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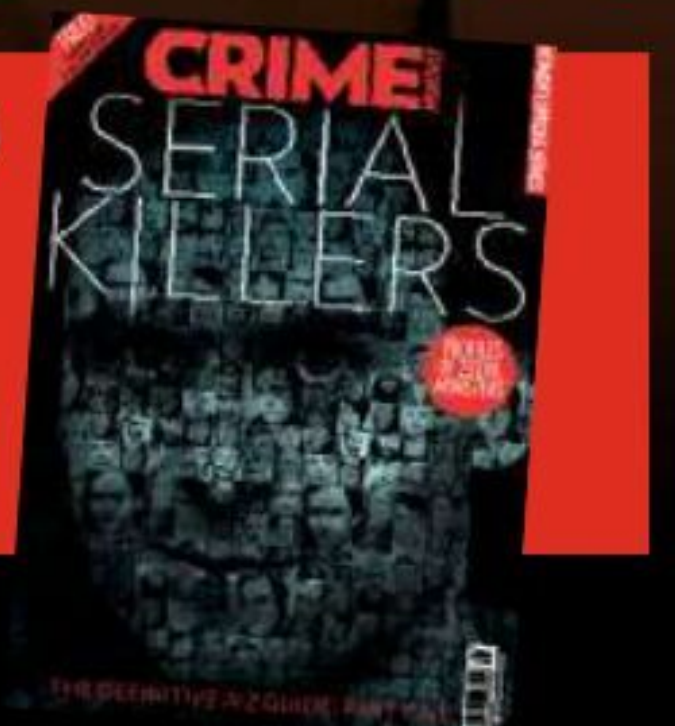
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40 WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MILLBROOK TWINS?

22 GUCCI MURDER

34 THE MOTHER KILLED IN CRETE

Welcome to the November issue. This month, we explore the dark secrets of the music industry, where underage girls were victimised by huge names in rock, and reveal the true story of romance, rivalry and revenge behind new movie *House Of Gucci*. And don't miss the shocking tale of the teenage twins who vanished in 1990, and why their family believes police made no effort to find them. Plus, our packed Crime Screen section will fill you in on all the shows, books and podcasts you need to know about. Do email us at Crimemonthly@bauermedia.co.uk. See you next month.

- 4 Death in the desert: what really happened to Gabby Petito and Brian Laundrie
- 10 Madeleine suspect could be charged soon
- 12 Why did this devoted mum kill her children?
- 16 The dark side of the music industry
- 20 The Zodiac Killer unmasked at last?
- 22 The real story behind new movie *House Of Gucci*
- 26 Istanbul terror bombings
- 29 Why UK women are being murdered – and what can be done

- 34 'We need to know what happened to our mum'
- 36 Serial Killer Secrets: The I-5 Bandit
- 40 Where are the missing Millbrook twins?
- 44 Crime File: Life inside Death Row
- 50 The Black Panther – from burglar to killer
- 55 Crime Screen: This month's must-see TV shows, books, and podcasts
- 74 Celebrity Felons

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE 2 DEC - AND SUBSCRIBE TO PRINT OR DIGITAL ON P75

DEATH IN THE THE GABBY PETI



The couple at Monument Rocks



Gabby documented the trip for social media

EVENTS TIMELINE

2 JULY
Gabby and Brian begin their road trip, documenting their travels as #vanlife on social media



4 JULY
They upload a smiling photo of their trip to Monument Rocks in Kansas

12 AUG
The couple are stopped by police after they are seen having a physical fight. The officer on the scene said, "Both the male and female reported they are in love and desperately didn't wish to see anyone charged with a crime"

THE DESERT: TO MURDER

THE SOCIAL MEDIA STAR WAS KILLED ON A ROAD TRIP WITH HER PARTNER – WHO WAS THEN ALSO FOUND DEAD



T

wo weeks ago, skeletal human remains found in the Carlton Reserve, Florida, were identified as belonging to 23-year-old Brian Laudrie. The horrifying discovery brought to a close a manhunt that had gripped America since the body of his girlfriend Gabby Petito had been found a month before. The FBI confirmed Laudrie was the only “person of interest in the murder”, leading to speculation that he took the ultimate way out, leaving two families heartbroken. Here’s the story.

ROAD TRIP

Originally from New York, Gabby and Brian met in high school, although their relationship didn’t become romantic until March 2019. Later that year, they moved over 1,000 miles away to Florida, to live together with Brian’s parents, Chris and Roberta. Then, in July 2021, the pair began travelling round the United States.

Their relationship appeared to be a happy one – under one photo of the couple kissing, Brian wrote, “Never loved anyone as much as this girl” – and they seemed to be living the dream. A friend of Brian’s, Ben Matula, said, “All their friends were either still in college or searching for jobs, and they were out there killing it.” But he also added, “There was always something below the surface where things weren’t 100 per cent.” And Gabby’s friend Rose Davis added that Brian could have a manipulative streak. She said, “He didn’t want her to go out with me one night, so stole her ID, because you can’t get into a bar without it.” Recalling her reaction to the pair going on a road trip together, she said, “I was concerned with them spending that much time together, because they were rocky.”

But Gabby was said to be excited about the trip, and keen to share updates on social media. She kept in contact with her family, and would FaceTime mum Nichole three times a week. Nichole said, “As a mom, I had concerns for my daughter going on a road trip, but I felt



17-23 AUG
Brian flies home to Florida to get extra items, as the pair extend their trip. On 23 Aug, he travels back to Salt Lake City where he is reunited with Gabby

25 AUGUST
Gabby phones her family. In what is to be her final call, she tells them she is in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming

27 AUGUST
A couple see a tearful Petito and angry Laudrie arguing as they leave a restaurant in Wyoming

30 AUGUST
A message is sent to Gabby’s mum from Gabby’s phone that says, “No service in Yosemite”, but the family do not believe it came from her



In the news

safe. They were together, they had a plan, they had an itinerary, and we were excited for them.” Gabby posted pictures of their journey – first in Kansas, then Colorado. But in Moab, Utah, on 12 August, Gabby and Brian were pulled over by police. A witness had called 911 claiming that she’d seen the couple fighting in the street, and that he had slapped her. The police found Gabby crying, and she told them she and Brian had been arguing. Writing in his report, the responding officer said, “At no point did Gabrielle stop crying, breathing heavily, or compose a sentence without needing to wipe away tears, wipe her nose, or rub her knees with her hands.” Bodycam footage from an officer shows that Gabby first tried to downplay the incident, but after the officer pointed out the marks on her arm and face, she said Brian “kept telling me to shut up” and “grabbed my face”, but asked officers not to separate them. The police arranged for them to spend one night apart and described the incident as a “mental/emotional break”, rather than a domestic assault.

The last contact from Gabby was a text



Brian and Gabby

theissingaware@gmail.com
MISSING PERSON
 www.theawarefoundationofvirginia.com
GABBY PETITO

Age: 22
 Hair: Blonde
 Eyes: Blue
 Height: 5'5"
 Weight: UNKNOWN

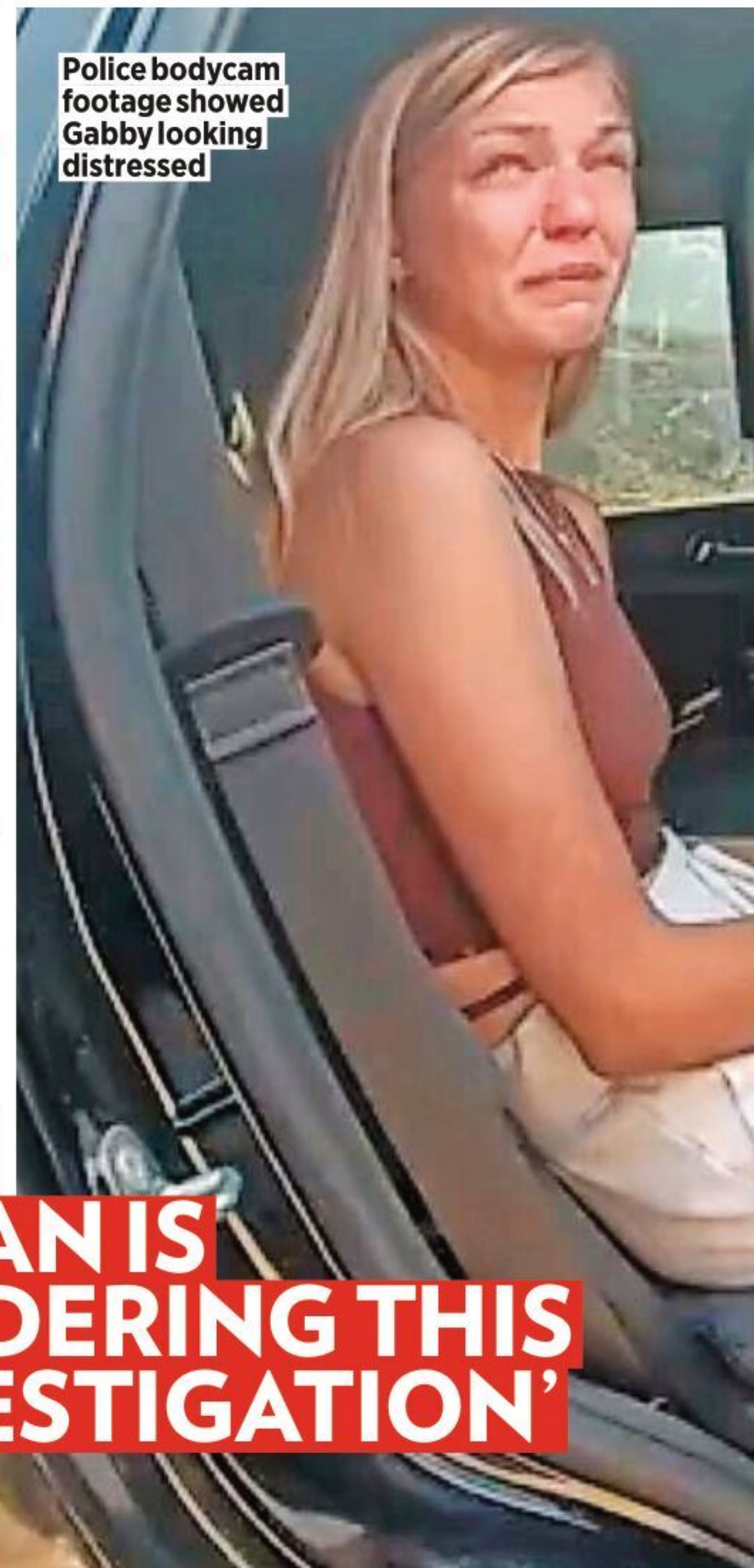
Gabby Petito was last seen on 8/25/21 in Grand Teton, Wyoming, heading for Yellowstone National Park. She was traveling in a white 2012 Ford transit van (pictured above), headed north, around the time of disappearance, however, we have received confirmation that she is no longer traveling in the van. It is unknown what Gabby was wearing at the time of her disappearance. Gabby does have “LET IT BE” tattooed on her right arm and a tattoo of a triangle with flowers on her left arm. If you have any information on the whereabouts of Gabby Petito, please contact the Suffolk County, NY Police Department on 1-800-220-8477.

SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE DEPT
 1-800-220-8477
 Case #21-473289

to her mum on 27 August, when the couple were in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. The message read, “Can you help Stan, I just keep getting his voicemails and missed calls.” Stan is the name of Gabby’s grandfather, which seemed odd, as Gabby never called him by his first name. This led online sleuths to wonder if Gabby was secretly asking for help, as the acronym STAN could stand for Send The Authorities Now. The couple were then supposed to head to Yosemite National Park, California. The next – and final – message Gabby sent to Nichole was on 30 August, which read, “No service in Yosemite.” But Nichole is convinced the message did not come from her daughter.

BACK ALONE

Before arriving back in Florida alone, eyewitnesses placed Brian in Wyoming on 29 August. A TikToker named Miranda Baker posted videos saying she and her boyfriend had picked up Brian, who was hitchhiking. He said he’d been camping by himself for a few days while his girlfriend worked on social media posts in their van. When Brian realised they weren’t going where



Police bodycam footage showed Gabby looking distressed

‘BRIAN IS HINDERING THIS INVESTIGATION’

he wanted to be, he said he’d find another ride. Shortly afterwards, it’s thought he got into a vehicle with Norma Jean Jalovec, a seasonal Wyoming resident who gave him a lift to the Spread Creek camping area, near to where Gabby’s remains were later found.

On 1 September, Brian returned home on his own, and refused to tell Gabby’s parents where she was. Ten days later, Nichole reported Gabby missing to her local police in North Point, New York. On 15 September, Brian was named as a person of interest in Gabby’s disappearance, with the police saying he had neither “made himself available to be interviewed by investigators” nor “provided any helpful details”.

