

CR Sent



Report

OF

THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

OF THE

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

1980

REPORT
OF
THE CHIEF CONSTABLE
OF THE
WEST MIDLANDS POLICE
FOR THE
YEAR 1980

INCLOSURE

20 8 80

ACQUISITION

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

77897

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

77897

This document has been reproduced exactly as received from the person or organization originating it. Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the National Institute of Justice.

Permission to reproduce this copyrighted material has been granted by

Leslie Sharp/West Midlands Police Force

to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS).

Further reproduction outside of the NCJRS system requires permission of the copyright owner.

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

MEMBERS OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY

Chairman: Councillor R A Wooton (*Sutton Coldfield No. 2*)

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J A Clark JP (*West Bromwich No. 1*)

Local Authority Representatives

Magistrate Members

Ward

Councillor D R H Birbeck	(<i>Sutton Coldfield No. 3</i>)	J D Baker Esq JP
Councillor J A W Bird	(<i>Wolverhampton No. 4</i>)	K H Barker Esq.
Councillor J A Gopsill FCCA	(<i>Birmingham, Kings Norton</i>)	OBE, DL JP
FCIS		Mrs FM Lee JP
Councillor R J Griffiths	(<i>Dudley No. 4</i>)	G Pearson Esq JP
Councillor W T Harris	(<i>Dudley No. 6</i>)	Mrs K E Piddock JP
Councillor D Harty JP	(<i>Dudley No. 7</i>)	CF Redgrave Esq JP
Councillor K R Ison	(<i>Stourbridge No. 1</i>)	R J Smith Esq JP
Councillor P J Lynne	(<i>Birmingham, Stechford</i>)	C I Teeling Esq JP
Councillor Mrs F M Milne	(<i>Aldridge/Brownhills No. 3</i>)	
Councillor Mrs JAD Seccombe JP	(<i>Birmingham, Acocks Green</i>)	
Councillor E T Shore	(<i>Birmingham, Saltley</i>)	
Councillor B V Smith BSc	(<i>Birmingham, Kingstanding</i>)	
MBA, Dip IM		
Councillor Mrs M E Stoneman	(<i>Coventry No. 2</i>)	
BA Cert. ED. LRAM		
Councillor A L Turner	(<i>Birmingham, Longbridge</i>)	

Preceding page blank

Police Headquarters

Lloyd House
Colmore Circus Queensway
Birmingham B4 6NQ

Telephone No 021-236 5000
Telex 337321

Chief Constable

Sir Philip Knights CBE QPM

Deputy Chief Constable

Mr R Broome

Assistant Chief Constables

Administration and Supplies

Mr L Sharp LL.B

Crime

Mr D H Gerty LL.B

Operations

Mr K J Evans

Organisation & Development

Mr G E Coles B.Jur

Personnel & Training

Mr J B Glynn

Staff Support

Mr T Meffen

Criminal Investigation Department

Chief Superintendent C W Powell (*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 LL.B

Discipline and 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 G B Kirton

Communications

Chief Superintendent L P Coates

'B' Division

Bournville Lane Birmingham Telephone No 021-476 3141
Chief Superintendent B Drew MBA

'C' Division

Walsall Road Birmingham Telephone No 021-356 0431
Vacant

'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 J Meller

'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 1980

Chief Constable's Office
Administration Department

POPULATION AND ACREAGE STATISTICS

Force Area in acres	222,400.4
Population	2,696,000
Acreage per Officer	34.05
Population per Officer	412.8
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

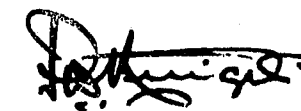
To: **The Chairman and Members of the
West Midlands Police Authority**

MR CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I have the honour to present my report on the policing of West Midlands during the year 1980.

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

Your Obedient Servant



Chief Constable

Contents

CHAPTER 1	Page
INTRODUCTION	11
RETIREMENT OF SENIOR OFFICERS	11
ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT	12
MANPOWER	13
PUBLIC ORDER	13
CRIME	16
TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY	17
POLICE BUILDINGS	18
TRAINING	18
RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY	19
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	20
 CHAPTER II 	
Administration and Organisation	
ORGANISATION OF THE FORCE	21
ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTH OF REGULAR FORCE	21
SUPERNUMARY AND SECONDED STAFF	22
SERVICE OF MEMBERS OF THE FORCE	23
DISTRIBUTION	
<i>Regular Officers</i>	24
<i>Civilian Staff and Manual Workers</i>	25
RECRUITING	26
<i>Publicity</i>	27
<i>Graduate Entry</i>	27
WASTAGE DURING THE YEAR	28
POLICE CADETS - ESTABLISHMENT	28
CIVILIAN RECRUITING	29
PROMOTIONS	29
PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS	30
HONOURS, COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS	30
POLICE SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL	31
DEGREE AWARDS	31
LETTERS OF APPRECIATION	31
DISCIPLINE	31
COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS	31

Administration and Organisation (Continued)	Page
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS	33
POLICE COMPLAINTS BOARD	33
<i>Other Alleged Offences by Police Officers</i>	33
COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE DEPARTMENT	34
DOG BRANCH	34
MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT	35
MOUNTED BRANCH	37
SPECIAL PATROL GROUP	37
UNDERWATER SEARCH UNIT	38
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	38
HOME DEFENCE DEPARTMENT	39
POLICE STORES	40
SPECIAL CONSTABULARY	41
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	42
ANNUAL INSPECTION	42

CHAPTER III	
Training	
TRAINING	43
STAFF	43
INSTRUCTOR TRAINING	43
LAW RESEARCH	44
PROBATIONER TRAINING	44
<i>Induction</i>	44
<i>Local Procedure</i>	44
<i>Junior</i>	45
<i>Intermediate</i>	45
<i>Senior</i>	45
<i>Basic Crime</i>	45
<i>Indecency Courses</i>	45
REFRESHER COURSES	45
<i>Constables</i>	45
<i>Sergeants</i>	46
POST PROMOTION COURSES	46
<i>Inspectors</i>	46
<i>Sergeants</i>	46
SPECIALISED COURSES	46
<i>Aston University</i>	46
<i>National Examinations Board</i>	46
<i>Promotion Examination Classes</i>	47
<i>Special Study</i>	47
<i>Promotion Examinations</i>	47
<i>Home Defence</i>	47

Training (Continued)

<i>Public Order</i>	47
<i>Tutor Constables</i>	48
<i>Resident Beat Officers</i>	48
<i>Station Officers</i>	48
<i>Public Speaking</i>	48
<i>Pre-Retirement</i>	48
<i>Safety Representatives</i>	48
<i>Traffic Management</i>	48
<i>Television Interview Techniques</i>	49
<i>Firearms</i>	49
<i>Undergraduates</i>	49
<i>Special Constables</i>	49
COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING	49
CID TRAINING	50
MAJOR INCIDENT ROOM	51
DRIVING SCHOOL	51
INSPECTORS COURSE	52
POLICE STAFF COLLEGE COURSES	52
<i>Junior Command Course</i>	52
<i>Intermediate Command Course</i>	52
<i>Senior Command Course</i>	52
CID COURSES	52
MANAGEMENT COURSES	53
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COURSES	53
AIRCRAFT CRASH DRILL	53
BRAKES	53
AIR OBSERVER-HELICOPTERS	53
TV PRODUCTION	53
DOG COURSE STAFFORD	54
DRIVING COURSE - NORTHUMBRIA	54
TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY	54
ROAD SAFETY SYMPOSIA	54
WILTON PARK CONFERENCE	54
GAMING COURSE	54
CRIMINOLOGY COURSE	54
TRANSCHEM 80	54
FIREARMS COURSES	54
FINGERPRINT COURSES	55
H.G.V. INSTRUCTORS COURSE	55
NATIONAL INSTRUCTORS	55
TACHOGRAPH COURSE	55
FIRST AID	55
LIFE SAVING	56
POLICE CADETS	56
<i>Cadet Training</i>	56

Training (continued)

<i>Induction Courses</i>	54
<i>Academic Training</i>	56
<i>Departmental Training</i>	57
<i>Adventure Training</i>	58
<i>First Aid</i>	58
<i>Voluntary Activities</i>	58
<i>Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme</i>	58
<i>Sport</i>	59
 CHAPTER IV 	
Crime	
STRENGTH AND DISPOSITION	62
RECORDED CRIME	63
CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENCES	64
<i>Homicide</i>	64
<i>Woundings</i>	64
<i>Sexual</i>	64
<i>Burglary</i>	64
<i>Robbery</i>	64
<i>Thefts and Frauds</i>	64
<i>Theft of and from Motor vehicles</i>	64
VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN	69
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT	70
<i>Operations</i>	70
<i>Support Services</i>	70
ANTECEDENT HISTORY DEPARTMENT	70
CENTRAL INFORMATION UNIT	71
CRIME INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT	71
COMMERCIAL BRANCH	72
CRIME PREVENTION DEPARTMENT	73
DRUG SQUAD	75
PHOTOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT	76
ROBBERY SQUAD	76
SCENES OF CRIME	76
SERIOUS CRIME SQUAD	77
SPECIAL BRANCH	78
STOLEN VEHICLE SQUAD	78

Crime (Continued)

SCIENTIFIC AID 78
 REGIONAL CRIME
 INTELLIGENCE OFFICE 79
 MIDLAND REGIONAL
 FINGERPRINT BUREAU 79
 REGIONAL CRIME SQUAD 80
 TECHNICAL SUPPORT UNIT 80

CHAPTER V

Proceedings

PROCEEDINGS 81
 ANALYSIS OF OFFENCES 81
 INDICTABLE OR
 "EITHER WAY" 81
 SUMMARY ONLY 81
 MOTORING OFFENCES 81
 DRUNKENNESS AND
 KINDRED OFFENCES 85
 ASSAULT ON POLICE
 OFFICERS 85
 JUVENILE OFFENDERS 86
 OFFICE OF CHIEF
 PROSECUTING SOLICITOR 86
 PROSECUTION DEPARTMENT 90
 SERVICE OF SUMMONS 90
 EXECUTION OF WARRANTS 90
 CORONERS DEPARTMENT 91

CHAPTER VI

Traffic

TRAFFIC DIVISION 92
 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION 92
 Mileage and Roads 93
 Deployment 93
 MOTORWAYS 92
 SPEED DETECTION DEVICES 94
 Truvelo 94
 Hand-held Radar 94
 Road-side Radar 94
 VASCAR 94
 REMOVAL OF VEHICLES 95
 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
 VEHICLE CHECKS 95
 POLICE VEHICLE EXAMINERS 95
 ABNORMAL LOADS 96
 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT 96

Traffic (Continued)

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT 96
 ACCIDENT RECORDS 98
 ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION
 UNIT 98
 SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS 99
 ROAD SAFETY 99
 ACCIDENTS INVOLVING
 POLICE VEHICLES 99
 CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO
 POLICE VEHICLES 99
 TRAFFIC WARDENS 99
 ROAD ACCIDENTS 100

CHAPTER VII

Communications

COMMUNICATIONS
 DEPARTMENT 105
 Command and Control
 System 105
 Radio 106
 Telephones 106
 Teleprinters 106
 Force Control Room 106
 Police National Computer 107
 DVLC 107
 Casualty Bureau 107
 Mobile Communications
 Centre 107

CHAPTER VIII

Welfare

POLICE BUILDINGS 108
 Future Building Programme 108
 Disused Police Buildings 108
 Alterations and Improvements 109
 Energy Conservation 109
 Housing 109
 FORCE WELFARE OFFICER 110
 SICKNESS 111
 OBITUARIES 111
 POLICE FEDERATION 111
 FUNDS 111
 CONVALESCENT HOME 112
 POLICE PENSIONERS 112
 HEALTH AND SAFETY
 AT WORK 112

Welfare (Continued)

SPORTS AND RECREATION 113
 The 'Holbrook' Trophy 114
 Association Football 114
 Athletics 115
 Basketball 115
 Bowls 115
 Boxing 116
 Chess 116
 Choral Society 116
 Cricket 116
 Cross Country 116
 Dance Orchestra 116
 Flying 117
 Golf 117
 Hill Walking 117
 Hockey 117
 Horticultural Society 118
 Indoor Games 118
 Judo 118
 Male Voice Choir 118
 Motor Club 118
 Rugby 119
 Sailing 119
 Sea Angling 119
 Shooting 119
 Squash 119
 Swimming 120
 Table Tennis 120
 Tennis 120
 Ten Pin Bowling 120
 Water Polo 120

CHAPTER IX

Licensing

LICENSED PREMISES 120

Licensing (Continued)

LICENCES GRANTED 121
 REGISTERED CLUBS 122
 THEATRES AND CINEMAS 122
 VISITS TO LICENSED PREMISES 122
 BETTING AND GAMING 122

CHAPTER X

Preventive Policing

PREVENTIVE POLICING 123
 PUBLIC LIAISON
 DEPARTMENT 123
 Divisional Community
 Initiatives 124
 ATTENDANCE CENTRES 125
 SOCIAL LIAISON 126
 PRESS RELATIONS 126

CHAPTER XI

Miscellaneous

IMMIGRATION AND
 NATIONALITY DEPARTMENT 128
 PEDLARS CERTIFICATES 128
 LOST AND FOUND PROPERTY 128
 EXPLOSIVES AND FIREARMS
 DEPARTMENT 128
 MISSING PERSONS 129
 VICE 130
 HOUSE TO HOUSE AND
 STREET COLLECTIONS 130
 STRAY DOGS 130

Chapter I

Introduction

A Chief Constable's Annual Report represents one of the measures which is used to require him to disclose how he and the Force he leads go about their job, and how he and they have discharged their responsibilities over the past year. It is an essential part of the machinery devised by Parliament to ensure he is "accountable" to the elected representatives and Justices of the Peace forming the Police Authority and, through them, to the citizens they represent.

This report covers the activities of the West Midlands Force during the year 1980. It has been a year when the efforts of the Force to work with the community in meeting the problems of keeping the peace and enforcing the law have been given significantly greater attention. As the succeeding pages will indicate, the demands made of their Police Force by the communities which go to make up the County of West Midlands continue to grow. The extent to which the Force is able to respond to these demands is dependent in large measure on the extent to which it gains their trust and support. It is hoped that the information contained in this report will enable a proper judgment to be made of how successful the Force may have been in achieving this.

Retirement of Senior Officers

Chief Superintendent R G A Morris retired on 20 January 1980. He joined the Wolverhampton Borough Force in 1939. In 1942 he joined the Royal Tank Regiment and saw action in France. He rejoined the service in 1945 and in 1969 he was promoted to Chief Superintendent and took charge at Walsall which was then part of the old West Midlands Constabulary. On amalgamation of forces in 1974 Mr Morris stayed at Walsall and took charge of 'H' Division where he remained until his retirement.

Chief Superintendent P E Wren retired on 30 April 1980. She joined the Birmingham City Police in 1950. After 10 years with Birmingham Police she moved to Leeds where she spent six years in charge of the Womens' Police Department before moving back to Birmingham as Superintendent in charge of the policewomen. From 1968 to 1974 she was Staff Officer at the Home Office Police Inspectorate and was promoted Chief Superintendent in 1971. She was awarded the MBE in 1972. Shortly after returning to West Midlands Police in 1974 Miss Wren became Chief Superintendent in charge of training where she spent nearly two and a half years before becoming the first woman Divisional Chief Superintendent in the West Midlands Police when she took charge of the 'B' Division where she remained until her retirement.

Chief Superintendent C J Matthews retired on 28 December 1980. He joined the Birmingham City Police in 1940 where in addition to uniform duties he spent four years in charge of the Crime Prevention Department and two years in charge of Home Defence. In 1973 he was promoted to temporary Chief Superintendent to take charge of 'D' Division. His rank was substantiated in 1975 and in February 1976 he was moved to take charge of 'C' Division where he remained until his retirement.

We take the opportunity of wishing them a very happy retirement.

Administration and Development

The experiment, commenced in Walsall in 1979, into the use of a computer system to facilitate administrative procedures before and after presentation of cases at Court was extended in 1980, to include the whole of the Walsall/Aldridge Petty Sessional Area and has now enabled the take-on of a large increase in workload without any increase in staff. This area of development is being investigated by magistrates' clerks elsewhere in the West Midlands and, with a view to achieving standardisation as far as possible, we have sought representation on project teams where these are being set up.

A rationalisation of prosecution methods in the Birmingham area has effected a great saving in the attendance of police officers at court. As a further stage in this development towards standard procedures the concept of a Central Prosecutions Department to serve the central divisions has been agreed and necessary arrangements are being pursued.

The Management Services Department in co-operation with representatives of the Police Federation and Superintendents' Association has been carrying out research into ways in which better utilization of resources can be achieved without reduction of either efficiency or the level of service to the public. Some experiments in consultation with representative bodies are anticipated.

Co-operation with the County Secretary's Productivity and Common Services Division has brought about increased flexibility in the use of printing resources which it is hoped will prove advantageous to both the Police and County Council.

Work on the computerised management information system has progressed satisfactorily. Data accumulated as part of our "routine" command and control operation is transferred to the County Council ICL 2900 computer where it is available for on-line interrogation and analysis by Management Services staff. The service is available to assist research, to provide a basis for policy formation and to enhance operational control on territorial divisions.

The Force catering reorganisation has continued and the re-introduction of further conventional canteens has only been delayed by restrictions on the employment of additional civilian staff. Costs in the existing canteens are closely monitored by the Catering Officer. I am sure you will be pleased to know that at times when public disorder was anticipated and it was necessary to utilize large numbers of officers for protracted periods of time it was possible to arrange for all officers to receive substantial refreshments. There is little doubt that proper catering at demonstrations and marches can contribute greatly towards the overall successful policing of such events.

Manpower

I am pleased to report that during 1980 we recruited 694 officers into the Force. After taking wastage into account our manning level improved by 375 so that by 31 December 1980, we had achieved the authorised establishment level. It should also be noted that an additional 129 officers are seconded to special duties and are not included in our ordinary manning level figures.

During 1980, 27.2% of our recruits were women, a slight decrease on 1979 figures. Our net gain consisted of 260 men and 115 women, a continuing improvement.

Obviously the stabilisation of police pay and the economic climate has continued to make a police career more attractive. However, credit must also be given to the recruiting staff and the Training Sergeants on divisions who keep in close contact with schools, colleges, universities and armed services re-settlement centres.

There is still no shortage of well qualified applicants for the Cadet Corps. During 1980 61.8% of cadet enrolments were boys and at the end of the year boys formed 61% of the total cadet strength.

It is essential that we continue to attract and retain members of the civilian staff who play an important part in our ability to police the West Midlands and I am grateful to the loyal support given by them. During the year we achieved an increase of 41 non-manual and 33 manual staff, but it has now become necessary to restrict further recruitment on manual staff in view of the present limits on manning levels.

Public Order

The maintenance of public order within the Force area was again accorded high priority during the year. As well as the large scale demonstrations, marches

and football matches including FA Cup semi-finals, there were many other events which required extensive police coverage. As an indication of how such events can commit police resources, the Motoring Spectacular held in October in Birmingham enjoyed fine weather and attracted about 80,000 people. A total of 556 uniformed officers was deployed to police this event at a cost of over £17,000.

The march in January to commemorate Bloody Sunday commenced at Sparkhill Park and terminated in Birmingham City Centre Bull Ring with 1,500 people taking part. Eight hundred police officers from the Force area were assigned to Public Order Duties to cater for the march and opposition to it. The event passed off with only occasional outbreaks of disorder from those in opposition which resulted in 17 persons being arrested, otherwise it was without major incident.

The National Front gave notice of an intended march and rally at West Bromwich in August 1980, which attracted both support and opposition on a national basis. After careful consideration, as there was a real likelihood of serious public disorder, I applied for an order prohibiting public processions to Sandwell District Council. The order was formally approved by the Home Secretary. Mr Martin Webster of the National Front was not deterred by the ban and in a letter a matter of three days prior to the intended march gave formal notice of marches to take place in Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley, Birmingham and Coventry. By this time the intended march and ban at West Bromwich had attracted wide media coverage and support from rival factions. I sought further bans which were granted and formally approved by the Home Secretary. A total Police strength of approximately 3,000 officers was called together to deal with any contingency within the area and included mutual aid support from Greater Manchester Police, Nottingham Police, Staffordshire Police, West Mercia Constabulary and Warwickshire Constabulary.

On the day Mr Webster arrived at West Bromwich, militant opposition was in attendance. He was not allowed to walk with a wreath and two juvenile supporters as a Breach of the Peace was likely to be occasioned and the event at West Bromwich passed without further incident. The National Front sympathisers gathered at Stonebridge and travelled to Nuneaton in the Warwickshire Police area where they carried out their demonstration. A total of 33 Police Support Units were diverted to assist the Warwickshire Constabulary.

The West Midlands County Council Act received the royal assent during the year and in accordance with Section 38, a Code of Practice for processions was drawn up and published in September. It was made available to organisers of street processions to give guidance, with a view to furthering co-operation between them and the Police, and to ensure that such events passed off

successfully but at the same time with the minimum of inconvenience to the general public

The policing of football matches in the Force area continues to make heavy demand upon our resources, the Force having the unique policing commitment of five First Division football grounds within its boundaries as well as one Third Division ground. Villa Park, Birmingham, and Highfield Road, Coventry, were the venues for FA Cup semi-finals which required a high level of police commitment in the light of the size of the attendance and the large following that both teams brought. Rival supporters were segregated by using the two railway stations available at Villa Park but at Coventry with only one suitable railway station available, Liverpool supporters were de-trained at Nuneaton and bussed to the Coventry City Ground to avoid supporter clashes. The combination of ground improvements the segregation of spectators, salutary sentences by Courts, and continued Police presence in the vicinity of grounds has seen a continuing reduction in the amount of violence in and around football grounds.

In April assistance was requested by Northamptonshire Police in connection with a National Front March at Corby. The Force supplied 100 officers. The demonstration/march resulted in minor outbreaks of disorder necessitating arrests being made by officers from this Force. In August in answer to a request by Warwickshire Police to help to contain a National Front March about which the Police had no prior notice, 600 officers from the West Midlands Police area together with additional officers from Nottinghamshire Police, Staffordshire Police, Warwickshire Constabulary and West Mercia Constabulary, all of whom had been mobilised to cater for a march and demonstration in defiance of the West Midlands bans were diverted from the West Midlands Police area. In September in answer to a request from the Chief Constable of Warwickshire the Force provided 170 officers to assist in the policing of an Anti-Nazi League March. Both events passed without undue incident.

In October the Prison Officers dispute resulted in prisoners being kept in police stations throughout the Force area and the Central Lock-up at Steelhouse Lane. The action affecting the Police lasted until the end of the year and placed a heavy demand upon the Force in the custody, feeding, welfare and escorting of prisoners.

It was again a pleasure to deal with the policing of Royal Visits to the Force area. A total of 17 visits was made by members of the Royal Family throughout the year. A minimum number of officers commensurate with the smooth running of such visits were deployed and each visit passed without incident.

Crime

The overall reduction in crime experienced in 1979 was not maintained in 1980. In fact from the onset we experienced an upsurge in crime, which continued month by month throughout the year ending with an increase of 18,681 crimes representing 12.5% of the total crimes recorded

A total of 166,031 crimes was recorded during the year of which 54,042 were detected representing 32.5% of the total crime compared with a 37.1% clearance in 1979. Whilst this figure leaves a great deal to be desired, account must be taken of the fact that 18,681 additional crimes had to be investigated making extra demands on the investigating officers' time.

Thirty-six murders and 12 manslaughter/infanticide crimes were recorded during the year all but one of which, an offence of manslaughter were detected. The 6,049 crimes of wounding recorded represented an increase of 155 or 2.6% over the previous years figures of 5,894 and although a detection rate of 68% was achieved in 1980, it was slightly down on the previous year. Seven hundred and fifty-six cases of arson were recorded during the year, an increase over the previous years figure of 21%

There was an upsurge in offences of criminal damage which totalled 11,409 for the year as compared with 8,961 for 1979, an increase of 27%. These figures are most disturbing, especially when one considers that the 1979 figure was an increase of 639 or 7.7% on the previous years total.

Sexual offences recorded during the year totalled 1,460 an increase of 95 over the previous years total. Fifty-nine per cent of these crimes were detected. The most startling increase in crime is revealed in offences of burglary in dwelling houses and other buildings. With regard to burglary dwelling house there were 23,102 offences recorded, an increase of 6,178 over the previous year representing 36.5%. With regard to burglary other buildings, there were 26,610 recorded, an increase of 3,703 or 16%.

It is always difficult to positively identify the reason for increased crime, and there is often a temptation to look for easy subjective answers such as, at present, the rising unemployment figures. I do not see any evidence, however, to connect the two. Whilst it is undoubtedly true, as always was the case, that the "devil finds work for idle hands to do", being unemployed does not necessarily mean being idle. There are many people who are unemployed who do not turn to crime and many who are in gainful employment who do. I believe the answers are being found much more in the way in which old standards of honesty and respect for others and their property and former social controls such as religion,

"what the neighbours think" and parental control and training have become eroded in the face of modern living conditions.

