IPA

New Zealand Section

Summer Edition 2015



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Editor's Report

Hi everyone

Firstly, a bit of an explanation as we come to you this time around in a somewhat different format.

As you will all be aware 2016 is a big year for us with the celebration of 50 years of IPA New Zealand and the hosting of the 61st World Congress in October. In order that we make the most of the opportunities presented with visitors from all over the world coming to our shores it was agreed that with regard to the magazine this time around we would aim to save a bit of money and do a digital magazine.

This will not meet with approval from all I'm sure and it does have its limitations, but the good news is the hard copy will be back next year with the intention of producing a 50 year anniversary magazine.

It's an often repeated mantra, but this is 'your magazine' and its success relies solely on the input and contributions from members. So I am officially putting the call out for ideas, contributions and suggestions on what you would like to see in your 50 year anniversary magazine.

This is an opportunity to create a lasting record of the IPA NZ history thus far; the hard work our members have put in and the many opportunities IPA NZ has afforded members over the last 50 years, as well as a chance to showcase our wonderful country Aotearoa New Zealand to our visitors.

Of course publications such as the one proposed do cost money so we will be looking for any sponsorship or advertising that will help. If you know of any businesses that may be interested let me know and we can provide a proposal and costs for them.

So, while this magazine is a digital version only, I think you will nonetheless enjoy the selection of material we have for you.

If ever you felt the need to go and 'give back' to the world, Carole Tipler's tale of her Nepalese adventures is sure to inspire you. I know for me, having spent some time in the mountains in that part of the world a few years back, I am keen to put an experience like Carole's on my bucket list too!

If any of our serving members needed reminding of the benefits of IPA membership make sure you share Paul Fremaux's article on his Arthur Troop Scholarship participation at Gimborn with them. Again, my feet are getting rather itchy reading these stories of faraway lands and the people and sights one encounters when out in the big wide world.

Of course, we have our turn to leave a lasting impression on visitors to our shores next October so be sure to let Ross Pinkham or Billy Lawrence know if you can help. The opportunity to engage and connect with fellow IPA members from around the world will be one you don't want to miss.

If you need a taster of the type of memories you can make Viv Pinkham shares memories of 2015 World Congress Friendship week in Cyprus earlier this year.

And lastly, by the time you read this it will either be very close to or just after the Christmas and New Year period. While for most of us it's a lovely happy time of the year in so many ways, it can also remind some of us of those that are no longer with us.

IPA New Zealand has lost a few members this year and I doubt there will be many amongst the membership who won't know one or more of those who are no longer with us.

There may well be some of you also who have lost family members or close ones and this will be your first Christmas without a loved one. My thoughts are with you all.

So to everyone I wish you the warmest wishes for a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to connecting again with you in 2016.

Servo per Amikeco
Kathy



Footnote: This digital magazine would not have been produced with the excellent work by our Webmaster Kerry Morrell. Thank you so much Kerry – you go above and beyond! Editor

President's Report



October this year saw Ross, Billy and I make our way to Cyprus for the International World Congress IPA.

The reason three of us attended was to get a better insight into the running and management of a World Congress to assist us with these details next year when we play host to the 61st International Police Association World Congress and to rally up support from Delegates and Observers.

The planning and organisation started 3 years ago on the plane home from the Israel Conference where Coleen and I had a discussion and agreed hosting a World Congress would definitely be possible. After running the idea past our National Meeting we decided to place a bid to host the 2016 Conference in New Zealand to align with our 50th Celebration of affiliation to IPA.

The work started with numerous meetings and discussions about whether we could or couldn't successfully host another World Congress in New Zealand.

After talking to several agencies and getting support from Auckland Tourism, Auckland City Council, Tourism New Zealand and the Police we were able to put together a package that was taken to Copenhagen where we argued that New Zealand should be considered.

Ross, Coleen and I took the presentation to Copenhagen and after the presentation we were put to the vote against two rivals. New Zealand took out the vote with a huge majority.

Once home the work continued and Ross took over the leadership of the organising committee with Billy being his mainstay in Auckland. Jim Wilson and Keith Parson were bought on board the organising committee along with Coleen and me.

The final presentation was given in Cyprus where Ross, Billy and I were again centre stage. We should add here that the New Zealand IPA flag adorned the lectern and the Auckland Tourism signage remained on the stage for the entire day during presentations and awards. The presentation was very successful and the handouts transported to Cyprus by Air New Zealand was greatly appreciated.

I need also to thank Viv Pinkham for all her work and her sales pitch in Cyprus. Without the support from the Kiwi Team in Cyprus the Conference would not have gained much interest, however, there is now huge interest and we are going to need to cap the Friendship week.

The Conference was not all about New Zealand and it was election year for the International Executive. There have been a number of changes which I will explain but I will tell you Pierre-Martin Moulin was re- elected as International President unopposed and George Katsaroupolus was elected as Secretary General. The three Vice President positions were disestablished and Heads of Commissions were elected. Gal Sharon, Israel, May-Britt Renaldo, Sweden and Aleksei Gankin, Russia were elected Heads of Commissions with Gal Sharon also elected as Vice President.

Stephen Crockard was elected as Head of Administration with Romain and Wolfgang elected unopposed to run the Treasury. The term of Office was also extended to 4 years. The Commission members are no longer appointed to Commissions for three years and those who have submitted an application to be considered will be called upon as required to do specific tasks. This should save Treasury a lot of money.

Cyprus is a beautiful place rich in culture and history and the Cyprian Section did an outstanding job of running the Conference, an example that has been taken on board by our organising committee.

Billy and I chose to fly through London and with a delay in one of my flights I arrived in Cyprus less my luggage. The official Opening is a very formal affair with medal and uniforms everywhere. Ross and Billy looked very dapper while I rocked up in jeans and a shirt I had worn for a couple of days. Luckily I had a dress jacket with me and thankfully my suitcase turned up a couple of hours after the Opening ceremony.

The Conference was held in the St Raphael Hotel which was outstanding with the pool and beach well used.

