

National Association of Retired Police Officers Eastbourne and District Branch

Summer 2014 - Quarterly Newsletter

Welcome to the Summer Newsletter. Let's hope that the current fine weather lasts well into the Autumn without the need for the water authorities to impose restrictions!

Repeating my comments from the Spring Newsletter, and not wishing to cause any 'domestics', but I have been asked by several spouses/partners if I could send the Newsletter to their respective email addresses as their 'other halves' are not passing the information on to them. I am more than willing to do so if you would be good enough to furnish me with their email addresses.

It is with regret that the Chairman has received the resignation of two of our stalwart Social Committee Members. Octogenarian, Ray Eldridge, is standing down as Chairman of the Social Committee as he wishes to make way for younger members with 'new ideas'. He has agreed to remain involved in the next 'nosh & natter nite' and Christmas Lunch. Keith Rigg is standing down for health reasons. Keith has endeavoured to arrange several outings but as the support has not been forthcoming these have had to be cancelled. On behalf of the Chairman I would like to thank both Ray and Keith for their hard and dedicated input to the Social Committee and the branch as a whole. Thank you.

Would you be willing to join the Social Committee and bring some fresh ideas for social events? If you are, or wish to know more about what's involved, please contact me. My contact details are at the end of this Newsletter.

Editors Opinion: The Social and General Committees do discuss at length why more members do not join in our social events. In the days before the closure of Police Clubs, by a certain Sussex Chief Constable, the social side of the organisation was popular and in some clubs, thriving. It was an important part of the ethos and camaraderie of belonging to Sussex Police. Retiring from the Police and joining NARPO brought about a continuation of the social side of the organisation. Sadly, in modern Policing, this social side of belonging to a 'great organisation' has sadly diminished if it lives at all! The original Sussex Police Sports and Social Club has been renamed by removing 'and Social' from its title. Any serving or retired Sussex Police Officer is entitled to join for a mere £20 per annum. The main function of the club is to encourage 'sections' such as Golf, fishing and similar past-times; not the organisation of Social Outings. If new and younger Members do not wish to take part in social events (as some regrettably view us as 'an old boys' club') then so be it. It would be a shame to see the Social Committee disband through lack of support.

New Members

On behalf of the Chairman and myself I would like to welcome the following new members to the Eastbourne Branch:

Debbie Upton and Tim Guyton (Sussex)
Roger and Marilyn Clarkson (Lancashire)
Bob and Sandra Casey (Sussex)
Phil and Katharine Ashby (Sussex)

Obituaries

Our thoughts and condolences to the families of the following:

Our Branch

Brian Glass at his home in Spain on 1 June (not on 31st May as circulated in my email). He leaves a widow Penney. Brian retired in 1987. At the time of his retirement he was serving at Eastbourne.

John (Jack) Cummings on 5 May 2014. He joined Eastbourne Borough Police in 1946 and retired as Superintendent at East Grinstead in 1973. He was an instructor at Sandgate and Commandant at Nutfield.

Other Branches

Frank Bryant, aged 92 years on 5th of May 2014 in the Conquest Hospital at Hastings: Frank was the Traffic Chief Inspector at Hastings when he retired in 1976. Franks funeral took place on 27 May. A Police Motor Cycle escorted the cortege

Peter Ogden of Chichester. His funeral took place on 12 June 2014

Annual General Meeting Monday 14 April 2014

The Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 14 April 2014 at the Royal Air Forces Association Club in Wish Road, Eastbourne and was attended by approximately 60 members. The venue was friendly and catered extremely well for our needs. A copy of the minutes is attached to this Newsletter.

Half Yearly General Meeting 22 September 2014

The Half Yearly General Meeting is being held at the Royal Air Forces Association Club, Wish Road, Eastbourne BN21 4NX at 7.15pm on Monday 22 September 2014. Please make an effort to attend. It's one of the few opportunities we have to meet new and 'old' colleagues. Hopefully the business side of the gathering will be fairly short to enable us all to have a beer, finger buffet and 'chin-wag'.

