

SMARTWATER SEARCHLIGHT



21% REDUCTION IN CABLE THEFT ON LNW RAIL LINE



Pictured: SmartWater is applied to trackside cable
Inset: Warning signs have been positioned along the LNW route

Theft of trackside cable on a key national rail route has been slashed by 21 per cent since the introduction of an innovative strategy developed by SmartWater.

In stark contrast to other UK and European rail networks, where cable thefts continue to rise dramatically, thefts along the SmartWater protected London to North West (LNW) mainline have fallen by 21 per cent over the last 12 months. This success has contributed to a 35 per cent reduction in delay minutes along the route, which runs through Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester.

SmartWater has pointed to the strategic, intelligence-based use of its forensic marking technology as the reason behind this latest success, together with an ongoing partnership involving Network Rail, British Transport Police, Train Operating Companies and law-abiding scrap dealers, which is closing the net on metal thieves. This achievement represents the first sustained reduction in cable theft on a European rail line.

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TEENAGERS SENTENCED FOR ROBBERIES

A gang of robbers, which included three teenagers, have been jailed for more than 30 years following a string of robberies against cash-in-transit vans in London.

The gang was caught out after SmartWater staining found on their clothing and on stolen bank notes linked them to multiple robberies. Connor Ryan and Jerome Bishop-Taylor, both 19, along with a 17-year-old, who cannot be named for legal reasons, struck five times between December 2010 and January 2011.

The three teenagers, along with accomplices David Carey, 25, and 21-year-old Aaron Pope were snared by Police following a robbery outside a branch of



Pictured: Connor Ryan

Barclays Bank in Baker Street, Central London, during which they stole a cashbox containing £25,000.

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TORFAEN LEAD THIEF JAILED

A man has been jailed for attempting to sell on stolen lead that had been marked with SmartWater by Torfaen Council.

Craig Guest, aged 24, appeared at Newport Magistrates Court along with 18-year-old Kyle Raybould after the pair pleaded guilty to stealing lead from Pontypool Indoor Market and the Jubilee Centre in Torfaen, South Wales. The two men were joined in the dock by 34-year-old Claire Lane who had driven them to a scrap yard. It was accepted that she played no part in the actual thefts, however she was arrested and charged with drink driving after tests showed she was almost twice over the legal limit when stopped by Police.



Pictured: Lead roofing on Pontypool Indoor Market is treated with SmartWater

Whilst in Court, Prosecutor Rob Simkins explained that Police had been carrying out an operation at a Pontypool scrap yard accompanied by SmartWater Investigators when Guest and Raybould arrived with the stolen lead and attempted to sell it to the scrap dealer. Using UV lights SmartWater Investigators detected traces of what they believed was SmartWater forensic solution and the pair were taken into custody.

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STOP PRESS

The SmartWater Foundation in partnership with War Memorials Trust is delighted to announce the launch of In Memoriam 2014, a national campaign aimed at protecting the UK's war memorials from metal theft. Read more on page 5. **S**

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21% REDUCTION IN CABLE THEFT ON LNW RAIL LINE

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Passenger delays on Network Rail's London to North West (LNW) rail line have been slashed by 35 per cent following the introduction of SmartWater technology and tactics aimed at driving down metal thefts.

This crime reduction initiative, which has also produced a 21 per cent reduction in cable thefts over the last 12 months, has been attributed to an ongoing partnership between Network Rail, law enforcers, train operators, SmartWater's own Investigators and law abiding scrap dealers.

SmartWater marks trackside cable with a chemical signature that is identifiable by Police, whether it is found in the possession of thieves or later in scrap metal yards. The deployment of this technology is based on an intelligence-led, strategic approach to identify and track hotspot areas and influence criminal behaviour within those areas to generate a powerful deterrent.

Chief Executive of SmartWater, Phil Cleary, said: "Property marking as an isolated security measure has been disproven as a meaningful deterrent of crime. Instead, SmartWater uses its technology tactically, combining it with intelligence gathering, crime mapping and regular scrap dealer awareness visits to keep continual pressure on the criminal fraternity."

"These figures are extremely encouraging and demonstrate the success of the partnership approach we have taken to combat metal theft on the LNW route. This proven model for crime



Pictured: SmartWater Investigators hand out information to rail passengers at Coventry Station

reduction that we have developed is saving hundreds of hours of disruption for passengers and huge replacement and repair costs for Network Rail."

