



MAY 2010 - REVIEW

- **Gun Deaths and Injuries** - There were seven fatal shooting incidents reported during May. All of the victims were male.
- Five of the fatal shootings were homicides which all occurred in London (see above), the worst monthly death toll in the capital for nearly three years - one victim was shot in the head in a garden in New Cross (four teenagers have been arrested), another was targeted in a street in Tottenham (one man has been charged with murder), a third man died after being shot as he left a takeaway in Paddington (two men have been arrested), the fourth victim was one of three men who were shot outside a club in Newham (a man has been arrested on suspicion of murder and attempted murder), and a fifth man was shot dead in a street in Lewisham. Five other men were injured in shooting incidents in London (see below).
- A man apparently shot himself at his home in Watford (Hertfordshire) after he had held his wife prisoner. Another man was found dead with gunshot wounds at his home in Melbourne (Derbyshire) - there were no suspicious circumstances.
- A number of other victims were injured in shootings, 2 of which may have been self-inflicted and 1 accidental.
 - Bristol (1) - a man was shot in the arm in Easton (a man has been arrested on suspicion of attempted murder)
 - Greater Manchester (4) - a man was admitted to hospital after being shot in the eye while gardening at his home in Chorlton (police were investigating the possibility that he could have been hit by a stray bullet), a man and a teenage woman were shot in the same incident in Moss Side (three people have been arrested), and a man was shot at his home in Baguley when two men burst in.
 - London (5) - a man was shot in the stomach in Brixton, a teenager was shot in the legs in Chingford (the victim and another teenager were arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm), one man caught in the crossfire was shot in the stomach when two groups fired at each another at a festival in Hackney (one man has been arrested), and two men were injured in an incident in Newham in which a third victim was killed (see above)
 - Merseyside (1) - a teenager suffering from gunshot wounds was found in Thornton (eight suspects have been arrested)
 - Northumberland (1) - a man was shot in the shoulder in a street in Stocksfield
 - Scotland (1) - a man arrived at a Glasgow hospital with a gunshot wound
 - Suffolk (1) - a woman was shot in the knee with a shotgun by someone with whom she was shooting pigeons in East Soham - the shooting is reported to have been an accident
 - Sussex (1) - a man was blasted in the face with a licensed shotgun at his home in Eastbourne - police are satisfied that nobody else was involved
 - Wales (1) - a man was found with a gun shot wound in Llangollen (Denbighshire) - no one else is being sought as part of the investigation

- West Midlands (1) - a man was shot in the back in Highgate (Birmingham)
- At least 6 other people were hit in shootings with BB guns or airguns:
 - Cambridgeshire (1) - a kebab van owner in Trumpington was shot three times by a gang carrying airguns who attempted to steal money
 - Greater Manchester (1) - a 15-year-old boy was shot in the face with an airgun in Worsley Mesnes
 - Humberside (1) - an 11-year-boy was shot after pellets were fired at children on Beverley Westwood - police seized a variety of imitation guns from a group of five youths.
 - Lincolnshire (1) - a woman was shot with a BB gun as she was setting up her shop in Horncastle - shop windows and vehicles were also targeted
 - Somerset (1) - a 10-year-old boy was shot in the face by another boy with a BB gun in a park in Highbridge during an altercation between two groups of boys - the culprit has been dealt with by means of restorative justice
 - West Midlands (1) - a man was shot in the leg with a pellet gun in a park in Tipton
- **Armed Hold-Ups and Assaults** - There were robberies and attempted robberies allegedly involving guns at **Banks** and **Post Offices** (6) in Droylsden (Greater Manchester) (handgun), Capel St Mary (Suffolk) (handgun), Almondsbury (West Yorkshire), Longbenton (Tyneside) (eight people were arrested), Brightlingsea (Essex), and Loscoe (Derbyshire) (imitation gun), **Bookmakers** (8) in Luton (Bedfordshire), Hyde Park and Hunslet (both in Leeds), Weston Green (Surrey), Rochester (Kent), Outwood (West Yorkshire), Tuebrook (Liverpool) (handgun), and Uddingston (North Lanarkshire), **Hotels** and **Pubs** (2) in Hyde (Greater Manchester) (shots were fired) and Walsgrave (West Midlands), a **Petrol Station** (1) in Chryston (North Lanarkshire), **Shops** (11) in Lowdham (Nottingham), Hounslow (west London) (handgun), Great Horton (Bradford) (shots were fired from a shotgun), Bury (Greater Manchester) (shotgun), Chingford (north east London) (handgun), Farley Hill (Bedfordshire), Knaresborough (North Yorkshire) (long-barrelled gun), Stevenage (handgun), Longwood and Fartown (West Yorkshire) (handgun; the same person is believed to have been responsible), and Dewsbury (West Yorkshire) (three boys who may also be responsible for a street robbery were arrested) and a **Travel Agents** (1) in West Wickham (south east London). A kebab van owner was shot with an airgun during an attempted robbery in Trumpington (Cambridgeshire) (see above).
- **Security men** were robbed at a service station in South Ockendon (Essex) (handgun).
- Shots were fired during a robbery at a **Scrapyard** in Rainham (east London).
- **Vehicles** (4) were stolen when three men armed with a handgun and other weapons took a van in Dovecot (Liverpool), when a motorist was robbed of his car when he went to the aid of a man lying in the road in Sinfin (Derby), in a car theft in Small Heath (Birmingham) (a man was accused of robbery and possession of an imitation firearm), and when a van driver had his vehicle stolen in Wanstead (north east London).
- There were robberies at gunpoint at **Homes** (5) in Clacton (Essex) (two men were later arrested on suspicion of aggravated burglary), Oxtou (The Wirral), Milnrow (Greater Manchester) (a man was forced from his car, driven to his home and robbed), Houghton-le-Spring (County Durham), and Brighouse (West Yorkshire).

- **Other Incidents** - Shots were fired during a number of other incidents:
 - Bedfordshire - a shot was fired at a man as he got out of a taxi in Luton
 - County Durham - two vehicles were fired at with a shotgun in Newton Aycliffe
 - Cumbria - a car being driven near Prizet was hit by a 'stray bullet'
 - London - shots were fired during a robbery at a scrapyard in Rainham (see above)
 - Scotland - a gun was fired at a house in Dalkeith (Midlothian) damaging guttering
 - Tyneside - gunshots were heard during a street brawl in Longbenton
 - West Midlands - shots were fired through the window of a flat in Sparkhill (Birmingham)
 - West Yorkshire - a shotgun was fired during a robbery at a jewellers in Bradford (see above)
- A school in Formby (Merseyside) was locked down when shots were heard - the incident was sparked by practice sessions at an RAF rifle range.
- A man was arrested on suspicion of making threats to kill and two legally-held shotguns were seized in Ford (West Sussex).
- A motorist was threatened with a handgun by a man in Farrington Gurney (Somerset).
- One man was arrested after a gun was produced during a row between two men in Southampton.
- Five men were arrested on suspicion of being in possession of a firearm after a man was seen brandishing a gun after two cars crashed in Ipswich.
- A man was arrested in a cemetery in Moston (Manchester) on suspicion of carrying a gun and robbery.
- A man was arrested in Strood (Kent) after reports of someone carrying a firearm in a street.
- A man was arrested in St Paul's (Bristol) when he was carrying a deactivated shotgun in a plastic bag - the gun was temporarily confiscated and he was advised on how to carry the gun around the streets.
- Armed police were called to a house in Romford (east London) after reports suggesting a man there had a firearm.
- A teenager pointed a gun at a bus driver in Huyton (Merseyside). A youth is reported to have entered a clubhouse in Newcastle carrying what was believed to have been a handgun. A 17-year-old was arrested for possession of a firearm after a loaded semi-automatic pistol was found after a gang fight in Norbury (south London).
- A man was being held in a psychiatric hospital after being found in Hereford having sparked an alert when he disappeared with a loaded shotgun.
- There were fears that guns were present, though none was found or confirmed, in the following incidents, some of which sparked an armed police response:
 - in a neighbourhood dispute in Middlewood (Sheffield) which spiralled out of control
 - during an incident at a petrol station in Runcorn (Cheshire) when a man tapped on a window with a metallic object
 - when a group of youths believed a man was pointing a shotgun at them in Hayling Island (Hampshire) - the police discovered he had been waving a walking stick
 - after police received a report that there was a handgun and a car was pulled over in Bootle (Merseyside)
 - following a report of a gunman holed up in a flat in Paisley - a man agreed to give himself up