Traffic and Road Safety

One of the objectives of the Traffic Division for 1980 was the concentration of resources on driver behaviour, that is to say, the serious offences of drunken driving, reckless and careless driving, excess speed and other offences which cause accidents and suffering.

A further eight of the Kustom HR4 Hand-Held Radar devices have been purchased and extensive use of our 14 devices has been made by Traffic Division to combat the accident rate. Traditionally, the use of radar devices has been confined to day-light hours, but because the hours of 10.00 pm to 3.00 am have been the worst for major accidents an experiment was conducted in June, July and August using these devices on a 24 hour basis. During the experiment, 2,013 drivers were reported for exceeding the speed limit and, in addition, there was a 54% increase in the number of drivers arrested by Traffic Patrols for failing a breath test. Fatal road accidents between 10.00 pm and 3.00 am fell to eight compared with 23 for the same period in 1979. It is perhaps speculative to say that this was due to our increased activity, but as major accidents are usually related to drink and speed, I think the claim can properly be made. Following the experiment, I approved the use of radar devices throughout the 24 hour period as a permanent feature of our policing methods.

1980 saw the highest number of drivers ever detected by Traffic Division for speed offences in the West Midlands with a 58% increase in detections resulting in 25,862 being reported. Over half this figure, i.e. 13,134, were detected by means of Hand-Held Radar and the devices have certainly proved their worth as an effective aid to dealing with drivers who blatantly flout speed limits and cause accidents.

We continue to share the general concern expressed at the high number of motor cycle accidents occurring, particularly those involving young riders. In an effort to deal with this problem we have held a series of "Bikers' Evenings" throughout the county. Young riders have been invited and encouraged by patrolling police motor cyclists to attend. The evenings have consisted of films, talks by experts, including Mike Hailwood, the former world champion racing motor cyclist, and discussions with police motor cyclists, all of which have been aimed at improving the youngsters' riding skills and awareness of dangers.

It is very pleasing to be able to report that for the first time since the County was formed, the number of people killed annually on our roads, was below 200.

This is still far too many, but it is a vast improvement on the average of 240 which we saw in the late 1970's. For our part, we shall maintain our vigorous efforts to further reduce the toll on our roads.

Police Buildings

Restrictions on capital expenditure exercised by the Home Office during 1980 have resulted in a complete standstill on projects in this category now awaiting approval, but there has been some relaxation of the cost ceilings for minor capital works to take account of the effect of inflation and projects in this category will, in future, cover the range from £12,000 to £120,000 (formerly £8,000 to £50,000).

The scheme for the proposed Traffic and Transport Complex at Aston was given financial approval by the County Council and detailed design is at an advanced stage which will enable tenders to be invited in the autumn of 1981. It is anticipated that the programmed start date of early 1982 will be met.

No further progress has been made in connection with the major capital projects for a new sub-divisional headquarters at Woodbridge Road, Moseley, and a replacement combined divisional and sub-divisional headquarters at Dunstall Road, Wolverhampton. There is still no indication when the Home Office might authorise financial provisions for inclusion in the Building Programme.

As yet there has been no serious reduction in the standard of maintenance of police buildings, but the whole of the planned programme for internal redecorations for buildings other than police houses has been deferred for one year to achieve necessary expenditure targets. Energy conservation has continued to be a priority and early indications are that capital expenditure in this field is producing worthwhile economies. The specialist team has continued to make recommendations and implement improvements, provide more efficient controls and convert existing heating installations to more economic fuels.

Training

The responsibilities of the Training Department were extended during the year to include Firearms Training, which is carried out at Queens Road Police Station and also Communications Training, which takes place at Bournville Lane. There was a corresponding increase in the establishment of the department of two Inspectors, seven Sergeants and eight Constables.

Throughout the year the main commitment of the Training Department was directed towards well established courses for both uniformed and CID officers.

Post Promotion Training continued to put a strain on resources with two Inspectors being committed to this form of training for the greater part of the year. However, members of other forces in the region continued to attend the courses and some assistance with Directing Staff was received with the co-operation of my regional colleagues. Specialist training courses were held to train officers in Major Incident Room Procedures and Divisional Safety Representatives were instructed in their special responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work legislation. Members of the Underwater Search Team attended a one-day course in the recovery and preservation of evidence.

The number of Junior Detective Training Courses was reduced from eight to five, as the backlog of untrained Detectives was cleared. The release of classroom accommodation permitted an increase in other courses such as Refresher, Tutor Constable and Station Officer Training. The Detective Inspector and Detective Sergeant who had been attached for the additional courses returned to operational duty.

The introduction of Continuous Flow Training at the Driving School has proved to be successful and the through-put of drivers increased. The system has been extended to all driving courses, except advanced and other specialist courses.

Cadet recruitment showed a slight decrease when compared with the 1978 figures, but resources continued to be under pressure to cope with the many and varied activities. The wastage again indicated that some young people were unable to meet the demands of the Physical and Adventure Training.

The demands made upon the resources of the department, although eased somewhat by the reduction in Detective Training, are still considerable and it is quite clear that saturation has been reached. Further development of training will be limited by the available resources.

Relations with the Community

The chapter dealing with Preventive Policing covers the work of the Public Liaison Department, activities in respect of Attendance Centres, Press Relations and the Social Liaison Department. It is recognised that to maintain an efficient police response the co-operation of the community is essential. To this end, we attempt to foster and maintain close links with the various community groups, attempting to give a correct perspective to situations by dispelling rumour and allaying fears. To some extent, public opinion towards the police can be influenced by what they read, see and hear in the media. We have enjoyed a good working relationship with the media which we value.

The Community Policing programme has been extended with another scheme being set up in Heath Town. There are indications that this approach is providing encouraging results. The "Lozells Project" was fully implemented during the year with the Wallace Lawler Centre opening in September and providing a focal point for participation by the local community. The Youth Club section which is organised by two Constables has become well established.

In addition to our many community initiatives, police surgeries operate on several Divisions, when at certain pre-arranged times during the week members of the public can meet the local beat officer and discuss matters affecting their area. These surgeries undoubtedly are of value, but they should not be regarded as mini police stations, or indeed replacing the all important personal contact a beat officer makes with the community during his patrol. It has been shown in some cases that attendances at surgeries decrease as officers increased their involvement in other community aspects.

On the whole, the year has indicated that there is considerable good will shown to the police by the community, and on those occasions when our liaison structures have been tested they have not been found to be wanting. There is no room for complacency however, for much has still to be done in the field of relationships before the challenge of extremism and conflict can be fully met.

Acknowledgements

Throughout the year we have continued to enjoy the wholehearted support of the Police Authority, the County and District Councils and their officers. It is particularly important in areas such as this that the District Councils should have the opportunity to ask questions of the Police Authority and the Chief Constable about the policing of their areas, and the initiative taken by the Police Authority during the year to arrange meetings with representatives of the Metropolitan Districts has been extremely useful in providing such opportunities in an informal atmosphere.

As always, I am grateful for the support we have received from the Press, Radio and Television and for the assistance they have continued to give us in many ways. The help and support of the public, too, is very much appreciated.

My thanks are due also to the Deputy and Assistant Chief Constables and to the representatives from the Staff Associations, the Superintendents' Association, the Police Federation and Trade Unions, for the way they have all co-operated in finding solutions to our many problems and to the individual police officers, civilian staff, cadets, traffic wardens and special constables for all their loyal and conscientious service, often performed in very difficult circumstances. It is due to them that the efficiency of the service given by the West Midlands Police Force continues to advance.

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 1980, excluding seconded staff:-

Ranks	Authorised	Actual	Vacancies
Chief Constable	1	1	
Deputy Chief Constable	1	1	
Assistant Chief Constables	6	6	
Chief Superintendents	20	20	
Superintendents	79	80	+ 1
Chief Inspectors	116	111	- 5
Inspectors	359	355	- 4
Sergeants	1041	1019	- 22
Constables	4886	4946	+ 60
TOTALS	6509	6539	+ 30

SUPERNUMARY AND SECONDED STAFF – 1980

At 31 December 1980 the following officers were supernumary to the authorised establishment of the Force:-

Commission Against Corruption, Hong Kong	1 Chief Superintendent 1 Inspector 1 Sergeant
Seconded to Government of Cayman Islands	1 Inspector
Seconded to Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police	1 Inspector
Seconded to Royal Ulster Constabulary	1 Police Constable
No. 4 Regional Crime Squad	2 Chief Inspectors 1 Inspector 21 Sergeants 25 Police Constables
Midland Regional Fingerprint Bureau	1 Chief Inspector 1 Inspector 2 Sergeants 14 Police Constables
Midland Regional Criminal Intelligence Office	1 Superintendent 2 Inspectors 2 Sergeants 2 Police Constables
Home Office Forensic Science Laboratory	1 Chief Inspector 3 Sergeants
Driver Vehicle Licensing Centre, Swansea	1 Superintendent
Police Staff College	1 Deputy Chief Constable 1 Chief Superintendent 1 Superintendent 1 Chief Inspector
Police Training Centre – Ryton-on-Dunsmore	1 T/Superintendent 4 Inspectors 13 Sergeants 1 Police Constable

Police Training Centre – Ashford, Kent	1 Chief Inspector
Police Dog Training Centre – Stafford	1 Sergeant
Crime Prevention Centre – Stafford	1 T/Sergeant
Sponsored University Scholarship	1 Chief Inspector 16 Inspectors 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													1	1
Ass/Ch. Constables									4	2				
Ch. Superintendents							1		8	8			4	1
Superintendents					1		9		24	1	42		7	
Ch. Inspectors			1		3		30	2	44	1	30		7	
Inspectors			6	1	47	1	125	4	125	2	58	2	12	
Sergeants	1		122	2	344	13	287	8	162	2	113	3	7	
Constables	1626	558	1044	197	667	43	395	12	248	7	182	2	8	
Grand Total – 6668	1627	558	1173	200	1062	57	847	26	614	13	436	7	47	1

INCREASE IN ESTABLISHMENT

During the year the Police Authority considered recommendations regarding the realistic establishment for the Force and in consequence, made an approach for an increase of one Assistant Chief Constable, one Superintendent, 18 Inspectors, 168 Sergeants and 898 Constables. The matter was still being considered by the Home Office at the end of the year, but approval was given for an interim increase of one Assistant Chief Constable, one Superintendent, four Inspectors, 17 Sergeants and 151 Constables and one Chief Superintendent, the application for which had been previously made.

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	6	1	1	2	3 ⁽⁴⁾	6 ⁽⁴⁾	10 ⁽¹⁰⁾	31 ⁽²⁰⁾
Uniform Operations & Pros. Solicitors Office				1	1		2 ⁽¹⁰⁾	1		5 ⁽³⁾
Personnel/Recruiting & Federation				1	1	2	4 ⁽³⁾	4 ⁽³⁾	1 ⁽¹⁰⁾	13 ⁽¹⁰⁾
Complaints				1	4	1	11 ⁽¹⁰⁾	3		20 ⁽¹⁹⁾
Man. Services & Establishment Review				1	1	2	10 ⁽⁶⁾			14 ⁽¹⁰⁾
Summons & Warrant						1	3	5 ⁽⁴⁾	34 ⁽³²⁾	43 ⁽⁴⁰⁾
Lock-Up						1	4	7	24 ⁽²⁹⁾	36 ⁽⁴¹⁾
Special Plain Clothes						⁽¹⁾	1 ⁽³⁾	4 ⁽¹²⁾	13 ⁽³⁶⁾	18 ⁽⁵²⁾
Training				1	2	5 ⁽⁶⁾	14 ⁽¹⁸⁾	38 ⁽⁴⁴⁾	41 ⁽¹⁵⁾	101 ⁽⁸⁶⁾
War Duties					1 ⁽¹⁰⁾	⁽¹⁾	1	1		3 ⁽²⁾
Mounted/Dogs						2	2	6	35 ⁽³⁷⁾	45 ⁽⁴⁷⁾
Coroners						1	1	2 ⁽⁴⁾	6 ⁽⁵⁾	10 ⁽¹¹⁾
S P G						1	3	9 ⁽¹⁵⁾	72 ⁽¹⁰⁸⁾	85 ⁽¹²⁷⁾
C I D				2	4	13	28 ⁽²⁷⁾	90 ⁽⁸³⁾	222 ⁽¹⁷¹⁾	359 ⁽³⁰⁰⁾
Traffic				1	6	6 ⁽⁷⁾	27 ⁽²⁸⁾	57 ⁽⁶⁷⁾	325 ⁽⁴³⁷⁾	422 ⁽⁵⁴⁶⁾
Communications				1 ⁽¹⁰⁾	2	6	6 ⁽⁵⁾	11 ⁽¹⁰⁾	28	54 ⁽⁵¹⁾
Public Liaison					1					1
Recruits in Training									148 ⁽¹⁰⁾	148 ⁽¹⁰⁾
Total Headquarters	1	1	6	10 ⁽⁹⁾	24 ⁽²³⁾	43 ⁽⁴⁷⁾	120 ⁽¹¹⁷⁾	244 ⁽²⁶⁴⁾	959 ⁽⁸⁹⁸⁾	1408 ⁽¹³⁶⁶⁾
DIVISIONS										
'B'				1	5	6	18 ⁽¹⁹⁾	68 ⁽⁶⁹⁾	386 ⁽³⁹¹⁾	484 ⁽⁴⁹¹⁾
'C'				⁽¹⁾	4	4	15	58 ⁽⁶¹⁾	363 ⁽³⁶⁶⁾	444 ⁽⁴⁵¹⁾
'D'				1	5	6	20 ⁽²¹⁾	68 ⁽⁶⁷⁾	370 ⁽³⁵⁹⁾	470 ⁽⁴⁵⁹⁾
'E'				1	5	5 ⁽⁶⁾	20	76	428 ⁽⁴³⁰⁾	535 ⁽⁵³⁸⁾
'F'				1	6 ⁽⁵⁾	6	26 ⁽²⁵⁾	64	371 ⁽³⁸²⁾	474 ⁽⁴⁸³⁾
'G'				1	6	7	23 ⁽²⁵⁾	86 ⁽⁸⁴⁾	364 ⁽³⁵⁰⁾	487 ⁽⁴⁷³⁾
'H'				1	5	6	23	69	315 ⁽³¹⁹⁾	419 ⁽⁴²³⁾
'J'				1	5	6	22 ⁽²⁴⁾	72 ⁽⁷⁴⁾	296 ⁽²⁹⁹⁾	402 ⁽⁴⁰⁹⁾
'K'				1	5 ⁽⁶⁾	8	24 ⁽²⁸⁾	80 ⁽⁷⁸⁾	409 ⁽⁴¹³⁾	527 ⁽⁵³¹⁾
'L'				1	4	6	18	50 ⁽⁴⁹⁾	221	300 ⁽²⁹⁹⁾
'M'				1	6	8	26 ⁽²⁷⁾	84 ⁽⁸⁶⁾	464 ⁽⁴⁵⁸⁾	589 ⁽⁵⁸⁶⁾
Divisional Total				10 ⁽¹¹⁾	56	68 ⁽⁶⁹⁾	235 ⁽²⁴²⁾	775 ⁽⁷⁷⁷⁾	3987 ⁽³⁹⁸⁸⁾	5131 ⁽⁵¹⁴³⁾
Force Total	1	1	6	20	80 ⁽⁷⁹⁾	111 ⁽¹¹⁶⁾	355 ⁽³⁵⁹⁾	1019 ⁽¹⁰⁴¹⁾	4946 ⁽⁴⁸⁸⁶⁾	6539 ⁽⁶⁵⁰⁹⁾

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		Miscellaneous		Technical		Totals				Grand Total		
	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Non-Manual		Manual		Est.	Str.	
											Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.			
HEADQUARTERS																	
Administration	5	4	13	12	10	7	11	4	-	-	39	27	-	-	39	27	
Personnel/Training/Recruiting	8	6	19	17	9	8	12	5	1	-	49	36	32	28	81	64	
Sports & 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	18	11	15	15	4	4	-	-	-	-	37	30	-	-	37	30	
Complaints	-	-	2	2	4	4	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	6	6	
Press & Publicity	5	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	6	3	-	-	6	3	
Public Liaison	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1	
Surveyors	8	8	6	5	-	-	1	-	14	14	29	27	8	7	37	34	
Supplies/Print/Stationery	5	5	4	4	1	1	15	14	4	2	29	26	9	9	38	35	
Central Property	2	2	2	2	-	-	10	7	-	-	14	11	-	-	14	11	
Coroners	-	-	1	1	4	4	1	1	-	-	6	6	-	-	6	6	
Summons and Warrant	-	-	9	7	-	-	14	8	-	-	23	15	-	-	23	15	
Lock-Up	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	7	-	-	8	7	7	6	15	13	
Mounted Branch	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	3	5	4	
Dog Section	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	2	7	6	9	8	
Special Patrol Group	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	3	
Special Plain Clothes	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	2	2	
Welfare Funds	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	
C I D	11	10	49	49	17	17	1	1	20	20	98	97	-	-	98	97	
Traffic	2	2	23	17	12	11	-	-	-	-	37	30	-	-	37	30	
Garages	6	6	6	6	-	-	7	7	9	7	28	26	136	117	164	143	
Motorway Sub-Division	-	-	2	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	7	5	5	5	12	10	
Central Ticket Office	2	2	46	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	48	28	-	-	48	28	
Communications	1	1	11	11	1	1	143	123	-	-	156	136	-	-	156	136	
	81	66	211	179	75	67	225	179	48	43	640	534	211	184	851	718	
DIVISIONS																	
'B'	2	-	10	6	18	17	1	1	1	-	32	24	58	51	90	75	
'C'	2	-	8	3	18	14	-	-	1	-	29	17	35	29	64	46	
'D'	2	-	16	12	14	14	-	-	1	-	33	26	42	40	75	66	
'E'	2	-	11	6	18	18	1	1	1	-	33	25	45	45	78	70	
'F'	2	-	16	10	12	12	-	-	1	1	31	23	42	37	73	60	
'G'	2	-	18	11	30	29	-	-	-	-	50	40	57	50	107	90	
'H'	3	1	21	14	28	20	-	-	-	-	52	35	44	43	96	78	
'J'	3	1	13	11	31	27	-	-	-	-	47	39	57	48	104	87	
'K'	3	1	18	8	42	33	-	-	-	-	63	42	57	52	120	94	
'L'	2	-	23	16	13	13	-	-	-	-	38	29	39	37	77	66	
'M'	4	2	27	22	25	25	3	3	-	-	59	52	61	52	120	104	
	27	5	181	119	249	222	5	5	5	1	467	352	537	484	1004	836	
REGIONAL																	
R C I O	-	-	13	7	4	2	2	1	-	-	19	10	-	-	19	10	
Fingerprints	1	1	7	5	-	-	-	-	24	24	32	30	-	-	32	30	
No 4 R C S	-	-	5	5	7	7	4	4	-	-	16	16	2	2	18	18	
	1	1	25	17	11	9	6	5	24	24	67	56	2	2	69	58	
Grand Total	109	72	417	315	335	298	236	189	77	68	1174	942	750	670	1924	1612	

RECRUITING

1980 can be regarded as an outstanding landmark in the history of the West Midlands Police. Not only did the total number of applications for appointment exceed all previous years but for the first time, establishment levels were realised and at the end of the year no vacancies existed for regular officers. Wastage during 1980 declined as in the previous year and the figure of 319 officers represents the lowest wastage figure since 1975. This low figure meant that during the year there was a net gain of 375 officers compared with 299 during the previous year. The following table analyses applications for appointment and their subsequent disposal.

	1 January 1980 - 31 December 1980				
	Men		Women		Total
Total number of applications	5126	(2962)	1910	(1227)	7036 (4189)
Applications not pursued	3062	(1715)	1108	(664)	4170 (2379)
Rejected before final interview and withdrawals	1073	(698)	461	(341)	1534 (1039)
Being processed at 31 December 1980	320	(-)	86	(-)	406 (-)
Attended for final interview	671	(549)	255	(222)	926 (771)
Rejections at final interview					
Medical	16	(15)	14	(10)	30 (25)
Force Selection Board	118	(72)	49	(33)	167 (105)
Withdrawn after acceptance	9	(12)	1	(6)	10 (18)
Accepted	528	(450)	191	(173)	719 (623)
Enrolments					
Recruits	405	(361)	117	(129)	522 (490)
Police Cadets	75	(60)	67	(51)	142 (111)
Reappointment as Constables	17	(18)	4	(4)	21 (22)
Transfers	8	(23)	1	(2)	9 (25)
Total	505	(462)	189	(186)	694 (648)
Pending enrolment 31 December 1979	70	*82	23	*36	93 *118
Pending enrolment 31 December 1980	93	(70)	25	(23)	118 (93)

Figures in brackets indicate 1979 figures. *Indicates 1978 figures.

Of all enrolments for regular officers 271 possessed five or more GCE 'O' Levels, 79 two or more GCE 'A' Levels and 29 a university degree.

In September the pass mark for the Police Initial Recruiting Examination was raised and now stands at 50%, this being in line with the majority of Forces throughout the country. Overall education standards have now been raised to what is a high level compared with previous years. The percentage of persons rejected at medical examination was similar to previous years. The now well established liaison with schools, colleges and universities continued to pay dividends with an increasing number of students from such establishments showing interest in a career with the West Midlands Police.

The following table shows educational qualifications of recruits joining in 1980:-

	Ex-Cadets		Direct Entrants			
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Graduate	—	—	22	7	(13)	(3)
2 or more 'A' Levels	—	—	40	10	(34)	(6)
5 or more 'O' Levels	14	16	118	44	(80)	(35)
Less than 5 'O' Levels	61	51	250	61	(275)	(91)
Total	75	67	430	122	(402)	(135)
Total Recruits 505 (462) Male, 189 (186) Female.			<i>Figures in brackets indicate 1979 figures.</i>			

Publicity

A new local advertising agency, Austin Knight Limited, specialists in recruitment were appointed as from April. Their fresh approach has already paid handsome dividends attracting many highly qualified applicants. Although the authorised establishment level has now been reached there is still a need for continuity of advertising to ensure a ready flow of suitable applicants not only to maintain the establishment level but also to cater for any future increases in strength.

Graduate Entry Scheme

During 1980 31 Graduates/Undergraduates including three serving police officers, made application under the Graduate Entry Scheme. Twenty-five of these persons were subsequently interviewed and 21 recommended as being suitable for further consideration. Fourteen were called for extended interview but none was successful.

Of the original 31 applicants 12 have since joined the West Midlands Police as normal entrants and they are included in the overall figure of 29 Graduates who joined the Force during 1980.

WASTAGE DURING THE YEAR

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

	Ch Cons.	DCC	ACC	Ch. Supt.	Supt.	Ch. Insp.	Insp.	Sgt.	Cons.	Total
Pension on completion of service	—	—	—	3	3	7	16	21	40	90
Pension — Ill Health	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	6	11
Resigned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	195	198
Dismissed or required to resign	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Transfers to other Police Forces	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	9	11
Died	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Services Dispensed with — (Regulation 16)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	—	—	—	3	5	8	17	27	259	319

POLICE CADETS

A total of 178 cadets was enrolled during 1980, bringing the strength of the Cadet Corps at the end of the year to 277. The number of police cadets joining the Regular Force was 142, an increase of 31 over the previous year, representing 20.5% of all enrolments.

The 1980 figure of 3,653 applications for enrolment shows an increase of 99 over the previous year, although fifty-one fewer young persons were eventually enrolled. The standards imposed by the Cadet Selection Boards are extremely high and only persons with good qualifications both physical and academic were deemed suitable for appointment.

	1 January 1980 — 31 December 1980		
	Boys	Girls	Total
Total number of applications	1838	1815	3653
Enrolled	(1246)	(1416)	(2662)
Joined Regular Force	110	68	178
Resignations	(122)	(107)	(229)
Dismissed (medically unfit)	75	67	142
Strength as at 31 December 1980	(60)	(51)	(111)
	26	34	60
	(15)	(46)	(61)
	—	2	2
	—	—	—
Strength as at 31 December 1979	169	108	277
	(160)	(143)	(303)
	160	143	303

Figures in brackets indicate 1979 figures

CIVILIAN RECRUITING

The first few months of 1980 saw the continuation of the difficulties in attracting and retaining members of the civilian staff and it is therefore pleasing to report that by the end of the year we had achieved an increase of 41 non-manual and 33 manual staff bringing the totals in post of 942 non-manual and 670 manual employees.

The number of appointments actually made in attaining the above levels was 166 non-manual and 129 manual and involved dealing with 4,993 applications and carrying out 270 interviews. In addition there have been 26 promotions of existing staff together with a further 59 transfers not involving any change of grading.

Post Entry Training has been undertaken by 167 non-manual and 44 manual staff with the courses attended ranging from basic educational, shorthand and typing to technical, professional and management courses at senior level for non-manual staff and appropriate craft courses for manual staff.

