



NARPO Newsletter – March 2023

COMMUNICATION - WELFARE – SOCIAL

Dear Members

Branch Welfare Representatives

As those of you who receive our Secretary's Newsletter by email will be aware we have been seeking volunteers to take on the role of Welfare Representatives when our current team retire at the AGM in April. I'm delighted to announce that two members have now volunteered their services, further details will be circulated in due course. Additionally, if you feel you could help, please contact Sue Heaton, our Branch Secretary, at EssexChelmsford@narpo.org to register your interest.

I would like to formally record my thanks to Tim Stokes and Anne Walker for the excellent job they have done as our Welfare Team over the past few years. We are now in a very strong position and we are very pleased that we are well on the road to securing replacements.

Tim is retiring to pursue other projects outside NARPO and Anne has moved outside our area and consequently is finding it difficult to keep up regular contacts along with her other responsibilities. We wish them both well for the future.

Incorporation of NARPO

One of the big topics facing NARPO currently is whether to change the structure and become an incorporated organisation. This matter had been scheduled for discussion at last years national conference but you will recall that conference was cancelled at short notice due to the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II. Since then, a series of workshops have been held across the country led by our National President, Richard Critchley.

Your Treasurer, Andy Drane, and I attended the workshop in Peterborough in February. As we understand the situation, our Branch is an autonomous informal (unincorporated) entity affiliated under the umbrella of NARPO, which is also not a formal entity. Our autonomy is only limited by having to comply with the rules of that affiliation. The rules of affiliation are determined jointly by us and other branches.

We have learnt that branch committee members, and nominated officials in particular (chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer), are personally liable for our decision making and, should any legal action be taken, it would be against us as named individuals. Whilst action against us may be unlikely, and legal fees MAY be covered by insurance provided centrally by the NEC, we would still be defending as individuals. We would be personally liable for any penalty or award against us, as the insurance would cover only legal fees. The use of branch funds to cover costs, penalties or awards would depend on the amount available and the willingness of the branch committee sitting at the time to use funds in that way.

We have been told that incorporation would remove our liability as branch committee members; place greater responsibility onto members of the NEC who would have the duties and liabilities of directors under Company Law; and leave our current level of autonomy (including funds) unaffected. Despite general reservations expressed by some, we have not heard of any specific disadvantages to our Branch, our members or committee members. We understand there are no financial costs to the Branch. From the information supplied so far, the Treasurer and I would support incorporation.

We understand a further explanation of the process will appear in the May issue of *NARPO News* and once you have had a chance to read that article, we would be pleased to receive your comments. Please forward to chairman.narpo.chelmsford@gmail.com so that we can take full account of your views.

Police Pensions

Good news on the pension front, please see the Secretary's report!

Injury on Duty Pensions Review by Essex Police

We are currently in correspondence with Essex Police and the local Police Federation to ascertain a current update on this issue and will include the outcome in one of the Secretary's Newsletters as soon as we can.

Chelmsford Branch AGM

Just to reiterate, this is an important year for NARPO and your Branch, we would like to see as many of you as possible at the AGM - Saturday 22 April 1100hrs at HQ Sports Pavilion. if you are able to attend, please register your interest by email to Pat Mahoney our Social Secretary as he requires numbers for catering purposes narposocialsec@gmail.com and copy to our Secretary, Essex.Chelmsford@narpo.org so we can arrange for the agenda and relevant papers to be sent to you prior to the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Bob

Robert Good
NARPO Chelmsford – Branch Chair

Dear Members,

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 at www.narpo.org

Select areas of the main website will now require a log in. The password is XPOL1919

Dear Members

I will be on holiday from 27th February until 14th March 2023. If you need anything during that time please could you email Bob Good (Chair) chairman.narpo.chelmsford@gmail.com as I will be unable to access emails when I am away.

AGM - Saturday 22nd April 1100hrs at HQ Sports Pavillion

Our AGM will be held at the above time and date and I hope to see as many of you as possible attend this very important meeting.

