



THE BOBBY

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL GIBRALTAR POLICE



in this issue:

Interview Richard Mifsud

Cybersecurity Conference 2018

“Walk the Beat” Charity Event

RGP Cycle Run Faro-Gib



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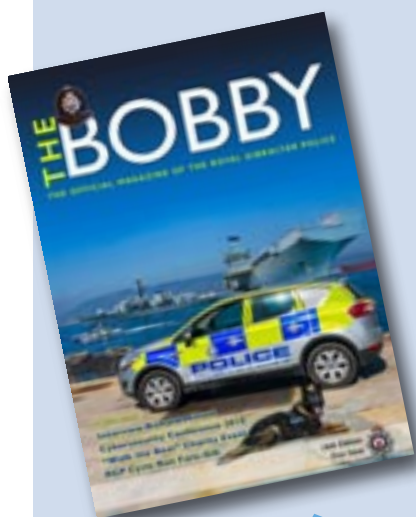
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Commissioner's Foreword

Dear Reader

I am delighted and honoured to present the new edition of our official journal The Bobby. This is the first copy to 'hit the stands' since I was privileged to be appointed RGP Commissioner in May, and the first opportunity I have had to directly communicate with our readers, sponsors and contributors who have so loyally backed the magazine during all these years; thank you all very much for your unstinting support.

I would also like to thank the publication team for their efforts in putting together this new edition of The Bobby, packed with all things police and policing to provide an entertaining behind the scenes snapshot of many activities that occupy the day to day of our organisation.

Inside these pages you will also find articles of topical interest, community items and other informative pieces.

The Bobby has become a useful platform to showcase some key aspects of the RGP and our aim now is to hopefully produce more issues per year, to be able to publish the magazine more frequently than in the past.

Warm greetings and best wishes to all our readers.

Welcome to The Bobby!



Ian McGrail

RGP Commissioner



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RG Police Project Servator: Gibraltar's extra "eyes and ears"

Don't be surprised or alarmed if you see a heavy police presence in a specific area of Gibraltar, Project Servator is here to keep the community safe

Project Servator, an innovative intelligence-led policing tactic designed to deter, detect and ultimately disrupt a broad spectrum of criminality from pick-pocketing to terrorism, has been operating in Gibraltar since June 1st 2018, after it was trialed successfully in December 2017.

RGP Commissioner Ian McGrail declared that the support of residents, workers and visitors is vital to the success of the scheme.

"The general public has a key role to play in providing us with added capability to help keep the community safe; they are our extra 'eyes and ears' to report any suspicious activity or behaviour," he said.

Project Servator officers engage with the general public and staff from retail & licensed premises in the areas they deploy, such as businesses within the city centre, leisure spots, the land frontier and Gibraltar International Airport.

Gibraltar is the only location outside mainland UK where Project Servator has been approved for use, following intensive UK and locally-based training by RGP officers to enhance specialist skills, as well as engagement with UK partner organisations.

Project Servator deployments are unpredictable and can turn up anywhere at any time, and involve highly visible police officers supported by other resources such as police dogs, firearms officers, plain clothes officers, marine police units, vehicle checkpoints and CCTV, across the Rock's entry points and at major events, with officers receiving specialist training to spot the tell-tale signs that an individual may have criminal intent.

Researched and developed by experts from the UK Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) in partnership with the City of London Police, Project Servator has been rolled out across a number of UK locations since 2014. The City of London, Metropolitan, British Transport, Ministry of Defence, Civil Nuclear Constabulary, North Yorkshire and Essex Police

forces, and Police Scotland, are also deploying this tactic.

Both the Gibraltar Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Small Business are fully aware and supportive of this initiative, while many local businesses have expressed very positive feedback regarding the project's aims.

In addition to continued specialist training to officers, 2019 will see Project Servator deliver a range of training products to security and

customer-facing staff across Gibraltar as part of a wider outreach initiative.

Local project coordinator, Detective Chief Inspector Paul Chipolina said: "There has been significant investment in training officers locally and overseas in recent months. To support this we use leaflets, posters and social media updates to inform the community about what we are doing and encourage them to trust their instincts and report suspicious behaviour. We will continue delivering awareness brie-





fings to key community stakeholders in parallel to our operational deployments.

“The aim of Project Servator is to combine effective police deployments with increased levels of vigilance and the general public can help us keep the community safe by engaging with our teams. If you see them deployed in your area speak to officers to find out how you can play a part.

“The active support of the public, community and businesses is vital to the success of this project. We have been actively engaging local firms and the wider Gibraltar community since December to promote greater awareness about security, crime & crime prevention, and introduce them to the concept, explaining the key role they can play.

“The RGP want to reassure the community that we are working with other law enforcement agencies to keep everyone safe and that this is not a response to any specific threat just part of a wider assignment to enhance public safety and security.

“We continue to call on the public to be vigilant and report anything that does not feel right immediately, by telling a police officer, or by calling us on 20072500 (if not urgent), or in the event of an emergency 199/112. We can also be contacted by email on :

servator@royalgib.police.gi

Chamber welcomes enhanced vigilance

President of the Chamber of Commerce Christian Hernandez expressed his support for Project Servator and said this was a very positive measure for the business community as well.

Mr Hernandez said: “It is very reassuring for us when we see uniformed police officers patrolling the streets. It inspires confidence in the public who feel safe to go about their normal activities, and this is very important for Main Street traders and commerce generally. It is so-

omething that we called for last year and we are delighted that Commissioner McGrail and his team have implemented Project Servator in response to the concerns of the community. Normality is essential for businesses and for communities to thrive and the police play a major role in that.

“We have an excellent relationship with the Royal Gibraltar Police and we feel that Project Servator enhances that two way interaction which benefits us both and the wider community. We feel safer in the knowledge that the RGP can deploy in numbers and in high visibility at short notice as an effective crime deterrent measure. At the same time the staff of our members are always there to assist police officers providing an added layer of vigilance if necessary which in today’s security climate cannot be underestimated.”

For his part Terence Lopez, Air Terminal Director and CEO Gibraltar Air Terminal & Gibraltar Airport Fire and Rescue Service said: “The Air Terminal is an excellent example of how multiple organisations can work in partnership to deliver a safe and secure environment for passengers and staff alike. Although there are high levels of regulatory compliance when it comes to aviation security, most of this is geared towards passenger and baggage screening, and this is where Project Servator becomes invaluable. The essence of unpredictable, highly visible police deployments are an ideal tactic in the work being carried out daily to deter criminal and terrorist activity and fits in perfectly with our strategy of interoperability with the RGP where we combine resources to achieve maximum results and they have my full support.”

For up to date news on Project Servator follow us on Twitter @rgpolice (#Project Servator) and visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/royalgibpolice



PROJECT SERVATOR TRAINING CONCLUDES ON POSITIVE NOTE

Project Servator officers successfully completed their specialised training course in October and received their certificates from Commissioner Ian McGrail in the presence of the two UK police instructors.

Commissioner McGrail praised the officers for their good work and positive results urging them to remain focused in deployments.

