



NPIA
National Policing
Improvement Agency

thebureau

your quarterly newsletter from the
Missing Persons Bureau

In this issue

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- New government guidance on missing from home and care
- Updates on the development of the new Child Rescue Alert
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- The work of the Children's Society

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Miranda Rouse, Editor
thebureau

Contributors:

Our thanks go to Lucy Allen from DCSF, Christina Portz from ICMEC and Catherine Meyer from PACT for their contributions.

From the editor

Welcome to the fifth issue of our quarterly newsletter which contains all the latest information and news on the topic of missing people, which we hope is proving of use to you.

In this issue you'll find information about how Interpol and the FCO can assist with many missing or unidentified persons investigations.

You'll also find an update on some of our recent news including a puzzling cold case we assisted in solving, and news regarding the latest Global Missing Children's Network event.

You can also find out about the new guidance from the Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) on children missing from home and care and learn about cutting edge publicity initiatives, including the first global channel dedicated to finding missing children around the world, the YouTube Missing Children's Channel.

I do hope you find this content of interest. Please contact me if you are involved in any projects or initiatives related to missing people because I can help to highlight your work and projects to others working in this important area.

Meanwhile, I've received some very positive feedback about the newsletter from many of you. Comments like, "I consider your newsletter to be a great source of information", and "Your fabulous newsletter is really informative and a great way to keep staff updated", are much appreciated. Do keep them coming!

If you have any questions about any of the articles in this issue, or suggestions for future content, please email missingpersons_bureau@npia.pnn.police.uk. I also especially welcome any information or intelligence you may be able to provide regarding any of the missing or unidentified people featured.

Miranda Rouse

About us

The **Missing Persons Bureau** is part of the Crime Analysis Unit within the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA). We work with the police and related organisations to improve the services provided to missing persons' investigations and to increase the effectiveness of the police response. We act as the centre for the exchange of information connected with the search for missing persons nationally and internationally.



Foxley Hall, photo by Tamsin Williams

We provide a free cross-matching service to police officers to assist with matching up details of missing persons' cases with unidentified person or body cases across the UK. We maintain a database of:

- all persons missing in the UK for over 72* hours, or sooner where the force feels the case warrants more urgent attention
- all foreign nationals reported missing in the UK
- all UK nationals reported missing abroad
- all unidentified bodies or persons found within the UK
- all unidentified bodies or persons believed to be UK nationals found abroad

* For forces that have adopted the code of practice – required by April 2010.

Bureau success!



Intelligence
Officer

**Annette
Rutherford**

Cold Case puzzle solved after 15 years

We were contacted by DC Paul Chamberlain from Devon and Cornwall Police about a missing person named Ian Allison, who was last seen in 1994 when he was believed to be hitchhiking from Torquay to Glasgow.

The case had come up for review and the officers investigating his disappearance contacted us to find out if we had any additional information. Our Intelligence Officer, Annette Rutherford, offered to carry out some cross-match analysis for the missing person, to which the Officer in the Case (OIC) agreed. Detailed and comprehensive searches were carried out on our HERMES database on a range of factors, including the physical description

of the missing person, especially his height, and also focusing on the year following his disappearance.

Having conducted the search, the results were sent to the OIC in the form of a spreadsheet, because there were several potential matches for him to consider. The OIC contacted us to see if we had any further information on one of the cases we'd highlighted within the report, which was an unidentified body found in Cumbria in 1995. This case was singled out due to certain aspects including timescales and descriptive factors, mainly height and clothing. Ian Allison was known to own a pair of blue shorts. DC Lee Mansell identified that a University in Minnesota, United States only made them for a short period of time. These shorts were

able to strengthen the potential match within the investigation.

As a result of our work, and after several months of thorough investigative work by Devon and Cornwall police and the Coroner's Office in Barrow-in-Furness, DCs Chamberlain and Mansell have recently managed to confirm, through familial DNA and clothing identification, that the missing person from Devon and Cornwall and the unidentified body put forward by the Bureau found in Cumbria were linked. This means that two cases are now closed and, more importantly, provided closure to the family of the missing person, Ian Allison.

Global Missing Children's Network Training

The International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC) and Initiative Vermisste Kinder jointly hosted the second Global Missing Children's Network Training on 24th-25th September 2009 in Lübeck – Travemünde, Germany.

Members of the Bureau were honoured to attend this event, and represent the work being undertaken by UK agencies. The training involved:

- Presentations and discussion around 'Runaways', and how different countries respond to missing children
- Discussion on international parental abduction including the application of the Hague Convention
- Developing ideas for moving forward collaboratively and collectively to improve the response to missing children around the world



The purpose of the training was to promote greater sharing of information and co-ordination of efforts in prevention of, and response to, missing children.

The training was attended by 16 participants from 10 countries.

