



ICPF NEWS



December 2021

ONPOINT

Shalom and warmest greetings in the name of Jesus to each and every one of you. Sisters and Brothers, as I write this message on behalf of the ICPF Board from my home in England, I can only imagine the countries, regions, communities, Police stations and homes where this message will be read. I truly hope that you are all able to share once again, in the wonderful story of the birth of our Saviour, Jesus of Nazareth. How he humbly came to earth as a child and how two thousand years later His teachings still influence and

shape our daily lives as Christian Police officers, staff and colleagues.

My prayer is that the Lord of Lords and King of Kings will bless and protect each one of you and your families over this Christmas and in the coming year! Amen.

*Neil Collin (UK)
ICPF Board Member*



CURRENT EVENTS - INTERNATIONAL CPA GROUPS

AFRICA

It really is exciting times in our world, and for the beautiful continent of Africa. We are still suffering the effects of the Covid pandemic, which affected much of our CPA work on the continent. It is just sporadically that we hear about initiatives and meetings that take place.

There is a sudden growth in the interest of certain countries like Namibia, which I most recently visited. I managed to negotiate for a meeting in Windhoek, Namibia, with some of the police leaders in that country, with the first launching of a CPA in Namibia as an aim. This is exciting, as previous contacts did not bring about that outcome. Namibia is a neighboring country of South Africa and received their political independence even before South Africa. It is a stable country, with a stable police service, and we hope that this can become a really good partner in our whole movement in Africa.

We also hear about some energy in countries such as Kenya, and Malawi. We met up with a leader in Malawi, which is currently running an orphanage ministry there. He is part of the Leader Mundial movement in Africa. Many years ago, Sam Barber, Henry Minder and myself, visited Malawi on a Pointman-mission. We got to meet the Commissioner of Police then, and we also held meetings that brought Christian police officers together, worshipping with them, and shared the vision of the CPA. With our new friend, Joseph, in Malawi, we trust and hope that this can pick up again and continue to grow.



Here, in South Africa, there was big excitement about a CPA Leaders Gathering soon, (26th & 27th November) on our CPA campsite in Llundudno, Cape Town. After more than two years, we gathered again as leaders of the CPA and invited new upcoming leaders which were identified recently. We trust God that this will invigorate the CPA to be re-energised for the work of the CPA in God's kingdom. Please keep us in your prayers, as this is really an important meeting. A few of the leaders of the International Christian Police Fellowship, recently met (via Zoom) where we agree that one of our biggest priorities at this moment is the networking of God's children in police forces all over the world. We need to know about each other, pray for each other, connect with each other, and inspire each other to be the salt and light in the law enforcement and criminal justice world. It is not



CURRENT EVENTS - INTERNATIONAL CPA GROUPS

easy to manage such a ministry “top Down.” it should rather start at the grassroots level and work upwards. Another priority is the investment in the new generation of potential CPA members. We need to identify them and continue to mentor them, by bringing them to an understanding of the work and culture of the Christian police movement worldwide. Let us continue to hold hands, embrace each other, support each other, as we are still facing very challenging times.

May God continue to bless and hold US all. Greetings from Cape Town

Why Duvenhage

NORTH AMERICA

USA

The Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers (FCPO-USA) exists to provide biblical support („backup“), accountability and iron sharpens iron fellowship for Christian officers first in the U.S. and throughout the world as well.

The Centurion Law Enforcement Ministry is a national, FCPO-affiliated, non-denominational, evangelical Christian outreach to our own in law enforcement. These newsletters and profession-focused Bible studies are part of this effort and past editions can be found on our website and social media feeds. Our desire is (1) to be used of God to WIN the lost in our profession to a saving faith in Christ; (2) to DISCIPLE the Christian officer; (3) SEND out disciplined (trained) officers to „repeat“ 1 and 2; (4) to SUPPORT police marriages; (5) to transform our God-ordained profession by infusing it with all-in Christian officers; and (6) to IMPACT (reduce) police suicides and PTS with the Cure found in Christ Jesus alone. In keeping with these 6 points, please feel free to adapt these messages for your own individual or group use and share them with others.

