Exclusive CPS interview

Unlocking the secrets of Shannon Matthews

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Offender Information: In part two of our series on behavioural investigative advisors, Karl Roberts looks at the role they play in planning suspect interview strategies.

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February 2009 304pp
9781843925057 (Pbk) £22.00 / 9781843925064 (Hbk) £50.00

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All orders are made through Willan Publishing, Culmcott House, Mill Street, Uffculme, Devon EX15 3AT.
The bizarre disappearance of West Yorkshire school girl Shannon Matthews proved to be one of the most challenging cases tackled by investigators in recent years.

When reports came into police that Shannon had gone missing on her way home from school, a missing person's hunt began and officers carried out extensive interviews with the family and friends of the nine-year-old girl to establish her last movements.

Conscious of the importance of those first few hours following Shannon's disappearance, the investigation team spoke to her mother Karen a number of times to try and establish the whereabouts of her daughter. She even made a number of emotional appeals for her daughter to return.

The case highlighted the importance of considering victims as potential suspects and for the need to be able to see through any potential smokescreens that might be put up to avoid officers getting at the truth.

The key to solving the investigation, which lasted a month, involved more than 300 officers and cost £3.2m of public money, was first-class detective work and a co-ordinated police/prosecution response.

Special casework lawyer in the case Malcolm Taylor advises investigators faced with such challenging cases to “find a starting point and work in an organised and methodical way." He emphasises the importance of being mentally agile and always remembering that the investigative principles of both small and larger cases are the same.
E-Crime experts snare sex offender

A man who used encrypted files in an attempt to hide child abuse images has been jailed after investigators accessed complicated virtual computer drives.

Nottinghamshire Police used a Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA), Section 49 Notice for the first time which legally required Jonathan Hipkiss, 42, to disclose the password for a large number of hidden files on his computer hard drive.

He refused to comply with the RIPA notice and so police, with the assistance of the National Technical Assistance Centre (NTAC), cracked the encrypted files.

The force had received information from the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) that showed Hipkiss had accessed movies of children from an Austrian server.

A warrant was carried out and a large number of media storage devices were seized and subsequently examined by the force’s E-Crime department. A number of indecent images of children were uncovered, including a number depicting the most serious sexual abuse.

Hipkiss pleaded guilty to 15 counts of making indecent images of children, three counts of possession of indecent images of children and one offence under Section 53 (1) and (5) of the RIPA Act 2000, after he refused to give the relevant computer passwords.

He was sentenced to 12 months in prison.

He was also issued with a sex offenders’ prevention order, will have to sign the sex offenders’ register once released from prison, has been excluded from working with children for life and a destruction order was also issued for his computers.

DS Harry Parsonage, of the E-Crime Unit, said: “This is one of the most complicated examinations of computer files that I have seen in the ten years that I have been in charge of the unit, and credit must go to the officer who carried out such a meticulous piece of work.”

Detective Inspector Ian Winton, of the Sexual Exploitation Investigation Unit (SEIU), said: “This case shows that no matter what lengths people think they can take to hide child abuse images, we will find them. There is no computer file or hard drive device that cannot be accessed and we will continue to use our powers to crack down on anyone who thinks they can get away with this sort of crime.”

Ruth Allen, Head of Intelligence for CEOP, said: “This sentence is yet another example of the collaboration between UK law enforcement to track and hold child sex offenders to account. Any individual who believes they can evade justice will no longer be able to hide behind the technology they use”.

Prisoner jailed for life for murder

A n inmate of HMP Whatton has been sentenced to life imprisonment for killing his cellmate between August 24 and August 25 2008.

Neil Wilkinson, 29, of HMP Whatton, admitted murdering 28-year-old Stephen Hartley (who was known as Alan) on
the day his trial was due to start in April.

A trial of issue has been held over the past two days to assist Mr Justice Keith to determine the minimum period of the automatic life sentence Wilkinson must serve.

The trial concluded last week and Mr Keith has ruled that Wilkinson should serve a minimum of 24 years.

A Nottinghamshire Police spokesperson said: “Alan Hartley’s murder was a tragic waste of life. We hope that today’s sentencing brings some comfort to his family and all those who knew and loved him. Our thoughts are with them at this time.”

Regional Asset Recovery Team reclaim over £600k from two criminals

Two men sentenced for stealing nearly £1 million from their employer have been ordered to pay back the money that they gained from their crime.

Tahir Mahmood Khan, a 35 year old man from Preston, Lancashire, was ordered to pay a confiscation order in the sum of £426,996.03 at a confiscation hearing at Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court. Bilal Hussain Fazal, also from Preston, has been ordered to pay a confiscation order in the sum of £200,000.

An investigation by Staffordshire Police Economic Crime Unit supported by the Regional Asset Recovery Team (RART) found that Khan had stolen around £1 million whilst employed as a personal injuries claims negotiator at the Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent branch of the Co-operative Insurance Society. Fazal had then laundered this money.

The compensation will be paid to the Co-operative Insurance Society who were the victims of the crime.

Detective Inspector Chris Berrow from West Midlands Regional Asset Recovery Team said "Clearly this was a complex matter effectively investigated by Staffordshire Officers supported by their Regional Asset Recovery Team.

"We will continue to actively use powers derived from the Proceeds of Crime Act to recover money gained by criminals ensuring they do not benefit from their crime".

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Two women who stole money from their employers in Walsall were ordered to pay back over £131,000 at Wolverhampton Crown Court today.

Carol Langham, a 45 year-old from Tamworth and her 53 year-old sister-in-law Denise Langham, from Willenhall were employees of Coin-a-Drink Ltd and had previously been convicted for theft and deception offences for stealing money from the company.

Carol Langham was sentenced to four and a half years and Denise to eighteen months imprisonment on 10 February 2009 at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

At the confiscation hearing on Thursday, Carol Langham was judged to have benefited from her criminal conduct to the value of £774,493.11 and was held to have assets of £104,271.46. If she fails to pay £104,271.46 within four months she will face another 2 years in prison.

Denise Langham was judged to have benefited to the value of £73,700, and has assets of £27,299.11. She must repay £27,299.11, within 4 months or she faces a further 18 months in prison.

Carol Langham’s assets are made up of numerous items of designer handbags, clothing & shoes, expensive electrical items, jewellery. There is also a vehicle which she will have to sell which she had tried to ”gift ” to another family member.

The enquiry identified bills showing on just one day she had spent around £2,500 in one shop. The confiscation also took into account Carol’s pension fund which totalled in excess of £60,000. Denise Langham’s benefit was made up solely of pension funds.

The confiscated money will be used to compensate the Coin-a-drink, and all items of value seized by police upon arrest will be auctioned.

Carol had worked for Coin-a-drink, a vending machine company based in Walsall, for 25 years, and had been regarded a personal friend by the Managing Director. She had worked up from a YTS employee to financial manager.

Denise had worked for Coin-a-drink for 20 years and was employed as a senior data clerk.

DCI Simon Wallis of West Midlands Police Economic Crime Team said: "Both women abused the trust of their employer and almost led to the closing of the firm which employed 80 staff. In effect they nearly stole the future of 80 hard working colleagues and their families.

“The court has now redressed the balance to ensure that any benefit that they still have has to be repaid and they do not benefit from these pensions in later life. This was by no means petty theft."

Since April last year West Midlands Police have used POCA to recover over £10m of criminal proceeds.

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A team of drug dealers from Stoke-on-Trent have been jailed for a total of 13 and-a-half years. The men appeared at Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court after being arrested in the city following a Major Crime Unit investigation.

They were arrested after a hydraulic press and almost 250 grams of cocaine was seized from an address in Warrington Street, Fenton, in September 2008.

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www.the-investigator.co.uk
Around 15 kilos of Benzocaine was later recovered from an address in Millicent Street, Fenton.

The men had all pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply controlled drugs at an earlier hearing.

They were arrested as part of the award-winning Operation Nemesis campaign - launched in September 2007 to tackle major drug dealers. Jake Miller, aged 20, from Henry Street, Stoke-on-Trent, was jailed for four and-a-half years. Reuben Garswood Gayle, aged 20, of Hillside Avenue, Stoke-on-Trent, got two years.

Michael Phillips, aged 19, from Alfred Street in Fenton, was imprisoned for three years. Jahcub Shingler, aged 20, from Millicent Street in Fenton, received two years in jail. Kyle Cox, aged 23, of Kingsley Road, Stoke-on-Trent, was sentenced to two years in prison.

Martin Walklate, aged 18, of Benfleet Place, Stoke-on-Trent, got a 12 months prison sentence suspended for two years and 150 hours unpaid work.

Chief Superintendent Jane Sawyers, from Stoke-on-Trent Division, said:

“The sentencing is to be welcomed and sees a further five drug dealers taken off the streets of Stoke-on-Trent.

“These men have been jailed for a total of over 13 years and this should send out a clear message to anyone who is looking to supply drugs in Staffordshire – ‘You will be caught and dealt with accordingly’.”

Last month Staffordshire’s Operation Nemesis was awarded the ‘Best Practice Against Street Level Dealing’ award at the national Tackling Drugs Supply conference in Leeds.

Since the campaign’s launch hundreds of people have been put before the courts for drug related offences.

Practical Forensics for Investigators Conference

Investigators from across the UK are set to meet at a conference in Northamptonshire aimed at providing practical advice on how to make best use of forensic science.

‘Practical Forensics for Investigators’ is being organised by the Investigator magazine and is being held on June 30.

Sponsored by Forensic Science Service, headline speakers include Det Chief Supt Stuart Cundy from the Met who was the SIO in the Sally Ann Bowman murder investigation. The case made innovative use of forensics as well as other evidence to bring killer Mark Dixie to justice.

For a booking form call 0844 660 8707 or email info@the-investigator.co.uk
Forensic science has become increasingly important within contemporary criminal justice, from criminal investigation through to courtroom deliberations, and an increasing number of agencies of individuals are having to engage with its contribution to contemporary justice.

This Handbook aims to provide an authoritative map of the landscape of forensic science within the criminal justice system of the UK. It sets out the essential features of the subject, covering the disciplinary, technological, organizational and legislative resources that are brought together to make up contemporary forensic science practice.

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**Competition**

To celebrate the launch of The Handbook of Forensic Science and The Investigator’s Practical Forensics Conference, Willan Publishing and The Investigator have teamed up to give away 6 paperback copies.

To win a copy of The Handbook of Forensic Science, simply answer the below question and email your answer to: editor@the-investigator.co.uk

**Q.** The American TV series CSI concentrates on three different cities, two of them are New York and Las Vegas.

Which other city does the third series focus on?

- The closing date for the competition is 30 June 2009.
- The Editor’s decision is final.

**Title Information:**

Edition: 1st, Published: June 2009
Pages: 800pp
Publisher: Willan Publishing www.willanpublishing.co.uk

The winner of the May Sony Walkman competition is Jennifer Baker at Dunstable police station, Bedfordshire Police.
i2 Limited Launches the i2 Intelligence-Led Operations Platform For Criminal and Terrorist Threat Prevention

i2 Ltd has launched the i2 Intelligence-Led Operations Platform – a powerful new platform enabling public safety, military, national security and commercial organisations to proactively solve, deter, prevent, predict and disrupt the world’s most sophisticated criminal and terrorist threats.

