

The Cousins who Became Chief Constables

By TONY MOORE

Mayne is a famous name in policing circles, it being the name of the first Joint Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. Along with his younger brother Captain Dawson Mayne, who was the first chief constable of Staffordshire, Richard, or Sir Richard as he later became known, came from the Irish branch of the name, Sedborough Mayne.¹

But what is not so well known is that two other chief officers of police in England with the same family name were cousins who came from the Scottish branch of the name, Mayne. They were Major Otway Mayne, who was chief constable of Buckinghamshire from 1896 to 1928, and Captain Jasper Mayne, who was chief constable of East Suffolk from 1899 to 1933.

Otway and Jasper were descendants of William Mayne (1671-1756), their great-great grandfather, who owned a substantial estate, Powis and Logie, which nestled in the foothills of the Ochil Hills in Scotland. Their fathers were brothers, sons of Charles Otway Mayne (1780-1857) and Emma Taylor (1796-1869).

Henry Otway Mayne (1819-1861), the father of Otway Mayne, was the second of the ten children born to Charles and Emma. He joined the 6th

Madras Cavalry at the age of 19 years and rose to the rank of Major. At some time between 1848 and 1856, he was ADC to the Viceroy, Lord Dalhousie, who was a friend and former army colleague of Colonel Sir Charles Rowan, joint Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police with Sir Richard Mayne. In 1857, Major Henry Mayne founded an irregular cavalry regiment better known by the name of Mayne's Horse, which later became the 1st Regiment of Central India Horse.

Henry had married Mary Ewer Turner (1836-1906) at Agra in India on 18 June 1850. Born on 29 August 1855, Otway Mayne was the third of the couple's five children. Although Henry Mayne left the army in September 1860 he stayed in India, but unfortunately died less than fourteen months later at the age of 42 years, when Otway was a mere 6-years-old.

Meanwhile, Henry's younger brother Charles Thomas Otway Mayne (1835-1878), the last of the ten children born to Charles and Emma, became an officer in the Bengal Staff Corps, and married Augusta Mary Perry at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire on 7 August 1857. Returning to India, her second child, Jasper Graham Mayne, who eventually became Chief Constable of the East Suffolk

Constabulary, was born on 9 April 1859. Unfortunately, Augusta died less than three weeks later, on 28 April.²

Education and Military Careers

The two cousins were educated in England; Otway at Wellington College and Jasper at Cheltenham College, following which they both joined the army. Otway served with distinction in the Norfolk Regiment - known as the 9th Regiment of Foot until 1881 - in the Jowaki Afridi Expedition on the North-West Frontier, in 1877, the Afghan war of 1879-80, and the Chi-Lushi Expedition, which was an attempt to pacify local tribes by creating a series of military posts on the borders of India and Burma, in 1889. He was severely wounded during this engagement whilst he was attempting to recover the body of Lieutenant Michel, who had been killed in an ambush.³ He commanded the Regimental Depot at Norwich in 1895 and 1896.⁴

Meanwhile, Jasper was commissioned into the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in 1879, known as the 27th Regiment of Foot until 1779. He was promoted Lieutenant two years later. In 1886, at the age of 27 years, he was appointed ADC to the Governor of the Strait Settlements, Sir Frederick Aloysius Weld.



L-R: Joint Commissioners Richard Mayne and Charles Rowan, and Commissioner Edward Bradford

Lieutenant Jasper Mayne briefly rejoined his regiment in 1887 and was promoted Captain before taking up an appointment as Acting Military Secretary and ADC to Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor and High Commissioner of South Africa.

In 1891 he returned to England to take up an appointment as an instructor at the School of Musketry in Hythe. A superb marksman, in 1894 he became secretary of the Army Rifle Association, a role he retained until 1924. He was appointed Inspector of Musketry of the Home District in 1896, retiring from the army three years later.⁵

Marriage

Jasper was the first to marry. On 2 August 1886, he married Cecily Mary Agnes Weld (1861-1939), the daughter of his employer, Sir Frederick Weld, at the Cathedral Church of the Good Shepherd in Singapore.⁶ By the time Jasper became Chief Constable of East Suffolk in 1899, Cecily had given birth to seven children - four girls and three boys. The couple had three more children, two girls and a boy, after Jasper became chief constable, making ten in total.

