



### RESPONSIBLE FOR THE POLICING OF TOWN OF INGERSOLL

On June 20, 1955 the Ingersoll Police Department officially took over the policing of the town from the Ontario Provincial Po-

lice. The four constables and one by-law enforcement officer were under the leadership of Chief of Police Leslie J. Pengelly. Since

that time one extra man has been added to the force. Front row, left to right, are Constable Ronald James, Chief Constable L. J. Pengelly, Constable Hugh Marr-

riott; back row, By-Law Enforcement Officer Albert Mabec, Constable Donald Maitland, Constable John Bosman and Constable Verne Spencer. (Staff Photo)

The following message is from Chief of Police Leslie J. Pengelly.

"The year 1955 has been an active year for all law enforcement agencies. Perhaps the most important task undertaken has been the combined efforts of all forces in an all-out endeavor to make our streets and highways safer for travel. Unfortunately criminal activity is also increasing which takes more police time for investigation, thereby reducing traffic patrols. It should not be necessary that police officers be stationed at various points just to remind drivers to stop at stop signs or observe 30 mile speed limits.

"An offence under the Highway Traffic act or an accident takes up approximately two hours of an officer's time for investigation and reports and if court appearance is necessary three hours are required. It is gratifying to find in statistics that only a small percentage of the traffic offences last year were committed by local drivers.

"The last few months of the year have shown more co-operation between drivers and police efforts for safety and it is hoped that this year the fullest measure of co-operation can be achieved."

The Ingersoll Police Department's annual report for 1969 was submitted by Chief of Police Arthur H. McCart to Council Monday night.

The town's Police Committee is composed of Councillor Ted HUNT, Chairman, and Members - Mayor Gordon HENRY, Councillor Allan WARD, and Councillor Gordon PITTOCK.

The Police Departmental Personell is composed of the following :

Chief of Police 1, Sergeant of Police 1; Corporal of Police 1; Constables of Police 7 ; and Police Civilian Personell - Male - 2; Female - 2; bringing the number of total full time employees to 14.

TOWN STATISTICS included in the report give the following information ; The area of the Town of Ingersoll Ontario, is approximately 3.19 square miles and the street mileage is approximately 38 miles.

"The population of the Town of Ingersoll Ontario is 7,395. Business premises - 551 (door check). Banks - 3 (All alarmed). High schools 1; Public Schools 4; Separate Schools 1; At the present time there is also building under construction at the various levels."

Chief of Police McCart prefaced his report with the following remarks:

"I again have the honour to present this ANNUAL REPORT, dealing with the total functions, actions, and general law enforcement aspects, involving the Ingersoll Police Force during the year 1969.

"As Chief of Police, I feel that one very important function of that position, is to keep not only well informed on a personal basis but also to see that the Police governing body is kept current on the situation as it relates to them, with respect to their responsibility in the direction of Public Safety.

"All too often it seems that an astute lack of communications between bodies is responsible for many unpleasant situations, and I am happy to advise that this is a problem that we have not experienced in our Municipality, because of idealistic and sincere interests, as expressed by the Police Committee Chairman, and members. Our interactions have certainly been cordial, well meaning, and to the mutual interest of all.

"Many of the services that we extend to our citizens are of a nature that under many circumstances could be classified as of a non Police contract and there is little doubt that these services consume many Police hours. I feel however, that this is not lost time, because in the interest of public relations I feel that it is time well spent in upgrading the Police image, in our community.

"To be sure, these are times of stress, lethargic non-involvement, progressive changes, and if the average citizen can not go to the Police for assistance, even if it is of a non Police nature, to whom else could they turn ?

"On many occasions, even if it is of a non Police nature, we can steer them to the proper agency.

"Of paramount importance of course, is the protection of the civil rights, of all citizenry and to this aim, this Department is at all times dedicated.

"We realize that many people, who are involved with the Police Departments, become so due to either traffic violations, or some other minor Statute, and realising that a first impression is usually a lasting one, this Department attempts to make this contact as pleasant as possible. Our Officers are oriented in this avenue, and I think this bears fruit, in the absence of complaints against Officers, which is enjoyed by this Department.

"I do not have to advise the learned Committee that the task of law enforcement in any area is becoming very complex, as our society is progressing and changing at a very rapid pace. We are in the position of having to enforce some very controversial laws, and as is the case, many people place the responsibility for this on the Police Officers, should not realizing that he is merely the tool for enforcing these laws, and not the author of them. We realize that this is a natural error on the part of most people, and usually try to explain the situation, in order that they are more aware of the situation the Police

Officer is in. In many cases we find this quite successful.

"With the Police Service striving to maintain Law and Order, upgrade their image, protect and serve the Public, one can then realize that the job of the Officer is becoming more sophisticated and professional as time transpires.

"Many police Departments, I am happy to say, have realized this for some time, and have been actively involved in training their people in some of the basic social sciences.

"The day when a given Police Force was an island, unto itself, is long since past, and well be it, because there is little or no doubt that this lack of communication, and co-operation, was responsible for the freedom of many criminals.

"In the Police Service of today we have many tools with which we are able to assist one another. I speak of the Criminal Activity Zone conferences, the medium of telex, inter-departmental exchange of information, and intelligence services in order that we are all well informed as to the Criminal Activities, as they exist today.

"All Police Forces whether of a national or an international basis, are constantly pooling the various information that is so vital to law enforcement in this day and age.

"At this time, all Police

Forces in the Province of Ontario take the advantage of sending their Officers to the various courses of instructions, as offered at the Aylmer Police College, and I feel that the College fills a very large void, that was very present for too many years.

"I am very happy to report, that the additional man, hired by the Police Committee, is aware, cut down on our overtime.

"The community of Ingersoll, Ontario is a lovely Town and many times we have been reminded that we are a quiet agricultural community. It is with a great deal of pride that I bring to the attention of the Committee that we have safe streets in Ingersoll, still maintain an "Allegedly Old Fashioned Beat Policeman", who in my opinion is still the best public relations ambassador on the Department. In this Department each man, from the undersigned, to the probationer, has his turn on the street, and this way, our citizens are able to get to know, and respect our Police Officers.

"In concluding this preamble to the actual statistical aspects of this report, may I take this opportunity to state that the community spirit that is present in this Town, may be felt through the various Departments, down to the man in the street, and the co-operation between these factions is remendous.

"I am aware from my own experience that one has but to ask for co-operation or assistance from any Department or other area, and it will always seem to be forthcoming with a minimum of gripe or opposition.

I, Remain,  
Your Faithful Servant,  
Arthur H. W. McCart  
Chief of Police,  
Ingersoll Police  
Department.

The statistical information follows, presented exactly as it was in the report.

POLICE ADMINISTRATION

During the year 1969, there were two men to leave the Police Force; Constable R. KEBA, who left to become a tobacco grower on the farm of his Father-in-law, and Constable W. MILLARD, who left the Department to become an Insurance Adjuster with the Co-op Insurance agency. Both members left on good terms with the Department and occasionally drop back for a chat. There was also one additional Police Officer hired by the Police Committee, which brings our permanent staff to 14. Ten uniformed Police Officers, and 4 civilian staff.

POLICE PROMOTIONS

During the course of the year, there were the usual promotions within the Department, relating to the various numerical classing of Police Officers.

DISCIPLINE OF POLICE

During the course of the year, 1969, I am pleased to report that there were no reasons to bring disciplinary action against any members of the Department.

HEALTH OF DEPARMENTAL STAFF

The health of the Department

is general was good, there being some 44 days, of all employees lost due to sick days off.

POLICE TRAINING

During the course of the year members of the staff were engaged in various forms of training.

In 1969, there were two of our Officers completed the courses of training, as offered at the Police College at Aylmer Ont. One other officer on his own, has completed a course in basic Sociology, as offered at our local Secondary school, plus the seminar at McMaster University, on the Juvenile Offender as relating to Law enforcement.

To date, over 60% of the staff of the Ingersoll Police Department have attended the Police Facilities, as offered at Aylmer Ont.

POLICE SERVICE VEHICLES

At the present time there are two police service vehicles, in use in the Town of Ingersoll, Ont.

Vehicle #1 - is a 1969 Plymouth sedan, owned solely by the Town of Ingersoll, Ontario. It is maroon in color, and is equipped with the following equipment; One top flasher bar, compsoing one large centre rotating light, two smaller red side lights of sealed beam intensity, flashing straight ahead, one Police Stop, fender mounted light, one high pitch siren, and of course the usual first aid equipment and two way communications. This vehicle travels about 40,000 miles per year.

VEHICLE #2 -- is a 1970 Chevrolet sedan, green in color, owned solely by the Town of Ingersoll, Ont. It is equipped in the same manner as Vehicle #1, except that it is not equipped with a service siren. This vehicle travels about 23,000 miles per year, but it is being pressed into service as a general occurrence car more and more, due to the upswing in some police actions, and therefore this mileage picture could change.

POLICE RADIO EQUIPMENT

The following radio equipment is owned and operated by the Police Department in conjunction with the rules and regulations as laid down by the Department of Transport. The base station X. J. G. -88 has a transmitting output of 60 Watts, on a mean frequency of 159,420 megacycles, as assigned by the Federal Department of Transport. Two mobile 25 Watt transceivers, on 159,420 Mgc's. One Handie-Talkie portable for the use of beat men on 159,420 M's. One Porta Pack for equipping an extra car, on 159,420 M's. One Radar Transceiver, for speed detection. One O. P. P. monitor, for receiving purposes only.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Our telex system still rates among one of the most important pieces of Police Equipment in this nationalized fight against all phases of criminal activities.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS

In mahy past years, it has been the pleasure of the Police Department traffic area to advise that we have passed another fatality free year, and I am happy to submit that the same situation has prevailed for 1969.

In the year 1969, we saw the installation of electronic crossing gates at the Pemberton Street, crossing, and in two other Railway crossings in our community, and it is felt that this has assisted us in making our traffic routes safer, as in the past we certainly had our share of mishaps, and fatalities at the various crossings.

Because of the flexibility of to-days travel, thanks to the family auto, which is present in ever increasing numbers, we still realize that a large part of our job is traffic, and of course the past year was no exception. We are all aware that traffic accidents take their toll in life, limb, finance, and the misery of the individuals involved.

The following is a statistical breakdown, of the traffic situation, as it appeared and existed in our community over the past year, 1969; Accidents over \$100.00 investigated 124; Accidents of less than \$100.00 investigated 31. Persons injured in motor accidents 45; Persons fatally injured in motor accidents 0. Number of personal injury accidents 33.

TOTAL NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS 188

Our accident total picture was consistent with last year's figures, but our actual property damage climbed to the all time high of some \$77,858.00 and is appalling.

This is quite a substantial sum, and if one has the imagination to start multiplying this sum by the numbers of communities in the Province of Ontario alone, it can be seen that we have a staggering amount of wealth involved.

During the year, 1969, on two occasions, we had the Department of Transport safety lanes operating in our area and we took many unsafe vehicle from the road. This is an effective device, and it is to be hoped that we have many more of them operating in the Province.

I would also be remiss in this Annual Report if I did not at this time take this opportunity to express the thanks of the Department to our two Special Constables, who give so generously of their time, in the interests of good Law and Order in our Community. It goes without saying that on many occasions they have greatly assisted our regular officers and their assistance at dances, sport functions etc., enables our regular patrols to continue general duties, in a normal manner.

Also at this time, special thanks to the local and area radio Transmitter clubs who as usual gave us such fine and efficient assistance on Halloween night again this year. It is certainly due to their splendid assistance, that once again Ingersoll was again free from the damage and disturbances that plague other areas. These people do a marvelous job, and last Halloween, we had some 15 of their mobile units in operation, stationed in such strategic areas as Schools, Churches, Hospitals, P. U. C. and other civil buildings, acting as eyes and ears for the Department. They also were alerted to watch for child molesting or bullying, and as a result we received no complaints of this nature. It was therefore again proven, that with assistance from such civic minded people, acting only in the capacity of eyes and ears, for the Department, problems can be kept to a minimum level.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS-DEPARTMENTAL**

The year 1969 was a year in which the Police Department spent many hours in schools, Service Clubs and other organizations, speaking on a variety of subjects, from Police Evolution, General aspects of safety to the current topic of drug abuse.

During the course of the year, the Chief of Police had occasion and pleasure to speak on 36 different occasions to Service Clubs, Business Men's groups, Ladies Groups Church groups, Young people's groups, and schools. This covered not only our immediate area, but also Woodstock, Paris, Exeter, London, and our surrounding smaller communities. The general topic was on the theme of the current drug abuse problem, stressing the fact of more education in this field, not only for the people involved, but also for the parents, or guardians of involved persons.

The traffic Safety Department of the Police Force, composing Constables Lauck and Smith, conducted some 17 school safety lectures during the year, and acted as many other sport outings in various capacities. They were well received in all our schools, and it is indeed refreshing that the public are so receptive to the safety program in school areas.

**AYLMER POLICE COLLEGE**

During the year, 1969, the undersigned completed the third phase, (Part C), of the Police Administration Course, and at the same time, Staff Sergeant Ronald James completed the Supervisory and Command course.

I am pleased at this time to state that over 50% of the Staff of the Ingersoll Police Department have completed courses of instruction at Aylmer Police College, and it is felt by the undersigned, that in the next 24 months, we will be one of the first Police Departments of moderate size to have all our staff graduate from the College.

**OTHER TRAINING**

May I at this time also state that one of our members of the Force, Police Constable Lionel Ulrich, completed a certificated course in Basic Sociology, at the Ingersoll District High School, night program. This was entered into and completed on the Officer's own time.

**DUTIES PERFORMED BY THE INGERSOLL POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR 1969.**

General -- Complaints and Occurrences Investigated, 5,388 Houses under supervision (holidays etc.) 152; Business Places Under Supervision (windows, doors, etc.) 552; Doors and Windows found Insecure 95; Adult Persons reported Missing and Found 4:

Summons served by this Department 464; Warrants of Commitment Executed by this department, 102; Miscellaneous Escorts 270; Funeral Escorts 54; Bank Escorts 225. False Bank Alarms 92 Fire Alarms 30; Lodgers given Shelter 41; Prisoners actually lodged in cells 70; Juvenile Persons Reported Missing 13; Banquet Permits issued by L. C. B. O. checked out during the year 138; Warnings issued by this Department 196.

**CRIMINAL CODE CHARGES**

Wilful damage 4; Loitering 5; Take car without Owners consent 3; Public Mischief 4; Theft Under \$50.00 10; Indecent Assaults 1 J. D. A.

**CRIMINAL CODE**

Break, Enter and Theft 5; Causing a Disturbance 9; Common Assault 5; Fail to remain 1; Frauds 4; Breach of Drugs (Narcotics) 1; Impaired Driving 10; Drive Under suspension 2; Total criminal code charges 64.

**HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT**

No motorcycle Helmet 9; Fail to Notify D. O. T. change of address 2; Fail to produce 10; Drive without motorcycle Licence 4; Drive without Insurance 2; Drive around R. R. X-ing 2; Interfere with Traffic 1; Insufficient Lights 10; Wrong way on One Way St. 2;

Current year plates 2; Fail to stop at Sign 36; Fail to obey red light 7; Fail to Yield right of way 10; Follow too close 3; Improper Turn 4; Insufficient Brakes 1; No operators Licence 1; Pass 2/i 100' of Intersection 11; Unnecessary Noise 61; Passing to right of vehicle 1; By law 2; Parking by-law 291; Pass to left of hill 1; Fail to Yield right of way 1; Fail to Remain 7; Passing on Curve 1; Fail to yield one half of roadway 2; Pass w/i 100' of Bridge 1; Fail to Signal 1; No Endorsement on M/C Licencer 1; Insufficient Muffler 2; Pass w/i 100 of RR X-ing 3; Fail to have "Slow moving Vehicle" sign 1 Opening door into traffic 1; Crowd Driver 1; Improper Movement 1; Speeding 336 Careless Driving 10. Total Number of Charges ;

**GENERAL**

Supplying minor 1; Drunk in a Public place 13; Having Liquor other than residence 18; Minor Consuming 37. Total Charges under the Liquor Control Act 69.

**LIQUOR SEIZURES**

During the course of 1969, the following Liquor Seizures were made and the necessary form attesting thereto submitted:

ed to the proper authority:  
BEER - ASSORTED BRANDS  
177 Pints .  
WINE ----- Nil .  
LIQUOR - ASSORTED BRANDS  
..... 7 Bottles -

Total Number of Charges Laid by the Ingersoll Police Department Under all Categories 976.



**The Ingersoll Police Department**

Members of the Ingersoll Police Department and staff are pictured above: front row from the left Mrs. Rita Jones, Justice of Peace Mrs. Grace Thurlby, despatcher, Corporal Ross Carnegie, Chief A. H. McCart, Sergeant Ronald James, Mrs. Louise Todd secretary, Mrs. Judy Fatterson secretary, Rear row left to right: Clarence O'Neil dispatcher. Constables Mark Helm, Cecil Mills, George Laucek, Robert Markham, Douglas Smith, David McKenzie and Lionel Ulrich and Roy Hanley despatcher.

INGERSOLL TIMES  
March 18, 1970

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**POLICE CHIEF** Art McCart gives a quick tour around Ingersoll Police Department to Paul Boersma, 16, of Cemetery Lane. Here, they are seen in the dark room. Town residents will be given the opportunity to tour the station on May 16, during Canadian Police Week. (Staff Photo)

## Town force to open doors for national police week

BY MARY GILMOUR  
Sentinel-Review Staff Writer

INGERSOLL — A policeman checks a door at a town store late at night...and finds it open.

Another finds a youth walking down a dark street in the wee hours of the morning...and drives him home.

A third acts as coach in minor baseball.

These activities are part of a day's work for policemen. Helping others and doing acts that should evoke respect from the public.

Yet, to some police are called pigs. They are whipping boys who can't strike back when they have to deal with some who cross the paths of the law.

People are inclined to forget that police protect us from the thug who would beat a little old lady up for her pension

check, or, the man who would waylay a child on the way home from school.

People also take it for granted that they can sleep safely at night, knowing help is as close as the telephone if trouble arises. Businessmen can leave their interests unguarded at night, knowing police will check their premises periodically.

Not all aspects of police work are as glamorous as they might appear. Who must knock at a door to tell the family someone, such as a son, has just been killed in a traffic accident? And, who has the job of breaking news to parents that a son or daughter is in serious trouble with the law?

In most cases, it's policemen who have children of their own and know how it must feel to receive such news.

The lot of police isn't always easy, and, sometimes they de-

serve a little more respect than they get.

### OPEN HOUSE

Ingersoll residents will have the opportunity to honor Ingersoll Police Department during Canadian Police Week, which runs from May 9 to 16.

Police Chief Art McCart said today the police station will be open to the public during the afternoon of May 16.

"The public will have the opportunity to bring their children in and tour the facilities in the department," he said. "They will see the various aspect of police work with officers and personnel describing it."

Ingersoll Police Department is made up of the chief, Sgt. Ronald James, Cpl. Ross Carnegie, and, Constables George Laucek, Robert Markham, David McKenzie, Lionel Ulrich, Cecil Mills, Mark Helm, Robert Hill and Roy Kiinen.

Statistic-wise, the department last year investigated 167 road accidents involving \$65,258 worth of damage.

### MEETS PUBLIC

During the course of the year, Chief McCart gave 51 talks to various groups and schools on the subject of drug abuse, law and police work in general.

Complaints and occurrence investigated by the department last year numbered 7,014--nearly as many as the number of people living in Ingersoll.

Total number of charges laid amounted to 718, of which 111 came under the Criminal Code of Canada.

# INGERSOLL - RECENT James named to head HISTORY Ingersoll police department

An 18-year veteran of the Ingersoll police department was chosen from among 14 applicants to become the town's new chief of police.

At a special meeting of council

Thursday, Ron James, former staff sergeant with the force, was named to the post vacated March 11 when Arthur McCart assumed duties as chief of the Haldimand-Norfolk regional police depart-

ment.

Ingersoll police committee chairman Doug Harris told council following the approval of Chief James, that the new head of the department was chosen from 14 applications for the position of which three were interviewed.

"The police committee unanimously agreed that Ron James was the outstanding candidate for the position from the applications received," he stated. "We interviewed three good candidates before making our choice." Coun. Harris, Coun. Linda Turner, Coun. Jack Warden and Mayor Henry made up the selection committee or the new chief.

"No one had as much experience as Ron", added Coun. Harris "And we believe he will be an asset to the community as chief of the department". He noted that Chief James is well-respected in the community and by council and expressed the hope that the force "will continue to be a first-class department under the new leadership."

"It is extremely gratifying to

know," said Coun. Harris that in Ingersoll we have had a chief good enough to become chief of a large regional force and that the number two man in our own force is of the calibre to become the new chief in Ingersoll."

The new chief came to Ingersoll force in December of 1955 and was promoted from constable to corporal in December of 1957. After a brief absence from the force in 1964, he returned and from 1966 to 1973, served as sergeant.

His promotion in January to staff-sergeant came as a result of a change in legislation, reducing the number of ranks and bringing the four corporals in the force up to the rank of sergeant.

In 1969, Chief James was selected to attend the supervisory and command course at the Police College in Aylmer, where he will return in the fall for a series of administration courses.

In an interview Monday, Chief James said that he was pleased about his appointment, and was glad that there had been a competition in which a number of

applicants had been considered.

The Chief indicated that he had received numerous telephone calls from people congratulating him on his appointment, and felt assured that he would receive the support of the community and of town council.

"It's a good council to work with," he said, noting that he will be having regular monthly meetings with the police committee. "This is the first time that regular meetings between the chief and the committee have been scheduled, and I think it's a good idea."

According to the chief, he doesn't intend to make any drastic changes in the department.

"We have a smooth-running, happy police department, and I feel very lucky. Our aim is to work closely with other municipal departments and to maintain the good relationship we have with the community," he commented.

When asked about possible

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# James named chief <sup>News</sup><sub>20</sub>

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expansion within the department, the chief said, "I think it's going to be a must. We haven't hired extra staff for three years now, and with so many people living in one area, like the Secord Estates, I think we're going to have to consider increasing our staff."

The implications of the report of the task force on policing in Ontario, which recommends that towns under 15,000 population merge their forces under the Provincial Police, are unclear at this time, said Chief James.

"But I think that I would be in favor of a regional police force," he commented. "Policing today is different from what it was a few years ago. Boundaries mean less than they used to, and what is the Stratford police department's problem for instance today may be our problem tomorrow."

He noted that all police now are sworn in as police officers of the province, even though they are town employees. This means he explained, that an officer can't just stop when he reaches a town boundary, in pursuit of an offender and it means that, police departments have to work together more than ever before.

"Restructured government is likely going to come in the near future," he commented, "but just what changes that will mean is

hard to say right now."

He praised the work done by the county in its study and recommendations for a restruct-

ured system, describing the study as a model for other counties, and expressing approval of the proposed two-tier structure.

The chief voiced strong support for the proposed extension of Ingersoll St. that would provide an overpass on the west side of town.

"I'd like to see the westerly access to the town constructed as soon as possible," he stated. "I think it would relieve down town traffic and would increase the efficiency of the emergency services to the north side of town."

Chief James began his police career when he came to Ingersoll from Port Stanley in 1955. He was born and raised in London, where he lived until 1953. His wife, Florence, is on the supervisory staff at the Oxford Mental Health Centre in Woodstock.

The Chief's eldest son Paul has been with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for eight years, and works out of a northerly town in British Columbia, about 325 miles from the Yukon border, Michael is completing grade 12 at IDCI.



Ingersoll residents lined up outside the police station Sunday afternoon for a tour of the newly renovated quarters, and a look at some of the new equipment in use in the department. Staff showed an estimated 1,200 people, 900 of them children, through

the building during the open house held between 1 and 6 p.m. A second open house is scheduled for Wednesday evening between 6 and 9 p.m.

*Ingersoll Times  
May 15, 74*



Sgt. George Laucek explains the operation of some of the radio equipment used by the police to youngsters attending Sunday's open house at the police station. Visitors were given a tour of the renovated building and a chance to win bicycles and prizes. Pop and chocolate bars ran out early in the afternoon, with the expected 300 children tripling to 900.

## ***New equipment gives instant drug analysis***

The Ingersoll police department will soon have a squad car narcotic identification kit that will enable its officers to identify drugs "on the spot" and make it easier to lay charges under the Narcotics Act.

Police Chief Ron James said his department has been hampered because of the long wait in getting an analysis back from the Toronto lab when a substance found on a person, or in a home, was suspected to be a narcotic.

"We had no evidence until we received the analysis from the lab in Toronto confirming our suspicions that the substance was a narcotic. But by that time

the suspects, most of whom are floaters, have usually taken off, and we were not able to lay the charge.

The chief explained that it will be a different ball game when the department has the narcotic identification kit.

"Within minutes of taking possession of a suspected substance, we will know whether or not it is a narcotic."

The new kit will provide "on the spot" identification of the following: LSD, amphetamine, barbiturate, heroin, codeine, cocaine, morphine, marijuana, hashish, demerol and methadone.

May 21 '75

# Police seeking radio equipment

*Sentinel-Review May 21 '75*

Police Chief Ron James returned from Ontario Police College in Aylmer Monday to put in a pitch along with Sgt. George Laucek for updated police radio equipment that will put Ingersoll town police in instant touch with every police department in the province using the same equipment.

Sgt. Laucek told council Woodstock will get new radio equipment this year and Tillsonburg is now making inquiries.

"If Woodstock, Tillsonburg and Ingersoll all go along with it, it will mean communication between every police officer in Oxford County, instead of the mass confusion we have now," he said.

He said the recent kidnapping case at Thamesford was a good example of why the new equipment is required.

"There were six police officers there, all on different circuits, unable to talk to each other," he said.

Sgt. Laucek explained the equipment, estimated to cost about \$22,000, included a repeater station that would be fixed in a permanent location such as the water tower or hospital.

Another advantage offered is the ability to keep communications between police officers secret when required

for security reasons. "By simply flicking a switch the officer can get off the open communication channel and speak only to one station or officer."

The new equipment would also do away with monitoring of police calls by the "John Citizen", Sgt. Laucek said.

"He won't be able to listen to us unless he knows how to get about it, and I won't tell him."

The provincial government will pay 75 per cent of the cost, leaving the town to pay only \$5,500. The police department will sell its existing radio equipment to the public works department for \$2,750, leaving a similar amount in the police department budget.

Sgt. Laucek said the provincial government plans to spend \$2.5 million on upgrading police communication systems, about half of which has already been spent.

"They are placing it before municipalities now, but failing their participation it will become compulsory," he said.

Tenders close May 30 for supplying the new equipment but town police committee will consider only two that can be serviced locally, Chief James said. After tenders are reviewed by the police committee they will be forwarded to the Ontario Police Commission to ascertain that equipment is according to its specifications.

# Ingersoll police department to be first to get new integrated radio system

The Ingersoll police department will be the first in Oxford County to have an integrated radio system following council's decision Monday night to award the tender for the \$22,410 system to Motorola.

According to Police Chief Ron James, installation of the new equipment should be operational by the end of this year, with the maximum time of six months to be allowed for installation.

Relay stations are to be established at the town hall and at Alexandra Hospital, and according to the chief, there should be no problems with interference. The Canadian General Electric tender, which was over \$2,000 higher than Motorola's bid, recommended locating the second relay station at the water tower because of the height, but the chief felt that the town hall location would do equally well, and recommended that council accept the lower tender.

The new system will be subsidized 75 per cent by the province, with the \$5,600 balance to be split between the police committee and the public works committee budgets.

Existing police radio equipment, valued at about \$4,100 will go to the public works department for use in their vehicles, and will include the base station, a portable radio and two mobile units.

Chief James said that he was anxious to get the new equipment this year because of the provincial subsidy that had been made available, and felt that "it will be a nice feather in our cap" to be the first department in the county to have the advanced communication system.

He said that the town would be equipped for at least the next ten years, and that the new system allows "plenty of room for expansion". It will handle six channels, he said, and at the outset the department will only

require three. A total of five portable radios will be included in the package.

"I'm really pleased that council moved so quickly to approve the new radio system," he commented after the meeting. "I'm anxious to get going on it as soon as possible."

The six-month period that is to be allowed for installation is necessary, he explained, because each system has to be designed specifically for the area in which it is to be used.

He felt, however, that the equipment would be operational before that time. "I think that

we'll have a terrific set-up here when it's complete," he said.

Servicing is to be done locally by Fred Hartfield who has agreed to continue the previous servicing arrangement with the department, the chief told council. This will eliminate the necessity for the maintenance contract which would amount to a monthly fee of \$161.

In other business at its regular meeting Monday night, council acted on a recommendation from the Workman's Compensation Board and increased the annual coverage for volunteer fire fighters from \$12,000 to \$15,000, at

an additional annual premium of \$6.

The improved coverage, made possible as a result of a July 1 amendment in the workman's compensation act, increases weekly payments from \$173 to \$216. The increases also apply to municipal employees, but the municipality has the option of applying the maximum coverage to its volunteer fireman.

Also at council, the question of dog control was raised, with Coun. Norm Bain voicing concern about the increasing number of complaints from residents in the community.

Directing his remarks to Police Chief Ron James, Coun. Bain said that he felt it was "time to start taking action instead of just issuing warnings", adding that he understood the problem involved, particularly with respect to the ruling that prevents the control officer or police from taking action when the animal is on private property.

Coun. Jack Warden suggested that council should take another look at its canine control by-law with a view to up-dating it. The matter was referred to the police committee for study and recommendation.