Recognising that the current global threat environment facing public and private sector organisations is marked by increasingly lethal and sophisticated criminal and terrorist activity, i2 has developed an intelligence-led platform that delivers unmatched analytical, visualisation and management capabilities at all points of the operations cycle.

“Predictable and rational criminal and terrorist patterns have given way to chaotic events and violent extremism,” said Chriss Knisley, Assistant Vice President, at i2 Inc. “As a result, organisations demand a solution that not only helps them solve complex challenges, but gives them the tools to identify and prevent threats before they occur. The i2 Intelligence-Led Operations Platform has been designed for this very purpose.”

The i2 Intelligence-Led Operations Platform

From forward planning, prediction and prevention to real-time incident management and post-incident investigation, the i2 Intelligence-Led Operations Platform supports all types of operations. As a result, analysts, managers and investigators can uncover hidden connections faster, deliver timely and actionable results, and communicate complex situations more clearly than ever.

“This is an important milestone for i2 as we further our mission to deliver the most innovative, comprehensive and trusted solutions to help our customers face the challenge of ever-expanding information with shorter operation deadlines” added Paul Holroyd, CEO at i2.

The i2 Platform is comprised of tightly integrated but independent applications providing the necessary flexibility and customisation required to handle the threats unique to each organisation:

- Flexible and fast data acquisition with i2 iXa Search Service and i2 iBridge
- Rich analysis and visualisation with i2 iBase, i2 TextChart, i2 Analyst’s Notebook® and i2 Analyst’s Workstation
- Real-time sharing of intelligence and information in the iBase repository

Platform Integrates New Versions of i2 Analyst’s Notebook, i2 iBase

Analyst’s Notebook 8, the latest version of the de facto standard visual analysis and investigative software, offers extended capabilities designed to increase analyst productivity and reduce the time required to deliver high value intelligence within quickly growing data sets.

iBase 6, a powerful new edition of i2’s sophisticated database solution for capturing, controlling and analysing multi-source investigative data in a secure environment, offers new capabilities for comprehensive searching with prioritised results, as well as enhanced collaboration tools.
Wildlife crime 'like child abuse' claims officer

Tackling attacks on animals will help prevent abuse of children, according to Scotland's first national wildlife crime officer.

PC Charles Everitt said one reason he felt it was important to crack down on wildlife crime was due to links between attacks on animals and domestic abuse.

He has taken on a new role in which a dedicated wildlife crime officer will provide support to all eight police forces in Scotland for the first time.

PC Everitt, who will be based with the UK National Wildlife Crime Unit in North Berwick in his role as investigative support officer, said it was crucial wildlife crime was not forgotten by busy police forces.

Research has shown that a child who is cruel to animals is more likely to go on to harm other people, and that there is also an increased risk of domestic abuse in a household where an animal has been harmed. The SSPCA has a campaign, First Strike Scotland, to draw attention to the links.

Key areas of wildlife crime that PC Everitt will focus on include raptor and badger persecution, destruction of bat roosts, poaching and theft of freshwater pearl mussels.

In 2007, crimes against all wild birds soared to record levels with more than 1,200 incidents reported. The RSPB said it received 262 reports of illegal shooting and trapping of birds of prey and destruction of their nests, a 40 per cent increase on 2006 when 185 reports were made.

Some 34 birds of prey were shot, while 49 were poisoned, including 17 red kites and one of the only breeding pair of golden eagles in the Scottish Borders.

Queen’s scientist helps search for Colombian ‘disappeared’

A Geoscientist from Queen's University Belfast has been advising police and legal professionals in Bogota on techniques to recover the bodies of Colombia's 'disappeared'.

Dr Alastair Ruffell from Queen's School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology joined a team of international experts at the first Ibero-American Conference in Forensic Geology in the Colombian capital - the first conference of its kind in South America.

Leading geologist Dr Ruffell was involved in the search for one of Ireland's 'disappeared', Belfast woman Jean McConville, in 2002 and has been involved in searches for missing persons throughout Ireland and Europe. Dr Ruffell has reviewed geological evidence in high-profile murder cases and serious crimes throughout Ireland and the United Kingdom.

Dr Ruffell said: "Colombia has a long and complex legacy of crime. Many victims of violence have been buried in unmarked graves, and there are suspicions of genocide and the existence of mass graves.

"The Colombian authorities want to locate these burial sites to help bring some closure to the families of the 'disappeared' and bring their murderers to justice. Forensic Geology, or Geoforensics, can play an important role in this process.

"Geoforensics is a specialist branch of geology that helps the authorities and humanitarian organisations solve crimes and recover buried persons. In the case of Colombia, we can use aerial photography and geophysics to help identify unmarked or mass graves. By analysing rocks and
UK Police Awarded For Their Work In Tackling The Sexual Abuse Of Children

West Yorkshire Police has been recognised as one of the UK’s leading organisations in the fight against online child sexual exploitation after receiving a coveted award from the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre.

CEOP - the UK’s national law enforcement centre for tackling the sexual exploitation of children - used the opportunity to announce record results with 346 children safeguarded, 714 arrests, 166 high risk sex offender networks dismantled and over four million children and young people empowered through the Thinkuknow education programme since the organisation was launched in April 2006.

Partnership is the hallmark of CEOP’s approach and West Yorkshire Police’s Child and Public Protection Unit last night were recognised for going the extra distance in helping the organisation in its work by receiving an award for Outstanding Contribution to Police Deployment in Child Protection 2008.

Det Supt Ingrid Lee, Detective Inspector Vicky Lawrance, Detective Constable Chris Davis and Mr Phillip Tyrrell were nominated for their work on Operation Gower. In June 2008 West Yorkshire Police received intelligence from the FBI in America that a Keighley man had been sexually abusing a baby and posting images onto the internet. He was arrested and subsequently convicted of his crimes and is currently serving a life sentence with a minimum tariff of 10 years.

Following these inquiries have led officers to make a further 67 arrests and 45 children have been protected from sexual abuse. This was the largest single strike by any UK police force into suspected child abuse. The work of Operation Gower continues.

Jim Gamble, Chief Executive of the CEOP Centre said: "Working together in partnership is key to tackling the crime where many children and young people feel they do not have a voice."

“I would like to thank and congratulate the winners of our latest awards, not only on behalf of the CEOP Centre, but of those victims whose lives have been changed for the better following their efforts.”

Deputy Chief Constable David Crompton of West Yorkshire Police said: "Operations such as these hopefully show the public that there is no hiding place for people who abuse children who are too young to speak out for themselves. In this case the investigators used information from the other side of the world and within hours had begun to arrest the offenders. This was a great example of top quality police work."
New method of interviewing prolific offenders pilot

Hertfordshire Constabulary is piloting a new method of interviewing prolific offenders.

These 'debriefs' are a way of getting crime prevention straight from the burglars themselves and passing it on to the public.

Although suspects have always been questioned as part of the arrest process, the new Offender Management Team has developed a debriefing system where all prolific ex-offenders are questioned about their offending habits, being asked what would deter them from attempting to break into a property.

This session aims to help understand the drivers behind their criminality, to help the Constabulary direct policing resources and get the right advice to the public to help keep themselves and their valuables safe.

Detective Superintendent Mark Drew, leading the project, commented:

"This new approach has given us an invaluable insight into how burglars operate. It provides us with specific and accurate information which can help us tackle burglary, and gives us an 'insider's' view on how to deter a burglar. The information we have obtained has already proved extremely useful, shown by a drop in the current level of home burglaries.

"We regularly issue advice to residents to help prevent them from becoming a victim of a burglar - not leaving gardening tools lying about, for example. But if it was the burglars themselves who told you that the one piece of equipment they could ask to find outside your house is a spade, I think that might give people a good reason to lock it away.¨

The Burglar's Guide to Home Security

• Very few burglars will go out equipped to break into a property, they rely on using tools left lying around - and they tell us that a spade is the most useful thing they could find. So lock away all your tools securely in a shed when you have finished with them.

• Install a 'dusk til dawn' security light and make sure it illuminates the door. Burglars don't like to be lit up when they are trying to break in to a house or 'fish' keys through a letterbox.

• If you have alarms ALWAYS make sure you set them properly. If you don't have a security alarm, then consider having one fitted, it could save you money and expense in the long run.

• A burglar can easily tell whether a UPVC door is properly locked or not, so make sure you remember to lift the handle AND use the key to double-lock it.

• Property marking your valuables or registering them on www.immobilise.com can deter burglars, as it can make it difficult for them to sell on.

• Keep your valuables out of sight, very often burglars are opportunistic and will be tempted to a property by a laptop or mp3 player on display.
New South Wales Police will use Twitter, the social networking website, to issue warnings and seek information from the public after getting the idea from an imposter who created a bogus NSW Police account on the social networking site.

The Sydney digital marketing agency Mentally Friendly has admitted that its staff were behind the fake NSW Police Twitter account, saying its "social media experiment" went "horribly right".

But NSW Police did not see the humour in the experiment and appealed to the imposter last week to give up the account.

It is understood police took issue with certain inappropriate tweets such as one declaring they were "enjoying new secret search powers".

Today, NSW Police public affairs director Strath Gordon confirmed the Twitter account, www.twitter.com/nswpolice, was now under control of police who were "actively using the account".

"The intent was never to misrepresent the NSW Police Force, but to create a simple and genuine dialogue with which to gauge the public's response," Mentally Friendly's Nick Gower said.

"There was a definite culture shock in the beginning, which only highlighted the lack of past personal contact online by Australian government bodies."

Since assuming control of the Twitter account, NSW Police have used it to broadcast the hotline number for the latest information on flooding in northern NSW and information about the NSW firearms amnesty.

It is understood that only some NSW Police media announcements will be published on Twitter, such as those warning the public about an incident or seeking information from the public about a crime.

For instance, if NSW Police were hunting a criminal in a vehicle they would broadcast its number plate on Twitter in the hope that Australians will come forward with information.

So far only 1500 people out of an estimated 600,000 Australians on Twitter are following the NSW Police Twitter account.

The social networking site has enjoyed a meteoric rise on the back of publicity from celebrity Twitter users such as Oprah Winfrey and Ashton Kutcher.

However, fake Twitter accounts are fast becoming an issue for the site, with celebrities such as Kanye West coming out recently to rage against Twitter imitators.
Automatic Number Plate Recognition Technology (ANPR) is now increasingly used in major crime investigation. Carol Jenkins speaks to John Dean the national ANPR co-ordinator about its developing role.

As The Investigator went to press, regional ANPR co-ordinators from every force were meeting in the Midlands to discuss the latest developments in the technology.

Over the past seven years it has developed from initially being used as a counter terrorism tool and then as an intercept tool to identify vehicles to becoming an increasingly important part of many major crime investigations.

