

'I felt just like James Bond'



8:30pm 2008 "Local Sutton Guardian"

When an engineer from Access locks was summoned to a bank in south London last Tuesday evening they wondered if they were the victims of an elaborate April Fool prank.

The certified locksmith from Carshalton appeared apprehensive after being asked to penetrate a security Door in the bank.

◆ I imagine other locksmiths turned the job down because it ◆s usually a waste of time for them or too difficult. But we like a challenge, and breaking into a bank is always good for the ego."

But he realised there would be no funny side when he arrived at 8pm to find three staff members staring sheepishly around the building.

It emerged an automatic door had shut behind a bungling banker, locking the only set of security keys in a counting room.

Mo, 40, owner of the Access Locks & Security firm in Winchcombe Road, said: "The staff must have been there for about four hours..

"I thought it would take hours because the security was specially commissioned but it took literally four minutes. I felt like James Bond. The girls were going wow', they were ecstatic."

A spokes woman said the off-key events had no affect on trading. "This was an unfortunate incident caused by human error that was resolved quickly while there were no customers on the premises. It has never happened before at our 300 branches in my six years."

However, it is not the first time Mo has been called to do a job inside a local bank.

Last July he rescued staff locked out of a Building Society in Sutton and another time he freed five cashiers trapped behind counters at the bank in Ashted Surrey.