- **Airguns and Imitation Guns** - Besides those incidents in which victims were hit (see above) there were many other incidents involving airguns and imitation weapons. They were probably used in many of the **armed robberies** and this was certainly so in the case of a car theft in Small Heath (Birmingham) and robberies in Trumpington (Cambridgeshire) and Loscoe (Derbyshire).
- The following incidents involved airguns:
 - It is thought that one was used in an incident inside a block of flats in Northampton in which several shots were fired - a man was arrested.
 - A woman who was being evicted was arrested at a house in Launceston (Cornwall) amid concerns that she had an air rifle.
 - A man was arrested following an incident involving an airgun at Loch Venachar (Perthshire) - he was charged with a number of firearms offences.
 - Armed police fled to a supermarket in Wadebridge (Cornwall) when three gunshots were heard - it has been speculated that the weapon could have been an air rifle.
 - Police had to respond to an incident in which two men were seen carrying air rifles at a supermarket in Droitwich - they were shooting pigeons.
 - A man firing an air rifle at a disused chemical site was arrested and charged with having an air weapon in a public place.
 - A man arrested in Lysted (Kent) was firing at a target without the farmer's permission - he was released with a caution.
- A teenager seen carrying a gun in Paisley had a ball-bearing pistol. Two youths were arrested and an imitation gun was recovered after reports of a suspected gunman in Barry (South Glamorgan).
- The following were damaged by airguns or BB guns:
 - The window of a train smashed at Pinhoe (Devon)
 - The window of a house in Peterborough
 - Three windows at a community hall in Watton (Norfolk)
 - A greenhouse in Leyland (Lancashire)
- Alarm was caused by a BB gun seen on the front seat of a car involved in a fatal crash in Langley Park (County Durham).
- **Guns Finds** - Guns were found and a number of arrests made during searches in which drugs were recovered in Lympstone (Devon) (imitation firearm), Liverpool (sawn-off shotgun), Tranmere (Merseyside) (handgun and ammunition), Fortis Green (north London), Plymouth (stun gun), Thorney (Cambridgeshire) (two shotguns which had been stolen in London), Beckton (east London) (imitation gun), and Edinburgh (a 16-year-old has been charged).
- Other firearms were recovered by police from a pub in Northampton (handgun, stun gun, 22 live rounds of ammunition), in a raid by Devon and Cornwall Constabulary (ball bearing gun, stun gun), during an operation investigating cash machine thefts in Cheltenham (Gloucestershire) and Evesham (Worcestershire), and during an operation to tackle gun crime in south Manchester (shotgun, two handguns).
- A man from South Shields (Tyneside) appeared in court after a stun gun was found at his home and a baton in his taxi.
- A sawn-off shotgun was found in undergrowth by a dog walker in Silverknowes (Edinburgh).
- Gun pellets were among a number of dangerous items found during a tidying up exercise in woodland at East Court (Sussex). Dozens of blank cartridges were found by a rambler close to a munitions depot in Argyll.

- **Incidents Involving Animals** - More cats were shot with airguns in attacks in Aberdeenshire, Bristol, Cornwall, Greater Manchester, Hull, Kent, Lancashire (two cats belonging to the same family), Somerset, West Midlands, and Wiltshire.
 - A ferret found in Guyhirn (Cambridgeshire) after being shot with an air weapon has recovered.
 - There were a number of reports of birds shot with airguns, ducks in North Creake (Norfolk), gulls in Willingdon Trees and Bexhill-on-Sea (both in East Sussex), and a moorhen at Earlswood Lakes (Surrey).
-

- **Convictions** - Two men were found guilty of the murder of a man who was shot dead with a shotgun in Clayton West (West Yorkshire) - both were jailed for a minimum of 30 years.
- A 16-year-old has admitted manslaughter after he fatally shot another teenager whilst "fooling around" with a loaded revolver at a house in Huyton (Merseyside).
- A man who shot a rival at a mobile home site in Crowthorne (Berkshire) was convicted of attempted murder. Another man who shot two men at a nightclub in Balsall Heath (Birmingham) pleaded guilty to attempted murder and firearms offences and was given a 16 year sentence.
- A man who fired a sawn-off shotgun at a club in Pontefract (West Yorkshire) and hit a man in the leg has been jailed indefinitely with a minimum of 4 years.
- A man, who escaped from a prison van when it was ambushed in London by armed men who shot the driver, was found guilty of having a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence, possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear or violence and wounding with intent to resist lawful apprehension after a jury believed he was party to the plan.
- A man whose teenage stepson shot himself in the head with a prohibited pistol he had been allowed to play with at his home in Newport (Gwent) has admitted child cruelty and possession of a prohibited firearm - the boy recovered.
- Three men who fired a shotgun during a failed blackmail attempt at the home of a man in Grimsby (Lincolnshire) have been convicted and jailed for between 9 years and 10 years and 9 months.
- A 17-year-old has pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm while committing criminal damage and possessing a prohibited weapon following an incident in Huyton (Merseyside) in which shots were fired from a scrambler bike and will serve a minimum of 5 years - the gun had been used in six shootings in Merseyside.
- An armed robber who held a gun to a woman's head at a travel agents in Leeds and was armed with a pistol when he was chased by police officers in a later incident has been jailed for a minimum of nearly 9 years.
- A man who brandished a handgun during an altercation in a street in Abbeymead (Gloucester) was jailed for 5 years.
- An offender who pointed a loaded rifle at a petrol station worker in Wakefield (West Yorkshire) pleaded guilty to attempted robbery and possession of a firearm and has been jailed for 5 years.
- A man involved in the gunpoint robbery of a meat delivery van in Bradford has pleaded guilty to being the "insider" - his two accomplices have not been caught.
- Two women involved with a gang who threatened a man with a gun and robbed him at a house in Harrow (north west London) were released from 18 months sentences after being on remand.

- A Lithuanian lorry driver has been convicted of two counts of possessing firearms and one count of possessing ammunition without a certificate after eight handguns and ammunition were found in a lorry when it arrived at the port of Dover (Kent) - he has been jailed for 8 years.
- Others caught in possession of firearms were:
 - A man involved in a drug distribution plan who had a loaded Mac-10 sub-machine gun in his children's bedroom in Friern Barnet (north London) and has admitted conspiracy to supply cocaine and possessing of a firearm with intent to endanger life.
 - A man arrested at his home in Welling (south east London) where police found a loaded revolver and other weapons including a ball bearing gun has been jailed for 5 years for possessing a firearm, 12 months for possessing ammunition and was also sentenced for a drugs offence.
 - A man from Glusburn (North Yorkshire) found in possession of a shotgun for which he had no licence (an air rifle was also seized from his home) who was fined £250 for possessing a shotgun without a licence.
 - A man from Castlebrae Rigg (Edinburgh) who had a rucksack containing a sawn-off shotgun, a pistol and four rounds of ammunition he claimed he found while riding his motorcycle who admitted breaches of the Firearms Act.
 - A man detained indefinitely under the Mental Health Act after explosives and a number of weapons including a sawn-off shotgun and a revolver were found at his home in Blackwood (Mid Glamorgan).
- **Stun Guns** - A man who threatened a homeowner with a stun gun during one of six burglaries in north west London has been handed an indefinite sentence and will serve at least 5 years and 10 months. Two men who threatened staff with a stun gun during some of eight robberies the committed at shops in the East Midlands and the West Country have each been jailed for 7 years.
- A teenager from Ipswich who pleaded guilty to fraud by false representation also admitted possessing a stun gun and was sentenced to 90 days in a young offenders' institute. A man found with a stun gun and counterfeit money at his home in Foleshill (Coventry) was jailed for 2 years.
- **Inquests** - There were inquests into the deaths of two men who shot themselves in February. A gun enthusiast from Horwich (Greater Manchester) killed himself with his shotgun after he feared he would be sacked for making an upsetting joke a coroner concluded. Another man who died from a gunshot wound to his head in High Wycombe (Buckinghamshire) took his life with what was described as an "old fashioned gun" after allegations he had assaulted his wife - the police had removed his shotguns.
- **Airguns and Imitation Guns (Court Cases)** - The following cases followed incidents in which pellets were fired at victims:
 - A student who admitted shooting three children with an air rifle which he fired from his university accommodation in Wolverhampton pleaded guilty to three counts of section 47 assault.

- A man who fired an imitation gun at three men in St Ann's (Nottingham) pleaded guilty to possession of an imitation firearm and supplying cannabis.
- A man who fired a ball bearing gun in Peterlee (County Durham) and hit a couple admitted two counts of assault causing actual bodily harm and was given an 18-month community order.
- A 16-year-old who shot a man at the railway station in Llanelli (Dyfed) with an air rifle was given a conditional discharge.
- A man who fired a BB gun and hit two members of staff at a fast food restaurant in Broughton (Flintshire) has admitted possessing an imitation firearm and assault.
- A teenager who put a ball bearing gun to the head of another teenager in Crayford (south east London) has been convicted of causing GBH with intent, affray and possession of a firearm or imitation firearm in a public place, and another youth was found guilty of GBH and affray.
- There were a number of other convictions for possession of an imitation gun:
 - A man armed who himself with a gas-powered ball-bearing gun after he was attacked by a gang in Levenshulme (Greater Manchester) has been jailed for a year and his girlfriend, who hid the weapon, was given a 6-month suspended sentence for assisting an offender.
 - A man who pointed an imitation gun at another man in Redditch (Worcestershire) was jailed for 5 years.
 - A stand-in warden at a mobile home site in Holbury (Hampshire) pointed a ball-bearing gun at a visitor - he admitted the offence and was ordered to carry out 40 hours unpaid work.
 - A man who produced a gun at a hotel in Kendal (Cumbria) has pleaded guilty to possessing an imitation gun in a public place.
 - A man who showed two women a handgun-shaped cigarette lighter in Blackpool (Lancashire) has been given 180 hours of unpaid community work after pleading guilty to possession of an imitation firearm in public.
 - A man from Hakin (Pembrokeshire) threatened to "sort out" his ex-wife and her new partner whilst loading an imitation revolver in front of his mother - a restraining order was made banning him from possessing a gun of any description or ammunition of any type.
 - A man who held a ball-bearing gun to the heads of a man and his daughter during an incident at a house in Glyncoch (Mid Glamorgan) pleaded guilty to false imprisonment and possessing an imitation firearm and a firearm (air rifle) - he has been jailed for 6 years.
- There were a number of convictions for robberies and attempted robberies in which the offender(s) was armed with an imitation firearm or air pistol. The incidents occurred:
 - at **Shops and Post Offices** in Blackburn (Lancashire) (a man was jailed for 5 years and 4 months after firing pellets from an imitation firearm), Cowes (Isle of Wight) (two men pleaded guilty to robbery and one of them to possessing an imitation firearm), and Carluke (South Lanarkshire) (a man who was armed with an air pistol pleaded guilty to robbery and assault)
 - at **Bookmakers** in Liverpool (a man has pleaded guilty to two robberies and admitted one charge of possessing an imitation handgun during the second raid), and Leeds (a man who was caught with an air pistol admitted three charges of robbery and one

