

National Association of Retired Police Officers Eastbourne and District Branch

Spring 2015 - Quarterly Newsletter

I have named this edition 'Spring 2015' as opposed to 'April 2015' with the hope that the weather will change and we can look forward to a warm and reasonably dry season.

Thank you to those 90 members who returned the questionnaire. I was a little disappointed that this is less than a 25% of Eastbourne & District Membership. It's not too late to forward the forms to me.

The Chatham Docks outing was over subscribed and is now closed. The Social Committee were unable to secure further seats from the coach company. A reminder that the Spring Lunch is being held on 22 May 2015 at the Hydro Hotel and the next outing is the Thames River Trip on Sunday 14 June 2015. Details of both events can be found later in this Newsletter. I hope as many as possible will support these events. Numbers will be restricted to 20 in respect of the Thames Boat Trip.

Thanks also to those who responded concerning our 'missing' Widow Members. These have now been located.

The AGM is being held at the Fishermens Club **7.15pm Tuesday 14 APRIL 2015**. I have invited Ahmed Ramiz, our Region 5 National Executive Committee Representative to attend to update us on national NARPO matters including the *proposed new rules*, brief details of which can be found later in the Newsletter.

Obituaries

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

Eastbourne Branch

Tony Townsend aged 81 years on 17 February 2015. Tony joined the Police in August 1956 and retired in August 1980 having served most of his service as a Police Motorcyclist based at Eastbourne and latterly Polegate. On retiring he became the proprietor of a motorcycle training school called EDMTS. As many of you know, Tony stood on our Branch General Committee for a number of years, and together with his wife Jo, was an active member of our Branch. Jo remains on the Social Committee.

Sam Collins on 9th March. Sam was well known to many of us. He served locally (Eastbourne) on the Traffic Department for a number of years. Our thoughts are with Carol and her family.

Brighton Branch

Kathy Morgan aged 88 years - ex Brighton WPI

Alan Levitt aged 87 years on 31st January. After completing National Service, he followed his father's footsteps joining Brighton Borough Police in May 1948. He served at Brighton as a Constable, Sergeant and Inspector. On amalgamation he served at Sussex HQ where he was responsible for firearms training. He retired in 1977.

John Rogers aged 72 years

Sam Eaves aged 95 years.

Chichester Branch

Tony Frogley aged 92 years. Tony joined the West Sussex Force in June 1950, and retired in July 1977, having served at Horsham, Pulborough, Felpham and Bognor.

Hastings Branch

Harry Dobson aged 89 years. Harry joined the Metropolitan Police in 1947, later transferring to the Hastings Borough Force, where he reached the rank of Sergeant. He retired in 1972

North Sussex Branch

George Reynolds aged 83 years on 15 February 2015 in East Surrey Hospital. George joined East Sussex Constabulary on 5 July 1955 and served at Hove, Crowborough, Wadhurst, Crawley and Gatwick SB retiring 1986 in the rank of Sergeant.

New Members

I would like to welcome the following new Members:

Alan and Sara Crichton (Sussex); Brian and Erica Watkinson (Sussex); Danny and Diana O'Neill (Sussex); Paul Sellings and Linda Kerry (Sussex); Greg and Jane Allcorn (Sussex); and Steve Crocker (Thames Valley).

I hope to see you all at future Social events and gatherings.

Proposed New National Rules

Keith Bowman (Chairman) and myself attended the No 5 Region Meeting at Police Federation Headquarters at Leatherhead on 28 March 2015 to listen to a presentation by the National President, Ian Potter, on the proposed new rules. A *lively* debate followed.

The main changes that will affect all branches are in relation to the categories of Membership.

The Current Rules: *Briefly*, the categories that exist at present are **Full Members** (including retired Police Officers and similar Agencies who are in receipt of a Police Pension and pay a subscription), their **Spouses and Partners** and **Life Members**. **Spouses and Partners** do not pay a subscription and therefore not entitled to attend the National Conference as Delegates and vote on National matters. The other categories are **Widow/er of Members** (who do not pay a subscription but can attend Conference and vote), **Additional Members** (who are Full Members of another Branch who pay additional membership to the second Branch and can attend conference and vote), **Associate Members** (who pay full subscriptions but can only vote on local branch matters); and **Honorary Members** (pre-cept subscription is paid by the Branch They cannot vote on National matters).