'nosh 'n natter nite' Wednesday 16 July 2014

A reminder that the next '**nosh'n natter nite**' is being held from 7.15pm on Wednesday 16 July 2014 at the RAFA Club in Wish Road, Eastbourne. In addition to the usual raffle, Members will be given a **free ticket to win either a £50 or £25 cash prize**. A finger buffet will be provided. These evenings are enjoyed by all so please make an effort to join us.

Spring Lunch Friday 23rd May 2014

Fifty-nine members and guests attended the Spring Lunch at the Hydro Hotel, Eastbourne on 23 May 2014. The meal and ambiance was up to the high standard that we expect. The down side was the fact that neither Sue nor myself won a raffle prize....! Thanks to Ruth Humphrey and the Social Committee for all the hard work that goes into arranging this successful event.

Christmas Lunch 28 November 2014

A reminder that the Christmas Lunch is being held at the Hydro on 28 November 2014. The menu and further details will be published in the Autumn Newsletter. Please put this date in your diary.

Social Gatherings

Except for the 'nosh and natter nite' and the Christmas Lunch, all social events planned for 2014 have been cancelled through lack of support.

As I mentioned above, the Branch is looking for volunteers to join the Social Committee. With Ray Eldridge and Keith Rigg resigning from the Committee it will leave the stalwarts Ruth Humphrey, Jo Townsend, Ray Woolston, Jan Steedman and Gladys Walshaw as the remaining members. These members work hard behind the scenes in organising our Social events such as the successful lunches and 'nosh 'n natter nites'. Why not join them and bring your fresh ideas? If you would like to know more please do not hesitate in contacting me *without obligation*?

AAA (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm) Screening

This subject is continually being brought up by NARPO and I would advise all male colleagues who have attained the age of 65 years to take up this offer of a **FREE** scan. I have and fortunately been given the 'all clear'. The scan is unobtrusive and is similar to a 'pregnancy scan'...not that I've ever experienced one! The scan is taken from the navel to the sternum and takes less than 10 minutes. The result is instant. The national programme is to invite all males during their 65th years to attend. As I was 67 when the scheme started I wasn't notified. It was up to me to request the examination.....! Many of you are in the same boat. I implore you to contact the AAA Screening Programme as soon as possible. I telephoned the number below and was given an appointment at an Eastbourne Clinic the following week.

The Aorta is the main blood vessel from the heart to the lower limbs. The blood vessel can expand to breaking point, with no warning symptoms, and causes the death of approximately 6000 men annually in the UK alone. If caught in time the problem can be resolved.

To learn more please go to www.aaa.screening.nhs.uk

DO NOT HESITATE....telephone 01273265583 and make that appointment NOW!.

Internet Scam

I am not too sure what the instigators of this scam are gaining, perhaps just your contact list, but if you receive an email from one of your contacts, even if the address looks OK, and the **heading** includes a space in one of the words such as "Formulat ed" or "NAR PO" inviting you to click on a link to access a message **do not do so**. I recommend that you contact the genuine sender and report it to them.

Senior Golf Event 2014

The next Senior Golf Event will be taking place on August 8th 2014 at Singing Hills G C.
Entry fee is £40 with a subsidy for SPGS Members.

Coffee on arrival plus prize giving lunch (smart casual) <> Place prizes plus longest drive & nearest the pins <> Tee times to be circulated 1st August - (1st tee 10am) <> 18 hole Stableford of Full Handicap <> Entrants must be 50+ on the 8 August 2014 and have been or are employees of Sussex Police <> Numbers limited so book early!

The Senior Open is for all golfers with a Competition Handicap (**VALID H/CAP CERTIFICATE MUST BE PRODUCED ON THE DAY**). Those without a Competition Handicap will battle it out for the 'All-Comers' title.