- of attempted robbery was sentenced to 6 years in a young offenders' institution)
- in a **Street Robbery** in Birmingham (one of five youths who admitted robbery also admitted possessing two imitation firearms; they were sentenced to detention of between 2 and 4 years)
 - at a **House** in Catford (south east London) (three men have been sentenced to 9 years and one to 12 years after a burglary in which they were armed with an imitation firearm)
 - at a **Petrol Station** in Nottingham (a man received an 8-year sentence for robbery and firearms offences and two others received shorter custodial sentences)
- Three men caught with a powerful air rifle whilst poaching in Lymington (Hampshire) have been convicted - two of them who admitted affray both received 10-month suspended sentences and must complete 150 hours unpaid work, and a third man will be sentenced later.
 - There are frequent instances of men being caught in possession of air weapons when prohibited from owning firearms because of previous offences. This month they were:
 - a man from Grimsby (Lincolnshire) who admitted possessing an air rifle
 - two men who stole an air rifle in North Kelsey Moor (Lincolnshire) and were both banned from possessing it who admitted theft from a vehicle and possessing of the firearm and were ordered to complete 110 hours and 50 hours unpaid community work.
 - a man from Oakhurst (Swindon) who was caught with an air rifle after being sentenced to custody at a young offenders' institution.
 - a man from Galashiels who pleaded guilty to being in possession of an air pistol
 - A man has been jailed for 14 months for stealing paintball equipment, including 160 guns, from a firm in Kirkintilloch (East Dunbartonshire).

GUN INCIDENTS - MAY 2010

ENGLAND

The Gazette (Blackpool), 31 May 2010

A man showed two women a pistol in his waistband and told them "I have a gun and I'm going to use it". Simon Ford was put under citizen's arrest after the incident outside a pub in **Blackpool**, Lancashire, and has pleaded guilty to possessing an **imitation firearm** in public. The gun was a cigarette lighter, in the form of a full-sized handgun. He was sentenced to do 180 hours unpaid community work.

Evening Chronicle, 31 May 2010

Raymond Shiels from **West Denton**, Tyneside, who was jailed for eight years after pleading guilty to possession of criminal property, a prohibited firearm, and ammunition without a certificate has had his appeal dismissed. A pistol and ammunition were found buried in his allotment.

Derby Evening Telegraph, 31 May 2010

Two men who raided eight convenience stores in the East Midlands and the West Country have been jailed for seven years. During robberies in **Sandiacre**, Derbyshire, (see [Incidents](#)) and **Shepshed**, Leicestershire, in September 2009 they threatened staff with a **stun gun**. Wayne Hill and Shaun Watson were both jailed for seven years. A third man involved in some of the robberies who admitted theft was given a suspended 10 month prison sentence and must do 150 hours' community work.

Daily Echo, 31 May 2010

A man who claimed to have a gun during a robbery in a betting shop in **Poole**, Dorset, in April 2010 has pleaded guilty to the robbery. Grenville Martin was jailed for 12 months.

BBC, 31 May 2010

Armed police were called to a house in **Romford**, east London, where a lone man was reportedly brandishing a firearm.

BBC, 31 May 2010

A man was shot in the stomach by two men who forced their way into his house in **Baguley**, Greater Manchester. His injuries were described as "not life-threatening".

Sunday Sun, 30 May 2010

A man was shot in the left shoulder in a street in **Stocksfield**, Northumberland. Two men have been arrested.

BBC, 30 May 2010

A man has died after being shot in the street in **Lewisham**, south London. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Shields Gazette, 29 May 2010

A man has appeared in court accused of having a baton in his taxi and a **stun gun** at his home in **South Shields**, Tyneside.

Liverpool Echo, 29 May 2010

Three men threatened three female workers at a bookmakers in **Tuebrook**, Liverpool. One of the men was armed with a silver handgun. The men stole several hundred pounds in cash.

Evening Telegraph (Northampton), 29 May 2010

In February 2010 a gang pointed a gun at a lorry driver's head and threatened to kill him before stealing his load and holding him hostage. The men struck in a layby in **Rothwell**, Northamptonshire, and abandoned the driver in a field in Staffordshire. Three men have been accused of conspiracy to rob and of threatening to kill the driver.

Evening Post (Bristol), 29 May 2010

A man was arrested in **St Paul's**, Bristol, after he was seen carrying a **shotgun** wrapped in a black plastic bag. The man had just bought it legitimately and the police discovered that the weapon had been deactivated. The man was released and his weapon was temporarily confiscated. He was given strong advice on how he should carry the gun around the streets in future.

BBC, 29 May 2010

Three men have been injured, one fatally, in a shooting in **Newham**, east London. Officers from Operation Trident are investigating. A man has been arrested on suspicion of murder and attempted murder (*BBC*, 31 May 2010).

Telegraph & Argus, 28 May 2010

Nassar Khan has pleaded guilty to being the "insider" in an armed robbery on a refrigerated lorry which took place behind a supermarket in **Bradford** in November 2009. Kahn was in the lorry and was getting out when his two accomplices brandished a gun at three other employees of the meat delivery firm. The men stole over £21,000. The other two have not been apprehended. He has been warned to expect a long jail sentence.

Romford Recorder, 28 May 2010

Masked raiders shot at workers in a scrapyards in **Rainham**, east London, during a robbery. The gang escaped with a large, undisclosed sum of money from the office.

Northern Echo, 28 May 2010

Stuart Jones fired a **ball bearing gun** at a young couple as they made their way home in **Peterlee**, County Durham, in October 2009. The woman sustained a chipped tooth and her partner was hit on the back of the hand by another pellet. Jones admitted two counts of assault causing actual bodily harm. He was given an 18-month community order during which he must undergo probation supervision.

Coventry Telegraph, 28 May 2010

A **stun gun** and counterfeit cash were found during a raid on the home of Daniel Blackstock in **Foleshill**, Coventry, in September 2009. He admitted owning the gun and the money and will serve 12 months for each offence, to run consecutively.

BBC, 28 May 2010

Students and staff at a school in **Formby**, Merseyside, were locked in after a farmer heard a gunshot close by. The incident had been sparked by practice sessions at an RAF rifle range.

BBC, 28 May 2010

A man has suffered a gunshot wound to his arm in **Easton**, Bristol. His injury is not thought to be life-threatening. A man has been arrested on suspicion of attempted murder (*BBC*, 29 May 2010).

Westmorland Gazette, 27 May 2010

Thomas Hayes produced a **replica gun** at a hotel in **Kendal**, Cumbria, in March 2010 (see [Incidents](#)) and sparked an armed police response which brought traffic chaos to the town. He has pleaded guilty to possessing an imitation firearm in a public place. He will be sentenced later but is likely to be given a 160-hour community service order.

Newham Recorder, 27 May 2010

An **imitation firearm** and equipment used for converting firearms were among items seized by police during raids in which drugs were also recovered in **Beckton**, east London. Eight people were arrested.

Kent Online, 27 May 2010

A man was arrested on suspicion of discharging a firearm in a public place. Police seized an airgun and a crossbow from a house in **Lysted**, Kent. A target had been shot at with an **air rifle** without the farmer's permission. The man was later released with a caution for the offence.

Keighley News, 27 May 2010

William Skelton has pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm without a licence. Armed police found a **single-barrel shotgun** at his house in **Glusburn**, North Yorkshire when they raided the property in January 2010 on suspicion of him having a firearm. The shotgun was found in three separate parts, hidden in his bedroom. The police also seized cartridges and a **.22 air rifle**. It was claimed that he had a legitimate reason for owning the shotgun, to control rabbits in his orchard, but had "jumped the gun" by getting the firearm before securing a licence. He was ordered to pay a fine of £250 for possessing a shotgun without a licence. The guns and cartridges will be destroyed.

Huddersfield Daily Examiner, 27 May 2010

Three boys aged 13, 14 and 15 were arrested on suspicion of robbery at a newsagents in **Dewsbury** and a person in **Dewsbury Moor**, West Yorkshire, and possessing a firearm after they were seen acting suspiciously outside a newsagents in **Batley**.

Huddersfield Daily Examiner, 27 May 2010

The same man is believed to have been responsible for two incidents in **Longwood** and **Fartown**, West Yorkshire. He stole cash from the first shop and about 50 minutes later tried to rob a second shop. He was armed with what is thought to have been a handgun.

