

BRITISH PARKING ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

IRISH PARKING ASSOCIATION
CHAIRMAN'S LUNCH
DUBLIN 4TH NOVEMBER 2010

Graham Brown:

THANK YOU FOR INVITING THE BPA TO YOUR CHAIRMAN'S LUNCH; IT IS INDEED AN HONOUR TO BE HERE.

I AM PRESIDENT OF THE BPA AND AM HONOURED TO BE PRESIDENT DURING THE BPA'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY.

THE BPA ELECTS A NEW PRESIDENT EACH YEAR. WE INAUGURATE OUR PRESIDENTS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, USUALLY IN THE PRESENCE OF OUR TRANSPORT MINISTER AND THE PRESIDENT THEN SEEKS TO MEET WITH AS MANY MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION AS POSSIBLE DURING HIS OR HER YEAR.

ALL THE PRESIDENTS HAVE A "DAY JOB" IN THAT THEY WORK IN THE PARKING PROFESSION. MY BACKGROUND IS

THE BPA HAS ALWAYS STATED THAT its PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IS TO RAISE STANDARDS IN THE PARKING SECTOR. FOR TOO LONG THE MEDIA AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SEE PARKING AS THE POOR RELATION, WITH POOR STANDARDS, POOR TRAINING AND DISPROPORTIONATE ENFORCEMENT.

THE BPA IS KEEN TO SEE STANDARDS RAISED AND PROFESSIONALISM INTRODUCED INTO THE SECTOR AND I THINK WE ARE SOME WAY TO ACHIEVING THAT.

WE HAVE ALREADY ESTABLISHED SOME BRANDS.

THESE INCLUDE THE PARKMARK SCHEME, WHICH IS A SCHEME DESIGNED TO IMPROVE SAFETY IN CAR PARKS AND WE OPERATE THIS ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF POLICY OFFICERS. TO DATE WE HAVE AWARDED OVER 4,500 SUCH AWARDS TO CAR PARKS

WE HAVE ALSO DEVELOPED THE APPROVED OPERATOR SCHEME, FOR PRIVATE PARKING OPERATORS WHO CARRY OUT ENFORCEMENT IN WHAT IS AN UNREGULATED SECTOR, THE MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE CAR PARKS. PATRICK WILL TELL YOU A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THAT IN A MOMENT.

IT IS WORTH SAYING THAT THE UK PARKING SECTOR IS WORTH AROUND £5BILLION. £4.25BILLION FROM CAR PARKS AND THE REMAINDER FROM ON-STREET ACTIVITIES. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT IN THE UK THERE ARE 26,000 CAR PARKS BOTH IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR.

I AM NOW PLEASED TO HAND OVER TO PATRICK TROY WHO IS OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE.