



BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE

Safer station safer journey



The Neighbourhood
Policing Newsletter

West Yorkshire NPT

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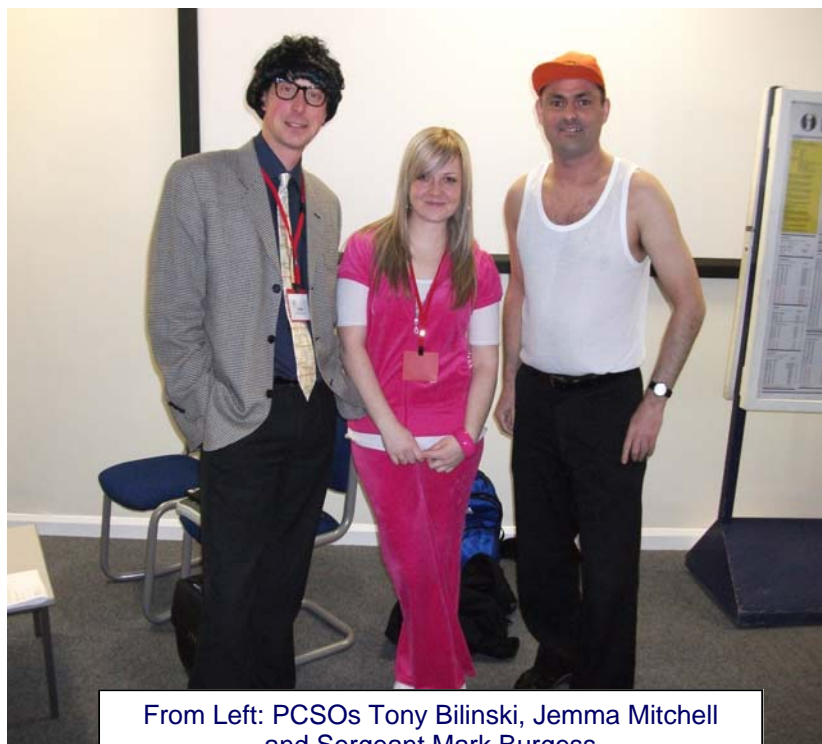
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WELCOME to your
Spring Edition
of the
West Yorkshire
Neighbourhood
Policing
Team's Newsletter

**NPT Sergeant
Mark Burgess**



Safety Central



From Left: PCSOs Tony Bilinski, Jemma Mitchell and Sergeant Mark Burgess

Meet the 'Stars' of the West Yorkshire Neighbourhood Policing Team



On Friday March 26, three members of the Leeds-based NPT attended the 'Staying Safe' event which took place at 'Safety Central' in Leeds.

The audience were 'treated' to fourteen performances of a short play entitled 'Journey from Hell'.

0800 40 50 40 or visit www.btp.police.uk



Above: Sgt Mark Burgess with his prospective passengers, India, from Kirklees Youth Council, and Jemma.



PCSOs Jemma Mitchell and Tony Bilinski along with Sgt Mark Burgess were joined by members of Kirklees Youth Council, who acted in and also wrote the hard-hitting play which highlighted the dangers that young people can face when travelling on the rail network.

The partnership between the NPT and the Youth Council stemmed from the links that the First Trans Pennine Express NPT have forged with one of their partners, Brian Jackson House in Huddersfield, which is a multi-use community centre.

Youth Co-ordinators Sinead Boyle and Kay Parry kindly organised the rehearsals while Jemma, Tony and Mark gathered the props—which included a car door, taxi plates and train seats!

The play included everything, from people being drunk on trains to a businessman who was cluttering up vacant seats by placing his laptop on them, in a scene to illustrate Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). The car door was used to illustrate the dangers of getting into an unlicensed taxi (driver ably acted by Sgt Burgess!).

The audience was made up of young people and students from the Kirklees area. The NPT were joined by colleagues from West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service and Yorkshire Ambulance Service.

Safety Central, the venue for the play is the former Staningley fire station, which has been converted into a multi-functional centre, open to all agencies, and specifically focussing on safety issues.

The centre is operated by West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service.

Goodbye Wayne

Wayne Heslop, one of the original members of the BTP West Yorkshire Neighbourhood Policing Team, has left the team to begin his training to become a Police Constable with British Transport Police.

Wayne started with BTP in 2005 as a Police Community Support Officer and was part of the then-titled Complimentary Policing Team.

