Surrey Constabulary History

'An in depth history of policing in Surrey'

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www.surrey-constabulary.com

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Surrey Constabulary History

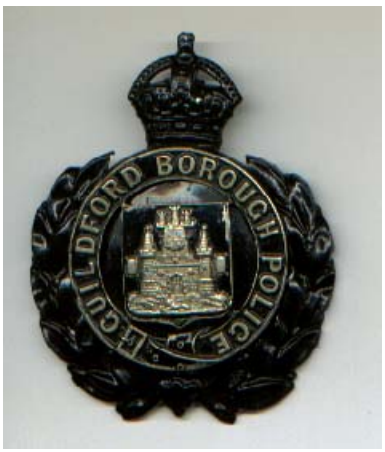
Journal 30

Support the Thin Blue Line

Police Constable Keith Palmer Metropolitan Police killed by a terrorist on 22 March 2017. Police Constable Gareth Browning Thames Valley Police died on 1 April 2017 following serious injury on duty.

Contents

Officers Killed on Duty Surrey Constabulary and the former constituent force of Guildford Borough Police



Guildford Borough Police

Police Constable William George Richards
Died 24 February 1942 aged 19
Killed in a road accident while dealing with a cyclist without lights.

Surrey Constabulary

Inspector William Donaldson
Died 29 July 1855, aged 44
Bludgeoned and beaten by a mob freeing a prisoner from the lock-up.

Police Constable Allen Mason
Died 29 December 1859, aged 30
Died of a ruptured blood vessel attributed to an earlier assault.

Police Constable Thomas Turner
Died 22 August 1924, aged 42
Fatally injured when accidentally struck by a car while on night duty.

Police Constable William Thomas Herrett
Died 22 October 1928, aged 33
Fatally injured while endeavouring to stop a runaway horse and cart.

Police Constable Albert William Harrison
Died 17 February 1932 aged 26
Knocked down and killed by an omnibus while on bicycle patrol.

Police Constable Herbert George Smeed
Died 18 March 1934, aged 21
Fatally injured in a road traffic accident while on bicycle patrol.

Police Constable Norman Croxton
Died 7 February 1940, aged 25
Fatally injured while on motorcycle patrol in a collision with a car.

Police Constable William Harold Story
Died 16 November 1941, aged 35
Fatally injured in a road accident on bicycle patrol during the blackout.

Police War Reserve Constable George Henry Dalton
Died 27 December 1942 aged 40
Died in a collision with an army vehicle cycling home from duty.

Police Constable Frederick James Stevens
Died 10 July 1960, aged 43
Killed when the police car he was driving overturned near Guildford.

Police Constable Stanley Charles Cross
Died 24 November 1961, aged 45
Died of cancer from injuries in the 1960 Guildford police car accident.

Police Constable William Wood
Died 19 December 1966 aged 27
Killed in a road accident when hit by a car while on motorcycle patrol.

Police Constable Philip Morgan
Died 25 October 1969, aged 24
Fatally injured in a road accident while on motorcycle traffic patrol.

Police Constable John Schofield
Died 6 July 1974 aged 27
Shot dead by a suspect he and two colleagues had stopped at night.

Police Constable Robert George Cross
Died 14 July 1977 aged 33
Killed when his patrol car crashed whilst pursuing suspect vehicles.

Police Constable Bernard Francis Warren
Died 17 April 1984, aged 36
Killed in a road traffic accident while travelling home from duty.

Police Constable Daniel Peter Glover
Died 4 June 1984 aged 26
Killed when his patrol car crashed responding to an assistance call.

Police Constable Christopher Denis Cooper
Died 17 April 1992, aged 31
Fatally injured in a motorcycle crash responding to an emergency.

Surrey Police

Inspector Inspector Alan Craggs
Died 1 January 1994, aged 40
Killed in a road traffic accident returning home after work.

Police Constable Roger John Franklin
Died 6 August 1995, aged 36
Killed in motorcycle accident responding to an emergency call.

Police Constable Nigel Paul Skinner
Died 1 March 2002, aged 48
Killed in a motorcycle accident on his way home from work.

Police Constable Richard Patrick Gunn
Died 14 March 2004, aged 29
Killed when his police car crashed responding to an emergency call.

Police Constable Stanley Raymond Jones
Died 15 September 2005, aged 39
Died of injuries received in 2004 in a road accident while on duty.

Suspicious Death Whyteleafe

Billy Kenber: I'm an investigative reporter at The Times and I've become interested in an unsolved missing persons/murder case from February 1990 - that of Richard Humphries (sometimes referred to as Humphreys) who was a minicab driver living on Westview Avenue, Whyteleafe. I wondered if you might have any recollections of this case (or even any records relating to it)?

From Surrey Police: As this is an undetected murder it is classed as a live investigation therefore no information is given out nor should anything be published that could cause problems with any future proceedings.

1990 February 15: Missing Person Caterham: This was a significant enquiry for a missing man Richard Humphries 52 (sometimes referred to as Humphreys) who was a minicab driver living on Westview Avenue, Whyteleafe. His blood stained car was discovered in a car park at Heathrow Airport but his body has never been found. The investigation is currently being reviewed. Operation Straw.

Mini-Cab Driver: Richard Humphreys

THE 22-year-old unsolved murder of a cab driver is to be re-examined using the latest forensic techniques. Detectives are to look anew at the case of Richard Humphreys, 51, whose blood stained car was found abandoned at Heathrow Airport.

Heathrow Airport murder case re-opened after 22 years[1]

THE 22-year-old unsolved murder of a cab driver is to be re-examined using the latest forensic techniques. Detectives are to look anew at the case of Richard Humphreys, 51, whose blood-stained car was found abandoned at Heathrow Airport. The father of one, whose daughter was then 15 years old, was reported missing from his home in Westview Avenue, Whyteleafe, on February 3, 1990.

Nine days later his Ford Sierra was found with a blood-smeared interior at a long-stay car park at Terminal 4. He had renewed his weekly contract with Purley Cars on the day of his disappearance, and his passport was later found at his home.

Mr Humphreys' body has never been found and no one ever charged in connection with the case, but police are treating his disappearance as an unsolved murder.

[1] http://www.surreymirror.co.uk/heathrow-airport-murder-case-opened-22-years/story-15281075-detail/story.html

A Surrey Police spokeswoman told the Mirror last week: "This case is currently being reviewed by the major crime review team to establish if there are any new forensic opportunities.

"Exhibits which have already been subject to forensic processes in the past will be subject to new forensic techniques." This will include the interior of his car, which is still in a secure police pound.

The spokeswoman said unsolved murders were never closed and were subject to periodic review, a major feature of which is revisiting forensic lines of enquiry "as scientific techniques are constantly improving".

Surrey Police were unable to confirm what forensic techniques they would be using because they had not informed the victim's family.

The Oxted Constabulary War Diary 1940 to 1946

Jenifer King

The Oxted Constabulary War Diary 1940 to 1946 is the only surviving Surrey Constabulary War Diary. It consists, I believe, of six large logbooks and covers Oxted, Woldingham, Chelsham, Farleigh, Titsey and possibly below Oxted. It is a very comprehensive log of all incidents relating to the War and gives bomb incidents, airplane crashes, service traffic movements and unexploded bombs etc.

Sergeant Clutterbuck was the policeman for Woldingham. Chelsham Farleigh and lived Chelsham.Police Cottages, I have no photograph of him or his wife, or their son Robert, who was also in the police service and was killed whilst in RAF. He is commemorated at Mount Browne, Chelsham Church and, presumably, although I have not seen it, at Runnymede.

I set about extracting all Woldingham and Chelsham incidents for the Woldingham History Society and it became apparent that Sergeant Clutterbuck was an exceptional policeman. His steadfastness and integrity shine through. An entry regarding the Tatsfield transmitter (which the Luftwaffe were always trying to bomb) gives a flavour. Nine enemy parachutes were discovered there. "I am going up there" he writes. The Germans at this time were not dropping parachutists but just parachutes.... but he was not to know that.

The War Diaries can be seen at Surrey History Centre. They are not digitised. They are bound so photocopying them is not possible. You are very welcome to have copies of my extracts but they are limited to my small area. The latter diaries are mainly composed of traffic movements, apart from the V2's and not so interesting but the earlier ones are a graphic and accurate log of what was going on and give a real sense of the integration of all the home front services.

In my opinion they are worthy of a book of their own but it needs someone with operational experience to fully appreciate the entries and with a wider knowledge of aspects of the Second World War home front.

I will try to find out more about Sergeant Clutterbuck's service from the register at Surrey History Centre.

Hansard House of Commons Debate

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1888—COUNTY COUNCILS—RIGHT OF POLICE TO VOTE 17 December 1888

Police are not entitled to be registered as electors

Mr Bigwood (Middlesex, Brentford) asked Mr. Attorney General, in view of the difference of opinion existing with respect to the right of the police to exercise the franchise at elections for County Councillors, If he would state whether such voting is legal or not?

The Attorney General (Sir Richard Webster) (Isle of Wight) The point raised by the hon. Member is one of some difficulty; but, after careful examination and consideration of all the statutes bearing upon the point, I am of opinion that the police are not entitled to be registered as electors of County Councillors. It is doubtful whether, if upon the Register, they are entitled to vote.

Public Order Surrey Constabulary 19th Century style

The Guy Riots and controlling street football

Robert Bartlett

Rioting around bonfire night in November was not confined to the so-called Guys of Guildford as sporadic violence was reported across the county. After generations of young men lighting bonfires in the streets, damaging property to gather fuel, violence and the threat of violence, their behaviour became unacceptable as sensibilities as to what was acceptable behaviour changed. There follows some examples of the extraordinary levels of violence and damage that led to the total banning of such activities in the streets. In Surrey eventually Guy riots ceased as more organised events took place where behaviour was modified. A throw back of the “good old days” in modern times is the annual Lewes Guy Fawkes bonfire in East Sussex.

Display in the Surrey Police museum Mount Browne [2]

Every November 5, between 1820 and 1865, Guildford shopkeepers closed their businesses early, barricaded their shop fronts and prepared buckets of water to put out fires. The rioters, who called themselves the "Guys", gathered outside the town early in the morning, wearing outlandish costumes and masks. Carrying clubs studded with hobnails, lighted torches and bundles of wood, they then marched into Guildford like an invading Army. A witness described their chilling "cry": Their cry will never be forgotten by anyone who ever heard it. It was a thrilling, piercing note of peculiar intensity, and was a warning for all peaceable citizens to be on their guard. [3]

For the rioters, Bonfire Night was an opportunity to avenge themselves against fellow citizens who had offended them in any way. Opposite Holy Trinity Church, in Guildford High Street the Guys built a huge bonfire, piling up gates, railings and doors ripped from the houses of their enemies.[4]

Writing in 1912, the folklorist Charlotte Burn described a typical Bonfire Night: “Fireworks were let off; the rioters danced round the fire, and went up and down the street, insulting those they met, breaking windows, and doing other damage. It is known that many otherwise peaceable citizens took part in the riots, and more than

[2] Photograph taken by Robert Bartlett in May 2015
[3] GC Williamson, Guildford In The Olden Time, 1904
[4] GC Williamson, Guildford In The Olden Time, 1904

once a disguised rioter found to his horror that some of the woodwork he was helping to destroy came from his own premises."[5]

Magistrates made repeated attempts to suppress the Guys and in 1843 two ringleaders were fined their payments raised by public subscription and a cheering crowd led them from prison. In the 1850s, when the police tried to prevent rioting, the Guys blew horns to summon reinforcements. There were four regular police officers in the Borough and no doubt special constables were sworn in to help out. The following year there was a large-scale disturbance between the Guys and police at the bottom of the High Street near the Mount in the centre of Guildford, where heavy fighting took place with casualties on both sides. The police were forced to withdraw to the new county police station in Woodbridge Road. [6]

During the 1852 Bonfire Night troubles, several hundred people congregated in the town, many armed with bludgeons, their faces blackened. For several hours they rampaged through the streets. Afterwards, two Guildford clergymen wrote to the town council to complain, demanding compensation for damages to their properties, which, they said, were caused by the mob. When the council refused they took the case to the Home Office, which in turn demanded an explanation from the Mayor of Guildford, William Taylor. Guildford was told to put its house in order and stop the riots forthwith. And although the town council was as keen as anyone to rid the streets of the Guys, tackling the problem was going to be a difficult one as there were few policemen. There was a plan to enlist special constables to boost the town's regular force of just three constables and a superintendent. There may have been plenty of volunteers that year, but many failed to turn up for duty when the trouble was about to begin. [7]

The 1850s were a bad decade for rioting in Guildford around Guy Fawkes Night. A huge bonfire was lit outside Holy Trinity Church with smaller ones in places such as Star Corner and even on the Town Bridge. The official reading of the Riot Act was the only way to finally disperse the mob. During the 1857 riots the Guys lit a bonfire outside St Nicolas Church. The police charged and were met by a hail of stones. In the mêlée one officer lost an eye. Missiles hit two bystanders and another was flattened by a group of policemen, although he was only trying to get his children out of the danger zone![8]

The wooden racecourse grandstand on Merrow Downs was pulled down in 1854 and burned outside Holy Trinity Church by the Guys. [9]

[5] Burne, Folk-Lore, December 1912
[6] They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary
[7] http://st-caths-web.co.uk/?p=11643
[8] http://st-caths-web.co.uk/?p=11643
[9] http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/surrey/hi/people_and_places/history/newsid_8308000/8308764.stm

• This picture is reproduced from the centenary supplement of the Surrey Advertiser.

It was not just in Guildford that there were serious disturbances. Pity the poor rural officer faced with drunken riotous Guys carrying on "local traditions." There was another riot in the county in 1857 which led to appearances on November 21 before Epsom Magistrates where Charles Poulter the son of a carrier from Great Bookham was charged with assaulting John Reid of the Surrey Constabulary in the execution of his duty at Great Bookham on the 6 November. PC Reid was on duty on the 5th November in Great Bookham at half past twelve when there were 150 people assembled armed with sticks and were throwing fire balls in every direction in the public highway. The officer attempted to take names for the purpose of summoning them but he was attacked with stones and was obliged to retire. About one o'clock the officer heard the mob were to bring a tar barrel set it on fire and throw it into a faggot stack. Upon hearing this he hid himself under a faggot stack. While he was there about 30 persons came up the road and about ten of them went into the garden close to where the officer was and began pulling a faggot stack to pieces in the adjoining garden. He made an attempt to get over the palings to see who the party were and saw Charles Poulter and went up to him. Poulter struck the officer in the face very hard and used very bad language towards him. The prisoner then put himself into a fighting attitude and called the others present to pitch into the police officer. They all began to throw stones at him and would nearly have killed him had he not taken shelter in a house nearby. After he had got in the house those outside threw stones at the door and nearly broke it to pieces.

Inspector Law told the court that the parish constable had also been very severely assaulted.

Fine of £2 and £1 costs or one month in prison was imposed; the prisoner asked for time to pay but when he refused he with the greatest nonchalance produced a cheque for £20 and asked for the change. He was told get the money or go to prison. [10]

Also at the November 21 Magistrate's Court at Epsom Charles May a witness for the defendant Poulter in the case above and Edward Boswell were charged with assaulting George Cobden of the Surrey Constabulary during the same disturbance at Great Bookham. Boxall pleaded guilty and both were convicted and Boswell fine £1 3s or two week in prison. Both defendants asked for time to pay, which was granted. The men were told by the chairman if they were brought before the bench again upon similar charges they would be sent to prison as the magistrates were determined to put down the dangerous practice of letting off fireworks in the public thoroughfares.[11]

A further case was heard on the same day with Charles Sawyers, James Grout and George Sawyers convicted of throwing fireballs and fireworks in the public highway in Great Bookham and the two former were fined 6s 6d and the latter 2s 6d.[12]

The consequence of the Guildford riot on 5 November 1857 was before the Guildford County Court on December 22. The case of William Downes v James William Parr and Gransbury, John Bullimer. An action brought to recover the sum of £30 as damages for an assault, alleged to have been committed by the defendants upon the plaintiff during the disturbances in the town on the night of the 5 November. Members of the Surrey Constabulary were involved and had obviously been brought in to assist the Borough Police.

