

## **Police report**

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**Author: Magee 2187**

On Tuesday August 6th, three men were involved in an armed robbery of a security van outside the Abbey National office in Lee High Street.

The men were seen by three witnesses who agree that they were of stocky build. Two of the men were over six feet tall and the third was shorter, about 5 foot 7. They all wore hoods which covered their faces and therefore we have no information on their features. Only one man spoke. It is said he spoke in a soft Irish accent, believed to be from southern Ireland. All three men wore dark clothes and two of them had jeans. The only distinguishable feature belonged to the slightly shorter man who had a tattoo on the lower part of his right leg. It is not known what this tattoo was.

It appears the men drove down the High Street in a Ford Fiesta. They were seen waiting in the car by a number of passers-by. As the security van approached, the two men in the back of the car were seen to leave the car and walk along the road towards the Abbey National. Then, when the van stopped, the guards got out and, straight away, the two robbers moved behind them. Each robber was seen producing a gun.

Next, the guards were told to lie on the floor and while one robber watched over them the other took the keys to open the van. While the van was being opened the driver of the getaway car was seen driving, at speed, to the Abbey National. The car stopped behind the van and the money was transferred to the car from the van.

After loading all the money the two robbers jumped back into the car and sped off down the High Street. Another witness spoke of seeing the blue Fiesta in question turn down Arnold Drive. Later the car was found abandoned on the site of the old Odeon cinema.

Neither guard received any injury and there were no shots fired.