ASIA

HONG KONG

Seasonal greeting from the Hong Kong Police Force Christian Enoch Fellowship (the Enoch Fellowship). As Christmas is looming, brothers and sisters of the Fellowship would like

to extend our warm wishes and best regards from Hong Kong to all members of the ICPF and their family members. We wish you a joyful and healthy Christmas with abundant God’s blessing particularly amid the global pandemic of COVID-19. Below are some prayer items from the Fellowship.

1. The year of 2021 is a year of God’s blessing and miracle experienced by the Enoch Fellowship. In order to extend our horizon and boundary for the sake of the Gospel, the Board and all ministerial staff plan to expand the site of the Enoch Fellowship by purchasing a new site but without any funding nor the support of any mortgage from the bank. With all the dedication of the brothers and sisters, we did it. God is present here. We testify in our bodies that He is the Lord of all things, and nothing is impossible with Him! Thanks God!

2. For the Enoch Fellowship from January 23 this year, despite the severe epidemic, it has established a Saturday adult worship service, which is carried out by online Zoom. After the relaxation on gatherings, physical and online services have begun in April. On May 1, the children’s worship service was also established, and the youth worship service was held on September 4 too. The total number of people attending the three services is over 100 each week. Thank the Lord for connecting us. In the past 40 years, the Enoch Fellowship can only be together once or twice a year. Today, it has become a whole. Worship has become a platform for follow-up after evangelism. Pastoral care will be given to brothers and sisters in more than 60 different Districts and groups. Thanks to the Lord for the connection and the strengthening of our sense of “oneness”!

3. Following the Rally Evangelism in 2020, five District evangelistic meetings will be held in Hong Kong, Kowloon and New Territories in 2022 to actively spread the Gospel to police colleagues. The responsible brother / sister of the five Districts have been invited to set up a preparatory committee to set the timing and venue, and set up various teams such as worship team, reception team, chat and cultivation team, etc. Members of the Enoch Fellowship love to share the Gospel and they do not forget the original intention of establishing the Fellowship 40 years ago! Thanks God!

4. The fourth evangelistic meeting of the Enoch Fellowship this year will be held on December 11. May the Lord touch the Fellowship to involve and invite police colleagues and their family members to get to know Jesus and share eternal life!



INDIA

Praise the Lord dear Prayer Partners. Please uphold us in your prayers for our Gospel Revival Ministries around North India. All Glory to God.

Be strong therefore and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded 2. Chron.15,7



Warm greetings to you all Police Families around the world in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I pray and wish you, the reason for the season is Christmas. This Christmas season bring hope and light for the people who are in darkness and may the heavenly light drive away the darkness of pandemic Covid.

We wish you happy Christmas and Happy New Year
Regards.

*Jayaram Jerome and
Holy Cops families India (CPA India)*

OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) Commissioner, Katarina Carroll, APM attended the annual Christian Police Fellowship (CPF) Christmas breakfast at Police HQ, Brisbane. A time of prayer and fellowship followed by a powerful message of hope and strength in Christ during difficult times.



The message by CPF executive member Angus McCracken, a senior public servant in the QPS. Angus's love of Christ sustained him after the tragic death of his sister and her three children as a result of a house fire a number of years ago. It was a message of hope and being sustained by the love of Christ. The meeting was well attended by various police officers and QPS employees. There were representatives of the QPS chaplaincy as well as the Chaplain to the Australian Federal Police in attendance. Senior Sergeant Paul Robinson closed in prayer acknowledging the privilege that the CPF can freely meet and acknowledge Christ as our Lord and Saviour.

