**Bikers and drivers urged to keep safe**

We are getting towards the end of the motorbike season and for many bikers it’s been a great season - they have got lots of miles in and confidence is up.

Over the summer we have had a lower number of biker deaths than we have seen over recent years, which is great news. So it’s really sad to say that already this autumn we have seen four bikers die in road accidents in North Yorkshire.

If you are thinking about getting the leathers on and going out for the last few weekends of good light and good weather, please do take care. Read the road, slow down for junctions and be particularly careful on bends and when overtaking. Also to keep safe assume that other road users haven’t seen you.

Insp Dave Barf of the Roads Policing Group said – ‘I want you to enjoy your driving and rides on the roads in North Yorkshire. Most importantly I want you to go home at the end of your trips to enjoy your homes and families. Please treat the roads and other road users with the respect that you yourself would expect.’

‘Car drivers should make sure that they make good observation and take account of motorcycles. Check your mirrors before altering position or turning. Bikers keep an eye on the vehicles around you. Expect the unexpected and don’t assume you’ve been seen.’

**Cold Callers**

This is a reminder to all North Yorkshire residents to be vigilant for cold callers at your door or on the phone and, if in doubt, ring the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Your local police treat such matters seriously and will investigate.

**Valuable Pedal Cycles stolen**

Overnight Oct 7/8 garage burglaries at Threshfield and Burnsall. Valuable mountain bikes taken. If any susp vehicles/people seen around Wharfedale please call 101. Please remember to secure all sheds/garages/outbuildings.

**Appeal after motorcyclist dies near Settle**

Police are appealing for witnesses after a motorcyclist died in a collision near Settle on Saturday.

It happened at around 12pm midday on Saturday 3 October 2015 on the A65 at The Courtyard, Cleatop, near Settle.

It involved a black Nissan Note car travelling south towards Long Preston and a yellow Pioneer motorcycle travelling north towards Settle.

Sadly, the rider of the motorcycle, a 46-year-old local man died at the scene. The driver of the Nissan car, a 48-year-old man from Leeds, was arrested at the scene and has since been released on bail to allow for further enquiries.

Police are not yet able to name the local motorcycle rider until a formal identification has been conducted and extended family and friends informed.
Anyone who witnessed the collision itself or the manner in which either vehicle was been used prior to the collision is asked to call North Yorkshire Police on 101 and select option 2 and ask for TC268 Martin Mulcaster of the Major Collision Investigation Team or email Martin.Mulcaster@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Please quote ref 12150174927 when passing on information.

Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be contacted anonymously on 0800 555 111.

The road was closed to allow emergency services to deal with the collision and to allow collision investigators to examine the scene. It reopened at around 5pm.

**Appeal after cyclist found injured on Buttertubs Pass in the Yorkshire Dales**

Police are appealing for witnesses after a cyclist was found with serious injuries on the Buttertubs Pass – the road between Hawes and Muker - on Sunday morning.

At around 11.40am on the morning of Sunday 4 October 2015, a passing motorist came across the injured cyclist lying in the road approximately three kilometres from Thwaite.

The cyclist, a man aged in his fifties from Middlesbrough, was taken to James Cook Hospital in Middlesbrough where he remains in a serious condition.

The cyclist had been travelling from the direction of Hawes towards Muker. He was wearing a white helmet, fluorescent yellow t-shirt and dark coloured shorts. He was riding a silver Canyon pedal cycle.

Police are investigating how the cyclist came to fall from his bike and are appealing to anyone who was travelling along the road, which is also known as Cliff Gate Road and either saw the cyclist prior to the incident or saw what happened to him, to contact them.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact North Yorkshire Police on 101, select option 2 and ask for the Major Collision Investigation Unit, or email MCIT@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Please quote reference number 12150175659 when passing on information.

The road was closed to attend to the casualty and to allow collision investigators to examine the scene. It reopened at around 5.40pm.

**Cyclist seriously injured in collision near Otley**

Police are appealing for witnesses after a serious road traffic collision on Askwith Moor Road, Otley.

The collision occurred at around 1.20pm on Tuesday 6 October 2015, on Askwith Moor Road near to the junction of Low Snowdon, Otley.

It involved a single pedal cycle, which was travelling towards Blubberhouses.

The pedal cyclist, a man from the Harrogate area in his forties, suffered serious injuries as a result of the collision.

Traffic Constable Mark Brook, of North Yorkshire Police's Roads Policing Group, said: "If you saw the incident – or the cycle involved prior to the collision – I urge you to come forward as you may have important information that could assist the investigation."
"In particular I would like to appeal to the female of a green Land Rover that stopped at the scene, and who may be able to offer vital information in respect of the collision."