# Work of town police shown at open house

By JANICE VANSICKLE  
Sentinel-Review Staff Writer  
Raechel Ritchie doesn't get rattled easily.

At least she didn't Sunday as she went about her job as dispatcher at the Ingersoll Police Department, despite a steady stream of people milling about her desk during the department's annual open house.

Sunday was a quiet day as far as police business goes, but Raechel still had to handle several routine calls, while at the same time handing out pens, matches and road maps to visitors.

Police Chief Ron James, credited the peaceful day to the good weather. He said police calls run like the weather—on good days they are few, but on rainy days his men have to make a lot of house calls.

And the chief was glad. It gave him a better chance to show visitors through his office and other parts of the station and answer their questions.

The open house was the department's way of kicking off Police Week (May 15-23).

Police Week is intended to foster good relations between policemen and the public, James said.

And he hopes the residents of Ingersoll who attended the open house gained insight into the operations of the department.

## PUBLIC SUPPORT

He said the department needs the support of local citizens at all times or it can't do its job properly.

But each year it becomes harder to get people involved, he said. People are becoming more and more reluctant to come forward when they witness a crime.

He said his department, however, does get good support from most of the local residents.

And he credits the support to the small size of the town and the force.

Residents are familiar with the members of his 12-man force because they see them regularly, he said.

"Some people don't like the police, but we have a closer relationship in a small town than in a larger place like Toronto.

"If people are familiar with the officers it cuts down on crime."

However, to an observer, he said it may look like the police have an easy job, but that is a misconception.

He said that besides patrolling

and answering calls his men have a lot of paper work to do and some sophisticated equipment to handle.

James hoped the open house would clear up some of these misconceptions.

## BY APPOINTMENT

The department will be open to visitors all this week, but by appointment only. James said the policemen have to go about their work and if too many people come for a visit at the same time they may get short changed.



## POLICE COMPUTER EXPLAINED

Constable Rick Hillner, of the Ingersoll Police Department, explains to a group of visitors, details

about the Canadian Police Information Centre, the computer used to track people and information. It

was all part of the open house at the department. (See story on page 6) (Staff photo by Janice Vansickle)

## Rod and custom car club combines fun and safety

The Ingersoll Rod and Custom Association added a new dimension to the annual Ingersoll Police Department open house.

Members of the recently-formed club had several of their sleek machines parked in the department's parking lot on Sunday afternoon in conjunction with the open house.

Constable John Fortner, who is president of the club, said it was their first show and through it they hoped to gain some new members.

Since its conception in late March and the club's membership has grown to 45, but they hope to get more members involved, particularly teen-agers.

Fortner said the police force has some difficulty with young men between the ages of 16 and 21 who drive high-powered cars.

He said these boys don't have anything to do with the cars except drive around "and beat the hell out of them."

By joining the club, these boys will get a lot of assistance and knowledge from other members about designing and building cars, he said.

"It costs a lot of bread to build a car and we can help some of these young guys get started by offering them technical and mechanical advice."

The club also stresses safety, Fortner said, as well as teaching members the laws of the road.

And if a member is fined for a traffic offence he also has to pay the club an equal amount.

Police Chief Ron James said the department endorses the club 100 per cent for this reason.

James said he realizes young kids have to get rid of their frustrations somehow and if driving high-powered cars is one method, he's glad they now have a club to join that can teach them responsibility.

But the club is not just for teen-agers.

Fortner said it is a family-oriented club and members plan to organize several social gatherings.

On May 23 the club will be taking part in the Calithumpian Parade in Thamesford. And they also hope to organize an autorama.

One of the big attractions of the club is the sharing of

knowledge, Fortner said, and through it members can sometimes trace hard to find parts for their vintage autos.

Included in the club's auto collection are such notables as a 1927 Ford Model T, a 1945 Anglia and a 1948 Chrysler.

But not all the cars are old and ownership of a car is not necessary to become a member.

Fortner said people who don't own a car but are interested in building one are encouraged to join.

The club meets once a month at the Boy Scout Hall and the next meeting is June 13.



Wayne Harris (left) shows Don Hillis his 1932 Ford at Sunday's police open house.

(Staff photo)

Sentinel Review  
May 17, 1977

# Local police are developing public awareness of the law

By Lynne Pratt

Alcohol is a major problem in today's society, according to members of the Ingersoll Police Department. "If it wasn't for booze and its effects, there would be fewer problems for us to deal with," says Sgt. George Laucek.

In conjunction with Police Week, the Times interviewed members of the local police force on May 12, to gain some insight into the role of the police officer.

According to Const. Dennis Judd, alcohol has become a menace among 13 and 14-year-old children, as a result of the lowered age limit. Many licensed bars do not enforce the law and therefore, drinking under age has become common practice among today's youth, says Constable Judd. The majority of crimes committed, domestic quarrels, and complaints are directly related to alcohol, police officers indicate.

Local police feel that much of the blame lies in the permissiveness on the part of today's parents. Young people lack guidance and activity at home, inducing them to turn to their friends for some type of excitement. This may lead to drinking and often, more serious crimes as a result, they claim.

There is enough activity available to the youth of Ingersoll, according to Sgt. Laucek. "The blame lies in the

individual, rather than the community."

Estimates indicate that on a per capita basis, crimes in Ingersoll are proportionate to those of other small towns. Regardless of this, the men and women of the Ingersoll Police Department work long hard hours.

The Department is faced with anything from lost pets to high speed chases. Constable Gary Novakowski reported having been involved in three or four high-speed chases since he joined the Ingersoll force in October.

In the past month and a half, the local police have been called in on a shooting, a major car accident caused by criminal negligence, an alleged rape, a sudden death and an arsenic case.

The job of a police officer also involves a lot of paper work. Every call answered that warrants investigation, is logged for referral. Though not always the most exciting part of an officer's job, logging too is important as well as time consuming.

Police work is a full-time occupation. It cannot, and does not end in a 9 to 5 shift. Officers indicate that it can be frustrating as well as satisfying at times.

Making arrests is part of the job. "I don't like taking away an individual's freedom. There is no kick in making an arrest", says Sgt. Laucek. "It is necessary to

protect the guilty person from himself as well as John Q. Public.

Sgt. Laucek feels that arrests are satisfying and fulfilling when a big crime has been committed. Apprehension of a drunk, however, is not fulfilling or thrilling as far as he is concerned, "but it has to be done."

Sgt. Laucek and Const. Judd both admit that their career affects them socially. Without the support and understanding of their wives and children, both feel that their jobs would be much more difficult.

Understandably so, the divorce and suicide rates in North America are highest in the police force, according to Sgt. Laucek.

"Yes, I'm strict with my children, but not because I am a cop", said Const. Judd. "I maybe more cautious however, because I am made more aware through my job."

Both men feel that their jobs do not stigmatize their children socially, but they do handicap their own relations. Generally people shy away from policemen, or attempt to involve them with their problems, according to Sgt. Laucek.

"It no longer bothers me," he stated. "It is something we have to accept. The friends I have are good solid ones."

Though they admit that it can

be frustrating at times, Const. Judd and Sgt. Laucek both state that they enjoy their job. "I especially enjoy the one moment when I can make someone happy by helping that person with some problem," Sgt. Laucek commented.

A policeman is often faced with dangerous, or potential dangerous situations in which case he must react within seconds and remain calm. There is no time to be frightened, according to these men.

It is evident that the officers of the Ingersoll Police Department are a close group. As Const. Judd said, "We do a lot of joking and laughing around the station when we can, because most of the time there really isn't much to laugh about. This is serious business."

The main goal of Police Week, running from May 15 to 21, is to make the average citizen aware of the role of the policeman in dealing with the general public. By holding open house and encouraging questions, the force hopes to help people deal with their own problems by opening their eyes to those of others. It is meant to be a teaching experience for all, officers stated.

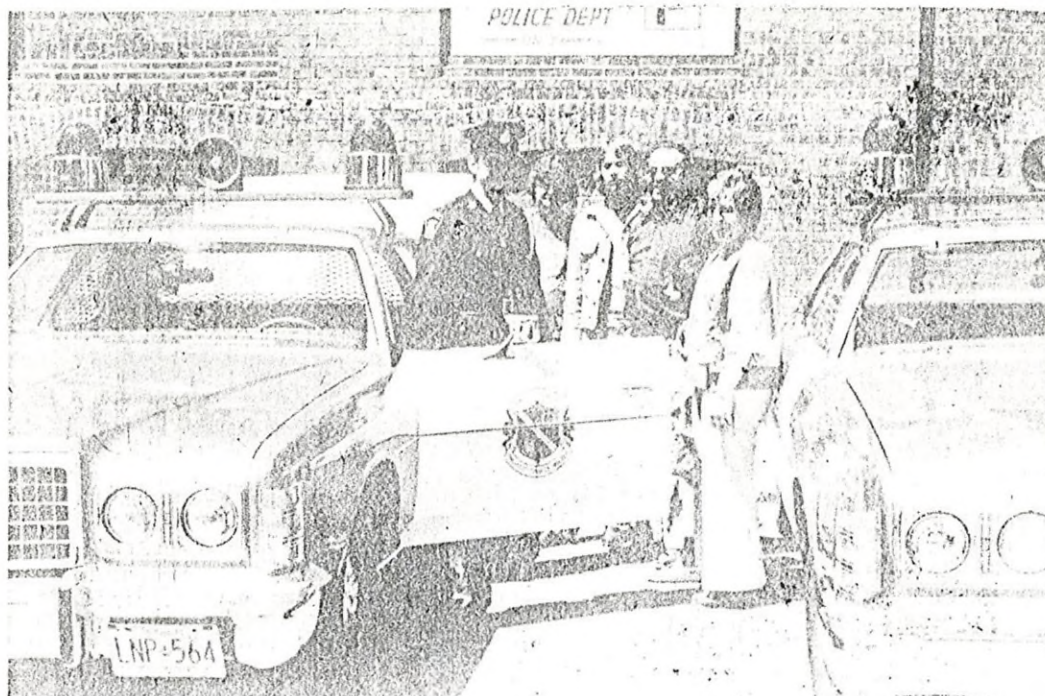
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POLICE DEPT.





An officer with the Ingersoll Police Department demonstrates use of the radio in the patrol car to people visiting the police station on Sunday. From the left are Ian McCutcheson and Paul Harmer of Woodstock and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Smith of Ingersoll.

## 'Police officers learn by experience' says Ulrich

Eleven years ago Lionel Ulrich walked into Ingersoll police headquarters looking for a job. With no formal police training or police experience to support his application, the former supermarket employee was uneasy about his chances. Two days later, however, he walked out of the station fully equipped in police attire.

Today Lionel Ulrich is Ingersoll's staff sergeant. He's one of six officers on the force who started out with absolutely no police schooling.

"I personally prefer people who haven't learned through the books," he said, noting that approximately 80 per cent of the time spent in police college is spent in classrooms with books. Some 20 per cent is spent on drills, physical workouts and firearms lessons.

"Experience gives a different insight than formal training." S. Sgt. Ulrich said he did not attend police school until he'd been on the local force for five years. He noted, however, that during those first five years, he did attend specialized police courses.

"You know when someone's breaking the law. When you first start out, you're not automatical-

ly put on your own, you're put with a senior officer. The most important thing is common sense."

Sergeant Ulrich said common sense is the prime base on which officers are hired. "Things such as height are of little importance. We take the best of the crop at the time we're hiring."

Although there are not retraining programs for police, S. Sgt. Ulrich said the local force has set up learning programs on its own. He noted that during the summer months, one day each week is set aside for rifle practice, while throughout the year, staff meetings are held on a monthly basis to discuss and review new and old laws.

Times  
May 18, 1977

# Police radio operator finds job exciting

Catherine Williams wants to become a police officer. Currently employed with the Ingersoll Police Department as a civilian radio operator, Kate says her goal for the future is to actually become an officer. She is

presently applying to various police forces for a position.

Catherine has worked for the Ingersoll department full-time for one year and part time prior to that. Her shift is an eight-hour one as dispatcher, answering radio and phone calls, operating the Canadian Police Information Centre and performing other related duties.

She enjoys her job, and finds it very exciting around the station when prisoners are brought in. "There are times when this place is absolutely crazy. It gets very hectic around here," Kate stated.

As a part of her duties, Kate must check on prisoners every 10 minutes. "If anything goes wrong, I have been instructed to radio one of the officers," she said. Because there must be someone in the station 24 hours a day, quite often when police officers are called out, the dispatcher is left alone.

During the day, Joyce Murray works as clerk dispatcher. Kelly Albright and Jack Savage rotate with Kate to work the remaining shifts. Though not a required part of her duty as a civilian radio operator, Kate's good nature and smiling face, is something officers cannot help but appreciate.



Rick Hillner of the Ingersoll Police Department is demonstrating the use of the C.P.I.C. (Canadian Police Information Centre) machine to people attending the open house Sunday.

Times  
May 18, 1977



Constable Roy Kivinen and S-Sgt. Lionel Ulrich of the Ingersoll Police Department explain the various pipes used to smoke marijuana. The demonstration was in connection with the open house held Sunday afternoon at the police station.

# Citizens to blow a whistle on crime

Vic Rawlins is a man with a mission. He is also a policeman and proud of it. His two day visit to Ingersoll last week has already had some effect on Oxford County police departments and it appears it is going to have a lasting effect on the Ingersoll Police Department.

Rawlins has fired with enthusiasm every officer who has heard him speak

on crime prevention. He describes himself as a "totally reactive police officer" who over the years has been involved with every possible type of crime and who used to have more arrests within a month than other officers had within a year, while he was still active on the Ottawa Police Department. Whatever his assignment was, he threw himself

totally into it and it was because of this total involvement that he began to research some of the things that were happening in crime.

For instance, during the six years that he was detailed to auto theft, he and four other officers were engrossed in their work 24 hours a day. They found that "joy riding" was the biggest problem in car

theft, rather than cars being stolen by professionals. He personally began to look into the possibility of setting up a by-law that cars had to be left locked and the keys removed.

To his amazement he found that other centres who had this by-law found that it was impossible to enforce it, because the community puts the onus on the shoulders of the police department and just shrugs its own shoulders when asked to become involved.

## \$55,000 campaign

Rawlins next step was to decide on a crime prevention campaign. The result was a \$55,000 campaign "Give a Boy a Break, Lock It and Pocket the Key" which cost the tax payers of Ottawa absolutely nothing. Spreading enthusiasm wherever he went, Rawlins was able to get the people of Ottawa so anxious to take part in the war against joy riding and juvenile crime, that service clubs, organizations and individuals within the city "were actually lining up to help".

Everything was donated, he said and within eight months a study showed that the number of cars stolen had been reduced by 625. Up to that time 2600 cars were being stolen in Ottawa every year.

His next project was Operation Identification which involved an intensive drive to have people put identification on all their valuables. The Ottawa police chief at that time recognized the important role of crime prevention and decided there was need for a full time crime prevention unit.

Today, stated Vic Rawlins, Ottawa is recognized



The lady in the centre of this photograph has reason to look proud. Teddy Ellis, John Street has just been informed that she was designated one of the most courteous drivers in Ingersoll during the December 1-7 period. Congratulating her is Community Relations Officer Phil DeBruyne of the Ingersoll Police Department and Joe Labron, president of the Green Giants Optimist Club, which sponsored the Safe Driving Week program here. Mr. Labron is presenting her with a pass for dinner for two at the Ingersoll Inn.

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## Citizens to blow a whistle on crime.

as having the most highly developed Crime Prevention Unit in North America. He is the man who developed it.

Other people were watching what the Ottawa Crime Prevention Officer was doing because after 22 years with that department he was seconded to the federal government, to a position as assistant national consultant in preventive policing. When the Ministry of the Solicitor General's office realized the needs of Crime Prevention in the country he first seconded a officer from the Vancouver Police Department to be the national consultant and then chose Rawlings as the assistant consultant. His secondment period was over officially a year and a half ago, and he is still going full tilt at his work, travelling from Newfoundland to Victoria Island, trying to develop crime prevention units in the smaller centres.

### Spending time in the slammer

It is obvious that he is disturbed about the number of Canadians spending a great deal of their lives in jail. He quoted statistics which had been released to him showing that Canada, on a per capita level, has more persons in jail than any other country.

Mr. Rawlings cites learning disability, peer pressure and opportunity as the three basic reasons for starting a young person off on a life of crime. Visibly affected by the thoughts of a youngster embarking on crime because he has had a learning disability, the Ottawa officer passionately believes that schools must be prepared and equipped to recognize when a student has a disability.

He has personally visited

jails to determine the number of people there who had problems learning when they were in school and is appalled at the incredibly high percentage of in-mates in that situation. The latter two conditions can be lessened by huge amounts with a crime prevention program, especially one that involves the community.

### Implementing suggestions

One of his suggestions that Chief Ronald James has pledged to personally implement is supplying a whistle to senior citizens. The two inch long plastic whistle, brought to Ingersoll by Mr. Rawlings, is imprinted "Blow a Whistle on Crime". The idea, he stressed is not to implant fear in the minds of seniors but to give the protection. The whistle, which has an amazing shrill pitch, could easily be worn around the neck, slipped into an apron or a shirt pocket. One short blast should summon help for anyone who is being molested, who has fallen and needs help, or who just has a weak spell. Chief James said he felt so strongly about the need for seniors that he would

personally undertake to find an organization which would agree to supply those whistles. The cost, he said, would be in the neighborhood of 11 cents each.

Another of Mr. Rawlings' inventions, which he admits usually come to him about three o'clock in the morning, is a device for securing basement windows. Pointing out that between 30 and 50 per cent of home break-ins are gained through the basement window, he added that there isn't a security device for basement windows on the market. His invention is a matter of inserting a steel bar, which has a chain and a nail on one end, into the frame of the window. With this bar in place the window can be left open and the basement aired, even while the resident is away because there is no way in which even the smallest child could squeeze through the divided opening.

Mr. Rawlings has not patented any of his devices -- he is sharing them with police departments across Canada.

It was obvious Thursday that his dedication and his enthusiasm has left a mark on the Ingersoll Police Department.

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# Following crime seminar Police to launch prevention program

The Ingersoll Police Department is about to embark on a sweeping crime prevention program. In all likelihood it will be joined by other departments within Oxford County.

The intensive program soon to be introduced, is one of several results from a one-day police seminar hosted by Community Relations Officer Phil DeBruyne of the Ingersoll department. The seminar was held in the Recreation Department offices Thursday and featured as special speaker and resource person Vic Rawlins of the Solicitor General's Department, Ottawa.

Mr. Rawlins, an officer with the Ottawa Police Department has been seconded to the Solicitor General as Assistant National Consultant Preventive Policing. Attending the Ingersoll seminar were delegates from every provincial police detachment and every police department in Oxford County, as well as a representative from the London detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police.

One immediate result of the day long "information gathering" is that plans were started that same day for another seminar, this time a three day one, in the immediate future. The Ingersoll Police Department will again be the host with Constable DeBruyne as co-ordinator.

Thursday's session was closed to the press because, Mr. Rawlins explained, he wanted a completely free exchange of ideas with the men totally uninhibited about what they were saying concerning crime patterns in their particular communities. However,



## Working Together To Prevent Crime

after the meeting adjourned, Mr. Rawlins, along with Community Relations Officer De Bruyne and Chief of Police Ronald K. James, granted an interview to the Ingersoll Times.

Mr. Rawlins explained that he had flown in from Ottawa Tuesday night and had spent all day Wednesday with Constable De Bruyne doing actual physical security checks within the town. The morning was spent doing residence checks he stated and his emphasis was on how simple techniques can be developed to ensure the security of a private residence.

The national consultant stressed the need to get people away from "a fortress mentality" when they are trying to secure their homes, because often the traditional devices just don't work or else are so expensive people cannot afford them.

Asked for some examples of the type of thing he recommended, Mr. Rawlins explained how to secure a patio door by using a piece of a hockey stick and two self-tapping

screws, at a cost of about 25 cents and without any visible signs. He described how easy it is to make sashless windows that go up and down secure, by drilling a slanted hole where the sashes come together and dropping a four inch nail into it. Again, the procedure costs pennies and does nothing to mar the appearance of the house.

The Ottawa officer said one of the simplest safety procedures was to leave lights on all night, with a big light at both the front and back of the house and to be sure you have large, easily read house-numbers on your home. He pointed out this not only discourages burglars or molesters but makes it possible if it is necessary to call police, firemen or ambulance drivers or anyone else for assistance, for those people to find the house easily.

Mr. Rawlins stressed that most of his ideas were that simple and that you did not need experts to put them into effect. He said they type of information has been around for years, but it has not been easily dispersed to the police departments until the solicitor general's department set up the Crime Prevention program.

The second phase of the "awareness program" he conducted in Ingersoll involved a great deal of discussion with shop owners on the main streets of the town. Accompanied by Constable DeBruyne, Mr. Rawlins visited nearly every store in Ingersoll.

They discussed shop-lifting, break and enters, broken windows and other problem areas. Mr. Rawlins termed his reception as "excellent" and said he was pleased that he had "real conversations" with the shop owners, who appeared eager to cooperate and to learn more.

Phase three was the seminar held Thursday which he saw in terms of "an information gathering." Pointing to a desk that was still covered with an array of odd looking devices as well as a number of hardware items, he explained he had been using the odd collection to stress to the community relations officers who had been present that there were so many things at their disposal to use in crime prevention and that they did not have to start their program without material to work with.

He pointed out a national logo for crime prevention, which had been designed by himself to bring out the necessity of "Working Together to Prevent Crime". Symbolically, the police officer is in the background of the group of people included in the artwork and other civilians are in the foreground.

Picking up what appeared to be a piece of square glass with a target painted on it, from the odd assortment on the table, he explained that the glass was really a piece of lexon plastic that he was recommending for use in store windows, particularly in jewelry stores. Describing the material as something that totally defeats "smash and grab" thieves, he indicated a dent in the plastic. The dent had been made by a bullet from a police .38 revolver, which had been fired at a distance of 25 feet. There was a dent but no hole.

There was an "eye piece" for doors, which received special attention along with a wooden wedge. Mr. Rawlins advocated that every home have both of these. He scorned door chains as

useless, saying they gave a false sense of security.

"You have to open the door part way to see who is outside to begin with" he reminded his listeners "then what's the next thing you do? You slip the chain off so you can see better." He added that the chain can be broken too easily anyway.

He said he would like to see everyone put an eye piece into the door, so that he can see who is outside without opening it at all. Then, if the door, must be opened, he added, the wedge, which can be made easily at home, can be inserted under the door from the inside. This means the door will be opened so far and only so far, he stressed. And it would be impossible to force it.

Each of the three men present was asked by The Times if he felt that Mr. Rawlins' visit in Ingersoll had affected the Department. Their replies were interesting and in general, in agreement.

Mr. Rawlins said he saw the meeting as "a beginning of both a changing in police attitudes and an awareness by the community to take up their responsibility in the prevention of crime."

"I don't mean for a minute that the department is not doing its job" he quickly added, "but I saw a change in the attitude of the men as we discussed things and I could see they were looking at situations in a different way."

Did he feel his visit to Ingersoll was worthwhile? "Absolutely," was his immediate answer "if I had been here for a whole week and had changed the mind of just one police officer, my time would have been well spent." "Never," he emphasized "have I ever felt that I have wasted a minute in this line of work."

Constable DeBruyne's reply was equally enthusiastic. "The last two days have given us an opportu-

ity to present crime prevention to our community in an effort to reduce criminal opportunity" he observed.

"I am really hopeful that as we introduce a new program of crime prevention to the community, we will get a great deal of community interaction at work" he added. He explained that within the next three weeks he will be presenting a brief to Chief James, containing a number of suggestions which arose as a result of the two days spent with Mr. Rawlins.

It is his hope, he said, that after Chief James had studied the brief and advised him as to which suggestions he will accept, he will be able to implement those suggestions as soon as possible. Constable DeBruyne stressed that he will be striving for quality rather than for quantity and that each project will be thoroughly researched before it is put into practice.

Chief James highly commended both the Ottawa official and Constable DeBruyne's interest" he stressed. "He had done so much on his own time and done it without any hesitation. He sees a need and then asks the question "how do we approach this need?"; that his approach is a positive one is obvious in the way every officer attending this seminar reacted to it. I highly commend Constable DeBruyne."

He added that he couldn't stress how valuable a contribution Mr. Rawlins had made. "We tend to forget that there is material available to help us in our work" he added "and it is good to have this brought out to us in a clear cut way."

"Personally," observed the Chief, "I would far rather prevent a crime than investigate it."

*Police to launch prevention program.*



"Working Together to Prevent Crime" is the theme of the Crime Prevention program being led across the country by Vic Rawlins, Assistant National Consultant Preventive Policing, with the Solicitor General's Ministry, Ottawa. Mr. Rawlins conducted a day long seminar for police departments and detachments in Oxford County, in

Ingersoll Thursday, after spending the previous day conducting physical examinations of security devices on residences and businesses in town. With Mr. Rawlins is Police Constable Phil DeBruyne who hosted the event and who now is planning a further three-day seminar, which will also be held in Ingersoll.

**Police photos  
and  
stories by  
Yvonne  
Holmes Mott**





**DISPATCHER STEPPING DOWN** — Staff photo

Joyce Murray, left, dispatcher at the Ingersoll Police station, will retire Feb. 2. Here, she and Kelley

Hunt, who will take over the job, discuss reports in the force's record book.

# Ingersoll crime

## takes a jump

By ARMITA JANES

Sentinel-Review staff writer

**INGERSOLL**—Criminal charges of all kinds increased last year in town the annual report of Police Chief Ron James shows.

Criminal driving charges increased to 90 from 58 in 1977. Criminal Code charges went to 189 from 147 and charges under the Liquor Licence Act increased to 207 last year compared to 154 the previous year.

There were 22 charges laid under the Narcotic Control Act in 1978, an increase of 10 from 1977.

Bylaw charges increased to 367 from 348. Liquor seizures totalled 797 compared to 648 the previous year.

Police laid 882 charges under the Highway Traffic Act last year, compared to 786 during 1977.

And although police investigated fewer accidents last year damage rose to \$292,985 in 1978 from \$220,815 the previous year. There were 322 accidents investigated last year, an increase of 15.

There were no traffic fatalities in Ingersoll during 1978.

Police officers spent more time on court duty last year—457 hours compared to 319 hours the previous year—an increase of 138 hours.

However, overtime hours decreased by 235½ hours, from 785 hours in 1977 to 549½ hours last year.

There was also a decrease in days lost due to sickness. Last year 57 days were lost compared to 176 days the previous year.

Chief James expressed concern about the delay in hearing court cases—sometimes as much as six months. The new system for hearing court cases by appointment, he said in his report, which will be in operation by the end of the year should speed things up.

There is a need for more parking around the police station, and more storage room in the police department, the report states.

The main objective of the police department in 1979 will be to expand its community service efforts to include more youth, safety and crime prevention programs.

Last year community services officer Constable Phil DeBruyne arranged a two-day seminar on preventative policing. Chief James, in co-operation with Bonnie Mott, presented an information program—Operation Beat the Blizzard—to seniors and other interested persons.

All weapons issued to police officers were updated last year, and a new backstop to the rifle range was built to replace the one destroyed by fire.

Last year there were times when no cruisers were available to answer emergency calls, because the number of cruisers was reduced from three to two, the report states.

Chief James "strongly recommends" addition of a third cruiser to the fleet.

# Need for third police cruiser is outlined in annual report

In his fifth annual report submitted to the town council, Chief of Police Ronald K. James expressed satisfaction and pride in his department, optimism in the new Crime Prevention programs and appreciation to the media. He also spoke of his concern over the long delay of some court cases coming to trial and the pressing need for a third cruiser to be added to the department.

Mentioning that some cases for trial "may be in our system for five or six months", he added that he felt the new system which involved appointments for trials "should be into operation the latter part of 1979, should certainly speed up the court cases and trials and be less time consuming for the citizens as well as the police officers." Referring to the present situation, Chief James added "There are too many officers that are sitting in courts for hours waiting for a case to be heard, while the community is not getting the benefit of his services."

He also had high praise for citizens in his report: "I would be remiss also, at this point, if I did not mention that the citizens of the town of Ingersoll can be very proud of the assistance and unselfish aid they afforded the police department over the past year. Many occurrences were cleared up and some were prevented, mainly because our citizens assisted us and became involved."

Ingersoll's 12 man police force is

assisted by four special constables and a civilian staff of four. The area which they protect within the town is approximately 4.5 square miles, with 45 miles of streets and a population of approximately 8,252 people.

During 1978 the staff lost only 57 days because of sickness. Constables Robert Markham, Bob Hill, Gary Novakowski and Phil DeBruyne and Civilian Radio Operator Jack Savage lost no time due to illness during the entire year. The chief extended special congratulations to C.R. O. Savage who has completed seven years without losing a day through sickness and to Constable Markham who has a four year record.

The chief referred to the special training courses the officers have taken and commended police committee members Councillors Wayne Campbell, chairman; Jack Talbot and Jack Warden and Mayor Doug Harris for realizing the importance of training courses at the Aylmer Police College and other training centres as well as "the never ending need for further education."

The report shows that police travelled a total of 85,444 miles in their duties in 1978 compared to 80,720 miles in 1977. At present there are two police cruisers in operation within the town. Chief James notes that after reducing the number of vehicles to two in 1978, "needless to say there were many times when no cruisers

were available for emergency calls." He notes that as of April 1977 it became necessary, when the provincial jail in Woodstock closed, to transport prisoners to the Elgin Middlesex Detention Centre in London. Observing that Ingersoll receives \$1.50 per mile from the Corrections Ministry for transporting prisoners, the chief adds "so I would strongly recommend a third cruiser to be added to our fleet." He explains that this cruiser could also be used for radar operations and out-of-town investigations or when the other cars are being serviced.

