Surrey Constabulary History
'An in depth history of policing in Surrey'

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Surrey Constabulary History 109

Richard Johnson and Peter Deane, Surrey Constabulary, Chertsey Traffic

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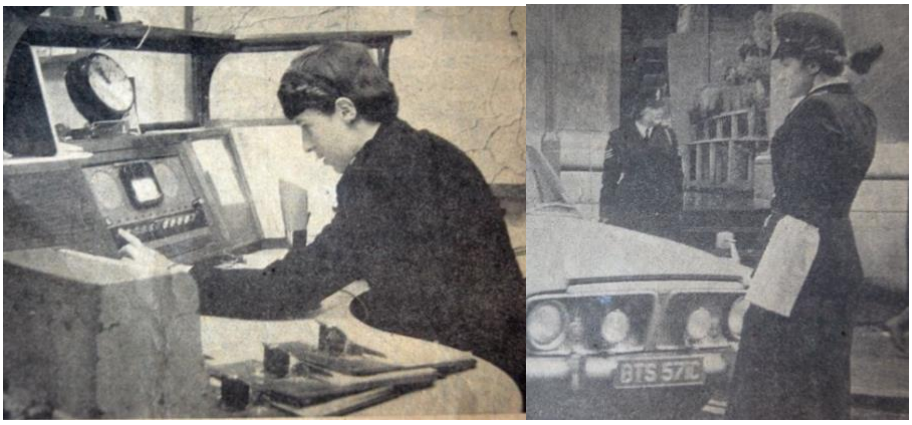
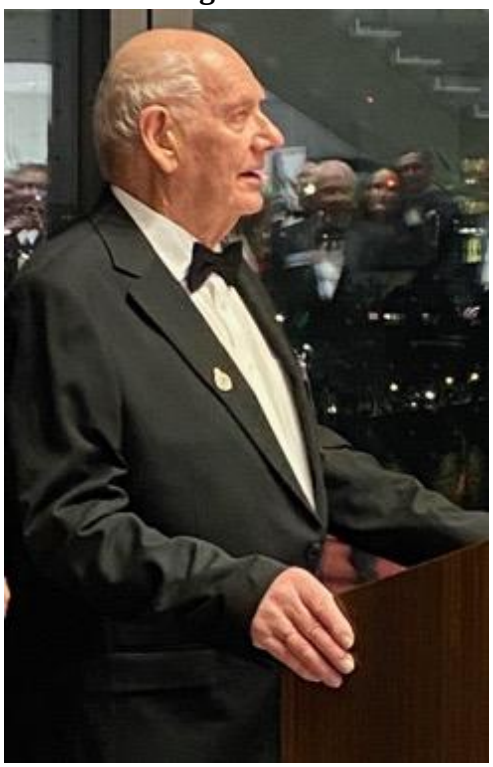


Police women in Guildford in the mid 1960s

Henry Pelham a direct descendant of Inspector Donaldson killed on duty in Haslemere in July 1855 was presented with the plaque above, at the USA embassy in December by the Police Roll of Honour Trust in recognition of his fundraising.



Rev David Wilbraham and Henry Pelham – presentation to Police Roll of Honour Trust

Henry and Jean Pelham

The Police Remembrance Trust ‘Christmas Event 2023’

(Formally ‘The Roll of Honour Trust’ & ‘National Police Memorial Day now merged)

Jean and Henry Pelham

My wife Jean and I were honoured to be invited to The Police Remembrance Trust Christmas event', held on Thursday 7th December 2023, at the American Embassy in London.

On arrival at the Embassy just before 6pm and with the normal security checks being carried out, we were escorted in small groups to a reception area, a large room with glass windows on two sides giving a fantastic colourful evening view of London, as far as the eye could see with all the lights on the buildings, including the London Eye, all reflecting on the river.

The reception room soon filled with patrons, trustees and members being served with a seemingly endless supply of drinks and canapés and much talk amongst us, although the members we spoke with were a little be-mused as to our presence, although this would become very obvious as the evening progressed.

Rev Canon David Wilbraham, the former National Police Chaplain brought the evening to order by inviting members to give updates to the current projects, in particular the Trust's memorial being planned that would be located in Wales, the only home country at present without one.

David Wilbraham, then began his evening address, beginning by describing Haslemere as it is today, a very affluent railway commuter town, with all the well known people that have lived there over the years, but soon began describing how the town was in 1855 with the coming of the railway, the influence of the railway navies and graphically telling of the Donaldson incident on the night of the 29th July 1855, which really brought a great silence to the evening, he then went on to tell that a relative had researched Inspector Donaldson's life and had produced a well researched book. David then introduced both Jean and me. It was Jean who initially discovered William Donaldson through her family history hobby. I am the direct descendant of Inspector Donaldson and author of the book, using Jean's research. He then went on to explain that our presence was in fact to present a cheque of £1500 to the Trust; this was in fact the second donation, the first was for £500. With that, the cheque was handed to David Wilbraham, who in turn presented us with a glass plaque with the Trust's insignia, which was something we did not expect and will stand with great pride on our mantelpiece for all to see.

Once the applause had subsided, I was asked to say a few words in return, this was totally unexpected, especially with me well out of my comfort zone. I began by thanking the Trust for inviting both Jean and I to their event and went on to explain that we knew nothing of Inspector Donaldson until Jean, in 2010, heard a chance remark from my elderly cousin that 'there had been a policeman in the family.' That is all he knew which set Jean on a mission to find out more. By this time, we were both in retirement, which Jean found easier than me, I was a lost soul. By 2015 someone suggested that I wrote the biography of my ancestor, this really turned my life around, the book became a vehicle taking me out of the doldrums of retirement into something more exciting.

The self-published book became a reality in 2020, it was then we decided that given all the help we had received from the many police organisations the proceeds should go to a police

charity, more specifically the Roll of Honour Trust, which William's name appears on its various memorials.

Only 300 books were printed and we are amazed at how much money they have raised through sales, donations from the many talks I have given to history and family history clubs in my locality and also ones given direct to me for my charity. As I said in the beginning it is all down to Jean and William Donaldson giving me a new life in retirement for which I am eternally grateful.

And as David Wilbraham often reminds me of 'the great gift my ancestor has given me'. Never a day passes without Williams's name being mentioned by one of us.

This was followed by great applause, from there both Jean and I were swamped with many questions as well as many offers to help us achieve even more with our sales, maybe a book reprint is on the cards after all.

We are also pleased to say that in the New Year the book will be offered for sale on the Trust's merchandising website, details are still to be worked out and finalised, the impasse of getting the book in the 'Book-em' section of the NARPO magazine has been sorted and should appear shortly, there is also a possibility of a Trust Memorial to Inspector Donaldson being placed at Haslemere, but not sure as to what form it will take, or when it will happen, the idea is still in the very early stages.

We were also told by a few that the Donaldson story is not a Surrey story, but more a story that happened in Surrey, many at the gathering could relate to it, and being in a similar situation, thankfully not with the same final outcome.

Through this Journal Jean and I would like to thank everyone for their support and help, either with information whilst compiling the book or in so many other ways including Donaldson Day at Haslemere. With a special mention to Kevin Morris, Tony Suter and our two mentors Bob Bartlett and the Rev Canon David Wilbraham, where would we be without you.
Thank you.

Why was the event held at the American Embassy ? Functions held by the Roll of Honour Trust at the American Embassy in London are due to a special arrangement between the United States and the Roll of Honour Trust following the death on the 17th July 2018, of Special Agent Nole Edward Remagen, aged 42, U.S. Secret Service, who died two days after suffering a fatal stroke while on Presidential protection duty in Ayrshire, Scotland. He is survived by his wife and two children.

Special Agent Remagen was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran. He served with the United States Secret Service for 19 years and was assigned to the Presidential Protection Division.

