

National Association of Retired Police Officers Eastbourne and District Branch

Autumn 2013 - Quarterly Newsletter

Dear Members,

Welcome to the Autumn's edition of your Newsletter. Some branches cancelled this quarters Newsletter through lack of news. Apparently, not a lot happens during the Summer months! Nevertheless, I cannot believe that Summer is over and that the nights are pulling in. I am one of those creatures who suffers from the dreaded Winter Blue Syndrome. I could quite easily pack my suitcase and migrate to sunnier climes.

It was sad news that Mrs Pat Evans, wife of our National President, Eric Evans, passed away on 5 September. Eric has stood-down from his Presidency.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ian Potter on being elected the new National President of NARPO. Ian, together with Graham Alexander, is our representative for No 5 Region on the Executive Committee.

Later in this Newsletter I will be giving you details of our 'Christmas' Luncheon. Ruth Humphrey and your Social Committee do put a lot of work into arranging this function so please, please support this enjoyable event.

OBITUARIES

There have been a number of obituaries and our thoughts go to the families. I include other branch obituaries as many of our Sussex members, such as myself, moved around the county during their service.

Eastbourne Branch Members

Mrs M Weeks on 10 Aug 2013

Other Sussex Branches Members

Frederick Turner on 1 July 2013 at the age of 95 years. Before serving in North Africa and Italy with the Royal Military Police during WW2 he had joined the West Sussex Constabulary to where he returned on demob. He served at various stations including Ferring, Midhurst, Petworth, Worthing and retired as Chief Superintendent at Chichester. During his time at Chichester he kept his association with RMP by helping to organise the yearly RMP march.

Bob Apps on 5 July 2013.

Gerry Cannan on 15 August 2013.

Anthony (Tony) Towgood on 7 July 2013 aged 66 years. He served at Hove and Bexhill

Myrtle Virgo on Thursday 29 August 2013 aged 78 years. Myrtle was a Police Woman Sergeant in the former Brighton Force where she served throughout her service

Wendy Bridger (wife of John Bridger - Worthing Branch) on the 9th August 2013.

Robert Harry Gowland on Thursday 1 August 2013 aged 87 years. Robert joined West Sussex Constabulary in 1950 and served in Worthing, Cyprus and again at Worthing before retiring in 1977.

Peter Chorlton on 25 September 2013 aged 85 years. His funeral service will take place at 3pm on Tuesday 8 October 2013 at Kent & Sussex Crematorium, Benhall Mill Road, Tunbridge Wells. The family would welcome friends and former colleagues. Family Flowers only, but donations to either of the Friends of the Irvine Unit, Bexhill Hospital, Holliers Hill, Bexhill or Blue Cross Animal charity, Northiam, East Sussex c/o The funeral directors are Perigoe & Sons at Northiam.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are still looking for new Committee 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 on a continual recruiting drive so beware of that 'cold call' from me!

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I am 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.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Christmas Lunch

The Christmas Lunch is again being held at the Hydro Hotel on Friday 29 November 2013. Reception is 12.30pm for 1.30pm. Those of you who have previously attended this and the Spring Lunch will know what an excellent venue this is. Please make every effort to attend this function and meet up with old and new friends, partake in excellent food, enjoy a small Christmas 'favour' and try your luck in the draw? This event is not restricted to NARPO members so why not bring a guest or two? The price is the same as last year at £20 per head.

If you wish to attend, and I hope as many as possible will, please complete the pro forma at the end of this newsletter. For those of you who receive this by email and have difficulty printing the pro forma please let me know. Alternatively, create your own pro forma.

The closing date is 15 November but please make your booking now whilst it's still fresh in your mind by returning the form to Mrs Ruth Humphrey at 53 Rotunda Road, Eastbourne BN23 6FL together with a cheque made payable the Eastbourne NARPO Social Section.

