



Probe Concierge & Security Services Ltd

NEWSLETTER

October 2013 No:1

Probe Concierge & Security Services Ltd Open for Business

Probe Investigations (UK) Ltd are pleased to announce the introduction of its new sister company Probe Concierge and Security Services Limited. Our sister company will deal exclusively in the security aspects of our operation and also offers additional services including CCTV Installations, Alarms, Technical Surveillance / Counter Surveillance and Access / Egress Systems. The introduction of the sister company will act as a one stop shop for any security requirements. For more information why not peruse our new website at www.probesecurityservices.com or email us at info@probesecurityservices.com

International News - Paris Jewellers Raided

Police are on the hunt for a 15 strong gang of raiders after a £1 million robbery in Paris. On 7th September 2013 two well dressed men were allowed to enter the locked door of Vacheron Constantin store. Once the door was open they held it ajar to allow a crowd of hooded accomplices to enter the store.

The gang is believed to be 15 strong and suspected by police to be Roma gypsy. Once inside the gang proceeded to smash display cabinets at the store and left the store with around 20 watches worth up to £1 million. A 24 year old Romanian and a Moldovan aged 17 were arrested shortly afterwards while 3 more Eastern Europeans were held on Saturday. Nobody was hurt during the raid but staff and customers were severely shaken

Probe Concierge and Security Services Ltd is aware that these audacious and often violent attacks are increasing. The modern criminal carries out extensive research to select target premises. Remember, criminals are prepared to travel. With the increase in more budget airlines international criminals are always within reach of UK shores. We must prepare ourselves for further repeat offences. It is very



important that we understand what we are faced with. Remember to exchange information and keep records of anything suspicious.

France: A Country Hit By Heists

France has been hit by a series of high-profile jewellery robberies this year, and gangs from Eastern Europe are believed to be behind most of them.

The most spectacular of these was at a seaside resort's Carlton Hotel, where thieves made off with jewels worth more than 100 million euros in a raid in late July. In early August, four men rammed their car into an upmarket jewellery store which was also near Place Vendome in Paris, making off with a two-million-euro haul.

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The spate of robberies has spawned an unprecedented phenomenon: a Facebook page supporting a French jeweller who shot dead a teenage robber in September. The page has so far drawn 1.6 million "likes."

Shop owner Stephan Turk's action has divided France, with supporters arguing for the right to defend ones property amid a general climate of insecurity, while critics condemn the use of violence and vigilantism.

In the UK, of course, we have seen similar news when villains have been on the wrong end of violent acts committed by victims of crime. The key is to avoid being in that position in the first place by implementing proper procedures and offering a clear deterrent to prospective criminals.

Probe On The Move

Following the recent expansion of Probe Investigations (UK) Ltd and its sister company (PCSS), we have recently acquired new headquarters which acts as a central contact point all our customers.

Our company can now be found at St Johns House, Greenfield Walk, Huyton. PCSS can be reached by telephone – **0843 290 2910**

Probe Investigations UK Ltd on **0845 520 7777**



Probe Now ISO9001:2008 Certified

Probe Investigations (UK) Ltd is now accredited with ISO 9001:2008 certification standards that underlines its commitment to internal Quality Management.

The term 'quality' refers to all those features of a product or service which are required by our customers. Our company ensures that quality requirements are constantly complied with each service offered.



PROBE PIONEERS BRITISH STANDARD IN INVESTIGATION

The SSAIB examination board recently carried out an assessment of Probe investigations (UK) Ltd. We co-operated in a pilot scheme to test the company against the new draft British Standard 102000 for Investigative services that will be published in the near future.

We at Probe are proud to announce that we achieved the requirements of the draft standard and we are the first, and so far only, UK Investigation company to achieve this accolade.

As licensing for private investigators was announced on 31st July 2013, this is very timely and SSAIB believes that BS 102000 for Investigation companies will prove crucial to those investigation companies that seek to demonstrate their compliance and commitment to the highest standards in their sector.



Managing Director Peter Farrington was formally presented with the certificate by Brian Nuttall of the SSAIB at an event hosted by The Association of British Investigators in September.

