

National Association of Retired Police Officers

Eastbourne and District Branch

Summer 2016 - Quarterly Newsletter

I hope this Newsletter finds you all well and enjoying your vacations and cruises around the world! I hope the Brexit vote hasn't affected your exchange rates too heavily.

There is very little to report in this Newsletter although sadly there have been five obituaries in our branch and fifteen in other Sussex Branches in the last three months. Our thoughts go to all the families. Those members on email will be aware of these obituaries.

There are four social events planned for the remainder of the year. These are the 'nosh & natter nite', a tour of Biddeden Wineyard, Christmas Lunch and a visit to Polhill Garden Centre. Full details are set out later in this Newsletter. Please support these events whenever you can.

Keith Bowman, our Chairman, and myself will be taking part in a working party to discuss the future of Sussex NARPO Branches and the feasibility of amalgamation. This has been brought about because some of the Sussex branches can no longer fill the Executive posts of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Welfare Office. Without these posts being filled, the Branches could be forced to 'fold'. The purpose of this working party is enable the six branches to pre-empt any 'forced closure' and look towards amalgamation on agreeable terms to all. Amalgamations have been successful in other areas. We would continue to retain our identity and be responsible for Social events and Welfare. I will, of course, keep Members updated.

Obituaries

Eastbourne & District

Ruth Humphrey passed away on 15 April 2016. As many of you know, Ruth and her late husband, Gerry, were stalwarts of Eastbourne & District Branch. Ruth was Gerry's 'right hand man' during his 17 years as branch secretary. Ruth was the Social Secretary for a number of years. They were both Life Members.

Barry MASSEY aged 74yrs passed away on 29 April 2016. He leaves a Widow, Daphne.

Dawn Butler (wife of our member Alan Butler) passed away on 4 May 2016.

Colin Napier passed away on 17 May 2016. Colin served in Eastbourne.

Andy Coleman age 58 years passed away 8 May 2016. He leaves a widow, Karen.

Hastings & District

Douglas Catt aged 74 passed away on 23 May 2016. Many will remember him as the Detective Sergeant at Rye.

Linda Histed (nee Lusty) passed away on 21 April 2016. Linda worked for the AA before joining the police. In 1993 Linda became the 'Village Bobby' at Ninfield where she served until she retired in 2000.

John Miles, age 85, passed away on 12 May 2016. On leaving school, he joined the Royal Marines, as a boy entrant. He met and married his wife Jean, when he was 19. Following Military Service he worked on the Railways later joining Hastings Borough Police. John was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and served his last few years as the Crime Prevention Sergeant at Hastings. He was also for many years the welfare

representative at Hasting for both serving and retired officers. He retired in 1981. He also worked as a Bailiff at the Law Courts in Hastings and then subsequently managed a security business in Ore Village, Hastings for a former colleague. He and Jean set up their own security business in Bohemia Road, Hastings, which they ran for some 13 years.

North Branch

Ian Hands aged 68 years passed away on 1 June 2016. Ian joined Sussex Police in October 1974 and served at both Crawley and Gatwick as a Constable. Ian, whilst serving at Crawley, was for some time the Collator and during the last years of his service worked on the Divisional Intelligence Unit. He retired from Sussex Police in October 1999.

Chichester

Les Garrett QPM passed away on 31 May 2016. Les served in the Metropolitan Police, retiring in the rank of Commander.

Worthing

Evan Hutson aged 79 years passed away on 28 June 2016. Evan joined Wiltshire Police on 1964 working at Swindon on beat duties and Trowbridge as a traffic motorcyclist. He then transferred to Sussex Police in January 1974 working on Traffic Patrol, Accident investigation and beat duties at Worthing. He also specialised in plan drawing for major incidents and Royal visits. Evan retired in March 1994 and worked as a warrant officer for the Magistrates Court until 2001.

