

NARPO

NORFOLK BRANCH NEWSLETTER



NOTICE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 13th MARCH 2018

We hereby give notice that the Annual General Meeting of the Norfolk Branch of NARPO will take place on Tuesday 13th March 2018 at Aldiss Park, Dereham Football Club, Dereham at 2.00pm. There is ample car parking and tea and coffee will be available from 1.30pm so please come along and hear what your Committee have been doing in your name throughout 2017 and the Treasurer will, of course, present the accounts. We hope to have the National President, Mr Brian Burdus with us. Brian is from our Region and he has been one of the two National Executive Members representing our Region for some time. In addition we will have a representative from the Norfolk Alzheimers/Dementia Society who will give a short presentation on what help and support is available within Norfolk.

2018 NARPO SUBSCRIPTIONS

The 2018 annual subscriptions for NARPO will be £20.64, an increase of 60 pence a year. The Fund rules state that the increase in subscriptions will be in line with the annual increase in pensions. As you may already be aware the CPI was reported to be at 3% and so our pensions will increase by 3% in April of next year.

Nov 2017

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A NOTE FROM OUR SECRETARY—Helen WICKENS

As this is (possibly) the last Newsletter for 2017 I wanted to say a big “thankyou” to the Norfolk Branch for their continued support. A special “thankyou” to Gus Williams, the Assistant Secretary who agreed to take over the production of the Newsletter and he will also be looking after our website too. These two things have given me some urgently needed free time. I am sorry I wasn’t able to organise the Great Yarmouth Christmas dinner this year and I was sad no one else came forward to give it a go. I wish everyone a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and a very healthy 2018. (P.S. .. hope to see some of you at the AGM).

NARPO NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2017

Four of your Committee Members attended the National Conference at Skegness in September this year, they were Stan Watkinson, (standing in for Colin Fox), Helen Wickens, Gus Williams and Malcolm Chubbock. The Conference was a real success, as the Conference voted in some changes in the Rules, so, at last, we have some new rules with which to run our Branch. The Rule changes were long overdue and in my opinion we have now a far better structure within which to operate.

One of the outcomes of the rule changes is that only retired police officers are allowed to be “Full Members”, and that Full Members only can be elected as a Branch or National Executive Officer. There has also been a re-definition of a retired police officer, to include former police officers who have served in a police force and who met the minimum service, age or ill health requirements that would entitle them to a police pension; and who have not been dismissed or required to resign from a police force by reason of misconduct. This opens up possible membership to ex-officers who were prevented from joining Narpo before the rule change.

The only other major change was the standing down of the President Ian Potter, to be replaced by Brian Burdus. We wish a long, healthy and happy “retirement” to Ian Potter.

James “The Captain” KETCHELL was the guest speaker, he inspired all with his stories of rowing across the Atlantic Ocean, climbing Everest and cycling 18,000 miles around the world.

National Conference next year will be at Torquay on 7th September 2018.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness we announce the death of the following:

Graham HASTE, Peter GRIFFIN, Sheila JESSOP, June MUIR, David Roy COLLINS, Douglas ROSS, Geoff ASHWORTH, Donald MARSHALL, John E SMITH, Stanley COX.



SCUBA DIVING SESSIONS—SKEGNESS

Let me introduce myself, I retired from Bedfordshire Police in 2015, as Assistant Chief Constable and have since developed as passion for scuba diving which has resulted in a casual position working at the Skegness Aquarium in their dive team.

Part of my role is instructing and leading Discover Scuba Diving experiences. This experience allows members of the public to learn basic scuba skills dive in the main aquarium tank and get up close and personal with the aquatic life living there, which includes zebra shark, black tipped shark, banded shark, bat rays, Picasso trigger fish, blue tang fish and approximately 70 other species.

Since working at the aquarium I have been able to secure an excellent discounted price for this experience for serving and retired police officers and support staff.

The normal cost to members of the public is, £95 for adults, and £85 under 12's. I have managed to secure a deal with the aquarium for police officers and staff and retired police officers and their close families for £50 per person - almost 50% saving.

These special discounted sessions will be held on either a Wednesday or Thursday afternoon. To efficiently run one of the experiences we need 6 people per day.

I would suggest that the experience is a great team building event, shift outing, a retirement gift, promotion gift or even a moving department gift and a great way for retired officers to meet up in a fun and relaxed environment. For each participant on the dive experience another person gets free entry to the aquarium, so family and friends can come along and watch and take plenty of pictures and videos.

I respectfully request that you circulate this offer to your members and also to your police staff and NARPO colleagues.

Should any one wish to book an experience or discuss them further please contact the aquarium on 01754 228 200 or email the dive team leader Jamie Elvidge on dive@skegness-aquarium.uk

Yours,

Nigel Trippett.