U.K. Police Roll of Honour Citation – Died on Duty whilst undertaking protection duties in Scotland during the 2018 US Presidential visit to the United Kingdom.

Nole Remagen

Not Through Strength But Guile

Heading from **Old and Bold** Number Three July 2003:

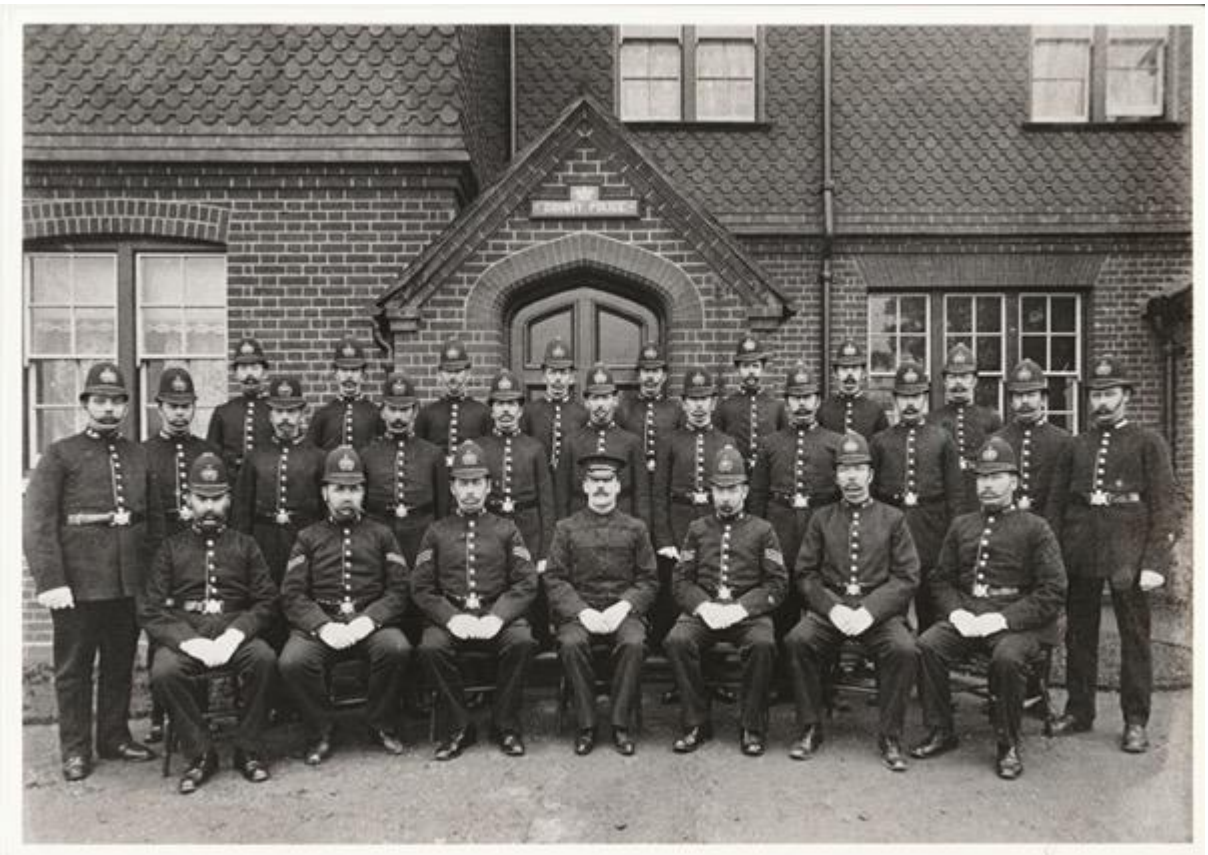
ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER FOR RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE SURREY CONSTABULARY (POLICE)

"NOT THROUGH STRENGTH BUT GUILE"

Number Three July 2003

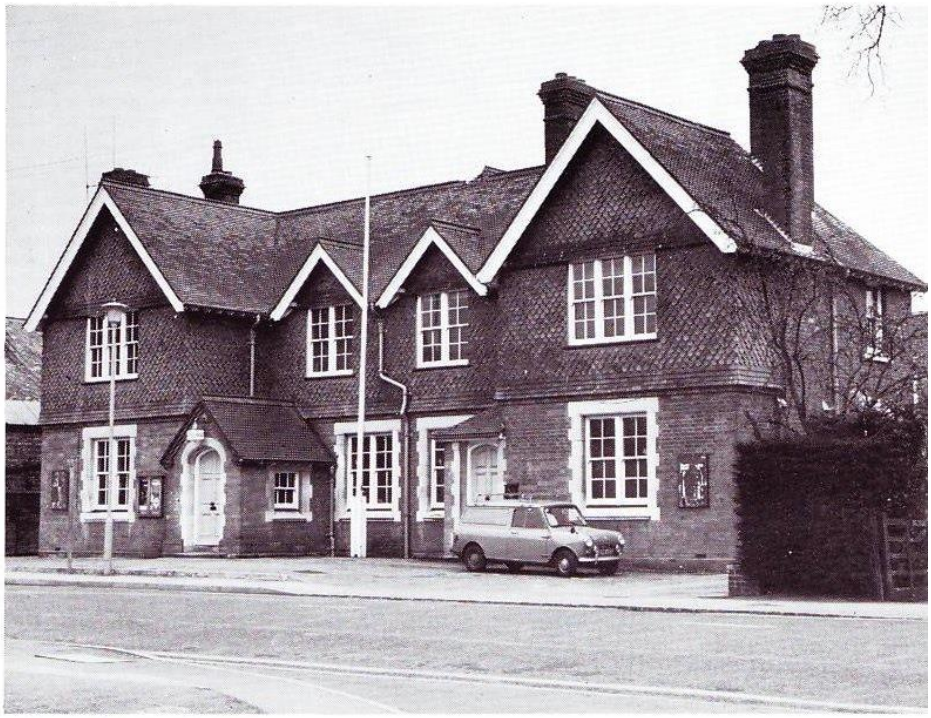
When your editor unleashed Old and Bold on the unsuspecting retired of the Surrey Constabulary in July 2003 a motto appeared as a banner at the top of the opening page. That motto "Not through strength but guile" was that of the Long Range Desert Group an organisation I have respected and read about for many years. (Later the motto was adopted by the Special Boat Service) Translated from the Latin, Non vid sed arte, this short motto encapsulated for me a philosophy of life for the retired and of course older people whose strength was not as it was. But when you consider these four short words, they have a resonance for the modern police officer. Guile is to be preferred to strength, but the use of strength or force as in Police Force must be retained and used proportionately and with discretion.

Where was this photograph taken?



Surrey Constabulary about 1910 – where was it taken and who is the inspector?

Is it Horley About 1910?



HORLEY POLICE STATION

Tony Collman

I have spent a bit of time studying the picture and I do not think the picture is of Horley Police Station. Here are my reasons –

- The drainpipe is between two windows and not on the left of the window like the picture with the police in. I cannot see the drainpipe being moved.
- There is a County Police sign above the doorway whereas the picture with the police on has a light where the County Police sign is. I appreciate the light could have been fitted and the sign moved.
- There is one large single window in the picture of Horley police station, whereas the picture with the police on has three separate windows. I appreciate windows can be changed.

I believe that there were several police stations, built in Surrey that were either the same or very similar. I know Caterham, Godalming and Horley at least. I am not sure about any others.

I looked through Gerry Middleton Stewart's book as I remembered that there were some pictures of police stations in it. If you look at page 31 and page 71, it shows Godalming police station.

The picture of Godalming police station looks very much like the picture you sent me. Both pictures have the County Police sign in the same places. The Crown on the County Police sign

appears to be a Victorian one. The window on the ground floor to the right of the picture, is the same design not being one large window.

I believe that the police officers are from Surrey Constabulary, wearing Kings crown wreath helmet plates.

