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

December 2020

www.surrey-constabulary.com

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Surrey Constabulary History 71

CIVIL POLICE MEMBERS OF No. 1 SECTION
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION BRANCH, MIDDLE EAST 1944

Cpl. Kitchen W., West Riding Cons. Sgt. Harrison G. Lancs. Cons.

C.S.M. Davies O., Metropolitan Police; C.S.M. Myers J., Lancs. Cons.; Sgt. Needham L., Surrey Cons.; Sgt. Blythe G., Metropolitan Police; Sgt. Kershaw G., Burnley Borough; Sgt. Hirst H., West Riding Cons.; C.S.M. Barber W., Arshire Cons.; C.S.M. Keep P., Bradford City Police

R.S.M. Evans E., Essex Cons.; Lieut. Corney G., M.B.E., Hants Cons.; Lieut. Lineton F., Birmingham City Police; Lieut. Birkett F., Notts. Cons.; Lieut. Brooks J., Coventry City Police; Lieut. Percival H., Lancs. Cons.; C.S.M. Gibson T.A. Cheshire Cons.

Whilst undertaking research into Surrey Constabulary officers who served in the armed forces during the Second World War, Richard Callaghan of the RMP museum provided this photo of Sergeant L Needham of the Surrey Constabulary on service in the Middle East. Nothing more is known of PC L Needham.

Contents

Attempted Murder on PC Long
1909 Hersham

Newspaper research by Henry Pelham

1909 September 11 Surrey Advertiser: GBH on PC Long Surrey Constabulary: Joseph Saunders NFA, Kingston County Bench on remand from an occasional court at Hersham, charged with maliciously inflicting GBH upon PC Harry Long of the Surrey Constabulary, by stabbing him with a knife at Hersham on September 2nd. The only witness called was Superintendent Coleman who said that at 8.10pm he went to West Grove, Hersham where he saw PC Long who told him he had been stabbed. There were two wounds one at the nape of the neck and the other over the left shoulder. They were both extensive and deep. The doctor attended him and he was taken to Walton Cottage Hospital where he now was. Search was made for the prisoner in a field of artichokes adjacent with West Grove where it was believed he was in hiding. A large number of constables, besides many of the public, surrounded the field and about 10am on Friday morning the prisoner was driven out of the field where he was arrested by Superintendent Coleman. The prisoner said "alright" when detained and when searched a white handled table knife was found as well as a match box which on both sides had blood stains. When charged at the police station he said, "Yes I done it." The prisoner was remanded. PC Long remains a patient at the Cottage Hospital where he is slowly improving.

1909 September 25 Surrey Advertiser: Prisoner committed for trial: Joseph Saunders NFA was committed for trial for GBH. PC Long said that he was on duty in the evening in Queens Road, Hersham when he saw the prisoner standing at the crossroads in the shadow of a streetlamp. The officer was about 10-15 yards away when the prisoner turned quickly and walked off down West Grove followed by PC Long. The prisoner started to run followed by PC Long who caught up and asked why he had run off. The prisoner took hold of the constable around the neck and he felt a pinch. The prisoner made off pursued by the officer who took hold of the prisoner a second time when he felt a blow on his shoulder and a tingling sensation.

At the same time the officer felt something warm down his back and putting his hand to his neck found he had been cut. The prisoner again got away and climbed over the front gate of Langdale House. The policeman blew his whistle and Mrs Mary Smith, 4 The Pavement, Walton went to his assistance. Finding PC Long she saw he was trying to bind up his neck and blow his whistle at the same time. She took the whistle and blew it and finished binding up his neck then ran towards Hersham blowing the whistle before returning to the constable. Leaving hm with two men at White House garage she again went towards Hersham blowing the whistle a long time before some help came. Eventually Dr Sparks arrived and ordered the constable's removal to the hospital.

Treatment was required for a deep wound to the neck 3 ½ inches long and the one at the back measured 6 inches. The one in the neck had gone through to the muscle and was about a quarter of an inch deep. The constable lost a quantity of blood. There had been a second stab at the back because the clothing was cut.

The chairman on behalf of the Bench thanked Mrs Smith for her conduct in the matter. She acted with great courage and discretion. Superintendent Coleman said he wished to endorse the chairman's remarks. There were other houses nearby but Mrs Smith was the only one to come out. The knife was taken from a house in Greenlane Avenue where a 14-year-old was washing up when the prisoner came to the door and picked up the knife saying he needed to cut his boot as it hurt his toe. He never returned it.

PC Tooth said that on the 4th inst., while taking the prisoner to Brixton Prison, he made a voluntary statement saying, "I cannot understand why I am not charged with intent to kill. That was my intention, I meant to kill him."

Superintendent Coleman gave evidence of arrest and Saunders was committed to the Assizes.

The prisoner had stood trial for manslaughter at the Berkshire Assizes but was found not guilty. He had also been charged with assault on a man who later died but only received one month's imprisonment.

Surrey Advertiser 30 October 1909: Hersham: The recent stabbing case: Another police presentation: The Hersham Division of the Surrey Constabulary gathered for a drill session at the village hall and to make a presentation to Mrs Robert Henry Smith to express their gratitude for the help she gave PC Long after he was stabbed. The presentation was a daintily fitted dressing case subscribed for by the officers and men of the division and bearing the inscription " Presented to Mrs RH Smith by the Hersham Division, Surrey Constabulary, in recognition of her bravery in going to the assistance of PC Harry Long who was stabbed on the 2 September 1909". The presentation was made by the magistrate Mr W Negus who commented that the police held very thankless offices and discharged their duties very often under circumstances of extreme danger. He had on their behalf to than one who helped a comrade at a time of serious trouble. Without a thought of risk Mrs Smith assisted PC Long not only in the first instance bur afterwards helped to attend his wounds and saw him safely to hospital. Money could not pay for service such as those. The gift was merely a small mark of the appreciation of the officers and men of the division, and he hoped it would remind her of her courageous act.

Mrs Smith said that she went to PC Long's assistance thinking nothing of reward and only considered it her duty to do so. She was grateful for the gift and would treasure it very much.

Previously Mrs Smith had received £3 from the Reward Fund of the Surrey Constabulary and the magistrate Mr W Nagus, presented a silver whistle with the inscription "Mrs Mary Smith, 2 September 1909, from WN." Led by Superintendent Coleman and seconded by sergeant Tytherleigh a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr Negus and three cheers by the men of the Division brought the proceedings to a close.

Surrey Advertiser 4 December 1909: Hersham Stabbing Case: Accused insane: Joseph Saunders (27) a dealer with a degree of education that reached no standard, was charged with "feloniously causing certain grievous bodily harm to Harry Long with intent to murder him." The prisoner unkempt and dased (sic) was obvious unaware of what was going on and it had been doubtful if he could plead. The doctor from Brixton prison gave evidence that he had the prisoner under observation and he was suffering from acute melancholia and was not fit to plead. This was accepted by the Judge and Saunders was ordered to be detained during His Majesty's pleasure.

PC Long retired in July 1931 from Ockham after 25 years' service.[1]

[1] Surrey Advertiser 18 July 193

Woking: Police Review March 1980

Old soldiers never die - here's where they go...

OLD soldiers never die, says the song, omitting to mention that most of them join the Surrey Constabulary.

Chief Supt Jackman of Woking division, delighted with the high proportion of his officers with previous service in the forces, arranged this group picture for Police Review, and gave us his comments on his second-career constables.

"One: Matthews; joined us in 1959 when he was 31, after 12 years in the Marines. Two: Loyal; 28 when he joined us. Been in Humberside police, and he's done six years as a flying instructor. Wants us to buy a plane. Bloody optimist. Three: Ex-RSM Blundell; 22 years in the army, Cyprus, Northern Ireland, seen every sort of trouble; 40 years old when he joined Surrey.

"Four: Shatwell; 10 years in the Horse Guards, joined us when he was 32 years. Five: Metcalfe; 37 when he joined us. Finished 21 years in the Coldstreams and the Parachute Regiment as staff sergeant.

"Six: Smith; joined Surrey aged 27 after 10 years in the Coldstreams. Seven: Disspain; 12 years in the Army, joined us aged 29.

Eight: This is PC Mellish who feels a bit out of it. Been in the Leicestershire Constabulary, but not in the army. Nine: De Mesquita; joined us aged 30, used to be a jeweller and a special. Ten: Joseph-Lester; 31 when he joined the police, after nine years as an ambulance driver.

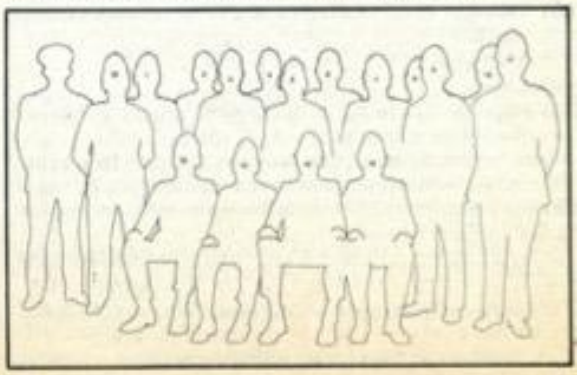
"Eleven: McCarthy; He's a BSc, and joined us when he was 28, after being in insurance. Twelve: RSM Hubbard; 22 years in the army, 40 years old when he joined. Thirteen: Senior Drum Major Trussler, 25 years in the Grenadier Guards, last man to enlist as a drummer boy. Joined us aged 41. Only man I know who got the BEM before joining.

"Fourteen: Silk; 22 years in the Coldstreams, 38 when he joined us. Fifteen: Bolton; 10 years in the Scots Guards. Joined Surrey when he was 29. Look at the shine on those boots in the front row.

"Sixteen? That's PC Jackson, joined us before he was 19, he shouldn't be in the photo, but we didn't have the heart to send him away."

Chief Supt Jackman, ("I couldn't sit down for the photo. I'd got red socks on") now in his 33rd year as a policeman, was a former warrant officer in HM Royal Air Force.

He thinks Surrey's best recruiting aides are its own officers. "Most of these lads have joined after talking to blokes already in the job. After dealing with bombs, booby traps, snipers, and subversives, they have no problems with an old bastard like me."



POLICE REVIEW 28th March, 1980

From David Morehead, Police Review 28 March 1980 Woking Division

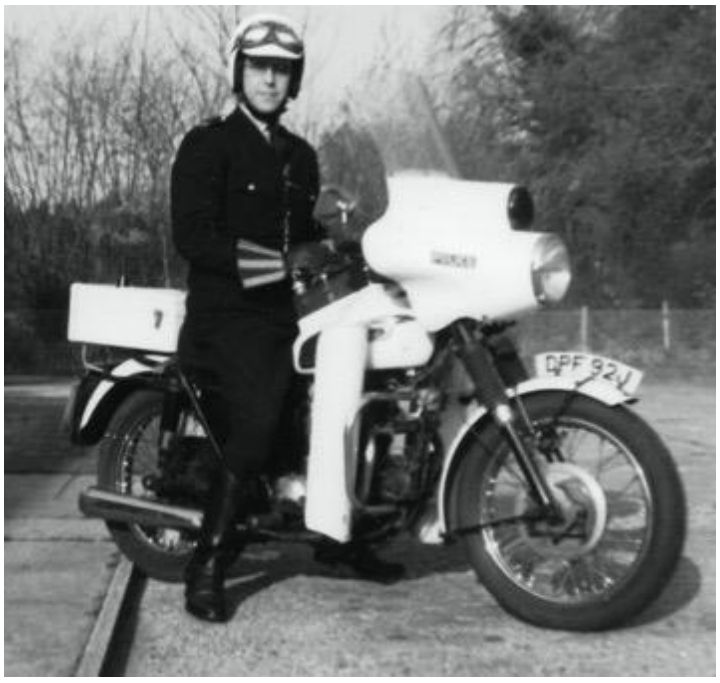
PC 1051 Charlie Bostock
Traffic Department

8 November 2020

The death has been notified of Charlie Bostock on Friday 30 October in a Cornish care home where he had been resident since suffering a stroke some time ago. Charlie was 83 years of age and had served at Egham and Chertsey Traffic as a motor cyclist before transferring to the Metropolitan Police where, sadly, a road accident on duty on The Embankment brought about an ill health retirement.

Charlie joined Surrey Constabulary in 1967 and spent 6 years at Egham before moving to Chertsey Traffic in 1973 as a Traffic Motorcyclist. He had a unique ability to catch thieves and was regularly commended for his work, including one for arresting 40 active criminals in a 14-month period.

Tony Suter recalled one Sunday morning Chertsey was short of Motorway cover and so as a sergeant I crewed up with Charlie in a Range Rover. I was helping Charlie with an RTA file when a Ford Escort went by with two young lads in it. This was daytime, about 1100 and traffic flows were, as expected, moderate. We soon stopped the vehicle and spoke to a couple of nice lads who were going to Bournemouth for the day. Seemingly all in order and Charlie asked to look in the boot. Three boxes of Martini; guess where the lads worked - an off licence! Nicked, admitted the theft. All those vehicles and Charlie selected a winner! Legendary.



Charlie on a course with Bomber Brown

1969 Humperdinck with Police Sergeant James Maquire who retired 31 January 1973 joining the Surrey Constabulary in 1955 from Newcastle Upon Tyne. Promoted sergeant 1963 stationed at Guildford and Walton on the beat and CID. Medal ribbons indicate Second World War military service.[2]

[2] From Tony Suter November 2020 to Robert Bartlett

Jim Findlay has yarns from 1974!

A retiring sergeant on our rota made way to a new former Traffic officer. He soon cottoned on that I knew more than he did and found myself going everywhere with him. I had a call to see a friend of a very important international figure at his house in a very upmarket part of Weybridge about a private matter. A huge house, immaculate grounds, a housekeeper, gardener, chauffeur and whiskey glasses with gold chains to carry whilst chatting in company. The problem was a friend had sent him a handgun with ammunition, "because London was such a violent place". He did not have a firearms certificate so what to do with it. Straight away the new sergeant said, "Bury it in the garden". I tried to remonstrate discreetly but he wouldn't have it and said it would save lots of paperwork etc. He was happy with that and after a coffee we left. That had been an early-turn so on my way home I went back to the house, seized the gun and next morning rang Special Branch office at Addlestone. Entered it as seized, they went and took a statement and it was disposed of, no fuss. That was a regular Tea stop for a while until one evening I had a call from saying he had been arrested for drink driving in the Metropolitan Police and would I fix it'. Got annoyed when I said I would not and could not do anything[3]

I was acting sergeant at Walton Magistrates Court taking Court....a real bore highlighted by the occasional minor prosecution. On this occasion a not-guilty plea to a speeding offence. The defendant took the witness box and immediately it was apparent he was German and spoke little English. The Clerk looked to me and asked if I had arranged for an interpreter but there was nothing on the file so I had to report one had not been arranged. The Clerk turned to the three magistrates to ask them to adjourn to which the Chairman asked those present in court if anyone could speak German to assist the court. A 29 year or so young man stood up and offered to help. The Clerk was happy to go ahead and asked the young man to get the defendants name....to which the young man said in an extremely loud voice "WHAT IS YOUR NAME?" and stood there with a big grin on his face. Two of the Magistrates had to hide their amusement.

