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 70

Christmas 1962 Sandgate
Phot sent in by our former colleague Peter Cole who recently died

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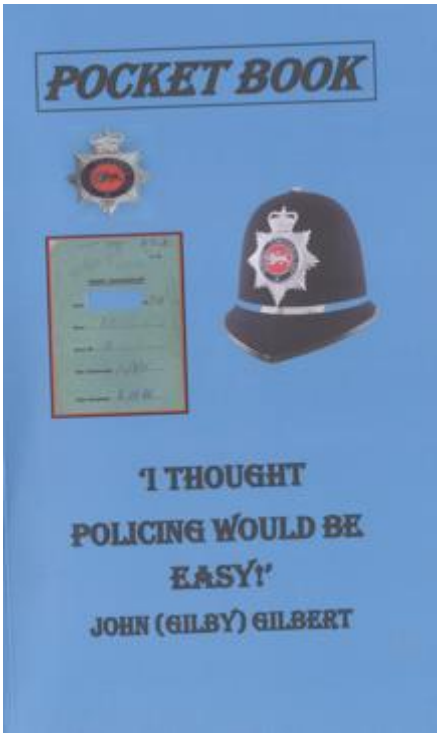
A GENTLE READ FOR THESE TROUBLED TIMES!



No names, no pack-drill, no nasty or horrid tales but just a few yarns of yesteryear that might raise a smile or two and make for a pleasant walk through time. The cost will be a pint of Guinness and the price of postage - £4.60 plus £1.40 (excuse to dodgy photo – in real life the front cover sleeve, as one Det Con at Woking used to tell me is: 'All boxed-off skip.')

This résumé of a Surrey Inspector's unusual and chaotic career is nothing like an official history. Nor does it 'cast the first stone' at today's hi-tech policing methods however alien some might appear to an increasingly bemused, frightened public or any we-knew-best, diehard 'old sweat.'

Initially, it challenges our media-driven notions that coppers were entirely egocentric, graduate entry, uniform jobsworths aiming for the top or an uncouth bunch of gun-toting, undercover detectives, gung-ho and aiming at anything. Those TV 'Sweeney'-like hoodlums who drove like lunatics in pursuit of a perceived God-given right to rid the streets from drug-fuelled, sex-crazed armed gangsters and lying psychopaths. And they were only the good guys!

These peeks behind life's well-worn curtain reveal a richness of black humour which pursued Gilby during his struggle to serve and survive.

Amusing, and tastefully illustrated, the tales help trace his difficult time as a sprog probationer, twenty-one hazardous, yet comical years as both a constable and sergeant detective, to his

bizarre appointment ceremony into the quaint ‘gentleman’s club’ for more senior uniformed officers. A rather patriarchal club of a bygone era where nonetheless the scholarly skill in pen-pushing and the nimble-fingered art of origami were absolute necessities.

The little yarn I forgot!

John Gilbert alia Gilby

For those that have read my book of fairly amusing stories, yarns and tales from yesteryear, please accept my apologies for missing this one. Well, I am getting on a bit! (Pocket Book – I thought Policing would be easy)

“You will recall that old Jammy and I were not the best of pals but thankfully I occasionally got to work alongside a kindlier sergeant – big Dougie! He knew how cruel Jammy had been, well everyone knew really but I must not digress. It was well after my first few horrid weeks at posh Reigate when by chance I was tasked to walk the town. Jammy had earlier had a nasty dig and had demanded more ‘process’ - I think that is the right word for ‘sticking people on’ for no tax and things! Sergeant Dougie knew all about this and when he finally stopped throwing me about the constable’s office in a futile attempt of making me a SAS recruit, he mentioned he would help me catch one or two unsuspecting souls. The offences would include jumping the lights at The Old Town Hall.

Well, as I recall, while we were watching and waiting for action, lo and behold, Dougie called out, ‘This one, he was a bit sharpish, stop him and check his documents’. I did what I was told and in traffic duty fashion instructed the driver to stop. Before he did so, however, my favourite Reigate Sergeant shouted, “And, don’t stand in the road with your bum up in the air get him to wind down the passenger’s window, ok?” “Yes serge,” I replied anxiously.

The male driver, I think about 45 to 55 years old, did precisely as I had asked. So far so good. I was a little lost for words having a sergeant standing right behind me but don’t forget my confidence had been shattered by old Jammy so do have some sympathy. As the driver looked at me in a puzzled but pleasant enough glare, I recall nervously spouting out some quick fire Hersham spiel. The nonsense was more or less like this. “Saw you up the Old Town Hall. You stopped at the lights ok but your vehicle moved back a bit. Indicated to me you didn’t know your motor. Is it yours? And produce your doc’s, ok?” All this drivel delivered at 100mph without an H to be heard and without me drawing breath.

The poor shell-shocked driver didn’t know what had hit him and replied something like ‘I’m so sorry, officer, I didn’t catch any of that so what did you say?’ Dougie had already burst into laughter and as best as he could after brushing me aside replied, ‘Don’t worry, sir, I didn’t understand a blinking word either. Please drive a little slower while in town but you can get on your way now, take care.’ He then turned his head towards me but simply couldn’t stop laughing.

I always got on well with big Dougie. I also got on well with his daughter!”

Christmas Boxes

Robert Bartlett

It is probable that the term Christmas Box goes back to the feudal times when the master gave his serfs a 'box' of goodies at Christmas. They 'worked' on Christmas Day and were given the gift 'Christmas Box' the following day. This is thought to be the origin of 'Boxing Day' being the day after Christmas Day when the box was received. It was also a time when servants would go home on Boxing Day to give Christmas boxes to their families.[1]

The custom extended and it became established to give a "Christmas box" to those who had provided a service to you over the year. From paperboy to dustmen via it seems the local police, the custom has a long history. The acceptance of gratuities as cash gifts were called, had to be considered by the Commissioners on formation of the Metropolitan Police. They established in 1839 that gratuities were acceptable provided it was done formally and the Commissioner had approved.

1829 November 19 Metropolitan Police Orders page 71

> The Commissioners have received various communications, testifying to the good conduct of the Police Force on the night of Tuesday November 9th, and several sums of money have been sent to them, to be disposed of to such men as may have particularly deserved consideration. The Commissioners feel that these sums will be best disposed of in rewarding any of the Police who received injuries upon the late conflicts with the mob on the streets, and the remainder will be added to the general

In 1838 Donaldson who came from the Metropolitan Police to Dorking was at the least, annoyed, when he discovered one of his two constables had continued the custom of the night watch to knock on doors, to seek a Christmas gratuity. Gratuities were cash in hand and quite common up to modern times. Workmen, from paperboys to milkmen, butchers who delivered, grocery delivery, gardeners and so on who provided a regular service may have come to expect a good tip at Christmas.

Dorking Police Occurrence Book 1838 William Donaldson:

> The superintendent wrote on 27th December: "(I) was very angry, nay enraged, to find PC No.2 Jonathan Lewin had conducted himself very improperly by calling at a number of places for his Christmas box. A lady said she had not complained because she had "always been accustomed to give to the Watch" but thought the superintendent would like to know what the constable had got. "I, as soon as I saw him afterwards,

[1] From Tony Suter email October 2020

remonstrated with him and explained to him the impropriety of such conduct particularly as we have been so very short of time here, and that he ought to have asked my advice before doing such a thing which, if he had, I would instantly have stopt". (sic)

The Donaldson Occurrence Books

It would appear that this was the practice for the night watch and when the police force began, albeit micro organisations of few men, the practice continued much to the horror of Donaldson so it may be fair to presume was no longer the practice in the Metropolitan Police, at least not a recognised practice by the management!

The Isaacs' Gang brought to account by early Surrey Constabulary officers Biddlecombe and Hollington with the help of Superintendent Morten. If this happened in Kent it was certainly likely to be the case in Surrey. The murder trial of the killers of Reverend Hollest from Frimley the court was told of the rewards expected by Biddlecombe and Hollington but the Metropolitan Police Detective Sergeant made it clear he would not be allowed to take part in the share of and gratuities for the arrest and conviction of gang members.

Gratuities were an issue and Superintendent Morten heavily involved in taking down the Isaacs' gang was driven to writing to the press:

To the Editor from Superintendent Morten June 1851

"So, you will perceive that I have been the cause of detaining and apprehending eight of that gang of desperate characters who have so long infested the counties of Surrey and Sussex and other counties. I think the following rewards and gratuities, which have been received by men in conjunction with Mr Dadson will, I trust, be sufficient to suffice and to show to whom the credit is due.

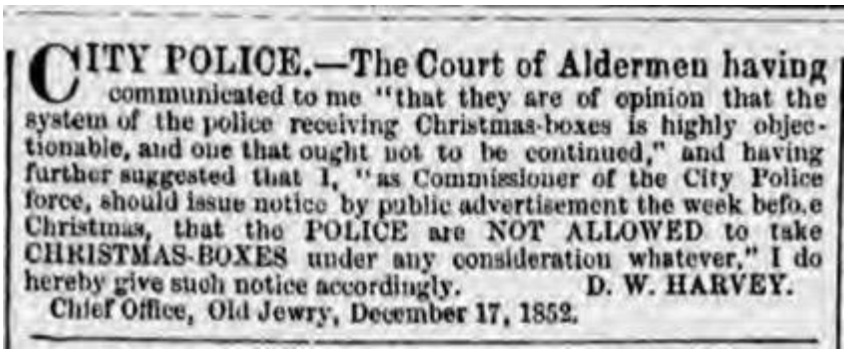
In addition to a reward we received from the judge at the trial a subscription was raised in my district and the sum of £45 was presented to me and £25 from the Uckfield Prosecution Society; £25 from the Rev Owen Emerie Vidal of Upper Dicker, Horsebridge near Hailsham, Sussex; £5 from the Misses Farncombe of Uckfield, in addition to the reward they offered through the society; £5 from Mrs Hurat of the Five Bells Inn, Chorley; £2 from Mr Wood, butler to the

Misses Farncombe who it will be remembered was so near to being murdered by the gang; £2 from Mr Baker of Portslade, Sussex who also was a sufferer; and £1 from Captain Wetherall of Forest House, Hartfield, Sussex and a promise of other rewards from societies that have not yet had their meetings.

I remain Sir, your obedient servant
W M Morten, Superintendent of Police,
Tunbridge Wells, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, Kent June 6, 1851" [2]

Not in Surrey but at the centre of the Metropolitan Police District, The City of London operated withing their own rules and regulations. The City Commissioner makes it clear that Christmas boxes were unacceptable in 1852 when the Surrey Constabulary had been established for a year.

1852 December 18 Morning Post and Morning Chronicle: Christmas Boxes: City Police: The Court of Aldermen having communicated to me " that they are of the opinion that the system of police receiving Christmas boxes is highly objectionable, and one that ought not to be continued" and having further suggested that I as "Commissioner of the City Police force, should issue notice by public advertisement the week before Christmas that the police are NOT ALLOWED to take CHRISTMAS BOXES under any consideration whatever." I do herby give such notice accordingly. DW Harvey Chief Office, Old Jewry, December 17, 1852[3]



CITY POLICE.—The Court of Aldermen having communicated to me "that they are of opinion that the system of the police receiving Christmas-boxes is highly objectionable, and one that ought not to be continued," and having further suggested that I, "as Commissioner of the City Police force, should issue notice by public advertisement the week before Christmas, that the POLICE are NOT ALLOWED to take CHRISTMAS-BOXES under any consideration whatever," I do hereby give such notice accordingly. D. W. HARVEY.
Chief Office, Old Jewry, December 17, 1852.

By 1862 gratuities are a lump sum paid to widows or retiring officers with the approval of the Chief Constable.

Surrey Constabulary Instruction Books 1862

Page 48: A deduction of two and a half per cent per annum will be made from the pay of every member of the Force, which sum together with the amount accruing from stoppages during sickness, and fines imposed upon constables for misconduct, as well as from any portion of the fines imposed by any Justice of the Peace upon drunken persons, or for assaults upon police constables , and from moieties of fines and penalties awarded to informers, -- being police

[2] 1851 9 June: The Standard Monday
[3] 1852 December 18 Morning Post and Morning Chronicle from Henry Pelham October 2020

constables , – on summary convictions, and all sums arising from the sale of the constables` worn or cast clothing, will from time to time be invested, and the interest and dividends thereof likewise, in such manner as the Justices, in General or Quarter Sessions assembled, shall direct, and accumulate so as to form a superannuation fund; and this money will be applied, from time to time, for the payment of such superannuation retiring allowances or gratuities, as may be ordered by the Court of Quarter Sessions upon recommendation of the Chief Constable.

It is explicit enough that gratuities were unacceptable but it seems that Christmas boxes were paid probably to some individuals but certainly into a fund to be distributed amongst police officers at a station from the Superintendent down.

1862 Surrey Constabulary Instructions, Conditions of Service paragraph 4:

He shall not under any pretence whatsoever receive to his own use money from any person without the express permission of the Chief Constable in writing. (See 19and 20 Vict ch 69 s 8) [4]

As the century drew to a close formalised collection were held with the approval of the chief constable with the superintendent present to receive the Christmas box from the local great and good.

1899 December 30 Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser: Police Christmas Boxes:

Sir, Everyone will notice with pleasure your kindly remarks about the "Gentlemen in Blue" and hope that these gentlemen who collected Christmas boxes for them last year will do so again this. All will agree with you that we have a body of men who do their duty well, and none will refuse a donation for them if given the opportunity of giving it. I am etc., XYZ[5]

1899 January 14 Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser Police Christmas Box:

We are pleased to hear that the movement to give the Dorking Police a Christmas Box met with so hearty a response from the towns people that a sum of ten guineas was easily collected, which amount has now been handed over by Messrs Kingham, Warner and White to Superintendent Alexander for distribution among the men.[6]

In 1899 Captain Sant became the second chief constable of the Surrey Constabulary and he issued a new undated booklet, "Surrey Constabulary Instructions" which included conditions of service. Under item 7, the chief constable instructs "– or gratuity from the public without sanction in writing of the Chief Constable. There is a note below this paragraph:

[4] County and Borough Police Act 1856

[5] 1899 December 30 Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser from Henry Pelham October 2020

[6] 1899 January 14 Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser from Henry Pelham October 2020

The Superintendents of the Force are authorised by the Chief Constable to allow Constables to retain gratuities not exceeding 20 shillings but the receipt of such must always be reported to the Chief Constable.

1900 February 24: Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser: Police Christmas Box:

The collection which a few townsmen made as a Christmas box for the members of the Dorking Police Force has resulted in a sum of £9.15s being handed over to Superintendent Alexander for distribution among the men. The amount was not quite so large as could have been wished but one or two townsmen sent their donations direct.[7]

1902 February 8 Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser: The Dorking Police Christmas Box. **Chief Constable Approval for Christmas Box**.

Before commencing the business of the court at Dorking Petty Sessions, Mr AC Powell, the chairman said there had been generally expressed wish in the town and neighbourhood of Dorking that some recognition should be made to the police of the trustworthy way they had carried out their duties during the year, not only in court but in the district generally. A small committee was formed just before Christmas for the purpose of collecting a fund for division among the police. Mr Clift who was for some time chairman of the Urban District Council and during that time ex-officio member of the Bench was elected chairman and the first thing that was done was to write to captain Sant, the Chief Constable for permission to make the presentation. He acknowledged this in the following terms: " I have to acknowledge your letter of the 18th, informing me it is proposed by the inhabitants of Dorking to make a presentation to the police of the town at Christmas in some recognition of the manner in which they have performed their duty. In reply I beg to say it gives me great pleasure to accede to the wishes of the committee and give my consent to the proposal.

Mr Powell added that during his experience at the court he had not known a case in which the police had unduly pressed any charge or used any unfair evidence to obtain a conviction and he thought most probably his colleagues would agree with him in that.

The chairman then handed a cheque to each man from Superintendent Alexander down to the latest recruit. As the fund was mainly collected in Dorking the division was restricted to the Dorking police and the two Westcott constables who were formerly stationed in the town. The total amount of the fund was about £20.