In a press release, North Point Police chief Todd Garrison said, “The lack of information from Brian is hindering this investigation. The answers will eventually come out.” Gabby’s parents

1 SEPT
 Brian returns to the couple’s home in North Port with Gabby’s van, but she is not with him

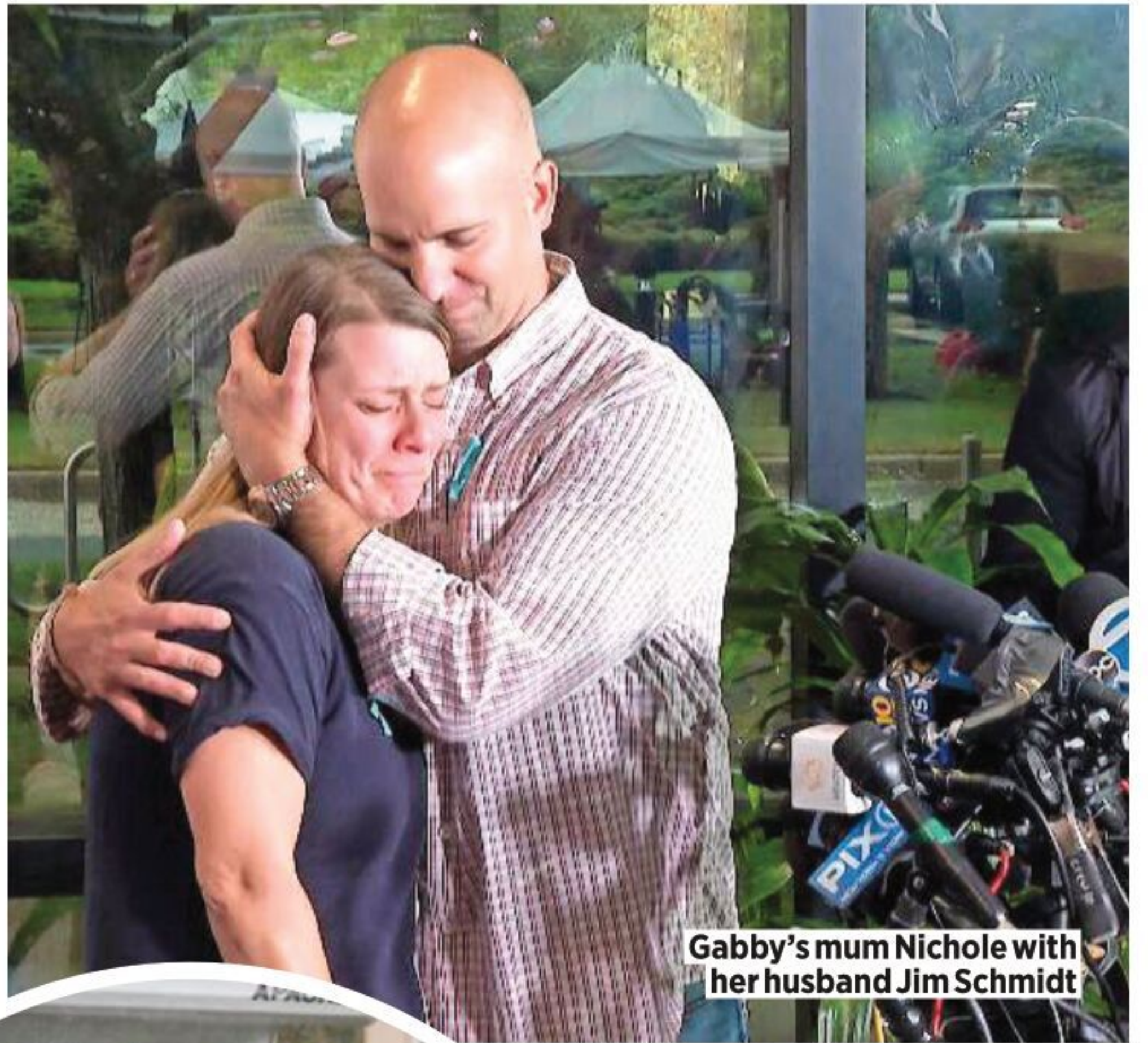


11 SEPT
 Gabby’s family report her missing. Visiting Brian’s home, investigators are met by an attorney

16 SEPT
 The Petito family beg the Laundries for help, saying, “Please, if you have any decency left, tell us where Gabby is located”

17-18 SEPT
 Brian’s parents report him missing, telling investigators that he has been gone for days, and a search begins at Carlton Reserve. Meanwhile, the FBI search for Gabby at her last known location





Gabby's mum Nichole with her husband Jim Schmidt



FBI agents take evidence from the Laundrie home

also released a letter – read out by their lawyer – which said, “Please, if you or your family have any decency left, tell us where Gabby is located. Tell us if we are even looking in the right place. All we want is for Gabby to come home. Please help us make that happen.”

By this point, the story had exploded across the US and the world, with online communities speculating on what had happened to Gabby. In a statement, the Laundries said, “This is an extremely difficult time for both the Petito family and the Laundrie family... On behalf of the Laundrie family, it is our hope that the search for Miss Petito is successful... On the advice of counsel, the Laundrie family is remaining in the background and will have no further comment.”

The statement was met with anger by Gabby's family, with Nichole releasing a response through her lawyer saying, “Brian claims he wants to sit in the

background while we search for Gabby... Brian left Gabby in the wilderness with grizzly bears and wolves while he sits in the comfort of his home.”

ALSO MISSING

Then, unbeknownst to the police, on 13 September, Brian left his home, reportedly telling his parents he was going for a hike in the nearby Carlton Reserve, but he never returned. Brian's parents did not inform the police that he'd left the house for four days. A police spokesperson said, “We've been trying all week to talk to his family, to talk to Brian, and now they've called us here, we've gone to the home, and they're saying now they have not seen their son... It is another twist in this story.”

Searches were launched for both

Gabby and Brian, and tragically, on 19 September, a body was discovered in Teton County, Wyoming, which was later confirmed to be Gabby's. After an autopsy, it was revealed that Gabby likely died three to four weeks before her body was found, and the cause of death was by strangulation.

An arrest warrant was then issued for Brian for using a debit card and PIN for accounts that did not belong to him – they belonged to Gabby. His family home was searched, and his parents' car towed. Brian's sister, Cassie, said the family were then inundated with death threats; protestors picketed Brian's parents' home, and ten white laundry bins were left on their lawn with a sign that told the family to “come clean”.

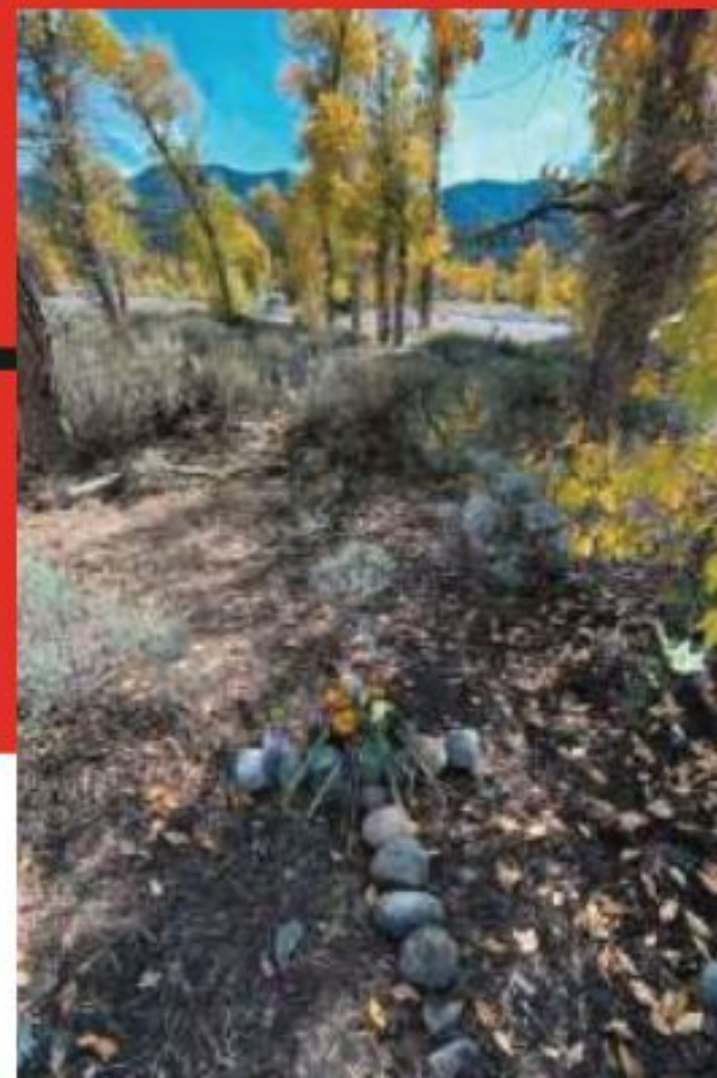
Then, on 20 October, human remains were found in the Carlton Reserve, alongside a backpack and notebook. Shortly afterwards, dental records confirmed the body was Laundrie's. At time of press, the cause or time of death had not been confirmed, but it is believed from the condition of the body, he had been dead for a while.

It was a shocking end to a tragic tale, and now the families might never know the truth of what happened. ■

WORDS: KRISTINA BEANLAND. PHOTOS: GETTY; SHUTTERSTOCK; INSTAGRAM



19-23 SEPT
Human remains are found in Wyoming. On 21 Sept, they are confirmed to be Gabby. An arrest warrant is issued for Brian



