



**INTERNATIONAL  
POLICE ASSOCIATION**  
INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

# IPA Newsletter

**October 2022**

## **Durmitor National Park**



**A stunning image of Durmitor National Park – Montenegro**  
Location of IPA Montenegro's upcoming event

## Contents

**Page 3** - Introduction from Stephen Crockard – Head of Administration

**Page 4** - Young Police Officer Seminar (YPOS) 2022 Sri Lanka – UK Account

**Page 8** - Safety and Prevention Fair – IPA Croatia

**Page 10** - Return of the wallet – IPA Ireland

**Page 11** - Obituary Valma Frances Doherty – IPA Australia

**Page 12** - EU Project about Domestic Violence – IPA Lithuania

**Page 14** - IPA Estonian section Summer Days aka the Big Sportsfest

**Page 16** - National Information Organisation Association (NIOA) Arthur Troop Scholarship

**Page 18** - Hosting a Spanish IPA Colleague

**Page 19** - Last Word by Hana Bower - Admin & Digital Media Assistant

## Word of Introduction

Dear readers of the IPA Newsletter,

I am delighted that we are in a position to send out this edition, only shortly delayed from the start of the month.

Our new staff member Hana has risen to the occasion and produced this very fine newsletter from articles supplied to her from the sections. Hana is very quickly getting to grips with the administration and whilst, I am able to offer guidance to her at present, I have no doubt that very soon it is I who shall be seeking guidance from her. You can meet Hana at the Last Word.

With the completion of the World Congress, there will be a number of important updates to bring to you in the next newsletter, including revised IPA logos, still to be received from the German designers.

For now, please settle back and enjoy this excellent production.

***Stephen Crockard***  
***Head of Administration***



## Young Police Officer Seminar 2022

At the beginning of September, myself and Sam White (also from the BTP Branch) headed to Sri Lanka for the 6<sup>th</sup> IPA Young Police Officer's Seminar hosted by the Sri Lankan Section in Colombo. Originally scheduled for May 2020, it was a tad delayed due to Covid. The course was focused around Counter Terrorism, something very prominent in Sri Lanka's history.

### Day 0

Arrived in Colombo, I had a chance to briefly meet Sam in Doha airport during our super short layover, it was 4.5 hours ahead of the UK in Colombo and I was a tad dazed on arrival. We were met at the gate by IPA Sri Lanka then whisked through security and baggage claim. Given all the news about civil commotion over the past few months I was a bit apprehensive about going, but in the end I needn't have worried. It was clean, inviting and the people were friendly. There were some queues to petrol stations, and it was obvious that it isn't a rich country, however there were no signs of disorder or upheaval.



After arrival at the Hotel we had a chance to relax for a few minutes, then I went to a crab restaurant with some of the other attendees.

We had officers from the UK, Canada, France, Netherlands, Estonia, Kenya, Denmark, Germany, South Africa, Cyprus, Poland, Israel, and Spain. After lunch we went to see the IPA HQ in the main Police Headquarters. The IPA over there is a big deal, they had a two-story building as a dedicated reception and meeting location.

We had a chance to see the rehearsals for the Police Day Parade (more on that in day 2).

That evening we were hosted for dinner at the Senior Police Officer's Mess, a grand colonial mansion from the days of British Ceylon. We had the Police Band for music and a series of traditional dances and displays. The Guest of Honour was the Minister for Security (the equivalent to our Home Secretary), who invited us all to the Police Day Parade.



### Day 1

We were being hosted throughout the week by the Special Task Force (STF), a paramilitary wing of the Sri Lanka National Police, who were formed during their Civil War to deal with the threat of Tamil terrorists. Since the war ended in 2009 they had refocused as a specialist operations department dealing with everything from CT to executive protection. One of the perks of being hosted by the STF was that we were

escorted in a heavily armed police motorcade everywhere we went, I'm not sure who enjoyed it more – us or the civilian coach driver.

Our opening ceremony was a traditional welcome dance from officers in national costume in their training centre. All the delegates were wearing our full ceremonial uniform, I can confidently say that a winter weight police tunic is not suited to the jungle environment of 30°C & 100% humidity. Our lectures focused around the history of the STF and the evolution of the terrorism threat within Sri Lanka. Very interesting stuff, I didn't realise just how extensive the war had been and the type of violence they saw.

At lunch we headed back to Colombo to the 156<sup>th</sup> Police Day Parade. This is the anniversary of the establishment of the Sri Lankan Police (then Ceylon Police), with a large parade of officers, demonstrations from specialist units and a closing ceremony detailing (I think) some legends of Sri Lanka's history. Everyone of importance in the Police was there, alongside the President, Prime Minister, and other dignitaries. The whole thing was pomp and circumstance of the highest order, I came away with a big smile.

At the end of it we had a photo with the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and the Inspector General (their Chief) of Police. Can't say you get that type of opportunity too often in the UK...

After that it was dinner at the hotel and some beers.



## Day 2

We started the day taking part in the STF Remembrance Ceremony, where they remember the 400+ STF officers who lost their lives during the civil war. It was a big honour to take part and you can see the threads of colonial past weaved into modern Sri Lankan traditions.

Following that we moved onto more lectures. Some of the most recent attacks have been from homegrown Islamic terrorists, as opposed to Tamil separatists. Some real parallels to what we have seen within the UK and we were privileged to have high level speakers giving us very in-depth analysis and discussion about terrorism. Of particular interest was the international funding plus return of people who had fought abroad in Syria & Iraq and the threat they posed.

### Day 3

It was back to the STF training facility for some demonstrations of their specialist capabilities. There was abseiling with some very dynamic techniques (that's a thanks but no thanks from me), motorcycles and VIP protection – including extraction under fire and driving. We had a chance to watch a demonstration of a hostage rescue by their SWAT team in their original SAS built kill house. They have a very different ethos to the UK; one would guess borne by their history fighting a well-armed and trained adversary. It was hard, fast, and aggressive - they were clearly demonstrating a no-nonsense approach to fighting and enemy casualties.



We then had a chance to do some live firing with their issue Glocks and MP5's. Considering the last time I live fired was in 2009, I managed to get a reasonable number of shots on targets. Great fun though, I have no doubt some of our firearms instructors would be having palpitations at the slightly more 'relaxed' approach to range safety.

After lunch we had a last lecture on the civil war, before pictures in ceremonial uniforms and certificates. I managed to get a few excellent trades from STF officers, including the green beret of the sub-inspector in charge of specialist training. After that back to the hotel for dinner and more drinks.

### Day 4



This was our 'off' day and a chance to experience the culture of Sri Lanka. It was a drive to an elephant sanctuary in the mountains, where orphaned, sick, and otherwise maligned elephants were looked after. They recently had a pair of twins born (the first time in captivity), who were behaving just like you'd expect a pair of 100kg toddlers to act - elephant themed chaos. There was the opportunity to feed some of the elephants, one with a leg problem stood around with her forelegs crossed. If you've never met a nonchalant elephant it is a peculiar sight. The sanctuary obviously does good work but the impact from loss of tourism income was painfully obvious, what should have been a heaving location was nearly empty.

Following that we headed up to Kandy to see the Buddhist Temple of the Tooth, which contained the holy relic of a Tooth of the Buddha. It was a beautiful shrine and driving through the mountainous jungle areas surrounding I really came to appreciate the beauty of Sri Lanka.

Then it rained. A lot. Even for a Brit.

Dinner in the evening was hosted by the STF in a waterside hotel in downtown Colombo, we had the police band back and their local whisky made from coconuts (it's lethal stuff, be warned). Colombo really was beautiful at night.

## **Day 5**

Everyone began their journeys home; Sam & I had an afternoon flight so were able to get a lie in and some lunch at our hotel. We said goodbye to what were now good friends and began – thanks to Qatar Air being useless - a long and painful journey home.

