Surrey Constabulary History

'An in depth history of policing in Surrey'

October 2023

www.surrey-constabulary.com

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1963 Police House North Holmwood –Late 1960s PC Peter Snowden and family

Centre 36 Deepdene Avenue once the house for the superintendent

Gerry Bixley Retired Police Sergeant 183
Surrey Constabulary 1959-1989

Letter 26 August 2023 to Robert Bartlett

The Morris was my essential user car for years and never failed to complete a journey, but then the force was using them for years successfully. When I was at Reigate the CID had 489LPG, a Morris. It killed a cow up at Epsom (Bill Spencer, 394). The vehicle could climb Coast Hill in top gear! Reigate CID car could start in gear and simultaneously drive off - quite cruel but it survived somehow.

26 August 2023, Bisley

In 1959 I joined the Surrey Constabulary and was posted to Reigate living in lodgings in South Park. I worked there for 6 years with a change of about 23/24 new staff came during that time leaving me stranded in East Surrey. My girlfriend was a policeman's daughter, her father serving in Guildford Borough Police, lived in a house he built for the family before the war. I decided it was time I moved but this was more difficult than I had envisaged. Eventually I moved to Farnham Traffic with everyone knew I was moving and where to except me! I started at the new police station and after a year there my proposal of marriage was accepted, and I notified higher authority and as I had seven years' service, I hoped for a police house. There was an empty house at the back of the police station but having asked for the house but a chap who married a week before me was allocated the property. So a week before my wedding in March no house news but a rumour I was moving to Chertsey. I rang the fountain of all knowledge the clerk who told me I was to have PC321 Don Vivers' house in Bretkands Road.

My sergeant still knew nothing. Chertsey had me down to work half day, pm. (You got half a day to move as a single man.)The morning I left Farnham my sergeant said he still had nothing to say I was going. I left Farnham all the same. I didn't want to go to Chertsey but there was no choice it seemed.

I took up residence at No 7 Bretlands Close straight away and my new wife joined me after our honeymoon. We were in a police house for 21 months before buying our own home, being one of the first to benefit from the new rules.

I believe Surrey men were allowed to purchase their own properties after 25 years' service at that time, March 1966. About a year later 20 years' service to buy a house, then about 15 years, possibly one more stage when all were allowed to make an application to buy. This was about September or October 1967 and the private house you purchased had to be within a ten-mile distance from your work base. We bought a house at Knaphill but first the force had to accept it as suitable. We moved in January 1967 with a mortgage, but we had both been saving up for seven years which made it possible.

I passed the sergeant's exam but was reluctant to accept promotion. I had joined to be a PC and was content with that until a particular constable was promoted sergeant. I was decided to apply. First question by Chief Constable Matthews" Why haven't you applied before?" I told him I noticed people were promoted and moved and I was content where I was and with two children could not afford travelling far. He said, "Fair enough." And promptly moved me to Addlestone as Road Safety Officer, normally a two-year job.

Addlestone 1973

Fourteen years later force restructuring meant a move and I volunteered to go to Knaphill where there was a vacancy. By then I had moved to nearby Bisley. This was first and only time I asked for and got something!

Now things have changed forever, and chiefs have completely lost it and thrown out all local policing, police houses, police stations and everything else. I know things around policing have changed but the local police, with local knowledge and a police house was a feature of society and contributed to public support which has sadly disappeared and continues to get more remote by the day.

Good luck to all those young people who take on the Job now but, they do not have the security we had during my service. . The police house was an all-important feature of society with us kids having some respect for the authority of the local man. What the rules are now I know not but the damage to policing by successive administrations is irreversible.

Police Establishment in Surrey Constabulary Area

Robert Bartlett

Year	CC	Assistant Chief Constable/DCC	Superintendent	Inspector	Sergeant	PC	Total	Godalming	Guildford Borough Police	Reigate Borough Police
1851 1 Jan	1		1 ch supt 5 supt	2		70				
1855	1		1 ch supt 5 supt			70	76			
1857	1		1 ch supt 6 supt	6		100	113	1 supt 1 PC		
1858 8 Jan	1		1 ch supt 5 supt	6		123				
1863 6 Jan	1		5	6		113				
1864	1	Senior supt as a deputy								10
1866	1	Senior supt as a deputy							16	
1868	1	Senior supt as a deputy								
1870	1	Senior supt as a deputy					123	3	12	14
1879	1	Senior supt as a deputy								19
1885	1	1	4	5	10					
1889 1 April	1		5	8	20	149	183			
1891	1									25
1893	1	1	4	7	22	168	203			

Year	CC	Assistant Chief Constable/DCC	Superintendent	Inspector	Sergeant	PC	Total	Godalming	Guildford Borough Police	Reigate Borough Police
1910 1 May	1		8	12	31	251	303		30	40
1911 7 March	1		8	12	31	248	300			
1911 16 May	1		8	12	31	247	299			
1912 1 Oct	1		8	12	31	303	355			
1914 13 May	1		8	12	31	283	335			
1914 22 Sept	1		8	12	31	291	343			
1915 9 March	1		8	12	31	296	348			
1915 9 May	1		8	12	31	289	341			
1915 Sept	1		8	12	31	234	286			
1915 30 Nov	1		8	12	31	233	285			
1916 7 March	1		8	12	31	229	281			
1916 6 May	1		8	12	31	225	299			
1917 22 May	1		8	12	31	206	258			
1917										21 -13 in army
1917 18 Sept	1		8	12	31	205	257			

Year	CC	Assistant Chief Constable/DCC	Superintendent	Inspector	Sergeant	PC	Total	Godalming	Guildford Borough Police	Reigate Borough Police
1918							236		15	20 – 14
1919 20 May	1		8	12	31	252	304			
1919 16 Sept	1			12	31	306	358			
1931	1	1 ACC								
1935		1ACC							48	
1939*	1	1 ACC %%%	8	24	61	426	536		63	59
1942**	1	1 ACC								
1943 ***	1	1 ACC								
1943 Dec ***	1	1 ACC							Merge with Surrey Joint Police 40	Merge with Surrey Joint Police 39
1945/46 @@	1	1 ACC								
1947	1	1 ACC							Amalgamate	Amalgamate
1959	1	1ACC	Ch Sup 1 Sup 10	Chief In 11; 1 woman ins 36	135 + 5 WPS	705 30 WPC	900 men 36 women			
1964 31 December	1	1 ACC	Chief Sup 2 Sup 9	Chief Ins17 1 woman inspector 37	156 5 WPS	729 26 WPC	984			
1965 15 Sept	1	1 ACC					Authorised 1181 actual 981 %16.9 deficiency			

Year	CC	Assistant Chief Constable/DCC	Superintendent	Inspector	Sergeant	PC	Total	Godalming	Guildford Borough Police	Reigate Borough Police
1968	1	1 DCC 1ACC								
1970	1	1 DCC 2ACC					Authorised 1366			
1972 March 31@@@	1	1 DCC 2ACC					1372			
1988 !!!	1	1 DCC 2 ACC								
1989 &&&	1	1 DCC 2 ACC					Authorised 1659			

%%% ACC rank considered senior to Deputy Chief Constable

* Surrey Constabulary Police War Reserve numbered one hundred and fifteen full time. First Police Reserve forty-one full time Special Constabulary part time one thousand four hundred and sixty-three.[1]

** **Surrey Constabulary 1942 December: Establishment:** Regulars 383, Police War Reserve 500, First Police Reserve 43, Special Constabulary 1353, and Woman's Auxiliary Police Corps 57.[2]

*** **1943 October:** Home Office decided police **numbers could be reduced** – whole time establishment of 930. On the 31 December 1943 the actual establishment was Regular 396, Police War Reserve 468, First Police Reserve 35, SC 1631 and Woman's Auxiliary Police Corps 90.[3]

@@ **1943 December 31:** Of an authorised regular establishment of 663 in the Surrey Constabulary there were three hundred and ninety-six officers; two hundred and eight in the armed services. **1943 Surrey Joint Police formed** from Surrey Constabulary, Reigate and Guildford

[1] CC notes 1945 on the administration of the county police during the war.
[2] CC notes 1945 on the administration of the county police during the war.
[3] CC notes 1945 on the administration of the county police during the war.

Boroughs. Their strength on amalgamation: **Guildford Borough:** chief constable 1, chief inspector 1, inspector 4, sergeant 9, constables 25; total 40. **Reigate Borough:** 1 chief constable, chief inspector 1, inspectors 5, sergeants 9, and constables 23 totalling 39.[4]

Well over a hundred men returned to the Surrey Constabulary from the fighting services in 1945-46.

@@@ 1972 The chief constable reported that there was shortage of officers although 99 men and women had been recruited 84 officers left during the same period. Thirty-one officers transferred to other forces mostly because they could work more overtime and house prices were lower. The authorised strength is 1372 but the new 40-hour week and extra annual leave require an increase of 74 to make up the deficiency making a total deficiency of 209 officers. The present civilian establishment was 343 but there was a deficiency of 69.

!!! **1988 June 16: Chief Constable in plea for more police officers:** The Surrey Constabulary is chronically short of manpower and must have extra officers if it is to police the county effectively. Less than a month after the Home Secretary turned down his request for just six extra officers Chief Constable Brian Hayes told the county police committee that he must have 122 more officers. Mr Hayes said they had not received extra officers to deal with general policing since 1979 even though crime had increased by more than a third, emergency calls had increased by 22.8%, road accidents by 11%, arrests by 24.3% and crime prevention by 56%. Recently the shire counties had experienced an upsurge of violence, and in Surrey by 25% last year. Requests for more men had repeatedly been rejected with the last significant increase in 1977 when a request for 599 officers resulted in approval for 75. Since then, only 37 extra officers had been permitted and then only for specific purpose mostly, for the newly opened M25. In real terms manpower had fallen. More sophisticated training accounted for the loss of 5425 days the equivalent of 18 officers. Better conditions of service accounted for a further loss of 14 officers.

