

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS



CHICHESTER BRANCH

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2009

CHAIRMAN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Well what a year it's been! When I think back to the late 90's and we were all being told "things can only get better" little did we know exactly what was waiting for us just around the corner. I suppose the reality is that from now on hopefully things can only get better and perhaps those little green shoots are beginning to appear. I must admit however, following the MP's expenses scandal and the constant drip of miss-information and lies, I have great difficulty in believing anything the politicians say and the current debt the Country has been saddled with leaves me wondering how it is ever going to be paid back. What a legacy for our children and grand children. But it's Christmas, so for a few days let's forget about all the negatives and just be thankful for what we have got. It's a time for friends and family's to enjoy a bit of special time together and celebrate what the Christmas festival is all about. I wish you all a very happy Christmas and may 2010 bring you health and happiness.

Bob Davies,

FROM CHAPLAIN JO

My dear friends It was a cold and misty Christmas morning in the very depth of winter after a heavy fall of snow and only one farmer and the minister managed to get to the church for the morning service. "Well", said the clergyman "I guess there's no point in having a service today." There was a long silence and then the farmer said "Well that's not how I sees it," if only one cow turns up at feeding time, I still feed it.' I love that story, as for me it says such a lot about each person being important to God. Of course in a group we can support and help one another and that's just what we do in our police family of NARPO but we should never forget that in God's eyes each one of us is special and unique. And just as we receive the gift of Jesus at Christmas so we too are gifts to one another - now there's a thought! Here are some more gift suggestions that go with that.

To your enemy: forgiveness. To an opponent: tolerance. To a friend: your heart.

To a customer: service. To all: charity. To every child: a good example. To yourself: respect.

I wish you all a joyful and blessed Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

Your Branch Chaplain Jo



OBITUARY

Mrs Doris Letley, aged 91 years of Midhurst, passed away at a nursing home in Ash, Surrey on 16th September. Doris was the widow of Sgt Eric Letley who served at Midhurst and who himself passed away in 1968, sadly within a couple of years of his retirement. Our condolences have been sent to Warren and Jane.

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to those who have joined our Branch since the last newsletter: *Roy and Judith Luke of Aldwick*. Roy is ex-Sussex having served as a traffic officer at Chichester.

Dick and Anne Myhill of Bognor, Dick is also ex-Sussex having served at Chichester and Bognor 'since the old king died'

Linda Lloyd of Aldwick, whom we are particularly pleased to see with us, following the sad loss of Graham.

PENSIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual reporting of the Retail Price increase (RPI) published on October 13th confirms that the annual percentage increase for police pensions in 2010 will be nil. The actual reporting shows an RPI of -1.4%. As there will be no increase in Police Pensions from April 2010 there will therefore be no increase in your NARPO Subscription.(£16.92), widow membership for this Branch is now free. State pensions however will increase by 2.5% in April 2010.

WHEN COPS RETIRE

When a good cop leaves the 'job' and retires to a better life, many are jealous, some are pleased and yet others, who may have already retired, wonder.....

We wonder if he knows what he is leaving behind, because we already know. We know, for example, that after a lifetime of camaraderie that few experience, it will remain as a longing for those past times.

We know in the law enforcement life there is a fellowship which lasts long after the uniforms are hung up. We know even if he throws them away, they will be on him with every step and breath that remains in his life. We also know how the very bearing of the man speaks of what he was and in his heart still is.

These are the burdens of the job. You will still look at people suspiciously, still see what others do not see, or choose to ignore. Will always look at the rest of the law enforcement world with a respect for what they do, only grown in a lifetime of knowing. Never think for one moment you are escaping from that life. You are only escaping the 'job', merely being allowed to leave 'active' duty. So what I wish for you is that whenever you ease into retirement, in your heart you never forget for one moment that you are still a member of the greatest fraternity the world has ever known.



CONFERENCE REPORT 2009

Your Chairman Bob Davies, Secretary Les Mann and Treasurer Keith Mates, attended the NARPO Annual Conference at Scarborough on the 10th and the 11th September 2009. The Conference was opened by the Mayor of Scarborough who compared policing in earlier years with today and appeared to have a good working relationship with the Chief Constable of North Yorkshire. A major item on the Agenda was the contract with 'Care First.' which was terminated. In Sussex we are lucky to have a Welfare Fund with the two Trust Liaison Officers, so this doesn't really affect us, but many Forces have no welfare provision for Police Pensioners. The new President, Eric Evans, MVO, QPM addressed Conference. The main theme of his address was Welfare for the Members. He stressed that welfare should be treated in a proactive manner as opposed to reactive. There should be a minimum standard of Welfare provision and the NEC Long Term Strategy Group is looking at the issue. The President addressed the issue of Injury on Duty Award Reviews. He thanked the new Chief Executive, Clint Elliott, for his work in this field, combined with help from the Police Federation and some inroads were being made. Two Seminars had been held for representatives at Branch level (Les Mann had attended one of these at Leatherhead).