PLAN YOUR EVENT SECURITY

The run up to Xmas is our busiest time of year and this year will be no different. Christmas parties, watch and diamond events are rife.

At events where large numbers of people and goods are present it is usually necessary to deploy a security team to assist and ensure that things flow smoothly.

This calls for smart, well ordered people with great communication skills that work as a team to a carefully prepared plan in a disciplined manner. There are several ingredients to that sentence, all of which are important as the next.

We can help bear the weight of these events for you by deploying our team of licensed security

operatives managed by our experienced coordinators.

We can take care of all liaisons with other organisations, the police service etc in order to keep disruption to a minimum and ensure the event passes safely and enjoyably for all those involved.

If you are interested in booking our team to manage your event please call:



**PROBE CONCIERGE
AND SECURITY SERVICES
LIMITED**

Tel: 0843 290 9210

or E-mail:

info@probesecurityservices.com

www.probesecurityservices.com

POLICE ACTION PLAN TARGETS CHRISTMAS CRIMINALS

Opportunist thieves looking for easy pickings during the countdown to Christmas are being warned that police are determined to stop them in their tracks.

This is a time of year when potential victims of theft are especially vulnerable because their attention tends to be focused on what sort of presents they are going to buy for their loved ones.

The strategy that is being rolled out in lots of Constabularies means that thieves will be banned from town centres. This will be followed by poster campaigns urging members of the public to ensure that they are vigilant and look after their belongings properly.

While opportunistic offences are not necessarily just a Christmas habit, we must recognize that thieves can be particularly active at this time of year.

Local shop watch schemes are now well established in many town centres, which enables businesses which have been victims of a theft to give immediate warning to neighbouring shops by means of radio messages as well as providing direct contact with the police.

Patrols by local forces & undercover operations will be aimed at catching shoplifters in the act.

Christmas Time, Mistletoe and Crime

At Christmas while everybody is out shopping for gifts we are not the only ones on the lookout for bargains. Most crime is opportunistic and the festive season tends to offer criminals plenty of chances to take advantage of people's generosity and good cheer, while they are preoccupied or distracted.

This winter please ensure you remain vigilant and keep yourselves, your property and purchases secure. Here are a few things to consider.

SANTAS LITTLE HELPERS



Christmas shopping is one of the most demanding features of the season and you don't want to do it twice. Take care when you go to be sure you, your car and your purchases are kept safe & secure.

Park in a well lit, busy area: This will provide natural protection from the general public for your vehicle but more importantly will improve your personal safety, particularly if you'll be returning to your car after dark.

Try to avoid parking cars next to high sided vans, or where such vehicles can be positioned on your return to the vehicle. Avoid places that offer a shield to the general view or to security cameras.

Upon returning to a vehicle always make sure that you have a good view of what is around you and ensure that there is nobody lurking close to your vehicle. Be prepared to enter it quickly. Do not stand at the car fumbling in pockets and bags for keys – have them ready.

The most obvious things are the easiest to forget: Make sure you close your car windows and lock the doors and ideally use a steering lock. Ensure your car alarm is working and is set.

Take all your valuables with you: The glove compartment is one of the first places a thief will look for wallets, purses, satellite navigation systems, stereo faces and mobile phones.

Keep any purchases out of sight: If they can be seen they can be stolen, it only takes seconds to smash a window and grab boxes and bags left in the car.



WRAPPED & READY TO GO

- As we all stock up on gifts and new things for our homes unless we also spend time mulling over our security as well as our wine our houses can become a grotto of goodies for burglars.
- Make sure all your door and window locks are secure, and don't forget to use them !!!
- Hall tables are a burglar's dream; full of keys, money, phones, and other valuables. Keep all such items well out of sight and range of doors and windows – thieves use rods and hooks through letterboxes and open windows to reach keys and bags.
- If you have an alarm system – ensure it works and use it. It may need upgrading to a dialing system – we can help with this.
- Don't let burglars window shop – keep presents and valuables out of sight.
- If your planning to go away use timer switches for lights – ask a trusted friend or relative to check your home.
- External lighting is a very good deterrent to burglars – we can help with this.
- Keep tools and ladders locked away – don't provide the means for a burglar to force open your doors and windows.
- Keep side gates, garages etc closed and padlocked. Consider the use of antic climb paint, grease and specialist security fittings to deter or prevent climbing fences, walls, downspouts etc.

