



HISTORY OF THE GUERNSEY POLICE

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In terms of time, the Guernsey Police Force is comparatively young, particularly when looking at the history of law enforcement in this Island. Even though the 70th Anniversary of our Force has been reached, the links with the past are still present and the Island Police is part of a growing chain that unites an ancient and a progressive system.

To view the history, the former systems should be looked at in some depth. It is known from the dolmens and menhirs that are found in various parts of the Island that the Neolithic people inhabited this Island 5,000 - 6,000 years ago. Law enforcement was possibly undertaken on a tribal basis. Little is known of the culture of those far-off days, but people were less primitive than first supposed by early archaeologists, and lived in village type settlements.

From excavations carried out at La Plaiderie, St Peter Port and artefacts found buried in the Harbour mouth, it has been established that this Island was visited by the Romans and it is now known that the Romans settled here in connection with trade on a permanent basis. Roman Law would have most certainly been enforced during this period.

With the spread of Christianity to the Island during the 6th and 7th centuries AD by Gaulish missionaries, the parishes are believed to have been formed. Each of the ten parishes is based around a Parish Church, and the origin of the Island's ten churches dates back to at least the 7th or 8th century. Responsibility for law and order would possibly have been subject to a parochial system. The Franks also imposed their feudal system upon the Island during the course of their occupation.

From the 7th to the 9th centuries roving bands of Norsemen were making raids on the Cotentin peninsula and the Channel Islands, and by the beginning of the 10th century the Norsemen had begun to settle in the area of Normandy. The Norse chief was known as 'Rollo' and towards the end of the year 911 Charles the Simple, King of the West Franks of North France, drew up a treaty with Rollo at St Clair-sur-Epte, and Charles ceded what is now the province of Normandy to the Norsemen giving them a permanent home in France. Rollo thus became the first Duke of Normandy.

Rollo died in 929 and his son William Long Sword, Duke of Normandy, annexed the Channel Islands in 933, and until 1204 they formed part of the Duchy of Normandy. The Norman period of the island's history is perpetuated by language, surnames, place names, and during this time the basis of the island's Common Law came into being. The island's Norman ancestors were able administrators and the Norman code of laws, known as Le Grand Coutumier, was certainly enforced in the island. It is interesting to note that to this day many of the criminal offences currently in use in the Bailiwick are Norman Common Law offences.

In 1204 King John withdrew from Normandy and since that date the Channel Islands have been independent possessions of the Crown of England. At this time the power of law enforcement became invested in the Constables of the ten parishes. It is not known when the office of Constable of the Parish was first founded. It might have preceded the arrival of the Normans, when the parish boundaries came into being in about the 7th century. The earliest record which shows the existence of the Parish Constables is dated February 1438, and this deals with the action taken by them when any stranger arrives on the Island without lodgings.

From the official records which are housed at the Greffe (Registry Office) we learn that the Royal Court insisted in 1570 that the Parish Constables must see to the implementation of the Ordinances passed by the Royal Court. It appears that the Constables might have been negligent in their duties, but it must be remembered that it was an unenviable task to be appointed Constable of the Parish, capable Constables being kept in office for exceptionally long periods.

In 1581 the Constables of the Parish were authorised to search for stolen property in suspected premises, but could only do this if they were accompanied by two men of means. These police functions were further strengthened in 1661 when victims of crime were recommended to apply to their Parish Constables for action to be taken.

A Requete from all parishes was presented to the Royal Court in 1778 requesting a legal limit to the period of office which a Parish Constable had to serve. The Royal Court was sympathetic and it was decreed that the term of office was not to exceed three years and that the period of office need not be more than one year.

Due to increasing crime and public disquiet, in November 1838 the Parish of St Peter Port appointed twelve Special Constables to act for a limited time because of the number of robberies which were occurring in the town. The term 'robberies' included breaking and entering offences. From the Occurrence Books of 1838, which are filed in the archives of the Constables' Office of St Peter Port, it appears that the services of the Special Constables had a marked effect in restoring law and order to the town of St. Peter Port.

