

# NARPO

NORFOLK BRANCH NEWSLETTER—DECEMBER 2020

Norfolk Branch Website: [www.narponorfolk.org](http://www.narponorfolk.org)



**Gus WILLIAMS**

Secretary Norfolk Branch

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## **CHAIRMAN'S NOTES**

On behalf of the NARPO Committee welcome to our Branch Newsletter. Our previous, being in February. We hope you have all been keeping well and isolating where possible. Due to the Covid19 Virus we have been unable to produce Newsletters. There are two reasons, firstly the letter is printed for us in Wakefield NARPO's Head office, staff there have, like many people, been working from home. Secondly our Secretary, Gus Williams, who produces the Newsletter, has been under pressure and has not had time to publish one. It is worth noting here that less than half of Norfolk Branch members are receiving Newsletters by email. This means that if the branch did send out emailed newsletters only, less than half our Branch members would receive it. This is a problem going back many years and one we would like to correct. You can assist us in correcting this by giving us an e-mail address and agreeing to having the Newsletter sent to you via e-mail this will save the Secretary time and the Branch as a whole - money.

During any year, each Branch can produce four Newsletters, the cost of posting these Newsletters from Narpo HQ at Wakefield, to all national members without e-mail addresses, in the 2018/19 financial year, was a horrendous figure of around £113,000. And that is not taking into account cost of stationary, printing etc. This figure will increase year on year unless each branch does something about it. Therefore, we keep asking, **please**, let us know that you are willing to have newsletters sent to you by email. To do this, simply email our Branch Secretary, Gus Williams at [norfolk@narpo.org](mailto:norfolk@narpo.org) and give an e-mail address so that we can send you the Norfolk Branch Newsletter by e-mail.

Unfortunately, social events have not, and will not, be possible this year. The Committee has agreed that Christmas events will not take place due to social distancing, but we will resume normal service as soon as possible. This is such a shame as they are always well supported.

NARPO is currently running a membership recruiting campaign. So far, our national membership has gone up from 85,000 to 93,000. Norfolk Branch have arranged for letters to be sent out to retired Norfolk police officers who are not members of Narpo, inviting them to join NARPO. The letters are being sent by XPS, who have been dragging their heels somewhat, but hopefully they will be sent out soon. From the figures I have quoted you can see the campaign has so far been successful. The cost of this is being met by Wakefield, not the Branch, so I would ask that you encourage any non-members you know to join us. Contact our Branch Secretary on 07774037611, or you can join online at [www.narpo.org](http://www.narpo.org).

Unfortunately, representation at funerals from the NARPO Committee members has not been possible during the virus pandemic. The NARPO drape is offered to any member's family under normal circumstances, however we have been prevented from doing this recently as most Churches/Crematoriums have not allowed its use. If you want to use a drape at a funeral, first check with the funeral directors, who will give the right advice, as protocols vary from place to place.

NARPO has produced a Bereavement Booklet, it gives you advice on arranging a funeral, registration and changing pensions amongst other things, please contact our Branch Secretary if you would like a copy, they are free of charge, preferred method of contact with Secretary is email - [norfolk@narpo.org](mailto:norfolk@narpo.org) or mobile 07774037611.

Finally, as 2020 draws to a close may I as your Chairman and on behalf of our Committee thank you for your support during the past year and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. We can only but hope that next year sees the end to the Corona Virus and we can get back to normal.

Stan Watkinson  
*Chairman*



# **IN MEMORIAM**

Names of the Deceased and date of death



Peter David JERMY 6/2/20

David BOOTHBY 6/3/20

Keith Manship 18/3/20

Robin DAY 31/3/20

William RITCHIE 16/4/20

Neville SHARMAN 10/4/20

John COOKE 12/4/20

John TOWNSEND 11/4/20

Albert BOCKING 4/5/20

John LINSTED 2/8/20

Gilbert ELMER 9/8/20

Nigel GANT 15/11/20

John Derek PASK 17/11/20

## NARPO ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS– 2021

As from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 the minimum subscription will be £21.60 (previously £21.48), this amounts to £1.80 per month (previously £1.79). Not a huge increase but then our pensions have only gone up by 0.5%.

Those of our members who pay annually by way of the police pension scheme need do nothing—the remaining members will be informed by our Treasurer the preferred method of payment.

## NARPO NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Some members may be aware that the 2020 Narpo National Conference which should have happened in September was cancelled due to the Covid19 Virus.

Plans are going ahead to hold the 2021 Conference in Llandudno, North Wales this coming September, we all hope that this is possible. There are no doubts that the Virus has affected the manner in which the National Committee and your Branch Committee have been able to operate throughout the year, the National Conference being a casualty, along with the local services and events.

## Narpo Members Living within the EEA and Switzerland

The Government have updated the guidance on Benefits and Pensions for UK Nationals in the EEA or Switzerland as part of the UK and EU transition.

