



**INTERNATIONAL  
POLICE ASSOCIATION**  
INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

## IPA Newsletter

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**May 2019**

### Gimborn – the IPA's oasis of calm



Always worth a visit – be it for education or leisure

# WORD OF INTRODUCTION

## Time to strengthen ties

Dear friends,

Two of our sections were severely hit recently: Mozambique and Sri Lanka.

### Mozambique

In mid-March, Cyclone Idai tore down entire villages and cities, destroyed crops, displaced hundreds of thousands of people and forced untold numbers of children out of schools that are damaged or became evacuation centres. On 25 April, Cyclone Kenneth hit Mozambique again, and nearly 800,000 people were in the storm path. Many IPA members or other members of the police have been injured, died and lost everything.



The IEB sent immediate financial emergency aid to Section Mozambique, and an emergency aid appeal has been launched, calling for solidarity and financial support. At the end of this introduction, you will find the bank details, and instructions for any donations you wish to make. Thank you for your generosity and may this help our friends in Mozambique to provide support to our affected members.

### Sri Lanka



On 21 April, we were all profoundly shocked to hear about the terror that had struck Sri Lanka, killing and wounding so many innocent people and police officers among them. We sent our most sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to our friends of IPA Sri Lanka. A few days later I received a reply from the Inspector General of Police who is also the President of IPA Sri Lanka, and who asked to convey his

sincere appreciation to all of you for your great concern towards the Sri Lankan Police and the people of Sri Lanka.

I could name many other sections of the IPA where our members are also facing tough situations and are giving a lot of themselves for helping those in need, to keep the peace or to defend the values of human rights.

In such times, let us strengthen the ties between us. Any donation, any gesture, any thought is welcome to help our friends.

Servo per Amikeco

***Pierre-Martin Moulin, IPA President***

## IPA EMERGENCY AID APPEAL MOZAMBIQUE – HOW TO DONATE

Sections wishing to provide assistance can send their donations to the Emergency Aid Account of Section Mozambique.

### Account details:

<i>Account name:</i>	IPA MOZAMBIKAN SECTION
<i>Name of the bank:</i>	MILLENNIUM BANCO INTERNACTIONAL DE MOÇAMBIQUE (BIM)
<i>Full postal address of the bank:</i>	1080, Vladimir Lenine Avenue, Maputo, Mozambique
<i>Account number:</i>	55944363
<i>BIC (SWIFT CODE):</i>	BIMOMZMX
<i>IBAN:</i>	MZ59000100000005594436357

### IPA Mozambique contact details:

Disaster Coordinators:	Diniz Vicente Macamo  Anacleto Samora de Oliveira	<a href="mailto:dinisvmacamo@gmail.com">dinisvmacamo@gmail.com</a>  <a href="mailto:anacletosamora7979@gmail.com">anacletosamora7979@gmail.com</a>
Secretary General:	Claudio Langa	<a href="mailto:claudiolanga2002@gmail.com">claudiolanga2002@gmail.com</a>

When transferring contributions to the designated bank account of Mozambique, the donor section shall inform the affected section of the transfer, by providing details of the amount donated, the transfer date and any specific instructions to which the contribution is subject, with a copy to the

- Treasurer of Social Affairs – [ts@ieb-ipa.org](mailto:ts@ieb-ipa.org) and the
- International Administration Centre – [iac@ieb-opa.org](mailto:iac@ieb-opa.org).



# AROUND THE WORLD

## IPA friends from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia take part in a History and Arts Festival in Kuldiga

On a sunny holiday weekend from 5-7 April 2019, friends of the International Police Association from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia gathered in the beautiful Latvian town of Kuldiga - known as the pearl of Kurzeme.

The event took place in a friendly atmosphere, and we explored the historic and important sites of Kuldiga: we visited the Museum of Kuldiga, enjoyed the architecture, and saw the most beautiful places.



We also had the opportunity to take part in creative master classes – woodcarving and decoupage, where the participants revealed their hidden talents. Saturday evening was spent enjoying a few dances, and on sunny Sunday we visited an ostrich farm, where we laughed excitedly at the exotic birds showing off their skills, and enjoyed delicious ostrich-meat soup for lunch.

Thank you, dear IPA friends from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia for this lovely event!

Servo per Amikeco!

***Indra Lūse, Secretary General IPA Latvia***

## IPA Ireland enjoy Polish hospitality during their national ski trip to Nowy Targ



It was with great pleasure, that I led a group of 16 people to the beautiful country of Poland from 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. We were based in Białka Tatrzańska, in the Nowy Targ Region. In that regard, I wish to thank the local president of that Region, Mateusz Kapolka, for all his help in organising the trip, sorting out accommodation in the excellent Villa Joanna, arranging events, buses, tours and guides, and Pawel for meeting us at Balice-Krakow Airport to escort us through.

