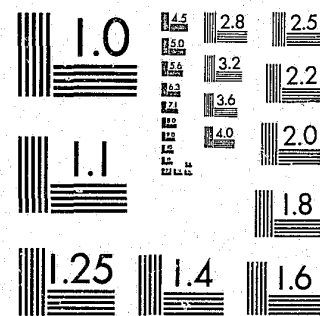


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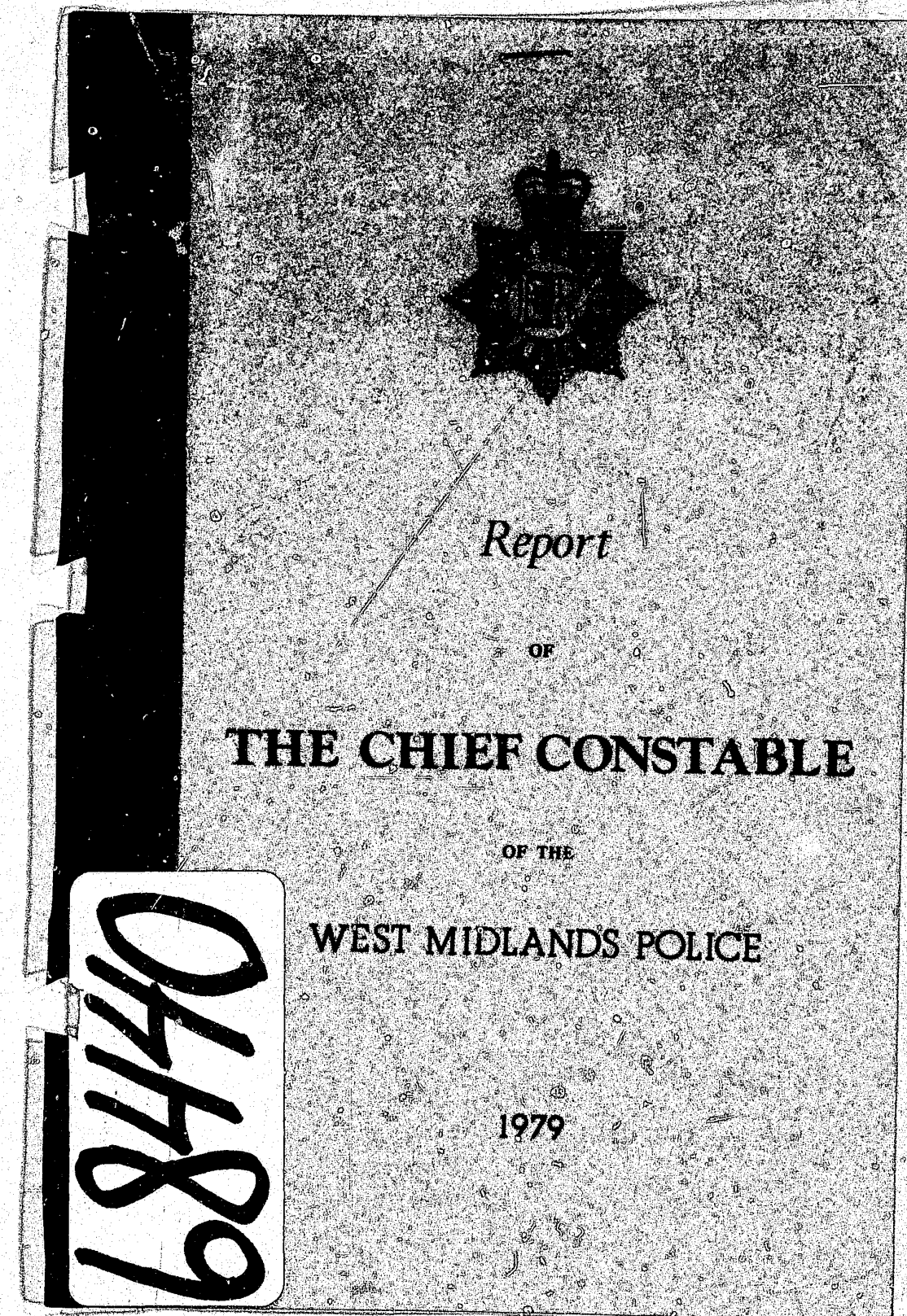
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JUN 20 1980

ACQUISITIONS  
REPORT  
OF  
THE CHIEF CONSTABLE  
OF THE  
WEST MIDLANDS POLICE  
FOR THE  
YEAR 1979

Chief Constable's Office  
Lloyd House  
Colmore Circus Queensway  
Birmingham B4 6NQ

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

MEMBERS OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY

Chairman: Councillor G S N Richards CBE DL LLB (*Coventry No 2*)

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J A Gopsill FCCA FCIS (*Birmingham, Kings Norton*)

Local Authority Representatives

Magistrate  
Members

Ward

Councillor D R H Birbeck	( <i>Sutton Coldfield No 3</i> )	F W Baker Esq JP
Councillor J A W Bird	( <i>Wolverhampton No 4</i> )	K H Barker Esq JP
Councillor J A Clark JP	( <i>West Bromwich No 1</i> )	A B Harper Esq JP
Councillor R J Griffiths	( <i>Dudley No 4</i> )	Mrs F M Lee JP
Councillor W T Harris	( <i>Dudley No 6</i> )	Mrs P E Marshall JP
Councillor K R Ison	( <i>Stourbridge No 1</i> )	J Martin Esq MBE JP
Councillor P J Lynne	( <i>Birmingham, Stechford</i> )	C F Redgrave Esq JP
Councillor Mrs F M Milne	( <i>Aldridge/Brownhills No 3</i> )	C I Teeling Esq JP
Councillor P D Osborn BSc	( <i>Stourbridge No 2</i> )	
(Min. Eng.)		
Councillor Mrs JAD Secombe JP	( <i>Birmingham, Acocks Green</i> )	
Councillor E T Shore	( <i>Birmingham, Saltley</i> )	
Councillor B V Smith	( <i>Birmingham, Kingstanding</i> )	
Councillor Mrs M E Stoneman	( <i>Coventry No 2</i> )	
BA Cert. Ed. LRAM		
Councillor A L Turner	( <i>Birmingham, Longbridge</i> )	

### Police Headquarters

Lloyd House  
Colmore Circus Queensway  
Birmingham B4 6NQ

Telephone No 021-236 5000  
Telex 337321

#### Chief Constable

Mr P D Knights CBE QPM

#### Deputy Chief Constable

Mr M Buck QPM

#### Assistant Chief Constables

*Operations*

Mr K J Evans

*Staff Services*

Mr J B Glynn

*Organisation & Development*

Mr R F Broome

*Crime*

Mr D H Gerty LLB

*Administrative Support Services*

*and Supplies*

Mr G E Coles B.Jur

#### Criminal Investigation Department

Chief Superintendent T Meffen (*Operations*)

Chief Superintendent T Light (*Support Services*)

#### Chief Administrative Officer

Chief Superintendent P C J Price MA (Oxon)

#### Personnel Department

Chief Superintendent R P Snee

#### Traffic Department

Chief Superintendent D M Knight LLB

#### Complaints Department

W/Chief Superintendent E M Unett QPM

#### Management Services

Chief Superintendent J A G Smith

#### Training Department

Chief Superintendent A M McDowall

#### Operations Co-ordinator

Chief Superintendent B Drew MBA

#### Communications

Chief Superintendent L P Coates

### 'B' Division

Bournville Lane Birmingham . . . . . Telephone No 021 476 3141  
*Woman Chief Superintendent P E Wren MBE*

### 'C' Division

Walsall Road Birmingham . . . . . Telephone No 021 356 0431  
*Chief Superintendent C J Matthews*

### 'D' Division

Queens Road Birmingham. . . . . Telephone No 021 327 6551  
*Chief Superintendent J Bagnall*

### 'E' Division

Sheldon Heath Road Birmingham. . . . . Telephone No 021 706 8111  
*Chief Superintendent S M Hammond*

### 'F' Division

Steelhouse Lane Birmingham. . . . . Telephone No 021 236 5000  
*Chief Superintendent N T Jones*

### 'G' Division

Alfred Squires Road Wolverhampton. . . . . Telephone No Wolverhampton 27851  
*Chief Superintendent R Massey*

### 'H' Division

Green Lane Walsall . . . . . Telephone No Walsall 38111  
*Chief Superintendent R G Morris*

### 'J' Division

New Street Dudley . . . . . Telephone No Dudley 56900  
*Chief Superintendent J J Tonkinson*

### 'K' Division

New Street West Bromwich. . . . . Telephone No 021 553 2971  
*Chief Superintendent G C Fieldhouse*

### 'L' Division

Homer Road Solihull . . . . . Telephone No 021 705 7611  
*Chief Superintendent P D Hancox*

### 'M' Division

Little Park Street Coventry . . . . . Telephone No Coventry 22211  
*Chief Superintendent J P Bensley*

## ANNUAL REPORT 1979

Chief Constable's Office  
Administration Department

### POPULATION AND ACREAGE STATISTICS

Force Area in acres . . . . .	222,400.4
Population . . . . .	2,729,000
Acreage per Officer . . . . .	34.16
Population per Officer . . . . .	419.40
Rateable Value . . . . .	£398,900,000

### Authorised Establishment of the Force

Regular Force . . . . .	6,509
Cadets . . . . .	280
Civilians . . . . .	1,922
Traffic Wardens . . . . .	688

## WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

Police Headquarters  
Lloyd House  
Colmore Circus Queensway  
Birmingham B4 6NQ

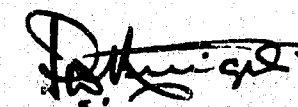
To: The Chairman and Members of the  
West Midlands Police Authority

MR CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I have the honour to present my report on the policing of West Midlands during the year 1979.

I have the honour to be,  
Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen

Your Obedient Servant



Chief Constable



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## Chapter I

### Introduction

1979 was another busy year for the West Midlands Police. The most notable development was the improved manpower figures, stemming principally from the enhanced rates of pay recommended in 1978 by the Edmund-Davies Committee and fully implemented during the year. The improved manning levels resulting from this and more particularly, from the drop in the wastage figure should enable the Force in 1980 to better meet the demands made of it and which, insofar as 1979 is concerned, are set out in detail in the pages of this report.

#### Retirement of Senior Officers

Chief Superintendent G Finch retired on 2 September 1979. He joined the Birmingham City Police in 1949 where in addition to uniform duties he spent two years in charge of the Explosives and Firearms Department. He also spent some time on the staff of the District Training Centre at Ryton-on-Dunsmore. He was promoted to the rank of Superintendent in 1971 and on promotion to the rank of Chief Superintendent in 1977 took charge of the 'E' Division until his retirement.

We take this opportunity of wishing him and his wife a very happy retirement.

#### Administration and Development

The past 12 months has not seen any radical changes in the administration of the Force and the opportunity has been taken to consolidate earlier re-organisation. During the year the Regional Conference of Force Administrative Officers was re-constituted and senior officers of the Headquarters departments attended three such meetings. These conferences have proved to be of considerable value in providing a forum where the broader issues affecting the provision of police administrative support can be explored.

As part of our involvement in giving effect to the Local Authority structure plan a three year development plan was prepared for the Force. This has assisted us in budget preparation and control and in phasing the implementation of necessary improvements. The plan has enabled officers in middle management to recognise better the reasons for often inevitable delays in the supply of resources by giving them an overview of competing demands. This plan will be updated of course from year to year.

A 12 month experiment in using a Police and Magistrates' Clerks' Computer System commenced at Walsall in July 1979. This is revealing the potential of computerised processing of police procedures before and after presentation of cases at Court although the benefits at this stage tend to be conceptual rather than tangible. Nevertheless, we are gaining clear ideas of what a courts computer system should contain.

July also saw the setting up in Management Services of a Force Computer Group headed by a Computer Manager. The former rather modest grades for posts in this speciality had left us unable to secure and retain professionals in this intensely competitive field. Some continuity and long term commitment is needed in all development work and at last I feel that we have set up a team with professional skills and able to provide a firm base for progress in this field into the 1980s.

The Management Services Department has continued to play a large part in keeping the Force and its systems up to date. Their activities throughout the year are shown in more detail in Chapter II.

The implementation of the Force catering re-organisation has continued and conventional catering has been reintroduced at four locations. The Force Catering officer has introduced an effective system of stock control, which, together with a programme of equipment standardisation, has enabled costs to be closely monitored.

I am pleased to report that the Catering arrangements in connection with large scale operations and demonstrations made a significant contribution to the successful policing of these situations.

#### Manpower

It is pleasing to report that during 1979 we recruited 648 officers into the Force. After taking wastage into account our manning level improved by 299, leaving us 349 officers short of our establishment. We had planned to reach an actual manning figure of 6,376 by March 1980. This does not now seem possible but should be achieved by the middle of the year. It should also be noted that 133 officers are seconded to special duties and are not included in our ordinary manning level figures.

During 1979 28.7% of our recruits were women as opposed to almost 40% in the previous year. Our net gain consisted of 211 men and 88 women, a much improved position compared with 1978. No doubt the enhanced rates of pay recommended by the Lord Justice Edmund Davies' report have made a police

career more attractive to male applicants but credit must also be given to the recruiting staff and the Training Sergeants on divisions, who keep in close contact with job centres, army re-settlement centres, schools, colleges and universities.

There is still no shortage of well-qualified applicants for the cadet corps. Rather more boys than girls were enrolled during 1979 and at the end of the year 52.8% of the cadets were boys, which will improve the number of men enrolling into the regular force during 1980 and 1981, making it easier for operational commitments to be met.

I am grateful for the loyal service given by civilian staff during the year. Mr T Bryson has now been appointed by the County Council as Senior Civilian Personnel Officer for the West Midlands Police to provide a more direct link between the County Personnel Officer and the Chief Constable. During 1979 every endeavour has been made to attain the authorised manning levels of 941 non-manual and 679 manual staff, but despite dealing with over 3,000 applications it has only been possible to achieve a net increase of three non-manual staff. In the case of manual staff there has been a decrease of four.

### Public Order

June 1979 sadly saw the return of terrorism to the county in the shape of letter bombs. Thirteen such devices either exploded or were defused at Post Offices in the Birmingham area. Only minor injuries were caused by those that exploded. The incidents necessitated protracted searches being undertaken at postal sorting offices and the manner in which this dangerous work was carried out reflected highly upon the officers concerned.

There were two major demonstrations during the year which entailed the cancellation of leave of all members of the Force and the use of mutual aid from other Forces. The first occasion arose as a result of a National Front Election Meeting held at Cronehills Primary School, West Bromwich, on 28 April 1979. On the same day Mr Enoch Powell MP gave a speech at a Public Meeting in Birmingham City Centre and the "Rock against Racism" movement held a torchlight procession in the evening in the Birmingham City Centre to protest at the activities of a local night club. The Police operation that was mounted prevented the outbreak of any large scale disorder. At the Election Meeting at West Bromwich a number of missiles was thrown at Police cordons surrounding the school. The meeting broke up and arrests were made. A total of 27 people were detained throughout the incident. Two thousand six hundred and seventy-five police officers were deployed including officers from Avon and Somerset Constabulary, Gloucestershire Constabulary, Greater Manchester

Police, Leicestershire Constabulary, Staffordshire Police, Warwickshire Constabulary and West Mercia Constabulary. I am indebted to the Chief Constables concerned for the support given.

The second occasion was the Rugby Match which took place at Coundon Road, Coventry, between the South African Barbarians Touring Team and the Coventry Rugby Football Club on 17 October 1979. This event had received much prior publicity and groups opposed to the rugby tour by the South Africans had threatened to prevent or disrupt the match. Some 2,000 police officers were deployed and mutual aid was provided from the Warwickshire, Staffordshire and West Mercia Forces. One thousand anti-apartheid demonstrators were present outside the ground to protest and to march into Coventry City Centre. The Police operation prevented any disorder or disruption to the game and only two people were arrested. A helicopter was used on this occasion to observe the build-up of demonstrators and the progress of the march. It enabled effective control of the incident to be maintained.

In addition, numerous protest marches by various factions took place around Birmingham City Centre and in other areas of the Force and although, on occasions, arrests were made, the divisions concerned were well able to police the situations without outside assistance.

The presence of Police was necessary on two occasions outside the British Leyland Plant at Longbridge. In early February assistance was provided to the Chief Superintendent, 'B' Division, from elsewhere within the Force area to contain a situation when violence was anticipated in connection with an industrial dispute. In November a similar dispute took place over the dismissal of a Trade Union Official and similar numbers of Police were present in anticipation of breaches of the peace. Both incidents, however, passed off peaceably and no arrests were made.

On 1 November, following an announcement by the British Steel Corporation concerning redundancies in Corby, Northamptonshire, the Force provided 150 officers to assist the Chief Constable of Northamptonshire to prevent anticipated disorder. However, this event also passed off without incident.

Football grounds continue to present public order problems and special arrangements exist to maintain order at and around the grounds of clubs in the Football League. A total of 214 football matches received special attention to prevent clashes between rival supporters. A combination of ground improvements, more severe Court sentences and improved police methods of controlling supporters has seen a welcome reduction in the amount of violence in and around football grounds. An independent study by Professor J Lewis, a visiting



American Academic, suggested that policing methods to counter football violence within the Force were singularly appropriate. The specialist services of both the Dog and Mounted Sections are regularly employed in connection with football grounds and officers from the Mounted Section have provided assistance to other forces in a similar capacity.

It was again a pleasure to police Royal Visits within the West Midlands area. A total of 13 visits was made by members of the Royal Family throughout the year. HRH Prince Charles visited Coventry and six separate visits were made to the various exhibitions at the National Exhibition Centre by other members of the Royal Family including HRH Princess Margaret, HRH Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips and HRH Princess Alexandra. A minimum number of officers commensurate with the smooth running of such visits is employed on these occasions.

### Crime

In my report of 1978 I commented that the marked upward trend of crime in 1977 had continued into the first four months of that year but the rate of increase has then slowed down until in November and December reported crime had actually shown a decrease, with the yearly figure showing a small decrease of 1.49%. At first view 1979 would appear to have continued this promising trend in that 147,350 crimes were recorded during the year, 4,488 (or 2.95%) less than in 1978. At the same time the overall detection rate improved, 54,702 crimes being cleared, an increase of 2.8% over 1978.

In fact, however, this was only half the story. The figures for January, February and March showed dramatic decreases of 25%, 10% and 12% respectively when compared with the similar months of 1978, indeed at the end of March 6,415 less crimes had been reported than at the same time the previous year. The only apparent reason which can be advanced for this is the very severe weather conditions with which the year opened. April saw a reversal of this favourable trend unfortunately and the remaining nine months of the year in fact showed an increase of 2.3% as compared with the last nine months of 1978 and at the time of writing this report the increase is continuing.

Crimes of violence involving death remained constant with 43 cases reported, 39 of which were recorded as murder and 4 as manslaughter. Thirty-seven of the offences of murder were detected. Five thousand eight hundred and ninety four crimes of wounding, serious and less serious, were recorded of which 4,107 were detected, amounting to 69.7%, an increase of 5.6% over 1978. The incidence of serious woundings has reduced by 8.7% as compared with the previous year but unfortunately the less serious woundings rose by 10.3%.

There was a slight but welcome reduction in cases of Arson, which were down by 1.4%. Criminal damage increased overall by 639 (7.79%) cases, which is a change in trend from 1978 when the increase was 19%. This is no doubt due in part to the increased patrols which it was possible to implement on territorial divisions as our strength improved. Burglaries in dwelling houses fell by 0.6% and in other buildings by 3%. Robberies, which have been the cause of a great deal of publicity over the past months, also reduced, by 5%.

There has been a welcome reduction too, in the Theft and Taking of motor vehicles, which decreased by 2,439 (9%) over the 1978 total.

### Traffic and Road Safety

I am pleased to report that I was wrong in the forecast I made in my report for 1978 of approximately 240 people being killed in road accidents during 1979. There was a reduction of 12.5 per cent in fatalities, resulting in 210 people dying, compared with the expected total which had been almost identical for the previous three years. Similarly, there was a reduction of approximately 2,000 in the number of people injured. I hope these figures auger well for the future, although there is still no room for complacency.

Speed is always one of the salient factors in the accident figures. Following an extensive study of new speed detection equipment, six KUSTOM HR4 Hand-held devices were purchased and, after demonstrations to Magistrates, Solicitors and the Media, were introduced in September. For a four week period all offenders were cautioned except the very blatant ones and at the same time extensive publicity was arranged. Prosecutions of speeding drivers were commenced on 1 October and by the end of the year 2,215 motorists had been reported as a result of the use of hand-held radar devices.

Efforts were made throughout 1979 to constantly remind motorists of their responsibilities generally and of the folly of excess speed in particular. Whilst other factors may well be involved, I am firmly of the view that our efforts have made a substantial contribution to the considerable reduction in fatal and injury accidents. We shall continue our efforts throughout 1980.

I have continued to be concerned by the abuse of the disabled persons' badge scheme. My concern is shared by other chief officers and arrangements were made for all police forces to collate evidence of abuse during the first six months of 1979. The figures for West Midlands indicated a total of almost 300 recorded examples of misuse of the scheme and with a similar picture emerging from other parts of the country it is clearly demonstrated that whilst there is a case for helping the genuinely disabled, a more stringent control of the issue and use of badges is necessary.

## Police Buildings

Restrictions on capital expenditure continued during 1979 and the Home Office now exercise strict budgetary control on all works of improvement or alterations over a value of £8,000.

A scheme for the Proposed Traffic and Transport Complex at Aston has been prepared in the County Planning Officer's department. Budgetary provision has been made for 1981/82 which would enable a start to be made on site about January 1982. Design requirements for a new sub-divisional headquarters at Woodbridge Road, Moseley, and a replacement combined divisional and sub-divisional headquarters at Dunstall Road, Wolverhampton, have been submitted to the Home Office but no indication has been given when financial provision might be allowed for their inclusion in the Building Programme.

The extensions to Erdington Police Station to form a sub-divisional headquarters were completed in September and immediately taken into use. The exceptionally extreme weather conditions during the early months of 1979 caused considerable delays to this scheme.

Energy conservation has now become a priority and a specialist team set up by the County Surveyor has prepared a report on the efficiency of all relevant police buildings. Some of the recommendations have already been implemented, whilst others will be carried out during the "shut down" period in 1980. Major improvements are likely to be required in approximately twelve buildings for which forward planning and financial provision will be required, but it is anticipated that expenditure on implementing improvements will be fully justified by savings on energy costs.

## Training

During the year the Training Department has concentrated on courses for uniformed and CID Officers and Cadets.

Post-promotion training has increased considerably and now involves one Chief Inspector and two Inspectors for a major part of the year. Following the ending of the pre-college course for Inspectors, the new national course for Officers in that rank has been introduced and is proving to be very successful.

The substantial increase in recruiting made it necessary to divide the intakes for training purposes. The increase in the number of classes placed considerable strain on classroom accommodation.

Women Probationary Officers have previously received instruction in statement taking in indecency offences. During the year a two-day course was introduced for all probationers to help them in this difficult area. An additional day's instruction in statement taking continues to be given to women probationers. Specialist training was again given to Tutor Constables, Resident Beat Officers and Station Officers and new courses were introduced for Collators and Field Intelligence Officers.

The demand for Detective training courses from Forces throughout the country has continued during the year, but the two-class courses will terminate in March 1980 and release valuable class-room accommodation for other purposes. The additional staff currently attached to the Detective Training School will then be released for operational duty.

Driver Training has seen the introduction of a Continuous Flow system of training on an experimental basis on standard courses. The method adopted releases course members for operational duty immediately they achieve the standard required. This system obviates the need for officers to always remain until the end of a scheduled course in order to obtain the necessary qualification.

Cadet recruitment has continued with numbers which also put a strain on the training resources. Educational training at the Matthew Boulton Technical College is under the auspices of the Business Education Council and certificates at General or National standard may be obtained depending on the academic qualifications of the individual Cadet. The introduction of basic adventure training for Cadets in advance of the annual summer camps resulted in some resignations of individuals who could not come to terms with the discipline and rigours of out-door life. The result however was that wastage on the annual camps was much reduced when compared with previous years.

The activities of the department continue to be conducted at a number of locations throughout the Force area and it is becoming increasingly evident that the Training School at Tally Ho and the accommodation elsewhere is quite inadequate for the needs of the West Midlands Police. The need for a new training establishment cannot be over-emphasised.

## Relations with the Community

Contained within the chapter which covers Preventive Policing are details of various community relations initiatives, the work of the Public Liaison Department, activities in respect to Attendance Centres, Press Relations and the Social Liaison Department.



Whilst consolidating our position in respect of the Multi-Agency approach in policing the areas of the Boulton and Castle Vale Estates in Birmingham and the Wood End Estate in Coventry, a further step has been attempted with this concept in the Lozells area of Birmingham. With the assistance of Inner City Partnership Funding, and a joint supporting committee of the Local and Statutory Agencies, initiatives have been drawn up which will hopefully ease some of the problems that now face us.

There have been instances during the year where police/community relations have been taxed, but the liaison that has already been established did much to allay fears and give perspective to situations. This would not have been possible without the support of the community.

The attitude of the community towards the Police is to some extent conditioned by what members of the public read, hear or see so we rely on responsible, accurate and informed reporting by the media. I am pleased to report that throughout the year we enjoyed a good working relationship with the press and television and I am grateful to all those editors, feature writers, reporters and photographers for the help they give us in our efforts to inform the public of the West Midlands what we are doing on their behalf.

