

## HE REALISED HIS DREAM FROM GRANDFATHER

*Ron Turnbull reflects on his fascinating and real life experiences in the UK Police Force . . .*

After 34 years and 9 months alleged meritorious service in the British police I decided to retire. As I reflected on what career to embark upon next, I pondered on my life as a policeman, and some of the fascinating and funny things that happened to me over these many years.

It began in the very late 60's as a young constable in Fife Constabulary, where I learned to shake hands with padlocks, deal with minor domestic disputes and Breaches of the Peace, and, against my better judgement, how to make the motorist's life considerably less enjoyable. I decided to take myself south, to the gold-encrusted pavements of London to see if the prospects were any better.

It started well in London when I found the wages at Hendon Police Training School almost double that of Fife, from where I was seconded to Balham in south London. It was currently a working class area and of predominantly Afro-Caribbean and Irish populace, mixed with witty and gritty south Londoners. This new posting offered me a great many more challenges than my previous police area.

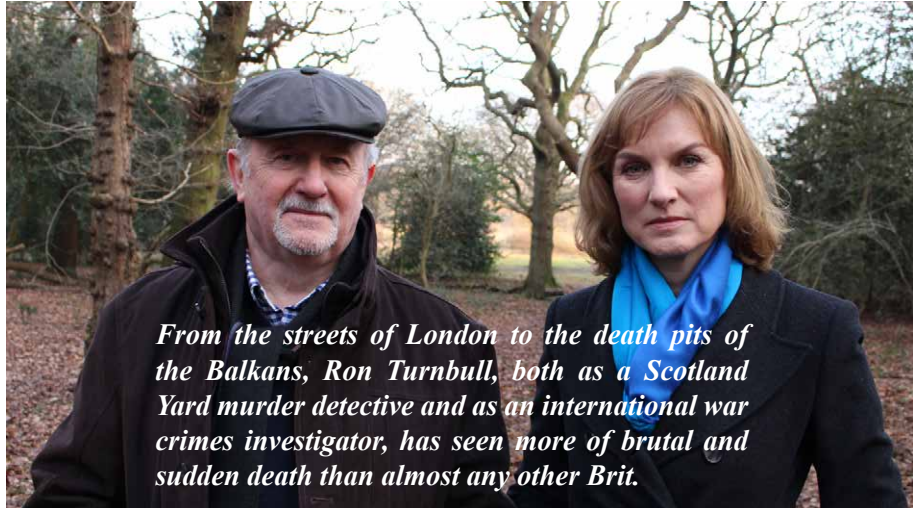
After 8 months in uniform, I was selected for plain-clothes duty as a temporary detective constable (TDC). My progress was a bit more accelerated than it would have been in Scotland. I worked pickpockets and street crime and started to build up a network of 'snouts' (informants). Normally these were pathetic minor thieves, mostly with drug habits whom no-one actually liked, including the 'coppers' for whom they 'narked' (*provoked and wound up*).

I was paired up with a well-respected and experienced Detective Constable originally from Southern Ireland whom we'll call Bill. A soft spoken, thorough, but fair man, I learned a great deal at his side, which was to stand me in great stead later in my professional career.

He would interview burglars and other suspects for hours, talking about anything under the sun to gain their confidence before extracting their confessions. Often we went through the crime book, (a record of burglaries / thefts reported in the area) and the suspects would indicate which one's they had carried out, and very often lead us to the stolen goods. Bill used to ply them with cigarettes and tea during this procedure. How he 'turned' hardened young thieves, victims of the system which had failed them, I do not know.

I was given more responsibility as I moved through this practical training. Eventually we snared a recidivist burglar who did not wish to go inside for a lengthy prison stretch, so volunteered to become our informant, which wasn't unusual in these circumstances.

