

Constable Samuel Eady

Born in Guisborough, Northamptonshire late in 1872, Samuel Eady [Eadie, Eadey, the spellings erroneously differ in accounts] was potentially to figure among the most famous police officers stationed at Waltham Abbey. In the event, history was not kind to him and failed to properly record his main claim to fame.

We know virtually nothing of his early life, only that he was not a learned man (few of his generation were) and took employment as a gamekeeper at some time. At the age of 20, Samuel Eady tired of country life and joined the 1st Battalion of the Grenadier Guards in Northampton on 13th May 1893. His army number was 4331. Three years later, on 12th May 1896 he was discharged from full service into the Army Reserve at Pirbright Camp with a good record.

On 20th July 1896, at the age of 23, he joined the Metropolitan Police as a Constable with the warrant number 81450. As far as can be ascertained Samuel became PC591N, in the Waltham Abbey area, probably originally attached to the Royal Gun-Powder Factory and living as a single man in the barracks attached to the police station in Powdermill Lane. Along with all of his serving colleagues, he was issued with the 1897 Queen Victoria Jubilee medal. It is known that shortly after this he was serving in the Sun Street station in the town of Waltham Abbey.



EXAMINATION

Of a CANDIDATE for the Situation of a Police Constable.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

Name *Samuel Eady*

Age *33* years, born *25* day of *Decr* 18*73*

Height *245* feet *9* inches *6* in *71*

Weight *12* stones *8* lbs.

Chest measurement *37* inches.

Complexion *Fair*

Eyes *Grey*

Hair *Brown*

Particular Marks *None*

Where Born { In the Parish *Guilsborough*
 In or near the Town of *Northampton*
 In the County of *✓*

Trade or Calling *Gamekeeper*

Single or Married *Single*

Number of Children *✓*

Residence *Selsdon Park Croydon*

What Public Services *Army Reserve*

Police, Regiment, Corps, &c *1st Grenadier Gds*

Length of Service *3 years*

When discharged *12th May 1906* *12 May 1905*

With whom last employed *Army*

And where *Parbright*

If ever in the Metropolitan Police Service... *No*

Whether belonging to any illegal Secret Society } *No*

Date *26th May* 189*6*

A. Peachey
Examining Clerk.

SURGEON'S CERTIFICATE.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have examined the above Candidate, as to his health and bodily strength, and that I consider him fit for the Police Duty.

W. W. K.
Surgeon in Chief.

POLICE CONSTABLE
S. Eady
26th day of *July* 189*6*
 81450

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Exchanges and Dates.

nth	Year	Division	Day	Month	Year

In Rank.


Date of Removal from the Force *Resigned 24/7/22*

REMARKS.

Called out for Active Army Service - P.O. 30.12.99
Reappointed to Duty - P.O. 21.8.02
120/P.E./19th Nov 1902

Samuel Eady's active army service was not over however, he was recalled to the colours for the South African wars and earned clasps for various actions including Wittenbergen, Cape colony and Transvaal in 1901-2. After the war, in August 1902, he was discharged from the army as Lance Corporal and returned to the police. On this occasion he appears to have been issued with a different divisional number, probably that of 59NR, which denoted he was in the Divisional Reserve of officers assigned the task of special duties all over London and acting as the local station "quick reaction" emergency cover. Still a single man, he was now resident in the single men's quarters in the Sun Street police station.


On October 2nd, 1902, at the age of 30 years, Samuel left the single men's quarters in Sun Street for the last time and married Kate Lumley from Copt Hall Green, Upshire. Kate was four years his junior and the service was performed by the Reverend Stamp in the Abbey Church, the witnesses to the marriage including PC585N James Hoare and his wife Lucy. The newlyweds are believed to have initially resided in Broomstickhall Road, but later moved to a house in High Beech before finally settling in Honey Lane.

Page 163. Certificate of  Marriage.

1902 Marriage Solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Waltham Holy Cross in the County of Essex									
No.	When Married.	NAME AND SURNAME.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	FATHER'S NAME AND SURNAME.	Rank or Profession of Father.	
325	Second October 1902	Samuel Eady	30 years	Bachelor	Police Constable	Sun Street Waltham Holy Cross	William Eady (deceased)	Labourer	
		Kate Lumley	26 years	Spinster	—	Copt Hall Green Waltham Holy Cross	Charles Lumley (deceased)	Grocer	

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church
(c) after Banns By me, J. Henry Stamp, Curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Samuel Eady } In the presence of us, James Hoare
Kate Lumley } Lucy Hoare

The above is a true Copy of the Marriage Register of the Parish of Waltham Holy Cross aforesaid, the said Register being legally in my custody.
Extracted this Second day of October in the Year of our Lord
One Thousand Nine Hundred and two By me, J. Henry Stamp Curate. 