New Zealand was again awarded a Gold Merit for our amazing website and all thanks go to Kerry Morrell and Rainbow Digital.

I was awarded a Bronze Medal for work on the International Cultural Commission, which was a great honour.

The Gala dinner was held on the Saturday night before we departed. This was also the night coincidentally that the All Blacks played France, a game we were all nervous about. I had an early departure at 2.30am, so headed off to bed early only to find the Kiwi Contingent were missing in action when the Official Flag was handed over to the next hosting country. They had found a television in a local bar across the road. Thankfully our Australian friends

were gracious enough to accept the flag on our behalf, so along with photographic evidence the banter began.

The trip home was a bit rushed as well, and after leaving Billy to holiday with family, Ross, Viv and I headed to Perth to attend the Australian AGM and National Council Meeting. We met up with Paul Housley who was attending the Serving Police Officer's day.

Attending the Australian Meeting is great for building friendships and closer ties with our neighbours. Apart from the circulation of photos of the absent NZ Team in Cyprus, the weekend was a huge success and it was good to network with the Australians and build on the friendships we have. This is certainly in the spirit of friendship and the whole understanding of IPA. New Zealand and Australia have reciprocated attending each other's meeting for the last few years and this is very beneficial to both Councils.

All the Cyprus information is now available on our website, so please log on and have a look www.ipa.org.nz

The New Zealand Section AGM will be held in Auckland on 1st and 2nd April. This is also a celebration of our 50th anniversary. Region 1 are organising this event and my thanks go to them for this.

Details will also be on the website. A semi- formal dinner is being arranged at the Silverdale RSA.

The dates for the World Congress are Wednesday 5th October 2016 to Saturday 8th October 2016. The opening ceremony will likely be in the Auckland Town Hall at 10.00am. All are welcome to attend this and meet and greet other visiting IPA members.

This is a formal function. The Gala dinner will be on Saturday night 8th October. There will be limited places available for this so please contact Ross and book your place. Details for Friendship week are also on the website and this is also open to New Zealand members. This will be at your own expense and registrations are available on-line. Again get in quick if you want to experience the Friendship Week as there are limited spaces available and the interest shown overseas indicates that it will fill up fast.

Thanks must go for all the hard work by Ross and his crew and special thanks to Viv Pinkham for all her help in Cyprus and Australia.

Thanks also go to the National Executive and all your support

Servo per Amikeco

Paul Visser
National President

Secretary General's Report



Hi there everyone

Well one can only look back and say once again, "where has the year gone?" The old saying is that the older you get the faster the year goes. I think I am now beginning to understand why it is said, perhaps that's because I too am getting older, but I'm ok with that.

Things in the last 6 months have been pretty quiet for IPA New Zealand Section, I can only put that down to it being winter and everyone has been ducking for cover.

Again with the printing of the winter magazine there have been a number of compliments on its content.

Thank you again Kathy for your hard work and attention to detail in the producing of our magazine for us. Don't forget this is your magazine and I am sure Kathy would appreciate any contributions from you as members and what is happening in your Region.

Cyprus World Congress 2015 will have been and gone by now with Paul, Ross and Billy Lawrence [Region1 Chairman] attending this year's event.

A new PEB will be elected this year– you will be able to check the website for the names of those elected after the Congress.
World Congress 2016 will be held here in New Zealand and there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes to make this a successful Congress followed by a Friendship Week.

IYG Spain 2015 from all accounts has been very successful with 54 young people attending the event. New Zealand had two delegates attend and we look forward to hearing from them about their experiences and friendships formed.

IYG 2016 will be held in the United States, California. Applications forms are now available on their website. We already have a number of young people who have intimated their interest and this is so encouraging to see.

The 3rd Young Police Officer's seminar was held in Poland at which New Zealand had a representative. There were 43 IPA National Sections who sent applications for the Seminar which took place in Police Training Centre in Legionow.

Among the 50 participants Constable Mark HUNT from Rotorua was the representative for the New Zealand IPA Section. We look forward to hearing from him also about his experiences and friendships made.

Our membership continues to grow steadily with 23 new members so far this year. I continue to be encouraged by the number of new members joining IPA.

Welcome to our new members and we hope that you will enter into the spirit of IPA and enjoy the fellowship and friendship of the organisation.

There have been many 25 year and 50 year membership certificates handed out this year. I always feel encouraged when I see these come across my desk and am reminded again and again of the loyalty of our members not only to the IPA organisation here in New Zealand but worldwide and the friendships that have been built up over those years.

Well done to those of you this year who have received your certificates.

Again I thank those who regularly send in their updates, changes of addresses, bereavements etc. as this does help the Assistant Secretary General and myself to maintain an up to date record of all our members.

Well, Christmas is just around the corner, so may I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and New Year. If you are setting off for some well-deserved R&R take care, don't get too sunburnt and enjoy the rest.

Servo per Amikeco

Coleen Meyers
Secretary General

Noticeboard & Around the Regions

World Congress 2016 and Friendship Week – Auckland

October 4th to 9th 2016

Come and socialise with 65 different nationalities in your own back yard.

Participation and help is needed to show delegates and visitors from overseas how hospitable New Zealanders are and to show off our beautiful country.

We need your input and ideas to help make the celebration of New Zealand's 50th Anniversary, the 6st IPA World Congress 2016 and the New Zealand Friendship Week be successful. You can help by:

- Helping with initial planning
- Transport drivers in Auckland
- Assisting at the Registration Desk
- Meeting and greeting at airport and hotel
- Assisting with other languages.

Please get in touch with Ross Pinkham or Billy Lawrence if you think you could help in any way.

Mark your calendars now and join us in this unique opportunity – the 61st IPA World Congress next October 4th – 9th and the NZ IPA Friendship Week 9th – 16th October 2016, Northland and Rotorua.

Region 1

Correction:
In our last magazine a photo of Michael Lopdell was incorrectly captioned as Michael receiving his 25 year IPA service certificate.
Michael has in fact been an IPA member for 40 years. Apologies for the mistake Michael.

