



Police Remembrance Trust

Patron: His Majesty The King

Newsletter - December 2024

Season's Greetings

It's that time of year again and we're delighted to share our latest news, together with our very best wishes for the festive season ahead.

Message from David Wilbraham MBE Chair, Police Remembrance Trust

This time of year can be hectic and overwhelming for most of us, with the true meaning of Christmas often overshadowed.

Many of us feel pressured into feeling or acting in a certain way. Pressure to feel joy, exchange gifts and immerse one's self in the festive season.



Many of us are fortunate to spend time with friends and family but the longing for those who are missed every day is more tangible than ever.

The whole essence of Christmas - the carols, candles, smells, lights - all infuse reflection. Reflection on memories made - what others brought into our lives who are no longer with us - ensuring their spirit and joy lives on in us and others around us.

Alone with our thoughts and in the presence of others, let us celebrate hope, generosity, humility and service.

On behalf of the Police Remembrance Trust, we hope that you are touched by the kindness of others this season and that you find comfort and peace in your thoughts and prayers.



*National Police
Memorial Day*
COVENTRY CATHEDRAL
Sunday 28th September 2025
#NPMD25



Save the date

We're looking forward to welcoming everyone to Coventry Cathedral in 2025, for our 22nd National Police Memorial Day.

A further newsletter will be issued when the booking system is open soon - in the meantime, please save the date - Sunday 28th September 2025, Coventry.



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Reflecting on NPMD 2024 - Glasgow

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 21st National Police Memorial Day so special.

Secretaries of State and Police Chiefs joined a congregation of more than 1,000 on Sunday 29th September 2024 to remember officers who gave their lives in the line of duty.

The service of remembrance followed a police parade of more than 40 force standards from George Square to Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, where they joined a guard of honour involving officers from the UK and overseas. Police Scotland arranged a helicopter flyover as a mark of respect.

Family members participated in the service, which poignantly honoured fallen officers' commitment, courage, and sacrifice.



View highlights from #NPMD24

You can watch highlights from [National Police Memorial 2024 by clicking here](#).

And short films with family members who lit candles during the service in memory of their loved ones. ↓

[Lighting the candle for Scotland and England](#), mother and sister of Police Constable Anthony (Tony) Collins, Police Service of Scotland; and son of Police Sergeant Matiu (Matt) Ratana, Metropolitan Police.

[Lighting the candle for Northern Ireland and Wales](#), wife of Detective Superintendent Philip Davidson, Royal Ulster Constabulary; and brother of Police Constable Ralph Jones, North Wales Police.

#NPMD

Registered charity no.
1179754 & SC048982

To donate to the charity, please scan the QR code -
we are grateful for any support you are able to give.





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A sombre reminder of the ever present danger officers face - we will remember

Commemoration to officers killed on duty 55 years ago

On 30 December 1969, Howard Wilson and two assailants committed an armed bank robbery in Renfrewshire, Scotland, escaping with more than £14,000 in cash.

The three bank robbers fled to Wilson's flat in Glasgow. Inspector Andrew Hyslop was on duty nearby and suspected something was amiss. At the time, he was unaware of the recent robbery.

Inspector Hyslop knew Wilson, who had been a police officer in the City of Glasgow Police for 10 years, resigning from Central Division the previous year having become disillusioned.

Requesting that his colleague, PC John Sellars, remain outside the property to keep watch, Inspector Hyslop summoned assistance from officers in nearby Craigie Street Police Station - DC Angus MacKenzie, PC Edward Barnett and DC John Campbell attended to assist.

All five officers entered the property and began to search, quickly finding the proceeds of the earlier robbery. The search continued and Inspector Hyslop entered the bathroom, along with PC Sellars. When Inspector Hyslop went back into the hall, he was confronted by Wilson who was aiming a pistol at his head. As Wilson pulled the trigger the gun jammed. Inspector Hyslop attempted to knock the gun from his hands when Wilson fired again, this time shooting the Inspector to the left side of his face.

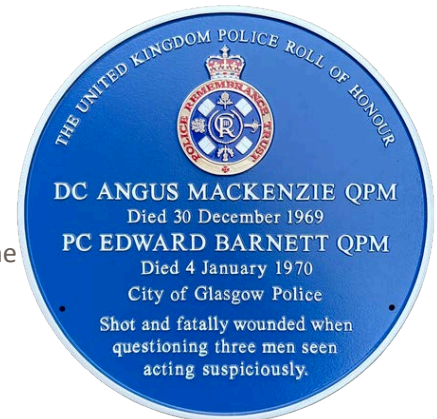
Hearing the shots, PC Barnett and DC MacKenzie went to help, with PC Barnett running into the hallway first. He was shot through the head, as was DC MacKenzie. Upon seeing that this was not a fatal shot, Wilson shot DC MacKenzie once more at point blank range.

