



JUNE 2010 - REVIEW

The news was dominated by the outrage committed by legal gun owner Derrick Bird in Cumbria which resulted in the deaths of twelve victims and injuries to eleven others. The perpetrator then shot himself. GCN will be providing a more detailed account of the Cumbria shootings elsewhere.

This review is based on the other gun-related incidents. The number of gunshot injuries was comparatively high, not least because of incidents which occurred in the Birmingham area. The number of incidents involving airguns and BB guns that resulted in injuries to human and animal victims was also higher than in recent months.

- **Gun Deaths and Injuries** - Besides the multiple shootings in Cumbria on 2 June there were seven other fatal incidents, all involving male victims. Four of them were apparent homicides which occurred in:
 - London (2) - a teenager found dead in a burnt out car in Peckham had been shot in the head, and a second victim was found shot in the head in another car in Catford
 - Merseyside (1) - a man was shot dead while waiting in a van at traffic lights in Crosby
 - Scotland (1) - a man was shot outside his home in Shotts (North Lanarkshire)
- Three other men died from gunshot wounds that were apparently self inflicted - the incidents occurred in Pantygog (Mid Glamorgan) (shotgun), Dumfries (shotgun) and Frodsham (Cheshire).
- Thirty five other victims were hit in shooting attacks, more than a third involving pellet guns or airguns (see below):
 - Berkshire (1) - a man was shot in Reading and sustained injuries to his arm and both legs (five men have been arrested)
 - Cambridgeshire (1) - a housesitter was shot with a sawn-off shotgun in Godmanchester (three men have been arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to murder)
 - Dorset (1) - a man was shot in Kinson (Bournemouth) (five people were arrested)
 - Greater Manchester (1) - a man was shot in the thigh in Salford (two men were arrested on suspicion of attempted murder)
 - London (5) - a man presented himself at hospital with a gunshot wound to the arm after a shooting at London Fields, two teenagers were shot in separate incidents in Walthamstow, a teenager was shot in the neck in Mitcham and a man was discovered with a gunshot wound to his foot in Forest Gate
 - Merseyside (2) - a man was shot in the leg in Walton, and another was shot in the leg at a flat in Kensington
 - Norfolk (2) - a couple in Nordelph were both shot with a shotgun during a dispute between neighbours (a man was charged with two counts of attempted murder)
 - Staffordshire (1) - a man was injured in an attack in Normacot (three men have been arrested)
 - West Midlands (8) - a man was shot in the stomach while walking along a street in Hamstead, another victim was shot while sitting in his car in Alum Rock, three men and a woman were injured at a club night in the centre of Birmingham (a man has been arrested), a man was shot in the stomach in

Lozells and the same evening a man was shot in the groin in Handsworth Wood.

- Two men were injured by flying glass when shots were fired after a car crash in central London.
- At least 13 other people, many of them children and some female, were hit in shootings with BB guns or airguns:
 - Dorset (1) - a 7-year-old was shot in the leg with an airgun while playing in a playground in Poole - a man was arrested
 - Hertfordshire (1) - a 2-year-old boy was shot with a BB gun while playing in his parents' back garden in Welwyn Garden City
 - Kent (2) - a female cyclist was hit in the arm with a shot from an air weapon while cycling in Pembury and earlier a gardener had been shot in the leg in Tonbridge
 - London (1) - a 14-year-old was shot in the lower back and buttocks with a pellet gun in Leytonstone
 - South Yorkshire (1) - a man was struck on the arm with an airgun pellet in the car park of a railway station in Doncaster
 - Suffolk (1) - a man was hit in the ankle with what was probably a BB gun pellet in Ipswich (the incident may be linked to an attempted robbery, see below)
 - Wales (4) - a council worker was shot in the shoulder with an air rifle in Swansea (a man has been charged with a firearms offence, assault and criminal damage), and three pupils at a school in Cardiff were shot with a BB gun (a 14-year-old was arrested)
 - West Midlands (1) - a woman was injured in an airgun attack in Earlsdon (Coventry) - she was holding her baby at the time of the attack
 - West Sussex (1) - a postman was shot in the back as he got off his bike in Lancing - he was left with a bleeding red wound.
- **Armed Hold-Ups and Assaults** - There were robberies and attempted robberies allegedly involving guns at **Banks and Post Offices** (2) in Woodville (Derbyshire) (no firearm seen) and Ashford (Surrey) (a man took a number of people hostage - he was later arrested and found to have an imitation weapon), **Bookmakers** (4) in Whittlesey (Cambridgeshire) (handgun), Portsmouth, New Romney (Kent) (sawn-off shotgun), and Haslemere (Surrey) (handgun), a **Restaurant** (1) in Brentwood (Essex), **Shops** (8) in Windsor (Berkshire) (handgun), New Malden (south west London) (shotgun; a youth was arrested), Westcliff (Essex) (handgun), Long Eaton (Derbyshire) (imitation handgun) (a man has been accused of this and another robbery), Luton (Bedfordshire) (two separate robberies), Chilwell (Nottinghamshire) (BB gun), and Tottenham (north London), a **Theatre** (1) in Chichester (West Sussex) (handguns), and a **Travel Agents** (1) in East Grinstead (West Sussex).
- **Security men** were robbed outside a bank in Feltham (west London) (a worker was threatened and hit with a gun), in Knutsford (Cheshire) and St Helier (south London) (pistol).
- Two men thought to have a gun and posing as police officers attempted to rob a **Motorist** in Ormskirk (Lancashire).
- Two women dog walkers were robbed of cash by a man armed with a rifle in **Woods** in Tadworth (Surrey). In attempted **Street** robberies a man threatened a woman in Ipswich (the incident may be linked to a probable BB gun shooting, see above), and two businessmen were threatened as they were putting takings into a night safe at a bank in Widnes (Cheshire).
- Armed police surrounded a **House** in Southampton after reports that burglars were armed with a gun - a man received treatment for a cut to his head. In Hackney (east London) a woman was threatened at her home with a shotgun and stun gun by two men who demanded money.

- **Other Incidents** - Shots were fired during a number of other incidents:
 - Cheshire - a shot, probably from a shotgun, was fired through the window of a home in Orford
 - County Durham - a group of men shot out the windows of a flat in Shildon
 - Greater Manchester - a gunman with a shotgun opened fire on the home of an elderly couple in Bolton, and a pensioner escaped unharmed after shots were fired at his house in Stretford
 - Hampshire - there were reports of gunshots in Eastleigh - a man was arrested but later released
 - London - Two police officers were shot at in Perivale after a motorist was seen using a mobile phone - a man has been charged with two counts of attempted murder
 - Scotland - firearms were allegedly used and left unattended in a garden in Elgin (Morayshire), and there were reports of gunshots in a street in Glasgow
 - Somerset - a licensed firearms holder in Kenn was arrested after a woman became terrified and claimed he had shot chickens and cats and would shoot her
 - West Midlands - six shots were fired in a street in Aston
- The following incidents involved men seen with guns:
 - A man was charged with possessing a firearm and ammunition after another man was chased by an armed man in Moss Side (Manchester).
 - Three people including a teenage girl were arrested after a man was seen wielding a gun in Huyton (Merseyside).
 - A man was arrested after reports of a gunman driving through Bournemouth (Dorset)
 - A male driver brandished a gun following a road rage incident near Shaves Wood (West Sussex).
 - A man was arrested in the Boutham Moor area of Lincoln after being reported to be walking the streets with a firearm.
 - Police were alerted following reports of a man with a gun in Newport (Gwent).
- A man has been charged with possessing a firearm, acquiring a shortened shotgun and possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence after being arrested at his home in Top Valley (Nottingham).
- Police found a rifle and shotgun cartridges at a home in Paisley after a woman told them that her husband had pressed a gun against her head during a row - a man was arrested.
- A man was arrested in Torquay (Devon) after a bag containing two weapons, including a suspected homemade firearm, and ammunition was recovered.
- A 19-year-old was arrested at a school in Newton-le-Willows (Merseyside) after reports he was making threats to kill - a picture of a gun was posted on a social networking site.
- Two men were arrested of suspicion of affray after they shouted abuse and implied they would produce a gun at a hospital in Tameside (Greater Manchester).
- Residents in an area of Stoke-on-Trent have spoken of their fear when they were woken by gunshots - a contractor was carrying out a cull of geese. A man using a shotgun in fields outside a factory in Burton Latimer (Northamptonshire) caused an armed police response - he was shooting pigeons legally. A man carrying a shotgun for pest control sparked another police response near Ponsonby (Cumbria).
- **Airguns and Imitation Guns** - There were many incidents involving airguns and imitation besides those in which human (see above) and animal (see below) victims were shot. They were probably used in many of the **armed robberies** and this was certainly so in Long Eaton (Derbyshire), Chilwell (Nottinghamshire)

and Ashford (Surrey). A man was accused of holding up bookmakers in Wembley and Harrow (north west London) with an imitation handgun in October 2009.