Editor


Michael Lopdell

Region 2 Holds Another Successful AGM

It was again very encouraging to have yet another successful Region 2 Annual General Meeting, which was held on Sunday 13th September 2015.

The choice of venue was The Eatery & The Keg Room, in Rototuna, Hamilton.

Chairman, Brian Husband welcomed everyone to the AGM, especially the Region 2 Patron, Superintendent Andy McGregor and commented it was the first meeting that he had seen the Region 2 Patron attend.

During the AGM there were a few changes in the Regional Committee, with Brian Husband standing down as Chairman and John Turner agreeing to once again take on this position.

The Region is very grateful to Brian who one committee member, Murray Bardsley said "had been one of the motivators in keeping IPA going in this area off and on for many years".

This was recognised when Brian was presented with a 'Certificate of Appreciation' by Superintendent Sandra Venables and National President Paul Visser at the National Annual General Meeting.

Anna Jackson stood down as Regional Secretary, following her promotion to Superintendent and transfer to the Police National Headquarters in Wellington.

The Regional Secretary's role was taken on by Emily Savage, who had been working in tandem with Anna for the previous six months.

Unfortunately, no one was interested in taking on the Regional Treasurer's position, so



Brian Husband nominated Michael Lucas, who had been the Acting Treasurer (since John Holden stepped down part way through the year due to health reasons), to continue on as the Acting Treasurer until a candidate stepped forward.

The Region also welcomed onto the Committee, Terry Hounsome who took on the role as the Tauranga Representative.

Region 2 still have four operational police officers on the committee, so the new Region 2 Committee, for 2015 / 2016 looks like this: -

Patron - Supt. Andy McGregor
Chairman - John Turner
Vice-Chairman - Dana McDonald
Secretary - Emily Savage
Acting Treasurer - Michael Lucas
Host Co-ordinator – Ron Richardson
Editor - Michael Lucas
Cambridge Representative - Dana McDonald
Hamilton Representative - Brian Husband
Rotorua Representative - Basil Johnson
Taupo Representative - Fay Bagley
Tauranga Representative - Terry Hounsome
Whakatane Representative - John Turner
Committee Member - Murray Bardsley
Committee Member - Jim McCarthy
Committee Member - Mark Smith



If anyone would like full details of the Region 2 Committee Members, including their email addresses, addresses and telephone numbers, please contact the Regional Secretary, Emily Savage on region2-secretary@ipa.org.nz.

At the AGM Stuart Inness, *(pictured below)* who was there with his son, Jason, was presented with his 40 year IPA certificate & badge by both the outgoing Chairman, Brian Husband and the incoming Chairman, John Turner.



Brian was also going to take a 50 year certificate & badge to present to Robert Goff, who was unfortunately unable to attend the AGM.

Following the meeting we concluded with a delicious two course lunch, which gave everyone that most important opportunity to talk and catch-up with each other. Our thanks go to Brian Husband who kindly arranged the venue and lunch.

Following the AGM, one of the newly appointed members on the committee, Terry Hounsome, took no time in personally presenting Mark Graham, with his 25 year certificate and Dave Kerr, with his 40 year certificate and badge. Our congratulations to both of them.



David Kerr

One of the future events that the region is looking into is a Pre-Christmas function at Hobbiton near Matamata to include lunch. A 'Newsletter' will be circulated to members with full details of the event when known but anyone who is interested in being included, please contact Emily at region2-secretary@ipa.org.nz.

The next Region 2 AGM was arranged for Sunday 14th September 2016 to be held in Tauranga with the venue to be arranged.

The Region's 2016 IPA membership cards have now been ordered with our colleagues in the Australian Section and should be with us shortly. So if you don't receive your membership card, please contact the Acting Regional Treasurer, Michael at region2-treasurer@ipa.org.nz.

It may be because you have not paid your IPA yearly subscription of $44.00, which is due on the 1st January each year? Or it's just a case that you have not updated your details recently, including your postal address on the member's database, which you can do yourself through the IPA



Mark Graham



Griffith (Taff) Jones

website www.ipa.org.nz.

IPA No. 811 Griffith (Taff) Jones was recently presented with his 40 Year Certificate & Badge by Terry Hounsome (The region 2 Tauranga Representative) at Taff's home in Tauranga

Michael Lucas
Region 2 Editor

Region 4

The 50th anniversary of Brian Daw's long membership, which began on 13 February 1965, was celebrated this year with a dinner held by the Wellington Region.

Chairman Mike Norden presented him with a certificate to mark this milestone. Brian (pictured above) was one of the very small group who met in Auckland in 1966 to form the NZ Section. He took on the role of Assistant Secretary General, a position he held until being elected the Section's 3rd President. During his long service Brian held positions of Chairman in Palmerston North (1968 – 73) and Christchurch (1973 – 76). He recently spent time in the UK and Europe where he socialised with members of the Gloucestershire Branch, and also in Budapest.



Region 6

Earlier this year in Invercargill, Neville Cook, retired District Commander of Police in Southland, was presented with a Certificate of Service recognising 40 years membership of IPA New Zealand.

The presentation was made by Region 6 Chairman, Colin Lind JP.



Obituaries

2015 saw the passing of several of our members. Our condolences go to all their families in the loss of their loved ones.

Region 1
Judy Pegler
Judy Pegler, wife of Region 1 member John, passed away in October 2015.

Region 2
Bruce Tricklebank
Passed away March 2015

Region 3
Allan McLachlan
Passed away January 2015

Region 4
James Alfred Gerard Webber
1 August 1943 – 18 July 2015

On 23rd July I attended the Funeral & Requiem Mass for Jim [Jag] Webber at St. Benedict's Church in Khandallah, Wellington both as a friend and secretary of the Wellington Region IPA.

The service was well attended by Sachiko his widow, close friends and members of Jim's family, members of the Wellington Retired Police officers club and members of the Wellington Region IPA committee. Jim was a member of both.

Jim had been in 'care' for some time after having suffered several strokes. He joined the police in Wellington and will be remembered by Wellington police members, particularly in the 1960's when Jim had a motor accident on duty resulting in serious brain injuries which affected his life thereafter.





He subsequently retired from police in 1981.
He will be remembered as a loving father and husband and also as a fun loving, honest family man and of having an inquiring mind
and determined to be involved in any activity helping others of which there were many.

Servo per amikeco JAG and rest in peace.

Steve Anderton
Secretary
Wellington Region

Region 5
Eric Watson
Passed away March 2015

Ronald Pilbrough
Region 5 life member and former Region 5 Treasurer and sub-editor, Ron Pilbrough passed away in November 2015.

I thought it appropriate to share a couple of Ron's last emails to me in the last couple of months – there was just a short note from Ron accompanying both – 'magazine material?'

Yes, Ron, they are magazine material and fondly reproduced in memory of a true gentleman with a great sense of humour.



A painter by the name of Paddy Murphy, while not a brilliant scholar, was a gifted portrait artist.

Over a short number of years, his fame grew and soon people from all over Ireland were coming to him in the town of Doolin, County Clare, to get him to paint their likenesses.

One day, a beautiful young English woman arrived at his house in a stretch limo and asked Paddy if he would paint her in the nude. This being the first time anyone had made such a request, Paddy was a bit perturbed, particularly when the woman told him that money was no object; in fact, she was willing to pay up to $10,000.

Not wanting to get into any marital strife, Paddy asked her to wait while he went into the house to confer with Mary, his wife.

In a few minutes he returned. "T'would be me pleasure to paint yer portrait, missus," he said "The wife says it's okay.

"I'll paint ya in da nude alright . but I has to at least leave me socks on so I has a place to wipe me brushes.".

AND……..

As it's no longer politically correct to direct a joke at any racial or ethnic minority, try this one:

An Englishman, a Scotsman, an Irishman, a Welshman, a Gurkha, a Latvian, a Turk, an Aussie, a German, a Yank, an Egyptian, a Jap, a Mexican, a Spaniard, a Russian, a Pole, a Lithuanian, a Jordanian, a Kiwi, a Swede, a Finn, a Canadian, an Israeli, a Romanian, a Bulgarian, a Serb, a Swiss, a Greek, a Singaporean, an Italian, a Norwegian, an Argentinian, a Libyan, a Muslim, a Hindu, a Buddhist and an African went to a night club.

Wait for it!

The bouncer said, "Sorry, I can't let you in without a Thai. "

Rest easy Ron.
Editor



Members Articles

Nepalese Tales

Carole Tipler



It is almost a year ago now that my brother, youngest son and I left New Zealand on what would prove to be a life-changing experience.

For many years I had entertained the thought that I would like to work as a volunteer overseas and had more or less decided that this would be something I would do on my retirement. I had never been to Nepal and my brother had often expressed the wish for him to go back sometime. On this day I said to him "Let's do it then" and I set about trying to find an organisation that we could work through to volunteer in Nepal.

Here in New Zealand I wasn't able to find any organisation that included Nepal in their list of countries where help was provided. Had we wanted to go to anywhere in the Pacific, we could have picked and chosen our destination. Had we wanted to go to Africa, the same thing applied. But nothing for Nepal.

During my research a very kind lady put me on to Mission NZ and there I met in cyber space, Father Bernard Espiritu.

I still haven't met him face to face but he sounds to be a fantastic guy and he cheerfully gave me the email address of Bishop Anthony SJ in Kathmandu as a starting point.

I was elated and dutifully emailed Bishop Anthony and was delighted when I got a response asking me to tell him a little bit about ourselves.

My brother was easy but how do you explain to a Bishop in Kathmandu that for the past 40 odd years I had worked as a cop! I'm sure he must have blanched at my resume including a skirting mention of our respective age group!

Then I got his invitation – how would we like to work as a volunteer in a school in Gorkha, North West Nepal.

We googled Gorkha and our hearts filled at the sheer beauty of the place, mountains, rivers, forest-clad hills, little villages perched on the side of bluffs. Oh yes, please, Bishop Anthony! And contact was then made with the Principal of St. Joseph's School, Father Denis De Souza.

He told us in his welcome that we could teach art, the guitar and moral science. Actually no one here had ever heard of moral science so that was going to be a fascinating learning curve.

My youngest son came home for a break from Australia and decided to join us. Well, that was the guitar teaching taken care of! Thanks Christopher!!!

Time literally flew and it wasn't long before we were being delivered to New Plymouth airport for the big flight to Europe.

My brother, Don, had always wanted to go to Medjugorje in Bosnia so we thought we would prepare for our volunteer mission with Our Lady's help.

We planned to spend a day in Rome on the way to Dubrovnik which was our first night's sleep before heading to Medjugorje.

Alas, in Singapore our plane's landing gear decided to play up and after a couple of aborted attempts to leave Singapore, further efforts were abandoned which meant we had to spend the night in the transit lounge.

We finally left the next morning but the delay meant we had to miss seeing Rome and only just had time to make our various connections.



The drive to Medjugorje was just beautiful. Earlier that morning we had walked around the little bay where we stayed and Christopher had a swim in the crystal clear waters of the Mediterranean.
Then we met up with our Irish party at the airport and bussed through to our destination, alongside beautiful blue bays, meandering through great hill retreats, farms and vineyards.

And then we were there.

Our stay in this peaceful place can be the subject of another story. For this one, seven days later found us winging our way to Kathmandu via Frankfurt and Singapore! Just prior to our arrival there had been tremendous storms which resulted in flooding and many landslides in Nepal.

We could see evidence of this disaster with scarred hills and suffering villages as we flew towards Kathmandu. In the distance we could also see the Himalayas, soaring towers of magnificence that we would get to know quite well during our stay in this beautiful country.



The Shaligram Hotel in Patan had been recommended by friends in New Zealand. In the hustle and bustle of Kathmandu International Airport we managed to find a taxi to take us there and off we sped through narrow streets, along bustling highways and finally arriving at our destination.