Mr Hayes said he had civilianised every possible job, but the 65 officers released have been swallowed up by new demands created by the motorway and Police and Criminal Evidence Act. He saw no scope for further civilianisation. The cost of the extra officers is put at £1,953,720 of which the Home Office would meet 51%, with the remainder funded by Surrey County Council. The county council policy committee agreed that a proposal could be sent to the Home Office for an establishment increase of 4 inspectors, 11 sergeants and 107 constables.[5]

&&& **1989:** The Force is responsible for **policing most of the administrative county** of Surrey covering 147,100 hectares with a resident population of approximately 744,700 (June 1989 estimate). It has an authorised establishment of 1659, which provides a police population ratio

[4] CC notes 1945 on the administration of the county police during the war.
[5] Woking News and Mail 16 June 1988 page 5

of one officer for every 449 residents.[6] The actual Strength of the Force at the end of December 1989 was 1649, and the strength was increased by ten from 1 April 1990. There were 28 supernumerary posts allocated to computer and technical development, university studies and royalty protection duties.[7]

More on Conditions of Service Including Housing

Edition 105 contained an article on police housing and police stations. Since that was written, Henry Pelham has undertaken research revealing more detail. Additionally, Gerry Bixley wrote, yes wrote, a six-page letter setting down some of his experiences.

1901 April 12 Surrey Mirror: Police Numbers increase: The Surrey Quarter Sessions on the application of the chief constable Captain Sant have decided subject to the approval of the Home Secretary, to strengthen the county constabulary by the addition of four sergeants and 35 constables at an estimated cost of £3,150 per annum. The increase has been necessitated by the number of race meetings now held in the county, the natural growth of the population, and the greatly increased number of the military now quartered at Woking and Frimley.

1901 April 12 Surrey Mirror: The Surrey Constabulary: Proposed increase: At the Surrey Quarter Session on Tuesday, the following report from the special sub-committee of the Standing Joint Committee appointed to consider the application of Captain Sant the chief constable for an increase in the police force.

The strength of the Force when the committee was constituted in 1889 stood at 183 made up as follows: 1 chief constable, 5 superintendents, 8 inspectors20 sergeants,149 constables. Additions have been made from time to time and on the first day of the present year the force consisted of 231 men, made up as follows , 1 chief constable, 7 superintendents, 8 inspectors, 22 sergeants, 193 constables.

In 1891 the county rate basis and population of the constabulary district were £1,126,266 and 188,717 persons. Today the county rate basis is 31507,704 and it was now probable that the population was now about216,663 persons.

[6] A Report of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary Surrey Constabulary 1991 page 1
[7] A Report of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary Surrey Constabulary 1991 page 3

There are also other circumstances which tell in favour of an increase of the police. The inhabitants of the county undoubtedly consider themselves entitled to more continuous protection of person and property than was considered sufficient a decade or two ago. The race meetings and holiday makers put an increasing strain on the services of the police. The Diseases of Animals Acts and local by-laws have created a shoal of offences, and result in additional duties being thrown upon the police. The number of military now quartered in Surrey has greatly increased, and when the new huts at Frimley are completed the number will be further augmented. There is of course a military patrol, but the patrol is not always on hand when required and has no authority to control the additional population attracted by the camps.

For the above and other reasons, the sub-committee have come to the conclusion that the Chief Constable's request for a substantial increase of the police force is fully justified.

The sub-committee have in conference with the Chief Constable, gone very carefully through the requirements of the various districts, and are satisfied four sergeants and 27 constables are immediately needed to bring the county police force up to proper strength in the various localities where the growing population or the need of the lace require that additional watching should be provided.

The precise distribution of these extra men will be a matter for the chief constable to determine from time to time, but for the present he proposes to distribute them among the constabulary districts as follows:

Headquarters 1 sergeant and 6 constables
Chertsey 1 sergeant and 6 constables
Dorking 1 sergeant and 5 constables
Farnham 5 constables
Godalming 3 constables
Godstone 1 sergeant and 2 constables

It will be recollected in January 1899 a reserve man was stationed at each of the principal police stations but the Chief Constable reports that it has been found necessary' in every case to despatch this man from the station to some place in the locality, which it has subsequently been proved that he cannot be returned to the station, and these men, therefore do not fulfil the purpose for which they were appointed. The Chief Constable

consequently proposes that a reserve of eight men should be placed at headquarters, from which place they or any of them could be temporarily drafted into any district of the county requiring special attention. The sub-committee think that the appointment of this reserve would mitigate the pressure felt in various divisions when sudden or extraordinary emergencies arise and would thereby materially contribute to the general efficiency of the force.

The sub-committee therefore recommend the committee to make application to the Home Secretary for his sanction to the force being increased by the addition of four sergeants and 35 constables, and they have given directions for the necessary statutory notice to be given so that the proposal may be considered by the committee at their next meeting.

The annual cost of the four sergeants and 35 sergeants and 35 constables recommended above may be estimated as follows:

Pay £2,700; clothing £230; rent and contingencies £220; Total £3,150

It should be recollected that the cost of the County Constabulary in any year is partly by police rate and partly by transfer from the exchequer Contribution Account to the Police Purposes Account of one half of the cost of one half of cost of pay and clothing of the police of the county during the preceding year. A police rate of 1d in the £ now produces £5,918 19s. Therefore, the actual annual charge upon the police rate for the increase recommended above may be estimated for the first year to be a sum slightly exceeding ½ in the £ and thenceforward 1/3 in the £.

It was suggested by the Chief Constable that Horsell should be transferred from Chertsey to Guildford constabulary district but the sub-committee do not consider this change expedient at the present time.

The Standing Joint Committee reported they approved and had adopted the recommendations of the sub-committee and have given directions for application to be made to the Home Secretary for his sanction of the force being increased by the additional for sergeants and 35 constables.

1913 October 17 Surrey Mirror: Surrey Quarter Sessions: The Standing Joint Committee reported that they had before them a report of the Chief Constable urging the necessity for an increase of the scale of pay of the Surrey Constabulary. The report was referred to a sub-committee who had very carefully considered the question. The last occasion there was an increase was 1904 when the pay of sergeants increased 2d a day and that of second-Class constables 5d per week, and the cost of living had greatly increased during the past decade. The sub-committee advised

the committee that the Chief Constable's report presented an overwhelming case for a substantial increase and after comparison with neighbouring counties they had no hesitation in recommending the scale suggested by the Chief Constable for adoption. The committee were applying to the Home Secretary to sanction adoption on and from 1 January 1914 of the following scale:

Third Class Constables on appointment £1 4s 6d per week (Present pay£1 2s 9d per week)

Second Class Constables.—On promotion, £1 5s. 8d. (£1 4s. 6d.).

First Class Constables.—On promotion, £1 6s. 10d. (£1 5s. 8d.); after 2 years, £1 8s. (£1 6s. 10d.); after 5 years, £1 9s. 2d. (£1 8s.); after 8 years, £1 10s. 4d. (£1 9s. 2d.).

Sergeants.—On promotion, £1 13s. 3d. (£1 10s. 4d.);; after 2 years, £1 14s. 5d. (£1 11s. 6d.); after 4 years, £1 15s. 7d. (£1 12s. 8d.); after 6 years, £1 16s. 9d. (£1 13s. 10d.).

Inspectors.—On promotion, £126 per annum (present pay £110 8s. 3d. per annum); after 5 years, £138 (£117).

Superintendents (Second Class).—On promotion, £180 (£160 12s.); after 5 years, £200 (£175).

Superintendents (First Class).—On promotion, £230 (£180 13s. 6d.); after 5 years, £250 (£200).

The annual cost of this recommended increase of pay was estimated at £1,758 15s. 6d., of which £879 7s. 9d. would have to be met out of the police rate, the other moiety being for the present, at any rate, met out of the Exchequer grant.

The report was received.

		Scale.	Present.
Constables.		per wk. £ s d	per wk. £ s d
3rd Class	.....	1 4 6	1 2 9
2nd Class	On promotion	1 5 8	1 4 6
1st Class	On promotion	1 6 10	1 5 8
	After 2 years	1 8 0	1 6 10
	After 5 years	1 9 2	1 8 0
	After 8 years	1 10 4	1 9 2
Sergeants	On promotion	1 13 3	1 10 4
	After 2 years	1 14 5	1 11 6
	After 4 years	1 15 7	1 12 8
	After 6 years	1 16 9	1 13 10
		per ann. £ s d	per ann. £ s d
Inspectors	On promotion	126 0 0	110 8 3
	After 5 years	138 0 0	117 0 0
Supts. (2nd Class).....	On promotion	180 0 0	160 12 0
	After 5 years	200 0 0	175 0 0
Supts. (1st Class).....	On promotion	230 0 0	180 13 6
	After 5 years	250 0 0	200 0 0

1913 October 18: Surrey Advertiser: Surrey Police Pay- an all-round increase. Total additional cost £1,758. At the Surrey Quarter Sessions at Kingston on Tuesday increases in pay in all departments of the Surrey Constabulary were sanctioned, subject to the approval of the Home Secretary. The Standing Joint Committee reported they had before them a report of the Chief Constable (Captain Sant) urging the necessity for an increase. The report was referred to a sub-committee who had very carefully considered the question. The last occasion on which there was an increase was in 1904 when the pay of sergeants was increased 2d per day and of second-class constables 5d per week and the cost of living had greatly increased during the last decade. The sub-committee advised the Committee that the Chief Constable's report presented an overwhelming case for a substantial increase, and that after comparison with rates of pay in force in neighbouring counties, they had no hesitation in recommending the scale suggested for adoption.

The Committee had adopted the report of the sub-committee and were applying to the Home Secretary to sanction the adoption on and from 1 January 1914 of the following scale. (In the second column appear the present rates of pay for purpose of comparison.) The annual cost of this recommended increase in pay is estimated at £879 7s 9d will have to be met out of the police rate and the other moiety being for the present, at any rate, met out of the Exchequer grant. The report was adopted by the Court on the motion of the Chairman, Sir Wm. Vincent without discussion.