Mateusz and Piotr Filar welcomed us that first night and took us on a tour of the ski resort, which was within walking distance of Villa Joanna. For the duration of our stay, Piotr looked after us on the ski slopes – he had such patience with everyone, however, I don't think we will have any contenders for the Winter Olympics!!!

Our thanks also go to Robert, who escorted us to the Police Headquarters, where we were welcomed by First Deputy Commander-in-Chief in Nowy Targ, Commissioner Zbigniew Zacher, and Inspector Grzegorz Wyskiel, and given a tour of the Police Station. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit. Again on Saturday, Robert collected us, and we attended a charity ice hockey match.

During our stay, we visited the Salt Mines, Wawel Cathedral, and went on a walking tour of Krakow. We visited the town of Wadowice, birthplace of Pope John Paul II and saw the church where he was baptised and later served as an altar boy. We also passed by the school he attended and ate some of the famous papal cake. Pope John Paul II holds a very special place in Irish hearts and a number of us in the group had worked as young Gardaí (Police) on the occasion of his visit to Ireland in 1979.



Of course no trip to Poland is complete without a visit to Auschwitz/Brzezinka.

Mateusz and Piotr were available at all times to assist us. I would also like to thank Arek Skrzypczak and Section Ireland President, Conor O'Higgins, who were instrumental in the idea of this trip. On behalf of the group, I thank everybody who made this trip possible and to you, our Polish friends, who organised so much for us. We look forward to returning the favour and one day hosting you here in Ireland. Maybe, instead of Vodka, we'll give you a little Irish Whisky!!!

Servo per Amikeco,

***Ann Liston, National Travel Officer IPA Ireland***



## IPA Croatia introduce a new competition: 'Trap Shooting 2019'



The Regional Club IPA Istria, one of the most active clubs of the Croatian Section, organised an international competition in moveable targets shooting in the discipline of trap shooting, the Olympic discipline of clay pigeon shooting. The competition took place at the renovated shooting range in the village Bužinija, a small place near the beautiful Istrian town of Novigrad.

The host of the competition was the Firing society 'Gusar'. One of its members is

Giovanni Cernogoraz, the Olympic champion in the trap shooting discipline at the Olympic Games in London in 2012, who is also an honorary member of the IPA Croatian section. Giovanni comes from a police family: his father Valter was a member of the Croatian Ministry of the Interior during the Croatian War of Independence and the collaboration stems from there.

The competition for and with very precise participants, was supported by the chiefs of police units – the Head of Istarska County Police Administration, Božo Kirin, the Head of Međimurska County Police Administration, Ivan Sokač, the Commander of the Special Police of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia, Alen Klabot, as well as the Mayor of the city of Novigrad, Anteo Milos.



The President of the Regional Club IPA Istria, Loris Kozlevac, and the President of IPA Croatia, Miljenko Vidak, with the assistance of the Firing Society 'Gusar' and Regional Club IPA Istria members, handed out medals and specially prepared IPA souvenirs to the best participants in this shooting discipline, which is quite compatible with the police training.



Special thanks to all participants for extremely good results, but particularly to the best individual shooter, Ivica Varga, member of the Regional Club IPA Međimurje.

This event was published in the 2019 calendar of IPA Croatia, and will become a traditional international event, organised by the Regional Club IPA Istria, with the support of the IPA Croatian Section.

All IPA sections are welcome to participate in the upcoming years.

SERVO PER AMIKECO.

**Željko Turk, Secretary General IPA Croatia**

## IPA Romania welcome their 100,000<sup>th</sup> member

On 25 March 2019, the Day of the Romanian Police was celebrated with a series of events. IPA Romania used this occasion to mark a special milestone in the section's history: President Florin Olaru was able to issue and present the 100,000<sup>th</sup> membership card to Cornelia Bălănică, who had joined the association 3 days earlier.

The achievement of recruiting such a large number of members in just over 22 years was made possible with the continued support of a dedicated team at IPA Romania. No effort was spared to reach the goals we have set out to achieve.

We would therefore like to thank all Regional Executive Committees, all members of IPA Romania, as well as all our supporters and partners. Without their assistance, we would not have been able to reach this milestone.

Friendship and respect are the main goals of Section Romania, which we keep in our hearts and in our soul, with the hope of seeing the membership of IPA Romania increase even further, and giving us the opportunity to celebrate many further successful moments.

Please follow the link to witness for yourself what a joyful celebration we had:

[https://www.youtube.com/IPA Romania MSC 100 000](https://www.youtube.com/IPA%20Romania%20MSC%20100%20000)

With friendship and respect,

**Florin Olaru, President IPA Romania**



## IPA UK's Aidan Goundry reflects on a great trip to IPA Romania



On 21<sup>st</sup> of March I began my short tour of Southern Europe. It was very last minute, and although I had sent out messages to our IPA friends, I was not sure any would reply at such short notice, let alone be available to meet me.

