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 58

Not Surrey – wherever it was not an easy Job

Contents

“Applicants for Admission to a Casual Ward” by Luke Fildes, 1874

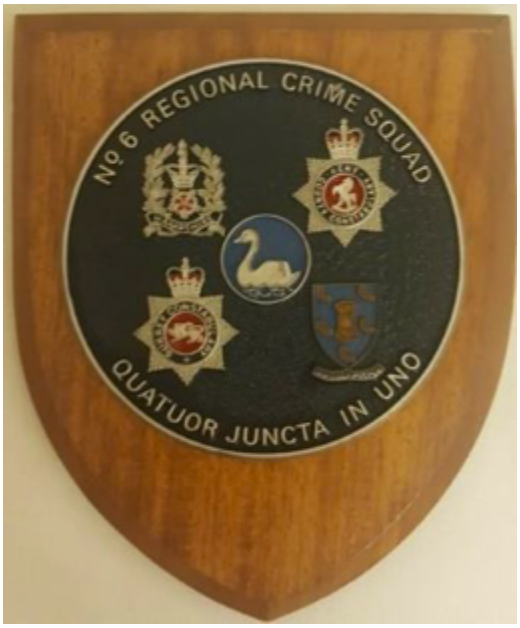
A policeman can be seen to the left. Helping the sick and those suffering hard times has always been a part of the Job. This haunting painting shows a queue of the homeless seeking shelter at the workhouse.

Lightwater 1986

13 March 1986 Lightwater Office with Inspector Ray Lee, PS319 Dave Timmins, PCs John Collett, Ian Cook, Tim Elliott, Keith Loyal, Charlie Durden and Rod Lucas

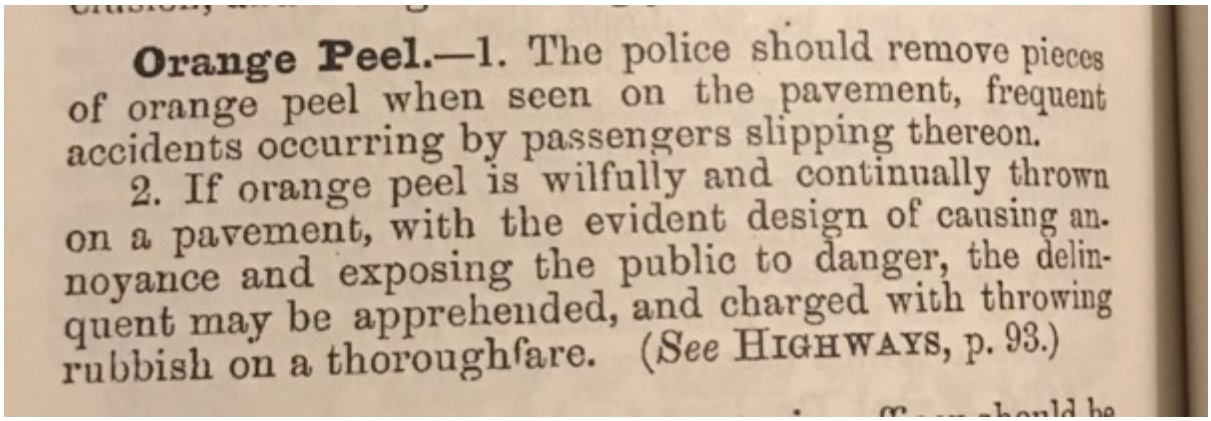
28 April 1990 PC87 Rod Lucas and Inspector Peter Lucas, both of Surrey Constabulary with PC840 Michael Lucas of Sussex Police

1995 8 November PC87 Rod Lucas and Inspector Peter Lucas, both of Surrey Constabulary/Police and PC840 Michael Lucas of Sussex Police



"Four Joined As One"
Hampshire Kent, Surrey Constabulary, Sussex
No 6 Region Regional Crime Squad

Orange Peel



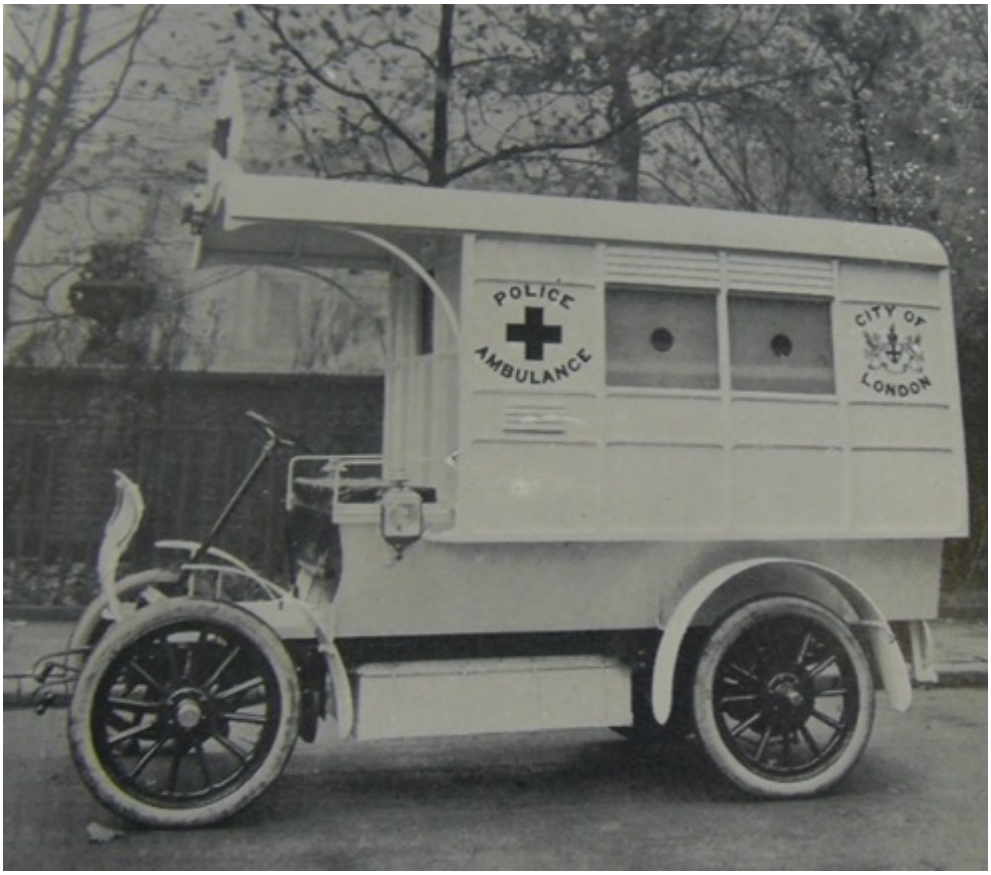
Orange Peel.—1. The police should remove pieces of orange peel when seen on the pavement, frequent accidents occurring by passengers slipping thereon.

2. If orange peel is wilfully and continually thrown on a pavement, with the evident design of causing annoyance and exposing the public to danger, the delinquent may be apprehended, and charged with throwing rubbish on a thoroughfare. (*See* HIGHWAYS, p. 93.)

Sir Harold Vincent 1889 Police Code

City of London Police Electric Ambulances[1]

Electrically driven motor ambulance from the Electromobile Company in Mayfair



“Patients suffer exposure to public gaze and the often unpleasant comments of the crowd", lamented Sir William Nott-Bower, the Commissioner, in a submission to the City of London Police Committee in 1904. Sir William had prepared a report to persuade the Committee to set up a police ambulance system "to meet the requirements of the City of London ... such as has been available for many years in Liverpool, Manchester, and many of the large towns in the provinces, in Paris and Vienna, and in nearly all the great cities of America".

In 1903 City policemen took some 1,705 people to hospital, half of them strapped to one of the Force's wheeled hand-litters. These same vehicles were used to convey drunks to the cells of the six City police stations then in existence!