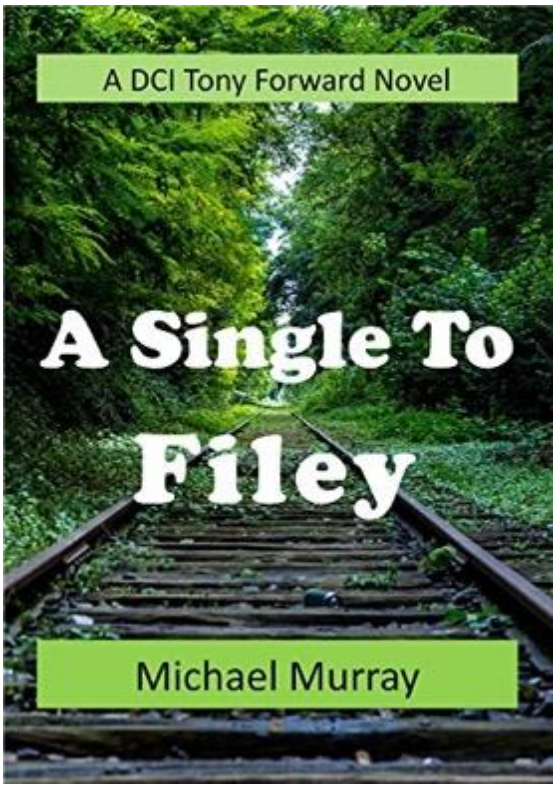
[3] 24 November 2020 email Jim Findlay to Robert Bartlett

I took a handkerchief out to stop laughing together with others in the court. The Clerk was furious ... he asked the young man what he was doing to which he replied, "He's German, you just have to shout at them". After a quick word with the Magistrates he was held 'in contempt of Court' and was held in the holding cells until the end of the session. [4]

Another time, in the same Court, proceedings were interrupted by a man entering the Court with a ladder. An Usher spoke to him, went to the Clerk who nodded his assent and we carried on. The man dressed in a grey boiler-suit put the ladder up to the huge court clock and proceeded to detach it and took it down. It was not just a clock; it had an ornate wooden surround and was quite imposing and I suspect quite valuable. Having got it down he went back up, cleaned the wall and surround and put in its place a cheap looking Woolworths clock. He then carried it out to his van never to be seen again. He did the same at Esher Court and Chertsey Court that same day and has not been seen since. Never detected. [5]

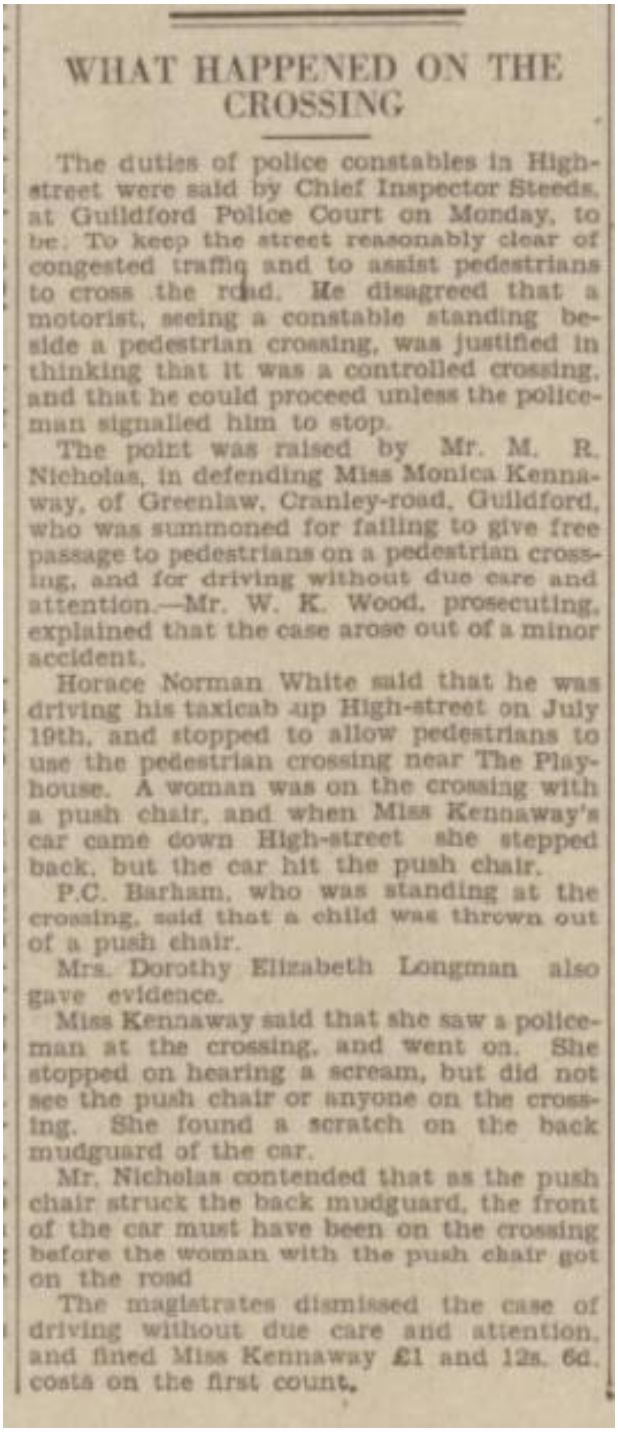
A Single to Filey: A DCI Tony Forward Novel

That is right – Tony Forward is the hero of a series of murder mystery tales. But is it the Tony we know or is it just a work of fiction, or is there more to Tony than we realise?



[4] 24 November 2020 email Jim Findlay to Robert Bartlett
[5] 24 November 2020 email Jim Findlay to Robert Bartlett

P.C. Barham Guildford Borough Police – there may have been a war on, but……. [6]



WHAT HAPPENED ON THE CROSSING

The duties of police constables in High-street were said by Chief Inspector Steeds, at Guildford Police Court on Monday, to be: To keep the street reasonably clear of congested traffic and to assist pedestrians to cross the road. He disagreed that a motorist, seeing a constable standing beside a pedestrian crossing, was justified in thinking that it was a controlled crossing, and that he could proceed unless the policeman signalled him to stop.

The point was raised by Mr. M. R. Nicholas, in defending Miss Monica Kennaway, of Greenlaw, Cranley-road, Guildford, who was summoned for failing to give free passage to pedestrians on a pedestrian crossing, and for driving without due care and attention.—Mr. W. K. Wood, prosecuting, explained that the case arose out of a minor accident.

Horace Norman White said that he was driving his taxicab up High-street on July 19th, and stopped to allow pedestrians to use the pedestrian crossing near The Playhouse. A woman was on the crossing with a push chair, and when Miss Kennaway's car came down High-street she stepped back, but the car hit the push chair.

P.C. Barham, who was standing at the crossing, said that a child was thrown out of a push chair.

Mrs. Dorothy Elizabeth Longman also gave evidence.

Miss Kennaway said that she saw a policeman at the crossing, and went on. She stopped on hearing a scream, but did not see the push chair or anyone on the crossing. She found a scratch on the back mudguard of the car.

Mr. Nicholas contended that as the push chair struck the back mudguard, the front of the car must have been on the crossing before the woman with the push chair got on the road

The magistrates dismissed the case of driving without due care and attention, and fined Miss Kennaway £1 and 12s. 6d. costs on the first count.

[6] Surrey Advertiser 14 September 1940 from Henry Pelham November 2020

Guildford Borough Police officer marries; best man and groomsman from the Force October 1940[7]

KNAPHILL BRIDE FOR CONSTABLE

Police-constable Alexander W. C. Gilbert, son of Mrs. E. Gilbert, of Down View, Westfield-road, Woking, and Miss Kathleen M. Page, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Page, 4, Stanley-cottages, Anchor-hill, Knaphill, were married at St. John's Church on Wednesday last week. The bride, given away by her father, wore a heavy white satin gown trimmed with sequins, a veil embroidered with satin horseshoes and orange blossom, and carried lilies and pink carnations. Her cousins, the Misses G. and L. Reed, were the bridesmaids, and wore ankle-length frocks of pink and mauve taffeta with headdresses of velvet leaves to match, and veils. They carried bouquets to tone with the frocks, and wore bracelets, the gift of the bridegroom. Police-constable Weekes was the best man, and Police-constable C. Barham groomsman. There was a reception of 50 guests at the Church Hall, Knaphill. The honeymoon was spent at Guildford, and the bride travelled in a floral taffeta dress with navy blue hat, coat and accessories.

Press Cuttings

From work being undertaken by Henry Pelham, Barrie Friend, Richard Callaghan and Robert Bartlett into police officers who served in Surrey and fought in the First World War.[8]

1913 January 18 West Surrey Times: Inspector CW Utley: Inspector CW Utley of the Guildford Borough Police Force was one of the selected candidates for the chief constableship of Clitheroe, Lancs, but he lost the position by a vote or two. Not long ago he misses becoming the head of the Beverley, Yorks police by one vote.[9]

1915 October 30: Surrey Advertiser: Presentation to Inspector Uttley: On Thursday at the parade and drill of the special constables of Guildford, Inspector Uttley, police inspector at Guildford for five years, who has given much time in drill and instructing the special constables, and is leaving to join the Military Foot Police as sergeant, was presented with a purse of money (£5 15s 6d). Mr A Pedder on making the presentation, said that Inspector Utley

[7] Surrey Advertiser 5 October 1940 from Henry Pelham November 2020

[8] "In Blue Serge or Khaki Always Police Officers" www.surrey-constabulary.com

[9] 1913 January 18 West Surrey Times from Henry Pelham October 2020

had shown the greatest interest in them and their work, and had spared no efforts to make them efficient. Whenever he had called on the men for duty he had met with a ready and willing response and he would leave them with the pleasant recollections of hours he had spent with them. The Chief Constable (Mr WV Nicholas) spoke appreciatively of the manner in which Inspector Uttley had applied himself to the duty of instructing the special constables. Mr Uttley would leave them with the expressions of the warmest friendship rom them all, and they hoped they would hear him occupying a high position in the Military Police. They hoped he would return safely after the war to take up his duties once more in the old town of Guildford. (Applause)

Uttley Charles William appointed inspector from Cheshire 9 January 1911 Meritorious Service Medal in London Gazette 6.7.1917 – **B) 1884** – Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire	 MFP as LCpl No P2265	29 October 1915 to Colours served Later served Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry No 38429. Surrey Ad of 30.10.1915 says joined the Military Mounted Police as a sergeant Army record found that he had two army numbers: R/2265 and 38429 Resigned Guildford Borough Police 8 January 1916	**1901:** Census Charles William Uttley with his parents, John and Jane Uttley, and 4 siblings 51 Town Gate, Midgley, Halifax occupation Cloth Fuller **1906**: Married Alice Verity in Halifax, **1911:** Census living with wife Alice their 4 children at 2 Percy Terrace, Guildford Park Road, Guildford occupation Inspector of Police

Should Police Officers be Called Up?

Police Constable 618 Edward Ernest Rose
1885-1963
Surrey Constabulary
Grenadier Guards

Rose Edward Ernest PC168 24 in May 1909 joined 1 September 1909 entry 1521	Grenadier Guards No 33391	22 April 1918 32 years 11 months re-joined Surrey Constabulary July 9 1919	Headquarters Guildford

Rose Edward Ernest PC168, age 24 in May 1909 joined Surrey Constabulary 1 September 1909. Grenadier Guards No 33391 on 22 April 1918 age 32 years 11 months when stationed at Headquarters Guildford. Re-joined Surrey Constabulary July 9, 1919

Edward Ernest Rose was born in Ockley, Dorking, Surrey 1885 and died in Surrey 1963 aged 77 service took place in St Mark, Peaslake. He married in 1923 to Florence May Delphia Edwards, marriage took place in North Holmwood, Surrey. Marriage record shows he was a Police Constable. Florence's father is shown as a Police Constable – deceased. Edward E Rose was 38 years old when he married.

1923 Electoral Roll shows Edward Rose living in Eastwood Road, Shalford, Guildford, Surrey.

1939 Register shows Edward E Rose living in – The Mount, Hoe Lane, Peaslake, Guildford, Surrey. Occupation shown as a Police Constable. The record also shows Florence M as also living there.

Army Recruitment papers: Edward E Rose joined the Grenadier Guards 22 April 1918. He was 6ft 1inch, 170 pounds, chest expansion 4.5, chest size 39.5. He was 32 years 11 months old, and his army no is 33391.

1916 November 15 Surrey Advertiser: PC Edward Ernest Rose Surrey Constabulary. Combing out constables – test case at Chobham: The feeling that young unmarried police constables ought not to be liberated for service in the Army found expression at Chobham on Saturday, when the Military Representative (Mr R Manning Driver) applied to the Chertsey Rural District Tribunal for the cancellation of the exemption certificate of PC EE Rose (30) single, of Broomhall on the ground it was no longer in the national interest that he should remain in his present situation.

Together with a large number of members of the Surrey Constabulary of military age whose cases were dealt with by different tribunals in the county, Rose received conditional exemption last spring in pursuance of a certificate issued by Captain Sant, Chief Constable, under the agreement entered into between the War Office and the Home Office.

Superintendent Mears of Chertsey attended before the tribunal accompanied by PC Rose, a tall well-built young officer, apparently in first class physical condition. In reply to the Military Representative application the Superintendent produced Captain Sant's certificate that members of the Surrey Constabulary had reached the point beyond which they must not be further depleted.

The Chairman Mr SWG Tringham asked if the embargo on police constables had yet been removed – the Military Representative: "I have not heard". The Chairman, "We had better make this a test case and see what happens."

Superintendent Mears, “It is evident the existing arrangement has not been altered or the Chief Constable would not have instructed me to present that certificate.” The Chairman. “if that is our decision won’t affect the position. (sic) This is an appeal by the Military Representative and it is not competent for us to settle whether or not a certain number of the police are required.”

The Military Representative, “In view of the fact that this constable is a single man of 30, I should like to make this a test case.” The chairman to Superintendent Mears, “If we cancel the certificate, I suppose you will take the case to the Appeal Tribunal.” Superintendent Mears, “I will at once report the matter to the Chief Constable. The Tribunal then unanimously decided to withdraw PC Rose’s Certificate. [10]

Surrey Military Tribunals – 1915-1918 record. The Tribunal took place in Guildford, and titled “Surrey Appeal Tribunal”, Guildhall, Guildford, in Chertsey. The hearing took place 25 November 1916, the person appealing was the Chief Constable of Surrey, Thomas Mears. The nature of the appeal was that he was indispensable. The outcome of the tribunal was permitted. (It is likely that he was enlisted but along with other officers was allowed to remain with the Surrey Constabulary until called, which he was with colleagues in 1918 when manpower was short. This seems to have been a compromise. The men were enlisted and the Chief Constable retained their services until called.)[11]

1925 February 13 Dover Express: Superintendent Henry Minter Surrey Constabulary

Minter Henry PC254 21 in June 1912 joined 4 November 1912 entry 1636 from Chilton Kent 6 feet 1 inch	Grenadier Guards No 33382 	27 April 1918 Show 22 April joined army – no re-join date Living 45 Maybury Road, Woking when enlisted	Woking Superintendent March 1931 Leatherhead 1933 Acting Deputy Chief Constable Died 1940 Dartford, Kent

Dovorian and well known constable promoted to sergeant: Sergeant H Minter the subject of the following extract from the Surrey Advertiser of last week is a Dovorian, the son of the late Mr John Stephen Minter and Mrs Susanna Minter of Tower Hamlets, and previous to joining the Surrey Police Force was for some years in the employ of Messrs Palmer and Sons.