Menu

<i>Starter</i>	<i>Cauliflower and Cheddar Cheese Soup with Chives</i> <i>Parisienne Melon and Diced Kiwi in a Madori Liquor Physallis</i> <i>Lime Marinated Salmon Tatar, Avocado Puree and Balsamic Oil</i> *****
<i>Main Course</i>	<i>Traditional Roast Turkey with Chestnut, Apricot and Thyme Stuffing</i> <i>Wrapped Chipolata and a Cranberry Puff Pastry</i> <i>Char Grilled Pork Steak with Coarse Grain Mustard Mash, Apple Puree</i> <i>and Sage Jus</i> <i>Steamed Fillet of Cod on Stir-Fried Vegetables and Parsley Cream Sauce</i>
<i>Vegetarian</i>	<i>Rosemary Roasted Vegetable and Saffron Risotto and Mixed Leaf Salad</i> ***** <i>All Main Courses with Seasoned Vegetables, Roast and New Potatoes</i> *****
<i>Desert</i>	<i>Traditional Plum Pudding with an Amaretto Sauce</i> <i>Vanilla Choux Ring with Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream</i> <i>Chocolate and Grand Marnier Mousse Chocolate Orange Sauce</i> <i>Warm Mince Pies with Fresh Chantilly Cream, Vanilla Ice Cream</i> <i>or Traditional English Custard</i> ***** <i>Freshly Brewed Coffee and Mints</i>

EASTBOURNE BOROUGH REUNION

A reminder that the next Eastbourne Borough Police Re-union is being held at the Hydro Hotel on Saturday 2 November 2013 commencing at 7pm. If you have not already informed Dave Smith that you will be attending, please do so as soon as possible. Dave's contactable at dsmith84@sky.com or on 01323763255

Eastbourne Borough Police

What a motley crew...but
they kept Eastbourne safe!



Other branches...

It was interesting discussing activities and outings organised by other branches when I attended the recent NARPO Conference and wondered whether we had the enthusiasm in our branch to be a little more adventurous? Are you all happy with our functions consisting solely of our Christmas/Spring Lunches and occasional 'nosh & natter nite'? Some branches arrange tickets to local and London theatres, short UK and European breaks and visits to places of interest. If we could guarantee, say, a minimum of 30 members and guests we could possibly arrange such outings and perhaps link up with other organisations. Give it some thought and let myself, Keith (our Chairman) or the Social Committee know.

NARPO Conference 2013

Details of the Conference will be published in the next NARPO Magazine but I thought I would mention the following. During the morning debated on 'Pensions and Propaganda' the panel consisted of Neil Duncan-Jordan of the National Pensioners Convention, Malcolm Booth of the National Federation of Occupational Pensioners and Brian Sturtevant of the Public Service Pensioners Council. These three organisation set out to help and campaign on behalf of the 9.2 million UK Pensioners. They each have their own website and I would recommend all of our members who have access to the internet to visit and register. **None of our pensions are safe!**

National Pensioners Convention – npcuk.org

National Federation of Occupational Pensions – nfop.org.uk

Public Service Pensioners Council – publicservicepensioners.org.uk

Was it any surprise that the Pensions Minister, Steven Webb, declined NARPO's invitation to take part - again?

HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING

Our Half Yearly General Meeting was held at the Fishermens Club on 23 September 2013. It was disappointing that only 32 members attended. I have attached a copy of the minutes at the end of this Newsletter. Following a suggestion from the floor, the Chairman agreed that the Committee would continue to look for alternative venues. The lack of Disabled facilities to the first floor did pose a problem to some of our members. Please let me know if there are other venues that you can suggest which would have ample parking, easy access and inexpensive to hire?

SUSSEX POLICE SENIOR GOLF EVENT 9 DECEMBER 2013

The Sussex Police Senior Golf Event will be taking place at Lewes GC on 9th December 2013. The details that I have been given are as follows (and will probably make more sense to golfers than they do to me!)

“18 hole Stableford of Full/handicap: Festive Prizes + NTD & LD: Players to be/have been Sussex Police Employees and are 50+ on 9 December 2013: 9am Full breakfast: First Tee-off 10am. Tee times to be circulated on 2 December: £30 (£11 to full members of Lewes GC).

