



NARPO Newsletter (Merseyside Branch)

www.narpo-merseyside.org.uk

Spring 2021
FROM THE CHAIR



Hope you are all doing your best in this current lockdown and that the recently announced changes to the restrictions will give you some encouragement that the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter and by June we may have a lot more freedom, if not quite full normality. Despite the limited freedom at Christmas, I do hope that your Christmas was an enjoyable one in whatever form it took. Personally, it will be one to be remembered for very different reasons to normal in that whilst we managed to see the grandchildren, we ate Christmas dinner outside in a dome shelter. We were wrapped up, hot water bottles and heaters at the ready and certainly no lack of ventilation. Despite this it was a very enjoyable and we remained Covid compliant. It certainly proved to be a very welcome tonic. We must however continue to remain positive and that may be a little easier now as the light of day gets longer, hopefully the weather improves, and most importantly, as I have said, we have some light showing at the end of the Covid tunnel. The availability of the vaccines provides renewed hope and I trust that many of you will now have had or about to have your Covid vaccination and perhaps also you have had both.

As we think of the last awful year, once again, I remind you that sadly we have not been able to remember those members who have passed away in our normal manner and I ask that **perhaps you might just like to take a short break in reading this to think of them and their families.**

As you know we have not been able to arrange any social events but as soon as guidance allows us to then we will look to do something in compliance with whatever is allowed at that time. The dates for the Danny cruise and Christmas market trip remain in the diary and as I write it is looking more positive that these events have a better chance now of happening.

Branch business continues albeit without personal contact and our meetings are still being conducted by Zoom. We are longing to be able to meet again face to face as whilst remote meetings serve the purpose in these times, they cannot replace us all being together around a table.

For some time now I have wanted to establish where our branch members are around the World and to this end, I sent out an email to those members on the Branch email circulation list. This amounts to about 70% of our membership and it was not only pleasing that nearly 75% of these emails were opened but the excellent response I got from members around the World. I have now collated the figures which currently stand at 111 members who are not on the UK mainland. You will see a photograph of a World map in this bulletin showing exactly which country they are currently residing. (go to www.narpo-merseyside.org.uk/news/items-of-interest/ to see full details) I am sure I may not have a complete list especially if contact is only by post or we do not know your email. Let me know if you think you have been missed off by dropping a line to the branch office. I thank all those that responded and much enjoyed our email conversations and reading of your adventures. The descriptions of sitting on the beach in the sun with a suitable drink were a little upsetting though. One thing that was common to all was sadly Covid. Whilst not a cruiser I know many of you are missing your cruises and this felt to me like going on a virtual world cruise as I went from continent to continent and country to country. I had a virtual geography lesson as well.

In this bulletin I would also have been updating you on our involvement with the Volunteer Police Cadets but like most things our interview session and award presentation were not able to go ahead. Not being able to present the NARPO award at the presentation evening is something that is so rewarding and one for my successor to enjoy in the future.

Yes, I did say successor as this will be my last column for the Bulletin as I am standing down as Chair at this year's AGM. (did I hear thank goodness?) I have been a member of the committee for 20 years and for much of that time I have had the pleasure to be your Chairman. You will know from previous bulletins that I have talked about succession planning for the Chair and other executive roles and how important that is for the future of the Branch, so it is there not only for existing members but for those who come along in the years ahead. That is why NARPO has been serving its members for over 100 years. As time progresses things change, and we need to adapt to those changes. It is therefore time now for another Chair to take over and lead the branch to ensure it continues to meet the needs of all its members current and future. It really has been a pleasure to represent you in a whole range of ways. I had hoped that we would have a real Annual General Meeting so I could express that pleasure in words coming from me directly to you rather than just the format of the written word. However, it is not to be as the restrictions will still not allow it. I therefore thank all of you for your support and especially the support provided to me by committee members over the years of my tenure. In addition, my thanks also go to the Chief Constables during that period, Jane Kennedy as Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chairs of the Federation, NARPO HQ staff, Sergeant Keith Burke and members of Community Services at Police HQ.

May I also take the opportunity to wish Chief Constable Andy Cooke and his family good luck as he retires in April and becomes a Police Pensioner. (and one of our members) He has been such a great supporter of the Branch and I certainly hope his successor will continue to provide such support to the Branch and my successor.

As ever I end my last column to you by saying please stay safe, be careful and remember your committee remain committed to keeping this Branch at the forefront of NARPO.

Malcolm Parry

Chair

February 2020

Eddie-torial

Goodbye 2020, the year when more alcohol was consumed by hands than by mouth! 2021 can only be better – can't it???

Those members who are not on the email circulation list will not yet have had the opportunity to receive the NARPO produced booklet "In Time of Need" which provides comprehensive information for families upon a bereavement. These are available from me and will be provided on a "first come, first served" basis. To receive a copy, you must provide:

1. Full name and address for posting
2. NARPO membership number

Although this publication is extremely informative the first port of call upon a bereavement should always be your Branch Secretary who is able to assist the family in many ways.

