

Rookie PC drove into drink row Charged at training course

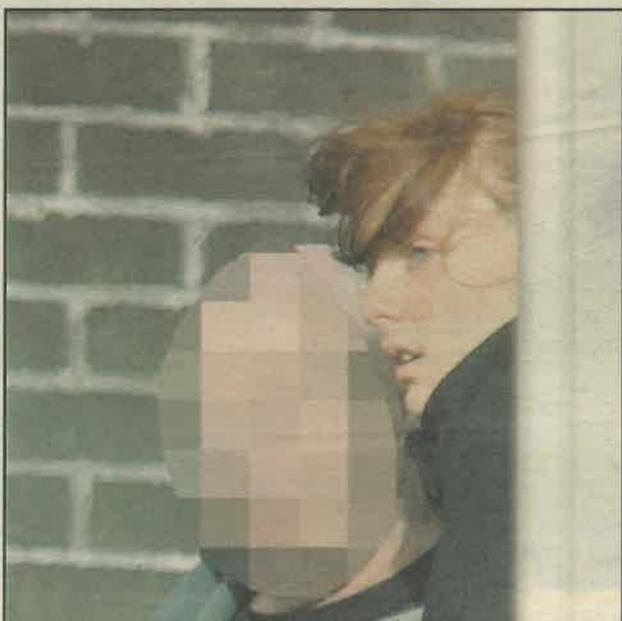
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THIS is the ex-woman officer accused of turning up for a police training course while over the drink-drive limit.

Joanne Lister, 23, was a rookie with Northumbria Police at the time of the alleged incident on Friday, October 27, last year.

She is alleged to have driven a Toyota Celica along the main drive of Durham Constabulary's headquarters complex, at Aykley Heads, on the outskirts of Durham City.

The trainee is understood to have been on duty at the



Opera at Sage

SPANISH opera is coming to The Sage Gateshead this weekend.

Teatro de Nieve presents *Three Word Poem About Loss*, an opera by Spanish composer and Newcastle University Phd music student Sergio Camacho.

The opera is part of the Sound 07 Festival alongside a host of other events beginning at 11am this Saturday.

A spokeswoman for the opera company said: "We're a young company with a lot of talent. It's a very exciting, very emotional piece of opera."

The performance will held in the Northern Rock Foundation Hall at 6.30pm tomorrow.

Speed victory for villagers

VILLAGERS who battled for 10 years to reduce the speed limit on a dual carriageway are celebrating victory.

Durham County Council highways committee set aside three objections, including one from Durham Police, to agree the implementation of a 50mph speed limit on the A167 dual carriageway between the Hermitage roundabout on the outskirts of Chester-le-Street, and Plawsworth Gate, near Durham.

Three years ago the committee ruled out reducing the 70mph limit but looked at it again after the Local Government Ombudsman declared the

decision-making process flawed.

Residents of Chester Moor and Plawsworth say they take their lives in their hands trying to cross the road, which does not have crossings, bridges or an underpass.

Peter Lawson, chairman of the Chester Moor Community Group, said: "We would like a pedestrian crossing by the Chester Moor pub. It would be ideal to help our elderly. Now the limit is 50mph, we will be able to apply for one."

Police opposed the order, saying it was a strategic rural road that had no bad accident problems.

Rolled out on arrival...