Features



Children who go missing and run away need more support from local authorities

New government guidance issued by the Department for Children, Schools and Families on children who run away and go missing from home or care.

New guidance has been published by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) which details the procedures local authorities need to have in place in order to help prevent young people from running away.

The guidance includes examples of some of the best practice that exists, and provides links to the National Indicator criteria for *NI71: Missing from Home and Care*. Both the guidance and the national indicator require local authorities to work with the police to collect data about the number of children who run away from both home and care.

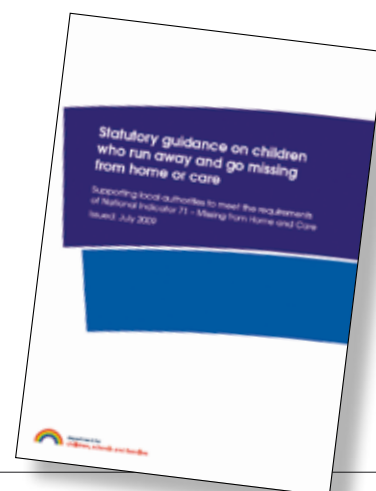
The new guidance, which has been developed with support from the Missing Persons Bureau, emphasises the importance of multi-agency working and information sharing. It details exactly what should be

included in local *Runaway and Missing from Home and Care protocols (RMFHC protocols)* and contains web links to some already in operation.

A much stronger emphasis on ensuring there are systems in place for children that run away from home as well as care is also included, because these children can often fall through the gaps.

The new guidance states that local authorities should ensure young people are offered a chance to talk to a trained professional about why they ran away, via a Return Interview. Some local authorities already do this, and evidence suggests that taking time to understand the reasons why a young person has run away, and making sure they get the right help to overcome problems, reduces the likelihood of them running away again.

DCSF officials are working closely with authors of the new police guidance on missing people to make sure they are both consistent.



To access the new guidance and find out more about it, you can download it in full from the DCSF website – see below.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/safeguardingandsocialcare/safeguardingchildren/youngrunaways/youngrunaways/>

If you think the local authorities in your area are not aware of the new guidance please pass on the details of where it can be found.

Department for Children, Schools and Families
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT

Email: info@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk

Tel: **0870 000 2288**

Textphone/minicom:
01928 794274

For an example of collaborative working to safeguard children and young people, see Lancashire's new joint protocol, which will go live on 7th December 2009. The protocol is based on the principles of a shared commitment and co-ordinated approach, led by managers and local champions in the police and children's services.

Global YouTube Missing Children’s Channel



The International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC) launched the first global channel dedicated to finding missing children around the world, YouTube Missing Children’s Channel, www.youtube.com/DontYouForgetAboutMe in 2007.

The impetus for launching the channel was the disappearance of Madeleine McCann. Ernie Allen, President and CEO of the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC), met with the McCanns during their visit to the United States. Gerry McCann had been approached by Google/YouTube, who wanted to help with the recovery of Madeleine. During a tour of ICMEC and its sister organisation, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), Gerry McCann held a meeting with Ernie Allen to discuss how to best utilise Google/YouTube. Gerry McCann’s goal was to help all missing children. So it was decided that ICMEC would help create, launch and maintain the first-ever global missing children’s video channel. The channel was publicly launched on 10 August 2007, which included coverage by CNN.

The goals of the channel are to reach a global audience by distributing videos of missing children in the hopes of achieving a recovery as well as bringing international attention to the issues of missing and exploited children. The latter is achieved through successful collaboration with other entities working on these issues.

Videos of missing children can be submitted by parents, guardians, or other sources verified by ICMEC prior to posting. Case information must be certified by the appropriate law enforcement agency or Hague Central Authority and the parent, guardian, or other designated representative must sign an Authorisation and Release Form before ICMEC can post a video on the channel. Anyone with information about a missing child featured on the channel should contact the appropriate law enforcement agency. The purpose of the channel is to locate missing



children; videos will be taken down once a child has been located. ICMEC is offering the channel as a public resource to help locate missing children.

One of the key aims of the YouTube Missing Children’s Channel is to help with the recovery of missing children. Photos are important. In the United States, ICMEC’s sister

Videos (49) Subscribe to Don't You Forget About Me's videos







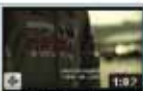


Videos | Most Viewed | Most Disliked

Search

 <p>Madeline McCann (English) 2 years ago 391,530 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>	 <p>Kooni, Lance, and Mason 2 years ago 82,903 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>	 <p>International Missing 4 months ago 5,077 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>
 <p>Nadya Yuschenko and Tanya 1 year ago 7,625 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>	 <p>Antonia Mihaylova 3 months ago 364 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>	 <p>Morgan Nick (English) 2 years ago 134,757 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>
 <p>Deputy US Marshal Russ 3 months ago 120 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>	 <p>Kami Vollenbraff (English) 1 year ago 299 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>	 <p>Mateo Dullia 2 months ago 373 views no rating Don't You Forget About Me</p>

