

# On Her Majesty's Service

WASC 1798

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To: Mr. McLaren regards Sgt. T. Fielding police control room W.A. Seaward Stone Gate

# TALK THROUGH

ISSUE NO 23 THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE JULY 1989

## RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED AT PTS

The inaugural General Meeting of the Ministry of Defence Police Retired Officers Association was the highlight of the hugely successful Third Annual Reunion of retired MDP officers held at the Police Training School, Medmenham on Friday 30th June.

The event proved to be the best so far, with grand sunny weather and a record attendance of over 200 ex-officers.

### Specialist tasks

Static displays of several specialist aspects of the Force proved of interest to young and old alike. These included the Special Escort Group, the Operational Support Unit, one of the Farnborough-based police motor cycles, a rigid inflatable boat (RIB) from Devonport, the Crime Preven-

tion Department, the Recruiting Branch and the new Force Command Vehicle.

Both the MDP Band and the Pipe Band gave their usual faultless performances and they later combined for a 'Massed MDP Bands' display. The MDP Dog Display Team also gave a polished performance and as usual the dogs proved great favourites with the crowd.

Several important presentations took place during the morning. Mr Jack Aspinall, QPM, FBIM, the Chief Constable, presented Long Service and Good Conduct medals to six officers: Inspector Ernie Bradley (Bicester), Sergeant George MacKenzie (Beith) and Constables Peter Allinson (Copenacre), Roger Bladen (Westcott), Dennis Edwards (Porton Down) and Peter Lambourn (Farn-

borough). The Chief Constable also presented the Trench Cup to this year's winner, Constable John O'Rourke (Bishopton).

The Defence Police Federation has financed the manufacture of a mace for the MDP Band and this was formally handed over to Constable Trevor Lewis (the Bandmaster) by Mr Mick Jones (Federation National Chairman).

### Formally launched

In the afternoon, the Chief Constable formally launched the Retired Officers Association. Draft rules were approved and the 100-plus members present then elected their Officers and Committee. All posts were filled without any problem but it was agreed that Superintendent

THE ELECTED COMMITTEE	
President:	Jack Aspinall QPM, FBIM
Chairman:	Arthur Aitchison
Vice Chairman:	Arthur Bedwell
Secretary:	Wally Freer
Asst Secretary:	John Chilvers
Acting Treasurer:	Supt Tom Sloman
Members:	Messrs. M Dewhurst, R W Howard, H F Landrey, D Mahoney, R McAvooy, R T Stanton

Tom Sloman (Force Headquarters) would act as Treasurer in a caretaker capacity *pro tem*. He is already closely involved in the setting-up of the Association's administrative affairs.

As in previous years, the reunion day was enjoyed by all who attended and once again many of them are already planning to meet up again in 1990.



Presentation of LS & GC medal to Inspector Ernie Bradley



Father and son: Sergeant Rob Hoblin (Greenham Common) — MDP Band drummer with Constable Ivor Hoblin (Faslane) — Pipe Band bass drummer



Chief Inspector Norman Stevens at the Crime Prevention caravan



Retired Officers Association AGM



Constable Peter Lambourn (Farnborough)



Past and present Chief Constables (John Bailey CBE, GM and Jack Aspinall QPM, FBIM)



Constable Dave Wintersgill with Sable



Sergeant Cliff Sharp (Force HQ) with former Constable Bill Swinford (age 76)



The MDP Pipe Band



Presentation of Trench Cup

All photographs by Det Sergeant Wendy Benson



Watching the dog display



Presentation of the DPF mace



The Water Police display with RIB

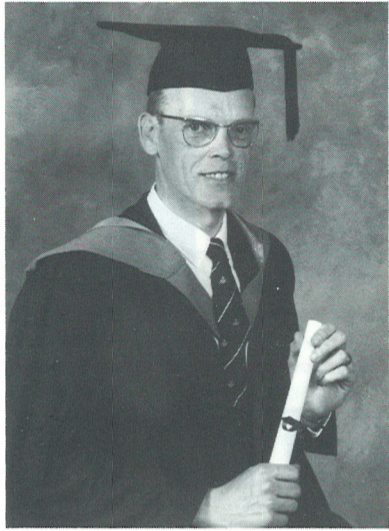


The MDP Band



The Chief Constable with the newly-elected ROA Committee

# HARD WORK PAYS OFF



Congratulations to **Constable Peter McGuinness** (CSB Faslane) who is pictured left at the Open University Graduation Ceremony at Newcastle City Hall on 10th June. Peter obtained the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Science.

