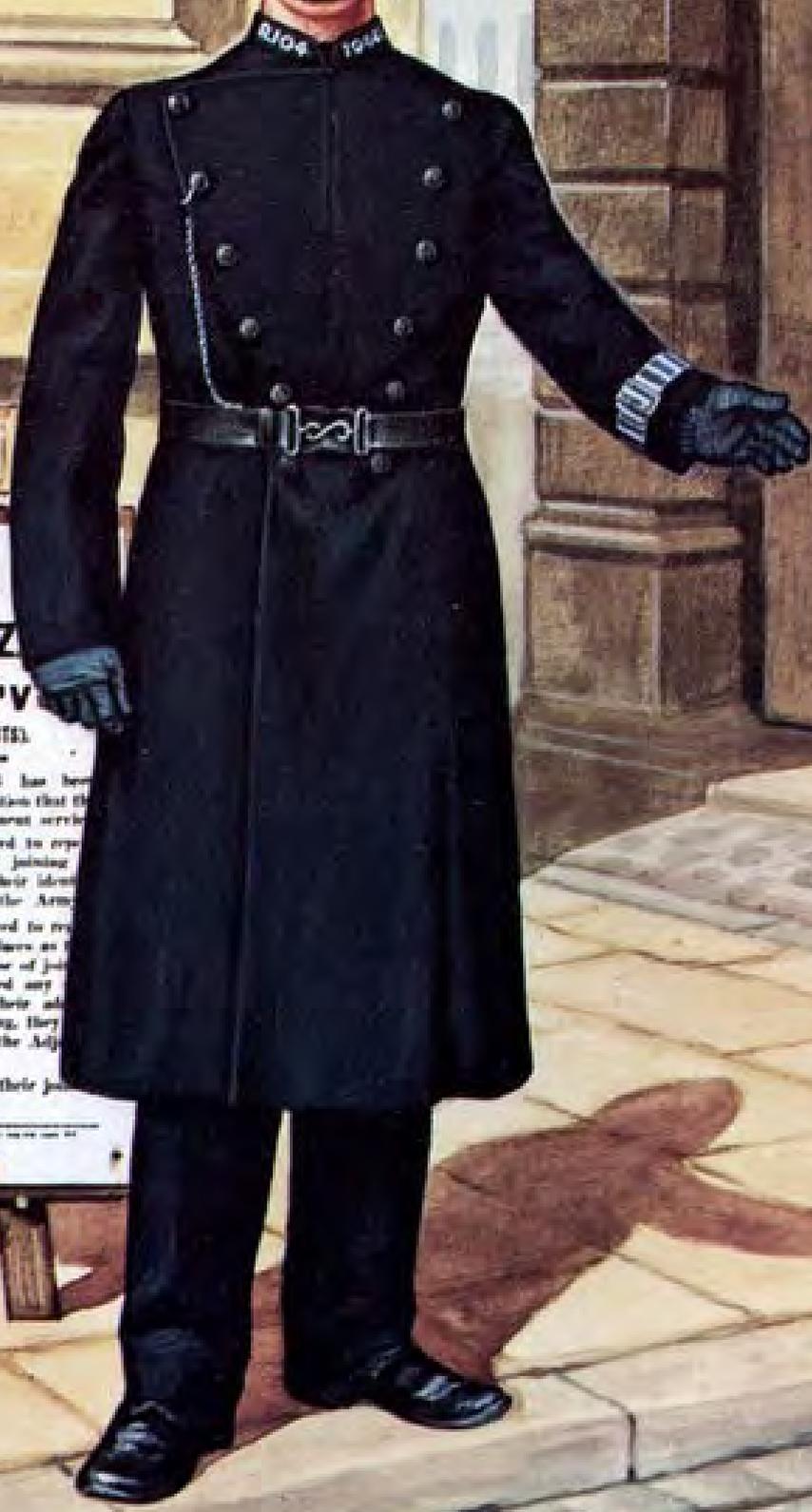
If you would like to purchase a copy of A FAIR COP, please send a cheque made out to West Midlands Police Museum for £12.79 (which includes £2.80 post and packaging) addressed to:

Corinne Brazier
West Midlands Police HQ
4th Floor Lloyd House
Colmore Circus
Birmingham B4 6NQ

Remember to include details of who and where you want your book posted to.

Alternative email museum@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk for details of how to pay online.

REPORTING
CENTRE



GENERAL MOBILIZATION
Army Reservists
(REGULAR AND SPECIAL RESERVISTS)

HIS MAJESTY THE KING has been graciously pleased to direct by Proclamation that the Army Reserve be called out on permanent service.

ALL REGULAR RESERVISTS are required to report themselves at once at their place of joining accordance with the instructions on their identification certificates for the purpose of joining the Army.

ALL SPECIAL RESERVISTS are required to report themselves on such date and at such place as they may be directed to attend for the purpose of joining the Army. If they have not received any directions, or if they have changed their address since last attendance at drill or training, they report themselves at once, by letter, to the Adjutant of their Unit or Depot.

The necessary instructions as to their joining will then be given.



W. P. ...
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