

Exercise 1

You have been told that students at a local university are complaining of being stalked. Several young women say that a young man has turned up at their flats or houses, claiming to be Iam Noone, a representative of a leading modelling agency. He has asked for their personal details, and invited them to his photographic studio. When there, they say he tries to get them to pose nude and has pressured them for sex. They are scared and upset. They have no idea how he found where they live.

One of the women contacts you. She says she has been to the police but they say they can do nothing, as the man has gone away when asked to, and has broken no law. However, she fears that he just moves on to others, and that one day he will do something worse.

You interview all the women and find they have three things in common:

- They all live in the suburbs, in stand-alone houses.
- They are all young and pretty.
- They all own cars. They believe they have been tracked through their car licence plates.

You ask one of the women to contact Noone and arrange a meeting at a café. You observe the meeting, and afterwards follow him. It turns out he works at a local service station, pumping gas. You find out that his real name is Wayne Phikshun.

You confront him, and he admits he does not work for an agency. He apologises and begs you not to go to the police.

You interview the owner, Brian Nonesuch, who asks you to give Wayne a break, as he is a trusted employee, and has been there for three years.

“We get a lot of thieves coming in and trying to drive off without paying for petrol, especially since the economic downturn. Wayne’s been great at helping us catch them. He’s one of my most trusted employees.”

Wayne insists he only approached one woman. He says he has never heard of the other women, and has no idea where they live.

You put the investigation on hold. Then two more women come forward, and tell you that they have been approached by someone who fits Phikshun’s description. Once again, they have cars, and live in the suburbs. One of them says he threatened her. The police say they do not have enough evidence to press charges.

You contact the New Zealand Transport Agency, which holds personal information about registered car owners. It tells you that a person needs to be an authorised user to obtain the name and address of a vehicle owner. It confirms that Wayne Phikshun is not an authorised user.

Can you prove that Phikshun was tracking these women? Using the internet only, show how you can prove that he had access to their names and addresses.

Exercise 2

You are the only reporter working a Saturday shift at the *Sunday Bugle*. Your newspaper has been sent the following media release. Find out what you can, using the INTERNET ONLY. You MUST NOT contact the city council OR THE PEOPLE NAMED or ANYONE ELSE. (Tip: All companies in New Zealand are required to be listed on the NZ Companies Office website.) Write a 200-300 word news story for tomorrow's paper.

MEDIA RELEASE - Council goes green

XYZ Council is leading a green revolution in waste disposal.

Mayor Gerry Noname announced today that the council had signed a contract to recycle all of its rubbish with Greenable Hands Ltd.

Greenable Hands, specialists in green waste recycling, will sort all waste going into the city's landfills, identify what can be recycled and what needs special treatment.

Non-toxic green waste will go into landfills, helping build clean, green parks and reserves.

Other non-biodegradable waste will be recycled and on-sold to reprocessors to help defray the cost of the scheme.

"This is a great day for our city," the mayor said.

"Our landfills will no longer be a dumping ground for toxic waste, but places where clean waste can be stored and become a nurturing ground for future green belts."

The contract will cost the council \$10 million a year.

Greenable Hands directors John and Nigel Vemecell said they were thrilled to be chosen from several tenderers.

"This is a chance to help make our city clean again, and build on our world-class reputation as an environmentally-friendly city.

"We were chosen because of our innovative vision, using the latest technology to automatically sort waste and identify recyclable material."

Greenable Hands is a subsidiary of Australasian Business Systems Properties Ltd.

For more information, contact:

Nigel Untrew: 09 12345677