There is a long and detailed report in the newspaper but simply, Downes was a bricklayer and Parr a superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary. Bullimer is a constable in the Guildford Division. (Believed Surrey Constabulary, Ripley obviously on aid). Downes left the Ram public house about nine o'clock and crossed to the Bury Street side of the bridge. He saw a row of policeman standing; Mr Parr was wearing long white frock similar to a countryman's and he had a sou'wester on his head. As he got to the centre of the bridge Mr Parr gave the order to clear the road and Mr Parr went up to him, sized him and pressed him close to the railings of the bridge. The other policeman who was behind Downes, struck a severe blow to his face cutting his lip and rendering him nearly senseless. When he recovered his senses Bullimer tried to drag him away. Under cross-examination Downes was asked, as a local resident was he not aware a serious disturbance was apprehended? He said he was not. Did he know a number of special constables were sworn in? He knew nothing about it. He knew there were only four or five constables attached to Guildford and he recognised there were more than that in the town as they were walking around in pairs. He did

[10] 1857 Nov 21 The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Ad
[11] 1857 Nov21 The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Ad
[12] 1857 Nov 21 The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Ad

not know Mr Parr and I was unaware he was dressed as he was because his uniform had earlier been torn to pieces.

Downes was aware that on a previous 5th November the Riot Act had been read in Guildford. He saw no disturbance, he was not there when stones were thrown at police causing injuries, he did not see the police trying to put a fire out, he did not see people coming towards the fire with railings and gates to keep the fire up. He did not see anyone masked or disguised. (It seems that the county constables may well have been sworn in as special constables for the evening. If that is the case this opens up many issues about normal day-to-day policing between borough and county men).

The defence solicitor: Guildford being a borough the justices have the power of requesting the chief officer of the constabulary for Surrey to afford them a certain number of constables for duty and whom he should show were as the statute required duly sworn to act as Special Constables.

A Guildford magistrate gave evidence that as a serious disturbance was apprehended on the night of 5th November 25 members of the Surrey Constabulary were sworn to act as special constables in the borough on that night. The men including Superintendent Parr were sworn in at about 6pm either on the 4th or 5th before the mayor at the County Police Station. The men were therefore acting in the execution of their duty the only question was, did they use more violence than was necessary? After some legal debate the judge told the jury that he must direct a non-suit to be entered in this case in as much as the plaintiff was bound to give a month's notice as a police officer was involved. Costs were awarded. [13]

Nothing was resolved and on into the 1860s 1860 the situation did not improve. Although many people feared for their own safety and their property, it was as if, on the whole, the town encouraged Bonfire Night and all its traditions. The crowd cheered the 45 Guys who made their appearance in 1860. They wore a multitude of disguises and some were armed. One wore a helmet-shaped white hat with horns; another wore a sugar-loaf hat made of tin foil. A simple black mask covered the face of another, while one Guy's mask consisted of tufts of wool. One even dressed as a woman! The Surrey Times newspaper estimated that there were 1,000 spectators who watched the bonfires while suffering the indignities of Guys rushing up to them and demanding money. The event continued until 2am when a lighted tar barrel was kicked around the High Street.[14]

The year 1863 saw two riots, when the Guys took to the streets not just on Bonfire Night but also on March 10, to celebrate the Prince of Wales' wedding day. On Bonfire Night, the Guys attacked a local magistrate's house, and demolished the whole front wall with hammers and axes. Yet Guildford was becoming increasingly

[13] 1857 December 22: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[14] http://st-caths-web.co.uk/?p=11643

prosperous, and the growing numbers of middle class townsfolk had little sympathy with rioters. During the evening of March 10, 1863, when the town, like the rest of the country was celebrating the marriage of the Prince of Wales to Princess Alexandra, a gang of Guys lit a bonfire outside Holy Trinity Church and smashed the windows of a house in the town. The news of this unprovoked event and that of a drunken riot at St Catherine's Fair in October, when about 30 people were injured, spread further afield. The Times newspaper printed a savage attack on Guildford.

A letter to the Times regarding the **Guildford Riots** from "Once a Special" ---- insist upon means for putting down with a strong hand these disgraceful riots and inflicting heavy punishment on the savages concerned."[15] The mayor was advised to bring in troops from Aldershot to prevent that year's November 5th celebrations dragging the town down further. Under the command of Lt Col Grey, 150 men of the 37th Foot, and 50 men of the 1st Royal Dragoons, were dispatched. It seemed to do the trick and the Guys soon dispersed.

The newly elected Mayor, P W Jacob, in 1863 had promised to break the power of the Guys. Jacob brought in more police to confront the rioters. Steps were taken to prevent the previous years rioting but the "Guys" had resolved not to be deprived of their accustomed bonfire and procession. The mayor arranged for: fifty Dragoons who came by road and one hundred and fifty men who came by special train from Aldershot, and then marched to their quarters in various public houses in the town. Upward of one hundred and fifty special constables and two local corps of the Rifle Volunteers the 13th and 24th were ordered to be ready to assist the public peace. The County Constabulary under Superintendent Parr and Mr. Inspector Barker have had supplementary forces to prevent any outbreak beyond the jurisdiction of the borough authorities. Today the town is in a state of great excitement. [16]

Special constables were sworn in to relieve the troops. Mayor Jacob grouped them into zones placing them in parts of the town where they could easily be summoned if trouble broke out. The Guys arrived two days later. In the violence that ensued they savagely beat up a policeman and Jacob had to intervene by reading the Riot Act. The mayor persuaded the town council to employ nine extra constables, plus a new superintendent. He was John Henry Law and one of the first changes he made was to arm his men with cutlasses.

The attempts at stopping the riots led to increased rioting with an even bigger riot in 1865, when a policeman was almost killed. PC William Sutton of the Guildford Borough Police was standing at Tunsgate close to the police station when approached by three or four men in disguise who knocked him down. He got up and endeavoured to defend himself with his staff but was knocked down again and struck on the body and head. "I heard one of the men say "Murder the ---". He then became insensible

[15] 1863 3 October: The Times:
[16] 1863 6 November: The Times

and remembered no more." PC James Marshall found three bludgeons, formidable weapons, spokes from a cartwheel weighted at one end.[17]

Jacob's response was to arm the police with cutlasses, and send for a detachment of Lancers, who cleared the streets. This was the last serious riot. When the Guys tried to retake the town, in 1866 and 1868, the cavalry quickly dispersed them. By 1870, according to a report, there was "scarcely a squib" in the whole of Guildford.

A Policeman faces Rioters

A brave policeman faces the rioters[18]

The county constabulary whilst trying to keep some semblance of peace in the east of the county were faced with similar problems at Reigate. In 1864 on following disturbances on November 5 the Superintendent was authorised to buy a new hat to replace the one damaged on the night.

On bonfire night 1864 about 20 Guys entered the town and attacked PC Stent. He ran up the High Street but they gave chase, knocked him to the ground and savagely beat him with sticks and clubs. County officers assisted the Borough in countering the rioting and as more officers arrived further fighting took place. About 14 officers armed with cutlasses who initially formed a line outside the White Lion rescued Stent. There was a violent battle during which PCs Davis, Watts, Marshall and West were injured but the police won the day. Three rioters William Nugent, George Stevens and Edwin Reeves were sent to prison for three months for their part in the riot. PC Stent a former Royal Marine Artilleryman recovered from his injuries but did not remain

[17] 1863 29 December: The Times
[18] Picture from 'The Guildford Guy Riots' by Gavin Morgan

long in the force. Several years later at the age of 61 he was found drowned in the River Wey near his home in Stoughton.[19]

The attack on PC Stent came before Guildford Police Court on December 26 1865. PC Stent was on duty at 8.20 pm on the bridge at the lower end of the town when "I saw fifteen or twenty men disguised, with bludgeons approaching. They saw me and shouted, "That's he" and pelted me with stones, some of which struck me. I made up the High Street as fast as I could and they rushed after me still pelting me with stones. The prisoner Rowe rushed in front of the others and struck me two violent blows on the head with a bludgeon knocking me down. The remainder of the band then rushed me and beat me with their bludgeons. I heard one shout "Murder the ----."" PC Castleman corroborated PC Stent's evidence. PC Watts attended and faced the Guys with other constables. One of the Guys hit him with a heavy blow with a pole and he struck the Guy with his cutlass**.** A second man rushed at him and his disguise came off. PC Marshall took part in the fight and was attacked by Reeves. Acting Sergeant John Titley and PC Daves with other officers formed a line across the street and encountered the Guys when a shower of stones was flying. A Guy with a long pole attacked Daves but he knocked it out of his hand and the Guy fled. Four prisoners were committed for trial at the next assizes. [20]

On April 3 1866 at Surrey Assizes, Kingston William Nugent 29, painter, George Stevens 28, painter and Edwin Reeves 26 a cooper were arraigned for the assault on PC John Stent Guildford Borough Police at Guildford on the 26 December. John Pearson was discharged by the grand jury. The indictment was assaulting Stent with intent to murder, or with intent to disable or to cause grievous bodily harm. The charges were not proceeded with but replaced with a misdemeanour charging with assaulting Police Constables John Stent, Joseph Watts, James Marshall and John Davis; the second charge was assaulting the officers in the execution of their duty; the third with common assault; and fourthly with riotous assembly. They pleaded not guilty.

At about 8 o'clock in the evening of the 26 December a number of rough fellows, some of whom wore cocked hats, others having crape over their faces and all of whom were disguised made their appearance at the entrance of Guildford on the Godalming road. They were armed with bludgeons of a formidable description and evidently bent on mischief. Stent saw them approaching and retreated towards the Town Hall and the mob commenced pelting him with stones and when he had gone a short distance he was knocked down and beaten with the bludgeons. He was much injured and was obliged to keep to his bed for three weeks. The mob then proceeded up the town and a number of other constables formed themselves across the road and attempted to stop their progress and a desperate struggle ensued during which several of the constables were severely beaten and maltreated. The facts are not disputed the

[19] 1864 December 20 Sussex Advertiser Surrey Gazette
[20] The Times January 6 1866

only question raised is were the prisoners involved in the affray and they all seem to have been clearly identified by the witnesses for the prosecution. The jury after a very short deliberation found the prisoners reeves and Nugent Guilty of the whole charges contained in the indictment and Stevens guilty of riot only. The prisoners were taken down whilst the Judge decided what was to be done with them.[21]

The problem may have been resolved in Guildford but the Surrey Constabulary were still countering rioters at Walton on Thames. On December 1 1865 charges were brought against the police at a special petty sessions held at Kingston, the magistrates were engaged nearly the whole day in investigating charges of violent assaults committed by Superintendent Murtell of the Surrey Constabulary, and officers under his charge.

It appeared that it had been the custom on the 5 November in each year to celebrate the night at Walton-on-Thames by making large bonfires in some of the streets and roads adjacent, and in 1864 a Dr Reece living there was thrown from his horse that shied from the light of the bonfires, and sustained severe injuries. This year with a view to preventing a similar occurrence, a large body of police were sent to Walton, for the purpose of putting a stop to this practice. The inhabitants considered this was an interference with their rights and they accordingly persisted in lighting a bonfire on the green, near to the residence of a person named Reed, when according to the evidence of William Denny a railway porter, while the people were quietly looking at the fire Superintendent Murtell with a body of constabulary approached and Murtell ordered the police to draw their staves. Although all was quiet, no disturbance and no resistance, about fifteen policemen immediately drew their staves, rushed in a body upon the crowd, and struck everybody they came near, and a great many persons were knocked down. After going through the evidence the court dismissed the summons.[22]

The police were again in the dock when PC John Foster of the Surrey Constabulary appeared before Surrey Quarter Sessions on February 8 1866 charged with Grievous Bodily Harm with alternative charges following violence on Guy Fawkes at Walton on Thames on 6 November 1865 under the order of Superintendent Murtell a well known and highly esteemed officer of the Surrey Constabulary called out following representations from respectable inhabitants to put down the nuisance arising from the practice of celebrating the anniversary of Guy Fawkes day by bonfire, fireworks and the discharge of fireballs. It was found that a mob of persons were assembled, a burning tar barrel was being rolled down the High Street of the village, and a bonfire was burning on the village green.

The police interfered and the theory of the prosecution was that the defendant struck with his truncheon the complainant, a youth employed as an under gardener causing a severe scalp wound requiring six weeks medical care. The defence made the case that

[21] 1866 April 3:The Sussex Advertiser
[22] 1865 December 1: Nottinghamshire Guardian

the village was in a state of riot and extreme confusion and responded when remonstrated with by throwing stones and other missiles. Several officers were wounded including the defendant PC Fraser whose helmet was cut through and wounded on the forehead. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty for inflicting actual bodily harm. Mercy was sought as the officer was an able and most efficient man to which the chairman concurred sentencing the defendant to be fined 20s and to keep the peace for six months – now that is a little odd as it was his job! [23] [24]

On 5 November 1866 was duly celebrated in Godalming a few miles from Guildford on Monday last. The shops were all closed at an early hour and preparations duly made for any emergency or accident that might arise. There were an unusually large number of squibs discharged in the streets and the proceedings of those connected with them were protracted to a much later hour than usual. The special constables were on duty and with the aid of the police succeeded in preventing any damage or wilful injury in the borough, and that there appeared to do so for the conduct of the mob were in all respects orderly.

