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High Road bank robbed by masked men

THREE men armed with a sledgehammer and crowbars stole a quantity of cash from a security guard inside a Beeston bank this week.

The robbery happened as two G4S security guards were in the process of refilling the cash machine inside the Halifax Bank on the High Road on Tuesday, October 20.

One of the guards entered the bank just before 8pm and was followed by three men, who were wearing balaclavas.

The offenders threatened the guard with crowbars and a sledgehammer, forcing him

to hand over a quantity of cash. It is thought that they left the scene in a dark green Vauxhall Corsa.

The guards were not injured in the robbery.

Police were called to the scene and searched the area, but there was no sign of the robbers.

Nottinghamshire Police Detective Inspector Brian Foster said: "We believe that the three men may have been outside the bank for some time, watching and waiting for the security guards to arrive.

"This was a planned attack. Anyone with any information, or anyone who may have seen someone suspicious near the Halifax bank on the High Road on Tuesday night, should share this information with the police as soon as possible."

Anyone with information relating to this incident is asked to contact Nottinghamshire Police on 0300 300 99 99 or alternatively, contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Fairtrade Beeston celebrates becoming a Fairtrade Town

MEMBERS of the Fairtrade Beeston group are celebrating the fact that Beeston has achieved Fairtrade Town status by holding a special event in Beeston on Saturday, October 31, between 10.30am and 2pm. All local residents are invited along.

The Mayor of Broxtowe, Cllr John Longdon, and local MP Nick Palmer will be helping to raise the flag in Beeston Square at 10.30am. This will be followed by speeches and a performance from the local gospel choir in The Square, followed by free Fairtrade samples and displays at the Town Hall on Foster Avenue until around 2pm.

The Fairtrade Beeston group has been working hard over the last 18 months to spread the word about Fairtrade and encourage residents, groups and businesses to choose Fairtrade products. By September of this year, the criteria required by the Fairtrade Foundation in order for Beeston to be granted Fairtrade Town status had been met and the group submitted its application. Beeston had achieved enough to be given the status of a Fairtrade Town, and now it's time for everyone to celebrate.

Award for Beeston Goes Bananas

Representatives from the Fairtrade Beeston steering group celebrated another

success when they learnt that they had won a special award from the Fairtrade Foundation.

The 'Beeston Goes Bananas' event held earlier in the year during Fairtrade Fortnight won the Best Outreach and Networking Campaign, and members of the group attended the annual Fairtrade Supporters conference in London to collect the award from BBC newsreader George Alagiah, a Fairtrade supporter for more than seven years. Fairtrade Beeston also received £500 towards future projects.

The Fairtrade Foundation aims to work with businesses, community groups and individuals to improve the position of producer organisations in the poorest

countries, and coordinates the annual 'Fairtrade Fortnight' to promote the idea of Fairtrade across the country. This year, the theme was 'go bananas' which was part of a world record for simultaneous banana eating. The Fairtrade Beeston group, which consists of representatives from Broxtowe Borough Council, local businesses, church groups, schools and organisations, decided that Beeston should eat bananas!

The main event, 'Beeston Goes Bananas' attracted over 4000 people during the day, March 7, with more than 2000 people taking part in the world record breaking attempt.

On receiving the award, Cllr Lynda Lally, a member of

the steering group, said: "A lot of hard work went into the event and it is great to see that it has been recognised at a national level. A big thank you goes to everyone who helped make it happen."

For more information about becoming a member of the Fairtrade Beeston group, contact Stephanie Wilkinson at Broxtowe Borough Council on (0115) 917 3989.

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