



NARPO- DYFED POWYS BRANCH

Spring Newsletter – 2016



Chairman's Notes



I'll start by referring to a couple of matters which I made reference to in the last newsletter.

The first matter is the commutation issue, which we can now finally put to bed. I said in the last issue that Tony Williams from the Force pensions Department had made a promise that payments to those affected would be made before the end of the year. He was as good as his word and payments were made in fact before Christmas. I am not aware of anyone who has not been paid the correct amount. On behalf of those members, I wrote to both the Chief Constable and Tony thanking them.

The second matter is that of the Police and Crime Commissioner elections. I am actually penning these notes on the day of the election to meet the editorial deadline, so do not know the result of the election, although by the time this newsletter is printed, the person elected will have started his term of office. I have made my feelings on the role of Commissioner known previously, so will not dwell on the matter. We hope to invite the Commissioner to address one of our NARPO meetings in the near future.

One thing I would say however, and this has been said to me by more than one person, is that I think the turnout to elect the PCC will be/has been artificially inflated by holding the election on the same day as the Assembly election. It is my view that many people will only have taken the trouble to participate in this vote because they were already in the polling station voting for their Assembly member, otherwise they would not have bothered. There is a lot of general apathy on the whole concept of the PCC.

Many of you will by now be aware of the change of rules governing admission to Flint House. It is now a Rehabilitation Centre and not a Convalescent Home. Retired officers are no longer afforded the facility of spending time at the Centre at no cost. They can however, if the right criteria is met, attend at a cost of £80 per day or £400 Monday to Friday. This bombshell was dropped on NARPO without any consultation and, despite best efforts to reverse or amend this policy, the situation remains. The stark reality is that fewer serving officers are contributing to Flint House, obviously reducing their main stream of income. If nothing was done, then the facility would cease to exist before too long. The lack of consultation was a burning issue, a fact which has been acknowledged by the Trustees of Flint House. Our Chief Executive Officer continues to try and get a better deal for our members.

Police Mutual (formerly PMAS) is continually striving to offer services to retired officers through the Police Mutual Foundation. They offer advice on healthy lifestyles on their Health and Wellbeing Zone. Details can be found on the Police Mutual website, or if you do not have access to a computer, by contacting them on 0800 652 9326. They have also

recently started a scheme offering a limited number of places for sufferers and carers for people suffering with dementia. Contact the same number for further details.

Another current topic concerns the widow's pension for life. Northern Ireland have now adopted the ideal scheme – namely, if a police widow/er remarries, then their pension is not affected at all. The Scottish system falls a bit short of this, while in England and Wales, although there has been some improvement to benefit those who remarry, the change is not retrospective. NARPO are still campaigning on this issue and I will in due course circulate to those members who are on email a template letter which you can adapt and send to your MP to keep the pressure on.

The weather has certainly improved these last few days and it promises to last. I hope that this is the case, as next week I shall be spraying balls all over the fairway on the annual D Division golf tour to the Forest of Dean.

Next month my son and I are taking in a week of the Euro Championships in France. We have only managed to obtain tickets to see one Wales game, but have tickets for another two games as well. I'll let you know how I got on in both events in the next newsletter.

Stay safe and enjoy the summer.

Life Membership Award for Clive Cowey



You will see from the AGM minutes, elsewhere in this newsletter, that Clive Cowey was presented with Life Membership of the Branch by the Chief Constable Mr Simon Prince. Clive has been Secretary/ Treasurer of the Branch for the last sixteen years and has now stood down as secretary, although retaining the post of treasurer.

I know more than most the work that Clive has put into the smooth running of the branch - ably assisted by his wife Pat - and he was considered a worthy recipient of the award.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Clive for all the work that he has put in and for the support that he has given me.

Phil Hopkins – Chair

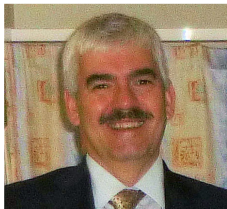
Bereavements

Mrs Diane Morgan, wife of Mr Dai Morgan (Rtd PS300) on 13th January 2016
Mr George Richard Jones (Rtd PC723) on 14th January 2016
Mr Francis Glyn Edwards (Rtd PC399) on 22nd January 2016
Mr William Vincent James (Jim) Stephens (Rtd DS22) on 13th February 2016
Mr John Clive Randall on 1st March 2016
Mr Gerald Evans (Rtd PS 161) on 20th March 2016
Mr Gareth Lloyd (Rtd PC344) on 16th March 2016
Mr Noel Penny (Rtd PC 505) on 22nd April 2016
Mrs Hilda Malloy Widow of Rtd D/S/Supt Pat Malloy) on 24th April 2016
Mr Eric Powling (Rtd C/Insp) on 27th April 2016
Mr Bernard (Bernie) Fredrick Guy Rtd PS482 on 6th May 2016

