**Cheltenham Railway Station Robbery 1925**

**Maitland Daily Mercury (NSW), Thu 5 Nov 1925**

MASKED BANDIT.

STATIONMASTER HELD UP.

BLINDED WITH PEPPER.

A masked bandit daringly held up the stationmaster at the Cheltenham Railway station, Mr. Cyril Scott, on Wednesday afternoon, and stole the money from the station cash desk. The bandit brandished a long, pointed “dagger-like” knife at Mr. Scott, flung a handful of pepper in his eyes, as he made an effort to protect the railway cash., and, whilst his victim was temporarily blinded, made off with £5/15/-.

A few weeks ago, a shopkeeper and his wife in Surry Hills beat off a masked and armed man that attempted to rob their little business.

Mr. Scott was checking his cash at the desk in his office, when he heard someone tap upon the door, The door was standing ajar, and Mr. Scott rose and walked to it. As he opened the door he caught sight of a man, masked from the nose downward with a handkerchief, who hold a long knife in his right hand.

“Stand back! the man commanded, making a lunge with his weapon; and then, as Mr, Scott moved to shut the door again, the intruder flung a handful pepper into his victim's face, temporarily blinding him.

“If you say a word, you are a goner,” the bandit ordered. “Hand over your money, or I will knife you — and you won't be the first one I have knifed.

Mr, Scott was blinded and suffering excruciating pain, and the man, taking advantage of his helplessness, rushed to the desk and emptied it of all it contained — £5/15/-. He then turned and ran from the station'.

Detective-Sergeant Gallagher, Sergeant Dye and Detectives Alford and Corbett (Queensland) were despatched to Cheltenham, when a call for help was made. They found Mr. Scott's vision was almost returned to him, though his eyes were bloodshot and sore. He was able to give an excellent description of the bandit.

**Sun (Sydney), Mon 9 Nov 1925**

HOLDUP

CHELTENHAM CASE REMAND TO RYDE

"It Is alleged that on November 4, this defendant went to the railway station at Cheltenham and produced a sheath knife, and also threw pepper in the eyes of the station master, temporarily blinding him. Then he stole £7 8s 11d."

Sergeant Caban made this statement when William Fletcher Redding (21), a wire worker, came before the Central Police Court, to-day, charged with being armed and assaulting Cyril Varty Scott at Cheltenham, and stealing £7 8s 11d, the property of the Railway Commissioners. The police asked for a remand to the Ryde Court on November 12, and this was granted. "This offence carries penal servitude up to 14 years," said Mr. Giles Shaw, C.S.M., "The surety must be substantial."

Bail was fixed in £100.

**Recorder (Port Pirie, SA), Thursday 3 Dec 1925**

Assault and Robbery

REDDING CONVICTED.

SYDNEY, Wednesday.

William Redding was today convicted for assault and robbery. He admitted having held up the stationmaster at Cheltenham. He threw pepper in the latter’s face, and stole all the available railway cash.

He was remanded for sentence.

**Advocate (Burnie, Tas.), Sat 5 Dec 1925**

Stationmaster Robbed

THIEF SENTENCED.

Sydney, Friday. – William Redding, who bailed up the stationmaster at Cheltenham recently and stole the railway cash, was to-day sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

**Glen Innes Examiner (NSW), Sat 5 Dec 1925**

ROBBERY UNDER ARMS.

William Redding, who had pleaded guilty at the Darlinghurst Quarter Sessions to a charge of robbery under arms, was sentenced today to two year's imprisonment. Detectives stated that the prisoner had been out of work for some time and had exhausted all his savings. He probably committed the crime in a moment of desperation.