#### **Acknowledgements**

Any successes which may have been achieved by the Force during 1979 are due not only to the conscientious, painstaking and enthusiastic way in which all ranks of the regular Force, cadets, traffic wardens, civilian support staff and Special Constabulary have performed their duties but equally to the support given by the Police Authority and the officials and staff of the West Midlands County Council. A modern police force, responsible for an area as large, complex and cosmopolitan as the County of West Midlands, demands considerable resources, and I am very grateful to the Police Authority and the County Council for the sympathetic way in which they have responded to all the requests made of them in this field.

In a metropolitan County, where many of the Services with which we must of necessity co-operate, are provided at District level, it is much more difficult to arrange our day to day affairs than is the case in non-metropolitan areas. The level of service given by the West Midlands Police during the year is as much a measure of the readiness of the officials of the District Councils to work with us as it is of the endeavours of the Force itself, and we are grateful to them. The help and support of the public at large, also, and particularly of the Press, is also appreciated; without it police work, as we know it in this country, would be quite impossible.

Finally, I acknowledge the loyal and ready support of the Deputy and Assistant Chief Constables and the representatives from the Staff Associations, Superintendents' Association, Police Federation and Trade Unions representing the Civilian Staff, all of whom have co-operated wholeheartedly in meeting the demands made of the Force and in advancing its level of efficient service to the citizens of West Midlands.

## Chapter II

### Administration and Organisation

#### ORGANISATION OF THE FORCE

The West Midlands Police Force covers the County of West Midlands. It is divided into 11 territorial Divisions, six of which, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull and Coventry, conform to a District Council area. The remaining five Divisions are within the Birmingham District.

All Divisions are divided into three sub-divisions with the exception of Solihull and one of the Birmingham Divisions, which have two sub-divisions each. A traffic division covers the whole Force area and is divided into four sub-divisions, one of which is responsible for policing the motorways within the County.

Each Division is under the control of a Chief Superintendent and a Superintendent has operational responsibility for each of the sub-divisions.

#### ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTH – REGULAR FORCE

Set out below is the authorised establishment and actual strength of the Force as at 31 December 1979, excluding seconded staff:—

Ranks	Authorised	Actual	Vacancies
Chief Constable	1	1	—
Deputy Chief Constable	1	1	—
Assistant Chief Constable	5	5	—
Chief Superintendents	20	21	+1
Superintendents	79	81	+2
Chief Inspectors	116	112	—4
Inspectors	359	360	+1
Sergeants	1041	1005	—36
Constables	4887	4574	—313
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6509</b>	<b>6160</b>	<b>349</b>

#### SUPERNUMARY AND SECONDED STAFF – 1979

At 31 December 1979 the following officers were supernumary to the authorised establishment of the Force:—

Commission Against Corruption Hong Kong	1 Chief Superintendent 1 Sergeant
Staff Officer to H M Inspector of Constabulary	1 Chief Superintendent
Seconded to Government of Jamaica	1 Superintendent
Seconded to Government of Cayman Islands	1 Inspector
Seconded to Royal Ulster Constabulary	1 Sergeant
No 4 Regional Crime Squad	1 Superintendent 2 Chief Inspectors 3 Inspectors 23 Sergeants 26 Police Constables
Midland Criminal Records Office	1 Superintendent 1 Chief Inspector 2 Inspectors 6 Sergeants 16 Police Constables
Home Office Forensic Science Laboratory	2 Sergeants
Central Drugs and Illegal Immigration Unit	1 Inspector
Driver Vehicle Licensing Centre, Swansea	1 Superintendent
Police Staff College	1 Superintendent 2 Chief Inspectors
Police National Computer School	1 Sergeant
Police Training Centre — Ryton-on-Dunsmore	4 Inspectors 14 Sergeants 2 Police Constables
Police Dog Training Centre Stafford	1 Sergeant



# **SERVICE OF MEMBERS OF THE FORCE** (Including seconded officers)

	Under 5 years		5-9 years		10-14 years		15-19 years		20-24 years		25-29 years		Over 30 years	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Chief Constable													1	
Deputy Ch. Constable									3		2		1	
Ass/Ch. Constables									11		6	1	4	1
Ch. Superintendents					2		7		28	1	45		3	
Superintendents						1	33	1	40	1	33		5	
Ch. Inspectors			1											
Inspectors			9	1	60	2	124	5	116	2	54	1	13	
Sergeants	4		137	10	353	11	257	3	148	5	123	1	3	
Constables	1585	580	903	82	643	22	351	13	251	3	174	1	10	
Grand Total - 6293	1589	580	1050	93	1060	36	772	22	597	12	437	4	40	1

## **DISTRIBUTION**

At 31 December the distribution of the Force was as follows. (Figures in brackets denote authorised establishment where it differs from strength).

DEPARTMENT	CC	DCC	ACC	Ch. Supt.	Supt.	Ch. Insp.	Insp.	Sgt	P C	TOTAL
Administration	1	1	5	1	1	2	3 <sup>(4)</sup>	6 <sup>(4)</sup>	9 <sup>(0)</sup>	29 <sup>(19)</sup>
Uniform Operations	-	-	-	1	1	-	1 <sup>(0)</sup>	1	-	4 <sup>(3)</sup>
Personnel/Recruiting	-	-	-	1	1	2	4 <sup>(3)</sup>	3	1 <sup>(0)</sup>	12 <sup>(10)</sup>
Complaints	-	-	-	1	4	1	10	3	-	19
Management Services	-	-	-	1	1	2	7 <sup>(5)</sup>	-	-	11 <sup>(9)</sup>
Summons and Warrant	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	5 <sup>(4)</sup>	32	40 <sup>(41)</sup>
Lock-Up	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	7	20 <sup>(29)</sup>	32 <sup>(41)</sup>
Special Plain Clothes	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	1 <sup>(3)</sup>	4 <sup>(12)</sup>	13 <sup>(36)</sup>	18 <sup>(52)</sup>
Training	-	-	-	1	2	5 <sup>(6)</sup>	11 <sup>(18)</sup>	33 <sup>(44)</sup>	33 <sup>(15)</sup>	85 <sup>(86)</sup>
War Duties	-	-	-	-	1*	(1)	1 <sup>(0)</sup>	(1)	-	2
Mounted & Dogs	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	7 <sup>(6)</sup>	33 <sup>(37)</sup>	44 <sup>(47)</sup>
Coroners	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3 <sup>(4)</sup>	8 <sup>(5)</sup>	13 <sup>(11)</sup>
S P G	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	8 <sup>(15)</sup>	70 <sup>(108)</sup>	82 <sup>(127)</sup>
C I D	-	-	-	2	4	13	30 <sup>(28)</sup>	86 <sup>(83)</sup>	194 <sup>(171)</sup>	329 <sup>(300)</sup>
Traffic	-	-	-	1	6	7	27 <sup>(28)</sup>	58 <sup>(67)</sup>	318 <sup>(438)</sup>	417 <sup>(547)</sup>
Communications	-	-	-	1 <sup>(0)</sup>	2	6	9 <sup>(5)</sup>	16 <sup>(10)</sup>	30 <sup>(28)</sup>	64 <sup>(51)</sup>
Public Liaison	-	-	-	-	1	-	(1)	-	-	1 <sup>(2)</sup>
Recruits in Training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	139	139
Total Headquarters	1	1	5	10 <sup>(9)</sup>	24 <sup>(23)</sup>	44 <sup>(47)</sup>	117	240 <sup>(264)</sup>	900 <sup>(899)</sup>	1342 <sup>(1366)</sup>
Divisions	* Regional Post									
B	-	-	-	1	5	5 <sup>(6)</sup>	19	67 <sup>(69)</sup>	344 <sup>(391)</sup>	441 <sup>(491)</sup>
C	-	-	-	1	4	4	15	61	340 <sup>(366)</sup>	425 <sup>(451)</sup>
D	-	-	-	1	6 <sup>(5)</sup>	6	23 <sup>(21)</sup>	64 <sup>(67)</sup>	331 <sup>(359)</sup>	431 <sup>(459)</sup>
E	-	-	-	1	5	6	22 <sup>(20)</sup>	75 <sup>(76)</sup>	394 <sup>(430)</sup>	503 <sup>(538)</sup>
F	-	-	-	1	5	6	27 <sup>(25)</sup>	65 <sup>(64)</sup>	350 <sup>(382)</sup>	454 <sup>(483)</sup>
G	-	-	-	1	6	7	25	83 <sup>(84)</sup>	330 <sup>(350)</sup>	452 <sup>(473)</sup>
H	-	-	-	1	5	6	23	68 <sup>(69)</sup>	297 <sup>(319)</sup>	400 <sup>(423)</sup>
J	-	-	-	1	5	6	23 <sup>(24)</sup>	72 <sup>(74)</sup>	277 <sup>(299)</sup>	384 <sup>(409)</sup>
K	-	-	-	1	6	8	23 <sup>(26)</sup>	78	381 <sup>(413)</sup>	497 <sup>(531)</sup>
L	-	-	-	1	4	6	18	49	203 <sup>(221)</sup>	281 <sup>(299)</sup>
M	-	-	-	1	6	8	25 <sup>(27)</sup>	83 <sup>(86)</sup>	427 <sup>(458)</sup>	550 <sup>(586)</sup>
Divisional Total	-	-	-	11	57 <sup>(56)</sup>	68 <sup>(69)</sup>	243 <sup>(242)</sup>	765 <sup>(777)</sup>	3674 <sup>(3988)</sup>	4818 <sup>(5143)</sup>
Force Total	1	1	5	21 <sup>(20)</sup>	81 <sup>(79)</sup>	112 <sup>(116)</sup>	360 <sup>(359)</sup>	1005 <sup>(1041)</sup>	4574 <sup>(4987)</sup>	6160 <sup>(6509)</sup>

## CIVILIAN AND MANUAL STAFF

The Authorised Establishment and Actual Strength of civilian staff and manual workers as at 31 December is as detailed below:-

	SENIOR OFFICERS & A P		CLERKS		TYPISTS		MISC.		TECH.		TOTALS				GRAND TOTAL	
	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.
<b>HEADQUARTERS</b>																
Administration	5	3	12	12	11	8	11	4	—	—	39	27	—	—	39	27
Personnel/Training/ Recruiting	8	7	19	17	11	8	11	6	1	—	50	38	31	22	81	60
Sports and Welfare	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	6	6	3	3	9	9
Special Constabulary	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	3	2
Management Services	13	10	15	14	4	4	—	—	—	—	32	28	—	—	32	28
Complaints	—	—	2	2	4	3	—	—	—	—	6	5	—	—	6	5
Press/Publicity	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	—	—	5	3
Public Liaison	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1
Surveyors	8	8	6	5	—	—	1	—	14	9	29	22	8	7	37	30
Supplies/Print/ Stationery	5	5	4	3	1	1	15	15	4	4	29	28	9	9	38	37
Central Property	2	2	2	2	—	—	10	6	—	—	14	10	—	—	14	10
Coroners	—	—	1	1	4	4	1	1	—	—	6	6	—	—	6	6
Summons and Warrant	—	—	9	9	—	—	14	8	—	—	23	17	—	—	23	17
Lock-Up	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	6	—	—	8	6	5	5	13	11
Mounted Branch	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	4	2
Dog Section	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	7	6	9	7
Special Patrol Group	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	3	2
Special Plain Clothes	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1
Welfare Funds	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
CID	7	7	50	48	18	15	—	—	20	14	95	84	—	—	95	84
Traffic	1	1	20	18	14	12	—	—	—	—	35	31	—	—	35	31
Garages	5	5	5	5	—	—	7	6	9	7	26	23	134	110	160	133
Motorway Sub-Division	1	1	2	2	5	3	—	—	—	—	8	6	4	3	12	9
Central Ticket Office	2	2	46	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	26	—	—	48	26
Communications	1	1	3	3	1	1	150	129	—	—	155	134	—	—	155	134
	69	60	201	169	80	63	230	182	48	34	628	508	204	165	833	673
<b>DIVISIONS</b>																
B	2	—	10	4	18	18	1	1	1	—	32	23	58	47	91	70
C	2	—	8	3	18	13	—	—	1	—	29	16	33	26	62	42
D	2	—	16	9	14	14	—	—	1	—	33	23	38	36	71	59
E	2	—	11	6	18	18	1	1	1	—	33	25	46	44	79	69
F	2	—	16	10	10	10	—	—	1	1	29	21	40	34	69	55
G	2	—	17	11	31	28	—	—	—	—	50	39	57	50	107	89
H	3	1	21	13	28	21	—	—	—	—	52	35	44	40	96	75
J	3	1	13	10	31	25	—	—	—	—	47	36	61	47	108	83
K	3	1	18	7	44	32	—	—	—	—	65	40	60	54	125	94
L	2	—	23	15	13	12	—	—	—	—	38	27	40	38	78	65
M	4	2	27	21	25	23	3	2	—	—	59	43	66	54	125	102
	27	5	180	109	250	214	5	4	5	1	467	333	543	470	1010	803
<b>REGIONAL</b>																
Mid C R O	—	—	14	9	4	2	2	2	—	—	20	13	—	—	20	13
Fingerprints	6	6	1	1	—	—	1	1	20	20	28	28	—	—	28	28
No. 4 R C S	—	—	5	4	7	7	4	4	—	—	16	15	2	2	18	17
Disq. Drivers Index	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	4	4
	6	6	24	18	11	9	7	7	20	20	68	60	2	2	70	62
	102	71	406	296	341	284	242	193	73	55	1163	901	749	637	1913	1538

## RECRUITING

1979 saw the best year for recruitment to the West Midlands Police since the inception of the Force. Four thousand one hundred and eighty-nine applications for appointment resulted in 648 officers being enrolled, an increase of 99 over the previous year. Of those recruits who joined the Force 28% possessed 5 or more GCE 'O' levels and 2.5% have a University degree.

During August, in addition to the normal Entrance Examination, a dictation test was introduced. This is proving a valuable guide in both the selection process and at the interviewing stage. Medical rejection of those persons attending for final interview showed a small percentage increase of 5% over 1978 figures and likewise the Force Selection Boards demanded a higher standard of recruit, rejecting a total of nearly 14% of all who appeared before them, an increase of almost 5% over 1978. The effect of increased recruiting has meant that during 1979 there has been a net gain of 299 officers (211 men and 88 women) compared with 130 (6 men and 124 women) in the previous year.

The following table analyses applications for appointment and their subsequent disposal:-

	1 January 1979 — 31 December 1979		
	Men	Women	Total
Total number of applications	2962 (2281)	1227 (1035)	4189 (3316)
Applications not pursued	1715 (1411)	664 (604)	2379 (2015)
Rejected before final interview and withdrawals	698 (441)	341 (170)	1039 (611)
Attended for final interview	549 (429)	222 (261)	771 (690)
Rejections at final interview:-			
Medical	15 (14)	10 (5)	25 (19)
Force Selection Board	72 (38)	33 (22)	105 (60)
Withdrawn after acceptance	12 (16)	6 (8)	18 (24)
Accepted	450 (361)	173 (226)	623 (587)
Enrolments:-			
Recruits	361 (245)	129 (162)	490 (407)
Police Cadets	60 (61)	51 (46)	111 (107)
Reappointment as Constables	18 (18)	4 (10)	22 (28)
Transfers	23 (7)	2 (0)	25 (7)
Total	462 (331)	186 (218)	648 (549)
Pending enrolment — 31 December 1978	82 (*52)	36 (*28)	118 (*80)
Pending enrolment — 31 December 1979	70 (82)	23 (36)	93 (118)

Figures in brackets indicate 1978 figures. \*Indicates 1977 figures

Much of the work conducted throughout the year concentrated in building upon foundations and relationships established during the previous year. This paid dividends particularly with schools, colleges and universities and to some extent guarantees future recruits of good calibre for the Service. Rapport with university Careers and Appointments Officers increased and the number of university degree holders joining the West Midlands Police was the greatest ever. Apart from numerous talks given and exhibitions attended, the liaison with Army Re-settlement Centres continued and plans are being formulated to extend this successful means of recruiting mature persons to similar Naval and Air Force establishments.

There is no doubt that the united efforts of Recruiting Office personnel, Divisional Training Sergeants and the services of the Advertising Agency, Universal McCann Limited, played a great part in achieving the high level of recruitment.

There appears to be every indication that given the current level of applications being maintained into 1980, the 3.3% deficiency of establishment at 31 December will be overcome shortly after the completion of the current financial year.

Wastage amounting to 349 persons during 1979 depicts a lower figure than for that of the previous year, which may be partially attributable to the increased pay scales, the uncertainty of industry and the economy generally. The overall increase in recruiting 99 persons more than in the previous year has brought the Force at 31 December 1979 to the highest ever figure for actual establishment, there being a shortfall of only 349 officers.

The following table shows educational qualifications of recruits joining in 1979:-

	Ex-Cadets		Direct Entrants	
	M	F	M	F
Graduate	—	—	13	3
2 or more 'A' Levels	—	—	34	6
5 or more 'O' Levels	11	12	80	35
Less than 5 'O' Levels	49	39	275	91
Total	60	51	402	135
Total Recruits (462 Male 186 Female)				

Publicity

The Advertising Agency has continued to spread the name of the West Midlands Police throughout the region to good effect. In particular, the newly prepared brochure does much to portray a Force with a modern image.

We continue to advertise in school magazines, local press and armed services publications, and an experiment during the latter part of the year with a 'Job Centre' campaign at all West Midlands employment centres provided a surprising number of enquiries and subsequent applications.

Graduate Entry Scheme

During 1979 22 Graduates/Undergraduates applied for entry to the West Midlands Police under the Graduate Entry Scheme. Twenty of these were subsequently interviewed and 16 recommended as being suitable for further consideration. Twelve were called for extended interview but of this number only one was successful. The successful applicant, in fact, declined the offer of an appointment.

Of the original 22 applicants, 9 have since joined the West Midlands Police as normal entrants and they are included in the overall figures of 16 Graduates who joined the Force during 1979.

WASTAGE DURING THE YEAR

The following table shows losses due to retirement, resignations etc.

	Chief Cons.	DCC	ACC	Chief Supt.	Supt.	Chief Insp.	Insp.	Sgt.	Cons.	Total
Pension on completion of service	—	—	—	1	7	6	15	28	41	98
Pension—Ill Health	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7
Resigned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	183	184
Dismissed or required to resign	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8
Transfers to other Police Forces	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	29	31
Died	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	7	9
Services Dispensed with—(Regulation 16)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	12
Total	—	—	1	2	7	6	15	31	287	349



## POLICE CADETS

A total of 229 persons was enrolled into the Police Cadets during 1979, bringing the strength at the end of the year to 303. The number of Police Cadets joining the Regular Force during the year was 111, an increase of four over the previous year.

Cadet recruitment posed few problems, for the number of applicants increases every year. The 1979 figure of 2,662 applications shows a 558 increase over the previous years figures. It is significant that the proportion of boys enrolled has risen dramatically when compared with last years figures.

	1 January — 31 December 1979					
	Boys		Girls		Total	
Total number of applications	1246	(1012)	1416	(1092)	2662	(2104)
Enrolled	122	(84)	107	(133)	229	(217)
Joined Regular Force	60	(61)	51	(46)	111	(107)
Resignations	15	(10)	46	(18)	61	(28)
Dismissed	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strength as at 31 December 1979	160	(113)	143	(133)	303	(246)

Figures in brackets indicate 1978 figures.

## CIVILIAN RECRUITING

Whilst every endeavour has been made to attain the authorised manning levels of 941 non-manual and 679 manual staff, it has only been possible to achieve a net increase of three non-manual staff and a decrease of four manual staff. During the course of the year over 3,000 applications were dealt with.

## PROMOTIONS

Mr D H Gerty was appointed Assistant Chief Constable (Crime) on 1 February 1979.

The following substantive promotions were made during the year:—

	Male	Female
To Chief Superintendent	3	—
To Superintendent	10	1
To Chief Inspector	20	—
To Inspector	60	1
To Sergeant	125	4
Totals	218	6

## PROMOTIONS EXAMINATIONS

	Officers Examined	Qualified
Examination in April 1979 to Inspector	334	66
Examination in November 1979 to Sergeant	681	109

At 31 December 1979 the number of officers qualified by examination for promotion was:—

*Sergeants qualified for promotion to Inspector*  
Male 268  
Female 6

*Constables qualified for promotion to Inspector*  
Male 32  
Female 2

*Constables qualified for promotion to Sergeant*  
Male 202  
Female 7

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT

During 1979 a total of 103 Promotion Assessment Boards and Interview Panels were held. Seven hundred and eighty-seven candidates appeared before these Boards.

## HONOURS, COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

### British Empire Medal

Constable F H Grant

### Queens Gallantry Medal

Constable I R Talbot  
Constable M J Marden

### Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

Constable J A Bixter  
Constable B J Martin  
Constable W Smith  
Constable S H Theaker

One officer received the Royal Humane Society Testimonial on Parchment, five officers received the Royal Humane Society Resuscitation Certificate. Nine officers received the Society for the Protection of Life from Fire Framed Certificate.

One hundred and five members of the Force were commended for exemplary police work as detailed below:—

By the Courts	50 officers
By the Police Committee	2 officers
By the Chief Constable	53 officers

In addition, 759 officers received Chief Superintendents' Commendations.

### **POLICE LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL**

During the year 131 officers became eligible for the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

### **DEGREE AWARDS**

The following officers of the Force were awarded degrees during the year:—

#### **Doctor of Philosophy**

Chief Inspector A J P Butler

#### **Master of Science**

Chief Inspector C Roche

Inspector D Cocker

Police Sergeant D M Wiseman

#### **Bachelor of Science**

Inspector N Watterson

#### **Bachelor of Law**

Inspector L J Cross

#### **Bachelor of Arts—Open University**

Superintendent D J O'Dowd

Superintendent B S Windmill

Inspector R F Allen

Inspector A G Smith

Detective Sergeant M J Stocker

### **LETTERS OF APPRECIATION**

During the year 1,135 letters were received from persons wishing to express their appreciation of the service, advice or assistance given by members of the Force.

## **DISCIPLINE**

The year has seen a significant increase in the number of disciplinary charges preferred against police officers. Disciplinary proceedings were taken against 53 officers (an increase of 15) in respect of 87 charges (an increase of 38).

There were 12 charges of criminal conduct, 17 charges for neglect of duty, 18 for falsehood, 12 for abuse of authority, 13 for discreditable conduct, 7 for disobedience of orders, one for misconduct towards another member of a police force, two for improper disclosure of information, four for corrupt or improper practise, and one for being an accessory to a disciplinary offence. In respect of these charges 52 were admitted and 35 denied.

The outcome of the disciplinary proceedings was that one officer was dismissed, seven officers were required to resign, and six officers were reduced in rank. The remainder were dealt with by reduction in pay, fine, reprimand or caution and four charges were dismissed.

## **COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS**

### **Section 49, Police Act 1964**

In 1979, 1,726 complaints were received from 915 members of the public and resulted in 820 investigations. The outcome of the investigations was that 21 complaints were found to be substantiated and 311 not substantiated, with 1,394 complaints still under investigation at the end of the year. One hundred and seventeen complaints were withdrawn or not proceeded with by the complainant. Twelve police officers appeared before disciplinary hearings as a result of complaints from members of the public.

The 21 substantiated complaints comprised one related to assault, four related to neglect of duty and 11 related to incivility, with five related to other matters.

Complaints completed during the year, irrespective of the year in which the complaint was originally received, totalled 1,900. The complaints had been made by 843 members of the public and resulted in 736 investigations. One hundred and twenty four complaints were found to be substantiated, 1,234 not substantiated and 542 complaints were withdrawn or not proceeded with by the complainants.

The substantiated complaints comprised 18 related to incivility, 34 to neglect of duty, nine to assaults, 21 to irregularity in police procedures, one to a traffic irregularity and three to mishandling of property with 38 related to other matters.

Following the investigation of their complaints, ten complainants made formal representation expressing dissatisfaction with the findings.

At the request of the Deputy Chief Constable, two investigations were conducted by officers from other police forces.

## **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS**

Of the complaints completed during 1979 a total of 657 were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions. Of these, 644 related to alleged criminal matters and the remaining 13 to alleged traffic offences. The Director recommended prosecution for one offence concerning assault occasioning actual bodily harm and the officer was found "not guilty".

A further 90 allegations of a criminal nature were not referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions. In each case the complaint was withdrawn and there was no evidence to indicate that a criminal offence had been committed by any police officer.

## **POLICE COMPLAINTS BOARD**

The Police Complaints Board is an independent body, established by the Police Act 1976, whose responsibility is to examine the papers which relate to complaints recorded within the provisions of Section 49, Police Act 1964, and to decide whether to accept the decision of the Deputy Chief Constable as to the further action, if any, to be taken.

Of the 1,900 investigations completed during 1979 a total of 1,521 were referred to the Police Complaints Board. (In the remaining 379 cases the complaint was withdrawn before the Police Complaints Board was notified of the complaint). On no occasion did the Board find reason to disagree with the decision of the Deputy Chief Constable.

## **Other Alleged Offences by Police Officers**

Complaints alleging the commission of offences by police officers received from other sources, usually internal, totalled 272. Of these 47 related to criminal matters and 225 to traffic offences. These figures represented a decrease of 38 such complaints compared with 1978.