Over and above the recruitment of permanent employees to established posts it has also been possible to provide work experience placements for thirteen week periods for 4 non-manual and 3 manual unemployed young persons.

PROMOTIONS

Mr R F Broome, was appointed Deputy Chief Constable on 4 February 1980.

Mr L Sharp was appointed Assistant Chief Constable (Administration and Supplies) on 1 May 1980.

Mr T Meffen was appointed Assistant Chief Constable (Staff Support) on 18 August 1980.

The following substantive promotions were made during the year:-

	Male	Female
To Chief Superintendent	3	—
To Superintendent	6	—
To Chief Inspector	16	—
To Inspector	31	1
To Sergeant	66	—
Totals	122	1

PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS

	Officers Examined	Qualified
Examination in April 1980 to Inspector	264	99
Examination in November 1980 to Sergeant	652	99

At 31 December 1980 the number of officers qualified by examination for promotion was:-

Sergeants qualified for promotion to Inspector
Male 386 Female 8

Constables qualified for promotion to Inspector
Male 49 Female 2

Constables qualified for promotion to Sergeant
Male 261 Female 13

HONOURS, COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

Knighthood

Chief Constable Sir Philip D Knights CBE QPM

Officer (Brother) of the Order of St John

Chief Superintendent R J Meller

Five officers received framed certificates awarded by the Society for the Protection of Life from Fire.

Seven officers received awards from the Royal Humane Society. Three officers received a Force Suggestion Scheme Commendation. One officer received a Force Suggestion Award. Two officers received the Police Mutual Book Prize.

One hundred and twenty-eight officers were commended for exemplary police work as detailed below:-

By the courts	86
By the Police Committee	5
By the Chief Constable	37

In addition 635 officers received Chief Superintendents' Commendations.

POLICE LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

During the year 155 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.

Master of Science
Chief Superintendent D J O'Dowd
Inspector D F Cocker
Inspector K P Bond

Bachelor of Science
Chief Inspector B J Ashton

Bachelor of Arts
Inspector A J Legg
Inspector R J Owen

Bachelor of Arts — Open University
Superintendent F R Shelley
Chief Inspector A C Timms
Inspector J M Arthur
Inspector D T Noble
Inspector W A Cobb
Inspector K Fradley

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

During the year 1,229 letters were received from persons wishing to express their appreciation of the service, advice or assistance given by members of the Force.

DISCIPLINE

The number of disciplinary charges preferred against police officers rose only marginally during the year although more officers were involved. Proceedings were taken against 59 officers (an increase of six) in respect of 86 charges (an increase of one).

There were 21 charges of criminal conduct, 18 charges of neglect of duty, 10

for falsehood, 10 for disobedience to orders, seven for abuse of authority, seven for discreditable conduct, six for drinking on duty, four for entering licensed premises, two for corrupt or improper practice, one for misconduct towards another member of the Force, one for drunkenness and one for damage to police property. In respect of these charges, 65 were admitted and 23 denied.

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

COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS Section 49, Police Act 1964

During the year 1,840 complaints were received from 980 members of the public and resulted in 820 investigations. This represents an increase of 8.2% compared with 1979. The outcome of the investigations was that 158 were found to be substantiated and 438 not substantiated with 1,387 complaints still under investigation at the end of the year. Two hundred and thirty-five complaints were withdrawn or not proceeded with by the complainant. Fifteen officers appeared before disciplinary proceedings as a result of complaints from members of the public. The 15 substantiated complaints comprised one related to assault, six related to neglect of duty, one related to incivility with seven related to other matters.

Completed complaints during 1980 totalled 2,500. This total includes all completed complaints irrespective of the year in which the complaint was originally received and recorded. The complaints had been made by 1,172 members of the public and resulted in 970 investigations. One hundred and thirty-nine complaints were found to be substantiated, 1,730 complaints not substantiated and 631 complaints either withdrawn or not proceeded with by the complainant.

The substantiated complaints comprised 64 related to neglect of duty, 14 to incivility, 11 to assaults, 10 to irregularity in police procedures with 60 related to other matters.

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

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

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

Of the complaints completed during 1980, a total of 953 were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions. Of these 923 related to alleged criminal matters and the remaining 30 to alleged traffic offences. The Director recommended prosecutions for four offences of assault occasioning actual bodily harm involving two officers. One officer was found "not guilty" and the other officer was convicted of three offences but since he had resigned from the Force he was not amenable to police disciplinary regulations. The Director also recommended that proceedings be instituted against another officer for an offence contrary to the Criminal Damage Act. This officer had also resigned from the Force before appearing at court and therefore, was not amenable to police disciplinary regulations.

A further 139 allegations of a criminal nature were not referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions as in each case the complaint was withdrawn and there was no evidence to indicate that any 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, with responsibility 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 2,500 investigations completed during 1980, a total of 1,876 was referred to the Police Complaints Board (in the remaining 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

A total of 380 reports alleging the commission of offences by police officers was received from other sources usually internal. Of these 43 related to other matters and 337 to traffic offences. These figures represented an increase of 108 such complaints compared with 1979.

Of those reports which were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for his advice, proceedings were recommended in eight criminal and 81 traffic matters with 10 replies still outstanding at the end of the year. In subsequent proceedings against 64 serving officers, four were convicted of criminal offences and 60 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 and the Investigation Section consists of four investigation teams each comprising a Superintendent and two Inspectors. Whilst only in a small percentage of investigations does the outcome involve formal disciplinary proceedings, every file provides an opportunity to look at Force procedures and where necessary, to make improvements in many areas of policing. Additionally, a high percentage of investigations reveal minor discrepancies and other matters which can be dealt with by way of formal advice to officers.

The department dealt with 204 investigations recorded under Section 49 of the Police Act 1964, this figure representing 22.64% of the total number of investigations for the year with the remainder being carried out by operational divisional Superintendents or Chief Superintendents. Thirty-eight disciplinary enquiries and 282 investigations into miscellaneous matters were also carried out by the department.

DOG BRANCH

The work of the Dog Branch is co-ordinated by a Central staff of one Chief Inspector, one Inspector, two Sergeants and two Constables with dog handlers working on the divisions to which they are posted.

During 1980 the handlers attended 28,793 incidents and were involved in the arrest of 3,184 persons for various criminal offences. This represents an improvement of 504 on the comparative figure for 1979. Two hundred and sixty-seven items of property were recovered which were eventually identified as being connected with various crimes. These items varied from stolen property abandoned whilst the offender responsible was making good his escape from the scene of the crime, to implements and weapons used in the commission of offences.

Fifty-one searches were carried out at the request of the Drugs Squad to locate concealed drugs. The two dogs already trained to locate the drugs cannabis and heroin will shortly be joined by a further Labrador dog. Calls upon the services of these dogs are also made by other forces in the region, H M Customs and the Post Office Investigation Branch. Ten dogs are now trained to search for explosives and firearms. Thirty-four such searches were made during the year.

The opportunity to take part in regional police dog trials is taken whenever the attendance does not interfere with operational police duty. The Force has achieved excellent results and a high standard of expertise has been shown by all competing.

The handler of the year was P C Burton ('K' Division) with his dog "Perry". Together they attended 381 incidents and by skilfully utilising his dog's ability to the full, P C Burton assisted in or was responsible for the arrest of 52 persons for criminal offences. He received the inscribed trophy presented by Handsworth Rugby Union Football Club.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

1980 has been a good one for the Management Services Department and this, to a certain extent can, be attributed to the low turnover in staff. The credibility of the Department has been enhanced by staffing it with police officers who have proved their practical abilities and, in turn, the experience they gain helps to equip them with the skills required for middle management ranks. The gradings of computer staff have largely been brought into line with the equivalent County Council posts and this gives a real prospect of filling posts which are currently vacant.

The Command and Control System continues to be an operational success with 'down time' reduced to only .03%. Development of the system continues and a number of potential enhancements has been identified. Work on a computerised Street Index is in train and when completed will automatically identify the Sub-Division and Beat location of any incident entered into the system. The facility will also provide a printout of roads, junctions, telephone kiosks or other features when operational requirements demand this. Preliminary investigation into the inclusion of CID Officers on Command and Control has also been carried out. The long awaited Management Information System is half complete and is about to start operational trials.

The Traffic Accident Statistics System is satisfactory whilst the Police Accountant's Creditors' System continues to achieve substantial cost savings. In the latter half of the year, a PDP 11 mini computer was introduced into the Department for research and development. The main application is to be a Central Lock-Up administrative project but the machine is also used for other work, including a Social Survey study (which has already saved the cost of the equipment), fleet management and word processing.

A computerised Crime Information System is now being formulated and, in general terms, is intended to replace the Manual Crime Recording System and the related crime indices in order to aid operational efficiency and save manpower. The emphasis of the system will be on assisting operational officers in the recording and detection of crime but it is also intended to minimise the volume of paperwork. The system should provide administrative, statistical and management information. The staff on the project will be four police officers and three Computer Group personnel. The computer personnel have yet to be appointed.

Staff have carried out a wide range of projects relating to use of resources utilisation and representatives of the staff associations are co-operating in a project aimed at identifying ways in which manpower can be used more effectively. A new system aimed at providing management with a monthly analysis of the precise disposition of all members of the Force has been introduced.

The year also saw progress in the development of prosecution procedures. Apart from the extension of computer facilities mentioned in Chapter I work is well advanced towards a Central Prosecutions Department for the Birmingham Divisions which will not only give greater flexibility in the use of resources, but also achieve manpower savings and make standardisation of procedures possible. Other projects have concerned the procedures for bail; the attendance of witnesses at court; citing of juvenile cautions; notification of remands and adjournments; documentation for court costs; excise licence process and a Juvenile Liaison Scheme. Among the operational projects researched were the greater use of pedal cycles; use of lightweight motor cycles instead of unit beat cars for a combined patrol and response duty; and the cost effectiveness of helicopters for police use.

The Organisation and Methods Section continues to suffer from staff shortages and this is regrettable since the savings previously achieved have made the section self financing to a great extent. Efforts towards reducing paperwork have been appreciated by operational officers and a further 84 forms have been eliminated or combined to enhance workflow. A rationalisation of all photocopying facilities has been completed and work has also been carried out on inventory control, word processing feasibility studies, printing services and centralised dictation systems.

The Establishment Review Team conducted a thorough investigation into the present and future role of the Department and has made recommendations regarding its future development and staffing. In addition, full scale reviews have been undertaken in the following departments resulting, among other things, in 29 police officers being released from administrative posts for operational duties.

Special Patrol Group
Drug Squad
Headquarters Traffic Administration
Divisional Traffic Administration
Underwater Search Unit
Lloyd House Security
Prosecutions Department, Walsall
Courts Complex, Solihull
Telephone Exchange, Coventry
Statistics Department

Although the Force Suggestion Scheme has not caught on as expected, a steady flow of useful ideas continues. All ideas are investigated and credit when due attributed to the originator. During the year ending 31 October 1980, a total of 85 suggestions were submitted. Of these eight were adopted, 53 were rejected and the remainder are still under consideration.

MOUNTED BRANCH

The authorised establishment of the Mounted Branch is one Chief Inspector, one Inspector, 6 Sergeants, 41 Constables, 34 horses, one Civilian Clerk and five Civilian Grooms. Five horses became unfit for further service during the year and seven remounts were purchased. It has been a good year for the health of our horses in general and the respiratory problems which have seriously affected much of the horse world over the past few years have not affected the Force during the year.

Sixteen divisional constables attended basic riding courses and of the eight officers who were successful, one has since transferred into the Mounted Branch and three have been retained for further attachment.

Daily uniform patrols have been carried out and the services of mounted officers have been called upon for crowd control duties in connection with political meetings, marches, demonstrations, training exercises, football fixtures and similar events where it was anticipated that large numbers of persons would need to be contained. Mutual aid has also been rendered to Derbyshire Constabulary on several occasions to assist with football matches.

The Branch has again had a particularly successful year at competitive showing, winning 14 first prizes and gaining numerous placings in the 16 shows which have open police classes. The all round abilities of both officers and horses reflects highly upon the Force. Many displays have been given within the Force area and several hundred school children and other interested parties have attended the riding schools at Richmond Hill and Tally Ho to observe horses and officers under training and take the opportunity to talk to the officers.

SPECIAL PATROL GROUP

The Special Patrol Group is a mobile reserve of officers which has an operational strength of one Chief Inspector, three Inspectors, nine Sergeants, and 72 Constables.

Active assistance has been given to all divisions in the Force area and on many occasions commitments were of necessity allocated at very short notice requiring the officers to work extended and unsocial hours. As well as carrying out patrols

in both uniform and plain clothes, officers have been employed on plain clothes observations, road checks, searches for missing persons, raids on premises in connection with drugs, licensing and gaming offences, marches, parades and demonstrations and anticipated disorder in connection with industrial disputes and football matches, as well as their equally important role of supplementing divisional officers to prevent and detect crime and maintain order. The group has also been called upon to provide mutual aid to other forces. During the year 1,524 persons were arrested by Special Patrol Group officers, an increase of 214 on the previous year. Of these arrests, 27.5% were for offences of a criminal nature. Additionally, a large amount of property has been recovered.

The Special Patrol Group have continued their own training in the various forms of crowd control and also assisted in the instruction of divisional personnel on a regular basis.

UNDERWATER SEARCH UNIT

The Underwater Search Unit has carried out a total of 117 operational dives. The unit has regional responsibilities and included in the above figure are 13 dives for West Mercia Police, eight dives for Warwickshire Police and four for Staffordshire Police. In order to offset the high running cost of such a specialist unit, it has been agreed by the Chief Constables of the region who make use of our services, that a charge can be made when the unit is called to another Force area.

It is unfortunate that one of the tasks which the unit is called upon to perform is the recovery of bodies. The bodies of four adults and four children were recovered by the unit during the year. Additionally, a large amount of property was recovered including motor vehicles, firearms and several thousand pounds worth of silver and jewellery. These searches are often carried out in extreme weather conditions.

The popularity of the unit is shown in the number of occasions requests are made from both police and outside organisations to attend open days and exhibitions or to give lectures at schools and similar establishments. Attendance at such events is accorded a high priority provided it does not interfere with operational duty.

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 division was reviewed in 1980 and now has a nominal strength of 45 persons headed by the Police Accountant, Mr B G Tipton IPFA. It is divided into three units—accounting, exchequer and pensions, and payroll respectively. The annual budget of the Police Authority is now approaching one hundred million pounds per annum of which approximately 90% represents pay and pensions.

The division prepares payrolls for some 10,000 police officers, traffic wardens, cadets, school crossing patrols, police civilian staff and 2,500 police pensioners. In consultation with various departments of the Force, the division also prepares and monitors the annual budget, pays all bills and expenses and prepares the final accounts of the Police Authority and the Number 4 Regional Crime Squad.

HOME DEFENCE DEPARTMENT

The Home Defence Department is under the control of a Superintendent who is also the Staff Officer to the Chief Constable in his capacity as Regional Police Commander (Designate). He is assisted by a staff of one Inspector, one Sergeant and a Civilian Typist.

Training

Training in home defence has been given by means of lectures and films to sergeants and constables on a regular basis across the Force. Two Regional Police War Duties Courses have been held at the Training Centre, Tally Ho, for Chief Inspectors and Inspectors. Senior officers have attended courses at the Home Defence College, Easingwold. Full details are given at Chapter III, Training.

Air reconnaissance training has been undertaken by three officers with the continued assistance of members of the University of Birmingham Air Squadron.

Warning and Monitoring

There are 292 air raid sirens and 248 carrier broadcast receivers situated within the Force area. They are controlled from five carrier control points which also serve 132 similar installations in the neighbouring areas of Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Mercia.

Testing of the siren network has been carried out by the department staff quarterly and on the carrier receivers half yearly. Two national exercises have been held to test both equipment and procedures.

Work has now been completed on the replacement of the remaining pre-1947

sirens. Additionally, a number of sirens have been resited during the year because of demolition or changes of use on existing sites. Further sirens have been installed in order to improve the air raid siren cover within the County.

Planning

Emergency planning has proceeded with the accent on completing district council plans. The involvement at county level has included attendance at the Three Day Annual Study for Emergency Planning Officers. Existing plans were tested through the medium of a full scale peace time emergency exercise which took the form of a simulated air crash at Honiley in November. A number of other organisations took part including Fire and Ambulance Services, Airport Authorities, Area Health Authorities and Volunteer Civil Aid Units.

Liaison

Liaison has continued with other agencies throughout the County including the Post Office, Electricity Boards, Local Authorities, and all sections of the community including the public, industrial and private sectors where early warning equipment is installed.

POLICE STORES

The clothing needs of all uniform members of the Regular Police and Civilian Personnel are met from the Clothing Stores. During the year a County Council Sub-Committee gave consideration to all the store-keeping activities of the authority and it is anticipated that recommendations will follow to rationalise all these systems including those of the Police Committee.

Since 1974 a mobile stores vehicle has been in use to visit police stations furthest away from the Central Stores at Bournville to provide an issue and exchange of uniform service. This service has been extended to cover 21 stations on 10 of the territorial divisions and since September 1980, a second mobile stores vehicle has been in operation to deal with uniform and equipment for female members of the Force and the Traffic Warden Corps.

The Supplies Officer who works from the Clothing Stores continues to monitor the effectiveness of current and proposed products which are then evaluated through the Uniform and Equipment Sub-Committee of the Force.

Recent adaptations have been made to the system of uniform stock control with the result that 80% of issues can now be made without the necessity for major alteration.

SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

The Special Constabulary has taken the opportunity during the year to consolidate following the reorganisation which took place in 1978. Its image has changed to that of a younger, more active organisation prepared to render assistance to the Regular Force when required. Members of the Special Constabulary have been able during the year, to provide a valuable extra police presence both on the streets and at major functions.

The establishment of the Special Constabulary on 31 December 1980, was:-

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

This is a decrease of 56 in comparison with the previous year.

On 31 December 1979, there were 52 outstanding applications for membership, of which 29 were accepted. During 1980, 289 applications for membership were received, a decrease of 39 from 1979. Of these applications 111 have been accepted and 130 rejected with 48 outstanding at the end of the year. Standards demanded by interview boards continue to be very high. It is significant that a large proportion of applicants are either in their late teens or early twenties and that many of these are seeking to join the Special Constabulary with a view to joining the Regular Force at a later date.

Five training courses were held during the year at the Training Centres Tally Ho and Walsall to cater for 144 recruits. The full day's training at the conclusion of the course continues to attract an extremely favourable response in that it enables newly appointed Special Constables to face some of the practical situations which are likely to confront them. The continuation training which takes place at divisional level under the auspices of divisional training sergeants, continues to be well attended.

Long Service Awards

The annual presentation of long service awards took place at the Training

Centre, Tally Ho, in July 1980. The awards were presented by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary, Sir James Crane CBE. Twelve long service medals and five long service bars were presented. Additionally, nine presentation truncheons and six certificates of service were presented to Special Constables who had retired in 1979 with over 20 years service.

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 other general issues affecting the efficient operation of the Force.

Uniform and equipment, catering and the books and forms used by the Force are dealt with by sub-committees reporting to the Joint Advisory Committee.

ANNUAL INSPECTION

The Annual Inspection of the Force was carried out on 29, 30 July and 4, 5 and 6 August 1980, by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary, Sir James Crane CBE.

Chapter III

Training

The responsibilities of the Training Department were increased during the year by the incorporation of firearms and communications training within its activities. Consequently there has been an increase in the establishment of the department.

Force training takes place at Tally Ho, Walsall Training School and 'B' Division Headquarters, Bournville Lane, Birmingham. The latter venue is utilised for probationary constables and communications training only. Firearms training is carried out mainly at Queens Road Police Station, Aston, where the firing range is situated.

Three new courses were designed and introduced during the year. One was for Incident Room teams, one for Divisional Safety Officers and one for the Underwater Search team to assist them in the recovery and preservation of evidence.

Senior officer training during the year included courses on the operational use of firearms, television interview techniques, and traffic management.

Co-operation with other forces in the Midlands Region has continued and has now been extended by including officers from the Warwickshire Constabulary on Pre-retirement Courses which were held at Tally Ho.

Staff

The authorised establishment of the Training Department is as follows—

Chief Superintendent	1
Superintendents	2
Chief Inspectors	5
Inspectors	19
Sergeants	51
Constables	23
Total	101

The temporary Detective Inspector and Detective Sergeant who were attached to the Detective Training School returned to operational duties when double class Initial Detective Training Courses ended in April 1980.

INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

Twenty-five places on Student Instructor Courses were allocated to the West Midlands Police. One Inspector and 24 Sergeants attended of whom all but three Sergeants successfully qualified.

Two Sergeants successfully completed a course for Drill Instructors and one Sergeant and one Constable received qualifications on a Physical Training Instructors Course.

LAW RESEARCH

The Law Research Unit provides a service of which more and more members of the Force are taking advantage. Enquiries are received from all ranks but those particularly assisted are probationary constables doing monthly projects, various officers doing research papers and students attending courses both at the Training Centre and other establishments. The number of telephone enquiries continues to increase.

The monthly Law Conspectus keeps the Force aware of changes which are occurring in the Law. Many Officers use the Conspectus as a further aid to their studies for promotion examinations. Several legal articles which previously appeared in the Conspectus have been published in the Police Review. This has led to enquiries concerning points of law and procedure being received from Officers in other parts of the country.

PROBATIONER TRAINING

Induction Course

This course is conducted at Bournville during the week preceding a recruits initial course at District Training Centre. All documentation, issue of uniform and other administrative matters are dealt with during the five day course.

Ten courses were conducted and 706 recruits attended.

Local Procedure Course

Immediately following their return from District Training Centre, all probationary constables attend a two week course either at Bournville or Walsall, during which they receive instruction on matters of a purely local character.

Six hundred and forty-five constables attended the 20 courses conducted during the year.

Junior Training Course

A one week course is held in the ninth month of service to re-inforce and consolidate the initial training course. Twenty-six courses were conducted and 540 constables attended.

Intermediate Training Course

Held in the fourteenth month of training this one week course is mainly concerned with Traffic Law. Thirty-one courses were held and 656 officers attended.

Senior Training Course

A one week course is held immediately prior to a probationary constable's attendance on a Continuation Course at District Training Centre.

Twenty-four courses were attended by a total of 459 constables.

Basic Crime Course

This one week course is held toward the end of a Constable's probationary period and is designed to instruct him in the practice and procedures of crime.

Twenty-four courses were attended by 443 constables.

Indecency Course

This was the first full year in which this course has run. It is designed to instruct probationers in the skills necessary to deal with indecency and sexual offences. All officers attend the course for two days, but the women officers receive an additional days' training during which they receive further instruction on the problems associated with women complainants and women prisoners.

Five hundred and seventy-four constables attended the 32 courses held.

REFRESHER COURSE

Constables

This is a two week course attended by constables at five yearly intervals.

Twenty-three courses were held and 527 constables attended.

Sergeants

This course is of three weeks duration and is intended to up-date Sergeants in law and procedure every four years of their service in the rank.

Six courses were attended by 112 Sergeants

POST PROMOTION COURSES

Inspectors

This is a four week course nationally designed and attended by newly promoted Inspectors from the Midland Region. It is intended to acquaint them with their duties with a special emphasis on management.

The seven courses held were attended by 53 officers from the West Midlands and 30 officers from the Warwickshire, West Mercia, and Staffordshire Forces.

Sergeants

This course of three weeks duration, nationally designed, is intended to equip newly promoted Sergeants with the basic concept of their new duties with emphasis on their management function.

Eight courses were held at Tally Ho, attended by 99 West Midlands Sergeants and nine officers from Warwickshire Constabulary.

SPECIALISED COURSES

Aston University Course

This is a full time course of 10 weeks duration organised for the West Midlands Police, leading to a part Diploma in Business Administration.

Two courses were held and all 19 officers who attended were successful.

National Education Board – Supervisory Studies Course

In July 1980 18 officers successfully completed a course at Hall Green Technical College having studied part-time for a full academic year.

The course is designed to improve supervisory skills and successful students are awarded a certificate.

In September 22 officers enrolled for the current 1980/81 course.

Promotion Examination Classes

The system of holding evening classes twice weekly at three venues continued during the year. Two series of 44 classes were held; one for the promotion examination to the rank of Inspector and the other for the examination to the rank of Sergeant.

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

Special Study Courses

During March 1980 three two-week full time courses were held to assist candidates for the promotion examination to Inspector. These Courses were attended by 68 officers.

In October, seven similar courses were conducted to assist candidates for the promotion examination to Sergeant and 132 officers attended.

Promotion Examinations

The Training Department continued to be responsible for the administration of the two examinations held during the year.

Home Defence – Regional

Two one week residential courses were held at Tally Ho and were attended by 30 Inspectors and one Chief Inspector from this force together with 33 officers from the Warwickshire, West Mercia and Staffordshire Forces and three officers from the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force.

Home Defence – Home Defence College

Three Chief Superintendents, eight Superintendents, and three Chief Inspectors attended courses at the Home Defence College, Easingwold.