John Dean the ACPO/NPIA coordinator predicts this will develop even further once the National ANPR Data Centre (NADC) goes live later in the year. The NADC will comprise a national network of ANPR cameras all joined up to enable forces to share intelligence. At the moment it is already taking data from 40 of the 43 forces and is currently collecting up to 10 million ANPR reads a day.

A total of six forces have access to the NADC to enable them to carry out queries to test the NADC capabilities. However, the full national roll-out will not take place until full testing has been satisfactorily completed.

When completed, the development of a system of nationally networked cameras will transform the way ANPR information is collected and accessed by forces.

Investigation tool
Perhaps its biggest development is its use in investigations and John explains just how it is being used by officers around the country.

“ANPR combined with other sources of information such as crime recording data, incident data from control rooms and additional intelligence
sources from the force intelligence bureau can throw up some useful pieces of intelligence that can be used by investigators,” he said.

“It can show that a vehicle was in a particular place which can be important as vehicles can assist in identifying people. Criminals and terrorists are vulnerable when they drive a vehicle. Uniformed police officers have the power to stop a vehicle on a road without reason.”

This is particularly important given the fact that research show that 60-65 per cent of people who engage in low-level vehicle related offending such as driving with tax or insurance – are also involved in more serious crime.

ANPR can be used not just in reactive policing for also in proactive operations explained John.

“If you have a series of crimes and you carry out some analysis of crimes that were in the area at the time – it can indicate that there are a small number of vehicles that could be responsible.”

Kent Police used ANPR to prove that there was a connection between three armed robberies that took place in one afternoon at different locations and times.

They took the ANPR capture data from the ANPR devices in and around those three different areas and merged the data to see if the same vehicle was in the locations of the offences at the relevant time.

They found out that two vehicles were in the relevant places at the relevant times and that one of them was directly connected to all three armed robberies.

In West Yorkshire, investigators used ANPR to track and apprehend the suspects in the case of the murder of PC Sharon Beshenivsky who was shot dead by a criminal gang during a robbery in 2005.
They already had some partial vehicle number plates that had been taken from witnesses and they were able to use ANPR to establish which vehicles they were likely to be and as a result were able to identify suspects and prevent them from fleeing the country.

“One of the key benefits of ANPR is the speed with which you can come up with results,” said John.

“It’s not like CCTV where you have trawl through hours of footage – you can search for specifics on ANPR and it comes straight back.

It gives the SIO very early lines of inquiry which means they can secure the very best evidence.”

An investigator’s guide to ANPR was produced two-and-a-half years ago to provide SIOs with practical advice about how it can be used in an investigation. This was well received and has gone a long way in helping SIOs get the most out of ANPR.

Each force has an ANPR champion and John advises SIOs to consult their force champions in order to help make best use of the technology.

New practice advice has now been produced by NPIA to provide an updated picture of the potential uses of ANPR in investigations.

It includes a strategic overview, the legal and media considerations; ANPR and intelligence-led policing; the use of ANPR to support investigations; ANPR data retrieval and analysis.

Other uses
ANPR can also be used to support witness testimonies and also help identify additional witnesses. One example of the latter happened following the rape of a woman in a rural location one Wednesday afternoon.

There were no ANPR cameras in the area at the time but officers decided to deploy cameras in that location on two successive Wednesday afternoons.

They managed to identify a certain number of
vehicles that travelled along that route regularly. As a result they identified additional witnesses and came up with new evidence that helped identify the offender.

“We’re still discovering ways in which ANPR can help,” said John.

“It can help locate lost and stolen vehicles; you can research movements of potential suspects or their associates and also research details of alibis.”

**Future challenges**

One key future challenge is for the police service to secure the support of the public. Despite the fact a West Yorkshire study revealed 89 per cent of local residents supported police use of ANPR, John admitted that there is still more we can do to maintain secure widespread public support.

“We need to be more proactive in explaining to the public what we do and just how valuable ANPR is in solving crime.”

The service is also working closely with the Information Commissioner’s Office to agree on the time limits in which data can legally be stored.

It also recognised that new legislation is needed to set a legal framework and formalise the activity that is already being undertaken.

The service is also working with the DVLA to agree a new method of reporting misrepresented number plates which can disrupt ANPR readings.

Officers now send reports to the DVLA who will write to the registered keeper. If they don’t send photographic evidence that they haven’t remedied the problem then the number plate will be revoked.

For more information contact John Dean at john.dean@npia.pnn.police.uk
On February 19 2008, nine-year-old Shannon Matthews went missing on her way home from a school swimming trip. Special Casework Lawyer, Malcolm Taylor told Vanessa Bassnett about his role in a case that shocked and gripped the nation.

In January this year, Karen Matthews and Michael Donovan were both jailed for a total of eight years for the kidnap and false imprisonment of Karen’s daughter, Shannon, and for perverting the course of justice.

Shannon’s disappearance sparked one of the biggest missing person’s investigations the country has ever seen, lasting 24 days and involving more than 300 police officers from the West Yorkshire force and around the country.

1,700 house to house enquiries were carried out during the search, which cost an estimated £3.2m and involved friends and neighbours of Matthews from the estate who gave time and money to help find her vulnerable little girl.

Matthews made several emotional public appeals for her daughter’s safe return and Shannon was eventually found at the flat of her stepfather’s uncle, Michael Donovan, less than a mile from her home. After his arrest, a shocking story of callous deception began to unfold and it became clear that Matthews had known all along where her daughter was.

During the trial at Leeds Crown Court, the jury heard that the two had hatched the plan to claim a £50,000 reward from a national newspaper. Shannon had been drugged during her captivity and for up to 20 months beforehand and a search of the flat also revealed an elasticated tether, fastened to the roof joists which may have been used to restrain her while she was hidden there.

Donovan admitted his role in the crime, claiming he was forced to take part by Karen, but she still denies being involved despite being found guilty by the jury after six hours of deliberations.
Special Casework Lawyer, Malcolm Taylor was the lead prosecutor for the Crown Prosecution Service. Malcolm has been a prosecutor for 35 years working first in Humberside and then for West Yorkshire and is based in the West and North Yorkshire Complex Casework Unit dealing with complex and difficult cases.

What were your initial thoughts when you took over the case?

I was pleased to have such an interesting case to deal with. I was aware that it would attract a large amount of press interest as there had already been a lot of publicity from the point Shannon went missing.

Michael Donovan was charged first and I was away on holiday when the case first came in so it was dealt with by one of my colleagues. It was handed to me to make the decision to charge Karen Matthews and I took over sole responsibility for the case at this point.

How did it unfold and what were the key milestones of the case?

Karen Matthews became a suspect when Donovan was arrested on March 18 and pointed the finger at her. Before then, the police had private doubts about her involvement but nothing they could put their finger on.

Karen wasn’t charged until late in the evening on April 8 because there was a lot of material for me to read in order to make my decision. The file comprised of 40 ring binders of information from the investigation. I had to read it all, make decisions on four defendants and prep the case for service on the defence in less than three weeks.

My experience of prosecuting and how to tackle big cases was essential because this was bigger than anything I had seen before and had to consider with urgent progress. I worked intensively to filter out the relevant information and we assembled our prosecution team which included CPS caseworker, Andrea Broxham and prosecuting Counsel Julian Goose QC.

There was a lot of work in the run up to the trial between myself, the police and counsel to pull together the last bits of evidence such as digital reconstructions of the inside of the van.
Donovan’s flat and footage of Karen’s false appeals during the manhunt which were shown to the jury with our opening statement.

**How did police end up solving the crime?**

The police had no suspicions about Donovan during the manhunt and followed routine investigation techniques with planned targets of suspects and premises.

It was only when they reached Donovan’s area that the witness statements started to arouse suspicion and the officer on the scene did an excellent job putting two and two together and recovering Shannon.

**How was the charge determined?**

When the charges were decided by myself and my colleague we had to base our decision on the evidence we had and significant key points of evidence came to light during a further investigation by the police such as the forensic results of the drug testing.

We were surprised that Donovan was bursting to volunteer the information that dragged Karen Matthews into the picture. The time taken between the charges was necessary as his claims had to be investigated properly as plenty of suspects are quick to blame somebody else.

There were legal issues with the kidnap charge against Karen as she is Shannon’s mother but I felt it was the correct charge and the case required me to be innovative. It is not common to charge a parent with kidnapping but was appropriate as the circumstances were so unusual, though my decision attracted some public interest and attention in itself.

**Were there any significant points about the court case?**

It was necessary to provide facilities at court to account for the immense media attention and we had strategies for handling the media, in particular with regard to disclosure because of the interviews some journalists had done with witnesses for publication after the trial.

Because of our team approach we were able to tackle all the inevitable issues that arose during the trial including the press, witnesses and evidence, and were prepared to cope with all eventualities.

Another point which received specific attention was that we took the decision not to ask Shannon to give evidence against her mother. This decision was made to protect her and because we believed we could get a conviction without having to call her to the stand. It says a lot about the strength of the police investigation that we were successful without having to call her as a witness.

**Was the team happy with the outcome?**

We were pleased to get a conviction and a sentence which reflects the gravity of the offence.

**Any best practice points - did CPS do anything differently or innovative in this case?**

This was a very unusual case but we approached it in the same way as any other.

The best way to tackle very hard cases is by team work and all the bits of the jigsaw come together.
It was a combination of quality police work in difficult circumstances, my experience as a prosecutor, the skill and dedication of Andrea, my caseworker and the experience and skill of counsel.

Often the best solution is obvious and rather than deal with an unusual case in an off the wall way, you look at what you can do well and the resources you have and put your best effort towards it.

This case did test out a new way of handling the press during big trials with a high media interest. Joint working between the police and CPS press officers meant that we were able to release information to the press in an appropriate way without causing prejudice to the trial.

What were the main lessons to be learnt/any advice to other investigators?

My advice is to keep your head. However large and daunting a big case may seem, find a starting point and work in an organised and methodical way. There are times when you need to be mentally agile but don’t panic the principles are the same for small and large cases.
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Det Chief Supt Stuart Cundy - Met Police and SIO in the Sally Anne Bowman murder
The Sally Anne Bowman murder caused shockwaves across the world following the news of the young woman’s death. Sally was subjected to a frenzied stranger attack by Mark Dixie outside her Croydon home.
Stuart will be speaking about the vital role forensics played in bringing murderer Dixie to justice.
He will look at the key lessons learnt from the case and how they can be applied to future investigations.

Patricia Wiltshire - internationally renowned palaeontologist who worked on the Soham murder investigation
The hunt to find the killers of Soham school girls Holly Wells and Jessica Chapman proved challenging for investigators. Patricia will talk about how they used pollen forensics to help secure evidence against the girls’ murderer caretaker Ian Huntley.

Keith Fryer - Director of Forensics NPIA Harperley Hall
Harperley Hall has become a centre of excellence for forensic science training in the police service.
Keith will talk about the role of the centre in the service and give practical tips to delegates on how to make best use of forensic evidence.