Herts24, 27 May 2010

Two robbers, one brandishing a handgun robbed a supermarket in **Stevenage**, Hertfordshire. They made off with some cash.

The Herald (Plymouth), 27 May 2010

Seven people have been arrested during raids in **Plymouth** in which thousands of pounds worth of suspected drugs were seized along with a "prohibited weapon" thought to be a **stun device** and a "small mixture of ammunition".

Derby Evening Telegraph, 27 May 2010

A man threatened a postmistress with an imitation firearm during an attempted robbery in **Loscoe**, Derbyshire. The suspect was detained and an **imitation gun** and a knife were recovered. He was charged with attempted robbery, having an imitation firearm in public, having an offensive weapon and common assault.

Burton Mail, 27 May 2010

A man was found dead with gunshot wounds at his home in **Melbourne**, Derbyshire. There are no suspicious circumstances and no other person was involved.

Birmingham Mail, 27 May 2010

A man was shot with a **pellet gun** as he sat in a park in **Tipton**, West Midlands. He was with his girlfriend when he received a wound to his leg. Police wish to speak to a group of five boys and two girls.

BBC, 27 May 2010

Police seized two stolen **shotguns** and cannabis plants during a raid in **Thorney**, Cambridgeshire. The guns had been stolen from London around a year ago. Two men were arrested, one was released on bail, the other without charge.

Northern Echo, 26 May 2010

Two vehicles were fired at with a **shotgun** in **Newton Aycliffe**, County Durham. Three spent cartridges were found at the rear of a house and both vehicles sustained damage consistent with a shotgun discharge.

Local Guardian, 26 May 2010

A gunman held a weapon to a van driver's head and forced him to drive to an alleyway in **Wanstead**, north east London, where he made his victim take off his trousers. The man then drove off in the van.

Cambridge News, 26 May 2010

A kebab van owner was shot by three men carrying **airguns** and a knife in **Trumpington**, Cambridgeshire. He was hit on the chin, arm and back when he refused to hand over his money but he chased the men away. He was treated in hospital for minor injuries.

Northern Echo, 25 May 2010

Alarm was caused by a gun seen on the front seat of a car involved in a fatal crash in **Langley Park**, County Durham. The gun has been described as a **BB gun** (*Northern Echo*, 24 May 2010).

Manchester Evening News, 25 May 2010

Fourteen people were arrested in an operation in south **Manchester** to tackle gun crime. The police recovered a number of weapons including a **shotgun** and two handguns.

Lancashire Evening Post, 25 May 2010

A greenhouse in **Leyland**, Lancashire, was shattered when a **ball-bearing gun**, stones and a football were fired at it.

ITN, 25 May 2010

Dean Rowe has pleaded guilty to attempted murder and firearms offences. He shot two men at a nightclub in **Balsall Heath**, Birmingham, in September 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). He has been sentenced to 16 years in prison.

Grimsby Telegraph, 25 May 2010

A gang burst into the home of a man in **Grimsby**, Lincolnshire, and assaulted him and his family before firing a **shotgun** in a failed blackmail attempt (see [November 2009 Incidents](#)). The shot missed their victim. Earlier in the day one of them had visited the house demanding money. Paul Blake and James Bence were found guilty of possessing a firearm to commit an indictable offence and a separate charge of blackmail and were both jailed for nine years. Stephen Hitchmough pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm with intent to endanger a life and blackmail was jailed for 10 years and nine months. A fourth man was found not guilty.

East Anglian Daily Times, 25 May 2010

A man and a woman who claimed to have a gun threatened workers at a bank in **Brightlingsea**, Essex, and stole several hundred pounds. No weapon was seen. Two people were later arrested.

Cornish Guardian, 25 May 2010

Firearms officers surrounded a house in **Launceston**, Cornwall, amid concerns that a woman objecting to being evicted had access to an **air rifle**. A woman was arrested after more than four hours of negotiation and the police were "in possession" of the air rifle.

BBC, 25 May 2010

A man was arrested on suspicion of carrying a gun at a cemetery in **Moston**, Manchester. He was also suspected of robbery.

Yorkshire Evening Post, 24 May 2010

Kyle Horton was drunk when he fired a **sawn-off shotgun** at a club in **Pontefract**, West Yorkshire, in March 2009 and hit a man in the leg. He had an ongoing feud with the landlord's son. He has been jailed indefinitely for the public's protection with a minimum of four years.

Watton & Swaffham Times, 24 May 2010

Three windows at a community hall in **Watton**, Norfolk, have been damaged by pellets fired from either an **air pistol** or **BB gun**.

Evening Telegraph (Peterborough), 24 May 2010

A couple have been injured in a drive-by shooting in **Moss Side**, Manchester. A teenage girl suffered a gunshot wound to her elbow and a man was hit by a bullet in the lower back. Both were being treated in hospital and were not in life-threatening conditions. The police believe the girl was an entirely innocent bystander. Three males, one of them aged 16, have been arrested (*BBC*, 25 May 2010).

East Anglian Daily Times, 24 May 2010

Matthew Whale, 19, from **Ipswich** has pleaded guilty to fraud by false representation and a separate charge of possessing a **stun gun**. It was claimed he had bought the gun to protect his family from being burgled. He was sentenced to 90 days in a young offenders' institute. His stun gun will be destroyed.

Burnham-on-Sea.com, 24 May 2010

A 10-year-old boy was shot in the face with a **BB gun** in **Highbridge**, Somerset. The shot was fired by another boy after two small groups of youths were involved in an altercation in a park. The victim suffered an injury to his mouth. A 14-year-old suspect has been dealt with by means of restorative justice (*Weekly News*, 27 May 2010).

BBC, 24 May 2010

A man has been found dead at his home in **Watford**, Hertfordshire, after holding his wife prisoner. Officers had been warned he had a firearm and a gun was found at the scene. The incident is not being treated as suspicious.

BBC, 23 May 2010

Two men entered a convenience store in **Knaresborough**, North Yorkshire, and threatened customers and staff with a long-barrelled gun. A man in his late teens was later arrested.

Liverpool Echo, 22 May 2010

A teenager suffering from gunshot wounds was found in **Thornton**, Merseyside. Police believe he was shot in **Netherton**, where gunshots had been reported, before moving to Thornton. His injuries were non-life threatening. Eight suspects have been arrested.

Hartlepool Mail, 22 May 2010

Armed police were scrambled after reports that a man was firing an **air rifle** inside a disused chemical site in **Hartlepool**. He had been seen taking pot-shots at birds. The man was arrested and charged with having an air weapon in a public place.

Haringey Independent, 22 May 2010

A man has been arrested on suspicion of gun and cannabis possession following a raid in **Fortis Green**, north London.

BBC, 22 May 2010

A teacher at a school in **Cannington**, Somerset, was arrested in April after allegations he passed a **shotgun** to a pupil. Following this and other incidents the headmaster of the school has been suspended during an inquiry into alleged failures in procedures for safeguarding children.

BBC, 22 May 2010

A man was killed in a shooting as he left a takeaway in **Paddington**, west London. He was treated at the scene but died from his injuries within an hour. A murder investigation has started. Two men have been arrested (*BBC*, 25 May 2010).

BBC, 22 May 2010

At least one man was injured as two groups shot at each other during a festival in a park in **Hackney**, east London. One man was chased and shot in the stomach. A 19-year-old has been arrested. The victim remained in a serious condition in hospital (*Hackney Gazette*, 27 May 2010).

The Argus, 22 May 2010

A man has survived after being blasted in the face with a **shotgun** at his home in **Eastbourne**, East Sussex. His injuries are said to be serious but not life threatening. The police are satisfied that nobody else was involved in the incident but have not established if the injuries were accidental or not. The man did have a licence for the shotgun.

Wakefield Express, 21 May 2010

Robbers carrying a handgun and a hammer raided a bookmakers in **Outwood**, West Yorkshire. They made off with an amount of cash from the gaming machines.

Luton Today, 21 May 2010

Two men burst into a shop in **Farley Hill**, Bedfordshire, and pointed what appeared to be a gun at the owner and demanded cash from the till. The owner struck the weapon holder with a metal bar and his assistant distracted the men who fled the shop.

BBC, 21 May 2010

Two men carrying guns sparked an armed response at a supermarket in **Droitwich**, Worcestershire. The men were found to be carrying **air rifles** and said they were shooting pigeons. They were arrested on suspicion of firearm offences, but no further action was taken.

BBC, 21 May 2010

A man suffered serious injuries after he was shot in the back in **Highgate**, Birmingham. He remained in hospital. Three men have been arrested on suspicion of attempted murder.

BBC, 21 May 2010

Oliver Mazirel and Gary Ridgewell-Smith have been jailed for nine years each following a jewellery raid in **Cowes**, Isle of Wight, in July 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). Both pleaded guilty to robbery and Mazirel also admitted possessing an **imitation firearm**.

Daily Echo, 20 May 2010

Armed police surrounded a house in **Southampton** after a row between two men with a gun. They were responding to reports of a fight in which one of the men produced the firearm. He made off with the gun and was arrested at the house. The other man was arrested at the scene of the fight. Both await questioning on suspicion of firearms offences.

