



National Association Of Retired Police Officers



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Brighton and District Branch

Newsletter November 2017

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Half Yearly Meeting

The meeting was attended by a disappointing total of just 41 people. **Dave Medhurst**, our Chairman, welcomed everyone. During the meeting he outlined the new NARPO rules regarding membership. From 1st January 2018 there will be just TWO levels of membership: - FULL which covers "those who meet the requirement, by reason of service, age or ill health, entitling the person to a Police Pension." These are the only persons who may hold office in a branch. (Office includes Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) The second level is MEMBERSHIP which is open to anyone that the Branch approves. They may serve on the Committee as long as they do not outnumber the FULL members on the Committee. Both FULL and MEMBERSHIP will pay the annual subscription, currently £20.50, but this is likely to rise at some time. It is hoped that all current Associate Members will remain with us once the new system commences. The Secretary will be contacting all those entitled to move to MEMBERSHIP in the near future and inviting them to continue their association with us. Those awarded LIFE membership of the Branch; Widow(er)s and Spouses and FULL members of another Branch do not pay for membership.

It was agreed that members (Full) aged over 85 years will receive a Christmas gift from the Branch by cheque. The Chairman reported that the idea of amalgamating the Sussex Branches into one had receded for the moment, but if members do not help fill the office vacancies as they arise, it may just be a matter of time before the subject is resurrected.

Bruce Clowser, our Treasurer was not present due to illness but he had prepared some figures which the Chairman outlined. The financial situation of the Branch remains very healthy.

Ray Castle, Social Secretary, mentioned the recent trips which had been well supported and were judged a success. *The Christmas dinner is now fully booked and a reserve list has been started. Apply to Ray if you wish to be considered for any vacancy.* A theatre trip has been booked; see 'SOCIAL' overleaf for full details.

Derek Smith, Web Site Guru, mentioned the Branch website; address is above; and urged members to visit it and especially look at the many offers which can give excellent discounts to members. Any problems in 'logging in' contact Derek on webmaster@bdnarpo.co.uk Those who currently visit the site will soon receive a new password from Derek via e-mail as the site was attacked by a hacker and extra security has now been employed on the site.

The Chairman will lay a wreath on behalf of the Branch at the Remembrance Day service in Rottingdean on Sunday 12th November. A donation to the Royal British Legion was approved by members.

Tea, coffee and biscuits were then consumed and friendships updated.

Brighton Reunions 2018

Paul Smith advises you that the reunions of all those who have ever served in Brighton; police and support staff; will be held at the Sportsman p.h. Withdean Stadium, Brighton on 10th February and 9th June from 12.00 midday onwards.

‡Obituaries‡

It is with regret that I inform you of the deaths of:-

Adrian BONIFACE, aged 78 who passed away on Wednesday 18th October 2017. He joined West Sussex Constabulary as a police cadet in 1955 before undertaking his training at Sandgate in 1958. He then worked at Shoreham and Worthing before moving to Crawley where he was promoted to Sergeant. He then moved to the Regional Crime Squad as Det/Sergeant based at Brighton and subsequently as D/S at Hove 1973 - 1984 and then promoted to Det/Inspector at Bognor retiring in 1988. Adrian joined the IPA in September 1970 and became a stalwart member and office holder at Branch and Regional level, and was an Honorary Life Member.

John AINGER, on 23rd October. John's latter years of service were at Bognor Regis where he was collator. He was so well respected and good at his job that numerous senior officers fought and succeeded to keep him in post in spite of him being crippled with rheumatoid arthritis. (I have no other details of John's service).
Alan Marcel PROBYN, born 9 May 1919. Alan passed away peacefully on the 24th of October. He was a Brighton Borough officer retiring in the rank of Superintendent and held the post of Divisional Commander A Division. He is reputed to be the first Commander in Brighton to introduce the weekend 'Mobile Unit' during the era of Mods and Rockers. Apparently his words to the Unit were "Do the necessary ... but no complaints!" (Times change!!)
Olive SMART, widow of Dave Smart. I have no further details.

New Members

We welcome Neill and Angela PYE to our number. Does it mean you're getting old when new members were born after you joined The Job? If so, I'm now officially getting old!!!!!!!!!!!!

West Sussex Constabulary Reunion (50th Anniversary)

The 1st January 2018 marks the 50th Anniversary of the amalgamation of the former West Sussex Constabulary and to mark this special occasion it has been agreed to hold the next Reunion on Sunday 22nd April 2018 at Worthing Golf Club – 12.30 for 1.0 p.m. As this is a special occasion it was considered appropriate to hold the event nearer to January so this is an earlier date compared to previous reunions. Full details of the event will be circulated to Members in the New Year, but if any Member who has not previously received details of past reunions and would like to attend, please contact Tony Matthews – e.mail address t-matthews3@sky.com who will send you the necessary details.

Special Offer for all Police Forces! – Quote Code: 'BPSO999'

The British Police Symphony Orchestra has just released a fantastic festive-season offer across all Police Forces– just £5 per ticket (a saving of £7 off the standard ticket price) for their Proms Night Spectacular! Concert at Symphony Hall, Birmingham on Saturday 2nd December 2017 at 7.30pm. (Full details were circulated in last month's newsletter.)

www.bdnarpo.co.uk

Visit this site for the latest news re car offers; contestants wanted, surveys and all manner of things!

And finally.....

Got tasered picking up my friend at the airport yesterday. Apparently security officers don't like it when you call out "Hi Jack".

Is it Psychotherapist or Psycho the rapist?

After that maybe you should realise that.... The first step to forgiveness is realising that the other person is an idiot!

SOCIAL

On the trip to Hampshire, members purchased tickets for a raffle on the train trip. Profits from the raffle will help fund the train maintenance etc. You will be pleased to know that Pat Finch won second prize, a very nice £500!

'Motown' at the Shaftsbury Theatre, London, at 2.30 pm on Thursday 8th February 2018,

Reviews on Trip Advisor have said: "Fantastic show...Songs from Diana Ross, The Temptations, The Supremes, Stevie Wonder, Jackson 5, Smokey Robinson" and many more.

You can find out more by visiting: www.shaftsburytheatre.com/shows.

The cost for this event is just **£42** per person. (Stall seats, face value £69.50).

09.30 Coach departs Brighton Marina. (Please park cars in the western end of the multi storey Car Park).

09.50 Coach departs **Withdean Stadium, P & Ride**, Tongdean Lane, Brighton. (Please note NOT THE BLACK LION). 12.00 arrive at Shaftsbury Avenue, London. Free time for lunch

14.30 Show commences. 1715 – 1730 Coach departs. (From near the theatre) 2000 Coach arrives in Brighton.

Social Booking Form

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

Tele: 01273 551349 Mob. 07761 023339 or email, ray.castle1@yahoo.co.uk.

Names.....

Address (incl. P.Code).....

Tele. No.....Email address.....

I will join the coach at Brighton Marina/ Withdean Stadium (delete as appropriate.) Car number if parking at Marina Please reserve for me.....places for 'Motown' Thursday 8th February 2018

I enclose a cheque made payable to: 'NARPO' Brighton District Branch for £.....

Please write MOTOWN on reverse