



Surrey Constabulary History

An in depth history of policing in Surrey

938@938.me.uk 20 May 2015 Robert Bartlett

John Walters



Course 276 at Sandgate 10 January 1972- 7 April 1972

On the same course was PC John Schofield who a few years later was shot dead on duty.



In the briefing room at Woking in about 1984 with PC Ian both sharing a birthday



John Walters with his Section at Woking in 1984

1984 photo of "A" Section at Woking in 1984 outside Woking Magistrates Court - top row left to right Bob Bennet, Mark Watts, Peter Vallence, Derek Stovold, Paul Seymour - middle row: Malcolm Palmer, John Boothby, Mark Redpath, Bob Bonilla, Trevor Powell, Sahun Amey - front row: Kevin Miles, Sally Everett, Christine McHarrie, John Walters, Alison Lawrence, Christine Palmer, Mervyn Robbins.



Dave Bowden Len Withall Dick Poulton Chris Kay John Walters far right in 1992



Brian Kendall's widow at tree planting Mount Browne John Waters, Dave Grant, Dick Poulton, Chris Kay, Peter Martin, Chris Farmer, Brian Roberts and Graham Hardy

Graffiti painter guilty of assault

A POLICE inspector thought he had lost the sight of an eye after being sprayed in the face with paint by a youth he challenged painting graffiti on a wall beneath a Woking railway bridge.

After a two-day trial at Guildford Crown Court 19-year old Peter Gregory, of Barnard Court, St John's, Woking, was found guilty of assaulting Inspector John Walters, causing him actual bodily harm and damaging a jacket the inspector was wearing. He had denied the offences but admitted a charge of criminal damage.

Gregory was fined £50 for the assault and ordered to pay £250 compensation to Inspector Walters. He was also fined £50 for damaging the inspector's jacket

with an order for £50 compensation and fined £50 for the criminal damage he admitted with £50 compensation. He has to pay £75 towards court costs.

Inspector Walters, based at Woking, told the court that on Boxing Day last year he and his wife, who was 38 weeks pregnant, were walking along Delara Way, Woking in the area known as Twin Bridges where there were two railway bridges conveying trains from Guildford to London.

Youths

He saw a group of youths by the bridges and one of them was crouched down spraying graffiti on to the bridge.

He challenged the youth, who was Gre-

gory, and asked him whether he realised he was committing criminal damage.

'He turned, stood up and sprayed me in the face with the paint. I felt it pass over my face several times,' Inspector Walters told the jury. 'Then he punched me near the left eye and I was quite stunned.'

Inspector Walters told Gregory he was a policeman and he was being arrested and Gregory started punching him in the face and chest. Suddenly, after a struggle, Gregory said: 'OK, I give up.' The inspector picked up the can which contained black paint and discovered that paint had been sprayed on a new coat he was wearing.

Inspector Walters said after being sprayed in

the face with the paint he felt quite dizzy.

'My eyes were stinging and I couldn't see out of my left one. I was worried that I might have lost the sight in it,' he said.

Glasses

After treatment at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, the inspector said he had to have patches over his eyes for a time. In all he had been back for treatment five times and now had to wear glasses. He was off work for a week after the attack.

Denying assaulting the inspector, Gregory, a machine operator, admitted that in April last year he had been convicted by Woking Magistrates on a charge of criminal damage and had asked for five other

offences to be taken into consideration for spraying graffiti on walls.

'They were graffiti which are large pieces of blue and pink and tags which are signatures,' he explained.

He said there was only one place in North London where it was legal to spray graffiti on walls but if you went there you were mugged. A lot of people sprayed graffiti on this railway bridge at Woking. The piece of graffiti he was finishing that night had taken three hours to do and had covered up a lot of writing on the wall.

Painting graffiti was his hobby and he usually worked in the dark because there were fewer people about. Some people did not like it but others thought it brightened the place up.

Commendation 1990



SURREY CONSTABULARY

BRIAN HAYES QPM BA
CHIEF CONSTABLE

POLICE HEADQUARTERS
MOUNT BROWNE
SANDY LANE GUILDFORD
SURREY GU3 1HG
Telephone: 0483 571212
Telex: 859273
Fax: 0483 300279

All Communications should be addressed to the Chief Constable

Your Reference:

Our Reference: SG/CB/172-4-10

If telephoning please ask for:

Extension: 2103

Inspector J D Walters
NM

9 August 1990

Dear Inspector Walters

I have received a report from your Chief Superintendent regarding your brave conduct whilst off duty on the night of 26 December last year, when you arrested Michael Andrew Gregory who was spraying graffiti on the sides of a railway bridge at Woking, but not before receiving injuries to your eyes and face.