After a total of 12 years in the army, just under half of which had been in the reserves, in May 1905 Samuel Eady was finally discharged from service.

On the afternoon of Wednesday 27th May 1908 - pay day - the Eady family joined in the shock felt by the village of Upshire (Cophall Green), when it was shaken by the loss of its 'home beat' constable, James Hoare. It was James and who had been the witness at Sam's marriage some six years earlier.

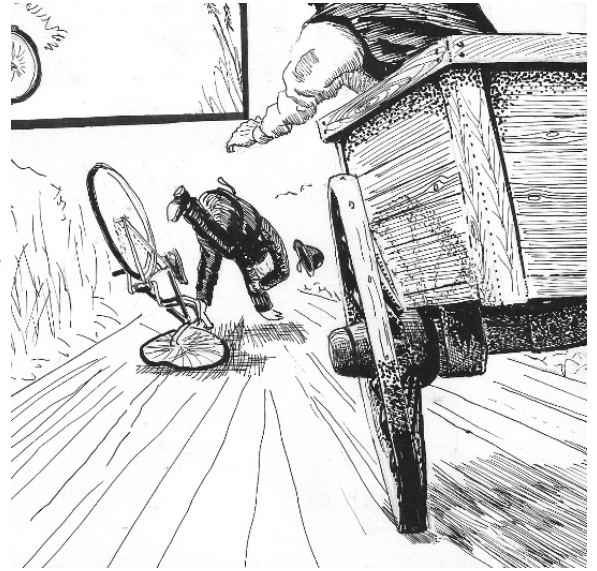
Stationed at Waltham Abbey since February 1894, James Hoare had set off from home in the village with his wife Lucy and her friend Alice Leader on bicycles to attend the pay parade.

James, 39 years old and, some reports state, a little high on alcoholic beverage (which, no doubt, came from "The Horseshoes" public house two doors from his home), followed a short distance behind the ladies until the Horseshoe Hill was reached. As the split trio entered the steep double bend, James over-



took the ladies at a reckless speed and continued down the hill.

All went well until he had almost reached the bottom. He was confronted by a right hand bend as well as an unexpected horse and cart. James rode into the side of the gravel roadway on his own side of the road as he passed beside the cart, but got caught in the ruts. He managed to keep his saddle for some yards before falling off the bike and landing on his head, fracturing his skull. James was taken back up the hill into his home and the police surgeon was called from the town. The doctor found that the skull fracture was too serious for medical science to treat and he died the following morning.



On 4th June 1913 Inspector Whitebread of the 'N' Division led a contingent of police from north-east London to assist with the policing of the Epsom Races. Included in the police party was Sergeant 4NR Bunn and constables 85NR Johnson and 59NR Eady. This group were on hand by Tattenham Corner to witness the antics of Emily Davison and be first on hand in attempts to save her life. After Emily was run over by the galloping horse she had foolishly attempted to stop, the officers picked up her broken body, carried it to a nearby motor car and sent her off to Epsom hospital where she died a few days later.



The sergeant, who was usually stationed at Enfield Highway police station in the Hertford Road, ended his report by identifying PC59NR Samuel Eady stationed at Waltham Abbey to be the prime witness of the incident. He was standing on the opposite side of the course and saw the woman, as the horses approached the spot, get under the fence and face them and extend her arms toward them immediately prior to being run down by the horse. Although local papers made much of the incident, reporting the local officers important part in the subsequent coroners enquiry, the story was never to be closely allied to Samuel Eady nationally.



The police constable facing the camera in the image left bears some resemblance to Sam Eady but unfortunately his helmet numerals are unclear in this image



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28TH MAY, 1913.

Ex^a 83766

PAY—EXPENSES AND SPECIAL DUTIES (G.O., pages 142-6, pars. 113 to 151) EPSOM RACES.—

The following Divisions are to furnish the undermentioned number of men on the dates and for the duties named, during Epsom Races, 3rd to 6th prox. A list of numbers and names of all Police employed is to be sent on the first day, and a detail of all expenses incurred with railway passes is to be sent to Supt. V by 8th prox., those for roads and course to be shown separately; the same men are to be sent as far as possible on each day. Uniform of the latest issues is not to be worn, but Inspectors may wear their forage caps. Capes are to be carried:—

Div.	Supts.	Insprs.	P.Ss.	P.Cs.	Plain clothes	Mounted.		By whom applied for.	On what Days.	At what places.	Where and when to Parade.
						Insprs.	P.Ss. or P.Cs.				
C.O.	1	3	3	-	-	-	-				

28TH MAY, 1913.