“The momentum has to be kept going because you are our front line of defence,” he said.

The officers commented that communications with the public had been fluid and highlighted the positive predisposition from members of the public to interact and collaborate with them.



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F. Oliva Interviews Assistant Commissioner RGP Richard Mifsud

Police service has changed to keep in step with society, says Mifsud

A heightened sense of service to the community and a feeling of camaraderie toward fellow officers are the two basic values that Assistant Commissioner RGP Richard Mifsud believes are essential for anyone considering joining the police. Retiring in early 2019 after a rewarding career spanning over three decades, Mr Mifsud, who will now be endeavouring to enjoy life and devote more time to his passion for rugby, declares that being a police officer is more a vocation than an ordinary job.


“If you are not proud [of], willing and desirous of serving your community then you might as well look for employment elsewhere.”

“If there’s one thing the police service is good at, it is change.”

In an extensive interview he looks back at his time at the RGP, and reflects on the highs and lows of policing a community the size of Gibraltar, the serious law enforcement challenges of the next decade and the profound changes experienced by the police service in the past twenty years. He also dwells on the added pressures of policing and living in the same community unlike the norm in UK and Europe, and the not uncommon situations that arise, like arresting someone in the morning and then meeting them in Morrison’s in the afternoon.

Mr Mifsud who considers himself “the most apolitical creature on earth”, but a true, “inclusive” democrat in the purest sense of the word, has been a part of the Thin Blue Line during some of the Rock’s major political and social upheavals since the 1980s; has lived





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through a wide range of experiences, some pleasant, others less so, among them fatal traffic accidents involving youths which are particularly heart wrenching.

He says the police force has changed completely but not unilaterally, because society itself has changed completely, and this has become necessary in order not to get left behind.

“Legislation has advanced, civil rights and human rights and the protection of freedoms and everything else has moved on since the early 1980s, that is a societal thing, and we have moved on with it.”

Contrary to popular belief, that police officers are among the biggest liberals on earth, “because we see the very worst of humans and the very best of humans,” and that authoritarian notions like a police state are anathema to them.

Cyber threats, fraud, immigration, terrorism, together with traditional forms of crime will continue to feature prominently and remain a concern for law enforcement in the years ahead. With terrorism which keeps morphing trying to keep ahead of the game, “we will always be continuing to develop to counter the various threats.”

Mr Mifsud says there is nothing flamboyant about policing and reckons that 95% of the time is spent behind a desk finding evidence and “the little 5% of excitement” of flashing blue lights and sirens, or nicking a thief after running the length of Main Street is just that, “that’s not the job.” though he understands that it makes for good television!

He adds that the greatest satisfaction comes from the painstaking and methodical work that is required in properly investigating a series of burglaries, looking through evidence etc, and eventually securing a conviction in court.

Asked about his favourite TV cop shows he goes for those which more truthfully depict the work of a police officer and the difficulties they face, for instance ‘Hill Street Blues’ which his US colleagues have vouched for its realism, also ‘The Fall’ about a serial killer in Belfast

which faithfully reflects the British police service and its procedures, and the Scandinavian series ‘The Bridge’, which mirrors the discreet investigative work that officers do day in and day out to successfully conclude a case.

There are always highs and lows in careers in any field spanning such a long period of time. What has been the highlight of your time at the RGP?

That’s a good question, there have been many highlights. Obviously from a personal perspective my advancement throughout the organisation, but organisationally there have been a number of them. One was the

Freedom of the City, that was a particularly proud day and also various awards that we achieved, but I have two overriding highlights from an organisational perspective. The first was the demonstration on March 18 2002, when the joint sovereignty talks were ongoing, not least because I was intimately involved with the organisation, planning and the policing of that event, but it was impres-

sive to see Gibraltar walking the streets and the atmosphere; Gibraltarians doing what we do so well, which is make our point but make our point with dignity and honour. The second highlight was the demonstration that followed the 1995 riots which I was not involved in planning, which for the police service in Gibraltar was an amazing experience, after the rioting of the previous weekend, and there were people parading through Main Street and applauding the police which really still makes my hairs stand on end. From an organisational perspective those two top the bill.

And for you personally?

This is an interesting one because the measure of success here is that nothing happened which is a peculiar thing. Normally when you measure success it is by achieving something. I was intimately involved with the organisation, planning and execution of the Tripartite Mee-

ting held in Gibraltar during the Cordoba diplomatic process, when we had the then UK Foreign Secretary Miliband, his then Spanish counterpart Moratinos and the then Chief Minister Sir Peter Caruana. For that event to go off without a hitch, given its enormity in a Gibraltar context makes me feel very proud. To be involved in history making, as a guy who absolutely loves history and loves Gibraltar, I couldn’t have asked for more. Another one was achieving membership of UEFA and the great joy that followed that. There have been quite a few of these events where I pinch myself and I think, I was in the thick of all these events which have made history in Gibraltar. From a personal perspective another one was when Miss World Kaienne Aldorino came back home, again I was also in the thick of that. It is a very gratifying experience when you reminisce and you look back on these moments, ‘where were you when’, like they usually use with JFK being killed, where were you when Gibraltar entered UEFA? I know where I was, I was in Casemates where everything was happening.

And the low moments in your career?

The funny thing is that a lot of now retired and very veteran officers will tell you that you tend to forget the lows, and you do, (it is a psychological defence mechanism) and it most certainly is, there are many perhaps not negative moments, I would call them difficult moments from a personal perspective, where you are confronted with issues, with matters that you’d rather not ever see or be confronted with, a number of issues like young people dying in road traffic collisions. It really is awful.

From an organisational policing perspective I’ve touched upon one already, the riots, as a serious low point on that day which was counterbalanced by what happened subsequently, a few days after that. So I suppose one of the low points was the 1995 riots definitely.

What advice would you give to a young, raw recruit who has just joined the RG Police or indeed to anyone thinking of joining the force?

I am what they call ‘pan de coco’, an interesting expression which not a lot of people in Gibraltar will have heard. ‘Pan de coco’ is that you are the son or daughter of a police officer or from a police family which I am. My late father served 18 years in the police, so my earliest memories and ambitions were to be what he was then at that time, he subsequently progressed further, but I wanted to be a detective sergeant of the CID, that was my aim in life. I just wanted to be that, and thankfully I was, DS then DI



Mr Mifsud says

(Detective Inspector) and then DCI in other areas in the RGP. My advice to a recruit is make sure you are joining for the right reasons, this is not any other job, it is a way of life, a vocation, there are two things that keep you going when the chips are down. The main advice is about serving your community. Anecdotally, I remember my late dad would tell me that police officers would patrol in the gutter, and not on the pavement, in the 1940s and 50s and the reason for that was to physically show that, a police officer was a public servant rather than the enforcers of the law, which of course we are. Back in 1830 Sir Robert Peel stated that 'the police are the public and the public are the police', and that is very true. If you are not proud, willing and desirous of serving your community then you might as well look for employment elsewhere. I remember being on

patrol as a young PC by Calle Comedia area and this old lady was walking toward me and it was incredibly gratifying to hear her say, "Ay mi alma, que alegría de ver un policía por aquí." Something like this vindicates everything you joined to do, because your mere presence in a place actually has an impact. Service to the community was the first and the other one is the camaraderie, being in the thick of it with your colleagues who then become friends, and become family because you spend so much time with them, often in trying circumstances.

