

CULT AND A RIGHT-WINGER



Man is found hanged in cell

AN INQUIRY has been launched after a man was found hanged in a police cell in Crawley. Andrew Pettifer, 35, of Horsham, was found hanging from the door of his cell yesterday morning, less than an hour before he was due to appear in court. He was arrested on Saturday and charged with arson. He was due to appear before Crawley magistrates yesterday morning. The Police Complaints Authority is to investigate and has appointed Chief Insp Alan Snelling, of the discipline and complaints department at the force's headquarters in Lewes, to lead the inquiry.



Marcellus: £26,000 gift to cult



PAUL BRACCHI, chief reporter

THIS man has been accused of spreading race hatred.

For the past 14 years Tom Marcellus has been director of the notorious American Institute for Historical Review, set up by an ex-member of the National Front.

But he also belongs to another organisation closer to home. He is, in fact, a member and "patron" of the Sussex-based International Association of Scientologists.

The group, run from the cult's - East Grinstead

headquarters, was founded to unite and "protect" its members in different countries.

It says: "Regrettably, history has seen many attempts to suppress religious freedom and human rights.

"From the persecution of early Christians in Rome to the slaughter of Jews in Nazi concentration camps."

Yet Marcellus, who has given at least £26,000 to the cult, has described this chapter of history as the "so-called" Holocaust.

And the Institute for Historical Review (IHR) has provided a platform for some of the world's most controversial far-right figures.

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SUE GOLLIFER has put together an art collection with a difference. The 120 works were done on a computer by 97 different artists in eight countries around the world.

Sue is senior lecturer in the printmaking department at Brighton University and put together the ArCade exhibition by advertising on the Internet. The works include a range of traditional

techniques such as etchings, screenprints, relief prints and lithographs. The exhibition runs from today until April 22 at Brighton University gallery in Grand Parade.

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The organisation, branded the "spine of the international Holocaust denial movement", once offered a reward for proof of Nazi genocide.

One of its supporters is revisionist historian David Irving.

Irving, a regular visitor to Brighton, has been banned from a number of countries because

of his extreme views.

Marcellus left the IHR two weeks ago after a far-right American newspaper accused him of being part of a Scientology plot to infiltrate the group.

Marcellus did not respond to our request for an interview.

But Mark Weber, editor of the IHR's official journal, denied the allegation.

Speaking from Los Angeles, he said: "There is only one other person in the organisation who is a Scientologist."

"It's true Tom Marcellus was upset about insinuations he was taking orders from Scientology, but he left the IHR for his own personal reasons."

Today, the cult moved to distance itself from Marcellus.

Margaret Reese, who works in the organisation's office of special affairs in East Grinstead, said: "These views, even if true, are obviously at complete variance with the views of the Church and the overwhelming majority of Scientologists."

The cult, branded "corrupt, sinister and dangerous" by a High Court judge in 1984, is

still actively recruiting in Sussex.

Earlier this month, it suffered another blow to its tarnished reputation when a man was dramatically cleared of trying to kidnap Scientologist Kathleen Wilson from Saint Hill.

The decision effectively meant the jury believed Miss Wilson did not have control of her own mind.

THE MESSAGE is blunt - "Don't let History Repeat".

It is accompanied by a chilling photograph of a book burning session in Hitler's Germany.

The full-page advert, published in the New York Times, warns: "In 1933 the world stood by as freedom of speech was crushed under the Nazi jackboot."

"It is starting to happen again. It must not."

The plea followed the German government's attempts to curb the distribution of a Scientology booklet called "Hate and Propaganda: Then and Now."

The publication compared the so-called "persecution" of cult members in Germany to the treatment meted out to Jews during the Third Reich.

Other adverts in the "series" continued the Nazi theme: "Taking Pride in Persecution, Hatred Knows no Age, Never Again, Human rights Alert."

They were all paid for by the East Grinstead-based International Association of Scientologists.

But they fail to mention the credentials of one of their own members.

Tom Marcellus is a patron of the association.

He is also the leader of the notorious Institute for Historical Review (IHR) which claims accounts of the Holocaust are exaggerated.

The following statements have been published in his group's official journal:

- The Holocaust is the "most hyped and taboo-laden chapter of history".
- Aerial photographs of Auschwitz in 1944 "show no evidence whatsoever of gassings or killings of any kind".
- The Holocaust "has become a kind of Jewish racket".
- Revisionists have challenged the acceptance of the "so called Holocaust in all its improbable details" (Tom Marcellus).

The adverts also fail to mention what one American judge had to say about the cult. He ruled: "In addition to violating and abusing its own members' civil rights, the organisation over the years has harassed and abused those persons not in the Church whom it perceives as its enemies."

Today the Scientologists defended their campaign.

Cult official Margaret Reese said: "The public awareness campaign in American and international newspapers has exposed very real examples of discrimination by the German Government aimed, incidentally, not only at Scientologists but other religious and ethnic groups."

Marcellus became director of the Institute for Historical Review (IHR) in 1981.

He succeeded the late

THE Scientologists have accused the German Government of acting like the Nazis. They claim their members in that country are being persecuted just like the Jews under Hitler. That controversial message has

been rammed home in full-page adverts in the American Press funded by the Sussex-based International Association of Scientologists.

Today, we expose the hypocrisy behind the campaign.