1930 September 6 Surrey Mirror: Police Housing: Merstham Land Purchase: Accommodation for police sergeant: The Housing Committee reported receipt of correspondence from Merstham Manor Ltd., stating Surrey Standing Joint Committee were prepared to abandon their proposal to purchase land in Brook-road Merstham for the purpose of the erection pf police cottages, provided that the Council would agree temporarily to accommodate the local Police Sergeant in one of the first completed Council cottages, pending the erection of police cottages. The proposal was agreed the house to be occupied within 12 months.

1931 October 31 Surrey Advertiser Bagshot: The Surrey Standing Joint Committee have accepted an offer of £215 for the freehold of Bagshot old police station. The Home Office have approved the proceeds of the sale being applied towards the cost of police housing in the county generally.

Frimley: The site on Frimley Green-road, Frimley has been acquired for £300 for the erection of three police houses.

1931 November 6 Surrey Mirror: **Nutfield**: Housing of Police: Authority has been given in connection with housing for the police for the acquisition of premises known as Hillview, Redhill-road, Nutfield for a sum not exceeding £800.

1935 September 7 Surrey Advertiser: Police Housing Question: Formerly Hale had two resident police officers but now both occupy adjoining houses at Heath End on the Hampshire boundary. Replying to representations on the subject the Deputy Chief Constable stated the cause of the removal was part of a police housing scheme, and the representations did not justify any deviation from the scheme. Crime in the area was only of a minor nature and not on the increase. Should conditions arise in the future steps would be taken to find accommodation for an unmarried constable at Upper Hale. " The police force" the Deputy Chief Constable added, "is now supplied with means for rapid mobility, and a call to the divisional headquarters at Farnham police station should produce the presence of the police in a very short while."

1937 April 9 Surrey Mirror, Reigate Borough Police: The Watch Committee considering a letter from the Home Office with the proposed conversion of Castlefield, the Chief Constable's residence into two self-contained maisonettes to accommodate two police constables. The Borough Surveyor reported he had considered questions by the Technical Adviser to the Home Office in connection with the proposed alterations and that to adopt them would increase the original estimate by approximately £100. His estimate for the conversion had been £270. It was agreed to inform the Home Office of the increased cost.

The District Valuer's report with regard to the value of land between 71 and 73 Monson Road, which the council propose to use as a site for police houses, and also as an additional entrance to Colesmead Recreation Ground, gave the market value as follows: Site for police housing £218; access strip to recreation ground £20. Application to be made to the Minister of Health for consent to appropriation of the land to be utilised for the erection of police houses.

1950 May 19 Surrey Mirror: The Police Act 1946 acquisition of land for police housing. London Road, Redhill to the north of a property "Kingston" and **1951 January 5 Surrey Mirror.** Contracts for new police housing. Not too sure how the house types for various ranks differ.

THE POLICE ACT, 1946.

THE ACQUISITION OF LAND (AUTHORISATION PROCEDURE) ACT, 1946.

THE SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL POLICE HOUSING (LONDON ROAD, REDHILL) (COMPULSORY PURCHASE) (NO. 1) ORDER, 1950.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County Council of the Administrative County of Surrey, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by the above-mentioned Acts, on the 10th day of May, 1950, made a Compulsory Purchase Order entitled "The Surrey County Council Police Housing (London Road, Redhill) (Compulsory Purchase) (No. 1) Order, 1950," which is about to be submitted to the Minister of Health for confirmation, authorising them to purchase compulsorily for the purpose of their statutory duties and functions under the Police Act, 1946, and particularly for the purpose of the erection thereon of houses for the accommodation of police officers, the land described in the Schedule hereto.

A copy of the Order and the map referred to therein have been deposited at the County Record Office, County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames, and at the office of the Town Clerk, Reigate Borough Council, Town Hall, Reigate, and may be seen there at all reasonable hours.

Any objection to the Order must be made in writing and addressed to the Secretary, Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.1, before the 19th day of June, 1950, and should state the grounds of objection.

SCHEDULE.

IN THE BOROUGH OF REIGATE.

All that piece or parcel of land having an area of 0.55 of an acre or thereabouts, with a frontage of 175ft. approximately to the western side of London-road, Redhill, and a northern boundary abutting upon property known as "Kingston," London Road, Redhill.

Dated the 19th day of May, 1950.

DUDLEY AUKLAND,
Clerk of the Council.

County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL.

CONSTRUCTION OF POLICE HOUSES (SOUTH-EAST SURREY).

THE COUNTY COUNCIL propose to invite TENDERS for the purpose of ONE CONTRACT for the construction of the following Houses:—

North Horley—3 houses (Constables' type).
Salfords—2 houses (Constables' type).
Redhill—2 houses (Constables' type).
Oxted—3 houses (Constables' type).
Reigate—2 houses (Inspectors' type).
Dorking — 1 house (Superintendent's type).

A tender for the whole group will be required. Offers for individual sites will not be considered.

Contractors wishing to tender should submit applications to the County Architect, County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames, not later than 11th January, 1951, together with a deposit of £2 2s. payable to the Surrey County Council (which will be refunded on receipt of a bona fide tender), after which the Bill of Quantities will be circulated.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

T. W. W. GOODERIDGE,
Deputy Clerk of the Council.

County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames.
December 28th, 1950.

Superintendent Edward Redford
Surrey Constabulary Retired 1881 and died 1882.
34 years' service

1892 April 9 Surrey Mirror: Godstone: The late Superintendent Redford: The following report was presented to the Surrey Quarter Sessions from the Standing Joint Committee, on Monday: The chief constable reported the death, which took place on 10th February of Mr. Edward Redford who for more than 34 years was a meritorious officer of the Surrey Constabulary. Mr. Redford was awarded bb the committee a pension of £107 1s 4d per annum, which only too effect from 1st November 1891. There is a power under the Police Act 1890 , sec 2 (4), if a constable to whom a pension has been granted dies within 12 months after the grant of the pension, for the police authority, if they think fit, to grant gratuities to his widow and children, or any of them, according to a scale to be adopted by such authority. Under the scale adopted in this county there is power to grant, as a gratuity, any sum not exceeding the difference between the annual pay of the constable and the amount he has actually received in respect of his pension. Mr. Redford's annual pay was £160 12s., and the sum to which he was entitled in respect of his pension was £29.18s 4d. Bearing in mind the efficient and faithful manner in which Mr. Redford performed his duties, and all the circumstances of the case, the committee have determined to grant to his widow a gratuity of £130 13s 8d., being the difference between annual pay of the constable and the amount paid in respect of his pension.

PC 24 Charles Newell Cooper
Surrey Constabulary
January 11, 1851-May 13 1853

With thanks to Jean Pelham and Robert Simonson

Sussex Advertiser 29 June 1852 (Named as George but record shows Charles)

James Howis was brought up in custody of the police charged with an offence under the bye-laws of the London and Brighton Railway Company.

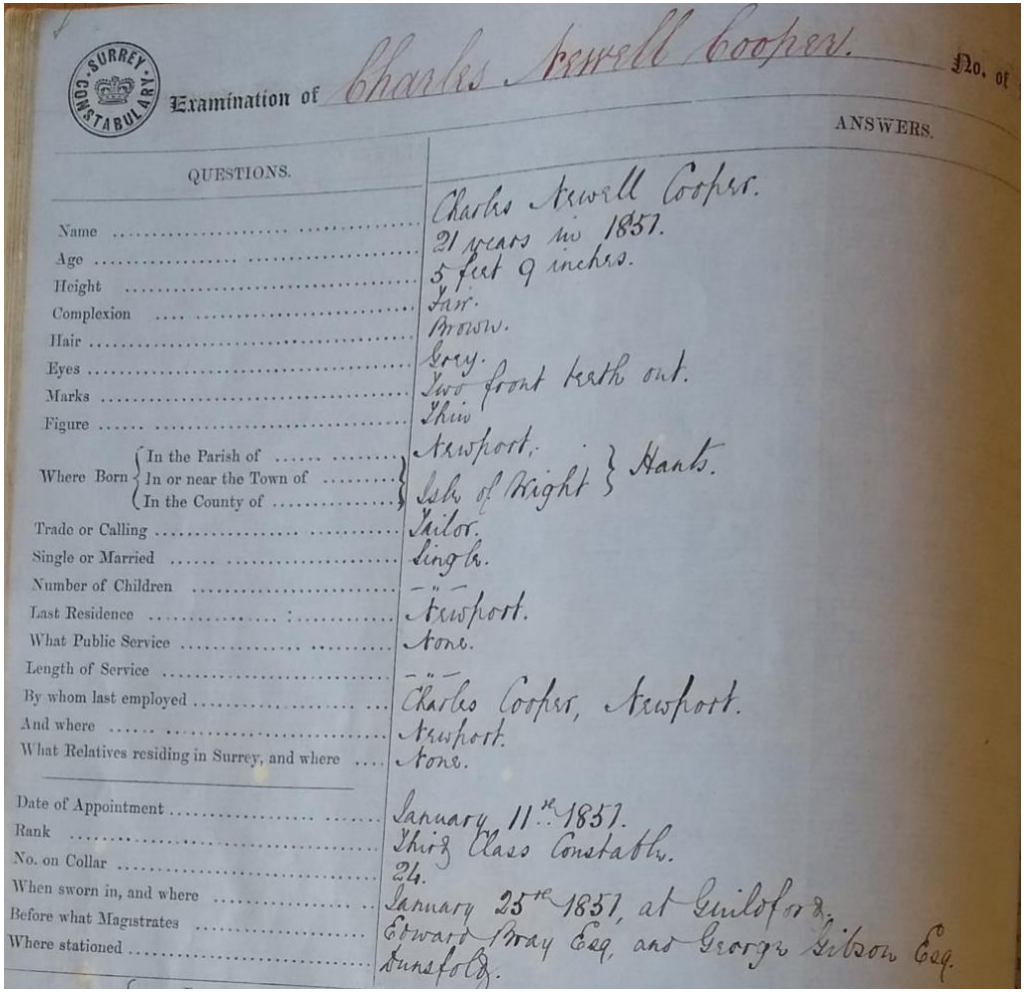
George Thomas Stansall, station clerk at Horley, on the Brighton Railway, deposed—On Saturday evening last about 8 o'clock my attention was called by the guard of the 7 o'clock down-train to the conduct of the person now in custody, for abusing the travellers. I gave directions to the porter to remove him from the 3rd class carriage that he was in; the porter attempted to do so, and by the assistance of one of the passengers half succeeded in doing so. Whilst on the platform he struck the porter and I then gave him into custody of the Horley policeman. He was intoxicated at the time.