I agree with you that it is probably pre-WW1 due to them not wearing medal ribbons and post 1902 due to the King's crown helmet plate they appear to be wearing.

The officer in the middle could be an inspector. His uniform is very similar to that worn by the officer in Gerry's book page 35, Woking Division 1910. They don't appear to be wearing a cap badge and don't have any braiding on the peak like a Superintendent's cap.

I have attached a picture of the Kings Crown belt buckle that I believe that they are wearing. The helmet plate with number 2 in is the type of badge I believe that that they are wearing. I don't believe that they are wearing a Victorian badge like the helmet plate with 214 in. You can see the different shapes of the crowns.

I have also attached a picture of a Victorian County Police sign that I know that is from Surrey Constabulary. The one in the picture with the police on is the same/similar.

I don't believe the picture is of police officers from Reigate Borough Police or Guildford Borough Police.

PC Alan Wharton

Geoff Todd

I knew Alan Wharton, as mentioned in the last edition of Surrey Constabulary History, I think it was from time on Oxted Division, either at Caterham or the divisional station, probably the former. Think his collar number was 536. The other name is Hewitt. He was PC 232 serving at Caterham. Believe he served in Cyprus before joining the police. He had one of the newly built police houses in Godstone Road, Whyteleafe possibly no 200 next door to my school mate Brian Corrie.

old soldiers!

C. E. (Carl or "Nick") Carter of the "White Hart" Hotel, Quadring, near Spalding, Lincolnshire, writes to say he would be pleased to hear from any member of 109, 112, or 174 (Ports) Provost Companies, Western Command Headquarters or Camp 18.

Ex-L./Cpl. Alan Whorton (*Journal* clerk until his release last year) writes that he is settling down well in the Surrey Police and hopes soon to get a police house. A wedding day photograph of him and his wife appears on the centre page. He says the following Old Comrades are serving in the Surrey Police: **P.C. Cooper** (ex-Mounted Section, M.E.L.F.), **P.C. Hewitt** (ex-B.A.O.R.), and **P.C. Keywood** (ex-Trieste).

Capt. S. G. Amer called in recently to see Lieut.-Colonel Wilkinson. It will be remembered that he served most of his time with us in the Middle East. He is now employed with the Volkswagen Motor Company of Great Britain as liaison officer and sales representative. He spends much of his time visiting Germany. His friends will be sorry to hear that his wife died last December.

Mr. E. Thompson, chairman of **Preston Branch** R.M.P.A., writes that at the branch annual

Alan Whorton 1977

Retired Surrey Constabulary officer lost his home through bombing.

At the start of WW11, my parents lived in a rented house, Chalgrove, Farnborough Road, Heath End, Farnham. My father joined the RAF and was stationed in Morecambe, Lancashire. My mother took me, as a toddler, there to visit him. While there, they received news that the house had been bombed. This is believed to have been in 1940.

The story was that a German bomber was returning from a sortie and had one bomb left. The pilot spotted an army convoy on Farnborough Road and decided to drop his remaining bomb on it, The bomb was caught in the wind and landed in the back garden of the house, blowing out the back of the house. By the time they returned home, my parents found that the house had been looted and everything of value had been stolen.

I would love to know more about it.

Jenny Tuffs

I am afraid that I cannot be of much help to Tony Forward, as you can see from the example attached from The Surrey Advertiser September 21st 1940, names of places bombed were not mentioned just the general area. I did widen the search for several more years without any luck.

I found his family on 1939 Register (attached). Mary is listed twice, once with the family, (the record officially closed is Tony as the name is not revealed until the person reaches 100years old or they have died), and the other time where I imagine she worked as a domestic (U.D.D. stands for unpaid domestic duties).I did look in the newspapers for the names of adjoining houses and their occupants again without any luck.

BOMBS SCATTERED AT RANDOM

In an area covering several towns and villages in the South-East numerous high-explosive and incendiary bombs were scattered during Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Only one high-explosive bomb made a direct hit on property, and there was not a single casualty.

Several high-explosive bombs fell in the grounds of a boys' residential college, most of the windows of which were blown in. The boys were due to return to the college on Thursday morning. In another district a bomb made a crater in the garden of a large house, but only a few windows of the house were broken. The occupants were spending their last night in the house.

In other districts bombs fell in the gardens of a village policeman and of a member of the Home Guard. Apart from broken windows, the damage throughout the whole area was negligible.

Most of the incendiary bombs fell in open country. One minor fire was started among the heather bank at a nursery which the owner was proposing to clear.

Beyond shock, happily, no one was injured when bombs fell in the countryside near a South-East town on Wednesday night. The bombs were distributed in a fairly wide area, and one of them did some damage to a residence near which it fell and to another house over 30 yards away.

The residence chiefly affected—the bomb fell on a lawn at the rear—is a two-storeyed brick-built, half-timbered and tile-hung one. It was built three or four years ago.

Blast from the bomb partly demolished a garage.

A rabbit was the only casualty in another district in which several bombs fell on Thursday. The bombs dropped in the open.

Unfortunately, The Farnham Herald is not yet available to search online . There is a Facebook page - Historic Farnham Town and Surrounding Villages- that it may be worthwhile joining and posting a message to see if anyone can help.

Retired officer Mick Weyland has volunteered to visit the archives to scope the nature of the records held there and if possible, to see if any mention is made of the Farnham attack on the confidential returns to government. Volunteers to undertake research at the county archives will always be welcome.

Home Front

Second World War Defences in Surrey

Chris Shepheard and Alan Crocker

https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/sites/default/files/aspects18.pdf

Surrey Archaeological Society, 2004

Nodal points

A nodal point in the Second World War was defined (DoB 2002) as a defended town or village 'situated at a tactically important centre of communications which it is intended to deny to the enemy until our counterattack can develop' and which 'may also serve as a pivot for the manoeuvre of reserves'. There were two categories of these nodal points. Type A might become isolated and have to hold out for six days before relief. Type B might have to hold out for three days.

Co-ordination of military and civil plans was to be ensured by the creation of a 'triumvirate' consisting of the local military commander, the senior police officer or his representative and a civil officer, who might be the mayor or the chairman of the council. In Surrey there were category A nodal points, administered from Chatham garrison, at Dorking, Guildford and Redhill, and category B at Betchworth, Byfleet, Cranleigh, Egham, Godaiming, Godstone, Haslemere, Horley, Leatherhead, Limpsfield, Newchapel and Shere.

A Home Guard outline plan of the defences of Dorking is held by Dorking Museum and a redrawn detail of this is shown below. The nodal point HQ was located at the Dorking Urban District Council headquarters at Pippbrook, near the centre of the figure (Knight 1989). It is shown heavily defended, with a linear fixed anti-tank obstacle on the north and east sides, four movable anti-tank obstacles on approach roads and five rifle points at key positions.

The site was also surrounded by barbed-wire fencing, except for small sections where presumably there were other barriers. At the east end of the town, the junction of the north-south A24 and the east—west A25 roads is shown protected by movable anti-tank obstacles, a barbed- wire fence, two rifle posts, a mortar post and a projector post. Again, to the north, Deepdene station and the adjacent railway bridge over the A24 are shown heavily defended. In particular there is a movable anti-tank obstacle across the railway track. At the north-east corner

of figure 18.3 is shown a small section of a barbed-wire fence which surrounded most of the town. Within this, to the south of Pippbrook but outside the area shown, was Deepdene House, which was the wartime head quarters of the Southern Railway, with radio communication controlling the southern network as far as Exeter. This had four movable anti-tank obstacles and barbed-wire fencing but no armaments are indicated. A major part of the town, from the vicarage in the west to the A24 in the east and from the railway in the north to Rose Hill in the south, was divided into eight separately protected sectors and it appears that all the roads surrounding this area were either blocked or protected by movable anti-tank obstacles. In all, 28 of these obstacles are shown, eleven of which are present on figure 18.3. An example of an anti-tank obstacle being tested at an unknown location in Surrey is shown below.

