



# NARPO Newsletter (Merseyside Branch)

[www.narpo-merseyside.org.uk](http://www.narpo-merseyside.org.uk)

Spring 2024



## From the Chair

Soon we can look forward to the clocks 'springing forward' and gradually giving us longer days with hopefully some warmer weather. With that in mind we have planned some opportunities for Architectural Walking tours of our city. NARPO member and former colleague Brian Curran is a qualified guide and has kindly offered to put some tours on for our members including friends and family. Further details are provided overleaf.

It seems a while ago now, but the Merseyside Police Carol Service was well attended with several NARPO members being present. Vice-Chair, Stan O'Connor gave a reading and I believe the occasion made for a very fitting start to the festive season.

The rescheduled Oswaldtwistle Mills and Pendle Witches tour went ahead in early February. A good time was had by all as you can see from the photo in this issue. Thanks again to Ruth for organising such an interesting and enjoyable trip.

Arrangements for the planned 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Cadet Corps are well under way. The lunchtime event will take place at the Liner Hotel on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024. Please contact George Dafnis if you wish to be added to the list: [gandldafnis@talktalk.net](mailto:gandldafnis@talktalk.net)

I recently had cause to research travel insurance. If you are aged between 50 and 74 and particularly if you are approaching your 74<sup>th</sup> birthday, then please read on. NARPO nationally, has spent significant time and effort in finding a suitable replacement policy as the previous supplier was no longer providing travel insurance. I know this caused many of our members a significant problem, and like me, had to shop round to find a suitable policy, probably at significant cost in many cases. I looked at the most recent NARPO Travel Insurance; it is administered by the Civil Service Insurance Society (CSIS). It is a fixed price annual worldwide policy for either individuals or couples and renews on 1<sup>st</sup> June every year irrespective of what date you take out the policy. Once you are 'In the system' there is **no upper age limit** providing you are medically fit to travel. There is no long-winded medical questionnaire to complete, but clearly there are some exclusions, and you need to check if this is a suitable policy for you individually. I personally completed the whole application in 5 minutes, and it was such a relief to know that providing we are medically fit to travel I will not have to worry in the future. If you require further details here is the link: <https://narpo.org/narpo-travel-insurance/> or visit <http://csis.co.uk/narpo> or call the travel team on 01622 766 960.

Once again, I thank our committee members for all their hard work behind the scenes on behalf of our members. We do have vacancies on the committee, so if you are able to join us, please contact our secretary for further details, you will be made most welcome and your assistance will be much appreciated. One of the main tasks for each of our committee members is to keep in touch (usually by telephone annually, or more frequently if desired or deemed necessary) with those who are over 80 years of age. Happily, we have more members reaching the age of 80, but clearly, we need more people on the committee to share out the increasing numbers. Please consider undertaking this task by volunteering to join us via [secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk](mailto:secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk) or 07505 477162.

As you can see from this edition, we have some social events planned. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Merseyside Police, which I am sure will be a splendid and fitting celebration. Our AGM takes place at 2pm on 24<sup>th</sup> April, slightly earlier than previous years; I hope as many of you as possible will come to support us and stay for some light refreshment afterwards.

Sending you all my very best wishes,

*Christine Parkinson MSc*

*Chairperson*

# EDDIE-TORIAL

Well, after the rollercoaster ride that 2023 brought health wise, I have received the good news I desired in early 2024. I'm saying no more other than gentlemen of a certain age or with family history should get a PSA test, even if only for peace of mind. Even the King is not exempt from the big "C."

The Annual General Meeting is on the horizon, Wednesday April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Liner Hotel in Liverpool City Centre. Please consider attending, with your spouse if possible, and furthermore have a good deep think about standing for election to the Committee.



Some of you may have had the opportunity to read the piece I penned for the MerPol in-house magazine "Mersey Talk." This was aimed primarily at recruiting new members to NARPO, and especially our branch given the perceived lack of interest in Pre-retirement Courses. Hopefully, this will have the desired result as the recently retired step forward. Some even join prior to the "big day." I can say at this juncture that it appears to be working, although fairly slowly.

Speaking of new "young" retirees it would be great to see some fresh blood on social occasions. Those events in the pipeline are detailed later in this edition. You will be made most welcome. Just remember that the rest of us were new retirees at one stage!

Members continually question me as to why there is more than one NARPO branch locally when most of us served in the same Force. That question would be better directed to the secretaries of Southport, St. Helens, and Wirral branches as I cannot give a definitive answer.