Gary Shaw NPIA National Interview Advisor
The presentation will focus on 'The use of forensics within major crime suspect interviews.'
Gary is considered an international expert in investigative interviewing and has trained officers from all over the world including Australia.
He is a former chief inspector and head of training at Durham.

Scientist Orlando Elmhirst - Forensic Science Service
Orlando has been heading the Home Office-led project called Operation Advance that has involved the re-examining of evidence in cold cases using the lastest DNA techniques.
Orlando will give an update and discuss plans for future cold case reviews.

DI Matt Bonner - Hertfordshire Constabulary
Matt has been with Hertfordshire Constabulary since 1991 and has carried out a variety of 'detective' roles. Most recently he managed Hertfordshire's Specialist Interview Unit which was responsible for the investigation of all forensic identifications across the force in relation to priority crime. During this time, Matt and his team developed good practice in relation to forensic investigations with a particular emphasis on using an identification as a trigger for multiple admissions (TICs).

He will be speaking about the challenges and issues associated with using forensics in volume crime investigations – particularly when such evidence is scant. Matt will give advice about ‘making the best of what you’ve got’ and maximising your chances of a conviction by making effective use of forensic evidence.

Jane O’Brien - Head of Footwear at Foster and Freeman Ltd
Jane will talk about a new forensic internet service aimed at helping investigators identify scene-of-crime shoe prints.

Other speakers to be confirmed shortly

For regular conference updates visit www.the-investigator.co.uk or email: info@the-investigator.co.uk
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LANCASHIRE Police has secured a £102,000 confiscation order against a convicted eBay fraudster who cheated thousands of people out of their hard earned cash across the world.

Jonathan Hartley, 26, of Scotland Road, Nelson is currently serving an 18 month prison sentence after admitted five counts of obtaining services by deception totalling £39,292.91, five counts of fraud totalling £15,000 and one count of money laundering totalling £113,501.76.

He used the names of real and fictitious people to open accounts on the internet auction site eBay and sent out defective or fake electronic goods to unsuspecting buyers.

Hartley was arrested in September 2007 following a nine-month investigation by Detective Constable Simon Robinson, of Pendle CID and he has been brought back before Burnley Crown Court today under the Proceeds of Crime Act following a detailed financial investigation by Lancashire Constabulary, looking back six years.

As a result, his overall benefit figure from crime was calculated as £141,028.52 but the amount he had available is slightly less than this figure and he has been ordered to repay £102,006.04 by 31 July or face a further 12 months in jail and still owe the money on his release with accrued interest.

A total of £927.52 has been set aside by the judge from the Confiscation amount to be paid to as compensation to 34 identified victims.

Financial Investigator DC Adrian Crorken, said: "This case should send out a clear warning to other people involved in similar scams that not only will you be brought to justice, we will also strip you of the money you acquired.

"The robust use we are making of the proceeds of crime act is having a real impact. In most cases the main motivation of people like Hartley is financial gain and therefore this is an area in which we can hit them hardest.

"We target the profits of criminal activity at all levels in our communities, whether they convicted drug dealers or those who commit complex frauds."

Richard Ambrose, Head of Trust and Safety for eBay in the UK, said: "We have worked closely with the Lancashire Constabulary on this case and today's announcement sends out a clear signal to people who try and defraud buyers on our site that they won't get away with it.

"We would strongly recommend that buyers on eBay pay for their item with PayPal, which is offered as a payment option on every listing, because this means that you are covered for the full amount of your purchase on the rare occasion that anything does go wrong."

Police have been able to identify 34 of Hartley's victims with a total loss of just under £1,000. Under confiscation legislation half of the remainder of the money is divided between the CPS, the Magistrates’ Court Service and the police. Lancashire Constabulary get back around eighteen percent of confiscations which is ploughed back into policing.
In the first case of its kind in the UK, the Crown Prosecution Service in London has successfully secured the conviction of a paedophile by using expert analysis of photographic evidence of his hand.

Dean Hardy from Orpington in Kent has been sentenced to six years at Southwark Crown Court after admitting two counts of indecent assault, four counts of taking indecent photos of children and one count of possessing indecent photos of children.

On 24 September 2007 the 50 year old was arrested by police at his home address, on suspicion of downloading indecent images of children. When Hardy’s computer was searched five indecent photographs of children were found. The memory cards from two cameras which had also been seized were analysed and on these home made indecent images of children were found.

The majority of the 63 photos found on the memory cards showed young South East Asian girls being abused by an adult whose hand was visible. Investigations showed that Hardy had travelled to Thailand in December 2002 and in March 2004.

CPS London lawyer Peter Zinner said: “There is no facial image of Mr Hardy in any of these images but it was clear there was an adult hand touching a young girl aged about 8 years old.”

“A forensic anthropologist Professor Sue Black was consulted. She was presented with a picture of Hardys hand from when he was arrested and with the indecent images featuring the adult hand. Professor Black thoroughly examined the images and concluded they were the same hand.”

Following this advice the CPS concluded there was sufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction and charged Mr Hardy.

A so-called sex tourist provision in the Sex Offenders Act 1997 (now replaced by a similar provision in the Sexual Offences Act 2003) allows courts in England and Wales to prosecute a UK citizen for sexual offences committed in another country, if they are contrary to that countrys law.

Peter Zinner continued: “This case, once again, demonstrates that the CPS and police are determined to protect children from sexual predators irrespective of where they offend in the world.”

“As well as todays sentencing we are also seeking to obtain a foreign travel ban against Dean Hardy to protect children generally and ensure that he does not commit further offences abroad.”

“Hardy admitted all the offences he had been charged with when he appeared for his plea hearing and I think this is testament to the quality of the police investigation and the strength of evidence put in front of him.”
Two men set fire to the home of a publisher after he announced plans to release a controversial book.

Ali Beheshti and Abrar Mirza planned the arson attack on Gibson Square Books Ltd after discovering it was going to publish The Jewel of Medina - a book about the Prophet Mohammed and his young wife.

Beheshti and Mirza poured diesel through the door of the Islington-based Gibson Square Books before setting it alight. They were arrested after being stopped by armed Met Police officers in an intelligence-led operation as they attempted to flee the scene.

Beheshti, 41, of Tavistock Gardens, Ilford, and 23-year-old Mirza, of East Field Road, Walthamstow, had admitted conspiracy to commit arson, being reckless as to whether life was endangered, at an earlier court hearing on 21 April.

A third man, 31-year-old Abbas Taj, had pleaded not guilty to the same charge, but was found guilty by a jury after a trial at Croydon Crown Court.

The three will be sentenced at a later date. Taj, of Field Road, Forest Gate, had dropped Beheshti and Mirza close to Lonsdale Square just before they attacked the property. He was to be their getaway driver, but was stopped in his car and arrested by armed police near Angel tube station in the early hours of September 27, 2008, just after they had set fire to the premises.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner John McDowall, head of the Met's Counter Terrorism Command and Senior National Co-ordinator Counter Terrorism, said: "These men planned to carry out arson as a violent reaction and protest against the publishing of a book.

"They did not care whether anybody would be killed or injured when they poured diesel through..."
the letterbox and set fire to it.

"Photographs, tapes and documents found at their homes showed the violent mindset of this trio of arsonists.

"This was a professional, proactive investigation which left Ali Beheshti and Abrar Mirza with no choice but to admit their guilt when faced with overwhelming evidence.

"Abbas Taj denied being a part of the conspiracy, claiming he was an innocent party who was merely giving his friends a lift. But the jury has seen through his lies and convicted him today."

Beheshti and Mirza were seen carrying out reconnaissance 'drive throughs' of Lonsdale Square and its surrounding area in the weeks leading up to the attack.

Beheshti was also caught on CCTV filling a fuel can with diesel. He later put the can into the boot of Taj's car, which again was caught on CCTV cameras.

The three defendants were seen meeting before the September 27 attack and drive between various locations. At one point Beheshti changed his clothes in an attempt to disguise himself.

Following their arrests, searches were carried out at the men's home addresses.

A computer found during searches at Mirza's address found research had been conducted into Gibson Square Books, including a Google Earth Plus map search. The computer had been cleaned to prevent some material being recovered.

Photographs were found on a computer at Beheshti's home of him holding a burning cross at a protest outside the US Embassy in May 2005. Beheshti suffered burns to his hands during the protest.

Taj's car was found to have Jihadi tape recordings in it, as well as mobile phones belonging to Mirza which contained photographs that Mirza had taken on a previous reconnaissance of Lonsdale Square on September 9 2008.
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Twelve people have been sentenced to a total of 25-years in prison for fraud offences thanks to a Scouting Handbook.

The investigation took place between West Yorkshire Police and Nottinghamshire Police after £1.2 million was fraudulently stolen from a number of banks between April 2005 and May 2006.

The banks and account holders alerted both forces after cash was missing from their accounts.

Following a 10 week trial heard at Nottingham Crown Court his honour Judge Teare passed the following sentences on Thursday 21 May and Friday 22 May. David Legore, 49, of Wollaton has been sentenced to 4 years and Mohammed Ikram, 22, of Bradford has been sentenced to 18 months community order and is required to undertake 150 hours of unpaid community work after pleading guilty to conspiracy to possess or acquire criminal property.

Lawrence Aitken, 38, has been sentenced to 4 years, and Azhar Hussain, 47, of Aspley, has been sentenced to 6 years after they were found guilty following a trial of conspiring to possess or acquire criminal property.

John Phipps, 64, of Ilkley, has been sentenced to 4 years after being found guilty of conspiracy to steal and Francis Alfred (female), 26, has been given a 10 month sentence suspended for 18 months and ordered to complete 200 hours unpaid community work after being found guilty of conspiracy to possess or acquire criminal property.

Ansir Khan, 22, of Bradford has been sentenced to 3 years 3 months, Mohammed Hamraaz, 25, of Bradford has been sentenced to 2 years, Michael Finch, 64, of Bromley has been sentenced to 2 years 2 months, Madeline Finch, 59, Bromley has been sentenced to 50 weeks suspended for 18 months and required to undertake 200 hours of unpaid community work and Sam Shaw, 23, of Nottingham has been sentenced to 2 year community order after they all pleaded guilty to conspiracy to steal.

Reginald Aitken, 65, was given a 10 months sentenced suspended for 18 months after being found guilty following a trial of conspiring to possess or acquire criminal property. He was given his sentence at a hearing at Nottingham Crown Court on Thursday 21 May.

His honour Judge Teare commended the investigative work undertaken by DC Chris Stephens of West Yorkshire Police’s Economic...
1. Lawrence Aitken
2. Azhar Hussain
3. John Phipps
4. Michael Finch
5. David Legore
6. Mohammed Hamraaz
7. Ansir Khan
Crime Unit and Sergeant Kathryn Craner of Nottinghamshire Police.

DC Chris Stephens used his knowledge from 40-years in scouting to crack codes used by Ansir Khan who concealed account and personal details of customers inside what appeared to be mobile phone numbers and notes encrypted by a cipher.