[10] 1916 November 15 Surrey Advertiser from Henry Pelham October 2020
[11] 1916 November 15 Surrey Advertiser from Henry Pelham October 2020

For some years the plain clothes man attached to the Woking Division of the Surrey Constabulary PC H Minter has been promoted to the rank of sergeant and took up his duties at Cranleigh Police Station on Saturday. PC Minter has served in the force for twelve years with the exception of a period during the war when he was in the Grenadier Guards. The whole of his time has been spent in the Woking Division. He has always shown himself to be a most zealous, conscientious and able officer, although his tasks have not always been of the most congenial nature, he has invariably performed his duty with tact and to the credit of the Force. He could, with some justification, claim to be the most photographed constable in Surrey. In the famous Byfleet case, he was Vaquier's escort to and from Brixton Prison and before the trial was concluded his features became as well-known. To the public as were those of the murderer. He was also the escort of the "gentleman" burglar named Clark, another case which gained for the town considerable notoriety. Woking residents while congratulating PC Minter on his well-deserved promotion will sincerely regret his departure." [12]

1929 September 27 Dover Express: The promotion of a native of Dover, **Mr H Minter** son of the late MR JS Minter and Mrs Minter of Tower Hamlets, Dover, to be an Inspector of the Surrey Constabulary at Egham is recorded in the Surrey Advertiser which says, A courteous, tactful and efficient officer, Mr Minter is a sergeant in the Cranleigh District, has made many friends who will wish him well in his new appointment. Inspector Minter has served 16 years and was the officer in charge of Vaquier during his trial for the Byfleet murder.[13]

1931 July 17: Dover Express: A Dover man Mr H Minter has been appointed Superintendent of the Hersham Division of the Surrey County Constabulary. Mr Minter was promoted Inspector not quite two years ago and his latest step is due to Superintendent WH Bird whom he is succeeding, being appointed deputy chief constable of Surrey. Mr Minter who joined the Surrey Constabulary in 1912 and was promoted sergeant in 1925 was the son of the late John Steven and Susan Minter of Tower Hamlets. He was for several years as a youth employed by Messrs Palmer and Sons of Dover. Dover can be proud of Mr Minter's rise in such an important force as the Surrey Constabulary. [14]

Inspector (PC 246) Frank Maurice Norgate

Norgate Frank Maurice PC 246 born 1893 (also 1892) age 19 in September 1912 joined 9 September 1912 entry Roll entry 1629 born 1892 died 1954

1917 Married Edith Annie Seymour at Guildford in 1917 policeman. Living Englefield Green

Army First World War

[12] 1925 February 13 Dover Express from Henry Pelham October 2020
[13] 1929 September 27 Dover Express from Henry Pelham October 2020
[14] 1931 July 17: Dover Express from Henry Pelham October 2020

1932 Electoral living with Edith at Carlton Villas, Martyr Road, Guildford,

1939 register Frank and Edith living in Dorking, occupation Police Inspector.

Was at 1951 Old Comrades reunion. Died 1954

1926 May 28 Surrey Mirror: fatal Cycle Smash: Accident at Godstone: Evidence from PC FM Norgate: (This is a lengthy report on an inquest following a road accident when Arthur Harden was killed. A bolt sheared on a sidecar resulting in hitting the kerb and the deceased being thrown out striking his head.) PC FM Northgate, Surrey County Constabulary said that on being called to the scene of the accident he saw the deceased lying on the footpath on his back with his head close to a short post. He agreed with other witnesses as to the cause of the accident – one of the stays had been pulled out and all the weight had been thrown on the other, causing it to snap. At the suggestion of a doctor who had been passing the deceased was taken to East Surrey Hospital. Evidence was given that the casualty was alive when he entered the hospital but died 15 minutes later from a severe brain injury.[15]

PC248 William Herrett KPM, killed on duty

1901 census living parents Thomas and Ann Herrett in Farnham, age 6.

1911 census parents in Farnham aged 16 and occupation – milkman.

First World War Enlisted 30.1.1915 aged 21 years 1 month, occupation given as Dairyman living 16, Castle View, Farnham. Almost certainly Grenadier Guards No 32295. Served First World War France; mustard gas June 1918

1926 married Minnie Hilda Perry at St James's Elstead, Surrey. 2 sons, Stanley William and Victor Thomas Herrett (Killed on active Service Malaya – police cadet)

Class Z reserve March 1919

Thomas killed by runaway horse 22nd October 1928. Died King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor aged 33 years buried on the 26th October 1928 in Elstead. Awarded King's Police Medal posthumously

1928 November 1 Illustrated Police News: PC William Thomas Herrett Surrey Constabulary: Brave Constable Killed in Stopping a Runaway Horse at Bagshot: " I have noticed many columns of evidence in the newspapers with regard to the police in general, but one small paragraph stating that this officer met his death in the discharge of his duties does

[15] 1926 May 28 Surrey Mirror from Henry Pelham October 2020

more to strengthen the belief of the people of the country in their police than any evidence which may be given."

This remark was made by Mr ET Close, Clerk to the Windlesham Council, at a Windsor inquest on PC William Thomas Herrett aged thirty-three married, who was killed whilst trying to stop a runaway horse in Bagshot High Street. The horse attached to a dust cart took fright and rushed down the busy main street where many children were at play. Constable Herrett made a gallant attempt to stop the runaway. He was knocked down and dragged some distance. When picked up he was found to be seriously injured about the head. He was taken to Windsor hospital where he died at six o'clock.

After further evidence the jury returned a verdict that he "died through civil negligence on the part of the Windlesham Urban District Council knowing the horse to be restless and not taking roper care to see he was under proper control. [16]

Fatal RTA PC 240 Herbert Smeed Surrey Constabulary

1934 March 20 Daily Mirror: Why he was silent: On receiving information of an accident on the Hog's Back between Guildford and Faversham (sic: probably should read Farnham) the

[16] 1928 November 1 Illustrated Police News from Henry Pelham October 2020

Surrey police tried to get in touch with PC Herbert Smeed of Puttenham, who had a point in the vicinity. Later police learned that Constable Smeed was himself the victim of the accident. He died in an ambulance on the way to the hospital. Smeed while cycling came in collision with a motor-car. He was married and had completed 20 years in the force.[17]

1934 March 23 Shepton Mallet Journal: PC Herbert Smeed: PC Herbert Smeed was fatally injured in a collision between his cycle and a car on the Hogs Back, about three miles from Guildford. He had completed 21 years' service with the Surrey Constabulary.[18]

Smeed Herbert George PC240 age 25 in July 1912 joined Surrey Constabulary 15 July 1912 entry number 1624. Born 1887 Godstone, died 1934 Farnham
Married 1907 West Ham – Lily Esther Charman (1881-1908)
Second marriage to Jane Jenner 1917 at Godstone – (1888-1973)

1901 census living with parents – Henry and Amy and 5 siblings Gatehouse Farm, East Grinstead. His father a Farmer. The 1911 census living with parents, and now a widower.
Electoral Rolls - from about 1926 -1933 living in Farnham Surrey
27 April 1918joined the army Possibly Grenadier Guards No 33584 re-joining Surrey Constabulary February 9 1919
Killed on duty. Died as a result of injuries caused by being knocked down by a motor car 18 March 1934 stationed at Puttenham

When Killed on the Hoggs Back he was 46 years old and his address Police Cottage, Puttenham

Police Constable 235/PC69 Walter Croucher King
Surrey Constabulary
Military Foot Police First World War

King Walter Croucher PC 235 later on rejoining PC 69 born 1894 Godalming
age 20 in September 1914.

1891 census Walter King living with his parents, in Stoke, Guildford

1911 living Godalming, draper's assistant

1914 joined Surrey Constabulary 17 August 1914 entry 1736

First World War service 26 May 1915 joined regiment in France 18 November 1915 Military Foot Police No P1899. Later re-joined Surrey Constabulary Horley, Caterham, Camberley, Egham Died 14th April 1939 in hospital in Windsor, probate to widow Sophie Maria Henrietta

[17] 1934 March 20 Daily Mirror from Henry Pelham October 2020
[18] 1934 March 23 Shepton Mallet Journal from Henry Pelham October 2020

King, address shown as 2 Police Station, Egham, 1937 living with wife Sophie at Police Station Egham

Died whilst serving of peritonitis April 1939

1939 April 22 Surrey Advertiser: Walter Croucher King: Surrey Constabulary: Police Constable's sudden death: Impressive funeral service: After an illness of only three days PC Walter Croucher King a member of the staff at Egham police station died in Windsor Hospital on Friday evening last week. He was taken suddenly ill on Wednesday shortly after he went on duty and was removed to hospital on Thursday for an operation for peritonitis.

PC King had been in the force for 25 years. He came to Egham from Camberley nearly five years ago and before then was stationed at Horley and Caterham. He was a popular and efficient officer and his passing is regretted by a wide circle of friends.

During the war he served with the Military Foot Police in France. He leaves a widow and one daughter.

The dead officer was accorded full police honours at his funeral which took place on Tuesday. There was a choral service at Egham parish church conducted by the vicar. The following acted as bearers, Police Sergeants Backshell (Egham) Smith (Weybridge) Lucas (Chertsey) Gostling, Addlestone, Newman (Walton) and Howard (Hersham).

The family mourners were Mrs King, (widow) Miss Maragaret King (daughter) Mr and Mrs Eric King (brother and sister in law) Mr Bestl (brother in law) Mrs Marshall (aunt) PC and Mrs S (?)

There were also present Superintendents Currey (Weybridge) and A King (Oxted). Inspectors Bested (Egham). Denyer (Camberley) Butler (Walton). Police Sergeants Icke (Sunningdale) Cox (Woking) Hawkins (Caterham) Peasey (Frimley) S Carr (Staines) and some fifty constables. A number of Egham Special Constables under Deputy Leader Baxter and several members of Egham Fire Brigade with Chief Officer Stevens also attended. The retired members of the force were represented by ex-Inspectors WH Head and Stevens, ex- Sergeants Trimmer and Gunner and ex PCs Wiggins, Shepherd, Blackman, Wood and Webb.

(There were many wreaths including from All ranks of the Surrey Constabulary, members of the Weybridge Division, Metropolitan Police, Surrey Special Constabulary)[19]

[19] 1939 April 22 Surrey Advertiser from Henry Pelham October 2020

Is this Walter's Funeral?

The person whose funeral this is has not been identified. There is a small chance this may have been PC King. The report on his funeral has six sergeants as pallbearers though in the case the last of the bearers to the left of the hearse is a constable.

The photo came from Frank Austin some years ago: I assume was the funeral of a Police Officer which I inherited from my late Uncle Arch (Bunny) Austin. My Uncle is on the inner row first behind the skipper and I think his collar number was 349. He served most of his time on "A" Division and finished as Acting Inspector at Addlestone having been the Skipper at Hersham for many years. The photograph is an official copy stamped Photograph by W.J. Fair 158 Kingston Road Staines but sadly no date.

One of the pall bearers was Police Sergeant Icke. There is a photograph taken of him during the Second World War and Peter May has been able to transpose a small part of it onto the funeral cortege. Chances are the sergeant in the funeral picture is Icke but not in the role of pall bearer. So, little further forward.

Police Sergeant Icke who was a talented artist

Sergeant George Frank Wilkinson

former officer of the Surrey Constabulary Coldstream Guards
Margate Borough Police

PC125 born c1890 at Crownpits, Godalming age 24 in March 1912 joined police 14 March 1912 entry 1612. However, **1911** Census shows Police Station, Woodbridge Road, Guildford. A PC which is an anomaly in a pastime full of anomalies!

Joined the Coldstream Guards, Godalming in 1915, No 14840. Also, 27 April 1918 joined the army. Possibly enlisted 1915 but not released by police until 1918. Re-joined Surrey Constabulary January 9, 1919 Transferred to Margate Borough rank of sergeant

1939 Register shows George living in Margate, with Edith, occupation shown as Police Sergeant, Margate Borough Force

1941 December 16 Thanet Advertiser: Plucky Sergeant retires from Police force: Sergeant George Frank Wilkinson of Margate Borough Police is retiring on pension this week. Before

joining the force in May 1913 Sergeant Wilkinson served for two and a half years in the Surrey Constabulary. A native of Godalming Sergeant Wilkinson was a gardener before entering the police force. He was promoted sergeant in 1935. Throughout the last war Sergeant Wilkinson served with the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards and in 1916 was wounded on the Somme, but again returned to France. (He was allowed to retire due to the ill-health of his wife at a time when the Home Office blocked retirement except in special circumstances)[20]

Sergeant 25 Edgar Cecil Kimber, Reigate Borough Police

First enlisted 28.5.1906 at Chatham into Royal West Kent Regt No 8301 aged 18 years 3 months, occupation Baker. Transferred to Grenadier Guards No 12840 on 1.9.1906

Transferred to Army Reserve 28.5.1909 - 5 August 1914 Recalled to Colours, mobilised 5.8.1914 joined Grenadier Guards 2nd Bn on 30.11.1914 – fought on Somme wounded on 29.9.1916 serving in Flanders France – gunshot wound to right thigh. re-joining Reigate Borough 17 January 1919 after demob 2 January 1919

Retired Reigate Borough Police August 14, 1942

1942 August 14 Surrey Mirror: Police retirement: A long career in the Reigate Borough Police Force has some to an end with the retirement of Sergeant Edgar Cecil Kimber, to whom a parting gift has been made from his fellow officers. Sergeant Kimber joined the Force in on December 1st, 1911, coming from the Grenadier Guards, which regiment he re-joined on August 5th 1914. He served four years and 179 days in the Great War and saw active service in Flanders. He rejoined the Force on February 1st, 1919 and served as a constable until June 14 1932 when he was promoted sergeant on the recommendation of the present Chief Constable. During Sergeant Kimber's career in the Police Force he received many commendations from magisterial benches, Watch Committees and Chief Constables. The present from the Force was in the form of a bookcase and bureau. The Chief Constable (Mr WH Beacher) in making the presentation referred to Sergeant Kimber as a "born policeman" who had done exceptionally work and had a splendid record. He concluded by wishing the sergeant, his wife and family, long life and happiness. Sergeant Kimber suitably replied. [21]

Inspector Edwin King
Served 1858- 1895

With support and research by Henry Pelham

Lightwater Murder 1884

[20] 1941 December 16 Thanet Advertiser from Henry Pelham October 2020
[21] 1942 August 14 Surrey Mirror from Henry Pelham October 2020

1884 January 7: Alice Ellen North aged twenty-two appeared at the Central **Criminal Court** indicted for murder, 7th January 1884 and charged on the Coroner's Inquisition with, the **wilful murder** of Elizabeth Emily North. Lightwater Bridge – not guilty

Elizabeth Collier. I live at College Ride, Bagshot, and am the wife of Matthew Collier. I have known the prisoner about eight years; she has been a domestic servant. She came to stay at my house on 25th October last and she had an infant with her nearly three weeks old. She told me that she had come from Chertsey Union and she stayed with me till 2nd November with the baby. While she was staying with me, she would sometimes say to the baby "You shan't trouble me or anyone else long." That was when she used to sit and worry herself about different things and having no home. I knew that she was in trouble. I can't exactly say how many times she has said that, but several different times she used the same words. On 2nd November she took the baby away from my house to her sister's, as she told me. She said she was going there and she left about 3.30 in the afternoon. She said she was going to her sister's at Knaphill; that is about eight miles from Bagshot. I noticed how the child was dressed when she took it away. It had on a nightgown, a flannel pinch (that is a back flannel, a square of flannel which is put on the body), a little hood of flannel round its shoulders, a bandage round its body, and two little shirts. I cannot say whether they were both on or not; I gave her one of the shirts. I cannot say whether she put one in her pocket or whether she put both on the baby. One was on the baby when she brought it to my house; I think that was all that the child had on. I think that it had on its shoulders some cerise ribbons, and it had a shawl. The prisoner returned to my house the same afternoon and she had not the baby with her then. She brought the shawl back with her, which the baby had had on, and I said to her "Alice, that looks bad to bring the shawl back." That was the first thing I said to her. She said, "My sister would not allow me to leave the shawl, as she has two old ones of mother's, and if she wanted to take the baby out she could wrap her in one of them." I asked her what arrangement she had made with her sister about the baby. She told me that her sister was going to keep it at her own expense, and all she had to do was to find it in clothes. That was all that was said about the baby. I cannot recollect her saying anything else to me about it. She stayed with me till the 9th November when she went away; she said she was going to Aldershot. She did go to Aldershot; I went with her, to get her a situation. She got one at 40, Union Street, at a cook's shop; it was called Archer's Dining Room. She went to live there on 9th November and I next saw her on 11th December at my house; that is about 10 miles from Aldershot. I said, "Well, Alice, have you heard from the baby?" She said, "Yes." I said, "Is it all right?" She said, "Yes." Nothing else was said. She left my house on 11th December saying she was going back to Chertsey. She said she was with this man again that she had the baby by.