David Hanson MP, Minister of State (Crime and Policing) addressed the Conference. He has been in post since June 2009, He acknowledged the value of NARPO, 76,000 members and 11,000 widows. He said that since arriving he has been working on the Police Reform Agenda and a white paper will be produced in the Autumn. He is looking towards building on local policing and getting away from the ethos of a target driven service. The Minister then quoted figures saying that crime had been reduced by 36%. (Yes Minister)! Mr Hanson said that another issue that is being reviewed is the 'pension for life.' If a widow or widower remarries then the pension is paid until that person dies. Nomination for partners and same sex couples are also part of this review. He then addressed Injury on Duty Awards. He is now working with ACPO on this subject. Mr Hanson said that the original Home Office Circular 46/2004 only caused confusion. Many forces decided not to implement it but many others had (including Sussex). There was no level of consistency. A Review has been ordered and Mr Hanson assured Conference that he will look at it. He also extended an invitation to Clint Elliott the CEO of NARPO to meet him in London to discuss the matter, and a meeting did take place a few weeks later. At the end of the Conference a Presentation was made to Mike Thornton, the retiring CEO. Clint Elliott now takes over and Steve Edwards is the Deputy CEO. Steve is well known for his work with the Police Federation when a serving officer in Lancashire. Next year's Conference will be held in Torquay in September.



THE WAYS OF MEN (For all you ladies)

A couple are lying in bed, the man says, "I am going to make you the happiest woman in the world". The woman replies, "Really? 'I'll miss you"...

Q: What does it mean when the man in your bed is gasping for breath and calling your name?

A: You did not hold the pillow down long enough

Dear Lord,

I pray for the wisdom to understand my man;

I pray for the love to forgive him his ways;

But most of all Lord, I pray for the patience to understand his moods;

Because Dear Lord, if I was to pray for strength, I swear I would happily beat him to death.

BOB APPS

Further to the article about Bob Apps in the last Newsletter and indeed the local press, I have learned that he is now being awarded further for his bravery when a young woman was stabbed in Somerfields, Littlehampton. He and his fellow heroes have been awarded the Sheriff of London's Certificate of Commendation from the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals. The award took place in London on the 18th November 2009. Congratulations again Bob!

PARIS RETROMOBILE 2010.

Barry Wiseman has details of a coach trip to 'Retromobile 2010'. It is one of the world's best classic car shows and is highly recommended. The trip is from 28-31 January 2010 and apart from a day at Retromobile, includes three nights half board at a good Paris hotel and a visit to the Air and Space Museum, followed by a half day free in the city. The tour includes coach travel from Ashford (Barry will be taking and leaving a car there and has two seats available), Travel is with a Berry's of Taunton coach, invariably brand new. All entry fees and the service of a French speaking guide are included. Total cost : £335. Single supplement: £60. For further information, contact Barry Wiseman 01243 827402.

THE THREE KICK RULE

A Glasgow lawyer went duck hunting in rural Aberdeenshire . He shot and dropped a bird, but it fell into a farmer's field on the other side of a fence. As the lawyer climbed over the fence, an elderly farmer drove up on his tractor and asked him what he was doing. The litigator responded, "I shot a duck and it fell in this field, and now I'm going to retrieve it." The old farmer replied, "This is my property, and you are not coming over here." The indignant lawyer said, "I am one of the best trial lawyers in Scotland and if you don't let me get that duck, I'll sue you and take everything you own." The old farmer smiled and said, "Apparently, you don't know how we settle disputes in this part of the world, we settle small



disagreements like this with the 'Three Kick Rule.' The lawyer asked, "What is the 'Three Kick Rule'?" The Farmer replied, "Well, because the dispute occurs on my land, I get to go first. I kick you three times and then you kick me three times and so on back and forth until someone gives up." The lawyer quickly thought about the proposed contest and decided that he could easily take the old codger. He agreed to abide by the local custom. The old farmer slowly climbed down from the tractor and walked up to the attorney. His first kick planted the toe of his heavy steel-toed work boot into the lawyer's groin and dropped him to his knees! His second kick to the midriff sent the lawyer's last meal gushing from his mouth. The lawyer was on all fours when the farmer's third kick to his rear end, sent him face-first into a fresh cow pat. Summoning every bit of his will the lawyer got to his feet and wiping his face with the arm of his jacket, said 'OK you old fart, now it's my turn'. "Nah, that's alright" said the farmer. 'I give up, you can have the duck'.

