

I am a latent print examiner inUSA and I am horrified and appalled by this ongoing cover-up. I was raised to admit my mistakes and tell the truth regardless of the outcome. It is time to stand up and take responsibility and face the consequences of your horrific behaviour. I can't even imagine why a particular group of people would think that their lives and reputations are more important than those they are hurting – Shirley, the murdered woman and the entire latent print community which will ultimately affect other homicides and other latent examiners reputations . Your inability to take responsibility has had a ripple effect and I personally could not live with myself if I were perpetuating this charade. So I have this to say to the lying Scottish Authorities – The truth will set you free. Isn't that better than this self induced prison you have placed yourself in? Stand up and take your punishment in this world before you have to face your maker in the next.

PL. USA

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Dear Iain & Shirley

It is a relief that you are involved in these negotiations.

Our thoughts are with you now as much as ever. I have every confidence that you will do this as you have done everything. You will see justice for the Aberdeen fingerprint people with support from everyone except from the diminishing `others` I know this negative aspect will continue by the others as you said it would be naive to suggest otherwise.

I hope you are looking after your health and Shirley's which is important now.

My best wishes and continued support for Shirley and everyone involved in the fight for justice.

LM

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Dear Shirley,

To find your career ended in the way it was because of the failure of those we trust to get it right to own up to their shortcomings must continue to hurt you some.

You would not lie; you could not lie and as a result justice in this country will be improved. What a splendid police officer you must have been and would continue to have been. I am so sorry for not paying attention to it all when the detail first appeared in the press.

You did not look for this battle but I hope that you do not feel that it has spoiled your life. Not many people are given the chance to something so substantially important and I hope that you and your family come out congratulating yourselves on a job well done.

Clearly your father and yourself are very special people. Your steadiness, stamina, your courage and moral superiority shine out to nation which I hope will in some way recognise your extraordinary contribution.

Yours Aye,

AB, Scotland.

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Dear Shirley,

You have all my solidarity and good wishes. It is terrible to think that your

wrongdoers are unwilling to see themselves as fallible humans rather than infallible demigods. Stay strong and keep your head up!

RK USA

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Iain,

I wondered what had happened to you?! (at the CIS conference) I was looking forward to having you see the research I have done, and then I looked around and you were gone! I thought: "oh well, I would be bored by a presentation on fingerprint statistics too if I was him!" I looked for you and Mairi that night to buy you a round of whiskey (Scottish of course, though if I must have an Irish, Jameson is right on for me) and couldn't find you anywhere!

I had no idea that you had taken ill!!! I am glad to hear you are OK. I can only assume that this was probably related in some way to previous day's health "issue".

I am sorry that your vacation to Banff was cancelled, but as you said the Canadians are such gracious and wonderfully kind folk. You were in good care.

Hope your health continues to improve and your next visit over across the pond is not so "exciting"!

Best regards to you, Shirley, and Mairi

LG. USA

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Hello Iain and Mairi,

We were wondering how Iain was doing? We hope you got the chance to see the Rockies etc. Delightful to meet you both. Keep up the good work.

AG. Canada

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Dear Mairi and Iain,

We all talk about you regularly. It's quite amazing how people can become good friends in such a short time. I hope the flight home was comfortable and uneventful. Please chat to Shirley about a holiday here. We all hope Iain's health has improved.

Rest assured, we will stay in touch. If there is anything we can do to assist you in your quest, just ask. I will keep you posted on the developments of the CIS Latent Friction Ridge Certification Committee. Ian Currie advised me he is trying to arrange a meeting of the Committee in Ottawa in September.

Regards,

The T Clan. Canada

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Good evening Iain,

We met at the Miami IAI Conference several years ago. After the conference I mailed you a copy of "Character and Cops, Ethics in Policing." I came across a newer edition of the text and have ordered several for an upcoming conference in California. I haven't read anything about Shirley's case in quite sometime, has there been any sort of resolution?

Sincerely,

PH. USA

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Shirley (and Ian)

Well done.....some positive progress at last.
Keep pushing as we are all behind you and justice will prevail.

Best wishes,

FA. Scotland

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Dear Iain and Shirley

I believe and very hope that this recent move on the part of the Executive is indeed a hopeful sign, and that it may not be too much longer until you can gain some sense of closure and of justice achieved after eight long years.

Please keep me in touch with developments.

With very best wishes

CD. MSP Scotland

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Iain,

I met you and your good lady at the Fingerprint Society gathering in Cardiff. Since then I have avidly followed the progress of your trials and tribulations through the medium of the internet. Shirley, yourself and family are often in my thoughts and I remain one of those many anonymous experts out there who continue to wish you well, ultimately for a satisfactory and peaceful outcome to Shirley's plight.

