

## GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY

3AM 8<sup>TH</sup> August 1963

My background Police Constable 145 Bucks  
Constabulary – INVOLVED -in Incident Room from 8<sup>th</sup>  
August to conclusion of trial

120 mail bags stolen. Value two and half million  
pounds

One of the largest robberies in the UK. So complex in  
investigation the Metropolitan Police were involved  
from day one.

A colleague DEC Keith MILNER was the original officer  
on scene and was the 'exhibits' officer. He died about 3  
yrs ago having reached the Bucks Force Detective Chief  
Superintendent. (Contact Station What has gone – THE  
TRAIN)

Mail carried by train since Nov 1830 Since 1963 Mail  
Trains keep in radio contact with- Police as they  
traverse the UK

Then engine and 12 coaches were stopped by the  
robbers 'fixing' a stop red light at Bridego Bridge  
Cheddington.

Jack MILLS Train Driver was FORCED to move the train  
& seriously injured (head). He died of leukaemia in 1970  
brought on by his injuries. (The robbers took a train

driver with them BUT he was unable to drive that model)

MY CLAIM TO FAME Page 48

*Bills Search.*

Next few months -routine clerical work in incident room.

One pleasant job was counting and wrpping up in brown paper parcels some of the recovered money and taking it to London (with others) in an armed escort van.

During the trial I had the dubious pleasure of meeting all the Train Robbers and in fact being hand cuffed to some of them. (Should have asked with autographs as memory fades and I can't remember which ones!!)

Comedy moment in trial The guard was giving evidence Regulation watch – walked regulation distance – got there and the train was gorn!!!

Minor characters received lesser jail terms but the main villains received a 30 year sentence.

3 vehicles used – farm some 20 miles away from scene.

Bruce REYNOLDS was the Ring Leader. Arrests took place over a number of years and you will no doubt know that 7 convicted including Ronald BIGGS (who

escaped for some year) Charles WILSON Ronald Buster EDWARDS Roy James (Racing Driverr) Roger CORDREY Robert WELCH Thomas WISBEY Lenny FIELD and Solicitor John WHEATER were involved in the purchase of Lethearslade.Farm.

They say Everthing comes to those who wait!!!

50yrs later I received a framed Commendation for my part in the 'experience'

Any questions – please ask and I will try and 'Remember' the answer.