Rob McCall, CPF - Queensland, Australia

NEW ZEALAND

Rich blessing to all ICPF colleagues, brothers and sisters around the globe from the PCSN (Police Christian Support Network) in New Zealand. Writing something worth reading is the ongoing challenge for any newsletter. Producing words and information for the sake of it serves no one well and fails the heart of the PCSN and ICPF. Do I list a bunch of facts and prayer points, or do I inspire and encourage? Pondering this brings me to the theme of a recent PCSN Newsletter... 'even better work stories.' The Police thrive on storytelling, and as the ales pour and the night grows long, stories grow legs and heroes wear capes. But the truth is they don't need to. Every day out there our colleagues are weaving a web of beautiful stories around our nations, stories of heroism, courage, love, compassion, selfless giving and sacrifice. And that narrative led to the concept of 'better work stories' which developed into somewhat of a New Zealand Policing cultural cliché, a Recruiting Campaign and common one liner.

But over the years I have witnessed something different when Jesus is working through my colleagues and myself, and I call it, 'even better work stories.' I don't want to demean or undermine anybody's story or put others on pedestals. It's just that something beautiful happens when God captures a person's heart and they stop living and working for a paycheque, and instead lay their lives down for others simply because they themselves have experienced the beauty of God's love. It's really the shift from just coming to work, to understanding that in Christ, life is ministry. And such stories continuously blow my mind; like the cop who gave his family's brand new dining room table away to a gang member because he didn't have one, and then used



his own BBQ table for his family of six; and then there's the cops who buy food for the family who has none; or who sees a homeless person eating out of bins and goes to buy them a feed; or who goes back off duty with food or clothing to the job they attended earlier in the day; or who sits and listens to people's problems simply because they care; and who connect with those they deal with on an ongoing basis in a myriad of ways to help them walk a different path; and the staff members who realise we can't solve these problems on our own, and so start to pray and ask God to move on their behalf, and as a result they start to see healing, hope restored, suicides prevented, problems resolved and lives changed.

"Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you." James 1 v 27

And this is who we are encouraging the PCSN members to be...people who live their faith in tangible ways, not only at church but also in the marketplace i.e. their workplace. The PCSN exists to support and empower staff to understand that they can live out their faith in Police in a way that touches the hurt and brings hope to the pain. Jesus cares about the brokenness that we touch every day. He cares more than we do, and He is wanting to reach through each of us to bring healing, hope, dignity, restoration, freedom and new life.

Regardless of the climate in which we find ourselves, be it winter or summer, political or health orientated, crisis or calm, one thing remains the same...Jesus. He is our hope, our healing, our mighty fortress, strong refuge and lover of our souls. And above all He is our Saviour. As we enter this Christmas season, I love to pause in the midst of a darkening world to remind myself that only through Jesus does light come into the world. Police exposes us to that darkness in greater depths than most experience. After 33 years at the coal-face I have tasted more than my fair share of humanity's ugliness. But I have stayed in this place, because in the midst of the pervading darkness I continue to see the light of hope that only Jesus can bring...and that brings me great joy and purpose.

This Christmas why not pause to contemplate the depth, breadth and awe inspiring extent of God's love? Without His love – without Jesus – this world is lost...period. But because of Christmas we have the greatest hope of all. And because we have that hope, we need to share it in the dark places that we find ourselves. It is dishonest, hard hearted and cold to know the truth that brings freedom and not

share it. This is the season of 'peace on earth and goodwill to all mankind.' 'Tis also the season for Christmas traditions to resurface. We string lights, decorate trees, sing carols, buy special gifts, attend plays and celebrate. Somewhat like the many monuments that dot our nations, each one commemorating some significant moment in history, person or noteworthy acts of heroism and sacrifice. Monuments are supposed to help us remember, but rarely do we actually pause to reflect and respect. In the same way, we celebrate this Christmas season year after year, often without stopping to remember and honour the reason for this monumental tradition.

