

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED
OPERATIONAL GOOD NEWS

21 February
DPS Civil Actions
Met wins civil case

The MPS has successfully defended a civil claim by a man who alleged property was never returned to him following his arrest.

Anthony Oboh issued proceedings seeking £500,000 in damages claiming his human rights were breached. Oboh claimed a roll of film, said to contain pictures of his child's birthday party was kept by police, breaching his human rights.

However, at a civil trial at the Mayor and City of London County Court on Wednesday 20 February, evidence was heard that the film was restored to Mr Oboh and dismissed the claim.

The claimant was arrested in November 2002 for theft of a BMW motor vehicle and taken to Walworth Police Station. He was subsequently charged and convicted of conspiracy to handle stolen goods for his involvement in stealing and exporting high performance vehicles to West Africa.

21 February
TDJ Traffic Garage
Operation Tosca

Operation Tosca was an initiative run by officers from TDJ Traffic Garage in response to the ongoing problem of uninsured and unlicensed drivers. Research shows that such people are unlikely to stop at the scene of a collision and that they are likely to have a criminal conviction. The operation was designed to encompass the successes and learning from the previous Foist initiatives.

The aims of the operation was to prevent and detect criminal offences, and to identify and seize vehicles that were being driven without insurance or by someone without a licence.

The operation ran between 7 and 31 January 2008 and whilst it was focussed on the boroughs of Enfield, Hackney and Haringey, the operation ran across all nine north-east boroughs.

In four weeks, officers from TDJ made 78 arrests for a variety of offences including burglary and other priority crime. In addition, 519 vehicles were seized (against a target of 284).

20 February
Ealing
Mobile phones for domestic violence victims

Victims of domestic violence in Ealing are to be given a vital lifeline to enable them to call police for help in an emergency.

Mobile phone network Carphone Warehouse and service provider T-Mobile have provided the Domestic Violence Unit at Ealing with 11 mobile phones and 11 sim cards for very high-risk and vulnerable victims to make immediate '999' calls in their moment of need or if they are in danger.

The phones will be given to victims of domestic violence who do not have access to a home telephone or a mobile phone.

It is not unusual for domestic violence victims to have their phones taken or broken by their attackers leaving them without means of contacting police in an emergency.

These phones are for their use in an emergency until they are able to obtain a phone of their own.

19 February
Hammersmith and Fulham
Operation Payback

A Fulham class A drug dealer received a four-year prison sentence at Blackfriars Crown Court on 11 February and had the moped he used to deliver the drugs forfeited.

Stephen Oates, age 32, was caught red-handed by Fulham Drugs Squad with nine wraps of cocaine after driving into Fulham Fire Station on his moped to make a drugs delivery.

In addition to the prison sentence and loss of his moped, as the result of a financial investigation by the Payback Unit in Hammersmith and Fulham, the court determined that Oates had earned over £43,000 from his criminal activities over a six-year period and ordered him to pay back this amount under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

He may now be forced to sell his home to make this payment. Under the powers of this legislation, if he does not pay up within six months he will receive an additional 18-month prison sentence and still end up owing the court the full amount.

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18 February
Camden CID
Three men sentenced for grievous bodily harm

Three men were sentenced at Wood Green Crown Court on 13 February for a combined total of eight years for GBH with intent and affray, following a violent assault that occurred in March 2007.

Glen O'Leary, aged 19 at the time of the offence, was sentenced to four years and three months in a young offenders institute for GBH, Joshua Gregory, aged 18 at the time, was sentenced to three years in a young offenders institute for GBH and Rory Allen, aged 21 at the time, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment for affray.

On the night of 24 March 2007, a group of friends were waiting for a cab in Camden High Street, when a group of men approached them and singled one of them out. The suspects surrounded him and asked what he had. One of his friends, a 24-year-old man, stepped in to intervene but was pushed away and assaulted.

CCTV footage showed that the victim was punched to the ground and lay in an almost lifeless motion. O'Leary then proceeded to stamp on the victim's head in excess of twenty times before leaving the scene with Allen and Gregory.