PC Sellars used his radio to summon assistance, managing to seek refuge in the bathroom. Realising he had a radio, Wilson then repeatedly attempted to force open the bathroom door and managed to get the gun inside, but was unable to get a clear shot.

Inspector Hyslop began to stir, and realising that he was not dead, Wilson aimed another shot at his head, the gun jamming for a second time. DC Campbell took this opportunity to wrestle the gun from Wilson. Officers responding to the assistance call then entered the property and arrested Wilson and one of his accomplices. The third assailant had made off during the disturbance but was arrested later the same day.

Tragically PC MacKenzie died at the scene and DC Barnett died five days later on 4 January 1970.

On 30 December 2024, the 55th anniversary of this horrific incident, the Police Remembrance Trust, in conjunction with officers from Greater Glasgow Division, Police Scotland, will install a plaque in Aikenhead Road Police Station, Glasgow, in commemoration of these brave officers.



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Update on the Welsh Police Memorial

Ben Hale, Principal, Benjamin Hales Architects, recently presented a revised and updated proposal for the Welsh Police Memorial to the Board of Trustees which they felt encapsulated all we are seeking to achieve. Discussions continue with Cardiff City Council in regard to a newly proposed site for the Memorial in Bute Park, immediately adjacent to Cardiff Castle.



The next stages in this exciting project are to continue and finalise the conversations with Cardiff City Council in regard to the proposed design, materials and landscaping features. We also feel it is important that family member descendants of fallen police officers from the four constituent forces in Wales should have an opportunity to see the design and offer their views.

Early in the New Year we hope to have a scale model of the memorial and be in a position to embark on an enthusiastic campaign to obtain the required funding for this iconic Memorial that will honour the memory of 120 officers who have died on duty as well as be the place to record any future such deaths.

Honour and Legacy

This memorial will be an enduring tribute to the courage and selflessness of Welsh police officers - a place where their sacrifices are honoured and their legacies continue to shape the future of Welsh communities.

Cultural Relevance

By embedding Welsh culture, history, and symbolism into the design, this memorial not only celebrates the fallen but strengthens the cultural ties that bind the community. It will become an integral part of the Welsh cultural landscape, carrying the values of service, sacrifice, and remembrance forward for generations.

Community and Impact

The memorial is not just for those who have lost loved ones in the police service; it is a space for the entire community to come together, reflect, and honour the memory of those who served. It will be a place where the power of shared memory and remembrance can foster connection and healing.

Sustainability and Thoughtfulness

Every detail of this memorial has been considered to ensure that it stands as a lasting tribute to the fallen, while being integrated into the natural environment and community for generations to come. The memorial will be a place for people to reflect, remember and honour all those involved in policing and their commitment to communities across Wales.

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The Elizabeth Emblem

On 9 March 2024, the Government announced the introduction of a commemorative emblem as a mark of recognition for those who lost their lives while undertaking eligible public service. This includes police officers who are on the [roll of honour](#).

The design incorporates a rosemary wreath - a traditional symbol of remembrance, surrounding the Tudor Crown. It is inscribed 'For A Life Given In Service', with the name of the person to be commemorated inscribed on the reverse. The Emblem will include a pin to allow the award to be worn by the next of kin of the deceased.



If you are the closest surviving next of kin and would like to apply for The Elizabeth Emblem, please do so [via the Cabinet Office website](#). Once your case has been assessed and approved, you have a choice of how the emblem is presented.

The first batch has been presented and it is envisaged that future presentations will take place during the National Police Memorial Day weekend.

Police Roll of Honour - opportunity to add memories

We hold the records and recognise the sacrifice of officers who have died on duty since records began – the earliest death being that of Islington Watchman Nicholas Grey, killed by a Yeoman of the Guard back in 1545.

[You can view the Roll of Honour online here.](#)

We are proud to maintain this and enhance this digital memorial every day and we ask for additional information that you may wish to share, such as the inclusion of a photo of your loved one.

You can contact us with submissions by emailing contact@rollofhonour.police.uk

Submissions will be considered and updated at the discretion of the Trust, in line with our digital content policy.

Being true to our motto 'lest we forget' carries the commitment 'we will remember' and by telling their stories and speaking their names we keep their memory and therefore them alive.

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email contact@rollofhonour.police.uk
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