12 OCT
Gabby's cause of death is determined as strangulation

20 OCT
Brian's backpack and notebook are discovered in a Florida park beside human remains

21 OCT
The FBI announce that dental records confirm the body is that of Brian Laundrie



CRIME NEWS

TOP STORIES FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

Police at the scene of the tragedy

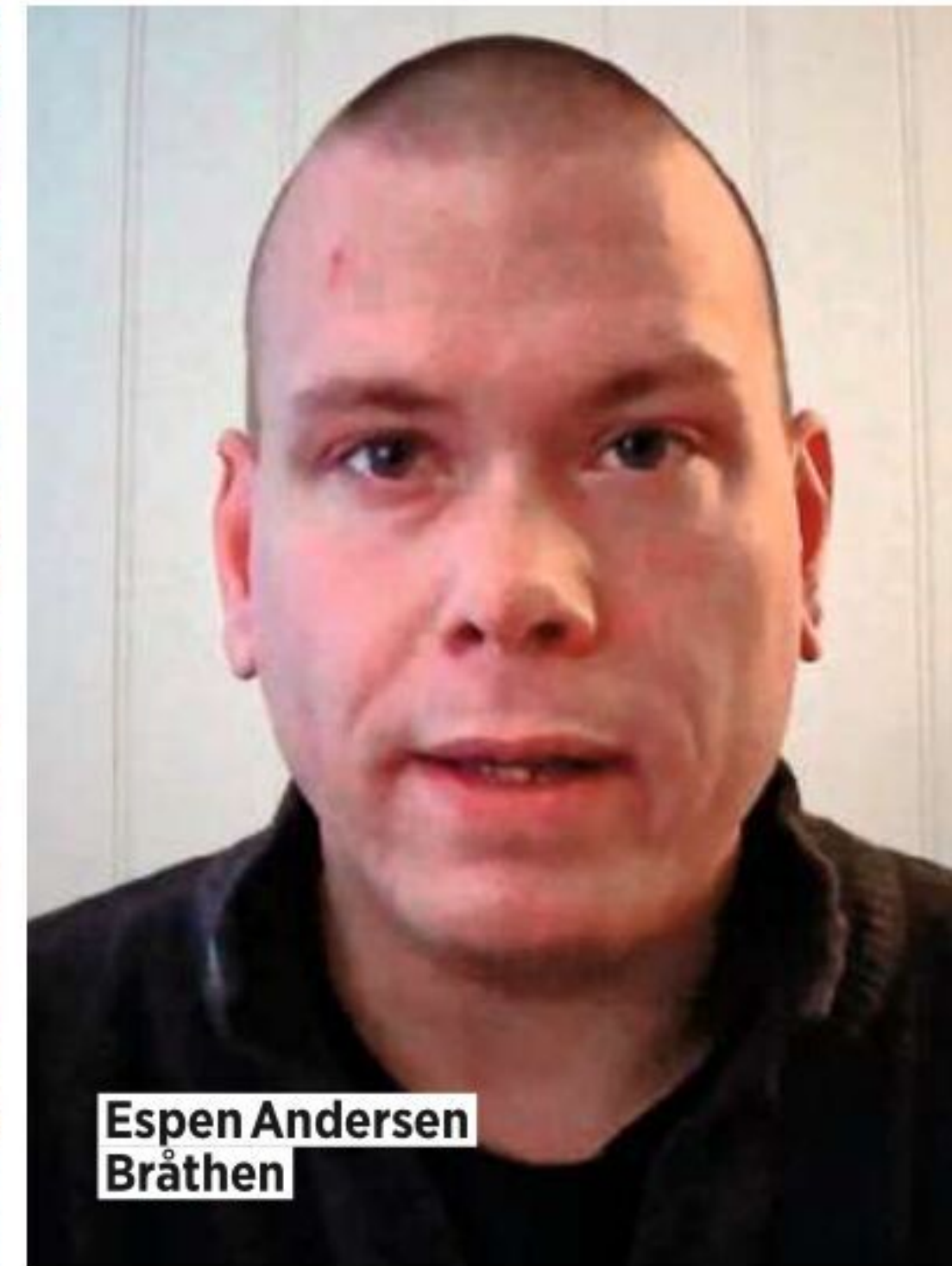


NORWAY ROCKED BY KNIFE ATTACK

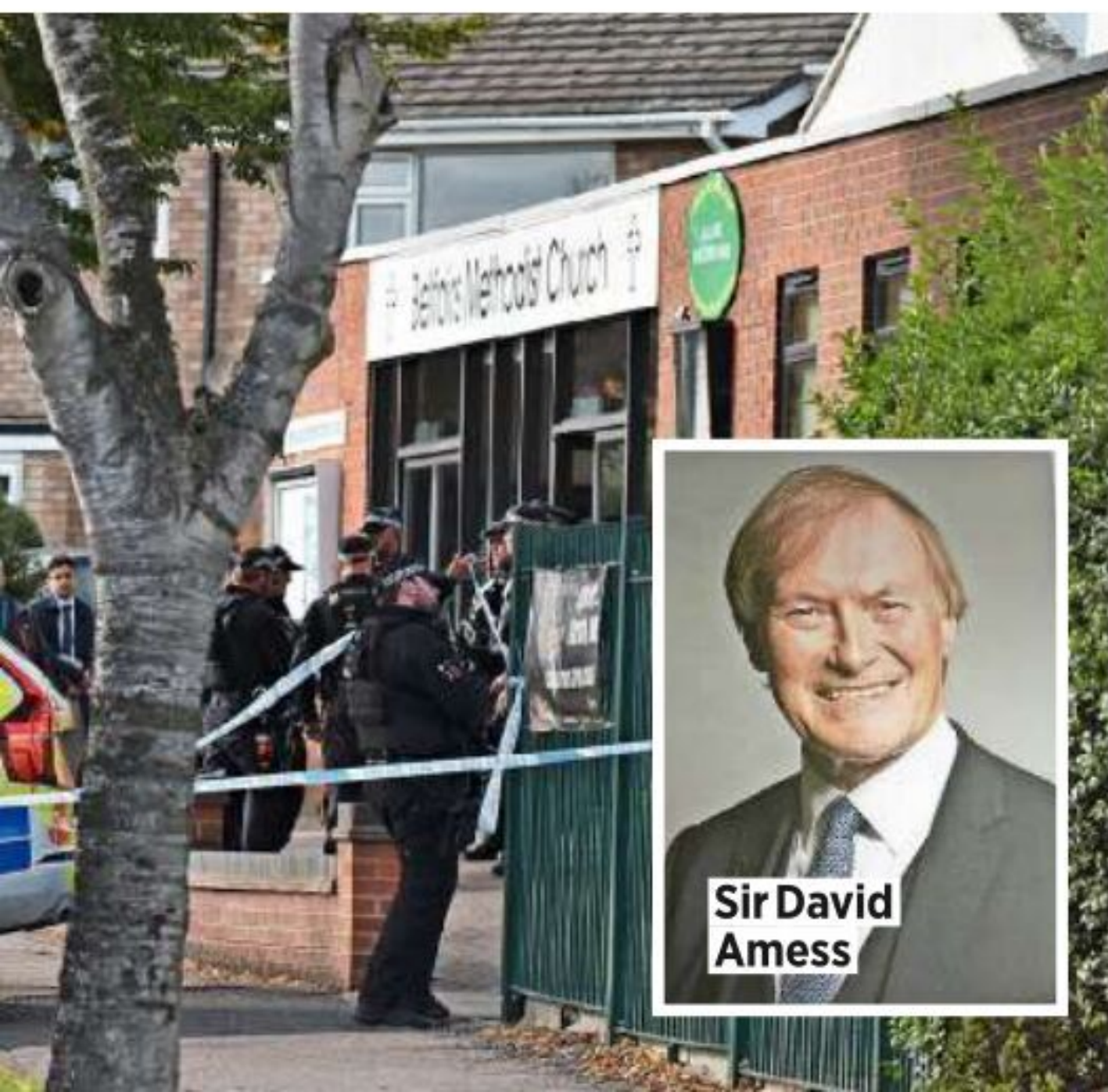
Five people were killed when a man went on a 35-minute rampage in a small Norwegian town. The four women and one man were killed in Kongsberg, 70km west of Oslo, in what was initially believed to be a terror attack carried out with a bow and arrow. However, it was later determined the victims were all stabbed, and it's believed the suspect – 37-year-old Danish national Espen Andersen Bråthen – has issues with his mental health. He is currently being detained in a psychiatric facility. Investigator Inspector Per Omholt told the press, “When it comes to motive, [mental] illness is still the strongest hypothesis. In relation to conversion to Islam, this hypothesis has weakened. He has said it publicly, but has not followed this up in practice.”



Crown Prince Haakon and Crown Princess Mette-Marit attend a service for the victims



Espen Andersen Bråthen



Sir David Amess

MP SECURITY REVIEW AFTER STABBING

Security surrounding UK MPs is being urgently evaluated following the shocking killing of Conservative Sir David Amess. The MP for Southend West in Essex was stabbed multiple times just after midday on Friday 15 October, during a surgery for his constituency at Belfairs Methodist Church

in Leigh-on-Sea. Ali Harbi Ali, 25, was arrested at the scene and has now been charged with murder. Officers believe he had been influenced by terrorists online, and a friend told a newspaper, “He became totally radicalised through the internet and now he’s a suspect in something as evil as this.”

A spokesperson for Priti Patel said, “The Home Secretary has asked all police forces to review security arrangements for MPs with immediate effect and will provide updates in due course.” Sir David was the second MP to be killed while working with the public, after Jo Cox was shot and stabbed in June 2016.



Arthur Labinjo-Hughes

SHOCK TESTIMONY IN CHILD DEATH

Jurors have heard graphic details of how six-year-old Arthur Labinjo-Hughes died, during the trial of his father and stepmother. Thomas Hughes, 29, and his partner Emma Tustin, 32, of Solihull are accused of killing the little boy last year, and Coventry Crown Court heard how Arthur was found unresponsive in his home on 16 June and taken to hospital, with his parents claiming he had a self-inflicted head injury. Prosecutor Jonas Hankin QC told jurors, "On arrival, Arthur was in a critical state... He

was noted to have a very large bruise at the centre of his forehead... Extensive bruising was revealed all over his body." He died the next day. There were also allegations of sustained abuse, including poisoning with salt. Consultant pathologist Dr Roger Malcomson took the stand and said it was "more likely" Arthur was "repeatedly poisoned with salt-contaminated food or fluids" than him ingesting a large amount of salt before he died. The defendants both deny murder and the trial was ongoing at time of press.



Thomas Hughes



Emma Tustin



Nikolas Cruz in court

SCHOOL SHOOTER FACES DEATH PENALTY

Nikolas Cruz – the shooter behind a mass killing at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida in 2018 – has pleaded guilty. Cruz was 19 when he opened fire at the school with a legally bought semiautomatic weapon on 14 February. He killed 14 students and three teachers – injuring 17 others – in the rampage, during which he was filmed telling terrified teenagers, "You're all going to die." In court, the names of his victims were read out, and he answered "guilty" to each one.

It's thought he admitted guilt to avoid the death penalty, but will need to wait for sentencing to find out his fate.



The scene of the shooting

WORDS: LISA HOWELLS. PHOTOS: PA, SHUTTERSTOCK, GETTY



Sooraj Kumar

COBRA KILLER JAILED FOR LIFE

A 28-year-old man has been given a double life sentence in Kerala, India, after killing his wife with a snake. Sooraj Kumar previously tried to murder wife Uthra, 25, using a venomous viper, and the financially motivated attack put her in hospital for two months. However, as she recovered, Kumar obtained a cobra and set it on his wife while she slept in March last year. It is the first time someone in India has been convicted of using a snake as a murder weapon, and Kumar escaped being given the death penalty.

