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

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www.surrey-constabulary.com

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CRANLEIGH (CRANLEY) SECTION[1]

SURREY CONSTABULARY

Times past also referred to as Cranley, name was changed in 1867 to "Cranleigh."

View of the Police Station in the centre distance, including Broadoak on the right
(postcard post- marked 1909)

Additional newspaper research undertaken by Henry Pelham

This is not a full history of policing in Cranleigh more a collection of "chance survivals", of snippets from newspapers and from those that policed this section of the Surrey Constabulary.

[1] From www.surrey-constabulary.com with additional material from https://www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk/joy-of-cranleigh-buildings-with-a-story-february-2020/

Cranleigh is a village and civil parish with all the appearance and facilities of a town, about eight miles southeast of Guildford. Claimed by some to be the largest village in England it lies on a minor road east of the A281, which links Guildford with Horsham. It is in the north-west corner of the Weald, a large residue forest of ancient woodland, the main local remnant being Winterfold Forest directly north-west on the northern Greensand Ridge. There was once a train line linking Guildford to Horsham but lost during the notorious Beeching cuts.

Cranley railway station was opened in 1865 as "Cranley", but the village name was changed in 1867 to "Cranleigh" at the request of the Postmaster General as badly addressed letters to "Cranley" were often mistaken for "Crawley" and vice versa.

The population of the Surrey Constabulary area in 1851 was 110,000. By 2011 the population of the county was in excess of a million with Cranleigh about 11,500 but if the rural areas and other villages policed by the rural section are added, that number might be doubled.[2] In parts very rural, but in villages more and more houses were added to what were becoming a number of busy and very prosperous communities.

Cranleigh Section of the Surrey Constabulary probably since its inception, were responsible for policing the large rural area centred on Cranleigh but included the villages of Ewhurst, Ellens Green, Alfold, Dunsfold, and Shamley Green and included parts of the Surrey Hills including Pitch Hill.

Constables joined in the 4th Class promoted later to other classes, the 1st Class being equivalent to sergeant as there were none in Surrey until 1865. The 4th Class ceased on 30 August 1854. All were required to work seven days a week and granted twelve days leave a year, which had to be taken in summer as no leave was permitted during the winter.

During some periods an inspector was based at Cranleigh police station, other times it was a sergeant and in more modern days two sergeants with the inspector based at Godalming. In the "good old days" there were village constables living at Alfold, Dunsfold, Ewhurst and Shamley Green with a small number living in Cranleigh. There was a close working relationship with the Shere Section which Cranleigh sergeants covered when the Shere sergeant was off duty. The police stations at Cranleigh and Shere were closed and sold in the early 21st century, with the numbers of rural officers reduced.

In 1993 the Surrey Constabulary changed its name to Surrey Police.

The past is a foreign country they do things differently there![3]

This is essentially an history of policing in the calm quiet of the Victorian Surrey countryside where poverty and drunkenness existed alongside the gentility of one of the most beautiful and

[2] Wikipedia
[3] L.P. Hartley, The Go-Between

wealthy counties in the country. The county of Surrey once included a very large area from Sussex to the Thames capturing the urban sprawl and deprivation of Southwark and many developing towns including Epsom, Wimbledon, Richmond, Putney, Staines and Sutton which were not policed by the constabulary but the Metropolitan Police.

Policing environment

In his book "The Story of Scotland Yard" Sir Basil Thompson[4] establishes the conditions into which in 1829 the new police officers were drawn to enforce the law in the early to middle 19th century. This sparse list helps to understand how hard the role of the early police was.

Rank and social standing was held in the highest reverence
The rights of labour were entirely unrecognised
No trade unions
No railways until 1840s
No telegraph or telephones until late 1840s
Few people travelled about the country except the rich and the villains
People knew nothing of events that happened outside their own country
The great majority of the country people could neither read nor write
Discipline in the family, army, and navy was enforced by corporal punishment

Poverty and its alleviation in towns and factories impacted upon lives in the countryside. Historians cannot agree about the impact of industrialisation and poverty with some arguing that the changes brought higher wages, and a better standard of living. Others consider that the quality of life for workers deteriorated especially between 1780 and 1850, with only limited improvements for some skilled workers before the 1870s. There is no doubt that very many families were destitute and those living in the country were often poor with a very low standard of living. Factory workers as well as the rural workers lived a precarious existence earning just enough to live, but during a downturn or unemployment families were exposed to starvation, insecurity, and the resultant downward spiral into extreme poverty. In the last quarter of the 19th century the standard of living for the industrial labourer began to rise, as prices fell rapidly and sanitation, housing and health improvements changed the urban environment. As wages and conditions improved the young particularly, and there were lots of them, as the population boomed, moved to the towns to escape rural poverty. As quality of life improved so did expectations of order and freedom from crime. It was during this period that policing began to impact upon the discipline of the streets, drunkenness and crime which was often food related.

Poverty was regarded by many as the natural condition of the labouring poor; those who worked with their hands. The fluctuations of harvest yields, the disruptions of war and the fine line between subsistence and penury were seen as inevitable and difficult to change.[5]

[4] The Story of Scotland Yard Sir Basil Thompson Literary Guild 1936
[5] http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/victorians/bsurface_01.shtml

Many would look at life in the Metropolitan Police and see rural policing as a soft option. It was far from that with most constables working in isolation, on duty most days, split shifts consisting of hours during the day as well as always working five hours a night. Poor but regular pay. Warm clothing and if the officers manage to weave their weary way through regulations covering their every action, a strictly enforced discipline code, there could one day be a pension. There was the ever-present threat of violence from drunks, poachers, gypsies or when intervening in family disputes. If injured the treatment options were limited with the injured officer taken to his home and if lucky, a local doctor summoned.

Most rural police worked in areas where they were accepted and well received though there will always be the drunk, the rowdy, the thief who will cause the police officer difficulties. Most officers seem to be moved regularly so they did not become too close to their neighbours although there were those who stayed for almost their whole service in one place. This was double edged as the constable needed his neighbours to physically support him if he was under threat. He would have worked closely but certainly not as an equal, with the doctor, vicar and magistrates. Publicans were to be avoided other than in an enforcement role. Alcohol and policeman do not mix! Either as a beverage for the officer or after customers had over imbibed.

The Village Constable

In his work "Victorian Village Life" Neil Phillip considers this difficulty of living and working in small communities as a police officer in the Surrey countryside:

"The village constable was in an uneasy position in the community for while he was notionally the equal protector of all citizens' rights and property; he was in effect the representative of the landowner as George Sturt wrote about The Bourne in Surrey:

> There is probably no lonelier man in the parish than the constable. One hears him mentioned in the same accents of grudging caution, which the villagers use in speaking of unfriendly property-owners, as though he belonged to that alien caste. The cottagers feel they themselves are the people whom he has stationed in the valley to watch.
>
> The conviction that there was one law for the rich and another for the poor was deeply ingrained. The village policeman rarely had to deal with serious crime although rape and murder were not unknown, they were more likely to have to cope with poachers, fowl stealing, a fight in the pub, neighbourly disputes, with the occasional petty theft. Ricks were fired by arsonists or by itinerants with a grudge and animal maiming was not uncommon. The Victorian version of anti-social behaviour was ever present with drunken louts letting animals from fields, the breaking of fences or even the pulling down of dry walls, "beer, that filthy beer is the root of the evil".[6]

[6] "Victorian Village Life" Albion 1993 Neil Phillip page 112

The key role performed by the police in the nineteenth century, according to revisionist or modernising historians, was to regulate the behaviour of the lower social orders and to impose on them the moral habits and standards of behaviour of 'respectable' members of society. Those who controlled policing, magistrates at Quarter Sessions and Watch Committees, were willing to give the police a relatively free hand to discharge this function. [7]

Though the county and borough elites continued to have influence the role of the magistrate in responding and investigating crime reduced significantly with the chief constable becoming the key figure outside London. It would however be naive to believe that the "great and the good" of the county had no influence. One of the reasons chief constables were appointed from military personnel and similar backgrounds to the magistrates was to ensure some class equality with the influential. In the boroughs the Watch Committees of elected councillors under the leadership of the mayor retained significant influence over the chief constable or head constables who were mostly promoted police officers of working-class origin. Borough police were seen as a part of the council, employed by them and under the direction of council officers.

There was no police force in the rural areas of Surrey until the formation of the Surrey Constabulary in 1851. However along with many other areas of Surrey, Cranleigh's 'Vestry' (forerunner of the parish council) decided in 1842 to employ a paid constable at fifteen shillings per week.

Parish constables sometimes undertook duties for long periods and became competent and experienced in the role as did James Stedman at Pirbright from 1812-1837. There were paid constables at Shere, Thomas Williams, with Peter Pearce at Shamley Green both supervised by Superintendent Biddlecombe of Godalming which had its own micro-police force. There were also paid constables stationed at Farnham, Dorking, Chertsey, Chobham, Thorpe, Windlesham and Nutfield who in time joined the Surrey Constabulary not that many survived very long within a disciplined service. Inspector Donaldson who was murdered in Haslemere had served as superintendent of police in the Dorking, again micro force, before coming into the new constabulary. [8]

Unfortunately, the Cranleigh paid constable did not give satisfaction and was dismissed after only five months and not replaced.

Of course, there has always been crime within the rural areas, suffering from transient criminals committing theft and burglary as they passed through the countryside and heavily forested landscape. Large areas of Surrey were heathlands, woodlands, fields and high hills with remote villages. Crime was however most likely to have been committed by people with local connections details of which can be found in newspaper archives. Serious crime occurred but was rare.

[7] http://www.sagepub.com/upm-data/36166_01_Joyce_Policing_CH_01.pdf
[8] Durrant page 3

One such crime recorded in the early history of the Surrey Constabulary was in **1807 an arson**: The House of Industry at Cranley was fired leading to the transportation for life of Edward Longhurst.[9]

Burglary was always a concern, and it was not just the large houses. Farm workers were often troubled about leaving their houses, meagre possessions, and limited food at the mercy of trampers or even neighbours, breaking in whilst families were in the fields working. One famous case in the time when Godalming had a full-time police force of two men, was dealt with by Biddlecombe the chief of police a hardworking and effective arrester of notorious thieves! The detail will give some understanding of how serious crime was investigated and resolved before the formation of the modern police.

Inspector/PC 62 Henry Stemp
Surrey Constabulary 1852
Dismissed 1864
B. 1831 Cranley (Cranleigh) D. 1922 Hambledon, Surrey

Parents: George Stemp and Elizabeth Stemp nee Hampshire; Baptism: 17 April 1831, St Nicolas, Cranleigh
1841 Census: Living in Cranley Common aged 10, with parents, George and Elizabeth, also sister Ann and brother William.
1851 Census: With parents George and Elizabeth, and sister Ann. Henry is 20 years old and occupation – Ag Lab
Married: May 1853 to Mary Hersey at Frensham, Surrey, occupation Policeman
1861 Census: Living Police Station, Leatherhead, Surrey. Aged 30 – with wife Mary, daughter Sarah 7 years, Henry 5 years and Gilbert 9 months. Occupation Inspector of Police, County Police

The Sussex and Surrey Burglars

1845 March 11: The Sussex Advertiser reported that some particularly daring burglaries have been committed in this neighbourhood of late and if suspicion proves correct by a distinguished gang of thieves. The first two were perpetrated on Tuesday night the 25th ult., but we forbore to mention them last week because some clue having been obtained as to the whereabouts of the burglars it would have been injudicious to do so. On the night in question the thieves broke into the house of Mr Boughton, Shamley Green in the parish of Wonersh and succeeded in getting off with a quantity of eatables amongst which was three stones of bacon. They also took a copper kettle and other articles. Nearly a mile from Shamley Green they entered the house of Mr Smithers and were helping themselves when that gentleman heard them and making some noise induced them to make off with only a pair of boots. Mr Smithers saw them going off and shot at one of them but though he is confident he hit his man all three escaped. On Saturday night the first instant, or early on Sunday morning two other houses were entered and apparently by the same gang, as a glove stolen from one of the previously robbed houses was on one of these occasions left behind.

[9] Surrey Lent Assizes 1808

Mr Sparkes of Gosden also in the parish of Wonersh was this time one of the sufferers. The thieves got in and succeeded in making off with a flat silver snuff box, a gold ring with an amethyst set in the middle and a garnet on each side, a Macintosh cloak and coat, a cloth great coat, a hat and several bottles of Marsah wine brandy and gin. It is supposed that the burglars made rather free with the latter articles for though they found their way up stairs they fortunately passed by unobserved a basket of plate, which had been forgotten by the servants on one of the landings. On going upstairs, they turned the handle of one of the doors and the noise woke Miss Sparkes who gave the alarm, and the thieves took flight.

At a considerable distance from the residence of Mr Sparkes a house was broken open and a great quantity of miscellaneous property stolen, amongst which we may name sundry articles of wearing apparel a college gown, a set of chimory (sic) ornaments, tea and ???? service, spouts etc., and a quantity of provisions besides several gallons of old ale. The house is that which was recently occupied by Major Stapylton and is now undergoing alterations and improvements for an agricultural college school to be opened shortly by the Mr James Abbot AM, to whom the property belonged and who has offered a reward of £20 for the apprehension and conviction of the offenders.

Intelligence of these several robberies were immediately communicated to the police who have every reason to suppose that the perpetrators are none other than the notorious "Sussex Burglars." As yet they have not been captured but the police are actively engaged in tracing the depredators.

There are several handsome rewards offered for the apprehension of the men; amongst the rest the sum of £50 by Her Majesty's government and there is little doubt they will shortly be in custody. The man Longhurst is a native of Wonersh, and if he is one of the gang engaged in the robberies detailed he must have concealed himself since his escape from Brighton somewhere in the neighbourhood. I will be in the remembrance of most of our readers that we stated in the gazette of the 18th ult., that Longhurst and two other men answering the description of Patching and Burgess were seen passing through Wonersh on Sunday evening the 1st of February so that it is possible that they have ever since been in the neighbourhood.

Further Particulars; Apprehension of the burglars. Since the above was written the notorious "Sussex Burglars" have been captured and the suspicion stated above is found to be correct that they are the parties who have been engaged in all the robberies there detailed, and two others which were reported in the Advertiser a few weeks since; one at the house of Mr Norris at Shalford Common and the other at Mr Green's at Bramley.

At an early hour on Sunday morning 2nd inst., information of the burglaries at Wonersh during the previous night was conveyed to that very active officer chief constable Biddlecombe of Godalming, and shortly after intelligence reached him that three men who were strangers in the neighbourhood had been seen near Busbridge within half a mile of the town, very early that morning. They were described as being all tall men and each having in his possession a large

bundle. Mr Biddlecombe immediately started on horseback accompanied by a couple of assistants likewise mounted and speedily reached the place where the men were said to have been seen. Here he made inquiry and found that the intelligence he had received was correct and further, the men had stopped at a little cottage on the top of the hill and requested permission of the old woman who occupied it to cook some bacon for which permission they gave her a slight gratuity. She stated to the police officers that they had a large quantity of bacon and also pointed out a copper kettle which they had sold her; and both these facts tended to convince him that the men were the same who had entered the house of Mr Boughton of Wonersh, as described above, from whence they must have taken the bacon and kettle; while the direction from which they came that morning, as was evident by their tracks, connected them with the two robberies on the previous night. It would appear that the men on leaving the cottage still kept on in the same direction across the country, and the officers immediately set out in pursuit towards Hambledon.

All trace of the thieves was here lost and though their pursuers scoured country in all directions throughout Sunday, no clue whatever could be found of the fugitives. Mr Biddlecombe was however too sanguine as to the identity of the Surrey and Sussex burglars, to be easily daunted in his important undertaking. So accompanied by assistants as before he still persevered in riding about from place to place throughout the whole of Monday and Tuesday going down as far as Plaistow in Sussex and taking the whole of the wild country homeward to Wonersh and Godalming. Success however did not attend his exertions and Tuesday night found him still without tidings of the burglars. He arrived at Godalming late on that night and gave up the pursuit as hopeless unless he was able to obtain some further clue. Luckily this clue was not long wanting, for about noon on Wednesday intelligence was received that three men answering the description of the burglars were seen some time on the afternoon of Sunday making towards Headley in Hampshire.

Mr Biddlecombe immediately prepared to set forth again determined not to return without the men no matter what time or expense he might require to come up with them. He forthwith procured the assistance of two men named Miles and Woods of Hambledon and all three set out well mounted and proceeded at once to Headley. No tidings of the burglars however welcomed the pursuers on their arrival at Headley so without loss of time they set out for Liphook and finding no satisfactory trace there they returned through Headley to Farnham. All this time they were still off the right track, but Mr Biddlecombe fully determined to persevere still held on and last succeeded in getting scent of the burglars at a little village about three miles from Farnham. Here he learned that three men answering the description of those he sought had breakfasted on Monday morning early and that on leaving the village they took the road towards Blackwater and Windsor.

