Listening 1

Presenter Welcome again to *Beat the criminals* and first on tonight’s programme, an update on one of the cases we featured earlier this year. You may remember the story of Jeremy Maguire, whose speciality was breaking into people’s houses — usually old people — and stealing their valuables. Well with your help, Maguire was caught by the police and we’re pleased to say that last week a court in Tonbridge sentenced him to ten years in prison. The court heard that Maguire had been making as much as £50,000 a year for the past 15 years. The judge also ruled that Maguire should pay compensation to some of his elderly victims.

And now another case where you, the public, played a very important role in catching the criminals. Two sisters, Sally and Penny Green, were found guilty this week in Birmingham Crown court of committing separate but similar offences on the same day! Stephanie Flamstead, a customer in a small electrical shop, Electricbuys, gave evidence that she saw the younger sister Penny taking various items, including MP3 players, from the shop shelves and putting them in her handbag and pockets. She alerted security staff, who caught her as she was leaving the shop. Then later the same day, Penny’s elder sister, Sally, was arrested by police. A passer-by, James Holt, saw her stealing a mobile phone and twenty pounds in cash from the coat pocket of a young mother who was taking her child for a walk in a pushchair.

And finishing on a happy note, kidnap victim David Clarke, whose story we featured last week, faced the TV cameras today to talk about his ordeal after being taken from his car by a criminal gang and kept prisoner in an old farmhouse near Cambridge for six days. The gang demanded a large sum of money from Mr Clarke’s family in return for his release, but thanks to your help, police were able to free him on Friday without any ransom money being paid. The criminals, however, have not yet been caught. So if you have any information about this crime call us now on *Beat the criminals*. And that number is 07901 853853. The lines are open now…

Listening 2

1 Newsreader A police spokesman has informed us that bank robber Robbie Forsyth, who was last seen in Bristol, is now thought to be in the Manchester area. The police have said that earlier reports of a man very similar in appearance to Forsyth, who had been seen at Waterloo Station getting on a train for Paris, were in fact false.

2 Weathergirl …and here’s the weather forecast for tomorrow. Tomorrow will be a much brighter day for everybody, I’m glad to say. Warm winds from the south will push away today’s rain clouds leading to a pleasant day in all parts, although temperatures will still be low for the time of year, so don’t forget to take a jacket.

3 Sue Are you worried about climate change, Nick?

Nick Er…well, I do what I can. I never keep my computer or TV or anything electrical on when I’m not using it. And I put everything in the right recycling box every week. I’m also going to make sure that the next car that we buy is more energy-efficient. But I can’t say that I buy energy-saving light bulbs or anything like that…

4 Matt What was the weather like when you were on holiday, Amy? I imagine you were enjoying clear blue skies and warm days while we were shivering back here at home.

Amy Warm? It was scorching! We arrived in the middle of a heatwave. I like hot weather, but this was too much. I had to stay in the hotel room with the air conditioning on maximum, and I didn’t get to see any of the things I wanted.

5 Joan You’d better take your coat in case it gets cold later.

Peter No, I’m not going to bother — I don’t think I’ll need it. Though I must say I don’t know why people have barbecues in England. We just haven’t got the weather for it. Anyway if it does get cold, I’m sure we won’t all stand out in the garden for long. We’ll just walk down the road to the nearest pub.