

National Association of Retired Police Officers



DERBYSHIRE BRANCH
2023

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions became due in January, 2024. For full members the annual subscription has risen to **£26-28**. This is due to the rise in CPI of 8.1% in September. The good news is that our police pensions will see the 8.1% rise in our pensions from April, 2024.

Would members who pay by cheque or direct debit, if they have not done so already, please send their cheques (payable to **Derbyshire NARPO**) to the Secretary, Sean Murphy **or** update your bank with the new payment. You can pay by 'bacs' at: National Westminster Bank Plc. Branch sort code: 60-14-15 Branch Account No. 80597408. 19 Dale Road, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3YA. **You can pay for anything else using 'bacs' but make sure you put your name as reference.**

NARPO FOREWORD



I am delighted to once again open your Annual Report as I approach the end of my 4th year as Chief Constable of Derbyshire Constabulary and your Branch President. There have been many important changes since my last update and I would like to provide you with an overview of the last twelve months.

I'm sure you will be aware from the many news articles in the media that policing continues to be as challenging as ever. This is something that we are fully alive to in Derbyshire and it is our mission to deliver a consistent service to our communities, each and every day so that we can build and maintain public trust and confidence.

There has been consistency in my Chief Officer Team this year, with no new additions and no departures. I am thrilled to share with you that James Abdy is now our substantive and permanent Assistant Chief Constable for Crime after his recent success in the national assessment process. We continue to work together in leading Derbyshire Constabulary in our core purpose to fight crime, bring offenders to justice and protect the vulnerable from harm. The Chief Constable Roadshows have continued to take place across Derbyshire and it has been a fantastic opportunity to meet and engage with our hardworking officers and staff.

Our vision is to be an outstanding force and to help us get there, we have launched a set of values that were created and shaped by our officers and staff. They are:

- Integrity. We are honest and people can trust us.
- Professionalism. We have high standards and care about what we do.
- Respect. We value our communities, our people and treat everyone fairly.
- Proud to Serve. We take pride in public service and act as 'One Derbyshire.'

Performance has continued to be a big focus for Derbyshire Constabulary, and I am pleased to share with you that His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) no longer consider us to be a force of concern. They recognise that we are improving in some areas and are stable in others and I couldn't be prouder of the effort that has gone into making this happen. The work doesn't stop there however and we must continue to make changes to bring our vision to life. Improving standards in areas such as appearance, behaviour and the quality of investigations is key to this. We have developed an audit system called Quality Assurance Thematic Testing (QATT) which is designed to recognise areas of good practice and identify areas that require improvement. I cannot stress the importance of learning from our mistakes and this is a tool which will greatly assist in achieving this.

Linked to this is our unrelenting drive to improve culture across the organisation. There is no doubt that a spotlight has been shone on the culture of UK policing over the last two or three years, with toxic behavioural traits being exposed and communicated by the media. Significant amounts of work have been completed, both nationally and locally to tackle those

incidents where officers cause harm to public perception but there is still much more to do. We know that the vast majority of officers and staff who work for Derbyshire Constabulary display high levels of integrity in their daily business and we will do all that we can to root out those who display unsatisfactory conduct.

Recently one of our former officers received a suspended sentence following his conviction for committing misconduct in a public office. As a force, we felt this was unduly lenient and appealed the sentence that was passed. This resulted in the suspended aspect being removed and he was subsequently jailed for 11 months. We also fully support the Police Anti-corruption and Abuse Reporting Service, which is a new national Crimestoppers line that allows the public to report police corruption and abuse anonymously.

January 2024 saw the release of an updated Code of Ethics, with the new additions of courage, respect and empathy and public service. They encourage and empower officers and staff to do the right thing, in the right way, for the right reasons and are aligned to our own values here in Derbyshire.