In an Order in Council dated 1846 reference is made to the laborious and responsible office of Parish Constable, compulsory upon all qualified persons. The duties of the Constable are defined as - to preside over meetings of the Douzaine (Parish Council), to upkeep the parish books, to act as Parish Treasurer, and to have entire charge of the police. The responsibility for law and order is placed firmly on the Constables of the respective parishes.



The Town of St Peter Port grew rapidly during the 19th century, and the Constables of St Peter Port experienced problems with policing a town and parish with a population of over 10,000 persons. This led to the Constables and Douzaine, at a ratepayers meeting held on 13th April 1853, requesting the

employment of paid police for St Peter Port. Despite some opposition from the rural ratepayers of St Peter Port a majority of 45 to 22 voted for paid police. The sum of £160 was voted for four Assistant Constables for a one-year trial period. The Royal Court approved the proposal on 23rd April 1853.

On 28th May 1853 four Assistant Constables were appointed, William JESSE, Bernard ELLIOT, John GOUBEY and John WILLIAMS. They commenced duty on 1st June 1853. Their uniform resembled that of the Metropolitan Police, i.e. a single-breasted blue cloth frock coat, plated buttons and dark trousers. The number of each man was embroidered on the coat collar. A glazed top hat and glazed waist belt completed the outfit, and a newspaper report of the time stated that the outfit made a very good appearance. This new uniformed Force operated under the direction of the Parish Constables from the Constables Office situated in Lefebvre Street.

It is interesting to note that the present day Occurrence Books which record the incidents of the day are compiled in the same manner as the first Occurrence Book in 1853. The central town beats have changed little since that time.

The duties of the four uniformed Officers were long and arduous. Drunkenness, disorderly conduct and rowdiness were everyday problems.

On 19th October 1853 Madam Sujan was found murdered at her premises in Les Canichers, St. Peter Port. Records show that there was a very detailed enquiry and investigation into the crime. The assistance of the Metropolitan Police was sought, resulting in Detective Sergeant Smith coming over to the Island and assisting in the investigation, which was successfully concluded with the arrest of John Charles TAPNER. He was tried and convicted before the Royal Court on 10th February 1854, and was publicly executed in St James's Street near the doors of the prison, St. Peter Port. He was the last person to be publicly executed, and from the entries in the Occurrence Book the public execution had the air of a carnival with many persons travelling from Jersey to witness the event.

The St Peter Port Police also went to Alderney and Sark on various matters, a situation which still exists to this day.

By the end of their first year the paid Police had won the approval of the parishioners of St Peter Port, and were retained permanently. No doubt the events of the past year concerning TAPNER had influenced the parishioners, proving that a uniformed Police Force was necessary and essential if law and order were to be preserved in a parish whose population was expanding, and by 1870 numbered over 15,000. This led to increases in the number of paid Police to six on 14th July 1881 and then to twelve on 15th March 1902.



During 1870 attempts were made to change the honorary policing system, but this was defeated in the States of Deliberation (the Island's Parliament). In 1896 a further attempt to change the system was again defeated in the States of Deliberation. It must be remembered that although the population was centred in St Peter Port, owing to the reclamation of the Braye the parishes of St Sampson's and the Vale were expanding rapidly through commercial ventures such as shipbuilding and quarrying. The

elected representatives of these parishes could see and appreciate the benefits of law enforcement being carried out by uniformed Police as in St Peter Port.

It must be assumed that it was due to the rejection by the States of the proposal to change the honorary system that the parishes of St Sampson's and the Vale employed their own uniformed police constables, each parish employing two men. St. Martin's also deemed it necessary to employ one uniformed police constable. These uniformed officers, as in St Peter Port, were under the direction and supervision of their Parish Constables. The parish Constables and police Constables only had jurisdiction in their respective parishes. This system continued until the First World War. Up to this time, the only transport the Police in St Peter Port could rely upon to convey drunks to the Prison was to borrow hand carts. It appears that the hand cart of Le Riche's Stores was very conveniently left out and often used. The saying: "I'm in the cart" had a special meaning in those days!