Superintendent Alexander said he wished on behalf of himself and his men to return their sincere thanks to the townspeople who had contributed to the fund. It was very gratifying to them to feel that the way they carried out their duties had been appreciated.[8]

[7] 1900 February 24: Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser from Henry Pelham October 2020
[8] 1902 February 8 Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser from Henry Pelham October 2020

John Hoyle has in his possession Reigate Borough Police Christmas cards. These are probably drafts. (The rotund gentleman is obviously Chief Constable Bill Beacher). Both cards concentrate on police collecting gifts and money. Now this could be misinterpreted. It may well be that there was some form of collection by the police at Christmas for local charities, distributed in due course by the chief constable. There were certainly in the 1960s on divisions such as Dorking an annual police ball at the Dorking Halls where money was raised for the police Widows and Orphans Fund.

It is difficult to believe these cards were for publication though the subtlety of the message may now be lost, within the Borough they would have caused great merriment.

It would seem that either the police are helping Santa or more likely, themselves to the Christmas boxes. Even the Chief Constable was getting his share. The reference may be to a coal club where it is believed money was paid in and later paid out for coal. A form of saving when times were hard and they usually were for the police.

The Superintendent's Turkey

1965 from former member of the Surrey Constabulary, Tony Forward

When I was a uniformed Sergeant at Reigate, I was on duty on Christmas Eve 1965. The station office PC had a cadet working behind the counter. While the PC was busy at the switchboard, a man came in with a package and handed it over to the cadet saying this is a turkey for the superintendent from the lady who owned a local turkey farm. The cadet made the appropriate entry in the Day Book and on the instructions of the station officer, took the package upstairs to the Superintendent, who was delighted. Apparently, this was an annual event. At 5pm, the superintendent on finishing for the Christmas break, stopped at the front office to sign the Day Book. He was horrified to see the entry the cadet had made and immediately called in the divisional motor cyclist and ordered him the return the bird to the lady who had sent it. The motor cyclist stuffed it into his valise and road off. The superintendent wrote in the disposal column "Gift declined and returned to donor." When the motor cyclist got to the turkey farm, he found it was already closed up for Christmas. He was due for his meal break, so he took the turkey home. The following day, the motor cyclist and his family tucked into the superintendent's turkey and the superintendent had to put up with whatever his wife could find for him.

Rural life in the 1970s

It is not known when formalised and distributed collections ceased. However, it was certainly the case in rural sections that all manner of bottles, game and Christmas trees were left as a token of thanks and usually distributed by means of a draw. The following is from Ripley but it was certainly the same at Cranleigh in the mid 1970s. The view was that the gifts were mostly anonymous and could not go back! If the giver was known more offence would be taken should their gift be returned.

From John Hoyle memoirs

A few days before Christmas, I was off duty when the Sergeant called me into the front office to assist in "The annual share out of gifts ". During the previous week or so, I had noticed that a number of parcels had arrived at the office. The "Gifts" turned out to be bottles of alcohol, boxes of chocolates and cigarettes. Neither my wife, nor I, smoke, so the cigarettes were of no interest to me. As far as the alcohol was concerned it was evident that the amount could not be shared equally into 7 portions. I was therefore instructed to find 7 clean, empty milk bottles to assist in dividing the alcohol up. Whilst the alcohol was being divided up, the officer who had been instructed to keep an eye open, in case somebody called at the office unannounced, suddenly shouted "the chief inspector". In a flash, the offending articles were hurriedly placed in a filing cabinet out of sight. What we could not disguise, was the strong smell of whiskey.

The chief inspector, whom I would describe as a very tall, upright sort of fellow, a little prim and proper in demeanour, came into the office. He demanded, why was everybody present. I had a good excuse, being off duty. I had called in for my mail.

He then said, "Sergeant, what is that smell?" The sergeant replied, "Smell, Sir? I cannot smell anything, but there again I do have a cold." He received, a similar reply from everybody, he then signed the "Day Book" and left. We then continued where we had left off.

Some people reading this will be aghast. The idea of police officers receiving gifts from the public. It should be borne in mind that this occurred at a village police station over 50 years ago. Most of the gifts were given anonymously, and certainly not given as a reward for favours or, for not carrying out a duty. It was the public showing their appreciation and it was common practice at the time. During the next few years, the practice ceased, and there were occasions where, if the donor was known, the gift was returned, causing great offence, and embarrassment.

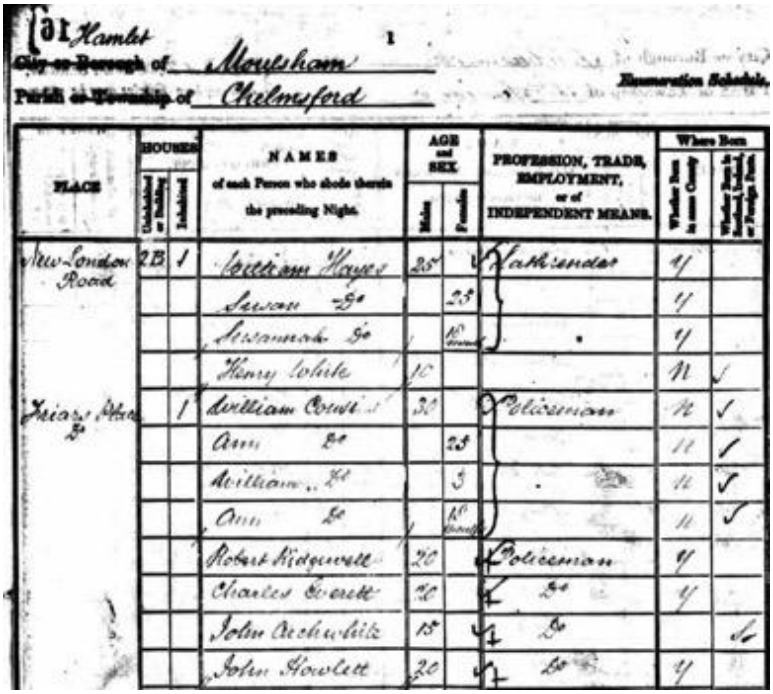
Editor: It is difficult to believe these were for publication though within the force they would have caused much merriment. In many rural areas and small towns on into the 1970s large numbers of present were delivered to police stations and section offices as a signal of thanks from members of the public. On at least one rural section in the mid 1970s, in addition to the Christmas trees and pheasants, numerous bottles of wine and spirits arrived and placed into a free raffle for all the staff. The view was that the gifts were mostly anonymous and could not go back! If the giver was known more offence would be taken should their gift be returned.

Charles Everett
Surrey Constabulary 1851
1822- 1871
Superintendent Surrey Constabulary and Chichester
Died in the Workhouse

Jenny Tuffs
November 2020

Charles Everett was born 24th July 1822 and was baptized 8th September 1822 at an independent church in Braintree Essex; his parents were William and Ann.

Charles joined the Essex Police on 22nd April 1840 and was sworn in the same day as an "original class" constable. His collar number being 86. He was aged 20 years, height 5ft 7 ¾ inches, single, a baker from Braintree. He was made 2nd class constable on 6th October 1841 back to 3rd class on 18th May 1842 for making a false statement, again 2nd class on 31st August 1842 then 1st class on 30th November 1843. On 1st August 1850 he became 3rd class again. He resigned on 1st January 1851. When he resigned it was noted his "sobriety and conduct generally good" (Constables joined as Original or 4th class and were promoted up to 1st class with time and good behaviour, many went up and down which was a punishment as pay was based on class).



PLACE	HOUSES Uninhabited or Building	HOUSES Inhabited	NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX Males	AGE and SEX Females	PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born: Whether Born in same County	Where Born: Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts
New London Road	2 B.	1	William Hayes	25		Gatekeeper	Y	
			Susan Do		23		Y	
			Susannah Do		10 months		Y	
			Henry White	10			N	✓
Friars Stan		1	William Court	30		Policeman	N	✓
			Ann Do		28		N	✓
			William Do		3		N	✓
			Ann Do		10 months		N	✓
			Robert Ridgewell	20		Policeman	Y	
			Charles Everett	20		Do	Y	
			John Archwhite	15		Do		✓
			John Howlett	20		Do	Y	

1841 Census Charles was a policeman in Essex

1841 21st August Chelmsford Chronicle - Charles Everett a Policeman stationed at Epping Essex was summoned at Braintree Petty Sessions on 19th August to show cause why he should not maintain his father, who was chargeable to the Parish of Braintree. It was stated by the Superintendent, that on going anywhere within five miles of his station he had to bear all his

own expenses, but when he went beyond that distance, he had a trifle allowed to him by the county. The Bench made an order upon him for 1s 6d a week.

On 31 January 1842 Charles Everett married Elizabeth Harrington at St Michael the Archangel Braintree. Later that year on the 27 November a daughter Hannah Everett was born at Braintree. Hannah was baptized 23 December 1842 at St Michael the Archangel, Braintree, the parish record showing her parents as Charles and Elizabeth Everett.

1844 29th November- Shop lifting at Braintree - Whilst on duty the suspicions of Policeman Charles Everett were aroused by the proceedings of a girl of loose character named Sarah Russell from the parish of Black Notley and he watched her through the window of a grocer and drapers' shop. Whilst the shopkeeper was engaged with customers the girl took a handkerchief from the display on the counter and concealed it under her arm. As she left the shop PC Everett met her at the door and took her back into the shop where in addition to the handkerchief, he had seen her take he found two others the shopkeeper identified as his property. A pair of woman's boots found on her were found after enquiries to have been stolen the same evening from the local pawnbroker shop. The girl was taken before the local magistrates and committed for trial at the sessions the next day where she pleaded guilty to both charges and was sentenced to eight months hard labour. This is only one of many offences which the vigilance of this officer had been the means of detecting.

1845 14th February Chelmsford Chronicle - Police Constable 86 Charles Everett solved the case of counterfeit money being offered in Braintree. After being given the description of one offender he "was quickly on the scent" seeing her meet up with others and go to The Three Tuns Inn, he watched them for a couple of evenings when they were joined by a local man who had not been in their company long when he tendered a counterfeit shilling. The next day along with two other constables they entered the room occupied by the parties. On entering and searching they found a box containing a quantity of composition used in the manufacturing of the coin. Under the mattress was a bag containing about 60 pieces of counterfeit half crowns, shillings and sixpences. The parties were arrested and next day committed for trial at the sessions by the magistrates. During the previous week PC Everett had made four other detections in Braintree and the vicinity, in which all parties were committed to sessions and for his tact and exertions in the capture of the coiners it was said he deserved great commendation.

1845 7th March Chelmsford Chronicle – Apprehension and committal of thieves at Braintree. Through the vigilance and perseverance of Police Constable 86, Charles Everett, a regular depot for the receipt of stolen property has been discovered in the town. From information he received Everett had reason to suspect two girls, aged about 11 and 12 years, the daughters of John Evans, a brush finisher, residing in a cottage, a warrant was obtained in his name and his house was searched. A great variety of stolen goods were found, mostly concealed in boxes. Many of the items have been identified by tradespeople of the town as having been stolen from their shops. The girls were later charged with the thefts and their father with receiving. They were examined before the magistrates and committed for trial. Eight or nine shops had been robbed by the little girls who were committed on four charges. The girls were Evan's children

by a former wife, the family only recently moved to Braintree from London, and from the ingenuity with which the children obtained the goods it would seem they had been trained in thieving.

1845 18th April Chelmsford Chronicle- Robbery at Braintree. On Thursday 10th Richard Letch, junior, a dealer of Great Baddow was apprehended by Police Constable Everett, charged with stealing a pocketbook containing a £10 note from William Brewer of Black Notley. The men were together at the Wheat Sheaf Inn the previous night when Brewer took out his pocketbook, and the prisoner had an opportunity of seeing the contents. A Short time later the prisoner followed Brewer out of the Inn but the robbery was not discovered until the following morning when information was given to PC Everett who traced the note to the possession of the prisoner. Letch stated he had got the note from Mr Kinch, a cattle dealer at Chelmsford the previous day for a cow and calf but Mr Kinch appeared before the magistrate and denied this. The prisoner appeared before the magistrates and was committed for trial at the next sessions. The pocketbook was found after the robbery in the yard of the inn. Richard Letch junior was later found guilty and sentenced to nine months imprisonment with hard labour.

1845 27th June Chelmsford Chronicle. PC Everett was a witness at the inquest of Mary Saunders of Braintree at the Old Gaol Chelmsford who died soon after being brought to prison. The case caused interest because it was alleged to be questionable whether she was at the time in a fit state to be removed by Police, and whether she had not become intoxicated whilst in their custody.

At the inquest Charles Everett, Police Constable 86 stated, I am stationed at Braintree and was sent for at quarter past eleven on Friday morning to take the prisoner into custody at the Cardinal's Cap, Bocking on a charge of felony. I found her in the back kitchen, she was sober but complained of her head, she walked to the station but complained of her head on the way. She looked as I have known her for the last five or six years in her features, but she was very dirty, her husband is a journeyman carpenter at Bocking and he maintained her. At the station I placed her in a cell and told her to knock if she wanted anything. I visited her several times when she still complained of headache. It was the duty of the superintendent to see she had food and drink. On Saturday I took her before Mr Savill and he committed her, she was sent to Chelmsford about half past one in the charge of Policeman Savill. I assisted her into the cart and she seemed very weak but in a fit state to be removed. No questions were raised at the examination as to her being in a fit state to be taken to Chelmsford.

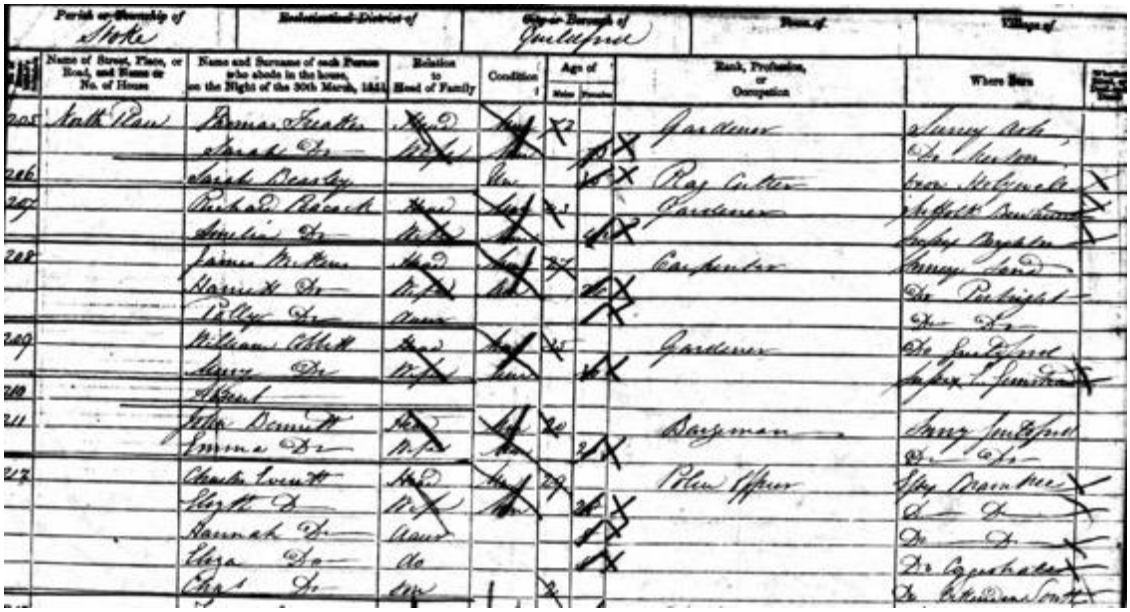
The inquest then heard from other about the state of the deceased health including the magistrate Mr Savill who said he hesitated about sending her to Chelmsford but people who knew her well said she would soon recover. She was sober when he saw her. But the surgeon's assistant at the prison stated he believed she was in a state of stupor and collapse through drink. The coroner then suggested an adjournment for a post-mortem to ascertain cause of death. During this time Captain McHardy, Chief of Police had enquiries made at all public houses on route to Chelmsford and found that PC Savill had not stopped at any one of them. PC Everett told the coroner that the deceased was searched by his wife at the station about half an hour

after she was taken into custody and nothing was found on her. Captain McHardy said after his enquiries he was satisfied that no policeman had acted contrary to his duties. The post-mortem found that the immediate cause of death was effusion of the brain, which might be consequent upon a long-standing disease of the brain which must have caused great suffering. It could not ascertain whether her removal to Chelmsford accelerated her death but it was hoped that the case would be a caution for the future and in similar circumstances a medical opinion be sought before a person is removed.

1845 7th December a second daughter Eliza Ann was born at Coggeshall, Essex. Eliza was baptised 16th January 1846 at St Michael the Archangel, Braintree, her parents shown as Charles and Elizabeth Everett. Two years later in 1849 a son Charles was born in South Ockenden Essex, and again Charles and Elizabeth Everett are recorded as parents.

On resigning from Essex Police, Charles Everett joined Surrey Constabulary as an inspector and a year later in January 1852 was appointed superintendent at Farnham being dismissed in October 1856 but later becoming head constable at Godalming and later Chichester.

1851 Census Charles have the family were living in Guildford



1853 24th December Morning Post. At Southwark Court, Thomas Sewell was brought before the court by Superintendent Everett of the Surrey Constabulary, Farnham charged with stealing 5s, the property of William Hickmott of Southwark. Hickmott had occasionally employed Sewell over the previous twelve months but a week previous he declined employing him any longer and notice was given to that effect, with directions to call at the counting house to settle their accounts. On Thursday Sewell called but was told to call again as Hickmott was not ready. Hickmott had previously suspected the honesty of Sewell so before he came to the office had marked 5s and put them on a shelf in the storeroom near the door. As Sewell left the premises, he was seen to put his hand towards the shelf and take the 5s. As he was in the office alone, he

was unable to follow Sewell but the same afternoon at Farnham market he met him and gave him to the custody of Superintendent Everett. That same evening when he returned to London Hickmott saw the five marked shillings in his brother's possession. Robert Hickmott said he had frequently lent Sewell money and on Thursday morning had met him and asked him to pay some of what he owed. He was paid the 5s which were put in his waistcoat pocket. He had not mentioned this to his brother earlier as he was on his way to Farnham market. Superintendent Everett stated he was stopped by Hickmott at Farnham market and gave the prisoner into his custody for the robbery of 5s. Sewell appeared much surprised and laughed but made no particular remarks. He was immediately taken before a county magistrate who ordered him to be taken to Southwark. As the prisoner was seen to commit the robbery and the marked shillings were found on the loser's brother the conclusion was to commit Sewell for trial at the next Surrey Sessions and accepted bail from two respectable tradesmen.

1854 April 1st Reading Mercury. On 28th March at the Spring Assizes Kingston Frederick Mathews was indicted for highway robbery with violence in Farnham upon Caroline Payne the wife of a hop merchant and stealing a gold watch, £5 banknote, a gold chain and silver money of the value of £2 15s 9d.The injured person was walking in Farnham Park not far from the town on the 13 March when she received a tremendous blow with a stick rendering her unconscious and whilst in that condition was robbed. The prisoner was seen going towards the park not long before the robbery and Biddlecombe and Everett two members of the Surrey Constabulary, from other information received, suspected he was the guilty person, searched the suspect's room and found the stolen property. The man was arrested found guilty and sent to be transported for fifteen years.

1854 June Reported in several newspapers- Murder at Frensham: Dying Declaration: A meeting was held at the White Horse public house near Frensham Pond on Saturday (week) by the members of a club to make arrangements for the annual club dinner. Several of the members attended the meeting; amongst them were George Fullock, John Burrows and Henry Winter. After the meeting broke up the before-named persons proceeded in company with some others, home; but they had not proceeded very far before Fullock and Winter got into an altercation, which was succeeded by Fullock striking Winter and both of them commenced to fight. Winter is a man rather in years and not very well able to stand fighting with Fullock who was only 23 years of age. This being the case Burrows interceded for Winter and prevented Fullock from knocking him about, when Fullock took his knife out of his pocket and with great force made a desperate lunge at Burrows, and struck him in the stomach causing a wound of about two and a half inches in length and so great that the man's intestines protruded. Burrows lingered until Wednesday when he died after great suffering.

PC Francis Joy Surrey Constabulary stationed at Farnham went to the deceased and removed him to his sister's house. He went in search of Fullock and found him in a cow stall where he was searched and a knife found. The officer told Fullock he was charged with stabbing John Barrow but he made no reply. Charles Everett, Surrey Constabulary Farnham, having received information from the surgeon that the deceased was in a dying state went to the deceased's house with N T Fuller esq., magistrate for Surrey. Mr Fuller told the deceased he was about to

take his examination as he was in a dying state. Deceased said, “The doctor told me so.” Mr Fuller said, “Now be very particular as you are in a dying state.” A statement was made and written down by the superintendent An inquest was held on Thursday and after a lengthened enquiry the jury returned a verdict of “Wilful murder” against George Fullock and Superintendent Everett was bound over to prosecute the case at Winchester assizes as the deceased had been moved out of Surrey into Hants where he died. The spot where the poor man was stabbed was just on the borders of the two counties.

1854 5th November Emma Elizabeth daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Everett of Bear Lane Farnham was baptized at St Andrew Church Farnham, Charles occupation was Superintendent of Police.

1855 6th October West Surrey Times. Curious recovery of stolen property. So long ago as last 29th June a burglary was committed at the premises of Mr Charles Heath, butcher of York Town Frimley when a variety of items were stolen including two great coats. The active enquiries of Superintendent Everett and the police at his command could not find any clues to which the items might be traced and a reward of £10 was offered for information leading to the offenders. Nothing more came of this until the last week when Mr Heath thought he recognized one of his coats on a gypsy horse dealer named Leonard Cooper and he challenged him .Cooper said he bought the coat at Windsor in a public house kept by a man named Mitchell .Mr Heath took the coat and handed it to Superintendent Everett who has since been making enquiries. At Windsor he found the story of the purchase confirmed by Mitchell but owing to some contradictory statements made by Cooper and his wife, he was detained in custody. He has been twice remanded and will be brought up again at the end of the week when further evidence will be given against him. The prisoner applied for bail but was refused.

1855 6th October West Surrey Times – Farnham - The Camp at Aldershot – The presence of the military and militia at Aldershot, four miles from the town , has had up to the present time a most beneficial effect upon the trade and commerce of the local shopkeepers .A great number of the officers and men visit the town every week and a good deal of money changes hands. The men generally conduct themselves well, they have to return to camp early evening, and it is only when on leave or after partaking of too much “John Barleycorn” they make themselves troublesome. Then the active guardian of the peace, Superintendent Everett quickly descends upon the delinquents “armed with the terror of the law” and reduces the malcontents to order.

1856 16th February West Surrey Times – Farnham – A narrow escape – A few days ago Superintendent Everett of this town was proceeding with a horse and cart to Guildford, with two prisoners in custody, who had been committed to the County Police Station, when soon after passing Ash Street, the shafts of the cart suddenly broke off and threw the superintendent and his prisoners into the road, fortunately without injuring them more than the fright occasioned by the sudden shock. The horse being a spirited animal started off at a furious pace and was not stopped until it had run nearly two miles from where the accident occurred, without injury. There appears to be a great fatality among the superintendents in their coachmanship

ability, as it was only a few weeks since that Superintendent Burridge of Godalming was pitched out in a similar manner while having a female prisoner in his custody.

1856 11th October West Surrey Times – Farnham - Removal of the superintendent of Police – We regret to announce that Mr Everett, who has so ably filled the office of superintendent of police for this town for upwards of five years, has been called upon by the chief constable of Surrey to resign his office, and at the same time by a strange anomaly has received from that gentleman a first rate testimonial as to the ability with which Mr Everett has filled the office from which he now wishes to remove him .The magistrates have taken up the subject very warmly and the Lord Bishop of Winchester, with the clergy and tradesmen of the town have born ample testimony to the excellent way in which the police have been managed, and the peace of the neighbourhood preserved by the efforts of Mr Everett. Surely it is a powerful argument against the present system of centralization in the police, when one man is empowered by Act of Parliament to remove a superintendent from a district against the wishes of the magistrates and inhabitants of that district, and it is a most arbitrary act to do so without assigning any reason or allowing the superintendent any court of appeal.

1857 16th May West Surrey Times A meeting of the Watch Committee at Godalming was held for the purpose of appointing a superintendent of Police for the Borough. There were six applicants for the post including Mr Everett, the appointment will be required to be confirmed by the Town Council before it is made public but in the opinion of the Watch Committee no one candidate is so fitting for the office as Mr Everett whose appointment it is believed would give general satisfaction to the town.

1857 23rd May West Surrey Times. On Monday last Mr W T(sic) Everett, late superintendent of police at Farnham was sworn in as the Chief Constable of the newly appointed Police Force for the borough of Godalming.

The amalgamation of Godalming with the newly formed Surrey Constabulary in 1851 was not successful and they withdrew in 1857, mainly due to the lack of Police Cover provided particularly at night. Superintendent Charles Everett became superintendent of police with a constable to assist him. The salary of the superintendent was £54 12s and the constable 17s.

1857 10th October West Surrey Times - Godalming Bench: Attempt murder of a police officer: William Holt a strong burly fellow was brought up in charge of having attempted to shoot PC Phillips when in the discharge of his duty. PC Phillips was in the High Street, Godalming at about ten o'clock on Tuesday night. He met the prisoner with something bulky about his person, followed him to Bridge Street opposite his lodgings and asked him what he had got. The prisoner used some uncivil exclamation and refused to be searched and so was told he would have to go to the police station. He was about to be taken into custody when the prisoner drew a gun barrel from one pocket and a stock from another and was about to take aim when the witness rushed him, pushing him against a wall and called out for assistance. Mr Stafford and Mr Challen came up at that moment and seized the gun and the officer took the prisoner to the police station. Whilst the constable was holding the prisoner he called out to his wife to

"bring out the long gun." Mr Everett the Chief Constable stated that on examining the gun he found it charged and loaded with number 3 shot. The worthy mayor addressed the prisoner on the dangerous character of the offence and inflicted a fine of £5 or in default one month's imprisonment and as the money was not forthcoming, he was committed. Shortly after the prisoner's removal to the station house Mr Greville's gamekeepers identified him as being the man whom they had seen on the previous Monday trespassing on land and who had threatened to lodge the contents of the gun in the stomach of the under-keeper.

1857 19th December West Surrey Times - Godalming – Mr Henry Newman Kettle, pork butcher appeared to answer a charge of wilfully obstructing the footpath, by hanging out for sale in front of his shop carcasses of pigs in violation to the Act of Parliament. Mr Kettle admitted hanging the pigs out but considered there was no obstruction, therefore pleaded not guilty. Superintendent Everett said the pigs were hanging out about a foot over the pavement. He had applied for the summons against the defendant upon the information of another person but he declined to name them. As the Act of Parliament was explicit upon the point the magistrates were compelled to enforce it and the defendant was fined 15s, including costs.
1858 3rd April West Surrey Times – Godalming – On Friday evening or early Saturday morning last some persons broke into the pheasantry at Busbridge Hall and stole seven hen and two cock pheasants. The robbery was not discovered until late morning, when Superintendent Everett was immediately informed. He was quickly on the spot, and endeavoured to trace the offenders, but as yet has not done so. A reward being offered for the discovery of the thieves.

1858 4th September West Surrey Times- Godalming- Resignation of the Chief Constable of the Borough. It was announced last week that Mr Charles Everett, who for last eighteen months held the office of Chief Constable of the borough had been appointed to a similar office in the city of Chichester. Mr Everett's name appeared with some thirty other applications and in consequence of the excellence of his testimonials and his large experience of Police matters, the preference was given to him. On Tuesday last he received the appointment and the following day tendered his resignation. Since Mr Everett's residence amongst us we must give him every credit for his great vigilance and discretion in the discharge of his public duty. On no occasion , we believe has the town been better watched, or more efficiently protected than during the last twelve months, a proof of which is to be found in the almost total absence of crime and the perfect order which prevails on our streets .While regretting the loss of Mr Everett's services, we cannot but congratulate him on his new and superior appointment.

1858 16th September Brighton Gazette. The Watch Committee at Chichester reported there had been numerous applications for the vacant office of Inspector of Police, of which two were chosen as most eligible. The council appointing one of these, Mr Charles Everett of Godalming. The City of Chichester Police Force at this time consisted of a superintendent, sergeant and five constables (See West Sussex Police force 1857- 1957 – Old Police Cells).

1858 27th November Hampshire Telegraph. At Chichester Petty Sessions John Armstead was fined 20s and 6s costs, with one-month hard labour in default for an assault on Charles Everett, Superintendent of Police while in the execution of his duty.

1859 28TH April Brighton Gazette- Sunday Trading -Look up the stocks- At Chichester City Bench on 25th April Edward Blyde, fruiterer of Southgate, who last week was summoned for a similar offence, but was not convicted in consequence of an informality was again charged with selling an orange on a Sunday. Charles Everett, son of the Superintendent state on the 17th he bought an orange and a pennyworth of pear drops, he found the door open and Blyde served him. Blyde said he had his shop open for light and only served some poor people with oranges to take to the Infirmary. He did not deny that he had sold the witness the orange. He was fined 5s and costs of 9s, in default a distress warrant was issued. If he did not produce this amount, he would be exposed to six hours in the stocks.

1859 20th January West Sussex Gazette - Felonious attack on a married woman and clever capture -Henry Jenman of Sidlesham was charged with assaulting Ann Wells with intent in the parish of Boxgrove on 13th January. The complainant stated she was returning from Chichester and passed the prisoner on the road near Maudling, he followed her and talked civilly for some time but when they reached the turning to Boxgrove he put his arms around her and took liberties. She told him she was married and he should not touch her but he said if any noise was made, he would take out a knife and murder her. He tried to force her into the hedge and whilst he was getting a knife from his pocket, she escaped telling him her brother in law lived nearby and if she saw a policeman she would get him into custody. He left and she turned back to Strettington. Shortly after a vehicle approached, which turned out to be driven by Superintendent Everett of Chichester. She asked him if he had met a man with a bundle on his back, then told him what had happened. He requested her to get into his chaise and said he would take her to Halnaker public house. They overtook the man just as they were getting to Halnaker. Superintendent Everett got out of his chaise and asked him what was in his bundle saying some sheep had been lost and he suspected some mutton was in the bundle. The prisoner the walked with Superintendent Everett to the public house at Halnaker and shortly after Ann Wells came in and identified him. He then took the prisoner to another room and after getting his name told him he was charged with assault with violence or intent. The prisoner said he did assault the woman but did not draw a knife. The prisoner was then taken to the lock up in Chichester. The prisoner again said he did not draw his knife, he had said he would but did not. After letting her go he went down the road near the public house when a gentleman asked what was in his bundle and if he had seen any partridge or sheepskin along the road. After telling the gentleman he had clean clothes in his bundle he was asked to accompany him to the public house. The prisoner was committed to the Quarter Sessions at Petworth and great credit was given to Superintendent Everett for the clever manner in which he effected the capture of the prisoner, as he first questioned him on an entirely different subject to induce the man to accompany him to a place where he could be taken into custody with less opportunity of resistance.