George Newell Cooper, one of the Surrey Constabulary, at Horley, deposed—On Saturday evening, the 19th inst., I was called by the porter, and likewise the clerk of the Horley station, to take the prisoner into custody. The prisoner was very drunk, and made some resistance to John Hinge and the last witness in trying to secure and handcuff him.

Mr Wynter remarked at the termination of the case that he considered the railway company had not afforded that assistance that he should have expected in a case of the description brought before him; that as the porter was the man assaulted his evidence ought to have been taken, but taking everything into consideration, and believing from the station of life the defendant was in that he was partly ignorant that the offence was of so serious a nature as it was, he should fine him 10s and costs, which was paid.

The defendant is a sailor late of her Majesty's ship "Superb," which vessel has but just lately arrived from the Mediterranean, and who now has a pass from the "Victory" guard ship.

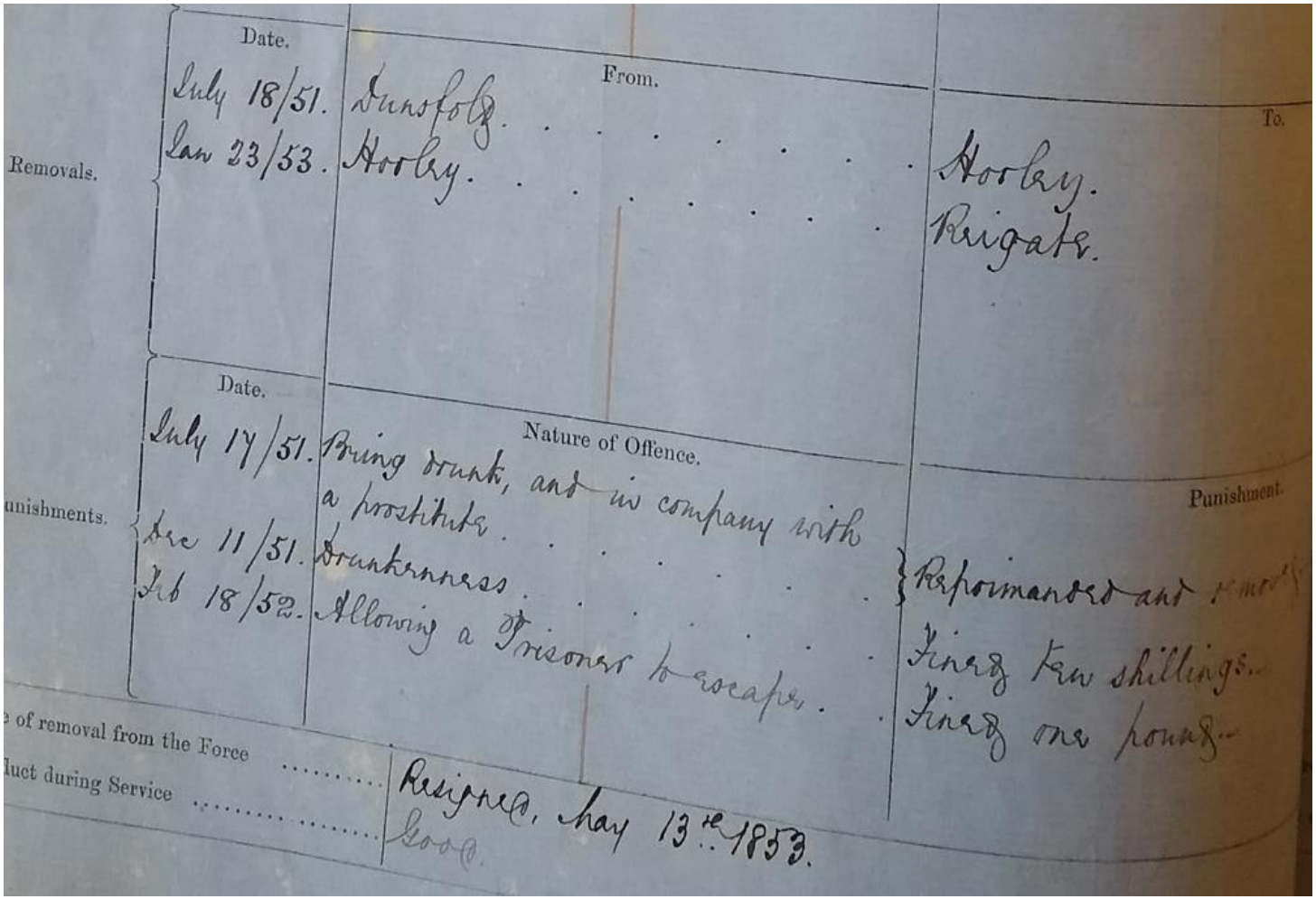
Jean Pelham: I have come across a Horley P.C. George Newell Cooper mentioned in the Sussex Advertiser as a member of the Surrey Constabulary in June 1852. is there any way of finding out if he was still in Horley at the same time as Inspector Donaldson March 1853 as his constable, strange how easily I get side-tracked.



SURREY CONSTABULARY

Examination of Charles Newell Cooper. No. of

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
Name	Charles Newell Cooper.
Age	21 years in 1851.
Height	5 feet 9 inches.
Complexion	Fair.
Hair	Brown.
Eyes	Grey.
Marks	Two front teeth out.
Figure	Thin
Where Born — In the Parish of	Newport.
Where Born — In or near the Town of	Isle of Wight } Hants.
Where Born — In the County of	
Trade or Calling	Tailor.
Single or Married	Single.
Number of Children	—
Last Residence	Newport.
What Public Service	None.
Length of Service	—
By whom last employed	Charles Cooper, Newport.
And where	Newport.
What Relatives residing in Surrey, and where	None.
Date of Appointment	January 11th 1851.
Rank	Third Class Constable.
No. on Collar	24.
When sworn in, and where	January 25th 1851, at Guildford.
Before what Magistrates	Edward Bray Esq. and George Gibson Esq.
Where stationed	Dunsfold.



Removals.	Date.	From.	To.
	July 18/51.	Dunstable.	Horley.
	Jan 23/53.	Horley.	Reigate.

unishments.	Date.	Nature of Offence.	Punishment.
	July 17/51.	Being drunk, and in company with a prostitute.	Reprimanded and remo
	Dec 11/51.	Drunkenness.	Fined ten shillings.
	Feb 18/52.	Allowing a Prisoner to escape. .	Fined one pound.

e of removal from the Force ..... Resigned. May 13th 1853.

luct during Service ..... Good.

Drunk, consorting with a prostitute, drunk again, allowing a prisoner to escape – conduct on leaving, Good! What does bad look like!

Chief Constable Joseph Simpson
Surrey Constabulary
December 1, 1946 – 26 February 1955

Jos Simpson in the centre when Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary was highly regarded and respected by all. It was said he knew everyone in the force and would stop off at a village house unannounced for a cup of tea!

Surrey Advertiser 10 December 1955

Surrey Police Chief Joins Yard

Mr. Joseph Simpson Chief Constable of Surrey since 1946 has been appointed an Assistant Commissioner in the Metropolitan Police it is announced this week. His appointment will take effect from February 27 to coincide with the retirement of Mr. H Dalton an Assistant Commissioner and head of the Yard's traffic branch.

No Statement. An official at Mount Browne, headquarters of the Surrey Constabulary told the Surrey Advertiser on Thursday that Mr. Simpson felt it would be improper for him to make any statement at the moment about his move without reference to the Commissioner, and did not wish to make any statement about his personal activities.

Mr. Simpson who is 46 and an OBE is married with two sons. He was educated at Oundle School and Manchester University Technical School. After study in the cotton spinning industry, he joined the Metropolitan Police as a constable in 1931 and in 1934 entered the Metropolitan Police College set up that year by Lord Trenchard.

He was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn while at the college. In 1936 he was appointed to the instructional staff at the college and in the following year made Assistant Chief Constable of Lincolnshire.

Surrey Merger. From 1939-1943 he was seconded to the Regional Commissioner's office first as regional police staff officer and then as acting inspector of constabulary in Nottingham and later in the Cambridge Civil Defence Region. In 1943 he was appointed Chief Constable of Northumberland.

His appointment to Surrey dated from December 1, 1946. On taking over the Force Mr. Simpson had to face the effect of the Police Act 1846 by which Guildford and Reigate Borough Police forces were finally merged into the Surrey Constabulary. By an order dated February 8, 1947, he appealed to the men to forget borough boundaries and recognise that efficiency could be "tremendously increased" if they did so.

Under the same Act Surrey Constabulary lost to the Metropolitan Police Esher, Cobham, Stoke D'Abernon, Walton-on-the-Hill, Kingswood, Chipstead and parts of Coulsdon and Epsom and Ewell urban district. It was impossible to maintain the Leatherhead Division and the remaining ground became part of Dorking division. The Surrey Constabulary however gained the parish of Warlingham which became part of the Caterham sub-division of Oxted division.

Sir Joseph Simpson Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis

The Canadian Army in Surrey
Second World War

Robert Bartlett MA (Cantab) CF

28 August 2023

Part One – The Canadians come to the UK.

The Canadians were in from the start! When war was declared by the British government on 3 September 1939 it was clear that Canada would soon be involved, the Canadian parliament giving authority to declare war on Germany on 9 September.

The 1st Canadian Division, under the command of Lieutenant-General Andrew McNaughton, arrived in Greenock, Scotland, on 17 December 1939.Many of the soldiers would be based in Aldershot and surrounding area as they prepared for deployment to the war. These men were thousands of miles from home in a strange land, and they found themselves in badly heated, outdated barracks during one of the coldest winters for many years.[8] A few of the units established early on were No. 3 Repatriation Depot and later Royal Canadian Engineers in Cove, at Willems Barracks Cavalry School, Badajos Barracks were occupied by No. 3 Wing 6 Repatriation Depot; at Maida officers' mess Canadian Women's Army Corps; at the Connaught Hospital by the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps; and at Albuhera Barracks No. 1 Wing 6 Repatriation Depot.[9]

The Division remained in Britain to be equipped and trained, and so were available when the Germans invaded France and the Low Countries on 10 May 1940.