I am thrilled to report that Derbyshire Constabulary has greatly benefitted from the Police Uplift Programme and we have seen the number of police officers rise by a staggering 283. This takes the total number to 2110 which is the same number we had in 2010, just before the implementation of austerity measures. Because of this, we have strengthened our Learning and Development team and worked hard to ensure that the newly recruited officers are suitably trained and equipped to the standard that we expect.

Unlike some other police forces, we have been able to maintain our Safer Neighbourhood Teams across the county. This means that we have dedicated resources to engage with local communities and work with partners to tackle specific issues through problem solving and targeted interventions. Being able to deliver a visible policing presence from Glossop down to Swadlincote is fantastic news and something we are extremely proud of.

Whilst we have seen an increase in the number of police officers, our high level of demand continues to rise, as well as our ever-increasing calls for service. Operation Resolve is an initiative that we continue to drive in order to reduce bureaucracy, make improvements to areas such as training, wellbeing and equipment and to streamline processes. It involves listening to the feedback from the workforce and acting on their recommendations where appropriate following consultation.

Both staff surveys and the Police Federation survey have highlighted that there has been an improvement in morale amongst the workforce in Derbyshire. This is really promising news and I want us to build on this and increase it even further. I aim to do this by continuing to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to caring for the wellbeing of our officers and staff by delivering training to help them deal with highly traumatic incidents. Police Care UK developed Trauma Impact Prevention Techniques (TIPT) to assist with providing officers and staff with the tools to stay healthy and we have specially trained staff who deliver this to all those on the frontline. We also made a significant change to our Occupational Health and Wellbeing Service by bringing it back from being a regional resource to one that we now deliver in-house, which allows us more control over what we deliver.

In March 2024, we took part in Police Staff Celebration Week in order to highlight the excellent work of our police staff colleagues. We recognised that their contribution is pivotal in supporting the frontline to deliver an effective service as we simply couldn't do it without them.

The ever-evolving advancements in technology have provided us with opportunities to improve our service and increase efficiency. Examples include GoodSam, an Internet platform that aids contact between members of the public and the police, Evidence.com, a new method of sharing evidence with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and the MyVehicle app, which has streamlined the process of managing our fleet of vehicles. We are

already looking ahead to 2025 when we will welcome SAFE, a new command and control system which will improve our response to calls for service from the public.

This year, we have purchased Ilkeston Police Station and are in the process of building a new one in Killamarsh. Further changes to our estate portfolio are in the pipeline as we are looking to increase our custody capacity in the north of the county.

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) election is due to take place on 2nd May 2024 so by the time I see you on 12th, we will know the result. Whatever the outcome, I can assure you that I will work alongside the PCC to make Derbyshire a safer place.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the support that you offer. You are a huge part of our policing family and provide a much-needed voice to retired police officers and their families. Retiring from the organisation is such a huge milestone and before officers and staff leave, I offer to meet them in order to thank them for their service and to wish them well. At each meeting, I hand each officer a NARPO folder and discuss with them how important it is to stay connected with their colleagues.

I hope you enjoyed reading the update I have provided and I wish each and every NARPO member all the very best for the year ahead.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT:

The Chief Constable Rachel Swann QPM

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Deputy Chief Constable - Simon Blatchley OBE.

Assistant Chief Constable Michele Shooter

Assistant Chief Constable James Abdy

Assistant Chief Officer Andrew Price

Chairman: David Ashley

Vice Chairman: Ian Louch

Secretary/Treasurer: Sean Murphy 01773 609043

Committee Members:

Pete Dowling
Ian Elliott
Paul Gibbons
Ivan Taylor
Richard Watson
Pete Wise
Julia Fearn

Membership:

Full: 1246 Life Members: 5 Hon: 3 Widows/Widowers: 163 Associate Members 14

Additional Members 9 Total number of Preceptable Members:1268 Total: 1440

CHAIRMANS REPORT

Well, another year has flown by in what to me seems like record time. The NARPO Derbyshire Branch has had another successful, full year of activities since our AGM in May 2023 starting with the May Lunch at Morley Hayes, a social evening at Buxton in July, a further social evening at Chesterfield in September, a lunch at Mickleover in November and the Christmas meal at Morley Hayes on 6th December. We have also had a number of coach trips during the year, with numbers up somewhat on the previous year.