Needless to say I was very pleased to receive a reply from Laura-Lilliana Savu from the Romanian section, which was to

be the first country of my trip. We discussed my plans, and she informed me that someone would meet me at the airport, which I was thrilled by. The day came, and

after a very pleasant flight I touched down in Bucharest and was very happy to see Laura waiting for me as planned.

Our greetings were made, and together we headed off into the city. Even the journey there was fantastic, and a great opportunity to learn about the local landmarks and history of the city. I have often said you cannot beat the knowledge of locals, and Laura had plenty of this!

After a short drive we arrived at their National Headquarters, which was quartered in one of the local government buildings. I was impressed by their offices, and everything on display showed the friendships they have been developing around the world and included a lovely picture of our late founder, Arthur Troop.

It was here that I was introduced to the National President, Mr. Florin Olaru, who invited me to share a drink and have a chat with him. With a glass of Pálinka in hand, we had a fantastic discussion about their plans for the IPA in Romania, policing in general, and many more things. Sadly, due to the short notice of my visit, Mr. Olaru could not join us for dinner as he had prior engagements, but when we had finished talking he presented me with some lovely gifts from their section and I proudly gave him a police hat from the United Kingdom, along with a few patches and badges.



After the meeting, Laura took me through the town, pointing out several amazing historical buildings and then we went to one of the most ornate restaurants I have ever seen, so much so that I had to ask if it had once been a cathedral! It was a perfect way to round off the evening. Local food, beer and traditional entertainment all made for a truly memorable night.

At the end of the evening, Laura left me at my hotel with the promise of assistance should I have any problems or queries during my exploration of the city the following day. Luckily I did not have to fall back on this, but I know that had I needed to, I could have relied on her and her colleagues entirely.

Section Romania were fantastic hosts. They couldn't do enough to help me, and their hospitality is second to none I've experienced anywhere. Every time I go abroad I meet more and more Sections and members who embrace the spirit of friendship, and Section Romania was no exception to this. They welcomed me in the true spirit of our organisation, and I can't wait until I can plan a return visit, hopefully with more time to spend in their wonderful company.

Servo per Amikeco

***Aidan Goundry, IPA UK***



## Collectors of Police Insignia – the Guardians of Police History

Thanks to the collectors of police insignia, the history of the police will not sink into oblivion. In May 2019, the 20<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of the Collectors of Police Insignia took place in Ptuj (Slovenia). On this occasion, we talked to the president of the Police Insignia Collectors' Association of Slovenia, Branko Zupanič, also a long-term IPA member. We discussed his passion for police insignia and talked about the venerable anniversary of the event.

### What exactly are insignia?



The meaning of the word insignia comes from Latin – 'insignia' represents medals that honour someone. They include symbols, badges, awards, ceremonial symbols, special badges and symbols of a specific title, power, honour, and dignity. Examples of royal insignia are crowns, maces, coats, coats of arms, etc. Insignia also come into use when marking a specific status in social or professional hierarchy. Police insignia can be parts of the uniform, marks, symbols, badges, awards.

### How long has collecting insignia been your passion?

I began collecting police insignia in 1992, but soon realised that I should have started many years earlier since numerous things were discarded between the years 1991 and 1992. Foreign fellow collectors taught me to search and gather what sinks into oblivion and then continue with current material. Perhaps I manage to do that.

### Where did the idea come from?

In 1983, while working at the border crossing Šentilj, I had a conversation with an American tourist from California who was travelling to Greece for a vacation. He showed me photos of his collection and himself in a uniform and wanted to have a patch of the Militia. As he was very persistent, I went to the locker room and took a patch off a raincoat and gave it to him as a gift. In exchange, I received his Californian patch, which then became my first exhibit. However, at that time I was not yet ready for this hobby. Later, in 1992 I got the newspaper PC NEWS (Police Collectors News) into my hands, which was published by American collector Mike R. Bondarenko. There I found a lot of information regarding collectors and their collections, along with many advertisements, through which they were searching for police patches for exchange. I started sending letters to the United States and some other countries to the addresses I found in the newspaper. And so, the patches started to come, together with occasional gifts in the form of a badge, keychain, police unit's leaflets, etc. I continued collecting patches and later added models of cars, literature, medals and awards, plus photos.

### What is the story behind the international meeting of the collectors of police insignia which will soon take place?

The first international meeting in Slovenia was organised by a policeman from the Police Station in Celje, Mitja Vodušek. It took place in the Police Directorate Celje in 1998. Back then, an idea of establishing a club or association of collectors from the police arose, so in 1999 we established the Police Insignia Collectors' Association of Slovenia and organised an international meeting every year since. The meetings were attended by policemen from Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Hungary, Croatia, Spain, the Czech Republic, Serbia, Macedonia, and the USA. My responsibility as a president of the association was to organise those meetings since the very beginning. As a member of the IPA, I attended meetings in Austria and Germany, and so got to know the activities of the clubs there. We can pride ourselves as one of the most organised and active clubs in the field of police collectors in Europe.