- Two teenagers have been accused of taking pot shots at people in Holloway (north London) with an air rifle - three people suffered injuries as a result of the attacks in December 2009 and January 2010.
- In the following incidents airguns and imitation guns were used to threaten:
 - A taxi driver was threatened with an airgun by a passenger in West Bridgford (Nottingham).
 - A man was arrested on suspicion of assault when an air weapon was recovered at an address in Hartlepool (Teesside).
 - A 16-year-old with an imitation gun was arrested in Harnham (Wiltshire) after reports of an assault on a local man - he was charged with possession of an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence or assault.
 - A woman from Southcote (Berkshire) has been charged with possessing an air rifle and causing a neighbour to believe violence would be used against her.
 - Imitation handguns were seized at an address in Fishersgate (Brighton) after reports that a man had confronted a woman with a gun - he was arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence.
 - A 19-year-old who threatened family members with a BB gun at his home in Melksham (Wiltshire) has been charged with possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence.
 - Three teenagers were threatened by a man with an air pistol in Torquay (Devon) - the man was arrested on suspicion of possession of a weapon with intent to cause fear or violence.
- A woman who threatened to harm herself and appeared to wave a gun in her garden in Wonford (Devon) probably had two imitation firearms.
- A man refused to lay down a gun, believed to be an imitation, in Wigmore (Kent) and police used a stun gun on him.
- Two men, one aged 17, have appeared in court charged with possessing an imitation firearm after four people were arrested in New Cross (south east London) on suspicion of possessing a firearm after a car was stopped.
- A man has been charged with being in possession of a firearm in a public place near Lochearnhead (Perthshire) where an air rifle was found.
- A man was arrested after being in possession of a blank-firing handgun at a house in Abergele (Conwy). A man from Farnborough (Hampshire) has pleaded not guilty to possessing of weapons, including a high-powered air rifle. An air rifle was confiscated from the home of a man in Fleetwood (Lancashire) who was wrecking his flat.
- A BB gun was recovered after a man waved a gun at a group of people in a car park in Cosham (Hampshire).
- A boy caused an armed alert in Market Harborough (Leicestershire) when he waved a toy handgun, and armed police swooped after a boy was seen brandishing a gun in the back of a car in Burton-on-Trent (Staffordshire) - the gun was a toy weapon.
- Replica or ball bearing guns were also found after reports of gunmen in Dagenham (east London).
- A family are fleeing their home in Moorside (Greater Manchester) after airgun shots were fired at their home and car.
- Other acts of vandalism were carried out with airguns and BB guns:
 - A flat in Exmouth (Devon) was targeted in a probable air rifle attack
 - Thirty four cars were damaged by pellets from a ball bearing gun or an airgun in Newmarket and Exning (Suffolk)
 - A total of 84 windows at a school in Ashington (Northumberland) were smashed with an airgun

- A parked van was shot at with an air rifle in Gloucester
 - A window at a church in Bridgeton (Glasgow) was shot with airgun pellets
 - Retailers were warned by police not to sell pellet guns to children after a 12-year-old purchased one from a gift shop in Torquay (Devon).
 - **Guns Recoveries and Thefts** - Guns were found during searches in which drugs were recovered in Clayton (Manchester) (shotgun) (a man and a woman were arrested), Bristol (shotgun), Stamford (Lincolnshire) (replica firearm found in a car), and Johnstone (Renfrewshire) (sawn-off shotgun).
 - A handgun was seized by police at a house in Walthamstow (north east London) (two teenagers were arrested and one of them charged). A shotgun, revolver and self-loading pistol were found at a home in Homerton (east London) (two people, one aged 16, were arrested). Three people were arrested in Salford after a loaded pistol was found when police had spotted the three trying to empty a bag on a river bank.
 - Police issued a warning about stun guns disguised as mobile phones after one was found during a raid on a house in Rochdale (Greater Manchester).
 - A haul of airguns was discovered in a flat in Southport (Merseyside) where a decomposed body was found - the death is not being treated as suspicious.
 - A loaded revolver was discovered in Highfields (Leicester), and a gun was found in bushes in Newbury (Berkshire). A group of schoolboys found 32 live shotgun cartridges by a river in Lacock (Wiltshire).
 - Four training rifles were stolen from a storage area at a range in Gisleham (Suffolk). Several airguns were stolen from a fishing tackle shop in Kirkcaldy (Fife), and a cache of replica firearms, including 20 fake Kalashnikovs, were stolen from a van in Aldershot (Hampshire).
 - **Gun Factory** - Police seized 50 guns when they raided a flat in North Seaton (Northumberland) - a man was charged with converting an imitation firearm into a firearm and possession, purchase or sale of a prohibited weapon.
 - **Incidents Involving Animals** - There was a significant increase from the previous month in the number of reports of shooting incidents involving animals and birds.
 - Cats were shot with airguns or pellet guns in Ayrshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, County Durham, Devon, East Dunbartonshire, Gloucestershire, Kent (two separate reports), Leeds (four cats treated in Pudsey in recent weeks), London, Merseyside, Norfolk, North Yorkshire, Stoke-on-Trent, Suffolk, Surrey (two cats shot in Camberley), Swansea and West Yorkshire. It is suggested that a cat in Wrexham may have been shot three times with bullets rather than airgun pellets.
 - A pony was injured in a shooting in Wellington (Shropshire) and a pet horse was shot dead, probably with a shotgun, in Gurney Valley (County Durham).
 - Six seals have apparently been shot dead in Shetland.
 - Seagulls have been targeted in airgun shootings in Whitby (North Yorkshire) and Peacehaven (East Sussex). A number of birds, including two cygnets and three sparrowhawks, have been shot dead in Swindon (Wiltshire). A female swan was shot dead with an air weapon in Rotherham (South Yorkshire) and a goose was the victim of a drive-by shooting in Stow-cum-Quy (Cambridgeshire).
 - A man was fined for trapping and shooting a badger in Pembrokeshire. A man was warned by police after shooting and killing a squirrel from his window in Weston-super-Mare (Somerset).
-

- **Convictions** - Two teenagers were convicted of murdering a man who was shot through the head in Luton (Bedfordshire) and will serve a minimum of 22 and 26 years. Two other men found guilty of the murder of a man who died from a gunshot wound in Nottingham will both serve 28 years. A man from Rhydyfro (West Glamorgan) has been jailed for life for killing his father, whom he shot with a homemade gun and stabbed.
 - A man was convicted of the attempted murder of his wife in Caversham (Berkshire) whom he shot in the head with a shotgun.
 - A man who shot another man outside a nightclub in Luton (Bedfordshire) was found guilty of causing grievous bodily harm with intent and possessing a prohibited firearm and given an indeterminate sentence (minimum 5 years and 166 days).
 - A man, who with an accomplice was brandishing a revolver and knife when they raided a bank in Pemberton (Greater Manchester), has pleaded guilty to robbery and been given an indeterminate sentence (minimum 6 years). One of two gunmen who robbed a jewellers in Mayfair (central London) has been found guilty of robbery and of kidnapping a shop assistant to help make his escape.
 - Four men have been sentenced for their part in attacks on massage parlours in Southampton involving an imitation firearm and a separate incident when a sawn-off shotgun was fired at a door - they will serve between 2- and 5-year custodial sentences.
 - Two men have been jailed for firearm offences and drug dealing - the police had stopped a car near Mirfield (West Yorkshire) and found a loaded handgun. A man caught by police in Huddersfield (West Yorkshire) has been found guilty of drugs and gun crimes and will serve a 14-year sentence. Two men have been jailed for 11 years and 2 months and for 5 years and 2 months after drugs, a sawn-off shotgun and a crossbow were found at a garage in Wishaw (North Lanarkshire).
 - Two men found with a Mac-10 sub-machine gun in a car in Battersea have been found guilty of possession of a firearm and ammunition with intent to endanger life and have been jailed (minimum 6 years and 9 years) - a teenager who passed the gun to them was given a 2-year detention and training order.
 - A businessman has been found guilty of possessing a shotgun with intent to cause fear of violence after threatening a bailiff who was trying to clamp his car in Weston-super-Mare (Somerset).
 - A man from Chichester (West Sussex) who pleaded guilty to a number of sex charges admitted possessing shotgun ammunition when banned and possessing an air rifle when banned - he was jailed for 4 years. A defendant in a drugs trial from Woodseats (Sheffield) pleaded guilty to possessing a sawn-off shotgun and owning an air pistol without a certificate - he was jailed for 5 years.
 - A landlord from Surbiton (south west London) who kept a shotgun at his pub has pleaded guilty to possessing the weapon.
 - A woman from Sampford Courtenay (Devon) was given a suspended 9-month sentence after taking home a bag containing three shotguns and a rifle which had been dumped at a tip.
- **Inquests** - A coroner has recorded a verdict of suicide in the case of a man who shot his partner and then himself with a .357 revolver at their home in Dousland (Devon) - the coroner recorded that the woman had been unlawfully killed.
 - An open verdict was recorded at the inquest of a man from Brampton (Lincolnshire) who was found with gunshot wounds to the head minutes after threatening his wife in a row over their future.
- **Gun Factory** - Two men involved in converting starter pistols to lethal weapons in a shed in Enfield (north London) pleaded guilty to possession and distribution of firearms and ammunition and to conspiracy to convert firearms and ammunition - they were sentenced to 30 and 25 months in prison.

- **Stun Guns** - A man who used a stun gun during an aggravated burglary in Milton Keynes (Buckinghamshire) has had his sentence reduced to 6 years.
- A man who admitted robbery, possessing a weapon and ABH following attacks with a stun gun on two men in York has been jailed for 5 years.
- Two men have admitted kidnap, assault and possessing a stun gun after abducting a man from his home in South Lincolnshire.
- A man from Wrexham who admitted drug offences and possessing a prohibited stun gun has been jailed for a total of 30 months.
- A teenage woman who admitted having a stun gun at her flat in Anerley (south London) has been fined £66.
- A man who converted a disposable camera into a stun gun at his home in Burnley (Lancashire) admitted possessing a prohibited weapon and was given 12 months supervision with 80 hours unpaid work.

- **Airguns and Imitation Guns** - A man from Coedpoeth (Clywd) has been convicted of a number of offences including assault and rape and told to expect a long jail sentence - he produced an air pistol to scare his victim at the time of the offences.
- A man who broke into a house in East Wichelstowe (Wiltshire) wielding an imitation gun has pleaded guilty to aggravated burglary, possession of a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence and possession of cannabis resin and been jailed for 7 years.
- Those convicted who fired shots at victims were:
 - Three men who shot a woman in the stomach at point blank range with an airgun after luring her to a property in Chiswick were convicted of various offences including having an imitation firearm in a public place - two of them received indeterminate sentences and will serve a minimum of 4 years, the other received a 5-year sentence.
 - A man has been jailed for 21 months after admitting assault - he pulled an airgun on a man in Newcastle and fired five pellets into his arm.
 - A student who bought a BB gun and shot at passers by in Bristol has pleaded guilty to common assault and been given a conditional discharge.
 - An off duty soldier, aged 19, has been given a 12-month community order and 80 hours unpaid work after pleading guilty to two counts of having an imitation firearm in public and two counts of assault, he shot at pupils at a school in Sarisbury Green (Southampton) and shot a man in Locks Heath - a 15-year-old who was with him at the time of the second attack was given a 12-month youth rehabilitation order with 40 hours unpaid work.
- Others who used imitation guns or airguns to threaten or cause fear included:
 - A man who was cleared of attempted murder but admitted possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence had fired the weapon at a pub in Didsbury (Manchester) - he has been jailed for 4 years.
 - A man from Blackley (Greater Manchester) has been jailed for 12 years for various offences including 10 counts of making indecent images and firearms offences - he was caught after his flat was raided by police after he threatened workmen with an air rifle and a sword.
 - A man who armed himself with an imitation pistol after a disagreement in Sandown (Isle of Wight) was found guilty of two charges of possession of an imitation firearm and threats to cause violence towards another - he was given a suspended 9-month jail term and ordered to carry out 120 hours of unpaid work.
 - A man who threatened to set fire to a car while armed with a BB gun in Speke (Merseyside) admitted possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence, affray and criminal damage and was jailed for 16 months.

