

NARPO

Norfolk Branch Newsletter
Of service to those who served.



*Norfolk Narpo Newsletter April
2024*

Highlights

New trips announced

Pension announcement

AGM Reports

A message From the Chairman

Thanks to all who attended the AGM at Dereham this was the best attendance we have had for a long time.

We are always open to suggestions for a different venue for the AGM, one that costs less and one that can provide better refreshments. We have one venue in mind which is nearby and we are considering it. Should any member have a suggestion for an alternative venue please contact me. We must keep it central to make travelling fair.

I welcome those that have come forward and joined the committee this year. I appreciate your willingness to assist and for taking things on with enthusiasm.

It is always difficult to get people involved so willing volunteers are always welcome. I would encourage those that have joined NARPO in the last few years to think about assisting. We would welcome ideas for events, gatherings, anything that would get us together socially. It is always at times of sorrow we come together so would be good to see more of you at happy events, ones that you want us to organise.

Stan Watkinson
Norfolk Narpo Chairman

Pension Increase, Statutory Instrument SI 2024/372:

This Order makes provision for the annual increase of official pensions (as defined in the Pensions (Increase) Act 1971 (P(I)A 1971)). This Order provides for an increase of 6.7 percent from 8 April 2024 for all official pensions, except for those which have been in payment for less than a year, which will receive a pro-rata increase. This Order comes into force on 8 April 2024.

Job Opportunity

The Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher, is seeking to appoint an occasional driver in succession to a retired traffic police officer who has worked with him for the last two years. Hours are irregular, but average 15-20 hours per month and are generally known three months in advance. He tends to drive himself to most daytime functions in Norfolk and Waveney and uses a driver for evening events and more distant travel. Candidates should be entitled to work in the UK without any additional approvals, content to be self-employed and invoice monthly using an hourly rate and have a full UK driving licence with no penalty points.

The car is a Volvo V60 hybrid. For a conversation, please email Bishop Graham bishop@dioceseofnorwich.org

Holiday Accommodation

Don't forget to check the 'Holiday Rentals' page on our website. We have some lovely properties available to hire at very reduced rates. We have recently been fortunate enough to add several self-catering properties in North Wales, all offering Narpo members at least a 10% discount and in some cases 25% discount. If you don't have internet access and would like a printed copy of all the holiday

accommodation on the website please contact Jane Stevens, our Treasurer, who will happily send you a printed version. Text me please due to hearing issues on 07747 590440. All the properties listed are owned and run by fellow Narpo members.



Blue Light Card

Don't forget to get yourself a Blue Light Card, only £4.99 for 2 years. Available for all emergency services, NHS and all retirees, get discounts on all manner of goods, from white goods, cars and even Fish and Chips (bottom of Long John Hill in Norwich) for more information go to www.bluelightcard.co.uk

Upcoming events

Mid Norfolk Railway Preservation Trust Train Trips

Andy Taylor is a Narpo member and a volunteer for Mid Norfolk Railway Preservation Trust. Andy used to run Divisional trips/outings and has joined forces with Narpo by kindly volunteering to organise the following two events. Andy has also negotiated a discount for us from the Trust on the normal price of each trip, this is before the Narpo subsidy.

BRECKLAND FRYER FISH, CHIPS, AND QUIZ TRAIN - Saturday 15th June

To meet at 1845 at Dereham Railway Station for the 1900 steam hauled departure to Wymondham and return by 2100. Enjoy freshly cooked fish and chips, sausage and chips, or a vegetarian option, as we view the evening sunset along the eleven miles of the Mid Norfolk Railway. Narpo have secured 40 spaces for this trip and further details are available on the MNR website.



Narpo is discounting the trip, the cost is £20 per person for each Narpo member and partner, £30 per head for non-members. Please contact Andy by email on andrewntaylor@hotmail.co.uk to book your places and include your food options. If you do not have access to email 'phone Jane Stevens on 01508 558822 to book your place(s). Closing date for booking 11th of May 2024.

Please note – no alcohol is allowed to be brought on the train by guests.

HEART OF NORFOLK AFTERNOON TEA TRAIN - Sunday 1st September

To meet at Dereham Railway Station at 1530 for the 1545 steam hauled departure to Wymondham and return by 1745.

You will be served a glorious afternoon tea of freshly made finger sandwiches, scones and clotted cream, assorted cakes, and unlimited tea and coffee. This will be in the comfort and privacy of a reserved heritage carriage served attentively by smartly attired staff. Narpo have secured forty places, and the price includes a Day Rover ticket for those who wish to enjoy the railway on an earlier journey. It is hoped to have a raffle on the train with proceeds going to the MNR, a registered charity. Further details of the trip are on the MNR website.



