

National Association of Retired Police Officers Eastbourne and District Branch

New Year 2015 - Quarterly Newsletter

Welcome to 2015 and the first Newsletter of the year. I hope that you all had a healthy and enjoyable Christmas.

There are a number of important issues in this Newsletter that I wish to bring to the attention of all Members.

Those of you who normally receive the Newsletter by email may be wondering why you've received this one by post. The reason for this, as I've mentioned in the past, and without causing any domestics(!) is that I have been informed by a number of Spouse/Partner Members, where 'hubbies' receive the Newsletter by email, that items of news were not filtering through to them. One recent trip was to Blue Water. This was arranged at short notice and only circulated by email. Some Spouses/Partners, whose 'hubbies' were the receiver of the email, complained that they were unaware of the trip. So, in an attempt to improve the communication between the Committee and yourselves, it was decided to send the first Newsletter of the year out by post. The next Newsletters are planned for publication on 1 April, 1 July and 1 October 2015 and, where relevant, I will revert to using email.

Unfortunately, even the best laid plans can be upset by the unexpected! Our 'posted' quarterly Newsletters are sent out by NARPO Head Office at a lower cost than 2nd class mail. On Christmas Eve, the couriers, Citylink, 'went bust'. We therefore had to wait for NARPO to contract out to another courier service. This has now been achieved.

This Branch has a total of 378 Members PLUS Spouses and Partners. The Rules of the Association are in the process of being re-written and in particular the definitions of the different classes of Membership. At present, Spouses and Partners (whether Civil or otherwise) are classed as Full (non-paying) Members but without the right to vote at Conference or counted in the Branch's total Membership numbers. Many of our elder Spouses and Partners, who are classed as Members under the Rules, are not recorded on the Association's National Database. This causes myself and Liz Gardner, our Welfare Officer, problems when there are bereavements or illnesses and we wish to make contact with relatives etc. It would also help if I had knowledge of next-of kin. I am therefore asking you all to complete the brief pro-forma at the end of the Newsletter and return it to me so I can add these details to the National Database. If you wish to send the details to me by email, please do so.

Each Christmas, the Branch sends a Boots voucher to all our Widow/ers of Full Members. Can any Member help me in tracing Members where I have had their Christmas letter returned to me marked "Gone Away"? The Members are Mrs Jean Dibley of Ringmer; Mrs Sandy Kenward of Newhaven; Mrs D Yates of Croydon and Mrs P Bushell who moved to Nottinghamshire. I am also trying to contact Mrs Cynthia Bishop. Cynthia sent me a Christmas card in which she informed me that she had moved and was 'in transit'. If any Member is in contact with Cynthia, would they kindly ask her to contact me?

There are 127 Members who do not have access to the internet and this again causes the Social Committee problems when they wish to circulate planned outings or get-togethers at *short notice*. Sending details of social gatherings by post to 127 members would cost £67+ at the current second class rates, when, perhaps, only a few of those 127 members would be interested. Therefore I have also included on the pro-forma a request for Members to indicate their interest in future events and whether those without internet access wish to be informed by post of any events planned at *short notice*. Long term planned Social Events will continue to be included in the quarterly Newsletter.

If you wish me to send additional emails to Spouses/Partners please supply me with email addresses.

Obituaries

Our condolences go out to the families of the following Members:

Eastbourne Branch

Mrs Joyce Dunster in August 2014 and Edward (Ted) Gibson on 12 November 2014

Miss Pattie Jardine on 9 December 2014 aged 47 years. Pattie was the daughter of our Members Bob and Pat Jardine who had cared for Pattie throughout her life. Pattie was known to many ex-Eastbourne Members.

Brighton Branch

Roy Lane in October 2014 aged 84 years; Len Pattison on 18 October 2014; Sidney Snelling on Christmas Eve aged 81 years and John Rabson on 23 December 2014 aged 80 years.

Hastings Members

Gordon Foreman in October 2014 aged 78 years; Hugh Shaw in December 2014; Ronald (Ron) Morris on 31 August 2014; and Douglas Harris on 24 December 2014 aged 87 years

North Sussex Members

Ian Martin on 26 October 2014 and Michael Baygh in September 2014

New Members

I would like to welcome the following new Members:

Eric & Christine Doherty (Sussex), Michael & Helen Skingle (Sussex) and Paul & Linda Snelling (Sussex).