Peter, now 39, left school at 15 and worked in a variety of jobs before spending ten years as a railway signaller in Fife. He then found himself unemployed as a result of British Rail's signalbox modernisation programme. It was then that he began study with the Open University and at the same time found work with MOD as a General Hand at Rosyth.

He obtained passes in *A Social Science Foundation Course* in 1982 and *An Arts Foundation Course* (1983)

and joined MDP at Faslane (1984). Peter then obtained further passes — *Decision Making in Britain* (1985), *Introduction to Sociology* (1986), *State in Society* (1987) and *Social Problems and Social Welfare* (1988) which led to the award of his BA.

Peter is married and lives with his wife Patricia and their three children, Anne-Marie (14), Allan (12) and Keith (10), at Garelochhead.

"I found the course enjoyable but demanding," says Peter. "I was encouraged in my studies by the interest shown by my colleagues and I was grateful for the financial help given to me by MOD through sponsorship since I joined MDP."

## EDITORIAL

With other commitments necessitating Sergeant John Brown's withdrawal from our Editorial Staff, we urgently seek a replacement. He or she will be required to take responsibility for the regular *OFF THE BEAT* series and to assist generally on features and distribution. Ideally we seek somebody of Constable or Sergeant rank.

Station duties, SPO and Divisional Commander permitting, it will also be necessary for the new Features Editors to attend at the *Talk Through* office for brief periods of detached duty. This will mainly involve the day-to-day running of *Talk Through* during the absence on leave, etc. of the Assistant Editor.

Anyone interested is invited to contact *Talk Through* via the normal chain of command. If you would prefer an informal chat about the job first, then please telephone on our normal number.

Perhaps this is also the right time to appeal to those stations whose names never seem to appear on our pages. Don't leave it to the larger establishments and the other regulars — let's have details of *your* news too. We have heard complaints along the lines "My station never gets mentioned!" — but whose fault is that?

## TALK THROUGH

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Det Supt Ken Taylor (CID)

## NOT ALWAYS THE BEST POLICY!

We are indebted to Maureen Hunter, Editor of *Open Court*, the house magazine of the Northern Ireland Court Service, for permission to reprint the following item.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Lord Chancellor recently addressed the Northern Ireland Law Society at its Annual Dinner. Having covered the serious matters in his speech the Lord Chancellor concluded with a story which shows the lighter side of the administration of justice.

It appears that a man was driving a pony and trap along an Irish country lane when they were in collision with a motorist. The pony and trap were overturned into a ditch. The man claimed damages and there was a sequel in court against the motorist.

Cross-examination of the pony driver went like this:

**Counsel for the motorist:** Is it not right that after the accident you told my client that you were all right?

**Pony driver:** That is hard to answer.

**Counsel:** Surely you can answer yes or not to that simple question.

**The judge wisely intervened saying:** Tell the court what happened.

**Pony driver:** Well, the motorist hit me and drove on. He came back and saw the pony in the ditch. He asked me "Is it all right?" and I said "No, it's got two broken legs." Then he pulled out a gun and shot it dead. When he turned to me and asked if I was all right, I said that I was!"

## ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

It was a case of 'the good news' and 'the bad news' for those MDP officers and their families living in married quarters at Waltham Abbey last month.

The announcement that £¼ million had been allocated for the very welcome improvements to the houses was naturally greeted with delight. These improvements are to include central heating, double glazing, insulation, new plumbing and new fitted kitchens.

The problem, however, is in the temporary re-housing of the affected families during the work — which it is estimated will take up to four weeks per house. An initial proposal, *and we are assured that it was serious*, was to place the families into temporary accommodation in the form of port-

cabins housed on the adjacent tennis court. Needless to say, this idea was very quickly rejected!

Fortunately the concern of the officers whose families were to be affected by the upheaval was noted and a meeting was convened at which a representative of the Defence Land Agent explained the position and the alternatives. It also gave the officers the opportunity to put forward their own views and it was significant that several points were introduced which had not been realised or taken into account. These ranged from the overseeing of the actual construction work to the question of reimbursement of expenses which would be necessarily incurred by those officers affected.

It now seems likely that other

newly refurbished married quarters in the area will be used for the temporary accommodation of those affected.