A party of Guys, said to be from Guildford, no doubt displaced by the heavy policing, made their appearance in the town about nine o'clock and succeeded in lighting a fire near the old railway station, the materials for which they procured from the fences adjoining, they also pulled down a large piece of paling belong to Mr Murray Marshall but did not succeed in taking it away. Several accidents occurred during the evening owing to the incessant discharge of the "serpents." One woman was burnt rather severely owing to the explosion of a squib, which ignited her dress. A man named Fry was also much burnt about the face from a similar cause and there were other instances wherein personal injury was sustained. Several of the houses also suffered much by broken windows and several others had their frames broken by the flight of fireworks through them. Taken altogether the 5th passed peaceable although so large a number of fireworks in the streets had not been witnessed for many years.[25]

On November 10 at Godalming Magistrates Court before the Mayor: John Christmas, cow driver, was charged with lighting fireworks in High Street on Tuesday 30 October. Not guilty with several witnesses but the case was dismissed. The mayor said: as I see such a number of respectable persons present, including many young men I take this opportunity of stating that on the 5th November the inhabitants of this town appear not to object to fireworks in the street, so long as no injury is done to persons or property. Now although this is the case the magistrates cannot countenance it, and it cannot be permitted as an excuse at law; I hope however that good feeling will prevail and the 5th pass over without any disturbance (bravo). I will also remark that on Sunday evening last, persons returning from church were annoyed by squibs. I hope this will not occur again and that the Sabbath will be respected. I am informed

[23] Morning Post 8 February 1866 Daily News February 8 1866
[24] 1866 February 10 Surrey Advertiser
[25] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser

that these persons are not inhabitants of Godalming. I am very glad to hear it (hear, hear). [26]

On the other side of Guildford at Ripley in 1866 the lads of the village had their usual bonfire on the 5th but it was a very tame affair, the greater part of those who usually go to witness this fun having gone to see the brilliant display of fireworks which was given by Ryde House School[27]

In the same year, Send close to Ripley on November 5 poor behaviour resulted in a letter to the Surrey Advertiser: Last evening was the most disgraceful scene occurred in Send. About 11.30pm a gang of ruffians with their faces blackened and otherwise disguised assembled in front of the New Inn and commenced a bonfire in the middle of the road; when this was burnt out they went to a public house whence they emerged about 1.30 this morning powerfully refreshed and commenced another bonfire by tearing up palings, (fence made from pointed wooden posts) hurdles (normally a temporary fence) etc., (they had twelve of my hurdles). The policeman resides within 100 yards of the place where the bonfire was lighted. The hootings, firing of guns and noises kept the usually quiet village fully awake until 4am. No policeman ever interfered but he promises to interfere next 5 November. On mentioning this disgraceful affair I am informed that other villages are so badly off but if reports speak correctly our policeman is frequently two miles and more away from the centre of his district, having a very large area of ground to travel over. I am sir, your obedient servant, An Inhabitant of Send November 6 1866[28]

Editor: The proceedings referred to by our correspondent are very disreputable but the inhabitants themselves should take precautions against their occurrence, as this is not the first time complaints have been made. The authorities would doubtless swear in special constables if application were made to them. The policeman stationed at Woking cannot expected to be everywhere nor could he be expected to make much "headway" against the "gang of ruffians" referred to had he interfered. The residents in the district should take the matter in hand another year or they may have to regret a greater destruction of property. Such proceedings gather strength by being unchecked.[29]

1866 continued to be a poor year for public disorder when on November 5 in Chertsey: "The night was a very exciting from about six to half past ten fireworks were continually being fired in all parts of the town. Many of the respectable inhabitants were seen occasionally amongst the crowd of lookers on. The most exciting performance of the evening was the lighted tar-barrels. We are pleased to say the evening passed without any serious casualty." [30]

[26] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser
[27] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser
[28] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser
[29] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser
[30] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser

At Farnham On Monday afternoon the town presented an extraordinary appearance. Shortly after 4 o'clock preparations were made for shutting up most of the shops and boarding upper windows. Carpenters and others were engaged in all directions and it seemed as if some enemy was expected to attack the town. Darkness set in long before the preparations were completed. Between six and seven there was a fire kindled in Castle Street and squibs etc., were let off in earnest.

At about eight o'clock a procession started from Castle Street in the following order. The town band assisted by many friends of the Alton band; a large car on which were several persons seated attired in various fancy dresses, amongst whom were two excellent full sized figures representing Guy Fawkes and Stephens, the head centre (sic) of the Fenians. Then followed a large number of persons carrying various flags and banners. The procession passed up West Street and Downing Street, through East Street and at various distances red and blue lights were show, which had a pretty effect. The procession returned to Downing Street where the figures were placed outside the bell and Crown Inn with the band playing "Rule Britannia." Before burning old Guy his head and various parts of his body were perforated with swords. ---- The scene whilst the bodies continued to burn was an extraordinary one, Caste Street being nearly filled with people and red and blue lights, rockets and fireworks being continually discharged. Until half past twelve. The damage done was very trifling not amounting too much more than £3 for broken windows, which were repaired on the following day. [31]

Potential problems continued in Dorking where locals celebrated in an unusually quiet way. "During the morning effigies of the Pope and Fawkes in grotesque attire were carried in procession through the principal streets of the town and in the evening a bonfire was made on Cotmandene. There was a rather inferior display of fireworks and the demonstrative reminiscences of that eventful period are hereabouts gradually being consigned to oblivion. Bonfires in every direction were visible from this charming eminence and to our thinking the only feature of interest or attraction during the night was the crimson tint, which were given by the numerous fires around the leaden clouds as they were wafted along by the breeze to more distant parts. There was a strong force of police perambulating the streets to prevent an infringement of the privileges accorded to the public on this occasion, and we were glad to note that their services were not called into requisition. The proceedings terminated at an early hour." [32]

November 5 in Chobham the "bonfire boys" determined that year 1866 should not be behind its predecessors and they fulfilled that intention most favourably. About six or seven years ago it was gradually getting to be the custom at Chobham (in imitation of what was done at Guildford) to celebrate the 5th by various little excesses which were exceedingly annoying to the more staid inhabitants. Among other things it was

[31] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser
[32] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser

considered to be quite the thing to light a huge fire in the centre of the road, opposite the church. Rumour, or tradition, says those who took part in these proceedings were not particular about the laws of meum and tuum [33] in regards to the materials burnt; but any persons garden palings or fagots which might be handy were seized upon forthwith and together with any sugar hogsheads which might be standing about, consigned to the flames. Of course the owners did not care for the actual loss.

As for the filching of them, tradition says that "Once upon a time a well known and respected pub not far from Chobham Street looked out of his house and then went in rubbing his hands and said, " They are just working somebody's fagot stack; I saw some fellows dragging them away as fast as they could." The joke of the affair was that the said pub was the winner and in the morning he saw a vacant spot where had stood a comely pile of fuel the day before. In the year 1862 there was an attempt to burn down the stocks, and the "round house" (Note: could be the lock-up) by way of a bonfire. In 1863 a committee of the young men of the place was formed, a subscription collected and the first gala of Chobham Bonfire Boys passed off with considerable éclat. No act of damage occurred and everyone was pleased. The committee held themselves responsible for any damage that may be done and have always preserved the "peace, law and order."

This year a larger crowd than ever assembled and the streets were crammed. The boys were liberally supplied with squibs or crackers when they met the procession headed by the Wokingham Band. There were 60-70 guys dressed in excellent costume and about 50 capital torches blazing. The effigies of the Pope and Fawkes were hoisted on an immense pile of fagots and light was set. From a platform close by there was a display of fireworks the rockets being particularly good, this display varied by the private fireworks. Everything passed quiet and well and the street was quite clear by midnight. [34]

Football in the streets of Dorking

1897 Shrove Tuesday football in Dorking: Traders in West and South Streets in Dorking asked the Standing Joint Committee to adopt measures to end the nuisance. Superintendent Page was in charge and reported that he met with Superintendents Alexander and Bryce and with a force of sixty constables did their best to prevent the playing of football. The ball was kicked off by a member of the Town Council and was then seized by the police. More balls were produced all of which were taken into the possession of the police after a severe struggle. By 5 and 6 o'clock the crowd was increased by a great number of people leaving work, joined in and added to the general confusion. There was no riot or damage to property. Later in the year fifty-two defendants were all convicted of the offence of playing football on Shrove

[33] Mine and thine: used to express rights to property
[34] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser

Tuesday to the annoyance of passengers. Eventually they were fined five shillings being unable to produce the charter said to give them the right to play

Note the PC trying to capture the ball!

Extraordinary scenes were witnessed in Dorking on 23 February 1898. The custom of playing football in the streets of the town on Shrove Tuesday has been recognised from time immemorial, but last year at the instigation of the county council the police interfered. It was thought that the 40 summonses which were afterwards taken out and which were followed by the infliction of fines, would have a deterrent effect, but yesterday's proceedings proved the fallacy of this impression. At midday a force of about 50 men of the Surrey Constabulary were drafted into the town and during the afternoon they patrolled the streets. About 3 o'clock the appearance of the first ball was noted, but the police quickly captured it. Another followed and with the constabulary in hot pursuit it was kicked along the High Street by a howling crowd highly amused by the fruitless efforts of the police to secure the ball. The game was continued for nearly three hours and altogether about a dozen balls were liberated, most of them gorgeously painted. Several the police captured but only after some of them had been roughly handled by the crowd, which could not have numbered less than 500. Several arrests were made. [35]

PS John Campbell severely kicked in the struggle with the crowd and was incapacitated and forced to retire. **"**We are sure everyone in Dorking and the surrounding district will learn with regret that the injuries received by Sergeant

[35] The Times Wednesday, Feb 23, 1898

Campbell in the Shrove Tuesday football at Dorking have been so serious a nature as to necessitate his retirement from the force. Sergeant Campbell was always an exceedingly courteous and efficient officer and carried out his difficult duties with great tact and ability. After so regrettable an incident as this we hope that no further attempt will be made to revive a custom, which must inevitably create a conflict between the public and authorities. It has been decided that street football must stop and whatever opinions individuals may hold upon the question it is obviously the duty of all to respect, and to assist in enforcing, the law." [36]

1899 February 15: Shrove Tuesday Football Dorking: The usual disorderly scenes were witnessed yesterday in the streets of Dorking when several hundred of the youths of the town assembled to take part in the ancient custom of Shrove Tuesday football. For the third successive year the county authorities attempted to stop the

[36] 1899 January 7: Dorking Advertiser

game and for this purpose members of the Surrey Constabulary were drafted into the town.

Extraordinary scenes once again suppressed by the police**:** It must have been patent to the several hundreds of spectators that the determination of the County authorities to put an end to the custom which had become obsolete. There was this year no effort at organisation but the authorities were not to be caught napping and soon after midday some forty of the Surrey Constabulary drawn from various parts of the county were drafted into the town to assist Superintendent Alexander's men in preserving order. The visiting force included Superintendent Collis of Godalming, who is still kindly remembered in Dorking, Inspector Hatton of Leatherhead, Sergeant Matthews of Guildford; Sergeants Larby and Stancombe of Godstone and Sergeant Skinner of the Holmwood, the total force numbering 45. Six officers were in private clothes.

A small ball appeared which Constable Boon soon seized, but hostilities did not commence in earnest until twenty minutes past three when a ball entered the High Street followed by a hue and cry and the ball ending up on a roof. It cam down and was seized by Constable Over who carried it to the police station. A further ball was introduced by the White Horse and the attempts by a number of police to seize it proved ineffectual. However one man with the ball ran into the hands of a private clothes constable who brought him up in a very business like fashion. He was then escorted to the police station. Superintendent Alexander apparently considered that the outlook warranted the summoning of reinforcements for a few minutes later, about 12 additional men under the charge of a sergeant were marched along the High Street and received by the spectators with a great deal of good natured chaff, which they received in equally good spirit. Another ball was produced, and kicked about but seized and taken to the police station. The afternoon progressed with more balls, more seizures and cheers for Superintendent Alexander and his men the football came to an end.[37]

The police immediately captured eight balls and had temporary custody of 14 persons while 30 or 40 others were summoned for unlawfully playing football in the street or for disorderly conduct.[38]

Who are these officers and when was the photo taken? Is that WPC Queen on the right?

[37] 1899 February 18 Dorking Advertiser
[38] The Times Wednesday, Feb 15, 1899

Traffic Patrol Course 1979 – who are the Surrey officers?

Police Constable Surrey Constabulary and Squadron Leader Leonard James Saltmarsh DFC and bar

7 Squadron

Leonard Saltmarsh served before and after the war in the Surrey Constabulary and I am working on the history of that force. In December 1942 he trained in a Tiger Moth and went on to fly Wellingtons and Lancasters with 7 Squadron, Pathfinders. He was awarded the DFC for actions on the 26th of August 1944 in a raid over Kiel. He flew 99 Operational sorties.

D.F.C. London Gazette 3 October 1944. The original recommendation states:

'Flying Officer L. J. Saltmarsh has so far completed 17 successful sorties as Pilot and Captain of Lancaster aircraft, and has been most conspicuous at all times for his extremely high standard of courage and resoluteness. On two difficult occasions during daylight attacks on Vaires on 12 July 1944 and on Emieville on 18 August 1944, he observed a crippled bomber proceeding at a very reduced speed away from the target. On both occasions he dropped behind the main bomber stream in order to escort the damaged bomber safely back to England. On 15 August, during a daylight attack on the airfield at St. Trond, one of his engines became unserviceable on the way to the target and the propellor had to be feathered. But inspite of the fact that he was getting behind the main stream, owing to his reduced speed, he pressed on and bombed the target, and secured an aiming point photograph. On the way back from the target another engine became unserviceable but did not deter Flying Officer Saltmarsh from proceeding to and bombing an alternative airfield target with a bomb that had failed to be released over the primary target, and once more he secured an aiming point photograph. He eventually arrived safely over base and made a perfect two-engined landing. It was not until after he had landed that he reported the fact that two engines had become unserviceable during the sortie. This very gallant pilot is strongly recommended for the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross.'

Bar to D.F.C. London Gazette 16 November 1945. The original recommendation states:

'This officer has completed 53 operational sorties, of which 28 have been carried out in the squadron, in the Path Finder Force, 18 of them as Captain of a Marker Crew. Flight Lieutenant Saltmarsh is an efficient and skilful pilot who has always shown a strong devotion to duty and a cheerful confidence which has always inspired a high standard of morale in his crew. He has always displayed exceptional fearlessness in the face of danger, complete disregard for personal safety and has pressed home his attacks against the enemy with the utmost determination.'

Leonard James Saltmarsh commenced pilot training at No. 31 E.F.T.S. at De Winton, Alberta in December 1942, and graduated from No. 34 E.F.S. at Medicine Hat in June 1943. Back in the U.K., he attended No. 11 A.F.U. at Shawbury, prior to joining No. 26 O.T.U. at Little Harwood in early January 1944, where he gained experience on Wellingtons, and then attended a conversion unit for Lancasters at Waterbeach, at which place he joined No. 514 Squadron that June.

Thus ensued his first tour of operations, commencing with a strike against L'Hey on the 23 June and ending with another against Emmerich on 7 October, the intervening period witnessing him attack numerous French targets in support of the Allied invasion, but also a number of heavily defended German targets, including Bremen, Dortmund, Saarbrucken, Stettin and Stuttgart. And as confirmed by the recommendation for his D.F.C. after 17 sorties, several of these trips were not without incident, his flying log book further stating that his Lancaster received flak damage during strikes against enemy panzers and transport at Villiers Bocage on 30 June and against a supply depot at Beauvoir on 2 July. Similarly, too, during a visit to Bremen on the night of 18-19 August.

In October 1944, Saltmarsh attended the Path Finder Force's training centre at Warboys, as a result of which he was transferred to No. 7 (P.F.F.) Squadron at Oakington in the following month, flying his first such sortie on the night of the 11th-12th, against Dortmund. A daylight strike against enemy communications at Julich, in support of General Patton's troops, followed on the 14th and a night operation to Sterkrade on the 21st, Saltmarsh's flying log book again noting flak damage. Then on the 29th he flew as support aircraft to the Master Bomber on a raid to Dortmund, a role that he would fulfil with growing regularity over the coming months. Such heavily defended targets as Duisburg, Essen (twice) and Karlsruhe formed the backbone of his operational agenda in December, while January 1945 saw him attacking, among other locations, Hanover, Magdeburg, Munich and Stuttgart, his flying log book noting an encounter with a Ju. 88 on the Munich run. February witnessed his Lancaster carrying out strikes against Dortmund, Gelsenkirchen, Ludwigshaven and Pforzheim, in addition to participating in the famous "firestorm" raid on Dresden on the 13th, an action that Saltmarsh would robustly defend in years to come.

March saw him completing five more sorties to German targets, three of them in daylight, and April another four, two of these in daylight, including Bremen on the 21st, which latter operation marked the end of his operational tour. He did, however, fly three "Cook's Tours" to the Rhur in May, and ended his career with an appointment in Transport Command in December 1945. Over and above all of this, however, it would appear that he flew 56 "unspecific" sorties of a secret nature, evidence for which is to be found in the following endorsement from "Bomber" Harris. He also flew: Diversions, experimentation of special equipment, including radar, photographic reconnaissance, these top secret sorties and others. In May 1945

he was selected and volunteered to form a new squadron for the continuation of hostilities against Japan.'