When you share experiences like that, when two or three of you have been involved dealing with a serious incident, dealing with dead bodies which are unsavoury events, it has a peculiar effect of binding you. Having that safety blanket of 'compañerismo' is key to success in this profession.

Did you become a policeman straight from school?

Actually no. One of the best pieces of advice my late father gave me was keep your options open. It was one of my options. The other option was potentially the prison service and the third was the military. I went to the UK to try and join as an officer, I was 18, very naïve and inexperienced. I did not cut it at that age, and surprise, surprise, was not recommended for the next phase. So, I came back home, applied for the police and joined at the ripe old age of 19. This job makes you mature very quickly because you deal with serious societal issues very early on in your career. Shortly after leaving recruit school, still 19, I was called to a domestic dispute, and there was me trying to advise a 50 year old couple on their relationship, and you think, what on earth. They could have turned round and said what do you know about being married, I didn't even have a girlfriend then! But they don't see you as a 19 year old, they just see the uniform, an embodiment of authority and wisdom, which you don't have, who can calm a situation and you need to pick it up and deal with it.

You learn an awful lot because you are invariably the subject of pranks, and people will prank you in this job.

"This job makes you mature very quickly because you deal with serious societal issues very early on in your career."

You learn to become very cautious and suspicious early on but we are not talking here of those ridiculous things like rites of passage, that does not happen, and if it did not happen in the days of Life on Mars when I joined, it certainly does not happen now, but there is a very good level of honest banter and pranking, and it builds you up into the person you eventually become, because you need to deal with some very nasty individuals out there, so what it does is it 'toughens' you up. One of the best military maxims is 'train hard to fight easy' so that you are training so hard that by the time it comes to [figuratively] fighting, it is obviously unpleasant, but at least the training has been worse, so you can cope with it better. This is very much the same. When confronted with issues out in the street, you learn to use different stratagems to calm situations down, to detect the problematic individual, you become an incredibly sharp judge of character and of body language, because there is one of you, possibly



two, surrounded by people who have invariably had quite a bit to drink or whatever, and it is just the one of you, but you end up being on top, metaphorically speaking. In other jurisdictions, there is an over reliance on the use of force as a solution to situations, but my experience is that a police officer's two most powerful weapons are the brain and speech, so you think quick, think sharp, and you utter your thoughts. More problems are resolved by dialogue than can ever be resolved by the use of force. Sometimes this happens, either because the person is at such an unreasonable stage and there is no other option, or because you have failed in not being able to bring it down to a manageable level and you can no longer deal with it through dialogue.

What would you say have been the greatest changes that you have seen affecting the organisation since your time started as a police officer?

It has changed for the better. It has made us far more professional than we were in my early career, when we applied professional standards to the levels expected of the legislation that was in place then. Legislation has advanced, civil rights and human rights and the protection of freedoms and everything else has moved on since the early 1980s, that is a societal thing, and we have moved on with it. Much more time is spent now dealing with the governance of investigations, in how we conduct investigations. The level of administration and audit

“The fact is that far more acquisitive crime is committed through fraud than will ever be committed through a robbery or theft.”

trails required to meet the standards that are imposed and we ourselves impose, are light years ahead of where we were when I joined. There are now many more police officers in what some see as non-core policing roles, i.e. not frontline, which they actually are, e.g. in the Economic Crime Unit who deal with incredibly complex investigations. I was an original member of the Fraud Squad in the late 1980s early 1990s, which was always, thought of as those guys behind a desk looking at computers, just taking statements.

The fact is that far more acquisitive crime is committed through fraud than will ever be committed through a robbery or theft. One of my pet hates worldwide, is the idea that fraud

is a victimless crime. Well, hang on, if some poor person loses their pension as a result of a fraud, how is this victimless? Maybe somebody has not been hit over the head with a stick or their arm broken because they have stolen their wallet, but would you rather lose your wallet with £30-40, or your livelihood for the rest of your life? And these officers deal with that, with levels of complexity that did not exist then, when there was far more emphasis on having officers out in the street, dealing with what the Rock was then, with a resident British army battalion, far more ships coming, and a greater MOD presence. There was less sophisticated crime, burglaries, thefts, out in the street. The police service has, not just in Gibraltar, configured itself into what the demand is now. We have a greater understanding of what our demands are now than we had then, so we can flexibly be resourced and that is very difficult which is why we are negotiating a business case with government. We have changed completely but society itself has changed completely. So it is not that the RG Police or any other police service has changed unilaterally, we have changed because it is a requirement to change, because if you don't you get left behind. And if there's one thing the police service is good at, it is change. The police service cannot afford to be inflexible, or resistant to change, because we have to keep up, actually slightly ahead if we can of the curve, so that we can deal with the criminality.

Would you say that the pendulum has swung too far the other way? Like the cat-burglar who sues the owner of the house because he injures his leg while climbing over a wall...

I don't think so although there are instances when the pendulum has swung way, way to the wrong side. I'll let you into a little secret. Not a lot of people would think this, but police officers are among the biggest liberals on earth. Why are we liberals, because we see the very worst of humans and the very best of humans, and we are very conscious of people's rights, always have been. This preconception that the police go around being the police state and everything else, is unfounded, it is actually anathema to police officers. A lot of people, and this is my own personal perspective, which I always find incredibly amusing and quirky here in Gibraltar, is people wanting to have a police officer on every street corner or having their particular beach's police officer. Why? Obviously police presence acts as a deterrent but are we so worried about not seeing a police officer when we travel abroad e.g. to beaches in Spain or Portugal? If you need the police all you have to do is call and we will respond.

We are the protectors of the constitution and this is made up of citizens' rights, and we are the guardians of that, that's what we are about. I would not say that the pendulum has swung too much. It has not. The pendulum is where it should be, the only problem with the pendulum is the people who manage the pendulum, so you can have instances such as the one you describe that is completely ridiculous, but that's just one instance. The vast majority of cases, it is important that people have rights and those rights are respected. When we spoke about having CCTV cameras in the custody area 20 years ago, many then said, "Oh my God".

“We are the protectors of the constitution and this is made up of citizens' rights, and we are the guardians of that, that's what we are about.”

Actually what that achieved was the overnight disappearance of a bunch of wonderful allegations that we had beaten up detainees, which were often made in court at that time.. There was one instance where they tried it, and when the police officer went to give evidence, he said no, we have CCTV footage showing exactly what happened throughout the detention period. In short, it protected officers. End of. Let's make sure everything is in the open and transparent, that people's rights are respected, and more importantly, are seen to be respected, and you'll find that the police service are custodians of that in the vast majority of cases.

What would you say are the greatest law enforcement challenges facing Gibraltar and Europe over the next decade?