If you are interested please send an application with your name, email and handicap to Peter Hawkes, 4 Highdown Drive, Littlehampton BN17 6HJ”

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL - 'UK OLDER PEOPLES DAY'

ESCC produce a brochure called 'Events Programme for the over 50s'. It lists activities such as senior badminton, aqua aerobics, IT classes, short walks, scenic minibus tours to name a few. Many of these activities are free. Outings have included a visit to Buckingham Palace for £10 which included coach and entrance fee. If you are interested visit [eastsussex.gov.uk/contact us](http://eastsussex.gov.uk/contact-us) or eastsussex.gov.uk/olderpeoplesday or write to **ESCC, County Hall, St Annes Crescent, Lewes BN7 1UE** or telephone **03456080190**

HOLIDAY OFFER

Peter Hayward, a member of our Chichester Branch, is offering his apartment next to the established Villamartin urbanisation and golf course complex near Torrevieja on the Costa Blanca at a discount to NARPO members. Peter informs me that he is also able to provide golfing holiday packages. If you wish to know more please visit his website at <http://www.holidaylettings.co.uk/rentals/villamartin/371507> (I have no contact telephone number)

WHILST ON THE SUBJECT OF FOREIGN CLIMES....

Several members will be aware that Sue and I lived on the Greek island of Crete for three years and not wishing to bore you with photographs and stories but I thought these two photos will put you off drinking local wine in any country! During the three years we lived there I've helped to harvest the olives, watched the process of making olive oil (and drank it neat!) and witnessed the distilling of tsikoudia (raki) which is made from the pomace of the grapes used in wine making. But this was a first for me - 'grape treading!



I had to wash my feet and lower limbs with the equivalent of 'Fairy Washing Up Liquid' which prevents any soapy taste ruining the wine. A carafe of local 'vino' will never be the same again!

On a serious note, don't be put off from holidaying on the Greek islands such as Crete because of news items showing riots in Athens. Liken the unrest there to the riots in London; we all felt fairly safe in Eastbourne whilst they were going on! Greece has problems and austerity measures are affecting them all. The islands are still extremely safe with low crime rates as long as you stay away from the notorious resorts such as Malia in Crete.

HUMOUR....

The following joke was submitted by Ron Spicer and entitled *GORDON THE ROOSTER*

Tony, the farmer, was in the fertilised egg business. He had several hundred young laying hens (pullets) and eight or ten roosters.

Tony kept records and any rooster that didn't perform went into the soup pot. That took an awful lot of his time so he bought a set of tiny bells and attached one to each rooster. Each bell had a different tone so Tony could tell from a distance which rooster was performing and whether or not they were chasing or on top of matters. Now Gordon could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report simply by listening to the bells.

Farmer Tony's favourite rooster was old Gordon, and a very fine specimen he was too. But on this particular morning Tony noticed old Gordon's bell hadn't rung at all so he went to investigate. All the other roosters were chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing. The pullets, hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover. But to farmer Tony's amazement, Gordon had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring. He'd sneak up on a pullet, do the business and walk on to the next one.

Tony was so proud of Gordon, he entered him in the West Berks County Fair and Gordon became an overnight sensation among the judges. The result was the judges not only awarded Gordon the *No Bell Peace Prize* but they also awarded him the *Pulletsurprise* as well.

Clearly Gordon was a politician in the making: Who else but a politician could figure out how to win two of the most highly coveted awards on our planet by being the best at sneaking up on the populace and sc.....g them when they weren't paying attention?

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....

Although there's no sign of one, let's hope for an Indian Summer!

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

National Association of Retired Police Officers Eastbourne and District Branch

Minutes of the Half Yearly General Meeting 7.15pm Monday 23rd September 2013

1 The Chairman, Mr Keith Bowman, opened the meeting by welcoming all those present.

2 **APOLOGIES**

32 members attended. Apologies were received from Mike and Wendy Dean, Tim Mottram, Keith and Pam Rigg, Mavis Newton and Tony Townsend

3 **TRIBUTE TO PAST MEMBERS**

The Chairman asked those present to stand in silent tribute to members who had past away since the last meeting. Mrs Pat Evans (wife of our National President, Eric Evans), Roy Kellar and Derek Wilkinson both ex-Sussex serving members. Thoughts were also offered to the families of other retired and serving officers who had lost their lives during the last year.

4 **NEW MEMBERS**

The Chairman welcomed the following new Members (all ex-Sussex Officers) and hoped to see them at future Social events:

David and Julie Cocklin, Nick and Kim Wilkinson, Sarah Earl, Bob and Jacqueline Brown

5 **MINUTES OF THE HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING 25 SEPTEMBER 2012**

These had previously been circulated.