With regard to the other parishes, the elected Constables could cope quite adequately with the incidents and crime arising in their parishes. Very little had changed over the centuries, and the parochial system was the most efficient. With the dawning of a new century changes to the islanders' way of life were such and so rapid that the parochial pattern of life, which had been the mainstay of the islanders for many generations, changed with the advent of efficient transport between the parishes and the growth of the horticultural industry. Efficient policing became difficult to enforce and at the outbreak of the First World War, in 1914, it became apparent to the Island authorities that an Island Police Force was a necessity.

On 30th October 1914 it was decided at the meeting of the States of Deliberation that a central Police Force should be created for the duration of the War. This new Island Police Force commenced duty on 14th March 1915. The Force establishment consisted of one Inspector, two Sergeants, two Corporals and eleven Constables, and six Constables temporarily transferred from the St Peter Port Police, giving a total strength of 22.



A States Committee responsible for the Police Force was appointed, and at a Committee Meeting held on 10th January 1915 Chief Inspector Edwin A GREEN of the Metropolitan Police was appointed Inspector of the new Police Force. On the day prior to the commencement of duty, the Force was inspected by the Lieutenant-Governor at that time, General Sir

Reginald HART, VC, KCB, KCVO. The pay of the police Constables was twenty-three shillings a week. Two rooms on the ground floor of No 2 Le Marchant Street were used as offices.

During the period of the First World War there existed an Island Police Force, St Peter Port Police, uniformed Officers in the Vale and St Sampson's and the honorary system all at the same time. From the Occurrence Books of those days it can be seen that if a uniformed police Officer dealt with an incident, the Parish Constable was always informed.

On 1st January 1918 Dr BOSTOCK of Hirzel Street, St Peter Port, was appointed as Medical Officer to the Island Police Force. Since then the same practice has been responsible for the medical well-being of the Force, and also for the professional expertise needed in the course of the Force's requirements and enquiries.



During the War years it became apparent that in the interests of justice, law enforcement and efficiency it was impracticable to have so many policing systems. As a result, on 5th August 1919, the subject of an Island Police Force again came up for discussion before the States of Deliberation. On that date a resolution was passed which was confirmed in November of the same year, that all duties in matters criminal, and law keeping in general, would be transferred from the parish Constables to an Island Police Force. The Projet de Loi entitled: "Loi ayant rapport a la Pohce Salerie en l'Ile Entiere" was registered on 10th January 1920. However, it must be noted that on the establishment of the Island Police Force the Parish Constables were not deprived of their policing powers, but they are seldom, if ever, called upon to exercise them. The Island Police Committee was appointed by the States on 4th February 1920 and held their first meeting on 10th February.

The mandate of the duties and functions of the Island Police Force is set out under Article I of the Order in Council of 1919, which states the following: "There will be established at the cost of the States, a salaried Police Force for the whole Island, which will exercise the following functions in place of the Constables of the Island -

- (a) watching over all criminal affairs of the Island;
- (b) maintenance of peace and good order in this Island;
- (c) carry out the laws and Ordinances of the Royal Court, apart from those which are truly civil;
- (d) to take the necessary steps for an inquest;
- (e) supervise the laws relating to driving on the roads and paths of this Island;
- (f) superintend the harbours of the Island, licensed places for the sale of liquors, wine, beer and cider, the coast of the Island and fishing;
- (g) all other duties which may be required of it from time to time by Ordinance of the Royal Court, and recommended by the Committee."

This new Force commenced duty on 10th April 1920. The St Peter Port Police were disbanded on this date. Inspector E A GREEN was appointed as the Chief Officer, the establishment being one Inspector, five Sergeants and twenty-four Constables. The Police Office was situated in St James's Street, and a Police Station remained on this site until 1993. The original Police Station was on the

area now occupied by H. M. Crown Officers in St James's Chambers, but in 1920 the Force only occupied one room next to an umbrella-shop, which was also part of St James's Chambers.

