

The Staffordshire Knot

Staffordshire Branch of Narpo [96]

c/o 6 Hearn Court, Rising Brook, Stafford, ST17 9QN

☎ 01785 540500 (with Voicemail)

<https://narpo.org/branch-pages/staffordshire-members-area/>

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Name	Sub branch
Wayne Paul Martin	Northern
David Hide	Leek and Cheadle
Sarah Emma Roberts	Northern
Anthony Stewart Pine	Stafford and Stone
Maria Jane Farrington	Burton and Uttoxeter
Helen Jane Mason	Stafford and Stone
Louise Karen Sherwani	Cannock and Rugeley
David Eatough	Burton and Uttoxeter
We wish you all a long and healthy retirement!	

Chairman's Corner

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Staffordshire Knot. Since the last issue in June 2024, we have had a change in Government following the General Election. It will be interesting to see what effect the Labour Party makes to policing in this country and our finances in general.

This quarter has been a busy period for events, we had the 100-year Anniversary of the Welfare Fund which was held at Police Headquarters Weston Road on 5/7/2024. It was hosted by the Chief Constable Chris Noble and was a well-attended event. It was good to see old colleagues, who during their service had contributed to the continued success of the Welfare Fund.

Delegates from Staffordshire NARPO attended the Annual Conference of NARPO which this year was held in Torquay on 6/9/2024. As well as the normal presentations concerning wellbeing the Police Covenant and initiatives to increase and improve recruitment to NARPO. There were four resolutions that were debated and voted on. The votes this year also involved the first use of a proxy voting system which has been introduced as a result of NARPO becoming an Incorporated Company.

Two resolutions from the London Branch, one concerning every member of NARPO being allowed to vote at Conference, and the second one



WWW.NARPO.ORG

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

XPS Pensions administer the **Staffordshire Police Pension,** XPS Pensions
03300 545505

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.

Contact the Branch Secretary Kevin Waters if you are missing messages.

Let us know if you want magazine and/or newsletter mailing deliveries stopped. **Narpo News** is available on the website www.narpo.org. [Password XPOL1919]

The Staffordshire Knot is available via the website [Staffordshire Branch pages](#).

concerning the suspension of the minimum subscription to NARPO for 2025 were defeated following the vote.

Two resolutions submitted on behalf of the National Executive Committee which concerned amending the current appeals process against removal of a NARPO member from a Branch were also lost following the vote.

Staffordshire Police asked Staffordshire NARPO if they could support the Force Open Day, which took place at the Weston Road Headquarters on Sunday 15/9/2024. Kevin and I offered to don traditional police uniforms around the Staffordshire Police History and Heritage Display. We were also joined by Ben Wilkes another NARPO Member who was wearing his own 1920'S Police Uniform.



The event was very well attended, despite the rain Kevin, Ben and I had an enjoyable time, and our uniforms generated much interest from the public and especially their children. Many photographs were taken of us as a policing group.



The Stafford Subbranch again organised a Remembrance Service to mark National Police Memorial Day for fallen colleagues, which was open to all our members at the National Arboretum near Alrewas on 29/9/2024 [feast day of St Michael the Patron Saint of Police Officers].

The event, as in previous years, was very successful, and the service was conducted by our own NARPO member the Reverend Brian Williams.

One of our members contacted me regarding two issues that may be a benefit to the wider membership:

1. As a regular holiday traveler abroad, he refers members to a company called “All Clear Travel Insurance,” stating that they are very competitive.
2. He also recently had dealings with a company called “Hearing Star” which is advertised in the NARPO News magazine. He was very pleased with the service he received from them in respect of the fitting and purchase of hearing aids.

Mark Judson

[Chairman Staffordshire Branch of NARPO]

September Consumer Price Index

The September 2024 CPI figure is 1.7% in line with the September-to-September increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This results in all police pensions payments increasing from 8th April 2025, subject to Government ratification.

Subscriptions for membership to Narpo will be increased according to our rules from 1st January 2025.

Members paying directly to Staffordshire Branch are asked to alter their payments, see the article on page 7.