Good question. You are asking the right person, not least because part of my role in life is to look at the future and try and determine strategically what the challenges are, where we are going to be, not just from a policing perspective but also in terms of national security and civil contingency. The main problems are cyber threats, more economic crime and immigration which will all feature prominently. Terrorism, regrettably will also continue to feature in some form or another and they will always keep morphing, trying to keep ahead of the game, and we will always be continuing to develop to counter the various threats; that is the way that I see it panning out. Of course, acquisitive crime, theft, robbery and drugs are areas that will certainly continue to feature

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prominently and remain a concern. I don't see those things disappearing, they have not disappeared for the last few millennia so they are not about to disappear now. Those are the problems we will continue having to deal with. The not so new kids on the block, of course cybercrime, has grown exponentially as a threat in keeping with the advances in technology which are so rapid, but that features and will feature for the foreseeable future, and the potential for harm that can be conducted through cyber-attacks can be very scary. Let us just hope that Gibraltar's relative lack of importance in the world stage will keep us below the radar and off the cross hairs.

Are there law enforcement challenges to Gibraltar that are not present in the rest of Europe?

No. Gone are the days when people thought that nothing happened in little Gibraltar. It's called progress and we in common with our European brothers and sisters and indeed across the western world, have the same rights, the same luxuries but we also have the same potential for problems, and the problems are the exact same as those that exist across the western world.

How do you see the nature of policing evolving over the next decade in a community with Gibraltar's peculiarities?

The one thing not in common with other police services and the ones we normally measure ourselves against, the ones in the UK and the small islands, is that we will continue to be very close to our community. The reason for that is not because we are any better than anybody else but because we live in the community we police, which is odd in a policing perspective and adds a whole new complexity to the way we police here in Gibraltar, very different to living somewhere in the suburbs of Greater London and working in the centre of London, you don't know anybody so the pressures of arresting someone in the morning and then meeting them at Morrison's that same afternoon in one of the aisles will never happen.

Has that ever happened to you?

Yes of course it has. I am not unique. There is a way these things are handled, and there is an understanding by both parties that we are condemned to co-exist. We just get on with it. It is not an issue. In terms of the police service evolving in Gibraltar, we will have to increase our specialisations. We have historically been a small organisation but de facto a national poli-

ce force. By comparison, whereas you may have a county police force in England, Wiltshire for instance, where they just do [traditionally understood] policing however they don't have national competences for national security, they will not have to police their waters, because there are none, they will not have national competence for economic crime, yes they are busy but they do not have to cope with what we have to cope with, with very small numbers. So what we have had to do historically, is to be 'Jacks of all trades,' but without the luxury of

"There is only one rule that I judge people by, have you broken the law and hurt my community, my society or not? If you haven't, then I am here to help you. Pretty much."

not being masters of none, we've had to be masters at all, that is the difference. The greatest change I see happening, simply because of the complexities involved now with the specialisations required, is that we will have to become far more specialised and we will be unable to do what we ordinarily do, which is to try and move people around to gain that experience in different fields so that we can deal with a wider variety of things. I think that is going to be increasingly difficult to do and we are going to have to configure ourselves to do that. That is what I fear. Not fear, because it is simply an evolution – we have gone from a police service in the 50s, 60s 70s where the core skills required were to be big and brawny to manhandle matelots, to where we are now which is to have very intelligent people doing a very complicated job and taking this forward. We spoke earlier about a historical evolution,

well this will have to pan out, and one of the things we are good at is looking to the future. We are forever trying to futureproof because we just don't have the luxury of having huge resources that we can just throw willy-nilly at everything and anything. We can't. We are very restricted in terms of resourcing and must therefore remain very conscious of what is coming beyond the event horizon so that we are ready for it because we cannot afford not to be ready for it because the people who suffer will be the community we police.

What are your plans for retirement?

I shall endeavour to enjoy life, travel and pursue my passion for rugby – I am a keen rugby fan – hoping to get involved with Gibraltar Rugby, and give them the benefit of my experience and my drive. I enjoy dabbling in rugby forums and podcasts and have staunchly supported Leinster Rugby and Ireland, when Gibraltar aren't playing!! Why do I support Leinster? Simply because they were the only team whose style of play ever excited me as a fan [even though we lost a lot then] and when they play well and they play well quite often, that is why we have won four European Champions Cups in the past few years, they are a joy to watch. They are what Brazil is to football, perhaps not Brazil because the equivalent would be the All Blacks. I like to see the game played how it should be played, and not be attritional. Why Ireland? Well, I never supported any national team but a large proportion of the Leinster boys play for Ireland, so yes, I naturally support Ireland and have done for many years now. Part of my retirement will hopefully be watching a lot more rugby and hoping that Gibraltar Rugby is admitted into the rugby equivalent of UEFA as it would create a revolution for rugby here and I can travel to watch them too!!



Computer whizz-kid Reuben Paul marvels audiences at GibCyber Security conference 2018



By F Oliva – Press Officer, RG Police

- *“Artificial intelligence will affect many facets of our daily lives”*
- *“I feel the biggest impact Artificial Intelligence will have is changing the way change happens in the world”*

Everyday household items, drones and teddy bears can be transformed into remote spying devices or even far more harmful objects, Reuben Paul the 12 year-old cyber prodigy from Austin, Texas, told the GibCyber Security conference in September.

During an enlightening talk on Artificial Intelligence held at the University of Gibraltar, the seventh-grader displayed outstanding knowledge of its pros and cons, and showed how it was possible to create untold mischief with an ordinary mobile phone, by manipulating street

traffic lights, automated vehicles and just about anything else that relies on a wireless technology connection.

Travelling with his closely knit family, he has become one of the most sought after cyber security experts and key note speakers at specialized international conferences in the US, Europe and India.

Rueben is a remarkable young man with a mission: essentially to highlight the extreme vulnerability of current cyber security systems to



unscrupulous hackers; to promote awareness of this latent threat by exposing the weaknesses of networks such as Blue-tooth & Wi-Fi; to help improve and make the technology more secure and ultimately unhackable.

The technique he employed in his practical demonstration mirrors the procedures a hacker with nefarious intent could apply in the real world, to hack real equipment with catastrophic effects on everything from automated transport, sources of energy, medical devices such as pacemakers or robotic arms that per-

form surgery, military installations, or even in our domestic environments etc.

“If a child can do it, a determined cyber terrorist can also do it. Artificial Intelligence will form a big part of the future and we must make sure we have the protection in place to safeguard ourselves against the serious dangers that exist,” he declared.

Luckily for the forces of good in society Reuben’s allegiances, like Spiderman’s and other superheroes he admires, lie squarely on the right side of the law and he is determined to invest his not inconsiderable talents as an “ethical hacker”, in creating greater awareness about the potential risks of cybercrime and related illegal activities which have spiraled out of control in today’s increasingly internet-driven communities.

Unsurprisingly, national governments, law enforcement organisations and powerful corporations including the US National Security Agency, are already keeping a keen eye on his progress with a view to signing him on and recruiting his services as soon as he is old enough to be able to be legally employed!