This is Local London, 19 May 2010

An inquest heard that a man whose body was found in King's Wood, **High Wycombe** in Buckinghamshire, in February 2010 committed suicide after being interviewed by police over allegations he assaulted his wife. He died from a gunshot wound to the head. Three **shotguns** had been taken from him by police over concerns that he was at risk to himself in September 2009, were later returned but taken away again at the end of January. The weapon found at the scene was an "old fashioned gun" given to him by a colleague to look after. The coroner recorded a verdict that he took his own life.

Horncastle News, 19 May 2010

A shopkeeper in **Horncastle**, Lincolnshire, was shot with a **BB gun**. She was setting up her shop when she was hit in the arm which is now badly bruised. The gun was fired from the window of a nearby flat. Shop windows and vehicles were also targeted.

Daily Echo, 19 May 2010

Peter Ogborn, a stand in warden at a mobile home site in **Holbury**, Hampshire, pointed a pistol at a visitor because he was fed up with the noise his car was making. The gun was a **ball bearing gun** he claimed he used for shooting rats. Ogborn, who was drunk at the time of the incident, admitted possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence. He was ordered to carry out 40 hours unpaid work.

Cornish Guardian, 19 May 2010

Armed police fled to a supermarket in **Wadebridge**, Cornwall, after reports of gunshots. A security guard overheard three rounds. Police found nothing at the scene and have speculated that the weapon could have been an **air rifle**.

BBC, 19 May 2010

A man and woman have been arrested after a handgun and ammunition were found at a property in **Tranmere**, Merseyside. They were held on suspicion of money laundering, possessing a firearm and ammunition, and drugs offences.

Huddersfield Daily Examiner, 18 May 2010

Two men threatened a man and his teenage granddaughter with a gun during an attempted robbery at a property in **Brighouse**, West Yorkshire. The two men burst into the house in what is believed to have been a targeted attack. Neither of the victims was hurt and the suspects fled the scene empty-handed.

BBC, 18 May 2010

Two security guards were robbed of thousands of pounds they were delivering to a service station in **South Ockendon**, Essex. A man with a handgun approached them, took the cash and climbed over a fence.

BBC, 18 May 2010

Seven people were arrested and a firearm seized during an operation investigating a cash machine thefts conspiracy. Homes were raided in **Cheltenham**, Gloucestershire, and **Evesham**, Worcestershire.

Yorkshire Evening Post, 17 May 2010

Geoffrey Bostan confronted police officers after they flagged down his car in **Armley**, West Yorkshire, in October 2009, and chased after him. He was armed with a semi-automatic pistol. One of the police officers kicked the gun out of his hand. He had previously held a gun to a woman's head during a robbery at a travel agents in **Leeds**. Bostan has been given an indeterminate sentence and ordered to serve a minimum of eight years and 348 days.

Swindon Advertiser, 17 May 2010

Wesley Harvie from **Oakhurst**, Swindon, has pleaded guilty to having an **SMK air rifle**. He was caught with the weapon in February 2010. He was banned from having the weapon after being sentenced to custody at a young offenders' institution. He also admitted assaulting a man.

The Star, 17 May 2010

Two men were arrested after police found a gun stolen in **North Kelsey Moor**, Lincolnshire, in the back of a vehicle following a car chase in June 2009. Simon Robinson and Dean Pugh were both banned from possessing the **air rifle** because of previous criminal convictions. Both admitted theft from a vehicle and possession of the firearm, and Pugh admitted dangerous driving. They were ordered to complete unpaid work in the community, 110 hours for Pugh and 50 hours for Robinson.

Evening Telegraph (Peterborough), 17 May 2010

The window of a house in **Peterborough** has been damaged with a **pellet gun**.

Kent Online, 17 May 2010

A robber threatened betting shop staff at gunpoint in **Rochester**, Kent. He made off with a small amount of cash. It was the latest in a string of thefts at betting shops across the Medway Towns.

BBC, 17 May 2010

Four men were arrested on suspicion of being in possession of a firearm after an incident when two cars crashed and a man was seen brandishing a gun in **Ipswich**. The incident took place close to a school. A fifth person has been arrested (*BBC*, 18 May 2010).

BBC, 16 May 2010

Police are looking into reports that gunshots were heard during a street brawl in **Lemington**, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, but have stressed that no-one had received firearms injuries.

Liverpool Echo, 15 May 2010

A 16-year-old has admitted killing another teenager while "fooling around" with a loaded revolver at a house in **Huyton**, Merseyside, in January 2010 (see [Incidents](#)). Twenty minutes before the shooting the two youths and another friend had taken pictures of each other posing with the weapon. In legal terms the boy was responsible for manslaughter because of "gross negligence". He was remanded in custody to await sentencing.

Liverpool Echo, 15 May 2010

A car was pulled over by police in **Bootle**, Merseyside, after a call was received that there was a handgun in the vehicle. No gun was found.

This is Nottingham, 14 May 2010

Three men who used an **imitation Glock 17 handgun** and a knife when they robbed a petrol station in **Nottingham** in August 2009 have been sentenced. Danny Cordwell has been jailed for eight years for robbery and firearms offences, Jason Usher who admitted perverting the course of justice and aiding and abetting an offender was sentenced to 27 months and an unnamed 16-year-old who pleaded guilty to two charges of robbery and possessing a firearm received a two-year detention and training order.

This is Local London, 14 May 2010

Four men who were part of a gang of burglars who broke into a house in **Catford**, south east London, in December 2009 and threatened to shoot the occupants have been jailed. They were armed with an **imitation firearm**, a crowbar, the end of a snooker cue and a baseball bat. The men stole phones, wallets and cash. Frederick Braithwaite, David Dauverge and Granville Daring were sentenced to nine years and Anthony Parnell was jailed for 12 years.

This is Hull & East Riding, 14 May 2010

Pellets have been fired at children on **Beverley Westwood**, North Humberside, and one 11-year-old boy was shot. Police tracked down five youths, aged 15 to 16, and seized a variety of **imitation guns**. Police have destroyed the guns and the youths will be issued with warning letters.

The Sun, 14 May 2010

An SAS commander was being held in a psychiatric hospital after he disappeared with a loaded **shotgun**, sparking a major police alert. It was feared he might go on a rampage or kill himself. The man, who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, was found in **Hereford**.

Metro, 14 May 2010

Two Icelandic women who were involved with a gang of criminals have admitted conspiracy to rob. On one occasion Aldis Egilsdottir and Ragndeidur Holgersdottir lured a victim to their home in Wiltshire where eight men lay in wait. The men beat him up and took him to a derelict house in **Harrow**, north west London, where he was threatened with a gun and robbed. The two women were released from 18-month sentences after being on remand for 299 days. The gang have never been caught.

BBC, 14 May 2010

A motorist was threatened with a handgun by a man whose dog had run into the road, forcing the driver to stop. The incident took place in **Farrington Gurney**, Somerset. The gun was produced when the driver spoke to the dog owner.

The Journal, 13 May 2010

A gang of three men, one brandishing a **shotgun**, escaped with cash after threatening a man at a house in **Houghton-le-Spring**, County Durham. No one was injured but the victim was left shaken.

Get Bracknell, 13 May 2010

Tom Stevens has been convicted of attempting to murder a rival at a mobile home site in **Crowthorne**, Berkshire, in September 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). He shot his victim three times. He had claimed he had fired in self-defence because he was scared his victim was going to shoot him, his wife and child. The incident was the product of a long-standing gypsy rivalry. Sentencing was deferred.

Yorkshire Post, 13 May 2010

Azar Sulman, 20, carried out a series of gunpoint raids at betting shops in **Leeds** between November 2009 and January 2010. He returned to a branch in January 2010 and brandished a pistol at staff. He was struck by a customer and kicked the gun out of reach before sitting on him until help arrived. The gun turned out to be an **air pistol**. Sulman admitted three charges of robbery and one of attempted robbery. He was sentenced to six years in a young offender institution.

Westmorland Gazette, 13 May 2010

A car being driven near **Prizet**, Cumbria, may have been hit by a 'stray bullet'. An 18-year-old woman passenger believes an object missed her by inches and there was a 'massive explosion' in the car. The windscreen shattered and there was a large hole in the frame above the passenger door.

Times Series, 13 May 2010

Ashley Waterman broke into a home in **Cricklewood**, north west London, in December 2010 and threatened the homeowner with a **stun gun**. At the time he had absconded from a secure hospital unit where he had been sent after being jailed for five years. He pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm, being a prohibited person and absconding from custody and admitted six burglaries. He was handed an indefinite prison sentence and will serve at least five years and ten months.

Liverpool Echo, 13 May 2010

John Farrell has pleaded guilty to carrying out two robberies at bookmakers in the centre of **Liverpool** in January and February 2010 (see [Incidents](#)). They stole over £10,000 during the two raids. He also admitted one charge of possessing an **imitation handgun** during the second raid. Another man has pleaded not guilty to the single count of robbery.

The Herald (Plymouth), 13 May 2010

A **ball bearing gun** and a **stun gun** were among items seized when nine people, including one woman, were arrested and their computers seized after investigators from **Devon** and **Cornwall** Constabulary uncovered an internet hate site against a police officer.

BBC, 13 May 2010

A man was forced from his car, driven to his home and robbed. The incident began when he was chased in his car in **Milnrow**, Greater Manchester, and rammed from behind. When he fled on foot he was assaulted with a gun. They stole cash and a phone and other items from his home.

