

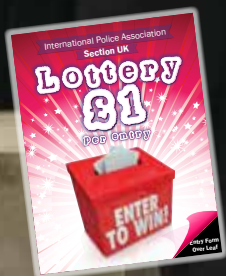
POLICE World

The magazine of the International Police Association, Section UK

www.ipa-uk.org

**IPA
Cyprus Section
Friendship
week**

See Page 10



**Lottery
Winners**

See Page 27



London Reception Office (LRO) Bob McCormack

The role of the LRO is to assist IPA members who are travelling to London from the UK or abroad wherever possible.

On my initial contact with visitors I will advise them regarding travelling in London and accommodation (see below) and places to visit. The information I receive should be sent via the official IPA Travel Form which comes to me via Section UK's IPA HQ. The Travel Form can be found on Section UK's website. A photograph of yourself is particularly helpful if you intend to be met by me or another IPA member. However it not uncommon for visitors to contact me direct which slows the process down as I then have to email the visitor for proof of their membership and then ask them for the Travel form which I ask is sent via HQ in order to verify their membership and collate visitors numbers. In a lot of cases I do not hear from them again!

I give visitors general advice on places to visit. Information regarding accommodation is very restricted as there are so many hotels in London therefore the only two I would recommend are; The Union Jack Club and Travel Lodges.

In recent years it has become impossible to find members to meet and greet visitors at airports travelling from abroad and therefore this is something we do not undertake or offer. There are excellent transport routes into Central London and I encourage visiting members to utilise the transport network available. In London we cannot offer visits to Police buildings (nor can retired Police officers) owing to the current security issues. This is frustrating for visitors but a consequence of the tighter security procedures.

Any member wishing to volunteer their help for 2017 with visitors please contact me as any help would be greatly appreciated. You can contact me via: **two-cities@ipa-uk.org**

IPA Section UK Clothing Range Available to Order

Section UK have created their own clothing store currently selling polo shirts, hoodies and jackets.
All products are sold with the IPA Section UK logo and can also be personalised.
The current product range can be viewed below.

Polo Shirt
£14 + P&P



Hoodie
£21 + P&P



Jacket
£44 + P&P



Ladies Polo Shirt
£14 + P&P



Sweater
(ladies or men's)
£20 + P&P



Colour Variations Available

For detailed product descriptions visit the website or contact IPA HQ - Section UK by phone 0115 9813638
For **overseas orders** contact Richard Mattinson direct at 'Stitch & Print' on 00 44 16973 43546 or **Richard@stitchandprint.biz**

Mail Order: To order a polo shirt, hoodie, jacket or jumper visit: <http://www.stitchandprint.co.uk/page/ipauk>

For all other items visit: www.ipa-uk.org/Shop Items can be ordered by email, telephone or in writing to the International Police Association,

IPA HQ - Section UK, 1 Fox Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 6AJ

with a cheque made payable to 'IPA'. Payment can also be made via a PAYPAL account.



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Membership

In Section UK, the membership comprises serving and retired Police Officers, Special Constables and members of Police Staff employed by a Chief Constable or other appropriately designated Chief Officer of the Police Service.

The Section has a unique mixture of police personnel who are still serving, retired, or in some instances, who have voluntarily resigned from the police service.

For details of who can join Section UK, go to www.ipa-uk.org/Join-Us

Joining the IPA is FREE* and annual renewal is £28. Visit the website to learn about our promotional offers.

To apply either visit www.ipa-uk.org or request an application form from the general enquiries team *terms and conditions apply.

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- 2 - Northern Ireland Region
- 3 - North of England including Isle of Man Region
- 4 - Wales Region
- 5 - Midlands Region
- 6 - Central and West London Region
- 7 - South & Southwest including the Channel Islands Region
- 8 - East Anglia Region
- 9 - Northern Home Counties and North and Northwest London Region
- 10 - Essex and East London Region
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Next deadline: 09/06/2017 for publication July 2017



Working on your behalf

It is with great honour that I write to you once again as President of Section UK and I sincerely hope that this latest edition of Police World you find truly engaging. That is our aim but as always the Editor, Neil Hallam, and I are always on the lookout for feedback on how we can improve your reading experience.



I thought it appropriate in this article to concentrate on those considering standing for election at the National Council Meeting this year which as you know is to be held in Durham. This will be my last WOYB article of my Presidential term and

it has been a great privilege to serve you so I thought it an appropriate time to detail what service on the NEC can potentially entail.

Firstly the posts of President, Treasurer and a Vice President role are available and it would in my opinion be a real positive if a number of candidates stepped forward to seek election to the NEC.

As well as bringing, as they say a fresh pair of eyes, change brings about a stepping up of focus and energy for all on the Executive.

Unforeseen issues can unexpectedly occur and it is fair to say, this last year on the NEC has been difficult in that as a collective we have not been able to achieve all that we set out to do mainly because as you know Iain Sirrell unfortunately had to stand down early into his tenure.

We are where we are as they say but this is not a negative, as we continue to drive forward with our plans and post June 2017 whoever is on the new NEC will be able to deliver a four year strategy to take us in to the next decade and beyond.

Some of the foundations to enable and support the longer term Section UK Strategy have

been put in place by the planning of future international events up to the year 2025 which together with the stabilisation of the budget has enabled the current NEC to set aside money now for these significant events.

The stability in overall member numbers is equally important and with the implementation of a new staffing model this has secured our prosperity as an Association.

Whilst we always aspire to have increased member numbers I am of the view that this will happen if we maintain our vision to have A Vibrant IPA and that will be a core objective of the new NEC.

The NEC are employers and therefore as an Executive Office Holder you will have responsibility for staff welfare and performance. As evidenced during the last three years you will potentially be involved in the process of further staff recruitment.

For those thinking of standing for election, time is what you will need. Aside from all the obligatory meetings such as the NCM, NEC meeting, AGM visits as well as World Congress, the NEC and/or Section UK need to be visible both at home and internationally.

This is especially important for our Iconic Events strategy which all of us as members need to support.

An initiative that I recently announced at the Chairs and ASC meeting is the 20 in 2020 programme which is about holding twenty events in our 70th anniversary year (2020). The expectation is that each Region and Special Interest Group (SIG) will hold an event and the NEC will organise at least five events.

Portfolio ownership and the responsibility to deliver national events are now embedded as a key part of the role. Work streams are identified and prioritised as it is impossible to deliver on every facet of the role, expectations of what can be achieved need to be managed.

Communication and engagement with the membership is a critical area of business and it is crucial that the structures and processes are in place to allow this to happen effectively.

Communication channels need to be maintained as well as refined and as a NEC Office Holder listening skills are essential as often the most innovative ideas rise up from the most unexpected sources.

I recently did a quick calculation and worked out in 2016 I spent over sixty days on IPA business. This does not include administration time which goes on behind the scenes where a number of hours almost each day can be spent on emails and answering correspondence. This should not put any prospective candidate off as we are all different and the work of any Office Holder should not be measured solely on the amount of time you can dedicate to IPA service. It is about adding value, making a difference and contributing to the service of the membership.

Family, work and then the IPA has been my consistent mantra to all those that have enquired about the role. I will admit the lines can become blurred on occasions and you do have to step back in order to have some 'You Time'. Personally there has been an enormous amount of satisfaction that has come with the NEC role and a pride that we are all doing this to enhance the membership experience. I also know I have not always got everything right but as in

policing, it is important to learn from your errors so that they do not happen again. Mistakes will happen as we are human but the fact you have made a decision should not be overly criticised as in the majority of cases the decision is made with the best intentions.

To conclude, I briefly want to mention the new website. Cathy Key and I have had a number of lengthy meetings with our website designers to try and start the process of eradicating the issues found. I do not like the phrase on-going but that does sum up where we are and this will be the scenario for some months as we gradually improve the content and make the website more compatible to our needs.

Please continue to send any issues into HQ for actioning but as you will appreciate whilst they will be logged they will be addressed in a priority order. As agreed with the NEC, I have an action to put together a delivery plan to deal with the outstanding tasks that need to be completed on the website which will be a minimum six month project.

Lastly, regard to the NEC, our workstream action list continues to be lengthy which can be read one of two ways; either we are not getting the work done or there is plenty of work still to do. I like to think it's the latter but you will have to be the judge of that!

Continue to have fun and keep safe enjoying your IPA activity wishing all the prospective NEC candidates good luck in the forthcoming elections.

Yours in Friendship, Mick, Proud to be President of Section UK



WOYB President Mick Luke and Sara at the top of the Cairngorm Mountain

Are YOU an **ACTIVE MEMBER** or do you just **BELONG?**

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed....

Or are you just content that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the crowd?

Or would you rather stay at home and complain both long and loud?

Do you give a little time to help and make things tick?

Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the "clique"?

There's quite a programme scheduled that means success if done

And it can be accomplished with the help of everyone.

So come to all the meetings and help with hand and heart.

Don't be just another member but take an active part.

Think it over Member – are you right or wrong?

Are YOU an Active Member or do you just BELONG?

Lawrence Wright Chairman no 8 Region.



IPA Poland Five-a-side Football tournament

in honour of Polish Police Officer – Andrzej STRUJ who was murdered in 2010.

Travel plans for the UK's team of 12 went a little better than last year, with the team travelling to Warsaw from Belfast, Liverpool and Stansted. This year's only problem was that the ceremony had commenced a little bit earlier than planned, and before the group from Stansted arrived. This was not a problem as the rest of the team had arrived and marched in behind the Union Jack flag representing Section UK, followed by the rest of the team who had to sneak into the sports hall behind the others.

What an attendance of teams, there were 65 teams participating this year. 50 Polish teams and 15 international teams. Seven of these were ladies teams taking part in their tournament; maybe next year we could get a UK ladies team to take part. Four Sports centres were being used this year and our group was playing at the Arena Ursynow. Our group consisted of 4 Polish Police teams, 1 Polish armed forces team and 1 Moldovan Police team.

The opening ceremony finished with 4 fully armed military abseilers coming from the roof beams carrying a large red box containing the prize trophy for the men's football finalists.

Section UK played 5 games and all teams had one bye due to one Polish Police team dropping out.

At this point I have to say the team played extremely well throughout the tournament but we were just beaten by better teams.

Game one we lost 2-0 to Dwodztwo Generalne Rodzaju Sil Zbrojnych

Game two we lost 6-0 to Moldova

Game three we lost 2-0 to Wyzsza Szkola Policji W Szczytnie

Game four we lost 4-1 to Komenda Wojewodzka Policji W Poznaniu. The only goal scored by our team in the tournament was a cracking goal put in the back of the net by Tom Harper.

Game five we lost 4-0 to Reprezentacja Komendanta Glownego Policji

Game six was our claim to fame that we did not lose but got a bye.

Unfortunately we were knocked out and could only watch the final play offs and finals the next day. Again it was a tremendous finals day which was won by Lodz Fire Service who beat Belarus 1 – 0.

It is nice to win but as one player from the tournament stated it's the taking part that counts especially as this tournament is in memory of a murdered Police Officer.

Thanks go out to Nottinghamshire IPA Branch for the donation used for gifts that were given to our opponents before each game, along with thanks to PSNI and Nottinghamshire Police for presentation badges and plaques.

Andre Bak.



The International Learning and Development Exchange Programme

(ILDEP) – “Experience is the best teacher” (Proverb)

Are you looking for an opportunity to travel, meet new people, whilst developing your policing skills and knowledge? If so, the International Learning and Development Exchange Programme (ILDEP) is for you!

ILDEP is a truly unique learning experience, which you will not find from regular policing in the U.K. ILDEP has been developed to professionalise the exchange process, ensuring members get the best possible learning experience they can, whilst bringing back key learning at both the individual and organizational level.

One IPA member who is taking part in the Programme is Gavin Todd who is currently serving with the PSNI. Gavin will be visiting the Fair Lawn Police Department, New Jersey, USA later this year. His ILDEP experience has been specifically tailored in line with his current role as a Public Order Instructor. Specifically, he will be working with the Fair Lawn Police Dept. focusing on officer safety and use of force. He will also be visiting the local police academy to observe various training methods and rationale on these key topics. It is also planned that this will be further developed by looking at the

USA's approach to community policing and the public's perception of police engagement and use of force.

In anticipation of his trip to the USA, Gavin says: “When I first heard about ILDEP it was definitely something that caught my attention and interest, and I am really looking forward to my upcoming visit to the Fair Lawn Police Dept. It will be great to meet some of our international policing colleagues and to learn from their experience”.

Look out for more on Gavin's ILDEP journey on the IPA website and later editions of Police World. In the meantime, if you feel ILDEP might be for you, find out more information by sending an email to Kyle Hardcastle at ildep@ipa-uk.org.