The Branch Committee met several times during the year to formulate and finalise plans for the operation of the Branch. Our Facebook page and the Branch website have been a constant source of information about what is happening in the Branch and further afield and of course, sadly, they keep us informed of recent bereavements. Branch finances are truly healthy.

Members of the committee attended the National Conference in September last year when the major topic of debate was whether or not to become incorporated. There was agreement that this was in the best interests of NARPO. Since that time all the required steps have been taken for NARPO to become an Incorporated Organisation, thereby providing financial security to all the officers of the organisation and its members. It will not impact on what NARPO is or what it does. It does not have any impact on the operation of the Derbyshire Branch. It has not cost the Branch anything.

A range of events is being planned for the next 12 months – details elsewhere – and I do hope that you will try and take advantage of some of them at least. The price of all our events are subsidised from Branch funds to make them really affordable to all. Hope to see you there.

Although I do not plan to stand down from the Branch committee at the AGM (assuming I am re-elected) I do not intend to stand for election as Chairman again this year. I have enjoyed my time as Chairman and would like to thank you, the membership, for your confidence in electing me to the position over this period. I feel that this is the right time to hand over the chairmanship to allow someone with new ideas and enthusiasm to take the Branch forward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of the committee for their individual and combined efforts over the last year, and indeed over the last four years that I have been the Chairman. Without their work, none of our events would have happened, the website would not be updated and we would not have a presence on Facebook. Whilst not wishing to name individual members of the committee, I would like to pay tribute to Keith Gibson who has acted as our Financial Manager over quite a long period. Keith has now stood down from this position and Sean will carry on as Treasurer as well as Secretary until a new treasurer can be found. I have written to Keith, on behalf of the Branch, to thank him for his services.

As you will see elsewhere in this Report the next AGM will be held at Morley Hayes on Sunday, 12th May. It would be absolutely great to see a bigger turnout of members this year than perhaps we have seen over the last few years. Clearly the Covid pandemic put paid to one of our AGM's and it seems possible that it has had a knock-on effect since that time. It is the one opportunity in the year for members to see and hear what is happening in NARPO so please do try and come along for the afternoon. The free buffet provided by Morley Hayes will in itself make your journey worthwhile.

Dave Ashley

MUTUAL WELFARE FUND

The last meeting of the Fund was on the 16th November, 2023. As of the 30th September, 2023 stood at £1,914,857 which due to the current climate and the ongoing war in the Ukraine, is only £10,000 less than last year. New Officers are reluctant to joining the fund but HQ are making a drive to recruit new joiners and to show them the benefits of joining.

The next meeting of the Fund is on the 24th May, 2024, which is too late to update this segment.

The fund is there for the benefit of its members, serving or retired. For more information, please contact the Secretary at Derbyshire@narpo.org

FROM OUR SECRETARY

This is my 14th Annual Report and I hope that you continue to find it of interest. I would like to thank the assistance afforded to me by NARPO, XPS, Police Federation, Headquarters and the Committee.

Our Chair David Ashley is stepping down at the AGM on the 12th May, 2024. However, he will remain on the Committee. I know you will join me in thanking Dave for his commitment to NARPO through upsetting times. Would anyone like to fill his shoes? Ian Louch is our vice chair at the moment, so we would need a new vice chair if Ian is elected. We have three new members of the committee, Pete Dowling, Ian Elliott and Belinda Elliott. By coming to the AGM you will be supporting our committee members. Come and ask questions of your branch, whilst enjoying a buffet tea.