**Who are the collectors of police insignia, is perhaps the youth among them?**

Collectors of police insignia are not only police officers. Around the world, this hobby is really common, and many collectors are not related to the police in any way, but like to add police insignia to their other collections. We would wish to have younger colleagues among us for sure, but it seems that the youth does not find this hobby interesting. We are sometimes joking that to be a collector, you need to be either rich or mad, but I believe that this is incorrect. I personally wish to retain as many items from the history of the Slovenian Police as I can, so that they do not sink into oblivion or end in some landfill or with traders, who only see it as an easy way of earning money, and not as a passion for preservation and respect for the history of our occupation.

**Is there something especially valuable in your collection?**

There are many items and insignia in my collection that possess a huge collection value. Anyhow, for me each one of my more than ten thousand items in the collection has collection value.

**Is there any item that you would never want to exchange?**

None of the police insignia in my collection is available for replacement, and none will ever leave my collection. Only those where I have several pieces are exchangeable. I am glad to exchange those and add something new to the collection.

**Are you searching for any specific items?**

There is always something that could enrich the collection. I understand that it is impossible to get the collection of all police insignia that I would wish for, but I keep collecting. Perhaps, I will once encounter some rare and priceless item.

***Text: Anita Kovačič Čelofiga, IPA Slovenia, photos: personal archive***

## IPA Poland organise their first international ice hockey match between IPA Nowy Targ (Poland) and IPA Poprad (Slovakia)



9 March 2019 saw the first ever ice hockey match of IPA Poland!

Along with Jacek Sztur, a member of our region, and Peter Suchy, the President of the IPA Poprad region in Slovakia, we had tried to organise an encounter of IPA members at the ice rink for several years.

Time passed, and only now, with the huge commitment of police officer and member of IPA Nowy Targ, Wojciech

Batkiewicz, to organise the match, we managed it!

Thanks to the hospitality of the Mayor of the Czarny Dunajec commune, Mr Marcin Ratułowski, who took the honorary patronage of the match, two teams, IPA Nowy Targ and IPA Poprad, faced each other at the ice rink in Czarny Dunajec. The match was not only a social occasion, but also a charity event, raising money for Asia Podczerwińska, the granddaughter of a policeman from Nowy Targ county. Asia was born in 2018 with a congenital leg defect - fibular hemimelia.

The Provincial Police Commander in Krakow, General Krzysztof Pobuta, the Commander of the Carpathian Border Guard Unit, Colonel Stanisław Laciuga, and the Mayor of Nowy Targ, Mr Grzegorz Watycha were also honorary patrons of the match.

It was a hard, but fair match. There were also penalties – everything that can be expected during a traditional hockey match was seen! During the event, and with the active participation of our mascots Teddy Bear, Toucan, Butterfly, and Dragon, donations were collected in boxes prepared by the Adam Worwa Foundation, where Asia is registered. For each donation, the donor could choose a floral gift funded by Tomasz Bryniarski from the Horticultural Centre in Nowy Targ.



The IPA Nowy Targ team was composed of police officers not only from Nowy Targ, but also from Krakow, Oświęcim, Gorlice, Zakopane and Chrzanów, and everyone agreed to participate in the fundraising during the event. The supporters who came to the match did not allow the players a moment of weakness and actively cheered them on. Spectators had come from as far as Nowy Sącz and Gorlice. We even had IPA members from Ireland who came to watch, taking a break from their skiing holiday in Białka Tatrzańska!

The match ended with a two-digit, or rather a three-digit result. During and after the match - after calculating the contents of charity boxes - it turned out that the result of the match was 2,161 PLN + 161.50 € + 4 USD!





We hope that the joint help of many organisations, as well as ourselves, will help Asia's recovery. It is important that the operation and treatment on the reconstruction of joints and muscles (leg straightening, lengthening of bones and the construction of non-existing joints) is done as soon as possible, preferably between 18 and 24 months of age. The costs of the operation are very high and amount to over one million zloty!

We would like to thank everybody, including several companies, who helped to get our charity ice hockey match off the ground, in the spirit of a sporting competition, and according to our motto 'Servo per Amikeco'.

***Text: Mateusz Kapoła, photos Szymon Pyzowski, IPA Poland***

## IPA Macau visit National Police Academy of Cambodia

Last month, a delegation of the Asian Affairs Bureau (AAB), led by IPA Macau President Lei Hong Po, visited the National Police Academy of Cambodia and was hosted by the President of the school, General Seng PhD.

During the meeting, President Lei expressed his appreciation for the hospitality of the Cambodian party. In addition, he took the opportunity to briefly introduce the general history and values of the IPA. He also stated that the Asian Affairs Bureau will endeavour to facilitate and assist Cambodia to join the International Police Association.