The annual report notes that during 1978 police investigated 2,449 reportable occurrences, compared to 2,339 in 1977. Other statistics show the following duties carried out by the department with the 1977 figures in brackets: complaints, requests and information logged, 10,231 (10,206); houses under supervision, 175 (189); business property under supervision, 612 (591); doors and windows found insecure, 111 (86); adult persons reported missing and found, nine (eight); summons served, 1,560 (1,419); warrants of commitment executed, 157 (187); miscellaneous escorts, 479 (305); funeral escorts, 62 (53); bank escorts, 429 (414); flare alarms, 539 (475); fire alarms attended, 59 (69); prisoners actually lodged in cells, 143 (128); lodgers given shelter, 13 (12); warnings issued by department, 432 (269); banquet permits

(L.C.B.O.) checked, 258 (325), dog complaints investigated, 347 (355); lottery licences issued, 34 (33), stolen bicycles reports investigated, 78 (97); sudden, accidental and suicidal deaths, nine (six).

Traffic statistics show there were no fatal accidents last year compared to one of a year ago. Police investigated 142 accidents involving damage over \$400 compared to 31 the previous year. Forty-four hit and run accidents were investigated, four more than last year and six pedestrian accidents compared to four last year. There were exactly seven bicycle accidents investigated each year.

More drivers were charged as the result of motor accidents last year. There were 94 charged compared to the 79 charged in 1977. The number of persons impaired in motor accidents, eight, was down one from the previous year. Also down were the number of persons drinking in motor accidents, 27 compared to 39 in 1977. Total damage in accidents amounted to \$292,985 compared to \$220,815 the previous year.

There were 58 more criminal driving charges laid in 1978, 90 compared to the 58 of 1977. The greatest increase came in charges of driving while suspended or disqualified, with the number climbing from 18 to 32 in 1978 and the second largest increase came in impaired driving charges with 31, nine more than the previous year, laid in 1978. While only two

# Need for cruiser outlined by Chief

(Continued From Page 1)

persons were charged with failing to provide a sample of breath in 1977, that number quadrupled to eight last year.

Ninety-six more Highway Traffic Act charges were laid by the Ingersoll Police Department in 1978. Of the 882 charges laid 584 were for speeding. That figure represents a decrease of 17 speeders from the previous year. Thirty-one people were charged with having no drivers licence, a startling increase over the eight who faced that charge the previous year. Five charges laid in 1978 that were not laid in

1977 were travelling wrong way on a one-way street, two persons; seven persons for having an unsafe vehicle; one for disobeying an officer directing traffic; and five for following too closely.

There were a total of 189 charges laid under the Criminal Code, 42 more than the previous year. The most dramatic increases were shown in theft charges where the number laid for over \$200 rose to

17 from the five of the previous year and the number of under \$200 climbed to 26 from four. Possession of stolen property also spiralled to 19 charges compared to three in 1977 and mischief charges zoomed to 16 compared to four the previous year.

Charges of break, enter with intent, dropped to three from the 10 of the previous year and common assault charges dropped from 17 to 10. Charges laid in 1978 which were not listed in the previous year's statistics included one

forgery, one fraud, two intimidation, three possession of a restricted or prohibited weapons and two false alarms for fires.

Liquor Licence Act charges increased by a startling 53 last year. The report shows a total of 207 laid in 1978 compared to 154 the previous year. There was an increase in every single category with Having Liquor Available in a Motor Vehicle charges rising from 76 to 94;

consuming liquor in other than a licensed premise, going from 32 to 55; minors consuming from 31 to 34; public drunks from 15 to 20 and drinking on a licensed premise while under 18 years of age, going from zero to four.

Narcotic Control Act charges almost doubled in numbers, going from 12 to 22. The largest increase was in the possession charges which climbed from eight to 17.

Town of Ingersoll By-law charges increased by 20 with a total of 367 laid last year. Meter violations formed the largest segment of the charges with 252 compared to 225. Liquor seizures totalled 797 last year, 149 more than the previous year.

Police seized a total of 756 pints of beer, assorted brands, four bottles of wine and 37 bottles of liquor.

Chief James concluded his report by expressing thanks to his staff for "their untiring efforts". "The members are part of our community" he stressed "and they show a great deal of loyalty to their duties, making our Police Force a truly effective Law Enforcement Agency."

# Ingersoll crime rate took jump past year

POLICE DEPARTMENT

INGERSOLL — Crime took a jump in town last year, putting an additional workload on the police department.

Police officers laid more charges in all areas—driving, criminal code, liquor, narcotics, and bylaw offences all climbed upward. Charges in all categories in 1978 totalled 1,757 compared to 1,505 in 1977.

More routine duties also kept the police busier this past year. They logged more complaints and requests for information, served more summonses, answered more alarms, lodged more prisoners, issued more warnings and investigated more deaths than in 1977.

Police officers also spent more time on court duty last year.

However, Police Chief Ron James hopes a new system of hearing court cases by appointment, to be introduced later this year, will speed things up for police officers and citizens alike.

The main thrust of the Ingersoll Police Department during 1979 will be expansion of its community service efforts with an emphasis on youth, safety and crime prevention programs.

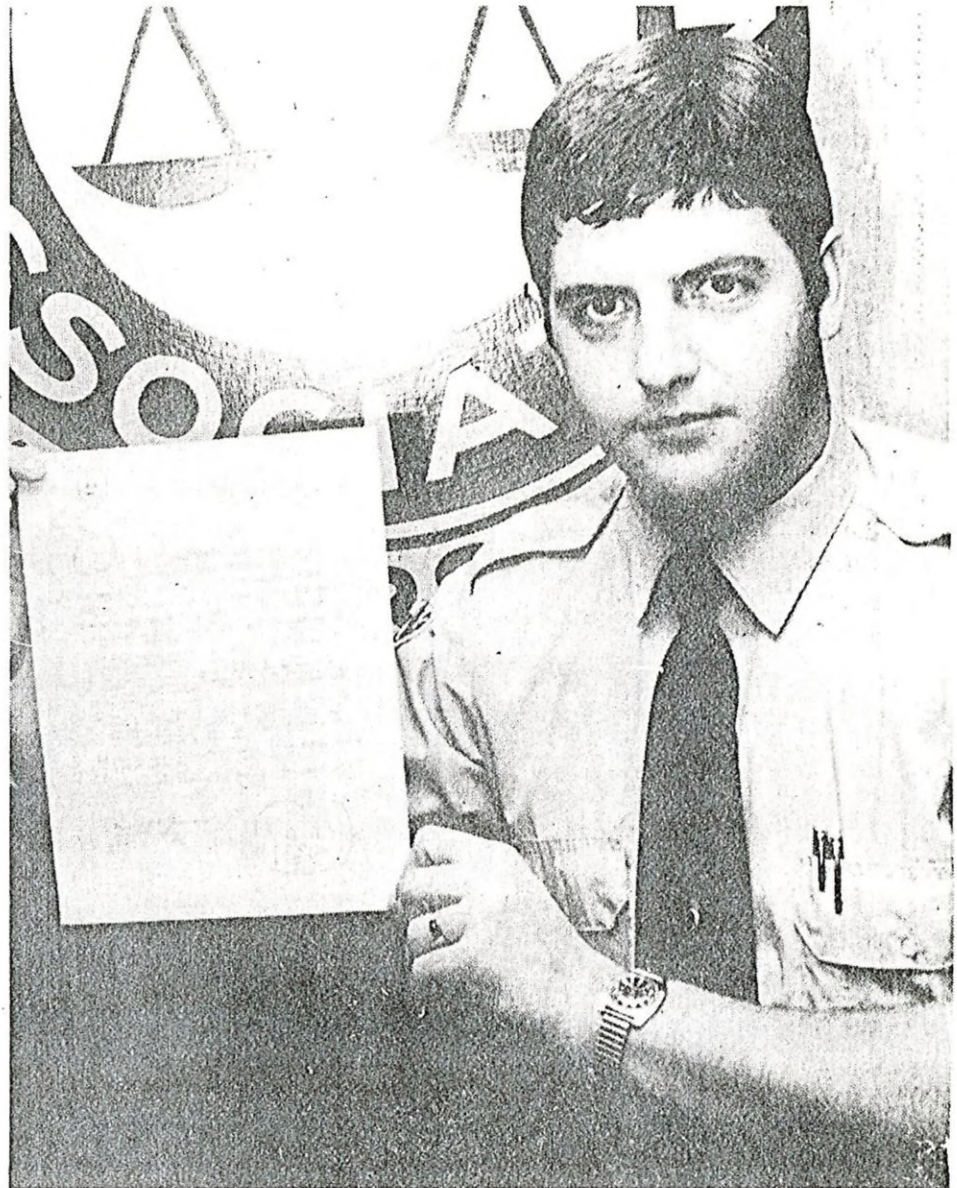
Constable Phil DeBruyne, the local community services officer, is in charge of these programs.

Last year firearms issued to police officers were updated, and an in-service training was given on the basics of using service revolvers.

Ingersoll Police Department hosted Alma, Mich. Police Department in the annual shoot last year. Two officers, S-Sgt. Lionel Ulrich and Constable Dennis Judd, attended the National Rifle Association Regional Championships hosted by the Detroit Police Department in 1978.

The local police department made more use this year of its Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) computer—one of the most advanced pieces of equipment in police history. The machines are utilized more each year because of the additional information fed into the computers.

James said in the near future mini-computers will be installed in all police cruisers. This will enable a police officer to get information from his cruiser rather than having to call back to a dispatcher in the police office.



## TRICKSTERS' TIPS

Police concered with Halloween pranks distributed to town schools safety rules for children and parents. Safety Officer Const.

Rick Hillner displays one of the sheets he and Chief Ron James passed around.

On many occasions messages are picked up on the scanner from police officers on Highway 401, and help is dispatched from Ingersoll police department.

Any vehicle equipped with a CB radio can call emergency messages to the local police department thanks to a CB base station supplied to the department by R.E.A.C.T. radio club of Woodstock.

The Ingersoll Police Department also has a scanner allowing the dispatcher on duty to monitor call from Woodstock OPP, Woodstock City Police, Ingersoll ambulance and fire department.

*SENTINEL - REVIEW  
Progress Edition March '79*

SENTINEL REVIEW PROGRESS  
EDITION

March 1979

# Seniors get briefing on crime prevention

By ARMITA JANES

Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — The sound of a shrill whistle will be a call for help from a senior from now on.

Constable Phil De Bruyne, community relations officer of Ingersoll police department Friday brought 1,000 whistles to an introductory session of a 20-week crime prevention and safety program being sponsored by the Golden Age Group.

The whistles were bought by the Golden Age Group and will be distributed to seniors attending the safety sessions that will resume next fall.

DeBruyne told his audience criminals often regard older persons as easy targets for many kinds of crimes.

He said some con games and sweet-talk crimes elderly persons should be aware of are:

- The phoney bank examiner who asks you to help him catch a dishonest bank employee by asking you to withdraw cash from your account;
- Tempting home improvement offers made by door-to-door salesmen;
- Retirement estates offered at conspicuously low prices to "lucky" individuals;
- Business opportunities and work-at-

home schemes that promise high profits after a substantial investment or registration fee;

— Fake laboratory tests, miracle cures and mail order clinics.

DeBruyne told seniors to report all suspicious offers to the police immediately, before the swindler leaves town in search of other victims.

The speaker stressed safety measures seniors should employ in their homes. He advised them to:

- Install good locks and always use them;
- Install a wide-angle door viewer so you can see callers before opening the door;
- Never open your door to a stranger without credentials.

Seniors should walk only in well-lit areas on the street, he said, and walk near the curb away from alleys and doorways.

Large sums of money should not be displayed in public, he said nor should seniors burden themselves with packages and a bulky purse.

He told seniors to lock their car after getting in, as well as when they left it.

And if you have car trouble, he said, raise the hood, lock yourself in and wait for the police.

Should a stranger stop of offer help, he said, do not get out of your car. Instead, ask the stranger to call a service truck.



— Staff photo

Helen Beynon demonstrates whistle for safety while Constable Phil DeBruyne looks on.

# Ingersoll agrees to jail work proposed at hanging inquest

INGERSOLL (Bureau) — Town council decided Monday to implement most of the recommendations made by a coroner's jury at an inquest into the March 10 death of an Ingersoll man who hanged himself in a jail cell.

The recommendations, forwarded to council from the town's police committee, are not expected to cost more than \$1,000. They are:

- ① Installation of a large window to permit a full view of the complete cell block;
- ② Painting of the cell block area to improve its atmosphere;
- ③ Installation of new locks with a single master key in the cell block area;

④ Purchase of six portable resuscitation units to be used by police and fire-fighters;

⑤ Provision of first-aid training for all municipal employees.

The town clerk also has been directed to ask Woodstock General Hospital if it will treat people who require the services of a detoxification centre.

However, council did not consider a recommendation by the jury that the prisoners be kept continually under surveillance, either by a television monitor or by someone hired to watch them.

Mayor Doug Harris said the recommendations, which were accepted without discussion, could be implemented immediately. "We feel the recommendations are feasible and needed at this time."

They were contained in a report from the town's police committee, which held a closed meeting last week to discuss the May 4 inquest into the death of Sjverd Boersma, 60, who hanged himself with his belt after being arrested for impaired driving.

The committee also is considering the

installation of a metal plate to cover the complete ceiling areas of the town's two cells to deter further suicide attempts. The ceilings are made of a strong wire mesh and have several holes in them where a belt or other object could be attached.

Boersma's death was the first suicide in the Ingersoll police station but it was the second alcohol-related death in less than a year.

On May 4, 1978, Roy (Dutch) Johnston died of alcohol poisoning while spending the second of two nights at the Ingersoll station. In both cases, a coroner's jury recommended a detoxification centre for Oxford County.

LONDON FREE PRESS  
July 17, 1979



# New police contract confirmed by council

A contract agreement between the Town of Ingersoll and the Ingersoll Police Department has been enacted into by-law.

Agreement on the contract was reached last January 1 after routine negotiations, and council enacted it into by-law at a meeting July 16.

The contract governs wages, working conditions and fringe benefits for both police officers and civilian members of the Ingersoll Police Department. Included in the fringe benefits package are health and life insurance and allowances for continuing the education of Ingersoll Police Officers.

The contract provides for salary increases of up to 9.3 percent for a First Class Constable. First Class Constable

with the Ingersoll Police Department earns \$20,000 a year under the new contract, which is retroactive to January 1.

Ingersoll Police Association president Rick Hillner said he was pleased with the contract. He said Ingersoll police still earn less than police officers in larger centres such as London and Metropolitan Toronto, but pointed out that the cost of living is higher in large cities than it is in Ingersoll. However, Hillner said he believed that Ingersoll police earn less than those in Tillsonburg, which has only a slightly larger population.

In addition to monetary increases, various adjustments to the benefits structure were made in the new contract, Hillner said. He declined to be specific about the nature of these adjustments.

The contract agreement between the Town of Ingersoll and the Ingersoll Police Association is renegotiated on a yearly basis, with discussion between the two parties beginning in October. Agreement on the contract has always been reached quickly in the past, and negotiations are usually routine.

Under the Ontario Police Act, police officers in Ontario are not permitted to strike or to form a union. The Ingersoll Police Association is not a union, but simply an organization designed to protect the interests of Ingersoll police officers and to represent them in bargaining talks with the Town.

# Protection program to assist merchants

BY MARGARET BOYD

Operation Provident, a crime prevention program of marking property for easy identification, will be started in Ingersoll by May, 1980, if the Chamber of Commerce approves," said Constable Phil DeBruyne, speaking at the first Chamber of Commerce meeting this fall.

About 40 merchants belonging to the Chamber of Commerce, attended the luncheon meeting held at The Ingersoll Inn, Monday, September 10. Regular Chamber business was cast aside so that Chief Ronald James and Constable DeBruyne could outline the programs and goals of the police department in the coming year.

"Everybody benefits from working together," Chief James told Chamber members. The Ingersoll police hope that programs such as Operation Provident and Operation identification which aids home property identification, will decrease theft and crime in town.

Operation Provident is a national program of marking property owned by the private sector, including businesses, churches, schools and industries, with assigned numbers.

"Objects marked with the nine-digit numbers can be traced for identification anywhere in Canada by computer," Constable DeBruyne said.

Bonnie Mott, secretary-manager of the Chamber of Commerce suggested that Ingersoll endorse the program and has offered to look after the file system of the program, the constable added.

Chamber of Commerce member Irene MacMillan, raised a motion that the retail sector of Ingersoll endorse the police program. Scott Walker seconded it.

Although the police department will apply for a grant through the Summer Job Core for the summer of 1980, the grant will only cover wages of students involved in conducting security surveys, Constable DeBruyne said.

"The cost of materials will have to come from the community." He added that he will approach service clubs for financial assistance in establishing Operation Provident.

Objects marked by the Operation Provident system have nine-digit numbers that are broken down into groups of three: the first three numbers are OP5, (five is the number assigned to Ontario); the second three numbers are 054, which the Ontario Police Commission will be able to trace to the Ingersoll Police force and the last three digits will be registered with individual businesses.

In Operation Identification, a program to prevent theft of individual property and home property, objects will be marked with the owner's Social Insurance Number and the first three numbers of the postal code.

The constable said that few statistics were available on the programs but that a Carleton University study done on Operation Provident showed a 62 per cent drop in theft.

Chief James praised Constable DeBruyne for his involvement in school safety programs and the Chamber of Commerce.

"He puts 500 per cent effort into everything he does," Chief James said. The constable said that he would like to talk to each merchant individually about any problems they are having with crime prevention.

Merchants expressed concern over bad cheques and asked the representatives from the police what could be done.

Constable DeBruyne told merchants that cheques should be processed as soon as possible. If a cheque bounces, the bank must give the cheque writer notice by way of letter, that he or she has 10 days in which to settle the matter. If nothing happens, then the police should be informed and they will issue a 48-hour time lapse to the writer of the cheque, and investigate the matter further.

A six-page leaflet was handed out to Chamber members from the police department, informing them of the crime prevention programs.

Joey Ulrich, manager of Rochdale Credit Union, chaired the luncheon meeting replacing John Van Dyke president of the Chamber of Commerce, who was away.

INGERSOLL TIMES  
September 12, 1979

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Would cost Ingersoll only \$1,000

## Program aimed at preventing crime

By GLEN OGILVIE

Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL-The green light has been given by an Ingersoll committee for a \$25,000 crime prevention program here.

The 22-week program, which will employ seven local people, will cost the town less than \$1,000, says project supervisor Const. Phil DeBruyne.

He told the fire and police committee that the bulk of the program would be paid through a federal government Youth Job Corp grant.

The program still has to be approved by council.

The grant would cover wages for one job corp leader and six workers, but there must be a commitment from the community to cover expences, like gas, telephone, office equipment and transportation, he said.

"The most money will be for transportation and the chief (Ron James) says there are allowances in the police budget to cover most of it," he said.

Mayor Doug Harris said if the program can cut down on weekend vandalism it would be

well worth the investment.

The grant recommends the workers come from the immediate area to be serviced under the program and requires them to have post secondary school education.

Chief James said it would be nice to get people involved in the program who are intrested in careers in the police field, but it may pose a problem because it is an awkward time for the program for those who may be intrested.

James said crime prevention is becoming a big item because authorities are finding it cheaper than crime detection.

But crime prevention can't be seen as easy as crime detection, he said.

The job corp leader will be paid about \$228 a week while the workers receive a salary of \$120.

The first phase of the

program-Operation Provident-will consist of business and industrial security, anti-shoplifting and fraud protection.

Operation Identification is to include neighbourhood watch, home security and consumer protection.

James said the chamber of

commerce has already been approached and the proposed program has been well received. Some local industries have also shown an intrest.

DeBruyne said the Ingersoll police department would only act in an advisory capacity to the program.

# Crime prevention program accepted

Rather than spend extra time and money on crime detection the Ingersoll Police department has plans to head criminal activity off at the pass, namely a crime prevention program.

Constable Phil DeBruyne, Ingersoll's community relations co-ordinator, presented 'Operation Submission' Thursday at the regular police and fire committee meeting. It is part of the federal Youth Jobs Program and its objective is to educate the community on how to eliminate criminal opportunity in Ingersoll's public and private sectors.

A government grant would pay wages for one corp leader and six corp workers. It would be their job to educate the public, including both business merchants and the general public.

'Operation Provident' is where methods of business security, industrial security, anti-shoplifting and fraud protection would be taught. Through the projects awareness programs it is hoped break, enter, theft, vandalism, insecure premises and security hazards would be minimized.

'Operation Identification is the second phase of the program and it is designed for

the general public. Consumer protection, home security and neighborhood watch are just a few of the prevention methods that will be stressed.

The government grant would pay a good portion of the \$20,000 in costs the program would incur. To offset other costs financial assistance would be sought from the Town of Ingersoll, local service clubs, local businesses and local industries.

Police committee members were quite pleased with the proposal to initiate such a project and will recommend that council approve it. Part of their recommendation will be a \$957.75 contribution to the project which will help cover transportation allowances, office equipment and project equipment such as crime prevention aids.

If approved, the project would operate from November 1, 1979 to March 31, 1980. Committee members saw two distinct advantages to the program, the major one being crime prevention and the second being employment for seven local persons.

Police Chief Ron James said not only will the project employ seven persons in the area, but it could also mean prospective full time employment for the corp workers, especially in the crime prevention field.

# Ingersoll police department taking first aid program

By GLENN OGILVIE

Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — The entire Ingersoll Police Department is taking a one-night crash course in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

Police Chief Ron James said the CPR course is one of the recommendations handed down by a coroner's inquest into the jail-hanging death of an Ingersoll man earlier this year.

The four-key, jail locking system has already been changed and work will begin within the next few weeks to install a prisoner observation window. The two jail cells will also be painted.

"We've got all the equipment for the changes. We just need somebody to do the work," James said.

James said the observation window has to be constructed within a day since a large hole can't be left open for a few weeks while workers install the one-way glass.

James said the CPR course will be taught free by Ted Winter, a supervisor with the Thames Valley Ambulance Service in London, and will include the application of pressure bandages, mouth to

mouth resuscitation and heart message procedures.

Every police officer has to have first aid training but after three or five years the certificate expires. Procedures learned in the course are important and could mean the difference between somebody living or dying, James said.

The police department will be broken into two groups for the course which will consist of an intensive 3½-hour night class. All town departments are being encouraged to take the course by council.

"I think council is on the right track, I agree with them 100 per cent," James said. "The training can be used here, but at home as well."

He said all town departments should become involved with the course because many are doing hazardous jobs and are in places where a serious accident could happen.

If a person collapsed on the street from a heart attack, somebody might be handy until a doctor or the ambulance arrived, James said.

James said police know how to keep an accident patient comfortable, but in each of the three areas covered by the

course a person could die within minutes.

"If a person has a broken limb they won't be comfortable and it's our position to make them comfortable, putting a blanket over them or putting something under their head until an ambulance comes, he said.

"But if a person is bleeding excessively, you can't wait until an ambulance arrives," he said. "An officer will be able to make an effort to save a person's life because he will have the training and confidence of the

course.

"We are trying to do as much as an emergency unit as possible," James said. "All members of the staff will be going out for the course. It's not an order but it might just as well be."

James said it is difficult for the department officers to attend a first aid course because they are eight weeks long and officers are on shift work.

He said the only cost for the course will be a dollar an officer for a training kit.

# Ingersoll jail cells improved gradually

INGERSOLL (Bureau) — Police are gradually improving town jail cells after a recommendation by a coroner's jury last spring, Chief Ron James said Monday. But the major recommendation — a detoxification centre — is out of the department's hands.

The recommendations arose out of an inquest May 4 into the death of Sid Borsma, 60, an Ingersoll resident who hanged himself in a jail cell while intoxicated March 10.

The jury recommended cell improvements, emergency medical training for staff, use of a master key for the cell block and establishment of the detoxification centre. James said dispatchers and the 12-man police force are to begin a crash course in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

The cell block locking system has been changed so only one key is now needed. A larger viewing window overlooking the station's two cells is to be installed, the chief said. The town will also repaint the cells to improve the atmosphere.

But James said the decision to open a detoxification centre is not up to the town, which has sent a letter to the province stating its concerns.

A task force was established last January by the Thames Valley district health council in London to study the need for detoxification services in Oxford County. But it is not expected a decision will be made until early next year because the task force is waiting until the health council completes an extensive study of hospital use in the region.

James said the town should also consider the possibility of using facilities at Alexandra Hospital in Ingersoll if a detoxification centre is not established.

# 20-year-old girl to head crime prevention program

By GLENN OGILVIE  
Sentinel-Review staff writer  
INGERSOLL-A 20-year-old  
Ingersoll girl has been hired to  
head up the "crime prevention"  
program which will get under  
way early next year.

Kathy Burrill, was chosen by  
the solicitor general's office to

The second phase, Operation  
Provident, includes the marking  
of business and industry  
property, industrial and  
business security, fraud  
protection, anti-shop lifting and  
anti-vandalism.

"We want to be a really visible  
group in the community and the

pression that they really want to  
become involved," he said.

Although the crime prevention  
program was initially  
shearheaded by Ingersoll police  
department, it will only act in an  
advisory and supportive  
capacity to the program.

Ms. Burrill said the crime  
prevention team will be plan-  
ning workshops and seminars  
for people, businesses and in-  
dustries along with a crime  
prevention brochure and "other  
things along that line."

"There's a lot of specific  
things we can do and a lot of  
things we can do with the  
program...we're all hoping the  
program is successful," she  
said.

head up the 16-week program.  
Six workers will be hired  
within two weeks to complete  
the crime prevention team.

"Once the six workers are  
hired we'll plan our activities  
which will take place and lay  
down our objectives for the  
whole program," Ms. Burrill  
said in an interview.

The team won't be going out  
into the community until after  
the new year, community  
relations Const. Phil DeBruyne  
said.

The first phase of the  
program, Operation Ident-  
ification, will be the marking of  
personal property and falls  
under the catagory of Neigh-  
bourhood Watch. The program  
also includes home security,  
crime protection and anti-  
vandalism.

line we'll be taking is simply a  
group that is responsible for  
planning and carrying out these  
preventative crime programs,"  
said the graduate of a two-year  
recreation leadership course at  
Fanshawe College.

The solicitor general's  
ministry will be providing  
\$16,000 for the program, which  
will pay the wages and some  
expences, while the remaining  
\$5,000 will come from the  
community.

DeBruyne said that \$1,000 has  
already been donated from  
community organizations and  
he is hoping to raise another  
\$4,000 which will help pay  
material costs for the program.

"We've had a terrific  
responce from the community  
and it has left us with the im-

## Ingersoll News



KATHY BURRILL, 20, has been picked to head the crime prevention program in Ingersoll. Along with Const. Phil DeBruyne, com-

munity relations officer, she is displaying one of the posters which explain the theme behind the program.

*Sentinel-Review  
November 27, 1979*



# Corp leader appointed to prevention program

BY MARGARET BOYD

Kathy Burrill will be stepping into the position of Job Corps Leader for a crime prevention program next Monday and already she is reading up on the subject. "The more I read, the more excited I get", she claims.

The 21-year-old Ingersoll resident was chosen last week for the job, by a selection panel. The program will run from December 3 to March 28. Kathy was one of 10 initial applicants to be interviewed last Monday; the applicants were narrowed down to three on Tuesday and she was chosen on Wednesday.

Kathy already has a sound base in communications and administrations. She is a graduate of Fanshawe College's recreational leadership program.

The crime prevention program is sponsored by the ministry of the solicitor-general. The two projects of the program are Operation Provident and Operation Identification.

Operation Provident will include anti-shoplifting, anti-vandalism, fraud protection, and business and industrial security programs for the public sector.

Operation Identification will deal with neighborhood watch, consumer protection, home security and anti-vandalism programs for the private sector.

"A very important aspect of the program is maintaining an open rapport with the community," Kathy said. "Happy and surprised," is how she described her reaction upon getting the job.

There will be three phases to the program. Phase one is the planning period, which will entail research, using resources in the ministry, Kathy said. The second phase will be putting the plans into operation. The third phase will be a gearing down and follow up.

"An extensive report will be made to the

ministry at the end of the program," she said.

Six Job Corps workers will be hired by Kathy by December 17. There have been about 25 applicants for the jobs so far, said Constable Phil DeBruyne, community relations co-ordinator. Hiring the six workers will be one of Kathy's first tasks.

"I'm interested in gaining more experience in management and in looking after a budget," she said.

This is the first time that the Ingersoll police force has obtained a grant from the ministry to sponsor such a program.

The police are not involved in the program except in an advisory and resource capacity. They did not hire Kathy, that was left to a selection panel consisting of two people from the Toronto solicitor-general's office, Helen Vail, regional consultant from Toronto and Cindy Clark, a student assistant.

"The police department felt that Kathy had an exceptional personality. She was enthusiastic and we felt that this would help in implementing the programs. She will be an asset to the programs and to the community," Constable DeBruyne said.

"The police have lots of background material and I'm getting lots of support from the department," Kathy said.

Prior to being hired for the Youth Job Corps leader, Kathy worked in the Dearness Home for the aged in London. She was an activities co-ordinator at the home.

