

The Staffordshire Knot

Staffordshire Branch of Narpo [96]

Stafford Police Station, Eastgate Street, Stafford, ST16 2DQ

www.narpo-staffs.co.uk ☎ 01785 234039 (Voicemail)

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Name	Sub-branch
Malcolm Stewart FORD	Northern
David John DAVIES	Northern
Clive PARSONS	Wombourne
Christopher RODEN	Leek and Cheadle
Neil POULTNEY	Lichfield
Chris DOUGLAS	Burton and Uttoxeter
Adrian MARTIN	Northern
Simon O'DONNELL	Lichfield
Clare DAVENPORT	Wombourne
Zoe Clare GOODFELLOW	Burton and Uttoxeter
Alan MATTHEWMAN	--
Anna BANTON	Burton and Uttoxeter
Geoffrey MARTIN	Northern
Alison AUSTIN	Northern
Andrew Paul MACHIN	Stafford and Stone
Stephen G WHITWORTH	Lichfield
Samantha YOUNG	Stafford and Stone
Christopher Jerome LOVATT	Stafford and Stone
David Lee CROWTHER	Northern

Can we wish you all a long and healthy retirement!

Chairman's Corner

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Staffordshire Knot, the Kings Coronation has taken place and what a wonderful spectacle it was. The British are tremendous when it comes to executing pomp and ceremony at such events. The Police and Armed Services did us all proud, I am sure that serving officers from Staffordshire were at the Coronation under the Mutual Aid Agreement. Those officers will take back some wonderful memories to their families and colleagues.

Work is very much ongoing by National NARPO to research if NARPO should move from being an unincorporated organisation to an incorporated one. The machinations of this exercise are fully explained in the May 2023 edition of NARPO News.



WWW.NARPO.ORG.UK

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

XPS Pensions administer the **Staffordshire Police Pension**,
XPS Pensions 01642 030692

ARE YOUR CORRECT CONTACT DETAILS HELD BY NARPO?

KEEP IN TOUCH.

Please notify the Branch Secretary if contact information needs updating, E.g. email change, new address, new phone number, or changed spouse/partner.

Many email addresses are removed from the database in a clear out because of undelivered messages bouncing back, contact the Branch Secretary if you are missing out.

Let us know if you want magazine and/or newsletter mailing deliveries stopped. **Narpo News** is available on the website www.narpo.org. **The Staffordshire Knot** is available on our website www.narpo-staffs.co.uk



Locally there have been other changes to the Executive of Staffordshire NARPO. Des Lockwood who has been our secretary for 17 years has decided to step down from the position, a role that he has undertaken with great vigour and professionalism. I pay tribute to him, as I am sure all the members of Staffordshire NARPO will do. He and his wife Pat were presented with gifts to show our appreciation for what they have both done for members over those years. He is not leaving the arena altogether as he has been elected as Vice Chairman of NARPO, as Gerry Robinson another stalwart of NARPO has retired from this position.

Des will be a hard act to follow, but fortunately Kevin Waters has been elected to the position of Secretary and is making excellent progress, in making the position his own. I thank Kevin for taking on this exacting role. I am sure we will all wish him very success. Over the last few months there have been several changes to the Executive, but hopefully the Branch is now back on an even keel.

I also welcome Mike Kozam as Branch Treasurer, elected to the post at the AGM in March. Mike kindly stepped forward to assist when ill health caused Reay Pearman (known to many as Bruce) to relinquish the position he has held for many years. I thank Reay for his many years dedicated service and wish him well in his continuing medical treatment.

On a brighter note, I congratulate Reay and his wife Janet on their recent Diamond wedding anniversary, for which they were recipients of a card and messages from His Royal Majesty Charles III.



I have had a request from the Reverend Glynne Watkin, who is a Police Chaplain seeking information about the Mill Meece Police Training Centre. He hopes to produce an article about the subject and would be interested if any NARPO Member who attended Mill Meece would like to contact him. His email address is revglynne@hotmail.co.uk

Mark Judson [Chairman of the Staffordshire Branch of NARPO]

Members Called to Higher Service Feb 2023 – Jun 2023

<i>Your Branch records with regret the deaths of the following members:</i>				
	Name	Sub Branch	Age	Died
Ret'd Sgt	Robert William SHELDON	Burton/Utttoxeter	92 yrs	3/3/2023
Ret'd Sgt	David BILLINGTON	Stafford/Stone	82 yrs	26/2/2023
Ret'd Supt	Cyril Derick HURMSON	Stafford/Stone	86 yrs	10/3/2023
Ret'd Sgt	Alan ROTCHELL	Northern	82 yrs	17/3/2023
Ret'd PC	John Vincent JORDAN	Cannock/Rugeley	68 yrs	24/3/2023
Ret'd PC	Bernard RUDGE	Northern	79 yrs	21/3/2023
Ret'd Insp	William Douglas HAIME	Leek/Cheadle	91 yrs	7/4/2023
Ret'd Insp	Leonard GREENFIELD	Tamworth	93 yrs	24/4/2023
Ret'd Sgt	Alan BRADLEY	Stafford/Stone	91 yrs	14/4/2023
Ret'd DC	Elwyn MORRIS	Northern	80 yrs	26/4/2023
Ret'd Supt	Cecil BOWEN	Stafford/Stone	88 yrs	9/5/2023
Ret'd PC	David George BLUNDELL	Cannock/Rugeley	75 yrs	9/5/2023
Ret'd PC	Peter LARGE	Stafford/Stone	80 yrs	2/6/2023
Ret'd DCI	Anthony Legge	Wombourne/W. Mids	84 yrs	9/6/2023