Six years after Jasper's marriage,

Otway married Helena Emily Nevill, third daughter of Archdeacon Harry Ralph Nevill, on 24 February 1894 at St Luke's Chapel in Norwich Cathedral. The couple had three children, twin daughters in 1897 and another daughter born in 1902.⁷

Becoming Chief Constables

Otway was the first to seek the post of chief constable. Whilst still in the army, he was one of 112 applicants for the Chief Constableness of Kent when the position fell vacant in 1895. Although on the shortlist of six⁸ he was not selected, the police authority preferring Lieutenant Colonel Henry Warde.⁹

The following year he was one of 62 applicants who applied for the Chief Constableness of Buckinghamshire, which had been advertised in *The Times* and the *Bucks Herald*, at £300 per annum, with £150 expenses and free accommodation. The Standing Joint Committee reduced the original applicants to a shortlist of five: four army majors, including Otway, and a naval commander. After the five had been interviewed, Otway received the largest number of votes and was duly appointed, taking up his new post on 5 August 1896. Otway's application

was supported by, amongst others, the then Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Colonel Sir Edward Bradford.¹⁰ It is not clear whether Bradford personally knew Otway Mayne, but he certainly knew Jasper's father. Bradford had served in India for many years and was, at one time, second-in-command of Mayne's Horse, the irregular cavalry regiment founded by Jasper's father Major Henry Otway Mayne. He had been the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police since 1890.

1. [tr.scribd.com/doc/75988391/Sedborough-Mayne-of-Ireland](https://www.scribd.com/doc/75988391/Sedborough-Mayne-of-Ireland) accessed 24.06.2017.

2. [tr.scribd.com/doc/816402244/MAYNE-families-of-SCOTLAND](https://www.scribd.com/doc/816402244/MAYNE-families-of-SCOTLAND) accessed 24.06.2017.

3. *Bucks Herald*, 23 January 1915, p.5.

4. *Bucks Herald*, 3 November 1939, p.1.

5. *Gloucester Citizen*, 9 January 1936, p. 4; *Western Times*, 10 January 1936, p.7.

6. *Bridport News*, 10 September 1886, p. 5.

7. MAYNE-families-of-Scotland, op. cit. 2.

8. All were ex-military - a lieutenant-colonel, 4 majors, and a lieutenant; see *Maidstone Journal and Kent Advertiser*, 23 May 1895, p.5.

9. Stallion, Martin, & Wall, David (1999). *The British Police: Police Forces and Chief Officers 1829-2000*. Police History Society, p. 109.

10. Wilson, John (1987). *Choosing the Chief Constable of Buckinghamshire, 1896*. Journal of the Police History Society. Number 2, pp.40-42.

Just under three years later Jasper sought the post in East Suffolk, which had first formed a police force in 1840 with West Suffolk following six years later, but in June 1869 the two forces virtually became one when the chief constable of East Suffolk, John Hatton, resigned on being made bankrupt.¹¹ Almost simultaneously, the chief constable for West Suffolk, Captain Edward Syer, announced his retirement. Major Clement Higham was appointed to run both forces, which he did for almost thirty years. However, by 1898 there was dissatisfaction with this arrangement and on Higham's death the West Suffolk Standing Joint Committee decided to revert to a separate force, with its own chief constable.¹² Thus, on 3 March 1899 the East Suffolk Constabulary re-emerged as a separate force, with Captain Jasper Graham Mayne as its chief officer. His salary was reported to be 400 pounds per annum, plus 150 pounds expenses and free rail travel.¹³

For the next twenty-nine years, until Otway's resignation in 1928, the cousins remained in charge of their respective forces. It was a period of huge change and, indeed, progress, brought about by the introduction of the telephone and the motor car. They were also in command of their respective forces during the First World War and its aftermath which saw the 1926 general strike.