Public Order Training

The Training Department again arranged training in crowd control techniques at three venues where half-day exercises were conducted with the aid of Special Patrol Group Officers. Four hundred and eighty Constables, 48 Sergeants and 24 Inspectors received training.

Tutor Constables Course

During the year 16 two-day courses were held at Tally Ho and Walsall and 218 constables received instruction in the duties and responsibilities of a tutor constable.

Resident Beat Officers Course

Eight one-week courses were held to train resident beat officers in their particular duties. One hundred and five constables attended.

Station Officers Course

This is a one-week course provided for Constables and Sergeants engaged or about to be engaged in station office duties. Seven courses were attended by 110 officers.

Public Speaking Course

Two courses each of five days duration were held at Tally Ho and 34 officers attended to receive instruction and advice on the techniques of public speaking and the use of visual aids.

Pre-retirement Course

Three courses, each of four days duration, were held at Tally Ho to advise officers approaching retirement of facilities available to them in civilian life. Sixty-seven officers attended together with eight officers from the Warwickshire Constabulary.

Safety Representatives Course

This is a three day course designed to ensure that Divisional Safety Representatives are aware of their special responsibilities. A total of 79 officers attended the three courses held at Tally Ho.

Traffic Management Course

A regional course of two weeks duration is held to inform officers of Chief Inspector rank and above of the techniques of traffic management. Two courses were conducted at Tally Ho and 20 West Midlands Police officers attended together with 13 officers from the Warwickshire, West Mercia and Staffordshire Forces.

Television Interview Techniques

A series of half-day seminars was held during the year under the auspices of Mr Brian Gibson of the B.B.C. to assist Senior Officers to improve their expertise in the television interview situation.

Thirty-one officers attended the 11 seminars held at Tally Ho.

Firearms Seminars for Senior Officers

During the year two-day seminars for officers of Chief Inspector rank and above were held at Tally Ho to discuss the operational deployment of officers trained in the use of firearms. Forty-four officers attended.

Firearms Training

A total of 2,585 man days was devoted to training officers in the use of firearms. This included refresher and initial training.

Undergraduates Visit

Twenty-three Undergraduates attended the Training Centre at Tally Ho for three days in January during which they were shown a wide range of police activities with a view to considering the Police as a career.

Special Constables

One hundred and forty-three special constables attended initial training at the Tally Ho and Walsall Training Centres.

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

COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING

Command and Control Operators Course

One Inspector, 140 Sergeants, 29 Constables and seven Civilian operators each attended one of the 29 five-day courses conducted during the year.

Police National Computer Operators Course

A four-day course is provided to instruct officers in the appreciation, interrogation and up-dating of the indices available on the Police National Computer.

Forty-four Sergeants, 64 Constables and nine Civilian operators each attended one of the 29 courses held.

PNC Disqualified Drivers/Refresher Course

This is a two-day course the purpose of which is to refresh trained operators and introduce them to the disqualified drivers index.

Fourteen courses were conducted and 74 Sergeants, 10 Constables and 28 Civilian operators attended.

Teleprinter Operator Course

A four-day course is arranged to instruct police officers and Civilian operators in the use of computer-linked teleprinter message switching system.

The 36 courses held were attended by 60 Sergeants, 103 Constables and 13 Civilian operators.

Inspectors Computer Appreciation Course

A two-day course is provided to give Inspectors an appreciation of the use of computers in the modern police service.

One hundred and forty-one Inspectors each attended one of the nine courses held.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT 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
3 Refresher courses	Three weeks
1 Fraud course	Three weeks

The courses were open to all forces in England and Wales, the Royal Ulster Constabulary, British Transport Police and Ministry of Defence Police and for the first time two officers of the Bermuda Police Force attended Junior Courses.

A total of 238 officers attended of whom 34 were West Midlands Police officers.

MAJOR INCIDENT ROOM COURSE

This is a two-day course to train officers designated for Divisional Incident Room teams conducted at Little Park Street Police Station, Coventry. Nine courses were held and 190 officers attended. This was followed by four half-day seminars attended by Senior Detective Officers who were acquainted with the procedure to be followed in Major Incident Rooms. Sixty-one senior officers attended.

DRIVING SCHOOL

The Headquarters is located at Halesowen Police Station with car training wings situated at Bournville Lane and Chelmsley Wood Police Stations. Motor Cycle Training is carried out from a further wing situated at Stourbridge Police Station. The success of Continuous Flow Training at Standard 'A' level has prompted a further experiment for Standard 'B' training which commenced in November 1980.

Type of Course	No. of Courses	Students	Number Qualified	
Standard 'A' (continuous flow)	17	246	197 (Grade 4)	
Standard 'B' (5 week)	13	215	71 (Grade 3)	117 (Grade 4)
Standard 'B' (continuous flow from 3.11.80)	4	51	35 (Grade 3)	12 (Grade 4)
Standard 'B' Refresher to 7.11.80	36	277	116 (Grade 3)	150 (Grade 4)
Advanced Car	17	138	38 (Grade 1)	75 (Grade 2)
Advanced Car Refresher	21	90	54 (Grade 1)	33 (Grade 2)
Heavy Goods Vehicle	10	20	14 (Class 1)	6 (Class 3)
Traffic Patrol Officers	4	40	39 (Pass)	
T.P.O. Refresher	1	10	10 (Pass)	
Instructors Courses	2	4	2 (Pass)	
Standard Motor Cycle	15	68	50 (Grade 4)	2 (D of E)
Conversion Motor Cycle	9	30	21 (Grade 3)	
Advanced Motor Cycle	7	20	9 (Grade 1)	6 (Grade 2)
Advanced Motor Cycle Refresher	2	6	6 (Grade 1)	— (Grade 2)
Casual Tests (including motorcycle and civilians)		350		
Re-tests after accident		52		

Other courses were attended as follows:-

INSPECTORS COURSE

Hutton Hall, Lancashire 8 Inspectors

POLICE STAFF COLLEGE COURSES

Junior Command Course 7 Chief Inspectors

5 Inspectors

Intermediate Command Course 8 Superintendents

Senior Command Course 1 Chief Superintendent

SENIOR OFFICERS COURSE

Lincoln 2 Superintendents

CID COURSES

Detective Training Course — Bristol

Junior Course 4 Detective Constables

Advanced Course 2 Detective Sergeants

Detective Training Course — Liverpool

Junior Course 5 Detective Constables

Detective Training Course — Preston

Junior Course 4 Detective Constables

Advanced Course 1 Detective Sergeant

Detective Training Course — Wakefield

Junior Course 4 Detective Constables

Advanced Course 5 Detective Sergeants

Scenes of Crime Courses — Durham

Photographic Course 3 Detective Constables

Forensic Course 2 Detective Constables

1 Civilian

Fraud Course

Manchester 2 Detective Constables

Special Branch Courses

Initial Course	3 Detective Sergeants 3 Detective Constables
Advanced Course	1 Detective Inspector

Drugs Courses

Bristol	4 Detective Constables
Liverpool	3 Detective Constables

MANAGEMENT COURSE

Honiley Hall	2 Inspectors
--------------	--------------

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Himley Hall, Wolverhampton <i>(Police in the Community)</i>	6 Inspectors 10 Sergeants 12 Constables
Derby <i>(Newly appointed Community Relations Officers)</i>	2 Sergeants
Holly Royde <i>(Police and Community Relations)</i>	1 Deputy Chief Constable 1 Chief Superintendent 1 Superintendent

AIRCRAFT CRASH DRILL

Stanstead	1 Superintendent 7 Inspectors
-----------	----------------------------------

SPECIAL BRAKES COURSE

Banbury	24 Constables
---------	---------------

AIR OBSERVER COURSE – HELICOPTERS

Dollar Air Services—Coventry	10 Inspectors
------------------------------	---------------

T V PRODUCTION COURSES

Plymouth Polytechnic	1 Inspector 1 Sergeant
----------------------	---------------------------

DOG TRAINING COURSES – STAFFORD

Initial Course	12 Constables
----------------	---------------

DRIVING COURSE – NORTHUMBRIA

Supervision Course	1 Inspector
Basic Course	3 Constables
Refresher Course	1 Constable

TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY COURSE

Crowthorne, Berks	2 Sergeants
-------------------	-------------

ROAD SAFETY SYMPOSIA

Nottingham	1 Inspector
------------	-------------

WILTON PARK CONFERENCE

Wilton Park	1 Superintendent
-------------	------------------

GAMING COURSE

Manchester	1 Inspector 1 Sergeant
------------	---------------------------

CRIMINOLOGY COURSE

Cambridge	1 Superintendent
-----------	------------------

TRANSCHEM 80

Cleveland	1 Superintendent
-----------	------------------

FIREARMS COURSES

Devon and Cornwall V.I.P. Protection Course	2 Constables
Preston Sniper Instructor	1 Sergeant
Preston Firearms Instructor	1 Sergeant 1 Constable

FINGERPRINT COURSES

Initial Course	4 Detective Constables
Advanced Course	1 Detective Constables

H.G.V. INSTRUCTORS COURSE

Cardington	1 Sergeant 1 Constable
------------	---------------------------

NATIONAL INSTRUCTORS COURSE

Freight	2 Sergeants
---------	-------------

TACHOGRAPH COURSES

Birmingham	1 Superintendent 4 Sergeants 8 Constables
------------	---

FIRST AID

Recruits joining the Force continue to receive the Initial Course in First Aid at the Training Centre with the exception of ex-Cadets who in the main are qualified prior to attending the Training Centre.

During the year 815 members attended local courses of instruction to requalify in First Aid. Of those officers who attended 719 requalified at the first attempt. All but two of the officers are now qualified.

FIRST AID COMPETITION

The Eliminating Contest for the Police National First Aid Competition 'PIM TROPHY' was held at the Police Training Centre, Ryton-on-Dunsmore in January 1980. One team was entered in this competition and was placed 3rd. In the Policewomens' National First Aid Competition in January 1980, a team was entered and they were placed 6th.

Two teams were entered in the Police Cadet National First Aid Competition.

ST JOHN AMBULANCE HIGH GRADE COMPETITION

The standard of First Aid in this competition is very high and the two teams entered were placed 1st and 3rd.

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY AWARDS

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

Elementary Awards	422
Intermediate Awards	337
Bronze Medallion	211

POLICE 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 upon their age of entry into the Corps.

Induction Courses

Induction courses are designed to train 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 bring them to a level of physical fitness comparable with Cadets already in the Corps.

During 1980 two Induction courses were held.

In January, 41 Cadets of an older age group were enrolled and underwent a four week training course at Tally Ho. One girl and three boys resigned during the course and on completion the remainder began senior department training.

One hundred and thirty-seven Cadets joined the Corps in August and because of the large numbers the facilities at Birmingham University were again utilised.

One girl resigned during training and the remainder on completion of their course dispersed as follows:-

109 to college to continue their education
27 to senior departmental training

Academic Training

The facilities available at Matthew Boulton Technical College enable Cadets to continue their education. Because of the overall comprehensive training programme designed for Cadets and the limited time they serve in the Corps

it is only possible for them to study subjects at the college which require involvement for less than two academic years.

At the commencement of the 1979/80 academic year, Cadets with less than four G.C.E. 'O' levels were enrolled for the B.E.C. General Certificate (three term course), the modules consisting of People and Communication, Business Calculations, The Role of the Police in the Community and Community Studies.

Cadets possessing four G.C.E. 'O' levels or more commenced a four term course for the B.E.C. National Certificate of eight modules namely, People and Communication, 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.

Both the above courses were specifically designed for Police Cadets with representatives from Matthew Boulton Technical College and Senior Police Officers, and with B.E.C. approval provided Cadets with the opportunity of gaining a nationally recognised qualification.

Of the 117 Cadets who commenced studying for the B.E.C. General Award

79 obtained the B.E.C. Certificate
(9 with credit passes)
25 were referred and
12 resigned during the course

The remainder of the time available was devoted to selected G.C.E. 'O', 'O/A' and/or 'A' level subjects depending on the ability of the Cadet.

Departmental Training

During the senior stage of training, Cadets, depending on their age complete the following:-

A three month attachment to a Division,
A two month attachment to Community Service,
One month to a Control Room,
One month Adventure Training (see later),
Three months Beat Patrol,
Any remaining time to H.Q. Departments

Cadets attending educational establishments take normal school vacations, except Cadets taking the National Certificate who undertake community work during the summer vacation.

In 1980 assistance was given to 25 organisations who were running holidays for physically handicapped children, play schemes and camps for children from deprived backgrounds.

Twenty-five Cadets attended international work camps in Europe and the Scandinavian countries this year. They worked in Germany, Switzerland, Denmark and Austria and provided valuable assistance to the community in addition to the experience they personally gained.

Adventure Training

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

During the summer most Cadets attended the Police Cadet Camp situated in the Elan Valley. The programme covered all sections of adventure training. Any Cadets not attending Camp attend courses organised by the Outward Bound Association and Sail Training Association. Due regard was taken of the physical capabilities of the girl Cadets and the rigorous training programme was slightly modified.

In May three Cadet teams joined more than 400 teams from various organisations who took part in a walk on Dartmoor referred to as the Ten Tors Expedition. All three teams were very successful, completed the course and were presented with medals and certificates.

First Aid

Instructional classes were held at Tally Ho during 1980 and 250 Cadets qualified for awards during the year (155 boys and 95 girls).

Voluntary Activities

Throughout the year Cadets assisted with the Lord Mayor's Procession, Birmingham Show, Carnival processions, and Remembrance Day parades.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

During the year one girl Cadet, who is now a Police Officer, gained the Gold Award and at the present time there are 30 other Cadets 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 1979/80 season the Corps entered a team in Division 6 of the Birmingham Works League. The Cadets were very successful competing against an older age group and won the league title. They also took part in two Cup Competitions, winning the John Webster Trophy.

Rugby Football

This sport has continued to play an important part in Cadet training. A full programme of matches involved local teams and annual fixtures with a number of other police forces. Several Cadets were selected for trials for the British Police team and the West Midlands County.

Athletics

The National Championships, which were hosted by the Metropolitan Police and held at Barnet, resulted in some very good successes. Girl Cadet D Turner 1st (1500 metres) 2nd (800 metres), Girl Cadet A Sippitts 3rd (1500 metres), Boy Cadet M. Linnett 2nd (Discus). The girls' relay team came 2nd.

Cross Country

In March 1980 this Force hosted the Regional Cadet Championships at Tally Ho and both the girls and boys teams won convincingly. In the boys race 10 West Midlands Cadets finished in the first 12 places and in the girls race the West Midlands Cadets took the first five places.

Later that month this Force hosted the National Police Cadet Championships on the same course. Three teams were entered in each event with the girls 'A' team having an outstanding victory with Cadets Turl, Turner, and Christmas taking positions 4th, 5th and 6th respectively. In the boys event the West Midlands Police Cadets 'A' team was placed 2nd to the Metropolitan Team.

During the year Cadets represented the Force in both the Services League and the Midland Police Cross Country League.

Swimming and Life Saving

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

In 1980, 108 Life Saving Awards were achieved consisting of 53 Bronze Medallions, 50 Intermediate Awards and five Awards of Merit.

During the year teams were entered in the National Cadet Life Saving Championships. In the Regional Heats held at Walsall the girls team finished 1st with the boys team finishing 2nd. In the National Finals the girls 'A' team finished in 3rd position.

The National Cadet Swimming Championships were held in May at Manchester where 17 Forces took part. The West Midlands Police entered Cadets in both the individual and team competitions. Cadet Watterson won the girls 100 metres back stroke.

The Annual Cadet Swimming Gala was again held at Westhill College in October and teams from Dudley, Anstey, Westhill and Newman Colleges were invited to participate.

Cricket

A Cadet team took an active part in the new Force Inter-Divisional Cricket League. The Corps finds it difficult to keep a successful side together owing to the many commitments such as Adventure Training and Camps throughout the season, but despite that a very good account of the Corps was given throughout the season.

Girls Hockey

The Cadet team took part in regular training sessions during the winter season and at weekends. They played schools, ladies teams and colleges within the Midlands area and were defeated only once. In the annual competition against the Metropolitan Police they were victors by nine goals to 0, the fixture this year being at Hendon Police Cadet Training College.

A mixed hockey team consisting of male and female Cadets took part in the National Cadet Competitions at Droitwich, Worcestershire, and from 16 teams taking part finished runners up in the final to West Mercia Cadets who were the previous title holders.

Other Sports

Cadets have continued to show an interest in other sports including basketball, netball, badminton, judo and small bore rifle shooting. They have been provided with the facilities and given instruction and encouragement.

Chapter IV

Crime

Actual strength and disposition on 31 December 1980

Headquarters Staff – Specialist Departments

	Chief Superintendents	Superintendents	Chief Inspectors	Inspectors	Sergeants	Constables	Aides to CID	Civilians	TOTAL
Operations	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Serious Crime Squad	—	1	1	1	9	16	—	3	31
Anti-Terrorist Squad	—	—	—	2	11	28	1	—	42
Robbery Squad	—	—	—	1	4	17	—	—	22
Commercial Branch	—	—	3	3	8	12	—	4	30
Drug Squad	—	—	1	3	12	18	1	2	37
Stolen Vehicle Squad	—	—	1	2	4	13	—	2	22
Support Services	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Central Information Unit	—	—	1	1	3	10	—	28	43
Antecedents Department	—	—	—	2	4	11	—	9	26
Scenes of Crime	—	—	1	1	11	26	—	7	46
H.M. Coroners	—	—	1	1	2	6	—	6	16
Crime Intelligence	—	—	—	1	4	13	—	1	19
Explosives and Firearms	—	—	1	1	3	8	—	6	19
Crime Prevention	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	3	7
Technical Support Unit	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	4
Special Branch	—	1	3	6	16	47	—	16	89
No 4 Regional Crime Squad	—	—	2	1	21	25	—	16	65
No 4 Regional Criminal Intelligence	—	1	—	2	2	2	—	8	15
Fingerprint Bureau	—	—	1	1	2	14	—	32	50
Photographic Department	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	16	17
Social Liaison Department	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	2	5	17	34	117	269	3	159	606

RECORDED CRIME

During the year 166031 crimes were left recorded and Table 'A' shows the incidence of crime on each of the territorial divisions.

The detection rate for all crime for the year is 32.5% which is a decrease of 4.6% over 1979.

A total of 54,042 crimes was detected.

29.2% of detected crime was committed by Juveniles.

The main variations in recorded crime during 1980 as compared with the previous year were as follows:-

Increases

Wounding Sec. 20/47	155	3%
Burglary Dwelling	6178	37%
Burglary Other Building	3703	16%
Robbery	230	22%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	3592	23%
Arson & Criminal Damage	2585	27%

Decreases

Theft by Employee	123	11%
Other Frauds	655	19%
Handling Stolen Property	162	11%
Forgery	139	57%

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENCES COMMITTED

Homicide

During 1980 there were 39 cases reported. Of these, 36 were recorded as Murder and three Manslaughter, all of which were detected.

Wounding

There were 6,049 cases of Wounding during the year, 4,117 being detected, a percentage of 68%

Sexual Offences

During 1980 1,460 Sexual Offences were recorded, 867 of these being detected. This gives a detection rate of 59%.

Offences against Property (Burglaries)

Offences in this category totalled 49,809 of which 13,038 were detected, a percentage of 26%.

Robbery

During 1980 there were 1,268 offences recorded under this heading, and 338 cases were cleared up (27%).

Thefts and Fraud

Tables 'A' and 'B' show 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 26,222 offences recorded during 1980 and 6,878 were detected (26%).

CRIMINAL STATISTICS — 1980

TABLE 'A'

NATURE OF CRIME	'B' Division Population: 292,900		'C' Division Population: 191,000		'D' Division Population: 216,800		'E' Division Population: 266,800	
	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.
	Offences against the Person							
Murder	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Attempt Murder	3	3	—	—	3	3	—	—
Threats to Murder	1	1	—	—	2	2	2	2
Manslaughter	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Death by Dangerous Driving	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	1
Wounding Sec. 18	61	46	62	49	53	39	82	59
Wounding Sec. 20/47	461	314	405	254	455	291	568	343
Buggery	2	1	3	1	3	2	4	4
Indecent Assault — Male	4	1	5	4	10	5	12	8
Indecency with Males	2	2	1	1	1	1	15	14
Rape	4	2	15	12	12	12	12	7
Indecent Assault Female	66	23	66	20	50	24	82	27
U S I — Girl under 13 years	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	2
U S I — Girl 13 — 16 years	22	16	18	12	7	7	20	17
Incest	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	1
Abduction	3	3	2	1	—	—	1	—
Bigamy	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Offences against Property — Burglaries etc.								
Burglary Dwelling	3393	844	3117	624	2180	463	2987	734
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	13	6	16	2	12	6	13	3
Burglary other Buildings	2691	767	2392	459	2331	539	2725	602
Aggravated Burglary other Buildings	2	1	3	2	1	1	—	—
Going equipped for Stealing	17	16	13	15	15	14	17	16
Robbery	77	18	202	38	129	26	111	39
Assault with intent to rob	5	1	9	1	9	3	15	7
Blackmail	3	3	—	—	3	1	1	—
Kidnapping	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	—
Offences against Property — Thefts etc.								
Theft from the Person	113	27	175	37	125	10	126	15
Theft in a Dwelling	317	101	175	52	220	70	286	80
Theft by Employee	98	97	74	69	110	104	95	83
Theft of Mailbags	6	4	6	—	5	3	10	6
Theft of Pedal Cycle	689	116	439	39	500	77	714	108
Theft from Vehicles	1831	214	1532	187	1845	197	1790	215
Theft Shops and Stalls	624	470	324	225	927	760	496	303
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	188	64	122	41	137	29	172	40
Theft of Electricity	59	54	20	16	25	24	21	13
Theft & Unauthorised taking of M/Vehicle	3198	537	2225	398	2631	712	3776	833
Other Thefts	1788	433	1344	227	1484	235	1699	361
False Accounting	3	3	1	—	3	2	1	1
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	349	170	328	147	368	153	446	187
Handling Stolen Property	95	98	65	63	76	71	131	132
Criminal Damage								
Arson	94	38	39	16	79	19	67	15
Criminal Damage	1147	251	1023	206	1022	218	1223	207
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	22	18	14	14	9	9	21	17
Other Offences								
Affray	—	—	2	2	8	8	3	3
Perjury and False Statements	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Miscellaneous	2	2	2	1	5	4	7	7
GRAND TOTALS	17460	4772	14247	3242	14864	4150	17761	4517
DETECTION RATE	27.3		22.8		27.9		25.4	
Totals — 1979	15601	4267	12902	3656	13400	4245	15004	5731
Detection Rate — 1979	27.4		28.3		31.7		38.1	
TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION	59.6	16.3	74.6	17.0	68.6	19.1	66.6	16.9

NATURE OF CRIME	'F' Division Population: 66,400		'G' Division Population: 243,700		'H' Division Population: 265,000		'J' Division Population: 300,900	
	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.
	Offences against the Person							
Murder	5	5	3	3	4	4	2	2
Attempt Murder	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Threats to Murder	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Death by Dangerous Driving	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
Wounding Sec. 18	86	59	44	32	37	25	14	13
Wounding Sec. 20/47	462	272	673	439	517	345	459	365
Buggery	—	—	—	—	6	6	4	4
Indecent Assault — Male	5	3	10	6	10	8	7	4
Indecency with Males	57	59	5	2	14	15	8	8
Rape	15	11	7	5	6	3	1	2
Indecent Assault — Female	80	26	78	24	77	32	65	41
U S I — Girl under 13 years	—	—	3	2	2	2	2	2
U S I — Girl 13 — 16 years	5	3	37	25	25	20	32	29
Incest	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	4
Procuration	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abduction	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Bigamy	4	5	3	1	—	—	1	1
Offences against Property — Burglaries etc.								
Burglary Dwelling	616	124	2215	550	1576	182	1250	437
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	13	9	5	3	2	—	2	—
Burglary Other Buildings	1429	378	2779	713	2797	532	2278	680
Aggravated Burglary other Buildings	2	2	2	2	2	—	—	—
Going Equipped for Stealing	14	12	11	11	8	6	3	3
Robbery	220	69	135	40	71	20	34	16
Assault with intent to rob	13	1	13	5	9	2	1	—
Blackmail	5	1	6	3	3	2	1	1
Kidnapping	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Offences against Property — Thefts etc.								
Theft from the Person	529	182	188	58	71	11	43	11
Theft in a Dwelling	99	34	245	92	190	42	172	78
Theft by Employee	195	182	100	94	79	76	92	87
Theft of Mailbags	—	—	14	13	22	1	3	2
Theft of Pedal Cycle	251	42	480	134	436	44	256	65
Theft from Vehicles	2037	256	2000	434	1498	305	1359	249
Theft Shops and Stalls	2278	1992	1645	1431	1004	841	1148	1000
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	115	29	162	62	92	31	80	33
Theft of Electricity	12	9	56	45	22	16	38	29
Theft & Unauthorised Taking of M/Vehicle	2341	561	2083	543	1556	358	1280	337
Other Thefts	2048	324	2009	583	1614	276	1593	439
False Accounting	2	2	5	5	—	—	4	4
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	474	283	316	156	204	66	192	113
Handling Stolen Property	75	72	137	135	115	113	201	202
Frauds by Directors	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Criminal Damage								
Arson	34	8	103	16	58	9	38	10
Criminal Damage	915	236	1151	242	1015	183	876	225
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	45	37	40	37	12	13	14	15
Other Offences								
Affray	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1
Perjury and False Statements	1	—	1	2	2	1	1	1
Miscellaneous	5	4	6	3	—	—	5	4
GRAND TOTALS	14492	5296	16777	5957	13161	3595	11565	4518
DETECTION RATE	36.5		35.5		27.3		39.1	
Totals — 1979	14411	6119	14769	5785	11159	3666	9977	4417
Detection Rate — 1979	42.5		39.2		32.9		44.3	
TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION	218.3	79.8	68.8	24.4	49.7	13.6	38.4	15.0