The Shaligram was lovely and the staff most welcoming. Our bedrooms were situated in a kind of an annex with lounge, dining room, kitchen and bathroom facilities which we had all to ourselves.

We dumped our stuff and went for a walk around the immediate area. It was fascinating. A fruit and vegetable market at the end of the Hotel driveway, an "everything" market at the end of the road, a supermarket, a zoo, everything anyone would ever want right on our doorstep. We shopped at the supermarket and cooked that night and toasted to our future stay in this land.

Father Denis had asked us to bring some things for the School so our first day was spent shopping for those items which included a number of guitars, an electronic keyboard, some books for the library and other such things.

With all that stuff to carry, it rather presented a problem on how to get to Gorkha but eventually we

succumbed to hiring a 4 x 4 type vehicle with a large roof rack!

And so we set off on our adventure. We left early in the morning and battled the bottle neck traffic of Kathmandu for some time before we found less congested roads.

The route ran along often mountainous countryside, high above surging rivers with sheer drops to its turbulent depths. In the distance lay the haunting magnificence of the snow-capped Himalayas dominating each turn, making you catch your breath with the total beauty of it all.

Gaily painted Indian TATA trucks and buses shared our narrow road. We tried not to look down when we found ourselves perched on the edge of a cliff-face, giving way to something bigger.

Our destination lay at 11Km which sounded strange but that was it! Later we found why the area was called such – 11 km from Gorkha and 11 km from Abu Khainenei – both our nearest towns. We were in the middle and what a beautiful place.

To the left was the river, sprawling and wide with rice paddy fields alongside its river banks. Across was forest clad hills dotted with houses. Behind the forest clad hills was the spectacular vista of the Himalayan Mountains.

On the right was forest clad hills towering towards the sky. Now and then you could see houses perched on its sides.

Along the roadside were houses converted to small shops, some liquor, some food, some gifts and clothing.



St Joseph's School lay behind a large iron gate welcoming us to the School.

We drove through and saw our school for the first time.

Father Denis had described it as having a roll of 1,000 pupils ranging in age from 3 ½ to 17 years old. Initially the school was established as a boy's school but in the last few years, girls had also been allowed to become students there.



Secretly we hoped to see a leopard or two but alas during our time there we didn't have that luck!

The electricity tended to go off for at least a few hours each night (and sometimes during the day) so our sojourns to the terrace became a regular thing.

We would sit there in the silence, watching the occasional light appear after the electricity had gone (these lights indicated those few who had either generators or solar batteries to provide power when required) and marveling at the little fire-flies flitting to the trees growing next to the house.

The school seemed to be three storied with a large grassed area in front and another alongside.

The former was the assembly area and the latter proved to be the sports ground. Separating the two was a stadium with the legend "Ignorance to Light" overlooking each morning's assembly.





But what was most captivating was the sea of bright, beautiful, smiling faces welcoming us to their school.

Those beautiful children stole my heart that day and I haven't managed to get it back again!

Father Denis was most welcoming. He had invited us to stay with him at his house which was alongside the school grounds. He allocated us our rooms and then we had lunch.

We met his cook, Kamala with whom we would spend time with and get to know quite well during our stay. He explained the most important rule which was that we were not to go outside after 5.30pm and before 5am because of the possibility of leopards being in the school grounds.

The school employs a night watchman and two snarly dogs whose job it is to discourage leopards.

One of the dogs had been mauled previously and showed the effects by some pretty spectacular scars.

That night we sat on the Terrace in muted wonder really, drinking in the beauty of the river, the hills, glimpses of the mountains, and listening to the silence of this tranquil place.

We had discovered a place to buy beer so this became a somewhat favourite place, sipping Gorkha

beer (made by Tuborg) by candle-light.

Very romantic and restful after our days of activity.

Father Denis was insistent that we have a holiday and enjoy our stay in Gorkha. To that end he produced a rather light teaching timetable for us – Don and I had been allocated Art lessons and Moral Science. Christopher had been allocated guitar lessons for those students wishing to learn the guitar.

We had brought five with us and Christopher had purchased one for himself as teacher.

Father Denis also gave us a copy of the Moral science reference book and we discovered the answer to our question “What on earth is Moral science” to be simply values.

Don looked aghast at his timetable to find himself teaching a class on his own. Me too, if it came to that.

In the end the three of us decided to tackle each class together where we could and when two classes clashed, Christopher was there to help out!
Our first class! These wonderful intermediate-age children. Fifty kids, some boys, some girls staring at us.

We opened the exercise book and found that this class was up to “Friendship and loyalty” with the example story being Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay.

We were able to introduce ourselves as being from the same country as Sir Edmund and thus the ice was broken.

This class proved to be our favourite. They were all so responsive and it was coincidental that at the end of our two months, they were also our last class with whom to share our farewells.

In all we taught six classes during various times of the days. I am not sure if we ever actually taught any of them anything but everyone had lots of fun!

I remember apologising to Sister Stephanie, the Vice-Principal fearing that we were causing more chaos than anything else but she assured us we weren’t to worry, that the children were having enormous fun and neither subject would make a difference to their pass/failure status.

In the art classes the students had books containing pictures they were expected to firstly colour in, then copy draw the particular picture into their exercise books.
There were some amazing artists amongst those students and, in fact, two students represented the school and gained second place in the National Student Art Competition while we were there.



In the end we were encouraged by the students to do the drawing and they would then copy what we had done on the blackboard / whiteboard. Mac trucks, Kiwis, our Taranaki mountain, Pukekos, trains, you name it, we drew it!

I discovered my brother and son were both amazing artists especially drawing freehand.

Early in the week was Christopher’s first guitar class at which 30+ children arrived with great glee ready to become rock and roll stars.

It didn’t take long for Christopher to realise that most of his would-be guitarists were really only interested in having time out larking about.

Christopher would make an excellent teacher. He simply threw out those who weren’t interested in learning and settled down with a core group who happily shared the five guitars available and seemed that they really wanted to learn.

Chris taught some of the better ones after school including one of the lady teachers who expressed an interest in learning also.

