

On & Off Duty CPA

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CHRISTIAN POLICE ASSOCIATION

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you. *Philippians 1:3-4a [NIV]*



© Jacqueline Hurley

It is fitting, in this November issue, that we remember all those who have died in conflicts and wars, both recent and those stretching back through recent history. We acknowledge that our freedoms, our liberty, and our ability to openly acknowledge our faith in God came at a huge price, in the lives given during times of conflict in defence of all we hold dear in our society today.

We also remember our policing colleagues who, through their death, paid the ultimate price, so that we and countless others can continue to live today in freedom and peace.

A poem called 'For the Fallen' by Robert Laurence Binyon, was written in mid September 1914, a few weeks after the outbreak of the First World War. The poem ends with words that are equally relevant today, when we remember all those who have lost loved ones:

*As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.*

CPA are very grateful to Jacqueline Hurley who has allowed us to publish in this issue a copy of her very moving painting called "You Don't Stand Alone". When asked if we could use this image Jacqueline immediately responded and said of our policing family across the UK:- "It would be an honour for 'You Don't Stand Alone' to be featured. No words can ever thank you all enough for your bravery and service within our police force and for keeping our country as safe as possible".

Our thanks go to Jacqueline. Please do look at the work of this amazingly talented artist at www.poshoriginalart.co.uk

On & Off Duty



National Police Memorial Day

Since 2004, National Police Memorial Day (NPMD) has been an opportunity to remember the sacrifices made by officers since policing began. It is also a time to remember through a public show of support, solidarity and commitment to fallen colleagues who had given up their lives in that past twelve months. This year it was a privilege to represent CPA at the 2019 event at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall on 29th September. Many of those attending knew well the pain of sudden and tragic bereavement. Reverend Canon David Wilbraham – National Police Chaplain and Coordinator of NPMD said “National Police Memorial Day exists to pay tribute to the brave men and women who gave us their all, we will always remember them”.

The Patron of NPMD, His Royal Highness Prince Charles attended the event. Rt Hon. Nicola Sturgeon MSP; First Minister of Scotland, The Right Honourable Priti Patel MP, Home Secretary and many civic dignitaries also were in attendance.

More than 4,000 police officers have died whilst on duty in the past 180 years. Each year, we are saddened that the number of names added to the Police Roll of Honour continues to grow. NPMD 2019 remembered those who had fallen since NPMD 2018. **PC Andrew Harper** – Thames Valley Police, **Sgt Colin Michael Fox** – Metropolitan Police, **PC Kevin Flint** – Thames Valley Police, **PC Daniel Clayton-Drabble** – Thames Valley

Police, **PC Joseph Robert Cooke** – Metropolitan Police and **Special Agent Noel Remagen** – United States Secret Service.

I was particularly moved by one of the prayers. This particular prayer is always included in our welcome letters to new members of the CPA and it really reflects the difficult, demanding and dangerous role that members of our policing family carry out every day in support of our communities :-

“Lord, bless we pray all members of the police service, that they may honour their calling and serve those around them, upholding human rights and according equal respect to all. Inspire them to standards of fairness, integrity, diligence, compassion, and that they may walk humbly with you. Give them strength and wisdom to protect the weak and vulnerable, and to champion the cause of the innocent; protect them from harm; and in your mercy let peace reign in our country. Amen”

Events such as National Police Memorial Day are so important as we not only remember those who have died but also hold their memory and therefore them, alive for the past, present and future. Our thanks go to National Police Memorial Day and all those who organised this Day.

Lee Russell MA - Executive Director

A personal memory – with thanks to Julia Lewis

CPA were also very honoured to attend the Service of Remembrance held by the charity Care of Police Survivors earlier this year. Our Executive Director was privileged to meet up with family members who have been supported by the amazing work of COPS.

Julia Lewis was with her husband David at the event. Julia was remembering her brother, Phillip Pratt who was killed in Kent in 2009. Phillip was 26 years old when he was killed whilst on duty on the A249 near Sittingbourne on Sunday 14th June 2009. He was protecting the scene of an earlier accident when he was struck by a vehicle. It is now ten years since his death and Julia said :-

“We have been supported as a family by COPS since the death of my brother in 2009 and as a family we have been attending the survivors weekend for a number of years now. Through attending we have made some really good friends who all understand precisely what it means to lose an officer in the line of duty. They have all walked in our shoes and know how we feel. The charity has saved us and countless other families and helped us to live

again. It’s always an honour to attend the arboretum and remember those who never made it home from their shift.”