A new member's visit to Oslo on a Police research trip

Adele Owen

Though a Police Officer in Greater Manchester Police for twenty years, I had never thought of joining the IPA until last year, when I thought it could assist me to link in with police colleagues in the US and Norway for a scheduled research trip.

A highlight of 2016 for me was being awarded a Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Research Fellowship. The WCMT were very interested in financially supporting me to travel to the US and Norway to meet with police colleagues and return to the UK with knowledge of their Peer Support Programmes.

Making contact with US police colleagues was fairly easy and I experienced an amazing October in New Hampshire, Boston, Washington DC and New York learning about how they support police colleagues dealing with difficult issues during and after their police service, but I was really struggling to make links with Norwegian Police Colleagues. That was until I was introduced to IPA member Neil Baldwin, who very kindly introduced me to his Norwegian contact, Superintendent Jon Erland Fløgstad (IPA Norwegian Section) who is based in Oslo. This introduction was a vital element to the success of my visit to Oslo.

Arrangements were made for me to stay at the very central Police University College Guest House, which really helped me to keep within my budget and see a few of the sights, and Jon arranged for me to meet with a variety of police colleagues who could explain the processes they have in place for providing 'colleague support'. Having a particular interest in how we can ensure our police personnel are resilient after a terrorist incident, I was also very pleased to meet with some who'd supported fellow officers after they had responded to, and supported victims of, the terrorist attacks in Norway on the 22nd July 2011.



Despite temperatures reaching minus seven degrees and snow on the ground, I was given a very warm welcome by all those I met and Jon, and his wife Mariann, opened their lovely home to me for a night of my stay which was a very kind gesture. Jon is a regular visitor to Manchester, being a Manchester United season ticket holder, so I know we will have many opportunities to meet up in the future and continue the friendship made through the IPA.

To find out more about applying for a WCMT Research Fellowship visit www.wcmt.org.uk. Adele will be completing her research paper on what she has learned about Police Peer Support shortly. She can be contacted by email: adele.owen@gmp.pnn.police.uk if you are interested to know more.



Polish Section Congress

Keith Sinclair - Wales

I retired from North Wales police in June this year. The last eleven I spent working exclusively with the large Polish immigrant community in Wrexham and Flintshire. During that time I studied the Polish language and culture and visited the country several times a year to learn more about life in Poland.

Over the last four years I have been involved in the IPA Defensive Tactics Group, which has the aim of encouraging the exchange of information and experience in the fields of self-defence, tactics and shooting. One of the more receptive countries proved to be Poland and I have had the opportunity to make contacts with police officers there. Unsurprisingly, on learning of the chance to attend the Polish section's congress, I did not hesitate to apply.

On arrival I met IPA Vice-President Sean Hannigan at the railway station in the former royal capital of Kraków. Our driver, Tomek took us on the two hour drive to the congress at Solec-Zdroj, with the drizzle making a gloomy start to the trip. Our arrival at the hotel certainly brightened up the day when we were met by World Vice-President Aneta Sobieraj of the Polish section. I had met Aneta at a Defensive Tactics Group seminar at Gimborn a month earlier, where she proved to be both an excellent organiser and a charming and likeable woman.

As most of the other international delegates had left to visit the city of Kielce, Sean and I took the opportunity to settle in to the very modern spa-hotel. I was able to renew acquaintances with some Polish officers I had met over the years before the other delegates returned. Sean, on the other hand, appeared to know practically everybody apart from the bar staff. That evening all members of the congress went to a night-club at a neighbouring spa-hotel to relax after a hard day's...er....relaxing. I managed to show my savour-faire by alerting staff to the strong smell of gas. I was expecting an emergency evacuation procedure to be implemented when I was told smell came from the mineral springs under the hotel.



The next day the Polish congress was officially opened and the Polish delegates set about the meetings which would lead to the election of their officers. As international delegates take no part in this we visited a nearby glassworks. Watching glassblowers at work is something we have all seen on TV and is no less interesting in real-life, however, we were both amused and horrified by what appears to be a total disdain for Health and Safety. The workers were wandering around a small platform dressed in shorts and T-shirt while waving around lumps of molten glass in close proximity to each other's bare skin. Off we then went to a nearby monastery for a brief tour of the grounds and church. Poland is a very traditional Catholic country with a high rate of church attendance. Historically, local landowners would fund religious institutions for both spiritual reasons and as a way of showing off one's wealth. With the advent of the communist government in 1945 monasteries lost this support and the government tried to close many of them down. In this case, one priest spent forty-odd years almost single-handedly maintained the monastery buildings and church.





IPA CARAVAN & CAMPING GROUP

Mike Paxton - Chairman.

The Caravan and Camping Group is part of The Association but is run by its own committee and is independent of any Branches or Regions. Those involved with this type of group will be aware that The Caravan Club has very recently changed its name to the Caravan and Motorhome Club as many people are now purchasing motor homes. This reflects our Group really where we have caravans and motor homes and occasionally tents.

That evening all delegates attended a gala dinner in the hotel. As is the case at such events, speeches were made and gifts exchanged. On behalf of the U.K. Section, Sean presented a Jedd print each to the newly re-elected president of the Polish section, Frederyk Orepuke, and Aneta Sobieraj.

The main attraction of such events for me is the chance to meet officers from other countries. I spent a very interesting evening on the Friday talking with a Greek sergeant who gave me a ground-level view of the migrant crisis in his country while on the Saturday I had the opportunity to talk to two Romanian prison officers about youth crime.

To sum up the whole weekend was great opportunity to meet colleagues from other countries.

The group is made up of about 100 serving and retired IPA members from all over the UK who enjoy caravanning/camping/motorhoming in a relaxed and friendly environment. Various rallies are held throughout the year and our first one this year is from the 6th April to the 11th April when we hold our AGM rally at Stratford upon Avon Racecourse.

Further rallies throughout the year are being held at Seaford, Littlehampton, Ludham, Baston Fen (to coincide with the 1940's weekend), Batemans Brewery at Wainfleet, Clacton on Sea, Knaresborough, Belford and finally Burnham on Sea.

We encourage our members to bring children and/or grandchildren with them and most rallies allow pets, but this has to be checked with the rally organiser first.

If you are an IPA member you just need to attend one of the rallies and you become a member of the group. You can bring along family and friends with their own units who are not IPA members to most of the rallies but priority is given to members at rallies where space is limited.

If you would like to attend a rally then contact either the rally organisers shown on the web site or contact our Secretary, Dave Ashley, at caravan-and-camping@ipa-uk.org



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IPA Cyprus Section Friendship Week October 2016

David King, Surrey Branch Secretary

Caroline and I arranged to extend our trip by a few days either side of the friendship week. We arrived at Larnaca airport late at night and were met by Andreas from IPA Limassol who took us to the Hotel Atlantica Miramare Beach Hotel, which was our base for our time in Cyprus.

On Sunday the President of IPA Cyprus Michael Odysseos and the President of IPA Limassol region Kyriakos Pericleous warmly welcomed 27 IPA members from Ukraine, Romania, Norway, and Moldova. Caroline and I were the only members from the UK. Later on in the week we were joined by members from Israel, Greece and Macedonia for the 33rd National IPA Congress.

Our week included guided tours of the main historic sites of Cyprus, starting with Kolossi Castle and the wonderful ancient city of Kourion, with its theatre and ancient mosaics.

The following day we travelled to Nicosia the last divided city in the world. We were shown the "green line" still patrolled and guarded by UN troops, with Greek Cypriot troops on one side and their Turkish counterparts on the other. We found this a very moving experience. In Nicosia we were treated to a magnificent meze lunch.



After a rest day, our tour continued with an excursion to Paphos and the surrounding area. We visited some of the most important archaeological sites and the mythical Aphrodite's Rock where we had lunch and enjoyed a fantastic view from the cliff top.

Our final day of the tour took in the stunning Troodos Mountains and the Kykkos Monastery which included the tomb of Archbishops Makarios and Prodromos. We sampled the liqueur made by the monks and their hand made sweets based on grape juice and almonds; all delicious. Again we had a wonderful lunch in a local taverna.

The last day of the formal programme ended with a gala dinner with traditional Cypriot music and dancing. Caroline and I were persuaded to join our hosts in the dancing which went onto the early hours. I presented the president of IPA Cyprus with a Surrey Police Plaque as a thank you for hosting a wonderful friendship week.

Our hosts and their partners gave up so much time and energy to making their Friendship week very special. The majority are still full time serving officers with busy lives and family. However despite all of this they couldn't do enough for us and made our stay in Cyprus a very special one.

With Gal Sharon from Israel at the Gala evening



What links Irish Rugby, a Masters degree and the Victoria Cross?

Answer: IPA co-operation across the Atlantic.

By **Brian Kennedy**, Publicity Officer, Region 2 and **Mary O'Connor**, Chair, Region 4, USA.

For lovers of sport, if ever there was a city to be visiting in 2016, it had to be Chicago, because in one particular week, two iconic events occurred that shook the sporting world. Firstly, on the 3rd November, the Chicago Cubs baseball team beat the Cleveland Indians to clinch the World Series, a title which had eluded them for 108 years.

This was a huge event in US sporting history. Secondly, on 5th November, the Ireland rugby team overcame the mighty All Blacks 40-29 at Soldier Field, just 8 miles away from the Cubs' legendary home ground, Wrigley Field. This was Ireland's first ever victory over New Zealand, for which they had waited an eye-watering 111 years. So, you may ask, why am I reading about this in the IPA magazine? Stay with me and I'll explain.

Fast forward to early December 2016, when I had the pleasure of welcoming Mary O'Connor and her partner Jimmy, to Belfast. Mary was visiting Ireland with the ultimate aim of attending her daughter Ciara's graduation at Queens University, Belfast on 9th December. However, that's only half of the story. Prior to the momentous sporting events mentioned above, I had been in contact with Mary on behalf of one of our new members, Gareth Craig, who was going to be in Chicago for that historic Ireland/All Blacks match. His adventure in the Windy City is the subject of another article in this edition of Police World so I won't spoil Gareth's thunder here, but check out that story.

Suffice it to say, the point of this article becomes clearer. The staggering power of the huge network which this great Association affords us never ceases to amaze me and to make me eternally grateful for my membership of it.

At this point, I'm going to hand over to Mary to tell the rest of this story of her visit to Ireland.

In December 2016 my partner Jimmy and I traveled to Ireland, North and South, an adventure which was a huge success, with the great help of the IPA. The main purpose of this trip to was to attend my daughter's graduation from Queens University, Belfast. The graduation ceremony itself was full of the pomp

and circumstance that most Americans don't experience; we especially loved the page boy attending to the Chancellor's robes.

Other than the graduation, we spent ten days in Northern Ireland and we certainly appreciated you all arranging such great weather for us! Barely a drop of rain at all!

One of the main highlights of our time in the North was Belfast's Hop-on-Hop-off bus, with an especially interesting visit to the Crumlin Road Gaol. We also experienced a few of the city's excellent "foodie" restaurants, Cutter's Warf, The Shed and, my personal favourite, Mourne Seafood. There was so much seafood chowder, and so little time! One evening, after delicious local fare, we were able to meet up with Brian Kennedy for a pint or two. It was wonderful to meet face to face after getting to know Brian through various emails. Our correspondence had not only regarded our trip and facilitating UK IPA member Gareth Craig's visit to Chicago but also included the outstanding IPA assistance my daughter received while in Belfast for the past year and half.

As Brian mentioned, travel assistance is such a wonderful resource for IPA members and their family members. My experience with Section UK's hospitality had begun in September 2015, with a request for a contact for my daughter Ciara while in Belfast in case she needed assistance. For example, if she ever happened to be hit by a car while riding her bike, which ended up actually happening, I knew there was a community there to support her which gave us huge peace of mind.

While both sides of my family emigrated from Ireland, John McGovern holds a special place in

the family history as he was awarded the Victoria Cross in 1859. At a lunch stop in Ballymagovern we met the local historian to discuss the McGovern clan. Seems not too many Americans stop in Ballymagovern, unless they are looking to locate ancestral lands.

In closing Jimmy, Ciara and I wish to send our heartfelt gratitude to the UK IPA region in Northern Ireland and hope that soon we can assist your members here in the United States.



Cultural Competition Winner Reflections on Policing

I am delighted to announce that Rob Stenhouse from Region 4 has won the Reflections on Policing competition and a book will be winging its way to him. Below is an extract from his piece. Please look out for further competitions.