## WIDOW(ERS) DRAW

June McGowan, Barbara Hackett, Margaret Edwards, Margaret Crawford, Lillian Coulthard, Doreen Hayes, Patricia Roberts, Lesley Smith, Patricia Forster, Eunice Soden-Barton, Diane Bargh, Margaret Quinn, Johanna Cleary-Bamford, Justine Earle, Anne Flaherty, Margaret Hesketh, Lorna Olley, Diane Bridson, Lynda Blair, Pauline Parkinson, Veronica O'Neill, Lillian Jones, Gwyneth Brown, Diane Quirk, Olive Ashworth.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Diane Quirk (widow), Jason Keating, Thomas Clarke, Jo Gething, David Wildman, Royce Dalby, Raymond Baxter, Jonathan Samuel, Alan Thompson, Michael Tait, Andrea Reid, Patricia Brady (widow), Mary Clarke (Widow), Nick Moore, David Gardner, Geraldine Birch (widow), Dorothy Ash (widow), Lillian Lyng (widow), Joanne Mills, Janet Hogan (widow), Lesley Wilcocks (widow), Patrick Kelly, Darren Bremner, Joanne Howard-Aspinall

HARVEY HOWELL  
SOLICITORS



GET SOME FREE ADVICE ON WILLS, TRUSTS, AND POWERS OF ATTORNEY FROM OUR NARPO GOLD PARTNERS  
HARVEY HOWELL SOLICITORS  
(0151 928 8597)

## Hilary Reaches The Peak!



The Chief Constable Serena Kennedy KPM, NARPO Welfare representative George Dafnis and I attended the celebration of widow member Hilary Williams' 100th birthday. Hilary was presented with flowers and chocolates whilst she enjoyed a family celebration.

*Christine Parkinson*

MERSEYSIDE POLICE CAMPIONI, CAMPIONI



There will be a 40th Anniversary Celebration of MerPols first winning of the National Police Cup on Saturday 25th of May at Riversdale. The invitation is extended to all who played Force or Divisional football during their service. It will start from 2pm and a hotpot will be provided. It would be great if anyone has any memorabilia to bring it along.

Those wishing to attend please message Ken Wagner  
07883 521285 for catering purposes.

*Merseyrail Aigburth Station is an easy 10 minute walk from the club.*

## "T" DIVISION REUNION

There will be a reunion for all retired colleagues from "T" Division, to be held at Riversdale Police Club, 12.30pm on Wednesday 12th June 2024.

There will be food and a raffle and wonderful prizes, at the amazing cost of only £12. So please try and come along.

Payment to be made by cheque, made out to "T" Division, and posted or handed to

Neil Horn  
15a Pine Avenue,  
Bebington,  
CH63 3ER

Bank Transfer  
Sort code 01-07-02  
Acc. 56568657  
'T' Division Business



**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Merseyside Police**  
**Liner Hotel, Liverpool**  
**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**£25.00 per person**  
 (i.e., Merseyside NARPO Member &  
 Spouse/Partner/Guest)

Please contact Hon. Secretary for bookings  
[secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk](mailto:secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk)  
 07505 477162

**LAST FEW REMAINING PLACES!**

*Bookings close on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024*

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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024**

The Annual General Meeting 2024 will be held at The Liner Hotel,  
 Lord Nelson Street, Liverpool L3 5QB on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
 commencing at **2.00pm.** *(please note revised timing)*



"Scoff" will be served shortly afterwards.

Members are urged to make every effort to attend. Places **must** be  
 booked for catering purposes. Closing date Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April  
 2024.

[secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk](mailto:secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk)  
 07505 477162

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**Merseyside NARPO**

**NARPO Lunch - 3 COURSE CARVERY**



**WEST LANCASHIRE GOLF CLUB**  
 Hall Road West, Blundellsands L23 8SZ  
 (Merseyrail Hall Road Station within 100 yards)  
 Parking Onsite

**SUNDAY 12th May 2024**

**12.30pm FOR 1.15pm**

**Tickets £20.00 each (Member + 1 Guest)**  
**(Booking Form available from Hon. Secretary)**

[secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk](mailto:secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk)  
 07505 477162

**Edinburgh Military Tattoo**



Accommodation at The King Robert Hotel, Stirling,  
 (36 Miles from Edinburgh Tattoo, (Approx 1 hour drive)



**Itinerary**

**Monday 5th August 2024**

Travel directly to Hotel

Welcome Tea/Coffee Scones on arrival.