The biggest item that has affected NARPO in our 105 years of existence, that Dave mentioned in his report, is the Incorporation of NARPO. What this means is that NARPO has become a Limited Company. In essence no member could become liable to being pursued financially, if anyone should take action against NARPO. This is the reason why the Derbyshire Sports Club has become a Limited Company.

Have you changed your address, your contact details then please email the Secretary or phone on 01773 609043 even if it's just for a chat. XPS are our pension providers, again if you have changed your bank, home or contact details, then please phone them on **03300545487** which is the dedicated helpline for Derbyshire. Do you want to find out what you are likely to receive if you are due to retire soon or anything in relation to your pension.

I know several of you, mainly widow members would like to attend our Socials, lunches and the AGM but do not like to go on their own, no problem, just contact me or any of the Committee and we can arrange for you to be accompanied.

We have socials booked in Buxton, Chesterfield and Derby, and Lunches booked for May and December. We have also booked Coach trips through the summer.

The Silk and Salt Mill trip price includes lunch of Sandwiches and chunky cut chips. Let me know if you have any food allergies when booking. Mick McEllhinney has organised another re-union for 1960's Cadets for 12nn Thursday, 23rd May, 2024 at Chesterfield Golf Club, Walton, Chesterfield S42 7LA. A £2 entry for quiz prizes and tips for the staff and free buffet. Please let Mick know if you are attending at mick_harrogate@btinternet.com Our Buxton

and Chesterfield Socials also have a free buffet. Just let me know if you are attending purely for catering purposes.

The Derby social on Remembrance Sunday which will be Lunch will be advertised in our next 'Chairmans's Chat'. Please see the Dates for your Diary.

Sean Murphy

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held at 3pm., Sunday, 12th May,2024 at The Pavilion, Morley Hayes Golf Club, Morley, Derby DE7 6QA

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Absent Members
4. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
5. To receive the Annual Report for 2023
6. To receive the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for 2023
7. Election of Officers and Committee
9. President's address.
10. Welfare
11. Sports Club
12. Annual Conference 2024
13. Any other business

Followed by a finger buffet tea. Please let me know if you are attending for catering purpose only and if you have any food allergies

Anyone wishing to raise any matter under '**Any Other Business**' is requested to give seven days' notice to the Secretary by emailing him at Derbyshire@narpo.org

NARPO COACH TRIPS 2024.

Friday, 7th June, 2024 – Silk and Salt tour

Wednesday 17th July, 2024 – Salford Quays

Wednesday, 21st August, 2024 – Black Country Museum

Cost will be **£10.00** for members, non-returnable. Widows are free, (coach only). Please note, in the event of a trip being oversubscribed, members will be given preference. Entry costs relate to all.

Times of departure and pick up points for Silk and Salt tour and Salford Quays are|:

0750 at Derby, 0815 at Ripley, 0845 at (Slacks depot) and 0930 at Buxton.

Times of departure and pick up points for the Black Country Museum are:

0745 at Matlock, 0815 at6 Ripley and 0840 at Derby.

Silk and Salt Tour cost is £25.50 includes entry fees, Lunch and refreshments.

Black Country Museum cost is £18-25 for over 65's.

Anyone wishing to go on any of the trips please complete the acceptance slips on the opposite page together with cheques made payable to **Derbyshire NARPO or pay by bacs** and return to:

Sean Murphy. Tel.No. 01773 609043

Seats on the coach will not be guaranteed unless the appropriate amount plus entry fees have been received.

Pick Up Points:

Derby – Outside Premier Inn, Full Street, **Ripley** – Bus Lay-by Market Place., **Matlock** – Slacks Coach Depot.
Buxton – Market Place.

COACH TRIPS BOOKING FORMS.

Friday, 7th June, 2024 – Silk and Salt tour. £25-50 to be paid at time of booking, includes lunch.

I wish to book..... seats.

I/We will meet the coach at.....@.....am.

I enclose remittance of £cheques payable to Derbyshire NARPO or by bacs.

Cost: £10.00 members, widows free, non-members **£15.00** (*coach only*)

Name.....tel. no.....

