

The Staffordshire Knot

Staffordshire Branch of Narpo [96]

Stafford Police Station, Eastgate Street, Stafford, ST16 2DQ

www.narpo-staffs.co.uk ☎ 01785 234039 (Voicemail)

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Name		Sub Branch
ROBERT JOHN	THOMPSON	LEEK
IAN	HANCOCK	NORTHERN
IAN CHARLES	MOBBS	LEEK
IAN JAMES	COXHEAD	TAMWORTH
EDWARD JOHN	WICKENS	BURTON
ANDREW SEAN	DONALDSON	TAMWORTH
STEPHEN JAMES	HOLT	NORTHERN
SHARON LOUISE	SMITH	STAFFORD
CHRISTOPHER	PLANT	NORTHERN
JASON HAMILTON	WRIGHT	STAFFORD
ANDREW PAUL	MAXFIELD	NORTHERN
AMANDA JANE	MARSHALL	STAFFORD
PAUL	CLEWS	STAFFORD
RICHARD	WILSON	BURTON
CHRISTINE	HENSHALL	LEEK
CRAIG RUSSELL	BURTON	NORTHERN
PETER	MCGINN	BURTON
MICHAEL	STEC	NORTHERN
PAUL	RUSHWORTH	LEEK
NIKOLA JOHN	NOVAK	WOMBOURNE
SIMON ANDREW	JONES	TAMWORTH
ANDREW WILLIAM	MORTIMER	STAFFORD
GORDON ALAN	PRICE	CANNOCK
PAUL ANTHONY	SNAPE	CANNOCK

Can we wish you all a long and healthy retirement!

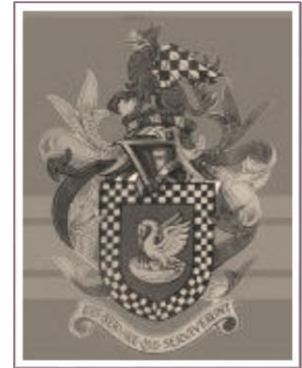
Members Called to Higher Service 2016

Your Branch records with regret the deaths of the following members.

Ret'd D Supt	John Derek BODEN	80	Stafford	07/07/16
Ret'd DC	Eamon Patrick McLEAN	60	Burton	25/07/16
Ret'd PC	William Ernest BATE	70	Devon	26/07/16
Ret'd Sgt	John CROWE	69	Wombourne	07/08/16
Ret'd Pc	Anthony HENDERSON	90	West Bromwich	22/08/16
Ret'd D/C/I	Robert BRASSINGTON	94	Hertfordshire	14/09/16
Ret'd DC	Gerald WALKLATE	85	Burton	27/09/16
Ret'd PC	Eric STANLEY	62	Northern	05/10/16
Ret'd Ch Insp	Bruce L HOLMES	81	France	13/10/16



www.narpo.org.uk



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Kier Business Services, Pensions, administrators of the **Staffordshire Police Pension**, ask those dealing with the affairs of deceased members, where there is a surviving spouse, to submit with the death certificate the marriage certificate to ensure prompt processing of the survivor pension. The deceased's pension is paid in full for three months after death. The survivor pension is calculated from the deceased's pension date plus all the index linking since that date.

Kier Pensions ☎01642 727333

Widows and Spouses called to Higher Service

Betty BOWERS	Northern	81yrs	16/07/16
--------------	----------	-------	----------

Our sympathy is extended to all the bereaved families.

Chairman's Corner

A warm welcome to the Autumn edition of the Staffordshire Knot.

Some good news is that the Consumer Price Index for September 2016 has been announced, recording inflation at 1%. Which means that Police Pensions will increase in April 2017 by the same amount.

Conference

The NARPO Annual Conference took place at Torquay on 9/9/2016 with the Executives from Staffordshire Branch attending as our delegates.

The Mayor of Torquay opened the Conference, and welcomed us all.

Steve Edwards CEO of NARPO gave a review of the year's events affecting NARPO. These included updates on the Later Life Ambitions Campaign, Widows Pension for Life Campaign and the continuing strained relationship with the Police Treatment Centre's over the issue of charging NARPO members to attend.

Sue Ward the Financial controller gave an update on NARPO's finances which are sound, with reserves recorded at £2.6 million.

