In what is set to become an annual event, BTP held its first Complementary Policing Awards at a gala event in London.

First up was the award for PCSO of the Year, presented by Detective Chief Superintendent Miles Flood. “To be nominated is an achievement in itself,” said Mr Flood. “PCSOs are a vital link between the police and the community. A lot of PCSOs go that extra mile and in doing so make a big contribution to making our stations and trains safer.”

Winner of PCSO of the Year was Will Collinson from the North Eastern Area, nominated by Sergeant Mary-Anne Snowden and the Leeds team.

Will is described as “one of he most conscientious and valued members of staff” and “the eyes and ears of the station”. He was nominated for his work this year on anti-social behaviour. When told of the award PCSO Collinson said, “I am extremely proud to have been given this award. It is always nice to receive recognition for your work but this award is really special – to be awarded with PCSO of the year nationally is really a very humbling experience.”

The winner of the Special Constable award was Jeanie Chamley from Leeds, nominated by Sergeant Mark Mowvley.

Jeanie joined the team at Leeds in December 2011 and is described as “an outstanding officer”. On average she devotes over 100 hours a month to policing and has made more than 45 arrests. She was also commended for saving the life of a woman threatening to jump from a parapet over a river, risking her own life in the process.

The award was presented by Colin Dowman, Special Constabulary Chief Officer

“This has been a good year for BTP’s Special Constabulary,” he said. “We now have 235 Special Constables who gave 63,984 hours to BTP over the past year - an average commitment of 22 hours a month.
BTP's local policing teams are now utilising digital communications to engage with local communities and passengers – We’re on Twitter!

The BTP twitter account has been opened to help reach sections of the community who regularly use social media and to make the NTP more accessible.

Twitter was created in 2006 and rapidly grew in popularity; it currently has 500 million registered users as of 2012 and is based in San Francisco. Tweets are publicly visible by default, but senders can restrict message delivery to just their followers. Content of tweets can include text, pictures and short videos.

NPT Sergeant Rudy Tanghe said, “The twitter account is really taking off, it’s proving very useful in getting important information to the community.”

He went on to add, “The short punchy nature of twitter messages is perfect for people with busy lifestyles, and we can get clear concise information to the community very quickly”.

The Twitter account was launched at the beginning of the year and has continued to grow with more users following all the time.

Although BTP do not recommend Twitter usage for reporting crimes it is useful for exchanging other information such as disruption, crime prevention advice or following live events.

On Wednesday 3rd April 2013 Leeds station suffered a total power failure. The NPT twitter account was used to update its followers, tweeting the unusual picture of the stations main concourse in the dark.

To follow the NPT twitter account and get live updates and information log onto twitter and use @BTPwestyorks

To report a crime or emergency call 0800 40 50 40 or for non emergency incident reporting text 61016.

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**West Yorkshire NPT P.A.C.T Meeting Dates**

**Leeds area:** Leeds BTP Police station, New Station Street, LS1 4JZ, Tuesday 6th August 2013 at 10am

**Bradford area:** Shipley Railway station training room, Shipley, BD18 2JL, Monday 3rd June 2013 at 2pm

**Huddersfield area:** Kirklees College, New North Road, Huddersfield, HD1 5NN, TBA

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0800 40 50 40 or visit www.btp.police.uk
The recently installed ticket barriers are soon to become active and will help speed up passenger flows and reduce Anti-Social Behaviour on the station. The new barriers are being welcomed by passengers and staff at the station in anticipation of the improvements they will bring.

Prior to the barriers being installed staff were checking tickets as passengers used the station through the peak hours. Once the barriers are operational people will need a ticket to enter or exit the station whatever the time of day. It is hoped that this will reduce Anti-Social behaviour as people who are not catching a train will not be accessing the station to cause mischief. The train operating companies who use the station are also hoping to see a rise in revenue as it will become more difficult for fare dodgers.

Sergeant Snowden of the BTP Trans Pennine Express neighbourhood policing team said, “The new barriers will help rail users by speeding up the queues and reducing the number of people using the station as a place to loiter, which can often lead to Anti-Social behaviour”. A similar system was introduced at the very busy Leeds railway station and despite some initial teething troubles it has now been hailed a success. Passengers have been using automated ticket barriers in other areas around the country for a number of years, especially in and around London where the tube system operates almost exclusively with automatic barriers.

