

N.A.R.P.O Medway & District Branch

SPRING 2024
Secretary: Bruce Goldfarb
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You are cordially invited to attend the Spring 2024 Annual General Meeting of the Branch to be held at, The Appleyard, Avenue of Remembrance, Sittingbourne, at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 19th March 2024.

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Obituaries
3. Selection of Committee
4. Matters Arising
5. Correspondence
6. Secretary's Report
7. Treasurers Report
8. Any Other Business

NEWSLETTER

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Winter thus far has been mild with a few storms that caused very little damage in our area and for that we must all be thankful and hopefully the weather will remain reasonable until Spring arrives.

The world situation remains very volatile with the ongoing war zones in Ukraine and in the Gulf with Houti rebels attacking merchant ships, which will in turn and in all probability increase prices in shops. The cost of living is still affecting all of us and although energy prices are decreasing, they are well above that prior to the war in Ukraine. Politically no party seems to have a clear and fully explained idea of how to improve the situation and pledges and promises by both major parties appear to be broken at will.

All our widow members received their £50 Xmas Gift and letters of thanks have been received for all of them.

The CPI for September 2023 was 6.7% and hence the rise in Police pensions will be that amount. NARPO subscription will also rise by 6.7% meaning a rise to £26.28 per year up from £24.60. This is the sum of £2.19 per month up from previous year at £2.05.

OBITUARIES (* denotes Branch Member)

Former PC2722 Antony Coppard	Died 15/10/23	Last served Maidstone
Former PC3767 Peter Gibson	Died 10/11/23	Last served Littlebourne
Former PC7053 Stephen Saunders	Died 15/11/23	Last served Edenbridge
Former DC7764 Alastair Barr	Died 4/11/23	Last served Folkestone
Former Supt3264 Jeremy Powell	Died 28/10/23	Last served FHQ
Former DC4643 Charlie Bennett	Died 21/11/23	Last served Gravesend
Former DC8108 John Taylor	Died 26/11/23	Last served FHQ
Former DC12387 Peter Humphrey	Died 30/11/23	Last served RCS
Former Supt2376 Frank Dean	Died 24/11/23	Last served Ashford
Former PC5602 John Marshall	Died 17/11/23	Last served Chatham
Former Sgt2064 Raymond Farrant	Died 11/12/23	Last served FHQ
Former Sgt4668b Roy Watson	Died 12/12/23	Last served Training FHQ
Former Sgt3106 Brian Perrin	Died 14/12/23	Last served Sevenoaks
Former Sgt3113 Edward Boughton	Died 4/1/24	Last served Dover
Former D/Supt2777David Tully	Died 7/1/24	Last served RCS

OLD COMRADES ANNUAL LUNCH

The Lunch will be held this year at The Cornwallis Suite, Courtney Road, Maidstone ME15 6LF, at a cost of £33. Those wishing to attend should complete the form attached on the Branch website and return forms to Sandra Gordon by Monday 24th June 2024 either by email or at Kent police College, Coverdale Avenue, Maidstone ME15 9DW and cheques should be made payable to Kent Constabulary Old Comrades Association. If you make BACS payment you must use your last name as a reference and you should indicate of application form you have made BACS payment.

Incorporation Update

1. Company formation and Directors

- NARPO new incorporated company now formed called NARPO
- First meeting of the new company was held on the 14th February 2024 when the NEC were appointed as Directors.

2. Four main areas of work and key issues are-

2.1 Create a functioning company

- o Open a Bank account for the new company
- o Meeting with insurers
- o Update website and domain and stationery
- o List of all organisations with which NARPO conducts business
- o PAYE Registration – when incorporated
- o New VAT Registration

2.2 Transfer Business Assets

- o Staff consultation/ information re TUPE and contracts
- o Transfer of funds to new company
- o Conveyancing of buildings

2.3 Close down Unincorporated Association

- o Not started

2.4 Finance Operations

- o Parsons to design accounting processes and liaise with NARPO Financial Controller regarding communication to Branches and training to Treasurers.