I had a little girl of hers keeping for her during the time she was at Aldershot, and she came to see this child and took it down to the village, and she said she was with him again, and she took the child down to him in the village and came back again to me in the afternoon. I had seen some man with her that day; she was going to Chertsey to live with him again. He came to my house with her in the afternoon. I knew him by being about where I live. He goes by the name of Bob Brown. He came with her to my house about half-past 2 o'clock that afternoon. The prisoner said nothing about the child or about this man in his presence. Nothing was said that

day about him. I had the little girl with me for some time. The prisoner brought her to me before she went into the Union to have another one. I had her some time during October; it was nearly four years old. I think it must have been in September when she brought the little girl to me, it must have been in the early part of September. She was very likely then to have this baby, and the man had left her. She came and asked me if I would take to the little girl. I had half-a-crown a week while it was with me, and I kept it with that money until she took it away. She said that child belonged to a man named Holder living at Balham. I next saw her on 26th December when she came to my house again and took the little girl away with her; she said she was going to take it to Chertsey. That was all the conversation I had with her on 26th December. On 28th December, in consequence of something I heard, I went to the police station at Bagshot. I there saw Police Constable Player. He showed me some clothing; these things (produced) are the things he showed me. They are a nightgown, two little hoods, a bandage, two little shirts, two napkins, a little flannel hood, and a flannel patch. I identify all these things as being the things that it was taken away in. On the 30th I saw the dead body of a child at the King's Arms at Bagshot, and I identified it as the body of the prisoner's baby.

John Humphrey. I am a farmer, living at Windlesham. On Saturday, 29th December, I was in Lightwater grounds, about 400 yards from the bridge. Some of the ground is common ground, and some of it is cultivated. My brother was with me; he called my attention to the body of a child in a small pool of water where some turf had been dug out. There were some trees round it. We could not see the face of the child, only the back of the head and the back; it was lying on its face. The water was about three or four inches deep; it was water and mud. The water was very shallow; there was more mud than water. There was no clothing on the body. I gave information to Police Constable Player and he came back with me to the place, and he took the child out and took it away. I did not see any marks about the place, only one footmark, when the policeman took the child out of the water that was at the side of the water where the child lay. I should think that footmark would be about four yards from the body of the child; that was the only footmark that I saw. It was boggy ground and I didn't see any other footmarks; it was rather a small footmark.

George Player (Surrey Constabulary 100). I am stationed at Bagshot. On 25th December, about 2.30 in the afternoon, I went to Lightwater Bridge and found the baby clothing that is now produced. It was lying on the grass by the side of the road. They were then loose, not tied in a bundle. I took them to the police station. On 28th December I saw Elizabeth Collier at the police station—I then showed her these baby-clothes. On 29th December I received some information from Humphreys about 10.30 in the morning, in consequence of which I went with him to the Lightwater Grounds, and there saw the body of a child; it was about a quarter of a mile from the bridge. It was lying face downwards in water, the body was nearly submerged in water and mud, except just the back part of the head, and the hips and shoulders were out of the water. I took it out of the water, and it was taken to the King's Arms, Bagshot. Mrs Collier saw it there on the following day, the 30th. There was nothing on the child when I found it. Lightwater Bridge is in Windlesham parish; the village is a little way off the road; Bagshot and Windlesham is all one parish. The boy Martin's description is correct.

Edwin John King (Police Sergeant). I am stationed at Chobham. I first received a communication in this matter from Police Constable Player on 28th December last—in consequence of that I first of all went to Knaphill to make inquiries, and on the following morning, the 29th, I went to Chertsey. I there saw the prisoner. She was not in custody. She was at Fircroft, Chertsey, where she was then living. I was in uniform and I said to her "I have come to speak to you respecting your youngest child." She said, "That is in London with a friend of mine." I said can you give me the address of that friend?" she said "No, I don't want anyone to know that, as the man Brown that I am living with is the father of it, but never would own it, and I don't want him to know where it is." I then cautioned her; I said "I am about to put some questions to you about the child, and you must be very careful how you answer them, as I may have to give them in evidence against you at some other time." I had not taken her into custody at that time; I had not made up my mind to do so. I said "There has been some child's clothing found near Lightwater Bridge, and they have been identified as belonging to your child; can you account for their being there?" she said "Yes, I can" She began to cry, and said "I have done wrong, and I must suffer for it." I then said, "You must go with me to the station and be detained there while I make further inquiries." I took her to the station.

By **Mr Geoghegan:** I did not consider her then in my custody; I mean I had not charged her. I said, "You must go to the station" She was in my custody. **By the court:** She said she had not seen the child since November? I had said to her "Don't put yourself out, if the child is all right there is no need of it." That was all I said. On arriving at the station, she was put in a cell and searched. I went back to the cell and I heard her ask to see me again. I was in the passage, a few doors away from the cell. She asked the female who was searching her, Constable Granger's wife; she is not here, she is at Chertsey. I heard the prisoner say to her "Where is Mr. King? Can I see him again?" The constable who was standing in the passage turned around and said, "She wants to speak to you." I went back to the cell where she was then crying very much. Mrs Granger had been in the cell with her about five minutes. I could hear what was said. All I heard Mrs Granger ask her was what she had in her pockets and so on. I did not hear Mrs Granger say to her that it would be better to tell me everything. I believe I heard all she said. I never heard those words used. The first thing she said was "What have you about you? "I heard nothing said about speaking the truth. I have never spoken to Mrs Granger since or seen her. Constable Granger heard the conversation, he was standing in the passage; he is not here. I did not hear Mrs Granger say it would be better for her to tell all about it, or words to that effect. Those words might have been spoken without my hearing them if they had been spoken in a very low tone. Constable Granger could hear better than me, he was standing at the cell door. A quarter of an hour might have elapsed between her saying she had never seen the child since November and her sending for me to the cell. I don't remember that in that quarter of an hour she said anything to contradict the fact that she had seen the child last in November; I don't think she did, if she had it would have struck me as a contradiction. I am almost positive she did not; I should not like to swear it.

I made a note of this conversation; I have it here (producing it). I did not enter the last. I took down her reply to the charge. I have no other notes than these. This was written in pencil about an hour after it took place. This was her reply to the charge (producing another paper) this was

written at the same time as the other. I did not write it all on the same paper because I had not sufficient room. When I went to the cell she was crying very much. I have no note of what she said then. Constable Granger was standing in the passage at the time; I believe he could hear it. Mrs Granger was gone then; she came out as I went in.

When questioned by Mr Avory: When I went into the cell the prisoner said, "Oh, Mr. King, do you think I shall be hung?" I said, "I hope not; is the child dead?" She said, "Yes, it is dead." I said, "Does Brown know it?" She said, "He knows it is dead, but I never would tell him anything about it." I said, "I shall have to search for the child; if you can say at all where it is, it will save me a great deal of trouble in searching for it." I would not say whether I said, "save me," or "save us," I believe I said "me;" I won't swear it. She said "can't tell you, only that I would sooner go with you and show you where it is" I said "I should not like to take you anywhere in the state you are now in." She then sat crying for a few moments and said, "It is in a bog among some fir-trees, about a quarter of a mile from where the clothes were." I then said, "You have been cautioned before, and I now caution you again, and whatever you say will be taken down and used in evidence against you. You must now consider yourself in custody on a charge of killing your child." In reply to that she said "I was drove to do what I have done through that man Brown, and he ought to suffer as well as me; he left me in July when I had my trouble before me, and came back when he thought it was over. I came out of the Union when I had only been confined three weeks; I tried hard to get a day's work but could not, as everyone turned their backs on me; I thought I would sooner do that than go back to the Union, and I went to Aldershot and got a place at Archer's dining-rooms" That was all; after that I went to Bagshot where I saw Player on the following day and I saw the dead body of a female child in a shed at the back of the White Hart beer house.

By the court: It was about 12.45 on the 29th when I left the prisoner. I was with her a little over half an hour at the house and the station, and about five minutes in the cell. This note was written on the same day about 2 o'clock, not in any one's presence. I wrote it while I was at the railway station waiting for the train.

Cross-examined: I have never been in the Metropolitan Police force; I am not subject to Scotland Yard. I reduced the conversation into writing for my own information, to refer to if I wanted to; it was not because I was in doubt as to what was said. What I wrote down there is correct. I did not refer to it at the police court. I did not hand it in or say that I had taken it. I did not mention it at all; this is the first time I have produced it in Court. I have given evidence before, at the Assizes, not in a murder case. This is not the only instance in which I have put into writing what a prisoner has said. I have not always taken down the conversation, I trusted to my memory. I could have trusted to my memory for the whole of this. I did not take every word down that took place in the cell; I could have done so. She said, "I had only been confined three weeks." I am not sure that it was not “the child was only three weeks old". That was in reply to the charge in the cell. I charged her in the cell. I told her she must consider herself in custody; the superintendent entered the charge afterwards. He was out in the town while this was going on in the cell; he had just gone out in his cart and it was uncertain when he would return. I made a mistake, when I said that she said, "I had only been confined three weeks."

Her expression was "My child was three weeks old." What I wrote down is a mistake. I had this in my possession when I gave evidence at the police court but I did not refer to it there, or before the Coroner. The expression she made use of was "I went to Aldershot and got 'place' at Archer's dining-rooms." I may have said before the Coroner that she said, "I got a 'situation.'" I could not say which it was. What I wrote down there is correct. If I said "situation" that is another word for place. When I asked her to say where the child was, she said, "I cannot tell anyone that." I formally considered her in custody when I told her she must consider herself in custody on a charge of killing her child that was just before she made the statement in reply to the charge, when she was being detained. I had heard then from Player that some clothes had been found. I went to Chertsey with that knowledge. I simply went to ascertain if the child was safe; I had no information whatever.

Re-examined: At the time she made this statement I did not know that the body of the child had been found. **By the court:** I made no other memorandum than those I have produced. I have generally a very good memory. I have seen these memorandums several times since I made them. I have not read them over this morning; I did yesterday, simply to refresh my memory. I read them over before going before the Coroner. I was never asked anything there about the notes, and I did not speak of them. I did not show them to Constable Granger; I have not seen him since; I believe he is still at Chertsey. I could not say whether he heard the conversation in the cell; I think he must have heard it. I have never had the opportunity of seeing him since. I am six miles from him. I could have made an opportunity to see him; he was living at Chertsey at the time. I did not know him before; he had only been there a fortnight. The prisoner has a sister at Knaphill, I went there and saw her, and made inquiries of her, on the evening of 28th December. I did not see any other relations of the prisoner at Knaphill; that was the only relation she had living there. I saw no friend of hers there; I did not make inquiry for any. I did not know that she had any other friend there except the sister. I was present when Harriet Holmes was examined before the Magistrate. I could not say that I heard her evidence clearly. I did not read what she said. She told me before she was examined that the prisoner had told her that she had taken the child to a woman at Knaphill. I did not see any woman friend of the prisoner's there. I did not make that inquiry. I made no endeavour to find out whether there was such a woman; I had no reason to think there was.

John Francis Stafford. I am a registered medical practitioner, at Windlesham. On 29th December, about 6 o'clock in the evening, I was fetched by Sergeant King to the White Hart and was there shown the dead body of a female child, which appeared to be between three and four months old at that time. I formed a judgment by its general appearance that it had been dead between one and two months. The child appeared to me to be older than it turns out to be. It was a well-nourished child and on examining the body I found the skin on the legs, feet, arms, and hands bleached; the abdomen was blue; the face and head was reddish; the skin was peeling off the feet and toes, also off the pubis, and slightly off the head. I noticed some marks on the body, one on the back part of the head, a little to the left side, somewhat slightly larger than half a-crown, circular, of a' punched-out appearance, removing the skin and muscle down to the bone. There was a similar mark on the side of the left buttock of the same size, and a similar one on the right. I believe those marks to be simply the result of decomposition. I found

no marks on the body, which in my judgment were not the result of decomposition. I found no marks of violence. There were two other marks. I must explain that I cannot swear positively in some of these instances, because the body was so far decomposed; putrefaction had set in considerably. On 1st January I made a post-mortem examination. The lungs were congested, but they were not gorged; the right side of the heart contained some blood; the left side was empty; the stomach was distended; it contained an ash-coloured fluid, which might have been milk mixed with dirty water; that is merely suggestion. There was nothing in the post-mortem examination, which enabled me to assign the cause of death. There was nothing in the condition of any of the organs to account for death. The only inference I might possibly draw from the state of the lungs was that the child might have died from exposure.

Question: Supposing the child to have been placed face downwards in a pool of muddy water, such as has been described, was there any appearance wanting which you did not find? **Answer:** Yes; had if it had been placed in the water recently there were appearances wanting. I mean by recently, before decomposition had set in; say a few days. There were indications wanting of a death by drowning. I cannot, say that it was not alive when it was placed there. I cannot form an opinion upon that point one way or the other, owing to the decomposition. That is the opinion I must give from the non-appearance of positive evidence.

Cross-examined: The skin was bleached. I cannot say that that is an appearance often found in death from exposure. I have not had enough experience to enable me to speak of it. Decomposition had set in about the head, not about the face; I think it had in the throat, I am not sure. I think it had in the stomach; I am not sure. The lips were not compressed; they were slightly open. From being sometime in the water the flesh would come easily off with the touch, that is one of the signs which enabled me to determine the length of time the body was there. I saw the body before it was removed to the station and to the King's Arms. I went first with Sergeant King to the White Hart. I cannot say whether the child was alive or dead when in was placed in the water.

Re-examined*:* I did not upon the post-mortem examination alter the opinion I had formed about the age of the child. That was an opinion I formed on the view of the body, and that is the opinion I form now. From my examination of the body if I had been asked how old the child was, I should have said between three and four months.

By the court: My opinion on that subject was free from doubt, still children vary so much. It would be an exceptional thing for a child three weeks old to appear like one of three or four months. I would not say it is very exceptional; I think I have known such a case. I cannot give such an instance. I have seen fine children born; the hair of a young child comes off after a time. There was hair on this child. There are indications of drowning, which I say were wanting. There was no water in the lungs, a very common indication of drowning is excoriation on the fingers and nails; there were no traces of that, I looked for them. The hands and fingers were in a condition to enable me to form an opinion as to whether excoriation had ever existed. There was no dirt about the hands; the tongue looked dirty, discoloured by external dirt, but no mud. Mud in the mouth is a very common thing, I found none here. I should have expected to do so

if a living body was placed on its face in a muddy pond. There was no other wanting indication. An inference might be drawn from the state of the heart and lungs that the child had died from drowning. To some extent indications of drowning were wanting, the lungs were congested, not gorged; that might happen during life, from cold, and a variety of causes. There was nothing that I observed in the body, which was inconsistent with the fact that the child might have died a natural death, nor anything inconsistent with the fact of its being placed in the water after death. I should say it had been in the water between one and two months, more than one and decidedly less than two; that I can swear to positively. I do not think that all the appearances I saw could have been presented by its having been in the water a full month, I incline to the belief that it was nearly two months, it is impossible to say to a day. The body of a young child would become decomposed somewhat quicker than that of an adult. I have had no personal experience of the condition of the bodies of children that have been in the water for so long a period as a month. There were indications here which enable me to say with certainty that the child had been there as long as a month; the skin was peeling off—after a month it begins to peel off; that would be so in the case of an adult.

