



Neighbourhood Watch Monthly Newsletter Wakefield District West – February 2017



**Your local NPT
Inspector
Helen Brear**

Hello and welcome to the Wakefield District NHW Newsletter.

There have been a spate of theft from motor vehicles recently, many of the vehicles targeted were left insecure. Please remove any valuables from your vehicle, lock it and double-check that it is locked.

An important new law came into effect on 1st March which will see drivers caught using a mobile phone facing a £200 fine and 6 points on their licence. New drivers could lose their licence the first time they are caught using their phone behind the wheel.

I would like to stress that everyone has a part to play in encouraging their family and friends not to use their phones while driving. It is as inexcusable as drink driving.

For full details please visit <https://www.gov.uk/using-mobile-phones-when-driving-the-law>

Holiday Fraud – Don't get conned when booking a holiday!



...make sure it's one that really exists.

Holidays can be the best time of the year, when you can really get away from it all with families, friends, your other half or even just by yourself. That makes it even more devastating when you find out that the flights and hotels you booked online were in fact a scam, turning your dream getaway into more of a nightmare.

In West Yorkshire, we saw 100 cases reported with a total loss of £225,080 in one year!

There are things you can do to protect yourself when looking to book online. Be your own detective and make sure you do your research, checking reviews or whether the company you are booking with is a member of a recognised trade association. It's important to bear in mind that a credit card can offer you more protection when buying online than debit cards - if your tickets don't turn up you're covered. Also, whenever you go to enter your bank details online make sure there's a padlock symbol in the browser window, or the webpage address starts with <https://> – that means the webpage you're using is secure."

Look for the logo: Check whether the company is a member of a recognised trade body such as ABTA. If you have any doubts, you can verify membership of ABTA online, at www.abta.com. **Use your instincts:** If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Get free expert advice: For further advice on how to stay safe when booking or researching travel online, go to <https://www.getsafeonline.org/shopping-banking/holiday-and-travel-booking/>

For a full list of tips to avoid becoming a victim of fraud please see: <http://abta.com/fraud>



Be Smart - Check if the Travel Agent you're booking through is an ABTA Member

<http://abta.com/find-a-member>

News

Car thieves given a serious crime prevention order, so if they re-offend on prison release they will be imprisoned for 5 years!

16 people arrested for vehicle crime in one week in Feb!

14 people arrested for Burglary!

3 males arrested in connection with criminal activity on Quad Bikes!

Wanted Burglar located and arrested in Wakefield!

Keep up to date with Police news on Social Media!

You can find out local police news on the NPT and Police Department Facebook and Twitter sites below.

<https://www.facebook.com/WYPWakefieldCentral/>

<https://www.facebook.com/WYPNorthWest/>

<https://www.facebook.com/WYPWakefieldRural/>

Your local NPT and Police Department Twitter Accounts

https://twitter.com/WYP_WakefieldC (Central NPT)

https://twitter.com/WYP_WakefieldNW (North West NPT)

https://twitter.com/WYP_WakefieldR (Rural NPT)

<https://twitter.com/WYPDogs> (WYP Dogs)

<https://twitter.com/WYPHorses> (WYP Horses)

https://twitter.com/WYP_RPU (Roads Policing)

<https://twitter.com/WYPWakefieldIOM> (Offender Management)



Safer & Stronger Communities Working Together

Guest Corner

Each month a member of Wakefield District Police will appear in 'Guest Corner'. This month's guest is Wakefield District Police Sergeant Mark Beet.



I am the Partnerships Sergeant at Wakefield District. My role involves the management of the Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Youth Offending Team, Crime Prevention Officers and CCTV Officers. Together we work with our partners in the Council, NHS, Housing and others to combat ASB and protect the vulnerable.

The ASB Unit are responsible for assessing vulnerability, by analysing calls, intelligence and information from partners. If a pattern emerges where there is some risk to the vulnerable we will create a problem solving task on our systems. Then, with our NPT teams and partners, we will all work together to try and resolve the situation.

The Youth Offending Police Officers work in partnership with the Youth Offending Team in Wakefield. Our main aim is to divert young people who have been involved in crime away from that behaviour.

I am also involved in the monitoring of hate crimes and incidents in the district.

