Hunt on for raider who hit bookies

POLICE are still hunting a weapon-wielding raider who stole cash from a bookies.

The robbery happened at the Betfred betting shop at Adelaide Shopping Centre on Adelaide Terrace, in Benwell, Newcastle, on Thursday night.

At around 7.30pm a masked man went into the shop armed with a piece of wood and threatened staff before running off with cash.

Police believe it is possible he was with a second man who was on a bike.

The pair left the scene in the direction of Beech Street.

Insp Leigh McManus of Northumbria Police said: "This was obviously a frightening experience for staff at the shop, but thankfully no one was injured.

"The offender threatened them with a piece of wood before demanding money and making off with an amount of cash.

"This sort of violent behaviour is not acceptable, and we're doing everything we can to trace the offender and his possible accomplice."

Anyone who witnessed the raid or knows anything about who might be responsible should call Northumbria Police on 03456 043 043, ext 69191.

SUNDAY SNIP

TEOTRONICO, the 19-fingered Italian robot which can play piano faster than any human has been unveiled, costing £3,000.

Man in bus-crush horror

A MAN is in a critical condition in hospital after he became trapped between two buses at a depot.

Police were alerted to the incident in Walsall by the ambulance service at 2.40am yesterday.

A 24-year-old man was taken to hospital with life-threatening injuries and remains in a critical condition.

A spokesman for West Midlands Ambulance Service said: "Crews arrived to find a man who had been trapped between two buses and had suffered multiple serious crush injuries.

"The man received emergency treatment at the scene and was transferred to Walsall Manor Hospital by ambulance for further emergency treatment.

"Unfortunately the man's injuries were considered life-threatening."

Widow launches safety campaign after tragedy

HIS DEATH WON'T BE IN VAIN: Teresa Mills; inset, Rob and his bike

BIKER'S LEGACY

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A GRIEVING widow who lost her biker husband in a tragic road smash has set up a safety campaign group.

Father-of-five Rob Mills was well-known among Tyneside's biking community, teaching advanced motorcycle skills to everyone from police officers to Premier League footballers.

His family were devastated when the 48-year-old was hit by a car while out riding on the B6318 Military Road in Corbridge, Northumberland, in June 2010.

But now Rob's wife Teresa, of Aster Place, Fenham, has vowed to make sure her husband did not die in vain.

The 48-year-old has set up Dying to Ride, a motorcycle awareness group that aims to save lives on the road.

Dying to Ride will be present motorcycle awareness classes, as well as provide practical and emotional support to the families of motorcycle accident victims.

Teresa, who is being supported by children Maureen, 30, Michael, 28, Nicola, 26, Lisa, 22, and Bobby, 12, in her campaign, said: "Dying to Ride is dedicated to creating an atmosphere of awareness of motorcycles on the road.

"I will be speaking to groups about motorcycle awareness and I've also been helping some other widows who are going through similar ordeals.

"I'm trying to turn this tragedy into something positive and I know Rob would be proud."

Ex-Newcastle and England striker Les Ferdinand, who was taught by Mr Mills, was among mourners who paid tribute to the former instructor.

Hundreds of mourners packed into the West Road Cemetery for the popular family man's funeral.

In a poignant tribute, his hearse was slowly followed by over 30 members of the local motorcycling community, in full leathers, giving an emotional final salute to a biking enthusiast who had been riding motorcycles since his teens.

For more information on Dying to Ride, visit www.dyingtoride.org or call Teresa on 0191 2414230.