Narpo is discounting the trip, the cost is £23.50 for each Narpo member and partner, £33.50 for non-members. Please contact Andy via email at andrewntaylor@hotmail.co.uk, to book your places and include whether you wish to have a Day Rover ticket, and if you are a Narpo member or not. If you do not have access to email 'phone Jane Stevens on 01508 558822 to book your place(s). Closing date for booking this trip is the 1st June 2024.

We expect these trips to be popular and allocation will be to Narpo members initially and on a first come first served basis.

Walking Treasure Hunt in Sheringham on Thursday 11th July

Once again we have decided on a Walking Treasure Hunt following on from previous years successes. We are very fortunate in that Narpo members Chris and Angela Wright have taken the lead and offered to write the hunt which will be in Sheringham – thanks very much Chris and Angela.



Sheringham Golf Club have kindly agreed that cars can be parked in their car park for the duration of the event and we aim to meet at 10am on Thursday 11th of July. Once again there will be teams of two although individuals can enter and be paired with another person. A buffet lunch (with chips!!) has been arranged for 1.45pm at the Golf Club. The cost for each Narpo member and partner/spouse is £14 per head and includes tea and/or

coffee. There will be prizes for the winning pair. For non Narpo members the cost is £24. Please contact me as soon as possible if you wish to attend or for further details. Jane Stevens, email jrsnorfolk@outlook.com or text to 07747 590440. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Broads' river cruise – Sunday 11th August 2024



By popular demand we shall again be having our private charter on board the 'Queen of the Broads' double decker boat, for a 4 hour cruise of The Norfolk Broads.

Sunday 11th August 2024 (11am to 3pm).

If numbers are low from Norfolk NARPO members, we will offer out to both

Norfolk Police Sports & Social club members & Suffolk NARPO Members.

Cawdrons Butchers will provide the Hog Roast and agreed a vegetarian option which will be Cranberry, Brie and Mushroom Puff Pastry Wellington, you can then help yourselves to a roll. Vegetarian meals must be ordered at the time of booking as there will be the exact number brought on the day. The cost will remain at £12.50 per head per member and guest; (this is the cost when subsidised by NARPO) any additional person will pay the full price of £23.00. Please indicate when you pay if you want a vegetarian option.

You can contact the organiser Paul Bassham via email at paulbassham@me.com for any further information or details on how to pay, or phone Paul direct on 07786 967069 - (please leave a message if no answer and Paul will get back to you).

There is a pay & display parking on site, at Broads Tours - Wroxham - NR12 8RX

If we exceed our 100 person allocation, a reserve list will be held and members contacted, if any cancellations occur. There is a pay bar on board serving wine, beer, hot & cold drinks.

Enjoy the day with stunning scenery, plenty of wildlife and a catch up with old colleagues.

The warm sunshine has already been booked! ☀️ 😎

Horse racing Gt Yarmouth with Suffolk Narpo - Thursday 8th August 2024

Gates open at 13.30, the first of six races is at 14.50. Normal Grandstand price is £19, a minimum of 20 people needed to attend to make it £15.20 per person. For Norfolk Narpo members we are offering £15 if under 20 people or £10 a head if over 20 people. Expressions of interest at this stage, please email Bernie Guymer, (Suffolk Narpo) on guymer_18@yahoo.co.uk if you are interested, also, please copy in Stan Watkinson at stanwatkinson1@gmail.com to obtain your discount.



In Memoriam

It is with sadness we announce the death of the following members.

James Stone aged 92,

Alison Clabon aged 55,

Kenneth Canfor aged 71

John Garwood aged 71



Norfolk police now have a Ceremonial team that Narpo proudly supports. They are always willing to honour ex officers in what ever way they can; in line with family member's requests. They are willing to be Flag bearers, offer a Guard of Honour or Escorts. All members of the team are volunteers and carry out these roles in their own time. They are a real credit to the Constabulary.

Sgt Olly Button is the force lead and he can be contacted via the Force Executive.

Details of the revamped Association



NORWICH CITY POLICE ASSOCIATION

The Association was formed in 1986 with the intention of creating fellowship and social interaction amongst former officers, special constables of the old Norwich City Police Force post-amalgamation, and their widows.

Over the past 38 years, many officers from the old Borough forces and Norfolk County were posted to Norwich, some of them serving there for decades. Many became members, but the former rules of the Association would not allow those officers to become full members, sit on the committee or vote. This has not been without comment and criticism.

