

Retired Members Branch

The Retired Members Branch is served by the NEC and a Retired Members Committee, this being enshrined in the POA Rules and Constitution

A warm welcome to the Retired Members page. The Retired Members Committee hope that you are all keeping well and have returned to your normal way of life.

In the previous edition of Gatelodge, there was an article from a retired member under the heading of "Health and Wellbeing". He spoke about the benefits that members have access to. It referred to him having to take medical retirement and the support he received from the POA Welfare Committee, helping him to deal with the mental and physical stress. This article endorses the efforts the POA make to all members, including retired members, and these should be highly praised.

UPDATE

The Autumn issue of Gatelodge highlighted the research into PTSD. Earlier in the year, prison officers past and present were involved in that research by Joanne Binley. She has since completed this and members can find her report on the POA website. Hopefully those of you, especially, who have experienced PTSD may find her report helpful.

The RMC welcome the news that there is to be a POA Annual Conference next year 2022 in Eastbourne and are hopeful to be in attendance.

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

In the open prison that I worked, I was detailed the officer i/c visits. As usual prior to visits taking place, you always checked names and how

many prisoners had booked a visit. This particular day I noticed a prisoner was receiving a visit from his girlfriend. This girlfriend was a Page 3 pin-up and a pop star, who was very well known to all. It was a mid-week visit and we expected a quiet afternoon. The prisoner and visitor were located at a table where I thought they would not receive too much attention and cause too much disruption. All was going as expected until the visits hall began to get unexpected callers – including the Governor, the Deputy Governor, Oscar, Head of the Works Department, the Chaplain, various admin staff and numerous uniform staff on the pretext of completing patrols. I wonder why? Funny, on completion of visits a request for assistance to help with searching fell on deaf ears.

Keep the stories coming.

RETIRED FROM WORK BUT NOT FROM LIVING

Many thanks for taking time to read the Retired Members page. We look forward to receiving your enquiries, advice, concerns and any items that may be helpful or interesting in regards to Retired Members.

Wishing you all the best. Keep safe and well.

The Retired Members Committee.

RMC Members: Pete Hancox, George Freeman, John Dauncey, Pete Jackson and Tony Jackson

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