This is the first year that the Job Corps program has been run during the winter months on what is called the "year-round component." Thamesville and Waterford also have the program, although those communities are using students as opposed to non-students, Constable DeBruyne said. The jobs are made available through Canada Manpower.

St. Mary's and Tillsonburg have had a lot of success with the summer Job Corps programs, he added.



**Kathy Burrill is the new job core leader for federally-sponsored program called Operation Provident and Operation Identification. It starts December 3 and Kathy will be responsible for the hiring of six job corps workers.**



— Staff photo

## RECOMMENDATION SEES ACTION

Ingersoll Police Chief Ron James looks though a new prisoner observation window. The window has been installed following a coroner's inquest made the recommendation after a

local man hung himself in the jail earlier this year. Additional lights are to be installed in the cells and they will be painted in the new year.

# Crime prevention team has three 'targets'

By GLENN OGHVIE

Sentinel-Review staff writer  
INGERSOLL-Ingersoll's recently formed crime prevention team is going to tackle three problem areas in town - business security, shoplifting and vandalism.

Kathy Burrill, job corp leader, said that these three areas are a big concern for the Ingersoll Police Force as well as the community.

They have indicated that these are the main areas of concern through the support they given us, Ms. Burrill said.

She said vandalism and shoplifting is very hard to prevent and the team is planning to make businesses, industry and the private sector more aware how much it costs taxpayers.

"Vandalism is a hard thing to prevent," she said. "We're planning workshops and seminars to promote preventative tips and awareness."

The seven-member crime prevention team was hired about two weeks ago and is presently going through various workshops and training seminars. The teams plans to start the actual commnity program shortly after the New Year.

"We went out for a walk around town as a group and had a chance to look at things we have been reading and discussing and it really hit home," Ms. Burrill said.

"I'm not talking about major changes and renovations but just smaller things most of us didn't know about," she said.

All team members agreed that there is plenty of work to do in Ingersoll to promote crime prevention.

Ms. Burrill said there is two angles to take against vandalism.

"We can try reach the community at large and tell them the potential ills of vandalism, plus we can try make vandals and shoplifters think twice before doing it," she said.

She said since the team started there has been three reaction from the public.

There has been a lack of understanding of what the team's job is and what it is going to do, but there has definately been positive support from businesses, industry and service clubs, plus there has been a negative reaction "which we have dealt with and is probably over," she said.

"There are a lot of people looking at us with real positive anticipation," she said.

Coun. Eugene Mabee questioned the hiring of out-of-town help for the crime prevention team at last council meeting.

"It was said that only two people were from town, but I believe four people are from town who shop, work and went to school here," she said. "If boundary lines are draw it will exclude a lot of people who have supported this town for a long time."

"I've found the group is really enthusiastic about their job," she said. "I think they will look a little further and work a lot harder to make the program work."

Ms. Burrill said the team will make business and industry security checks throughout town or on request and following their inspection will make their recommendations of needed changes and improvements.

"We'll make our recommendations, but we won't judge it after. If the people follow through thats great, but if they don't do anything that's up to them," she said.

Police Dept.



INGERSOLL'S CRIME prevention team gets a few pointers from Police Chief Ron James. From left are: Dave Rush, Marlene Wilson, Community Relations Officer Phil DeBruyne,

Marinella Odorico, Terry Davis, Jackie Shaf-toe and Louis Todd. Front: Job Corp leader Kathy Burrill and Ron James.

To cover 'prevention and 'reaction'

# Seminar to take long, hard look at crime

By GLENN OGILVIE  
Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — Ingersoll's Crime Prevention Team will be holding a day-long crime prevention and crime reaction seminar in March.

Job corp leader Kathy Burrill said in an interview that the day is also being jointly organized by the Ingersoll Police Department; Fanshawe College, community service training in business and industry; and the Ingersoll Chamber of Commerce.

The seminar is geared for local retail merchants and industries and will include discussions, panels, slide presentations along with movies.

"We're really enthusiastic about the seminar and we're planning a few surprises as well, Miss Burrill said.

"We hope it will be a very unique day and will not only generate questions and answers, but prompt some community feeling into crime prevention as well as reaction to crime afterwards," she said.

The day long seminar, starting Tuesday, March 18 at 9 a.m. and finishing at 4 p.m., will include such topics of interest as: armed robberies, the role of the police identification officer, shoplifting, fraudulent cheque writing, and general business security.

"We'll be using the Ingersoll Police Department as our main resource," she said. "Our group will be looking into films and other presentations, plus Fanshawe will be providing a lot of information as well."

Miss Burrill said that the seminar will not only discuss crime prevention, but would also be looking into what to do when a crime is happening.

"We'll be looking into aspects dealing with what to do when a crime is actually happening, what to do after a crime happens and what the police department needs from a business in the event of a crime happening, she said.

"We're trying to put in a real conscious effort not just a rush job," she said.

Mrs. Bonnie Mott, Chamber manager, said the day-long seminar is being really well planned and organized and should be worthwhile for all merchants and local industries who attend.

The Chamber of Commerce is promoting the seminar to all local merchants and industries as well as arranging the publicity.

"It will be an excellent day for everyone. It will be cramped with ideas and suggestions for causes of crime and how to prevent it," she said.

Miss Burrill said the crime prevention program, initiated in December, has been very successful with local businesses and industry.

"The program is going very well", said adding that 45 business security checks have been completed. "Compared with the number of businesses in town it may not seem like a lot, but the length of time we've been at it, it's adequate."

Starting the first week of February the team will swing into



**CRIME PREVENTION** team member Marinella Odorico engraves a typewriter as

part of Operation Provident. The program will start the first week of February.

"operation provident" which consists of a demonstration of how to mark valuables and equipment, and catalogue the goods as measurers against crime.

"We're not actually going to do the marking, but we'll have the engravers to book out to each business who will be responsible to do their own marking. We will demonstrate how its' done," she said.

Miss Burrill said the crime prevention team will not be able to go to each home under operation identification, but will go to a home every time such a visit is requested. The program is similar to operation provident.

"If a person wants to request a home security check and to mark their property they can contact us by phoning 485-1502 and simply ask for the crime prevention team," she said.

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# \$250,000 slander award given to Ingersoll's ex-police chief

By GREG ROTHWELL  
Sentinel-Review staff writer

A former Ingersoll police chief was awarded \$250,000 by the Ontario Supreme Court Tuesday in a slander suit against a Thornhill businessman who had been running for a seat on York regional council.

Inspector Leslie Pengelly, 60, of the York regional police department, was awarded the unusually high settlement by a jury that found Douglas Sheldrake, 28, a businessman and former York police constable, had slandered him by claiming he stole property from the scene of crimes he investigated.

The jury found the allegations to be false.

Pengelly had been the chief of the Ingersoll police department from 1955 to 1964.

He became chief of the King Township department when he left Ingersoll, and became an inspector in 1971 when regional government came into effect in the area.

In 1978, Sheldrake told local reporters that Pengelly had been involved in thefts, and had loitered about the scene of breaking and entering cases he was investigating so he could do so.

The businessman alleged that Pengelly had been dismissed from his job in Ingersoll because



Leslie Pengelly  
...1964 file photo

he was caught stealing.

Sheldrake also made complaints about "a dozen other officers" with the York regional department, Pengelly said in a telephone interview from his department in Gormley today. But he was the only one to take legal action.

The Ontario Police Commission investigated all the claims in 1978 after Sheldrake repeated his allegations to other reporters, held a news conference and gave an interview to

Morton Shulman who later wrote a column on the allegations for the Toronto Sun.

The OPC hearing lasted three months, and in November, 1978, published a report stating the allegations were without foundation.

"They cleared the whole works," Pengelly said today.

Sheldrake appeared in court without a lawyer Tuesday, and Richard Sommers, who defended the inspector, told the jury "you will see why Mr. Sheldrake was reluctant to come here to face the music."

Sommers said the businessman made the allegations because he was seeking public office, and wanted the publicity he knew his claims would receive.

"He was unknown in the community before then, and after his allegations he became known," Sommers said.

"I submit to you the inference to be drawn was that this was a calculated attempt by Douglas Sheldrake to persuade the voters to elect him."

The businessman failed to obtain a council seat in the 1978 election.

# Another police officer needed: Annual report

By JOE KONECNY

Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — Ingersoll Police Chief Ron James has requested the hiring of additional staff in his annual report submitted to the town's police and fire protection committee.

Increasing public demands and work load were cited as justifications for hiring one more police officer, the report says.

"Although the population has not increased very rapidly over the past few years in Ingersoll, the workload and the public demands seem greater and more time consuming," James said in the report.

Some aspects of police work — foot patrols, radar patrols and school safety program — have suffered due to a manpower shortage in the past, the submission stated.

In other business reviewed in the report, the total number of charges in 1979 rose marginally. Last year 1,797 charges were laid, compared to 1,757 in 1978.

"Although some areas of crimes were decreasing in 1979, I am very disturbed at the increase in crimes such as wilful damage, causing a disturbance, assault causing bodily harm, assaulting and obstructing a police officer, trespassing, possession of a dangerous weapon, failing to comply with an undertaking and failing to appear.

"Some of the above offences indicate violence and lack of respect for law and order," James added.

"I think all levels of government should give concern in some of these areas. I am sure most of these offences are of a national problem."

The number of disturbance charges this year has jumped to 49, compared to 13 in 1978 and incidents of wilful damage have increased by 13. Only two wilful damage charges were laid in 1978.

Ingersoll constables apprehended 14 trespassers in 1979. Only one case occurred two years ago.

Fourteen charges of obstructing a police officer were laid last year, compared to two a year earlier, and police found themselves butts of more brawls in 1979 too. Police were assaulted on six occasions last year, doubling the 1978 total.

Police arrested seven people for assault causing bodily harm — five people were apprehended in 1978 — and seven for common assault. There were 10 cases of common assault in 1978.

Fifteen mischief makers were caught last year, marking a decrease of one compared to the previous year.

Breaking, entering and theft cases dropped by five in 1979. There were 18 charges laid in 1978.

Theft over \$200 dropped drastically. Seventeen charges

were laid in 1978, compared to four last year. Theft under \$200 resulted in the conviction of 21 people last year, marking drop of five from one year earlier.

Three people were charged with carrying a concealed weapon last year. The same number were charged in 1978. Charges for possession of a dangerous weapon rose to three from none in 1978.



# Nine per cent raise accepted by town police association

By JOE KONECNY

Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — A new, one-year contract provides members of the town police department with a nine per cent across-the-board salary increase.

While previous agreements were based on the earnings of a first class constable, this year's settlement ensures all staff obtain a percentage raise according to their 1979 wage.

The new contract is retroactive to the expiration of last year's deal on Dec. 31. Chief Ron James is unaffected by the new pact.

A first class constable will receive \$454 per week, as his salary jumps to \$21,800 from \$20,000.

The staff sergeant's salary climbs to \$23,544 from \$21,600, a weekly rate of about \$480.

The wage of a first class dispatcher goes to \$11,815 from \$10,840.

Ingersoll Police Association (IPA) treasurer Robert Hill said Friday the raise is equal to the settlements reached by other town employees, who worked out their pact earlier this year.

He said IPA sat down at the bargaining table in January asking for a 10 per cent increase, but agreed on a figure about \$200 less.

The average salary increase other Ontario police departments are receiving is about 8.5 per cent, he said.

Basically, three contract items increased — salaries, mileage and meal allowance.

Police will now receive 27½ cents per mile for use of personally-owned vehicles while on duty, compared to 22 cents per mile last year. Meal allowance was increased by \$1 to \$5.

"The big thing with us is the sick time," Hill said.

Police are allowed 1½ days of paid sick leave per month and may accumulate up to 200 hours, the treasurer said.

The town wanted the association to accept a lower total, Hill explained.

If a staff member retires due to age or physical disability, the

employee is entitled to his full accumulated sick pay. Resignation from work for other reasons enables police staff to collect half of the accumulated back pay. If killed on the job, an officer's estate receives half of the sick pay.

Hill said IPA asked the town negotiators to pay the entire bill

for the staff dental plan, but the proposal was rejected.

Last year, the town turned its insurance policies over to Great West Life from Blue Cross and promised IPA dental coverage equal to Blue Cross's plan 9. Previously, staff was covered under plan 7.

However, town officials

stipulated the police pay the \$2.98 difference in coverage costs. Police hoped to have that figure erased.

IPA was also unsuccessful in obtaining increased life insurance coverage. The association was asking for \$30,000, but the 1979 figure of \$24,000 remained intact.

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Says Chief James

# We could learn something from forefathers' morals

By JOE KONECNY

Sentinel-Review staff writer INGERSOLL — Police Chief Ron James says citizens can learn a lot from their forefathers' morals.

As he reviewed plans for the department's silver anniversary on June 15, James said a return to more strict discipline in society would benefit everyone.

"When I started working here (Dec. 15, 1955 as a constable), I'd go down and break up a fight involving four people and think nothing of it," he said. "The guys involved would at least pay some respect to me.

"Now they defy police...almost ask you to take the first punch."

James, who has served as chief for six years, said one cause for the disrespect stems from changes in family structure during the past few years.

As more families rely on two bread-winners to weather inflation, children are often overlooked, James said.

"Times have changed and while parents are stiving for the almighty dollar, the child is a little neglected," he added. "All children need in this world is love.

The 1979 annual police report reflects the chief's concern about rising incidents of crime.

## QUADRUPLED

The number of disturbance cases handled by the Ingersoll department quadrupled last year.

Six officers were assaulted in 1979, compared to three in 1978, and 14 officers were obstructed in the line of duty last year, while there were only two incidents two years ago.

In the report, James said: "Some of the above offences indicate violence and lack of respect for law and order.

He believes in discipline. "I don't think there's anything wrong with discipline...I got a few cuffs from my parents when I was young and now I laugh about it," he said in a recent interview.

## VANDALISM

Citing vandalism as a major outlet for disrespect of



**CHIEF RON JAMES**  
Learn from ancestors

the law, James called for more public involvement to curb vandals.

"Why doesn't the majority say, for example, 'now look, if you throw that bottle on the street, I could cut my tires when I'm driving to work,'" he said.

"Let's all get together and make this a good place to live."

James recalled how, during the late 1950s, respect for the law was more evident.

At that time, a curfew for youngsters under 16 years existed and the fire chief's sounding of a bell marked the off-limit hours. Adult accompaniment was needed after 9 a.m.

## DEFENSIVE

"Now, everyone needs to be on their defensive more," the James said.

The chief, at the Sentinel-Review's request, gave a brief verbal review of the department's 25-year history.

The arrival of the first police cruiser was one event that sticks in his mind.

The 1955 Plymouth was purchased for the exceptionally reasonable price of \$2,100, but the low cost was negotiated because the car had fallen from its spot atop

a car transport.

Following the purchase of a two-way radio for the car, police learned the vehicle's generator could not accommodate the communication system and often the car was rolled down a hill to ignite its engine.

## LUCKY

"But I felt we were rather lucky to get that car because at the time, it was suggested by a council member that the police did not need a cruiser and that the officers should take a taxi when required to answer calls," James said.

Originally the police headquarters was located in the old town hall, but it was moved to its current location in August of 1955.

The cramped four-room dwelling was formally a grocery store operated by Lorne Healey and also had housed a butcher shop, owned by the McMulkin family.

Eventually, renovations were made and the office now boasts seven spacious rooms.

Chief Leslie Pengelly held the reins in 1955, alongside four constables and a bylaw officer.

James, originally from Port Stanley, never dreamt he'd be stationed here, but he learned to love the town.

## COMMUNITY

"I really like to police a small town," he said. "There are a lot of nice people and you get to feel like a part of the community after a while.

"We have a good operation here and we have a good rapport with the public," he added.

James was preceded by Pengelly (who held the post until 1963), Art Mahoney (until 1965) and Art McCart was chief until 1974, when James took over.

But the chief has no second thoughts about his choice of profession.

## SATISFACTION

"I became a police officer because I like working with people," he said. "I get a real feeling of satisfaction when I help someone.

"It is different than most jobs...very interesting...and you don't know what the next phone call will bring."

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# Police anniversary celebrated

By JOE KONECNY

Sentinel-Review staff writer  
INGERSOLL — Outstanding turnout at the chamber of commerce's silver anniversary celebration for the Ingersoll police department is symbolic of this town's close relationship with the force, an Ontario Police Association senior advisor said Monday night.

"You have a fine police force here and that is reflected in tonight's turn-out," Fred Davies added.

More than 130 retailers and citizens packed the Venus Dining House to acknowledge the police department's fine efforts.

"If the police are working in the best interest of their community, they have the backing of the people," Davies said. "And when a community looks in the mirror, the reflection they see is the police force."

"The police force is part of the community and its citizens are a part of them," Davies said, adding Monday night's celebration may be his last since he plans to retire from his post in one month.

The police force's birthday

was officially marked when Chief Ron James extinguished 25 sparkling candles atop a giant cake.

A commemorative scroll was presented to the department by the chamber and the business group also gave each of the nine constables individual plaques.

Ingersoll Police Association treasurer Robert Hill presented the chief with a hand-sketched replica of the police headquarters and local retailers showed their appreciation with a plaque.

James returned the goodwill by awarding gifts to Davies, former mayor Gord Henry, chamber secretary-manager Bonnie Mott and Councillor Norm Bain.

"It gives you a sense of enthusiasm," James said at the end of the evening.

"You don't run into these (appreciative) people everyday and it's certainly nice to know they are there."

The chief referred to the spectators as "all my friends" during his speech and was especially thankful for former councillor Mervin Haycock's presence. Haycock was a

member of council when James started working here as a constable in 1955.

"I have had many good years in Ingersoll and I've never regretted them despite some hectic times," he added.

"The way to get the best out of your police force is to support them. We're here to protect you and we work in your best interest."

Bain, who acts as chairman of the police and fire protection committee, said the local department is "the finest police force in Ontario and that's my true belief...they're second to none."

Chairman of the chamber's retail section Pat MacMillan said local businesses enjoy a unique relationship with the local police force.

"We have an advantage over some big cities," he said. "Everyone in the retail section can honestly say they know each officer by his first name."

In discussing team policing used in Ontario's major cities to centralize control, Davies said the Ingersoll department has set a trend.

"I have told them (city chiefs)

if they want to see a good team operate they should study the force in Ingersoll."

Reflecting on the performance of all Ontario police departments, Davies said they possess one common ingredient which is basic to an officer's code of ethics.

"We have the most honest police in Ontario," he said.

"We can be proud of our

forces considering the scandalous events we read about in other parts of the world. The OPC has only one actual aim and that's to improve the level of law enforcement here."

Although he said police are known to make mistakes, "they're honest mistakes and they are made in (citizens') behalf".

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Police Dept

# Police force honored

BY MARGARET BOYD

"Behind every good man there's a good woman," was an adage that was repeated by several well-wishers honoring the Ingersoll Police Department and their spouses at a special 25th anniversary dinner Monday night.

Fred Davies, senior advisor to the Ontario Police Commission was guest speaker and praised the difficult role of a policeman's wife saying "both efforts of man and wife are pointed to law enforcement."

The dinner, "A Salute to the Force," was organized by the Ingersoll and District

Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of 25 years of service by the police. Gary Cochrane, Chamber vice-president, and Bonnie Mott, secretary-manager of the Chamber, were the main organizers.

It was a fitting tribute to Ingersoll's police force, which ranks high in positive police work "in the province," Mr. Davies said.

Each constable was presented with a plaque honoring 25 years of police work from the Chamber. Florence James, Chief Ron James' wife, was presented with red roses and Chief James was presented with a framed scroll honoring the 25 years and a drawing of the police station. Numerous congratulating letters and telegrams were read.

Fred Porter, Oxford County crown attorney, echoed Mr. Davies' statement that the wives of policemen were to be honored as much as their husbands.

"Tonight is as much a salute to the wives as it is to the officers, "Take our grumpy chief, his wife has to cool him down," he said jesting.

About 150 people turned out to honor the police force. All officers were present except for Constable Richard Hillner, who is vacationing.

Mr. Davies spoke to the group in the banquet hall of the Venus Dining House, on one of his last official engagements. Next month he is retiring.

His career in police work began in 1937, when he joined the Toronto police force. After a stint in the Royal Navy he returned to police work and worked his way up to staff superintendent. In 1967 he became an advisor to the police commission.

"The biggest law enforcement agency is the citizens," Mr. Davies said. "The police image I like the best is one which says, when a community looks in the mirror, the reflection they see is the police force and

at banquet

Ingersoll Dept

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vice versa."

The role of the Ontario police commission is to advise, never direct. Mr. Davies said that any one can write to the commission if they have criticism or need a second opinion.

The commission was formed in 1962 after an investigation on organized gambling showed Ontario's forces to be fragmented. The commission refines procedures for standardization and the Ontario Police College was began in Aylmer.

"It's a changing scene as far as crime is concerned," he said.

Mr. Davies had only praise for the Ingersoll police force. In large centres, police departments are trying to achieve what is known as "team policing." The departments are decentralized to make police work more personal.

"I've told them, if you want to see a team operate, observe Ingersoll, they've got a smooth operation," Mr. Davies said.

As a 40-year veteran of police work, Mr. Davies has seen many changes occur.

"Police work has come a long, long way.

There's no justification comparing the old and the new. Some police forces used to just have walkie talkies like children get for Christmas, for communication," he noted. "There's an ever increasing academic outlook."

Now officers must complete two stages of recruit training at the college in Aylmer, then take advanced training. He said that the aim of the commission is one-fold, "to improve the level of law enforcement."

CPIC (Canadian Police Information Centre) which is headquartered in Ottawa, puts every policeman in touch with a central information centre. The commission has a team of engineers and communications experts to make sure CPIC is accurate.

Mr. Davies told the audience that Ingersoll is fortunate to have a personalized police force, that it has a "realistic influence" on people.

"The police men of Ontario are honest," he said.

Chief Ron James, who joined the police department in December of 1955, six months after the force started, said that

the early days "were pretty hectic," but they work them out."

"The best way to get the most out of your police force is to support them," Chief James said.

He said that the police department's attention goes to the youth as much as possible. Constable Robert Hill, who sings with the Baptist Church, dedicated a song to parents of children.

"We have a lot to be thankful for but we also have a great responsibility," Constable Hill said. "It all starts at home."

What is a policeman? According to Fred Davies, a policeman is like a minister or priest.

"If you don't obey the mandates of the good book (the criminal code) you're going to get what you ask for," he said.

The dinner was one event of a week-long anniversary celebration for the police force. On Sunday morning they attended a special service at the Baptist Church and today is Open House at the police station. Drop by from 2 to 9 p.m. to "have a coffee with a cop."

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# Police chief marks 25 years on the force

By JOE KONECNY

Sentinel-Review staff writer  
INGERSOLL — Twenty-five years ago Sunday, Ron James was a nervous man.

He had joined the Ingersoll Police Department as a constable only six days earlier and the weekend dayshift was his first exposure to being responsible for the town's safety without assistance.

"I was all by myself and I was thinking this whole town was in my hands..." and, needless to say, James was nervous.

"It makes you really think about (policing).

"I could have had to make a very serious decision...it was a real funny feeling at first," he said in an interview.

A couple months later, James broke the ice and laid his first charge.

And now, during his silver anniversary week with the force, he admits a form of tension returns periodically, even if it has been stifled by experience. Some things never change.

But within the past quarter century, he said policing has changed in other ways.

For one thing, there's a lot more paper-work than there was in the days, 25-years ago, when the force consisted of four constables, a bylaw officer, a parking officer, a chief and a secretary.

James now co-ordinates a staff of one staff sergeant, a sergeant, nine constables, a six-man civilian outfit and five special constables.

"We have to compile reports for everything an officer gets involved with," James said.

An increase in the number of agencies is another factor which changed policing, James said.

The agencies, which support individuals whose human rights they deem are being violated, make it increasingly difficult for police to attain convictions in court, he said.

"I enjoy police work, but there's more pressure added everyday," James said of those agencies' influence in the court house.

With that in mind, the chief questioned the weight society places on certain human values.

"We've got a lot of good people in society — about 98 per cent — and we've got to protect them..." not the small minority in society which stirs trouble, he said.

## CORPORAL

Two years after James was enlisted as a constable, he was promoted to corporal and from that time — with the exception of a 17-month absence from the force — he was second in command.

When corporal status was

eliminated from all municipal police departments in 1966, James became a sergeant and then a year later, he was promoted to staff sergeant.

"I don't know when I'll retire...I'd like to continue for another year or two," he said.

"I love working with people." James added that the force has nurtured a good working relationship with local residents.

"But time goes so fast.

"If you look 25 years into the future it seems a long way down the road, but if you look into the past, it seems just like yesterday."

Yet there's some reward for years gone by, he said.

"I have no enemies...I don't think there's anyone who out-and-out hates my guts."

He said on countless occasions long-forgotten trouble makers have approached him offering thanks for his stern, but fair guidance in life.

"Common sense is the common denominator."

That motto ensures he'll make no enemies, James said. No one will criticize a person who does his job the way it's supposed to be done, he added.



**INGERSOLL POLICE** Chief Ron James smiles in admiration of a plaque presented to him by the Ingersoll Police Association in

recognition of the chief's 25th anniversary with the force, Monday.  
(Staff photo by Joe Konecny)

## Gaining a trusting smile

# Students learn about the law

By JOE KONECNY

Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — Lionel

Ulrich's blue uniform wasn't quite so obvious when 22 Victory Memorial school students filed from a classroom Thursday.

The group of Grade 7 and 8 students had just learned that beneath his authoritarian guise, Ingersoll Police Department's staff sergeant was in fact human.

So when class was dismissed, Ulrich left the room as an equal. And his uniform attracted trusting smiles.

He had been successful in delivering the message which the police force hopes to instill by providing a six-part law course as an elective at the public school.

Youth and the Law offers police and students a chance to communicate at the same level — both sides of the classroom learn more about each others' roles in society.

"My approach is to get the point across, but honestly," Ulrich said after lecturing students about juvenile delinquency.

### BE MYSELF

"I just try to be myself, realizing that sometimes all the students see is the uniform.

"I don't even like to do that (convey an authoritarian image) when I'm on duty."

Community relations officer Phil DeBruyne, who organized the classes in conjunction with Chief Ron James, said he believes the elective program may be the first of its kind in Oxford County and possibly in Ontario.

The course is offered with

about 10 other electives at the school, he said.

With 22 students, DeBruyne said he's happy with the response and hopes to offer other courses after the current program ends.

If other public schools here offer electives to students, the program may branch out, he added.

"It's just another way to get into the school," DeBruyne said in an interview.

"It gives the entire police department real exposure."

Five constables will conduct lectures, he said, and two civilians will also provide "inside views" of the law.

### PURPOSE

"The purpose of the program is just to try and narrow the gap between youths and police," DeBruyne said.

Thirteen-year-old Bill McEwen, a Grade 7 student, said he attended the special

elective as part of a detention.

"I learned a little about the law...it got something through my head," he said.

"I thought it would be boring, but it was better than I thought it'd be."

Bill said he was a bit hesitant about entering the classroom in the presence of "a big guy in a blue uniform", but he overcame that and may attend future classes.

"I thought cops were too heavy before I saw this guy."

Bill's classmate Shawn Bancroft, 12, said he's attending the classes to prepare himself for a future in law enforcement.

"I'm getting to know police and the law better and I hope to some day become a part of the law...maybe a private investigator or a cop.

"I want to do that so I can help my fellow mankind."

Ulrich's class was the second in the series. In the future, topics will include shoplifting, alcohol and drugs.

"We're trying to focus on the problem areas," DeBruyne added.

A number of learning aids — including pamphlets, films and a trip to the Ontario Police College in Aylmer — are also part of the course.

SENTINEL-REVIEW  
February 20, 1981

POLICE DEPT



## Chief James recalls 25 years on the force

INGERSOLL — The past year was a landmark for the Ingersoll Police Department.

The department celebrated its silver anniversary in June and a few months later, chief Ron James marked his 25th year of service.

The celebrations gave James a chance to reflect on his career and the history of the department.

Two years after he was enlisted as a constable, James was promoted to corporal and from that time, he was second in command.

James became a sergeant in 1966 and a year later he was promoted to staff sergeant.

Now, much of his time is spent handling the reams of paper work his position attracts.

James co-ordinates a staff of

one staff-sergeant, a sergeant, nine constables, six-man civilian outfit and five special constables.

"I don't know when I'll retire...I'd like to continue for another year or two," he said.

"Time goes fast. If you look 25 years into the future it seems a long way down the road, but if you look into the past, it seems just like yesterday."

# Police rules and

*regulations updated*

A bylaw establishing rules and regulations for members of Ingersoll Police Department was instituted by town council Thursday night at its August meeting.

Approval of the bylaw means the town will have greater control over the department, in preventing neglect or abuse of duties by the officers and staff.

Two years in the works, the bylaw is based on rules drawn up by former Chief of Police Art McCart and on guidelines set by the Ontario Police Association.

The bylaw reads that failure by a member of the police force, without lawful excuse, to comply to any of the provisions in the bylaw can result in charges under

the discipline code set out in the regulations of the police act.

Duties of the chief of police, acting chief of police, staff sergeant and sergeants, constables and clerk-dispatchers, are outlined in the 19 page document. Terms and conditions of service are also included.

It also contains regulations police officers must follow in the use of their vehicles, policies on the use of official buildings, rules on promotion, litigations, absenteeism, uniforms, equipment and sickness.

The bylaw received all three readings at council's August 13 meeting.

According to Mayor Doug Harris, when

force, could not be contacted for his views on council's decision. However, the chief, along with acting Chief Ulrich, Town Clerk Gerry Staples, Police Committee Chairman Jim Robins and Councillor Bob Ball, did contribute to the formation of this bylaw.

