

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS



## NORTH SUSSEX BRANCH

### OBITUARIES

I regret to report the death of the following retired Sussex Police Officer:

**John Richard ALDERSON** who died suddenly of a heart attack on Friday 27 November at The Princess Royal Hospital; Haywards Heath. John was a member of our branch. The funeral will be held at 10:45 am on Friday the 11th December at Woodvale Crematorium, Lewes Road, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 3QB followed by a “farewell drink” at The Stanmer Park Tavern, 292 Ditchling Road, Brighton BN1 6JG.

Family flowers only are requested but donations to British Heart Foundation can be made via the Funeral Directors, P J Toop, 111 Lower Church Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 9AA, Telephone 01444 239869.

### YOUR PENSION

#### Branch Circular 38/09

#### Retail Price Index – September 2009

The Retail Price Index (RPI) for the month of September was recorded as MINUS 1.4%.

The RPI is the index that affects our Police Pensions from next April and is used by the NEC to set the levels of subscription to NARPO for the coming year starting January 2010.

Police Pensions will not be reflected by a negative figure – in other words there will be no rise in your Police Pension next year.

### SOCIAL EVENTS

#### Metropolitan Police Crime Museum

We have been given the opportunity of visiting the Metropolitan Police Crime Museum (formally known as the Black Museum) at New Scotland Yard on **Thursday 27 May 2010**.

This offer is open to branch members only NOT spouses or partners, the MPD rules not mine. Visits commence at 0930hrs and further details will be posted in the February 2010 newsletter. These visits are very popular and numbers are restricted to fourteen, so if you are interested you need to let me know as soon as possible.

If those interested exceed the permitted number then members will be selected by ballot. The MPD require the names of visitors in advance of attendance.

If enough people are interested I am thinking of combining this with an afternoon visit to the London Dungeon possibly followed by a "Jack the Ripper Tour".

If interested then please complete the attached and return to me via email [ahmed.ramiz@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:ahmed.ramiz@horsham.gov.uk) or [a.ramiz@btinternet.com](mailto:a.ramiz@btinternet.com) or by post to my home address.

The cost, travel arrangements, etc to be advised.

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I am interested in visiting and/or taking part in:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| a. The Metropolitan Police Crime Museum | Morning   |
| b. The London Dungeon                   | Afternoon |
| c. The Jack the Ripper Walk             | Evening   |

Delete as appropriate.

If transport is provided I would like to travel with the group Yes/No

Return to Ahmed Ramiz.

### **BURNS NIGHT REMINDER**

This is a final reminder that our Branch Burns Night will be held on Saturday 23 January 2010 at the Hickstead Hotel. The cost this year will be £40.00 per head which includes a 5 course dinner including three bottles of wine per table. This is a slight increase on previous years but the first in three years and represents excellent value for money. To order tickets please contact Colin Moules, on 01293 412976 or email at [c.moules@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:c.moules@blueyonder.co.uk)

### **POSTAL SCAM**

Please read below regarding a mail scam in the area.

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a premium rate number).

**DO NOT** call this number as this is a mail scam originating from Belize.

If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £315 for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud

## THE SECRETARY'S BIT



### New Members

Welcome to Kevin Clark, Mike Berry and Jeremy Paine who have recently joined our Branch

### NARPO Subscriptions 2010

As there will not be an increase in Police Pensions for 2010, subsequently there will not be any increase in your NARPO subscriptions next year.

### Benefits Advice Service

Due to the retirement of Angela Maxwell who wrote a column on Benefits Advice in the NARPO News, alternative arrangements have been made to provide members with this service commencing in the February 2010 edition by a company called "Wordshop". However as from 1 December 2009 they will provide a Benefits Information Service direct to members in a similar way to that provided in the past by Angela Maxwell. Initially access to the Advice Consultant will be by letter, email or fax although in appropriate cases the consultant may telephone the member following receipt of the original correspondence. Members should include in the correspondence that they are NARPO members. Contact details are:

By email: [sbc@wordshop.co.uk](mailto:sbc@wordshop.co.uk)

By Post: Benefits Information Consultant  
Wordshop  
7 Tilton Court  
Digby Road  
Sherbourne, Dorset DT9 3NL

By Fax: 01935 812800

**Adam Christie**  
**Branch Secretary**

### IN THE CHAIR



I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round, as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys. ~ Charles Dickens

Not a bad description of the spirit of Christmas and one which is sadly disappearing in this modern age. Still let's not despair; I hope you all have a very *Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Some final thoughts to make you think and smile:

“How come we play war and not peace?”

### Alternative Christmas Carols

Schizophrenia --- Do You Hear What I Hear?

Multiple Personality Disorder --- We Three Queens Disoriented Are

Narcissistic --- Hark The Herald Angels Sing About Me

Manic --- Deck The Hall and Walls and House and Lawn and Streets and Stores and Office and Town and Cars and Buses and Trucks and Trees and Fire Hydrants and.....

Paranoid --- Santa Claus Is Coming To Get Me

Borderline Personality Disorder --- Thoughts Of Roasting On An Open Fire

Personality Disorder --- You Better Watch Out, I'm Gonna Cry, I'm Gonna Pout, Maybe I'll Tell You Why

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder --- Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells

As always the contents and views expressed in this newsletter are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the committee, the branch or its members. In other words the buck stops here.

**Ahmed Ramiz**  
**Branch Chairman**

**December 2009**