While most are trying to rush back to a covid-less norm, I invite you to pause and reflect on why this monument of Christmas actually exists? Why do we commemorate Christmas? Is a jolly big fat Santa really a big enough reason? What is so momentous about this season that we still celebrate it, some 2000 years later? Surely all of this effort doesn't arise from some quaint fantasy or fable? God's Word, the Bible has our answers. At some point this Christmas you will come across a nativity, depicting the story of Christ's birth. Slow down and see who is at the centre of this Christmas monument. Park yourself and reflect on God's monumental goodness to us through the birth of Jesus. Don't let anyone hurry you past Christmas, because Jesus isn't merely worth remembering, He's worth knowing and worshipping. We all need a Saviour and through God's Christmas gift we have one; Christ Jesus our Lord. The magic of Christmas is not in the presents, but in His presence, where there is hope, fullness of joy and the very meaning and purpose of life. In a year where there has been much loss, the Christmas story shines brightly as a beacon of hope. It reminds us that God is not distant or disconnected from our pain, rather that He chose to step into our mess and struggles and dwell amongst us. The Good News of Christmas is a vaccine to the world's uncertainty, fear and pain. So pause and reacquaint yourself with the truth of Christmas. Invite Jesus to fill you with His peace and fresh hope for the season ahead and then go and share His love and hope wherever He leads you, because as I hope you know, life is ministry. Our thoughts and prayers are with you for a very special and blessed Christmas full of Jesus love, joy, peace and 'presence'.

Jon McKenzie, Co-Chair PCSN



EUROPA

UNITED KINGDOM

CPA UK - Helping Mental Health Well Being for Police Officers and Staff

CPA UK have partnered with the Charity 'Kintsugi Hope' (www.kintsugihope.com) to deliver online mental health Well-being courses via Zoom during the Covid pandemic. Policing and first responder services by the nature of the work can result in mental health struggles. Many feel alone and there is a great need for each of us to be vulnerable, open and honest when life is hard. Sometimes the most courageous thing you can do is ask for help.

'Kintsugi' is a Japanese technique for repairing pottery with seams of gold. The word means 'golden joinery' in Japanese. This repairs the brokenness in a way that makes the object more beautiful, and even more unique than it was prior to being broken. Instead of hiding the scars it makes a feature of them. We are all broken vessels - but are more beautiful because of the experiences we have lived through and we are ourselves unique and of great value. As the bible says in Psalm 139 v 14 I have been fearfully and wonderfully made.

Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing Courses consist of 12 sessions covering the following subjects: Honesty, Anxiety, Depression, Shame, Anger, Disappointment and loss, Perfectionism, Forgiveness, Self-acceptance, Healthy relationships, Resilience and the final session is for reflection and review each session lasts between 90-120minutes.

The course is peer mentoring and support and adheres to biblical principles, it is not an alternative to medical help. It is supportive and non-judgemental and a safe place for people to be honest and open about their struggles.

More information can be found at www.kintsugihope.com You tube - Kintsugi Hope and Books by Patrick Regan, 'Honesty over Silence' and 'Bouncing Forward'



Tony Britten -

Ambassador for ICPF and Kintsugi Hope.

Hi, I am Brian McCarthy from Cleveland in the North East of England. I have a story I want to share with you in the hope it may be an encouragement to you all.

About 15 years ago, I joined the Cleveland Police branch of the Christian Police Association. Things went well and in November 2008, being the 125th anniversary of the CPA being founded by Catherine Gurney, I was inaugurated as

the Branch leader by the Executive Director, Don Axcell. In the following years, I served the branch to the best of my ability and greatly benefitted from the friendship, support and mentoring that I both received and offered others. More recently, in November 2017, I was able to offer a car ride to a friend, Neil Collin as we headed for the CPA Leaders Conference near London. Neil is an ICPF Board Member and Team Director with the Pointman Leadership Institute. Little did we expect that journey, of over 4 hours, to have been what I would call a 'God appointment', the results of which have had massive repercussions in my life. Neil knew about my faith and the fact that I had a police training background. During the journey, he invited me to consider becoming an instructor for Pointman, which really excited me. At that time, I was going through a really tough period and this seemed a great and unexpected opportunity to put my faith into action. (www.pliglobal.org) The Pointman 'Train the Trainer Course' took place in February 2018 at the High Leigh Christian Conference Centre, London, where I met a group of truly inspiring individuals. They were from the USA, Australia, Italy, Spain and even Scotland!! The group included people who are now my best friends, namely Francois Arconti from Rome, Italy and Juanma Nombela in Madrid, Spain, also an ICPF Board Member. This encounter has opened further doors to an amazing Christian Police conference near Valencia, Spain called 'Expresate.' There, I have met police officers from across Europe and beyond. Throughout the COVID 19 lock-down, I was able to participate in dozens of virtual conferences across the world, along with Francois, praying for my brothers and sisters, whilst conversing in English, Spanish and Italian! It seems I am making more friends daily and it does not show any signs of slowing down!



