



BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE

Safer station safer journey



The Neighbourhood
Policing Newsletter

West Yorkshire NPT

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CRIME ↓ DOWN

First, the good news!!!

Crime on the region's rail network has dropped in the past year by an impressive 12.3 per cent.

Within the North East area, which covers West Yorkshire, there were 1,841 offences between March 2008 and April 2009 compared with 1,614 between 2009-2010.

Crime across the whole of Britain's railways reduced by 7.3 per cent in 2009-2010 and this was the sixth year in which crime on the railways has decreased.

Supt. Nicki Watson of British Transport Police (BTP) said "Being safe and feeling safe are equally important- which is why we are focussing our efforts out on patrol on the rail network in the evenings and at night".

By putting more police on patrol in the evenings, we are aiming to address some of their anxieties and boost passenger confidence.



Above: PCSO Farlam and Sgt. Mark Burgess on patrol at Leeds station.

Northern Rail safety and assurance director Gary Stewart said "The continued reduction in crime is evidence of the effective partnerships BTP has forged across the industry".

"We will continue to work with BTP to address the challenge of assaults against our staff and to ensure our passengers feel safe and secure when travelling".



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

Congratulations



CITY UNIVERSITY
LONDON

Kev!

Congratulations go out to PC Kev Webster who recently attended his Graduation Ceremony at Guildhall in the City of London.

Kev, who works on the First Trans Pennine Express Neighbourhood Policing Team, returned to London to receive his Foundation Degree in **Police Science** on May 18, 2010.

He began his two year degree course as a Student Police Officer at City University, London, in October 2007.

At the time British Transport Police trained alongside our colleagues in City of London Police as a joint venture.

After completing his first stint at university Kev worked as a beat officer in York before joining the team at Leeds.



Above: Kev Webster receiving his degree at Guildhall in the City of London.

Cultures United aided by NPT

PC Paul Wood and PCSO Steve Yates, recently stepped in to save the day when Dee Champion, who works at Cultures United in Huddersfield, asked the Neighbourhood Policing Team for a favour recently.

Dee was trying to get one of the people she was helping to the UK Border Agency in Leeds as he was voluntarily returning to Eritrea in Africa. Cultures United are a charity based in Huddersfield and are a one-stop shop for help and support for people seeking asylum.

Paul and Steve drove down to Huddersfield and took the gentleman concerned to the Kirkstall Road offices of UK Border Agency where they handed him over into their care.

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Air Support!



Will pictured with 'India 99' at the Metropolitan Air Support Unit's headquarters in Lippetts Hill in Essex.

Will Collinson of the NPT was recently involved in a joint operation with BTP and Network Rail in his role as a Police Air Observer. His latest patrol involved flying over hotspots in South and West Yorkshire where cable thefts have occurred.

At one point two men were seen trespassing line side — the helicopter landed and assistance was given to officers on the ground when one of the men made off from a BTP Dog Unit who were in the area after being alerted to the incident by Will.

The dog unit which was being supported by NPT Officer PC Linda Rix, detained the trespassers. The men were found to be in possession of over £200 worth of stolen property, including electric toothbrushes and sun cream!

The result was both men were reported by BTP for trespassing and were then arrested by West Yorkshire Police for the stolen property.



Will was also a recent guest of the Metropolitan Police Air Support Unit!

He spent a day flying above the capital in India 99 in order to see how they operate.

The Met team are based at Lippetts Hill in Essex, where the unit have three helicopters, all Eurocopter EC145s.

On board there is room for six people but normally they carry a crew of three.

They are equipped with fast rope deployment for fire-arms teams and transportation of dogs and can be deployed anywhere in the country if needed.

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BTP in the Community



Above: PCSO Zöe Virco at Hunslet Fire Station

During May, members of the West Yorkshire Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) were out and about meeting young people from across the area.

PCSOs Ben Whitaker and Zöe Virco visited Hunslet Fire Station to attend a Safety Rangers event during which over 500 local primary school children were given instruction on rail safety using a computerised model known as 'The Ghost Box'.

'The Ghost Box', donated by Network Rail, demonstrates the dangers associated with the railways. The electronic box plays various railway-related scenarios which include trespass, stone-throwing.



Girlguiding UK
girls in the lead



Above: PCSOs Nikki Webster (L) and Sue Driffield (R) with members of 1st Crossgates Guides

PCSOs Nikki Webster and Sue Driffield along with Guider Gina Barnbrook successfully steered twelve Guides and Brownies through a course of Personal Travel Safety at Crossgates Primary School. We are happy to report that all the Guides and Brownies were successful in the course, and all received their badges.

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Beeston Festival



Above: PCSOs Zöe Virco and Ben Whitaker with Leeds MP Hilary Benn, and below, Zöe and Hilary Benn with National Independent Advisor to BTP, Aftab Ahmad



The NPT made a splash at this year's *Beeston festival*, which was held at Crossflatt's Park at Beeston in Leeds on Saturday 12 June.

The stall was an ideal way of promoting the NPT and to provide public reassurance through an increased awareness of the NPT and BTP in general.

Officers were privileged to have been joined by Leeds MP *Hilary Benn* who was special guest and compere at the multi-cultural event. BTP National Independent Advisory Group member

Aftab Ahmad was also present in his capacity as festival volunteer. PCSOs Zöe Virco and Ben Whitaker were on hand to provide festival-goers with information on crime prevention, safety on and around the railways, and hate crime.

Bradford Mela

PC Paul Wood and PCSO Stephen Yates attended another community event. The 21st *Bradford Mela*, a multi-cultural event also held during June, in Bradford's Peel Park. Crime prevention advice was given out and community links strengthened.