Any information on Mr. Saltmarsh DFC and Bar would be appreciated

Jerry Spindlove in Swan Lane

1984 March 20

NUM Thoresby Colliery

Steve Wood, Bob Bolton, Clive, Ray Bain, Willie Harrison

"Rat", Colin Roberts, Peter Block, Brian George, Jim

From former Sergeant Gill Glover nee Cozens who found the cutting in an old diary

Unsolved Murder Byfleet 1888

Mark Star, California

I am a writer in California currently researching the unsolved murder of George Chuter in his home in Byfleet, Surrey, on January 12, 1888. May I inquire: Do any official police records survive today related to this case of murder and mutilation or the police investigation? If so, where may they be archived?

Do any photographs survive of Deputy Chief Superintendent Barker and

Superintendent Bungard? Do any photographs survive of the victim or the murder scene?

From the Editor:

Below is what I have plus some other cases involving the men you name.

Barker was the senior superintendent and also the deputy to the chief constable. Surrey was a small rural force of a couple of hundred men. His rank as long as it was - superintendent and deputy chief constable

If anything survives it will be by chance and may be found at

https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritage-culture-and-recreation/archives-and-history/surrey-history-centre

They can be emailed and are helpful but busy and there may be a delay. shs@surreycc.gov.uk

Police forces outside of the London Metropolitan Police did not have to store their archives and over the years most documents are lost. Budget cuts in Surrey have seen the demise of the history archivist and when I try I often receive no reply. I no longer have a contact but the Surrey Police as they now are can be found at https://www.surrey.police.uk/

Hope this moves you forward a little!

Quick History lesson: Modern policing began in 1829 when the Metropolitan Police was formed for what today is central London. In 1839 the boundary moved out and basically took to the north side of the Thames plus Epsom all of which was in the then county of Surrey. It was not until 1851 following a murder of a vicar in his rural parish that the Surrey Constabulary were formed again basically south of the Thames or for the rural half of Surrey. (There is a slight buggeration factor as Guildford and Reigate were to have their own police forces up to the Second World War when policing was rationalised to deal with the possible invasion. Surrey was on the invasion route and planned carefully on how to respond) It was not until 2000 that the now Surrey Police policed the whole of Surrey which by now no longer extended up to the heart of London.

As a small rural constabulary there was no detective department (the Met did not have one until he 1880s) and the local superintendent who was in charge of one of about five territorial divisions, dealt with serious crime. Inspectors (deputy to the superintendent usually with some territorial responsibility i.e. the town of Chertsey) also dealt with the more serious crime. Constables dealt with the routine crimes under the supervision of their sergeants. This all worked well as some of the superintendents were very experienced and knew how to deal with a whole range of serious offences including their careful examination of scenes, clothing, footwear etc. they were not

the bumblers so beloved of fiction! The Met would not come into Surrey unless asked by the chief constable and that was very rare.

The following may also be of interest; figures are for England and Wales

Between 1861 and 1865 59,394 indictable offence is well recorded in England and Wales equivalent to an offence rate of 287.9 per 100000 of population.

Around about the same number of offences recorded for the next five year period but since the population is rising sharply at the time the actual average per 100,000 dropped slightly to 270.5. Thereafter apart from a blip between 1881 and 1885 when 60,220 indictable offences were recorded The rate fell steadily. The five years between 1896 and 1900 for example show not only lower total numbers than a quarter of a century earlier 51,612 cases as against 59,394 but a massive reduction in the average per 100,000 people down from the high two hundreds to 175.6. Only burglary and housebreaking seem to have resisted the general trend downwards no doubt because they were the offences most likely to be committed by hard Core of professional criminals. Murder rate started to decline from the mid sentry mark. There was a brief trend in the 1860s but there after the number of homicide indictments declined from an average of 299.4 per annum in the eighteen sixties to 215.1 per annum. Over the same period the homicide rate per 100,000 of population similarly fell markedly. In 1851 is today at 1.9 per 100,000 in 1861 at 1.3 in 1911 at 0.6. In other words in the 60 years after 1851 cases of homicide dropped by nearly two thirds.

Most killers now were and skilled workers ranging from factory workers to farm servants: most were men. Male murderers outnumbered female murderers by 7 to 1 by the late 19-century least half of all of them were found guilty of murdering their wife or their mistress. Upper-class murderers with you in number professional criminals who killed in the commission of another crime similarly quite rare hence the reason that both types tended to draw a lot of newspaper coverage when they struck. Murder in other words was largely a domestic affair often the outcome of a long period of violence and unhappiness. As with homicide rates so with indictments felonious and malicious wounding was dropped from a height of 3.5 per 100,000 in 1871 to 2.7 in 1901 to 2 in 1911. And the decline in the figures for assaults by far the most frequent violence offence even more remarkable. Most assault cases were dealt with summarily by local magistrates of petty sessions, so it is difficult to make direct comparisons between indictable in effect serious offences and a sore prosecutions. But even so would be hard to interpret the near halving of cases from 383.8 per 100,000 in 1861 to 197.2 in 1901 as anything other than evidence of an extraordinary social shift.

Now to your questions

It appears to me the man in the top hat must have been Superintendent Bungard.

An article I have from January 1888 refers to Barker as "Deputy Chief Superintendent Barker." As "Deputy Chief," Barker would have been less closely identified with the Chertsey Division than Bungard.

The media then and now seem unable to get police ranks right. The Surrey Constabulary appointed in 1851 Superintendent Biddlecombe as number 1 in the roll and he was often referred to as a chief superintendent. However the rank did not come in until after the 2WW. Barker would have been Superintendent and Deputy Chief Constable. He would have been primus inter pares i.e. senior by designation of all the superintendents and he would most likely have run what today would be called operations and crime leaving the chief constable to manage the force. The CC was not a police officer but recruited from the army.

You asked why this case. Let's say there was far more to this unsolved murder/mutilation of a retired 67-year-old carpenter than appeared in that short news article you quoted.

One significant fact has stubbornly eluded me, despite my already considerable research. For a long time, I have been trying to determine the exact address of the cottage in which George Chuter resided with his son James (and in which George was savagely attacked while alone and killed.) I know their cottage was located "a few doors down" from the King's Head Pub--which used to be situated at 59 Chertsey Road in Byfleet. (The pub was demolished several years ago.) Moreover, I have reason to believe the cottage was owned by the son, James--who operated a small grocery store in the front room.

You should be able to check the census document on line for 1861 1871 and 1881 1891 and 1901. They should show when the dwellings pub disappeared and who lived on the premises. Exact addresses at a time when they were not explicit might prove difficult. It may have been say Rose Cottage, Chertsey Road, Byfleet those needing to know where exactly it was would know. These communities were very small. Chertsey now comes under Woking Borough Council and they should have detailed maps covering the area of interest. It is worth a try by emailing https://www.woking.gov.uk/planning. If not the Surrey archives based at Woking will have the maps.

As I am working from Los Altos, California, I have not been able to check official records--such as parish records at St. Mary's Church (where George was buried) or electoral records (if they still exist.) Do you have any ideas about whom I might contact in Byfleet to pinpoint the exact address of James Chuter's residence/grocery store in January 1888?

You will get help from these people http://www.byfleetheritage.org.uk/. These village history people know a huge amount and will probably know of the murder. Info@ByfleetHeritage.org.uk

Hope this helps. Like to see what you find out!

1888 January 18: Murder Byfleet: Between half past seven and half past eight the other night a murder which has caused a great sensation was committed in Byfleet a small village some three miles from Chertsey. It seems that an old man named Chuter aged 67, lived with his son in a small house in Byfleet, the son keeping a portion of the grocer's shop. The son went out in the evening and when he returned he found his dead father lying inside the back door with his head battered in and the whole apartment giving the appearance of a slaughterhouse. The throat had been cut from ear to ear. Near the body lay a poker that had been taken from an adjoining room and not far away was a carving knife, which had last been seen in the kitchen drawer from where the murder had apparently taken it. Upon the alarm being given a search of the house was made and it was discovered that money had been taken from a wardrobe the exact amount is unknown. There was an entry into the house 12 months ago when £20 was taken. Chuter was a man of considerable means and had a good deal of cottage property in the district. Superintendent Bungard of the Surrey Constabulary but so far has not made an arrest.

Some other cases dealt with by Superintendents Bungard and Baker

1859 December 7: Wife killed by her husband: During last Saturday night at Bletchingly Mr Brown the landlord of the Red Lion Inn and his wife who frequently quarrelled as she was addicted to drink. On Saturday night she much upset a number of customers by going into the parlours when she was under the influence of liquors. The company left the house between 11 and 12 o'clock and the lodgers went to bed between twelve and one o'clock leaving the husband wife alone in the parlour. They argued, Brown kicked his wife so hard in the abdomen that she shortly bled to death. Mr sergeant surgeon of Bletchingly was called but his aid was to no avail. Superintendent Bungard of Godstone police proceeded to Bletchingly and apprehended the prisoner between two and three in the morning and conveyed him to one of the cells at Godstone police station. The deceased was about 34 years of age

1873 May 30: Friday: Suspected murder at Chertsey: Mr Hull the coroner for West Surrey resumed an adjourned inquest at the Sun Inn, Chertsey touching the death of a boy about seven founding a ditch with his hands and feet tied on the night of Thursday week. Dr Eady of Chertsey said he was called to see the body after it had been taken out of the water. He found a few bruises about the neck and both hands and feet were tied. The police stated that they had failed to find out how the child got into the ditch and an open verdict was recorded. **Lloyds Weekly Sunday June 8 1873: The supposed murder at Chertsey:** On Wednesday at the Chertsey petty sessions Avis Jane Best aged 24 a good looking woman, residing at Charlotte-street, Portman Square. London was charged with the wilful murder of William Best aged seven whose body was found on the 26th May. Superintendent Bungard of Chertsey said "On the 29th ult., the prisoner was brought to the police station. I visited her in the cells as usual when she said she wished to make a statement. I said whatever she

said must be taken down in writing as it might be used as evidence against her. She replied that it was what she wished done. She consequently made the statement as follows: "On Monday the 19th ult., I left Waterloo station at 6.10pm for Weybridge station. I mistook my road and went beyond St George's Hills. When I returned to Weybridge station it was getting dark. I met a young woman and asked her road to Addlestone. She told me I had better ride, as it was too far to walk. I did not ride but walked through Addlestone to Chertsey. I went past Pound Hill to Willow-walk to the top of Colonel's –lane. I told the child to take his clothes off. He did so. I then folded a piece of oil cloth the wrong way outwards, like a shawl, put it over his shoulders, and tied it loosely and tied it with a piece if white tape to stop it falling off. I then pointed to the water with my finger. The child walked down the bank and one foot went in the water and he fell face downwards in the water. I put my hands out to try and reach hold of him but could not as he went too far beyond the trees. He kicked three or four times. I cannot say which. He was then quiet. I did not see him sink. He appeared to me to lay on his face ion the top of the water. I did not strike him or hurt him in any way before he went into the water. He had a scar on the left cheek close to the ear. I told him before we left London what he was to do. My reason for doing so was because no one would take care of him, he was so dirty in his habits. I gave him plenty of food. I was told by my sister-in-law and other persons that I gave him too much. I did not go to my mothers on the 19th ult., and have not seen my mother in Chertsey for three years. Signed: Avis Best" The prisoner was committed for trial

1886 June 28: Charge of murder: Superintendent Alfred s of Chertsey police stated that on the 18th instant he received a communication from Mrs Hale stating that her daughter had been missing from home at Kew since the 14th instant and wa supposed to have gone to Chertsey with a young man.

1886 June 26: Chin a blacksmith from Willow Walk, **Chertsey** entered Chertsey Police station wet and exhausted and stated that the girl had **committed suicide** by throwing herself **into the Thames** and that he had attempted to rescue her but had failed. The police immediately went to the spot where they found the umbrella, hat and gloves of the deceased. At a little distance from the bank there was evidence of a struggle and the river at this point is very shallow. Chinn has been detained and will be charged on Monday on suspicion of having caused the death of the girl. The police find that Chinn and the girl had been staying for three nights at an inn at Virginia Water and were seen together at Hampton races and that the prisoner pawned the deceased's gold watch with a pawnbroker in Staines **1886 June 28: Charge of murder:** Superintendent Alfred Bungard of Chertsey police stated that on the 18th instant he received a communication from Mrs Hale stating that her daughter had been missing from home at Kew since the 14th instant and was supposed to have gone to Chertsey with a young man. **1886 July 3: Murder in the Thames**: Staines Town Hall charged on suspicion of causing the death of Annie Hale aged 20 by drowning her in the Thames on the 18 June was Robert Chinn aged 20, a labourer. The deceased lived at Kew with her parents but went to Chertsey to visit the prisoner but never

returned. Her mother wrote to Superintendent Bungard of the Surrey Constabulary who received the letter on Thursday week. In the late evening of that day Chin went to the police station at Chertsey and said that the deceased had thrown herself into the Thames at Shepperton and that he had been unable to save her. The body was found on Friday morning below Walton Bridge. The prisoner said he had done nothing wrong but was remanded.

1887 November 16: Burglary Egham: A reward of £100 is offered in an advertisement following a burglary at Milton Park Egham. The reward is independent and in addition to that already offered for the recovery of the property stolen. Communication to be made with Superintendent Bungard, Surrey Constabulary, Chertsey

1888 March 1: Prize Fighting: At the Chertsey Court yesterday Charles Mitchell the well known professional pugilist was summoned for having at Pyrford or elsewhere agreed to fight a prize fight with **John L Sullivan, the American pugilist.** Defendant appeared personally accompanied by Charles Powell and Jake Kilrain. Superintendent Bungard of the Surrey Constabulary, the complainant, deposed that he had reason to believe the defendant contemplated a breach of the peace. Evidence was given that the defendant had been in training at Pyrford three weeks. Defendant said he had no intention of breaking the peace in England. He was bound over in £200 and two sureties £200 each – the bond was for the whole of England.

1888 March 3: A Pugilist Bound Over to Keep the Peace: At Chertsey yesterday Charles Mitchell the well known professional pugilist was summoned for having at Pyrford or elsewhere agreed to fight a prize fight with John L Sullivan the American pugilist. Superintendent Bungard Surrey Constabulary deposed he had reason to believe that the defendant contemplated a breach of the peace. Evidence was given that the defendant had been training at Pyrford for three weeks. The defendant said he had no intention of breaking the peace in England. He was bound over in £200 with two sureties of £200 each. In reply to the defendant the magistrate stated that the summons would operate all over England.

1889 January 10: At Godalming Court on Monday: Ebenezer Samuel Weatcroft Jenkins – he had assumed the name Wheatcroft – set up as an artist in Godalming. On Christmas Day he drew up a document promising to marry **Emily Joy**. In the document he stated he had an income of £500 and was to inherit a further £500 when he was thirty. He was twenty she eighteen. They were due to marry on 15 March 1889. Jenkins had lodgings with Mrs Joy in Church (Now King's) Road, Farncombe, and was much liked by all the family. One evening under a pretext to recover money owed to him he walked with Emily to the hut he used as a studio. They passed PC Steele from the Crown Pits police station when Jenkins wished him goodnight.[1] There the girl was **overcome, outraged** (raped) **and strangled.** It is likely that Jenkins tried to have sexual intercourse with Emily who objected; he struck her breaking her nose; raped her then panicked. He took the fur boa that Emily was

wearing and wound it around her face and neck, and stuffed a silk handkerchief in her mouth.[2] After the murder Jenkins calmly left the studio, locking the door and walked to The Sun public house and bought a drink, paid for with a Jubilee half crown, which he had taken from a brooch owned by the deceased. The following day he walked to the Punchbowl Inn and confessed to murdering the young woman; the landlord took him to Guildford where in the police station Jenkins confessed to Sergeant Watts.[3] On being questioned by Superintendent Berry of the Guildford Borough Police he freely admitted the murder and hoped he would be hanged. He was handed over to the county police who were quickly on the spot with Deputy Chief Constable Barker who has charge of the case. He was remanded in custody. The news of the murder spread and hundreds visited the spot during the evening. It is believed that the prisoner's mind had been affected by reading accounts of the recent Whitechapel Murders. On the 14 January 1889 he was committed for trial. Jenkins pleaded insanity on Valentine's Day in February 1889 but this was not accepted. The judge commented, "He had never known a crime committed under circumstances more shocking and more revolting." He was hung.