Off the pursuers set in that direction but after travelling some ten or a dozen miles and gaining no information as to their men they took circuitous route back again to Odiham in Hampshire from thence on to Hartley Row but still without being able to recover trace of the burglars. Wednesday night had now become Thursday morning and still the pursuit continued and at length the persevering officer succeeded in learning at a village some eight or ten miles on the

road to Reading in Berkshire, that three men had been there the day before passing themselves off as smugglers, corresponding precisely with the men sought for, but the officer found they had changed their apparel when comparing the present with the previous descriptions of their dress. On leaving the village it seems as if the three fugitives took the road to Newbury whither their pursuers at once proceeded but learning noting of them there they kept on for Reading. From Reading where they could obtain no tidings Biddlecombe and his assistants set out for Maidenhead but there they were also at fault.

On Friday morning Mr Biddlecombe got again into the neighbourhood of Reading and at a village about four miles from the town on the road to Basingstoke he learned that three men still pretending to be smugglers had been there the previous day and were disposing of some brandy as before. They had taken the road to Basingstoke and thither in all haste pursued them. On arriving at Basingstoke, he found that they had been there on the previous evening and on further enquiry that they had slept there and changed their clothes, quitting the town that (Friday) morning about nine o'clock; they still kept up their assumed character as smugglers. All this was highly satisfactory, but strange to say, no clue could be obtained as to what road they had taken on leaving the town. Fortunately, Mr Biddlecombe took the right direction for on proceeding about twelve miles on the road to Alton he found that the soi-disant [10] smugglers were only about three hours ahead of him. Biddlecombe at once called in his assistants whom he had from time to time during the pursuit dispatched by different roads always fixing some central point as a rendezvous all three set out in hot pursuit towards Alton.

At a village called North Wanborough the joyful information was obtained that the long sought for party were only about half an hour in advance. On the pursuers sped and speedily caught sight of the three men near the public house known by the sign of the Golden Pot about three miles from Alton. The Chief Constable now cautioned his assistants to keep the men closely in view and determined when turning off the high road himself and by taking a circuitous route getting before the burglars leaving instructions with his two men to close upon them as soon as they saw him advancing in the opposite direction. This movement was quickly and by this stratagem the burglars were safely apprehended. When secured and handcuffed Biddlecombe called them by their several names and informed them of the charges against them. They each of them carried a bundle and the great proportion of the missing property belonging to Mr Sparkes and Mr Abbott was found in their possession as well as some nine or ten shillings in silver, and a small quantity of eatables. They were dressed in long smock frocks, buttoning before and appeared to have disposed of very little of the property taken the previous Saturday night except the wine and spirits.

They were all three armed with long knives and had they been aware of the charges against them or the mission of the officer, they would doubtless have used them to the danger of him and his assistants. They had no firearms in their possession. The Chief Constable at once procured a vehicle and conveyed his prisoners to Godalming where he arrived with them late on Friday evening.

[10] So-called

The excitement created by the report that the notorious Sussex and now equally notorious Surrey Burglars were captured kept the town in ferment throughout the whole evening and it is still the talk of the whole neighbourhood. In Guildford the capture has been as fully canvassed and seems to have afforded quite as much satisfaction as in Godalming. Before concluding this notice of the apprehension of these very daring and successful burglars we must add a few words of commendation to those through whose exertions a period has been put to their career of crime. Certainly, all praise is due to Mr Biddlecombe who has laboured so energetically in pursuing them having during the week travelled about 400 miles in pursuit and from Wednesday to Friday alone little short of 250 miles being ridden during the whole of that time scarcely out of the saddle having completely knocked up four horses. The merit of such an undertaking deserves an ample reward and we hope that in Sussex and Surrey it will be fully appreciated.

What the united force of Sussex have been unable to effect one man by persevering exertion and energy accomplished in Surrey. We may add that Captain Mackay Chief Constable of the East Sussex force wrote to Chief Constable Biddlecombe on Wednesday to be on the lookout for Messrs Longhurst and Co., and then when Mr Biddlecombe returned home with the men in custody on Friday night, he found the letter in question awaiting him. The gang evidently contemplated other robberies for they asked many questions of the old woman at whose house they had their bacon cooked as before mentioned as to whether Mr Wilder's (of Busbridge) family was at home, how many servants lived in the house etc. It does not appear that they for a moment thought they were pursued, nor did they know until after they were in custody whether it was for their misdeeds In Sussex or Surrey that they were apprehended. [11]

1847 February 16 Sheep Stealing: [12] William Pollard 33 was indicted for feloniously stealing at Cranley one ewe sheep the property of Thomas Killick. Mr Locke appeared for the prosecution. Thomas Killick the son of the prosecutor deposed that on Monday evening the 1st February there were seventy sheep in his father's field and on the following morning one was missing. At the lower corner of the field, he saw footmarks, which he traced to a ditch where he found the entrails, skin and head of a sheep, also marks of corduroy trousers, as though some person had been kneeling there. The skin had the same mark as his father's sheep.

John Whitburn deposed that he saw the prisoner come out of his house on the night in question; he went towards the well and appeared to have something under his frock, which did not appear to be the case when he returned. Street deposed that he saw the prisoner and three others going towards prosecutor's farm on the night of the 1st February. Prisoner had a sack. A witness named Crewsley deposed finding the mutton in prisoner's well also the footmarks corresponding with the prisoner's shoes.

[11] Sussex Advertiser 11 March 1845

[12] South Eastern Gazette 16 February 1847

Mr Biddlecombe chief constable of Godalming searched prisoner's house on the 4th February found a round frock with blood on the sleeve and front, also a chopper with a quantity of mutton fat on it. On going upstairs, he found a small screw on the riser of the eighth stair. On drawing out the screw he discovered a secret cupboard under the stairs and over the oven; in it was some mutton fat, wool, and small pieces of flesh, also marks of blood. He then procured "grapples" with which he drew the hind quarters, neck, ribs and two shoulders of a sheep from the well. They matched the skin produced. Prisoner had a pair of corduroy trowsers (sic) on, on the front of which were spots of blood.

The jury immediately returned a verdict of guilty. Fifteen years transportation. The chairman complimented Mr Biddlecombe for his setivity (activity?) and tendered the thanks of the county to him for his exertions. [13]

Vicar at Frimley was shot in his bed

The policing landscape of the county changed dramatically when in 1850 the vicar at Frimley was shot in his bed and died later that day. There was an outcry and immediate response from the magistracy at the loss of one of their Class and a man of God. The murderers were a part of the so-called Isaac's Gang who were committing crimes across Surrey and Sussex with very little police intervention. The immediate response was the formation of a new police with a chief constable and less than 100 men.

In 1851 the Surrey Constabulary was formed and the local Superintendent Fletcher, based at Godalming took responsibility for the investigation of much of the crime on his division. At this stage the constables reported directly to an inspector as there were no sergeants.

This paper will concentrate on Cranleigh and will show the response to mostly low level crime and disorder.

1852 December 9: Morning Advertiser: Surrey Sessions: **Highway Robbery**: Extraordinary Case. Harvey Stennning was indicted for stealing at Dunsfold, in the county, a watch from the person of George Welland on the Queen's Highway. It appeared from the evidence of the prosecutor, an aged man, that on the night of 11th November last year, he was turned out of a public house at Dunsfold and followed by some men. He had at the time his watch and about 18s in his possession. He found himself the following morning in a straw yard near Dunsfold Common minus his watch and money.

Information was given to the police, and about six weeks ago the watch was traced to the possession of a lad named Betts, a labourer at Nash, Buckinghamshire, the latter proved he had purchased it from a man named Franks who then proved he had won it in a raffle, having been put up by the prisoner at a public house in Nash. Evidence was given that the old man left the

[13] South Eastern Gazette 16 February 1847

public house with the prisoner, a man named Mitchell and some others, which, with the watch being traced to his possession caused suspicion to fall on him.

Superintendent Fletcher of the Surrey Constabulary,[14] said having received information respecting the watch, he went to Nash and received it from the witness Betts. The prisoner was afterwards brought to the station house at Godalming where he made a statement to a constable that he had it from Mitchell. Superintendent Fletcher said he did not hear him make this statement, but he was told by the constable what was said. The constable being in court could say what was said.

Micaiah Read, Constable No13, said the prisoner came to his house about 5 o'clock on the morning of 18th and knocked him up just after he had come off duty He got out of bed and asked what he wanted, he replied that he was not going to be told any more about the old man's watch. He would clear it up at once and intended to give himself into custody. The witness got dressed and the prisoner made a statement to him. He said "I and Mitchell followed the prosecutor out of the public house and made him stand some more beer at another house. The old man became quarrelsome, and we told him to treat us with more. A policeman came up and asked if we did not take the old man away, he would take him to the station house. We went away towards the common, when we proposed to rob him, having seen his watch and money. Mitchell robbed him and threw the bag over some furze. After that we took him to a straw house and left him.

Mitchell, knowing I was going to Nash gave me the watch to make away with and I raffled it for 15s. and James Bott had a spree with the money".

Read was asked why his evidence was not in the depositions and was he examined before the magistrates. He replied he was not as after he told Superintendent Fletcher about it, he was told he would not let him go before the magistrates as he was not wanted, and he would not be heard. The Chairman said this was extraordinary with a witness with such material evidence.
Henry Mitchell was called saying he was a labourer at Dunsfold, and recollected the old man being turned out of the public house for misconduct. He left Stenning, the prisoner, and the prosecutor together and denied all knowledge of the watch or money.

Mr Carnock, who was appearing for the prisoner addressed the jury, contending that if it were true that Read had told Superintendent Fletcher the story he told that day, respecting the prisoner's statement, and he had refused to allow him to give evidence to that effect before the magistrates, the superintendent ought not to remain in the force another hour. In his opinion,

[14] Charles Fletcher at one time a member of the Surrey Constabulary, had a curious career as a police officer. A man of ambition which is evidenced by his movement between police forces as he climbed to the rank of a superintendent in a rural constabulary. As was almost the norm he suffered family tragedies during his service which ended in Surrey when he was charged with desertion and fraud in 1855. What all that was about is lost to time. Yet another superintendent whose career ends in ignominy, forcing him to leave the county and probably join the Metropolitan Police, again, as a constable.

Mr Fletcher either did not believe Read or such a statement was not made at all, such appeared to be the fact, for Mr Fletcher had actually brought Mitchell, the man implicated by the prisoner as a witness, which must be obvious to the jury, that the prisoner could not have made such a statement, Mr Fletcher explained, that Read did tell him what the prisoner had said but the Bench did not require him. The Chairman in summing up stated he believed Read had stated the truth and the jury returned a verdict of guilty, the prisoner being sentenced to six months hard labour at Wandsworth.

1856 July 5 West Surrey Times: Burglary: George Puttock was brought up on a charge of burglary. Harriett, wife of John Luff, labourer of Waterbridge, Cranley deposed that on Wednesday evening she went out to work and when she came back at half past twelve, she found two quaries (?) broken in the window which she fastened before leaving home. She missed a piece of bacon, about half a loaf of bread and a little box which contained 3s worth of copper money. The box produced was the one she lost.

PC W Bridger No22 stated that on Wednesday 25 he received information of this robbery. On Friday he went to the boy whom he found on the road and asked him who he saw going into the Luff's house; he said he saw a man with white trowsers and a black hat go to the house and break a window open and steal some clothes. Witness told him he had better speak the truth and tell him how his hand was cut. He replied, "You will not put me in prison if I give you the money box, will you?" Witness told him it was the money box he wanted, and he said he would go with him to fetch it. Witness went with him as they were going prisoner burst out crying and said, "I broke the window myself and cut my hand as I was doing it." He also said he found the box in the hedge and it only had 1¼d in it; someone he said had been to it and taken something out of it. He further said he bought some marbles etc., with the money. He said no one else had any hand in it and his parents will flog him well if they ?? Sentenced to two months hard labour.

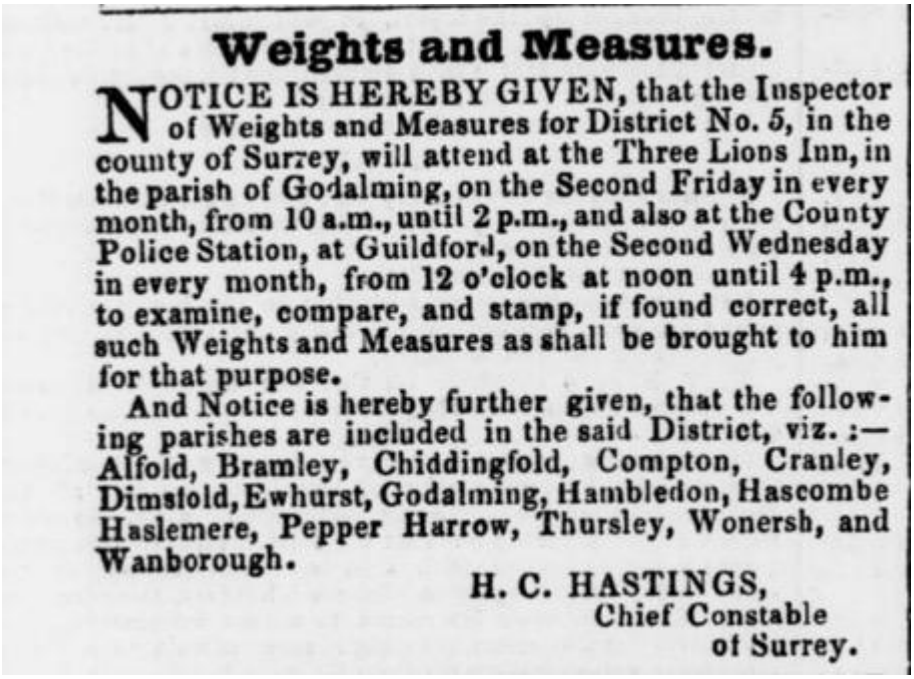
1856 August 2 West Surrey Times: David Edwards, farmer, at Cranley was brought up on warrant by PC Crisp charged with **using threatening language** towards George Davis a groom at Ockley. Complainant deposed he was in bodily fear from the prisoner's threats and the magistrates ordered the prisoner to find bail in the sum of £25 and himself in £25 to keep the peace for six months; bail being procured the prisoner was liberated.

1857 June 2 Sussex Advertiser: Cranley: Assault case: On Thursday last a woman named Rhoda Smith stated to belong to the gypsy fraternity brought up in custody at the Magistrates' Clerk's Office at Guildford charged with assaulting Mary Ann Winson a wife of a labourer living in this parish on 23 December 1854 after which the defendant left the neighbourhood. She was recently arrested on warrant by PC Stemp. Found guilty she was bound over to keep the peace for six months with 5 shillings costs. The money was immediately paid.

1857 June 13 West Surrey Times: Henry Rowland of Cranley, charged with having a **7lb weight** which was light. The case was proved by Surrey Constabulary Superintendent Parr (Ed: All superintendents were weights and measures inspectors, a part of the costs balance when the

new police force was formed. Police undertake the role and the costs met within the police budget saved on employing separate inspectors).

1857 July 7 Sussex Advertiser Weights and Measures



Weights and Measures.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Inspector of Weights and Measures for District No. 5, in the county of Surrey, will attend at the Three Lions Inn, in the parish of Godalming, on the Second Friday in every month, from 10 a.m., until 2 p.m., and also at the County Police Station, at Guildford, on the Second Wednesday in every month, from 12 o'clock at noon until 4 p.m., to examine, compare, and stamp, if found correct, all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose.

And Notice is hereby further given, that the following parishes are included in the said District, viz.:— Alfold, Bramley, Chiddingfold, Compton, Cranley, Dimsfold, Ewhurst, Godalming, Hambledon, Hascombe Haslemere, Pepper Harrow, Thursley, Wonersh, and Wanborough.

H. C. HASTINGS,
Chief Constable
of Surrey.

1857 August 22: Sussex Agricultural Express & West Surrey Times: Charge of **Robbery**: Ruth Tubbs was charged with stealing a chemise and a piece of linen the property of Matilda Gibson the wife of a blacksmith's labourer. The two shared lodgings. Gibson missed her clothing from her box and Inspector Glamorgan was informed. He went to the lodgings where he saw the prisoner with her box which was searched, and Gibson's chemise identified. The prisoner said she did not steal the chemise and it must have got into her box by accident being sent to her by mistake with the clean linen. The bench acquitted the prisoner

1857 September 12: West Surrey Times: County Police Business: Town Hall: **Vagrancy:** Edward Bennett was charged with having on the 6th inst., been found without any visible means of subsistence on lands the property of Mr. Holden at Cranley. PC Durman gave evidence of finding the prisoner and of receiving frequent complaints against the prisoner. Prisoner said he was a native of Cranley and frequently worked for Mr. Holden. At such times he had always slept where he was found and did not know it was wrong in doing so again. Discharged with a caution.

1858 January 2 West Surrey Times: Henry Rowland of Cranley was again found to have a **deficient weight** used in the warehouse. As this was a second offence, he was fined £2 including expenses. Mr. Inspector Parr proved the case.

1858 March 27 West Surrey Times: Assault at Cranley: Mary Ann Boyce was charged with assaulting Ann Tugwell aged 9 at Cranley. (Some form of neighbourly dispute ending in the

child being hit.) The girl was inconsolable in court and so the case was adjourned for two weeks.