We fill the gap as the world's greatest coordinators. Not particularly inspiring I know, but true! When you look at the things we do as police; we problem solve! be it domestics, firearms events, street altercations, public safety, missing children, Riots, Road Traffic Collisions etc. everyone, and I mean everyone looks to us to coordinate the actions to get the right people to the right place to solve whatever issue it happened to be.

That's why we are first to get the blame for anything that goes wrong. Usually because WE didn't coordinate every action conceivable to fix whatever the problem was. So how does this affect us? Well, we become naturally adept at taking charge of everything. However, the one thing we all share is our richly light sense of humour!

Members Day 15 December 2017

Sean Hannigan the Vice President looking after Culture would like to remind you to put the date in your diary for the 2017 Members' Day on Friday 15 December 2017, at IPA UK HQ.

Members Day will follow a similar format to last year where the Archives were opened and examined using the great skills of Phillip and Vivian Powell. Brian Kennedy was also in attendance to complete IPA video records to add to the Oral History Project. For further details, please email Sean on vphannigan@ipa-uk.org or telephone him on 07828 261174.



Oral History Project update

I thought it was time to update you on the progress of the Oral History Project which has been running for several months.

I have been working closely with the National Archivist Phillip Powell and Brian Kennedy to bring the project to fruition. I think it is vital we record our history so that others have access to it.

Brian Kennedy has been available to produce video interviews from members and successfully completed 9 at the last Members Day. There are 3 pocket memos available to any Branch or Region so that you can record a short 5-minute interview with members. If you want to have one of these then please e mail Sean at vphannigan@ipa-uk.org. Possible questions and instructions are included.





Last Night of the Proms

Andy Gregory - Birmingham, West Midlands Branch Chair

The Birmingham, West-Midlands branch recently held competitions for tickets to the British Police Symphony Orchestra's 'Last Night of the Proms' at the Birmingham Symphony Hall. The first pair of tickets was subject to a raffle at the branch's Charity 'Pop Chorus' evening and won by branch stalwart Bryan Carson.

The second pair of tickets were advertised on the [IPA website](http://ipa.org.uk) and won by Steve Bretherton (8 Region) who attended with his father-in-law Wilfred. Both sets of tickets were kindly provided by IPA Vice-President (Cultural) Sean Hannigan. Branch chair Andy Gregory said "it was really kind of Sean to support our events with these ticket prizes. A number of Branch members attend the Proms night every December and it's a great way to start the Christmas festivities. The competition winners thoroughly enjoyed the concert and it was lovely to see members that had not previously experienced the BPSO having such a great night."

Competition winner Steve Bretherton said "I was surprised and delighted to win the competition for the tickets to the British Police Symphony Orchestra. I didn't know quite what to expect when we arrived at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham and met up with other IPA members but everything about the evening was first class. A small army of Police Cadets was on hand helping out and the hall was magnificent - all decked out in Union Flags with a huge net of balloons above us ready for the grand finale.

The orchestra was great and I'd have thought they were professional musicians if I didn't know otherwise. Of course being a Last Night of the Proms Concert meant that we got all the favourites - Pomp and Circumstance, the Fantasia on British Sea-Songs, Jerusalem and Rule Britannia, all accompanied by singing and manic flag waving! Along the way a talented soprano, fireworks and musket volleys by members of a military re-enactment group added to the fun of the evening.

My father-in-law thoroughly enjoyed the concert. It was a great atmosphere and I wholeheartedly encourage members and their families to attend next year's concert and I plan to be there myself."

For more details about the BPSO see www.bpso.org.uk



Police Educators

a Special Interest Group with a Difference.

International Police Association (IPA) Section UK has formed a new special interest group aimed at members who are educators, trainers, or specialist trainers. The group welcomes members with a specialism/skill who are comfortable with public speaking or even developing their public speaking skills.

We are sometimes asked if we can supply a lecturer to participate and speak at an International seminar, course or workshop.

A database will be maintained and when we receive a request from the International Professional Commission, or some other organisation, we will contact those on the database with knowledge in that area. This will then offer the chance for a member to share their knowledge and promote Section UK at the same time.

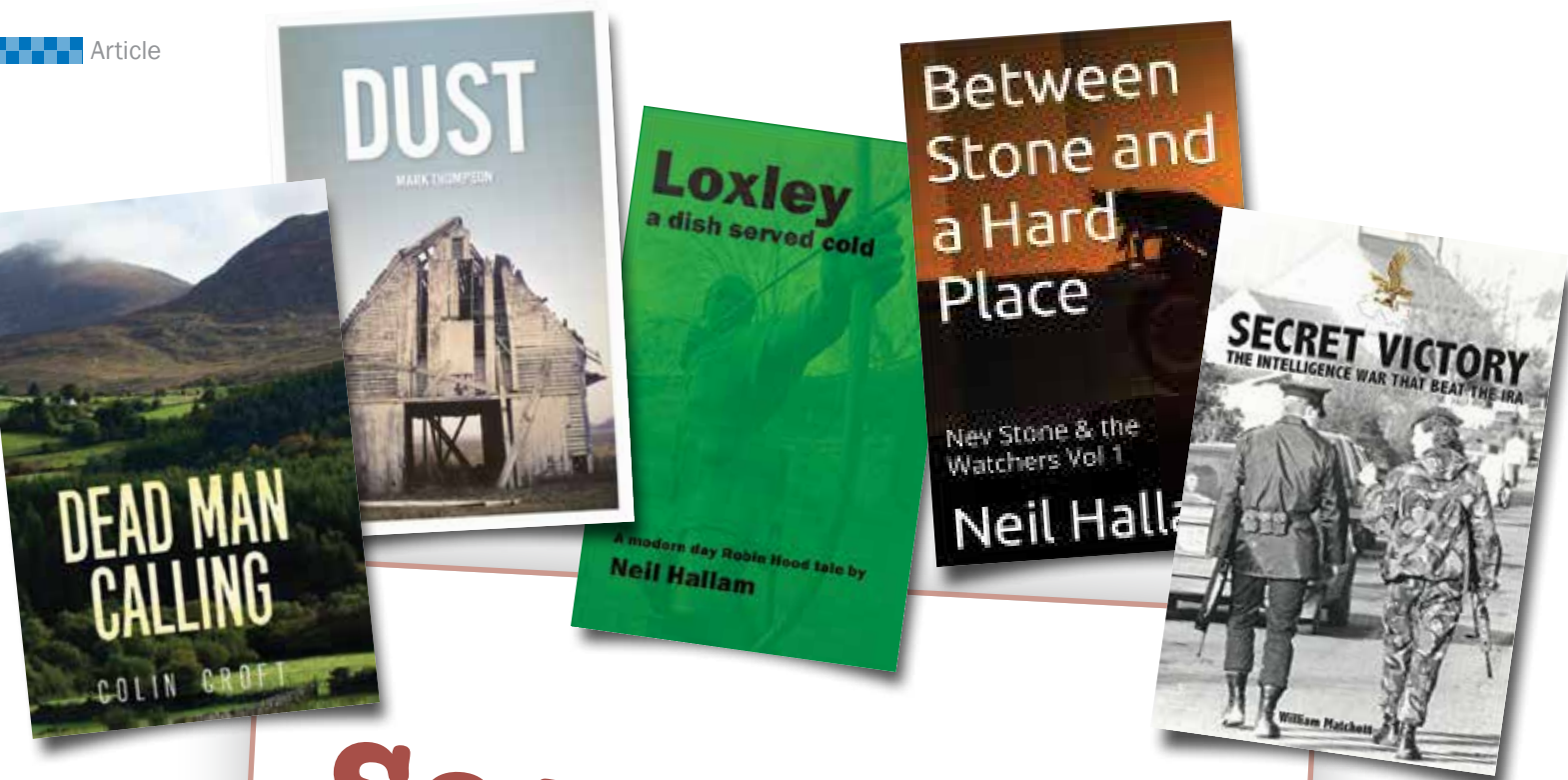
The same list of members could be used to supply, on request, lecturers for IBZ Gimborn, the German educational venue, which organises police related seminars and has long had links with the IPA.

The group will seek to create training events in this country, similar to at and open to IPA members worldwide and UK based non-members, with recruitment in mind and the intention of expanding our membership.

If you would like to join please email secretary.educators@icloud.com.

If you want to have a chat or find out more you can e mail vphannigan@ipa-uk.com or call me on **07828 261174**





So you want to write...

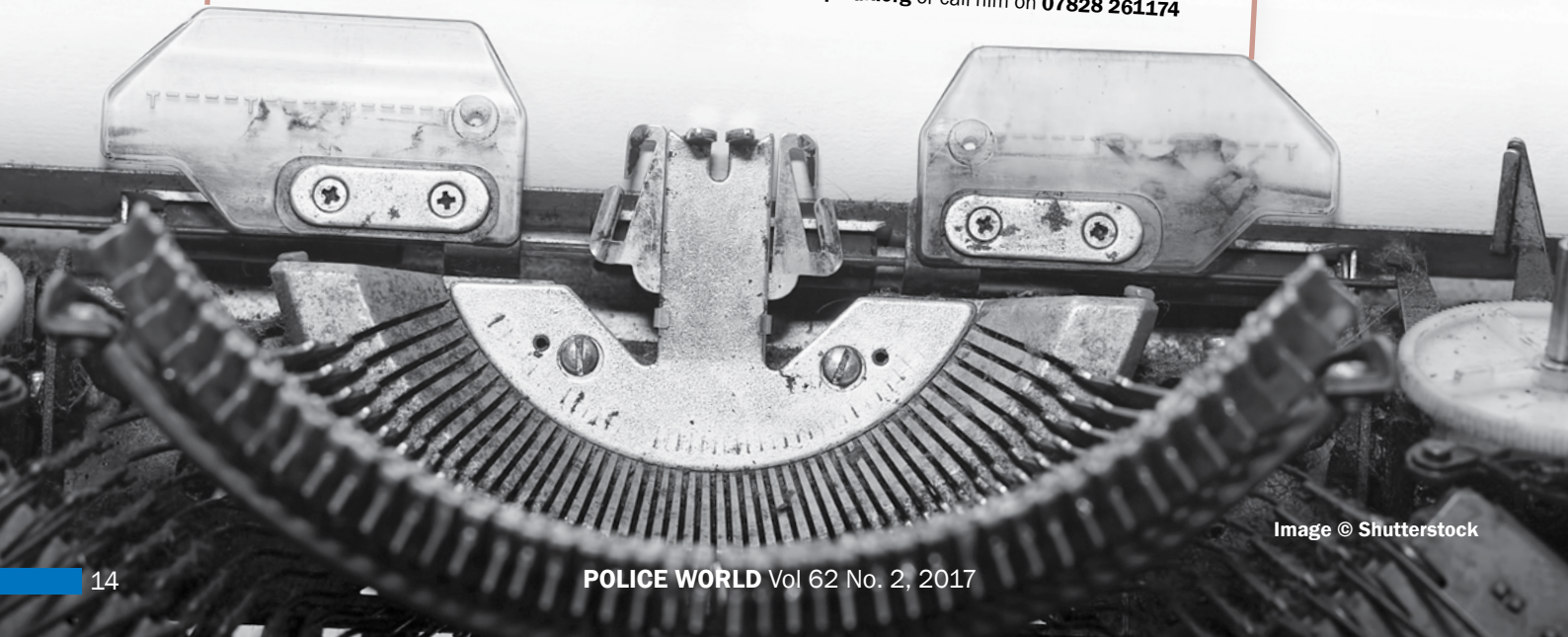
Sean Hannigan is looking for all of you budding writers out there to get in touch with him. A writers Seminar is being organised during the latter part of the year where members will be invited to take up the pen and see what they can do.

You may have seen over the last few months several books being offered as prizes in various competitions. Sean has been speaking to IPA members who are in fact published authors and are willing to talk about the writing process from blank sheet to blank check so to speak.

Several IPA writers who may include Mark Thompson (*Dust*) William Matchett (*Secret Victory*) Colin Croft (*Dead Man Calling*) and our very own editor Neil Hallam (*Between Stone and a Hard Place*) have offered to help with the Seminar and assist all of you budding writers.

It is anticipated the Seminar will take the form of the guest author talking through their own experience of writing, how to write, where to write, narrative style, characters, plot, factual writing, research for writing and agents/publishing etc.

If you are interested, then please contact Sean on vphannigan@ipa-uk.org or call him on **07828 261174**





IPA Section U.K. Motorcycle Group

Mick Marlow - IPA Section United Kingdom Motorcycle Group Secretary

The Motorcycle Special Interest Group (SIG) was the brainchild of Dave Taylor, who wished to combine his love of motorcycling with his IPA membership. Following an article in Police World magazine and interest from several UK members, an inaugural meeting of 13 members was held at Arthur Troop House in 2009.