Of those reports referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for his advice proceedings were recommended in five criminal and 61 traffic matters with five replies still outstanding at the end of the year. In subsequent court proceedings

against 51 serving officers, four were convicted of criminal offences and 47 of traffic offences. One officer was allowed to resign before criminal proceedings were instituted.

## **COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE DEPARTMENT**

There is a Chief Superintendent in overall command of this Department. A considerable amount of expertise has been built up since the formation of the Force in 1974 and each complaint against the Police and every allegation of a disciplinary nature is thoroughly investigated. Only a minority of cases results in formal action but the system provides an opportunity to look at Force procedures and practices relative to the investigations. In this way the work of the Department provides a valuable service perhaps more closely allied with an inspectorate function.

In May 1979 a study of the department was made to review the staffing levels and recommendations were made for an increase of one Superintendent and one Inspector in the administrative section.

The investigation section consists of four investigation teams of one Superintendent and two Inspectors.

The Department dealt with 116 investigations of complaints recorded under Section 49, Police Act 1964, which represents 14.15% of the total of 820 such investigations for the year; with the remainder being carried out by operational divisional Superintendents or Chief Superintendents. The Investigation Section also carried out 20 disciplinary enquiries and 335 investigations into miscellaneous matters.

## **MOUNTED BRANCH**

The establishment of the Mounted Branch is one Chief Inspector, one Inspector, six Sergeants, 41 Constables and six civilians with 34 horses. Six horses became unfit for further service during the year. Four new horses were purchased and provision has been made to bring the horse strength up to establishment in the near future.

Sixteen Divisional Constables attended basic riding courses during the year and 12 completed the course. Four of these officers have since been transferred into the Mounted Branch to fill vacancies.

Daily uniformed patrols have been carried out from each of our seven stables and additionally the services of Mounted officers were called upon for crowd



control duties at demonstrations and marches. Although having a heavy commitment to the five major football grounds in the Force area mutual aid has been rendered to Derbyshire Constabulary on five occasions and to Nottinghamshire Police on one occasion, to cover matches with potentially troublesome visiting teams. Mutual aid has also been rendered to Leicestershire Police on the occasion of a large scale demonstration and march and to Warwickshire Constabulary for the Royal Show.

In competitive showing the Mounted Branch had its best year ever gaining 13 1st prizes from the 14 shows with Open Police Classes. Sergeant Turner won the Premier Tent Pegging Trophy at the Royal Tournament against all comers in the Mounted Police and the Services.

Mounted officers in ceremonial dress again attended a passing out parade at the District Training Centre, Ryton-on-Dunsmore.

The Birmingham International Horse Show was held at the National Exhibition Centre early in the year and the Musical Ride was performed on the opening and closing days. Equitation and pegging displays have been given throughout the Force area and several hundred school children and other interested parties have attended the Riding School at Tally Ho! and Richmond Hill to watch horses and officers under training.

## DOG BRANCH

The establishment of the Dog Branch is one Chief Inspector, one Inspector, 14 Sergeants and 79 Constables (plus one Policewomen Constable attached) with 99 dogs.

During the period under review handlers attended 18,114 incidents and were involved in the arrest of 2,680 persons for various criminal offences. One hundred and twenty-three items of property were recovered varying from stolen property abandoned by the thief whilst escaping from the scene of a crime to tools, implements and weapons used in the commission of offences.

The two labrador dogs trained to locate the drug cannabis have now been trained to locate a second illegal drug, heroin. They have carried out 53 searches. A second dog has been trained to locate hidden firearms and explosives. Nineteen such searches have been carried out.

The handler of the year was Constable Corbett ('G' Division) and his dog 'Major'. They attended 417 incidents which resulted in the arrest of 61 persons. He received the inscribed trophy presented by Handsworth Rugby Union Football Club.

In competitions, the Branch has been particularly successful gaining six 1st prizes at Championship Standard. The demonstration team has attended 21 functions and 243 talks were given to various organisations.

## MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The personnel in this department comprises 12 police officers and 12 administrative and professional civilians. The aim is to provide a multi-disciplinary approach to research and development projects and it is regarded as most important that the police officers selected should possess a combination of practical experience with more academic and analytical skills. It is inevitable that, since most officers come for a two year attachment, there is a considerable turnover of staff. Only seven staff members in post at the end of the year were in the department at the beginning.

Lack of continuity has been most acutely experienced in computer professionals and nowhere is it more important. Grades are being reviewed and we hope no longer to be at such high risk of losing our qualified staff after a short period. We are confident that the team assembled under our Computer Manager will achieve significant development progress to the benefit of both operational officers and management.

The new Command and Control System was taken into use in February 1979 and the dual system became operational in June 1979. Unfortunately, resource problems at West Midlands County Council have delayed implementation of the street index and the management information system and has denied us the full benefits of the outlay. The Traffic Accident System is satisfactory. The Personnel Records System requires a review. We are finding the Police Accountant's Creditors System to be a substantial cost saver. The forthcoming cessation of the Crime Statistics System on the Coventry District Council ICL 4/72 has necessitated investigation into alternative means of meeting this need. The main development work concerns the Force Crime Information System and other projects include the use of micro/mini computers, word processors and computer graphics.

The Organisation and Methods Section has carried a vacant post for the whole year. Apart from their specialised input into the development of computer systems their main involvements include reviews into the need for vehicles and vehicle allowance allocations, a revised working system for vehicle repair and maintenance, the use of witness questionnaires to assist traffic accident investigations and the evaluation of all reprographic facilities.

Police staff have undertaken major research into force establishment, measuring

all types of non-effective time and detailed activity analysis. Studies have been carried out into reducing the time police officers spend in court, the effectiveness of supervision, the enforcement of excise licence offences and the use of Command and Control printouts for reporting purposes.

Development projects have included extension of operational briefing to the whole Force in July 1979, extending our destruction of documents policy, identification of officers and support units at major events, and procedures for holding disqualified driver details on the Hendon PNC.

Detailed work has been required to determine necessary accommodation requirements for new buildings currently in the development phase. These include the new Central Garage at Aston, the proposed Divisional/Sub-Divisional Headquarters at Dunstall Road, Wolverhampton, and police requirements in the new terminal building at Birmingham Airport.

The Establishment Review Team completed assessments of need in Crime Prevention, Mounted Branch, Antecedents, Special Plain Clothes, Stolen Car Squad, Commercial Branch, Fingerprints and Central Information Unit. Other updates and regrading applications were handled. There has been an increase of one Inspector on the team to assist in developing agreed policy and terms of reference for departments prior to review.

The Force Suggestion Scheme was implemented in February 1979. A total of 64 suggestions was submitted in the year. In some cases the officers producing ideas were attached to the department to carry out research and refinement of their concepts. The Force Suggestions Board, sitting annually, agrees on monetary rewards and citations of commendation to officers whose ideas are of special merit.

The department continues its liaison functions by providing links with Divisions, Sub-Divisions, other Forces, Regional and National organisations and outside bodies. Apart from assisting with information gathering this side of the work assists development of ideas, feedback, understanding and implementation.

### STATISTICAL BRANCH

During 1979 the Branch has continued to operate the Crime Recording system using the Coventry local authority computer, and has dealt with an increasing number of requests, both statistical and in connection with operational enquiries. In addition, a number of complex searches have been undertaken for outside bodies, including HM Prison Winson Green, and the Social Science Research Council.

The programme for the production of prosecution statistics on a Divisional basis has been established on the West Midlands County Computer, and is operating satisfactorily. Further developments are in hand for the provision of a print selection programme, and a programme related to arrest and summons statistics.

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

This is a division of the County Treasury based at Lloyd House, which provides a full payroll, financial and accounting service to the Chief Constable and his staff.

The annual budget for the Police Authority is now some £80 million per annum of which approximately 90% represents pay and pensions.

The department prepares payrolls for some 8,000 police and civilian staff and 2,500 pensioners. Two major pay awards were implemented during the year.

In consultation with the various departments of the Force the Finance Department prepares and monitors the annual budget, pays all bills and expenses and prepares the final accounts of the Authority.

The Police Accountant Mr S Harmer I.P.F.A., moved to another post at County Hall at the end of the year after five years in the post. His place has been taken by Mr B G Tipton I.P.F.A.

### SPECIAL PATROL GROUP

The Special Patrol Group is a mobile reserve of officers which has an operational strength of one Chief Inspector, three Inspectors, eight Uniform Sergeants, one Detective Sergeant, 70 Uniform Constables and eight Detective Constables.

Throughout the year active support has been given to Divisional Chief Superintendents where, very often at short notice, problems have arisen requiring experienced manpower. Officers have been employed in all types of police work including street patrols, searches, murder enquiries, raids on licensed premises and drugs raids as well as regularly attending football matches, marches and demonstrations. Its equally important role is that of supplementing Divisional Officers to prevent and detect crime and maintain order.

During the year 1,310 persons were arrested by Special Patrol Group officers. Of these arrests 31.5% were for criminal offences.

As well as continuing their own training in the various forms of crowd control the Special Patrol Group has assisted in the instruction of Divisional personnel on a regular basis, including training in the use of protective shields.

## **HOME DEFENCE DEPARTMENT**

The Home Defence Department is under the control of a Superintendent who is also the Staff Officer to the Regional Police Commander (Designate). The staff of the Department comprises of one Superintendent, one Inspector, one Sergeant and one civilian typist. The Department has the overall responsibility for the co-ordination of national/regional war duties training, war planning and police war instruction, the national warning and monitoring system, and the West Midlands County Emergency Plan.

Training for Home Defence consisting of lectures and films was given to Sergeants and Constables on a Force basis. For officers of the rank of Chief Inspector and Inspector one week courses were organised on a regional basis. Details of other courses are as follows:—

### **Home Defence College, Easingwold**

The Deputy Chief Constable, one Assistant Chief Constable, four Chief Superintendents, three Superintendents and two Chief Inspectors attended seminars at the Home Defence College.

### **Regional Home Defence Courses**

Two residential courses, each of one week duration, were held at the Training Centre, Tally Ho, and were attended by four Chief Inspectors and 27 Inspectors.

### **Air Reconnaissance Training**

Training in air observer duties has been provided by members of the University of Birmingham Air Squadron for one Superintendent, two Inspectors and one Constable.

### **Warning and Monitoring**

Tests on the Handel and WB 600 air raid siren equipment were carried out quarterly at the five carrier control points within the Force area located at Stourbridge, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Chelmsley Wood and Coventry Police Stations. In addition, the WB 400 carrier line broadcast system was tested on two occasions.

Two national exercises were held to test the WB 400 system and Home Defence personnel were engaged on each occasion.

## **Maintenance Policy**

Work continues on replacing pre 1947 sirens and 82 such sirens were replaced during the year.

## **Liaison**

A considerable amount of liaison is accomplished with various organisations including the Post Office, Electricity Boards, Local Authorities and all sections of the community including the public, industry and private sectors where the early warning equipment is installed.

## **UNDERWATER SEARCH UNIT**

The Underwater Search Unit has carried out a total of 93 diving operations. The Unit has Regional Police responsibility and carried out eight searches for West Mercia Police, six searches for Warwickshire Police and four for Staffordshire Police. Experience has shown that an early request for the Unit can save many hours in the investigation of crime or recovery of bodies.

The Unit has been responsible for the recovery of a large quantity of property which has included six motor cars, two motorcycles, two pedal cycles, a sack containing a large quantity of drugs stolen from a veterinary surgeon's car, two safes, a knife used in a serious wounding, a rifle, a quantity of shotgun parts, a 16ft sailing dinghy valued at £1,600 and petrol tank from a Volkswagen Caravanette that had been specially modified for the importation into this country of controlled drugs. At the beginning of 1979 the country was experiencing a very severe winter and many of the searches were carried out in not only dirty and polluted water but also under several inches of ice.

One of the more regrettable tasks of the Unit was to recover seven bodies. The waters in the West Midlands area claimed as victims two male adults and two boys aged nine and seven years. The body of a 60 year old man was recovered from the River Leam at Leamington, that of a 24 years old man from the River Severn at Holt Fleet and the body of a 16 year old boy from the River Wye at Ross-on-Wye.

Two members of the Unit successfully completed a four week Diver Leader/ Supervisor Course at the Northumbria Police Diving School.



In addition to search activities members of the Unit gave static demonstrations at ten Police Open Days and to two schools. Members also gave talks to various clubs and assisted Divisional Personnel with lectures to Duke of Edinburgh Award Candidates.

The Officer in Charge of the Unit, in his capacity as the No 3 ACPO Region representative upon the ACPO Sub-Committee on Police Underwater Search Units, together with two other members of that committee was involved in completing a study of rope signals used by diving units with a view to standardising those signals throughout the country.

**POLICE STORES**

Clothing and equipment for both regular and civilian personnel was provided from the Central Clothing Stores, Bournville Lane, Birmingham. In addition, a mobile stores vehicle visited Divisions 'G' to 'M'.

The report of the West Midlands County Council O & M Team was accepted and as a result more streamlined procedures for the control of stock and the maintenance of uniform and equipment have been introduced to provide a more efficient service.

**SPECIAL CONSTABULARY**

The Special Constabulary has continued to render assistance to the Regular Police by providing additional cover both in routine patrolling and by the performance of special duty at major functions. The policies recommended by the Police Advisory Board Working Party on the Special Constabulary have now been implemented and have proved acceptable to the Special Constabulary as a whole.

The year was notable in the fact that the rate of wastage decreased considerably and 144 new Special Constables were enrolled. It is significant that the majority of these new entrants were under 24 years of age and the average age of the Special Constabulary is in all probability now below that of the Regular Force.

The establishment of the Special Constabulary at 31 December 1979 was:—

	Authorised Establishment	Actual Establishment
Chief Commandant	1	1
Divisional Commandant	11	11
Sub-Divisional Officers	31	30
Section Officer	124	90
Special Constables	1240	568
Total	1407	700

This is a decrease of 45 in comparison with the previous year.

On 31 December 1978 there were 44 outstanding applications for membership of the Special Constabulary. Of these 27 were accepted and 17 were rejected. During the year 328 applications for membership were received, an increase of 115 over 1978. The increase is due to the recruiting compaigns which have been promoted at both local and national levels. The Home Office produced brochure on the Special Constabulary contains photographs of West Midlands Special Constables, illustrating the various types of work they undertake.

Although the number of applicants has been high, it is unfortunate that the level of acceptances is not likewise. For various reasons it is not possible to accept all applicants and the standard demanded by Interview Boards remains extremely high. Of the 328 applicants, 145 were accepted; 176 rejected and 7 enquiries remain outstanding.

There were 189 resignations during the year, including 36 members who retired on age limit and 11 who joined the Regular Force.

Following a review of the training of Special Constables, a new recruit training programme was introduced. Newly appointed Special Constables now attend a series of lectures at the Police Training Centres at Tally Ho and Walsall. Once these have been completed the member is issued with uniform and a complete day, normally a Saturday, is spent at the Police Training Centre, Tally Ho. Here the newly appointed Special Constable deals with a series of practical incidents which they are likely to face once they commence normal patrol duty. I am certain that newly appointed Special Constables are now far more able to cope with the problems which are likely to face them than ever before.

The winter training programme has also been re-organised and more practical demonstrations have been introduced into the monthly training evenings.

**Long Service Awards**

The annual presentation of Long Service awards took place at the Police Training Centre, Tally Ho, in March 1979 when the awards were presented by the Chairman of the West Midlands County Council, Councillor G S N Richards, CBE, himself a retired Divisional Commandant of the Special Constabulary. Twenty four Long Service medals, and 17 Long Service bars were presented. In addition, 57 awards were made to Special Constables who had retired, one having completed in excess of 20 years voluntary service.

In November the Chief Commandant, Mr Walter G Sealey, retired on age limit

and was succeeded by Mr Collin R Lynch. Mr Sealey first joined the Special Constabulary in 1931 and became Chief Commandant of the West Midlands Police Special Constabulary shortly after the Force was formed. The re-organisation recommended by the Police Advisory Board Working Party and its successful implementation was carried out under his guidance. I am grateful to Mr Sealey for the service he has given and extend to him our best wishes for the future.

JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Joint Advisory Committee, under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Chief Constable, has held monthly meetings which were attended by representatives of the Superintendents' Association and the Joint Branch Board of the Police Federation. The Committee considers matters relating to the implementation of National and Local agreements so far as they affect work, conditions, welfare and training as well as all general issues affecting the efficient operation of the Force.

Uniform and equipment, catering and the publication of books and forms are monitored by sub-committees.

ANNUAL INSPECTION

The Annual Inspection of the Force was carried out during the period 9 to 24 July 1979 by Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary, R N Buxton OBE BEM QPM.

Chapter III

Training

TRAINING

Force training takes place at Tally Ho, Walsall Training School and 'B' Division Headquarters, Bournville Lane, Birmingham. This latter venue is utilised for the training of Probationary Constables and Communications Training only.

The activities of the Training Department have expanded throughout the year with the biggest increase in commitments being to post-promotion training. Newly promoted Sergeants and Inspectors Courses have engaged a Chief Inspector and two Inspectors on an almost full-time basis.

A newly designed Sergeants Refresher Course was introduced which Sergeants will attend every fourth year in order to be up-dated on law and procedures.

Two new courses were designed and conducted. The first was for Collators and Field Intelligence Officers. Three courses of three days duration were held. The second was for Inspectors on Communications and Computer Appreciation. A pilot course has been conducted.

The format of the promotion examinations has been changed and consequently the whole of the training programme for the examinations is under review, particularly regarding instruction in techniques to ensure that candidates understand the objective part of the examination.

STAFF

The authorised establishment of the Training Department is as follows:—

Chief Superintendent	1
Superintendents	2
Chief Inspectors	6
Inspectors	17
Sergeants	44
Constables	15
Total	85

One temporary Detective Inspector and one Detective Sergeant continue to be

carried over establishment but will return to operational duty when double class Initial Detective Training Courses end in April, 1980.

## **INSTRUCTOR TRAINING**

Twenty six places on Student Instructor Courses were allocated to the West Midlands Police. Three Inspectors, 22 Sergeants and one Constable attended and all but two Sergeants and the one Constable successfully qualified.

## **LAW RESEARCH**

During the year the Law Research Unit again expanded the facilities of the Library at Tally Ho.

The Law Conspectus continues to inform the Force about new legislation and current case law, as well as including articles of interest and occasionally advertising courses available for Police Officers.

Operational Officers now appear to be fully aware of the facility available and telephone enquiries on points of law and procedure have again exceeded 1,000.

## **PROBATIONER TRAINING**

### **Induction Course**

This course is conducted at Bournville during the week before recruits attend the Initial Course at a District Training Centre and at this time recruits are issued with uniform and are given their training commitments for the probationary period.

Ten courses during the year accommodated 639 Constables.

### **Local Procedure Course**

Immediately after their return from District Training Centre, recruits attend a two week course at either Bournville or Walsall Training Schools, during which time they receive instruction concerning matters of a purely local character. Five hundred and ninety-six Constables attended the 20 courses held.

### **Junior Training Course**

A one-week course in the ninth month of service is held to consolidate Initial Training.

Twenty-five courses were held and 513 probationers attended.

## **Intermediate Training Course**

A one-week course, held in the fourteenth month of service, this is mainly concerned with Road Traffic Law.

Twenty-two courses were held and 418 Constables attended.

## **Senior Training Course**

A one-week course is attended by Probationary Constables immediately prior to their Continuation Course at District Training Centre.

Twenty-two courses were held and 421 Constables attended.

## **Basic Crime Course**

This course takes place towards the end of a Constable's probation and is designed to instruct him in the procedures and practice of crime detection.

Twenty-three courses were attended by 341 officers.

## **Indecency Courses**

Four one-day courses were held during the first part of the year, to assist Probationary Policewomen in dealing with Indecency cases. Fifty-four Officers attended.

In April a two-day course was introduced to train young officers in the special skills needed to deal with indecency offences. Both male and female officers attended the course, but women officers were given one additional day of instruction on statement taking and the searching of prisoners in connection with these offences.

Twenty-five courses were attended by 320 Constables.

## **REFRESHER TRAINING**

### **Constables**

This course is of two-weeks duration and is attended by Constables at five yearly intervals.



Twenty-one courses were attended by 467 Officers.

### **Sergeants**

This course is designed to up-date Sergeants in Law and procedure. It is of three weeks duration and is attended by Sergeants at four yearly intervals.

Six courses were attended by 92 officers.

## **POST PROMOTION COURSES**

### **Inspectors**

A regional course is held of four-weeks duration designed to assist newly Promoted Inspectors in their duties; it is of a managerial nature based upon a nationally approved syllabus.

Five residential courses at Tally Ho were attended by 49 West Midlands Inspectors and 22 officers from Warwickshire, Staffordshire and West Mercia Forces.

Four West Midlands Inspectors attended a similar course held at the West Mercia Constabulary Training School.

### **Sergeants**

This is a three-week course attended by Sergeants within six months of the date of promotion. The main subject matter is concerned with management.

One hundred and five Sergeants attended the eight courses held and eight Sergeants from Warwickshire were also accommodated.

## **SPECIALISED COURSES**

### **Aston University Course**

A full-time course of ten weeks duration is organised for the West Midlands Police leading to a part Diploma in Business Administration.

Twenty-three officers attended the two courses held and all were successful

### **National Education Board — Supervisory Studies Course**

In July, 1979, nine officers completed a course at Hall Green Technical College,

Birmingham. This is a part-time course over a full academic year, designed to improve officers' supervisory skills.

All students were awarded a National Education Board Certificate.

Twenty-two West Midlands police officers are attending the current course which commenced in September, 1979.

## **Promotion Examination Classes**

The system of evening classes commenced during 1978 was continued and two classes each of two hours duration, were conducted twice weekly for two periods of 22 weeks. One period was devoted to preparation for the Sergeants examination and one for the Inspectors examination.

An examination was held towards the end of each series of classes to determine who would attend Special Study Courses.

### **Special Study Courses**

During March, 1979, two courses were attended by 29 candidates for the promotion examination to the rank of Inspector.

In October five courses, attended by 104 officers, were held to assist candidates taking the examination to the rank of Sergeant.

## **Promotion Examination**

The Training Department continued to have responsibility for the administration of the two examinations held during the year.

### **Home Defence — Regional**

Two residential courses were held at Tally Ho, each of one-week duration and 31 West Midlands officers attended together with 44 police officers from other forces in the No 3 Region and 5 Royal Air Force personnel.

### **Home Defence — Home Office College**

The Deputy Chief Constable, one Assistant Chief Constable, four Chief Superintendents, three Superintendents and two Chief Inspectors attended courses at the Home Defence College, Easingwold.

### Public Order Training

The Training Department continued to be responsible for the administration of half day exercises in Crowd Control for Divisional personnel and a further series commenced in November, 1979.

### Tutor Constables Course

During the year 16 two-day courses were held at Tally Ho and Walsall, designed to better equip constables to assist probationers attached to them. Two hundred and twenty-three constables were trained.

### Resident Beat Officers Course

Eight one-week courses were held with a view to training Resident Beat Officers in their particular duties. One hundred and twenty-four constables attended.

### Station Officers Course

A one-week course is provided for sergeants and constables engaged or likely to be engaged in Charge Office Duties. Ten courses were attended by 159 officers.

### Public Speaking Course

Two courses, each of one-week duration, were attended by 15 officers who received instruction in the techniques of public speaking and use of visual aids.

### Firearms Training

A total of 2,474 man days were spent on training officers in the use of firearms. This included refresher and initial training.

### Television Interview Techniques

Twenty-seven officers attended one of nine half-day seminars during which time they received advice from Mr Brian Gibson of the B.B.C., in order to improve their expertise in the television interview situation.

### Operational use of Closed Circuit Television

Three courses each of one-day duration were attended by 14 officers from specialist departments. The course is designed to inform the student of the operational use of television.

### Pre-retirement Course

Four courses, each of four days duration, were held at Tally Ho, to advise

officers approaching retirement of facilities available to them in civilian life. Ninety-eight officers attended.

### Undergraduates Acquaintance Visit

Fifteen Undergraduates attended the Training School at Tally for four days in January and were shown a wide range of Police activities with a view to considering the Police as a career.

### Special Constables

One hundred and thirty-seven special constables attended initial training courses either at Tally Ho or Walsall Training School.

Each constable attended six evening classes and one full day at Tally Ho.

### COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING — COMMAND AND CONTROL

#### Sub-Divisional Controllers

One hundred and fifty-six sergeants attended a five day course.

#### Force Control Room

Two chief inspectors, ten constables and seven civilian staff attended a five day course.

#### Traffic/Motorway

Five constables from Traffic Division attended a course during the year.

#### Police National Computer

Courses of four days duration have been conducted throughout the year and the following have attended—

Chief Inspectors	2
Inspector	1
Sergeants	174
Constables	49
Civilian Staff	15

In addition 79 sergeants and 23 constables received a one day refresher course.

#### Message Switching System — Teleprinter Network

Sixty sergeants, 90 constables and 15 civilian staff received a four day course.

## CID TRAINING

During the year the following courses were held at the Detective Training School, Tally Ho.

4 Junior Courses	ten weeks
4 Advanced Courses	six weeks
2 Refresher Courses	three weeks
1 Fraud Investigation Course	three weeks

The courses were open to officers from all forces in England and Wales, the R.U.C., British Transport Police and Ministry of Defence Police.

A total of 292 officers attended the courses, of whom 34 were West Midlands Police officers.

## COLLATORS AND FIELD OFFICERS COURSE

A newly designed course, of three days duration, was offered to acquaint officers with indices, the Criminal Intelligence System and the use of informants and information.