Until recently Wayne helped to police the Aire-dale Wharfedale Line between Leeds, Shipley, Skipton, Ilkley, Bradford and Saltaire.

He will now begin his 22 weeks of training at the BTP training centre in London.



Above:

Wayne can be seen in action at Frizinghall Youth Centre, where he attended weekly football sessions alongside players from Bradford City Football Club and officers from West Yorkshire Police.

0800 40 50 40 or visit www.btp.police.uk

Working together for a safer Berry Brow



Before

A stretch of line which closely passes a children's playground, an infant's school and a housing estate, did not have fencing, and a stone wall was in a state of disrepair.

A recent problem was highlighted at the First Transpennine Express PACT meeting which was held in March. The Mayor of Kirklees, Councillor Julie Stewart-Turner, reported a safety issue at Berry Brow in West Yorkshire.



After



Before



After

PC Kevin Webster immediately contacted Network Rail, who visited the site, and within a matter of days the stone wall had been repaired and metal palisade fencing had been erected. Network Rail also completed general maintenance work, and also conducted a general clean-up of the site. The First Transpennine Express NPT PACT (Partners And Communities Together) meetings are held regularly at Kirklees College, Huddersfield. This highlights the excellent work that can be done when BTP and our community partners work together.

0800 40 50 40 or visit www.btp.police.uk



Above: PC Paul Wood on patrol at the British Transport Police office at Shipleigh Railway Station

Spotlight on Shipleigh

The Airedale and Wharfedale line, which is a joint venture between West Yorkshire's *Metro*, and *Northern Rail* has had a British Transport Police officer for the last three years.

The team who cover the area are headed up by PC Paul Wood, who regularly holds drop-in surgeries for rail staff and members of the public.

Shipleigh's BTP office enables staff and rail users to air any issues or concerns they may have regarding policing the area's railways and they can also seek crime prevention advice.

Paul is assisted in his work by two PCSOs, and they cover an area stretching from Leeds to Keighley and Bradford to Ilkley. Recent Problem Solving Plans (PSPs) have included tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and fare evasion.

The office is used for a variety of purposes, including taking statements, and is well-located on the railway network to enable officers to respond quickly to incidents on the Airedale and Wharfedale line.

Having officers based at the Shipleigh office also enables BTP to achieve better response times to other stations in the area.

0800 40 50 40 or visit www.btp.police.uk

DEAF AWARENESS WEEK



June 28—July 4 2010

The West Yorkshire Neighbourhood Policing Team will be playing their part during *Deaf Awareness Week 2010*.

Officers will be promoting the event on the concourse of Leeds railway station.

PCSO Gina Goult will be on hand to answer any questions or address any issues faced by the travelling deaf community whilst using the railway.

Gina started to learn British Sign Language (BSL) in Dewsbury in 1997. She completed one year studying deaf culture and basic BSL and passed Level 1 at Dewsbury College.

Gina studied at her own expense, attending private lessons with a signing tutor during her spare time.

She has also been a member of Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Wakefield and Leeds' deaf clubs where she forged links with the deaf community, and made a point of visiting them regularly.

Gina then went on to study Level Two at Sheffield College and passed with flying colours in 2002.

Gina originally joined West Yorkshire Police as a PCSO in 2005 and was stationed in Beeston, Leeds, where she met a number of deaf people on her beat.

In March 2007, Gina transferred to British Transport Police and became involved in Deaflink (a BTP initiative designed to foster a greater understanding between the BTP and the deaf community and strengthen links) after responding to an advert which appeared in BTP's *Blue Line* staff magazine at the start of 2009.

Gina attends all the refresher courses available to her through Deaflink which she has found extremely useful. Gina said "I have been called upon by colleagues on a number of occasions to assist with communication."

On one occasion at the custody suite, Gina was able to put her signing skills to good use, by explaining the procedure to the detainee.

Gina has done some work in relation to the design of the Deaflink Officer Badge (*left*), which is being considered by the BTP Clothing Committee. It is hoped that the badge will help the deaf community to be able to easily identify officers whom are able to understand them.

Gina is in contact with the community liaison officer of Leeds Deaf Club and tries to enhance any community work that BTP are involved in. Hopefully this work will be replicated in other areas such as Dewsbury and Huddersfield.

Gina says "I love BSL, it has opened up a whole new world — meeting new people that I otherwise could not communicate with."