[1] https://www.cityoflondon.police.uk/about-us/history/Pages/Police-ambulances.aspx

A two wheeled police hand litter - Metropolitan Police but standard issue across the country

In advocating a horse ambulance system, Sir William went to great lengths to point out the problems of the existing options: "At present there are no means available in the City for removing a person taken suddenly ill, or the victim of an accident, from the streets to a hospital, save on foot, by cab [horse drawn, of course] or cart, or by hand-litter. The latter is, as a mere means of conveyance, fairly effective, but it has the disadvantages of (1) length of time necessarily taken in bringing it to the scene, and in removing the patient, (2) want of prompt first-aid on the spot, (3) lifting and carrying of the patient by unskilled persons, and (4) exposure of the patient to the view, and often the unpleasant comments of the crowd. Thus, even where the hand-litter is available, a simple fracture may often become compound before arrival at the hospital, a patient may sink from exhaustion or haemorrhage whom earlier skilled aid might have saved, and a considerable amount of unnecessary suffering, mental as well as physical, is caused. Where the hand-litter is not available the results to the unfortunate sufferer are even more lamentable."

The Commissioner, in submitting his report, was not just seeking approval for the introduction of a police ambulance system. He hoped that the Police Committee would unlock funds to provide horses for a full-time City Police Mounted Branch. He proposed that the horses would normally be used on the ambulances, the prison vans and for mounted escorts to the Lord Mayor. However, "whenever occasion arose, all horses and men should be employed on mounted police duty, withdrawing them from their everyday work and substituting for them with the ambulances and prison vans, draught horses and drivers, such as can always be hired at short notice and without difficulty".

A two wheel litter for taking bodies to the mortuary

The estimated annual cost of Sir William's whole scheme was £2,163, being £1,384 more than the annual City Police expenditure for horse based requirements. The cost of the suggested scheme did, however, include £600 for the rent of two ambulance stations, £200 towards the hire of two senior medical students from St. Bartholomew's Hospital as surgical dressers (to attend calls with the ambulance) £163 towards the cost of "signalling" (to call out the ambulances from all parts of the City), and £226 for saddlery, vehicles and personnel. A total of £630 was estimated for the annual cost of forage, veterinary bills etc. "Dr Nachtlel who first brought the question of Horse Ambulances to the notice of the Court of Common Council", wrote the Commissioner, had, with his vast experience of ambulance systems from around the world, estimated the cost of a City Ambulance system alone at £2,700 a year. Sir William's submission based on the scheme he had introduced when Chief Constable of Liverpool, had an estimated net annual expenditure of £1,384. For that sum he was proposing both an ambulance service and a mounted police unit.

Given the very detailed arguments set out in the Commissioner's confidential report to the Police Committee in February 1904 for an apparently very cost effective service system but it was not adopted. There was strong opposition on the grounds that the proposed scheme would not be a proper area for the Committee to get involved in. However, some members of the Committee were keen to back a more technically advanced service but were outvoted.

The debate rumbled on for the next few years, until on 13 May 1907 the City of London Police Ambulance Service came into being. Instead of horses, the service purchased an electrically driven motor ambulance from the Electromobile Company in Mayfair. The body was to a St.

John's Ambulance Association design and of mahogany panelling on an ash frame – no expense seems to have been spared, now the City had approved the idea of the service.

The original ambulance was stationed in the Pathological Block of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Instead of paying for student doctors to provide the medical care, as originally proposed in the 1904 report, Nott-Bower used his own policemen as ambulance attendants. Since becoming Commissioner in 1902, he had had ensured that every officer of the Force was trained in first aid and some of them had become very skilled indeed.

A second 'electric' ambulance was purchased in 1909. It was stationed in the purpose-built Ambulance Station in New Street, just behind Bishopsgate Police Station. This ambulance served the eastern half of the City, normally taking casualties to the London or Guy's Hospitals. The western half of the City was covered by the Bart's-based ambulance, except for night-time and Sundays when the New Street vehicle covered the whole City. A third vehicle was purchased in 1915 to provide reserve cover.

The 'electric' ambulances were summoned via calls from any of the 52 white coloured police boxes strategically located about the City, routed through Police Headquarters in Old Jewry. The 'electric' ambulances and the white call boxes did sterling service until both were replaced in 1927.

The replacement ambulances were of the Crossley petrol driven type. They were only in service for ten years before being handed over to the St. John Ambulance Brigade in 1937.

Three 25 H.P. Vauxhall ambulances with a 'Lomas' body design were bought for the service in 1937. These had the registration numbers DYR 56, DYR 57 and DYR 58. They were all soon pressed into full-time use with the outbreak of the Second World War, during which DYR 57 became one of the victims of the bombing. For much of the war, members of the Women's Auxiliary Police Corps drove the ambulances and provided the first-aid and nursing skills that were much in demand at the time.

25 H.P. Vauxhall ambulances with a 'Lomas' body design

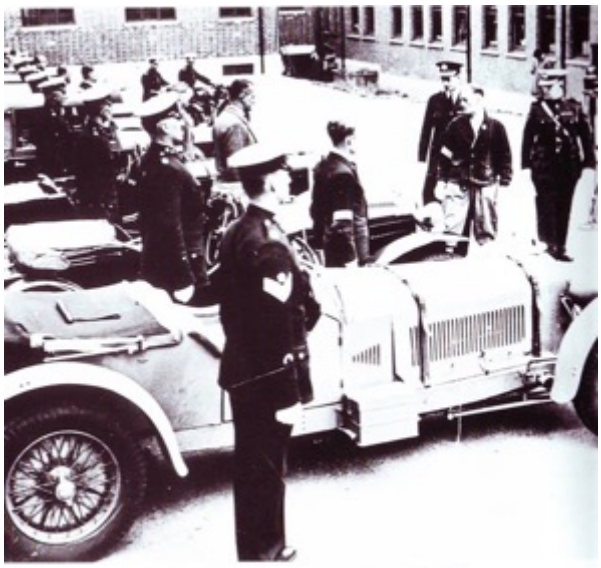
The City of London Police Ambulance Service ceased to exist on 5 July 1949 when, under the provisions of the 1946 National Health Act, the two remaining ambulances and the responsibility for the service was transferred to London County Council.

White tops to caps

Regulars of the St Helens Borough Police, Lancashire,
Wearing their summer uniform. Probably around 1910.

Reigate Borough Police and Guildford Borough Police mobile patrols pre-Second World War both wore white tops.

Guildford Bypass 1930s Guildford Borough sergeant with white cap cover



1st Reserve of superfast cars

In 1932 the Reigate Borough Police formed a Special Constabulary unit under Special Chief Inspector Donald Campbell. A 1st Reserve of superfast cars and a 2nd Reserve of moderately fast cars. The PCs wore white tops.

Reigate Borough Police were wearing white tops to their caps in 1935 despite the recession the Chief Constable formed a Special Constabulary air unit with pilots based at Redhill aerodrome with up to 12 aircraft available. Regular officers of the Reigate Borough Police acted as observers. The unit remained in being until the force joined with the Surrey Constabulary (Known as the Surrey Joint Police) in 1943 amalgamating in 1947.

William Beacher Chief Constable Reigate Borough Police with white cap top

Food Controls and enforcement during the First World War

Robert Bartlett

At a time of the year that has become notorious for over indulgence it is good to be reminded of the wartime Home Front, which was a very busy place to be a police officer during the 1914-1918 war. Numerous extra tasks were placed upon police as their numbers reduced significantly to be replaced by volunteers and a few police pensioners called back to duty.

Food supply was not a significant problem in the first years of the war. Good harvests ensured the supply of bread and other staples. There were the occasional shortages, but these were often caused by supply and distribution problems.[2]

In line with its business as usual policy during the First World War, the government was initially reluctant to try to control the food markets. It fought off attempts to introduce minimum prices in cereal production, though relenting in the area of control of essential imports (sugar, meat, and grains). When it did introduce changes, they were limited. In 1916, it became illegal to consume more than two courses while lunching in a public eating place or more than three for dinner; fines were introduced for members of the public found feeding the pigeons or stray animals.

Prices increased regularly giving the wealthier greater access to food and early food control of the 1915 was more to do with food prices than the availability of food. During 1916 the effect

[2] "Law and War – Magistrates in the Great War" Jonathan Swan Pen and Sword 2017 page 198

of German attacks on shipping began to impact supply but there was when the Defence of the Realm Acts were passed there was no great concern of overall supply levels.

In November 1916 the Defence of the Realm Manual;

> 2F(1) Where the Board of Trade are of the opinion that special measures should be taken in the interests of the public for maintaining the supply of any article of commerce the maintenance of which is important as being part of the food supply of the country or as being necessary for the wants of the public or the wants of any section of the public, the Board by order may, with a view to maintaining the supply of the article, apply to any of the provisions appended to this regulation.[3]

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MANUALS OF EMERGENCY LEGISLATION.