1858 May 1: PC45 John Atkins was born at Warlingham in Surrey in 1833 moving by 1841 with his family to Jolliffe Row, Merstham. The 1851 Census has him still living there working in the nearby chalk pits as a labourer. He married in 1854 Elizabeth Harbour aged only 19 yet already a widow, her husband dying of TB the previous year.

Joining the Surrey Constabulary on 1 May 1858 John was posted to Dunsfold moving in April 1860 to Compton where five years later he was promoted sergeant, one of the first to hold that rank in the county. In 1878 the family was moved to Frimley. John could not escape what seemed to be the policeman's curse of drink receiving a reprimand for drunkenness in February 1865 a couple of months after his promotion to sergeant. Retiring from Frimley in 1881 with 23 years' service and a pension which was roughly equivalent to that received as a wage by pit labourers.

1858 June 19 West Surrey Times: Guildford County Bench: John Stemp, Henry Street and William Bennett were summoned for having on the 26ult., been **drunk and disorderly** in Cranley. Stemp did not appear. Inspector Glamorgan said he was on duty in the village at half past three in the morning when he heard a great disturbance near the Onslow Arms. He saw the three men dancing and shouting in front of the house. He advised them to go home but they paraded the street for upward of an hour afterwards. They were very drunk. Fined 5s each and expenses. (It would seem they were not arrested which is not surprising there being three drunks and one police officer many miles from any help. Possibly the modern practice of retrospective arrests was sensibly used which is possible if you know who they are!)

1858 November 23 Sussex Advertiser: **Deaths: Glamorgan** November 15 at Paddington, London Mr. T H Glamorgan (Inspector Surrey Constabulary) late of Cranley died aged 43 years

1858 November 23: Cranley: The late Inspector Glamorgan: Thomas Henry Glamorgan late Inspector of Police in the parish of Cranley died in London on the 25th inst. The deceased was a highly efficient police officer having had 18 years' experience in such duties, nearly eight years of which he was a member of the Surrey Constabulary. His good conduct and vigilance during that time not only gained him the approbation of his superiors but made him alike respected by his brother officers and the public generally in the different parishes in which he had been stationed. Mr Glamorgan was appointed to the office he held at the time of his death in August 1855 he being the successor to the unfortunate Inspector Donaldson whom he succeeded at Haslemere. Mr Glamorgan had been in a feeble state of health for the past two or three months and suffered from diseases of the lungs. He was attended in the early part of his illness Mr Albert Napper surgeon of this parish but about a month ago was removed to hospital in Paddington where he expired on Monday night.

The deceased was a native of Wales and was born in Balla in Canarvonshire; his friends being in very good circumstances he received the advantage of an excellent education being intended for the medical profession, but unforeseen circumstances interfered with the arrangements. He was a poet of some considerable talent and published some of his poems at Lymington in Hampshire and more recently at Haslemere. Many in the neighbourhood will doubtless recollect his "David and Goliath." His thread of life was loosened at the comparatively early age of 43. He leaves a widow and five young children to deplore their heavy loss.[15]

(Note: Inspector Glamorgan the poet succeeded Inspector Donaldson the artist at Haslemere in August 1855.[16] Another example that the men of the early police forces were not ignoramuses but often men of sensitivity with skills and talents not credited by or recovering from, the slurs of novelists.)

1858 November 27 West Surrey Times: Cranley: The late Inspector Glamorgan: Mr Thomas Henry Glamorgan: Almost identical report to the above but an additional comment on his poetry. "His contribution to this journal during his residence at Haslemere were very frequent. Among the noticeable pieces were the "lines on the Devils Punch Bowl" at Hindhead which in addition to the intrinsic merit of the composition became very popular from its local character."

Alice and Walter Glamorgan moved to Oregon, USA, in about 1903

Further information on Inspector Thomas Henry Glamorgan: He does not appear in the 1841 census, however, in 1851, he was living with his wife, Eliza, and four of their children, George age 6, Thomas 4, Walter 2 and Arthur 8 months, in The Old Workhouse, Basing, and his occupation is given as Police Constable. Ten years later, his widow is living 'in the village' at Cranleigh, with Walter, Arthur, and a daughter Fanny Elizabeth, who was born in 1855. Eliza appears to run a soup kitchen. By 1871 all the boys had left home (They have not been traced even though their surname is unusual) Eliza is living in Bedlam Lane, Cranleigh and is 'charing &c'. Hers is the only death that is positively traced, 18 August 1903 in the infirmary of Guildford Workhouse.

1859 February 5 West Surrey Times: County Bench, Saturday January 29: **Drunkenness:** George Sparkes a well dressed young man was charged with being drunk and disorderly on the 20 January at Cranley. Inspector Moore saw the defendant in Cranley and he was very drunk and abusive to the inhabitants, kicking over and breaking and earthenware tea-pot. The inspector remonstrated with him but was told to mind his own business. Moore saw the defendant leave Onslow Arms at four the following morning so drunk he was unable to walk or stand. PC Saxbee corroborated the evidence. Fined 5s with no costs.

[15] 1858 November 23 Sussex Advertiser and Surrey Gazette
[16] Sussex Advertiser 23rd November 1858

1859 February 5 West Surrey Times: **County Bench,** Saturday January 29**: Disorderly House:** Frederick Ansell keeper of a beer house at Cranley was charged with having knowingly permitted drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house on the 20th ult. Inspector Moore stated that on Thursday 20th the defendant kept his house open from 11 0'clock till a quarter to two the following morning. The present case having resulted from the previous one involving Sparkes. The Bench adjudged defendant to pay the sum of 12s expenses only.

1859 May 21: West Surrey Times: Violent Assault on Police: Elias and Amos Gibbs charged with assaulting the police in the discharge of their duty at Cranley. PC Samuel Monk said that on Sunday afternoon in company with PC Stephen Hillyer they went to Ifold Farm, Cranley where they found Amos Gibbs in a tent and Elias Gibbs in a cart. Whilst taking Amos prisoner a large dog was set on them by Elias. Elias armed himself with a piece of iron and incited the prisoner to do something to the policeman. Amos took up a large sake and threatened to kill Monk if he touched him. The constable succeeded in taking the stick from him before he could make a strike at him. Amos then ran away, and Monk followed him and eventually captured him taking him into custody. He resisted very much so as to necessitate the putting on of handcuffs. He kicked the policeman several times and made attempts to bite him.

PC 74 Stephen Hillyer stationed at Ewhurst said he went with PC Monk to remove the prisoner from the tent when Elias at once took the piece of iron produced, from the cart and struck at him three times. Elias ran off but was caught by PC Hillyer. The prisoner then took up a large piece of wood and knocked him down with it. He then got up and took the prisoner into custody.

Police evidence was supported by Mr. Henry Taylor of Ifold Farm. Fined £4 and £1.7s costs or in default one calendar month's imprisonment at Wandsworth House of Correction. The prisoners being unable to pay the amount were removed to custody.

1861 November 2: West Surrey Times: Guildford County Bench. **A Disorderly Street** - George Street, a man of respectable appearance was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Cranley on 19th October between 12 and 1 o'clock. PC Chapman proved the charge, and the defendant was fined 5s.

1861 December 14: West Surrey Times: Guildford: Emily Lassan, a cook in the employ of Mr A Napper of Cranley was charged with **stealing a quantity of provisions**, including bacon, half a large cake, half a dozen small pies, and other articles of food, numbering about thirty in all, from the house of her master, and David Lassan, her father was charged with receiving the same knowing them to have been stolen. Mrs Napper deposed that in consequence of suspicions she entertained she went to the larder on Thursday morning and missed several articles. The pies produced along with other items produced were her property.

PC Chapman deposed: On Thursday morning, I saw the male prisoner going towards his home with a bundle on his back. I asked him what he had got there, and he replied it was his daughter's dirty clothes which her had brought from Mrs Napper's. I felt the bundle and said, "you have got something here besides clothes" and he said, "Not that I know of," he was

unwilling that I should undo the bundle. I thereupon took him to my residence and opened the bundle, finding the cakes, pies etc produced. Cross examined by the male prisoner: You said that that was not proper place to open the bundle, but I did not hear you say that you could search me if I went to your house.

Inspector John Henry Law deposed: On the 6th inst., I searched the male prisoner's house and found the bacon, produced. I went to Mr Napper's house and apprehended the other prisoner. I told her the charge, and that the articles had been found in the possession of her father. She admitted having given them to him, and said she thought there was no harm in doing so. The female prisoner said her father was innocent as he did not know what was in the bundle, nor did he know where she got the bacon. Both prisoners were committed for trial.

1862 September 6 West Surrey Times: Lewis Williams was charged with **hawking goods** for sale without a license at Cranley this morning. Inspector Crisp said about half past 11 o'clock found the prisoner in Cranley offering earthenware for sale and admitted he had no license as it had expired. Fined £2 10s a month to pay or three week's imprisonment.

1862 October 4: West Surrey Times, Surrey County Bench Guildford: James Coles, a middle-aged man of respectable appearance, appeared in answer to his bail, charged with **stealing a fowl** at Dunsfold, the property of Mr Goodman. PC George Lemon deposed that from information received he searched the prisoner's premises and found the fowl hanging in an outhouse. Upon telling him the charge he replied that he found the bird in the road near Hook House. After some further evidence, Mr Powell of The Prince of Wales, Woodbridge Road was called, and he spoke very highly of the honesty and respectability of the prisoner who was then discharged.

1862 October 25: West Surrey Times - Guildford County Bench - Edward Barrett was charged as follows. PC Chapman deposed that on 17inst he saw the defendant in an unoccupied building at Joy Farm, Cranley, at one o'clock in the morning. **He was asleep** and when the witness asked him why he was there he replied that he had only gone into the building to sleep. He was sentenced to seven day's hard labour.

1862 October 25 West Surrey Times: James Fuller was charged kept his house at Cranley open for the **sale of beer** during illegal hours. PC 77 Hoare deposed that on Sunday 12 inst., he watched the defendant's house from half past ten o'clock till twenty past eleven in the morning and saw three people come from the house. He entered the house at twenty-five minutes past eleven o'clock and saw four people there with several mugs on the table. The officer was in plain clothes. There was disagreement over the sale of beer and the timing, and the case was dismissed.

1862 December 27 West Surrey Times: Edward Stone a grocer of Cranley Common was charged with **stealing two gallons of brandy and two quarts of cloves** from the Greyhound. Inspector Crisp in evidence said he apprehended the prisoner and said "Well Mr. Stone I hear you have got yourself into trouble" and he replied, "Yes I have, and I am very sorry for it."

Stone then produced some rum and cloves and offered to pay anything Mr. Fuller the innkeeper anything he required. He had been drunk and on the following day he immediately went and offered to pay. The prisoner pleaded not guilty and was committed for trial.

1863 March 7 West Surrey Times: James Fuller applied for the **renewal of the license** for the Greyhound at Cranley. Superintendent Parr said the house had not been properly conducted since it had been in the hands of Fuller harbouring persons of bad character and suffering improper conduct to take place. Fuller had been given notice to quit in a fortnight and the license was suspended until 21st inst.

1863 June 20 West Surrey Times: Rebecca Muggeridge was charged with **stealing** towels, knives and forks the property of Rebecca Fuller of Cranley. Some of the property was recovered by Fuller from the prisoner's house in Ewhurst. PC Wardell went to the prisoner's house and received some property which he produced to the court. He arrested the prisoner who admitted the theft. Sentenced to twenty-one days hard labour.

1863 July 18 West Surrey Times**: Brass stealing at Cranleigh:** Samuel Shayres was charged with stealing three pieces of brass at Cranleigh about 12 months ago. The loss was worth 4s 6d and were portions of a harness. Inspector Crisp found the brass and produced it to the court. The prisoner had since served time in Petworth prison for housebreaking. Pleaded guilty sentenced to three months hard labour.

1863 November 30: George Vickers resigns as Chief Constable of the Guildford Borough Police and is succeeded by John Henry Law formerly an inspector in the Surrey Constabulary

Police Superintendent John Henry Law armed his men with cutlasses. This helped to put an end to the rioting [17]

Record of Service John Henry Law [18]

[17] Picture published in 'The Guildford Guy Riots' by Gavin Morgan
[18] Guildford public library SP 351.74 Collection of Mr and Mrs A J B Green

Mr Law was born in 1818 in Northampton serving in the Metropolitan Police from May 1835 to May 1837 and the City of London Police between December 1838 and April 1841. He joined the Surrey Constabulary on the 11 February 1852 as a fourth-class constable number 56 at sixteen shillings a week. He was sworn in at Hersham in the Chertsey Division.

On joining the Surrey Constabulary, he was described as being 5 feet 9 ½ inches, fair complexion, brown hair with hazel eyes.

June 1, 1852, 4th Class constable to 3rd Class

November 1, 1852, 3rd Class to 2nd Class

May 1853 from Hersham to Egham

August 1, 1853 2nd Class constable to 1st Class – there were no sergeants at this time

October 1855 Egham to Leatherhead

October 1855 1st class constable to inspector

March 1859 Leatherhead to Walton on Thames

October 1859 for allowing a prisoner to escape reduced from Inspector to 1st Class constable and removed at his own expense from the Chertsey to the Reigate Division

October 1859 Walton on Thames to Merstham

January 1861 1st Class constable to Inspector

February 1861 Merstham to **Cranley**

March 1861 Cranley to Shamley Green

October 1861 Shamley Green to Cranley

December 1861 apprehending a man for assault without having a warrant reduced from the rank of inspector to first class constable

January 1862 first class constable to inspector

June 1862 Cranley to Witley

Resigned November 30, 1863, to go as Head Constable of the Guildford Borough Police with conduct during service recorded as "Very Good". Certificate given and dated December 1st, 1863

March 1864 the Stemp family, formerly of Cranley, moved to Witley where Henry's police career came to an abrupt end when he was demoted on the 1st of July 1864 to Constable Second Class for drunkenness. He resigned from the Constabulary on the 19th of July 1864.

1865 February 18 Surrey Advertiser: **Stealing turnips**: George Williams, John Neal and Tom Brown were charged with stealing from Rye Farm, Cranley swedes they pulled from the ground. When approached Williams dropped them. The prisoners all had money in their possession. Sentenced 14 days hard labour. (Mentions turnips but says swedes stolen!)

1865 February 25 Surrey Advertiser **Cranley: A Pair of Buffers**: Isaac Bennett and George Joyce were charged with fighting. PC Legg saw them at half past twelve at night when he ordered them away. There was a crowd of 30 or 40 round them. Deputy Chief Constable Parr said Bennett had been charged before with a similar offence. Bennet was ordered to pay 15s expenses and Joyce 5s.

1865 February 25 Surrey Advertiser **Cranley:** William Taylor was charged with **stealing a pair of boots** the property of Rev., JH Sapte of Cranley. Inspector Hibberd of Cranley said he found the prisoner in bed at a lodging house in Horsham and was told by him that he had sold the boots to a costermonger from whom the inspector recovered them. Remanded. Later reported he was a young lad and was sent to the House of Correction for six weeks.

1865 April 15: Alleged Robbery: On Thursday three men were brought up at the Magistrate's office, Guildford on a charge of stealing a quantity of timber the property of Mr Elliott of Cranley from the Shalford wharf. They were remanded.[19]

1865 August 12 Surrey Advertiser: **Sleeping under a faggot stack**: Emily Stemp was charged with vagrancy by PC West who found her at half past twelve, am, in Cranley near a faggot. She has no visible means of subsistence and did not give a good account of herself. Sent to gaol for seven days.

1865 December 9: Dorking Petty Sessions: Obstructing the highway: Charles Dance of Ewhurst was charged with leaving his wagon and causing an obstruction on the road. Fined 5s and 14s expenses.[20]

1866 June 25 Surrey Advertiser**: Alleged obstruction**: Alexander Luffden a respectable looking person summoned for causing an obstruction on the high road at Cranley on 19th June. Inspector Hibberd gave evidence and Luffden was discharged with a caution.

1867 January 19 Surrey Advertiser**: Cranley unusual theft:** Inspector Hibberd was involved in a case where cake and stout were taken by a married man and two boys. Bound over to appear at a later court.

1870 September 10 West Surrey Times**: Stealing a goose at Cranleigh**: William sink, a young man and evidently a tramp charged with stealing a goose the property of Henry Warren of Cranleigh. The prisoner was seen to stone the gooses pick it up and take it away. A police constable proved apprehending the prisoner and a statement from the prisoner that the deed was done due to the pressure of hunger. Sentenced 21 days imprisonment with hard labour.

1870 December 31 Surrey Advertiser**: Hungry and cold Labourer:** James Hay, labourer was charged with stealing a coat and two dinners the property of James Eggleton at Cranleigh on the 19th inst. Police Sergeant Lambert stated he had apprehended the prisoner on the same day as the theft and found the coat on him, but he had eaten the dinners. Sentenced to six weeks imprisonment with hard labour.

[19] 1865 April 15 Surrey Advertiser
[20] 1865 December 9 Surrey Advertiser

1871 July 29 West Surrey Times**: Weights and Measures offence**: Deputy Chief Constable Barker charged William Luffkin grocer of Cranleigh with being in possession of deficient scales and was fined 20s.

1871 July 29 West Surrey Times**: Weights and Measures offence**: Deputy Chief Constable Barker charged shopkeeper Elizabeth Farmer a shopkeeper of Cranleigh with a deficient 14ib weight. Fined 20s including costs.