[see all](#)

Favorites (10) Subscribe To Favorites

 <p>Hunting for India's missing 4 months ago 458 views ★★★★★ ATV</p>	 <p>Safer Internet Day 2009 7 months ago 28,364 views ★★★★★ e-top</p>	 <p>Help Us Find Adji 2 months ago 1,012 views ★★★★★ collercountysberiff</p>
 <p>1800RUNAWAY Runaway 2 months ago 147 views ★★★★★ NICE CoorUNAWAY</p>	 <p>UNICEF: Sex tourism and child 1 year ago 5,396 views ★★★★★ unicef</p>	 <p>Video Shows Child Prostitutes, H... 1 year ago 44,757 views ★★★★★ AssociatedPress</p>
 <p>Austin Harris PSA 6 months ago 388 views no rating NetSmartz</p>	 <p>CCTV footage of missing school g... 2 months ago 2,235 views ★★★★★ missingpeople</p>	 <p>Policy Talks @ Google: Ernie Allen 1 year ago 48,488 views ★★★★★ Google</p>

[see all](#)

organisation, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has had great success with their photo distribution work. This leads to more opportunities to determine the possible whereabouts of the child. About 1 in 6 children is recovered due to their photo being seen. ICMEC are able to now capitalize on the fact that more and more individuals purchase digital video cameras and utilise their mobile phone to record video. The video is then able to provide viewers with potential mannerisms the child may exhibit, as well as hearing the child's voice.

ICMEC are also looking into ways to make creating the videos and/or sending in the videos as easy as possible for the parents of the victim. They are able to use mobile phone video as well as direct victim's parents to a site (www.animoto.com) so that they may create dynamic video slide shows set to music. Most computers come with some form of movie making software such as Windows Movie Maker or iMovie. Hard copies of photographs can be scanned to create digital files such as a .JPEG. Digital images or digital video can be added to the programs to

create or edit videos. Within these programs, different features can be added such as text or music. There are also many different programs that can be purchased or may be available for free to create or edit videos.

Another goal is to generate awareness on an international scale around the issues of missing and exploited children. Unfortunately, many misconceptions currently exist on these matters. According to the American research study "NISMART 2", with regard to family abduction, there were particular problematic elements. The study could also not provide a full assessment of the negative impact family abduction may have on a child. The general public, as well as many individuals who work on similar matters, do not understand the magnitude of this problem. The YouTube Missing Children's Channel can provide another outlet to address this and other issues.

There is also a lack of knowledge of the issues such as the different forms of child abduction and which ones are most common. The same can be said for the many forms of child sexual exploitation.

As you may be aware, the online medium can quickly disseminate information. Once a video clip becomes popular it can be viewed millions of times within the span of hours. ICMEC want to achieve a similar success for the issues and the children involved.

The YouTube Missing Children's Channel is one of the technological tools that is being utilised by ICMEC. They are working to constantly improve the channel and make it more efficient for law enforcement, victim's parents, NGOs and the general public. As ICMEC continues to grow the channel, they hope to generate more awareness on the issue of missing children as well as more leads as to where the children featured on the channel may be located.

Additional information on the Channel as well as video requirements and Channel Disclaimer can be found on the ICMEC website at www.icmec.org.

Best Practice



International Investigations

Some missing persons investigations require international co-ordination or assistance. For example, if a UK resident goes missing in one of these scenarios:

- from an offshore installation
- from an area of the UK's coastline
- while abroad
- is lost at sea

International assistance may also be required if an unidentified person or body is found in the UK, where the circumstances or evidence suggest they're potentially a foreign national.

For missing investigations of this kind, Interpol's yellow and black notices can help to locate missing people or identify unidentified people or bodies.

If a UK force has reason to believe that a missing person may be overseas, then the investigating team should co-ordinate with Interpol for the dissemination of a yellow notice to ensure other countries are aware of the missing person and to obtain their assistance in helping to locate them, where appropriate.

In other circumstances, the issuing of a black notice may assist officers

Interpol Notices

One of the ways in which Interpol shares information with its network of member countries is via their system of international notices. The notices are used to communicate information about:

- serious crimes
- missing persons
- unidentified bodies
- possible threats
- criminals' modus operandi

Interpol's General Secretariat produces these notices (based on requests from National Central Bureaux), which are then disseminated internationally in order to distribute or request information. There are seven types of notices, the notices which are most useful for UK officers investigating cases of missing or unidentified persons are the yellow and black notices.

In 2008, Interpol issued around 4,500 notices and 13,400 diffusions (alerts), which resulted in more than 5,600 arrests.

in identifying an unidentified person. For example, if a UK force has an unidentified body washed up on a beach or an unidentified person, perhaps in a coma, whose personal belongings suggest they may be a foreign national, then a request for a black notice should be issued, which may result in the identification of



Yellow Notice

To help locate missing persons, often minors, or to help identify persons who are unable to identify themselves.