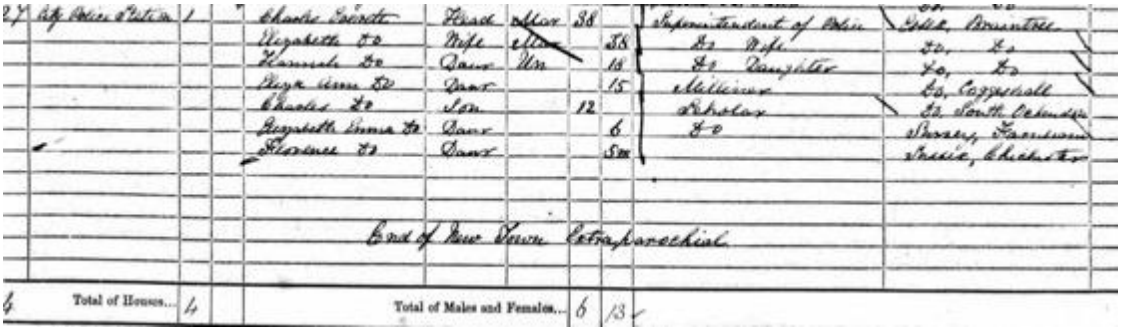
1859 2nd July At Chichester Quarter Sessions, Superintendent Charles Everett of the city police was a witness in the case of Jane Savage a servant to Captain Drury of Chichester who was accused of stealing two pairs of stockings, a pocket handkerchief and other items from her employer. Superintendent Everett was called to the house by Mrs Drury, where he saw the

prisoner who eventually produced some stockings and handkerchief marked E A Drury from her belongings and she was immediately taken into custody .Further information led to a search warrant being obtained for premises in Tower Street where pieces of drugget (coarse woollen ,felted or woven fabric) were found concealed in a bedstead under the bedding. Francis Ide stated the prisoner was in the habit of coming to her house sometimes with the housemaid but she did not know who brought the drugget to her house. The prisoner had told her the housemaid had given it to her as it was too old to pack up and the housemaid verified this so the pieces were put between the bed and mattress to keep smooth. The housemaid stated she had not given the prisoner the drugget or told Francis Ide she had done so. After summing up the prisoner was found guilty and given eight months hard labour. The Recorder saying he was sorry that the prisoner had lost the good character which it appeared she once bore having descended to vice and dishonesty.

1860 17th March Portsmouth Times Charles Everett Superintendent of Chichester Police was one of several men who applied to become Superintendent at Portsmouth.
1860 25th October Brighton Gazette – Births- On 21st October, the wife of Mr Charles Everett, Chief Officer of Chichester Police, a daughter (Florence).

1860 1st December Hampshire Telegraph Daniel Rabally, a private in 59th Regiment stationed at Chichester and Bridget Conlon Rabally his wife, were charged with stealing four £5 notes and two valuable scarf pins from the quarters of Captain Grant. Information was given to the active superintendent, Charles Everett, who was not long in discovering that a soldier, on the morning after the robbery, had gone to four different grocer's shops and each time offered a £5 note in payment for some tea and tobacco. He then went to the barracks and had little difficulty finding the man who he took into custody. He next visited the lodgings of the female prisoner where he found several packets of tea and on telling her she must go with him to the police station to be searched, she produced from her bosom two small bundles containing £18 10s in gold and silver, which she said had been given her by her husband. The male prisoner confessed his guilt and attempted to exonerate his wife. The bench however committed them both for trial at the next Quarter Sessions.

1861 Census for Chichester shows Charles Everett and family living at the City Police Station.



27	City Police Station	1		Charles Everett	Head	Mar	38		Superintendent of Police	Essex, Braintree
				Elizabeth Do	Wife	Mar		38	Do Wife	Do, Do
				Hannah Do	Daur	Un		18	Do Daughter	Do, Do
				Eliza Ann Do	Daur			15	Milliner	Do, Coggeshall
				Charles Do	Son		12		Scholar	Do, South Ockendon
				Elizabeth Emma Do	Daur			6	Do	Sussex, Fernhurst
				Florence Do	Daur			5m		Sussex, Chichester
				End of New Town Extra parochial						
4	Total of Houses...	4			Total of Males and Females...		6	13		

1861 4th May Hampshire Telegraph. At Chichester City Bench Captain Reid of Northgate appeared and stated to the magistrates that he wished , with their permission to present publicly to Mr Charles Everett, superintendent of Police the sum of 5s in consideration of his having

with great care and vigilance traced and restored to its owner , a purse containing a considerable sum of money, and to publicly thank him for the service he rendered. The superintendent stared that Mr Henry Dendy, the Captains brother in law ,on Saturday came from London by train using his purse at London Bridge Station and not missing it until he got to Chichester .Information was immediately given to the police and Mr Everett promptly contacted various railway officers on the line. It was not long before he heard that the purse had been picked up in a railway carriage by someone from Faversham, Kent. The loser went to Faversham where the purse was restored to him, with a deficiency of about 50s, which no doubt fell out in the carriage, as the purse was open when found. The finder declined the reward offered for recovery

1862 19th April Hampshire Telegraph - Magistrates Office 10th April William Adams was charged with creating a disturbance in the parish of St Pancras on the previous day and unlawfully resisting Superintendent Everett while in the discharge of his duty. The defendant had gone to the premises which his father had lived until the last few days but was now occupied by Mr G Holt. He was requested to leave but refused to do so. Mr Charles Everett, superintendent of police was sent for and for some time he reasoned with the defendant and tried to get him to leave quietly. He claimed some of the baker's tools in the bakehouse were his and was allowed to take them and he was then removed with little difficulty. Later in the day he returned and Mr Everett being sent for, found him sitting in the parlour. The prisoner was quite drunk and refused to leave when requested to do so. After much resistance he was removed. The prisoner stated he did not know he had used any violence. He was fined 17s including costs and the magistrates highly praised the Superintendent for the calmness and prudence which he had shown in his conduct to the prisoner.

1862 5th June Brighton Gazette - Chichester- On Monday the training of the Royal Sussex Light Infantry Militia came to an end and the men were sent to their homes. Superintendent Everett wrote to the Mayor of Chichester that he had great pleasure in reporting their general good conduct. During the previous five weeks nearly 600 men had been billeted in the city and during that time not a single charge had been made against them nor any one of them brought to the Police Station. The town having presented its usual peaceful and orderly appearance which was mainly due to the very kind cooperation of the officers and the very creditable way the men distinguished themselves

1865 2nd December Leeds Times. A few mornings ago the superintendent of Chichester Police (Mr Everett) was disturbed by a violent ringing at his bell, it seems the bell is at the head of his bed and the constables have orders that if anything serious occurs, to ring it violently, in order that this energetic officer may be up and doing. Violently the bell rung, and quickly the superintendent bounded out of his comfortable bed, and inquired "What's a matter?" The constable who had rung the bell exclaimed in tones of alarm, "Pray be quick, I Have a poor woman here who has suffered much, and I feel alarmed". The fact was that the poor woman was about to become a mother and not a moment was to be lost. As quick as possible an order was given by Mr Everett for the admission of the suffering woman to the workhouse. Intimation was also sent to the governor, a bed prepared, and nurses provided. As well as he could the

constable assisted the woman on her journey. At the workhouse the woman was firstly undressed and found concealed around her body a sack, two or three guano bags, a great coat, a bag of nails, a padlock and other minor items. Stripped of thee the woman assumed a more becoming form and was handed back to the police. From the marks on the sack it was found the property had been stolen in Arundel, where the woman had slept the night before. The woman was transferred to Arundel and remains in the cells of that town awaiting examination by the magistrates. The affair has created some merriment in the city and one or two wags have asked superintendent Everett when the christening is likely to come off. The constable who first took compassion on the woman has scarcely yet recovered from the shock and will give no information as to the way which he was imposed upon in the first instance.

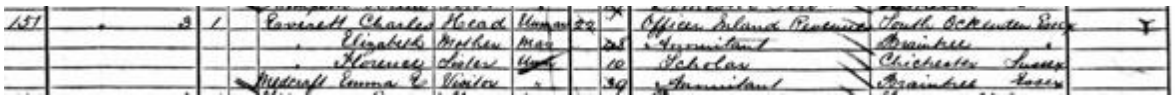
1866 4th April Hampshire Telegraph. A Petty Case – Edmund Farndell, a farmer was charged with assaulting Charles Everett, superintendent of police in the parish of St Peter the Lees. The hearing lasted two hours. Mr Everett who was taking a newly appointed constable to be examined by the force, passed Farndell in the street and moved off the pavement as he did so Farndell said something he could not hear, using at the same time a disgusting action. Mr Everett looked round and Farndell said "You are always watching me". The superintendent denied this but Farndell repeated it adding some foul words. Mr Everett said "I am paid to watch thieves and suspicious characters" and walked on followed by Farndell who pushed into Mr Freedlands yard after them using offensive language and demanding the whole time what was meant by calling him such things. Mr Everett turned to put him out of the yard, when Farndell squared up and struck him on the hand, but not a severe blow. In self-defence he struck Farndell on the head with a walking stick. Farndell then left the yard. Superintendent Everett said he looked upon Fardell as a suspicious character but not a thief. He denied hitting him in the face saying he got the mark from a young man who he had assaulted the previous night, who had then knocked him down. A witness stated he heard the superintendent say, "Will you get out you vagabond" and then strike Farndell. He did not see Farndell strike him first. Fandell also denied striking the superintendent saying he was annoyed with what had been said. The magistrates dismissed the case adding that they considered the superintendent had slightly exceeded his duty in applying such terms to the defendant and cautioned Farndell to keep sober in future and be more careful as to the way he conducted himself.

1867 5th June Hampshire Telegraph Chichester Bench gave permission for Superintendent Everett to attend Romsey Petty Sessions in the case of a farmer who had moved 40 cattle from Fareham to Chichester market either without a certificate or by the use of one which had the fictitious signature of a resident magistrate. The cattle were seized by Mr Everett, and it appears they will be slaughtered, and other proceedings taken against the farmer and dealer by the bench. The Mayor gave orders to Mr Everett not to let the animals go and urged him to be very vigilant in every case as the market had been reopened only after great trouble and every precaution must be taken or it would be closed again (NB This was at the time of cattle plague)
1867 31st October Brighton Gazette – Bankrupts- Charles Everett, Chichester, Police officer, November 6th at Chichester.

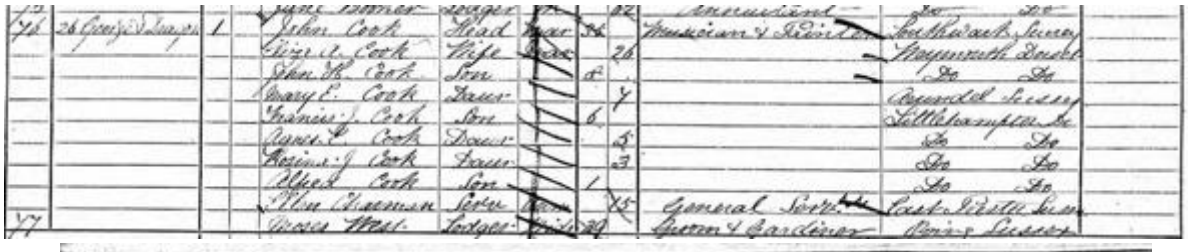
1867 12th November Chichester Express. The Watch Committee at Chichester reported that on 1st November Charles Everett, the Superintendent of Police, was dismissed from the force in consequence of his misconduct and the committee recommended that he be dismissed from all offices held under his control. The committee gave instructions to the town clerk to advertise for a new superintendent and obtain possession of the station house and all books, papers, documents and things belonging to the different offices held by Everett. The Mayor suspended him from all offices held by him under the control of the council. The committee then recommended he be awarded the sum of 20 guineas for extra services in connection with the cattle plague. The mayor then mentioned that since the Watch Committee framed the report Mr Everett had sent in his resignation as superintendent and all other offices he held, he had given up his house and all articles belonging to his offices. He begged his resignation be accepted so it would not appear he had been dismissed. His letter of resignation was read to the committee who decided although they would be sorry to say anything harsh respecting the late superintendent they had a reason for taking the steps they did and it looked a little "Irish" to accept his resignation after they had dismissed him, he no doubt wanting to appear before the public in a better face than he deserved. The resignation was not accepted.

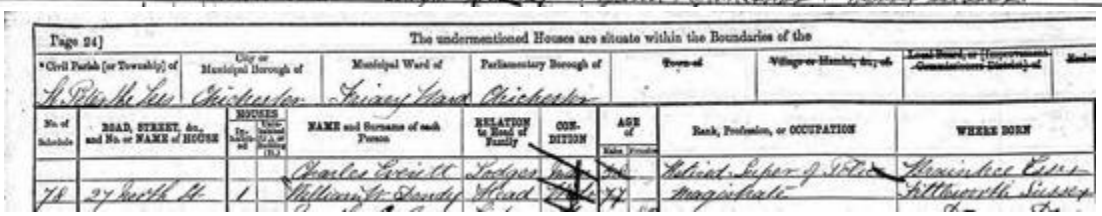
1867 24th December Chichester Express – In the matter of Charles Everett of the City of Chichester, Police Officer, adjudged bankrupt on 23rd October 1867.An order of discharge will be delivered to the bankrupt after the expiration of thirty days from this date , unless an appeal be duly entered against the judgement of the Court and notice thereof be given to the Courts. Dated 13th December 1867.

1871 Census 3 Alma Villas Wandsworth lists Charles Everett, head, age 22 years unmarried with his mother Elizabeth Everett, aged 48 years, married and his sister Florence Everett aged 10 years. By December1871 when he marries at Wigginton Oxfordshire Charles is of Hitchin.



1871 Census Charles Everett was a lodger with the Cook family in Chichester, he is described as married and retired Superintendent of Police





1871 11th October Charles Everett died at Chichester. His will was proven at Chichester on 22nd January 1842 by Elizabeth Everett of Hitchin in the County of Hertford, the widow and sole executrix. Effects under £300.

1871 14th October Charles Everett was buried at St Bartholomew Chichester, a note reading "from the workhouse." Elizabeth Everett died January/March quarter 1891 London City registration district

PC Charles Dobinson

Dobinson Charles John PC112 age 22 November 1912 joined Surrey Constabulary 30 December 1912	Army Service Corps Also shown as Royal Garrison Artillery	5 May1915 called to the Colours, re-joined Surrey Constabulary August 5 1919	Retired March 1939 Died 9 March 1962

1939 March 16: Police Officer's Sporting Record: PC Charles Dobinson: With a record of 26 years in the Surrey Constabulary, PC Charles Dobinson, now stationed at Hale, near Farnham will retire on March 18. Born at Dorking, son of the late Mr Harry Dobinson of Vincent Road, Dorking, he joined the Surrey Constabulary in 1912and was first stationed at Godalming. Three months later he was transferred to Lingfield where he remained until 1915 when he enlisted in the Royal Garrison Artillery. He re-joined the police force in 1919 at Lingfield, where he remained until 1926 when he was transferred to the Farnham Division.

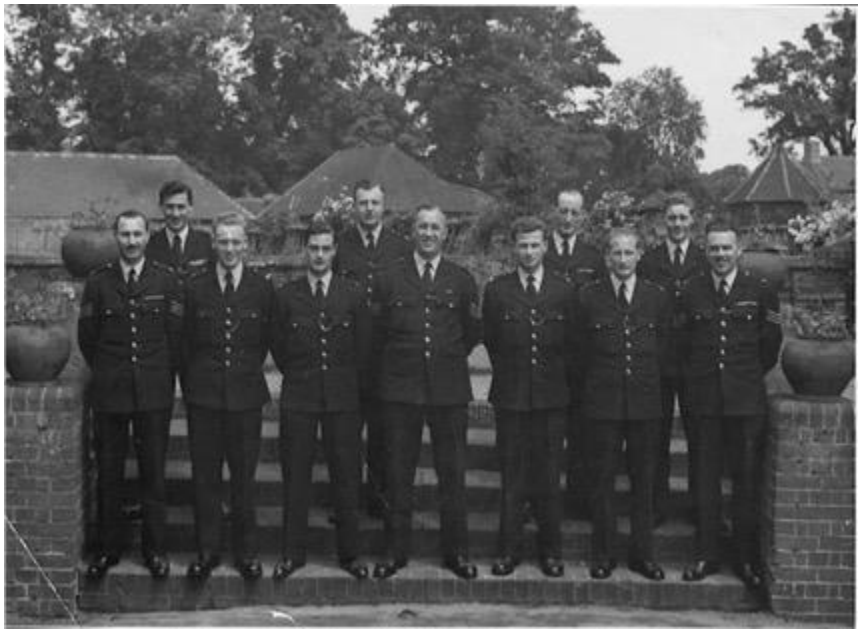
There were few branches of sport with which PC Dobinson has not been prominently associated. He excelled in Swimming and as secretary of the Surrey Police Athletic Association he organised swimming galas for the association and it was through his influence that almost all the English swimming champions and representatives of the British Olympic swimming team were present at the gala at Guildford Lido in 1934.