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

If you're offered a quality product at low cost there is a strong likelihood it was obtained through nefarious means. Before you buy ensure the source is genuine – there are plenty of fakes out there. Don't be duped!!! Handling stolen goods is an offence that can lead up to 14 years in prison.

Incident Books

Probe Concierge & Security Services Ltd provides an incident report book for each of their customers. These professionally printed record books should ensure that all significant intelligence is recorded correctly. This can play a valuable part in the process of gathering evidence against criminals.

Any readers who are not existing customers of Probe Concierge and Security Services Ltd may also obtain these books for their own use. Simply request a copy by email: info@probesecurityservices.com

The UK has launched a new National Crime Agency. What is it and what does it do? What is the NCA?

The National Crime Agency is a new body that will be at the centre of the UK's efforts against organised crime and other major offending that cuts across regional & international borders.

The agency will be responsible for tackling major organised crime, such as drug and people trafficking, and complex international fraud, including cyber-crime. The NCA has more than 4,000 officers and will work with each of the regional police forces in the UK and similar organisations abroad.

How is it different from the ordinary police?

Each police force in the UK has territorial responsibility for its particular area. Crimes that are carried out across more than one county or area usually involve officers from both areas. The NCA has a strategic role in which it will attempt to look at the bigger picture of organised crime in the UK, how it operates and how it can be disrupted.

Why do you need a separate agency?

The days of organised crime being about major bank robberies have long gone. Modern organised crime is complex and cuts across international borders. Gangs tend to be linked to other gangs - and they are often very flexible in how and where they commit their offences. Local police forces are designed to be focused at the local picture. The theory is that the National Crime Agency can bring together the intelligence from at home and abroad to understand the international nature of how all these groups work - and then find ways to stop them.

How big is organised crime?

The NCA says that there are some 37,000 people in 5,500 groups that are involved in organised crime that has an impact on the UK. Almost £9bn a year is lost to the country through organised fraud. Half of the gangs operating directly in the UK are involved in drugs.

Armed Raiders Target Blackburn Jewellers

At 3pm on Friday 20th September 2013, gunmen burst into Humberstones Jewellers in King William St, Blackburn.

They threatened staff members and smashed their way into display cabinets where they stole designer jewellery and Rolex watches.

The display contained a range of mens watches costing between £4000.00 and £8000.00 each.

It is the third time the shop has been targeted since 2004, along with two further incidents at its sister shop in Barrowford in 2007 and 2009.

Police are still on the look out for these criminals. Anybody with any information is urged to call the police or **Crimestopper anonymously on 0800 555 111**.

Smash and Grab Raid at Jewellery Store in Goldaming

Officers were in attendance on the morning of Wednesday 9th October 2013 following a smash and grab raid in Church Street, Godalming.

Offenders smashed the window of Thomson and Oliver store at around 10.40am. They grabbed a substantial amount of jewellery before making off in a silver coloured vehicle, which was later found abandoned nearby.

Police are currently carrying out enquiries to locate the offenders as the investigation is in the early stages. Anybody with any information is urged to contact the police or alternatively call **Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111**.

Meet the Team: Managing Director – Peter Farrington



Peter was previously a police officer with Merseyside Police, The North West Regional Crime Squad and the National Crime Squad (which has now evolved to become the National Crime agency featured earlier).

He is a founding member of both the Probe companies and oversees the running of each of them through

the management team.

Peter is both a security consultant and a prominent investigator being heavily involved in the investigation sector through work he carries out with The Association

of British Investigators aimed at developing best practice and eliminating the rogue element from the investigation business.

Our MD is strongly focused on customer service. The reputation of the company has been built on strong relationships, cooperation and understanding and this is instilled in all that we do.

Peter, when off duty, is a keen reader, a follower of football, traveller and is developing skills as a Granddad.

We have a saying at Probe that we work with our customers and not just for them. With this in mind, Peter welcomes calls to discuss new ideas, hear feedback, tackle any problems and so on.