

# UK Missing Persons Unit Newsletter

## Upcoming Events

- **15th-24th May:**  
Interviewing for current positions in the unit
- **5th June:** PoISA Market Place—An opportunity for PoISA students to meet representatives from organisations and services involved in missing-person searches and investigations. The UKMPU and Missing People charity also attend.
- **3rd—5th July:**  
Members from the UKMPU attend the International Conference for Missing Children and Adults. The programme for this important conference can be found [here](#).

## Website— [missingpersons.police.uk](http://missingpersons.police.uk)

The Unidentified Case Search facility on our website is still a great way for the public to help with our unidentified cases. Alongside photographs and/or artist impressions of the individuals, each record provides information on when and where the person was found, their estimated age, gender and ethnicity, and any distinguishing features the individual may have, such as tattoos.

Below are two of the most recent cases put up on our website. Do you recognise them?



Gender: Male  
Age Range: 20-30  
Location: East Sussex  
Date Found: 18/11/2018



Gender: Male  
Age Range: 30-40  
Location: Barnet, London  
Date Found: 21/09/2018

You can view more of these cases [here!](#)



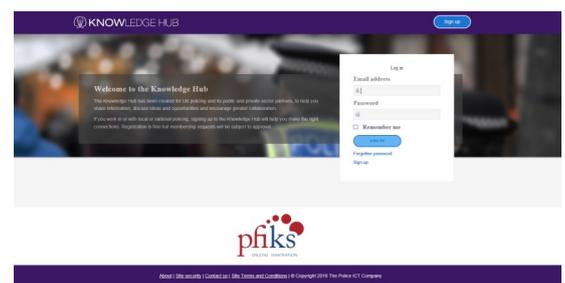
## Knowledge Hub

Have you discovered the [Knowledge Hub](#) yet?

The Knowledge Hub is a new platform from The Police ICT Company, which has been created for UK policing and its public and private sector partners, to help share information, discuss ideas and opportunities and encourage greater collaboration.

Further information about the platform can be found [here](#).

We have created a UK Missing Persons Unit (UKMPU) Group on the Knowledge Hub and will be developing our presence on the Hub over the coming weeks and months. We encourage you to take a look, join and contribute to our UKMPU group.



Email: [ukmpu@nca.gov.uk](mailto:ukmpu@nca.gov.uk) (note new email format)  
Tel: 0800 234 6034

Follow the Unit on Twitter: @UKMissingPerson  
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## Staffing Updates

Whilst interviews to fill our permanent positions are due to take place in May, a new officer has temporarily joined our team.

### Anthony Inch

I have joined UKMPU after working at Wiltshire Police in the PNC Bureau for almost 18 years. Prior to that I served for 6 years in the Royal Air Force. I also have an HND in Public Administration and a BA (Hons) degree from Open University covering Fifth century Athens, Film History and the History of Britain and America from 1760. Outside of work my main interests are Films, Crime and Spy Fiction, Current affairs and Motoring. I appreciate that joining the UKMPU will be a learning curve, and I eagerly look forward to gaining new knowledge that will build on my previous experience.

## Dementia in the Missing Population

Joe Apps, manager of the UK Missing Persons Unit, has recently been involved with work surrounding missing people with dementia. Here he provides an overview of his experiences.

"By chance, a Scottish Institute of Policing research colleague, Katie Gambier-Ross (University of Edinburgh) who is studying dementia and missing persons realised another PhD student, Noelannah Neubauer (University of Alberta, Canada) was researching a similar area (dementia and wayfinding technologies). This led to a meeting in Calgary followed by a very well attended, two day research workshop in Edinburgh in March. The workshop enabled discussions around dementia, citizenship and design, led by Charlotte Clarke and Mary Marshall. The citizenship and design sessions were primarily about dementia friendly communities and ensuring the built environment aids people living with dementia, signage being particularly important. Local people with dementia are already helping ScotRail and ferry services re-design stations and terminals.

Scotland has introduced a 'Purple Alert' for missing people with dementia. Similar to the Child Rescue Alert and 'silver' alerts in the States, the Purple Alert draws attention to people with dementia who go missing using social media. Much of the emphasis of the research work is around prevention and here the Herbert Protocol is so useful. Many police forces are using the Protocol but I'm pressing for the Protocol and Alert system to be available everywhere around the UK. All the research is due publication on the new International Consortium for Dementia and Wayfinding website (details to follow soon). The consortium's aim is knowledge mobilisation and the practical application of research in policing and public health fields and has members from the UK, Sweden, Australia and New Zealand as well as the US and Canada. Importantly, nearly all of the research work is in collaboration with people living with dementia so that their lived experiences are understood. From talking to two of the workshop delegates, police colleagues and I now have a much clearer understanding of the challenges facing people with dementia and the causes of missing episodes, for example, how seemingly simple things like loud noises including emergency vehicle sirens can disorientate a person and how road and building works confuse a person with poor memory.

If you'd like to hear more about the Consortium's work please get in touch with us."



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