Address.....

Names of any guests.....

Wednesday, 17th July, 2024 – Salford Quays – No cost.

I wish to book seats.

I/We will meet the coach at.....@.....am.

I enclose remittance of £.....cheques payable to Derbyshire NARPO or by bacs..

Cost £10.00 members, widows free, non-members **£15.00** (*coach only*)

Name..... tel. no.....

Address.....

Names of any guests.....

Wednesday, 21st August, 2024 – Black Country Living Museum – Cost Group rate £18-25

I wish to book seats.

I/We will meet the coach at.....@.....am.

I enclose remittance of £.....cheques payable to Derbyshire NARPO or by bacs..

Cost £10.00 members, widows free, non-members £15.00 (*coach only*)

Name..... tel. no.....

Address.....

Names of any guests.....

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

<u>INCOME</u>	2023	2022
Subscriptions		
XPS	27,896.40	25,154.64
Direct from Members	<u>569.83</u>	<u>894.41</u>
Close Bros. Interest	1,320.00	483.34
Donation	254.90	
TOTAL INCOME	30,041.13	26,532.39
 <u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Committee Travel/Meetings	956.55	1,072.60
Subscriptions to NEC (Precept)	12,418.08	11,082.13
Branch May Lunch	1,908.62	1,185.80
Less Member's cont. & refunds	<u>1,274.50</u>	<u>767.00</u>
Christmas Lunch	2,301.50	2,922.12
Less Member's cont. & refunds	<u>1,542.50</u>	<u>1,998.00</u>
Trips	1,712.40	3,886.00
Less Member's cont. & refunds	<u>969.70</u>	<u>1,299.90</u>
Social Events/Raffles	2,310.00	3,174.20
Less Member's cont. & refunds	<u>455.00</u>	<u>450.00</u>
Presentations/Donations/Folders	275.00	245.00
Committee Expenses with Guests/Hospitality	3.19	22.29
AGM Refreshments	1,020.00	825.00
Less contribution from Harvey Howell		<u>100.00</u>
National Conference	2,825.64	2,457.30
Website	500.00	750.00
Annual Report	38.62	42.19
Newsletter	12.53	48.08
Refund of Subscriptions	24.60	89.28
 ADMINISTRATION		
Honoraria: Chairman/Secretary/Financial Manager	4,250.00	4,750.00
Postage, Stationery, Telephone etc.	247.79	295.39
Computer Maintenance/Upgrade	159.98	0.00
Professional Charges	200.00	200.00
Corporation Tax	91.77	91.77
Zoom Meetings	143.88	143.88
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	27,158.45	28,668.13
 Surplus of Income over Expenditure	 2,872.68	 (2,135.79)

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS
DERBYSHIRE BRANCH**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
Close Bros.	30,000.00	0.00
National Westminster Bank	23,785.04	50,916.47
Petty Cash	22.89	8.78
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	53,807.93	50,925.25
Less Creditor	200.00	200.00
Net Assets	53,607.93	50,725.25
Represented by Accumulated Funds		
Balance as at 1 st January 2023	50,725.25	52,860.99
Surplus of Income over Expenditure	2,872.68	(2,135.74)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance as at 31st December 2023	53,607.93	50,725.25

The above accounts have been prepared and presented by K Gibson, Financial Manager, Derbyshire Branch.

Examiner's Report

I have examined the above accounts of the Derbyshire Branch of the National Association of Retired Police Officers for the year ended 31st December 2023, and confirm that these are in accordance with the books, records and information as supplied by the Financial Manager.