Like many I feel neutered by the system that will not allow all experts who are interested in viewing the original material to make up their own minds but most, I am sure, are bound by that Corporate shield that will not risk the possibility of 'embarrassment' to their individual police forces. The words I have heard uttered are along the lines of "she was found innocent - end of story". I know that for you, nothing could be further from the truth. I am certain of the integrity and expertise (of the Grampian experts) and I am pleased to see that you have written to commend all three. I hope that will indeed be the outcome and not something of a more negative nature.

The difficulty of someone like myself is that I personally know certain of those from the 'it's it' camp and have no reason either to doubt their integrity. Clearly the problem for some fingerprint experts is not one of integrity but that of ability and that is an almost impossible quality to define, since persons on both sides of the divide have often long and distinguished records.

Nevertheless, there are many out there who support you, even if only in thought and prayer. Continue to fight the good fight and pass on my personal best wishes to Shirley for ultimate

good health and happiness.

P I, UK

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Dear Iain,

I have kept up with your case for the past 3 years. I am a latent print examiner [3 yrs experience in that, 25 yrs experience as a sworn police officer]. I will pray for your deliverance from this hardship and tribulation

I do know that the Bible tells us that we go through trials in this life to produce *perseverance*, and perseverance to produce *patience*, and patience to instill in us *hope*:

"And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."

Romans 5:3-5

"Knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

James 1:3-4

"Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes. Cease from anger and forsake wrath; do not fret; it leads only to evildoing. **For evildoers will be cut off**, but those who wait for the LORD, they will inherit the land.

Psalms 37:7-9

I hope these words have not been offensive to you.

You will remain in my thoughts and prayers.

CT. USA

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Iain

Thanks for your reply. I look forward to the results of the enquiry with a great deal of anticipation as I'm sure many in our professional community do also. Much nearer the time, it might be nice to have an insight on the judicial process of the enquiry and how it is likely to unfold. I certainly agree that more support for SCRO would be counterproductive to our profession, however, my personal opinion is that if there are indeed people out there who agree with the SCRO conclusions, we are more likely to hear from them at the actual enquiry. I can't imagine there would be many but one never knows.

Unfortunately, I won't be able to make it to Calgary as I will instead be at the IAI conference in Dallas this year. However, I hope to catch up with you sometime. Good luck in Calgary and in raising awareness of Shirley's case here in Canada.

Regards

HS. Canada

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Iain,

A little note to say how fantastic it was to read and hear so much in the news last week. Things are obviously moving more quickly now, and I just hope that things will be resolved in a way that makes Shirley and yourself feel that justice has finally prevailed. I am sure the most important thing to you both is confirmation from 'the authorities' that Shirley is completely innocent and has suffered terribly, and suitable compensation is therefore provided. Money will never bring back Shirley's carefree zest for life, nor will it ever match the pain and suffering you have both gone through, but it will hopefully give Shirley a secure future and give you peace of mind that your lovely daughter will have some tranquillity and independence in her life. You will never be the same people as you were before this awful case, but you will both be stronger, and I am sure you have met so many wonderful people along the way who will remain your friends for life.

I know that all I wish for my own daughter is for her to be happy, healthy and treat others as she would wish to be treated herself. You and Shirley have had all of these things taken away from you over the years. Hopefully this is the start of a slow recovery process.

BS Scotland

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Sincerest congratulations to you Iain.

Your dedication and resolve over the years has been frankly astonishing. Where mountains had to be moved you moved them, and when ill health got in the way you set that aside too. I hope that finally the warmth of contentedness is filtering through the McKie family which I'm sure has eluded you all for many years.

Sincerest congratulations also to Pat Wertheim, Allan Bayle, and David Grieve, the three international experts who represented Shirley at the original trial. Official confirmation from the Grampian experts that they were correct in their opinion some eight years ago is a welcome revelation, but one wonders why this was necessary to persuade the Scottish Executive?

Do three experts establish doubt, but six establish fact?
Is it the number of experts that matter, or from which establishment they represent?

Whatever the answers are, it's clear it would help unite the fingerprint fraternity if other experts were to follow in the footsteps of "the Grampian 3". Not to would be understandable, such is the oppressive nature of certain establishments within the profession, but hopefully success in this case will push things forward in the right direction.

Finally of course my thoughts are with Shirley, whose treatment by the SCRO can be described as nothing short of barbaric. Eight years of such trauma, being a prisoner within ones own mind, has to be experienced to be understood.

I understand.

Kind regards,

NA. England

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Iain/Shirley

I would like to offer my very best wishes to you both in light of this wonderful and significant development in your continuous struggle for justice. It makes it even more fitting that it should come from within Scotland and I applaud those three individuals for their courage to step forward in what I hope will be the first step towards restoring some integrity to the Scottish Fingerprint Service. I hope their chief will be as supportive, and in doing so, perhaps encourage others to make their own voices heard. I hope that sunlight at the end of the tunnel feels a little warmer for you today.

Kind Regards

HS. Canada

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