Virgin Trains' Chief Operating Officer, Chris Gibb, said: "Cable thefts are directly responsible for a significant number of delays to our service, which has a knock-on effect of causing major disruptions to customers. Anything that helps to ensure our trains run on time is very welcome and so we are naturally delighted with these latest results."

"Virgin Trains is committed to working in partnership with Network Rail, British Transport Police, SmartWater and other train operators to keep up the pressure on cable thieves. We have also been lobbying the UK Government to make changes urgently to regulations and legislation to make it more difficult to dispose of stolen scrap copper, given the impact this is having on the economy." 

SHINING A LIGHT ON MOTORWAY CROOKS

Central Motorway Patrol Group (CMPG) vehicles have been fitted with ultraviolet 'SmartWater Detectors' so that anyone stopped by Police whilst travelling on the motorway network can be checked at the scene for traces of the crime fighting liquid.

Many of the UK's major utility companies now deploy SmartWater forensic trap devices in 'at-risk' locations to spray thieves responsible for the theft of cable and other metals. By using UV equipment to check for SmartWater CMPG have the capability to link a criminal with a particular crime scene long after the crime may have taken place. As a result, criminals who use the motorway networks to either commit crime or to transport stolen goods, now face a far greater risk of detection and subsequent arrest. Handheld UV torches will also be kept in CMPG cars so that any vehicles carrying cable and scrap metal can also be checked for SmartWater.



Pictured: PC Steve Rounds from Central Motorway Patrol Group

Phil Cleary, Chief Executive of SmartWater, said: "The installation of UV equipment into CMPG vehicles represents a heightened threat of conviction for the criminal fraternity. This will act as a major deterrent to thieves looking to target SmartWater marked valuables and metals." 

FAMILY MEMBERS JAILED FOR ROBBERY



Pictured: Left to right Joshua Horne, Luke McGregor, Robbie Horne, Daniel Horne, Mark Horne, Louis Callanan and Ricky Spong

Seven men, including four from the same family, have been jailed in connection with a violent robbery against a cash-in-transit courier after being caught in possession of SmartWater marked banknotes.

The raid was carried out by teenager Joshua Horne and an unidentified accomplice who stole a cashbox containing £25,000 from a security guard as he delivered notes to an ATM machine in Eyres Monsell, Leicester. During the violent attack, 50-year-old security guard Carl Turland was kicked to the ground.

Less than 24 hours later over £3,000 worth of stolen notes, which had become contaminated with SmartWater after being forcibly removed from the stolen cashbox, were laundered by Horne's Father and two Uncles at cash exchange machines within four Skegness amusement parks. The SmartWater marked notes were recovered and used as part of the prosecution case against the gang to link them with the crime.

At Leicester Crown Court Joshua Horne was sentenced to seven-and-a-half years detention after being convicted of robbery and conspiracy

to convert criminal property. Getaway driver Luke McGregor, 23, admitted his part in the robbery and was jailed for five years.

Horne's Father Robbie, 34, and Uncles Mark Horne, 28, and Daniel Horne, 25, were all jailed for conspiring to convert criminal property. Mark Horne, who was also convicted of attempting to pervert justice, received a three-and-a-half year prison term, whilst Robbie and Daniel Horne were each sentenced to two years and eight months in jail. Associates Ricky Spong, 20, and Louis Callanan, 19, were both handed two year sentences, having admitted conspiracy.

Judge Michael Pert QC said: "They were operating in a gang. It was an offence committed against someone serving the public, delivering cash to the Co-op so honest citizens could withdraw their money." 

NOTTINGHAM MAN ARRESTED FOLLOWING LEAD DISCOVERY

A day of action at scrap yards across Nottingham has resulted in the arrest of a scrap metal dealer after SmartWater marked lead was discovered in his yard.

SmartWater Investigators accompanied British Transport Police officers and other agencies on the visits to scrap yards across Nottingham and the surrounding areas, during which metals were checked for traces of SmartWater using high-powered UV lights. The discovery of a large quantity of lead that appeared to show the characteristics of having been marked with SmartWater resulted in the arrest of the yard manager on suspicion of handling stolen goods.

Analysis of the stolen lead positively identified it as belonging to a Church in Billborough, Nottingham which had previously been targeted by metal thieves on more than one occasion. Police investigations into this case are ongoing. 



