



COMMUNICATION - WELFARE – SOCIAL

Dear Members

Welcome to our September Newsletter.

Pensioners Garden Party and NARPO Summer BBQ

Thank you to all those members who were able to attend these events. The Garden Party was well attended and it was great to see so many of you there. The three Essex NARPO branches continue to support this event financially and it remains free for all retirees to attend. Thanks to the efforts of Sue, our Branch Secretary, several new members were signed up to join the Branch.

The BBQ is organised by NARPO and is a very relaxed affair with food supplied by our own team. Although the attendance is gradually improving, we would like to see more members, together with family and friends, attend next year. It's a great opportunity to meet former colleagues and friends. Keep your eye on our circulations for the date.

Thursford Christmas Spectacular Friday 22 November 2024

Pat, our Social Secretary, is arranging this event for the second year running. Together with my family I attended in 2023 and it really was a great show!

Using the services of Elite Travel of Chelmsford the matinee event cost is £82.50 per head. This includes the luxury coach travel. If you would like to attend, please contact Pat by 12 September so that he can secure our booking. Mobile: 07935 400002 or narposocialsec@gmail.com

Branch Christmas Get-Together Saturday 14 December 2024

Another chance to meet former colleagues and friends.

As usual the event will be held in the EPSA Clubroom at Police Headquarters, Chelmsford between 12 noon and 1600 hours. There will be a free cold buffet with tea, coffee and mulled wine. The bar will be open for the usual range of drinks, unfortunately at your expense.

Should transport be required, please let Pat know and he will assist wherever possible.

Please let Pat know if you will be attending: Mobile: 07935 400002 or narposocialsec@gmail.com

NARPO Travel Insurance

Members should be aware the age range for this annual policy has been extended to 79 years of age. We understand that providing you join with a maximum age of 79, you will continue to be eligible for membership going forward but you must maintain your NARPO membership.

For further information, please contact csis.co.uk/narpo or telephone: 01622 766960 (option 6).

Essex Police Pension Issues

Since March this year two of our Branch members (Ricky Goold, assisted by Ian Brown), have been pursuing Essex Police Pension Payroll over perceived errors in pension payments. After a lot of hard work by the members Payroll eventually agreed that errors had been made, these have now been addressed and are being monitored by the members concerned.

Further details can be found in the post lodged by Ian Brown on the **VG Retired Friends** Facebook page under the title 'Pension overpayment/underpayment Update'. If you are not already a member, please go to the site where you can apply to join. This is a private site open to retired Essex Police officers and police staff, you will be asked a number of security questions to make sure you are eligible to join.

As a consequence of the errors, it would seem some pensioners have been overpaid, whilst others have been underpaid. During August, **Payroll contacted the pensioners concerned**, by email or post, to advise them that the necessary adjustments would be made in the September pay round. Unfortunately, some members, especially those who rely upon postal communications, may have only received short notice of those adjustments.

Your Branch only became aware that adjustments would be made in September when I personally received notification, on 16 August, that I had been overpaid. The email contained an apology and contact details should I need further assistance.

I have now been in receipt of my pension for 25 years and this is the first time I remember an issue of this kind. We fully understand that any problems with pensions can cause distress, if you have any queries with your personal pension, you should use the contact details provided by Payroll pursue the matter. Sadly, feedback indicates that not all communications with Payroll have been conducted in a calm and professional manner – please remember that staff are there to assist you!

I will liaise with the Pensions Board to explore why some people only received short notice of the adjustments and whether NARPO could assist with advising members should further problems occur in the future. We are also seeking advice on pensions via NARPO headquarters.

Contacts

As ever if you have matters to raise with your committee, you can contact Sue Heaton, our Secretary at EssexChelmsford@narpo.org or me at chairman.narpo.chelmsford@gmail.com (mobile 07941083696). Welfare matters can also be sent to either of these addresses or by phone and we will forward direct to our Welfare Officer in confidence.

Bob

Robert Good - NARPO Chelmsford – Branch Chair

30 August 2024

Obituaries

- Clifford Stollery who retired as a Chief Inspector in 1990 and served at Chelmsford, Maldon, Harlow, Wickford, Clacton and HQ. He passed away on 26th May 2024 aged 94 years.
- Alan Clothier who retired as a Constable in 2007 and served at Rayleigh, Canvey, Colchester, Mistley and Stanway Traffic. He passed away on 19th June 2024 aged 72 years.
- Geoffrey Emsden who retired as a Supt in 1997 and served at Stansted Airport, Brentwood, Stanway, Training school and HQ. He passed away on 19th June 2024 aged 78 years.
- Vera Bayliss who retired as a D/Sergeant in 1978 and served at Romford, Brentwood, Pitsea, Basildon, Chelmsford and HQ. She passed away on 24th June 2024 aged 98 years.
- Gordon Nesbit who retired as an Inspector in 1995 and served at Colchester, Chelmsford, Basildon, Grays, Braintree, HQ and Training School. He passed away on 28th June 2024 aged 79 years.
- Terrence Cook who retired as a Sergeant in 1998 and served at Chelmsford and the Regional Crime Squad. He passed away on 9th July 2024.
- Denys Flint who retired as a Sergeant in 1981 having served 30 years in the Southend Borough Police on general duties and Traffic patrol. He passed away on 16th July 2024 aged 93 years.
- Keith Thomas who retired as a Sergeant in 1992 and served at Leigh on sea, Traffic, Rayleigh, Braintree and Chelmsford. He passed away on 19th July 2024 aged 78 years.
- Alec Fox who retired as a D/Inspector in 1989 and served at Harwich, Holland on sea, Clacton, Epping, Billericay, Basildon and Grays. He passed away on 28th June 2024.
- Dave Hudson who retired as a Sergeant in 2006 and served at Grays, Thurrock, South Ockendon, Basildon and Brentwood. He passed away on 7th August 2024 aged 73 years.

May they all rest in peace

Gary Sanderson – Newsletter editor