He was secretary for cricket, bowls, golf and rifle shooting for the Farnham Division of the Surrey Constabulary. PC Dobinson was one of the few police officers to be awarded both the 1935 Jubilee Medal and the 1937 Coronation Medal. He took part in the parade at Hyde Park in 1935 when King George V reviewed the police during his jubilee celebrations, and he was on duty in Hyde Park during the Coronation of King George V1. [9]

[9] West Sussex Gazette 16 March 1939

Was this Charles Dobinson's son?

There was another Charles Dobinson who served in the Surrey Constabulary retiring as a Police Sergeant Photographer based at HQ within Crime Bureau. Charles Dobinson died on 15 January 2019 at 89 years of age.[10] His funeral was on 12 February 2019



Charlie third from right next to the late Inspector Watkins

1972 Charlie at work

[10] Retired Comrades records October 2020 Tony Suter

Members of Photographic Department: left to right: Jerry Coombes, Sergeant Charle Dobinson, PC Bramley Hall, Ken Williams and PC Terry Keller.

Court officials from HQ Photographic in Number 1 Court Guildford Guildhall. Charlie on the right of the bench.

PC Reg Nettleton Surrey Constabulary 1966-1971

I have spent many hours reading this wonderful history of Surrey Constabulary. I was a serving office in Surrey from 1966 to 1971. I have a great photo of myself as a cadet at Woking Police Station (Cadet 39) alongside another cadet, Christine Collins, taken in 1966 by the SOCO, who's name escapes me, we were both assigned to CID and often assisted the SOCO. We both became PCs in 1968. My collar number was 513. I left the force in 1971, Chris Collins left in 1973, and we remain in touch to this day.

Many thanks for replying so promptly and also for the photo from No 6 DPTC, I have an original that is faded now so good to have a top-quality digital copy. The East and West cadets did not meet that often apart from some training events, I remember Pete Lucas, Steve Firman and Andy Killick.

I recall very clearly my time as a cadet and also my short time as a PC in Redhill. I left the force in 1971 and started a career in the IT industry where I remained for forty years. I joined the cadets in September 1966 on the same day as three other fellow cadets – Christine Collins (in the photo), Barry Williams, John Stewardson and Colin Moredon. I know that Colin left before training school and that Barry and John went on to serve the whole term. I was Best Man at John's wedding and have met up with him a few times over the years and so know he became a Detective Superintendent and then onto British Airways as head of their security.

The attached photos are me and Christine Collins in 1966, taken in the SOCO office at the front of the old Woking Police Station, the other three are from the D of E award expedition to the New Forest in 1967. The group photo lounging on the grass are: Geoff Peach, Kelvin Purcell; Barry Williams and me. Another is gathered round the "Rufus Stone"

Many thanks for such a great piece of history, it brings back many memories from my short time in Surrey.

1966 Woking Cadets Christine Collins and Reg Nettleton

D of E award expedition to the New Forest in 1967 left to right Geoff Peach, Kelvin Purcell Barry Williams and Reg Nettleton

Sandgate 1968 Course 234 A2
R Nettleton, MC Wickens, JM Newson, EAR Stevens, RJ Allen, Inspector PFJ Bowman

Edward John Edgson

Coldstream Guards Boer War

Reigate Borough Police Auxiliary

First World War Military Police and East Kent Regiment

(Special Constable)

Military Provost Staff Corps

Attendant at the Royal Earlswood Asylum

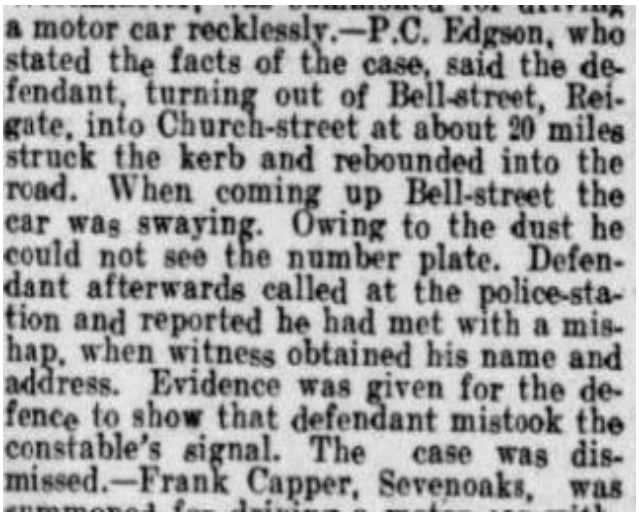
1915 Regulars from Reigate Borough Police began joining the colours and a system of introducing paid Special Constables came about. This was a controversial situation. The 'Specials', volunteers to a man, had never asked for payment at any time, and when they were suddenly asked to provide paid service in lieu of regular members of the Force found themselves 'unable to wholly meet those needs'. What exactly this meant is unclear but it was said at the time that the 'Specials' should have been retained as a purely voluntary force and those drafted into the paid service kept as a separate auxiliary force. The result was that the well-intentioned 'Vigilants' (probably as the name implies – vigilant members of the public rather than vigilantes) had lost much of its momentum by the end of 1915. [11]

Born in Uxbridge c1879, served with the Coldstream Guards 2142 from 2 November 1898 – Queen's South Africa Medal with 7 clasps. To Army Reserve in 1902 subsequently serving in the 5th (Reserve) Bn. At his marriage to Lily Maud Mary Piper in 1910 he was employed as an Attendant at Earlswood Asylum in Surrey, and in the 1911 Census was a shopkeeper in Reigate.

[11] http://www.redhill-reigate-history.co.uk/police.htm

At his re-enlistment in 1916, he was a police constable. He lived at 17 London Rd, Reigate, and died in the town in January 1930.

Surrey Mirror 09 June 1916: The press cutting refers to PC Edgson. There is no mention of him in the Reigate Borough Police chief constable's annual reports as being a police officer called to the colours. Given his career in the Coldstream Guards it is most likely Edgson was briefly a paid special constable.



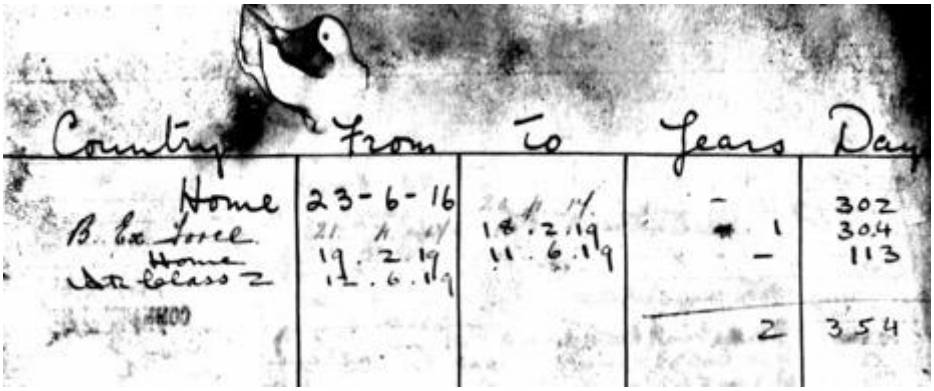
a motor car recklessly.—P.C. Edgson, who stated the facts of the case, said the defendant, turning out of Bell-street, Reigate, into Church-street at about 20 miles struck the kerb and rebounded into the road. When coming up Bell-street the car was swaying. Owing to the dust he could not see the number plate. Defendant afterwards called at the police-station and reported he had met with a mishap, when witness obtained his name and address. Evidence was given for the defence to show that defendant mistook the constable's signal. The case was dismissed.—Frank Capper, Sevenoaks, was

Edgson become a military policeman: P3333 Edward John Edgson

Military records show: Edgson EJ Corporal P/3333 MFP. Awarded the Victory and War Medals. First served abroad France, 21 April 1917. Formerly served 17 years in the Coldstream Guards. No. 2142, discharged 1 November1915 time expired. Re-enlisted 23 June 1916, age 37 years in MFP. occupation Policeman, Served Home 23 June 1916 to 20 November 1917, BEF 21November 1917 to 18 February 1919, Home 19 February 19 to 11 June 1919. Class X Reserve 12 June 1919. Reduced from Cpl to L/Cpl for inefficiency 20 March 18. Compulsory transfer on 1 October to East Kent Regiment until Evacuated to England 18 February 1918 with Eczema and Syphilis. Home address: 17 London Road, Reigate. Edward John Edgson.

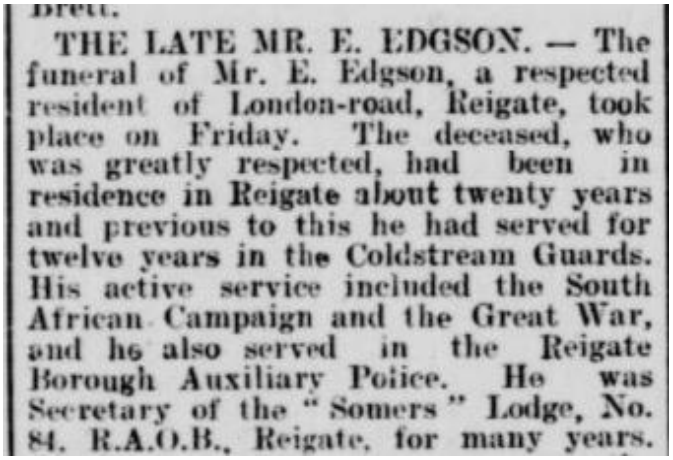
Decorations/Medals/Awards (2)

1. Decoration: Queen's South Africa Medal Gazette Date: 1901-10-04 Gazette Issue: WO 100/164 Gazette Page: 50 Citation: Clasps: Belmont, Modder River, Dreifontein, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill, Belfast. Awarded serving with the Coldstream Guards. No. 2142.
2. Decoration: King's South Africa Medal Gazette Date: 1902-11-02 Gazette Issue: WO 100/164 Gazette Page: 281 Citation: Clasp: South Africa 1901. Awarded serving with the Coldstream Guards. No. 2142.



Country	From	To	Years	Days
Home	23-6-16		-	302
B. Ex Force	21 [illegible] 17	18.2.19	1	304
Home	19.2.19	11.6.19	-	113
Ist Class Z	12.6.19			
[illegible]			2	354

The Surrey Mirror 31 January 1930 in an item on Edgson's funeral there is reference to Edgson being a member of the Reigate Borough Auxiliary Police

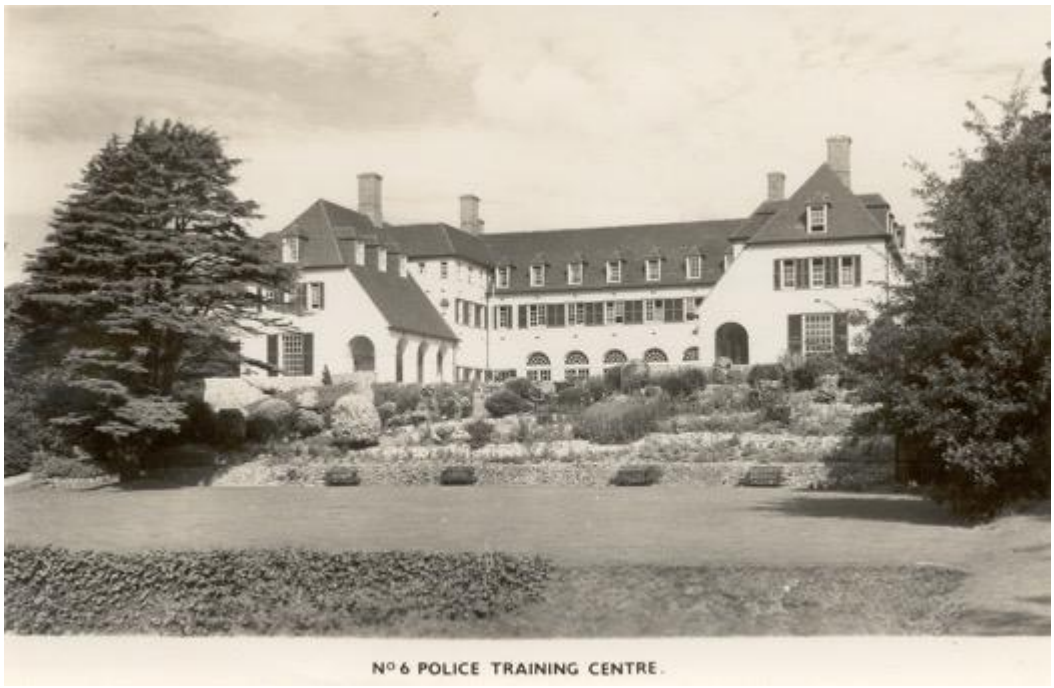


Brett.

THE LATE MR. E. EDGSON. — The funeral of Mr. E. Edgson, a respected resident of London-road, Reigate, took place on Friday. The deceased, who was greatly respected, had been in residence in Reigate about twenty years and previous to this he had served for twelve years in the Coldstream Guards. His active service included the South African Campaign and the Great War, and he also served in the Reigate Borough Auxiliary Police. He was Secretary of the "Somers" Lodge, No. 84, R.A.O.B., Reigate, for many years.

Superintendent Keith Ponder
Surrey Constabulary
Royal Naval Air Service

1944 -1946 December, Royal Naval Air Service then Surrey Constabulary serving as a beat and clerical officer at Weybridge, Oxted, Guildford and Farnham. Promoted Sergeant 1959 at Reigate, Inspector 1963 clerical duties HQ and subsequently patrol inspector Guildford. 1966 chief inspector at Dorking and later that year seconded to HMI as a staff officer. Superintendent March 1968 at Farnham until 1971 when he moved to HQ as Planning Officer Retired June 1972 and died 19 April 1991 aged 64.



This was the district training centre where it would appear from the photos below, Keith Ponder was an instructor. Known as Sandgate it no longer is a police training centre

Note the shiny boots! Was Keith a pedlar? "Can I see your pedlar's license?"

Police training was full of humour as well as something of a shock for those who came from home. Most will have been on National Service and soon settled to initial training where kit and drill was not an issue.

Pub Check – drinking after hours?

Inspector in the middle 1960s

PC Geoffrey Alexander Farquhar,
Reigate Borough Police
Sergeant Corps of Military Police
Special Investigation Branch
Died aged 27, 22 November 1944

Geoffrey Alexander Farquhar Serjeant Corps of Military Police Service number 14622745

Died on the 22nd November 1944

Buried in St. Bartholomew's "New Churchyard", Horley, Surrey - grave reference: Block B. Row F. Grave 9.Killed in a motoring accident in West Bromwich whilst serving as a member of the Special Investigation Branch of the Military Police

PC Farquhar a single man joined the Reigate Borough on the 5 June 1939 and was posted to the Redhill Division. Having been born on the 6 May 1917 in West Norwood he was the son of Henry and Mary Farquhar. When he joined the police, he was living at 62, Broxholme Road, West Norwood and was employed as a clerk at the London School of Motoring, Hampstead.