Saturday is the Nepalese Schools “Sunday” and day off. Our Sunday is a school day which means the children have just the one day off.

School starts each morning with assembly, the classes marching to the school song (which sounded like Scotland the Brave) and notices read out.

Assembly ended with the recitation of the Lord’s Prayer and then classes marched back to their classrooms.

Interestingly enough, whilst the School is run by the Catholics, the teachers and students are, in the main, Hindu’s with some Buddhist believers and a handful of Christians.

Some years ago the Maoists damaged the school, blowing up Father Denis’ office and for about two years the Catholic Church walked away and left the Maoists to get on with it.





In the end they approached Bishop Anthony asking for them to return

and once again run the school but only on condition that Christianity or Catholicism was never to be taught at the school.

The Principal of St John Bosco's school in Fitzroy had very kindly given me a copy of the Religious Education teaching content for little ones to take with me to give to Father Denis.

I was hugely excited about that but Father Denis, whilst he took the program, explained that it was not possible to teach scripture or spiritual stuff because of the constant monitoring from the political people.

It was interesting to see many classrooms had crucifixes on their walls, lots of holy pictures were around and one statue of the Sacred Heart positioned in the stairway at the school was being worn smooth by the students touching its feet.

What can I tell you about the magic time we spent with those beautiful people?

There was no internet at St Joseph's but we were invited by the Congregation of Jesus sisters two kilometres further on at St Mary's girl's school, to use their internet anytime we wished.

We fell in love with those beautiful women who made us so welcome. We attended their school's Parents Day for the older students where Christopher had been roped in to be the accompanist for some of the singing.
At our school we had a Children's' Day where the students were entertained by the Teachers and then had fun doing inter-house sports in the afternoon.



Christopher was selected as Cricket Umpire and the Tug-of-War between the older boys was carried out in deadly earnest!

We had a half day holiday when the new Bishop visited. Bishop Paul was a delightful man from Darjeeling and who spent a couple of nights with us.



Both St Joseph's and St Mary's obtained their milk from Buffalos kept for the purpose and on Saturdays our Buffalo and her calf were pegged out on the sports field to graze for the day. Otherwise, their green food is cut and then brought in by their keepers.

There was a grotto near the Priest's house and a small lizard whose favourite place was sitting right over Our Lady's left eye!
Father Denis had a huge garden and orchard and prided himself on being almost self-sufficient in respect of his food. The same really applied to St Mary's and the sisters.

The latter school had a boarding facility, however, St Joseph's "boarders" lived in outside hostels.

September/October is a very hot part of the Nepalese year so often the river proved to be a life-saver.

Don and Christopher at one stage built a dam to provide a swimming hole for them as well as the local children.

It didn't take long for everyone to help and also to take advantage of the deeper water.

We built ourselves a cairn which as still there when we left. The rocks found in that river were just so beautiful.

When we visited the Himalayan Museum in Pokhara we found identical rocks there recorded as being millions of years old. The rocks from our river were being steadily removed by tractor/trailers which is illegal but still happens.

I remember sifting through a pile of rocks near the new hall Father Denis was having built, marvelling at their beauty and the next day watching as they tipped the pile onto the hall floor and covered it all with concrete!



What magnificence is buried under that hall floor……

I think Father Denis envisaged that we would travel from Gorkha to visit the sights around Nepal but our love was working with the children and whilst we did visit our two nearest towns, the only trip we really made was to Pokhara when Father's family visited him from India.



Gorkha is a fascinating place, built on the side of a mountain with an even higher place housing the old King's palace.

This is now a temple and the focus of the October Hindu festivities which sees the slaughter of many animals.

I found that time horrible and grieved for the goats tethered waiting their turn to be killed, or tied atop of the local buses on their way to the temple for the same thing to happen.



Buffalos, goats, chickens, pigeons, doves, you name it, it gets sacrificed. I must admit I found that time very difficult.

Father Denis had lots of art jobs lined up for us. The first was to repair the stadium mural which had been damaged by water seepage. Don and I tackled that helped by

Shishka, one of the Junior Teachers who was lovely.

We were also asked to repair the back of the stadium overlooking the assembly area and to give the welcome on the gate a fresh up.

The bombshell was when Father Denis asked me to paint the Good Shepherd on the outside of the Night Watchman's tower overlooking the sports field.

That was very daunting given that I had never painted on concrete before and found the rickety bamboo trestles quite simply scary!

In the end I painted the view from the Terrace including the Himalayas and used that as the background to the Good Shepherd with three children dressed in St Joseph's school uniform.

I will admit to painting Mount Egmont from Taranaki in amongst the Himalayan giants and a kiwi appeared foraging at the bottom of the banana palms in the foreground! Don painted a picture above the entrance to the chapel. All three of us contributed to another over the entrance to the Priest's House.

When the children went on their Hindu Festivals holiday in October we ended up painting the alphabet

in the littlies classroom and some bright pictures of flowers and farmyard animals.

In the end we did quite a lot of random paintings even including the Convent at St Mary's which kept us busy.

During the latter part of October, with the children away on holiday, I decided to go to Kathmandu and there I sought work at Pashupati in which there is an area for the elderly unable to look after themselves.



This area is looked after by the Missionaries of Charity Sisters (Mother Teresa) who made me very welcome.

I stayed at the Shaligram and travelled each day by local bus to Pashupati where I joined young people from all over the world, caring for these older folk. We would get them up, sometimes have to bathe them, dress them, help them outside where they would receive a meal.
Meanwhile we would make their beds, sweep and mop the floors, then hand wash any soiled bedding, clothes etc. and hang out to drive. When everything was done we would head home again to be repeated the following morning.

It was an adventure travelling in local buses and after a day or so I got quite cunning in order to avoid being charged more because of being a foreigner!



I met a lovely young man, Yogesh, who came home with me a couple of times so I could help him with his art.

I visited the Monkey Temple, saw much of the grandeur of Kathmandu, prowled around many of the markets and had such fun.

On the 31 October we flew the Himalayas with a local airline where we saw Everest in all its glory and its surrounding giants.