This is a great opportunity for you as members to help us shape the future of the branch, and for you to have your say and suggest areas where you think we can improve. If you want to place anything on the agenda for discussion at the meeting please email EssexChelmsford@narpo.org by the 10th April to allow it to be added and circulated prior to the meeting.

Please join us at this meeting which will be followed by a light buffet where you will have the opportunity to meet and chat with other members.

You are all welcome to attend whether you are a widow member, a full member or an additional member. Everyone's opinion counts.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting, if you are intending coming please register your interest by email to Pat Mahoney our social secretary as he requires numbers for catering purposes narposocialsec@gmail.com and copy to myself Essex Chelmsford@narpo.org so I can arrange for the agenda and relevant papers to be sent to you prior to the meeting.

Pensions

Please see below circulated by NARPO HQ CEO:

On 20th February 2023, the **Chief Secretary to the Treasury, John Glen**, made a written statement to the **House of Commons** on public service pensions increase.

Mr Glen stated that public service pensions will be “increased from 10 April 2023 by 10.1 per cent, in line with the annual increase in the **Consumer Prices Index** up to September 2022, except for those public service pensions which have been in payment for less than a year, which will receive a pro-rata increase.” He noted that this was because “Legislation governing public service pensions in payment requires them to be increased annually by the same percentage as additional pensions (**State Earnings Related Pension** and **State Second Pension**).”

Mr Glen further commented that “As announced by the then **Secretary of State for Health and Social Care** as part of the Government’s **Plan for Patients** on 22 September 2022, the effective date of revaluation will be 6 April 2023 for the **NHS Pension Scheme England & Wales**, subject to a consultation by the **Department for Health and Social Care**. The **NHS Pension Scheme (Scotland)**, the **Local Government Pension Scheme England & Wales** and the **Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland)** will also use 6 April 2023 as the effective date, subject to consultation and other processes by the Scottish Government and the **Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities**. For all other schemes in scope of this Order, the effective date of revaluation remains 1 April 2023.”

Following the ministerial statement, **HM Treasury** published a covering note and multiplier tables for public service pensions for 2023.

Separately, Connect will be monitoring the second reading in the Commons of the **Social Security (Additional Payments) (No.2) Bill**.

Social Secretary Update

Dear Friends

Dare I say it feels like spring as I sit typing this update in the sunshine and hope you are all well and enjoying the new year.

Our first visit to the Tower of London, Ceremony of the Keys on 28th February rapidly approaches and looking forward to meeting those attending for what is an amazing night in such a historic setting.

The proposed visits to an evening Magic Circle Show either on 18th April or 23rd May have received limited support. A group booking requires a minimum of 20 attendees and we currently sit with single figures for each date.

If you are still considering attending please let me know in the next two weeks otherwise I might need to consider rescheduling until later in the year.

The second Tower of London visit is all set for late May and whilst fully booked I will look at trying to obtain some additional dates during the year.

A date to put in your social diary is **Saturday 24th June** for our proposed Branch BBQ/Hog Roast to be held at the EPSA Clubroom.

I will be seeking further numbers for attendees over the next few months so do let me know if you are interested so I can look at suitable catering arrangements and cost.

A number of members have expressed an interest in visiting the National Police Memorial at the National Arboretum, Staffordshire and to that end propose a visit on **Saturday 22nd July**.

This is based on the fact that there is not currently any planned national memorial event at this site and that a Saturday trip will provide parking at EPSA for attendees.

Again in order to make transport arrangements I would seek early expressions on interest in this event.

August has two events for the branch, the first is the annual Pensioners Garden Party on 4th arranged and hosted by our friends at the Essex Police Sports Association.

As you maybe aware this event is part of their Big Family Weekend of 4th to 6th and I will circulate further details as they are published.

All three Essex NARPO branches support the Garden Party with funding towards the lovely

buffet provided and if you are not on the EPSA mailing list please contact Sam Barkway at sam.Barkway@essex.police.uk

The third Tower of London visit is scheduled for 29th August and whilst fully booked I can add you to a Standby List in case of any cancellations or if I can secure any new dates.

