

DORSET POLICE



ANNUAL REPORT

1976

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**Police Headquarters
DORCHESTER**



**ANNUAL REPORT
of
THE CHIEF CONSTABLE
DORSET POLICE
1976**

NCJRS

JUL 26 1977

ACQUISITIONS

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MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS
DORSET POLICE COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

Chairman



Colonel Sir Joseph Weld OBE TD

Vice Chairman

D S Scott Esq

Appointed by County Council

- | | |
|---|---|
| B V Benson Esq | * Lt Col G W Mansell CBE DL (Chairman of the County Council – ex officio) |
| * Capt G F M Best RN (Ret'd) | P W Kelleway Esq |
| Major General H M G Bond | Air Commodore K J McIntyre CB CBE |
| * Mrs P M Bravery | G H Masters Esq |
| The Rt Hon Lord Digby DL | Brigadier R Montague-Jones CBE MA |
| Miss S R Dunscombe | Mrs J O'Brien |
| D Gooding Esq | * W S Rigler Esq |
| * M W Green Esq (Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee – ex officio) | Major E W Ruston MC |
| S W T Hodge Esq | * Sir David Trench GCMG MC |
| * Mrs P M Hogarth | E Webster Esq |
| Dr G V Jaffé | * R Whittaker Esq |
| W D James Esq | * M L T Williams Esq |
| P W Jevons Esq MBE | |

Appointed by Dorset Magistrates' Courts Committee

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mrs B Bicknell | E W Ludlow Esq |
| * Mrs S Beckett | A T Powell Esq |
| Mrs S W Crawshaw | Mrs C M Romanes BA |
| Dr E W Deane | * K G S Smith Esq CMG |
| Major W H Gibson Fleming | * W T Welch Esq OBE |
| A Lloyd-Allen Esq OBE | * G N Yeatman Esq TD |

* Members of the Police General Purposes Sub-Committee.

OFFICERS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chief Executive | K A Abel Esq LLB |
| County Treasurer | D M Gasson Esq BA IPFA |
| County Architect | R J Patterson Esq Dip Arch ARIBA |
| Principal Prosecuting Solicitor | J R Pryer Esq |

SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE
DORSET POLICE ON
31 DECEMBER 1976

Chief Constable	—	Arthur Hambleton OBE MC QPM
Deputy Chief Constable	—	John Over
Assistant Chief Constable	—	Robert Kenneth Brown LLB (seconded) Leonard Burt

DIVISIONAL OFFICERS AND OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENTS

Headquarters

Chief Administrative Officer	—	G Baker ACIS
Staff Officer (Operations)	—	Chief Superintendent D C Reed
Organisation and Planning	—	Vacancy
Special Project Team	—	Mr V Wilcox
Personnel	—	W/Superintendent S Gospel
Discipline	—	Superintendent R Scott

Eastern Division

Divisional Commander	—	Chief Superintendent F Pratt
Operations	—	Chief Superintendent H Swatridge
Uniform	—	Superintendent K Arthurs
C.I.D.	—	D/Superintendent F Whitby
Traffic	—	Superintendent P Southey
Staff	—	Superintendent B Gibbs

Sub Divisions

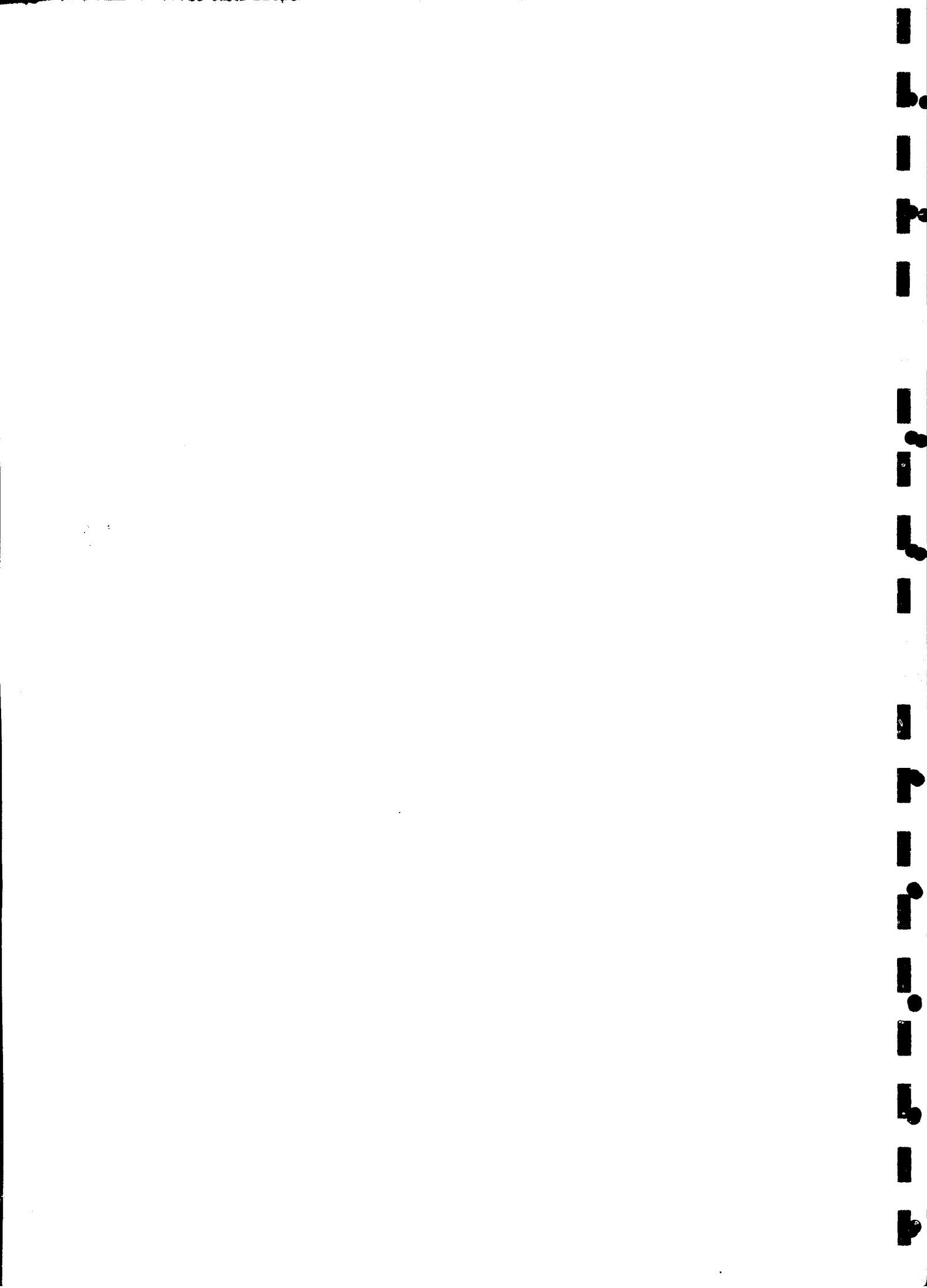
Bournemouth	—	Superintendent A Rose
Poole	—	Superintendent P Hoper
Christchurch	—	Superintendent C Bosley
Canford	—	Chief Inspector A Peat

Western Division

Divisional Commander	—	Chief Superintendent R Bascombe
Uniform	—	Superintendent D Self
C.I.D.	—	D/Superintendent D Barry
Traffic	—	Superintendent P Jenkins
Staff	—	Superintendent H Rodgers

Sub Divisions

Weymouth	—	Superintendent G McPherson
Blandford	—	Chief Inspector G Peach
Wareham	—	Chief Inspector R Daubeney
Bridport	—	Vacant
Dorchester	—	Chief Inspector A Caddy
Sherborne	—	Inspector A Stone





THE LATE DENNIS HABGOOD QPM
DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE OF DORSET

Mr Habgood joined the Dorset Constabulary in 1939 and died on 13 March 1976 at the age of 56 years.

He saw war service as a Navigator in the Royal Air Force.

In 1970, whilst Assistant Chief Constable, he was appointed to direct the Command Courses at the Police College. Shortly after returning to the Force in 1973, he was appointed Deputy Chief Constable and awarded the Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service.

His long and devoted service to the St John Ambulance Association was rewarded by Her Majesty in 1970 when she appointed him Officer Brother in the Order of St John of Jerusalem.

Dennis Habgood spent his entire working life in serving the public. The respect and affection he commanded was demonstrated by the very large number of people who gathered for the funeral service at St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Weymouth on 26 March.

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To: The Chairman and Members of the Police Committee

Mr Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen

The main theme revealed in this Annual Report of the activities of the Dorset Police for the year 1976 is one of change.

The Force, and indeed the whole County of Dorset, suffered a great loss in March when the Deputy Chief Constable, Mr Dennis Habgood QPM, died after a short illness. Much has been said and written about Mr Habgood and suffice it for me to say here that he has been and is still missed a tremendous amount throughout our County. Another change in command was the appointment of the Assistant Chief Constable, Mr R K Brown LLB to be an Assistant to her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary at the Home Office.

Subsequent to these events, we were pleased to welcome Mr John Over, an Assistant Chief Constable of Surrey, on his appointment as Deputy Chief Constable, and Chief Superintendent L Burt of the Dorset Police was promoted and appointed to be Assistant Chief Constable. Another notable change was when three Chief Superintendents and three Superintendents retired on completion of their 30 years' service.

The loss of so many senior officers within such a short space of time could be expected to provide problems in command and management. However, careful selection and investment in training in the middle ranks of the Service during previous years ensured that the vacancies were filled by officers confident and competent to discharge their new responsibilities. At the end of the year the new team was fully established and the Force was running as efficiently as formerly.

The provisions of the Sex Discrimination Act were implemented in the early part of the year and the Policewomen's Department was disbanded, the senior policewomen officers being posted to general police duties. It is doubtful whether this Act has proved to be of any advantage to women within the Police Service, but paradoxically, it has proved to be of great value to this Police Force. Two Women Inspectors, one Woman Chief Inspector and one Woman Superintendent were posted from total commitment to Policewomen's duties. The result of this was that the equivalent number of male officers was made available to be deployed and a necessary new Sub Division was created without me having to ask for further strength. It is to the credit of the four senior women officers that they have performed their new duties with skill and efficiency and they are to be congratulated on the manner in which they accepted this major change in their daily life and to their career prospects.

In the field of police operations, the most notable achievement was holding the crime rate to almost that of last year, the increase being 0.71%. This was brought about by posting extra men to detective duties and making a concentrated effort to detect criminals, with the result that their conviction in the courts generally resulted in them being prevented or discouraged from committing further crime. This method of policing can only be a short-term measure. Detection of crime must never be substituted for prevention of crime through active patrolling by the Uniform Branch and if this practice was pursued, inevitably the swing would be back to more crime because of the reduced preventive patrols.

The effectiveness of increased patrolling uniformed policemen was proved by the experimental "saturation policing" of the centre of Bournemouth during September and October. Following this, the Police Authority recognised the need for more patrolling policemen when they approved my recommendation for an increase in strength at their meeting in December.

In July an almost unprecedented step was taken when the County Council reduced the current Estimates for 1976/77 by a substantial amount in order to comply with the Government's guidelines for restricting public expenditure. As mentioned elsewhere in this Report, further reductions were imposed by the Home Office for 1977/78. It is conjectural as to how much economy can be imposed before the Police Service and the maintenance of law and order begin to breakdown. The County of Dorset has always placed great importance on the maintenance of public tranquility through the medium of adequate law enforcement. Further pernicious economies would most certainly place the continuance of the present acceptable level of public behaviour in great jeopardy.

A brief account of the forest and heathland fires which were widespread in the County during August/September is given in the body of this Report. The skill and application of members of the County Fire Service is worthy of special mention. In particular, the devotion to duty, superb technical efficiency and leadership of Mr Basil Roberts QFSM FIFIRE E, the County Chief Fire Officer, merits the highest commendation. Throughout the several emergencies he remained in command of his augmented fire force, refusing time off for food or for rest; but for his command of the various situations, damage to property would have been far more extensive and many lives might have been lost. It was an education and a privilege to serve with him through those serious days and nights.

Throughout the year, all officers of the Dorset Police have worked hard and consistently demonstrated their attachment and loyalty to the people of the County. There have been periods of great strain but all officers have readily accepted extra work, inconvenience and, in some cases, bad working conditions. I am extremely grateful for their assistance in achieving the success we have had in maintaining law and order in Dorset.

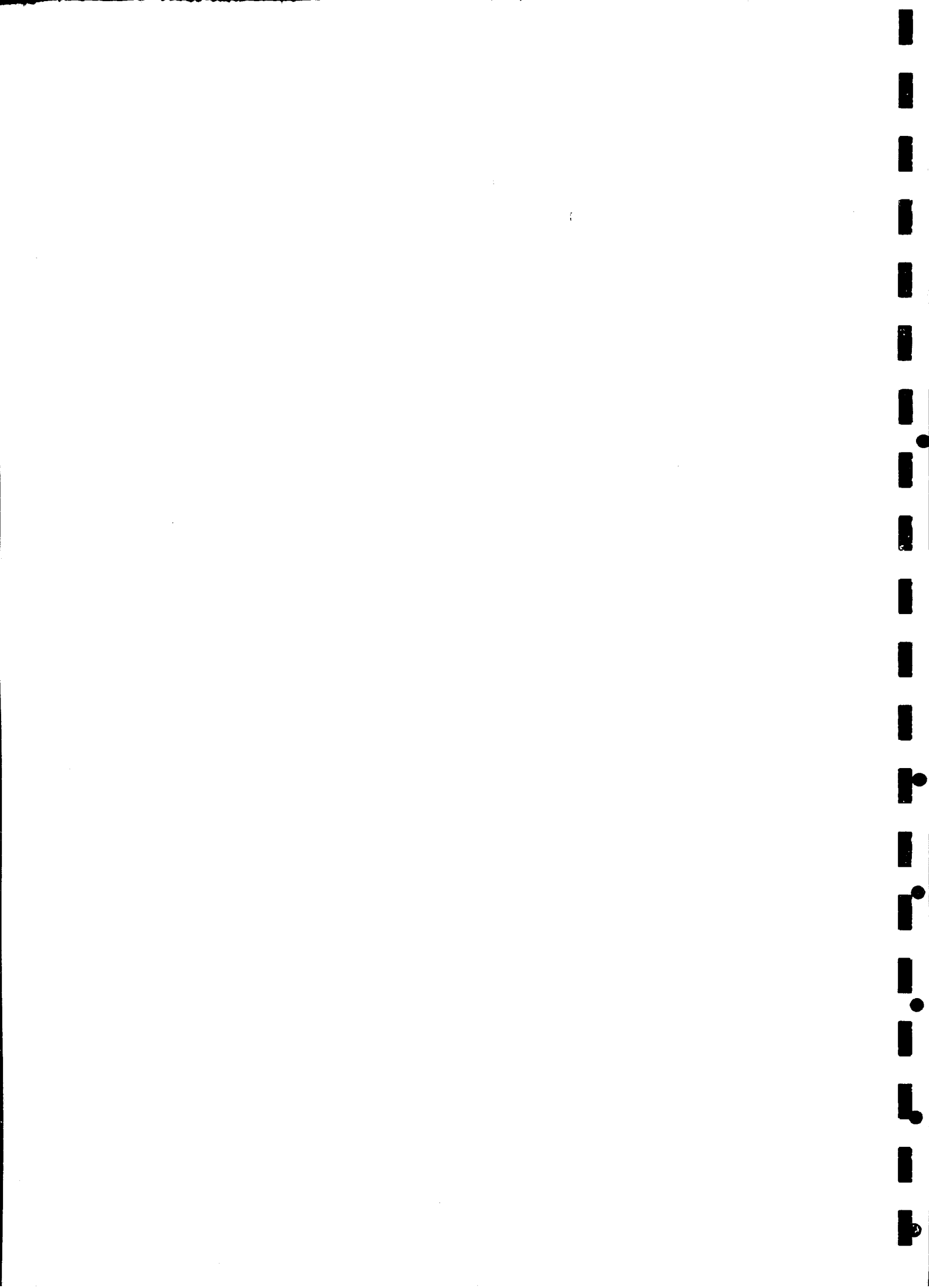
To the Clerk of the Police Authority and other Police Authority officers, I tender my sincere thanks for the help and guidance which have been so freely given throughout the year. And to the Police Authority, I am grateful for their understanding of the problems which we have faced and for their support in our endeavours.

A. Hambleton,

Chief Constable of Dorset

Police Headquarters
DORCHESTER
Dorset

February 1977



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**ADMINISTRATION
AND
ORGANISATION**

ESTABLISHMENT

The authorised establishment of the Force on 31 December 1976 was as follows:—

Chief Constable	1
Deputy Chief Constable	1
Assistant Chief Constable	1
Chief Superintendents	4
Superintendents	15
Chief Inspectors	22
Inspectors	52
Sergeants	168
Constables	844
Total Establishment	1108

At the end of the year the actual strength of the Force was 1085:—

Chief Constable	1
Deputy Chief Constable	1
Assistant Chief Constable	1
Chief Superintendents	5
Superintendents	14 (1)
Chief Inspectors	21 (1)
Inspectors	57 (2)
Sergeants	169 (7)
Constables	816 (69)
Total Actual Strength	1085

The figures in brackets indicate the number of female officers included in the ranks shown.

The following officers were seconded to Central Service as at 31 December 1976:

R K Brown Esq LLB (Assistant Chief Constable)	) Assistant to HM) Chief Inspector of) Constabulary at) the Home Office
Chief Inspector B Palmer	) Directing Staff,) Police College

Chief Inspector G Elliott)
Inspector D Smith)
Inspector G Talbot	) Police Training
Inspector D Thomas	) Centre
Sergeant 479 Vince	) (Chantmarle)
Sergeant 1033 Peek)
Sergeant 1157 Turner)
W/Sergeant 39 Heather	) Police Training) Centre) (Cwmbran)
Inspector M Hendley)
W/Sergeant 16 Savage)
Sergeant 1059 Chubb)
Sergeant 1164 Morris	) Regional Crime
W/Constable 29 Day-Smith	) Squad
Constable 423 Jones	) (Bournemouth)
Constable 737 Learoyd)
Constable 980 Hatchard)

Inspector G Lumbard)
Sergeant 1150 Drake	) Regional Crime
Constable 374 Andrews	) Squad (Yeovil)
Constable 576 Redfern)

Sergeant 700 Tinkler	) Regional Driving
Sergeant 1019 Lydford	) School (Devizes)

CIVILIAN STAFF

The strength of civilian manpower has again been eroded by the need to restrict police expenditure and the outlook for 1977 indicates quite clearly that further cuts are inevitable.

Home Office Circular No 191/1976 sets out the Secretary of State's views on savings to be made in 1977/78, which include a reduction of 20% in the strength of Traffic Wardens in post on 30 September 1974 and a 45% cut in Cadet strength.

It is time to sound a note of warning. Further reductions in civilian staff can only be at the expense of uniformed police who would have to be diverted to undertake those tasks which, although important, do not require police training and expertise. This would be economic folly as well as a misuse of valuable operational manpower.

RECRUITING

A total of 93 male and 22 female recruits joined the Force during the year. Of this figure 31 men and 2 women made their applications during 1975, and the remaining 62 men and 20 women were selected from enquiries received during 1976.

The total number of appointments of 115 was 18 less than the 1975 figure, and included 16 officers who transferred from other Forces. Wastage during 1976 totalled 108, an increase of 18 compared with 1975. The 1976 recruiting effort realised a net gain of only 7 over the whole year.

No graduates were recruited to the Force during 1976, and a Constable holding an Honours Degree in Politics and Philosophy resigned during the year, having completed just over 2 years' service. There are 5 officers serving in Dorset Police who are holders of Degrees as shown below:—

Subject	Honours	Number
Laws	2nd Class	1
Laws	3rd Class	2
Combined Studies — Mathematics/Physics	3rd Class	1
Mathematics	1st Class	1

APPOINTMENTS

1.9.76 J Over Esq, Deputy Chief Constable (transferred from Surrey Constabulary)
13.9.76 Sergeant 939 Waite — Eastern SOCO (transferred from West Midlands Police)

The total number of applications during 1976 was slightly less than the previous year, with 915 male applications in 1976 compared with 988 male applicants in 1975, but an increase in female applicants, in that 210 women applied in 1976 as compared to 160 during the previous year.

Whilst 1976 was a good year for recruiting, it was not outstanding. The greatest problem faced during the year has been the tremendously high rate of wastage. Much of this has been due to the retirement of officers who joined the Police Service immediately after the Second World War. It is anticipated that the rate of wastage will continue to be high during the coming year, but it is thought likely that it will slowly reduce.

POLICE CADETS

Strength at 31 December 1976:—

Authorised Strength	50
Actual Strength	17

This severe reduction in strength is a direct result of the economic constraints placed upon the Police Service. The actual strength included 2 females.

WASTAGE

Resignations, retirements and transfers

Retired on ordinary pension:—

(i) On completion of 30 years' service	10
(ii) Under 30 years' service	42

Retired with ill-health award

2

Resigned — Probationers

20

Resigned — Others:— between 2 — 5 years

10

5 — 10 years

8

10 — 15 years

3

15 — 20 years

2

20 — 25 years

Nil

Dismissed

Nil

Died

Nil

Transferred to other Forces

11

108

Recruitment during the year

115

Wastage

108

Total gain 7

Health of the Force

The number of days lost through sickness:—

Sickness supported by Medical Certificates 7988

Uncertificated sick leave 2038

Resulting from injury on duty 561

Total 10587

The following table shows the average number of days lost by each member of the Force through illness or injury compared with previous years:—

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>
Sickness	6.97	4.39	7.18	8.97	9.54
Injury	0.61	0.39	0.41	0.26	0.50

Twenty-one officers were off duty for periods of more than two months.