The officers currently occupying the married quarters at Waltham Abbey include a member of the Defence Police Federation Management Committee and a member of the *Talk Through* editorial staff. Hopefully this gives sufficient muscle to ensure that the MDP officers concerned in this matter are not to be treated with complete disregard for their welfare or that of their families.

The Senior Police Officer would also have been affected but he has 'escaped' by means of promotion to Chief Inspector and a posting to Scotland!

## SCALING NEW HEIGHTS

Four MDP Constables from RNAD Gosport, **Dave Blake**, **John Wray**, **Mark Musselwhite** and **Mark Shallish**, have raised over £200 in aid of research into Crohn's Disease (also known as Regional Enteritis). This complaint causes inflammation of the intestine and has no known cause. Research into the disease is being carried out at Queen Alexan-

dra Hospital, Cosham — close to Gosport.

To raise this money the four officers completed the tough nine-mile Brecon Beacons Horseshoe Hike. This took them up Pen y Fan — the highest point in South Wales (almost 3,000 feet) — and then on over a further four peaks. Setting off at 6am, they took six hours to complete

the mountain trek. They then got straight back on the road for home, arriving back at the Gosport Police Club in time for a well-earned pint.

The cheque for the money raised was handed over to the charity at a special ceremony held at the Police Club on Thursday 13th July.

☆ ☆ ☆

## NATIONAL POLICE ORCHESTRA: APPEAL FOR MUSICIANS

Police Constable **Alex Roe** (West Midlands Police) is asking for help in assembling the first National Police Orchestra. Most forces already have their own brass bands or other ensembles. MDP is believed to be one of very few forces in Britain with *two* full-scale bands of completely different type.

Alex Roe, who is based in Birmingham, would like to have the orchestra up and rehearsing by the end of the year in preparation for a series of charity concerts in late 1990. He envisages the orchestra raising

money for Children in Need by playing regional concerts around Britain, leading to a major festival night at the National Exhibition Centre.

### 'Classic Rock'

Why, you may ask, is this appeal being made through *Talk Through* rather than being referred direct to the MDP Band and the Pipe Band? The answer is simple.

"We would be aiming for the 'Classic Rock' type of music such as

the Beatles and Led Zeppelin. This would appeal to a greater audience than, say, Tchaikovsky would," says the officer who has been a Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra viola player for the past ten years.

"We are looking for players of all types of instruments, not just classical. We will need drummers, guitarists, even synthesiser players."

Any interested officers are urged to contact PC Alex Roe either at West Midlands Force Control Room (021-236-5000, ext 2900) or via *Talk Through*.

## ANOTHER FIRST AID WIN

It was a case of 'same again please' when the three-man MDP Devonport team won the MOD National First Aid title for the second year running. The team of Constables **Mervyn Diamond**, **Don Hill** and **Ernie Kent** showed one change from the 1988 line-up with Ernie replacing Dan Welbourne who this year acted as Team Trainer.

The Preliminary Rounds took place at Boscombe Down on Tuesday 4th April and the MDP team not only qualified for the Finals — they also won the cup for the highest score in the preliminaries.

### National Final

The National Final was held at Buxton, Derbyshire on Tuesday 6th June and the MDP team was set some difficult tasks, Mervyn had to treat a casualty with a fractured collarbone, accompanied by shock. Don had a casualty with severe bleeding to the palm of the hand and shock. Ernie's casualty had a fractured elbow and cuts to the face.

In the team test Mervyn and Don

really had their work cut out with a casualty who had a severe wound to the top of his head, a fracture to the base of the skull, a fractured wrist and an open fracture to his leg. Just to make things really difficult, the casualty was unconscious!

### Waiting

As always, the worst part was waiting for the results. Every minute seemed an hour but in the end it was all worthwhile and the MDP Devonport team was declared the winners.

Dan Welbourne is delighted with the result and is now working hard to ensure that the team is in good shape for the Grand Prior Competition at Torquay on Thursday 30th November. This is the St John Ambulance First Aid Competition Final and features the champion First Aiders throughout the country.

The MDP team wishes to thank their fellow Devonport officers for their support over the past months and in particular their Senior Police Officer, Superintendent Dave Hurrell and Mrs Hurrell.

## CAN ANYONE BEAT THIS?

Not to be outdone by *Talk Through* articles covering long-distance events such as Constable Jim Clark's 9,000 mile journey to play the piano in America, **Detective Sergeant Colin Mortlock** (CID Devonport) has submitted his own contribution. This certainly looks unbeatable!

