

## MAY NEWSLETTER

### OPEN LETTER FROM NATIONAL CHAIR OF THE POLICE FEDERATION, JOHN APTER

The National Chair of the Police has written the below open letter to both all members of the Police Federation and members of the public.

[Open Letter from the National Police Federation Chair](#)

### REPS @ WORK – ELECTION CAFÉ EVENTS

Alongside the National Police Federation's ongoing Reps@Work campaign, which highlights the incredible work local Reps do, the National Police Federation are hosting a series of *Election Café events* to encourage members from under-represented groups to stand either for the first time or stand again to remain as a Fed Rep.

These informal virtual events are aimed at members from under-represented groups with the aim to encourage them to find out more about becoming a Rep and showcase how Reps and self-organised groups are vital in supporting our 130,000+ members across England and Wales.

The events are an hour long and will be held on the following dates:

**18 May – 10am**

**25 May – 2pm**

**1 June – 6pm**

If members or Reps would like to attend one of these events they will need to register by emailing [pfevents@polfed.org](mailto:pfevents@polfed.org)

### POLICE TREATMENT CENTRES REOPENED

[The Police Treatment Centres](#) are delighted to announce that their centres in Harrogate and Auchterarder reopened on **Monday 26 April** and are now taking applications for both the Physiotherapy and Psychological Wellbeing programme. *Subscribing* members will need to complete the relevant [Physiotherapy Application](#) or [Psychological Wellbeing](#) application form, attach 2 payslips (1 recent and 1 from 12 months ago) and return all documentation to the Federation office for verification and onward transmission.

**Do you know that Police Treatment Centre membership, usually £7.80 per month, is included in membership of [The Northern Police Healthcare Scheme](#)? For full details of The Northern Police Healthcare Scheme, including prices and an application form, [please click here](#).**

### Pre-Retirement Courses

We are in the process of organising dates for 1 day Pre-Retirement courses in the coming months, these courses will be delivered by Carss Financial Partners. If you are interested in attending a course, please email [info@norpolfed.org.uk](mailto:info@norpolfed.org.uk) with your retirement date. Once we have further dates confirmed, we will contact those officers who have registered an interest.

### PHYSIOTHERAPY & COUNSELLING SERVICES FOR GROUP INSURANCE MEMBERS

We are delighted to confirm that our **Physiotherapy, Chiropractic and Counselling** services continue to be delivered at the Federation Office. Please be assured that these new services are provided in *strict compliance* with all guidelines relating to the current Covid-19 pandemic.

If you are a member of the [Group Insurance Scheme](#) and wish to book a Physiotherapy, Chiropractic or Counselling appointment, please ring the Federation Office Reception on **0191 4373766** or email [norpolfedreception@polfed.org](mailto:norpolfedreception@polfed.org)

If you are not already a subscribing member of our Group Insurance Scheme, this is a comprehensive scheme offering **Life Insurance, Personal Accident Cover, Half Pay Sickness Cover, Worldwide Travel Insurance, Legal Expenses Cover, UK/European Motor Breakdown cover, plus access to a 24 Hour Counselling Helpline & Support Service.** [Click here to read the full Scheme Benefits.](#)

If you are not yet a member and wish to join, [please click here for an application form](#) which should be completed and returned to the [info@norpolfed.org.uk](mailto:info@norpolfed.org.uk) for processing. **Please note that applications are welcomed from both Police Officers and Police Staff.**

### **Tax Relief On Federation Subscriptions**

**Did you know that you can claim tax relief on your Federation subscriptions?** If you haven't already registered with HMRC to claim this, you can go back 6 years. In addition, you can also claim tax relief on Flat rate expenses, e.g. uniform cleaning, work boot replacement etc. The following are links to letters pre-addressed to HMRC to enable you to submit these claims:

[Click here to download a letter to reclaim tax for the current year](#)

[Click here to download a letter to reclaim tax for the last 6 years plus Flat Rate Expense Allowance](#)

### **Tax Relief – Working From Home**

If you have been working from home, you are also able to claim tax relief for expenses whilst working at home. It will take less than 5 minutes to complete. [Tax Relief - Working From Home](#)

### **You Could Be Owed A Tax Refund**

**Are you due a Tax Refund ?** – 43% of members using the online tax review we offer have got money back from HMRC after discovering they had been given the wrong tax code - in some cases as much as £470. In the last 4 years, more than 670 members have taken advantage of service, provided for us by lead tax code specialists, The Tax refund Company. If you have not had your tax checked and want to get back any money you may be owed, click [here](#). If you don't get any money back, the service is completely free.