DEFENCE OF THE REALM MANUAL,

[5th Edition]

REVISED TO

FEBRUARY 28th, 1918

[taking the place of previously announced Edition of November, 1917],

COMPRISING

EDITED BY

ALEXANDER PULLING, C.B.,

OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, AND OF THE INNER TEMPLE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

February, 1918.

Price Five Shillings Net.

A regulation 2L gave extensive powers to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries on the grounds of maintaining the food supply of the country by entering on unoccupied land, common land, or land with the consent of the occupier, for the purpose of cultivating that land. This was a serious intrusion on to private land and infringement of property rights. But this seems to have been accepted and little fuss was made an indication that the general public recognised the need to grow more food on these islands. Support and subsidy by local government encouraged the take up to grow more. This was also yet another control upon the

[3] "Law and War – Magistrates in the Great War" Jonathan Swan Pen and Sword 2017 page 199

lives of individuals who two years into the war were well aware that the individual was subsumed to the need of the country. [4]

A Ministry of Food was soon established under Lord Devonport to bring together the numerous strands of food production and supply:

> If we are to have equal distribution and give every man a fair share, and prevent individuals from being deprived of their share, I am very much disposed to think that probably the only way to bring this about is by a system of rationing.[5]

Police as Ploughmen

From 1913 Britain was importing around 81% of its wheat supplies with 36 million acres of British farmland devoted to livestock and only 3 million acres to crops such as grain and potatoes. From around this date, farmers produced all the nation's milk and three-fifths of the meat, but only one-fifth of the bread, a staple foodstuff for the lower classes. Further adding to the country's worries in the autumn of 1916 was the poor harvest worldwide, so that imports of grain ceased, and Britain only had sufficient stocks to last for 4 months normal consumption. The British potato crop, another staple item of diet, also became diseased and rotted in the ground due to the bad weather.

A manpower crisis had also developed in British agriculture. Up to December 1916 the focus under the Asquith government had been on the increasing need to recruit sufficient soldiers and sailors to fight the war, so that agriculture lost many of its fit young skilled labour. This loss of men from the land began to be recognised in autumn 1915 when protection was given to skilled farm workers who were given the status of indispensable civilian workers, not to be called up into the armed forces, although they could volunteer and would then be placed on a waiting list. However, by late 1916 with the army's continuing need to recruit more men to fight, fit young farm workers were being specifically targeted by army recruitment officers at agricultural fairs with a significant number signing up.

In December 1916 with the escalating food crisis and severe worries by the nation that it could starve, the government under David Lloyd George took control of farming under the 'plough policy' to extend the arable acreage. The Minister of Agriculture, Rowland Prothero, told the County War Agricultural Committees that "the reason that we have not so much food at the present time is that we are not making the best use of the land" The plough policy enabled farms to be inspected to enforce cultivation orders and to take over farms which were seen as inefficient. The War Agricultural Committees were also to provide manpower, equipment and fertilisers.

Further government initiatives, under the Department of National Service, were to attempt to relocate labour to where it was most needed. In March 1917 an appeal to the Police Sergeant's

[4] "Law and War – Magistrates in the Great War" Jonathan Swan Pen and Sword 2017 page 199
[5] "Law and War – Magistrates in the Great War" Jonathan Swan Pen and Sword 2017 page 200

Conference and also to local councils for men with ploughing experience resulted in policemen from around Britain being released for the planting season with the agreement of their Chief Constable. They came not only from the Metropolitan Force, but also from Cheshire, Colchester, Greenock, Norfolk, Dundee, Preston and Birmingham and possibly other locations as well, where documents no longer exist. It was crucial that ploughing obtained skilled men, as much of the ground identified in the plough policy had not been previously ploughed, so that it was heavy and needed strong, skilled men to guide the manual plough sufficiently deeply into the soil to turn it. Many policemen were previously employed in agriculture and had ploughing skills, as well as having strong physiques.

The police as ploughmen were said to be so successful that they were asked to return temporarily for the harvest in 1917 and for the planting season and harvest again in 1918. The police augmented other temporary and permanent workers on the land such as soldiers, prisoners, women and school children. The result of this reallocation of labour to the land was that by 1918 despite the shortage of skilled agricultural labour, particularly ploughmen, the temporary workers, including policemen, had increased crops such as cereals and potatoes by 57% above pre-war levels, and although the government's ploughing targets were not met, an additional 2,966,000 acres of grassland in Britain had been turned over to grain and root crops.

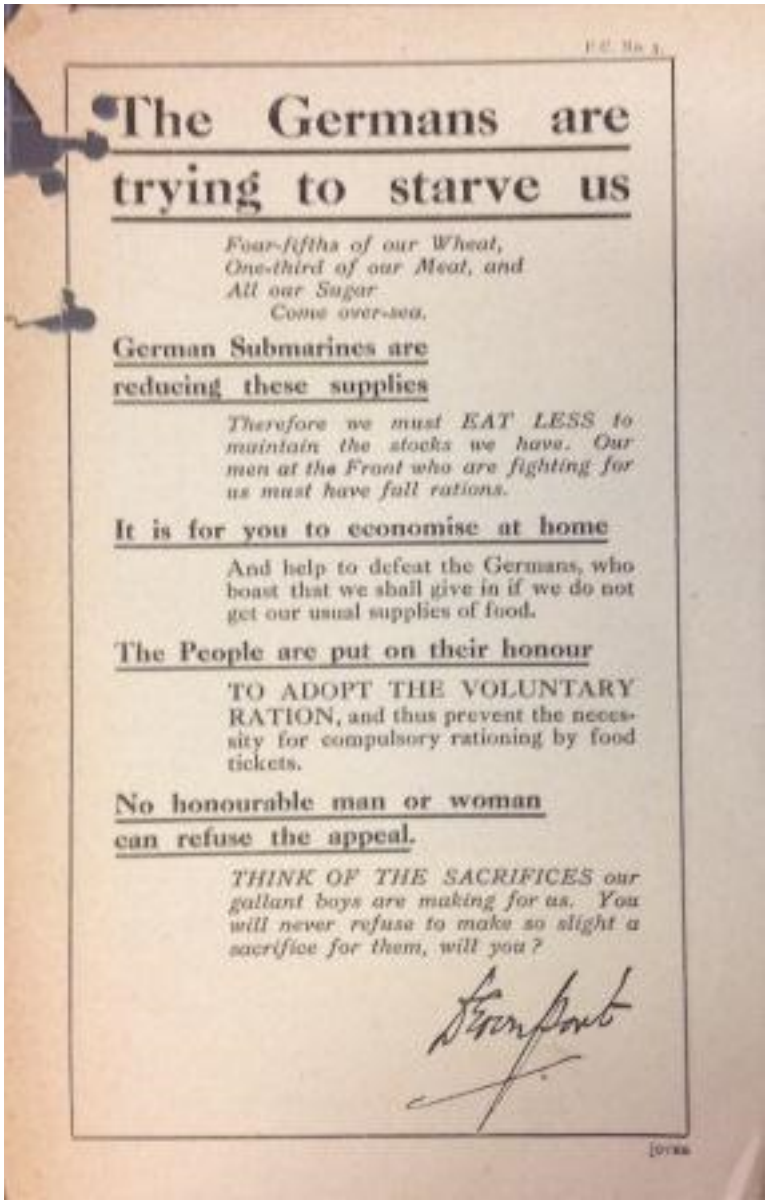
The picture below (which seems to in France?) shows the kinds of equipment the police worked with to turn pastureland over to growing crops. The land they worked would have been previously unploughed and so much more difficult to turn over than this picture shows.[6]

[6] https://everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk/2018/01/the-police-as-ploughmen/

In January 1917, Germany started unrestricted submarine warfare to try to starve Britain into submission. To meet this threat, voluntary rationing was introduced in February 1917. Bread was subsidised from September that year; prompted by local authorities taking matters into their own hands, compulsory rationing was introduced in stages between December 1917 and February 1918 as Britain's supply of wheat decreased to just six weeks' consumption.

In February 1917 Lord Devonport warned he would take steps to deal with speculative buying or cornering of food supplies and with food hoarding.[7]

On the 8 March at Old Street Police Court Dora Clark a costermonger was fined 10s for insisting that Bessie Rice had to buy "greens" if he wanted to purchase 2lbs of potatoes. No conditions associated with the purchase of food was permitted.[8]



F.C. No. 3.