The answers to the codes used by the fraudsters were found inside the Scoutmasters A to Z.

Speaking after the sentencing DCI Steven Taylor of West Yorkshire Police’s Economic Crime Unit said:

“This has been a thorough and complex investigation which saw my team working closely with Nottinghamshire Police and the private bank which was being targeted by fraudsters.

“This investigation literally involved cracking codes. Account details and amounts of money deposited and withdrawn were contained in what appeared to be mobile phone numbers. A cipher, which is a series of numbers and symbols, was also used by the fraudsters to conceal information.

“Despite the defendants trying to create a smoke screen and communicating in code my team were able to decipher the messages and identify those involved and how the thefts took place.

“This shows the calibre and the commitment of the detectives who work in the West Yorkshire Police Economic Crime Unit.

“I hope the sentences passed serve as a deterrent to those who believe they can get away with stealing cash from others. Whether you are one of the main organisers or on the edge of the scam you will feel the full power of the law.

“I would like to warn small businesses to be on their guard in the current economic climate. There are fraudsters out there offering to pass money through your accounts in order for them to steal it from others.

“Don’t do anyone any favours, in the eyes of the law you have committed an offence by your account being used.

“West Yorkshire Police always investigate allegations of fraud vigorously and will not tolerate those who live of the proceeds of crime.”

Sergeant Kathryn Craner, who led Nottinghamshire Police’s case, said:

“We were notified by the victims in this case, who had noticed irregularities with their bank accounts and reported their concerns.

“This shows how important it is for people to regularly pay close attention to what is happening with their accounts.

“Those involved in the Nottinghamshire case were willing to turn bankers drafts into cash, and accept a fee for doing so. By not asking questions and being prepared to take the risk, they have no choice but to face the consequences of a jail term.

“Working closely with West Yorkshire we conducted a complex and thorough investigation to prove links across the two counties.

“The sentences should serve as a warning to anyone thinking of gaining financially through criminal means and also encourage the public to keep an eye on their money – especially when times are hard.”

www.the-investigator.co.uk
In part two of the series, Professor Karl Roberts looks at the role of behavioural investigative advisors in planning interview strategies for suspects.

When carrying out a behavioural assessment of an individual, it is important for investigators to recognise what sort of information is required by BIA’s.

Essentially all of the information that is acquired during an investigation about a specific individual, their characteristics, background and lifestyle is potentially useful.

This article looks at the sorts of information that BIA’s find particularly useful.

**Statements**

Statements from people who know an individual e.g. friends, family, professionals (doctors, psychiatrists, social workers) are particularly useful as they can often give a sense of how that person behaves in their day to day life, their background, interests, hobbies, attitudes and beliefs.

These statements may also serve to indicate the kinds of situations that anger them, how they deal with stress and what they need for their own wellbeing.

It is important to note that many statements from others can be self-serving and may be critical of the individual; as such triangulating the information from a range of different sources is very useful – statements from a jilted former partner are likely to provide an insight into negative characteristics of an individual which may be in contrast to those of their friends.

It is worth obtaining information from sources such as police, prison officers and other professionals who have had contact with the suspect about the suspect’s attitude to their offending.

**Previous offending**

Looking at a suspect’s attitude to previous offending can be useful in predicting how that individual will present for interview. Some individuals experience high levels of guilt, others attempt to lie and deceive, still others might feel entirely justified in their actions and may even be proud of their acts.

When designing strategies for suspect interviews, the characteristics of the offence and of any previous offences are useful to consider. Of interest here is the way in which the offender carried out the offence – what behaviours did the offender do.

This is relevant because during the commission of an offence, offenders can behave in ways that are important to them and may show something of their particular abilities, needs and interests.

In considering the characteristics of offences three related questions are useful to give insights into...
the offending behaviour.

Firstly, what does the offender do that they have to do to commit the offence? Essentially this question invites the investigator to consider the basic offence and the minimum behaviour the offender needs to do to succeed.

For example robbery requires an item to be stolen using threats of violence, rape requires sexual penetration without the consent of the victim. The next question asks; what does the offender do that they do not need to do?

**Basic offence**
This question invites the investigator to consider how the offence differs from the basic offence, what behaviours does the offender bring to the offence that go beyond what is needed to succeed. This question relates directly to the particular interests and motives of the offender, the extra behaviours are essentially what the offender requires for the offence to be a success.

For example one offender in committing a rape may engage the victim in detailed discussions even being complementary to her during and after the sexual assault.

Another offender might say nothing to the victim; another offender might gratuitously beat the victim during the rape. These different behaviours may lead to hypotheses concerning the offender’s attitude to the victim and the offence, the first individual is likely to be attempting to minimise the offence and may regard the victim as a ‘lover,’ this contrasts with the offender who beats the victim who may regard her as an object and may be using the victim as a tool to remove his anger.

The final question asks, in the context of the offence what does the offender not do that he could have done? In any offence the offender could have carried out any number of possible acts, however this question relates specifically to the context of the offence under investigation.

For example during a sexual assault the offender might have gained control over the victim but may not rape the victim, another offender may attempt to kiss a victim but having met with resistance may not pursue this.

Another offender may not take steps to hide his identity, yet another offender may take no steps to avoid leaving forensic evidence.

By way of an example consider the following case. The author consulted on a case where a rapist spent over an hour talking to a woman he had raped at knife-point.

He told her how sorry he was and how attractive she looked, he even arranged a date with her for the next evening.

All this time the victim was able to get a good look at the offender and to produce a good description of him. In answering the three questions above what do we see? What does the offender do that he has to do? To commit the rape he must gain control over the victim to extinguish her resistance, he does this by brandishing the knife and by brute force.

Having gained control over her he completes the rape. What does the offender do that he doesn’t have to do? Here the offender spends time talking with the victim, he arranged a date with her and allowed her to get a good description of him.
Interviewing

What does the offender not do that he could have done? Here the offender fails to attempt to hide his identity, he was not profane and used minimal force, indeed only as much force as he required to get control.

He did not use the knife on the victim. What suggestions might arise from these considerations?

Here the offender appears to be motivated by the need for a relationship with the victim and this need is so important it over-rides any concerns for personal safety. Indeed the offender appears to desire a relationship and his almost cavalier disregard for hiding his identity and his desire for a date are suggestive that he may not regard the offence as a rape perhaps enabling him to justify and minimise his actions.

Interview strategy

Such knowledge is potentially useful for investigators in designing an interview strategy as this may relate to how the individual regards himself, the victim and his actions and how investigators might therefore refer to the offence during the interview. Readers are invited to consider how they should refer to the offence during interview – would they use terms such as ‘rape,’ and ‘rapist?’

These terms are likely to have an impact on the suspect if he does not consider himself to be a rapist and may provoke anger or be barriers to communication.

How an individual performed in previous interviews is useful to consider in designing an interview strategy because it shows directly how an individual performs in an interview situation.

Of interest here is the reaction of the suspect to challenges, the suspect’s attitude to the offence, how the suspect relates to legal representation and the interviewers, how the suspect responds to the particular strategies deployed by the interviewers, if the suspect utilises their own interview strategies to counter those of the interviewers, and how the suspect deals with disclosure.

A review of the above material allows the identification of behavioural and personality characteristics of the interviewee and characteristics of their lifestyle and living environment. In the next section we will consider some of the characteristics of individual’s that can be identified and that are, in the author’s experience, influential upon interview performance and should be considered by interviewers.

Characteristics of Suspects Relevant to Interviews

It is important to note that the characteristics described below may be considered as relatively independent characteristics of individuals, that is individuals can have a high level of one of the characteristic but this does not mean they will necessarily have high levels of other characteristics.

Similarly an individual’s behaviour will be governed by the interaction of each of these different characteristics and so to gain as full a picture of an individual as possible, individuals should be considered as to their level on as many of these characteristics as possible.

To pre-empt what is to follow, an individual who is high on intelligence, has high social skills and high levels of empathy is likely to be very different from someone who is low on these three characteristics. Considering investigative material of the type mentioned above can help to identify some of the personality characteristics below.

Intelligence

Broadly intelligence can be defined as the ability to reason, imagine and process information. We may classify intelligence as High, Average, and Low. Highly Intelligent individuals frequently demonstrate skill and ability in using and dealing with information.

They can be creative and imaginative and may often plan their actions. In assessing an individual’s likely level of intelligence, lifestyle and behavioural characteristics are important, as is offending behaviour. In terms of lifestyle, intelligent individuals may have been successful academically
and/or may hold demanding skilled occupations that make use of this ability.

However there are intelligent individuals who do not achieve academically but are still very good at reasoning and using information. Hobbies or interests, books read, television programmes watched and internet sites used may all give insights into intelligence level. Considerations here are the complexity of the material, the levels of demand for planning and continuity of thought that the activities or material make, generally the greater the demands on the individual the greater the intelligence level.

The way an individual communicates, their vocabulary and/or the logic of arguments and written material can give insights into intelligence levels, again the more complex and well planned the greater the intelligence. Offending behaviour may also give indications of intelligence level; the complexity of the offence and the degree of planning and imagination involved can give relevant insights.

In police interviews one might expect intelligent individuals to have no problems understanding questions and following the police lines of questioning. Individuals with very low intelligence (IQ less than 70) may be classed as having learning difficulties.

This group presents particular problems in terms of whether they should be interviewed at all as they may often fail to comprehend why they are arrested and/or to understand questions asked of them. It is known that suggestibility increases with low intelligence so there are significant risks in interviewing individuals identified to be of very low intelligence.

Social skills
This may be defined as the ability to relate to and communicate with others and comfort in social situations. Individuals with high social skills are typically able to communicate with a range of individuals and frequently have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

They are generally comfortable in a range of social situations and this is likely to include police interviews. Such individuals may communicate readily, putting interviewers at ease by use of their social skills.

Socially skilled individuals are often easy to interview, as they are capable of answering questions and giving accounts.

However these individuals may use their social skills to manipulate the interviewer creating conditions where the interviewer is placed at ease and considers that there is a good flow of information when in reality the information may be limited in relevant detail.

This illustrates the need for the content of interviews to be subjected to continuous review to identify such situations.
In contrast individuals of low social skills may find it difficult to function socially, perhaps becoming anxious in new situations and even fearing new people.

They often have a small circle of friends and are unlikely to socialise to any great extent. In interview these individuals are likely to find it hard to talk to the interviewers and they may be uncommunicative.

Empathy
Empathy or Empathic concern is the extent to which an individual is able to take account of the feeling, perspective and needs of others.

There are two important aspects to empathy that are relevant to human behaviour, these are perspective taking – the extent to which an individual is able to consider another individual’s perspective, to acknowledge that others have different attitudes and opinions, to place themselves in another’s situation and consider things from their point of view; and emotional empathy – the extent to which an individual is able to identify with and feel the emotions of another individual.

It is useful for interviewers to have good perspective taking abilities; this allows them to consider the likely impact of their own behaviour upon the interviewee.

