

General Meeting

Steeton Hall, Steeton, Keighley

Thursday, 6th July 2017

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, there was a minute's silence in respect of members who were no longer with us since our Annual General Meeting on 1st March.

In particular – Howard Scarborough (died 29.3.17.) and David Pickover (died 24.6.17.)

Roll Call -

Vince Curran, Tony & Marion Hennigan, John & Susan Chambers, Graham Berry, David Lonsdale, Peter Taylor and his Dad, Joe Graham, Brian Russell, Chris Allan, Lionel Fletcher, Fred Dadswell, Mick Spencer, Steve Walker, Allan & Angela Jacks, Jack Davies & Laraine Davies, Ron & Carol Harrison, Bernard Grundy, Peter Whitley, Brian Hinchliffe, Chris Renshaw, Chris Binns, Hilary Baxter, Graham Sheard, Bob Bousfield, Roger Gasson, Archie Andrews, Fraser Dunn, Simon Todd, Sue Marshall, Jim McSharry, Liz Baluk, Tilly Smith, Richard Berry, Alex Robb, John Cowan, Keith Foster, Michael Emmet, Terry Nattrass, David Brooksbank, Peter Maughan, Paul Spencer, Les & Margaret Allinson, Roger & Ann Yearby, John Sharp, Ian & Elizabeth Hemsworth & Phil Smith (55 Members & Partners).

Apologies –

Simon & Tom Atkin, Malcolm Green, Sue Neave, Milly Wainwright, Eric Heaton, Paul & Dot Margerison, Bill & Nena Nicholson, Gary & Christine Hayhurst, Terry Slocomb, Steve Brown, Steve Metcalfe, Joe O'Doherty, Tony & Isabel Lyon, Dave & Althea Howell, Tim Cannon, Ivan Ralston, Dave & Audrey Sands.

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2016 – Were read & approved.

Chairman's Address –

The following members have joined the Branch since 1st January 2017:-

John Padgett, Simon Atkin, Steve Norman, Liz Baluk, Kathleen Scarborough, Bill Hall, Philip Smith, Keith Foster, Hilary Smith, Alex Robb, Dave Carr & Sue Marshall plus Sue Sanderson & Joan Gore who now pay the Police Widows rate of subscription.

On behalf of the committee and members, Tony welcomed all of them to Keighley & District Branch of NARPO and hoped they would participate fully in all future social functions.

The Annual Conference Scarborough 2017 was to be held on Friday 8 September 2017.

Motion No. 1 – Rules of the Association, put forward by the NEC. Amendments to Motion 1 received from the following Branches: Nottinghamshire, Merseyside and Bristol.

The Annual Christmas Lunch was booked to take place on Sunday, 3 December 2017 at a cost of £23.00 per person plus wine.

Tony then introduced our friend George Wardley, who gave a very comprehensive account of his police service, with funny stories and reminiscences in abundance. This was well received by the members. Tony had to intervene because George's stories went on too long. He thanked George for all his time and effort and hoped he would return to continue his second chapter. George donated a bottle of Ballantine's whiskey for the Christmas raffle.

Tony then announced he had made enquiries with NARPO Headquarters regarding Life Membership. **It had been approved that John Chambers (our Secretary) was a suitable member to receive this award.** He told the Branch that John may confer Life Membership as a member who has given outstanding service to the Association at Branch level. He then presented John the Life Membership Award and Lapel for his outstanding achievements over the past five years to a wondrous applause from all those present.

Tony finished his remarks by introducing John Chambers our Secretary, who went on to say the following:

'Mr Chairman, Tony – Friends & Colleagues & Susan my wife – thank you most sincerely for this 'Life Membership' Award, for recognizing valuable service within the Keighley & District Branch of NARPO.

I don't often say a lot at these Social Meetings – I leave that to Tony who does it very well indeed – but I thought that I must say something on this prestigious occasion, so here goes:

It doesn't seem 17 years since I joined the Branch, having spent most of my career in Keighley Sub-Division. I remember attending the Catholic Club at St Anne's for my first meeting where you gave your name, rank and number with a brief history of your service. It was traditional to do that at each meeting. We don't do that anymore – we just sign the roll call at each meeting, which I believe is a lot better.

The Secretary at that time was the late Brian Holmes and the Chairman was the late John Saxby (previous Life Members of the Branch). I mention these great men who worked tirelessly for your Branch, as I am honoured today to become a 'Life Member'. I hope I will put as much time and effort into this Organization as they did.

After several years, the St Anne's Catholic Club closed, and for a time we had to hold our meetings at the Old White Lion P.H. at Haworth. Members dwindled. I remember only 8 people attended the last meeting held at the Old White Lion in 2012.

Tony was eventually asked to take on the Chairman's Role, which he did, provided I would take on the Secretary's Role. I said I would, but it meant he would have to persuade my wife, Susan. Tony's unique charm did the trick, as Susan was delighted and the rest is

history. At this point, I would like to thank Susan for her patience and understanding, for all the times I am on the computer doing NARPO work. She is priceless!!

At the A.G.M. in March 2013, Tony was elected Chairman and I was elected Secretary. I must say – I could not do the Secretarial work without a strong and willing band behind me. I wish to praise Tony, Graham Berry (our Treasurer) and Dave Lonsdale (our Vice-Chairman) for all their efforts over the past five years; and to express your delight with a round of applause.

During that time, our membership has risen from 130 in 2013 to 205 in 2017. Our Branch is very popular and increasing yearly.

It is very satisfying to see so many faces here tonight. Remember – if there is anything NARPO can do to assist you – please ring or email me in the first instance.

Branch Records consists of the membership details and these are kept on a computer. The most difficult aspect of this role is persuading members to keep the Secretary apprised of changes of address, email addresses and telephone numbers. Please notify me of any changes.

And finally, I wish to thank you all for your kind words and messages regarding the 'Life Membership' Award. I feel deeply honoured and somewhat overawed by it all.

Thank you very much.'

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.30 p.m.

It was followed by a most enjoyable pie and pea supper.

Proposed **Peter Taylor**

Seconded **Les Allinson**

Chairman **Tony Hennigan**

Date **12.10.2017.**