To enter the competition please send a note to **Peter Hawkes, 4 Highdown Drive, Littlehampton, BN17 6HJ (email: prh@wkes.co Mob: 07825 332261) in the following format:-**

"Please enter me in the SPGS 2014 Senior Open. I enclose a £10 deposit (cheques made payable to PR Hawkes) which is non-refundable after the 1st August 2014; withdrawal after 4th August may incur the full entry fee as tees, meals and prizes will have been confirmed.

Name: Email:

I DO / DO NOT HAVE A COMPETITION HANDICAP H/Cap:"

Job Vacancies

I have been asked by NARPO head office to remind members to visit www.narpo.org.uk/index.php/situations-vacant.html as there are a number of job vacancies on offer

NARPO/Hotpoint offer to Members

This item has been included in the national NARPO magazine but in case you missed it.... "We (NARPO) are pleased to announce a new partnership with HOTPOINT offering discounts of up to 30% on all Hotpoint and Indesit products (but ONLY on line).

The offer includes:

- Discounted appliances, and small kitchen appliances (Kettles, Toasters, etc)
- Free Nationwide delivery (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland)
- Appliances come with one year full parts and labour warranty
- Also included in the price is free uplift / disposal of the old appliance
- Optional extras include connection for all types of appliances including Gas
- There is no cost at all for use of the portal
-

Go to <http://www.narpo.org.uk/index.php/member-services.html> for more information and how to access the discounts.

The Discount code is: NARP/171"

East Sussex Constabulary Re-Union

The 10th East Sussex Constabulary Reunion is due to take place from 12 noon until 4 pm on Saturday 6th September 2014 at Barnsgate Manor, Herons Ghyll, Uckfield, East Sussex. The cost (subsidised) will be £16 per head. Please make Cheques payable to East Sussex Reunion and forward asap to Frank Perchard, c/o Police Station, North Trade Road, Battle, East Sussex.

West Sussex Police Re-Union

I've been asked to give you early notification of the next West Sussex Police reunion which will be held on 19th October 2014 at Worthing Golf Club. This is a change from the usual venue. Further details will follow nearer the date.

Where can we train our Police Dogs?

The Sussex Police Dog Unit is still currently struggling to find land and buildings to use as training venues. They are looking for locations across the county with easy access for police cars but with restricted public access. Unfortunately Sussex Police cannot offer payment, but suggest that having police dog vans present from time to time offers a visible crime deterrent. If you feel you could help in any way please email your details to dogs.sussex@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Multiple Sclerosis Society

From the Multiple Sclerosis Society: "Do you have a little time to spare for a good cause? The Eastbourne and South Wealden Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society is keen to add to its management committee, and specifically requires a Branch Treasurer. We are also looking for volunteer minibus drivers. If you would like to know more, please call Peter Austin, Branch Chairman, on 01323 736359"

The Sitakund

I have received the following email from Steve Lee, an ex Polegate Traffic Officer:

"I have been asked by a friend, Geoff Davey, an ex Eastbourne Fireman, if it would be possible to circulate a request for assistance through the local NARPO members concerning the fire aboard the tanker Sitakund off Eastbourne in Oct 1968.

Geoff is making a video presentation of the story of the fire. I have seen some of the production to date. It's very well researched and presented.

Geoff has traced a number of persons who had an input into the incident from the Fire Service and other local individuals but would like to also involve the recollections from Police officers who were on duty and involved in the incident. There is a classic photograph of one PC Ray Woolston with a loudhailer which was published in the Eastbourne Herald.

Should anyone be able and willing to provide memories or have any memorabilia can I suggest they either contact me at stevelee318@yahoo.co.uk or Geoff at davey418@talktalk.net "

I have made Ray Woolston aware of this email.

How to find this Newsletter on the Internet

This, and earlier Newsletters, 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'. 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/

Newsletter Editor

I am *still* looking for a volunteer to take over as Editor of this Newsletter. If you are interested, or wish to know more, please give me a call without commitment (I promise!).

And a little 'Good news – bad news' humour...