Colin recently completed a duty trip which took him from Heathrow (via British Airways) to Abu Dhabi, Singapore, Sydney and Canberra. The return journey involved about 28,000 miles.

Colin told *Talk Through*: "It was all courtesy of the Chief Constable in connection with a serious fraud enquiry." He admitted that during his stay in Australia he had managed to meet a brother who had emigrated in 1969 and whom he had not seen for 19 years.

(*Talk Through* has checked this account with Colin's gov'nor and we are assured (a) that he really did make the trip, (b) that it was authorised and (c) that it brought a result.)

### PENSIONS FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

**Constable Howard Leivers** (Llantrisant) wrote a piece on this subject which appeared in our December 1988 edition. Despite his appeal for details of all ex-Servicemen in the Force, he has received very few replies. Please send Howard details of your name, branch of the Forces in which you served, rank, number, dates of joining and leaving and your current MDP details. He writes further next month.

### DISTRIBUTION OF TALK THROUGH

Since its inception in September 1986 *Talk Through* has been distributed regularly to over 400 retired MDP officers. After this current copy, however, escalating costs of production, postage, etc. mean that it will be possible to send it only to those ex-members of the Force who are paid-up members of the Retired Officers Association.



# STATION PROFILE

No. 12

## ROYAL ORDNANCE ENFIELD LOCK



Our subject this month is unique within the *Station Profile* series since by the time we publish the story, MDP will be responsible for only one small part of the establishment – the famous and unique Pattern Room. It is anticipated that the whole of the establishment, including the Pattern room, will have completed its relocation to Nottingham by Monday 31st July.

Enfield Lock has been acknowledged as one of the world's leading producers of military small arms for almost 180 years. Sergeant Trevor Fielding (above), now stationed at nearby Waltham Abbey, has carried out considerable research into the history of the establishment and we are appreciative of his hard work in compiling this profile.

Royal Ordnance Small Arms Division (ROSA) was originally known as the Royal Armoury Mills and for the majority of its life as the Royal Small Arms Factory (RSAF). Even its geographical location at Enfield Lock is of interest. The main entrance gate is in the extreme north east corner of Middlesex but the greater part of the establishment is in Essex. Its northern end is only one mile from the border with Hertfordshire.

Almost 14 miles north of London, the factory covers about 100 acres and is surrounded by the River Lee, including its relief channel.

power from this water until the introduction of steam in 1861.

The Government owned several small gun-making factories in and around London (including the Tower of London) and they decided to close their Lewisham Factory and transfer its employees to Enfield. Selected employees set out from Lewisham by barge or by horse and cart, taking with them all their household possessions. Some small four-roomed houses had been built for them adjacent to the factory. Each family occupied one room for which they paid two shillings (10p) per week. Some of these houses are still lived in today and one was sold recently for £90,000. The street is called Government Row.

### Foundation of the Establishment

In 1811 the Government spent the sum of £7,330 on the purchase of 31 acres of land on the banks of the River Lee at Enfield, Middlesex. A year later, Captain John By (*sic*) of the Royal Engineers began surveying and planning the Royal Armoury Mills on the site. He is better known as the founder of a small Canadian village called Bytown – known today as Ottawa.

When Captain By started work on the Enfield site he found a fall of water of 11 feet which, when harnessed, could produce 80 horse power. The factory obtained its

### Weapon production

One of the new factory's first tasks was production of a flintlock musket known as *Brown Bess*. Its components were made elsewhere with the final assembly taking place at Enfield. The first full production rifle made at Enfield appeared in 1823. This was the *Baker* flintlock muzzle-loading weapon of which 5,000 were produced. The first rifle to have the name Enfield in its title was the .577 *Pattern 1853 Enfield*.

Whilst the factory gained wide fame for its production of firearms, it

is not as well known that it also produced swords and cutlasses for the Navy and the Army.

In about 1871 production of the *Martini Henry* rifle began. This weapon was much faster to reload than earlier rifles, having only four movements instead of the previous eight to fifteen movements of the muzzle-loaders. Unfortunately it was not popular with the Army owing to its violent recoil after being fired, and the hot barrel burning the hands of the user. It was said that the rifle injured more of its own men than did the enemy!