Otway Mayne

In his first message to his new force on 5 August 1896, Mayne expressed his hope that he would receive the support of the officers and men. At the same time, he pointed out that he was a strict disciplinarian but would always 'have the interests and comfort of the men under him in mind.' He quickly encouraged superintendents to 'allow the men to come into administrative offices to see how



Otway Mayne

pay-sheets were made up and filing systems operated.¹⁴ Five years after his appointment divisional stations in Buckinghamshire were connected by telephone, but it was not until 1928 that all police stations and out stations were connected.¹⁵

A keen horseman, Mayne regularly rode with Lord Rothschild's staghounds¹⁶ and formed a police mounted branch in Buckinghamshire in 1909.¹⁷ He inaugurated the County Police Sports Day in 1903, which quickly became a significant event in Buckinghamshire's social and sporting calendar, the financial proceeds of which went to a variety of charities.¹⁸ The highlight of this annual event during Mayne's time as chief constable was in July 1928, when Her Royal Highness the Princess Victoria, sister of King George V, joined 7,000 spectators at what was by then the 20th Bucks Constabulary Sports Day. On this occasion, in addition to watching athletics and tug-of-war, the crowd and guests were entertained by the Band of the 10th (Prince of Wales Own) Royal Hussars.¹⁹

Royalty visited the county on other occasions whilst Otway was

chief constable. Shortly after his appointment he was responsible for the arrangements for the Queen Victoria's State Visit to Buckinghamshire during her Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.²⁰ In January 1903, he was in attendance when King Edward and the Prince of Wales travelled down from Windsor Castle by car for a day's shooting on the estate of Sir Edward Lawson near Beaconsfield.²¹ In July 1907, when King Edward paid a private visit to Halton Manor as guest of Lord Alfred de Rothschild, it was reported that when the King alighted from the Royal Train at Halton he walked towards the chief constable and shook his hand before departing to the Manor in a car provided by Rothschild.²² Otway was also heavily involved in the arrangements when Princess Mary, only daughter of King George V and Queen Mary, visited Aylesbury in May 1926.²³

In August 1914, the people of Buckinghamshire quickly realised the country was at war. Military formations passed through the county and many of the restrictions imposed by the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA) and the various Aliens Restrictions Orders, issued in August and September, were enforced by the local police. The regulations included the requirement of enemy aliens to register with the police and the designation of certain areas from which aliens were prohibited to reside or visit.

Almost immediately Chief Constable Otway Mayne issued an instruction to superintendents directing constables to be on the lookout 'for aliens travelling at night... for the purpose of committing outrages.' Constables assisted in the guarding of 'vulnerable points' in case they should be attacked by German saboteurs.²⁴

In September Mayne ordered one

of his superintendents 'to look into reports of "arms and ammunition secreted at Holmer Green, about 3 miles south of Great Missenden"; where a German firm was alleged to have bored for coal before the war.'²⁵ Nothing was found. In a further memorandum to his superintendents, on 8 October, Mayne passed on an instruction from the Home Office which required police 'at any place within a radius of 60 miles of London' to 'telephone reports of any aircraft seen in their district direct to the War Office.'²⁶ This included most of Buckinghamshire. In an appointment which, no doubt, was indirectly connected to the war, Mayne was made Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Buckinghamshire on 12 January 1915.²⁷

In 1919, based on his long experience – he had, by this time, been a chief constable for 23 years – Otway Mayne gave valuable advice to the Desborough Committee appointed to enquire into pay and conditions in the police service following the unrest that occurred the previous year.

