

*National Association of Retired Police Officers
Eastbourne and District Branch
Summer 2013 - Quarterly Newsletter*

Dear Members,

Welcome to the Summer(?) Newsletter. I hope it finds you all in good health. Having searched several websites for the long term weather forecast the best I can come up with is that we can expect four days of sunshine from 5th to 8th July inclusive!

(My apologies if this Newsletter appears crammed but I am restricted to ten pages by the NARPO office at Wakefield for those receiving it by post.)

NEW MEMBERS

I would like to welcome the following new members:

Bob and Jacqueline Brown - Sussex
Sarah Earl - Sussex
Nick and Kim Wilkinson - Sussex
Charles and Elaine Connaughton - Sussex
Neil and Patricia Fordham - Sussex
David and Julie Cocklin - Sussex

OBITUARIES

There have been a number of obituaries and our thoughts go to the families.

Eastbourne Branch Members

Roy Keller, Peter Spencer, Peter Stoner, Mrs Hetty Russell, Derek Wilkinson and Andrew Rawlinson.

Other Sussex Branches Members

Tim O'Connor, Mike Renouf, Alfred Webb, Bernard Gillham, Keith Divall, Reginald Buddle, Stephen Leal and Geoffrey Collins.

AGM 15 April 2013

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Fishermen Club on 15th April 2013 and was well supported. Our Chairman, Keith Bowman, thanked our outgoing President, David Scott, for his help and guidance during his tenure; Tony Townsend, our Social Chairman, who unfortunately decided to stand down because of health reasons; and Patrick Johnson, our outgoing treasurer for keeping a tight reign on our finances during his tenure, leaving our accounts healthy for his replacement, Eric Reed. Patrick stood down from this post having moved to Yorkshire. He will be retaining his membership of this Branch.

Gift Vouchers have been sent to both Tony and Patrick.

A full copy of the minutes, including contact details of those that hold executive posts, is attached at the end of this Newsletter.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Since the AGM I have been on a recruitment drive to find new committee members as at present we are running under the recommended number. The following three members have offered their services for the remainder of the year and have been co-opted onto your Committee. Mr Peter Head (Sussex), Mr and Mrs Tony and Caroline Place (London Metropolitan).

In other parts of the country, branches have been 'forced' to close or amalgamate because of the lack of support by its members. I am sure that you will all agree with me that we do not want this to happen to this branch. We are at present a strong branch with over 300 members.

For any of you that may be contemplating offering your services, the duties are not onerous. The committee meets four times a year on a Monday evening at the Fishermens Club. The meetings last about an hour. If you wish to find out more about the Committee, please give me a telephone call. I am still recruiting so beware of a 'cold call' from me!

SOCIAL EVENTS

Spring Lunch

The Spring Lunch which was held at the Hydro Hotel on 24 May was another success although numbers were down slightly on last year. We enjoyed an excellent meal and raffle although, as usual, I won now! I'd like to offer my thanks to Ruth Humphrey and the Social Committee for all their hard work in organising this function. **The Christmas Lunch will be held at the same venue on Friday 29 November 2013** so please make a note in your Social Calendar. Full details will be included in the next Newsletter.

'Nosh & Natter nite' Wednesday 24 July

The next 'Nosh & Natter Nite' will be held at the Fishermens Club on Wednesday 24th July from 7pm. This is purely a Social gathering with a chance for you to win £25 and £50 in the free raffle. A buffet and the usual excellent raffle will also be available. Please try and support this event.

Eastbourne Borough Police Re-union

The next Eastbourne Borough Police Re-union is being held at the Hydro Hotel on Saturday 2 November 2013 commencing at 7pm. A light buffet will be provided. The cost is £12 per head. Friends, spouses and partners are welcome. If you wish to attend this re-union, and have not been contacted by Dave Smith, please contact him at dsmith84@sky.com or on 01323763255
(Is it really 45 years ago that Eastbourne Borough became part of the Sussex Constabulary?)

Other events and suggestions

The new Chairman of the Social Committee, Ray Eldridge, is concerned about the lack of social events being arranged by the Committee. At present they consist of the Spring and Christmas Lunches and the 'Nosh & Natter Nites'. Ray is seeking ideas from members. Proposals to visit the Amex Brighton Football Stadium and the Police Museum at Brighton fell through due to lack of support. Are there other venues that members could recommend? Perhaps a local/London theatre trip? Or Brighton Dogs with a meal – these have been successful in the past?

