



## **1893-2018 - Celebrating 125 years of The Metropolitan Police Friendly Society (Metfriendly)**

*London, 15 June 2018*

Yesterday the Metropolitan Police Friendly Society (Metfriendly) celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> year at the annual general meeting, followed by a drinks reception.

1,437 votes were received from 11.74% of the membership, which is a voting record. A donation of £1,000 will be made to the National Police Memorial Day Fund.

Shortly after the formation of the Metropolitan Police in 1829, it became standard practice for officers to hold collections for the widows and children of colleagues who had died.

This was formally established by volunteers as the Metropolitan Police Provident Association in 1893 with an extended remit to help retiring police officers. In 1948 the Metropolitan Police Provident Association became the Metropolitan Police Friendly Society, the name still used today.

Before the creation of the welfare state friendly societies such as Metfriendly made a real difference to ordinary working people falling upon hard times; keeping families together and even saving lives.

Mike McAndrew, Chair of Metfriendly, commented, *“We are delighted to celebrate 125 years of Metfriendly and pleased and proud of our long association with the Metropolitan Police. It is a testament to the loyalty and trust that our members have in us that we’re still here supporting the police family.”*

Cressida Dick, Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis and Honorary President of Metfriendly, added: *“My warmest congratulations to Metfriendly on reaching this milestone. Its achievements over this period are not to be underestimated and I am proud of all that Metfriendly has done for my officers and staff.”*

Metfriendly's AGM took place yesterday at the Union Jack Club in London.

### **Notes:**

1. Metfriendly helps over 13,600 members to save, invest and take out life and health insurance.
2. As a friendly society for UK police officers, staff and their families, Metfriendly supports and sponsors the National Police Memorial Day and the Memorial Flame for fallen police officers, the Met Excellence in Policing and Long Service Awards, and the Hendon New Recruits' Passing Out Parades. Metfriendly is proud to be a trusted partner to the police service.

[www.metfriendly.org.uk](http://www.metfriendly.org.uk)