Above: NPT Sgt. Mark Burgess accompanies PCSO Ruth Farlam on an Summer evening patrol of Leeds City Railway Station

Making Your Journey A Better One... Whatever Time You Travel

BTP's latest safety campaign called '*Lights, Camera, Action*' has been launched to reassure staff and passenger working on and using the rail network in the evenings and into the night.

The campaign focuses on three main elements:

Lights Better lighting has been installed in a range of stations in conjunction with Network Rail and station operators;

Camera Improved higher-quality CCTV coverage at more stations and on more trains with digital recording equipment;

Action More BTP patrols of trains and stations late at night.

The NPT have recently embarked on a series of targeted evening 'Pulse Patrols', mainly between Leeds, York and Wakefield and the intermediate stations.

The so-called 'Pulse Patrols' involve groups of officers patrolling in pairs on a given route, to ensure that a police presence is maintained in a steady flow throughout the evening.

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



Above: First Transpennine Express (TPE) PCSO Tony Bilinski at the annual Transpennine Express Family Fun Day.

Tony lets his hair down at First Transpennine Family Fun Day

In June, PC Kevin Webster & PCSO Tony Bilinski represented BTP and joined members of staff from First Transpennine Express at their Family Fun Day at Morley Rugby Club.

Kev and Tony were split into separate teams and took part in an *'It's a Knock-Out'* style competition at the fun day, a free event run by FTPE.

The games mainly involved Kev & Tony making utter fools of themselves by getting knocked off inflatable objects and taking part in a 'Donkey Derby'- using inflatable donkeys!!

In addition to the games, there were many stalls and activities to entertain friends and families, including free drinks and food for all who attended.

Tony, rather surprisingly(!), finished in the winning team, who were presented with a gold cup and medal for their gallant efforts!

See it? Report it!

 NPT Office (Leeds) 0113 247 9710

(Answer phone operates when officers are unavailable)

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

 WestYorkshire.NPT@btp.pnn.police.uk

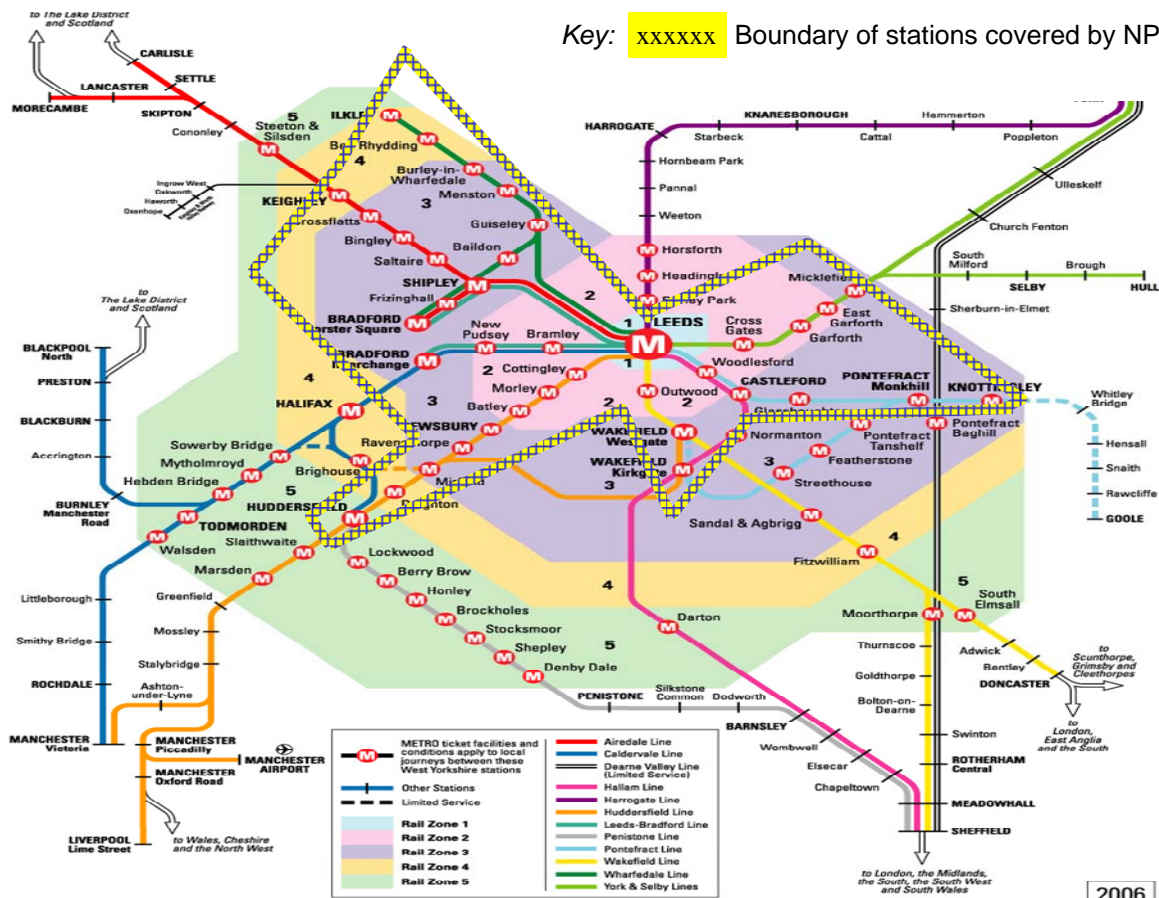
 www.btp.police.uk (Click on 'Neighbourhood Policing')

Dial 999 in an emergency

Dates for your diary...
 24 July– BMX Competition, Micklefield
 1 August– Leeds Pride

Coverage Map

Key: XXXXXX Boundary of stations covered by NPT



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