18 February
Haringey Sapphire Unit
Violent burglar jailed

On 18 January Vladymir Lunkov, aged 19, was given an Indeterminate Sentence of Detention for Public Protection under section 226 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 at Wood Green Crown Court. On release Lunkov will be deported and he will also remain on the Sex Offenders Register for life.

This conviction follows a fast paced and intensive investigation by Haringey's Sapphire Unit.

During the early hours of Saturday morning on the 21 July 2007, Lunkov forced entry into an address in N8 and committed a violent aggravated burglary. When inside the premises, Lunkov woke the victim, a 21-year-old woman, and hit her repeatedly about the face and head with his fists. He threatened her with a small knife, tied her up and sexually assaulted her. He then searched the property and made off with a number of items. The woman suffered extensive bruising and swelling to her face and head.

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15 February

**Territorial Support Group & Special Intelligence Section
Nineteen charged for drugs trafficking and money laundering**

Nineteen people have been charged following one of the largest series of simultaneous raids ever undertaken.

An estimated 100 kilos of suspected cocaine and cash was seized and several firearms discovered. The operation, led by the Met's Special Intelligence Section (SIS) targeted a criminal network believed to be one of the biggest drug traffickers currently in the UK.

Twenty-two people were arrested in raids at over 30 addresses throughout London on Wednesday 13 February. Nineteen of those arrested appeared at City of Westminster Magistrates' Court on 15 February on drug and money laundering charges.

Officers from the Territorial Support Group and SIS simultaneously targeted key addresses at 5.30am. At an address in Hillingdon officers used a JCB to gain access to the residential property. Further addresses, including various business premises, were subsequently searched through the morning.

15 February

**Haringey
Motor-vehicle crime operation**

Officers in Haringey carried out a two day operation this week targeting suspects wanted in connection with motor vehicle crime on the borough.

The officers made twelve arrests during the operation for offences such as theft from and theft of motor vehicles.

The operation involved 16 officers from the borough's Priority Crime Team, Motor Vehicle Squad and Borough Action Team and is just part of a drive to combat motor vehicle crime. Other work underway includes enhanced intelligence led high visibility patrols, covert decoy operations, visiting second hand wheel and tyre outlets to remind them of their responsibilities when purchasing goods from people, working with recognised retail outfits and to promote the use of crime prevention measures.

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12 February
Sutton Task force
Three street robbers jailed for ten years

Three men charged with eight counts of street robbery were sentenced to a total of ten years' imprisonment at Kingston Crown Court on 8 February. A further 15 offences were taken into consideration.

Gavin Luchowa, aged 21, Dumansani Makwanya, aged 18 and Alex Ndudane aged 17, were all stopped and arrested in Hammersmith on 29 August 2007 and were found with mobile phones from a recent robbery. The initial investigation was conducted by Wandsworth Proactive Unit before being passed to the Taskforce in Sutton.

Due to intelligence previously gathered on the suspects, officers from Sutton were able to put together a linked series of 23 offences covering Sutton, Twickenham, Hammersmith, Wandsworth, Fulham, Kingston, Merton, Croydon and Surrey.

Victims were targeted between 11pm and 2am as they made their way home from nights out. A number of them suffered excessive violence as they were continually punched and kicked whilst on the floor having already surrendered their property.

11 February
National Mobile Phone Crime Unit
NMPCU Payback Unit result

The first enquiry undertaken by the National Mobile Phone Crime Unit, (NMPCU) Payback Unit, concluded on 11 February at West London Magistrates Court with an uncontested Proceeds Of Crime Act (POCA) forfeiture of £9, 500.

Operation Carterton was initiated after it was identified that stolen phones from London Orange retail outlets were being sold on E-Bay.

Enquiries led officers to a company in Bolton called TurboRevs. During a joint operation, officers from the NMPCU and Greater Manchester Police arrested two men in connection with the incident. Officers also recovered approximately 200 mobile phones and Blackberry devices as well as £9,500 in cash.

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8 February
Tower Hamlets
Drugs seizure

On 5 February 2008 PS Greg Luxford and the East India and Lansbury Safer Neighbourhoods Team (Tower Hamlets borough) executed a drugs warrant in a third floor flat in Spey Street E14.