Duties of the chief, as outlined in the new bylaw, include general government of the force, enforcing a strict observance of the bylaw within the force, familiarizing himself with all expenses incurred and monies paid out in connection with the department, and the power to exercise immediate suspension in cases which in his judgement, demand such action. He is

the police force was operating under Police Chief Art McCart, similar rules and regulations were followed. He said the force got away from the rules when Chief Ron James took over.

"Some members of council thought they should be revised," he said.

The mayor expressed surprise that some of the rules outlined in the bylaw are not contained in the provincial police act and felt "the intent of the bylaw is super."

Acting Police Chief Lionel Ulrich agreed and felt the bylaw was something which had to be approved.

Chief of Police Ron James, who is presently on sick leave from the local

also required to prepare detailed estimates at the end of the year, of the department's expenditures; make sure that the force is properly drilled, and that all laws are enforced, within his jurisdiction.

Other duties as outlined in the bylaw include being responsible to the town's police committee for the general conduct of members of the force, disposing of any charges against members of the force in accordance with the police act, and establishing rules and issuing orders, not inconsistent with the bylaw, as he may deem necessary for the good government of the force.

Duties of the acting chief are the same as those of the chief.

Staff sergeant and sergeants have the power to exercise general supervision over members of the force and to see that rules

are strictly enforced. They are responsible for good order, efficiency and discipline of each member of the force and are responsible for reporting to the chief when any member of the force is guilty of misconduct or violates any of the rules contained in the bylaw.

Staff sergeant and sergeants are also responsible for accompanying the chief when charges against members of the force are being investigated; and must adhere to procedures for constables, as outlined in the bylaw.

A constables duties as outlined in the bylaw include being at the station at the time appointed, keeping an accurate record of all charges, arrests, investigations and general duties, being alert on the job and taking necessary action to rectify anything of a dangerous nature.

INGERSOLL TIMES  
August 17, 1981

11-2-81

POLICE DEPT

### Police elect executive

INGERSOLL (Bureau) — Const. Gary Novakowski has been elected president of the 15-member Ingersoll Police Association, succeeding Const. Robert Hill who was elected treasurer. Dispatcher Marlie Thomas was elected secretary.

The association has donated \$3,700 to the community over the past 12 months, including \$2,500 to hire four students for a crime prevention program, \$200 for a scholarship at Ingersoll District Collegiate Institute and \$1,350 to various sporting organizations, the Block Parents and Big Brothers organizations.

# Police Assoc. name new president

The Ingersoll Police Association will carry on assisting community groups for the next year under new leadership. Constable Gary Novakowski was elected president of the association replacing Constable Bob Hill who was elected treasurer. Dispatcher Marlie Thomas will be secretary.

The association donated money to various causes over the past year including \$2,500 to the summer Crime Prevention Team and \$1,000 between the Block Parent Association, minor hockey, the local figure skating club, girls softball, the Big Brothers Association and a scholarship fund at Ingersoll and District Collegiate Institute.

INGERSOLL TIMES  
September 9, 1981

# Cadet dispatcher eager to learn police work

BY CHERYL STEWART

A local man who has been hired by the police department as a cadet dispatcher, has always had an interest and yearning to enter police work. For 20-year-old Steven Hartfield, police work has intrigued him since he was 17. He graduated from Ingersoll District Collegiate Institute in 1979 and has had several labor jobs over the past couple of years while trying to get into a police department.

"I have been trying to get into police work since I was 19," said Steven. "I have looked at openings in other centres but decided they were not the place for me,

so I was going to wait until I turned 21 (the legal age to become a police officer) and apply at different departments," he explained.

His dream came true when he was hired by the Ingersoll Police Department and he started his new job last week.

Steven wanted to become a police officer for several reasons.

"It looked like an interesting job to me. There's involvement in the community and the personal satisfaction if I can help somebody out," he explained.

Steven would like to stay a small town policeman and carry out general duties. He feels this would best suit him and he would enjoy the

job more than specializing in one area.

"You get to know the people in the town and the people you work for when you work in a small town," explained Steven, "whereas in a larger centre, you wouldn't get to know everybody in the community and your workplace."

He feels working in his hometown will not pose any problems for him, but it is both good and bad knowing the people as closely as he does.

"Knowing the people already and having the friendships and the respect, may help out in the job," he said, "but knowing the people and having to do my job may also be difficult at times."

"I do look at it as just a job, and if I happen to hand out a ticket to somebody I know, that is part of my job. In any small town, it's that way. I can't make exceptions," explained Steven.

After only several days on the job, Steven is already interested in all aspects of police work and their daily tasks.

"It's interesting. It presents a challenge learning everything you have to learn," he said. He is presently training as just a dispatcher and police work will come later in his career at the department, just how long down the line Steven doesn't know, but he is looking forward to it. "I feel the dispatching will help when I become a constable either here or another department," he said.



There is quite a bit to learn about being a police officer as Steven Hartfield, the new Ingersoll cadet - dispatcher, is finding out after his first week on the job. Helping to train him is dispatcher Marlie Thomas.

## Separate police committee formed

Town council now has a separate Police committee. What used to be the Protection Committee consisting of the police and fire departments has been dissolved, and the fire department now comes under the Administration committee.

The change was voted in by town council members after last month's council meeting. Town Clerk Gerry Staples said the reason for the change was to comply with the Police Act.

"According to the Police Act, we should have a separate committee for police. We thought we should conduct ourselves according to the Police Act, and we felt we should have a formal police committee," said Mr. Staples.

The new committee consists of Mayor Doug Harris and Councillors Jack Warden and Bob Ball. The Protection committee consisted of chairman Jack Warden, Mayor Doug Harris, and Councillors Bob Ball, Eugene Mabee and Jim Robins.

# CRIMINAL ACTIVITY CO-ORDINATOR:

## 'New role easy to adjust to'

By LIZ PAYNE

Sentinel-Review staff writer INGERSOLL -Newly-appointed Acting Sergeant Roy Kivenen has found his new role as co-ordinator of criminal investigations for the Ingersoll Police Force very easy to adjust to.

And Kivenen, who officially began his duties this week, said the job will be a boon to the entire town.

"In the long run we're going to have a better view of where the problem areas are in town and what the problems are."

He said the idea behind co-ordinating criminal investigations is to look at the entire crime picture for the town "from an analytical point of view."

Kivenen's new duties are one of the recommendations of the Ontario Police Commission police adequacy study recently released.

His role as criminal investigations co-ordinator coincides with his appointment from constable to acting sergeant announced this week.

Dennis Judd recently resigned as acting sergeant. Judd, who would not comment on reasons for his resignation, returned to the force as a constable at the beginning of last month.

Judd was one of the two officers appointed acting sergeants last summer during a change of personnel resulting from Chief Ron James' absence due to illness.

Kivenen, who served as a detective with the Metro Toronto Police for 11 years, has been with the Ingersoll force for 12 years.

He said the biggest advantage of his new position will be helping get through the complex rules governing court cases.

"It will help us be more successful in the courts."

Since he officially began his duties Monday Kivenen has had a very busy week.

Tuesday charges were laid against an Ingersoll youth relating to 19 break-ins during the latter part of 1981.

Ingersoll police are currently investigating



**ACTING SERGEANT** Roy Kivenen, just appointed as co-ordinator of criminal investigations for the Ingersoll Police Force, has had a busy first week.

vandalism to 10 vehicles parked in the town core area last weekend.

The majority of the

damage was done on Sunday and some of the cars sustained "extensive" damage, he said.

Police have good descriptions of a couple of youths, he said, and the investigation is continuing.



# KIVINEN NAMED ACTING POLICE SERGEANT

BY CHERYL STEWART

Acting Sergeant Dennis Judd has stepped down from his position with the Ingersoll Police Department and Constable Roy Kivinen has been appointed

Acting Sergeant in his place.

Town council accepted Constable Judd's resignation which became effective February 1 at its February meeting. He has remained with the local department as a constable but was unavailable for comment on his resignation.

Judd who has been a full-time officer with the force for seven years, was one of two officers appointed the role of Acting Sergeant last summer during a change of personnel at the department. Chief Ron James and Sergeant Ross Carnegie were absent due to sickness and men were



Acting Sergeant Kivinen



Constable Dennis Judd

needed to take over their responsibilities. Staff-Sergeant Lionel Ulrich was appointed Acting Chief and David McKenzie was made the other Acting Sergeant.

Although Constable Kivinen became Acting Sergeant February 11, he has only just started his new responsibilities. The new position will mean different hours for Kivinen, either the 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. or 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. shift. As well, he has been made responsible for the criminal investigations for the force, one of the recent Ontario Police Commission police adequacy study recommendations.

Acting Sergeant Kivinen who is entering his 23rd year of policing is thrilled about his new appointment. "I am quite pleased with it," he said Monday. "It's going to be more work, but I will be enjoying every minute of it. I am adjusting to my new duties and it seems to be working out very well," he said.

Kivinen was with the Metro Toronto Police Force for 11 years and specialized in criminal investigations. He joined the Ingersoll Police Force in 1970 and was awarded a long service medal last summer for his work in the police field.

With his new standing, Kivinen will be attending the Aylmer Police College in May to take a management course. His appointment will be reviewed in one year.

Ingersoll Times  
March 3, 1982

INGERSOLL TIMES  
March 3, 1982

POLICE DEPT

# Student hired for program

After working as a member of the Crime Prevention Team for the Ingersoll Police Department, Terri Robinson is back again this year. This time, however, she is going to be carrying out the duties of four workers herself.

The 18-year-old Grade 13 Ingersoll District Collegiate Institute student enjoyed working with the police department last summer and is looking forward to her job this year. She has already started her training period with the department and will be working until September 3. She explained after her last summer, she kept in contact with the officer in charge of the program and worked with him over the winter months. When this year's program was announced, she applied for it right away.

"I knew there was a need for some kind of program all year round. I thought I knew from working on the program last year, I could keep up a program and start new areas," said Terri.

"From last year's program, I wanted to get involved in another program this year. Last year's program was really interesting. I had a lot of fun last summer. Most people I was involved with were pretty happy with the program and were pleased we were doing something like that," she pointed out.

Terri feels the Crime Prevention Program was well received in the community last year and was a

worthwhile program. "I thought we did a lot of work. We got a lot done. The response was good, especially the business people. They were really great," she said.

"This put faith in me. If you do things in a positive way, then people will respond," she pointed out adding this helped her to become very enthusiastic about the program.

Working with people has always interested Terri, and she hopes to enter college or university next year in a sociology or anthropology course. She feels working with the police department for the summer will help her with her studies next year.

"Most students get a summer job doing some kind of manual labor and their minds go to sleep for the summer. By keeping active, it's a lot easier getting back into the swing of things. This job is a lot more exciting," she pointed out.

Although Terri will be working by herself this summer, she is looking forward to it and feels she will learn a great deal from her experiences. "Working independently, I think I will learn a lot more, a lot more skills. I think analyzing the program will be beneficial for me. I am not hesitant about working by myself. I am looking forward to it," she said.

"I will be able to work at my own pace and I can move into the directions I want to," said Terri.

BY LAURA PLUMTREE

The Ingersoll Police Department's annual report was presented to the police committee March 29. Although the statistics for 1981 were comparatively the same with those of 1980, a few changes were noted.

Acting Chief Lionel Ulrich stated there is no concrete explanation for the increase in mileage. The report stated there had been an increase of 28,816 kilometres put on the cruisers, for a total of 176,167 km as compared to 1980 figures of 147,351 km.

"It could be due to more requests for action by the public and the officers performing more patrol," said Acting Chief Ulrich. "It's hard to say on a yearly basis where the miles go.

"For my own interest I may do a graph on a weekly basis to keep track of them," he said.

He attributed the increase in mileage to decreases in other areas.

The number of persons injured in accidents has decreased from 89 in 1980 to 50 in 1981. Also, the number of persons charged in accidents has decreased from 95 to 69.

"This might be caused by an increase in patrol of our officers," he said. "The cruisers are out there and they see more infractions -- also the drivers know they're out there and they take more care."

In the area of reportable occurrences, there has been a decrease from 4607 in 1980, to 4466 in 1981.

"That's a normal variation in figures," said Acting Chief Ulrich. "It's really not much of a decrease."

Information and request calls increased from 1104 in 1980 to 1410 in 1981, and he attributed that to the fact that the public are becoming more aware of things and are calling for action.

Prisoner escorts saw a decrease last year from 99 in 1980 to 57.

"We utilized the Woodstock city police van in escorting prisoners," said Acting Chief Ulrich. "This cut down on the number of escorts."

There was an increase of 250 in the number of summons issued last year from 1980.

"This includes the number of summons mailed in from other police departments to us," said Acting Chief Ulrich. "So I really cannot give an accurate explanation of the increase, other than it could be a reflection on society."

He went on to explain the increase in parking violations and bylaw infractions.

"This year we've concentrated on bylaws, with more patrol. This would explain the increase." There were 322 parking violations in 1981, as opposed to 83 in 1980. There were also 1026 bylaw charges laid in 1981 as opposed to 653 in 1980.

"In 1980 we concentrated on liquor charges and seizures" he continued. "This has reflected on the decrease in 1981 from 233 to 270 in 1980. Liquor seizures decreased from 1446 in 1980 to 872 last year.

Acting Chief Lionel Ulrich would like to commend Sergeant David McKenzie and Constable Gary Novakowski for their record of no sick days in the year of 1981.

"I think it's indicative of their attitude towards their job, and I think they should be highly complimented," he said.

There were many personnel changes that occurred last year. Civilian Radio Operator Jack Savage retired in September, and Steve Hartfield was hired in October to replace him. Constable John Fortner resigned in May. Constables Jack Clingo and Frank Veres were hired in May and July respectively.

Officers in the department received many weeks of training last year. Acting Chief Ulrich is very pleased with this and would like to see more of it continue.

"I certainly hope that we take advantage of this especially as Aylmer (where a training centre is located) is so close," he said. "It is definitely benefiting the men. With the changing laws it is essential to stay abreast of them and this seems to be the only way."

*Increased patrol  
reduces accidents*

INGERSOLL Times

March 31, 1982

# Officer leaving



**Constable Gary Novakowski**

Constable Gary Novakowski is leaving the Ingersoll Police Force to take a position with the Sarnia Township Police Force. His resignation was effective May 22.

Constable Novakowski has been with the local department since 1976. Prior to that he served for two years with the Haldimand-Norfolk Regional Police Force.

Acting Chief Lionel Ulrich said he is seeking a replacement for Constable Novakowski and the application deadline is June 9.

# New officer

The Ingersoll Police Department will soon be seeing a new face. Constable John Joseph Rutkauskas was hired by the town after the four final interviews were conducted June 28.

Constable Rutkauskas was originally born and raised in Tillsonburg. He has spent the last 10 years on the Metro-Toronto Police Force. Married, with two children, he will begin his new position July 19.

"He has an excellent working background, and he will bring a lot of expertise to the force," said Acting Chief Lionel Ulrich.

INGERSOLL  
TIMES

June 30, 1982

*Ingersoll Times*

*June 30, 1982*

INGERSOLL TIMES

June 2, 1982

*Ingersoll Times*

*June 2, 1982*

# The Chief's back

## No problems are anticipated

By BARRY WARD

Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — After more than a year at home and in the hospital, Ron James was back behind his desk Monday.

It was five months to the day after the Ingersoll police chief had a triple-heart bypass operation to rid him of the chest pains that forced him to take a leave of absence July 1, 1981.

Now, he's back and eager to work although he admits he may leave early some afternoons if he feels tired.

"The doctors in London said I've had a really good recovery. They don't anticipate any problems at all," he said. "I expect to be working full-time again but there may be days when I play it by ear."

He said he's especially grateful for the show of support from his fellow officers on the Ingersoll force.

"I think it's been a hardship

on the other officers," he said, noting that because it is only a 12-member force, many would have had to give up their time off to fill in.

### SPENDING MONEY

During his time away from the force, an Ontario Police Commission study was released containing 19 recommendations. James said he agreed with all but "two or three" of them.

Some of the recommendations involve spending quite a bit of money, said James, and there isn't a lot of that around at this time.

"I have to be convinced that spending the money is a good move," he said. Some of the work will be done this month under the province's employment incentive program.

The OPC report did note that Chief James had the respect of the community. During his absence, James said he received

more than 400 cards and many comments from people on the street. James thanked people in the town for this show of support.

On Monday afternoon, members of the force, town officials and others held a "welcome back" reception in the town hall.

"With the support of the staff and the people of Ingersoll, I'd be letting them down if I didn't return to work," he told them.

Sentinel Review

Aug 17<sup>th</sup> 1982



**POLICE CHIEF** Ron James returned to work Monday morning but got a break later in the

day when various friends presented him with a cake.

(Staff photo)

Sentinel - Review

Aug 17<sup>th</sup> 1982

SENTINEL REVIEW  
August 17, 1982  
(Page 2 of 2)

Property cases take a jump

# Citizens can help fight to lower crime statistics

By BARRY WARD  
Sentinel-Review staff writer  
**INGERSOLL** — Crime against property has increased in recent years but it's one area where the average citizen can do something.

That's the opinion of Ingersoll Police Chief Ron James, commenting on a recent study from the Canadian Centre for Justice which, among its conclusions, found property crimes had increased 34 per cent between 1977 and 1981.

Although James said he doesn't have figures to confirm his beliefs, he thinks there has been an increase in Ingersoll as well.

"I don't know the reason for it," he said. "It could be the economic conditions."

James said property owners could do a lot to decrease the likelihood their homes would be picked by would-be thieves. This is especially true for thefts from cars, an area which saw a 60 per cent increase in offences.

James said people can also help by calling the police if they see someone breaking the law.

"It's the policeman's job to uphold the law but it's your community too," he said. "We've got to start looking after each other."

**CREDIT CARDS**

The study also noted a doubling of credit card frauds. James said this was only natural in an increasingly cashless society.

He also pointed out that was just another indication of how crime changes over time. At one time, he said, there were a lot of safecracking crimes.

"But that's hard work and even the criminals don't want hard work anymore," he said.

He also said this was a case of crime prevention because businesses stopped keeping large amount of cash in safes.

But James warned any statistics can be misleading, especially in smaller centres like Ingersoll where a couple of violent crimes one year can mean a large percentage increase in that type of crime.

Statistics can also be misleading, he continued, when



**RON JAMES**  
—may be economy—

applied to the number of officers on the Ingersoll force. The national average for the five year period studied was 2.3 officers for every 1,000 people. That would give the Ingersoll

force about 20 instead of its present 12.

**BUDGET RESTRAINT**

"Let's face it, police budgets are to the point where we can't hire any more staff," he said, while admitting he could always use more officers to expand certain programs. But he said the local force is doing a good job now.

"There's no hard and fast rule what the ratios should be." He said each community's needs are different.

"We've always had a fairly high rate of solving crime in Ingersoll."

He gave some of the credit for this to the fact that in small towns, it is often the same people involved in numerous break-ins. When the person is caught, the police have solved a great number of crimes at the same time.

And he said there is less crime in general.

"It's a nice feeling to know we live in a community where it's still relatively safe to walk down the street."

Sentinel - Review  
August 25<sup>th</sup> 1982

**3,600 square foot addition**

# Commission approves police station work

By BARRY WARD

Sentinel-Review staff writer  
**INGERSOLL** — The town's police committee has recommended construction of a 3,600 square foot addition to the police station.

The addition will house an interview room and storage area recommended by Chief Ron James. Also built will be a second exit for the building, one of the recommendation of an Ontario Police Commission report on the Ingersoll force.

Original plans drawn up by Coun. Bob Ball last month proposed only the exit be built with other rooms being incorporated into the existing structure.

But since that time, a transformer has been unexpectedly removed from the north wall of the building, creating the possibility of an addition.

Speaking in favor of the addition, Mayor Doug Harris objected to reducing the officers work area in the original plan. As a high school teacher without a home room, he said he could sympathize with officers in need of an area to keep their things.

Chief James told the councillors he was against reducing the size of the existing work area because it was crowded now at times.

### IT'S CROWDED NOW

The work will be done by three workers hired through the provincial employment incentive program. These workers are also carrying out renovations to a building which will house the town fire department.

The town will supply the materials, roughly estimated to

cost \$6,500, for the addition. This does not include the interior finishing.

Some councillors expressed concern the town would exhaust its money under the employment program before either the police building or firehall work was completed, leaving Ingersoll with two unfinished buildings.

Mayor Harris asked Clerk Gerry Staples to check if any money could be transferred from other areas should the

need arise.

Several councillors said they wanted to be sure the addition would match the rest of the structure. The details of the addition have still to be decided although preparatory work will start soon to beat the cold weather.

Meanwhile, work is continuing on other aspects of a recently-released safety report from the ministry of labor.



**INGERSOLL COUNCILLORS** took a break from Monday's police committee meeting to

examine the proposed site of the addition to the police station.

(Staff photo)





SERGEANT ROSS CARNEGIE accepts an Ontario Police Association lifetime membership

card and badge from fellow Ingersoll officer Bob Hill.

(Staff photo)

## Provincial association honors local officer

INGERSOLL — The Ontario Police Association tipped its hat this week to Ross Carnegie, an 18 year veteran of the Ingersoll police department.

Carnegie, now on disability because of heart problems, was given a lifetime membership in the organization. He has been a police officer since 1953 when he joined the Chatham force

followed by five years in the Canadian military police.

Carnegie said the association award was "quite an honor."

Also this week, the Ingersoll police association elected a new executive. Rick Hillner takes

over from Bob Hill as president while Phil DeBruyne steps into the new position of vice-president.

Jack Clingo replaces Hillner as treasurer while Marlie Thomas stays on as secretary.

Sentinel - Review  
September 4<sup>th</sup> 1982

# Ingersoll committee recommends bullet-proof cop shop windows

By BARRY WARD

Sentinel-Review staff writer  
**INGERSOLL** — The town's administration committee has responded to Tuesday evening's shooting spree here by recommending the town purchase bullet-proof windows for the police station.

The move comes after a stray bullet narrowly missed a police dispatcher's head after smashing through a window when a man started shooting in the direction of the police station following a domestic dispute.

"It was too darn close for

comfort," said Mayor Doug Harris in proposing the resolution at Wednesday's committee meeting.

He recommended the town replace all four windows on the police level of the building in Market Square but after a discussion it was agreed to put bullet-proof glass in only the three windows in the office and dispatch area.

If approved by town council, the windows will be fitted with 1½-inch armor-plated glass, capable of resisting any bullet up to .38 calibre.

Noting the cost would be in excess of \$1,000, Coun. Claude Wright suggested the town brick over the windows. But Mayor Harris said this would make the police station a poor place to work.

"It's a heck of a thing to work in a room with no windows," he said.

Councillor-at-large Jack Warden also pointed out the police use the windows to keep an eye on the parking lot of the hotel across the street.

The committee also voted to

authorize Police Chief Ron James to get prices on an electronically-secured door for the main entrance so people would have to "buzz" to get in at night.

Harris pointed out the door was open 24-hours a day. This would make it possible for anyone to make it into the lobby area at night when there is often only a dispatcher in the station.

Noting there was no extra money in this year's police budget, Bob Ball suggested this purchase could wait until next year's budget.



ONE BULLET dinged this Ingersoll police cruiser, below and to the right of the door handle.



PICTURE SHOWS where bullet went through the window at the Ingersoll police building.

Sentinel-Review

November 4<sup>th</sup> 1982

# Bullet proof glass okayed for town police building

The town's administration committee gave the green light last week for bullet proof windows at the police building. Police Chief Ron James made the request as a result of the shooting incident in town last week. Dispatcher Marley Thomas was narrowly missed by a bullet fired through the dispatch room window.

Most of the committee agreed with the chief's request to have four bullet proof windows installed, but they decided only to have three done. The two windows in the office just off of the dispatch room, and the window in the dispatch room, will be replaced with one and a half inch bullet proof glass.

"The windows should be bullet proof at the police station, especially with the way things are going now and the kooky things that are happening," Mayor Doug Harris said. "That's too vulnerable over there."

Councillor Claude Wright questioned the need for bullet proof windows, suggesting closing in the windows as an alternative to bullet proof glass.

"Let's not give them a closterphobic effect," Mayor Harris replied to Councillor Wright's idea. "It's a heck of a thing to work in a building with no windows."

"I don't think that place is secure proof. It bothers me," he added.

Councillor Eugene Mabee also questioned the need for bullet proof glass, saying "I hate to push the panic button."

Councillor Jack Warden supported the chief's request for glass, saying that quite often the windows are used to observe the hotel.

Chief James said Friday the total cost of the three bullet proof windows is about \$1,500. He expects the work to be done in three to four weeks. In the mean time, the window in the main dispatch room has been blocked in.

"Some of these things you really don't give much thought to, until you watch these things (last Tuesday's shooting) happen," said Chief James. "Under the building code of today, a police building must have bullet proof glass. It's a situation where we have to consider employees. If that's going to save an injury or somebody's life, it's pretty cheap protection."

"We had lady luck with us this time," said the chief. "But maybe we won't the next time."

The glass to be installed will stop up to a 357 magnum bullet. Anything more powerful than that would penetrate the glass but it would be slowed down. Only an injury might occur, instead of a fatality, said Chief James.

There are many factors in determining how bullet proof glass is, said the chief, including the life of the ammunition and the distance of the shot. The glass being installed at the station could be protective for more than a 357 magnum shot due to these varying factors, he said.

If the shot came from a distance, the penetration would be weakened, he said. If the ammunition used was old, the shot would have less velocity, therefore less chance of penetrating the glass.

Also included in Chief James' report to the administration committee, was a request for an electrical security device for the main door of the police building. In support of the request, Mayor Harris said many times a female dispatcher is there by herself and someone could come into the building and down the stairs before she knew it.

Councillor Bob Ball suggested getting quotes for this work and leaving the item until next year's budget.

Ingersoll Times  
November 10<sup>th</sup>  
1982

# Headquarters renovations are complete

INGERSOLL — Some renovations have been completed and others are on the way at the Ingersoll police department building in Market Square.

At this week's police committee meeting, Chief Ron James said almost all of the recommendations from the Ontario Ministry of Labor's police health and safety committee have been carried out. These include emergency lighting, smoke detectors, an exhaust fan in the washroom and the removal of a telephone wire which crossed a floor.

The committee also criticized the main entrance door which swings into the building instead of out but James said this type was better for bringing in uncooperative prisoners. He said the committee's safety concerns were probably taken care of when an emergency exit was added.

The committee also called for a "room affording reasonable privacy with cots and chairs." James pointed out that the interrogation room in the recently completed addition could serve this purpose. In any case, he said if people are sick they are usually sent home.

Ingersoll's police committee has also asked James to prepare a report on the cost of renovating the cell area. James has expressed concern about the overhead bars and general conditions in the cells.

At Wednesday's meeting, he suggested the cells be removed completely. The washroom could be separated by a wall while the rest of the room would be left as an open area with benches along the walls.

Mayor Doug Harris suggested the work could be done with part of the \$35,100 allocated to Ingersoll under the Canada-Ontario Employment Development Program aimed at those whose unemployment insurance benefits are running out.

Ingersoll's police committee is also investigating the possibility of installing electronic equipment at the main entrance so people would have to identify themselves before being admitted into the building at night.

The committee received one estimate of the cost but has asked James to get at least one more.

Sentinel - Review

December 31<sup>st</sup> 1982

SENTINEL REVIEW

December 31, 1982



## Tough as old leather with a heart of mush

INGERSOLL — There is, as Ron James appreciates, a kind of splendid irony in his long career as a cop.

If truth be known, he is the chief of police in Ingersoll, although over the years he has established a reputation as much more than just a cop. He is a rather special human being.

It can be an exceptionally precarious existence, this job of policing in a small town. One has only to look at all the problems and headlines other small town police departments have provoked to appreciate how precarious.

And yet, James has been both cop-on-the-beat and chief for some 27 years now and rates only rave reviews both from the people who work for him and the people he serves. That is no small achievement.

Funny thing, but he looks like the kind of cop who used to show up in movies maybe 30 years ago, the kind of cop who was tough as old leather but had a heart of mush and an uncanny sense for tapping people where they feel.

And that wouldn't be an entirely inaccurate description of the man. It is, of course, too superficial, too simplistic, but it fits where it matters.

He is the kind of cop who takes the time to drive a kid to a training school and quietly, privately, slips him a \$5 bill to tide him over the first hurting days.

He is the kind of cop who receives get-well cards from ex-cons while he is recuperating from a heart attack or, more recently, a triple bypass operation.

He is the kind of cop who worries about an old lady living alone in a one-room shack with a stove as her only companion, an old lady slipping unnoticed into senility.

He is the kind of cop who doesn't just worry politely but calls every institution in the county to try to find a place that will take care of her with dignity and affection.

The kind of cop who gets genuinely angry when all the institutions find excuses for not taking the old girl under their wing.

The kind of cop who doesn't give up until he finds a place for her to live and then frets because he meant to take her a little parcel at Christmas but forgot.

He is the kind of cop who says the best years of his life were spent coaching a kids' ball team and you can still find people in Ingersoll who remember and will tell you every one of those kids was a winner.

The kids would meet him on the street in uniform and casually say "hi Ron" and he would hear them saying to their friends after they passed: "I can call him that because I'm on his team."

He is saying over lunch one day recently: "I have a great compassion for kids because, you know, I just like them, that's all."

That's why his 12-man police department has been involved in the education process in the schools for a lot of years now. He talks plain but he runs an exceptionally progressive police department.