The committee decided last year that the rules needed to be changed to reflect the loyalty and commitment of those officers and to seek to secure the long-term future of the Association, the membership of which is circa 60. The rules were subsequently changed at a Special General Meeting held at Hethersett Old Hall on 7th December 2023.

As a result, Norfolk NARPO has kindly allowed us to circulate the offer of membership to any officers in the County or elsewhere who served in the City pre or post-Amalgamation (minimum of 5-years service). Without it's support with this message in the Newsletter, we would not have been able to circulate these details and this offer to many who we have lost contact with, and have no other method of communicating with. Many thanks to them.

If anyone is interested in joining us, or finding out more, please contact me.

Frank James

Vice Chairman

E: Mrfrankjames1945@gmail.com

Text: 07951301432

Narpo Treasurer's Report – as per the AGM

Financial Year

1st January to 31st December 2023

This is my fourth Treasurer's Report as Treasurer of the Norfolk Branch of Narpo. The Balance Sheet is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National office and can be summarized as follows:

Total balance carried forward from 2022	£60,848.29
Total Income in 2023	£31,413.89
Total expenditure in 2023	£25,807.53
2023 Income over expenditure	£5,606.36
Balance at year end	£66,454.65

The Branch Funds continue to be healthy with the growth in capital taking place over many years and this is a continuing trend. As can be seen, once again our expenditure is less than our income for the past year.

Income

Subscription

The annual increase in subscriptions is set in our Fund Rules and relates to the annual increase in the CPI. For the subscription for 2023 this increase amounted to 10.7% and resulted in the subscriptions rising from £22.32 to £24.60 per member per annum. The total subscription amount received for 2023 was £23,204.70, this includes those members who joined part way through the year. The Branch retains 60% of this total and sends 40% (the precept) to the national office in Wakefield. The total precept for 2023 was £9,495.60, this was for 956 members.

Interest from the Bank

We have also seen a great increase in the interest received from the bank. For 2022 the interest for the year was £126.70 and for 2023 this has increased to £1,173.11 on a very similar balance.

I am pleased to report that the Chief Constable has kindly continued to give permission for our 4 yearly Committee meetings to be held at the force training premises in Hethersett with no cost to the branch.

Expenses

National Conference

The annual Narpo Conference took place at Blackpool in September. To keep costs as low as possible the delegates stayed at a Premier Inn which was within walking distance of the Conference venue. Once again travel costs were substantial as the event was the opposite side of the Country, even though the cheapest rail journeys possible were claimed by all. The accommodation in Blackpool had been booked in 2022 with travelling and out of pocket expenses for the 3 delegates totalling £653.83

Birthdays of Members

We have continued to celebrate the birthday's of members when they reach the age of 80, 85, 90, and 95 by sending birthday cards and a National Garden Scheme gift voucher. This continues to be well received, as far as we are aware we have full details of all our members and offer our sincere apologies if a special birthday has been overlooked by the branch. In total £955.42 was spent on the cards and gifts during 2023.

Christmas Gift Bags – over 90 year olds

We continued with the Christmas gift bags for members aged 90 and over. These bags contained numerous Christmas goodies, including chocolates, biscuits, Norfolk honey, wine and puzzle books. The gift bags for those in Care Homes were slightly different with toiletries as well as chocolates and biscuits. This year we had 28 members who were of this age, this included Full members and Widows. Where practical these gift bags have been personally delivered by the Committee members and have been very well received by everyone. A total of £798.40 was spent on the bags and contents.

Postage

Postage costs have been low, a vast majority of work is conducted via email. A total of £47.15 was spent on postage and stationery. This does not include the cost of posting newsletters as this is done by Wakefield and the cost is included in their invoices.

IT

The IT costs for 2023 includes the work carried out by Wakefield on newsletters, our three branch licences for the national database and the website hosting. In December we decided to replace the Chairman's laptop as his old one was very slow and had been purchased in 2016, this laptop must meet certain specification for the national database and cost £449. Locally we only pay for security for the laptops used by the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and a small amount for paper and ink. In total IT costs during 2023 amounted to £1,022.19

Welfare Grants

Welfare Grants continue to be made and a total of £1,664.00 was spent, this was a rise of £700 on 2022. Once again, I would like to reiterate that we are completely reliant on our membership telling us when our assistance would be appreciated. Additionally, if we hear someone has been unwell for a prolonged period or has had a period of hospitalization then we are able to send a small gift.