Black Notice

To seek information on unidentified bodies.

Other Interpol Notices:



Blue Notice

To collect additional information about a person's identity or activities in relation to a crime.



Red Notice

To seek the arrest or provisional arrest of wanted persons with a view to extradition.



Green Notice

To provide warnings and criminal intelligence about persons who have committed criminal offences and are likely to repeat these crimes in other countries.



Orange Notice

To warn police, public entities and other international organizations about potential threats from disguised weapons, parcel bombs and other dangerous materials.

the person as someone missing from a different country.

All notices are published on Interpol's secure website for authorised law enforcement users. In addition, extracts of notices may also be published on their public website if the requesting force agrees.

Missing Children Database

Interpol maintains a database of missing and abducted children on behalf of the member countries. This database only includes details on children which respective law enforcement authorities have requested Interpol circulate on an international basis.

The database can be viewed and searched online by accessing the page for ‘crimes against children’ and then selecting the ‘missing’ section. Or at the following location:

<http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/Missing/Default.asp>

International DNA Database

Interpol also have their own automated DNA database known as the DNA Gateway, which was created in 2002 to house profiles submitted to them from their member countries.

Member countries can submit DNA profiles from missing persons, unidentified bodies, crime scenes and offenders for addition to the database. Searches on this database led to 38 international hits in 2007 and further details on the database are available from info@interpol.int. There’s also a downloadable fact sheet available on Interpol’s website at: www.interpol.int

Legislation and international conventions

The Interpol website includes details on the national legislation relevant to missing children for the Interpol member countries and international conventions relevant to missing children, including the United Nations rules and guidelines, and details of the Hague Convention on civil aspects of international child abduction.

How to co-ordinate with Interpol

Each Interpol member country maintains a National Central Bureau (NCB) staffed by national law enforcement officers. The NCB is the designated contact point for the General Secretariat, regional offices and other member countries requiring assistance with overseas investigations and the location and apprehension of fugitives. The UK’s NCB is based within the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) in London. All enquiries for assistance overseas for missing or unidentified persons’ investigations should go to the London NCB via the force’s Interpol Single Point of Contact (SPoC).

Interpol Basic Facts

Interpol is the single point of contact for making requests for enquiries to be made abroad. It’s the world’s largest international police organisation, with 187 member countries. Created in 1923, it facilitates cross-border police co-operation, and supports and assists all organisations, authorities and services whose mission is to prevent, or combat, international crime.

The General Secretariat is located in Lyon, France, and operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Police from around 80 countries work together in any of the organisation’s four official languages:

- Arabic
- English
- French
- Spanish

Other information

The Interpol website also contains information on people smuggling, trafficking, disaster victim identification and other issues relevant to the area of missing people.



Contact Details:

Interpol General Secretariat
200, Quai Charles de Gaulle
69006 Lyon, France

Tel: **+33 (0) 4 72 44 70 00**
Fax: **+33 (0) 4 72 44 71 63**

www.interpol.int

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

People Missing Abroad

While Interpol can help assist the UK police to request that enquiries are made by the appropriate police force overseas, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) can provide assistance to families and friends of those missing abroad.

The FCO is responsible for promoting British interests overseas and our relations with other countries. It can provide help to members of the public who suspect a friend or family member may be missing overseas. The FCO can only help in cases where regular contact has been unexpectedly lost. They cannot help with tracing someone with whom contact was lost a long time ago.

Consular staff overseas dealt with 470 Missing Persons cases for the financial year 2008/09

The FCO should be provided with as much information about the missing person as possible, for example:

- name, date and place of birth
- the last time and place contact was made
- their travel itinerary and where you think they may be
- mobile phone number and/ or email address
- passport and insurance details
- recent photo

What the FCO can do to help:

- check their records to see if the missing person has come to their attention. The Data Protection Act 1998 may prevent them from releasing information without the person's consent
- liaise with the local authorities and will keep you informed of their progress
- pass on to the appropriate UK authorities any requests from host governments for help in mounting a search, rescue and recovery operation
- provide you with details of any local organisations specialising in tracing missing persons

- provide contact details for local private detectives. (However, they cannot guarantee the professional ability of any person or company)
- appoint a caseworker in London with whom you can liaise
- embassy staff can arrange to meet you should you decide to travel abroad to search yourself
- they may be able to facilitate press or TV appeals in the relevant country
- they may be able to provide information on local printing companies, should you wish to initiate a poster and leaflet campaign. They can advise on suitable poster locations

What the FCO can't do:

- conduct physical searches on your behalf
- provide financial assistance for rescue operations of people missing in remote areas
- pay for the repatriation of a body
- control media coverage of the case