Also at this time the mandate of the Police Committee was set out and the Jurats of the Royal Court, the States Supervisor, the States Treasurer and the Crown Officers were deemed ineligible to serve on the Committee by the very nature of their respective duties. The estimate of expenditure for the new Force was sent to the States Supervisor by the President of the Police Committee and the total requested for the forthcoming year was £1,878.00. (The estimate of expenditure for 1994 being £5,712,160.00).

The uniform of the new Force was identical to Police Officers in Britain, apart from the distinctive helmet badge. The helmet badge first appeared on the helmets of the St Peter Port Police at the end of the 19th century. The same badge, with only minor changes, was adopted by the new Force. The badge is a circlet with the words 'Guernsey Police' enclosed in a shield with three lions passant guardant, surmounted by three laurel leaves. The circlet is enclosed in a laurel wreath, and surmounted by an Imperial Crown. The lions are on the shield erroneously, as on a Coat of Arms it is three leopards which are in the "achievement". The present distinctive buttons were first used in the early 1950s and are comprised of the crest of the Force, surrounded by an open laurel wreath and the word 'Guernsey' above the crest. The helmet badge has not changed since the formation of the Force in 1920.



In March 1927 the first mobile Police Patrol appeared on the roads of the Island. A Wolseley police car was driven by Police Constable J HARPER who, besides being the driver of the vehicle, was the examiner for persons applying for driving licences. PC HARPER was also responsible for the examination and testing of vehicles. A motor cycle was used for the first time on 2nd February 1931, the first motor cyclists being Police Constable Harry BULL and Police Constable Charles LE LIEVRE, the machine being a BSA 31-10, purchased from Mr T MILLARD of Victoria Road, St Peter Port, for £61.17s 6d. It was requested that the finish should be in green and the fittings suitable for "all weather work". Up to the time of these first mobile patrols bicycles were the only form of transport. Bicycles continued to be used until the mid-sixties for Police Constables on country beats. Cycles are still used for the community beats on the

outer areas of St Peter Port, the Bridge beat, St Sampson's and St Martin's.

Very little change occurred in the Force during the years before the Second World War. The Chief Officer, Mr E A GREEN, retired on 14th October 1930. His unfailing devotion to duty at all times was recorded in the Billet d'Etat of 3rd September 1930, (agenda for the Island's Parliament), and it was due to his valuable service that the transition from a temporary Police Force to a permanent Force was made with the confidence of the Island's authorities.

Inspector William Robert SCULPHER, who had transferred from the Metropolitan Police was appointed the Chief Officer on 15th October 1930. Under his supervision, the Force increased slightly and numbered thirty-five in September 1939. Four Officers, PC SPARROW, PC GRAINGER, PC SHAW, PC ELEY (later, in 1966, to be appointed Chief Officer), were called up for active service.

On 9th June 1939, Sergeant Charles LE LIEVRE was called to licensed premises in St Peter Port, where two soldiers were being refused drink. One was armed with a spade and the other with the branch of a tree. He was attacked by the man with the spade, causing injury to his right arm and ribs. The Sergeant closed with the first man and the second struck him with the branch. By this time, other Officers arrived and both men were arrested. For his actions on that day, Sergeant LE LIEVRE was awarded the King's Police Medal for Gallantry on 12th January 1940.

During June 1940 the threat of occupation by the enemy forces was ever present. People and homes were being evacuated. On Friday, 28th June, the most tragic and devastating incident occurred since the inception of the Force, and we pray that the Force may never have to deal with the like again. At 6.55pm that day five German planes approached St Peter Port from the east, bombs were dropped in the area of the Harbour, and the area of the White Rock was strafed by machine gun fire. At that time the harbour was busy with lorries waiting to unload tomatoes, and the mailboat was also unloading. Twenty-eight men and four women were killed, and a further thirty-seven people were injured.