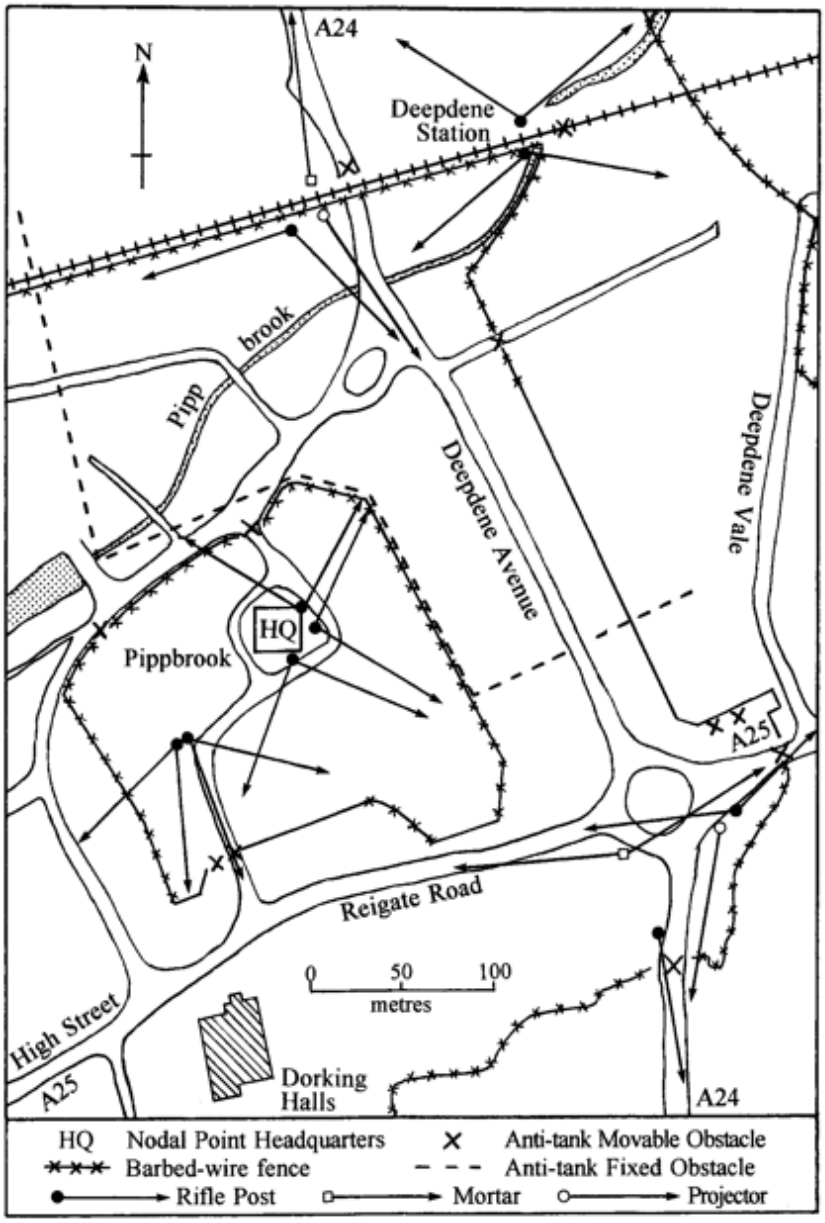


Fig 18.3 Redrawn detail of a plan of the proposed defences around the Type A Nodal point of Dorking during the Second World War. The headquarters, located at Pippbrook, Deepdene railway station and the junction of the A24 and A25 roads are all well-defended.

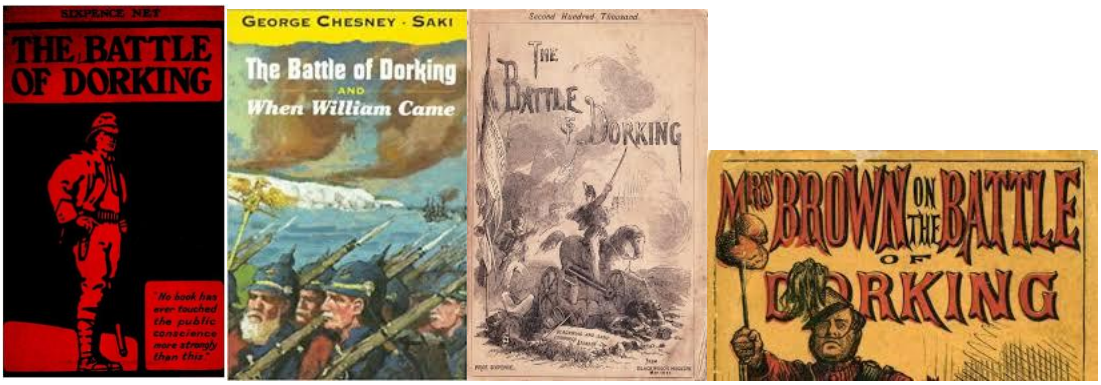
Invasion Threat First World War

Robert Bartlett

Invasion literature (also the invasion novel) is a literary genre that was popular in the period between 1871 and the First World War (1914–1918). The invasion novel first was recognized as a literary genre in the UK, with the novella "The Battle of Dorking: The Reminiscences of a Volunteer" (1871) an account of a German invasion of England, which, in the Western world, aroused the national imaginations and anxieties about hypothetical invasions by foreign powers. By 1914 the genre of invasion literature comprised more than 400 novels and stories.

As political literature, the invasion novel influenced British politics and national policies, and thus Britons' popular perceptions of the peoples of the world. In the period before the First World War, much of this fiction was written by military officers or were ghost-written for geopolitical experts who believed that their nations would be saved if their national governments adopted the strategies and tactics they proposed in fiction. It could well be this was the origin for the invasion scare and preparations in the early stages of the First World War. [1]

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Battle_of_Dorking



Nearly a century before the invasion literature became a true popular phenomenon after the publication of The Battle of Dorking, a mini-boom of invasion stories appeared soon after the French developed the hot-air balloon. Poems and plays that centred on armies of balloons invading England could be found in France, and even America. However, it was not until the Prussians used advanced technologies such as breech-loading artillery and railroads to defeat the French in the Franco-Prussian War in 1871 that the fear of invasion by a technologically superior enemy became more realistic.

The Battle of Dorking by George Tomkyns Chesney, was first published in Blackwood's Magazine, a respected political journal of the Victorian era. The book describes the invasion of England by an unnamed enemy (who speak German), in which the narrator and a thousand citizens defend the town of Dorking, with neither supplies, matériel, or news of outside world. The narrative of the story then moves forward fifty years in time, and England remains devastated.

The author, like many of his countrymen at the time, was alarmed by Prussia's successful invasion of France in 1870, defeating Europe's largest army in only two months. The Battle of Dorking was initially meant to shock readers into becoming more aware of the possible dangers of a foreign threat, but unwittingly developed popular anxieties. The story was an immediate success, with one reviewer saying, "We do not know that we ever saw anything better in any magazine... it describes exactly what we all feel." It was so popular that the magazine was re-printed six times, a new pamphlet version was created, dozens of spoofs were created, and it was for sale throughout the British Empire.

Between the publication of The Battle of Dorking in 1871 and the start of the First World War in 1914 there were hundreds of authors writing invasion literature, often topping the best seller lists in Germany, France, England and the United States. During the period it is estimated over 400 invasion works were published. Probably the best known work was H. G. Wells' "The War of the Worlds" (1898), bearing plot similarities to The Battle of Dorking but with a science fiction theme. This work was also based on Surrey, Woking. [2]

Between 1870 and 1903 the majority of these works assumed that the enemy would be France, rather than Germany. This changed with the publication of Erskine Childers's 1903 novel The

[2] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invasion_literature

Riddle of the Sands. Often called the first modern spy novel, two men on a sailing holiday thwart a German invasion of England when they discover a secret fleet of invasion barges assembling on the German coast.

