

# It's On Again!

IPI and ABI Amalgamation



## The Professional Investigator

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## IPI Goes Twitting



Following the AGM, the Principal started getting busy, and having re-established a few communication lines with the general and industry press asked, “How can we get more noticed?”

His conclusion was to utilise the social networking scene – completely against his personal values but absolutely in keeping with the need to get the IPI in people’s faces! As a result, the IPI went tweeting in late October – how this develops remains to be seen, but already there are indications that people looking for investigators on the Internet trip over our Tweeter site and from there they can travel on to our website and facilities such as the Distance Learning Course. No sales yet but...

To see for yourself, go to [twitter.com/IPInvestigators](https://twitter.com/IPInvestigators). Let us know what you think. Facebook is another fish kettle, however...

## New Members of the Board

Here we will introduce, in no particular order, the two new members of the Institute's Board, who already have a major role to play in the renewed discussions with the ABI.

### James Harrison-Griffiths

"Having left school at the age of 15 years with no qualifications I began my working life as a grease monkey in Ellesmere Port. I then moved on and became a messenger on the docks in the same town. At the age of 18 years I joined the army and served in the Royal Signals for 9 years with postings in the Middle East and Europe. On leaving the army in 1973 I joined the Metropolitan Police where my first posting after training school was Hackney Police Station in the east end of London. I became a Detective Constable in 1976 and had postings at various police stations in the east end of London. I also served on the Anti-terrorist branch, the Regional Crime Squad (which became South East Regional Crime Squad) and the special intelligence section at SO11. I was promoted to the rank of Detective Chief Inspector and for the latter part of my service I was a Senior Investigating Officer in the murder command leading a team in the North East quarter of London. Upon retirement from the Police I started my own investigation company Aitch-Gee Investigations Ltd and have been so employed since 1983.



### Simon Smith

"I am 57 yrs old, and a Director/ Consultant of Companies involved in Security, Facilities Management, Inquiries and Tracing. I have served in the Police service, Civil and Local Government service and I am conversant with the Public/ Private interface of such services. I hold a Diploma & Certificate in Security Management and other qualifications/courses in various aspects of the industry. I am an active Member of The Security Institute (Syl) and IPSA, where I serve on International Council, and I have been an IPI member since 1995."



# It's On Again!

At the 2010 Annual General Meeting, the assembled members unanimously authorised and requested that the Board of the Institute of Professional Investigators revisit the amalgamation project that stalled about 9 years ago.

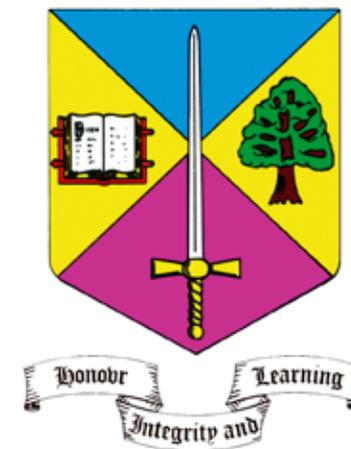
In a meeting attended by only a tiny percentage of the membership – a fact not lost on the Board, who noted that of the 15 people present 4 were also ABI members (or solely, in the person of guest and ABI Vice-President Stuart Price) and two were the Secretariat – it was agreed that the time was ripe for work to start on exploring amalgamation.

The new Principal, David Palmer, confirmed that he had already, with the agreement of the then Board of Governors, visited with the ABI President Tony Imossi at the CII Conference in Cardiff. Over coffee and on a purely informal basis they had discussed the rationale for revisiting what had so nearly come to pass in 2001. At that meeting David outlined what he perceived to be some of the obstacles to be overcome if such a plan were to succeed – some easily overcome, some more difficult, yet all of interest to IPI members in one way or another.

Discussions had included parity of private and public investigators in the new organisation – for example, at the moment, non-private investigators in the ABI have no voting rights and cannot obtain full membership. Membership levels

were touched upon – there are clear differences between the two bodies' approaches to their membership levels. The secretariat was another discussion point – both parties were eminently satisfied with their current providers. As this was only a one-hour meeting no conclusions were reached as it was, truly, an opening discussion. As such, although briefly mentioned at the AGM no conclusions were reached. (For a more detailed report, see the Open Forum Minutes later in this issue.)

As a consequence of the AGM's debate – which was wholly in support of the idea, so perhaps debate isn't quite the right word – the Board has set up its 'half' of a Working Group which will work with the ABI 'half' to see how things could work. The day after the AGM, the Principal forwarded selected and relevant papers from the 2001 discussions to the Group in an effort to speed up identification and discussion of some salient points – not to direct the group but to help it decide what had been working so that they could focus on anything that had not, or to drive towards the detail. This paperwork included Peter Wiggington's work on the 'Guild' concept, which even though it was not adopted may still contain



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some nuggets of the wisdom with which Peter was blessed.