CRIMINAL STATISTICS

TABLE 'A'

NATURE OF CRIME	'K' Division Population: 310,000		'L' Division Population: 203,000		'M' Division Population: 339,500	
	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.	Com.	Det.
	Offences against the Person					
Murder	5	5	—	—	1	1
Attempt Murder	1	1	—	—	—	—
Threats to Murder	1	1	—	—	—	1
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	2	2
Child Destruction	1	1	—	—	—	—
Death by Dangerous Driving	1	1	1	1	1	—
Wounding Sec. 18	43	39	26	19	68	44
Wounding Sec. 20/47	587	430	238	176	648	464
Child Stealing	1	1	—	—	—	—
Buggery	2	2	1	1	8	7
Indecent Assault — Male	6	7	7	5	18	12
Indecency with Males	8	7	1	1	3	3
Rape	9	6	7	3	8	5
Indecent Assault — Female	75	37	43	26	136	64
U S 1 — Girl under 13 years	1	1	1	1	6	5
U S 1 — Girl 13 — 16 years	45	42	11	10	26	23
Incest	—	—	3	3	1	2
Procuration	2	2	—	—	—	—
Bigamy	—	—	—	—	1	1
Offences against Property — Burglaries etc.						
Burglary Dwelling	1784	498	796	347	3188	932
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	5	1	—	—	3	2
Burglary other Buildings	3039	1238	747	171	3402	1183
Aggravated Burglary other Buildings	1	1	—	—	—	—
Going Equipped for Stealing	11	11	3	4	17	15
Robbery	74	17	20	4	109	27
Assault with intent to rob	7	2	1	—	4	2
Blackmail	6	7	1	1	2	1
Kidnapping	—	—	2	2	1	1
Offences against Property — Theft etc.						
Theft from the Person	127	34	32	11	146	18
Theft in a Dwelling	203	102	125	47	315	145
Theft by Employee	166	157	62	57	95	89
Theft of Mailbags	2	2	1	—	3	2
Theft of Pedal Cycle	440	107	427	85	1116	191
Theft from Vehicles	1856	605	1146	302	2419	680
Theft Shops and Stalls	957	821	684	586	1929	1686
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	89	35	64	24	156	68
Theft of Electricity	74	69	5	5	65	63
Theft & Unauthorised Taking of M/vehicle	2220	814	1207	471	3705	1314
Other Thefts	2103	725	990	190	2770	580
False Accounting	3	4	2	2	2	2
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	289	174	110	56	437	290
Handling Stolen Property	215	213	83	82	222	219
Criminal Damage						
Arson	72	26	41	17	131	93
Criminal Damage	1083	292	519	100	1435	331
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	33	28	7	9	25	24
Other Offences						
Affray	3	3	—	—	12	11
Perjury and False Statements	—	—	1	1	1	1
Miscellaneous	2	2	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTALS	15652	6571	7415	2820	22637	8604
DETECTION RATE	42.0		38.0		38.0	
Totals — 1979	13817	5214	6896	3170	1964	8432
Detection Rate — 1979	37.7		46.0		43.5	
TOTAL PER 1,000 HEAD OF POPULATION	50.5	21.2	36.5	13.9	66.7	25.3

CRIME — ALL DIVISIONS

TABLE 'B'

Nature of Crime	Population: 2,696,000	
	Crimes Committed	Crimes Detected
Offences against the Person		
Murder	36	36
Attempt Murder	7	8
Threats to Murder	8	8
Manslaughter	3	3
Child Destruction	1	1
Death by Dangerous Driving	8	7
Wounding Sec. 18	576	424
Wounding Sec. 20/47	5473	3693
Child Stealing	1	1
Buggery	33	28
Indecent Assault Male	94	63
Indecency with Males	115	113
Rape	96	68
Indecent Assault Female	818	344
U.S.I. — Girl under 13 years	19	16
U.S.I. — Girl 13 - 16 years	248	204
Incest	14	14
Procuration	4	4
Abduction	8	4
Bigamy	11	9
Offences against Property — Burglaries etc.		
Burglary Dwelling	23102	5735
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	84	32
Burglary Other Buildings	26610	7262
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	13	9
Going Equipped for Stealing	129	123
Robbery	1182	314
Assault with intent to rob	86	24
Blackmail	31	20
Kidnapping	7	6
Offences against Property — Thefts etc.		
Theft from the Person	1675	414
Theft in a Dwelling	2347	843
Theft by Employee	1166	1095
Theft of Mailbags	72	33
Theft of Pedal Cycle	5748	1008
Theft from Vehicles	19313	3644
Theft Shops and Stalls	12016	10115
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	1377	456
Theft of Electricity	397	343
Theft and Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicles	26222	6878
Other Thefts	19442	4373
False Accounting	26	25
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	3513	1795
Handling Stolen Property	1415	1400
Frauds by Directors.	1	1
Criminal Damage		
Arson	756	267
Criminal Damage	11409	2491
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	242	221
Other Offences		
Affray	35	33
Perjury and False Statements	8	7
Miscellaneous	34	27
GRAND TOTALS	166031	54042
DETECTION RATE	32.5	
Totals — 1979	147350	54702
Detection Rate — 1979	37.1	
TOTAL PER 1000 HEAD OF POPULATION	61.6	20.0

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)	5641	1031	3590	4924	5510	1345	1061	23102	7199441	224811
Aggravated Burglary (Dwelling)	33	3	9	16	11	1	11	84	77466	9860
Burglary (Other Buildings)	7930	1458	4738	5454	5075	1008	947	26610	5027772	579529
Aggravated Burglary (Other Buildings)	4	--	1	3	2	1	2	13	19414	49
TOTAL	13608	2492	8338	10397	10598	2355	2021	49809	12324093	814249
Robbery and Attempts	224	210	310	283	133	36	72	1268	785941	24097
Theft and Unlawful Taking Vehicles	677	8	64	657	15310	5697	3809	26222	17106586	12623618
								£5 AND OVER		
Theft from Person	81	215	692	511	147	12	17	1379	120934	9367
Theft in Dwelling	10	381	627	730	509	57	33	1956	250959	22214
Theft by Employee	7	135	250	311	274	90	99	1024	739707	126058
Theft of/ from Mailbags	1	46	12	4	6	1	2	25	21974	18812
Abstracting Electricity	6	23	217	74	71	5	1	368	25878	35
Theft of Pedal Cycle	8	8	831	3875	1024	2	--	5732	367338	23524
Theft from Vehicles	574	2771	4582	7008	3904	307	167	15968	1688330	75613
Theft from Shops and Stalls	48	5795	4264	1277	507	94	31	6173	336838	97624
Theft from Auto Machines and Meters	83	166	605	393	124	6	--	1128	50123	1462
Other Thefts	238	2764	6470	6164	3013	440	353	16440	2778200	221053
TOTAL	1056	12304	18550	20347	9579	1014	703	50193	6381281	595762
								TOTALS	36597901	14058726

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 supervisory responsibility extends to detective officers on the territorial divisions in addition to the direct control of the following specialised departments:-

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

The senior detective officer on each territorial division is a Superintendent and, through 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 his deputy. The services provided afford specialised assistance to all divisional and departmental staff from a central source thus effectively contributing to the overall efficient management of the Criminal Investigation Department. The following specialised departments are included:-

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

Antecedent History Department

Throughout the year the central office of the Antecedent History Department, acting in conjunction with the offices at Brierley Hill and Coventry, has maintained a high standard of service both to the various Crown Courts and in the assistance of Police Officers concerned with the many varied matters relating to Crown Court proceedings. Efforts have continued to minimise the time operational officers spend at Crown Courts and it has been possible to give officers earlier warning of listing of cases committed to Birmingham Crown Court.

The number of committals for trial rose by just over 8% during the year. A total of 6,792 persons was dealt with at Crown Court, an increase of 528 over the previous year. Papers were prepared for 4,757 trials, 1,057 committals for sentence and 978 appeals.

Central Information Unit

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

During the year a total of 8,300 enquiries was received at CID Administration and forwarded to Divisions and Departments, this compares with a figure of 7,200 for the previous year. Of this figure 380 were recorded in detail and represented enquiries which on completion would be filed at the Unit. In excess of 500 enquiries were received from the West Yorkshire Police in connection with the 'Ripper Enquiry' the largest number of enquiries received from a single source.

The file destruction programme is continuing and all CID files for 1973 and the majority of files for 1974 have now been microfilmed.

In June 1980, the disqualified drivers index on the Police National Computer became available for use. Details of persons disqualified by Courts in the West Midlands are teleprinted to the Unit and entered onto the PNC by staff at the Force PNC Bureau. It is estimated that an average of 30 cases daily were input during the first seven months of operation.

Criminal Intelligence Department

The Force Criminal Intelligence Department is situated at Lloyd House and forms an integral part of the Central Information Unit. The Department is responsible for collating, evaluating and disseminating information/intelligence relating to criminals and other persons suspected of criminal activities who reside in, or frequent the West Midlands.

Liaison is maintained with the 31 sub-divisional collators' offices throughout the Force area and during 1980 collators' meetings were held to co-ordinate their activities, exchange information and to stimulate the flow of information and intelligence. There is still some way to go in standardising the activities of collators but efforts are continuing in this direction. Measures are also being undertaken to stimulate more interest amongst officers of all ranks in the work of the collator. A model collators' office has been created on 'E' Division for instructional purposes.

In 1980, a Detective Constable was appointed to each division throughout the Force to perform duties of Divisional Field Intelligence Officer with responsibility for gathering information/intelligence relating to divisional criminals and crime. They liaise closely with Sub-Divisional collators and disseminate information for the benefit of the Division, the Force Criminal Intelligence Department and other specialised departments. A Field Officers' Conference is held regularly to assess current crime trends/patterns and to discuss the activities of the West Midlands criminals. Members of the department have also attended all Regional Criminal Intelligence Conferences and those held by adjoining forces to discuss common problems and travelling criminals.

Commercial Branch

The Commercial Branch conducts enquiries into various types of fraud allegedly committed by persons connected with business and public bodies. Many of the enquiries are protracted and require months of painstaking investigation before they can be brought to a successful conclusion.

The year has been one in which the earlier re-organisation of the department has been consolidated. This has resulted in increased efficiency without a large increase in personnel. Four enquiries outstanding from 1978 have been completed and the persons responsible are awaiting trial. Of the 71 enquiries outstanding from 1979, 45 have been completed, and we await a decision as to process in 10 other cases. The result is that only 16 cases from 1979 remain subject of enquiry.

During the year 55 enquiries were received from a number of sources. Of these five enquiries have been completed to a stage where persons await trial or who are awaiting a decision as to process. A further 30 enquiries were completed and have resulted in no further action or process being taken. This number is considerably fewer than in 1979, but when the liabilities of the companys' businesses or persons are looked at it is found that approximately £3,027,000 is owed to creditors. This value of property at risk far exceeds the previous year and shows that the department is now being called upon to carry out the more protracted type of enquiries.

During the course of 1980, 83 persons were either arrested or proceeded against and a total value of £994,000's worth of property was recovered. Again, there is a marked increase in the total number of persons proceeded against and total value of property recovered by officers of the department.

A total of seven enquiries was entered in the register of enquiries into allegations of corruption set up following the Royal Commission on the Standard of

Conduct in Public Life during 1980, one of which has been concluded by way of the Attorney General giving his fiat for prosecution; two enquiries have been concluded, from which a total of 11 persons await a decision as to prosecution. There are four outstanding enquiries for 1980 and one outstanding enquiry still to be completed for the year 1979. However, a file of evidence is being prepared for the Director of Public Prosecutions in respect of this latter enquiry.

Crime Prevention Department

The Crime Prevention Department is located at Police Headquarters and under the charge of a Chief Inspector, it is their responsibility to co-ordinate all aspects of crime prevention in the Force area, advise on Force policy and promote liaison between all outside bodies including Crime Prevention Panels in each of the seven district council areas.

Liaison with the media has continued, the main contact being with local press and radio. A good working relationship has been established with local journalists whereby the latter are always supplied with the most recent data in its proper context. This has the effect of helping to produce a more balanced article on the particular crime prevention topic. The link with BBC Radio Birmingham's Wednesday afternoon programme 'Home James' ended in the summer when programme schedules were altered. The 'Heart of the Nation' broadcast continues and topical crime prevention advice is dispensed. On local commercial radio contributions continued on an ad hoc basis. One such programme on BRMB was a feature on attacks on the elderly. Contributions came from the Assistant Chief Constable (Crime), members of the Crime Prevention Department and other police officers.

A total of 3,453 surveys was carried out ranging from dwelling houses to parks playgrounds. This represents an increase of 19% over the previous year and illustrates the increased awareness by the public of the service provided by the department against a background of increased crime, particularly in relation to attacks on dwelling houses. A programme of lectures to junior and senior management in industry was undertaken and included all aspects of crime prevention.

The demand for talks and lectures to schools, residents associations and other similar groups rose markedly during the year and enabled divisional crime prevention officers to extend their areas of contact with the public in a way in which they have their best chance of influencing prospective victims of crime towards a more positive crime prevention attitude of mind.

There were 39,380 visitors to the Crime Prevention Caravan during 1980. This

drop from the 1979 total of 44,110 is due mainly to the decreasing opportunities for displaying the caravan at the larger exhibitions. In the summer demand for the caravan at garden fetes and similar functions is at a high level. The larger exhibitions where the caravan was displayed included the Ideal Home Exhibition at Bingley Hall, Motoradex and Nalvex at the National Exhibition Centre. During the 1980 Motor Show two Crime Prevention Officers were on duty at the West Midlands Police Stand. The crime prevention theme was protection of motor vehicles and several display boards were loaned by the trade. These boards, which featured anti-theft devices, are now being used in the crime prevention caravan.

There are 12,696 alarm systems with remote signalling in position in the West Midlands. There are also 'Bell only' systems which are outside the scope of the Force Policy on Intruder Alarms. Of the remote signalling type of alarm the 12,696 systems generated 28,674 calls to the police. Twenty-seven thousand, five hundred and eight (96.18%) of these calls were in the false alarm category. Looking at the 1,094 genuine calls, arrests were made in only 286 (26.14%) cases. The 96.18% false call rate is a slight increase on 1979 when it was 96.02% and 1978 when it was 95.67%. It is still short of the 1977 figure of 96.56%. The problem of wastage of police resources on false calls is one which has caused concern for some years now. However, it should be borne in mind that the figures in West Midlands are better than most, if not all, other Force areas.

During the year a total of 65 alarms had police response withdrawn, a lower number than in 1979.

The work of the Crime Prevention Panels has continued during the year. An interesting innovation was the formation of a Junior Crime Prevention Panel at Walsall for local school children between the ages of 13 and 15 years. The Wolverhampton Panel are to be congratulated on winning one of the major prizes in the National Westminster Bank Crime Prevention Panels Competition. Their 'John Richards Cycle Defenders Log Book' was the only winner from within the Force area but I feel that one or two other panels were very unfortunate not to gain recognition for their entries. I am grateful to members of the public for the willing and energetic support they have given to the panels in a cause of crime prevention.

In November 1980, a seminar on vandalism was held at Coventry. The accent of this occasion was on youth and some 48 young people from local schools took part in the seminar which was held in the Council Chambers of the city's Historic Civic Hall.

From the foregoing it will be seen that there has been an increase in activity

by Crime Prevention Officers on all fronts. The relationship between activity by Crime Prevention Officers and actual crime levels has never been satisfactorily determined. Recent studies by Home Office into measurement of crime prevention effectiveness and the efficiency of crime prevention publicity may help us to spend our time and money more effectively in 1981.

Drug Squad

The Drug Squad is under the charge of a Chief Inspector and operates from a central office at Bournville with branch offices at Little Park Street, Coventry and Brierley Hill. The squad has continued to concentrate on detecting and bringing to justice of drug dealers and pedlars rather than the casual user or possessor of controlled drugs and to this end, a good and close liaison has been maintained throughout the year with other drug enforcement agencies and disciplines such as the Central Drugs and Illegal Immigration Intelligence Unit, H M Customs and Excise Department, The Home Office Drugs Branch, The Addiction Centre at All Saints Hospital, The Family Practitioner Committees, The Pharmaceutical Inspectorate, The Pharmaceutical Society, The Prison Service and Local Health Authorities. This liaison resulted in the arrest of 641 persons in connection with drug offences and although this is a reduction of 11 persons on the previous year, the figures belie the fact that in the main the offences charged were of a more serious nature than previously and the value of the drugs seized was very high.

The increase in the use of heroin throughout the country continues to cause some concern. Fifty-one persons were arrested for possessing or dealing with the drug compared with 21 persons in 1979 and three in 1978. This most dangerous drug of addiction is becoming more readily available mainly, it would appear, as a result of offences committed against chemists shops.

The drug cannabis continues to be the subject of widespread abuse notwithstanding the success in seizing enormous quantities. A total of 512 offences was dealt with, an increase of 89 over 1979.

There were 193 attacks on premises where drugs were stored, an increase of 43 on the previous year. Sixty-nine of the attacks resulted in the theft of controlled drugs. There were 573 visits made to premises to examine the registers of controlled drugs during the year. Every attempt was made to give crime prevention advice to the occupiers of the premises to combat the growing menace of the burglar who is seeking controlled drugs.

One hundred and ninety-five search warrants were issued in connection with drug offences and 140 were executed. Police dogs trained to detect drugs were

used on 32 occasions with considerable success. On one particular occasion a dog was responsible for discovering a large amount of cannabis which a physical search had failed to reveal.

Members of the Drug Squad continue to give talks on drug abuse not only to police officers under training but also to many outside bodies.

Photographic Department

The Photographic Department is staffed by civilians but has been under the direction of a Detective Inspector on a temporary basis for much of the year. The department is based at Headquarters and provides a complete photographic service to the five central divisions during the year. This service will be extended to all the Force early in 1981. The work-load increased by 30% during the year with some 77,662 colour enlargements being produced from some 3,798 scenes attended. Over 6,000 requests were made for other types of photographic reproduction. A total of 79,843 copies was made of prisoners photographed for use by police officers and for court result purposes. The Prosecuting Solicitors Department was supplied with 24,413 photographs for court purposes.

Robbery Squad

During the past 12 months, the Robbery Squad has been fully engaged enquiring into the activities of groups of professional criminals within the West Midlands area, suspected of being actively engaged committing armed robberies against the Post Office and Security Organisations.

These enquiries have met with considerable success whereby members of both the groups have been arrested and charged with offences of armed robbery and in one instance the murder of a Security Guard in the course of committing armed robbery.

During the last three months of 1980, the Squad has worked closely with officers of the Serious Crime Squad in this direction and their concerted efforts are proving successful in maintaining the impetus against this class of dangerous criminal.

Scenes of Crime Department

The departmental staff comprises both police officers and civilians trained in special 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.

A total of 41,330 scenes of crime and motor vehicles involved in crime, were examined during the year, an increase of just over 25% on the previous year. Finger impressions were found at a total of 6,442 of these scenes, an increase of just over 20% of the corresponding figure for 1979. Forensic exhibits were submitted to the Forensic Science Laboratories in 942 cases, an increase of just over 11% of the 1979 figure. In 3,039 cases photographs were taken by members of the department of scenes of crime, accidents, assaults and recovered property, an increase of almost 28% on the previous year.

Finger impressions were submitted to the Regional Fingerprint Bureau in 4,425 cases which resulted in 1,100 identifications being made.

Photo-fits were made up from witnesses descriptions in 190 cases.

The increase in the number of scenes of crime visited during the year was fairly evenly spread throughout the Force area.

Serious Crime Squad

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

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

The benefits of the squad moving to Force Headquarters late in 1979 were increasingly felt as the year progressed with a close liaison being possible with members of the Anti-Terrorist Squad and other Headquarters units, which led to the mounting of a number of large operations against organised crime. These operations proved in the main, to be highly successful and the results are reflected in the numbers of prisoners arrested, particularly those arrested in respect of offences of armed robbery, good class burglaries and large scale theft from employers.

There is some indication that professional criminals are becoming very much harder to apprehend, are not amenable to interview at any stage and make every effort to avoid conviction. Very few such prisoners had offences taken into consideration during the year. The arrest of the 356 persons by the squad represents a detection of 764 crimes in this Force area and 154 for other Forces. The property recovered has been valued at £567,400.

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

Special Branch

The officers of this department are part of the Criminal Investigation Department engaged on normal Police duties connected with the security of the State, the preservation of public order and the protection of members of the Royal Family, Heads of Government, Foreign Heads of State and other vulnerable terrorist targets visiting the West Midlands. Their duties include the prevention of criminal offences against the security of the State, the investigation of terrorist and subversive organisations, surveillance duties at Birmingham Airport, investigation of alien and immigration offences, deportations and assisting the territorial divisions in the maintenance of public order.

Subversive organisations of interest are those which fall within the generally accepted definition: 'activities which threaten 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. Details of the strength of the Branch will be found elsewhere in this report.

Whilst it is not possible to state the number of officers engaged in the areas referred to above, the majority are employed on duties at the Airport and in connection with alien and immigration enquiries, which during the year have increased owing to the computerisation of Home Office records.

Stolen Vehicle Squad

The Stolen Vehicle Squad exists to assist divisional officers who are involved with major enquiries concerning motor vehicles, to enquire into thefts, complicated frauds relating to motor vehicles and their documentation, and to examine motor vehicles on behalf of the Police, the Motor Taxation Departments, the Department of the Environment and Local Authorities.

The Headquarters of the Squad is located at Bournville Lane with branch offices at Coventry and Wolverhampton.

During the year 111 persons were arrested by officers of the squad and as a result, 77 motor vehicles and other property to a total value of £177,743 were recovered. Three hundred and seventy-two crimes have been cleared. At the request of other police officers 681 vehicles were examined and as a result, a further 190 vehicles to the value of £184,071 were identified as stolen and

recovered. A further 580 vehicles were the subject of examination or enquiry on behalf of the Public Works Department. Theft of older type vehicles continue to increase, no doubt for their spare parts value. Many of the enquiries made were in relation to the import and export of stolen vehicles and resulted in officers of the department visiting a number of European countries. One enquiry involving large scale theft and fraud relating to motor vehicles has resulted in the arrest of 12 persons for conspiracy offences relating to 39 motor vehicles which had been reported allegedly stolen.

Scientific Aid

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

Criminal Investigation	3479
Drugs	547
Traffic matters	4616
Other analysis	187
Total	8829

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

Regional Crime Intelligence Office

The offices of the Regional Crime Intelligence Office are situated at Force Headquarters. Seven officers are detached for duty with that office, their distribution by rank being as follows:-

1 Superintendent
2 Inspectors
2 Sergeants
2 Constables

Midland Regional Fingerprint Bureau

The Bureau occupies offices at Force Headquarters and 18 officers are detached for duty with that office, their distribution by rank is as follows:-

1 Chief Inspector
1 Inspector
2 Sergeants
14 Constables

Regional Crime Squad

The Regional Crime Squad has offices within the Force area at Bilston, Birmingham and Coventry. Its main function is the investigation and curtailment of organised crime and it liaises with other regional squads and offices as well as crime squads throughout the country. At the end of the year 49 officers were seconded from the Force for duty with the squad, their distribution by rank is as follows:-

2 Chief Inspectors
1 Inspector
21 Sergeants
25 Constables

Technical Support Unit

This is a regional support unit which is sited at Lloyd House and staffed by this Force. Three officers are attached for duty with the unit. They comprise:-

1 Inspector
2 Constables

Additionally, there is a Professional and Technology Officer seconded to the unit from the Police Scientific Development Branch.

During the year a total of 902 requests was made for 2,160 items of equipment from all the contributors. Of these 587 requests were made by West Midlands officers which led to the issue of 1,288 items of equipment which contributed to 716 arrests.

Chapter V
Proceedings

PROCEEDINGS

During the year proceedings were initiated against 129,372 persons in respect of offences committed.