The guest speaker was Simon Weston, who was badly injured in the Falklands War. His presentation was extremely inspirational.

The theme of Conference was the Silver Economy and was a panel discussion, facilitated by John Stapleton, with speakers from the Police Mutual, Age Wise and the Pensions Policy Institute.

Our President of NARPO, Ian Potter gave his address covering progress that was being made by the work of the Rules Revision Committee and that three seminars had been organised to finalise the feedback from the country. He also gave updates on the revamp of Supersleuth, the NARPO member database and the issue of historical enquiries which may involve our members in the future.

The following motions to Conference were debated.

Motion 1, submitted by the Rotherham Branch about the reduction of the precept by 10% from 40% to 30% was lost.

Motion 2, submitted by Barnsley and amended by the Birmingham Branch concerning the NEC paying for 1 delegate to attend Annual Conference were also lost.

Motion 3, concerning the revamp of Supersleuth submitted by the Birmingham Branch was won.

BRANCH CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN

Mark Judson

☎ 01785 660095

SECRETARY

Des Lockwood

☎ 01785 615190

TREASURER

Reay (Bruce) Pearman

☎ 01782 652205

SUB BRANCH CONTACTS

BURTON

Ralph Seville

☎ 01283 790527

Lesley Bennett

☎ 07986 809130

CANNOCK

Joe Edwards

☎ 01543 503113

John Hartshorne

☎ 01889 576793

LEEK

Peter Sims

☎ 01782 397587

Bob Scrimgeour

☎ 01782 503755

LICHFIELD

Phil Goodwin

☎ 01543 268186

Linda Hicken

☎ 01922 452572

NORTHERN

Keith Houlston

☎ 01782 616118

Dave Malam

☎ 01782 620955

Meeting with the PCC

Des and myself had our regular meeting with the PCC Matthew Ellis on the afternoon of Friday 16/9/2016. Matters discussed were as follows:-

1. The change of Home Secretary from Theresa May to Amber Rudd. He thought it would be business as usual in respect of the Home Office.
2. We discussed the recent problems the Force had been experiencing with telephony. He said that there had been some problems due to old technology, but this was in the process of being changed. He referred to developing technology with officers now having access to E-Pocket Note Books and the internet on their hand held devices.
3. Police Numbers. He stated that the numbers had increased very slightly, but more resources were being put towards police staff investigators, to free up more officer time on the beat.
4. Old Police H.Q. Site. Still no definite sale, but he stated that he hoped that a sale would be agreed with a company by the end of the year. As Staffordshire NARPO had maintained a significant interest in the sale of this site over the many years, tongue in cheek we suggested that the new roads on the eventually built site should be named NARPO Way, Lockwood Drive and Judson Road!
5. We asked him if he was sighted on the 175th Anniversary of the Force which occurs in 2017. He stated he was aware, but it was a matter for the Chief Constable if she wanted to do something specific about it.
6. We noted that recently in the press that he had been very forthright about the issue of female Police Officers in this Force in the future being allowed to wear Burka's. His view was that they should not. The Force had gone on the record saying that it might be considered. Apparently the Force are now following the PCC'S stand point.

Meeting with Chief Constable

At 10:30 on Tuesday 20/9/2016 Des and myself had our regular meeting with the Chief Constable, Jane Sawyers.

Issues that we discussed were as follows:-

1. Current state of Police Officer numbers, she stated that although they had started recruiting again, approximately 100 officers, this was to maintain the Force strength at about 1,700. She reiterated what the PCC had said that more resources were going into police support roles, to free up time for regular officers.
2. The Staffordshire Police Appeal to support the new Police Memorial at the National Arboretum at Alrewas. We discussed how local NARPO might be able to assist, we also suggested some ideas.
3. The 175th Anniversary of Staffordshire Police which occurs in 2017. We discussed this with her as to whether or not Staffordshire Police were doing anything to celebrate the anniversary. She and NARPO thought it might be a good idea to do something. So in our discussions we explored a few options