General Seng, on behalf of his team, showed a great deal of interest in our Association, and indicated that he would do his best to coordinate the progress of affiliation. He also mentioned that he would like to plan to visit Section Macau and take part in IPA events in order to find out more about the IPA.



At the end of the meeting, both parties reached a mutual agreement and signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) at the meeting hall of the Police Academy of Cambodia. This will hopefully be the first step of a long-term relationship between the IPA and Cambodia.

***Marco Lei, Liaison Secretary Cultural / Social IPA Macau***

## IPA Bosnia & Herzegovina's West Herzegovina Club celebrate their 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in style

The IPA Regional Club of the West Herzegovina County (IPA ŽZH) held its Annual Meeting on 13 April and celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary from 12–14 April 2019 at the Agro-tourism Marića Gaj in Grude.

Our dear guests arrived a day before the Annual Meeting and were welcomed at the Kiwi Motel in Grude, where we enjoyed delicious meals in a nice atmosphere and exchanged our professional experiences as well as those from our IPA clubs. Our guests came from regional clubs and regions from IPA Sections Germany, North Macedonia, Croatia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina.



The next day, all guests went sightseeing and visited the Bell Tower of Peace at the Franciscan Church of St. Peter and Paul's and the Old Bridge in Mostar, plus the largest olive grove in Bosnia & Herzegovina, located in the municipality of Ljubuški, as well as an oil mill and a tasting room where they had lunch. Afterwards, our guests visited the breathtaking Kravica waterfall and the oldest museum in the country (from 1884), which is part of the Franciscan monastery in Humac, Ljubuški.

After the official component of the Annual Meeting, the festive part of the Meeting started with the signing of the Charter on Cooperation and Friendship between IPA Zagreb and IPA ŽZH. The Charter was signed by the President of IPA Zagreb, Darko Minković, and the President of IPA ŽZH, Zoran Smital, in the presence of the secretaries of the two clubs, Ante Pavelic and Milan Boban.

Certificates of Appreciation were given to deserving IPA members, businessmen, entrepreneurs and everyone who helped the club. Entertainment for over 150 participants continued late into the night, and all present were entertained by the 'Dream Team Babe' and the band 'Night Flight'.



We could not have prepared such a celebration without support from the President of the Government of the West Herzegovina County, the Minister of the Interior and local mayors who recognise and appreciate our hard work and the fact that in just



five years' time we have gathered over 200 members in a county with a very small population.

IPA ŽZH once again would like to thank everyone for coming and for the wonderful friendship, hoping that we will continue to work with the same intensity, and beyond, because all of us are joined by the motto 'Servo per Amikeco'!

**Zoran Smital, Acting President IPA Bosnia & Herzegovina**

## IPA UK's Rob Weaver enjoys spending a day with Lexington PD on his trip to the USA



I'm a Police Officer with almost 11 years' service currently working within the Royal Household Protection Group in Gloucestershire, and last month I visited Kentucky, USA. I was lucky enough to spend a shift out on patrol with Lexington's finest.

Parade was at 07:00 and I was met by a steady influx of officers who arrived fully kitted in their department issued marked Force Interceptor cars, which they take home and can drive off duty. Apparently, this decision has been welcomed by the officers, who cut down on personal mileage expenses, as well as the community who get to see more cops driving around town.

After briefing, I was introduced to Ryan from West Division and we had our first call of the day, which turned out to be a bit of a recurrence

- an alarm sounding at a business premises. These all ended up being either set off in error by staff, or genuine faults with the line. We then stopped for breakfast at a local fried chicken place (because, Kentucky!) where eating a succulent deep-fried chicken breast sandwiched between an American biscuit washed down with some iced tea seemed the most normal thing in the world.

After breakfast, Ryan showed me the kit he carried in his car. Along with the usual road signs, cones, police tape, first aid kit etc., is a personal issued carbine and ballistic body armour. I was impressed by the in-car laptop computer which mimics everything on a desktop exactly, making everything easy from writing statements and creating crime reports, to running checks on vehicles, people and property. Between the front and rear seats is a Perspex screen protecting officers from anyone sitting on the wipe-clean rear seating - making the transport of less-desirable prisoners a lot safer; and also making it easier to keep the car as hygienic as possible. The Interceptor models are large, powerful cars with plenty of room inside making them comfortable to patrol in all day. Definitely fit for purpose.

Next we were dispatched to a call of an intoxicated female causing problems in a sandwich shop. There were around 30 patrol officers on duty that morning so there



was always plenty of back up, and in a State where a resident can openly carry or conceal a firearm, it's nice to know. The female was arrested for public intoxication and taken to the local jail.

After lunch, we had a few more calls regarding a domestic assault and someone with mental health issues walking in traffic; then it was 16:30 and time to book off.