After one of his senior people came back from a course at the Aylmer police college, he told James most of the new programs the college was advocating had been in place in Ingersoll for years.

James says Ingersoll crime statistics are dropping in spite of the fallout from a crippled economy and "I can only think our school and crime prevention programs are working."

Now here is a man who should be able to answer the question so many people are always asking: Have kids changed since he was a cop on the beat?

"I don't think kids today are any different than what they were 30 or 40 years ago," he says. "It's the parents who have changed."

"What we're trying to do is to be too good to our children. I'm a great believer in the philosophy that you must be cruel to be kind. Kids are like little puppy dogs. If you let them pee on the floor, they'll do it again and again."

James says it's too easy for a lot of reasons — from working mothers to a preoccupation with self — to "pawn kids off with a few bucks."

"Discipline doesn't hurt anyone. It's the best thing in the world. You don't have to be a miserable cuss . . ." he argues.

"I see things that go on in schools today that make me shudder. I've seen kids swear at a teacher right in the hallway. To me, that's a no-no. That kid should be expelled from school."

School, he says quietly, is a privilege.

Just to keep things in context, the great majority of kids are super in his book, but as with so much in life, it is the exceptions — the bad cop or the unrepentant punk — who get most of the attention.

Being a cop in a small town can be the best — or the worst — of all worlds. It is never easy.

One of James's veterans, Sgt. Roy Kivinen, came to Ingersoll after a stretch as a detective with the Metro Toronto force. Kivinen explains the difference simply: In Toronto, a cop deals with people he may never see again; in Ingersoll, you see them on the street and in the grocery store and it's entirely possible you know more than just their first name.

Kivinen says James is an exceptional cop who feels you can learn something every day no matter how long you've been around. And his humanitarian touch has rubbed off on everybody on the force.

LONDON FREE PRESS

February 17, 1983

## Report shows crime decline

# Less is best says the chief

INGERSOLL — Local police generally enjoyed more peace and efficiency in 1982 than the previous year, according to Ingersoll police chief Ron James.

Presenting his annual report to the town's police committee Monday, James noted there were fewer reported offences in almost all categories, while officers accumulated less overtime, court time and sick leave.

Police received 5,048 occurrence calls and requests for assistance in 1982, 828 less than in 1981, James said. "This is very encouraging, especially when you take into account the economic times we are experiencing today."

The force's crime prevention programs may have been partially responsible for the reduction in occurrences, he said.

In 1982, police issued fewer criminal, liquor, narcotics, juvenile delinquency, traffic offence, and bylaw charges, and made fewer liquor seizures. The number of charges in all categories processed by the force fell from 2,023 in 1981 to 1,312 in 1982.

### BIKE THEFTS

Reported bicycle thefts decreased from 171 in 1981 to 124 in 1982. Of the 71 bikes recovered last year, 14 were recovered as a result of the force's Operation Bicycle Identification program

which was implemented in 1981. Total sick leave taken by



**RON JAMES**  
—it's encouraging—

police officers in 1982 was 172 days, compared to 308 days in 1981. Officers spent 400½ hours in court duties, 39 less than the previous year. They also limited overtime to 1,290 hours, 126 less than 1981.

The police cruisers travelled less in 1982—110,088 kilometres, compared to 176,167 the previous year, reflecting the force's higher emphasis on energy conservation, and the police committee's greater encouragement of beat patrols as opposed to cruising.

In 1982, Ingersoll became a Block Parent community with five committees established for each elementary school.

An addition to police headquarters, started last October, has just been completed giving officers new storage and evidence rooms, and an interview room.

Sentinel Preview

March 29<sup>th</sup> 1983.

SENTINEL REVIEW  
March 29, 1983

# Constable to teach at police college

Constable Phil DeBruyne will be off to Aylmer Police College this fall, but not as a student. Instead, he will be taking on a two year term with the college as an instructor.

Beginning November 1, Constable DeBruyne will be teaching police recruits various courses. One will be on crime prevention, which Constable DeBruyne has been very active in locally.

Constable DeBruyne is excited about going to teach at the Police College. "I think it's a reflection on the force itself, the administration of the force and the guys who work here," he said of being chosen to go. "I think the means of policing here is good. We are a pro-active police force and very community minded. That's some-

thing each member of the force has in his mind when doing his policing," he said.

"This will be one of the best learning opportunities for me. I will be able to relate to personal experiences I haven't been able to before by meeting with officers from other forces and hearing their experiences. I will also be learning from the instructors at the college," said Constable DeBruyne.

"The resources there are unlimited, and I will be able to expand my knowledge in policing. It's a real privilege to go."

Constable DeBruyne said he hopes to return to Ingersoll when he is done his term at the police college. "I have enjoyed my time in Ingersoll, especially the youth programs and the schools. The philosophy

Chief Ron James has passed down to all the members of the force--the community mindedness--I certainly hope to keep with me."

"I have every intention of returning to the community. I think what I gain there will be valuable when I return to the force," he said.

An agreement between the town and the police college was passed by town council last week, giving the go-ahead for Constable DeBruyne to leave the town's employ for two years. In the agreement, there is a clause which allows for a one year extension.

"We are very proud of him being capable of going down there," said Police Chief Ron James. "A lot of times the officers who are seconded are from bigger forces. I think it will be a new experience for him."

Town Clerk Gerry Staples said the director of the Ontario Police College has the right to second an officer of a municipal police force, but only if the officer and the town agree to it.

The officer who takes on an instructing term at the college remains an employee of the municipality, and the town is reimbursed by the police college, said Mr. Staples.

However, he said an officer will be hired to carry on Constable DeBruyne's duties in his absence, and there is no guarantee of employment when his is done his term at the college.

Also in the agreement, either party can terminate the agreement with 30 days notice, said Mr. Staples.

At the council meeting last week, two other police department members were honored by the town. Jack Savage has retired from his dispatching position with the force after 12 years of service.

"Mr. Savage is very involved in the community and he helps out a lot of groups," said Mayor Doug Harris in commending him on his service.

"I recall very vividly when Jack was hired," said Chief James. "It was 10 minutes to four and we didn't have a dispatcher. I called on him because he had shown an interest and we had a dispatcher within 10 minutes. And we have appreciated his services over the past years and we wish him well," said the chief.

Sergeant Roy Kivinen was honored for recently completing the level one management course at the Ontario Police College. Chief James congratulated him on his effort and noted the plus 90 marks received by Sergeant Kivinen in the program.

"We feel it's a tribute to our department to have officers attending these courses and doing so well," said Mayor Harris. "You have been with our force for a number of years and we hope you continue to be with us for some time to come."



Constable Phil DeBruyne

Ingersoll Times  
May 18<sup>th</sup> 1983

MEDICAL REASONS

# James resigns as Ingersoll police chief

INGERSOLL — Ron James has resigned as Ingersoll police chief.

James, 55, tendered his resignation at Monday night's police committee meeting after discussing the move with his doctor. He said he is leaving the position he has held since 1974

because of "medical reasons" effective July 8.

"I think the job stress is too much for me," said James. "I've no ill feelings toward anyone."

James went on a leave of absence in July, 1981, after suffering chest pains. The following

March, he underwent triple heart bypass surgery and returned to work August, 1982.

Although he hasn't missed a day of work since that time, James said he didn't feel he could give 100 per cent to the job.

"It's not fair to the staff or the people of Ingersoll," he said,



**RON JAMES**  
— resignation —

pointing out that he wasn't able to get involved in as many community functions as he thought necessary.

**OUTLOOK CHANGED**

James also said his heart problems have changed his outlook on life.

"I've got different priorities on different things since my surgery," he said. "I want to slow down and relax a bit."

But he said he was going to stay involved in the community.

"I won't be idle," he promised. "I'll be out helping people some place."

James said he didn't feel his leaving would disrupt the force.

"If I'm getting out, I think this is a good time," he said. "I don't think morale has ever been this high."

Bob Ball, chairman of Ingersoll's police committee, said the town would advertise for a new chief but pointed out members of the Ingersoll department would be welcome to apply.

**NO TIMETABLE**

Ball said no timetable has been set for finding a replacement but in interview committee will be set up to review applications.

James had discussed his resignation with Ball last week so the resignation at Monday's meeting did not come as a surprise.

"I think he's doing the proper thing for his health and I wish him all the best," said Ball.

Sentinel-Review

May 31<sup>st</sup> 1983



# Police Chief James resigns



Police Chief Ronald K. James announced his resignation last night at a meeting of the town's police committee. The Chief has been on the local police force for 28 years.

BY CHERYL STEWART

Ingersoll Police Chief Ron James has resigned from the force, having informed the town's police committee Monday night he will be leaving on or before July 8.

The chief cited health as his reason for leaving the force, after 28 years. With his resignation in hand, the police committee will soon be advertising for a replacement.

Police Committee Chairman Bob Ball said he will first be checking with the Ontario Police Commission on hiring procedure. He said most likely the hiring committee, which will be set up after this month's council meeting, will be made up of local councillors, several police chiefs,

and an observer from the Ontario Police Commission.

He said the hiring committee will be considering everyone who applies for the job, including local officers. Councillor Ball is sorry to see the chief leaving the force, but feels he has made the right decision. "I think the chief is very well liked in the community. He has done an excellent job in public relations in the community. I wish him the best."

Chief James is sad to be leaving the force he has been with since 1955, and been chief of since 1974. He feels his years on the force have been good ones, but his health will not permit him to continue.

Chief James took sick leave July 10, 1981 and underwent triple heart bypass surgery March 16, 1982. He returned to the department August 16, 1982.

"The pressures of the job and the stress of the job are the main reasons. I had a long talk with my doctor and my wife, and my doctor feels the stress of the job is impairing my health," said the chief.

"I am at the point in my life when I don't consider it's worth it. I have given it a lot of thought and I hate to leave the department now. I have a good staff and the morale in the department is very high. Since returning from my leave, I have had nothing but the utmost co-operation from the staff. You need this to be successful as a department," he said.

"At that time (when he returned from sick leave), I thought I should come back and give it a try. And I think I have given it a good go. This is a pretty sorry day in my life. I have enjoyed my job and I always felt I was just one of the team," he said.

Mayor Doug Harris also feels the chief has been an asset to the community and the department during his years in Ingersoll. "He has spent many years as chief serving the town and the community. He's done more than his duty and now it's his time to retire," said the mayor.

"He's gone beyond his duty as chief in Ingersoll. He has been involved over the

years with minor sports and other things, and he is well-known and well-liked in the community. He has given long, faithful service to the community and it is appreciated by myself and council as a whole."

Members of the force are sad to have Chief James leaving the department. "It has been enjoyable working for him," said

Staff-Sergeant Lionel Ulrich, "because of the type of chief he has been. He has always had full understanding of our problems on the street. As a result, he understands us and our problems."

"You couldn't ask for a nicer person, either as a chief or as a person. I think I can speak on behalf of everybody, that we

are sorry to see him leave. He has been a credit to the department and the uniform," said the staff-sergeant.

As president of the police association, Constable Rick Hillner said Chief James has been terrific to work with at all times. "He has been most co-operative in pretty well anything that we have ever tried to negotiate, such as uniforms, equipment

and working hours. He has been most accommodating for us coming up to him at the last minute and asking for special requests," said Constable Hillner.

"The morale has been at a high for quite some time. I have worked with the chief for about eight years and he has been very pleasant all the way through."

*Ingersoll Times*  
June 1<sup>st</sup> 1983

# Ingersoll police chief retires early

By Mark Nusca  
Woodstock Bureau

INGERSOLL — After a 27-year law-enforcement career in which "Lady Luck" saved his life at least once, Ingersoll Police Chief Ron James has announced his decision to retire from the force he has directed since 1974.

Citing the effects of the job's daily pressure on his health, James, 55, said in an interview Tuesday that after discussing the

idea with both his wife and doctor, he has decided to take an early retirement. He officially advised the Ingersoll police commission of the decision Monday night, he said, adding his retirement will be effective July 8, "if not sooner."

A London native — and former cabbie and bartender — who joined the Ingersoll force Dec. 14, 1955, James returned to active duty as chief last August following a 13-month sick leave during which he underwent triple-bypass heart surgery. Since returning to work after the March 16, 1982, operation, "I haven't missed a day of work," he said Tuesday.

Nevertheless, the day-to-day stress and strain associated with running the 12-man force has left him with "the odd chest pain" despite the good health he has enjoyed since undergoing surgery, he said.

"I feel very good, but sometimes I get upset or worked up over the pressures of the job. I always promised myself that if I couldn't give 110 per cent to the job, I would retire, and after discussing it with my wife Florence and my doctor, who thinks it's a proper move, I've decided to retire early, though it is not without regrets. I have an excellent staff and I've met many wonderful people here."

Taking time Tuesday to look back briefly over his police career, the affable father of two sons — one an RCMP officer in British Columbia — reached into a filing cabinet drawer in his second-floor office and pulled out a contract he signed when he joined the force as a 27-year-old bartender. "You might get a laugh out of this," he said, pointing out terms in the 1955 agreement that provided an annual salary of \$2,600, required six days work per week and offered no extra pay for overtime.

"We had no police associations back then, so you could be fired with only 30 days' notice and there wasn't a damn thing you could do about it if you disagreed," said

James, who supplemented his weekly salary of about \$92 working nights on a road maintenance crew.

On the topic of actual crimefighting, James related several instances in which "Lady Luck was on my side." In 1971, while trying to subdue a knife-wielding man who had gone "berserk" on a crowded street, he was stabbed three times.

"That was pretty terrifying, I'll tell you." The knife "just missed" his jugular vein and one of his kidneys. In another incident in 1956, he suffered a broken leg wrestling

with a man who was apprehended while robbing a local grocery store.

James said he has no immediate plans with his decision to retire — a decision his wife is "very pleased" about. "Maybe she won't think the same way when she has me underfoot all day," he said. "But it will be nice to have the time to do what I want when I want, for once."

While there are several officers on the force who, according to James, would make "very good" successors, the decision on who will take over the job will be up to

town officials, who will publicize the opening in local papers, he said.

As for advice to the next chief, James offered a saying which he has "always operated by" as a policeman and chief: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. I may be chief here, but that doesn't make me any better than any of the junior officers on the force."

"Police work is a job that calls for a lot of common sense. Just be good to people and they'll be good to you. I don't think you'll go far wrong if you follow that thinking."



CHIEF RON JAMES  
--- had heart surgery

London Free Press  
June 1, 1983

Police Dept.

**Ulrich named  
police chief  
for the interim**

INGERSOLL — From the ranks of Ingersoll's police force, town council's police committee has appointed an acting police chief who will serve until a permanent chief is chosen.

At its meeting Monday, the committee appointed Staff Sgt. Lionel Ulrich as acting chief until a permanent replacement is found for outgoing chief Ron James.

Next to James, Ulrich is the most senior member of the Ingersoll Police Department. He served as acting chief when James took a leave of absence in July 1981.

James' last day on the job will be July 8. It could be late August when the permanent successor starts the job, town clerk Gerry Staples said last week.

Monday was also the deadline for the submission of applications for the chief of police position.

# Renovations complete on police building

Renovations to the police department building have finally been completed. town councillors were informed Monday night by Police Chief Ron James.

Work was scheduled to begin on the holding cells at the first of April, but was delayed. The reception window area was also delayed because the contractor was waiting for materials.

However, now that the work is done, the police chief is pleased. "I am very pleased with the renovations in the cell block area. It does look very nice in there now. I think we have eliminated the problem of somebody taking their own life in there," said the chief.

Baird Machines Limited, of Woodstock, did the cell block renovations, replacing the grillwork with solid steel overhead and bars on the sides. One cell is now equipped

with a washroom while the other is not.

The police committee decided to update the cells because of criticism in inspections that the cells were not suitable for holding prisoners.

Chief James told councillors at the meeting, the department now has a new policy regarding damage to the cells. He said if somebody contained in the cells does any damage they will either pay for it or be charged.

Also included in the renovations was replacing the two doors in the reception area with steel doors and frames. The glass in the reception area is bulletproof and surrounded by plywood, with a voice hole and small pay hole at the bottom. The pay hole is a sliding device for changing items.

Sentinel - Review  
June 28<sup>th</sup> 1983

SENTINEL REVIEW  
June 28, 1983

Ingersoll Times  
June 29<sup>th</sup> 1983

INGERSOLL TIMES  
June 29, 1983

# Crimestopper program considered by town

BY CHERYL STEWART

Ingersoll town councillors have decided to look seriously into the crimestoppers program, which is now being used in Hamilton, Calgary, Edmonton and over 300 American cities.

At a committee meeting Monday night, Councillor Bob Ball agreed to bring a report back to council concerning running the program in Ingersoll. "I think we should take a good hard look at it and bring a report back on having the program locally," he said.

Police Chief Ron James is in favor of the program and would like to see it implemented locally. "I can't see why this program couldn't work in Ingersoll. Vandalism seems to be our biggest problem and I would like to look into the program. The big thing about the program is there is no cost to the taxpayer," he said.

A report received from the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Force, which has had crimestoppers since May 30, 1983, recommended the program.

Police Chief Gordon Torrance highlighted the program in his report. "Basically, crimestoppers is an investigative tool only, relying equally on the co-operation of the police force, the news media and the community. It is a program designed to encourage people from all walks of life to call the police with information to solve crimes already committed, or those about to occur. Experience has also shown that information regarding the whereabouts of wanted persons and caches of drugs and/or stolen property is often received. Crimestoppers offers both total anonymity to the caller and a cash reward if the information leads to an arrest."

The program has a police co-ordinator who guarantees the anonymity of the caller through a special private line. He gives the caller a specific code number known only to himself and the caller. It is the co-ordinator's job to disseminate the

information and weigh its value, said Chief Torrance. If he feels it is worthy, it is then followed up by criminal investigators.

There is a board of directors for the program, comprised of community members. It is the board's job to administer and operate the program and to raise reward monies from the community. Funds are donated by businesses, industries, service clubs and charitable citizens. He stressed anyone involved in politics at any level is prohibited from serving on the board.

In Hamilton, the news media plays a major role in the program, said the chief. Each week, there is a 90 second re-enactment of a specifically chosen crime which the police have had difficulty solving. Radio and newspaper people also run a narrative of the crime, and a \$1,000 reward is offered for information leading to an arrest regarding the crime of the week, he said.

"Crimestoppers encourages participation from all levels of society. The informants never testify, nor is their identity ever known. This formula, coupled with rewards, seems to appease fears of retaliation and-or frustration of becoming involved in our often lengthy judicial system. Not only does it appeal and work with the law-abiding citizen (who normally would not want to get involved), but also with the fringe and hardened criminal alike. When it comes to cash, there is no honor amongst thieves nor their confidantes," said the chief.

Crimestoppers was started in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1976 when a young Canadian-born police officer, who was working there, had reached a dead-end in a homicide investigation. He appealed to the local television station and enlisted their co-operation in a 90 second re-enactment of the crime. The detective offered a reward from his own pocket and within 24 hours, an arrest had been made. The program was enlarged and refined and is now known as crimestoppers.

Ingersoll Times  
June 29<sup>th</sup> 1983

INGERSOLL TIMES  
June 29, 1983

# Ulrich acting chief, appointed by council

Staff-sergeant Lionel Ulrich will be taking the position of acting police chief when Chief Ron James leaves the force July 8. The decision to promote Sergeant Ulrich to the chief's position temporarily was made by town councillors Monday night.

Town council has advertised for the chief's position, and is in the process of reviewing applications. Interview dates will then be set up and it is hoped a chief will be hired by the fall, according to Police Committee Chairman Bob Ball. "We will be looking at the applications in

the near future and then setting up interviews. If the total thing is not what we want, we will do it again. This is a very important position and we want to do everything right," he said.

Chief James gave his resignation to council at the end of May, citing health as his reason for leaving the force. He has been with the local force for 28 years, joining the ranks in 1955 and appointed chief in 1974.

This will be the second time for Staff-sergeant Ulrich taking over as acting chief. When Chief James was on sick leave from July 10, 1981 until August 16, 1982, he was acting chief. Chief James underwent triple heart bypass surgery while on sick leave.

Ingersoll Times  
June 29<sup>th</sup> 1983

# Lawmen want stiffer terms for repeating offenders

By GABE PERACCHIA  
Sentinel-Review staff writer  
INGERSOLL — As he concludes his 27½ year career police chief Ron James is disturbed by some of the laws he and his colleagues must enforce. He believes some are too lenient on offenders, while others are too harsh.

Particularly in cases of repeating offenders, James argues for stiffer penalties to increase deterrence and protect victims. He often disagrees with sentences that are lightened by conditions such as day parole "an all this nonsense."

"We've got to make the penalties more severe. I believe in light sentences for the first and second offences. But after that, if they are going to make their own bed, they should have to lie in it."

Like many of his colleagues, he favors capital punishment for murderers. The penalty should apply to all murderers, not just those who kill police officers and jail guards, he maintains.

Referring to a recent Florida incident in which a man started a fire that killed two persons, the chief says, "If he's not going to be responsible, why should he be on the street. They should put him in a room, and put in a gas pellet."

### IT'S NOT FAIR

"I see nothing joyous about taking another's life. But, he took two lives. I can't see why a person like that should live. It's just not fair to somebody who has lost a loved one."

On the other hand, James is uneasy about some right-wing conservative laws, cropping up particularly in the United States. "Some of these things are pretty startling."

One "disturbing" example is new legislation in a southern state permitting people to shoot to kill if they suspect a break-in. Under such a law, innocent visitors or trespassers could easily be killed, should they be mistaken for burglars by a trigger-happy property owner. Irresponsible persons could also abuse such a law to shoot at disliked persons, under the pretext of a suspicion of break-in.

Although Ingersoll is not known for its violent crime, James's career has not always been as comfortable as the cushioned chair in his office. He recalls being hospitalized after tangling with a knife-wielding assailant in 1971.

The entire police staff had

been drawn to the street one day to stop a man who was chasing his neighbor toward the downtown. The man brandished a 12-inch knife and had a history of psychological disturbance, James recalls. James tried to disarm him quickly, to protect the crowd of spectators who had gathered in the parking lot near the police building. The man was subdued, but not before James had been stabbed in the neck, arm and kidney.

### DIDN'T CARRY GUN

After that incident, James's colleagues reminded him that he would have been justified in using his revolver, since the knife-wielder was a danger to the lives of others. However, James has never liked using his gun, not then and not now. He has never shot at anyone. "I have no love for firearms. I have never carried one while I have been chief. If I had ever hurt anyone, it would have been quite a load on my conscience."

One of the greatest changes in law enforcement during his years, has been the introduction of sophisticated technology into police offices. First through Telex, and more recently through computerized telecommunications, police can get vital information within seconds from across Canada. For instance, a police officer eyeing a suspicious car, need only contact a dispatcher by radio. The officer is immediately told of the car's owner, whether the owner is a wanted person, or whether the car has been stolen.

### LARGER FORECES

Another change in law enforcement in Ontario, has been the amalgamation of municipal police departments into larger regional forces. While this has not happened in Oxford County, James sees nothing wrong with such a change.

A county-wide department would operate at the same cost or less, and would offer the same or better protection. For instance, a county department would have one, central jail, likely in Woodstock. Had this been the case, the Ingersoll department would not have recently spent \$6,000 to improve its own cell block, James argues.

Also, a larger, amalgamated forces could afford to have specialized departments such as criminal investigation, crime prevention, traffic control or identification. With a specialist in finger-printing, for example,

the police's finger-print evidence would be accepted in court, and convictions would be easier to obtain.

### SHIFT MANPOWER

A larger force would be more flexible, being able to send more officers to a trouble spot, James states. "In Tillsonburg, during the tobacco season, the first pay day is always a wing-ding. We could shift our manpower around where it was required."

James acknowledges that much of the opposition to a county force comes from rural residents who are served by the OPP. Rural residents believe they would have to pay more taxes for a local force.

To spare rural residents higher taxes, James suggests an amalgamated force only for the urban area now having local departments — Woodstock, Ingersoll, Tillsonburg, Norwich and Tavistock.

Whatever the future of Oxford's police departments, James will not have to worry about it. He plans to relax and peacefully nurse his health during his retirement by participating in exercise programs.

He is also looking forward to a trip to the west in October to visit his two sons. One is a self-employed business man in Yorkton, Sask. and the other is an RCMP officer in Vernon, B.C.

*Submitted by...*

Police Dept



**HAVING BEEN** a law officer for 27½ years, retiring chief Ron James says farewell to the Ingersoll Police Department.

(Staff photo by Gave Peracchia)

Sentinel-Review  
July 7<sup>th</sup> 1983

Police building almost complete

## Remodelling helps seal up cells

By GABE PERACCHIA  
Sentinel-Review staff writer  
INGERSOLL — Retiring  
police chief Ron James didn't  
have much time to enjoy recent  
renovations to the Ingersoll  
Police Department office.

The \$6,700 renovations are vir-  
tually complete as holding cells  
have been upgraded and wooden  
doors have been replaced with  
steel ones.

A new bullet-proof window has  
been installed in the reception

area, but the final product may  
not be satisfactory.

The current window consists of a  
thick pane of glass surrounded  
by a panel of plywood. While the  
glass is strong enough for the  
police's security requirements,

the wood may not be.

The wood may be replaced by  
brick or metal, or a larger pane  
of glass, James said Friday.

The holding cells were upgrad-  
ed because they had been  
criticized by public inspectors as

unsuitable for accommodating  
prisoners. The condition of the  
holding cells was the only  
negative point in this year's  
report of the Public Institution  
Inspection Panel. The panel is  
regularly appointed by the On-  
tario Attorney-General to  
review the condition of public  
buildings.

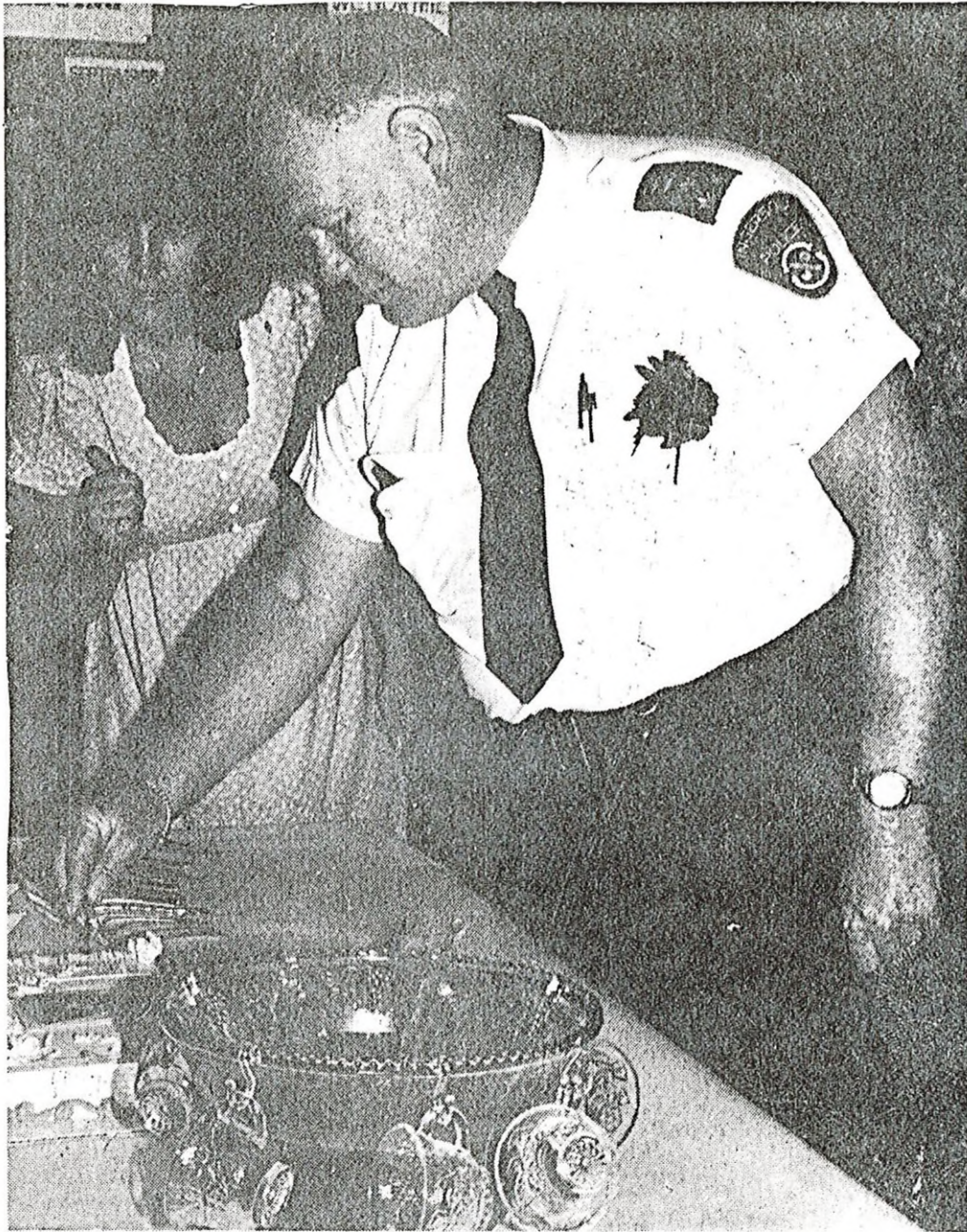
The panel, which reported this  
spring, urged immediate com-  
pletion of the holding cells.