PROMOTIONS

During the year the following substantive promotions were announced:—

DATE	RANK AND NAME	SERVICE ON PROMOTION (COMPLETED YEARS)
11 October	TO ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE Chief Superintendent L Burt	21
1 September 1 November	TO CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT Superintendent F Pratt Superintendent R Bascombe Superintendent H Swatridge	28 26 22
14 June 1 September 1 November	TO SUPERINTENDENT Chief Inspector K Arthurs Chief Inspector A Rose Chief Inspector D Self Chief Inspector C Bosley	20 19 22 21
5 July 1 September 1 November 1 December	TO CHIEF INSPECTOR T/Chief Inspector W Clist T/Chief Inspector A Caddy T/Chief Inspector W Nethercott T/Chief Inspector T Saunders T/Chief Inspector J Webley T/Chief Inspector R Daubeney T/Chief Inspector G Milliner T/Chief Inspector N Dewey	20 26 23 20 25 16 23 15
1 January 1 April 17 May 19 July	TO INSPECTOR T/Inspector M Hendley T/Inspector B Chisholm T/Inspector G Vaudin T/Inspector B Probert	19 18 18 14

DATE	RANK AND NAME	SERVICE ON PROMOTION (COMPLETED YEARS)
TO INSPECTOR (Cont'd)		
1 September	T/Inspector T Kelly	19
	T/Inspector W Lowes	16
	T/Inspector N Shorrocks	11
	T/Inspector B Thornley	9
	T/Inspector M Woods	20
13 September	T/Inspector N Dewey	14
	T/Inspector G Lumbard	16
27 September	T/Inspector D Thomas	26
1 November	T/Inspector I Collings	20
	T/Inspector D Glaister	21
	T/Inspector G Hounsell	25
	T/Inspector G Talbot	14
TO SERGEANT		
1 January	T/Sergeant 1000 Gould	10
7 January	T/Sergeant 1004 Burt	10
1 February	T/Sergeant 1141 Catton	9
1 April	T/Sergeant 1121 Cooper	7
21 April	T/Sergeant 1033 Peek	9
9 August	T/Sergeant 1100 Ryan	7
	T/Sergeant 1109 Trill	14
	T/Sergeant 1170 Hanson	11
	T/Sergeant 1171 Nock	12
16 August	T/Sergeant 1120 Sutcliffe	15
23 August	T/Sergeant 1085 Roberts	12
1 September	T/W/Sergeant 16 Savage	17
	T/Sergeant 430 Crow	16
	T/Sergeant 802 Clements	9
	T/Sergeant 829 Hawkins	13
13 September	T/Sergeant 353 Marsden	13
	T/Sergeant 394 Windsor	11
	T/Sergeant 700 Tinkler	12
27 September	T/Sergeant 362 Stent	11
15 October	T/Sergeant 479 Vince	13
1 November	T/Sergeant 329 Brearley	17

DATE	RANK AND NAME	SERVICE ON PROMOTION (COMPLETED YEARS)
	TO SERGEANT (Cont'd)	
1 November	T/Sergeant 336 Brown	12
	T/Sergeant 366 Hoare	13
	T/Sergeant 821 Russell	14
8 November	T/Sergeant 749 Curnock	18
	T/Sergeant 805 Nunn	10

PROMOTION EXAMINATION RESULTS

To Sergeant		To Inspector			
Number of Candidates	Number Passed	Constable		Sergeant	
		Number of Candidates	Number Passed	Number of Candidates	Number Passed
101	12	27	2	28	5

Including the officers who were successful in the above examination, 110 Constables are qualified by examination for promotion to Sergeant and 26 of these Constables are qualified additionally for promotion to Inspector. Also, there are 76 Sergeants qualified by examination for promotion to Inspector.

SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Officials of the Association:—

Chairman — Chief Superintendent D C Reed
 Secretary — Chief Superintendent H Swatridge

During the year the Superintendents' Association was consulted by the Chief Constable on various subjects concerning welfare, conditions of service and other similar matters. All members were involved in consultation and working parties in connection with the Management Information System for the Force, and selected officers in the review of establishment.

Two Statutory Branch Meetings were held at Wareham and representatives attended three District Conferences and the Annual Meeting of Districts at Eastbourne.

POLICE FEDERATION

Officials of the Joint Branch Board:—

Chairman — Inspector E Whitehead
 (retired 12 September)
 Chief Inspector J Webley
 (from 12 September)
 Secretary — Sergeant P Rook
 Treasurer — W/Sergeant J de Pledge

Joint consultation between the Board and the Chief Constable included the following subjects:—

Sex Discrimination Act
 Crewing of Police Vehicles
 Breathalyser Procedures
 Special Constabulary
 Memoranda — Personal and Confidential
 Shirt Sleeve Order — Inside Duties
 Overtime and Expenses
 National Health — Sick Pay Deductions
 Shower Baths at Police Stations
 Annual Leave — Summer Period
 Police Drivers — Uniform Caps
 Photographs — Assault Cases

Resolutions were also submitted to the Chief Constable on the following:—

Promotion Selection Boards
 Uniform Shirts
 Escort Duties
 Straying Animals
 Accoutrement
 Suspension of Police Drivers
 Purchase of Police Housing
 Crewing of Police Vehicles
 Shirt Sleeve Order
 Protective Clothing — Rabies
 Issue of Uniform Capes

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION

A total of thirty six claims were submitted to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board by the Joint Branch Board on behalf of members of the Force who were criminally injured whilst on duty. This represents an alarming increase of 22 over the previous year. Twenty of these claims have been settled, a total sum of £3,900 having been awarded.

In one case the award has been made on an interim basis in order that a further review may be undertaken. One claim was disallowed, one was subsequently withdrawn by the officer concerned and the remainder submitted currently are under consideration by the Board.

DISCIPLINE AND COMPLAINTS

1. Discipline

Five officers who appeared before the Chief Constable charged with a total of thirteen disciplinary offences were dealt with as follows:—

Fined and Reprimanded	1
Fined	4

Three of these cases resulted from reports originating within the Force, and two were as a result of complaints from members of the public.

2. Complaints Against Police

During 1976, a total of 171 complaints were made by members of the public against officers of the Force, compared with 127 during the previous year. These complaints were investigated in accordance with the provisions of Section 49 of the Police Act 1964, with the following results:—

Disciplinary proceedings	2
Substantiated and advice given on each case	9
Not substantiated — no further action	96
Withdrawn by complainant	33
Cases pending at 31 December 1976	31
Total	171

During the year under review, the Police Act 1976 gained Royal Assent and during its passage through Parliament resulted in a considerable amount of publicity which may have some bearing on the 28.9% increase in the number of complaints made in 1976 as compared with the previous year.

At my request, 12 complaints were investigated by senior officers from other Forces. Eleven of them were made by the same complainant or his close associates.

The vast majority of complaints made were in some way related to the arrest or prosecution of the complainants.

During the year, 26 reports were submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions in connection with complaints from members of the public, and in none of these cases did the Director advise a criminal prosecution.

Although there were 171 complaints made by members of the public, in only 4 cases did the complainant express any dissatisfaction concerning the result of the investigation.

Of the 31 cases pending at the end of the year, 21 are under investigation and the remainder are awaiting the conclusion of criminal proceedings against the complainants or their associates before the enquiries can be ended.

COMPLIMENTARY LETTERS

Three hundred and fifty four letters were received expressing appreciation of courtesy shown and assistance given by officers of the Force during 1976.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

On 23 April 1976, the Chief Scout, Sir William Gladstone Bt, awarded Constable 847 Seward (Borough Commissioner for Poole and a Scout Leader Trainer for the County of Dorset) the "Silver Acorn" in recognition of specially distinguished services. This is the second highest award for good service to the Scout Movement by members of the United Kingdom and British Commonwealth.

Constable 835 Lawton was awarded the Royal Humane Society's Testimonial on Vellum for his actions in the rescue of two women from Weymouth Harbour during February.



Constable Seward



Constable Lawton

The Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was presented to 19 officers.

POLICE BUILDINGS

The Capital Estimates for 1976/77 originally made provision for starts to be made on the following projects:—

	Estimated Cost £
Wimborne Section Station	36,000
Police Headquarters — site works	57,000
Police Housing — central heating	24,000

Force Headquarters

The Secretary of State was unable to include the scheme for a new Force Headquarters at Canford Heath in the "starts" programme for 1976/77 and the indications were that the scheme would be deferred for some years in view of the need to reduce capital spending.

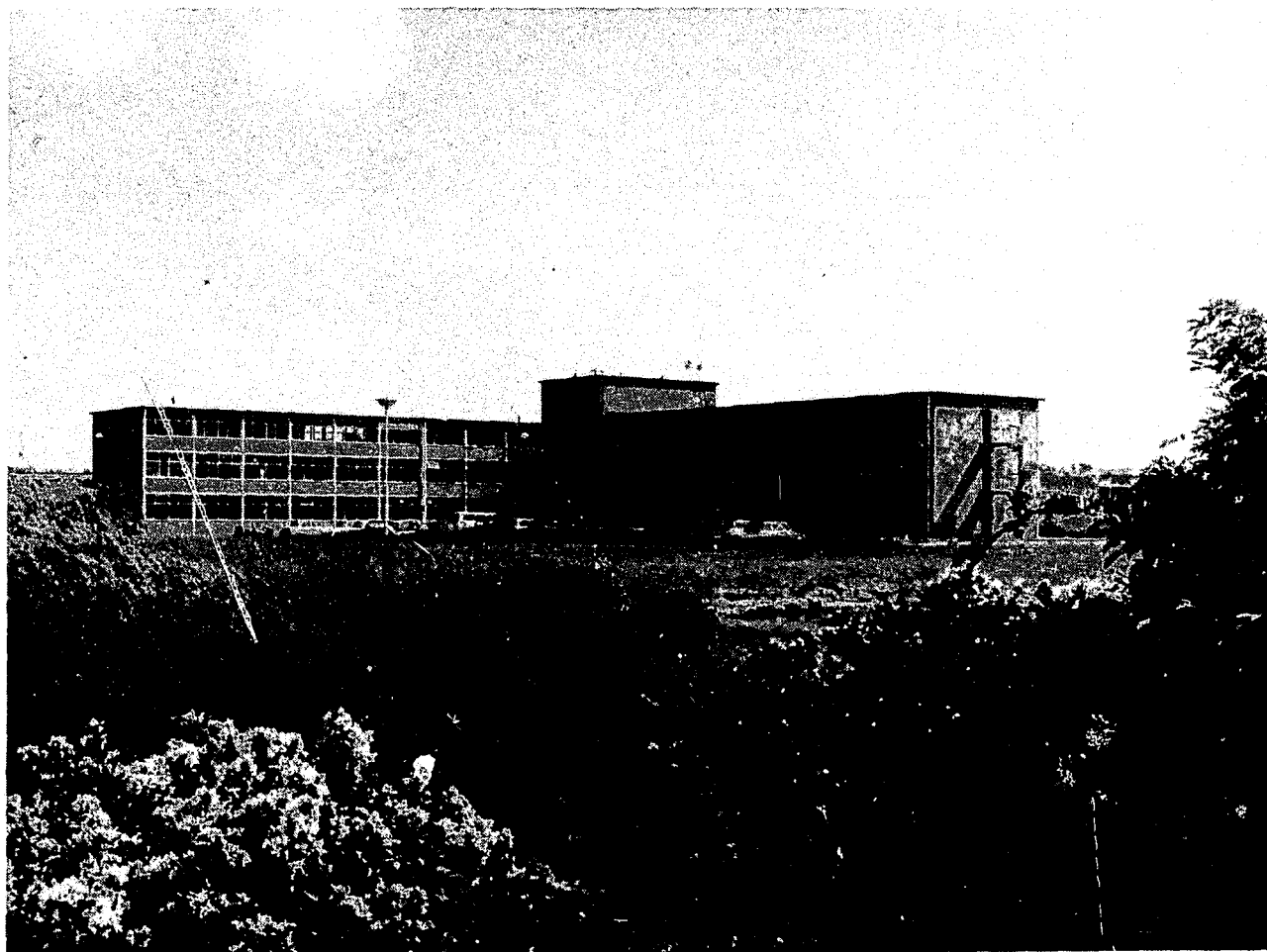
Following discussions with the Director of the Atomic Energy Establishment at Winfrith, a proposal to acquire the former Dragon Project building was submitted to the Secretary of State and in view of its economical attraction he agreed that the scheme could be pursued further. A report was, therefore, submitted to the Police Authority in June and, with the subsequent approval of the County Council and Secretary of State, the scheme to purchase and adapt the A10 building for use as a Force Headquarters is proceeding at an estimated cost of £320,000.

Negotiations are in hand also with the Atomic Energy Authority to use the sports field, gymnasium, tennis courts, lecture theatre, rifle range and canteen facilities and thanks are due to the Director and his staff for their co-operation and assistance in making the facilities available.

The new Headquarters should be ready for occupation in the autumn of 1977 and the move to Winfrith will enable the Western Division Headquarters, at present split between Dorchester and Weymouth, to be established at Dorchester.

It is hoped that a place can be found in the Capital Building Programme for the early 1980s for the Headquarters to be completed by the addition of a training, residential and amenity block.

New Force Headquarters – due for occupation in the Autumn of 1977.



Current Schemes

Wimborne

Following representations to the Home Office, approval was given by the Secretary of State on 28 April 1976 to the Wimborne Scheme and work started on 1 June 1976. The scheme is part of a joint project to erect a new court, probation offices and fire station and the police station is due to be completed in December 1977.

Bournemouth Central Police Station – Cell Improvements

This scheme, estimated to cost £75,000, is well advanced and should be completed in May 1977.

Poole – Herbert Avenue Houses

The development of this site for 10 police houses costing £115,000 should be completed by the middle of 1977.

POLICE HOUSING AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1976

Police Authority	EAST	WEST	TOTAL
Owned	165	221	386
Rented	3	1	4
Total	<u>168</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>390</u>
Provided by Officers	EAST	WEST	TOTAL
Owned	452	174	626
Rented	4	4	8
Total	<u>456</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>634</u>

OWNER/OCCUPIER SCHEME

During the year 100 members of the Force

were given approval to enter the Force Owner/ Occupier Scheme and of these 59 had moved into their own accommodation by the end of the year.

A total of 85 serving officers took up occupation of their own property during the year and a further 9 officers were living in their own premises when they joined the Force.

ORGANISATION AND PLANNING

During the year the Organisation and Planning Department was engaged in the following activities:—

Reviews – Completed

- Process Department Procedures
- Future Force Establishment Requirements
- Major Incident Procedures
- Fixed Penalty Ticket Office – Typing Arrangements
- Bail Procedures – Revision of statistics procedures as a result of the Bail Act and notification to offenders and courts of reasons for opposing bail.

Matters Affecting Operational Activities

- Commencement of preparation of forms procedures to complement the computer-based Management Information System.
- Commencement of production of display maps for Control Rooms and for police vehicles consistent with MIS requirements.
- Revision as necessary of forms, procedures and standing orders to take account of operational and administrative policy.

Other Activities

- Liaison with news media on matters of Force policy and the issue of formal press notices.
- Continued production of the Force Newspaper "Blueprint".
- CID Admin Office – Work measurement exercise re staffing level.

WOMEN POLICE

Following the Sex Discrimination Act, which came into effect on 29 December 1975, officers of the Policewomen's Department were dispersed during the early part of 1976.

The Constables were absorbed into the patrol strength of the stations where they were serving. Although they are now attached to particular Squads and perform patrol duties as do the men of their Squads, there is, and always will be, a certain amount of work which needs the particular attention of women officers. Much of this work occurs during day and evening shifts and therefore the women officers' hours are geared towards these tours of duty. Nevertheless, the women carry out their share of night work and provide a useful specialist presence to supplement the normal night coverage. They play an important part in the preventive and patrol function of the Service.

The Sergeants have been dispersed into various Departments and Sections, with two forming part of the Enquiry Office team at Bournemouth, two working as Staff Sergeants, one as a Tutorial Sergeant training probationary

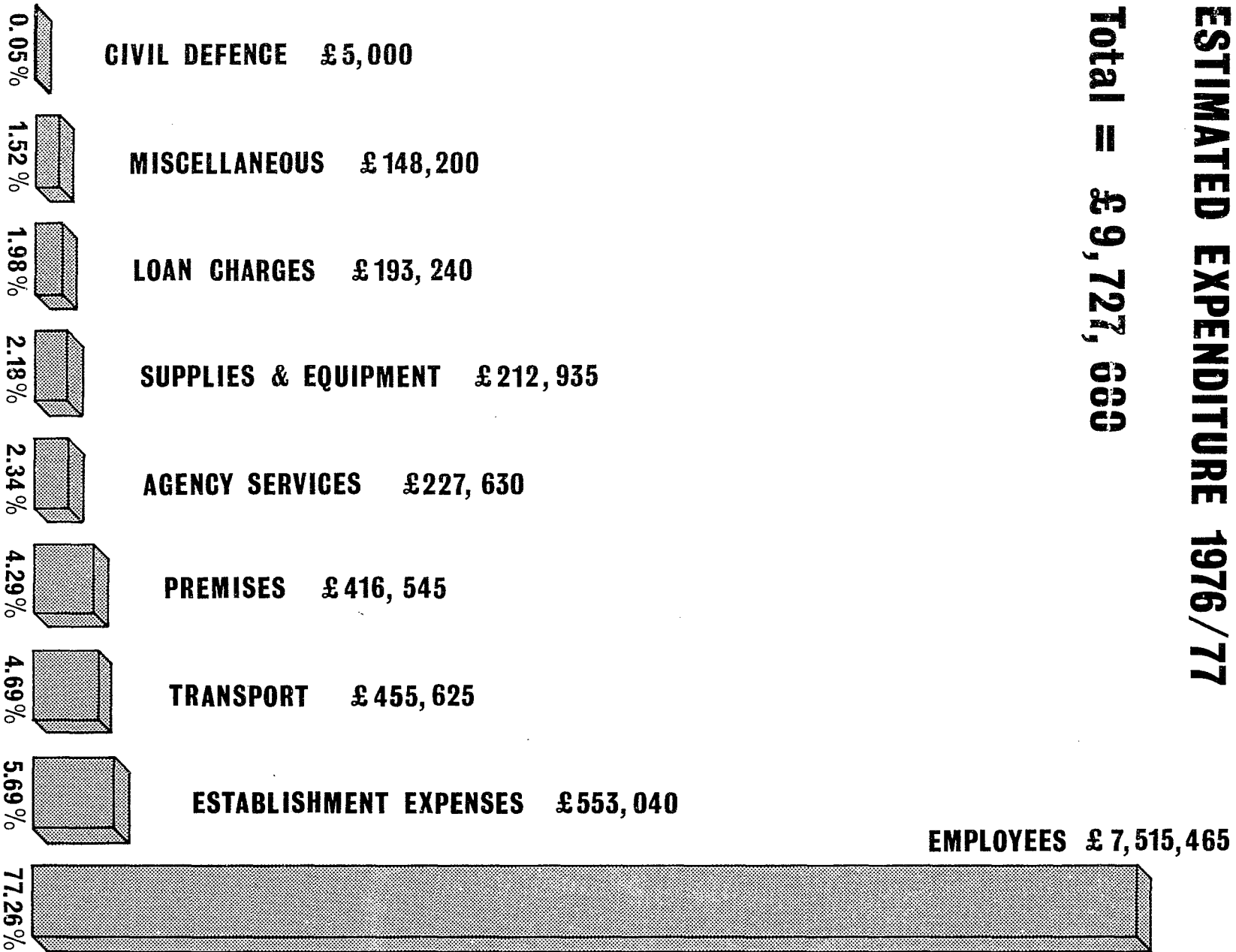
Constables of both sexes, another as a Training Sergeant organising and carrying out Force training and, perhaps the most noteworthy, one Woman Sergeant is working on the Regional Crime Squad.

As far as senior officers are concerned, the Inspectors are working as Prosecuting and Training Officers, the Chief Inspector has worked as a Deputy Sub Divisional Commander and as Controller in the Eastern Division, while the Superintendent assumed control of the Force Personnel Department.

The Children and Young Persons Unit, staffed by one W/Sergeant and two W/Constables, has continued to operate in its pre-integration form and during 1976 handled a total of 3,480 reports of children under the age of 17 years who came to the notice of the police. Of these 3,110 were referred to the Local Authority. The function of the Bureau is to draw to the attention of the Social Services Departments, all children in this police area whose behaviour, circumstances or treatment indicate that they may be at risk. In this way, juveniles needing assistance or support are identified at an early stage in the hope that future problems might be avoided.

BREAKDOWN OF REVISED GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE 1976/77

Total = £9,727,680



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WELFARE

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WELFARE

During the year, the Force Welfare Officer, Mr E Bown, found that members of the Regular Force, police pensioners and civilian staff continued to consult him on a variety of welfare problems.

A similar pattern to last year's emerged in that much of his time was spent with pensioners and widows. It is of interest to note that those who were registered with the Police Dependents Trust received awards totalling £1,975.

Regular consultations took place with officials of both branches of the National Association of Retired Police Officers in order

to maintain a regular exchange of information concerning retired officers.