One branch holds a very successful 'grumpies' night' once a quarter. A local pub is selected and with the agreement of the licensee members meet for a purely social 'chin-wag'. No refreshment or entertainment is put on so the only expense would be the purchase of your 'round'. Would you be interested in such informal gatherings?

If you have any ideas or wish to respond to any of these suggestions would you please contact Ray Eldridge at ray.eldridge@talktalk.net or by phone on 01323 508853. He promises to pass all your comments on to the Social Committee for consideration. He's looking forward to hearing from you.

NARPO DIARIES

Your committee has decided not to purchase NARPO diaries for members this coming year. They are available directly from the NARPO office. Details will be published in the next NARPO magazine.

THOMPSON'S SOLICITORS - FREE LEGAL HELPLINE

Owing to a significant change in the way solicitors are allowed to accrue cases Thompson's Solicitors are no longer able to offer NARPO members the facility of a free legal helpline. NARPO's long standing relationship with Thompson's Solicitors will however continue and the offer of other legal services by the company remains, in particular the offer of free personal injury claims.

Legal Helpline advice is available from other solicitors with an association with NARPO as advertised in NARPO News and at www.narpo.org."

PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S VISIT TO SUSSEX

One of our members, Ron Spicer, is seeking to trace anyone who was serving in the Sussex Police in 1963 when President Kennedy visited the county. It's in relation to an up-coming BBC programme on the visit together with some other matters. If you wish to know more about this matter please contact Ron at ole.spice@btopenworld.com or on 01323 504847.

CRIME TREND

There is a current crime trend that will be of interest to all car owners. A member in one of our Sussex branches discovered a very small hole under the car handle of his passenger door. He had no idea when it had occurred. He reported it to find that this is a common MO which preludes a house burglary. The miscreant gains entry by making a punch hole below the locking device of the passenger door bypassing the alarm system. The damage is often not discovered until some days later. He/she reads your GPS system or insurance documents to establish your home address but seldom takes anything from the car. He/she re-locks the door. They use the knowledge that you are out to burgle your home either that day or some future date.

NHS ABOMINAL AORTIC ANEURISM PROGRAMME

This programme saved the life of one of our members in Chichester. Here is an edited version of an email that he sent to me:

"I got the invite and feeling perfectly fit and well attended a local health centre on 25 April for a painless easy scan of the abdomen, to be told that, yes I had an aneurism, and that I should expect a telephone call. I went to the pub still feeling all was well and within half a pint I received a telephone call from St Richards Hospital at Chichester making an appointment for the following morning. I asked if it was that urgent to be told that it was. You can imagine my shock the next day, when I was informed that my aneurism was 8.9cms and repair was carried out at anything over 5.5cms. I was told that I was lucky to be alive as an aneurism that size would normally be expected to rupture and cause almost instant death. Repair was urgent and if not carried out I would not see Christmas. An emergency admission at the RSCH at Brighton was planned for Monday 29 April. I duly arrived at Brighton that morning feeling apprehensive...and underwent CT scan... On Wednesday 1 May I underwent a groin insertion aortic stent at the RSCH and was out by Friday 3 May.

When you get the letter, don't ignore it, have the scan and you will probably be told that you don't have a problem. If you do have an aneurism and they want to repair...GO FOR IT. I will be enjoying this Christmas and many more to come. Thank you NHS and especially the staff at the RSCH."

ON A LIGHTER LOOK AT AGING...

...Ron Spicer sent me this joke which many of you may have heard before.

"I recently picked a new G.P. After two visits and exhaustive Lab tests, he said I was doing 'fairly well' for my age. A little concerned about that comment, I couldn't resist asking him, 'Do you think I'll live to be 90?'

He asked, 'Do you smoke tobacco, or drink beer, wine or hard liquor?'

'Not much grog these days and I don't smoke' I replied. 'I'm not doing drugs, either!'

Then he asked, "Do you eat rib-eye steaks, fatty roasts and barbecued Ribs?'

I said, 'Not much.... my former doctor said that all red meat is unhealthy.'

'Do you spend a lot of time in the sun, like playing golf, boating, sailing, surfing, hiking, bicycling , playing bowls ?'

'No, I don't,' I said.

'Do you gamble, drive fast cars, or have lots of sex?'

'No,' I said.

He looked at me and said . . .

'Then, tell me Mr Spicer, why do you want to live to you're 90?'

JOB VACANCY

Ardingly College have a vacancy for a minibus driver from September 2013. If you are interested and wish to view the job description etc, please contact me as soon as possible.