504

PAY—EXPENSES AND SPECIAL DUTIES—continued.—EPSOM RACES.

Div.	Supts.	Insprs.	P.Ss.	P.Cs.	Plain clothes	Mounted.		By whom applied for.	On what days.	At what places.	Where Foot Police to Parade, and when.
						Insprs.	P.Ss. or P.Cs.				
V	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	Superintd. V.	2nd to 7th prox.	On Course at Tat'm Corn'r and Rubbing House near public cross-ings.	Grand Stand 10 a.m. each day.
R	-	-	-	-	-	1	2				
S	-	-	-	-	-	1	2				
Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	1				
N	-	-	-	-	-	-	2				
"	-	1	5	50	-	-	-		4th and 6th prox.		
R	-	1	2	20	-	-	-		3rd to	Grand Stand	



In 1914 he was living with his family in a semi-detached house in Pynest Green Road near to High Beach in Epping Forest. One photograph of Sam and his family has been passed down.

Enjoying a status of being in an Exempted Occupation for the first few years of the Great War, it is uncertain whether he was recalled to the colours for the conflict, although unconfirmed family stories of him being drafted in to act as a drill sergeant fits in with a known, but grey, area of police activity in this period. He was at the station in 1916 at a time when the area was being bombed by airships and was included in the line up of officers in a group photograph taken in May of that year.

Little else is known of his further service other than a couple of additional entries in local news reports and a single entry in the station refused charge book in 1911.

After being stationed at Waltham Abbey between 1900 and 1922, Samuel Eady finally retired from the police on 23rd July 1922. His span of 26 years police service had earned him an annual pension of £165.4s.8d from the Metropolitan Police and the War Department. Samuel Eady died at the age of 69 at his home, Elm View, 88 Honey Lane, Waltham Abbey on 12th April 1941. The cause of his death was given as heart failure. He was laid to rest in the Sewardstone Road cemetery five days later. His widow, Kate, was granted a widows pension of £30.



Honey Lane in quieter times

No. 575.

25543

METROPOLITAN POLICE.



North or Islington Division.

24th day of July 1922.

REPORT OF PARTICULARS transmitted, by direction of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, to the Receiver for the Metropolitan Police District, relating to the undermentioned person Pensioned by order of the Secretary of State.

Samuel Eady

late a Police Constable resigned from this Division

on the 24th day of July 1922, with pay to

the 25th day of July 1922, to which day inclusive

he will be paid, and he is entitled to a Pension of £ 165 .. 4 .. 8

per Annum, commencing on the 24th day of July 1922.

Wilson a/s Superintendent.

Correct as to dates.

S. Macmurtrei Clerk in charge, S-2 Department

(Has been, or will be, as the case may be.)

IE 602503

[Printed by authority of the Registrar-General.]

CERTIFIED COPY of an
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths



ENTRY OF DEATH.
Registration Acts, 1836 to 1929.

D. Cert.
R.B.D.

The Statutory Fee for this Certificate is 2s. 7d.
If required subsequently to registration, a
Search Fee is payable in addition.

Registration District <u>Epping</u>									
19 <u>41</u> Death in the Sub-district of <u>Chingford</u> in the County of <u>Essex</u>									
No.	When and where Died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
13	<u>Twelfth</u> <u>April</u> <u>1941</u> <u>88</u> <u>Honey Lane</u> <u>Waltham</u> <u>Holy Cross</u> <u>R.D.</u>	<u>Samuel</u> <u>Eady</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>69</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Pensioned</u> <u>Metropolitan</u> <u>Police Constable</u>	<u>Cardiac failure due to</u> <u>Coronary thrombosis</u> <u>Certified by J. Bernard Webb</u> <u>Coroner for</u> <u>Metropolitan District of Essex</u> <u>After Post Mortem</u> <u>without Inquest</u>	<u>A. Eady</u> <u>Son</u> <u>Chairing the body to technical</u> <u>R3 Westmore Road</u> <u>Worthing</u> <u>Sussex</u>	<u>Fifteenth</u> <u>April</u> <u>1941</u>	<u>J. Jackson</u> <u>Registrar</u>

Insert in this Margin any Notes which appear in the original entry.

I, Frank Jackson, Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Sub-District of Chingford in the County of Essex do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Entry No. 13 in the Register Book of Deaths for the said Sub-District, and that said Register Book is now legally in my custody.

Witness my Hand this 15 day of April 1941

J. Jackson
Registrar of Births and Deaths.