

SMARTWATER SEARCHLIGHT



TRIO SENT TO PRISON FOLLOWING CASH-IN-TRANSIT ROBBERY



Pictured: Michael Coupe, Liam Wilcox and Craig Temple

Three men responsible for the theft of a G4S cashbox have been jailed after they were caught ‘purple-handed’ when security dye soaked their £25,000 haul.

The gang used a sledgehammer to smash open the stolen cashbox following a heist outside a branch of Barclays Bank in Prestwich, Greater Manchester. As a result, the notes inside were doused in purple ink embedded with a SmartWater forensic taggant unique to the box.

During the violent robbery, Michael Coupe (27) punched a G4S security guard in the face, fracturing his jaw, before stealing the cashbox he was carrying. Coupe then made his getaway on a Kawasaki motorbike driven by Liam Wilcox (32). After switching vehicles the pair drove to the Salford home of accomplice Craig Temple (50), where they tried in vain to remove traces of the SmartWater-coded staining from the banknotes using household detergent and scouring pads.

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WIDE-SCALE BRENT ROLLOUT FOLLOWS LATEST CONVICTION

Thousands of residents across the London Borough of Brent are being issued with SmartWater as part of a Council funded initiative to cut burglaries.

Following the success of a SmartWater project last year in the Harlesden area of the Borough, which saw burglary levels plummet by 85 per cent and street robbery reduced by 40 per cent, an additional 4,000 SmartWater packs are being rolled out to Brent households.

This wide-scale rollout comes as details have emerged of the latest SmartWater-related criminal conviction in Brent. Paul James McIntosh (32) from Kensal Green was marked with SmartWater after breaking into a police ‘trap house’ that had been set up to catch persistent criminals. Brent police officers arrested McIntosh at the scene of the crime after they found traces of SmartWater on his jacket under ultraviolet (UV) light.

At Harrow Crown Court he was jailed for two-and-half years for burglary. Leader of Brent Council, Councillor Mohammed Butt said: “Crime is down significantly in areas where SmartWater is being used in Brent, which is a good start and down to some great partnership work between the Council and police.” **S**



Pictured: Paul James McIntosh broke into a police ‘trap house’

MAJOR CRIME CUTS OF OVER 50% ON UK RAILWAY LINE

A widespread rollout of SmartWater on one of the UK’s key railway lines has delivered major reductions in cable theft.

Working side by side with Network Rail, British Transport Police (BTP) and local police forces, the three year project on the London to North West (LNW) mainline has achieved a reduction in live cable thefts of 54.7 per cent. As a result of this crime prevention success, delay minutes on the LNW line have been slashed by 54.9 per cent.



Pictured: SmartWater, Network Rail and BTP have collaborated to reduce cable theft

Network Rail implemented, in full, SmartWater’s patented crime fighting strategy, including the use of forensic marking technology to provide traceability to trackside cable. The deployment of this technology, together with trackside covert operations has aided the arrest of over 50 individuals on suspicion of cable theft during the three year project.

Liam Sumpster, Area Director, Network Rail, said: “Our collaboration with SmartWater has enabled us to identify cable theft risks and to respond quickly to emerging trends in order to implement proactive mitigation plans, particularly through tactical deployments. Together we have managed to prevent incidents and to shut down activity at hotspot locations, spreading the deterrent message through a variety of methods whilst also delivering the most effective weapon for convictions – traceability.” **S**

STOP PRESS

Homebase has announced that a SmartWater project deployed across 30 stores has produced a 15 per cent reduction in shrinkage against trend. It has also aided the conviction of shoplifter Dale Mitchell who attempted to steal tools from Homebase in Maidenhead. **S**

PAIR JAILED FOLLOWING VIOLENT ROBBERY

A man who attacked a security guard with a baseball bat and stole £25,000 has been jailed for nine years.



Pictured: Jamie Threadgold and Ben Ukaegbu

Jamie Threadgold (32), was arrested by police when he and accomplice Ben Ukaegbu (also 32) attempted to launder SmartWater stained banknotes. Threadgold attacked a security guard outside a branch of Barclays Bank and stole the cashbox he was carrying. Upon forcing open the stolen cashbox, Threadgold and Ukaegbu activated a security system which covered the banknotes in a purple dye containing a SmartWater forensic taggant unique to the box. The two men were identified when they tried to launder the money in Kettering two days later.

Threadgold was sentenced to nine years in prison for robbery and two years for possessing a weapon, to be served concurrently. He had previously pleaded guilty to concealing or converting criminal property and to possessing criminal property. Ukaegbu pleaded guilty to concealing or converting criminal property and possessing criminal property. He was sentenced to two years and nine months for each offence, to be served concurrently. **S**

COVERT OPERATION CATCHES CARER



Pictured: Emelie Kleen-Barry was caught stealing cash

A carer has been jailed for 13 months after stealing SmartWater marked banknotes from an elderly woman in her care. Emelie Kleen-Barry (28) stole £40 in cash from the purse of 81-year-old Margaret Birch at her Leicestershire home.