Canadian forces played a small role during the Battle of France, with the 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade being deployed to Brest as a part of the 2nd British Expeditionary Force (BEF). The Brigade advanced towards Le Mans on 14 June before they withdrew to the United Kingdom from Brest, and Saint-Malo on 18 June.

The Royal Canadian Navy assisted with the evacuation of the BEF, (Dunkirk). Ottawa placed its navy at Britain's disposal and sent two fighter squadrons to Britain before the end of 1940. Many others would follow, three years later, the First Canadian Army formed the heart of Canada's 250,000-strong overseas commitment.

It was fortunate that an invasion of England did not come, for the forces in Britain were not yet prepared to meet such a powerful foe. While the troops had been rescued from Dunkirk, they had left behind most of their equipment. The 1st Canadian Division, which still possessed the bulk of its equipment, therefore assumed a position of vital importance. In July the Canadians became part of the 7th British Army Corps under the

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8 https://www.friendsofthealdershotmilitarymuseum.org.uk/garrison.017.html#:~:text=In%20the%20mid%2DDecember%201939,coldest%20winters%20for%20many%20years.

9 https://www.friendsofthealdershotmilitarymuseum.org.uk/garrison.017.html#:~:text=In%20the%20mid%2DDecember%201939,coldest%20winters%20for%20many%20years.

command of General McNaughton. It engaged in intense preparation for a role of counterattack against the expected German assault across the Channel.[10]

What followed was a long frustrating period where numerous young men arrived in England, very many of them based in Surrey where their fathers had been during the First World War. They endlessly trained and waited. Apart from the Dieppe Raid in August 1942, the frustrated Canadian Army fought no significant engagement in the European theatre of operations until the invasion of Sicily in the summer of 1943. In all, some 1.1 million Canadians served in the Canadian Army, Royal Canadian Navy, Royal Canadian Air Force, out of a population that as of the 1941 Census had 11,506,655 people, and in forces across the empire, with approximately 42,000 killed and another 55,000 wounded.

By the end of the war Canada had the world's fourth largest air force, and third largest navy. The Canadian Merchant Navy completed over 25,000 voyages across the Atlantic, 130,000 Allied pilots were trained in Canada in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. On D-Day, 6 June 1944 the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division landed on "Juno" beach in Normandy, in conjunction with allied forces.[11]

From France's collapse in June 1940 to the German invasion of the USSR in June 1941, Canada supplied Britain with urgently needed food, weapons, and war materials by naval convoys and airlifts, as well as pilots and planes who fought in the Battle of Britain and the Blitz.

During the Battle of Britain between 88 and 112 Canadian pilots served in the RAF, most having come to Britain on their own initiative. For political necessity an "all Canadian" squadron, No. 242 Squadron RAF, was formed under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan at the start of the war and the squadron served in the Battle of France. [12]

They were later joined by No. 1 Squadron RCAF in June 1940 during the Battle for Britain[13] and they were in "the thick" of fighting in August. By the end of the battle in October 1940, 23 Canadian pilots had been killed. By 1 January 1943, there were enough RCAF bombers and crews in Britain to form No. 6 Group, one of eight bomber groups within RAF Bomber Command.

If the planned German invasion of Britain had taken place in 1941, units of the formation later known as I Canadian Corps were already deployed between the English Channel and London to meet them.

After France's surrender Britain a German invasion of North America was not impossible, and Canadians needed to plan accordingly leading to Canada occupying Iceland after the British invasion of the island in June 1940.

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[10] https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/wars-and-conflicts/second-world-war/canada-and-the-second-world-war/battle-of-britain
[11] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada_in_World_War_II
[12] 242 Squadron was based in Kenly and its pilots saw service over Surrey
[13] The squadron Saw active service over Surrey.

From June 1940 Canada viewed defending itself as important as aiding Britain, perhaps slightly more so. Canadian troops were sent to the defence of the colony of Newfoundland, on Canada's east coast, the closest point in North America to Germany. [14]

There was pressure from the Canadian government to ensure that Canadian troops were deployed on active service. The Dieppe Raid of 19 August 1942 was an opportunity, and landed nearly 5,000 soldiers of the inexperienced Second Canadian Division and 1,000 British commandos on the coast of occupied France, in the only major combined forces assault on France prior to the Normandy invasion.

Many of the Canadian military based in the south of England were to participate in the Dieppe raid. While a large number of aircraft flew in support, naval gunfire was deliberately limited to avoid damage to the town and civilian casualties. As a result, the Canadian forces assaulted a heavily defended coastline with no supportive bombardment.

Of the 6,086 men who made it ashore, 3,367 (60%) were killed, wounded, or captured. The RAF failed to lure the Luftwaffe into open battle, and lost 106 aircraft (at least 32 to flak or accidents), compared to 48 lost by the Luftwaffe. The Royal Navy lost 33 landing craft and one destroyer. Two Canadians received the Victoria Cross for actions at Dieppe.

The lessons learned at Dieppe became the textbook of "what not to do" in amphibious operations, and laid the framework for the later (Operation Torch) landings in North Africa and the Normandy landings in France.

The experience of one group of villages to the south of Guildford represents the experience of a great number of the population of the rural parts of Surrey.

The 1st November 1942 saw the arrival in Blackheath near Albury, of thousands of Canadian troops.[15] They had been billeted in Aldershot for some weeks in poor accommodation and pleased to be moved to a pleasant rural location. The regiment was decentralised to the following areas, Regimental HQ - Snowdenham Hall, Bramley, Headquarters Northanger House, Godalming, ‘A’ Squadron, Blackheath, ‘B’ Squadron, Munstead Heath, ‘C’ Squadron, Unstead Park, ‘D’ Squadron, Bramley Park.

Known as the ‘Rhinos’ to the villagers, ‘A’ Company of the 18th Armoured Car Regiment called Blackheath home between 1942 and 1943. Members of the Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers were also attached to the Manitoba Dragoons. Many of the men came from the Winnipeg area in Manitoba.

[14] Newfoundland officially became a part of Canada at midnight, March 31, 1949.
[15] https://www.blackheathvillagearchive.com/ww2

The Hallams at Blackheath had become HQ of ‘A’ Squadron. Protective boards were laid to protect the lovely wood panelling of the house. An excerpt from the Manitoba Regiments scrapbook has a note as follows, ‘ On November 1st, 1942, the Regiment moved to requisitioned houses and mansions in Surrey. Here, we were in one of the loveliest parts of England, and the men found it very pleasant to live amongst such friendly rural surroundings, especially after the oppressive atmosphere of Aldershot”.

The Heath, Blackheath, occupied by hundreds of men and armoured vehicles became a tented city. Large bell tents were erected to the right of Littleford Lane on Derry Hill for accommodation, and the circular depressions formed by the soldiers digging around the outside of their tents are still remarkably evident. There was a cookhouse established behind Blatchfeld.

The Canadians created many of the paths and the main gallops on the heath as part of their encampment. Stony flint paths and tracks were hurriedly built with gravel from Farnham. The area was formed as part of an assembly area for 10,000 vehicles. Rows of vehicles were parked up over the heath and around the perimeter of the cricket pitch. Soldiers from the Canadian Engineers returned to Blackheath after the war to help clear the camp and restore the heath. Many old vehicles and bits of equipment were auctioned off or buried on the heath.

The narrow lanes around Blackheath became extremely busy with vehicles, and many of the passing places that are used now are those carved out to accommodate the military vehicles. Transport for the local population was mostly a bicycle, the train or walking; petrol was in short supply and rationed.

The Canadians were to be part of the D Day invasion of France in 1944. Their time in Blackheath was spent training and preparing their armoured ‘staghound’ vehicles for their long journey through Europe. They set up a large maintenance area with deep inspection pits for the vehicles near the current top car park. The common was ‘out of bounds’ and encircled with barbed wire fencing to all non-military personnel.

Tweedsmuir Camp near Elstead was set up as Number One Transit Depot for handling thousands of medical and psychological cases during WWII and was referred to as 1 Non-Effective Transit Depot, or 1 NETD for short. The camp was also responsible for clearing miscellaneous troops such as those transferring to the Royal Canadian Air Force, underage personnel and those who sought transfer to the USA Army in the UK.

In another part of the county after the fall of France, a new Anglo-Canadian 7th Corps was formed to help defend Britain from any German invasion. 1st Canadian Corps (a combination of the 1st and 2nd Canadian Divisions headquarters were at Headley Court which served as the senior Canadian field headquarters throughout almost the entire period until the Canadian Army moved to France in 1944. Headley Heath was used by the Canadian Army as a training ground, firstly as defence against the threat of German invasion and later, in preparation for D-Day and liberating occupied Europe.

The rural county of Surrey with its small market towns and gentle living became an armed camp, beginning when the invasion threat was very high through the Battle of Britain, the Dieppe raid onto D Day. There were many British formations within the county in addition to the many Canadian with regimental and national rivalry resulting in large scale disturbances, most as an offset against boredom! There were murders, robberies and violence perpetrated by service men far from home but given the large numbers of young men the crime figures remained relatively low with by today's standards a significant detection rate.