Barker was Superintendent and Deputy Chief Constable - number two in the force

1878 May 31: Shooting at a constable in Godalming: Surrey Assizes James Harding 31 a labourer shooting at Frank Scatterfield with a revolver with intent to do him greviosu bodily harm. At half past one o'clock in the morning the officer and another constable were on duty in Godalming as they were passing a meadow seperated from the high road by a wall they heard a noise and the prisoner jumped over the wall without his hat. On being asked what he was up to said he was looking for his hat. The officer said he was gong to take him into custody at which point the prisoner produced a five chamber revolver from his pocket and discharged three of the barrels at the constable before he could be secured. There was a small charge in the barrel and the shot was stopped by the clothing ensuring the officer did not sustain any injury. The prisoner was taken to Guildford where he was seen by the deputy chief constable (Mr Barker) and told he would be charged he said " Yes, and I would shoot anyone who interfered with me." Harding was found guilty and sentenced to **hard labour for 12 months.**

1884 January 9: Supposed murder in a cemetery at Woking: A prolonged enquiry was undertaken at the Woking Necropolis on Monday afternoon by the county coroner into the body of an unknown female found in the cemetery shot in the head. At first the fatal wound was thought to have been self-inflicted but after close examination of the body, and the fact that the revolver was found in her lap, suspicions were aroused. Dr Shepherd undertook the post mortem and he became convince that the fatal shot was not self-inflicted and it was impossible for the body to have fallen into the position it was found. DCC Barker had been unable to identify the body; a woman aged about 45 and respectably dressed. The jury returned an open verdict.

1891 January 12: Central Criminal Court: Eva Mary Lonnen aged twenty-four, for the **wilful murder** of Arthur Edward Lonnen at Ash. Guilty, but insane: to be detained till Her Majesty's pleasure be known.

Ann Ennis. I am the wife of Edward Ennis, of Westwood, Ash, Surrey. I have known the prisoner about twelve months. She is a single woman so far as I know. I first knew her at Aldershot. She went to Surbiton, thence to Streatham. I saw her there five or six weeks before 5th January; I agreed to keep her child Arthur; he would soon have been thirteen months old for about twelve shillings a month; I kept it till 5th January. Before that I wrote the prisoner that I could keep the child no longer on account of illness. On 5th January the prisoner came to my house. We went to bed at 10.30. The following morning I did not find the prisoner or her child; I went out and searched.

Thomas Morse: (14 Guildford Borough Police). On 6th January, about 8.30 a.m., the prisoner came to the police station. She said, "I have lowered my baby into a well at my niece's house, Maker's Siding, Westwood, Normandy; it was dark when I did it, about 7 o'clock." She appeared very dejected and trembled very much.

William Berry (Guildford Head Borough Constable). On Tuesday, 6th January, I went into my office where I cautioned the prisoner and she made this statement: "I, Eva Lonnen, 24, a domestic servant out of employment, having been duly cautioned, voluntarily say: I got up early this morning at my niece's house, Maker's Siding, Westwood, and took my baby, Arthur Edward, who would have been thirteen months old to-morrow, and lowered him into the well at the back of the house, and left him there. The child is dressed in a blue jacket, flannel shirt, as well as his nightclothes. I was forced into it, and do not like to mention his father's name. I do not wish to say anything against him. Having heard read over the above statement, I say it is perfectly true." She signed that in my presence.

I went to the County Police-station and saw Simmons. I went with him to Normandy to Edward Ennis's house. I saw Police Constable Matthews take from a sunken tank at the back of the house the dead body of a baby boy

The well was about eight feet deep, with about two feet of water. It was not frozen. I saw Simmons and Matthews take the body to the Anchor Inn, Normandy. I went with Simmons to Guildford, and gave the prisoner into custody when she replied, "I have nothing to say."

Charles Walter Barker (Deputy Chief Constable, Surrey). I saw the prisoner in the evening. I read the charge over, and she began to make a statement, and I stopped her, and told her the consequences of her making a statement.

Then she made this statement, which I took down, and she signed it in my presence, "I was driven to do it because the father promised to keep it at his own house till he was a certain age, if I would pay 3s a week. After it had been with Mrs Ennis she

wrote and told me I must fetch it away, as it was so much trouble, and she could not keep it; I wrote to her telling her I would pay her 20s per month if she would keep it, when she wrote again, and told me I must fetch it away. I came to Mrs Ennis' house yesterday, 5th January inst. I got up this morning early; I left the child asleep in bed. Afterwards I went upstairs, and I took it out of bed, and brought it out to the back of the house, and put it in the water-tank. I left at once, and came and gave myself up to the police, telling them what I had done. "

Thomas William Matthews: (PC96 Surrey Constabulary). On the 6th January, in consequence of information, I went to Westwood, to Edward Ennis' cottage. I searched the tank. I found the dead body of a male child about twelve mid-day. There were two feet of water and the well was eight feet deep. I removed the body with the assistance of the other constables to the Anchor Inn, Normandy.

Francis Rutherford Russell: I am a medical man practising at Guildford. On the 7th January I went to the Anchor Inn, Normandy, about 11 a.m. I found there the body of a male child between one and two years old. I examined the body to find the cause of death; there were no marks on the body and on opening the chest I found both sides of the heart engorged with blood or distended; the lungs were much congested, and the air passages and the cells of the lungs full of water; the slightest pressure on the lungs caused a frothy mucous to come from the mouth and nose. All the other organs in the body were healthy. In my opinion the cause of death was drowning.

Guilty, but insane to be detained till Her Majesty's pleasure be known

1876 Rosina Balchin (44), and Eliza Heather (76), Central Criminal Court unlawfully endeavouring to **conceal the birth** of a female child of the said Rosina Balchin. Balchin was found not guilty: Heather; one month's imprisonment. Heather pleaded guilty.

James Marshall. I am a police constable of the borough of Guildford, on Saturday, 1st July; I was near the prisoner Heathers' house at Guildford. I saw two men come to her house, they made a communication to her and she went away with them in a cart. I saw her again between 9 and 10 o'clock in the evening, she then had something similar to a basket tucked under her shawl.

Ellen Loder. I am the wife of Mark Loder of Guildford, on 1st July, I was at work at Mrs. Heather's house, she was out when I first went there, she came back about 1 o'clock in the day and brought with her a rush basket. Between 9 and 10 o'clock in the evening I went into the washhouse and went to a cupboard there and saw a basket in the bottom of the cupboard, it was not the rush basket, I opened it and saw in it the body of a child; I screamed and called Mr. Day, a lodger. Mrs. Heather came into the wash, house soon after and left again. I afterwards went to the cupboard and then found that the basket was gone. *Cross-examined:* It was an open cupboard in the washhouse to which I had access at all times when working, and other persons also, for the purpose of getting fuel. I called Day and showed him what I saw in the basket.

Olive Mercer. I am the wife of George Mercer of Albury Heath and I live close by Mrs. Balchin. On the morning of 3rd July, I was called and went to her house, I found her in bed. Mrs. Heather came in afterwards, about 10 or 11 o'clock; and in Balchin's presence I asked what was the matter with her, I could not say whether she heard, what was said, her eyes were closed at times, she was very ill. Heather said it was a bad flooding. I saw Balchin again in the course of the week and had some conversation with her, she never admitted having a child. She said that she had not been confined, that it was only a flooding.

William Chaunt. I am a labourer at Stoke." On Thursday, 6th July, I was going along the towing path of the river Wey when I saw something in the water, I took it out, it turned out to be the body of a child; I took it to the police-station and gave it up there; it was naked.

Charles Walter Barker. I am deputy chief constable of the Surrey Constabulary. On 6th July, I received the body of this child at the police-station, on the 8th, I received Mrs. Heather in custody, and on the 9th, I went to Albury to Mrs. Balchin's house, Mr. Shollick, the surgeon, was with me; he went into the house, afterwards came out and made a communication to me and I then went in. Balchin said to me "That man pointing to Mr. Shollick says he has come to see me about a child, but I do not understand what he means, I have not had a child for 13 years. I said "I have your mother in custody; and she states that she delivered you of a child on 1st July " She said "That is all false" I said "You must be examined by a doctor, will you allow any one about here to see you " She said "Yes, Mr. Capron may see me " I went for Mr. Capron to his residence at Shere, and he came back with me and saw her. After he had seen her I went and saw her again, and I then said "Dr Capron tells me you have been delivered of a child within a few days, have you made any preparation for the birth of a child " She said "No, none " I searched the room with Dr Capron and Mrs Mercer; there was no baby linen there, I did not search in any other room; there was another room, I was told that was the lodgers, and I did not go in, she told me that—I think I saw the lodger on the Common, he was not in the house. I don't think there was any woman lodging in the house; I never heard that there was. *Cross-examined:* I have been deputy chief constable about three years; I have been in the force twenty years. I don't think I saw Mrs Mercer before I went to Balchin's house; I am not sure, but I think I did not; I don't know whether I did or not I saw her afterwards I know, but I think I did not see her first. I did not employ her afterwards; I asked her to look to Mrs Balchin; she told me she had been nursing her, and I asked her to look to her, because I thought she would be charged with this offence, and I did not wish to put a policeman there to watch her; I thought if Mrs Mercer would look to her that would do as well. I did not tell her to have conversation with her, nothing of the kind. I don't remember that she repeated to me any conversation that she had with her at any time. I am not sure that I saw Mrs Mercer after the Sunday till the prisoners were examined before the Magistrate on the Friday week following. On Sunday, the 9th, both the prisoners were charged with murder. I did not caution Balchin when I first went into

the room before I put any questions to her; she spoke to me first, as soon as I went in. I had never seen her before, and I don't think she knew me, unless Mr Shollick had told her. She made no objection to being examined by Mr. Capron, she submitted to it at once; she did not like Mr. Shollick to examine her.

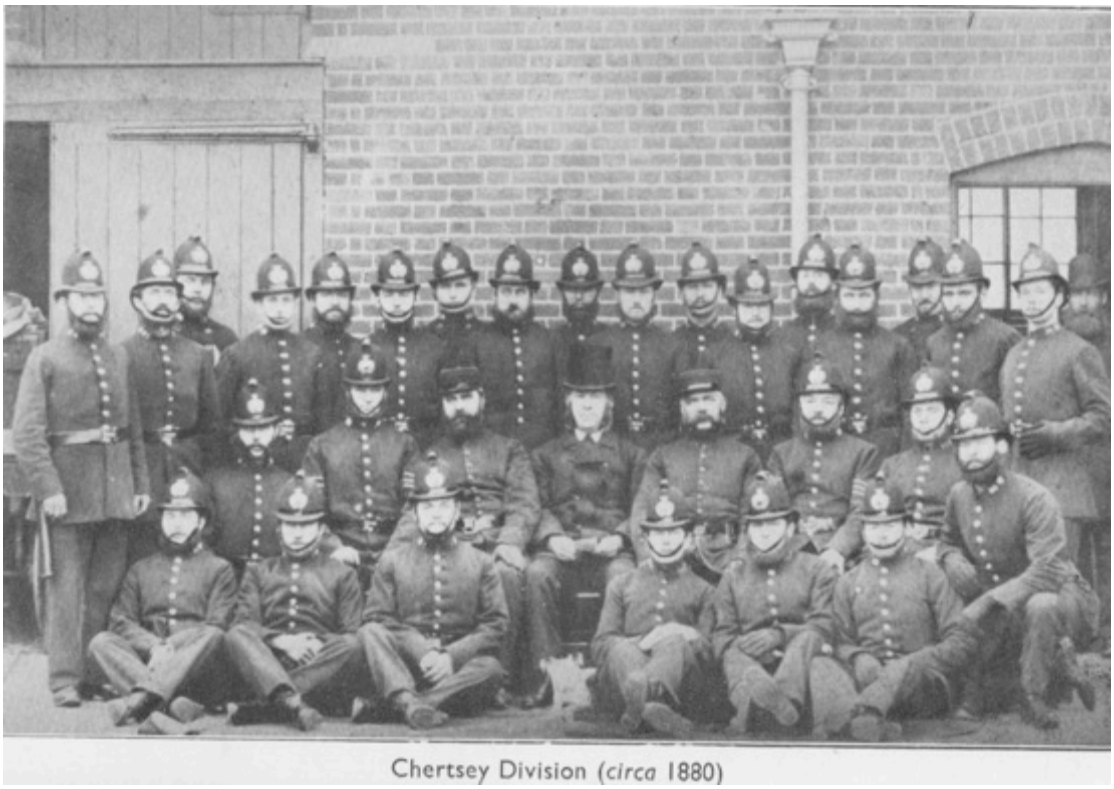
Thomas Joseph Shollick: I am a surgeon practising at Guildford. On Thursday evening, 6th July, I saw the body of this child at the County police station; I afterwards made a *post-mortem* examination of it. As far as I could judge from the condition of the heart and lungs the cause of death was suffocation; it was not caused by drowning in my opinion the child was dead before it was thrown into the water. On Sunday, 9th July, I saw Balchin at her house; I went there with Mr. Barker; I said to her that I thought she looked very ill, and asked her what had been the matter; she said she thought it was the change of life. I asked if she had lost a great deal; she said "Yes" I then asked her when she was last confined; she said thirteen years ago. I said "Have you not been confined recently?" She said "I am not conscious of having been confined" I said "Have you miscarried?" she said "Yes, twelve years ago" I then asked her if she had any objection to being examined; she sad no, but she should like her own medical man. I asked her who her own medical man was and she said "Dr Capron, of Shere. I said "I know Dr Capron very well, we will go and see if we can get him to come" Dr Capron afterwards came and she asked me how it was she came to be suspected of having had a child. I said "Your mother has been taken into custody, and she states that she attended you at your last confinement on the Saturday previous, and that she afterwards brought the child in a basket and put it into the river; that is the reason why you have been suspected of having had a child" She said "I assure you, Mr. Shollick it is quite false, I have not been confined." *Cross-examined:* She was very weak indeed, and very much blanched, in such a state as would result from great loss of blood. I began the conversation with her at once on going in; I was alone with her; I had seen her before; she knew me, and so did her husband. I had not attended her before, but I had been called in, in consultation with Dr Capron and Dr Taylor, of Guildford, to see her husband, who had fractured his legs; that was some years ago; she recognised me and called me by name. Her husband was living with her at the time, but he was not present. She and I were alone in the room at the time of the conversation. I examined the child that was found in the river on the 7th; it was a very large child, 21 inches in length. I think the confinement would have been a difficult one; that difficulty would be increased by the fact that she had had no child for thirteen years, and considering her age.