BBC, 13 May 2010

Vitalijus Tauslela has been convicted of two counts of possessing firearms and one count of possessing ammunition without a certificate. He was cleared of possessing firearms and ammunition with intent to endanger life and importing goods. Eight handguns and ammunition were found in a lorry which had arrived at the port of **Dover**, Kent, from Calais in November 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). He has been jailed for eight years.

BBC, 13 May 2010

A drunk man who attempted a carjacking with an **imitation gun** as a "prank" has had his sentence cut. Piotr Wypych terrified two girls by tapping the gun on their car window in **Northampton** in November 2009. He was jailed for two years after admitting possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence but his sentence has now been reduced to 16 months.

Yorkshire Evening Post, 12 May 2010

Thomas Oldfield pointed a loaded rifle at a petrol station worker in **Wakefield**, West Yorkshire, in March 2010 (see [Incidents](#)) but was wrestled to the ground. Oldfield pleaded guilty to attempted robbery and possession of a firearm with intent and has been jailed for five years.

This is Sussex, 12 May 2010

Gun pellets were among a number of dangerous items found during a tidying up exercise in woodland at **East Court**, Sussex. The area is plagued by illegal 'wild camping', camp fires, litter on the meadow and shooting of **air rifles** on glass bottle targets.

This is Local London, 12 May 2010

Jordan Barclay, 18, has been convicted of causing GBH with intent, affray and possession of a firearm or imitation firearm in a public place and Ryan Gouldthorp, 18, was found guilty of GBH and affray. The convictions followed an attack on another teenager in **Crayford**, south east London, in July 2009. Barclay had put a **ball bearing gun** to the victim's head. They will be sentenced later and a third culprit is being sought.

Redditch & Alcester Standard, 12 May 2010

Lee Skyba followed a man and pointed a gun, an imitation pistol, to his head because he was "sick" of people in **Redditch**, Worcestershire. The incident took place in the town in March 2009. He was convicted of an **imitation firearm** with intent to cause fear of violence and jailed for five years.

Liverpool Daily Post, 12 May 2010

Police seized a **sawn-off shotgun**, drugs and ammunition described as a mountain of cartridges and ammunition for other weapons, following a raid on an apartment block in the centre of **Liverpool**. A man has been charged with a number of offences (*Liverpool Echo*, 13 May 2010).

Get Surrey, 12 May 2010

Two workers at a betting shop in **Weston Green**, Surrey, were robbed at gunpoint. One suspect had a hammer and the other carried what has been described as a "suspected firearm". Police said it was not clear whether the weapon was a genuine firearm or a replica.

Evening Chronicle, 12 May 2010

Eight people, including one woman, have been arrested by police following an armed raid on a post office in **Longbenton**, Tyneside. A firearm and a car were being examined.

Coventry Telegraph, 12 May 2010

A man who followed a delivery driver into a pub in **Walsgrave**, West Midlands, threatened staff with a firearm and demanded they open the safe. He stole a quantity of cash before fleeing the scene.

Birmingham Mail, 12 May 2010

Five youths from **Birmingham** aged between 14 and 17 have admitted a charge of robbery and one of them, aged 15, has also admitted possessing two **imitation firearms**. They attacked a teenage victim and filmed the attack in which his mobile was taken. He was told to strip and a gun was put to his neck. The youths were sentenced to detention of between two years and four years.

BBC, 12 May 2010

Two women were robbed at gunpoint as they entered a house in **Oxton**, Wirral. The men produced what are believed to be handguns and demanded their victim's valuables. The men escaped with a small amount of cash and a phone.

BBC, 12 May 2010

Rikesh Patel, 20, pleaded guilty to three counts of section 47 assault. He admitted shooting three children with an **air rifle** from the balcony of his accommodation at the University of **Wolverhampton**. His victims were a 12-year-old girl in the leg in April 2010 and two boys aged 14 in the head and neck earlier this month. One of the boys needed hospital treatment.

Yorkshire Evening Post, 11 May 2010

Two men threatened staff at a bookies in **Hunslet**, West Yorkshire, with a gun. They fled with a quantity of cash.

This is Local London, 11 May 2010

Two men with a gun threatened staff at a shop in **Chingford**, north east London. They were armed with a black handgun and demanded cash. They stole cash and cigarettes before fleeing.

Northampton Chronicle & Echo, 11 May 2010

A handgun, a **stun gun** and 22 live rounds of ammunition were found in a pub in **Abington**, Northampton, when it was raided by the police. A sum of money was recovered. The pub is likely to remain closed for at least the next four weeks (*Northampton Chronicle & Echo*, 13 May 2010).

Luton Today, 11 May 2010

A man was shot at as he got out of a taxi in front of a store in **Luton**, Bedfordshire. The gunman missed and hit the door of the supermarket instead. Police say the attack was "targeted".

Devon24, 11 May 2010

A man has been arrested on suspicion of being found in possession of class B drugs and an **imitation firearm** in **Lympstone**, Devon.

Croydon Guardian, 11 May 2010

A 17-year-old has been arrested for possession of a firearm after police split up a gang fight in **Norbury**, south London. A loaded semi-automatic pistol was found.

BBC, 11 May 2010

A man has been accused of robbery, possession of an **imitation firearm** and failing to supply a sample for drug testing and driving offences. The charges follow an investigation into the theft of a car at gunpoint in **Small Heath**, Birmingham.

BBC, 11 May 2010

A motorist who went to the aid of a man lying in the road in **Sinfin**, Derby, and was robbed of his car keys at gunpoint by two other men.

This is Nottingham, 10 May 2010

Timothy Sobers fired a gun at three men who demanded a refund for some cannabis. The incident happened at Sobers' house in **St Ann's**, Nottingham, in October 2009. The police were called by a member of the public who phoned the police. Sobers pleaded guilty to possession of an **imitation firearm** and supplying cannabis. Sentencing has been deferred.

Surrey Comet, 10 May 2010

A pub in **Surbiton**, south west London, which had its licence revoked when an antique **shotgun** was found on the premises has been allowed to re-open. The shotgun and ammunition were found in an upstairs room.

East Anglian Daily Times, 10 May 2010

Two men armed with a gun burst into a house in **Clacton**, Essex, and left a woman in a state of shock. It is not thought anything was stolen. Two men were later questioned by the police on suspicion of aggravated burglary following a high-speed car chase.

BBC, 10 May 2010

Shots were fired in an armed robbery at a hotel in **Hyde**, Greater Manchester. No-one was injured. Police later arrested a woman and a man dressed in body armour. A second man and a woman were arrested in one of the bedrooms.

BBC, 10 May 2010

A man admitted to hospital in April 2010 had been shot in the eye while gardening at his home in **Chorlton**, Greater Manchester. It was thought that he had suffered a stroke but a CT scan revealed an object lodged in his brain. He has no memory of what happened. Police are looking into the possibility that he could have been hit by a stray bullet.

BBC, 10 May 2010

A man has been arrested on suspicion of being in possession of a firearm after reports that a man had been seen carrying a firearm in a street in **Strood**, Kent.

This is Hampshire, 9 May 2010

Three men caught poaching with a powerful **air rifle** on an estate in **Lymington**, Hampshire, have admitted affray. Punches had been thrown when they were surrounded by gamekeepers. Aaron Barnes and Craig Daniels also admitted possessing the weapon without a firearm certificate and both received ten-month suspended sentences and were told to complete 150 hours unpaid work and must pay compensation. Michael Shanley will be sentenced later.

Telegraph, 9 May 2010

A group of youths in **Hayling Island**, Hampshire, claimed a man had threatened them with a gun. Armed police responding to the incident found the man had waved a walking stick at them and the stick had been mistaken for a shotgun. The man has been warned not to carry the stick in the same way in case it gave people the impression that it was a gun.

News Shopper, 9 May 2010

Ian Doherty was arrested when police raided his house in **Welling**, south east London, in January 2010 and found a loaded revolver and other weapons including a **ball bearing gun**. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years in jail for possessing a firearm, 12 months for possessing ammunition and three years for possession of cocaine with intent to supply, the sentences to be served consecutively.

BBC, 8 May 2010

A 15-year-old boy narrowly missed losing an eye when he was shot in the face with an **airgun** in **Worsley Mesnes**, Greater Manchester. He was playing with friends at the time and none of the boys saw who shot him.

This is Grimsby, 7 May 2010

Richard Finn of **Grimsby**, Lincolnshire, was caught with an airgun in breach of a ban because of a previous prison sentence. He admitted possessing of an **air rifle** and breaching his Asbo the same day by drinking in public. He was given a four-month suspended sentence, a one-year supervision order and must pay costs.

Southport Visiter, 7 May 2010

Stewart Rimmer, 17, has pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm while committing criminal damage and possessing a prohibited weapon. He admitted the shooting. He was on the back of a scrambler bike when shots were fired from a submachine gun at a home in **Huyton**, Merseyside. He tried to dispose of a gun in the River Mersey. Three others, Dean Malone, 19, Robin Vaughan, 20, and Jordan Smith, 18, were jailed in March after they were discovered with a self-loading pistol inside a taxi. Rimmer has been given an indefinite sentence and will serve a minimum of five years. The pistol has been linked to six shootings in Merseyside (*Liverpool Echo*, 27 May 2010).