One of the many rewarding cases of the Welfare Officer occurred when he was informed by the Metropolitan Police Welfare Officer that one of their pensioners, who was now living in the county, was a paraplegic and should be visited with a view to assistance being provided if possible. The pensioner concerned was ex Detective Chief Inspector Arthur Munsie, who served for 30 years in the Metropolitan Police before retiring in 1965. In spite of many periods in hospital since 1971, he has remained paralysed and unable to walk. Subsequent visits by the Welfare Officer revealed that

Ex. Detective Chief Inspector Arthur Munsie of the Metropolitan Police with Eric Bown, Force Welfare Officer



Mr Munsie's wife badly needed a rest from pushing her husband around in the wheelchair when they were away from home. Following representations by the Welfare Officer, a case was put to the Metropolitan Police Relief Board which made a grant of £400 towards a new electrically-operated invalid chair. This case illustrates the importance of the welfare function which benefits considerably not only police pensioners from this Force, but also those from other Forces who now reside in the county.

DORSET POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND

The following deaths were recorded during 1976:—

- 1 serving member
- 9 pensioner members
- 2 widows
- 4 pensioners' wives

In each case the appropriate benefit was paid to the next of kin. The number of widows receiving benefit at the end of the year totalled 102. The sharp fall in the value of sterling had only a minimal effect upon the investment of the Fund, mainly due to the cautious approach taken towards investment in the past. The policy of retaining at least 50% of the portfolio in fixed interest securities so as to provide a high degree of security, together with a high interest return, has continued with the result that the value of investments over the previous year increased by £6,810.

GURNEY FUND

Chief Inspector J Webley and Sergeant P Rook, Chairman and Secretary of the Joint Branch Board, continued throughout the year as Trustees of the Fund, which provides regular grants to children of police widows. At 31 December 1976 there were six children in benefit with the Fund and one with the Benevolent Fund. All seven children received a small monetary gift at Christmas.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS DORSET AND BOURNEMOUTH BRANCHES

Both Branches have held periodic meetings which were well attended throughout the year. Mrs Una Blues, prominent member of the Dorset Branch, attended a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace as one of two representatives of the National Executive Committee, on which she has served for 13 years.

POLICE CONVALESCENT HOME — HOVE

Members of the Force have continued to contribute to the Convalescent Home; the collection and payment of the contributions being the responsibility of the Joint Branch Board. One of the main current financial problems at the Home is that a replacement lift is required at considerable cost and all Forces are being asked to provide as much financial support as possible. One female and two male members of the Regular Force spent periods of recuperative rest at the Home during the year.

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TRAFFIC

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VEHICLES

The authorised establishment of vehicles was varied by the addition of three 1300 cc saloons and reduction of two rural beat motor cycles.

Once again vehicle manufacturers' price increases continued to be imposed at intervals throughout the year and, although by placing orders early in the financial year it was possible to reduce the impact of these increases, nevertheless because actual prices paid were those ruling at the date of delivery, a number of them could not be avoided.

The vehicle costing scheme which was introduced towards the end of last year has proved to be a valuable management aid and the detailed information concerning repairs, maintenance and running costs enables high-cost vehicles to be identified quickly and, with this information available, it is possible for an investigation to be completed in a short space of time.

The data also enables an accurate assessment to be made of the comparative costs of running different types of vehicles engaged on the various police duties and this information, together with the comments of drivers, facilitates decision-making with regard to the most suitable and economic vehicles for each particular function.

WARRANTY ON NEW VEHICLES

It is interesting to note that the decision

of motor manufacturers to operate a Warranty Scheme which provides for the replacement of defective parts during the first 12 months of a vehicle's life, irrespective of mileage, undoubtedly benefits the Service by helping to reduce maintenance costs during this period.

ACCOMMODATION

Early in the year, it became apparent that the increasing number of vehicles being held for various reasons at Police Stations throughout the Force area could no longer be accommodated adequately. The majority of these vehicles were held in police custody pending further enquiries or by Order of a Court and, with the co-operation of the County Chief Executive, suitable temporary storage was found at Piddlehinton Camp, where a total of 48 cars, lorries and small boats are stored pending disposal.

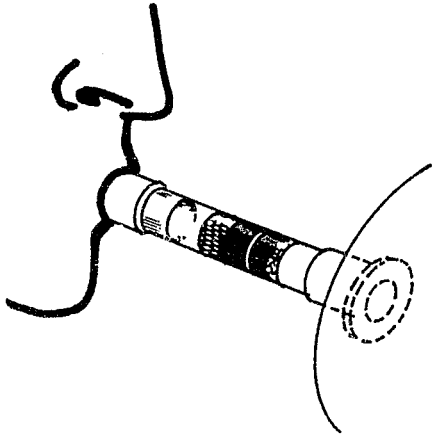
OFFENCES

A total of 27,395 persons were reported for traffic offences in 1976, an increase of 4,223 over the previous year. Of this number, 3,064 were dealt with by means of written warnings, leaving a total of 24,331 to be dealt with before the courts.

There was a significant fall in the number of prosecutions for causing death by dangerous driving, from 11 in the previous year to 4 in 1976. There was, however, an increase in the number of cases of reckless or dangerous driving, from 146 to 166.

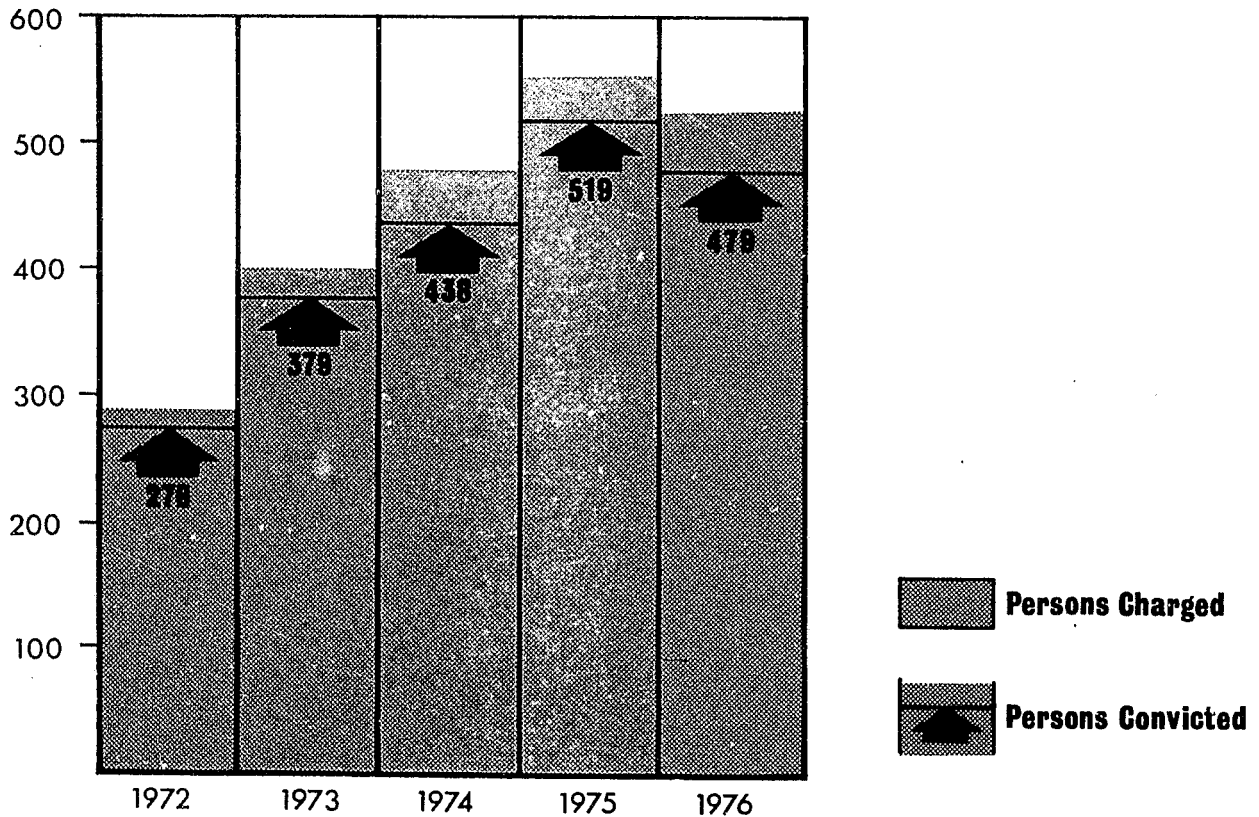
It is encouraging to note that the previous annual increase in the number of "drinking and driving" offences was not repeated in 1976. Of the 527 motorists charged, 479 were convicted, which represents a decrease of 9.2%. Although it is unwise to draw conclusions from one year alone, significant factors in the fall may be the publicity campaigns on the obvious dangers of driving after drinking and the harsher penalties being imposed by the courts on offenders.

The chart overleaf illustrates the trend over the past five years.



Driving, attempting to drive or being in charge of a motor vehicle whilst having blood/alcohol or urine/alcohol concentration in excess of prescribed limits.

**In 1976 there were 527 persons charged..
... 479 were convicted.**





Cars awaiting disposal by order of the Courts being stored at Piddlehinton Camp.

ENFORCEMENT OF SPEED LIMITS

The 50 mph speed limit on single carriageways and the 60 mph limit on dual carriageways remained unchanged during the year. The widespread use of radar meters and VASCAR units was again necessary due to the irresponsibility of some motorists. This resulted in a total of 4,473 being reported, which represents an

increase of 11.8% over the previous year.

The number of VASCAR units fitted to patrol cars was again increased and the training of officers in the use of this equipment has continued and will be completed during the early part of 1977.

DETECTION OF MECHANICAL DEFECTS

The mechanical examination of motor vehicles is an important function of traffic policing and during the year the Force Vehicle Examiners undertook a total of 1,036 examinations for a variety of reasons. These included investigations in respect of serious road traffic accidents, suspected stolen vehicles, re-registered vehicles and those alleged to be in an unroad-worthy condition.

Additionally, major vehicle checks have been undertaken at pre-selected locations within the Force area, which resulted in 353 vehicles being examined and 207 offences detected.

Constables R Buckingham and M Sturgess conducting a vehicle examination.



The condition of many vehicles was such that, in the best interests of road safety, the drivers were advised that they should not be used until the defect had been remedied. A major cause for concern is that many drivers were not aware of the defects in their vehicles and there is little doubt that the problem will increase with the rising costs of vehicle repairs and servicing.

Some evidence of the lack of knowledge on the part of drivers was provided in November when a large garage in Bournemouth conducted free safety and economy checks for motorists. Three hundred and forty-six tests were carried out and it was found that 50% of the vehicles required some form of attention to brakes and 30% had defective tyres. During the two weeks that the checks were being made, the Police Road Safety Exhibition was on display and advice was given on various aspects of safety and vehicle security.

MOVEMENT OF ABNORMAL LOADS

There was an appreciable increase in the number of abnormal loads and a total of 5,163 was notified to the police. Escorts were required in 622 cases.



The largest load to pass through Dorset in 1976

This photograph of a BAC 1-11 fuselage travelling from the Middle East by sea to Poole and by road to Hurn Airport for major repairs clearly demonstrates the difficulties which such operations create



VEHICLE EXCISE ENFORCEMENT

A total of 6,874 persons were reported in connection with vehicle excise licence offences. Payments of mitigated penalties, together with Court Orders in connection with excise duty outstanding, resulted in a total of £42,433 being collected.

FIXED PENALTY TICKETS

Twenty-six thousand, four hundred and forty-six fixed penalty tickets were issued during the year, which represents a decrease of six thousand, four hundred and fifty-five. This considerable reduction is, no doubt, attributable to the deterrent effect of the increase in the penalty from £2 to £6 in September 1975.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

The chart on page 37 indicates the number of injury accidents during the five year period ending 31 December 1976. It will be seen that the number of fatal accidents in 1976 remained constant at 63, whilst the number of accidents involving serious injury increased from 871 in 1975 to 893. The number of accidents in which drivers were slightly injured also increased by 158, to a total of 1,878.

There was a total of 557 pedestrian casualties, this being 25 less than 1975. Of these, 22 were killed, 188 were seriously injured and 347 suffered minor injuries.

ROAD SAFETY

The policy of giving priority to the education and training of the young road user has continued with the emphasis being placed on the instruction of smaller groups of children, particularly in secondary schools. Although the number of talks given has remained constant, there has been a decrease in the figures as a result of this policy.

The number of young people receiving talks from Road Safety Officers was as follows:—

	1975	1976	
Schools	Primary	29,052	21,563
	Secondary	2,500	2,825
Other children's organisations (ie Tufty Club)	3,770	2,710	

ROAD SAFETY QUIZ

A total of 26 schools within the County took part in the annual Secondary Schools' Road Safety Quiz. Approximately 1,500 pupils attended the eliminating round competition, the winners for the third consecutive year being Shaftesbury Grammar School.

The South West Top County Team Contest for adults living in the South West of England again was supported by the Force, whose two Road Safety Officers assisted the County Council's Road Safety Officer in running the competition in Dorset. The County Final was won by the Blandford Post Office Engineers once more, who contested the Regional Final at Launceston, where they emerged as overall winners. This was a most creditable and consistent performance to add to their success as runners-up in last year's competition.

CYCLING PROFICIENCY SCHEME

The National Cycling Proficiency Training Scheme for children above the age of nine years continued to go from strength to strength and during the year 4,003 children received training. Much of the credit for the success of the Scheme is due to the instructors, drawn from both the Regular and Special Constabularies, as well as to teachers and Police Cadets who give so much of their free time to this worthwhile cause.

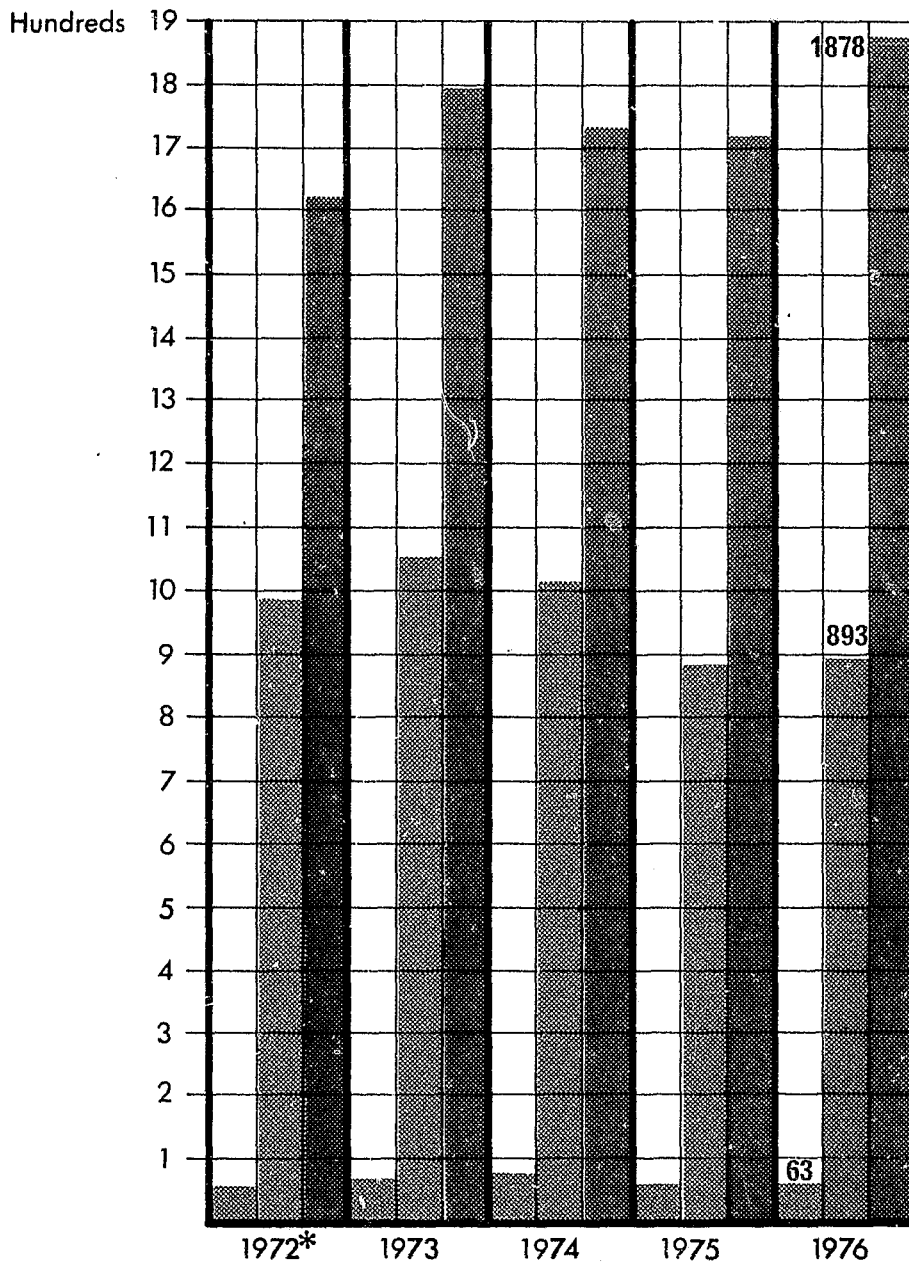
EXHIBITIONS




The Force Static Road Safety Exhibition and the Exhibition Caravan were used extensively for various events throughout the year and it is estimated that 27,000 people attended the Road Safety Displays.

The Keystone Eyesight Test Meter was used to full advantage at these Exhibitions and the screening undertaken resulted in 209 persons, out of a total of 1,730 tested, being referred to their opticians for further examination.

The Brake Reaction Test Meter generated a great deal of interest at the Exhibitions and was used by some 7,500 people.

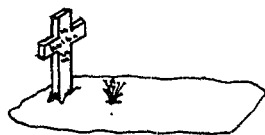
ROAD TRAFFIC INJURY ACCIDENTS 1972 - 1976



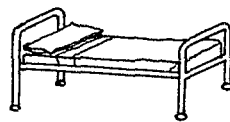
 FATAL
 SERIOUS
 SLIGHT

* Figures exclude Christchurch Area

Number of Persons involved in above 1976 accidents :-



**66
KILLED**



**1082
SERIOUSLY
INJURED**



**2492
SLIGHTLY
INJURED**



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CRIME

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CRIME SYNOPSIS

During 1976 reported indictable crimes numbered 24,445 and of these 1045 proved to be without foundation, leaving a true crime figure of 23,400. It is pleasing to note that this figure represents an increase of only 0.71% over 1975. The number of crimes detected was virtually unchanged at 10,690 compared with 10,645 last year.

Violence against the person showed an increase of 4.6% from 587 to 614. Though the trend has continued upward, this was an improvement over the previous year when the percentage increase was 29.2. The detection rate for this type of offence rose by 7.3% to 74.59%. Burglaries decreased by 3.04% to 4468, whilst the detection rate showed a reduction of 2.03%.

Sexual offences again decreased significantly, this time by 24.28% to 209, compared with 276 the previous year. The detection rate rose by 15.51% to 171.

The crime classification "Other Malicious Damages", which includes criminal damage over £20, rose by 11.56% to 685. It is very significant that since 1974 there has been a 58.6% increase in this area and it must be recognised that this is a matter of some concern, especially as the figure does not include the vast amount of vandalism committed but in which the damage involved is assessed at less than £20. However, detailed information on this type of offence will be available in the future as separate records are being maintained and quarterly returns submitted to the Home Office.

Thefts from vehicles continued to rise, the figure being 2924, which represents an increase of 9.9%, but the most significant increase in theft was that of stealing and unauthorised taking of motor vehicles, which rose by 22.7% to 1981.

Four murders were recorded in the Force area and all of these, together with one outstanding from last year, were detected.

The average crime case load for 1976 of all operational Detective Sergeants and Detective Constables (excluding Crime Intelligence Officers) was, to the nearest whole number:—

Force	237
Eastern Division	255
Western Division	186

The case load recommended by the Home Office is 150.

CASES OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Murder at Forde Abbey

During June the bodies of an elderly man and his wife were discovered in a house on the Forde Abbey Estate. The husband was upstairs and had received severe head wounds apparently inflicted with an axe found beside the bed. His wife was lying on the kitchen floor without any apparent physical injury. A reconstruction of the incident showed that the wife had struck the husband several times over the head with the axe whilst he was asleep and then had taken a fatal overdose of tablets.

Suicide — Durdle Door

In March, a young man and his girlfriend parked their car in the car park at Durdle Door. They walked down to the Door itself and as they were returning a vehicle was driven into the car park where it crashed into the couple's car. The occupant came over to them, drew a knife and threatened to kill them. The driver of the second car then indecently assaulted the girl. Shortly after that the couple escaped and raised the alarm. In the meantime, the offender had driven his car over the top of the cliff, which is some 250 feet in height, and crashed into the sea below. The car was eventually hauled to the top of the cliff by an Army Recovery Vehicle, when it was found that the occupant had suffered fatal injuries. The subsequent Inquest recorded that he had taken his own life whilst the balance of his mind was temporarily disturbed.

Attempted Suicide — Kimmeridge

Later in the year, HM Coastguard reported that a car had been driven over the cliff at Kimmeridge. Police were sent immediately to the scene where it was found that a Triumph 2000 car had been driven over the steepest part of the cliff but had lodged halfway down. Had the vehicle travelled only another 15 feet, it would have dropped to the rocks below.

