



Wiltshire Constabulary Badge

POLICE CONSTABLE ANDREW ALBERT REUBEN HANCOCK

Andrew Albert Reuben Hancock was born in Edington and baptised in the parish church on 30th January 1842. His parents were George and Emma Hancock.

The 1851 census shows Andrew aged 9 at home in Edington with his parents he is not listed as a scholar. In the 1861 census he is still listed as living at home with his parents in Edington and is an agricultural labourer. At some point between the 1861 and 1871 Census Andrew joined the Wiltshire Constabulary and at some point was stationed at Bishopstone near Swindon.

Andrew married Sarah Fitchew on 20th October 1864 at Cricklade St. Sampson and is listed in the 1871 Census as resident of Harlestone House, Mount Pleasant, Bishopstone his occupation recorded as being a police constable. He is listed with wife, Sarah and 3 sons :- Albert G. born 1866, Ernest F. R. born 1868 both in Broad Blunsdon and Andrew was baptised on 5th May 1870 in Bishopstone. We can assume from this that Andrew senior was stationed at Broad Blunsdon Police Station sometime between 1866 and 1870. Willie Hancock was baptised on 6th March 1872 also in Bishopstone.

Tragedy struck on 31st October 1875, when aged 33, PC Hancock died from injuries received when assaulted whilst quelling a disturbance. (4q/1875, Highworth vol 5a page 9, age at death 33 yrs).

CAREER

29 January 1863 - Appointed as constable 4th class . Pc 64 in Wiltshire Constabulary

31 January 1863 - First posting was to Melksham.

1 January 1864 - Promoted to Constable 3rd class

1 January 1865 - Promoted to Constable 2nd class

1 May 1871 - Promoted to Constable 1st class

OPC NOTE

There seems to be no newspaper report about the death of the police officer nor of the events surrounding his death. Should this come to light then we will update this item to include any news reports found.

PC Hancock was buried in St. Mary's Churchyard, Bishopstone on 3rd November 1875

There was a policeman stationed in Bishopstone from at least 1865 when the incumbent was PC John Johnson.