He learned everything there is to know about computers from his father – Mano Paul – a cyber expert in his own right who trained people in his office. Reuben used to listen in whenever dad was talking about cyber security topics, as his gaming console was within earshot. Mr Paul quickly realized his son’s precocious potential for cyber security, and has been nurturing and expanding it ever since.

Reuben is also a founder member and CEO of his own cyber security company Cyber-Shaolin – the name comes from his passion for computers and martial arts – an educational and non-profit making organisation set up with his father to teach youngsters and adults, how to protect themselves from the dangers of the cyber world. Reuben is already a second degree black belt in Kung-Fu.

“I am a cyber ninja, I help and educate kids on the dangers of cyber security and I am always on their side”

“We have to keep highlighting the importance of adequate cyber security so that kids are alert to use the web carefully and securely,” says Reuben.

Cyber-Shaolin was formed after receiving numerous letters from children all over the world asking him to teach them, to share his know-

ledge so they could educate and empower themselves and learn about technology.

His website has become a useful platform to develop and publish free educational content, such as simple instructive videos children can easily understand, explaining the basics of cyber safety and how they can remain safe from cyber bullying and the many potential menaces lurking in the World Wide Web.

Such has been the groundswell of media interest caused by Reuben’s sensational eruption onto the global cyber security stage that Hacker Strip, which produces web-comic stories about real hackers making a difference around the world, featured Reuben’s life story in a cartoon strip called ‘The Cyber Ninja’ a title which merged his two major activities.

“Like with Spiderman, with great power comes great responsibility, and with great hacking knowledge comes great power but also great responsibility,” he says.

During a fascinating presentation at the recent GibCyber security conference, Reuben delved into the secrets of information technology, performing practical demonstrations of how smart machines can be controlled by external means.

“Like with Spiderman, with great power comes great responsibility, and with great hacking knowledge comes great power but also great responsibility”

He explained that the most far reaching consequences Artificial Intelligence will have beyond its application across science, industry and technology and in people’s daily lives, will be in reshaping the form of the world in ways which will bear little reference to contemporary ideas of change and progress.

“I feel the biggest impact Artificial Intelligence will have is changing the way change happens in the world, because it will open a whole brand new capability for us and people will have heard about Artificial Intelligence but this is still growing and forming, so AI will become not just a buzz word but something that is fully fledged and formed,” he says.

His talk was punctuated with cinematic references and popular culture, ‘The Rise of the Machines’, a rather ominous tribute to Arnie Schwarzenegger’s Terminator, as he exposed the entrails, strengths and weaknesses of Artificial Intelligence, its algorithms, programming

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Asked to comment on how he sees AI enhancing law enforcement, Reuben said it was an interesting question that he had never been asked before, and that it could provide a valuable tool even through what seems like a sci-fi premise, robotic law enforcement, which he sees as a distinct possibility.

“Artificial Intelligence can help with law enforcement trying to catch a criminal, it can run through several images and data sets of information to identify a criminal,” he added.

Reuben sees himself working in cyber security and computers in the future to protect his country against domestic and foreign threats, although he believes that everyone should chase their dreams and be open to changing their minds. Other than Kung-Fu, he also aspires to become an Olympic gymnast when he grows up, a sport he describes as “another big passion.”

and technical processes behind cyber-attacks, once again reiterating his central message: the need for adequate protection against cybercrime.

“Artificial Intelligence will affect many facets of life. It is influencing our world and is certainly going to be a big part of the future so it is better for us now to fortify against any threats that may come along.”



10 Steps to Cyber Security

Defining and communicating your Board's Information Risk Regime is central to your organisation's overall cyber security strategy. The National Cyber Security Centre recommends you review this regime – together with the nine associated security areas described below, in order to protect your business against the majority of cyber attacks.

Network Security
Protect your networks from attack. Defend the network perimeter, filter out unauthorised access and malicious content. Monitor and test security controls.

User education and awareness
Produce user security policies covering acceptable and secure use of your systems. Include in staff training. Maintain awareness of cyber risks.

Malware prevention
Produce relevant policies and establish anti-malware defences across your organisation.

Removable media controls
Produce a policy to control all access to removable media. Limit media types and use. Scan all media for malware before importing onto the corporate system.

Secure configuration
Apply security patches and ensure the secure configuration of all systems is maintained. Create a system inventory and define a baseline build for all devices.

Set up your Risk Management Regime
Assess the risks to your organisation's information and systems with the same vigour you would for legal, regulatory, financial or operational risks. To achieve this, embed a Risk Management Regime across your organisation, supported by the Board and senior managers.

Managing user privileges
Establish effective management processes and limit the number of privileged accounts. Limit user privileges and monitor user activity. Control access to activity and audit logs.

Incident management
Establish an incident response and disaster recovery capability. Test your incident management plans. Provide specialist training. Report criminal incidents to law enforcement.

Monitoring
Establish a monitoring strategy and produce supporting policies. Continuously monitor all systems and networks. Analyse logs for unusual activity that could indicate an attack.

Home and mobile working
Develop a mobile working policy and train staff to adhere to it. Apply the secure baseline and build to all devices. Protect data both in transit and at rest.

For more information go to www.ncsc.gov.uk @ncsc

The cybercrime we see today is only the 'tip of the iceberg', says UK expert

• *"The opportunities for cyber criminality are immense"*

Cybercrime has become highly sophisticated and villains will look at how they can intrude and infiltrate organisations, coming in from outside through the supply chain, social media or through social engineering activity insiders compromise, Charlie McMurdie, senior cybercrime advisor and former Head of Scotland Yard's high-profile e-Crime Unit, told the GibCyber Security Conference 2018.

She said that despite cyber security having become far more visible and attracting greater media attention, the opportunities for cyber criminality were immense and breaches or massive attacks were happening all the time.

"We are still only seeing the tip of the iceberg," she declared.

Ms McMurdie believes there needs to be far greater general awareness about cyber security even when it does not affect you directly, as this is an issue where "everyone needs to be playing their part."

The UK crime expert explained that using the analogy of her "old Flying Squad days when I was dealing with armed robbers crashing into organizations and just stealing goodies and off they go", the strategy today was quite different.

She argued that nowadays with major security breaches, cyber-criminals gain access to data and credentials and can remain undetected for several years to be able to capitalize on what they steal, without being blocked, without alerting law enforcement or even the organisation that has been compromised.

With 32 years in the force, her vast experience encompasses all forms of lawbreaking and de-

linquency from armed robberies to murder investigations, covert policing and fraud. It was perhaps ten years ago when she saw how the internet was being used as a new instrument for crime, mainly by targeting banks, that she secured funding to create the law enforcement capability in UK required to deal with national cybercrime cases.

In common with other speakers, Ms McMurdie said that cybercrime is something that affects all of us in our daily lives, in our social media profiles and online banking activity, but stated that in terms of the present scale of the problem we are only seeing the tip of the iceberg.

