

C a P

Crime and Punishment Collections Network

**NEWSLETTER
AND
INFORMATION
FOR MEMBERS**

July 2007

COMMITTEE - 2007

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WEBSITE

Kaye Tetlow Buxton Museum & Art Gallery

Chris Williams Open University

[CAP Collections Network Website](#)

Call for information and ideas

At the last AGM of CAP Collections Network it was raised by members that it is important for the Network to have web pages for promotion, sharing news and events and to access information about others members.

After a discussion at the last committee meeting we decided that now is the time to move forward with this. Initially web space will be made available through the Galleries of Justice website.

We now call upon members to share their thoughts on what they would like on the web pages.

Thoughts on content from the Committee include:-

- Introductory page 'About Us' which would include information about CAP, the committee and our constitution.
- News page detailing forthcoming events, exhibitions and grants to apply for.
- Link to directory for access of members contact, collections and staffing details (for which we need to add details to the directory).
- Link to archive newsletters and meeting minutes.
- 'Getting involved' page for potential new members.

Please send comments and ideas about the website to Kaye Tetlow as well as brief information about COLLECTION CONTENT, STAFF STRUCTURE AND SKILL BASES, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND CHARGES and POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS.

Email: kaye.tetlow@derbyshire.gov.uk

or write/phone: Buxton Museum and Art Gallery, Terrace Road,
Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6DA

Tel: 01298 24658

From October this year there will be dedicated web space available to Subject Specialist Networks through SSNconnect, as mentioned in Renaissance spring newsletter (follow link below for further information).

http://www.mla.gov.uk/resources/assets//R/Renaissance_news_spring_2007_11627.pdf

In 1991 the Police History Society published the 'Guide to the Archives of the Police Forces of England and Wales'. This was the outcome of a project funded by

the Economic and Social Research Council, and carried out at the Open University by Clive Emsley and Ian Bridgeman.

The 'Guide' is a catalogue of all police records held at the time by police forces in England and Wales (including the British Transport Police).

With the permission of the PHS, the OU's European Centre for the Study of Policing have now scanned this 'Guide' and put it on the web as a series of text files. It is accessible through the ECSP's home page, at <http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/history/policing/index.html>.

The 'Guide' has not been updated, and thus some of the information in it is now obsolete, but it remains the single most useful finding aid for the history of policing in England and Wales.

Chris Williams
Open University / CaP

The publication of the following article may be of interest to some members:

Alyson Brown, 'The Amazing Mutiny at the Dartmoor Convict Prison' - British Journal of Criminology - March 2007 47 (2): 276-292.

I am still searching out archive material on this riot in 1932 so if anyone has anything useful, I'd love to hear from them.

Alyson Brown, Department of English & History, Edge Hill University.
Brownna@edgehill.ac.uk

The Old Police Cells Museum at Brighton is enjoying another successful season and will be open on Saturday mornings until the end of September. Booking for the tours via 01273 291052.

Our website is up and running at oldpolicecellsmuseum.org.uk.

We have taken possession of the Caffyn Collection of truncheons and tipstaves, numbering 104 items in total and with extra space in the female cells of the former police station, exhibits in future will embrace all constituent forces in Sussex.

We propose to improve our information for group visits by schools. We are aware of the GMP Museum leaflet on the history of the police service but would welcome any examples of similar projects please. Information may be sent to Mrs P Drake, 11 Hazeldene Meads, Brighton, BN1 5LR or by email to: pat.drake@brighton-hove.gov.uk

John Dibley

FROM RAGS TO RICHES!



Well, actually from Rags to Ripon Prison & Police Museum!

During our closed season last winter we managed at last to mount our collection of medals for display in the Prison & Police Museum with the help of two medal collectors, one a member of the National Association of Retired Police Officers and the other a serving officer in North Yorkshire Police.

The display has been very well received by our visitors since we opened at the end of March.

The Jubilee (Police) Medal 1887 shown above almost had a very sad and ignominious end when it was saved by a worker in a rag mill in the Ossett area of West Yorkshire in 1983. The medal was issued to PC J. FREEMAN of the Metropolitan Police who was at that time serving in J Division (Walthamstow). As you can see from the photograph it suffered some damage with the ribbon holder having been broken off and the medal itself sustaining dents, etc. How it came to be in the ragging mill is not known for certain but it would appear that it may have been with some old clothes which were being turned into rags, hopefully after his death.

Thanks to Maggie Bird we know where PC Freeman was stationed but we do not know how the medal came to be in Yorkshire. Perhaps he was originally from Yorkshire and retired to God's County following his retirement.

Ralph B. LINDLEY, Vice President, Ripon Museum Trust.

THE FIRST 'CIVILIAN' VICTORY CROSS

PRIOR TO 1858 THE Victory Cross was only awarded to military personnel. However, in that year it was announced that civilians who bore arms as volunteers during the Indian Mutiny, should be eligible to receive the award. To receive it they had to be under the orders of a General or other officer in command of troops in the field when the act was performed. In the history of the medal, five such awards have been made.