## DRIVING SCHOOL

The Headquarters is located at Halesowen Police Station where all types of car training and Traffic Patrol officers' courses are carried out. Car training is also carried out at wings based at Bournville Lane Police Station, Birmingham, and Chelmsley Wood Police Station. All motor cycle training is now carried out at a wing based at Stourbridge Police Station. At standard level the Continuous Flow method of driver training is used, and for an experimental period of 12 months, only full licence holders are being trained (this experimental period will end on 31 July 1980, when it will be evaluated).

Type of Course	No. of Courses	Students	Number Qualified	
Standard 'A'	—	128	Grade 4	D of T
Standard 'A' Refresher	8	71	83	12
			45	—
Standard 'B' Car Course	19	222	Grade 3	Grade 4
Standard 'B' Refresher	30	294	66	132
			150	118
Advanced Car	21	156	Grade 1	Grade 2
Advanced Car Refresher	5	24	51	81
			17	6
Standard Motor Cycle	15	63	Grade 4	D of T
			45	8
Conversion Motor Cycle	12	36	Grade 3	Grade 4
			23	4
Advanced Motor Cycle	10	35	Grade 1	Grade 2
Advanced Motor Cycle Refresher	2	6	9	17
			5	1
Heavy Goods Vehicle	8	15	Class 1	Class 2
			8	3
HGV Refresher Course	14	28	Passed	
Traffic Patrol Officers	4	39	25	
TPO Refresher Course	3	24	34	
Instructors Course	2	12	24	
			10	
Casual Tests (including motorcycle and civilian)		381		
Re-tests after accident		37		

## INSPECTORS' COURSES

Hutton Hall, Lancashire  
Greater Manchester

8 Inspectors  
1 Inspector

## POLICE STAFF COLLEGE COURSES

Inspectors Courses

8 Inspector

Junior Command Course

15 Inspectors

Intermediate Command Course

3 Chief Inspectors

Senior Command Course

9 Superintendents

1 Chief Superintendent

1 Superintendent

## CID COURSES

### Detective Training Course — Bristol

Junior Course

4 Detective Constables

Advanced Course

2 Detective Sergeants

### Detective Training Course — London

Junior Course

4 Detective Constables

Advanced Course

2 Detective Sergeants

### Detective Training Course — Liverpool

Junior Course

4 Detective Constables

### Detective Training Course — Preston

Junior Course

3 Detective Constables

### Detective Training Course — Wakefield

Junior Course

3 Detective Constables

Advanced Courses

3 Detective Sergeants

### Scenes of Crime Courses — Durham

Photographic Course

1 Detective Sergeant

Forensic Course

2 Detective Constables

2 Detective Sergeants

1 Detective Constable



### Fraud Courses

Hendon

1 Detective Inspector  
1 Detective Constable

### Special Branch Courses

Initial Course  
Advanced Course

6 Detective Constables  
1 Detective Ch. Inspector  
1 Detective Inspector

### Drugs Courses

Bristol  
Liverpool

1 Detective Sergeant  
1 Detective Sergeant

### MANAGEMENT COURSES

Honiley Hall — Inspectors Course

1 Chief Inspector  
3 Inspectors

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Honiley Hall, Wolverhampton  
(*Police in the Community*)

30 Constables

Wakefield  
(*Public Relations*)

1 Chief Inspector  
1 Inspector

Derby  
(*Newly appointed Community  
Relations Officers*)

2 Sergeants

Holly Royde  
(*Police and Community Relations*)

1 Assistant Ch. Constable  
1 Superintendent

### POLICE NATIONAL COMPUTER COURSE

Hendon

2 Sergeants

### AIRCRAFT CRASH DRILL

Stanstead

1 Chief Superintendent  
1 Superintendent  
2 Chief Inspectors  
4 Inspectors

### BRAKES COURSES

Banbury

24 Constables

### T V PRODUCTION COURSES

Plymouth Polytechnic

1 Sergeant  
1 Constable

### AIR OBSERVER COURSE — HELICOPTERS

Dollar Air Services — Coventry

1 Chief Inspector  
5 Inspectors

### DOGS COURSES — STAFFORD

Initial Course  
Refresher Course

16 Constables  
2 Constables

### DRIVING COURSE

Teeside

2 Constables

### SENIOR OFFICER'S COURSE

Lincoln

2 Chief Inspectors

### ACCIDENT PREVENTION COURSE

Brighton (ROSPA)

2 Sergeants

### TRAFFIC & ROAD SAFETY COURSE

Crowthorne, Berks

1 Inspector

### FIRST AID

Recruits joining the Force received an Initial Course in First Aid at District Training Centre, except ex-cadets who normally are already qualified.

During the year 1937 officers attended local courses of instruction to requalify in First Aid. Three hundred and seventy-eight failed at the first attempt, but all but 23 are now qualified.

### FIRST AID COMPETITIONS

In the Police National First Aid Competition, the West Midlands men's and women's teams were both placed third in their competitions.

In the St John Ambulance Association High Grade Competition, the men's team were first, whilst the women's team came fifth.

**ROYAL LIFE SAVING AWARDS**

The following awards were gained by members of the Force:—

Preliminary resusciation	1
Elementary award	425
Intermediate award	429
Bronze medallion	198
Bar to Bronze medallion	16

**CADETS**

**Cadet Training**

On enrolment cadets must be at least 16 years of age and if their progress is satisfactory, they join the Regular Force at 18½ years. Their training programme is dependent on age of entry into the Corps.

**Induction Course**

Induction Courses are designed to train the young people enrolled into the Cadet Corps to a high standard of smartness and self discipline, to make them aware of their role as police cadets and to bring them to a level of physical fitness comparable with cadets already in the Corps.

In 1979 two induction courses were held.

On Monday 8 January 56 cadets of an older age group were enrolled and underwent a four week training course at Tally Ho! One girl resigned during the course and on completion the remainder began senior departmental training.

One hundred and seventy-four cadets joined the Corps on 20 August and, because of the large number enrolled, facilities at Birmingham University were utilised. Three girls resigned during training and on completion of their course the remainder were dispersed as follows:—

135 to college to continue their education
36 to Senior Departmental Training

**Academic Training**

Facilities are available at Matthew Boulton Technical College for cadets to

continue their education. Because of the comprehensive training programme designed for cadets and the limited time they serve in the Corps it is only possible for them to study subjects requiring involvement for less than two academic years.

At the commencement of the 1978/79 academic year a Business Education Council Diploma Course at General Award level was introduced. It was designed for police cadets by representatives from Matthew Boulton College and senior police officers and, with BEC approval, provided cadets with the opportunity of gaining a nationally recognised qualification. The course consists of eight modules namely, People and Communication, Business Calculations, Policeman in the Community, Law and the Individual, Government, Data Processing, Community Studies and Work Experience.

One hundred and twenty-two cadets commenced studying for this award and the results were as follows:—

83 obtained a BEC Diploma (11 with credit passes)
20 were refused in one subject

On completion of the academic year the course was evaluated and two modifications were made to the educational programme.

In September 1979 cadets began the following revised educational programme:—

**Cadets possessing four GCE 'O' levels or more (four term course)**

BEC National Certificate of eight modules namely People and Communications, Numeracy and Accounting, the Organisation and its Environment I and II, Introduction to Public Administration I and II and the Developing Social Structure of Modern Britain and its Social Services.

**Cadets with less than four GCE 'O' levels (three term course)**

BEC General Certificate consisting of People and Communication, Business Calculations, The Role of the Police in the Community and Community Studies.

The remainder of the time available is devoted to selected GCE 'O' 'O/A' and/or 'A' level subjects depending on the ability of the cadet.

**Departmental Training**

During the senior stage of training, depending on their age, cadets complete

the following:—

- A three month attachment to a Division
- A two month attachment to Community Service
- One month posting to a Control Room
- One month Adventure Training (see later)
- Three months Beat Patrol
- Any remaining time attached to HQ Departments

Cadets attending educational establishments take normal school vacations. During the vacations all cadets undertake community work of one sort or another.

In 1979 assistance was given to 18 organisations who were running holidays for physically and mentally handicapped children, playschemes and camps for children from deprived backgrounds.

The scheme whereby cadets attended international work camps in Europe and the Scandinavian countries was re-commenced this year and 20 cadets were sent abroad in the summer. They worked in Germany, Switzerland, Denmark and Norway and provided valuable assistance to the community, quite apart from the experience they personally gained.

### **Physical Training**

Physical training for cadets is carried out at Tally Ho! and all cadets attend weekly training days throughout their cadetship.

The activities covered include physical training, swimming, lifesaving, drill, sport and an introduction to adventure training. Emphasis on a training day is placed upon discipline, physical fitness and deportment.

### **Adventure Training**

All boy and girl cadets underwent a four day basic introductory adventure training course. It was designed to teach them the elementary rules of camp craft, safety on the mountains and orienteering and to acclimatise them to that type of environment.

During the summer all cadets attended the Police Cadet Camp situated in the Elan Valley. The programme covered all sections of adventure training such as climbing, canoeing and mountaineering. It is a demanding and testing time for cadets and again proved to be very successful. Account was taken of the

physical capabilities of the girl cadets and the rigorous training programme modified slightly.

In May a team of six boys and two girls were included in more than five hundred teams from various organisations who took part in a walk on Dartmoor referred to as the Ten Tors Expedition. It involved navigating a route on the moors over a two day period. Teams were expected to be entirely self sufficient and to camp out over night. The boys walked 45 miles and the girls walked 35 miles. All three teams were very successful, completed the course and were presented with medals and certificates.

### **First Aid**

Instruction classes were held at Tally Ho during 1979 and 141 cadets qualified for awards during the year.

In January the National Competition for the Peter Guthrie Trophy was held at Ripley, Derbyshire. One cadet team was entered from this force and was placed in sixth position.

### **Cadet Open Day**

This year was the 150th Anniversary of the police service and the celebrations commenced with a Cadet Open Day held at the Tally Ho Training Centre. A large crowd saw the passing out parade on the August induction course and watched cadet demonstrations consisting of continuity drill, gymnastics, log and first aid displays and a solo performance of bagpipe music. The day concluded with a display by the police motorcycle team.

### **Voluntary Activities**

Cadets assisted with the Lord Mayor's Procession, Birmingham Show, Carnival processions, Remembrance Day Parades, Police Open Days etc. In total there were 46 such events.

In this Year of the Child cadets held a charity discotheque dance and the proceeds were donated to a local home for handicapped children. In addition they organised and participated in a sponsored basketball match which provided money for equipment needed by St John Ambulance Brigade.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme**

This scheme is entirely voluntary and while no awards were gained in 1979, 35 cadets were engaged in the Gold Award training.



## **Sport**

The cadet Corps has continued to maintain an interest in a variety of sporting activities. Cadets have participated in the following:—

### **Association Football**

During the 1978/79 season the Corps entered a team in the Walsall Minor League. They competed against local teams and finished in a creditable position in the league.

For the 1979/80 season the team returned to the Birmingham and District AFA League and were entered in division six. The cadets competed against an older age group which has broaden their experience and offered a greater challenge.

The West Midlands Cadet team competed in the Police National Football Competition, losing in the first round to the Metropolitan Police.

### **Rugby Football**

It has been quite a successful year for cadets in this sport. Unfortunately inclement weather at the beginning of the season caused the cancellation of many matches. In total ten games were played of which six were won and four were lost.

Seven cadets were selected for county under 19 trials.

Six cadets were invited to take part in trials for the British Police Cadets XV.

### **Athletics**

The Regional Championships were held at Warley and West Midlands boy and girl Cadets were first in the overall placing.

The National Championships were hosted by the Metropolitan Police in June and cadets achieved good results. Boy Cadets A Birtless and D Scriven were 1st and 2nd respectively in the discus. Other placings were Boy Cadet D Scriven 2nd (Javelin), Boy Cadet A Martin 2nd (3000 metres), Girl Cadet M Turl 2nd (1500 metres), Girl Cadet R Lawn 3rd (High Jump) and Boy Cadet Ashley 3rd (110 Metres hurdles).

### **Cross Country**

In March a boy's and girl's team competed in the Regional Cross Country

Championships at Stoke-on-Trent. Both teams won very convincingly. In the four mile race for boys Cadets A Rowley, T Buffrey and J Ashley finished in 1st, 2nd and 3rd places respectively. In the race for girls over two miles West Midlands Cadets finished in similar positions when represented by Cadets M Turl, K Bissell and S Christmas.

In the National Championships held in April the boy's team finished fourth and the girl's were placed third in that race.

### **Swimming and Life Saving**

Swimming instruction is given to all cadets as part of their training programme and once they reach a standard of proficiency they progress to life saving training.

In 1979, 143 Life Saving Awards were achieved consisting of two Teachers Certificates, 97 Bronze Medallions, 5 Bars to Bronze Medallions, 8 Awards of Merit and 41 Intermediate Awards.

In addition 14 cadets passed the ASA Preliminary Teachers Swimming Awards.

During the year two girl's teams and one boy's team were entered in the Life Saving Championships. In the Regional heats held at Walsall all three teams achieved excellent results. The girl's team finished in first and second place in the Alington Cup and the boy's team were first in the West Riding Cup. In the National finals at Durham the girl's teams were 2nd and 7th while the boy's were placed fifth.

The National Cadet Swimming Championships were held at Stockport in May and West Midlands Cadets were entered in individual and relay events. Cadet K Wilkinson won all four individual girl's races. The girl's team won the Free-style Relay and finished 3rd in the Medley Relay. The male cadets team achieved fifth place in the final of the Medley Relay.

### **Judo**

In September the National Police Cadet Judo Championships were held at Aberdeen and six girl cadets represented the Corps.

Cadet J Cook won the gold medal in the under 66 kg event.

### **Other Sports**

Cadets have continued to show an interest in several other sports including hockey, netball, basketball, and badminton. They have been provided with the facilities and given instruction and encouragement.

## Chapter IV

### Crime

Actual strength and disposition on 31 December 1979

Headquarters Staff — Specialist Departments etc.

	Chief Superintendent	Superintendent	Chief Inspector	Inspector	Sergeant	Constable	Aides to CID	Civilians	TOTAL
Operations	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Support Services	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Antecedents	—	—	—	3	5	10	—	7	25
Central Information Unit	—	—	1	1	3	10	—	30	45
Coroners Department	—	—	1	1	3	6	1	5	17
Commercial Branch	—	—	3	3	5	7	—	2	20
Criminal Intelligence	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	5
Technical Support Unit	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	4
Crime Prevention	—	—	1	2	1	2	—	1	7
Drugs Squad	—	—	1	4	11	17	1	2	36
Explosives and Firearms	—	—	1	1	5	15	—	4	26
Photographic	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	10	11
Scenes of Crime	—	—	1	1	11	26	—	7	46
Serious Crime Squad	—	1	1	1	8	16	—	3	30
Special Branch	—	1	3	5	16	40	—	15	80
Stolen Car Squad	—	—	1	3	3	8	2	1	18
No 4 Regional Crime Squad	—	1	2	1	21	24	—	16	65
Regional Criminal Records Office	—	1	—	1	5	8	—	22	37
Fingerprints	—	—	1	1	2	7	—	28	39
Social Liaison Department	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>516</b>

### RECORDED CRIME

During the year 147,350 crimes were recorded and Table 'A' shows the incidence of crime on each of the territorial divisions.

The detection rate for all crime for the year was 37% which is an increase of 3% over 1978.

A total of 54,702 crimes was detected.

The main variations in recorded crime during 1979 as compared with the previous year were as follows:—

#### Increases

Wounding Section 20/47 .....	496	10%
Theft Pedal Cycles .....	291	5%
Arson and Criminal Damage .....	625	7%

#### Decreases

Wounding Section 18 .....	55	9%
Burglary Dwelling .....	112	0.6%
Burglary Other Buildings .....	675	3%
Robbery .....	60	5%
Theft from Vehicles .....	700	4%
Theft and Taking of Vehicles .....	2439	9%
Other Thefts .....	617	3%

# CRIMINAL STATISTICS — 1979

TABLE 'A'

NATURE OF CRIME	'B' Division Population: 280,000		'C' Division Population: 189,000		'D' Division Population: 235,000		'E' Division Population: 286,000	
	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.
Offences against the Person	4	3	4	4	3	3	7	6
Murder	2	2	1	1	1	—	1	1
Threats to Murder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manslaughter	1	1	—	—	2	2	67	50
Death by dangerous driving	44	43	65	53	47	35	560	324
Wounding Section 18	384	251	359	237	498	344	—	—
Wounding Section 20/47	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
Abandoning Child	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Child Stealing	1	1	2	2	4	3	1	2
Buggery	11	7	10	7	1	1	10	6
Indecent Assault — Male	—	—	—	—	6	7	74	33
Indecency with Males	6	4	14	6	96	51	1	1
Rape	77	27	77	29	1	1	21	16
Indecent Assault — Female	2	—	1	13	13	10	—	—
U S I — Girl under 13 years	21	17	14	2	2	2	1	1
U S I — Girl 13 — 16 years	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	1
Incest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abduction	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bigamy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Offences Against Property — Burglaries etc.	2472	710	2506	589	1704	651	1999	885
Burglary Dwelling	9	7	5	2	3	—	6	3
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	2175	554	2094	520	2153	523	2432	914
Burglary Other Buildings	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	1
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	19	19	23	21	21	20	41	42
Going Equipped for stealing	98	32	148	37	107	31	139	35
Robbery	8	3	11	2	13	2	2	—
Assault with intent to Rob	2	1	3	2	3	3	2	—
Blackmail	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Offences Against Property — Theft etc.	108	15	142	13	101	11	111	18
Theft from the Person	287	69	191	53	182	72	307	91
Theft in a Dwelling	148	141	101	84	109	102	125	118
Theft by Employee	7	3	3	—	3	1	5	2
Theft of Mailbags	714	62	389	33	512	99	696	150
Theft of Pedal Cycle	1626	229	1299	177	1481	204	1370	463
Theft from Vehicles	546	471	329	240	800	681	367	257
Theft Shops and Stalls	135	44	89	25	88	29	117	43
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	20	15	16	13	11	12	13	11
Theft of Electricity	3487	588	2349	681	2705	579	3377	1221
Theft & Unauthorised Taking of M/Vehicle	1718	300	1343	262	1537	263	1596	381
Other Thefts	3	3	3	3	13	12	8	7
False Accounting	397	278	343	251	284	187	353	220
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	143	140	86	83	97	95	128	124
Handling Stolen Property	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Criminal Damage	38	12	42	12	39	11	58	9
Arson	844	179	806	170	720	169	966	242
Criminal Damage	39	32	25	24	18	17	50	45
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affray	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Perjury and False Statements	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTALS	15601	4267	12902	3656	13400	4245	15024	5731
TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION	56.7	15.2	68.2	19.3	57.0	18.0	52.5	20.0
DETECTION RATE	27.4	28.3	31.7	38.1	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2
Totals — 1978	15898	4224	13543	3787	13289	3737	15802	4777
Detection Rate — 1978	26.6	28.0	28.1	30.2	28.1	30.2	30.2	30.2

## CRIMINAL STATISTICS

TABLE 'A'

NATURE OF CRIME	'F' Division Population: 53,000		'G' Division Population: 260,600		'H' Division Population: 268,600		'J' Division Population: 301,000	
	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.
Offences Against the Person	2	2	5	6	4	3	1	1
Murder	4	3	2	1	—	1	—	1
Attempt Murder	2	1	1	1	1	1	—	—
Threats to Murder	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Manslaughter	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Death by Dangerous Driving	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Wounding Section 18	108	77	55	38	24	15	24	26
Wounding Section 20/47	513	323	611	433	444	327	480	370
Child Stealing	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Buggery	1	—	3	2	2	2	1	1
Indecent Assault — Male	13	10	10	7	6	2	4	4
Indecency with Males	20	14	4	4	12	8	4	4
Rape	8	2	7	1	4	1	5	4
Indecent Assault — Female	97	26	55	19	62	18	53	32
U S I — Girl under 13 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	3
U S I — Girl 13 — 16 years	11	5	28	23	23	20	30	27
Incest	—	—	2	3	2	1	2	1
Procuracion	1	1	4	4	—	1	—	—
Abduction	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—
Bigamy	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Concealment of Birth	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Offences Against Property — Burglaries etc.	493	76	1654	420	988	209	980	407
Burglary Dwelling	4	3	3	2	1	—	1	2
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	1470	294	2460	856	2101	456	1743	603
Burglary Other Buildings	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	59	58	10	11	11	11	18	20
Going Equipped for Stealing	122	32	100	37	54	17	31	10
Robbery	5	1	11	3	2	—	2	2
Assault with intent to Rob	5	1	2	2	1	2	5	6
Blackmail	2	2	—	—	1	1	1	1
Kidnapping	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Offences Against Property — Theft etc.	358	85	156	27	43	6	28	5
Theft from the Person	81	18	222	96	148	60	142	65
Theft in a Dwelling	180	171	96	89	81	75	72	67
Theft by Employee	1	1	22	4	17	2	6	—
Theft of Mailbags	233	6	599	96	431	58	226	39
Theft of Pedal Cycle	1654	562	1558	374	1300	206	1076	277
Theft from Vehicles	2285	2046	1444	1242	948	811	962	857
Theft Shops and Stalls	88	26	150	64	102	61	59	25
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	10	9	52	41	16	16	38	39
Theft of Electricity	2808	880	1796	523	1607	427	1245	428
Theft & Unauthorised Taking of M/Vehicle	1869	374	2103	614	1510	352	1550	459
Other Thefts	6	6	14	14	9	9	15	16
False Accounting	793	599	427	286	200	146	271	233
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	101	100	130	131	151	147	158	155
Handling Stolen Property	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Criminal Damage	36	12	64	18	55	17	38	24
Arson	896	228	828	220	761	139	694	180
Criminal Damage	53	49	62	56	33	35	25	21
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	8	8	6	7	2	1	—	—
Affray	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Perjury and False Statements	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	4	3	5	5	—	—	2	1
GRAND TOTALS	14411	6119	14769	5785	11159	3666	9977	4417
TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION	271.9	115.4	56.7	22.2	41.5	13.6	33.1	14.7
DETECTION RATE	42.5	39.2	32.9	44.3	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2
Totals — 1978	15721	5765	15330	5171	11795	3974	9463	4005
Detection Rate — 1978	36.7	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.7



# CRIMINAL STATISTICS

TABLE 'A'

NATURE OF CRIME	K' Division Population: 312,000		L' Division Population: 203,000		M' Division Population: 340,800	
	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.
<b>Offences Against the Person</b>						
Murder	4	4	2	2	3	3
Attempt Murder		1				2
Threats to Murder					1	1
Manslaughter			1	1	2	2
Death by Dangerous Driving	54	39	17	15	71	53
Wounding Section 18	558	400	254	177	677	477
Wounding Section 20/47						
Abandoning Child	1	1				
Child Stealing						
Buggery	4	4	1	1	3	5
Indecent Assault Male	11	7	5	5	16	14
Indecency with Male	3	3	3	3	5	6
Rape	14	10	2	2	6	3
Indecent Assault - Female	79	33	34	26	103	51
U S I - Girl under 13 years	2	2			2	1
U S I - Girl 13 - 16 years	50	46	13	14	32	32
Incest	2	2	1	1	2	1
Procuration						
Abduction						
Bigamy					1	1
Concealment of Birth						
<b>Offences Against Property -- Burglaries etc.</b>						
Burglary Dwelling	1106	316	662	331	2360	971
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	6	1	4	1	3	1
Burglary Other Buildings	2779	899	647	257	2853	1073
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings			3	2	1	
Going Equipped for Stealing	6	6	7	6	57	54
Robbery	51	22	12	5	103	37
Assault with Intent to Rob	6	2	2	2	8	
Blackmail	3	2	1	1		
Kidnapping						
<b>Offences Against Property--Thefts etc.</b>						
Theft from the Person	114	10	26	8	105	27
Theft in a Dwelling	190	68	124	39	354	149
Theft by Employee	158	152	99	96	120	110
Theft of Mailbags	6	1	2	1	12	5
Theft of Pedal Cycle	430	56	402	52	1016	179
Theft from Vehicles	1442	328	881	185	2034	619
Theft Shops and Stalls	947	825	781	722	1701	1549
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	78	26	38	11	99	36
Theft of Electricity	61	51	3	3	30	33
Theft & Unauthorised Taking of M/Vehicle	2339	687	1130	551	2872	1173
Other Thefts	1828	523	927	212	2528	641
False Accounting	10	8	6	6	12	12
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	311	242	176	143	614	508
Handling Stolen Property	191	189	166	167	226	224
<b>Criminal Damage</b>						
Arson	68	19	27	11	162	48
Criminal Damage	895	189	429	105	1122	282
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	33	33	6	4	37	38
<b>Other Offences</b>						
Affray	4	4	2	2	3	4
Perjury and False Statements					2	2
Miscellaneous	3	3			5	5
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	13847	5214	6896	3170	19364	8432
<b>TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION</b>	44.4	16.7	34.0	15.6	56.8	24.7
<b>DETECTION RATE</b>	37.7		46.0		43.5	
Totals - 1978	14070	4993	6484	2738	20443	8868
Detection Rate - 1978	35.5		42.2		43.4	

# CRIME - ALL DIVISIONS

TABLE 'B'

Nature of Crime	Population : 2,729,000	
	Crimes Committed	Crimes Detected
<b>Offences Against the Person</b>		
Murder	39	37
Attempt Murder	6	7
Threats to Murder	9	8
Manslaughter	4	4
Death by Dangerous Driving	6	6
Wounding Section 18	576	444
Wounding Section 20/47	5318	3663
Abandoning Child	4	3
Child Stealing	3	3
Buggery	20	20
Indecent Assault - Male	93	68
Indecency with Males	55	46
Rape	83	40
Indecent Assault Female	807	345
U S I - Girl under 13 years	15	10
U S I - Girl 13 - 16 years	256	223
Incest	18	15
Procuration	5	6
Abduction	7	5
Bigamy	6	4
Concealment of Birth	1	1
<b>Offences Against Property -- Burglaries etc.</b>		
Burglary Dwelling	16924	5565
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	45	22
Burglary Other Buildings	22907	6949
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	10	7
Going Equipped for Stealing	272	268
Robbery	965	295
Assault with Intent to Rob	73	19
Blackmail	27	20
Kidnapping	4	4
<b>Offences Against Property -- Thefts etc.</b>		
Theft from the Person	1292	225
Theft in a Dwelling	2228	780
Theft by Employee	1289	1205
Theft of Mailbags	84	20
Theft of Pedal Cycle	5648	830
Theft from Vehicles	15721	3624
Thefts Shops and Stalls	11110	9701
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	1043	390
Theft of Electricity	270	234
Theft and Unauthorised Taking of M/Vehicle	25715	7738
Other Thefts	18509	4381
False Accounting	99	96
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	4169	3093
Handling Stolen Property	1577	1555
<b>Criminal Damage</b>		
Arson	627	193
Criminal Damage	8961	2103
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	381	354
<b>Other Offences</b>		
Affray	38	38
Perjury and False Statements	7	5
Miscellaneous	24	21
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	147350	54702
<b>TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION</b>	54.0	20.0
<b>DETECTION RATE</b>	37.1	
Totals - 1978	151838	52039
Detection Rate - 1978	34.3	

## CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENCES COMMITTED

### Offences Against the Person

#### Homicide

During 1979 there were 43 cases reported. Of these, 39 were recorded as Murder and 4 as Manslaughter.