From a very early stage, the aim of the group was for members with a common interest to share their passion for two wheels and to meet up with other IPA motorcyclists.

In 2010 our members travelled to The Netherlands where we met the Dutch IPA motorcycle group who treated us to a lovely weekend of ride-outs around the countryside and a BBQ. For many members it was their first taste of riding on the continent and of meeting with IPA members from other countries. It was apparent from an early stage that any trip the SIG organised would be well supported and to date we have had trips to Poland, Morocco, Denmark, France, Germany (3 times), Northern Ireland, Eire and Scotland. Some members attended an Italian IPA motorcycle rally where they were made very welcome.

The Motorcycle SIG has settled into having its AGM in May which we hope will be warm(ish) and trying to incorporate this into a short break - We have had our AGM in Scotland, Germany, (at The IPA castle at Gimborn) and Yorkshire using this format and it has proved successful, as well as single day venues such as The Ace Cafe, London, PMAS Headquarters and Yorkshire Police Headquarters. This year we are incorporating the AGM into a Monday - Friday break on The Isle of Man.

We also try to plan at least one weekend or midweek break away within the UK (this year we are going to Devon in June) and one continental trip which is usually in September to avoid school holidays although this year it has been brought forward into August so we can attend the inaugural motorcycle rally of Hamburg IPA before moving on to Berlin and a trip around the BMW factory. Because the riding season is so short (well for me it is), we arrange a Christmas lunch that this year will be in Leicestershire and we will also be having a BBQ/Hog Roast in the summer that is still in the planning stages.

The problem with the Motorcycle SIG is that the membership is spread far and wide and wherever you hold an event, some people will have a great distance to travel which can be off putting to many members. We hold our regular events of Christmas meal and BBQ in the centre of the country where the greatest concentration of members are located. However, members are encouraged to meet up for informal ride outs and this is easily achievable with the help of our Facebook page where members will post that they are going out for a ride.

Members are always encouraged to organise trips abroad and last years trip to The Black Forest in Germany was organised by one of our members. This year's trip to Hamburg and Berlin has been taken on board by another with about 30 people so far signed up.

Membership of the group is currently at 125. You will find a wide range of motorcycle manufacturers, motorcycle ages and styles of motorcycles within the group.

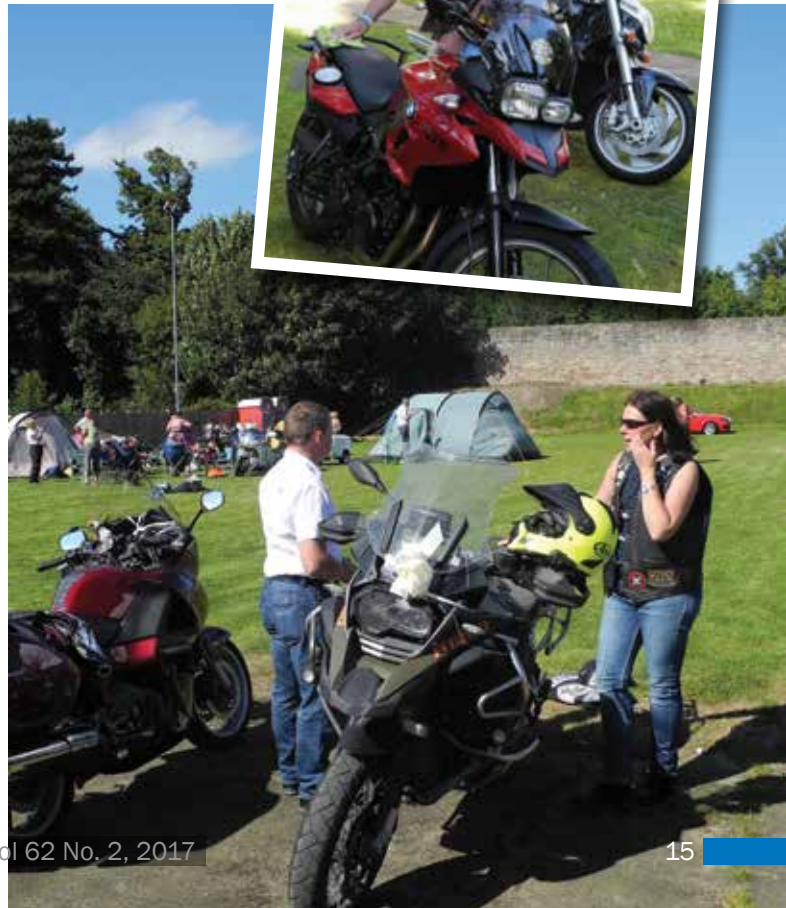
When meeting up as a group, rideouts take into consideration the fact that everyone rides in a different style and tend to be a scenic bumble rather than a blat. We do not encourage riders to perform outside of their own comfort zone.

Many motorcyclists are apprehensive about group riding and if you attend one of our events there is no pressure on you to take part in any group ride or indeed travel from venue to venue as part of a group. We find that on our continental tours riders tend to fragment into groups of 2 or 3 when travelling from hotel to hotel.

Membership of the Motorcycle SIG is by means of contacting the secretary through the link on the Section UK web page or by e-mailing motorcycling@ipa-uk.org

The secretary will send you an application and programme of forthcoming events. There is a one off, fee of £10 which is used to finance things like gifts for visiting IPA groups or when we visit other countries. Membership is valid for as long as you are a member of the IPA.

I look forward to seeing you on the road.



Meeting the Real NYPD

Jayne Price Birmingham branch

Jayne Price has been an IPA member since 2004 and recently had her first experience of IPA international hospitality. After her retirement, Jayne booked a trip to New York for herself and her husband Howard, who is still a serving WMP Sergeant. The trip was to coincide with Howard's 50th birthday and for this holiday Jayne felt it would be good to make contact with local officers. The IPA put Jayne and Howard in touch with NYPD detective Tony Mok, who has hosted many IPA members visiting New York.

Jayne takes up the story: -

On Saturday morning Howard and I arrived at Grand Central Station NY, to meet Tony off his train. We approached a chap who looked a police officer type to find that he wasn't Tony, but another English bobby from Dorset with his brother, who were also waiting to meet Tony.

Tony arrived and we exchanged Police helmets and flat caps. Tony is a big collector of police memorabilia, especially hats and helmets. Howard had taken him a West Midlands Police helmet and also a flat cap and unbeknown to us the Dorset officer also had a Dorset helmet for him; so as you can imagine, Tony was really pleased!

We were soon on our way exploring Grand Central Station and the Metro Subway system. Tony knew some fascinating facts and other stuff about the place. We learnt some tips and safety measures of the subway system that NYPD rookies are taught as a matter of course; such as, how all the stairways are marked with an allocated letter and a number to identify each one of them. Most interesting to know was, which way to lie in between the tracks in the gully, should you find yourself in the unfortunate position as to have fallen onto the track when a train is coming... something we hoped to never experience!

We travelled on the subway system and then walked to a police precinct (Station) where we

were introduced to the Desk Sergeant and others on duty. It was most interesting to look around the room where they do 'roll call', the equivalent of our Parade Rooms. There is a very impressive lectern where the senior officer stands to do 'roll call'. There is no large table that officers sit around, as they all stand or sit in rows facing the lectern. It was fascinating to see the universal similarities of the job. Target boards showing local offenders and suspects, arrest and detection figures, crime statistics, 'most wanted' and work rotas were all pinned to notice boards around the room.

What I was most impressed with and I'm sure we haven't got anywhere in the UK, is a 'shoe shine' machine in the corner of any of our parade rooms! It just showed how proud the local officers are of their uniforms and how they want to represent the NYPD to the highest standard.

We were also shown around the Custody area of the station. Again, the similarities in practices are uncannily similar to that in the UK. However; one slight difference that surprised me - Tony told us that all NYPD officers have to be able to speak fluent Spanish. How about that?

From here, we were taken to the beautiful old building which houses the 5th Precinct where Tony works. What an amazing building, steeped in history, built in 1855 and originally a Grammar School. The Police Athletic League established in 1914 as the Junior Police Corps provides athletic facilities for children and has occupied the building since 1958. Wow, Tony's office is amazing, a veritable sanctum of old established Detectives untouched by 'tenure of post' and seemingly very 'old-school', but really using up to date skills and abilities. No 'hot desks' here, oh no, their desks/workstations are their own and have been 'home from home' for decades by the looks. One guy has two, yes two, established fish tanks, one freshwater, the other tropical, which must have been there by his desk for donkey's years!

These folks that work in that office seem to be the pride of the force and are worth their weight in gold when it comes to investigation and detection. I was especially touched by 'Tales', the



Station Cat who is a long established member of the office and makes himself at home for a snooze wherever the fancy takes him. He was first spied snoozing on top of a pile of old file papers, high up on top of some storage lockers in an ante room just off the main office, next to the refreshments room. Hearing strange accents and voices it didn't take long for him to wake up, stretch, before coming to give us the once over and brush up to us for a stroke. Here, we were also shown an interview room and holding cell that seemed straight out of a scene from Columbo. An interesting fact, Tony's office is used in the filming of the series 'Law and Order'.

We were then taken to Police Headquarters. You were once able to walk straight up to the front doors to enter, but now there are CCTV cameras everywhere and impenetrable railing type fencing that keeps you well away until your identification



and purpose of visit can be established, in a newly-built building which has visitors going through airport-type security scrutiny. Inside the HQ building on the ground floor is a touching memorial with all the names of NYPD personnel



Roll call

In the custody block



who died on 9/11 and almost more shockingly, staff that have died since, from incident related illnesses and wounds they suffered on the day. Each time another soul perishes, their names are carved into the plaque.

Of course, we talked to Tony of 9/11 and he told us that he had been off-duty that day and he phoned his home station as the incident unfolded. There was a rally call for him and all of his off-duty colleagues to come straight into work

and he was told to “pack for thirty days”. This he did and along with all his colleagues, at work he stayed, for the full thirty days until they were stood down and could go home again. I have the utmost heartfelt respect for him and all his colleagues on learning about what they did above and beyond the call of duty.

Throughout the day there were poignant reminders of the officers that lost their lives on and since 9/11. It was very touching to see

cherished tributes displayed at all the sights we visited. I’m sure he does, but, I hope Tony realised how close they all were in thought and prayers throughout that most difficult time.

I was so touched by how alike we all are in camaraderie, sense of fun and dark humour whilst facing adversity. Tony was a delight from the moment we met him till we said our “Goodbyes” and I shall remember and treasure the time spent with him in his wonderful city.

Tony is due to retire in 2018 and planning a round-the world tour. It will be lovely if he lands in the UK and our branch and regional members can show Tony some of our local sites. Tony also mentioned that his sister has a flat available in New York for use solely by IPA members who wish to book a trip to the Big Apple. Details are available via www.nyc-ipahaus.com

Sales the station cat



Tony's workplace



Leicestershire branch Christmas social

Leicestershire members and partners visited Leicestershire Police HQ for our annual Christmas Social. A fun evening of games and other festivities included 'Play Your Cards Right', a Prize Swap card game and a 'Beetle Drive' using snowmen and Christmas trees.

The Chair, Clive Wood, welcomed everyone, including National President Mick Luke, who took the opportunity to present a lifetime honorary membership award to Bob Gunnell. Bob has served for many years on the committee for our Branch, the Camping and Caravanning Section and has long been a Branch Rep for Region 5 meetings. He now holds the position of Branch Secretary. He has also been instrumental in ensuring that the IPA Race Trophy Days have continued despite many problems in recent years. It is presently held at Mallory Park Racing Circuit in Leicestershire and is able to continue there in no small part due to his endeavours.

Another presentation was made by Clive Wood, who is also the Chair for Region 5. He called on an unsuspecting Fred Rankin, who is the Treasurer for Leicestershire Branch and the Minute Secretary for Region 5. Fred has been involved in arranging many functions for the IPA and has worked particularly hard in the Twinning Section of Leicester City Council to maintain a close and valuable working link with Krefeld in Germany, the twin city of Leicester. He also produces the Branch Magazine and has been an ambassador for the IPA family for many years. His efforts were rewarded by Clive presenting him with a certificate of Signal Service.



IT'S JUST NOT CRICKET

VP Yvonne McGregor

IPA Section UK has purchased tickets for some top class cricket matches and Yvonne is giving them away.

The Batting line up is

ICC CHAMPIONS TROPHY

NEW ZEALAND v AUSTRALIA

Friday, 2 June; 1030 am
EDGBASTON, Birmingham 2 x BRONZE Tickets
Closing Date Sunday, 30 April. Draw 1 May.