He was a fellow Scot, so I took control of him because Bill had difficulty understanding his rather guttural accent. He was charged with a token



*From the streets of London to the death pits of the Balkans, Ron Turnbull, both as a Scotland Yard murder detective and as an international war crimes investigator, has seen more of brutal and sudden death than almost any other Brit.*

**Ron Turnbull alongside news reader & TV presenter Fiona Bruce as they filmed a television documentary in 2018 - '25 years after the Rachel Nickell murder.'**

amount of burglaries, which we could prove he committed, and granted bail in order to ferret for information. He soon informed on a gang of burglars and other criminals who dishonestly handled their produce, so we netted a fair few local villains and recovered a good deal of their victim's stolen goods, which always creates a good feeling for a detective.

I was confirmed as a substantive detective soon afterwards and transferred to another area of south London dealing with more serious crime, serious wounding, as well as drug dealing / importation, which was becoming more and more prevalent.

**Continued on Page 7**



### Better times are ahead

*Since the last edition of Bullseye, we have all experienced many changes and felt the impact of isolation and frustration through the Corona Virus restrictions. Moreover, disarray from our network of Scottish friends and extended families . . . and it's not over yet!*

*To Scottish folk, adjustments are not new, especially for the Turnbulls', as heritage and positive resilience have once again come to the fore. Yet overall, it has shown us what is important to us in this world.*

*Despite these challenging times, the Scottish bands and clan celebrations we know of worldwide, will again gather once more. These are challenging times for us all, but rest assured, they won't last forever.*

*Your stories during these times are worth sharing in the next edition. Just send to: [editor@turnbullclan.com](mailto:editor@turnbullclan.com)*

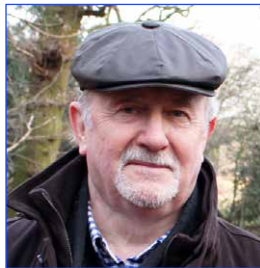


# Authors Corner

**Ron Turnbull**



Born in Fife, Scotland in the late 1940's, Ron Turnbull was raised in a coal mining family, however he always wanted to be a police officer. He realized that dream with the help of his grandfather, who himself was the son of a policeman, and at the age of 17, Ron joined the local Constabulary as a cadet.



His book, *'From The Flying Squad to Investigating War Crimes'* published by Pen & Sword releases on June 30, 2020.

covers his initiation into the world of policing a rural community, then his transfer to London and the Metropolitan Police Force, essentially to become a CID officer. After over 30

years at Scotland Yard, he went on to become a UN war crime investigator in the Balkans and assisted in compiling evidence, mainly from mass graves in Bosnia and Kosovo, against several major war criminals who stood trial at the Hague.

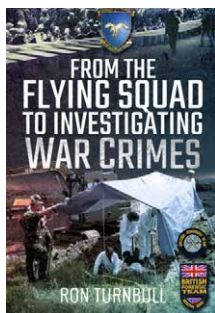
As a newcomer to writing an autobiography, Ron Turnbull has told his story in the no nonsense style of a pioneer cop who has seen some of the worst acts that human beings can do to each other. He writes honestly and without exaggeration of his years in the Force.

This is a wonderful account of detective work that reveals the rise of forensic evidence against the true story backdrop of a detective who has spent a career at the front line in the war against murder. His writings as an investigator are painful, yet gripping. His journey from Fife Policeman to UN War Crimes Investigator who gathered evidence against the most heinous criminals in terms of organised crime and later, those who were responsible for committing the most appalling war crimes with the aim of bringing them to justice.

Compelling reading with ★★★★★  
a well deserved 5 star rating review.

**Pre-orders for the paperback:**

<https://www.casemateipm.com/subject-categories/true-crime/murder/from-the-flying-squad-to-investigating-war-crimes.html#X>



## BULLSEYE

The Bullseye, is the Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide (TCA) newsletter published six times a year at: 5216 Tahoe Dr. Durham, NC 27713 U.S.A.

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**Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide** - [www.turnbullclan.com](http://www.turnbullclan.com)  
Officers: Walter Turnbull - President • Jeff Trimble, Bill Trimble, Claudia Trimble, Kenneth Turnbull, Betty Turnbull - Vice-Presidents • Walter S. Turnbull, Treasurer • Christine Nelson, Secretary • Webmaster Brian Turnbull.