For a number of years he was also Chairman of the Committee of Chief Constables.²⁸

Jasper Mayne

During his first year in office Jasper saw the first telephone link introduced, connecting Force Headquarters which were then in County Hall, Ipswich, with Lowestoft. The same year he introduced the police whistle to the force following successful trials in the Metropolitan Police. Helmet badges followed shortly after.²⁹

Two years into his appointment, Mayne had cause to complain to the East Suffolk Standing Joint Committee that 'the best material was going to other forces', and pressed for an increase in pay and allowances for all ranks up to and



Jasper Mayne

including superintendent. As a result, the Committee approved increased rates of pay.³⁰ Four years into his appointment it would appear Jasper saw an opportunity to increase his salary for, in September 1903, he was one of 120 applicants for the post of Chief Constable of Lincolnshire which was being advertised at a salary of £600 per annum, plus £150 expenses. Although he was on the shortlist of 12, he was not selected.³¹ Captain Cecil Mitchell-Innes was the successful candidate. After 10 years' service his salary was increased from £400 to £480 per annum.³²

Like his cousin in Buckinghamshire, Jasper Mayne was keen for members of the East Suffolk Constabulary to be engaged in various sporting activities. In 1905 an annual inter-divisional tug-of-war competition was won by Lowestoft Division, the presentation of the shield being made by Mayne himself.³³ In 1914 Halesworth won the trophy and went on to represent East Suffolk against West Suffolk.³⁴ The Captain Mayne Shield for the inter-divisional bowls competition was still being played for in 1948.³⁵ As for himself, Jasper won the Army Rifle Championship, the Middlesex Rifle Championship and the Suffolk

Rifle Championship during his time as chief constable.³⁶

Unlike Buckinghamshire, where members of the Royal Family were occasional visitors to the county, the same could not be said of East Suffolk. The only time Jasper Mayne was indirectly involved in a royal

11. Stallion & Wall, op. cit. 9, p.83.
12. Jacobs, Leslie C (1992). *Constables of Suffolk: A Brief History of Policing in The County*. Ipswich, Suffolk Constabulary, p.51.
13. *Eastern Evening News*, 1 February 1899, p.2.
14. Hailstone, Alfred G (1957). *Bucks Constabulary Centenary: One Hundred Years Of Law Enforcement In Buckinghamshire: An Historical Survey*. Richmond, Surrey: Dimpleby & Sons, p.30.
15. *Ibid*, p.30.
16. *Bucks Herald*, 3 November 1939, p.1.
17. Wilson, op. cit. 10, p.41.
18. *Bucks Herald*, 3 November 1939, p.1.
19. *Ibid*, 13 July 1928, p.16.
20. *Ibid*, 19 June 1897, p. 7.
21. *Ibid*, 13 July 1928, p.16.
22. *Ibid*, 27 July 1907, p.6.
23. *Ibid*, 22 May 1926, p.8.
24. Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies (CBS), BC/1/5 Buckinghamshire Constabulary Memoranda Book, dated 6 and 8 August, quoted in Holman, Brett (2017). *Constructing the Enemy Within: Rumours of Secret Gun Platforms and Zeppelin Bases in Britain: In the British Journal of Military History*, Vol. 3, No. 2, p.37
25. *Ibid*, dated 31 August, quoted in Holman, *Ibid*, p.38
26. *Ibid*, dated 8 October 1914, quoted in Holman, *Ibid*, p.39
27. *London Gazette*, 19 January 1915, issue 29044, p.614; see also *Bucks Herald*, 23 January 1915, p.5.
28. *Bucks Herald*, 3 November 1939, p.1.
29. Jacobs, op. cit. 12, p.69.
30. *Diss Express*, 16 August 1901, p.8.
31. *Lincolnshire Chronicle*, 29 September 1903, p.2.
32. *Diss Express*, 14 November 1913, p.8.
33. *Lowestoft Journal*, 2 September 1905, p.7.
34. *Yarmouth Independent*, 11 July 1914, p.8.
35. *Diss Express*, 6 March 1948, p.2.
36. *Belfast News Letter*, 9 January 1936, p.14.

visit was in August 1911. When King George V visited Norwich, in the adjacent county of Norfolk, Mayne loaned 74 police officers to help out the Norwich City Police.³⁷