SRI LANKA v SOUTH AFRICA

Saturday, 3 June; 1030 am
THE OVAL, 2 x BRONZE Tickets
Closing Date Sunday, 30 April. Draw 1 May.

ENGLAND v NEW ZEALAND

Tuesday, 6 June; 1030 am
CARDIFF WALES STADIUM
FAMILY Ticket - 1 Adult & 1 Child (Under 16). Family Stand
(No Alcohol)
Closing Date Sunday, 30 April. Draw 1 May.

ICC WOMEN'S WORLD CUP FINAL

Sunday, 23 July
LORD'S Cricket Ground, London
2 Pairs of GOLD Tickets
Closing Date Sunday, 18 June. Draw 19 June.

Don't get "caught behind" on the "back foot" and enter into the Draw.

To enter the Draw, email vmcgregor@ipa-uk.org with the Games you would like attend. Please make sure you are able to attend on the dates you apply for and remember the England v New Zealand Match is for an Adult + Child.

"Howzat" Good Luck everyone.

No1 Region held their AGM on Sunday 5 March

At the meeting Jim Nisbet stood down as Regional Treasurer after 22 years.

Mick Luke, Section UK President, presented him with an engraved Quaich and bottle of Whisky from the Region as a token of their appreciation.

Mick also presented Peverley McChlery and Alastair Dinsmor's with their 50 year Certificates and gifts.

Kent Branch 50th Anniversary

Mick Abbot Kent Chair and Social Secretary

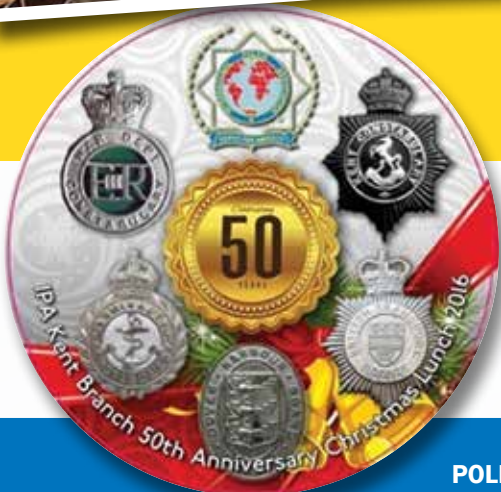
Kent Branch celebrated its 50th Anniversary this year, combining the celebration with their Christmas Lunch. The event was also used to present some of Kent's 50 year members with their Certificates.

The Lunch took place at The Ashford International Hotel, on Sunday, 4th December, preceded by a mulled wine reception. Simon Langton Brass supplied a small ensemble to play carols during the lunch, as they have done for the last four years. Their music helps to make a fitting start to the Christmas season. Sixty diners, including four of Kent's twelve 50 year members and spouses, enjoyed an excellent meal with plenty of opportunity to share stories of times past, as well as renewing old friendships.

Diners enjoyed 'audience participation' in The Twelve Days of Christmas and Mick Abbott, Kent Chair and Social Secretary, helped the band, playing tuba in a couple of the carols!

Mick Meggs, who was Chairman for the 21st and 25th Anniversaries of Kent Branch, gave a short presentation, which included early experiences within the Branch and he brought a selection of memorabilia to make a small display. Mick Abbott said, "Although Kent Branch is still very active, it doesn't compare with the support given to events in those days".

One of the 50 year members is Roger Casement, retired Kent Officer, who now runs his own printing company. Each year, at the Christmas Lunch, Roger provides coasters, sufficient for one to every diner, choosing a different theme each year for the design. This year, his design included the badges of the five Forces which comprised our Region 50 years ago, then known as 6-2 Region. The Forces were Kent County Constabulary, British Transport Police, Dover Harbour Board Police, Admiralty Constabulary and War Department Constabulary. It is a colourful and valued 'trophy'. Until this year, Roger has also printed the Newsletters for those not on email and he did so free of charge, a truly loyal member.



IPA Houses in Spain closed

Please note that we have received notification from IPA Spain that the IPA Houses in Madrid and Barcelona are now closed.

Regarding accommodation in Madrid, the webmaster of IPA Madrid has provided us with the following information:

'IPA Madrid has an agreement for the accommodation of the members of IPA in a central and economical hotel in Madrid.'

In addition please see the following links:

'...IPA members will find information (in English) about other accommodation options in our beautiful city:

<http://www.ipamadrid.es/members/>
or <http://www.ipamadrid.es/casas-ipa-ipa-houses/>
(Form to request accommodation information)'

Dead Man Calling

Northern Ireland IPA member Colin McLean has joined the increasing number of crime writers within our membership.

Following six years in teaching, Colin joined the Royal Ulster Constabulary. In his 25 year police career he served in some of Northern Ireland's most challenging places, from the cruel sectarian streets in North Belfast to the terrifying, yet beautiful, hills and drum-lins of South Armagh. On leaving the police in 2006, he undertook a number of international policing projects.

In 2008, he rediscovered his zeal for writing when his mother fell ill, and he composed short stories of family events and holidays to read to her at night. *Dead Man Calling* is the fulfilment of a promise that he made to his mother and of a long held desire to write his own crime thriller.

Colin chose to publish under the pen name Colin Croft. Croft was his late mother's maiden name as it was through and with her inspiration that he completed his novel.

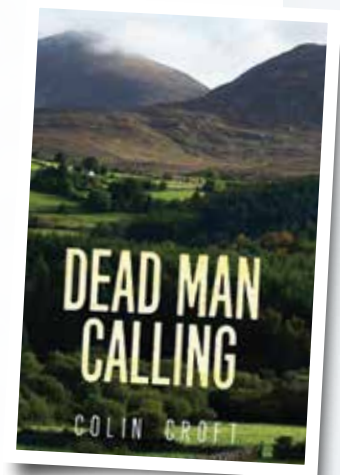
About the book

Mike Thornton is the head of Northern Ireland's Serious and Organised Crime Department. In the summer of 2008 three seven-year-old girls are abducted from their holiday homes. They are violated and left to die in remote holiday lets in the North. As head of the investigation, Thornton failed to save the children taken by Peter James Ramsey. Ramsey denied the parents closure by committing suicide before his trial.

Seven years later a young girl is abducted from her holiday home in County Donegal. In a chilling re-enactment of Ramsey's MO, the police receive a ten-figure-grid-reference exposing the whereabouts of the girl. When a second is taken in more violent circumstances, Thornton realises that he is in a race against time, that a little girl's life is at stake and that another may have already been targeted. So who is the stranger with an uncanny knowledge of the crimes of the past and what are his motives?

Copies of *Dead Man Calling* can be purchased direct from the publisher at

www.pegasuspublishers.com



Police charity founder honoured by Prime Minister

Prime Minister Theresa May has named a retired police inspector and IPA Member from Nottinghamshire a Point of Light for organising aid convoys to those in need.

David Scott, co-founded the National Police Aid Convoys charity 24 years ago to coordinate humanitarian aid deliveries around the world. David and his team send out 30 containers a year to countries across Asia, Africa and Europe with a range of emergency and developmental aid donated by large organisations and smaller charities unable to afford transportation costs.

David is the latest recipient of a Point of Light award, which recognises outstanding individual volunteers, people who are making a change in their community and inspiring others. Each day, someone, somewhere in the country is selected to receive the award to celebrate their remarkable achievements.

Recent donations organised by the National Police Aid Convoys include the New Scotland Yard's library which is now training future policemen in Zambia, sets of airline blankets for refugees and unused hospital beds now increasing the capacity in one of Pakistan's busy hospitals. The charity has a core team of 200 volunteers which increases to 2000 throughout the year.

In a personal letter to David, Prime Minister Theresa May said:

"The 'National Police Aid Convoys' charity you co-founded is supporting emergency aid to reach vulnerable international communities when they need it most. Under your chairmanship, your network of volunteers - now from all walks of life - are inspired to give so much to these important missions."

David said:

"This award is for the whole team. Each one of them plays to their strengths to help people they're never likely to meet. The dedication, commitment, and simple giving of time is in all of us, and this team never stops giving. They have helped so many people in desperate situations in Syria, Africa, Pakistan and the Caribbean. It's an honour, and it's humbling, to be with such good people".



Trip to Langton's Brewery

Lawrence Wright, Chairman No. 8 Region East Anglia

In January 2017 we ran a successful branch trip to Langton's Brewery near Market Harborough. Before the brewery tour began we took the opportunity to sample a pint of 'Inclined Plane' (from Langton's Brewery, of course) at the Bakers Arms in Thorpe Langton.

The informal tour of the micro-brewery was hosted by Dave, one of the co-founders, along with two members of his staff. As well as describing the brewing process Dave also explained how the business was established and how it's grown over the years.

Of course we got to sample some of the beers produced at the brewery and enjoyed a sandwich buffet before heading back with a few bottles of Dave's best to sample at home.



South Wales Branch AGM

Denis Hunt

During the usual formal proceedings in which we voted in a full Executive Committee, Jeff Farrar, Chief Constable of Gwent Police and joint Branch Patron, provided us with amusing anecdotes of officers varied recollections during their pre-retirement meeting with him. This was followed by a superb demonstration by members of the 41st Foot Military re-enactment Society.

Branch members were required to each 'sign up' for service with the Regiment in Canada fighting the damnable Americans. Each signed the Oath of Allegiance to King George III following which they were then told exactly how little they would receive from their bounty payment following costs for uniform and associated items. In addition they received a warning of the possible brutal lifestyle during the Canadian winters.

Following the demonstrations, each Branch member was offered the opportunity to buy themselves out of service by placing the signed oath, together with a gold coin, upon the Regiment drum. All monies received then went to the Regiment Funds. An oath was then randomly drawn and the lucky name was presented with a bottle of whisky.

Many questions later, Denis Hunt (Secretary), presented a cheque to John Dart (Colour Sgt in the Group) together with a Region 4 Pennant and a memorial truncheon. A fabulous evening, but how do we follow that for our next meeting?



Cornwall Branch IPA has upbeat AGM Mike Chappell

Members new and not so new gathered at the Victoria Inn, Roche, Cornwall for an upbeat Annual General Meeting of the Cornwall Branch IPA. Every chair around the conference table was filled as the meeting saw Branch Secretary Colin Gameson, Vice Chair Tony Wilce, Secretary Andrew Hamilton and Treasurer Valerie Mearns re-elected but with the offer of more help for these hard working Committee members in the future.

Amongst many issues discussed, it was agreed that the IPA's Mid Monthly Memos were a success and were being actively read by the membership. Forthcoming Branch activities were mulled over and tasks agreed by members in respect of future events.

With the news that two Police Officers from Queensland, Australia were in Cornwall during July, an outline programme for their visit was agreed which would take in some of Cornwall's iconic UNESCO recognised World Heritage landscape and mining history.

Refreshments were served and greatly enjoyed by everyone judging by the empty platters! In the spirit of 'one and all' (Cornwall's ancient motto) Branch members purchased charity lanyards in support of the new Kreslu Charity. 'Kreslu', the Cornish word for police officer, literally 'Peace officer' is the name adopted for Cornwall's brand new police charity, working to support injured police officers and staff in Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly.

The lanyards which also bear Cornwall's St. Piran's cross flag may be purchased at £2 each plus postage & packing by email to: Kreslupolicecharity@gmail.com and the new charity maintains a Facebook presence at: <https://www.facebook.com/kreslupolicecharity/>

The meeting was greatly enjoyed by all those present and run in true IPA fashion reflecting the organisation's motto 'service through friendship'.



Mallory Park Race Day 2017 In association with Real Motorsport Ltd and BRSCC

For a day of competitive motorsport come and join IPA Leicestershire Branch, at Mallory Park, Leicestershire On Sunday 24th September 2017

Enjoy a day of motor racing with saloons, sports cars and single seaters. £5.00 per person over the age of 16, (under 16's no charge) will enter you into a raffle, and cover admin costs. Normal entry cost is £12-00 per person. Once again we will have the use of the Hailwood suite, and as in previous years, there will be no refreshments available within the suite. We have been allocated 150 tickets and in view of the limited number of tickets available, large group bookings cannot be accepted.

Mallory Park is known as the friendly circuit, and offers a full range of refreshments on site, at the Lakeside café, where tea, coffee, snacks, breakfasts and lunches, are available, as well as the usual burger vans etc.

Please note, no animals are allowed within the boundaries of Mallory Park.

Information on the Mallory Park race programmes see malloryparkcircuit.com

In order to avoid disappointment, please contact Leicestershire Branch Secretary, Bob Gunnell, 3, Meynell Close, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 4SW by email at bobg874@talktalk.net for ticket availability.