1872 January 20 Surrey Advertiser**: A dangerous game**: Albert Puttock and Thomas Ede were summoned for obstructing the highway at Cranleigh on the 26 December when they unhung three gates and threw them in the road. Deputy Chief Constable Barker said great complaints had been received. Fined £1 each or 14 days imprisonment.

1872 June 22 Surrey Advertiser**: Stealing a bag Cranleigh**: Sarah Wills 17 was charged with stealing a bag containing two shillings and a halfpenny the property of Mary Boxall at Cranleigh. The money was taken at a club dinner and the prisoner admitted the theft to Policeman Higginson and told him where she had thrown the bag. Sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

1872 September 14: Surrey Advertiser**: Change of police officers**: At the beginning of September Inspector Alfred Bungard was removed to the district of Chertsey where he now ranks as superintendent. During the seven years Mr. Bungard has resided at Leatherhead he has succeeded in gaining the esteem and respect of all classes of the inhabitants. Chertsey is to be congratulated on the appointment of an officer who not only thoroughly understands his duties bust uses a wise discretion in their discharge. **Sergeant George Lambert** late of Cranleigh has been appointed inspector at Leatherhead and we have no doubt will do his best to deserve as good an opinion as his predecessor leaves behind him.

1873 March 8 Surrey Advertiser**: Narrow escape – drunk or not**: William Bennett of Ewhurst was summoned for being drunk on the highway while in charge of a horse and cart. Sergeant Wood said on the 22 of February saw the defendant on the road from Cranleigh to Ewhurst. His cart was in the ditch and the defendant was so drunk he was unable to take care of himself or his horse and cart. Fines 10s with 18s costs.

1873 October 4: Surrey Advertiser**: Furious driving:** William Southam of Cranleigh was summoned for furious driving in the High Street. Policeman Saunders said about quarter to four on Saturday 20th inst., saw the defendant in the High Street with a pony and gig. He was stopped and advised not to drive that way. He slashed the whip on the pony and galloped off again. Persons on the street had to run away to prevent being run over. He said he had paid the toll and could do as he liked. He refused his name and address and so was taken to the station. Mr. Superintendent Law said the defendant was certainly excited by drink at the time and said he had been showing off the pony. The Chairman said the defendant did not take the caution of the police and defied the bylaws of the town. Fined 30s including costs and repetition of the offence would probably be visited with imprisonment. (Most likely took place in Guildford)

1874 October 3: West Surrey Times**: Stealing a prong**: Alfred Stemp a boy of 15 years was brought on remand charged with stealing a prong the property of Edward Friar, of Withy Bush, Cranleigh on the 17th inst. The boy was apprehended and showed Sergeant Woods a hedge where the prong was hidden. The prisoner pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment. His mother said she thought he was not quite right, but the magistrates appeared not to hear what she had said.

1874 December 26 Surrey Advertiser**: Threatening to shoot wife**: Henry Bartlett was charged on remand with threatening to shoot his wife Emily at Cranleigh on the 11th inst. The defendant came home at midnight on Saturday night and was refused admission by his wife causing hm to threaten to shoot everyone in the house. This was not the first time such threats had been made. They were married on the 16 October and second night after he gave her two black eyes. Following a disturbance Mrs Bartlett's brother removed him from the house when he had a knife in his hand. The following night he came again with a revolver in his hand. He had never seen his sister drunk. Sergeant Wood took the prisoner into custody and on being charged said he was sorry he had not shot two or three of them. The Bench ordered the prisoner to enter into his own recognizances in the sum of £20 to keep the peace for one year on his promise to leave this part of the country and not go near his wife again.

1875 April 24 Surrey Advertiser**: An inveterate drunkard**: Isaac Bennett of Cranleigh was charged with being drunk at the Railway Hotel, Guildford. Sergeant Woods was called to the inn and had difficulty removing Bennett. This was his thirteenth time before the Bench and was fined £1.

1877 February 6: Sussex Agricultural Express**: Stealing tools at Cranleigh**: George Whitcombe was charged with stealing a basket of tools the property of Alexander Hill a carpenter of Cranleigh. The defendant took the tools and pawned then at Redhill where they were traced by Sergeant Woods. The prisoner was arrested by Sergeant Woods in Sandwich, Kent. When charged by Deputy Chief Constable Barker the prisoner said he was hard up, Committed for trial at the Newington Sessions.

1877 November 27 Sussex Agricultural Express**: Coal Robbery at Cranleigh**: Benjamin Roberts engine driver to Mr. GW Bruford of the Cranleigh Steam Brewery was charged with stealing coal to the value of 1s 3d the property of his employer on 21 November. When challenged by a fellow employee he said he had taken the coal as he had nothing else to burn Sergeant Woods apprehended the prisoner who did not deny the offence and was sentenced to two months hard labour.

1879 June 29: Surrey Advertiser Eli Hampshire was charged with having on the 4th inst., allowed one heifer and four cows to **stray on the highway in** Cranleigh. Police Sergeant Wood proved the offence and Hampshire was fined £1.

1880 November 6 Surrey Advertiser**: Stealing paint**: Emma Stemp an old-fashioned little woman was charged with stealing a tin of paint from Mr. Beadell upholsterer and ironmonger in Cranleigh. Stemp was seen by Beadell to take something and so he went after her and she admitted stealing a pot of paint. Sergeant Woods said the prisoner admitted the theft. Fined £1 with a fortnight to pay.

In 1881, a police constable of the Surrey Constabulary called Turner Edgeler, 32, was living with his wife and four children in a house on the Common, somewhere on the land that Oakenhurst and Baltic House now occupy. Different constables figure in the 1891 and 1901 censuses.

1881 September 12 Surrey Advertiser: James Longhurst and William Bennett pleaded guilty to **being drunk** at Cranleigh and were fined £1 each.

1881 September 12 Surrey Advertiser: William Jenner a butcher was charged with being drunk and incapable at Cranleigh. Police Sergeant Edgeler saw the defendant's cart and horse in a ditch and the defendant **staggering about drunk** in the middle of the road. Fined £2 in his absence.

1881 September 26 Surrey Advertiser: George Cooper was charged with being **drunk and incapable** by PC Wood in Guildford where Superintendent Law of the Guildford Borough Police set out the facts of the case. The prisoner said he had come from Cranleigh to buy some shirts and the mayor said he would be discharged but he had better buy his shirts and get back to Cranleigh.

1882 June 17: West Surrey Times: Robert Leversich a bailiff of High Park Farm, Cranleigh was charged with **stealing two sacks of corn** valued at 28s the property of Mr. Hariph Hodden his employer. On Friday Mr. Hodden had suspicions and called Sergeant Edgeler and they then followed one of Mr. Hodden's carts They found that two sacks of corn were left with Knight the carrier by the prisoner for conveyance to Guildford. Sacks had been taken by the carrier for the prisoner to Guildford. Leversitch admitted to the sergeant stealing the sacks. The prisoner was remanded for a week

1883 July 28 West Surrey Times: Increase of the county force: At the Midsummer Quarter Sessions Captain Hastings, Chief Constable, in compliance with demands made upon him (both by the magistrates and general public) for additional police protection, recommended that two sergeant and ten constables should be appointed. The additional men were to be placed in the larger parishes where the number at present stationed is much below the average laid down in Government regulation of one man per thousand of the population. The men are proposed to be stationed as follows: two each for Chertsey, Dorking, Godalming and Woking and one each at **Cranleigh,** Egham, Farnham and Walton. The increase was agreed without discussion.

1883 September 22 Surrey Advertiser: **The County Police: Cricket:** The police of the headquarters division (Guildford) had a little diversion on Monday from their usual

occupations. Thirty-two of them with Superintendent Denning (Albury) and Sergeants Alexander (Ripley) Bundy (Witley) **Edgeler (Cranleigh)** Moore (Guildford) tried their practice hand in the cricket field. Before reporting thither, a preliminary meeting took place at the Prince of Wales where after a repast worthy of their appetite the health of the Chief Constable (Captain Hastings) and the Deputy Chief Constable (Mr Barker) were drunk with a cordiality worthy of the esteemed names that were honoured. Assembling on the cricket field sides were formed and a combined score of 167 will of itself sufficiently indicate the alacrity of "our guardians of the peace." PC Risbridger's side pulled together 104 and the side chosen by Sergeant Alexander 63 Sergeant Edgeler was the top score of the day 28. And there were some dead heats at the bottom!

Establishment West Surrey Times 3 January 1885

Division	Rank	Name	Address
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford
Headquarters	Deputy Chief Constable	Charles W Barker	Guildford
Headquarters	Inspector	Inspector WH Bryant	Office staff Woodbridge Road
Headquarters	Sergeant	Page	Office staff

Superintendents: Mr AH Bungard Chertsey, Mr G Lambert Dorking, Mr F Pike Farnham, Mr E Redford Godstone

Inspectors H Baker Hersham, Inspector H Collis, Egham Inspector JH Dennett, Albury Inspector G Manning, Holmwood

Sergeants W Alexander Ripley, C Bundy Witley, G Boon Weybridge, TF Chapman Haslemere, A Crook Chertsey, **T Edgeler Cranleigh**, J Heighes (sic) Frimley, EJ King Cobham, CA Keys Woking.

1887 December 24: Surrey Constabulary establishment

Chief Constable Captain HC Hastings, Deputy Chief Constable Superintendent Chas. W. Barker

Office Staff: Inspector WH Bryant and Sergeant Page Headquarters Woodbridge Road, Guildford

Superintendents Mr AH Bungard Chertsey, Mr G Lambert Dorking, F Pike Farnham. E Redford Godstone

Inspectors H Baker Chertsey, Henry Collis Egham, James Dennett Godstone Station, Henry Grey Reigate, Edwin J King Holmwood, William Woods Leatherhead

Sergeants W Alexander Ripley, Alfred Biddlecombe Chobham, James Brice Caterham, George Boon Weybridge, Cornelius Bundy Witley, Thomas F Chapman Haslemere, George Crooke Hersham, **Turner Edgeler Cranleigh**, Edwin Hackman Esher, James Heighes (sic)

Frimley, Charles A Keys Woking, Henry Melmoth Godalming, Joseph Moore Guildford, William J Skinner Albury, Thomas Smith Horley, William Hatton Farnham.[21]

1888 January 28 Surrey Advertiser 28 Cranleigh: Police changes: Police **Sergeant Edgeler** who has been stationed here for about eight years during which he was very much respected will next week move to Hersham.

1888 September 15 Surrey Advertiser: Cranleigh. A respectably dressed man went into the Onslow Arms where he sat for about two hours. One of the barmaids left the room but heard the till move and caught the man with his hand in the till. He bolted down Knole Lane pursued and subsequently caught by **Police Sergeant Risbridger**. Taken before the court as James King of Bermondsey and was remanded.

Sussex Agriculture Express 27 December 1891

Chief Constable Captain Henry Cadogan Hastings Guildford
Deputy Chief Constable Superintendent CW Barker Guildford
Inspector and Chief Clerk WH Bryant, Guildford
Superintendents Chertsey A H Bungard: Dorking, G Lambert: Farnham, Frederick Pike: Godstone, Edwin Redford.
Inspectors Egham, Henry Collis: Leatherhead, W. Wood: Reigate, Edwin Hackman: Farnham, H Baker: Guildford, Howard H Page: Godstone Station, James H Dennett: Holmwood, Dorking, Edwin J King:
Sergeants Albury, William Hatton: Caterham James Brice: Chobham Alfred Biddlecombe: **Cranleigh JD Risbridger**: Esher WT Skinner: Farncombe Henry Melmoth: Frimley James Heighes: Haslemere Thomas F Chapman: Hersham Turner Edgler: Horley Thomas Smith: Ripley Charles A Keys: Witley Cornelius Bundy: Weybridge George Boon: Woking William Alexander: Guildford Arthur Simmonds: Dorking Frank Scarterfield: Chertsey Edward Campbell: Knap Hill Edwin West: Elstead Thomas Fletcher: Godalming William J Marks.

The Superintendents are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures for their respective districts excepting at Croydon at which town MR AJ Lane holds the post

Superintendent of Reigate Borough Police Mr Pearson, Guildford Borough Police Mr W Berry

[21] 1887 December 24 West Surrey Times

1892 May 16: Shocking Accident. A shocking accident occurred on Saturday at **Ewhurst**, near Guildford. Two bricklayers, named Luff and Stedmnn, were being lowered into a well, with the object of arranging for pumping out some water when they fell out of the bucket, in consequence, it is supposed, of being stupefied by foul air and were killed. The well was 75ft. deep.[22]

1892 October 1: Inspector Wood who since 1881 has been in charge of **Leatherhead** district is **retiring** at the end of next month on pension after 29 years' service with the Surrey Constabulary. He joined the force as a constable in 1863 and was stationed at Reigate before the formation of the borough force, Guildford and **Cranleigh.** He was removed to Leatherhead on his promotion to an inspectorship in 1881. During his residence in the town, he has gained the high esteem of the residents for the able manner in which he discharged his duties. He will probably be succeeded by PC Smith (sic) who is at present doing duty in the town.[23] **1892 October 1: Retirement of Inspector Wood** who has been a member of the Surrey Constabulary for 29 years is about to retire on a well-earned pension. Since 1891 he has been in charge of the police force at Leatherhead.[24]

West Surrey Times 7 January 1893
Surrey County Constabulary
HQ Guildford strength 203

Chief Constable Captain HC Hastings
Deputy Chief Constable Superintendent Howard J Page Guildford

S**uperintendents** Edwin Hackman Chertsey, Henry Collis Dorking, William Alexander Farnham, William H Bryant Godstone.

Inspectors James Brice Caterham, Edwin J King Egham, William T Skinner Godalming, Arthur Simmonds Guildford, Turner Edgerler Hersham, Thomas Smith Leatherhead, William Marks Reigate.

Sergeants W Hatton Albury, R Stancombe Ash, **D Risbridger Cranleigh**, T Fletcher Esher, W Oliver Guildford, H Melmoth Farncombe, W Rands Haslemere, S Collins Ripley, TW Matthews Witley, E West Knaphill, H Coleman Woking, P Jarrett Horley, J Campbell Chertsey, W Wright Frimley, W Pullen Chobham, W Marshall Holmwood, J Larby Farnham, W Upfold Farnham, F Waters Bletchingly, J Soutchcott Lingfield, W Wright Camberley, F Scaterfield Dorking

1893 January 28: Sussex Agriculture Express: Damaging a common: Mr Reginald Bray of Shere sued William Brazil and Elias Gairey for £5 damages committed at Holmbury Hill on

[22] The Western Mail 16 May 1892
[23] 1892 October 1: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[24] 1892 October 1: Dorking Advertiser

Hurtwood Common. Men were caught chopping sticks and a considerable amount of damage had been done. The witness could not identify the defendants in any way as they did not appear and in their absence the judge could not give damages. Case adjourned for further evidence. In a similar case with other defendant's PC Holdsworth, Surrey Constabulary and Police Sergeant Risbridger of Cranleigh gave evidence. Defendants were ordered to pay 10s damages and costs each payment to be made within 14 days.

1899 January 10: The Retirement of Inspector Edgeler: Inspector Turner Edgeler who has been a member of the Surrey Constabulary for 29 years five of which have been spent at Caterham has sent in his resignation. He recently lost his wife after a long and painful illness and for some time past he has not been in the best of health. We understand that if he had continued in the force, he would have been promoted superintendent, but he considers a rest and a change are necessary and that is the reason he is retiring. Mr Edgeler joined the Surrey Constabulary in 1868 but retired shortly afterwards but joined again in 1871. He was successively stationed at Charlwood, Shalford, **Cranleigh** and Hersham, and having been promoted to the position of sergeant, and then to that of inspector he was sent in 1894 to Godalming as acting superintendent of that division and continued as such until a superintendent who had been ill recovered his health and was reinstated. Upon this Mr Edgeler resumed his old rank of inspector and came to Caterham where he has since been stationed. In each of the places mentioned Mr Edgeler performed his duties in a manner that won for him the commendation of the magistrates and inhabitants generally, his clever capture of the Shalford burglar, and the way he broke up some notorious gangs of fowl stealers being specifically mentioned.

Among others who publicly acknowledged his services and spoke very highly of him as a police officer may be mentioned Lord Middleton the present Lord Lieutenant of the county, the Late Mr H Yool, who was chairman of the Surrey Sessions, the Mayor of Godalming. For some time, Mr Edgeler was specially told off to assist in conjunction with a detective from Scotland Yard in guarding the late Mr **Gladstone** during the Fenian scare whenever that gentleman came into the county of Surrey. It is not generally known that a short time since, when two daring burglaries were committed at Caterham Mr Edgeler got close on the track of the burglars, who however were apprehended by the London police for another offence and sentenced to long terms of penal servitude. During the time Mr Edgeler had been in the force he has received many marks of esteem and respect in which he has been held, in the form of testimonials, consisting of purses of money, watches etc., which have in some instances been accompanied by illuminated addresses and on one occasion was awarded £5 by the Chief Constable for meritorious services. Amongst the letters of thanks, he received one from Major Henniker a former commandant of the Guard's Depot in recognition of the assistance he had rendered the military police. For a long time, he was regarded as the best all-rounder cricketer in the force and in addition to distinguishing himself as a bowler and wicket keeper has on several occasions made scores approaching 100.[25]

[25] 1899 January 10: The Surrey Mirror

1899 July 8 West Surrey Times: The new inspector Cranleigh: Inspector Smith will give up the charge of Cranleigh district to Sergeant Halliday next week. Inspector Smith will succeed Police Sergeant Halliday at Albury. **1899 July 22 West Surrey Times: Police Sergeant Halliday** began his duties at Cranleigh on Tuesday.