The addition of two inches to the butt of the rifle cut down the recoil and by 1895 the *Martini Henry* had evolved into the famous *Lee Enfield* rifle which was used throughout both World Wars.

Other well-known weapons manufactured at Enfield include the *Vickers*, the *Sten* (named from the initials of its designers' surnames – Shepherd and Turpin – plus the first two letters of the factory's name), the *Bren* (a composite of the names Brno and Enfield), the *FN Rifle*, the *RARDEN*, the *Aden* General Purpose Machine Gun and of course the latest *EWS SA 80* rifle with its own built-in telescopic sight.

### Early conditions

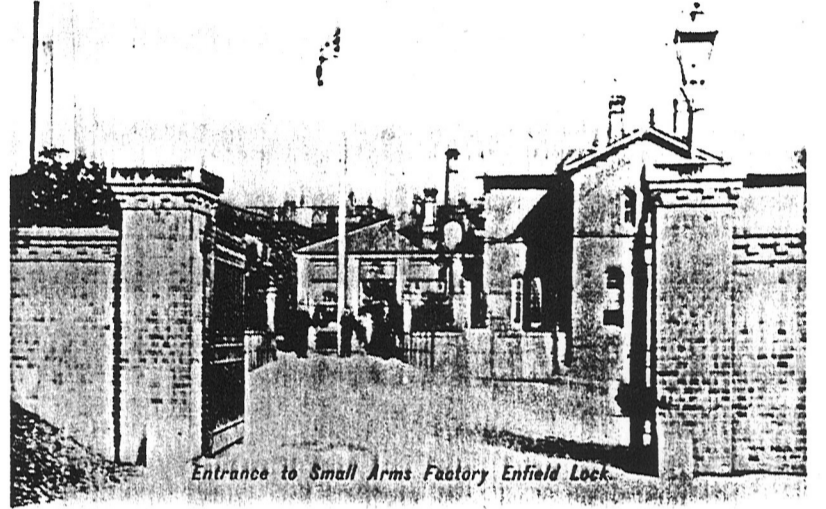
The first official Factory Superintendent was Colonel Manley Dixon who, on being appointed to the post was issued with the equivalent of today's 'company car' – a saddle horse. The hitching rail used by the Colonel still stands outside the Director's office.

Workers at the factory could earn good money, a Foreman getting about 39 shillings (£1.95p). Even the lowest paid received about 12 shillings (60p). The working week consisted of a 10½ hour day and seven hours on Saturdays. When a public holiday occurred (Christmas, King's Birthday, etc.) employees were given the time off but they had to make up the lost hours either before or after the holiday by working two or three hours extra per day.

Discipline in the factory was hard and the Foremen were tough. No matter where he was in the factory, the Foreman was easily identifiable by his bowler hat.

### Developments

Study of the history of the area reveals that much local development



Officers of the Metropolitan Police on duty at the Main Gate at the turn of the century.

was linked directly to the factory. In 1840 the Great Eastern Railway built a spur line to run adjacent to the factory. Its station was called Ordnance Factory Station. In 1912 a further spur was built to bring the railway directly into the factory. The canal was also diverted into the factory and much weapon-making material was delivered by these means. The only other way in those days was by horse-drawn transport.

Between 1855 and 1877 the factory built its own school and church. The school was so successful that in 1895 there were nearly 500 pupils, most of whom had no connection with the factory. The school was therefore moved half a mile away down Ordnance Road. During World War II the school was half destroyed by a V1 'doodlebug' but it was rebuilt and is still standing.

A market was set up just outside the main gate to enable employees to shop locally. A bath house/swimming pool was also built off Ordnance Road for the use of employees. The nearby Enfield Co-operative Society was begun by factory employees selling tea and sugar.

### Two World Wars

During the 1914-18 War the factory went on to 24 hours working and women were employed for the first time. All shifts were of 12 hours and employees had only one day off every fortnight. At the end of the war, all female employees were dismissed.