Founders: John F. Turnbull, Scotland • Dorothy Berk, USA

## Flowers of the Forest Remembering

*Barbara Joan Blanding Schell*

*7th May 1931 - 3rd March 2020*



Her daughter's tribute to her mother who was a Turnbull.

## Sharing and Caring

With the passing of Barbara Jone Blanding Schell, a former Turnbull, their families appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

## Children's stories . . .

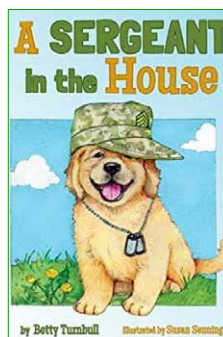
by **Betty Turnbull**

Rated: ★★★★★

The author of several Scotland-themed children's books. Her stories set in the real past of Scotland, adds a dimension of interesting history and a beginning understanding of heritage.

In addition, each book has a positive impact of self-worth through her characters and the lessons learned.

Available: [TotallyTurnbull.com](http://TotallyTurnbull.com)  
and [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)



## DESIGNING BRAS LED TO N95 MASK

*To design is to create order and to function according to a plan."*

– Sara Little Turnbull

*A few months ago the term "N95" might have meant nothing to you. By now you're likely quite familiar with the N95 mask, or respirator. According to the FDA, this close-fitting, bubble-shaped mask blocks at least 95 percent of very small airborne particles while still allowing free breath. It's an essential frontline worker's main armour against infectious viruses like COVID-19.*



**Sara Little Turnbull**

mask more effectively. Its design developed as a flat tie-on mask, but it was still burdensome.

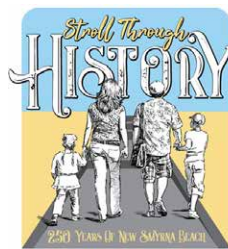
Then along came American born, Sara Little Turnbull, a product design innovator and educator, one of the first women to succeed in a post-World War II design industry, dominated by men. She was 4'11" (150cm) in height, and acquired the nickname "Little Sara". Her design-filled career spanned over seven decades of new discoveries and is noted for the many products over that time she created for our daily living. She consulted with the 3M's giftwrap division and in 1958, gave a presentation at 3M simply titled: "Why". She presented over 100 product ideas for the technology, and was assigned by 3M to design a moulded bra.

It didn't take long before she realized that the new 3M material 'polymer', had the potential to also play a major role in industry. This came through at a time when she lost three loved ones in quick succession. Out of that grief, Little Sara came up with a new invention; a prototype 'bubble' surgical mask, the inspiration taken from the cup of a moulded 3M bra she had helped design. However, the mask design presented a few developmental problems.



It was then that 3M saw the potential in Turnbull's idea, so it was re-designed and branded as a 'dust mask'. By 1961, it had been patented as a lightweight mask based on her concept, with elastic bands instead of strings and a form-fitting shape. It hit the market in 1972 and was suitable for industrial use. As the mask's filtration evolved, so did its uses. In 1995, the N95 mask was introduced in the health care field, the design innovation by Sara Little Turnbull.

Sara Little Turnbull died in 2015, and the 'Sara Little Turnbull Foundation' was formed, which supports women in the design field and offers access to Turnbull's vast library of work.



A special hello to everyone who played a part in helping make our 250th New Smyrna Beach Anniversary event in Florida a success.

It's been almost 2 years since June 2018 and our 250th anniversary. Each time the topic comes up we hear positive memories of what a great time it was, and how much everyone seemed to enjoy participating.

Luckily, one of our board members, Brion Reilly, had the foresight to capture as much video as he could that day. So here is a commemorative video to highlight that 250th Anniversary Event.

### "Stroll Through History"

You can view the video here. Copy and paste this link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LnYMBiUJZO4&feature=youtu.be>

To those of you who made this event a success, we hope you enjoy it. We certainly did. Please follow our YouTube Channel to receive any updates on videos.