What family and friends of the missing person can do:

Consider the following when trying to trace a missing person:

- when and why were you expecting contact from them?
- was there anything in their last communication with you that might suggest where they are now or why they might not have been in touch?
- you may wish to contact the family of any travelling companions, or other people with whom the missing person might have been in contact while abroad



Foreign & Commonwealth Office

- the missing person's bank or building society may be able to tell you when and from where their account was last accessed. The bank may require official police intervention before they agree to give you this information
- in some countries it may be possible to offer a reward for information. Consider the implications of this and contact an organisation with experience of tracing missing persons
- consider what you would be able to achieve by travelling to the country yourself. Local authorities may be reluctant to pass on information

Further information may be obtained from:

FCO Tel: 020 7008 1500

www.fco.gov.uk



Missing someone lost abroad? The Lucie Blackman Trust is a charity providing support and advice to those whose family/ friends are missing abroad. They can be contacted at:

The Lucie Blackman Trust

14 Belvedere Street, Ryde,
Isle Of Wight PO33 2JW

Tel: **0207 047 5060**

<http://www.lucieblackmantrust.org/>

Email: info@lbtrust.org

Registered charity number: 1118143

Learning the Lessons

As part of our focus on best practice, we recognise that learning from the past can help make improvements in the future. The Learning the Lessons Committee is a multi-agency committee established to do just that, by disseminating and promoting learning across the police service. The members of the committee comprise:

- Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO)
- Association of Police Authorities (APA)
- Home Office
- Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC)
- HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC)
- National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA)

The Committee produces a bulletin, with lessons from investigations, that's circulated to police forces and other bodies with constabulary powers three times a year. The Committee decides which cases are of use to the police service because they provide learning opportunities for other police forces facing similar situations and may help them improve their own policies and practices.

We've included a summary of one of these cases. Can you improve your policies and processes to ensure a similar situation never arises?

Investigating a high-risk missing person

A woman called the police one evening after her son failed to meet her as arranged. He was depressed and had tried to kill himself previously, so she was concerned for his well-being.



The call handler did not log the call in the Community Policing Case Tracking (COMPACT) system, which is the system used to manage investigations of missing persons cases, and the police agreed with his parents that they should only report their son as missing if he had not made contact by the following day. His mother reported him missing when he failed to turn up for work the next day.

This was now logged in COMPACT and the man assessed as a high risk missing person. The mother called later to give the police details of a friend she discovered had been with her son the day before he went missing and told them her son had earmarked a tree to hang himself from when he spoke about suicide. Officers searched this wooded area but the search was limited because it was dark. The Inspector taking over from the night's Inspector was told there was 'nothing to hand over' and only discovered the missing person report when he logged onto COMPACT the next morning. Officers then went to the friend's house and learnt that the man was drunk when he left. He had not known how to get home that night and, given he was drunk and the weather was bad, his mother thought he must have got lost on his way home. She asked the police to

search the area where she thought he would have gone missing.

It was dark by this stage. A police helicopter, officers on foot and a police dog were used to search the area but nothing was found. The Command and Control computer system was needed to resource and manage this search. Police then stopped the search.

The email handovers that had taken place between duty Inspectors lacked a sense of urgency which led the Inspector then on duty to conclude that the position should be reassessed in daylight. As a result, when early the next morning his mother contacted the police to ask about progress, the police had not restarted the search. A friend of the family then called to tell them the man's body had been found in a ditch, very near where the family had been standing during the search the night before.

This and other bulletins can be accessed at:

www.learningthelessons.org.uk/bulletins

Key messages are:

- to log concern for someone whose whereabouts are unknown as a missing person report on COMPACT (or similar dedicated missing persons management system) immediately
- ensure handovers are sufficiently detailed and duty Inspectors update COMPACT/the force missing persons management system
- if the Command and Control system needs to be used as well as COMPACT/the force missing persons management system, ensure there is an electronic interface between the two

Operational case appeals

Fears for welfare – can you help find Susan Rushworth?

Susan Rushworth, known as Sue or Susie, was last seen at midday on Monday 22 June 2009 near to her flat on Oak Villas in the Manningham area, near Bradford.

Sue has not contacted her family since that day, which is highly unusual, and her phone has not been used since 22 June. She has never been missing before and suffers from epilepsy – it's believed she does not have any medication with her to manage the illness. Her family is deeply worried about her and want to know her whereabouts.

She is 43 years old and has three children – 23 year old James, 20 year old Kirsty and 9 year old Aaron.

Sue is described as white, 5ft 6 tall and of a slim build. She has brown/greying short hair and a sallow complexion. She was wearing a green zip-up fleece jacket, blue jeans and white trainers when she was last seen.