The course, accommodation and food were covered by the Sri Lankan section and I've managed to get most of the cost of my flights back thanks to bursaries from the IPA. Overall, I was so impressed with the course, the hosting from the Sri Lanka Section and the country at large. It was beautiful, clean, friendly, and I want to go back. Now I understand why Arthur C. Clarke spent his life there.

This is the last YPOS I'll be eligible for, for everyone else I can't say how much you should apply to go on one! 2023 is being hosted by New Zealand, then coming back to Europe after that.

I can't recommend enough getting involved with these types of events offered by the IPA. I never would have experienced anything like that without my membership.

## ***Chris Duncombe of Section UK***



## Safety and Prevention Fair

On the 23rd September 2022 a Safety and Prevention Fair was organised by the Međimurje Police Administration. This was arranged in co-operation with its partners including the Prevention Councils of Čakovec, Međimurje County and the Police Directorate Prevention Service.



The Fair is becoming a popular tradition, with this now being the 7th fair of its kind to be held by the Administration. The fair runs from 10am to 4pm and aims to bring together all social sectors associated with safety and prevention, as well as raising awareness of this work with civilians and members of the public.

Held on the grounds of the Sports and recreation centre in Mladost, Čakovec, many visitors had the opportunity to browse over 50 stands offering different activities and information. We were invited to hold an IPA stand where we were able to showcase a wide variety of brochures and colouring books published by the IPA Section Croatia. Many visitors, mostly children, showed great interest and many took books and brochures home with them.



Honorary member of the IPA, Alojz Šestan kindly donated 10 ballistic helmets to members of the intervention police and congratulated them on their upcoming Police Day.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members who worked tirelessly on creating and participating in this event. Special thanks go to Sanja Pfeifer, Danijel Laptoš and Dario Srnc and to Police Administration Međimurje for our invitation.



***President of IPA Section Croatia's Regional club Darko Dragičević***

## Return of the Wallet – The Power of the IPA

I am often asked what can IPA do for me? My answer usually is what do you want IPA to do for you? I know, it is an Irish thing to answer a question with a question.

There are many things that the IPA can do for members but sometimes there are things that the IPA can help with, without you even knowing.

I would like to share this heart-warming story of an account of how an IPA member carrying his membership card whilst travelling abroad helped re-unite him with his wallet.

“I was sitting at home one afternoon in May this year and received a WhatsApp message from a foreign number unknown to me. I, like nearly everyone nowadays was initially suspicious. Although it is not unusual for me to receive messages from abroad as Vice President of IPA Ireland, these usually come via email or Messenger.

I opened the message anyway, it was in Italian, but I was able to recognise the word “Polizia” and went straight to Google translate.

The message was from Assistente Capo Giorgio Di Fiore who works in San Giovanni police station in Rome. He had in his possession a wallet belonging to a named Irish citizen but no contact details. He found an **IPA Card** with the name of this member in his wallet and this led to him googling and searching IPA Ireland on Facebook and retrieving my details to see if I could aid in contacting this member.

Still unsure, I asked our IPA Office to check if this man was on our database. I was assured he was and was provided with his contact details. I again tried to contact the member but without success.

The office had also told me that this member was stationed in Cork in the south of the country. I telephoned Anglesea Street Garda Station and was informed by the Garda that this member was familiar to her and had recently retired. She put me through to the unit he worked with to see if they could be of assistance. Sergeant Davis in the office did have further contact details for him but like me was still unable to contact the member. Helpfully, the Sergeant also knew the members brother and he advised he would make contact as he may have a way to contact his brother abroad. Within minutes the message was passed to the member John Lehane that his wallet had been found and was in the police station in Rome!

Just over an hour after the initial phone call from Giorgio, our member had been notified and had arranged to collect his wallet from the police station.

All praise to Assistente Capo Giorgio Di Fiore who was anxious to have the wallet returned to its owner while he was on holiday in Rome. His quick thinking and actions with his online research, assistance of IPA in Ireland and the Gardaí in Cork had the wallet back in the hands of the owner in no time at all.