- A man who carried an air rifle into a hospital in North Manchester has pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear and to possessing a firearm while prohibited and been jailed for 2 years.
- A teenager who brandished a gun-shaped cigarette lighter at a nightclub in Eastbourne (East Sussex) and was convicted of having an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence has had his sentence reduced to 8 months on appeal.
- A man admitted arming himself with an air pistol during a family brawl in Dagenham (east London).
- A man who threatened a couple in Halesowen (West Midlands) with a fake gun and cutting off the power to a block of flats has admitted possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence and given a suspended 12-month sentence, and ordered to carry out 150 hours of unpaid work and obey a curfew.
- A 17-year-old from Grangetown (Teesside) who was armed with a .22 air rifle when he threatened to shoot a police officer pleaded guilty to making use of a firearm with intent to resist or prevent lawful arrest and admitted possessing a firearm when prohibited because he had served a prison sentence.
- A man who held a fake pistol to the head of his tagging officer at his home in Edinburgh has been given a custodial sentence of 6 months.
- A man who walked into a police station in Worcester and was found to have an imitation pistol in his bag has now been jailed for 21 months for possession of an imitation firearm in a public place and other offences after failing to attend a probation service meeting.
- A man who fired an air rifle into a wall whilst he was drunk in Muirhead (Angus) has been jailed for 4 months after pleading guilty of committing a breach of the peace and recklessly discharging a firearm. A former soldier admitted possessing an air rifle in a public place outside his home in Mostyn (Clywd) and was fined £300 - he was drunk at the time of the incident.
- Two men pleaded guilty to having an unloaded air weapon in a public place, a pub in Sunderland - one was given a 21-month community order with supervision and the other was given a 12-month community order.
- A man who admitted trespassing on land at Bembridge Marshes (Isle of Wight) with an air rifle has been fined £100.
- There were a number of convictions for robberies and attempted robberies in which the offender(s) was armed with an imitation firearm. The incidents occurred:
 - at **Shops** in Paulton (Somerset) (a teenager who had a blank-firing revolver has been given 2 years detention and training for attempted robbery and possessing a firearm with intent), and Balloch (West Dunbartonshire) (a man who had a gas-powered BB gun has been jailed for 40 months)
 - at a **Post Office** in Worcester (a man who planned a robbery with an airgun has been ordered to be detained at a mental health hospital)
 - at **Bookmakers** in Strood, Snodland and Northfleet (Kent) (a man pleaded guilty to six charges)
 - at a **Takeaway** in Whitebirk (Lancashire) (a man was jailed for 4 years after pleading guilty to robbery and possession of an imitation firearm)
 - of a **Car** in Shevington (Lancashire) (a man admitted robbery and possessing an imitation firearm)
- Two men convicted of posting racist internet messages had guns at their homes in Leigh (Greater Manchester) (BB machine gun) and Hirwaun (South Wales) (air rifle).
- A man who stole a number of items including a BB gun from an industrial unit in Blackburn (Lancashire) has pleaded guilty to burglary.

GUN INCIDENTS – JUNE 2010

ENGLAND

This is Kent, 30 June 2010

Police used a Taser to force a man to lay down a gun after he refused to do so. The incident took place close to a primary school in **Wigmore**, Kent. It is believed the weapon was an **imitation gun**.

Newham Recorder, 30 June 2010

A man was discovered with a gunshot wound to his left foot in **Forest Gate**, east London. He was taken to hospital where he remained in a stable condition.

Manchester Evening News, 30 June 2010

A family are fleeing their home in **Moorside**, Greater Manchester, after an **airgun** attack. Shots were fired on their home and car. It is the latest in a string of incidents for the family who claim they have also received threats on the telephone and via social networking sites.

Fleetwood Weekly News, 30 June 2010

Mark Houlgrave threatened a Chinese takeaway worker in **Whitebirk**, Lancashire, with an **imitation handgun** in August 2009 and demanded she put money in a bag. He fled with a small amount of cash. He has been jailed for four years after pleading guilty to robbery and possession of an imitation firearm.

Evening Chronicle, 30 June 2010

Karl Walls has been jailed for 21 months after admitting assault. He pulled an **airgun** on a man who had just returned to **Newcastle** and fired five pellets into his arm. He then poked fun at his victim on Facebook. It was claimed that the violence was sparked by an unpaid debt.

BBC, 30 June 2010

A businessman from **Brampton**, Lincolnshire, died of gunshot wounds just minutes after threatening his wife in a row over their future in December 2009. His body was found nearby with gunshot wounds to the head. The man had organised partridge and pheasant shoots. The coroner returned an open verdict.

BBC, 30 June 2010

A man has appeared in court charged with the murder of an Army sergeant who was shot in the head as he walked from an Army careers office to his car in **Derby** in April 1992.

Wimbledon Guardian, 29 June 2010

A teenager was shot in the neck in **Mitcham**, south London. The 17-year-old was treated at the scene and then taken to hospital. His injuries are not life-threatening.

This is Lincolnshire, 29 June 2010

Matthew Parr and Adam Woolf have admitted kidnap, assault and possessing an illegal **stun gun**. They abducted another man from his home in **South Lincolnshire** after being sent to enforce a debt. The victim was beaten and shot at point blank range with the stun gun.

Runcorn and Widnes World, 29 June 2010

Two businessmen were threatened by two men as they were putting takings into a night safe at a bank in **Widnes**, Cheshire. One of the attackers threatened one of the victims with what appeared to be a handgun but the victim escaped after quickly getting back into a car.

Liverpool Daily Post, 29 June 2010

A decomposed body and a haul of **airguns** were discovered in a flat in **Southport**, Merseyside. It is understood that there were in excess of 15 guns. The death is not being treated as suspicious at this stage.

Evening Telegraph (Peterborough), 29 June 2010

A man from **Farnborough**, Hampshire, has pleaded not guilty to possession of weapons, including a high-powered **air rifle**. He denied possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence, possession of the air rifle and affray.

Yorkshire Evening Post, 28 June 2010

Gary Lewin was caught by police in **Huddersfield**, West Yorkshire, in June 2009 following a raid which uncovered drugs and a loaded gun. He has been found guilty of a string of drugs and gun crimes and will serve a 14-year jail sentence.

This is Local London, 28 June 2010

Two men, one aged 17, have appeared in court charged with possessing an **imitation firearm** with intent to commit an indictable offence. The older man has also been charged with possessing a firearm without a certificate. The charges follow the arrest of four people in **New Cross**, south east London, on suspicion of possessing a firearm after a car was stopped.

Halesowen News, 28 June 2010

Dru Newman who was sleep deprived and had been taking cocaine cut off the power to a block of flats in **Halesowen**, West Midlands, and threatened a couple with a fake gun after being driven to despair by their noise. He admitted possessing an **imitation firearm** with intent to cause fear of violence. He was given a 12 month jail term suspended for two years and ordered to carry out 150 hours unpaid work in the community and obey a four month curfew.

East Anglian Daily Times, 28 June 2010

Two incidents involving guns, thought to be connected, took place in **Ipswich**. In the first two men heard "pop" noises before one of the men was hit in the ankle with what is believed to be a **BB gun** pellet. The shots may have been fired from a vehicle. Following this a woman was threatened by a man with a handgun who got out of a car. The gunman demanded her purse but got back into the car when she did not hand anything over.

BBC, 28 June 2010

Two dog walkers were robbed of cash by a man believed to have been armed with a rifle. The attack took place in woods in **Tadworth**, Surrey. The women were unhurt but "shaken" by the experience.

BBC, 28 June 2010

A number of people were taken hostage by a man armed with a gun. He is believed to have entered a bank in **Ashford**, Surrey. It was reported the man was carrying a **sawn-off shotgun** (*Guardian*, 28 June 2010). Later reports indicated that the gunman was 'drunk' and was armed with an **imitation weapon**. It has been suggested that he had a grievance against the bank (*Daily Mail*, 29 June 2010). A man has appeared in court to face charges of robbery, false imprisonment, possession of an imitation firearm with intent to commit robbery and two counts of making threats to kill. He is also accused of blackmail, possessing an offensive weapon and making a bomb hoax (*Lynn News*, 8 July 2010).

The Argus, 28 June 2010

A postman was shot in the back as he got off his bike in a pub car park in **Lancing**, West Sussex. He was hit beneath the ribs with a pellet fired from what police believe was an **air rifle**. He was left with a bleeding red wound but chose to finish his round.

Sunday Mercury, 27 June 2010

There have been two further shootings in Birmingham. A man was shot in the stomach in **Lozells** and the same evening a man was shot in the groin in **Handsworth Wood**. Six shots have also been fired in a street in **Aston** but no-one was injured.

Northern Echo, 26 June 2010

A rooftop protestor who was involved in an armed stand-off with police was a teenager wanted for threatening to shoot an officer less than a week earlier. At the time of the first incident in March 2010 he had been armed with a .22 **air rifle** in **Grangetown**, Teesside. Jack Millington, 17, later pleaded guilty to making use of a firearm with intent to resist or prevent lawful arrest and he admitted possessing a firearm when prohibited because he had served a prison sentence.

Burton Mail, 26 June 2010

Armed police swooped on an industrial estate in **Burton-on-Trent**, Staffordshire, after receiving reports of a 13-year-old brandishing a gun in the back of a car. The gun was a **toy weapon** which was being waved around in the back of his father's car.

