

Newsletter - August 2017



New state-of-the-art treatment centre in Lancashire opening this summer

You may already have opted to become a member of the North West Police Benevolent Fund, which will be reflected by deductions in your payslip. Either way, please read on to see the exciting new changes taking place at Langho, Lancashire - changes which will see the NWPBF build on its already outstanding reputation as a provider of high quality therapeutic services to Police Officers and NCOA staff in the region.

For a small monthly payment, you can take advantage of the many services offered by the charity, such as confidential counselling, physiotherapy services, hardship grants/loans and use of the lodges at Windermere and Carnforth.

St Michaels Lodge, in Langho, near Clitheroe, is just completing a multi-million pound refurbishment, which will offer increased services for members who find themselves in need of extra support.

Available for use later this summer, the new development will provide state-of-the-art in-patient and outpatient treatment for physical and psychological problems, and includes a swimming pool, gym, spa / hot tub and hydrotherapy pool. More details about the lodge will appear in future Force Bulletins, but the photos show what an asset St Michaels will be for those who need it.

The North West Police Benevolent Fund (which comprises the forces of Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Cheshire, GMP and NCOA) is a charity and, in lieu of the considerable increase in service provision, will require an increase in the monthly donation rates to ensure the best care and support can continue to be provided for members.

From September this year, donations for serving officers will increase to £7.40 per month however this is subject to tax relief as it is paid to a charity so the actual amount is £5.92 for those on the lower 20% tax rate and £4.44 if you pay tax at 40%. The donation amount for retired officers will become £5 and again with tax relief that amount is £4 for 20% tax payers and £3 for 40% taxpayers providing it is deducted from pension. Although this is an increase of around £1-2 per month, this remains exceptional value and it will mean that the help you get, when you need it, remains at the expected exceptional level.

Historically, new members to the NWPBF would have to wait 12 months to reap the treatment benefits of North West Police Benevolent Fund membership, but if you join between now and September 1st of this year, you will be able to access treatment services following the first payment.

This development is an enormous investment for members, reflecting the pressures/challenges faced by our serving and retired colleagues in the modern world. For a very small monthly donation you will have access to the very best treatment and welfare services Available.