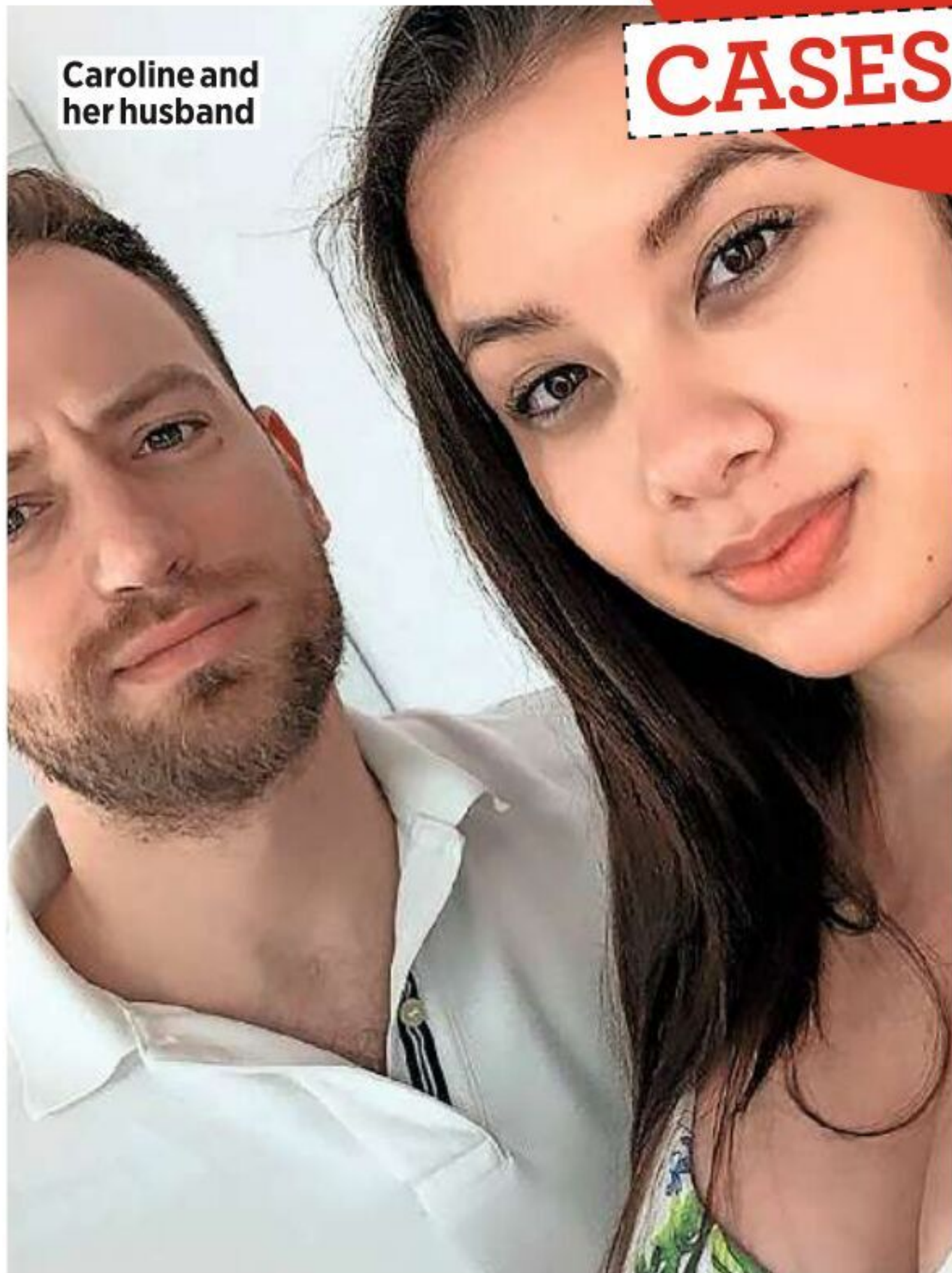


Kumar and wife Uthra

CRIME NEWS

CASES UPDATE

Caroline and her husband



CAROLINE CROUCH INVESTIGATION ENDS

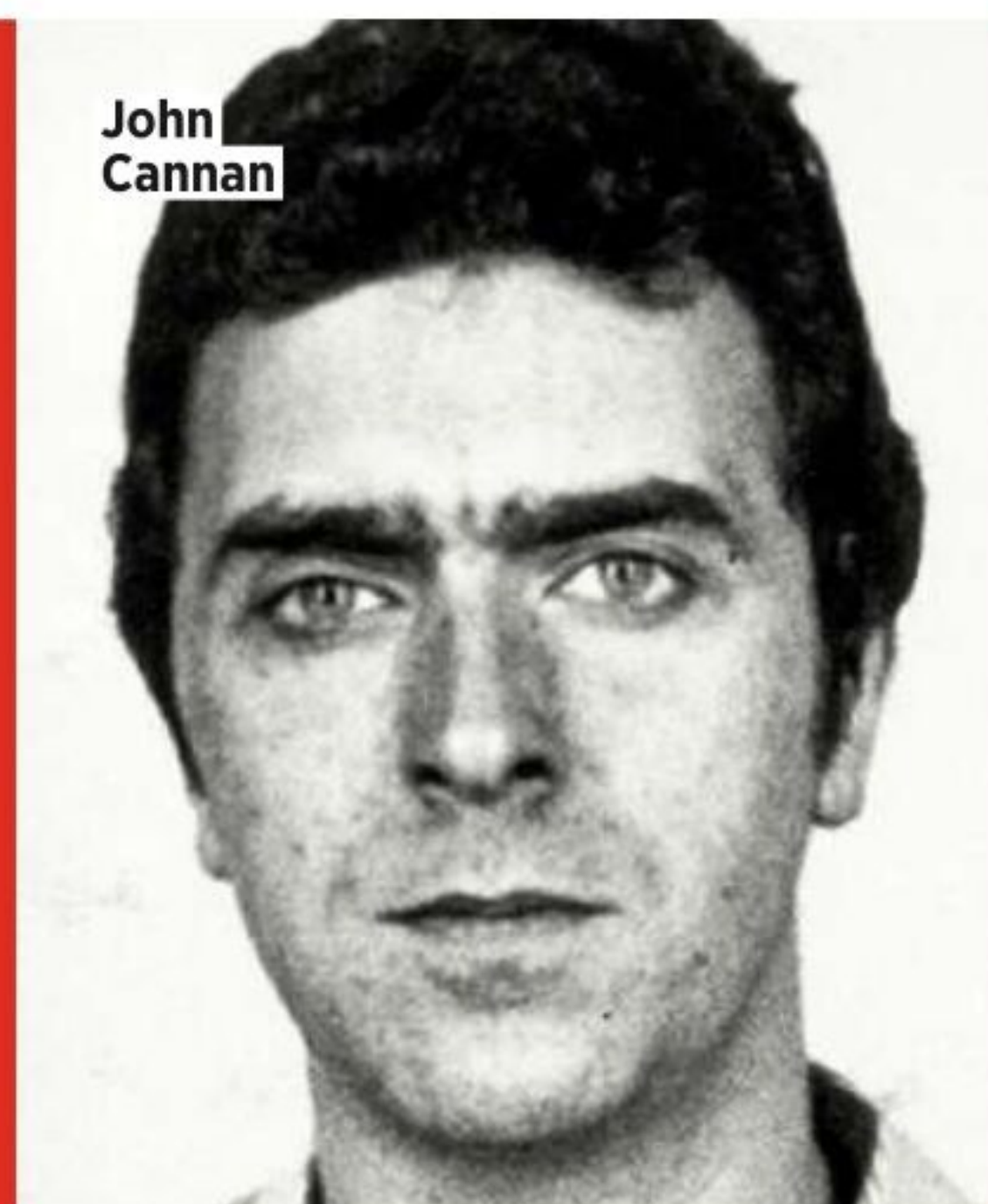
Magistrates in Greece have concluded their investigation into the murder of Briton Caroline Crouch, and are satisfied that “all evidence points to the sole culpability of her husband” Babis Anagnostopoulos. Caroline was strangled to death in front of her baby at her home outside Athens in May. Anagnostopoulos initially claimed they had been the victims of a terrifying home invasion, but a month later, confessed to police that he had killed his wife. He is currently being held on remand for murder, as well as charges relating to his killing

of the family dog and giving false testimony to the police. A trial is expected in 2022. Last month, he expressed regret at his crimes, but lawyer Michalis Dimitrakopoulos said, “It’s an irrefutable fact that an accused person in prison, including a vicious murderer, really regrets what they have done. What interests [them] more is a lighter sentence.” It is also believed that Caroline’s parents have been awarded custody of their one-year-old granddaughter Lydia and will raise her in Caroline’s childhood home. Anagnostopoulos’ parents will be allowed visitation rights.

Suzy Lamplugh



John Cannan



LAMPLUGH SUSPECT SEEKS PAROLE

Convicted rapist and kidnapper John Cannan is believed to be launching a bid for parole. Cannan, now 67, was jailed for the murder of Shirley Banks in Bristol in 1987, as well as the attempted kidnap of a businesswoman and the rape of a Reading woman

a year earlier. He is also thought by many to be behind the 1986 disappearance of estate agent Suzy Lamplugh. He is due to face a panel hearing next year, in an attempt to be relocated from top-security HMP Full Sutton in Yorkshire to a



Anagnostopoulos being escorted out of the prosecutor's office

Baby Lydia

more lenient open prison. If that proves successful, he could then apply for parole. He has never been charged in relation to the presumed murder of Suzy, but investigators believe there is credible evidence linking him to the crime, including a witness who claims to have seen him disposing of a holdall in a river shortly after Suzy

went missing. Former Met DCI Jim Dickie, who worked on the Lamplugh case, told a newspaper, "Cannan is a psychopath and serial sex offender who, in my opinion, has murdered at least three women. He will remain a danger to women until the day he dies, and it would be a grave risk to ever release him."



Madeleine McCann



Christian Brueckner

MADELEINE ACCUSED COULD 'SOON BE CHARGED'

German prosecutors have hinted that Christian Brueckner – the prime suspect in the 2007 disappearance of Madeleine McCann – could be charged with the little girl's abduction by Christmas. German prosecutor Hans Christian Wolters, who has been investigating the theory that Brueckner snatched Madeleine while her family holidayed in Portugal,

told a newspaper, "We have strong new evidence against the suspect. The investigation is proceeding well and we hope to have an update soon... We are working very hard to solve this case and others where he is a suspect." Brueckner is currently serving seven years for the rape of an elderly woman in 2005, and is suspected of at least five other sex crimes.

'KILLER NURSE' DENIES MURDER



Lucy Letby

The nurse accused of murdering eight babies and the attempted murder of ten others has entered a plea of not guilty. Lucy Letby, 31, from Hereford, replied "not guilty" 18 times when the charges were put to her at Manchester Crown Court last month. She appeared via video link from HMP Peterborough, where she has been held on remand since November 2020. Letby worked in the neonatal unit at Countess of Chester Hospital, and has been accused of killing five boys and three girls – and of attempting to kill a further five boys and five girls – between June 2015 and June 2016. She was arrested twice during the initial investigation, which began in 2017, and was arrested for a third time in 2020. At the time, lawyers representing the families said, "They put their trust in the hospital to take care of their most precious being, their child, and that trust has gone. They want to make sure it doesn't happen to anyone else." However, supporters of the nurse insist she is innocent, and is being scapegoated. Letby is expected to go on trial in 2022.

WORDS: LISA HOWELLS. PHOTOS: SHUTTERSTOCK

In the
news

MUM KILLED HER 'MIRACLE' GIRLS

FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE SHOCKED AS LAUREN DICKASON IS ARRESTED OVER THE DEATHS OF HER THREE DAUGHTERS IN NEW ZEALAND

S

outh Africans Lauren and Graham Dickason and their three little girls were a devoted and happy family unit, according to all who knew them. In May this year, Lauren had written a heartfelt tribute on Facebook to her husband on their fifteenth wedding anniversary. It read, "What an adventure. We have truly created a beautiful family and had many good times together. May the next years be more blessed, more happy and may the kids let us sleep. Thank you for everything you do for us and your unwavering dedication to loving and providing for us. You are my everything." Friends and neighbours all agreed they were a loving couple who were never heard arguing. Yet, four months after that tribute, Lauren seemingly killed her own children, leaving her husband devastated and her facing life in prison.

MAJOR MOVE

Lauren, 40, studied medicine in Cape Town and went on to become a respected doctor in

her local hospital. She was humble about her status, and was said to be quiet and introverted, yet friendly and kind. She was devoted to her daughters, twins Karla and Maya, two, and their big sister Liané, six. After all, they were her little miracles – she and Graham had longed for a family and Liané was conceived after many years of fertility struggles. One neighbour said, "They absolutely adored those children. They were so grateful for having them because they struggled to get pregnant, and when they finally got the children, they loved them."

When they decided to move for an exciting new life in New Zealand, Lauren's biggest concern was her children – finding them the right school for the best possible education and to make new friends. They settled on Timaru, in New Zealand's South Island, a laid-back but busy fishing port about 100 miles south of Christchurch. They had been planning their big move for years, and it's understood the decision was at least partly motivated by a desire to live in a safer country and neighbourhood. Lauren had



The Dickason family



been concerned about crime rates in Pretoria, where break-ins, robberies and violence were common. One of their neighbours there said, "Lauren's last message to me was how panicked she was when there was a power outage during the recent looting in South Africa. So, they were ready to get over to New Zealand. It's what they worked for and planned for, it was their dream for two years."

After an extended delay due to the pandemic, the couple were even more excited and relieved when they could finally put their dreams into action.

ABSOLUTE SHOCK

On 30 August, they touched down in their new home after a 15-hour flight. The three girls were pictured at the airport clutching cuddly kiwi toys, the kiwi bird being New Zealand's national emblem. All blonde with big blue eyes, the trio smiled excitedly at the camera. From there, the family spent 14 days isolating in a hotel, due to New Zealand's COVID rules, before moving into their new house.

All seemed well until 16 September, when Graham attended a function at the hospital where he worked as an orthopaedic surgeon. When he returned at around 9.40pm, he was met by a scene that can only be described as a living nightmare. All three of his children were dead. Details have not been released on how the children died, but Laura was found with them, unresponsive and in a critical condition.

Graham clearly couldn't believe what he was seeing, as neighbours heard him asking, "Is this really happening?" as he paced up and down his garden "screaming and crying hysterically". The emergency services were called and Lauren was taken to hospital. But when she was in a stable condition, she was arrested.

She later attended court, looking pale and distressed. Wearing a sweatshirt and black trousers, she kept her arms folded and looked down at the floor as the judge ordered that she go directly into a secure mental facility, so experts could ascertain what state of mind she was in at the time of the killings. Last month, Lauren pleaded not guilty to murder via her lawyer, as she was too unwell to attend court via video link. Her next court appearance is set for 17 December, with the trial scheduled



The girls arriving in New Zealand

to begin in March 2023. Meanwhile, her devastated husband is hoping that his family can fly over to stay with him to support him in his grief.

Their long-term nanny back in South Africa has spoken to news outlets about her utter shock over the tragedy. Mandy Sibanyoni had looked after the girls for two years, since the twins were babies. She said, "I am asking myself over and over, 'What did go wrong, Lauren?' That family was the most awesome family that I have ever come across, I am torn apart, really torn apart... It was such a good family. I never heard any quarrel in the house or fighting from them. Also, the kids were awesome kids - Liané used to love her sisters, because she is the older one."

She went on, "I used to spend

'THEY WERE HAPPY - I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAS HAPPENED HERE'

most of my time there. Sometimes at weekends, when they were busy with something or when they wanted to go out, I would be there with the kids. They were happy, I never saw the wrong side of them. I don't know what happened now." Her grief was clear



Flowers have been left in tribute

as she continued, "I was expecting when they came to visit from New Zealand, them calling me to say, 'Come see us, Mandy'. Never did

I expect this."

Detailing what a close relationship she'd forged with the family, she added, "Most of my time with them,

I would be in the house, that is why I would share my things with Lauren. If I ever had a problem, I would talk to Lauren, and we would sit down and try to figure out how to solve it, and usually she would invite my kids in her house and everything." She continued,

Investigators at the crime scene



Graham has forgiven his wife



“The last contact I had with Lauren was when I told her, ‘Lauren, my other contract is ending. Can you please put an ear out for me for anyone who is looking for a job’. And after three days, she called and said, ‘Mandy, someone is going to call you’. So, I went for the interview, and when I called her and said, ‘Lauren, I got the job’, she was so excited and happy for me.”

NO MOTIVE

So, what could have happened on that terrible night? Nobody but Lauren knows, and clearly there are huge question marks as to her mental state. There has been speculation that she struggled to cope, moving to a new country, then stuck in quarantine for a week without friends or family. Neighbours pointed out that in Pretoria, Lauren had staff members

to help her – a cleaner, nanny and gardener – and it’s been questioned whether the sudden change in lifestyle could have pushed her over the edge.

The only hint that her life was not as perfect as it appeared to the outside was on her Facebook page in March. Lauren uploaded a post about Hollywood stars who seemingly had it all, yet were suffering from mental health problems, like Demi Lovato, Robin Williams and Carrie Fisher. She underlined a part that said, “Unfortunately, we live in a world where if you break a bone, everyone comes to sign the cast, but if you tell people you’re depressed, they run the other way.”