1900 December 15 West Surrey Times: Obstruction: At the Guildford County Bench on Saturday Percy Marshall was fined 5s for having obstructed the highway at Ewhurst. Police Sergeant Halliday laid the Information.

The Police Station from the Obelisk is tucked just round the corner (H.U. Knight, before 1910, from Mrs Vera Wilkinson)[26]

In 1904 an impressive new police station was built in a prominent position in Horsham Road, at Luck's Green. According to a later Cranleigh policeman, "the first man to be taken in there was drunk in charge of a horse and cart: he had been to Guildford market". This was sufficient explanation: Guildford market was notorious for drunkenness.

Between 1911 and 1915, the Inland Revenue conducted a nationwide survey of every house and property in the United Kingdom, to assess them for tax purposes. This is how the Police Station was described: Cranleigh Police Station, owner Surrey County Council, July 1915. Brick and tile, 3 bedrooms, WC, living room, scullery, small larder, washhouse, office, 3 cells and 2 WCs'.[27]

[26] From www.surrey-constabulary.com with additional material from https://www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk/joy-of-cranleigh-buildings-with-a-story-february-2020/

[27] From www.surrey-constabulary.com with additional material from https://www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk/joy-of-cranleigh-buildings-with-a-story-february-2020/

Horsham Road and the new Police Station (by Cranleigh's photographer, H.U. Knight, post-marked 1907, courtesy of Mrs Vera Wilkinson)[28]

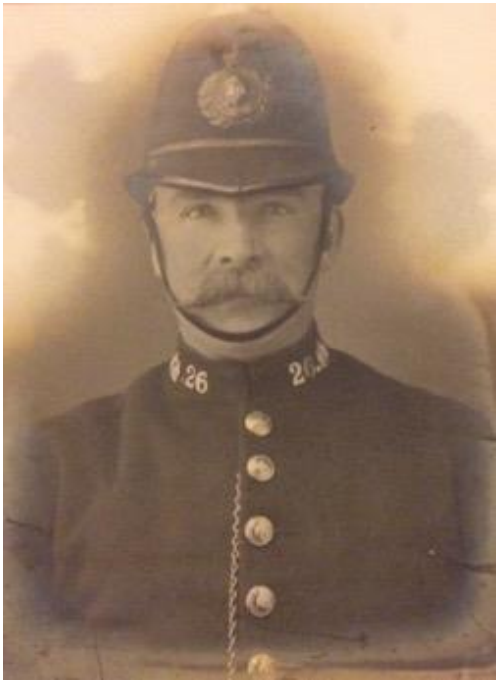
1912 July 4: At Godalming Henrietta Foster, Methuselah Matthews a farm labourer and James Glue also a farm labourer were remanded on a charge of **murder** of Alfred Foster the husband of the above. All four left a public house at Alfold and quarrelled on the way home to Dunsfold. Later that evening police received information that the body of Foster had been found in a pond. At the inquest Dr Leathers of Godalming said he could find no sign of death by drowning. There were bruises on the left cheek and right temple, and a star shaped fracture on the inner layer of the skull. The left lung was in a collapsed state. Death was due to these injuries. The case was adjourned for one week.[29]

About 1913 PC Kemp on his bicycle (picture from Cranleigh Voices, 2000)[30]

[28] From www.surrey-constabulary.com with additional material from https://www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk/joy-of-cranleigh-buildings-with-a-story-february-2020/
[29] 1912 July 4: The Times
[30] From www.surrey-constabulary.com with additional material from https://www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk/joy-of-cranleigh-buildings-with-a-story-february-2020/

1913, PC Kemp attended a distressing suicide at Baynards, of a man who cut his own throat when given notice to quit his farm cottage.

1915 December 24: A road accident in late 1915 happened right outside the police station, when an elderly employee of the gasworks on the Common, called Elijah Chitty, 68, was walking home from work in the wartime darkness to his home in Mount Road. He stepped in front of a car driven by Mr David Henderson, the owner of Vachery, and was knocked down. He was taken to the Village Hospital but died there on Christmas Eve. The inquest was held at the Lady Peek Institute (now 'Bunbury House'), and it was said that Elijah 'had never had a day's illness in his life', but he 'couldn't see or hear very well, and he couldn't walk very well' either. Mr David Henderson was completely exonerated. The verdict was Accidental Death.[31]



PC26 Kemp

PC Kemp with a downed aircraft

[31] From www.surrey-constabulary.com with additional material from https://www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk/joy-of-cranleigh-buildings-with-a-story-february-2020/

1914-1918 During the First World War, the police were responsible for enforcing numerous and various wartime regulations at a time when many officers were re-called to the Colours as they were on the Reserve, they volunteered or were conscripted. It was a constant battle for the chief constable to retain enough efficient men to operate a reasonable police service for the county. The Cranleigh sergeant supervised constables in Ewhurst, Dunsfold and Shamley Green. In addition to the traditional countryside duties associated with diseases on farms, firearms licensing there was a vast increase in the work associated with registering and monitoring aliens. There was also a vast increase of military personnel in the county including large numbers of Canadian troops. There were considerable numbers of "spy scare stories" which all had to be investigated. In addition to the additional tasks caused by the war the routine of police work had to continue. Police have always and still do, act for the coroner when someone dies unexpectedly at home or in more dramatic circumstance. Investigations followed including working with the local doctor at post-mortems often undertaken in premises at public houses. It was to be several years before post-mortems were to be caried out within a medical environment.

About 1914: Cranleigh Police: Bert Henley 1889-1980[32] We had three policemen one of who was in inspector. He lived next door to the old forge on the Common. A cottage has now replaced the forge. The old policeman's house was taken down and a new house built, which, which I remember was about 1900. The first man to be taken in there was drunk in charge of a horse and cart. He had been to Guildford market.

PC Bert Henley pretending to arrest brother about 1930

[32] Cranleigh Voices Seymour and Warrington published by Tempus 2000

Several members of the Surrey Constabulary, Guildford Borough Police and Reigate Borough Police were killed on active service during the First World War. A man with local connections was Harry Noakes

PC 214 Harry Noakes, Surrey Constabulary
Age 28, killed 9 August 1918

PC Noakes was a sergeant number 204669 in the Hampshire Regiment 15th (Service) Battalion (Hampshire Yeomanry) Battalion. He died age 28 the husband of Alice Annie Noakes, of 2, Woodside Cottages, **Ewhurst Road, Cranleigh**. Harry Noakes was killed at Tynecotstraat and is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial. PC Noakes enlisted at Winchester when he gave his residence as Crowborough, Hants.

Enlisted Hampshire Yeomanry, Winchester 1915 served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders and was killed in action 9 August 1918 leaving a widow.[33]

Harry Noakes joined the Surrey Constabulary on 16th September 1912 aged 22, and was sworn in at Guildford before Col. Ricardo and Captain Briscoe on 20th September 1912. His appointment number was 1630 and his collar number 214. At the time of his appointment his gave his trade as Groom working for Mr Les Chattas at Highams.

1929 April 1: Heath Fires: Extensive damage in Surrey: For five hours on Saturday fire raged over a square mile and a half of Walton Heath. Hundreds of men, women and children including a large number of holiday makers who left their motor cars and motorcycles beat the flames with gorse and fir branches. The Reigate Fire Brigade were called but owing to the distance from the hydrant they were powerless. Heath fires were prevalent over the weekend in other parts of Surrey including Milford where a number of bungalows were endangered. In all about a thousand acres have been charred. Damage was particularly extensive at Farley near **Shamley Green** where besides heath and gorse, woodlands have been destroyed. At **Hurtwood** near Shere a wide tract of country has been spoiled while damage is very extensive at Milford and Witley. A number of fires were still burning last night and it is doubtful if they can be put out until rain comes.[34]

PC Louis Froud Quinain, Shamley Green

1935: "In 1935 Louis Froud Quinain joined the Metropolitan Police for a short time, before moving to the Surrey Constabulary. Also, in 1935 Louis met Greta whilst she was nursing at the Henley War Memorial Hospital. Greta was to become his lifelong companion and in 1940 they were married at Farnham in Surrey. That year Louis took up a post at Shamley Green,

[33] https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=jTu4DAAAQBAJ&pg=PA88-IA10&lpg=PA88-IA10&dq=Harry+Noakes,+Surrey+Constabulary&source=bl&ots=cErgdUEuD7&sig=Cb5eFaKGkFHOGOuB6WmXUWk9qQQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjxlNXnjYjdAhVKJMAKHQe8CuIQ6AEwBnoECAUQAQ#v=onepage&q=Harry%20Noakes%2C%20Surrey%20Constabulary&f=false
[34] The Times Monday, 1 April 1929

near Guildford as the village constable, and he and his new bride moved to live in the Police Cottage. It was here whilst in the police force that Louis pursued his love of creative writing and began writing a series of articles and stories for the Sussex and Surrey County Magazines, then moving on to write for "Country Life" and "Countryman". From 1941 he wrote freelance for the BBC appearing as the "Man from the Country" in the Evening Melodies programme on the old Light programme, and also gave talks on country and police affairs on the Home Service, as well as reading his short stories in the Mid-Morning story programme. He successfully published his first novel, "Country Beat" in 1946 which was drawn on his experiences as a policeman and followed this with "Policeman on the Green" in 1948 two years after leaving the Police Force. He also wrote paperback fiction using a pseudonym, Peter Froud. Louis' love of creative writing stayed throughout his life, he was a prolific letter writer who enjoyed being in touch with other contemporary writers and in particular had frequent exchanges of correspondence with a dear friend, the Welsh writer Rhys Davies. Much of the correspondence from Rhys to Louis was subsequently acquired during the 1990s, by the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth, where the letters can now be seen".[35]

About 1935: A policeman's life; PC Atherton[36] **Ewhurst and Cranleigh;** When I was a PC attached to Cranleigh in the 1930s, **Sergeant Field** was in charge and Bob Langlish from Dunsfold, myself from Ewhurst and the Shamley Green PC worked under him. Sergeant Field and his wife lived at Cranleigh police station.

Our work was to check the farm registers. Each farmer had a register for sheep-dipping etc., and we used to have to inspect the actual operation to see that it was done properly. If a farm had foot and mouth or anything like that we had to go there and put notices up in red, to keep people away from the infected area. I got on with the farmers very well.

When I was courting my wife at Weybridge, I used to cycle the 25 miles to visit her. Once when biking home via Newlands Corner, at eleven o'clock at night, my bicycle lamp broke loose and caught in the spoke, and I went over the top. I was due to go on duty at 2am. In those days, your day off finished at midnight. If you were out after 12 o'clock you would be disciplined. I was on duty at two o'clock the same morning, so I put my bike over my shoulder and carried it to Ewhurst. I arrived just in time to change into uniform. I had to walk the beat that night instead of cycling, which was Ellen's Green, Cranleigh. We had to make conference points in those days where we used to meet; my first one was at Old Oast where there was a culvert (a big wide drain and stream). I was so tired that I sat on the little white fence by the culvert. I must have fallen asleep I was so exhausted, and I went backwards into the water. My helmet went way down stream and I had to run after it. I had to walk all the way home to Ewhurst to change my uniform. My next call was Cranleigh police station, and I had to run. It didn't do to be late in those days. We used to do three hours in the day and five hours at night. In those five hours the sergeant would probably give you three conference points.

[35] John Wright from an old school magazine
[36] Cranleigh Voices Seymour and Warrington published by Tempus 2000

The other part of the job was checking aliens. We had to keep a register of them, and there were swarms of them around Cranleigh before the war, girl servants, and I had to go round once a year and see they were there, and they were the right person. Then we got to know if they had moved. If the people that employed them had not notified the move, they were in trouble.

We had gypsies, they were a bit of a nuisance, we just used to keep them in order, that's all. They used to drink too much but it was not a crime area at all in those days. There was only one cell in the police station, but I don't think we ever used it.

My starting wage in the police force was £2.12s 6d for a 25-hour week (NOTE: This is most likely a typo and should read 52 but maybe 48 for 8-hour days 6 days a week). One went hours without sleep. You had to want the job. I had to pay 21 shillings a week for my board. When I married, my pay had risen to £3.2s.6d a week.

Another of the policeman's jobs was to attend the doctor when he did his post-mortems. The mortuary was at the end of Malt House Lane, a terrible place. It was so small and only lit with one gas burner. I remember one evening having to inspect a dead body, waiting for the doctor. As I turned to shut the door something heavy and cold hit me – one of the corpse's arms dropped limply from the bench, knocking me – I nearly died of fright! I left Cranleigh police in 1937 and moved the Thursley.[37]

Police Sergeant Charlie Mayes of Cranleigh (Before promotion)

[37] From www.surrey-constabulary.com with additional material from https://www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk/joy-of-cranleigh-buildings-with-a-story-february-2020/

1938-1941: Sergeant Charlie Mayes was in charge at the Police Station 1938-41. His daughter, now Mrs Vera Wilkinson, remembers gipsies stealing daffodils at Vachery regularly each spring. Her father would 'catch them and confiscate the flowers', and she and her mother would make them into bunches for elderly people. The Mayes family used the cells beneath the house as shelters during wartime air raids, taking their eiderdowns with them. 'We spent the night there; it was the safest place as the walls were very thick'. Some aerial dogfights took place over Cranleigh: if there were crashes, Sergeant Mayes had to sift through the wreckage for bodies, while 'pilots who had bailed out were put in the cells', pending investigations.[38]

1939-1945 was an extraordinarily busy time for members of the Surrey Constabulary. Many of were recalled to the Colours or when allowed, volunteered for active service, several losing their lives. For those serving on the Home Front, life was always demanding and not infrequently touched by danger and horror. However, Cranleigh was mostly free from more of the dangerous days experienced in the north and east of Surrey.

1938 Policeman's daughter: My father was Sergeant Charlie Mayes stationed at Cranleigh. He was the village policeman from 1938 -1941 and we lived at Cranleigh police station. I was 11 years old when we left. At that time police used to be moved around every two or three years.

There were three cells in the police station. When air raids were on, we went to the cells taking our eiderdowns with us. We spent the night there; it was the safest place as the walls were very thick. I remember the dogfights overhead. One or two planes crashed, and Dad had to sieve through the wreckage to recover the bodies, which were taken to the mortuary, whilst the pilots who had bailed out were put in the cells. When my mother died, I found a petticoat she had made of parachute silk. Parachute cord was used for all sorts of things and was very strong. Vera Wilkinson [39]

1940 June 30 first **bomb fell on Surrey**. From 30 June – 31 December 1940 **5,668** high explosive bombs were dropped on the Surrey Constabulary area.[40]

1940 Surrey Constabulary police officers at the gas training school at Artington, Guildford

[38]From www.surrey-constabulary.com with additional material from https://www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk/joy-of-cranleigh-buildings-with-a-story-february-2020/
[39] Cranleigh Voices Seymour and Warrington published by Tempus 2000
[40] Durrant Surrey Constabulary 1851-1951 page 59

PC Bruce and PC Bradley Guildford July 1940 with "Old Faithful" a Wolseley 18/85

Arthur Bruce: Bruce and Bradley were in the yard at the police station in Guildford unloading firearms surrendered by the public from the above vehicle when a **report came in of parachutists** landing at **Pitch Hill, Ewhurst**. Without completing the unloading they piled into the car being joined by PCs George Young and Bob Rackham. "I should point out that car drivers were issued with a .303 rifle and five rounds of live ammunition. It was cynically suggested that the four rounds were for the enemy and the fifth being for us." Arriving at Pitch Hill the only people about were road menders who were not aware of "the invasion". They were given a 12-bore doubled barrelled shotgun and a handful of cartridges each with the injunction to "do their best." The police then drove nearer to the foot of the hill prepared to "repel boarders." Bert was armed with a revolver, George armed with Bert's .303 went off in one direction, and Bob armed with a 12 bore and me with my .303. Bob was a little behind me and we had not gone far when from behind there was the report of a 12-bore followed by a surprised "@#@# that is not the safety position!" Thereafter I walked abreast of him. It was "A false alarm – good intent" – a police term passed down the years.[41]

1940 12 October: A British Blenheim developed a mechanical problem and crashed at Court Lodge Farm, **Ewhurst**. The pilot bailed out, but his parachute failed to open.[42] The Blenheim was from 219 Squadron, RAF Catterick crashed when on night defence interception one crew member Pilot Officer Head survived and Pilot Officer Barron the navigator was killed.[43]

1941 April 16: At 0115 a Junkers 88 was **shot down** crashing on Thorns Flush, **Cranleigh** with all the crew killed. The same British crew then shot down a Heinkel 111, which broke up in the air over Petworth Road, **Wormley**. One of the crew was taken prisoner. [44]

[41] Arthur Bruce wrote to Off Beat in January 1980
[42] Surrey at War 1939- 1945 Bob Ogley Froglets Publications undated
[43] Email Robin Cooper to Robert Bartlett April 2016
[44] Surrey at War 1939- 1945 Bob Ogley Froglets Publications undated

1944 April 12: On duty at Godalming Police Station on 12th April 1944, PC Gunning and TPS Storr were attempting to control a male **prisoner who was in possession of a "Mills" hand grenade**. The prisoner had attempted to pull the pin and the two police officers had reason to believe he had, but they closed on him, secured the grenade and Gunning replaced the pin. Both were commended by the chief constable in the first class for their bravery and devotion to duty, qualities the pair would continue to demonstrate.

