

Rural Taskforce Newsletter

Issue 6



Welcome to the latest Rural Taskforce newsletter – keeping you up to date on what we've been up to in our rural communities. As always, please continue to get in touch with us via 101, email or phone, and let us know what's happening in your area.

On the road again!

We'll be hitting the shows throughout 2017, with a brand new tractor in tow, once again kindly loaned to us by the good folks at Ripon Farm Services. The full list of the shows we'll be at is below:

10th-11th June – Tractor Fest, Newby Hall

18th June – North Yorkshire County Show, Camp Hill, Bedale

11-13th July – Great Yorkshire Show

15th July – Richmondshire Emergency Service Open Day

23rd July – Aldborough and Boroughbridge Show

25th July – Ryedale Show

29th July – Birsthwith Show

2nd August – Thornton-le-Dale Show

6th August – Tockwith Show

13th August – Ripley Show

23rd August – Egton Show

26th August – Wensleydale Show

29th August – Kilnsey Show

23rd September – Stokesley Show

25th September – Nidderdale Show

There is of course a good reason to attend these events – it's not all fun and games! We're interested in speaking people who live and work within the rural community of North Yorkshire, finding out what matters to you, and what issues you face. We can help you with advice, and even suggest how you can help us.

The only thing missing for our tractor is a name, and with your assistance, we should be all set soon.

Take a look at

www.northyorkshire.police.uk/tractor
to find out more!



New role for Stuart and Specials!



Over the past year we've been in existence, the team has developed to such an extent, it's been decided we need a second Sergeant to maintain our success. In June we will welcome aboard Sgt Stuart Grainger, who will join us initially on a six-month temporary basis.

Stuart brings with him a wealth of experience, and a passion for tackling rural crime, which is something he has done over the course of his career in the police, and most recently in the Dales.

In addition, we are running a campaign for Special Constables who wish to specialise and join the Rural Taskforce. This will be a varied role, with the opportunity to get involved with all aspects of work the Rural Taskforce are involved in, from proactive enforcement, to prevention work and engagement events.

Horse riders and responsibilities on the road

We recently linked up with our colleagues in the Op Spartan team, to encourage horse riders and enthusiasts for all things equestrian, to report vulnerable road users.

Through a mixture of education and enforcement, Op Spartan aims to improve the attitudes of those who use our roads. Vulnerable road users are defined as anyone who poses a risk to themselves or others by their behaviour on the roads. Through the online reporting system, members of the public can also submit footage they may have recorded through head-cams or the like.

PC Hannah McPeake from the Rural Taskforce has now planned a series of events, in conjunction with the British Horse Society, to remind riders of what steps they can take,



to keep themselves safe, and ensure they are conforming to the Highway Code.

Hannah says: "Although rare, collisions can result in very serious injuries, and even near-misses can leave both horse and rider shaken and too frightened to ride on the roads again. That's why we are urging people to report instances of poor driving, as well as educating riders themselves, so we can increase the safety of everyone on North Yorkshire's roads."

'Operation Slate' day of action

Along with officers from North Yorkshire Police's Rural Taskforce, Cleveland Police, the North East Regional Special Operations Unit (NERSOU) and GAIN (Government Agency Intelligence Network) ran a day of action in the South Bank area of Middlesbrough in April.

With input from the local council, fire brigade and numerous other agencies, Operation Slate focused on garages, dumped cars, clearing roadsides of unauthorised signs and illegally-parked vehicles as well as animal welfare and illegal disposal of scrap.

Police recovered two caravans and a Land Rover Discovery which are believed to have been stolen from rural areas of Cleveland and North Yorkshire.

We will continue to work closely with our neighbouring forces and partners to enforce against those who commit rural crime in North Yorkshire, and will not stop at our border when action is required.

Other recent cases

- A man received 18 month suspended sentence for stealing tack equipment during a burglary. A diligent investigation identified twenty victims, who have all been compensated
- A man has pleaded guilty to a series of waste recycling centre burglaries, and received four months in custody
- Two men fined £200 for day poaching (rabbits) in Skipton