The panel had good words for  
the department's crime preven-  
tion program and its  
philosophical orientation. "The  
crime prevention being done is  
commendable, in regard to the  
force size. We are particularly  
impressed with the chief's  
philosophy of handling petty  
crime, with a strong inclination  
to prevention of repeat  
occurrence.

Sentinel-Review  
July 11<sup>th</sup>  
1983

SENTINEL REVIEW  
July 11, 1983





### LEAVING CAN BE SWEET

Ingersoll police chief Ron James goes out in a sweet way as he cuts the retirement cake presented to him by his colleagues. The chief cut the pastry during a farewell get-together on Friday, his last day of work.

(Staff photo by Gabe Peracchia)

Sentinel Review

July 11<sup>th</sup> 1983.

# Police Chief James retires from force

BY MARILYN SMULDERS

Police Chief Ronald K. James sat at his desk, talked with his staff, and took a ride in the cruiser, all for the last time as Ingersoll's Chief of Police, last Friday.

Friday marked the retirement date of the 55-year-old Chief James. He cited health problems specifically with his heart, as the reason for leaving. Staff-sergeant Lionel Ulrich has been appointed as acting Chief of Police until Ingersoll town council hires a new one. Ingersoll officials are currently reviewing applications and have reopened the application deadline until July 25.

Despite the early retirement, Chief James intends to remain active in the community.

"I do intend to keep involved," he said. "I just want time so I can sit down and relax. I have found the stress and strain of the job to be pretty exhausting."

"Sometimes you walk out of the door and say 'Geeze, I hope I come back.' It's quite a responsibility to be the chief, whether I'm sitting at home reading the paper, sleeping, or at the office."

Chief James has decided though, that he isn't going to press his luck. Last year he underwent triple by-pass surgery. Although his recovery went well, upon conferring with his doctor he made his retirement decision final.

Policing is a job that gets in the blood. Chief James said he's going to miss the station, and the people inside.

One aspect that has particularly interested the former chief about his job, is its social aspects.

"A police officer is also a social worker. For a lot of people there is no one else to discuss problems with, so I've been able to form many relationships within the community. Everything is so personal within a

small town. You might be dealing with your next door neighbor."

Recently the police department has been getting an increasing number of calls over domestic problems. Chief James said his experience with these situations have taught him more about life.

The former chief has seen a lot of changes since he first started as a rookie on the Ingersoll force in December 1955. One of these changes involves the lives of young people, an area that interests Chief James the most.

"I feel a little sorry for kids in this screwy world," he philosophied. "When I went to school I had to work. The difference today is that kids coming out of school often can't find a job to make money. Everyone gets tired of asking mom and dad for handouts and then they get very easily bored with nothing to do."

To lessen the gap between young people and the police, Chief James has been involved with children on a social level, for years. For many years, he was a baseball coach, and he has been involved with other youth-oriented programs.

"I got a chance to speak to the kids around town rather than knowing them

solely through their troubles," he said.

Another problem Chief James has seen on the uprise during his years of policing, is the abuse of alcohol. One reward of the job was upon seeing a former trouble-maker, now a respectable head of a household.

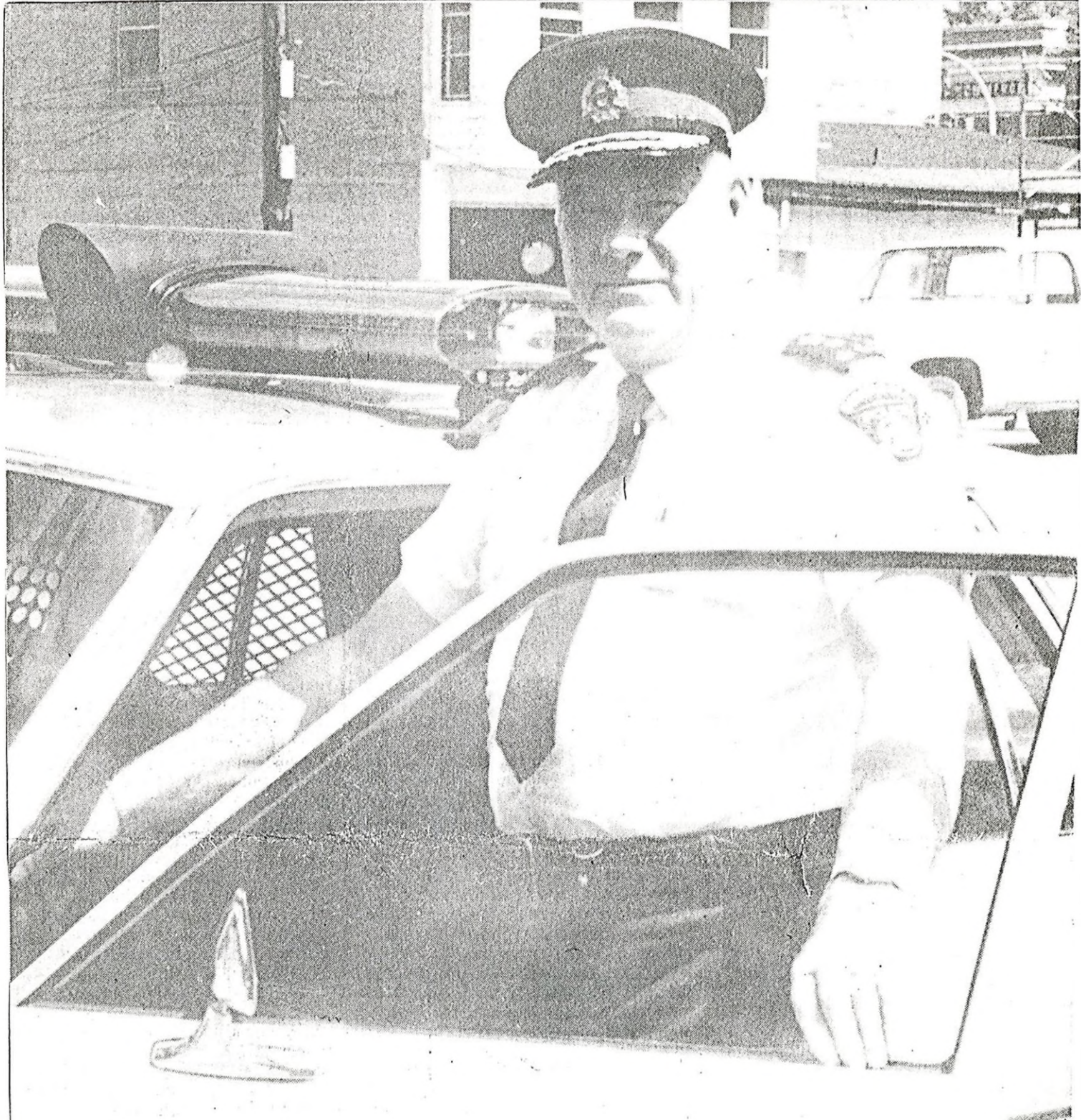
"I had this kid come up to me the other day and say to me, 'remember when I used to give you guys a hard time?' It was so nice to see him. I never tried to preach to him, or to any of the other kids in trouble. I just wanted them to see that life could be better." Chief James acknowledged the work of Alcoholics Anonymous in improving the lifestyles of many.

Starting Monday, or maybe Tuesday, Chief James began his retirement. Last week, he said he was looking forward to spending more time at home, and to spending more time with his two sons, Paul and Michael, who will be home in Ingersoll this summer with their children.

Asked if he would miss his work and the people he has been associated with for so many years, Chief James nodded, then added, "but I may be back judging from the number of jobs my wife Florence has lined up for me."

Ingersoll Times  
July 13<sup>th</sup> 1983

Police Dept



So long Chief! On Friday, Ingersoll Chief of Police Ronald K. James marked his last day on the job. After more than 25 years on the local force, Chief James will be missed by

many in the Ingersoll area. A replacement has not yet been found.

Ingersoll Times  
 July 13<sup>th</sup> 1983  
 INGERSOLL TIMES  
 July 13, 1983

## Town still looking for new chief

While Police Chief Ronald James basks in the glories of retirement, the Town of Ingersoll is still minus one full-time police chief.

Town Clerk Gerry Staples said the town is reopening the application deadline for the job of Police Chief, because there was not a sufficient number of applications received.

"Now the closing date is July 25," said Mr. Staples. "Sometime after that we'll begin interviewing those who qualify."

The post of police chief carries a salary of \$32,000 to \$40,000. That salary is negotiable depending on the qualifications of the applicants, said Mr. Staples.

In the meantime, Staff Sergeant Lionel Ulrich has been appointed by Ingersoll town council to oversee the duties as chief. This will be the second time Staff Sergeant Ulrich has acted as chief, taking over for Chief James when he was on a year's sick leave.

Chief James submitted his resignation to the town at the end of May, citing health problems as his reason for leaving the force. He has served on the Ingersoll police force for 28 years; nine of those as chief.

Ingersoll Times  
July 13<sup>th</sup> 1983

# Ingersoll's new chief 34-year-old father from Halton Regional

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By Sentinel-Review staff

A 34-year-old sergeant with the Halton Regional Police will become Ingersoll's new police chief, The Sentinel-Review has learned.

Sgt. Bruce Richards, of Acton, will replace chief Ron James who retired last month.

Sgt. Richards started his police work with the Georgetown police force 12 years ago. When regional government came to the area the Georgetown force was incorporated into Halton Regional Police.

The new Ingersoll chief is a graduate of the police college in Aylmer and has completed a business administration course at Humber College. He spent six years in the criminal investigation department at Halton Regional and was involved in a major arson investigation.

#### POLICE ASSOCIATION

Sgt. Richards was also president of the Halton Regional Police Association for two years and a member of the executive for four years.

He is married with two children.

Earlier this week Ingersoll clerk Gerry Staples said the search for a new chief was down to eight candidates, but the announcement might be made at any time.

Town officials were expected to announce the name of the new chief later this afternoon.

Police Chief Ron James retired from the Ingersoll police force on July 8 for health reasons after 27½ years of service. He joined the police force in 1955 and became police chief 19 years later.

James underwent triple-bypass heart surgery in March, 1982 during a 13-month leave of absence from the police force. He returned to duty in August, 1982.

Staff Sgt. Lionel Ulrich became acting police chief in James's absence.

Sentinel-Review

Aug 19<sup>th</sup> 1983

# Richards hired as new Chief

BY RON PRESTON

In a special noonhour council meeting last Friday, Ingersoll town council hired 34-year-old Bruce Walter Richards as the town's new police chief effective September 6. Former chief Ronald K. James, a 28-year veteran of the Ingersoll force, the last nine as chief, retired last month due to health problems.

The new chief has served 12 years as a police officer, joining the Georgetown police in 1971, then the Halton Regional Police Force when it amalgamated with the Georgetown force in 1974.

Two years ago, he was promoted to patrol sergeant working out of Halton Region District 3. The Halton police patrol an area with 250,000 people between Mississauga and Hamilton, including the cities of Burlington and Oakville.

In a weekend interview, Sgt. Richards said he would stress "crime prevention as the way of policing for the '80s" in an effort to respond to crime before it happens. He said it was cheaper to go to people and explain how to prevent crime to their business or home than it was to go through an investigation and the court system.

The chief-to-be said he would like to work on programs such as the Neighborhood Watch Program or the property engraving program to the town.

The new chief has already spent several days in Ingersoll but hasn't had time to discover which policing problems are peculiar to the area. He said many small towns have high rates of vandalism and break and enter but he would have to wait until he had a chance to go over the local crime statistics to discover Ingersoll's needs.

The town had received 33 applications for the vacancy. Six of those were chosen for interviews by a three-man committee of the Ontario Police Commission.

Mayor Doug Harris praised town coun-

cillors who sacrificed wages or vacation days in order to attend the two days of interviews last week. One councillor referred to the hiring as "an exhausting search" but all expressed satisfaction with Sgt. Richards' hiring.

Deputy-chief of the Halton Regional force, Bob Middaugh, said Ingersoll's hiring of one of the force's sergeants was "The price you pay for having good people."

Sgt. Richards said he missed the atmosphere of small town policing after the Georgetown force became part of the regional force and has had "a desire to get back to that kind of community."

Sgt. Richards', his wife Lynda and two children will be moving to Ingersoll following the sale of their Acton home.



Bruce Richards

Ingersoll Times  
Aug. 24, 1983

INGERSOLL TIMES  
August 24, 1983



Ingersoll's new police chief, Bruce Richards, is seen here on his first day on the job yesterday, busily preparing himself to handle the force's day to day affairs. The chief said in an earlier interview that he intends to stress crime prevention in the town rather than responding to crime after it has occurred.

INGERSOLL TIMES  
September 7, 1983

POLICE DEPT.  
Bruce Richards

Ingersoll Times  
Sept 7, 1983



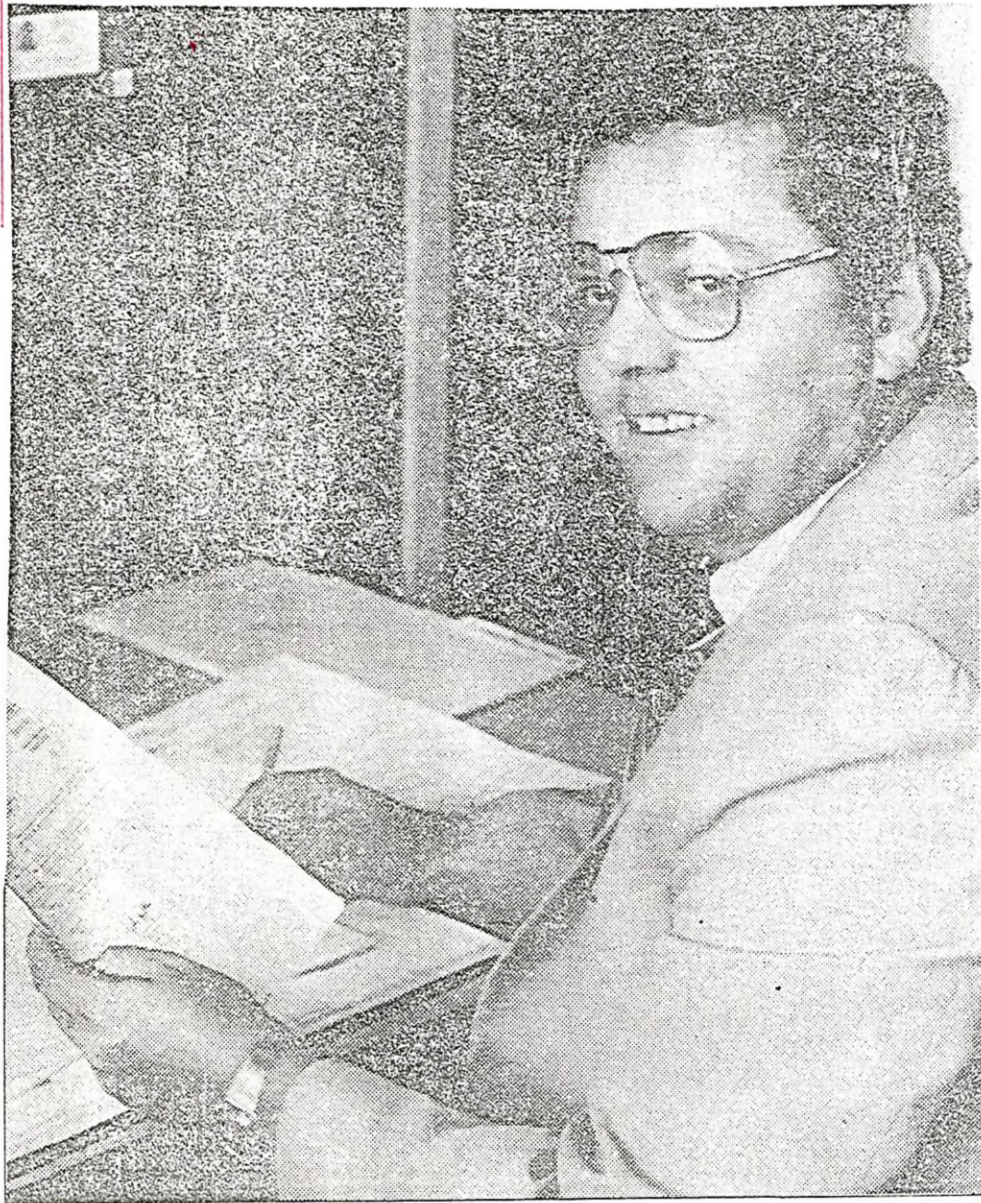
### CHIEF'S ON DUTY

Ingersoll will become increasingly familiar with this man, Bruce Richards, the town's new chief of police. Richards, most recently a sergeant for Halton Regional Police, took command of the Ingersoll Police Department Tuesday to succeed retired chief Ron James. Richards was appointed by town council last month.

(Staff photos by Gabe Peracchia)

Daily Sentinel Review  
Sept. 7, 1983

DAILY SENTINEL REVIEW  
September 7, 1983



Woodstock Bureau

Former Halton regional police sergeant Bruce Richards assumed his new post as chief of the Ingersoll police force Tuesday and said he will be seeking input from the town's 12-man force and its 8,000 residents in an effort to police the community as efficiently as possible.

London Free Press  
Sept. 7, 1983

LONDON FREE PRESS  
September 7, 1983

## New chief seeks input *Doors open to all at Ingersoll*

By Mark Nusca  
Woodstock Bureau

INGERSOLL — Bruce Richards, the new police chief, left the doors open when he arrived at the office Tuesday for his first day on the job.

And as far as the former Halton regional police sergeant is concerned, that's how they will remain — wide open, not only to the 12-man force, but to this community of 8,000.

"Our doors are open to anyone and I encourage them to come in and talk to us about anything that's on their minds," the 34-year-old chief said several hours after officially assuming his post. The position was vacated July 8 by popular former chief Ron James, who retired early because of a heart ailment.

Richards, who has 12 years experience in police work, began his career as a constable with Georgetown police before working as a criminal investigator and, most recently, a patrol sergeant with the 300-man Halton force. His wife and two children will remain in Acton until he finds a house here.

Tuesday in his office, Richards briefly discussed his past and the challenge his new role represents.

"I come from a force that is very progressive, especially in the management field." He hopes to function as an "oper-

ational chief" who not only acts as an administrative head but actively takes part in police work while seeking advice from all force members regarding day-to-day operations.

"I'm really looking forward to the challenge," he said. "The police community is a changing field. It used to be military in its approach but those days are behind us now and we try to run things as a democracy."

With that in mind, the new chief said he will encourage as much "input" as possible from members of his force in an effort to keep it operating as efficiently as it has in the past. That approach, he added, should facilitate the implementation of new ideas.

"I hope to get the idea of democratic management off the planning table and into operation as soon as possible," he said. In effect, he will seek to have each officer "participate in the running of his police force."

Richards said it is too early to know if there will be any major changes in the organization, but he hopes to meet with former chief James "in the immediate future" to acquaint himself with the 28-year police veteran and perhaps obtain some advice on his new role.

Meanwhile, Richards will spend his time in much the same manner as Tuesday, reading through files and paperwork and "getting acquainted with the community" and his force.



Police Dept

## New chief brings some surprises

# Stopping crimestoppers also stops councillors

By GABE PERACCHIA  
Sentinel-Review staff writer  
**INGERSOLL** Although it was the first time he faced town councillors as Ingersoll's new police chief, Bruce Richards showed he did not lack conviction.

The new chief left councillors in wonderment at a police committee meeting Thursday, when he firmly spoke against the implementation of a crime fighting program.

"Your comments come as a surprise," police committee chairman Bob Ball said in response to Richards. "We were quite enthusiastic when this program was put before us."

Last spring, councillors called for an effort to reduce the sizeable vandalism problem in the town. Ron James, who was still the chief at that time, suggested a program called Crimestoppers, which is used in communities such as Edmonton and Hamilton to combat crime.

Under the program, financial rewards are given to any member of the public who provides information leading to the arrest or conviction of an offender.

On the third day in his new job, Richards told the police committee the program is not necessary in a town the size of Ingersoll. Unlike larger communities where Crimestoppers is in operation, Ingersoll is not plagued by violent crimes to persons.

The police had presented the committee with a report on the



**BOB BALL**  
a surprise

program, merely for sake of information.

The Crimestoppers program could be established in Ingersoll by setting up a special telephone line with the number, 485-TIPS.

Through newspaper columns, the police would depict unsolved crimes each week, and ask the public to provide any available information relevant to the offence. In large cities, police forces use television to simulate the crimes in question.

Informants could provide information and collect their reward money while remaining anonymous at all times. The payment of reward money would be handled by a communi-

ty group with a civilian board of directors. This civilian board would determine the size of a reward for each case. The rewards would be funded by donations to the civilian group, which would be tax-deductible.

### VANDALISM

Among the councillors not expecting Richards' recommendation, was John Fortner, who admitted Ingersoll does not have to be concerned with crimes such as robbery, rape and murder. However, the town does have a "serious vandalism problem to combat."

Coun. Eugene Mabee pointed out that Tillsonburg, whose population is comparable to that of Ingersoll, has adopted such a program.

However, Richards said vandalism could be better combated in other ways such as increasing policing or educating children in schools.

A serious vandalism problem would indicate more community involvement by police is needed rather than a special program. "It tells me that, perhaps, some of our men are not as close to the public as they should be."



**BRUCE RICHARDS**  
—a conviction—



**JOHN FORTNER**  
—a concern—

Daily Sentinel Review  
Sept. 9, 1983.

# Force is finding calls are up, crime is down

Daily Sentinel  
Review

Sept. 14, 1983.

INGERSOLL — Although residents are calling the police more frequently, Ingersoll is becoming a more peaceful community.

These are two of the trends in the first half of 1983, according to statistics released by the Ingersoll Police Department.

The number of "reportable occurrences," in the first six months of 1983 was slightly less per cent less than during the same period in 1982.

From January to June of this year, there were 1891 such incidents, 27 less than the first six months of 1982.

However, the police department received 39 more calls from residents seeking information or making requests. The number of such calls was 763 in

the first half of 1983, and 724 last year.

Other statistics show that police officers spent 81 fewer hours patrolling their beats, 31 less hours assisting other police forces, and made 30 fewer escort trips.

Of the 18 statistical categories, there was an increase in only two — information and request calls, as noted above, and the number of night lodger, which rose from one to three.

All other categories showed decreases. There were fewer department parking violations, fire calls, alarms, liquor permits issued, canine control complaints, stolen and missing bicycles, recovered bicycles, house checks, insecures and missing persons.



INGERSOLL'S NEW police chief Bruce Richards has spent much of his first two weeks familiarizing himself with the department's

records.

(Staff photo by Gabe Peracchia)

Daily Sentinel Review  
Sept. 19, 1983.

People have more input

# New police chief looks forward to helping town prevent crime

By GABE PERACCHIA

Sentinel-Review staff writer

**INGERSOLL** — A desire to return to a small community motivated Bruce Richards seek to become Ingersoll's new police chief.

Now starting the third week of his new job, Richards says a smaller town gives police the opportunity to be in closer contact with those they serve.

"You get to know the people better, and the people have more input. "You can provide service to them the way they want it.

"If there's a need expressed, because you're closer to the people, you're better able to learn that."

The 34-year-old successor to Ron James spent the first two weeks of his job familiarizing himself with the the force and Ingersoll's law enforcement system.

While much of his time has been spent reading the department's records, his intestinal fortitude was was put to a quick test only three days into his new job. He had to face Ingersoll town councillors at a police committee meeting.

## SPENT TIME AS DETECTIVE

Richards began his career 12 years ago as a patrol officer in the Georgetown Police Department. That force became incorporated into the Halton Police Department with the onset of regional government in 1974. With about 250,000 residents, Halton region has a population 30 times that of Ingesoll.

Richards spent six years as a detective in the criminal investigation division. Most recently, he was a patrol sergeant, heading an 18-officer unit in Burlington.

Police work has "changed drastically" during the last few years, the chief says. Police are now acting before crimes happen, rather than reacting after they occur.

The recently development emphasis on crime prevention has made law enforcement better and less expensive. By preventing crime, forces are spared the costs of investigating offences and participating in court hearings.

One of the chief's priorities will be to reduce crime by making

the community more aware of prevention measures. One program whose success he has witnessed is Neighborhood Watch. Under such a program, residents get into the habit of continually watching for potential wrong-doing in their neighborhoods. An unfamiliar or suspicious stranger or vehicle is often reported to police.

## BROUGHT A DECREASE IN BREAK-INS

Richards observed the introduction of the program in 1981 to an Oakville subdivision that had a high rate of house entries or break-ins. "In three months, we had a 48 per cent decrease in house entries, which we attribute to Neighborhood Watch."

Another area of emphasis which is to come for the Ingersoll department, is stricter enforcement of car seat-belt laws. The provincial Ministry of the Attorney-General has advised police departments to keep closer watch that drivers wear their seat-belts. "Seat-belts are not worn as much as they should."

On the personal side of his life, Richards has been an active curler and service club member, activities he plans to continue. He has also been a volunteer firefighter, but doubts he will have time such a role in his new position.

Among his priorities now, is to find a home in his new community for his wife and two children.

Other than continuing the trend toward crime prevention, Richards said he expects no major changes in the direction of the Ingersoll Police Department. Much of his contribution will be to keep the force running smoothly. "I'm here to put my administrative talents to work for the town."

Daily Sentinel Review  
Sept 19, 1983

## Police testing new weapon

# Speak softly and carry a big monadnock

By GABE PERACCHIA  
Sentinel-Review staff writer

INGERSOLL — The Ingersoll Police Department will be trying a new stick-like weapon, starting next week.

At its meeting Monday, town council's police committee approved a recommendation by police chief Bruce Richards to introduce the Monadnock PR-24.

"This police tool is designed not only to be used as a defence weapon, but in the apprehension of violent persons with the chance of injury reduced considerably," Richards told the committee.

One officer will be selected to be trained in the proper use of the instrument. The officer, whom has not yet been selected, will then carry it on a trial basis for three months, starting next Monday.

At the end of the three-month trial, the police department will report on how the instrument was used, what the public thought of it, and whether it is needed in Ingersoll.

If the department determines there is a need, all officers may be equipped with the instrument.

The Monadnock, for instance, can be used to remove a person from a car, defend oneself against an attacker with a knife or two-by-four wood beam, the chief said. "I've trained with it, and I like it."

The instrument is basically a black, fibreglass stick about 2½ feet long, with a handle about one-quarter of the way along its length.

Although it originated from a

martial arts form, most large police forces in the province use it, Richards said.

However, there was one matter the chief could not explain. The Ontario Police Commission has been increasingly favoring a return to a straight-stick instrument over the Monadnock. The chief said he had not yet found out the reason for the commission's position.

Committee chairman Bob Ball

pointed out one potential drawback of the Monadnock — an officer must continually train to use the weapon properly.

Richards assured the committee the Monadnock is not to be used as a club.

The instrument is "quite a deterrent" and is used in place of other police weapons such as the so-called billy-clubs or night sticks.



BOB BALL  
—one drawback—

Daily Sentinel Review  
Sept. 27, 1983

# New appraisal forms for police officers

Ingersoll police officers will be rated on new performance forms introduced to the police committee members by Chief Bruce Richards.

The chief told committee members the new rating system will go into effect October 3. He said the performance appraisal of each officer is important to "let you (the officer) know how you're doing and where you're going."

Chief Richards said each member of the force would be starting with a clean slate, allowing the chief to identify each man's

area of performance.

The new appraisal system begins with a platoon system, in which a sergeant or corporal is assigned to each of the three platoons. That supervisor is responsible for his men and their evaluation.

Six new forms have been introduced to allow the measurement of each man's progress and potential growth. The chief said the forms are new but the idea of appraising each officer has been in effect for years.

The forms include a daily report, performance appraisal, field performance, personnel record, court assessment and an incident file.

All staff, both uniformed officers and civilian employees, will have an annual review according to a schedule set down by the chief.

Chief Richards said the forms are structured in such a manner that even personality conflicts can be registered as such and not impair anyone's progress and evaluations.

## Police chief introduces new weapon

Police chief Bruce Richards introduced a new weapon to the police committee Monday night, seeking the members' approval to train and equip one officer on a trial basis.

Committee members agreed with the chief, and will recommend to council to approve the trial period.

Chief Richards brought the baton, originally designed as a martial arts weapon, to the meeting room. Officially named the Monadnock PR-24, the baton is about three feet long with a handle.

If council approves, the chief said he intends to select one officer to train in the baton's use, and carry it until January 1, when its use will be assessed and reported back to council.

The chief stressed that the baton's purpose is to aid an officer in arresting a violent person while reducing the chance of injury to police officers. He said "most forces" in North America now carry the weapon as part of their everyday equipment.

The only cost involved in this training program will be a mileage cost from the officer being trained.

Ingersoll Times  
Sept. 28, 1983

# Cop costs go up service goes down at local PD

INGERSOLL — The Ingersoll Police Department costs more than last year and is providing less service, according to an Ontario Police Commission survey.

The increase in costs and decline in service are slightly greater than the average of Ontario police forces, the survey shows.

However, the cost per capita of the Ingersoll force is slightly less than the average for similarly sized forces.

Those statistics come from the Ontario Police Commission's annual analysis of police budgets, resource allocation and staffing. The data is provided to the province's police forces for the purpose of comparison with other forces.

Police chief Bruce Richards said Ingersoll is more or less in the middle of the road, compared to other forces.

The analysis shows that Ingersoll's police cost per capita rose by 7.4 per cent, from \$69.80 in 1982, to \$75.24 in 1983. That means the Ingersoll Police

Department costs each town resident \$75.24 this year.