Sergeant Gavin Scales, who was with Phillip when he was killed, was at the event. Also Deputy Chief Constable Tony Blaker attended on behalf of Kent Police.



CPA sponsors recent COPS charity Event

– an update from CPA Friend Pete Bisgrove

30 miles completed - carrying a 40lb rucksack, fast hiking alongside serving Royal Marines and Police Officers, in a charity event called the ‘COPS 30 Miler’, in Northumbria. Maybe not for everyone, but for me this is how I encourage and show support to such a valuable group of people and their families. And, I added toe cap safety work boots, and 22 push-ups at intervals, to show respect.

The determination required by everyone to complete the gruelling 30 miler echoes the dedication and commitment given by the members of our Police and Royal Marines (plus their families). The charities this event was supporting were ‘Care Of Police Survivors’ (COPS) and the Royal Marines Charity.

So who am I? Pete Bisgrove, a 54 year old dad. A maintenance manager in Northampton by day, but for a hobby I like to be a bit more adventurous. I use my hunger for fun and adrenalin outdoors, to help others. In 2014 I founded ‘Team Chariot’ to enter outdoor events to benefit charities, with a message: ‘God has NOT forgotten You’.

Recently, on a 20 mile ‘boots & rucksack’ training exercise, I was joined by Rob Monk, a policeman and CPA Branch Leader for Northants Police.

I’m thrilled the CPA supported the COPS 30 Miler, but even more grateful of their commitment to colleagues in the Police force of our country. Only questions now are ... what’s next? And, who’s coming?

God bless. Pete Biz



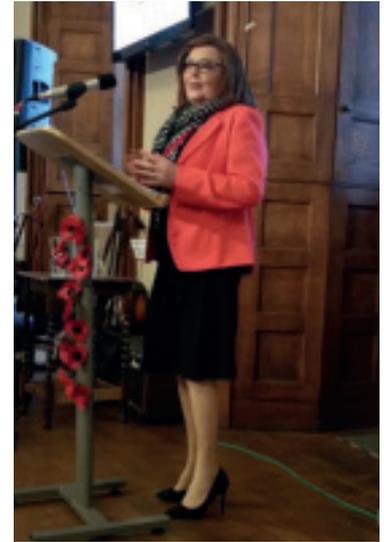
Pete with Rob Monk

CPA remembers Sylvia Walters from Premier Christian Radio

CPA were saddened to hear of the death of our very valued CPA Friend and Community Partner, Sylvia Walters. Sylvia died on 29th September after a battle against cancer. Brian McCarthy and Mike Quinnell represented CPA at the Service of Thanksgiving that was held on 9th October 2019.

Sylvia was such a strong supporter of the Mission and Vision of the CPA, with relatives in the police within her extended family. She was instrumental in the amazing support that Premier gives to CPA and she spoke at our CPA Leaders Conference in 2017.

When I recently spoke with Sylvia, she told me how Psalm 91 was of great comfort to her during her illness. We are so grateful for her life, and for her support. Our prayers are with Sylvia's family and friends.



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OUR MISSION is to

- Be a National Voice for Christians in Policing.
- Encourage and support Christians in the Police Service.
- Communicate in words and action, the truth, message and hope of the gospel of Jesus Christ to colleagues and the community we serve.
- Build bridges between the Christian community and the Police.

OUR VISION is to see

- The CPA as a national charity which actively leads on issues relevant to Christians in Policing.
- An active and growing branch of CPA in every Police Service in the UK and every Christian in the Police Service to fulfil their potential in Jesus Christ.
- Colleagues and those we serve to know Jesus Christ personally.
- Police and Churches working together in every community to reduce crime and improve quality of life.

President Deputy Chief Constable Paul Netherton **Chair of Council** A/Inspector Marie Reavey

Executive Director Lee Russell **Executive Support Manager** Tony Gale **Editor** Allan Spencer **Administrator** Lindsey Monk

ON & OFF DUTY is the CPA monthly digest of news and articles. We also update a monthly Prayer Diary intended to inform and encourage those associated with the CPA. Please forward any items to office@CPAuk.net by the 20th of each month.

NB. All articles published will also be available for unrestricted viewing via the Internet. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the CPA Council.

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