In future years we hope the Heritage Day Breakfast will become an annual event that gives us all a chance to get together and share each other's company and love of history.

You are all in our thoughts and prayers as we look forward with the belief that once again we will all get together and celebrate the diversity of our shared history that brings us together as one.

We were ready to host a re-visioned event of the 250th anniversary we had named The Heritage Day Breakfast. However, the current global health crisis and safety of our friends and family caused us to close the museum and step back from those plans.

Stay safe! The New Smyrna Museum of History

## Turnbull Clan Members

*Your membership in the Turnbull Clan is a free birthright, but we do need your financial support of the clan organisation and its activities on behalf of our members.*

*Please consider becoming a supporting member with your voluntary dues of \$24 annually from the date of your first contribution.*

*Additional contributions to provide clan tents at Highland Games are also needed and very welcome.*

*Contributions are tax-deductible and are used only to support clan activities.*

*Support your clan at: [www.turnbullclan.com](http://www.turnbullclan.com)*



**Scotland - NHS win free holiday**

Through the efforts of Ms Janet Turnbull, around 50 accommodation providers across Scotland are offering 60 breaks to front line NHS workers to thank them for their hard work during the Covid-19 crisis. Some examples of the breaks which are up for grabs include: a seven-night apartment break in Tenerife, a two-night stay in Edinburgh, and a five-night self-catering break on the Isle of Skye. She added: "It is a small thank you for their dedication."

**Nova Scotia - Women's hockey**

Blayre Turnbull knows how it feels to lose a parent at a young age. Her mother died of cancer when she was a teenager. The Canadian women's hockey team forward decided to help children who had lost a parent in a mass shooting in her home province of Nova Scotia. She decided to fundraise for these children and raised over \$20,000 in just one week via her "Hope For Home Helmet Sticker" campaign. "There're around eight to 10 kids who will be getting the money, around two grand each. That hopefully will go a long way in terms of covering any sports costs."



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**Jersey Island - Exit strategy virus tests for travellers**

Dr. Susan Turnbull came to Jersey as Deputy Medical Officer of Health in 2006 and is now serving as Medical Officer of Health. In a recent shared forum on the virus restrictions, Dr. Turnbull said that the idea was to bring in a 'reasonable and feasible' policy that would enable travel links to reopen. She added that those who did not wish to self-isolate for 14 days could be offered a test at the Airport and would only have to stay in quarantine for 24 hours until the result was available. Those who were given the all-clear would be able to go out, with a follow-up test on the fourth day after their arrival. 'Alternatively, it's conceivable that those intending to travel to Jersey may need to undergo tests before starting their journeys,' she added.

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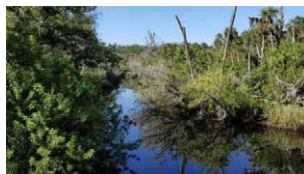
by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor

**Canada - Entertainment District reopens in survival mode**

Last April, Ian Turnbull and his wife were due to be opening their new 'Brunch' restaurant. They had found an ideal and popular location in their neighbourhood and had remodelled the entire space and prepared the grand opening. Then COVID-19 hit. They struggled when they had to wait for two months before the business could finally open. But with the restrictions still in place, they were uncertain how profitable they would be, as the restrictions allowed them to only operate at 50% capacity. Still, Turnbull commented that some early positive reviews have been very encouraging. "Everybody got hit by the pandemic, so let's all help each other out with everybody pushing for everybody."

**USA - Plans to reserve land over Turnbull Creek**

The largest area acquisition program of the city's Turnbull Creek land at New Smyrna Beach has been purchased with plans to preserve the parcels of land. The president of the North Florida Lands Trust (NFLT) commented "Preserving the land surrounding the creek will preserve natural spaces and historic resources, and will also help protect not only the creek's water quality but Spruce Creek, the Indian River and the Atlantic Ocean where the creek's water eventually flows." The Turnbull Creek is a watershed and has historic significance. The Turnbull Canal system, which dates back to the 1700s, is on the National Registry of Historic Places.

