



COMMUNICATION - WELFARE – SOCIAL

Dear Members

Welcome to our March Newsletter.

Branch Subscriptions - A message about subscriptions from our Treasurer - Andy Drane

Thanks to all those who have paid your 2024 subscription. There are still a few outstanding and it will help if those are paid as soon as possible.

The minimum annual subscription is set by the NARPO National Executive Committee and is adjusted each January at the same rate as police pensions. For 2024, this is an increase to £26.28 (£24.60 in 2023). Chelmsford branch levies no more than this minimum amount.

If you pay by monthly deductions from your Essex Police pension, you need take no action as these have been adjusted automatically to £2.19 (previously £2.05). **If you do not pay in this way, the whole amount of £26.28 is now due.**

The preferred method of payment is via BACS (bank transfer) to the following account: The National Association of Retired Police Officers (Chelmsford) sort code 30-91-85 account number 01268114 quoting your initials and surname as the reference.

If you prefer to pay by cheque, please email me at treasurer.narpo.chelmsford@gmail.com for details of where to send it. Please also email if you're not sure how you pay. If you don't have access to the internet, please contact Bob Good on 07941 083696.

Please note that NO subscription is due from those members who are Life, spouse, widow or widower members or those members whose primary membership is with another branch.

Social Events

Epping Railway Fryer Lunch-Saturday 18th May.

This nostalgic visit to the day of steam, together with a fish and chip lunch is the best of both worlds! I should mention a sausage and chip or vegetarian option is also available. We have 32 reserved seats for the event and the branch has paid the deposit. Good news is to-date 24 members have registered their intention to attend with family and friends.

At the cost of £29.50 per head this all-inclusive price is of great value. I now have a cutoff date in mid-April to confirm numbers and final payment. Please drop me an email to register your attendance and

numbers to secure your place. For those who require help with transport to the event again let me know as the branch will support you in attending.

Tower of London-Ceremony of the Keys

21 May and 19 November for these free events apart from your transport and bar bill costs. I do keep a standby list in case of cancellations so do register.

Branch Summer BBQ-Sunday 30 June

At the EPSA Clubroom, Police Headquarters between 12 noon and 4pm. The bar will be open for liquid refreshments (unfortunately at your expense) and a small charge is made towards the food. The branch covers the venue hire and tea and coffee on the day.

For those of you without the internet, you can ring Pat Mahoney on 07941 083696.

A message to our widow(er) members from our Membership Secretary - Brian Ladd

We will shortly be writing to you to ensure the details we hold for you are correct. You probably know it is a legal requirement for organisations like NARPO to have accurate and up-to-date information. You will also be aware, at Christmas time, we send a shopping voucher to all our widow(er) members. It's important for us to have a correct address so what we send arrives safely.

Many of our communications now are by email. Those without email get fewer messages and information although we do ensure, each quarter, a printed newsletter (like this one) is sent by post to all those members without email.

We appreciate not everyone has or wants an email address. If you do have one, please let us have it. Over half of our widow(er) members have done so. It will improve our communication with you and will reduce our postage costs so the money can be spent on other things such as social and welfare activity. You can contact me at EssexChelmsford2@narpo.org

Regarding Christmas vouchers, we are thinking about changing the way we pay this money to you. There are several reasons for this – some have been difficult to use, they have an expiry date, and some don't arrive safely. For Christmas 2024, we aim to pay by cheque or a transfer to your bank account. A bank transfer is much easier for us than a cheque. If you are happy to provide us with your bank details, it will help.

So, what would we like you to do when you receive the letter in the next few weeks? Please check, and amend as necessary, the information sheet included with the letter and return to us in the stamped addressed envelope.

We hope you will understand, if you don't return the information sheet, we will have to follow up further to be sure the details we hold for you are correct. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Pensioners Garden Party – A Message from Joanne Brown Club Steward EPSA

Please can you contact all your members to invite them to this year's pensioners garden party, which is Friday the 26 July 2024, arrival 2pm for 2.30pm please. The invite is open to all in receipt of a police pension.

Please ask them to email myself directly for confirmation of attendance or you can ring on the numbers below.

Joanne Brown Club Steward EPSA – Sports Pavilion HQ email: Joanne.Brown@essex.police.uk

01245 491491 Extn 130174 Mobile 07871 519618

Chelmsford Branch AGM

Our AGM will be held at 1100 hours on Saturday 20 April 2024 in the Sports Pavilion at Police Headquarters, off St. Margarets Road, Chelmsford. All are welcome. The meeting will be followed by a light buffet lunch, for catering purposes could you please email Pat at narposocialsec@gmail.com or ring him on 07941 083696 if you will be attending. There is usually good parking available at weekends.

As ever if you have matters to raise with your committee, you can contact Sue Heaton, our Secretary at EssexChelmsford@narpo.org or me at chairman.narpo.chelmsford@gmail.com (mobile 07941083696).

Bob

Robert Good - NARPO Chelmsford – Branch Chair

18 March 2024

Obituaries

- Michael Spalding who retired as a Constable in 1996 and served at Ardleigh, Colchester and Stanway Traffic. He passed away on 9th November 2023 aged 81 years.
- David Elam who retired as a Constable in 1994 and served at Thorpe -Le-Soken and Special Branch at Harwich and Colchester. He passed away on 9th November 2023 aged 83 years.
- Jeremy Spencer who retired as a Constable in 2015 and served with the Metropolitan Police from 1985 – 2001 and then joined Essex Police and served at OPC, FCR, Polsa, SCD, CJDND Loughton. He passed away on 18th November 2023 aged 59 years.
- Alan Rowlands who retired as a Constable in 1988 and served at Stock, Billericay and Grays. He passed away on 23rd November 2023 aged 87 years.
- Leslie Blyth who retired as a Constable in 1995 and served at Basildon and Weapons Training at HQ. He passed away on 3rd December 2023 aged 82 years.
- Derrick Thomas who retired as an Inspector in 1978 and served at Pitsea, Brentwood, Chelmsford and Clacton. He passed away on 4th December 2023 aged 91 years.
- Bryan Thurkettle who retired as a constable in 1995 and served at Harlow, Maldon and Chelmsford. He passed away on 14th December 2023 aged 82 years.
- Roderick Clare who retired as a D/Insp in 1996 and served in South Wales and transferred to Essex police and served at Harlow, Chelmsford and HQ. He passed away on 18th December 2023 aged 81 years.

- George Campbell who retired as a sergeant in 1994 and served with the Southend Borough, Grays and HQ. He passed away on 38th December 2023 aged 80 years.
- Bob Storey who retired as a Supt in 1985 and served at Colchester, Basildon, Clacton on sea, Harlow and Chelmsford. He passed away on 31st December 2023 aged 94 years.
- Roger Culham who retired as a constable in 1998 and served with the Southend Borough, Westcliff on sea, Benfleet and Canvey Island. After retirement worked a further 23 years as a warrants officer. He passed away on 3rd January 2024 aged 81 years.
- Jack Mealing who retired as a constable in 1989 and served at Parsons Heath, Colchester and Stanway Traffic. He passed away on 10th February 2024 aged 91 years.
- Jason Bachelor who retired as an Inspector in 2017 and served at Basildon, Tilbury, Grays and Harlow. He passed away on 11th February 2024 aged 56 years.

May they all rest in peace

Gary Sanderson - Newsletter Editor