Crimes in the Surrey Joint Police Area 1 January to 31 December 1943[16]

Division	Crimes alleged	Crimes deleted	Crimes detected	Not cleared up	Non Indictable prosecutions
Dorking	620	122	245	40.81	577
Farnham	1258	318	344	47.38	531
Godalming	984	210	338	44.31	656
Guildford Borough	839	164	256	49.9	748
Leatherhead	613	118	224	44.21	272
Oxted	517	107	194	41.78	388
Reigate Borough	517	78	239	38.68	296

[16] SCC Archive Centre CC/98/22/6 Reigate Borough Police as a part of the Joint Police

Division	Crimes alleged	Crimes deleted	Crimes detected	Not cleared up	Non Indictable prosecutions
Weybridge	1352	321	409	46.01	1034
Woking	1182	325	291	47.88	397
Total	**7882**	**1763**	**2540**	**45.41**	**4899**

Comparative strength and recorded crime 1943 [17]

Division	Arrests	Strength	Crimes per man
Dorking	108	98	6.33
Farnham	160	119	10.57
Godalming	185	118	8.34
Guildford Borough	257	91	9.22
Leatherhead	150	109	5.62
Oxted	92	104	4.97
Reigate Borough	161	67	7.72
Weybridge	238	145	9.32
Woking	158	118	10.02

Total crimes for the Surrey Joint Police
Not included are deleted crimes (probably refers to modern term "No crime"[18]

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Committed	2918	2831	3257	4046	3878	6119

[17] SCC Archive Centre CC/98/22/6 Reigate Borough Police as a part of the Joint Police
[18] SCC Archive Centre CC/98/22/6 Reigate Borough Police as a part of the Joint Police

% Detected	50.06	48	47.95	49.13	45.69	45.23

1944: Recorded crime from 31 January 1939 to 1944 had increased by sixty-eight per cent

1945[19] Total crime Reigate Borough 498, detection 51.6%

Year	Total crime	Year	Total crime	Year	Total crime	Year	Total crime	Year	Total crime	Year	Total crime
1921	56	1922	56	1923	80	1924	85	1925	80	1926	114
1927	121	1928	165	1929	132	1930	131	1931	98	1932	103
1933	151	1934	235	1935	254	1936	231	1937	337	1938	330
1939	414	1940	426	1941	493	1942	434	1943	489	1944	579
1945	498										

Part Two – the Home Front

The following are details of some of the crimes and incidents involving Canadian armed forces in Surrey on land and in the air. This is by no means all the information that is available but gives a fair representation of the impact mostly Canadian army had on the population.

1939 PC William (Bill) Leahy[20]: On the outbreak of war PC Leahy Guildford Borough Police was posted to the CID with an allowance of 7/6d a week. There were some **5000 Canadian** troops billeted at Whiteley Camp at Merrow Downs and Newlands Corner and they caused a lot of trouble in the town. They were a hard lot and mostly dealt with by their regimental police. Many were lost on the Dieppe raid.

1939 December. PC Wilf Sivil Guildford Borough: I was employed as a beat motor-cyclist riding a maroon Triumph Tiger 100. A second machine was obtained and riden by a War Reserve PC. Shifts were normal hours. Duties included escorting Army convoys and ordinary police patrol work.

[19] SCC History Centre CC/98/22/8
[20] Biographical note from Mr Leahy- later Police Sergeant Surrey Constabulary

Once after a German raid they took some unexploded incendiary bombs back to North Street Police Station where they were identified by a sergeant and they were ordered out! There were many **Canadian troops** in the area and on visits to their camp at Newlands Corner and Netley Heath the police motor bike was left at the Guard Room, the police officer given a lift in a jeep with an escort as the sentries were not too careful who they shot. [21]

1939-1945: PC Burbidge serve in the Guildford Borough throughout the War as a uniform beat officer and station officer in North Street. There were a great number of **Canadian troops** billeted nearby and they caused a great deal of trouble in Guildford as this was their nearest town for recreation. Fights were common and police often ended up with their backs to the wall with truncheons drawn. [22]

1940 February: PC Alfred James Everitt awarded **King's Police Medal for Gallantry** arresting an armed soldier who from the top of a railway carriage at Dorking attempted to shoot him at close range. On February 27, 1940 PC Everitt was called to Dorking North railway station to deal with a **Canadian soldier** who, while under the influence of drink, had climbed upon the roof of a railway carriage. The soldier had previously pointed a revolver at a railway guard who had told him to "scram". Everitt climbed to the roof of the carriage where he saw the soldier on his back with a revolver in his hand. The soldier pointed the revolver in the constable's direction, but the constable went towards him. As he did so he heard a click in the revolver. The soldier had pulled the trigger but as was found afterwards, the hammer had fallen on an empty chamber. In the next chamber there was a live carriage. Everitt got the soldier down to the ground and with the help of two railwaymen took him to Dorking police station. When at Dorking Police Court the soldier was sent to prison for one month and fined £2 the magistrates commended PC Everitt for showing considerable presence of mind and pluck in this incident which took place at about midnight. The announcement of the award of the King's Police Medal – the most honoured of all police distinctions at that time – was made last Saturday. PC Everitt will be commanded to attend Buckingham Palace to receive his award.[23]

1940 People in Surrey towns complained that in the evening the streets were full of **drunken and profane Canadians,** mostly making their way back to their barracks, which they found so disagreeable.[24]

[21] Biographical note from Mr Wilf Sivill – later Police Sergeant Surrey Constabulary
[22] Biographical note from Mr Burbage
[23] Dorking Advertiser 21 July 2011 – 70 Years On and 23 June 2016 75 years on
[24] "The Gentlemen at War" Policing Britain 1939-1945 Roy Ingleton Cranborne Publications 1994 p96

1940 15 August: Over Redhill following a raid on Croydon: Two Hurricane pilots from 111 and 32 Squadron chased a Messerschmitt bringing it down when it exploded on Redhill airfield killing one of the crew the other being taken prisoner. [25] **Police Report from PC52 E. Beeney: "**I was on enquiries at Nutfield when an air battle took place in a north-westerly direction (Croydon). About 7pm I observed an aircraft apparently out of control come down in spirals from a height of approximately five thousand feet in the direction of Redhill Aerodrome. In the same section of sky, a parachute was descending."

The officer then went to the scene where he found the body of a German in the burnt-out wreckage. The other crewmember who bailed out landed at Merstham where he was captured by **Canadian soldiers** the first prisoner of the war taken by the 1st Canadian Division.[26] The pilot was Horst Fiedler who was removed hospital where he died. [27]

1940 30 August: 1122 Swires Farm, Capel Heinkel HE111- three crew killed and two wounded and taken prisoner. The Heinkel collided with a Hurricane of 79 Squadron flown by Flying Officer James Morris who survived, landing in Dorking. (Morris was to fly again the following day and again crashed and was more seriously injured. He survived the war retiring in 1968 as an Air Commodore) The German plane crashed into farm buildings causing a fire and exploding bullets. Four bombs then exploded causing considerable damage. Two **Canadian soldiers** were thwarted in obtaining souvenirs by the arrival of the local policeman on his bicycle. A German was taken to Dorking hospital then moved to Woolwich the following day.[28]

1940 September 4: **Canadian Pilot** Officer Gary Trueman of No 253 Squadron plunged to earth soon after taking off from Kenley and came down in Tudor Close, Banstead. Cause unknown. [29]

1940 September 21: Vickers Armstrong Aircraft Factory Unit, Weybridge. "On the morning of 21st September 1940 at about 08.30 hours the Vickers Aircraft Factory at Weybridge was attacked by an enemy aircraft. Three bombs were dropped, two of which exploded, doing slight damage. The other, a five-hundred-pound bomb, penetrated the factory roof, passed through a wall at the end and came to rest on the concrete driveway outside the erecting shed, having failed to explode. As the explosion of the bomb at the position where it rested would have caused considerable

[25] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007 ISBN9780955473500 Red Kite Books Walton on Thames
[26] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007 ISBN9780955473500 Red Kite Books Walton on Thames Page 18
[27] Battle of Britain Sketchbook by Denis Knight 2014 Red Kite publishing
[28] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007 ISBN9780955473500 Red Kite Books Walton on Thames
[29] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007 p66

damage, its immediate removal was a matter of national importance. "**Lieutenant J. M. S. Patton, Royal Canadian Engineers**, undertook to remove the bomb to a place of comparative safety and Section Leader Tilyard -Burrows together with Volunteers W. J. Avery, E. A. Maslyn and C. E. Chaplin, with complete disregard of personal safety and having no previous experience of handling unexploded bombs, immediately volunteered to assist." The bomb was lashed to a sheet of corrugated iron, attached to a truck by wire cable and towed to a crater about two hundred yards away where it could do no harm. The task was accomplished in little more than half-an-hour from the time the bomb had fallen. The bomb exploded the following morning. "Throughout the operation these men displayed cool courage of the highest order and contributed largely to the removal of a serious threat to the production of this factory." Note: Lieutenant J. M. S. Patton was awarded the George Cross and Captain D. W. C. Cunnington, also of the Royal Canadian Engineers, the George Medal for their gallantry on this occasion. [30]

PC Arthur Bruce in 1980: One of the aircraft from this raid was hit and crashed on Netley Heath [31] area close to a **Canadian camp.** Bert Bradley and I received an instruction to collect the remains of the crew and this we did in several brand-new sandbags. We took these to the Woking mortuary then, having left our grisly load we resumed patrol. Sometime later we were asked if we had labelled the sandbags, which we had not and were ordered to do so. On arrival at the mortuary, we found the smell very strong so much so I just could not face it. Bert, having taken a deep breath attached a label on one bag and hurried out. This manoeuvre he repeated until all the bags were labelled after which we beat a hasty retreat.[32]

1940 September 4: A British plane crashed at Banstead and the **pilot a Canadian** was killed[33]

1940 6 September 0925 Foyles Farm, Crowhurst: Messerschmitt 110 shot down by Pilot Officer Dibnah of No 1 Squadron. One of the German crew was killed the other captured after parachuting and landing near Bletchingly Tunnel where he was **detained by Canadian troops**. The dead German was buried where he landed by fireman and soldiers and his body is there to this day.[34]

[30] https://cmea-agmc.ca/fr/award/gallantry/lt-john-macmillan-stevenson-patton-1st-battalion-rce-george-cross
[31] Off the A25 at Shere
[32] www.surrey-constabulary.com from Off Beat
[33] Surrey at War 1939- 1945 Bob Ogley Froglets Publications undated.
[34] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007 page 76

1940 9 September 1745 Nimehams Road, Kenley when a Hurricane flown by Sergeant Robert Lonsdale 242 Squadron was shot down but bailed out safely. At the same time over **Woldingham Road Caterham**, another member of 242 Squadron, **Canadian Pilot** Officer Sclanders aged 24 was killed after being shot down by Bf110s.[35]

1940 27 September 0945 Gatwick Aerodrome (Surrey Constabulary area) Messerschmitt 110 with a crew of two both killed. Hit by anti-aircraft fire.[36] Also attacked by four Hurricanes of **1 Canadian Squadron**, which contributed to the downing of the aircraft. The two Germans were buried in Horley churchyard.[37]

1940 27 September 0945 Stocketts Manor, Oxted Messerschmitt 110 landed after engines failed following attack by Spitfires and both crew members taken prisoner.[38] **Canadian soldiers** billeted at Stocketts farm took prisoner the crew. (Princess Patricia's Light Infantry) They were taken to a POW reception cage at Redhill.