The New Proposed Rules: There will only be two membership categories. **Full Members** will include retired Police Officers, SOCA, NCA or similar agencies in receipt of a Police Pension; and **Associate Members** which will include **ALL** other current categories. **Spouses and Partners will no longer be classed as members.** **Widow/ers** will not be permitted to attend conference as delegates or vote on National Matters. **Life Membership** will be bestowed on **Full Members only**. This will exclude **Spouses and Partners** who will no longer be considered as **Full Members**.

Under the new **Associate Membership** category, all such members will pay the pre-cept subscription to NARPO (through Branches) which is calculated at 40% of the full subscription fee which at present is £7.92 pa. This will include **Spouses and Partners** if they wish to become members. It has not been clarified as to whether **Widow/ers** will be asked for this pre-cept and, if so, whether it will be paid from Branch funds.

The New Rules also state that **Associate Members** will not be entitled to hold Local or National Office (ie Chair, Secretary, Treasurer or Welfare) or be entitled to vote. This caused a heated discussion as many branches rely on the support of **Spouses, Partners, Widow/ers and Associate Members**. The President promised that this rule would be looked into further and clarified, but could see no reason why this rule should be enforced at Branch level if the Branch Rules allowed **Associate Members** to stand on Committees (but not hold Office) and vote on local matters! Watch this space!

The new rules will be proposed at Conference and if approved by a two third majority will come into effect the following day 5 September 2015. Eastbourne & District Branch Rules will also need to be amended in due course to reflect the National Rules.

The National Executive Committee will also look into the transition period between 5 September 2015 and 1 January 2016 when the next Annual Subscriptions are due.

The final draft of the proposed rules will be printed in NARPO News before the Conference. If you have further questions about the rules or wish to make representations please attend our AGM and put these to Ahmed Ramiz.

Pensioners in Care

A further item which was discussed at the 5 Region Conference was *Pensioners in Care*. When a Pensioner (and the main bread winner?) is taken into care the whole of their pension is often taken by the local authority to pay for that care. This has left the remaining spouse/partner with financial problems especially if he/she receives no other income such as a national or private pension. NARPO, with other Agencies, are calling on the Government to place a cap of 50% on what is taken, arguing that the remaining spouse will on his/her death receive half of that pension which is rightfully theirs. If you are in this position, please let me know. There is little I can do at this time but I would be interested to know if it has happened to any of our Branch Members.

AGM Tuesday 14 April 2015

The AGM is being held at 7.15pm **Tuesday 14 APRIL 2015** in the ground floor dance hall at The Fishermens Club, Royal Parade, Eastbourne BN22 7AA. Our Committee Members, Keith Mates and Jon Goddard, have created an Eastbourne NARPO page on *Facebook*. They will be giving a short presentation on the benefits of such a facility together with how to access it.

As I mentioned in my introduction, Ahmed Ramiz, who is our Regional Representative on the National Executive Committee and Chair of the Sussex North Branch, will be addressing the meeting to bring us all up to date with current NARPO matters together, hopefully, with details of the proposed new Rules.

A finger buffet will be supplied. Bar facilities will be available. **Please make an effort to attend this business and social meeting.**

Social Events

A reminder of some of confirmed and provisionally arranged trips/gatherings for 2015 which I hope many of you will support. Friends and guests are welcome but would not benefit from any subsidies which your Social Committee may apply.

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 Hydro do not change NARPO for the sole use of the dining room on the understanding that there is a minimum of 60 diners. The 2014 Spring lunch fell slightly below that number. If the numbers drop any further we may lose this function. Guests are welcome. **Please support it.** (Unfortunately I will be in Crete!)

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

Vegetarian 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

If you wish to attend this delightful gathering please complete the pro-forma below (or create something of a similar layout) and forward it with a cheque made payable to Eastbourne NARPO to Mrs Caroline Place, 26 Medway, Hailsham BN27 3HF **as soon as possible and no later than 30 April 2015.** If you have any queries in respect of this lunch Caroline can be contacted on 01323 846000 or at tonycaroline@btinternet.com Please do not contact Ruth Humphrey.

Sunday 14 June 2015 Thames Boat Trip

This trip has been arranged for Sunday 14 June 2015.