1886 January 30: Horsham Petty Sessions: Saturday: Desperate attack by poachers 16 January: (Belied Inspector Edwin King responsible for the investigation) Solomon Fairbrother, Charles Aldridge, John Davy and Benjamin Ironmonger appeared on remand for night poaching, assault and wounding John Burberry, John Chennel and William Lipscombe game-keepers and night watchers in the service of MR HF Broadwood of Lyne (Capel). The court was crowded. Chennel was so injured he could not attend the court and a further remand would be asked for. Thomas John Lee Jardine surgeon at Capel had been attending Chennell and he would probably be able to attend in about a week. Exploded cartridges had been found in Tickford Gill and Stone Farm Gill where several shots were heard on the Friday night. Inspector King, Surrey Constabulary, stationed at Holmwood where the prisoners lived had searched the homes of Fairbrother and Aldridge and in a clothes box he found six loaded cartridges. He was handed two broken gunstocks and half of a gun barrel that had been found where the skirmish took place. Charles Taylor the landlord of the Norfolk Arms, Holmwood spoke to all four of the prisoners who had been in his house and sometimes they were all together on the 15th. The prisoners were again remanded.[22] The area is in 2015 is right on the border path between Sussex and Surrey close to Ockley and Kingsfold.

1895 April 12 Surrey Mirror Resignation Inspector Edwin King: The chief constable had reported the resignation of Inspector Edwin J King. This officer joined the force in March 1858 and resigned in May 1864 to join the Government Convict Service, in which he remained until March 1870, when he re-joined the Surrey Constabulary. He had served continuously in the force for 25 years, but if his previous service of six years was added, he had completed 31 years of service. His age was 56 years. The Committee were of the opinion that as the inspector joined the force before the Police Act 1890 which deals with previous service, came into force, the whole period of 31 years should be taken into consideration in fixing the pension. Under these circumstances the committee had awarded to Inspector King, who had been a meritorious

[22] 1886 January 30: Surrey Mirror and General County Advertiser

officer, a pension of £78 per annum, such sum being equal to two thirds of his pay of £117 per annum to take effect from 31 March1895.

It should be borne in mind that in future a constable who had now left, or hereafter left the force, would be allowed to re-join it and count for pension his previous service in the force. The committee had directed the chief constable to issue a memorandum to this effect.

The chief constable reported as follows respecting Inspector King. Inspector King had been an excellent officer and has never had a single report of misconduct against him during the whole period of his service and I therefore venture to hope, although he only served continuously for 25 years he may be allowed to count his previous service in this force in order to entitle him to a pension oof two thirds of his pay viz., £78. The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

1895 April 6: Inspector King of the Surrey Constabulary retired from the force on Monday after 37 (sic) years' service. It was through his exertions that a dangerous gang of poachers on the estate of Mr Broadwood were arrested and sentenced to 7 years penal servitude each at Lewes assizes, and he also worked out a clue that led to the apprehension of the Wootton murderer who was sentenced to 20 years penal servitude. [23]

1895 April 12 Surrey Mirror Resignation Inspector Edwin King: The chief constable had reported the resignation of Inspector Edwin J King. This officer joined the force in March 1858 and resigned in May 1864 to join the Government Convict Service, in which he remained until March 1870, when he re-joined the Surrey Constabulary. He had served continuously in the force for 25 years, but if his previous service of six years was added, he had completed 31 years of service. His age was 56 years. The Committee were of the opinion that as the inspector joined the force before the Police Act 1890 which deals with previous service, came into force, the whole period of 31 years should be taken into consideration in fixing the pension. Under these circumstances the committee had awarded to Inspector King, who had been a meritorious officer, a pension of £78 per annum, such sum being equal to two thirds of his pay of £117 per annum to take effect from 31 March1895.

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[23] 1895 April 6: Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser

1895 April 13 Middlesex & Surrey Express Presentation at Chertsey: At Chertsey on Thursday Superintendent Hackman of the Chertsey Division presented Inspector King (retired) lately of Egham and now residing at Reigate with a handsome marble clock and illuminated address. The wording of the latter was as follows "The officers and men of the Chertsey Division, Surrey Constabulary have much pleasure presenting Inspector EJ King with a clock as a mark of respect and esteem after 37 (sic) years' service, April 1895." (Subscriber's names appended)

Police Cadets 1964

From Andy Hasted November 2020. Police Cadets Denis Fisher, the late Robbie Chapman and Bob Bartlett in 1964 at Epsom at a Duke of Edinburgh exhibition.

1964 Cadet Training Vehicle in Snowdonia for the Gold Award expedition

With about six others I spent a week with a number of Swedish girl guides in tents at a place called Woodlarks at Farnham, where a number of youngsters with cerebral palsy were on a camping holiday. What one did for one's country when young!

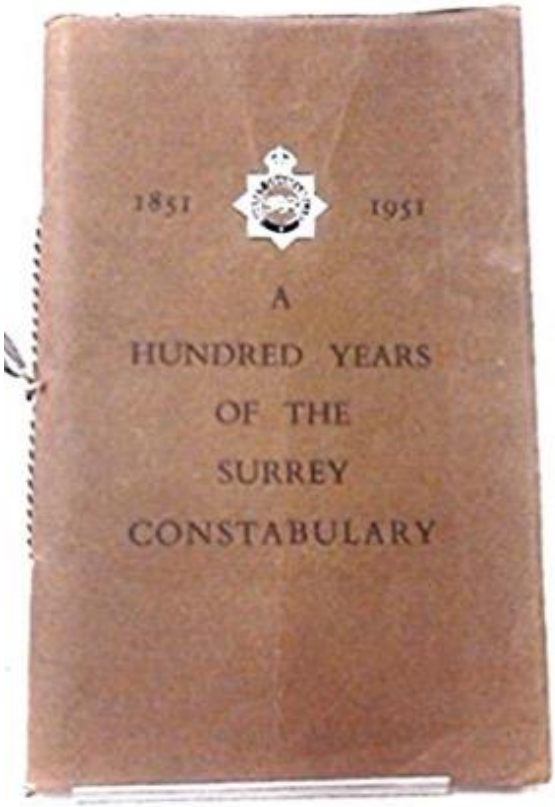
In November 1964, with my mother, I attended Buckingham Palace and in the ballroom was presented with my award by the Duke:

> "The Equerry in Waiting to the Duke of Edinburgh is desired by His Royal Highness to invite Robert Bartlett to attend the presentation of Awards to young people who have reached the Gold Standard in His Royal Highness's Award Scheme at Buckingham Palace at 3 p.m. on Thursday 26th November 1964."

I remember the loos being "posh" and the long picture lined corridors. This was quite an occasion. My mother was sat in the ballroom, and in the gallery a Guards' band played Beatles music. Along with others, I formed a queue in an adjoining gallery, from where we entered, bowed to the Duke, received the award, and went out the other side.

Bob (joined the cadets from being an army apprentice for 18 months but that is another story) cooking with Cadet Charlie Emmett came from Bulawayo and John Pearson looking on; John transferred to Bournemouth Borough Police

A Hundred Years of the Surrey Constabulary



Many of you will have read or heard of this small book published in 1951 researched and written by Superintendent Durrant. Recently a copy was up for sale on E Bay.

PC427 Donald Woodman Surrey Constabulary Second World War Royal Navy

PC 427 Donald Woodman Surrey Constabulary and Second World War in the Royal Navy. The following information came from Don's daughter, Carol Mortimer in November 2020. He joined Portsmouth Division of the Royal Navy 16 September 1942 as a volunteer for the duration of the war as an Ordinary Seaman and worked his way to AB seaman 3rd class. First ship Collingwood 16 September 1942 to 2 December 1942 Training base

Don joined the HMS Eaglet until the 18 December 24 to March 1943 a shore establishment in Liverpool then to HMS Victory 25 March 1943 until 1 April 1943, another shore establishment this time at Portsmouth. Don then received specialist training at HMS St Christopher 2 April to 30 April 1943, a Coastal Forces Training Base located in and around Fort William, Scotland. It is likely training continued at HMS Attack 1 May 1943 to 31 August 1943, a Coastal Forces base at Portland. Following training he was posted to HMS Hornet 1 September 1943 1to 3 October 1943, MTB base at Gosport

Leonidas Motor Launch at Pool 14 October 1943 31 December 1943 to 30 June 1944, then posted to West Africa on HMS Philocettes 11, 1 July 1944 to 24 November 1944 a former merchant ship taken over and used as a depot and repair ship in Sierra Leone until 1945. Possibly used as a depot and base for the MTBs. 25 November 1944 to 6 April 1945 HMS Eland, the naval base in Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa was known as 'the white man's grave' for good reason — it was terribly humid. Malaria, dysentery, tropical ulcers, and prickly heat were endemic.

Back to the UK in time for D Day to be based at Hornet 7 April 17 July 1945 MTB establishment at Gosport, then finally HMS Victory 18 July to 1945 3 September 1945, then to 30 May 1946. Victory was a shore establishment Portsmouth.

Was awarded Second World War, the 1939 – 1945 Star Atlantic Star. Served on MTBs around West Africa with information taken from his old Royal Navy papers.

Was a PC at Horley in 1958, also served Hindhead, Haslemere.

Surrey Constabulary Old Comrades Association

Surrey Constabulary Old Comrades Association Formed[24]

1931 January 5 Old Comrades Association Formed;[25] The inaugural meeting of the Surrey Constabulary Old Comrades Association was held at St Saviour's Hall, Guildford on Monday. Seventy-seven pensioners were present some of whom had not met for twenty years, and there was much enthusiasm for the formation of the association.

Captain ML Sant DL JP the late Chief Constable presided and the following officers and committee were appointed: President and treasurer Capt. Sant; hon. Secretary Mr AW Daws of Gwenles, Worplesdon Road, Guildford; committee Messrs A Sawyer (headquarters division) JH Tamplin (Dorking), AE Arney (Chertsey), T Mears (Farnham), G Pearce (Godalming), AR Davis, (Oxted), G Harris (Hersham), WT Hardy (Woking).

It was decided to meet for luncheon in April and October of each year the first meeting being in Guildford.

Robert Bartlett

The early minute book of the Association shows and entry "No Sir, I think they never die." This was the reply that Major Nicholson gave to an enquiry when the point in issue was the length of time that the policemen were a charge on the community by drawing their pensions. Long may it be so! The objects of the Association were established as good fellowship and comradeship and the fellowship was for many generations from foundation in 1931 based around an AGM and reunion lunch.

[24] Surrey Advertiser 10 January 1931 Henry Pelham 20 September 2020
[25] Surrey Advertiser 10 January 1931 Henry Pelham 20 September 2020

The idea for the Association was that of a recently retired chief constable, Captain Sant who organised an inaugural meeting at St. Saviours Hall in Guildford on the 5 January 1931. Captain Sant was elected president and treasurer with Mr A. W. Dawes as the first secretary and an annual subscription of two shillings was agreed. The cost of the lunch was not to exceed three shillings and sixpence and when a member died, it was agreed a wreath would be sent. The railway company was to be approached to provide cheap fares for those attending the meeting.

The inaugural lunch was organised in the same hall for the 14 April 1931 when ninety-six members attended along with Major Nicholson, the Head Constables of Guildford and Reigate sending their apologies. It was proposed and carried that on this first occasion a telegram should be sent to the King expressing the Association's loyalty and support for a speedy recovery from an illness. The King, through his private secretary responded. A tie was proposed, brown the county colour and blue and silver from the policeman's uniform. There was discussion as to how they could be told of the death of a member but as this would entail postcards to all the matter was seen as impractical. After the lunch community songs were heartily sung and all forgot age and returned to youthful days.

The members wanted a badge that incorporated the Crown but as this was refused by the Home Office members decided no crown no badge!

Over the coming years the AGM and lunch was held finally moving to Mount Browne in 1951 – the hundredth anniversary of the Surrey Constabulary where the event was until accommodation and catering was too difficult and a move made to Bramley Golf Club.

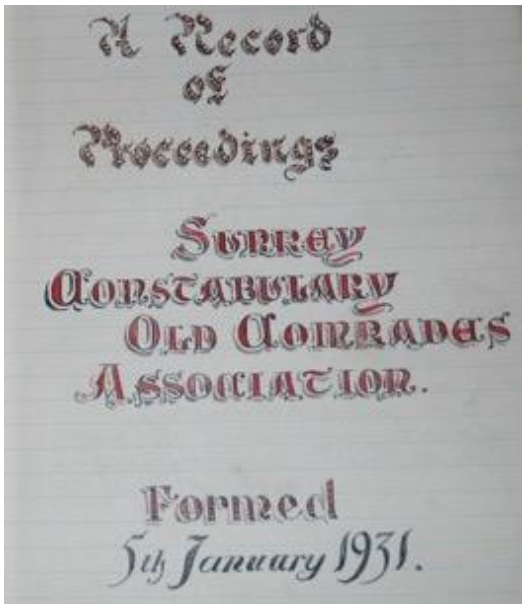
The next fifty years saw little change, except abandoning subscriptions and adoption of the rule that all Surrey Police officers with over twenty-two years' service and Surrey Police pensioners police and civilian, automatically became members. Officers who had served in Surrey could become members on application even if retiring from another force. The coming of the personal computer and the considerable take up rate amongst pensioners was to revolutionise contact between the retired police officer from Surrey residents across the world to New Zealand, Australia, Far East, Vancouver, France and Spain.