BBC, 26 June 2010

Medical staff on a maternity ward in **Tameside**, Greater Manchester, were threatened by two men who shouted abuse and implied they would produce a gun. A 17-year-old and a man were arrested on suspicion of affray.

This is Hampshire, 25 June 2010

Four men have been sentenced for their part in attacks on massage parlours in **Southampton** and two of them for their role in a "gangland dispute". In the second attack on a massage parlour in July 2008, Matthew Long, Joseph Flaherty and Nathan Jennings, 18, were armed with an **imitation firearm**. They stole £300 in cash. Jennings admitted waving the imitation gun out of a car window at a man who had confronted them. In a separate incident Jennings and Liam Williams fired a **sawn-off shotgun** at the front door of a man in Sarisbury Green, against whom they held a grudge. Police later found the car, which was stolen, with the gun inside. Jennings pleaded guilty to two burglaries and possession with a firearm with intent to endanger life and was sentenced to a total of five years in a young offenders institution. Williams was convicted of possessing a sawn-off shotgun and given a five year sentence. Lang pleaded guilty to four burglaries and received a three year prison term and Flaherty pleaded guilty to attempted burglary and three other burglaries and was given a two year sentence.

Telegraph, 25 June 2010

Arren Kassaye, one of two gunmen who robbed a jewellers in **Mayfair**, central London in August 2009 (see [Incidents](#)), has been found guilty of robbery and of kidnapping a shop assistant to help make his escape. The jury is still deliberating on six co-defendants who all deny charges relating to the robbery. Craig Calderwood has admitted being a robber but claims he was forced into it because of threats made to him and his family.

Reading Post, 25 June 2010

A man has denied owning a Glock 9mm semi-automatic pistol found in his garage in **East Reading**, Berkshire, despite being seen in a picture holding a similar weapon. He claims a number of people have access to the garage and could have put it there.

Luton Today, 25 June 2010

A gang of three men robbed a convenience store in **Luton**, Bedfordshire, at gunpoint. The owner was grabbed around the neck and held in a headlock. The gang were also armed with a knife.

Daily Mirror, 25 June 2010

Michael Masters repeatedly fired a **stun gun** at his victim as the man lay on the ground in agony. He attacked the man as he walked home from work in **York**. An accomplice hit the man with a monkey wrench. They later attacked another victim. Masters admitted robbery, possessing a weapon and ABH and was jailed for five years.

BBC, 25 June 2010

A woman was injured in an **airgun** attack in **Earlsdon**, Coventry, in which a pellet narrowly missed hitting her baby. The victim was hit in the right shoulder and was carrying her daughter in the same arm. A police spokesman said that the shooting could have had "fatal consequences had the pellet struck such a young child" (*Coventry Telegraph*, 28 June 2010).

BBC, 25 June 2010

Police found a number of weapons, including a **BB machine gun**, at the home of Michael Heaton from **Leigh**, Greater Manchester, one of two men who have been jailed for posting racist internet messages. He was jailed for 30 months. At the home of the other man, Trevor Harrington, in **Hirwaun**, South Wales, another personal armoury was found including an **air rifle**. He was jailed for two years.

BBC, 25 June 2010

Anthony Tirado and Dion Griffin have been found guilty of the murder of a man who died from a gunshot wound after being found in an alleyway in **Nottingham** in May 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). They will both serve a minimum of 28 years. Andrew Pleasance was found guilty of assisting an offender and was given a four-year prison sentence.

Worcester Standard, 24 June 2010

Christopher Villaweaver walked into the police station in **Worcester** and asked whether there was a warrant out for his arrest. When he was searched a pistol was discovered in his bag. The incident followed a report that a pedestrian had been spotted carrying a pistol. In September 2009 he pleaded guilty to communicating false information and possession of an **imitation firearm** in a public place. He was given a two-year community order with supervision but failed to attend a probation service meeting. He has now been jailed for 21 months.

News Shopper, 24 June 2010

A man who was shot in the head in a street in **Catford**, south east London, was pronounced dead shortly after arrival at hospital. He was in the driver's seat of a car when he was found. The shots are believed to have been fired by a man who jumped into a passing van.

BBC, 24 June 2010

A man has been shot in the leg at a flat in **Kensington**, Liverpool. He was in a stable condition in hospital where he was being treated for a single gunshot wound.

BBC, 24 June 2010

A man has been arrested on suspicion of assault after an incident at an address in **Hartlepool**, Teesside. Armed police were called after reports of the presence of a firearm. An **air weapon** was recovered.

Sutton Guardian, 23 June 2010

A security guard was held up by a man with an automatic pistol in **St Helier**, south London. He was moving cash between a post office and a van.

Streatham Guardian, 23 June 2010

Perrie Reese-Mason Ogodo and Israel Ankers have been jailed after being found guilty of possession of a firearm and ammunition with intent to endanger life. Police officers found a Mac-10 sub-machine gun in their car in **Battersea**, south London, in September 2009, after the car crashed. The men fled the scene. Ankers was caught nearby and Ogodo was caught next day on a plane at Heathrow Airport. Ogodo was jailed for a minimum of six years while Ankers was sentenced to nine years. A 16-year-old who passed the gun to the other men was found guilty of possessing a prohibited weapon and possession of ammunition. He was given a two-year detention and training order.

Observer & Citizen, 23 June 2010

Robert Hughes admitted aggravated burglary in December 2009 and was jailed for seven years. He had tied up a woman and attacked her partner with a **stun gun** at their home in **Milton Keynes**, Buckinghamshire, in March 2007. He has now had his sentence reduced by a year on appeal.

Knutsford Guardian, 23 June 2010

A security guard was threatened by a gunman before his cashbox was stolen from outside a post office in **Knutsford**, Cheshire. The man was armed with a handgun. The raid may be linked to a similar robbery in **Comberbach** four days earlier.

Huddersfield Daily Examiner, 23 June 2010

Adam Ashton was found in possession of a loaded 9mm semi-automatic handgun when police stopped a car near **Mirfield**, West Yorkshire. The car belonged to John Waters who was jailed for 14 years for drug dealing and firearms offences (*Huddersfield Daily Examiner*, 11 June 2010). Ashton admitted possessing the prohibited firearm, having ammunition without a firearms certificate and various drugs supply offences and was jailed for nine years. He was "a willing lieutenant" to Waters, according to the judge.

Get Reading, 23 June 2010

Jamie Dunne from **Caversham**, Berkshire, has been convicted of attempting to murder his wife in January 2010 (see [Incidents](#)). He shot her in the head with a **shotgun**. He previously admitted possessing a shortened shotgun, criminal damage, possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence and unlawful wounding.

BBC, 23 June 2010

Armed robbers threatened staff with a handgun during a raid at a betting shop in **Haslemere**, Surrey. They demanded a sum of money from the till.

BBC, 23 June 2010

A teenage girl and two men have been arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm after police received reports of a man wielding a gun in **Huyton**, Merseyside. A weapon was recovered.

BBC, 23 June 2010

A husband and wife suffered serious injuries during a dispute between neighbours in **Nordelph**, Norfolk. Both received firearms injuries. A man was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder and a **shotgun** was recovered from the scene. It is suggested that there had been a long-running dispute over a dog (*Telegraph*, 24 June 2010). A man has now been charged with two counts of attempted murder (*BBC*, 25 June 2010).

Barking & Dagenham Post, 23 June 2010

Paul Thompson has admitted arming himself with an **air pistol** during a family brawl in **Dagenham**, east London, in December 2008. He was attacked by his son and his son's stepfather after he pointed the gun at his ex-partner. The other two men have been found guilty of affray and are facing jail.

Worcester News, 22 June 2010

Michael Willmott, who has mixed person disorder, planned to rob a post office in **Worcester**. He has pleaded guilty to possession of an imitation firearm, an **airgun**. The judge described his plan as a cry for help. He ordered Willmott to be detained at a mental health hospital.

This is Sussex, 22 June 2010

A man entered a travel agents in **East Grinstead**, West Sussex, with what appeared to be a firearm. He helped himself to a quantity of money before leaving.

This is Gloucestershire, 22 June 2010

A van was shot at and damaged with an **air rifle** in **Gloucester**. The van was parked at the time of the incident.

Kent Online, 22 June 2010

Gary McMeekin pleaded guilty to six charges of robbery and possession of an **imitation firearm**, and two further offences will be taken into consideration. He admitted robbing various bookmakers in Kent, in **Strood**, **Snodland** and **Northfleet** between November 2009 and April 2010 (see [Incidents](#)). Robert Blackburn pleaded guilty to one charge of robbery in connection to the offence in Northfleet.

Harrow Times, 22 June 2010

A man is accused of walking into a bookmakers in **Wembley**, north west London, with an **imitation handgun** and holding up a member of staff in October 2009. Around £440 was taken during the raid. He is also accused of holding up another bookmakers in **Harrow** two days later. He denies two counts of robbery and two of possession of an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear.

Harborough Mail, 22 June 2010

Specialist police officers were scrambled in **Market Harborough**, Leicestershire, after reports of a young boy wielding a handgun. The weapon was found to be a **toy gun**. Advice was given to the youth and his parents concerning the potential consequences of his action.

Get Hampshire, 22 June 2010

A cache of **replica firearms** including 20 fake Kalashnikovs have been stolen from a van parked in **Aldershot**, Hampshire. The van was broken into by two men. The weapons are used as part of a military re-enactment business.

Daily Echo, 22 June 2010

A seven-year-old boy has been shot in the leg with an **airgun** while playing in a children's playground in **Poole**, Dorset. The pellet didn't fully penetrate. A man was arrested and released on police bail after police had attended an address that backs onto the park.

Bristol Evening Post, 22 June 2010

A licensed firearms holder was arrested in connection with an alleged licence infringement with one of his weapons following an incident in **Kenn**, Somerset, in which a woman became terrified that a man was on the brink of going berserk with firearms. She told a neighbour that the man had shot chickens and cats and she believed he was going to shoot her. The police have been criticised for not responding faster to the incident.

BBC, 22 June 2010

Two youths, one believed to be armed with a **BB gun**, threatened workers at a shop in **Chilwell**, Nottinghamshire. They demanded cigarettes but left empty-handed.

