

Police Constable John Charles Godsmark Reigate Borough Police

**Joined 1925 and retired from the Surrey Constabulary 1955
in the rank of sergeant¹**



¹ From Mrs. Beryl FRANCIS daughter of PC Godsmark working through retired Surrey Constabulary officer Gerry Hardie 3 September 2016





**Police Constable 21 John Charles Godsmark
Reigate Borough Police**

S.C. (HO) 313.


SURREY CONSTABULARY

This is to Certify that John Charles GODSMARK joined the Surrey Constabulary as Constable on the 26th day of January 19 25 (Nineteen Hundred & twenty-five) and left the Force as Sergeant on the 29th day of January 19 55 (Nineteen Hundred & fifty-five) under the following conditions:—

PENSIONED ON COMPLETION OF SERVICE

His conduct was: Exemplary.

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION
 Age 50 years
 Height: 6 ft. 1 1/2 ins.
 Hair Brown
 Eyes Dark Grey
 Marks or Scars
2nd finger left hand also on right knee



Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Surrey Constabulary, this fourth day of February 19 55, at Guildford, in the County of Surrey. Certificate issued without alteration or erasure.

Nicholson
Chief Constable of Surrey.

C.P.S. 2018-306-11/A/51

Retirement Certificate signed by Chief Constable of Surrey Constabulary Nicholson



Major G Nicholson CBE MC Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary 1930-1946



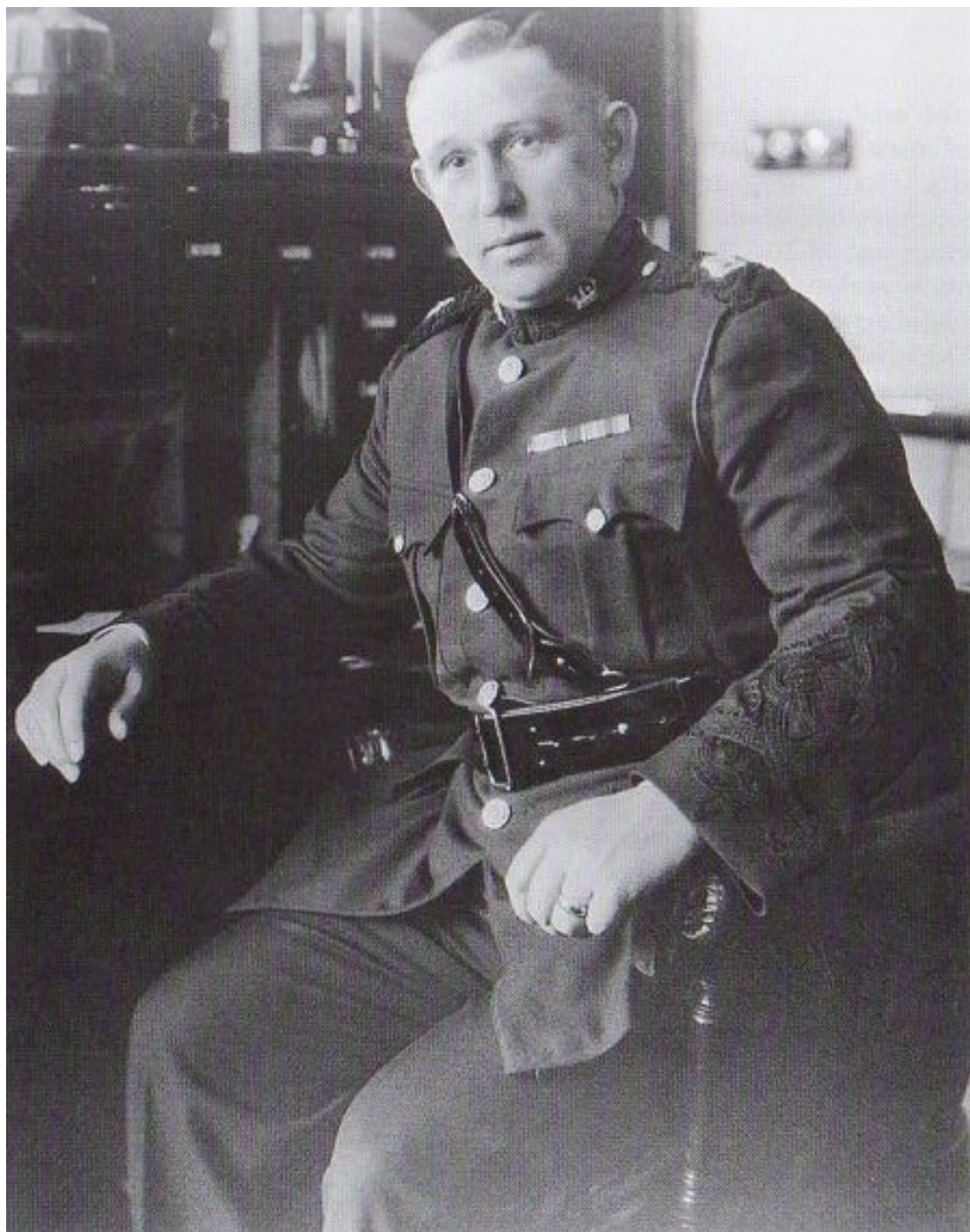
James Metcalfe Chief Constable Reigate Borough 1894-1930