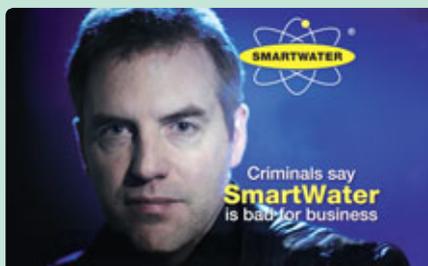
Pictured: A SmartWater Investigator detects the stolen lead

MACINTYRE BREAKS COVER TO BACK SMARTWATER

Crime-busting investigative journalist, Donal MacIntyre, is the new face of SmartWater after fronting a series of TV adverts aimed at heightening criminal awareness of SmartWater and the risks it poses to their livelihood.

MacIntyre has exposed criminal activity around the globe with his hard-hitting undercover reporting, and has on many occasions put himself in harm's way in the process. He became aware of SmartWater whilst working on his TV series MacIntyre's Big Sting. MacIntyre offered his support at no cost after being impressed with SmartWater's abilities to directly influence criminal behaviour,

Donal explained: "Fighting crime is a very tough job, and the work that SmartWater is undertaking should be commended. I have come across many crime prevention tools in my time, but none with the proven track record that SmartWater has established. I have spoken to serious criminals



Pictured: Donal MacIntyre is the new face of SmartWater

who all say that SmartWater is bad for business and acts as their number one deterrent."

"The commercials that we have collaborated on are truly innovative because we are speaking directly to the criminal fraternity. This has never been done before and demonstrates the revolutionary thinking of SmartWater's crime prevention teams."

The new SmartWater TV commercials each feature Donal MacIntyre presenting a Crimewatch-style case study that re-tells an actual crime that was solved as a result of forensic evidence provided by SmartWater. To view the TV adverts visit www.youtube.com/smartwatertv



Pictured: Filming of SmartWater's TV adverts

STRATEGY TO TARGET CLOTHING THIEVES

Salvation Army Trading Company Ltd (SATCoL) has partnered with SmartWater Technology Ltd to help deter and detect thieves who steal from its clothing banks.

SATCoL, which runs The Salvation Army Clothing Collection Scheme and operates over 5,000 clothing banks, is the first textile recycler in the UK to use SmartWater to tackle this emerging trend. SmartWater has developed an intelligence-based crime reduction strategy for SATCoL, which will

see the deployment of SmartWater technology to 'forensically tag' thieves, leaving a non-hazardous trace on their skin and clothing. Stolen goods are also being tracked using cutting edge GPS systems.

SmartWater is carrying out a thorough analysis of SATCoL's current theft data to identify hotspot areas most at risk from thieves. In these areas targeted covert operations will be planned and executed with the support of regional police forces alongside surveillance equipment and 'sting' operations to capture and convict offenders. Signage highlighting the presence of SmartWater has been rolled out across SATCoL's entire network of banks to act as a deterrent to criminals.

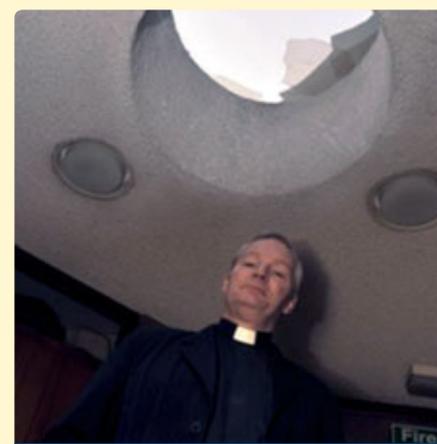
So far the strategy appears to be having an impact, with Paul Ozanne, SATCoL's National Recycling Co-ordinator, reporting that with SmartWater's help his charity has resisted the rising national trend and secured convictions. Mr Ozanne said: "SmartWater is an excellent way to both catch criminals and deter future thefts and we're confident it will succeed in doing both."



THIEF ARRESTED AFTER 20FT CHURCH FALL

A man has been arrested on suspicion of stealing SmartWater marked metal from a church roof after he fell 20ft through a skylight and suffered serious head and arm injuries.

Fire crews and West Midlands Ambulance Service were called to St George's Church in Newtown, Birmingham in the middle of the night and discovered the man lying in a pool of his own blood.