William Le Queux was the most prolific author of the genre; his first novel was The Great War in England in 1897 (1894) and he went on to publish from one to twelve novels a year until his death in 1927. Le Queux's most popular invasion novel was " The Invasion of 1910"(1906) which was translated into twenty-seven languages selling more than a million copies world-wide. Le Queux and his publisher changed the ending depending on the language, so in the German print edition the fatherland wins, while in the English edition the Germans lose.[3]

Were there any plans to invade the United Kingdom? Imperial German plans for the invasion of the United Kingdom were first conceived in 1897 by Admiral Eduard von Knorr, commander of the Imperial German Navy, against a background of increasing Anglo-German rivalry and German naval expansion. Acknowledging the inferiority of the small German fleet, his concept called for a pre-emptive strike against the Royal Navy to establish temporary naval supremacy. This would be followed by an immediate landing, before British naval reinforcements re-established command of the sea. Subsequent studies determined that the shortest possible sea-crossing would be a prerequisite for success, requiring the use of port facilities seized in Belgium and the Netherlands to embark the expeditionary force. Reconnaissance of the English east coast was completed and potential landing sites in East Anglia were selected.

Comments were invited from Alfred von Schlieffen, Chief of the German General Staff, who regarded an invasion to be impractical. His staff estimated that it would require up to 320,000 troops to defeat the British home defences and capture London, and that a quick victory would be necessary if the expeditionary force was not to be cut off and forced to surrender. The plans were opposed throughout by Admiral Alfred von Tirpitz, State Secretary of the German Imperial Naval Office. They were shelved in 1899 when it became apparent that the German navy and merchant marine were not sufficiently strong to accomplish an invasion without compromising the secrecy considered essential for success.[4]

Intelligence about German future plans were either lacking or ignored by the planners. It could be as simple as those with authority were convinced by invasion literature that there would be an attempted invasion and therefore made military and home front plans to meet that threat.

The threat of German invasion was taken very seriously and in November 1914 the government issued instructions for measures to be taken in the event of a hostile landing. These measures were to be carried out at the direction of the military authorities and under the guidance of the police. In Surrey, the Surrey Central Defence Committee coordinated planning, with area emergency committees in each petty sessional division and parish emergency committees under the area committees. The local committees drew up detailed plans for the removal of vehicles and livestock, the destruction of supplies, and the disabling of bridges, railways and electric power. Surrey local authorities were also involved in the defence of London, for which

[3] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invasion_literature
[4] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_German_plans_for_the_invasion_of_the_United_Kingdom

elaborate plans were prepared by the War Office. Dorking Urban and Rural District Councils, among other local authorities, were requested to draw up lists of men and equipment for trench digging and the construction of emergency defences. This scheme continued in force for the duration of the war though the threat of invasion had long since receded.[5]

British fears of invasion have been interpreted widely. What is far less clear is the relationship between these fears and official policy. Were they, as Niall Ferguson has observed, "completely divorced from strategic reality"?[6] The answer depends on what one considers strategic reality to be. We now know that neither the Germans nor the French formed any serious plans for the invasion of Britain between 1900 and 1914. However, this was not the impression held by many British strategists at the time. (Influenced by the novels?)

Indeed, by degrees, the decade before the outbreak of the First World War witnessed a collapse in the Royal Navy's confidence in its ability to prevent an invasion of the British Isles. For a series of operational and infrastructural reasons, Britain's naval leadership devoted more and more time, attention, and resources, to the increasingly urgent task of defending her eastern seaboard. Even as Admiral Sir John "Jacky" Fisher was encouraging an audience in London to "sleep quiet in your beds, and not to be disturbed by these bogeys — invasion and otherwise" in 1907, he was presiding over top-secret plans to use the Navy's newest warships — including HMS *Dreadnought* — in an ambitious and risky plan to forestall a German landing. By the outbreak of War in 1914, one officer in the Admiralty planning section complained at the extent to which the need to safeguard the east coast was obliging the Navy to run risks with the British Fleet, lamenting "the very powerful and insidious reaction on our naval strategy" which the situation had produced.[7]

This crisis in naval confidence was the product of the shifting balance of power and operational conditions in the North Sea, which made observing German movements extremely difficult. In an age before radar or effective aerial spotting, the "castles of steel" of the British Fleet were blind over the horizon — a fact which, it was felt, gave the Germans a chance at slipping out of port and across the North Sea undetected. Yet it was also the product of failings at the highest level of government.[8]

It was the General Staff's ambition to enlarge the expeditionary force, and to rely on second-line troops of the Territorial Force to repel any invaders who did make it past the Fleet at sea. The widespread lack of faith in the efficiency of these troops — "a mass of cotton wool instead of a quarter-inch plate" according to Winston Churchill, the First Lord of the Admiralty, left the Navy feeling under the utmost pressure to adopt a defensive stance and to prevent *any* landing, no matter how small, at the expense of plans to use the Fleet in a more

[5] https://www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/subjects/defending/counter-invasion/
[6] https://blog.oup.com/2017/09/invasion-fears-britain/ David G Morgan-Owen 2017
[7] https://blog.oup.com/2017/09/invasion-fears-britain/ David G Morgan Owen 2017
[8] https://blog.oup.com/2017/09/invasion-fears-britain/ David G Morgan Owen 2017

aggressive manner. No foreign army set sail for British shores in 1914 but preparing to meet one exercised a crucial role in shaping how the nation prepared itself for War.[9]

Interesting evidence of this can be found at local level in Surrey in early 1915. As a large county situated next to some key southern coastal counties, the authorities in Surrey had to develop detailed contingency plans for how the whole area would deal with the impact of fighting on the south coast, and the potential mass movement of people and livestock this might entail. The plan appeared to give priority to ensuring successful evacuation of livestock (thus securing valuable food supplies), but minimising the movement of ordinary civilians, thereby avoiding clogging up major county roads or the main Surrey railway stations. On January 20th, 1915, for example, the Surrey Comet newspaper, based in Kingston-on-Thames, published a lengthy article on 'The Defence of the Realm', which described for readers "How Surrey Would be Affected by Invasion".

The Comet noted that a 'preliminary notice regarding prospective measures to be taken under the Defence of the Realm Act in case of emergency' had been issued and published in the press in the previous month. Moreover, said the newspaper, the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey was now of the opinion "that further information as to the measures being taken should now be communicated to the public".[10]

The measures, as the Comet summarised them, involved possible interference with "the normal routine of the population, the vehicular traffic, and the livestock of the County", and this necessitated "careful preparation beforehand", with "precautionary measures" taken in advance. As the newspaper explained: "The County of Surrey can only be affected by a raid on the Kentish or Sussex coasts accompanied by a landing of the enemy's troops. Even then it will not be immediately affected, but the first probable result might be a movement of population, vehicles and livestock from the Coast Counties into Surrey'.

The prospective measures would also involve an important role for the police: "Should it be necessary at any time to clear any portion of the county for military operations, notices will be sent through the police to individual owners in regard to various types of vehicles or live stock, etc., giving them orders for removal or destruction."

Readers were also informed that 'special routes' had been laid out in these plans, "avoiding main roads for the removal of cattle", and arrangements had been made for "local guides", with "billeting stations fixed, and areas into which livestock will be removed selected." Owners of animals, it was added, 'would furnish their own herdsmen'.

As for the county's civilian population more generally, a firm but also reassuring tone was struck in the official guidance, possibly designed to avoid creating mass panic in the event of

[9] https://blog.oup.com/2017/09/invasion-fears-britain/ David G Morgan Owen 2017

[10] https://historyatkingston.wordpress.com/2018/05/30/wake-up-invasion-fears-in-surrey-during-early-world-war-one/

nearby fighting: “The public are not required or advised to leave their homes when an emergency arises, but if any person contemplates doing so, it will not be wise to leave it to the last moment, as the railways may not be available for the movement of civilians and road traffic may be interfered with owing to military requirements”. The guidance added: “A general exodus of the population of Surrey would appear to be impracticable.”