After the death of her daughters, Lauren was subjected to anger and hate online. But one former colleague who’d worked with both Graham and

Lauren felt compelled to speak out about the friend she knew. “I want to share the good side about her, because all you hear now are terrible things... and she does not deserve that at all. She isn’t an evil person, she was pushed outside her limits... but I think it might have been the extreme circumstances. Her mum isn’t there, her family isn’t there... who will know? We weren’t there, not one of us. Perhaps they didn’t anticipate what it would mean to leave everything behind and go.” The friend added, “It is so sad to see people make horrible comments, some saying she must burn in hell and why didn’t she just kill herself. I mean, she is in hell on earth now and the rest of her life.”

Graham also released a supportive statement, saying, “In this time of terrible tragedy and adversity, I can only ask for prayer... for strength and for healing. Please also pray for my lovely Lauren, for I honestly believe she is a victim in this, as well. I have already forgiven her and I urge you in your own time to do the same... It is the key to healing this loss we have all experienced.” And the girls’ grandmother said, “It hasn’t actually sunk in yet. We’re in a terrible state of shock. We are devastated.”

Vigils were held in Pretoria and New Zealand, and teddies, flowers and messages of condolence have been left at the address where the tragedy happened, as a community who never got to know three beautiful little girls mourn their deaths. ■

Julia Holcomb and
Steven Tyler in 1975



MUSIC'S DARK SECRET

A NEW DOCU CHARTS A HISTORY OF SEXUAL
MANIPULATION OF MINORS BY ROCK STARS

In September, R&B singer R Kelly was convicted on nine counts relating to federal racketeering and sex trafficking, including the sexual exploitation of a child. Already expected to get a lengthy jail term when he is sentenced in May next year, he's also facing another trial on charges that include child pornography. For decades, the musician was targeting women and underage girls for sex, and although survivors were speaking out, no one was listening. It took 25 years for justice to be



served. Talking to reporters after the verdict, acting US attorney in Brooklyn Jacquelyn M Kasulis said, "Today's guilty verdict forever brands R Kelly as a predator, who used his fame and fortune to prey on the young, the vulnerable and the voiceless."

No doubt he won't be the last and he's certainly not the first. The history of male musicians having sex with underage girls goes back decades, even before 24-year-old Elvis Presley "wooded" 14-year-old Priscilla, and 22-year-old Jerry Lee Lewis married his 13-year-old cousin Myra Gale Brown. And it isn't something these stars have seemingly felt the need to hide. In 1968, Gary Puckett & The Union Gap scored a UK number one

and US number two with the song *Young Girl*, and you don't need much imagination to understand what he's talking about when he sings, "Young girl, get out of my mind, my love for you is way out of line, better run, girl, you're much too young, girl". Looking back at the music of the '70s, particularly, you'd be forgiven for thinking statutory rape was legal back then. It wasn't – but it does seem to have been overlooked when it involved men who made catchy tunes.

New Sky Documentaries film *Look Away* is now exposing some of the most shocking stories of this era. Making its point from the off, it opens with the lyrics to *Stray Cat Blues* by the Rolling Stones, written when Mick Jagger was 25: "I can see that you're

15 years old, no, I don't want your ID". And Iggy Pop's *Look Away* starts with, "I slept with Sable when she was 13... she rocked her way around LA, till a New York Doll carried her away". The Sable referred to is Sable Starr, one of a group of underage girls prevalent on the scene back then, who were referred to by the moniker "baby groupies".

A SEVENTIES THING

Back in the 1970s, the rock-and-roll scene was well underway, and Hollywood's Sunset Strip was full of bars frequented by musicians and the women who wanted to meet them. The problem was, many of the girls crowding into the likes of Rodney Bingenheimer's English Disco

and Whisky a Go Go were way below the age of consent. One of these was Sabel Shields, better known as Sable Starr. Lauded as the “queen of the ’70s groupie scene”, she said she was 12 years old when Spirit guitarist Randy California had sex with her. When she was 16, she met New York Dolls guitarist Johnny Thunders, and they became involved in a relationship that she claimed was punctuated by abuse, jealousy and drug addiction. She went on to get pregnant and have an abortion, an experience that would leave the teenager forever changed. She said, “After I was with him, I just wasn’t Sable Starr any more. He really destroyed the Sable Starr thing.”

Two other girls on the scene were Lori Maddox – better known as Lori Lightning – and Bebe Buell. Lori claims to have lost her virginity to David Bowie when she was 14, although this has never been verified, but what was well documented was her relationship with

Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page. Lori once described it as, “The most beautiful, pure love I thought I could ever feel. I’d only had sex once before in my whole life. I felt like I’d won the lottery.” When they met, she was 14 and he was 28. She would later say, “I never thought there was anything wrong with it, but maybe there was. I used to get letters telling me he was a paedophile, but I’d never think of him like that. He never abused me, ever.”

The situation allegedly ended when Page transferred his affections to Lori’s teenage friend Bebe Buell, and it’s been recounted that Page “laughed hysterically” when the two girls got into a physical fight over him. Lori claims to have gone on to sleep with several other famous rock musicians, and in 2015, when she revealed the full extent of what was happening back then – and how many men she had slept with while under the age of consent – it almost sparked a MeToo-style moment for music. However, it doesn’t seem like much changed.

Bebe later had a short relationship with Aerosmith’s Steven Tyler, getting pregnant with their daughter Liv. But Tyler has his own chequered history,



Bebe Buell in 1980



Johnny Thunders and Sable Starr

and in the documentary, Julia Holcomb reveals her experience.

TRAGIC TALE

Now a wife and mother, Julia was a troubled 15 year old when she was befriended by an older girl, who persuaded her to attend an Aerosmith gig “looking like Lolita”. Tyler’s attention was captured, and the pair spent the night together. When she was 16, they started a relationship and Julia was pulled into what seemed like a world of glamour, travelling around the country with the band. She dropped out of school and would spend her time in hotel rooms waiting for her then-27-year-old lover to come off stage. But she was under the legal age of consent in the state where they met and in others, so Tyler announced a plan to become her legal guardian to ensure their relationship didn’t get them into trouble when crossing state lines. Incredibly, Julia’s mother agreed, and Julia became dependent on Tyler, who was by now both her partner and a proxy father figure.

Julia claims that, when she got pregnant, Tyler asked his father and his grandmother for approval, but it was not given. Julia says that, soon after, she found out Tyler had moved on with someone else. She was effectively abandoned, and – alone and pregnant – almost died in a house fire. She claims that while in the hospital suffering from smoke inhalation, Tyler requested she have an abortion. She later said in an interview, “I was five months pregnant. I could not believe he was even asking me to have an abortion at this stage. He spent over an hour pressing me to go ahead and have the abortion... I became very quiet and repeated the answer ‘No’ more than once. I said I should not be asked to make that decision while still in the hospital. He said I had to have the abortion now. He said I was too far along to wait, because it would be illegal for me to get an abortion in another week.” She said that even though she was desperate to keep the baby, she eventually acquiesced, going through the trauma of a later-term abortion.

WORDS: LISA HOWELLS. PHOTOS: GETTY



Lori Maddox with Led Zeppelin's John Bonham



Iggy Pop sang about sex with young girls

She then went back home to her mother, aged 17. Tyler wrote all about his relationship with Julia in his autobiography. He declined to comment when approached by the filmmakers.

ENABLED TO ABUSE

It wasn't just the musicians who were taking advantage of the young girls drawn to the scene – many in their orbit were also enabled to become predators with impunity. In *Look Away*, one of the most distressing stories among many is that of Jackie Fuchs. She was 15 in 1975, when she was plucked from a crowd in a club and asked to be part of all-female rockband The Runaways, alongside a teenage Joan Jett and Lita Ford. It was a ground-breaking achievement for the girls, who were touring the US supporting acts like Van Halen and Talking Heads.

Their manager was Kim Fowley, obliquely described as “one of the most colourful characters in the

annals of rock and roll”. In the film, Jackie recounts how she was given a Quaalude at a 1975 New Year's Eve party in a motel, and feeling unwell, went to lie down on a bed. She says the next thing she knew, “Our manager was raping me and there was a bunch of people watching.” Another man in the room had yelled out that Fowley was having sex and everyone should come and see. Jackie continued, “There were three grown men in the room. One of them was facilitating the other one in committing horrible acts of sexual violence on a teenage girl.”

Other members of the band – all teenagers – corroborated Jackie's account, though they barely realised what was happening at the time, as Fowley insisted it was consensual, despite the fact that Jackie was barely

conscious. Other female musicians also alleged Fowley either assaulted them or ended their careers when they refused his advances. He died in 2015.

When the #MeToo movement gained international attention in 2017, the film industry cleaned house, naming and shaming abusers like

Harvey Weinstein, who was held accountable for historic crimes.

Look Away filmmaker Sophie Cunningham now hopes music will follow suit. She said, “The music industry has not had its moment of reckoning yet, but you only have to look and you will see how problematic things were and are. I think a lot of musicians will be worried. I think a lot of people in the entertainment industry will be worried, too. This is the tip of the iceberg – there are so many stories that I was told about the industry that couldn't make it into the film.”

She added, “People put it down to the hedonism of the era, and ‘Oh, that's just what happened back then’, but nothing has changed. I hope there is a greater conversation and that people, like the incredible women in this film, have the opportunity to speak about their experiences if they wish to.” ■

Gary Francis Poste is suspected of being the Zodiac



A TEAM OF INVESTIGATORS BELIEVE THEY FINALLY HAVE A NAME FOR THE NOTORIOUS KILLER

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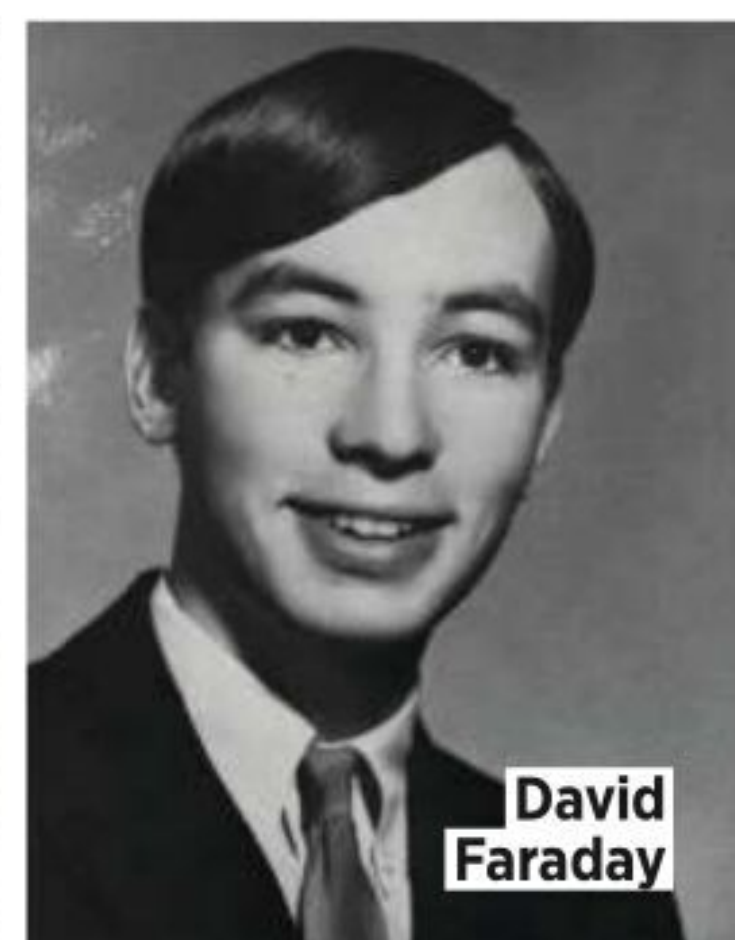
SAN FRANCISCO

NO. 90-69

WAI



Betty Lou Jensen



David Faraday

HAS THE ZODIAC BEEN UNMASKED?

A group of cold-case investigators believe they have finally revealed the identity of the Zodiac Killer. The Case Breakers – a global group of private investigators with law enforcement, military, legal and academic backgrounds – believe he was Gary Francis Poste, a former USAir Force veteran, who died in 2018, aged 80. Poste was never on the police radar at

the time, but the Case Breakers turned their attention to him in 2016, when one of his relatives contacted the *San Francisco Chronicle*, one of the newspapers the killer wrote to boasting about his exploits. The relative claimed Poste had tried to murder him in a hammer attack, and accused him of being Zodiac. It was also alleged that Poste had threatened his former daughter-in-law, and she had moved away because she believed him to be the killer. “Being around him,

knowing his demeanour and his twistedness, I have an intuition, I can read people,” she said. The Case Breakers also examined a 1969 police sketch of the killer and compared it to pictures of Poste unearthed from his own dark room. They noticed striking similarities between the two, particularly the distinctive scars on the forehead in both images. The group then pored over one of the encrypted messages Zodiac sent to the media, which was only deciphered in 2020, and highlighted

WANTED

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

WANTED FOR MURDER

OCTOBER 18, 1969



This is the Zodiac speaking
 I thought you would need a
 good laugh before you
 hear the bad news and I
 you won't get the news for a while yet
 PS could you print this new cipher on your front page?
 I get awfully lonely when I am ignored,
 so lonely I could do my thing!!!!

