



# NARPO Bulletin (Merseyside Branch)

[www.narpo-merseyside.org.uk](http://www.narpo-merseyside.org.uk)



Summer 2020



FROM THE CHAIR

As summer approaches we are certainly in bizarre times. Despite the lockdown I hope you are managing to keep safe and being careful to avoid catching the Coronavirus. Well it looks that over the coming weeks, for some of us at least, we will see a relaxing of that lockdown albeit we will still have to be careful and follow the social distancing rules. At least the weather has been kind to us which hopefully has made things more bearable for you and your family.

The lockdown rules have meant that we had to cancel our normal committee meeting for April, the May AGM and several of our social events including the afternoon tea and the "Danny" cruise. We remain hopeful that those events arranged for later in the year will be able to go ahead albeit we will need to continue to review in the light of the changing rules.

The next meeting of the committee is in June and whilst that will take place it is more than likely to be a virtual meeting. Apart from Iain Fortune who is standing down from the committee the remaining members are prepared to stand for another year. Thank you, Iain, for a job well done and good luck for the future. In the absence of the AGM the June meeting will be the first of the new committee and as usual they will elect your executive for the coming year. At the AGM we would normally have had a minute silence for those of our colleagues who have died during the year. It has been so sad that as we read about our colleagues who have died that we have not been able to attend their funerals and pay our respects. **Perhaps at this point you may wish to just think about them and their families with your own moment of silence.**

Last month the Chief Constable asked us to circulate a request for Narpo members to consider volunteering to assist during the crisis. The take up from the membership was superb and if you are on email you will have seen the letter of thanks from the Chief Constable. Obviously sadly a lot of us were not able to volunteer because of the age restrictions placed on by the lockdown.

If you are over 80 you will (or shortly will) have received a call from one of the Committee. Due to the virus we have brought it forward this year to ensure that you are managing alright in these difficult times. Please remember if you do have a problem let us know and we will do our best to help or direct you in the right direction for help.

In early March, I attended the Annual Volunteer Cadet presentations and as ever it was a wonderful and rewarding evening. The appreciation of the Cadets for our assistance during the year was tremendous. The Merseyside NARPO Branch award is presented to the Cadets who have demonstrated the most progress over the course of the one-year programme. This year it was awarded to six Cadets (Adam Slocombe, Ben Holliwel, Reece Pennington, Sarah Kneale, Zoe Walsh and Abii Eaton)



Chairman Malcolm Parry presenting the NARPO award to the Volunteer Cadets

You will have noticed that we have changed our postal address as we have now been offered an office in Copy Lane Police Station. The move has been delayed until such time as the lockdown is lifted to a degree that allows us to proceed. An update will be provided in due course.

In closing I once again remind you it is your branch and the committee need your help and feedback to ensure we continue to provide you all with what you require and deserve. As ever be safe, be careful and hopefully the coming months will see some return to normality, whatever that might be. Please enjoy the summer as best the situation allows you to do and stay alert and be safe.

*Malcolm Parry*

(Chairman NARPO Merseyside)

# EDDIE-TORIAL

I wish I could write something positive, but we live in strange times. Covid-19 has dominated everything since the last newsletter. I am writing this piece on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of V.E. Day. Hopefully when I commence the Autumn 2020 newsletter, we will have celebrated V.C. (Victory over Coronavirus) Day.

Conference 2020 due to take place in early September has already been cancelled. Next year it is a bit closer to home in Llandudno. Sad this year was cancelled but glad I will not have to make that long journey.

The worst aspect of Secretarial duties is undoubtedly dealing with deaths of members. There appears to have been an inordinate amount since the Spring newsletter as you will see later in this publication. Whether the virus contributed to this is a matter of conjecture.

The A.G.M. was of course cancelled. There were no new nominations from members for election to the Committee, so the current incumbents will soldier on. Again, I stress we must be doing something right as the number of cards, letters, and phone calls of gratitude I receive would suggest.

Just when we are looking forward to a relaxing Summer holiday this cursed virus takes over. Three cruises cancelled – not happy!

Anfield Business Centre is in lockdown so like the rest of the population working from home has become the norm. On the positive side the setting up of a PO Box has been extremely successful. A reminder of our new postal address and telephone number:

**Merseyside NARPO  
PO Box 282  
Liverpool  
L23 6YU  
Telephone 07505 477162**

In round figures there are approximately 150,000 Police Pensioners but only 90,000 NARPO members. For some time now NARPO H/Q have been in negotiations with the pension provider XPS regarding sending a letter to the non-members inviting them to join, after this was successfully trialled in the Metropolitan Police. Unfortunately, there was a “misunderstanding” and letters were sent to a quantity of pensioners who were already in membership. If you received one of these just ignore it.