Pictured: Reverend Larry Wright under the broken skylight

A second man fled the scene, but was picked up soon afterwards by West Midlands Police. Despite denying any involvement in the theft his clothes were seized and sent to SmartWater's forensic laboratories for analysis. This proved to be a deciding factor, as SmartWater scientists found two small flecks of SmartWater on two separate items which were positively identified as having come from St George's Church. It is believed that the flecks of SmartWater had transferred onto the offender's clothing whilst cutting and removing copper from the roof.

Reverend Larry Wright said "I was woken by the Police at around 3.30am. The man was in a very bad state, he was lying in a pool of blood when I saw him. We believe his accomplice called an ambulance."

A spokesman for West Midlands Police said: "Someone accessed the flat roof and allegedly took copper roofing. One person fell through the roof and was arrested for theft. A second person made off on foot and was also arrested for theft after 10 sq ft of copper was allegedly stolen."

TEENAGERS SENTENCED FOR ROBBERIES

Continued from Page 1

Five robbers, including three teenagers, have been jailed for more than 30 years following a robbery outside a branch of Barclays Bank in Baker Street, Central London.

After fleeing the scene in a stolen BMW, officers from the Met Police's Finchley Flying Squad tracked down the vehicle and stopped it. Inside they found David Carey, Jerome Bishop-Taylor and a 17-year-old youth with dye staining from the stolen cashbox on their clothing and hands. Dye stained

cash was also found in their pockets. 'Old' dye staining, believed to be from previous robberies was also detected on the suspect's clothes. Samples of seized clothing and banknotes were sent to SmartWater's forensic labs which identified dye samples from three different stolen cashboxes, thereby linking the gang to three separate robberies.

19-year-old Connor Ryan and Aaron Pope were picked up shortly after the Baker Street Robbery. Ryan was arrested after attempting to use stained banknotes to place a bet at a bookmakers. The notes, which were also marked with SmartWater,

were used to forensically link him to the robbery that had taken place days before.

Ryan was sentenced to five years and nine months in a young offender institution whilst the 17-year-old was sentenced to four years and eight months after both were convicted of attempted robbery and two counts of robbery. Carey and Bishop-Taylor were found guilty of two counts of robbery and one count of attempted robbery, each receiving six years and eight months imprisonment in a young offender institution. Aaron Pope was sentenced to eight years imprisonment for robbery.

TORFAEN LEAD THIEF JAILED

Continued from Page 1

Two men and a woman have been convicted in connection with the theft of SmartWater marked lead from an Indoor Market and a Community Centre in Pontypool, South Wales.

24-year-old Craig Guest along with Kyle Raybould and Claire Lane were arrested after attempting to sell on stolen lead that was marked with SmartWater. Unfortunately for the trio, a day of action spearheaded by South Wales Police and SmartWater Investigators was underway at the time. Following the discovery of SmartWater traces on the lead, Guest and Raybould were arrested and taken to Newport Central Police Station on suspicion of theft.

During Police interview, the pair, who were unaware the metal had been marked with SmartWater, denied stealing it and said they had been given it by one of their Fathers. Samples of the lead were sent for analysis at SmartWater's forensic labs where scientists were able to confirm it had come from Pontypool Indoor Market. Footprint evidence taken later from the Market was also linked to Guest.

Guest, who had 11 previous convictions, was given a 22 week custodial sentence for the theft of lead from the market and a 10 week sentence for stealing lead from the Jubilee Centre. Raybould was given a 12 month community order. He was also ordered to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work,



Pictured: SmartWater is applied to lead roofing on Pontypool Indoor Market

pay £500 in compensation and contribute £100 towards Court costs. Lane was disqualified from driving for three years and placed on a 12 month supervision order.

Cllr John Cunningham, Torfaen's Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, said: "We are delighted with the sentences handed to these metal thieves and hope it sends a strong message to anyone else considering committing these selfish crimes. Any potential metal thieves should know that all our property is marked with SmartWater and this includes our buildings, our computers, our equipment, machinery and tools." 

WELSH WATER PUTS A DAMPENOR ON THIEVES

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water has teamed up with SmartWater to tackle a rise in metal thefts from its sites across Wales. As part of a comprehensive crime reduction strategy devised by SmartWater, equipment such as copper piping has been forensically marked, whilst SmartWater Investigators have also carried out a thorough risk assessment of all Welsh Water sites. In areas deemed to be metal theft hotspots, trap devices are being deployed to capture thieves in the act. Criminals who target Welsh Water property now face being sprayed with SmartWater, meaning they will carry evidence of their crime on their skin and clothing wherever they go.