I subsequently received a call from John Lehane to thank me for my assistance. He told me it was a worry and inconvenience, and he was greatly relieved that it was found and that all of the contents remained.

So, if you wonder what the IPA can do for you, sometimes just carrying that little card with you can assist you without even asking.

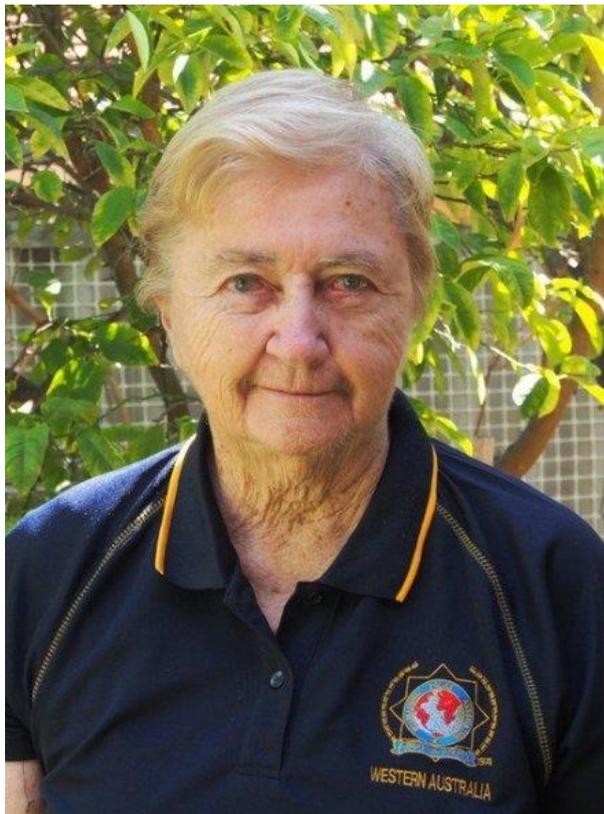
After successfully reuniting John with his wallet, I got chatting to Giorgio Di Fiore. He was not aware of the International Police Association before this event, so I sent him the contact details of IPA Italia and we may just have added to our membership in Italy too.

**Declan O'Byrne**  
**Vice President**  
**IPA Ireland**

## Obituary - Valma (Val) Frances Doherty

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Honorary Life Member - Valma (Val) Frances Doherty, at the age of 88. Val passed away at home on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022; our thoughts and sympathies go out to her family and friends. Val gave a large part of her life and policing career to the International Police Association, both nationally and internationally. Val was a founding member of the WA region in 1969; she was its inaugural secretary and held that position until 2016. Val served as National President from 1981 to 1987. She was also Secretary General for 12 years. Val also contributed to the Police Downunder magazine as sub-editor for WA for 8 years.

She will be greatly missed.



**Servo per Amikeco**  
**J Brewer**  
**International Police Association – Australian Section**

## IPA Lithuanian - EU project about Domestic Violence

On 4 July 2022 a final discussion in the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania was held regarding the 2019-2022 project "Violence in the intimate environment: prevention, protection, assistance and cooperation."

This project was financed by the structural funds of the European Union and implemented by the International Police Association (IPA) Lithuanian Section together with other non-governmental organisations. These included Women's Information Center, Kaunas County Women's Crisis Center, Women's Activity Innovation Center, Kretinga Women's information and training center, Klaipėda Social and Psychological Assistance Center and "Lithuanian Women's Lobby Organisation.



Representatives of the project including implementers, Lithuanian Parliament and Government and the Minister of Social Security and Labor participated in the discussion.

The aim of the project was to raise public awareness of domestic violence, recognise the forms of domestic violence, improve the competence of employees working in this field, and increase the availability and quality of assistance to victims of domestic violence.