Members Called to Higher Service Jun 2024 – Oct 2024

Your Branch records with regret the deaths of the following members:				
	Name	Sub Branch	Age	Died
Ret'd PC	David Paul Buckley	Stafford and Stone	63 yrs	27 Jun 2024
Ret'd Insp	Alan Bracking	Northern	84 yrs	27 Jun 2024
Ret'd PC	Philip William Eccleston	Cannock and Rugeley	77 yrs	11 Aug 2024
Ret'd Sgt	Nigel Anthony Friedrichs-Braun	Stafford and Stone	60 yrs	14 Aug 2024
Ret'd D Sgt	Alan Vincent Overall	Stafford and Stone	88 yrs	15 Aug 2024
Ret'd PC	Clarence Bernard Bradbury	Cannock and Rugeley	80 yrs	27 Aug 2024
Ret'd PC	Ronald Wright	Burton and Uttoxeter	96 yrs	5 Sep 2024
Ret'd Sgt	Celia Moss	Northern	83 yrs	20 Sep 2024
Ret'd PC	Raymond Cyril Garbett	Stafford and Stone	77 yrs	4 Oct 2024
Ret'd Ch Insp	Leonard Harding	Northern	76 yrs	7 Oct 2024
Ret's Sgt	Frederick Fox	Stafford and Stone	90 yrs	11 Oct 2024
Ret'd PC	Keith Bolas	Stafford and Stone	81 yrs	14 Oct 2024

Widows and Spouses Called to Higher Service

	Name	Sub Branch	Age	Died
Mrs (Wife)	Heather Boulton	Leek and Cheadle	-	19 Jun 2024
Mrs	Elizabeth Bailey	Leek and Cheadle	-	Not given
Mrs	Winifred Jean Bragg	Northern	98 yrs	9 Jul 2024
Mrs (Wife)	Jennifer Lloyd	Burton and Uttoxeter	76 yrs	1 Aug 2024
Mrs (Wife)	Cynthia Grace Rowley	Northern	84 yrs	2 Aug 2024
Mrs (Wife)	Dorothy Jones	Wombourne	73 yrs	5 Sep 2024
Mrs	Sheila Willard	Leek and Cheadle	90 yrs	24 Sep 2024
Mrs (Wife)	Betty Jean Dimelow	Burton and Uttoxeter	78 yrs	6 Oct 2024

From the archive: Research by Mark Judson

In February 1959 Sergeants and Constables in the Staffordshire County Police will be going about their duties wearing their new headgear. The Staffordshire County Police has gone over to helmets in preference to peaked caps.

Comment by the public seemed to be in favour of the change. the view generally being that the helmets add dignity to the officers of the law.

The more modern type of peaked cap now issued to the Policewomen appears to be amenable to the lady's hair style, than the more masculine hat that they have been wearing previously.

The helmets are of a standard pattern with a chromium plated rose top. The badge an enlargement of the type formally used; it displays the Stafford Knot prominently against a dark green enameled background surrounded by a King Edwards Crown.

Officers on clerical or motor patrol duties will not normally wear helmets, although they are being issued to all so that they can be worn if the occasion demands.

A press photography shot was taken with Sgt R Faulkner wearing the new male helmet and W P.C. A Woodward wearing the new headgear for Policewomen.

Stafford and Stone Subbranch

Our Autumn meeting was scheduled for Thursday 24th October 2024 at 7:30pm at The Constitutional Club, Lloyd Street, Stafford, ST16 3AS. Due to the need to discuss the impact of Narpo incorporation there was no guest speaker arranged. Our next meeting will be on 27th February 2025.

Our annual Subbranch Lunch is being arranged for Saturday 1st February 2025, at Brocton Hall Golf Club, 12 noon for 1pm Lunch. Booking forms will be available from our website and from Gerry Robinson after 1st December.

Phil Challinor, Secretary

National Police Memorial Day - Sunday 29th September 2024



Leek and Cheadle Subbranch

The next meeting of the Leek and Cheadle Subbranch will be on Tuesday 5th November at 7:30 pm at Leek Hockey Club, Macclesfield Road, Leek ST13 8LD.

Mike Smith, Leek and Cheadle Subbranch Secretary

Tamworth Subbranch

Our last event of the year will be held on Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 7:30pm. As skittles are unavailable, a fun Bingo session will be followed by a buffet provided by the club and funded by the Sub-Branch. There will also be a raffle. There will be no Agenda or Minutes, so this is a great opportunity to socialise with your former colleagues.

Bob Vaughan, Tamworth Subbranch Secretary

BRANCH CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN

Mark Judson
☎ 01785 660095

SECRETARY

Kexin Waters
☎ 07768 233123
☎ 01785 540500

TREASURER

Mike Kozam
☎ 07806 732968

SUB BRANCH CONTACTS

BURTON

Chair Roy Dimelow
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Secretary (interim)

CANNOCK

Joe Molloy
☎ 01785 561792
Maurice Cryer
☎ 07976 426228

LEEK

Andrea Plant
☎ 07707 996907
Mike Smith
☎ 07955 425462

LICHFIELD

Brian Williams
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Linda Hicken
☎ 01922 452572

NORTHERN

Kevin Waters
☎ 07768 233123
Dave Malam
☎ 07971 594950

Pension Remedy

Eligible members of the police pension scheme have more choices about the benefits they receive for service between **1 April 2015 and 31 March 2022**. This is known as the Remedy Period and these choices are referred to as 'remedy' – you may have also heard them linked to the 'McCloud' review. Briefly, pension choices taken in the qualifying period allow pensioners to seek a correction if they were adversely affected by the choices given at the time of taking their police pension. All pensions taken in this time may be eligible.

