



IPSA NEWS

The official newsletter of the International Professional Security Association

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From the Editor

“There are never enough hours in the day.” This is especially true for the International Chairman, Patrick Somerville, and myself as Deputy International Chairman. When I was elected in November 2001, I did not realise what a time consuming role I was taking on. For those that have not recently read a copy of the IPSA constitution, I will remind you that these roles are elected from the membership as voluntary roles, usually run alongside an existing career.

We have been especially fortunate with our Chairman. As a retired Senior Police Officer, he has been able and willing to commit himself to the role full time, putting in more hours than most business owners. The remaining members of the Executive Management Committee have their own work to consider along side their responsibilities within the Association.

We have two permanent members of staff at the IPSA office, both committed to the Association and taking on ever increasing workloads. Some tasks remain with members of the EMC, one of which is writing the IPSA News. We are aware that whilst we have been busy on other tasks within the Association, this is one task that has fallen behind. I hope however, that you accept this explanation, sit back and read this latest edition and find some parts of interest.

Justin P. Bentley

New IPSA / JSIC Red Book Directory

The “Red Book” formerly the Association’s Yearbook and last published in the year 2000, was re - launched jointly with the Joint

Security Industry Council earlier this year, making its appearance at IFSEC 2004.

Published by the highly respected Smith Regent Press Ltd. copies have been sent to all members of the two organisations. Additional copies can be obtained from the offices of IPSA or JSIC at a cost of £25.

It is intended that the Red Book will become a directory of choice for the security sector and that all member companies in addition to being listed, will make a point of placing advertisements for their services, thereby enhancing the value of the directory to a wide range of clients seeking goods and services.

We take this opportunity of thanking Smith Regent Press Ltd for their courageous decision to work with IPSA and JSIC to publish the Red Book and for their diligence in producing it in time for IFSEC 2004.

We are also grateful to the contributors of leading articles, and the organisations that took advertising space in this first issue of the new book.

All member companies and the wider community of companies supplying security services are invited to book their advertising space for the next issue which it is intended to be produced early in 2005. Smith Regent Press can be contacted on 020 8952 1110.

IPSA Members whose particulars did not appear in the current issue are reminded that they should when requested notify the Head Office of the details that they wish to appear in the Directory in order that there is compliance with Data Protection legislation. No individual’s details will be published without express authority.

IFSEC 2004

IPSA Stand No: A117 was a hive of activity on all four days of the IFSEC exhibition held from 10 – 14 May at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. A constant stream of visitors kept the exhibition and management team busy answering questions and distributing information about the Association. It was good to meet several members from overseas and to actually enrol two new members from Nigeria at the stand.



One thousand promotional clip boards, sponsored by Camberford Law and containing information about both the Association and Camberford Law, were handed out in carrier bags bearing the IPSA logo and that of Spectrum Positive the sponsor of these items. They were very popular and useful souvenirs of the event.

Without doubt the main areas of interest were the forthcoming licensing requirements and the need for clarification of the training qualifications which must be obtained in order to obtain a licence.

IFSEC Awards Dinner

The International Chairman was the guest of the Security Systems and Alarms Inspection Board at the IFSEC Awards dinner held on Monday 27 May at the Birmingham Hilton.

AGM 2004

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the autumn. Formal notices will be sent out in accordance with the Constitution.

Members are asked to forward reply slips indicating whether they are attending in order that numbers may be known for catering and other purposes.

TRAINING NEWS

IPSA BJT Course recognised for purpose of prior learning.

The Security Industry Authority (SIA) has confirmed that the existing IPSA two-day induction course (some times referred to as the Basic Job Training Course (BJT)) has been recognised as granting partial exemption from Part 1 of the new Manned Guarding Training Specification. This means that holders of an IPSA Induction Course certificate obtained in the two year period prior to licensing need not undertake the Part 1 element of the new qualification but will have to attend an assessment (1 hour examination) in order to obtain that qualification.

The IPSA induction course has not been listed by the SIA as granting exemption because it is not independently accredited.

All applicants for a licence will have to show that they have completed and passed the assessment of the one day Part 2 (Communications and Conflict Management) unit of the new qualification.

New Training Courses

IPSA intends to offer Part 1 and Part 2 of the new qualification for the Manned Guarding Sector as soon as the necessary accreditations can be obtained from an approved awarding body.

IPSA Trainers Qualifications

Holders of IPSA Trainer's Certificates are to be recognised as approved trainers for the duration of a transition period probably to the end of 2005. The transition period is to enable those who do not at present hold the required national teaching award to take steps to satisfy this additional trainer's requirement in order to become approved trainers.