**USA - New Public Works Director**

Following a nationwide search, Matthew Turnbull has just been appointed as a director of horticulture at the Berkshire Botanical Gardens after the retirement of the last director. Matthew has a long record of management with his experiences from South Carolina, Wave Hill and gardens manager at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. His new position will be managing the growth and transformation of the gardens and the long term strategic plans.



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**New Zealand - Stop weight gain**

With the virus Covid-19 lockdown, Ms Turnbull, a nutritionist is suggesting that now was a good time to address your eating habits. She said there were various reasons for people adopting bad eating habits during the lockdown. Hunger, emotional responses and access to food seem to be a major factor. Snacking could also contribute to weight gain. To combat this, "Look back and think, was I eating because I was hungry? Was it a habit? Was it in response to emotion? Some snacking can be driven by subconscious habits."



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**Canada - Judge 'ahead of his time'**

The late John W. Turnbull, the New Brunswick politician, lawyer and judge, known and recognized for his decision on Indigenous logging rights, as "Judge Turnbull was ahead of his time." He was part of a very important process of recognizing that history had not been kind to Aboriginal people. The judge served in the Court of Queen's Bench justice for 28 years and passed away mid-May, aged 84. He was a politician, lawyer, Court of Queen's Bench justice, and 'larger than life character'.

**New Zealand - Festivals uncertain**

A cloud of uncertainty is hanging over organizers of New Zealand's biggest New Year's festivals. This is the time of year when they'd be working to secure major international acts ahead of the summer, but the potential ongoing impacts of Covid-19 mean some aren't willing to commit just yet. Alex Turnbull, who runs Rhythm and Alps, said he has plan "A to E" at the moment. Rhythm and Vines, Northern Bass and Bay Dreams are in the same boat awaiting information on 'if and when' borders will re-open and Government restrictions.



## Concluding: 'Bedrule Kirk: A hotbed of history' 'BETHERROOL MILNE' - 1674 BEDRULE'S OLDEST BUILDING



Photo: David Brown

*The Converted Corn Mill as it stands today. Bedrule Kirk is located towards top right of this image.* - Galbraith Property Consultancy

The oldest building in Bedrule is the former corn mill. It was recorded as 'Betherrool Milne' in 1674, a small settlement on the east side of the Rule Water between Hawick and Jedburgh. Its foundations date from before 1540, making it contemporary to Bedrule Castle, the remains of which are in the neighbouring property to the south.

It was a corn mill consisting of two one-up/one-down cot houses, with mill attached for much of its life. In the 18th/early 19th century it became a pirn mill, making the bobbins and reels for the textile industry in Hawick and further afield. But this did not succeed, so it reverted to a corn mill. However, the farmers became used to taking their grain elsewhere and it became vacant. It was again rented by a yarn-maker before such manufacturing moved to the surrounding towns. Signs of the wheel housing are on the west gable above the rill."

In the New Statistical Account (1845), Reverend Craig writes of a once populous parish dwindling away. The houses at that time were "all lately built, and being covered with slate has a very neat and cheerful appearance." The parish school, with schoolmaster's house attached, may have been established in the early 17th century. The school closed in 1945 and was converted into a private dwelling. At one time Bedrule also had a smithy and sawmill.

To finish our visit to Bedrule, Frances Madeline Cleghorn's poem,

### *The Valley of the Rule:*

*"And see the Rule, our little river,  
Though flowing deep in autumn rain;  
Where, 'mid the alders bending over,  
The birds trill forth their merry strains.  
On These sweet scenes I love to ponder,  
And each fair spot in memory see;  
So dear must be, where'er I wander,  
The valley of the Rule to me."*