Once booked and paid for, (cheques to IPA Leicestershire please) your tickets will be reserved for you, and available for collection on the day, at a point just inside the main entrance to the circuit, between 1030am and 1230pm



From left to right: Pete Ollerton 22years, Alan Coltman 35 years, Hazel L'homme 36 years, Chairman Clive Wood, Glennis Quelch 22 years, Jackie Shearsby 30 years and Dave Ball 40 years.

Leicestershire Branch Long Service Awards

Fred Rankin - Branch Publicity Officer

At their AGM held at Leicestershire HQ in February 2017, Chairman Clive Wood had the honour of presenting Pete Ollerton, Alan Coltman, Hazel L'homme, Glennis Quelch, Jackie Shearsby and Dave Ball with their long service awards.

The three ladies presented with their awards are all widows of police IPA members. They applied in their own right to become full active members of the association and have welcomed the companionship and support that the IPA family gives.

North Wales - light at the end of the tunnel

Denis Hunt, Secretary, No 4 (Wales) Region

Over the last few years North Wales Branch have been struggling to survive. In 2016 the situation reached an all-time low with no Branch representation on the Region Committee and most of the Branch Committee having resigned.

Only the Treasurer Gary Fernandes remained in post. This left no option but for the Region Chair and Secretary to assume responsibility for those roles at Branch level. On instruction of the Region Executive, a formal Notice was served on each member of the Branch. This stated that unless a full Branch Executive Committee was formed at the forthcoming AGM, the Branch would be dissolved and the membership transferred.

Gradually members started to come forward and tentatively offer to stand for Executive roles. Come the day of the AGM, the turnout was low, but higher than previous meetings. Extra support was provided by Section UK President, Mick Luke. A lengthy meeting resulted in a full Branch Executive Committee being formed and a member to attend Region Executive meetings.

So is this a result? Well most certainly it is. Is the Branch out of its problems? Most certainly it is not. This is just a start of a long uphill climb. The meeting was left in no doubt that this is a make or break opportunity for the Branch if the wider membership fails to take up the challenge and support the Executive.

However, a start has been made and the new Branch Executive Committee is:

- Chair – John Clayton.**
- V/Chair – Bill Rogerson MBE.**
- Treasurer – Gary Fernandes**
- Secretary – Darren Armour**

The Branch has an enthusiastic Executive Committee who want to work towards not only encouraging new members into the IPA, but also identify themselves as a team who will work towards positively raising awareness of the Association in the local community.

South Wales Branch visits the Senedd

Denis Hunt, Branch Secretary

On a icy, cold and extremely foggy afternoon, nineteen members and partners visited the home of the National Assembly of Wales at the Senedd ('Senate' or 'Parliament'), in Cardiff Bay.

Our guide for the event was Gareth, who obviously thought, or hoped, that being a bunch of older generation we would just tag along behind him, clinging to every morsel of commentary. How wrong can a young man be?

In the absence of an Assembly Member (AM), Gareth entered into many discussions on subjects ranging from the non political status of Police & Crime Commissioners, through to the expensive use of the Welsh language in correspondence and other areas of life in Wales. However, he entered into all debates with great vigour and humour, often calling on many wise thoughts from his Granny and Mother; both of whom had obviously taught him not to be brow beaten by a group of supposedly knowledgeable sages and wits.

At the end of the tour we encouraged Gareth to take a Group photograph in front of the Tree of Life, being the literal central point of the building.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BRANCH AGM HELD ON 10th MARCH, 2017 @ THE TOBY INN, NORTHAMPTON

Before the meeting got underway a breakfast was enjoyed by members and guests. Eighteen members with spouses and partners attended.

We were also joined by the Regional Chairman Clive Wood who was made very welcome. During the meeting it became very clear that our branch was progressive and vibrant, all of our functions well attended by members and families. The highlight of the morning was a presentation by Clive Wood to our branch chairman Bill Tapp, he was awarded the 'The Signal Service Certificate'.

A discussion took place about the events for the coming year, many ideas were put forward and it looks like another busy year ahead.

Alex Thompson, Press Officer



Section UK National Golf Tournament

Section UK annual National IPA Golf Championship will take place at Slaley Hall, Hexham, Northumberland on Wednesday 31st May and Thursday 1st June, 2017.

First tee off on Wednesday is at 1pm on the Priestman Course. First tee off on Thursday is 1030am on the Hunting Course.

Cost is £100pp DB&B based on 2 sharing and includes 2 rounds of golf and a light meal on Thursday after the golf.

Single room is £130. Additional Night(s) DB&B is £99. You all have access to the leisure facilities.

Golfers will compete as teams of four, representing their Region. Only 1 Named Team per Region can be entered in the Team Competition. No restriction on the number of players from each Region competing for the Individual Prizes.

Names and/or Teams to be sent to VP Yvonne McGregor by Wednesday, 12 April, 2017.

Payments can be made by cheque made payable to IPA and sent to IPA HQ, Fox Road, Nottingham NG2 6AJ

For further information send your enquiries to Yvonne on vpmcgregor@ipa-uk.org

George McCarroll

Life Member George McCarroll passed away on the 3rd March following a short illness

George served in the Royal Marines leaving in 1970 after serving for 22 years and was a Colour Sergeant upon his retirement.

Within two weeks he joined the Metropolitan Police retiring in 1990 having served for 20 years, his service being mainly in the Brixton area.

He was Secretary of 6(4) sub-region of the IPA from 1976 until 1980 when he continued as Secretary in the newly formed 11 Region until 1982 when he stepped down but continued as Regional Supplies Officer until 2000.

He will be sadly missed. **Adrian Boniface**

Highland Gathering

Yvonne McGregor, Tayside Branch Secretary

After a year of researching and planning, February 2017 saw 64 IPA friends gather at the Duke of Gordon Hotel, Kingussie in the Scottish Highlands for the Tayside Branch Ceilidh Weekend. It was a truly International Event with Members from Sweden, Germany, Ireland and the four countries of the UK.

21 Members from the IPA Whiskey Forum were in attendance, this was the largest gathering of the Forum Members. David and I hosted them in our apartment on the Friday evening prior to dinner. It was a great opportunity for the Members to put faces to names they 'speak' to on Face book on a regular basis. There was Whiskey and Whisky aplenty to sample, including Swedish, German, Irish, Northern Irish and Scottish.

David had donated bottles of IPA Whisky and Botanist Gin for a Lucky Dip Draw which took place after dinner on Friday. The winners were Jackie Muller and Isla Robertson, both from Scotland. £410 was raised for our chosen charity, the Scottish Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA).

One of our guests, Owe Nordin, from Sweden, celebrated his birthday and very generously gave everyone a bracelet to exchange for a drink at the bar. A very kind and expensive gesture. I later presented Owe with an engraved Quaich and miniature whisky, from the Branch, for his birthday and the support he has given our Friendship Weekends.

The evening entertainment saw several of us up dancing and a lot of rekindling of old friendships and making new ones. A few of the IPA Whiskey Forum Members burned the midnight oil over a few drams.

Saturday morning saw 39 of us visit a wee gem of a distillery, the Speyside, which only produces Malt whisky. It is nestled in the foothills of the Cairngorm Mountains and was originally a barley mill, it uses the millrace as a source of water for the distillation and also to turn the waterwheel, which is a feature in the Reception Room. The building where the 2 Stills are housed was a labour of love, built by one stonemason using locally sourced stone, over a period of 20 years. The distillery featured as the fictional Lagganmore Distillery in the TV Series "Monarch of the Glen."

The Members of the IPA Whiskey Forum thought they had died and gone to heaven. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the tour and tasting delivered by Sandy and Andy, the Manager and Stillman. They are the only employees who produce the whisky. In allowing others to enjoy the whisky I must say a big thank you to the drivers, Shirley Wright, Jackie Westwood and others who assisted me in the shuttle service.

Saturday afternoon in Ghillies Bar saw our friends from across the Irish Sea sporting green rugby shirts sitting on one side and the Scottish contingent on the other side. There was also a group of 'neutrals' who stayed fairly quiet as we sat and watched Scotland v Ireland in the Six Nations Rugby. What a Game and the best team won with the Irish turning Green with envy as the skills of the Scottish Team.

The timing couldn't have been better, as when the final whistle blew at the Rugby our Wine or Whisky Tasting began. Four bottles of Malt Whisky and Five bottles of wine were available for sampling. During the tastings, Pete Connolly announced that there were Two IPA Whiskey Forum Challenge Coins available for a Silent Auction, the proceeds were to go to the IPA Charity, the



Police Roll of Honour Trust. £60 was raised and the purchasers were Mark Kernohan, from Northern Ireland and Britt Hermansson from Sweden.

Tim Cooke, from No 2 Region had donated a rare bottle of Bushmills Whiskey which he had had engraved with the "IPA Whiskey Forum" crest and a special label. Mandy Kernohan took the gavel, okay a whisky glass, and ran the Auction. Bidding was fast and furious and it came down to three bidders; David McGregor, Pete Connolly and Euan Forbes. Eventually Euan's bid of £150 was accepted, further raising the funds for the SCAA.

On Saturday evening I was glad to see many of our guests, including those from Ireland and Germany, entering into the spirit of the weekend by donning traditional Highland dress. Many of the ladies also wore a 'Touch of Tartan'. Section Ireland had gifted a miniature of Jameson's Whiskey to all our guests, which was very much appreciated.

As soon as we were seated for dinner the Scottish theme continued with the skirl of the pipes as the Haggis was carried in, led by a piper, who then addressed it in spectacular form. We then enjoyed a hearty four course meal, which included the Haggis, before adjourning to the ballroom.

'Two Highlands Lads', who had provided the entertainment last year, returned once again and gave us a fantastic variety of Scottish music, allowing many of us to take part in traditional Scottish dancing.

I must thank everyone who so generously donated raffle prizes, bought tickets and to those who helped me during the evening. A great success with £640 being raised for the SCAA, this figure included a donation from a hotel guest who thoroughly enjoyed the night.

There was one person, from No 2 region, who won so many raffle prizes that their suitcase was overweight when they checked into the airport the following day forcing them to purchase another case and pay extra to get them all home.

This is the first year that Members from Section Ireland have attended and Omar Fitzell presented our Branch with a Presentation Box containing a Hip Flask and accessories, which I accepted. In return I presented him, on behalf of Section scoutland, a suitably engraved Quaich and miniature of Whiskey in recognition of their support.



Cairngorm Mountain

Unfortunately 20 of our guests had to depart on Sunday morning due to work commitments. However many of those remaining ventured out on a beautiful sunny and calm morning. Some used the Funicular Railway to get above the snow line on Cairngorm Mountain, where they enjoyed stunning views of the surrounding countryside. This however was very short lived as the clouds rolled in and snow began to fall. Others, as if they had not had a fair sampling of Whisky, ventured further North and visited a few Speyside distilleries.

Arrangements had been made with The Highland Wildlife Park, Kincaig where many enjoyed a half-price deal. Some had taken advantage of this offer on Saturday, while others visited on the Sunday. The snow we encountered on the top of the mountain had turned to rain at the lower level but this did not deter us from marvelling at the antics of the Polar Bears, Red Pandas, Buffalos, Snow Leopards and many other species.

On Sunday evening the remaining guests enjoyed an excellent dinner in the ornate dining room followed by coffee and entertainment in the ballroom. A more sedate pace of dancing was enjoyed by some.

Our thanks must go to Paul the manager and his excellent staff at the Duke of Gordon Hotel and also the owner and staff at the Speyside Distillery, who did everything in their power to make the weekend a very memorable one.

Over the weekend we raised £1370 for the SCAA. Thanks to everyone for their extremely generous donations.

One of our guests paid David and I the following compliment: "You should be proud of your event as I am sure if Arthur Troop had been here he would have said that this is what he envisaged the IPA would be like".



For twenty years I had paid my membership fee each month. The Police Treatment Centres was just one of many things I agreed to as a brand new police recruit.

Fit for Duty

Neil Hallam experiences the Police treatment Centres

I wasn't sure why I agreed to the deduction from my wages; I was 30 years old, at the peak of my fitness and felt invincible. But I signed up and gave it no more thought for the next twenty years. Then, in 2014, a young driver pulled away from the kerb, knocking me from my motorcycle and smashing my foot in the worst injury of my life. Working from home, with my foot in plaster for four months protecting a foot rebuilt with metal, the subscriptions suddenly seemed worthwhile, as I was less than impressed with the physiotherapy offered by the NHS.

