



Royal Ulster Constabulary Service Medal



**Original ribbon 1982 – 2000**



**Second ribbon 2000-2001**

The Royal Ulster Constabulary Service Medal was a medal created to honour the service of members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) and the RUC Reserve. Established in 1982 and first awarded in 1985, the medal ceased to be awarded when the RUC was replaced by the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

### Criteria

This Royal Ulster Constabulary Service Medal was awarded to all members of the RUC and RUC Reserve who completed eighteen months of service. Those individuals who died, were wounded, or disabled due to service, and did not complete the required period of service were also eligible for the medal. Service must have been from 1 January 1971, until the replacement of the RUC in 2001.

### Description

The medal is circular and made of silver coloured metal. The obverse bears the effigy of Elizabeth II wearing the St Edward's Crown, surrounded by the royal titles. The reverse depicts the badge of the Royal Ulster Constabulary above the words FOR SERVICE. The ribbon of the medal is light green with central stripes of red, black and dark green. These are representative of the colours of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. In October 2001, the ribbon edges were changed to Garter blue to reflect the award of the George Cross to the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

## The Royal Ulster Constabulary Service Medal

This medal was awarded to all members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve who completed eighteen months service. Any person who on account of death or wounds or disability due to service who did not complete the required period of time were also eligible for the medal. This marked the end of a long campaign by the Staff Associations, The Police Authority and The Chief Constable to have the service of police officers in Northern Ireland properly recognised.

The order in Parliament was made on July 20th 1982 and it applied to all personnel who had served for the qualifying period from January 1st 1971. The Duchess of Kent presented the first of these

medals on January 23rd 1985, to a group representing all ranks, at the Divisional Headquarters in Antrim.

On the obverse is the crowned effigy of Queen Elizabeth II and on the reverse a representation of the badge of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. The ribbon on the medal represents the colours of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and in October 2001 the ribbon edges were changed to Garter blue to reflect the award of the George Cross to The Royal Ulster Constabulary.

However the award of this medal ended with the transition of the Royal Ulster Constabulary G.C. into the Police service of Northern Ireland.

### The Police Exemplary Service Medal

The Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was instituted as a result of the work of police officers during the bombings of the Second World War. King George VI was anxious that their devotion to duty should not pass without recognition.

Originally styled "The Kings Long Service and Good Conduct Medal" it was introduced by Royal Warrant in June 1951 under the more familiar title " The Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal", to demonstrate the Monarch's wish to honour those who rendered long and meritorious service as members of the Police Forces of the United Kingdom.

On the obverse of the medal is the crowned effigy of the Sovereign and on the reverse the inscription " For Exemplary Police Service" with a design showing the figure of Justice holding, with outstretched hand, an emblem of laurel, thus honouring the forces of law and order.

To qualify for the medal an officer must have served 22 years, now 20, character and conduct must have been very good, and the officer must have been put forward by the Chief Constable.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary likes to consider the award of this Medal not only as a way of showing appreciation of the officers receiving it, but also of the families who have supported them in their work over many years.