AGM TUESDAY 14 April 2015

The date and venue for the AGM has been changed to 7.15pm **TUESDAY 14 APRIL 2015**. It will be held in the ground floor dance hall at the The Fishermens Club, Royal Parade, Eastbourne BN22 7AA. A speaker is being arranged and details will be included in my next Newsletter. A finger buffet will be supplied. Bar facilities will be available. Please make an effort to attend this business and social meeting.

Pension increase and Subscriptions for 2015

The 2014 CPI was 1.2%. This will mean that there will be a Pension Increase of 1.2% in 2015. Subscriptions to NARPO will also be increased by the same percentage from £19.56 to £19.80 ie 24p.

2015 subscriptions were due on 1 January 2015. The majority of ex-Sussex Officers have this deducted at source. If this is not the case please make arrangements to pay your subscriptions as soon as possible by either BAC (internet banking) or cheques. We do not send out personalised reminders.

If paying by BAC our details are as follows:

Name of Account: **NARPO – Eastbourne & District Branch: Sort Code: 40-20-06:**
Account: No 92119595. Please use your **surname and initial** as the reference.

If paying by Cheque please make these out to: **NARPO – Eastbourne & District Branch**
and forward to Mr Eric Reed, 24 Micklefield Way, Seaford, BN25 4EU

Social Events

The Social Committee have provisionally arranged a number of trips/gatherings for 2015 which I hope many of you will support. Friend and guests are welcome but would not benefit from any subsidies which your Social Committee may apply.

The first event organised by the new Social Committee was a trip to Bluewater Shopping Centre on 12 December last year. The centre was very quiet to my pleasant surprise. There were genuine bargains galore. It was a very enjoyable day although the credit cards took a bashing.

A theatre trip planned for 5 March 2015 to see War Horse had to be cancelled as all tickets had been sold. The Committee are seeking a similar venture in October. As soon as details are known these will be circulated.

The Social Committee are planning the following events for 2015:

15 April 2015 Chatham Dockyard

There is something for everyone's enjoyment at Chatham Docks. Visit the historic warships and museums to read and listen to the history of Chatham Docks. There is a restaurant, cafes and area for consuming your own sandwiches and drinks. The first pick-up point is at Langley Shops, Eastbourne at 8am routing to North Street, Hailsham for 9am. 20 seats have been booked for this outing. The closing date is 30 March 2015.

The cost will be £15 per Member and £23 for Guests and friends. (The advertised price is £25) If you are interested in this trip please complete the form below and forward it, with your cheque made payable to NARPO Social Section to Mrs Jo Townsend at 11 Shelly Walk Eastbourne BN23 7QX. (Payment by BAC is not accepted at present)

22 May 2015 Spring Lunch

This enjoyable lunch will be held at the Hydro Hotel, Eastbourne on 22 May 2015 from 12.30pm for a 1.15pm lunch. The cost of £20 each will be the same as last year.

The menu will be:

Starters: Soup **or** Traditional Oak Smoked Salmon with a Caramelised Tomato and Lemon Dressing.

Main Course: Roast Leg of Southdown Lamb with Mini Filo of Tomato Marinated Vegetables and Rosemary Jus **or** Char Grilled Supreme of Chicken with Pesto and a Tomato, Garlic and Basil Sauce:

Desserts: Homemade Blackcurrant Ripple Ice Cream on a French Meringue Stand

or Exotic Fruit Roulade with a Passion Fruit Sauce **or** Dietary choice of Cheese and Biscuits

Vegitarian Choices are:

Aubergine, Tomato and Brie Bake with Basil and Pine Nut Dressing

or Deep Fried Sweetcorn and Red Lentil Galette, Creamed Potato, Tomato Fondue Sauce

Full details and pro-forma for your meal choice will be included in the next Newsletter. Please make a note in your diary. (Unfortunately, I will miss this gathering as I'll be holidaying in Crete!)

June 2015 (date to be fixed) Windsor Boat Trip

"A typical lunch time cruise leaves Windsor Promenade. Excellent views of Windsor Castle and Eton College. After passing Windsor racecourse, the boat goes through Boveney Lock passing Sutherland Grange, The Willows and Bray Film Studios. It then heads towards Oakley Court, Queen's Eyot and Monkey Island where the boat turns for the journey back to Windsor. The trip includes lunch. Lunch menu examples (continued on next page)

Traditional Ploughman's Lunch
English Cheddar cheese – Slice of finest ham
Coleslaw – Green salad with tomatoes
Pickles and chutneys – Roll and butter
Slice of cake – Cup of tea or Coffee
Home made Shepherds Pie
Delicious homemade shepherd's pie – Gravy
Selection of fresh vegetables
Roll and butter
Homemade apple pie and Fresh Cream
Cup of tea or coffee

Full details and cost will be circulated in due course.