BBC, 22 June 2010

A pensioner escaped unharmed after shots were fired at his house in **Stretford**, Greater Manchester. Police discovered damage to the front door and a bedroom window.

Kent News, 21 June 2010

A female cyclist received medical attention after she was shot in the arm while cycling in **Pembury**, Kent. The shot was believed to have come from an **air weapon** fired from a small van. Earlier that day a gardener working on a grass verge in **Tonbridge** had been hit in the leg by an object thought to have come from a similar vehicle.

Hounslow Chronicle, 21 June 2010

Sebastian Mateza and his brother Pedro Mateza, both aged 19, lured a former girlfriend to their home in **Chiswick**, west London, in September 2009 where Sebastian shot her in the stomach at point blank range with an **airgun**. They left her thinking she was going to die. The two were both convicted with intent, two counts of having with intent to commit an indictable offence and a fourth of having an imitation firearm in a public place. Both were given indeterminate jail sentences with a minimum of four years. A third man, Daniel Kongo, was sentenced to five years in prison after being convicted of wounding with intent and having an imitation firearm in a public place.

BBC, 21 June 2010

A man injured in a shooting incident in the **Kinson** area of Bournemouth, Dorset, was treated in hospital where his injuries were described as not life-threatening. A cartridge case was found. Five people have been arrested. It is understood that a revolver was used (*Daily Echo*, 22 June 2010).

BBC, 21 June 2010

A man has been charged with two counts of attempted murder after two police officers were shot at in **Perivale**, west London. The officers tried to pull over a motorist spotted using a mobile phone while driving.

BBC, 20 June 2010

Two men threatened to shoot the postmaster at the post office in **Woodville**, Derbyshire, but nothing was stolen. No firearm was seen. The incident may be linked to a raid in **Hilton** where staff were threatened with a knife and several hundred pounds was stolen.

This is Nottingham, 19 June 2010

A man has appeared in court accused of armed robberies of two stores in **Lowdham**, Nottingham, in April 2010 (see [May 2010 Incidents](#)) and **Long Eaton** this month (see below). He faces two firearms charges for allegedly using an **imitation handgun** to carry out the robberies.

Wiltshire Times, 18 June 2010

A man from **Melksham**, Wiltshire, has been charged with possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence following an incident at his home. It is alleged that following an argument he threatened family members with a **BB gun**. The 19-year-old has appeared in court (*This is Wiltshire*, 5 July 2010).

Rutland & Stamford Mercury, 18 June 2010

A man was arrested and charged with possession with intent to supply controlled drugs and possession of an offensive weapon after police searched a vehicle in **Stamford**, Lincolnshire, and found cannabis, drug paraphernalia and a **replica firearm**.

Kent Online, 18 June 2010

A man believed to be armed with a **sawn-off shotgun** has raided a bookmakers in **New Romney**, Kent. He left with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Epping Forest, Waltham Forest, Wanstead & Woodford Guardian, 18 June 2010

A teenager suffered chest wounds in a drive-by shooting in **Walthamstow**, north east London. Ten days earlier a 16-year-old was shot in the face and arm through the window of his home in the area.

Eastbourne Today, 18 June 2010

Alan Price, 19, from **Eastbourne**, East Sussex, brandished a gun-shaped cigarette lighter and threatened to shoot two bouncers after they refused to let him into a nightclub in February 2009. He was convicted of having an **imitation firearm** with intent to cause fear of violence and was originally sentenced to two years. That sentence has now been reduced to eight months on appeal.

Bristol Evening Post, 18 June 2010

A **shotgun** was found when police closed a cannabis factory in **Fishponds**, Bristol. A man was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply, abstracting electricity and money laundering.

Manchester Evening News, 17 June 2010

David Gray walked into the A&E department of a hospital in **North Manchester** carrying an **air rifle**. He had been drinking before the incident in December 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). He pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear and to possessing a firearm while prohibited and was jailed for two years.

BBC, 17 June 2010

A shop owner in **Luton**, Bedfordshire, was threatened with a gun during a robbery at a convenience store. The shop was targeted by three men who stole cash from the till and bottles of alcohol.

BBC, 17 June 2010

A gun was found in bushes in **Newbury**, Berkshire. The police declined to comment further.

BBC, 17 June 2010

A man who appeared to be hold a gun threatened staff at a store in **Long Eaton**, Derbyshire. He fled on foot after taking cash.

BBC, 17 June 2010

A group of men are believed to have shot out the windows of a flat in **Shildon**, County Durham. They are reported to have tried to force entry into the flat.

BBC, 17 June 2010

A man was seriously ill in hospital after he was shot in the thigh in **Salford**. His condition was said to be serious but stable. Two men were arrested on suspicion of attempted murder.

Welwyn & Hatfield Times, 16 June 2010

A two-year-old boy was shot with a **BB gun** while playing in his parents' back garden in **Welwyn Garden City**, Hertfordshire. It is alleged that the gun was fired by two children.

This is South Devon, 16 June 2010

Three teenagers were threatened by a gunman on a street in **Barton** in Torquay, Devon. They were ordered to run by the man as he aimed the gun at them. A local man was detained by police on suspicion of possession of a weapon with intent to cause fear or violence. An **air pistol** was seized.

The News, 16 June 2010

Michael Butterworth, an off duty soldier aged 19, shot at pupils at a secondary school in **Sarisbury Green**, Southampton, with a **BB gun**. He repeatedly drove past the school in February 2010. In another incident Butterworth and a 15-year-old drove past a man in **Locks Heath** and shot him in the thigh. Butterworth pleaded guilty to two counts of having an imitation firearm in public and two counts of assault. He was given a 12-month community order with an 80-hour unpaid work element. The youth was given a 12-month youth rehabilitation order with 40 hours unpaid work.

Manchester Evening News, 16 June 2010

Police seized a mobile phone converted to work as a **stun gun** at a house in **Heywood**, Greater Manchester. A man was arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm without a certificate and possession of a Class A drug (*Rochdale Online*, 16 June 2010). Greater Manchester Police have issued a warning about stun guns disguised as mobile phones. The devices are available over the internet for as little as £9. The guns are classed as illegal firearms in Britain (*Manchester Evening News*, 19 June 2010).

Manchester Evening News, 16 June 2010

After Frank Steinfeld threatened workmen with an **air rifle** and a sword police raided his flat in **Blackley**, Greater Manchester. The police found evidence that he sexually abused children. He pleaded guilty to affray, possession of a prohibited firearm, possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence and 10 counts of making indecent images. He was jailed for 12 years.

Manchester Evening News, 16 June 2010

Stephen Pattison, who was charged with attempted murder in connection with an incident at a pub in **Didsbury**, Manchester, in September 2008 when shots were being fired, has been cleared of the charge. He admitted possessing an **imitation firearm** with intent to cause fear of violence. He has been jailed for four years (*BBC*, 1 July 2010).

Lowestoft Journal, 16 June 2010

Four training rifles were stolen from a storage area at a rifle range in **Gisleham**, Suffolk. The rifles had their firing pins removed.

The Herald (Plymouth), 16 June 2010

An inquest has heard that Andrew Pawlowski shot his partner as she lay on the floor before he put a Magnum .357 revolver to his temple and killed himself. The two died at their home in **Dousland**, Devon, in April 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). The shootings were witnessed by Pawlowski's mother. Apart from the Magnum revolver several other guns were found at the property. At the inquest he was described as controlling and a drinker. The coroner recorded a suicide verdict and a verdict of unlawful killing on his partner.

Haringey Independent, 16 June 2010

A gang of five men entered a supermarket in **Tottenham**, north London. A member of staff was threatened with a gun. No shots were fired but the robbers made off with alcohol and a credit car machine.

Hackney Gazette, 16 June 2010

A **shotgun**, revolver and self-loading pistol were taken by police who raided a home in **Homerton**, east London. Around 30 shotgun cartridges were recovered. Two people, one aged 16, were arrested.

Daily Echo, 16 June 2010

A search was underway after reports of a fight and gunshots in **Eastleigh**, Hampshire. A man was arrested but released later after no weapon was found (*Daily Echo*, 18 June 2010).

BBC, 16 June 2010

Tyrone Cox and Lewis Monk pleaded guilty to possession and distribution of firearms and ammunition and to conspiracy to convert firearms and ammunition. They converted **starter pistols** into lethal weapons on Cox's shed in **Enfield**, north London. Cox was sentenced to 30 months in prison, Monk to 25 months.

BBC, 16 June 2010

A man has been arrested after a bag containing suspected firearms and ammunition prompted a security alert in **Torquay**, Devon. Two weapons, including a suspected homemade firearm, were in the bag. One was described as "ready to fire".

The Argus, 16 June 2010

Imitation handguns were seized at an address in **Fishergate**, Brighton, after reports that a man had confronted a woman with a gun. A man was arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence.

The Star, 15 June 2010

A man was struck in the arm by an **airgun** pellet and his wife had to run for cover when a man opened fire in the car park of **Hatfield and Stainforth Station** in Doncaster, South Yorkshire. The victim's injury was not serious.

Lancashire Telegraph, 15 June 2010

Darren Laycock converted a disposable camera into a **stun gun** after seeing a similar device on the internet. Police found the device at his home in **Burnley**, Lancashire, in January 2010. He admitted possessing a prohibited weapon and was given 12 months supervision with 80 hours unpaid work.

Echo, 15 June 2010

A man armed with a black handgun threatened staff at an off-licence in **Westcliff**, Essex. He left the shop carrying the till which contained a two-figure sum of cash. A CCTV still of the suspect has been released (*Echo*, 5 July 2010).

Press Association, 14 June 2010

A 17-year-old and a 16-year-old have been accused of taking pot shots at people and property with an **air rifle** in **Holloway**, north London. Two men and a woman suffered injuries to their arms and bodies in December 2009 and January 2010. They are accused of six counts of firing an air weapon out of a building, criminal damage, common assault and possessing a restricted firearm when aged under 18. The younger boy is accused of having a **stun gun**.

Chester Chronicle, 14 June 2010

A man from **Frodsham**, Cheshire, died in his home after an incident involving a gun. There were no other persons involved or present in the incident and there does not appear to be any suspicious circumstances.

