

Foreword



Professional values

At a time when the predictably dreadful impact of Transforming Rehabilitation (TR) is being felt by our members in the National Probation Service and the 21 **Community Rehabilitation** Companies, together with the continuing threat to privatise Children's Services, and the awaited outcome of the **Government's Comprehensive** Spending Review on the operational progress being made by Cafcass, it has never been more important for this Trade Union and Professional Association to speak out in defence of professional standards. In Northern Ireland our members face pressures from Stormont's plans for drastic public expenditure cuts and we must do everything we can to engage politicians in our campaign of opposition.

With all of this very much in mind, I am pleased that this year's AGM programme features a wide range of motions from individual members and Napo's standing committees and reflects the issues that you believe should be considered. Some of these are bound to be challenging and controversial, but I look forward to hearing the outcomes from the debates as we review our work over the last 12 months and receive directions from our membership as to our aims and objectives for the coming year.

Make the switch!

This AGM will be especially important as we push on with our campaign to encourage our members to show that the vindictive decision by the last government to withdraw the deduction of union subscriptions from payroll will not impact upon their support for their union.

With the threats to all unions that are posed by the disgraceful Trade Union Bill and the serious operational pressures that our members are facing across the NPS, CRCs, PBNI and Cafcass, sticking with (or joining) Napo has never been more important. On that note we also hope to have some good news to share with the AGM about our subscription rates.

Around the fringes

Once again we have a variety of fringe events covering professional and managerial issues which I know will be of interest to those attending the AGM, whether you are seasoned veterans or coming along for the first time. We also welcome a prospective new partner to the AGM, in the form of the Civil Service Pensioners Alliance, a campaigning organisation who are interested in encouraging our retired members to set up a Napo Branch within the Alliance. I look forward to the launch of a joint project with them that will also open up a range of new services for our retired members and hopefully pave the way for extending this to our wider membership.

This is one of two major new initiatives that Napo is launching at the AGM. The second is an invitation to our members to apply to become members of a new Napo section within the already established Police Credit Union.

From 1 November 2015, all Napo members will be able to join the Police Credit Union in order to save and borrow.

To become a member, you will only have to agree to save at least £10 per month into an easy access, no notice account. You can access your savings at any time. You can apply for a loan from between £250 and £25,000* (*subject to scheme rules) at the same time as you join PCU as a saver.

The Police Credit Union is a not for profit co-operative. Savers' funds are used to lend out to colleagues in the PCU membership and interest from loans provide the funds to pay dividends to savers. PCU has 25,000 members already from police and prison officers.

Napo members are welcome to come along and find out more at the fringe and at the PCU stand.

Farewell Elfyn (and thank you!)

I am also delighted that Elfyn Llwyd, who stood down as the Plaid Cymru member for the Dwyfor Meirionnydd constituency since 2010 before this year's General Election, will be formally opening our AGM. It will provide Napo members with an opportunity to show their appreciation for someone who has been a loyal friend to Napo members within Probation and the Family Court Service over many years.

Miami 5 released at last!

Our programme again shows that Napo is proud of its tradition of defending the rights of our international brothers and sisters to belong to a trade union and go about their business free from the threat of harm or sanctions. So it is especially fitting that one of our social events at Eastbourne will be held as a celebration of the release of the 'Miami Five' political prisoners who have now been reunited with their families after many years of politically motivated incarceration. This is bound to be a hugely popular event and much appreciation goes to our sponsors and valued partners Thompsons Solicitors for their generosity.

It is with great pleasure that we will be welcoming the Cuban Ambassador to Great Britain Her Excellency Teresita Vicente who will also be addressing conference.

I look forward to meeting our members and extending Napo's greetings to all of our guests in Eastbourne. I hope that you will all have a productive and enjoyable conference.

Devonshire Park Centre Eastbourne 15–17 October 2015

The 2015 AGM commences at 2.00pm on Thursday 15 October. It closes at 1.00pm on Saturday 17 October. Daily timings can be found in the programme.

Arrival

Entry to the centre is via the main entrance to the Congress Theatre, which will be signposted. The Napo reception desk, situated directly opposite to the entrance, will be open from 12.30hrs for information and on the day registrations.

Attendees who have registered in advance will have received a registration card. You will need to exchange this for your voting papers and other conference documents at the stewards' information desk which will be situated near to the entrance. You will wish to allow time for this on arrival.