The first person to receive it was an Irish man, Thomas Henry Kavanagh, who was a civilian serving as an assistant field engineer and had been involved in previous different actions. At the time of the events leading to the award he was aged 36 years.

Those events were as follows: In 1857 Lord Clyde advanced to relieve Lucknow in India. Sir James Outram and General Havelock were besieged in the Residency Building and wanted to liaise with Lord Clyde. They needed somebody to do this that knew the native population and spoke their language. If this person were detected he would suffer an uncertain future. Thomas Henry Kavanagh volunteered for the task. He then left the complex and after meeting up with a spy, he travelled through the surrounding area dressed as a native. This included wading through the River Gomti.

Due to his courageous actions he was able to return to the Residency Building and convey the plans to those inside. The Residency was later relieved and those inside taken to safety. For his actions Kavanagh was awarded the Victoria Cross.

Kavanagh died in Gibraltar on 13th November 1882 and is buried in the North Front Cemetery – Government of Gibraltar ID Number 4567.

*Submitted by Raymond Orr
RUCGC Foundation*

MUSEUM OF POLICING IN CHESHIRE.

During the first formal year of the Museum of Policing in Cheshire several developments have taken place. A formal committee has been formed which is chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable Mr Graeme Gerrard. The committee consists of volunteers comprising of retired police officers, local councillors, retired police staff and a member of the Cheshire Police Authority. The committee meet on a formal basis every 6 - 8 weeks and we have recently held our first Annual General Meeting.

There has been a 'Museum' within the Cheshire Constabulary for many years at our former training centre at Crewe albeit on an ad-hoc basis. It was decided to place the museum on a formal basis when the new Constabulary Headquarters opened at Winsford. This was particularly significant with the proposed merger of police forces when the Cheshire Constabulary was to have merged with Merseyside Police. These plans were later shelved by the Government.

The museum is located within the now disused cell block at Warrington Police Station. These cells became vacant as a result of the three purpose custody suites located within the county. The cells at Warrington Police Station were built just within the Victorian era in 1901 and are an ideal location and atmosphere for the museum. There are seven cells that will be transformed into different scenes and will include:

- a 1950's charge office and 1950's Detective Inspectors Office
- an International police display
- a wartime display
- police uniforms and insignia

There will also be many more items on display including police memorabilia, medals and photographs that have been collected over many years. The work within the cell area is being carried out by our manager and several volunteers who give their time and energy voluntarily.

We are currently in the process of applying for charity status which will enable us to apply for external funding. We hope this process will be complete in 2 / 3 months time. Although we receive a great deal of support from the Constabulary, in many ways we do not receive any formal funding.

Our volunteer museum manager, retired police officer Peter Wroe, is extremely keen that we store and look after our exhibits in the correct manner. To that end the museum is working towards accreditation with the Museums Libraries Archive Council (MLA). We have recently obtained the services of a curatorial advisor, Michelle Hill, from the Warrington Museum who will guide us through the process of accreditation. This will be a long term process but will ensure that our artefacts are stored and cared for in the correct manner and available for future generations. In the short term it is envisaged that the museum will be open within the next two to three months for pre-arranged visits by organisations and schools. We feel it is very important that education forms part of our strategy and schools are able to visit the museum to ensure they are aware of the history of their police service. This will also include an insight into the current modern Cheshire Constabulary. We will ensure that our schools liaison officers are aware of the museum and what we can offer to assist them in their work. In the longer term it is intended that the museum will open for one day a week for public visits. However, this will be

dependant on building work that is required to be carried out with regard to public / disabled access and the obtaining of the necessary funding to carry out this work. We do intend to hold a formal opening of the museum and we do hope you will be able to attend. We will of course keep you in touch with any developments with regard to the official opening.

The museum also has a website the address of which can be found at:

<http://museumofpolicingincheshire.org.uk>

There is still some development work to be carried out on the web site but this is another exciting part of the museum. This will also enable schools who cannot visit the museum to have access via the World Wide Web.

The year 2007 is the 150th anniversary year of the Cheshire Constabulary and many events have and will be carried out during this year. The museum has played a leading part in these events with exhibitions at Police Headquarters and also at the Thanksgiving Service which was recently held at Chester Cathedral.

On the 8th September there will be a garden/ birthday party for staff at Headquarters followed on the 9th September by an open day for the public. On both days the Museum will play a major part in these events.

I hope this brief report will give you an insight into what has been achieved in the past twelve months and the way we intend to move in the future. Although there is still much to do to reach our goal our work will ensure that the history and the heritage of the Cheshire Constabulary are maintained in a correct and proper manner.

If you require any further information with regard to the Museum of Policing in Cheshire , please do not hesitate to contact me.

Peter Hampson Secretary Museum of Policing in Cheshire
Cheshire Constabulary, Museum of Policing in Cheshire , Police Headquarters,
Clemonds Hey, Oalanere Road , Winsford, Cheshire . Tel: 01244 615207