Safer Roads the Christmas – Please help West Yorkshire Police

Give the Gift of Safer Roads this Christmas

Over 7200 unsafe drivers have been caught thanks to members of the public over the last year.

West Yorkshire Police run Op Snap which allows road users to upload video recordings of bad driving through an online submission form.

The recordings are reviewed by the police to see if an offence has been committed and whether it will be possible to progress with action against the offender.

Submissions continue to rise with 11,096 pieces of footage being sent in over the last year, a 12.3% increase on the year prior. Action was taken against drivers in 65.7% of the submissions, equivalent to 7,295 drivers.

Drivers across the county are being encouraged to get involved and consider buying a loved one a dash cam this Christmas.

The gift idea comes from West Yorkshire Vision Zero, the region's road safety partnership, along with a new compilation video showing some recent incidents –https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xD5WUekp7rI.

A van carrying an extremely unsafe load as well as dangerous overtakes of a cyclist and horse riders are featured.

Paul Jeffrey, Head of Casualty Prevention and Police-led Prosecutions, West Yorkshire Police said: "Members of the public often feel frustrated when they witness bad driving, and Operation Snap empowers them to take action and help us to enforce the law.

"Last year police officers on patrol in our communities issued 38,848 fixed penalty tickets for traffic offences, and safety cameras detected over 285,000 speed and

red-light offences.

“All of these measures are in place to help prevent collisions and the avoidable loss of life on our roads. By working together with the public via Op Snap, we aim to tackle poor driving and contribute towards achieving Vision Zero.”

Alison Lowe OBE, Chair of the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Partnership and the region’s Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, said: “West Yorkshire Vision Zero seeks to end road death and serious injury in the county by 2040. Crucially, everyone has a role in that.

“We are extremely grateful for the public support for Op Snap. You are making a real difference.

“We want to ensure that there is no place to hide for dangerous drivers, and every dash cam brings that closer.”

To ensure the best outcome, footage submitted to Op Snap should include:

· The offending vehicle’s number plate, this must be visible.

· It must be moving video, photos can’t be used.

· The incident should be reported as soon as possible and no later than 10 days after as there are certain time limits in legislation which must be complied with.

· The footage should include the whole incident and wherever possible, should include 1 minute prior and 1 minute after the alleged offence.

Find out more about Op Snap.

You can also show your support for keeping everyone safe on our roads by signing the Vision Zero Pledge. Pledges can be dedicated in someone’s memory which will be added to our memorial webpage.

Christmas Scam and Fraud Warnings

West Yorkshire Police are warning of some of the latest criminal tricks that can defraud people of their money. Special vigilance is advised at this time of year.

Three new warnings have been issued and details of the schemes and how to avoid them can be read by clicking on the links below.

Winter Fuel Payment Scams

Black Friday Scams

Theft of motorcycles using banking scams

Christmas is Scamming – Beware of gift card fraud

Message from West Yorkshire Community Alert

A bit early for Christmas I know but this is something that is becoming an issue all over the UK and one you need to be aware of.

We're seeing a rise in a scam called **gift card draining**, where criminals steal money from gift cards **before** you even use them.

How it works:

Scammers tamper with cards in shops—recording the card number and PIN, then resealing the packaging. Once you buy and load the card, they quickly drain the funds online.

We believe blank cards are being stolen from stores, tampered with, then

replaced in the store. The criminals then just wait and see what is loaded up.

Protect yourself:

- **Inspect cards** for signs of tampering.
- **Buy from secure displays** or behind the counter.
- **Register your card online** immediately, if possible.
- **Avoid third-party sellers** offering discounted cards.
- **Never pay bills or fines with gift cards**—it's a common scam tactic.

If you're affected, report it to the retailer and **Action Fraud** at actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

Warning about impersonation fraud from West Yorkshire Police

Surge in Fraudulent Calls from Impersonators Claiming to Be Police or Banks

The Yorkshire and Humber Regional Economic Crime Unit is urging the public to remain vigilant following a recent surge in fraudulent phone calls targeting residents in the West Yorkshire area, including those living in and around Leeds.

Over the past few days, a growing number of reports have been received from individuals who were contacted by fraudsters posing as Police Officers or representatives from their Bank. These criminals are using sophisticated tactics to gain trust and manipulate victims into revealing sensitive financial information or withdrawing funds.

Scammers typically initiate contact through an unexpected phone call, claiming to be from your bank or the Police. They may assert:
• A fraudulent transaction has occurred on your account.
• Your bank card is compromised and needs replacing.

• You must assist in a covert investigation by withdrawing cash or purchasing high-value items.

The YHROCU Fraud Protect team would like to remind the public of the following important facts:
The Police or your bank will NEVER:
o Ask for your PIN number or passwords.
o Request that you send your card via courier.
o Instruct you to withdraw or transfer money for an investigation.

Protect Yourself:
• Never share personal information: Even if the caller seems genuine.
• Verify unexpected requests: Hang up and call the organisation back using a verified number (e.g. from your bank statement or official website).
• Be sceptical of urgency: Scammers often create pressure to make you act quickly. Take your time to assess the situation.

Support Your Loved Ones:
Please share this information with parents, grandparents, neighbours, and anyone who may be more vulnerable to these types of scams. A quick conversation could prevent someone you care about from becoming a victim.