Unfortunately, at the time of going to press, the Social Committee were unable to tie Lynns Travel down with cost and the exact venue for the day apart from the fact that the boat trip starts at Richmond and may visit Hampton Court. The owner of Lynns Travel, with whom we deal with direct, is at present away. However, the Social Committee have provisionally booked 20 seats and they will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If there is an *early indication* that more than 20 members and guests wish to take up this outing, we may be able to secure additional seats.

If you are *seriously* interested in this outing would you either complete the pro-forma below or contact Ray Woolston on 01323 505065 or email Ray at raylynwoolston@btinternet.com

21 July 2015 Nosh & Natter

The 'nosh & natter nite' 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 and the usual Tombola. Negotiations are in hand to arrange a speaker from the British Heart Foundation - something close to all our 'hearts'! There will be plenty of time to 'chin-wag'. There is no charge for this event and guests are welcome.

August 2015 - Buckingham Palace - The date and final arrangements for this trip are still in hand.

September 2015 - Rye Market & Jempsons

The Social Committee are considering arranging an outing to Rye Market and then onto Jempsons for a cream tea. (I had a chuckle to myself as the only Jempsons that comes to mind is involved with motorcycles and I could imagine 'us lot' tootling around Rye on Lambrettas!) Details will be included in the next Newsletter.

October 2015 - Theatre Trip - The date and final arrangements for this trip are also still in hand.

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

NARPO Eastbourne & District Summer Photographic Competition

What to enter: We are looking for striking images to celebrate member's photographic skills. There are two categories members may enter, these are:

1. Holiday or travel Photos – Images taken in UK or any other place.
2. Sussex – Images Taken in Sussex which highlight the county.

How to enter: All images must be submitted in a printed format by post to NARPO Eastbourne & District Photographic Competition 21 Glessing Road East Sussex BN24 5FD. Each entry should be marked with name, address, contact telephone number, which of the two categories it is for and where the photo was taken. Prints must be A4 or less in size.

Eligibility and Judging:

1. You must be a member of Eastbourne & District NARPO Branch to enter.
2. Entries may originate from any format — including, but not limited to digital files, digital prints, colour transparencies, colour prints, or black and white prints. Any sort of camera can be used to take the image from camera phones to full Professional Digital SLR etc — so long as they are submitted in a printed format to the judging panel.
3. Entrants can submit **one photograph per category (two in total)** as prints in colour or black and white. Electronic images cannot be accepted.
4. Images may be digitally enhanced to remove spots or scratches, but not manipulated. Entrants can enhance the picture to make it brighter, clearer etc, but not manipulate the content. The judges reserve the right to exclude any image they believe may have been excessively treated so as to alter its authenticity.
5. All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe the rights of any other party. The entrants must be the sole owner of copyright in all photographs entered and must have obtained permission of any people featured in the entries or their parents/guardians if children under 16 are featured. Further, entrants must not have breached any laws when taking their photographs.
6. Submissions may be watermarked if desired, but the watermark should be inconspicuous enough to not interfere with the judging of the photo.

Deadline: Sunday 16 August 2015: All entries will be judged by a panel of judges. These judges are a panel of experienced photographers with a wealth of knowledge. The judges will select a shortlist of photographs (the 'Finalists') which, in their opinion, best illustrate the theme of the competition. They will consider a range of factors including composition, artistic merit, technical ability, overall impact, originality, interpretation of the brief.

The key judge will present their findings and announce the winners at the half yearly meeting on 22 September 2015. There will also be an opportunity to see some of the submissions which will be displayed at the Half Yearly General Meeting.

Prizes: Same for each category: 1st Prize - £30 : 2nd Prize - £20 : 3rd Prize - £10

The top prize winning images from each category will be featured on the Facebook site for equal time.

The competition will run from its launch at the AGM on 14 April 2015 to Sunday 16 August 2015 so this gives plenty of time for you to take an image over the summer months so don't rush into posting your submissions straight away as you may take an image which you prefer.

Finally a word on printing those of you with your own printers etc can easily print images but if you don't have those facilities most branches of Boots and the big supermarkets will print images from transparencies , film, memory cards or phones.

NARPO in house travel agents

A 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.

Group Holiday Insurance

A reminder that the NARPO Group Holiday Insurance premium is due on 1 May 2015.

Watch out! Watch out! There are several potential scams about!