Family Court Section AGM

The Family Court Section AGM will be held on Thursday 15 October from 11.00am to 2.00pm in the Gold Room which has a separate entrance via the Floral Hall (this will be signposted). People attending FCS AGM ONLY, who have not already registered, will be able to sign in at this entrance. They will not be able to gain access to the main AGM area however. Tea/Coffee will be served in the room on arrival and lunch will be provided, again in the room, at 1.00pm.

Leaving on Saturday

Attendees wishing to leave Eastbourne immediately after AGM has finished may leave luggage at the Centre in a secure room close to the Napo reception, but at their own risk. Please ask stewards or Napo staff for directions.

The venue

Devonshire Park Centre, Compton Street Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 4BP Telephone 01323 415520

What's where?

The main AGM sessions will take place in the Congress Theatre. The Family Court Section AGM on Thursday morning and Professional Session on Friday morning will be in the Gold Room (entrance via the Winter Garden on the Thursday).

Lunchtime and early evening fringe meetings will be held in the Gold Room and in a selection of rooms in the International Lawn Tennis Centre (ILTC) situated a short walk from the Centre (see map on page 8). These routes will also be signposted. Stewards/Napo staff will be available to provide assistance and directions at all times.

Refreshments

Free refreshments will be available during the formal breaks in Congress Suite on the ground floor. Hot and cold food will also be available for purchase in this area and in the first floor foyer for attendees arriving early on the Thursday and during the lunch break on Friday. Sandwiches will be provided for all the lunchtime fringe meetings.

Exhibitions and stands

Congress Suite and First Floor Foyer.

Evening Entertainment

Evening Entertainment on both the Thursday and Friday night will be in the Floral Hall.

Accessibility

The main conference will be held in the Congress Theatre, which is a purpose built theatre with a raked floor and theatre style seating ensuring an excellent view of the stage. There are a number of reserved spaces for wheel chair users. Entrance to the theatre is via the first floor foyer and lifts are available from the ground floor entrance lobby. The Congress Theatre and the Gold Room have an infrared hearing system and neck loops will be available at Napo reception. The venue is accessible to wheelchair/mobility scooter users throughout, with lifts to all levels and ramps or stair lifts on short flights of stairs. There are good disabled toilet facilities and these are well signed.

Disabled parking is available close to the entrance to the Devonshire Park Centre. Delegates who require a space can contact Kath Falcon on 020 7223 4887 or kfalcon@napo.org. uk for further details. Blue Badge holders can park free of charge on any of the streets around the centre.

Where to find people

The Monitors will be situated in the Board Room, signposted and situated in the ground floor foyer to the side of the AGM reception area. Steering Committee can be found on the second floor foyer. Again this will be signposted. Duty stewards will be accessible to all participants at all times.

No smoking

There is no smoking anywhere in the centre including during the evening entertainment.

Getting to Eastbourne

By Road:

Main approach is from the M25 via the M23/A23 leading to the A27. An alternative route from London is on the A22 and from the channel ports the A259.

The M25 skirts the capital linking Eastbourne to Britain's motorway network at Godstone via the A22.

Driving distances from Eastbourne

LocationMilesTimeLondon632hrsBirmingham1803hrsManchester2735hrsLeeds2704hrsNewcastle3576hrs

By Rail

Southern Rail operates direct and frequent train services (Every 30 minutes during the day with a journey time of 90 minutes from London Victoria). The railway station is a 10-15 minute walk from the centre.

www.visiteastbourne.com/travel for further information

The Devonshire Park Centre is situated close to Eastbourne seafront, only a short distance from the town centre and is clearly signposted on all major routes into the town (see map).



Programme

Thursday 15 October

The Napo reception desk will be open from 12.30pm for information and on the day registration.

2pm AGM commences Elfyn Llwyd, former MP and Chair of the JUPG and FCUPG, to open the conference formally Followed by formal business

2.15pm Chair's address

2.30pm A Report from the JUPG and FCUPG Followed by formal business

3.30pm Refreshment break

4pm – Speaker, Cuban Ambassador, Her Excellency Teresita Vicente.

4.15pm

Formal business Motions and constitutional amendments

Close of session 5.45pm

Friday 16 October

9.00am Special session to explain the working of conference and Napo structure aimed at new members and those attending the AGM for the first time.