Another unexpected opportunity arose in March 2021 when on the retirement of Tony Britten, I was invited to represent the UK CPA as an ICPF Board member. Then in quick



succession and with God’s help, I successfully applied to be the next Executive Director of CPA UK. This key position will come into effect for me before Christmas 2021. I acknowledge that not one of these appointments could have been possible without God’s hand upon me. Importantly, I recognise that I can only be a good leader by keeping God as my foundation and the prayers of all my brothers and sisters behind me and beside me.

These events are all very much in God’s timing, as I have taken early retirement from the Police to step into this role. I humbly realise that I am only holding the baton for a season, whilst simultaneously standing on the shoulders of giants, (being those leaders and members of CPA past and present.) and walking in the giant footprints of our founder, Catherine Gurney, who founded the International Christian Police Association in 1883.

Having read the book “Beloved Lady” about Catherine Gurney as preparation for my interview, I recognised that our goals haven’t really changed that much in 138 years. CPA is still very much all about the wellbeing of it’s members and colleagues. I give God all the Glory for all that He has done in recent years, that you too may well have the opportunity to become active both locally and internationally. Together, we are the body of Christ. Let us put on our armour and stand shoulder to shoulder across this beautiful world. To each and every one of you, as my colleagues who know and serve on the front line across the globe let me share Christian Love and Blessings this Christmas and into 2022.

Brian McCarthy



SPAIN

EXPRÉSATE (EXPRESS YOURSELF) 2021 took place from October 21 to 24.

I will start by saying that Exprésate 2021 was impregnated with a pleasant and familiar smell, the smell of affection, of wanting to see each other and hug each other. Due to restrictions of COVID-19, this Exprésate had fewer participants than in previous years, with only about 100 people present. Despite this, we could feel as much or more love than in other years; as the anticipation of not seeing each other last year was very strong. It was because of the pandemic that when the team met to discuss what we wanted

for Exprésate ,21, the slogan “Ties of Love” emerged based on debate-talks such as: “Friendship”, “And God, where has He been in all this?” and “Waiting vs Desperate”.

Exprésate is for everyone to express themselves, that is why we wanted the talks to be like discussions, so that everyone could give his/her opinion and bring one more grain of sand. In addition to these talks we had the presence and collaboration of: “Alexia Enseñanos” (Alexia teach us), a project made by a local policeman from Logroño, Spain named Salvador Martí. This policeman accompanied by his inseparable colleague, the puppet „Alexia”, a Greek name whose meaning is „protector”, who was able to instruct and reinforce to the children about basic personal safety protection measures, through games and in a funny way. Another objective of Alexia is to change the concept of the police officer’s image, that they should never be the person to fear or that mom or dad will call if children misbehave. To encourage that they should be the friend who will always help them in any situation that requires their help.

-The ‘Biblical Society’ came to present us a project called „Bible and Violence” based on a workshop with a manual and 27 roll-ups with images through which society and young people are aware of the prevention of violence based on what the Bible says. In Misión 365 we are very aware of the need for this information in society and in churches, so we have signed a collaboration agreement with Bible Society to teach the “Bible and Violence” workshop wherever it is necessary. The Gloria Gospel Choir of Valencia delighted us with a sublime performance on Saturday night. It was attended by many non-believers as well and those people could be evangelized through the wonderful lyrics of the songs that were sung.