From 6 April 2015, if you are over 55 years of age, you can draw on any of your private pension pots to either invest or spend. The choice will be yours. Although the first 25% is tax free, the remainder is subject to tax. To find out more please go to www.pensionwise.gov.uk for an explanation. But take care as there are a number of similar website that are eager to get their hands on your savings. Do not accept or give ANY details to 'cold calls' whether by telephone or doorstep callers. Unfortunately I cannot find a telephone number or an address for *pensionwise* for those of you who are not on the internet.

Wellbeingzone

The Police Mutual *Wellbeingzone* promotional Calender for April to June 2015 has been published and available at www.narpo.wellbeingzone.co.uk

East Sussex Senior Partnership Newsletters

A reminder that 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 have had very few members who wish to take up the offer of a Group Membership of the Fishermens Club so for the time being this is not being pursued.

How to find this Newsletter on the Internet

This Newsletter can be found on the Sussex Police Federation website by logging on to www.sussexfed.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/

And a little humour....

A man was stopped by the police around 2 am. The officer asked him where he was going at that time of night. The man replied, "I'm on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late." The officer then asked, "Really? Who's giving that lecture at this time of night?" The man replied, "My wife."

..... and a tad more humour before I forget....

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen. The two gentlemen were talking, and one said, "Last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great. I would recommend it very highly." The other man said, "What is the name of the restaurant?" The first man thought and thought and finally said, "What is the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know... The one that's red and has thorns." "Do you mean a rose?" "Yes, that's the one," replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"

And finally...

Please do not hesitate to contact me on any NARPO matters. If I cannot help, I'm sure I will know someone who can. I hope to meet more of you at our meetings and social gatherings.

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

*National Association of Retired Police Officers
Eastbourne and District Branch*

Annual General Meeting
7.15pm Tuesday 14 April 2015
Fishermens Club, Royal Parade, Eastbourne BN22 7AA

AGENDA

- 1 Opening remarks by the Chairman
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Tribute to past Members
- 4 Welcome to new Members
- 5 Minutes of last AGM held on 14 April 2014
- 6 Matters arising from the minutes
- 7 Adoption of Reports:
 - (i) Chairman
 - (ii) Secretary
 - (iii) Treasurer
- 8 Social Committee Update
- 9 Election of Officers:
 - (i) Chair
 - (ii) Vice-Chair
 - (iii) Secretary
 - (iv) Treasurer
 - (v) Executive Committee
 - (vi) Social Chair
 - (vii) Welfare Officer
 - (ix) Auditor
- 10 Election of representatives for:
 - (i) Annual Conference Southport 4 September 2015
 - (ii) Coordinators Committee and No 5 Region Meetings
- 11 NEC Matters – Guest Speaker – Ahmed Ramiz – 5 Region NEC Representative
- 12 Facebook – presentation by Keith Mates and Jon Goddard
- 13 Any other business
- 14 Date of the Half Yearly General Meeting Tuesday 22 September 2015 at Fishermens Club.
Closure of Meeting

(Refreshments will be taken between Items 11 and 12 or at the end of the meeting)

Spring Lunch - Friday 22 May 2015

Please clearly circle your choice – the full description of the menu is set out above

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

<i>Starter:</i>	Soup	or	Smoked Salmon	
<i>Main Course:</i>	Lamb	or	Chicken	
<i>Desserts:</i>	Meringue	or	Roulade	or Cheese & Biscuits
<i>Vegetarian:</i>	Vegetable Bake	or	Vegetable Galette	

Name.....

<i>Starter:</i>	Soup	or	Smoked Salmon	
<i>Main Course:</i>	Lamb	or	Chicken	
<i>Desserts:</i>	Meringue	or	Roulade	or Cheese & Biscuits
<i>Vegetarian:</i>	Vegetable Bake	or	Vegetable Galette	

Please return this form (or something similar to this format) to Mrs Caroline Place, 26 Medway, Hailsham BN27 3HF **as soon as possible and no later than 30 April 2015** together with a cheque made payable to Eastbourne NARPO Guests are welcome.

Sunday 14 June 2015 Thames Boat Trip

I wish to reserve the following seats on the Thames Boat Trip:

Name.....(Member or Guest*) Phone No.....
Preferred pickup.....

Name.....(Member or Guest*)
Preferred pickup.....

Name.....(Member or Guest*)
Preferred pickup.....

Name.....(Member or Guest*)
Preferred pickup.....

* Please delete Please add further names if you wish to.

Please return this form to Ray Woolston 10 Amberley Road, Eastbourne BN22 0EH **as soon as possible**