IN BRIEF

Man attacked in city's Valbon nightclub

HULL: Police are appealing for witnesses after a 22-year-old man was attacked in a Hull nightclub.

The victim, who lives locally, suffered a cut to the lip after he was attacked in Valbon, in George Street in the city centre, at around 5am on Sunday, July 23.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to get in touch with officers.

A spokesman for Humberside Police said: "A 22-year-old Hull man sustained a cut to his lip in an alleged assault at the Valbon nightclub in Hull.

"The incident happened at 5am on July 23 2017. We are appealing for witnesses and would ask for anyone who witnesses this incident to contact our non-emergency number."

Call 101, quoting log 154 of July 23, with information.

ATTACK: Valbon, George Street, Hull.

NEWS

MISSED: The interactive artwork City Speaks, allows people to project their spoken words into giant lights onto the tidal barrier.

Shock as requests for nudes and rude words light up Hull tidal barrier

Woman has spoken of bizarre moment she filmed interactive artwork

IT IS intended to start conversations – and it has certainly done that, just not necessarily for the right reason this time.

The interactive artwork City Speaks, a major art project for City of Culture, is part of the year-long project Look Up and allows people to project their spoken words into giant lights onto the tidal barrier.

A steel lectern on the quayside of Humber Dock provides a microphone which then sends the words to a data processing unit and transcribes them into scrolling text ascending Hull's tidal barrier.

But, with people's words projected onto the barrier within seconds, a video shows what can happen if it is not used as intended.

The video was posted on Facebook by Vicky Owens, 34, from Hull, who was out with her friend when some surprising words started appearing on the tidal barrier at about midnight on Thursday night.

By Sophie Kitching
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"It said 'ejaculation', then all sorts of stuff kept coming up," she said.

"It came up with 'big hairy man hammock' or something like that and 'I am high', 'I am drunk', 'send nudes' and all sorts of stuff.

"It was a bit bizarre."

Ms Owens, who has three children, said although she saw the funny side, it could have been a bit different had she been with her kids.

"I didn't realise until after there is a microphone people speak into so it was a bit surprising," she said.

"You have to admit it's funny. But you think if it's the time of the day I have my kids with me then it becomes a bit of a different issue.

"You think what about people driving this way, it is going to distract them."

At the time of its launch back in February, Look Up curator Andrew Knight explained more about the technology used and said some words are filtered.

"There is voice recognition software which translates the spoken word into text," he said.

"As time goes on the software will learn and get better. There is a long list of offensive words the software recognises and if spoken it will just come up blank.

"If people do say anything offensive, it will only scroll through once and won't be seen again so it isn't like graffiti which can remain for a while.

"But we trust the people of Hull to use this as intended."

Ben McKnight, director of communications for Hull 2017, said: "The City Speaks is one of a series of public artworks being installed around Hull during its City of Culture year.

"There is a filter in place to block offensive words."