#### Wounding

There were 5,894 cases of Wounding during the year, 4,107 being detected, giving a detection rate of 70%.

#### Sexual Offences

During 1979, 1,365 Sexual Offences were recorded, 782 of these being detected. This gives a detection rate of 57%.

### Offences against Property (Burglaries)

Offences in this category totalled 39,886, of which 12,543 were detected, giving a detection rate of 31%.

#### Robbery

During 1979 there were 1,038 offences recorded under this heading, and 314 cases were cleared up (30%).

#### Thefts and Fraud

The table shows the various types of theft and fraud committed on each Division together with the number of offences detected.

### Theft and Unauthorised Taking of Vehicles

There were 25,715 offences recorded during 1979, and 7,738 were detected (30%).

## VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED DURING THE YEAR

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF OFFENCES IN EACH VALUE GROUP								TOTAL VALUE ALL OFFENCES	
	Nil	Under £5	£5 and under £25	£25 and under £100	£100 and under £500	£500 and under £1,000	£1,000 and over	Number of offences	STOLEN £	RE-COVERED £
Burglary (Dwelling)	4135	882	2712	3803	3986	830	576	16924	3115923	149276
Aggravated Burglary (Dwelling)	21	1	3	7	4	5	4	45	17100	3616
Burglary (Other Buildings)	7233	1473	3702	4847	4162	802	688	22907	3871163	461723
Aggravated Burglary (Other Buildings)	5	—	2	—	—	—	3	10	7817	1607
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11394</b>	<b>2356</b>	<b>6419</b>	<b>8657</b>	<b>8152</b>	<b>1637</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>39886</b>	<b>7012003</b>	<b>616222</b>
Robbery and Attempts	159	178	274	240	109	26	52	1038	397452	14708
Thefts and Unlawful Taking Vehicles	702	3	69	734	16383	4802	3022	25715	14795298	11293899
							<b>£5 AND OVER</b>			
Theft from Person	78	206	526	384	84	4	10	1008	56756	6283
Theft in Dwelling	38	375	637	688	398	59	33	1815	233762	20869
Theft by Employee	26	183	302	327	276	76	99	1080	899515	147702
Theft of/From Mailbags	8	59	8	6	3	—	—	17	1006	229
Theft of Pedal Cycle	37	7	1181	3960	461	2	—	5604	290176	17953
Theft from Vehicles	509	2647	3896	5532	2755	188	134	12505	1295862	92354
Theft from Shops and Stalls	217	5680	3684	1074	392	56	7	5213	239072	80207
Theft from Auto Machines and Meters	150	142	418	270	61	1	1	751	31513	1211
Other Thefts	635	2877	6173	5476	2694	393	261	14997	1955924	232950
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1758</b>	<b>12176</b>	<b>16825</b>	<b>17717</b>	<b>7124</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>42990</b>	<b>5012586</b>	<b>599758</b>
								<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>27217339</b>	<b>12524587</b>

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT

### CID Operations

The operational aspect of criminal investigation is under the direction of a Detective Chief Superintendent who has a Detective Superintendent as his deputy. Their area of supervision extends to detective officers on the 11 territorial divisions in addition to the direct control of the following specialist departments:—

Serious Crime Squad	Drugs Squad
Stolen Vehicle Squad	Commercial Branch
Social Liaison Department	Robbery Squad

The senior detective officer on each territorial division is a Superintendent and, under the Divisional Chief Superintendent, he is responsible for the day to day investigation of crime within his division.

### CID Support Services

The Support Services to the Criminal Investigation Department are commanded by a Detective Chief Superintendent with a Detective Superintendent as the deputy. The services thus provided contribute to the efficient management of the Criminal Investigation Department and, additionally, provide specialised assistance from a central source. It includes the following departments:—

Antecedent History Department	H M Coroners Department
Central Information Unit	Photographic Department
Criminal Intelligence Department	Scenes of Crime Department
Crime Prevention Department	Technical Support Unit
Explosives and Firearms Department	

### Antecedent History Department

The central office of the Antecedent History Department, acting in concert with the offices at Coventry and Brierley Hill, has continued to provide support and assistance to officers, not only by representation at Crown Court but also on many varied matters relating to Crown Court proceedings. Every effort has been made to minimise the time operational officers actually spend at court.

The number of persons dealt with at Crown Court was 6,264, a decrease of 95 over the previous year. Papers were prepared for 4,260 trials, 1,025 committals for sentence and 979 appeals.

### Central Information Unit

The Unit comprises the CID Headquarters Administration, the Convictions Record Office, the Missing Persons Bureau, the Police National Computer Bureau, and the Criminal Intelligence Department.

A total of 7,200 enquiries was received at CID Administration and forwarded to Divisions and Departments, a rise of 600 over the previous year. A number of these enquiries were protracted and one murder enquiry resulted in the interviewing of the registered owners of 600 vehicles.

For the purpose of recording convictions, photostat copies of Court Registers are received from each Magistrates' and Crown Court in the Force area. Copies of convictions are supplied to the same Courts. A microfiche library of convictions was established during the year.

The records maintained relate to the arrest, reporting and conviction of persons for crime and other serious offences. Security checks are frequently made to ensure that information is not passed on to unauthorised persons. With the Midland Criminal Record Office ceasing to supply details of convictions the number of telephone enquiries from police officers increased by 39%.

The direct link with the Police National Computer enables information for certification or updating concerning motor vehicles and missing and wanted persons to be processed at a central point.

### Criminal Intelligence Department

The Criminal Intelligence Department moved from Bournville Lane Police Station to Lloyd House in August 1979. It is now sited within the Central Information Unit.

It has the responsibility for collating, evaluating and disseminating information relating to criminals who reside in or frequent the West Midlands police area.

Close liaison has been maintained with all sub-divisional collators, and two meetings of all collators have been held to co-ordinate activities and to exchange and stimulate the flow of information. Collators and Field Intelligence Officers have attended a three day instruction course at the Training Centre, Tally Ho! A detective constable will act as Field Intelligence Officer on each division commencing January 1980.



Talks on the collation and use of intelligence have been given to officers attending courses at the various Force Training Schools in order to give a greater appreciation of the value of correctly channelling information.

### **Commercial Branch**

This Branch conducts enquiries into various types of fraud committed by persons connected with business and public bodies. Many of the enquiries are protracted and require several months of investigation to bring them to a successful conclusion. The Department has been centralised at Lloyd House during the year to improve overall efficiency. Personnel are now divided into teams, each headed by a Detective Inspector.

At the beginning of 1979, 35 cases were under investigation and a further 110 new complaints were received during the year. Seventy-one cases were still under investigation at the end of the year. The value of the property subject of enquiries was approximately £2 million and property to the value of £49,000 has been recovered. Forty-six persons have been arrested by members of the Department throughout the year. An additional 97 enquiries have been conducted on behalf of other police forces and organisations.

The register of enquiries into allegations of corruption set up following the Royal Commission on the Standard of Conduct in Public Life, is maintained by the Department. Seven complaints were received, entered in the register and made the subject of enquiries during the year.

Senior officers have given talks to students on both uniform and detective training courses as well as to various business institutions and organisations.

### **Crime Prevention Department**

The Department is located at Police Headquarters. Headed by a Chief Inspector it has the responsibility for co-ordinating aspects of crime prevention in the whole of the Force, advising on force policy and promoting liaison between all outside bodies including Crime Prevention Panels in each of the seven District Council areas.

During the year involvement with the media continued, mainly at local level. In addition to the well established "Heart of the Nation" broadcast each Wednesday morning on BBC Radio Birmingham, since June we have had a "spot" on their magazine programme "Home James" each Wednesday afternoon. This involves a member of the Headquarters Staff giving some topical piece of Crime Prevention advice after which a member of the Force is introduced to talk about a particular aspect of his or her work.

The contributions by three Divisional Crime Prevention Sergeants to the ABC Weekly Advertiser (circulation 500,000) have continued.

Headquarters Staff have taken part in radio broadcasts on particular themes for BBC and local commercial stations.

The Crime Prevention Caravan has continued to prove its usefulness. A total of 44,110 persons visited the caravan during 1979. It was featured at the Boat and Leisure Show, the International Horse Show and the Ideal Homes Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre. Also it was used at a number of fetes and similar functions to good effect. The October Housebreaking Campaign meant that the caravan did a tour of prime positions throughout the Force area.

A total of 2,888 surveys was carried out at premises ranging from dwelling house to the County Council Offices in Birmingham. The advice given covered physical protection of buildings, cash in transit and computer security. The General Election in May entailed an intensive effort by Crime Prevention Officers in dispensing advice and surveying premises against the background of the anticipated terrorist action.

Including "bell only" systems there are now 17,687 alarms installed in the Force area. The significant reduction in the number of false alarms from alarm systems with remote signalling over the past year has levelled off. The total number of false calls was 251 above the 1978 total but the number of new systems was 513. The figure for false calls per system is now 1.59 (1978 - 1.67) for '999' systems and 3.65 (1978 - 3.90) for Central Stations.

The first two years of the Force Intruder Alarm Policy brought about a reduction of 28% in false alarms.

During the year a total of 88 alarms had police response withdrawn—the same number as in 1978.

During 1979, from all types of burglar systems a total of 1,401 genuine calls were received and a total of 536 prisoners arrested.

The major campaign of the year was the Housebreaking Campaign for the first four weeks of October. This involved maximum publicity in local newspapers and radio on all aspects of housebreaking. Crime Prevention Officers gave daily "bulletins" on the local position paying particular attention to "contributory negligence" by householders. Press interviews with injured parties were arranged and received widespread coverage. It will not be possible to evaluate the effect of the campaign until the spring but in terms of newspaper space and air-time the exercise was highly successful.

The seven Crime Prevention Panels have continued to work well. Efforts are being made at present to widen the membership of some of the small panels. Working parties have presented reports on such matters as football hooliganism, cheque card fraud and car security. I am grateful to members of the public for their willing and energetic support derived through the Panels in the cause of Crime Prevention.

In October 1979 a Seminar on Vandalism was held at Wolverhampton Civic Centre. This was run on the same lines as the Birmingham Seminar held in 1978. Among the speakers were the Wolverhampton Vandalism Officer and Mr Derek Dougan, the International footballer.

### **Drug Squad**

The Drug Squad is under the charge of a Chief Inspector and the three branch offices are each operated by a Detective Inspector. The prevention and detecting of the illegal importation and trafficking in controlled drugs has caused officers to maintain a close liaison with the Central Drugs and Illegal Immigration Intelligence Unit, the Customs and Excise, the Home Office Drugs Branch, the RAF Drugs Investigation Branch and the Drug Addiction Unit of All Saints Hospital as well as other Police Forces. The success of this liaison is reflected by the number of persons dealt with for drug offences, 652 as opposed to 418 the previous year.

There has been an increase in the demand for heroin caused by the Addiction Units throughout the country declining to prescribe the drug owing to the problems of physical dependance and increased evidence that addicts who were being supplied were not totally using the drug for their personal addiction. Twenty one persons were arrested for illegal possession of heroin compared with three the previous year.

The abuse of the drug cannabis has continued to be widespread notwithstanding many successful operations when huge quantities were seized. The cultivation of home grown cannabis has increased. Four hundred and thirty three offences in relation of cannabis were detected compared with 277 in 1978.

There were 499 visits made to examine Chemists' Registers. As a direct result six General Practitioners have been proceeded against, either by way of the General Medical Council or through the Courts. However, there has been no noticeable increase in the prescribing of any drug other than barbiturates.

During the year, there were 150 attacks on premises where drugs are either manufactured or sold, an increase of 16 on the previous year. One hundred and

fifty search warrants were issued in connection with drug offences and of the 129 executed, 128 had positive results. The two police dogs trained dogs were used on 52 occasions with considerable success. On a number of occasions they discovered places of concealment after a physical search had failed to reveal quantities of drugs.

Members of the Drug Squad continued to give talks on drugs and drug abuse not only to police officers but also to outside bodies.

### **Photographic Department**

The Photographic Department is staffed entirely by civilians, based at Headquarters, and offers a complete photographic service to the five central divisions of the Force. All the photography on the Eastern and Western divisions is carried out by Scenes of Crime Officers, but it is planned that all this work will be carried out by the Department in the near future.

The Department continues to produce the majority of its work in colour, and in the year was called to 4,415 incidents from which some 58,115 colour enlargements were produced. Additionally 2,494 requests were made for other types of photographic production. A total of 50,616 copies of prisoners' photographs were produced for record purposes, and 6,031 copies of prisoners photographs were produced for the use of Police Officers. Additionally, the Prosecuting Solicitor's Department was supplied with 11,773 photographs for court use.

### **Robbery Squad**

For the greater part of the year a number of officers of the Force Robbery Squad was seconded to the Metropolitan Police to work alongside officers from the Metropolitan and other provincial forces to combat the serious incidents of armed robberies occurring throughout the Country. This was a most successful operation resulting in the arrest of 47 professional criminals and the clearance of a large number of major crimes of armed robbery. As a direct result of this operation all the outstanding armed robberies in the West Midlands Police Force area committed since 1973 which had become known as the "Thursday Robberies" have been cleared.

Additionally, Robbery Squad Officers were responsible for the arrest of 20 other persons for serious crimes of armed robbery and kindred offences, and the clearance of six major armed robberies committed within the Force area.

### **Scenes of Crime Department**

The Department staff comprises both police officers and civilians, trained in

specialist techniques in searching for and lifting fingerprints at scenes of crime, photography, and searching for and preserving forensic evidence for evaluation by scientists at the Forensic Science Laboratory.

During the year Scenes of Crime Officers on the B, C, D, E and F Divisions who had formally worked from Headquarters at Lloyd House were decentralised to their respective Divisions. They are working below established strength however, until the Central Photographic Department is decentralised and officers can be brought in from the G, H and J Divisions. During the year officers from the Department visited 32,680 scenes of crime and finger impressions were found at 5,330 of these. Samples were submitted to the Forensic Science Laboratories in 384 cases. Photographs were taken on the G, H, J, K, L and M Divisions in 2,789 cases.

In 3,848 cases, finger impressions were submitted to the Fingerprint Branch of the Midland Criminal Record Office, resulting in 1,165 identifications.

Photofit composites were made up from witnesses' descriptions in 167 cases.

A small decrease in the number of scenes visited has accompanied a slightly larger pro-rata decrease in the number of finger impressions found and identifications.

### **Serious Crime Squad**

The Serious Crime Squad consists of two sections, the Serious Crime Squad and the Anti-Terrorist Squad.

The Serious Crime Squad concentrates on the detection and apprehension of persons involved in the commission of very serious crimes, provides a pool of experienced detective officers to support divisional detectives in major enquiries and undertakes enquiries within the Force area concerning very serious crimes committed elsewhere.

In November 1979 the Squad office moved to Police Headquarters, a move which not only gave a more central location but greatly improved liaison with other Departments and Squads such as the Central Information Unit, the Robbery Squad and the Commercial Branch. A surveillance unit has been formed to assist in the investigation of major crime.

The work of the squad increased during the year with 298 persons being arrested. This represents the detection of 1,215 crimes in this Force area and 137 for other forces. The property recovered has been valued at £129,467.

The Anti-Terrorist Squad continues to be involved wherever terrorist activities are suspected.

### **Special Branch**

The year saw yet another debate in the House of Commons about the duties performed by the Special Branch of the Criminal Investigation Department and it may be of interest if I were to summarise the work performed by those officers of the West Midlands Police employed in this section. Details of the strength of the Branch will be found elsewhere in this report; the work these officers do is a normal part of police activities in that they are engaged in the prevention and detection of crime and the preservation of public order. Their duties are concerned mainly with criminal offences against the security of the State, with terrorist or subversive organisations with surveillance duties at Elmdon airport, with making enquiries about aliens and with assisting the uniformed divisions in the maintenance of public order. The generally accepted definition of "subversive" is "activities which threatens the safety or well being of the State, and which are intended to undermine or overthrow Parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means". The Special Branch is not interested in any way in legitimate political or industrial activities. Whilst it is not possible to state categorically how many officers are employed in each of the areas referred to earlier, the great majority is employed on duties at the airport and in registering and enquiring about aliens.

### **Stolen Vehicle Squad**

The function of the Squad is to assist Divisional Officers with major enquiries concerning motor vehicles, to enquire into thefts and complicated frauds relating to motor vehicles and documents and to examine motor vehicles on behalf of the Police, the Taxation Department, the Department of the Environment and Local Authorities.

On 8 November 1979 the Central Office was moved from Lloyd House to 'B' Division Headquarters, Bournville Lane, from where it now operates. Branch Offices are still situated at Little Park Street Police Station, Coventry and Dunstall Road Police Station, Wolverhampton.

During the year 104 prisoners were arrested by Officers of the Department, and as a result 61 vehicles and other property to a total value of £138,557 were recovered. Two hundred and thirty-three crimes have been cleared. Six hundred and seventy-seven vehicles were examined at the request of other Police Officers, resulting in the identification of a further 184 vehicles to the value of £145,018. Two hundred and thirteen other vehicles were the subject of examination or enquiry on behalf of the Public Works Department.

One particular enquiry successfully undertaken by Officers from the Central



Office has resulted in a number of persons being charged with the theft of vehicles and the importation of drugs. In connection with this enquiry, drugs to the value of £361,000 have been seized by Police and Customs Officers, both in this country and overseas.

### Scientific Aid

Exhibits were submitted to the Home Office Forensic Science Laboratory for analysis as follows:—

Criminal matters	2,482
Drugs	536
Other analysis	290
Traffic matters	3,928
Total	7,236

The Director of the West Midlands Forensic Science Laboratory and his staff have given invaluable assistance during the year and I am grateful for all their help.

### Midland Criminal Records Office

The offices of the Midland Criminal Records Office are situated at the Force Headquarters and consists of a Records and Fingerprint Section. Twenty-nine officers are attached for duty with the department, their distribution by rank is as follows:—

1 Superintendent
1 Chief Inspector
2 Inspectors
6 Sergeants
16 Constables

In October 1979 the Regional Criminal Intelligence Office, formerly at the Regional Crime Squad Offices, came under the control of the Criminal Records Office.

### Regional Crime Squad

The Regional Crime Squad has offices situated within the Force area at Birmingham, Bilston and Coventry. Its main task is the investigation and curtailment of organised crime and it liaises closely with other such squads throughout the country. At the end of the year 55 officers were seconded from the Force for duty with the Squad, their disposition by rank being:—

1 Superintendent
2 Chief Inspectors
3 Inspectors
23 Sergeants
26 Constables

### Technical Support Unit

This is a Regional Unit which is sited at Lloyd House, the staff is:—

1 Professional Technical Officer seconded from the Police Scientific Development Branch
1 Inspector — Liaison Officer
2 Constables
1 Clerk

In the past year of operation 852 requests have been made for 2,090 items of equipment, assisting in the arrest of 891 people. Of these 581 requests were made by West Midlands Police officers leading to the issue of 1,317 items of equipment contributing to 740 arrests.

The success of the Unit may be measured by the fact that in the second year of operation the requests to the unit have almost doubled.

## Chapter V

### Proceedings

#### PROCEEDINGS

Changes in legislation due to the Criminal Law Act 1977 resulted in some revision of the offence groups listed in the Home Office Statistical Manual with effect from 1 January 1979. This means that the tables of persons prosecuted and cautioned during the year cannot be compared in total with those shown in the 1978 report.

The tables have been revised to show the totals of persons prosecuted and cautioned in each group together with the total number of offences dealt with.

The main changes are shown below:—

#### OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR "EITHER WAY"

The following offences are included in the table for the first time:—

Indecency with Children  
Misuse of Drugs  
Firearms Offences (Certain Sections of the Act)

The last item in the table — 'Offences not shown separately', includes:—

Soliciting by men  
Perjury  
Betting and Gaming (Certain Sections of the Gaming Act)  
Immigration Act offences  
Absconding from custody  
Offences against the Bail Act

In addition, offences of Criminal Damage of a value of £200 or less have been transferred to the table of offences triable summarily only.

#### OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY

This table corresponds to the old 'Non-Indictable' table with the following differences:—

## PERSONS PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR OFFENCES TRIALE ON INDICTMENT OR EITHER WAY

### TABLE 'A'

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Murder	38	42	—	—
Attempt Murder	3	5	—	—
Threats to Murder	3	3	1	1
Manslaughter	4	4	—	—
Death by Dangerous Driving	11	13	—	—
Wounding Section 18	303	407	1	1
Wounding Section 20/47	2714	3648	194	201
Possess Offensive Weapon	427	585	7	7
Buggery	11	35	2	2
Indecent Assault Male	32	55	8	8
Indecency with Males	71	86	5	5
Rape	46	59	—	—
Indecent Assault Female	144	233	70	73
U S I — Girl under 13 years	6	8	2	2
U S I — Girl 13 — 16 years	40	82	148	153
Incest	6	13	5	6
Bigamy	1	1	3	3
Other Offences against the person	94	182	3	3
Burglary Dwelling	1408	2331	175	209
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	21	38	—	—
Burglary Other Buildings	2787	4388	706	862
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	12	17	—	—
Going Equipped for Stealing	160	503	11	15
Robbery	279	422	10	11
Assault with Intent to Rob	9	17	2	2
Blackmail	8	20	3	5
Kidnapping	6	10	—	—
Theft from the Person	15	27	8	8
Theft in a Dwelling	42	77	105	125
Theft by Employee	826	1397	65	72
Theft of Mailbags	17	27	—	—
Theft of Electricity	179	225	23	23
Theft of Pedal Cycle	165	294	155	181
Theft from Vehicles	368	737	221	595
Theft Shops and Stalls	4134	5737	3138	5418
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	119	170	59	82
Theft of Motor Vehicles	196	403	22	30
Unauthorised Taking of M/Vehicles	2407	4251	144	148
Other Thefts	3157	5049	761	991
False Accounting	39	316	—	1
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	935	1979	65	95
Handling Stolen Property	1156	1889	120	227
Arson	120	172	29	30
Criminal Damage	348	896	47	47
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	173	515	14	20
Affray	130	179	1	1
Indecency with Children	9	24	1	1
Misuse of Drugs	236	459	5	5
Firearms Offences	29	81	2	2
Other Offences not shown separately	725	1560	7	9
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>24169</b>	<b>39761</b>	<b>6348</b>	<b>9680</b>

Offences of Criminal Damage of a value of £200 or less are included. Certain Sections of the Betting and Gaming Act have been transferred to the table of offences triable on indictment or "either way".

Similarly certain Sections of the Firearms Act 1968 have been transferred to the indictable or "either way" table.

### MOTORING OFFENCES

There are no changes to this table except that it now shows persons and offences in full for both prosecutions and cautions.

### PROCEEDINGS AND RELATED MATTERS

During the year proceedings were initiated against 107,545 persons.

### ANALYSIS OF OFFENCES

The number of persons prosecuted was as follows:—

OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR "EITHER WAY"	24,169
DRUNKENNESS OFFENCES	7,279
OTHER OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY	14,496
MOTORING OFFENCES	61,601
	107,545

### OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR "EITHER WAY"

Details of persons prosecuted are set out in Table 'A'.

In addition to those prosecuted, 6,348 persons, including 5,249 juveniles, were cautioned for offences triable on indictment or "either way", during the year.

### OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY

In addition to those prosecuted, 1,497 persons, including 647 juveniles, were cautioned during the year for offences triable summarily only.