With the internet becoming more and more an integral part of everything that we do, the significant risks associated to cybercrime demand greater responsiveness to cyber security from the public. She believes that even as devices are built, the cyber security component should be woven into the technology and become as basic and important a feature as cyber capabilities have become integral to what we do.

Prevention

As regards prevention measures, Ms McMurdie reckons that many of the high profile cases of cyberattacks on organisations, could have been prevented or the harm mitigated with some fairly simple, common sense housekeeping to shore up the defences that can deter cyber criminals. Also with better understanding of an organisation's internal protection systems and clearer knowledge of the data a company holds, what is redundant and can be removed and who has access to it.

"GDPR is driving a lot of good cyber security measures, making people take action to improve cyber security, so there is a lot that can be and should be done without thinking this is a real technical issue and we can't stop cyber criminals," she declared.

Her advice to any finance company that experiences a cybersecurity breach is to find out exactly what has happened, what data has been taken, and what steps you need to be taking to mitigate the harm, help and alert customers, credit monitoring processes and reporting the matter to the police and GDPR (data protection) information commissioners where you have data that has been compromised.

However, she recommends a more proactive approach and for the company to be in a state of practical readiness with a well-rehearsed plan of action in place rather than waiting until something happens, "because that breach will happen at some stage and you need to be prepared for it"

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- 3 ASK YOU TO EMAIL OR TEXT PERSONAL OR BANKING INFORMATION
- 4 SEND AN EMAIL WITH A LINK TO A PAGE WHICH ASKS YOU TO ENTER YOUR ONLINE BANKING LOG-IN DETAILS
- 5 ASK YOU TO AUTHORISE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO A NEW ACCOUNT OR NAME OVER LEASE
- 6 CALL TO ASK YOU TO GET SHAREHOLD, LEASE OR OTHER DOCUMENTS
- 7 ASK YOU TO CLARIFY OUT A TEST TRANSACTION ONLINE
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To find out more about spear phishing, look out for the 'Don't Take the Bait' campaign.

Gibraltar striving to become “a beacon of digital excellence”

Governor Ed Davis has declared that over the past year the Rock has continued to strive boldly to become “a beacon of digital excellence.” Speaking at the Second GibCyber Summit at the University of Gibraltar, he urged “the community of digital partners” to endeavor to transform “our Smart Rock’s human talent, governance mechanisms and technology to ensure Gibraltar seizes the unbounded opportunity of the Digital age.”

His Excellency also commented on how Distributed Ledger, Artificial Intelligence and Financial Technologies had reached a point of practical utility, “pouring out of the lab into our daily lives.”

He said that Gibraltar’s ambition is resolutely focused on becoming a globally-connected and locally-federated Digital enterprise across the full spectrum of government, corporate, academic and civic domains.

“Or, put another way,” he continued, “a Gibraltarian ‘Community of Digital Partners’ with the reputation of being ‘best-in-class’ at securing, leveraging and progressing the prerequisite 21st century asset of government, business and the people: data-based knowledge.”

The Governor noted that since 2017, the Gibraltar Government in partnership with stakeholders, has been working hard to develop its e-Government strategy and associated regulatory and procedural plans to maximise its own initiatives such as GANT, (Gibraltar Association of New Technologies), and private sector ones like the Gibraltar Blockchain Exchange.

He said Gibraltar now had in place its own internationally compliant Blockchain and cryptocurrency legislation including the Rock’s new Distributed Ledger Technology and Initial Coin Offering regulatory framework, which would safeguard personal information, corporate intellectual property and sensitive national data.

The Governor also noted initiatives to promote awareness of the foundational expertise avai-



lable locally for developing a viable Blockchain economy in Gibraltar.

Education

His Excellency also welcomed the Gibraltar Government's working group on 'New Technology in Education' to canvas sponsors, teachers and students on ways to attract, train and anchor digital technology expertise into Gibraltar's increasingly digitally-driven Public and Private Sectors.

He also applauded the introduction of a digital technology demonstrator at Prior Park School, a facility now available at all three of the Rock's secondary schools with classrooms equipped with the latest computing equipment; photographic and music software and 3D printers.

Additionally he said that the series of cyber security camps at the University of Gibraltar for middle and secondary school children would serve to build on Bayside and Westside's "remarkable success" in this year's UK-wide Cyber Centurion Competition.

And the Governor expressed hope that the University of Gibraltar in partnership with UK universities in the field of digital technology will soon be offering digital technology training courses.

He said: "We are still only at the end of the beginning of Gibraltar's digital enterprise journey; even when judged against the significant progress our Smart Rock has made over the past year. Going forward, we still have a long way to go to realise a 'Community of Digital Partners' that truly maximises the opportunities of mutually-supporting technological and practice innovation across government, corporate, academic and civic domains."

New Cybersecurity working group

A Cyber Security working group has been set up under the auspices of Gibraltar's Contingency Council, to identify, deter, mitigate and respond to the ever-growing and ever-mutating Cyberspace threats that pervade the Rock's Digital enterprise on a 24/7 basis.

Governor Ed Davis said that Gibraltar must continue to work relentlessly to assure the availability, integrity and confidentiality of our Smart Rock's prerequisite asset, its data-based knowledge, "against the ubiquitous threats of Cyberwarfare, Cyberterrorism, Cybercrime and Cybercoercion."



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THE GEOPOLITICAL RAMIFICATIONS OF CYBERSECURITY

by Michael Nahon



Michael Nahon is a Partner at Hassans International Law firm. He has been specialising in Data Protection since 2004 and regularly advises multinational corporations as well as the local gaming and banking sectors on their Gibraltar Data Protection and Cyber law obligations. Michael also conducts data protection audits to assist clients understand their data protection obligations and develop means by which to ensure GDPR compliance. This includes preparation of GDPR compliant policies and in-house training. He is a contributing author to DLA's Data Protection Laws of the World Handbook, PDP Journals, and DataGuidance.

Today, there can be no doubt we are experiencing a revolution – a Cyber revolution - both in Information Technology advances, and just as crucially, in connectivity. The combined pace of these advances is dramatic, impacting on the way we live and work, how we interact with each other and how industry operates.

Unquestionably Cyberspace is now an integral part of our daily lives. It is said to be “the space of possibilities and opportunities on the one hand and a space of threats and risks on the other”.

The threats are many, varied and are evolving. They can emanate from different actors and although motives for Cyber-attacks differ, they generally fall into these categories: financial gain; to manipulate public opinion; to demonstrate the attacker's prowess; to conduct espionage or to cause physical disruption.

At one end of the spectrum there are individual hackers, criminal organisations, and industrial spies - at the other, the more sinister organised crime groups, Nation states, and Terrorists all with significant expertise and resources.

However according to a 2017 report on the Cyber Threat to UK Business, the distinction between the different actors is starting to blur. In particular because attack tools and expertise is shared and sold, often over anonymised parts of the internet known as the “darknet”.

These activities have the potential to disrupt businesses where critical information is either stolen, intercepted or disclosed via Cyberspace, or used for blackmail purposes.

Equally concerning is that they can also affect national security for example by damaging through Cyberspace a critical national infrastructure, like a power grid or water system, or as we saw with the “Wannacry” Ransomware Virus in 2017, the ability of UK hospitals to function.