A native of Westbury, Gloucester Brian Gunning had been a sales representative for Baker & Co in Bristol. He was first stationed in Dorking, later moving to Mayford, **Cranleigh**, and Esher on to Godalming in January 1941. Edward Storr was born in the parish of Worplesdon, Surrey and lived and worked with his father on Lawford's Farm near Guildford. Storr joined Surrey Constabulary on 9th September 1928, beginning his long service in Woking. Whilst in Leatherhead, PC Storr became temporary sergeant, prompted no doubt by his commendation from the chief constable for his endeavour in preventing a prisoner's escape from custody. He had a long and violent struggle with the prisoner, an armed soldier, who threatened to shoot him[45]. By 1942, Sergeant Storr arrived in Godalming and became paired with PC Gunning.[46] (Brian Gunning was superintendent Dorking Division in the mid 1960s)

1944 August 27: Cranleigh infant school was hit by a V1 flying bomb and demolished. Fortunately, this occurred early on a Sunday morning, and the school was empty. The only casualty was the Rector who was in his garden not far away and was injured

1944 September: On a night in September 1944 a Mitchell bomber of Number 180 Squadron, lost power during take-off crashing near **Dunsfold** village[47]. Gunning and Storr were quickly on the scene and extricated members of the RAF from the crashed Mitchell bomber. Gunning and Storr showed no regard for their own lives as the ground was littered with burning debris and the bomber's fuel tanks still full. Gunning was later commended by the chief constable for bravery, determination, devotion to duty and initiative displayed at Dunsfold that night.

By 1945, this feat of bravery had come to the notice of King George V who ordered the names of the two officers to be publicized in the London Gazette of 26th June 1945 as having been commended for brave conduct[48]. PC Gunning also received praise from the Air Ministry, the Home Secretary, and the then Prime Minister Winston Churchill himself[49]. After the war, PC Gunning passed his sergeant's examination to end his career as Superintendent Dorking in the middle 1960s. [50]

[45] Edward Storr Police Service Record *Defaulters Book 1911-1931*, pg1964, History Centre Woking (later known as Storr Service Record).
[46] Luke Franklin Journal Police History Society January 2011
[47] Paul. M. McCue, Dunsfold: Surrey's Most Secret Airfield, page 166, (Walton, 1991).
[48] Gunning Service Record, page 2092. 5th Supplement to The London Gazette 22nd June 1945, page 3335, (HMSO,1945).
[49] Air Ministry Letter 25th June 1945, Surrey Police Museum, Home Office Letter 25th June 1945, Surrey Police Museum, Kings Order signed by Winston Churchill, Surrey Police Museum.
[50] Luke Franklin Journal Police History Society January 2011

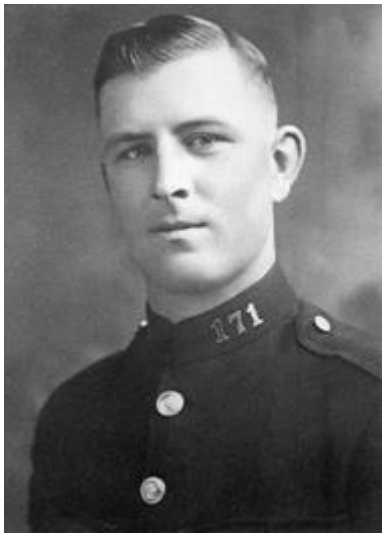
1944 Inspector Lionel Norman Head and PC Brian Gunning were **commended** after facing the greatest danger, rescued some of the crew from a blazing **RAF bomber**, which had crashed at **Dunsfold**.[51] (Is this another crash this time with Inspector Head?)

1944 September 8: Dunsfold Believed RAF aircraft that had been on a bombing raid over Normandy when a bomb got hung up in the bomb bay and exploded on landing killing all the crew.[52]

PC Enticknap KPM a native of Dunsfold

1944 September 14: PC Albert Edwin Enticknap awarded **King's Police Medal for Gallantry** tackled and overpowered an armed housebreaker who had pointed a revolver at him.

Albert Edwin Enticknap was born in 1912, in Hascombe in Surrey. He joined the Surrey Constabulary on the 19th of May 1936. He was sworn in on the 29th of May 1936 at Guildford Magistrates Court and allocated collar number 171. His previous trade was a farm worker employed by his father at **Crab Tree Farm, Dunsfold**, Surrey.



PC 171 Albert Edwin Enticknap (KPM)[53]

The circumstances behind PC Enticknap being awarded **the Kings Police Medal for Gallantry:** About 1.20 pm on the 14th of September 1944, a message was received at Walton Police Station that a man had broken into a house in Rydens Avenue. An inspector, a sergeant and two constables, one of whom was PC Enticknap, immediately went to the scene of the occurrence. The inspector posted one constable at the back of the house and one at the front, the latter being joined by the sergeant. The inspector made two attempts to enter the house, but though he was able to get into rooms on the ground floor he found that the hall doors were locked. The man had already shown that he had a revolver and it seemed from the noise inside

[51] Durrant 1951 A Hundred Years of the Surrey Constabulary
[52] Email from Robin Cooper Dorking 26 April 2016 to Robert Bartlett
[53] Researched by Terry Colman for Old and Bold

the house that he was barricading one of the upstairs rooms. The inspector decided to go and get assistance from some soldiers who were nearby. Meanwhile the sergeant went to the front door where there was a broken pane of glass and called to the man to come downstairs. He did so, pointing his revolver at the sergeant. The officer dodged to the side and the man disappeared into one of the rooms at the back. It was then that PC Enticknap, who was posted at the back of the house, saw him through a window. The man pointed his revolver at the constable, and he moved aside. The next thing that happened was that the constable heard a window being opened at the other end of the house and saw the man running across the lawn.

PC Enticknap immediately gave chase, shouting to the other officers, who followed him. The man jumped into the garden of the adjoining house, continuing to run for about one hundred and fifty yards until he came to a hedge, where he stopped and turned round to face the constable, pointing his revolver at him. Without hesitation the constable closed with the man, who fell to the ground, dropping the revolver. By the time the other officers and the military had caught up, the thief was arrested.

PC Enticknap's service record shows that he was awarded the Kings Police Medal, on the 18th of June 1945. He was awarded the Defence Medal, on the 4th of February 1946. He was awarded his Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, on the 1st of July 1959.

PC Enticknap's medals

1944 October 6: RAF Dunsfold: Two **Mitchell** aircraft collided on night take-off and the crews were all killed.[54]

[54] Email from Robin Cooper Dorking 26 April 2016 to Robert Bartlett

A Spitfire Mk XIV of the Flying Training Wing crashed at Willards Farm Dunsfold on 19th January 1945. The pilot – Flying Officer Fisher – bailed out and was injured.

Dunsfold during the Second World War

It must be remembered that the impact of an operational fighter and bomber station on policing of an area was significant. Every crash outside the airfield, every fatality was an incident that had to be investigated by police. Reports of "spies", control of off duty air and ground crews in local pubs, VIP visits and all the other issues involving hundreds of men away from home. Some limited details is to be found at https://dunsfoldairfield.org/tag/crashes/

Canadian aircraft crashes at Dunsfold Aerodrome

In 1943, Tom Gold, Hermann Bondi and Fred Hoyle were living in a cottage on the edge of Dunsfold Aerodrome. Later, Tom Gold wrote:

"As the preparations for the invasion of France were proceeding, the French Channel coast was of course under almost constant bombardment by our airplanes. One such striking force was a Canadian contingent who flew these bombing missions early every morning, mostly with chemically timed bombs that could not be disarmed in any way. An acid inside was just going to eat its way through a diaphragm and when it did, the bomb would explode. Nothing you could do from the outside would stop it; the most sophisticated bomb disposal squad could do nothing with it, even if it knew all the details of its design.

The trouble for us was that this Canadian contingent was operating from an airfield adjacent to the house in which Bondi and I, and Hoyle some of the time, were living. In fact, it was our house that was the first object the heavily laden planes had to clear on take off. When we had rented the house, we did not know of this particular drawback, but now we were stuck with it. After a while of being awakened by twenty planes in succession just clearing the rooftop at 4:30 a.m., we got quite used to this, and could sleep through it.

But then one morning I woke up in a state of shock – there had evidently been a very nearby and very violent explosion. I must have been sleeping with my mouth wide open, for a large chunk of the plaster from the ceiling had fallen into it. As I was spitting it out, my bedroom door opened, and Fred Hoyle, who was staying there at the time, stuck his head in and said 'Did you hear that!' I said, 'what do you mean, did I hear that? The house nearly collapsed!' He said, 'I know, but I heard, about twenty minutes ago, all the planes taking off except for one, where I heard the take off noise just suddenly stop, and then nothing more. So,' he said, 'I went back to sleep, and then came this noise, which of course, woke me up.' I said to him, 'How can you be so stupid, to go back to sleep, when clearly what must have happened was that the plane failed to take off, caught fire, and its bombs exploded?' He said, 'Well, of course, I know that now, but I couldn't have done anything about it anyway'.

We later learned, of course, that this is exactly what happened. The crew had been able to save themselves, but the burning wreck eventually exploded its bomb load. It was only a hundred yards from our house." Burbidge (2003: pp218-219)

Tom Gold, Hermann Bondi and Fred Hoyle had moved to this farmhouse in July 1943. They were working for ASE (Admiralty Signals Establishment at nearby Witley) Hoyle was director of Section XRC8. They were working on RADAR theory. In the 1950's Gold, Bondi, and Hoyle were to become famous for their Steady-State of the Universe Theory. Bondi became Master of Churchill College, Cambridge, Sir Fred Hoyle FRS was an English astronomer who formulated the theory of stellar nucleosynthesis. He also held controversial stances on other scientific matters—in particular his rejection of the "Big Bang" theory, a term coined by him on BBC radio, and his promotion of panspermia as the origin of life on earth, and Thomas Gold was an Austrian-born American astrophysicist, a professor of astronomy at Cornell University, a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and a Fellow of the Royal Society



Fred Hoyle (1915-2011, FRS 1957),
Thomas (Tommy) Gold (1920-2004, FRS 1964),
Hermann Bondi (1919-2005, FRS 1959) Master Churchill College, Cambridge

Records of RCAF aircraft crashing at Dunsfold in 1943- 45

Below is a list of aircraft crashes on the Aerodrome. More planes crashed in the vicinity. 18 January 1943: A Curtiss Tomahawk Iib of 430 Squadron RCAF blew a tyre on take-off and crashed. 109

21 January 1943: A Curtiss Tomahawk Iia of 430 Squadron RCAF crashed after forced landing due to mid-air engine failure.110

14 February 1943: A North American Mustang 1 of 430 Squadron RCAF aircraft flew too low and hit trees, crashing 111

28 February 1943: A Curtiss Tomahawk Iia of 430 Squadron RCAF aircraft force landed after engine failure and crashed. 112

19th March 1943 – damaged aircraft

August 1943 – October 1944: Royal Air Force

During this period, Dunsfold Aerodrome was HQ for the Medium Bomber No 139 Wing, RAF, comprising **98, 180, 320 (Netherlands) Squadrons**, part of the Second Tactical Airforce.

23rd December 1943 – aircraft crash near Dunsfold

1944

21 February 1944: A Handley Page Halifax III of 78 Squadron RAF crashed on landing at Dunsfold. 113
24th March 1944 – Lancaster crash landed
5th May 1944 aircraft crashed at Old Rickhurst
21 May 1944: an Avro Lancaster III of 156 Squadron RAF crash landed and caught fire after damage over Duisberg.114
12 July 1944: a North American Mitchell II of 98 Squadron RAF crashed on take off. 115 13 July 1944: An aircraft of 613 Squadron RAF crashed.116
13th July 1944 – aircraft crashed 613 Squadron
8 September 1944: A North American Mitchell II of 98 Squadron RAF carrying bombs and exploded on touchdown, killing all the crew and badly damaging the runway. 117
14th September 1944 – Mitchell 180 Squadron crashed

1945

9th February 1945 – Hawker Typhoon crashed pilot killed
17th April 1945 – Hawker Typhoon broke in half
19th April 1945 – Hawker Tempest crashed
14th June 1945 – Hawker Typhoon dived vertically into the ground on the bank of the Wey & Arun Canal
Source: Surrey County Council Monument Full Report ref, SHER 350/16 Dunsfold HER Monuments (5 December 2016).

No. 98 Squadron RAF

Dunsfold, Surrey between 18 Aug 43 – 26 Mar 44
Dunsfold, Surrey between 10 Apr 44 – 16 Oct 44

Squadrons 98 and 180 arrived in August 1943, and 320 arrived six months later. All three squadrons flew Mitchell bombers; “They took part in a large number of bombing missions over Europe, attacking a wide variety of targets and establishing a reputation for highly accurate attacks”. (12) They were at the forefront of the Allied offensive against the V-1 sites in northern France, and. 13 (The V-1s – also called “buzz bombs” or “doodlebugs” – were flying bombs, and could be described as early guided or cruise missiles, and were aimed from the continent towards London.

No. 320 (Netherlands) Squadron RAF; In 1940 no. 320 (Netherlands) Squadron RAF was formed by members of the Royal Netherlands Naval Air Service, who had flown from the Netherlands when it was invaded.

On 12 June 1944 **Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands visited Dunsfold** to award medals (15). In all, 320 Squadron were awarded the Dutch Military Order of William four times and the Dutch Airman's Cross, 176 times.

General Eisenhower addressing 320 Squadron prior to D-Day in 1943 at Dunsfold

Shortly before D-Day, on 18 April 1944, General Eisenhower, then Allied Supreme Commander, visited Dunsfold, presumably to give a pre-D-Day morale talk. The D-Day orders for Dunsfold were issued on 3 June: "to cause maximum delay to the movement by road and rail, by enemy forces at night". The action started early in the morning of 6 June when all three Squadrons were in action to support the D-Day landing

News correspondents had been frequent visitors to Dunsfold in the build-up to D-Day and Ronald Walker from the News Chronicle flew in one of the Mitchell bombers from Dunsfold, his report appearing in the newspaper the next day. He wrote: "The crews of three Mitchell bomber squadrons of this station who were sent on bombing missions to France in the early hours of this morning did not know that they were taking part in the invasion of Europe." The next night, 60 Mitchell bombers were dispatched against the enemy.

Following D-Day, in September 1944, all three squadrons of Dunsfold bombers were also involved in the unsuccessful Operation Market Garden, best known for the bitter battle for the bridge at Arnhem. 139 Wing lost several aircraft to enemy flak and fighters in these operations.

By the end of the war "at least 1/3 of all crew lost their lives, and 40% of all Mitchells were lost". During the six months 320 Squadron was at Dunsfold, it is reported that 156 members died and 57 were lost. The casualty rate amongst airmen was generally very high: "Half of all aircrew were lost before they had even completed ten missions". Not all losses were due to enemy action and there were many accidents.

The three squadrons 98, 180 and 320 departed for the continent in October 1944

There are two plaques in Dunsfold commemorating the presence:

For **98 Squadron**: on Rose Cottage (now Canada House):

> "From its wartime headquarters in this cottage in 1944. No.98 Squadron, RAF was launched the invasion of Europe led by Wg Cdr G J C Paul".

For **320 Squadron**: a plaque in Dunsfold church along with its colours. (26)

Operation Exodus

Operation Exodus was the repatriation of British Prisoners of War (POWs) from the continent. Dunsfold Aerodrome was designated an "Air Arrival Centre" where No. 2 Hangar was decorated with flowers to welcome the troops home and a medical inspection tent was set up. Between the 15 April 1945 and 25 June 1945, 47,529 ex POWs passed through Dunsfold Aerodrome. This accounted for 85% of the POWs repatriated by the RAF. On one day alone – 9 May – 160 aircraft delivered 3,953 personnel: just 24 per aircraft, in accordance with Bomber Commands' Operation instructions. But the daily count was often over 100 flights.