After Mrs Birch complained her pension was not lasting as long as it should, her relatives – including her police officer granddaughter – grew suspicious and set up a covert operation to try and snare the thief. Kleen-Barry was already out on bail for another theft-related offence, though the family of Mrs Birch did not know this at the time.

Banknotes kept in Mrs Birch's purse were forensically marked with SmartWater and a covert camera hidden in a teddy bear was set up to watch the wardrobe where the purse was kept. Kleen-Barry was caught on camera stuffing two £20 notes into her back pocket. When police confronted her with the video evidence she admitted to taking the cash. During questioning she also admitted stealing a bank card, house key, a mobile phone and money from an acquaintance. **S**

GOTHENBURG RAIL PROJECT SUCCESS



The use of SmartWater to prevent the theft of trackside cable from the Swedish rail network has produced impressive results. SmartWater's Swedish agent, Eurosafe Security Solutions, deployed the technology at Olskroken railway yard in Gothenburg following a string of thefts. In the year since the introduction of SmartWater there has only been one theft attempt at the site. A decision will be made shortly about extending the project to other areas of the network. **S**



Pictured: SmartWater is protecting trackside cable

SMARTWATER CREDITED WITH BURGLARY-REDUCTION ROLE



The deployment of 500 SmartWater Home Security Packs to a neighbourhood in Fort Lauderdale, Florida has produced a reduction in domestic burglaries. In 2013 the Fort Lauderdale Police Department distributed the packs to homes in the South Middle River neighbourhood during a series of civic association meetings. The SmartWater packs were paid for out of \$15,000 confiscated by the police from criminals during arrests.

House burglaries in the area have since fallen by 14 per cent, with significantly fewer SmartWater protected homes being targeted. South Middle River crime committee chairman, Benjamin Sessions, said: "In the past year, approximately 19 SmartWater homes were broken into versus approximately 195 non-SmartWater homes." Based on the statistics, Sessions added, "If you have SmartWater it's very unlikely that you're going to be broken into." **S**



Pictured: 500 South Middle River homes have received SmartWater

TRIO SENT TO PRISON

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Three men that stole a cashbox containing £25,000 from a G4S security guard, have been jailed. Michael Coupe and Liam Wilcox fled the scene of the crime on a stolen motorbike and drove to the home of Craig Temple.

Shortly afterwards police officers raided the Salford address and arrested Coupe and Temple, who both had purple staining ink from the cashbox all over their hands. Wilcox was arrested at a nearby corner shop, where he had gone to buy bleach to attempt to remove traces of the SmartWater embedded ink from the stolen banknotes. The seized notes were sent to SmartWater's laboratories and positively identified as having come from the stolen cashbox.

At Manchester Crown Court all three men were jailed for a combined 19 years. Coupe and Wilcox both pleaded guilty to one count of robbery and were jailed for six years and nine years respectively. Temple admitted handling stolen goods and was jailed for four years. **S**

VIOLENT ROBBERS JAILED FOR COMBINED 42 YEARS



Pictured: The gang were responsible for a series of violent raids

A professional gang of robbers whose campaign of raids was captured on CCTV cameras across West Yorkshire have been jailed for a total of 42 years. The four violent thugs terrorised shop assistants and security guards with guns, knives, swords and baseball bats during a crime spree which netted them more than £200,000.

During the first of two raids at a Co-op store in Wakefield one of the gang held a sawn-off shotgun to a security guard's head, whilst during the second raid a guard was repeatedly struck with a baseball bat.

The gang was finally arrested following a botched robbery at The Gold Shop in Bradford. After smashing open glass display cabinets they became trapped when the store manager activated security shutters. They were then sprayed with SmartWater as they attempted to smash their way out using the sledgehammer.

Following their arrest, SmartWater staining was found on items of their clothing which positively linked them with the crime scene. They were also arrested in possession of SmartWater-marked banknotes which they had stolen during a cash-in-transit robbery in Leeds.

The four gang members, who all came from Leeds, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery. Jason Vollans (29) was jailed for 14 years and Benjamin Sidlow (26) was jailed for 12 years. Accomplices James Beeston (23) and Joe Howey (24) received 10 and 6 year sentences respectively. 

COUNCIL TO PROTECT BIN STOCK

Tower Hamlets Council has teamed up with SmartWater to combat the growing problem of bin theft in the London Borough.



Pictured: Tower Hamlets bins are now protected by SmartWater

Following a spate of recent thefts from estates and communal refuse points, the council has now contracted SmartWater to forensically mark all bins in an effort to reduce theft.

Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Lutfur Rahman, said: *"We will not tolerate the continuing theft of the large bins across the borough. We believe the SmartWater solution will provide a strong deterrent to would-be thieves and offer a cost effective solution to residents."*

Cllr Shahed Ali, cabinet member for the environment, said: *"The council is working closely with the police and Safer Communities colleagues to ensure that vehicles carrying large waste containers in the borough are checked for ownership. Scrap yards will be routinely checked also."* 

SHOPPING CENTRE UPS SECURITY FOLLOWING RAID



Pictured: SmartWater Spray Systems have been installed at exit points within Le Grand Littoral

An indoor shopping centre on the outskirts of Marseille has installed SmartWater Spray Systems in order to deter future robberies, following a daylight raid during which 4 men stole €50,000 from a sports shop. Le Grand Littoral Shopping Centre has installed SmartWater Spray Systems at every exit point. In the event of a robbery the system will spray offenders in a chemically coded liquid, which will link them with the crime.

Georges Vesperini, Director of Public Security for the shopping centre said: *"The use of SmartWater is a major step forward for us, as it provides irrefutable proof that the offender was at the scene at the time of the crime. I really believe in the deterrent effect of this device."* 

THINK TANK DEBATES SCRAP METAL ACT

SmartWater's Telford offices have played host to a Think Tank event for local authority and police representatives from across the West Midlands in order to discuss the implications of the 2013 Scrap Metal Dealers Act (SMD Act).

The Think Tank brought together like-minded individuals from West Midlands, West Mercia, Gwent, Derbyshire and Dyfed Powys Police Forces, as well as Stoke, Powys and Walsall Councils. The Think Tank provided an opportunity for attendees to share experiences and strategies for tackling metal theft, discuss best practices on enforcement of the 2013 Scrap Metal Dealers Act, and report back on successes, emerging trends and key challenges for the next 12 months. 



Pictured: The Think Tank was attended by police and local authority representatives

MAN ADMITS HANDLING STOLEN CHURCH LEAD

An Abergavenny man has been sent to prison after being caught with £3,700 of stolen SmartWater-marked lead from a church roof.

Jonathan Vaughn, 35, was caught after police received an anonymous call to say he was melting lead in his garden in St Llanfoist. When officers recovered the lead it was found to be marked with traces of SmartWater forensic solution. Subsequent analysis of the SmartWater identified the lead as having come from St Mary's Church roof in Abergavenny.

At Cwmbbran Magistrates' Court, Vaughn admitted a charge of handling stolen goods. He was sentenced to four months in jail for the offence and 113 days for a previous offence of assault after magistrates activated a suspended sentence. Mr Vaughn stated he had bought the lead to melt for Christmas money and refused to say where he'd bought it from. **S**

COUNCIL TO PROTECT REPLACEMENT PLAQUES

Telford and Wrekin Council is taking steps to replace 100 brass plaques that were stolen from a memorial wall in a Wellington Cemetery. Approximately half the plaques have been recovered following a house search by police but only 25 have survived undamaged. A man has been arrested and bailed pending further investigation.



Pictured: Following the theft, replacement plaques will be marked with SmartWater

The Council has sufficient details of other plaques to get a further 32 re-made at a cost of nearly £2,000. Before the plaques are put back in place at the Garden of Remembrance, they will all be marked with SmartWater to protect them from any future thefts. Councillor Hilda Rhodes, Telford and Wrekin Council's cabinet member for Customer Services, said: "This was an extremely distressing theft and we are doing everything we can to restore the plaques."

SmartWater Chief Executive, Phil Cleary, said: "The theft of memorial plaques is a despicable act, and we are therefore pleased that we can assist Telford and Wrekin Council to combat this type of crime." **S**

NEW POLICE LIAISON TEAM



Pictured: SmartWater's Police Liaison Consultants

SmartWater has unveiled its new team of Police Liaison Consultants, delivering national coverage in support of the UK Police Service. The Police Liaison Team will provide ongoing training, advice and guidance to regional police forces in relation to SmartWater operations.

Each of our Police Liaison Consultants are retired senior or specialist police officers and are able to call upon many years of police knowledge and experience. If you are a serving police officer and would like to speak with your Police Liaison Consultant, please call 0800 521 669. **S**

POLICE SCOTLAND PARTNERSHIP



Pictured: 600 Edinburgh homes have received SmartWater

A Police Scotland project that saw 600 SmartWater Home Security Packs issued to homeowners in an area of Edinburgh has started producing positive results. Police Scotland launched the project in the Grange and Greenbank areas of the city in order to deter acquisitive crime and improve opportunities for detection and recovery of property.

In the six months prior to the launch, the ten streets

covered by the SmartWater initiative experienced 17 recorded house break-ins. Since the launch, there has been only one reported house break-in, and in the last four weeks there have been none.

Chief Superintendent Mark Williams, Divisional Commander for the City of Edinburgh said: "Police Scotland will continue to use all resources at our disposal to tackle the scourge of housebreaking." **S**

STOP PRESS

Keighly Town Council in West Yorkshire is to introduce SmartWater to deter the theft of flagstones from villages across the area. **S**

THE CRIME FIGHTING COMPANY

Our philosophy is simple - the more criminals we help to convict, the more SmartWater acts as a powerful deterrent. We offer a range of cutting-edge forensic security services and products to both detect and deter criminal activity.

If you require our assistance please contact us on **0800 521 669** or email enquiry@smartwater.com

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