Kenneth R Cope, ICPA,
Certified Practising Accountant.
9, Amber Heights,
Ripley,
Derbyshire,
DE5 3SP

14 February 2024

New Members of NARPO

Stephen Wainwright
Helen Morley
Suzanne Melody Cliff
Jane Edwards
Kamaljit Singh Bria
Lee Walker
Mrs. Angela Mary Duffy wife of Sgt John Duffy
Nicholas Saunders
Mrs. Christina Selby-Sly wife of Pc Geoffrey Selby-Sly
David Anthony Cox
David Ingamells
Anthony McVeigh
Alan David Hinman
Debbie Jane King
Paul James Tunnicliffe
Mark John Sherratt
Toby Jonathon Fawcett-Greaves
Liam Caldecott
Paul Andrew Leighton
Fiona Macdonald
Mark Walton

Gary Robert Wildey
Victoria Rhona Clarke
George Leslie Riley
Richard Walters
Robert Douglas Fisher
Paul Stevenson
Jaquelyn Mary Vallach
Ian Scott Burton
Philip Hollington
Russell Dakin
Paul Richard Butler
Mrs. Maxine Smith wife of Insp Philip Smith
Russell Hubber
Peter John Hands
Geoffrey Marshall.
Fiona Kilgour
Kay Price
Mrs Kathryn Frances Field wife of Sgt (1116) John Berbard Field.
Joginder Siniara.
Martin Bottomley
Nicholas Allgood

Sports Club

The last meeting of the Sports Club by 'Teams' took place on the 16th November, 2023.

There are currently 2700 members including retired members and the bank balance is £226,000 as at September, 2023.

The Sports Club is now a Limited Company, with the Chief, ACC, and Sports Club members as Directors.

Corporate tickets are available for numerous venues from Chatsworth House, Crich Tramway to the Imperial war Museum, London.

To obtain tickets please email - HQ.CentralSupport@Derbyshire.Police.UK

Tickets can be booked out up to 60 days in advance. Also look at our website for more information.

Sean Murphy - Sports Club Rep

Dates for your 2023 Diary

3pm., Sunday, 12th May, 2024 - Annual General Meeting, Morley Hayes Golf Club

12.30pm., Wednesday, 22nd May, 2024 – May Luncheon at Morley Hayes Golf Club

12nn., Thursday 23rd May – 60's Cadet reunion at Walton Golf Club.

Friday, 7th June, 2024 - Coach trip to Silk and Salt Mills, Cheshire.

Wednesday, 17th July, 2024 – Coach trip to Salford Quays.

7pm., Friday, 26th July, 2024 - Buxton Social, Buxton Conservative Club.

Wednesday, 21st August, 2024 – Coach Trip to Black Country Living Museum.

7pm Friday, 27th September, 2024 – Chesterfield Social at Walton Golf Club.

In Memoriam: May They Rest in Peace

Mrs. Glenys Margaret Draycott wife of ex Pc
(470 John Draycott

Pc (207) Roy Harbour

Sgt (539) John Duffy

Mrs. Maureen 'Mo' Nicholls wife of ex
D/Supt (174) Jess Nicholls

Mrs Linda Ann Batterham widow of Pc (184)
Don Batterham

Insp (952) Antony 'Tony' Charles Eyre

Pc 546) Duncan Robertson

Mrs Margaret Neville wife of ex Pc (877)

Tony Neville

Mrs Stephanie Egan widow of Sgt Tony
Egan

Pc (1200) Stephen John Kirk

Mrs. Susan Storrow wife of Pc (1411) Ivan
Storrow

Mrs. Betty Bailey widow of D/C/Supt
Duncan Bailey

D/Supt (174) Jess Nicholls

Mrs Joyce Muriel Cremin wife of Sgt (537)
John Cremin

Pc Graham Hibbert

Pc (1314) Maxwell John Fullerton Barn

Mrs. Bridget Hall wife of ex Insp (57) David
Ernest Hall

PC (1460) Michael Humphrey

Mrs. Lorna Willoughby widow of Pc (208)

John Willoughby

Sgt (29) Joseph Edward Drabble

Pc (1181) Geoffrey Stanley Leadbetter

Sgt (654) Maxwell Pierre Dakin

Mrs. Margaret 'Mags' Elizabeth Hall wife of
ex Insp (158) Anthony 'Tony' Hall

Mrs. Doris 'Dot' Unwin widow of Pc Roy
Unwin

Mr. Adrian Wilfred Clarke husband of ex Pc
(2520) Victoria Clarke

Insp (1050) Philip Smith

Mrs Donna Louane Munro wife of ex Insp
(1587) Gerald 'Jock' Munro.

