

Unspeakable Crimes Old And New



CRIME FEATURED NEWS

By Alexander Baron



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Just when you thought you'd seen it all, this happens. On Monday night, a 21 year old woman was walking home in Peckham, South London when she was attacked by two men wearing heavy disguises. Two brave young lads knocking a lone female to the ground is bad enough, but they are said to have punched and kicked her repeatedly in the stomach, and here is the kicker, the victim who has now been named as Malorie Bantala, was eight months pregnant.



Malorie Bantala

The police believe she was targeted deliberately, for what reason beggars belief. Unsurprisingly she has now lost her baby, and was said Wednesday night to be in intensive care. One man has been arrested, and another is still being sought. Because both the victim and the alleged perpetrators are black, this is not classed as a hate crime. Go figure. The latest news is that the suspect has been charged with both child destruction and grievous bodily harm with intent.

What is worse than attacking a pregnant woman and killing her unborn child – how about murdering a teenager then raping her corpse? If the name Mark Dixie is not familiar to you, that is what this apology for a human being did ten years ago. He is now back in the news, because it appears that like [Railway Rapist John Duffy](#) there lurks a glimmer of humanity within his soul.



Mark Dixie

Sally Anne Bowman was 18 years old, stunningly attractive, and would surely have become a face of her generation had she not met Dixie, but the part-time model crossed his path in Croydon in the small hours of September 25, 2005. She was stabbed to death literally yards from her front door, and then as she lay dead/dying or both, Dixie defiled her corpse. This was the second woman he had attacked that night, the first was lucky to escape with her life.

Shortly before her murder, Sally had had an argument with her boyfriend Lewis Sproston, who naturally became the prime suspect. Before the advent of DNA profiling he might have been charged and convicted, indeed at one time he might well have been hanged. Instead he spent four days in custody while the police tried to extract a confession from him.



Sally Anne Bowman

In the meantime, Dixie moved briefly, to Holland but on his return he was arrested after being involved in an altercation over a football match. After his DNA was taken, it was matched to the victim. At his trial in February 2008, his defence beggared belief, it was that the victim had already been murdered (ie by Lewis Sproston) and he had stumbled across her body and...join up the dots. Dixie had been out celebrating his birthday, of all things. Naturally the jury did not buy his sick defence, **he was convicted**, given the mandatory life sentence with a heavy tariff, and his appeal was dismissed.

Dixie had made a good living as a chef, and had travelled a fair bit including to Australia where he is known to have attacked other women – one seriously – and suspected of committing at least two murders.

He had also worked in Spain, and the latest development is his admission to the rape of a woman there for which a Dutch national was convicted, a man who has been in prison for twelve years. He is said to have made a tearful confession to this crime, a confession that is almost certainly true.

It remains to be seen if he will be held to account for the other crimes he has certainly committed, but at least there is now no chance of his ever being released. Whatever remorse he may now genuinely feel, Mark Phillip Dixie will surely die behind bars, as he deserves.