A man taken from the vehicle was found with his head completely shaven and all identification marks removed from his clothing and also from the vehicle. He was taken to Poole General Hospital suffering from a fractured skull and severe lacerations, but he refused to identify himself.

Enquiries were made on a national basis to establish his identity and a thorough inspection of the vehicle eventually disclosed a small plate which indicated that it had been supplied by a firm in Wolverhampton. Enquiries in that area eventually disclosed the identity of the man, who then co-operated with police and hospital

staff and admitted that he had attempted to commit suicide. He was handed into the care of the Dorset Social Services Department and has made a complete recovery.

Murder — Boscombe

The body of a woman was found in a cupboard of a house at Boscombe which was owned by her and used as flatlets. The deceased had been beaten about the head, her hands were tied and there was a gag in her mouth. The evidence subsequently obtained suggested that she had last been seen alive on Easter Monday and that her death had been caused whilst a robbery was taking place. Extensive enquiries were undertaken which finally established that a man and woman, together with their two children, had resided in the flat where the body had been found up to Easter. They had registered in a false name and a London address, but enquiries established that they were not known there.

On 26 April 1976 a man and his wife,



together with their two children, were interviewed at Bristol in connection with an offence of obtaining pecuniary advantage. They fitted the description of the offenders sought for interview in connection with the offence at Boscombe and were returned to Bournemouth, where they both admitted the crime. The man and woman have been committed to the Crown Court.

Murder — Poole

One evening in May, as a result of a 999 call to ambulance control, police attended a house at Poole where they found the body of a young man who was admitted to Poole General Hospital. The injured man's brother-in-law was at the scene and admitted that there had been a fight, whereupon he was arrested on suspicion of causing grievous bodily harm. Later in the evening the injured man died at Poole General Hospital and his brother-in-law was subsequently charged with murder.

At Winchester Crown Court he entered a plea of manslaughter, which was accepted by the Court, and he was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment suspended for two years.

Murder — Poole

In June a man called at his parents' address to ensure that they were well. On the back door, which was locked, he found a note which said "Call the police". It was subsequently discovered that the man had strangled his wife and had attempted also to take his own life, but in this had failed. There had been no previous conflict between the man and his wife during their many years of marriage, but since his retirement he had become depressed and was receiving medical attention.

He appeared at Winchester Crown Court where he pleaded guilty to manslaughter and was dealt with under the provisions of the Mental Health Act 1959.

Burglary and Robbery — Canford Cliffs, Poole

On Sunday, 23 May 1976, the Assistant

Manager of a large hotel at Canford Cliffs locked the bars but did not check all windows thoroughly. He then checked all apartments and at 1.30 am locked the front door and retired to bed, taking the safe keys to his bedroom. Later in the morning, he was attacked by two men in his bedroom, where he was blindfolded, gagged and bound. He managed to free himself shortly after the two persons had left and found that the safe keys were missing and over £1000 in cash and property had been stolen.

Police enquiries subsequently revealed that a night porter had recently left his employment at the hotel. The man was questioned by police and arrested for the offence, whereupon he implicated another man and disclosed where he had hidden the stolen property.

Both men appeared at Dorchester Crown Court where one was sentenced to four years' imprisonment and the other to 18 months.

RABIES (CONTROL) ORDER

Poole

On 18 June 1976, a prosecution was brought by the Poole Borough Council against a Frenchman who was charged with landing a dog with intent unlawfully to evade the Rabies Order 1974. He pleaded guilty and was fined £300 or 90 days' imprisonment and was ordered by the Court to be kept in custody until the fine was paid.

Portland

On 7 November 1976, a black poodle was seen being exercised by a member of a Federal German Naval Ship along a berthing quay at the Naval Base, Portland. The dog was immediately seized by Ministry of Defence Police and the Chief Petty Officer of the ship was reported for landing a prohibited dog in Great Britain. In addition, the Captain of the ship was reported for permitting a prohibited dog to be landed, both offences being contrary to the provisions of the Rabies Act 1974. Following a court appearance, the Captain and Chief Petty Officer were each fined a total of £150.

ANALYSIS OF CRIME

C = True Crime

D = Detection

VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	1975		1976	
	C	D	C	D
Murder	2	1	4	5
Attempts to Murder	3	1	-	2
Threats or Conspiracy to Murder	1	-	-	-
Manslaughter	-	-	1	1
Infanticide	-	-	-	-
Death by Dangerous Driving	11	9	4	6
Woundings and Assaults	570	384	604	444
Procuring Abortion	-	-	-	-
Concealment of Birth	-	-	1	-
Child Stealing	-	-	-	-
	587	395	614	458
Robbery	49	26	53	23

SEXUAL OFFENCES	1975		1976	
	C	D	C	D
Buggery	8	6	15	14
Attempts to Commit Buggery Etc.	38	22	23	28
Indecency Between Males	9	8	10	8
Rape	6	5	9	5
Indecent Assault on Females	139	79	92	53
Unlawful Sexual Intercourse – Girls Under 13 Years	12	11	3	2
Unlawful Sexual Intercourse – Girls Between 13-16 Years	54	45	54	57
Incest	5	5	-	-
Procuration	2	-	-	2
Abduction	2	1	2	2
Bigamy	1	1	1	-
	276	183	209	171

BURGLARY	1975		1976	
	C	D	C	D
Burglary in a Dwelling	1827	566	1717	437
Burglary Other Than in a Dwelling	2748	860	2694	838
Going Equipped for Stealing Etc.	27	29	42	41
Aggravated Burglary Other Than in a Dwelling	1	1	11	4
Aggravated Burglary in a Dwelling	5	2	4	3
	4608	1458	4468	1323

FRAUDS	1975		1976	
	C	D	C	D
Frauds by Company Directors	1	1	1	1
False Accounting	79	51	67	86
Other Frauds	1577	1463	1586	1393
	1657	1515	1654	1480

THEFT	1975		1976	
	C	D	C	D
Stealing from the Person of Another	118	30	108	32
Stealing Mail Bags Etc.	46	15	28	16
Other Stealings and Unauthorised Takings	4573	1270	4351	1366
Stealing From a Dwelling	703	251	799	238
Stealing By an Employee	261	219	258	241
Stealing Pedal Cycles	803	130	1048	119
Stealing From Vehicles	2661	656	2924	671
Stealing From Shops and Stalls	2649	2219	2299	1987
Stealing From Machines and Meters	515	200	434	162
Stealing and Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicles	1615	553	1981	725
	13944	5543	14230	5557
Handling Stolen Goods	546	541	488	451

OTHER OFFENCES	1975		1976	
	C	D	C	D
Blackmail	5	3	10	8
Arson	106	40	82	21
Other Malicious Damages	614	200	685	312
Forgery and Uttering and Uttering Counterfeit Coins	747	666	815	806
Causing Affray	4	4	1	1
Perjury	9	7	1	2
Libel	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	81	64	90	77
Suicide (Aid and Abet)	-	-	-	-
	1566	984	1684	1227

SUMMARY OF CRIME

CLASSIFICATION	1975		1976	
	C	D	C	D
Violence Against Persons	587	395	614	458
Robbery	49	26	53	23
Sexual Offences	276	183	209	171
Burglary	4608	1458	4468	1323
Theft	13944	5543	14230	5557
Handling Stolen Goods	546	541	488	451
Frauds	1657	1515	1654	1480
Other Offences	1566	984	1684	1227
	23233	10645	23400	10690

INDICTABLE CRIME

DISPOSAL AT LOWER COURTS	1975	1976
Imprisonment	147	193
Suspended Sentence of Imprisonment	147	164
Detention Centre	56	77
Attendance Centre	64	68
Fine	1553	1606
Probation	284	239
Conditional Discharge	303	310
Recognisances	3	5
Absolute Discharge	19	16
Crown Court for Sentence	80	61
Hospital Order	12	2
Crown Court for Borstal	16	31
Supervision Order	101	109
Returned to Borstal	5	3
Adjourned Sine Die	3	4
Died Before Adjudication	1	1
Withdrawn or Dismissed	258	323
Committed for Trial	630	600
One Day's Imprisonment	2	-
Care Order	48	47
Deferred Sentence	28	32
Committed Suicide	-	1
Handed Over to Service Escort	-	2
Community Service	45	89
Discharged Without Penalty	2	-
	3807	3983

METHOD OF DISPOSAL (NON-INDICTABLE, NON-TRAFFIC)

(A) By Magistrates/Juvenile Courts	1975	1976
Imprisonment	16	15
Suspended Sentence of Imprisonment	17	18
Detention Centre	2	5
Community Service	4	8
Attendance Centre	2	2
Fine	2159	2043
Returned to Borstal	2	-
Probation	25	26
Conditional Discharge	66	61
Recognisances	30	2
Absolute Discharge	34	33
Crown Court for Restriction Order	1	-
Crown Court for Sentence	4	-
One Day's Imprisonment	-	3
Handed Over to Service Escort	1	1
Adjourned Sine Die	37	32
Withdrawn or Dismissed	192	175
Committed for Trial	24	18
Supervision Order	2	5
Care Order	2	-
Deferred Sentence	2	2
Crown Court for Borstal	-	1
Police Cells	2	-
	2624	2450
(B) Other Than By Process		
Cautioned	391	423
Dealt With By Service Authorities	-	-
	391	423

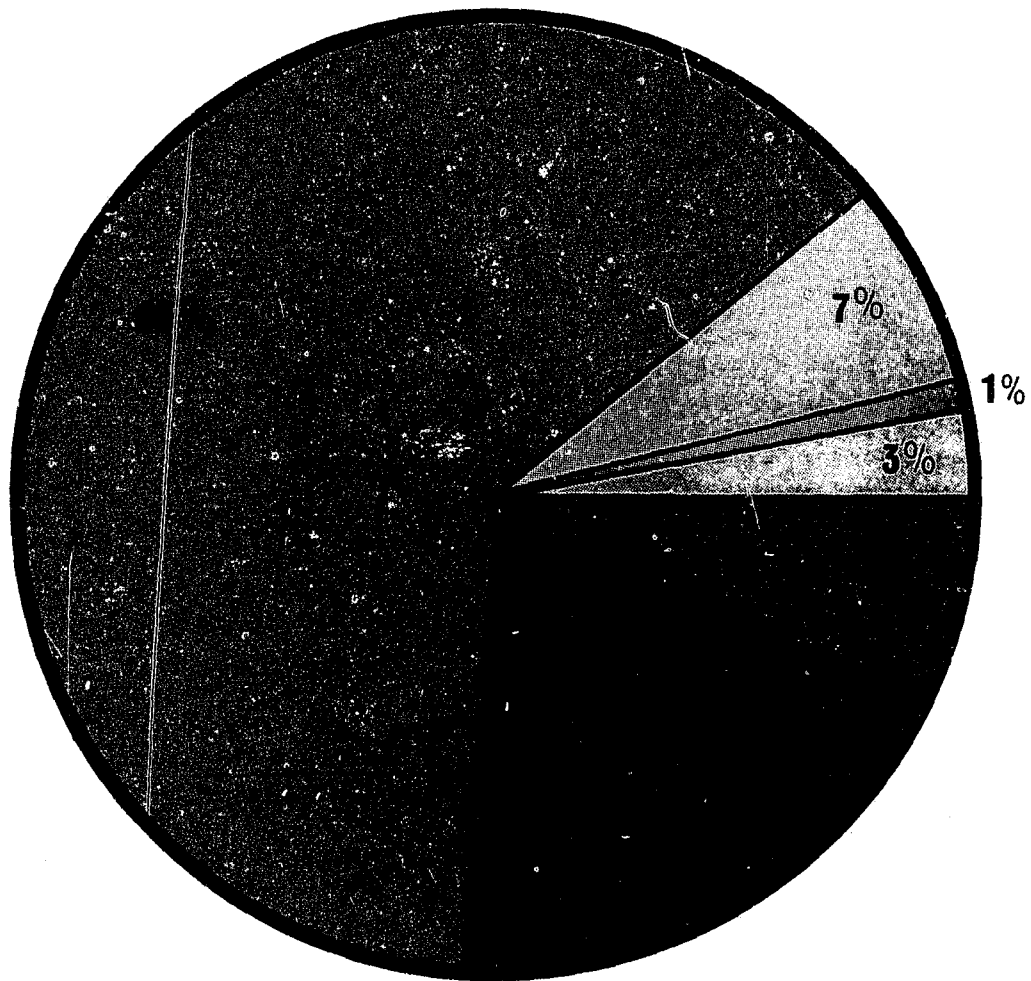
SUMMARY OF DISPOSAL OF INDICTABLE CRIME	1975	1976
Persons Arrested	2841	2962
Persons Summoned	966	1021
Persons Cautioned	1412	1352
Dealt with by Service Authorities	6	3







INDICTABLE CRIME BY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS UNDER 17 YEARS

JUVENILES	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
Under 14 years	495	495	192	136	687	631
14-16 Years	809	805	222	185	1031	990
Total	1304	1300	414	321	1718	1621

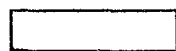
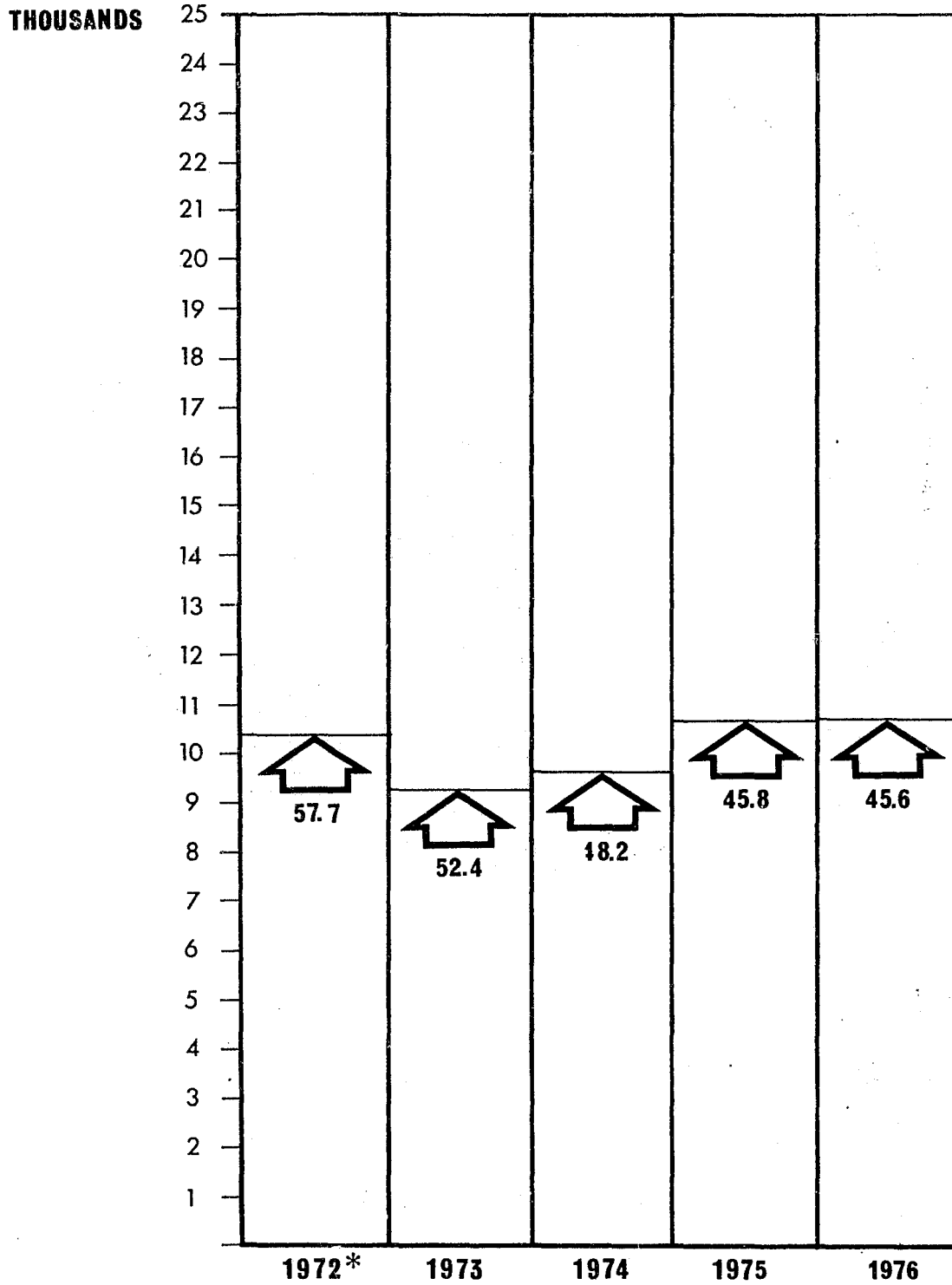
MANNER IN WHICH JUVENILES WERE DEALT WITH	1975	1976
Cautioned by Police Officer	1097	983
Detention Centre	28	35
Attendance Centre	64	68
Fine	193	199
Deferred Sentence	5	3
Probation	10	-
Conditional Discharge	101	112
Recognisances	-	-
Absolute Discharge	5	-
Crown Court for Borstal	13	14
Crown Court for Sentence	3	-
Hospital Order	-	-
Supervision Order	101	109
Care Order	48	47
Adjourned Sine Die	-	1
Returned to Borstal	1	1
Withdrawn or Dismissed	44	40
Committed for Trial	5	9
	1718	1621

TOTAL TRUE CRIME 1976



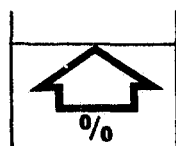
-  **THEFTS & UNAUTHORISED TAKINGS (including Handling Offences)**
-  **BURGLARIES**
-  **FRAUDS**
-  **VIOLENCE OFFENCES (including Robbery)**
-  **SEXUAL OFFENCES**
-  **OTHER OFFENCES**

TOTAL TRUE CRIMES DETECTIONS

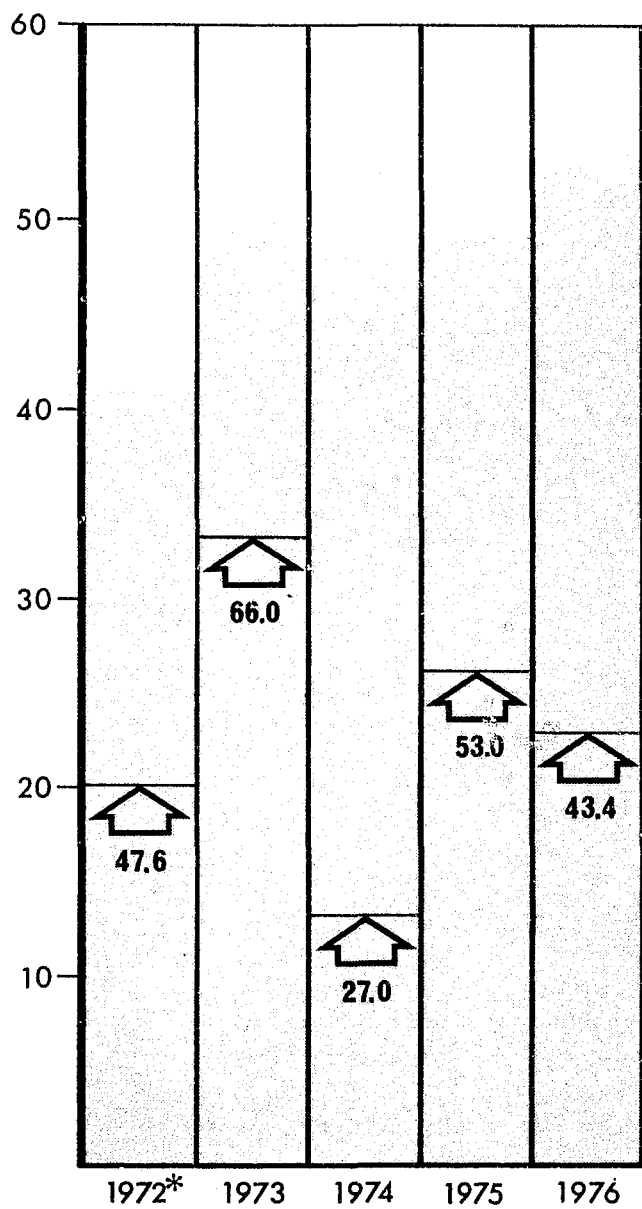


TRUE CRIMES

* FIGURES EXCLUDE
CHRISTCHURCH AREA



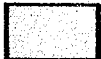
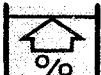
DETECTIONS