Trainers who wish to be recognised by an approved awarding body will be required to make an application to an approved awarding body together with evidence of qualifications and of continuing sector competence.

Additionally trainers who wish to deliver the Part 2 (Communications and Conflict Management) unit of the new qualification must also have attended an approved Conflict Management trainers' course.

IPSA will endeavour to create opportunities for existing IPSA trainers to attain the additional qualifications required to qualify for appointment as approved trainers under the new scheme.

Learning and Development Policy

Tony Bainbridge withdrew from the role of Learning and Development Officer in January 2004. He continues to deliver courses on behalf of IPSA when available.

Dawn Harman has accepted the role of Learning and Development Officer – Policy. These responsibilities include overseeing the setting up of administrative and other procedures that are a necessary corollary of the new training schemes involving assessment and external marking of results before certification by awarding bodies.

Worth a look on the internet :-)

<http://www.privacyinternational.org/activities/stupidsecurity/winners.html>

JSIC Dinner and Forum

Patrick Somerville and Justin Bentley represented the Association at the JSIC Annual General Meeting and Forum Dinner held on 27 April in Coventry. The following day the Forum conference was well attended with spirited presentations by the Hon Bruce George MP and representatives from the SIA and other bodies.

Chairman's Appeal to Company Members

The International Council at its January 2004 meeting reviewed the overall financial position of the Association as the accounts for 2003 were closed preparatory to the submission of the figures to the Association's Accountants.

The considerable reduction in income owing to the loss of training revenue and other sources, during the past year has once again highlighted the fact that the Association is not taking in sufficient revenue to meet the normal running costs of the office and member's services. This is so in spite of several members of the team working without remuneration.

In order to alleviate that situation the Chairman made a direct appeal to Company Members for additional financial support. The need for it was to enable the Association to continue operating through the transition period during which training courses have to be remodelled and other arrangements have to be adjusted so that IPSA can meet the new industry standards. Only then can we vigorously market our courses to the many waiting customers who are seeking training for their staff in advance of licensing.

The initial response to the Appeal was at first encouraging, and some generous support was forthcoming from a few companies but very soon it became clear that a further request needed to be made to reinforce the Appeal and interest more companies in helping in the present difficulties.

At the time of writing 7% of company members have acknowledged the appeal and made various contributions amounting to £5,400. Whilst this support is most welcome and appreciated it is well below the contributions needed to help achieve the Association's income target of £100,000, the amount needed in order to ensure on going viability.

Review of Fees and Subscriptions

It is abundantly clear from the above that present levels of fees and subscriptions are insufficient to ensure the viability of the Association and this has been pointed out quite strongly by several interested parties.

Accordingly the International Council will be asked at its mid - year meeting to approve significant increases in nearly all levels of fees and subscriptions to ensure that a balanced budget can be achieved and the Association can continue from a position of relative financial equilibrium.

All members, therefore, are asked to appreciate the necessity for this action and to support the Association in its efforts to maintain and deliver cost effectively the services expected by members.

Security Industry Authority

Members will have noted that Peter Hermitage has been appointed to the substantive post of Chairman of the SIA. IPSA representatives met with him shortly after his appointment was confirmed and presented him with a paper expressing IPSA's views on the introduction and likely impact of the Approved Company Scheme. Details of the ACS have since been published on the SIA web site – www.the-sia.org.uk. IPSA Company representatives are invited to send their comments direct to the SIA and also to the IPSA office to assist in the development of further responses and representations on the operations of the Scheme.

National Neighbourhood Watch - Reception at House of Commons

The International Chairman and Deputy joined representatives of JSIC and other bodies at the annual reception of Neighbourhood Watch organisation at which awards were given for outstanding contributions to the work of good neighbourliness in communities around the country.

Inspectorate

The untimely resignation in January, 2004 of Terry Sore from his role as Quality Manager has caused the administration of inspections to be centralised at Head Office and added to the work load considerably. Hence there have been some delays in arranging inspections due in the early part of the year. The situation is now in hand and inspectors are being deployed as required particularly in respect of new company applications.

The joint IPSA – SSAIB programme for UKAS level inspections is progressing and agreement is expected soon on the precise working arrangements. These inspections are to be carried out by inspectors from each body for companies that desire the higher level UKAS certification for systems, manned guarding, door supervision and other services.

Meanwhile IPSA continues to accept Quality Management inspection certificates for those companies applying to join IPSA where the certificate clearly states that the requirements of the relevant British Standards for the delivery of security services have been inspected and found satisfactory.

