

Win FOOD STORAGE GIVEAWAY

## NEWS

### iPhone Taser seized in raid on house



Sgt Scott Hargreave, of the drugs unit at Gablecross, holding the 11-inch knife seized in the Westlea raid

by Dominic Gilbert [Follow](#) 778 followers

5:30am Saturday 7th February 2015 in News

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A 50,000-volt Taser disguised as an iPhone was part of a haul recovered from a London-based drugs network when police raided their base in Westlea.

The weapon was recovered when drugs unit officers seized 150 wraps of cocaine and heroin, along with an 11-inch serrated blade, during a raid on Thursday.

The haul was discovered at the address in Thornford Drive after neighbours alerted police to suspicious behaviour. Police believe the property had only been in use by the gang for a matter of days before the raid.

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Two men from the Tottenham area of North London, aged 30 and 25, and a 40-year-old from Swindon were arrested.

Sgt Scott Hargreave, of the drugs unit, said all three men had since been bailed and enquiries were continuing.

“Since December we have been concentrating on people we believe have been coming over from the North London area, including Haringey and Tottenham,” he said.

“Historically in Swindon we have seen groups coming over from South London, but that has changed recently and we are not sure why that is.

“Since December we have arrested 16 males who we believe are working for London-based dangerous drugs networks.

“We have also seized in the region of £30,000 worth of drugs, including Class C, crack cocaine and heroin. We have also seized weapons, including knives and a couple of tasers.

Talking about the Westlea raid, he added: “We have recovered between 100 and 150 wraps of cocaine and heroin, with a street value of between £1,500 and £2,000.

“From the house close by where they were detained was a horrible-looking knife around 10 or 11 inches long, and a Taser disguised as an iPhone.”

The Taser has the same weight and measurements as an iPhone 4S, with two prongs beside the earpiece to fire the electrodes.

“At first glance it looks like a regular iPhone, but there are no markings or SIM numbers on the outside,” added Sgt Hargreave.

“A police-issue Taser will fire around 50,000 volts and this would have a very similar capacity.

“We are working very closely with the West sector neighbourhood policing team, and this was a familiar story of members of the local community who spot suspicious activity, with lots of callers to the address from late at night to early in the morning.

“This goes on in many different areas and it is crucial that people report it.

“Crack cocaine and heroin wraps could be dropped in the street and picked up by kids, so it is vital we can act quickly.

“We do not know what the repercussions might be otherwise. Some of the crack cocaine we had before Christmas was pink, and if wrapped in cling film that could look just like a sweet to a child.

“The intelligence from the address would suggest they have only been there for a couple of days, so we managed to act quickly in getting the warrant.”

Temporary Insp Caroline Hook, of West Sector, said: “This just shows the good working relationship the police team in West sector has with the community and these arrests are the result of that sharing of information.

“We would encourage anyone with information they believe is relevant, no matter how small, to get in touch.”

Information can be left by calling police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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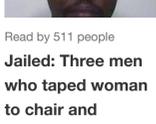
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