



BRITISH  
TRANSPORT  
POLICE

# Safer station safer journey

The Neighbourhood  
Policing Newsletter



In this issue

Issue 1 February 2009

Results Update /  
Other Events/  
Introduction  
Page 2

*Bike tagging initiative a  
success*  
Page 2 & 3

*All aboard the Royal  
Train- York hosts visit*  
Page 3

Red Nose Day 09  
Page 4

Page 4  
Policing 'k-in' the  
community

**"This is a really excellent  
opportunity for us to  
work with our  
community..."**

**PS Stephanie Reynolds  
PCSO Co-ordinator, York**



## York NPT launch heralded by rail users and staff

**On the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009, the York  
Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT)  
officially launched, amid much  
fanfare!**

The new NPT, based at York, consists of  
one sergeant, two PCs, and six PCSOs.

The team, headed primarily by Acting  
Inspector (API) Richard Price and Sergeant  
(PS) Stephanie Reynolds, consists of:  
Police Constables (PCs) Mick Provins and  
Kev Andrews, Police Community Support  
Officers (PCSOs) Scott Sharlotte, Ben  
Whitaker, Cara Andrew, Lauren Harper,  
Zoe Virco, and Vaughan Price.

Covering the East Coast Main Line, from  
Berwick-upon-Tweed in the North, to  
Grantham in the South, the team are really  
looking forward to show the community that  
they're here for them and they're here to  
stay.

Said PS Reynolds, "This is a really  
excellent opportunity for us to work with our  
community, and find out exactly what  
people want from us, we're all really  
looking forward to it".

The NPT officers work alternate weekly  
shifts, early turns being 0800-1600hrs and  
late 1500-2300hrs shifts, and work  
alongside the existing compliment of  
officers already based at the recently  
refurbished police station.

**York NPT Shown Are-  
(t-b) (l-r)**  
PI Price, PCSO Sharlotte,  
PC Provins, PCSO Whitaker,  
PC Andrews, PCSO Price,  
PS Reynolds, PCSO Virco,  
PCSO Harper, PCSO  
Andrew



been conducting numerous  
train patrols throughout our  
shifts, and at first, passengers  
were quite surprised to see  
police walking through the  
trains, and frequently asked if  
there was a problem. Once our  
presence was explained, and  
the fact that we are part of a  
new Neighbourhood Policing

0800 40 50 40 or visit [www.btp.police.uk](http://www.btp.police.uk)

## Other Events Covered By NPT

The visit of **HM QUEEN**, *below*, to **Hull** went along smoothly thanks to BTP officers, in partnership with Humberside Police.



## “A great idea”

Team, covering the East Coast Main Line (ECML) and its stations, passengers spoken to think it's a great idea. It was also explained that we are an addition to British Transport Police's front line officers, and not a replacement", said PCSO Price.

The six PCSOs are all based at York and, apart from operations where they work together, they work in pairs. Each pair of PCSOs has responsibility for one of three sectors: North, Central and South.

(See coverage information opposite)

### North Sector

PCSOs Harper and Price

Covering Newcastle, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Alnmouth, Morpeth, Durham, Darlington

### Central Sector

PCSOs Whitaker and Virco

Covering York, Northallerton, Thirsk, Wakefield Westgate

### South Sector

PCSOs Andrew and Charlotte

Covering Doncaster, Retford, Newark North Gate, Grantham

**See the back page for contact details**

## Results Update

- The arrest of a shoplifter at **Doncaster** station by PC Andrews, PCSO Andrew and PCSO Charlotte
- The arrest of an individual at **York** for a racially aggravated Public Order offence by PC Andrews, PCSO Andrew and PCSO Charlotte.
- The arrest of an individual carrying a lock knife at **York** during anti terrorism searches by PC Andrews and PCSO Whitaker.
- Two individuals were dealt with for a Public Order offence at **York** by PCs Andrews and Provins. Both were issued with PNDs.
- One arrest for Drunk & Disorderly at **York** by PC Andrews, and PCSOs Charlotte & Andrew.

A large number of **Anti Social Behaviour** has also been dealt with, most noticeably at **Darlington** and **Doncaster** (see p3).

Once the team have been up and running for a number of months, it is hoped their presence will result in even more prosecutions, and a reduction in offences committed

## Bike tagging success



**In their fight against crime, and to improve links with the rail community, the ECML NPT held a bicycle electronic tagging initiative evening at York.**

This, their first tagging initiative since the team was formed, was, by all accounts, a great success.

Says PCSO Ben Whitaker, "The event was one of our first initiatives, and, was a great way to make our mark. Demand was high and it became very busy. What a fantastic evening".

The tags, which can be bought for around **£15** at bicycle shops and other outlets, were given out **free** to cyclists passing through York station. The event was held in the afternoon and early evening, to make the most of commuters returning home on the train.

Many people will recognise that York is a big cycling hotspot, and many cyclists use the free bike racks to secure the bicycles whilst they use the rail network to travel to work, and of course for pleasure.