In September 1939, it was said that the safest place to be during a Luft-

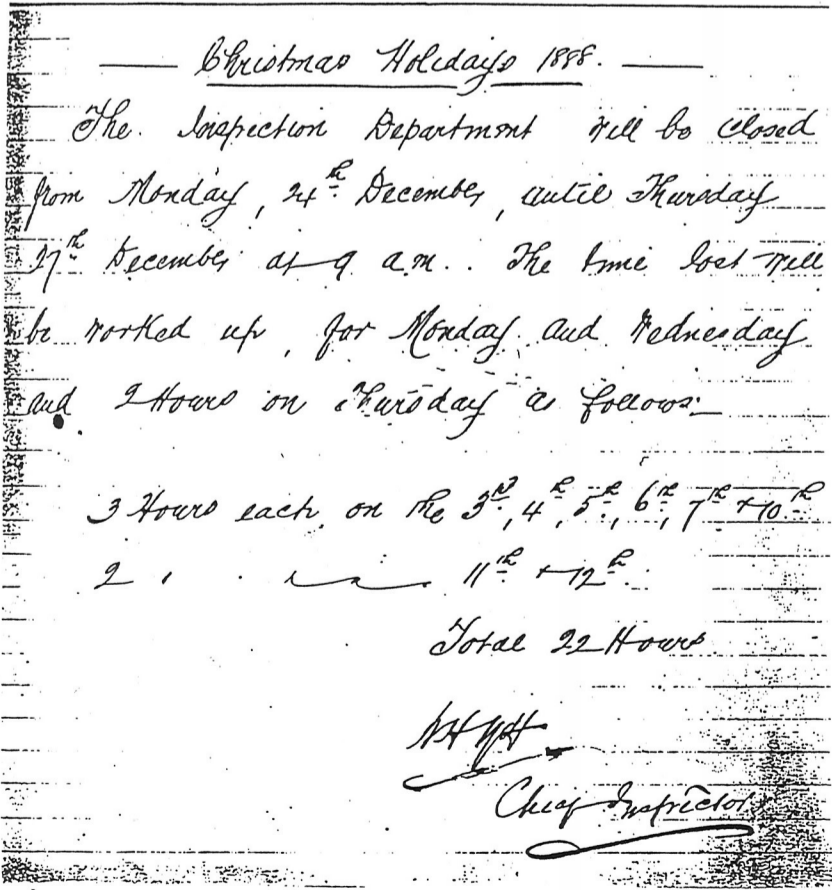
waffe air raid was in the middle of the Small Arms Factory. Although documents and maps captured after the war indicated that the factory was a specific target, only two bombs were dropped on to the factory. One caused damage to the perimeter fence whilst the other damaged several houses in Government Row. Production within the factory was not affected. During the Second World War production at Enfield was almost exclusively geared to the manufacture of *Bren* guns. *Lee Enfield* rifles were made at other armament factories.

### The Pattern Room

No history of Enfield Lock would be complete without mention of the Pattern Room. Its comprehensive collection of British and foreign small arms, edged weapons and ancillary equipment is managed by the Directorate General of Defence Quality Assurance (DGDQA) for the Master General of Ordnance.

The contents of the Pattern Room comprise over 8,000 weapons. Its chief purpose is to provide an opportunity for comparative evaluation of modern weapons and to this end it keeps abreast of the latest developments worldwide. Service personnel and Police officers are frequent visitors and although the room is not open to the general public, access is, sometimes, granted to historians, authors and journalists from specialist magazines.

Originally all Small Arms 'Sealed Patterns' were retained at the Tower



It happened in 1888 – could it happen now? The hand-written notice informs staff that the Inspection Department will be closed over the Christmas period but that they are required to make up the time 'lost' on Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and the two hours on the 27th.



Wartime Royal Visit – HM King George VI firing the Bren gun.



Foreman swordmaker, circa 1900. (Foremen wore bowler hats almost as a 'badge of rank')

## MDP OPENERS SET UP A ROUT

### MDP v ROYAL MILITARY POLICE MDP win by 142 runs

MDP went into this match at Medmenham on Wednesday 14th June determined to wipe out the disappointment of their recent defeat at the hands of the Kent Constabulary.

Skipper **Andy Manning** won the toss and elected to bat first. MDP openers **Derrick Maguire** and **Barry Frost** proved this the right decision with a sparkling opening partnership of 116 before the loss of Maguire for

56 runs (seven boundaries). Frost, in his first game for MDP, then featured in further productive partnerships with **Andy Gallant** and **Lee Maplesden** before falling to a catch behind for 70 (nine boundaries).

RMP made a cautious start to their innings as they sought to match MDP's fine 214 for four wickets in 41 overs. Paceman **Gallant** soon had them reeling when he produced an

inspired spell which brought him four wickets in 14 balls. Medium-fast bowler **Alastair Love** (Longtown), in his *debut* match, was also in fine form, maintaining great accuracy and giving very little away as he claimed three wickets.