### MOTORING OFFENCES

During the year, in addition to those prosecuted, 11,595 persons, including 438 juveniles were cautioned for motoring offences.

### PERSONS PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY

TABLE 'B'

OFFENCE	Prosecutions		Cautions	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Adulteration of Food, Drugs etc.	62	126	—	—
Assaulting a Police Officer	408	515	—	—
Obstructing a Police Officer	132	164	2	2
Other Assaults	118	135	2	2
Betting, Gaming and Lotteries	13	19	2	2
Brothel Keeping	17	26	—	—
Cruelty to Animals	25	38	2	3
Cruelty to or Neglect of Children	—	2	—	—
Offences in Relation to Dogs	61	90	263	309
Education Acts	165	200	2	2
Firearms Acts	165	230	77	101
Highways Acts	190	242	152	166
Pedal Cycle Offences	184	267	309	384
Indecent Exposure	89	128	2	3
Simple Drunkenness	2856	3031	5	5
Drunk and Disorderly	4423	4738	1	1
Offences by Licensed Persons	57	175	6	6
Other Offences Relating to Licensing Laws	165	265	21	34
Labour Laws	95	160	—	—
Criminal Damage (under £200)	2556	2804	257	261
Social Security Offences	1187	2383	—	—
Naval, Military and Air Force Laws	27	28	—	—
Disorderly Behaviour	1013	1122	16	16
Prostitution	414	691	143	143
Public Health Acts	298	1579	13	13
Railway Offences	897	1051	—	—
Revenue Laws	2407	3729	95	137
Stage Carriage and Public Service Vehicles	143	214	12	14
Offences in Relation to Shops	7	14	—	—
Vagrancy Acts	193	202	20	21
Weights and Measure Acts	15	52	—	—
Immigration Act	43	44	1	1
Other Offences not shown separately	3350	4257	94	100
TOTALS	21775	28721	1497	1726



**PERSONS PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR  
MOTORING OFFENCES**

**TABLE 'C'**

OFFENCE	Prosecutions		Cautions	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Unfit to Drive through Drink or Drugs	2774	3470	1	1
Dangerous Driving	151	244	—	—
Speeding	14554	15196	152	156
Motorway Offences	488	574	80	87
Careless Driving	6437	7957	695	726
Prohibited Driving	391	559	401	421
Neglect of Traffic Directions	4769	6621	1402	1427
Obstruction, Waiting and Parking Place Offences	3688	4250	611	655
Lighting Offences	1992	7784	2282	3818
Dangerous Condition	4897	8875	694	795
Defective Condition	417	2753	274	451
Trailer Offences	1	13	15	28
Motor Cycle Offences	199	651	86	129
Load Offences	1692	2730	378	464
Noise Offences	189	532	120	135
Driving Licence Offences	4915	15662	1452	1848
Operators' Licence Offences	104	194	26	41
Insurance Offences	6078	11210	265	666
Registration and Licensing Offences	4428	9018	860	1040
Work Record and Employment Offences	719	2704	349	483
Accident Offences	511	2966	87	115
Vehicle Testing Offences	1254	7650	710	1166
Miscellaneous Offences	953	2509	55	75
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>61601</b>	<b>114122</b>	<b>11595</b>	<b>14727</b>

**Offences in connection with Drink/Driving  
—Road Traffic Act 1972**

A total of 2,774 persons committed 3,470 offences in connection with drink and driving in 1979 as follows:—

	Persons		Offences	
	1979	1978	1979	1978
Driving a motor vehicle with excess alcohol in the body	2,319	2,095	2,409	2,174
Failing or refusing to provide a specimen in charge of a motor vehicle whilst having excess alcohol in the body	375	307	973	845
	80	37	88	39

**DRUNKENNESS AND KINDRED OFFENCES**

A total of 7,279 persons committed 7,769 offences of drunkenness during the year, and in 389 of those cases the offenders were under the age of 18 years. In the same period 177 persons under the age of 18 were proceeded against for consuming or purchasing intoxicating liquor.

**Conduct of Licensed Premises**

A total of 57 Licensees or their servants was prosecuted for 175 offences for breaches of the licensing laws during the year.

**ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS**

Although there was a welcome reduction of 116 in the total number of police officers assaulted whilst on duty, from 1,120 in 1978 to 1,004 in 1979, it is disturbing to note an increase of 15 in the number of serious assaults from 474 to 489 including 44 serious assaults on policewomen.

**Serious Assaults**

A breakdown of the 489 serious assaults is given below:—

Wounding Section 18	34
Wounding Section 20	55
Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm	373
Assault with intent to resist arrest	16
Possess Firearm with intent to resist arrest	1
Others	10

**Assaults — Section 51, Police Act 1964**

Persons prosecuted under Section 51, Police Act 1964, for the 515 less serious assaults on police officers were dealt with as follows:—

Disposal	Persons
Fined	222
Committed to prison	42
Withdrawn or dismissed	75
Probation Order	8
Conditional Discharge	17
Borstal Training	—
Suspended Sentence	47
Otherwise dealt with	87
Pending	14

## JUVENILE OFFENDERS

In 1979, 4,939 Juveniles were prosecuted for Offences Triable on Indictment or "Either Way", 1,465 for Offences Triable Summarily Only, and 1,089 for Motoring Offences.

During the year 5249 Juveniles were cautioned for Offences Triable on Indictment or "Either Way", 647 for Offences Triable Summarily Only, and 438 for Motoring Offences.

Tables 'D', 'E' and 'F' give details of the offences committed.

Due to the change in the method of recording resulting from the operation of Sections 14, 15 and 16 of the Criminal Law Act 1977, it is only possible to compare Motoring Offences.

### Offences Triable on Indictment or 'Either Way'

	1978	1979	Increase/Decrease
Offences	—	8795	—
Juveniles Prosecuted	—	4939	—
Juveniles Cautioned	—	5249	—

### Offences Triable Summarily Only

	1978	1979	Increase/Decrease
Offences	—	1801	—
Juveniles Prosecuted	—	1465	—
Juveniles Cautioned	—	647	—

### Motoring Offences

	1978	1979	Increase/Decrease
Offences	2967	2678	— 289 (9.7%)
Juveniles Prosecuted	1256	1089	— 167 (13.3%)
Juveniles Cautioned	506	438	— 68 (13.4%)

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROSECUTING SOLICITOR

At the end of 1978 there were 28 solicitors in post; at the end of 1979 that number had increased to 44 with a further 6 solicitors due to take up post in 1980, compared with the approved establishment of 56. Hopefully the remaining solicitors will be recruited so that the full establishment is reached by the early summer of 1980. By that same date all unadmitted support staff posts

## JUVENILES PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR EITHER WAY TABLE 'D'

OFFENCE	Prosecutions		Cautions	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Murder	4	4	—	—
Manslaughter	1	1	—	—
Wounding Sec. 18	18	21	—	—
Wounding Sec. 20/47	349	514	136	140
Possess Offensive Weapon	64	89	6	6
Buggery	1	3	1	1
Indecent Assault Male	3	5	6	6
Indecency with Males	—	—	2	2
Rape	8	9	—	—
Indecent Assault Female	26	46	54	56
USI — Girl under 13 years	1	2	1	1
USI — Girl 13 - 16 years	4	12	57	59
Incest	—	—	2	2
Other Offences against the person	8	10	—	—
Burglary Dwelling	542	993	169	203
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	5	10	—	—
Burglary Other Buildings	1130	1938	693	849
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	2	3	—	—
Going Equipped for Stealing	37	106	11	15
Robbery	78	136	9	10
Assault with intent to Rob	3	6	2	2
Blackmail	6	16	3	5
Theft from the person	5	12	8	8
Theft in a Dwelling	23	42	89	109
Theft by Employee	14	20	35	38
Theft of Mailbags	6	7	—	—
Theft of Electricity	1	2	3	3
Theft of Pedal Cycle	119	218	155	181
Theft from Vehicles	72	169	203	575
Theft Shop and Stalls	629	1038	2534	4735
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	16	26	41	64
Theft of Motor Vehicles	36	60	20	28
Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicles	629	1243	128	132
Other Thefts	653	1134	656	864
False Accounting	—	2	—	—
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	34	86	30	57
Handling Stolen Property	220	336	114	219
Arson	59	81	28	28
Criminal Damage	74	262	44	44
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	9	26	3	5
Affray	14	24	1	1
Indecency with Children	1	3	—	—
Misuse of Drugs	5	8	1	1
Firearms Offences	1	1	1	1
Other Offences not shown separately	29	71	3	4
TOTALS	4939	8795	5249	8454

**JUVENILES PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY** **TABLE 'E'**

OFFENCE	Prosecutions		Cautions	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Assaulting a Police Officer	26	41	—	—
Obstructing a Police Officer	2	2	—	—
Other Assaults	4	5	1	1
Betting, Gaming and Lotteries	—	—	1	1
Cruelty to Animals	3	3	1	1
Offences in Relation to Dogs	1	2	4	4
Firearms Acts	57	87	53	76
Highways Acts	23	30	45	51
Pedal Cycle Offences	79	122	241	306
Indecent Exposure	6	10	2	3
Simple Drunkenness	35	35	5	5
Drunk and Disorderly	73	83	1	1
Other Offences Relating to Licensing Laws	71	123	6	9
Criminal Damage (under £200)	451	481	210	214
Social Security Offences	1	1	—	—
Disorderly Behaviour	128	140	7	7
Prostitution	23	41	8	8
Public Health Acts	5	5	—	—
Railway Offences	171	209	—	—
Revenue Laws	4	37	1	4
Stage Carriage and Public Service Vehicles	4	6	1	2
Vagrancy Acts	35	36	19	20
Other Offences not shown separately	263	302	41	42
TOTALS	1465	1801	647	744

**JUVENILES PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR MOTORING OFFENCES** **TABLE 'F'**

OFFENCE	Prosecutions		Cautions	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Unfit to Drive through Drink or Drug	6	8	—	—
Dangerous Driving	13	20	—	—
Speeding	17	20	3	3
Motorway Offences	—	—	6	10
Careless Driving	27	72	6	9
Prohibited Driving	17	30	49	53
Neglect of Traffic Directions	27	47	21	23
Obstruction, Waiting and Parking Place Offences	4	5	—	—
Lighting Offences	8	88	24	49
Dangerous Conditions	20	81	12	28
Defective Condition	2	29	4	12
Motor Cycle Offences	33	149	33	62
Load Offences	1	1	—	—
Noise Offences	2	10	1	3
Driving Licence Offences	440	925	243	311
Insurance Offences	455	892	9	51
Registration and Licensing Offences	8	123	15	27
Accident Offences	1	17	—	—
Vehicle Testing Offences	2	122	9	27
Miscellaneous Offences	6	39	3	3
TOTALS	1089	2678	438	671

will also have been filled. A policy of selective recruitment at all levels has been pursued in order to maintain the high calibre of staff which this office currently enjoys.

1979 has been a year of considerable change. In addition to the substantial increase in staffing, there were two major developments. The first concerned the gradual replacement of private practitioners and police officer advocates by prosecuting solicitors in accordance with the wishes of the Police Authority. This was markedly so in Wolverhampton and, from October 1979, in Walsall. From the same date all police officer advocates in the Birmingham Petty Sessional Courts had been replaced by prosecuting solicitors. This last development resulted in a saving of 64% of uniform police time previously spent in the Birmingham courts, and 47% of detective police time on the 'F' Division; substantial savings have also been made in respect of the other four Birmingham Police Divisions.

The second development has been a change in the location of prosecuting solicitors and their support staff. The Birmingham and Sutton Coldfield Area solicitors have been re-located from Fountain Court to new premises in Dale House, and the Administration and Crown Court sections transferred from County Hall to Dale House. This move resulted in a considerable increase in efficiency and co-ordination. At the same time the solicitors handling work from the 'J' and 'K' Divisions were located in the sub-divisional police station at Brierley Hill, and the solicitors covering Wolverhampton and Walsall moved to rooms in the Old Town Hall at Wolverhampton. A second solicitor was added to the establishment at Solihull.

These developments created their own problems but it says much for all concerned that many of the difficulties that were expected to arise by the end of 1979 had not materialised and the changes were achieved with less difficulty than was anticipated.

I am grateful for the valuable assistance that has been rendered by Mr I S Manson, the Chief Prosecuting Solicitor, and his staff during the year.

**PROSECUTIONS DEPARTMENT**

There are 12 Petty Sessional areas within the Force at Aldridge, Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Halesowen, Solihull, Stourbridge, Sutton Coldfield, Walsall, Warley, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton.

Prosecutions Departments are established on each territorial Division covering these areas, apart from the Birmingham Divisions, and are responsible for the



administrative work connected with the issue and service of summonses and warrants.

The Divisions in Birmingham prepare their own process, but the summonses and warrants are dealt with by a central summons and warrant department.

The increase in the establishment of the Prosecuting Solicitor's Department has made it possible to reduce the number of Inspectors engaged as advocates in Petty Sessional Courts. As further solicitors are engaged more officers will be released for operational duties.

### SERVICE OF SUMMONS

A total of 128,644 summonses has been served within the Force area.

### EXECUTION OF WARRANTS

A total of 45,284 warrants has been executed, which included 7,739 executed on behalf of other Police Forces. Monies collected by the Warrants Departments totalled £793,365.

### H M CORONERS DEPARTMENT

There are nine Coroners situated throughout the Force area. The Coroner for Birmingham is a full-time appointment, the remainder being employed on a part-time basis. There were 9,720 reported deaths during the year. Post mortem examinations were carried out in 7,273 cases and 1,326 inquests were held, distributed as follows:—

Division	Deaths	Post Mortems	Inquests
B	1191	768	207
C	705	417	107
D	829	598	124
E	1136	654	149
F	549	356	130
G	686	623	101
H	884	870	92
J	1077	904	189
K	1057	795	77
L	304	304	41
M	1302	984	109

## Chapter VI

## Traffic

### TRAFFIC DIVISION

The Traffic Division comprises four sub-divisions, Western, Central, Eastern and the Motorway.

Following changes in the organisation of the Traffic Division, January 1979 saw the introduction of the Force Traffic Control Room at Perry Barr. The advent of central control of all Traffic Division vehicles has many advantages, not the least of which is the ability to deal completely with those continuous policing situations which, hitherto, would have been the responsibility of more than one control.

The allocation of police personnel in the Division is as follows:—

	Ch Supt	Supt	Ch Insp	Insp	Sgt	Cons
Headquarters	1	2	2	8	8	23
Central	—	1	1	5	15	106
Western	—	1	1	5	17	86
Eastern	—	1	1	4	10	55
Motorway	—	1	1	5	8	48
Actual Strength	1	6	6	27	58	318
Authorised Strength	1	6	7	28	67	438
Vacancies	—	—	1	1	9	120

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Administration for the Division is undertaken centrally at Headquarters with small administrative units on each sub-division.

### Mileage and Roads

There are 3,944 miles of road within the County, which includes 42 miles of motorway, 60 miles of trunk roads and 350 miles of principal roads. All roads within the County are subject to national speed limits.

# Deployment of Traffic Patrols

Patrol cars provide a 24 hour coverage to the territorial divisions with motor cyclists being similarly deployed during the hours of 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Officers work in close co-operation with divisions and have provided invaluable assistance with traffic problems which emerge from major sporting occasions such as football matches, where the expertise of police motor cyclists in particular assists traffic to disperse rapidly and safely.

Attention has continued to be paid to heavy goods vehicles and in particular to the changes brought about by the EEC Regulations concerning heavy goods vehicles drivers' hours and records. A great deal of time is spent by officers advising both drivers and owners on this aspect. Motor cycle team policing has continued and has again proved valuable in those situations where it is necessary to saturate an area in order to reduce or prevent particular types of offences.

Traffic Division officers dealt with the following matters:-

Arrests	
Crime	644
Drink/Driving	1039
Others	341
Total	<u>2024</u>
Accidents Attended	
Total	3943
Offences Reported	
Sections 1 2 3 Road Traffic Act	1718
Construction and Use Regulations	13182
Motorway Offences	1737
Others (Lighting, Pedestrian Crossing, Obstructions, etc)	47404
Speed - Vascar	702
- Radar	9702
Others	6021
Parking on Footway	72
Total	<u>80538</u>
Fixed Penalty Tickets (Not included in totals)	583

# Motorway Policing

The Motorway Sub-Division is responsible for patrolling the M5, M6, M42 motorways and the Aston Expressway (A38M) within the Force area.

In January the Motorway Control Centre ceased to be responsible only for that sub-division and took over responsibility for the Traffic Division as a whole. This of course necessitated an increase of personnel in the Control Room.

During the year ongoing motorway maintenance work necessitated contraflow systems on both the M5 and M6 motorways. The system has been aggravated by tailback conditions arising from contraflow operations in adjoining police areas. Despite this and prolonged periods of adverse weather in the early part of the year, accidents showed a decrease of five over the previous year.

The calls on motorway crews have been many and varied. During the year 22161 calls for assistance from the public were received by the Control Room. It is of interest to note that of these 1073 were from motorists who had run out of petrol and a further 1305 involved motorists whose windscreens had shattered.

Officers took part in a national campaign known as "Operation Piledriver" in an effort to encourage motorists not to drive too close to the vehicle in front. Court action has been taken against offending drivers in appropriate cases.

# VASCAR

Nine patrol cars are fitted with Vascar units and have been used by Traffic sub-divisions during the year. A total of 702 cases of exceeding the speed limit has been reported in consequence of using this equipment.

# RADAR

## Radar - Roadside

Six Peta meters are rented from the Home Office and used on sub-divisions (not on Motorway sub-division) and a total of 7487 offences has been detected by this method during the year.

## Radar - Hand Held

Six meters were introduced in September and during the first month 1177 offenders were cautioned. During the final three months of the year, 2215 offences were detected.

## Removal of Vehicles

Vehicle removal squads continued to operate mainly in the central area of Birmingham and the following vehicles have been removed from the roads:

Stolen Vehicles Recovered	1236
Broken Down Vehicles	865
Local Removals	968
Motorway Removals	57
Vehicles Impounded	678

On 493 occasions officers were able to assist drivers without effecting a vehicle removal.

## Department of Environment Vehicle Checks

Traffic Division officers assisted Department examiners with roadside checks on 100 occasions. Officers from the Motorway Sub-Division assisted the Department on five occasions with "silent" checks, where offenders were detected for later enquiries by the Department.

## Police Vehicle Examiners

A total of 321 officers of the traffic division is authorised under Section 53 of the Road Traffic Act 1972 to test motor vehicles. During the year 13,182 offences were reported by these officers as breaches of the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations.

## Abnormal Loads

During 1979 the Routeing Section received and processed notifications for movement of 36,622 abnormal loads. This was 4,630 less than the previous year but this decrease can be accounted for by the dispensations given to 16 caravan hauliers and also to some extent by the effect of the lorry driver strike early in the year. The total included 4,243 loads which were of such dimensions that a police escort was necessary an increase of 2,000 over 1978. The number of special order movements requiring the authority of the Department of Transport was 61 all of which required careful planning due to their extreme dimensions. The recent installation of direct telex in the office has improved efficiency and provided prompt contact with hauliers.

## TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Duties relating to traffic management have included negotiations and liaison with the various County Departments and Committees regarding improvements

to road junctions, survey of bridges, bus priorities and pedestrian schemes including siting of traffic signs and pedestrian crossings. The Section was responsible for dealing with many applications involving motoring, cycling and sponsored events, including 12 motor rallies, 58 cycling time trials, three cycle races and 17 sponsored events. There was also involvement in the planning and organisation of 15 Royal visits to the County.

## ACCIDENT RECORDS

The Accident Recording Department is responsible for the administration of all accident records. Towards the end of the year the Department undertook a re-training programme involving all uniformed officers on divisions in preparation for a new method of recording statistical data of road accidents which took effect from 1 January 1980. The Department of Transport requirement is for much more information to be collated and whilst this will involve more time being spent by the reporting officer there is no longer a need to record statistical information for accidents involving damage only and, therefore, it is hoped that no extra time will be spent on this task than hitherto.

During the year 5,783 abstracts of accident reports were supplied to interested parties and 16,138 items of correspondence were sent from the office. It was necessary to arrange for 44 interviews with police officers to assist solicitors with claims and 41 sets of accident photographs were supplied. Charges were made for most of these services which produced an income of £66,000.

## Accident Investigation Unit

The Accident Investigation Unit attends serious injury and fatal road accidents in order to reconstruct what took place in the accident trauma from physical evidence left at the scene.

It is a specialised task where account is taken of many factors, including tyre marks, debris, damage, collision with objects and deceleration available from the road surface. Plans of the scene are prepared to a high degree of accuracy in order to reconstruct how the accident happened.

The unit also conduct surveys of vehicle crash performances and road design and where findings are found to be significant they are communicated to the appropriate authority.

The force Unit is considered nationally to be leaders in this field of study and requests for training facilities from other forces have continued. During the year 50 officers from this force and 76 officers from other forces have been trained by the Unit to both standard and advanced level. In addition the techniques of this in depth investigation of collision and causation factors are included in a training programme for traffic personnel.



**CONTINUED**

**1 OF 2**

A total of 74 collisions was investigated and papers prepared for Court presentation. Due to the increasing use of this method of investigation in Court proceedings pilot courses have been planned for the benefit of prosecuting solicitors.

School Crossing Patrols

The responsibility for administration, supervision, recruitment and training of patrols remains with the Police, the County Surveyor being responsible for authorisation of sites.

The number of patrols which are authorised in the County is 1054 and at the end of the year 988 patrols were so employed. The 66 vacancies exist due to the high turnover in personnel and the difficulty experienced in some areas in recruiting suitable persons to act as school crossing patrols. It has been necessary on occasions for police officers and traffic wardens to cover those locations where it has not been possible to recruit a patrol.

ROAD SAFETY

Police Road Safety Officers are employed at each territorial division to work in liaison with County and District Council Road Safety Officers. Road safety in schools has been directed mainly towards younger children and the following school visits were made during the year:

Infant Schools	593
Junior and Middle Schools	949
Senior Schools	295

Road Safety Officers visited 151 youth clubs and 106 adult groups, mainly for senior citizens. Assistance was given at 50 road safety exhibitions and during the latter part of the year two courses were held for teenage motor cyclists at Traffic sub-divisions. Attendance at these courses was encouraging and it is to be hoped that a more responsible attitude and standard of riding resulted from attendance at the courses.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

The Force Fleet of 994 vehicles is made up as follows:-

Area Cars	67
Unit Beat Cars	210
Traffic Patrol Cars	30

Traffic Patrol, Motor Cycles	98
Traffic Patrol Land Rovers	5
Recovery Land Rovers	3
Motorway Patrol Vehicles	16
Radar Cars	6
Staff Cars	7
Driving Instruction Vehicles	68
Divisional General Purpose Vehicles	69
Divisional Dog Vehicles	36
Divisional Personnel Carriers	13
Divisional Enquiries - Motor Cycles	55
CID Operational Vehicles	97
Force Crime Squad Vehicles	13
CID HQ Department Vehicles	4
Stolen Car Squad	5
Scenes of Crime Vans	23
Photographic Department Vans	6
Explosives Department Vehicles	3
Mounted Department Vehicles	5
Force Training Department Vehicles	8
Special Patrol Group Vehicles	13
Vice Squad/Drug Squad Vehicles	6
Prison Vans	8
Clothing Store Vehicles	2
Found Property Vans	2
Traffic Wardens Department Vans	4
Summons & Warrant Department Vehicles	6
Underwater Search Van	1
Road Safety Department Vehicle	1
Garage Reserve Vehicles	60
Airport Vehicles	2
Regional Crime Squad	39
Technical Support Unit Vehicles	3

The total mileage for the year was 16,200,500.

Administration of the Department is carried out from Lloyd House where the Transport Manager and Staff comprising of an Administration Officer and a Clerk/Typist are based together with the one Clerk.

There are three main workshops at Coventry, Birmingham and Brierley Hill, with three smaller units where routine maintenance and repairs are carried out.

### Accidents Involving Police Vehicles

There was a decrease of 273 in the number of accidents involving police vehicles which totalled 1381. Of these, police drivers were deemed to be blameworthy in 422 cases (227 on roads). This is an encouraging trend which it is hoped will continue.

The miles travelled on roads per blameworthy accident was 38,389 compared with 27,852 in 1978.

### Criminal Damage to Police Vehicles

There were 139 cases of criminal damage to police vehicles, an increase of seven on the previous year. Fifty nine persons were arrested and dealt with in connection with offences relating to criminal damage to police vehicles.

### TRAFFIC WARDENS

The authorised establishment of the Traffic Warden Department is 688. At 31 December 1979 the actual strength was 228, a decrease of eight on the previous year.

The number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued was 102,380.

Paid within 21 days	26,988
Paid later	24,387
Not Paid -	
Cautioned	4,933
Diplomatic Privilege	5
Visitors to UK	221
Traffic Wardens resigned	139
Error on Ticket	673
Driver not Traced	3,688
Cancelled for other reasons	6,964
Process instituted	2,133
Enquiries outstanding at end of year	32,249
	<u>102,380</u>

The number of Excess Charge Notices issued was 21,450.

Paid	18,380
Process Instituted	546
Enquiries outstanding	2,524
	<u>21,450</u>

The number of parking meters in use in Birmingham and Wolverhampton is as follows:-

Birmingham Central Zone	227
Birmingham Inner Zone	996
Birmingham Outer Zone	227
Wolverhampton	632

The slight reduction in the number of meters on previous years is due to re-development in various areas in the interests of road safety.