Having been a response officer in the UK for 10 years, I don't know why it surprised me that the job is almost exactly the same across the pond. The differences lie in the investments they make into uniform, personal issued kit, firearms and vehicles. I was pleased to see morale in the force was generally very high. Officers don't appear overstretched; they enjoy coming to work and are trusted in their decision making.

A few handshakes and the obligatory exchange of patches and that was off duty. I'm extremely grateful to Lexington Police Department for allowing me out on a ride along, and also the IPA for being so efficient and positive about actioning my travel request.

**Rob Weaver, IPA UK**

## IPA Slovenia organise presentation on Cryptocurrencies

Slovenia is one of the most active centres of the European crypto world. For some, it is a business revolution, as they believe that the future of money lies in cryptocurrencies, others might see it as a financial balloon that will pop sooner or later, while for the rest it represents the most important technological potential. Although it is not certain for how long the crypto world will last, it is suitable that we learn more about it. Around 160 listeners from all around Slovenia gathered to find out about cryptocurrencies at a professional consultation that was organised by IPA Club Štajerska in association with the Police Directorate Maribor.



As Danijel Lorbek, the director of the Police Directorate Maribor, stated at the beginning of the consultation, the police Directorate of Maribor together with the District court in Maribor paves the way in the field of cryptocurrencies. 'That was one of the reasons for organising this consultation in cooperation with IPA Club Štajerska and present listeners with the priceless experience that we have acquired.' Judiciary Councillor Mitja Kozar and Counsellor of Law, Petra Bezjak, from the District court in Maribor presented a case in which Bitcoins were seized and sold further. The case is currently in criminal proceedings and is the first such case for Slovenian courts. The Bitcoins were seized as an alleged property benefit that was obtained from a criminal act of an online sale of synthetic drugs. The court issued an agreement to sell them.

The Maribor police, including Borut Štok, Head of the Department for Computer Forensics Investigations at the Police Directorate Maribor, who introduced the basics

of cryptocurrencies with the focus on how Bitcoin cryptosystems operate, cooperated. As he explained, the beginnings of Bitcoin supposedly go back to the year 2008, when they were first introduced to the general public by their founder, known by the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto. Among the more than 1,500 different cryptocurrencies that currently exist, Bitcoin is the most well-known. It is a cryptographic currency that enables rapid and efficient online transactions. Its value is based on people's belief that it has a certain value. Unlike real money currency, cryptocurrencies are not based on the trust of authorities, i.e. the government and banks, but are founded on mathematics. 'New Bitcoins are produced in a process called mining. Bitcoin has an inbuilt mathematical algorithmic enigma that can be solved only by guessing the correct series of signs. Why would individuals waste processor power and electricity for solving a mathematical enigma? Because the one who manages to solve it first, gets an award of 12.5 bitcoins', he added.

The number of Bitcoins is fixed, and amounts to 21 million, with slightly over 16 million in circulation. Bitcoin is both the leading and the oldest cryptocurrency, with its value equalling 3,228.00€ in February 2019.

Cryptocurrencies can also be used as a legal business, i.e. as smart contracts. Legal expert and entrepreneur Dr. Peter Merc believes that they are the highest added value to BC technology. 'The Swedes have already transmitted their land register to BC. Next year they will not be transmitted in a traditional way, as is the practice here, where one needs to visit a notary and risks being deceived by the seller, as can happen that while waiting for the registration in the land register, someone else is registered instead. In Sweden, the ownership will soon be transmitted with smart or self-executable contracts. In some parts they are already in use. In the USA they sometimes put a blocking mechanism in the starter of a car when it is stated in the contract that it would be automatically activated if the renter does not settle the bill,' explained Dr. Merc.



So-called ICO-campaigns, (Initial Coin Offering), is a market which is experiencing a real blossoming. It is a type of massive investment, where interested investors purchase crypto coins that were designed by a company or a project. However, as Dr. Merc warned, misuses and risks can occur in this field: 'We must be cautious when crypto coins are sold in the street, when certain events are organised with the purpose of selling them or when new

Bitcoins appear that are not yet on a stock market but will be in two years' time. There are a few other indicators that it might be a scam: real cryptocurrencies can always be sold (however, there was a case when it was only possible to sell them to someone else, which is an example of a pyramid scheme). An ICO is about funding a start-up company where entrepreneurs collect money that will be used to finance the development for a few years. The most obvious sign is if the founder specifies how the coins will be handled – e.g. they might determine that they will keep about 60 to 70 % of coins, distributing the other 10 or 20 % to consultants and other people involved. If the team does not believe in a project, there is no way they will lock coins for a few years, but will want to have them at their disposal as soon as possible. At

this point, BC and smart contracts come forward – a smart contract is a contract that is written in a programme code, which is self-executable in BC. At the same time, it is transparent, so that everyone can look at it. A team decides that they will receive 10 % of the coins as a reward; those will be locked in a smart contract, after two years the clause will self-execute, and they will receive the coins. I do not believe in projects where people are able to freely have coins at their disposal, as there is no motivation to work and develop a project. With earnest projects, the owners are limited when it comes to using the coins, or those are even locked. When the project is serious, different experts are involved, e.g. people from the business world, industry, consultants for marketing, law, etc. Projects, where there are no limitations about the collected money are suspicious. ICO-projects in which we can trust, need to be intended to fund an actual product, and when the limit for the collective fund is reached, if the team collects too much or too little, the money is returned. It is extremely suspicious when projects with triple earnings in a few months are promised.'