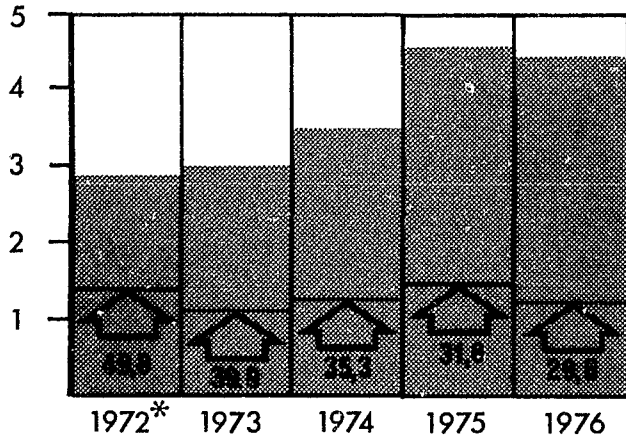
ROBBERY

ROBBERIES IN 1976 - 53

* EXCLUDES CHRISTCHURCH AREA

-  TRUE CRIMES
-  DETECTIONS

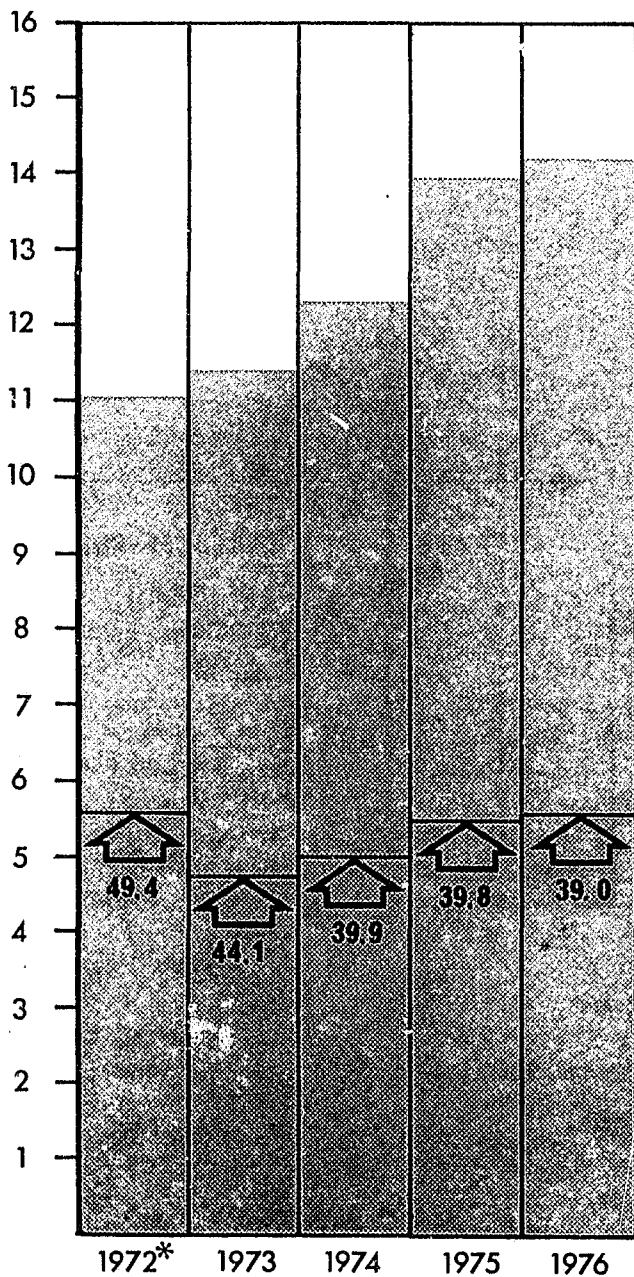
THOUSANDS



BURGLARIES

BURGLARIES IN 1976 - 4,468

THOUSANDS



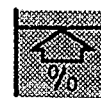
THEFTS

THEFTS IN 1976 - 14,230

* Figures exclude Christchurch Area

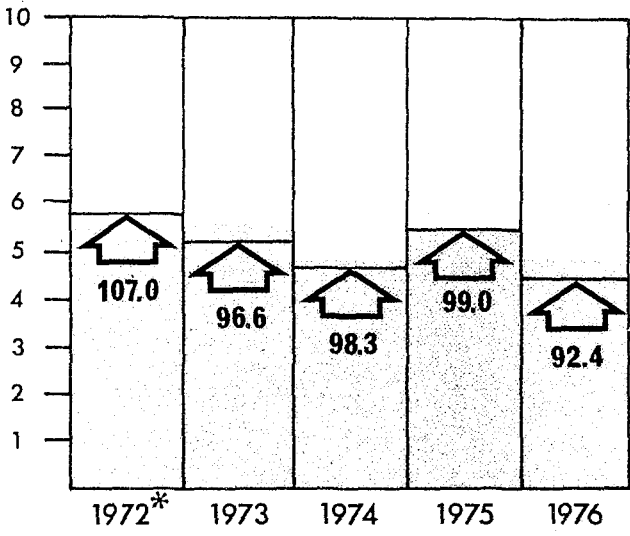


True Crimes



Detections

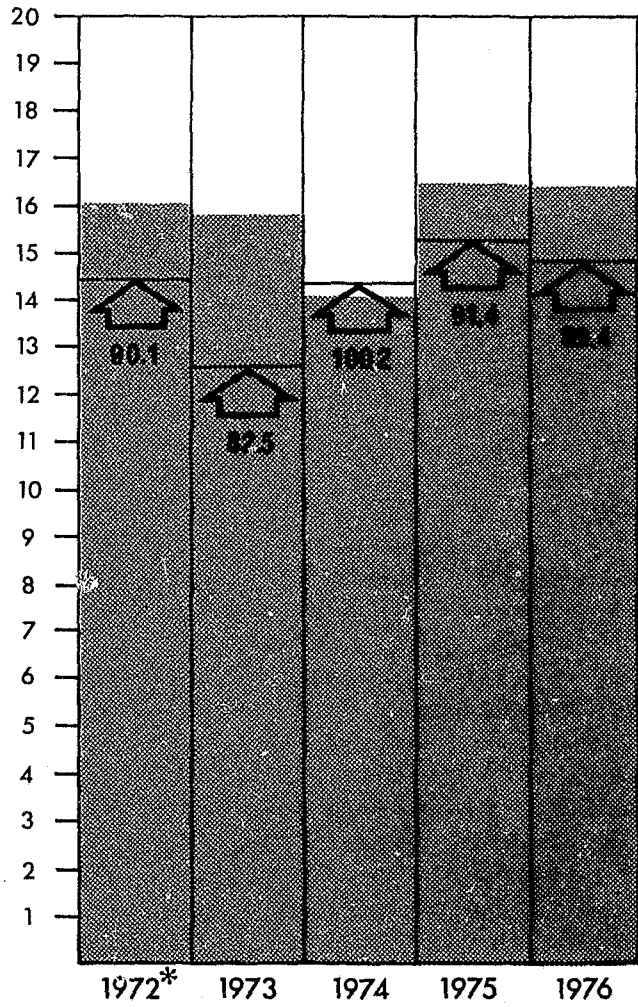
HUNDREDS



HANDLING

HANDLING OFFENCES IN 1976 - 488


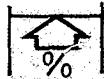
HUNDREDS



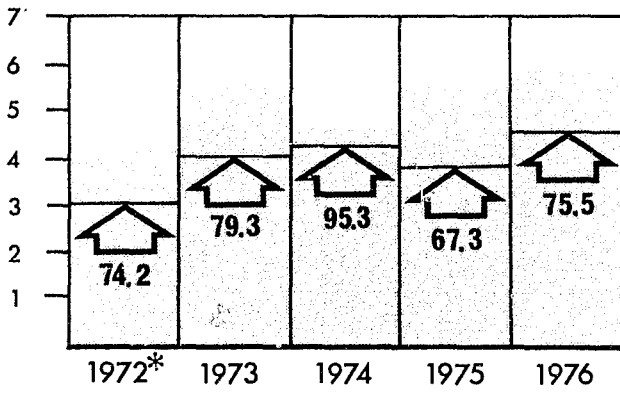
FRAUDS

FRAUDS IN 1976 - 1654

* Excludes Christchurch Area

-  True Crimes
-  Detections

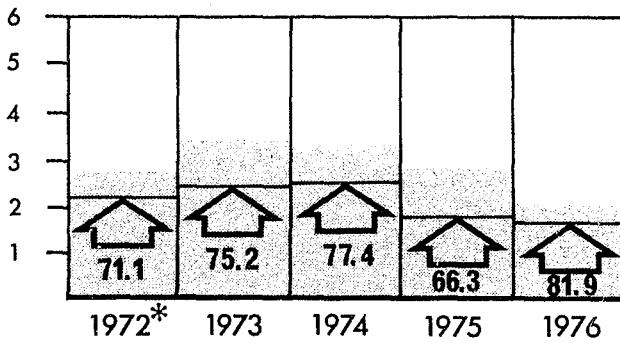
HUNDREDS



VIOLENCE

VIOLENCE OFFENCES IN 1976 - 614

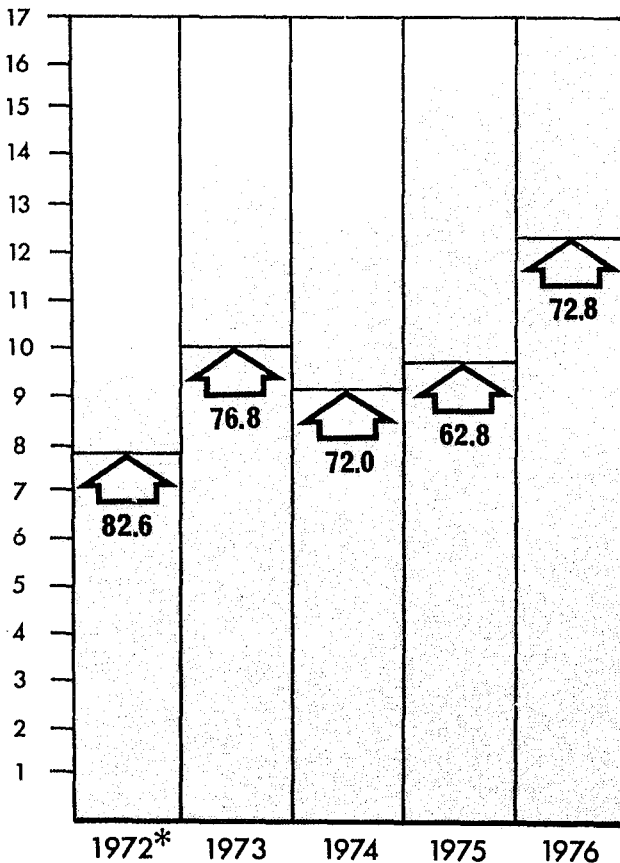
HUNDREDS



SEXUAL

SEXUAL OFFENCES IN 1976 - 209

HUNDREDS



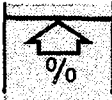
OTHER

(e.g. ARSON, BLACKMAIL, etc.)

OTHER OFFENCES IN 1976 - 1684

*Excludes Christchurch Area

 True Crimes

 Detections

1976	Intra-venous Use	Oral	Smoking (Cannabis)	Thefts, Handling Drugs or Prescriptions	Permitting Premises to be used	Illegally Supplying Drugs	Attempts to or Obtaining Drugs Illegally	Breaking into Premises to obtain Drugs	Cultivating Cannabis Plants	Obstructing Police
Imprisonment	2	3	8	1	-	2	17	-	-	-
Suspended Sentence	3	1	5	-	-	2	-	-	1	-
Deferred Sentence	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Probation	1	2	2	2	-	-	6	-	1	-
Community Service	2	4	7	-	-	4	1	-	-	-
Conditional Discharge	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supervision Order	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Fined	2	22	84	-	2	-	-	-	7	2
Dismissed	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Cautioned	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
No Action	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Dealt with by Prison Authorities	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjourned or to be dealt with	-	6	17	3	-	2	8	4	1	-
TOTALS	10	40	144	6	2	11	33	5	14	2

DISPOSAL OF DRUG OFFENCES

DRUGS

There was again a decrease in the number of persons detected for offences in connection with the abuse of controlled drugs.

One of the reasons for the decrease in offences is again directly related to the corresponding fall in the number of retail pharmacies broken into, as well as the deterrent effect of the heavier sentences being imposed by the courts on drug offenders.

An interesting case occurred during the year which illustrates the value of drugs which are smuggled illegally into the country. In March an amount of cocaine, valued at £45,000, was found by a member of the public secreted in the false bottom of an attache case he had bought from a secondhand store in the Bournemouth area. In spite of wide local and national press and television coverage, no trace could be found of the person responsible for its presence, other than that it had originally been found at Heathrow Airport in August 1975 where it had been deposited as found property. The case had been purchased as part of a consignment of property by the owner of the local shop. After all possible enquiries, the cocaine was destroyed.

During the year, one hundred and sixty-seven persons were detected for drug offences, compared with one hundred and seventy-six in 1975.

Of the offenders, 131 were male, 39 being under the age of 21; 43 between 21 and 24 years; 38 between 25 and 30 years and 11 were over 30 years.

Of the 36 females detected, 12 were under the age of 21; 12 were between 21 and 24 years; 6 were between 25 and 30 years and 6 were over 30 years.

SCENES OF CRIME

The Force Scenes of Crime Officers attended a total of 8209 incidents in 1976, which was 906 fewer than in the previous year. Photographs were taken on 2162 occasions, compared with 1983 in 1975, and these ranged

from fatal and serious road traffic accidents to suspicious deaths.

There was a decrease of 87 in the number of persons identified by finger impressions over the previous year, the total being 195. However, there was also a decrease of 172 in the number of crimes submitted for identification purposes. This pattern is similar in the three adjoining Forces who all have had decreases in both the number of identifications and in crimes submitted.

In 195 cases, fingerprint evidence was an important factor in effecting the arrest of persons for crime. In 66 instances had it not been for finger impressions left at the scenes of crime, there would have been nothing to lead police to the persons responsible. Additionally, in 58 cases, after the names of suspects had been suggested to the Fingerprint Bureaux, scientific evidence was discovered which substantiated the beliefs of the operational officers. In the remaining 71 cases, evidence of fingerprints conclusively established that offenders already in custody on suspicion were responsible for the crimes for which they had been arrested.

FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORY

During 1976 the services of the Home Office Forensic Science Laboratory at Bristol were used on 1015 occasions, compared with a total of 1173 in 1975.

These examinations were carried out on various articles and specimens to find evidence in respect of crimes, accidents, road traffic offences and other matters.

CRIME INTELLIGENCE UNIT

Early in the year, the Working Party on Crime Intelligence published its report, in which it recognised the basic need for the gathering and dissemination of information concerning criminals.

The report was accepted and on 28 June, the Crime Intelligence Unit was reformed to improve its efficiency and ensure its compatibility with other units in the Region. The

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Force Intelligence Officer was given greater responsibility for maintaining liaison with the South Western Regional Crime Intelligence Bureau, Regional Crime Squads and Intelligence Officers of other Forces.

At Headquarters, crime intelligence files have been compiled and maintained, together with a Crime Pattern Index. Although both are in their early stages, benefit has been gained from them.

At Divisional level, Sergeants are operating effectively in the supervision of duties and intelligence-gathering exercises.

The greatest benefit has come from the appointment to each Sub Division of a Crime Intelligence Constable acting as the link between the officers working in the Sub Divisions and the centralised Collators' Offices. It was found that the personal contact stimulated a flow of information into the system through this officer and he, in turn, provided a service of criminal information relating to that Sub Division.

The Unit as a whole has been involved with divisional officers and Crime Squad per-

sonnel in an extensive operation culminating in the arrest of an extremely active criminal.

Prison and Borstal liaison has been strengthened, thus resulting in benefit to both the Police and Prison Services.

The officers of the Unit also install and maintain Home Office Alarm Units at selected vulnerable premises.

Although the new Unit has only existed for six months, the results have been very encouraging and as the officers become more established and experienced in their new roles, it is anticipated that there will be a noticeable contribution towards crime detection.

CRIME PREVENTION

During 1976 the Force Crime Prevention Department undertook a vigorous campaign in an effort to combat crime and vandalism.

The Dorset Anti Vandalism Campaign using the slogan "Be Vigilant - Beat Vandalism"

This notice formed part of the Police Anti-Vandalism Exhibition which toured the force area and was used to illustrate the historical aspect of the subject. It provides an interesting commentary upon the way in which attitudes and punishments have changed over the years.

DORSET
ANY PERSON WILFULLY INJURING
ANY PART OF THIS COUNTY BRIDGE
WILL BE GUILTY OF FELONY AND
UPON CONVICTION LIABLE TO BE
TRANSPORTED FOR LIFE
BY THE COURT
7&8 GEO 4 C30 S13 • T FOOKS



Popular Dorset Folk Group, the Yetties — keen supporters of the Dorset Police Anti-Vandalism Campaign.

was launched in May in an effort to reduce the problem in Dorset. The objects of the Campaign were threefold:

To draw attention of the public to the various types of vandalism that were occurring in the county

To make the public aware that it was a community responsibility to take action against the vandal

To encourage the public to be alert to vandals operating in their area by joining the "Neighbourhood Watch Scheme" and contacting the police immediately they saw anything which should be reported.

The Campaign was launched with the opening of an exhibition on the subject of vandalism by the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset, Colonel Sir Joseph Weld OBE TD, and during

the course of the year was on view for 83 days. One venue for the exhibition was the Stourpaine Steam and Traction Rally, where it is estimated that 10,000 people viewed the display.

In order to promote the campaign, a Dorset Folk Group "The Yetties" specially produced a song which has accompanied the exhibition. It was based on their popular "Dorset is Beautiful" and carried clear anti-vandalism messages.

In November, a Seminar was organised for the Dorset Branch of the British Architects' Association on "Vandalism", when the guest speaker was an officer from the Home Office Crime Prevention Centre at Stafford. The object was to bring to the attention of the planners the various problems associated with vandalism and to indicate how they might assist in making buildings more secure against vandals.

The Force Exhibition Caravan was used for Crime Prevention Displays on 49 days and on 8 other occasions similar exhibitions were provided. The Crime Prevention Officers carried out a total of 1,232 surveys of property during 1976 and it is interesting to note that the type of properties for which surveys were requested varied from a dwellinghouse to a computer complex.

The officers also gave 148 talks to various organisations during the year on topics which covered the whole range of crime prevention.

During 1976 the number of alarm installations in the Force area increased by 9.3% to 1359 and a total of 5039 false activations were recorded. This figure shows an average activation of 3.7 per installation, compared with 3.5 for 1975. The number of genuine activations recorded was 90, compared with 101 for the previous year.

It has become a matter now of some concern that such a large number of alarm installations terminate in the Police Control Rooms, and it is fair to say that they have reached an unacceptably high figure. In the past the amount of inconvenience created by them, whether occasioned by attention to them by maintenance men or simply having police staff attend to them and respond to alarms given, has been accepted. However, the time is fast approaching when alarm companies will have to be required to make arrangements among themselves to have all such alarms terminating in their own premises. Whether the companies each have separate premises for this purpose or they decide to pool their resources is a matter for them, but it is clear that lack of time, space and money precludes me from retaining these terminals in police premises much longer.

ESCAPES FROM CUSTODY

HM Prison, Dorchester

One (involving six prisoners)

Arrested within Force area

6

HM Prison, The Verne, Portland

Four (involving four prisoners)

Arrested on Portland Island

4

HM Borstal, Portland

Eight (involving 12 inmates)

Arrested on Portland Island

9

Arrested outside Force area

3

HM Borstal, Guys Marsh, Shaftesbury

43 (involving 64 inmates)

Arrested within Force area

23

Arrested outside Force area

38

Still at large

3

VICE SQUAD

This Squad, which is based at Bournemouth, comprises one Sergeant, one female and three male Constables.

Prostitution

Forty-four prostitutes were dealt with by the Vice Squad Officers, twenty-six being cautioned for either first or second offences, whilst eighteen were arrested. Of these women, eight gave permanent addresses in the Bournemouth area, but the remainder, as in previous years, travelled from the Southampton area. In addition to these offences, one man was convicted of living on immoral earnings.

Obscene Publications

Sixteen warrants under the Obscene Publications Act were executed in the Eastern Division, and £2,660 worth of magazines were ordered to be destroyed by the Court.

The proposed amendments to the law to clarify the term "obscenity" are welcomed with the hope that the ambiguity and inconsistency surrounding the present law on pornography will be removed.

Other Offences

Various other offences were detected by the officers of the Squad, including indecent exposure (six), indecent assault (four), obscene literature by post (one), unlawful sexual intercourse (one), insulting behaviour (eleven), importuning for immoral purposes (sixteen), buggery (two) and gross indecency (four).

Liquor Licensing Offences

Successful observations by the Vice Squad officers also resulted in the detection of numerous offences under Liquor Licensing Acts following raids on club premises.

Gaming and Casinos

Routine enquiries were made by officers of the Squad in connection with the employment of croupiers at local casinos.

Support Squad

This Squad was re-established in January with an establishment of one Sergeant and four Constables. The Squad is available to be called upon by any Department or Division of the Force to support the policing of special tasks.

During the year, the Squad was increased to one Sergeant and eight Constables. It has been used on numerous occasions for purposes of patrol, observation and security with the result that a total of 119 arrests were made by its officers during the year. This justifies the existence of a permanent, well-trained, specialist Squad which is available at short notice for use anywhere within the Force area.

ATTENDANCE CENTRE

The Bournemouth Attendance Centre, which is staffed by five police officers and one civilian handicraft instructor, continued to function satisfactorily and to serve the six Juvenile Courts in the area.

During the year, 83 fresh Orders were made by the Courts, three of these being in respect of boys already attending the Centre. In two cases, fresh Orders were made in respect of further offences committed, and in one case a fresh Order was made when a boy was taken back to Court for non-attendance at the Centre.

The most common categories of offences resulting in Orders being made were those involving burglary (30), theft (25), and taking conveyances without consent (12).

Discipline has remained firm and minor offences within the Centre were dealt with by the boys concerned being required to perform less congenial tasks during the normal handiwork period.

The boys continued to be divided into junior groups (10-14 years) and senior groups (15-17 years), attending the separate sessions of two hours' duration every alternate Saturday afternoon. Both groups performed physical training, followed by a period of handicraft or educational work.

5

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS

The main pre-occupation of the Communications Department during 1976 has been in the implementation of the interface of the various communications networks into the Management Information System and in the provisioning of facilities to train operators in the use of the System.