### REPLACEMENT OF VEHICLES

Vehicles are replaced on the recommendations of the Chief Engineers based at the main garages. This is decided according to age, mileage and condition and is in accordance with Home Office recommendations. The system adopted to obtain tenders to supply replacement vehicles is as directed in West Midlands Police Authority Standing Orders.

At the end of the year the fleet of cars and small vans was predominantly British Leyland, other commercial vehicles including personnel carriers being of Ford manufacture.

In the near future, however, the Traffic Patrol fleet will include 25 Ford Cortina and three Rover 3500 Saloons, replacing Triumph 2500 TC's which are no longer produced.

Apart from eight Norton motor cycles the Traffic Patrol motor cycle fleet are all BMW, there being no suitable British built machine on the market.

### LIVERY OF VEHICLES

As an experiment new Traffic Patrol, Motorway and Area Cars have been fitted with a new type of police sign to front and rear, roof signs being removed and replaced by a single high powered flashing blue beacon.

### ROAD ACCIDENTS

During the year 31,327 road accidents were reported to the police of which 10,248 involved some degree of personal injury. A total of 219 persons died in road accidents a reduction of 23 on the previous year. Twelve thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine persons, were injured and this is a reduction of 436 or 3%.

The following tables provide an analysis of accidents and persons involved:-



TABLE 'A'

Injury Accidents:- By Severity and Police Division 1979

Division	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	Total
Fatal	25	15	24	29	3	23	22	21	19	6	22	209
Serious	325	194	283	304	139	238	225	224	236	187	366	2721
Slight	788	509	697	755	350	776	671	717	807	460	788	7318
Totals	1138	718	1004	1088	492	1037	918	962	1062	653	1176	10248

TABLE 'B'

Road Casualties:- By Severity of Injury and Police Division 1979

Divison	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	Total
Fatal	25	16	24	29	3	24	24	22	21	6	25	219
Serious	366	223	329	342	152	276	263	257	282	211	429	3130
Slight	1038	653	925	989	477	980	914	992	1064	627	1000	9659
Totals	1429	892	1278	1360	632	1280	1201	1271	1367	844	1454	13008

TABLE 'C'  
Incidence of accidents month by month for the year 1979  
Fatal

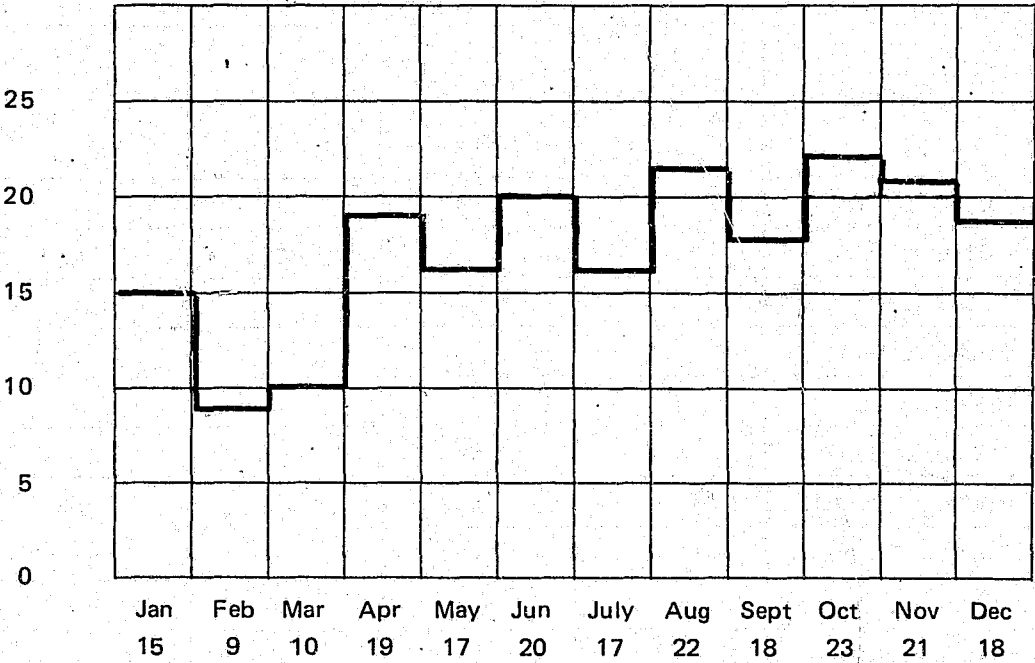


TABLE 'D'  
Injury

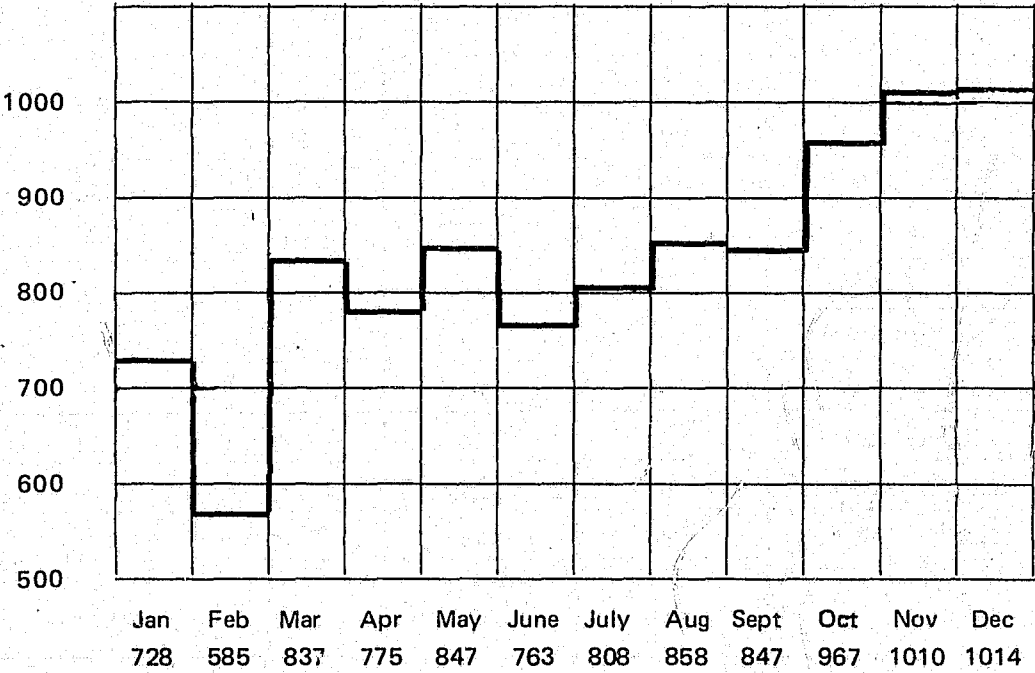


TABLE 'D'

Times in one hour periods when fatal and injury accidents occurred.

HOUR	FATAL	INJURY		TOTAL
		SERIOUS	SLIGHT	
0000 to 0100	7	86	148	241
0100 to 0200	4	53	96	153
0200 to 0300	5	58	94	157
0300 to 0400	3	20	41	64
0400 to 0500	4	17	27	48
0500 to 0600	1	14	28	43
0600 to 0700	2	35	61	98
0700 to 0800	6	87	299	392
0800 to 0900	4	139	528	671
0900 to 1000	8	80	266	354
1000 to 1100	8	64	262	334
1100 to 1200	12	97	309	418
1200 to 1300	7	130	426	563
1300 to 1400	10	117	407	534
1400 to 1500	10	138	383	531
1500 to 1600	12	171	551	734
1600 to 1700	12	251	667	930
1700 to 1800	13	227	648	888
1800 to 1900	10	157	417	584
1900 to 2000	7	136	351	494
2000 to 2100	5	104	275	384
2100 to 2200	13	114	262	389
2200 to 2300	24	161	292	477
2300 to 2400	22	264	480	766
Total	209	2721	7318	10248

TABLE 'E'

Classes of vehicles involved (not necessarily to blame) in injury and fatal accidents during the year.

TYPE OF VEHICLE	FATAL	INJURY		TOTAL
		SERIOUS	SLIGHT	
Pedal Cycles	5	166	703	874
Mopeds	1	78	200	279
Motor Scooters	1	14	16	31
Motor Cycles	44	613	1261	1918
Cars and Taxis	181	2670	7578	10429
Public Service Vehicles	10	114	416	540
Goods Vehicles under 1½tons u.w.	17	278	782	1077
Goods Vehicles over 1½tons u.w.	25	157	432	614
Other Motor Vehicles*	5	97	361	463
Other Non-Motor Vehicles	0	1	13	14
TOTAL	289	4188	11762	16239

\* includes unknown vehicles.

## Chapter VII

### Communications

#### COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The establishment of the Communications Department is one Chief Superintendent, two Superintendents, six Chief Inspectors, nine Inspectors, 16 Sergeants and 30 Constables.

1979 saw the completion of the new Command and Control network based on the Bournville Lane Force Control Room and its extension to every sub-division within the Force. Staff of the Communications Department, together with the Home Office Directorate of Telecommunications and the Post Office, have been involved since in the planning and re-structuring of the radio and telephone network.

##### Radio

A survey and evaluation in conjunction with the Home Office Directorate of Telecommunications has been carried out in the central area of the Force and is being extended to the eastern and western areas. There has been a general improvement in the UHF coverage. Building work is being carried out at one hilltop site which, when completed, will make available an additional channel for use by the Traffic Division.

Throughout the year emergency coverage, in the event of breakdowns, major incidents, etc, has been provided and staff of the department have been available to assist when required.

UHF base stations have been installed at all the major football grounds except Coventry City but arrangements are in hand to obtain an aerial site which will cover the football ground and Coventry City centre.

##### Telephones

Major work has been carried out by Post Office Telephones, Plessey Communications Systems Limited and Telephone Rentals Limited to provide a fully automatic network which will be available for service during 1980. The introduction of this scheme has necessitated building work and installations at numerous police stations throughout the Force and connections to County Hall and other local authority departments.

##### Teleprinters

The Force Teleprinter network has worked satisfactorily although some delay in the supply of machines has been caused by industrial action. The system has been integrated with the command and control system with the computer acting as a message switching centre providing an automatic "store-and-forward" capability for messages. Messages are stored on discs for 24 hours and may be re-run on request. Most machines are fitted with acoustic hoods and it is intended to provide one for each machine.

##### Control Room

On Sunday 4 February 1979 the new Force Control Room at Bournville Lane was brought into use taking over the functions of the three regional control rooms which had served the Force hitherto. The Control Room was officially opened on 6 April 1979 by Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret.

##### Police National Computer

The Home Office has continued to expand the facilities available on the Police National Computer. The Stolen Vehicle Index and Vehicle Owners Index have been combined to preclude the need to make separate enquiries for each index.

In the early part of the year the Force assisted in the presentation of the PNC tape/slide display at the British Computer Society Exhibition in London, and the display was also presented to Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret.

The Command and Control interface facility has been used increasingly to carry out PNC transactions, and although these have been restricted to the less complicated enquiries and updates, the total number of interface transactions has been greater than the number carried out on dedicated terminals. Instructors from the Communications Training Department have visited sub-divisional Controllers in order to advise and to ensure that correct procedures are being used.

A Force Working Party has examined the practicalities of operating the Disqualified Drivers Index, due to become available in 1980, based on central updating at the PNC Bureau. A card index has been maintained at the PNC Bureau since May 1979.

##### Command and Control System

The computerised Command and Control system now embraces all 31 territorial sub-divisions and accepts and redirects all emergency calls on the '999'



system. The deployment of resources has been decentralised and rests with the Controller at each sub-division. In the event of a major incident, however, control can be maintained at Force level. The benefit of the system lies in its ability to record details of incidents upon receipt, to distribute the information to the appropriate sub-division, and to provide accurate and up-to-date information on the availability of all resources.

### **Terminals**

The Force is equipped with Delta Data 4050 visual display units connected to the Bournville Lane computer and distributed between the Force Control Room, the Traffic/Motorway Control Room, each sub-division and the Communications Training Department. In addition there is one VDU at the combined Command Post and Casualty Bureau which is located at Force Headquarters.

The volume of calls for assistance received by the Police has continued to increase. In 1978 a total of 186,012 calls was received via the Post Office '999' system whereas in 1979 the number was 195,827, an increase of 9,815 or 5.27%.

### **Visitors**

It was anticipated that such a technically advanced command and control system would attract many requests for visits to the Control Room. Visitors from many countries, including the United States of America and the Soviet Union, were accommodated at Bournville and during the first 10 months 188 groups or prominent individuals visited the Control Room complex.

### **Casualty Bureau**

Casualty Bureau exercises have continued to be held at frequent intervals although the call out teams have been reduced from four to three. However, two additional teams of Special Constables have been formed from the central area.

### **Headquarters Command Post**

The Command Post maintained at Force Headquarters is equipped with the Control Room console with Command and Control, Radio and Telephone facilities. In addition, there are three UHF operators positions using the Force emergency channels. The post is designed to control major incidents in the central area of the Force and can also be used, when necessary, to monitor general activity within the Force.

The Post has been used on a number of occasions to control demonstrations and marches within the central divisions.

### **Mobile Communications Centre**

Delivery has been taken of a self-propelled Communications Vehicle. It is currently being fitted with all equipment necessary to fulfil the functions of a mobile communications centre.

## Chapter VIII

### Welfare

#### POLICE BUILDINGS

The Police Surveyor's Department is responsible for repairs, maintenance, alterations and improvements to police property; liaison with architects, quantity surveyors and building services engineers in connection with capital projects, and general property management. The department is housed in Force Headquarters with branch offices at Brierley Hill and Coventry.

#### Future Building Programme

Restrictions on capital expenditure have produced a situation where no new projects have been commenced during 1979 and no improvement is envisaged in 1980.

The Home Office have allowed financial provision for a start to be made on the Traffic and Transport complex at Aston during the financial year 1981/2 and the architectural division of the County Planner's Department has designed a provisional scheme which is now under discussion with the Home Office architects.

Design briefs have also been prepared for a new sub-divisional headquarters on the site of the existing police station in Woodbridge Road, Moseley, and a combined divisional police station in Dunstall Road, Wolverhampton. Both of these proposals are under active consideration by the Home Office.

The replacement of Thornhill Road Police Station with a new combined divisional and sub-divisional headquarters is also under consideration. The present accommodation is inadequate in every way and it is hoped that the question of a suitable site for a new building will be resolved in the near future.

#### Disused Police Buildings

During 1979 four operational and ancillary buildings were held surplus to requirements; of these one has been sold and of the remainder two are at an advanced stage of negotiation.

#### Alterations and Improvements

Alterations were carried out to former Magistrates Courts accommodation to provide a new amenity block for Willenhall sub-divisional headquarters and to improve operational facilities within the existing building.

Phase one of a scheme to upgrade and enlarge cell accommodation at Old Hill Police Station has been completed and the second phase is proceeding. Similar work has also been carried out at Acocks Green sub-divisional Headquarters to provide facilities related to the new status of this building.

The Girl Cadet Quarters at Burgess House, Anderton Park Road, Moseley, are being provided with improved dining and catering facilities and the Matron's living accommodation is being converted into a self-contained unit.

The catering and dining facilities at Stirchley Single Quarters have also been upgraded and the heating system converted from oil to gas firing.

A new pavilion has been provided at Richmond Hill playing fields to replace the former dilapidated building.

#### Energy Conservation

It is proposed to convert oil fired heating installations to gas wherever possible on the grounds of economy, dependability of supplies and to obviate storage problems. This will depend on availability of gas mains and the ability of the Gas Board to meet increased demands. Five installations were agreed by the Board for completion in 1979 and discussions are in hand to agree a programme for 1980, when it is anticipated Lloyd House will be included. Other measures taken include recalibration of existing controls on heating systems and providing more efficient controls where this can be achieved at moderate cost. All energy consumption will be accurately monitored to ensure that a high level of performance is maintained.

A post of Technician (Heating and Plant Maintenance) has been established and will play a big part in maintaining records and ensuring that all installations, plant and equipment are maintained at peak efficiency. Problems have been encountered in recruiting a suitable person to fill this post however.

#### Housing

The pool of housing accommodation has now been reduced to 1,326 units. Approval has been given for the disposal of 102 void properties and these are in the hands of the County Valuation and Estates Officer. A programme for offering 188 houses for sale to sitting tenants is also proceeding.

During the early part of the year there were indications of a fall off in demand for police accommodation, but latterly this trend has reversed, no doubt as a result of improved recruitment and high property values and mortgage interest rates.

The standard of police houses is being gradually improved and during 1979 gas fired central heating was installed in 63 properties.

FORCE WELFARE OFFICER

The principal duties of the Force Welfare Officer are to advise on matters affecting the welfare of the Force generally and to give assistance, as required, to regular officers, police cadets, traffic wardens, civilian staff, police pensioners and widows.

Older Police widows in particular are becoming less able to manage financially and experiencing considerable difficulty in understanding where and how to obtain available assistance. This has produced an increase in dealings with such bodies as the Social Services Departments, Social Security Offices and many voluntary organisations.

During the year 25 widows and three parents were assisted with applications for Probate of Will or Letters of Administration in respect of the deaths of 11 serving officers, 14 retired officers and three members of the civilian staff.

Four applications submitted to the National Police Fund for Education Grants were successful, resulting in two widows and a police officer (2) receiving cash awards to assist their student children in furthering their education.

Applications to the Police Dependants' Trust resulted in three retired officers and 17 Police widows receiving cash grants totalling £9,663.50. Thirteen widows received cash grants towards the cost of holidays totalling £962.60 and three widows and seven children were awarded free holidays at Pontins Holiday camps.

Total savings in the Force Savings Club showed a further increase and in excess of £102,000.00 was paid out during the year. Interest amounting to £2,671.00 was paid to the Force Benevolent Fund.

Visits were made to Training Centres at Bournville, Tally Ho and Walsall and lectures given covering all aspects of the welfare field.

SICKNESS

During the year the loss of working days due to normal sickness was recorded as:

Male Officers	49815	(1978 - 59459)
Female Officers	10798	(1978 - 8097)

Additionally the loss of working days due to injuries sustained whilst on duty was:

Males Officers	4362	(1978 - 6381)
Female Officers	985	(1978 - 672)

Seven officers were retired with either a pension or gratuity because of ill-health.

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that I have to report the death of nine members of the Force during the year.

3 January 1979	Constable William Russell PEPPERELL 'G' Division aged 25 years
8 March 1979	Constable Hugh Rodney MORELAND 'D' Division aged 36 years
24 April 1979	Constable Alexander Lawson Hamilton FORREST 'M' Division aged 45 years
8 May 1979	Chief Superintendent Gilbert Kenneth COCKAYNE 'A' Division aged 52 years
30 August 1979	Constable David Alan John REES 'E' Division aged 45 years
19 October 1979	Constable Kevin Wayne FLETCHER 'C' Division aged 20 years
1 November 1979	Constable Paul Stephen MILES 'D' Division aged 20 years
5 November 1979	Constable John BATES 'D' Division aged 21 years
24 December 1979	Constable John Nicholson PACEY 'G' Division aged 30 years



POLICE FEDERATION

The West Midlands Police Joint Branch Board has been given facilities for statutory meetings during the year and I have held regular conferences with representatives to discuss current problems.

Sergeant G Meredith, GM, Chairman of the West Midlands Police Joint Branch Board was re-elected Secretary of the Sergeants' Central Committee. He is also a Staff Side representative on the Police Negotiating Board.

The Claims Department at the Federation Offices submitted 233 claims to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, 30 claims to their solicitors for civil action and 409 personal accident insurance claims. Federation solicitors were also instructed on 19 occasions to represent officers charged with road traffic or assault offences.

FUNDS

In addition to the various national funds and charitable trusts available to police officers and their dependants, the Force Benevolent Fund has continued to provide financial assistance to serving members and pensioners by way of payment for medical consultations, grants and loans. A total of 53 orphaned children receive a weekly allowance through this Fund. Police pensioners, including those living outside the Force area, were visited regularly during the year and assistance was given where necessary.

CONVALESCENT HOME – HOVE – 1979

The Convalescent Police Seaside Home at Hove continues to provide facilities for rest and recuperation for serving police officers and pensioners following periods of illness. During the year 60 serving officers and nine pensioners attended the Home, all expenses being paid by the Benevolent Fund.

POLICE PENSIONERS

At the end of the year there were 1745 retired police officers in receipt of police pensions. Pensions were also being paid to 686 widows of police officers or ex-officers.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK

The year 1979 has seen much progress in Health, Safety and Welfare at work within the West Midlands Police. I am particularly pleased with the machinery which has been set up to ensure that there is a sound base on which to work.

The Health and Safety Committee for Civilian Staff and Traffic Wardens has now been operating for a full year. Seven meetings were held and committee members carried out visits to five Police Divisions, inspected premises and made recommendations. A Health and Safety Committee has now been formed for Police Officers and Cadets. It has been decided that this committee will meet bi-monthly and visit premises on a bi-monthly basis. It will also liaise closely with the civilian staff committee on matters of common interest. Safety Representatives have been appointed to represent Police Officers and Cadets. The total number appointed is 93 and all Police buildings are covered by a Police Safety Representative.

Twenty three inspections of premises have been made, 22 accidents and 13 complaints investigated. Recommendations have been made in respect of each case.

A high degree of fume extraction has now been achieved in garage workshops. Degreasing units and purpose-built equipment for draining vehicle fuel tanks has been purchased and taken into use. Both incorporate a high safety standard.

A small study team comprising a District Surveyor, a Communications Officer and the Force Safety Officer have begun an appraisal of sub-divisional control rooms with particular emphasis on ergonomics and on the environment. The idea is to ensure that the health and safety of staff does not suffer because of their duty. To date the control rooms on 'G' to 'K' Divisions have been examined, problems identified and recommendations made.

The following table shows the number of police officers injured on duty:-

Assaulted	437	(381 Males, 56 Females)
Accidentally injured when arresting offenders	32	
Injured in road traffic accidents	88	
Bitten by dogs	31	
Accidentally injured at football matches	14	
Accidentally injured during training	20	
Accidentally injured in police premises	88	
By "slips and trips" outside police premises	65	
Other miscellaneous causes of injury	168	
	943	

Talks on the Health and Safety at Work Act have been given at Tally Ho! and Walsall Training Centres, to Traffic Wardens, Traffic Patrol Drivers and Police Cadets.

## SPORTS AND RECREATION

The West Midlands Police Sports Club continues to play an important and expanding role in the life of the Force, giving opportunities to many excellent sportsmen and sportswomen to compete in their various interests against good class opposition. In the same way at divisional level, divisional sports clubs also play an active part in providing healthy recreation for their members.

The Sports and Social Office, Lloyd House, is the co-ordinating centre for force sport and social activities; it controls the sports club premises and pitches at Tally Ho, Edgbaston, this latter centre being used as a social centre for both members of the Force and sports teams. It is used throughout the year, during the day mainly by persons attending the training school premises and in the evenings for dances, dinners and other activities. The Management Committee of the Sports Club have provided comfortable furnishings and surroundings and their next aim is to carry out a re-furbishing of the main ballroom. This will be a costly operation but one that is in the interests of all members of the Sports Club, whether active players or not.

### "Holbrook" Trophy

The "Holbrook" Trophy is awarded to the Sports Personality of the Year. The winner was Inspector Ronald Brotherhood who is an outstanding member of the Sports Cricket Team as wicket keeper and batsman. He also captained the side during 1979. During his service this officer has also been a prominent member of the Force Football Team.

### Association Football

The Force Football Team plays in Division 1 of the Midland Football Combination, one of the senior leagues in the Midlands area and members have given a good account of themselves during the year. It was decided at the start of the 1979/1980 football season not to operate a second eleven.

In the semi-final of the PAA Football Club Championship the Force team travelled to Belfast to play the Royal Ulster Constabulary and were defeated one nil in a closely fought game. A number of force players have represented the British Police Football Team.

In November 1979 the team travelled to Detmold, West Germany, to play the annual match against the Queen's Own Hussars. They were given a fine reception by members of the Regiment and won the match to retain the Queen's Own Hussars Trophy.

## Athletics

This is a very strong section both in the numbers and the quality of the participants.

The Regional Track and Field Championships were staged by the Force at Perry Barr in May 1979. The West Midlands Team gained an overwhelming victory against Staffordshire, West Mercia, Warwickshire and the Training Centre at Ryton on Dunsmore to win the Chief Constable's Trophy.

The national PAA Championships held at Cwmbran, South Wales, in August attracted a strong entry from the Force, Woman Constable Bissell won both the women's 400 and 800 metres. Other entrants gained a number of second and third places.

In the West Midlands Track and Field League the Force competed throughout the summer months against other Midlands police forces and finished top of the League.

## Badminton

This is a very active and popular sport throughout the Force with three teams playing in local badminton leagues. In the Regional PAA Competition the Force provided all the competitors for the National Championships with the exception of the mixed doubles event.

## Basketball

Two teams, one in the Birmingham area and the other in the Wolverhampton area played in local leagues. One individual member of the basketball section has represented the National Police Basketball Team on several occasions.

## Boxing

This small but enthusiastic section is taking an increasingly active part in the sporting life of the Force. Officers have represented the Force in numerous boxing tournaments against other police forces and the armed services.

## Choral Society

This mixed voice choir comprises police officers, pensioners and civilian staff. Many concerts were given during the year and the choir also took part in the Church Service in Birmingham Cathedral as part of the Force celebrations of the 150th Anniversary of Policing.