The Police are only a part of protecting the vulnerable. It is everyone's responsibility to do their bit, from the community and partners to voluntary organisations.

Thank you for taking the time to support your local Police.

Local Crime Stats

You can check crime in your local area by visiting any of the following websites.

www.crime-statistics.co.uk

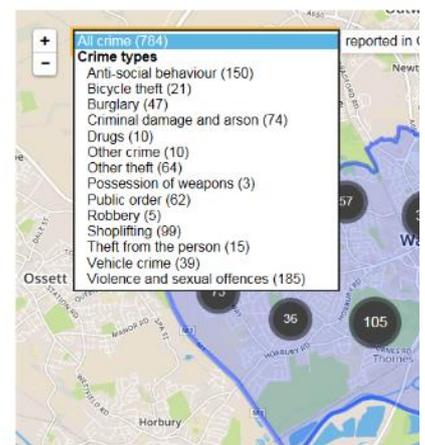
<https://www.police.uk/>

<https://www.checkmystreet.co.uk/indepth/crimerate>

Crime map

[View A-Z list of crime locations](#)

Click on the dots on the map for information about individual crime





Get to know your PCSO

Hello, my name is Colin Starford. I am 45 years old and was appointed as a Police Community Support Officer in 2010.

I currently work on the Wakefield Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team covering Crofton, Walton, Havercroft, Notton and Ryhill. Prior to this I was based with Wakefield Central Neighbourhood Policing Team covering Thornes and Lupset and regularly attended the St. George's Youth Club.

I went to school at St Thomas a Becket in Wakefield and then attended Wakefield, Barnsley and Dewsbury College.

I originally joined the police in 1990 as a Special Constable and worked around Wakefield and Normanton for twelve years, leaving as a Section Officer.

I was employed by Wakefield Council as a Ranger at Pugney's Country Park from 1990, where I learned water sports and staffed the rescue boat, which I still love.

I also worked in the private sector and public sector Prison Service from 1994 to 2002, Pinderfields and Clayton Hospital and Wakefield Council's Anti-Social Behaviour and Environmental Crime Team.

I am an Advanced First Aid Volunteer for the Wakefield Unit of the St John's Ambulance and enjoy working the Wakefield Trinity games and attending public events. I now help out with Crofton Youth Club which I find very rewarding.

One of the best parts of my role is helping people and working with communities to make them safer.

You can email me at colin.starford@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

You can also keep up to date with Police News in Wakefield Rural via our Neighbourhood Policing Team Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/WYPWakefieldRural>

Thank you for your continued support – Colin.

You can find your local officer on our website.

www.westyorkshirepolice.co.uk/npt

**Date for your diary - 9th May Wakefield
District Neighbourhood Watch Event**



**at
Carrgate Training
Centre.
6.30pm – 9.30pm**





Nuisance Motorbike Police Action

Both Lupset and South East Wakefield have seen a rise in issues with Nuisance Motorbikes in February.

A quick overview of results from our Bike Cop PC Craig Steel.

- Vehicles seized/recovered – 5
- Section 59 Warnings issued – 6
- Tickets Issued – 5
- Reported for Summons – 3
- £255 fine and 8 penalty points for driving a motor vehicle without insurance or a driving licence.
- £170 fine, ordered to do 120 hours of unpaid work, and banned from driving for a further 12 months for riding an off road motorbike on a road whilst disqualified.



Lupset – Wakefield

A targeted operation in Lupset took place due to the recent increase of nuisance bike problems in the area. Several tickets were issued and a bike was seized.

South Kirkby Area

8 stolen bikes have been recovered from the area, plus 3 arrests have been made in relation to a separate group of Quad riders in our area and South Yorkshire (working in partnership with South Yorkshire Police). One other male has been reported for summons.

Castleford

A number of bikes have been seized and recovered, enquiries are ongoing. A number of planned Operations are due to take place to target known offenders.

‘Don’t take the risk, don’t risk a life’ film

In addition to policing this type of crime, Wakefield District Officers have put together a short film to prevent children of the future becoming involved in motorbikes crimes. The film will be played in schools as part of an up and coming School Safety Tour, to educate children on the dangers of riding motorbikes illegally and diverting them away from becoming involved in this dangerous and mindless criminal activity.



You can watch our hard hitting film via the following link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-8t4Mwbae4>