Jasper Mayne became embroiled in the spy mania that hit Britain on the outbreak of the First World War, particularly after the fall of Belgium. The DORA gave the police wide-ranging powers. At a meeting attended by representatives of the people of East Suffolk which was arranged by the County Council on 7 August, Mayne announced:

*'All aliens, of whatever nationality, naturalised or not, were required to report at once to the nearest police-officer, who would direct them to the registration office of his district. All householders having any aliens residing with them were required to report at once to the nearest police-officer, who would direct such householders to the registration office of his district. All Germans were alien enemies; all other aliens were alien friends for the present.'*³⁸

When refugees from Antwerp started arriving in East Suffolk, Jasper Mayne's first reaction was to 'get them out of here' because 'there could be spies amongst those refugees'.³⁹ So when fishing boats carrying 1,900 destitute Belgians arrived in Lowestoft, they were quickly 'classified by local police' and temporarily housed before being 'despatched to London by train'.⁴⁰ Accused of being 'rather obsessive about spies',⁴¹ Mayne identified 137 'aliens in the "enemy" category' and ordered them to leave.⁴²

One such case had very unfortunate consequences. Reporting on two 'suspects' to the General Officer Commanding the East Anglian Division, Jasper Mayne wrote:

'They were suspiciously regarded by the police and general public

*and, though neither has committed any definite offence, I have arrived at the conclusion that there is justification for their removal from the 'Prohibited Area' which has been extended and now embraces the whole of the County of Suffolk. Both men are undoubtedly pro-German in conversation, behaviour and sympathy, and, in my opinion, should a German landing be effected, they would help the enemy.'*⁴³

One of the two was William Smith, the highly-regarded headmaster of Henham and Wangford School. As a consequence, in November a notice signed by Jasper Mayne was served on Smith, ordering him to leave the county. Smith had lived in Suffolk for 30 years but originally came from Devon. Before the war he had visited his son Ted, who was living in Aachen in Germany to study the language. His wife Alma was also a teacher at the school and the couple had had, on occasions, German students staying temporarily at their home on exchange visits.⁴⁴ Two days after receiving the notice William Smith committed suicide by cutting his throat. Mayne appeared before the Coroner at the inquest but refused to divulge the reasons why such a notice had been served on Smith, claiming it was against the national interest. In his summing up, the Coroner expressed the view that the police had acted on rumour rather than conducting a proper investigation. In returning a verdict of suicide whilst of unsound mind, the jury added a rider, claiming 'that the police' were 'very much to blame for not obtaining local information before acting on suspected rumour'.⁴⁵

But that was not the end of the tragedy. Just over two months later the body of William's wife Alma was found hanging from the bannister of the Schoolhouse in Henham. She too, had committed suicide.⁴⁶

At the end of 1914, Mayne issued

an order 'that all lights visible from the sea shall be effectively obscured and no person shall show a light on the seashore or adjoining land, under liability to instant arrest; while the coast guard patrol have orders to fire on anybody found signalling'.⁴⁷

Early in 1919 the retirement of four superintendents, all with around forty years' service, gave Mayne the opportunity to reduce the number of divisions from six to four; Ipswich, Eye, Halesworth and Lowestoft. Because of the many important duties he had carried out during the war, as a result of which he 'had earned the high praise of the military authorities', his salary was increased by £200 per annum.⁴⁸

The only town affected by the General Strike of 1926 within the East Suffolk geographical area was Ipswich, where the docks made it of some importance. When dock workers attempted to prevent lorries being loaded with food produce and driven away it was necessary for the police to keep order and to escort the food lorries to their destinations. The Borough Force did not have sufficient manpower to undertake this alone and, in addition to the enrolment of thirteen hundred special constables, were assisted by 160 men from other forces. Jasper's contribution was a sergeant and 26 constables, who were accommodated at County Hall and the adjacent county jail. In October, for the miners' strike in Derbyshire, Mayne sent fifty men to Ilkeston under the command of an inspector, where they were billeted in a school.⁴⁹

By 1926 he had gained a reputation of being an expert on the testing of motor vehicle speeds and avoiding legal and procedural pitfalls which might jeopardise convictions. But two years later he still had only one Wolseley car to patrol the whole of the East Suffolk police area and pointed out to the East Suffolk Standing

Committee that:

'The British Highway has become the most dangerous track on earth and it is now mere platitudo to remark on the appalling number of accidents, personal injuries and death which hourly occur on it.'