### ***The Working Party***

Owing to the relative newness of the 2010 Board, it was going to be difficult to see where to start. However, two new faces have been 'sworn in' as Board members and without further ado they were deputised/volunteered for the Group.

Simon Smith has been in the police, civil and local government service, is an active Member of The Security Institute (Syl) and IPSA, where he serves on their International Council, he has been an IPI member since 1995. While an IPSA member he experienced a similar merger when The Security Institute and IISec came together. He saw the teething troubles and has seen the great results that have come about, so that experience, along with his wider knowledge of the security industry as a whole, made him an ideal semi-volunteer. James Harrison-Griffiths is an ex-Metropolitan Detective Chief Inspector, so having come from public into private practice is aware of the interests of the former. Not a man to be swayed by hyperbole, he will help the Group in cutting to the chase and avoiding distraction.

The third member of the IPI Group will vary between the Deputy Principal – Brian Walker, who steps in for another term - and David Palmer. Brian is an ABI member as well as a long-time

IPI stalwart, and both he and David have some experience of the 1999-2002 debate.

At the time of writing the first working group meeting is yet to be arranged, but watch this space.

# IPI Awards, 2010

## The “James D Cole Award for Excellence in Investigations” – 2010.

Members will be aware that in 2002, our founder and Companion Jim Cole presented the Institute with this Award, to be presented to suitable recipients bi-annually for Excellence in Investigations, academic achievement, or for service to the investigations industry. Past recipients are: Paul Carratu; Gerd Hoffmann; Iain Black and David Palmer.

The 2010 Award was presented to Ian Hopkins FIPI, for his efforts on behalf of the Institute of Professional Investigators over the past 20 years through difficult and challenging times, including two terms as Principal. Ian has been a provider of sage counsel, political nous, industry insight and support for the Board for two decades and was felt by the Board to deserve this honour.

### **Companionship**

No sooner had he sat down, however, than he was invited to stand again and be awarded only the third Companionship of the Institute, the other recipients being Jim Cole and John Grant. Well done, and thank you, Ian!



Ian Hopkins receives the James D Cole Award from David Palmer



Ian Hopkins receives the Companionship of the Institute from David Palmer

## Life Membership

Finally, Past Principal Alan Marr was awarded Life Membership of the Institute for his work in the industry, representing the IPI, the Council of International Investigators, Ex-Police I Industry and Commerce and even the ABI in a post-police career of some 20 years. Alan was awarded a Meritorious Service Award by the CII in 2010 and still serves as their regional representative for Albania, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, North and Central Africa – challenging!



Alan Marr receives Life Membership of the Institute from David Palmer

# Open Forum Minutes

The Open Forum from the AGM, entitled, “Where now for the Investigators”, was intended to be a talking shop where the membership could influence the Board on the direction for the IPI in the future – and while time was really focussed on one area, it can’t be said that the stated objective was not achieved!

## **In attendance:**

David Palmer, Brian Walker, Ian Hopkins (Immediate Past Principal), Jim Beckwith, James Harrison-Griffiths, Simon Smith, Nicola Amsel (Past Principal), Peter Heims, Alan Marr (Past Principal), Mark Peachman, Stuart Price (Vice-President, ABI), John Talbot and Michael Welply, David Pryke (Sec Gen), Lynda King (Secretariat).

## ***IPI Journal, membership benefits and seminars***

Seminars are no longer held through lack of support, and why the reason for this was unknown it was anticipated that it was cost, location and need.

## ***Newsletters***

It has always been difficult to get copy from members. Consequently all copy was written by or sourced by the Board, and as they have their full time work to do the same as the membership, its provision dictated the frequency of delivery of the journal. ***Members are asked to write or identify material that can then be used by the Institute (with permission where necessary) to enhance the service we provide for each other.***

## ***IPI Banquet following AGM***

There had been insufficient support over the last decade, resulting in the event being subsidised by the membership to the point that instead of being a stand-alone event it was drawing on the general funds and therefore, regrettably, had to be stopped.

## ***Approach from the ABI about revisiting the possibility of an amalgamation***

Those present given a brief history of previous talks, with questions being answered by the Board where necessary.

It was suggested that the IPI possibly to be the training arm of any new operation.

Alan Marr felt members should have been notified of the approach from the ABI and that by doing so more members would have attended the AGM. The Principal advised that all members had received an email notifying them of the discussion to be held on the future of the Institute, but it was acknowledged that a specific reference to this matter may have enhanced the attendance.