Des July Aug
 Sept Oct = 7

The killer communicated with the press



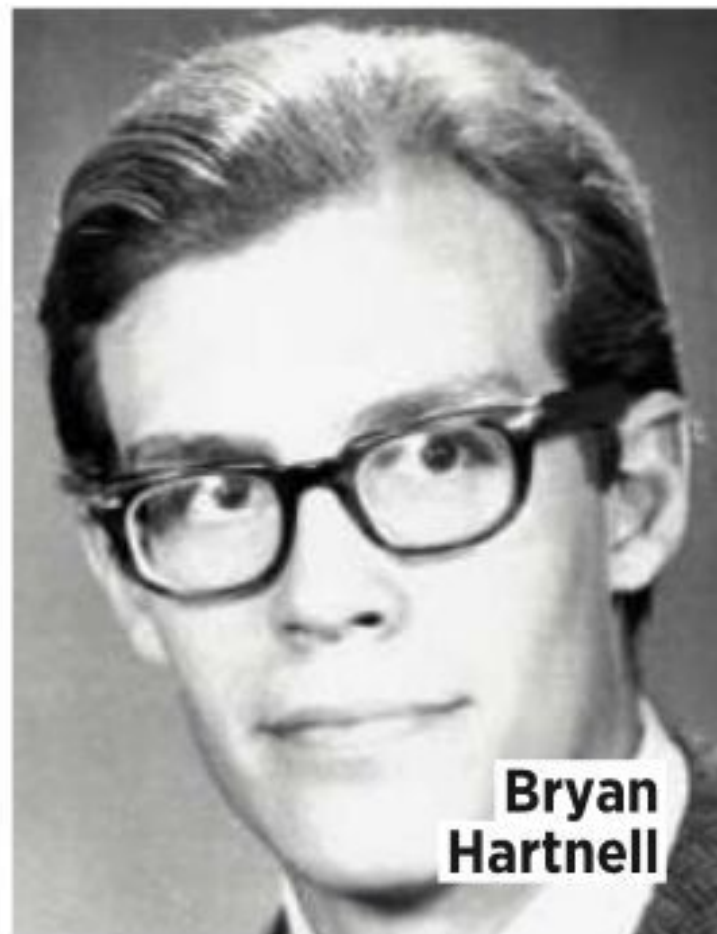
Darlene Ferrin



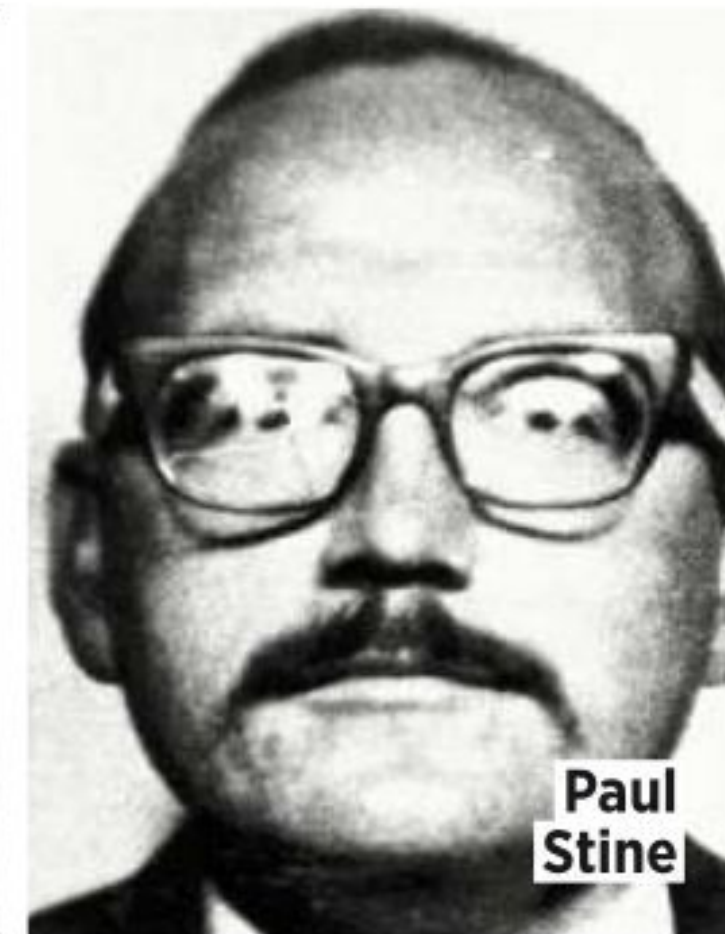
Michael Mageau



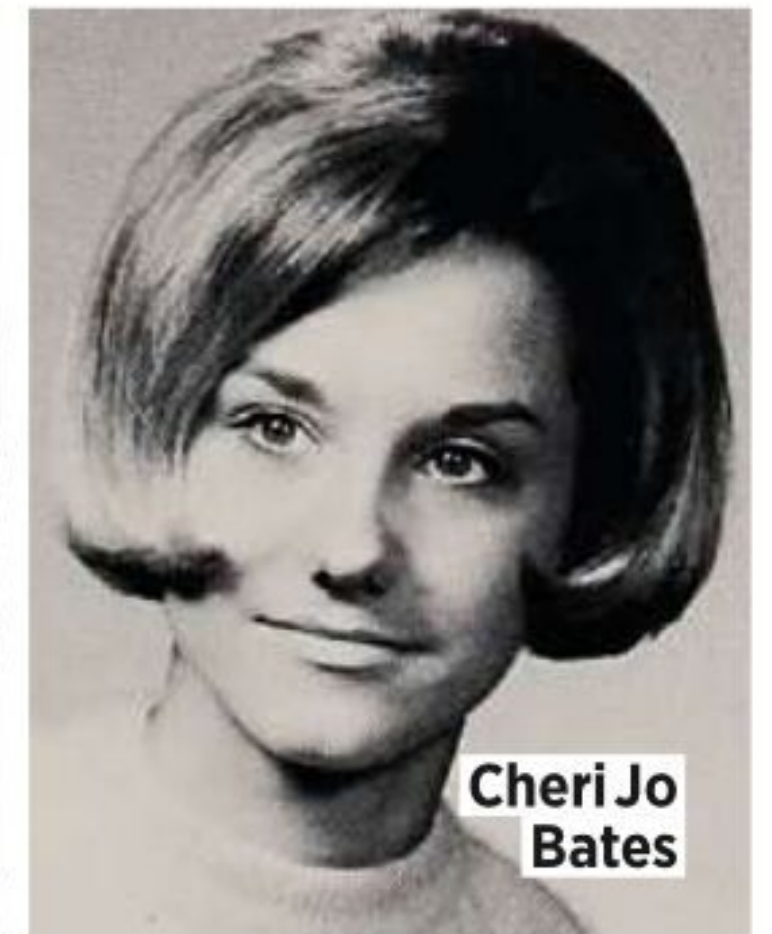
Cecilia Shepard



Bryan Hartnell



Paul Stine



Cheri Jo Bates

that anagrams of Poste's name could be found within the text. "You've got to know Gary's full name in order to decipher these anagrams," said the Case Breakers' Jen Bucholtz, a former Army counterintelligence officer. "I just don't think there's any other way anyone would have figured it out."

The investigators also claim Poste was guilty of the stabbing of 18-year-old student Cheri Jo Bates in California in 1966. The San Francisco police, however, have so far declined to confirm if Poste is a suspect.

ZODIAC'S REIGN

High-schoolers Betty Lou Jensen and David Faraday were on a first date when they became the Zodiac Killer's first victims in December 1968. David was shot in the head as he was getting out of the couple's car, while Betty Lou was shot five times in the back as she tried to flee the scene. Zodiac struck again seven months later, when he ambushed Darlene Ferrin and Michael Mageau in their car parked beside a lake, firing five times into

the vehicle. Neither was killed, so he returned to shoot each twice more before driving off. Darlene was pronounced dead at the hospital, but Michael survived, despite being hit in the face, neck and chest, and was able to provide police with a description of their attacker.

College students Bryan Hartnell and Cecilia Shepard were targeted in September 1969 while on a picnic. Wearing a black executioner's hood, the Zodiac approached the couple brandishing a gun and tied them up with a clothesline before launching a frenzied knife attack. Cecilia was stabbed ten times and never regained consciousness from her coma, but despite suffering six wounds, Bryan did not die and was able to talk to the police. The last confirmed victim was 29-year-old taxi driver Paul Stine. He was shot in the back of the head after picking up a passenger around 10pm in San Francisco on 11 October 1969. Three kids witnessed the murder and called police, but though patrol cars were immediately dispatched, the perpetrator slipped away into the night.

The killings stopped then, but the Zodiac continued to taunt the authorities in his communications with the press. In his infamous series of letters to local papers, the killer claimed to have murdered 37 people, while one message threatened to blow up a school bus if the papers did not publish his letters in full. His final contact came in March 1971, when he claimed responsibility for the disappearance of nurse Donna Lass in the Sierra Nevada Mountains six months earlier. His letters were signed off with a depiction of the crosshairs of a rifle sight and he dubbed himself the Zodiac in a letter in August 1969. One of his coded communications, which was decrypted that same year, gave a chilling insight into the serial killer's warped psyche. "I like killing people because it is so much fun," it read. "The best part of it is that when I die, I will be reborn in paradise and all that I have killed will become my slaves. I will not give you my name because you will try to stop my collection of slaves for my afterlife." ■

WORDS: IAIN SPRAGG. PHOTOS: BETTMANN ARCHIVES; GETTY; AP; SHUTTERSTOCK

**Must-see
movie**

Patrizia Reggiani
and Maurizio Gucci



MURDER AT THE HOUSE OF GUCCI

AS THE FILM HITS SCREENS, WE LOOK AT THE
TALE OF ROMANCE, RIVALRY AND REVENGE



Police remove
Maurizio's body from
his Milan offices in 1995

House Of Gucci has all the ingredients needed to captivate cinema audiences: glamour, envy, greed and crime. Starring Lady Gaga as Patrizia Reggiani and Adam Driver as Maurizio Gucci, director Ridley Scott's new movie is the big-screen retelling of the story of Italy's power couple, whose turbulent marriage and divorce led to the cold-blooded assassination of the fashion dynasty heir in 1995. And the person convicted of his killing? His bitter ex-wife. We look back at how love turned to hate – and led to murder...

FAIRY-TALE ROMANCE

Despite their vastly different backgrounds, love blossomed between Reggiani and Maurizio like a fairy tale. The daughter of a waitress, Reggiani grew up poor and never knew her biological father. She was later adopted by her stepdad – a wealthy transportation magnate – who gave her a taste of the high life, moving them up through Italian society. In contrast, Maurizio had always led a privileged lifestyle, as the multi-millionaire son of film stars Rodolfo Gucci and Sandra Ravel, and the grandson of Guccio Gucci, the founder of the esteemed fashion house.

The pair met at a party in 1970, when they were both around 22. It was love at

first sight for Maurizio, who reportedly asked a friend about the “beautiful girl dressed in red who looks like Elizabeth Taylor”. “He fell madly in love with me. I was exciting and different,” Reggiani later said of their first encounter. “I didn’t think much of him at first. He was just the quiet boy whose teeth crossed over at the front.” But the couple married in 1973, despite Rodolfo’s disapproval of Reggiani, who he saw as a “social climber [with] nothing in mind but money”.

For ten years, the pair lived the high life. They moved to New York, where Maurizio worked at the family business and his wife – now known as “Lady Gucci” – enjoyed being a socialite, while caring for daughters Alessandra, now 44, and Allegra, 40. They lived in a luxury penthouse in the Olympic Tower, sailing to private islands on their yacht and holidaying in homes in luxury spots such as St Moritz, Acapulco and Connecticut. They had a chauffeur-driven car and threw lavish parties, where they mingled with the likes of Jackie Kennedy Onassis and the Trumps. “We were a beautiful couple, and we had a beautiful life,” Reggiani said. “Maurizio felt free with me. We had fun, we were a team.”