The main points of interest are;

- If you are a UK national living in an EEA state or Switzerland by 31 December 2020 you are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement. You will get your UK State Pension uprated every year for as long as you continue to live there. This will happen even if you start claiming your pension on or after 1 January 2021, as long as you meet the qualifying conditions.
- If you are working in the EEA or Switzerland, you will be able to count future social security contributions towards meeting the qualifying conditions for your UK State Pension.
- You will continue to receive any UK benefits you already receive in the EEA or Switzerland for as long as you continue to live there, and continue to meet all other eligibility requirements.

If you are not covered by the Withdrawal Agreement and you move to live in an EEA state or Switzerland on or after 1 January 2021, your right to receive some UK benefits will change. Some benefits may only be paid for a time-limited period in these countries in future.

● The government is seeking to maintain arrangements with the EU in some areas however the rules depend on the outcome of negotiations and may change. This includes:

- counting future social security contributions in the EEA and Switzerland towards meeting UK State Pension qualifying conditions
- getting your UK State Pension uprated every year in the EEA and Switzerland

Regardless of the outcome of negotiations, you'll continue to be able to claim or receive your UK State Pension in the EEA or Switzerland, as long as you meet the qualifying conditions

Full details are on the link below:

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/benefits-and-pensions-for-uk-nationals-in-the-eea-or-switzerland?utm\\_source=a02a160a-ebc5-4fd3-a120-346064997189&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/benefits-and-pensions-for-uk-nationals-in-the-eea-or-switzerland?utm_source=a02a160a-ebc5-4fd3-a120-346064997189&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

## XPS CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS

For those Forces that use XPS as their Pension Administrator, and this includes Norfolk Constabulary, XPS have notified us of a change in their contact details as below:

“For Police Forces who have contracted with XPS to provide administration services, there contact details can be found at:

*Telephone Number:* 01642 030692

*E-mail Address:* [penmail@xpsgroup.com](mailto:penmail@xpsgroup.com)

*Website:* <https://www.myownpension.co.uk>

The previous telephone number 01642 727333 is no longer being used.

If any member has problems contacting XPS—please give our Secretary a call—details as at head of Newsletter.

## Remembrance Sunday

It was with great regret that your Committee were not able to attend any Remembrance Day Parades, on your behalf as Narpo representatives this year. Most such gatherings were cancelled or held in a very low key manner.

The Committee were, however, able to lay Narpo wreaths around the county at various locations relevant to the event. The wreaths were laid separate from any ceremony. The Committee thought that this was the best that could be achieved given the current Covid19 Regulations.

Hopefully 2021 will see some return to normality.

## NARPO NEWS

### **We Need You!**

**Can you inspire and engage your fellow members?**

**We're always on the lookout for high quality editorial for NARPO News, so if you think you have something interesting to include from across the life, work, leisure spectrum then please get in touch. Whether it's an exciting new career after retiring from the police or a once in lifetime trip to celebrate your retirement or just something you think might help your fellow members live well in their retirement, we'd like you to get in touch.**

**Contact Narpo News: [businesssupport@narpo.org](mailto:businesssupport@narpo.org)**

Here are all the copy deadline dates for NARPO News for 2021,

DATES:

4<sup>th</sup> Jan for Feb 2021

30<sup>th</sup> March for May 2021

29<sup>th</sup> June for May 2021

28<sup>th</sup> Sept for Nov 2021

28<sup>th</sup> Dec for Feb 2022

Please remember we are always looking for great content from across the 'Life, Work, Leisure' spectrum so if any of your members have any ideas for editorial to include please do get in touch.

## ACCESS TO SPECIAL OFFERS TO 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 an e-mail link to access the information. I am unable to transfer the content of this link onto this newsletter, but you can get access to this information via :

[www.narpo.org.uk/index.php/member-services.html](http://www.narpo.org.uk/index.php/member-services.html)

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SECRETARY

I took the post of Norfolk Branch Secretary at the AGM on 12th March 2020, and that now seems light-years away. I took over the responsibility from Helen Wickens, who gave sterling service to the Branch for many years, and I thought at the time that I would be able carry out my duties in a timely fashion. That is what I thought, but, I have had a very busy year, much busier than I ever expected. Family, business, moving house and of course Covid19 have all had an effect on my ability to manage Narpo matters. I now realise how much time and effort is required of the Branch Secretary, more of this later.

However, it appears that things have now settled down and I should now be on course to concentrate my mind and time to function as a good Secretary should. Here is my first Newsletter since February, not that a great deal has been happening locally, again due to Covid19. However, with a vaccine in the offing, things are looking up after what can only be described as a dire year.

Your Committee have still managed to hold Meetings, either in person at Wymondham or via Zoom., so we are still in operation. At the last meeting I brought forward to the Committee the need to fill the Assistant Secretary post, this was agreed and any member who wishes to be considered to contact me or the Chairman, Stanley Watkinson, for details of the requirements of the job.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas, be safe, and I'll see you when the fog lifts!!!!

*Gus Williams*

*Branch Secretary*