

Policing in days gone by

ONCE again there is a police presence in Dornoch with a new exhibition forming part of this season's exhibits in Historylinks Museum.

The majority of the items come from what was in the police station in Bonar Bridge and are on loan to the museum from the family of the late Constable John Jappy.

John Jappy was born in Glasgow in February 1935. His father was from Helmsdale and John had a great love for Sutherland. In 1956 he joined the Glasgow City Police and after four years service transferred to the Sutherland Constabulary. Initially he spent three weeks in

Dornoch before being posted to Tongue.

In 1967 he was offered a transfer to Bonar Bridge. His wife, Hilda, and their three small daughters were happy to move. While in Bonar they had another daughter. John worked there until being transferred to Dornoch in 1976.

Poaching was a serious problem in the 1970s and on one occasion John and his colleague Constable Tommy Macdonald caught two salmon poachers who had poisoned nearly 300 salmon in the River Shin.

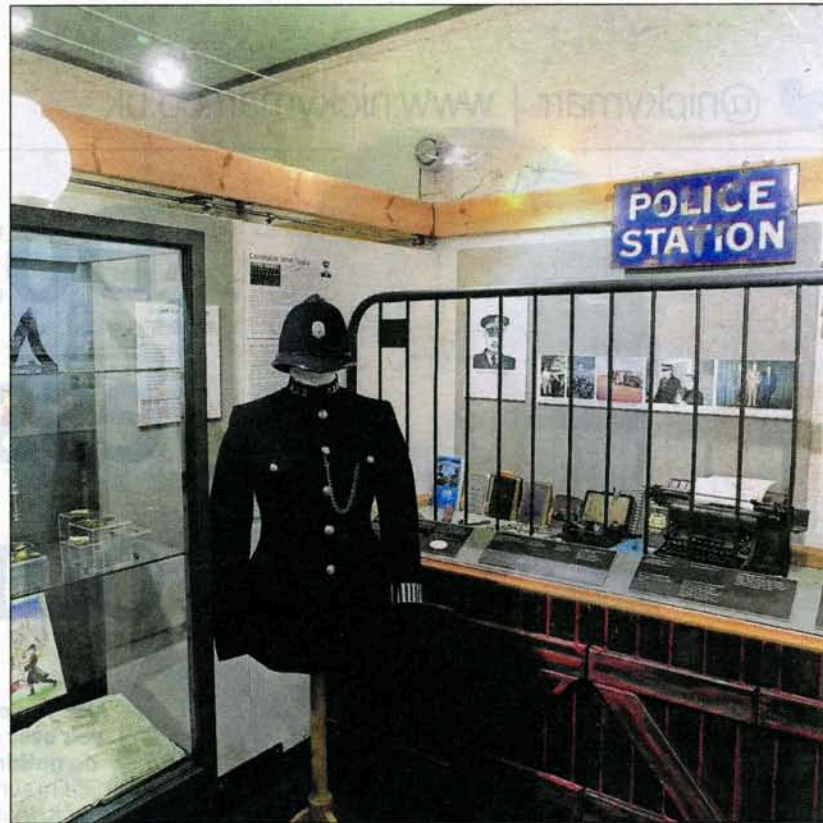
In another poaching case Constable MacDonald apprehended six men at Glen

Cassley in possession of 16 deer.

John's great knowledge extended to the local people and surroundings. He knew everything about the community he served and was popular among them.

There was no "off duty" for either policeman. If someone came to the station when it was closed, they would knock on the house door, even in the middle of the night.

Historylinks is grateful to the Jappy family for enabling this display to take place. The museum is now open until the end of October, seven days per week from 10am-4pm and admission includes the police exhibition.



Some of the interesting police memorabilia on display at Historylinks. The museum is open until the end of October.