1965 July 10: Police Surround a Surrey mansion: The hunt for an escaped Wandsworth prisoner suddenly concentrated in Surrey today. Police threw a cordon around the Winterfold area near Cranleigh, after a warning. Within minutes more than 150-armed police with dogs were in the area. They surrounded a disused mansion. Roadblocks were set up, and detectives began door-to-door enquiries. The police cordon was withdrawn after three hours. The mansion was found to be empty. (Note: The search was for Ronald Biggs an escaped train robber – the piece is in parts journalistic imagination. It would take all day to get 150 officers, armed police were scarcer than the dodo and how you do door to door in the middle of a forest?) [55]

John Hurst: Surrey's involvement to the Great Train Robbery: I cannot remember the year but at one stage it involved over a hundred officers carrying out raids in Surrey. The biggest raid was at the Winterfold estate, near Cranleigh and I remember being involved in the communications vehicle, about the third vehicle in a line of seventy to ninety police vehicles. (No carriers except brown vans as they were called, often used to moved police officers' home who had little or no furniture) This was meant to be a surprise swoop, in daylight. We were all stopped on the main road into Cranleigh close to the cricket green by the lead vehicle because DI Agger and Superintendent Hagley decided that they didn't know the way to the estate. As a result of this massive convoy stationary in Cranleigh the press were soon onto it and by the time we reached the target premises several small, fixed wing aircraft were above us taking photographs which appeared in the national papers the next day. No evidence was found to link it to the Great Train Robbery.

[55] 1965 July 10: The Times

PC Ray Elliott June 1966 outside Cranleigh office

The only means of communication from those on the beat in and around Cranleigh on into the mid 1970s. Radios were issued but because of the geography and lack of technology they rarely worked!

Cranleigh Office 1966

PC Vic Copus former wartime Royal Navy and long-term Alfold PC on the Cranleigh Section

1968 June 27 Polite Robbers go to prison: Mr Justice Cusack yesterday described two Irish brothers as the politest burglars he had ever heard of. The two men from London locked Lady Helen Ennisdale 84, and her maid aged 66 of Baynards Park, Cranleigh. Pleading guilty to stealing jewellery and £40 cash one brother was sentenced to four years in prison and the other for three. One of the men put his hand over the maid's mouth and said they would not hurt her if she stopped screaming. The men allowed the maid to knock on the bedroom door of Lady Ennisdale so she would not be too shocked by them bursting in. From the room they took the box and two rings she was wearing. Detective Sergeant Thomas Wakefield said the brothers were not the only people involved in the robbery. It was "set up" by someone else.[56]

Cranleigh Section 1973-1976

[56] The Times 27 June 1968

1973 Robert Bartlett: Rural Sergeant at Cranleigh with Police Sergeant Mick Horne. A small town that had to be referred to in the presence of locals as a village, bordering Sussex, in the centre of a large rural area that included parts of the Surrey Hills. This was a wealthy area; oozing wealth in fact, with several famous people living on the section that stretched from Ewhurst in the east and Dunsfold in the west. To the north we covered up to Shamley Green just to the south of Guildford and to the south there was the boundary with Sussex. Ten or twelve miles from the inspector stationed at Godalming, the sub-divisional station who mostly made weekly visits. There was one other sergeant Mick Horne who lived on the section: a good man. There were twelve PCs, a DC, traffic warden and a part-time cleaner. There were also two cars, still the round Morris 1000. Later we were to lose one of the cars, when someone decreed that the PCs would always patrol on their bikes. How many miles is it from Ewhurst to Dunsfold? They did not have personal radios. Common sense was not allowed to prevail, and so the supervisors lost their wheels for much of the time in an attempt to let the patrols do what needed to be done. This was to mean that I spent a great deal of time walking about Cranleigh, getting to know people, listening and drinking tea. We had an old police station which had a house attached to it. The house was incorporated into the office, which gave us plenty of space. There were a couple of cells that had not been used as such for years and were used as a store, and as an office for the Criminal Investigation Department officer.

Personal radios would only work in the High Street at Cranleigh, if in direct line from Guildford, a gap in the hills, from where they were operated. There was an additional problem with this in that we worked to Godalming and not Guildford. Fortunately, there was not a great deal going on, although I was to attend some of the most serious incidents of my career whilst being stationed in Cranleigh. When the Shere section sergeant Larry Rhimes was off duty the Cranleigh sergeants covered his area, which adjoined ours. Out on car patrol on the hills one sunny afternoon I was sent to the home of a famous clothes designer. She had a house close to Shere. When I arrived at the house, I found her by the swimming pool obviously upset. As a result of what she said I went into the house where I found the dead body of an electrician. There on the floor was a large man who was obviously dead. The workman had been drilling a hole in the wall when he had struck the mains cable and was electrocuted, dying instantly. The poor man lay on his back still clutching his drill, which was pointing up to the ceiling. It would have been a shock for any householder to come home and to discover such a tragic scene.

I was also to deal with a very famous entertainer on a couple of occasions. My first contact was when he had a musical instrument stolen. It was a particular and special instrument that was being used during the completion of a recording contract in Florida. After a party at the house the instrument was missing, most likely stolen by a guest who was a hanger on more than a friend. They had the name of a suspect, but it was not known where he was living. Many enquiries were made and eventually I was given the address of a squat in north London where the suspect was believed to be. I went off to north London and with the help of the Metropolitan Police raided the squat and recovered the missing property and arrested the suspect. The prisoner was taken to Kentish Town, a police station of the old type, in a rough part of London. It was incongruous later that evening to see a large Rolls Royce pull up at the front of this

dilapidated police station and out came one of the great impresarios of that time. He came to identify the property and was, rightly so, very pleased with the result. The recordings in Florida could continue and several million dollars had been saved. Some weeks later I was sent to a road accident at the bottom of Pitch Hill where a car had hit a tree. It was the entertainer in a Ferrari with just eleven miles on the clock.

Late 1973/early 1974 plane crash Dunsfold: Tony Forward: I attended this crash as Chief Inspector, Guildford. I drove Chief Superintendent Hagley there. The plane had taken off from Dunsfold Aerodrome, had got into difficulties and the pilot ejected. The plane landed on farmland near Cranleigh. The pilot was taken to hospital but was not seriously injured. Parts of the plane were spread over a large area and under the supervision of Chief Constable Matthews, the area was taped off and plotted to assist the Air Accident Investigation team.

Kevin Morris: I remember it was cold and damp and the crash site was towards Cranleigh. The plane had hit the ground hard, digging a large crater then bounced out and on for a while losing bits all over the place. Because as I believed the crash to be a non-fatal one it seemed less important, however, we were all told we had to stay and put sticks and labels on every fragment and piece of debris we could find. For a young hot head, the thought of such a mundane task did not exactly thrill me, nor many others around me. As if he had read our minds Peter Matthews came and spoke to us all. He talked about the importance of making sure all the evidence was available for the crash investigators and although not a fatal accident, it would be good for us to understand and get it right for any future event. Suddenly this mundane task took on a very real air of importance and we got on with it with quite a good feeling - or at least I did. Now Sir Peter, as I later discovered, was quite an expert on crashes and he could have simply ordered us to get on with it, but he didn't. And that made a big difference to me and my thinking in the future as to how to get the best out of people. The police would now treat any crash as a possible crime scene I am sure but that was a good way to start to understand what was involved.

Timber Woods guarding the scene

1974 October: A Cranleigh sergeant and the Shamley Green PC attended the scene of the **IRA pub bombings** in Guildford and took an active part in the response until well into the following day.

About 1975 Cranleigh: A Cranleigh resident **murdered his wife** and then drove up to Cumbria and dropped her body into Wast Water. The victim was identified by the wedding ring on her finger and her murder was detected some years later.

The body was discovered in a lake in the Lake District by members of a local diving club. The body was in weighted laundry bags, which still had the Cranleigh laundry marks on them complete with the `offenders/victims' own laundry marks. The laundry bags and body were dumped in the lake from a boat, the offender did not quite get to the area over the deepest part of the lake and the body was found on a ledge.

It should have been the perfect murder. The body had been in the Wass Water in Cumbria for seven years. There was a long history of domestic friction which culminated in the husband killing his wife in the bedroom at home. He drove to Cumbria and on reaching the lake, he inflated a dingy, got the body into it, having first tied the concrete to the 'parcel'. He then rowed himself out, to a certain point, and tipped the body over the side. He eventually returned to Surrey, and the wife was subsequently reported as a missing person.

Wass Water, not only being the deepest lake in the country, but it is also the clearest. The water is so clear it is a hot spot for diving and scuba clubs. A female French student on a backpacking trip left a youth hostel with the intent of following along the edge of Wass Water to another hostel. She failed to arrive and was posted missing. Police being what they are came to the possibility that she may have fallen into the lake and drowned. Again, being police, they contacted the local diving clubs and asked them if they were diving in the area to report if they saw or noticed anything unusual. As a result of this a diver came forward and reported that he had come across a large bundle resting on the side of an 'underwater cliff'. He agreed to take a Police diving team to the object, which was recovered and brought ashore. It was opened up and there inside in a very, very good state of preservation was the missing woman. (It was established that that the water temperature at the point where she was lying stayed at a constant four degrees winter or summer; virtually like being in a freezer.) If he had rowed her out just a little bit further, she was would have gone down to at least three hundred feet, and would never have been found, as nobody dives that deep.

1975 November 20: Robert Bartlett: At 4pm an **HS125 taking off from Dunsfold** Airfield struck a car on the A281 Guildford to Horsham Road, killing the woman and five girls travelling inside. On a dark late afternoon in 1975, at about 4pm November 20, Sergeant Bartlett one of the two Cranleigh Sergeants was sent to the A281 Guildford to Horsham Road at the end of the Dunsfold runway, where a plane was reported to have crashed. Dunsfold was an airfield owned by British Aerospace and here they assembled the Harrier fighter plane and undertook test flights. The Harriers had been known to crash and pilots had been killed in the past. The sergeant was very soon on the scene and as he parked the police car on the A281 at

the end of the runway, alongside the cars of the public who had been using the road he could see an aircraft about two to three hundred yards to the east of the road, on its belly and in a field. The sergeant booked arrival with HQ Control telling them that it was probably a Harrier involved in the crash and that he would check and call them back.

As he walked across the field from the road in the gloom, he became conscious that he was walking through scattered quantities of metal distorted into all shapes and sizes strew across the path the plane had taken. He thought that the metal had come from the plane following its impact with the ground. It was getting quite dark, and the sergeant was confronted by a number of Chinese people walking towards the road. That was a little confusing as his mind set had it that at the most, this was a two-seat aircraft and therefore the Chinese must have stopped on the road and come to help. As he got near to the aircraft it became obvious that it was very much larger than a Harrier, and it would turn out to be an HS125, which was a passenger carrying aircraft. Not an airliner but more a large executive jet. The pilot was very famous during the war and was known as "Cats Eyes" Cunningham.

The smell of aviation fuel was overpowering. It is unmistakable and permeates everything, getting right inside your system. Sergeant Bartlett was soon by the aircraft, and it was obvious that everyone was out and that no one was trapped. The Dunsfold aerodrome fire engine was on site by the time the police had arrived and there was some foam around the rear of the aircraft but no fire, although there had been a small blaze. He returned to his car to give a radio update to Control by which time the metal debris was obviously that of a car. The plane had hit birds, lapwings, on take-off and came down at the end of the runway. The speed was so fast that there was no time to brake, and the plane shot through the perimeter fence across the road hitting a car. Very soon there was a large-scale response to the incident, and it was soon discovered that there had been five children and an adult in the car, all killed, as the vehicle was crushed and destroyed.

The only significant and identifiable part of the car left was the number plate through which of course, the registered owner was soon found, Hawker Sidley. The car belonged to Dunsfold and the victims were family and friends of a staff member. It was a difficult task that evening and all the next day as with great care we searched the site and marked all the pieces of debris with metal stakes identified with an evidence label. Everything no matter how small or

apparently insignificant was then plotted and recorded to be shown later a very detailed scale plan of the site of the accident.

The aircraft had taken off from Dunsfold with Chinese visitors on board. It ingested birds into the engines and never gained height. It crossed the A281 Horsham Road, hitting the passing car. Nobody aboard the aircraft was injured.

1976 Police Sergeant Clive Stanbury former Cranleigh sergeant returns in 1976 to help out at the scene of the HS125 plane crash

1976 April: Killing of a baby by Pauline Tidy and body left in freezer at Cranleigh: The body was found by Police Sergeant Bartlett with the father. The sergeant was in Cranleigh office when a father came to report his son and the babysitter missing. The sergeant went to the house with the father and began a thorough search. Having been through the house they went to a utility room at the back of where there was a large chest freezer that was so popular at that time. They searched through the room and at one point both the father and Sergeant Bartlett were at the freezer. They looked at each other both realising what we were inferring by even looking into the freezer, that the baby-sitter had murdered the son. Yet a thorough search means just that. Search everything or any search is of no value. The baby was inside and obviously dead. In accordance with all training for actions at the scene of the murder, the body is not touched or moved once you are certain that life is extinct. This was the scene of a murder.

Sergeant Bartlett called 999 as there were had no personal radios at Cranleigh, to tell them of the murder and the local surgery was asked to immediately send a doctor who was there within a few minutes. The doctor said that the baby might be in suspended animation. If the child had been put in the freezer alive it was possible that he could be resuscitated. There were plenty of examples of people falling through ice into freezing water being brought back alive. He rang the hospital in Guildford and they obviously and realistically without any choice agreed, and so the police had to get the baby as quickly as possible to the Accident and Emergency Department at the Royal Surrey in the Farnham Road in Guildford, about twelve miles away.

It was now rush hour. The police car, a Ford Escort, had a blue light but no siren but this remained the best option because an ambulance would take too long to arrive. The doctor jumped into the passenger seat holding the baby still in the freezer basket, and they drove to Guildford as fast as they could not a little concerned about leaving a murder scene unguarded. They were met on the A281 to the south of Guildford and escorted by a Traffic car driven by PC Roger Weedon right to casualty entrance at the Royal Surrey in Farnham Road. The sergeant grabbed the freezer basket containing the baby from the doctor, as he would be more recognisable in uniform, and ran into casualty department who by now were expecting them.

The babysitter, a local girl aged nineteen, was arrested in Guildford whilst the rush to the hospital was going on. The suspect was arrested because she telephoned the surgery to speak with the social worker saying she was in Guildford. As they were talking a siren could be heard as an emergency vehicle passed by the phone box. The social worker had called the police as soon as the suspect hung up the phone and told them of the call. It was easier to identify by the type of siren which of the emergency services were involved. The police had what were known as donkey horns "hee haw, hee haw" and were easily identifiable. Some sharp work by the Control Room worked out where at that time a siren was passing a phone box, and police were sent to the area and soon arrested the young woman. After pleading guilty, the woman was sentenced to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure in Broadmoor, the hospital for the criminally insane. John Hurst led the enquiry.

The Times: 21 April 1976: The suspect was remanded in custody at Guildford charged with murdering the baby aged nineteen months at his home in Cranleigh. She was described as a student aged nineteen. Later tried before the Central Criminal Court where it was revealed that she suffocated the baby with a pillow whilst changing his nappy; wrapped his body in a sheet and put him in the deep freezer. Found not guilty of murder but guilty of manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

Police Sergeant Robert Bartlett Cranleigh Section sergeant for three years 1973-1976 at St Josephs' School in 1973

Ken Dixon – A Policeman's Lot [57]

I have lived in Cranleigh since 1974 but am a London boy, born in Streatham. I came to Cranleigh as a policeman having worked in Guildford and Woking. The first duty I did in Cranleigh was Cranleigh Bonfire night.

Initially my training in the police force started with 13 weeks at Sandgate near Folkestone. It was all short hair and shiny boots. I "Passed Out", finished my training in the June and was posted to Woking. I remember on my first day on the beat I attended a fatal road traffic accident.

When I transferred to Guildford, being 6'3" they used to put me on the High Street or North Street especially on a Friday or Saturday if I was on late shift or night duty because I could sort out the drunks. After I had done that for several years, I decided I wanted to be a rural policeman. I went to see my inspector and a few months later I moved to Cranleigh arriving here in time for my first duty of Cranleigh Bonfire at the beginning of November. I was on duty with a sergeant and one special constable, just three of us. There were about 4,000 to 5,000 people there that night. It was not as big an event as it is now.

I was stationed at the local Police Office to give it it's correct title, on the Green in Horsham Road with about twelve PCs and two sergeants. We only opened the office four hours a day and I would take my turn as station officer before spending the remaining four hours of my shift on the beat. I was either on the High Street, on my bike or in the patrol car depending on what the sergeant had in store for me. I worked eight-hour shifts. We used to work nights, late, and earlies. If we had anybody spare, they would do 8-4pm covering the High Street. I liked walking up and down the High Street. It was probably the last remnant of what I call "proper

[57] Cranleigh Magazine November 2017

policing", where you would walk around, and people stopped and chatted and you went in and around the shops and were generally about the place. And people knew you and you were their policeman. I can remember people saying that to me 'You're our policeman.'

My first mode of transport Photo – © Terry Fincher

There was no radio contact then. We used to joke about it – "men could talk to a man on the moon, but Cranleigh Police couldn't talk to Godalming!" In the police car you could be in touch because it had a Force Radio that went through to Mount Brown. Otherwise, we would stand outside the telephone boxes which were called 'points' and if Godalming wanted us, they would phone at a certain time to a certain point.

People think in rural locations there's not much crime but surprisingly there is. There were a series of arson attacks around the village, and I spent a great deal of time and undertook analyses over many months which resulted in my arresting the culprit. He went to court, and I was awarded a Chief Constable commendation.