Anyone with any information about her whereabouts is asked to contact the Investigation Team at HMET, West Yorkshire Police, on **0845 60 60 606** or call Crimestoppers, anonymously, on **0800 555 111**.



Still missing – can you help find Maria Aldridge now missing for more than 40 years?

Maria Bernadette Aldridge disappeared from Birmingham in May 1968, aged 17.

Originally from Stourport in Worcestershire, she was in the first year of a nurse cadet course, living at the Old Home Nursing Home at the Dudley Road, now known as City Hospital. Her family were alerted to her disappearance and went to the hospital dormitory to search for her, but were advised by the resident matron that she was no longer there and were given her belongings. There

have been no sightings or trace of her ever since.

Maria is 5'5" with short brown hair and glasses and would now be 59 years old.

Anyone with information should contact DS Ian Bulloch at West Midlands Police's Rose Road CID on **0121 626 5967** or **0845 113 5000** ext **7863 6254**



Can you help put a name to an Unidentified Man found in Canada?

On 22 December 1989, the remains of a man were found in a forest near Boston Bar in British Columbia, Canada.

The man was wearing clothes thought to be of European origin and had British coins, a train ticket stub and a map of British Columbia in his possession. The Canadian police strongly suspect he was originally from the UK.

The man was Caucasian with brown and grey hair and brown eyes. It's estimated he was approximately 35 years old when he died. He would

have been about 5ft 7in/170 cm tall and weighed approximately 75kg/165 lbs.

If you have any information regarding the possible identity of this man please contact the Missing Persons Bureau on **01256 602979** or missingpersons bureau@npia.pnn.police.uk

Note: This facial reconstruction was completed by a forensic artist and is not an exact likeness.



In development

Prime Minister's Task Force on Missing People

Final arrangements are underway to create a cross-governmental and agency taskforce on missing people. The aim of the group will be to resolve issues of governance, co-ordination and sustainability of resources for work in the area of missing people.

Missing Guidance Review and Update

The revisions to the ACPO (2005) Guidance on the Management, Investigation and Recording of Missing Persons are now at an advanced stage and some of you will have been involved in the consultation process. While it's planned to publish the new guidance in early 2010, we do need to consider any outcomes from the new Prime Minister's Task Force on Missing People and the Bureaucracy Taskforce. It wouldn't be sensible to publish the ACPO guidance too soon only to find it conflicts with any findings that they may have. It's not intended this delay will extend beyond the early part of 2010, adding possibly a month or two to what was originally intended. If you have any suggestions about the final format of the document that will help make it as user-friendly as possible, please let us know. Inevitably, it'll be a larger document than before but it's important we make the information as accessible as possible.

Child Rescue Alert

We are pleased to announce that we have been successful in our joint bid with France, the Netherlands and Belgium for funding to support work to develop child alerts. This will assist with the development of the international cooperation in managing international child rescue alerts, the facilitation of seminars and a conference and also an exercise with our European partners.



Other EU countries were also successful in their funding bids, including Italy, Romania, Smile of the Child in Greece and Child Focus in Belgium. This is great news from a European perspective in terms of the development of alerts across the EU and also the potential ability to link up alerts across the EU.

The development of our National scheme now awaits final approvals for some of the processes needed to make the scheme work.

A protocol for use has been written, which will provide a step-by-step guide for key practitioners to follow when an alert is launched. As soon as the approvals have been received a date can be set to relaunch the scheme.



We'll be running further exercises for police forces to participate in to improve their knowledge and understanding of the implications of launching Child Rescue Alert. Charlie Hedges, our Liaison and Support Officer, will be attending the annual Amber Alert Symposium in the US at the end of October to keep up-to-date with what's happening with their schemes and to learn about new developments. The symposium includes a half day workshop for international delegates to discuss issues for countries outside of the US.

It's clear that more consideration is now being given to Child Rescue Alert and there have been a few occasions when it has nearly been launched. We are not quite ready to provide a full 24 hours support service to forces in relation to Child Rescue Alert but if there are

Queries in office hours, please do contact the Bureau on **01256 602979**.

Online collaboration

Police OnLine Knowledge Area (POLKA)



POLKA is an online knowledge resource which will replace the current extranet and Genesis sites that sit within the Police National Network, PNN. Rather than simply providing static web pages within this secure environment NPIA are extending the service, POLKA, Police OnLine Knowledge Area, to include online collaboration tools such as wiki's, blogs and discussion forums.

These are just some of the tools that will enable knowledge sharing and interaction between us and police forces through 'communities of practice'. For example, there could be communities set up on topics such as missing people, or specific subjects such as search strategies for missing people or sharing best practice.

The communities allow groups of users with a common interest, such as missing people, to work together to solve problems, develop strategies and share information.

POLKA will be launched within the NPIA in late 2009 and used within the Agency before being gradually rolled out to all our stakeholders including Police Forces, ACPO and third party government agencies. It will also provide restricted access to other third parties, including commercial partners with whom we do business.