Anyone with information which could help this investigation should contact North Yorkshire Police on 101, select option 2, and ask for Traffic Constable Mark Brook or Skipton Roads Policing Group. Alternatively, information can be emailed to Mark.Brook@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Please quote reference number 12150177081 when passing information about this incident.

**Lost Foxhound Airton Fell**

Ruby the foxhound has got herself lost on Airton Fell, she is mainly black with white & brown patches and is 1 year old, if you see Ruby please call 101.

**Replacement Neighbourhood Watch signs**

We are currently looking at road signage in the district and I would like to ask you to look at the signs on your road and let us know if you need new yellow signpost signs for your area. We are aware that some of the signs are broken, have been removed or are bleached by the sun. Please can you contact chairmanhdnwa@gmail.com if you would like us to consider replacing your signs.

**North Yorkshire Police support National Hate Crime Awareness Week**

National Hate Crime Awareness Week takes place from 10-17 October with the aim of the week being to raise awareness about hate crime, what it is and if you are a victim - how to report it.

Throughout the week North Yorkshire Police are supporting a number of local groups and events across the region, to spread the message that hate crime will not be tolerated and to encourage victims to come forward and report it.

Events are taking place in Scarborough, Northallerton, York and Selby with the support of local Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Members of the public are invited to come along to receive information and support.

Hate crime is described as any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person’s disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity or perceived disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity.

It can take the form of:

- Physical attacks - such as physical assault, damage to property, offensive graffiti, neighbourhood disputes and arson.
- Threat of attack - including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone call, intimidation or malicious complaints.
- Verbal abuse or insults - including offensive letters and posters, abusive gestures, and bullying at school or in the workplace.

Speaking about National Hate Crime Awareness week DCC Tim Madgwick said:

“North Yorkshire Police take hate crime extremely seriously and encourage anyone who has been a victim to come forward and report it. Everyone has a right to live without fear - being who you are is not a crime -
but being threatened or harassed because of it is. We would ask victims if they are under immediate threat or attack to call 999. Alternatively you can report it to North Yorkshire Police on 101. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact the Supporting Victims service or Stop Hate UK on 0800 138 1625.”

Figures for hate crime are relatively low in North Yorkshire, but it’s believed this may be due to people either not being aware that they have been subject to a crime or reluctance to report it.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Julia Mulligan said;

"We know that hate crime is under-reported but the reasons for this are not clear. In my Police and Crime Plan, I have set out a clear objective for improvements to be made in response to feedback from the public. I know the police take this very seriously and that once the North Yorkshire specific report I have commissioned is finalised, further improvements to the service will be made. In the meantime, it is important for people to report incidents to the police, or if they feel they’d rather talk to someone independent, they can call Supporting Victims on 01904 669276. The team are trained to ensure victims get the help they need."

Advice and support will be available at all the events throughout the week and members of the public are invited to drop in and learn more about hate crime, how to recognise it and how they can take steps to stop it.

LOCAL EVENTS

A full list of the events is available on the Stop Hate UK website - http://www.stophateuk.org/hate-crime-awareness-week/

The week of activity kicks off in Scarborough. On launch day (Sat 10 Oct) volunteers from partner agencies and local PCSO’s will be meeting at The Hub, Northway for a briefing about hate crime and how to report it. They will then be out and about in Scarborough town centre raising awareness of hate crime and how to report it, to members of the public and local businesses.

In Northallerton a ‘Different? No Difference!’ event will take place on Thursday 15 October at the Town Hall from 10am to 1pm and members of the public are invited to drop in. North Yorkshire Police, supported by Mencap and the Safer Hambleton Community Safety Local Delivery Team will be available to offer support or guidance to anyone affected by hate crime.

Selby Town Safer Neighbourhood Team will be running a hate crime awareness roadshow. The roadshow will be travelling around Selby throughout the week, starting in Selby Market on Monday (10am-3pm) then moving to Selby Town Hall on Tuesday (2.30pm-4.30pm) and then Selby Library on Friday (9.30am-12pm). They will be ending the week on Saturday 17 October at Morrisons supermarket and will be on hand to offer advice and support to anyone affected.

Local PCSO’s will be at York Designer Outlet on Sunday 11 October between 8am-3.30pm with a hate crime awareness stand to give advice and information. On Monday 12 October the team will be at the University of York Student Union from 6pm-7.30pm. Throughout the week they will be running hate crime awareness sessions at local schools and on Wednesday 14 October a drop in session at Tang Hall Lane Community Centre from 12-2pm.