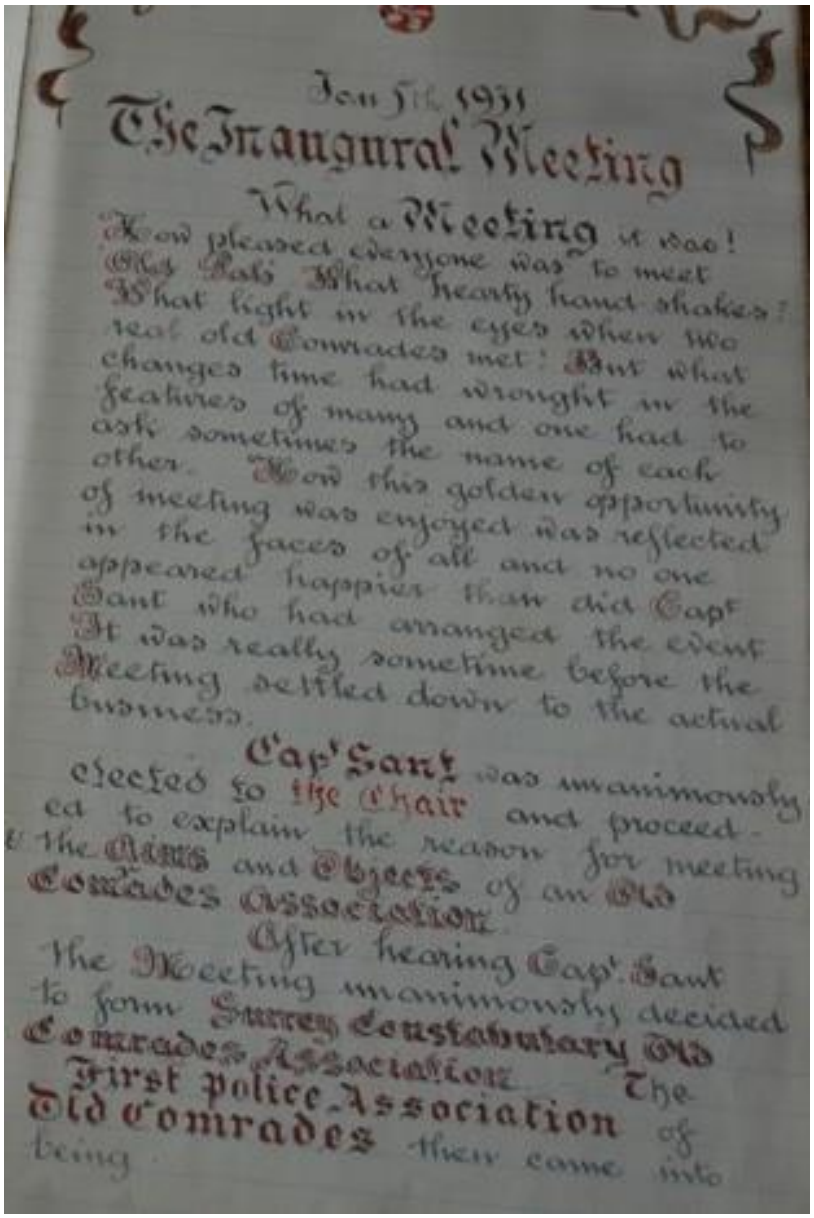
Tony Forward developed a Pensioner's Patch column in the force newspaper that grew into one hundred strong email addresses of pensioners who were notified of deaths of members. This supported a system of divisional representatives and a telephone chain. Following the death soon after retirement of Chief Superintendent Peter Stevens and the reaction of Bob Bartlett that retirement was more than death messages; there were many good news stories to be told. Old and Bold a monthly electronic newsletter was founded in early 2003 with many, many subscribers in 2020. (Editors Bob Bartlett followed by the late Martin Field and now Dennis Turner)

The newsletter incorporating Pensioner's Patch has acted as a focal point for retired officers. The publication has been supplemented by Tony Suter (who is the Welfare Officer for Retired

Comrades) using the same list, for circulating information on those who have died, sick colleagues and putting people in touch. The list has also allowed f members to be contacted to be asked to visit ex-colleagues requiring comfort or help across the land. Retired Comrades is driven by the computer age (with the help of Robin Crorie), supported by area representatives, and the Surrey branch of National Association of Retired Police Officers. Added to this mix must not be forgotten the large number of departmental and divisional reunions; Dick Coles and Richard Johnson Traffic, Ted Sellars CID, John Stone Haslemere, Alan Fletcher Farnham, Ann Carter policewomen and no doubt many more. The coming together of all these initiatives, driven by different people but with the aim of maintaining links and friendship means that the retired Surrey Officer no longer need to feel isolated or by default risk drifting away from lifelong friends and colleagues. In recent years chairman of the Old Comrades have been Chris Atkins, Tony Forward, Bob Bartlett and Kevin Morris with Fred Smith as secretary of great distinction for many years recently replaced by Paul Hickman.

The original minute books are still held by the secretary of what is now known as the Retired Comrades Association





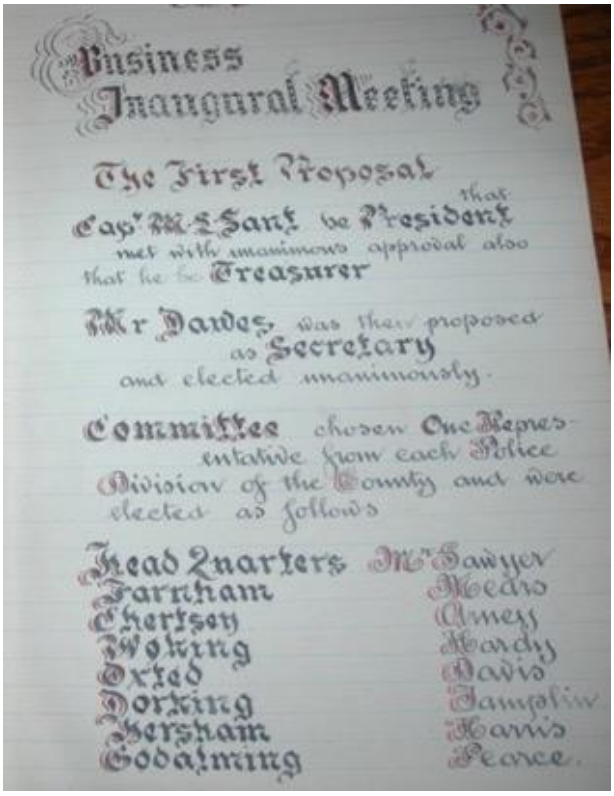
Jan 5th 1931

The Inaugural Meeting

What a Meeting it was! How pleased everyone was to meet Old Pals What hearty hand shakes! What light in the eyes when two real old Comrades met! But what changes time had wrought in the features of many and one had to ask sometimes the name of each other. How this golden opportunity of meeting was enjoyed was reflected in the faces of all and no one appeared happier than did Capt Sant who had arranged the event It was really sometime before the Meeting settled down to the actual business.

Capt Sant was unanimously elected to the Chair and proceeded to explain the reason for meeting & the Aims and Objects of an Old Comrades Association

After hearing Capt. Sant The Meeting unanimously decided to form Surrey Constabulary Old Comrades Association The First police Association of Old Comrades then came into being.



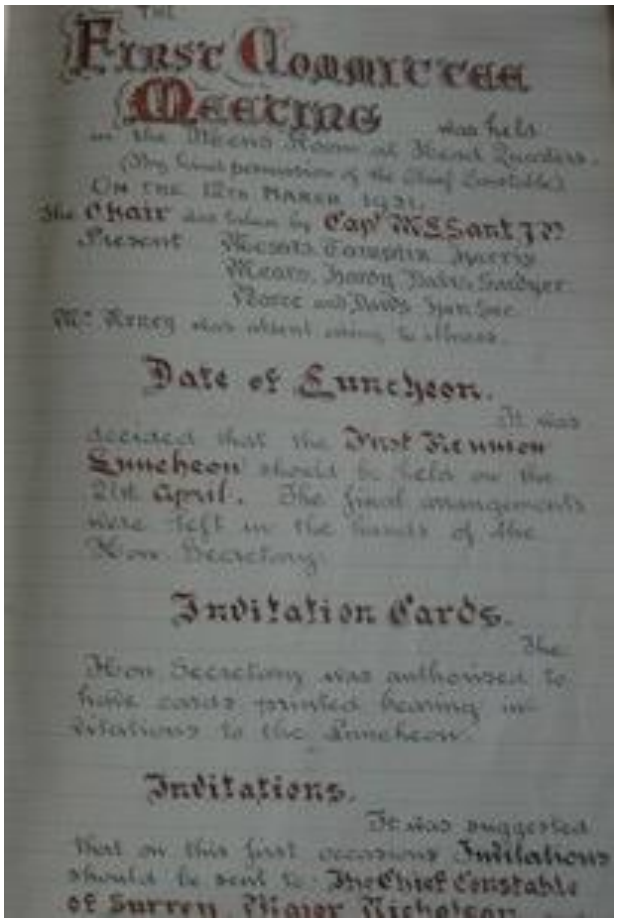
Business
Inaugural Meeting

The First Proposal
that
Capt W.L Sant be President
met with unanimous approval also
that he be Treasurer

Mr Davies was then proposed
as Secretary
and elected unanimously.

Committee chosen One Represen-
tative from each Police
Division of the County and were
elected as follows

Head Quarters Mr Sawyer
Farnham Mears
Chertsey Ames
Woking Hardy
Oxted Davis
Dorking Sampson
Horsham Harris
Godalming Pearce.



The
First Committee
Meeting was held
on the Mezz Room at Head Quarters.
(By kind permission of the Chief Constable)
On the 17th March 1921.
The Chair was taken by Capt W.L Sant J.P.
Present Messrs Tompkin, Avery
Mears, Harris, Sawyer
Morse and Davis Secretary
Mr Arney was absent owing to illness.

Date of Luncheon.

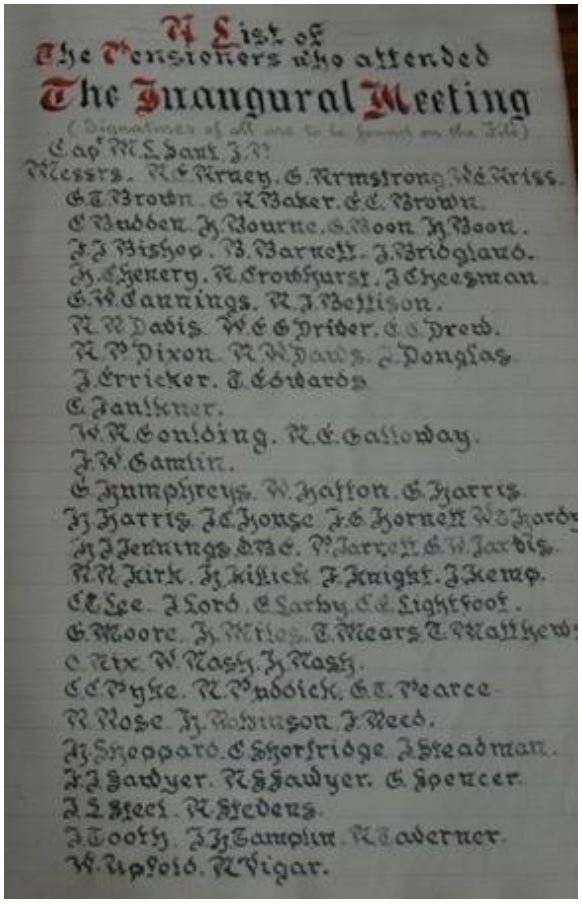
It was
decided that the First Reunion
Luncheon should be held on the
21st April. The final arrangements
were left in the hands of the
Hon Secretary.

Invitation Cards.

The
Hon Secretary was authorised to
have cards printed bearing in-
vitations to the Luncheon.

Invitations.

It was suggested
that on this first occasion Invitations
should be sent to The Chief Constable
of Surrey, Major Nicholson



A List of
The Pensioners who attended
The Inaugural Meeting
(Signatures of all are to be found on the Title)
Capt M.L. Bant J.P.
Messrs. R.E. Bruey. G. Armstrong. W.E. Ariss.
G.T. Brown. G.H. Baker. E.C. Brown.
C. Budden. H. Bourne. G. Boon. H. Boon.
F.J. Bishop. P. Barnett. J. Bridgland.
H. Cheney. R. Crowhurst. J. Cheesman.
G.W. Cannings. R.J. Bellison.
R.R. Davis. W.E.G. Drider. E.S. Drew.
R.P. Dixon. R.W. Davis. E. Douglas.
J. Errickor. T. Edwards.
C. Faulkner.
W.R. Goulding. R.E. Galloway.
F.W. Gamlin.
G. Humphreys. W. Hatton. G. Harris.
H. Harris. J.C. House. F.G. Hornett W.T. Hardy
H.J. Jennings. D.M.C. P. Jarrett. G.W. Jarvis.
R.M. Kirk. H. Killick. F. Knight. J. Kemp.
C.C. Lee. J. Lord. E. Larby. C.E. Lightfoot.
G. Moore. H. Miles. T. Mears. T. Matthews
C. Nix. W. Nash. H. Nash.
C.C. Pyke. R. Puddick. G.T. Pearce.
R. Rose. H. Robinson. F. Reed.
H. Sheppard. C. Shorbridge. J. Steadman.
F.J. Sawyer. R.S. Sawyer. G. Spencer.
A.L. Steel. R. Stedens.
J. Tooth. J.H. Tamplin. R. Taverner.
W. Upton. R. Vigar.

Rules

Name

The Association shall be called Surrey Constabulary Old Comrades Association.

Membership.

Membership is open to men who are actually Pensioners of the Surrey Constabulary

Subscription.

Subscription shall be Two Shillings payable Annually.

Meetings.

Members shall meet Twice in Each Year at a Luncheon. The First

1931 April 18; Old Comrades: Surrey Advertiser*:* Gathering of ex Police Officers: Surrey Association's first reunion: Nearly 100 former members of the Surrey police force from all parts of the county attended a reunion luncheon held by the recently formed Surrey Constabulary Old Comrades Association at St. Saviour's Hall, Guildford on Tuesday. Captain ML Sant, formerly Chief Constable of Surrey and president of the association was in the chair and was supported by his successor Major G Nicholson. Indisposition prevented the Chief Constable of Guildford (Mr W Oliver) attending.

The Royal toast was honoured and it was announced that a telegram expressing loyalty had been sent to HM The King. A reply had since been received as follows: "Please express to the members of the Old Comrades' Association assembled at their first reunion the King's sincere thanks for their message of loyalty and good wishes."

Ex-Supt T Mears of Camberley expressed pleasure at the presence of Captain Sant and welcomed Major Nicholson. The Chairman and Major Nicholson briefly replied
The Association's next reunion will take place at Dorking on October 6.[26]

[26] Surrey Advertiser 18 April 1931

Sergeant Thomas Mears at Camberley in 1906

Captain Sant front right at the Surrey Constabulary HQ Guildford in the 1920s – great many smiles

Captain Sant to the right of the cup 1930
Chief Constable of Surrey 1899-1930

Major G Nicholson appointed Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary 1930

Christmas Boxes

Jeff Todd

The item on Christmas Boxes in 70 SC History December 2020 brought back memories of such happenings at Camberley during 1959-1965 when I served there as a young constable.

Each year a Patience Strong's Yearbook appeared in your box. They arrived courtesy of Kate Ward who was well known to and avoided by many of the local police officers. Kate lived at 218 London Road, York Town, just short of Blackwater Bridge, which marked our border with the Hampshire Constabulary. The Berkshire border was just the other side of the road (A30) from her house. The house was always clean when I visited it but smelt of dogs because Kate kept a large number of them.

A lot of people, both local and travellers using the A30, knew her because she walked daily from her home, usually on the road, to Camberley High Street, where she regularly visited the police station. Her cartload of dogs caused chaos in the High Street, where she parked the cart, to go shopping. While there, people would give her money for the dogs. She normally arrived in the High Street area around mid-morning so if you were on High Street duty you knew when to disappear from the beat if not wishing to encounter her! The barking of her dogs usually announced her approach.

Whatever, she thought her local police force were wonderful and ensured that each officer had a Year Book annually. Somehow or the other she normally managed to find out when any of us were getting married. She would then ensure that a Teasmaid was delivered to the station as a wedding gift. Mine gave many years of service.

https://www.surreyheath.gov.uk/sites/default/files/images/CamberleyKAte.gif

Kate was just one of several local "characters" and those serving at Camberley at this time would recall Doctor Barbara Moore, a Russian, who walked from John O'Groats to Land's End and across the United States from San Francisco to New York City. She also fought authorities about the routing of a sewer across her land.

Also recalled Dudley "The Fighting Farmer" Glanfield who fought battles to stop electricity pylons being put across his dairy farm and subsequently had the M3 Motorway built across it as well!