D/S (869) Ian Allen.

Sgt (412) Peter Mundin.

Pc (986) James Allen

NARPO BRANCH LUNCH
Wednesday 22nd May, 2024 12.30 for 1pm.

Granary Loft Room, Morley Hayes Golf Club, Morley, Derby DE7 6QA

The cost will be **£28.00** for members, **£33.50** for non-members, widow members free of charge. If you wish to attend, please complete the slip below with your menu and seating choice together with your remittance no later than the 10th May, 2024 to Dave Ashley. Please congregate upstairs in the Granary Loft as there is a function in the Mill Room.

Menu

Starter

Cream of Leek, onion and potato soup V
Fish Smokie. Smoked haddock, prawns, salmon, cheese sauce, parmesan/parsley crumb.

Main Course

Roast Chicken breast, leek and bacon cream, Lyonnaise potatoes.
Pork loin steak, pancetta, apple compote, mustard mash.
Daube of Derbyshire beef, port and red wine sauce, shallot mash.
Shallot tart, roasted feta, honey and thyme V.

Dessert

Warm apple torte, vanilla ice cream.
Warm sticky ginger pudding, vanilla ice cream, toffee sauce.

Tea and Coffee with mints.

.....
I will be attending the Branch Lunch and enclose a cheque payable to **Derbyshire NARPO** for £ or I have paid by **bacs**.....

Name 1.

Name 2.

Menu Choice

Starter.....

Starter

Main

Main

Dessert

Dessert

If possible, I/We would like to sit with..... (Every effort will be made to accommodate your request)



Ex Pc (1219) Ted Fell.

I received a lovely note from Bedfordshire Branch of NARPO to say that they had been on a visit to the Royal Chelsea Hospital where they were given a tour by Ted Fell. They commented how professional, knowledgeable and friendly he was. We are also very proud of Ted and hoping to arrange a trip.

THE MINERS' STRIKE 1984 -THE BEGINNING

It is early 1984 and I am heading the Community Services Section in Chesterfield Division, Crime Prevention, Road Safety, Juvenile Liaison and anything else the bosses could not find a place for.

So, on Friday evening, 2nd March, 1984, I am at a house in Walton talking to a ladies group, probably about Policing Derbyshire in the 80's.

On arrival back home my wife Helen, also a serving officer at that time met me with, "Will you give Clem (Cotterill) a call asap? so I telephoned Clem and this is literally what he said. "The miners' strike is on, so clear you diary for next week, (what turned out to be the greatest understatement of all time), and I want you to go out tomorrow morning, find a billet for 150 police officers and have it up and running for Sunday afternoon." Most details were sparse but it was clear the 150 officers were coming from Durham, they had coal mines there but the strike was not going to affect them immediately, they would be arriving late Sunday afternoon, would require feeding and they would be out on the picket lines Sunday night. and would hopefully have somewhere fairly quiet to sleep at the end of their shift. One other detail was provided, the Drill Halls at Derby and Chesterfield had already been earmarked as billets so looking elsewhere was inevitable.

I imagine I saw this as quite a challenge so just got on with it!

Saturday morning, I met my Road Safety Pc's, Peter Lunn and Alan Greatorex at DHQ. It's worth remembering there were no mobile phones to be had at that time so we would need unrestricted access to landlines. We must have tasked a lot of people as to possible venues and the first one worth following up on was the Speedwell Rooms at Staveley- a large concert room, bearing in mind we had to position 150 camp beds, with kitchen facilities on hand as well. Well, a telephone call was made and initially it seemed we might have solved the problem but within a short time I was advised the local politicians did not see it as a good idea and the offer was withdrawn!