Keith Boddington passed on Tuesday 21 June 2016. There will be a service at 11am on the 15 of July at the Extra-Mural Chapel, Extra Mural Cemetery, Lewes Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 3QB. This will be followed at 12pm with a burial at Lawns Memorial, Warren Rd, Brighton BN2 6DD. All are welcome to attend the burial; family flowers only. Donations can be made to Cancer Research UK. The wake is to be held at the family home. To help the family with catering needs, if you wish to attend please email jadepaine@hotmail.co.uk

John Stoner, age 83, passed away on 10 May 2016. He leaves a wife Beryl, to whom he was married for 61 years. He joined West Sussex Constabulary in 1955 after completing National service with the RAF where he served in Rhodesia. He completed 25 years' service in the police starting in Horsham. He became a CID officer serving at Worthing and Lancing where he completed his service in Commercial Branch. He retired in 1979.

Leslie (Sandy) Laker aged 91. Les joined the West Sussex Constabulary in 1948 and performed duties at Worthing, Littlehampton and Bognor Regis, where he served in the rank of Inspector retiring in 1980.

Peter Whitehouse (no further details)

Ruby Randle passed away on 29 April 2016. Ruby was the wife of Tony Randle who retired in 1987.

Graham (Jeff) Jeffery passed away on 18 June 2016. Jeff was from the Isle of Wight, but joined the West Sussex Constabulary as a cadet and lived in accommodation at Chichester Police Station. He was a very popular cadet and a keen footballer. He became PC 109 Jeffery in 1963 and after initial training at Sandgate was posted to Bognor Regis. He then worked at Rustington and Angmering. He married Anita and after about ten years police service, moved to Australia. After some years he returned to the Isle of Wight but didn't re-join the police.

Derek Goodman, age 93, passed away on the 7 June 2016. Derek served for 25 years in Brighton.

Brighton

John Batley. John joined Greater Manchester Police on the 9 October 1966 where he served until 1981 in Uniform Patrol, CID and Mounted Branch. From 1981 to 1996 upon transfer to Sussex Police he served in the Mounted Branch, Special Branch and Uniform Patrol.

John Bostock aged 87 years passed away on 31 May 2016. John retired from Sussex Police in 1976 and was well known in the Lewes and 'the old' East Sussex area

Non NARPO

Brian Gregory aged 82 passed away on 9 May 2016. Brian was Head of Facilities for Sussex Police Street.

East Sussex Police (Pre 1968) Re-Union

I received the following email from Terry Morford:

“The time is now approaching for the Bi-annual reunion for members of the former East Sussex Constabulary which will take place on Saturday 3rd September between 12 noon and 4 p.m. at Barnsgate Manor Vineyard, Herons Ghyll, Uckfield, East Sussex. TN22 4DB. There will be a full buffet lunch and bar facilities. The cost will be £15.00 per person with cheques payable to East Sussex Police Reunion. Your confirmation of attendance and cheque payment to be forwarded to Terry Morford, 6 Lime Close, Uckfield, T22 1TE. Tel: 01825 768524; e-mail termor82@gmail.com Please book your places by Monday 27th August, 2016.

Hazel Lane (Waters) and I have agreed to undertake the arranging of like occasions and we look forward to seeing you on the day. If you know of any other former colleagues, wives or family members who have not previously attended please let us know with their contact details. We will be providing name tabs to be displayed on the day to include Christian and Surnames. Please give us this detail with your reply.”

Bombing – asbestos related illnesses

“Sussex Police is working with ambulance and fire colleagues to trace those who worked at the scene of the Brighton bombing in 1984. It is possible that they may have been potentially exposed to asbestos within debris of The Grand hotel. I am leading an emergency services group co-ordinating the effort. We are trying to identify and inform emergency service colleagues and others who may have been exposed to asbestos fibres to offer medical advice and support. I understand that on hearing this news people may be anxious as to whether they have been exposed to asbestos and concerned about the possible effects on their health. I would like to emphasise that the possibility that they have been affected is very small but I feel it is the right thing to pass this information on. People could have potentially been exposed to asbestos fibres within the hotel debris and while we know that police officers working at the scene were issued with personal protective equipment, this was some days after the explosion. I feel I have an ethical duty to identify and inform people now as we have become aware that a Metropolitan police officer, who had worked at the scene, sadly died from an asbestos-related disease in December last year. While the chances are small that people were exposed at any length to asbestos, we want to offer reassurance and health advice.

