



National Association Of Retired Police Officers



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Brighton and District Branch
Newsletter May 2016

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2016 AGM – Chairman's Report (Abridged due to lack of space)

Thank you all for taking the time and effort to attend this your Branch AGM.

This has been a turbulent year for the Branch as we have seen Committee members retire and as you all know we have struggled to find replacements for those who have served us all loyally for a number of years.

Mike Ormerod has finally sorted out the problems with our Bank Accounts which has allowed Bruce Clowser to take up his Treasurer's role and actually sign cheques! Our thanks to Mike, who, although he resigned at our half yearly meeting, has continued to carry out the banking tasks for the Branch. (More about Mike later)

At last year's AGM I was delighted that Paul Lewendon had volunteered to become Secretary so that Peter Burrows could finally retire. It was with a heavy heart that I reluctantly had to accept Paul's resignation at this meeting as his employer, good old Sussex Police, significantly changed both his job description and working hours. He now has to work a shift pattern again! Thank you Paul for all your hard work learning the mysteries of NARPO's organisation from Peter. I have really enjoyed working with you and hopefully you will return to the Committee in the future.

Fortunately for us all, Graham Cosham has answered my pleas for a new Secretary. I know that he and Paul have had several meetings to ease the hand-over and I am sure he will be an excellent Secretary. He is also trained in Welfare matters so that he and Eve Castle will carry out these tasks for us.

I thank Barbara Grainger who has resigned for serving on the committee for a number of years and I hope all goes well for you in the future. George Divall for his work as Social Secretary, and for taking some of us to very interesting places and shows over the past few years. George has gradually handed over his role this year to Ray Castle and I am sure you would like to express your appreciation of all his hard work. Well done, George. Thank you

The Chairman then thanked each Committee member in turn for their contribution to the running of the Branch. He then referred once again to Mike Ormerod:-

At the October meeting we said farewell to Mike as the long serving Treasurer. However, as I have already said, he has continued in this role and has been instrumental in finding a way through the bureaucracy of Santander Bank so that Bruce can at last actually carry out his role. Without his efforts I feel that we would be desperately looking for another Treasurer as it was beginning to completely frustrate Bruce. However, all is now sorted because of Mike's dedication to the Branch. Thank you, Mike.

At our last committee meeting it was proposed that Mike should be granted Life Membership in recognition of his long service to the Branch. So without more embarrassment to you, I invite you, Mike, to come forward and receive your well-earned award.

Committee to 2016-17 President and Committee member, Peter **Burrows**; Chairman Dave **Medhurst**; Secretary Graham **Cosham**; Treasurer Bruce **Clowser**; Social Secretary Ray **Castle**; Members Alex **Durie**; Derek **Smith** (Web site); Eve **Castle**; Peter **Dacey** (Newsletter); Sandra **Leader**; Paul **Smith**; Colin **Crookes**.

Brighton Bomb Book Request for information

I'm a local journalist, working on a book on the Brighton Bomb, with a focus on the subsequent criminal investigation. I'm hoping to get in touch with some retired Sussex Police officers who were involved.

I'd be happy to explain a bit more about the book project, if that would be useful - my numbers are 01323 891328 and 07575 874 888. Thanks, Steve Ramsey (Mr Ramsey isn't known to me, but has an entry on the internet (Google))

Newsletter by e-mail

If you are able to receive the newsletter by e-mail, but currently have it sent by post, please note that by switching to e-mail you will save expense on printing and postage, and get the delight of reading it at least one whole day earlier!! So to obtain this great offer, please send your details to p.dacey@btinternet.com

Proposed '1971 intake Police Cadet reunion' on 20th September

Peter Hayes writes, 'I am trying to organise a 45th anniversary reunion of my old cadet colleagues for the 20th September this year. Could I ask that you circulate this message for the Brighton branch and if possible forward to other Sussex branches to do likewise. Those interested in attending may contact me on e-mail: peterhayes999@gmail.com or 07845298010'.

Diving Section Reunion

In 1966 Jim Cannon formed the first team of Sussex Police divers that went on to serve under various guises until last year 2015. This year will be the 50th anniversary and as such I am organising a reunion on 17 September 2016 for former members of the unit and any person who completed an operational dive for Sussex Police during that time. The invite is extended to partners and at the moment I believe there will be about 30-40 people attending. Could they please contact me at andymcmahon50@hotmail.com

The National Police Memorial Day

This charity is looking for a volunteer experienced in compiling business cases to prepare a case for them to take to the National Police Chiefs Council to secure funding to ensure the financial security and sustainability of the charity into the future. If anyone would like to volunteer please contact Steve Edwards C.E.O. NARPO.