In 2015 the UK Government identified Cyber-threats as one of six ‘Tier 1’ threats to national security in its National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence Review. In fact, all governments by now understand that Cyber-threats can pose a significant strategic national threat and it is common to have a dedicated National Cyber Security Authority to try to combat these threats.

Computer systems, often connected to large networks, increasingly underpin critical national infrastructure. While this makes their operation and maintenance more efficient, the downside is that as we become ever more reliant on these computerised industrial control systems, the potential for Cyber-attacks to cause physical effects increases.

To illustrate this, in 2015 and 2016 Ukraine suffered consecutive disruptive Cyber-attacks on its electricity network leaving over 225,000 customers affected for months on end. The attackers also overwhelmed the service provider's call centre exacerbating the power outages. The incidents were attributed to Russian Security Services and they demonstrate how

a so-called virtual world vulnerability can cause “real-world” physical damage.

In terms of legislation, the main driver has been the European Union, which through EU Directives and Regulations is forcing Member States to adopt tougher laws which impose increased Cybersecurity standards across various sectors and processes. Failure to adhere to these laws can be sanctioned by huge fines.

Because it applies to most businesses, the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) drew a lot of media attention before it came into force in May 2018.

Increased Cybersecurity obligations were brought in to compel organisations that handle personal data to put in place appropriate levels of security relevant to that data and the risks associated with it. Similarly continuity measures were also introduced obliging organisations to shore up data with backup measures, with the aim of reducing the amount of “downtime” in the event of a Cyber-attack.

Meanwhile and away from the GDPR headlines, in May 2018 both the UK and Gibraltar also gave legal effect to the EU's Network and Information Systems Directive (the NIS Directive).

The NIS Directive was a product of the EU's Cybersecurity Strategy and Gibraltar complied with its legislative EU obligations by giving it legal effect through the Civil Contingencies Act 2007 (Amendment) Regulations 2018.

Unlike the GDPR, which is limited to information about people, the Regulations focus on safeguarding critical national infrastructure and essential services. Utilities, healthcare, banking, financial market infrastructure, energy, transport and digital infrastructure sectors are all caught.

These service providers are now required to adopt appropriate Cybersecurity measures to protect their network and information systems. Mandatory breach notifications are also introduced.

At a national level, mandatory measures include the establishment of a national framework so that we are equipped to manage Cybersecurity incidents and oversee compliance. In Gibraltar the Competent Authority for oversight and drawing up codes of practices is the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority.

There are also provisions for international cooperation with other Competent Authorities and the designation of a Computer Security Incident Response Team Network.

It is too early to say whether the implementation of the NIS Directive alone will bear fruit in terms of bringing about the necessary awareness, education and dedication of appropriate resources needed to deal with the Cyber-threats and risks of the day.

However, we must also not lose sight of the fact that, constitutionally, the United Kingdom is responsible for Defence. Therefore, it would not be a surprise to see local authorities working closely with their United Kingdom counterparts in particular, as these threats grow and evolve.



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Jason 'walks the beat' in aid of Cardiac Association awareness campaign

Royal Gibraltar Police Constable Jason Russell rose to the challenge and completed no less than 100,000 steps and 79 kilometres during September's 'Walk The Beat' charity event to promote awareness of the newly created Gibraltar Cardiac Association.

Jason was able to walk continuously for almost 24 hours even having his meals on the go, and managed to raise over £2,000 for the group.

The event organized by second year student nurses from the Gibraltar Health Authority at the Victoria Stadium, started at 10.30 am on Saturday September 29 and concluded at the same time the following morning.

Other essential services, Fire Brigade, Customs and the Association of Retired Police Officers

(ARPO), supported the walk and fielded participants to raise money for the association.

Jason said: "I saw this as a great personal challenge. I am not a particularly sporty person but I wanted to lose weight and go on a diet so I thought the 24 hour walk would be an ideal opportunity and at the same time I would be contributing to a worthy cause."

ZZ "In the end, some 130 persons pledged money, including friends from all over the world who I contacted through social media and were happy to lend their support," he said.

And as if the 24 hour walk was not an arduous enough challenge in its own right, he decided to do it dressed in his police uniform, and wearing the 10 kilogramme regulation stab proof vest to make it even tougher.

His video of the walk posted on Facebook obtained around 200 views.

He was accompanied by fellow officers throughout the day and even the Commissioner and other senior management officers completed a few laps with him. Patients and survivors of heart disease also joined the walk at different stages.

"It was nice to have the support and encouragement of colleagues who joined me throughout the day, some came down at midnight

and did two hours with me and then returned to their duties. I appreciated their support."

Toward the end of the walk he experienced some physical difficulties and had to take a break but was able to resume and successfully complete the challenge.

"I felt amazing afterwards. I was determined to get over the line and impressed at how I pushed myself. I had some circulatory problems in my legs and was advised to rest and put my feet up for an hour during the night, but then I continued and accomplished my objective."

He said the experience had been both physically exhausting and emotionally draining, as during the closing ceremony of the event when a group of bagpipe players played the Last Post in memory of all those who had passed away from heart disease.

...he decided to do it dressed in his police uniform, and wearing the 10 kilogramme regulation stab proof vest to make it even tougher.

RG Police Commissioner Ian McGrail commended his officer for completing the 24 hour walk.

"I wish to congratulate Jason for his amazing feat, for his motivation and determination to finish the task and keep going despite the difficulties he faced toward the end of the challenge. His attitude was admirable and he demonstrated some of the values of service to the community which are so important in the toolbox of a committed police officer who is a credit to the force. I hope many others follow his example. Well done."

The newly formed Gibraltar Cardiac Association is hoping to promote greater awareness of



cardiac disease in the community with a series of events such as this. The money raised with the walk will now be used to purchase more defibrillators that will be placed at various points around Gibralt-

tar, and also to have in place a programme of technical maintenance of the life-saving equipment to ensure they remain in good working order.

LIONEL PEREZ INSPIRES NEW CARDIAC PATIENTS GROUP

The Gibraltar Cardiac Association became a registered charity on February 2017 and was officially launched on November 2nd 2017 when a group of cardiac patients led by Troy Jeffries, who had two MI himself, realised that in Gibraltar there was no representation or charity that catered for their condition.

Mr Jeffries explained that the inspiration to start a charity for cardiac patients came in the mid to late 1990s with a group led by the late Lionel Perez who championed cardiac rehab among other things. The new Gibraltar Cardiac Association has been able to progress the interests of cardiac patients and at the formal unveiling of the charity by Minister for Health Neil Costa, the name of the champion of the cause Lionel Perez was adopted.

Mr Jeffries said: "This was a great achievement, however one of the main tenets of the charity was to foster good relationships with the GHA to better represent our needs in the service and to promote better co-ordination of cardiac services at the GHA. To date, this relationship continues to expand, and we are now currently in talks with them to expand the use and awareness of defibrillators in Gibraltar with the donation of several units by the charity for this purpose.