'ONE FAMILY ALL TRADES'

From Tony Mottram, (ex Sussex and NARPO member); "I head a family of building tradesmen who have been working for the past 27 years in Eastbourne and East Sussex. Having completed many successful projects, we can say that we have the experience and expertise to carry out any large or small construction or renovation project that you have in mind. For further information please contact me at *All in One Builders*, 9 Fitzmaurice Avenue, Eastbourne, Tel 01323 735298, Free Phone 0800 0935 365

BIRLING GAP HOTEL

I received the following communication from Louise Piggott of the Birling Gap Hotel which may be of interest to some of you.

"I am contacting you and your members to let you know of our new function room that will be completed in September of this year. We will be offering a range of services from simple room hire through to fully catered events to suit every budget. We plan to hold summer barbecues and cosy winter cream teas.

One of our popular events is a Fish and Chip Supper and includes a 45 minute talk from the operations manager of Birling Gap and the South Downs. This will include tea or coffee on arrival, followed by a talk and a fantastic fish and chip supper. The cost of this evening event will be £10.50 per person. (Minimum number of 30 people and a maximum of 60)."

For more information please contact Louise Piggott, Catering and Functions Supervisor, Birling Gap National Trust on 01323 422511

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/ ; selecting the heading 'Retired Officers' and 'Eastbourne and District Branch'.

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

AND FINALLY.....

I hope you all have a good Summer and keep well. Please do not hesitate to contact me via email or telephone regarding any NARPO matters.

Myself and the Committee hope to see many of you at future Social Events

Bob Diplock

Branch Secretary
Eastbourne & District NARPO
email: narpo-secretary-eastbourne@hotmail.co.uk
Tele: 01323761462

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National Association of Retired Police Officers Eastbourne & District Branch

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held at the

Fishermens Club Eastbourne at 7.15pm Monday 15th April 2013

1 Mr Keith Bowman, The Chairman, opened the meeting at 7.15pm by welcoming those attending.

2 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Tom Cramner, Michael Pollitt, Gus Holman, Monica Cranston, Mavis Newton, Tony Townsend, Janet Stevens, Jane Stoner and Rev Bob Butler

3 Obituaries

The Chairman paid tribute to the following members who had passed away during the previous year.

Mr Peter Bishop, Mrs Sylvia Hinsbey, Mr Charles (Vinnie) Stredwick, Mrs Mildred (Billie) Smith, Mr Michael Buckman, Mrs Stella Cozens, Mr Peter Spencer, Mr Peter Stoner, Mrs Hetty Russell and Mr Andrew Rawlinson.

4 New Members

The Chairman welcomed the following new members to our branch:

Stuart and Theresa Atkins, Ben and Lesley Blackman, Paul and Anna Skinner, Stephen and Lorna Williams, Steven and Joan Dumbleton, Dawn Barratt, Jonathan and Rachel Goddard, Ron and Madaline Stevens and Charles and Elaine Connaughton.

5 **AGM 16 April 2012**

The minutes of the AGM held on 16 April 2012 were agreed. Mrs Edna Osborne proposed that the minutes be accepted; Mr Alan Skinner seconded the proposal. The minutes were accepted unanimously as a true record of that meeting. The Chairman signed and dated the minutes.

6 **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from these minutes.

7 **Correspondence**

The Secretary, Bob Diplock, informed the meeting that there was no relevant correspondence that needed to be brought to the attention of the meeting. Relevant correspondence had been published via email and the quarterly Newsletter

8 **Adoption of Reports**

(i) and (ii) The Chairman and Secretary read their respective report to those present. Mr Peter Head and Mrs Liz Gardner proposed and seconded the acceptance of the Chairman's report; Mr Ray Woolston and Mr Tom Hughes proposed and seconded the acceptance of the Secretaries report.

(iii) In the absence of the outgoing treasurer, the Chairman read his report which included a certified copy of the balance sheet. The acceptance of the Treasurers report was proposed by Mr David Scott and seconded by Mr Ray Eldridge. Mrs Edna Osbourne proposed that the balance sheet be accepted. This was seconded by Mr Ray Woolston. All those present agreed to the reports being accepted.

(Copies of all the reports are attached to these minutes)

9 **Election of Officers for 2013/4**

(i) **Chairman:**

Mr Keith Bowman – proposed by Mr Tom Hughes and seconded by Mr Bob Diplock. There were no other candidates and Mr Bowman was elected unanimously

(ii) **Vice Chairman:**

Mr Kit Bentham – proposed by Mr Ken Bruce and seconded by Mr Ray Woolston. There were no other candidates and Mr Bentham was elected unanimously

(iii) **Secretary:**

Mr Bob Diplock – proposed by Mrs Edna Osborne and seconded by Mr Tom Hughes. There were no other candidates and Mr Diplock was elected unanimously

(iv) **Treasurer:**

Mr Eric Reed – proposed by Mr Peter Head and seconded by Mrs Breda Parsons. There were no other candidates and Mr Reed was elected unanimously.