BBC, 14 June 2010

A loaded pistol was found in the River Irwell in **Salford** after a police officer spotted three people trying to empty a bag on the banks of the river. Three people were arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm.

BBC, 14 June 2010

Staff at a betting shop in **Southsea** were threatened with a gun by a man who escaped with cash.

BBC, 14 June 2010

Police recovered a **BB gun** after a man waved a gun at a group of people in a car park outside a pub in **Cosham**, Portsmouth. The man had been wrestled to the ground but broke free and ran away.

BBC, 13 June 2010

Four people were injured in a shooting at a club night in the centre of **Birmingham**. Three men and one woman were taken to hospital with gunshot wounds. The woman was later discharged. The men are in a stable condition. A man has been arrested on suspicion of attempted murder (*Sunday Mercury*, 8 July 2010).

News Shopper, 12 June 2010

Lucy Adams, 19, has admitted having a **stun gun** at her flat in **Anerley**, south London. She was fined £66 and ordered to pay £100 costs. The weapon was ordered to be destroyed.

Manchester Evening News, 12 June 2010

A man and a woman have been arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm, possessing class A drugs with intent to supply and burglary after a **shotgun** was found at a house in **Clayton**, Manchester.

BBC, 12 June 2010

A man has been charged with attempted murder following the shooting of an 18-year-old in **Belle Vale**, Merseyside, in January 2010. He was charged with six counts of possession of a firearm and ammunition with intent to endanger life.

BBC, 12 June 2010

A man was shot while sitting in his car in **Alum Rock**, Birmingham. He was with four other people when they were approached by a gunman. The victim was recovering in hospital where he was in a stable condition.

BBC, 12 June 2010

A 19-year-old man was arrested by armed police at a school in **Newton-Le-Willows**, Merseyside, after reports he was making threats to kill. A picture of a gun was posted on a social networking website. He was released on bail.

Weston, Worle & Somerset Mercury, 11 June 2010

Cam Mu, a businessman who runs a restaurant in **Weston-super-Mare**, Somerset, has been found guilty of threatening to shoot a bailiff who was trying to clamp his car in November 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). He was found guilty of possessing a firearm, a **shotgun**, with intent to cause fear of violence but not guilty of an assault charge.

Wiltshire Times, 11 June 2010

A group of schoolboys found 32 live **shotgun** cartridges on a riverbank at **Lacock**, Wiltshire. Not realising the danger they divided the cartridges between them before going home. The police were called when parents realised what the boys had found. The cartridges have been destroyed.

Wigan Today, 11 June 2010

Steven McMyler pointed a pistol at a woman as she drove through **Shevington**, Lancashire, in February 2010 (see [Incidents](#)). He was in the middle of the road and forced her to stop and ordered her from the car. He grabbed her handbag before driving off with a 14-year-old accomplice. McMyler admitted robbery and possessing an **imitation firearm** and was jailed for four years. The teenager pleaded guilty to allowing himself to be carried in a stolen vehicle and shoplifting.

Surrey Comet, 11 June 2010

Landlord Ian Morton has pleaded guilty to possessing a **12 bore shotgun** without a licence. He admitted stowing the gun in a bedroom above the pub in **Surbiton**, south west London. It was found by police who searched the pub on a drugs warrant in January 2010. Sentencing was deferred.

The Star, 11 June 2010

Clifford Todd from **Woodseats**, Sheffield, and a defendant in a drugs trial also pleaded guilty to possessing a **sawn-off shotgun** and owning an **air pistol** without a certificate. He was jailed for five years, minus 390 days in custody.

Manchester Evening News, 11 June 2010

Colin Smith and an accomplice burst into a bank in **Pemberton**, Greater Manchester, in May 2008, brandishing a knife and a revolver. They stuffed six plastic sacks with cash. Smith has pleaded guilty to the robbery and was given an indeterminate sentence with a minimum of six years. He is already serving an indeterminate sentence imposed after another robbery.

Local Guardian, 11 June 2010

One youth was arrested after a newsagent in **New Malden**, south west London, was confronted by two youths who tried to rob his store. He grabbed the **shotgun** they were carrying and chased them down the street.

The Journal, 11 June 2010

A school in **Ashington**, Northumberland, has been left with a £3000 repair bill after a total of 84 windows were broken by vandals using an **airgun**.

The Journal, 11 June 2010

Police seized more than 50 guns when they raided a flat in **North Seaton** in Ashington, Northumberland. A man was arrested and charged with firearms offences. A neighbour fears she may have unwittingly handled the guns when looking after parcels for him. The man was charged with converting an **imitation firearm** into a firearm and possession, purchase or sale of a prohibited weapon.

BBC, 11 June 2010

Simeon Johnson, 18, and a 19-year-old man have been convicted of murdering a man during a drug deal in **Luton**, Bedfordshire, in September 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). The victim was shot through the head. Johnson will serve a minimum term of 22 years and the other man a minimum of 26 years (*BBC*, 25 June 2010).

BBC, 11 June 2010

Two men threatened a woman with a **shotgun** and a **stun gun** at her home in **Hackney**, east London. They pretended to be delivering a television set and demanded money. They escaped without taking anything.

BBC, 11 June 2010

Ashley Thomas has been convicted over the shooting of a man outside a nightclub in **Luton**, Bedfordshire, in May 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). He was found guilty of causing grievous bodily harm with intent and possessing a prohibited firearm. He has been given an indeterminate sentence and must serve at least five years and 166 days (*BBC*, 15 June 2010).

This is Somerset, 10 June 2010

A 17-year-old who attempted to raid a store in **Paulton**, Somerset, by pointing a **blank-firing revolver** at the owner has been sentenced to two years detention and training for attempted robbery and possessing a firearm with intent. He had left the shop as soon as he was challenged.

BBC, 10 June 2010

A woman from **Sampford Courtenay**, Devon, who took home a bag containing four guns which had been dumped at a tip admitted firearm offences. The guns were a .22 rifle and three **shotguns**. Sandra O'Rourke was given a nine-month sentence, suspended for two years.

BBC, 10 June 2010

Two men were injured by flying glass when shots were fired after a car crash in **central London**. The injuries were relatively minor. No arrests were made.

BBC, 10 June 2010

A man was arrested after reports a gunman was seen driving through **Bournemouth**, Dorset. He was arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm.

Barking & Dagenham Post, 10 June 2010

There have been two incidents in **Dagenham**, east London, in which armed police were called out after a gunman was reported and found that the weapon was a **replica** or **ball bearing gun**. The police have warned people not to carry such weapons with them in public and that police will always take the appropriate action to ensure community safety.

Barking & Dagenham Post, 10 June 2010

A pensioner accused of brandishing an **air rifle** and threatening to kill children who were throwing snowballs at his window in **Dagenham**, east London, has been cleared. He denied pointing the gun and threatening a girl aged 17 and an 11-year-old boy.

Reading Post, 9 June 2010

A woman from **Southcote**, Berkshire, has appeared in court charged with possessing an **air rifle** and causing a neighbour to believe violence would be used against her.

Birmingham Mail, 9 June 2010

A man was in a serious but stable condition in hospital after he was shot while walking along a street in **Hamstead**, Birmingham. He had two gunshot wounds to the stomach.

BBC, 9 June 2010

A man was shot in **Reading**, Berkshire, and sustained injuries to his arm and both legs. His condition was improving. A total of five men have been arrested in connection with the shooting (**BBC**, 14 June 2010).

This is Nottingham, 8 June 2010

A taxi passenger threatened a cabbie with an **airgun** before he jumped out of the vehicle and ran off. The incident took place in **West Bridgford**, Nottingham.

This is Lancashire, 8 June 2010

An elderly couple dived for cover when a gunman opened fire on their home in **Bolton**, Greater Manchester. They were covered in flying glass from **shotgun** pellets.

Salisbury Journal, 8 June 2010

A 16-year-old boy with an imitation gun was arrested in **Harnham**, Wiltshire, after reports of an assault on a local man. He was charged with possession of an **imitation firearm** with intent to cause fear of violence or assault.

Liverpool Echo, 8 June 2010

Michael Clarkson from **Speke**, Merseyside, "lost all control" and threatened to set fire to a car while armed with a **BB gun**. He wrongly believed his partner was having an affair after finding a text message on her phone. He admitted possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence, affray and criminal damage and has been jailed for 16 months.

Isle of Wight Gazette, 8 June 2010

Maxwell Davies armed himself with an **imitation pistol** after a disagreement with a fellow drinker in **Sandown**, Isle of Wight, in November 2009. The incident sparked a major armed response. He was found guilty of two charges of possession of an imitation firearm and threats to cause violence towards another man. He was given a nine-month jail term suspended for two years. He was ordered to carry out 120 hours unpaid work.

BBC, 8 June 2010

A man was injured during a gunpoint robbery at a theatre in **Chichester**, West Sussex. Two men brandishing handguns threatened staff and a visitor while they took a large amount of cash from the safe. The visitor was struck in the face and suffered a minor injury.

The Argus, 8 June 2010

A man from **Chichester**, West Sussex, who pleaded guilty to a number of sex offences also admitted possessing ammunition for a **shotgun** when banned for five years and possessing an **air rifle**, again while banned for five years. David Lacey was jailed for four years.

The Argus, 8 June 2010

A driver brandished a gun near **Shaves Wood**, West Sussex, following a road rage incident. Police officers found two guns stashed inside a car. Police are investigating the circumstances around what happened.

Whitehaven News, 7 June 2010

Road blocks were set up close to the site near **Ponsonby**, where one of the victims of the Cumbria shootings was killed following reports of a man with a **shotgun**. The man was carrying the gun for pest control and had all the necessary certificates with him according to the police.

Warrington Guardian, 7 June 2010

A shot was fired through the window of a home in **Orford**, Cheshire. It is believed a **shotgun** was used. The police said the incident appeared to be an isolated crime.

Sunderland Echo, 7 June 2010

Two men pleaded guilty to having an unloaded **air weapon** in a public place, a pub in **Sunderland** in March 2010. Kevin Bailey had just bought the gun and the shopkeeper had told him he was all right to carry the weapon "out-and-about" if he kept it unloaded and inside the cover. He was given a 21-month community order and 21 months supervision. His friend Colin Douthwaite, who had 20 pages of previous convictions, was given a 12-month community order. The gun will not be forfeited and destroyed and will be given back to the offender after the police have finished with it.