Social Events

We held 8 social events throughout the year, all organized by members of the committee. A Broads Trip and Hog Roast lunch was organized by the Chairman, Stan Watkinson. The 100 places on this trip were shared with Suffolk. Our secretary, Helen Wickens, organized 2 broads trips on smaller boats with a picnic lunch. These trips were greatly subsidized by the branch, they catered for the less able. There was a Walking Treasure Hunt around the city in June and this was organized by the Treasurer, with lunch following the event. There were prizes for the winning couple and small prizes for the couple who came last.

Once again 4 Christmas lunches were held, these were in Norwich, King's Lynn, Great Yarmouth and Dereham, again all arranged by Committee members; Brian Pincher, Stan Watkinson, Mark Scott and Ian Taylor. All the social events were subsidized by £10 per member and partner. In total the income for the 8 social events amounted to £5,325.80 (this included Suffolk's 50% of the Broads Trip) and the costs for the events was £8,601.54. Therefore, the net cost to the branch was £3,275.74.

Poppy Appeal

We continue to support the British Legion Poppy Appeal with wreaths laid throughout the County. £185 was spent on the wreaths.

Mileage

The cost of mileage for the committee for the past year was £1,008.88. This includes attending committee meetings, regional meetings, dropping off and collecting the Narpo drape for funerals and delivering the Christmas gifts.

Out of Pocket Expenses

We continued to pay our Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer out of pocket expenses of £10 per month. They all work on behalf of the Branch from their homes, in their own time and all have Branch owned computers and printers and all electricity costs they meet themselves. In total the three officials received £360 during 2023.

Partly due to the increase in our subscription for 2023 we have continued to have a surplus of income over expenditure. We arranged as many social events as possible but during 2023 we only had 7 committee members.

Total monies at the bank at the 31st December 2023 was £66,454,65

Jane Stevens

NARPO Norfolk Accounts 1/1/23 - 31/12/23

		2023	2022
Balances b/f 1/1/2023	Account no.		
Income	61426680	60,517.30	58,033.44
Expenditure	61426672	330.99	347.32
Total assets as at 1/1/2023		£60,848.29	£58,380.76
Income Account			
Subscription via XPS		22,730.40	20,579.04
Subs Non Norfolk		474.30	530.52
Subs 2024 - Non Norfolk		523.92	369.00
Social Events Ticket Sales		5,325.80	4,130.90
Miscellaneous		635.00	434.70
Donation		341.36	20.00
Bank interest paid gross		1,173.11	126.70
Refunds		225.00	0.00
Bank Charges		(15.00)	(7.00)
Total income for year (net bank charges)		31,413.89	26,183.86
Transfer to Expenses account		(26,500.00)	(23,700.00)
Income Balance b/f		60,517.30	58,033.44
Income Balance c/f		£65,431.19	£60,517.30
Expenses Account			
Precept		(9,495.60)	(8,563.87)
Conference		(653.83)	(2,938.50)
Newsletters		(151.74)	(171.96)
Stationary/postage		(47.15)	(53.96)
IT & consumables		(1,022.19)	(663.57)
Wreaths		(160.00)	(210.00)
Travel & mileage		(1,008.88)	(1,123.80)
Social events with subsidy		(8,601.54)	(6,185.51)
Welfare payments		(1,664.00)	(994.40)
Birthday cards & gifts 80+yrs		(955.42)	(948.04)
Christmas gifts for 90+ yrs		(796.40)	(640.58)
Miscellaneous expenditure		(673.44)	(442.00)
Out of Pockets exps - Officials		(360.00)	(360.00)
Bank Charges		(61.34)	(67.20)
Refunds		(154.00)	(352.94)
Expenses for year		(25,807.53)	(23,716.33)
Transfer from income account above		26,500.00	23,700.00
Expense Balance b/f		330.99	347.32
Expense Balance c/f		£1,023.46	£330.99
Income and Expenditure Summary for the Year			
Income for Year as above		31,413.89	26,183.86
Expenses for Year as above		(25,807.53)	(23,716.33)
Surplus for year		£5,606.36	£2,467.53
Total assets b/f		60,848.29	58,380.76
Total assets c/f		£66,454.65	£60,848.29
Balances c/f 31/12/2023	Account no.		
Income	61426680	65,431.19	60,517.30
Expenditure	61426672	1,023.46	330.99
Total assets as at 31/12/2023		£66,454.65	£60,848.29

*I, Cathy I have
summarised the accounts
and found them as
stated. J.H.S.
23/2/24*

*D.B. Elsey
Chartered
Accountant
(retired)
1/3/2024*

A lot of information but if you have any questions please contact Jane Stevens.