PC 12 Clifford BOUGOURD was attending a wounded man at the Weighbridge when he received a shrapnel wound from a bomb which fell about ten yards from him. The Officer was also struck by a bullet from a tracer gun. He was seriously wounded and was conveyed to the Country Hospital, where he died. It is interesting to note that PC Clifford BOUGOURD's son, Deputy Peter BOUGOURD, was elected as a member of the Island Police Committee on the 29th May 1986 and his grandson, Martyn BOUGOURD, was appointed as Police Constable No 137 on the 8th September 1986.

Considerable damage was caused to property and attacks were also made at La Vassalerie, St Andrew's, Vazon, and the Fruit Export sheds at Les Banques. It was only a matter of time before the enemy forces occupied the Island, and the unpleasant task of recording an occupation of this Island by the enemy for the first time since Evan of Wales, on behalf of Charles V of France in 1373, fell upon the Chief Officer Inspector W SCULPHER, who recorded the following in the Occurrence Book dated Wednesday, 3rd July 1940:

"I beg to report that at about 8pm on 30th June a number of German Armed Forces landed at the Airport, Forest. An air raid warning was sounded at 8.45 pm and with Chief Inspector LANGMEAD, PS HARPER and PC PLEVIN, I went by Police car to the Airport. We were escorted by an armed guard to the Airport and I handed a sealed letter signed by the Bailiff to an Officer. Later the Commandant came to me with the letter, which I read to him. I assured him that there were no Armed Forces in the Island. He demanded to see the chief man in the Island, and I escorted him and other Officers to the Royal Hotel. Mr A SHERWILL was sent for, and later Mr Victor G CAREY, Bailiff, Mr CHAPPELL, Postmaster, Mr BENNETT, Manager Telephones and Captain FRANKLIN, Harbourmaster. A German scholar was requested and I sent for Mr ISLES, Hotel Normandie. Five cars and a lorry, also a bus, provided by Mr WAY, Bosq Lane, and Guernsey Motors Limited. Colonel BROUSSON and Mr Stamford RAFFLES also came to the Hotel, on which an armed guard was posted. The Commandant announced that the Island was forthwith under German occupation and he dictated several regulations which were drafted by the Procureur and published in the newspapers of 1st July. The Editor of the "Star" was present to receive an advanced copy. The Commandant instructed me to carry on Police duties as usual and that the German Headquarters would be, for the present, the Royal Hotel. Guards were placed inside the Post Office and Telephone Exchange. All officials were permitted to leave at 11.30pm on 30th June 1940. Signed W R SCULPHER Inspector."

So commenced one of the most difficult periods in the Island's history. As in our sister Isle of Jersey, a British Police Force had to continue to function with an enemy in occupation. The effects were immediately noticed the following day, when the police car was commandeered by the German authorities for the use of the Military Commandant. They also demanded three Police Officers to be at the Commandant's constant command to drive the car as required. The Force were given approval by the States to hire a car from Le Lacheur's Garage.

On 5th March 1942, Inspector SCULPHER was suspended from duty by order of the German Military Command. The Deputy Inspector, Mr A LANGMEAD, was appointed acting Inspector and Police Sergeant A LAMY was appointed Acting Deputy Inspector. The regular Force now numbered eleven Officers, supplemented by twenty uniformed auxiliaries. Thefts of livestock and produce had increased, which resulted in the German Rittmeister, Fuerst VON OETTINGEN, ordering the reorganisation of the Island Police Force and placing the Force under the direct supervision of the Feldkommandantur, and also making the Chief of Police directly responsible to the Rittmeister.

The Island was divided into patrol districts, and it was strongly pointed out that the Police should show marks of respect towards all members of the occupying Forces of Officer rank. The Occurrence Book had to be submitted daily at 9am to the Chief of the German Gendarmerie. During this period, four Police vehicles were in use, one car and three motor cycles. It became necessary as the occupation continued for vehicles to be requisitioned from islanders by the States Controlling Committee. In August of 1943 a motor van was used by the Force.