Widows and Spouses Called to Higher Service

	Name	Sub Branch	Age	Died
Mrs	Nina PRESTON	Tamworth	91 yrs	Feb 2023
Mrs	Jean ASTILL	Cornwall	94 yrs	9/04/2023
Mrs (Wife)	Christine HANCOX	Stafford	78 yrs	12/4/2023
Mrs	Maureen HARVEY	Northern	84 yrs	8/04/2023
Mrs	Prudence Mary RATCLIFFE	Stafford	95 yrs	1/05/2023
Mrs	Margaret Gallagher	Northern	72 yrs	7/05/2023
Mrs	Judith Ann BENNETT	Leek	74 yrs	24/05/2023
Mrs (Wife)	Christine Ann PODMORE	Bourne End	74 yrs	6/06/2023

From the archive:

HMIC Inspection 1953

Commander W.J.A Willis accompanied by the Chief Constable of Staffordshire, Colonel G.W.R. Hearn carried out the Inspection of the Force in 1953.

The Mounted Division was inspected at their Headquarters in Eastgate Street, where the Inspector saw six men and the Divisions seven horses. In charge was Sergeant A. E. Perry.

The Traffic Division's inspection took place at the Police Sports Ground at Silkmore Lane, Superintendent W.R. Burton being in charge. The Assistant Chief Constable Mr S.G. Buttress was also present.

Commander Willis later inspected the Women Police Officers stationed at Brook House Eccleshall Road Stafford. Ch Insp Mary Wright being the officer in charge.

The Motor Training Centre at Seighford Hall was also inspected, Insp Barker being the officer in charge.

Woman Police Constable Tina Dayus.

I recently came across information about Tina Dayus, she joined the Force in 1966 and was apparently the top student out of a course of 90 officers, training at Ryton -on-Dunsmore. At the time she resided at Windsor Road, Stafford and her father was a senior clerk at Baswich House Headquarters. Prior to joining the Force, she had been a short-hand typist at Stafford Borough Police Station. Her first posting was at Cannock Police Station.

I would be interested if any readers have any knowledge about Tina's Police Career. [Photo Staffordshire Newsletter - Friday 28 January 1966.]

Mark Judson.



Leek and Cheadle

A group of Leek and Cheadle NARPO member enjoyed a great Cream Tea on the Churnet Valley Heritage Railway to commemorate the Coronation weekend.

The next Leek and Cheadle summer meeting will be on Tuesday 4th July, 7.30pm at Cheadle Cricket Club. Refreshments provided, limited numbers for food. All welcome.

Mike Smith Leek and Cheadle Sub branch Secretary.

BRANCH CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN

 Mark Judson
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SECRETARY

 Kevin Waters
 07768 233123

TREASURER

 Mike Kozam
 07806 732968

SUB BRANCH CONTACTS

BURTON

 Chair pending
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 Mick Draycott
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 Mike Smith
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LICHFIELD

 Brian Williams
 01543 253120
 Linda Hicken
 01922 452572

NORTHERN

 Kevin Waters
 07768 233123
 Dave Malam
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Northern

Next meeting 5th October 2023 at 45 Club,
92, Lancaster Road, Newcastle under Lyme, ST5 1DS
Dave Malam Secretary, Northern Sub Branch

Stafford and Stone

Committee members are keen to learn of any members who may need assistance, so please get in touch with us if necessary. Our contact details are on page 5 of the Staffordshire Knot and on the Staffs NARPO website.

Gerry Robinson's next quarterly Lunch Club will be at The Dun Cow, Colton, Nr Rugeley, **WS15 3LG** at 12 noon for 1:00 pm, on Wednesday 2nd August 2023.

A very popular family owned village pub, serving excellent value and fresh food and drink.

Book your menu choices from their website with Gerry Robinson before Wednesday 26th July. Google 'The Dun Cow, Colton'.

**Please let Gerry know now if you are interested
(email Gerryu3a@gmail.com; Tel 01785 212394)**

Best wishes to you all. Stafford Sub-Branch Committee –

Phil Challinor, Secretary

Lichfield

Lichfield members and guests attended a Coronation Celebration Lunch on Tuesday, 6th. June, at the Old Schoolhouse, Restaurant at Weeford. Our next meeting will be on Monday 24th July 2023 at Chasetown FC Social Club, **WS7 3QL**

'The Staffordshire Knot' was the name of a Pickfords canal barge which was the scene of the rape and murder of Christina Collins aged 37 years, a passenger travelling from Liverpool to London in June 1839. Her body was recovered from the canal at Brindley Bank, Rugeley. Crew members James Owen, William Ellis and George



Thomas were convicted of the crimes. Owen and Thomas were hung in April 1840. A reprieve was granted for Ellis and he was sentenced to transportation for life.

