



Essex NARPO – Chelmsford Branch Newsletter – April 2022

The eagle eyed amongst you will realise this Newsletter is a month late. I would like to argue the delay was deliberate but in truth, I plain forgot! My apologies.

Branch AGM

Not all is lost however, because we are now a month closer to our AGM. As many of you will have seen from our Secretary's circulations, this year the meeting will be held at 1100 hours on Saturday 7 May at the Essex Police HQ, Sports and Social Club, off St. Margaret's Road, Chelmsford, CM2 6DT. As it's a Saturday there should be plenty of parking space available and we encourage you all to attend and have your say or just to listen what is going on. This year we expect one of our Regional NARPO representatives to be in attendance. Light refreshments will be provided. If possible, please let our Secretary know that you will be coming: EssexChelmsford@narpo.org We look forward to seeing you there.

NARPO Travel Insurance

NARPO head office tell us they are receiving 'very high levels of calls', well that's not surprising, is it? The traditional holiday season is almost upon us and we are still waiting for details of the new scheme so that we can plan ahead. On a personal level I fail to understand why this matter is taking so long to resolve but we are told that head office is on the case and we can only hope to receive those important details in the not-too-distant future!

Scams

Scams are currently a major issue both on and off the internet. There is even a Covid scam where all appears genuine until you get to the point where you are asked to pay for a home testing kit to be delivered! Only a small fee but hundreds of small fees soon add up in the scammer's accounts. Be wary, if you are at all suspicious seek further advice or just ignore the contact.

Widows/Widowers Pension for Life

At long last, the Hearing to determine the legality of Regulation C9 of the Police Pensions Regulations 1987, that so badly effects widows and widowers, is upon us.

The Hearing is scheduled at the Administrative Court in Central Manchester on 5/6 April 2022. The High Court Judge who has been allocated to determine the Hearing is Mr. Justice Fordham. Before becoming a High Court Judge, he was one of the country's leading practitioners specialising in both administrative law and the use and application of the Human Rights Act 1998. We await the outcome.



Essex Police Weekly e-newsletter

For those of you with access to the internet, you may be interested in this, it's a weekly review of Essex Police news and some of the social media stories, plus crime prevention tips, police staff job vacancies, a Memorial Trust slot and obituaries. If you wish to subscribe, please find the link as follows: <https://www.getrevue.co/profile/essexpoliceuk>

Bob
Robert Good
NARPO Chelmsford – Branch Chair

27 March 2022

Widows and Widows Pension for Life Update

Regulation C9 Legal Challenge – Widows and Widowers Pensions issues Update

At long last, the Hearing to determine the legality of Regulation C9 of the Police Pensions Regulations 1987, that so badly affects widows and widowers, is upon us.

The dates for the final Hearing have now been fixed and confirmed by the Administrative Court in Manchester; very recently, the Administrative Court have confirmed to the parties the identity of the High Court Judge who will determine and give Judgement in the proceedings.

The Hearing will take place at the Administrative Court in Central Manchester on 5th and 6th April 2022 next. The High Court Judge who has been allocated to determine the Hearing is Mr. Justice Fordham.

Mr. Justice Fordham, - formally Michael Fordham QC of Blackstone Chambers in London, - was appointed as a Justice of the High Court on 13th January 2020. Before becoming a High Court Judge, Michael Fordham QC was one of the country's leading practitioners specialising in both administrative law and the use and application of the Human Rights Act 1998.

Our understanding is that the Hearing in Manchester will take place in person and in an open Court.

That being the case, the Hearing will be open to all members of NARPO and the public to attend, if they wish to. The Hearing will start at 10.30am on Tuesday 5th April 2022. The Court will, before the Hearing, provide details of the Court within which the Hearing will take place.

The venue details of the Manchester Administrative Court are:

Manchester Administrative Court,
Manchester Civil Justice Centre,
1 Bridge Street West,
Manchester M60 9DJ



The Court is situated right in the centre of Manchester and is in easy reach of all central Manchester train stations.

If anyone has any particular queries or requests in relation to the Hearing, then we would suggest that they either contact the Court direct, or alternatively, make contact with the Solicitors who are taking the claim forward on behalf of the Claimants, NARPO and the Police Federation, Lexent Partners. The relevant contact email details are:

- Administrative Court email: manchester@administrativecourtoffice.justice.gov.uk
- Lexent Partners: nrj@lexentpartners.com

Bob Craven's Pier Challenge

Bob Craven who is a member of Southend Narpo Branch has asked me to circulate the below to you for information.