6 **MATTERS ARISING**

As there were no matters arising, the Chairman duly signed and dated the minutes.

7 **SOCIAL, WELFARE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(i) **Social Matters:**

Mr Eldridge presented a brief report on behalf of the Social Committee. The numbers at the Spring Lunch and 'Nosh & Natter Nite' were down but those that attended had enjoyed both events. Suggestions for 2014 included a Paddle Boat Steamer trip on the Medway followed by a visit to a 'Teapot Exhibition', an indoors games night, and a 'grumpies night' at a local pub. The Social Section are hoping that a few more suggestions for outings would come from members.

Mr Eldridge reminded members that the Christmas Lunch at the Hydro was on Friday 29 November 2013 and remained at £20 per head. Full details would be published in the next Newsletter.

Dates for the Spring and Christmas Lunches for 2014 have been booked again at the Hydro. These are 23 May and 28 November respectively. The next 'nosh & natter nite' would be held in July 2014 (date to be arranged).

The Chairman thanked the Social Committee for their efforts and asked members to support these social events.

(ii) Welfare Matters:

Mrs Liz Gardner, Welfare Officer, reported that there had been few welfare matters in recent months. Mrs Gardner was pleased to inform the meeting that she had assisted Carol Collins in arranging for a stair-lift to be installed in her home for Sam. Mrs Gardner had visited David Scott at home. David is now having difficulty with his mobility.

(iii) Financial Matters:

Mr Eric Reed, the Treasurer, confirmed that the Branch funds were healthy and on par with 2012. (A balance sheet would be available at the end of this year).

8 ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013

The Chairman informed Members that he and the Secretary attended the recent NARPO Annual Conference in York. The theme was '*Pensions and Propaganda*'. A full report will be published in the next NARPO magazine.

There were 351 voting members in attendance. Keith Bowman was elected as a Conference Scrutineer for 5 Region; and together with Amed Ramiz (North Branch) as Reserves to the Executive Committee again representing 5 Region.

The day following the Conference the National Executive Committee elected Ian Potter as the new National Chairman; and Mr Brian Burdus as Vice-Chairman. Ian Potter is one of the two representatives for 5 Region on the Executive Committee. Mr Bowman read out a memo from Ian Potter stating how delighted he was in being elected and thanking members for his support. Mr Bowman sent a congratulatory email to him on our behalf.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary had no correspondence to report.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) A discussion then ensued when Mr Alan Meppham questioned why our meetings were held at the Fishermens Club and not elsewhere? The Chairman responded by stating that the Club was central, there was ample free parking and there was no cost to the Branch for the use of the first floor function room. It was a valid point that access to the function room was restricted as the club had insufficient funds to replace the stair-lift.

The Chairman agreed to the Committee looking at other venues but asked for suggestions from Members.

(ii) Mr Gus Hollman asked if there were any developments on the suggestion that Branches may be amalgamated. The Chairman confirmed that as far as this Branch was concerned that this was not a possibility in the foreseeable future.

(iii) The Chairman asked if any Members were willing to take on the responsibility of becoming the Newsletter Editor to assist the Secretary with his work load. No volunteer was forthcoming.

The date for the next Half Yearly General Meeting had not been fixed and would be circulated in due course.

11 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chairman again thanked those for attending and closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

The Buffet and raffle followed. The Raffle made a profit of £64. The 'honesty box' £27.

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

Christmas Lunch 29 November 2013

Please complete this pro forma by circling your choices and forwarding it to Mrs Ruth Humphrey,
53 Rotunda Road, Eastbourne, BN23 6LF with a cheque for £20 each.

Name Phone No.....

Soup / Melon / Salmon

Turkey / Pork / Cod / Vegetarian

Plum Pudding / Choux Ring / Mousse / Mince Pies

Name

Soup / Melon / Salmon

Turkey / Pork / Cod / Vegetarian

Plum Pudding / Choux Ring / Mousse / Mince Pies

Name

Soup / Melon / Salmon

Turkey / Pork / Cod / Vegetarian

Plum Pudding / Choux Ring / Mousse / Mince Pies

Name

Soup / Melon / Salmon

Turkey / Pork / Cod / Vegetarian

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