People in the UK lost £1.2bn to fraud in 2022, the equivalent of £2,300 every minute, according to bank industry group UK Finance. It said around three

million scams took place, with frauds involving payment cards being the most common.

Fraud is when trickery is used to gain a dishonest advantage, which is often financial, over another person. Cybercrime is any criminal act dealing with computers and networks.

To report an incident of cybercrime or fraud and for further information visit the Action Fraud website at www.actionfraud.police.uk.

Children's tennis coaching – court reserved on Thursdays 3:15pm-4:30pm from 11th September 2025

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Harewood Parish Council is hosting the Harewood Children's
Tennis Coaching sessions run by Shadwell Tennis Club on Thursday afternoons from
3.15pm to 4:30pm, commencing Thursday 11 September until further notice. Please note
that the court will not be available for public use during the children's sessions.

National Emergency Alert Test

The National Emergency Alert test will be happening later this month. The UK government is testing the system on **Sunday 7 September 2025 at 3pm.** Your

mobile phone or tablet will vibrate and make a loud siren-like sound, even if it's set on silent. The alert message will confirm this is a test and that you do not need to take any further action

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July 2025 Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

Advice for the summer period on keeping safe your home and community. To read the newsletter follow the link below.

Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter July 2025

IRONMAN LEEDS – Major Road Closures on Sunday July 27th 2025

The IRONMAN LEEDS triathlon will be held in north Leeds on Sunday 27th July. Major disruption to traffic is expected. **DETAILS HERE.**

This is a major public participation event comprising swimming (Roundhay Park Lake) , running and a 112 mile cycle course comprising 3 circuits of a route in North Leeds. This will involve closures of some major roads for many hours of the day and restricted access to some parts Harewood Parish. **Significantly, closures will be in place on the A61 in both directions between Harewood and Alwoodley Gates, and also westbound on the A659 at Arthington.** Other closures will affect traffic attempting to reach or leave Wyke, Weardley, Bardsey, Scarcroft and Shadwell.

Full details of the event together with maps of the roads affected can be found on

The IronMan Leeds UK web site.

Many residents and businesses in the affected areas have expressed concern to Leeds Council concerning the inconvenience and disruption but the event is going ahead. Also relevant is the fact that The Leeds Championship Dog Show is being held at Harewood House the same weekend. Northbound visitors from Leeds will be unable to use the A61 between 7am and 5:30 pm on Sunday 27th July.

Residents living in Harewood, Wike, and Wigton are strongly advised to consult the IronMan web site and plan to avoid the likely congestion periods.

Harewood Parish Council was not consulted by either the organisers or Leeds City Council before the event was planned.

Avoid being scammed by false QR codes – West Yorkshire Community Alert

New quishing alert: £3.5 million lost last year to fraudulent QR codes

Action Fraud is urging people to look out for rogue QR codes, after 784 reports of ‘quishing’ were made to Action Fraud between April 2024 and April 2025, with almost £3.5 million lost.

A new alert has been issued by Action Fraud, warning about quishing, a form of phishing where a fraudulent QR code is scanned, designed to steal personal and financial information. The warning encourages people to stay vigilant and double check QR codes to see if they are malicious, or have been tampered with, before scanning them online or in public spaces.

Claire Webb, Acting Director of Action Fraud, said:

“QR codes are becoming increasingly common in everyday life, whether it’s scanning one to pay for parking, or receiving an email asking to verify an online account. However, reporting shows cyber criminals are increasingly using quishing as a way to trick the public out of their personal and financial information.

“We’re urging people to stop and check before scanning QR codes, to avoid becoming a victim of quishing. Look out for QR codes that may have been tampered with in open spaces, or emails and texts that might include rogue codes. If you’re in doubt, contact the organisation directly. You can follow our advice on quishing, on our website at www.actionfraud.police.uk to help protect yourself.”

Action Fraud can reveal that quishing happens most frequently in car parks, with criminals using stickers to tamper with QR codes on parking machines. Quishing also occurred on online shopping platforms, where sellers received a QR code via email to either verify accounts or to receive payment for sold items.

Reports also showed phishing attacks were taking place impersonating HMRC, or other UK government schemes, targeting people with QR codes designed to steal personal and financial details.

What can you do avoid being a victim of quishing?

QR codes used in pubs or restaurants are usually safe to scan.

Scanning QR codes in open spaces (like stations and car parks) might pose a greater risk. Check for signs that codes may have been tampered with (usually by a sticker placed over the legitimate QR code). If in doubt, do not scan them: use a search engine to find the official website or app for the organisation you need to make a payment to.

If you receive an email with a QR code in it, and you’re asked to scan it, you should be cautious due to an increase in these types of ‘quishing’ attacks.

Finally, we recommend that you use the QR-scanner that comes with your phone, rather than using an app downloaded from an app store.

If you receive a suspicious email, report it by forwarding it to phishing@report.gov.uk

Find out how to protect yourself from fraud: https://stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk

If you’ve been a victim of fraud, report it at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, contact Police Scotland on 101.

25th July 2025 Summer Jive in Harewood- A fun event to help

keep you fit and healthy

Summer Jive is a great way to dance or learn to dance.

For details of this taster session to show you the fun way to enjoy and keep fit, follow the link below.

Summer Jive in Harewood Friday 25th July 2025