*Credit: A Hawick Word Book (2018 ed.), Professor Douglas Scott; Companion to Hawick & District (4th ed.), R.E. Scott (2010); Hawick Archaeological Society Transactions (1917, '28, '76, 2009), Alex Inglis, Provost Mathieson of Innerleithen, R.E. Scott, George B. Turnbull; Rulewater and Its People, George Tancred (1907); National Museums of Scotland, This article was first published in the 3rd May, 2019 edition of The Hawick Paper, and was written by Alastair M. Redpath. George Tancred (1907); National Museums of Scotland.*

## TARTAN DAY CELEBRATIONS



*The COVID-19 virus cannot defeat the Turnbells'  
Happy Tartan Day. - Posted by Claudia Trimble*

## REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PAST . . .

### 'ROB THE YIRL' - TURNBULL *Is this gentleman a relative of yours ?*



Not sure if anyone can help me. I am a postcard dealer and trying to find some information on a card which I have. Old gentleman with a drum on card entitled 'Rob The Yirl, Jedburgh'. Research shows his name was Robert Turnbull. There is limited information regarding this iconic gentleman. Can anyone help?

Robert was born about 1845 in Jedburgh. His parents (did not marry) were Adam Turnbull (son of Robert T, and Mary Anderson) and Mary Smeaton. Robert married Betsy Hunter in 1876 in Jedburgh and died after 1911. Father Adam died in Jedburgh Poorhouse.

Mike Chandler  
editor@bordersfhs.org.uk

## It's your Newsletter, so . . .

*If you have a birth announcement, or any specific family event that you'd like to share with the 2,500+ Turnbull Clan readers, please let us know. We'd love to share. Send photos and information or stories of your adventures to the [editor@turnbullclan.com](mailto:editor@turnbullclan.com)*



# ASK THE CLAN – SUGGESTIONS NEEDED TO FIND THIS HISTORIC BED A PERMANENT AND SAFE HOME FOR POSTERITY

By Adriana Turnbull Bonewitz

**Adriana is a descendant of Dr. Turnbull, founder of New Smyrna Beach Colony in Florida**



*I am looking for a place where the historic bed can be kept safely for posterity and in the Turnbull Clan.*

My maternal grandmother, Leonor Turnbull Bouchez (Mexican Turnbull line and descendant from Dr. Andrew Turnbull, the founder of the New Smyrna Colony), as many 19th century young ladies, travelled to Europe in preparation for her marriage, and returned with treasures for her future home.

Amongst them is a museum quality brass bed made in England. I know it is of museum quality because an antiquarian in Mexico City told me so, although I have not done any further research or had it appraised. The size, interestingly enough is “Queen”, maybe in those days beds were wider.

In these days of uncertainty more than ever, I want to have the peace of mind that when I join my grandmother (*she died in 1949*) the treasured bed will be kept for posterity, taken care of properly and kept in the Turnbull family.

## *My grandmother’s background in brief . . .*

Leonor Javier Turnbull Bouchez was born in 1880, her father, an aristocratic landowner, Enrique Turnbull. Her mother, also an aristocrat, was Sofia Bouchez.

Enrique was of Scottish ancestry, Sofia of French heritage. Leonor grew up in Xalapa, the capital of the Mexican state of Veracruz. A very rich state on the Gulf of Mexico.

Rich in culture, it is known as “The little Athens”, in agriculture, cattle, fisheries and even oil. Xalapa has a climate very akin to Scotland; rainy, chilly, hilly in terrain and grows in its fields, besides delicious fruit, the best coffee in Mexico.

Leonor was the favorite niece of a wealthy, childless aunt, who took Leonor on a European trip to outfit her and her future household, ahead of her marriage to Francisco Javier Muñoz, also a landowner and famous for his kindness towards the poor.

Leonor and Francisco Javier adored each other and their six children, four boys and two girls.

The four boys went on to follow successful careers. One an excellent pediatrician (*educated in Paris*) another an accountant and expert in astronomy, the third a pilot for Eastern Airlines who tested one of the first supersonic aeroplanes and ferried wounded soldiers during WWII, and the youngest who was elected the youngest governor of the State. He is still loved and revered for his dedication to the citizens, but specially the less fortunate.