"I have good news and bad news," the defence lawyer informed his client. "What's the bad news?" his client asks. The lawyer replies, "Your blood matches the DNA found at the murder scene." "Dammit!" cries the client. "What's the good news?" "Well," the lawyer says, "Your cholesterol is down to 3.8."

And finally...

Is it true that a retired husband is a wife's full time job?

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

My Kind regards,

Bob Diplock

Branch Secretary
Eastbourne
Tele: 01323761462
Email: narpo-secretary-eastbourne@hotmail.co.uk

National Association of Retired Police Officers Eastbourne & District Branch

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Royal Airforces Association Club Eastbourne at 7.15pm Monday 14th April 2014

- 1 Mr Keith Bowman, The Chair, opened the meeting at 7.15pm by welcoming those attending. Mr Bowman introduced the Branch secretary of the RAFA Club, Iris Diamond, who welcomed Members to the Club and wished us all an enjoyable evening.
- 2 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Eric Osborne, Eric Newton, Kit Bentham, Bob Jardine, Alan Skinner, Keith and Pam Rigg, Nick Wilkinson, Breda Parsons, Ken Bruce, Drew Stewart, Mrs Gear, Gladys Walshaw and Monica Cranston.
- 3 **Obituaries**

Canon Bob Butler led the meeting in prayer and paid tribute to the following members who had passed away since the last AGM:

Davis Scott, Margaret Hampton, Mrs M Weeks and Joyce Shoobridge.
- 4 **New Members**

The Chairman welcomed the following new members who had joined Eastbourne Branch since the last AGM:

Adam and Venessa Evans (Sussex)	Barry & Sue Mitchell (Sussex)
Jon and Rachel Goddard (Sussex)	John and Joanna Bishop (Sussex)
Nick and Julie Dimmer (Sussex)	Eugene and Mary McAlonan (Mets) re-joining
Mark and Lee Stevens (Additional - SOCA)	Peter Poulson and Frie Hinchcliffe (Sussex)
John Biles (transfer from Berkshire)	Katrina Smith & Iain Lowe (Metropolitan)
Michael and Alison Bassett (Sussex)	Keith and Susan Mates (Additional)
Peter Hunt (Associate Member)	
- 5 **AGM 15 April 2013**

The minutes of the AGM held on 15 April 2013, which had previously been circulated, were accepted unanimously as a true record of that meeting. The Chair 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

The Chair's, Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports had been circulated to all Members in the recent Newsletter and were not re-read at the meeting. All reports were unanimously approved and accepted.

(Mr Ian Potter, the National President, entered the meeting apologising for his late arrival having been held up in heavy traffic)

** 11(iii) Membership Classification Interpretation

** It was decided by the Chair and Secretary that Item 11(iii) should be discussed before the re-election of Members of the Committee.

The Secretary outlined the problems that he and other Branch Secretaries were having in interpreting Rule 4 in relation to what status in the Branch spouses/partners of Additional and Associate Members hold. He had sought guidance from Clint Elliott, the National Chief Executive, who suggested that until the National Rules are re-written it is a decision for individual Branches on how they wish to interpret this particular Rule. The Strategic Planning Group of the NEC was looking into the Rules of the Association and in particular Rule 4.

The Secretary asked the Members to agree to the following:

- (i) that until Rule 4 is changed nationally, the Eastbourne Branch accept spouses and partners of Additional Members as Additional Members
and
- (ii) that until Rule 4 is changed nationally, the Eastbourne Branch accept spouses and partners of Associated Members as Associate Members.

The Members present agreed with this interpretation of Rule 4.

9 Election of Officers for 2013/4

In the absence of the Vice-Chair, the Secretary took the Chair for the election of the Chair.

(i) Chair:

Mr Keith Bowman – proposed by Mr Dick Burcham and seconded by Mr Gerry Humphrey. There were no other candidates and Mr Bowman was elected unanimously.

