

A Lesson in

Perseverance

When Scott Hider of B2B Portfolio had his car stolen last week, he was so intent on getting it back he tried literally anything and everything he could think of. Persistence, perseverance, and hard work can yield amazing results. Does the story have a happy ending? Read on to find out...

Scott picks up the story "When I first discovered my beloved 740i had been stolen, I set about doing everything I could possibly think of to track her down.

This would have been a lot simpler if I'd had a tracking device fitted of course – a definite future purchase." Realising positive action would strongly increase his chances of getting the car back, Scott got to work. Apart from the obvious reporting the car stolen to the police, he began spreading the word about the car's disappearance. He talked to neighbours, business colleagues, family and friends. He even created an email complete with photos, sending it to everyone he knew and asking them to forward it on – some even ended up as far afield as Australia and South Africa.

Scott lists just some of the tactics he tried:

- Posting adverts in BMW forums online
- Phoning every single taxi firm in the local area and informing the controllers to ask their drivers to look out for the car (with a reward incentive)
- Driving to areas where local youngsters hang out in their cars, informing them of the car and its description, again offering a reward for information
- Driving around local areas at night, simply looking for the car (for hours)
- Talking to police officers in the area to try and raise the profile of the incident.
- Staying on touch with the officer who dealt with the case and getting the car featured on the homepage of the Crime stoppers website with pictures
- Considered an ITV News West appeal as 'the man who will never give up'
- Visiting local petrol stations and asking them to review footage of the night it was taken
- Surfing ebay for any signs of the car - or its parts

Then last Thursday lunchtime, Scott received a call from the police informing him his car had been found just a few miles from where it was taken. It seems a friend of a friend 3 times removed heard of the cars disappearance, noticed the car had 'appeared' on his street, then contacted police after viewing the crime stoppers web page. To Scott's relief, the car was found in un-damaged condition – even the chrome wheels were intact. That said, the stereo, CDs, road tax, and even the floor mats had been stolen.

Scott plans to fit his car with additional security and tracking devices but above all, he's delighted to be reunited with the car. "I felt obliged to share this story as it definitely shows that hard work pays off and that if you put your mind to something, anything is possible. Thanks to everyone who forwarded the email on. Just remember never give up on something you love!"