SUB BRANCH CONTACTS

STAFFORD

Mike Kozam
☎ 01785 257578
Norma Kozam
☎ 01785 257578

TAMWORTH

Glyn Thomas
☎ 01827 67545
Dave Gardner
☎ 01827 311096

WOMBOURNE

Roger Jones
☎ 01902 847299
John Cooper
☎ 01902 344867

WEST BROMWICH

Peter Toghill
☎ 0121 423 3978
Terry Barton
☎ 01902 495249

IN THE DIARY

LEEK

7:30 pm,
1st November 2016

TAMWORTH

7:30 pm,
1st November 2016

CANNOCK Social 12th November

LICHFIELD

7:30 pm,
16th November 2016

WOMBOURNE

7:30 pm
7th February 2017

BRANCH MEETING

10:30 am
26th February 2017

two of those being having a themed Force Open Day next year and combining it with the unveiling of the Staffordshire Knot plaque that used to adorn the Old Police H.Q.

4. Developments with the legal challenge to A19 and whether or not the Voluntary Exit Scheme was going to be used again in the future. She stated that the legal challenge to A19 was still ongoing but she could give no further update. In respect of the Voluntary Exit Scheme this was not going to be used in the foreseeable future.

5. How does the Force now record the historical information about the Force and its previous members? She assured us that the information is now recorded digitally and would be preserved for future generations to access with the right safeguards in place.

6. Shortly after the meeting took place Jane Sawyers announced to the Force that she would be retiring in the summer of 2017. I do not think it was anything to do with what Des or myself said to her at the meeting!

From the Archive of Staffordshire County Police

Award of the British Empire Medal June 1945

The Chief Constable is very pleased to announce that the H.M. the King has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the British Empire Medal [Civil Division] to Police Constable William Poole, Stafford Division [Church Eaton].

On the 4th January, 1945 a Wellington bomber aircraft crashed in a field at Church Eaton and burst into flames. Police Constable Poole, who was stationed near the scene of the crash, was quickly on the spot. He acted with very conspicuous gallantry and at very grave risk to himself succeeded in rescuing a member of the crew from certain death. PC Poole received burns during the rescue operation which necessitated his absence from duty for some days.

Mark Judson [Chairman of Staffordshire NARPO]

Events

West Bromwich Sub Branch Christmas Party

This year's Christmas Social will be held on 5th December 2016 at 12:00 noon to 15:00 pm at West Bromwich Royal Naval Club, 108 Bull Lane, West Bromwich

The price per person will be £7.00.

Can you please confirm if you will be attending and also if you are bringing a guest/guests to Peter Toghill on or before 22nd November 2016.

Please make cheques payable to "The West Bromwich & Wednesbury NARPO" which are to be sent to

FAO Peter Toghill, 52 Bleakhouse Road, Oldbury, B68 0TQ

We will require full payment on or before 22nd November.

STAFFORDSHIRE NARPO – NORTHERN SUB BRANCH

DINNER AND CABARET

7:30pm Friday 10th March 2017 Trentham Park Golf Club Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 8AE
(off Whitmore Road, Trentham)

FEATURING - Derek Poulson - Raconteur

MENU (GF = Gluton Free)

<u>Starters</u>	(1) Chunky Vegetable & Red Lentil Soup (GF)
	(2) Feta Cheese & Crispy Bacon Salad with Balsamic Glaze
	(3) Prawns Marie Rose
<u>Main Courses</u> All served with seasonal vegetables, potatoes and chips	(4) Grilled Fillet of Sea Bass with Lemon & Herb Glaze (GF)
	(5) Steak and Ale Pie
	(6) Chicken Breast stuffed with Chicken Liver Pate wrapped in Bacon & served with a port and Madeira Sauce (GF)
	(7) Vegetable Nut Roast, Apricots, Goats Cheese with Tomato & Herb Sauce (V)
<u>Desserts</u>	(8) Apple & Berry Pie with Custard
	(9) Triple Chocolate & Honeycomb Cheesecake (GF)
	(10) Cheese and Biscuits
Coffee and Mints	

£20 PER HEAD (Subsidised from Sub Branch Funds)

-----cut here-----

Booking Form – NORTHERN NARPO Dinner Friday 10th March 2017.

* only Menu Numbers please

Name 1 (Capitals please) First name Surname.....

Tele. No.....email address.....

Menu Choice - Starter *.....Main *..... Dessert*.....