New Branch Secretary

Following the resignation of Mr Clive Cowey as branch secretary, Mr Phil Addicott (below) has accepted the post of Secretary and assumes the role with immediate effect. The following is a pen picture of our new Secretary:

Having retired from Dyfed Powys police, and my role as Chairman/Treasurer of the DPP Federation, in December 2013, I was hoping to drop into the background on policing and



representation matters, but having attended my first NARPO AGM I offered my assistance to our secretary Clive in the production of the branch newsletter. It was great to reacquaint myself with a number of colleagues at the meeting and I looked forward to future meetings. For those of you who don't know me. I joined Avon and Somerset Police in November 1981 and was initially stationed in Filton in Bristol and then in 1986 transferred to Somerset to the village of Bawdrip on the Polden Hills just outside Bridgwater. I transferred to Dyfed Powys in

December 1988 in a hope of getting nearer home in Haverfordwest so they stationed me in Welshpool !!!! Initially I was in Uniform, with our Chairman as my Sergeant. Then from 1992 in various CID departments. I took up the post of Chairman of DPP Federation in 2008 having been the CID representative for Constables since 1992. I still live in Welshpool, having never escaped back down west. I offer my grateful thanks to our retiring secretary Clive Cowey for the excellent service he has provided to the branch in his time in post and I am very thankful that he will continue his role as Treasurer.

New Members

Full Members: Jeffrey Wyn Davies, Nigel Robert Matthews, Steven Andrew Clarke, Edward Watton Pugh, Simon John Powell, Shane Gareth Phillips, Shaun Potheary, A.C.E. (Tony) Davies.

Full from Associate: Kenneth Small, Lorna McQuilliam, Thomas Wyn Williams

Newly Elected Police and Crime Commissioner



Plaid Cymru's Dafydd Llywelyn has won the election for the role of Dyfed-Powys Police Police and Crime Commissioner.

Mr Llywelyn saw off the challenge of Conservative incumbent Christopher Salmon.

Mr Llywelyn, previously an analyst for the force, called his election win an "honour and a privilege".

"It's a police service that I served for 13-and-a-half years as their head of intelligence analysis, and I am looking forward to the challenges ahead as the new police commissioner for the force," he told the BBC after the vote was announced.

The secretary has contacted Mr Llywelyn, who has indicated that he would be pleased to attend a future Dyfed Powys NARPO Branch meeting.

NARPO Dyfed-Powys Branch

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Falcon Hotel, Lammas Street, Carmarthen, on Tuesday 12th April 2016 commencing at 1:30pm

1. **The Chairman opened the meeting** and welcomed everyone, especially those attending for the first time. The Chief Constable and Branch President, Mr Simon Prince, was welcomed and addressed the meeting and then took questions from the members present. At the conclusion he was thanked by the Chair and asked if he would present a Life Membership Certificate and badge to Mr C. Cowey. The President then withdrew and the Chair welcomed everyone especially the Guests, Mrs Margaret Morgan and Mr David Jones.
2. **Present were:** Mr Phil Hopkins, (NEC & Chair) Mr Peter Davies (V/Chair) Mr Clive Cowey (Secretary/Treasurer), Mrs. Pat Cowey, Mr Phil Addicott (Assistant Secretary)), Mr Hugh Colley (Webmaster), Rev Martin Spain (Welfare Officer) Mr David M. Jones (Auditor) Mr Nigel Williams, Mr Martin Jones, Mr Harry Rees, Mr David Davies, Mr Mike Benbow, Mr Nigel Rogers-Lewis, Mr Vernon Jones, Mr Sam Williams, Mr Huw Jones, Mr Eric Owen, Mr Brian Willey, Mr Des Parkinson, Mr Tony Burrows, Mrs Sylvia Perkins, Mrs Jean Evans, Mrs Margaret Morgan, Mr Geraint Phillips, Mr Peter Davies, Mr Martin Lewis, Mr Grahame Davies, Mrs Elizabeth Davies, Mr Tom Edwards, Mr Dai Evans, Mr Nick O'Brien,
3. **Apologies for Absence:** Mr Paul Herdman, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Bill Smith, Mr Dylan Jones, Mr Keith Rofe, Mr and Mrs Dai Rees, Mr and Mrs Mike Cronin, Mr Jeff Davies, Mr Gareth Cowley. Mr Terry Griffiths. Mr Gwyndaf Prosser. Mr Nigel Jones, Mr. Derek Bloomfield, Mr Ron Davies.
4. **Silence in Memorium,** The Chair noted the names of the members who had passed away in the year 2015 (as shown in the Newsletters published in 2015). The meeting stood in silence in respect and memory.
5. **The Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd March 2015 had been previously circulated as part of the combined Agenda, Reports and Minutes document, by email and also available in the room. Proposed by Mr Hugh Colley and seconded by Mr Phil Addicott that they be accepted as a true record, this was approved.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes,** all action points were either Agenda Items or had been already actioned and closed. The following two actions were noted:
 - 13.2, The Request to invite the PCC to the AGM, had not been actioned due to the impending election, however, a further request was made from the floor to invite the new incumbent to the Meeting in October, this was agreed.
 - 13.4, The Funeral drapes had been purchased and were located with Mr Addicott in the north and Mr Cowey in the south, The Chair asked members to be mindful of this if required by the family of a member who had passed away.