21 July 2015 Nosh & Natter

The 'nosh & natter nite' with raffle and speaker will be held from 7.15pm Tuesday 21 July 2015 in the ground floor dance hall at the Fishermens Club, Royal Parade, Eastbourne. A free finger buffet will be supplied. There will be bar facilities. Negotiations are in hand to arrange a speaker that will appeal to the majority of our members. Further details to follow. There will be no charge for this event.

August 2015 (date to be fixed) - Buckingham Palace

The arrangements for this trip are still in hand. It is planned to travel by coach to Buckingham Palace and following our visit to the Palace have some free time in London before travelling home. Full details, including the cost, will be circulated as soon as these are available.

October 2015 (date to be fixed) – This is to replace the cancelled trip to Warhorse. The place/venue of this event has not yet been organised.

27 November 2015 - Christmas Lunch at the Hydro Hotel. Full details to follow later in the year.

If you have any suggestion or questions concerning social gatherings please contact our Social Chairman, Keith Mates on 01825 872023 or email: keithmates@aol.co.uk

Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (edited version)

The Sussex Elders' Commission is an opportunity for citizens aged 60 years or more to support and challenge the work of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne. They want to hear from people with ideas and suggestions for improving policing services from people with direct experience of the police and justice system including victims. Full details can be found at www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/ or by contacting Mervin Dadd at mervin.dadd@sussex-pcc.gov.uk or telephoning 01273 481 561

The closing date to apply to become an 'Elder' is **Monday 16th February 2015**

e-petition "Compulsory Life Tariff for Murder of Police Officer

There is currently an *e-petition* on the Government web site concerning the compulsory life sentence for a person found guilty of murder of a police officer. If you wish to sign this petition go to www.epetitions.direct.gov.uk and in the search box type *Murder of Police Officer*. Click on *Compulsory Life Tariff for Murder of the Police* and *Sign the petition*.

West Sussex Constabulary Reunion

This was held on Sunday the 19th October 2014 at Worthing Golf Club. 109 people attended and were unanimous in agreeing that the new venue and the buffet provided was excellent, and this venue should be used in future. In view of the success of this event it was agreed that the next Reunion should be held in October 2016. If any Member of the former West Sussex Constabulary was not contacted regarding this event, and would like to attend in future, would they please contact Tony Mathews at t-matthews3@sky.com or at 1 The Herons, Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex. BN43 5UJ.

Were you a West Sussex Police Cadet

Ex Cadet's Phil HALL & 'Yaki' BRIND are proposing to arrange a '**West Sussex Cadets Reunion**' in the Autumn of 2015. They have collected 131 names to date but feel there could be a few more out there. If you are interested or wish to check that you are on their list please contact either Phil at philiphall999@btinternet.com tele: 01243860401 or Yaki Brind at yakbrind@tesco.net tel: 01903 520199

NARPO in house travel agents

As we enter the New Year, many of you will be thinking about booking your holidays for 2015, so just a quick reminder that NARPO has its own in-house travel agent "Travel with NARPO" set up to provide you with exceptional deals and an unparalleled level of service. Since its launch in November many members have taken advantage of the great deals available and booked all sorts of breaks and holidays. Whether you prefer Cruising, Summer Sun, Guided Tours or maybe doing your own thing with a tailor-made holiday, 'Travel with NARPO' are here to help and guide you and make sure that you get the very best deal. You can find 'Travel with NARPO' online by visiting www.travelwithnarpo.com or www.travelwithnarpo.co.uk or alternatively you can call on either 0845 463 2448 or 01425 479811.

SPGC Senior Spring Event

This event will be taking place on Monday 13 April 2015 at East Brighton Golf Course. The cost is £35 and include a Full English Breakfast - 18 hole Stableford of Full Handicap - Prizes + NTD & LD - Players must be or have been employees of any UK Police Force and be 50 years plus on 13 April 2015 £35. If you are interested please contact Peter Hawkes on 07825 332261 or at peter@hawkes.co as soon as possible

East Sussex Senior Partnership Newsletters

East Sussex produce two free quarterly Newsletter for Senior Citizens. These Newsletters are very informative and occasionally I select items from them to include in our Newsletter. The circulations are 'Grey Matter' and 'The Voice of Older People'. They are available on-line at essaforums.org.uk by clicking on Newsletters. If you are not on the internet these are available by post, free, by contacting Linda Graham, Wealden Senior Citizens Partnership, 5 Rectory Field, Hartfield, East Sussex TN7 4JE or by telephone on 01892 770487

Group Membership of the Fishermens Club

I am in the process of negotiating an Eastbourne & District NARPO Group Membership to the Fishermens Club. There would be a charge of £5 per single member (£10 per couple) to our Branch to offset the cost of this membership. Each NARPO Member would be issued with a personalized membership card. There would be restrictions. NARPO members would not be able to sign in guest and there would be an additional charge on 'special' entertainment nights. If you are interested please indicated on the pro-forma below. I need at least 100 Members.