Press Association, 7 May 2010

A man was shot dead in a street in **Tottenham**, north London. Police were called after reports of gun shots being fired and the victim was pronounced dead at the scene. Two men, one aged 16, have been arrested over the murder (*BBC*, 13 May 2010). The older man has been charged with murder and the teenager has been released on bail (*BBC*, 15 May 2010).

Northern Echo, 7 May 2010

A youth is reported to have entered the clubhouse of a rugby club in **Newcastle** carrying what was believed to have been a small handgun. It is not known whether it was genuine or an imitation weapon.

Birmingham Mail, 7 May 2010

A number of shots were fired through the window of a flat in **Sparkhill**, Birmingham. The householder was in at the time.

Runcorn and Widnes Weekly News, 6 May 2010

A man tapped on the window of a petrol station in **Hallwood Park**, Runcorn in Cheshire with a metallic object which officers believe may have been a gun. He shouted at the station worker inside but was foiled by a locked door and made off.

Press Association, 6 May 2010

Noel Cunningham was in a prison van which was transporting him to court and was ambushed by two armed men in **London** in June 2003. He fled after the men shot a driver and forced guards to open the cells of the vehicle. The jury believed that he was party to the plan and he was found guilty of having a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence, possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear or violence and wounding with intent to resist lawful apprehension. He will be sentenced later.

Manchester Evening News, 6 May 2010

A man wearing a burka and hijab tricked his way into a jewellers in **Bury**, Greater Manchester, and when the door was opened three other men, one carrying a **shotgun**, barged their way inside. The gang stole a large amount of jewellery.

Huddersfield Daily Express, 6 May 2010

Masked men brandishing a gun and a crowbar raided a bank in **Almondbury** in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. They ordered staff to fill bags with cash before fleeing. A reward of up to £50,000 has been offered for information to the robbery (*Huddersfield Daily Express*, 11 May 2010).

Express & Echo, 6 May 2010

A window was smashed on a train waiting at **Pinhoe** station in Exeter. Police believe a stone or **air weapon** was used. Passengers later were forced to change trains.

East Anglian Daily Times, 6 May 2010

A woman was shot in the knee near **East Soham**, Suffolk. It is understood that she was out shooting pigeons and was accidentally shot by someone she was with who was using a **12 bore shotgun**. The weapon was confiscated by the police while they carried out their inquiries.

Waltham Forest Guardian, 5 May 2010

A teenager was shot in the legs in a street in **Chingford**, north east London, during an argument between a group of men. The victim was later arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm after a gun was found in his car. Another teenager was also arrested on suspicion of possessing a firearm.

Telegraph & Argus, 5 May 2010

A jewellers in **Great Horton**, Bradford, was ram-raided by a gang of men armed with guns. Two shots were fired. The raiders were armed with **shotguns** (*Telegraph & Argus*, 6 May 2010).

Local Guardian, 5 May 2010

Two men held up a travel agents with a handgun in **West Wickham**, south east London. They fled with a bundle of cash.

Lancashire Telegraph, 5 May 2010

Wayne Lammond opened fire on staff at a takeaway in **Blackburn**, Lancashire, in November 2008. He demanded money from the till and fired pellets during the incident but fled empty handed. He pleaded guilty to attempted robbery and possession of an **imitation firearm** and has been jailed for five years and four months.

East Anglian Daily Times, 5 May 2010

The post office in **Capel St Mary**, Suffolk, has been targeted by an armed robber for the second time in five days and for the fourth time in 18 months. In the latest attack a man brandishing a handgun threatened staff and a cashier while demanding money. They left with an amount of cash.

BBC, 5 May 2010

Two men armed with a handgun burst into a post office in **Droylsden**, Greater Manchester, and pointed the gun at a 10-year-old boy. The cashier set off the alarm and the men ran off carrying a small amount of cash.

Yorkshire Post, 4 May 2010

David Large and Simon Mullen have been found guilty of murdering Large's gay lover who was found shot dead with a **shotgun** in a lay-by near **Clayton West**, West Yorkshire, in September 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). Large paid Mullen thousands of pounds to carry out the killing. Both men have been jailed for a minimum of 30 years.

Yorkshire Evening Post, 4 May 2010

A man, possibly armed with a gun in a plastic bag, raided a bookmakers in **Hyde Park**, Leeds. He grabbed a quantity of banknotes and coins before fleeing.

This is Local London, 4 May 2010

A man has been shot in a garden in **New Cross**, south east London. Police found him suffering from a gunshot wound to the head and he was pronounced dead at the scene. The shooting took place in the same street where a man was fatally shot in July 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). Four teenagers have been arrested (*Press Association*, 9 May 2010).

This is Gloucestershire, 4 May 2010

Jeffrey Warren brandished a handgun in a street in **Abbeymead**, Gloucester, in February 2010 (see [Incidents](#)) during an altercation with another man. He was jailed for five years after admitting the offence.

Sheffield Telegraph, 4 May 2010

Armed police surrounded a flat on an estate in **Middlewood**, Sheffield, after a neighbourhood dispute spiralled out of control. There were fears that there might be a firearm in the property. A man was arrested but the police would not confirm whether he was armed.

Richmond & Twickenham Times, 4 May 2010

A teenager robbed a shop at gunpoint in **Hounslow**, west London. He entered the off-licence and pulled out a handgun and demanded cash.

Harrow Observer, 4 May 2010

Anthony Reid has admitted conspiracy to supply cocaine and possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life. A fully converted and loaded Mac-10 sub-machine gun was found in a wardrobe in his children's bedroom in **Friern Barnet**, north London. He was one of four men involved in a drug distribution plan who have now been convicted.

Bedford Today, 4 May 2010

Two men threatened staff at a bookmakers in **Luton**, Bedfordshire, with what appeared to be a handgun. They left the shop with cash.

Northampton Chronicle & Echo, 3 May 2010

A man allegedly fired several shots inside his block of flats in the centre of **Northampton**. A road was closed and residents were prevented from getting in or out of surrounding flats for several hours. A man was arrested after a siege which lasted over six hours. It is thought an **airgun** might have been involved.

Manchester Evening News, 3 May 2010

Damon Brumell armed himself with a **gas-powered ball-bearing gun** after his nose was broken by a gang who had been harassing him. The attack in **Levenshulme**, Greater Manchester, was not reported to the police and when the gang confronted him again he produced the gun and shot at them. His girlfriend Eleanor Foulkes, 19, called the police but hid the weapon. Brumell was seen firing the gun on CCTV. He has admitted possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence and has been jailed for a year, Foulkes received a six-month suspended sentence for assisting an offender.

Liverpool Echo, 3 May 2010

A teenager pointed a gun at a bus driver at a bus stop on his route in **Huyton**, Merseyside. Another youth who was with him talked the gunman down and the driver sped off.

Liverpool Daily Post, 3 May 2010

Armed robbers stole a van from two men in **Dovecot**, Liverpool. The gang of three were armed with a handgun, a knife and a wooden stick and ordered their victims out of the parked vehicle. One of the victims required hospital treatment for head injuries.

BBC, 2 May 2010

A man was in a stable condition after being shot in the stomach as he left a barbers shop in **Brixton**, south London. Two men had opened fire on him.

The Argus, 2 May 2010

A man was arrested on suspicion of making threats to kill and two legally-held **shotguns** were seized by the police after officers called at an address in **Ford**, West Sussex. They used a stun gun to restrain a man after he had threatened to shoot someone.

This is Nottingham, 1 May 2010

A man carrying a suspected gun walked into a store in **Lowdham**, Nottingham, and ordered staff to hand over money.

SCOTLAND

BBC, 31 May 2010

A 16-year-old youth has been arrested and charged with alleged firearms and drugs offences. A firearm, drugs and cash were recovered by police during a search in **Edinburgh**.

stv, 28 May 2010

A gun was fired at a house in **Dalkeith**, Midlothian. A bullet was recovered after the shot damaged guttering on the house. None of its occupants were injured.

BBC, 22 May 2010

A man arrived at a hospital in **Glasgow** with a gunshot wound. The shooting may be linked to an incident two hours earlier in which another man was hit by a car.

stv, 21 May 2010

A court has heard how the victim of a fatal machete attack in **Barrowfield**, Glasgow, in August 2004 had been in the company of a man armed with a **sawn-off shotgun** and had been vandalising a car outside the home of the man who subsequently attacked him. This man had been struck by pellets but not seriously injured after the gun was fired and then gave chase before he hacked, slashed and stabbed the victim to death. A man and his father have admitted culpable homicide. The incident had followed a long-running feud and was sparked by a row over dead racing pigeons.

Evening News, 21 May 2010

A man who said he found a rucksack containing a **sawn-off shotgun** and a pistol and four rounds of ammunition while riding his motorcycle has admitted breaches of the Firearms Act. The guns were found in a garden shed at Stuart Carson's home in **Castlebrae Rigg**, Edinburgh, after a tip-off in October 2009.

BBC, 20 May 2010

Allan McCallum stole paintball equipment worth more than £22,000 from a firm in **Kirkintilloch**, East Dunbartonshire, in August 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). The items included 160 guns, 700 gas grenades and 150 gas canisters. He was caught in the street with one of the paintball guns. He has been jailed for 14 months.

Border Telegraph, 19 May 2010

Robert Gregg from **Galashiels** has pleaded guilty to being in possession of a **.177 air pistol** and ammunition when he was not allowed to do so having recently served a prison sentence.