May 1939 joined Reigate Borough Police
26 March 1940 Passed ambulance exam
3 June 1940 second Grade
29 January 1941 congratulated by the CC and the Chairman of the Reigate bench for his action in the case of Police v Byers, drunkenness and assault on Police.
1 Sept 1941 Appointment confirmed as from 5 June 1941
27 October 1941 Discipline for falsehood and prevarication fined £2
5 June 1942 4th Grade

14 September 1942 Neglect of duty fined 10/- by the CC
1 February 1943 Transferred to Surrey Joint Police Force
3 June 1943 called up for service in HM Army
5 June 1943 5th Grade (Promotions and service continued whilst in the military)

Surrey Mirror - Friday 1 December 1944

SERGT. G. A. FARQUHAR

FUNERAL OF FORMER REDHILL POLICE OFFICER AT HORLEY

The funeral of Sergeant. Geoffrey Alexander Farquhar, whose widow is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lower of Eastbourne, took place at Horley on Monday. On November 22nd, whilst riding a motorcycle in the course of his military duties in the Midlands, he crashed into an obelisk trying to avoid another vehicle and was killed. He was the son of the late Mr. Henry A. Farquhar and Mrs. Farquhar of Ianscot, Wolverton-gardens, Horley, and joined the Reigate Borough Police in May 1939, serving as Town Patrol Officer in Redhill Section until called for service in H.M. Forces in June 1943. After passing through the Training Establishments he transferred to the Corps of Military Police, where he rapidly reached the rank of sergeant in the Special Investigation Branch and seemed faced with promising military career.

The funeral service was held at Horley Parish Church followed by the internment in Horley Cemetery. The Rev. J. C. Laker (Vicar of Horley), who officiated, gave a sympathetic address. The coffin was covered with the Union Jack and floral tributes from the widow, mother, brother-in-law and other near relatives. The floral tributes also included one from the Chief Constable of Surrey and officers. The chief mourners were Mrs. J. Farquhar (widow), Mrs. M. Farquhar (mother), Mrs J. Motlow, Mrs. E. Hopkins, Mrs. E. Andrews (sisters), Mr. J. Motlow, L.A.C. E. Hopkins, Mr. R. Andrews (brothers-in-law), Mrs. V. Lemon (sister-in-law). Mr. and Mrs. Lower (parents of Mrs. G. A. Farquhar), Mrs. Elsey (aunt) and Miss F. Cullam (cousin).

Others present included: Supt. W. H. Beacher (representing Major Geoffrey Nicholson, Chief Constable of Surrey), Captain. C. J. Sutton (Divisional Leader representing the Reigate Division Special Constabulary), Inspectors Parkin and Atkins, Inspector Tudgay (Dorking Division, Horley Section, representing Supt. C.P. Hilton, Dorking), and sergeants and constables of Dorking Division, Horley Section, Capt. C. J. Atkins (Divisional Leader, Surrey Special Constabulary), a contingent of sergeants, constables and War Reserves of Reigate Division ; also W.A.P.C. Parker (representing the Women's Auxiliary Police), Sergeant Williams, Coldstream Guards (representing P.C.s of Reigate Division serving in H.M. Forces), Captain Ripley, Lieut. Wood, Sergeant Major Parry (Special Investigation Branch, Military Police, Western Command), and six of his comrades who acted as bearers.

Sympathy will be extended to his widow, mother and other relatives and friends in this sudden bereavement. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs. A. King and Son, Smallfield.

Geoffrey Alexander Farquhar born June 1917 Lambeth. Buried 27 November1944. Married Yvonne R Lower March 1941 Surrey. Probate. Of Ianscot, Woolverton Gardens, Horley. Died 22.11.1944 at Edward St, West Bromwich, Staffs. Admin to Yvonne Rosemary Farquhar. Effects £404. In 1939 Yvonne (b 14 December 1910) was with parents at 35 Grays Rd, Eastbourne. She was a Drapery Saleswoman

Harry Reuben Miles
Reigate Borough Police
Chief officer Winchester City Police[12]

Harry Reuben Miles (previously in Reigate Borough Police probably to 1925 and as an inspector in Winchester from 1925) Head Constable 1942 – 1943

Miles was born in Chertsey in 1895 with census records recording him living at Ewhurst in 1901 Caterham 1911 and Reigate 1921. He married Dora in 1924. He died in May 1948 when living in Christchurch Road, Winchester.

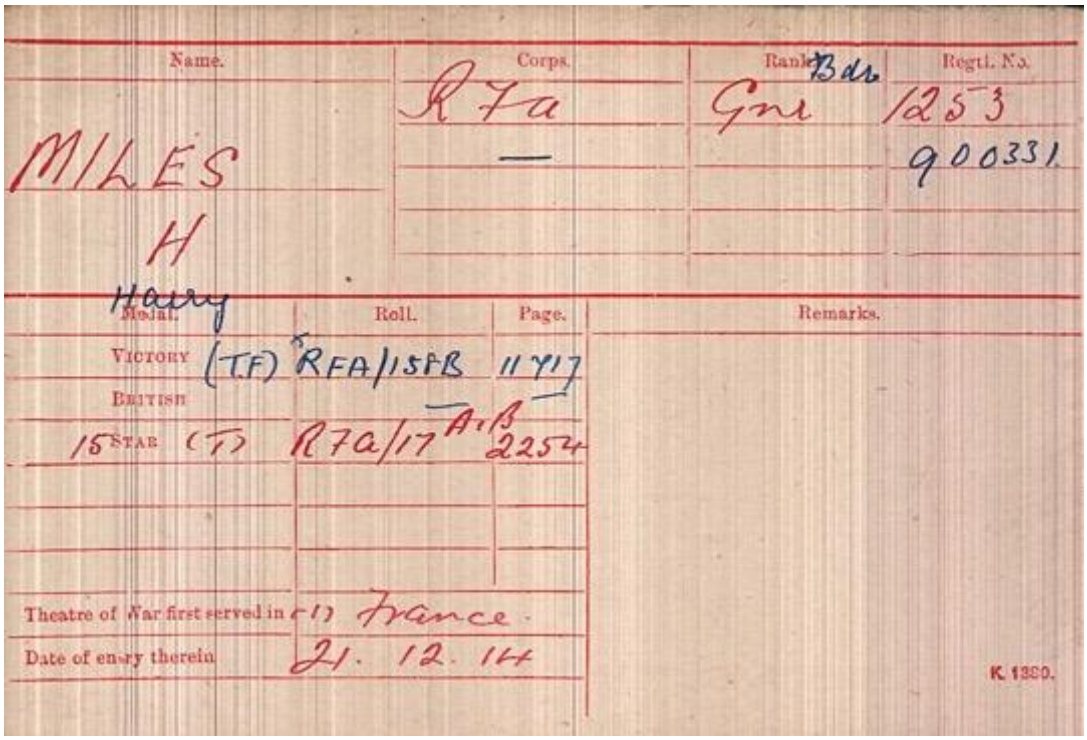
First World War medals including service in France, then 12 May 1937 George VI 1937 Coronation Medal[13]

[12] https://www.hampshireconstabularyhistory.org.uk/stories/head-constables-of-winchester-city-police/
[13] Inspector, section UK 6C B Win

Served Reigate Borough Police as PC7 from 4 January 1914 enlisting in the Royal Field Artillery 20 July 1915 demobbed 11 January 1919. In the army he was a signaller acting sergeant.

Miles was very upset when he was made a Superintendent instead of an Assistant Chief Constable after Winchester City Police was amalgamated with Hampshire in 1943 as a wartime measure. Many of the smaller forces were amalgamated and post war were never reformed. Having been Head Constable it felt like demotion. He served until 1946 and died 2 years later.[14] As is not unusual is a little chaotic. The date of December 1915 is when the annual reort was published and the men seem to have joined in June 1915. : Reigate Borough Police Constable 13 Frederick Marks and Police Constable 31 Ernest Didier St Amand resigned to join the Army.[15] 1915 June 21: PCs Lawrence, Miles, Morse, Wilkinson, Santer and Foster were given permission to join the Army.

There is only one H Miles in RFA MIC records. He served in France from 21 December 1914. This may not be the right Miles as Reigate Borough Police records show he joined the army 21 June 1915. Another mystery!



[14] Dr Clifford Williams email 20 November 2020 – Hampshire Police historian
[15] SCC Archive Centre CC/98/22/1 Reigate Borough Police report to year end 31 December 1915

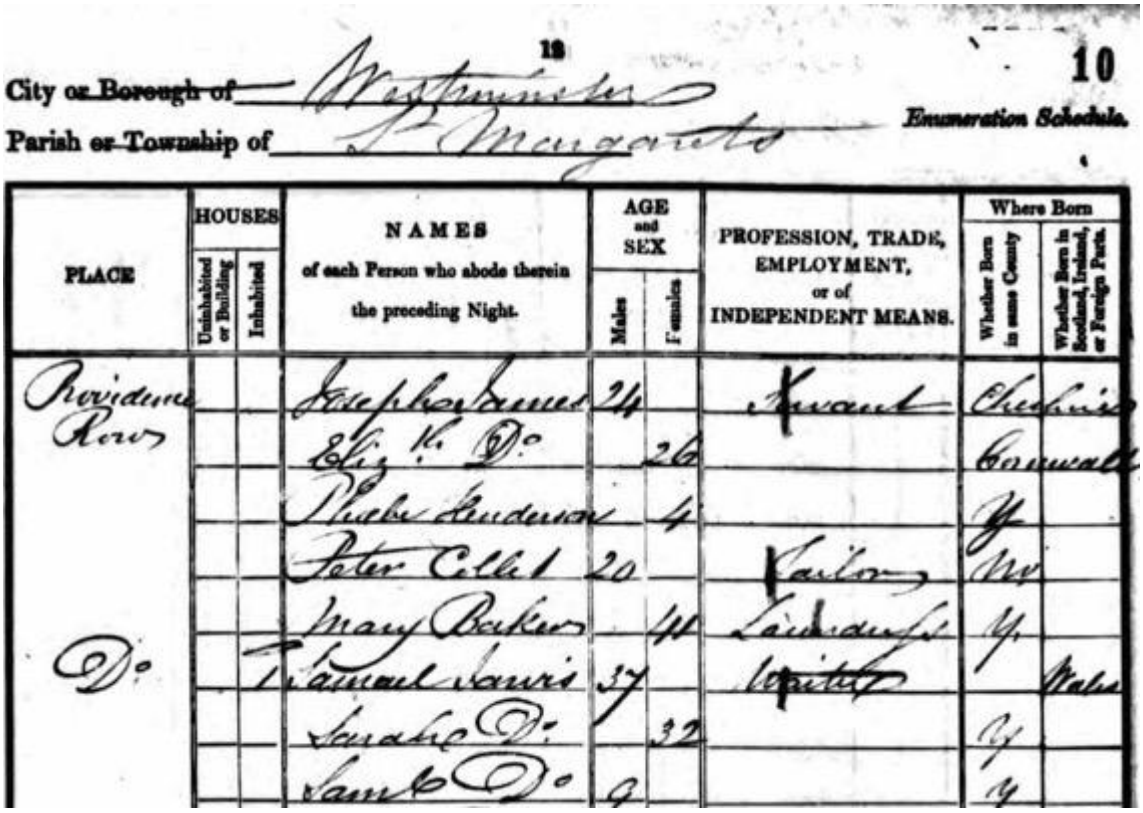
PC Peter Thomas Collett
1842 20th June Metropolitan Police
Surrey Constabulary 1851-1856

From Jenifer Tuffs
Former Surrey Constabulary November 2020

Peter Thomas Collett was born in 1821 at St Erme Cornwall, the first child of John, a labourer and Jenifer (nee Thomas) Collet whose residence was Merther, Cornwall. He was baptised 10th June 1821 at Merther by George Moore, the curate.

1841 Census Providence Row Westminster London Peter Collet aged 20 years, born out of county, a tailor (?) is living with Joseph and Elizabeth James and Pheobe Henderson who is 4 years old (Phoebe has no parent living with her)

Phebe Henderson was born 26th May 1837 and baptised 18th June 1837 at St Anne's Church Soho; she was the illegitimate child of Dinah Henderson.



City or Borough of Westminster
Parish or Township of St Margarets
Enumeration Schedule. 10

PLACE	HOUSES Uninhabited or Building	HOUSES Inhabited	NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX Males	AGE and SEX Females	PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born: Whether Born in same County	Where Born: Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts.
Providence Row			Joseph James	24		Servant	Cheshire	
			Eliz. K. Do		26		Cornwall	
			Phebe Henderson		4		Yes	
			Peter Collet	20		Tailor	Yes	
			Mary Baker		44	Laundress	Yes	
Do			Samuel Davis	37		Hospital		Wales
			Sarah Do		32		Yes	
			Sam Do	9			Yes	

1842 20th June, Peter Collett joined the Metropolitan Police, warrant number 19440.

An early Metropolitan Police Constable

1842 4th August Peter Thomas Collett, a Policeman marries Dinah Henderson (a spinster) at St Pancras Parish Church. Dinah is probably the mother of Phebe born out of wedlock. His father is John Collett a labourer.

1843 July/September quarter Peter Thomas Collett was born Poplar registration district.

1844 October/December quarter William Collett was born in Poplar, Middlesex.

1845 12th May Proceedings at The Old Bailey Peter Thomas Collett, Police Constable K283 was a witness in the case of Thomas Thompson who was charged with breaking and entering. PC Collett had been stopped by a person chasing the robber and pursued him, eventually apprehending him for stealing some clothing. The prisoner not making any remark. He was then taken to the Police Station. Thompson was found guilty and transported for ten years.
1846 July/September quarter gg3 James Collett was born in Poplar Middlesex

1847 30th July Morning Advertiser. At Thames Law Court William Watson aged 13years was charged with stealing £34 in gold. PC 283K Peter Collet said his attention was drawn to the boy by a cabinet maker who said he was in possession of a large sum of money, which he was spending rather freely. He found the boy in a coffee house, in Limehouse-Hole where he had slept the previous night. In a bag which the boy took from his pocket was 34 sovereigns and 8s in silver. He also had a new suit of clothes and some other articles he had recently purchased. When asked to account for himself the boy said he came from Newbury, Berkshire and that his uncle who had abandoned him had left him the money. He had come to London in the hope of gaining employment. PC Collett handed the magistrates a small pocketbook, which he had taken from the boy. Inside was written "William Watson,13years, my father died thro a consumption the 24th Jan 1847, my mother died 18th of May 1847, thro worry, and was buried in the Newberry churchyard in one grave and left me without a friend in the wide world to protegee me. My mother left £43 to printers (apprentice) me. My father was a farmer in Newberry in Berks" On being questioned the boy said everything he had written was true. His

mother had made over everything to his uncle before her death, on condition he supported him and apprenticed him to a trade. Ten days after her death, the uncle sold everything off and took him to Newbury where they lodged for a few days. One morning he woke to find his uncle gone and on his pillow a bag containing £43 in gold, which his uncle had left. After hearing nothing of his uncle for a few days he made his way to London and had been living at different coffee houses for the last six weeks. It was decided the boy must be detained the House of Correction until inquiries were made about him.

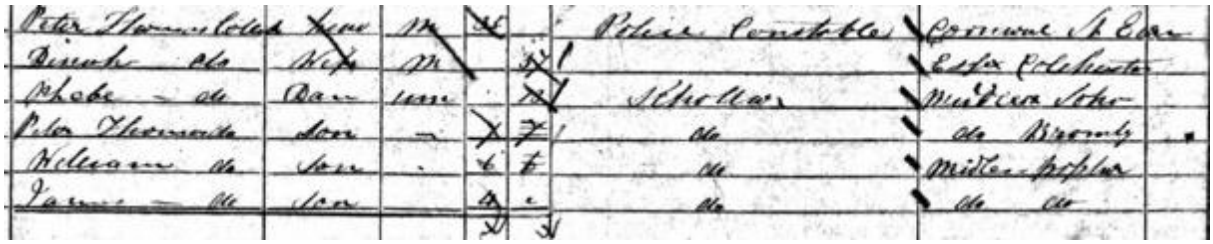
The Morning Advertiser of 31st July continued the story- The boy had not been in custody long before he admitted to the court gaoler that the story was pure invention. He was in fact Alfred Dorey whose father was a barge builder from Southwark. He said he made the pocketbook entries to convince any police officer who might question him, he had in fact gone to obtain cash for a cheque for £92 for his master Mr Daley. When he left the banking house, he was accosted by a boy who persuaded him to send the £50 to his master and decamp with the sovereigns and spend them. He acted on this and headed for where the boy took a few sovereigns from him and left, he had not seen him since. Mr Daley identified the boy and said he had been in the service of a neighbour for some time and had maintained a good character. The boy was committed for trial and the magistrate said he was sorry to find such a young boy exhibiting so much duplicity and cunning.