9.30am – Speaker, Steve Gillan, General Secretary of the Prison Officers' Association

9.40am Annual Report – presented by the General Secretary Accountability session and motions

11.00am Refreshment break

11.30am–12.45pm Probation Professional Session. Panel Debate entitled 'the impact of the de-professionalisation of the service on work with victims' with Keir Starmer MP (invited), Christine Blower, General Secretary of the NUT, Bridget Robb, Chief Executive of BASW/ General Secretary of SWU and Sonia Crozier, Deputy Director NPS South East & Eastern.

11.30pm – 12.45pm Family Court Professional Session.

AGM will resume at 2pm.

2pm – Speaker, Paul Nowak, Assistant General Secretary of the TUC.

2.15pm Motions and constitutional amendments

3.30pm Refreshment break

4pm Motions

Close of AGM session 5.45pm

Saturday 17 October

9.30am Motions

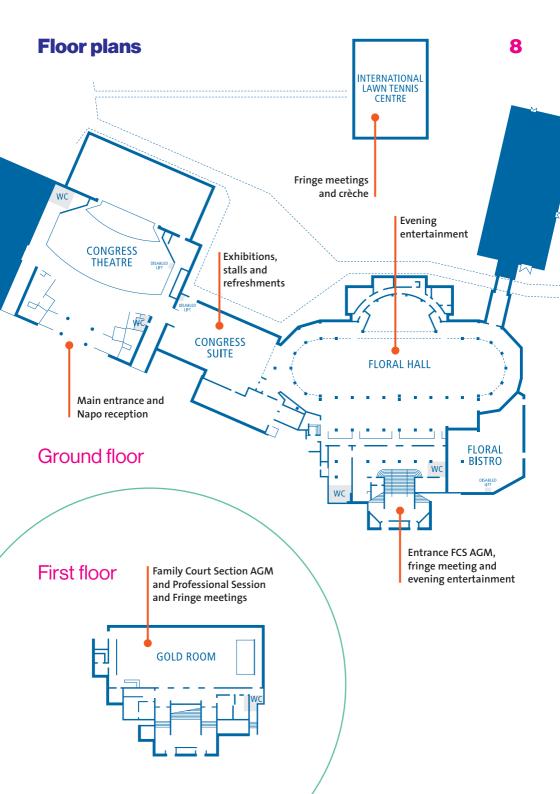
10.45am – Speaker, Phyll Opoku, Director and co-founder of UK Black Pride and Head of Campaigns at PCS

11.00am refreshment break

11.30am Motions

1pm Close of conference

In addition to the formal business of Conference, there will also be a full programme of informal lunchtime and evening fringe meetings – see pages 12–14.



Speakers



Her Excellency Teresita Vicente – Cuban Ambassador

Teresita is the current ambassador to Britain. Previously to this she was the Cuban ambassador in Canada and has worked in the Cuban Foreign Ministry as Director of the European Office.



Elfyn Llwyd

Elfyn Llwyd was Plaid Cymru's Westminster Group Leader and represented the Dwyfor Meirionnydd constituency since 2010. Before becoming an MP Elfyn worked as a solicitor. At Westminster, Elfyn had been instrumental in campaigning for prison reform and for the rights of veterans, as well as contributing to the ongoing efforts to get more powers devolved to Wales. Elfyn chaired both the Justice Unions' and the Family Court Unions' Parliamentary Groups of which Napo is a founder member. In 2011-12, Elfyn chaired a groundbreaking parliamentary inquiry into reviewing the law on stalking. He was also involved in the high-profile attempts from 2004 to impeach Tony Blair for misleading Parliament over the war in Iraq.



Steve Gillan

Steve Gillian is the General Secretary of the Prison Officers Association (POA). The son of a shipvard worker from Greenock. Scotland, Steve had a variety of jobs including banking and Ford Motor Company before joining the Prison Service in 1989 as a Prison Officer at HMP Chelmsford and later at HMP Bullwood Hall. He held positions on the local branch committees at both prisons as the POA Branch Secretary. In 2001 he worked at HMP Pentonville as a Senior Officer and temporary promoted Principal Officer. Steve was elected National Vice Chairman of the POA in 2002 and held the post until 2006, when he became the National Finance Officer. He was elected General Secretary in 2010.

Speakers



Bridget Robb

Bridget is a qualified social worker, interspersing her career as a practitioner and academic. She worked in Nottinghamshire and Oxfordshire local authorities providing generic and child care services and latterly managed a fostering and adoption team. Bridget has always been interested in education and training, and in her career has been a practice teacher, a senior lecturer at Coventry University, Training Manager for Oxfordshire county council and Head of the social work department at Oxford Brookes University. She is now Chief Executive of the British Association of Social Workers and General Secretary of the Social Workers Union and represents the UK in the International Federation of Social Workers.