Individuals vary on the degree of empathy they have. Individuals with high levels of empathy are frequently regarded as sympathetic and are often individuals who others will turn to for advice.

Put simply these people can relate to the feelings and opinions of others. Those with low levels of empathy are often regarded as being unsympathetic, they can be tough minded and may even be selfish. Such individuals struggle to consider the feelings and views of others. The impact of empathy on interviewing is interesting. Individuals who have a good level of empathy are often most able to identify the impact of their actions and so may experience guilt or even remorse about what they have done (especially if the offence was a sudden uncontrolled act that they did not plan).

This is because they can relate to the feelings and perspectives of victims and are therefore likely to struggle to rationalise their behaviour, especially if the victim has suffered.

By contrast those with low empathy are unlikely to experience guilt or remorse for their behaviour and may be most interested in how the situation impacts upon them.

Having a sense of the likely level of empathy an individual may suggest interview strategies – certainly those with the highest levels may be more responsive to approaches that invite them to consider the plight of the victim.

Empathy impacts upon an individual’s interpersonal behaviour acting to some extent, as a control mechanism. If one has an ability to identify the suffering of others and their perspective this means that an individual is less likely to habitually act in ways that infringe the rights and feelings of others.

Self Esteem
This may be defined as the sense of self worth an individual has. Individuals with high self-esteem are generally described as confident and are not often intimidated by others. Individuals with low self-esteem are often intimidated by others and generally regard themselves as having ‘lesser’ value.

In terms of the impact on interviews of an individual’s self esteem. Those with low self-esteem tend to find it difficult to relate to interviewers and may often benefit from attempts to raise their self esteem levels – rapport building, complements, showing interest in them etc. Raising such an individual’s self-esteem may be important in order to get them to speak to interviewers at all.

Read the next issue of the Investigator for Part Three of this article.
Worldwide Suppliers of Quality Forensic Products
Popular TV shows like CSI may paint an exaggerated and glamorous picture of the frontline, but they do reveal that jurors expect forensic science to back up all the evidence presented to them and animal cruelty cases are no exception.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) forensic veterinarian Dr Melinda Merck testifies as a forensic veterinary expert for animal cruelty cases all over the US and is considered a national lead on using science in investigating crimes against animals.

Senior director of veterinary forensics for the ASPCA, Dr Melinda Merck, said in the CSI world of animal cruelty is no different to any other kind of crime fighting forensic science, except the victim of course.

“In order to properly identify evidence, analyse it and interpret the findings, you have to know animals and animal behavior.”

“This is what I do and what I bring to a crime scene. I am an animal expert investigating crimes against animals, I conduct crime scene investigation and then the examination of the victim (which is the animal). And then I work with investigators and prosecutors to develop the case and bring it to court.”

Dr Merck’s interest in the field of animal forensics mostly evolved from seeing cruelty cases in private practice, including working with rescue and animal control groups.

In 2000, the felony animal cruelty law was passed in the state of Georgia, and she joined a group called Georgia Legal Professionals for Animals, which conducted educational seminars on the investigation and prosecution of animal cruelty.

“I had to do more research for these seminars and
“There are subtle differences between animal and human evidence. For example, animal blood spatter evidence is different from human evidence”
started working with medical examiners and studying forensics. From there it grew to more work with more cases, and eventually I joined the ASPCA,” she said.

The evidence Dr Merck finds varies with the type of case and she examines the crime scene as well as the animal in most of her cases.

“There are subtle differences between animal and human evidence. For example, animal blood spatter evidence is different from human evidence. Animals bleed differently than humans, usually much less, and the animal’s behavior certainly impacts how the blood stain patterns are analysed. It is a very reliable evidence type when examining a suspected dog fighting scene, said Dr Merck.

“I am looking for evidence that can show me if a crime happened and what event took place. I look for blood evidence, trace evidence, fluids, weapons, poisons and so on. I look for clues to what type of weapon may have been used I actually take a rubber cast of any wound to match to any suspected weapon.

“I use a UV light to look for fluid, fibers and blood. I also use something called Blue Star, which fluoresces hidden blood a blue color. For hoarding, I look for evidence of how long the animals have been in those conditions, what diseases or types of neglect they are suffering from. We take ammonia readings in those homes, which can be toxic to humans and animals.”

Dr Merck said the discovery of maggots is always a valuable and “exciting find”.

“Insect evidence is the most accurate way to determine time of injury or death. I work with several forensic specialists to analyse these types of evidence.”

Other evidence clues include conducting bone marrow tests, which Dr Merck said can reveal if an animal has been drowned using force.

Dr Merck uses several crime scene kits when applying her expertise. For buried remains, she has special tools to excavate a grave, including a collapsible grid from which to take measurements, a GPS unit, a sifter for all dirt removed, a tool to collect soil samples, and evidence jars and bags.

“For collecting insects, I have a net for live insects, special jars and preservative fluid, and a group of ID cards to identify the insects. I have special thermometers for the animal and the environment, a large UV black light, magnifier, Mikrosil rubber casting material, trace evidence lifters, Blue Star, phenolphthalein to trace blood, and all sorts of tweezers and evidence containers. When I come to a scene, I never know what we are going to find or need, so I have to have everything.”

A recent case Dr Merck worked on involved a robbery at a domestic property. The invaders shot the home owners’ dog during the incident. Animal crime scene investigators used ballistic evidence obtained form the dog’s corpse, matching it to the offenders’ clothing. Also, dog fur samples were also lifted from the offenders’ clothing.

**A case of torture**

The worst case Dr Merck has experienced was a puppy torture case in Atlanta in December 2006. Two young men, aged 17 and 19, broke into a community center that had just been refurbished in their apartment complex. They destroyed it by breaking windows, walls and the computers.

“Then they took a three-month-old puppy and hog-tied her with duct tape, muzzled her with duct tape, poured paint on her, tried to set her alight – unsuccessfully - and then placed her in an oven and baked her to death.

“The youths then they brought children in to see the puppy in the oven, and threatened them not to tell. It was the most horrendous case I have seen. The case was taken to trial, where we got a hung jury with 11-1 for conviction.

“A re-trial date was set, and three days before the start the defendants pled guilty on all counts (one burglary, one criminal damage to property, one animal cruelty, and three child cruelty) and received the maximum on all counts to serve concurrently, which amounted to 20 years; ten to
serve in prison and ten to serve as probation. They also had disturbing juvenile records, one committed arson and the other had sexually assaulted a child.”

A rewarding role
Despite the lows, there are also highs to Dr Merck’s work. The best part of the job, she said, is when she and investigators succeed.

“This can mean a conviction, successful intervention or when the animal is now protected from future harm. I work with a group of investigators and prosecutors who support going after the criminals who commit cruelty. That continually validates what I am doing and keeps me motivated.”

At times Dr Merck said it can be difficult to stay strong when the animal at the centre of a case is the victim of abuse.

“It is certainly difficult to work with these cases because they represent the ultimate breakdown of the human-animal bond,” she said. “I think my work as a veterinarian has helped me because you learn to compartmentalise in order to do your job. You cannot succumb to emotion while working on an animal or case.

“For cruelty, I turn it into a puzzle that I have to solve. My goal is to gather evidence to find and successfully prosecute the offender. I realise that what’s done is done and I have to work toward justice. It is very hard because of my empathy for animals, but the best thing I can do for them is be their voice.”

Animal forensics in the classroom
Earlier this year, the University of Florida teamed up with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) to develop a veterinary forensic sciences program dedicated to the teaching, research, and application of forensic science in the investigation and prosecution against animals.

“This is a newly emerging field and the course is the first such program within an educational institution,” said Prof Bruce Goldberger, director of the William R Maples Centre for Forensic Medicine at the university.

“We are translating our knowledge of forensic science to a new field devoted to solving crimes against animals.”

The programme will also be directly involved in forensic work on animal cruelty cases investigated by the ASPCA, and will also assist other agencies with such investigations.

The ASPCA has provided initial funding of $150,000 to sponsor a clinical professorship at the rank of associate professor and work with the university to develop the educational plan and research mission and define the areas of applied casework for the program.

“In addition to the undergraduate and graduate programs, continuing education programs will be available through workshops for veterinarians, law
enforcement, animal control officers, and attorneys,” said Dr Merck.

Courses will include: forensic entomology, buried remains excavation, bloodstain analysis, bite mark analysis, and animal crime scene processing. Trainings will be done in classroom settings, online, and through the just-formed International Veterinary Forensic Sciences Association.

Dr Merck added: “Since there is no national tracking of animal cruelty cases, the new program will allow for better collection of such data. The ASPCA investigates more than 5,000 cruelty cases and arrests or issues summonses to more than 300 people each year. Scenarios include neglect, abandonment, animal hoarding and dog fighting.

“The ability to offer a joint forensic science and veterinary medicine education at the bachelor and master level is unprecedented. It is an exciting opportunity to be able to collaborate with the University of Florida and to create a program that can provide ‘one-stop shopping’ for veterinary forensic science needs for agencies and individuals.”

Dr Merck said the biggest mandate of the partnership is to educate others: “Veterinary students are craving this information and it will effect change. For example, current research is attempting to create a database that can identify the breed of an animal based purely on a sample of fur, often found at a crime scene.”

She added that all dogs seized at scenes of organised fights are being added to a database in a bid to help identify the victims, which are often stolen.

The course will also look at developing animal forensic osteology – the study of bones. Dr Merck said it is an under-utilised area of study and she has mastered a way of identifying a victim of dog fighting through a study of the canine’s bones.

daniel@the-investigator.co.uk
“Cases have included a murder in Indiana, dog and llama abuse cases in Florida, cattle rustling in Arizona and big horn sheep poaching in Montana,” said Dr Sree Kanthaswamy, a primate population geneticist and the lab’s director.

“Several have involved the analysis of blood samples taken off a road to match the DNA profile of an injured or dead animal that was dragged behind a car.”

Dr Kanthaswamy said after years of experience, the lab’s forensics unit has become expert at reliably extracting animal DNA from peculiar sources, such as a single drop of blood in a puddle of mud, or a minute spot of dried blood on a piece of wood that has been left in the sun, or fecal matter from a...
shoe, even dried saliva from torn clothing. One thing that really sets the lab apart from a typical forensics lab that deals with human evidence is its large database of DNA data on a variety of animal species. It is a valuable crime fighting tool used by police investigators.

“This data can make or break a case,” said Dr Kanthaswamy. “For example, with a dog mauling case someone may accuse a certain dog. It is the lab’s responsibility to test the accused dog against some of the dog’s DNA, from hair or saliva that was left on the mauling victim.”

Professor Herbert Leon MacDonell is director of the Laboratory of Forensic Science in Corning, New York.

From 1969-1970 he was project director of ‘flight characteristics and stain patterns of human blood’ under the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and has conducted over 100 seminars and workshops on the subject in several countries.