The southern forces use a similar facility at Goring on Thames in Oxfordshire. But the Northern forces, including my home force of Nottinghamshire, have a choice of two centres. Going under the brand of The Police Treatment Centres, the charity treats around 4000 serving and retired officers each year at either St Andrews, in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, or Castlebrae in Auchterarder, Perthshire. The PTC provides police specific treatment for any on or off duty injury. Whether it is a physical injury, or stress, depression, anxiety related, treatment is provided to help them recover and aid their return back to work.

The PTC has no connection to the government, or any police force. It all began in 1886, when the founder of the charity, Catherine Gurney, took an interest in the Police. In her early life Catherine worked with the poor in London and began to devote herself to the welfare of Police Officers. The turning point came when she found a place in a convalescent home for a young policeman. She later heard he had left the home early, having been given a bed next to a violent criminal he had previously arrested.

Miss Gurney decided to provide a convalescent home for police officers and established the Southern Police Convalescent Home on the south coast the following year. Demand from officers from northern forces led to the establishment of a Home in Harrogate in 1897.

It took another 100 years for PTC to spread north of the border. In 1996 they opened a Centre in Auchterarder, Perthshire. Castlebrae was purchased for £630,000. Further work to alter and extend the building cost of more than £3 million. Funds were raised by increasing the rate of donations made by serving officers and

by approaching individuals, police forces, the Scottish Police Federation and police charities including the Police Dependents Trust.

Like many officers attending the Treatment Centres, my first visit was for intensive physiotherapy treatment, which I received at the Harrogate centre. By lunchtime on my first day I had been thoroughly assessed by one of their clinicians and a programme developed based on my clinical needs. The program included a combination of exercise and hands on therapy. For some, their program also involved pain relief mechanisms such as acupuncture or electrotherapy. In between my scheduled physiotherapy I took advantage of the many classes on offer. Some, like balance classes, were advised by my physio. While others, like spinning, I took just for the enjoyment and to rebuild four months of lost fitness.

The NHS gave me three sessions of physiotherapy, after what was quite a major reconstruction. These sessions really only amounted to explaining a photocopied exercise sheet. My therapy at St Andrews could not have been more different. Over the two week period, I was given nine very intense sessions. As well as advising on exercises, I was given deep massage and joint manipulation to get movement back in my foot. Seeing the physio every day, she was able to tweak the program to account for my daily progress.

Most patients visiting the Treatment Centre come for physiotherapy, but they now offer a program of support to patients suffering with stress, anxiety and other such conditions. This was the focus of my second visit to PTC. This time I chose to visit Scotland for my treatment. I was put on The Psychological Wellbeing Programme, which is a two week structured programme designed specifically for Serving Officers. The Programme includes group sessions in stress management, workshops focusing on relaxation, sleep, mindfulness, group exercise sessions and also individual counselling and complementary therapy sessions.

The drive of the program is towards self help. We were given a taster of many different treatments and coping strategies, in the hope that some of them would help us on our return to duty. I had a little scepticism for some of



the treatments on offer. I have never really considered massage therapies, but Reflexology and Thai Foot Massage seemed to help my anxiety and the ongoing problems with my foot. I had already tried and enjoy Yoga and Tai Chi, and many of my fellow patients are now converts. Aromatherapy was less of a hit for me; I keep using the fragrant oils, but have not yet noticed a benefit. The big benefit of both visits has been to reset some good exercise and lifestyle habits. Hopefully I can get on with work in a much better frame of mind for some time to come.

How they are funded

They receive 86% of their funding from serving police officers who make a voluntary donation through monthly payroll giving. The remainder of our income is made up from fundraising, third party claims, dividends received and other little extras such as room hire. There are a number of other opportunities to help PTC, though their lottery and organised events such as cycle rides etc.

Competition page

Win a t-shirt at
[www.ipa-uk.org/
on-line-competition](http://www.ipa-uk.org/on-line-competition)



Lottery Results

The winners for February 2017 were: 1st – (£100) Judith Smith - Region 3, Scarborough Branch; 2nd – (£55) Sam Olphert - Region 2, Northern Ireland-North West Branch; 3rd – (£45) Steve Palmer - Region 8, Cambridgeshire Branch.

January 2017: 1st – (£100) Fred Boyd – Region 2, Northern Ireland - North West Branch; 2nd – (£55) Bill Lloyd - Region 3, Bolton Branch; 3rd – (£45) Paul Reeves - Region 10, South East Essex Branch.

December 2016: 1st – (£100) Robert Hamilton - Region 5/Nottinghamshire Branch; 2nd – (£55) Yvonne Taylor - Region 3/Scarborough Branch; 3rd – (£45) Petra Loyer - Region 2, Northern Ireland - Greater Belfast Branch.

The bonus £100 Christmas prize goes to: Helen Preece - Region 5, Birmingham West Midlands Branch.

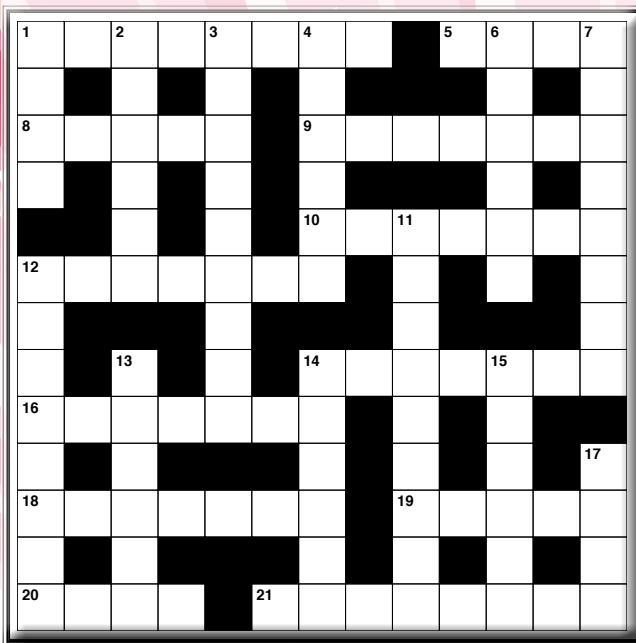
Vol 61, Edition 4 Winners:

Douglas Jacks (Region 5/Birmingham West Midlands Branch) won the crossword prize *Ripper Hunter – Abberline and the Whitechapel Murders*.

Samuel Dickson (Region 2/Northern Ireland-Greater Belfast Branch) has won the Sudoku prize *Dust*.

Puzzles

The prizes for this edition are *For the last time* by Janet Kelly and *Kill or be killed* by Barry Johnson - see below. Solve the puzzle/s and send them in. The lucky winners will be drawn out of the hat. Send the complete puzzles to: 'Puzzles', International Police Association, IPA HQ, Section UK, 1 fox Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 6AJ or as a scan by email to mail@ipa-uk.org marked 'Puzzles'. Deadline for entries is: 08 June 2017.

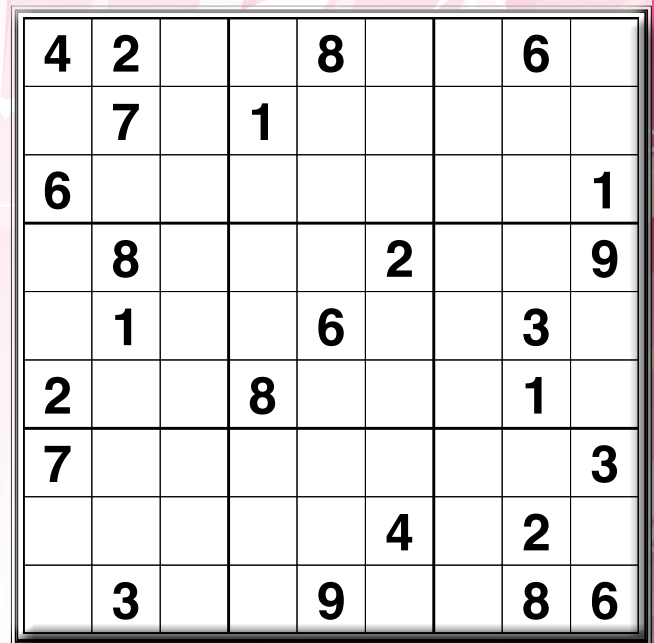


Across

- 1 - Comfy seat (8)
- 5 - Bathroom mineral powder (4)
- 8 - Petite (5)
- 9 - Entered in a hostile manner (7)
- 10 - Expressive (of music) (7)
- 12 - Started an essay again (7)
- 14 - Reverberating (7)
- 16 - A rich mine; big prize (7)
- 18 - Pancreatic hormone (7)
- 19 - Phrase that is not taken literally (5)
- 20 - Unit of heredity (4)
- 21 - Break into pieces (8)

Down

- 1 - Too; in addition (4)
- 2 - Piece of grassland (6)
- 3 - Six (4-5)
- 4 - Frozen water spear (6)
- 6 - Advance evidence for (6)
- 7 - Hugging (8)
- 11 - Politically conservative (5-4)
- 12 - Making a deep resonant sound (8)
- 13 - Agreement or concord (6)
- 14 - Nearer (anag) (6)
- 15 - Provoke (6)
- 17 - Give out (4)



About the books



For the last time Jake Robinsons is an ex-military policeman, a captain with training at Sandhurst and a degree in psychology. He is a leader and a loner. He has resigned from the special unit of MI5 and now needs a job. Jan Lotuse, star of film, stage, dancing and singing, needs a bodyguard. Jake gets the job, but when she is killed under his watch he realises he has to kill the killers before they kill him – or a second contract kicks in...



Kill or be Killed Alan is serving the last few weeks of a life sentence for murder. As he looks back on his life he assesses his path with a clear head and shows how much 'time' he has wasted, the decisions he has made and what punishment he has received – not necessarily from the authorities, but more from a vantage of older age and regret.

Pushing hard to help others

Swasie Turner MBE

I served as a front line police officer out on the angry streets for a quarter of a century, my beloved career was brought to a premature halt by a gratuitous act of violence when I was deliberately run down by a high powered motor cycle.

My horrific injuries were such that I had to have major surgery on both legs but, sadly my right leg could not be saved and it had to be amputated high above the knee. Consequently, after spending a lifetime in the gym and indulging in martial arts, boxing and pumping iron, all such dedicated activity was brought to an abrupt halt. After this catastrophic incident I began my new life as a 'wheelchair pilot'! My conveyance being a 47lb, NHS issue wheelchair with small front castors. Shortly after this, to make matter even worse, when I needed her most, my beloved wife of forty years succumbed to the dreaded killer, cancer. When I finally managed to crawl out from beneath my massive weight of grief, lethargy and self-pity, I decided to become an ardent and obsessive fundraiser to assist research into the ruthless killer that had so mercilessly stolen my wife from me.

From the start, I was a 'one man band' and intended my fundraising endeavours would always be a 'first', whatever arduous or even 'eccentric' form my endeavours would take. My first 'long distance' push was a 15 mile 'off road' Wirral Coastal Walk (push). At first the authorities wouldn't hear of a wheelchair taking part but I eventually convinced them (and myself!) I would be able to do it, even though it was an extreme endeavour for me to undertake. It was certainly an arduous task for a wheelchair with front castors to complete unaided, however, somehow I did it. I had a cycle mileometer fitted to verify my success and as from then, my long distance charity pushes were born. To date, I have completed a massive 38,901 miles and have successfully topped the magic sum of £1m raised in cash, medical equipment and other much sought items for hospitals throughout the world. This is where the priceless and fantastic IPA was to manifest itself to help me bring about an unbelievable and successful fund raising scenario worldwide which to date has helped many poorer and needy countries.

My 'long distance' pushes went on to include the London Marathon, the Robin Hood marathon, the Great North Run and the marathon of marathons – the lengthy John O'Groats to Lands' End push which took 44 long days, each day consisting of between 25 and 32 miles none stop. I also somehow managed to complete a 108 push through the infamous Death Valley in Nevada accompanied by the former Las Vegas police chief (and IPA rep), the late Tom Savage. This endeavour raised \$6,000 for American cancer research.



My dedicated international fundraising forays began with the lengthy push from America's White House to the Pentagon and on to the tragic scenario at Ground Zero after the unforgivable, hostile destruction of the twin towers which resulted in the tragic loss of many thousands of



lives. From this moment on, the IPA came into its own with their unhesitating assistance to ensure the whole endeavour was a huge fundraising success. My push raised over \$38,000 to assist those affected by the world shattering tragedy. More international pushes followed to Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Australia the Falkland Islands and even far away St Helena and Ascension islands, the list goes on. The successful raising of much needed funds has been brought about by the able assistance of the untiring and benevolent IPA, without whose

kind and ongoing help I would have been at a loss. The Association lies quietly in the undergrowth but the generous, professional and kind assistance is always at hand to its many worldwide members should their expertise be needed. I will always be profusely grateful for such benevolence and skills to ensure nothing but total success has been the outcome of each and every one of my foreign, worldwide charity fundraising 'missions'. Due to their ongoing, kind assistance to me and those of a similar ilk, many hospitals, schools and very needy establishments are now in a far better state than they once were.

My recent foreign venues have included the outer circuit of the island of Malta, where I also gave illustrated addresses to generate funds for the island's charities and a push to the top of the infamous Rock of Gibraltar, again, under the watchful gaze and kind assistance in one way or another by the pedantic IPA to whom I remain eternally grateful. I have been a fiercely proud member of the IPA since the days of the old stamp bearing cloth membership card and I certainly advocate any members of 'the cloth', colleagues and former colleagues to join such a highly beneficial organization whose members' welfare is always paramount no matter wherever they may be anywhere in the world. God bless the IPA and long may the association reign supreme.

Rugby and Friendship in Chicago

Gareth Craig

I first heard of the IPA when I was working for Strathclyde Police but did not join until I transferred to PSNI, where I met Brian Kennedy, Region 2 Publicity Officer. At the same time the IRFU had announced an exhibition match against the rugby world champions, New Zealand at Soldier Field, Chicago.

After very little debate I decided that I was going. I contacted my friends who live in mid-town and arranged the tickets. I then asked Brian for his advice and filled in a travel form. At the time I needed somewhere cheap to stay, through his contacts he put me in touch with the lovely Mary O'Connor, a retired Police Officer in Chicago who said that she would put me in contact with one of the local officers of the Chicago Blues Rugby team and arrange a short ride along with one of the precinct Sergeants.

Upon boarding the plane I found myself behind a man mountain, he looked like a rugby player I thought. Lo and behold it was Trevor Brennan, a retired Irish international 'just popping over for the weekend' to enjoy the game. Trevor's reputation on the pitch preceded him. He was a complete gentleman and we enjoyed a beer and he shared a few war stories with me and the chances that the Irish had in Chicago.

On arrival at Chicago airport I was greeted by big white flags with a blue 'W'. I didn't understand and my bemused look was evident. The Chicago Cubs were playing in the World Series and needed one more victory to win for the first time in several decades. Could an upset be on the cards? What were the chances of a Cubs World Series Win? Even more so, what would be the chances of Ireland beating New Zealand?



The next day was a blur, visiting the city and catching up with my friends and jumping on the bandwagon of the Cubs victory. I visited Wrigley Field and went Downtown to 'The Bean'. Chicago is a vibrant multicultural city and the history is as eclectic as its character. I got in contact with Mary and she passed on details to me to seek out and find Jeff Burke. My friends and I were invited to a tail-gate party close to Soldier Field, the Chicago Bears NFL stadium. It is like a colosseum situated beside Lake Michigan.

On match day we set off after a Chicago breakfast of donuts and coffee. Eight of us wearing the green of Ireland and 3 Kiwis made our way into the



city. Chicago had gone from the Blue of the Cubs to Emerald Green in a matter of hours. I dropped Jeff a text and said I would look out for him! How wrong I was! Rugby is the fastest growing sport in America and as it is with Americans they don't really do things small. The south car park is about 3 miles long and about 2 miles from Soldier Field! Rugby teams from all over America had pitched up. After what seemed like an eternity I finally met Jeff about an hour before kick off. We exchanged some rugby gear and he stated that he and Mary had arranged for me to go on a ride along with Sgt Bob McDonald.

The following Tuesday I followed Mary's instructions and walked the 6 blocks at about 6am to the 18th Precinct for my ride-along. Arriving early I was given a hot mug of coffee and introduced to the new recruits and the old hands dressed in their blues before roll call. About 9am Sgt McDonald arrived and with 28 years service told me about his history and the shift dynamics. Then we hit the road in his patrol car and drove the streets where he gave me my own personal history lesson on the Chicago Police Dept.

Upon finishing the tour I met up with Mary who is the IPA President of Region 4 USA. It was a great opportunity and we discussed the sports and the policing history in Chicago and how it compares to Ireland and Scotland.

I am delighted I was able to avail of the IPA's contacts and plan on doing so for future trips to the US and to Europe. It would be impossible to create an experience such as this without our amazing network and my sincere thanks go out to all involved. I'd recommend using the travel form procedure from IPA HQ UK. It certainly helps with having contacts and may help reduce costs or provide you with a better itinerary.



Accommodation Overseas

FRANCE

AVEYRON: Ideal place to get away from it all in peaceful south west France, our 170 year old stone cottage sleeps 4, with private quiet garden. We are both retired UK cops, many IPA friends, have lived here for 20 years fluent in French. Tel: 0033 68553 0127. <https://tandempics.wixsite.com/stone-cottage>



FRENCH RIVIERA: Air conditioned Mobile home with veranda, sleeps 4 people. On a private site with pools and a restaurant/bar. Beaches nearby. Close to Monaco, St. Tropez. Sorry, no pets allowed. Tel: 07990 785836 or email stevecoop15@hotmail.com



DORDOGNE: Le Patio B&B is a beautifully restored village house with 2 en-suite bedrooms, in the centre of La Tour Blanche in the Dordogne region of France. Website: <http://lepatiodordogne.com> Email: lepatioltb@gmail.com Tel: 0033 (0)553 907 135. 10% discount for IPA members. Owners - Retired officers Paul Brown and Nicola Jones.

SOUTH WEST FRANCE: Beautiful house with pool. 6 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Walking distance of 13th Century Chateau village of Lauzun. Sleeps 10-14. Available June-September. SPECIAL RATES FOR IPA MEMBERS. Visit our website: www.petitmanoirlauzun.iowners.net Tel: 0033 553 844817



SOUTH WEST FRANCE: Newly converted Coach House/Gite with pool, sleeps 4. Within walking distance of 13th Century Chateau Village of Lauzun. SPECIAL RATES FOR IPA MEMBERS. Visit www.cheznous.com ref. 255533. Tel: 0033 553 844817 mobile 07904 457819. Email: jeanmarywhite@hotmail.com

IRELAND

CYCLING & BOATING HOLIDAYS, IRELAND:

Lough Ree Active Holidays. Adventure and activity holidays in the heart of Ireland. Accommodation options: 6 berth cruiser or country cottage. A week to remember for all the family. Generous discounts for IPA members. Visit: www.loughreeactiveholidays.com



USA

CENTRAL FLORIDA: Elegant and spacious 4 bedroomed home, sleeps 8 persons comfortably, in gated community. Centrally located, 20 minutes from Disneyland, screened pool, multi-gym facilities available. Fast wi-fi, streaming TV. From £500/week. www.davenport-house.us.com Telephone Karen & Tim Young on 01905 354786 or email tim.young@zen.co.uk



DISNEYWORLD FLORIDA: 4 bedroom (2 ensuite), 3 bathroom villa with 2 lounge areas in quiet, gated community. 30ft lagoon shaped west-facing pool and sundeck, surrounded by privacy hedge and overlooking open area. Games room, wifi internet, six cable TVs etc. From £525 a week www.woodvillevilla.com Email: colinrr@yahoo.co.uk Tel.01531 651723



DISNEYWORLD FLORIDA: Luxury spacious 4 bed, 2 bath (+en suite) beautiful villa, large private south facing pool. Not overlooked. 6 miles Disneyworld. Near shops/ restaurants / tennis / golf. Fully equipped + cot / high chair / 2 strollers. HDTVs DVD, free telephone / WiFi. Accommodates 10. From £450 p/w.



Contact Frank/Maureen 0151 7260943, frnk.thompson@gmail.com www.thompsonsfioridavilla.com for virtual tour and more.

GULF COAST - CAPE CORAL - FLORIDA:

Waterfront executive 3 bed/2 bath villa. Sleeps 6. Heated screened pool. Private boat dock with access to Gulf of Mexico. Fully equipped, free Wi-Fi. Convenient for beaches, shops, restaurants and golf. www.secret-places.com/ for details. 15% discount for IPA members when booked through owners at www.buttonwood-bay.com



NORTHERN CYPRUS

BAHCELI - NEAR KYRENIA

Fully equipped 3 bedroom apartment. 2 bathrooms, sleeps 6. air con. communal pools. private roof terrace and balcony. tv/dvd. complimentary welcome pack. car hire and airport transfer from Larnaca can be arranged. Contact - John Bryce, ex cop: 07486 141681. Visit: www.ownersdirect.co.uk/accommodation (ref - p1921317)



Accommodation United Kingdom

CORNWALL - ST IVES: Detached 3 bedroom Bungalow at 'Riviere Towans' Hayle. 100 yards from a long sandy beach. Large lounge TV/DVD with Sky, Patio, BBQ, unlimited broadband, sleeps 5. From £300 weekly. Contact: Christine or Fred on 07840 761869 www.cahayabintang.co.uk

NORTH CORNWALL - POLZEATH BEACH HOLIDAY PARK: Privately owned 6 berth caravan with shower, toilet, kitchen and lounge with TV/DVD. Walking distance to golden sandy beach, shops and restaurants. No smoking/pets. From £220 p/w. For further details contact Sue 01208 813111 sue.wilce@gmail.com or Marilyn 01752 211903 mandwickard@blueyonder.co.uk

Miscellaneous

HOUSE FOR SALE: IPA member selling a 5 bed period detached granite home with established walled gardens with open views towards the River Dee and countryside beyond. Located at Ballater within heart of Royal Deeside o/o £380,000. Full details at <http://www.raeburns.co.uk/property-assets/PDFFiles/13328.pdf> or Email noel.callaghan1@btinternet.com



WHITE DELTA RESORT PLUS - 2014:

6 BERTH STATIC CARAVAN FOR SALE:

1 owner. 28ft long, 12ft wide. Sleeps up to 6 people. 1 double room, 1 twin room plus additional metal action double sofa bed in lounge. GCH throughout, double glazing, fridge-freezer, electric fire in lounge. Currently sited at Parkdean - Looe Bay, Cornwall. 10 years remaining licence on site pitch. Excellent interior, body and overall condition. Contact: Jess Owen at jess.owen@suremail.im or Parkdean direct to arrange a viewing. www.parkdeanholidays.co.uk/cornwall-holidays/looe-bay-holiday-park.htm. Offers in the region of £19,995



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For advertising queries or to make a booking, please contact Michele Rai at IPA HQ. michele.rai@ipa-uk.org Tel 00 44 115 981 3638.

Classified section costs £60 (inc VAT) for up to 50 words which will appear in four editions of the quarterly magazine and on the public area of the website. To include a photo add £20 extra.

All adverts must be paid for in advance.

Unless shown otherwise, contact the Region or Branch Secretary for more details.

AGM dates are included, Region and Branch meetings are not.

Certain events for dates further in the future which require pre-booking are included.

1 Region - STRATHCLYDE (AYRSHERE) - Social event

Fri 21 April 2017 - Prestwick. Scotland

5 Region - LEICESTERSHIRE - Branch meeting

Wed 26 April 2017 - Leicester -

7 Region - THAMES VALLEY - Brewery Tour & Supper

Tue 02 May 2017 - ABINGDON

5 Region - LEICESTERSHIRE - Committee meeting

Wed 03 May 2017 - Leicester

Douglas, Isle of Man - Motorcycle Group AGM

Mon 08 May to Wed 10 May 2017

3 Region - BLACKPOOL & NORTH LANCASHIRE -

Bi Monthly Meeting

Wed 10 May 2017 -

4 Region - SOUTH WALES - Trip to Poland 2017

Fri 12 May 2017 - Krakow, Poland

7 Region - AVON & SOMERSET - Meal

Sun 21 May 2017

7 Region - THAMES VALLEY - Neasden Temple Visit

Fri 26 May 2017 - LONDON

9 Region - BTP - Ceremony of the Keys

Tue 30 May 2017 - London

NORTHUMBERLAND - NEC-NATIONAL - Section UK

National Golf Tournament

Wed 31 May 2017 - NEWCASTLE

3 Region - NCM - Meeting

Fri 02 June 2017 - Durham

5 Region - LEICESTERSHIRE - Branch meeting

Wed 07 June 2017 - Leicester

NEC - USA - IYO Seminar

Sun 11 Jun 2017

International - Hong Kong - Friendship week

Sun 05 Nov 2017

5 Region - LEICESTERSHIRE - Christmas Party

Wed 06 Dec 2017



Pat Millar, Mike Thomson, Omar Fitzell, Tim Cooke