

UK Missing Persons Unit Newsletter

Over the past few months...

At the end of January, the COMPACT National Missing Person's conference took place in Hull, with 9 members of the UKMPU attending. A variety of speakers gave presentations on areas that highlighted the overall theme of the conference—vulnerabilities, as well as current and pressing issues within missing. The conference was held over two days (28th—29th Jan), and presented a fantastic opportunity to network with many police forces and researchers from across the UK, as well as to inform the attendees about what the UKMPU has to offer.

The current students, Annabel and Ryan, have been making headway on their research projects, which will be due to be completed over the next few months before their placement term comes to an end. The write ups for their projects on missing children with autism, and the location in relation to duration of missing respectively are coming along well, and should lead to two pieces of new and insightful research for the unit.

Understandably, other training events, courses, and conferences scheduled throughout February, March and April had regrettably been cancelled due to coronavirus. Other upcoming events and meetings in the near future are also due to be postponed until further notice, however, the UKMPU staff maintain a level of resilience in the current working practices. Business remains open as usual, and we continue to offer support and assistance to police forces during this challenging time, and encourage everyone to stay safe.

Staffing Updates

In early February, interviews were held to complete the final stage of application for the next placement students who are due to start with the unit in the summer. The candidates have since been selected, and we look forward to welcoming them in July / August. The placement students will be working as research assistants to aid the operations officers and undertake their own area of research before returning to university to complete their final year.

The unit said goodbye to Ben this month, who departed at the end of April. Ben has been with the UKMPU since the start of January, and we wish him well in his future endeavours.

The team will not be depleting in numbers as a new operations officer, Sam Clark, is due to start on the 11th May and will be joining the North team upon her arrival.

Can you help identify this person?

We are seeking assistance to identify a missing man, believed to be aged around 40 to 50 years old. The man was found deceased on 28 March 2020 in the River Thames. He was wearing blue Wrangler jeans, a black Jack Wills T-shirt, a grey Crew Clothing jumper and black striped trainers. For more details see the case on our [website](#).



Upcoming Events

- **25th May**—International Missing Children's Day
- In 2001, 25th May was first formally recognised as International Missing Children's Day (IMCD), thanks to a joint effort on the part of ICMEC, Missing Children Europe and the European Commission. Each year there is a worldwide social media campaign to share images of those who are still missing, as well as celebrating stories of those who have been found.

Email: ukmpu@nca.gov.uk

Tel: 0800 234 6034

Follow the Unit on Twitter: @UKMissingPerson

Like the 'UK Missing Persons Unit' page on Facebook