(v) **Executive Committee:**

Mr Eric Osborne, Mrs Edna Osborne, Mr Ray Eldridge and Mrs Liz Gardner were proposed by Mr Ray Woolston and seconded by Mr Gerry Humphrey. Mr Brian Hinsbey was proposed by Mr Gerry Humphrey and Mrs Liz Gardner. All five candidates were unanimously elected onto the Executive Committee

(vi) **Social Chair:**

Mr Ray Eldridge – proposed by Mr Peter Head and seconded by Mrs Ruth Humphrey.

There were no other candidates and Mr Eldridge was elected unanimously.

(vii) Welfare Officer:

Mrs Liz Gardner – proposed by Mr Ray Eldridge and seconded by Mr Brian Hinsbey. There were no other candidates and Mrs Gardner was elected unanimously.

(viii) Auditor:

Mrs Edna Osborne – proposed by Mr Tom Hughes and seconded by Mrs Breda Parsons. There were no other candidates and Mrs Osborne was elected unanimously.

(ix) Social Committee:

Mrs Ruth Humphrey, Mrs Jan Steedman, Mr Keith Rigg, Mrs Gladys Walshaw, Mr Ray Eldridge and Mrs Jo Townsend – proposed by Mr Ray Woolston and seconded by Mr Tom Hughes. There were no other candidates and all six candidates were elected unanimously.

10 Election of Branch Representative:

(i) *Annual Conference at York on 13 September 2013*

Mr Keith Bowman (Chair) and Mr Bob Diplock (Secretary) – proposed by Mr Kit Bentham and seconded by Mr Eric Osborne. There were no other candidates and Messrs Bowman and Diplock were elected unanimously

(ii) *Co-ordinators Committee and No 5 Regional Meetings*

Mr Keith Bowman (Chair), Mr Bob Diplock (Secretary), Mr Eric Reed (Treasurer) and Mrs Liz Gardner (Welfare) – proposed by Mrs Edna Osborne and seconded by Mr Ray Eldridge. There were no other candidates and all four candidates were elected unanimously.

11 Any Other Business:

Social Events – A reminder for those present that the following social events had been booked;

24 May 2013 – Spring Lunch at the Hydro Hotel

24 July 2013 – ‘Nosh & Natter Nite’ at the Fishermens Club

25 November 2013 – Christmas Lunch at the Hydro Hotel

12 Half Yearly General Meeting

The next Half Yearly General Meeting will be at 7.15pm on Monday 23 September 2013 at the Fishermens Club. The date for the next Annual General Meeting was to be arranged.

7.45 pm the meeting broke for refreshments

13 Guest Speaker

At 8pm the meeting was resumed by the Chairman welcoming our guest speaker, Glenys Laws from Collective Legal Solutions. Glenys gave an entertaining, informative and interesting talk concerning Wills, beneficiaries, Power of Attorney and related matters. A number of members took up the offer of a private free consultation at a later date which is funded by NARPO nationally.

The Chairman thanked Ms Laws for attending the meeting and for her interesting presentation.

14 Raffle and Presentations

A raffle then took place followed by two presentations.

The Chairman thanked our out going President, David Scott, for his support and guidance over the years during his tenure. He was presented with an Azalea. Mr Scott thanked those present especially the volunteers whose continued efforts ensured that the Eastbourne Branch was kept alive. He wished the branch every success for the future.

The Chairman then thanked the outgoing Social Chair, Tony Townsend (who was unable to attend) for his support and efforts in arranging past social events and outings. A gift voucher was accepted by Mrs Jo Townsend on her husband's behalf.

The Chairman also thanked our out going Treasurer, Mr Patrick Johnson, who, although remaining a member of this branch, had moved to Yorkshire. A gift of voucher was making its way to him.

The 'honesty box' for the buffet raised £51 90 and the raffle raised £127.80. The Chairman thanked the Social Committee for arranging the food and raffle.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - 2012

Dear Members,

Looking back during the past year has seen the Police Service in constant and ongoing battles with those who wish to implement changes, none of us could have envisaged. For those of us in NARPO it can only strengthen our desire to protect pensions, ensure the welfare of our members and that we are fit for purpose in an ever changing world.