7. Election of Officers:

All post holders and members had been circulated and the required notice of the AGM (21 days) had been given, therefore it was assumed that those who had not indicated a preference were content to remain in post and re-elected en-bloc, the with the following provisos.

The following had requested to stand down from their present posts:

Mr Clive Cowey, Branch Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Nigel Williams, Committee Member, Carmarthen

Mr David T. Davies, Committee Member, Carmarthen

Mr Mike Kelly, Committee Member, Mid Powys

Mr. Cowey explained his position to the meeting, as outlined in his report, the role he has held since 2000, had now evolved to such an extent that it was no longer viable, due to the work and time required, as a post for one person to hold. He indicated that discussions had taken place over the winter, and with the permission of the Chair outlined a possible

way forward. He would officially step down from the post of Secretary/Treasurer and this would allow the two parts to be split into two posts, Secretary and Treasurer, he was willing to continue in the role of Branch Treasurer. He then informed the meeting that Mr Phil Addicott (Assistant Secretary) who was present at the meeting, has agreed to take up the role of Branch Secretary and Mr Paul Herdman, who was absent due to work commitments, would take on the role of Assistant Secretary, Mr Cowey informed the meeting of the Police Federation background of Mr Addicott and Mr Herdman and endorsed them for the roles. The Chair then asked for any other proposals, as there were alternative proposals put forward the original proposal to split the roles was carried unanimously.

Mr Nigel Williams, Mr Mike Kelly and Mr David Davies were thanked for their work whilst in post.

The Vice Chairman took the Chair and asked for nominations for The Chair, Mr Philip Hopkins was nominated by Mr David Davies and seconded by Mr Hugh Colley, Mr Hopkins was willing to continue in post for a further term but gave notice that he wished to stand down in the near future. He was re-elected and took the Chair.

All other members of the Executive and Committee were re-elected to their respective posts with the exception of the following appointments which were all carried:

Secretary, Mr Phil Addicott, proposed by Mr Sam Williams, seconded by Mr Harry Rees. Assistant Secretary, Mr Paul Herdman, proposed by Mr Peter Davies and seconded by Mr Tony Burrows.

Treasurer, Mr Clive Cowey, proposed by Mr Phil Addicott and seconded by Mr Mike Benbow.

Newsletter Editor, to remain in the hands of the Secretary.

Committee Members, Carmarthen, Mr Mike Benbow, proposed by Mr Phil Addicott and seconded by Mr Clive Cowey and Mrs Jean Evans, proposed by Mr Nigel Williams and seconded by Mr Peter Davies.

Committee Member, Mid Powys, there were no nominations and this was left to the Executive to explore possible candidates.