Please visit the National Police Chief's Council {NPCC} national website at www.pensioninfo.co.uk where you will be able to find a link to the useful information, FAQ's, member remedy documentation and a video to help you understand your choices.

We are aware that members are struggling to find information relating to the McCloud Remedy and we wanted to help members find that information.

They have set up a dedicated website for all things Remedy, accessed at <https://pensioninfo.co.uk/latest-news/> . There are a number of Member Remedy flyers and an extensive FAQ section where you should be able to find the answers to many of your questions.

NPCC have published guidance for members on the following areas, these are being added to regularly so please ensure you keep an eye on the updates on the homepage for any new guidance/documents.

- Added Compensation Payments
- Beneficiaries
- Compensation
- Compensation Claim Form
- Contingent Decisions
- Contingent Decisions Claim Form
- Contribution Adjustments
- Divorce
- Ill-Health Retirements
- Remedy Timetable
- Update on Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statements

Staffordshire Police has a dedicated Pensions Remedy inbox for anyone who may need further assistance and guidance. They can be contacted at pensionsremedy@staffordshire.police.uk
A template letter has been prepared by the the Police Federation to assist those concerned with formulating their claim for interest adjustments on their website:-

<https://www.polfed.org/support/pensions-update/remedy/>

This letter is also on the NARPO website

<https://narpo.org/pensions-challenge-update/>

Northern Subbranch

The meeting for Northern Subbranch was held on Thursday 3rd October. We heard the fascinating and moving story of a former Marine, disabled in service during a training exercise and the valiant recovery and fund raising he has performed to benefit other injured and disabled service personnel.

The Annual Dinner and Cabaret, is to be held on 21 March 2025. The details and booking form on page 6 and on the website. Anyone interested who does not use the website can request details and a booking form from Keith Houlston (Tel 01782 616118). Next meeting 17th April 2025.

Dave Malam (Secretary, Northern Subbranch)

NARPO – STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH - NORTHERN SUB BRANCH

DINNER AND CABARET

Friday 21st March 2025, 7:00–7:30pm at

Trentham Park Golf Club

(off Whitmore Road, Trentham, ST4 8AE)

Cabaret –To be confirmed

Starters (gf = Gluton Free)

- *(1) Rustic tomato and vegetable soup with roll & butter (vegan)
- *(2) Creamy pan cooked mushroom with garlic & herbs (vegetarian)
- *(3) Fan of melon with berries (gf, Vegan & vegetarian)

Main Courses (gf = Gluton Free)

- *(4) Home made steak Shropshire blue cheese & red wine pie
- *(5) Supreme of Chicken with creamy leek& bacon sauce (gf)
- *(6) Roasted vegetable pie with potato & cheese topping (vegetarian & vegan)

All served with seasonal vegetables, chips & baby roasted new potatoes

Desserts

- *(7) Individual raspberry trifle.
- *(8) Lemon cheesecake with whipped cream.
(Alternatively vegan & gluten free cheesecake is available).
- *(9) Small Cheese (cheddar, stilton with celery and chutney) and Biscuits

Coffee served at table & Mints

£23 per head (just 50 pence more than last year)

If cancelled with less than 48 hours notice, still to be paid for.

Cheque payable to "NARPO Northern Sub Branch Social Fund" to

Keith Houlston, 17 Fountains Avenue, Newcastle, Staffs. ST5 3PD

By 31st January 2025

Mark selections above and retain for your copy, return below part with your cheque.

===== **Cut**=====

Booking Form – Northern NARPO Dinner Friday 21st March 2025

(* Please use above menu numbers only)

Name 1 (Capitals please) First name Surname

Tele.No Email

Starter * Main *Dessert *

Name 2 (Capitals please) First name Surname

Tele.No Email

Starter * Main *Dessert *

CHEQUE FOR £..... ENCLOSED Signed _____ Date _____

In submitting this form I consent to NARPO holding the personal details supplied and recording them in written or electronic forms for the purpose of arranging this event. I consent to being contacted by the telephone or email given if necessary to discuss the booking and for relevant information to be shared with the venue caterers. I am aware that privacy and data protection policies are available on the website and in writing on request. National Association of Retired Police Officers, a company limited by guarantee incorporated and registered in England and Wales with company registration number 15415367.

XPS Pension Website and Email Services

We encourage members to make use of the Pension Administrator online access to pension information.

Members of the Staffordshire police pension scheme can access their pension account by registering with XPS website for self service through www.myownpension.org.uk

The service holds your pension pay notices, P60 summary, and pension entitlements. To sign Up for Self-Service you will need to have at hand the below details:

National Insurance Number

Date of birth

Email address

(you may need to call and register your email address to your account by phoning first).