Civilians were also warned that the actual defence of the county was to be in the hands of authorised forces only: “The civil population will not be allowed to bear arms unless duly enlisted in a Volunteer Corps which has been recognised by the War Office. A register of affiliated Volunteer Corps is being made.”

Unsurprisingly, the same issue of the Surrey Comet which carried this official guidance also devoted its editorial column to commenting on the advice: “However unwilling most people are to contemplate invasion or an air raid as imminent, and however we may hope the event will prove that such confidence is well-placed, prudence suggests preparations and adequate arrangements beforehand, less the unexpected happens.”

The Comet editorial argued that, just for that reason, the public “are advised to study carefully” the official notice issued by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey and also by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

It is difficult to know or to measure to what extent local people in Surrey did indeed study such advice, but it is also worth noting that, just a few weeks later, the possibility of invasion by the Germans was still being raised by local officials in the county in order to keep people fully alert. In March 1915, for example, the Mayor of Kingston, Alderman C.H. Burge at a special screening of the War Office recruitment film Wake Up! in Kingston, commented that the film dealt with ‘the question of invasion. Burge said that the purpose of the film was “to bring home to the minds of a certain section of the community the very real danger that would follow invasion of this country.” He said that “those who thought everything would be all right”, and who thought that there was no need for special preparation, were “the dreamers upon whom ruin might descend”, and: “He wanted them to realise that the German armies were as near to them as the town of Bristol…”[11]

On 8 August 1914, the House of Commons passed the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA) without debate. During the war the Act was amended, and its scope was expanded. The Act gave sweeping powers to the Government, including press censorship over troop movements and criticism of the government itself. Imprisonment without trial was also introduced. It was also illegal to:

Talk about naval or military matters in public places.
Spread rumours about military matters or take photographs of military bases.
Buy binoculars.

[11] Surrey History Centre Written by Dr Steven Woodbridge, Senior Lecturer in History at Kingston University

Trespass on railway lines, tunnels and bridges, or loiter near them.
Light bonfires or fly a kite, which might attract enemy aircraft or Zeppelins.
Ring church bells.
Feed bread to animals.
Write with invisible ink.

There were odder prohibitions like whistling for a taxi, in case it was mistaken for an air raid warning or buying brandy or whisky at railway refreshment rooms. Later in the war there were restrictions on public house opening times, to prevent drunkenness.[12]

Surrey was divided into areas, which corresponded to the Petty Sessional Divisions of the county. The South Eastern Area covered the parishes of Betchworth, Buckland, Burstow, Chaldon, Charlwood, Chipstead, Gatton, Horley, Kingswood, Leigh, Merstham and Nutfield. Within each parish a committee was to be appointed to oversee local anti-invasion measures.

In November 1914 the government issued instructions for measures to be taken in the event of a hostile landing. These measures were to be carried out at the direction of the military authorities and under the guidance of the police. In Surrey Area Emergency Committees were set up in each petty sessional division, with local parish Emergency Committees under them, in order to make detailed contingency plans and to set up machinery which, in the event of an emergency, would supplement the existing police organisation. These were to be co-ordinated by a small Central Organising Committee formed by the Lord Lieutenant, of which the Chief Constable and the General Officer Commanding in Chief were to be members. The plans made by local committees were to cover the removal of vehicles and livestock without hindrance to troop movement, the destruction of supplies and forage, and the disabling under specific military direction of bridges, railways and electric power and similar plant.

The Surrey Central Defence Committee was clerked from Caxton House, Westminster (the London offices of Surrey County Council), Henry C Baggallay acting as Hon Secretary. Special Constables were appointed to assist the police in carrying out the local plans.

The minutes and papers of the committee appointed in Horley have survived[13] and provide a very detailed account of the work of the committee in the early years of the war. George Freeman JP of Pickets was chosen as chairman and Edward Blundell of the Chequers Hotel appointed secretary. The others committee members were Henry Webber JP, of Elm Cottage, Bernard W Parson JP, of Hookwood, the Rev. H J Lewis, vicar of Horley, Walter J Hallett of Oakwood Road, Adolph Brandt of The Chequers Hotel and the Rev R P E. Cheeseman, vicar of Salfords.

The first meeting of the committee took place on 26 November 1914 at Albert Road School, but subsequent meetings were held at the Committee Room at the Constitutional Club, Horley.

[12] www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/horley-and-the-defence-of-the-realm-act/ Laurence Spring
[13] SHC ref 6296/1/1/39-40

Lewis, Hallett, Jennings, Brandt and Cheeseman were also special constables within the parish.[14]

On the committee meeting at Horley on 3 December 1914 it was agreed to compile a list of all those who owned cars and bicycles. This was later followed by a census of all livestock within the parish. The census discovered that 109 people owned 536 vehicles, ranging from motor cars to horse and carts; Mr Edward Brocklehurst of Kinnersley Manor had the largest number of vehicles, although what these 17 vehicles were, is not recorded, whereas Richard Cook, the fishmonger, had just one 'vehicle' and Mr Jones the butcher had five vehicles. There were also 779 bicycles in Horley at this time, including 20 bicycles at the cycle shop run by Mr A. H. Waters and 12 at the cycle shop in Victoria Road, owned by T. A. Wyatt.[15]

The livestock in the parish was recorded as follows: horses (including ponies and asses), 338; sheep, 1,577; cows, 551; pigs, over 756; goats, 2; neat stock etc, 626 (including 1 donkey). In the event of an invasion the special constables were to divide the animals into herds of not more than 150 head of cattle and lead them to the designated rendezvous where another special constable would take charge of them.[16]

To enforce these regulations there were 25 special constables divided into five parties under a committee member, plus an additional 24 special constables, some of whom were assigned specific duties. Some were in charge of a certain area, for example A S Jennings, with H Buckle and W J H Church as assistants, were in charge of the Burford Farm area, although both Jennings and Buckle later joined the army. By 2 November 1917 they had been succeeded by C E Wiggins, who was in charge and F Sargeant, E Gallup and J Bussell were his assistants.[17]

Similar DORA activities to those undertaken at Horley would be implemented across the county**.** The Act called for the securing of public property, which might be of use to an enemy invader. Therefore, on 23 November 1914 a meeting was held at Cecil Hall, in the Colman Institute, Redhill, to organise Surrey's reaction to the Defence of the Realm Act and determine how 'to secure the civil populations and to assist the military in case of hostile invasion'. It was reported that 'in the event of the landing of a hostile force on the south or south east coast that military authority would issue orders to denude Kent, Sussex and Surrey (possibly not the north portion) of all cattle, sheep horses, vehicles (both horse and motor), consumable stock suitable for man or beast and all commodities which may be considered of use to an invading force and at the same time they would call upon civilian labour to prepare earthworks etc.' A man was to be chosen to tour each parish daily to inspect the cattle and any which that were found to be unfit to travel were to be destroyed. However, in the event of an enemy landing, on no account were bridges, railways, electricity and telephone lines to be destroyed unless permission had been received from the military authorities.[18]

[14] www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/horley-and-the-defence-of-the-realm-act/ Laurence Spring
[15] www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/horley-and-the-defence-of-the-realm-act/ Laurence Spring
[16] www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/horley-and-the-defence-of-the-realm-act/ Laurence Spring
[17] www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/horley-and-the-defence-of-the-realm-act/ Laurence Spring
[18] www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/horley-and-the-defence-of-the-realm-act/ Laurence Spring

The considerations given by local councillors for Horley survive in the county archives at Woking. Invasion and evacuation was considered at length and complex plans made to remove people and resources from the enemy. Set places within each parish were to be chosen where the animals were to gather in the event of an invasion, before they were sent to a general rendezvous, although it would not be until 16 April 1915 that Court Lodge Farm was chosen as the collecting place for cattle in the south of Horley and Petridgewood Farm for those in the north. For sheep the collection point for the entire parish was Horley Lodge. On 26 October 1915 Greenfields, Meath Green Lane, was chosen as the collection point for cars and the cricket ground for horses and carts etc. Launders Farm was also chosen as the gathering place for those who were to work on fortifications etc. If the population of Horley needed to be evacuated then they were to gather at Salfords School, The Thorns, Victoria Hall, The Kings Head, and the Chequers Hotel. Boy Scouts were to be used as messengers.