"Should you wish to join us or make a representation please contact us on 20050002 and leave a message or contact us at:

gibraltarcardiac@gmail.com





On the left page:

ROYAL GIBRALTAR POLICE

Superintendent Edgar Lopez (medal 18 years) Chief Inspector Nolan Romero (medal 18 years) Chief Inspector Roy Perez (medal 18 years) Inspector Thomas Tunbridge (medal 18 years) Police Sgt Mark Diaz (medal 18 years) PC Anthony Debono (medal 18 years) PC Simon Debono (medal 18 years) PC Vincent Cruz (medal 18 years) Chief Inspector John Field (clasp 25 years)

Retired Officers Inspector Ian Howes clasp 25 years, Police Sgt Louis Chichon clasp 25 years, PC Anthony Yome, clasp 25 years, PC James Parody clasp 25 years, PC Roger Morello clasp 30 years

Retired Officers Inspector Harry Parody clasp 30 years, PC David Bonfiglio clasp 30 years, PC Josefa Africa Scriven clasp 30 years

GIBRALTAR DEFENCE POLICE

PC Melvin Brier, Sgt Timothy Milan, PC Jonathan Diani, PC John Aonso, PC Jose Luis Bonavia, Superintendent Konrad Chrzanowski, PC Kevin Jeffries, PC Douglas Colombo

PRISON SERVICE

Chief Officer Gareth Coom, Principal Officer Douglas Attard

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Mark Anthony Celecia Fire Safety Division Officer, Colin Ramirez Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Anthony Yusifredo Chief Fire Officer, Jonathan Golding Fire Safety Sub Officer, Liam Byrne Fire Safety Leading Officer, Ivan de Haro Fire Safety Station Officer.

Presentation of Long Service & Good Conduct Medals and Clasps

Governor Lieutenant General Edward Davis presented medals for meritorious & efficient service and clasps to Officers of the Royal Gibraltar Police, Gibraltar Defence Police, the Fire and Rescue Service, and HM Prison Service at a ceremony in The Convent Ballroom, last October. Nine local veterans of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers also received Fusilier Commemorative Medals to mark the 50th anniversary of the creation of this most distinguished Regiment. A total of 33 Medals and Clasps totalling 703 years of service for the benefit of others, were presented.

The Overseas Territories Long Service Police Medal was originally established on 23rd March 1934 to recognise long service in the police forces of the colonies, dominions and overseas territories of the British Empire and until 2012 was known as the Colonial Police Long Service Medal. This medal is awarded to Police Officers who have completed 18 years of meritorious and efficient service.

The medal is circular and silver, the obverse depicts the effigy of Her Majesty Elizabeth II surrounded by her Royal Titles. The reverse bears the depiction of a Police Officer's Truncheon superimposed on a laurel wreath. Circumscribed around the central design are the words For Long Service and Good Conduct.

The medal hangs from a ring with claw suspension. The ribbon of the medal is dark blue with a central stripe of green. The centre stripe is bordered by thin stripes of white.

After 25 years and 30 years of service clasps are awarded.



The long ride of the law

By Ashley Maer

A team of Royal Gibraltar Police officers used pedal power to get from Portugal to the Rock in aid of charity

Gibraltar Police officers are celebrating after raising more than £4,000 for charity by cycling from Faro to the Rock.

The team of ten officers cycled approximately 430km during the four-day trip that took place November 7-10.

During the last 20 kms of the fundraiser the officers were joined by around 16 local cyclists, including the Commissioner of Police Ian McGrail, as they cycled back to Gibraltar.

Locals then gave the officers a warm welcome home as they pedalled into Casemates Square to complete the challenging ride.

Under the banner of "It's Coming Home" the officers set off from the Estadio do Algarve in Faro, where the Gibraltar Football Association (GFA) has been hosting its home international games until recently.

The officers stayed overnight in Cartaya, Aznalcazar and Paterna de Rivera before arriving in Gibraltar.

Organiser PC Donovan Galia, told the Bobby magazine: "The trip started off as an idea. I thought of branding the trip under the banner "Coming Home," seeing as our GFA national side is finally playing their home games locally.

"I thought of riding from Faro's Estadio Algarve to Gibraltar, where we would officially bring it home. The Commissioner was all on board with the idea so I then contacted Dennis Beiso (GFA) and pitched my idea, he too was on board and offered to sponsor the team with new cycling kits.

"We were then fortunate enough to obtain Blands as one of our major sponsors who kindly sponsored our transportation to Faro, as well as a minivan as our recovery vehicle for the return ride. Various sponsors were secured who covered the majority of the expenses involved in the trip, such as accommodation, fuel, food etc, as well as local and Spanish bike

shops volunteered their services to fine tune our bikes in the lead up to the ride.

"The ride itself was extremely challenging and although Mother Nature was on our side for the majority of the ride, we did experience one day of rain, this obviously dented our morale. However, thanks to the team's spirit and camaraderie, we managed to complete the day's leg. The route was exceptionally picturesque and nothing that any of the riders had experienced, including the more seasoned riders. The hardest day was undoubtedly the last one, where although it was less in distance, there were more hills covered.

"It was heart warming to see local riders meeting us along the way and accompanying us on the final stretch into Gibraltar. However, the most emotional moment was the ride into Casemates, to the applause of our community, colleagues, friends and family. This was without a shadow of a doubt a memory that I shall cherish.

"I would like to give thanks to the entire cycling team and our recovery vehicle crew. Our sponsors, Blands, Bike Zoo, Cycle Centre, Ciclo Collado, Argus insurance, Monteverde and Sons and others who wished to remain anonymous, without them this trip would not have taken place. A very special thanks to our community who have donated generously in aid of the mentioned charities. Now it's back to the drawing board to plan our next charitable event!"

The funds raised during the trip will be split between Cancer Relief, the Red Cross, the Club House Gibraltar, Prostate Cancer and the Gibraltar Senior Citizens Association.

It is hoped the final total raised will be in excess of £5,000 once all sponsorship money has been collected.

The Just Giving page to sponsor the officers is still open. To sponsor them visit:

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stefan-davis





Under the banner of "It's Coming Home" the officers set off from the Estadio do Algarve in Faro, where the Gibraltar Football Association (GFA) has been hosting its home international games until recently.



22 October 2018

RGP, GDP and Customs seize nine bales of cannabis resin from the sea

Royal Gibraltar Police, Customs and Gibraltar Defence Police launches foiled suspected drug traffickers operating in the Bay during a combined anti-smuggling action in the early hours of this morning.



In the course of a dangerous high-speed sea chase off Europa Point, the four drug traffickers on board a 12 metre black RHIB equipped with three Yamaha 350 HP outboard engines, jettisoned their illegal cargo to pick up speed before exiting BGTW.

Following a systematic search of the area, the RGP crew was able to retrieve eight bales of cannabis resin from the sea while the GDP collected an additional bale.

The estimated street value of the drugs is £1.35m.



The RGP patrol boat Sir Adrian Johns policing the waters around the Rock



Royal Gibraltar Police



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