If your email address is held by XPS you can sign up for self service on the internet at <https://www.myownpension.org.uk/home/non-member/thinking-of-joining.html>

NARPO 2025 Membership Subscription

The CPI inflation figure of 1.7% for the 12 months to September 2024 was announced on 16th October. NARPO subscription for 2025 will be £26.76 (previously £26.28). The majority of members will pay your subscriptions by direct monthly deductions (£2.23) from your Staffordshire Police pension by XPS, and no action is required by you.

Life Members, Widows & Widowers of deceased members do not pay a subscription for their continued membership.

For all Full members receiving police pensions from different police services and Associate Members, it is requested that you make your 2025 subscription payment of £26.76 by BACS bank transfer by **8th December 2024**.

Please amend Standing Orders or make a payment to:

Account name: Nat Assn Retired Police Staffs Branch.

Treasurers Business Account.

Sort code: 30 98 00 Account number: 00349756

Lloyds Bank, Stafford.

Please add the reference '**NARPOSUBS**' and your NARPO membership number, so that your payment can be identified. Your membership number is on your members card (if you still have it) or printed on the address label of the NARPO News and this Staffordshire Knot edition you receive from Wakefield. You can also email the Branch Secretary or Treasurer if necessary to ask for your member number.

If you are not able to make payment by BACS you can pay by cheque made out to 'NARPO Staffordshire Branch' and posted to the Treasurer, Mike Kozam at 52 Windsor Road, Stafford ST17 4PB.

Finally, thank you for your continuing membership of Staffordshire NARPO. **Mike Kozam (Branch Treasurer)**

SUB BRANCH CONTACTS

STAFFORD

Chair vacancy

☎ 00

Phil Challinor

☎ 07908 617946

TAMWORTH

Glyn Thomas

☎ 01827 67545

Robert Vaughan

☎ 01543 257624

WOMBOURNE

Roger Jones

☎ 01902 847299

John Cooper

☎ 07779 050244

Staffordshire Branch is a branch of National Association of Retired Police Officers, a company limited by guarantee incorporated and registered in England and Wales with company registration number 15415367. A list of the directors of National Association of Retired Police Officers can be inspected at our registered office: NARPO House, 38 Bond Street, Wakefield WF1 2QP. NARPO is a business name of National Association of Retired Police Officers.

Helmets/Caps/Hats

Could you donate or lend a souvenir helmet/cap/hat for use at a former officers' funeral?

Loaned items returned intact after the service. Send description of your item to Kevin Waters.

Your newsletter is edited by our website manager Joe Molloy, ☎ 01785 561792 or email: joemolloy@narpo-staffs.co.uk

Burton & Uttoxeter Narpo Christmas Lunch

The Pavilion, Branston Golf and Country Club, DE14 3DP

Wednesday 11th December 2024

12:30 p.m. Arrival for 1:00 p.m. Lunch

Starters

MENU

- A. Sweet Potato Soup
- B. Chicken Liver Pate
- C. Prawn and Crayfish in Dill Mayo (On a bed of fresh leaves with tomato & Chilli Gel)

Main Course

- A. Traditional Roast Turkey (With Traditional Trimmings and Veg and Gravy)
- B. Sundried Tomato & Feta Tart (With Roasted New Potatoes & Veg with Pepper Cream Sauce.
- C. Baked Salmon (with Spinach Cream, Crushed New Potatoes & Veg)

Dessert

- A. Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce
- B. Cheese & Biscuits
- C. Vanilla Cheesecake (with Chocolate Sauce & Raspberry Coulis) (V)

Cost per person £28. Wine, Tea and coffee and Dinner Mints inc

Please make your selection and send your completed order slip and Cheque payable to "NARPO"

NO later than 15th November 2024

To Phil Johnson, 151 Efflinch lane, Barton-under-Needwood, DE13 8EY Tel: 01283 713384

YOU ARE INVITED TO BRING ONE WRAPPED RAFFLE PRIZE AND A £1 COIN

.....Cut off and return Below Section.....

NAME A

STARTERMAINDESSERT (Indicate by above list letter)

Name B

STARTERMAINDESSERT

I would like to sit with.....

Please advise any dietary needs when booking. A telephone contact number may be useful.....

In submitting this form I consent to NARPO holding the personal details supplied and recording them in written or electronic forms for the purpose of arranging this event. I consent to being contacted by the telephone or email given if necessary to discuss the booking and for relevant information to be shared with the venue caterers. I am aware that privacy and data protection policies are available on the website and in writing on request. National Association of Retired Police Officers, a company limited by guarantee incorporated and registered in England and Wales with company registration number 15415367.