Christina's body was buried in St. Augustine's Churchyard in Rugeley. The headstone is engraved "*To the memory of Christina Collins, Wife of Robert Collins, London, who, having been Barbarously treated was found dead in the Canal in this parish on June 17th 1839, age 37yrs.*" A statue (pictured) in memory of Christina stands on the canal bank.

For more information search for:

<https://www.capitalpunishmentuk.org/The%20Bloody%20Steps.html>

National Police Memorial Day – Friday 29th September 2023

Staffordshire NARPO will again be marking this occasion with a service at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas (near Burton-Upon-Trent). This year the short, informal service led by Reverend Brian Williams will be held in the area at the head of the designated memorial garden 'The Beat'.

Entry to the arboretum is free (donations are appreciated) and car parking is £4 for the day. We meet up in the cafeteria/restaurant in the main Remembrance Centre from 11:00 am for the service at 12 noon. In the event of poor weather, the service will be held in the Chapel. Please let Brian Whitehouse, Stafford & Stone Sub-Branch, know if you will be attending (Tel: 01785 215099), Email: brian_whitehouse@hotmail.com).

Cyprus Emergency 1955-1959 Memorial Service

National Memorial Arboretum Alrewas Sunday 20th August 2023



The annual National Cyprus Combined Memorial Service to Armed Services and Police will take place at 12 noon on Sunday 20th August, 2023 at the National Memorial, Arboretum, Alrewas, DE13 7AR

The memorial itself is a four ton stone, delivered from Cyprus, and contains the names of the 22 Police officers and 372 servicemen who lost their lives during the campaign.

The 'Cyprus Rock' is the only known joint Armed Services/Police memorial. For those who have not yet visited the National Memorial Arboretum and are interested in Armed Service history a visit is highly recommended.

You are cordially invited to join this moving tribute to the police officers and military personnel killed in the conflict.

Entry to the arboretum is free (donations are appreciated) and car parking is £4 for the day (discount arises if you book on-line in advance).

Brothers - In Law

Three brothers, who are now all police pensioners, were honoured for their combined service to Staffordshire and multi cultural representation. Photographed are Peter, Stef, and Tony Lungrin. All served in the City of Stoke on Trent.



Burton-on-Trent and Uttoxeter

Next meeting 11th July 2023 at Marston's Brewery Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton, **DE14 2BG**

Regards, Mick Draycott (Burton & Uttoxeter Sub Branch Secretary)

SUB BRANCH CONTACTS

STAFFORD



Chair Vacancy





Phil Challinor



07908 617946

TAMWORTH



Glyn Thomas



01827 67545



Robert Vaughan



01543 257624

WOMBOURNE



Roger Jones



01902 847299



John Cooper



07779 050244

Weirdest Facts

The tallest dam in the world stands three times higher than the Statue of Liberty. The Kentucky Dam on the Tennessee River USA. Is 63 metres high and a whopping 2567 metres long.

Your newsletter is edited by our website manager Joe Molloy,
☎ 01889 583991 or email:
joemolloy@narpo-staffs.co.uk

Open Letter to Staffordshire NARPO Membership

Dear All. As Chairman of Staffordshire NARPO, which is now entering its seventy second year of existence. I thought that I would write this open letter to the membership in an endeavour to encourage as many members as possible to become more involved in attending and running of the eight NARPO Sub-Branches across the County.

In recent years it has become more difficult to get members to volunteer and to take on positions within the Executive of these Sub-branches. This is just not a problem confined to the Staffordshire Branch of NARPO, it may be that the demise of Police Clubs and Wet Canteens has somewhat fractured the camaraderie that used to exist within the Police Service.

Staffordshire NARPO has in the region of 2000 members, so there is a vast pool of people who could put themselves forward to assist at these Sub-Branches.

I am often informed that retiring members are too young to be involved with NARPO, or they do not like the structure of how Sub-branch Meetings are conducted. My answer to these two points is that we all become old eventually and may need assistance from friends and ex-colleagues, and that by attending the meetings you may be able to influence how the meetings are conducted. They do not have to be formal affairs but can be more of a social gathering. It would also be great if more female members could attend the meetings, they would be most welcome.

Currently Cannock/Rugeley, Stafford, Burton/Utttoxeter and Northern Sub-Branches are struggling to attract members to take on Secretary and Chairman positions. If these positions cannot be filled, then some of these Sub-branches may not be able to function into the future.

I do not believe that taking on one of these positions is a too onerous task, especially if you have committee members around you to assist with any work that is involved.

I do implore members to support their Sub-branches to ensure that Staffordshire NARPO can continue for another seventy-two years and uphold the memories of all those ex- colleagues who have gone before us.

Mark Judson. [Chairman of Staffordshire NARPO.]