

# Grafton Business News

To Month Ending - May 2006

## Burglary Team Arrested During Raid

On 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2006 two males known to GRAFTON were seen by Police breaking into a warehouse in Swallowfield Way, Hayes. As they tried to flee the scene, a vehicle pursuit took place. The men abandoned the vehicle and were chased on foot and arrested in the Thames Valley area. They were conveyed to West Drayton and were subsequently charged and remanded in custody. GI/748/06.

## Employee Arrested Stealing Phones

On 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2006, Operation Grafton received a call direct from a large logistics company near Heathrow after a pallet of mobile phones went missing in transit between Berlin and North West London. Interrogation of CCTV footage showed the driver loading the pallet and leaving the site with it still on board. That was the last time it was seen.

Grafton Officers attended with uniformed Police and arrested the driver. Grafton Officers then undertook preliminary investigation.

***A routine mandatory drugs screening of the driver tested positive for cocaine and heroin.*** His address was searched and he was interviewed and then bailed until July. GC/756/06.

Operation GRAFTON continue to oversee the investigation, and it should be noted that anyone arrested for a recordable offence ***WILL be required by law*** to undergo drugs testing procedures upon arrival at a police station. Serious consideration will then be given to informing employers if there is likely to be a serious risk to the safety of others in the workplace or the public at large.

*It has been decided to try and improve the content of the monthly newsletter and maybe add some other sections. If anyone has any ideas on what they would like to see included, please e-mail [operation.grafton@met.police.uk](mailto:operation.grafton@met.police.uk)*



## Crimes This Month...

### **02/05/2006 Various (Herts).**

Several crime reports from Herts police regarding robbery and thefts of high performance cars. These types of offences are of interest to the unit as preparatory acts for other matters. Operation Grafton are currently liaising with Herts and Thames Valley Police regarding these matters. - **GI/727/06**

### **04/05/2006 Gatwick CID**

A request was received from Gatwick CID regarding a £250k trailer theft in Sussex. Operation Grafton advised and offered assistance to the case Officer and continues to liaise with the investigation. - **GI/731/06**

### **08/05/2006 – Aggravated Burglary, Belvedere, Kent**

Eight suspects in an Audi and a van attacked staff at a warehouse premises near Erith, Kent. One of the staff was beaten over the head with a crowbar causing deep cuts. Another member of staff was also attacked and injured with a crow bar. An eyewitness was dragged from her car and detained with other staff members. The suspects were looking for mobile phones. An operational unit are investigating with support from Operation Grafton. **GI/742/06**

### **11/05/2006 Lorry Hijack M40 J8 (Oxford - Thames Valley)**

Lancashire police received a report of a lorry on fire at Skelmersdale. On attendance police found Czech driver who claimed that he had been hijacked at the Welcome Break services at Jnc 8, M40 Motorway near Oxford during that morning by three males, although language barrier has made it difficult to obtain exact details. Driver claims that he was tied up in rear of cab and offenders sprayed dashboard with an accelerant and then left cab before throwing something flammable through window. At the same time driver managed to loosen bindings and escape from the burning cab through the other door. Trailer was empty on police arrival - driver claimed it was unloaded at a different location approx. 30 mins before cab was set light to - trailer contained approx. £400,000 of specialist computer equipment.

### **11/05/2006 – Burglary, Feltham.**

Three suspects have driven into a secure industrial estate and broken into a Freight Forwarders Warehouse specialising in the movement of high value computer chips. Suspects have used a sledge hammer to break into the premises and then an angle grinder to break into a secure vault. CCTV shows that the suspects appeared to have had a problem with the angle grinder and have left the scene empty handed. The offence only lasted four minutes. Operation Grafton is liaising closely with the investigating Officer. -**GI/744/06**

**12/05/2006— Circulation of suspicious AUDI RS6 Saloon**

Following a number of incidents around Heathrow and Thames Valley, Operation Grafton circulated details of a suspicious vehicle seen at a number of offences including a burglary at Feltham (GI/744/06). **CCTV recovered from one scene shows a dark coloured AUDI RS6 on index VRM LX55PCU - GI/745/06**

**13/05/2006 – Burglary, Hayes.**

Suspects have broken into a courier's warehouse and have broken through an interior wall, avoiding all motion sensors and alarm systems. A number of packages were stolen, including computer hardware valued at £30k. **GI/749/06**

**17/05/2006 – Attempted Deception, Camden.**

Details have been passed to Operation Grafton after a number of deceptions occurred involving deliveries to addresses in North London. The company monitored one address and a suspect vehicle was identified. Further enquiries by Operation Grafton have identified that the same vehicle is the subject of a Royal Mail security enquiry. **GI/750/06**

**Various dates - Theft in Transit – Hounslow**

Operation Grafton has been working with a Hayes based company after they had been subjected to a number of thefts after deliveries had cleared a Heathrow Freight forwarders. Enquiries are at an early stage. **GI/751/06**

**19/05/2006 – Impending Theft – Hillingdon**

Operation Grafton received a call from the Regional Security Manager of the company involved in GI/750/06 after they became aware of a bogus delivery being scheduled for 19/05/2006. Intelligence research around the delivery address and the details given gave cause for concern. The matter was dealt with by the local Borough. **GI/752/06**

**25/05/2006 – Robbery Hijack, M20 Kent.**

Suspects in an AUDI saloon and a white transit van forced a van carrying a high value load of mobile phones to stop on the M20 at Junction 4. The suspects used crowbars to smash the driver's window and dragged out both driver and passenger, assaulting the driver with a crowbar around the head.