To allow the Sub Divisional and Section Police Stations to gain access to the computer, the Force teleprinter network is being enhanced and upgraded. This entails replacing the elderly Mk 7 machines in the Western Division with Mk 15 models and a re-routing of several of the interconnecting private wires to give termination at the Message Switching Centre at Bournemouth as economically as possible.

Because of the incompatibility of the two types of machine, it has been necessary to engineer two networks to run in parallel until the new network is complete. This has created problems which have been difficult to overcome but it is confidently expected that the completion date of May 1977 will be met.

For the command and control section of the computer to be fully effective, it has been necessary to upgrade the wireless control equipment at the Dorchester Control Room and, with economy very much in mind, it was decided that three, twenty-channel Mascot units could be withdrawn from Bournemouth without loss of operational efficiency. These three units are being rebuilt by Pye Telecommunications Limited so that the six consoles at Dorchester will each have a ten-channel control system.

The opportunity is being taken, after consultations with the Police Scientific Development Branch of the Home Office, to rebuild and resite the consoles at Bournemouth to allow greater flexibility when the Management Information System becomes operational.

TELEPHONES

The Force telephone system has been

under constant review during 1976 and economies have been effected wherever this can be done without lowering efficiency or inconveniencing the public to any marked extent. One such economy is the installation, wherever possible, of subscriber-controlled transfer switches at Police Stations which are not manned 24 hours a day. For a fixed quarterly charge this allows, when the switch in the Police Station is operated, for the caller to be advised by the local telephone exchange of a nominated secondary number to call. No charge on the caller is made for the initial call and the financial advantage over the previous method of having calls transferred can amount to several hundred pounds per annum in respect of each Police Station.

A specification has been drawn up for an automatic branch exchange at the new Headquarters at Winfrith and this will be installed during July 1977.

WIRELESS

As a result of a requirement being highlighted by the major disaster exercise DOMINO, discussions were held during the year with the Home Office Directorate of Telecommunications on the subject of a VHF emergency channel.

Two factors appear to preclude a dedicated channel for this purpose, namely cost and channel availability, but a compromise was agreed which would entail the provision of equipment on the Eastern VHF frequency at Eggardon Hill, the most westerly base station and, at present, the only one not having a two-channel capability. This configuration would allow the Control Room in whose area a major incident occurred to take over all wireless traffic pertaining to the incident, while the other Control Room would assume countywide responsibility for all other VHF traffic. Orders have been placed with the Directorate for the additional equipment and it is hoped that this will be in operation by mid 1977. A replacement building for the wartime hut which houses equipment at Bulbarrow, though necessary, has been deferred due to financial considerations.

During the year, the Home Office-sponsored PEDEX experiment was held in Poole Sub Division. This is a facility in which data is transmitted by personal radios, similar to the system in service vehicles. The practical side of this experiment has ended, but the results are still being analysed before publication of a report for national and international circulation.

The UHF personal radio scheme at Wareham came into operation during the summer, leaving only the Swanage network outstanding before UHF coverage of all major towns is complete.

The resiting of UHF base stations to ensure optimum coverage continues as more advantageous sites are found as a result of continuing exploration and experimentation in this area.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Considerable progress has been made

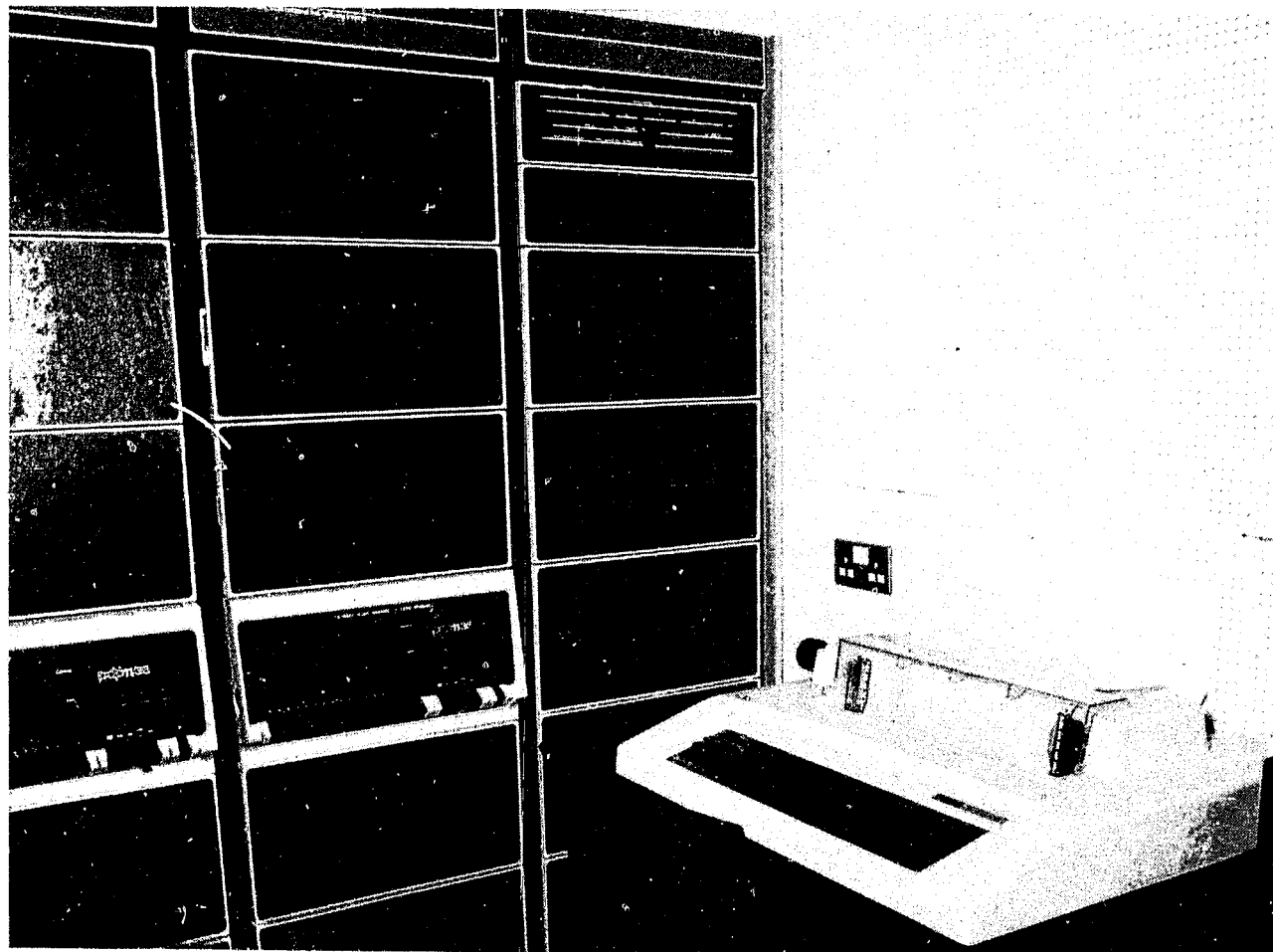
towards the implementation of the Management Information System.

The successful contractor, Plessey Company Limited of Southleigh, Havant, were given the contract in February to provide the computers and ancillary equipment and prepare the necessary software.

A further three subsystems have been added to the original eleven. All fourteen have been detailed and documented and the work commenced on producing the software. Dual computers have been installed at Bournemouth to ensure the reliability which is essential in a police operational system.

In the event of failure of one computer, the other will assume the functions of them both, thus providing a system which is continuous.

Twenty-three visual display units have been purchased and are ready for installation. A further eight will be delivered in 1977,

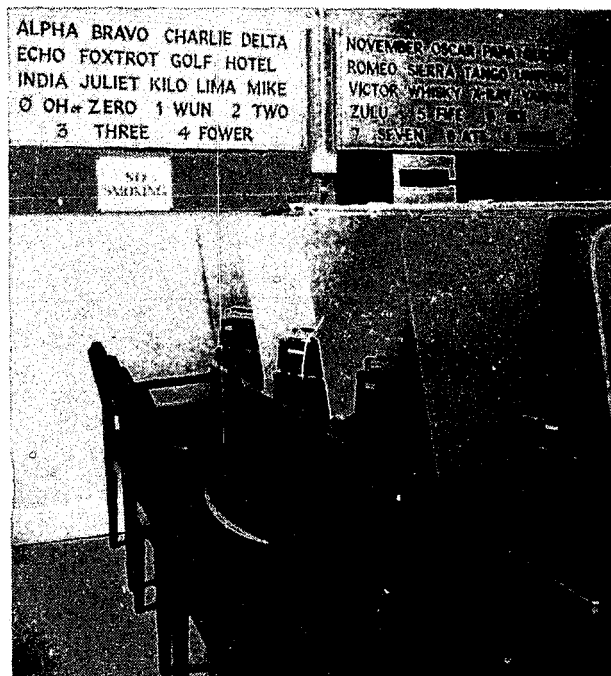


The computer room at Bournemouth

making a total network of thirty-one. When the message-switching subsystem is complete, it will be possible for messages to be switched automatically between any of these units and the teleprinter network comprising twenty-five operational machines.

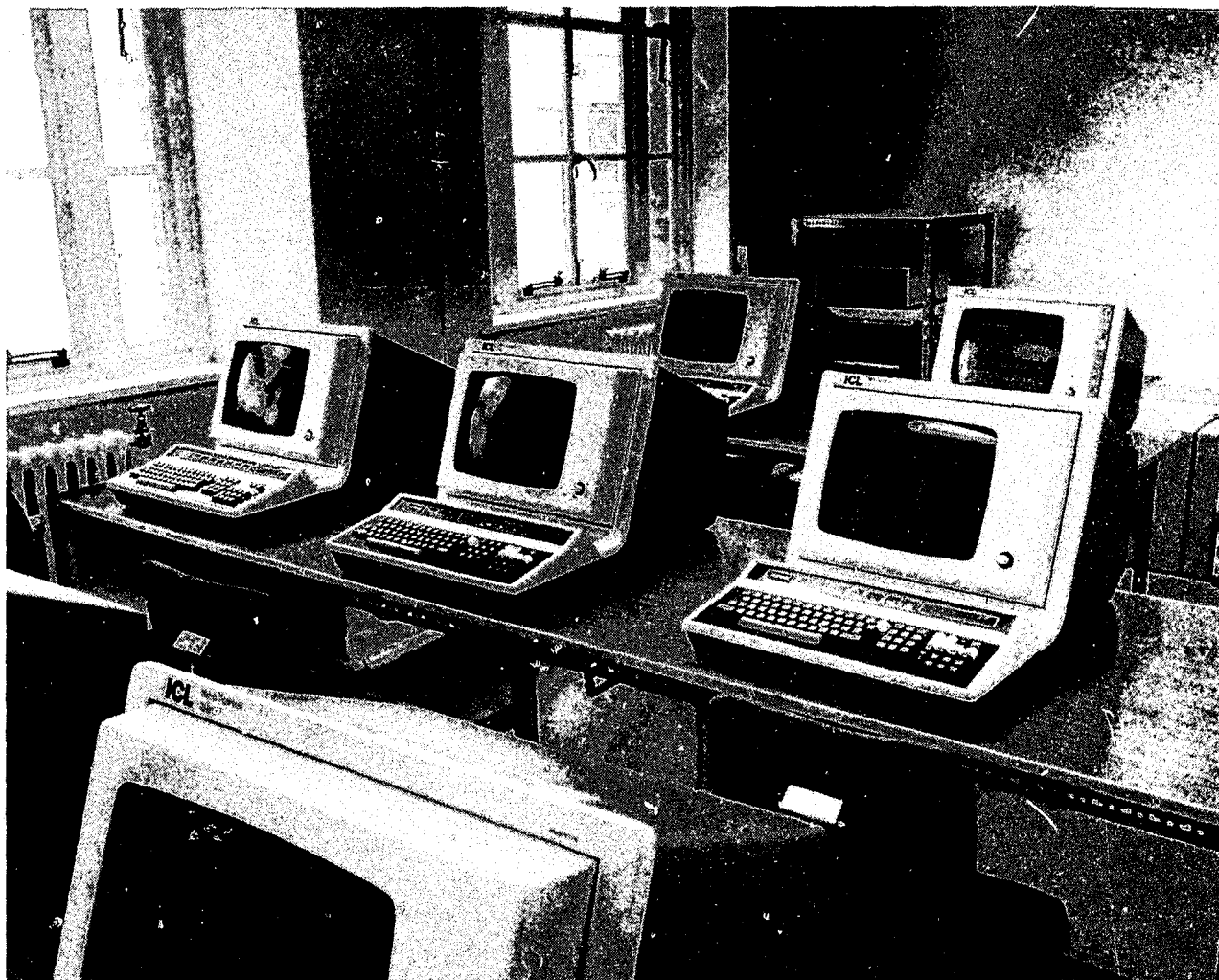
To ensure that all officers are trained correctly according to their individual requirements, a well-equipped and staffed training complex has been established at Poole. This consists of a classroom with eight visual display units linked into the Dorset County Council computer at Dorchester. Basic exercises are available to give trainees experience in use of this equipment.

There is too a radio procedures classroom which has eight individually-equipped booths for simulating operational radio procedures. A further classroom equipped with four teleprinters is used to instruct trainees in message-switching procedures. All officers have attended



Radio Procedures Classroom

Visual Display Unit Classroom



a one-day appreciation course and more detailed training will commence early in 1977.

All work is running to schedule and the first part of the system will be implemented in May.

The remaining subsystems will be introduced during the following five months and the whole system will be fully operational by December.

The Project was selected for presentation at an International Conference sponsored by the Home Office on the use of computers in police operations. The paper was well received and created considerable interest among the police representatives of twelve countries who attended the Conference.

One of the early aims of this Project was to provide a system which would benefit the Police Service in general and already this is being achieved. Other United Kingdom Police Forces have shown an interest in certain of the facilities and one of them is planning to implement the Command and Control subsystem.

The fourteen subsystems are as follows:—

Incident Logging	Crime recording
Resource availability	Stolen property
Duty states	Traffic (accidents)
Burglar alarms	Arrest and process
Street index	File movement
Message switching	Daily report
Personnel records	Police effectiveness

All the above will be implemented in May 1977

All the above will be implemented by October 1977

6

**SPORT
AND
SOCIAL**

LIBRARY

SPORT

The Force Sports Club has been very active again in stimulating and encouraging participation in a variety of sports. Its efforts have produced considerable success during the year at local, regional and national levels confirmed by the obtaining of three national and six regional titles.

Hockey

Pride of place was the tremendous achievement of the Policewomen's Hockey Team. Following their victory over the Metropolitan Policewomen in the Southern Zone Final by 4 goals to 1, they defeated the Greater Manchester Policewomen in the final by 3 goals to 1 to become the Policewomen's National Hockey Champions and capture the "Jean Law

Trophy" for the first time. This was one of the finest performances by a Force Team for many years.

Life Saving

At the Policewomen's Annual Life Saving Championship at Blackpool on 22/23 May 1976, W/Constable K Chubb took the Individual Policewomen's National Life Saving Championship with W/Constable E Lewis continuing the run of success by finishing runner-up. As a result of her performance, W/Constable Chubb was selected for training with the Great Britain National Life Saving Team in preparation for European Competition.

In the Alington Cup Competition at the same Championships, the Dorset Ladies Team was narrowly beaten into second place.

Dorset Policewomen – National Hockey Champions



The Alderman McInnes Life Saving Competition was organised by the Force at Christchurch on 15 September 1976 and contested by 21 police teams throughout the country. Dorset achieved a double success in the team competition, with the ladies taking first place and winning the "Alderman McInnes Trophy" while the men's team finished a close second to take the "Wick Ferry Trophy".

Cross Country and Athletics

Sergeant J Rosewarn set a record time in winning the Regional PAA 800 metres Championship at Yeovil in June.

The Regional Cross Country Championships held at Bournemouth in March saw outstanding performances by members of the Force. In the Cadets' race, M Gourlay became the individual champion and helped Dorset to win the team prize. In the six mile race for Regular Officers, the Force was first in the team event with Sergeant C Fry a close second for the individual title.



Tennis

The PAA Ladies' Doubles Tennis Championships held at Wimbledon on 16/17 September 1976 again brought great credit to the Force when Sergeant A Gracie and Constable J Spooner retained the title, which they had won in 1975. Sergeant Gracie was narrowly defeated in the final of the Ladies' Singles.

Snooker

Constable R James emerged from a keenly contested competition to win the No. 6 Region PAA Snooker Championships at Taunton in February.

Squash

In the first round of the Police National Squash Championships at Cambridge in April, W/Superintendent S Gospel was defeated in the first round of the Ladies' Singles, but countered this by winning the "Plate Competition" for first-round losers.

W/Constable K Chubb again showed her all-round ability by reaching the final of the Ladies' Singles where, unfortunately, she was defeated. Both officers had qualified through the No. 6 Region Championships at Devizes where Superintendent Gospel was the winner and Constable Chubb runner-up.

Cricket

The 1976 season, which began as one of consolidation, ended as one of unparalleled success.

Although only 5 matches were played, all ended in victory for this Force and they included successes over the very strong Greater Manchester and Hampshire Police sides.

In the Falfield Cup (South West Region PAA Knock-Out Competition) the Dorset side,

Sgt J Rosewarn — No. 6 Region PAA 800 metres Champion

after beating Wiltshire in a Semi Final, played in their first-ever Final against Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, holders for 5 of the previous 6 seasons. A tremendously hard-fought Final resulted in Dorset's inaugural winning of the Trophy and subsequent entry, as the South West Region's representatives, in the 1977 National Competition.

As a result of the Dorset success, Constable W Kempton has been nominated for the British Police Eleven and he, together with Constables M Roberts and R Pritchard, have been nominated for the Regional team.

In the Force Single Wicket Competition, Constable R Pritchard was the winner and Constable B Garwood the runner-up for the second season in succession.

Sailing

The third Dorset Police Annual Sailing



Constable and Mrs G Parry competing in their Fireball dinghy in the Force Regatta





Regatta was held at Poole in July over a period of two days. Competitors ranged from as far afield as Warwickshire and Bedfordshire and there was a great variety in the class of dinghies sailed. The Competition was very successful, thanks largely to the co-operation and splendid facilities provided by Poole Yacht Club. The overall winner was Constable C Lambert of the Bedfordshire Police.

Association Football

The Force Football Team completed a very successful season when they became the South Western Regional Champions by beating Gloucestershire 2-0 in the final to win the coveted Falfield Cup.

Rugby Football

Though not in the League, the Force Rugby



Team enjoyed a very successful season of friendly matches, particularly against Armed Services' teams.

INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION

Both Divisional Branches were involved in a variety of social functions. The Eastern Branch was host to a party of 41 members and wives from the Koblenz (West Germany) Branch of the IPA and a full programme of events was organised from 15 to 21 May.

During the year, many IPA members from other branches in the United Kingdom, as well as overseas members from America, France, Austria and West Germany, have been hosted by members of the Bournemouth Branch.

CHARITIES

The Chief Constable's Annual Charity Dinner/Dance was held at Bournemouth on 26 November. The event, which was attended by some 200 guests, raised a total of £1,526 to be distributed to local charities.

The long-standing success of the many Annual Police Balls and Dances continued with the result that many local organisations and charities received donations from the proceeds,

following a great deal of hard work by the various organising committees.

ST JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE — DORSET POLICE DIVISION

The Force Combined Division of the St John Ambulance Brigade, members of which meet in their own time at fortnightly training evenings at Bournemouth, maintains a strength of 33 members comprising 1 Superintendent, 2 Divisional Officers, 3 Sergeants, 3 Corporals and 24 Ambulance Members.

To widen the experience of younger members, the two competition teams run by the Division have been reformed. Despite their inexperience, the men's team won the Regional Eliminating Round of the National Police First Aid Competition, but were unplaced in the National Finals in London. The same team won the County Round of the St John Ambulance Brigade National Competition, but was eliminated in the Regional Round, having secured second place.

The Division organised its Annual Open First Aid Competition at the Training Wing, Junior Leaders' Regiment, Bovington Camp on 23 October. This received the usual keen support of 20 teams from as far afield as Hertfordshire, Cornwall and South Wales.

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TRAINING

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TRAINING

Training for members of the Force continued to be varied and over 60 different types of course accounted for 16,920 man-days, or a total loss from operational strength of approximately 74 officers. However, it should be noted that this included 7,366 man-days spent

on Probationer training.

Chief Inspector A J Sheldon returned to the Force, having completed three years at the University of London under the Bramshill Scholarship Scheme. Whilst there he gained a Third Class Honours Degree as a Bachelor of Laws.