We are sending letters to a number of partner agencies including the city council, Brighton and Sussex University Hospital NHS Trust and Conservative Party members as well as local hotels and businesses. This will let them know that their staff may have been affected at that time and tell what we are doing to support our own officers who may be concerned about the possible effects on their health. Sussex Police is offering its officers health information and support, providing them with a letter to be given to their GP as well as answers to some questions they might have.

By publicising this issue, I don't wish to cause distress but inform people so they can seek health advice from their GP and to reassure them that the possibility that they have been affected is very small.

ACC Steve Barry”

Social Events

ALL our outings and social gathering are open to your guests.

The ‘Nosh and Natter nite’ starts at 7.15pm on Tuesday 12 July 2016 at The Fishermans Club. Kevin Gordon is booked as speaker for the evening. Kevin is a retired British Transport Police Officer with a fascination about the history of the Police. He has been actively researching the history of policing the railways and the Sussex Police.

Biddenden Vineyards Coach Trip has been arranged for Friday 16 September 2016. Lynns Travel have reserved 20 seats for NARPO. This will include a guided tour and wine tasting with free time in Tenterden. The cost is £18.75 which is a £1 discount on the full cost. Lynns require numbers as soon as possible and no later than the middle of July. Pick-up points to be arranged. If you are interested please complete the form below and forward it to Caroline Place at 26 Medway, Hailsham BN27 3HF. Alternatively, you can email Caroline at tonycaroline@btinternet.com

Payment can be made by internet transfer (BACS) to NARPO Social Account Sort Code 52 41 00 Account No 40312755 using your surname and initial as the reference. If you wish to pay by cheque please make it payable to Eastbourne & District NARPO and forward it to Caroline.

Christmas Lunch - A reminder for your diary that the Christmas Lunch at the Hydro Hotel is on Friday 25 November 2016. The full menu will be published in the Autumn Newsletter. There is a price increase of £1 per person making the cost £21 each. Well worth it.

Polhill Garden Centre - Another trip is being arranged to visit Polhill Garden Centre. The date has not yet been set but will probably be in early December in readiness for Christmas. This proved to be a popular trip last year and it is hoped that this year's will also be well supported.

Holiday Accommodation

The Police Federation have negotiated a discounted offer with the db San Antonio Hotel & Spa in Malta. This offer is open to all Serving and Retired police staff. Proof of Identification/Employment will be required at booking and/or check in.

“db Hotels + Resorts introduces you to its Moorish style all-inclusive hotel, the db San Antonio Hotel + Spa, Malta, situated in the heart of the Mediterranean Sea. It is one of the largest hotels in Malta, with over 500 rooms and suites, 5 restaurants with culinary tastes from around the world, bars, outdoor pools, Spa and fitness centre. The hotel is situated in the northern part of the Maltese Islands, right in the heart of Qawra, St. Paul's Bay. Sandy beaches, bars, restaurants, casino, national aquarium, public transport, shops and all other amenities are within walking distance.... For more information please visit www.sussexpolfed.org/dbhotels”

And now a little humour....

....after much nagging from his wife, Sam visited the audiologist. Yes, he would need hearing aids and they ranged in price from £10 to £2000. Sam selected the £10 option. The nurse placed the hearing aids into his ears and hung a wire around his neck. “Does the wire really have to be so visible around my neck?” he asked. “Of course” replied the nurse. “You don't really believe that these cheap ten quid things in your ears do anything? It's the wire around your neck – it encourages people to shout!”

A reminder that this and previous Newsletters for most of Sussex NARPO Branches can be found at www.sussexpolfed.org following the links to Retired Officers and 'clinking' on the Branch name.

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

Enjoy the remainder of 'the Summer',

My Kind regards,

Bob Diplock

Branch Secretary
Eastbourne & District NARPO

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Please complete this form and forward it to Caroline Place as soon as possible

Biddenden Vineyards Coach Trip

Friday 16 September 2016.

£18.75 per person

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

Name.....

Name.....

Name.....

Preferred pick-up point

Cheque enclosed in sum of

OR

The sum of £.....transferred by BAC

Please forward this form to Caroline Place at 26 Medway, Hailsham BN27 3HF with your cheque made payable to Eastbourne & District NARPO.

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