The suspects then drove off in the van, leaving both victims stranded on the motorway. Initial enquiries made by Kent Police are ongoing. The company has been the victim of similar offences. **GI/766/06**

## One Year Ago...

***This column will hopefully serve as a reminder as to what was happening this time last year. This maybe a pointer towards seasonal trends etc***

- ◆ The theft of £40,000 worth of CHANEL sunglasses, was reported. This seems to be a seasonal crime although none have yet been reported to the unit this year.
- ◆ Two persons were arrested in possession of a large quantity of memory cards. They were subsequently charged.
- ◆ Operation Grafton 'The Way Forward'. This conference was held at the Renaissance Hotel with guests from law enforcement and industry.
- ◆ Operation GRAFTON was represented for the first time at the European Association of Air and Sea Ports Policing (EAASP) conference.
- ◆ There was a rise in the number of thefts of containers from sea ports where the coded entry system was being compromised.
- ◆ Counterfeit camcorders from the far east started to surface labelled as Canon and JVC products.
- ◆

## Operation Grafton 'Live'...

We have been undertaking a lot of work for a more dynamic way that we can broadcast information to our internal and external customers. To that end, we are in the process of designing a 'cutting edge' piece of web-based interactive software that hopefully will allow the following to occur.

- Secure access to information and bulletins updated as the incidents occur, thereby giving faster notification of criminal activity in your area.
- E-mail notification of critical bulletins direct to your desktop.
- On-Line reporting of suspicious incidents
- 'Crimestoppers Style' confidential on-line reporting of information.
- Statistical information for your organisations incident reports.
- A separate Global secure data transfer capability for international Law Enforcement Liaison.
- Links to useful contacts and companies.
- Links to other websites such as AIMSS and trade organisations.

This is very much in the consultative stage and if anyone has any ideas on things they would like to see included, please e-mail us at [operation.grafton@met.police.uk](mailto:operation.grafton@met.police.uk).

## Crime Prevention...

- ***The following crime prevention advice was given in 2005 through AIMSS and related to employee selection.***
- **Tips for consideration regarding staff; -**
  - Do you screen a potential staff member before you employ the person in question?
  - Do you use the same selection criteria for temporary employees as for your regular employees?
  - Do you always make use of the same employment agency?
  - Do you make a distinction between sensitive and non-sensitive functions within your company?
  - Have you drawn up reliability profiles for 'sensitive functions'?
  - Do you use clear job descriptions?
  - Are there any employees present, with your knowledge, on the premises at unusual times?
  - Is there structural consultation with your staff on risks and security?
  - Do you have standing employment conditions?
  - Employees have to monitor processes; do you monitor these employees well?
  - *Do you have a clear section within your application form asking potential employees whether they have any declarable convictions? Does this entry contain a sentence pointing to the potential employee liability for a criminal prosecution if a false declaration is made (This entry should require a specific signature from the employee who should also be asked to write in 'yes' or 'no' so as to be unable to state that they ticked the wrong box or misunderstood the question.*

**DS Tony Moore and DC Arun Chandra-Bose have taken over the role of Partnership and Crimes from DI Paul Douglas. DS MOORE will be making contact with as many groups as possible over the forthcoming weeks to establish points of contact and provide a continuing service taken on from Paul. If anyone has any views or wishes to make contact, the team can be contacted on 0208-246-9978**

## The Back Page...

 **METROPOLITAN POLICE** Working together for a safer London

 **AIRFREIGHT INDUSTRY MINIMUM SECURITY STANDARDS (AIMSS)** 

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*Operation GRAFTON was formed in March 2003 in response to industry concerns about the level of organised, high-value crime being committed near Heathrow. The unit comprises of Detectives from the Met's Specialist Crime Directorate responsible for tackling serious and organised crime across London. Close links are established with Thames Valley Police, Surrey Police and HM Revenue and Customs. Operation GRAFTON communicates to approximately 8,000 companies and organisations world-wide, and is often called upon to provide expertise and assistance to law enforcement agencies. Since its inception, the unit has seen a decrease in serious crime in excess of 70 % and was a finalist in the 2005 Public Sector Team of The Year Awards. Operaton GRAFTON strives to reduce organised crime further, thereby making Heathrow and it's environs a safe place to work and conduct business.*

## Confidential Helplines...

Operation Grafton is always keen to hear from anyone who has information about crime taking place at or near Heathrow. You can call confidentially and you do not have to give your name. You may even be entitled to a reward. The office is staffed between 8.00am and 6.00pm Monday to Friday. Alternatively you can call crimestoppers on the number below.

Operation GRAFTON are particularly interested in those persons who are providing information on consignments of freight, handling the proceeds of offences, or are in unlawful possession of firearms. **TEL – 0208-246-9972**

If you have information about any crime, phone

 **CRIMESTOPPERS**  
**0800 555 111**

- Your call is free
- You are not asked for your name
- You may receive a reward