Edward Capron: I am an M D and live at Shere: On 9th July I was fetched by Mr. Barker to see Balchin. I found her in bed and very weak; I told her she was suspected of having had a child, and I asked her if that was the case. She said if that was so she was not sensible when it was born. I asked if she had any objection to my examining her medically to see if that was the case; she made no objection. I examined her and came to the conclusion that she had been recently delivered of a child, within a week or ten days. I only noticed that she was feeble, she had evidently had a great loss of

blood, nothing more. I found nothing else that attracted my notice. Of course I looked at her breasts, which was a part of my medical examination; that was one of my reasons for saying that she had had a child. I had no doubt in my own mind of the fact. She said the first remembrance of consciousness she had was her mother saying "Good God, child, you are dying " I asked if she had made any preparation with her mother beforehand to take the child away; that she denied. I think it is possible that as soon as the child was born she might have had excessive flooding, and she might be unconscious as to what became of the child afterwards. Patients frequently suffer from severe loss do faint away and are unconscious for some time. I should scarcely think she could have been unconscious of giving birth to a child. *Cross-examined:* I have never known such a case; I should think it impossible during the pains of labour. She must have been conscious of it; she would not be unconscious before the child was born except under excessive haemorrhage, which would be unusual before birth, such a thing might occur, but it is not usual. I think she must have been conscious that she was giving birth to a child at the time of its birth; she might have been unconscious a few minutes afterwards, and before the child was fully born. I don't think she could suppose it to be a miscarriage; but that depends upon whether the miscarriage takes place at an early or late period; at a very late period it may still be a living child of seven months, a child that breathed. I don't think it possible for her to be unconscious then. I examined the bed; there had been a considerable amount of haemorrhage, but of course I could not say when that occurred. She asserted that she was unconscious at the birth of the child; I did not hear her say that she saw no child at all. I had been her medical attendant for thirteen or fourteen years; I had never attended her for a confinement. I have heard it reported that the mother always attended on those occasions. My last attendance upon her was three or four months previously when she then came to me and complained that she thought she was undergoing a change of life and I treated her for that.

The court was of opinion that the case against Balchin was insufficient. The Jury concurred and found Balchin not guilty. Several witnesses deposed to Heather's good character. Heather: one month's imprisonment.

1890 January 1: After serving **39 years** (May well have been one of the originals) in the Surrey Constabulary 18 as the head of Chertsey Division **Supt Bungard retired** yesterday as a consequence of ill-health, He is to be presented with a public testimonial.



Possibly Superintendent Bungard in the top hat who served for many years at Chertsey including 1880

Farnham burial registers[39]

They never told you about things like this when you were at school. The realities of life

Date of burial

1709: Jane DIER, dau of Jane, widow, killed by a lion and buried on 2 Aug 1709

28 Oct 1782 - John NOVELL and John BAKER, killed by a waggon

22 Feb 1793 - Harriet AVENELL, dau of John, burnt to death

25 Feb 1793 - Elizabeth MONGER dau of Richard, drowned

[39] http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/ENG-SURREY/2003-04/1050222747

8 Feb 1794 - Benjamin BEAGLEY, killed in a sand pit at Heath End

15 Jul 1795 - Matthew HAWKINS and William WELLS, labourers, both shot in Farnham Park

9 Sep 1795 - Jane MELLERSH, dau of William, drowned at High Mills

7 Oct 1796 - Thomas PRESTON who was found in the ruins after a fire at the Goat's Head

3 Apr 1797 - James GODFREY, a sailor killed by a fall from the Gosport Stage

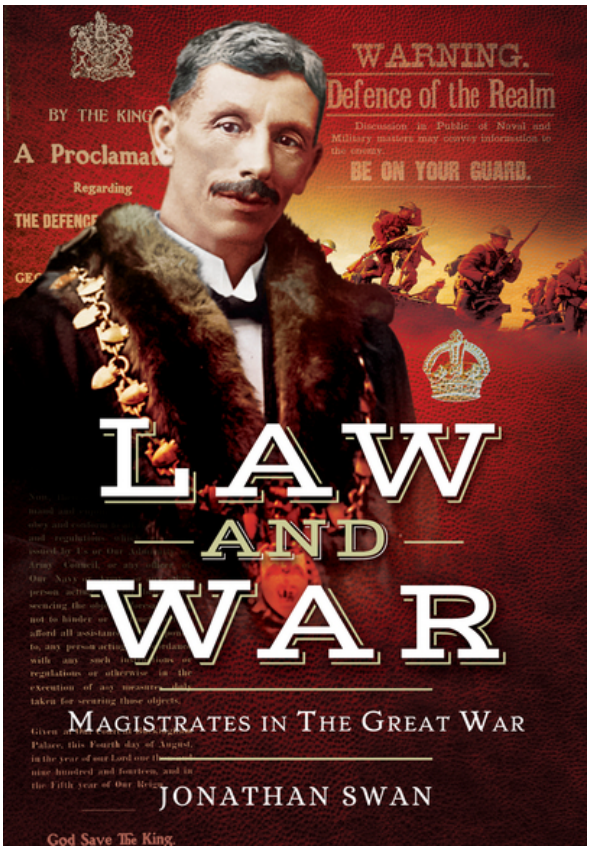
24 May 1809 - William TURNER, killed by a shot from a musket by William MOULDS, deserter from the 45th Regiment of Foot on the Turnpike Road, near the White Post in this Parish on the night of the 18th inst.

28 Aug 1810 - Lt. Col Thomas WALSH of the 56th Regiment of Foot, killed by a fall from a gig near Guildford

18 Jan 1811 - Samuel WINSLADE, son of Thomas and Hannah, killed by the kick of a horse

29 Jan 1811 - Thomas GOODYER, killed by a waggon running over him

14 Nov 1811 - Esther LANGFORD, wife of Thomas, was drowned near Bourne Mill



Law and War (Hardback)

Magistrates in the Great War

By Jonathan Swan
Imprint: Pen & Sword Military
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The office of justice of the peace has existed since the twelfth century, when good and lawful men were first appointed to sit in judgement of their peers. Unpaid and untrained, these lay magistrates were the backbone of the English judicial system, dealing with the vast majority of criminal cases in the police courts and the petty sessions.

By the start of the twentieth century, social attitudes were changing and the magistrates, drawn from the wealthier classes, were seen as out of touch with the communities they served. The new Liberal Government of 1906 instituted reforms, which allowed the appointment of the working classes.

Then came the Great War. Within days of the outbreak of hostilities, the government introduced the Defence of the Realm Act. With several amendments over the years, this all-encompassing legislation resulted in the creation of hundreds of subsidiary regulations, many of which affected the lives of ordinary people in a way they had never expected.

Many, including the magistrates themselves, fell foul of the myriad orders, covering billeting, licensing, lighting and rationing, which were enforced by the new special constables. At the same time, the conscription of the criminal classes saw a huge fall in the normal workload of the courts and the closure of many prisons.

The magistrates responded as best they could. Some magistrates went to war; some lost their lives. Others served in the many voluntary organisations and committees that appeared across the country, such as the Military Service Tribunals or the Volunteer Corps.

The end of the war saw a further change to the old order when the first women magistrates were appointed, marking the birth of modern magistracy.

On Line Review

In Law and War: Magistrates in the Great War, Swan provides a detailed and fascinating window into the impact of wartime legislation on the lives of ordinary people – housewives, landlords, neighbours, shopkeepers, etc. – and intertwines this with the development of the magistracy during the Great War.

Although the office of justice of the peace can be traced back to 1361 in the reign of King Edward III, the magistrates' court as we understand it today developed from the reforms to the system of summary justice which began in the middle of the nineteenth century. The outbreak of World War I in 1914 and Parliament's frantic work to enact emergency legislation in the form of the Defence of the Realm Act, 1914 (DoRA), however, brought a new dimension to the work of the courts. The war required a shift in legal thinking, from one based around 'the enemy within' (the Stuart rebellions, the English Civil War, etc.) to deal with a nation at war and for the first time in a century facing a genuine prospect of invasion.

Swan undertakes meticulous research to document the main focus of this book, namely the experience of ordinary people and their interactions with the law and courts during and in the immediate aftermath of the war. In Chapter 7, for instance, the author describes how alcohol abuse was several orders of magnitude greater than anything seen today. Magistrates soon found that their existing licensing powers insufficient, which led to the enactment of the Intoxicating Liquor (Temporary Restrictions) Act, 1914. Sensitive to the fears of prohibition and the influence of the abstinence campaigners, the government used the theme of 'efficiency' to justify and promote a new attitude to alcohol consumption, and a new and separate Defence of the Realm (Liquor Control) Act, 1915 created the Central Control Board to oversee and coordinate the patchwork of orders in place around the country.

Another theme, which is explored in this book is the rise of probation as an innovative and alternative sentencing option. Swan notes that, initially, the sentencing options available for magistrates were largely limited to fines or imprisonment. The latter was much more widely used, particularly for fine defaulters. In 1907, probation was very much an innovation and magistrates were still learning how to use it effectively. However, the war brought about a profound change in social conditions, in particular with respect to women and families. Youth crime increased rapidly, variously attributed to the absence of fathers and male teachers on military service, mothers absent on munitions work, and the subversive influence of the cinema. Given the limited sentencing options at the time, magistrates increasingly turned to the use of the relatively new option of probation.

Throughout the book, Swan presents a picture consisting of a patchwork of emergency legislation emerging as a reaction to the war, and discusses its impact on ordinary individuals. These include regulations under DoRA, such as the lighting regulation, which had more impact on the community than any other, and brought thousands of people into court. But it also includes other legislation, such as the Aliens (Restriction) Act, 1914 and its role in the internment of tens of thousands of enemy aliens, following the sinking of the Lusitania by a German submarine in early 1915 and subsequent public disorder. The author concludes that the 'great unpaid' could be considered causalities in this war, because the legislators failed to impose order, enacted some poorly-drafted legislation, and responded weakly to the threats and challenges faced by British society at the time.

Review for Surrey Police Historians

This is a meticulously researched, well-written and informative book, which will be of great use to the historian of the home front. To have so much detail of the emergency legislation and how much of it was enforced in one book has many advantages. The amount of research that has gone into the production of the book must have been enormous with endless lists of references to newspapers. The author is to be congratulated on a job well done!

The book is a cross between a work of reference and a detailed narrative of how the First World War affected the lives of people on the home front. The narrative flows and is easily followed. Well most of the time! Much has been written about the war but there is not a great much detail on the life and affect of the conflict upon policing. This book has no particular chapter or section on the role of the police but all the way through there are references to the police and of course, in most cases where magistrates were involved, the police were usually but not always involved.

At the time of the First World War there were 188 police forces, 58 county and 130 city or borough forces employing 35,373 officers (2015 129,987). A police reserve had been established in 1911 from former police officers or pensioners and former soldiers and around 2,000 of these had been issued with warrant cards. On the 1914

establishment 2,624 officers were reservists that had been called up and a further 3,422 had enlisted voluntarily. At the end of 1914 there were 120,000 men sworn in as special constables with a further 30,000 in London.

An example of how local policing coped was Guildford Borough Police when nine men out of about thirty were called to the colours as reservists leading to shortages. The 17 men of the Fire Brigade were sworn in as special constables and lamps, whistles and handcuffs were obtained for their use; 12 Specials were being paid five shillings a day. The strength of the force with Specials was 36 but there were additional duties associated with the mobilisation. The Chief Constable reported that "150 local gentlemen had rendered excellent service as Town Guards" but most wished to be relieved of their duties by the end of the month. Officers engaged on "point duty" (was this vulnerable points as opposed to traffic points) were armed with pistols. Police lost the use of the drill hall for their training and purchased an ambulance for £14 2 6d for use by the police. Large numbers of soldiers were billeted in the town. [40] In 1915 Guildford Special Constabulary had 47 section leaders (sergeant equivalent) and 228 special constables [41] In 1916 two members of the Guildford Fire Brigade were appointed temporary constables at 30 shillings a week subject to the condition they remained members of the brigade and the Chief Constable was authorised to give the necessary certificates to exempt them from military service. [42]

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. In 1915 on June 4 the weekly rest day was suspended owing to the war. On 31 December 1915 one rest day in fourteen became the rule until the rest day was fully restored. (A weekly rest day in Surrey led to the Chief Constable asking for 50 additional men to deal with the loss of hours)

There were reduced numbers of regular officers but an amazing mix of additional responsibilities for the police involving huge amounts of work. The book establishes the framework within which all this additional work and levels of control placed on the public by the police. Legislation was passed at an incredible rate and volume and hard-pressed admin staff at Police HQ would have worked long into the night interpreting the new laws and how they were to be enforced with a diminishing pot of police officers.

[40] They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary
[41] They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary
[42] They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary

In addition to the normal police duties Swift lists in his book some of the additional duties placed upon officers and to this a few more have been added with Surrey examples

Posting mobilisation notices

Personally warning reservists they were to report

Billeting Territorial troops – a huge task. At the request of the military authorities, police in Surrey had found some fifty eight thousand billets for soldiers with one hundred and fifty thousand by the end of the winter. Often the soldiers did not arrive and all the work was in vain. The providing of billets for military authorities was another great tax upon the police, fifteen thousand found in the first winter of the war. The Chief Constable believed that troops arrived ignorant of everything and had to be "spoon fed".

Assisting army officers **in impressing horses, vehicles and mechanical transport** in Surrey, a rural county with hundreds of farms and very large numbers of horses

Safeguard important public works by mounting fixed-point guards mostly unarmed on sites such as the gunpowder works at Albury

Enforcing **restrictions on access** to railways, fortified works, camps

Enforcing provisions of the **Wireless Telegraphy Act**

Restrictions on keeping and using **carrier pigeons**

Restrictions on the **storage of petroleum and celluloid**

Maintaining a register of aliens across the UK when there were 20 nationalities to be recorded including 2,141 Austro-Hungarians and in London alone there were 30,000 Germans. Managing aliens was a huge task. In the Surrey Constabulary area, starting from scratch, immediately two hundred and fifty aliens had been registered. The Chief Constable wrote in 1918 that for the Surrey Constabulary every Defence of the Realm Regulation added to already onerous duties of the police and the influx of aliens from restricted areas and their supervision also caused a great deal of work.

Control of lighting especially during raids by Zeppelin: Robust enforcement by the police who had to deal with the consequences of enemy action i.e. air raids, bombardment. 1915 October 13 2200 a Zeppelin L13 approached Guildford from the direction of Newlands Corner. Bombs were dropped and later police investigation showed that ten bombs fell in the Borough and two more at Shalford Park killing a swan on the Wey and 17 roosting fowls at St Catherine's. This led to a stiffening of the lighting regulations resulting in 49 summonses and a total of £37 in fines. [43]

[43] They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary

Air Raid warning: The Chief Constable of the Surrey Constabulary wrote: "I was very hard pressed all over the county to allow notice to be given of air raids. This I refused to do with the result that instead of sitting up all night in fear the inhabitants slept comfortably in their beds and only learnt of the raids by reading the papers next morning. The police and special constables were given full instructions as to their duties should bombs be dropped in their vicinity and that I held was sufficient."

Restrictions on the sale of intoxicating liquor and new licensing hours with the introduction of a range of restrictive licensing laws to be enforced by the police often against the wishes of the drinkers leading to disorder.

Deserters to be taken before the courts or if they surrendered issued with rail warrants and released to find their own way back. If arrested were kept in custody to appear before the court and to be handed to the military.