ANALYSIS OF OFFENCES

The number of persons prosecuted was as follows:-

OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR "EITHER WAY"	28,154
DRUNKENNESS OFFENCES	6,762
OTHER OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY	17,180
MOTORING OFFENCES	77,276
TOTAL	129,372

OFFENCES TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR "EITHER WAY"

In addition to those prosecuted, 6,421 persons, including 5,156 juveniles were, cautioned for offences triable on indictment or "either way". Details are set out in Table 'A'.

OFFENCES TRIABLE SUMMARILY ONLY

In addition to those prosecuted, 2,005 persons, including 747 juveniles were cautioned for offences triable summarily only. Details are set out in Table 'B'.

MOTORING OFFENCES

In addition to those prosecuted, 12,976 persons, including 548 juveniles, were cautioned for motoring offences. Details are set out in Table 'C'.

**PERSONS PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR OFFENCES
TRIABLE ON INDICTMENT OR EITHER WAY** **TABLE 'A'**

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Murder	38	40	—	—
Attempt Murder	3	6	—	—
Threats to Murder	6	6	—	—
Manslaughter	11	12	—	—
Death by Dangerous Driving	8	11	—	—
Wounding Section 18	348	486	4	4
Wounding Section 20/47	2953	3886	218	222
Possess Offensive Weapon	525	721	8	9
Buggery	17	36	2	2
Indecent Assault Male	25	77	3	3
Indecency with Males	170	193	20	20
Rape	52	71	—	—
Indecent Assault Female	169	263	84	97
USI — Girl under 13 years	4	8	5	6
USI — Girl 13 - 16 years	48	70	141	150
Incest	9	39	—	—
Bigamy	4	6	5	5
Other Offences against the Person	286	403	4	4
Burglary Dwelling	1323	2364	154	183
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	35	49	—	—
Burglary Other Buildings	3316	5484	640	772
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	21	28	1	1
Going Equipped for Stealing	198	553	21	23
Robbery	278	459	18	19
Assault with Intent to Rob	33	50	—	—
Blackmail	12	15	6	7
Kidnapping	5	16	4	4
Theft from the Person	13	25	13	13
Theft in a Dwelling	27	38	88	98
Theft by Employee	852	1371	46	49
Theft of Mailbags	13	32	—	—
Theft of Electricity	309	381	23	23
Theft of Pedal Cycle	285	485	146	164
Theft from Vehicles	331	648	231	724
Theft Shops and Stalls	4420	6176	3160	5633
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	124	175	36	37
Theft of Motor Vehicles	329	640	56	60
Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicles	2543	4188	157	164
Other Thefts	4065	6595	789	935
False Accounting	30	237	2	2
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	1226	2518	87	90
Handling Stolen Property	1281	2198	135	204
Arson	135	197	24	24
Criminal Damage	464	1235	30	30
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	189	663	20	22
Affray	85	124	2	2
Indecency with Children	17	56	1	1
Misuse of Drugs	361	697	6	6
Firearms Offences	24	57	2	2
Other Offences not shown separately	1134	2616	29	41
TOTALS	28154	46704	6421	9855

**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.	92	120	—	—
Assaulting a Police Officer	411	546	—	—
Obstructing a Police Officer	146	178	3	4
Other Assaults	107	120	—	—
Betting, Gaming and Lotteries	15	20	2	2
Brothel Keeping	20	29	—	—
Cruelty to Animals	38	58	—	—
Offences in Relation to Dogs	63	120	324	364
Education Acts	246	311	—	—
Firearms Acts	244	346	80	111
Highways Acts	353	446	165	181
Pedal Cycle Offences	230	360	349	470
Indecent Exposure	118	172	6	7
Simple Drunkenness	2535	2735	8	8
Drunk and Disorderly	4227	4582	4	4
Offences by Licensed Persons	66	317	14	18
Other Offences Relating to Licensing Laws	223	517	50	70
Labour Laws	17	24	—	—
Criminal Damage (under £200)	2688	2855	345	352
Social Security Offences	1253	2480	—	—
Naval, Military and Air Force Laws	21	23	—	—
Disorderly Behaviour	985	1043	31	34
Prostitution	620	1166	365	371
Public Health Acts	427	1528	11	11
Railway Offences	852	1003	—	—
Revenue Laws	2870	4195	93	167
Stage Carriage and Public Service Vehicles	305	459	16	17
Offences in Relation to Shops	20	34	—	—
Vagrancy Acts	249	263	29	29
Weights and Measures Acts	27	76	1	1
Immigration Act	33	39	—	—
Other Offences not shown separately	4441	5061	109	114
TOTALS	23942	31226	2005	2335

**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	3458	4350	2	5
Dangerous Driving	217	339	1	1
Speeding	23794	24756	326	334
Motorway Offences	611	733	304	310
Careless Driving	7129	8956	749	801
Prohibited Driving	734	991	383	416
Neglect of Traffic Directions	6475	8515	1800	1844
Obstruction, Waiting and Parking Place Offences	3811	4959	580	645
Lighting Offences	1794	7384	2864	3985
Dangerous Condition	4683	8646	721	875
Defective Condition	396	2428	289	537
Trailer Offences	6	21	11	13
Motor Cycle Offences	224	789	131	222
Load Offences	1447	2454	246	335
Noise Offences	236	619	143	166
Driving Licence Offences	6150	19444	1798	2393
'Operators' Licence Offences	108	291	43	90
Insurance Offences	7102	13629	378	1035
Registration and Licensing Offences	4366	9745	974	1248
Work Record and Employment Offences	742	2676	288	424
Accident Offences	509	3475	87	140
Vehicle Testing Offences	1587	9569	782	1448
Racing on Highway Offences	—	3	2	2
Miscellaneous Offences	1697	3300	74	134
TOTALS	77276	138072	12976	17403

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

A total of 3,458 persons committed 4,350 offences in connection with drink and driving in 1980 as follows:-

	Persons		Offences	
	1980	1979	1980	1979
Driving a motor vehicle with excess alcohol in the body	3018	2319	3179	2409
Failing or refusing to provide a specimen	372	375	1087	973
In charge of a motor vehicle whilst having excess alcohol in the body	68	80	84	88

DRUNKENNESS AND KINDRED OFFENCES

A total of 6,762 persons committed 7,317 offences of drunkenness during the year, and in 349 of those cases the offenders were under the age of 18 years. In the same period 246 persons under the age of 18 were proceeded against for consuming or purchasing intoxicating liquor.

Conduct of Licensed Premises

A total of 66 Licensees or their servants was prosecuted for 317 offences against the licensing laws during the year.

ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS

There was an increase of 100 in the total number of police officers who were assaulted whilst on duty from 1,004 in 1979 to 1,104 in 1980. The number of serious assaults rose from 489 to 558 and included 76 assaults on women police officers.

Serious Assaults

A breakdown of the 558 serious assaults is given below:-

Attempt Murder	2
Threats to Murder	2
Wounding Section 18	23
Wounding Section 20	64
Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm	433
Assault with intent to resist arrest	21
Possess firearm with intent to resist arrest	1
Others	12

Assaults — Section 51, Police Act 1964

Persons who were prosecuted under Section 51, Police Act 1964 for the 546 less serious assaults on police officers were dealt with as follows:-

Disposal	Persons
Fined	214
Committed to Prison	37
Withdrawn or dismissed	93
Probation Order	21
Conditional Discharge	18
Borstal Training	12
Suspended Sentence	45
Otherwise dealt with	92
Pending	14

JUVENILE OFFENDERS

In 1980, 5,810 Juveniles were prosecuted for Offences Triable on Indictment or "Either Way", 1,554 for Offences Triable Summarily Only, and 1,083 for Motoring Offences

During the year 5,156 juveniles were cautioned for Offences Triable on Indictment or "Either Way", 747 for Offences Triable Summarily Only, and 548 for Motoring Offences.

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

Offences Triable on Indictment or "Either Way"

	1979	1980	Increase/Decrease	
Offences	8795	10173	+ 1378	(15.7%)
Juveniles Prosecuted	4939	5810	+ 871	(17.6%)
Juveniles Cautioned	5249	5156	- 93	(1.8%)

Offences Triable Summarily Only

	1979	1980	Increase/Decrease	
Offences	1801	1949	+ 148	(8.2%)
Juveniles Prosecuted	1465	1554	+ 89	(6.1%)
Juveniles Cautioned	647	747	+ 100	(15.5%)

Motoring Offences

	1979	1980	Increase/Decrease	
Offences	2678	2633	- 45	(1.7%)
Juveniles Prosecuted	1089	1083	- 6	(0.6%)
Juveniles Cautioned	438	548	+ 110	(25.1%)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROSECUTING SOLICITOR

Substantial progress has been made in the course of the year towards the achievement of objectives set for the Prosecuting Solicitor's Service in the long term. Difficulties experienced in recruitment, in-house training and in creation of settled Area Solicitor's teams have been largely overcome. The calibre of entrants into the service in 1980 has been of a high quality and from the position where on the 1 January 1980 only 45 prosecuting solicitors were in post, by 31 December 1980, 51 were in post with the remaining five taking up post by mid-January 1981.

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

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Murder	—	1	—	—
Manslaughter	1	1	—	—
Wounding Section 18	30	46	3	3
Wounding Section 20/47	422	558	172	176
Possess Offensive Weapon	81	118	8	9
Buggery	—	—	1	1
Indecent Assault Male	4	9	1	1
Indecency with Males	—	—	9	9
Rape	5	8	—	—
Indecent Assault Female	28	39	60	71
USI — Girl under 13 years	—	—	5	6
USI — Girl 13 - 16 years	4	4	58	63
Other Offences against the Person	23	39	—	—
Burglary Dwelling	513	944	149	178
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	1	3	—	—
Burglary Other Buildings	1359	2329	622	753
Aggravated Burglary Other Buildings	2	2	—	—
Going Equipped for Stealing	41	128	18	20
Robbery	75	127	17	18
Assault with intent to Rob	5	13	—	—
Blackmail	5	7	4	5
Theft from the person	5	9	12	12
Theft in a Dwelling	5	9	69	79
Theft by Employee	13	21	28	28
Theft of Mailbags	4	7	—	—
Theft of Electricity	4	5	1	1
Theft of Pedal Cycle	194	339	142	158
Theft from Vehicles	62	127	211	704
Theft Shops and Stalls	637	1054	2451	4798
Theft Automatic Machines and Meters	9	15	22	22
Theft of Motor Vehicles	78	150	53	57
Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicles	663	1215	141	148
Other Thefts	978	1711	675	821
False Accounting	—	2	—	—
Obtaining by Deception and Other Frauds	43	128	42	43
Handling Stolen Property	310	492	125	193
Arson	67	99	24	24
Criminal Damage	71	237	27	27
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	9	46	2	2
Affray	7	11	2	2
Indecency with Children	1	2	—	—
Misuse of Drugs	8	8	1	1
Firearms Offences	—	—	1	1
Other Offences not shown separately	43	110	—	—
TOTALS	5810	10173	5156	8434

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	34	—	—
Obstructing a Police Officer	13	16	—	—
Other Assaults	11	11	—	—
Cruelty to Animals	2	4	—	—
Offences in Relation to Dogs	1	8	4	5
Firearms Acts	95	165	55	86
Highways Acts	31	48	24	29
Pedal Cycle Offences	75	117	232	336
Indecent Exposure	10	15	3	3
Simple Drunkenness	24	26	6	6
Drunk and Disorderly	77	87	3	3
Other Offences Relating to Licensing Laws	41	73	26	35
Criminal Damage (under £200)	461	492	275	281
Social Security Offences	2	2	—	—
Disorderly Behaviour	91	100	16	16
Prostitution	20	58	20	20
Public Health Acts	1	1	—	—
Railway Offences	173	215	—	—
Revenue Laws	1	32	2	3
Stage Carriage and Public Service Vehicles	8	11	1	1
Vagrancy Acts	59	60	28	28
Other Offences not shown separately	332	374	52	52
TOTALS	1554	1949	747	904

JUVENILES PROSECUTED AND CAUTIONED FOR MOTORING OFFENCES TABLE 'F'

OFFENCE	PROSECUTIONS		CAUTIONS	
	Persons	Total Offences	Persons	Total Offences
Unfit to Drive Through Drink and Drugs	8	9	—	—
Dangerous Driving	7	16	1	1
Speeding	9	12	11	12
Motorway Offences	—	1	2	4
Careless Driving	34	70	8	11
Prohibited Driving	67	98	90	99
Neglect of Traffic Directions	15	41	27	28
Obstruction, Waiting and Parking Place Offences	1	1	1	1
Lighting Offences	6	92	34	96
Dangerous Condition	10	46	11	37
Defective Condition	7	40	3	25
Motor Cycle Offences	28	159	41	107
Load Offences	—	—	3	3
Noise Offences	6	18	2	7
Driving Licence Offences	423	904	273	372
Insurance Offences	448	846	25	84
Registration and Licensing Offences	5	107	10	37
Accident Offences	—	27	—	—
Vehicle Testing Offences	5	121	5	46
Miscellaneous Offences	4	25	1	4
TOTALS	1083	2633	548	974

A successful series of internal lectures and other methods of training and updating solicitors has taken place throughout the area and this, taken together with the settling of solicitors into the area teams, has led to a marked improvement not only in professional capabilities but also in that most important adjunct, morale.

By the end of the year, five solicitors had been allocated from the combined Wolverhampton, Walsall and Aldridge team to accommodation in Walsall Divisional Police Station and two solicitors from the combined Birmingham/Sutton Coldfield team are, in the early part of 1981, to take up accommodation in the Sutton Coldfield Sub-Divisional Police Station. These two moves finalise the present plans for location of prosecuting solicitors throughout the County area. Certain adjustments of support staff establishment have been necessary and this has had to be achieved by the surrender of posts outside Birmingham to create additional support staff for the Birmingham team. The principal difficulty encountered during the year was in the need to devise new systems for the control of the enormous inflow of paper into the Birmingham area office whether by way of police files or otherwise resultant from the service taking over on 1 October 1979, the responsibility for the prosecution of all police cases excluding 1957 Magistrates' Courts Act cases in the Victoria Law Courts. The whole exercise was greatly complicated by the fact that, historically – and indeed uniquely in this country – the service is responsible for the listing of all police cases in the Victoria Law Courts. With the co-operation of County O and M Section and a quite splendid response from all staff in the Birmingham team it would appear that all these administrative difficulties have now been very satisfactorily overcome. The position was not helped by the absence of a Central Police Prosecutions Department for the City of Birmingham and the service looks forward to the establishment of that Department in the Spring of 1981. An Inspector was seconded as Police Liaison Officer to the Birmingham team and her presence was invaluable during this most difficult period.

1980 has been a year of very substantial progress. There have been further improvements in administrative arrangements in the provision of a photocopier to the Area 4 team based at Brierley Hill and in the Spring of 1981 a further machine will be provided to the Coventry team. Difficulties over telephone communication with the staff based at Dale House have been resolved by the linking of Dale House with the County Hall I.B.M. Computer.

A scale of costs has been successfully negotiated with each of the Magistrates' Clerks throughout the West Midlands County and came into operation on 1 January 1980. There is, however, no ground for complacency financially or otherwise. Inflation, in all its aspects, will require cost recovery to be kept under constant review. Full establishment of solicitors will still not permit the

total replacement of solicitors in private practice and/or Counsel instructed on an ad hoc basis or police officer advocates due to two factors. The first is that when the present establishment was agreed, no allowance was given for the incidence of leave or sickness and, spread over every working day of the year, six or seven solicitors are entitled to leave. Additionally, two solicitors have been away for a substantial period on maternity leave. The second factor is that there has been an increase in the number of Petty Sessional Court sittings since the present establishment was agreed.

In conclusion, while the liaison and understanding between the service and police officers of all ranks is good and continues to improve, there is still in particular a great deal of work to be done to ensure earlier submission of police files for advice and early perusal before court proceedings. In this regard it is planned that during 1981 there should be a substantial increase in the assistance provided on each Police Division by way of lecturing and generally explaining the role and functions of the Prosecuting Solicitor Service, and thereby assisting in ensuring that all relevant information is conveyed to the service in good time so that the Chief Constable can be fully advised on all legal issues.

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. A feasibility study was carried out during the year to ascertain whether a central prosecutions department in the Birmingham Petty Sessional area was practicable. Further work remains to be completed in relation to the study during the early part of 1981.

SERVICE OF SUMMONS

A total of 153,481 summonses has been served within the Force area during the year.

EXECUTION OF WARRANTS

A total of 49,469 warrants has been executed during the year which included 8,670 warrants executed on behalf of other police forces. The monies collected by the Warrants Department totalled £899,934.79.

H M CORONERS DEPARTMENT

There are nine Coroners situated throughout the Force area. The Coroner for Birmingham is a full time appointment whereas the remainder are employed on a part time basis.

There were 9,743 reported deaths during the year. Post mortem examinations were carried out in 7,074 cases and 1,239 inquests were held, distributed as shown hereunder:-

Division	Deaths Reported	Post Mortems	Inquests
B	1203	720	161
C	823	502	121
D	849	567	99
E	1114	696	143
F	462	304	87
G	732	630	108
H	840	829	93
J	1084	849	169
K	1002	673	76
L	283	283	57
M	1351	1021	125

Chapter VI

Traffic

TRAFFIC DIVISION

The Traffic Division comprises four Sub-Divisions, Western, Eastern, Central and Motorway. Its resources are controlled centrally from the Force Traffic Control Room at Perry Barr which is linked with the Central Control Room at Bournville. The allocation of police personnel in the Division is as follows:-

	Ch. Supt.	Supt.	Ch. Insp.	Insp.	Sgt.	Cons.
Headquarters	1	2	2	8	7	21
Central	—	1	1	5	15	104
Western	—	1	1	5	17	92
Eastern	—	1	1	4	10	61
Motorway	—	1	1	5	8	47
Actual Strength	1	6	6	27	57	325
Authorised Strength	1	6	7	28	67	437
Vacancies	—	—	1	1	10	112

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

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

Mileage and Roads

There is a total of 3,972 miles of road within the County, which includes 42 miles of motorway, 52 miles of trunk road and 350 miles of principal road.

Deployment of Traffic Patrols

In addition to fulfilling its own specialist role, the Traffic Division has continued to provide support to territorial divisions on such occasions as National Front and other political or ethnic demonstrations and marches, Motor Cycle Action Group gatherings, the Motor Show and many other events held throughout the County.

CONTINUED

1 OF 2

Traffic Division officers dealt specifically with the following matters:-

Arrests	
Crime	738
Drink/Driving	1371
Others	448
Total	2557
Accidents	
4871	
Offences	
Reckless and Careless Driving	2365
Construction and Use Regulations	12035
Motorway Regulations	1193
Others (Lighting, Pedestrian Crossing, Obstructions, etc)	40120
Speed - VASCAR	820
Radar (PETA)	2576
Radar (Kustom Hand-Held)	13134
Truvelo	1482
Speedometer Checks	7850
Parking on Footway	91
Total	81666
Fixed Penalty Tickets	
(Not included in totals)	5252

Motorways

The Motorway Sub-Division is responsible for patrolling the M5, M6 and M42 Motorways, and the Aston Expressway (A38M) within the Force area. This network of motorways is one of the busiest in Europe with daily traffic flows during busy periods totalling over a quarter of a million vehicles. This volume is such that a minor accident or temporary obstruction of any sort can result in serious congestion and a tailback of traffic.

The close proximity of the junctions and the busy urban roads to which they give access, increases the peak-hour problems. Our policy is always to deal with emergency obstructions with the utmost urgency to restore a free flow of traffic with the least possible delay. To this end, the availability of 21 closed circuit TV cameras and the gantry signalling system are essential aids to the

patrol crews and Control Room staff in maintaining traffic flows and taking the necessary action where such incidents occur.

Despite the ever increasing volume of traffic, calls for assistance from motorists fell from 22,161 in 1979 to 19,300 in 1980. It is still surprising, however, that so many people run out of petrol on the motorways. A total of 696 accidents was reported during 1980; a welcome decrease of 121 from the 1979 figures. Fortunately, the number of seriously injured casualties in these accidents remains comparatively low and there were only three fatalities during the year. All too many of the accidents dealt with indicate that motorway drivers are continuing to drive "too fast and too close" and court action is taken against offending drivers in all suitable cases.

During the year a total of 8,526 persons was reported for process and 240 persons were arrested by motorway officers. Of the 240 arrests, 188 were for drink/driving offences.

SPEED DETECTION DEVICES

A variety of speed detection devices are in use throughout the County and operated by Traffic Division officers in uniform.

Truvelo

1980 saw the introduction in the Force of the Truvelo Speed Meter which is a road side timing device using co-axial cables laid across the road surface. Six of these meter are now in use and a total of 1,482 offenders were detected by this method during the year.

Kustom HR4 Hand-held Radar

A further eight devices were taken into use during the year bringing our total to 14. These devices were in the forefront of our campaign against those drivers who blatantly ignore speed limits and 13,134 offenders were reported for offences detected by this equipment.

PETA Road-side Radar

This was the first type of radar meter ever used by police and it has given good and reliable service since the 1950's. The introduction of Truvelo and the increased use of hand-held radar, however, led to a reduction by 66% to 2,576 offenders detected by this means. The Home Office has indicated that the devices will be withdrawn during 1981.

VASCAR

Patrol cars fitted with VASCAR units detected a total of 820 offenders during the year. This is a slight increase on 1979 but the introduction of other devices with their greater flexibility does mean that this equipment has, to some extent, been superseded.

Despite the introduction of sophisticated technical aids to speed detection, the number of speeding motorists detected by the traditional method of being checked by a following police vehicle over a measured distance, continues to rise. These checks are carried out by clearly marked vehicles over at least 3/10 of a mile and the figure of 7,850 offenders is one indication just how many drivers pay insufficient attention to their driving.

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	1442
Broken Down Vehicles etc.	966
Local Removals	1277
Motorway Removals	72
Vehicles Impounded	571

On 634 occasions officers were able to assist drivers without effecting a vehicle removal.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT VEHICLE CHECKS

Traffic Division officers assisted Department examiners with roadside checks on 67 occasions. Officers from the Motorway Sub-Division assisted the Department with "silent checks" where offenders were detected for later enquiries by the Department. Assistance was also given in a County wide survey carried out on behalf of the Department in connection with the use of seat belts.

POLICE VEHICLE EXAMINERS

All Traffic Patrol Officers are authorised under Section 53 of the Road Traffic Act 1972 to test motor vehicles. Detecting unroadworthy vehicles has a positive part to play in road safety and during the year a total of 12,035 offences, relating to the construction and use of motor vehicles, was detected.

In addition to in-force training a total of 29 officers attended Motor Vehicle Construction and Use Courses at Wulfrun and Handsworth Technical Colleges and 28 were successful in obtaining a City and Guilds Certificate.

Twenty-four traffic officers also attended the Special Brakes Course at Automotive Products Service School during the year. These courses serve to increase officers' technical knowledge and enable them to carry out their specialist role more effectively.

ABNORMAL LOADS

During 1980 the Routeing Section received and processed notifications from 1,845 hauliers for the movement of 24,685 abnormal loads of which 2,916 were of such dimensions as to require a police escort. This figure is considerably down on that for 1979. There was a slight increase from 61 to 72 in the number of special order movements requiring the authority of the Department of Transport, all of which required careful planning due to their excessive dimensions.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The involvement by police in traffic management ranges from the planning of major road schemes to the simple re-siting of a 'bus stop and requires the co-ordinated efforts of the police and local authorities in consultation with other interested bodies and agencies. It is hoped that the introduction of the post of Chief Inspector, Traffic Management, early in 1981, will enable the subject to be dealt with more effectively throughout the Force area.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

The Force Fleet of 1013 vehicles is made up as follows:-

Area Cars	67
Unit Beat Cars	210
Traffic Patrol Cars	30
Traffic Patrol Cycles	98
Traffic Patrol Land Rovers	5
Recovery Land Rovers	3
Motorway Patrol vehicles	16
Radar Cars	6
Staff Cars	8
Driving Instruction vehicles	69
Divisional General Purpose vehicles	70

Divisional Dog vehicles	36
Divisional Personnel Carriers	13
Divisional Enquiries—Motor Cycles	55
CID Operational vehicles	97
Force Crime Squad vehicles	14
Force Support Unit	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	12
Vice Squad/Drug Squad vehicles	6
Prison Vans	9
Clothing Store vehicles	3
Found Property Vans	2
Traffic Wardens Department Vans	4
Summons and Warrant Department vehicles	6
Underwater Search Van	1
Catering Department	1
Road Safety Department vehicle	1
Garage Reserve vehicles	59
Airport vehicles	2
Regional Crime Squad vehicles	39
Technical Support Unit vehicles	3
Force Communication vehicle	1

The total mileage incurred by the vehicles was 15,675,500.

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

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

Replacement of Vehicles

Vehicles are replaced on the recommendations of the Chief Engineers based at the main garages. It is decided according to age, mileage and condition and is in accordance with Home Office recommendations.

Computer — Vehicle Records

The Management Services Department are presently working upon a scheme to record all Transport Department records relating to police fleet vehicles on the computer.