At the same time he told the Committee that, with its present establishment, it was beyond the capability of police to enforce motor legislation, and asked for a second Wolseley patrol car.⁵⁰ By 1931, the Constabulary had two Morris Oxford cars, four Borough Superior motor-cycle combinations, and two B.S.A. motor-cycle combinations.⁵¹

Following a recommendation by His Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary, Major-General Sir Llewellyn Atherley, to replace the old Victorian buildings, Mayne oversaw 'an ambitious building programme for new stations at Woodbridge, Felixstowe and Eye, with Beccles to follow a little later.'

Commencing in 1930, the Force also purchased twelve of the new police boxes, each of which was linked by telephone to the nearest police station. Seven were placed around Lowestoft, three around Felixstowe and two at Woodbridge. By 1931, a Criminal Investigation Department had been firmly established.⁵²

There were many attempts to introduce women police into the East Suffolk Constabulary, but even as late as 1933 Mayne 'emphasised and reiterated his dislike for women in the service.'⁵³ Nevertheless, he did recognise the part played by the wives of officers in his final annual report for 1932, the last full year in which he served as Chief Constable. He paid tribute to 'the village constable of today and his family', who 'set a high example of good character and orderly living, thus winning the confidence and respect of the local people



Walton Lodge, Aylesbury, the home of Otway Mayne

generally of the villages comprising the rural beat.' He 'added his warm testimony of the helpfulness of police officers' wives to their husbands in the discharge of their duties.'

In the same report, he called for the training of a certain number of officers 'in equitation to enable them to act as mounted police', pointing out that 'in the case of serious disturbance in any populace place police on horses afford the most valuable means of breaking-up and disorganising mobs and countering mob violence.'⁵⁴

Awards

Otway Mayne received the Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee Medal in 1897, the King George V Coronation Medal in 1911,⁵⁵ and was awarded the King's Police Medal in the New Year's Honours List for 1915.⁵⁶

Jasper was awarded the King's Police Medal for services to the police in the New Years' Honours List of 1916.⁵⁷

Otway was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the Birthday Honours List for 1918.⁵⁸ The citation suggested that in addition to undertaking the strenuous duties of Chief Constable

37. *Norfolk News*, 19 August 1911, p.3.

38. *Diss Express*, 14 August 1914, p.8.

39. Russell, Steven (2009). Suffolk's secret spy-mania shame. In *East Anglian Times*, 13 July.

40. Jacobs, op. cit. 12, p.71.

41. Russell, op. cit. 39.

42. Jacobs, op. cit. 12, p.71.

43. Quoted in Boghardt, Thomas (2005). *Spies of the Kaiser: German Covert Operations in Britain During the First World War*. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan, p.76)

44. Rigby, Jane. *False Rumours. The Surname Society* at www.surname-society.org accessed on 17 May 2018.

45. *Suffolk and Essex Free Press*, 18 November 1914, p.7.

46. *Framlingham Weekly News*, 23 January 1915, p.4.

47. *Birmingham Mail*, 1 January 1915, p.3.

48. *Diss Express*, 28 February 1919, p.5.

49. Jacobs, op. cit. 12, p.75.

50. *Ibid*, p. 76.

51. *Diss Express*, 13 February 1931, p.7.

52. Jacobs, op. cit. 12, pp. 77-78.

53. *Ibid*, p.78.

54. *Diss Express*, 15 September 1933, p.2.

55. *Bucks Herald*, 3 November 1939, p.1.

56. *London Gazette*, 1 January 1915, Issue 29024, p.4.

57. *London Gazette*, 31 December 1915, issue 29423, p.85.