The next possibility was Robinson's Bradbury Hall on Chatsworth Road. Again these were premises with a large concert room and kitchen facilities and whilst the person spoken to thought we would be made welcome it was pointed out that all the kitchen equipment had been removed prior to eventual demolition. My list was getting smaller by the minute. I was reminded that the new Hospital at Calow was fast approaching completion so I spoke to someone there and again received a positive response. It appeared the individual six bed wards were complete with beds and bedding installed but, a big problem, the workmen were working day and night to complete the job on time so there would be no quiet time at all. It was then that the now empty Ashgate Maternity Hospital was mentioned. I spoke to someone at Scarsdale Hospital and agreed to meet at Ashgate without delay. On arrival I was amazed to see the interior lay-out, a real rabbit warren of rooms of all sizes, possibly a lot better than just everyone in one big room. The engineer I met could not have been more helpful. He was happy to bring in some industrial sized warm air blowers as the building was damp, it had been unused for quite some time. He explained the boilers would work if we purchased some fuel oil and had one of the electric motors that ran the boilers re-wired and baked for a few hours. Things were looking up so the motor was taken for repair and fuel oil ordered. Next was a call to Grosvenor Catering who agreed to have a marquee erected in the grounds and a promise to provide food on Sunday afternoon. So, we move on to Sunday morning. The marquee was erected and kitted out with tables and benches together with gas heaters, it was early March remember. The caterer even provided two lovely ladies, sisters Jean and Joan to cook for us and in fact they stayed with us all year. He promised chicken and chips for Sunday tea! Next to arrive was a large lorry laden with wooden camp beds, mattresses, pillows and blankets apparently from a War Department depot in Lancashire. They did not have any pillow cases but the super NHS staff from Scarsdale Hospital solved this without question. We could have 150 pillow cases if we collected them, took them back the following Friday for laundry and have more should things go to a second week!!! I imagine by this time we were waiting for the troops to arrive, which they eventually did, chose their bed-spaces, were fed and eventually went out on duty. Both myself and Peter and Alan were put on 16-hour days/nights duty and there was something of a crunch meeting the next morning when I was told that due to my snoring and subsequent stoppage of breathing habit, they requested I find somewhere else to sleep, which I did!! My wife, Helen was scheduled to work 16 hours daily at Dronfield and she used to come and help out whenever she could. We continued to improve things at the billet over the coming days and weeks, notable additions within a few days were BT putting phones in, including pay-phones, renting large TV sets and recorders for the communal areas and an endless selection of video films to watch in down-time, remember 'Porkies'? it was requested every week!! We entertained several forces over the coming months, including Devon & Cornwall, The Mets, and Cheshire. The Mets had stickers to distribute 'The Mets are Magic' and one Friday teatime they lived up to their slogan by spiriting away a local barmaid who was obviously in love with one of them, so she was secreted in one of their Transit vans for the journey to London. I used to wonder now and again as to what happened to her? We had an incident with a Cheshire PC who was obviously ill, so the Force Surgeon was summoned who told me the man had serious sickness and diarrhoea symptoms and unless we moved him immediately everyone would be affected. He begged not be sent home as he was on good money like everyone else but they sent a car for him. On the directions of the doctor, we burned the bed and bedding as a precaution. Policing an often-violent industrial action for week after week after week that year was never going to be easy, particularly as we were all working from a fold-up wooden camp bed in a

disused hospital building, but with thanks to everyone concerned, both local staff and visiting officers, I am happy that Ashgate billet provided a reasonable, if not home from home starting point to a very unusual year in Police history.

As they say, the rest is history - we could never do today what we managed to do in two days back then, there would be so many hoops to jump through and legislation to confound all our efforts, but we did do it.

Cheers.

Alan King

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