## ABOUT THE SAME

In comparison, the percentage rise was 7.3, on the average, for all Ontario forces, and only six per cent for similarly sized forces with six to 19 staff members.

However, Ingersoll's \$75.24 per capita cost compares more favorably with the average \$92.63 for all 120 forces in the province. It is about the same as the average \$75.68 cost of the 48 small forces with six to 19 staff members.

Ingersoll police are giving 3.7 per cent fewer hours of service per capita this year than 1982. This is a larger decrease than the average 3.2 per cent decline for all Ontario forces. Small forces, on the average, had no change in hours of service per capita.

The average Ingersoll police officers earns \$18.78 an hour. This is slightly more than the \$17.01 average wage paid by small police forces, but less than the \$20.17 paid by all forces.

Daily Sentinel  
Review  
Sept. 28, 1983

# Walk softly and carry a big black Monadnock

By Mark Nusca  
Woodstock Bureau

INGERSOLL — It hasn't the bark of a service revolver, but then the sinister appearance of this policeman's silent partner is supposed to be enough to convince you of the kind of bite it can deliver — if necessary.

"The psychological value of just seeing it usually solves most problems," Police Chief Bruce Richards said Thursday of a sleek black baton — brand name, Monadnock PR-24 — he is hoping to introduce as standard equipment for his 11-man force.

A three-month trial of the shiny baton will begin in November, when a beat constable will be equipped with one of the .6-metre (two-foot) fibreglass sticks in an attempt to assess its usefulness and public reaction.

Richards would like to see the Monadnock become standard equipment soon after the test is complete.

"I've used it and it's worked very well," said Richards, who succeeded former chief Ron James earlier this month after a 12-year career with the Halton regional force, which uses the sticks. "My goal is to have it, to allow the men to be better equipped to deal with any situation. I think the end result will be that I will recommend that we

adopt them, but first I need some kind of information to back that up."

Const. Frank Veres will carry one of the batons but not before taking part in a two-day training seminar covering the proper and effective use of the Monadnock, which Richards described as a "defensive" weapon whose design originated in the martial arts.

Today, he said, most larger police forces in North America are equipped with the device and many have discovered how persuasive it can be without even being used on violent offenders.

"It's designed to be used as a defensive weapon, not like the night stick which was considered a club designed to strike people," Richards explained. "The Monadnock is not designed to be used as a club, but as a tool to assist in apprehending violent persons. Usually, just the presence of that weapon and how you handle it can deter further violence."

A spokesman for the Metro Toronto police force said Thursday the Monadnock has been in use there for about seven years and he praised the "persuasive" value of the stick's appearance. "If you're in a bind, all you have to do is show it and most of the time it's game over. People see the officers carrying them and there are far fewer street fights."

Richards said he believes Ingersoll's police officers need the sticks not so much to combat police assaults, which are infrequent, but as a "defensive tool" to let them deal more effectively with violent offenders who may be armed with a knife or club. As well, he said, the Monadnock will allow force members to deal "more professionally" with situations such as "hotel brawls" or violent domestic disputes.

"It's a modern tool available to the police service and I think it's a very useful tool."

One person watching the force's experiment will be Woodstock Police Chief James Miller, who said Thursday his force has no plan to obtain the sticks, at the moment. "We may look at it later. We haven't got any plans now to get them but we might at a later date. It will be interesting to see how the public reacts," to the Ingersoll experiment, he said.

Richards said he expects no negative reaction from the community over the trial run. "Definitely not."



Woodstock Bureau

Const. Frank Veres of the Ingersoll police force has been chosen to give this black baton a three-month trial on town streets.

London Free Press  
Sept. 30, 1983

LONDON FREE PRESS  
September 30, 1983

POLICE DEPT.



# Applicants interviewed for constable position

Ingersoll Times  
Oct 5, 1983

Police Chief Bruce Richards is "trying to pick the best" of the approximately 150 applicants for the job of police constable. The vacancy is a result of a decision by Constable Phil DeBruyne to leave the force to take a two-year teaching position at the Ontario Police College in Alymer.

police officers have applied.

The chief said he will choose the best applicants, screen them, then suggest five or 10 men to the police committee. The committee will then interview these applicants and make a decision.

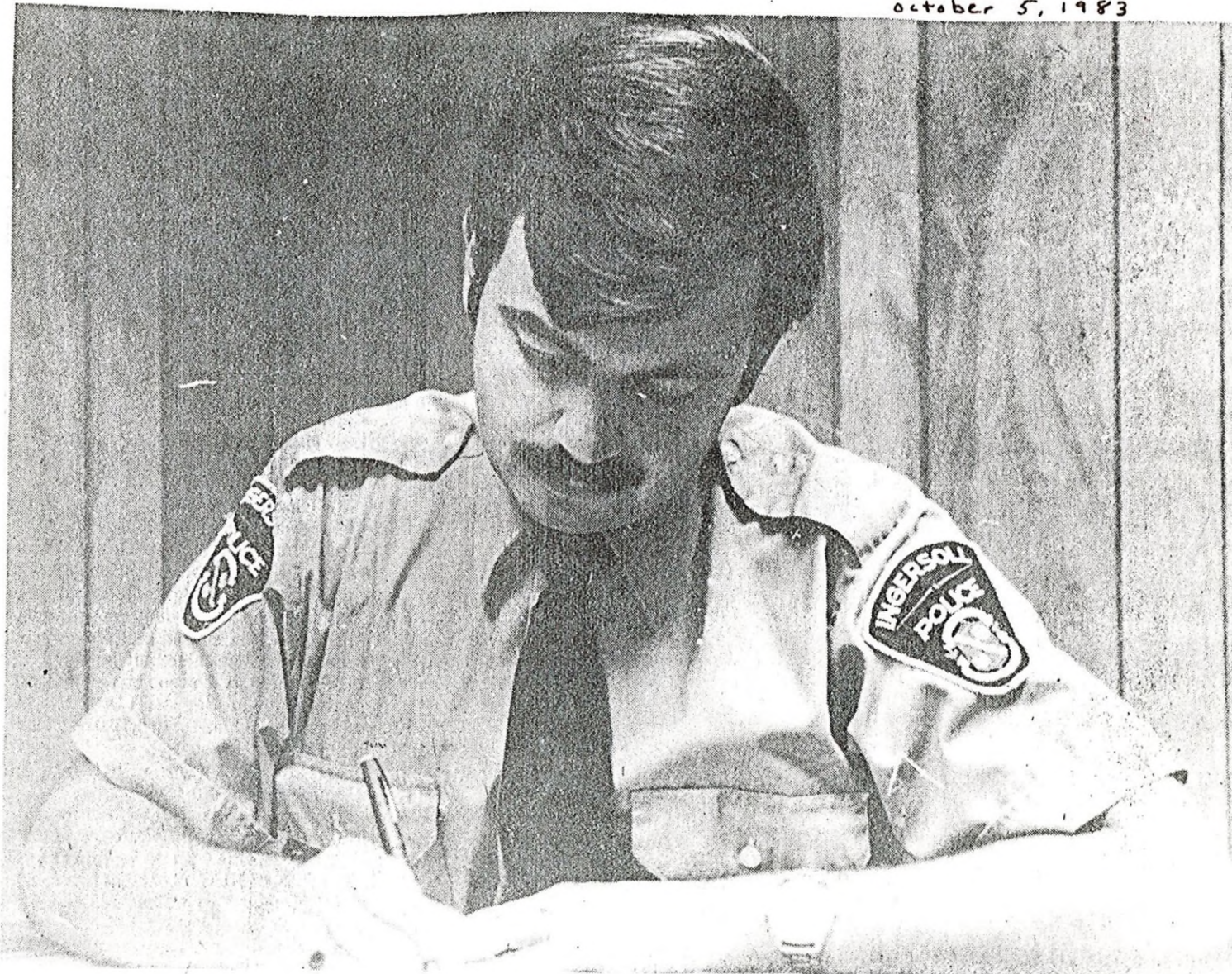
Four applicants were interviewed Monday, and Chief Richards said he plans to interview five more today.

As Constable DeBruyne leaves November 2, Chief Richards hopes to have the position filled by then.

He said a majority of people interested in the job are young men in their 20s, looking for a career. Many are from London or the immediate area but few experienced

If the person picked has no previous experience, he will have to attend the Police College for several weeks before he can begin his duties in Ingersoll.

INGERSOLL TIMES  
October 5, 1983



Constable Phil DeBruyne, 29, is leaving the Ingersoll Police Force after six-and-a-half years to accept a teaching position at the Ontario Police College in Alymer. Constable

DeBruyne said the highlight of his career was his work in Ingersoll schools, where learning was "a two-way street."

INGERSOLL TIMES  
October 19, 1983

# Constable DeBruyne leaving the force for teaching job

BY RON PRESTON

Constable Phil DeBruyne, leaving the Ingersoll Police Force after six-and-a-half years, said the highlight of his career has been to work in schools where the learning process was "a two-way street."

The force's work in the school system has paid dividends in the children's attitude and rapport with himself and other police officers, he said.

The 29-year-old policeman is leaving the force to accept a two-year teaching position at the Ontario Police College. A third teaching year is optional.

Born and raised in Alliston, Constable DeBruyne said despite the fact there is no history of police work in his family, "I pretty well had my mind set on being a police officer."

After graduating from high school, he attended Georgian College in a two-year law and security course. Although far from necessary to be a police officer, Constable DeBruyne said his college education has been an "asset" to him.

And now, with his new career, he is starting to work on a university degree through the University of Western Ontario's extension program.

He terms his new position with the police college as something he has wanted to do within the realms of law enforcement.

He will officially begin his duties there November 1, teaching recruits with no formal law training. Constable DeBruyne will teach various courses in evidence, criminal offences, and crime prevention.

He said the new job will be a change not only for himself but also for his 29-year-old wife, Mary Lou. Constable DeBruyne said both the overtime demands on a small-

town force and the "fear factor" of having only a few men on the night shifts makes it difficult on policemen's wives.

Constable DeBruyne said there is "something special" about small-town policing. In the cities, if an officer confronts a citizen, it could well be the only time they meet.

In a small town, "you have to live and work" each day together, making it a "new challenge every day."

Constable DeBruyne said it is "easy to criticize" police in a court of law where lawyers have had weeks to research a case but police officers must make "instantaneous decisions."

Officers have sufficient training in the law but "stress and the time factor" make the job difficult sometimes, he mentioned.

There have been a couple of times in his career he has missed work due to injuries, such as the time he hurt his knee when a suspect in a stolen car rammed his cruiser.

Overall, Constable DeBruyne said his feelings towards policing in Ingersoll could be summed up in a favorite quote of his from former police chief Ron James. "If you are good to people, people will be good to you."

Ingersoll Times  
Oct. 19, 1983

He has never had to fire his firearm in self-defence in nine years as a police officer but does recount an incident which was particularly frightening.

One time he attempted to arrest a man who accosted him with a logging chain. He managed to wrestle the man to the ground but couldn't control him long enough to handcuff him.

A passing citizen "saw I was in difficulty and came right over and helped me cuff the suspect - that's the difference in a small town."



The Ingersoll Police Force has introduced a new type of police stick on a 90-day-trial basis. Here Constable Frank Veres, the only man trained to carry the weapon, displays the Monadnock PR-24.

Ingersoll Times  
Nov 16, 1983.

INGERSOLL TIMES  
November 16, 1983

# Police weapon in use

BY RON PRESTON

The Ingersoll Police Force has begun a 90-day trial use of a new-style police stick called a Monadnock PR-24, after having one of its officers trained in the weapon's use.

Constable Frank Veres last week spent

two days undergoing intensive training with the weapon under the supervision of the Halton Regional Police Force.

Constable Veres, trained previously in the use of the traditional police night stick, said the new weapon "gives you added confidence and is more effective" than the night stick.

The weapon is 100 per cent plastic, with a handle attached by a three-inch hardened bolt. It is one-and-a-half inches in diameter, with an overall length of 26 inches. Its weight is a mere 27 ounces.

The standard issue night stick can be basically used as a club, and is very limited in its defensible applications.

Constable Veres demonstrated some

various defensive actions an officer could take with the Monadnock, which he said is "more instinctive" because it is used as an extension of the arm.

Besides its uses as a defensive weapon, it can also be used to assist an officer in a takedown and police restraining holds.

Chief Bruce Richards, who was trained in the use of the weapon when he was a patrol sergeant with the Halton force, said the weapon has "great psychological value", both as a deterrent to the criminal and as a confidence builder to the police officer.

Although Constable Veres said it is always best to talk out a situation since "your mouth is your best weapon", in past

cases, where police officers would have been forced to reach for their service revolvers, they now have the option of using the Monadnock stick. This allows them to leave the use of deadly force as a last resort.

Chief Richards can recall a first-hand experience when on the regional force. He was faced with a man threatening him with a knife. He pulled his Monadnock stick, and the simple threat of its use persuaded the man to drop his weapon.

Chief Richards said before the introduction of the new weapon, an officer, when threatened, would have been forced to pull his revolver because "what else did you have to intimidate him (the suspect) into dropping his weapon?"

The stick gives the officers "a lot of force without a lot of power," Constable Veres said.

The experiment is costing Ingersoll very little, as the stick was not purchased (it belonged to the chief). The only expense to date has been transportation costs for Constable Veres to travel to the training in Oakville.

Chief Richards said he is unsure if the local force needs to purchase the new sticks, and if not, the weapon will not be on the streets after the 90-days are over.

If the need is found, Chief Richards said the actual cost of equipping the force would be small. Each stick is worth approximately \$20, and only 10 would be purchased.

Chief Richards said he has had a "very positive response" from town officials who are taking a "very open-minded approach" to the test.

Many regional forces, along with Metropolitan Toronto police officers, carry the sticks but only a few small forces, such as Strathroy, are employing them.

Woodstock Police Chief James Miller said his force is not using the sticks but were "looking at what the next fellow's (Ingersoll) doing."

Ingersoll Times

Nov. 16, 1983.

INGERSOLL TIMES  
November 16, 1983

POLICE DEPT.

## Chief's plan gets cool reception

# Police committee to peruse reports

INGERSOLL — While many people may be curious about police cases, some councillors would rather not know.

At council's police committee meeting Monday, some councillors reacted icily to a plan, under which they would see written summaries of every single police case.

The plan was suggested by police chief Bruce Richards who is revamping the department's records systems by introducing new forms and recording procedures.

The chief proposed that each occurrence would be summarized on three-inch-long cards, and them presented to councillors for their information. Such records will also be available to the public and the

press, unless marked "confidential," Richards said.

Given an average of 10 occurrences a day, Mayor Doug Harris was fazed by the prospects of receiving 3,650 such summaries a year. "I'm going to have to do a lot more reading at home."

He also indicated the plan would involve huge costs to photocopy the records for each councillor.

### PHILOSOPHY

The reservations of Coun. Jack Warden, however, were more based on philosophy, rather than time and money. He felt uneasy about the prospects of discovering the legal troubles of a friend or neighbor. "I don't want to

know about someone who lives on my street.

"I might form something in my mind about that person that I didn't before. I don't want to do that."

While sharing Warden's concern, Coun. John Fortner was more interested in knowing the clearance rates for the department's cases.

On the other hand, Coun. Hugh Ponting said he is sometimes interested in knowing the details of some cases.

The committee recommended that the plan be tried for one month and then reviewed. Only one copy of the occurrence reports will be made a month for all councillors.

Daily Sentinel Review

Nov. 29, 1983.

SENTINEL REVIEW

November 29, 1983

## Auxiliary cops added to town force

Ingersoll's police committee approved the hiring of three men as auxiliary officers to supplement the regular police force, mainly on weekends.

Police Chief Bruce Richards told the committee Monday night he was surprised only eight people applied for the job. "It takes a really special kind of person," he said. "There's no money in it."

Auxiliary officers generally work Friday and Saturday nights and receive only a \$150 honorarium per year plus their uniforms and training.

"It amazes me that anyone applies," said Mayor Doug Harris.

Councillor-at-large Jack Warden expressed his disappointment that one of the men recommended was a Woodstock resident.

"Was it really necessary to go to Woodstock," he asked, "to get one? Didn't we have enough (applicants) from town?"

Six of the eight people who applied were from Ingersoll Chief Richards replied, but "two of the applicants had warrants out for their arrests," which proved to be "interesting," he said.

The three men selected are Donald Dreyer, 242 Hall Street, Ingersoll; Stanley Hazen, R.R. 4, Ingersoll, and Kevin Mott, 317 Robinson Street, Woodstock.

The three men will undergo an "extensive (training) program" in the near future, Chief Richards said, and begin their duties in June.

INGERSOLL TIMES

March 28, 1984

INGERSOLL TIMES  
March 28, 1984

## Help for dangerous situations

# Committee giving police new crime-fighting weapon

INGERSOLL — Fearing drugged-up teenagers and violent juveniles, Ingersoll councillors have agreed to equip police with stick-like weapons to defend themselves and arrest offenders.

At its meeting Monday, the town's police committee decided to buy a Monadnock PR-24 instrument for each of the 11 officers of the Ingersoll Police Force.

Despite Ingersoll's size, police sometimes do face dangerous situations, particularly when confronted by violent teenagers or drug-using students, Mayor Doug Harris said.

"I know Ingersoll's a small town, but I think we've been living in a bit of a shelter," Harris said. One just has to spend a couple nights at the police station during the summer to learn the dangers that sometime confront police officers.

Harris said he even sees potentially dangerous situations at the high school where he teaches, typically involving "somebody who's on drugs or wiped out."

"With today's drug problems, kids can go off the deep end," Coun. Hugh Ponting said in agreement.

### INJURED

Harris also referred to a teen dance last fall where a police officer was injured after being attacked by two women.

Police have had one officer using the Monadnock on a trial basis since November. Used by several police forces in North America, the Monadnock is, basically, a 24-inch acrylic stick with a handle.

"The policing tool is designed not only to be used as a defence weapon, but in the apprehension of violent persons with the chance of injury reduced considerably," police chief Bruce Richards said in a report to the police committee.

Richards presented a video

tape to councillors, which showed the history and applications of the Monadnock. The instrument can be lethal if it strikes a person on the head, neck, stomach or groin. It can be used to incapacitate an attacker, without permanent injury, if struck against an area such as the calf or the palm-side of the wrist.

### ON TRIAL

Police have had one officer use the Monadnock on a trial basis since November. Although the officer has not used it, he reports feeling more confident with the instrument in potentially dangerous situations, and believes the weapon may have acted as a deterrent.

Since the experiment started, chief Richards said, he has learned the Ontario Provincial Police are preparing to train and issue all

uniform officers with Monadnocks.

In the Ingersoll force, "the vast majority" favor the stick, Richards said.

The chief said he plans to buy 11 Monadnocks, at \$48 each, between now and September.

Although the committee agreed with the chief, some councillors have reservations about the need for the weapon, and about its safe use. Coun. Bob Ball painted a potentially unpopular scenario in which an officer may use the instrument once and may make a mistake in its use. "There will have to be a lot of constant practice to use it right."

Coun. Alice Elliott told the chief no officer should use the stick without being certain he can use it safely. "Make damn sure everybody's training is updated."

## Police committee sees new light for traffic

INGERSOLL — Ingersoll's frustrating traffic lights may finally be adjusted to more convenient timing.

At its meeting Monday, the town's police committee agreed to discuss timing changes with the Ingersoll Public Utility Commission which maintains the intersection signals.

Motorists and some councillors often complain they have to sit waiting too long for the signal to turn green. The Charles and Thames Street intersection is particularly annoying, since it has the longest cycle - 120 seconds during the day, and 80 seconds during

early morning and evening. The Bell and Thames signals are on 70 and 50-second cycles. The other three in town are on 80 and 60-second cycles.

Leading the opposition to the current timing was Coun. Eugene Mabee who said he timed an 80-second light and found a long 35-second period was devoted merely to an advance flashing green signal.

Mayor Doug Harris, the councillor who has continually argued against change the past several months, said a shorter cycle would not let all the waiting cars through at once.

However, this time, he agreed to take up the matter with the PUC.

SENTINEL REVIEW

February 28, 1984

SENTINEL REVIEW  
February 28, 1984

# Charges increased but streets safer in town last year

INGERSOLL — Ingersoll's streets were safer in 1983, bicycle owners were more secure, but the Ingersoll police laid more charges.

These are some of the highlights in the 1983 Ingersoll police annual report, which summarizes the department's activities and major crime and accident statistics.

There were 198 traffic accidents in 1983, 47 fewer than the previous year, Ingersoll police chief Bruce Richards reported. "It is unknown why, other than the mild winter at the start of 1983."

The most notable decrease was in hit and run accidents, declining from 64 in 1982 to 37 last year.

Again last year, Ingersoll was free of a traffic fatality, the last one having taken place in 1977.

There were 53 persons injured in accidents, 16 fewer than in 1982. However, the same number of persons were charged - 74.

However, the dollar value of accident damage did not decrease in proportion to the decline in the number of accidents. Damage amounted to \$223,735 in 1983, only \$7,275 less than in 1982.

## MORE CHARGES

Police were much busier when it came to laying charges under federal, provincial or municipal laws. A total of 2,144 charges were laid in 1983, compared to 1,312 in 1982. The sharpest increases were in traffic charges, which more than tripled from 259 to 801, and in municipal bylaw charges.

While police were paying more attention to traffic and municipal bylaw infraction, it seems they were less preoc-

cupied with booze and drugs. Charges under the Liquor Licence Act declined from 89 in 1982, to 53 last year. Similarly, charges under the Narcotic Control Act fell from 19 to six.

During 1983, police reported 895 Criminal Code offences, of which 336 were cleared. This represents a clearance rate of 37.5 per cent. The average

clearance rate in Ontario is 52.8 per cent.

Police were generally busier, as they had 5,435 occurrences and calls in 1983, compared to 5,048 the previous year.

Police noted that stolen or missing bicycles continued to decline with 69 in 1983, compared to 124 in 1982. Of the 69 missing, 55 were found.

SENTINEL REVIEW

May 31, 1984

# Local police have entered computer age

By RON PRESTON  
of The Sentinel-Review

INGERSOLL — The local police force has entered the computer age with the addition of a video display terminal hooked into their provincial-wide police information network.

The VDT and printer comprising the Infomode 200 were installed last month in the Market Square headquarters. St.-Sgt. Lionel Ulrich said the system's main virtue was its convenience.

"It certainly speeds up maintenance of our court records," he said. It also stores pre-selected formats, allowing dispatchers to call up entire forms instead of having to type it all in.

Functioning 24 hours per day, the unit receives confidential data from the Canadian Police Information Centre, a central

police information bank in Ottawa maintained by the RCMP.

The CPIC information service originated in 1972, with the small town force hooking into it two years later. Up until now, the force has used a wire-service type receiver which gave out a printed message.

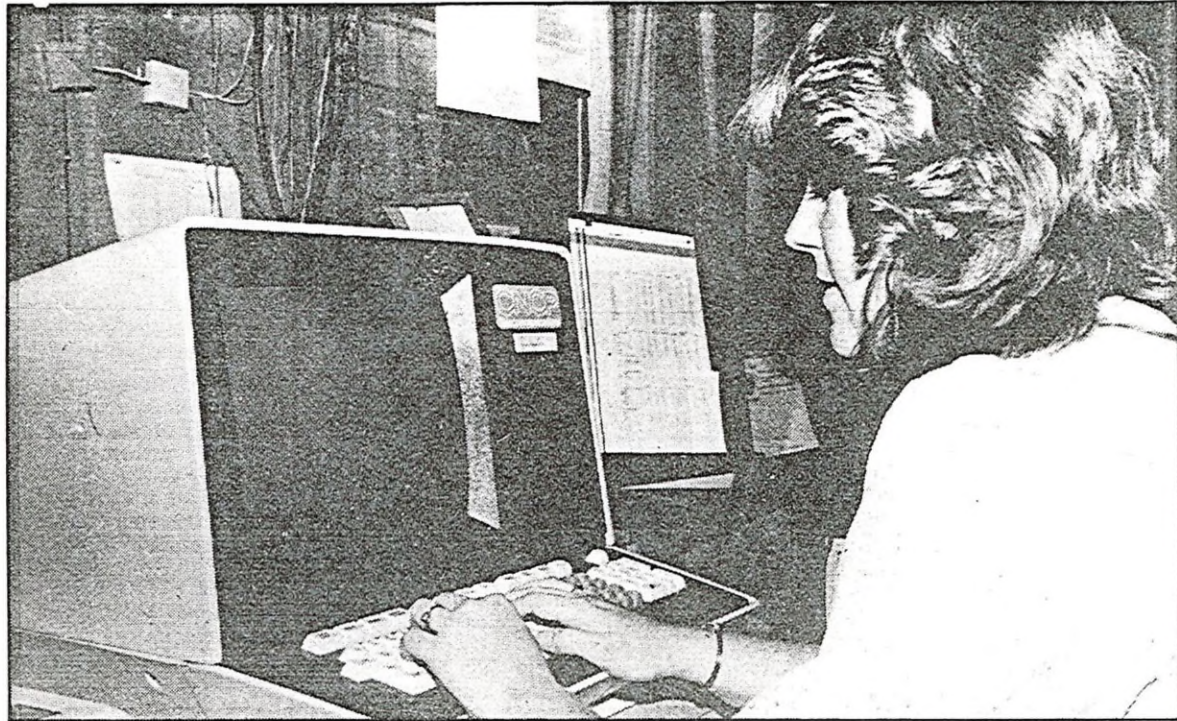
Police Chief Bruce Richards said the VDT system has been in place for some time, with both the Woodstock city police and OPP having the units.

"They are being awarded according to the volume of traffic (complaints) being handled by a force," he said.

Although the change was optional, Chief Richards said he saw no disadvantage to it. The units are paid for by the Ontario Police Commission, and the only increased cost comes from replacing the ribbon on computer's printer.

All seven full and part-time dispatchers took a five-hour training course at the police college in Alymer, and will be completing a three-week course as well.

"Computers are here to stay," Chief Richards said.



THE INGERSOLL POLICE FORCE has joined policing in the '80s with its acquisition of a video display terminal. The VDT is part of the Canadian Police Information

Centre network which supplies confidential information to forces from coast to coast.  
(Staff photo by Ron Preston)

SENTINEL REVIEW

JUL 9, 1984



# Major changes in police department

BY RENE MCKNIGHT

With the cruiser parked on the Oxford Street hill and a uniformed man waiting to respond, a call for help could be answered immediately by Ingersoll police, as long as a few officers were on hand to give the 1955 Plymouth police cruiser a push down the hill to get it started.

When Ingersoll got its own town police force in 1955, a chief, four constables and a bylaw officer were the only staff. Before the year was finished, a new member was added to the force, former police chief Ron James. Previously, the town was policed by the Ontario Provincial Police, said Mr. James.

It was in the first year of its operation that the police force obtained its first car.

The cruiser, a 1955 Plymouth, was bought for about \$2,000. The car was fairly inexpensive, Mr. James recalled, as it had been damaged when it fell off the back of a transport. The force nevertheless, was more than happy with the cruiser because town councillors had suggested the officers use a taxi to answer calls, before approving purchase of the car.

It was the following year that Ingersoll police ran into trouble with their bargain-priced car. In April, 1956, a two-way radio was purchased for the cruiser. Because the car battery was so small, if the radio was put to use it would drain the battery, resulting in the vehicle failing to start.

Ingersoll police did find a way around this though, thanks to Bell telephone operators.

When calls came in and police were not in the station, which at one time occupied the old town hall, a red light situated on the corner of Thames and King Streets would light up, letting police know a call was waiting to be answered. Another method was to leave the light on in the chief's office.

Twenty-years-ago Ingersoll police station was opened on a 24-hour basis. At that time, three dispatchers were added to the force.

When the Ingersoll force began in 1955,

joining it was like signing your life away, Mr. James recalled. Officers were only paid \$42 per week, which was rather low for the time, he said.

Mr. James said Ingersoll has been a relatively quiet town over the years. To his recollection, there have not been any armed robberies, nor have there been any murders. However, he admitted he was stabbed once, and said the police station has been shot at.

Before the town force was established in 1955, it was policed by the OPP. Before that time, however, it had had a police force of its own.

Mr. Skirving was the first chief of the force, which began in the 1890s. Alec Edmonds was growing up in Ingersoll when its original force was still in existence, and remembered days when the three-man force made all of their calls on foot. If an officer owned a bicycle, he used that also.

When Mr. Skirving left his position as police chief, Allen Wright filled the spot, followed by Mr. Cooke, Walter Holmes, and finally Mr. Gilling.

Following nine years of being policed by the OPP, Ingersoll decided to revert back to its old way and adopted a town force once again.

The first chief of this force was Leslie Pengelly. When Mr. Pengelly left, the spot was temporarily filled by Mr. James, who was appointed acting chief until 1963 when Art Mahony took over the job.

After only a 17 month stay, Chief Mahony was replaced by Art McCart, who stayed with the Ingersoll police department until

1974 when Mr. James again took over, this time as chief.

When Chief James retired in 1983, Bruce Richards was appointed the new chief, a position he still holds.

Ingersoll police force has kept up with the times and now has a staff consisting of a chief, 11 officers, and a civilian staff. The police of Ingersoll also have two cruisers now, neither of which has to be pushed down a hill to be started.

Since its birth 29-years-ago, Ingersoll police force has experienced a lot. The computer age has brought many changes to the station.

"You have to be advanced and well trained to keep up with modern criminals," Mr. James said.

INGERSOLL TIMES

July 25, 1984