8 Secretary / Treasurers Reports: Which included the Dyfed-Powys Police Welfare Fund report had been previously circulated to members on email or available in the room:

- a. The Secretary updated the meeting regarding report and the website; this was added to by Mr Hugh Colley especially giving details of visits to the site, which are on the increase from members and non-members. Mr Colley requested photographs and articles for publication on the site.
- b. Mr Cowey updated the meeting regarding the Wales Police Pensions Board,
- c. **Finance:** The Accountants Report from David M Jones of Hay on Wye, was now in the possession of the Treasurer, scanned copies have been sent to both the Chair and NEC and the originals and full accounts were available for viewing at the meeting. The Treasurers report including the balance sheet had been circulated to all members on email, prior to the meeting and was accepted.
- d. **Welfare: Dyfed-Powys Police Welfare Fund:** Claims are now dealt with electronically, the AGM will be held on a date to be fixed, usually April or May, where any large claims or contentious matters will be dealt with.
- e. **Branch Welfare Policy:** It was proposed that the policy be ratified to continue unchanged from the 2014 amended version, this was carried with no dissenting voices. Therefore, it will remain for the period up to the next AGM (2017) and will continue to be displayed on the branch website

9 Regional Meetings and NEC Update: the last Regional Meeting was held in Llandinam in March, The Chair gave an update of business at the meeting and combined this with an update of NEC matters.

10. Financial Review: the following allowances and payments were agreed:

- a) **Mileage allowance** – remains at 45p per mile in line with HMRC Rules.
- b) **Hospital Gift Fund payments** – Mr Cowey, proposed that as the level of unpresented cheques from the hospital gift fund was now increasing and that cheques were no longer a usable method of making a gift as it is difficult for members to present them and therefore receive the benefit of the gift. A new addition to the methods available should be introduced and he asked the meeting to consider the use of pre-paid Visa or MasterCard type cards, these could be used until empty in the same way as any credit card at any card outlet including Hospital Shops and Filling Stations. They are a far more usable method of making a gift, however, the amount would have to be reduced to £25 as the cards come in multiples of £25 and that there was a levy of £2.95 per card made by the issuing company making the total cost of a card to the Branch, £27.95p. The meeting accepted the proposal and it was passed, the other methods of payment, Cheque, personal delivery and Bank transfer were still available and could still be used if required. The policy to be, (WEF this AGM) at £25 per hospital stay or series of outpatient treatments, with full discretion given to the Secretary to act on a ‘case by case basis’ in accordance with the Branch Welfare Policy.
- c) **Donations** in memory of members to nominated charities remain at £10.
- d) **Secretary/Treasurers Additional Allowance**, this was agreed at £1000, the Secretary and Mrs Cowey were thanked for their work in the past year and Mr Cowey expressed their gratitude to the meeting for this award to cover incidental costs. It was further agreed that an additional allowance to help towards costs incurred by the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster, (Utilities, Heat, Light and their own computer equipment) would be as set in 2015, £100 per annum, awarded to Mr Addicott and Mr Colley. These remain unchanged from 2015 in line with CPI.

11 National Conference Delegates – Torquay, September 2016, the meeting was informed that Mr Phil Hopkins and Mrs Gill Hopkins would be attending as NEC Member and Observer. This allows for the custom and practice of this branch to send two delegates to Conference. Nominations from the branch were requested from the floor and after some discussion and nominations, it was agreed that the following delegates should attend:

- a) Mr P. Addicott, Secretary, and Mrs Addicott as an Observer
 - b) Mr C. Cowey, Treasurer and Mrs Cowey as an Observer
- 12. Correspondence** – Mr Cowey, informed the meeting regarding two items:
- a) A letter of appreciation sent to Mr Gwyn Roberts, who had stood down as NARPO Wales, Regional Secretary.
 - b) An email received from Mr Sidney MacKay, Chair of the Police Roll of Honour Trust, outlining their work and requesting a donation in order to continue their work. It was discussed and agreed to make a donation of £50 to the Trust to assist it in its task of placing memorials to fallen Police Officers.

13. Any Other Business – Presentations from the Branch were made to Mr and Mrs Cowey to thank them for the service given to the Branch over the past 16 years. Mr Cowey thanked all present for the gifts and for the honour of Life membership presented at the start of the meeting.

14. Date and Venue of next meetings: The General Meeting is usually arranged for the first Monday in October. This was agreed that the Secretary and Chair be given the remit to find a suitable venue and agree a date, the RWAS Show field in Builth Wells is the favoured location (**Action – Secretary**). **Details will be circulated when available.**

15. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3:50pm and the Chair thanked all those attending for their participation.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Carmarthen coffee Mornings

Dates for 2016 are on the first Tuesdays in the month.

Coffee Morning – Welshpool

The next coffee morning will be held at The Royal Oak, Welshpool on Monday 20th June 2016 between 10:00am and 12 Noon. Members and spouses/partners are all very welcome to attend. Come along and meet old friends.

Dyfed Powys NARPO Golf Day 2016

The fourth annual golf day will be held at Builth Wells on Tuesday 13th September 2016. The format will be similar to previous years – namely –coffee and bacon bap on arrival, eighteen holes of golf followed by a two course meal and prizegiving. The cost of the day is £30.