Internment: In Surrey at Frith Hill, Frimley detention centre for aliens and later POWs. From Liverpool 300 aliens were moved to Frimley following riots in the city. By June 1916, 32,000 enemy aliens had been interned mostly German or Austrian of military age. No women were interned but 23,000 including some small children had been repatriated. All these cases would have had some police involvement. 1917 October 10: German prisoners recaptured: While proceeding to business yesterday Mr Marsh Clerk to the local district council met three men, two were wearing German naval uniforms and the third a German military uniform. He called a party of cadets to take the men to Camberley police station where they were found to be prisoners of war who had escaped from an internment camp in Hampshire the previous night. One of the men was member of a German submarine crew. The prisoners, who said they wanted a holiday, were sent back to the camp under armed escort.[44]

Anti-enemy disturbances mostly against shop keepers including riots following the sinking of the Lusitania. In 1915 at Walton on Thames there were serious disturbances caused by bad feeling against German refugees who were living in the town

Refugees: Surrey was an unrestricted area and being close to the Metropolis received an influx of refugees at times of anticipated air raids. These refugees were for the most part from the east of London and mainly consisted of aliens many of whom were undesirable characters. They arrived in trainloads and got off where they liked causing considerable difficulties and annoyance in the districts where "they dumped themselves". Housing had to be found for them without warning "but the feeding capacities in view of rationing and the scarcity of food were much taxed and special arrangements had to be made with the rationing authorities." Occasionally all the schools and like buildings had to be used to house undesirable refugees an in any future war preparations should be made beforehand to deal with it. One suggestion

[44] The Times (London, England), Wednesday, Oct 10, 1917

was that railway companies should be prohibited from bringing refugees down without consultation with authorities of the districts to which they bring them. Locations outside London suitable for receiving refugees should be agreed beforehand and they should not be taken to any other place. It was accepted that this would not deal with those that arrived by motorcar of which there were many. Being an unrestricted area Surrey experienced an influx of Belgian refugees who came in large numbers without warning and were distributed across the county. The time of the police was much occupied in finding and registering them.

"Watching those with evil intention towards the realm" The Chief Constable reported after the war that the spy and signalling mania with which the public became infected proved a source of continual trouble and the public was a perfect nuisance. The correspondence became colossal. The work undertaken by Special Branch and senior officers encompassed much secret activity. Spy mania was common requiring response and investigation of allegations and sightings. 1915 31 August: "SPY SCARE" "The villages of Shere and Gomshall were alarmed on Wednesday evening by a 'spy scare'. The affair took place near the railway arch at Gomshall, where the report of a gun close to the road was heard. The story that there was a spy in the vicinity spread, and a thorough search of the line and the neighbourhood was made. Eventually it was discovered that the shot had been fired by Mr Muzzlebrook who was rabbit shooting on his own property".

Invasion planning: Only one month after Great Britain declared war on Germany, fears of invasion and spying were affecting every part of the county.[45] 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 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.

Prosecutions of those wearing uniforms, ranks or medals they were not entitled to.

[45] News item in the Surrey Advertiser, 31st August 1914

Troop concentrations: Policing the consequences particularly in Surrey, of large numbers of Canadian and other troops, mainly public order events but other serious crimes were committed. 1916 December 6: A Canadian soldier from Witley camp charged with murder. 1918 February 28: At the Egham Police Court, David James Andrews of the Canadian Army Medical Corps was charged with being in possession of a loaded firearm at Englefield Green. PC Butterfill said that at 9.30pm, he saw the defendant proceeding towards Priest Hill. PC Butterfill asked him where he was going. The defendant, under the influence of drink, became very abusive and told him to mind his own business. After taking his name and number, the officer told him to go away. At 9.45pm, the defendant returned to the police station and called for "the civil policeman to come out". PC Butterfill went up to the defendant who said;" What business had you to stop me?" He also raised an objection to the officer for having done so, because he was not a military policeman. By the aid of the moonlight, the officer saw that the defendant had something in his hands and asked him to show him. The defendant in doing so dropped a revolver and then got down on his hands and knees to search for it. PC Butterfill managed to pick it up first and found that it was cocked. He placed it in the safety position and arrested the defendant. Fined forty shillings"[46] 1919 June 16 Witley Camp, near Godalming, was the scene on Saturday night of a serious outbreak of violence among Canadian troops stationed there. Between thirty thousand and sixty thousand Canadian soldiers lived on Witley Common during the First World War with local police strength of a sergeant and three constables. Policing of the camp was by the military but on two hundred and thirty nine occasions in three years, prisoners were handed to the Surrey Constabulary. During the riot eighteen shops were looted and £9000 worth of property stolen. The greater part of "Tintown" as it was called locally was burned to the ground, and a part of "Little Tintown" about half a mile away was also destroyed by fire. The trouble is believed to have arisen from irritation at delay in demobilising the men and shipping them home. The disturbance started when a large body of men assembled on one of the parade grounds to hold a demonstration against the delay. Whether the fire in Tintown was an accident is not yet determined. There seems no doubt however that the smaller fire was the result of a deliberate act of incendiarism. Many men strongly disapproved of the rioting and helped to extinguish the fires.[47]

There was a series of riots from North Wales to Witley and Epsom involving disheartened Canadian troops who were denied an early return home. 1919 18 June: there was a riot at Epsom in the Metropolitan Police District. The brother of Station Sergeant Thomas Green killed by Canadian soldiers when they attacked Epsom station, was Edgar Green who at that time was a member of the Surrey Constabulary stationed at Egham.[48]

[46] 1918 February 28: From Edward Priestly: The Staines and Egham News.
[47] Calgary Daily Herald published Tuesday, June 17, 1919
[48] "We are not manslaughters" Martin Knight Tonto Books 2010

Policing ladies of easy virtue attracted by the soldiers. During 1918 the Surrey Constabulary employed its first policewoman, a sergeant who was posted to Farncombe to deal with prostitutes who had moved into the area close to the army camp at Witley. After the war she left the Force.

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

Guarding line of communication: There was much guarding of key and vulnerable points, which seem to have not been considered by the authorities in the move to war. Much of this was done by the Special Constabulary or unarmed policemen. On the first day of the war the chief constable realised that no provision had been made by the military for guarding their line of communications, the railway, from Aldershot to Dover. A posse of armed civilians was organised by the police to continuously guard vulnerable points. This was kept up for two months until relieved by Territorial soldiers. The important powder works at Chilworth were guarded by two unarmed police officers until all danger of sabotage was over, when the police were relieved by the Home Defence Corps armed to the teeth. [50]

1916 Food was short and PC Fuller Guildford Borough was awarded a gratuity of 10 shillings for the action he took leading to the conviction of a butcher for having diseased meat in his possession.[51] 1917 December 1: Food Hoarding: The Camberley police on visiting the house of a local resident Mrs Ivy Chambers found 56lb of butter, 20lb of sugar, 20lb of tea and half a sack of flour. She was fined £5 and her father from Sunningdale fined £20 for aiding and abetting.[52]

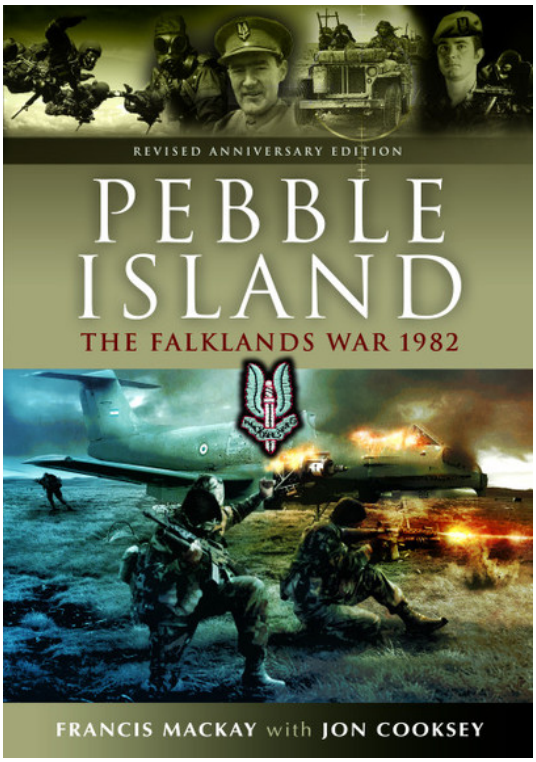
1916 A local branch of the **No Conscription Fellowship** was established in Guildford to counter compulsory military service. Police raided the house of two local officials and seized literature statements the publication of which would be "likely to prejudice the recruiting training or discipline of His Majesty's Forces." The Guildford Bench fined the officials £25 and £100.[53]

Fighting the Bureaucracy: At the busiest time in the War a census of all agricultural implements was urgently called for. It can be imagined what the distribution and collection of two thousand two hundred and fifty forms meant in the way of work for the police. Then there was the requisitioning of horses of which many thousands were

[49] Durrant Surrey Constabulary 1851-1951 page 46
[50] Durrant Surrey Constabulary 1851-1951 page 47
[51] They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary
[52] The Times (London, England), Saturday, Dec 01, 1917
[53] They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary

obtained in this county. Countless returns were called for from time to time and when considering the preparations to be made in the event of another war as many of these matters as possible should be foreseen and dealt with beforehand.[54]

On 11 November 1918, the final armistice was signed and the guns were at last silenced. Eighteen Surrey police officers (including Boroughs) paid for peace with their lives. A large number of men were called to the colours from the Force three receiving high awards for bravery, Walter Tuppen, a Distinguished Conduct Medal second only to a Victoria Cross, and Thomas Runnegar and Henry Brand Military Medals. Sixteen men were wounded, three of who were permanently incapacitated.



Pebble Island (Paperback)

Revised Anniversary Edition

By Jon Cooksey, Francis Mackay
Imprint: Pen & Sword Military
Series: Elite Forces Operations Series
Pages: 121
ISBN: 9781473892958

[54] SCC Archives CC98/72 undated

Author: Jon Cooksey is a leading military historian who takes a special interest in the history of the world wars and the Falklands War. He is the former editor of Battlefields Review and the current editor of Stand To!, and his articles have appeared in many of the foremost military magazines and in national newspapers. As an experienced battlefield guide, he regularly leads tours to the battlefields of both world wars as well as the Falkland Islands. His TV and radio appearances include the Channel 5 programme on the 1914 Christmas Truce and and Great War soldier Ronald Poulton Palmer and Gallipoli Victoria Cross winner Frederick Potts for the BBC. His books include The Barnsley Pals, Flanders 1915, Calais: A Fight to the Finish and 3 Para Mount Longdon – The Bloodiest Battle.

Publisher's reviews

This is the story of the SAS raid on Pebble Island during the Falklands War.

In atrocious weather, 48 men of 22 SAS Regiment were landed by Sea King Helicopter on the Island. Their task was to destroy the 11 enemy aircraft located at the Airstrip on the Island and neutralize the Argentinean force posted there to guard it.

The raid was successful and all the Aircraft were destroyed but debate still goes on as to whether the raid was a political gesture to give the British Public some action or whether it was to knock out the Airbase that could have made life difficult for the landings at San Carlos Bay later in the War.

The book covers sections on: history of the engagement, training and planning involved, equipment used, weapons file, breakdown of forces engaged, consequences and controversies as well as personal accounts of those involved.

A further publisher's review:

In the early hours of 15 May 1982, three Sea King helicopters carrying 42 men of 22 SAS Regiment and attachments, lifted off from the carrier HMS Hermes and headed towards the remote Pebble Island on the north coast of West Falkland. Their task? To destroy the Argentinian Pucara aircraft stationed on the grassy airstrip above the isolated Pebble Island settlement, eliminate the defending garrison and neutralize the threat posed by the airfield as an Argentinian forward operating base. The raid ' codename Operation PRELIM ' was the largest and most ambitious airfield raid undertaken by the SAS in a quarter of a century and with every aircraft destroyed it was heralded as a resounding British success. But debate still rages as to whether it was truly a strategic coup, crippling the Argentinians' ability to strike at the British Task Force and significantly reducing their capability to oppose the eventual amphibious landings at San Carlos, or a political sop for a British public eagerly awaiting news of a success. This book, covering the history of the Argentinian threat and the planning, preparation and execution of the raid, also includes sections on the

opposing forces and weapons used. It also deals with the controversies and, for the first time, examines the terrible consequences of the raid for the men and ships of the British fleet as the Argentinian pilots, rousing themselves for glory on their National Day, prepared for a deadly act of revenge.

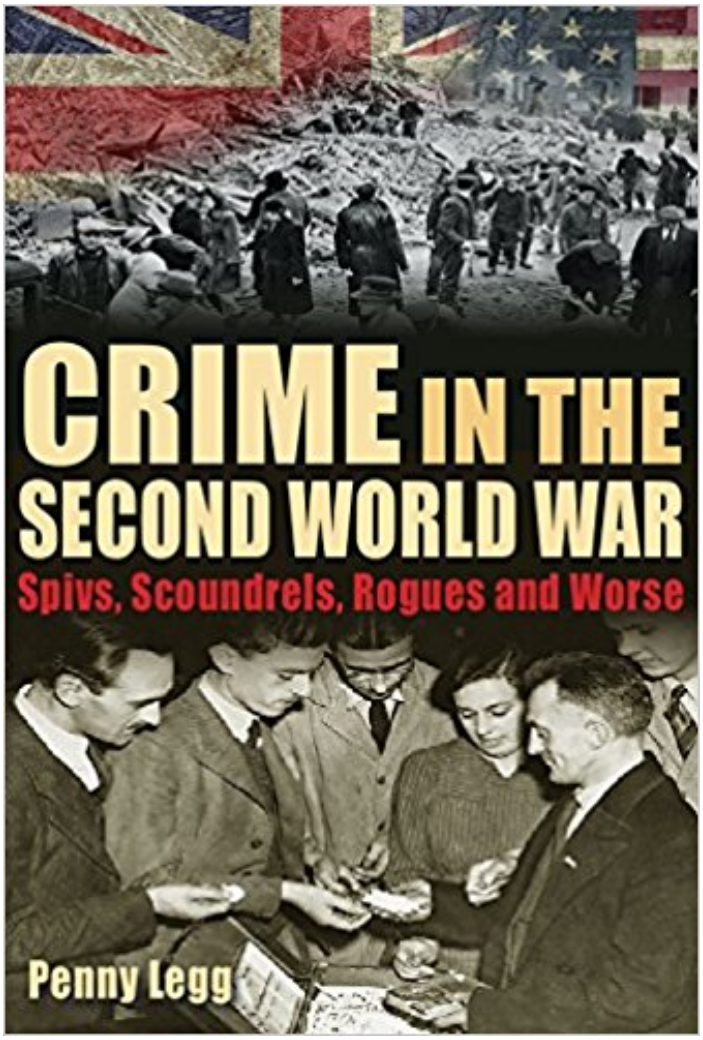
Reader's Review

Reading the publisher's review and looking at the cover of the book, the expectation is that this is a book about the Special Forces raid on Pebble Island. Well, it is but the actual raid occupies a limited number of pages. A major portion of the book is about the Argentinians, their organisation, equipment and capability. The story of the Argentinians is well told, often in great detail, far too much for the casual reader. It has to be said however, that the title of the work is "Pebble Island: The Falklands War 1982" and that is what this book is about. It is an history of Pebble Island during the conflict during which time the Argentinians occupied the island and this is their story into which the Special Forces raid "intruded" destroying eleven aircraft then withdrawing. Not only had they wiped out a vital Argentinian reconnaissance and attack force it had also destroyed the remaining transport aircraft capable of landing on Pebble Island.

This small extremely well presented book with clear illustrations, established the importance of denying the Argentinians the use of Pebble Island as a forward operating base from where they could attack any approaching shipping. The success of the raid without loss of life had a significant effect on the early stages of the war. For the un-initiated it is revealing to discover the level of planning and resources needed to mount such an operation, and as always, there are never enough people or the right equipment. It is a truism that no plan survives contact with the enemy and what is clear from the book, is the flexibility of those on the ground to evolve the plan as required.

Whether the raid was strategically essential or as some say a sop to the British public, on both counts it was a success!

Authors who quote paragraphs in a language other than that the book is published in without translation can cause frustration. There are four lines of Spanish in the middle of the text, for what reason?