Over the course of the year, POLKA will replace our existing extranets and introduce a new way of working online by setting up communities of practice. Each community will need to appoint a 'community owner'

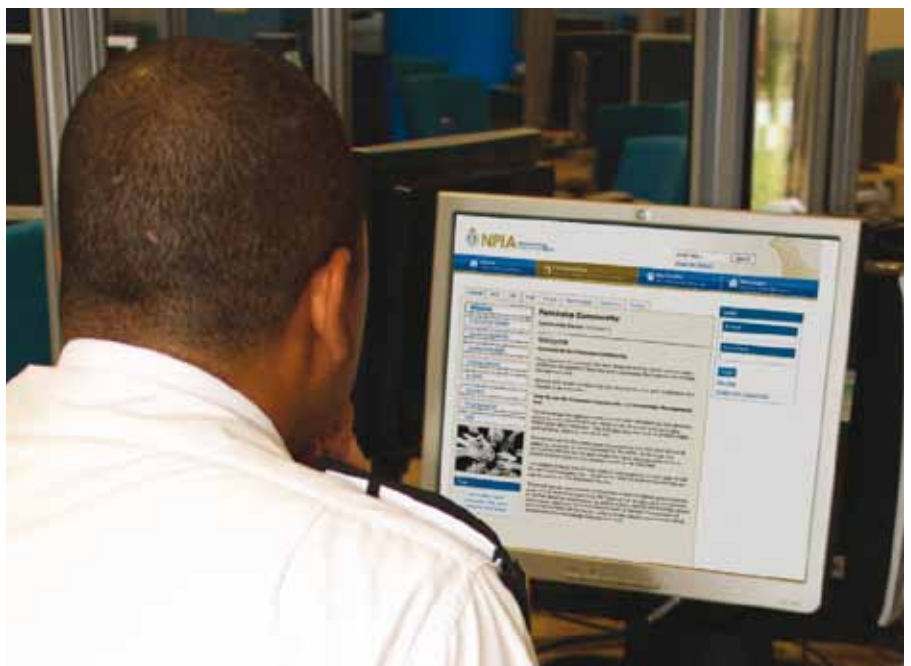
and a couple of facilitators to help nurture the group and moderate collaboration online.

A typical community might be the Citizen Focus and Neighbourhood Policing programme. For some time they have had a keen desire to share knowledge about the programme, and in the longer term, knowledge and experience

from the Neighbourhood Policing teams themselves. POLKA offers new opportunities to respond to this growing need to share emerging and effective practice.

For more information on POLKA contact the team via:

polka@npia.pnn.police.uk



Our partners



The Children's Society

making childhood better

The Children's Society is a leading national charity that makes childhood better for all children in the UK.

They do this through:

- their network of community-based projects which provide immediate and lasting help for children who feel excluded, isolated or abandoned; such children often face danger or disadvantage in their daily lives
- their research and campaigning, which creates real change by influencing the thinking of everyone – from the general public to politicians and decision makers – about how to make childhood better

Their priorities for a good childhood are driven by what children tell them they need the most – to live in a world where they can experience loving, caring relationships in families and communities that respect and support them.

Who they help

The Children's Society runs nine projects supporting young people who run away, go missing or are sexually exploited. These projects work with local partners in Weymouth, Torquay, London, Newcastle, Lancashire, Manchester, Birmingham, Coventry and Keighley.

How they do it

The following projects are examples of their practice in this area:

“ I don't run away no more because I've got a roof over my head and I get fed. When I used to run away all the time everyone used to worry and I was wasting the Police's time. I used to run away because I liked to get drunk and I didn't want to go home drunk. I was meeting strange people and going off with them. Life's easier now because I'm not running away no more and I'm not going off with strange people. ”

Service user from SCARPA project.



Street Safe, Lancashire

– the project works in partnership with Lancashire Constabulary, Lancashire County Council and voluntary agencies to develop initiatives that tackle the root causes of running away and ensure joined-up, coherent service delivery. The project works within targeted areas of Lancashire with children and young people looked after in residential and foster care. Lancashire Constabulary has designated liaison officers who provide the project with daily updates about young people returned to their care. The officers act as a link for any information that will assist the project workers. The County Council will support the project worker to gather information on care placements and how this relates to running away in the county.

SCARPA, Newcastle

– the project provides an intensive support service to young people who are either experiencing, or are at risk of, running away, sexual exploitation, or trafficking. The project aims to deliver an early intervention service to children and young people (target age 11-18) identified as being at risk of long-term negative outcomes. Referrals are taken by mainstream services well placed to identify this group of young people; from police, sharing

information on children reported missing, through to workers from other agencies who suspect a young person is running away. SCARPA aims to make contact with at-risk young people, through working directly with them or outreach models, which involve local charity workers actively engaging with young people in the community, providing them with information, guidance and support.