The electronic tags have a unique serial number and when linked to the government website [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com), mean that the bicycle can be

*Cont'd*

# 'Happy Customers'

safely returned to its rightful owner. Most home forces should also have scanners which, when the receiver is placed in the vicinity of the tag, reads the tag and displays its unique ID number. Police are then able to make enquiries to contact the Immobilise website and trace the owner.

In addition to the free microchips, crime prevention leaflets were also available giving handy tips on cycle safety and security. Other leaflets promoting the NPT and the BTP were also on hand.

And, the system proved its worth shortly afterwards. Two North Yorkshire PCSOs stopped an individual due to suspicious behavior. Assisted by BTP's PC Craig Virco, who was on duty and happened to be passing at the time, the bike was scanned and found to have been stolen by the

male. Not only was the nominal arrested and charged, but the bike was safely returned to its owner.

"I detained the male and then arrested him on suspicion of theft when NYP PCSOs checked the tag fitted to the bike", said PC Virco.

The initiative was so successful that the NPT have since held TWO initiatives, one each at Newcastle and Doncaster.



**IMMOBILISE**  
**PROPERTY CRIME**

*Above Right: The team in action*



*Above: Darlington Station*

## Darlington: Message Received

**The NPT has been sending out a strong message that anti-social behaviour in Darlington will not be tolerated.**

Rail staffs there have been pleased to see the NPT team in action, after suffering from a spate of ASB on the station. PCSO Scott Sharlotte said "The flexibility of the NPT means that we can take a team of officers to any location to combat low level disorder 'hot spots'. We have done exactly this at Darlington, and I believe that we have made an impact."

The team visited Darlington on several occasions and dealt with low level disorder and will continue to do so in order to provide a highly visible presence on the station providing public reassurance where it counts.

"We are determined to respond positively to such reports by rail staff and members of the public and take appropriate action where necessary. Hopefully trouble makers will start to get the message", said PCSO Lauren Harper, who covers Darlington, along with PCSO Price and PC Provins.

## HRH Prince Charles & HRH Duchess of Cornwall Arrive in style

York prepared to receive two VIPs and a VIT (Very Important Train) on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2009, when Prince Charles and HRH Duchess of Cornwall arrived on the Peppercorn Pioneer, the first steam train to be built for nearly 50 years.

The locomotive was built by engineers in Darlington after railway enthusiasts formed the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust in 1990 and raised £3 million.

The A1 engines, designed by the London and North Eastern Railway's last chief mechanical engineer, Arthur H Peppercorn, became the final model of express steam locomotives operating on the East Coast Main Line.

The Peppercorn Class A1 steam engine was officially named 'Tornado' by HRH, was pulled by the Royal train to Leeds where Charles and Camilla continued their packed schedule of engagements across Yorkshire. The NPT were heavily involved in the policing of the event.

It follows the unveiling of the locomotive on 31 January when it left from the National Railway Museum, York, on a journey to London's Kings Cross station, also calling at Darlington. The event was televised live.

**0800 40 50 40 or visit [www.btp.police.uk](http://www.btp.police.uk)**



## Red Nose Day 2009

**PCSOs climbed new heights for Comic Relief this year- quite literally!**

To raise money for Red Nose Day 2009, the ECML NPT were set a challenge- to climb York Minster, Doncaster Minster and Durham Cathedral... all in one day.

The team, *pictured above outside Durham Cathedral*, successfully managed to climb the towers of all three buildings, whilst donning the obligatory red nose.

Altogether, the steps up to the top of the three towers total almost one thousand.

At the last count, £250 has been raised, with more yet to be collected.

PC Mick Provins said "Once all the sponsorship money has been collected, we expect to have raised in the region of £500".

A good day was had by all, but everyone remembered the reason behind the fundraising.

Media interest was strong.

At York Minster, the team promoted the NPT and Comic Relief, in a live interview with BBC Radio York. The team was also followed up York Minster by a TV

crew from Look North, the BBC's regional news programme for the area.

Photographers were also present at York & Doncaster Minsters. The team, were delighted to see pictures appearing in Doncaster's The Star newspaper, as well as York's The Press.



## Useful Telephone Numbers

**ECML NPT: 01904 525539**

**CENTRAL: 07833 047792**

**SOUTH: 07833 047798**

**NORTH: 07833 047798**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

[York.NPT@btp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:York.NPT@btp.pnn.police.uk)

## PACT and KIN groups the way forward

### What is a PACT?

- PACT (Police and Communities Together) is primarily about creating links with the public, station/retail staff and other rail users
- It encourages the rail community we serve to report any problems to us, to reduce crime and the fear of crime
- In return, we can assist the community in beating crime and targeting specific patrols in problem hot spot areas where necessary, whilst still continuing to provide general reassurance patrols
- PACT meetings are held each month and all PACT members are encouraged to attend

### What is a KIN?

- KINs (Key Individual Networks) are about making contacts on an individual basis
- KINs are essential sources of information
- Regular station users often form the best KINs.
- PACTs can be KINs and KINs can be PACTs

**PACT and KIN groups are essential in the fight against crime and will assist the ECML NPT in making links with the community.**

**0800 40 50 40 or visit [www.btp.police.uk](http://www.btp.police.uk)**