END OF THE DREAM

But their enviable life came to an end in 1982, when Maurizio decided to return to Milan. He inherited his father’s 50 per



The couple's wedding in 1973



Patrizia and her daughter at Maurizio's 1995 funeral



Maurizio moved on with girlfriend Paola Franchi

cent stake in Gucci with Rodolfo's death the following year. Reggiani claimed that was when her husband changed. "Until then, I was his chief adviser about all Gucci matters. But he wanted to be the best, and he stopped listening to me," she said. Maurizio, by now the Gucci group's chairman, bought out his relatives' shares in the company with the help of banking firm Investcorp. But he was later forced to sell the whole organisation to them for \$170million when he got financial difficulty, ending the Gucci family's association with the brand. "I was angry with Maurizio about many, many things at that time. But above all, this – losing the family business. It was stupid," Reggiani said. "It was a failure. I was filled with rage, but there was nothing I could do. He shouldn't have done that to me."

Amid all this turmoil, the couple's marriage had broken down. On 2 May 1985, Maurizio told his wife that he was going on a brief business trip to Florence, but the next day, his friend told her he would not be returning and that their marriage was over. It then

took nearly a decade of legal battles before their divorce was finalised. Around 1990, Maurizio started dating his childhood friend Paola Franchi, a model and designer. The couple got serious quickly, moving in together in Milan. They planned to marry on Maurizio's St Moritz estate in Switzerland after his divorce was finalised. However, this new relationship apparently sent Reggiani – who had been diagnosed with a brain tumour – into a jealous rage, seemingly sealing Maurizio's fate.

Onorato, who was shot twice in the arm as he went to his rescue, recalled, "Mr Gucci arrived carrying some magazines and said good morning. Then I saw a hand. It was a beautiful, clean hand and it was pointing a gun. I thought it was a joke." He added, "I was cradling his head. Mr Gucci died in my arms."

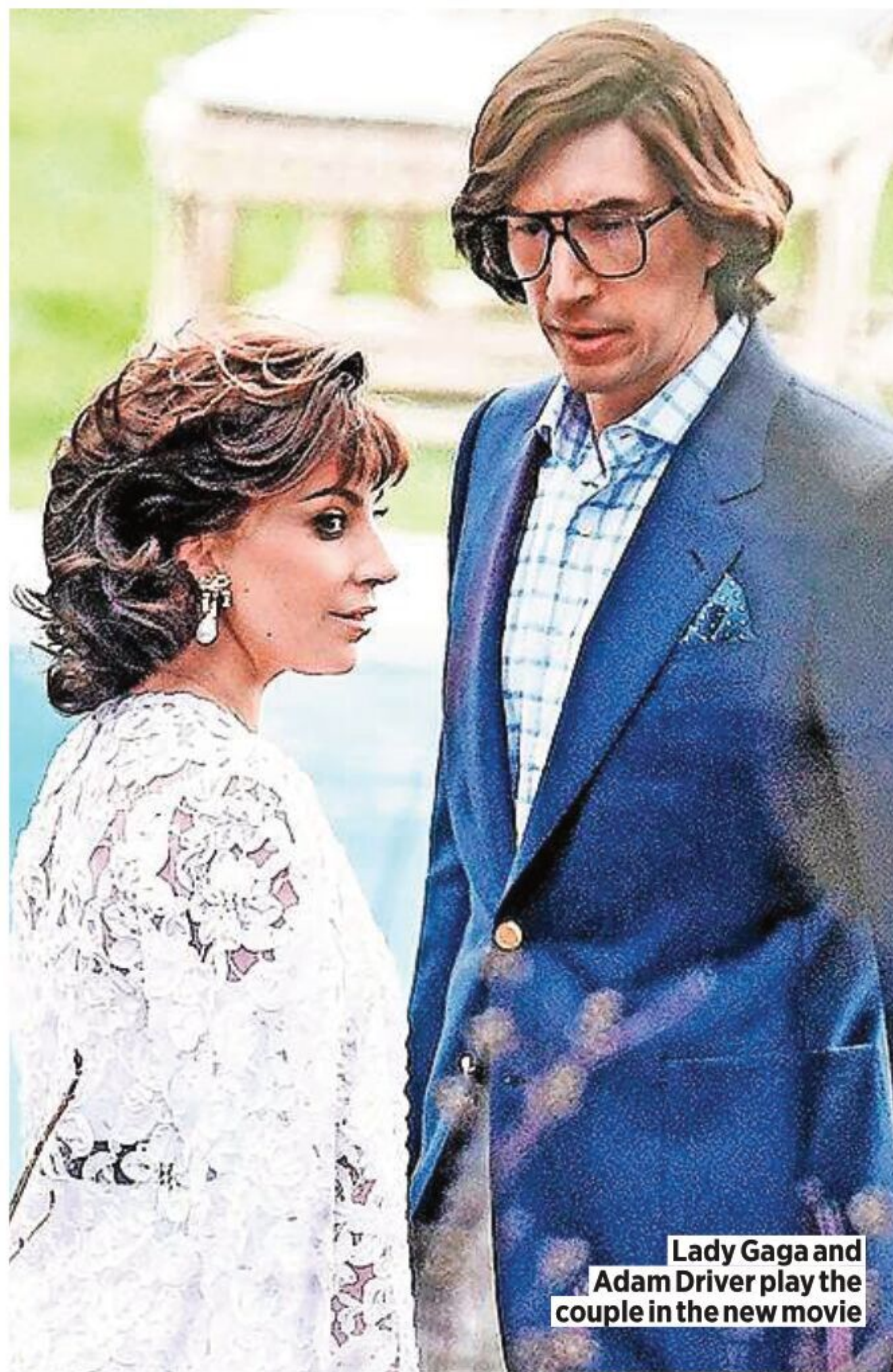
Maurizio's death dominated the headlines, yet it took two years before police got a break in the case, thanks to an anonymous tip in January 1997. Reggiani, later dubbed the "Black Widow" by the press, had allegedly made her resentment towards her ex-husband known – along with the fact she was looking for a hitman. The tipster also said Reggiani had spoken to a lawyer about the consequences of getting rid of her ex. But Reggiani claimed she wasn't serious about going through with it and these murderous thoughts were just fantasy. "I have to admit that, for a time, I truly wanted to get rid of him. I wanted to do it and so I was going around asking for people to do it," she later told Italian TV. "But my intentions ended there – a mere obsession, a mere desire. What wife has never said, 'I'd kill that guy'?"

However, evidence began mounting against Reggiani, including an entry in her diary dated 27 March 1995 – the day of Maurizio's murder – with the

'I STILL FEEL LIKE THE MOST GUCCI OF THEM ALL'

MURDER ON THE DOORSTEP

At 8.30am on 27 March 1995, Maurizio was entering his Milan offices on Via Palestro 20 when he was shot four times, three in the back and one in the head, killing him. The building's doorman, Giuseppe



single word “Paradeisos”, the Greek word for paradise. Reggiani denied this was a celebration of his killing, although she admitted to feeling “relief” at the news of his death. There were also recordings of phone messages she’d left for Maurizio, played in court, in which she makes her feelings very clear about her ex, who she called “a monster”. “You’ve reached the extreme limit of making yourself despised by your daughters, who no longer want to see you to forget the trauma. You are a deformed outgrowth, you are a painful appendix that all of us want to forget,” she said, warning, “For you, hell is yet to come.”

During the trial, Reggiani admitted paying her best friend Pina Auriemma £200k, but denied it was for murder, alleging she was being blackmailed. She claimed Pina set up the killing herself. “It was worth every lira,” she added. However, Auriemma testified that the money was to hire a killer, saying the former Lady Gucci wanted to prevent Maurizio remarrying, and couldn’t bear the thought of Paola gaining the power, status and money she “had earned”.

On 3 November 1998, Reggiani was found guilty of plotting to murder Maurizio and sentenced to 29 years in prison. This was later reduced to 26 years. Professional hitman

Benedetto Ceraulo was sent down for life; getaway driver Orazio Cicala received 29 years; Auriemma got 25 years for helping to organise the killing; and hotel night porter Ivano Savioni, who allegedly hired both the driver and the killer, got 26 years.

A NEW LIFE

After being behind bars for 18 years, Reggiani was released early in 2016 for good behaviour. She has never truly admitted to having any hand in arranging the hit on her ex-husband, although in 2021 documentary *Lady Gucci: The Story Of Patrizia Reggiani*, she did go as far as to say, “I was furious with Maurizio. I went around asking everyone, even the local grocer, ‘Is there someone who has the courage to murder my husband?’ I can’t aim a gun very well – I couldn’t have done it myself.”

Reggiani, who lives in Milan with her pet parrot, remains rather nostalgic about the past and has yet to face up to her actions, despite her conviction. She told an Italian newspaper that she bears no ill feeling towards her ex-husband, saying, “I didn’t hate Maurizio, I never hated him. It was my irritation – he irritated me.” And she later said, “If I could see Maurizio again, I would tell him that I love him, because he is the person

who has mattered most to me in my life,” before admitting, “I think he’d say the feeling wasn’t mutual.”

While it has been more than 35 years since she was Lady Gucci, Reggiani – who is estranged from her daughters and grandchildren – still sees herself as a pivotal part of the fashion house. “They need me. I still feel like a Gucci – in fact, the most Gucci of them all,” she said in 2014.

Reggiani has been open about her feelings on the new film, based on Sara Gay Forden’s book. “We are truly disappointed. I speak on behalf of the family. They are stealing the identity of a family to make a profit and increase the income of the Hollywood system,” she revealed, adding, “I have two daughters and I don’t like that they relive their father’s situation.”

While she has praised Lady Gaga’s casting as her, she feels left out of the process. “I’m annoyed by the fact that Lady Gaga is portraying me without having the courtesy or the good sense to come and meet me,” she said. “It’s nothing to do with money, because I won’t be taking a single cent from the film. It’s about common sense and respect. I say this with all the sympathy and appreciation that I have for her.” ■

House Of Gucci is in UK cinemas from 26 November

ANATOMY OF A CRIME SCENE ISTANBUL BOMBINGS

On 15 and 20 November 2003, Istanbul in Turkey was hit by a series of devastating suicide attacks. Bombs were attached to trucks and detonated at four different locations across the city. The wave of attacks ended the lives of 55 innocent civilians, as well as the four suicide bombers. A staggering 750 people were also injured during the terror campaign.



ON TRIAL: TERRORISTS CHARGED

Despite a militant Turkish Islamic group initially claiming responsibility for the attacks, a host of other terrorist groups were also involved in orchestrating the campaign, and Turkey criminally charged 74 people. Members from Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, Kurdistan Freedom Hawks, Kurdistan Workers' Party, and Revolutionary People's Liberation Party/Front were all found to have played a role, but ultimately it was masterminded by Al-Qaeda. In April 2007, criminal proceedings concluded with the sentencing of 49 defendants.

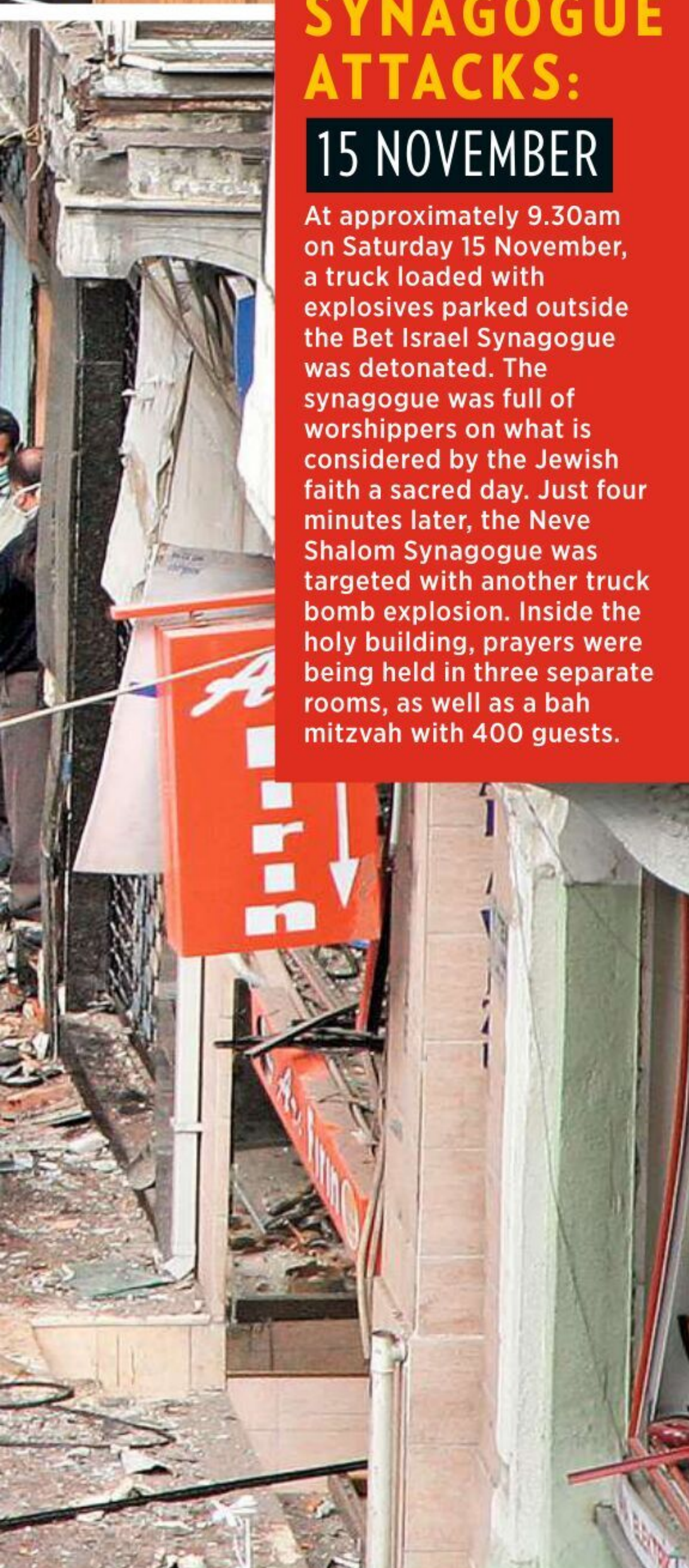




SYNAGOGUE ATTACKS:

15 NOVEMBER

At approximately 9.30am on Saturday 15 November, a truck loaded with explosives parked outside the Bet Israel Synagogue was detonated. The synagogue was full of worshippers on what is considered by the Jewish faith a sacred day. Just four minutes later, the Neve Shalom Synagogue was targeted with another truck bomb explosion. Inside the holy building, prayers were being held in three separate rooms, as well as a bah mitzvah with 400 guests.



