



NARPO Bulletin (Merseyside Branch)

www.narpo-merseyside.org.uk

Winter 2019/20



FROM THE CHAIR

It does not seem long since we started planning for the 100th year celebrations and now we are coming to the close of this important milestone in the history of NARPO. If you were present at the centenary lunch in July you will remember me saying that the ethos of NARPO in 1919, welfare and pensions, remains as, if not more, important today. It is so important that NARPO, and especially your Branch, continues to serve its members for years to come. It is for this reason that I keep repeating at every opportunity, and I make no apology for it, that members are prepared to volunteer to serve on the committee and look to being considered for one of the executive roles, Chairman and the like. If members don't then I am afraid your Branch and ultimately NARPO may face difficult times. If you are one of our younger retirees, then you would be most welcome to ensure we maintain a balanced age profile. Have a chat with me if you are interested. (chairperson@narpo-merseyside.org.uk)

In the past the Branch has not been too active on the social front as the Comrades Association were there to provide a varied social calendar. However, with their demise the committee has started to look at increasing the number and variation of events. In the last few years we have had the very successful Professional Evenings followed by the excellent afternoon teas. This year we added the trip to the Edinburgh Tattoo and the Cruise on the "Danny" with a further two afternoon teas. All of these have resulted in very positive feedback and a demand for more. The "Danny" Cruise whilst not blessed by the best of weather, was blessed as being an event enjoyed by all. Indeed, the crew were very complimentary in having such lovely passengers. It appeared they enjoyed it as much as the members. Well done Brian Starkey! It has not been possible to arrange another Professional Evening although one may still happen before the end of the year otherwise it will be in early 2020. Plans are already afoot for further afternoon teas, a Carvery in February, a further but slightly different "Danny" cruise in the summer and hopefully a trip abroad to a Christmas market(s). Full details will appear in this or future bulletins and of course by email. If you have any suggestions for an event, then please let us know and the committee will discuss it. So far, we seem to have got it right, but we are not psychic, and you may be sitting on an excellent idea for the future.

Whilst on email are you on our group mailing list. If not, then why not let the secretary have your email address and he will add you to the list. Equally if you change your email address or indeed any of your contact details then please ensure you contact the secretary and where necessary the pension provider.

Sadly, one of the questions we are frequently asked is what to do following a death. The Government Web Site

<https://www.gov.uk/when-someone-dies>

provides a summary of what is required depending on your circumstances. In relation to a member of the Branch then our secretary should also be informed

In the 101st year of NARPO the annual reporting of the CPI published for September 2019 confirms that the annual percentage increase for police pensions 2020 will be 1.7% (previously 2.4%). As from the 1st January 2020 the minimum subscription will be £21.48 (previously £21.12), this amounts to £1.79 per month (previously £1.76). A 36p increase on a year's subscriptions. Which other organisation offers so much for so little?

At the end of November, several of the committee took part in the annual interviews by the Volunteer Police Cadets. You may remember from previous bulletins that we are all interviewed by a group of Cadets on a defined topic relating to our era of policing. The Cadets then do a presentation of their findings. It is such a rewarding morning for all. The one thing that the Cadets still cannot comprehend is that many of us policed without the help of radios and of course today, mobile phones. Congratulations to Eddie Davies for all the time he spends assisting with their annual programme.

Well we now approach another Christmas and this year it is so nice that all our allocated places at the Annual Police Carol Service at St Nicholas Parish Church have been taken up. This again is a wonderful event and a lovely start to the festive season.

Well that is about it for this bulletin, but may I again remind you this is your Branch and whilst the feedback would suggest your committee are doing a wonderful job you may have ideas which will help us to continue to improve. In closing please do take care as winter progresses and make sure you keep warm and safe.

I do so hope you will be able to enjoy Christmas and that 2020 proves to be a kind one to you all.

Eddie-Torial

How time flies! Another Christmas on the horizon. It has been a great year for NARPO Merseyside. The Centenary Celebration Luncheon was an outstanding success, the "Danny" cruise so popular that there is another in the pipeline, this time during summer months, and the Afternoon Teas at Riversdale filled to capacity. Still to come is a Carvery Lunch at the iconic West Lancashire Golf Club (full details elsewhere in this edition). I have it on good authority that the Ladies (Ruth and Lorna) are currently exploring the feasibility of a trip to the Continent to visit the Christmas markets in 2020.