0800 40 50 40 or visit www.btp.police.uk

BINGLEY UPDATE

Due to the success of the Problem Solving Plan (PSP) leading to a significant decrease in ASB incidents at Bingley Railway Station, the PSP has now been concluded. Officers will continue to carry out high visibility patrols to keep anti social behaviour at bay.

See it? Report it!

 NPT Office (Leeds) 0113 247 9710

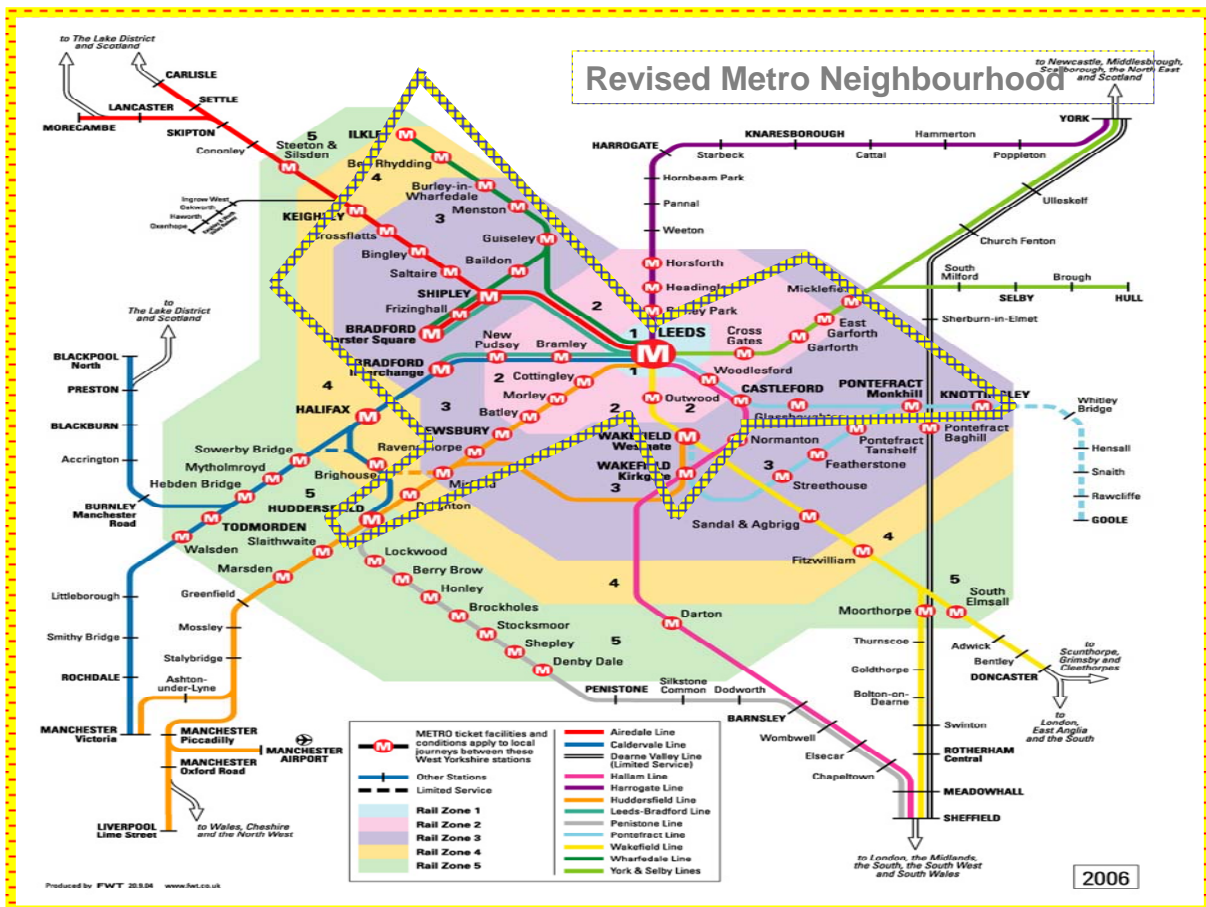
 National BTP Free-phone (24 hours) 0800 40 50 40

 WestYorkshire.NPT@btp.pnn.police.uk

 www.btp.police.uk (Click on 'Neighbourhood Policing')

Dial 999 in an emergency

Below is the area map which is covered by the BTP West Yorkshire NPT (The inner patterned yellow line indicates the stations covered)



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