58. *London Gazette*, 7 June 1918, supplement 30730, p.6207.

during the First World War, he had willingly undertaken important work on behalf of the Home Office.⁵⁹

Although there is no record of it, it is possible that Jasper also received the King George V Coronation Medal, simply by virtue of the office he held. In his capacity as Chief Constable of East Suffolk he became an OBE in 1920.⁶⁰ However, when he was raised to the rank of CBE in the Birthday Honours List of 1924, it was in his capacity as secretary of the Army Rifle Association.⁶¹

In retirement

Following his retirement as chief constable of Buckinghamshire on 9 September 1928, Otway and his wife Emily continued to reside at the address where they had lived virtually since arriving in the county, Walton Lodge, Aylesbury. They were regular worshippers at Aylesbury Parish Church. For the first few years, until her death in 1906, Otway's mother Mary lived with them.

Although he had retired from the police, for at least four years after his retirement he continued to take an active part in the administration of justice in Buckinghamshire. On 8 October, only four weeks after his retirement, he was made a Magistrate of the County. He was empanelled as a member of the Grand Jury at the Bucks Winter Assizes in 1929⁶² and sat regularly on the bench at the Aylesbury Petty Sessions.⁶³ Also, in his capacity as Vice President of the Buckinghamshire Branch of Council for the Preservation of Rural England, he campaigned against any threats to the countryside.⁶⁴

During his later years, Otway became interested in the wider Mayne family and communicated with several distant relatives. He was particularly interested in the Otways, his great grandmother's family, and the Byrd family of Virginia in the United States, who were related by marriage to his great grandmother's family.⁶⁵

Following Otway's death his widow continued to reside at Walton Lodge until her own passing on 17 February 1951.⁶⁶ Some four months after her mother's death, their eldest daughter Aurea presented 'a magnificent banner of St George and the Dragon' embroidered in 'pure Indian gold and Chinese silk' in memory of her father and mother to Aylesbury Parish Church.⁶⁷

Following his retirement as chief constable of East Suffolk in early May 1933, Jasper Mayne left the county and retired with his wife to Devon, where they lived at Gidleigh Park, Gidleigh, Chagford. But his retirement was relatively short, for less than three years later, on 6 January 1936, he died, at the age of 76 years.⁶⁸ His wife Cecily died just over three years later, on 30 September 1939, at the age 78 years.⁶⁹

Conclusion

The two cousins spent a combined total of 66 years as chief constables, but there is no evidence that they were particularly close. Otway Mayne was described as 'a gentleman of fine bearing and presence, and undoubted gift for leadership, he always commanded the respect and esteem.' In a letter of appreciation to *The Times* following his death Lord

Lugard, who had served as a young officer in the Norfolk Regiment with Otway, claimed it had been said of Mayne that 'his judgment was always sound because he only saw two sides of a question, right or wrong – whatever the right might cost.'⁷⁰ Jasper was described in a similar way as having 'been a most effective leader, much revered by his men and his departure to his native Devon was greeted with great regret.'⁷¹

59. *Bucks Herald*, 15 June 1918, p.5.

60. *London Gazette*, 26 March 1920, supplement 31840, p.3796.

61. *London Gazette*, 30 May 1924, supplement 32941, p. 4415.

62. *Bucks Herald*, 18 January 1929, p.6.

63. See, for instance, *Bucks Herald*, 21 March 1930, p. 9; 31 October 1930, p. 11; 21 March 1931, p.6, and 19 May 1933, p. 11.

64. *Bucks Herald*, 3 November 1939, p.1.

65. MAYNE-families-of-SCOTLAND, op. cit. 2.

66. *Bucks Herald*, 23 February 1951, p.8.

67. *Bucks Herald*, 20 July 1951, p. 1.

68. *Western Morning News*, 9 January 1936, p.4.

69. MAYNE-families-of-SCOTLAND, op. cit. 2.

70. Reprinted in the *Bucks Herald*, 17 November 1939, p.2.

71. Jacobs, op. cit. 12, p.79.

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