"I am entering my 30th year of retirement living with the suicidal thoughts, nightmares blackouts, etc etc of PTSD.

I would not have been able to have managed my life without the support of so many friends and family including my old mates in the Job especially NARPO.

The last 20 years I have also had to cope with severe chronic asthma caused by the PTSD and now find that I have to use a stroller and/ walking sticks to walk even short distances.

Many people will be assisting me in starting to plan to walk 30 lengths (most likely over several days subject to medical advice etc) on the Pier to celebrate what has been achieved.

A long way to go but with luck it should be completed before the 25 May 2023 exactly 30 years after it all came to the surface. I have chosen the Pier because it is pollution free, flat surface etc etc.

I will be raising funds for Asthma + Lung UK and Mind both being great help and support for me physically and mentally. Both these charities have been at the forefront of helping many ex police officers deal with the effects of the disability.

I will be wearing my white helmet at some point and my thoughts are that some of the old



"Boro" Boys and my Essex mates could join me and we could use it as a social event perhaps with a gathering at a suitable venue on or near the Pier. Any thoughts ideas and concerns would be greatly appreciated.

Please email on whitehelmet@icloud.com as this is the best form of communication I can use in my condition."

Saturday Get Togethers - 1030-1230hrs HQ Sports and Social Club

The meetings will involve Introductions; including discussion regarding the format of future meetings, suggestions and ideas welcome, including 'outside speakers'?

A flexible programme is now in place as below up to and including the December meeting.

This is a great opportunity to spend social time together with tea/coffee and biscuits provided.

9th April 2022 - Roy Bracey presenting:

"Australia"

Roy has spent many holidays touring Australia and wishes to give a general talk which would hopefully encourage you to visit.

He has a wealth of knowledge to impart regarding the time of year to go, prohibited imports and various other VERY useful information.

If you are intending going to this please register your interest at EssexChelmsford@narpo.org

The following dates have now been set for the rest of the meetings for 2022 - so please save the dates

11th June 2022 Derrick Thomas presenting:

"Mouth Organ and Mirth"

This will be a combination of Derrick playing his various harmonicas and the origins of the instrument, with a touch of Welsh humour thrown in.

15th October 2022 Geoff Markham will be presenting:

"Guilt and Innocence"



Drawn from two cases he dealt with in his career. One very early and minor and one late and serious (The conviction of Silcott for the murder of PC Blakelock)

10th December will be our Christmas get together

PSUK Dinghy Championships

This is from Paul Budd – Avon & Somerset Branch Secretary:

One of our members has asked me to pass on the following for circulation amongst our retired members, many of whom I believe will be members of the Police Sailing scene nationally.

The Avon and Somerset Police Sailing Section are hosting the PSUK Nationals at Chew this summer and are trying to advertise the event nationally.

Please see attached flyer [here](#) with details of the event

Request for help with book - Northampton Branch

I have been asked to circulate the below by the Northampton Branch Secretary Paul Snape:

Inspector Roy Teague, a serving Officer, who is writing a book with an ex WMP DC of 30 years in regards to Police sightings of UFO's.

He has asked me to put out an appeal asking for witnesses to such phenomenon to get in touch with him.

The reason for the request is strictly to collate further witnesses to this most unusual phenomenon so they can be included in the book which is due for publication in June 2022. If witnesses wish to be anonymous then of course they will honour that and not publish their names.

The title of the book which will be over two volumes is 'The Bluelight Casefiles'

If you can further distribute thus to your members that would be great.

A message from Roy Teague.

Dear Colleagues,

I am an Inspector currently serving on a firearms unit in West Midlands Police and are requesting contact from any ex or currently serving Police officers or civilian staff who have



experienced any sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFO's) at any point in their lives. Sightings can be when either on or off duty, before enlistment into the Police service or when retired.

This information is required for a book currently being written by myself and my co-author Mr John Hanson who himself is a retired Police officer of 30 years. Any information provided to me will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

If requested anonymity is absolutely assured. I can be contacted at the following email address.