The Sentinel, 7 June 2010

A man was injured during an attack in **Normacot**, Staffordshire. He was shot as two men opened his car door. He needed two emergency operations on his ankle. It is believed the attack was carried out by professional hitmen. Three men have been arrested (*BBC*, 18 June 2010).

Evening Telegraph (Northamptonshire), 7 June 2010

Armed police officers were called to **Burton Latimer**, Northamptonshire, after receiving calls about a man with a **shotgun** in fields outside a factory. The man was shooting pigeons, was licensed to use the gun and was on the land legally.

Local Guardian, 7 June 2010

A 14-year-old boy was shot in the lower back and buttocks with a **pellet gun**. The incident which took place in **Leytonstone**, north east London, was believed to be gang related. The victim's injuries are not serious.

Lincolnshire Echo, 7 June 2010

A man was reported to be walking the streets in the **Boultham Moor** area of Lincoln with a firearm. He was discovered by police with a black holdall bag and they discharged a baton round after he failed to obey instructions. Police have not confirmed that a firearm was found but the man was arrested.

Hackney Gazette, 7 June 2010

A man presented himself to hospital with a gunshot wound to the arm. He had been injured at **London Fields**, east London, where another victim was seriously injured in a gun fight last month.

Express & Echo, 7 June 2010

A woman was shot with a baton gun by armed officers after she appeared to wave a gun in her garden in **Wonford**, Devon. She had earlier threatened to harm herself. Police say they believe two items seized from the woman are **imitation firearms**.

BBC, 7 June 2010

Thirty four cars have been damaged during a rampage in Suffolk which lasted 10 hours. The damage was done by a **ball bearing gun** or **airgun** pellet. The attacks took place in **Newmarket** and **Exning**.

Exmouth Herald, 6 June 2010

Police have launched an investigation after internet footage was seen of a man from **Exmouth**, Devon, showing off his homemade bombs and a gun. The gun was made from balsa wood and other household items.

BBC, 6 June 2010

A man was shot dead while waiting in a van at traffic lights in **Crosby**, Merseyside. He was pronounced dead at the scene. His girlfriend received minor injuries. A man has been arrested (**BBC**, 15 June 2010).

BBC, 6 June 2010

A man was charged with possessing a firearm and ammunition and doing so while prohibited after another man was allegedly chased by an armed man in **Moss Side**, Manchester. The gun and ammunition were later discovered in **Longsight**.

Leicester Mercury, 5 June 2010

A loaded revolver was discovered just yards from a children's playground in **Highfields**, Leicester. Police firearms specialists say it was ready for use.

BBC, 5 June 2010

A man was shot in **Walton**, Liverpool. He was found with injuries to his leg.

BBC, 5 June 2010

Armed police surrounded a house in **Southampton** after reports that burglars armed with a gun had injured someone inside. A man received medical treatment at the scene for a cut to his head.

Swindon Advertiser, 4 June 2010

Beri Banye Fanso broke into a house in **East Wichelstowe**, Swindon, with another man in January 2010 (see [Incidents](#)). He was wielding an **imitation gun** and his accomplice clutched a knife. They subjected the homeowners to a vicious assault and ran off with £2000. Fanso pleaded guilty to aggravated burglary, possession of a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence and possession of cannabis resin. He was jailed for seven years.

Isle of Wight County Press, 4 June 2010

David Harbour was fined £100 with costs after he admitted trespassing on RSPB-owned land at **Bembridge Marshes**, Isle of Wight, with a firearm. He was photographed holding an **air rifle** by a bird watcher who sent the photograph to the RSPB.

Hounslow & Brentford Times, 4 June 2010

Armed robbers riding motorbikes attacked a security van guard outside a bank in **Feltham**, west London. The worker was threatened and hit with a gun.

Evening Telegraph (Peterborough), 4 June 2010

Two men armed with a handgun and a knife threatened staff and customers in a bookmakers in **Whittlesey**, Cambridgeshire. They demanded money and staff handed over several hundred pounds before leaving the shop.

BBC, 4 June 2010

Residents in an area of **Stoke-on-Trent** have spoken of their fear after they were woken by gunshots fired in the early morning to cull geese. The work was being carried out by a contractor who was licensed to cull the birds.

Cambridge News, 3 June 2010

A housesitter was shot with a **sawn-off shotgun** on the doorstep of a property in **Godmanchester**, Cambridgeshire. Two men had knocked at the home. The home owner had previously been targeted by men with a sword and a stun gun. Three men have been arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to murder (*Cambridge News*, 12 June 2010).

Birmingham Mail, 3 June 2010

Two men have been arrested and charged with the murder of a man who was found shot dead in **Saltley**, Birmingham, in November 1993.

Bristol Evening Post, 3 June 2010

Student Henry Peerless O'Hea bought a **BB gun** and shot at passers by from the window of a flat in **Bristol** in May 2010. He has pleaded guilty to common assault and been given a conditional discharge for one year. One victim was hit causing redness and soreness.

BBC, 3 June 2010

A man armed with a handgun threatened staff at a shop in **Windsor**, Berkshire. A small amount of money was stolen.

This is Nottingham, 2 June 2010

A man has been charged with possessing a firearm, acquiring a shortened **shotgun** and possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence. He was arrested at his home in **Top Valley**, Nottingham.

National Media, 2 June 2010

Twelve people were shot dead and eleven others wounded after a gunman drove across Cumbria shooting victims. The gunman then took his own life in **Boot**. The man was armed with a **shotgun** and a .22 rifle. The first victim, the man's brother, was shot dead in **Lumplugh**. Other incidents followed in **Frizington, Whitehaven, Egremont, Wilton, Gosforth, Seascale, Drigg, Eskdale** and **Boot** where the gunman's body was found. The perpetrator Derrick Bird had been a licensed gun holder for 20 years (*National Media*, 3 June 2010).

A fuller account will be provided later

Lancashire Telegraph, 2 June 2010

Hugh McGeough stole a number of items, including a **ball bearing gun** from an industrial unit in **Blackburn**, Lancashire. He pleaded guilty to the burglary which took place in April 2010. Sentencing was adjourned.

The Gazette, 2 June 2010

A neighbourhood in **Fleetwood**, Lancashire, was brought to a standstill as police surrounded a flat and confiscated an **air rifle**. A man was wrecking his home. He was not charged and had returned to a mental health unit of a hospital where he had been a resident.

Exmouth Herald, 2 June 2010

A flat in **Exmouth**, Devon, was targeted in what police believe was an air rifle attack. A holidaymaker staying at the property believed someone was firing an **air rifle** through the lounge window.

BBC, 2 June 2010

A man whose body was found in a burnt out car in **Peckham**, south east London, was shot in the head. Two or three men had been seen running from the fire.

BBC, 2 June 2010

Retailers have been warned by police not to sell **pellet guns** to children. The warning followed the purchase of a gun by a 12-year-old from a gift shop in **Torquay**, Devon.

BBC, 2 June 2010

A driver was threatened with what he thought was a gun by two men posing as police officers. The incident occurred in **Ormskirk**, Lancashire, when the man pulled over after a car began flashing its lights. The men demanded cash.

Local Guardian, 1 June 2010

Two teenagers have been arrested at an address in **Walthamstow**, north east London, where a handgun was seized. A 17-year-old was charged with possession of a firearm and a 14-year-old has been bailed while further enquiries are made.

BBC, 1 June 2010

A restaurant manager was threatened with a handgun by two men who entered the upstairs room of the premises in **Brentwood**, Essex. She was forced to hand over a four-figure sum of money.

SCOTLAND

stv, 30 June 2010

A police investigation was launched after residents in a street in **Glasgow** reported hearing gunshots.

BBC, 30 June 2010

John McPhee has admitted stealing groceries from a shop in **Balloch**, West Dunbartonshire, in March 2010. He threatened to shoot a shop worker in the face with a **gas-powered BB gun**. He has been jailed for 40 months.

BBC, 28 June 2010

John James has been jailed for 11 years and two months after drugs, a **sawn-off shotgun** and a crossbow were found at his garage in **Wishaw**, North Lanarkshire. Martin Dickson who was arrested with James was sentenced to five years and two months in prison.

Sunday Mail, 27 June 2010

Thirteen children in **Scotland** aged 16 and under needed hospital treatment after the "accidental discharge" of a gun in 2009-10.

Press & Journal, 25 June 2010

Kevin McHugh, 21, was drunk when he began shooting an airgun into a wall in **Muirhead**, Angus. He was at his girlfriend's house where he kept the £800 **air rifle** under a bed and invited neighbours for a drink before he started becoming abusive towards his partner. The neighbours became concerned about his increasing aggression and were scared when he fired three pellets from the gun. He had pleaded guilty of committing a breach of the peace and recklessly discharged a firearm. He was jailed for four months.

Evening News, 22 June 2010

Iain Turnbull held a **fake pistol** to the head of his tagging officer who was trying to fix broken house arrest equipment at Turnbull's house in **Edinburgh**. Turnbull was given a custodial sentence of six months after conceding the prank was in "poor taste".

Herald Scotland, 19 June 2010

A window at a church in **Bridgeton**, Glasgow, has been shot with **airgun** pellets. The priest believes the attack was an anti-Catholic sectarian act. Vandals have repeatedly targeted the church.

Paisley Daily Express, 15 June 2010

A **sawn-off shotgun** and a pistol were found by police in **Johnstone** during a major blitz on violent criminals and drugs dealers in Renfrewshire. One man was arrested in connection with the discovery.

Stirling Observer, 11 June 2010

A man has been charged with being in possession of a firearm in a public place near **Lochearnhead**, Perthshire. An **air rifle** was found nearby to a group of people camping.

Northern Scot, 11 June 2010

Police are investigating reports of a gun being fired in a residential area in **Elgin**, Morayshire. Firearms were allegedly used and left unattended in a garden.

Paisley Daily Express, 10 June 2010

An arsenal of weapons was found at a home in **Glenburn**, Paisley, after a woman told the police that her husband had pressed a gun against her head during a row. A rifle and **shotgun cartridges** were discovered. The man was arrested.