One of the two girls went on to marry a famous Mexican movie director (*as well known in his day as Steven Spielberg is known today*) and the other, Adriana’s mother, became a State tennis champion and married Adriana’s father who was a hero of the 1910 Mexican Revolution. He was awarded the highest recognition, the Cross of War for his courageous and valiant service.

Leonor’s line goes to Elliott Bay Turnbull and Bernarda Mejía, the daughter...France and Austria.

Any helpful suggestions you could put forward for the preservation of the historic bed will be welcomed. Please send them to:

**editor@turnbullclan.com**

**Leonor Turnbull  
Bouchez**





# HE REALISED HIS DREAM . . .

## From Page 1

Again, informant handling took up a prominent part of my duties as I continued to cultivate and draw upon their input. Eventually I landed a very good 'snout' who was close to some bigger fish who were known active armed robbers. As the information grew, I knew I couldn't handle the matter myself, so, after advice from a senior officer, I passed it on to the experts at Scotland Yard, 'The Sweeney', as they were known in London criminal parlance, the proper title being 'The Flying Squad'.

Quite literally, a handpicked elite team of experienced, motivated detectives who dealt with organised and dangerous armed criminals who had become the scourge of London at that time.

Working along with these colleagues we eventually arrested a gang of men in two stolen vehicles, later found to contain face masks, handguns and shotguns, as they waited in ambush for a cash-in-transit bullion van. Instead of which we ambushed them without a shot being fired or anyone injured. Several other known and hardened robbers were swept up soon after these initial arrests, evidence having been found implicating them in support roles to their criminal buddies, so the whole operation was a great success. The informant excelled himself and I was noted for my handling of that part of the investigation. Shortly thereafter much to my surprise but delight, I was transferred to 'The Sweeney' myself where I carried out several tours of duty.

I also became involved in murder squad work and was part of the investigation into the Harrod's bomb incident (IRA fatal bombing of the world renowned department store in Knightsbridge, London). Such experiences brought me to the post of Homicide Advisor / Major Crime Scene Co-ordinator at New Scotland Yard in which capacity in 1996 I dealt with the forensic aspects of the IRA bombing of a bus in Aldwych where the bomber mistakenly blew himself up whilst setting the briefcase device as he travelled to plant the bomb in a central London location.

Later that year I was asked by a prominent pathologist, on behalf of the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to 'pop over' to Bosnia and assist with the setting up of scenes of crime protocols in relation to exhumations and postmortems to be carried out on probably thousands of victims there. After some basic briefings, and my Commissioner's blessing, I did just that.

I was flown to Zagreb where I and other international forensic experts were convoyed into Bosnia to a town called Tuzla. From there we were housed in various safe accommodations and, under the protection of the US army, conveyed daily to and from a bombed-out clothing factory to carry out our grisly work. Procedures were set in motion that became the UN template for such missions.

Several months later, I travelled to The Hague and was instrumental in setting up these protocols for others to follow in various sites in the Balkans. I personally returned on several occasions to other locations in Bosnia and the Republic of Serbska with international teams over the next few years. Intermittently I was also attending major crime and homicide scenes for Scotland Yard, both in the UK and former Commonwealth countries.

In 1999, I was dispatched with a member of the Foreign Office and a senior 'Yard' detective to set up the British Forensic Team (BFT) in Kosovo. We were based originally in Skopje, Macedonia, from where I obtained vehicles, equipment and stores for our eventual move into Kosovo with a British Army Military Police contingent.

We entered that war-torn country as NATO troops were still clearing the northern enclaves and were left in the care of the German Military in



*Assessing the bombing of United Nations HQ, Baghdad, Iraq in 2003. Inset: - Aldwych bus bomb '96 - IRA bus bombing in central London.*

Prizren, a fascinating old Moorish city situated along the ancient spice route from the Middle East, whilst the remainder of the north of Kosovo was stabilised.