Welsh Water's Head of Health and Safety, Nikki Kemmery, said, "Criminals who break into our works and depots to steal metal are not only putting their own safety at risk, but that of the wider community as well. The removal of some pieces of equipment could cause a system malfunction and endanger the local water and wastewater network as a direct result." 



FRANCE SHOPPING CENTRE LAUNCHES SMARTWATER

A shopping mall in the heart of the commercial centre of Seine-Saint-Denis, located north of Paris, has become one of the first locations in France to use cutting-edge British security technology.



Five jewellery stores, as well as a dozen doors and main entrance points within the Rosny 2 Shopping Mall have now been fitted with SmartWater forensic spray systems in an attempt to deter criminal activity. The move follows two robberies that have occurred since the beginning of 2011. During the most recent attack, two men robbed Didier Guerin Jewellers at gunpoint, stealing jewellery and watches, and made their escape on a scooter. Fortunately no one was injured during the terrifying encounter.

Christophe Roszak, Director of Unibail-network Rodamco, which manages Rosny 2, said: "We have

STOP PRESS

Thames Water has signed a deal with SmartWater to protect its infrastructure after recording losses of £1.2million a year as a result of metal theft. SmartWater forensic marking and covert traps will be deployed across Thames Water's network of sites. 

a security team of seventeen people, more than 200 CCTV cameras and an agreement with the Police headquarters that allows us to work closely with the Police. The SmartWater is a supplement to ensure maximum security to merchants and customers."

The use of SmartWater within France has been validated by the CNIL (Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés) and the Department of the Interior. Talks are currently underway about extending the use of this technology to many other stores across France. 

TV STING COLLARS 'BRITAIN'S WORST FLY-TIPPER'



Pictured: Marcus Bairstow

A serial fly-tipper has been jailed for almost 3 years following a sting operation in Southampton involving SmartWater and the BBC's Watchdog and Rogue Traders teams.

Marcus Bairstow, dubbed 'Britain's worst fly-tipper' by the national media after he left a cemetery strewn with truckloads of rubbish, received a 33-month prison sentence. It is believed to be the most severe punishment ever handed out for the offence.

To catch him in the act a covert operation was planned involving the use of CCTV, tracking devices and SmartWater forensic solution, which was applied to household waste. The marked waste was collected by Bairstow, who was also carrying a large quantity of asbestos on his van at the time.

Both the SmartWater marked waste and the asbestos were then dumped by Bairstow on a trading estate car park.

Bairstow pleaded guilty to six charges of the unlicensed deposit of controlled waste, three charges of breaching a duty of care with respect to waste, and one charge of failing to provide information. He asked for 11 other offences to be taken into account.

Council bosses in Southampton said that large-scale fly-tipping in the area has almost disappeared since the 36-year-old was arrested. 

PRIME MINISTER COMMENDS MEMORIAL PROJECT

A national project to identify, record and protect Britain's estimated 100,000 war memorials has been launched to coincide with the upcoming centenary of the start of the First World War in 2014.

In Memoriam 2014 is a partnership between War Memorials Trust and the SmartWater Foundation. The campaign has received praise from, amongst others, Prime Minister David Cameron, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, and Mayor of London Boris Johnson.

Thousands of caring custodians already spend considerable amounts of their time maintaining monuments across the country. In Memoriam 2014 will be calling on those volunteers to unite under its banner, as well as pushing for even more willing hands to join the effort to protect those war memorials which risk being forgotten. To protect war memorials from theft the SmartWater Foundation is donating enough SmartWater solution to mark every war memorial in the UK.

The nation's valued war memorials are under increasing threat from thieves and vandals attempting to steal metal from monuments to sell on for scrap. Despite the metal having relatively little monetary value, it is estimated that on average one war memorial a week is being targeted by thieves looking to illegally remove bronze, copper and other metals to sell to unscrupulous scrap dealers.

The Right Honourable David Cameron, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, said: "I, like most people, have been appalled by the instances of theft from, and desecration of, our war memorials in recent times. Of course, the Government commends any initiative that commemorates the sacrifices of those who served in Her Majesty's Armed Forces and died in the service of their country."