Huddersfield station is a grade 1 listed building which first opened its doors in 1847, it is currently staffed 24hrs a day and there will always be staff on hand to help passengers. First Trans Pennine Express provides free assistance to customers. You can contact their assistance team on 0800 107 2149 every day between 0700 and 2200. They can help you book tickets and seat reservations and make sure the assistance you need at the station is available. Its best to phone at least 24 hours before you travel.

0800 40 50 40 or visit www.btp.police.uk
All Aboard for the Train Museum

Officers from the West Yorkshire NPT arranged a day out at York railway museum for a group of 30 adults and children from Bradford with assistance from Northern rail and Frizinghall community engagement officers.

The day trip was on Tuesday 2nd April and was partially funded by Northern Rail who supplied free tickets for the group to get them to York and back. The party was accompanied by PCSO Mandeep Dalay and PCSO Steve Yates who work the route through Frizinghall and regularly engage with the wider community in the area.

The group were aged between 4 and 12 years old and accompanied by a number of parents to help supervise the day out.

The children were shown around the York railway museum and finished the day with a ride on the big wheel which enjoys fantastic views across the Vale of York. The wheel is 53 meters high so its not for the faint hearted.

When asked about the event PCSO Yates said, “It was a fantastic day, everybody thoroughly enjoyed it. The youngsters were well behaved and it was a great opportunity to give some rail safety advice to the children in a fun environment”.

PCSO Steve Yates will shortly be leaving BTP and moving onto pastures new. We would all like to wish Steve well in his new role and thank him for his work over the years. He’s been a good officer, colleague and friend. His cheerful and friendly personality will be missed on the NPT. Good luck Steve!
Personal Property Theft Push

BTP have recently announced their Policing priorities for the remainder of the year and these are to include targeting thieves who steal personal property.

Officers from the West Yorkshire NPT have been playing their part in operation Impact, targeting the thieves.

Theft of personal property or TPP accounts for approximately 25% of all notifiable crimes committed on the railway. The aim of the operation is to create a significant reduction in these figures. TPP is attractive to criminals who are aware that passengers often leave valuable items unattended on trains on luggage racks some distance away from where they are sitting and are only aware of the theft having occurred when they arrive at their destination. This can often be some time after the theft has occurred with the thief having got off the train at any number of possible stations. As is the case with most acquisitive crimes, offences are committed by both organised groups as well as people acting alone.

NPT officers have been paying particular attention to the routes running to and from Manchester airport where passengers are more likely to be carrying holiday luggage. During a recent visit to Manchester airport railway station PCSO’s were engaging with the public handing out crime prevention leaflets and giving tips on safety.

PCSO Nikki Webster from Leeds NPT who can be seen in the picture above handing out leaflets said, “The criminals who steal from families as they go on or return from holidays don’t have any consideration for the impact it has on their victims. Their selfish actions can spoil a whole holiday for people. Were helping the public to help themselves by arming them with the best crime prevention advice available.”

The key recommendations been made by BTP are:

- Try to keep luggage close by and in view and check on your bags regularly.
- Don't leave valuable items unattended on a train when you visit the toilet or buffet car.
- If you are going to sleep on a train, do not leave valuables in view on the table or seat next to you. Keep them hidden.
- Ensure any bags placed on the the floor are in front of you so that any movement of the bag will be noticeable.

0800 40 50 40 or visit www.btp.police.uk
Follow these few tips below to protect your personal property

1. Install a tracker application on your smart phone
2. We're more likely to recover your property if you have marked it properly
3. Always use your phone’s security lock or PIN number
4. Try to keep luggage close by and in view and check on your bags regularly
5. If you are going to sleep on a train, do not leave valuables in view on the table or seat next to you
6. Don't leave valuable items unattended on a train when you visit the toilet or buffet car
7. Ensure any bags placed on the on the floor are in front of you
8. Stay alert and aware of what's going on around
Our Contact Details
Dial 999 in an emergency
See it? Report it!

☎ NPT Office (Leeds) 0113 247 2299 / 2300
(Answer phone operates when officers are unavailable)
☎ National BTP Free-phone (24 hours) 0800 40 50 40
✉ WestYorkshire.NPT@btp.pnn.police.uk
Non Emergency Incident Reporting TEXT 61016

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www.btp.police.uk (Click on ‘Neighbourhood Policing’)
@btp_uk

Coverage Map

Revised Metro Neighbourhood

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