BRITISH POLICE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

SPECIAL OFFER open to Police Service: The British Police Symphony Orchestra has just released a fantastic festive-season offer across all Police Forces— just £5 per ticket (a saving of £7 off the standard ticket price) for their Proms Night Spectacular! Concert at Symphony Hall, Birmingham on Saturday 2nd December 2017 at 7.30pm.

This year's exciting programme includes:- **Pirates of the Caribbean; Magnificent Seven; Prokofiev– Romeo & Juliet; Out of Africa; Daphnis & Chloe**, before we launch into the traditional '**Proms Night**' finish of Jerusalem; Rule, Britannia!; and Land Of Hope & Glory, all complete with our flagship fireworks finish!

There are a limited number of seats available at this special rate. To order tickets, please contact claire@bpso.net quoting 'BPSO999'. Seats relevant to this offer are in the Grand Tier and the Choir, subject to availability. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers, concessions or promotions. Tickets are non-refundable once purchased.

SPECIAL OFFER - open to all: Tickets are usually priced at £12, £18 & £23(Concessions apply) but if contact claire@bpso.net and quote 'BPSO5' and you will receive '4 tickets for the price of 3' AND not have to pay any box office transaction fees.

ACCESS TO SPECIAL OFFERS FOR NARPO MEMBERS

NARPO HQ (Wakefield) often send us details of special offers available to NARPO members. These take the form of an e-mail from a company and a link to access the information. Of course I am unable to transfer this content of this link onto this newsletter, but, you can get access to this information via:

<http://www.narpo.org.uk/index.php/member-services.html>

FROM THE CHAIRMANS PEN

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Well it's that time of year again. Some days are mild and others you need the heat on. The mornings are dark and the nights "pull in". One consolation, the shortest day is getting closer and we will start going the other way again. Hopefully we can keep clear of all the bugs and other Winter ailments.

Following on from my last "Pen", the saga of North Walsham Police Station continues and the builders now promise mid November. Ed Watson will be making contact nearer the time and I will ask Richard Andrews to circulate via his North Norfolk contact e-mail list. No alcohol will be allowed on the new premises, so we may have to celebrate with a cup of tea?

You will see from this publication that the usual Christmas Lunches are, so to speak, on the menu, with the exception of Gt. Yarmouth. Nobody has come forward to take that on, or offer other help, so unfortunately, at least for this year, it's a non-starter. Meanwhile, West Norfolk, mid Norfolk and our Norwich City Police Ass. dual membership are well catered for. One sad note is the Landlady of Gayton Crown is retiring shortly and the premises are being refurbished, so we shall have to wait and seen what happens there.

By the time you read this you will know and probably had some thoughts about the departure of PCSO's in Norfolk. Has our Chief set a precedent for other Forces?, only time will tell. Whatever your thoughts we should feel sorry for those about to loose their jobs just before Christmas. Simon Bailey was clearly upset, when interviewed on TV, by the whole thing and it will be interesting to see how the Police and Crime Commissioner reacts to the impact of the departures. Lorne Green has previously asked to meet with our Association, but when put to the last AGM, this was unanimously declined. We, like the Chief, do not want to get involved in any politics of the Force and although we seldom meet with him we do have his support in other ways.

Can I conclude by thanking our Committee for making Helen and me "Life Members" of the Association. We both appreciate the honour and hopefully continue to serve you for many years to come. We also appreciate the good work and support of our Committee. Thank you.

Regards, Colin.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY— CENOTAPH LONDON

The Norfolk Branch was represented at the Remembrance Day Parade in London on Sunday 12 November by John Hale and David Hegdes.

Several of our members as usual laid wreaths all around the county.

"LEST WE FORGET"



SOCIAL EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTY

WEST NORFOLK CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The West Norfolk Christmas lunch will be held at The Crown Gayton on Friday 15th December meet 11.30. for 12.30 sit down. Usual menu choice of roasts with seasonal vegetables choice of puddings followed by coffee and mince pies. The Charity Raffle this year -Alzheimer's Research.

Cost is members and principal guest £13, and non-members £15.95.

This will be the last time Fliiss the landlady will be our host as she is retiring in February, so we shall have to wait and see who comes in and if they are pro NARPO as she is.

If you have any suggestions as to another venue please let me know consider parking and will the venue let us block book?.

Please send cheques payable to 'NARPO Norfolk Branch' to me : Mr S R Watkinson, St Winifred's, Lynn Road, Gayton, Kings Lynn. PE32 1QJ . I am afraid I cannot accept cash payments.

This is always a sell out so don't delay— book early.

Stan Watkinson.

MID NORFOLK CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Mid Norfolk Christmas Lunch will be held at the Kings Head Hotel at North Elmham on Saturday 25th November 2017.

For menu visit the Kings Head Hotel website:

kingsheadhotel.net

For details and booking contact Ian Taylor

01362 668613



National Association Retired Police Officers

Need our help or assistance ?

Call the Norfolk Branch

07597398688

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