The Germans are trying to starve us

Four-fifths of our Wheat,
One-third of our Meat, and
All our Sugar
Come over-sea.

German Submarines are reducing these supplies

Therefore we must EAT LESS to maintain the stocks we have. Our men at the Front who are fighting for us must have full rations.

It is for you to economise at home

And help to defeat the Germans, who boast that we shall give in if we do not get our usual supplies of food.

The People are put on their honour

TO ADOPT THE VOLUNTARY RATION, and thus prevent the necessity for compulsory rationing by food tickets.

No honourable man or woman can refuse the appeal.

THINK OF THE SACRIFICES our gallant boys are making for us. You will never refuse to make so slight a sacrifice for them, will you?

Devonport

[0188

National Archives NSC7/37

[7] "Law and War – Magistrates in the Great War" Jonathan Swan Pen and Sword 2017 page 201
[8] "Law and War – Magistrates in the Great War" Jonathan Swan Pen and Sword 2017 page 201

The Police wife's struggle to feed her family in 1917[9]

The hardship in January 1917 was such that police wives began to discuss ways of supplementing the family income. While many women throughout Britain were working outside the home, often earning good money in munitions and other factories and workshops which helped them to offset some of the steep price rises since the beginning of the war in August 1914, the police wife was not allowed to work outside the home. Any wife who did would likely cause her husband to be reprimanded and if she continued would ruin his promotion chances. Therefore, many police wives in hard times turned to how they could earn additional money from the home. Keeping poultry and selling the eggs was a favourite method. As average egg prices had risen by more than 170% since July 1914, keeping poultry and selling the eggs would have been quite lucrative, as well as providing additional food for the family. Keeping rabbits for sale as food, particularly for town dwellers with limited outdoor space, was also advocated. Wives with no outside spaces to keep livestock suggested laundry, ironing and needlework.

The police and food hoarding in 1917 and 1918[10]

As the First World progressed into 1917 with a crisis of diminishing food supplies and soaring food prices, the discourse of food hoarding became part of the policeman's role. Hoarding became prominent following Conscience Week on 11th February 1917 when Food Control Committees gave an amnesty until 25th February to allow the surrender of all hoarded food, which was to be sold and the proceeds given back to the person surrendering. But although the results were disappointing, the message that hoarding was a serious matter became well known and was everybody's business to control it. But further measures were needed as questions in the House of Commons in March 1917 asked for stricter control noting that poorer people were becoming dissatisfied at seeing the indulgence of the rich.

A furore which spread across Britain and lasted for several weeks was created in the West Riding of Yorkshire by publication of an article showing the lavish diets eaten by the wealthy at The Ritz, this fuelled claims that hoarding by the rich was causing the food shortages. Later a stricter definition of what constituted hoarding was asked in the House of Commons, so that everyone could be aware of their relatives, friends and neighbour's habits and could report them to the police or the food control authorities where they had suspicions that the law was being infringed.

The Food Hoarding Order of 15th April 1917 forbade anyone to "acquire any article of food so that the quantity in his (sic) possession or under his control at any one time exceeds the quantity required for ordinary use or consumption in his household or establishment". Under the Order powers were given to Food Inspectors to enter any premises where they suspected hoarding, except by food producers and traders, but the Order was not implemented until early 1918,

[9] https://writingpolicehistory.blogspot.com/2017/08/the-police-wifes-struggle-to-feed-her.html
[10] https://writingpolicehistory.blogspot.com/2018/09/the-police-and-food-hoarding-in-1917.html

when the local Food Committees started to enforce it. Food Inspectors secured convictions, fines and in some cases imprisonment too, against hoarders.

The police were told that the Food Hoarding Order gave right of entry to premises where "an offence against the Regulations is being or has been committed". Under Section 51 of the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA), the police could enter the house or building to "examine, search and inspect" anything that they suspected contravened DORA Regulations, such as food hoarding, and an officer could seize anything he saw without written permission from the Food Controller or a Justice of the Peace. Whereas Inspectors appointed by the Food Controller or the Local Food Control Committee had the right of search and could seize articles contravening the Food Hoarding Order without a warrant, the police were warned that "violating … an Englishman's right to the privacy of his hearth and home, is not to be lightly exercised"; and they would be well advised to act with the utmost discretion and with the permission of their superior officer before attempting such a move . The police therefore mainly relied on tip-offs from the public, traders and others with close access to families to report hoarding. A whole system of checking and controlling the food supply and hoarding had been set up, involving specially appointed inspectors who could call on police help to bring convictions. Beveridge shows how publication of convictions of high-profile figures (a best-selling novelist; an Earl's daughter; a Member of the House of Commons) brought contravention of the Food Hoarding Order out into the open so that few could escape.

Godstone Magistrates Court

FOOD HOARDING.

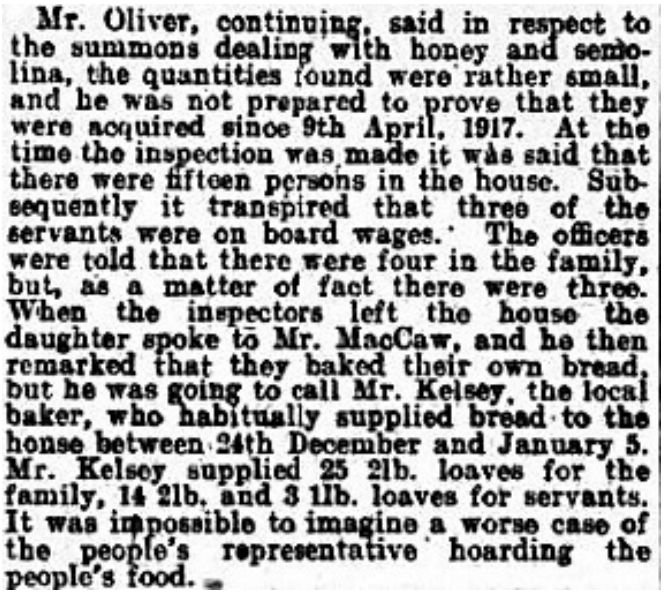
County Down M P. Fined £400.

At Godstone, Surrey, Petty Sessions yesterday Mr. W. J. MacGeagh MacCaw, M.P. for West Down, was called to answer ten summonses for offences alleged to have been committed under the Food Hoarding Order.

Mr. Roland Oliver prosecuted, and Mr. Douglas Wild, K.C., defended.

Opening the case Mr. Oliver said he was not there to contend that defendant, living in a country house with bad railway facilities, should go up to London daily and stand in the queue, but he did contend that he should only purchase food which was reasonably required for his household. On the 5th January an inspection was made of Rooksnest by the local officer, who was accompanied by an officer from London. They found in the house

24½lbs. tapioca.	58lbs. tea.
154½lbs. rice.	102lbs. sugar.
59lbs oatmeal.	36lbs. golden syrup.
53½lbs. semolina.	21½lbs. honey.
100½lbs. biscuits.	



Mr. Oliver, continuing, said in respect to the summons dealing with honey and semolina, the quantities found were rather small, and he was not prepared to prove that they were acquired since 9th April, 1917. At the time the inspection was made it was said that there were fifteen persons in the house. Subsequently it transpired that three of the servants were on board wages. The officers were told that there were four in the family, but, as a matter of fact there were three. When the inspectors left the house the daughter spoke to Mr. MacCaw, and he then remarked that they baked their own bread, but he was going to call Mr. Kelsey, the local baker, who habitually supplied bread to the house between 24th December and January 5. Mr. Kelsey supplied 25 2lb. loaves for the family, 14 2lb. and 3 1lb. loaves for servants. It was impossible to imagine a worse case of the people's representative hoarding the people's food.