Over the next 6 months we flew in volunteers from the UK, Australia and the Netherlands including pathologists, anthropologists, fluoroscope operators, mortuary technicians, photographers, body recovery teams, scene of crime technicians and police officers, as well as local interpreters, to investigate over 70 separate sites of alleged massacre.

The BFT returned to Kosovo in 2000 to continue this work, again financed by the British Government, and carried out another lengthy mission that managed to recover 445 bodies, of which 209 were identified and returned to their families, plus a great deal of evidence which was discovered for future use within trials at the Tribunal. Again this was accomplished in company with UN investigators.

Mention of the 2000 tour in Kosovo could not be complete without the highest of praise for our KFOR military protection force of the Norwegian army. This incorporated an engineering battalion, which undertook nearly all of the heavy-duty exhumations. They also provided us with explosives search dogs, body recovery dogs and some excellent 'Norge' hospitality on more than one occasion. Our respect for this unit was immense. They lived up to their motto "Nothing is Impossible", time after time. They were held in such high esteem by us that when the BFT logo was designed, it incorporated the Norwegian flag alongside the Union Jack.

Having been actively involved in war crimes investigations in the Balkans since 1996, seconded as described to the UN via the British Foreign Office, I was offered a post by the UN at The Hague, Netherlands in 2002 which I accepted and retired from the Met to take charge of the Evidence Unit for the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). This unit not only dealt with the Milosevic trial but all other war criminals who faced ethnic cleansing and other human rights charges in that region.

In 2003 as a result of a terrorist bombing of the UN HQ in Baghdad, Iraq which killed 22 UN staff I was asked by the Head of UN Security, New York to attend the scene and conduct a forensic enquiry expressly for the UN. Upon arrival I had the privilege of working alongside a first class FBI counter terrorism team who were of great assistance.

Taken as a whole, it has been gratifying to be involved in such important work over these years and I feel especially privileged to have met with, and worked alongside, so many competent and internationally well-respected individuals. As a result I received the Kosovo Peace Medal and the Kosovo Campaign Medal from the UN plus two High Commendations from the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service.

**Ron Turnbull has recently released his book. See Page 2**

# SCOTTISH INNOVATIONS – WORLD'S FIRST PRIVATE DETECTIVE

*Compiled by Kenneth Turnbull*

Have you ever had the feeling you are being watched? Back in the mid 1800's the American railroad construction gangs certainly were. The probability that the men who were doing the watching, were agents from the 'Private Eye', the world's original private detective agency.

Allan Pinkerton, was a Scottish lad born into poverty. When his father, a former policeman, was unable to continue working through injuries incurred on duty, he decided that this was not fair. So, through various jobs, Allan campaigned for better working conditions for the poor. He and his wife left Scotland and emigrated to Canada after surviving being shipwrecked off Nova Scotia. They eventually moved to Chicago, USA. He was motivated to become a detective when he stumbled upon a group of criminals making counterfeit money at a secret hideout in the woods.

After tipping off the local police and tipping off even more criminals, he was commended and invited to become a deputy Sheriff. This suited him, as he had been brought up as a tough, cunning and fearless man. So by 1849, he was working as a full time detective.

It wasn't long before he decided to start his own agency in 1855. He made more money as a Private Detective.

The agency soon gained recognition when he solved a series of train robberies. He invented and perfected

the techniques of stake-outs, shadowing and working under-cover. Moving with the times, he also started using photographs, known as 'mug shots' as ID's to solve crimes.

Allan's reputation even impressed Abraham Lincoln, the American president at the time, and he was hired to act as his personal bodyguard. The detective was rewarded when he managed to foil a plot to assassinate the president when he was en-route to his inauguration ceremony. He was promoted as the head of the Secret Service, now recognized as the FBI and CIA and the Department of Home Security. Then the American Civil War broke out.

After returning from the war, Allan and the Private Eye agency became well known for its many successes and painstaking research. But, they also became known for the agency's brutal and often underhanded tactics. On retirement, he handed control of his agency over to his two sons.



*The famous 'Private Eye' logo*

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