1848 18th September Proceedings at The Old Bailey, Daniel Fitzgerald, Dennis Fitzgerald, Michael Naigle and William Downing were charged with unlawfully assaulting George Osborn, Peter Collett and James Hams, constables in the execution of their duty. PC Osborn was on duty at 1230 at night in Poplar when he found a number of persons making noise, he spoke to them and all but five or six went away. Daniel Fitzgerald and Michael Naigle were among them. As PC Osborn was going away Dennis Fitzgerald came out of his house asking why his brother had been told to go home. He was told to go home or he would be arrested, then he punched PC Osborn who sprang his rattle. Sgt Hams and PC Collett attended and Fitzgerald was eventually taken to the station.

In evidence PC K283 Peter Thomas Collett stated he received information and went to assist Osborn in Green Lane where he saw five people who he asked to go away, they all went indoors then came out again. Dennis Fitzgerald came out alone at first but his brother joined him almost immediately and stones, brickbats and earthenware were thrown. Dennis stuck Osborn and he tried to strike Dennis but Dennis struck first hitting him twice on the head, knocking him over but he recovered although he was unable to get out his staff. Downing and Naigle also struck him but after a struggle he managed to take Downing to the Police station. He was bruised and had a big swelling on his head, was knocked over on his back and tore his cape. All prisoners were found guilty.

1851 13th January Peter Thomas Collett joined Surrey Constabulary being sworn in on 25th January. He was described as aged 29years, 5ft 8 and a half tall, born Cornwall and had been a policeman in the Metropolitan Police for six and a half years.

1851 Census the family are living in Headley, Surrey including Phoebe who has taken the surname Collett.



1852 January/March quarter Jane Collett was born Reigate registration district. Jane was baptised 22nd February 1852 at St Mary the Virgin Headley, her parents were Peter Thomas, a policeman and Dinah whose residence was Headley.

1853 17th December Windsor and Eton Express – Esher- Fire- about one o'clock on Tuesday morning as police Constable Collett, of the Surrey Constabulary was on his rounds in the village, he saw flames rise from the farmyard of Mr Woodhatch, farmer and butcher. The officer, with assistance he procured, succeeded in releasing a quantity of fat beasts and pigs confined on the premises, which had they remained a few minutes longer would have been destroyed. The estimated damage is between £300 and £400 and it would have been much greater had it not been for the assistance of the parish engine and one from Claremont. From enquiries made by Mr Biddlecombe it appears this was an act of incendiary. We are sorry to say this is the second incendiary fire in Surrey in the last ten days. [16]

The Esher Murders

One of if not the worst murder in the history of the Surrey Constabulary occurred in June 1854 in a small house in Esher. The lead investigator was Superintendent Biddlecombe an experienced detective and thief take, number 1 in the appointment book. He was to deal with a number of child murders. The impact on all those involved must have been very significant. The horror is unimaginable.

Six Children Murdered: In 1854, George Brough announced to Mary Ann that he was leaving her because he suspected she had been cheating on him. He also said he intended to take their children away from her, setting into motion a series of terrible events.

1854 June – reported in newspapers worldwide. On 10TH June Henry Woolgar spotted a bloody pillow hanging from the window of a cottage in Esher. After ringing the doorbell, her found a ladder and climbed up to look through the window. He saw a woman gasping with her throat cut, her hands and face covered in blood and her hair hanging about her face. She was making a whistling noise apparently from the wound and blood was spurting from her throat. He then went through the rooms of the house and saw something more horrifying, finding body after body. The woman Mary Ann Brough had killed six of her children, each being slaughtered

[16] 1853 December 17: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette

with their father's razor. Her husband, George had said he was leaving her as he suspected she had been cheating on him and also that he intended to take the children.

Mary Ann slit the children's throats and tried to take her own life but she survived and was charged with six counts of murder. She confessed killing the children before attempting suicide.

At the trial it was stated Collett was the first Constable to whom Mary Ann Brough made a statement as he was in attendance before the coroner. Peter Thomas Collet was examined and said – The prisoner was partly under my charge from the 10th to 29th June. I searched the house and found a bunch of keys and an empty razor case. On Sunday morning 11th the prisoner said the clock would not want winding-up until 10 o'clock as she had wound it up at 10 o'clock the night before. On 13th she said she wished her daughter Mary had come and told me to take a box from under the bed, it contained plate and jewellery. On top of the box was a piece of paper, and on seeing it the prisoner said, "I though not of doing it until Friday night." The paper reading, "All for my daughter Mary (her eldest child who was not killed). Her father is only seeking to get money from them as never injured him or done him any harm, so help me God. Signed Mary Ann Brough. On the same day the prisoner stated this would not have happened but for her daughter and Fred Foster and a letter they had copied three or four years ago. The prisoner also stated Brough wanted to be parted from her.

PC Collett wrote down what Mrs Brough said to him and produced the paper at court. She said if the doctor had come it would not have happened, she wished she had taken his advice and it would have been better for her. During the night she repeatedly night asked for her children, called out "Billy" and asked who was crying. This was 11th June and everything was quiet.

The following confession was made by the murderess, to Mr. Biddlecombe, chief superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary: "On Friday last, I was bad all day; I wanted to see Mr. Izod and waited all day. I wanted him to give me some medicine. In the evening I walked about, and afterwards put the children to bed, and wanted to go to sleep in a chair. About nine o'clock, Georgy (meaning Georgiana) kept calling me to bed. I came up to bed, and they kept calling me to bring them some barley water, and they kept calling me till nearly 12 o'clock. I had one candle lit on the chair. I went and got another, but could not see, there was something like a cloud, and I thought I would go down and get a knife and cut my throat but could not see. I groped about in master's room for a razor. I could not find one; at last I found his keys, and then found his razor. I went up to Georgy and cut her first; I did not look at her. I then came to Carry and cut her. Then to Harry, he said, 'don't mother.' I said, 'I must' and did cut him. Then I went to Bill. He was fast asleep. I turned him over. He never awoke, and I served him the same. I nearly tumbled into his room. The two children here, Harriet and George were awake. They made no resistance at all. I then lay down myself." The miserable woman signed this statement. J. Harkness, Printer, 121, Church Street, Preston.[17]

After further witnesses appeared a verdict of not guilty on the grounds of insanity was returned and she died in Bethlehem Asylum London on 18th March 1861.

[17] Source: Curiosities of Street Literature, London, Reeves and Turner, 196, Strand, 1871.

Mary Ann survived and was charged with six counts of murder. She confessed, telling investigators that she had used a razor on each child, one at a time. One child had protested and another had struggled, but she killed them all before attempting suicide. Mary Ann Brough was found not guilty by reason of insanity18

This is PC Carpenter in 1857 so the PC Collet would have looked very similar

1856 5th February Peter Thomas Collett was permitted to resign from Surrey Constabulary for frequenting Public Houses whilst on duty, having four cases of discipline. His conduct being tolerably good on the whole. This is the first mention of alcohol related discipline. One is drawn to the conclusion that there may be an element of drowning sorrows following the Brough murder.

In 1856 Peter Thomas Collet of Merther Cornwall joined Berkshire Constabulary, he was aged 35years and his residence was Farnham Surrey (Berkshire Quarter Sessions Records).

1856 17th May Berkshire Chronicle at the Berkshire County Bench George Moss, landlord of the Merry Maidens Whitley was charged with keeping his house open after the hours allowed by law. On the evening of Saturday 3rd May, Peter Thomas Collett of the Berks Constabulary went into the defendant's house at 25 minutes past 11 o'clock and saw several men sitting with beer before them. The defendant said he knew he had done wrong and was quite willing to pay whatever fine the bench might inflict on him. He was fined £1 7s including costs, which was paid.

Thomas dies aged 38

1856 6th August Peter Thomas Collett aged 38years of Whitley Street Reading was buried at London Road Cemetery Reading.

[18] The Encyclopaedia of Mass Murder

1856 16th November, Phoebe reverts to her birth surname for her marriage - Phoebe Henderson marries George Bidwell at St Giles Church Reading, the witnesses were John Groves and Dinah Collett. Both Phoebe and George gave their address as 31 Whitley Street Reading.

On 12TH August 1858 Dinah Collet aged 42 years, a widow of Small's Court Reading married John Groves aged 62 years, a widower and shoemaker of Small's Court Reading at St Giles Church Reading by banns.

1861 Census Dinah is calling herself Dinah Collett, a widow, needlewoman, aged 44years, born Colchester and is a lodger to Sarah Seaton in Finsbury London. Her daughter Jane now aged 9 years is living in Frensham Surrey with Phoebe Bidwell and her family.

1871 Dina (sic) Groves is living at Park House Bridge Street Walton on Thames with Eliza Wallis, a servant who was left in charge of the house. Dina Groves is shown as married.
1881 29th January Surrey Advertiser – An old woman defrauds the Guardians - Dinah Groves was summoned at Kinston Town Hall for having on 21st January, wilfully made a false statement to the Guardians of Kingston Union for the purpose of obtaining relief. Her name was called but there was no response, the clerk to the Guardians saying he did not think she would appear as she had not attended the previous Wednesday and the case was adjourned.

The mayor asked where she was and PC Brill who served the summons said she lived in Frederick Place, Canbury Fields so he was asked to go and bring her to court. Shortly after Dinah Groves, whose age was given as 66 years appeared and stated she did not attend the previous week due to illness but was much better now. The Clerk to the Guardians stated the defendant had wilfully and repeatedly misled the Guardians as to her real position in life. On three occasions during the past twelve months the chairman of the Board had had her in the Board Room and interrogated her as to her means, she persistently stated she had none whatever, and when asked about an annuity under her late mistress's will she said it was absolutely false. In consequence of enquiries an extract was read from the will of Lady Barnard to say the defendant was entitled to an annuity of £13 which she regularly received. She was receiving this annuity when she was an inmate of the workhouse, but immediately she heard proceedings were to be taken discharged herself. She last received relief on 29th December and the summons was issued on 17th January.

After consultation the magistrates decided proceedings could not be taken under the Act quoted so the summons was amended as having on 21st December obtained relief under false pretences. The defendant had since August 1879 been receiving either indoor or outdoor relief. On each occasion she said she had no private means. Then on 21st December she told the chairman she had an annuity some years previous, but it had ceased. The master's clerk of the workhouse stated she was admitted on 1st June 1880 and discharged on 29th December.

An employee of Couts Bank, The Strand proved an annuity of £12 a year had been paid regularly to Dinah Henderson, now Collett. The defendant was originally in the service of Lady

Barnard as Dinah Henderson, she subsequently married Collett and then Groves. A receipt dated 1st August 1880 was produced, it was signed Dinah Collet, late Henderson.

The defendant now crying, said more than three years ago she had an attack of bronchitis and had since been unable to earn a living. She admitted receiving £12 a year but said she did not consider the need to tell the Guardians of this "little protection". The clerk to the Guardians said that had she been honest about the annuity, that it was not sufficient for her to live, the Guardians would have supplemented it. The bench stated the law could not punish her for lying but for the serious offence of obtaining relief by false pretences. They decided not to send her for trial but due to her age, fined her £1 or 14 days in prison for default. She was told that if her annuity was not sufficient, the Guardians would try and help her. The defendant asked to be allowed until the 1st of the month to pay and this was allowed.

1881 Census Dinah Groves, a widow, needle woman, aged 65 years born Colchester is living at 1 Hope Avenue, Lower Ham Road., Kinston on Thames with her youngest daughter Jane Hill, who is also a widow and her children.

1891 Census Dinah Groves is a pauper at Kingston Workhouse. 1896 10 March Dinah Groves age given as 87 years from Kingston Union Workhouse was buried at All Saints Church Kingston.

Surrey Constabulary 1950s

From Geoff Todd 19 November 2020
Former Chief Inspector Surrey Constabulary and Superintendent Thames Valley Police

Oxted Division
Superintendent Ashley Steeds retired ?1956-7 succeeded by Alfie Mothersele
Chief Inspector Vivian "Jack" Skinner
Detective Inspector Danny Hobbs
Detective Sergeant Colin Brake
Clerk – Muriel Brown

Divisional office
Police Sergeant 500 Fred(erick) G. Parsons.
PC 596 John SH Green – later Chief Inspector at Camberley 1970
PC 401 Don H Cooper – later Inspector
JPC Alan Harding – did not return after National Service in the RAF
JPC Alfie Marks – resigned (father was manager of the Midland Bank in Oxted)
JPC 40 A. Geoff Todd (I alternated with Alan serving both at Caterham (at start (1955) and finish (1958) of my Cadetship) and Oxted (1956-57),
Miss Doris Randell – Aliens Officer also Lost and Found Property Officer.

Oxted Section
Cannot remember any of the sergeants' names.
PC 673 Bill Standen
PC 605 Archie Scott – motor cyclist – later Inspector.
PC 430 Bert Bonner
PC 176 Cliff Dudley – Station duty officer – public counter
PC ?351 Jock Kelly – divisional mechanic
PC 2 Tom Farndale – good cricketer
PC 406 Peter Morley?
PC 181 Vernon Watkins – motor cyclist

Lingfield Section
Police Sergeant 53 Ray Hales – good cricketer
PC 599 Roy Jenkins – motor cyclist – based at Blindley Heath
PC 118 Marcus McCausland – Felbridge
PC ?533 Eric Washington
PC ??? ? Dudley (not Cliff above).
PC 656 (?D Dennis) Smith

Police Sergeant (Paddy) McBrien
PC 425 John House – motor cyclist – later Inspector at Farnham
PC John Maxwell – Bletchingley/Nutfield – later Chief Inspector/Superintendent (possibly Guildford) – brother of Pc Gordon Maxwell who worked in General Office HQ in the late 1960s when I served there.
PC 762 Tony Forward (around 1958-9) later chief superintendent
PC 597 Gary Hyldon

Caterham Section

Inspector John Bowles (seconded to DPTC Ryton as an instructor – had brother Ron at Woking)
Acting? Inspector Reggie Pike (was D/Sgt at Caterham) had a Vauxhall Victor 419 CPL
Police Sergeant 105 Charlie Covington
Police Sergeant Ray Brown (later Inspector at Woking)
Police Sergeant Bruce Rapley
Police Sergeant140 Ken Crafter – took Bruce Rapley's place when he transferred to ?Bramley.
Police Sergeant 466 Norman Cooper
PC 680 Dick Rosher (later Ch.Insp)
PC 242 Bob Hewitt
PC 68 John Hodges
PC 501 Harold May later Police Sergeant
PC 242 Bob Arthur
Pc 434 Dave Caldicott (went to Bagshot)
PC 504 Norman Slater
PC 696 Ron Red(d)it

PC 662 Mick O'Sullivan (later on Traffic at Godstone – think he transferred to a Sussex force.
W/PC ?? Kay or Kate O'Sullivan (wife of above)
PC 8 Ernie Bysh – transferred to Brighton Borough – very tall
PC 6 Eric Hughes (later chief superintendent)
W/PC ?? Mary Waugh (later Hughes on marriage to Eric above)
PC 676 Bob Cozens (latterly CC West Mercia) father of Gill (later Glover after marriage – was a W/PC)
PC ??? Ron Juleff (formerly Cornwall officer) possibly Pc 258
PC 710 John Harvey (transferred to Suffolk – Det Supt or Ch.Supt)
PC 712 Mike Pendleton
PC 715 John Gladwell (later Det Insp)
PC 693? Gray/Grey – not Tony, ?Dennis
PC 288 Michael (Mick) Woods
JPC 40 Geoff(rey) Todd – became PC 753 in May 1958
JPC Harding – alternating with Geoff above.
Pc 416 George W Fortescue

CID
Detective Sergeant Sid Crowhurst
DC 525 Derek Wood
DC or DS Stan Cox (when secondment to Cyprus Police* finished)

Clerk – Marie Wooley – former police woman ? Sgt.
Cleaner – Bill Maynard – former PC

*Cyprus Police – think that Bob Hewitt and Dick Rosher also served there.