Mr Bowman took the Chair and read out the names of Members who had agreed to stand as Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Committee, Social Chair, Welfare Officer and Auditor and suggested that if there were no objections these members could be proposed, seconded and elected by a single vote. This was agreed.

Mrs Osborne informed the Chair that Eric was standing down from the Committee.
(The Chair, on behalf of the Branch would like to thank Eric Osborne for his commitment to the Branch over the years and wished him well)

The posts and names were as follows:

(ii) Vice Chair:

Mr Kit Bentham

(iii) Secretary:

Mr Bob Diplock

(iv) Treasurer:

Mr Eric Reed

(v) **Executive Committee:**

Mr Brian Hinsbey, Tony and Caroline Place, Peter Head, Keith Mates, John Goddard and Nick Dimmer.

(i) **Social Chair:**

Mr Ray Eldridge

(vii) **Welfare Officer:**

Mrs Liz Gardner

(viii) **Auditor:**

Mrs Edna Osborne

(ix) **Social Committee:**

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

There were no other candidates wishing to stand. The full list was proposed by Dick Burcham and Seconded by Peter Head and unanimously agreed

10 Election of Branch Representative:

(i) *Annual Conference at Brighton on 5 September 2014*

Delegate: Mr Keith Bowman (Chair) proposed by Bob Diplock and seconded by Mr Ray Woolston. There were no other candidates and Mr Bowman was elected unanimously.

Observers: Mrs Kay Bowman, Mr Mike Pope, Mr Roger Needham and Mrs Edna Osborne. These four Members were proposed by Dick Burcham and seconded by Mr Eric Reed and agree unanimously by those present.

(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 Mr Keith Mates and seconded by Mr Gerry Humphrey. There were no other candidates and all four candidates were elected unanimously.

11 Any Other Business:

(i) *National Updates*

Mr Bowman offered the floor to The National President, Mr Ian Potter.

Mr Potter covered a number of subjects in his 20 minute presentation including the problems and ambiguities in the National Rules and confirmed that it was on the NEC agenda to look into all the Association's Rules.

Mr Potter enlightened the meeting on a recent comment made in a National Paper by Tom Winsor inferring that "Police Officers of thirty years ago were not as honest as today's Police". NARPO has responded to this and demanded an apology. A reply is awaited.

Mr Potter informed the meeting that NARPO nationally have close links with similar national organisation and are a strong force to be reckoned with.

Mr Potter confirmed that Linder Myers is now 'OK' and that Roland Smith was now owned by The Police Mutual.

Mr Bowman thanks Mr Potter for attending and updating the meeting on National matters.

(ii) Social Events

(a) Mr Ray Eldridge reported that the recent 'free coach trip' through the local countryside to Paradise Park at Newhaven was not well supported although the 18 Members and friend enjoyed it.

(b) The Ten Pin Bowling evening planned for 7 May was still ongoing although there was a lack of response from members. The latest date for notifying Mr Eldridge was 30 April and if not supported the event would be cancelled.

© The next 'nosh & natter nite' was planned for Wednesday 16 July although the venue had not been confirmed. Following the success of the AGM it would more than likely be held at the RAFA Club.

(d) The trip to Teapot Island had been arranged for 12 June 2014. Mr Eldridge handed out leaflets concerning the Teapot Island venue.

(e) Mr Eldridge reminded members that the Spring Lunch was being held at the Hydro on Friday 23 May 2014 and any Member wishing to attend should inform Ruth Humphrey after the meeting.

(iii) See above

12 Half Yearly General Meeting

The next Half Yearly General Meeting will be at 7.15pm on Monday 22 September 2014. The venue to be arranged. (Confirmed as RAFA Club)

The date and venue for the 2015 Annual General Meeting was to be arranged.

The meeting closed at 8.15 followed by a finger buffet and raffles.

Additional Notes:

(1) The 'honesty box' for the buffet raised £33 and the raffle raised £79.)

(2) Following the meeting the Chairman and Secretary discussed this venue with several members all of whom were in favour of using these premises in the future as an alternative to the Fishermens Club.