REMEMBERANCE SUNDAY

Dave Leggatt represented the Branch at the Cenotaph parade in London this year, this is his report:

I have to admit to being overwhelmed by the experience. A good trip up with my brother who dropped me at Trafalgar Square with a small walk to the parade area. Good contingent of NARPO members present some of which treat this as a yearly event. They parade the wives, do some retail therapy then join them for a very nice carvery lunch at Metland yard. It was a bit cool and we did have a little downpour for a short period nothing to deter a bunch of hardy cops. The thing that gets you is the cameradery of the groups and all that clapping and cheering it seemed to never end. The march was shorter than I imagined but enjoyable. The Duke of York did the salute in Horse Guards, the last time I saw him was at HMS Osprey, Portland in 1986 when I was on an officers training course with the Sea Cadet Corps, we shared a breakfast table. Would I go again? Yes I would, it was a wonderful experience that I will never forget. It has of course brought one thing into my life that I did not expect, celebrity status. It's more a case of who didn't see me on the day. I had the paper shop people, four of them, waiting for me to collect my papers. We all saw you at the parade, and so it has gone on.

Dave Leggatt.

Editors note: You may remember Hillary Fogarty's report last year in which she expressed the same sentiments. This is obviously a special day for those who attend. If you wish to be considered for next year, let the Secretary know on 01798 865776 or lesmann_narpo@btinternet.com

NEW YEAR LUNCH 17th JANUARY 2010.

A menu and booking slip is provided in this newsletter. The cost is £21pp, including all tips. Cheques made payable to our new social activities account, '**Off Beat Activities**' please. Bookings must reach Carol no later than **28th December**, no bookings will be accepted after this date. Please note that the hotel has overlapping functions on this day and **no person will be admitted to the dining rooms before 12.30pm**. No exceptions, other than the organising committee. Please, please, please - do **not** arrive early!!!!

Our planned 2010/11 NARPO excursions.

Daysh's Hotel, Torquay: Wed 20-Sun 24 October 2010.

We are offering a good value week away, where daily trips are available, or a lazy week can be enjoyed. This is a large, comfortable Edwardian-style hotel that provides many holidays for NARPO groups all around the country. We have first offer of forty rooms (including some singles), but they must be booked by 31 December 2009, as the hotel is already receiving bookings for this period. Free return coach travel will be provided from Bognor Regis. The hotel owns a number of its own coaches and also provides daily outings to such destinations as Plymouth, Dartmoor, Cockington, Shepton Mallet and many others for about £8 or less each. For those with bus passes, there are bus stops outside the hotel for many destinations. The rooms are comfortable, the meals hearty and the staff accommodating. Every night, after dinner, there is bingo, followed by live entertainment. The town is about a half mile away, at the foot of a steep hill. **The cost is £170 and a deposit of £30pp is required, to reach Carol by 15 January 2010.** Please telephone to reserve places. Payment can be by instalments of £20pp per month.

Old Time Music Hall, New Forest Theatre, Wednesday 24th November 2010.

Including coach travel, the cost is a remarkably keen **£30**. The last visit here was most popular, with many positive comments, particularly on the quality of the meals, so we have booked for a Christmas version next year, with dinner and a cream tea. Even at this early stage, the events are almost fully booked, so book *your* places now, with a deposit of £15pp, the remainder payable in September.

Nile River Cruise

We are thinking of something really radical here – a Nile River Cruise, for March 2011. It is a long way away, but bookings will be necessary next March, to ensure that a good number of us can travel together. The cost will be around £840, with air fares, full board aboard the boat, the Viking Princess and escorted visits to the Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens, Hatshepsut's Temple, Ombo, Philae, Karnak and Luxor, plus a felucca trip around Kitchener's Island, a Galaban party and possible trips to a perfumery, papyrus makers and a jewellers. It really is a holiday to remember and, with advice and commonsense, illness needn't be a part of it! Check it out on the Discover Egypt web site. A meeting will be arranged for all those interested in March to give advice on and to discuss the trip.

NARPO, Chichester Branch New Year lunch

Sunday 17th January 2010, 12.30pm for 1.00pm

at The Royal Norfolk Hotel,

The Esplanade, Bognor Regis

MENU

Starters

- A. Roast tomato and basil soup.
- B. Crispy oriental duck spring roll with dipping sauce
- C. Prawn cocktail with brown bread & butter.
- D. Carpaccio of pineapple & minted sugar.

Main course

- E. Roast leg of lamb
 - F. Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding
 - G. Baked herb salmon with dressing.
 - H. Tomato pancake filled with leek and brie.
- All with seasonal vegetables and potatoes

Dessert

- I. Lemon tart
 - J. Profiteroles with warm chocolate sauce & cream.
 - K. Treacle tart & custard.
 - L. Bakes, spiced plums with vanilla ice cream.
- Freshly brewed coffee with cream and chocolate mints.*

£21per person (includes tips)



Please indicate below choice of three courses for all persons booked for the lunch and return with cheque (payee "Off Beat Activities") for appropriate amount to Carol Wiseman, Social secretary, 6 College Close, Aldwick, West Sussex PO21 5RR(01243.827402).

.....I/we wish to

order as starter.....

As main course

As dessert.....

Payment of £.....enclosed.

Name, address and telephone number:

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Please, do remember that future cheques for any NARPO events should be made payable to "Off Beat Activities," or simply "OBA."