Members who **do not** pay their NARPO subscription by deduction at source from their pension are encouraged to pay the full amount of £21.60 by bank transfer, details below:

NatWest Bank

Reference: Name and NARPO membership number

Sort Code: 60-13-19

Account No. 87884208

Those members who do not have access to online banking may send a cheque to:

NARPO Merseyside

P.O. Box 282

Liverpool

L23 6YU

Subscriptions are in fact due on 1st January but will be accepted up to the Annual General Meeting in early May 2021.

I am concerned about the lack of members coming forward to stand for election to the Committee. At the A.G.M., which it is hoped can take place in May 2021, four Committee Members are standing down for a variety of entirely valid reasons. We are currently operating with 26 but are entitled to 30. I assure you that it is not hard work, the main task being to supervise the welfare of an allocated number of octogenarians, and if possible, attend 4 meetings each year plus the A.G.M. I would be delighted if we can recruit some younger retirees. If you would like to learn more, please contact me and I will be happy to discuss further. Nominations for the Committee duly proposed and seconded must reach me a minimum of 14 days prior to the Annual general Meeting which is scheduled for 5th May 2021.

I am currently operating from home in accordance with the Government guidelines. In theory if members call the office telephone number it should be diverted to the mobile, but this does not always happen depending largely on location. Best to stick to the mobile number 07505 477162, and do not be frightened to leave a message if necessary.

Not very often you can call someone a legend, but our retiring Chairman Malcom Parry is worthy of this status. Break a piece of Blackpool rock and it says BLACKPOOL right through it. Break Malcolm and it would say NARPO. I am sure my Committee Colleagues will join me in thanking Malcolm for all he has done over the years and being an outstanding example of a Chairman. His last outing as Chair will be in April 2021. At a meeting in May a new Committee will be elected. Best wishes from us all go to Malcolm for a long and happy NARPO retirement.

Announcement by Chief Constable



After 36 years in policing and rapidly approaching five years as Chief Constable of Merseyside I would like to take the opportunity to inform you that despite being very kindly offered an extension by the Police & Crime Commissioner, I intend to retire from policing in April 2021 and will be taking up a new appointment, the details of which will be announced in due course.

Although I hope I will see you all before I go, I just wanted to place on record my thanks for your support, both to myself and the Force.

Whoever takes up the reins, be assured that the men and women (and dogs and horses!) of this Force are daily doing fantastic acts to keep your community safe and I could not be prouder of them.

Merseyside has for the last four years been the highest rated metropolitan force in the country, an achievement we are very proud of and which emphasises our commitment to keep the people of Merseyside safe.

Once again thank you for all you are doing to make this county an exceptional place to live, work and visit and I look forward to seeing you soon, restrictions permitting.

**Andy Cooke QPM
Chief Constable**

The above announcement came as a total shock not only to me but to many others. Andy Cooke has been a great supporter of NARPO here on Merseyside and I am led to believe the I.P.A. also. Whoever assumes command will have a hard act to follow. (A NARPO membership form was immediately despatched!)

Malcolm's Map





Crosby Royal British Legion

Are you interested in a volunteering opportunity to support our military veterans, their families and be involved in the local community?

We'd like to share some exciting news! Crosby Royal British Legion will shortly be moving to new premises located in Crosby Village which are currently being renovated as an RBL support centre for the South Sefton area.

As well as being a focal point for veterans and their families, the public will be very much welcomed as the centre will also house an extensive military exhibition containing a wide range of artefacts memorabilia with recreated WW1 and 2 experiences.

We're hopeful to be up and running by June when we'll be welcoming volunteers to be trained to help in public facing and back office contact or enquiries.

We're also looking to increase our Branch membership to support in ongoing Branch activities such as a Standard Bearer and Treasurer. The Standard Bearer, as an example, is currently required approximately 12-15 times per year to attend Remembrance Day, formal events, and funerals of veterans to commemorate their contribution to the armed forces, if requested by their families.

Crosby will be the first Legion Centre with an onsite exhibition open to the general public, so if you are interested in getting involved or just finding out more, contact Robin McGrath on 07881 671567.

We'd love you to come and join us!

Merseyside NARPO Message Board

This message board has been provided as an additional service to our members.

Use is restricted to members of the Merseyside Branch and subject to the terms of service which will need your agreement before registration can proceed.

If you are a member and wish to register for the message board then go to www.merseysidenarpo.com

To use you will have to register by providing a username and password. You will then receive an email in which you will be requested to provide certain information to enable your registration to be validated.