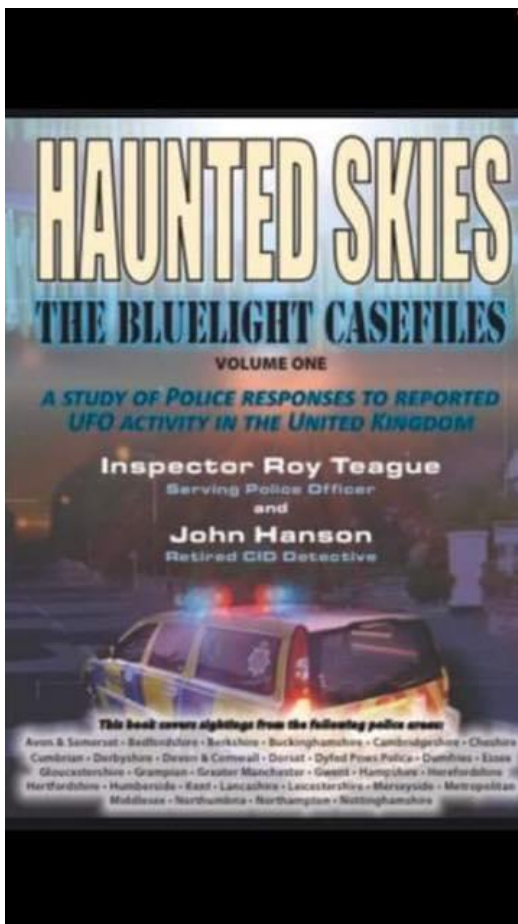
roy.teague@westmidlands.police.uk

Kind regards

Insp 9694 Roy Teague

West Midlands Police

roy.teague@westmidlands.police.uk





That's all for now

Kind Regards
Sue Heaton
Secretary Narpo
Chelmsford Branch

**Our Branch website is at www.narpo.org/branches/chelmsford
You will find lots of information about the Branch including the latest newsletters and updates as well as details of forthcoming events. You can also link to the main NARPO site which has a wide range of useful information**

Obituaries

Sadly, since the last newsletter there have been a few and our thoughts and prayers go to the family and friends of all those listed below :-

- Richard Mason who retired as a Detective Inspector in 2007 and served at Chelmsford and Colchester. He passed away on the 16th December 2021 aged 69 years.
- Anthony Ward who retired as a Constable in 1988 and served at Saffron Walden, Ashdon, Castle Hedingham and Halstead. He passed away on 24th December 2021 aged 90 years.
- Donald Knight who retired as a Detective Inspector in 1983 and served at Colchester, Clacton, Chelmsford, Ockendon and Grays. He passed away on the 26th December 2021 aged 89 years.
- James MacDonald who retired as a Chief Inspector in 1985 and served at Romford, Saffron Walden, HQ, Basildon and Billericay. He passed away on the 26th December 2021 aged 87 years.
- Kenneth Light who retired as a Constable in 1989 and served at Rochford and Clacton. He passed away on the 31st December 2021 aged 78 years.
- Colin Hance who retired as a Constable in 1999 and served at Clacton and Harwich. He passed away on the 29th December 2021 aged 76 years.
- Paul Stephen King who retired as a Constable in 2002 and served at Tilbury, Grays and Scenes of crime. He passed away on the 1st January 2022 aged 75 years.



- Richard Soward who retired as a Constable in 1998 and served at Southend Borough, Rayleigh and Westcliff. He then re-joined as a Support Staff Member and served in OPC and Strategic Change Directorate and retired in 2021. He passed away on the 30th January 2022 aged 76 years.
- Alan Bennett who retired as a Constable in 1996 and served at Basildon, Chelmsford, FSU and Gt Dunmow. He passed away on the 30th January 2022 aged 82 years.
- Keith Wilkins who retired as a Constable in 1993 and served at Upminster and Colchester. He passed away on the 5th February 2022 aged 80 years.
- Daniel Torrance who retired as a Sergeant in 2017 and served at Wickford, Pitsea, Basildon, Lakeside and Grays. He passed away on the 6th February 2022 aged 58 years.
- Frank Ruggles who retired as a Sergeant in 1999 and served at Braintree, FSU and Stanway Traffic. He passed away on the 19th February 2022 aged 79 years.

May they all now rest in peace

Well that's it for another newsletter, as always please stay safe and don't forget to ask if you feel we can help you in any way

Kind regards

Gary Sanderson

Newsletter editor and committee member