ACCIDENT RECORDS

The Accident Records Department is responsible for the administration of all accident records. On 1 January 1980 a new system of accident recording and new accident statistical forms for injury accidents were introduced. This has enabled Accident Report Books to remain on Divisions until such time as all enquiries and/or proceedings are completed.

The Accident Recording Department during the year supplied 6,370 abstracts and accident reports to interested parties and 19,164 items of correspondence were sent from the office. Seventy-seven interviews with police officers to assist Solicitors with claims were arranged and 46 sets of accident photographs were supplied. Charges were made for most of these services which produced an income of £96,498.00.

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Accident Investigation Unit is primarily a training unit for training traffic personnel of this and other forces in accident investigation techniques. Additionally, the Unit has a supplemental operational role for attending the more serious road accident or assisting trained officers where assistance is required.

During the year 57 local officers and 73 officers from other UK police forces have been trained to advanced or standard level. A course for the Prosecuting Solicitors of the force was also conducted to familiarise them with the major principles involved and to help alleviate some of the problems of Court presentation of this type of evidence. Discussions are taking place at the present time to establish a City and Guilds qualification for officers completing an Advanced Course.

During the year, 80 accidents have been effectively reconstructed and case papers prepared for Court.

A large number of plans have been drawn by investigators by the method taught on Accident Investigation Courses. These have been well received and both Magistrates' and Coroners' Courts have commented on their usefulness.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS

The police have continued to administer, supervise, recruit and train school crossing patrols with the County Surveyor being responsible for the authorisation of sites. The number of patrols authorised is 1,054, although there is a recruitment ceiling presently at 1,010. At the end of the year there was a total of 990 patrols employed, the vacancies being mainly due to the extreme difficulties experienced in some areas in finding suitable persons to fill the posts.

ROAD SAFETY

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

Pre-School and Play Groups	89
Infant Schools	613
Junior and Middle Schools	912
Senior Schools	253

In addition Road Safety Officers visited 142 Youth Clubs and 189 Adult Groups, mainly Senior Citizens and assistance was given at 51 Road Safety Exhibitions.

ACCIDENTS INVOLVING POLICE VEHICLES

There was again a welcome reduction in the number of accidents involving police vehicles which totalled 1,305. Of these, police drivers were deemed to be blameworthy in 333 cases (190 on roads). The miles travelled per blame-worthy accident on roads was 82,502 compared with 71,367 in 1979.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO POLICE VEHICLES

There were 94 cases of criminal damage to police vehicles which is a decrease of 45. Thirty-three persons were arrested during the year and dealt with for offences relating to criminal damage to police vehicles.

TRAFFIC WARDENS

The authorised establishment of the Traffic Warden's Department is 688. At the end of the year the actual strength was 229 which is an increase of one on the previous year.

The number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued was 122,666.

Paid within 21 days	30,497
Paid later	27,046
Not Paid	
Cautioned	3,845
Diplomatic Privilege	2
Visitors to UK	108
Traffic Wardens resigned	36
Error on Ticket	293
Driver not Traced	4,964
Cancelled for other reasons	5,515
Process instituted	1,364
Enquiries outstanding at end of year	48,996
Total	122,666

The number of Excess Charge Notices issued was 23,900.

Paid	20,369
Process Instituted	620
Enquiries outstanding	2,911
Total	23,900

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

Birmingham Central Zone	222
Birmingham Inner Zone	1,022
Birmingham Outer Zone	1,980
Wolverhampton	562

ROAD ACCIDENTS

During the year 31,594 accidents were reported to the police. This is an increase of 267 (0.85%) over the previous year. 10,296 involved some degree of personal injury an increase of 48 (0.5%).

However, there was a decrease of 26 (11.9%) in fatalities from 219 to 193 whilst the total number of casualties increased from 12,789 to 12,935 (1.0%).

Accidents reported

Fatal	186
Serious	3,033
Slight	7,077
Damage only	18,736
Dogs	2,562
Total	31,594

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

Injury Accidents: By Severity and Police Division 1980

TABLE 'A'

Division	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	Total
Fatal	24	13	23	16	6	16	15	16	17	16	24	186
Serious	323	209	275	238	103	318	216	311	329	230	481	3033
Slight	835	507	770	865	389	633	684	664	685	385	660	7077
Totals	1182	729	1068	1119	498	967	915	991	1031	631	1165	10296

Casualties: By Severity of Injury and Police Division 1980

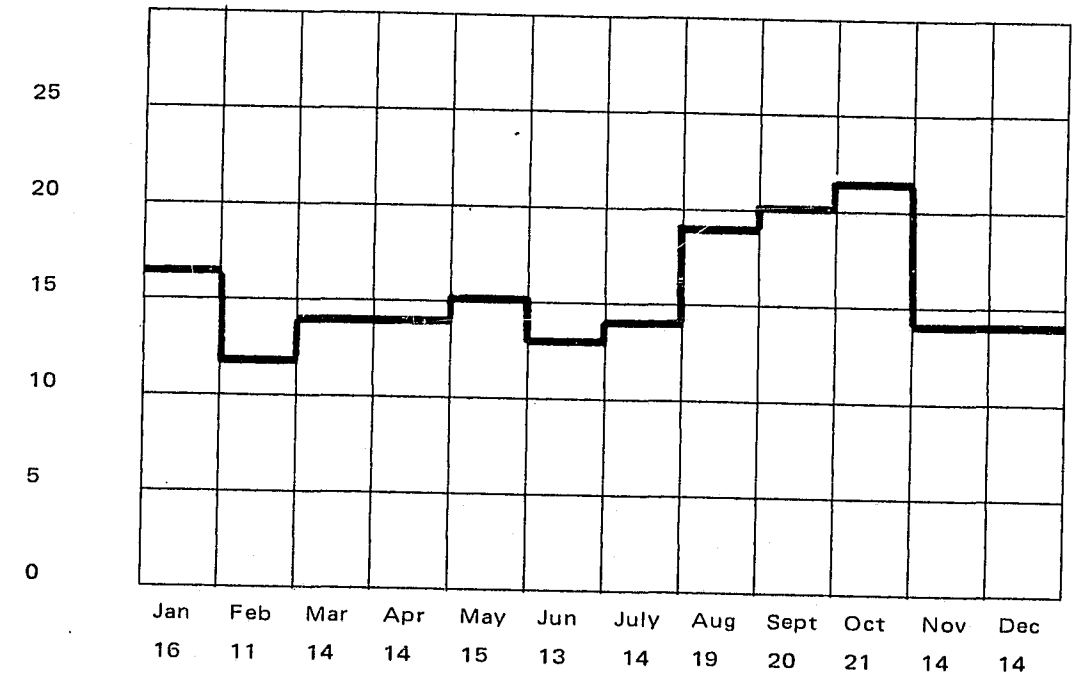
TABLE 'B'

Division	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	Total
Fatal	26	13	24	16	6	16	15	17	18	16	26	193
Serious	400	246	327	268	116	359	260	364	401	281	581	3603
Slight	1063	682	997	1064	490	827	892	870	918	523	813	9139
Totals	1489	941	1348	1348	612	1202	1167	1251	1337	820	1420	12935

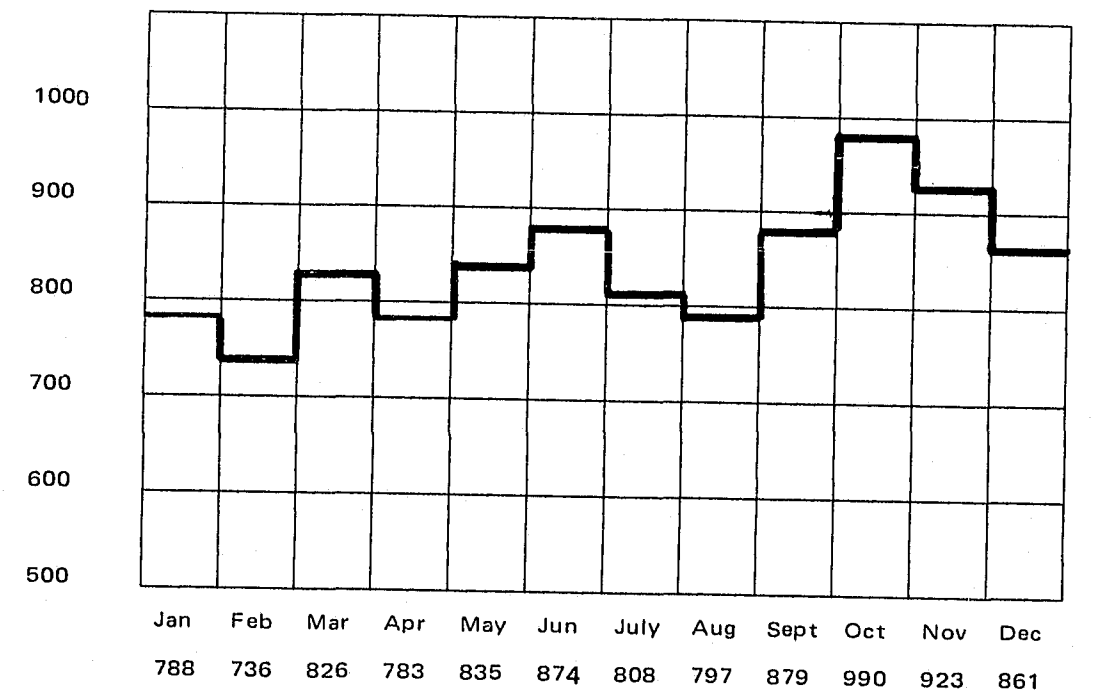
TABLE 'C'

Incidence of accidents month by month for the year 1980.

Fatal



Injury



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

TABLE 'D'

HOURS	FATAL	INJURY		TOTAL
		SERIOUS	SLIGHT	
0000 to 0100	4	94	123	221
0100 to 0200	4	37	77	118
0200 to 0300	5	42	76	123
0300 to 0400	1	20	40	61
0400 to 0500	2	10	21	33
0500 to 0600	0	11	30	41
0600 to 0700	1	37	51	89
0700 to 0800	8	110	262	380
0800 to 0900	1	158	541	700
0900 to 1000	3	83	262	348
1000 to 1100	5	99	229	333
1100 to 1200	9	101	319	429
1200 to 1300	6	130	426	562
1300 to 1400	11	160	450	621
1400 to 1500	6	144	411	561
1500 to 1600	13	220	540	773
1600 to 1700	14	293	638	945
1700 to 1800	19	292	630	941
1800 to 1900	7	158	416	581
1900 to 2000	9	173	357	539
2000 to 2100	8	123	274	405
2100 to 2200	14	106	235	355
2200 to 2300	11	163	265	439
2300 to 2400	24	264	398	686
Totals	185	3028	7071	10284

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

TABLE 'E'

TYPE OF VEHICLE	FATAL	INJURY		TOTAL
		SERIOUS	SLIGHT	
Pedal Cycle	11	198	687	896
Mopeds	1	97	233	331
Motor Scooters	0	28	55	83
Motor Cycles	41	771	1266	2078
Cars and Taxis	154	2946	7384	10484
Public Service Vehicles	13	115	412	540
Goods vehicles under 1½ tons u.w.	15	281	679	975
Goods vehicles over 1½ tons u.w.	16	150	354	520
*Other Motor Vehicles	6	98	358	462
Other Non-Motor Vehicles	0	2	3	5
TOTALS	257	4686	11431	16374

*Includes unknown vehicles.

Chapter VII

Communications

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The establishment of the Communications Department is one Chief Superintendent, two Superintendents, six Chief Inspectors, five Inspectors, two Sergeants and 28 Constables, the formerly supernumerary post of Chief Superintendent having been approved as permanent by Home Office during the year. In addition, the department has 156 civilian members who are employed on a variety of duties such as Control Room Operators, PNC Operators, and Radio Operators as well as on a variety of administrative and clerical duties.

Members of the department regularly attend divisional and departmental conferences in order to encourage ideas and recommendations from the Force as well as to give details of future planning.

Command and Control System

The computerised Command and Control System moved a stage nearer completion with the commissioning of new electronic telephone exchanges at Force Headquarters and at 'B' Division Headquarters, Bournville. The final stage of the project will include a private automatic telephone exchange at 'M' Division Headquarters, Little Park Street, Coventry, which will complete automatic desk to desk dialling facilities throughout the Force. This will be in operation early in 1981.

The System continues to provide an excellent service with users at every level offering useful suggestions on development and improvements. A new civilian post of Senior Software Analyst/Communications Programmer was added to the Force establishment during the year to enable the Force to enhance and modify the System 'in-house'. A Force wide computer users group comprising representatives of the Staff Associations, Communications Department and the Computer Section meets regularly to assess the merit of the many suggested enhancements and to establish a priority rating for those considered operationally beneficial. An indication of the success of the system can perhaps be gauged by the continuing interest shown by a considerable number of people who visit Bournville from all over the World.

The Command and Control computer is showing a high level of reliability with a 'down-time' of only 0.03%. When it is considered that the system is used 24 hours daily, every day of the year, the level of reliability is very satisfactory.

Radio

UHF and VHF radio communication has continued to work well and Home Office Directorate of Telecommunications has maintained the equipment to a high standard. The previously identified health and safety problems concerning access to certain UHF sites are now being resolved. A specification for new radio sets has been agreed at Home Office level following consultation with all forces. A considerable amount of planning will be necessary following a recommendation of WARC (World Administration Radio Conference) which stipulates that most, if not all, of our present VHF radio bands will need to be vacated in favour of general radio broadcasts in the late 1980's. However any changes required will not be to the detriment of individual users.

Surveys to monitor coverage, especially in the Western area of the Force, are continuing. Generally, UHF coverage of football matches and other similar events has continued to improve throughout the year and the Communications Department is now able to respond well to any requests for specialist equipment.

Telephones

Following considerable planning and close co-operation with British Telecommunications, Home Office Directorate of Telecommunications, Messrs Plessey and Messrs Telephone Rentals Limited, a major change in the Force telephone network, incorporating two electronic exchanges and advanced tandem switching, took place during the year. As mentioned previously, the installations concerned were Force Headquarters and the Divisional Headquarters at Bournville.

Teleprinters

The Force teleprinter network continues to work satisfactorily. Integrated with the Command and Control System, the computer acts as a message switcher providing an automatic 'store-and-forward' capability for messages. Acoustic hoods have been fitted to machines where necessary in order to reduce the level of noise at operator points.

Force Control Room

The Force Control Room at Bournville Lane Police Station is reaching the end of its second year in operation. It continues to be a communications show-piece and receives many groups of visitors interested in control room technology. Public relations visits are also encouraged and three evenings are set aside each week to cater for such visits.

Police National Computer

The Force was again invited to assist in the presentation of a tape/slide display in April 1980 at the National Exhibition Centre during the Communications '80 Exhibition. An additional facility was added to PNC during the year when the disqualified drivers index went 'live'. This Force is responsible for some 7,000 disqualified driver records and all up-dating is carried out by the Force PNC Bureau. The Command and Control interface with PNC is widely used and in excess of one million transactions were carried out in 1980. This represents a 10.77% increase over the number in 1979 — a clear indication of the level of confidence now placed in the system by operational police officers.

The old style data printers have now been withdrawn from service having been replaced by fast printer/tape machines. These are sited at the Force Control Room and at the PNC Bureau at Force Headquarters.

Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre

The department continues to enjoy a successful liaison with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre at Swansea, and has received urgent assistance from the Police Enquiry Office on a number of occasions.

Casualty Bureau

Exercises involving Casualty Bureau personnel have been carried out during the year. The number of teams has been reduced from four to three but extra cover has been provided by teams of trained special constables.

Mobile Communications Centre

The new self-propelled communications vehicle has been used frequently throughout the year and has proved to be a vital addition to the communications equipment held by the Force, enabling events involving large numbers of persons to be more adequately policed no matter where they occur within the Force Area.

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 major capital projects, with some involvement in general property management. The department is housed in Force Headquarters with branch offices at Brierley Hill and Coventry.

Future Building Programme

Continued restrictions on capital expenditure have resulted in a static situation so far as new projects are concerned and no improvement is anticipated for the immediate future.

The provision of a new Traffic and Transport Complex at Aston has received financial approval in principle by the Home Office and the County Council and the start has been programmed for early 1982. The design is at an advanced stage and the architectural division of the County Planning Department propose to invite tenders in the autumn of 1981.

The projected sub-divisional headquarters in Woodbridge Road, Moseley and a combined divisional and sub-divisional headquarters at Dunstall Road, Wolverhampton continue to await "stage" approval by the Home Office before any further progress can be made. Efforts continue to find a suitable site on the 'C' Division for a new combined divisional and sub-divisional headquarters. A number of possibilities have been considered but found to be unsuitable or unobtainable.

Disused Police Buildings

Purchasers have now been found for the two buildings declared surplus to requirements in 1979. A further building became disused in 1980, but before recommending disposal, a number of alternative uses are to be studied in an attempt to resolve accommodation problems in the Force area.

Alterations and Improvements

The programme for alterations and improvements has been curtailed to meet Home Office allocations and also to enable financial commitments to be met to implement essential programmed and day-to-day maintenance and repairs. Phase two of the scheme to modernise the cell block at Old Hill Police Station has been completed and other cell improvements are being carried out at Aldridge Sub-Divisional Headquarters, Bradford Street Sub-Divisional Headquarters, Digbeth Sub-Divisional Headquarters, Dudley Road Police Station, Holyhead Road Police Station, Red Lion Street Police Station and Sparkhill Police Station.

Improvements to the dining and catering facilities and the Matron's living accommodation at the Girl Cadets' Quarters, Burgess House, Anderton Park Road have been completed.

Conversion of former police maisonettes to provide accommodation for 52 single men at Breedon Road, Cotteridge has been completed and improvements have also been carried out to the single officers' quarters at Stourbridge Police Station.

Lift installations at Steelhouse Lane and Force Headquarters have had essential improvements carried out to comply with current safety regulations.

Energy Conservation

The post of Technician (Heating and Plant Maintenance) has been filled and the effects are already apparent. In liaison with the County Surveyor's Energy Conservation team, the efficiency of plant and equipment has been improved and, from figures produced by the County Surveyor, early indications are that worthwhile savings in energy consumption are being achieved. Heating plant and installations are now being maintained to more acceptable standards and there have been fewer breakdowns, which has resulted in far less use of emergency heating equipment.

At Lloyd House heating boilers have been replaced with new dual fired boilers together with improved controls and this will markedly reduce running costs. An improvement in heat distribution has already been noted. Further modification of the installation is planned for 1981. Conversion of oil fired boilers to gas has continued subject to limits imposed by the Gas Board.

Housing

During the year we have further reduced our housing pool to 1252 units. Approval has been given for the disposal of 101 void properties and these are in

the hands of the County Valuation and Estates Officer. In addition we will have completed, in March 1981, the programme for the offer of 188 houses for sale to the sitting tenants.

Although there is a trend towards home ownership there has been a consistent and steady demand for police accommodation throughout the year, which is mainly due to improved recruiting and high property prices and mortgage interest rates affecting the younger element of the Force.

The standard of police houses continues to gradually improve, but owing to financial constraints, it was only possible to install central heating in 52 properties during the year.

FORCE WELFARE OFFICER

The Force Welfare Officer, with one assistant, has a responsibility to advise on matters affecting the welfare of the Force generally, and is available to give advice and assistance, as required, to regular police officers, police cadets, traffic wardens, civilian staff, police pensioners and widows.

The higher age groups, from which increased requests for assistance are being received, will be catered for by a newly introduced visiting scheme affecting pensioners and widows over 70 years of age. This will ensure regular contact and bring to light problems which exist. Such a scheme is especially necessary during the winter period, at a time when Social Services Departments are being affected by reductions in manpower and funds.

Assistance at times of bereavement requires a high degree of priority, and during the year, 23 widows and their families were assisted with applications for Probate of Wills or Letters of Administration resulting from the death of two serving officers, 18 retired officers and three members of the civilian staff.

Eight applications for Education Grants were submitted to the National Police Fund with the result that three widows, one serving officer and one retired officer received financial assistance in respect of students over the age of 16 years undertaking higher education courses.

The Police Dependants' Trust exists to assist police officers injured on duty, dependants of police officers killed on duty or dependants of police officers who subsequently die as a result of such injuries. Applications to the Trust are considered on an annual review basis, as a result of which 15 widows received grants totalling £7,821.00 during the year, two retired officers received grants totalling £1,018.00 and one regular officer a grant of £1,600.00. In addition a total of £1,125.00 was received by way of holiday grants, mainly for the benefit of police widows with children under the age of 16 years and pensioners.

The Force Savings Club is continuing to prove popular amongst Force members and civilian staff as a method of providing for Christmas and annual holidays. The total amount saved each year continues to increase and during the year under review £117,000.00 was paid out. Interest totalling £4,910.65 was donated to the Force Benevolent Fund.

SICKNESS

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

Male Officers	51,098	(1979 - 49815)
Female Officers	11,254	(1979 - 10798)

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

Male Officers	5,759	(1979 - 4362)
Female Officers	1,353	(1979 - 985)

Eleven 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 two members of the Force during the year.

13 April 1980 Constable John Henry BROWN
 'T' Division
 Aged 53 years

11 June 1980 Constable Robert Louis Hamilton LESLIE
 'A' Division
 Aged 51 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.

Sergeant G Meredith, G.M. 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. Constable D Morgan, was elected on the Management Committee of the Police Convalescent Home at Hove.

During the year the Claims Department at the Federation Offices submitted 201 claims to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, 48 claims to their Solicitors for civil action and 403 personal accident insurance claims.

FUNDS

The Force Benevolent Fund has continued to provide financial assistance and support to serving members and pensioners in a number of ways. During the year, the number of orphans receiving a weekly allowance has risen to 59. Officers attending the Convalescent Police Seaside Home at Hove do so free of charge with travelling expenses paid by the Fund. In a number of instances, pensioners and widows have been helped to enjoy periods of convalescence at other venues, and have been given assistance in many other ways.

The major event of the year was the launching of the Private Medical Scheme in January 1980. By 31 December 1980, 190 applications for private treatment had been approved and in most cases the treatment had been obtained. The figures show there is an obvious need for such a scheme and it is gratifying to note that so many officers in need of medical treatment have been able to benefit during the first year.

CONVALESCENT HOME — HOVE — 1980

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, 68 serving officers and eight pensioners attended the Home, all expenses being paid by the Benevolent Fund.

POLICE PENSIONERS

At the end of the year there were 1,799 retired police officers in receipt of police pensions. Pensions were also being paid to 699 widows of police officers or ex-officers.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK

Police officers have now been appointed as Safety Representatives at police premises. In October 79 such officers attended training courses at the Training Centre, Tally Ho to receive detailed instruction on their role.

The Health and Safety at Work Committee for police officers and police cadets held its first meeting in January 1980. This Committee has similar functions and objectives to the Committee for civilian staff and traffic wardens. Meetings are held every second month alternating with the civilian Committee. One or other of the Committees makes an inspection of a selected premises each month.

An appraisal of the conditions under which Sub-Divisional Controllers work was completed during the year and recommendations have been made which it is anticipated will be implemented in the near future, to improve the working environment.

The Health and Safety Officer and his deputy have made 49 inspections of premises during the year including seven garage workshops and petrol installations. Where necessary recommendations have been made and it has been possible to implement most of the recommendations immediately.

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

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1979</u>
Assaulted	529	437
Accidentally injured whilst effecting arrest	82	32
Injured in road traffic accident	115	88
Bitten by dogs	30	31
Accidentally injured at football matches/demonstrations	21	14
Accidentally injured during training	32	20
Accidentally injured in police premises	101	88
Slips/trips etc.	146	65
Other Miscellaneous injuries	127	168
Total	<u>1183</u>	<u>943</u>

Talks on Health and Safety at Work have continued throughout the year at the Tally Ho, Walsall and Halesowen Training Centres.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

The West Midlands Police Sports Club plays an increasingly active role in the day-to-day life of the Force. Whilst the participation of members in all major sports is maintained, the Committee and permanent staff are always anxious to expand their activities to include more of the minority sports.

An additional role of the Sports Club is to provide some interest for those members who are not "actively sports minded" and to include wherever possible, the wives and families of members. To this latter end a visit was arranged during August 1980, by train to 'Navy Day' at Portsmouth. Many members and their families took advantage of the facilities provided to enjoy what proved to be an extremely enjoyable trip.

Further Sports Club souvenirs bearing the Force crest are now available to members from the sports office at Headquarters. These souvenirs are proving to be very popular with members of the Force, their wives and families. To

facilitate travel by members of the Sports Club a new Ford Dominant 45 seater coach and a 12 seater mini-bus for use by the smaller sections have been purchased. To cater for the increasing demand for sailing facilities, a Laser single-handed dinghy has been purchased and is now in regular use together with the Enterprise dinghy at Earlswood Lakes, Solihull.

Refurbishing of the Sports and Social Club at Tally Ho remains a high priority and additionally, during the coming year it is also hoped to make provisions for two squash courts for the use of members. The provision of such courts is also seen as an aid to maintaining the physical fitness of members of the Force.

The encouragement and support given by all members of the Force to the Sports Club is very pleasing.