Experts in this field, IPA Lithuanian Section members; Laura Zaleskienė, chairperson of the Professional Commission (PC), and Vilius Velička, a member of PC held training discussions for over 1,300 specialists working in the field of domestic violence from all 60 Lithuanian municipalities. Conversations took place regarding experiences of domestic violence and the issues and challenges that can be faced. Discussions were also held regarding ensuring the protection of individuals, providing assistance, and seeking opportunities for prevention and improvement for the future.

During the training IPA members Laura Zaleskienė and Vilius Velička, who also work in the Lithuanian Police Force, presented the competences of police officers and the limits of their activities. From receiving the emergency call, first contact with the victim and special protection measures used during the pre-trial investigation.

Training was conducted in the form of a discussion to encourage journalists, social media representatives and communication specialists to engage in the challenges of communication about domestic violence and possible ways to resolve them.





After the implementation of the project, the recommendations on the prevention, protection, assistance for victims of domestic violence and improvement of inter-institutional cooperation were prepared for various institutions in Lithuania.

The proposal to IPA Lithuanian Section to become project partners and implement this 3-year project has made a significant contribution to reducing the problem of domestic violence at a national level. It has also provided invaluable experience and acquaintances for IPA members.

Special thanks to our IPA Lithuanian Office administrator, Eglė Žekaitė, who made great efforts to ensure that the project was implemented smoothly.

Servo per Amikeco!

***Chairperson of Professional Commission***

***International Police Association Lithuanian Section***



## IPA Estonian section Summer Days aka the Big Sportsfest

In mid-July 2022, IPA Estonia held the Big Sportsfest in Viljandi. 152 sporting friends participated in the event and were welcomed from various countries including Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, Germany, Poland, Ukraine and many more.



On the Friday evening, a number of fun activities were planned for our participants. These included lottery on the Sun stage where winnings were split between two players, followed by an evening of laughter and comedy. Comedians took to the stage seeking to entertain their audience with jokes and amusing stories and were judged by a jury of “three blondes.” Although the competition was neck-and-neck, the winner was announced from Lithuania. The event was enjoyed by all, and even the judges were seen telling few jokes outside of the competition. The evening entertainment was provided by DJ SÄDE and provided the guests with an evening of dancing and enjoyment until the early hours of the morning.

The Summer Day's opening ceremony took place on Saturday morning. One of IPA Estonian founding members, Maret Tamra had the honour of raising the flag. After the opening ceremony, it was time to gather in our teams and get on with the sports. The Estonian summer presented us with all weather conditions: sunshine, warm summer rain and wind!

The sporting event included relay races, darts, disc-golf, tic-tac-toe and untraditional football, and everyone was encouraged to take part in a competition of who can make the ball fly the fastest! This was all accompanied with refreshments provided by aunt Tiina in her ice-cream truck. The ice-cream was a huge hit and saw queues of people waiting for a delicious treat.





The evening continued on the Sun stage with an awards ceremony for the winners, followed by an auction of the organisers shirts and dancing to the band “Tuulest Viidud”. Playbacks of the day’s events were played on screen and brought laughter to the audience. Once the band had finished their set, the party animals continued to be entertained once again by DJ SÄDE dancing into the early hours of Sunday.

Key organisers of the 2023 Summer Days Event, Sigrít Hang and Toivo Grünberg were invited to close the ceremony by lowering the flag on Sunday morning.

2023 Summer Days with Friendship Week will be IPA Estonian sections 30th anniversary and will take place 10 July 2023 – 16 July 2023. We look forward surprising and entertaining you once again and look forward to welcoming you next year.

The organisation team would like to thank all of our guests for participating in our activities, creating costumes and bringing a sporty mindset and vibe to the event all with a sparkle in their eyes!

Until we meet again!

**SERVO PER AMIKECO**

***IPA Estonian section Summer Days Organization team***



# National Information Organisation Association (NIOA) By Arthur Troop Scholarship

I recently attended the National Information Organisation Association (NIOA) conference in Florida which annually brings together communicators from the police and similar professions in the USA.