Name 2 (Capitals please) First name Surname.....

Menu Choice – Starter *.....Main *.....Dessert *.....

CHEQUE AMOUNTING TO £.....ENCLOSED HEREWITH

Signed.....Date.....

Cheque payable to “NARPO Northern Sub Branch Social Fund” to

David Malam, 22 Churston Close, Westbury Park, Newcastle, Staffs ST5 4LP

Payment, with meal choices, by the 31st January 2017.

To help us to monitor numbers please notify us as soon as possible (payment and menu choices can be made later) by contacting either Secretary David Malam on **07971594950** or Chairman Keith Houlston on **01782 616118**.

Stafford Sub-Branch News

We had good turnouts for our quarterly lunch clubs in July and October. In addition, a small group met for an extra sub-branch meeting and lunch in August at the Arthur Findlay Centre, Stafford.

MASE - We celebrate the fact that many of our members are living into their eighties and nineties; and whilst some will enjoy continuing good health, it's a sad but inevitable fact that others will not be so fortunate and will suffer ill health, including dementia-type illnesses. Although advances are being made in drugs to treat and alleviate this condition, sufferers and their carers require a lot of support.

I recently accompanied one of our widow members to a MASE (pronounced Maze) function. MASE stands for Monthly Alzheimer's Support Evening, the aim of which is to provide social support and information for people with dementia, their carers, family and friends. Monthly social meetings take place in Stafford, Haughton, Cannock, Hednesford and Rugeley. There is no charge for attending these gatherings, and transport can be provided.

Meetings usually begin with information on the resources available for dementia sufferers and their carers, such as input from Health, Social Services, voluntary organisations and the private sector. There is also the opportunity to ask questions of professionals in a protected and confidential environment. A local catering company supports the group by providing and delivering a buffet.

Following the buffet there is musical entertainment and socialising, followed by time for chatting and making new friends. The widow that I accompanied really enjoyed the evening, and other committee members will be taking her on future visits.

I would highly recommend this group to any of you who are carers, next-of-kin, or helpers of dementia sufferers. More information can be obtained from two of the organisers – Daphne (01785 211140) and Elaine (01785 823110). MASE has a website **www.themasegroup.com**.

Did you know? - If you have a Pendant Lifeline Telecare type alarm, for use in the event of a fall or other emergency, you can benefit from BT's Free Priority Fault Repair Scheme in the event of a fault on your line. Under the scheme BT will give you priority over standard faults, and deal with your fault asap, every day of the year, including Christmas Day. To qualify, you must rent your telephone line from British Telecom; be registered as Disabled; or be incapacitated and housebound, due to a chronic long-term illness or disability, which prevents you leaving the house without the assistance of another person. With winter approaching, now is the time to register yourself or a vulnerable relative, with BT on 0800 800 150. Most other phone line providers operate similar schemes.

Reunion Lunch - Following on from the success of this event in previous years, we are once again holding our sub-branch reunion lunch at Tillington Hall in January 2017. A booking form is included in this edition of the Knot (page 7 and on the website) - book early to avoid disappointment!

Dates for your Diary - Lunch Club, Wed 4th January 2017, Red Lion, Bradley, 12 noon for 12:30 pm (for further details contact Gerry Robinson on 01785 212394). Sub-branch meeting, 7:30 pm Thursday 2nd March 2017, Constitutional Club, Stafford.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and looking forward to meeting many of you at our events in the New Year. Mike Kozam (Chairman).

STAFFORD Sub Branch NARPO Annual Reunion Lunch.

Organisers. Carole & Gerry Robinson MBE.

La Tour Apartment, 42 Drakeford Court, Wolverhampton Road, Stafford. ST17 4BS.

Tel. /Fax. 01795 212394. Mobile 0790 291.55.00.

E Mail. drakeford24@btinternet.com

The Tillington Hall Hotel, Eccleshall Road, Stafford.

There is good disabled parking and access points for those members with walking difficulties right up to the front entrance.

PLEASE contact Gerry for details.

Saturday 28th January 2017

12:00 pm reception for 12:30 pm

PLEASE complete the menu choice form below and send it to organisers before 21st Jan 2017 please. Max number 120 persons.

BOOK EARLY.

Please bring along a raffle prize - the more prizes the better chance you have of winning one!