He was an expert witness in numerous civil and criminal cases (OJ Simpson, Robert Kennedy, Jean Harris, Martin Luther King, Black Panthers). In 1973 Prof MacDonell founded the Bloodstain Evidence Institute and in 1974 became the seventh recipient of the Dondaro Award for his outstanding contribution in the field of scientific identification.

In 1983 he founded the International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts, which currently has over 800 members from 17 countries.

He is a distinguished member of the International Association for Identification. In 2006 he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Milton College Preservation Society.
Criminology continues to establish a variety of exciting and politically significant research specialisms. Surveillance studies is one such field positioning itself at the very heart of the discipline.

The insatiable appetite of state and consumer agencies (and curious individuals) for personal information, has helped cultivate the rapidly increasing ‘surveillance society’.

Whilst the term has become something of a cliché in contemporary culture, with competing depictions routinely appearing in a range of popular domains, citizens of the western world increasingly live their lives under and through ubiquitous surveillance.

Surveillance technologies have, quite simply, become embedded in our everyday existence. Thinking about an unexceptional day in your own life may help you to understand this argument further. Imagine the data that is collected from the moment your mobile phone wakes you up, transmitting a signal identifying your location.

As the day progresses more information is quickly collected – on your drive to work through roadside cameras, on reaching work when you swipe in.

The mobile phone awakening you from your slumber transmits a signal identifying your current location; the roadside cameras monitor your speed, whilst also scanning your number plate against a database of suspicious vehicles.

On reaching work, you swipe your ID card so as to gain access and log-in to your computer which

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 subtly records arrival time, the various websites you visit and emails you receive/send, whilst simultaneously counting the keystrokes you make during the course of a day.

A lunchtime trip to acquire a bank loan involves the clerk checking and exchanging your personal information with a plethora of organisations to ensure that you are who you say you are and that your credit history is risk averse.

As you leave, a photograph of you embracing an old friend is captured by the camera of a tourist, soon to appear on a publicly accessible website.

On returning home from work, you are caught on the high street, gym, petrol station and then supermarket CCTV systems, your every purchase in the latter space being logged for marketing imperatives on your company-engineered 'loyalty card'.

Even when you get into the commonly perceived 'privacy' of your own home, each website you visit assigns you a unique code which helps monitor your web browsing activities.

In a world of surveillance, where our everyday lives are touched and ordered by largely invisible gazes and processes, never has there been a better time to dispel some deeply ingrained myths about this phenomenon.

The surveillance society is thus, a cultural and bureaucratic order where our ‘digital trail’ has become a valuable (and marketable) commodity, our “digital double” creates a more trustworthy source than the person to which the data relates.
Where else would you study such professionally orientated programmes?

The School of Social Sciences at City University London is a vibrant place of teaching, learning and research. With an exceptional reputation for graduate employability a postgraduate degree from City University provides an excellent step up to your future career. We combine first class teaching with an exciting programme of postgraduate courses and offer a number of specialist degree programmes. We are now accepting entry on the following programmes:

MA Surveillance Studies
This distinctive interdisciplinary degree is designed to present cutting edge knowledge of recent developments in surveillance. Taught by leading academics in the field, it provides in-depth analysis and discussion of the key issues characterising the expansion of Surveillance in 21st century society. The programme includes modules on Security and Crime Control, Victimology, Surveillance Theory and Concepts, Human Rights, Globalising Cities and Transnational Policing.

MA Criminology
This postgraduate degree will appeal to those wishing to undertake advanced study in contemporary developments in criminology and criminal justice. The course emphasises the importance of locating key developments in crime and crime control within an interdisciplinary and global context. Students can investigate the latest thinking concerning 21st century crime and evaluate the latest criminological research and policy proposals.

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The fragments of information that our daily actions and transactions, such as those described above, leave behind, is silently collected by a range of largely invisible devices, before being ordered and sorted according to particular institutionally-imposed categories in large, networked databases.

Such classification mechanisms directly and indirectly impact upon our life chances and social mobility.

Capturing, classifying and shaping behaviour has become the key objective of surveillance systems, but this is not necessarily a top-down, unilateral Orwellian process administered by state and commerce.

We are all involved in producing, sustaining and consuming the growing surveillance culture. The success of reality television programming and phenomenon’s such as Bebo, Facebook and Twitter are ample testament to this.

For these reasons, surveillance has become a central concept in scholarly understandings of contemporary social relations and organisational processes.

Emerging in a context of omnipresent electronic monitoring, surveillance studies is a globally networked cross-disciplinary initiative which seeks to critically investigate and better understand how and why personal details are routinely collected, stored, checked, traded and processed; as well as what the implications are for individuals and groups.

A number of important social issues are at stake from such developments – trust, privacy, equality, citizenship, democracy, power and governance are only some of the many values creaking and metamorphosing under the transformational weight of the surveillance society.

As such, City University London now offers the world’s first MA degree in Surveillance Studies, to provide a unique and stimulating platform for academic discussion, critical empirical research and political engagement.

Beginning in September 2009, it will explore topics relating to surveillance growth, theory, regulation, ethics and futures. It is ideally suited for those wishing to engage with cutting edge developments in social sciences, critical research issues in Surveillance and key policy trends.

The overall objective of the MA is to equip participants with the tools required to comprehend the diverse ways in which surveillance is produced, operationalised and experienced in everyday life.

Dr Gavin J. D. Smith is a Lecturer in Sociology, Criminology and Philosophy at City University London and is an established authority in the field of surveillance studies.

Gavin has written widely in the surveillance and ‘remote policing’ area, and is currently working on a surveillance monograph and textbook. His main interests lie in the overlaps between the sociology of surveillance, sociology of crime and deviance, sociology of culture, sociology of emotions, sociology of knowledge and social research methodology fields.

City University London also intends hosting a multi-disciplinary global conference on surveillance in April 2010.

To find out more about the course either visit: www.city.ac.uk/sociology/surveillance or email: socscipg@city.ac.uk
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Trainer led theoretical inputs and practical scenario based exercises.

Assessment process / accreditation details
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www.i2.co.uk
Brian Dunn and Harry Stephenson look at the issues around the employment of illegal migrant workers and the use of fraudulent identification documents.

Personnel security involves a number of screening methods, which are performed as part of the recruitment process but also on a regular basis for existing staff.

The ways in which screening is performed varies greatly between organisations; some methods are very simple, others are more sophisticated. In every case, the aim of the screening is to collect information about potential or existing staff and then to use that information to identify any individuals who present security concerns.

Pre-employment screening seeks to verify the credentials of job applicants and to check that the applicants meet preconditions of employment (e.g. that the individual is legally permitted to take up an offer of employment).

In the course of performing these checks it will be established whether the applicant has concealed important information or otherwise misrepresented themselves. To this extent, pre-employment screening may be considered a test of character.
Identity fraud is an increasingly common offence. There are three main reasons why individuals use false identity:

1. To avoid detection. This can include illegal immigrants, money launderers, disqualified drivers, wanted criminals and those with a poor credit history. Individuals who wish to remain anonymous and/or undetected, such as terrorists, may also use false identities.

2. For dishonest financial gain. This can include credit fraud, welfare benefits fraud or falsifying educational qualifications to obtain employment.

3. To avoid financial liability. This can include failing to pay debts, taxes, child maintenance etc.

On 29 February 2008, the Government introduced changes which UK employers, need to be aware of to avoid liability for payment of a civil penalty for employing illegal migrants. As an employer you may be presented with a document, or documents, from one of two lists. Documents provided from List A establish that the person has an ongoing entitlement to work in the UK, documents from List B indicate that the applicant or employee has restrictions on their entitlement to be in the UK.

As an employer, you have a responsibility to
prevent illegal migrant working in the UK. Sections 15–25 of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 (the ‘2006 Act’) set out the law on the prevention of illegal migrant working. These provisions came into force on 29 February 2008. They replace the previous offence under section 8 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 (the ‘1996 Act’).

An employer who employs someone subject to immigration control aged over 16 who is not entitled to undertake the work in question will be liable to pay a civil penalty of up to £10,000 per illegal worker. Section 15 of the 2006 Act provides that notice of liability to pay a civil penalty of a specific amount can be served by Border and Immigration Agency officials.

The new arrangements for establishing the excuse only apply to those employees who started working for you on or after 29 February 2008. You will still be liable for prosecution under the 1996 Act where you employed illegal migrants between 27 January 1997 and 28 February 2008 and did not establish the statutory defence at the point of recruitment. Equally, if you established a statutory defence under section 8 of the 1996 Act for employees taken on before 29 February 2009, this will be retained for the duration of that person’s employment.

Under the new law, you will be able to establish the excuse for your prospective employees by checking and copying one, or a specified combination, of original documents. In all cases, the excuse must be established before the employment begins.

The repeat checks can only enable you to retain the original excuse, as the excuse cannot be established after employment has started. Where you can demonstrate that you have complied with these requirements, you will have established the excuse and may not have to pay the civil penalty, even if it transpires that the employee was working illegally. However, the excuse will not be available if you knowingly employ an illegal migrant worker.

It is important that you remember when applying these document checks that many people from minority ethnic groups who live in the UK are British citizens. The Government has issued a Code of practice to help employers comply with the law without discriminating against individuals on the basis of their race. If you operate discriminatory recruitment processes, you could face prosecution under race relations legislation and an unlimited fine if you are found guilty.

Any firm who is found to be in breach of the legislation by being negligent when checking the background of an employee will be subject to a civil penalty.

Employers need to be fully conversant with this legislation and understand the impact of the changes.

As reported on the 5th May 2008 by the BBC news,
“there has been a dramatic increase in the number of employers being prosecuted for hiring illegal immigrants. In the two months since the end of February 2008, when there was a change in the law, 137 businesses were caught employing illegal immigrants.

This is 10 times the number caught in 2007, and more than double the number prosecuted in the previous decade.

There have already been a number of arrests made throughout the North East region, more recently in and around Newcastle upon Tyne and the UK Border Agency has increased the number of enforcement operations it carries out and intends to continue to do so.

From 19th June 2008, the UK Border Agency will publish on the illegal working pages of its website, on a monthly basis, the details of employers who have been found to be liable for the payment of a civil penalty for employing illegal migrant workers or convicted of an offence under section 21. This will include details of employers from whom:

- No appeal or objection is received within the twenty-eight days after service of the Notice of Liability (NOL);
- Payment is not received within 28 days after service of the NOL;
- The appeal process against service of the NOL has been exhausted.
- Payment has been received.

For the period May 08 to Nov 08 businesses in the North East have had penalties imposed to a total of £78K. (Information from the UK Border Agency website).

DST Investigative Consultancy Services Ltd will assist employees by ensuring they fully understand their responsibilities under the legislation and by training staff in document identification.

Whether employing migrant workers, or providing any service where a fraudulent application can be made, DST can help you by training your staff to examine documents and check the validity of an applicant’s identity.

Training will be provided into such areas as the Immigration Act, Employment Law, Race Relations Act, The documents required by Law, Screening Process, Investigative Skills, Document Fraud, Examination of Documents, Impostor Detection, Application Forms, and Record Keeping.