It was lovely to be able to share this adventure with Sanju, a local lass who had accompanied us on some of our adventures as guide and helper.

It was with a heavy heart that I, personally, left that amazing country with its 'oh so beautiful



people'. My time at 11Km was quite simply life-changing.

Even though it is almost a year since I was there I can see the school and its environments in my mind as clearly as if I was there yesterday.



We used to walk up to the small village not far from the school to buy some provisions and a samosa or two from a welcoming group of shopkeepers.

We would pass the local Police Station on the way and were always greeted with warmth from the sentry on duty. “Namaste” (standard greeting meaning “I bow to you”) became our favourite and most-used word.

As we walked along sometimes “our” children from school would run out and embrace us while their mothers would look on and smile. Wherever we went there were “our” children whom we loved to bits.

I was fortunate to be included in some of the Hindu festivities including receiving a tikka and also watching the ceremony where sisters honour their brothers with food, tikka and presents!

It is those memories that caused me much pain when this beautiful place, these beautiful people were devastated by the Earthquakes in April.



Then I learned that the epicentre was where we were and although “our” children and their family appear to be safe, they have lost their houses, their belongings and often their livelihoods and now struggle to survive.

Sister Stephanie has sent me photographs and stories about our beloved place and the ongoing hardship of surviving made worse now by the onset of the Monsoon.

Sister Shobba of the CJ’s talks about land already unstable being deluged by the constant rain and finally slipping down the mountain sides, causing even more desolation for those caught in the path of these landslides.



It is difficult to imagine just how hard it must be to live in tents during this most unhospitable season of the year.

We were there at the very end of the rainy season last year and that was quite bad enough without it being constant which is the situation at this current time.

Yogesh is working with the desolate people in Kathmandu and sends me photographs of the hardship he encounters but also of those people facing their future with positiveness, appreciative of even just one gesture of kindness.



For those reading this, perhaps you might have a spare dollar or two tucked away that you could share with these beautiful people to help make their difficult life a little easier.

If ever you had the desire to contribute to an overseas cause, I urge you helping the people of Nepal would be such a one.

The people of this amazing country will get there in the end, but it will take time and much practical, and financial help from the West.

Namaste my friends.



Arthur Troop Scholarship

Paul Fremaux

In September 2014 I was very fortunate to be awarded an International Police Association (IPA) Arthur Troop Scholarship to attend a professional Police seminar at the IPA Information and Education Centre (IBZ) at Gimborn in Cologne, Germany.

The seminar, in May 2015, was titled "Islam and Islamism – History and culture of a world-religion between everyday-life and extremism". The seminar examined basic information about the religious and cultural history of Islam and recent extremist interpretation.

It also covered the challenge of Islam for western societies and the challenges to police-work in policing the Muslim community.

On the 12 May 2015 I flew out of Christchurch en-route to Germany. I planned a stopover in Hong Kong and during my stay I met up with Macau IPA member Wilson Wong.

We took the ferry from Hong Kong to Macau where Wilson showed me around the tourist sites of the City. We then went to the Macau IPA Office where I met the Macau IPA President Lei Hong Po.

The Macau IPA members are looking forward to coming to New Zealand next year for the IPA Conference.

Macau is one of the world's largest gambling centres with its economy heavily dependent on gambling and tourism. We got to visit several of the casinos and Wilson assured me he wasn't a gambler, as another chip was placed on the roulette table.

There is still a strong Portuguese influence in Macau and it reminded me of my overseas deployment to Timor Leste with many Portuguese still living there.

From Hong Kong I flew to Frankfurt, Germany and took the bullet train to Cologne. The ICE (Inter City Express) is a high-speed train that travels at speeds up to 300 km/h.



Cologne Cathedral

Needless to say the trip from Frankfurt to Cologne didn't take long at all.

When I arrived at the Cologne train station I had been instructed to wait at the 'MacDonald's where my lift out to Gimborn would meet me.



Gimborn Schloss

Unfortunately, my lift wasn't there so I went to the down town Police Station to see if they could help. They were very helpful and after several phones calls a lift out to Gimborn was organised.

Gimborn is about a 45-minute drive from Cologne and is in a nice rural setting. The facility is very impressive with a castle, administration block, accommodation and a small country restaurant where we had our meals.

The other course participants came from Italy, Greece, Sweden, England, Ireland, Denmark and Germany.

About half of the class were German so it was great to have a local perspective. I obviously had travelled the greatest distance to attend and "What is New Zealand like?" was a topic of many conversations.

I must have done a reasonable job selling Aotearoa to them as already one of the German participants is coming down- under next year to visit. I am currently helping her plan her itinerary for her trip.

Sean Hannigan, a Police Officer from Ireland was the Chair of the Seminar.

Prior to the course each participant was asked to prepare a 10-minute presentation to share with the group.

Our topic was how our Police service deals with followers of Islam, as normal citizens offering them protection from Far Right Extremists, or as potential radical persons who wish to follow Jihad.

I prepared a short power- point presentation and I was fairly sure I wouldn't be asked to present mine as it was voluntary.

The Europeans would have far more interesting presentations with the recent Paris 'Charlie Hebdo' attack. Wrong, little ole' New Zealand had to do the first presentation; so much for that theory!



Most of the lectures given were either in German or English, and were translated. We wore headsets depending on the language being spoken.

The translators did an amazing job when you take into account the various levels of English, and accents.

Course speakers and topics included; Hanim Ezder from Turkey, who spoke on interpretations and "schools" of the Islam, Ulrike Neuhoff also from Turkey, whose topic was situation and daily life circumstances of young adults in the Muslim population in Great Britain.

The Seminar chair Sean Hannigan gave his personal experiences of being a police officer in Britain. He spoke about community policing and engagement with Islamic Colleges in Leicestershire and the prevention of radicalism. He gave examples of how to build trust, reliability and mutual appreciation of cultures.

During the course we visited a Turkish mosque in Cologne. Sabira Bouhired from the mosque spoke about how the mosque is a cultural and religious centre for Muslims.