Source and date unknown

1917 Reigate Borough Police: "February … War bonus adjourned … Reeves fund to be invested in War Savings Certificates'; 'March … No further depletion [of manpower] for military service … War Bonus Committee to consider further War Bonus to the Police … War Bonus increased by 1/- [shilling] per week for each dependent child, the bonus not to exceed 5/- [shillings] per week'; 'April … Two guineas granted to PC Bryan for extra clerical services during the war'; 'June … Head Constable to require discontinuance of noisy instruments [perhaps the army band?] … Police and Weights and Measures Department to enforce Food Orders as to prices and weights'; 'July … Food control correspondence … Dilution of flour referred to Sanitary Committee'; 'September … Head Constable presented memorial for war bonus … 6s per week and 1s for each dependent child granted to all ranks'; 'October … Supt Mason paid for air raid calls and granted £3 for past … Letter of sympathy for PC Leonard in the loss of his son on active service … Home Office and air raids, and early closing'; 'December … War Bonus resolution 4 of Sept 10th rescinded, and 5s per week to each member (except the Head Constable) 2s 6d to his wife and 1s 6d for every child not over school age or earning substituted".[11]

A fixed price for some foods was set and breaching the regulation ensured a place before the magistrates, PC Ashfield in Coventry saw a young girl buy 10lbs of potatoes for 2s the fixed price being 1½ d per pound.[12] The shopkeeper was fined 40s and not inconsiderable sum.

Prosecutions took place across the country adding a further busy task to already over-occupied police. The following report from Captain Sant of the Surrey Constabulary gives some idea of the pressures his force was under aggravated by the loss of so many of his officers to the colours, replaced by part time, poorly trained and selected special constables.

[11] SCC Archive Centre CC/98/22/1 Reigate Borough Police annual report year end 31 December 1917
[12] "Law and War – Magistrates in the Great War" Jonathan Swan Pen and Sword 2017 page 202

War Farming in Cheshire; Government encouraged off duty police officers to act as ploughmen. Many joined from being agricultural labourers

Report of May 1917 Chief Constable Sant Surrey Constabulary

Further information and instructions from the Home Office were received on subjects including: regulations dealing with the manufacture of malt for beer, the manufacture of bread and the use of sugar; the use of lights while ploughing at night by motor tractor; the extinction of street lights; the cleansing of all drinking vessels in licensed premises; information to be sent to MI5 regarding aliens of Chinese, Japanese, Siamese, Persian or Egyptian nationality; the drawing down of blinds in railway carriages at night; Easter closing time in public houses; restrictions on the feeding of game; a Paper Restriction Order; the compilation of censuses of horses and mules, cattle, sheep and pigs, and agricultural implements (the demand that these be complete and accurate, and 'obtained in as short a time as possible' caused further work for the Police, especially as 8,000 forms were dealt with in about 10 days); the closure of 'clubs or other premises' if they were 'habitually frequented by alien enemies'; the reduction of the bread ration for troops in billets; and the avoidance of wasted food during summer months.

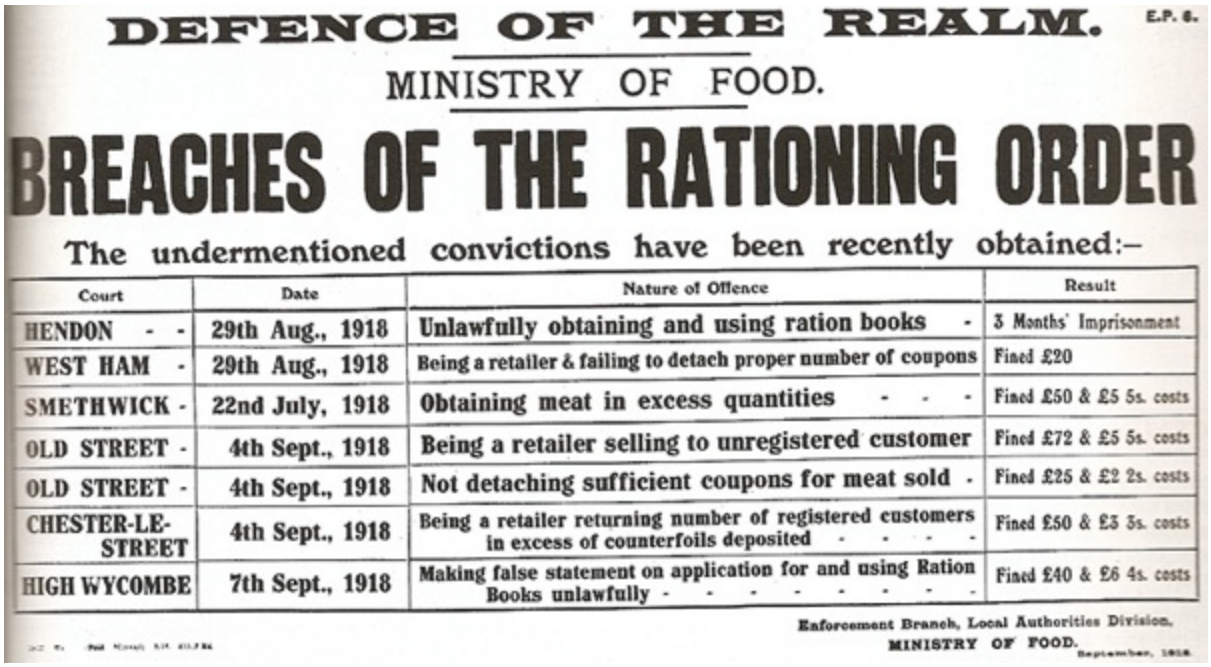
Report of September 1917 Chief Constable Sant Surrey Constabulary

This quarter, requests and information from the Home Office included: new regulations prohibiting the use of 'Motor spirit' [petrol] in hire cars except in certain circumstances; the prohibition of the publication of any new newspaper without a licence; the prohibition of 'wasteful and unnecessary lighting' including 'sky signs', illuminated advertisements, theatre lights and shop display lights; the declaration of lead in combination with Oleic Acid 'or other higher fatty acids' (sold as 'Diachylon') as a poison under the Pharmacy Act (in consequence of the practice of using it to procure abortion); economy in food for feeding to dogs (the regulations for this are quoted at length with the estimate that food consumed by dogs would

feed ‘half-a-million persons’); pensions for disabled soldiers; damage to allotments by trespassers; the encouragement of ‘the destruction of House Sparrows and Rats while discouraging the indiscriminate slaughter of other birds, which are beneficial in devouring insects and other pests’ including the formation of ‘Sparrow and Rat Clubs’; the treatment of Jews or Arabs as aliens and not alien enemies; the issue of railway warrants by the police to relatives of soldiers in hospital; the police to be informed of gun or bombing practice and circulate the information to allay public alarm; measures to be taken during a threatened railway strike (which did not occur); the prevention of treatment of venereal disease other than by qualified medical practitioners; and the display of posters prohibiting the shooting of carrier pigeons.

It is not known how many prosecutions took place in the Surrey Constabulary, Reigate Borough Police and Guildford Borough Police areas during the latter part of the war but the following report was found:

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.[13]



DEFENCE OF THE REALM. E.P. 6.

MINISTRY OF FOOD.

BREACHES OF THE RATIONING ORDER

The undermentioned convictions have been recently obtained:–

Court	Date	Nature of Offence	Result
HENDON - -	29th Aug., 1918	Unlawfully obtaining and using ration books -	3 Months' Imprisonment
WEST HAM -	29th Aug., 1918	Being a retailer & failing to detach proper number of coupons	Fined £20
SMETHWICK -	22nd July, 1918	Obtaining meat in excess quantities - - -	Fined £50 & £5 5s. costs
OLD STREET -	4th Sept., 1918	Being a retailer selling to unregistered customer	Fined £72 & £5 5s. costs
OLD STREET -	4th Sept., 1918	Not detaching sufficient coupons for meat sold -	Fined £25 & £2 2s. costs
CHESTER-LE-STREET	4th Sept., 1918	Being a retailer returning number of registered customers in excess of counterfoils deposited - - - -	Fined £50 & £3 3s. costs
HIGH WYCOMBE	7th Sept., 1918	Making false statement on application for and using Ration Books unlawfully - - - - - - - - -	Fined £40 & £6 4s. costs

Enforcement Branch, Local Authorities Division.
MINISTRY OF FOOD.