Mrs Margaret Baylis has been the dedicated pianist of the Society for 10 years and this was marked by a presentation to her of a crystal decanter.

**Male Voice Choir**

Entertainment of a very high standard is given by the choir and 25 concerts were given during the year to various organisations throughout the Force area.

The highlight was the annual concert at Birmingham Town Hall in October where a capacity audience was treated to a feast of good music by the choir and the band of the Irish Guards. Carols were sung in local hospitals at Christmas and the choir also took part in the 150th Anniversary Service at Birmingham Cathedral.

**Cricket**

The Cricket Section played a total of 24 games during the season against both civilian and police teams winning 12 games, drawing eight and losing four.

The Police Women's Cricket Team played a series of friendly matches against local civilian teams with marginal success but a great deal of enjoyment.

The veterans cricket team played a number of matches and provided members of the Force who have gone a little beyond playing for the force team with a great deal of satisfaction. A successful tour of Jersey was made during the year.

**Cross Country**

This branch of sport covers a wide age range from cadets to a band of veterans between 40 and 50 years of age. All competitions have been strongly supported and contested. The Force Championships were held at Tally Ho in February when 105 regular officers plus seven veterans competed. The divisional trophy was won by the 'K' Division.

The No 3 Region Championships were staged by Staffordshire Police at Stoke in March. The Force took first place in the team competition.

**Dance Orchestra**

The dance orchestra had a successful year playing at a total of 30 functions. Most of these were charity dances which raised a great deal of money for various deserving local causes.

The dance orchestra also appeared on the ATV show "ATV Today" under their new name of "Smokey Bear's Big Band". Ex-Chief Inspector Bunkell still takes an active part in guiding the band's management and appeared on Radio Birmingham in the "Home James" programme when he talked about the band's activities.

**Flat Green Bowls**

This very popular sport continued to attract a large number of players of all ages and a number of matches were played against both civilian and police teams where considerable success was achieved by the high standard of bowls.

In the PAA Flat Green Bowls Championships, Sergeant Readman took first place in the singles competition staged at Glasgow.

**Golf**

Golf continues to be one of the most popular sports both at Force and Divisional level. At Force level, block membership is available at four Golf Clubs and many of the Divisional Golf sections have similar facilities at one of their local courses.

The outstanding golf event of the year was the National PAA Championships which was organised by the force at Kings Norton Golf Club, Weatheroak, in June.

The PAA Regional Competition was held at Little Aston Golf Course in August. The Individual Regional Championship winner, was PC Gray, of West Midlands, with a score of 145 for 36 holes.

Regional Team Trophy		
Winners:	West Mercia 'A'	474
Runners Up:	West Midlands	478

**Hill Walking**

This section has had a very good year providing healthy recreation and exercise for members and their families in their monthly journeys to various parts of England and Wales. A special walk of the Pennine Way from Hadrian's Wall to Derbyshire was organised in the Spring when four members completed the 250 mile walk in four days. Two other members made their way to Belgium to compete in the Namur Police March of Friendship. They completed the 40 km course and received trophies for being the smallest group to attend and for being the group travelling farthest to compete.

**Horticultural Society**

The Horticultural Society based at Coventry Police Headquarters had an excellent season. In September the Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Show was held at Little Park Street Police Station and a magnificent array of produce was displayed. The Chelsea Flower Show was visited by a party of members in May.



### **Indoor Games (Billiards, Snooker and Darts)**

This is a very active section catering for a large number of members of the Sports Club. The Snooker teams play regularly in the Birmingham Efficiency League. The winning and losing finalist in the Force Championships go forward to the PAA Competitions.

In the 1979 the most outstanding result was that of Constable Noble who reached the national final of the PAA Snooker Competition but was beaten by the defending champion, PC Mills of the Metropolitan Police.

### **Judo**

Judo is becoming increasingly popular and the section expanded during 1979. Meetings are held at Tally Ho weekly where instruction is given. Displays are regularly given to organisations and clubs.

In the 1979 PAA National Judo Championships at Aberdeen, Girl Cadet Cook won the gold medal in the under 66 kilos class.

### **Motor Car Club**

A popular section with members, largely at their own expense, taking part in auto tests and similar events. A great deal of success was achieved in the midland region auto tests in May and the inter-region test held in July. Sergeant Barlow and Constable Bates are to be congratulated on being the winners for the Association of Midland Motor Clubs Rally Championships. The section also organised a number of very successful film nights at Tally Ho and visits to motor racing circuits.

### **Motor Cycling**

Our members have competed with considerable success in Police Motor Cycle Competitions in various parts of the county. Constables Harper and Hickman were selected to represent the British Police Team in the Circuit Des Pyrenees held at Pau in France in June. Constable Hickman won Best Unlimited Capacity Trophy and the BMW Trophy.

### **Old Time and Ballroom Dancing**

The Ballroom at Tally Ho is permanently booked on Mondays for Old Time and Thursdays for Ballroom Dancing. This provides an opportunity for the more mature members of the Force and pensioners who still like to dance in the old fashioned way to enjoy themselves. The old time dancing is run by ex-Superintendent Albert Stokes and the ballroom dancing by Mrs Grace Parker.

### **Pipe Band**

The West Midlands Pipe Band again had a very busy year taking part in a number of competitions. Two trophies were won.

The band also gave a large number of concerts and played at the Festival of Remembrance in November. In November the Band travelled to Frankfurt, Germany, as guests of the Frankfurt Police.

### **Sailing**

Sailing continues to be a very popular sport with members supplying their own craft to take part in various police championships.

The first West Midlands Police Open Sailing Championships were held at Chase-water in April and 30 boats from forces throughout the country took part. The section has membership of Earlswood Sailing Club and the Enterprise dinghy owned by the Sports Club was well used. A number of training sessions were held for newcomers of the sport.

### **Shooting**

A very active sport where members of all classes showed a high degree of skill and efficiency in achieving excellent results in competitions.

#### **Full-bore Rifle**

The 'A' Team won the team event at Greater Manchester Police Shoot and took second and third places in the individual shoot at the same meeting.

#### **Full-bore Pistol**

The fifteen league members took part in a number of competitions throughout the season and several awards were won.

#### **Small-bore Pistol**

This was one of the best seasons of this section. In the Midlands Pistol League West Midlands Police teams took first place in three of the events.

#### **Small-bore Rifle**

The PAA International League, Division 9, was won by the force team. Sergeant Harbach won the Warwickshire individual knock-out league. In the PAA Short-range National Championships the force team took the national title with the highest score ever of 787 out of 800. In the Home Counties Invitation Shoot at Imber Court members of the force team swept the board in all classes. Sergeant Fred Jennings, a regular officer of the force team, was selected to shoot for the Great Britain National Squad.

## Squash

The squash section, although suffering from the lack of their own courts, continued to prosper and a successful season was enjoyed in both winter and summer leagues and good results were achieved at PAA National Level. The Bawden Brothers, Constables Brian and Tim respectively, swept all before them in the Regional Championships.

## Swimming

1979 has seen a rise in the fortunes of the swimming section. In the PAA Championships held at Leeds in September a number of good results were achieved with the force Police Women's Medley Relay Team winning the 4 x 50 metres event in a new PAA record time.

## Table Tennis

Two teams were entered in the Business House and Works League and creditable results were achieved. In the PAA National Indoor Games Championships held in May Constable McCabe and Inspector Dawson were runners up in the men's doubles. In an exciting friendly match held at Tally Ho against the Metropolitan Police the Force team was narrowly beaten.

## Tennis

Four teams competed in the Birmingham area of the Warwickshire League and a number of friendly matches were played against other police and civilian clubs. In the Regional PAA Championships the Ladies Singles were won by Woman Constable Crowe, the Ladies Doubles were won by Woman Constables Owen and Crowe and the Veterans Doubles was won by Superintendent Powell and Sergeant Westwood.

The Ladies Team competed in the Birmingham Area Lawn Tennis league. The activities of both men's and ladies teams were restricted during the year as the courts at Tally Ho were awaiting renovation.

## Ten Pin Bowling

The Section have competed in tournaments both police and civilian at various venues throughout the southern counties.

The highlight of this year was in March when the Section, with the backing of the Sports Club, ran a National Police Tournament at Wolverhampton.

## Tug of War

Good sport was enjoyed by members at fairs, fetes and shows throughout the midland area. The best result achieved was second place in the PAA Regional Championships at Perry Barr when the Force team was only beaten by the current National Police Champions.

## Coventry Division Police Band

In 1979, the Coventry Division Band celebrated its Golden Jubilee, by joint performances with the West Midlands Police Male Voice Choir, the West Midlands Choral Society and the Pipe Band.

In connection with the 150th anniversary of the formation of the Metropolitan Police, the band played at a civic service, held at St. Phillips Cathedral, Birmingham.

A concert was also given at Divisional Headquarters, Coventry, by the band of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary.

During the year, 23 engagements were carried out for local organisations and charities, at the Police Training Centre, Ryton-on-Dunsmore and other sections of the West Midlands Police. The band was also invited to play at Northamptonshire Police Open Day.

The membership of the band is at present about 24 and the Musical Director is Police Constable Derek Paxton, a serving Police Officer on 'M' Division, who was a Royal Marine Bandsman for 14 years, before joining the Police Service.

The band continues to be in great demand in the Coventry area and other areas of the West Midlands.

## Chapter IX

### Licensing

#### Licensed Premises

The following table shows details of Justices Licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor which were in force at the end of the year.

AREAS	Publicans	Beer/ Cider On	Beer/Cider Wine On	Full Off	Beer/Cider Wine Off	Restaurant/ Residential	Restaurant	Residential	Licensed Clubs	Total
Aldridge	70	—	—	40	1	1	4	1	4	121
Birmingham	729	—	11	557	4	15	115	15	12	1458
Coventry	263	—	—	165	32	10	39	—	12	521
Dudley	329	—	—	122	—	—	12	—	11	474
Halesowen	54	—	—	31	—	—	4	—	1	90
Solihull	116	—	—	88	3	3	24	2	5	241
Stourbridge	88	—	—	38	—	—	6	—	—	132
Sutton Coldfield	46	—	—	50	—	4	12	—	2	114
Walsall	249	—	—	95	—	3	16	—	6	369
Warley	185	—	1	133	—	—	11	1	11	342
West Bromwich	242	—	—	83	—	—	13	—	10	348
Wolverhampton	309	—	—	221	—	2	39	3	25	599
TOTALS	2680	—	12	1623	40	38	295	22	99	4809

This is an increase of 38 premises compared with 1978.

#### Licences granted during the year

The following table shows details of licences granted within the Force area during the year.

AREAS	Publicans	Publicans (Condi- tional)	Full Off	Restaurant	Licensed Clubs	Beer/Cider Wine Off	Residential	TOTAL
Aldridge	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	3
Birmingham	9	—	21	3	—	—	4	37
Coventry	3	5	4	6	1	1	—	20
Dudley	1	—	8	1	3	—	—	13
Halesowen	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	4
Solihull	1	1	3	1	—	1	—	7
Stourbridge	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Sutton Coldfield	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	5
Walsall	4	—	2	1	—	—	—	7
Warley	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3
West Bromwich	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Wolverhampton	5	—	12	2	2	—	2	23
TOTALS	26	8	65	18	6	2	6	131

#### Registered Clubs

At the end of the year there were 1,308 clubs registered within the Force area.

#### Theatres and Cinemas

There were 27 theatre licences and 51 cinematograph licences in existence at 31 December 1979.

#### Visits to Licensed Premises

To ensure the prevention and detection of offences against various Acts of Parliament, police officers have made the following visits to licensed premises.

Places of Public Entertainment	737
Premises licensed under the Liquor Licensing Act	21357
Betting Offices	3110

Throughout the Force area Licensed premises, on the whole have been well conducted

#### Betting and Gaming

Details of the Betting Office Licences and Bookmakers Permits in Force at the end of the year are as follows:—

AREA	Betting Office Licence			Bookmakers Permit		
	Issued	Surrendered	In Force	Issued	Surrendered	In Force
Aldridge	—	—	14	—	—	13
Birmingham	2	4	296	3	—	230
Coventry	—	10	59	—	4	45
Dudley	7	7	46	2	3	35
Halesowen	1	1	9	—	1	11
Solihull	2	2	22	1	—	302
Stourbridge	—	—	7	—	—	8
Sutton Coldfield	—	—	7	1	1	10
Walsall	—	—	48	—	—	27
Warley	5	5	48	—	—	24
West Bromwich	3	2	43	2	6	29
Wolverhampton	6	19	80	2	—	56
TOTAL	26	50	679	11	15	790

This is a decrease of 24 betting office licences and 4 bookmakers permits compared with 1978.



## Preventive Policing

### PREVENTIVE POLICING

This chapter on Preventive Policing reviews the work of the Public Liaison Department, Community Relations initiatives on Divisions, Attendance Centres, the Social Liaison Department and Press Relations. The work of these Departments must be seen against a back cloth of the social conditions which affect most conurbanations with a complex composition of people.

There have been instances during the year when the results of our efforts to improve relationships with the community have been tested. Although there is no room for complacency, we have received some encouraging signs that these efforts, to win community support have been fruitful.

### PUBLIC LIAISON DEPARTMENT

The Public Liaison Department is an Operational Support Service which through a liaison with individuals, groups, school projects talks and the many and varied activities of the Department, acts as a focal point for the involvement of the Force in community relations. The contacts formed at a very basic 'grass roots' level, on occasions, can be used in times of conflict to control rumour and allay fears by removing misunderstandings. The Department is headed by a Superintendent at Headquarters with officers on each Division, who during the year made 4,341 community visits, gave 827 talks in schools, attended 390 religious and social functions and dealt with 1,320 enquiries. A Schools 'Law and Order' Quiz was held throughout the County area and other activities included the organisation of demonstrations and displays of the work of the Force at fetes and Carnivals and participation in the Lord Mayor's Procession with a float. A cricket match to commemorate the memory of PC David Green, was played in which the West Midlands Police opposed a team drawn from Caribbean and Asian players captained by Alvin Kalicharan.

It is essential, if officers are to foster good relationships with the community that they have an understanding of the different cultures and backgrounds so that misunderstandings can be kept to a minimum. To this end, members of the Department during the year gave 153 lectures at Force and District Training Centres, and the Superintendent in Charge of the Department also lectured at other Police Establishments to National Courses. The training programme has been extended to include Seminars on those Sub-Divisions where it is seen

appropriate that members of the community discuss local problems with officers recently transferred to the area. The regular monthly Departmental Conference is extended every three months to other Forces in the Region to enable ideas to be exchanged, and community relations given a wider perspective. An Inspector in the Department was awarded a Bursary by the Commission for Racial Equality to visit the Caribbean. He will be able to pass on to other officers his experience.

At County Level, a Police Liaison Committee comprising of representatives of the six Councils for Community Relations, the Commission for Racial Equality and senior Police Officers meets regularly to discuss items of mutual interest and concern. Although there is police involvement in each of the local Community Relations Councils, difficulties have been experienced in setting up Police Liaison Committees with each Council. In respect of two of such Committees that had been set up, it was apparent that much more effort would be required to enable these Committees to withstand the effects of conflict.

### Divisional Community Initiatives

Building on the contacts made by the Public Liaison Department, it has been possible to extend Divisional Community Relations initiatives. These have been particularly valuable for it has meant that local officers can get involved at an early stage with problems and therefore with this contact, many situations can be kept in proper perspective.

Following some difficulties that were being experienced in a large Community Centre in Small Heath, officers were able to obtain, co-operation from the community which led them to becoming involved in the activities of the Centre. This in turn led to more involvement of local officers, and because of the good relationship that now exists, plans are in hand to set up a regular Liaison Committee with the Community of Small Heath.

Similarly, a Liaison Committee has been formed in Saltley. Through regular meetings, it has done much to improve co-operation with the community and confidence in local officers has been fostered.

On an experimental basis a 'Voluntary Friend Scheme' has been established on some Divisions whereby a person in custody who has no friend or relative that can be called to visit him, may select a name from a list of volunteers held at Police Stations. This experiment is not mature enough to make any proper evaluation, but some reports that have been received from community leaders indicate a favourable response.

Police Surgeries have been extended in some areas where Permanent Beat Officers can meet informally members of the community to discuss problems. Contact in schools and youth clubs has been increased by Beat Officers and some officers, in their own time involve themselves in work with youth. The 'Cobra Cup' a community relations award to the officer who has demonstrated a particular piece of good work in the community, was presented to a police constable in the Dudley Division for his work in an Intermediate Treatment Project. It was pleasing to note how many contenders there were for this award and it was a very difficult decision to select the one to receive the award.

On each of the Divisions an 'Open Day' has been held where members of the public have been able to see the work of the Force and meet many of the officers. From the attendances that have been recorded these events appear very popular.

Experience gained from the Community Policing Schemes operating on the Boulton and Castle Vale Estates in Birmingham, and the Wood End Estate in Coventry clearly indicates that these areas are responding to this type of policing. A further scheme utilising the support from the Statutory and Voluntary Agencies and the community itself, is being planned for the Weoley Castle Estate in Birmingham.

Extending this multi-agency approach, a Project has been commenced in Handsworth known as the 'Lozells Project'. Following a pledge of joint support to a Police Project by the Statutory and Voluntary Agencies a joint committee chaired by the local Chief Superintendent drew up initiatives which are funded by the Inner Aid Partnership. Some delays have been experienced in fully implementing the Project because of the difficulty of being able to secure suitable premises, but hopefully this will be resolved. One aspect of the Project that is proving very successful is the police input into a large comprehensive school that is within the Project area. The Home Office Research Unit has agreed to monitor and evaluate the Project, but their findings will not be available for three years.

Every Officer in the Force has a vested interest in creating good relationships with the community. Without doubt, however, the most important Community Relations Officer we have is the uniformed constable on the beat, for it is in that area during the many contacts he makes, that good relationships are fostered and confidence enhanced.

**ATTENDANCE CENTRES**

Five Attendance Centres operate within the County Area, two are situated in

Birmingham and the others at Coventry, Smethwick and Bilston. The two Centres in Birmingham open each Saturday throughout the year, and the Centres in Coventry, Smethwick and Bilston are operative on alternate Saturdays.

With the opening of a second Attendance Centre in Birmingham the pressure has been relieved in the other Centre. The activities that are offered in all the Centres range from handicraft, first aid and the gymnasium. It is encouraging to note the interest shown in Attendance Centres by the numbers of visits that have been made by Magistrates.

During the year 1,100 Juveniles and 63 older boys, subject of Home Office experiment, were ordered by various Courts to attend Centres as follows:—

Birmingham 'A'	384 Juveniles	34 adults
Birmingham 'B'	191 Juveniles	** adults
Bilston	151 Juveniles	10 Adults
Coventry	183 Juveniles	16 adults
Smethwick	191 Juveniles	3 adults

*\*\* Not included in the Older Age Range experiment.*

**SOCIAL LIAISON**

During the course of the year close liaison was maintained with the Departments of Social Services within the force area and with other agencies seeking assistance on matters affecting women and children.

In 1979 a Rape Crisis Centre was established in Birmingham. The Department actively liaised with the organisers and the procedures agreed which will provide for a rape victim to have the support of a member of the Rape Crisis Centre present when she is interviewed.

During the course of the year 1,725 enquiries in relation to fostering and adoption of children were made for the Department of Social Services. This increase of 138 enquiries over the previous year may reflect a trend to encourage the fostering of children in care.

Cases of child abuse continue to be a source of concern to all agencies involved with the welfare of children. In the period of twelve months 81 offences were recorded including 4 deaths, 26 serious woundings and 51 less serious assaults. Forty-four offences were committed against male and 37 against female children.

Another form of domestic violence is the assault upon a spouse or co-habitee.

Three hundred and nine offences were recorded during the year including 7 deaths. In five cases the husband was the victim.

## PRESS RELATIONS

The role of the Press Office as one of the Force's links between Police and Public continues to be of increasing importance.

During the year, the Press Office staff has played an important part in seeking to have responsible reporting by the media prior to major public order situations, and the setting up of special press desks to handle the many local, national and international media enquiries on the day has generally ensured fair and accurate coverage. The Press Office has also liaised daily with the press, radio and television and handled many enquiries for information, interviews and various other facilities. The expertise with which such enquiries are handled in the West Midlands can be judged by the ever-increasing number of media enquiries received from other parts of the country.

It is noticeable also that there is a greater awareness within the Force of the work of the Press Office and during the year much more use was made of the office as a back-up service. Operationally, the Press Office was able to help in many major Police investigations and operations.

More than 100 official written and verbal press releases publicising the Force and many of its activities were issued during the year and in October a highly successful four-week Press campaign aimed at reducing house burglaries was run by the Press Office in conjunction with the Crime Prevention Department. In addition, a special one-week recruiting campaign was organised in conjunction with the Recruiting Department.

The Force newspaper "Beacon" has gone from strength to strength and, although still in its infancy in comparison to other newspapers, is already playing a valuable role within the Force. The monthly newspaper is written, sub-edited and designed within the department before going to an outside organisation to be printed.

Increased use was made of the opportunities presented by the three local radio stations in West Midlands and, towards the end of the year, it was decided that live daily broadcasts would be made from the Press Office, instead of the Control Room.

Generally, relations with the media have been very good and this was reflected in the favourable publicity the Force has received throughout the year.

## Chapter XI

### Miscellaneous

#### IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY DEPARTMENT

At 31 December there were 4,746 registered aliens within the Force area. 3,327 males and 1,419 females. They originated from 85 countries and a breakdown of distribution by continent is shown below:—

Continent of Origin	Male	Female	Total
Africa	446	177	623
The Americas	332	265	597
Asia	1670	534	2204
Europe	680	336	1016
Others	199	107	306
TOTAL	3327	1419	4746

During the year 1,515 Aliens Registration Certificates and 110 EEC Residence Permits were issued. There were 263 prosecutions against aliens, 46 deportations and 1 supervised departure. A total of 254 persons obtained naturalisation papers.

#### PEDLARS CERTIFICATES

A total of 249 such certificates were issued during the year and one application was refused.

#### LOST AND FOUND PROPERTY

The Central Property Office, Digbeth, Birmingham is responsible for the disposal of all unclaimed property for the Force. During the year six sales of unclaimed property and three sales of scrap metal were held. Additionally, 291 unclaimed vehicles were sold. The total amount realised by these sales was £33,882.30, an increase of £8,082.78 over the previous year.



## EXPLOSIVES AND FIREARMS DEPARTMENT

This department operates from Police Headquarters with district offices situated at Brierley Hill and Coventry. It is responsible for the processing of applications for, and renewals of, explosive certificates and licences, firearm and shot gun certificates and firearm dealers registration certificates.

Other duties of the department are the provision of an emergency call-out service for suspect objects or incidents involving firearms, the training of police officers in the use of firearms, the up-keep of the force armoury, the receipt and subsequent disposal of firearms and ammunition coming into police possession as a result of court orders or voluntary surrender, and the supervision of firearm dealers and rifle and pistol clubs.

During the year 272 applications for firearms certificates were granted, bringing the number of certificates held by persons in the Force area to 2,580. One application for issue was refused and five certificates were revoked. A total of 864 shotgun certificates was issued and 3,645 were renewed. At the end of the year 14,364 shotgun certificates were held by persons in this Force area. Seventeen certificates were refused and 18 revoked.

Eight new firearms dealers were registered bringing the total to 129. The number of inspection visits made to such premises was 582. One hundred and thirty nine certificates were issued under the Explosives Act 1875 and 287 licences for gunpowder and/or safety fuses were issued under the Control of Explosives Order 1953. Officers of the Department made 171 visits to explosives stores and sites, maintaining close liaison with the Fire Prevention Department of the West Midlands Fire Service who register premises and issue licences for explosives stores.

Prosecutions were taken against 36 persons for offences against the Explosives and Firearms legislation.

In June 13 letter bombs either exploded or were defused at Post Offices in the Birmingham area. Only minor injuries were caused by those that exploded. Officers of the Explosives and Firearms Department were called out to deal with 334 suspect or dangerous objects during the year.

## MISSING PERSONS

A central index of missing persons is maintained by the Central Information Unit, although overall responsibility for enquiries rests with the territorial division concerned.

During the year a total of 9,511 persons was reported missing, comprising 4,793 males and 4,718 females, an increase of 336 compared with 1978. Of these totals, 76 males and 59 females had not been traced at the end of the year.

## VICE

Routine matters connected with vice are dealt with by plain clothes officers on territorial divisions. The Special Plain Clothes Department deals with the more serious aspects of vice which require protracted enquiries. The department liaises with divisional personnel, other police forces and outside agencies to ensure that the problems presented by prostitution, pornography and associated offences are contained.

During the year 63 prostitutes were cautioned and 118 prosecuted. An additional 40 persons were prosecuted for living on immoral earnings, keeping brothels, importuning and controlling prostitutes. Prosecutions concerning obscene publications involved a further 31 persons.

## HOUSE TO HOUSE AND STREET COLLECTIONS

One hundred and sixty one certificates authorising limited House to House collections were issued and 624 street collections were authorised by local authorities.

## STRAY DOGS

In 1979, 7,728 dogs were reported lost, whilst 10,361 were found and either handed to the police or retained by the finders.

Stray dogs are kept at police stations for the minimum period possible. Found dogs not claimed by the owner from a police station are transferred to one of a number of animal welfare agencies throughout the force area, the occupiers of which are contracted to care for animals on an agency basis. The cost to the Police Authority during the financial year 1978/79 was £49,000.

**END**