Since retirement NARPO Merseyside member Jim Thompson has been working with the NHS at Aintree University Hospital. He has found himself immersed in the coronavirus crisis. He has written a moving account of his experiences. Thanks Jim and all the NHS for all you have done and continue to do.

*I am proud to call you my mate and teaching partner.*

## THE FIGHT CONTINUES (Jim Thompson former Sergeant 4488)



(Jim Thompson being presented with his Care Certificate)

The fight continues - we will not relent. We rally again for our shift. We arrive - jocular. The caffeine lifts us. TV is redundant. We focus on our cause. Scrubs are the uniform. Many dressed alike - others - mix and match. Promptly, we don our PPE. What variety! Sizes are eclectic. The gowns are comedic. Petite members look like true Nightingale nurses. We have supplies. We are safe. We have good cheer. We know the road ahead. The Red Zone decreases. Subdued relief. We do not barter our expectations. We tend to those who need us. Their journeys remain uncertain. We take the watch. We bring fortitude to the field. Like worker bees, the Lilywhite Army swarms the infirm. The air is alive with hope. Cherished guests have improved. We share their joy. We know the foe lies dormant. We pity those yet to respond. We cannot govern the hand of Providence. Our drill is precise- each soul attended with compassion and resolve. Our mindset is telepathic. Assistance is abundant. Each small service we render is a success - deference to the dignity and value of our charges. When breaks arrive, our faces betray the marks of our protection. As our watch subsides, our allies take the helm. Thus, our seamless plan continues. Our support is legion. Outside our domain, the Family of Care is in unison. Every proud emblem bearer united to serve our citizens. There is optimism. There is spirituality everywhere. Let there be no doubt: none misjudges the Devil's hand infecting our land. One watch at a time is our simple gauge. Our vigil will not diminish. We learn more each day. Our strength sustains our crusade. We are galvanised. We shall overcome.

## NHS and PROUD!

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### Covid-19

**Members are requested to advise of any concerns for senior members so that any need for assistance by NARPO Merseyside can be assessed.**



These are unprecedented times and we know from the many calls we are receiving that many members are worried about putting affairs in order. We are NARPO Gold Partners and thousands of NARPO members have attended our free educational seminars throughout the country. These have, of course, now been temporarily postponed.

**HOW CAN WE STILL HELP YOU?**

To continue to help members we are offering a free telephone appointment service where, during your appointment, we can explore the many issues that may affect you.  
After your free advice discussion, if you decide there are things that need addressing, then we can deliver our service via email and post at the most competitive of rates.  
We can also review any existing arrangements you have in place.  
This is almost always invaluable advice.  
It is no exaggeration to say that over 95% of NARPO members we see do not have sufficient arrangements in place.  
There are often tens of things that can either reduce or eliminate completely your children's inheritance and which can be prevented.  
Much of this is unknown to you and that is our concern.  
Our mission is to continue to give you that fundamental information.

**WHAT DO YOU NEED TO THINK ABOUT?**

If the Duke of Westminster can die leaving over £9 billion to his son without paying any inheritance tax, then why do millions of more ordinary people lose our homes to fund long term care if we need it?  
Do not let this happen to your family. You may be astonished to hear that a traditional Will which leaves everything to the spouse and then to the children causes this problem to happen.  
What if you, or family member lose capacity through accident or illness – hundreds of thousands of people each year suffer catastrophic strokes or battle with dementia – who can take over your financial affairs and deal with your money or property, your treatment or how or even where you are cared for – your family have no say - you need Powers of Attorney.  
Estranged children (and many others) can claim against your estate when you die, even if you have specifically excluded them from your Will.

**You can stop this from happening!**

**WIDOW(ERS) DRAW WINNERS APRIL 2020**

Rosemary Bruce, Patricia Charles, Ivy Harte, Eleonora Hosker, Evelyn Potter, Marjorie Thompson, Gillian Enstone, Margaret Pickthall  
Susan Price, Jean Sumner, Primrose Whitelaw, Jean Bethom, Eva Parr, Patricia Glover, Patricia Peacey, Gillian Swainston, Alltwena Grice  
David Lees, Margaret Titterington, Susan Ryan, Olive Ashworth, Irene Owen, Sheila Abernethy, Brenda Tewkesbury, Joan Welford

**Cancellation of "Danny" Cruise**

The cruise on the "Danny" scheduled for July this year has been cancelled in view of coronavirus and the requirement to socially distance.

It has been agreed that the deposit paid to secure the booking of the vessel will be retained with a view to a sailing later this year but more likely in 2021.

Members who have paid are entitled to a refund or alternatively their booking retained as "Future Cruise Credit." Those who have booked will by now have received mail informing them of the alternatives.

This is yet another victim of the virus, but the decision has been made to ensure the safety of our members.