Warlingham Section

Geoff Todd

Police Sergeant 226 C.J."Nobby" SPIERS
PC 9 James ROWLAND +
PC 56 J. (John) CONSTABLE(Woldingham)
PC 321 D.J. (Don) VIVERS (Sub. Divisional Motor cyclist - lived in a Woldingham Police House). Possibly on Caterham's strength.
PC 413 (Frank*) RICHARDS
PC 453 D. (Dennis) ANDERSON
PC 481 W. (Bill) JENNINGS
PC 521 (Jack*) RICHARDS
PC 542 (Harry) ROBINSON (Tatsfield)

+ It was Jim Rowland's (step)son who injured Police Sergeant 72 Reg Callingham. Nobby had by then left the force on retirement.

* Think I have correctly attributed the first name to each of the constables Richards - otherwise it's the other way around.

Camberley Sub-division of F (Farnham) Division.

Inspector W.E. (Bill) Ezzard. Later chief inspector Early 1960s replace by Ch.Insp Ya Ya HJ Smith
Police Sergeant 193 Bidwell (Biddy) – think Sgt 518 Ken Rosam replaced him when he retired.
Police Sergeant247? Jim Goldhawk
Police Sergeant 424 Stan Plummer (lived at the old Police Station in the High Street)
At some stage in early/mid 60s Frank Trussler arrived as uniform Sgt - in 1965 was acting Detective Sergeant while I was A/Sgt in his place and also for Sid Harris? at Bagshot (Spring/Summer) retired as a chief superintendent

CID
Detective Sergeant Barney Moseley (later at Crime Bureau Mount Browne – as a civilian)
T/DC John Over later Chief Constable Gwent Constabulary

PC 2 Frank Cannon
PC 242 Ron Postlethwaite (transferred to Hampshire)
PC 682? Len Phillips (later DC/I)
PC 690? Doug Phillips (later at Leatherhead)
PC ?788 John Neville (transferred to the Met but was a motor cyclist at one stage)
PC 577 Dave Venn (later D/C)
PC 189 John Nicholas (motor cyclist)
PC 638 Roy Edwards (motor cyclist) – later Sgt at Chobham
PC 38 Roy Simmons (ex Dorking cadet) – left and later re-joined and served on Traffic.
PC 202 Roy Coole (later Traffic at Chertsey)
PC Roger Rennie (later Ch.Inp)
PC 179 Paul Stickley
PC 14 Gerald (Gerry) Corney (emigrated to Australia – in retirement)
PC 167 Joe Featherstone – later Coroner's Officer
PC 319 Dave Timmins (later Sgt on Traffic)
PC 693 Cedric Gardner (later SOCO)
PC 18? Bill Redwood (Dog handler) – later Sgt Dogs HQ
PC 223 John Egerton (later dismissed for theft while working at HQ?)
PC 59 Jim Clark
PC 793 John Hoyle (1960?) later temporary superintendent on retirement from Dorking
PC 753 Geoff(rey) Todd later supt in Thames Valley Police
W/PC Beryl Magney – transferred to Bedfordshire and married a police officer
W/PC Maggie Fry
W/PC 8 Rosemary ?
JPC Peter Wickens later chief superintendent
PC 818 Michael (Mick) J. Kenny – former cadet – served Camberley (and Frimley?) most of his service
PC 771 Norman Ratcliff
PC 810 John Wright – former cadet

Property/Aliens Officer – Vera Mulley/Mold.

New Portesbery Road Police Station
Chief Inspector Geoff(rey) Todd (1971/72) – succeeded John Green
Inspector Ron Peet (Ron was married to a former W/PC)
Inspector Ed Gouffini
Inspector Tony Grey later DCC Warwickshire
Police Sergeant 518 Ken Rosam
Police Sergeant Cliff Blackford
Police Sergeant 908? John Sait (later chief inspector)

PC 396? John Corbett Crime car (J44) crew around 1971
PC 195 John (Jock) Erskine later DI
PC 474? Kevin Pengelly
PC 407 Tony Suter later Police Sergeant Traffic
PC 909 Arthur Martin (was at Woking late 1960s) – became SOCO.
PC 516? Mick Day later superintendent

Detective Inspector John SH Gladwell later superintendent
Detective Sergeant Arnold Lewis

Bagshot Section
Police Sergeant 63 Sid Harris (later at Woking Crime Prevention/Road Safety Officer mid 1960s – succeeded by 271 Eric Shields)
PC 573 Ted Tuffin – later DC at Camberley
PC Jack Packham – succeeded by PC 151 Dave Chatt – lived PH on A30 Windlesham
Jack was on secondment to 6DPTC Sandgate. Superintendent later in service.
PC John Martin (Windlesham)
PC 395 Jim (Jock) Reaper (Lightwater)
PC 745? Tony Davie (Lightwater) later inspector
PC 434 Dave Caldicott (formerly at Caterham)
PC 749 David Smith (Father had an Electrical/TV shop in Guildford)
PC 396? John Collett
PC 674 Brian Whybrow – transferred to Metropolitan Police? – lived at Lightwater before Tony D.

Frimley Section
Police Sergeant 347? Vic Mansell
PC 34 Tony Kenny
PC 505 Phil Karn (Mytchett)
PC 93 Graham Rawlinson (Deepcut)
PC 654? Geoff Breckell (motor cyclist) – later Supt.
PC 252 Joe Divers
PC 162 Arthur Fullick
PC 193 Tim Blake (if his collar no is correct he took Biddy's when he retired)
PC 531 Wally Garrigle or McGarrigle (I think had a brother who served at Horley)
PC 787? Dave Stone (transferred to Gloucestershire as Supt?) – succeeded Geoff B as motorcyclist when Geoff moved.

Book Reviews

Dambuster-in-Chief

The Life of Air Chief Marshal Sir Ralph Cochrane

By Richard Mead
Imprint: Pen & Sword Aviation
Pages: 320
Illustrations: 32 black and white illustrations
ISBN: 9781526765079
Published: 6th October 2020

Richard Mead

Richard Mead was educated at Marlborough College and Pembroke College, Cambridge. He has written General 'Boy': The Life of Lieutenant General Sir Frederick Browning and The Last Great Cavalryman: The Life of General Sir Richard McCreery, Commander Eighty Army, The Men Behind Monty, Commando General – The Life of Sir Robert Laycock and Sam - The Life of MRAF Lord Elworthy all in print with Pen and Sword Books. Richard and his wife live in Gloucestershire and he has two grown-up sons.

Synopsis

Ralph Cochrane was born in 1895 into a distinguished naval family. After joining the Royal Navy, he volunteered in 1915 to serve with the RNAS in airships and was an early winner of the Air Force Cross. In 1918 he transferred to the fledgling RAF and learnt to fly, serving in Iraq as a flight commander under 'Bomber' Harris. His inter-war career saw him as a squadron commander in Aden before he became the first Chief of Air Staff of the Royal New Zealand Air Force. During the Second World War he served mainly in Bomber Command and commanded 5 Group from early 1943. He formed 617 Squadron and was instrumental in planning the legendary Dambuster Raid, the most spectacular of the War, as well as the sinking of the battleship Tirpitz. An inspirational leader, he trained 5 Group in low level target marking skills.

Post war Cochrane held a string of senior appointments commanding Transport Command, Flying Training Command and finally as Vice Chief of Air Staff, retiring in 1952. He died in 1977.

Review

Cochrane began his flying career as a sailor developing and serving on airships of the Royal Naval Air Service of which there was much more activity than many now realise. These early chapters about airships are fascinating. What courage these early airmen displayed. Post war and now a member of the Royal Air Force, Cochrane moved to what became conventional aircraft serving mainly in the Middle East specialising over the next twenty years in bombing and flying training. The author covers this period very well and there are interesting chapters on operations in the Middle East, and his time as a squadron commander. He was sent to New Zealand to advise on the country's air defences. During his service and promotions, Cochrane worked alongside many airmen who were to go on to fulfil some of the top posts in the RAF during the Second World War. Cochrane extended his contacts book by attending the top staff and joint services courses open to career officers.

It was fortuitous that Bomber Harris was his CO on 45 Squadron as he later selected Cochrane to lead 5 Group during the time when the Dambuster Raid was developed and accomplished. The book's title highlights this period of Cochrane's service though it is a small but important part of his life and therefore the book. Encapsulating research into the possible bombs to be used in the raid to the formation of 617 Squadron and details of the raid takes just 31 of the 268 pages of narrative but outside this period there remains a great deal of interest. Cochrane followed closely the work and life of 617 Squadron and had a significant impact on its leadership and development for the remainder of the war. Bomber Harris was to write in 1944 that "Cochrane is in my view the best operational commander we have today ----." Post War Cochrane forged and led Transport Command establishing standards and efficiency that continue to this day.

The uniqueness of this work is the help of Cochrane's family with access to a substantial archive which made a significant contribution to the writing of the book, allowing for detail

and colour. There are photos, a useful list of abbreviations, notes, a bibliography and a very useful index divided in to place names and individuals and organisation. There are 32 black and white photographs.

If you have any interest at all in the history of the RAF this is a “must have” book! Richard Mead has established himself as a substantial military biographer with this his seventh book on Second World War leaders. This book is all the more interesting because Cochrane, known possibly just to the keen historian, has a fascinating and challenging life of service that Mead manages to bring out so well.

From Richard Mead following a question about selecting targets, mounting operations and responsibility from Robert Bartlett, Richard wrote:

Responsibility for raids, it fell fairly and squarely onto Harris's shoulders. In my last book on Sam Elworthy, (see below) who was Wing Commander Ops 1 (b) and then Group Captain (Operations) in Bomber Command HQ, I wrote as follows:

"(Sam) was part of a strict routine, which began with 'morning prayers'. SASO (Senior Air Staff Officer, at that time Saundby), the Group Captain Ops, the Wing Commander Ops 1(b), the Group Captain Intelligence and the senior Meteorological Offer met first for a preliminary look at the weather, an assessment of the previous night's operations and a general review of priority targets. The intention of this gathering was to try to anticipate as far as possible what the AOC-in-C would decide, so as to have the answers ready. At 09.00 sharp Harris would appear, by which time other operations staff, Carrington (the Army liaison officer) and Captain de Mowbray, the Royal Navy liaison officer, would have joined the group. There would be a more formal presentation of the weather and any other key factors, based on which a list of potential targets was handed to Harris. He would then make his decision without further discussion, after which the meeting was at an end, although Harris might stay on for a discussion with Saundby on the previous night's events. In the meantime, the G/C Ops and W/C Ops 1(b) would ring each of the groups, providing them with the target and the make-up of the bomb load. There would then be a further discussion between them and Saundby on the defences, based on which the routes would be established and communicated to the groups."

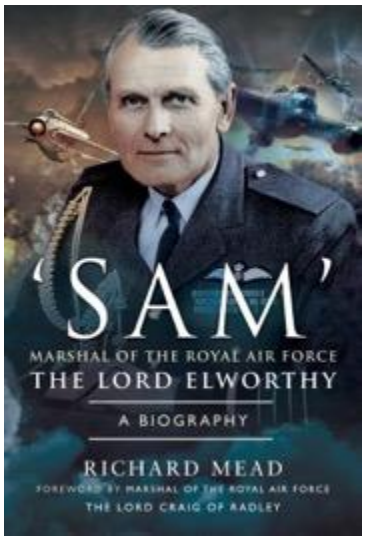
Since in most cases several groups would be involved in a raid, those participating would have no direct input themselves. The exception was 5Group, in which Cochrane had a much greater latitude as to choice of target for the 'Independent Air Force', although of course Bomber Command HQ was still directly involved, so as not to allow confusion with the Main Force. The exception to all of this came in the months leading up to D-Day and for a period thereafter, when Harris found himself subordinated to Eisenhower/Tedder in support of the Transportation Plan and then of 21st Army Group.

‘SAM’ Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Elworthy

A Biography

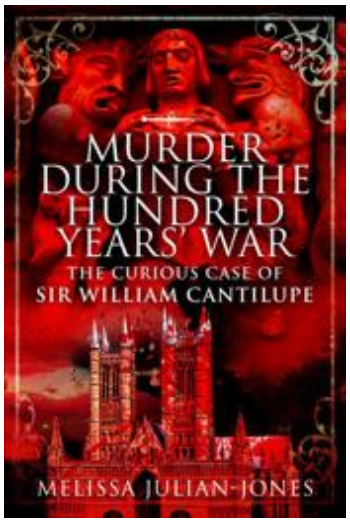
Richard Mead

Sam Elworthy's career was remarkable by any standards. Born in New Zealand in 1911 and educated in England, he was called to the Bar. After learning to learning to fly he joined the RAAF. During the Second World War he won the DFC, DSO and AFC and, after commanding 82 Squadron, worked closely with ‘Bomber' Harris and General Eisenhower



Murder During the Hundred Years' War

The Curious Case of Sir William Cantilupe



Dr Melissa Julian-Jones
Imprint: Pen & Sword History
Pages: 232
Illustrations: 8 page black and white plate section
ISBN: 9781526750792
Published: 26th October 2020

Dr Melissa Julian-Jones

Dr Melissa Julian-Jones teaches history at Cardiff University Centre for Continuing & Professional Education and was the Network Facilitator for the International Research Network, Voices of Law: Language, Text and Practice, 2016-2018. She is the co-founder and co-organiser of the biennial Power of the Bishop in the Middle Ages conference, and the co-editor of its volumes.

In 1375, Sir William Cantilupe was found murdered in a field outside of a village in Lincolnshire. As the case progressed, fifteen members of his household were indicted for murder, and his armour-bearer and butler were convicted. Through the lens of this murder and its context, this book will explore violence, social norms and deviance, and crime and punishment 'at home' during the Hundred Years' War.

The case of William Cantilupe has been of interest to historians for many years, ever since Rosamund Sillem brought it to light in her work on the Lincolnshire Peace Rolls in the 1930s, but this is the first time it has received a book-length treatment, taking relationships between the lords and their servants into account. The verdict – guilty of petty treason – makes this one of the first cases where such a verdict was given, and this reveals the deep insecurities of England at this time, where the violent rebellion of servants against their masters (and wives against their husbands) was a serious concern, enough to warrant death by hanging (for men) and death by burning (for women). The reader is invited to consider the historical interpretations of the evidence, as the motives for the murder were never recorded. The relationships between Sir William and his householders, and indeed with his own wife and, and whether the jury were right to convict him and his alleged accomplice in the first place.

Review

At the heart of the book is a cold case review of a murder. A murder from long ago which gives the author numerous opportunities to put the circumstances of the killing and explanation of the main suspects into historical context. You will be learning 14th century history whilst reading a who done it of 1375. Put simply a member of the local elite was found murdered in a ditch but his stab wounds were not through his clothing. The investigating sheriff deduced he was murdered at home and his wife and some servants were arrested and charged with murder.

This is a meticulously researched work covering very many aspects of life of the period where ranks and status was all but did not shelter the influential from the work of the investigators,

coroners and sheriff. A full and detailed investigation may have been made but the true facts were not uncovered then and cannot be assumed now.

The work benefits from a who is who in the tale and a genealogical chart. It is complex in part because of the use of the same Christian names across the generations and the number of characters. The author uses a simple device of giving the names a number, regnal numbers but not for a king or queen. It works. Murdered was William V11. There is a lengthy appendix encapsulating Justiciary Rolls and indictments adding supporting detail from the 13th and 14th centuries. As one would expect from a work of scholarship there are numerous pages of notes but surprisingly no index.

The book is recommended for crime buffs as well of those with an interest in medieval history.

Blitz Detective

New editions of Blitz Detective books 3 and 4 are on their way. The Custom House Murder (previously published as Enemy Action) and the Stratford Murder (previously Firing Line) are published on 10 December in paperback and Kindle. If you've already read them under their original titles, look out for the all-new book 5, The Dockland Murder, due out in March 2021! www.allisonandbusby.com/author/mike-hollow