Sunday 17th September is the Battle of Britain Flying Display and Show at the IWM Duxford.

Leaving from the Essex Police College, Headquarters the price includes travel to the event by luxury coach and entrance to the event. We need between 20 to 28 attendees and already have some members who have asked to attend.

The cost is £89 per person and whilst on the face of it expensive I will say the event ticket is £50 with the rest on travel and parking costs.

Again early expressions of interest would be appreciated and final payment arrangements will be requested in April so bookings can be confirmed.

Friday November 17th is the date of the Thursford Christmas Spectacular with an afternoon matinee show.

Again I am seeking early expressions of interest in attending with an mid April deadline around confirmation and payment arrangements.

Cost is £82.50 per person which includes a event ticket and luxury coach travel. Further details including pickup points in the Chelmsford area will be circulated soon.

Tuesday 28th November sees the last visit to the Tower of London and a few slots are still available at this time.

Finally the last branch event of the year is the Christmas Get Together to be held again at the EPSA Clubroom on **Saturday 9th December**.

Building on the success of last years event, further details will be circulated nearer the date but worth putting in your diary.

In closing and as the weather improves I would like to arrange some local get togethers such as a pub lunch or afternoon tea meetings.

As always I am looking at suggestions of venues such as Paper Lock Mill and Cressing Temple Tea Rooms which have been mentioned.

If you have any suggestions for future events or venues I am always happy to explore options, or if you wish to express an interest on attending any of the advertised events then

pls contact me by email on narposocialsec@gmail.com

Regards

Pat Mahoney

NARPO Social Secretary-Chelmsford Branch

That's all for now

Kind Regards

Sue Heaton

Secretary Narpo

Chelmsford Branch

Obituaries

- John William Russell who retired as a Constable in 1992 and served at Nazing and as a Coroners Officer at Harlow. He passed away on 20th November 2022 aged 83 years.
- Leslie Bennett who retired as a Constable in 1980 and served with Southend Borough, Laindon traffic and a warrant officer at Southend. He passed away on 24th November 2022 aged 95 years.
- Dave Hurrell who retired as a Constable in 1983 and served with Southend Borough and Rayleigh. He passed away on 26th November 2022 aged 82 years.
- George Sage who retired as a Constable in 1985 and served with Southend Borough, Leigh, Rayleigh and as a welfare officer at HQ. He passed away on 8th December 2022 aged 85 years.
- Robin Blackmore who retired as a Chief Supt in 1994 and served at Epping, Harlow, Harwich, Chelmsford , HQ and Colchester. He passed away on 15th December 2022 aged 77 years.
- Eric Exley who retired as a Sergeant in 1979 and served at Chelmsford, Maldon, Latchingdon, Romford, Brentwood, Chipping Ongar and Colchester. He passed away on 17th December 2022 aged 94 years.
- Rodney Missenden who retired as a Constable in 1999 and served at Clacton, CID AND Special Branch at Harwich. He passed away on 21st December 2022 aged 78 years.
- Brian Wood who retired as a Constable in 1991 and served with Southend Borough and then Westcliff. He passed away on 10th January 2023 aged 82 years.

- Michael Bray who retired as a Constable in 1993 and served at Epping and Clacton. He passed away on 17th January 2023 aged 77 years.
- Frank Bell who retired as a Sergeant in 1984 and served at Romford, Brentwood, Chelmsford control room and as a training Sergeant for police cadets. He passed away on 18th January 2023 aged 90 years.
- Victor Wilcockson who retired as a Constable in 1990 and served at Southend, Chelmsford and traffic department. He then re-joined as a support staff pursuit driving instructor He passed away on 20th January 2023 aged 80 years.
- Michael Ainsley who retired as a Detective Supt in 1990 and served at Basildon, Colchester, New Scotland Yard and CID at HQ. He passed away on 13th February 2023 aged 83 years.

May they all rest in peace

Gary Sanderson - Newsletter Editor