### **Discounts On Alt-Berg Boots**

Alt-Berg, the Yorkshire bootmakers, offer exclusive discounts to Police Federation members on their whole range of high quality police boots. The full range can be viewed on their dedicated [site](#).

This site and the **exclusive discounts** offered are password protected for viewing by **Police Federation Members only**. To receive the password, please email [info@norpolfed.org.uk](mailto:info@norpolfed.org.uk)

### **Lookers Volkswagen - Personal Contract Hire Offers**

We are pleased to announce that we are still working with [Lookers Volkswagen](#) to provide our members and their immediate families with *exclusive* offers on Volkswagen personal contract hire vehicles. Offers are only available through [Lookers Volkswagen Scotswood Road](#) . [Click here for full details.](#)

### **Police Federation – Perkiam Discounts**

Members of the Police Federation are able to sign up for a range of discounts through Perkjam. If you would like to sign up please [click here](#).

### **FEDERATION SURGERIES**

Due to ongoing Coronavirus implications, we are still unable to hold our usual monthly surgeries at the Federation Office. We have therefore approached our service providers who have agreed to offer telephone contact should any members require advice or assistance with any of the following issues in the interim period:

#### **Family Law**

Holmes Family Law solicitors offer a bespoke, specialist legal service to Northumbria Police Federation Members and their families advising on all aspects of Family Law. They offer a free and comprehensive initial hour long appointment. Please ring **0191 500 9337 or 01670 707338** or email [lily@holmesfamilylaw.co.uk](mailto:lily@holmesfamilylaw.co.uk)

### **Financial Advice (including Covid-19 related financial issues), Mortgages / Investment Services / Wills / Estate Planning**

Cars Financial Services offer mortgage, insurance, investment, power of attorney and estate planning advice. They can also give advice and guidance in relation to the furlough process or other financial issues relating to the Covid-19 situation. Please ring Steve Cars on **07775 575445** or email [info.cfp@btconnect.com](mailto:info.cfp@btconnect.com)

### **Additional Wills & Estate Planning**

Taylor–Hall are a ‘Whole of Market’ broker with 30 years of industry experience and technical excellence. They are there to support their clients throughout every stage of their life. Please ring Mark Hall on **07885 041245** or email [mark@taylor-hall.co.uk](mailto:mark@taylor-hall.co.uk)

### **Holiday Lodge Windermere – Spring 2022 Dates now available**

We have now released dates for Spring 2022 for our Holiday Lodge in Windermere, at specially reduced prices for members of our Group Insurance Scheme. [Please click here to check availability and to submit a booking enquiry.](#)

### **The Old Byre, Wandylaw, Northumberland**

The Old Byre (sleeps 5) is a three bedroomed stone-built barn conversion located less than half a mile from the A1, is within easy reach of Alnwick, Berwick and Edinburgh. It is available for hire at *substantially* discounted prices by members of our Group Insurance Scheme for 3, 4 and 7 night bookings. Dates for Spring 2022 have now been released, please keep checking our website for updated availability.

[Click here for full details, prices and to access the online booking calendar](#)

### **The Stables and Wandylaw Cottage**

Members of our Healthcare Scheme can book a break in one of our two luxury barn conversions in Wandylaw, Chathill, Northumberland at *very competitive prices*. Dates for Spring 2022 have now been released, please keep checking our website for updated availability. [Click here for full details, prices and to access the online booking calendar.](#)

### **Know Your Rights**

Not all officers are aware of their basic entitlements under [Police Regulations](#) and we are keen to spread awareness of these and the support available to our members. [Click here to read a Quick Reference Guide re your main Terms and Conditions.](#) If you have any specific queries, please contact your local Federation Representative(s), details of which can be found on the Force’s intranet within the Staff Associations section.

*Jim*

**Jim Gray**  
Chairman

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Northumbria Police Federation