RMP wickets tumbled regularly and despite some spirited resistance from the middle order batsmen, they were bowled out for just 72 runs.

#### SCORECARD

<b>MDP</b>			
Derrick Maguire (CSB Faslane)	lbw		56
Barry Frost (Menwith Hill)	bowled		70
Andy Gallant (Shoeburyness)	caught		32
Lee Maplesden (Greenham Common)	lbw		29
Neil Lawrence (CMU Faslane)	not out		9
	extras		18
		<b>Total (41 overs)</b>	<b>214 for 4</b>
<i>(Did not bat: Pat Down, Paul Goodridge, Phil Anthony, Alastair Love, Andy Manning, Terry Mitchell)</i>			
<b>RMP</b>			<b>all out . . . 72</b>
Gallant:	6-1-10-4,	Love:	11-2-29-3,
Anthony:	3-1-4-0,	Maplesden:	7-1-18-2
Manning:	2-0-5-1		

# BASKETBALL

## A VERSATILE ATHLETE

Our officers stationed at RAF Chessington believe that they have the greatest average height of all MDP detachments.

Constable **Eric Mills**, at six feet four inches, is one of the tallest and



this has obviously helped him to become an accomplished basketball player. Eric gained his first representative honour in 1982 when he was selected to play for Scotland Schoolboys (under-15). The following season he was picked to captain the Under-17s and he led this team at the European Championships in Yugoslavia in 1983.

In 1984 Eric represented the Under-19s and played in the European Championships in West Germany. The summer of that year found Eric spending eight weeks at Washington State University in the United States. The target was to gain a College Basketball Scholarship but with such exceptionally high standards, he was not successful. Obviously the experience he gained during this period was invaluable.

Eric returned to Scotland in the autumn where he played for Paisley and helped them to three consecutive Scottish Cup victories.

In 1986 he transferred to Falkirk. In his first season with the club they came second only to Murray International – the dominant force in British basketball at the time.

Eric joined the Ministry of Defence Police last year at Chessington and he now plays for Hounslow, one of the major clubs in the Middlesex League. Ironically, one of the first

things Eric intended to do when he arrived in England was to join the leading English club Kingston. Unfortunately the franchise had changed hands just the previous week and the club had moved to Glasgow!

### Hampden Park

Eric claims that his finest sporting moment came not on the basketball court but on the hallowed turf of Hampden Park, Glasgow. He was one of the players on the pitch for the Scotland v Brazil soccer international in 1987 – a euphonium player that is!

Having some friends who were members of the brass band that was to play the national anthems before the game, Eric travelled to Hampden with the band. He got into the stadium safely but at the last moment it was discovered that one of the bandsmen, a euphonium player, had not arrived. Eric was swiftly attired in a band uniform – which was hardly designed for a man of his size – and shown how to hold a euphonium. He then marched on to the pitch with the band, lined up and mimed the British and Brazilian national anthems.

In the words of Constable Peter McKay (also Chessington): "Eric Mills is certainly a versatile athlete!"

# ATHLETICS

## 9.36 SECONDS TO GLORY

**Stuart Putland**, 25-year old son of Chief Superintendent Frank Putland (Support Branch, Headquarters), is a young man in a hurry.

He is a professional sprinter and is coached by former European 200 silver medallist, Cameron Sharp. Stuart is a member of the Bonhill Athletic Club and he took one of the major prizes when he won the 90 metres handicap sprint in the New Year Professional Athletics Gala at Edinburgh's Meadowbank Stadium.

Victory in the 90 metres event made up for Stuart's great disappointment in the gala's main event, the 110 metres Carlsberg Sprint – the successor to the famous Powderhall Sprint. Two years ago he had been placed third in the event – although a later photo-finish picture showed that he had in fact reached the tape in *second* place. This year his bad luck came in the draw for the heats. Despite recording a time which was bettered by only five out of the other runners (almost a hundred of them), he found himself in the same heat as one of those five – and missed out on qualification for the semi-finals.

In the 90 metres heats, Stuart was determined to put his disappointment behind him. His handicap did not do him any favours but he over-



came it – plus opposition in the shape of 1988 British Sprint Champion, David McAllister – to earn his semi final place with a time of 9.44 seconds.