Egham's Police Force[27]

First patrols

Despite its distance from London, Egham and Englefield Green were included in the Bow Street Horse Patrol. The patrol was originally founded in 1763 to have a presence patrolling the highways in and around London, but it died out due to a lack of funding after 18 months. It was revived in 1805 by Sir John Fielding, who despite being blind could recognise 3,000 criminals by voice alone. The new and improved Bow Street Horse Patrol had 60 men patrolling from the centre of London outwards towards places like Windsor.[28] Bow Street Patrol men were recognisable from their uniform, as they were the first uniformed police force in Great Britain. They wore blue jackets with brass buttons, a leather hat, blue trousers and leather boots; but what made them stand out were their scarlet waistcoats, earning them the nickname of 'robin red breast'.[29] As officers they carried a cutlass, truncheon and pistol as a form of protection. The patrol was very effective in removing highwaymen from the roads into and out of London, particularly Hounslow Heath, until they were disbanded by the government, and the highway men returned.

Appointment of Special Constables in Egham

[27] https://eghammuseum.org/eghams-police-force/
[28] Vic, *Bow Street Horse Patrol: fighting crime during the regency era*, Jane Austen's World, 23rd January 2007, available from <janeaustensworld.wordpress.com/2007/1/23/bow-street-horse-patrol-fighting-crime-during-the-regency-era>
[29] Alan Cook, *Public Offices*, Truncheons and Tipstaves, available from <truncheon.org.uk/Middlesex>

In an 1822 letter to Charles John Lawson Esq, Clerk of the Peace, the establishment of special constables in Egham was outlined. Various local residents named in the letter were worried about the number of felonies happening in the local area, both in the past and present. Because the men named were of 'fine respectable households' in the Parish, their call warranted the introduction of special constables in the local area, made up of local volunteers, to police during the upcoming winter. This was allowed under an Act of Parliament in 1820 during the reign of George IV, which gave magistrates the power to appoint Special Constables in time of public unrest, but local authorities were often reluctant to appoint them.[30]

The Surrey Constabulary

The idea of establishing of a police force outside of the Metropolitan police district was first brought up in December 1850. It was decided that the 96 parishes would be put into 3 divisions: Dorking, Godalming and Chertsey, with Dorking housing the chief constable. This was later changed to Guildford. The Surrey Constabulary then became operational in the New Year in 1851, with 70 police officers, including 5 superintendents, and the chief constable, Captain Hastings. Officers had to be less than 30 years old and at least 5 feet 7 inches, but there was no minimum age, and a 14 and 15-year-old were recorded as officers.[31]

In 1898, there was talk of introducing telephone communication between the Surrey police stations; the Surrey Standing Joint Committee wrote to the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police about the matter. They argued it was of particular importance for Egham and Staines to have a phone line because they communicated about all petty felonies within the area, and it would save them from having to cycle between the stations. The Met didn't greet the suggestion with much enthusiasm, and thought it benefited Surrey more than it did them. The connection then never went ahead. [32]

Egham Police during World War Two

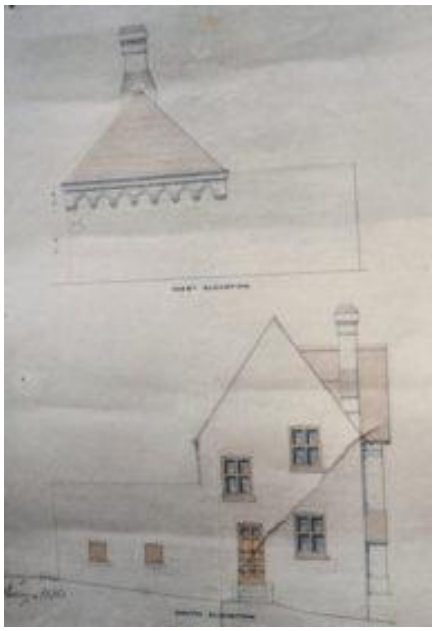
During the Second World War, many police officers went to the front, because many were reservists and already trained, and many young officers volunteered. This meant the police force across the UK was spread thin, so the government introduced some measures to stop officers going to fight. In addition, they recruited reserve policeman, more women, and

[30] *The History of the Special Constabulary,* Old Police Cells Museum, <https://www.oldpolicecellsmuseum.org.uk/content/history/police_history/police_specials>
[31] Robert Bartlett, *Part 1: Policing the Victorian Countryside,* International Centre for the History of Crime, Policing and Justice, <https://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/history-from-police-archives/RB1/Pt1/pt1SryConstab.html>
[32] Bartlett, *Part 1: Policing the Victorian Countryside,* International Centre for the History of Crime, Policing and Justice, <https://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/history-from-police archives/RB1/Pt1/pt1TL189201.html>

more special constables.[33] The special constables were still active in Egham from the previous century, and seemed to have increased during wartime; there were 130,000 special constables across the country in the Second World War, a number which hasn't been reached since[34]Throughout the war years, it was difficult to leave the position of special constable, as seen in a letter to all special constables in 1945, which said the restriction on the right to resign was now lifted. The letter did still encourage the constables to maintain their position, as they were always an important part of the police force.

Egham Police Station

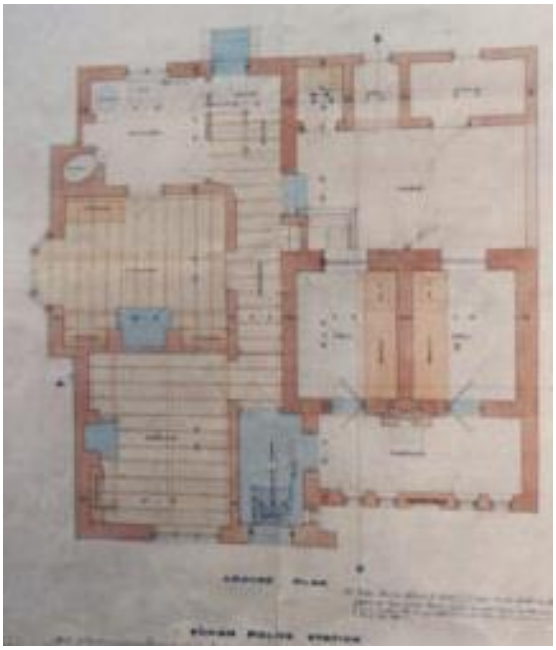
Before the first Egham Police Station was built in 1859, other local buildings were used as a police station. In 1843, before the inauguration of the Surrey Constabulary, the Egham Vestry converted 62 The Avenue from a former poor house into the first iteration of the police station. Simultaneously they appointed Parish Constables for Egham. In 1858, part of the Literary Institute, which currently houses Egham Museum, was used as a police station before one was purpose built by the Surrey Constabulary. Egham Police Station was built in 1859, 8 years after the establishment of the Surrey Constabulary, at the bottom of Egham Hill. It remained there until 1937, when the police station moved to 1 Egham High Street in 2013, it then moved to the Runnymede Civic Centre.



[33] Bartlett, *Police during the Second World War,* International Centre for the History of Crime, Policing and Justice, http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/history-from-police-archives/PolCit/polww2.html

[34] Karen Bullock and Andrew Mille, *The Special Constabulary: Historical context, international comparisons and contemporary themes,* (Taylor & Francis, 2017) p5

Article Navigation



Old Police Station Egham Hill Site plans, Egham Museum

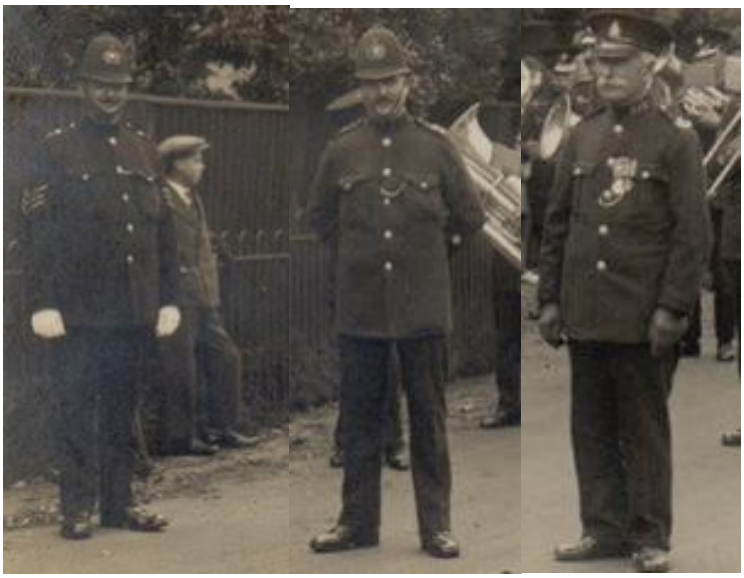
The Old Police Station, Egham Hill, demolished in 1973

Egham High Street, Denham House / police station site, 1937

The last Egham Police station from collection www.surrey-constabulary.com

The current police station is in Runnymede Civic Centre in Addlestone. Image Credit: https://www.theplan.it/

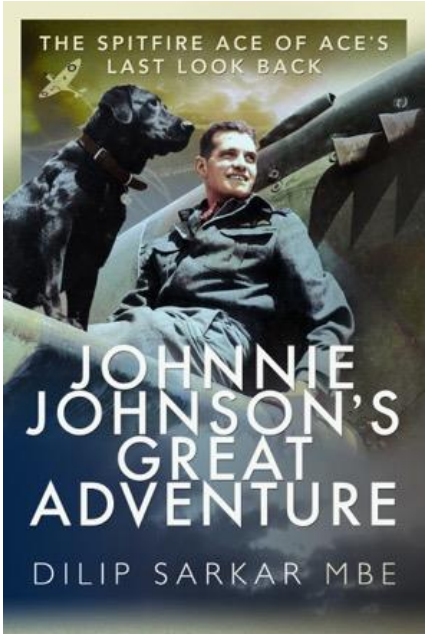
Magna Carta Procession in Englefield Green, 1920's. Special PC Herbert Weller in foreground. Egham Museum



Book reviews

Johnnie Johnson's Great

The Spitfire Ace of Ace's Last Look Back



By Dilip Sarkar MBE
Imprint: Pen & Sword Aviation
Pages: 288
Illustrations: 16 black and white illustrations
ISBN: 9781526791740
Published: 29th October 2020

Author Dilip Sarkar MBE

Driven by his passion to research and share the stories of casualties and record the human experience of war, DILIP SARKAR is a best-selling author whose work is highly regarded globally. A noted expert on the Battle of Britain period, who enjoyed a long and very personal relationship with the Few, Dilip was made an MBE in 2003 for 'services to aviation history', and, in 2006, elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society. A sought-after, dynamic speaker, Dilip's work has been exhibited internationally and he continues to work on TV documentaries, on and off camera.

Synopsis

Air Vice-Marshal Johnnie Johnson – a policeman's son from Leicestershire – ended the Second World War as the RAF's top-scoring fighter pilot. Fearless, and an exceptional pilot and marksman, Johnnie was also highly intelligent and a gifted writer.

Having published two of his own books, Wing Leader and The Circle of Air Fighting, during the 1980s and 1990s, Johnnie co-authored several more with another fighter ace, namely Wing Commander P.B. 'Laddie' Lucas. In 1997, the 'AVM' suggested to his friend, the prolific author Dilip Sarkar, that the pair should collaborate on The Great Adventure – a book that would, in effect, be Johnnie's account of the 'Long Trek' from Normandy across Northern Europe into the heart of the Third Reich itself. 'Greycap Leader' was to produce a draft, after which Dilip would add the historical detail and comment. Sadly, the project was unfulfilled, because Johnnie became ill and passed away, aged eighty-five, in 2001. Years later, Johnnie's eldest son, Chris, discovered the manuscript among his august father's papers. In order to keep Johnnie's memory evergreen, Chris turned to Dilip to finally see the project through to its conclusion.

In this book Johnnie re-visits certain aspects of his wartime service, including the development of tactical air cooperation with ground forces; his time as a Canadian wing leader in 1943, when the Spitfire Mk.IX at last outclassed the Fw 190; and details his involvement in some of the most important battles of the defeat of Nazi Germany, including Operation Overlord and the D-Day landings in 1944, Operation Market Garden and the airborne assault at Arnhem, and the Rhine Crossings, throughout all of which Johnnie also commanded Canadian wings. Here, then, we have The Great Adventure – 'Greycap Leader's' previously unpublished last look back.

Review

Boys growing up in the 1950s had the choice of many heroes. Johnny Johnson was one of mine along with Ginger Lacy, Al Deere, Bob Tuck and Adolph Gysbert Malan, we knew as Sailor Malan, a South African fighter pilot. Top of the list was of course Johnny Johnson who published an autobiography "Wing Leader" in June 1956. A cracking book of courage and adventure for naïve young people unable to contemplate the horrors involved. These brave and resourceful men began to fade from the public consciousness but then came Dilip Sarkar whose work post police force, has been to ensure the names and brave actions of the Second World War fighter pilot have been recorded forever. It is fitting that the son of a policeman has as his biographer a former police officer from West Mercia!

This is believed to be the third book by Dilip concentrating on Johnson and his war. The first published in 2011 was "Spitfire Ace of Aces, the Wartime Story of Johnnie Johnson." Then came "Johnnie Johnson – the Wartime Diary of a Spitfire Ace" which is to be re-published soon and the 2020 "Johnnie Johnson's Great Adventure".

Johnnie was a nickname, they all seemed to have nicknames, he was christened James Edgar Johnson and who was to achieve the high rank of Air Vice Marshall and a career officer after being the RAF's top-scoring fighter ace during the Second World War.

So why another book? Has the ground not already been covered? Yes and No! "Johnnie Johnson's 1942 Diary – the Wartime Diary of the Spitfire Ace of Aces" is Johnnie's 1942 diary

is, according to Sarkar, "what it says on the tin". "Spitfire Ace of Aces, the Wartime Story of Johnnie Johnson" was written by Sarkar in 2011 and covers the full wartime career, proliferated with first-hand accounts from his pilots and includes the last interviews he ever gave

"Johnnie Johnson's Great Adventure" published in 2020 was supposed to have been a collaborative effort but at the age of 85 the Ace of Aces died (2001). Almost twenty years later this final part of the story a book starting after Johnnie is posted away from Kenley Canadian Wing in 1943. Much of this work is extracted from "Spitfire Ace of Aces" which remains the only biography of this fighter ace.

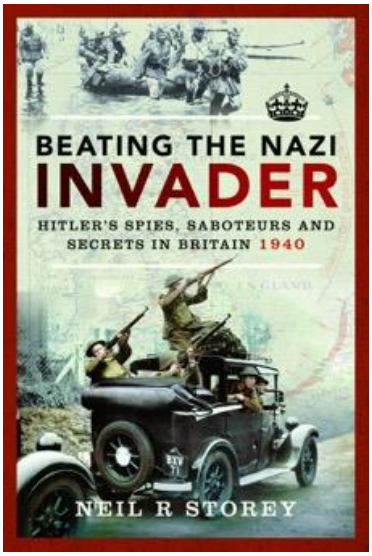
Sarkar knows his subject well and unusually for a biographer had the privilege of knowing his subject well, albeit in the twilight of Johnson's long and active life. The book has a great deal of detail and description of the life of an operational pilot during the Second World War. What the reviewer found difficult and at time frustrating, was the jump from quotations to narrative and back and recognising that such a switch had occurred! There are no references, no dates or sources. Was it in conversation, was it in a previous Sarkar book or from one of Johnny Johnson's published works? The final chapters appear to be totally Johnson but it is unclear if this is fully the case.

Do not let these niggles stop you buying the book. If you are a Johnson follower you will buy it as that is what you do! If you are an enthusiast of wartime RAF operations, particularly fighter command this is a must.

There are a number of black and white photographs, an outline of Johnson's service record with postings and squadrons, an extraordinary list of combat claims and an impressive list of decorations and awards.