How to find this Newsletter on the Internet

This Newsletter can be found on the Sussex Police Federation website by logging on to www.sussexpolfed.org/ and selecting the heading 'Retired Officers' and 'Eastbourne and District Branch'. Other Sussex Branches also publish their Newsletters on this website.

For those who have access to the internet, do not forget to visit narpo.org.uk/

A twist on the 'designated driver'

Following a tip-off to the local nick (that's a joke for a start) that an extremely drunken customer was about to leave an Eastbourne pub and drive home, two officers secreted themselves in the pub car park. At closing time, they saw a fellow stumble out of the bar, trip on the curb and try his keys on five different cars before he found his. The man sat in the front seat fumbling around with his keys for several minutes.

Meanwhile, all the other patrons left the bar and drove off. Finally he started his engine and began to pull away. As soon as he pulled onto the street, the officers stopped him, read him his rights and administered the breathalyzer test to determine his blood-alcohol content.

The toximeter registered a zero reading.

The puzzled officers demanded to know how that could be. The driver replied, "Tonight, I'm the designated decoy."

And finally...

Please do not hesitate to contact me on any NARPO matters. I hope to meet more of you at our meetings and social gatherings.

A Happy and Healthy New Year to you all.

My Kind regards,

Bob Diplock

Branch Secretary
Eastbourne & District NARPO
20 Purbeck Close
Eastbourne BN23 8EX
Tele: 01323 761462
email: narpo-secretary-eastbourne@hotmail.co.uk

Please return the first part of this form to Bob Diplock 20 Purbeck Close Eastbourne BN23 8EX

First name.....Surname.....

Email address (if you wish this to be used for communication).....

Wife/husband/partner or Widow/er*; First name.....
*delete if not relevant

Surname (if different).....

Email address (if different to above).....

Next of Kin (name).....Contact (phone).....

Are you interested in any of the following planned Social Events mention for 2015?

- | | |
|---|---|
| Chatham Dockyard (15 April) | yes/no (if yes please see below) |
| Spring Lunch (22 May) | yes/no |
| Windsor Boat Trip (June) | yes/no |
| Nosh & Natter evening with speaker (21 July) | yes/no |
| (if yes – do you have a preference on Speaker topic?) | yes/no Topic preferred..... |
| Buckingham Palace (August) | yes/no |
| London Theatre Trip (October) | yes/no |
| Christmas Lunch (November) | yes/no |
| Membership to Fishermens @ £5 | yes/no (If yes you will be contacted at a later date) |

Please see overleaf for further questions.....



Chatham Dockyard 15 April 2015

If you wish to join us on this outing please complete this form and send it with your cheque made payable to NARPO Social Section to Mrs Jo Townsend at 11 Shelly Walk Eastbourne BN23 7QX as soon as possible.

Name.....Phone No:.....

I wish to purchase Members Tickets @ £15

.....Guests @ £23 each

Others in my party are (names).....

Preferred Pick-up points (we will **try** and get as close as we can).....

(Please continue overleaf if necessary)

Questionnaire continued.....

Are you interested in any of the following outing venues?

- Full Day Coach outing yes/no
- Half Day Coach outing yes/no
- Evening Coach outing yes/no
- London Theatre trips yes/no
- Local Theatre Trips yes/no
- Museums yes/no
- Historical Sites & places of interest yes/no
- Brighton Dogs with restaurant meal yes/no
- Ceremony of the Keys
(10pm Tower of London) yes/no

If there are any Social Gatherings/Venue that you would like the Social Committee to organise please let Keith Mates know on 01825 872023 or email: keithmates@aol.co.uk. You can also add your comments below.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

If you are **NOT** on the internet would you like to be informed by post of any Social Gatherings arranged at *short notice*? yes/no

***I AM NOT interested in any events (*please delete if not relevant).**

Chatham Dockyard 15 April 2015

(Comments continued)

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