Reigate Borough Police 1930 taken at police station at the town hall in Reigate



Cherchefelle, Reigate police station after the town hall and before the new one



William Becher, chief constable Reigate Borough Police
1931 - 1947.



25th August 1937: Reigate policemen taking part in the wheelbarrow race at Redhill, London. (Photo by Derek Brown)



Reigate 1937



Pre war Reigate Borough Special Constabulary motor patrols



Reigate Borough Police pre-war special constabulary air patrols - many famous private flyers Chief Constable Beacher second right

REIGATE BOROUGH POLICE.

Chief Constable's Office,
REIGATE,
24th November, 1932.

COLMAN CUP - 23rd Nov. 1932.

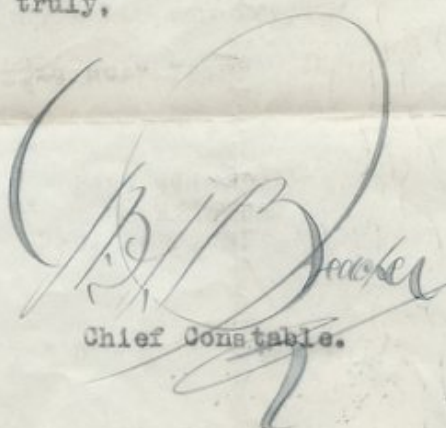
As your Chief Constable you can perhaps realise within a little how proud I am at your success in the Colman Cup Competition, for First Aid Teams.

I congratulate you, and with sincerity I appreciate your very keen efforts which encourage me to give you every facility possible in the Police Service to continue, as you have shown such determined effort to succeed.

I trust that the success secured in this Competition, in bringing to the Force a much coveted Trophy, will follow you in the "Pim" Trophy Competitions, and I look forward to your progress with sincere interest, and hope your successes will be many.

Yours truly,

P.C. Dale.
" Godsmark.
" Richardson.
" Brownlow.
" Ingram.


Chief Constable.

REIGATE BOROUGH POLICE.
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General Order No: 253.

Chief Constable's Office,
 REIGATE.

Mon. 10th April, 1933.

P.C.21 John Charles Godsmark,

"LARCENY" of CAMERA value £15.
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The Chief Constable congratulates -
 Police Constable 21 John Charles GODSMARK, for his
 attention to duty, as there is no doubt, his diligence
 and alertness, coupled with observation, was the means
 of effecting the arrest of -

Ernest L. A. N. D. E. K. E. R.
 28 years. Salesman.
 c/o 37 Heath Road, Upper Caterham.

for an indictable offence - "LARCENY" of a Camera value
 £15, by "Walk In" from a shop at Redhill, on Thursday,
 the 30th March, 1933.

Prisoner was charged and subsequently appeared
 before the -

REIGATE BOROUGH POLICE COURT.

on the 31st March, 1933, and 7th April, 1933, when he pleaded
 "NOT GUILTY" and was defended by -

W.R. Howe Fringle, Esq.,
 Solicitor.


but was ultimately found "GUILTY" and was sentenced to -

3 Months 2nd Division.

a case of "LARCENY" of a Camera at CROYDON, on the 17th March,
 1933, which was admitted by the prisoner, was also taken into
 consideration when sentence was passed.

Such keenness is always appreciated by the Chief
 Constable, and more so when it involves the detection of out-
 standing crime for a foreign Force, therefore this Officer is
 worthy of the Chief Constable's congratulations.

Yours truly,



Chief Constable, Reigate.



Jock Mason Reigate Borough

REIGATE BOROUGH POLICE.
 GENERAL ORDER 453.

27. 2. 36.

COMMENDATION:
POLICE SERGEANT G. H.A. ATKINS.:

"APPREHENSION OF SHOP-BREAKERS AT REDHILL"
27th February, 1936.

The Chief Constable refers to the above case which was heard at the SURREY ASSIZES on Wednesday 26th. February, 1936, before Mr. JUSTICE FINLAY

where Arthur JARVIS, Frederick George BISHOP and Albert Charles READ were charged with breaking and entering and stealing a quantity of Cigarettes valued at £22. from a Shop in Brook Road, Redhill.

