

Memories of a Village Policeman

Frederick Jones was the last policeman to live in the Old Police House, now Greenacres in Lindale. In 1957 he moved to the Police House on Grange Road, now called The Coppice. In 1960, when he was promoted to Sergeant, he left Lindale and moved to live and work near Manchester.

Barbara Pettit, who ran Greenacres Guest House for 10 years from 1997 to 2006, remembers Sergeant Fred Jones turning up as an 'interesting elderly guest'. She remembers some of the stories he told her, of his time as a village policeman from 1956 to 1960. Every village had a policeman at that time.

He told her that a lady spy, an agent, lived on the Back o' the Fell Road and that he used to have to tell her 'to phone mother'. He also used to go and sit at the top of the village, and would wait for a well-known petty thief in the village when he had been thieving, and he would take away the 'swag'.

People poached salmon in the estuary, and a man was drowned while walking across. Fred Jones shouted at him through a tannoy, but he carried on. They found his coat later, with a salmon up the sleeve.

He also told of a lady 'with a plum in her mouth, a bit posh'. She had lost a silk scarf in Eggerslack Wood. The police heard the next day that a man was planning to commit suicide, so all the police from Grange and Flookburgh were searching there. The lady came along and said 'Well, I didn't expect you to go to all this trouble to

find my scarf'. They didn't tell her what they were really doing there.



Telephone conversation with Barbara Pettit, 26 July 2017

Sylvia Woodhead 9 August 2017