WIDOW(ERS) DRAW FEBRUARY 2021

Christine Bateman, Elizabeth Jean Cooke, Edith Evelyn Davies, Brenda Hughes, Constance Mault, Brenda Harrison, Michelle Maria Moneypenny, Mabel Betty Riddoch, Margaret Elaine Symon, Jean Olive Walker, Elizabeth Johnstone, Ann Morrish, Diane Bargh, Rosemary Jeffrey, Marilyn Dinning, Joan Pryce, Eva Eileen Axon, Susan Perks, Marie Hemingway, Jean Hilda Lyons, Hilary Solaru, Eileen Hart, Elayne Margaret Beggs, Frances Jean Davies, Patricia Forster.

MERSEYSIDE NARPO WEB SITE

Don't forget to visit the Merseyside
NARPO web site -

www.narpo-merseyside.org.uk

and keep up to date on NARPO
activities and matters of interest.

O.S.D. Riot Reunion

For those who were there, "The Riots" are etched in the memory, some good, some bad, some hauntingly frightening and some rib-tickling funny. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the biggest outbreak of public disorder in Merseyside Police history - the Toxteth riots of 1981 and a reunion of O.S.D officers is being planned for this summer by Steve Molyneux and Richie Spencer (Covid permitting).

If you are an OSD veteran of the riots of July 1981, July 1982 and/or October 1985 and would like to meet up with fellow vets, please email Steve or Richie.

Stevemolefc@gmail.com

RichardSpencer4750@hotmail.com

Moving



House

Change



**Telephone
Number**

New



**e-mail
Address**

WE NEED TO KNOW!

secretary@narpo-merseyside.org.uk

Telephone – 0151 777 4332

Mobile – 07505 477162

NEW MEMBERS

Carolyn Baddeley (widow), Lorraine Wakefield (widow), Dawn Hampson, Juliette King, Kay Heron, Stephen Schofield, Andrew Armstrong, Robert Grigglesstone, David Seville, Neil Harrison, Mark Stanton, Mark Williams, Anthony Jones, Andrew Cooke QPM, Jason Handley, Howard Fazakerley, Michael Phillips, Christopher Cruise, Edward Garner, Therese Penny (widow), Sean Nicholson, Irene Finch (widow), Richie Jones, Gweneth Cole (widow)

Obituaries

Date	Name	Rank	Age
November 2020			
18 th	Kathleen Buckley	Widow	82 years
December 2020			
9 th	Stanley Parr	Sergeant 2897	73 years
27 th	Leslie Charles Stokes	Sergeant 1142	87 years
29 th	Carol Riddoch	Widow	86 years
January 2021			
4 th	William Delaney	Sergeant 7665	60 years
4 th	Anthony John Wagner	Constable 2055	82 years
10 th	Charles James Baker	Constable 1379	83 years
19 th	Edith Alice Bond	Widow	104 years
20 th	George Wright	Constable 2632	78 years
24 th	Brian Cole	Detective Constable	85 years
27 th	Eric Edwin Ashcroft	Constable 422" T"	96 years
February 2021			
4 th	Francis Doyle	Constable 1203	93 years
4 th	Peter Aubrey Anderson	Constable 758" T"	92 years
6 th	Joseph Harrison	Chief Inspector	89 Years
8 th	Joan Elizabeth Hide	Constable 2430	84 years
8 th	Arthur William Shaw	Constable 755	95 years
10 th	Gordon Edgar Davies	Constable 1158	89 years
14 th	Carolyne Wilson	Constable 7194	55 years
19 th	George Eric Roberts	Constable 1192	90 years

And Finally

Pleased to report that Coronavirus jab has been administered to me and many other members above a certain age. Even got a date for the follow-up at Aintree Racecourse on 24th April 2021 after which time I should be back at the races!

Sad to see Andy Cooke retiring. He has been a great supporter of NARPO Merseyside and is now indeed a member himself.

The vaccination programme appears to be on track. Let us hope everybody receives it sooner rather than later and we can get back to something like normal. It is hard to believe that some have refused it because they don't know what's in it. If it does the job who cares?

Covid-19 Anti-Depressants

- The Flat Earth Society oppose social distancing in case it pushes someone over the edge.
- 14 muscles are used opening a bottle of wine - good exercise!
- Are the Spanish Steps the worst tribute hand ever?

- Der-boy is currently selling Oxford vaccinations £2 each or 3 for a Pfizer!
- A bloke has sold his homing pigeon on e-bay for the 22nd time!
- 1990 sneaking out of parents' house, 2020 sneaking into parents' house!
- A new variant of head lice has left scientists scratching their heads.
- Admiral Nelson was 5'6" tall but his statue is 17'4" tall, Horatio of about 3:1.
- Elton John bought a treadmill for his pet rabbit. It's a little fit bunny!
- The urge to sing "The lion sleeps tonight" is just a whim away, a whim away, a whim away, a whim away!



STAY AT HOME, PROTECT THE NHS, SAVE LIVES