A special constable, with two assistants, was appointed to each of these rendezvous to oversee the collection points. The Rev Henry Lewis, who had been vicar of Horley since 1890, along with six assistants, would be in charge of the population in the event of an invasion. Other special constables would be in charge of certain sections of roads.

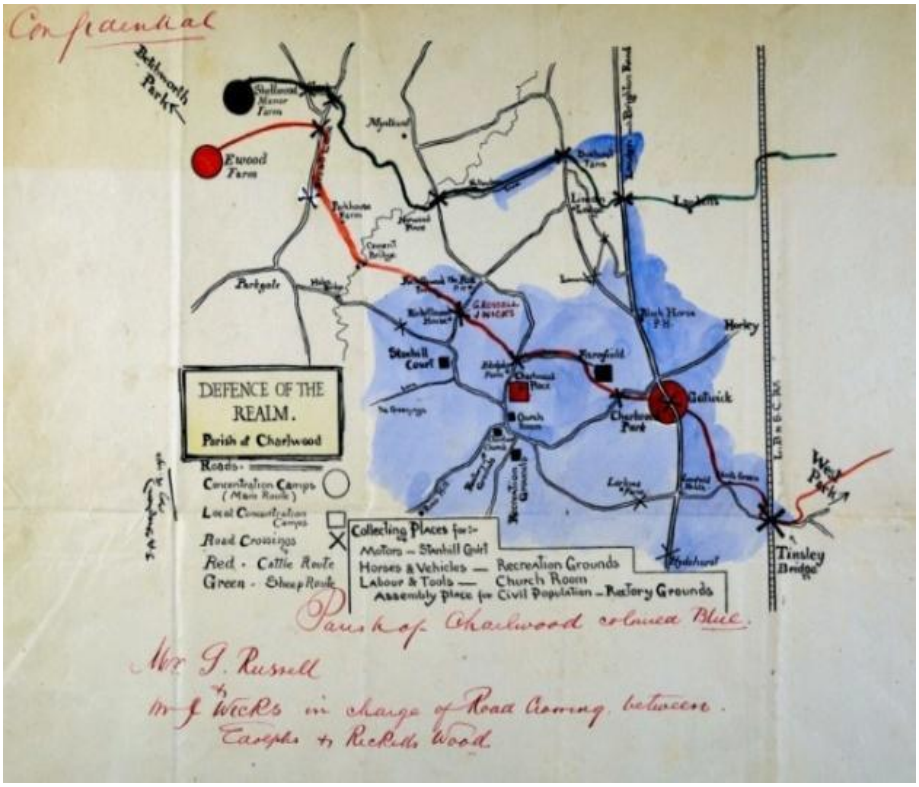
In a bulletin issued by the Divisional or Local Committee to the parish committees, it stated, "many of the atrocities in Belgium were perpetrated by German soldiers when drunk. It is important therefore, that no intoxicating liquor should be left in any area should a clearance order to be carried out." However, in December 1914 it was decided that the local committees should deal with the disposal of alcohol in the event of a German landing.[19]

On the outbreak of war there were two thousand Special Constables in the Surrey Constabulary. During the war some four thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven were sworn in many deployed to deal with the evacuation of the county should it be required.[20]

The newspapers were reporting that only one month after Great Britain declared war on Germany, fears of invasion and spying were affecting every part of the county.[21] Surrey and Sussex combined to plan to move people, farm animals and equipment north into west London. Surrey was in the danger zone and on any invasion route and arrangements were made to deal with the receipt and passing on of inhabitants, cattle, implements etc. from Sussex but also to arrange for the evacuation of the county itself. In order to carry out these duties the force of four thousand Special Constables was raised in addition to those on ordinary duty.[22] These special constables were earmarked for defence of the realm duties only and did no other work of a police nature. ------- The main requisite was to collect all persons, cattle, material etc., and move them by routes other than the main roads so as to leave the latter free for military use. ---------- In villages Special Constables were detailed for the various duties, some in connection

[19] www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/horley-and-the-defence-of-the-realm-act/ Laurence Spring
[20] Surrey Constabulary 1851-1951 Durrant page 46
[21] News item in the Surrey Advertiser, 31st August 1914
[22] Surrey Constabulary 1851-1951 Durrant page 46

with the removal of inhabitants, others for cattle, etc., everything required to be moved being dealt with by the requisite numbers of Special Constables. Others were detailed to keep order along the various routes selected and some were in place at every junction of the main roads to hold up refugees if necessary, to keep the roads clear for the military. The rendezvous for all cattle, etc., was Richmond Park. [23]



Counter-invasion plan drawn up by Charlwood Emergency Committee, 1916[24]

Plans were also made for the defence of London and a committee was appointed by the War Office from the Engineer and Railway Staff Corps, Royal Engineers (TF), for the organisation of civilian labour in the London District. Dorking Urban and Rural District Councils, among other local authorities, were requested to draw up lists of men able to undertake trench digging and assemble the necessary equipment so that in the event of invasion, emergency defences could be constructed. The scheme continued in force for the duration of the war and papers and correspondence relating to its organisation, including lists of those to undertake trench digging from Abinger, Capel, Dorking, Dorking Rural, Mickleham, Newdigate, Ockley and Wotton.[25]

In preparing for invasion in March, the Surrey Mirror reported:

[23] SCC Archives CC98/72 undated believed 1919 from Capt. Sant to Standing Joint Committee
[24] SHC ref SHC ref 734/1
[25] SHC ref LA4/23/40-296

Instructions in case of invasion

A placard will be posted in each parish stating:

> Careful plans have been made
> If a state of emergency is declared stay quietly at home.
> Many roads will be closed to all traffic.
> If you wish to move you will be given assembly points
> Conveyances will be provided for aged, infirm and young children.
> All others go on foot.
> Take only necessary clothing, boots, blankets and money
> It may be necessary to destroy certain property
> All movements will be directed by the Police.
> Lingfield residents will be directed to Blindley Heath.26

When the war was over the chief constable of Surrey Captain Sant, in 1919 presented his learning points of the war. There were specific references to the response to an invasion. [27]

Surrey was in the danger zone and on any invasion route and arrangements had to be made to deal with the receipt and passing on of inhabitants, cattle, implements etc. from Sussex but also to arrange for the evacuation of the county itself. In order to carry out these duties a force of four thousand Special Constables was raised in addition to those on ordinary duty. These Special Constables were earmarked for defence of the realm duties only and did no other work of a police nature. ------- The main requisite was to collect all persons, cattle, material etc., and move them by routes other than the main roads so as to leave the latter free for military use. ---------- In villages Special Constables were detailed for the various duties, some in connection with the removal of inhabitants, others for cattle, etc., everything required to be moved being dealt with by the requisite numbers of Special Constables. Others were detailed to keep order along the various routes selected and some were in place at every junction of the main roads to hold up refugees if necessary, to keep the roads clear for the military. The rendezvous for all cattle, etc., was Richmond Park.

Special Constables were detailed to keep order in the villages and also along selected refugee routes. The rendezvous for all cattle was Richmond Park.