The Worship and Praise group in Exprésate, as usual were excellent, giving their best so that we could really enjoy praise and adoration times in which the presence of God could be felt in an incredible way. On Sunday before the closing, we enjoyed our Sunday worship and we participated in the Last Supper. This ceremony is always a very special moment to share between brothers and sisters in Christ.

From Juanma Nombela,

Spain





ROMANIA

We were glad and thankful that in September 2021 we managed to organize our national conference and we celebrated the 21st Anniversary of CPA Romania. About 170 law enforcement people attended, the majority with their families, as well as a large number of young colleagues.

During the conference a new board was elected for the next five years and we can gladly state that the CPA members saw the need and voted also for young representatives, who are eager to spread the Gospel among their active colleagues. Therefore, the actual board is well balanced and the younger, active members have the opportunity to learn from the more experienced ones. The new CPA Romania president is Petrică Bohuş and the vice president is Marius Şinca (www.cparo.ro).

Lord willing and in collaboration with Lich im Osten Switzerland, in 2022 we would like to print a new book with the testimonies of Christian people within the law enforcement and distribute it in Romania.

Our prayer is that The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ bless all the brothers and sisters from all Christian Police Associations in the world. May you have peace and good health on the occasion of Christmas celebrations.

Blessings and warm regards.

*Petrică Bohuş,
President of CPA Romania*



SWEDEN

The annual conference was held in Lindköping a city at the south-west end of Sweden, near Lake Vänern, which is the largest Lake in the European Union. We were staying at a small resort owned by Pingstchurch, a Pentecostal Church.



A very nice place and we had very nice weather. We were 30 persons at the conference and we all enjoyed a time

of worship, bible studies and we had among other things a visit from a cafébus, „On the road for Jesus“. Volunteers drive around in small cities trying to gather the youth of the town, supporting them with something to eat and drink and a word from Jesus. We also visited a beautiful and ancient castle (See photo) in the neighbourhood, „Läckö Castle“, where the site of the building dated back to 1298. We had a truly lovely and blessed weekend!!

Mats Nilson, Sweden

SWITZERLAND

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing praises to God; and the prisoners listened to them.

Acts 16.25

„Aktion Philippi“ One of the oldest and largest projects of the CPV. As every year at the beginning of December, the calendars for the prisons are packed up and mailed. It was already the 13th day of packing for „Aktion Philippi“. Through this unique evangelistic project, thousands of prisoners in Swiss prisons are reached with the word of God every day.

This year there were around 3200 calendars in around 40 different languages. From Thai to Russian, Lithuanian, Croatian, etc. to Mandarin.

Thanks to the enormous preparatory work by Rolf Bänziger, head of „Aktion Philippi“ and his team, stayed on December 2nd to sort and pack the calendars for 25 of 31 prisons for the 13 helpers who had arrived.

*Marcel Riedener,
President CPV Switzerland*



GERMANY-

Another good news story for Christmas. I want share a true story that relates to Germany and Moldova and how by showing God's love and support we can create a powerful testimony.

Recently, a young Christian police officer in Moldova had a second job as a driver in a 3.5t truck, transporting material through Europe in his free time. Unexpectedly, he became stranded in Stuttgart, Germany and through this ended up meeting with young police officers in the CPA branch Stuttgart. They shared food, hospitality and did everything to help make him feel at home, as he was a long way from



his wife and young son. The following week he was feeling poorly and had to be admitted to hospital as an emergency case, with internal bleeding and ended up in the intensive care unit.

At this time another CPA member's family in Germany stepped in to help and take care of the young officer, although he was unable to speak either English or German. They showed compassion by organising the necessary medications and helped him back to good health and gave him somewhere he could safely stay until fully recovered in their house.

Now we are able to report that he is safely back in Moldova with some personal experiences and inspiring impressions of how our prayers, from around the world can work and how we can all be confident and trust in our faith foundation. (A real modern-day story of the Good Samaritan).

Matthias Lehmann