3. Conference

- o Conference will hold the AGM and voting will include Proxy voting. Information on Proxy voting and voting at Conference to be developed.

4. Timeframe

- o Looking to incorporate towards end of April 2024

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Good afternoon Bruce,

I hope you are well and having a good week. I hope you don't mind me contacting you. I work for Crossroads Care Kent – a charity that supports unpaid carers across Kent. I work specifically on our successful partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support whereby we provide volunteers to support cancer patients getting to appointments, with emotional support, practical support as well as information. Our service has been running for over a decade and continues to be a great success in supporting people with cancer across Kent and Medway.

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We are very fortunate to have some retired police officers among our pool of wonderful volunteers; specifically providing transport which allows cancer patients to get to essential healthcare appointments in a safer, more comfortable environment. Unfortunately, the eligibility criteria around patient transport provided by G4S has recently changed and it means that many patients aren't eligible for the transport and our service is needed now, more than ever.

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I wondered whether you may be able to advertise the need for volunteer drivers for us in one of your magazines? We support a large number of patients in the Medway area and therefore the need for volunteers in this area is greater. I have attached some flyers/images. If you need any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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You can also find all of our marketing material via the following link;
<http://tiny.cc/cckmarketing>

If you're able to help us spread the word at all, that would be hugely appreciated.
I can send some text about this too.

Kind regards,

Claire Battersby (she/her)
County Lead – Macmillan Volunteering Service
Crossroads Care Kent

Phone: 03450 956 701
Web: www.crossroadskent.org
Email: claire.battersby@crossroadskent.org

LIAISON MEETINGS

The Force has to make significant savings which may impact on police staff positions. The Force cannot reduce officer numbers without incurring a financial penalty from the Home Office.

Chris Collins will be stepping down from his role but will continue to Chair NARPO Meetings and organise the Old Comrades Lunch. Chris was thanked for his continued support of NARPO and his 58-59 years working for Kent Police.

KENT BRANCHES BEREAVEMENT BOOK

This booklet has still not appeared for members, and it was hoped it would be finalised prior to this meeting. Members on email will be able to download a copy when available and amendments will be made as and when required. Those members not on email will be able to obtain a copy from the Secretary. The problem appears to be getting details from new payroll XPS.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

All members are reminded to notify the Secretary of any change of address. Failing to notify changes will result in your name and details being removed from the N.E.C mailing list and you will no longer receive the NARPO magazine. Once a magazine is returned not known at this address your details are removed.

You should also notify pay role and pensions and the Benevolent Fund at FHQ.

BENEVOLENT FUND

All members are to be aware that the Benevolent Fund is there to assist in many ways. If you wish to know any further details, please contact Bruce Goldfarb on the telephone number at the top of this page or the e-mail address. Bruce Goldfarb and Terry Lynch are the welfare representatives for the Branch and should be able to assist.

All conversations in relation to Welfare issues are strictly confidential.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELECTIONS

The below were elected at the Spring 2016 meeting. All are willing to stand again and if any other person has an interest, please contact Secretary prior to Meeting.

Chairman: Mr T. Lynch

Vice Chairman: Mr Stephen BULL Secretary Treasurer: Mr B. Goldfarb

Committee Members

*Mr C. Mayes Mr Robert Morris Mr Peter Simmons Mr M. Baggott
Mr F. Gallagher*

No 5 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING

The next Meeting is still to be scheduled but is expected to be sometime in March 2024.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There are no matters pending and all monies owed have been paid and accounted for.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

If any member wants any other matters placed on the agenda, please notify the Secretary in writing as soon as possible. The Secretary would ask that if any other member has any stories or anecdotes of interest to the membership then they contact him directly with these memories.

SPRING MEETING 2024

The Summer Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 19th March 2024 at The Appleyard, Avenue of Remembrance, Sittingbourne.

*Bruce Goldfarb
Branch Secretary*