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Michael Welply advised that with the SIA merging the time was right for united bodies (ABI/IPI ?) to take the lead on the question of licensing and that the opportunity was too good to miss.

IPI have the Distance Learning Course in operation which has proved a great success and could count towards a licence – whether it could be accredited or not was up for discussion, with care given to the difference between proper accreditation as a qualification bearing provided by an NCF/QCA awarding body, or ‘acceptance’ by a respected authority like Skills for Security, which would possibly be less costly but would in truth only be acknowledgement by one body of their opinion of the other’s course.

Don Randall, Master of Security Professions, said he believed licences could be issued by local Police Forces, regionally or nationally. Of course, with the potential for removal or replacement of the SIA this is one of many possibilities.

Suggestions were made that a working party be set-up consisting of three IPI and three ABI members – the Principal promised to contact ABI in this respect. This has been done, and developments are eagerly awaited.

Before any amalgamation, an IPI EGM would have to be called to enable members to have their say and to agree any proposal.

### ***Grades of membership***

This question would need to be addressed as ABI/IPI have disparate membership grades.

Although the ABI has an examination the IPI Distance Learning Course was felt to be more professional and easier to adapt should an amalgamation proceed.

It was agreed that the talks should start from scratch and not go over old ground - However David Palmer is to search out previous discussion notes which he felt could answer a number of questions which are sure to be raised during early negotiations, thus obviating the need to spend too much time on them again.

### ***Liaison with other agencies***

Simon Smith has contacts with various Agencies and will act as the IPI representative in such matters. David Palmer has also re-contacted the general media and industry press to reinforce the Institute’s place in the sector. A twitter account has also been set up with a view to faster communication of developments to the membership. This way they can be at least partly aware of such events while the detail remains in the Journal.

### ***Marketing***

Nicola Amsel felt that the IPI needed a dedicated Marketing person on the IPI board and this will be discussed at a future board meeting.

### ***IPI Profile***

It was agreed that the profile of IPI needed to be raised and this will form part of a future Board Meeting discussion.

As can be expected there was some lively but respectful and relevant discussion about the whole future of the Institute and its place in the profession.

# AGM Minutes

MINUTES OF THE 32ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS  
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

HELD AT THE CIVIL SERVICE CLUB

1315 GREAT SCOTLAND YARD, LONDON, SW1A 2HJ

AT 11.00 A.M. ON FRIDAY, 22ND OCTOBER, 2010



From L to R: David Palmer, Brian Walker, Jim Beckwith, Ian Hopkins, David Pryke, Lynda King

The Principal opened the meeting at 11.00 and welcomed those present.

## **ATTENDEES - From the Board:**

Ian Hopkins - Principal  
David Palmer - Deputy Principal  
Brian Walker - Treasurer  
Jim Beckwith  
David Pryke - Secretary General  
Lynda King - Asst. Sec. General

## **MEMBERS**

Nicola Amsel, James Harrison-Griffiths, Peter Heims, Alan Marr, Mark Peachman, Stuart Price, Simon Smith, John Talbot and Michael Welply

## **APOLOGIES**

Richard Akehurst, Peter Bartlett, John Bateman, John Beare, Mick Beasley, Nigel Bullock, Roger Bunting, Byron Davies, Hamish Cole, James Cole, Michael Colacicco, Steve Cook, John Cousin, Keith Coventry, Richard Cumming, Graham Dooley, Paul Elliott, Peter Farrington, Bernie Floyd, Alf Goldberg, Michael Green, Thomas Happer, Ruth Hoffmann, Geoff Hughes, Pat Jarvis, Gordon McInnes-Finbow, Alan Roberts, Peter Robinson, Roger Spreckley, James Stokes, Susan Ward, David Wardle and Robert Watton.

## **MINUTES OF THE 31ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Minutes of the previous AGM held at the Civil Service Club, London on Friday, 16th October, 2009, having circulated to the members, were approved and signed by the Principal. Proposed by Alan Marr and seconded by Michael Welply.

## **PRINCIPAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Principal advised that the reports had been circulated to all members prior to the AGM and asked for any comments. None were forthcoming. On a proposal by Peter Heims, seconded by Michael Welply, the reports were unanimously confirmed.

## **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.3.2010**

The Treasurer referred to the I&E accounts previously circulated and asked if there were any questions from the floor. None were forthcoming. On a proposal by Michael Welply, seconded by Alan Marr, and carried unanimously, the accounts for the period were duly adopted.

## **ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD**

The Principal advised that two nominations had been received, as follows:  
James Harrison-Griffiths - Proposed by Simon Smith, seconded by David Palmer  
Simon Smith - Proposed by David Palmer, seconded by Roger Bunting

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Both applications were unanimously approved and the Principal welcomed them to the IPI's Board on behalf of those present.