The Right Honourable Nick Clegg, Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, said: "Projects



Pictured: Thieves are targeting copper and bronze war memorial plaques

IN MEMORIAM 2014

such as In Memoriam 2014 are a testament to this country's determination to remember our dead. I was particularly interested in learning about the role SmartWater can play in preventing crime and helping to ensure that our memorials serve as a focal point for commemorations."

Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, said: "War memorials are there so that people of our generation, and the next generation, would never forget the sacrifice that was made. It is therefore tragic when the monuments are cynically stolen so that the thief can make a few pounds. I encourage our communities to look after the memorials and thank all the volunteers who are already doing this."

War Memorials Trust Director, Frances Moreton, said: "In Memoriam 2014 is a very special project to protect war memorials in communities across the UK. War Memorials Trust seeks to both protect and conserve this unique part of our national heritage and it is delighted to be involved."

Sir Keith Povey QPM, Chairman of the SmartWater Foundation, said: "The SmartWater Foundation is pleased to be partnering with War Memorials Trust in this project and I hope that the community will embrace it by taking an interest in locating and preserving these symbols of our commemoration." To find out more visit: www.inmemoriam2014.org 



Pictured: War memorials are now being marked with SmartWater

RIOTERS STEER CLEAR OF SMARTWATER

Analysis of locations targeted during the UK riots of August 2011 have revealed that no high street premises protected by SmartWater spray systems were targeted by looters over the five nights of unrest.

Across high-risk areas including London, Liverpool and Manchester no SmartWater activations were reported, even when rioting was taking place on the same street as protected stores. In Manchester three designer fashion stores along the same road were all targeted by thieves, however a designer bag store, where SmartWater was in use, remained untouched. Similarly in Merseyside, no off-licences or newsagents using SmartWater suffered break-ins.



Pictured: The riots spread across the UK during August 2011

On average, less than three per cent of SmartWater spray systems nationwide activate criminally each year. The system is widely used by major high street chains including HBOS, Lloyds TSB, Beaverbrooks, Greggs, First Choice Thompson, Waitrose and Boodles. 

MANCHESTER CROOK ADMITS ROBBERY

A robber who attacked a cash delivery courier outside a Manchester hotel has been sentenced to seven-and-a-half years in prison after he was arrested with SmartWater staining on his clothes.

Michael McKeown from Audenshaw, Greater Manchester stole a cashbox containing £8,000 from a G4S courier outside the Village Hotel in Hyde in July 2011. McKeown, who wore a mask during the raid, kicked the courier to the ground and made off with the cashbox, escaping in a blue Land Rover Freelander.

Within an hour of the raid Police had recovered the abandoned Land Rover, which had been fitted with false plates, along with the emptied cashbox. Using Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology Police quickly established the Land Rover had been stolen during a burglary two days prior.

Police intelligence linked the burglary to a silver Renault Clio that was known to be used by McKeown.

McKeown, who was on licence for robbery at the time, was stopped by officers driving the silver Clio approximately two hours later. He was arrested and his clothing seized after traces of purple dye, believed to be from the stolen cashbox, were found on an Adidas jacket he was wearing. The jacket and dye stained banknotes found on McKeown were subsequently sent to SmartWater's forensic laboratories for forensic analysis. The dye was positively identified by SmartWater scientists as coming from the same cashbox stolen outside the Village Hotel.

Detective Inspector Dave Moores, from Tameside CID, said: "Because of the speed of that arrest, we were able to swab the clothing he was wearing



Pictured: Michael McKeown

during the robbery and match it to the unique code within the SmartWater ink - which is a great tool for ensuring criminals cannot benefit when they commit cash-in-transit robberies. As a result, the evidence was overwhelming and McKeown had no choice but to admit his guilt." 

SMARTWATER EVIDENCE AIDS GANG CONVICTION

Four members of a notorious drugs gang which operated out of Newtown, Reading have been jailed for a total of 33 years for dealing cannabis.

Police used a variety of techniques to bring the gang to justice, including the use of SmartWater transferable markers.

The 'Orts Road' drug operation was run as an efficient business with rotas, shifts, opening hours and a management operation. During the trial the Court was told how the area was treated like a cannabis shop, with people travelling from as far afield as Wales to buy £20 packets of the drug, contributing to a business worth around £2million a year.

Paul Jump, Warren Parkes, Nicholas Walker and Paul Sterling were all found guilty of drug dealing, despite denying any involvement in the operation.