Approximately 1.5Kg of uncut crack cocaine and drugs paraphernalia, which included scales, were found. This could have an estimated street value of £150,000.00

The male occupant, Darrol Ellis aged 22 years was charged with Possession with intent to supply class A Drug. He has been remanded in custody.

8 February
Waltham Forest
Arrest of local drug dealer

On 3 February 2008, officers from Cathall Safer Neighbourhoods Team were on reassurance patrols around the Cathall Estate, E11.

Officers noticed a male sitting in a parked car acting suspiciously. As officers approached the male he tried to drive away. Officers blocked the car. The male then got out of the car and tried to run away but officers detained him.

Whilst trying to resist arrest the suspect struggled violently with the Officers, punching one officer in the face and the other officer received leg injuries. The male was handcuffed and arrested.

The male was searched by officers who found a substantial amount of what is believed to be class A drugs. A substantial amount of cash was found in the car where he had been sitting.

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7 February
Central Task Force West
Two men jailed to a total of 14 years' imprisonment

A Central Task Force West (SCD7) investigation that lead to the recovery of more than 13,500 ecstasy tablets has resulted in two men being sentenced to a total of 14 years in prison.

Alex Hancock, aged 28 and Mariouasz Glowaczewski, aged 31 were targeted by the Central Task Force in March 2007. Over the course of that month and into April, officers made a series of recoveries that culminated in the arrest of Hancock and Glowaczewski.

On April 16, officers arrested Hancock near to Glowaczewski's home on Copperfield Court, W5. After going in the house he came out with a rucksack, where officers stopped Hancock.

When police executed a search warrant at Glowaczewski's home, he confronted officers with a large black handled knife, which he tried to slash officers with.

Glowaczewski was disarmed and CS gas deployed but he continued to fight with officers - at one point throwing a fridge door at them - before being arrested.

Hancock and Glowaczewski were sentenced to six and eight years respectively.

7 February
Newham - Violent Crime unit
Firearm charges

As part of ongoing activity to tackle violent and weapon-enabled crime, officers from Newham recovered two firearms in separate incidents last week. Two men were charged and are awaiting trial for serious firearms offences.

On 28 January, Andrew Balgrove was charged with three offences under the Firearms Act, including possession of a loaded, converted Brocock revolver.

Two days later, Brian Butler was charged with nine offences under the Firearms Act and Misuse of Drugs Act, including possession of a Brocock revolver and possession of class A drugs.

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7 February
Middle Market Drugs Partnership
Three men arrested

On 5 February 2008, officers from the Middle Market Drugs Partnership arrested three men in Leytonstone High Street E11, in possession of a quantity of cash, estimated to be in excess of £150,000.

Also found during subsequent searches were three cash counting machines. The three men were later bailed pending further enquiries.

The Middle Market Drugs Partnership has now seized over £2 million in cash since April 2007 through 25 individual cash seizures.

7 February
Charlton SN Team
Drugs bust following high-speed bike pursuit

On Saturday 26 January 2008, Charlton Safer Neighbourhoods Team Officers (Greenwich borough) were on bike patrol in the Cherry Orchard Estate SE7.

They spotted a male acting suspiciously, who was known to them for drugs offences. As the officers stopped to talk to the suspect, he sprinted off on foot towards Shooters Hill Road along an alleyway. Officers chased him on bicycles.

A member of the public indicated that the suspect had just jumped into a Vauxhall Corsa motor vehicle which was parked in a petrol station on Shooters Hill Road. The suspect was ordered to get out of the vehicle.

He admitted that the small blue 'Nike' bag he had with him contained drugs which belonged to him. The bag was found to contain eleven small wraps of herbal cannabis. The male, a 19-year-old from Charlton, was arrested and subsequently cautioned for possession of cannabis.

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4 February
Hillingdon
Cannabis factory closed

Officers from the Heathrow Villages Safer Neighbourhoods Team conducted a routine stop on 30 January 2008 on a male who was looking suspicious whilst carrying a box.