"Holbrook" Trophy

The "Holbrook" Trophy is awarded to the sports personality of the year. The winner was Constable Raymond Delanty who, since his early days as a member of the Birmingham City Police, has represented the Force at association football, water polo, swimming, tug-of-war and life saving. He is still an active member of the water polo section and has represented the Force on numerous occasions throughout the years, helping also to ensure that others enjoy their sport through his presence.

Association Football

The Force Football Team competed in Division One of the Midland Combination League and finished the season in tenth place which, considering the semi-professional status of much of the opposition, was a very creditable performance. The team has made good progress in the P.A.A. National Police Championships having reached the quarter-final stage.

In October 1980, the Force team competed against the Queen's Own Hussars Regimental Team in Detmold, West Germany. The prize at stake in this latter match is the Queen's Own Hussars Cup which is awarded to the team having the highest aggregate score of the annual home and away matches. The first leg at Detmold resulted in a 2 - 0 victory for the Police team.

The annual match for the Normansell Shield between the Force and the Strathclyde Police took place at Tally Ho in October and resulted in a win for the West Midlands Police by 2 - 0.

Athletics

A high standard of ability continues to be displayed by members of this very active and popular section. Weekly track and field events are arranged throughout the season against civilian clubs as well as other Police Forces.

The Regional Track and Field Championships were staged at the Alexandra Sports Stadium, Birmingham in June when the Chief Constable's Trophy, awarded to the team gaining the highest number of points in selected events, was retained by the Force. The National P.A.A. Championships were held at Southampton in July. There was a strong entry from the Force with Woman Constable Francis winning both the 100 and 200 metres and Woman Constable Bissell winning both the 400 and 800 metres. Other entrants gained a number of second and third places.

Basketball

This section is growing in popularity particularly amongst the younger members of the Force. Two teams continue to take part in local matches, one in the Birmingham area and the other in the Wolverhampton area. The best players from both teams form a Force team to compete in a local league.

One individual member of the basketball section was selected during the year to play for the British Police Representative Team.

Bowls — Level Green

This popular sport continued to attract a large number of players of all ages. Among the visiting teams entertained were the Lothian and Borders Police, the Metropolitan Police and the Royal Household at Windsor. A successful tour of Suffolk was undertaken in June.

The new level green at Tally Ho was taken into limited use during the summer and for the first time a one-day match between regular and retired officers took place. On this occasion the retired officers won the day.

Bowls — Crown Green

This very popular form of bowling is largely confined to the western area of the Force. Following the Regional Crown Green Bowling Championships at Stafford, members of this Force were selected to represent the Midland Region in the National P.A.A. Championships staged by West Yorkshire Police.

Boxing

This is a small but enthusiastic section which continues to train regularly and represent the Force in various competitions against other Police Forces and in the British and European Championships.

Chess Section

As a result of keen interest the chess section was re-formed during the year and a team entered in the Wolverhampton Chess League.

Choral Society

The Choral Society enjoyed another successful year giving on average, one concert per month. The Choral Society caters for male and female police officers, civilian staff and special constables. The Society was complimented on a number of occasions for its smartness, varied programme and the general high standard of performance.

Cricket

During a summer marred by inclement weather, the cricket section had a difficult season. It was however, possible for the Force team to complete a total of 16 matches.

The womens cricket team continue to achieve a good standard of play with a great deal of enjoyment being obtained from matches played against other Police Forces and local civilian teams.

The older players who comprise the veterans' cricket team enjoyed another satisfying season commencing with their annual tour of Jersey and culminating with a tour of North Wales.

Cross Country

Cross country running continues to be very popular amongst both male and female members of the Force. Participants range from 17 to 50 years with strong support being guaranteed whatever the weather.

In the Midland Services League the Force took first place.

Dance Orchestra

During 1980, the orchestra played at 20 charity functions and police dances over a wide area raising a considerable amount of money for various local causes.

In May the orchestra travelled to Worthing and played for an International Police Association Dance organised primarily for officers attending from overseas.

Flying

The Force was able for the first time to act as hosts in the National Police Air Rally which was held at Coventry Airport during June. The rally was a competitive air event comprising three competitions, and was entered by competitors representing 18 Forces.

Prizes were presented at the conclusion of the rally by TV personality, Mr Raymond Baxter.

Golf

The number of members of the Force who are availing themselves of the opportunity to play golf at both Force and Divisional level continue to rise.

The section played a number of matches against civilian clubs and other Police Forces availing themselves of the facilities of the championship Brabazon Course, Sutton Coldfield, the home of the Professional Golf Association. The P.A.A. Regional Competition was held at Little Aston Golf Course in August, the individual regional championship winner being Inspector Packham of West Midlands.

Hill Walking

The section has had another successful year with regular monthly outings. The number of persons attending each week has steadily increased and the highlight of the year was a weekend walk on the coast of the Yorkshire Moors. This proved to be a very popular outing.

Hockey Section — Men

The hockey section has played a number of games during the year and has qualified for the zone final of the P.A.A. Competition. The sections 25 members have had a particularly successful year.

Hockey Section — Women

The policewomen's hockey section have displayed a high standard of ability and skill in their matches against both police and civilian teams, winning 14 of the 24 matches played. Early in the year the team reached the national semi-final of the P.A.A. Championships before being defeated by Greater Manchester Police.

Horticultural Society

The Horticultural Society had yet another successful year which culminated in the Annual Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Show held at Coventry in September.

The widow of the late Mr George Blackborrow has donated a rose bowl to the Society for use at the show and this is to be presented annually to encourage participation by members of the Force. Visits were made to the Shrewsbury Flower Show and the Chelsea Flower Show.

Indoor Games (Billiards, Snooker and Darts)

This section is particularly active and caters for a large number of members of the Sports Club.

Darts and billiards are not played on an organised basis but the Annual Force Championships were held resulting in a number of players representing the Force both at Regional and National P.A.A. level.

The Force singles snooker championship was won by PC Ken Shirley for the eleventh time in 12 years. A snooker team regularly plays in the Birmingham Efficiency League.

Judo

An increasing demand has been made upon this particular section to provide displays to various organisations and clubs. As well as holding regular meetings at Tally Ho, displays are given to outside organisations.

In the 1980 P.A.A. National Judo Championships, Girl Cadet Cook again won the Gold Medal in the under 66 kilos class.

Male Voice Choir

The choir continues to provide entertainment with a very high standard having given 25 concerts throughout the Force area during the year. A joint concert with HM Coldstream Guards Band at Birmingham Town Hall attracted a capacity audience. A visit during the year by the Frankfurt Male Voice Choir provided the opportunity for combined concerts at Bournville and Coventry which both attracted capacity audiences.

Motor Club

The Force Motor Club is an active specialist section of motor enthusiasts who, during the year, organised two auto tests and one motor rally as well as showing films on motoring subjects at Tally Ho and visiting various motor race meetings.

Rugby

The Force rugby section has three teams two of which are based in Birmingham and one in Coventry. Competition is on a friendly basis with matches being held against police, service, college and civilian teams. In the North Midland Rugby Football Union Knock Out Competition, the first XV gave a number of creditable performances before finally being defeated in the semi-final.

Sailing

Sailing remains a popular sport with a number of new members joining the section during the year. The increasing membership necessitated the purchase of a further dinghy, a Laser dinghy which together with the Enterprise dinghy is based at Earlswood Lakes. The Force was represented at many open championships throughout the year, the highlight being the Force Open Regatta which was once again held at Chasewater. Entries were received from 32 boats from various Forces throughout the country. The training sessions for newcomers to the sport are held on a regular basis.

Sea Angling

Despite the disadvantage of being a long distance from the sea, members of this particular section made nine trips during the season to various venues. Membership of the section is growing and it was possible to arrange a two-legged contest between the Force and Staffordshire Police which resulted in the Force becoming the first holders of a new trophy to be awarded annually, "The West Midlands Police Sea Angling Trophy."

Shooting

Members of this section have achieved a very high standard of proficiency and enter many competitions both against police and civilian opposition.

Excellent results have been achieved in competitions in the full-bore rifle, small-bore rifle, full-bore pistol and small-bore pistol classes. Four officers were selected to represent the British Police Shooting Team in the inter-service contest.

Squash

Squash is the fastest growing sport in the British Isles and this has been reflected in the progress the section has made during the year. A second team has been formed to take over friendly matches from the first team which is now entered in a local competitive league.

The main event of the year was a tour of Jersey in February. In the P.A.A. Championships PC Bawden was awarded the Des Shepherd Cup as the most improved player of 1980.

Swimming

The Force swimming section continued to be very active throughout the year. A number of galas and competitions were entered and Police Woman Wilkinson represented the British Police against Combined Services and Civil Services in October. A very strong contingent of competitors from the West Midlands participated in the P.A.A. Swimming and Diving Championships which were hosted by Lancashire Police.

Table Tennis

During the season two teams were again entered in the Business Houses League although their fortunes were somewhat mixed. Additionally, a number of matches were played against other Forces. In the P.A.A. Regional Championships held at Kenilworth, Inspector Dawson again won the veterans competition and together with PC McCabe won the doubles title in the third consecutive year.

Tennis

The four teams which represent the West Midlands Police in the Birmingham area of the Warwickshire League acquitted themselves most admirably against other Police Forces and civilian tennis clubs throughout the year.

The P.A.A. Regional Tennis Championships were held at the Tally Ho Lawn Tennis Club in July 1980 and both the ladies doubles and the veterans doubles were won by members of the Force.

Ten Pin Bowling

The number of officers taking part in this sport is growing after remaining steady for a number of years. The section now runs two teams in local leagues in Coventry and Birmingham and additionally, takes part in tournaments organised by other Forces.

Water Polo

An influx of new and younger players has meant there has been keen competition for places in the water polo team who play in Division Two of the Birmingham and District Water Polo League. As a result only two matches were lost during the season which reflects the improved standard the team has achieved.

In an invitation match in November against Devon and Cornwall Police, City of London Police and an Exeter Water Polo Club, the Force team won the tournament undefeated in all matches. Additionally, the Force team represented the region in the National P.A.A. Championships at Blackpool.

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 Wine On	Full Off	Beer/Cider Wine Off	Restaurant/ Residential	Restaurant	Residential	Licensed Clubs	TOTAL
Aldridge	70	—	37	1	1	4	1	2	116
Birmingham	721	11	541	4	17	120	18	12	1444
Coventry	266	—	173	35	11	41	—	13	539
Dudley	327	—	122	—	—	14	—	10	473
Halesowen	53	—	32	—	—	4	—	1	90
Solihull	116	—	82	3	3	23	3	5	235
Stourbridge	88	—	37	—	—	6	—	—	131
Sutton Coldfield	46	—	48	—	4	14	—	2	114
Walsall	248	—	105	—	4	17	—	7	381
Warley	188	1	131	—	—	14	1	9	344
West Bromwich	241	—	81	—	—	13	—	12	347
Wolverhampton	307	—	232	—	3	42	6	23	613
TOTALS	2671	12	1621	43	43	312	29	96	4827

Licences Granted During the Year

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

AREAS	Publicans	Full Off	Restaurant	Licensed Clubs	Beer/Cider Wine Off	Residential	TOTAL
Aldridge	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Birmingham	6	15	6	—	—	5	32
Coventry	3	9	1	1	2	2	18
Dudley	1	6	2	—	—	—	9
Halesowen	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Solihull	—	3	—	—	—	1	4
Stourbridge	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Sutton Coldfield	1	1	2	—	—	—	4
Walsall	2	10	—	—	—	—	12
Warley	2	6	3	—	—	—	11
West Bromwich	1	7	—	—	—	—	8
Wolverhampton	3	14	4	1	—	4	26
TOTALS	20	75	19	2	2	12	130

Registered Clubs

At the end of the year there were 1,291 clubs registered within the Force area.

Theatres and Cinemas

There were 31 theatre licences and 48 cinematograph licences in existence at 31 December 1980.

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	1,144
Premises licensed under the Licensing Act	26,324
Betting Offices	3,859

Licensed premises have generally 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:-

AREAS	Betting Office Licence			Bookmakers Permit		
	Issued	Surrendered	In Force	Issued	Surrendered	In Force
Aldridge	—	—	14	—	—	13
Birmingham	—	19	328	4	4	190
Coventry	8	5	59	4	4	45
Dudley	7	7	46	3	3	35
Halesowen	—	—	9	1	—	12
Solihull	1	1	20	1	2	29
Stourbridge	—	—	7	—	1	7
Sutton Coldfield	2	2	7	—	—	10
Walsall	—	—	48	—	—	27
Warley	3	3	48	—	—	24
West Bromwich	6	5	44	1	—	30
Wolverhampton	8	5	73	1	7	46
TOTALS	35	47	703	15	21	468

Chapter X

Preventive Policing

PREVENTIVE POLICING

Included in this chapter on Preventive Policing is the work of the Public Liaison Department, Attendance Centres, the Social Liaison Department and Press Relations, additionally the divisional community initiatives are reviewed.

It is difficult to judge how successful are our attempts to further the concept of Preventive Policing. We tend to measure the results of our efforts in community co-operation when those links are tried and tested during times of conflict. Without being complacent, there are encouraging signs that our efforts have been fruitful but much has yet to be done if we are to withstand the destructive effects of the various forms of extremism. All too often the police reap the effects of the ills of society and community support is essential if the challenge presented to the police is to be fully met.

PUBLIC LIAISON DEPARTMENT

If the divisional community initiatives are to be fostered and enhanced, it is essential that there is a small, efficient, specialist facility to spearhead liaison with the various groups and act as a focal point in a supportive role to the various initiatives. The Public Liaison Department provides the expertise and background experience to provide the liaison and understanding within one of the most complex compositions of people anywhere in Britain.

Recently, a review of the Public Liaison Department was carried out and one of its major roles was reinforced — that of providing an Operational Support Service in the main stream of policing.

During the year members of the Department made 4,431 community visits, gave 1,002 talks in schools, attended 415 meetings, including social and religious functions, and dealt with 1,414 enquiries.

A schools 'Law and Order' Quiz was organised by the Department with representation from schools that covered the whole County area. A float was designed and constructed by members of the Department which was made available for participation in local fetes and carnivals. Using a police float in this way emphasises the close involvement of the police with the local communities.

If police officers are to foster good relationships with the community it is essential that they have an adequate knowledge about the people they serve. To this end community relations training has been increased to include Seminars on all subdivisions with local members of the community taking part. The Public Liaison Officers gave 211 lectures at Force and District Training Centres, and the head of the Department has lectured at other police establishments at national level.

The Department has a responsibility for liaising with High Commissions, Embassies and Diplomatic Missions and this has enabled negotiations with the various Governments to partake in our jointly supported Bursary Scheme. The excellent co-operation that is enjoyed has made it possible to date to send two Public Liaison Officers to Jamaica, a further two to India, and arrangements have been finalised for two Public Liaison Officers to visit Bangladesh in the New Year.

The County Level Police Liaison Committee, comprising of representatives of the six Councils of Community Relations, Senior Police Officers and representatives of the Commission for Racial Equality, continues to meet regularly to discuss items of mutual concern. Currently the Committee is exploring the feasibility of holding a one-day Community Police Seminar. There is police involvement divisionally in the six Councils for Community Relations and where these have a Police Liaison Committee they have proved their worth. We are attempting, however, to move our liaison structures much closer to the "grass roots" with the formation of 'local' Police Liaison Committees involving members of particular neighbourhoods and local Beat Officers.

Divisional Community Initiatives

With the contacts made by the Public Liaison Department it has been possible to extend our divisional community initiatives. This has enabled Permanent Beat Officers to become much more closely involved with the community. This close contact has allowed many fears to be allayed and rumours dispelled. The 'Cobra Cup' an annual award to an officer who has demonstrated a particularly useful piece of community involvement was won this year by Sergeant Schuck of Thornhill Road Police Station for his work in connection with the Lozells Project.

The use of 'Police Surgeries' as a means of making contact with the community has been extended and now numbers 29. The 'Surgery' approach provides for a Beat Officer to be available at pre-arranged times during the week at premises to meet members of the public in order that any items causing concern may be discussed. These Surgeries should not be seen as mini police stations, it is recognised that one of the best forms of contact is made by the officer during his patrol. Indeed, it has been shown that in many cases attendances at Surgeries have decreased as the officer has become established within his community.

The Surgeries are of value, as a way in which personal contact can be established between the Beat Officer and his community, but their success or otherwise should not be judged in isolation from other initiatives. For the maximum co-operation and goodwill the Permanent Beat Officer must be seen to be as fully involved as possible with the community of his beat area, making contacts during his patrol, visiting schools and youth clubs and generally being identified as 'their officer'.

At the divisional level our contacts have been extended with the Statutory and Voluntary Agencies. It is recognised that anything the police do within the community is at best 'first aid'. For problems to be identified and hopefully solutions to be found, the police, Statutory and Voluntary Agencies and indeed the community itself must work together. This multi-agency approach has been extended by the implementation of a further Community Policing Scheme in the Heath Town area of Wolverhampton, a small housing development which was showing a potential for quite acute problems. The end results appear encouraging. Reference is made in Chapter I to the "Lozells Project".

Building on the experiences of County Level Liaison meetings and Liaison Committees with some of the Councils for Community Relations, it has been possible to establish Local Liaison Committees. This approach is particularly valuable for it means that residents of one locality can meet regularly with their Beat Officers and Senior Sub-Divisional Officers to discuss areas of mutual concern, and to find solutions before serious problems develop. It is intended in the forthcoming year to enlarge on this approach.

I am satisfied that much has been achieved in fostering and furthering our relationships with the community, but at the same time I am mindful much has yet to be done. Members of the Force are encouraged by the degree of co-operation they have received, and for that I am very grateful.

ATTENDANCE CENTRES

Of the five Attendance Centres which operate within the County area, two are situated in Birmingham, one in Coventry, one in Bilston and one in Smethwick. Three operate on alternate Saturdays, the two in Birmingham operate on each Saturday. It is intended to open a Senior Attendance Centre within the County area, but great difficulties have been experienced in finding suitable premises for this venture.

During the year 1,439 Juveniles and 104 older boys (subject of a Home Office experiment) were ordered by the various Courts to attend at the Centres. The year has seen an increase in these orders, 1,100 and 63 being made in 1979

respectively. It is encouraging to note that the Courts appear to be using the facility more in respect of the older age range of offender. The increase in the orders made are reflected in each of the Attendance Centres, as follows:-

	Juveniles	Adults
Birmingham 'A'	444	46
Birmingham 'B'	241	**
Bilston	217	20
Coventry	289	19
Smethwick	239	19

** Not included in the Older Age Range experiment.

SOCIAL LIAISON

During the course of the year liaison has been maintained with Departments of Social Services and other Agencies within the Force area concerning incidents involving women and children.

In the period of 12 months, 74 offences of child abuse were recorded including two deaths, 21 serious woundings and 51 less serious assaults. During the year 38 offences were committed against male and 36 offences against female children. The overall figure shows a slight reduction from the previous year.

A total of 302 offences of marital violence was recorded during the year which included six cases where the husband was subject of violence. The overall figure includes six deaths, 95 serious woundings and 201 less serious assaults. There were 1,871 enquiries in relation to fostering and adoption of children made for the Department of Social Services.

PRESS RELATIONS

Community attitudes tend to be influenced by what is seen, heard and read in the media. This also applies to attitudes about the police, and it is essential that the work of the Force is reflected through the media.

Mercia Sound a local independant radio station, went on the air in the West Midlands during the year, bringing the total of such stations in the Force area to four. In addition a new evening newspaper the Dudley Evening Mail was formed during the year.

The beginning of the year saw the start of daily live broadcasts from the Press Office on BRMB radio, a function previously handled by the Force Control

Room. By the end of the year, Press Office staff had made 477 broadcasts and it was encouraging to note the response they generated from the public.

Unfortunately, these added demands arose in a year in which the office was for a large part of the period under strength due to staff vacancies. Nevertheless, every opportunity was taken to publicise the activities of the Force and more than 100 written and verbal press releases were issued. Additionally in excess of 10,000 telephone calls were received from the media, which necessitated response from the Force.

The Force newspaper 'Beacon' continued to be produced by the Press Office. This 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 media and, in addition to the many regular police features already in existence, further daily and weekly features were arranged on radio and in the Press. The work of the Press Office was explained to officers attending various courses including some at the Police Staff College, Bramshill.

Generally, it has been a mixed year in this field but the value of the work of the Press Office was reflected in the amount of favourable publicity the Force received, and I am grateful for the co-operation received from the media.

Chapter XI

Miscellaneous

IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY DEPARTMENT

At 31 December there were 4,347 registered aliens within the Force area, 3,069 males and 1,278 females. They originated from 86 countries and a breakdown of distribution by continent is shown below:-

Continent of Origin	Male	Female	Total
Africa	443	173	616
The Americas	324	272	596
Asia	1586	464	2050
Europe	602	326	928
Others	114	43	157
TOTALS	3069	1278	4347

During the year 1,137 Aliens Registration Certificates and 111 EEC Residence Permits were issued. There were 481 prosecutions against aliens and 22 deportations. Naturalisation papers were obtained by 584 persons.

PEDLARS CERTIFICATES

A total of 329 Pedlars Certificates was issued during the year and 51 applications were refused.

LOST AND FOUND PROPERTY

The Central Property Office, Digbeth, Birmingham, is responsible for the disposal of all unclaimed property within the Force.

There were 19,972 items of property reported as lost during the year and 13,427 reported as found. This resulted in 6,059 items valued at £130,458.40 being restored to the losers.

The number of pedal cycles found increased by 20% but difficulties still persist with the identification of cycles and consequently, the numbers returned to losers showed little increase. This situation would improve if the owners of pedal

cycles made a note of the frame number stamped on their machine. During the year there were six sales of unclaimed property and two sales of scrap metal. Additionally, 330 unclaimed vehicles were sold. The total amount realised for these vehicles was £33,289.44.

EXPLOSIVES AND FIREARMS DEPARTMENT

This department is under the command of a Chief Inspector with a staff of one Inspector, three Sergeants, eight Constables and six civilian Clerk/Typists. It operates from Headquarters, Lloyd House which covers the central area of the Force. District offices are situated at Brierley Hill for the western area and Coventry for the eastern area.

The department is responsible for the processing of applications for, renewals and variations of, explosives certificates/licences, firearm and shotgun certificates and firearms dealers' registration certificates. The department deals with the administrative and enquiry work involved. Other duties of the department are the provision of an emergency call-out service for suspect objects or incidents involving firearms, 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 firearms dealers and rifle and pistol clubs.

There were 282 new issues of firearms certificates bringing the number of certificates held by persons in the Force area to 2,677. Five applications for issue were refused and three revoked. A total of 999 shotgun certificates was issued and 3,948 were renewed. At the end of the year there were 14,453 shotgun certificates held within the Force area. Twenty-four certificates were revoked and 16 refused.

The number of registered firearms dealers has fallen to 107.

One hundred and thirty-five certificates were issued under the Explosives Acts and 316 licences for gunpowder and safety fuse were issued under the Control of Explosives Order 1953. Officers of the department made 530 visits to registered firearms dealers and 108 visits to explosives stores and sites.

Prosecutions were instigated against 11 persons for offences contrary to explosives or firearms legislation.

MISSING PERSONS

The Central Information Unit maintains an index of all persons reported missing within the Force area. The overall responsibility for enquiries in respect of missing persons rests with the territorial divisions concerned.

During the year 10,445 persons were reported missing, comprising of 5,326 males and 5,119 females, an increase of 934 compared with 1979. Of these totals, 60 males and 77 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 and the Special Plain Clothes Department, which has a Force-wide responsibility, maintains a close liaison with the Divisional Plain Clothes Departments.

During the year 620 prostitutes were prosecuted for 1,166 offences of soliciting and a further 365 received cautions in respect of 371 offences. Twenty-one persons were prosecuted for living on immoral earnings, 20 for keeping a brothel and five for controlling prostitutes. There were 193 prosecutions in respect of non-criminal homosexuality which included 139 offences of males importuning for an immoral purpose. Prosecutions involving obscene publications involved a further 74 persons.

The more protracted enquiries involving commercial vice and pornography are dealt with by the Special Plain Clothes Department. Such enquiries frequently require long-term surveillance. The results of the department's work for the year are contained within the overall figures shown above. The department also liaises with other police forces and outside agencies to ensure that the problems presented by prostitution, pornography and associated offences are contained.

HOUSE TO HOUSE AND STREET COLLECTIONS

One hundred and forty-two certificates were issued for house to house collections and 791 street collections were authorised by local authorities.

STRAY DOGS

Stray dogs are fed and retained in accordance with the requirements of the Dogs Act 1906 and are kept at police stations for the minimum period possible. Those not claimed by the owner from the police station are conveyed to one of a number of animal welfare agencies throughout the Force area which are contracted to care for animals on an agency basis. The cost to the Police Authority during the financial year 1979/1980 was £57,000.

In 1980, 6,814 dogs were reported lost, whilst 11,661 were found and either retained by the finder or handed to the police.

END