During one of many covert operations which helped bring the men to justice, Police fed banknotes into the gang that were marked with SmartWater transferable marker. During a Police raid the SmartWater marked notes were identified and used as prosecution evidence during the Court case, along with items of clothing, wallets and mobile phones that all demonstrated yellow fluorescence.

Superintendent Stuart Greenfield from Thames Valley Police said: "If you look at the terms they've been given, they reflect the impact they had on the community. We're talking about organised crime on a grand scale, a multi-million pound enterprise affecting people in Reading and beyond and causing untold misery to residents and businesses." 



Pictured: Paul Jump, Warren Parkes, Nicholas Walker and Paul Sterling

LONDON CABLE THEFT GANG SMASHED

A gang of thieves who stole communications cable that was marked with SmartWater have been sentenced at Snaresbrook Crown Court.

The gang stole a large quantity of copper wiring from privately owned ground within the Dagenham area causing massive disruption to local communities and businesses. Telephone and broadband services were down for several hours, cutting people off from emergency services.

Kristopher Huckle received an 18 month prison sentence, whilst his two accomplices were sentenced to 12 months imprisonment suspended for 2 years. They were also ordered to carry out 120 hours of community service and placed under a strict curfew for 4 months, during which time they will wear electronic tagging devices.

In the past metal theft has been viewed by criminals as low risk, however the severity of this sentencing, which took into account the disruption to local communities caused by the theft, represents a major shift in the way metal thieves are dealt with in Court.

Despite being caught by Police officers close to where the theft occurred, the men stated that they



Pictured: SmartWater is used nationwide by Openreach

had been employed to legitimately remove the cable by an unknown person. Historically this would have presented the Police with the problem of proving where the cable had come from, however this particular cable had been forensically treated with SmartWater.

The cable was subsequently sent away for forensic examination, which confirmed that it was stolen. The SmartWater evidence was the only prosecution evidence presented in Court, with all three men choosing to plead guilty to a charge of theft. 

AWARD FOR FORENSIC SPECIALIST

A British Transport Police Scientific Support Unit (SSU) staff member has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence by the SmartWater Foundation for her expertise in the forensic handling of evidence marked with SmartWater.



Pictured: Sarah King receives her award from Sir Keith Povey QPM

Sarah King was presented with the award for helping BTP achieve a 95 per cent hit rate for positive samples submitted to SmartWater's laboratories for analysis. Sarah was nominated by scientists from SmartWater's own labs, who receive hundreds of submissions from the UK Police Service every year.

Sarah, who has a degree in forensic science from London South Bank University and works in Laboratory Services within BTP's London-based Scientific Support Unit (SSU), said: "I was very pleased to receive this award. This forms part of our screening process designed not only to detect SmartWater, but to maximise forensic recovery from the evidence. Ensuring we only submit items for analysis when SmartWater is present saves time and money."

Chairman of the SmartWater Foundation, Sir Keith Povey QPM, said: "The professional, diligent work of Sarah King stands out as a model of best practice and has played an invaluable role in the successful prosecution and sentencing of many serious offenders. Sarah's dedication makes her a thoroughly deserving recipient of this award." 

CHARITY BIKE RIDE

SmartWater staff members have joined Police officers and Police staff for an annual charity bike ride from Wolverhampton to Aberdovey, raising an estimated £45,000 for West Midlands and Wales charities.

The 100 mile bike ride from Molineux Football Ground in the centre of Wolverhampton to Aberdovey Yacht Club attracted riders of all abilities. All monies raised were divided up between a number of charities including Black Country Food Bank, Diabetes UK, Newport Cottage Care Centre and Whizz-Kidz. Despite battling high winds and rain the SmartWater team completed the bike ride in less than six hours.

SmartWater Chief Exec Phil Cleary said: "This is a wonderful achievement and on behalf of everyone at SmartWater I would like to commend the team for their efforts. Every penny raised will go towards exceptionally worthy causes." 



CONTACT US

SmartWater Technology Ltd offers a range of support services to help ensure the SmartWater deterrent works for you. Our dedicated staff members are on hand to assist domestic users, businesses, commercial clients, Police, Local Authorities and more with their crime prevention and risk management requirements.

If you require any assistance, please contact SmartWater on **0800 521 669** or email enquiry@smartwater.com