Between 22nd - 24th April 1942, eighteen Police Officers were tried before the German Military Court for stealing or receiving foodstuffs and wood from the German military store. They all received custodial sentences and were dismissed from the Service. On 30th July 1942, Acting Inspector A LANGMEAD was suspended and Mr A LAMY was appointed as Acting Inspector. Two Police sub-Stations came into use on Tuesday, 2nd January 1945. One station was situated at Les Blicqs, near Le Chene, Forest, and the other, known as L'Islet sub-Station, was situated at 'Ker Maria', Route Carre, St Sampsons.

The long occupation finally came to an end with the Liberation of the Island on 9th May 1945.



Inspector SCULPHER, who had been deported to Germany with other English born residents, resumed duty as Chief Officer on 9th August 1945. Several members of the Auxiliary Force decided to make the Police Force their career. On 11th December 1945, Mr A LAMY was awarded the British Empire Medal for services rendered during the Occupation.

Inspector SCULPHER retired on 23rd January 1946, and Acting

Inspector LAMY was appointed as Chief Officer of the Force from this date. This was a particularly difficult period for the Force. Owing to the Occupation, contact with the British Police Force had

ceased, procedures in the prevention and detection of crime had changed, and reorganisation of the Force was required to bring it into line with English Forces.

This led to the Police Committee, presided over by Mr Adolphus BICHARD, accepting the recommendations of the Home Office and the Chief Officer, that Mr LAMY should be seconded to the Southampton Borough Force, to familiarise him with modern procedures and developments.

Mr LAMY was seconded to the Southampton Force from 9th September 1947 to 11th September 1948. Inspector William MOORE of the Southampton Force was appointed as Temporary Chief Officer during Mr LAMY's absence. Detective Sergeant Reginald BECKETT of the Portsmouth City Force was also seconded to this Force, as Detective Sergeant, from 18th February 1949 to 23rd December 1949.

As a result of Mr LAMY's secondment to Southampton and his innovations, the Island Police Force was modernised, Officers were sent to English training centres for initial and specialist training, and this has continued to the present day. Police Cadets were employed for the first time in October 1948. PC Walter RELF was the first Officer to be appointed as Constable after serving the full term as a Cadet. Miss Julie Mahy was appointed as the first female Cadet in August 1986.

A major advance in police efficiency came in June 1949, when the three Patrol cars were fitted with two-way radios, cutting down drastically the response times of Police attendance.

As previously mentioned, the Special Constabulary have a long history in the policing of this Island.



For as long as history is recorded persons, when called upon, have assisted the regular law enforcement systems, whether it be the honorary or the regular Constabulary. Under the provisions of the Special Constabulary Ordinance 1950, the powers and areas of responsibility are defined. The Constabulary consists of three divisions designated Division 'A', Division 'B' and Division 'C'. The functions of a Special Constable of 'A' & 'C' Divisions are restricted to a department or a particular area or duty. Division 'B' Officers are uniformed, and they have the same powers and duties as a member of the regular Force.

The Special Constabulary receive training with the Force and members fulfil an important role in the policing of this Island. The Special Constables appeared in uniform for the first time in May 1948, the first Officer of the uniformed Special Constabulary being Inspector E T LANGLOIS. Up to that time, the insignia of the Special Constables had been an armband and badge. In the days of the Honorary Police, a small baton or tip staff was the symbol of authority. At present the 'B' Division of the Special Constabulary comprise of thirty Officers (two Inspectors, three Sergeants and twenty five Constables).



During the 1950s the establishment of the Force increased to fifty and a new Police Headquarters was built on the site of the former Police Station and gardens. Whilst the building was being constructed, the Force operated from Beau Sejour house, now the site of the Leisure Centre. An enquiry office was situated in the Insurance

Department in the former St Paul's Church, now demolished. The Force occupied the new Headquarters on 6th January 1956. The building, known as St James's Chambers, incorporated the offices of the Law Officers of the Crown.

That year saw the introduction of a khaki uniform for the Force, it being the intention of the Police Committee that it should be used during the summer period. Unfortunately, our climate is not always tropical and the uniform proved to be most unpopular in the Force. It was withdrawn after three seasons. There is no doubt that the Officers were popular tourist attractions.