It must have been a most distressing episode for your wife to witness this incident, and I hope that you and your family have no lasting effects from your ordeal.

Please accept my congratulations for your professionalism and devotion to duty. I shall ensure that a copy of this letter is placed on your personal file as a permanent record.

Yours sincerely


Assistant Chief Constable (O)

LB

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All Communications should be addressed to the Chief Constable

Your Reference:

Our Reference: SG/CB/172-2-12

If telephoning please ask for:

Extension: 2107

31 May 1989

INSPECTOR J D WALTERS
NW

Dear Inspector Walters

Following your brave conduct in Woking on 10 June 1988, I am pleased to inform you that the Chief Constable is holding a ceremony at Headquarters on Tuesday 4 July 1989 at 12 noon during which you will be presented with a Certificate of Commendation.

The venue will be the Large Conference Hall and dress will be uniform.

Your Chief Superintendent will arrange for you to be able to attend, and the Chief Constable will be pleased to welcome any personal guests you may wish to invite to the ceremony. However, due to lack of space, it would be appreciated if you could limit the number to three if possible. The public relations staff will be on hand to give your guests a conducted tour of the building after the ceremony, should they desire it.

It would be helpful if you would let General Office (extension 2107) know the names of any guests you propose to invite to the presentation.

Yours sincerely

Principal Officer (S)
for Assistant Chief Constable (S)

For your information

In the Crown Court



at GUILDFORD

No. T90422

To Michael Andrew (GRT 2023) the: [defendant]
 of The Exposed Court [surety]
 St Johns [parents/guardian]
 Woking Surrey

In the case of R. v [redacted] - M.A. (date of birth 5-6-71)

On the 28th June, 1990, the defendant was convicted of

Damage Property A.B.H.

The above-named defendant/parent or guardian of the defendant/surety was ordered to

- 1) Pay a fine of £50
 - 2) Pay compensation of £50 to British Rail
 - 3) Pay a fine of £50
 - 4) Pay compensation of £250 to John D. Walker Police Station, Woking Sq
 - 5) Pay a fine of £50
 - 6) Pay compensation of £50 to John D. Walker, Police Station, Woking Sq.
 - 7) Pay £15 towards prosecution costs (CPS)
- and in default to
- 1) serve a term of 5 days imprisonment
 - 2) serve a term of 5 days imprisonment (consec.)
 - 3) serve a term of 5 days imprisonment (consec.)

TOTAL FINES: £150 TOTAL COMP £350

COMPENSATION

Payment is to be made to the Clerk to the Justices whose address is shown below by

instalments of £ 50.00 per week/month, the first instalment to be paid
 on or before 28th July, 1990. FINES & COSTS to be paid at £50 per month
 monthly

┌ Clerk to the Justices ┐
 CLERK TO THE JUSTICES
 WOKING MAGISTRATES COURT
 HEATHSIDE CRESCENT
 WOKING
 SURREY
 GU22 7AD

D. King
Officer of the Crown Court.

Date 28 6 90

Inspector John Walters on an earlier occasion when he was injured on duty during the miner's strike in 1984

Woking Mail: Pithead picket police punched and pelted with stones

A contingent of 23 Woking policemen who went to keep the peace at the miner's strike limped home on Friday. More than half of them sustained serious injuries at Gascoigne Woods Colliery, Selby. Insp. John Walters collected a broken nose and a punch in the mouth. He is spending a fortnight at home to recover. "It was like Roundheads and Cavaliers all over again," he said on Monday. "There were about 3,000 miners pelting us with stones and hard-baked earth." But for Insp. Walters that was not the most frightening aspect of the pithead troubles. "The worst thing is being in a crush 60 or 70 people deep" he said "It is totally out of control and you have to concentrate on staying on your feet."

Woking's casualty list makes disturbing reading. Ripley man Paul Jackson has been detained in the Royal Surrey Hospital with concussion after being kicked four times in the head. PC Graham Young was hit in the stomach, PC Steve Francis has an injured shoulder, Trevor Bell was hit in the face and PC Boys has a dislocated jaw. Others have bruising after a showering with rocks. Superintendent Brian Cane said, "Ever since the miner's dispute started Woking, like other Forces throughout the country has been sending men."