Dumfries Standard, 9 June 2010

A pensioner facing child sex abuse charges was found dead near his home in **Holywood**, Dumfries. A **shotgun** was lying next to him.

BBC, 9 June 2010

A man who was shot outside his home in **Shotts**, North Lanarkshire, later died. Police believe he was the intended target.

Lennox Herald, 4 June 2010

Jamie Floyd, 19, from **Helensburgh**, West Dunbartonshire, threatened his ex-girlfriend and her new boyfriend, claiming his dad had a **shotgun**. He admitted sending offensive text messages and making threats. Sentencing was deferred.

stv, 2 June 2010

Several **airguns** were stolen from a shop in **Kirkcaldy**, Fife. It is believed that thieves had forced entry to the fishing tackle shop.

WALES

Wales Online, 29 June 2010

A 14-year-old was arrested after three pupils were shot with a **BB gun** on the premises of a high school in **Cyncoed**, Cardiff. The victims received minor injuries.

The Leader, 28 June 2010

James Bloor has been convicted of assault, rape, intimidation and possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence. It was claimed that he produced the **air pistol** to scare his victim. At the time Bloor was living in **Coedpoeth**, near Wrexham. He has been told he can expect a long jail sentence.

The Leader, 28 June 2010

Peter Maddocks has admitted a number of drug offences relating to cannabis and possessing a prohibited **stun gun**. He claimed he was looking after the gun for someone else. The gun was found in a safe when police executed a search warrant at his home in **Glenfro**, Wrexham. He has been jailed for a total of 30 months.

BBC, 28 June 2010

A man has been arrested after allegedly being in possession of a firearm at a house in **Abergele**, Conwy. The arrest followed a seven-hour siege. He has been charged with possessing an imitation firearm. He had a **blank-firing handgun** at the house.

This is South Wales, 23 June 2010

A council worker was shot in the shoulder with an **air rifle** in **Waunarlwydd**, Swansea. He was taken to hospital and his condition was said to be stable. Damage was also caused to a vehicle. Police surrounded a terraced house and eye-witnesses said they saw an air rifle dropped from a window. An 18-year-old woman was arrested in connection with the shooting. A man was later arrested and charged with a firearms offence, assault and criminal damage (*BBC*, 24 June 2010). It is reported that the man thought that owning the air rifle would be "cool" (*This is South Wales*, 24 June 2010).

South Wales Argus, 20 June 2010

Police were alerted following reports of a man with a gun in **Newport**, Gwent. He was not found and enquiries were ongoing.

BBC, 11 June 2010

Thomas Williams has been jailed for life for shooting his sleeping father with a homemade gun at the family home in **Rhydyfro**, West Glamorgan. He also stabbed his father 16 times. The body was discovered in March 2009. Williams admitted manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

Flintshire Chronicle, 10 June 2010

Jason Hughes, a former soldier, triggered an armed police response when he began shooting cans in his garden in **Mostyn**, Clywd. He had drunk 15 pints of lager and other drinks. He admitted possessing the **air rifle** in a public place outside his home and was fined £300 with costs. The gun was confiscated.

Wales Online, 1 June 2010

A man is understood to have taken his own life with a **shotgun** in **Pantygog**, Mid Glamorgan. His body was found at allotments near his home. Police confirmed that the death was not being treated as suspicious.

INCIDENTS INVOLVING ANIMALS

Weston, Worle & Somerset Mercury, 30 June 2010

A man has been warned by police after killing a squirrel in a park in **Weston-super-Mare**, Somerset, by shooting an **air rifle** from his window. The squirrel was seen to fall from a tree and was found with a pellet embedded. The shots were being fired just yards from a children's play area. The police were unable to prosecute because a witness would not give a statement.

This is Local London, 30 June 2010

A cat has died after being shot with a **pellet gun** three times in the space of a year. Her owner from **Bromley**, south east London, is warning other cat owners to be on their guard.

Northern Echo, 29 June 2010

A pet horse has been shot dead with what is thought to be a **shotgun** at paddocks in **Gurney Valley**, Bishop Auckland in County Durham.

South Wales Evening Post, 28 June 2010

A cat has been shot with an **airgun** in **Upper Killay**, Swansea. The cat was saved by emergency surgery costing £430. It is reported that several cats have been shot in Swansea in recent weeks.

Cambridge News, 25 June 2010

A goose has been killed in what is suspected to be a bizarre drive-by shooting in **Stow-cum-Quy**, Cambridgeshire. The incident is the latest in a series to have taken place there. The goose was found floating in a pond with two pellets in its neck.

Cumnock Chronicle, 24 June 2010

Vets have removed an **air rifle** pellet from the leg of a cat in **Cumnock**, Ayrshire. It was at first thought that he had been attacked by another cat.

Camberley People, 23 June 2010

Two cats have been shot with **air rifles** in **Camberley**, Surrey. One died as a result of his injuries and was discovered in his owner's garden. The other cat survived after being found collapsed on the floor.

BBC, 23 June 2010

A pony kept in stables near **Wellington**, Shropshire, has been found injured. He had been shot in the face with a metal pellet.

Yorkshire Post, 22 June 2010

A reward has been offered for information on the person who shot dead a female swan with an **air weapon** at a country park in **Rotherham**, South Yorkshire. She was brooding six eggs at the time.

This is Wiltshire, 22 June 2010

A number of birds have been shot in **Old Town**, Swindon. Two dead cygnets have recently been found and a third was missing, presumed dead. Other birds have been found shot dead in the area, including three sparrowhawks.

Maidenhead Advertiser, 21 June 2010

Animals are being shot with an **air rifle** by gangs of youths in the **Wraysbury**, Berkshire. Last week a cat owner found her pet had a wound on its head containing a lump which was discovered to be an air rifle pellet.

Beaconsfield and Buckinghamshire Advertiser, 21 June 2010

A cat was shot with an **airgun** and faces possible amputation of a leg. The cat was found covered with blood on the driveway of their home in **Beaconsfield**, Buckinghamshire, by the three children who owned the cat.

This is Gloucestershire, 18 June 2010

A pet cat has been shot in the face with an **air rifle** pellet. He was the third cat to have been shot in the street in **Northleach**, Gloucestershire, in three years. He likely to lose sight after the pellet burrowed in through the bone and sinus. The family have had to spend £850 for surgery.

St Helens Star, 17 June 2010

A cat has been left with a pellet lodged against her skull after she was shot in the head with an **airgun** in **Haydock**, Merseyside. The pellet has not been removed so far because the risks of surgery.

Evening Chronicle, 17 June 2010

A family cat could lose its sight after it was shot with an **air rifle** pellet in **Edmundbyres**, County Durham. The damaged eye may have to be removed.

Wales Online, 16 June 2010

Dyfed James, a farmer and former magistrate, has been fined for trapping and shooting a badger which dug up his garden on the **Stackpole Estate**, Pembrokeshire. He shot the animal at close range with a **shotgun**. He was given fines and costs totalling almost £3,000.

Telegraph & Argus, 16 June 2010

A cat owner is calling for more restrictions on **air rifles** after his pet was seriously injured. The cat is recovering from a serious wound to a back leg after being shot on playing fields in **Queensbury**, West Yorkshire. A bone was shattered by a pellet.

East Anglian Daily Times, 16 June 2010

A cat owner in **Aldeburgh**, Suffolk, is warning other pet owners to be on their guard after her car was shot with what is believed to have been an **air rifle**. She discovered a pellet lodged in the shoulder of her pet.

BBC, 16 June 2010

Six seals, some carrying pups, have been found washed up dead on **Bridge of Walls**, Shetland, after apparently being shot. The Scottish SPCA described it as a serious wildlife crime.

The Advertiser, 14 June 2010

Among a number of cats, currently at the cattery at the RSPCA centre in **Norwich**, for whom homes are being sought is a kitten who was shot with an **airgun**. He had a pellet lodged in his lower jaw which has now been removed.

Express, 12 June 2010

It is reported that gulls in **Peacehaven**, East Sussex, are taking revenge for a series of attacks by youths armed with **air rifles**. The birds have become abnormally aggressive after being provoked.

Sevenoaks Chronicle, 10 June 2010

A cat was injured in a "random" drive-by shooting near **Well Hill**, Kent. A pellet had stuck in her neck. The pet was shot on the driveway by passers-by with an **air rifle**.

Express & Echo, 9 June 2010

A cat was severely injured in an **air rifle** shooting in **Polisloe**, Exeter. He was found bleeding and limping. Days earlier a pellet was fired at a neighbour's door.

Kirkintilloch Herald, 8 June 2010

A cat is recovering after being hit by an **airgun** pellet in **Kirkintilloch**, East Dunbartonshire. It will cost at least £500 to fix his leg.

Whitby Gazette, 4 June 2010

Police are warning people not to take the problem into their own hands by shooting seagulls in **Whitby**, North Yorkshire. A dead gull was found after gunshots were heard fired from what is believed to be an **air rifle**.

Scarborough Evening News, 4 June 2010

A cat undergoing treatment after being shot in the leg by a **pellet gun** in **Scarborough**, North Yorkshire, has gone missing and needs to be found as soon as possible to make sure he fully recovers.

The Leader, 4 June 2010

The police are probing a spate of vicious attacks on pet cats in the **Llay** area of Wrexham. Three animals have been shot and poisoned since February. In the latest attack a cat came home soaked in blood and X-rays later showed he had been hit three times with bullets rather than airgun pellets.

The Sentinel, 3 June 2010

A cat was shot at point-blank range with an **airgun** in **Fegg Hayes**, Stoke-on-Trent. He needed emergency surgery to remove a pellet from his neck.

Kent Online, 3 June 2010

A cat has survived being shot twice with an **air rifle** in **Northfleet**, Kent. She was shot in the spine and then a day or two later in the head. A reward is being offered for any information that leads to conviction.

Yorkshire Evening Post, 1 June 2010

Pet owners have been warned to be on their guard after a spate of **air rifle** attacks on cats in Leeds. A vet from **Pudsey** says she has treated four cats in recent weeks.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NoDerivs 2.5 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/2.5/).