BBC, 19 May 2010

A man held up a betting shop in **Uddingston**, North Lanarkshire. He threatened two members of staff with what appeared to be a firearm and fled with a four-figure sum of cash.

BBC, 18 May 2010

Two men, one carrying a firearm, escaped with hundreds of pounds after a raid on a petrol station in **Chryston**, North Lanarkshire.

Paisley Daily Express, 14 May 2010

Armed police went to a tower block in **Paisley** after a gunman was reported to be holed-up in a flat. After a two hour stand-off a man agreed to give himself up. It was revealed later that no gun had been found and the man had been unarmed.

Kilmarnock Standard, 14 May 2010

A firearm was recovered from an accountant's office in **Stewarton**, Ayrshire, during a fraud investigation. The weapon was said to be a decommissioned rifle that was being stored in the office as part of a house move. No charges have been brought.

BBC, 13 May 2010

A man has been arrested at **Loch Venachar**, near Callander in Perthshire, for a firearms offence while camping. The arrest followed an incident involving an **airgun**. He was charged with a number of firearms offences and released on bail with the condition he does not enter the National Park.

Evening News, 11 May 2010

A **sawn-off shotgun** was found in undergrowth in **Silverknowes**, Edinburgh, by a dog-walker on a litter pick. The area is close to a community woodland regularly used as a play area by local children.

Scotsman, 7 May 2010

A package of 120 blank cartridges was found by a rambler in undergrowth near a country path between **Carrick Castle** and **Ardentinny** in Argyll. The spot is near a munitions depot. The cartridges of the type used in training by the military. The police are investigating.

BBC, 6 May 2010

Robert Jack has admitted robbing a store in **Carluke**, South Lanarkshire, armed with an **air pistol** in January 2010 (see [Incidents](#)). He also pleaded guilty to assaulting a man who confronted him as he tried to flee the scene. His accomplice has never been identified. Sentencing was deferred.

Paisley Daily Express, 4 May 2010

Armed police were placed on alert after a teenager was seen in a street in **Paisley** carrying a gun. The weapon was found to be a **ball-bearing pistol**. No arrest was made.

WALES

Daily Post, 28 May 2010

A customer at a drive by fast food restaurant in **Broughton**, Flintshire, fired a **BB gun** at staff earlier this month. Two victims were hit, one on the hand and the other on the upper arm. The incident was described as "a prank which went horribly wrong". Anthony Hallows admitted possessing the imitation firearm and assaulting two members of staff. Sentence was adjourned.

South Wales Evening Post, 26 May 2010

A 16-year-old from **Llanelli**, Dyfed, who admitted shooting an **air rifle** at members of the public has been given a conditional discharge. A man was hit in the head at the railway station in January 2010 (see [Incidents](#)). The air rifle will be destroyed.

Daily Mirror, 26 May 2010

Mike Hole has admitted child cruelty and possession of a prohibited firearm. His teenage stepson shot himself in the head at home in **Newport**, Gwent, in March 2010 (see [Incidents](#)) while posing for a photo with a loaded .25 Beretta pistol which Hole had let him play with. He will be sentenced in June. The boy recovered.

Pontypridd Observer, 20 May 2010

Andrew Baker has been jailed for six years after pleading guilty to false imprisonment and possessing an imitation firearm and a firearm. During the incident at a house in **Glyncoch**, Mid Glamorgan, in January 2010 he had asked another man to fetch guns from his (Baker's) parents' house, and had held a **ball-bearing gun** to the heads of both the man and his 17-year-old daughter and also threatened them with an **air rifle**. He also shot the gun inside the house. When an armed police response unit arrived he let his victims go but did not follow police instructions to put down the gun and was tasered several times. Baker was taking diazepam medication at the time and could not recall the details of the incidents. He had a significant history of mental health issues.

BBC, 20 May 2010

A man was found with a gunshot wound in **Llangollen**, Denbighshire. A firearm was recovered and was being forensically examined. The circumstances of the incident were "still unclear" but that no-one was being sought as part of the investigation. The man was in a serious condition in hospital after having surgery.

BBC, 19 May 2010

Donatien Chamchawala, described as a dangerous loner with a "real dislike" for sections of the community and with an obsession with explosives, has been detained indefinitely under the Mental Health Act. Counter terrorism police discovered found two swords, a **sawn-off shotgun**, a revolver, a machete and a bullet-proof vest at his home in **Blackwood**, Caerphilly, Mid Glamorgan, and described his kitchen as being "akin to a bomb-making factory" (see also [February 2010 Incidents](#)).

Barry & District News, 13 May 2010

Armed police blocked off the High Street in **Barry**, South Glamorgan, after reports of a suspected gunman. Police later recovered an **imitation weapon**. Two youths aged 14 and 15 were arrested and released on bail.

Western Telegraph, 6 May 2010

Mark Edwards from **Hakin**, Pembrokeshire, threatened to "sort out" his ex-wife and her new partner while loading a revolver with pellets and attaching gas canisters. The gun was an **imitation**, an **R77 Combat revolver**. The incident occurred in November 2009 (see [Incidents](#)). He has been convicted of possessing an imitation firearm with intent of making his mother fear that violence would follow and of assaulting his mother by beating. A restraining order was made without limit of time banning Edwards from possessing a gun of any description or ammunition of any type.

INCIDENTS INVOLVING ANIMALS

Wisbech Standard, 28 May 2010

A ferret found by a member of the public in **Guyhirn**, Cambridgeshire, last month had been shot with an **air weapon**. He had been shot in the side of his body and foot. He has now recovered and the RSPCA are seeking a new home for him.

Press & Journal, 25 May 2010

A pet cat was shot with an **airgun** in **Peterhead**, Aberdeenshire. A metal pellet was embedded in her chest.

Ealing Gazette, 21 May 2010

A woman from **West Ealing**, west London, claims police officers shot her dog as they dragged her boyfriend out onto the street. The woman had called the police after a man had earlier come to her door and threatened that he would come back with others and a gun. The police arrived after the man had gone and put her boyfriend in handcuffs, following which she heard gun shots. When she was let back into the house she found 13 bullets and shots had damaged her radiators and walls. She says the police have admitted they killed the dog. The police say they were told a gunman was in the house.

Looe Today, 21 May 2010

A cat has been shot dead with an **airgun** wound in **Liskeard**, Cornwall. Her owner found her lying on her neighbour's drive.

Bexhill-on-Sea Observer, 20 May 2010

Two gulls have been discovered shot in **Bexhill-on-Sea**, East Sussex. One died within hours and the other survived but will never fly again. The police were expecting to make an arrest. The bird that died had been shot with a **.22 air rifle** pellet which smashed the wing and went deep into the body.

BBC, 18 May 2010

A nesting moorhen was shot dead at a wildlife haven at **Earlswood Lakes**, Surrey. The bird had been shot twice with an **airgun**. A £500 reward has been offered.

Lancashire Telegraph, 14 May 2010

Two cats belonging to the same family in **Lower Darwen**, Lancashire, have been left injured following **airgun** attacks. Vets have said that it would be too dangerous to remove the pellets which have lodged inside the pets.

Kent Online, 14 May 2010

A family cat has had to be put down after being shot at close range with an **airgun** in **Sittingbourne**, Kent. An X-ray revealed a pellet had damaged the small intestine and entered the bladder and although she had surgery to repair the damage she later took a turn for the worse.

Messenger, 13 May 2010

A pet cat was shot in the neck with **air rifle** in **Ashton-on-Mersey**, Greater Manchester. He was found slumped by the back door of his home and found to have a sizeable pellet wound. A .22 airgun pellet was removed during an emergency operation.

This is Hull and East Riding, 8 May 2010

A cat rescued from a house on an estate in **east Hull** had been shot three times with an **airgun**. One pellet was removed from a lump in her stomach and two other pellets were found.

Rye & Battle Observer, 7 May 2010

Five gulls have been shot with an **air rifle** in **Willington Trees**, East Sussex, this year. National Gull Rescue and Protection is appealing for witnesses. Local residents have been upset when they have seen the dead gulls in their neighbourhood.

Evening Post (Bristol), 6 May 2010

A cat found near **Thornbury**, Bristol, who had been seen wandering the streets had been blinded in an **airgun** attack. A vet has had to remove any eye. A pellet was found lodged in the orbit having gone through the eye.

Fakenham & Wells Times, 5 May 2010

Inspectors at an RSPCA centre fear that ducks are being used as **airgun** targets following a series of attacks in **North Creake**, Norfolk. It is claimed that half a dozen ducks have been shot in the area during the last few months including two this month, one of which was killed.

Express & Star, 4 May 2010

A pet cat was shot several times in the back garden of the family home in **Bentley**, West Midlands. Another cat belonging to the family had been shot dead in a similar attack in 2008. After the latest shooting the cat is fighting for her life after **airgun** pellets punctured her intestine.

Gazette & Herald, 3 May 2010

A cat has been targeted with an **airgun** in **Calne**, Wiltshire. A pellet which had lodged against her spine was pulled out by her owners but there is a chance that the wound could become infected.

Weston, Worle & Somerset Mercury, 1 May 2010

A cat which had been missing for two days turned up slumped on a neighbour's lawn in **Weston-super-Mare**, Somerset. He had been shot with an **air rifle** and is lucky to have escaped with his life. The bill for the removal of the pellet from his small intestine is at least £500.



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