The branch banking system is currently under review and will be modernised in the coming months to bring it in line with similar membership organisations. This will eradicate the need for cheques when booking the social functions and prevent the mail loss experienced when organising the Centenary Celebration.



The "Danny"



Somebody had to drive it!

Merseyside NARPO
Present

New NARPO Century Lunch



3 COURSE CARVERY



AT

WEST LANCASHIRE GOLF CLUB
Hall Road West, Blundellsands L23 8SZ

SUNDAY 16th February 2020
12.30pm FOR 1.15pm

Tickets £15.00

(please advise any dietary requirements)

Booking Form Available from Hon. Secretary.
(The venue is 100 yards from Hall Road Station on Merseyrail
Northern Line and is disability/wheelchair friendly)



**Liverpool City Police at 'D' Division
Annual Re-union ~ 4th Oct 2019**

Our numbers are slowly dwindling but we still had 28 attending (including minders and wives) the 19th re-union of Liverpool City Police Officers who served at Rose Hill Bridewell.

Left to right, standing:

Hughie Pearson, Christine Lucas, Flo Pearson, Brian McLeod, Margaret McDonald, Joe Ball, Dave Ball, Neil Gaddas, Lyn Agar, Richard Agar, Brian McDonald, Robin McGrath, Eddie Davies, Norman Hendry, Bill Formby, Mavis Wass, Peter Deary, Mary Deary, Martha Boyd and Colin Boyd.

Seated, left to right:

Swazie Turner, Ted Beattie, Dave Graney, Steve Sefton, Gordon Hopwood, Charlie Wass, Brian Jones, Ray Shimmin and Geordie Harper.

Next year's reunion is pencilled in for Friday 2nd October 2020

Grazie Italia

By Alan Bonner BEM



Villa Scylla stands on the edge, right on the edge, of Lake Lugano at Ponte Tresa in Northern Italy. Across the lake, perhaps a hundred yards away, is Switzerland and at least one NARPO member, clearly a confident swimmer, has 'taken the plunge' according to the guest notebook in the villa,

I successfully applied to visit this gem in the Italian Lake District by following the instructions on the NARPO website and was delighted when my small party of five were able to visit and enjoy this beautiful building and surrounding area during June this year.

The villa itself is a masterpiece, standing in its own gated grounds, complete with tennis courts together with two small adjacent cottages for smaller group numbers.

During my stay these were occupied by two couples, one a retired North Yorkshire Traffic man, Paul with his wife Karen and the other by ex-Met. officer Mike and wife Julie and it was Mike who had the immense privilege of meeting our NARPO benefactor, Lord Woolfe, when he paid a surprise visit to his property. Mike later said that by shaking his hand he was able to personally express the gratitude of the countless NARPO members and their families who have enjoyed his incredible hospitality.

Villa Scylla is in a delightful location, well served by local restaurants and is an ideal base from which to explore this incredibly beautiful part of Italy.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Al Russo, Tracey Denton, Paul Hesketh, Stephen Mullock, Gary Jones, Andy Rouse, Wayne Hargreaves, Stephen Powell, Neil Blanchard, Andy Povey, Christine Davies, John Twamley, Steve Cox, Jane Fazackerley, Dorothy Anderson (widow), Martin Cunningham, Bill McWilliam CBE, Nick Hughes, Hayley Prentice, Kay Roberts (widow).

Reporting Changes

Once again members are reminded of their responsibility to keep the Branch Secretary informed of change of address, email address and telephone number(s). Some items destined for members are being returned unnecessarily to NARPO H/Q.

Wir reisen zu den Weihnachtsmärkten!