Other Retirements and Resignations

The following have announced their retirement from active participation in IPSA affairs: Bridget Matthews, Jim Matthews, John Loveday, Ron Waterfield

Bridget has been a loyal supporter of IPSA, Council Member and representative of the Irish Region for many years.

Jim Matthews, John Loveday and Ron Waterfield worked as Inspectors in Ireland, Northern Ireland and the Midlands respectively.

We wish them all well in their chosen activities and thank them for their assistance over so many years.

Armour Security Group celebrates 15 years in business

Dr Yilkes Bala, founding Director of Armour Security Group of Woolwich, South London, celebrated 15 years of successful trading with a dinner for fellow directors and clients at the Dorchester Club on 3 April 2004. Around 40 guests enjoyed a champagne reception followed by dinner in the lavish surroundings of the Dorchester Hotel in Park Lane. Principle guest and speaker for the occasion was IPSA International Chairman, Patrick Somerville, who in an amusing address congratulated Dr Bala on his energy, academic achievements and entrepreneurial success since coming from his homeland in Nigeria to study at the Greenwich Management College in 1982. He set up Armour Security in 1989 and brought it into membership of IPSA a year later. Since then it has grown and consistently used IPSA as a training resource and for other advice and guidance throughout the years. The Group now operates through several subsidiary companies offering guarding services across London.

Congratulating Dr Bala and his fellow directors and staff on their achievements Mr Somerville said that it showed that by deciding early on to become IPSA members Dr Bala had demonstrated a commitment to excellence which had been carried on through every year of trading to the present time. He also said how pleased he had been earlier that week to present certificates to nine of the Group's security supervisors who had successfully completed a three day Supervisors' Course delivered by IPSA trainers James Dewane and Graham Giddy.

The Association acknowledges with thanks a donation to funds made by the Armour Group in appreciation of the Chairman's contribution to the success of the evening.

Scourge of Hotel – thieving

Two nights bed and breakfast, one kettle, a toilet seat and I'll take that as well!!

Everyone does it don't they? Surely the hotel won't mind if we take the tea bags, but what about the towels. A recent survey of hoteliers published recently shows guests can and do steal anything that isn't firmly bolted down.

There must be something about the hotel experience that turns law-abiding people into petty pilferers. Every hotel manager has their own story to tell about the nice vase or figurine that suddenly went missing or the nice garden shrub that disappeared or was stripped of new shoots for cuttings.

The most common things taken from hotels are; kettles, towels, bathrobes, ashtrays, cutlery and in one particular instance the mattress.

It is not always the large hotels, but sometimes the small hotels, which mainly cater for bed and breakfast. They all suffer the same problem.

A most unusual theft occurred at one hotel. A gentleman had had an accident in his bed in his room so unfortunately the hotel had to charge him for the cost of replacing the mattress. The gentleman in question thought, I have paid for the mattress so I'll take it with me, on the roof of my car.

The things that disappear from their hotels amaze hoteliers but the customer obviously pays long term, as the hoteliers have to cover their costs. The mind boggles as to how people smuggle out television sets, or swipe the hanging baskets that adorn the front of the hotel. One hotel reported losing the spectacles off a Father Christmas model in the foyer.

Bathrobes, ashtrays, television controls and toilet rolls feature highly in the contents of hotel rooms which need replacing on a regular basis having been taken by guests. Long staying guests tend to hoard tea bags, biscuits, coffee and sugar.

Another hotelier reported losing the tiebacks from the new lounge curtains. Someone also took the reception bell from another hotel; also the reception computer. One of the most despicable things people steal is the charity collecting boxes.

Just as bizarre are the possessions that guests leave behind. These have included; false teeth, false eyeballs, wigs and toupees. In some cases artificial arms and legs had been left. On occasions persons have left a member of the family behind after checking out.

So when you next stay in a hotel just remember the top ten items stolen are;

1. Teabags And Biscuits
2. Soap And Shampoo
3. Toilet Rolls
4. Towels
5. Sheets
6. Bathrobes
7. Ashtrays
8. TV Remote Controls
9. Kettles
10. Paintings

Basil Bland, IPSA North Midland Region

What does an IPSA member do in their spare time?

Well for Mike Benson, an individual member of IPSA working and living in the USA, it's writing books!