Report of December 1917 Chief Constable Sant, Surrey Constabulary

Aside from the usual influx of amendments to DORA, information and instructions from the Home Office continued to flood in and subjects included: assistance to airships wishing to land; the payment by the police of rewards of £5 for information leading to the capture of escaped prisoners of war (to be refunded by MI5); the prohibition of the sale of dried fruits outside the

[13] The Times (London, England), Saturday, Dec 01, 1917

UK, restrictions to the prices of flour and bread; the prohibition of the sale by occupiers of agricultural holdings of horses used for cultivation without a licence; the reporting of cases of the fraudulent display of notices by persons claiming to have been disabled by the war in order to enlist the sympathy of the public (the police were to report every such case to the Home Office); all French citizens to be repatriated to serve in the French Army or remain and serve in the British Army; restrictions on petrol; the enforcement of Food Orders; control measures for the sale and purchase of livestock; and the printing, publishing or distribution of leaflets relating to the present war or 'the making of peace' to be a summary offence, unless the full names and addresses of the author and printer are included. Sant noted at the end of his report that, in this quarter alone, he had received 'no less than 42' DORA orders and amendments.

A further case of food hoarding this time in Englefield Green - Fine of £80 Imposed at Chertsey - Surrey Herald 4 January 1918. A Resident fined for hoarding food, 103 lbs of tea confiscated Lady Mabel Gore Langton. [14] An £80 fine was a great deal given a £1 a week was a wage for many.

July 1918 Food Rationing: To help the process of controlling food as shortage increased dramatically, ration books were introduced in July 1918 for butter, margarine, lard, meat, and sugar.-For the most part, rationing benefited the health of the country.

On 6 March 1918 the Mayor of Guildford representing the Guildford Borough Police Watch Committee called on Chief Constable Sant, Surrey Constabulary to discuss mutual aid arrangements within the borough should there be food riots. This is a remarkable item as it implies that all through the war there was nothing in place for one force in Surrey to reinforce another given an outbreak of violence. The chief constable declined to offer support (even though the Surrey Constabulary HQ was in the heart of Guildford) as his responsibility was policing the county. If he withdrew men from their beats and brought them into Guildford what if there was rioting in his police area? Further if there was a riot involving 100 people how many men would be needed – more than he could provide. Look what happened in the Guy Riots when the Surrey Constabulary came to help and were attacked and forced to seek safety in Holy Trinity churchyard whilst the county's police station windows were smashed. The chief constable advised the mayor to work on mutual aid arrangements with Borough forces such as Reading and Reigate linked by train.[15]

Report of March 1918 by The Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary

Other demands on the chief constable's time were 1. The provision of data for the Minister of National Service to complete the Minister's records regarding male alien enemies exempted from internment; 2. The monthly notification of the arrival, departure or death of all male alien enemies; 3. A request for action from the Local Food Control Committee regarding food hoarding, in response to which he pointed out with some asperity that it was their own

[14] Surrey Herald, Issue No. 4088, 4 January 1918, Page 04 , Col e
[15] SAC CC98/1/4-5 Chief Constable reports to Standing Joint Committee Robert Bartlett 28 Aug 2018

responsibility to obtain a search warrant and make a search (although he did promise to allow an officer to accompany them).[16]

1919 Learning points of the war from Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary

1919 undated but just after the end of the war a report from Captain Sant on learning points from policing the First World War:

One area he covered was the provision of emergency feeding: 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 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.[17]

Food shortages and rationing were not only an issue during the Second World War, as this food queue in Reading during the First World War highlights. The need to queue was lessened when rationing was introduced during 1918. Rationing also ensured equality of food distribution.

Working-class soldiers at the front had already seen what a leveller wartime rationing could be. At the start of hostilities, hearty army rations high in protein meant that soldiers ate around 4,600 calories a day, compared with the working man's average intake of 3,400 – although rations dwindled as the war progressed and the size of the army increased, to the point that, by the end, soldiers would be lucky if they saw meat more than once a week.

At home, rationing continued for some time after the war ended. Sugar, the first food to be restricted, was also the last to be liberalised again, on 29 November 1920.

[16] Marion Edwards https://www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/a-policemans-lot-the-surrey-police-in-wartime-part-4-1918/
[17] Marion Edwards https://www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/a-policemans-lot-the-surrey-police-in-wartime-part-4-1918/

It is suspected without any evidence but based on more modern times, rural police officers on their daily beats would be given surplus products and eggs from the gardens of country people.

Reading Borough Police officer at the head of the queue

Superintendent Thomas James Runnegar MM
Farnham Division

The award of the Military Medal is in the London Gazette Issue 30873, page 10133 of 29th August 1918. There is a nice aside in that in October 1915, he was one of 12 Military Policemen who Guarded King George V when he visited France and stayed at the Chateau near Aire – in appreciation of this, they were each awarded a £1 note!

He was posted to Farnham in the 1930s and was highly regarded by the community however he died young in 1938. He was given a civic funeral. A Grandson in grandson in Australia recently was seeking asking information about Thomas.

Runnegar is in this September 1915 Group photo – rear rank second from left

Little is known about PC279 Thomas James Runnegar who was awarded the Military Medal when serving with the Military Mounted Police (Number P1835) rank of Lance Corporal in France.

Thomas was 27 in November in 1912 and joined the Surrey Constabulary on 17 November 1913. Before war service he was based in Caterham, called up for war service 28 June 1915 first serving abroad in France 22 September 1915. He survived and left the army, re-joining the Surrey Constabulary 10 June 1919. He died in service on the 1 April 1938

There is no mention in Thomas Runnegar's police records of his gallantry award. This is not surprising given the paucity of information about time away from the Surrey Constabulary in the armed forces during the First World War.

1934 Farnham Division Superintendent Runnegar MM

Farnham 1934 probably Superintendent Runnegar by motorcycle

1935 July 20: King George V Jubilee celebrations in Hyde Park, London included a representative parade of police in which a party of men from Surrey under Superintendent T. Runnegar of Farnham took part.[18]

[18] Durrant Surrey Constabulary 1851-1951 page 56

Superintendent Runnegar with Farnham Tug of War team

This is a 1938 photo of the Surrey Constabulary, but the deceased is unknown. Superintendent Thomas Runnegar MM was given what was described as a civic funeral in 1938 at Farnham. This may, may be a photo of his funeral.

PC 388 James Ward Surrey Constabulary

The Bomber Command database recently made contact with more details on the loss of PC James Ward, later a pilot and officer in the RAFVR:

PC 388 James Francis Ward
Pilot Officer (Pilot) RAFVR No 619 Squadron
Died age 24, 3 December 1943

A Member of No 619 Squadron PC Ward was killed whilst on operations with the RAF and is buried in the Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery. No 619 Squadron were based in Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire Apr 1943-Jan 1944

On the 7 January 1944 the Force received a letter from the Air Ministry confirming, "Pilot Officer Ward is missing as a result of air operations on the night 2/3 December 1943 when a Lancaster aircraft of which he was captain set out to bomb Berlin and failed to return". The authorities in a letter of the 28 August 1944 confirmed his death.

PC Ward joined the Surrey Constabulary on the 29th May 1938 being sworn in Guildford on the 3rd June. He was 19 when he joined having been born in Bishopsgate, London. His trade was motor engineer working for Mr Manchee, 37, Lynton Avenue, Bexley Heath, Kent. He was living at 48, Bowness Road, Bexley Heath.

When he joined PC Ward was described as being 5 feet 9 ¾ inches tall with a fresh complexion, brown eyes and brown hair.

Service:

4 June 1938 Dorking
20 February 1939 Dorking to Farnham
30 May 1939 Farnham to Seale
1940 Seale to Caterham
1 September 1941 joined the RAF with CC's consent.

From: Rob Davis Bomber Command Losses Database
DATE: 02-Dec-1943 / 03-Dec-1943
UNIT: 619 Squadron
AIRCRAFT: Lancaster III
RAF BASE: Woodhall Spa
TAKE-OFF AT: 16:41
SERIAL: EE170
CODES: PG: N
TARGET: Berlin

CAUSE OF LOSS: Shot down by flak north of Magdeburg and burst into flames. As the crew prepared to bale out, the aircraft exploded. Sgt Cross regained consciousness at 5,000 feet and landed safely despite several broken ribs. Others buried in the Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery. (Email from Bomber Command data base 13 December 2019)

Pilot: Pilot Officer James Francis Ward RAFVR 155509 [Killed]. Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery, Germany 9 L 25 Pilot :
Casualty link : https://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/2761344 :
Commission Date : 5 October 1943

Flight Engineer: Sergeant G W Cross RAF [PoW]

Navigator: Pilot Officer Edward Thompson Hargreaves RAFVR 155583 [Killed]. Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery, Germany 9 L 22; son of Leonard and Hilda Hargreaves of Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire

Bomb Aimer: Sergeant John Hubert Duncan RAFVR 1459879 [Killed]. Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery, Germany 9 L 20

Wireless Operator: Sergeant James Waugh Scott RAFVR 1370641 [Killed]. Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery, Germany 9 L 21; son of George and Margaret Waugh Scott of Edinburgh

Mid-Upper Gunner: Sergeant Ronald Smithers RAFVR 1395928 [Killed]. Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery, Germany 9 L 24; son of Alfred Henry and Ellen Smithers of Homerton London.