Evening Meal at Hotel

**Tuesday 6th August 2024**

Breakfast at hotel

Depart in the afternoon for Edinburgh for free time to explore and  
 have evening meal before the Tattoo performance.

Return straight back to hotel at conclusion of Tattoo.

**Wednesday 7th August 2024**

Breakfast at Hotel

Late checkout (due to driver requiring hours off after late return  
 from Edinburgh)



**Limited Availability!**

Excursion cost £259.00 per head (Merseyside NARPO member plus  
 spouse/partner/guest) including entry to Tattoo.

Bookings via Ruth Rowan  
[ruthrowan@narpo-merseyside.org.uk](mailto:ruthrowan@narpo-merseyside.org.uk)  
 07900 973056

# OBITUARIES

Date	Name	Status	Age
<b>November 2023</b>			
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Michael Leonard Wilcocks	Constable 4514	76 years
<b>December 2023</b>			
6 <sup>th</sup>	David John Bartram	Sergeant	83 years
10 <sup>th</sup>	Thomas Charles Bansor	Det. Constable 6593	70 years
14 <sup>th</sup>	Ivy Harte	Widow	97 years
17 <sup>th</sup>	Stephen Fisher	Sergeant 3221	75 years
21 <sup>st</sup>	Russell Mainwaring Clarke	Sergeant	83 years
21 <sup>st</sup>	Philip John Brady	Constable 4071	69 years
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Robert Duncan	Constable 2588	83 years
31 <sup>st</sup>	Gordon Nanney Barclay Duncan	Sergeant 35"C" (L&B)	93 years
<b>January 2024</b>			
8 <sup>th</sup>	Victor Raymond Ash	Det. Constable 2506	77 years
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Anthony Reynolds	Constable	86 years
<b>February 2024</b>			
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lewis Albert May	Constable 2028	88 years
5 <sup>th</sup>	Peter Barry Green	Sergeant 3202	72 years

## Architectural Walking Tour

Guide: Brian Curran – NARPO Merseyside member  
 Time: 12:30 hrs  
 Dates: Select one of three options – **Friday 10th May**,  
**Monday 10th June** or **Wednesday 10th July**  
 Duration: 2 hours approx..  
 Start: Central Atrium of the Mann Island Building  
 (black modern building)  
 Route: Pier Head – cross The Strand – up steps at  
 Our Lady and St. Nicholas Church – Chapel  
 Street - Water Street – Exchange Flags –  
 Castle Street – Q.E.II Courts – finish at  
 Liverpool One.  
 Distance: Approx. 2.29 kms with stops

Brian has kindly offered the tours free of charge to NARPO members and will charge £5pp for family/friend/guest.  
 Please contact NARPO Secretary Eddie McGrath to book on a tour.

Each tour is limited to 15 people on a first come, first served basis, so book early. A reserve list will operate.

If anyone feels unable to complete the tour as described, Brian is willing to schedule shorter bespoke tours.

For any questions or specific requests, Brian can be contacted via email: [cugsey4106@gmail.com](mailto:cugsey4106@gmail.com) or mobile: 07815 599351.

## Pendle Witches Country

The recent excursion was another huge success. More fantastic work by the organiser Ruth Rowan!



## And Finally.....



I had the absolute pleasure and privilege to represent NARPO Merseyside at the recent Federation Charitable Trust Fund Raising Dinner, hosted by Chief Constable Serena Kennedy KPM, with Kathryn, my wife. Most enjoyable. One of the fund raising projects has been discontinued with the transfer of headquarters from Canning Place where members were allowed to park at off-peak periods for a donation of £2.00. Approaches have been made re a similar arrangement at Rose Hill. It is not exactly city centre but for two quid would beat the Q Park, John Lewis etc, hands down.

Although some might say that being "single" has its advantages, one of the things that has been mentioned to me is reluctance to book social occasions giving such reasons as "I will feel out of place going on my own" or "I won't know anybody." I have reserved 2 tables at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for "singles," one for the gals and one for the guys. So, don't be shy. When I was a kid I used to go to the Palladium cinema in Seaforth for the kids matinee (Gene Autrey, Roy Rogers, The Three Stooges, Durango Kid et al). Before the show we sang a song which may be appropriate to NARPO Merseyside today:

### Lyrics

*"The more we are together, the more we are together, the more we are together the merrier we will be.  
 For your friends are my friends and my friends are your friends  
 The more we are together the merrier we will be."  
 Can't replicate the tune but the lyrics seem somewhat appropriate today.*