Helen Wickens

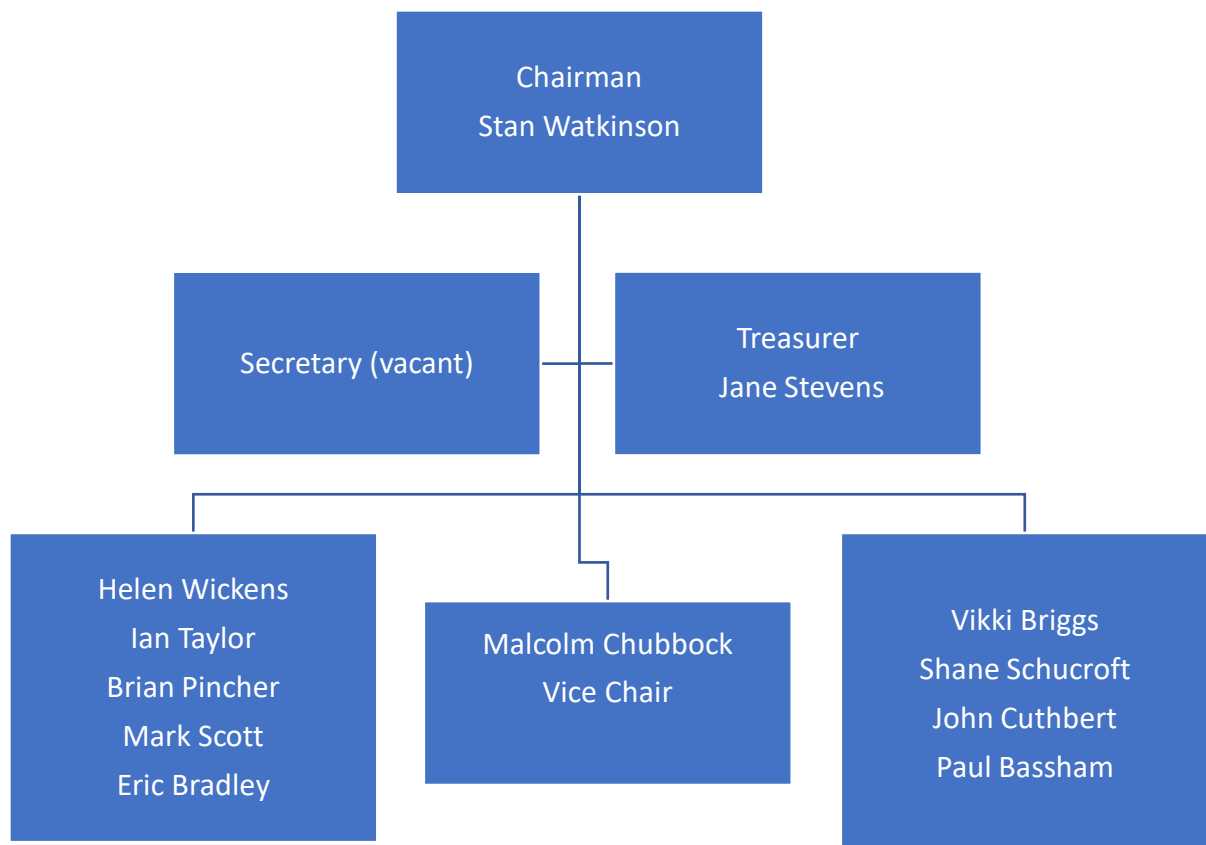
Helen has been a stalwart of the Norfolk Narpo committee since she first retired from the Constabulary in 2003.

Following the retirement of the previous Secretary, Sam Bussey, Helen became joint Secretary/Treasurer of the branch, this was in 2013. From then until 2020 Helen held both roles, completely voluntary. Both roles were undertaken in a professional and dedicated manner. In 2020 she handed the baton of both roles to others but, very kindly, took the secretary's role again later that year. At the AGM last month Helen announced her retirement from the officials role but, after abit of encouragement, she has agreed to stay on the Committee.

A big thank you Helen for all the hard work you have done, and continue to do, for the benefit of all our branch members.

NORFOLK BRANCH COMMITTEE

Organising social events is just one of our priorities; we also try to provide welfare support and advice. If you know of a member who may need some assistance, then please do contact us as we may be able to help. Listed below are the names of the current Branch Committee.



To contact any of us please use, Norfolk@narpo.org