Christine Blower

Christine Blower was elected as Deputy General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers in January 2005. On 5 April 2008 she became Acting General Secretary and in May 2009 she became General Secretary. Christine was re-elected as General Secretary in June 2014.

In 2013, Christine was elected as President of the ETUCE (European Trade Union Committee for Education).

Christine was President of the NUT in 1997. She joined the Union as a student and has been a career-long NUT member. She has held the post of President and Secretary of the NUT in Hammersmith and Fulham.

Christine was born and educated in Kingston-upon-Thames and started teaching in 1973 at Holland Park School. In total, Christine taught for 33 years up to her election as Deputy General Secretary.



Paul Nowak

Paul Nowak, 42, was appointed Assistant General Secretary of the TUC in February 2013. He leads on a number of key policy areas including public services, welfare and unemployment, and transport. He also has responsibility for the TUC's organisation in Wales and the English regions, annual Congress, union organising and inter-union relations.

Prior to taking up his appointment as AGS, Paul headed the TUC's Organisation & Services department playing a key role in the TUC's broader campaigning work.

Paul also served as the TUC's regional secretary in the North East & Cumbria and as the TUC's national organiser, where he had responsibility for developing the TUC's Organising Academy.

Paul was appointed a member of the ACAS Council in November 2011.

Paul is married to Vicky, has three children, and lives on Merseyside.

Speakers



Phyll Opoku-Gyimah

Co-founder and Executive Director of UK Black Pride, Phyll has been named in the Independent Rainbow List as one of the top 100 most influential LGBT people.

Phyll worked tirelessly to bring together LGBT activists, artists, volunteers and supporters from within the LGBT community and beyond to support UK Black Pride and other such events and was nominated as Woman of the Year at the Black LGBT Community Awards 2007.

A Civil Servant by profession, she took a job in the PCS where she started off as the only Black female lead negotiator within Law and Justice bargaining area, then promoted to Head of Equality, Health & Safety. Thereon to be Head of Campaigns and Parliamentary Affairs. Phyll previously served one year on the Pride London Community Advisory Board (CAB) and currently sits on the TUC LGBT Committee, TUC Race Relations Committee, board member of Justice for Gay Africans which focuses on Human Rights, Equal Rights, challenging racism and discrimination. Newly appointed Trustee for Stonewall.



Sonia Crozier

Sonia Crozier commenced her career as a Probation Officer in 1988, based in south London. In 1991 Sonia moved to Kent Probation and in 2005 Sonia was seconded to the Home Office and subsequently to the Ministry of Justice.

In 2008 she was appointed as the Chief Officer of the Sussex Probation Area and in 2010 following merger with Surrey was the CEO for Surrey & Sussex Probation Trust (SSPT) where she pioneered the introduction of professional judgement which laid the foundation for the revised National Standards in 2011. In November 2011, Sonia moved to London Probation Trust as the Deputy CEO (Service Director).

On the 1st April Sonia was formally appointed to the post of Deputy Director, National Probation Service (NPS), South & East Directorate, she also holds the NPS national lead for prisons and resettlement functions.

Fringe Meetings

Thursday 15 October

6pm Treasurer's Surgery

All branch treasurers are invited to attend this surgery to discuss their experiences and latest concerns around branch funding and expectations for the future. It will provide a greater understanding of linking nationally, as well as how to run the branch accounts with greater ease. With Napo National Treasurer, Keith Stokeld, elected Vice-Chair (Finance) Chris Pearson and Finance Officer, Theresa Boorman. Devonshire Lounge ILTC

6pm ABPO – Association of Black Probation Officers

An ideal opportunity for ABPO members and other Black attendees to get together to discuss the current issues that affect them in their workplace. *Spencer Suite ILTC*

6pm TUO Fringe - Relaunch of the Napo Education Programme

Pete Martin, Trade Union Education Coordinator at Ruskin College, Oxford will be leading this Fringe meeting. It will be an opportunity for members, potential reps and existing reps to find out more about the new and accessible and bespoke education programme set up for Napo via its new education provider – Ruskin College. Members will find out how the courses will be delivered, the content covered and the support ongoing support that will be available to new and existing reps.