Crime in the Second World War: Spivs, Scoundrels, Rogues and Worse

Penny Legg

- **Hardcover:** 160 pages
- **Publisher:** Sabrestorm Publishing (28 April 2017)
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 1781220093
- **ISBN-13:** 978-1781220092

Publisher’s reviews

At a time of national emergency, the average person could be forgiven for thinking that crime rates would go down as everyone tried to help the war effort. However, the reality was that criminals saw the war as an opportunity to exploit the emergency conditions and those with a previously unblemished reputation found themselves tempted off the straight and narrow.

Criminal activity wasn’t just a civilian occupation. The military services had its share of crime and the influx of foreign troops added to the problem. American and Canadian troops found themselves transported to Britain in preparation for D-Day. Lonely and far from home, some rioted and many looked for other distractions with desertion being a significant problem and one which was often funded by crime.

Heavily illustrated with both contemporary and modern photographs Penny takes you back to some of the most infamous wartime crimes such as the blackout ripper, the bath chair murderer and the last person to be prosecuted in Britain for witchcraft. She also delves into the murky world of Spivs, Gangs, prostitutes and Robbers.

At a time when rationing, shortages and the blitz meant feeding the family became ever more difficult it was all too easy for the increasingly blurred line of criminality to be crossed. Penny Legg shows how and why crime was committed during the Second World War and what became of those Spivs, Scoundrels, Rogues and Worse who strayed into the underworld.

Further Publisher’s Review

Think of the British 'Home Front' during the Second World War and the inevitable image is that of a community spirit not equalled before or since, the British people at their absolute best with everybody striving for a common cause and bravely overcoming all of the obstacles and setbacks placed in their way, whether they be the effects of German bombs, rationing and shortages or worse. By and large, this picture is an accurate one and the majority of people did at least try to carry on as normally as possible. As always though, there was a darker side to the Home Front and although frequently overlooked by historians, there was a dramatic fifty seven percent increase in crime during the wartime years. Some of the perpetrators were seasoned criminals and low life, taking the opportunities presented to them by the blackout and the Blitz, the lack of Police resources and an influx of new overseas customers to exploit, whilst others were new at the game and had a hitherto untarnished reputation but were perhaps tempted off the straight and narrow by hardship or by the wartime conditions imposed upon them. Some of these latter 'criminals' probably didn't even think of themselves as such and once peace returned, resumed their normal law-abiding lives.

In her latest book *Crime in the Second World War*, historian and author Penny Legg examines crime and criminals as well as the differing types of illegal behaviour in Britain during the Second World War. The book, which is subtitled *Spivs, Scoundrels, Rogues and Worse* begins with a look at an aspect of wartime criminality frequently overlooked by historians of the Blitz. Looting was quite widespread, whether it was stealing property from bombed out houses, theft from gas and electricity meters or removing items from bomb damaged businesses. Some of the perpetrators were opportunist thieves, who just happened to be in the right place at the right time, whilst others were people who should have known better, such as ARP Wardens or members of the Fire Services, who abused the trust placed in them by the authorities that had appointed them. As the author explains, the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act of 1940 were amended in October of that year to take the crime of looting into account and in theory at least, permitted looters to be punished by death, although this particular sentence was never carried out. We read of a one unfortunate lady in Camberwell who was bombed out of her house during the Blitz and having stayed with friends until her house was made habitable again, then discovered that a neighbour had stolen her piano and a sewing machine. Another householder, this time in Bristol stole £3 7 shillings from her next door neighbour. On this occasion, the thief was sentenced to twenty eight days in prison. A notorious Blitz incident in Central London was the bombing of the so-called 'Bomb Proof' Cafe de Paris in Piccadilly in March 1941. This seemed to bring out the absolute worst in some people, as it was reported that looters cut off the fingers of some of the victims in order to remove rings and other jewellery. Such looters were known as 'Bomb Chasers' - people who swooped as soon as a likely target was bombed and who took advantage of the blackout and the general confusion following a major incident in order to obtain the rich pickings on offer in a wealthy part of London.

In the following chapter, we read of the Black Market and the ways and means used to get around the rationing of food, petrol and clothing in wartime Britain. When one thinks of the Black Market, initial thoughts sometimes stray to Joe Walker, the lovable 'spiv' in the television comedy *Dad's Army*, always able to procure and supply just about anything for a price. Penny explains that before the war, Britain imported fifty five million tonnes of foodstuffs yearly from around the world, mainly by sea. With the coming of war, much of this was curtailed, either due to the diversion of shipping into transportation of war materials or later, due to the effects of the U-Boat campaigns against British merchant shipping. Rationing was introduced in early 1940 and whilst it was a system designed to ensure that everyone got a fair share of what was available, the reality of the situation meant that almost everybody tried to ensure that they received a little extra food along the way. We learn of how Black Marketeers obtained their wares; sometimes this was achieved by looting bombed out warehouses and shops, sometimes goods were stolen from the docks - often with dishonest dock workers complicit in the operation. Sometimes, livestock was stolen

from farms and we read of how Kentish farmers were reported in April 1941 as having to patrol their fields armed with shotguns in order to deter thieves stealing sheep from fields. The Home Guard were also employed to keep an eye open for the so-called 'Butcher Gangs' of livestock thieves. Petrol theft was also a problem, as was the theft of petrol coupons, which were supposed to be the legal method of obtaining fuel for the very few private cars remaining on the roads during the war. The theft of food and clothing coupons was also a problem and it was also an offence to sell ones own legally obtained coupons to others. Sometimes, shopkeepers were involved and it was during this time, that the phrase 'Under the Counter' became a part of the language. An unscrupulous shopkeeper could be discreetly given a list of required items by a known and trusted customer and would usually find a way to produce the goods. Such shopkeepers would never serve strangers in this way for fear of the stranger being an undercover Police Officer. Organised criminal gangs were invariably involved in the Black Market, whether as part of the initial theft of goods, or in the supply of them to the public or to smaller operators.

We then move on to crimes committed in the blackout. Designed to hinder enemy aircraft in identifying targets on the ground, the blackout was also a boon to criminals, as it presented a curtain of gloom in which they could continue their activities. Breaking the blackout was a serious offence in it's own right and whilst some early offenders were simply absent-minded in not covering windows or by showing lights, some people clearly couldn't be bothered and the usual penalty for showing a light was a fine of £5, no mean sum in 1940. By the end of the war, there had been 114,000 prosecutions for blackout violations. As mentioned earlier, the blackout itself presented ample opportunities for offenders, ranging from theft of luggage from blacked-out trains to more serious offences such as prostitution and murder. The darkened streets of major cities presented an ideal opportunity for street walkers and pimps and in London, the darkened parks were a favourite haunt of prostitutes and the influx of servicemen, particularly the Americans who generally had more money to spend, ensured that there was no shortage of customers. Unfortunately, whilst many prostitutes did well out of the war, there were those who were unlucky enough to encounter the 'mad or the bad' as the author describes them. Such an individual was Gordon Cummins, a Royal Air Force pilot cadet who became known as *'The Blackout Ripper'* who was eventually convicted of murdering four women and attempting to murder two others in 1942. It was during one of the attempted murders, when Cummins was disturbed by a delivery boy whilst attacking his victim, that he fled the scene and left behind his gas mask, which was stamped with his RAF service number. The first victim had been murdered in an air raid shelter and apart from the incriminating evidence of the service number; the gas mask also contained grit from this shelter. Cummins was also left-handed and forensic evidence from wounds on the victims had determined that the attacker was also left handed. This, aided by other solid police work by Chief Inspector Ted Greeno, ensured that a solid case against Cummins was built up and when he came to trial at the Old Bailey on 28 April 1942,

it took the jury just thirty-five minutes to find him guilty of murder. He was duly executed at Wandsworth Prison on 25 June 1942.

Penny Legg tells us that the murder rate went up by twenty two percent in the period from 1941-45. Some of these crimes were premeditated, such as that described above, whilst others such as the death of Royal Navy Captain Ralph Douglas Binney CBE, were a result of crimes that went wrong. I wrote about this incident in one of the very first pieces to appear in this blog in June 2010, updated in February 2015 and so will not repeat the story in full again, suffice to say that the Captain intervened in a raid on a Jeweller's shop and would today have no doubt been described as a *'Have a go Hero'* in the media. Unfortunately, he was run over and killed by the getaway vehicle and following a huge manhunt, Thomas Jenkins and Ronald Hedley were swiftly arrested. Hedley was identified as the driver of the getaway car but whilst having been convicted of murder and sentenced to death, he was reprieved just two days before sentence was due to be carried out on 28 April 1945. He was sentenced to life imprisonment instead but only served nine years and was released in 1954. Many people were angered by this seemingly soft treatment of a murderer and claimed that it was a major factor in the rise of armed gangs after the war.

We also learn in this book of the *'Babes in the Wood'* murders as well as John George Haigh, the *'Acid Bath Murderer'* and also John Christie, who whilst not convicted until after the war, committed some of his murders at 10 Rillington Place during the war whilst employed as a Special Constable. Whilst some of these cases are well known, the author gives many insights into the circumstances of the crimes and explains how in the case of Christie, an innocent man also went to the gallows as a consequence of his actions.

Moving away from murders, we next take a look at some other crimes such as Fraud, Theft, Bootlegging and Treason amongst others. Examples of fraud included bogus or exaggerated claims under the War Damage Compensation Act - this was effectively simple insurance fraud and was very hard, if not impossible to check upon. People submitted multiple claims for loss or damage, or sometimes claimed for damage that had never occurred. People learnt how to play the system and a lack of enforcement staff ensured that this particular avenue of criminal behaviour was not closed until after the war when more personnel became available. Bootlegging, or illegally supplying alcohol was rife. Sometimes, this was simply stolen booze from bombed out houses, pubs or warehouses or which was intercepted by criminals whilst it was in transit but more often than not was illegally produced alcohol made from wood spirit, meths or worse, which could lead to illness and in the worst cases, permanent blindness of those unfortunate enough to drink it.

Treason or espionage was less frequent but there were instances of this occurring and we read of the bungled attempts of George Johnson Armstrong, a 39 year old marine

engineer to sell shipping information to the German Consul in Boston, Massachusetts in November 1940 whilst he was visiting the USA on business. Armstrong was a known Nazi sympathiser who made little secret of his views. Unknown to him, he was already on a 'watch list' and his letter to the Consul was intercepted by the American authorities and duly reported to the British. Upon his arrival back in Britain, he was immediately arrested and charged under the Treachery Act. He was tried *'in camera'* on 8 May 1941 and was executed at Wandsworth Prison on 9 July 1941, having failed in his appeal. We also learn of Charles Amery, who was one of the few people to join the British Free Corps, a unit of the Waffen SS and who actively toured POW Camps looking to recruit British and Dominion Prisoners of War into changing sides. Amery was the son of the MP Leo Amery and was arrested in Italy in April 1945. At his subsequent trial in November 1945, Amery who was a committed Fascist, pleaded guilty to all eight counts of treason that he had been charged with and was hanged at Wandsworth Prison in December 1945. We also hear of the story of William Joyce, aka Lord Haw-Haw, another committed Fascist whose broadcasts from Nazi Germany achieved notoriety during the war but in reality, were largely treated with derision by the majority of people in this country, who listened illegally to his broadcasts. As has often been pointed out by other authors, the legality of his arrest and subsequent execution is somewhat questionable as Joyce, an Irish-American who had a British passport on account of having a British mother, was captured near the German border with Denmark by the British in May 1945. He was charged with treason against Great Britain between 3 September 1939 and 2 July 1940, which was the date his British passport had expired. He therefore had ceased to be a British citizen from that date and had already taken up German citizenship. However, neither the Americans or the Irish claimed Joyce after the war and the prevailing mood in the UK in 1945 was unsympathetic towards him and he too was hanged at Wandsworth Prison, in his case on 3 January 1946.

We also learn of Helen Duncan, the last person prosecuted in this country for witchcraft, as well as crimes committed by overseas servicemen such as rapes, riots and desertion.

Surrey Constabulary History Journal – Robert Bartlett

26 April 2017

In his foreword to the book the former Chief Constable of Bedfordshire, Michael O'Bryne, (many Surrey officers will remember his time in the county) suggests that the book could become a wonderful resource for writers of crime fiction. It is also a book worth the attention of the general reader.

The police along with all other home-base organisations found the Second World War a challenge! There were 240 police forces of varying sizes and effectiveness, town and city forces, countryside and metropolitan. Though initially a reserved occupation police forces lost many of their fit young men to the armed services, with large numbers in the Reserve others eventually going to aircrew and Army Commandos. In their place came back to serve retired officers, supported by men taken on for the duration, the War Reserve and Special Constables. This mismatch of people, many untrained, many no longer as fit as they were had to deal with a deluge of legislation and tasks. The consequences of Dunkirk, refugees, displaced people, aliens including enemy aliens, prisoner of war camps, the blitz, invasion planning this way then for France with all the need to maintain secure areas and the free flow of people and transport. On and on the workload grew. Work that to this day is rarely recognised! Added to the mix in counties such as Surrey was a mass return of Canadian forces to occupy much of the area they had during the First World War. They lived in tented camps across the hills and Downs, taking over country houses as HQs and spending huge time on exercises and counter invasion operations. The lonely beat constable no doubt was frequently confronted by a platoon of armed to the teeth, British and Canadian soldiers on exercise. Given the numbers of men, their age profile and utter boredom of many over a number of years it was not surprising that murder and armed crime featured in the county. It was not just the Canadians; British forces wreaked their own havoc. Combining all the armed forces, including numerous RAF and Naval stations, Navy and various armies, Saturday night on the town for the policeman often had the feel of Rorke's drift! Justice did not often involve the courts except for serious crime.

The chancer was always there and did not disappear because there was a war on. The black-market, stealing during blackout, forgery of coupons, stealing from bombsites, firemen filling the lockers on their pumps with liberated goods! As shortages grew it took a great deal of moral probity not to get sucked into the world of crime. There were so many choices, areas of operation, numerous opportunities. And the deserters; there were thousands who needed to exist in the dark world with no legitimate coupons and time in Shepton Mallet military prison on the horizon.

Because there was a war on did not mean criminals sought a truce and went meekly into the world of community and vicar's tea parties. Many still lived literally now, below the radar. Many were involved with prostitution and what today would be known as the sex industry.

This is a slim volume, which surprisingly covers a great deal of ground given the large number of photographs and graphics. This is a well-written, finely illustrated

and attractively presented book for the casual reader. Those with an interest in this period will recognise most of the major murders. It is recognised however in such a small volume detail can be conflated and lost. The detail of the so-called Wigwam murder when a Canadian soldier murdered a young girl is not accurate. The break through was not from the divisional superintendent **Webb but** PC Tim Halloran stationed at Godalming who remembered dealing with a young woman who he suggested was the victim. Having seen the young girl in the town with two much older Canadian soldiers he had taken her to the police station for questioning together with her boyfriend. Halloran had written in his pocket book the name of the boyfriend. 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. Once again good basic policing led to the suspect. This is a case of many twists and turns and well worth reading about in full. One strange outcome after Sangret was hung his name was added to the Canadian War Memorial at Brookwood in Surrey: "L/27572 Private August Sangret, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps." His entry can be found on Panel 23, Column 3.

Interestingly the 1945 Aldershot riot is included where the Canadians were intent on rescuing comrades they thought were in police custody. This is a very similar event to 1919 in Epsom, Surrey when Metropolitan Police Sergeant Green was beaten to death and many officers badly hurt when the police station was attacked to rescue comrades. This riot was a part of a series that included a considerable event at Whitley in Surrey and North wales where five soldiers were killed. This was all about the war being ended and there not being enough transport to get the men home – the Americans last in first home caused a great deal of unhappiness. It would be interesting to learn if there were more riots by troops awaiting discharge about this time. There was a mutiny in India when the RAF personnel had enough and wanted to go home.