**Police Care U.K.**



Alan Fairclough with Branch Secretary Eddie McGrath

Prior to a recent Committee Meeting Alan Fairclough of Police Care U.K. gave a presentation on their aims and all aspects of their work. Due to the coronavirus this has been put on hold, but it is envisaged that progress can be made later this year.

**Charitable Trust Lottery Winners drawn 24 March 2020**

- £500 - D/C 6002 L McGoldrick, Crosby
- £250 - Pensioner Christopher Mark Williams

**STAY ALERT, CONTROL THE VIRUS, SAVE LIVES**

# OBITUARIES

Date	Name	Rank	Age
<b>February</b>			
24 <sup>th</sup>	Albert Alsop	Constable 640" T"	94 years
25 <sup>th</sup>	Terence Jacobson	Superintendent	77 years
<b>March</b>			
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Peter Eugene O'Connor	Det. Constable 3128	70 years
4 <sup>th</sup>	Andrew Davies	Constable 7898	55 years
11 <sup>th</sup>	John Robb Fowlie	Constable 295	94 years
12 <sup>th</sup>	Colin David Brown	Det. Constable 3946	70 years
16 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Dominic Fazackerley	Constable 5396" T"	64 years
20 <sup>th</sup>	John Bailey Fletcher	Constable 2832	73 years
22 <sup>nd</sup>	John Howard Sankey	Inspector	92 years
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Robert Barlow	Constable 1253	85 years
24 <sup>th</sup>	Steven John Gittens	Superintendent	64 years
24 <sup>th</sup>	Charles Harry Victor Mander	Det. Constable	82 years
28 <sup>th</sup>	Terence John Roe	Superintendent	74 years
30 <sup>th</sup>	Gordon Clive Finch	Constable 1144" T"	88 years
31 <sup>st</sup>	John Arthur Sandbach	Constable 896" T"	87 years
<b>April</b>			
4 <sup>th</sup>	Edmund Henry	Constable 3442	75 years
5 <sup>th</sup>	William Cusick	Sergeant 2530	80 years
6 <sup>th</sup>	Clifford Morrissey	Constable 1903	78 years
6 <sup>th</sup>	Alfred John Picken	Sergeant 689	92 years
9 <sup>th</sup>	David Ian Charles Hemes	Constable 4578	75 years
11 <sup>th</sup>	Ernest Edgar Fox	Constable 1614 (Dog Section)	88 years
13 <sup>th</sup>	Charles Ronald Peters	Det. Constable 2731	82 years
18 <sup>th</sup>	Alexander Williamson	Constable 2370	82 years
19 <sup>th</sup>	Peter Melling	Constable 2156	77 years
19 <sup>th</sup>	Walter Virano	Constable 2485	81 years
19 <sup>th</sup>	Thomas Anthony O'Connor	Constable 1389	82 years
29 <sup>th</sup>	George Frederick Penny	Det. Sergeant 1014	87 years
30 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth Joan Dean	Widow	91 years

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### Welcome New Members

Gerard Seddon, Denise Lavin, Alan Sansbury, Joseph Potts, Loretta Costello, Robin Peace, Michael Morgan, Lee Hammond, Jonathan Williams, Steven Cantillon, Carole Gittens (widow), Beryl Barlow (widow), Susan Tosney, Jean Fletcher (widow), Kathleen Melling, Patricia Sandbach (widow), Beryl Morrissey (widow), Paula Lewis, Maureen Kelly (widow), Shelagh Johnston (widow), Simon Neil Jones, Bob Gittens, John Chandler, Ian Warlow, Paula Riley, Paul Roche, Neil Thomas, Keith Jones, Donna McShane, Alfred Doran, Simon Carwithen, Gary Pickford, David Kelly, Lee Townson, John McGrath, Paul Scott, Colin Mercer, Terence Mears, John Lloyd, Stephen Hayes, Yvonne Doyle, Alan West, Francis Richards, John O'Reilly, Roger Kilshaw, Denise Dowdeswell

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### WHAT TO DO WHEN A BRANCH MEMBER DIES

On the death of a NARPO (Merseyside Branch) Police pensioner immediately contact the Branch Secretary.

[secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk](mailto:secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk) 07505 477162.

XPS (Police Pension Provider) Funeral Society (if applicable) and Personnel Department will then be informed. The bereavement followed by funeral arrangements will be circulated to members and the three local Branch Secretaries only if the bereaved family approves.

A Committee member will then resort to social media, again with family approval.

### And Finally.....



As Jim Bowen from "Bullseye" would have said ***"This is where you could have been!"***

Members have asked that I improve the quality of the jokes. Apparently, I am risking the spread of the "groanervirus!"

According to a new survey musical instruments are being randomly inserted into sentences without people noticing!

A thief has removed all the road signs in Yorkshire. West Yorkshire Police currently have no Leeds!

### Summer Sunshine Thought

My three favourite things are eating my dog and not using commas.