Invasion through Surrey from the south or east was anticipated, and arrangements made to deal with the receipt and passing of inhabitants, cattle, implements etc., and also arrange for the evacuation of the county itself. Four thousand Special Constables were raised to help with any evacuation; these numbers were an addition to those undertaking normal duties.[28] Special

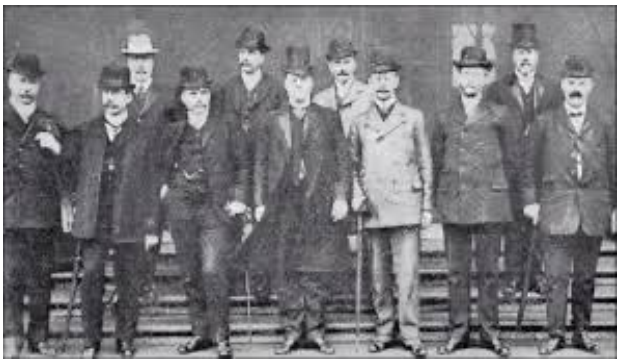
[26] https://www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/the-impact-of-ww1-on-the-lingfield-and-dormansland-area-in-1916/
[27] SHC ref CC98/7/
[28] Durrant Surrey Constabulary 1851-1951 page 46

Constables were detailed to keep order in the villages and also along selected refugee routes. The rendezvous for all cattle was Richmond Park.[29]

Camberley Special Constables, 1918 (SHC ref 9152/2/2/4/1

The Chief Constables' Association

The Chief Constables' Association was both for social purposes and providing services and a forum for senior officers of city and borough forces considering legal and operational issues. In order to encourage cooperation between the Association and a similar body the County Chief Constables' Club, in 1918 the country was divided into eight districts with every chief constable whether county, city or borough becoming a member of a district conference. The conference was also attended by officials from the Home Office and members of HM Inspectors of Constabulary. This was the basic structure until the formation of ACPO England and Wales in July 1948 following Lord Oaksey's committee.



James Metcalfe Reigate Borough Police front right. Once a president of the Chief Constables' Association 1919 Manchester

[29] Off Beat April 1982

A meeting of the Association took place in central London in May 1915 when the HMI gave a talk on the police response to invasion of the United Kingdom. As we have seen there was a considerable amount of work being undertaken establishing how local authorities and police to respond to an invasion. There were private and secret communications with the military establishing their position and discussing the implementation of Martial Law. The police were seen as non-combatants but were clearly warned that if they took part in armed operations against the invader, they would lose the protection of being a part of the "peaceful population." There were so many unknowns, but one thing was clear, guidance was no matter what the dangers, the police should remain at their post to support their communities.

"The Duties of the Police in case of Invasion."

Leonard Dunning HM Crown Inspector of Constabulary addressed the AGM 14 May 1915 at the Westminster Palace Hotel, Victoria Street London on "The Duties of the Police in case of Invasion." The following paragraphs are a summary of his speech.

Policing any invasion was seen as a small part of the whole of police duties associated with the war. A great many of the duties of police in case of invasion had been the subject of confidential communication between the government and local authorities. The first consideration should be the law, but it is difficult to see that there is any law which can be discussed.

The duties of police at the time of invasion can be divided into three phases or periods. First of all, the police forces are working in rather water-tight compartments and in this case, you must remember there are 194 separate police forces in England and Wales. Each force may or may not be affected by a successful landing of German troops in one of the three phases or during one of the three periods.

> When the force lies behind our military lines – nothing can be said today as this is subject to confidential communications.
>
> Within the actual area of military operations. There is no law which governs the duties of the police though international law which is made up of agreements between countries.
>
> When the force lies behind the enemy lines in territory which is in the occupation of the enemy.

Within the area of military operations there are certain acts connected with hostile operations which may safely be performed by non-combatants. These acts are done at the request of the military commander and the police, as part of the peaceful population, may perform those acts without any risks of being treated by the enemy as combatants. My advice is they should put themselves entirely in the hands of the military commander, who knows what he may require to be done by the civil population and the police.

Under the laws of war, the inhabitants of a country in which actual military operations are in progress are divided into two classes, armed forces and peaceful population. It is one of the laws of war that an individual must choose to belong to one or the other and shall not be permitted to enjoy the privileges of both. An individual shall not be allowed to kill and then, if subsequently captured or in danger of his own life, pretend to be a peaceful citizen.

His Majesty's Government have decided that the police do not constitute a part of the armed forces of the Crown, and do not regard them as combatants. It is plain therefore that the police are subject to those parts of the usages of war on land which deal with the conduct of the peaceful population.

If there is a spontaneous taking up of arms against an invader as a "levy en masse"[30], these people will come under the military commander. If this happens, I am certain there will be no policeman who hangs back, taking his share with fellow citizens, and by doing so, his duties as a policeman will be at an end.

The next phase is where the police have to perform their duties under occupation by the enemy. Possibly as a part of the military plan some areas of the country will be cleared of its population. If that happens by order of the military authority the police, as a part of the peaceful population would pass out of the area with the rest of the population. Therefore, we need not consider the question of the duties of police in an area which has been cleared of the population. The police are appointed for the protection of the people and with the people they will go to protect them. If no such order is made a number of the inhabitants will flee of their own accord and become refugees, but some will stand their ground and run the risk of what may happen.

We have to consider what is occupation. The rights of the enemy are purely transitory, and he should only exercise his powers for the maintenance of order and the safety and proper administration of the country. The examples of Belgium and part of the north of France show that in nearly every instance Germany has deliberately departed from the agreements of International Law. I am talking about things that may not happen; that we hope will not happen and we do not know what will happen if they do happen.

The laws of war imply that the police will remain at their post: "In case of necessity the inhabitants may be called upon to do police duty, to assist the paid police in the maintenance of law and order, the extinction of fires, and for the public good." In the absence of instructions from the Government it will be for the discretion of the local police authorities to decide. I think that the experiences of Belgium and parts of France suggest that the advantage to the population in an occupied area arising from the maintenance of order by the old Authorities will far outweigh any military advantage which will accrue to the enemy from the fact that he had not to devise machinery for keeping order, or to detach troops for the purpose.

[30] French term used for a policy of *mass* national conscription, often in the face of invasion.

The first duty of the police is to protect the public. We are taking it for granted that there will be people left in an occupied area. The lessons of the past few months are that there is no greater danger which has threatened the inhabitants of an occupied area than the danger of some individual, probably roused to it by the sight of some horrible atrocity, or possibly only a pretext, for the use of undue severity on the whole of the population in that area. It seems to me that the police will be performing a great and valuable service if they remain at their posts and restrain civilians from committing acts which will bring terrible consequences on the whole of the community.

Any enemy in occupation will find it easier and more effective to work through local people such as the police when seeking the services of the population to perform tasks. If the enemy find that their requests are more easily filled when worked through the police force, I think probably they would accept the services of the police. That, no doubt, will save te enemy a certain amount of trouble, but that is nothing if it saves the unfortunate population from oppression and suffering as I believe it would.

It seems to me the best way for the police to perform their duty is to remain at their post in the hope that an occupying enemy will be guided by the Laws and Usages of War. No doubt the police will expose themselves to great personal danger, but I have every confidence that the fear of danger will not prevent the police from doing their duty. (Applause)

Conclusion

It is most likely there never was a formal plan by the Germans to invade Great Britain during the First World War and that much of the horror of a possible invasion flowed from invasion literary genre. Such a view is supported by recent research. The following was received in late June 2020 from Dr David G. Morgan-Owen, FRHistS, Senior Lecturer in Defence Studies, Defence Studies Department, King's College London at the Joint Services Command and Staff College: "The short answer is: no the Germans did not have a plan (or at least not one that anyone has ever discovered any evidence of) after about 1905. That did not, however, preclude a lot of people in the UK from getting very worried. This escalated during the autumn of 1914 and resulted in various civil defence measures being taken."[31]

[31] Email from Dr Morgan- Owen to Robert Bartlett 24 June 2020 'The Fear of Invasion' (Oxford University Press, 2017)