Beating the Nazi Invader

Hitler's Spies, Saboteurs and Secrets in Britain 1940



Neil R Storey
Imprint: Pen & Sword Military
Pages: 310
Illustrations: 150-200 black and white illustrations
ISBN: 9781526772947
Published: 15th October 2020

Neil R Storey is an award-winning historian and author. A graduate of the University of East Anglia, he lectures widely on 20th Century history and has assembled a fine collection of original First and Second World War images.

His published works include The British Soldier of the Second World War, Women in the Second World War and The Home Front in World War Two. The King's Men: The Sandringham Company and Norfolk Regiment Territorial Battalions 1914 – 1918 is published by Pen and Sword Books Ltd.

Synopsis

Beating the Nazi Invader is a revealing and disturbing exploration of the darker history of Nazis, spies and 'Fifth Columnist' saboteurs in Britain and the extensive top-secret countermeasures taken before and during the real threat of invasion in 1940.

The author's research describes the Nazi Party organisation in Britain and reveals the existence of the Gestapo headquarters in central London. The reader gains vivid insights into Nazi agents and terrorist cells, the Special Branch and MI5 teams who hunted them and investigated murders believed to have been committed by Third Reich agents on British soil.

Accessing a host of recently de-classified files the book explores the highly classified measures taken for the protection of the Royal Family, national treasures and gold reserves. The British government made extensive plans for the continuation of government in the event of invasion including the creation of all-powerful Regional Commissioners, 'Blacklists' of suspected collaborators and a British resistance organisation. We also learn of the Nazis' own occupation measures for suborning the population and the infamous Sonderfahndungsliste G.B, the Nazi 'Special Wanted List'.

The result is a fascinating insight into the measures and actions taken to ensure that Great Britain did not succumb to the gravest threat of enemy invasion and occupation for centuries.

Review

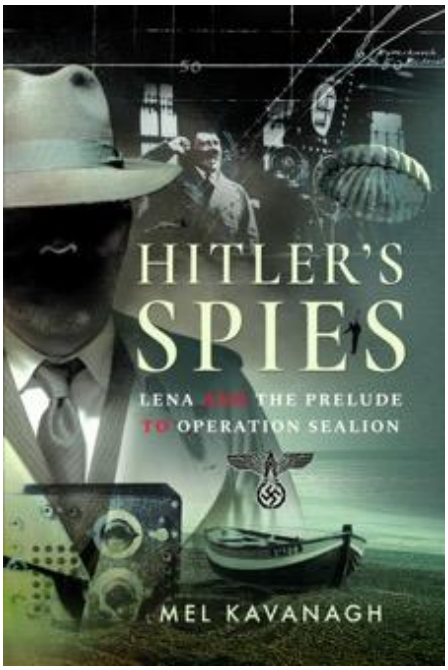
Storey has gone back to primary sources, best evidence, for a great deal of this work and that is obvious from the accounts and elucidations given to a comprehensive explanation of the

German intelligence operations in the UK during the build-up to war and the early years. He is to be congratulated as so many so-called historians use little more than secondary sources including the Internet for their research. The reader is soon disabused about German efficiency as the Abwehr sent men, and it was mostly men, on missions to the UK under trained and poorly prepared. Capture or death of these luckless yet extremely brave agents, gave opportunities for the British to establish Double Cross, using turned agents to supply misleading "intelligence" to the Abwehr. It is believed that almost every agent dropped into the UK was soon found, turned or executed. The iron fist of the British state usually very well hidden appears above the parapet. There are chapters on Nazi supporters in Britain in the build-up to war, murder cases where German intelligence may well have been involved with the author using Metropolitan Police archive material to ensure exactness of his interpretation. The role of MI5 and Special Branch are crucial to this story and there is accurate reference to their activities, investigations and methods of working.

This is a really good book. Highly readable, always interesting with new material accurately established by an historian's reliance on primary sources. High production values with numerous photographs. There are three appendices giving additional details of MI5 activities. Notes on sources, chapter by chapter, which are critical in a book such as this. There is also an extensive biography, again essential for other than the casual reader to see the source of detailed material. Highly recommended.

Hitler's Spies

Lena and the Prelude to Operation Sealion



By Mel Kavanagh
Imprint: Pen & Sword Military
Pages: 320
Illustrations: 16 black and white illustrations
ISBN: 9781526768728
Published: 29th October 2020

Mel Kavanagh

Born in Hampshire, Mel Kavanagh spent his childhood in Surrey before joining the RAF in 1972. He comes from a family steeped with military history. His father served with the army during WWII, serving overseas. Other relations served in the Royal Navy and RAF. His grandfather was at the Battle of Jutland during WWI aged just 16.

He spent many years in IT as a computer programmer and systems analyst before retraining as a teacher in 2003 Hitler's Spies: Lena, The Prelude to Operation Sealion is his first work in non-fiction.

Synopsis

September 1940: Britain stands alone against the might of the advancing German Army and the spectre of invasion looms.

Using a wealth of primary material including sources previously designated secret, this is the first book, written in English, dedicated to the story of the first four German spies who successfully arrived in the south of England. Using the codename Operation Lena, it was the initial undertaking to necessitate Hitler's invasion of England, itself codenamed Operation Sealion.

These men were to be the pathfinders, the scouts, the eyes and ears that would help the first invasion of England for several hundred years.

This extraordinary story stands as evidence of the only part of the invasion actually to arrive, of the abysmal quality of their selection and training, of the extraordinary fair-mindedness of a British jury, especially when Britain was gripped by spy paranoia.

This is possibly one of the most audacious and least known episodes of the Second World War.

Review

This is the story of four men who were sent as pathfinders for Operation Sealion, in preparation for the proposed invasion of England. To write this detailed and readable account of Operation Lena and the response of the UK defence forces, a significant amount of research has been

undertaken by Kavanagh for this his first work of non-fiction. There is a comprehensive catalogue of documents from the National Archives particularly Security Services and Cabinet Office material. Also, extensive bibliography of associated books with a significant list of Internet links to a broad range of related sites. A good deal of the latter is associated with providing the timeline which is imbedded across the book.

There is no index (why?) which is always frustrating but there are extensive notes, sources, a list of key players and a glossary of terms. However, it is difficult to look for specifics including individuals and locations, without the help of an index. There is an unusual mix of narrative and timeline of Second World War events happening that day, which can be distracting and it is not clear why the author chooses to use this device. There is a mix therefore of "big picture" material with detail of Op Lena and its unravelling by British security personnel.

By concentrating on what Kavanagh refers to as The Brussels Four, luckless Abwehr agents sent on what for some appeared suicide missions, significant knowledge is added to the history of these dangerous times. There were about 12 agents sent to the country in September 1940 under Op Lena to supply information on British preparations to counter an invasion. All were detained before they could do any harm. The book clearly establishes the detention, interrogation along with detail of time in custody of the Brussels Four, their exposure to British judicial process and outcome. There is considerable detail of the activities of MI5 and what took place at the MI5 camp, Latchmere House at Kew where almost 500 prisoners were detained from which fifteen were executed at the Tower of London. About a dozen became highly valued double agents.

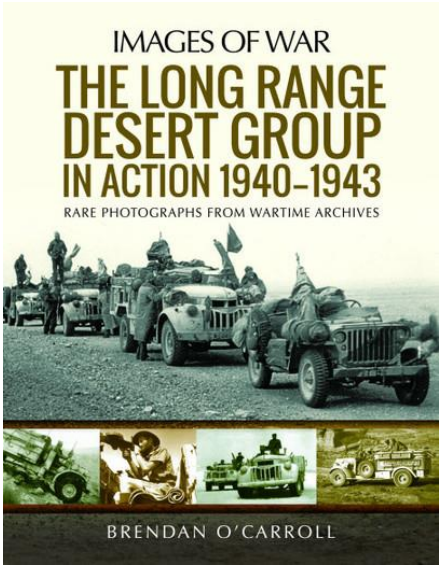
The questions remain. Was Op Lena a poorly planned and executed operation or did they come up against a country ready to discover a spy at every turn? Vigilance and super-awareness of the invasion threat particularly on the Kent coast. It is even written that it was a devious plot by Abwehr leadership to destroy any likelihood of the invasion taking place. Maybe there was some of that but the conspiracy would have to involve many and it never leaked!

A worthwhile book which is very well researched breaking new ground.

The Long Range Desert Group in Action 1940–1943

Rare Photographs from Wartime Archives

By Brendan O'Carroll
Imprint: Pen & Sword Military
Series: Images of War
Pages: 224
Illustrations: 250 integrated black and white illustrations
ISBN: 9781526777416
Published: 15th October 202



Brendan O'Carroll

Brendan O'Carroll lives in Auckland, New Zealand and recently retired from the New Zealand Customs Service. With a long time interest in military history, the Long Range Desert Group has become his speciality. He has interviewed over 30 veterans while writing The Kiwi Scorpions: The Story of the New Zealanders in the LRDG (2000), Bearded Brigands (2002) and Barce Raid: The LRDG's Most Daring Exploit in World War Two (2005). This book follows The LRDG in the Aegean (2020) under the Pen and Sword Military imprint. He has numerous other published works and articles to his credit. In 2006 his work was recognised by awards from the New Zealand Military Historical Society.

Synopsis

The Long Range Desert Group has a strong claim to be the first Special Forces unit in the British Army. This superb illustrated history follows the LRDG from its July 1940 formation as the Long Range Patrol in North Africa, tasked with intelligence gathering, mapping and reconnaissance deep behind enemy lines. Manned initially by New Zealanders, in 1940 the unit became the LRDG with members drawn from British Guards and Yeomanry regiments and Rhodesians.

So successful were the LRDG patrols, that when the Special Air Service were formed, they often relied on their navigational and tactical skills to achieve their missions.

After victory in North Africa the LRDG re-located to Lebanon before being sent on the ill-fated mission to the Dodecanese Islands in the Aegean. Serving independently, when the Germans overwhelmed and captured the British garrisons, many LRDG personnel escaped using their well-honed skills.

Many images in this, the first pictorial history of the LRDG, were taken unofficially by serving members. The result is a superb record of the LRDG's achievements, the personalities, their weapons and vehicles which will delight laymen and specialists alike.

Review

Firstly, there is a need to be up front and let the reader know that the reviewer is a bit of an LRDG enthusiast and has been for many, many years. The owner of a significant number of books on the LRDG and so is well aware of the work and interest of Brendan O'Carroll. Of all researchers and aficionados Brendan is THE go-to man for the NZ patrols and probably knows as much if not more than those who research the Rhodesian and UK patrols. That is why this book is so important. Not only does it contain some 300 photographs, the interwoven script and captions on individual photos can be taken as thoroughly accurate.

Many of the photographs are new to publication having come from Patrol members or their families and collected over many years. The quality is sometimes a little fuzzy, a bit below normal publication crispness, but given the circumstances of when they were taken, developed, stored and handed down they are all remarkable. The official LRDG promo photos have in the main been avoided, there are some, but the enthusiast will know where to look if there is a particular photo being sought. The men were not permitted to have cameras and take photos. Many forgot to read that page of Orders! Thank goodness they did as this is a remarkable record of desert patrolling, living and warfare. Enough photographs of kit and vehicles to satisfy the most ardent enthusiast.

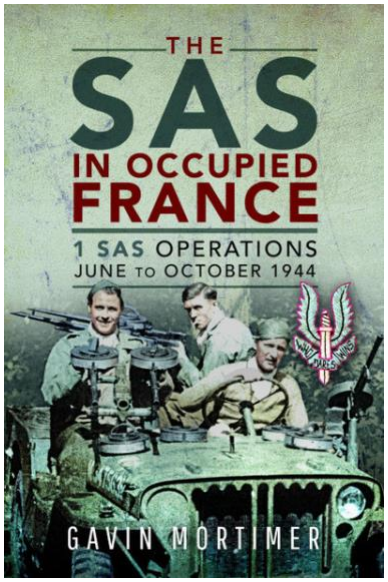
This is a book that will more than satisfy the enthusiast and will be of great interest to the general reader of special forces operating mainly as desert intelligence and reconnaissance patrols but not without enemy action from the air and on the ground. There are a number of rare photos of the Group operating in the Dodecanese in the Aegean in 1943 when the desert war was over and a new role being sought for these brave resourceful troopers.

Put it on your Christmas list!

The SAS in Occupied France

1 SAS Operations, June to October 1944

By Gavin Mortimer
Imprint: Pen & Sword Military
Pages: 216
Illustrations: 120 b/w & colour illustrations
ISBN: 9781526769626
Published: 9th November 2020



Gavin Mortimer

Gavin Mortimer is a writer, historian and television consultant whose ground-breaking book Stirling's Men remains the definitive history of the wartime SAS. Drawing on interviews with more than sixty veterans, most of whom had never spoken publicly, the book was the first comprehensive account of the SAS brigade. He has also written histories of the SBS, Merrill's Marauders and LRDG, again drawing heavily on veteran interviews. Gavin was the historical consultant on the 2017 BBC documentary about the wartime SAS and he has guided several serving members of the SAS around the sites in France where their predecessors operated in the summer of 1944.

Synopsis

In the world of military history there is no brand as potent as that of the SAS. They burst into global prominence in 1980 with their spectacular storming of the Iranian Embassy, and there have been hundreds of books, films, documentaries and even reality TV shows about them. But what there hasn't been is a guide to the scenes of some of their most famous Second World War operations. That is why Gavin Mortimer's vivid two-volume account of their daring missions in German-occupied France in 1944 is such compelling reading.

SAS actions in France delayed German reinforcements reaching the battlefront in Normandy, later sewing confusion among the Germans as they withdrew. The SAS trained the French Maquis and helped to turn them from an undisciplined rabble into an effective fighting force. Their exploits inflicted heavy casualties on the Germans, and they left a trail of destruction and disorder in their wake.

This first volume focuses on 1 SAS and describes in graphic detail operations Titanic, Houndsworth, Bulbasket, Gain, Haggard and Kipling, all of which were carried out in northern and central France. Using previously unpublished interviews with SAS veterans and members of the Maquis as well as rare photographs, Gavin Mortimer blends the past and present, so that readers can walk in the footsteps of SAS heroes and see where they lived, fought and died.

Review

Gavin Mortimer knows his subject well and that is obviously so from this unusual book, part history, part photographic and a significant battlefield tour guide to the areas where the SAS fought and died in France during 1944. The book concentrates on six of the main SAS operations in France at this time in some detail. Mortimer establishes the personalities involved, the courage and difficulties encountered by soldiers, French Resistance and the Maquis as close quarter, brutal fighting as the end of the war in France played out. The Germans saw the SAS as terrorists and treated them harshly if captured. The Commando Order from Hitler left no opportunity for quarter.

Each of the operations has a chapter analysing preparation, deployment to the area of operation and activity on the ground. The author has visited the locations and has written about what is still to be seen and more sombrely where the men were killed or many murdered after capture. It is a sobering to realise the risks that were run knowing that the consequences of a wound or capture was most likely torture and death. But still they volunteered for special duties. Hopefully there was significant military gain from the sacrifices made.

The chapters have not just photos of the men on deployment but also modern colour photos of the ground where the action took place and of graves and memorials of which there are too many! There are clear maps and details of how to visit key points complete with GPS coordinates.

Mortimer says his book is intended for the committed battlefield tourist and because of the remoteness of many of the areas to be visited, knowledge of the French language would be a good idea. Few locals speak English and tourists are rarely seen but are made welcome. There is also a warning about entering the dense forests as French hunters have a well deserved reputation for being trigger happy. Steer clear when “Attention. Chasse en cours” is advised!

This is an excellent book, not just for the tourist on the ground. It is a satisfying structure to read about the operation and learn what survives and what remains to be seen even if done by the armchair adventurer. Highly recommended and looking forward to the second volume in the series.