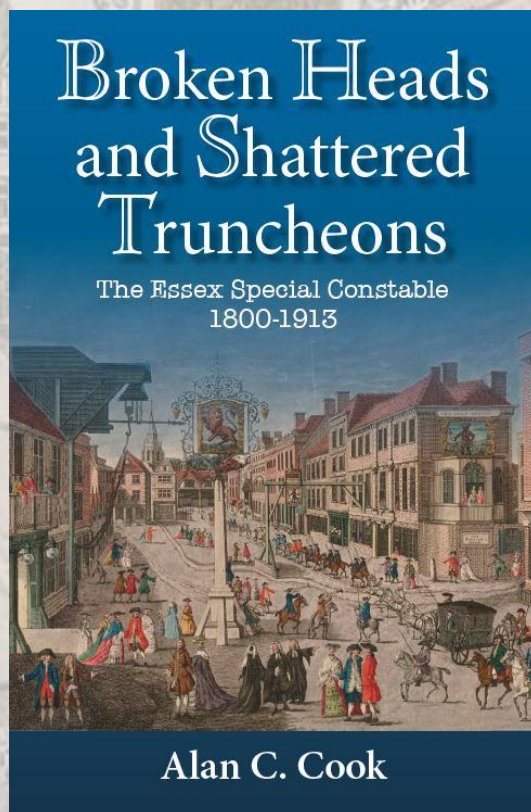


# Broken Heads and Shattered Truncheons

The Essex Special Constable  
1800-1913

By Alan Cook

It is a common mistake to think special constables were created by an Act of Parliament and that a single date can be applied to when they came into being. The role developed over time and thanks to various reforms during the nineteenth century, gradually became enshrined into the fabric of our policing structure. This book charts the rise of specials within the county of Essex, their links with the magistracy and demonstrates the important role they played whenever there was a threat to the peace. These threats included foreign invasion and largescale public unrest during events such as the Swing Riots of 1830 and the Fenian uprising of 1868. It considers the uneasy relationship between specials and regular officers once the county introduced its own regular police force in 1840. This is compared to the various county boroughs of Colchester, Harwich, Maldon and Saffron Walden, which operated their own smaller forces. As well as retelling stories of individual exploits it contains over 4,300 names of men who were sworn in as special constables between 1800 and the eve of the First World War.



Hardback ♦ 325 pages ♦ illustrated throughout

Printed in 'Royal' size (234 x 156mm) on 115gsm silk paper to ensure the best quality reproduction

£15.00 + £3.80 Royal Mail 2nd class postage & packing to UK

This is a heavy book and will be posted using a top-quality book wrap to ensure safe arrival

Payment options: PayPal to [alan@truncheon.org.uk](mailto:alan@truncheon.org.uk) or a cheque sent to 2 Toga Close, Colchester, CO2 9JJ