Starters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Home made soup, oven baked croutons. 2. Hot Smoked mackerel and new potato salad. 3. Brie, bacon and cranberry salad. 4. Garlic and herb mushrooms in cream sauce.
Mains	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Baked fillet of Cod, cheese sauce. 6. Roast Beef and Yorkshire pudding. 7. Roast loin of pork, sage and onion stuffing. 8. Leek fondue tart, roast cherry vine tomatoes, balsamic glaze. <p>(All served with a selection of seasonal vegetables and potatoes.)</p>
Deserts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Warm Belgian waffle, vanilla ice cream, maple syrup. 10. Deep filled apple pie and custard sauce. 11. Black forest Eton mess. 12. Fresh fruit salad. <p>Including Coffee / Tea & Mints.</p>

Please keep the above copy of your menu choice/s.

3 courses for £14 (Included first Bar drink FREE).

BOOKING Tillington Hall Hotel, Stafford Sat 28th Jan 2017

*Use numbers only please.

Name 1 (Capitals) First Surname

Tel. No..... e mail address.....

Menu Choice. Starter* No..... Mains* No..... Desert....* No

Name 2 (Capitals) First Surname

Tel. No..... e mail address.....

Menu Choice. Starter* No..... Mains* No..... Desert....* No

If possible seat me/us with.....

Send the booking forms in together if you can.

CHEQUES only please made payable to 'Stafford NARPO Sub Branch'

Please send this to G & C Robinson, 42, Drakeford Court,
Wolverhampton Road, Stafford, ST17 4BS by 21st Jan 2017

EVENTS

ALDRIDGE REUNION

4th November 2016

Aldridge Conservative Club

Please contact Les Leek on

leslieleek@hotmail.com or

☎ 07939 214613

WEST BROMWICH

XMAS PARTY

Monday 5th December 2016

BURTON XMAS LUNCHEON

14th December 2016

See pages 7-8

STAFFORD SUB BRANCH

REUNION LUNCHEON

January 2017

TAMWORTH ANNUAL

LUNCHEON

Sun 5th Feb 2017

(12:30 – 1:00 pm) at

Drayton Park Golf Club,

Tamworth

Full details will be circulated

in December, when menu and

cost is known.

NORTHERN ANNUAL

DINNER

10 March 2017

See page 5-6

BRANCH ANNUAL

REUNION

Sat 9th April 2017

Chase Golf Club see page 10

3 DAY COACH TRIP to

LONDON in Mid October 2017

- 'Legal & Illegal London' – see

next edition for more details.

Burton-on-Trent & Uttoxeter Sub Branch

Burton & Uttoxeter NARPO celebrated its 30th anniversary last year, when increased numbers of members attended. Many younger members and their partners are now enjoying the social aspect of the meetings as well as the short but important official side. The Sub Branch meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday in the months of February; April; July and October commencing at 7:30pm. (February 2017 meeting is the 15th). Buffets are always provided and guest speakers regularly attend.

For the past three years the Sub Branch has organised many well supported coach trips to such places as Bletchley Park; Tower of London; York; Liverpool's Albert Docks etc. These popular events will continue in the New Year.

On the 6th June 2016 the Sub Branch held a memorial service at Burton's Stapenhill cemetery chapel for Pc Brindley James Booth who was murdered in Burton, 70 years to that date. Several relatives were traced, of whom six, including the officer's daughter and three grandchildren, attended the moving service, and conducted by the Sub Branch Chaplain Rev. Kim Thomas. Also in attendance were our Chief Constable, local Mayor, regular officers and NARPO members.

Sub Branch members are invited to join regular officers at the Burton Police Carol Service to be held at All Saints church in Newborough, near Burton-on-Trent, on 7th December 2016 commencing at 7:00 pm.

Our Sub Branch 10th Christmas lunch takes place on the 14th December 2016 at Branston Golf & Country Club (menu below with booking form).

This popular and enjoyable function grows by the year and this year may well see numbers exceed the 120 who attended in 2015.

Sub Branch members, who have kindly reported local welfare issues that have come to their notice, have ensured that visits and 'get well' gifts and cards have been made to members who have been hospitalised or ill at home. All members are urged to continue supplying this important information by contacting the Sub Branch Chairman or Secretary.