Mike's career started with fifteen years serving with the Cheshire Constabulary, including time spent in the Juvenile Liaison and Crime Prevention Departments. In 1988 he moved to the United States to start his own international security consultancy. The consultancy specialised in advising fortune five hundred companies and high profile individuals on international and personal security. Services provided included developing evacuation and kidnap crisis plans and in several cases Mike was directly involved in the extraction of company employees from hostile foreign locations and the rescue of kidnap victims.



Mike is currently employed by a large international oil and gas company as Vice President of Corporate Security, but has also been a professional writer for the last seven years. Previous publications have been factual, using his expertise to advise others. His latest book "Terrorist Harvest", published in May 2004, however is a novel set in the world of anti-terrorist operations in the UK. The following is the story outline.

"The war against terror has been fought for decades between the British government and the Provisional Irish Republican Army. But with the creation of the 'Mask' team, the war has taken a new turn. A highly motivated, highly professional group, for three years its task has been to find and bring to justice Irish terrorists operating on the British mainland. Their leader is John Strain. Known to his friends and enemies alike as 'Animal', he is an unassuming man with high morals and a passion for opera music. He has proven himself a revered leader of an elite group of specialist police officers, who have used the skills they have learned from a lifetime of police work and training from Britain's Special Forces with great success. So great that the prospect of a peaceful settlement being reached now no longer seems an impossible goal.



But sinister forces are at work to halt this process in the guise of an unholy alliance. A deadly triumvirate has formed which has no desire for peace. Dissident Irish terrorists, elements within the Basque separatist group ETA and Muslim fundamentalists led by a brutal killer have formed a relationship to advance their individual causes. And their target is Britain.

As a ruthless and totally unexpected terrorist campaign begins, killing hundreds of innocent people in just a few weeks, John Strain and his team face their greatest challenge. And they do so in the knowledge that they themselves are targets as their personal security becomes compromised. Indeed as events develop it becomes increasingly obvious that those involved extend into the highest levels of government and the British intelligence services. Not sure who to trust other than its own members, the Mask team must find the terrorists and stop them using any means they can."

Terrorist Harvest is published by PublishAmerica. The book can be bought from the publisher's on-line store at www.publishamerica.com.

Member Services

Aide Memoire on Counter Terrorism

A leaflet advising police and security officers how they can through observation and reporting contribute to the gathering of intelligence to counter the current threat of terrorist planning and preparation has been developed in consultation with JSIC and the security services. Copies of the aide memoire are being distributed to all members. Companies are invited to order further copies at 15p each (inclusive of post and packing) for distribution to all individual security officers in their employment.

Security Instruction & Guidance Manual

The 2004 update of the "Guidance Manual" was completed earlier this year. Copies can be ordered from the IPSA office. Members quoting "IPSA News" will receive a 10% discount!

Membership News

The International Council is happy to welcome the following new individual members to the Association:

Mr A Q Abbasi	Mr A H Al Hosani
Mr K M Babu	Mr R D Bell
Mr V M Bellamy	Mr K Bhushan
Mr T A Bruiners	Mr I A Carter
Mr M Cartwright	Mr A Chacko
Mr D Corcoran	Mr A Fawcett
Mr K Homji	Mr S J Hutin
Mr D Huxley	Mr F Kaddoura
Mr V T Kelly	Mr T Lapaglia
Mr F J Larden	Mr P G Menon
Major Q E Oates	Mr A G O K Omer
Mr S Raghu	Mr S N Raja
Mr G van Rensburg	Mr G Sese
Mr R Smith	Mr R J Strudwick
Mr J Tickle	

We have also received fourteen company applications during the same period.

Are you an IPSA Member?

When you joined an Association, a society, or a guild

Did you think about it deeply as all the forms you filled

Was it really your intention to take what was on offer

And promise to yourself that you would be a member proper

Did you like the fact that you could belong to it by choice

Be a member of a body in which you'd have a voice

Did it offer status that could help in your employ
And maybe introduce new friends with whom to share your joy.

But have you been to meetings or gone elsewhere to drink?

Have you offered up your services or held back from the brink?

Are you critical of those who work their socks off from the start

And cannot quite commit yourself to playing such a part.

Are you narked because decisions are made by just a few

But don't advance your name when invited so to do?

Your expertise is useful to guide the forward way

Don't offer it and you can hardly moan when others get their say

You've paid your subs and got your card and with it can impress

But have you thought how you can help to make it a success

Be positive, supportive, make known its role to all

Help it to grow in numbers and hear this sincere call.

"Professional" is what we want for all of us to be
That means we pull together so everyone will see

How IPSA is a vibrant and impressive working team

With you a leading member and always on the scene.

Anon.