The mosque's Oman explained the Koran, its religious interpretations and Muslims obligations around prayer.

We had a very interesting presentation by Detective Constable Kyle Hardcastle of the London Metropolitan Police.

Kyle covered the Jihad terrorist attacks in London and their consequences in the following years. He gave the background and Islamic orientation of the perpetrators.

He then spoke of Jihad in England and its consequences for Policing in the United Kingdom.

After the visit to the mosque a local German Police Officer took us on a tour of the City.

The magnificent Cologne Cathedral was our first stop.

The local officer regularly takes tour groups around the City and his knowledge, manner and humour made it a real highlight of the trip.

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The Gimborn Castle has its own bar the 'Schloss Bar' and it was emphasised during the course that this is where the best networking and course discussion takes place.

Not wanting to miss out on any important course curriculum I partook in this study.

The Irish participants set the pace and activity duration in this field of learning.

The course concluded, badges and police paraphernalia were exchanged and invitations made if we were ever visiting each other's countries.

Everyone then made their way home to various parts of Europe, me being the exception.

I had planned to stay in Cologne a couple of extra days to have a good look around the city but there was a train strike affecting my travel back to Frankfurt.

One of the course participants Manfred, who was driving to Bavaria offered to take me to Frankfurt.

This was my first experience of driving on the Autobahn. We travelled around 170 km/h which I was advised is not particularly fast and quite a few cars pasted us at speed.

I was told it was not uncommon to go to police jobs along the Autobahn at 220 – 230 km/h.

I spent two days in Frankfurt before starting my trip home to New Zealand. I travelled back via Vancouver Canada where I meet up with one of my staff who is on 12 months leave without pay.

Hamish is an Authorised Officer and has taken leave to play rugby in Vancouver.

In good Kiwi fashion we went to his local rugby club bar and had a few ales.

Vancouver was a great city for a stopover before my flight back to New Zealand.

There were plenty of tourist activities and one of them that I did was the Capilano suspension bridge. The bridge is 140 metres long and 70 metres above the river. Not the best for someone like me who is not keen on heights especially when it starts to swing as more and more people get on it.

I was dreading my 14-hour flight back to New Zealand but to my surprise it was a good comfortable flight in the new Air New Zealand 777.

It was good to be back in New Zealand only to be told on my domestic flight to Christchurch that it was minus 5 in the Garden City.

The scholarship provided me with a tremendous opportunity for professional development. The course and its presenters were of a very high quality. It also provided a wonderful opportunity to make friends with a number of police officers from overseas Police forces. I have kept in contact with several of them and I'm looking forward to a German officer visiting and staying with us in the coming summer months.

This amazing experience would not have been possible without the help and support of the NZ IPA especially Paul Visser and Coleen Meyers. I would also like to mention International IPA members Kees Sal and Romain Miny who supported me in my application.

Paul Fremaux

2015 World

Congress Friendship Week

Viv Pinkham

Four of us were fortunate to travel to the 21st IPA World Congress in Limassol, Cyprus and from our arrival at Larnaca Airport and onto St Raphael's Hotel, just outside Limassol where the conference was held, what a welcome we were given.

An informal cocktail party was held beside the swimming pool on the first evening to welcome delegates and guests.

The Conference programme was outlined and this was followed by a buffet dinner and a chance for participants to mingle.

Eighteen IEB members and Interpreters, 63 Delegates and 129 observers and visitors attended the Congress. There were big groups of visitors from Brazil and Macau with the participants spread over two hotels.

The official opening the next day was at the neighbouring hotel, The Grande.

The New Zealand delegation was represented by Paul Visser, Ross & Viv Pinkham, and Billy Lawrence.

What a spectacle it was to see the participants dressed in their National uniforms and many photo opportunities were taken.

There were official speeches from the Chairman of the Congress Committee, the World President of IPA, the Commissioner of Police, a representative from the Government of Cyprus and the Mayor of Limassol.

Entertainment was provided by local Cypriots.

The opening and photographs were followed by drinks and nibbles.

The Congress then got underway!

It was a privilege to get to know Cyprus, the third largest island in the Mediterranean with 900,000 people. For forty-one years it has been a divided country, with Turkish rule in the north.

A bus tour was offered to visitors on two days of the conference. This gave visitors a good look around areas out from Limassol.







The tour visited Ancient World Heritage sites and small villages and visitors were taken from the beautiful blue water of the Mediterranean up into the hills of the Troodos mountains to visit the little village of Lefkara where women embroidered beautiful lace work and men made silver filigree work.

The houses were built in stone and many were painted blue and white. Lunch was a feast of local food and wine and the courses just kept coming as we sat outside under grape vines.

With so many different nationalities, the interpreters were kept busy and there was much singing and chatter on the bus with new friends being made.

We also visited monasteries up in the hills, peaceful historic places with amazing frescoes where we were welcomed by the Priest and given warm hospitality.

Each evening there was time for fellowship and fun in the huge dining halls with local food and dancing and music. In our spare time, we had the use of two pools, the Mediterranean ocean, the walkways along the foreshore and the local bus taking people into

Limassol.

Sunrises and sunsets were memorable and warmth of the sun invigorating.

On the final day all delegates/observers and guests went sightseeing with much mixing of nationalities.
We were shown the Ancient City of Curium with an amphitheatre and spa baths overlooking the Mediterranean.

The members enjoyed exploring the old castle of Kolissi with a great view from the tower.

Members of the IEB joined everyone for lunch and a relaxing visit to an old village of Omodhas, before heading back.

Everyone dressed in their finery for the final formal dinner and speeches to conclude a wonderful few days in Cyprus.

The New Zealand delegation set up a table in the hotel with Brochures for the 2016 Congress and Friendship week here in New Zealand.
Many thanks to the New Zealand Tourist Board for providing the brochures and posters and to Air New Zealand for assisting with freighting of the brochures.



A presentation was made to the delegates and observers and there was much enthusiasm for delegates/observers and other visitors to come to New Zealand next year.