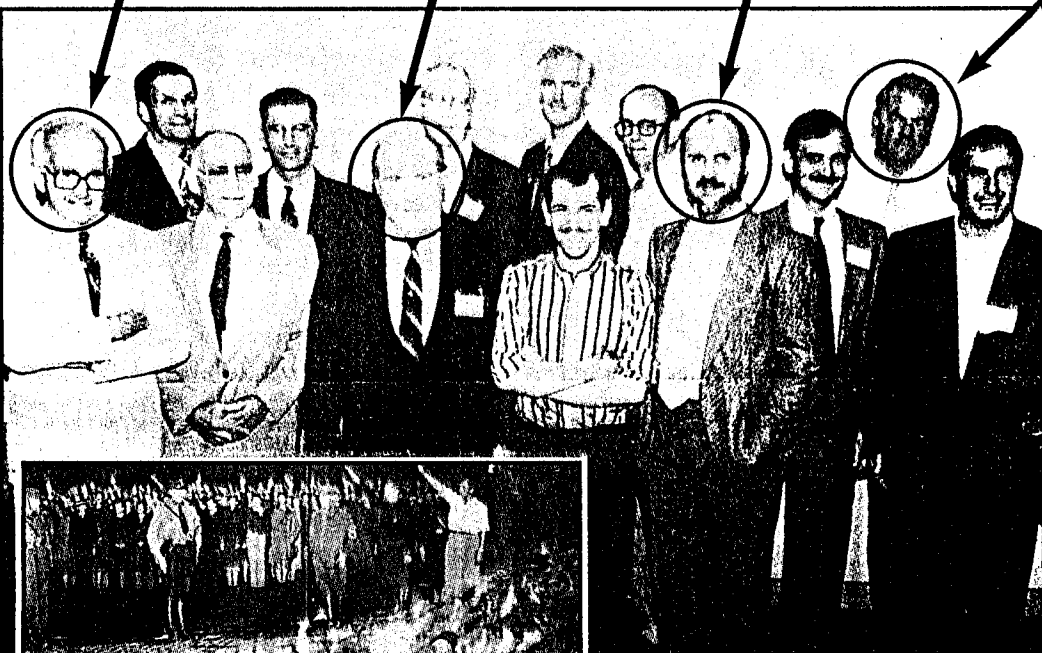


The Paul Bracchi Investigation

ROBERT FAURISSON: Convicted in France of the libel of denying the fact of the Holocaust

ERNST ZUNDEL: Created a publishing house in Canada to print neo-Nazi material

TOM MARCELLUS: Talks about the "so called Holocaust in all its improbable details"



DAVID IRVING: The revisionist historian has been banned or deported from several countries



The picture of the Nazi book-burning from the New York Times ad

History in the faking? The guest speakers at last year's conference sponsored by the Institute for Historical Review

Secret behind cult's anti-Nazi campaign

David McCalden, an expatriate Ulsterman who was once active in the National Front and later helped to prepare Ku Klux Klan literature.

In documents obtained by the Argus, McCalden once wrote: "For some time now I have been extremely worried about the influence of Scientology over the IHR operation. Tom spends long hours talking Scientology on the company phone, writing Scientology letters on the company typewriter, storing Scientology books in the company warehouse, and recruiting among employees' families and revisionist supporters."

Similar claims have also been published in The Spotlight, a far-right, publication based in

Washington. The Church denies the allegations.

Marcellus has shared a platform with some of the world's most controversial right-wing figures. These are some of the speakers who attended an IHR-sponsored conference last year:

● David Irving.

The British revisionist historian has been banned or deported from countries including Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and Italy.

In Britain, Brighton is one of his favourite stomping grounds and his friend Anthony Hancock often arranges venues for his lectures here.

Mr Hancock allows his property at 20 Madeira Place, off Kemp Town seafront, to be used as a

mailing address by activists sending racist propaganda around the world. A booklist featuring work by people linked to Marcellus's organisation was found at the premises.

Last year an Anti-Nazi League protester was convicted of attacking Mr Irving's car following a meeting at a Brighton hotel. The defendant's solicitor said in court that Mr Irving was accompanied by a Combat 18 "minder" who was waiting in the foyer.

The terror group has been blamed for the recent outbreak of soccer violence.

● Ernst Zundel.

The German revisionist created a publishing house in Canada to reprint and distribute an array of neo-Nazi material.

This included tapes of Hitler's speeches and cassettes of storm trooper songs and marches.

He also produced stickers proclaiming "Germans stop apologising for the things you did not do."

In 1984 the Canadian government charged Zundel with stimulating anti-Semitism.

The case against him resulted in two trials, numerous appeals, and extensive media coverage.

● Robert Faurisson.

The Frenchman believes it was technically and physically impossible for the gas chambers at Auschwitz to have functioned as extermination facilities.

He was an "expert" defence witness at Zundel's first trial and was asked to

explain the fate of the missing six million Jewish Holocaust victims.

Faurisson urged survivors to give them the names of relatives they had lost so he could try to locate them.

He has been convicted by a French court of the libel of denying the fact of the Holocaust.

The cult has an estimated 30,000 members in Germany. Five years ago the Hamburg government set up a task force to combat Scientology and has tried to get the courts to declare it a criminal conspiracy.

Ursula Caberta, who heads the four-strong team, said: "It's a totalitarian organisation that seeks to control everybody else."