Rear Gunner: Sergeant George William Arlett RAFVR 1288844 [Killed]. Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery, Germany 9 L 23; son of Mr. & Mrs. George William Arlett; husband of Lorna May Arlett of Craigydon Llandudno Caernarvonshire.

No. 619 Squadron was formed at Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire, on 18th April 1943, as a heavy bomber squadron equipped with Lancasters, and during the period June 1943 to April 1945, took part in many major attacks on enemy targets. No Squadron badge was authorised.

An evocative moment captured in a superb oil of a Lancaster from 44 Squadron crossing the English coast, following a raid on Germany. *Artist Robert Taylor*

On the night of the 2/3 December 1943 458 aircraft were despatched to Berlin. 40 aircraft were lost that night with 228 dead, 60 POW. "The German fighters were helped by the early identification as Berlin as the target area. Casualties mounted still further when the many aircraft, which were bombing south of Berlin, turned, left and left again as ordered after bombing, and found themselves flying back through the northern part of the Berlin Defences. (The Berlin Raids – Middlebrook) The British Occupation Authorities and Commission officials selected the site of Berlin 1939-45 War Cemetery jointly in 1945, soon after hostilities ceased. Graves were brought to the cemetery from the Berlin area and from eastern Germany. The great majority of those buried here, approximately 80 per cent of the total, were airmen who were lost in the air raids over Berlin and the towns in eastern Germany. The remainder were men who died as prisoners of war, some of them in the forced march into Germany from camps in Poland, in front of the advancing Russians. The cemetery contains 3,582 Commonwealth burials of the Second World War, 392 of them unidentified. In addition, there are 266 post war graves of men of the British Occupation Forces or their dependants, or of members of the Control Commission. (CWGC site

Firearms Support Team

FST dugout on protection President Numeri of Sudan mid 1980s

Harry Sales Sniper's Course Dartmoor Devon and Cornwall 1985

Anti-Hijack Sussex took over April 1974. Harry Sales carrying .38 special Smith and Wesson Model 10 with 44 reloads - 6 in the gun Carried right side under bulge!

FST Abseiling 1985 with Metropolitan Police

Harry Sales

May 1983 at Old Street Police Station, when we all learnt to abseil. Amongst the group photo are, Pete Hembury, Pete Hathaway, Steve Raine, Phil Norris and John Crabb.

May 1983 at Old Street Police Station

Second left Phil Norris sniper

City of London Police – 1919 Strike

From Bill Bethall: I thought you might appreciate some City Police memories

At the recent NARPO Centenary Lunch at the Guildhall, speakers mentioned the 1919 Polic Strike, following which the Police Federation was formed and the year in which NARPO wa founded.

In 1919 "The police dismissed Police Constable Thiel, a prominent member of the force and union organiser, for union activities. This action was a catalyst for the strike, a spark for ma grievances over pay and conditions. The authorities grossly underestimated the strength of rank-and-file support for positive action to address their grievances and to defend Constabl Thiel.

My Grandfather, John Francis, a sergeant then attached to the Central Criminal Court had ju a few weeks to serve to qualify for his police pension and did not strike. He was placed on duty outside the Mansion House, to receive a lot of abuse from those on strike, who in formation, marched past (which I was told upset him). However, he drew his pension for ma years in retirement. All the strikers were dismissed and thus forfeited their pensions.

I recall, when joining the Met and later the City Police, signing that I was not a member of a trade union, another policy result of the 1919 strike. I would also have happily signed that I was not a member of any secret society which might not have sat openly and transparently when dealing with the public, but this was not requested.

Alan Francis

The gentleman pictured in the centre of this photograph is PC Tommy Thiel. This photo was first published in the Police Review in September 1918.

Guardians of Morals: Women in the Police[19]

Michael Page Surrey History Centre

Two separate (and to some extent rival) organisations of women police were established during World War I, in response to the social and moral challenges thrown up by the war. In 1914, the suffragette Miss Margaret Damer Dawson and the journalist Nina Boyle established the Women Police Volunteers, later the Women Police Service (and later still the Women's Auxiliary Service), which operated from headquarters in Eccleston Square, London, and received some support from Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Edward Henry. Henry's successor, Sir Nevil Macready was less enthusiastic but gave his support to the women police patrols which had been set up by the National Union of Women Workers, with the encouragement of Scotland Yard, with a brief to work among the women and girls who were coming to London in increasing numbers and congregating around the army camps, parks, recruiting stations and railway terminals; later in the war the patrols operated within the munitions factories, concerned to guard the moral welfare of young, single women, away from home and family and with money in their pockets. The first fully recognised Women Police were recruited after the war from the patrols, headed by Sophia Stanley, rather than the WPS.

[19] https://www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/story/guardians-of-morals-women-in-the-police/ plus additional material

Both organisations soon spread beyond the Metropolitan Police area to other parts of the country, including Surrey (part of which lay within the Metropolitan Police's jurisdiction in any case).

In Reigate and Redhill women patrols were operative early in 1915. An article in the Surrey Mirror of 23 March 1915 defended their work, denying that they were a police force or were intended to stop soldiers meeting women. The patrols, who wore striped armlets and carried a card signed by the Head Constable and with a number registered at Scotland Yard, did not seek to 'rescue the fallen, but to prevent the ignorant from falling', accomplished by patrolling the areas where girls were 'loitering about the places where soldiers are to be met'. Their work was overseen by a committee, the secretary of which was Jessie Heesom of Welton House, Redhill.

Miss Rhoda Brodie, leader of the Croydon Women Patrols (from Croydon in the Great War)

In Croydon voluntary women patrols were also started in 1915 by the National Union of Women Workers. A specially organised committee of ladies supervised the work of the patrols in Croydon, which were led by Miss Rhoda Brodie. The patrols were aimed at 'raising the tone of the behaviour of young people in the streets and open spaces' and apparently 'the preventive welfare work of the women patrols carried out tactfully and by trained women did much to achieve this object'. Around 40 women participated who patrolled in pairs for two hours during the evening. They wore a blue coat and skirt, black hat with a NUWW badge and an armlet bearing their Metropolitan Police number, and were armed with a whistle and lantern. They were entirely voluntary and unpaid, with the exception of those asked to work an extra hour during the period January 1917 to September 1918, who were paid at 'the police

rate' and four women who were appointed to full time work who were paid by the Metropolitan Police and continued until the Metropolitan Women Police were formally created in early 1919. The voluntary patrols continued in Croydon until 30 September 1919.

Similar patrols were also established in Weybridge in 1915. As in Reigate and Redhill, they did not meet with universal approval. A letter printed in the Surrey Herald of 18 June 1915 from 'A Weybridge Girl's Brother in Khaki' believed the patrols, set up 'for the purpose of preventing anyone in uniform from enjoying the society of girls', constituted 'a studied insult to both parties …. though I think it totally unnecessary to attempt to defend the good name of the Weybridge lasses, I am sure they have no superior in character or behaviour in all parts where my regiment has been quartered'. A reply from 'One Who Knows' (25 June) denied that the patrols were designed to prevent the sexes from mixing and said that on the contrary a Club had been set up, which provided a safe environment for dances and socials. Towards the end of the war, at a meeting reported in the Herald of 12 July 1918, Sir Francis Champneys praised the work of the Weybridge patrols in countering the dangers posed by 'the flapper, the girl between 14 and 18', which 'at that moment was one of the greatest problems for the country'. Champneys lamented the spread of venereal disease and advocated self control, parental discipline and knowledge of the catechism. Mrs Macfarlane, Metropolitan Organiser of Women Patrols, agreed with Sir Francis' diagnosis of the problem and asserted that 'It was to protect the growing girls that the movement was started. They were preventive agents, ready to help girls and warn them and to be their friends, thus preventing them from hurting themselves and others'.

In Guildford, women patrols were established in July 1916, with eight operating by December 1916. They had been coached by Winifred Kersey, of the London Women's Patrol Committee, and the Surrey Advertiser of 4 December 1916 carried a justification of their presence in the town: 'our object is entirely to befriend young girls …. What we want is to create a moral atmosphere in the streets by our silent presence'. Each patrol wore an armlet and carried a card signed by Surrey Chief Constable Sant. In July 1918 the Borough Council considered and rejected a suggestion of the local branch of the National Union of Women Workers that two women police officers should be appointed to the Borough's police force 'in view of the special and grave danger to which the young girls of the town are exposed at the present time, and as a means of securing an improvement in the conduct of members of the public, particularly in the neighbourhood of the river (Surrey Advertiser, 31 July 1918). The Council considered that 'it is not easy to regard women as the instruments of that force upon which the law relies in the last resort' and argued that the volunteer women patrols, seemingly abandoned by this point, should be revived.

The Surrey Comet of 3 March 1917 carried a report of the annual meeting of the Women's Local Government Association for Wimbledon at which Miss Richardson Evans, secretary of the Women Police and Women Patrols Sub Committees, spoke on their work in Wimbledon. The town had originally employed two salaried policewomen to patrol the streets, commons, pubs and cinemas, and it had been hoped that they would be given 'official status' by the Met, through which they would have the power of arrest. However in October 1916, it

was decided that this local experiment with a paid women police force should be discontinued, because of 'the lack of official status and the consequent limitation of the scope of their work debarring them from undertaking some of those police duties for which women are most needed'. In February 1916, the policewomen had suggested that they should be supported by a body of voluntary women patrols and seven patrols were set up in March, the number rising to eleven by 1917. The patrols wore armlets and worked in pairs from 8pm to 10pm. The report hailed the work of the patrols whose mere presence had 'a sobering effect on noisy groups and serves as a protection to girls who are accosted in the street'. The number of young children left outside pubs by their mothers has fallen, drunken soldiers and women had been assisted and cinemas visited, to ensure nothing untoward was happening when the lights went down. Consideration had been given to the establishment of a club for the 'provision of wholesome occupation and recreation' but the idea had been rejected.

Such a club was set up in Guildford, at the suggestion of the Women's Patrol Committee. The Kitchener Club opened in September 1916 at Bishop's Croft, Mount Pleasant, as a venue where soldiers could meet girlfriends. Uniformed men paid 1d per visit and could bring up to two girls at 2d each; a limited number of girls were admitted as members, on the recommendation of a clergyman, headteacher or employer, for 2d a week. The club, which closed in January 1919, held reading, French and dancing classes 'and a good moral tone was maintained throughout'. It was estimated that 2663 soldiers used it regularly, there were 1096 girl members and many hospital patients also visited. A similar club was set up in Godalming, again on the recommendation of the local Women's Patrol Committee and with the enthusiastic endorsement of General R G E Leckie, the commanding officer of the Canadian soldiers in Witley Camp. It opened in February 1917, occupying the Borough Hall on weekday evenings and the Court Room between 2.30 and 9pm at weekends (Surrey Advertiser, 22 January and 5 February 1917). By March 1918 the Godalming Patrols had ceased to operate though the Surrey Advertiser of 6 March urged the continuing need: 'The giddy, giggling, irresponsible flappers one sees ogling soldiers and inviting their attentions are not only a danger to themselves and the men but they are a danger to their sex generally, for they cheapen woman hood in the eyes of the men in khaki'.

The Surrey County Constabulary also experimented with paid women police officers, recruited from the WPS. In December 1918, Chief Constable Sant reported that he had appointed women police 'for the purpose of dealing with the females at the camps in the vicinity of Frimley, in consequence of the employment of a number of women at the camps'. The Commandant of Women Police at Eccleston Square had sent four potentially suitable candidates, and two were taken on, although they had to suffer a demotion to work in Surrey, their ranks being lowered from Sub-Inspector and Sergeant to Sergeant and Constable. Sant argued that women constables should be appointed across the county, as they would be particularly valuable in watching suicidal female prisoners and in attending female prisoners while the latter were in court and subsequently escorting them to prison. Such work generally had to be undertaken by the wives of serving policemen, who often had to be accompanied by their husbands 'for safety'.

An inspector and sergeant of the Women Police Service (copyright IWM Q30381)

Believed to be Surrey Constabulary first women police officer about 1919 although a woman police sergeant worked the Godalming area in 1918.

Although crime was falling in 1918 the **National Union of Women Workers** urged the Guildford Watch Committee to employ women police in the Guildford Borough Police, "in view of the grave dangers to women and girls and particularly on account of the conduct of members of the public in the vicinity of the river." As most of the river problems were outside the Borough no action was taken and women officers were not appointed. [20]

The Surrey Constabulary had in 1918, a woman police sergeant posted to Farncombe because the troops at Witley Camp became a source of attraction to undesirable females who came down from London and haunted the streets of Godalming. As soon as the troops dispersed, she left the force and there are no records of her activities.[21] No one at the time realised the interest this would have for historians and there seems to be little record of the lady and what she did. However, it is known that there were tens of thousands of Canadian soldiers in the Godalming area, many of them rioting at their Camp in Witley in 1919.

In December 1918 Sant reported that 31 women had been prosecuted under Section 40D of the Defence of the Realm Act for continuing their trade while carrying sexually transmitted diseases. 27 of the 31 had been convicted and had each received 4 months imprisonment. The Chief Constable commented 'it is computed that these 27 women had connections with at least 10 different men a week, so that at the end of 4 months, no less than 4320 men would have been contaminated by them'.

In March 1919, the Chief Constable reported that as demobilisation of troops was proceeding, the two policewomen at Frimley were no longer required and had been laid off. One policewoman continued to work in the Godalming Division, where she was fully occupied in attending on female prisoners; probably many were prostitutes in the vicinity of Witley Camp.

In 1919 The Sex Disqualification Removal Act was passed ensuring women's entry into the professions. For the first time women could become lawyers, vets, and civil servants. In 1919 Commissioner Macready authorised a nucleus of 110 women police attached to the Metropolitan Police. [22] The first batch was recruited from the' Special Patrols', although many in the second batch were from the WPS.

20 They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary
21 Durrant "A Hundred Years of the Surrey Constabulary" Page 62
22 http://www.bawp.org/Resources/Documents/History%20of%20women%20police.pdf

Rosemary Boxall
Member of Police Staff

The first ceremony recognising long-service by civilian staff was held this year. Recipients were presented with a certificate and a gift.

1990 Annual Report: Ken Williams, Chair police authority, Chief Constable Brian Hayes, Rosemary Boxall BEM far right HQ Accident Dept BEM. On the left Elsie from the canteen when they were direct employees of Surrey Constabulary.

Caring Rosemary gets her reward

ON A lovely sunny morning at Mount Browne last month the Lord Lieutenant, Mr Richard Thornton, OBE, JP, presented the British Empire Medal to one of our civilians, Miss Rosemary Boxall.

Rosemary joined the Accident Department in 1961 and from the start demonstrated both energy and ability and was soon appointed Office Supervisor.

Caring attitude

In 1973 she was appointed Officer in Charge of the Traffic Department Administration. In 1985 her responsibilities were further extended to embrace the supervisory responsibility for administrative functions in the newly-combined Operational Support Department, embracing operations and traffic branches.

Off Beat 1992

Ted Harrington
Ex PC1047 Leatherhead, Box Hill, Dorking, then the Metropolitan Police.

I volunteer one day a week for Phyllis Tuckwell Charity Shop in Godalming and someone donated a book about the history of Surrey Police and I found this cutting dated 1991 inside the book.

Photo by Bob Hopkins.

Rosemary photographed during the celebrations to mark her 30th anniversary. 33

'Mum' of the traffic department completes 30 years service at headquarters

Miss Rosemary Boxall joined the Surrey Constabulary on the 30 January 1961 as a Clerk/Typist in the Accident Department.

In those days the department was run by Sergeant Clifford Luff. Five years later Rosemary was promoted to Supervisor of the Accident Department and she has remained in charge ever since. She is still very much involved with the 'traffic admin' and is like a mother to them all. As many a traffic man will tell you, she always refers to the officers as 'her boys'.

Our congratulations to Rosemary on a marvellous achievement.