In the semi final, he saw off the 1988 100 metres winner. In the final, he got away to what he described as a "reasonable start" but with just 20 metres to go he had made up ground and put everything into his finish. At around ten metres to go, Stuart felt one of his hamstrings pull but he clung on in a blanket finish. After what seemed an eternity, the announcement came – he had won in a splendid time of 9.36 seconds.

## STATION PROFILE

*continued*

of London but after the fire of 1843 the pattern firearms were transferred to Enfield. They remained there until just after the outbreak of the Second World War when they were transferred to nearby Broxbourne for safe keeping. They returned to Enfield in 1948. As already pointed out, they will in future be housed at Nottingham.

The present custodian is Mr Bert Woodend and we are indebted to him for the use of his reference library and for some of the photographs used in this article.

### The police presence

The first sign of a police presence at the factory appears to be about 1850 when the Metropolitan Police manned the gates and carried out patrols. In 1860 an order was issued that police officers would respond to all fires and would 'spring their rattles' to raise the alarm.

In 1867 there were numerous strikes and riots and several employees were sworn in as Special Constables. A Company of the 49th Regiment of Foot was also stationed at the factory.

In 1924, patrolmen were brought in to patrol the site whilst the police

looked after the gates. It would appear that 'mixed manning' is nothing new! In 1926 the Metropolitan Police handed over duties to the War Office Constabulary and a short while later the mixed manning was stopped.

During October 1947, work commenced on the police lodge in order to convert the upper floors into two police flats. Whilst this work was being carried out several historical documents were found under the floor boards. The oldest of these was dated 21 March 1891 and it listed the names and ranks of all police officers serving at the factory at that time. This practice had been repeated several times whenever major building work was being carried out and has been continued right up to the MDP withdrawal from the main part of the factory this year.

From those early days of 'rattle springing' and primitive 'mixed manning' the policing of Enfield Lock became very sophisticated and in recent years it incorporated such modern technology as CCTV and microwave alarms. The Chief Constable MDP officially opened the new control room in June 1986.

### 'The Scottish Piper'

Any factory of character must inevitably have a ghost – and Enfield Lock is no exception. 'The Scottish Piper'

appears during the night in the area of the main canteen. He is dressed in kilt, tunic and bonnet and he carries bagpipes.

### Watched him

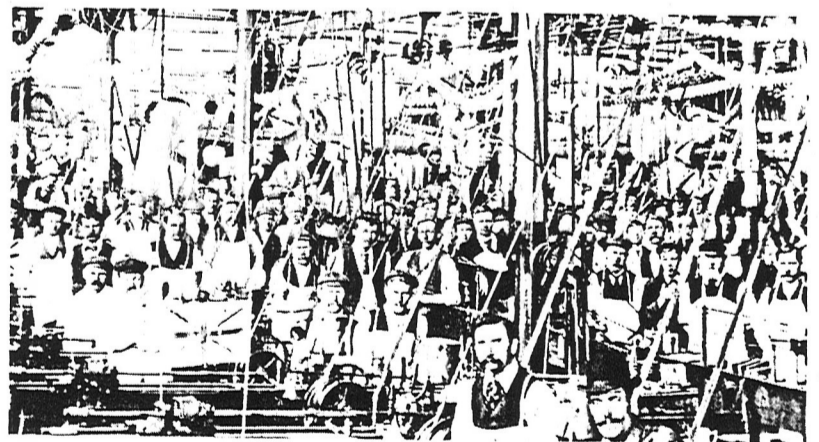
One employee has related that one night, whilst working in the electricity sub-station of the canteen, the piper appeared, stopped and watched him. Our man simply froze until the piper disappeared through the canteen wall. On another occasion a local trader was delivering fish in the early hours when he heard the skirl of the pipes. On looking up he saw the piper standing close to him playing his music. The trader fled the site vowing never to return.

### Memories

1989 sees the total closure of the factory and all weapon manufacture, plus the Pattern Room, will be at Nottingham. Many members of the Force have served at Enfield Lock and the great majority of them grew to love and appreciate the place. The thousands of production workers ('Lockies' as they were affectionately known) who served there will also keep many fond memories.

Without any doubt this factory is not only part of history – it *made* history!

☆ ☆ ☆



*The same location – 89 years apart*

*Above: the Main Machine Shop when news of the Relief of Mafeking was received (1900)*

*Below: the same scene following the closure of the factory (1989)*