Ralph Seville - Chairman of Burton & Uttoxeter Sub Branch 22/10/2016

-----Cut here-----

<p><u>Burton-on-Trent & Uttoxeter Sub Branch</u> Xmas BOOKING: 14 Dec, 12:30 for 1:00 pm MENU £17 per person <u>STARTERS</u> 1. Honey roast parsnip soup, Braeburn apple crisps (V) 2. Salmon mousse, fresh dill, pickled cucumber 3. Pastry tartlet of wild mushroom & shallots, parmesan shavings, bacon shards (Can be V) <u>MAIN COURSES</u> 1. Roast turkey breast, apricot & fresh sage stuffing 2. Herby crusted Scottish Salmon, tarragon cream & braised fennel 3. Sweet potato, blue Stilton & toasted pine-nut bake (V) <u>SWEETS</u> 1. Spiced winter berry tartlet, cinnamon ice cream 2. Dark chocolate mousse, raspberries & ginger biscuits, Chantilly cream 3. Strawberries bavarois, white chocolate & fresh strawberries, Shortbread <u>COFFEE & DINNER MINTS</u></p>	<p>PLEASE <u>TICK</u> AGAINST YOUR CHOICE OF MEAL AND INFORM US OF ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS This menu subsidised by Burton & Uttoxeter NARPO Please send <i>completed form and cheque</i> payable to 'BURTON NARPO' to:- Ralph Seville 14, Furlong Close, Alrewas, Burton-on-Trent, DE13 7EF by 1st December 2016. Any queries, ring Ralph on 01283 790527</p> <p>NAME/S.....</p> <p>TEL NO.....</p> <p>PLEASE SEAT ME WITH</p> <p>(disabled parking close to the entrance of ground floor function room. You are invited to bring one prize for the Christmas raffle.)</p>
---	---

The Tamworth Bomb Hoax This is a summary of a story researched by Glyn Thomas, Chairman of Tamworth NARPO. The Tamworth Herald dated Saturday 8th December, 1894, carried a story as it was breaking and two weeks later, on Saturday 22nd December, had full details of the Court case.

On Friday 30th November, 1894, several suspicious parcels were received at numerous Government Offices in London, Lord Mayors of Manchester and Liverpool, Mayors of Bristol, Gloucester, Exeter, Bradford and Leeds. In London the parcels were handed to Scotland Yard officials. They made communication with the Midland Railway authorities, with the result that it was revealed late that evening the parcels had been dispatched via the railway parcels services by two residents of Tamworth.

The parcel sent to the Lord Mayor of Liverpool was also handed to local police who, at the same time, started to trace the origin of the parcels. Detective Inspector Fisher of Liverpool Police arrived in Tamworth during the early hours of Saturday morning. Enquiries with the Midland Railway Stationmaster, Mr Watford, revealed the names of the senders. It would appear that late on the previous evening, the Stationmaster had been contacted by Scotland Yard about the parcels sent to Whitehall. From records he was able to ascertain the senders.

Inspector Dodd and P.C. Wheway of Tamworth Police, accompanied by Detective Inspector Fisher, went to the home of Charles Henry Dent, aged 28 years, of George Street and brought him to the Police Station for questioning. Inspector Fisher, accompanied by P.C. Sutton, then went to the home of Frank Cannock, a 24 years old mechanic, lodging in Offa Street in the town. Both Dent and Cannock were seen in the kitchen of the Police Station and were not charged at that stage. They admitted having sent the parcels, stating they had seen an advertisement in a local publication "Answers" offering a prize of £250 to those who could best advertise twenty four copies of the paper. Twelve parcels were dispatched from Tamworth railway station by the London & North Western Railway (LNWR) service and the other dozen by the Midland Railway (MR) service. Both men were released during further enquiry after Inspector Fisher received a telegram from his Chief Constable ordering their release. During the following week, Inspector Dodd visited the northern towns and obtained full details of the transit of the bombs, which he then forwarded to the Treasury, which had instituted the proceedings.

