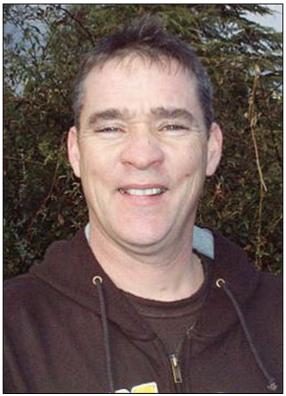
PRINT



NEWS

Horror snap of brave shot cop



Hero ... PC David Rathband was blasted at a roundabout

THIS is the police officer brutally shot by a gunman on the loose.

The picture of PC David Rathband's bloody face was released tonight at his own request in the hope of catching suspect Raoul Moat.

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Wounded ... PC Rathband before treatment North News & Pictures

The Northumbria Police officer was shot in the face and chest as he sat in his stationary patrol car on the A1/A69 roundabout in East Denton, Newcastle, on Sunday.

Bodybuilder Moat, 37, a former nightclub doorman, allegedly shot the married father-of-two before fleeing the scene.

The photograph — taken in hospital before PC Rathband received treatment — was issued during a press conference at Northumbria Police HQ today.



Wanted ... Raoul Moat

Addressing reporters, temporary chief constable Sue Sim said: "I'd like to take this opportunity to tell you how PC David Rathband is progressing.

"I visited him this afternoon and I am pleased to say he was in remarkable spirits given what he has gone through and managed to have a conversation with me.

"David is 42 years old, a married father-of-two, and was shot in the face and upper body as he sat in his marked police car in the early hours of Sunday morning.

"Despite being seriously injured, David demonstrated extreme bravery by alerting his colleagues and even managing to give fellow officers vital information about the incident, which has proved

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Horror snap of brave shot cop

valuable during the course of the investigation.

"I have nothing but absolute admiration for David. He acted in the best interests of the police service, showing outstanding bravery in what must have been a terrifying situation.

"True to form, despite his horrific injuries, David has made it clear he wants us to catch the person responsible for this horrendous attack.

"Our thoughts remain with him, his family and colleagues at this extremely difficult time."

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