The vigilance of SERGEANT H.A. ATKINS of Redhill Division is responsible for the detection of this Offence. It shows how necessary an officer has to be ALERT even at this time in the morning - it certainly was good Police Work and the COMMENDATION is deserving, and it gives the Chief Constable great pleasure to make these observations on this case.

P.C. 21 GODDARD of the MERTHEAN SECTION is to be commended upon his prompt attention to duty and vigilance and observation in respect of the youth he apprehended at MERTHEAN RAILWAY STATION. Circulation and information plays a big part in the detection of crime and the apprehension of the offenders, and the promptitude of officers in getting the information broadcast, following upon the apprehension of the man READ by Sergeant ATKINS has its own results in this case.

CO-OPERATION is the next point on which I wish to speak. This has been an ideal case throughout. It shows itself how we must communicate and get in touch in every way with Officers of other Forces. P.C. DODD of the Surrey County Constabulary is to be COMMENDED upon his action in making a search for the third man who he eventually apprehended at GODSTONE.

This case has now been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and this has been due to the initiative of POLICE SERGEANT ATKINS in tackling the three men in REDHILL on the morning of the case.

BY ORDER OF -

W.H. BEACHE R.

Chief Constable, Reigate Borough.

REIGATE BOROUGH POLICE.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 486.

Chief Constable's Office,
REIGATE.

P.c. 26. R. BROWNLOW.

Saturday, 19th. December, 1936.

P.c. 21. J. GODSMARK.

LARCENY ACT. 1916. SEC. 27 (2).

Edward Stanley WHAPHAM and
Sidney Alfred PEARSON

The Chief Constable is pleased to place on record the good work of two officers of the Redhill Division of the Reigate Borough Police, on the night of the 15th. November, 1936, in affecting the arrest of the two above named prisoners.

Police Constable 26. Reginald BROWNLOW.
Fleet No. 1. Mobile Patrol.

is to be complimented on his turn out so rapidly to the call, his subsequent activities which lead to the arrest of one of the Prisoners outside the Borough, in somewhat difficult circumstances the Prisoner PEARSON was apprehended after having crossed the fields and boarded a Green Line Coach where he was found by this Officer - really creditable work. The Chief Constable had pleasure in endorsing the Divisional Inspector's remarks on this arrest.

Police Constable 21. John C. GODSMARK.

is also to be complimented for his vigilance and attention to duty displayed in his conscientious performance of attending lock-up property, it shows that this Officer was on the job when he found the two prisoner's on the premises, and his rapid action brought about the arrest of the second prisoner, referred to above, this officer having already arrested prisoner WHAPHAM.

The Chief Constable is very pleased with the work of these two officers on the night in question, which led to the following, that at-

SURETY SESSIONS, Wednesday 16th. Decr. 1936.

Prisoners pleaded "Guilty" to the offence under the Act quoted above, and each was bound over in the sum of £5. Os. Od. for 12 months, to be of good behaviour, and to come up for judgement if called upon.

They were also ordered to pay £2. Os. Od. towards the cost of damage and £4. to defray the cost of the prosecution.

Good work on the part of the Officers above mentioned.

REIGATE BOROUGH POLICE.

Chief Constable's Office,
REIGATE,
26th November, 1935.

GENERAL ORDER: 438

COMMENDATION.

P.C. 21 J.C. GODSMARK.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.
AT MERSTHAM, on 15TH NOV., 1935.

The Chief Constable COMMENDS:

P.C. 21 J.C. GODSMARK.

for his vigilance and promptitude in effecting the
arrest of:

Thomas John LIGHT
C.R.O. 643/30.

for "Highway Robbery with Violence at Merstham on the
morning of 15th November, 1935."

P.C. GODSMARK acted promptly upon receiving the
report of the offence, and in a manner which was
absolutely necessary - even if the crime had not been
as serious as this one was. The officer had no
information as to the suspect and acted entirely on
his own initiative and detained "LIGHT" on suspicion.

The action taken by P.C. GODSMARK is worthy of
note, and his good work brought about a speedy
arrest of a man who had committed one of the most
serious offences known. P.C. Godsmark is deserving
of credit and this the Chief Constable records with
a COMMENDATION.

At Surrey Assizes on 25/11/35
Thomas John LIGHT
was convicted by Mr. Justice
HUMPHRIES.... to:
15 strokes of the birch
and 12 months H.L.

(Signed) "W. H. BEACHER"

CHIEF CONSTABLE.
REIGATE BOROUGH.



The final photo of the Reigate Borough Police taken during the Second World War on their working jointly with the Surrey Constabulary and Guildford Borough Police.



Second row 8 from left. Also on the course from Surrey were sergeants Proffitt, Soule, Low, Hills and Judd



Retired John Godsmark rear far left at Old Comrades reunion at Mount Browne early 1970s