COURSES

Selected officers attended the following courses:—

ADVANCED TRAINING

	Duration	
Director Staff – Police College	3 weeks	1 Chief Inspector
Inspectors – Police College	11 weeks	5 Inspectors
Inspectors – Hutton Hall, Lancs	12 weeks	3 Inspectors
Inspectors – Initial – Exeter	5 weeks	10 Inspectors
Chief Inspectors and Inspectors Refresher	3 weeks	6 Inspectors
Home Defence	1 week	1 Chief Superintendent
		5 Chief Inspectors
		1 Inspector

OTHER COURSES CONDUCTED OUTSIDE THE FORCE

Driving – Car, Standard	5 weeks	56 Constables
Driving – Car, Advanced	4 weeks	12 Constables
Driving – Car, Advanced Refresher	2 weeks	15 Constables
Driving – Motor Cycle, Standard	2 weeks	9 Constables
Driving – Motor Cycle, Advanced	3 weeks	5 Constables
Driving – Motor Cycle, Instructor	5 weeks	1 Constable
Traffic Patrol Officers	4 weeks	2 Sergeants)
		19 Constables)
Traffic Patrol Officers – Advanced	3 weeks	4 Constables
Traffic Management	2 weeks	1 Superintendent)
		1 Inspector)
	1 week	1 Superintendent
Traffic Accident Investigation	3 weeks	3 Sergeants)
		5 Constables)
	2 days	1 Sergeant)
		1 Constable)
Accident Prevention	2 weeks	1 Sergeant
Investigation of Stolen Motor Vehicles	2 weeks	3 Constables
Student Instructors	8 weeks	1 Inspector)
		1 Sergeant)
		3 Constables)
Explosives and Terrorist Devices Handling	2 days	1 Inspector)
		1 Constable)
Criminal Law – Junior	5 weeks	7 Constables
Criminal Law – Junior Refresher	3 weeks	3 Constables

Criminal Law – Advanced	10 weeks	3 Sergeants
	6 weeks	7 Sergeants
Crime Prevention	4 weeks	1 Inspector
Finger prints	6 weeks	1 Constable
Dog Training	13 weeks	1 Constable
	8 weeks	1 Sergeant
	2 weeks	1 Sergeant)
		3 Constables)
Scenes of Crime	2 weeks	1 Sergeant
Port Training (Special Branch)	4 weeks	1 Sergeant
	2 weeks	3 Constables
Special Branch	2 weeks	1 Inspector
	3 weeks	1 Inspector)
		1 Sergeant)
		1 Constable)
Surveillance (Special Branch and Drugs)	1 week	2 Sergeants
Drugs	1 week	1 Sergeant)
		3 Constables)
CID Familiarisation	4 weeks	6 Sergeants
Antiques Study	1 week	2 Sergeants
Fraud and Financial Investigation	2 weeks	2 Constables
PNC Terminal Operators Training	1 week	22 Constables
PNC Terminal Operators (Supervisors)	1 week	4 Sergeants
CCTV Production	2 weeks	2 Sergeants
Regional Sergeants Initial	3 weeks	27 Sergeants
Regional Sergeants Refresher	2 weeks	15 Sergeants
RAF Observer	3 days	1 Sergeant
Initial Training	10 weeks	91 Constables
Continuation	2 weeks	76 Constables

LOCAL TRAINING COURSES

Driving Instruction	5 weeks	21 Constables
	2 weeks	54 Constables
	1 week	15 Constables
First Aid Re-Examination	1½ days	2 Sergeants)
		17 Constables)
	1 day	1 Inspector)
		7 Sergeants)
		24 Constables)
	½ day	1 Inspector)
		13 Sergeants)
		99 Constables)
Pre-Promotion (Constable–Sergeant) Commenced		176 Constables
Pre-Promotion (Sergeant–Inspector) Commenced		34 Sergeants)
		15 Constables)
Pre-Promotion (Constable–Sergeant) Completed	6 days	35 Constables
Local Procedure Course	1 week	67 Constables)
	7 days	30 Constables)
	3 days	7 Constables)
Induction Course	1 week	91 Constables
Probationary In-Force Training	2 weeks	100 Constables

Probationary In-Force Training	1 week	98 Constables
Traffic Wardens	1 week	27 Wardens
Firearms Basic Initial	1 week	5 Sergeants) 17 Constables)
Support Unit	2 days	1 Inspector) 1 Sergeant) 8 Constables)
Pre-Instructors Course	½ day	3 Inspectors) 1 Sergeant) 1 Constable)
Instructors Course	3 weeks	1 Constable
Supervising Officers Courses (Firearms)	2 days	2 Chief Inspectors) 2 Constables)
Rifle Refresher	3 days	1 Sergeant) 6 Constables)
	½ day	1 Chief Inspector) 3 Inspectors) 2 Sergeants) 5 Constables)
Pistol Refresher	½ day	3 Superintendents 3 Chief Inspectors) 24 Inspectors) 57 Sergeants) 101 Constables)
Constables Refresher – Dorchester and Poole	2 weeks	92 Constables
MIS In-Force Training	1 day	1046 All Ranks
Pre-Retirement Course – Weymouth College	2½ days	36 All Ranks
Tutor Constables	2 days	29 Constables
Navigation and Seamanship	4 weeks	1 Sergeant) 1 Constable)
Non-Accidental Injury to Children	½ day	1 Chief Inspector) 15 Inspectors) 22 Sergeants) 13 Constables)
Goods Vehicles Drivers Hours (Keeping of Records)	½ day	2 Inspectors) 5 Sergeants) 46 Constables)

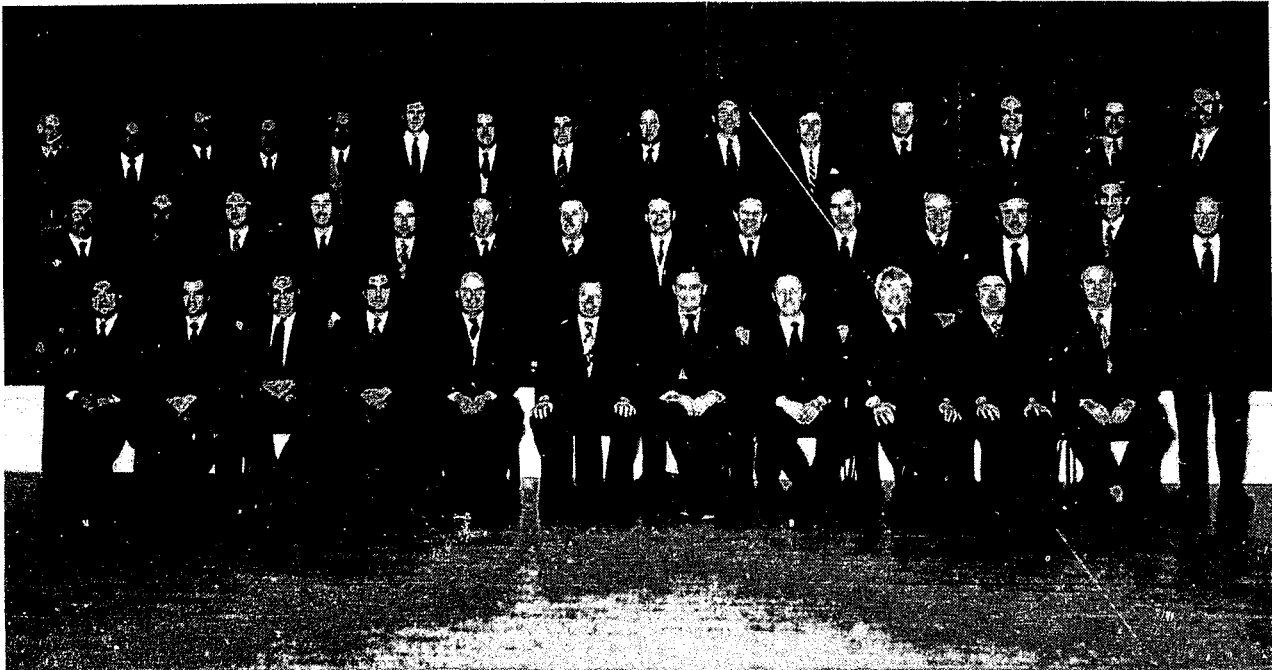
In addition to courses for police officers, the Training Department also arranged several courses for schools and youth organisations in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. These were in the Service Section of the Award and were designed to give young people an appreciation of the role of police in the community and of the problems presented to, and methods used by, the Service.

Tutor Constables

The revised training programme for Probationers required accompanied patrol duty for a 4-6 week period at the end of the Initial Training Course. Each Probationer was attached to a Tutor Constable who was selected as an officer with over 2 years' experience and pos-

sessing the necessary individual qualities.

A two-day residential course for 29 such Constables was held in April and gave them proper instruction as to their responsibilities and duties, and at the same time helped to overcome any doubts or problems they had with regard to their own capabilities.



Pre-Retirement Course

Pre-Retirement Course

In April 1976 a Pre-Retirement Course was held at the Weymouth Teacher Training College over a 2½ day period and 36 officers of all ranks attended.

There was a predominance of visiting speakers who covered such matters as Occupational Guidance, Unemployment and Related Benefits, Maintaining your Health and many other apposite subjects. The course proved to be very successful and was of benefit to all participants.

FIREARMS TRAINING

A comprehensive training programme was undertaken during the year in order to maintain the high standard of proficiency in the use of weapons.

Supervising Officers Courses

Two courses, each of two days' duration, were given to senior officers of this Force and to those of the Atomic Energy Authority Constabulary.

Basic Courses

Three basic firearms courses were held for one week when a total of 22 officers qualified.

Rifle and Shotgun Courses

Five officers attended a three-day rifle and shotgun course and qualified in the use of these weapons.

Instructors Course

A three-week course was held at which Ministry of Defence Police officers were trained as firearm instructors.

Probationer and Senior Constables Courses

Periods of instruction on the safe handling of firearms, the use of the protective equipment and the tactics applicable in armed operations were given to officers on each of the probationer and senior constables refresher courses.

Police College and Middlemoor Training College, Exeter

The Force Firearms Officer attended the Police College and also the Middlemoor Training College, Exeter, where he instructed the College Inspectors Course and Special Course as well as the Inspectors Course at Exeter.

Support Units

A total of 92 officers of all ranks attended a two-day course on police tactics in armed operations.

Refresher Training

The refresher training of officers of the Force and Regional Crime Squads who have previously qualified in the use of weapons was carried out at regular intervals throughout the year.

Future Training

To assist in this form of training, a range and buildings have been acquired and modification work is nearing completion. The completed premises will be particularly beneficial for training purposes having classroom, open country and shooting facilities in close proximity.

CADET TRAINING

The Cadet Training Department, which is situated in the Training Wing at Poole Central Police Station, is staffed by a Sergeant and two Constables.

The system of phasing cadet training continued on a similar basis to last year and was as follows:—

Phase I — 16-17 years

All Cadets in this phase attended the Cadet Training Department under the direction of tutors from Poole Technical College for 3½ days a week and studied 'O' Level subjects in Law, Sociology, Government and Politics and English Language.

Phase II — 17-18 years

The Cadets in this phase were attached to various Departments at both Force and Divisional Headquarters in order to provide them with a comprehensive insight into the administration of the Force. Their adventure training continued on the same basis as last year.

Phase III — 18-18½ years

The third phase of Cadet training was aimed towards their entry into the Regular Force. This involved community service attachments, which were undertaken at institutions

for mentally and physically handicapped persons. Additionally, they participated in leadership attachments to various youth organisations throughout the county. Training again included short attachments to the Coroner's Office, Children and Young Persons Department and the rural beat policing scheme. They continued to be attached to the Eastern Division for the final two months of their training, where they were engaged with regular officers on outside uniform patrol duties.

Group Training

All phases combined on 1½ days each week to undertake general training, to include physical activities and instruction in drill, first aid, life saving and other allied subjects.

Education

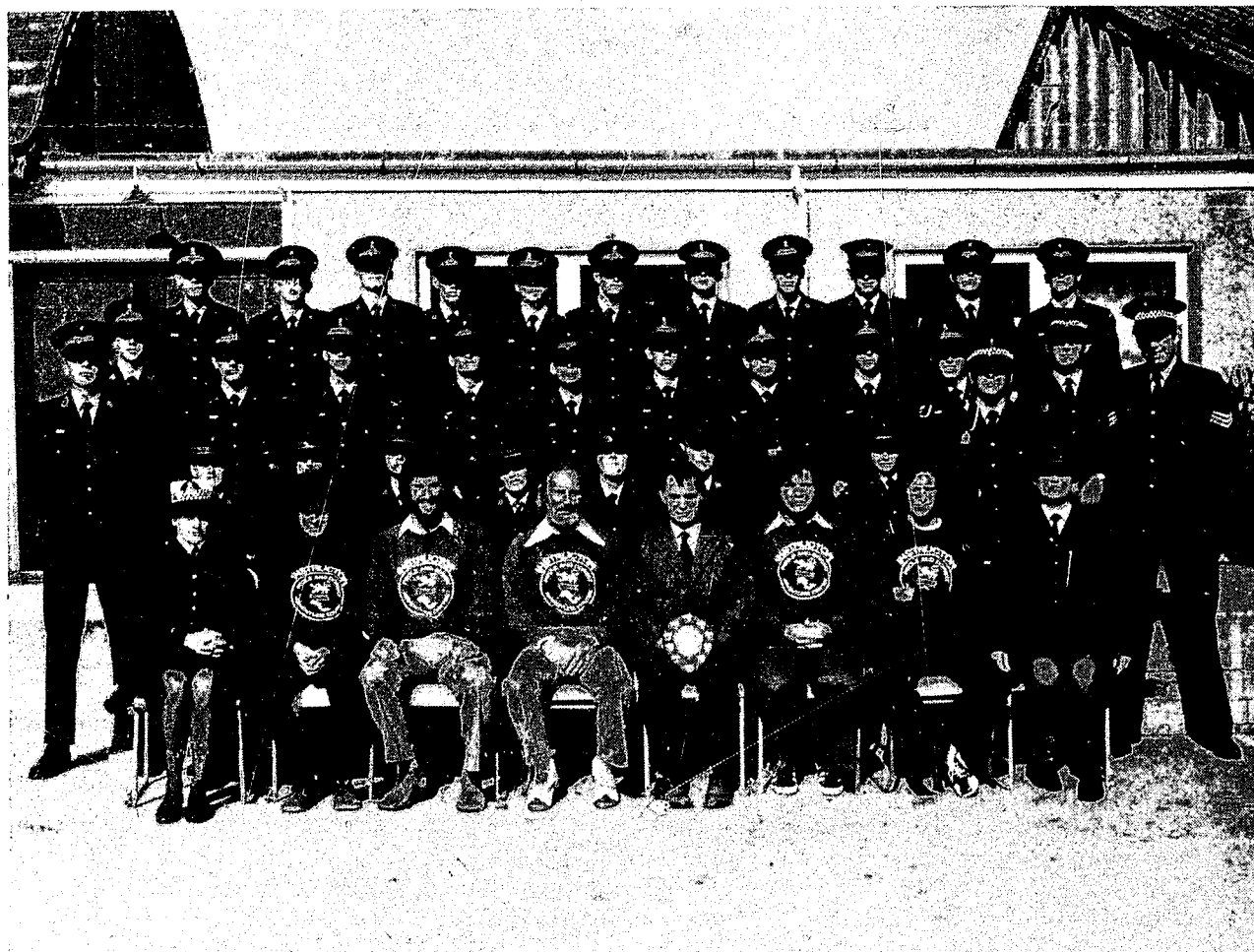
Twelve Cadets took a total of 44 'O' Level examinations in June 1976 and this resulted in 27 passes. Four further passes were obtained in spoken English.

Outdoor Activities

In November and December 1976, the Cadets attended an Outdoor Activity Course in the Brecon Beacons, South Wales, under the direction of the Poole and Dorset Adventure Centre and Police Staff. This was a very comprehensive course covering rock climbing, cliff climbing, canoeing, expedition walking, caving, orienteering, general physical training, mountain rescue techniques, and pony trekking. Educational visits were arranged and one of these was a visit to the largest coalmine in South Wales where they went underground. This course gave each Cadet the opportunity to overcome hardship and fear and to broaden their horizons by making them aware of group needs and the necessity of team spirit.

A similar course was held in January 1976 at the Dartmoor Training Centre, controlled and manned by Police Staff. Similar types of activity were undertaken with a view to preparing them for their Dartmoor training in readiness for the Ten Tors competition in May.

One female and two male teams entered



Dorset Police Cadets and instructors of the Poole and Dorset Adventure Centre

the 45 mile event and one male team the arduous 55 mile contest. Each team comprised six Cadets and all were successful, thus helping to maintain the high standard of this annual event.

Ten male Cadets participated in the National Association of Boys Clubs 100-mile canoe test which took place on the River Trent. All ten were successful, although the success rate was not high throughout the Association.

Various other competitive adventure activities were competed in, such as the Abbotts Way Walk and North to South Walk on Dartmoor, and a high degree of success was obtained by all Cadets who participated.

All the outdoor activities undertaken by Cadets undoubtedly gave valuable experience and helped to develop initiative, integrity, character and determination.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

All Cadets continued to participate in the Direct Entrant Gold Standard of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Due to the fact that it takes at least two years to complete the Award, different Cadets are at various phases of the Scheme. Four of them reached the end last year and were successful in their efforts. At present they are awaiting presentation of the Awards.

Life Saving

Life saving training was continued and the following awards gained:

Intermediate	5
Bronze Medallion	30
Bronze Cross	15
Award of Merit	2
Distinction	1
Teachers Certificate	3
Advanced Resuscitation	21
Re-examination Resuscitation	11

With assistance from the Director of the Poole and Dorset Adventure Centre and Police Staff, the Cadet unit formed a Lifeguard Corps named the Poole and Dorset Adventure Centre Lifeguard Corps. They operated on Rockley Sands Beach at Poole during the summer months at weekends. Their objects were to assist any person or vessel in distress, advise the public who use this stretch of water and generally educate people in water safety matters. They trained on Tuesday evenings at Henry Harbin School swimming pool.

First Aid

All Cadets are holders of the Adult First Aid Certificate of St John, and a team was entered in the South of England eliminating round of the Cadet National First Aid Competition and was placed second. As only one team from each region went forward to the Finals, there was no Dorset representation when the competition was decided.

Cycling Proficiency

Cadets also qualify as instructors in cycling proficiency and some of the older ones are qualified as examiners and are able to assist the Force Road Safety Officers. A considerable number engage in the instructional side in their own time as part of their Duke of Edinburgh service.

Colonel Sir Joseph Weld OBE TD, Lord Lieutenant of Dorset and Chairman of Dorset Police Committee presenting the Cadet of the Year Award to Policewoman Lynn Dominey



Sporting Activities

Numerous sporting activities were organised with other Forces and local youth organisations with considerable success. As reported in Chapter 6 of the Report, the Force entered the Regional PAA Cadet Cross Country Championships and produced both the individual and the team winners.

Community Service

Community Service projects have been undertaken on a voluntary basis throughout 1976. These included companionship, gardening, assisting elderly and incapacitated people and general house tidying. A greater degree of understanding and awareness was achieved by all who participated.

In July 1976, two Cadets were invited to participate with members of Ferndown Youth Centre under the direction of the Club Leader, Mr Mick Arnold, to go on a project to Morocco to carry out community service work at one of the Save the Children Fund's Centres. Numerous building tasks were undertaken and the project received wide publicity both in this country and in Morocco.

Cadet of the Year

The Alderman William Collins Trophy was awarded to Female Cadet Lynn Dominey, who is now a serving Policewoman.

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**GENERAL
POLICE
DUTIES**



LICENSED PREMISES AND REGISTERED CLUBS

The following licences were in operation in the Force area:—

	1975	1976
Publicans' Licences	758	762
Publicans' Licences in suspense	2	2
Publicans' Licences — Provisional	4	10
Beerhouses "On" Licences	2	2
Beerhouses "On" Licences in suspense	2	2
"Off Licences"	410	433
Clubs — Justices' Licences	45	49
Residential and Restaurant Licences	663	709
Theatre Licences	4	4
Ballroom Licences	2	2
Railway Refreshment Room	1	1
Pier Licence	1	1
Registered Clubs	291	293

Proceedings

	1975	1976
Selling without a licence	-	10
Selling to or purchasing by persons under 18 years of age	12	18
Consuming in non-permitted hours	3	-
Selling to non-residents	-	-
Keeping a disorderly house on a Sunday	-	-
Selling to persons not taking a meal	16	-
Selling adulterated beer	1	2

Drunkenness

A total of 649 cases involving drunkenness (other than drink/drive cases) were dealt with, as compared with 616 in 1975.