If you are interested in participating and have not already let him know, please contact Phil Hopkins on 01938554302, 07801865386 or by e mail at philiphop@yahoo.com

The event is again being very kindly sponsored by one of members, Mr David Jones, of David M Jones and Partners, Accountants of Hay on Wye. We are very grateful to David for his continued support.

The last three events have been greatly enjoyed by everyone who has taken part (with one exception, who shall remain nameless!), so come along and enjoy the day at a reasonable price.

Phil Hopkins

Free Member Services

Just a reminder of free services available to all members of NARPO :-

Benefits advice

Computer advice

General tax enquiries

Details of how to access these services are shown on the Member Services section of the NARPO website – www.narpo.org.uk . You may be required to provide your NARPO Membership Number.

The Executive and Committee

President

Mr Simon Prince, Chief Constable Dyfed Powys Police

Vice Presidents

Mr Ian Arundale

Ms Jacqui Roberts

Executive

Chair, Mr Philip Hopkins, 01938 554302, philiphop@yahoo.com (Also NEC Member for South Wales, which includes Branches covering the Dyfed-Powys, South Wales and Gwent Police areas)

Vice Chair, Mr Peter Davies, 01267 230674, p90pgd@btinternet.com

(Main Point of Contact) Secretary, Mr Phil Addicott, Marcella, Salop Road, Welshpool, Powys. SY21 7ET, Tel: Home, 01938 556048, Mob: 07807 956928, Email, narpodppsec@gmail.com,

Website: dyfed-powys-narpo.org.uk (Also Newsletter Editor)

Assistant Secretary Mr Paul Herdman, kelpaul@hotmail.co.uk

Welfare Officer and Chaplain, Rev Martin Spain, 01437 741430, marspain@gmail.com

Webmaster: Mr Hugh Colley, 01646 683232 hughcolley144@btinternet.com

Committee

CARMARTHENSHIRE:

Peter Davies,	01267 230674,	p90pgd@btinternet.com
Harry. Rees,	01269 845360.	harryandbrenda@tiscali.co.uk
Julian Rule	01269 845091	julian@penrheol.plus.com
Vernon Jones,	01554 738367	v-jones5@sky.com
Gwyndaf Prosser,	01554 753920	gwyneira@supanet.com
Howell Williams	01554 771301	howellwilliams2@sky.com
Mrs Jean Evans	01267 221574	No Email
Mike Benbow	01267 233941	mbenbow2003@yahoo.com

CEREDIGION:

Brian Willey	01970 625669	brian.comins@talktalk.net
Dylan Jones	01970 625462	dj764@btinternet.com
Wynne Evans,	01239 613890	No email
Martin Lewis,	01545 570234	martin.lewis@ffynnon-las.co.uk

PEMBROKESHIRE:

Rev Martin Spain,	01437 741430,	marspain@gmail.com
Hugh Colley	01646 683232	hughcolley144@btinternet.com
Dai Rees,	01646 687158	david.nanrees@onetel.net
Owen Moses	01646 694518	kenmoses496@gmail.com
Alan Tinnuche	01348 874654	tinnuche@supanet.com
Geraint Phillips	01646 684214	gglphillips@btinternet.com

POWYS

Mr Phil Addicott	01938 556048	paddicott@btinternet.com
Mr Derek Bloomfield	01686 626083	derekandedwina@yahoo.co.uk
Graham Earp,	01874 624264	grahamearp@btinternet.com



DYFED-POWYS-NARPO.ORG.UK

Phil Addicott	narpodppsec@gmail.com
Phil Hopkins	philiphop@yahoo.com
Clive Cowey	narpo36@gmail.com
Hugh Colley	hughcolley144@btinternet.com
Branch website	www.dyfed-powys-narpo.org.uk
NARPO website	www.narpo.org

The Branch Website is available to you all, the pages are there covering news Obituaries and Photographs. If you have anyone who is interested in joining NARPO the online application is available at www.narpo.org or via a link on our website

The member area access details are:

Username: dyfedpowys
Password: branch36440

NARPO News also has many excellent articles and to access services there you will need your membership number, it is on the wrapper of your magazine and your new membership card, any problems get in touch with our Secretary and he will get it for you.

Secretary/Newsletter Editor
Phil Addicott
Marcella
Salop Road
Welshpool SY21 7ET
01938 556048
07807 956928
narpodppsec@gmail.org