01924 331 251 or www.narpo.org

‡ Obituaries ‡

I regret to inform you of the passing of former colleagues and friends:-

Don Bonsey. Don was the rural PC at Broad Oak, Heathfield in the 60,s and remained at Heathfield until he retired. We believe Don was 86 at the time of his death. No other details known.

Ruth Humphrey passed away on the 15 April 2016. She was the widow of the late Gerry Humphrey who served most of his career in Eastbourne. Ruth organised and ran the 'wives section' at Eastbourne Police Club and was Gerry's 'right hand man' when he served as the Secretary of Eastbourne & District Branch for 17 years. Ruth was also the Social Secretary of the Branch for a number of years. They were both Life Members of NARPO.

Peter Whitehouse passed away on Tuesday 19th April aged 86 yrs. Peter joined Brighton Borough in the early 1950's and served in uniform and CID. He was Crown Court Liaison Inspector at Lewes when he retired.

Maureen Ann Boniface, wife of John, sadly lost her fight against cancer and died on 23 April. John has asked that the details be circulated as they have friends throughout the force. The funeral arrangements are at Eastbourne Crematorium on 11th May at 1345hrs. There are no other details.

Later Life Ambitions Campaign - Circular 16

As part of NARPO's continuing partnership with The Civil Service Pensioners' Alliance [CSPA] and The National Federation of Occupational Pensioners' [NFOP] we have agreed to continue our Later Life Ambitions Campaign [LLA] raising with Parliamentarians issues relevant to older people. Between the three organisations we represent over 250,000 pensioners and will continue to try and influence party policies on matters of concern for older people. To find out more about this action, please visit the Branch web site, or the lengthy document can be posted to 'non computer' people if requested from Peter Dacey 01273 471292).

Police Mutual Respite Services (From NARPO HQ)

A new initiative for retired Police Officers who are either suffering with or caring for those with dementia is being started by the Police Mutual Foundation. The respite pilot aims to help those retirees who are either suffering from or caring for someone with dementia. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from some time away, you can contact either: foundation@pmas.co.uk or call 01543 305351 for an application form or more information. Fuller details are on the Branch web site, or call Peter Dacey as above for a copy.

And finally.....VERY INTERESTING FACT ABOUT DEAD PENGUINS

Did you ever wonder why there are no dead penguins on the ice in Antarctica? Where do they go? Wonder no more!

It is a known fact that the penguin is a very ritualistic bird which lives an extremely complex but ordered life. The penguin is very committed to its family and will mate for life, as well as maintaining a form of compassionate contact with its offspring throughout its life. If a penguin is found dead on the ice surface, other members of the family and social circle have been known to dig holes in the ice, using their vestigial wings and beaks, until the hole is deep enough for the dead bird to be rolled into, and buried.

Please continue over....

The male penguins then gather in a circle around the fresh grave and sing:

"Freeze a jolly good fellow." "Freeze a jolly good fellow."

SOCIAL EVENT

Visit to HAMPTON COURT PALACE - Wednesday 20th July 2016

The coach will depart from Brighton Marina at 09.00 hrs with an additional pick up at the Black Lion at 09.20 hrs. Anticipated arrival at Hampton Court is 11.30 hrs. The fee you have paid will allow you access to the Palace, Maze and Gardens. You will be issued with a hand held device to assist you when touring the Palace.

The entire visit is done at your pace.

Vouchers will be issued that entitle you to a light lunch (Homemade soup and rustic bread or homemade sandwich, crisps and a piece of fresh fruit, both with a choice of non-alcoholic drink) that can be taken at any time between 12.00 - 15.00 hrs.

The coach will depart at 16.30 hrs and arrive back at the Marina about 19.00 hrs.

The total cost to all members and guests will be £32.00 per person.

Social Booking Form

To: Mr. R. CASTLE, 6, Harrington Place, Brighton, BN1 7HL

Tele: 01273 551349 e-mail: ray.castle1@yahoo.co.uk

Name.....

Address.....

..... Postcode.....

Telephone number.....

e-mail address.....

Please reserve for me.....places for the Hampton Court Palace visit on Wed. 20th July 2016

I will join the coach at the Marina/Black Lion (Please delete as applicable)

Car number.(Marina parking).....

I enclose a cheque payable to NARPO Brighton and District Branch for £.....

Please write 'Hampton Court' on the reverse of your cheque