I would not have had the opportunity to experience this conference without the support of IPA and the organisers of the conference who enabled an attendance of a police communicator from outside of the United States, probably for the first time in the history of this event. My excitement to attend was even greater after having to wait many years and continuously changing travelling plans due to the epidemic.

Interestingly, everyday challenges that we face do not differ that much despite being thousands of kilometres apart. The conference was a great opportunity to gain an insight into situations that we have not yet encountered ourselves. Apart from an exceptional welcome and incredible kindness at all times, I brought home a great gift: The conference was extraordinary because of the speakers, who selflessly and openly talked about their experiences from their daily work, describing critical situations so that we could all learn as much as possible from their bitter experiences. At the end of the day, no job can prepare you for everything, while at the same time each of us can experience moments which we would rather forget after the days and weeks of demanding schedules, communication and covering tragic scenes.

I was particularly fascinated by:

- The special attention that colleagues devote to the families of the victims (for example, viewing of the accident scene; employees who represent them, or an advocate-spokesperson between a victim's family and media)
- The care for ensuring recent multimedia material during open operative activities
- Personal notes that are added to the messages whenever appropriate. (For example "that was not the easiest decision I had to make")
- Public Information Officers (PIO) who offer help when a colleague is busy with bigger cases (in the case of a larger incident the communicators help families of the victims – one representative per family)
- Honesty and openness about the mistakes communicated with colleagues to ensure that the mistake is not repeated



I would like to thank IPA once again for this opportunity and the Arthur Troop Scholarship which enabled me this incredible experience. I advise anyone who is still considering applying for the scholarship to not hesitate and look for a conference that will broaden your horizons as this has mine.

**Anita Kovačič Čelofiga from IPA Slovenia**



## Hosting a Spanish IPA Colleague



Municipal police officer Alberto Hereros works in Catalonia in the environment and dog unit. He travelled with his mother, father and sister to London to help set his sister up at the University of Surrey. She will be studying Criminology and hopes to be a Spanish Judge in the future.

Upon arrival, Alber was greeted by Lorna – IPA Surrey and serving police staff member who offered to take Alber and his family on a tour of Surrey Police HQ, the museum and dog kennels.

They also had a walking tour of Guildford town centre where they met the town Mayor and Ch/supt. Tom Budd, Head of Surrey's West Division.

Having exchanged gifts and had a typical English 'fry up' for lunch, Alber and his family enjoyed seeing the riverside and traditional buildings & pubs in Guildford.



The next day the family explored central London to see the sights and pay their respects at Buckingham Palace. A successful first trip to the UK.

Lorna found the hosting experience very interesting and worthwhile. If you are interested in hosting and meeting international members, please let your region committee know.

***Lorna Corbin, 11 Region, Surrey Branch***

## Last Word

Hello!

I'm Hana Bower and have recently joined the International Administration Centre (IAC) following Daniel and Elke's departure. It's just myself and Stephen in the IAC at present. I'm based in the office at Arthur Troop House, Nottingham and Stephen in Belfast, Northern Ireland. We're hoping to expand our team with another administrator following the 65<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Lloret de Mar. Unfortunately, timing didn't allow me to be present at the congress, but I'm thrilled it was a success and hope I can meet some of you in person in the near future.

I hope you have enjoyed this unexpected October issue of the newsletter. We didn't anticipate we would have the capacity to get this to you, however there was some great content I couldn't afford not to share with you. Sorry it's a little later than usual.



Here's a photo of me at my desk at Arthur Troop House in Nottingham. Hopefully this will help you put a face to my name!

I'm thoroughly enjoying learning about the IPA and can't believe how friendly everyone has been so far. It's amazing to see the enrichment the IPA brings to people's life's and how the events and occasions bring us all together. What an amazing organisation this is and completely lives up to its moto:

**“Servo per Amikeco”**

I look forward to meeting and working with more of you over the coming months.

Kind Regards,

**Hana** 😊

***Admin & Digital Media Assistant***