FIREARMS

Details of weapons surrendered to the police for destruction at the Central Ordnance Depot (together with a quantity of ammunition)

were as follows:—

Rifles	75
Revolvers and pistols	95
Automatic weapons	6
Shotguns	47
Miscellaneous firearms	12
Total	235

Statistics

	Firearms	Shotguns
Applications for grants of new certificates	326	1176
Granted	318	1170
Refused	8	6
Applications for renewal of certificates	841	4315
Refused	Nil	Nil
Certificates revoked	4	5
Certificates cancelled	220	592
Transferred to other Forces	55	257
Appeals against revocation or refusal	Nil	Nil
Offences under the Firearms Act 1968		
Prosecuted	69	16
Cautioned	129	112
Certificates in force at 31 December 1976	2963	13343

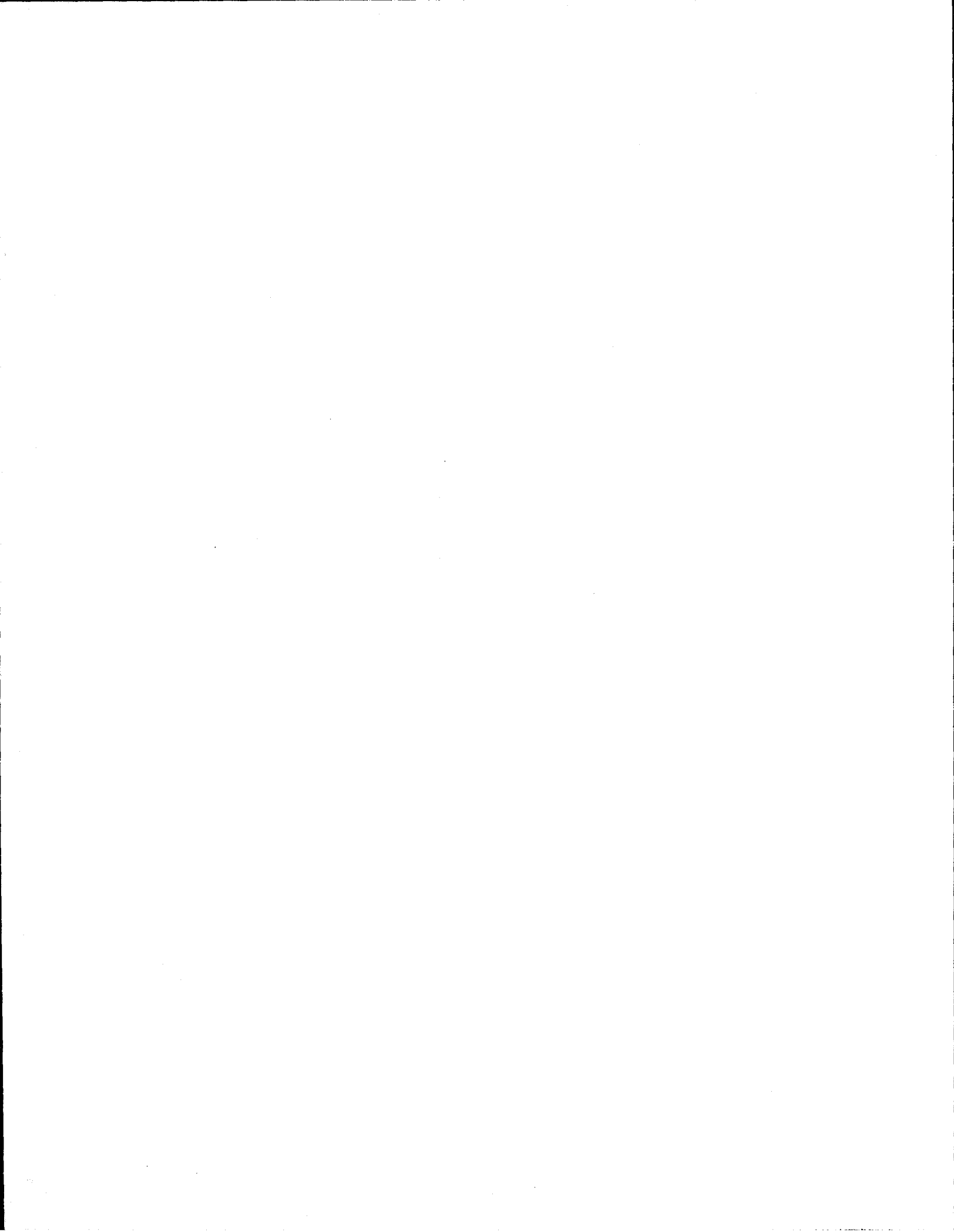
Firearms Dealers

During the year, four dealers ceased business and seven fresh registrations were effected, the final figure being 45.

EXPLOSIVES

Storage of Explosives

Licences were issued for six explosives stores used in connection with industrial and



CONTINUED

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agricultural operations. The stores were examined by Force Crime Prevention Officers and officers of the Trading Standards Department of the County Council before being taken into use.

Licences to Purchase High Explosives

Twelve licences were issued for industrial use, land clearance and the salvage of wrecks.

Licences to Purchase Gun Powder

The number of licences issued for the purchase of black powder for use with muzzle-loading firearms on approved ranges was 58, an increase of 20 on the previous year.

ALIENS

On 31 December 1976 the number of registered aliens resident in the county was 2,074, an increase of 180. This total included 153 from EEC countries, a decrease of 25. The great majority were students at language schools in the Bournemouth area and it is noteworthy that those from the oil-rich countries of the Middle East, such as Iran and Saudi Arabia, far outnumbered any other nationality.

During the year, 40 applications for naturalisation were handled, compared with 34 in 1975, as well as 90 other specific enquiries at the request of the Home Office. This was in addition to the numerous routine enquiries necessitated by aliens failing to obtain extensions before the expiration of the time limit previously granted by the Immigration Service or the Home Office.

DOGS

The two Dog Sections have an establishment of two Sergeants and ten Constables and a complement of twelve dogs.

Two dogs were replaced due to unsuitability and ill-health respectively and their replacements are both operational.

A total of 1,911 operational calls were undertaken which included 422 crimes, 80 escapes from custody and 123 missing persons. A total of 216 persons were apprehended or

traced, and 47 items of property recovered.

The two dogs which have been trained to detect drugs were used on 12 occasions with the result that 9 persons were arrested.

Sergeant Dunsdon and Police Dog "Shep" won first place and qualified Excellent in the Working Dog Stake at the Alsatian Club of Wales Championship Trials at Bridgend. The same combination also won first place and qualified Excellent in the Tracking Dog Stake at the Hampshire Working Trials at Hambledon, Hampshire. As a result of this success, a Kennel Club Challenge Certificate was awarded to the officer and he was invited to compete in the Kennel Club Supreme Championships at Lauder, Scotland.

Four handlers and dogs were entered in the Regional Police Dog Trials at Taunton, where two gained qualifying certificates and were classified "Good".

The Force Internal Dog Trials were held in the Tarrant Rushton and Dorchester areas, the overall winner being Constable Walsh with Police Dog "Simba" (Eastern Division).

A total of 13 demonstrations were given at a variety of functions, and talks were given to a number of local organisations as well as to visitors to the Force.

MARINE SECTION

The Police Launch "Alarm" was used on patrol for a total of 663 engine hours. One hundred and fifty-six crimes were investigated and the total of eleven detections resulted in thirteen people being arrested. The total value of property stolen was £54,735, of which £32,330 was recovered.

Close liaison continued with HM Coastguard, the Southern Sea Fisheries Officer and the RNLI, in addition to which a great deal of assistance was obtained from the Royal Marines at Hamworthy, as mentioned elsewhere in this chapter.

In addition to its patrol and enquiry

duties, "Alarm" attended two fires on boats, undertook 14 searches and assisted 24 boats in difficulty.

CLIFF RESCUE

Wareham

There were no calls for assistance made to the Wareham Cliff Rescue Team in 1976. All incidents were dealt with by HM Coastguard who, particularly in the Purbeck area, are able to deal effectively with emergencies without the assistance of the police team. In spite of this, there is a requirement for the police to be in a permanent state of readiness in the event of a major incident arising when HM Coastguard will require assistance, or where there are simultaneous incidents in different locations.

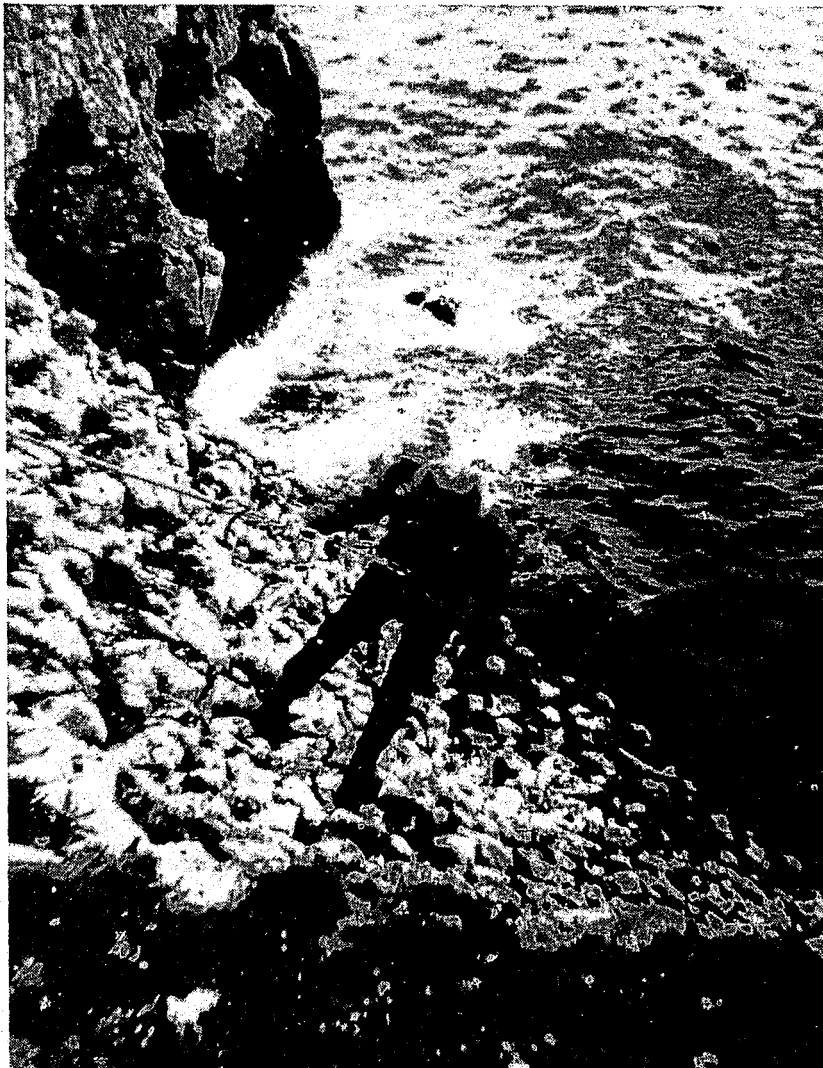
Bridport

Four successful rescues were effected by

the Bridport team but only one was in respect of a person who was seriously injured. That occurred during August when a girl who was climbing the cliff-face at Burton Bradstock fell to the beach and sustained head injuries. She was rescued and transferred to a waiting ambulance.

The teams combined on four occasions during the year for the purpose of exercises at various locations along the coast, and as a result of these and other training undertaken, the members are able to deal effectively with almost any eventuality on the cliffs. The close co-operation which has continued during the year with HM Coastguard, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and the Royal Naval Air Station, Portland, is acknowledged with gratitude.

A member of the Team descending unstable cliff-face



PORT OFFICES

The Port Offices at Weymouth Quay, Hurn Airport and Poole Quay continue to prove of value in operational police duty. Close co-operation has been maintained with both HM Customs and Excise and HM Immigration Service in supervising the embarkation and disembarkation of passengers and motor vehicles. This has led to the apprehension of a number of persons for various criminal offences during 1976 as follows:—

Weymouth Quay	—	80
Hurn Airport	—	4
Poole Quay	—	7

Most of these arrests have been made for other Police Forces within the United Kingdom.

As in previous years, there was an increase in the number of privately-owned boats moored along the Dorset coastline and there is still a need to be particularly vigilant in the search for persons engaged in criminal activities.

SERIOUS FIRES DURING THE SUMMER OF 1976

The abnormally dry, hot spell throughout the spring and summer resulted in large areas of parched forests and heathlands being turned into raging infernos by the many serious fires which occurred in August, particularly in the east of the county.

Over 9,000 acres of hedgerows, heathland, forest and private property were destroyed as flames, fanned by high winds, raced through vegetation at speeds approaching 20 mph.

It was fortunate that no-one died in the fires as hundreds of families were evacuated from their homes, holidaymakers were forced to flee from camp-sites and in one blaze 360 geriatric patients were removed from St Leonards Hospital in the path of the advancing fire.

Another serious fire was at Winfrith where it spread over the heath so rapidly that the Fire

The terrible result of one of the many fires which raged in Dorset in 1976





Constable G Crook (extreme left) and Mrs Pam Crook (extreme right) pictured with Col Sir Joseph Weld OBE TD, Lord Lieutenant of Dorset and Chairman of Dorset Police Committee on the opening night of Wool Youth Club

Brigade could not contain it. Although people and animals were evacuated safely, some farm buildings were gutted and damage amounting to many thousands of pounds was caused.

Mention must be made of the voluntary organisations whose efforts were of such assistance to police and fire brigade personnel. These included the County Emergency Services, the WRVS, the British Red Cross Society, the St John Ambulance Brigade and the Salvation Army.

WOOL YOUTH CLUB PROJECT

Due to the enterprise and hard work of a young Constable and his wife, a dilapidated wooden building in the centre of the village of Wool was saved and given a new lease of life as a Youth Centre.

Constable Glyn Crook and his wife Pam

enlisted local help to stop the demolition of the hut and, with the help of a Committee, raised almost £1,000 to renovate the building and re-open it as a Youth Club. The Youth Club was opened officially by the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset, Colonel Sir Joseph Weld OBE TD, on 13 October 1976 and since that date in excess of 40 young people have been attending the club nights.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS

The incidence of animal disease was low, only one case being reported and confirmed. This was sheep scab in a ram in January at a farm near Blandford. This one case illustrates the necessity of sheep dipping and of strict

control in the movement of undipped sheep. These measures are effective and must not be relaxed.

EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

ROYAL VISITS

On 6 May 1976, His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, in his capacity as President of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, visited Poole to perform the official opening of the new Headquarters Building of the Institution. Later in the day, His Royal Highness visited Swanage to name the new lifeboat.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester opened the Annual Conference of the Guild of Architectural Ironmongers at Bournemouth on 20 May 1976.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN SERVICES

It is pleasing to be able to report that excellent co-operation has continued between the various other services and Dorset Police.

There are far too many cases to be able to enumerate them all, but a good example was provided by the Royal Marines based at Hamworthy. Over the years they have given tremendous assistance to this Force and during 1976 carried out a particularly difficult and unpleasant underwater search on behalf of the police. As a result of this, the bodies of two missing women were found in a submerged car at Christchurch. They assisted too in the searches for other missing persons and for property disposed of at sea and in inland waterways.

In addition to the operational assistance already outlined, they have been extremely helpful in life saving exercises carried out by police and, as a small token of the deep appreciation felt by this Force, a presentation was made at Headquarters in December when Colonel David Mitchell MBE RM, Commanding Officer, Royal Marines, Poole accepted a trophy subscribed to by senior officers of the Force.

Lt Col David Mitchell MBE RM accepting the token of appreciation on behalf of the Royal Marines, Poole



INSPECTION AND VISITS

Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary, Mr N Galbraith CBE QPM DL, visited the Force on 9, 10 and 11 March 1976 for the purpose of carrying out the Annual Inspection. This was the last Inspection of the Force by him prior to his retirement.

There was again a large number of visits to the Force by police officers from abroad, including Brazil, India, Zambia and Malaya.

The visits centred mainly on the Command and Control System in the Eastern Divisional Control Room, as well as the Management Information System Training Complex at Poole.

In addition, representatives from the Home Office, senior officers attending Telecommunications Courses at the Headquarters School of Signals, Blandford Camp and senior police officers from various parts of the country also visited the Force to study the Command and Control System.



9

**SPECIAL
CONSTABULARY**

STRENGTH

Forty-seven applicants were accepted during 1976 compared with forty-five during the previous year. Wastage total was seventy-one resulting in an overall loss of twenty-four over the year.

PROMOTIONS

The following promotions took place:—

Date	Rank and Name
	To Special Chief Inspector
1 April	S/Inspector C Colmer S/Inspector A Oldham
26 April	S/Inspector G Redpath S/Inspector S Smith
6 December	S/Inspector M Blaylock
	To Special Inspector
1 April	S/Sergeant 117 H Jones S/Sergeant 792 R Bassnett
26 April	S/Sergeant 6 G Vickery S/Sergeant 98 M Blaylock
23 August	S/W/Sergeant 164 M Rendell S/Sergeant 210 A Clarke S/Sergeant 342 D James
19 September	S/Sergeant 121 E Squibb



S/W/Inspector M F Rendell — the first woman in the Dorset Police Special Constabulary to attain the rank of Inspector

Date	Rank and Name
	To Special Sergeant
2 January	S/Constable 140 A Rabbidge
23 January	S/Constable 199 R Elford
10 February	S/Constable 154 B Robinson
26 April	S/Constable 17 I Winkup
8 June	S/Constable 109 T James S/Constable 121 E Squibb S/Constable 255 D Puplett
29 June	S/Constable 714 B Weeks
2 August	S/Constable 328 N Bridle
4 August	S/Constable 2 C Lawrence
23 August	S/Constable 62 G Baylie S/Constable 219 J Vincent
10 September	S/Temp Sergeant 259 H Lake S/W/Constable 57 P Edwards
29 September	S/Constable 99 J Spicer
6 October	S/Constable 108 R Innes S/Constable 135 F Williams

DUTIES

A total of 21,615 hours of duty was performed by the Special Constabulary during 1976, an increase of 1,067 hours over the previous year.

AWARDS

During the year members of the Special Constabulary qualified for the following Long Service Awards:—

Long Service Medals (9 years)	13
1st Bar (19 years)	2

COMMENDATIONS

Three Special Constables were commended by the Chief Constable for good work when dealing with three incidents during the year:—

Special Constable 207 R Mander for his actions at the scene of a very serious road traffic accident on 9 April 1976 in Bure Lane, Highcliffe.

Special Constable 187 B Hawkins for his actions in connection with the arrest of a man for theft in the Arndale Centre, Poole on 7 August 1976.

Special Constable 231 O Scadding for his actions on the night of 30/31 October 1976 in connection with the arrest of a man at Bridport for being drunk and disorderly.

THE WORK OF THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

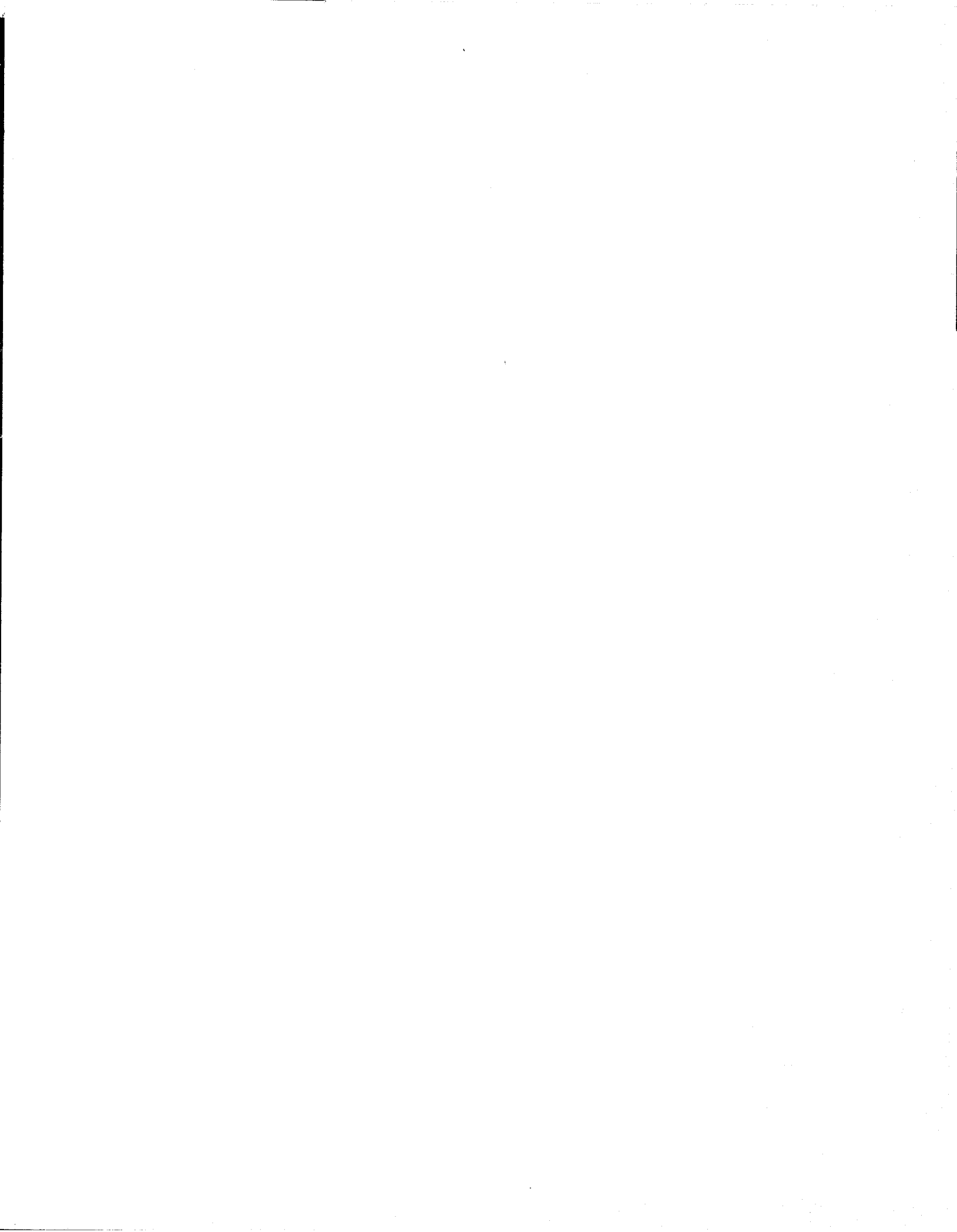
The members of the Dorset Police Special Constabulary continue to provide valuable

support and assistance to the Regular Force. An ideal example to illustrate the co-operation throughout the Force area was the Annual Stourpaine Bushes Steam Rally, near Blandford, where Special Constables from the Blandford, Wareham and Canford Sub Divisions performed excellent service, together with members of the Regular Force, in particularly adverse weather conditions.

The policy of steady recruitment to the Special Constabulary continues and it is anticipated that the Force Training Programme and Liaison Schemes will maintain an active interest amongst serving members.

Performing Duty at Dean Court Football Ground





END