1940 October: Holmwood Park was almost destroyed by incendiary bombs in Oct 1940 several **Canadians were injured** in that attack. [39]

1940 22 October 1430 Land Barn Farm, Ranmore Dorking: Hurricane from 605 Squadron **Canadian Pilot** Officer John Milne 25 escaped with a broken hip. He was taken to Dorking hospital from where he eventually married his nurse.[40] [41]

1940/1941: In about 1940/1941 **PC Jim Bleach** the village constable at Brockham was badly **beaten by Canadian Soldiers** at the Barley Mow Pub. He was never quite the same after that.[42]

1941 September 5 Murder: Tom Roberts called to **Weybridge** where the murdered body of an eighty-year-old woman had been found in The Shelter, Towers Walk. A man had been seen on the ground surrounded by wine and spirit bottles near the gate of the house. Another man lying

[35] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007
[36] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007
[37] Battle of Britain Sketchbook by Denis Knight 2014 Red Kite
[38] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007
[39] http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/stories/10/a1982810.shtml
[40] War-Torn Skies Battle of Britain Surrey by Simon Parry 2007
[41] Dorking Museum display 2013
[42] Bill Bowry Brockham resident to the editor April 2010

drunk in army uniform was found in the house on the scullery floor. Police were called and the house was found to be in great disorder. The main bedroom door was locked but there was no key in the door, so a policeman climbed in through the window and found the body of Miss M E Salmon in her nightdress. There had been an unsuccessful attempt to strangle her and that she had fought for her life although suffering a number of injuries from a severe beating. There was a glass in her hand and nearby was a bottle of brandy.

The men were arrested and the one in uniform was **found to be a Canadian** with jewellery and other valuables from the house in his pocket. The second man was a merchant seaman Cussack who had once been employed by the victim and had a key to the house, which he could use with the consent of the victim who had given him money over the years. He also had stolen property from the house in his pockets. Both men had become friendly and after the event sought to blame the other. The first trial was at the Central Criminal Court on 16 January 1942 but soon Cussack was to die of pulmonary tuberculosis. The second trial of McDonald started on the 21 January and he was found not guilty in what was seen to be a very surprising decision. McDonald returned to Canada where he was killed in a road accident shortly after his return.

1941 25 October: Wyke and Normandy: Bicycle of Leonard Triscott Neville Oliver, Westwood Lane (valued at £4) stolen by Lance Corporal Frederick Roy, **Canadian Army**, fined £2 and ordered to pay 6/- costs at Farnham Police Court on 18th October 1941.[43]

1941 Christmas: There were numerous fights between British troops and the Canadians. Some serious disturbances were reported between men of the Black Watch and **No 1 Canadian Armoured Corps Reinforcement Unit** in Camberley. It was reported that the adjutant of the Scottish troops told his men not to come back with black eyes but to "Let the Canadians have it." The men went further than their officers intended and took bayonets with them when they went to meet the Canadians who came in trucks into the town. The anticipated fight began and the Black Watch drew their bayonets causing the Canadians to flee the town. The fight was continued some days later when men from both sides got drunk and fighting took place all over the town with broken bottles being used by the Scots. In the same series of incidents two Royal Canadian Dragoons were knifed and one is said to have died from his injuries although there is no corroboration of this story.[44]

[43] Surrey Advertiser http://normandyhistorians.co.uk/press12.html
[44] "The Gentlemen at War" Policing Britain 1939-1945 Roy Ingleton 1994 p 333

1942 24 January: Wyke and Normandy Damages for bus passengers: A collision, which occurred between an omnibus and a **Canadian army lorry** at Willy Green corner, between Guildford and Normandy at 9.55am on 1st April 1941, was the subject of proceedings at Aldershot County Court on Friday week. Mrs. Louise Marney, aged 41 and Mrs. Rose Eastwood, aged 61, formerly of Littlefield Green, Worplesdon and now at Send, who were passengers in the bus, claimed £100 as damages for injuries received against L/Cpl Leonard Pepper, driver of the army lorry, and against the Aldershot and District Traction Co Ltd for alleged negligence. Mrs. Eastwood, in evidence, stated that she earned £6 per week selling pegs made by herself and her husband. Mrs. Marney stated that she sold brushes and made £3 per week. She had been unable to work since the accident.

His Honour Judge A F Topham said he came to the conclusion that the collision was due to the fact that the visibility of the bus driver was obscured by snow, except for a little patch on his windscreen. The bus driver was guilty of negligent driving, and he accordingly held that the Aldershot and District Traction Company were liable to damages to both plaintiffs. He assessed Mrs. Eastwood's damages at £20. Mrs Marney had suffered more, and he thought she should have £30.[45]

1942: April: A new temporary **glass house** for **Canadians** was established at Witley Camp and moved in April 1942 to Headley Down in Hampshire to where six hundred and fifty inmates were moved. In April 1945 the new camp suffered a riot and mass break out which resulted in the deployment of troops and police.

1942 May 21: King's Police Medal awarded to Reginald Carpenter, War Reserve Metropolitan Police, George Sidney Grant, Metropolitan Police, Charles Lindsell, Metropolitan Police, Percy Henry Salter Metropolitan Police: At about 0315 a **Canadian soldier stationed in Surrey** stole a **Thompson sub-machine gun** and a revolver from the armoury at his depot, held up the picket at the transport park and stole a lorry and headed for London. Cordons were set up across the main road at **Bagshot and Egham** but the soldier drove through both of them. Police Constables Lindsell and Salter of the Metropolitan Police were directed to set up a roadblock at Staines Bridge and with Constables Carpenter and Grant they waited. When the lorry approached PC Lindsell switched on the headlights of his car, blinding the fugitives, causing him to swerve into the kerb. PCs Carpenter and Grant jumped up onto the cab of the lorry and disarmed the soldier before he could use any of the weapons. PC Lindsell had sat the car in the middle of the road, knowing the lorry had been driven through two cordons. (All four officers were rewarded from the Bow Street Fund)[46]

[45] Surrey Advertiser http://normandyhistorians.co.uk/press12.html
[46] Police Gallantry 1909-1978 J. Peter Farmer page 172

1942 June 18: Murder Canadian lines: Lieutenant William Hemmant 39 West Norwood who appeared before Guildford magistrates was committed for trial at Surrey Assizes charged with the murder of Charles Reginald Tapley a **Canadian soldier** at Guildford on June 4. Not guilty and reserved defence. [47]

1942 August: Brandy from Godstone Caves: Canadian Soldier Sent for Trial. Three Other Soldiers Fined for Receiving. **Four Canadian soldiers** were concerned in charges at the Oxted Court on Monday about the disappearance of 83 bottles of brandy (Prunier and Auduoin Freres) and five bottles of wine value £210 17s. 6d., from a store in the Godstone caves between August 3rd and 7th. Pte. Hedley George Cooke (40) was charged with stealing the brandy and wine, and Ptes Henry McKenzie (37), Henry Edmund Hoyt (32), and Robert Vaughan Crossman (36) with receiving it from Cooke. The Chairman (Mr. F.H. Elliott) said defendants were apparently good soldiers. McKenzie who organised this would be fined £7 10s and Hoyt and Crossman £5 each.[48]

The Wigwam Murder

1942 Wigwam murder of Joan Wolfe on Hankley Common August Sangret (28 August 1913 – 29 April 1943) was a French-Canadian soldier of native Indian birth who murdered Joan Wolfe in Surrey. Two marines on exercise 7 October 1942 William Moore and Geoffrey Cook found a

[47] The Times 18 June 1942
[48] Surrey Mirror, 21st August 1942

woman's arm protruding from the sandy soil. Sergeant Ballard of Surrey Constabulary attended with two PCs, followed by the Godalming superintendent Webb and later Detective Superintendent Roberts and Detective Inspector Boshier.

The victim was identified as Joan Pearl Wolfe, a nineteen-year-old girl who had run away from home and lived in the woods near the army base. A search of the vicinity revealed a number of finds including a birch stake, which matched the size of a missing piece of skull. National Insurance card in the name of Joan Pearl White was found as was an army marriage application in her name with date of birth 11 March 1923. A letter was found, written by Joan to August Sangret. The letter informed Sangret that Wolfe was pregnant. Wolfe was a camp follower and well known locally as the "wigwam girl" who lived in a kind of wigwam or shack built from branches and twigs by a French-Canadian soldier, part Cree Indian, aged 29 years, August Sangret from nearby Jasper Camp. Sangret had met Joan Wolfe in Godalming on 17 July 1942 and she became pregnant by him. Sangret told his friends that she was missing and with their help searched where Wolfe had been staying without success. Sangret made a fuss about missing his knife and getting his friends to look for it.

Chief Inspector Greeno of Scotland Yard was called in. There were one hundred thousand soldiers based in three camps within the vicinity, but links with Sangret were soon established. He made a lengthy statement to Greeno. Bloodstains were found on one of his army blankets but the analyst was unable to say for certain that it was blood let alone any grouping. Greeno thought that the stains were where a person 5ft 4 inches in height and stabbed in the same place as Joan would leave stains. Greeno then turned to the local policemen. PC Tim Halloran stationed at Godalming remembered a woman in July who looked as though she had been living rough. He had taken her to the police station for questioning together with her boyfriend. Halloran recalled that the man had been an Indian type, and he had written in his pocket book his name. It was August Sangret, aged twenty-eight, of the **Regina Rifles stationed at Jasper Camp**. He had made a note of the woman's name Joan Pearl Wolfe. He described her as 5ft 4ins tall with big breasts and big uneven teeth. She had dressed like a tramp but had a good speaking voice and she had worn a crucifix. On Monday 27th the knife was found in a waste pipe in the shower block at the camp and Simpson as able to prove this was the murder weapon.