Hardwick Suite ILTC

6pm Retired Members' / Civil Service Pensioners' Alliance Reception

Come along to find out more about a new members' benefit service for retired members. The Civil Service Pensioners' Alliance (CSPA) has been promoting the interests of retired civil servants since it was set up in 1953. During the intervening vears the Alliance has been active on behalf of not just retired civil servants, but also at the forefront of promoting the interests of all pensioners through involvement with such organisations as Age UK, the Public Service Pensioners' Council (PSPC); and the National Pensioners' Convention (NPC). Come along to find out more about what benefits are on offer. Gold Room

Soft drinks and nibbles provided at all of the evening meetings.

Friday 16 October

1pm Probation Journal and Writing for publication – why bother?

With Emma Cluley, Managing Editor of the Probation Journal. *Devonshire Lounge ILTC*

1pm Training 2016 onwards

With Catherine Fuller and Paula Cairney from NOMS Learning & Development.

The fringe meeting will share information and explore Community Justice Learning including new qualifying arrangements for Probation Officers. Spencer Suite ILTC

1pm Napo Action at AGM

All those who are members of Napo Action or who are interested in joining a left wing pressure group within the union, are welcome to the Napo Action lunchtime meeting. Spencer Room ILTC

1pm Police Credit Union Launch

From 1st November 2015, all Napo members will be able to join Police Credit Union in order to save and borrow.

To become a member, you only have to agree to save at least £10 per month into an easy access, no notice account. You can get at your savings at any time. You can apply for a loan from between £250 and £25.000. at the same time you join PCU as a saver.

Loan periods are from 6 months to seven years, depending on the type of loan.

Not only can you get into a regular saving habit and borrow but all savings and loan repayments will be made direct from your pay monthly.

Police Credit Union is a not for profit co-operative. Savers' funds are used to lend out to your colleagues in the PCU membership and interest from loans provide the funds to pay dividend to savers. PCU has 25,000 members already from police and prison officers. Napo members are welcome to join them.

Come along and find out more at the fringe meeting. Hardwick Suite ILTC

1pm Health & Safety Fringe

Dr Jake Phillips, lecturer in Criminology at Sheffield Hallam University will speak about his recent article on 'The architecture of a probation office: A reflection of policy and an impact on practice', which looks at how the design of probation offices has an important impact on practice. At a time when new probation employers want far more remote working and are looking to 'open up' probation offices so they are more client friendly – how will this impact on staff safety?

A meeting that is relevant for Family Court and probation members alike – it should be a fascinating discussion. Gold Room

1pm Edridge Fund Reception

The Trustees and Staff of the Edridge Fund will be holding a reception for Edridge Area Representatives to thank our Representatives for the essential work they carry out on behalf of the fund, but also to get feedback on how the new systems are working. Floral Hall/Winter Garden Bistro

1pm Kill the Bill

The Tory Trade Union Bill is out and the labour movement's response has been swift and strong. At this fringe, Steve Gillan, General Secretary of the POA, Ian Lawrence, Napo General Secretary, and other speakers to be confirmed from the TUCG will review the detail and consider a strategy of resistance. **Congress** Theatre

Sandwiches, tea & Coffee will be provided at all the above lunchtime meetings – bar in the Congress Theatre.

6pm PSO Forum: "The Forum"

This meeting is an informal gathering for all PSOs and Admin staff attending AGM. 'The Forum' provides an opportunity for PSOs and Admin members to meet with peers and discuss issues. You will also find out more about the latest developments regards the PSO Forum.

Devonshire Lounge ILTC

Prayer Room

A room (The Devonshire Boardroom in the ILTC) has been set aside for the use of Muslim attendees from 1pm to 2pm for Friday prayers. Details will be displayed at reception and it will be signposted in the centre.

The prayer room will also be available to other faith groups for guiet devotion, by arrangement (times to be confirmed).

Fringe meetings

6pm Women in Napo Fringe – Women workers and trade unions

Sarah Boston, author, film maker and trade unionist will speak about her acclaimed updated edition of 'Women workers and the trade unions' from the 1830s to the present.