Throughout the year your Committee has worked tirelessly to look after and protect your needs both local, region and nationally. Our volunteer Stewards did a sterling job at our Annual Conference in Eastbourne. Our Postmen quietly and efficiently delivering newsletters and reports (now via Wakefield). The Social Committee ensuring that we had refreshments and raffles at our meetings throughout the year and all ran smoothly at our dinners. To all these band of volunteers and I'm sure from all of our membership, I would like to convey my thanks and appreciation.

A big thank you also to our President David Scott and Tony Townsend, Social Chairman, who will be stepping down at the AGM. and Pat Johnson, handing over his role as Treasurer. A big thank you also to Bob Diplock who has now been in his post as Secretary for one year. I think you will all agree he has done a marvellous job.

Our Branch continues to be strong and active and with your continuing assistance we go forward and seek the challenges facing us during the forthcoming year.

I thank you for your support and friendship throughout 2012. A Happy and Prosperous 2013 to you all.

KEITH BOWMAN

Chairman

Secretary's Annual Report 2012/2013

This is my first Annual Report since taking on the post as your Honorary Secretary. Firstly, I wish to thank Gerry and Ruth Humphrey for the help and advice they have given me during my tenure.

Sadly we have had thirteen bereavements during the last year but on the positive side we had twenty-six new members including spouses/partners.

The biggest change in 2012 has been the move forward (some may disagree!) in communication using Information Technology. Over two thirds of our 357 Branch Members have access to the internet and receive their Newsletters and correspondence via email. This method of communication radically reduces postage and printing costs. Linked to this, our Branch now has an agreement with NARPO Head Office to print and post our quarterly Newsletter at a reduced price of 30p per letter to those of our members who are without an email facility.

Copies of our Newsletters are also published on the Sussex Police Federation web-site.

I have gained authorised access to Super Sleuth which is a secure NARPO data base. This enables me to assess members' details ensuring that new addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses are kept up to date.

I am willing to stand again this year 2013 as your Honorary Secretary.

Thank you all for your support.

Bob Diplock

Honorary Secretary

'Out Going' Treasurer's Report 2012

For the final time I have the honour to present the Balance Sheet to the Annual General Meeting and to recommend its acceptance.

The Balance Sheet is straightforward and presents a healthy picture of the resources of the Branch.

Fortunately, increased membership means increased income.

The excess of income over expenditure was largely due to Conference being held at Eastbourne, thereby greatly reducing the cost of attendance by our representatives and will not be repeated in succeeding years.

Other items remain largely unchanged, but we continue to see reductions in postage with greater use of the internet and facilities for printing and circulation through the national office at Wakefield.

Patrick W Johnson

'Out Going' Treasurer

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS EASTBOURNE AND DISTRICT BRANCH

At the Annual General Meeting of the Branch held on the 15th April 2013, the following Officers and Committees were confirmed:-

CHAIRMAN	Mr. Keith Bowman, keith_bowman@sky.com	01323 506282
VICE CHAIRMAN	Mr Kit Bentham, kitbentam@btinternet.com	01323 727261
SECRETARY	Mr. Bob Diplock., narpo-secretary-eastbourne@hotmail.co.uk	01323 761462
TREASURER	Mr Eric Reed, ericreed2441@gmail.com	01323 898575
WELFARE OFFICER	Mrs. Liz Gardner lizdogsitter@yahoo.co.uk	07846 344866
SOCIAL CHAIRMAN	Mr Ray Eldridge ray.eldridge@talktalk.net	01323 508853
HONORARY PADRE:	Canon Bob Butler	01323 461135

WELFARE REPRESENTATIVES:

Eastbourne Area	Mrs. Liz Gardner, lizdogsitter@yahoo.co.uk	07846 344866
Seaford Area	Mr. Keith Rigg pamrigg@btinternet.com	01323 899360
Hailsham Area	Mr. Tom Hughes	01323 811335
Uckfield & North	Mrs. Edna Osborne	01825 764342
Bexhill Area	Mr. Mike Dean mike.wendydean@gmail.com	01424 216972

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Elected Members: Mr Eric Osborne, Mrs Edna Osborne and Mr Brian Hinsbey

Co-opted members: Mr Peter Head, Mr Tony Place and Mrs Caroline Place

SOCIAL COMMITTEE:

Mr Ray Eldridge (Chair), Mrs. Ruth Humphrey, Mr. Keith Rigg, Mrs. Jan Steedman, Mrs. Jo Townsend and Mrs. Gladys Walshaw.