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WHY YOU NEED TO LET  
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## CASE STUDY

York was hit by its worst flooding for a generation on Boxing Day, 2015. The failure of the Foss flood barrier, which had protected the city centre since it was built in 1987, caused water from the River Ouse to back up the River Foss. More than 600 homes and dozens of businesses were deluged by the floodwater, putting York in the national spotlight.

# DELUGED



UNDER WATER: Huntingdon Road and Yaskley Crescent submerged in floodwater after the River Ouse bursts its banks in York city centre at the weekend

**Community's courage and compassion shine through as York district deals with some of worst flooding in living memory**

**Reports & pictures - Pages 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,14,31&34**

## AFTER THE RIVER FOSS BURST ITS BANKS ON BOXING DAY...

...the weekend reporters and newsdesk team produced 13 pages of coverage in The Press (York) that day.

The floodwater stopped 200 yards short of The Press' office in Walmgate, but all internet, phone and network connections were later lost when the city's main telephone exchange was submerged cutting off the office from the Newsquest group VPN.

This meant that the 40-page edition for Tuesday December 29 was going to have to be produced without an office. Newsdesk and the reporting team set up base in a coffee shop, then in the street before finding an intermittent wi-fi signal in the beer garden of a city centre pub.

A makeshift office was set up in the home of the deputy editor, Stuart Martel, in an area of the city unaffected by the communications blackout and, despite being unable to contact each other for large parts of the day, they ran another 13 pages of flooding coverage in the Tuesday issue.

The flooding also had an impact at The Press's sister daily paper, the Telegraph & Argus, in Bradford. There was extensive flooding in the Aire Valley, affecting dozens of homes and businesses and causing a great deal of damage.

Newsquest (Yorkshire) group editor Perry Austin-Clarke, who edits both The Press and the T&A, lives in the Aire Valley (halfway up a hill, luckily). He was able to use remote desktop access to the group's content management solution Knowledge, on his home broadband wi-fi, to oversee the papers and to design the front pages for both titles using Adobe InDesign via Knowledge.

He said, "We have been using Knowledge at both York and Bradford since March 2014. The fact that it is browser based has already given us extra flexibility in a variety of breaking news situations, but it really came into its own during the floods. We wouldn't have been able to get The Press out so successfully without the ability to access Knowledge remotely from so many locations."

"Being able to file copy and pictures directly into the system using public wi-fi, to output pages from home broadband and design the front pages 50 miles away from the action was far simpler than trying to convene staff at a disaster recovery suite miles away. What's more, staff could also stay on the ground at the scene and run live blogs throughout the worst of the flooding and its aftermath."

## USING KNOWLEDGE FROM PCS

has allowed Newsquest Yorkshire to streamline its editorial production workflow, respond to breaking news and produce two newspapers in an emergency situation. Talk to us about how we can help deliver you such business benefits and more.





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