1st January 1957 the Queen's Police Medal was awarded to the Chief Officer Mr A LAMY, and the British Empire Medal was awarded to Sergeant. Noel TROTTER in connection with the rescue of a boy who fell over a cliff on 4th August 1956.

Mr LAMY retired on 30th April 1965, and Chief Inspector Eric HOWARD of the Manchester Police was appointed as Chief Officer. Mr HOWARD resigned because of ill-health on 31st March 1966. Chief Inspector Cyril ELEY, who joined the Force on 20th December 1937, was appointed Chief Officer.

On 1st March 1967 Police Constable Leslie BRACHE was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Bravery as a result of his actions when dealing with a man who was threatening his family and other Police Officers with a loaded shotgun.

Our Force was credited with a world first on 31st December 1968, when Police Constable David ARCHER effected the first arrest of a person under water. Following a complaint of a person diving illegally for the local delicacy, the ormer, PC ARCHER investigated and being a Police Diver, went to the scene to the south-east of Castle Cornet. At a depth of about forty feet he saw a diver gathering ormers. PC ARCHER tapped the man on the shoulder, beckoned him to the surface and when at the surface he informed the man that he was under arrest.

Two new ranks were created within the Force on 1st February 1970. Inspector Harry GURNEY was appointed the first Traffic Inspector, and on 1st November 1974 Inspector Robert TILLEY was appointed the first Detective Inspector. During the latter part of 1971 personal radios were introduced and the system of making points at telephone kiosks was discontinued. MR. TILLEY made history again when on the 1st November 1987 he was promoted from Chief Inspector to the new post of Superintendent (Deputy Chief Officer).

With the development of the modern Force, the shortage of space became acutely apparent, and in February 1975 the Administration Department moved to Grange House (the old Telephone Exchange). A further move was made on 27th October 1980 when the Administration Department, Traffic, CID and Ports Watch moved to the former Maternity Hospital at Amherst, St Peter Port, thereby creating extra space for operational needs at the Police Station at St James's Street.

In June 1975 policewomen commenced duty for the first time. In September 1979, WPC 101 Gillian TODD was appointed as the first female Sergeant. There are currently fourteen female officers serving in many police departments including C.I.D., Special Branch, Fraud Office and Police Motorcycles.

Mr Cyril ELEY retired as Chief Officer on 30th September 1976, and Mr Arthur BAILEY the Chief Inspector was appointed as Chief Officer. Inspector M LE MOIGNAN was appointed to the new post as Deputy Chief Officer.

During the 1970s a number of specialised departments were formed. Special Branch was created in 1974, and is part of the United Kingdom Ports Watch Unit. A Firearms Section was formed in 1975, a Training Department in 1976 and a Police Dogs Section in 1978. A Police Major Incident Vehicle and Caravan were purchased, microfilm started to be used for recording purposes and in



March 1979 television video equipment was acquired for Training and Operational purposes. This was in addition to the established departments such as Photographic, Scenes of Crime, Fingerprints, Identikit, Crime Prevention, Communications, Bomb Disposal and Diving Sections. In September 1979 PC 74 HARRIS was appointed to the new post of Juvenile Liaison Officer.

During 1985 a Commercial Fraud Section was introduced, D/Sgt David SKILLETT being appointed to be in charge of the Section assisted by DC Colin DUCHEMIN.

On Sunday 22nd April 1979, the Police Standard was dedicated at the Town Church by the Dean of Guernsey, and was formally presented to the Island Police Force by the former Bailiff, Sir John LOVERIDGE, Kt, CBE. Former Sergeant 14 Dennis SALLABANK was in charge of the parade and colour party, who were PC 48 Richard NASH, Standard Bearer, PC 66 David EVANS and PC 31 Andrew GOODALL. The Band of the Hampshire Constabulary and Officers of the

States of Jersey Police participated in the parade and service, which was a most memorable occasion.

Under the supervision of Inspector Paul TEBBUTT the in house force computer system was implemented on the 1st September 1987. A link with the Police National Computer was introduced in April 1988.