**Text: Anita Kovačič Čelofiga, IPA Slovenia, photos: Igor Šebart, UIKS**

## IPA HOUSES – YOURS TO DISCOVER!

### IPA House Saarland, Neunkirchen, Germany

***The IPA House is situated in the town of Neunkirchen, the second largest town of the Saarland, a forested German state bordering France and Luxembourg. Sports facilities, including an open air swimming pool, tennis courts and an indoor cart track, can be found in close proximity.***

The house is located within easy reach of Homburg, St. Ingbert, Zweibrücken, St. Wendel and the Saarland's capital, Saarbrücken. It is approximately 30 minutes to the nearest airport (Saarbrücken-Ensheim).

Accommodating 8 people as standard, the IPA House Saarland offers one bedroom with 2 beds and a bathroom, one bedroom with a double bed, as well as one bedroom with a double bed and 2 single beds. Further beds can be arranged. In addition, there is a separate bathroom. Bed linen is provided.



The IPA House Saarland has a fully equipped kitchen, lounge, bar and guest toilets. Outside, guests can enjoy large grounds, which are partially wooded. BBQ facilities and parking are available.



## Contact Details & Bookings:

- Manager: Robert Salm
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- Mobile: +49 178 1868547
- Email: [gaestehaus-saarland@ipa-neunkirchen-saar.de](mailto:gaestehaus-saarland@ipa-neunkirchen-saar.de)
- Website : [www.gaestehaus.ipa-neunkirchen-saar.de](http://www.gaestehaus.ipa-neunkirchen-saar.de) & [www.ipa-deutschland.de](http://www.ipa-deutschland.de)

***Article provided by Hubert Vitt, IPA Germany***

## LAST WORD



When late spring arrives, the English countryside is full of bluebells, with many people visiting parks of stately homes and walking around bluebell woods to experience these beautiful and delicate flowers, which turn whole forests into what looks like purple magic carpets.

No need for IPA members to venture far or ask themselves where to go!

These last 2 weeks, the garden behind the IAC and Section UK offices has turned into a bluebell meadow, with hundreds of these dainty flowers embellishing the Arthur Troop House and enchanting us all.

If you are around, make sure to go around to the garden and take a look.

And of course pop in to see us – we will welcome you with a friendly chat and a cup of tea ☺

*Elke*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please find below a list of IPA events for the next 12 months:

<b>Section</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Spain	2-5 May 2019	Int'l 7-a-side Football Tourn., Tarragona
Croatia	4 May 2019	VII Shooting Tournament, Split-Dalmatia
Russia	6-12 May 2019	Mayskaya Week, Moscow
UK	10-12 May 2019	Birmingham Friendship Weekend
Italy	16-19 May 2019	Mediterranean Sections' Meeting, Garda
Italy	20-24 May 2019	44 <sup>th</sup> Friendship Cup (Futsal), Riccione
Russia	23-26 May 2019	Conference of Central and Eastern European IPA Sections, St. Petersburg
Russia	24-29 May 2019	IPA St. Petersburg 7 <sup>th</sup> Friendship Week
Netherlands	26 May	112 on Wheels, Venlo Greenport
Spain	27 May-2 Jun 2019	Romantic Week, Barcelona + optional extension to Morocco the following week
Spain	1 Jun 2019	5 <sup>th</sup> Intern. Mtg of Police Collectors, Valencia
France	6-11 Jun 2019	2 <sup>nd</sup> International Friendship Week, Nîmes
Bulgaria	7-9 Jun 2019	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations
Poland	8-9 Jun 2019	IPA Triathlon, Mietków
Italy	13-16 Jun 2019	9 <sup>th</sup> IPA Motorcycle Rally, Predazzo – fully booked!
Netherlands	14-16 Jun 2019	Limburg-Zuid 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
Italy	15-19 Jun 2019	4 <sup>th</sup> European Motorbike Reunion, Friuli Venezia Giulia
Netherlands	20-23 Jun 2019	26 <sup>th</sup> Int. Campervan Meeting, Valkenburg
Spain	20-23 Jun 2019	IV Int'l Champ. Football Tourn., Galicia
Romania	20-23 Jun 2019	Porto-Franco Cup (mini-football), Galati
Austria	22-29 Jun 2019	Hiking Week, Nassfeld
Slovakia	21-23 Jun 2019	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations
UK	24-28 Jun 2019	YPOS 2019
UK	27-30 Jun 2019	UK Motorbike Rally, Huddersfield
Germany	29 Jun 2019	3 <sup>rd</sup> International IPA March, Stuttgart
Poland	20 Jul;3 Aug;31 Aug	3 Cycle races 'The Crown of Karkonosze Mountains'
Germany	22-26 Jul 2019	IPA Bike Tour, Mannheim
Germany	26-28 Jul 2019	Int'l Motorbike Meeting, Uslar
Slovakia	28 Jul-4 Aug 2019	Int. Friendship Week 2019, Rimavska Sobota
Croatia	3-17 Aug 2019	International Youth Gathering
Spain	5-11 Aug 2019	Superfun Family Week, Barcelona
Canada	11-17 Aug 2019	IPA Training Conference, Vancouver
Canada	18-21 Aug 2019	22 <sup>nd</sup> ICADTS, T2019, Edmonton; <i>announced via the IPA Professional Commission</i>
Spain	25 Aug-1 Sep 2019	IPA Navarra 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniv. Friendship Week
Russia	26 Aug-2 Sep 2019	Spasskaya Week, Moscow
IBZ Gimborn	30 Aug-1 Sep 2019	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations, Gimborn

<b>Section</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Canada	2-11 Sep 2019	Shades of Ireland Tour, organised by Atlantic Region of IPA Canada
Bulgaria	4-8 Sep 2019	First Folklore Festival, Chepelare
Montenegro	5-8 Sep 2019	5 <sup>th</sup> Balkan-Adriatic Meeting, Podgorica
Italy	11-15 Sep 2019	6 <sup>th</sup> Troph. Riviera delle Palme 5-a-side football tournament, Ascoli Piceno
Spain	11-15 Sep 2019	XI Int'l Champ. Indoor Football, Galicia
Switzerland	13-15 Sep 2019	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Zentralschweiz, Lucerne
USA	5-12 Oct 2019	National Delegate Conference Cruise, Miami
Croatia	8-13 Oct 2019 12-19 Oct 2019	64 <sup>th</sup> IPA World Congress, Cavtat Friendship Week
Spain	30 Nov-8 Dec 2019	Cycle Tour of Gambia, supported by IPA Spain Vallés Oriental
Spain	30 Nov 2019	19 <sup>th</sup> International Trader Show, Barcelona
Spain	12-15 Dec 2019	1 <sup>st</sup> Intern. 7-a-side Football Tournament for Police, Tenerife
UK	14-17 Feb 2020	Devon Branch Spring Friendship Weekend, Exmouth
Japan	7-14 Apr 2020	Japan Friendship Week



## FORTHCOMING GIMBORN SEMINARS

Please see below a 4-month summary of seminars, offered by our international education centre IBZ Gimborn in Germany.

If you are interested in taking part in any of these seminars, please follow the link:

[www.ibz-gimborn.de](http://www.ibz-gimborn.de)



<b>Date</b>	<b>Seminar</b>	<b>Language</b>
03-05 May 2019	Motorradkultur und Sicherheit – Training für verantwortungsbewusstes Motorradfahren	G
08-10 May 2019	Was Sie schon immer über Facebook, Twitter und Co. wissen wollten – Social Media für Einsteiger	G
15-17 May 2019	Führung in Aussicht oder den Rollenwechsel meistern	G
20-24 May 2019	Grenzüberschreitende Kriminalität: Das Beispiel Menschenhandel – Aufgaben und Möglichkeiten der grenzüberschreitenden Zusammenarbeit // Przystepczosc transgraniczna, przyklad: handel ludzmi – zadania i mozliwosci wspolpracy transgranicznej	G/Pol
27-29 May 2019	Social Media – Best Practice Beispiele von Social Media Nutzung durch die Polizei	G
03-07 Jun 2019	Motorradbanden – Gesichter org. Kriminalität	G
10-14 Jun 2019	Demokratie, Freiheit, Menschenrechte und Diversität in Europa	G/F
17-21 Jun 2019	Demographischer Wandel und Fragen der Sicherheit// Cambiamente demografici e questioni della sicurezza	G/Ita
26-28 Jun 2019	'Circle'-Training Social Media	G

<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Seminar</i></b>	<b><i>Language</i></b>
01-05 Jul 2019	Hablamos Español	G/S
01-05 Jul 2019	Wenn die Stressverarbeitung nicht mehr funktioniert – Hilfe durch Stressmanagement	G
08-12 Jul 2019	Police Street Survival Training	E
19-23 Aug 2019	Wir Europäer?	G/E
30 Aug-01 Sep 2019	Qualifizierung 'Mut tut gut'	G