As a result of subsequent enquiries, it led the officers to an address in Colham Mill Road, West Drayton. The property, a 3-bedroom house, had been converted into a Hydroponics Factory.

A significant amount of cannabis plants in various stages of growth were seized by police. Over 800 cannabis plants were found growing in five rooms and the loft of the house, with an estimated value of above £100,000.

4 February
Barking and Dagenham
Operation Reclaim nets local reporters

On Friday 1 February 2008, officers from Goresbrook Safer Neighbourhoods Team joined forces with seven students from the new "street duties course" and the DVLA to conduct another round of "Operation Reclaim" in Lodge Avenue Dagenham.

Vehicles were stopped from both directions and dealt with in a nearby car parking area.

During the three-hour initiative 135 vehicles were stopped.

These included two local reporters who were the subjects of "planned stops" and taken through the process of vehicle and document checks.

Two arrests were made for Fraudulent Use of a Tax Disc, document offences and suspicion of TDA. Eight FPNs were issued for no insurance and 11 fixed penalty notices for driving other than in accordance with a driving licence.

4 February
Counter-Terrorism Command
56 years for 21/7 associates

Five men who helped the would-be suicide bombers of 21 July 2005, including two with prior knowledge of the plot, were jailed for a total of 56 years at Kingston Crown Court.

Siraj Yassin Abdullah Ali, Ismail Abdurahman, Abdul Waxid Sherif, Wahbi Mohamed and Muhedin Ali were convicted of offences including assisting an offender and not disclosing information about acts of terrorism. All were close associates or relatives of the failed bombers, who were jailed for life last year for conspiring to murder passengers on the London transport system.

Before 21/7 Siraj Ali and Wahbi Mohammed knew there were plans to bomb London and failed to alert to the authorities. Together with Abdurahman, Sherif and Muhedin Ali they all actively helped the four bombers to evade capture after the failed attacks. This was despite a massive police hunt and appeal for information or assistance from the public and just two weeks after the deadly attacks of 7/7.

1 February
Specialist Crime Directorate
Met's biggest ever cannabis seizure

A man, who is believed to have imported over £350 million of drugs, including a shipment that resulted in the Met's biggest ever cannabis seizure, has been sentenced to 26 years imprisonment.

Robert Daniel Flook was sentenced at Blackfriars on 1 February to 26 years for conspiracy to supply 150 kilos of cocaine and 13 years for conspiracy to supply eight tonnes of cannabis. The sentences are to be served concurrently.

Flook, 47, was arrested with another man, David Norris, following a joint investigation conducted between the Met's Special Projects team and South African Organised Crime law enforcement agencies. The operation focused on the importation of cocaine and cannabis by British nationals into the UK from South Africa.

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1 February
Specialist Crime Directorate
Armed robber sentenced to 12 years

1 February 2008 marked the end of a five-year investigation by the Specialist Crime Directorate into the criminal activities of Clifford Hobbs.

In 2003 Clifford Hobbs was the subject of Operation Pudsey a proactive surveillance operation run by DS Sean Allen at the Flying Squad at Tower Bridge.

SCD11 officers observed Hobbs and an associate Noel Cunningham on 13 March 2003 at Effra Road, Brixton. Cunningham was driving a BMW on false plates with Hobbs as passenger. The two were observing a Securicor vehicle making a collection. Hobbs was dressed in a Securicor guards uniform.

Hobbs approached the Securicor vehicle and unsuccessfully attempted to gain entry to the side of the van. The alarm sounded and Hobbs returned to the vehicle. Armed Flying Squad officers arrested both men nearby. Cunningham was in possession of a bottle containing ammonia.

30 January
SN Teamwork leads to rapists arrest
Haringey's Sapphire & Safer Neighbourhoods Teams

one of the suspects was arrested and charged after PCSO Jay Ispanedi identified him from photographs circulated to local officers. Using his local knowledge, PCSO Ispanedi identified a betting shop that the suspect frequented and informed his Safer Neighbourhoods Team police colleagues.

PC John Neate attended the betting shop and made the arrest.

Following further investigation by the Sapphire team, the suspect was charged and remanded in custody to await trial.