In November 1983, under the Chairmanship of Detective Inspector R C SMITH, the Island Police Sports and Social Club purchased the former St Andrew's Parish Church Hall. During the following two years extensive alterations and renovation work were carried out by members, and on the 6th November 1985 the new club premises of the Island Police Sports and Social Club were officially opened by Sir Charles FROSSARD, Bailiff of Guernsey. The project was only made possible due to the generosity of Mr William DAVISON and in a tribute to him the sports hall was named after him.

Mr Arthur BAILEY retired on 5th November 1982. Chief Superintendent Alfred David George WALLEN, MBE, was appointed as Chief Officer, taking over the position on 11th October 1982 on a two year appointment. Mr WALLEN was the Staff Officer of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and had visited the Island in that capacity.

Mr Alfred WALLEN retired from the Police Service on 10th October 1984 at the expiration of his two year appointment. He was succeeded by the Deputy Chief Officer, Mr Michael LE MOIGNAN, as Chief Officer of the Island Force, who had joined the Force on 11th April 1960.

A pilot Community Policing Scheme was introduced on 21 April 1987 to create a closer liaison with the community. Three foot/cycle beats and two mobile areas were introduced, manned by sixteen Officers. The Force is seeking to strengthen its ties with the community, and by having Officers allocated to a parish it is felt that our present good relationships with the parochial authorities will be further enhanced.

Members of the Force are also required to perform duty in Alderney and Sark. At present a Sergeant and a Constable live in Alderney, and a Constable from Guernsey serves in Alderney on a fortnightly relief basis. The Alderney Special Constabulary also provide regular support with six uniformed officers who are appointed by the Court of Alderney.

From the days of the St Peter Port Police, the Force has participated in sporting events. A football team existed in 1908, and tug-of-war teams also entered Island contests. During the seventies the Police Rowing Team has possibly made the greatest accomplishments in the sporting history of our Force by raising several thousands of pounds for charity by rowing to and from France, and around the Bailiwick. The memorable row from Salcombe, Devon, to Guernsey on 23rd and 24th June 1973 was in aid of the Lifeboat Fund, and on 5th July 1984, a charity row of 110 miles from Guernsey to Portsmouth was undertaken by twenty-eight Police Officers in the Police boat "The Fuzz", (a similar type craft to a naval whaler). The voyage took twenty-seven hours and the magnificent sum of £7,000 was raised for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

To compare the work undertaken in 1920 and today is extremely difficult owing to the change of social habits, but the following figures of incidents in the first year of the Island Force, 10th April 1920 to 10th April 1921, followed by the figures for the year 1992 in brackets, show a remarkable change. In 1920 there were 750 motor vehicles in the Island. Today there are approximately 43,000.

Vehicle Collisions	46 (1076)
Crime reported, mostly thefts	151 (2325)
Assaults	25 (258)
Assaults on Police	2 (20)
Wilful Damage	36 (468)
Drunk in Charge of m/vehicles	7 (186)
Disorderly Conduct - arrests	110 (171)
Drunks - arrested	106 (143)

At the meeting of the States of Deliberation in July 1987 the future building requirements of the Force were provided for by the decision to convert the former St Peter Port Hospital for the use of the Island Police, thus enabling the Force to operate from one building, encompassing all the various departments, in a central position of St Peter Port.

On the 24th June 1993, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Lieutenant General Sir Michael Wilkins KCB OBE, opened the new Police Headquarters.

The present establishment of the force is 164, which includes 32 female officers, the authorised establishment being 177. The Island Police are also assisted by 43 civilian personnel, whose employment has released many officers for the operational requirements of policing.

In conclusion, the Guernsey Police Force has evolved from an ancient system to a modern Police Force by the service of many Islanders and non-Islanders over the centuries who have all contributed to making the Island Force one of which we are extremely proud. The passing of time will make the present appear old-fashioned within a few years. Future policing will change beyond anything we can envisage, but the fact will remain that we were all part of a team in the making of the Force's history.

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