The book's new chapters cover the years 1987 – 2010, exploring the struggles of that period and women's ongoing fight for equal rights and equal pay. We will discuss how these issues relate to women in Napo. Spencer Suite ILTC

6pm Managers' Hour

As usual this will be an opportunity for Napo members in management grades to get together to discuss common issues and to meet with Assistant General Secretary, Dean Rogers, to discuss what Napo can do better to provide support. It will also be an opportunity register and to discuss ideas and plans for the Managers' Conference which will be held on 9th December at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff. *Spencer Room ILTC*

Sarah Boston – book signing Friday in the break at 3.30pm

Grab the opportunity to get a signed copy of the updated acclaimed book 'Women Workers



and The Trades Unions' by Sarah Boston, author, film maker and trade unionist. The book's new chapters cover the years 1987 – 2010, exploring the struggles of that period and women's ongoing fight for equal rights and equal pay.

ARACE ROSTON WOMEN WORKERS & THE TRADE UNIONS

6pm "What Price Summary Justice?"

Professional Committee has invited a speaker from the Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers to speak at this fringe meeting. The focus will be upon cuts to legal aid and the overall impact of the political push towards "speedy" justice. This naturally impacts upon access to justice and quality of justice. With TR and new legislation there is also the increased potential for an erosion of professional practice as all is geared towards fast processing, fast reports and fast sentencing. Hardwick Suite IITC

6pm Equal Rights Fringe – Organising for Equality

Napo is keen to make sure that members with a protected characteristic are able to come together to discuss issues that concern them, in a safe and welcoming environment. To achieve this aim, we have established self-organised groups: for example, Women in Napo (WiN) and the Napo Black Network (NBN). Please come along to find out more about these networks and the potential for setting up more networks to cover a broader range of protected characteristics. If you would like to find out about an existing group or think Napo should set up a new group, come along to this meeting and help Napo Organise for Equality. *Gold Room*

7pm – LAGIP Reception

An ideal opportunity for LGB&T attendees to get together to discuss the current issues that affect them in their workplace. Wilmington Lounge, Lansdowne Hotel, King Edwards Parade BN21 4EE (a five minute walk from the Centre)

Soft drinks and nibbles provided at all of the evening meetings.

Stalls at AGM

Crèche

ABPO

Amnesty International Benenden Health Care Campaigning Committee Chris George Cards Christians in Probation Cuba Solidarity Edridge **Equal Rights Committee Family Court Section** GFTU **Health and Safety Committee Hope Not Hate Howard League** LAGIP NAAPS Napo Action & Napo Action bookstall **National Shop Stewards** Network NDSN No More Page 3 **Probation Journal Prisoners** Abroad **Professional Committee** Show Racism the Red Card **Simpson Millar Solicitors Thompsons Solicitors Training Committee TUO Committee UIA** Insurance **Union Income Benefit** Venezuela Solidarity Campaign This year's crèche is being run by Nipperbout Active Childcare. The crèche will be located in the International Lawn Tennis Centre (see map on page 7) which is a short walk from the centre.

The crèche will be open throughout the duration of the conference and will also stay open for people wishing to attend the early evening fringe meetings.



The crèche opening hours will be:

Thursday 15 October 1pm – 7.30pm

Friday 16 October 8.45am – 7.30pm

Saturday 17 October 8.45am – 1pm

The crèche will also remain open and provide lunch during the lunch hour, and a tea will be provided for children staying with the crèche until 7.30pm.

Crèche registration

Please note: If you indicated you required a crèche place on your registration form you should have received a separate registration form for the crèche which you should have then returned direct to Nipperbout. If you didn't and you require a crèche place you should contact Kath Falcon on 020 7223 4887 immediately.

Late registration for the crèche is not always possible. However, if you have find you have an emergency need for a place we will do our best to assist. Again contact Kath Falcon on the above number.

Evening Entertainment

Thursday 15 October

8.30 (for 9.00pm) – bar until 12.30

Cuba Solidarity Campaign present a sizzling evening of rum, fun and hot rhythms with the fabulous Cuban spectacular band Omar Puentes and Raices Cubanas; raffles; complimentary cocktail (on arrival) and much, much, more...

Sponsored by Thompsons





THE MOST EXPERIENCED PERSONAL INJURY FIRM IN THE UK

Friday 16 October

8.30 (for 9.00pm) – bar until 12.30

Dance the night away again to the fabulous 8-piece London based party band Xtatic and disco.

You will need to bring your AGM badge with you to gain entry.

Attendees bringing guests who do not have a badge can obtain an evening pass from Napo reception during the day on Thursday or Friday at a cost of £5.

4 Chivalry Road London SW11 1HT Telephone 020 7223 4887 Facsimile 020 7223 3503 www.napo.org.uk

September 2015