



**Hastings &  
Rother  
NARPO**



**Dave Newnham**  
Chair



**Chris Reeves-Fowkes**  
Vice-Chair



**John Levett**  
Secretary



**Karen Paine**  
Treasurer and Welfare

# Phoenix News



Issue 4

Nov/Dec, 2023



## News from our Chair

It's that time of the year again. As I muddle through life it seems to me that Christmas takes on a different form almost yearly. I love it. The kids are in their fifties and the grand-kids are growing into adults. They seem miles ahead of me in every respect but I still see them as they were when they were about 10 years old. I hate to think of just how they see me! I realise just how lucky I am ... and that's without taking into account all of the friendships made through the years. So.....HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!

We have the Christmas buffet and lunch coming up soon. It will be good to meet up again for a chat, maybe a few drinks, and I hope lots of laughter.

Our first 'civvie' members of Sussex Police, Margaret and Mike O'Connor have joined the Branch. This is a new step for us to take and John, our Secretary, will outline 'terms and conditions' below. Welcome aboard! Hopefully this will lead to more of our important support staff following suit. The Branch continues to expand which is rewarding for the Committee to see. At this point I would like to thank them all for their support over the past year and to again wish everyone...

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS...All the Best Dave.



**NARPO Website:-  
www.narpo.org**

**Hastings & Rother  
NARPO**



## Our Secretary—John Levett

Hi Everyone,

We are always keen to attract new members to our branch and have recently recruited our first member who served as a member of support staff. Most other branches have been accepting retired members of support staff as associate members for a while. My feeling is it just reflects how the police service has changed and how support staff, certainly towards the end of my service became an integral part of the police family. I hope that if you know of any retired members of support staff that you will let them know that they are eligible to join and would be welcome at our Branch as an associate member.

NARPO HQ are pushing ahead with making NARPO a limited company despite the resistance from many branches. I am told that it will have little effect on the day-to-day business of how individual branches operate so we will have to wait and see.

The Hastings and Rother Reunion organised by Trish RF at the Poppy Club, Little Common in October which was open to all who served at Hastings or Rother was very well attended and seem to go down well. So, many thanks to Trish for her efforts.

I will be contacting those who don't have their NARPO subs deducted from their pension shortly for payment of next year's subs.

Hopefully we will see lots of you at the Xmas Buffet at Horntye Park 12.30pm to 3pm Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and the Xmas dinner Robin Hood, Icklesham on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (If you have booked).

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas.

John.

## Welfare & Treasurer

First of all I would like to apologise for the late edition of Phoenix. As most of you will know, I had to have an emergency appendectomy and was out of action for six weeks. Anyone who tells you it is just a routine operation is very wrong! Also, thank you for my Welfare gift which was arranged by the Committee. It was very much appreciated and made me realise how important Welfare is to those who are feeling low or poorly. I will try to get Phoenix out to you every 2 months as we agreed but its not always possible—trying to co-ordinate with all of the contributors. I hope you enjoy this edition and if anyone has any suggestions or wishes to contribute, please contact John. Have a lovely, peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Best wishes  
Karen x

## Our Christmas Meeting & Buffet



*Our next meeting is at Horntye Sports Club at 12.30 pm on Wednesday 6th December, 2023. There will be a buffet and Christmas Quiz as well as a raffle with £50 1st Prize gift voucher. We look forward to seeing you there. Please note the change of time as it is Winter and the evenings are dark and cold!*

## Christmas Lunch at The Robin Hood, Icklesham

*There has been a fantastic response to the Christmas lunch and we look forward to seeing you all there. 12.15pm for 1pm start on Wednesday 20th December, 2023. There will be a raffle and festive prizes, great company and Christmas cheer!*





Hastings & Rother  
NARPO

Phone: 07554521629  
E-mail:  
hastingsrother@narpo.org



NARPO Website:-  
[www.narpo.org](http://www.narpo.org)

## Metal Detecting exploits from Dave Newnham

Have you ever watched 'The Detectorists' on TV? If not, for your info, it is a comedy/drama following two metal detectorists, played by Mackenzie Crook and Toby Jones. Well worth a watch too. I took up metal detecting quite a few years back, and weather permitting can be seen trudging over local fields swinging what looks to be like a frying pan on a long stick across the ground. Local farmers have given me permission to detect on their land and I notify them of any 'finds' I make. Anything of value is split 50/50 with them. [Most of the time their view is that if I am stupid enough to wander over muddy fields then I am welcome to it!]

Metal detecting has its critics, normally from the archaeologists, who see it as damaging our heritage; assume that all metal detectorists are treasure hunters and that we are stepping on their professional toes. The reality is that metal detecting 'finds' account for over 80% of articles recorded on the National Portable Antiquities System yearly, and that 'new historical sites' are often first discovered by responsible detectorists who initially find the first coins or artefacts.

I have found some really fascinating objects over the years. Currently, with a few other detectorists I am exploring adjacent farms to create a picture of the varying habitation/development of the land over the past 2000 years.

Cheers!

Dave x



James 1st Shilling (see XII on coin denoting 12 pence). James 1st ruled 1603 –1625



Hastings & Rother  
NARPO

Phone: 07554521629  
E-mail:  
hastingsrother@narpo.org



NARPO Website:-  
[www.narpo.org](http://www.narpo.org)

## Our President

### Gordon Message



## New

## Members

Mrs Margaret O'Connor

Steve Mosley

Craig Wenbourne

## News from Nigel Ovenden in Calgary

Having retired in 2004, Gill and I sold everything and moved to Alberta, Canada in June 2005. We left both of our children and grandchildren to start a new life out on the prairie in a town called Granum, becoming citizens in 2009. Our daughter and her family followed us over in 2007. Our son moved north to Scotland where he still lives.

Gill's qualifications as an RN got us our permanent resident cards on landing at YYC (Calgary). She worked as a RN until her retirement through ill health eight years ago. I worked various part time jobs never really settling in anything. I was diagnosed with PTSD about 5 years ago forcing my retirement.

Here on the prairie the summer is dry and hot and the winter cold and snowy. Since living here the hottest is 40 °C, the coldest being -46 °C. Summer is July to September before autumn and winter until the following May. My favourite time is a cold, crisp morning with snow on the ground and a clear blue sky.

We now live in Fort Macleod having downsized and be closer to the amenities. I love life in Canada and will strive to join the 30/30 club

All the best to you all, Nige



## Interesting facts (Readers' Digest)

- ◆ Turns out, there's quite a bit of gold on—or, really in—our planet: 99 percent of the precious metal can be found in the Earth's core, How much is there? Enough to coat the entire surface of the Earth in 1.5 feet of gold.
- ◆ If a child's entire circulatory system—we're talking veins, arteries, and capillaries—were laid out flat, it would stretch for more than 60,000 miles, according to the Franklin Institute. By the time we reach adulthood, our bodies have become home to approximately 100,000 miles of blood vessels.