(Lorna Lyons Reports)

As we approached the final stop on our Coach Tour to the Edinburgh Military Tattoo in August, a voice was heard saying "Where are we going next?" A quick discussion resulted in suggestions to venture a little further afield, and maybe later in the year. The answer was obvious – a Continental Christmas Market! Happy to oblige, Ruth and I have been busy looking at options, and have come up with a suggested itinerary, namely, a three night/four-day luxury coach tour in late November 2020, to a Christmas Market Town, possibly in Belgium, via the Channel Tunnel. The cost will be around £300 per person, based on two sharing a room. To be viable, we need to know we have enough interest to fill a 48-seater coach. If this tour appeals to you, please let us know. Of course, we are not expecting anyone to commit at this stage, until full details have been sorted. Ruth and I will be at the Festive Afternoon Tea on the 4th December, or you can contact us at:

Ruth Rowan on 07900 973056 or 0151 420 5330,
ruthrowan@narpo-merseyside.org.uk

or

Lorna Lyons on 07764 255070 or 01744 611531
assistantsecretaryadmin@narpo-merseyside.org.uk

Charitable Trust Lottery Winners

(October 2019)

£500 - Mr Frank Corker, Retired

£250 - Con 6030 Kirsty John (St Helens)

Widow/Widowers Draw Winners November 2019

Catherine Cassidy
Cathleen Davies
Sarah Glynn
Zena Howard
Judith Keenan
Elaine Morgan
Elizabeth Roach
Lily Thom
Helen Whittaker
Lyn Newsham
Irene Owen
Jane Higgs
Jane Owen
Julie Blanton
Mary Doran
Sheila Abernethy
Lillian Frodsham
Eva Parr
Sheila Brown
Ruth McCambridge
Margaret Taylor
Justine Earle
Margaret Hesketh
Arlene Morton
Elizabeth Williams

Cheques are in the post (honestly)!

Obituaries

Date	Name	Rank	Age
September 2019			
2 nd	Harold William Lewis	Constable 1454	86 years
4 th	Duncan Bracewell	Chief Superintendent	85 years
10 th	Valerie Francis Ward	Detective Constable	84 years
19 th	Beryl Beatrice O'Nions	Widow	88 years
22 nd	Albert Edwards Philpott	Sergeant 1975	99 Years
23 rd	Elsie Carswell	Widow	97 years
October 2019			
5 th	Reginald Arthur Crewe	Sergeant 1636	79 years
9 th	Eileen Samuel	Detective Constable 1861	81 years.
16 th	Allan Rhys Roberts	Constable 1930	77 years
11 th	David Michael Williams	Inspector 4755	62 years
21 st	Kenneth Stewart Poole	Constable 1046 "G"	89 years
November 2019			
3 rd	Edward Robert Mitchell	Inspector 1172 "T"	89 years
10 th	John Kerruish	Detective Superintendent	71 years

Aberdeen Angus!



86-year-old Angus Brown, formerly of "D" Division, now lives in the Aberdeen area of Scotland with his beloved dog Alfie. He receives regular visits from colleagues who worked with him at Prescott Street. The picture shows Angus, who retired 35 years ago, with Janet Fox (nee Skinner), a former colleague, and of course Alfie the dog.

And Finally.....

One of the most unenviable tasks of the Branch Secretary is dealing with the death of members. I was in conversation with a Funeral Director recently and he asked "What would you like to be the inscription on YOUR gravestone? Without hesitation I replied, **"I told you all that Everton would win the Premier League, The F.A. Cup, and the Champions League every year for the past ten years!"**

Whilst out shopping in Waitrose (Formby) earlier this year I had a chance meeting with a couple of our members. They were more than content with the progress of the branch and offered their congratulations. One point they raised, though, was that the majority of functions are in the South of the city at Riversdale. **"It's a long way to drive not to have a drink"** was a comment. I gave it some thought and proposed a Carvery Lunch at West Lancashire Golf Club (details elsewhere in this edition) where I have personal experience of attending similar events organised by my sister-in-law on behalf of St. Joseph's Church. This was approved by the committee. We are actively considering the organisation of other events perhaps "over the water" or along the East Lancs Road and suggestions would be welcomed. Meanwhile, please be advised that the Golf Club have set a ceiling on numbers so book early to avoid disappointment.

The piece regarding Angus is food for thought. The bar is usually set at 30 years work – 30 years pension Good to see Angus clear the bar with ease.



Going back 40 years or so I was persuaded to act as Father Christmas at a kids Christmas party. Must have been good at it because my own children sat on my knee and didn't recognise me!

It only remains for me to wish every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous 2020

WINTER THOUGHT

Despite the name, there are no canaries in the Canary Islands. The same can be said for the Virgin Islands – there are no canaries there either!

STOP PRESS:

"Danny" cruise booked Friday 17th July 2020. Full details early next year.