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INVESTIGATOR TRAINING-EVENTS-CONFERENCES

JUNE 2009

08 - ACPO/ACPOS Data Protection, Freedom of International & Records Management Conference
Location: Southampton, UK. Contact: www.acpoprostandardsconference.co.uk

11 - Increasing Detections through Identification Technology
Location: Derbyshire Constabulary HQ, UK. Contact: www.fpsociety.org.uk

22, 23, 24 - The Professional Standards Conference
Location: Nottingham, UK. Contact: www.acpoprofessionalstandards.co.uk

Practical Forensics for Investigators Conference
Applying cutting edge techniques to major and volume crime
30 June 09 - Saracens Head Hotel
Towcester, Northamptonshire, UK.
www.the-investigator.co.uk for more information

JULY 2009

INVESTIGATOR TRAINING-EVENTS-CONFERENCES

To get your event listed email: info@the-investigator.co.uk
Practical Forensics for Investigators Conference

Applying cutting edge techniques to major and volume crime

30 June 09 - Saracens Head Hotel
Towcester, Northamptonshire, UK.

Full day session £199

In the first of the Investigator’s best practice conference – experts from the world of policing and forensics showcase the latest forensic techniques. They will give advice on how to apply the cutting edge techniques to major and volume crime.

ITEC is sponsored by Charles Sturt University - www.csu.edu.au
SEPTEMBER 2009

15 July - International Crime Science Conference
Location: British Library, London, UK
GLOBAL TO LOCAL: Countering the localised impacts of global crime problems
Contact: www.cscs.ucl.ac.uk

15, 16, 17 - Police Superintendents’ Annual Conference 2009
Location: Kenilworth, UK.
Contact: www.policesupers.com

ICDF2C 2009
International Conference on Digital Forensics & Cyber Crime
30 September - 2 October
Contact: www.d-forensics.org

NOVEMBER 2009

16, 17, 18 - ACPO Drugs Conference
Location: Bristol, UK.
Contact: www.acpodrugsconference.co.uk

24, 25 - The Emergency Services Show 2009
Location: Stoneleigh Park, Coventry, UK.
Contact: www.theemergencyservicesshow2009.com

CONFERENCES
October 28 - 29, 2009
London, UK
Brothers Alfred and Albert Stratton have the rather dubious claim to fame as being the first people to be convicted in Great Britain for murder based on fingerprint evidence.

In today’s criminal justice system, fingerprint evidence is routinely use in cases ranging from volume crime to murder but it is only a relatively new science that has developed considerably over the past hundred years.

The first fingerprint evidence involving a scene of crime mark in England took place in 1902 when Henry Jackson was charged with burglary of a house in South London. His imprint was found in dirt on a newly painted window-sill. Despite pleading not guilty, Jackson was convicted of the crime and sentenced to seven years penal servitude.

It was the Stratton brothers case or the Mask Murders as it was dubbed that is remembered as the case that launched forensic science as a credible discipline in Great Britain.

Their crimes took place on Monday March 27, 1905 when they conned their way into a paint shop in Depford late at night and attacked the owner Thomas Farrow, 71 and his wife 65, in a bid to get them to handover the cash box. They attacked and killed Mr Farrow and left his wife unconscious but still alive in her bed. She died four days’ later. The brothers stolen the £10 from the cash box and fled leaving behind the box complete with Alfred’s greasy thumbprint on it.

The case was led by Melville MacNaughten the Assistant Commissioner (Crime) of the Met and head of the criminal investigation department following the discovery of the thumbprint on the cash box. The box was taken to fingerprint bureau at Scotland Yard that had been established for four years.

It was headed by Charles Collins built up reputation as foremost english expert.

It was a risk because it was still new evidence and using it in a murder trial would be controversial. DI
Collins examined the print left by a thumb – although bureau already had 90,000 sets of prints on file – there were no matches and it didn’t match the Farrows. Mrs Farrow later died.

Police interviewed witnesses – led to the id of Alfred Stratton – had no criminal record but was known as a vagabond and had connections with criminal underworld. Albert also known to police and descriptions matched the brothers. Alfred’s girlfriend Annie was interviewed and said she remembered him asking for a pair of her stockings which he later used as a mask in the crime!

They were arrested on April 2 and taken into custody and interviewed. Based on tip by Annie they recovered £4 buried near a local waterworks. The fingerprints exactly matched to those of Alfred.

They brothers charged with murder and the trial set in May 5 1905 at the Old Bailey.

The prosecution called over 40 witnesses. The defence employed the services of experts who questioned the reliability of fingerprint evidence. Collins gave a demonstration to the jury about how fingerprint evidence could provide someone’s guilty. It took the jury less than two hours of deliberation.

In Context

Fingerprints provide police with a reliable means of identification because no two individuals have the same finger, palm or footprints – not even twins.

Fingerprints provide an extremely reliable means of identification. The system is based on the fact that no two individuals have the same finger, palm or footprints. These areas of the human body are covered by minute ridges frequently interrupted by endings or forks.

These interruptions are known as characteristics. Each person has a uniquely different distribution of characteristics that develop in the womb and persist throughout life.

They even remain unchanged some time after death, making the recognition of corpses possible.
The world has witnessed a plethora of psychopaths who have committed heinous murders for largely psychological gratification. Many serial killers suffer from Antisocial Personality Disorder and usually not psychosis, and thus appear to be quite normal and often even charming. Here’s a list of these unpredictable barbaric human beings who are infamous for committing culpable homicides.

10. Alexander Pichushkin

The only Russian to make an entry in the Top 10 has a profile of a Serial Killer generally one sees in Movies. This psychopath is infamously known as “Bitsa Maniac” and also the “Chessboard Killer”.

He was found guilty of 48 murders, confessed to 63. Pichushkin primarily targeted aged males by luring them with vodka. After drinking with them he would kill them, hitting them on the head with a hammer.

9. Dr. John Bodkin Adams

Dr. Adams was a British Serial Killer who is surprisingly not convicted for even a single murder of his “patients” although he has been accused of killing around 160 of them.

The prejudiced trial is one of the most controversial court judgments in British court history.

8. Hu Wanlin

This Chinese medical Serial Killer was arrested for killing 146 people, but suspected of the deaths of more.

The ‘treatments’ involved herbal preparations which were proved to contain high amounts of sodium sulphate which is poisonous in large doses.

He also employed the traditional practice of qigong, in which the healer emits ‘qi’ from his body. Hu Wanlin was sentenced on 10/1/2000 to 15 years.

7. Gilles de Rais

Gilles de Rais was a French soldier in early 1400s. He was later accused and ultimately convicted of torturing, raping and murdering dozens, if not hundreds, of young children, mainly boys.

The numbers run around 200. Gilles confessed (under threat of torture) to being a pedophile and homosexual in a time when either of these two activities could result in the forfeiture of life and property. He was eventually hanged at Nantes on 26th Oct 1440.
6. Henry Lee Lucas

This American has been purported to kill around 200 people. The nation’s most prolific killer’s first victim was his own biological mother!

He claimed to have been part of a cannibalistic, satanic cult called “The Hand of Death” to have taken part in snuff films, to have killed Jimmy Hoffa, and to have delivered poison to cult leader Jim Jones in Jonestown prior to the notorious mass murder/suicide of Jones’s group.

5. Dr. Harold Shipman

Dr. Shipman was an English general practitioner who was one of the most prolific known serial killers in modern history.

This psychopath targeted mostly elderly women. Investigations proved that his strong pattern of killing was by administering lethal overdoses of diamorphine to his patients.

He later committed suicide by hanging himself in his prison cell after being convicted of killing 15 but investigators estimate he killed 216.

4. Pedro López

Born on 8th Oct 1948, this Columbian killer had a traumatic childhood.

This son of a prostitute targeted young girls and has confessed of killing over 300 people. He himself a victim of pedophilia was gang-raped in prison.

3. Luis Garavito

Luis Garavito is a Columbian Rapist and a Serial Killer. In 1999, he admitted he had murdered and raped 140 young boys. But it’s purported that the possible victims could be around 300. Poor children, peasant children, or street children, between ages 6 and 16 were sodomized and then he would cut their throats.

2. Erzsébet Báthory

Elizabeth Báthory was a Hungarian countess from the renowned Báthory family.

This “Bloody Lady of Cachtice” is accused of murdering 600 or so people, but there was no public trial.

The beautiful mistress of the manor, known for her lustrous black hair and pale skin, was of royal blood and has been accused of killing dozens of women and young girls.

1. Thug Behram

Thug Behram was an Indian who has committed or at least been a part of around 931 homicides.

His method of murdering was strangulation using a “rumal” (a large handkerchief) used by his cult.

Thug’s 40-year infamous “career” was brought to an end by the British in 1840 by hanging.
in this week

June 2, 1985

Serial killing spree is put to an end

Leonard Lake is arrested near San Francisco, California, ending one of the rare cases of serial killers working together. Lake and Charles Ng were responsible for a series of particularly brutal crimes against young women in California and the Pacific Northwest during the mid-1980s.

Lake was a former Marine who had served time in Vietnam. Ng, born in Hong Kong, was educated in England, and attended college in California briefly before being caught with automatic weapons that he had stolen from a military base in Hawaii and sent to Leavenworth federal prison.

After his release, Ng hooked up with Lake in California and the two began a series of murders.

Ng and Lake shared a love of John Fowles' The Collector, a book in which the protagonist kidnaps a woman solely to keep her in his possession, like the butterflies he collects as a hobby. Creating "Operation Miranda," named after a character in the book, Ng and Lake began kidnapping young women and bringing them to a cinderblock bunker in a secluded area south of San Francisco.

There, they tried to brainwash the women into becoming their willing sex slaves.

They also kidnapped a young couple and their infant son in San Francisco while at their home pretending to be interested in some audiovisual equipment the couple was selling and later killed them.
Charles Ng sits in a Santa Ana Superior Court on June 30, 1999, after being sentenced to death for 11 murders that took place in rural California in the mid-1980s. Ng showed no expression as the sentence was pronounced.

He also tried to delay sentencing by claiming he was too tired to proceed and then trying to fire his lawyers.

Lake, who had been arrested in 1985 for his connection to a burglary committed by Ng, ingested a cyanide capsule while in custody, and killed himself. Ng escaped to Canada, where he successfully avoided extradition for almost six years.

When he was finally returned to California for trial, he utilized other delaying tactics. By the time he was finally convicted, he had gone through multiple attorneys and judges.

It was one of the longest homicide prosecutions in state history and one of the costliest, at approximately $11 million dollars.

The trial itself was unorthodox. Ng persuaded the judge to let him testify in his own defense, against his attorney's advice. He told the jury that he was Lake's subservient partner, and denied killing anyone.

The prosecution used his testimony to introduce new evidence, including cartoons drawn by Ng depicting babies being smashed, drowned, fried in a wok, and put in a microwave oven. Ng said the cartoons were meant to be funny.

After a four-month trial, the jury convicted Ng and he was sentenced to death in 1999.

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