



National Association Of Retired Police Officers



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Brighton and District Branch
Newsletter November 2016
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Half Yearly Meeting

56 members and partners attended this meeting; about the usual number. Mike Ormerod was elected to the position of Vice-Chairman which has been vacant for a while. Bruce Clowser, the Treasurer, gave his report which in brief is that the finances are in good health. Derek Smith gave an update on the web site (address above). Once you log in you will find that some parts are restricted to members; here you will find adverts; previous newsletters; obituaries, often sooner than in the newsletter; and forthcoming events.

Ray Castle reported on the last few trips and then mentioned the Christmas Lunch, (see later). He gave advance notice of events for 2017; Wednesday 19th April, London theatre trip to see 'Kinky Boots'. He has obtained tickets with a face value of £69.50, but to you, just £29.50 plus the coach. 7th June a Thames cruise towards Maidenhead and BBQ. PLEASE DO NOT TRY TO RESERVE YET, but make an entry in your diary if you're interested. Ray would be pleased to receive any suggestions for other trips/shows.

Our Chairman reported that the Annual NARPO Conference was uneventful, which you will know if you've looked at the latest NARPO magazine!

The Chairman reported that North Branch had floated the idea of amalgamating all Sussex Branches, with a start date of 1st January 2019. Each Branch would remain independent for Welfare and social activities. Initial consultations have been held to discuss this issue and both Brighton and Hastings Branches expressed strong reservations. There was an open discussion amongst members. The Chairman pointed out that unless some younger Branch members came forward to join the Committee and take some offices, the time will come, maybe sooner rather than later, when amalgamation may be the only way to administer the Branch. It was agreed that the Chairman and Secretary will attend the next working party meeting, but would follow the meetings wishes not to agree anything without returning to members for approval. No financial commitments will be made without the consent of members. Those of you who were unable to attend the meeting are invited to share your views with the Committee by sending them to the Secretary. If nothing is heard from you, your agreement to the course of action agreed at the meeting will be assumed.

Any member who is interested in finding out more about the Committee workings may contact the Chairman or Secretary.

Eric Coates

During the reading of the obituaries at the half yearly meeting, Eric's name was mentioned. I am pleased to report that Eric is fine and was, at the time, holidaying in Europe. He has been contacted and an apology offered and accepted.

John McConnell. Late Detective Chief Superintendent.

John's daughter Nicky, who was young when he died, is endeavouring to establish his history with the Sussex Police. John's wife died some years ago so she has no immediate source to go to. She is trying to establish detail for the sake of her children who, of course, never knew their grandfather and who are now seeking to find out more about John. If you can help please pass details to Mike Bennison. Tel. 01323 891012 or e-mail bennisonms@aol.com Thank you.

Pension Increase.

The annual reporting of the CPI, published for September 2016 confirms that the annual percentage increase for police pensions 2017 will be -1% [previously -0.1%].

As from the 1st January 2017 the minimum subscription will be £20.04 [previously £19.80], this amounts to £1.67 per month [previously £1.65].

New members

We welcome Peter and Rosemary Cook to our Branch.

‡Obituaries‡

It is with regret that I inform members of the passing of:-

John NIBLET (was AN390). John died on the 12th October following a long illness. He joined the West Sussex Constabulary on 18th September 1961. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1971 and served on Traffic Division, Rural Beat and in Operations Room before retiring from the service on 15th February 1991. He then took up a post at Headquarters dealing with all Abnormal Loads travelling through the county.

Stephen MORGAN, (AM786) aged 65; on 16th October. Steve joined Sussex Police on 28 July 1975 and served at Newhaven, Haywards Heath, Lewes, East Grinstead and back again at Haywards Heath, the majority of his service being with Traffic Division. He left the service in June 1996 having suffered a severe head injury whilst on duty.

Christine MEPPM, wife of Alan, on 9 October 2016. No other details are available.

Need a Wedding car or for a special occasion? Why not try one of our members?

Peter Cook runs his own service. I reproduce his e-mail advertisement:-

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NARPO CHRISTMAS LUNCH – WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2016

12.15PM FOR 1.00PM AT MAL MAISON HOTEL

(FORMERLY SEATTLE HOTEL) BRIGHTON MARINA

There are only eighteen places left for this lunch time event. The priority booking date for members is 16th November, after that guests will be included. So if you wish to bring someone along you can apply now and they will go on the reserve list. You will be informed if their application has been successful. Please check the Oct. Newsletter for menu choices. If further booking forms are required contact Ray Castle by telephone 01273 551349 or e-mail ray.castle1@yahoo.co.uk. The final closing date for bookings is 27th November

Christmas Carol Concert by Ashdown Singers.

A member has requested details of this concert which will again be held in St Pancras Church, Irelands Lane, Lewes at 3.00 pm on Sunday 11th December. There is no religious service as such involved, just Christmas music. It usually lasts for about 75 minutes. There is a retiring collection for the Homeless of Brighton at Christmas. There's ample free parking in the County Hall car park behind St Anne's church. A pleasant and relaxing way to start preparing for Christmas.

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This info came from Wakefield HQ, so if you contact Voice Mail be sure to mention 'NARPO.'

Groupon

You may know of this company, but just in case you don't... it is an on line advertising company which offers money off and reductions in price on a wide range of products. My wife and I had a delightful three course dinner, in a bijoux French restaurant in New Steine, Brighton for just £14. This was half price, but there was nothing half-hearted about the food or service. All types of restaurants, including Days oriental buffet in East Street, Brighton; advertise along with just about anything else you can think of. Lots of savings, but be warned, you may be tempted into holidays, massages, facials, and other things you didn't know you wanted. You will receive offers everyday by e-mail!

Today (Weds 9.11) 16 bottles of Rioja red wine, not £166.64 but £59; 10 piece towel bale, not £19.99 but £10; split section frying pan, was £89.99 now £29.99, and lots more. Search Groupon and the rest is up to you.

And finally.....

Whenever I see a little church, I always pay a visit. So when at last I'm carried in, the Lord won't say. "Who is it?"

An elderly, but hardy cattleman from Texas once told a young female neighbour that if she wanted to live a long life, the secret was to sprinkle a pinch of gunpowder on her oatmeal each morning.

She did this religiously and lived to the age of 103. She left behind 14 children, 30 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren

and a 40 foot hole where the crematorium used to be.