The Principal advised the meeting that after many years serving on the Board and in the role of Principal he would be standing down from both positions with immediate effect as he is shortly to retire. David Palmer had kindly agreed to take on the role of Principal and the chain of office was duly passed to him. Michael Welply expressed a vote of thanks to Ian Hopkins on behalf of all IPI members for the many years of hard work undertaken on behalf of the Institute and this was unanimously endorsed by those present.

The new Principal felt it an opportune moment to advise that Ian Hopkins was the final recipient of the James Cole award and presented him with the relevant shield. In addition, in appreciation of the valuable service given to the Institute, Ian Hopkins was advised he was the third recipient of the Companionship Award and was presented with a framed certificate to that effect. Mr Hopkins thanked the IPI and advised he had enjoyed his many years on the Board and much appreciated the awards he had been given.

The Principal advised he had another award to make, namely Life Membership for Alan Marr, received in recognition of his contribution to the Institute over many years. Mr Marr was presented with a framed certificate and thanked the IPI for awarding him the honour.

Returning to the agenda, the Principal advised that Brian Walker had very kindly agreed to take on the role of Deputy Principal and Jim Beckwith the role of Treasurer. The Board therefore now comprises:

**David Palmer** - Principal

**Brian Walker** - Deputy Principal

**Jim Beckwith** - Treasurer

**Roger Bunting** - Membership

**James Harrison-Griffiths** - specific role to be agreed at next Board Meeting

**Simon Smith** - specific role to be agreed at next Board Meeting

## ***AMENDMENTS TO THE INSTITUTE'S M&As***

### **Clause 47 change**

Unless otherwise determined by a General Meeting, the number of the Board shall not be less than five, or more than nine except as provided by Clause 58 of these presents.  
Clause 48, 49, 50, 51 remain

### **Clause 52 change**

Members of the Board of Governors who are Members of the Institute **may co-opt a person to the Board who is not an Institute Member, providing that those Members do so unanimously. The co-opted non-Member will not have any right to vote at Board Meetings but their presence at Board meetings will be counted towards a quorum number as required by Article 58 ( post )**

The Principal asked for comments on the proposed amendments. None were received and the changes were unanimously approved by those present.

## ***ANY OTHER BUSINESS***

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.20 a.m.

# IPI-associated Writer Gets Award

**Angus Darroch-Warren** was named as the recipient of the Wilf Knight Award 2010 at the recent Security Excellence Awards held in London, narrowly beating several other very high quality entries.

This annual award was established by the Security Institute in 2009 to recognise distinction in academic study and in particular, academic contributions to the development of professional security management. The award is dedicated to the memory of the late Wilf Knight, who until his untimely passing three years ago, was one of the most respected security consultants in the professional sector.

As well as being a former senior and accomplished police officer, Wilf was the holder of two Masters Degrees, and a Fellow of the Security Institute. He truly appreciated professional and academic excellence, and the Security Institute resolved to let Wilf's memory live on through this annual award. Universities and other degree training providers were invited to nominate a

student project, report or dissertation, written as coursework, which showed particular distinction and/or innovation and which made a valuable contribution to the field of security management or practice.

The winning entry submitted by Loughborough University tackled the subject of 'Licensing the Investigators: **How and to what extent will proposed competency criteria for the Private Investigation sector lead to greater professionalism within the Security industry?**'

**Angus Darroch-Warren** currently works as a Senior Consultant with Linx International Ltd and is a member of the Institute's Academic Board. (Linx International is a company co-headed by David Gill, and Institute participant. Ed)

Completion of his MSc in Security Management provided the additional credits required to gain Fellowship of the Security Institute. With an established career in security, subsequent to a career in law enforcement, Angus decided to undertake the MSc in order to underpin his

operational experience and knowledge with a recognised academic qualification. Angus commented; "*sound practical knowledge, relevant academic study and continuous professional development are essential components needed to demonstrate personal professionalism in an increasingly competitive market place and ever developing industry sector. Winning the 2010 WKA is a great honour that fully justifies all the time and effort spent completing the MSc over the last three years*".

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Runners up were Major Geraint Evans (Cranfield University) and Christopher Wagg (Portsmouth University) who, along with Angus, will each receive Certificates at the Institute's Remembrance Day Lecture to be held on 11th November 2010 at Nomura Bank, London. Further booking details are available at [www.security-institute-shop.org](http://www.security-institute-shop.org).

The Security Institute is the largest association for security professionals in the UK.

One of its main aims is developing professionalism in the security sector, with personal professional development being a key element. It launched Student Membership in 2009 alongside this competition which recognizes excellence in student studies. To date, the Institute has 36 student members.

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