

# Nyasaland Police Association

Reunion 14th July, 2022.

Our 16th Reunion took place on Thursday 14th July at the Holiday Inn, Coventry, which has been our excellent venue for the past eight years. The attendance totalled 27, somewhat less than recent years due to unavoidable cancellations. It included 8 former regular officers (*Jim Baird, Jon Dennison, Allan Dew, Boyd Pendennis, Mike Tadman, Barry Thorne, Ken Wilkinson and Terry Young*) plus our one Police Reserve Officer (*Mike Hunt*) together with wives, widows, adult children and friends. In opening the event I welcomed returning



previous attenders and first timers Ian Dennison, son of our senior member Jon and Martin, son of Barry Thorne.

At dinner, I proposed the first toast - to Absent and Departed Members, listing those who have passed on since the 2021 Reunion – *Barbara Davis (widow of Mike), Pat Mahoney, Les Sampson and Margaret Bacon (widow of Malcolm)*.

Apologies from Christopher & Liz Bean, Don & Pearl Hargreaves, John & Jenny Kirkham, Eileen Lancaster, Mick Thacker and Bob Carr. Allan Bean then read out a greetings letter from his father Christopher.

Greetings were also received from Ray Punter in New Zealand, Alison McLennan in Australia, Mary Brill in Dorset and Victor Sibale in Malawi.

Vanessa Farmery and Mike Hunter then briefed us on the completed work they had done in preparing material of the late Professor Colin Baker, which may be published as the 7th volume in his series "Expatriate Experience of Life and Work in Nyasaland".

I raised a further toast to the Nyasaland Police Association, coupled with the names of our nonagenarians Jon, Boyd and Mike, as well as our Webmaster Terry.

The Raffle followed raising needed funds for the Association and which prizes included a number of the lovely Dorset Brooches, brilliantly made by Mary Brill.

I then introduced the Association's copy of the Malawi Police Centenary Book "*A History of the Malawi Police, Celebrating a Centenary 1921-2021*" so ably compiled by Victor Sibale. Victor clearly put in a great deal of work and research to produce it. Anne Blackman accepted custody of the book.

We are extremely grateful that Holiday Inn, Coventry, once again provided us with great facilities and food plus a capable, friendly and efficient staff for another memorable Reunion.

In my speech I mentioned that I would be making a provisional booking for 2023 Reunion at the Holiday Inn, Coventry, for the same week next year.

That provisional booking for July 2023 has now been made!!

*Ken*