The saddest thing police get involved in are obviously sudden deaths. That's the downside of the job when you had to be Coroner's Officer and deal with relatives, and you are the one who knocks on a door to announce tragic news. I've had to do it when somebody had been killed in an accident and I had to tell the family. A woman screamed at me, "He's not dead, he's still alive!" It is a part of the job. There is just no nice way to tell someone their husband has been killed in a road accident.

When I was a PC on the beat there were not many cars around; the High Street was very quiet at night. It was a sure thing if I was in the High Street working nights at two o'clock in the morning and something drove down, I would stop it because you just did not see that many cars in the early hours. We used to cover the whole of Cranleigh and Shere, which was probably

80 square miles. I had one bit of luck at Peaslake when I was driving past Dobbes nurseries, and I spotted a torch light in the darkness. I abruptly stopped my car, went around the back and waited there, eventually catching a man who was ‘doing the till’.

The police office in the Horsham Road

I never let fear hinder me that a suspect might have a crowbar and my life might be in danger. Although you’re never quite sure how a contact it is going to turn out which gives you the element of adrenaline rush until it is over. Experience and professionalism ensured you always had a plan of what to do if violence was offered and how you would respond. I have never used my truncheon, but I’ve had to respond with violence because violence came from a suspect.

Shot with a BB gun whilst on my bike, you can just spot the hole. Note the window bars in the background of the picture – we had 3 cells in Cranleigh Photo – © Terry Fincher

PC Les Page from the Dog Section and PC Ray Holt, Cranleigh, St Josephs School

1981 September 20: Police were called to a house in Cranleigh where a man had doused himself in petrol and threatened to kill himself. Sergeant Spinney managed to encourage the man away from the house and rushed him thereby preventing him from setting fire to himself. The Royal Humane Society awarded the officer a certificate

1982 28 April: Cranleigh: Conspiracy to Rob: Two PCs went to check a van when the driver sprayed a chemical into the face of one of the officers and made off. The vehicle contained **five men all dressed in blue boiler suits** and had been parked in a wooded area close to the road. Seen nearby was a red three-ton lorry that also drove off. Following a chase, the van was abandoned about two miles from the scene containing a chain saw, pickaxe, part of a nylon stocking, wire cutters and a gas aerosol. There was a further stolen vehicle with the van. The red box van was found abandoned on a caravan site at Farley Green about four miles from the scene. All the vehicles were hired using stolen driving licenses and stolen chequebook, which was later used at a restaurant near Horsham where the men spoke in a foreign language. One man was later arrested and charged.[58]

1985 April: In a joint operation with HM Customs and Excise the **Firearms Support Team** intercepted a handgun being illegally imported. A house in Cranleigh was entered, searched and a man arrested.[59]

[58] Annual Report 1982
[59] HM Inspector of Constabulary notes from Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary 1985 page 53

1986 July 2: A Hawk aircraft took off from Dunsfold and after executing a number of manoeuvres it **hit the ground**, killing the pilot and breaking up the plane.[60]

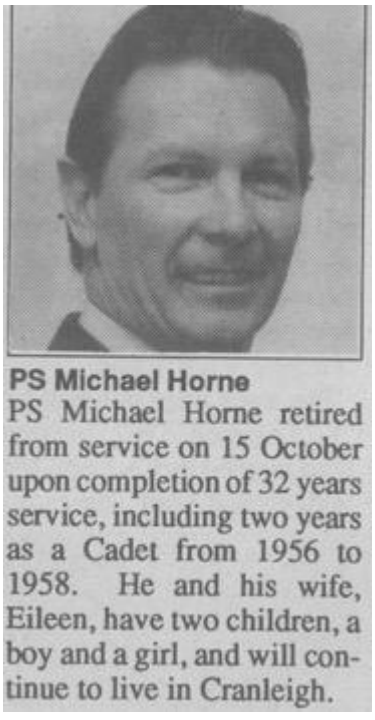
Denis Turner from the police dog training school: We were training dogs at Dunsfold one day, the village not the airfield, and we saw a BEA Hawk doing loop the loop etc. However, we saw him do one loop, which was down all the way - he didn't recover, and we saw him crash. We jumped in the vans, and we were one of the first on the scene as we were so close. It transpired the pilot was the Chief Test Pilot, Jim Hawkins who had been practising for a special demonstration for some Arabs the following day. They think he passed out on the down loop with the G force and never recovered.

1987 The picture relates to a suspicious death in a flat at Taylors Crescent Cranleigh in 1987. After the investigation it was deemed natural causes. The male occupant had died in his bed and had been there for some weeks.

Clearing a suspected crime scene at Cranleigh – Detective Inspector Robinson front left

[60] Annual Report 1986

1988 PC Vic Copus



PS Michael Horne
PS Michael Horne retired from service on 15 October upon completion of 32 years service, including two years as a Cadet from 1956 to 1958. He and his wife, Eileen, have two children, a boy and a girl, and will continue to live in Cranleigh.

1988 Police Sergeant Michael Horne Cranleigh Section Sergeant for many years

1988 November 7: Police seize drugs worth £5m in raid: Police have seized cocaine worth £5million in a raid on a drug's factory in Surrey. Three men and two women were arrested in Operation Peninsula, which covered a three-month watch by 30 police officers. The cocaine

factory was discovered in a lock up building on the Smithbrook Kiln factory site near Cranleigh. The raid was made last Wednesday; Surrey police said yesterday "The drugs have been sent away for analyses and Customs and Excise officers have been called in to help trace the route used to import them. It is believed most of the drugs were flown into small rural airfields. A person will appear in court at Guildford today on drugs charges and another has been remanded to Lewes prison. A man and two women have been released on bail, pending further enquiries.[61]

November 8, 1988: Rene Black aged 34 from Cranleigh was charged with possessing cocaine with intent to unlawfully supply and was remanded in custody for a week. Another man from Holmbury St Mary was remanded in custody charged with conspiracy to produce cocaine. A warrant was issued for the arrest of another man.[62]

Banks are obliged to notify large cash movement and had alerted the National Drugs Intelligence Unit. Operation Peninsula a two-month surveillance operation leading to an industrial estate near Heathrow and sometime later an entry was made, and cocaine and a quantity of chemicals found. Rene Black was arrested but Rudi was in the USA. There was a drug factory at the home of Rene in Ellen's Green, Cranleigh where plans were made to flood Britain with one hundred and eighty kilograms of cocaine with a market value of £15.5m.

1990 5 November 1989 and 3 March 1990: Nine separate **arson** attacks on farms in Cranleigh causing £147,000 of damage led to surveillance by local officers resulting in two arrests. The two were charged with arson and were placed on probation by the Crown Court but no compensation order was made.[63]

1991 March Scene of a typical serious RTA. Sussex helicopter at Cranleigh: Road accidents now called collisions but there are still too many of them and occupy considerable resources.

[61] The Times 7 November 1988
[62] The Times 8 November 1988
[63] Annual Report 1990

RTA on the A281

1991 Pay parties at Woking and Guildford requiring the deployment of considerable resources to either disrupt or contain the nuisance. One party at Cranleigh attracted ten thousand, which cost £21,000 to police. Five thousand camped in a field at Alfold and had to be policed over a number of days costing £46,000.[64]

Hunts and Policing

Late 1980s/1990s frequent PSU deployment as a result of foxhunt and saboteurs: 1992: Surrey worked well with Sussex and Kent and had an informal agreement to help each other out if need be. Each hunt cost about £2,500 to police and a minimum level of staffing was twelve officers, two mounted on hired horses. However, sometimes there was a combination of circumstances that hiked the operation up. There was one at Shellwood Farm in Leigh that took place during a "week of action" by the saboteurs, where the Surrey Union became the target hunt, and there had been a significant increase in violence in Essex, Sussex and Hampshire. Intelligence was good and reported a minimum of one hundred and fifty saboteurs were coming, and it was estimated that there would be a further fifty hunt members on horses plus fifty supporters on foot. To the deployment had to be added the planning and logistics costs, which were not inconsiderable. There was also the need to provide significant police cover at Hunt Balls, such as at the Burford Bridge Hotel, or Dorking Halls, which were well-publicised and attracted large numbers of demonstrators. Demonstrators were confined behind barriers as they threw their insults, and nothing else, at the hunt supporters in their finery going to the Ball. The opening hunt of the Surrey Union in October 1991 required fifty police officers as it was believed from intelligence that demonstrators were being recruited throughout the southeast. Only forty to fifty demonstrators turned up and there were a number of minor incidents.[65] The

[64] Annual Report 1991
[65] Annual Report 1991

dedicated divisional teams policed subsequent hunts. One hunt in **Cranleigh** in February required policing by forty officers at a cost of about £10,000.

1993: **An arson** occurred at Cranleigh when a barn and agricultural equipment was destroyed.

PC Michael Clarke (left) and PC Victor Copus chat to some young lady hair stylists outside their Salon in Cranleigh. All in the line of duty of course!

PC Michael Clarke has been at Cranleigh for six months. He was previously at Guildford for 7½ years. He is married, lives in Cranleigh, and his wife Dorothy works as a Bookeeper in H. Samuels' the jewellers. As a hobby Michael enjoys pistol shooting for the force and he belongs to Ewhurst Pistol Club. He also enjoys golf, swimming and shares an interest of home decorating with his wife. Michael tells us that Dorothy is a keen and excellent cook.

PC Victor Copus is the Alfold village PC. He has been stationed there for 17 years and has also worked at Bagshot, Egham and Reigate. He is married with three sons and one daughter. The eldest boy (22) is married and works as an engineer for Rank Xerox, the 18 year old is an apprentice electrician for Hawker Siddeley at Dunsfold and the youngest son is an apprentice mechanic. Their daughter is still at school. Victor's wife Daphne works locally in the mornings and during her spare time helps with the local youth club. She also assists with football Club activities and other village functions. Victor is the Chairman of the local football Club–he played up until last year and also used to run for the County. Victor joined the force in 1949 having served in the Navy between 1942 and 1946.

Photos by Ken Willia

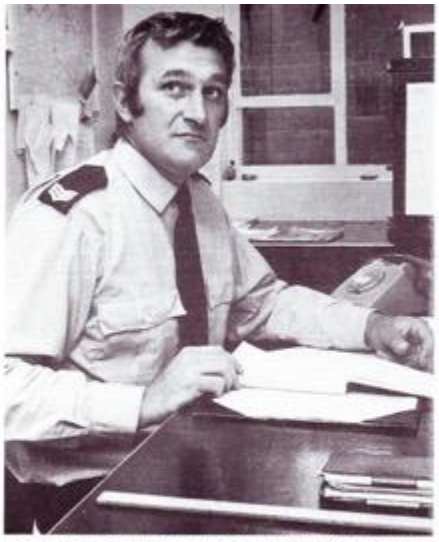
Mrs. Frances Buckman has been cleaning and tidying up at C for two years two hours per day. She lives in Cranleigh w husband Eric and daughter Sharon aged four. Eric is a self-em window cleaner and works locally. Frances was born in Kent in Sussex, they were married nine years ago. In 1968 they Australia–Mr. Buckman's brother lives there and they decided a working holiday–and stayed two and a half years. Frances w an office there and her husband in the Sugar Mills. They bot tennis and swimming and are teaching Sharon to swim. France keen on knitting and dressmaking.

About 1976 Force Newspaper Off Beat

ael Horne has been at Cranleigh for 6 months. Previously
s been in the force for 15 years stationed at Godalming,
'bridge, Haslemere and Woking. He lives in Cranleigh and
h one son and one daughter. He enjoys stamp collecting as
alising in British, Scandanavian and American stamps. His
njoys swimming and will undoubtedly make good use of
h courts at Cranleigh when they are completed. Mike also
est in cricket and football. He has two relatives in the
ther-in-law Sergeant Bob Collins at Caterham and
bert Collins the 'post' man at HQ.

ure with Sergeant Horne is PC Michael Beckett. He joined
1957 and has been stationed at Guildford, Egham and
unley Green). He lives in Shamley Green and is married
ren. He organises the 'under 13' football club to which
ed up until his 14th birthday last year. SHADS (Shamley
ur Dramatic Society) also hold an interest for
stage only! His wife Glenys enjoys dressmaking, is a
Young Wives and the Church Choir.

le has been at Cranleigh since 1966. He was a boy clerk at
1953 - then left and went into the Navy. He rejoined in
nt to Guildford. He is married with one young daughter.
line works locally as a Company Accountant. Living in
ase at Cranleigh there is little time for hobbies but Brian
g to classical music, and gardening. As an afterthought he
s mother's cousin was Ex-superintendent Drake.



Sergeant Clive Stanbury first went to Cranleigh in 1969, having served at various locations around the County both in uniform and on CID. He is a country man himself born and brought up in Yorkshire and he thoroughly enjoys his present posting. His main hobbies are gardening, stamp collecting and wine making. He is also interested in home decorating which is just as well because in his early winemaking days two quart bottles of cider burst in the middle of the night and it was necessary for him to replaster two neat round holes in the ceiling of the room where the cider was stored. Because of his gardening activities—he regularly assists in the preparation work for Force Family Day. He is married with one daughter age six and his wife Iris is a night sister at the Royal Surrey County Hospital.

Cranleigh's latest recruit is their Traffic Warden—Mrs. Joan Darby. Joan is seen in our picture hot on the trail of thwarting motorists—all with very genuine excuses!

Joan has been at Cranleigh just over two months after completing five years as a Traffic Warden in Horsham. She is an ex-Manchester policewoman and her husband John used to be in the Manchester City Force—he now works at Dunsfold. They moved from Manchester in 1956 to London and then Surrey in 1963. They have four children—the youngest girl at home, and five grandchildren. The police force as a job is prominent in the Darby family—their son-in-law is in the Cheshire police, and Joan's father was a police Inspector in the Met. He retired in 1938.

As a hobby Joan enjoys knitting and her husband's hobby is his car—although he does enjoy cricket. Joan also told us that she used to be the village Church organist at Twyford, Bucks. some years ago.

In 1993 The Surrey Constabulary gave way to the Surrey Police and Cranleigh moved on into the new era

Friendly bobby calls it a day

PC Holt receives his retirement certificate from Deputy Chief Constable Peter Sharpe.

AFTER serving three years in the Air Force Department Police, with a six-month break during duty in Southampton City Police, PC Ray Holt joined Surrey Police on June 14, 1967, writes Inspector Clive Stanbury. In 1968 he married Brenda (ex WPC Martin) and they have two children, a daughter aged 23 and a son aged 21.

Ray served all his time in the western part of the county, at Guildford, Godalming and then moving to Cranleigh in May 1973, staying there for almost 20 years. He was a well-known and respected officer throughout the section and very active as Liaison Officer to schools and neighbourhood watch schemes.

He was even featured in a 1980 edition of the Daily Mirror, as the friendly, local 'bobby on the beat.'

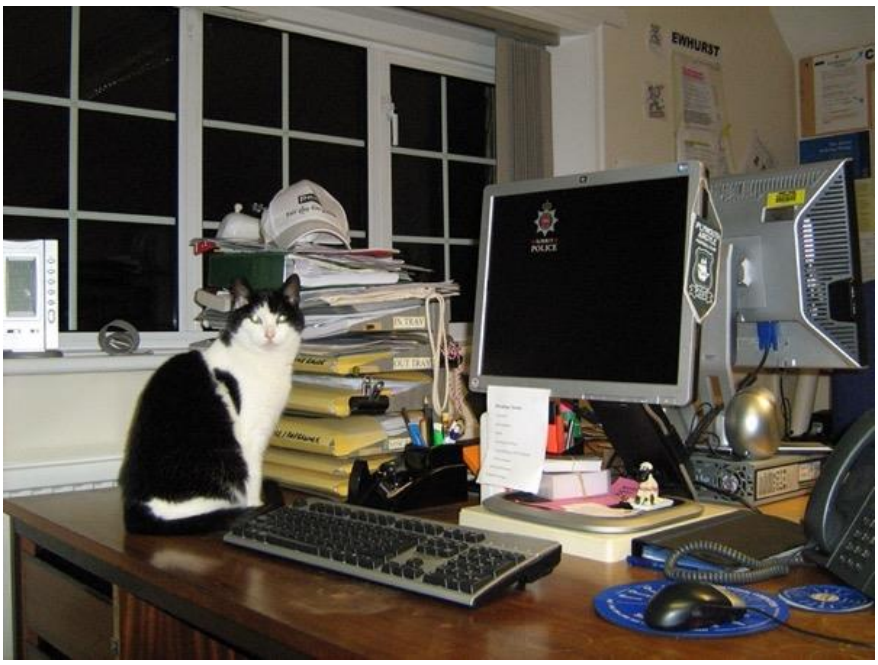
Well-suited to his life as a rural officer, his courteous manner and welcoming smile will be missed around Cranleigh and surrounding villages.

1997 Ray Holt a long-serving village constable retires

The Police Station in about 2006 (Surrey Advertiser; from Mrs Vera Wilkinson)

2010 from time of sale

Regrettably, in line with Surrey Police policy, driven mainly but significant budget cuts the police station, along with many others across Surrey, was closed about 2010, and it is now a private house.



The New World but not as we knew it!