At a special sitting of the Borough Magistrates on Monday 17th December, 1894, the case was heard at the Town Hall, Tamworth. The first summary charge was of unlawfully sending to the Midland Railway Company a consignment of explosive, to wit, a percussion cap, adapted and fixed to a bomb, without having given the said Company forty eight hours previous notice in writing of their intention to send such consignment and without stating the true name, description and quantity of the explosive proposed to be conveyed and their names and addresses and without having an intimation in writing from the said Company that they were prepared to receive such consignment contrary to Bye-law 2 of the Bye-laws made regulating the loading, unloading and conveyance of explosives on the railway made under the Explosives Act, 1875. A second similar charge of unlawfully packing an explosive of the sixth (Ammunition) class, for conveyance by the London & North Western Railway otherwise than in accordance with the rules of the Explosives Act, 1875 was presented. In all, forty eight summonses were laid against each defendant – two in respect of twenty four parcels.

The Magistrate, the Mayor, A.M. Sculthorpe Esq sat with eight others on the bench. Both men pleaded 'Guilty' and insisted it was done as a joke, to create a sensation in order to win the prize offered by the paper called 'Answers'.

After deliberating for twenty five minutes, the Magistrate Mayor said the bench were convinced that there was no felonious intent. They fined both £1 in each of the forty eight summonses, such fines to include the Court and Police fees, in default three months imprisonment. The defendants were liable on conviction to a penalty of £20 for each charge.

If the full penalty was imposed it would have amounted to nearly £1,000, which they would not have been able to pay; and would have been sent to prison.

Earlier that year, two Italian anarchists, Francesco Polti and Giuseppe Farnara were convicted of similar offences in London and sent to penal servitude.

It is interesting to note the 'Mutual Aid' available, even in those days. Connected with this case, apart from those mentioned and in attendance in Court, were Captain Thomson, Explosives Department at the Home Office, Inspector John Sweeney of Scotland Yard, Chief Inspector Powell of Scotland Yard, Chief Inspector Pearson of LNWR Police, London and Superintendent Carr of MR Police, Derby

STAFFORDSHIRE NARPO Annual Reunion Lunch 2017

Organisers. Carole & Gerry Robinson MBE.

La Tour Apartment, 42 Drakeford Court, Wolverhampton Road, Stafford. ST17 4BS.

Tel. /Fax. 01785 212394 Mobile 07902 915500

E-Mail. drakeford24@btinternet.com

An Invitation is extended to all members to join us at

The Chase Golf Club

Pottal Pool Rd, Huntington, Penkridge ST19 5RN

There is good disabled parking and access points for those members with walking difficulties, right up to the front entrance.
PLEASE contact Gerry for details.

Saturday 8th April 2017

12:00 pm reception for 1:00 pm Meal.

3 courses for £12. (special subsidised price)

PLEASE complete the menu choice form below (before 1st April 2017 please) Max number 150 persons. BOOK EARLY.

Please bring along a raffle prize – the more prizes the better chance you have of winning one!

MENU CHOICES

Starters	1. Home made crème of vegetable soup
	2. Ardennes pate with onion chutney and toasted brioche
	3. Prawn cocktail
Mains (All served with vegetables and new potatoes.)	4. Roast Beef and Yorkshire pudding
	5. Chicken fillet, Palma ham, melted brie & tomato sauce
	6. Pan fried Salmon, green beans, Champagne sauce
	7. Mediterranean vegetable parcel
Deserts	8. Apple tart Tatin with crème anglaise
	9. Chocolate Fudge cake
	10. Lemon Tart
	Including Coffee / Tea & Mints.

Please mark and keep the above copy of your menu choice/s.

----- Cut here -----

BOOKING FORM. The Chase Golf Club, Cannock, Sat 8th April 2017, from 12 noon onwards.

*Use menu numbers only please.

Name 1 (Capitals please.) First name..... Surname.....

Tel. No..... e-mail address.....

Menu Choice. Starter *No..... Mains *No..... Desert *No.....

Name 2 (Capitals please.) First name..... Surname.....

Tel. No..... e-mail address.....

Menu Choice. Starter *No..... Mains *No..... Desert *No.....

If possible seat me/us with..... Send the booking forms in together if you can.

Please send this to G & C Robinson, 42, Drakeford Court, Wolverhampton Road, Stafford. ST17 4BS.

Please make cheque payable to "Staffs NARPO"