The Children's Society also provides training to enable statutory and voluntary sector professionals to work effectively with young people, and a bespoke consultancy on service infrastructure and policy/protocol development to help local authorities identify local need and develop an appropriate local response.

If you would like more information on their work, contact:

The Children's Society

69-85 Margery Street
Edward Rudolf House
London WC1X 0JL

Tel: **0845 300 1128**

Email: supporteraction@childrenssociety.org.uk

www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 221124



PACT

In the UK alone, a child goes missing every five minutes



PACT is an Associate of ICMEC

Parents & Abducted Children Together (PACT) has been created to fight parental child abduction across borders, and to help the police locate and retrieve missing children. One of the ways PACT helps the police is by promoting the Missing Kids Website (www.missingkids.co.uk) and the Child Rescue Alert system.

PACT has published three major reports which examined the gaps and weaknesses in the UK's response to children who go missing. The overall conclusions were that, because of inadequate data collection, it was not possible to obtain an accurate and comprehensive picture of the

scale of the problem; and, that coordination between police forces, and between the police, Whitehall, and the voluntary sector, was poor.

This is why PACT was delighted when the Missing Persons Bureau was re-launched within the National Policing Improvement Agency in April 2008 and given an expanded brief to include the collection of data nationwide. And, when a year later, PACT was able to bring together some of the key players to discuss how we could work together in a more coordinated and productive way.

Since 2003, PACT has been campaigning for better coordination between statutory and non-

statutory bodies and for improved data collection. With the recent appointment of Martin Houghton-Brown as CEO of Missing People, PACT is convinced we are now on the way to creating a system that will enable missing and abducted children to be tracked down and rescued more quickly and efficiently.

Separately, PACT continues to work with other NGOs in the UK and abroad to raise awareness of the urgent need for better laws to protect children.

www.pact-online.org

Coat of Arms for the NPIA in recognition of achievements

The NPIA is now one of only a very small number of corporate bodies who have successfully received the honour of having its own Arms. For such a young organisation this is a notable achievement. Being granted the Arms is recognition of the fact we are an organisation with excellent standing, leading the way in the field of policing. It's an honour that none of the precursor organisations we replaced managed to achieve and no other policing agencies currently have.

Our service to the policing community and the contribution this makes to improving public safety has been commended in the highest possible way.

The award is the result of relentless efforts by Gavin Mckinnon, Head of Corporate and Public Affairs, who said "Being granted this honour so soon after the NPIA has been established demonstrates just how much progress we have made and how well regarded we

have become within our field. It also forms the basis for our future growth and is something I hope my colleagues here at the NPIA can be very proud of".

The Latin motto found on the crest:

'civibus servandis vigilibus servimus'

translates to

'serving the service and protecting the public'

Other organisations who have received the Coat of Arms include the BBC and the National Audit Office.



About the NPIA

The National Policing Improvement Agency is a non-departmental public body (NDPB) sponsored and funded by the Home Office, with its executive leadership drawn from the police service. Many of its employees are seconded police officers. As a policing organisation, the NPIA acts as a central resource to ACPO and police forces, working with authorities and the Home Office to help improve the way policing works. The NPIA aims to make a contribution to improving public safety by:

- driving improvement and leading-edge practice where it matters, fostering self-improvement and helping to shape the future of policing
- delivering and developing critical essential services and infrastructure to support policing day-in and day-out
- providing accessible, responsive and joined-up solutions, enabling the police services to put more time into front line police work

Contact us

Missing Persons Bureau

Foxley Hall
Bramshill
Hook
Hampshire
RG27 0JW

Tel: +44 (0)1256 602979

Fax: +44 (0)1256 692571

Email: missingpersons bureau@npia.pnn.police.uk

Missing Kids Freephone: 0808 100 8777

www.npia.police.uk

missing



Can you help?

Andrew Gosden

Age at disappearance: 14

Andrew has been missing from his home in Doncaster, South Yorkshire, since 14 September 2007. He was last seen on CCTV footage at King's Cross Station in London later that morning.



There is great concern for Andrew and he is urged to call the **Runaway Helpline on Freephone 0808 800 7070** for confidential advice and support.

When Andrew went missing he was 5ft 3in tall, slim with light brown hair and brown eyes. He needs strong prescription glasses. He was last seen wearing black jeans and T-shirt.

The accompanying image is age progressed to suggest how Andrew may look now.

Ref 07-019198

For more information please visit

www.missingpeople.org.uk/andrewgosden

Missing People is the UK's only charity that works with young runaways, missing and unidentified people, their families and others who care for them. We rely on donations to carry out our vital work.

If you have any information call Freephone

0500 700 700

seensomeone@missingpeople.org.uk

www.missingpeople.org.uk

**missing
people**

Registered Charity No. 1020419