



**Hastings &
Rother
NARPO**



**Dave Newnham
Chair**



**Chris Reeves-Fowkes
Vice-Chair**



**John Levett
Secretary**



**Karen Paine
Treasurer and Newsletter**

Phoenix News



Issue 6

April/May, 2024

News from our Chair

Greetings everyone. Here is hoping that you are all keeping well.

The AGM was well attended and it was good to see our Members participating in the discussions and raising really interesting and pertinent points. I felt that you were supporting us as a committee and it was very welcome. Thank you.

The next passage is purely a personal view so bear with me please.

When I was a Sergeant at Shoreham in the late 'seventies' I was tasked with taking my Section to Hove to provide support for the 'Albion' footie match against a well known rival club from London. Trouble was expected. Two of the 'rival' fans, dressed in their Club colours were making their way in to a 'Brighton supporters' pub. Not a good idea you may feel. I stopped them and politely said, 'Don't go in there. It's a Brighton Pub and it really wouldn't be good news.' They were nice lads and said, 'We only want a drink.' My reply was words to the effect, 'I get your drift. I don't want any trouble tho. There's two of you and about a hundred of them!!!. There will be a b....y riot!. I'm here trying to stop trouble. Rightly or wrongly, you going in there may spark it off. I know its not right but that's how it is.' They didn't go in. Problem resolved. Had they persisted, would I have 'nicked' them for something? Yes. Probably I would have done..to keep the Peace'. Would I have been supported by the bosses? Yes, I would. (I hope?) Life isn't always fair.

Was my choice of words right? Possibly. Was there someone there just waiting to score points from my actions? Thankfully... No.

Do I have sympathy with the 'Met' Sergeant at the recent pro-Palestine march who has been hung out to dry? 100 per cent...'Yes'.

I can't imagine how much things have changed with 'Policing'. I shudder to think how the many common sense approaches to difficult situations that we all made, (albeit 'not fair/not politically correct') proved to be right, even before the '9am jury' .

I think our Police Officers deserve our respect and support. They have got mine.

All the best
Dave

Federation Insurance

Those of you who took out life insurance with the Federation and continued that cover after retirement, will know the provider was changed from George Burrows to Phillip Williams recently. There has been some confusion as to whether retired officers are still covered. The cancellation part only relates to those individuals who took out ADDITIONAL LIFE COVER through George Burrows. It doesn't affect the life insurance cover already provided through the Sussex Police Federation and the new providers Phillip Williams. That still remains in place.

To clarify, you only need to concern yourself if you had ADDITIONAL COVER THROUGH George Burrows, the previous insurers. If you had this, you would have been paying it through your bank account direct to George Burrows and not via your pension.



NARPO Website:-
www.narpo.org

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Welfare

As I said at the AGM, I am stepping back from Welfare slightly due to personal circumstances, although I shall still be present in the background! Chris and Dave have volunteered to take on the role. If you know of anyone who would benefit from a visit or needs assistance in the way of Welfare, please let us know.

Best wishes
Karen

Our next meeting is at The Robin Hood, Icklesham at 1pm on Wednesday 19th June, 2024. There will be a free buffet and raffle. Please let us know if you are attending by 31st May, 2024 for catering purposes.
(hastingsrother@narpo.org)

A Year in the Life of a Shepherd

Well, Spring has arrived and we are in the middle of lambing!

Ten years ago, we invested in some land and a flock of sheep to keep us active in our retirement! We have certainly been kept busy—looking after the land, maintaining the fencing, managing the sheep, and building a barn for both storage and providing a safe environment for lambing. We have also planted a number of fruit trees and installed various feeders to encourage a range of wild birds to the area.

In all we have approximately 60 sheep. This year we have 18 ewes in lamb, which after scanning, showed that we were to expect 12 sets of twins and 6 single lambs, totalling 30. At the time of writing we have 23 healthy lambs and are awaiting the arrival of the other 7. This is a family enterprise and our daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren all play a major part in caring for the flock. It is magical to witness the lambs being born and subsequently frolicking together in the field.

Our next date in the calendar is around May/June when shearing takes place. We have 2 mobile shearers who visit and make short work of the task, taking around an hour from start to finish!

Then in Summer, depending on the weather, we cut and bale our own hay before stacking it in the barn. This is usually hot work!

Usually around November 5th (Firework Night) we put the rams in with the ewes and sparks fly! This means that the lambs will be born at the beginning of April the following year and so the cycle begins again.

Keeping sheep has been a steep learning curve, although our son-in-law has previous experience, so we are learning from him and are not on our own. We thoroughly enjoy it and spend many happy hours at the field. There is always something to do and it really makes us appreciate nature in all its glory!

Janet Mileham



Has anyone else taken up a new interest or hobby in retirement? If so, perhaps you would like to tell us about it?



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



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£20 Bonus

At the last AGM it was agreed that all current paying members would receive a £20 payment to reduce the excess of funds in the branch account. Payment will be made by bank transfer. Members should submit by email preferably (hastingsrother2@narpo.org) details of the account they would like the payment to be made to. This must include the following:-

Name of the Account
Account Number
Sort code

Members without email access should contact Karen (Treasurer) on 01424 272257 with the above details.

Note - the closing date will be 31st May, 2024. Any unclaimed payment will be donated equally between the St Michael's Hospice and the Air Ambulance charities.

Our Secretary

Hi All

The evenings are getting lighter which is promising. We now need the weather to warm up so the central heating can be switched off for the summer.

Thank you to all of you who attended the AGM. Hopefully we are getting the balance right between getting the necessary business completed and having the chance to socialise, but any feedback is welcome. The good news is all the current committee were re-elected.

I recently attended the NARPO Regional Meeting which was heavily focused on the new NARPO Company. Kevin Moore (the Eastbourne Secretary) was elected as our new Regional Rep replacing Ahmed Ramiz. Kevin becomes a Director in the new company, as do all regional reps. I'm confident Kevin will use his influence to protect the autonomy of local Branches. The good news is that Company Law now applies, so the Annual Conference becomes the Company AGM and for the first time Branches get a vote on changes—whether they send reps to the AGM or not.

Take care,

John



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



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Our President

Gordon Message



New Members

Steve Chandler

Peter Sharpe

Dave Upjohn

Social—Ken Walker

On the social scene, we have two booked events and a possible further outing.

Firstly we have the summer buffet booked for the 19th June, 2024 to be held at the Robin Hood PH, Icklesham. However, we do require numbers of those attending in order to conform to the establishments fire restrictions and as such would any member planning to attend, please let us know by the 31st May 2024?

Secondly, we have the Christmas Dinner booked for December again at the Robin Hood PH. Details of which will follow later.

Thirdly, we have a proposal from a member, in respect of an outing to the D-Day Map Room in Portsmouth. I would think that this would be a very interesting day for anyone interested in WW2 history. However, we need to know numbers wanting to attend as soon as possible to plan and facilitate what, if any, transport would be needed.

I would also ask anyone who has any ideas or thoughts on possible outings or other functions etc to please let us know.

Regarding the summer buffet numbers and any interest in the Portsmouth please reply via the NARPO email or contact any of the committee or me on 07454 799911

Regards

Ken

Footnotes - Janet Mileham

Mary's mother has four children. The first child is called April, the second May and the third June. What is the name of the fourth child?

Answer: Mary!

Handy Hint

Put some porridge oats in an old sock and tie it off. Place in a warm bath and swish it about. This is a soothing treatment for itchy, dry skin. Rinse off and pat skin dry.

Did you know?

Maine is the only US State with one syllable in its name
