

CROOKS THIS DUMB MUST BE LOCKED UP FOR THE TERM OF THEIR UNNATURAL LIVES

Andrew Bawden, a brutish opportunist, perpetrated a crime spree that might shake the very foundations of the security industry and the police forces in Australia.

Andrew, as it has been stated in the National Media, in an inappropriately humorous manner, is a seriously simple-minded chap who, sadly for those of us who deal with thieves on a daily basis, chose robbery as a career path and besmirched the name of that profession by his actions.

Did I mention Andrew is a world-class bonehead? Yes and by his bone headedness he is also a serious threat to the security industry in this country; for if Andrew has started a trend here, if other equally dull-witted types have taken him to their hearts and seen him as a hero in whose footsteps they might follow then the new-age crook is going to be a self-defeating knucklehead who will stumble into gaol as surely as a lemming off a cliff. Security firms will be redundant. The cops will be given retirement packages.

But what did he do? Well, Andrew, having recently been released from gaol for a four-year spot, and only an hour after being charged and bailed on other break-ins, was back at it, breaking into cars and businesses, not to mention, being a pious lad, a cathedral for good measure. In the course of his spree he dropped his police charge-sheet at one crime scene and a DVD of his police interview at another and was quickly rounded up by the laughing long arm of the law once more.

At present shop-stealers, burglars, home-invaders, break-and-enter artists, car thieves and fraudsters are a workforce of the most well-schooled and cunning crooks imaginable. They have standards and demand of themselves world's-best-practice dishonesty. Always on the lookout for an opportunity, always circling unprotected premises sniffing for weakness and vulnerability. They are hyenas and wolves.

Which is why we exist... at **Charter Security** we are zoologists who deal with these hyenas and wolves on a daily basis. We know their habits and their needs and we can control them and keep them confined to the back streets and gutters that are their natural habitat.

But with the frightening trend of brain-dead dingbattery in criminals likely to be sparked by Andrew, we may just be redundant. Who needs first class security systems in place if crooks are going to catch themselves?

Therefore, we at **Charter Security** are going to petition the Justice System from the highest judge to the lowliest bailiff to keep this dangerous scoundrel, this frightening figure, locked up for the term of his unnatural life. Because crooks this dumb will ruin us all.

We suspect we might meet with some success. Because the lawyers will be standing in the dole queue right behind us if Andrew is the criminal future. The legal system itself will be redundant. For what use is a defence lawyer to an accused who has delivered himself hog-tied with a guilty stamp on his forehead into the hands of the police? And what need is there of a prosecuting barrister?

No. Unless the bad guys of the future are a tad sharper than Andrew Bawden the game is up for us all.

In reality, we're not too concerned for the ongoing viability of the security industry. It would require a Federal Government initiative that all convicted felons be given a frontal lobotomy for criminals to get as stupid as Andrew in the foreseeable future.

And this would require a massive shift in resources. The battalion of plastic surgeons who are currently employed doing boob-jobs would have to cease that uplifting work and begin removing the grey matter of Break-and-Enter freaks.

Until such times our criminals will continue to be as vigilant as wolves and as opportunistic as hyenas, though not as pretty as either.

And **Charter Security** will continue to man the walls and keep them out.

AUSTRALIA'S DUMBEST CROOK?

The case of the Bendigo burglar who dropped his police charge sheet at one crime scene and a DVD of his police interview at another is going to be hard to beat.

The question is, is this guy really our dumbest crook? We can give you countless examples of the more sophisticated crooks that we've stopped, but that's a serious business. Successful criminals cost Australian businesses up to \$7 billion in lost revenue every year, which translates directly into higher prices for the rest of us.

So while we're tending to the serious business of loss prevention, we'd appreciate a good story about the lighter side of crime and invite you to nominate your candidate for "Australia's Dumbest Crook". We don't want any names – just the story.

Do you have a story about a getaway car that wouldn't start, a crook that got stuck in a security screen or a crim that mistakenly took the garbage bag instead of the loot? If so, email us with the details. We'll post the best stories on our website.

In the meantime, if you need assistance in dealing with crooks of the smarter variety, contact Charter Security for serious solutions.