

NEWS

Retirement: Head of Police Treatment Centre says farewell

Police chief steps down after distinguished career

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Michael Baxter has retired as the chief executive of The Police Treatment Centres, a Harrogate based national charity, after nearly seven years.

Mr Baxter was appointed in March 2007. The Police Treatment Centres is nationally recognised for its proven effective and high quality treatment which helps return serving police officers back to front line duty following injury, and for its support for retired officers.

Financially the charity is on a firmer footing now and in recent years Michael has led an estates and fundraising programme that has seen the charity invest over £4 million in its Harrogate facilities on Harlow Moor Road.

Similar plans are in place to develop the charity's Castlebrae Treatment Centre in Perthshire, with almost £2

million of the £4 million target having been raised.

Under Michael's guidance the charity has received IIP accreditation, an award which recognises the development of a strong and committed workforce.

Before becoming Chief Executive Michael had a 38 year police career in West Yorkshire, Merseyside, and latterly Cumbria where he was Chief Constable for six years.

He was awarded the Queen's Police Medal in 2005 for distinguished service and in the same year the International Fingerprint Society awarded him the 'Henry Medal' in recognition of his work in introducing automatic fingerprint recognition systems into UK police forces.

Michael will remain in Harrogate following his retirement and is looking forward to spending more time with his family including four grandchildren, and also giving time to Cumbria Army Cadet Force of which he is Honorary Colonel.



Michael Baxter

Astrology - New evening class

Calling all stargazers for astrology course

The very first astrology course in Harrogate will start in the New Year.

The five week evening course will be staged at Rossett Adult Education by Harrogate professional consultant astrologer Angie Huby. She aims to introduce and expand on the more serious aspects of the ancient art she practices.

There has not been a course in the town offering instruction in the subject before, and Angie is one of only a small handful practising in the district.

She holds the Diploma of the Mayo School of Astrology (1993) and has a background of over 30 years of study in the subject.

The course is designed for those with some prior knowledge - or none at all, and will aim to provide students with the skills and understanding to begin to interpret or 'read' a birth chart drawn up for the exact date and time and place of



birth. Angie's course is designed to be informal and short introductory complex subjects can expect to find things new about the course day evening, 7-11. Full details from January on the Rossett education website.