The victim Joan Wolfe. **August Sangret**

Trial and punishment

Preliminary hearings were held at Guildford on 12, 13, 19 and 20 January 1943. With the committal proceedings complete, Captain Creasey noted in his diary that the case was "medium strong, circumstantial case only."[49]

The judge finished his summary with the words: **"**That the girl (Wolfe) was murdered is not in dispute; that she was murdered by some man is also quite plain; and the only question you have to determine is: Have the Crown satisfied you beyond all real doubt that the prisoner, August Sangret, is the man who murdered her? I can only conclude by saying what I said at the beginning; when dealing with a case of circumstantial

[49] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/August_Sangret - cite_note-FOOTNOTETrow1994138-139-11

evidence you must be satisfied beyond all doubt before you find the prisoner guilty. If you come to the conclusion that, on the facts as proved to you, no real doubt is left in your minds that his was the hand which slew this unhappy girl, then you will convict him.**"**

The jury, who took two hours to reach their verdict, made a strong recommendation to mercy. Before sentence of death was passed, Sangret declared, "I am not guilty. I never killed that girl." Sangret was held at Wandsworth Prison where he was hanged on 29 April 1943. [50]

Very surprisingly L/27572 Private August Sangret, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps, is commemorated on the Brookwood Memorial. His entry can be found on Panel 23, Column 3.

August Sangret on the Brookwood Memorial (Stephen Stratford 2010)[51]

On December 16th, 1942, Marguerite Kathleen Leaney, nee Bacon travelled by train to Farnborough, where her husband was on standby with the Tank Corps for embarkation to North Africa and had not seen their ten-week-old son. On her return journey from Guildford that afternoon, a lone Dornier 217 Bomber descended from the clouds looking for an opportunist target as the train was approaching Bramley Station. It was bombed and strafed by machine guns, killing seven and injuring many more. The raider was shortly afterwards pursued by a Beaufighter over the coast and crashed into a gasometer at Bognor killing the four crew members. Kathleen Leaney was struck in the side of the face by a bullet which shattered her jawbone and exited from the opposite temple taking out an eye. She also had deep penetration wounds from the glass from the shattered

[50] The Times 3 March 1943
[51] http://www.stephen-stratford.co.uk/wigwam_case.htm

windows. Her son Paul also had glass wounds and she remembered passing him down from the wrecked carriage to a **Canadian soldier** who helped her on foot along to the station.[52]

Canadian soldiers did great work in getting the injured out of the train and administering First Aid. [53]

1942 December 27: Police War Reserve Constable George Henry Dalton died 27 December 1942, aged 40: **Died in a collision** with a **Canadian army vehicle** in Church Road, Ash on the 17 December 1942 when cycling home from Ash Police Station.

1942 December 28: A **raid by two masked men** who were **Canadian soldiers** from Quebec led to a guilty plea to robbery with violence and a sentence of four years penal servitude. The violence was not serious, nor the amount of money taken high when the robbery occurred in an inn, the Withies at Compton. The licensee was kicked and punched on the head and a gun was shown. PS Forehead gave evidence that both men had previously been convicted. [54]

1944 April 14: The **murder of Constance Curtis**[55] a pretty 17-year-old factory worker was investigated by Inspector Springate in April 1944. On May 7th News of the World reported that police in an enquiry led by Detective Superintendent Roberts were trying to trace two **Canadian** soldiers. Constance had been to the fair where she was seen talking to Canadian soldiers one of whom Donovan was picked out on an ID parade at Cove. PS D. G. Hobbs found the girl on The Moors at 8 am on the 15th April. He saw a girl's dead body lying on the grass, which had been disturbed and two parallel lines ran from the area of trampled grass to where the body was lying, a distance of nearly sixty feet. He found a pair of girl's shoes, which appeared to have been pulled off by a hillock over which the body had been dragged. The body was naked except for her stockings and her clothing, which appeared to have been forcibly removed, had been thrown over her. A piece of her dress had been torn off and was wrapped around the body. [56] Dr Gardner undertook the PM and it appeared that the girl had been strangled and left naked except for her stockings[57]. The girl had been beaten to death.

[52] http://www.bbc.co.uk/ww2peopleswar/stories/17/a3574217.shtml
[53] "War on the Line" B Darwin published Southern Railway Company 1946 from Terry Kerslake
[54] Surrey Advertiser Feb 27, 1943
[55] News of the World 30 April 1944
[56] Camberley News and Bagshot Observer October 13, 1944
[57] Camberley News and Bagshot Observer October 13, 1944

The men were traced, and Sergeant Bicknall and PC Noakes initially interviewed one, John Francis Donovan. A further interview was undertaken by Detective Inspector HA Springate before being committed for trial where he was found not guilty his plea of mistaken identity was accepted. The prosecution case had rested on the confident identification of Donovan as the man who was with the deceased only an hour or two before her death; he made an alibi, which broke down; he gave contradictory evidence. A witness who had seen Connie leave the fair with Donovan went again when the fair returned the following week. She recognised Donovan as being the man with Connie and told PC Noakes who was on duty at the fair in plain clothes, probably tasked to find the suspect.[58] [59]

1944 June 28 Trial of Canadian soldiers: During the case of armed robbery against a Canadian soldier at Surrey Assizes the judge said, "In some respects it would be better for offences by Canadian soldiers to be dealt with by Canadian courts-martial. In my experience there is **great reluctance by juries to convict Canadians** and a natural reluctance in the part of any court to inflict punishment upon Canadian volunteers."[60]

1944 September 7: A **Canadian** was charged following an attack on September 7, 1944, of a lone heavily pregnant young married woman.[61] Private Horace R Gordon aged 28 a Canadian Soldier was committed for trial on a **charge of murdering by stabbing,** Dorothy May **Hillman** an eighteen-year-old married woman of less than a year, at Bramley. The victim who lived with her family in Palmer's Cross, Bramley left home with her dog and walked towards the Leathern Bottle. The accused was seen to cycle near her. Later two airmen found the victim crawling along covered in blood. She had eleven stab wounds to her body and had crawled one hundred yards before being found. A field service cap was found by the scene owned by Gordon. He said he had come across the woman after she had been attacked and tried to help her and said he left her to go to Cranleigh police to report what he had seen but took the wrong road and went to Hascombe. Detective Sergeant Storr and Detective Constable Gunning on patrol in a car at Hascombe stopped Gordon and found stains on his clothing. He said he had cut his hand and wiped it on his clothes. He had a khaki handkerchief with what appeared to be bloodstains on it. He had an open knife and packets of chewing gum, chocolate wrapping paper and cigarettes. At the scene of the attack was found chewing gum wrappings and papers from chocolate that could be linked to the suspect. When interviewed and charged Gordon did not deny being at the scene and that he had spoken to the woman who told him she had been attacked. He gave her a piece of chewing gum. He tried to wipe some of the blood off with grass and then his 'kerchief. [62]

[58] Camberley News and Bagshot Observer October 13, 1944
[59] News of the World Dec 10, 1944
[60] The Times 28 June 1944
[61] The Surrey Advertiser and County Times 28 October 1944
[62] The Surrey Advertiser and County Times 28 October 1944

Mrs Hillman lived to give birth to a still born child two days after the attack, make a clear statement of what happened to her and identified Gordon, before dying on the 22 September. Gordon was found guilty at Surrey Assizes Kingston before Mr Justice Humphries and sentenced to death. **1944 December 20: Murder appeal dismissed**: The Court of Criminal Appeal yesterday dismissed the appeal of Gordon. **8 January 1945: No reprieve for Canadian Soldier**: Horace Beresford Jordan a native of Jamaica and a soldier in the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps whose execution for murder was postponed pending the arrival of representations from the Canadian Government to the Home Secretary is not to be reprieved. The Home Secretary could find no grounds for interfering in the due course of law. Gordon was sentenced to death for murder of a young woman stabbed on September 7 and who died on the 22 September.[63]

Headley, Leatherhead: During the Second World War, Headley a small village but the centre of a large Canadian army encampment, received in the region of one hundred bomb hits including a near miss on the rectory with a flying bomb but no one was seriously injured. Headley Court became the headquarters of Canadian forces in Europe and Headley Heath was used as a training ground for engineers building airstrips and trench systems then demolishing them again.

German plane crashing close to **Kingswood Church;** the pilot was captured by Canadian troops who were billeted around the area.

1945 March 23 Westcott: A corporal of the **Royal Highlanders of Canada** was shot and **killed** during a firing exercise at Westcott Rifle Buts last week. Accidental death was recorded –a stray bullet from Bren gun firing on the next range may have been the cause.[64]

1946 February 7: It is fair to say that with one or two notable exceptions such as the riot in Aldershot in July 1945, relations between the British populace and the Canadians improved to the extent that **congratulatory letters** were sent to the General Office commanding these troops and even the ill-used British police and magistrates had some kind words to say about them. W.H. Pilcher JP Chairman of Godalming Petty Sessions in remarks made from the Bench:

"As this is probably the last Annual Licensing Meeting before the departure of our Canadian friends, I think a word of commendation is due to them and the troops generally ---- the justices feel that the average standard of behaviour --- has been very good, especially on the streets at night

[63] The Times 8 January 1945
[64] Dorking in Wartime David Knight

--- I should like the superintendent to bring this expression to the notice of the officer commanding Witley camp. Some share of the credit is due to the Licensees and to the police and we hope Godalming will preserve its good name in the matter" Superintendent R Webb endorsed entirely the remarks with regards to the behaviour of the troops, to which the Chairman replied, "Great credit is due to you personally." [65]

Superintendent Webb wrote to Brigadier T.J. Rutherford commanding E Group of the Canadian reinforcement units, expressing appreciation of the "excellent conduct" of the Canadians during local VE Day celebrations. Not one complaint had been received.

[65] "The Gentlemen at War" Roy Ingleton page 247