BANK ATTACK:

20 NOVEMBER

Five days after the first two attacks, two more truck bombs were detonated. The first, set off at 10.55am in a vehicle parked outside the HSBC bank, badly damaged the exterior and rendered the building's first six storeys unstable. Multiple fatalities were witnessed inside and outside the building, and a lift that had been in motion when the bomb struck collapsed.



CONSULATE ATTACK:

20 NOVEMBER

At the British Consulate, a truck rammed through security gates at approximately 11am. The force of the truck explosion collapsed the outer walls of the consulate, in turn crushing cars that were driving by on the street.

WORDS: STEPH SEELAN; PHOTOS: ALAMY; GETTY; PA; SHUTTERSTOCK



**When it's
a pattern,
it's abuse.**

**When it's
a pattern,
it's abuse.**

**Coercive control
is repeated behaviour
designed to control,
manipulate or frighten.
It's against the law.**

Donate £10 to support women
experiencing domestic abuse.
www.womensaid.org.uk

women's aid
until women & children are safe

SPECIAL REPORT:

EVERY 3 DAYS, A WOMAN IS MURDERED IN THE UK... WHY?

**CRIME MONTHLY
INVESTIGATES WHY
MALE VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN IS
SO PREVALENT**

According to the blog Counting Dead Women (and just think for a moment about the fact that such a blog exists), at least 115 UK women have been killed by men so far this year. Tragically, between the time of our writing this feature and you reading it, that figure will probably already be out of date. There's very little doubt that, right now, misogyny is leading to rape, abuse and murder here in the UK. From Sarah Everard and Sabina Nessa – plus the countless

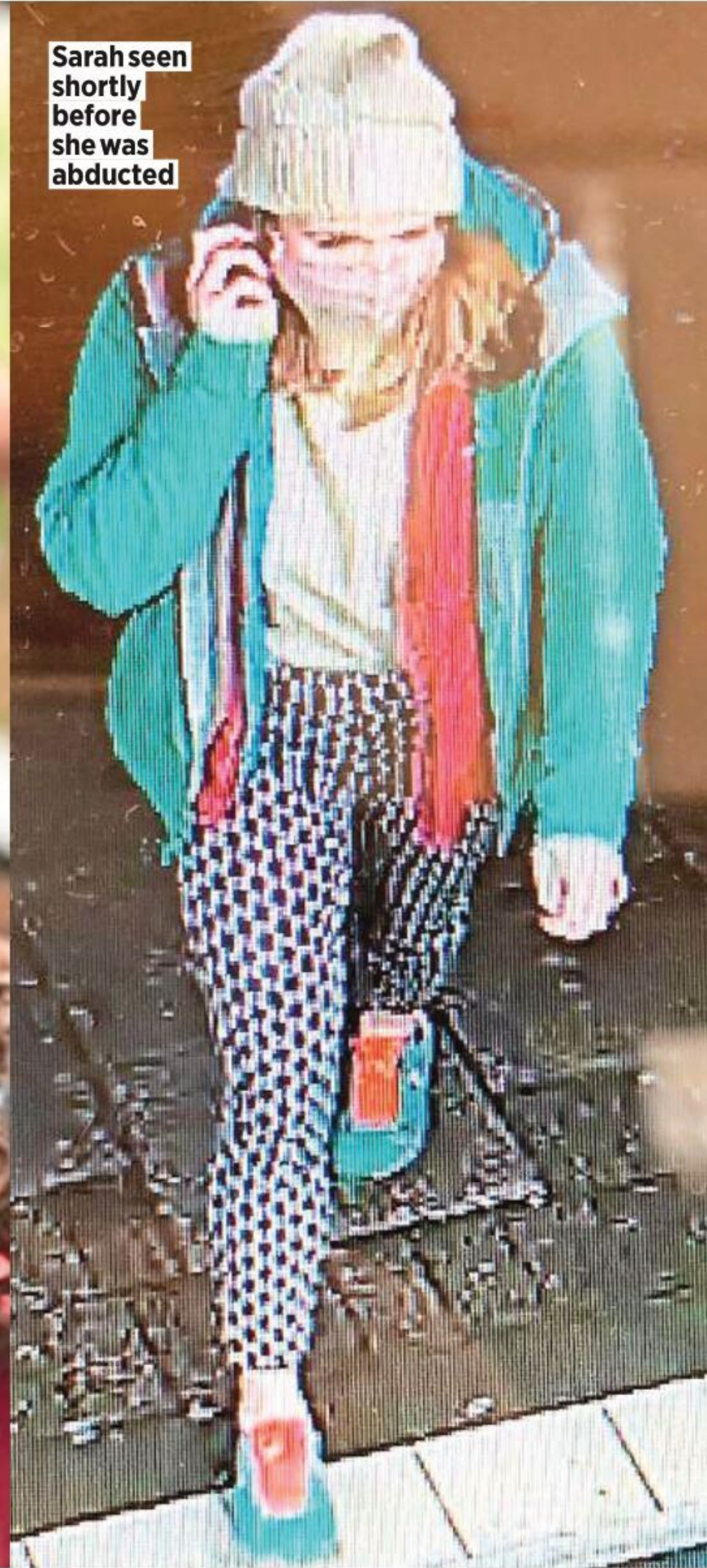
others that garner little to no media attention, or remain unidentified – the proliferation of recent femicide cases has galvanised some of the population into anger, rage and action, and left others feeling helpless, frightened and desperate. We all know that something needs to change, but what?

As we look back at the devastating case of Sarah Everard, we speak to two experts about what realistically needs to be done in order to protect women, and change the attitudes of those men who seek to attack and kill them.

Sarah is much missed by those who knew her



Sarah seen shortly before she was abducted



SPECIAL REPORT:

SARAH EVERARD

THIS HEINOUS CRIME CHANGED THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION

A

t the end of September, Wayne Couzens was handed a whole life sentence for the kidnap, rape and murder of 33-year-old Sarah Everard. Couzens was a serving officer in the Met Police, who planned an atrocious crime for who knows how long before he carried it out.

At 7am on Wednesday 3 March, Couzens finished his shift as a diplomatic protection officer at the American Embassy in London, then drove home to Deal, Kent. He wasn't due back at work for five days but told his wife he was on a night shift. Instead, he picked up a hire car he'd booked on 28 February. He then travelled back to the capital and began cruising the streets for a lone woman to abduct.

At around 9pm, Sarah left a friend's

flat in Clapham, south London, to walk home to Brixton. She was less than a mile from her home when, at around 9.35pm, Couzens pulled up on the pavement with his hazard lights flashing. He stepped out of the vehicle and stood a few feet away from Sarah. Couzens then staged a fake arrest on Sarah for violating COVID rules. Sarah was detained in the back of his car and during the journey, she must have realised her fate, as Couzens began driving out of London.

Couzens drove 80 miles to Dover, before moving Sarah into his own vehicle and taking her to a rural area near his home, where he raped and killed her. He then drove back to Dover, and just after 2.30am, went to a petrol station to buy drinks. He threw Sarah's phone into a flood relief basin and went home. On 5 March, he burned Sarah's

Home Secretary Priti Patel has been criticised





A huge search was launched



Convicted murderer Wayne Couzens worked for the police



The kidnap was caught on CCTV

‘FAILURES ALLOWED COUZENS TO STAY A POLICE OFFICER’

body and possessions in woods in Ashford, Kent. On 7 March, he took his wife and children to the woods, allowing the youngsters to play near Sarah’s remains. On 9 March, he was arrested at his home at 7.50pm. He’d been identified after detectives traced his vehicle registration – caught on CCTV – to the car hire firm in Dover, where Couzens had used his own name and bank card. Hours after Couzens’ arrest, detectives found Sarah’s remains. She was identified by dental records. In July, Couzens pleaded guilty to rape, kidnap and murder.

At his sentencing in September, Sarah’s family bravely listened to hours of evidence retelling Sarah’s final moments. Sarah’s mother, father and sister then read out powerful victim impact statements, addressing Couzens directly, with her dad demanding

Couzens look at him. “I can never forgive you for what you have done, for taking Sarah away from us,” Jeremy Everard told him. “No punishment you receive will ever compare to the pain and torture you have inflicted on us.” An inquiry was subsequently

launched into “systematic failures” that allowed Couzens to continue to be a police officer. Home Secretary Priti Patel said the public “have a right to know” why Couzens remained in the Metropolitan Police, despite concerns about his behaviour after he was linked to allegations of indecent exposure.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

When Sarah was murdered, PM Boris Johnson responded to the outcry by promising “immediate steps” to ensure the safety of women. These included better street lighting, more plain clothes detectives on the streets, the introduction of a 24-hour sexual assault helpline and £5 million-worth of funding towards tackling violence. To date,

most are yet to be actioned. Last month, Priti Patel drew criticism after backing a project that proposed the GPS tracking of women to ensure they made it home. Campaigner Samantha Billingham said the Home Secretary needed to “stop putting a plaster over things” and “tackle the issue in hand”. Over the page, we ask what we can do now...



‘I HAVE HOPE FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE’

Usman Shahid is a Head of Year and pastoral leader in a secondary school in London

“Education plays a role in developing young people into civilised members of society – teaching them about the importance of equality and respect for one another – but there are other factors that need to be addressed in order to reduce violent incidents on females. Thankfully, I see only rare incidents of a misogynistic culture in the young people I teach. Typically, it’s inappropriate language from both genders at both genders, but what gives me hope is these are isolated incidents. If we focus on the positives, our young people do not, in the main, have misogynistic mindsets. But things like social media have a big influence on behaviour and a tremendous impact on their view of reality. When everything is available at the touch of a button, it really hinders young people’s patience development.

Pornography also has a negative effect on young people, as their minds are not capable of processing it. It gives them a warped sense of what a healthy relationship is, and solidifies the objectification of women as things for men to use. So, one thing that we need to do to change what is happening is to monitor online usage better and parents need more awareness on how to do this.

In education, we address sexism, gender roles, diversity, equality, discrimination and inclusivity, to name a few, but there is only so much the education sector can do. If we look at offenders, there is normally a history of abuse, mental health concerns or traumatic experiences, so early intervention – and being given access to talk about their experiences – is crucial. We should also ask what part the family has played in the upbringing of offenders of violent crime. What roles do the adults undertake at home and how is this modelled to children? How are adults speaking to the children? Are they allowing male children to act in a different manner to female children? If there are mental health issues, what services have they accessed? And what was the impact? How long can issues be left untreated before they manifest into something larger? There is not enough funding for services, so people are not being able to fully access resources,



Teacher Usman Shahid

therapy or treatment as needed.

There is no quick-fix solution to stop violence against women. But we need to stop victim-blaming – saying things like, she shouldn’t have had her headphones on or be walking so late at night alone or had a drink etc. The narrative is always put on the female victim. We also need to raise young people so

that they are exposed to positive gender roles in the family, where the female is empowered.

Also, we need more access to treatment centres where people who have needs can have those needs met. We need to stop stigmatising mental health and be supportive. There needs to be a collective effort to prevent attacks, a multi-agency collaboration when services

are involved from the early stage, and intervention. Schools are doing their best to educate young people, but we need more funding and experts to raise awareness. We also need more funding to help young people who have mental health issues, or have suffered abuse, so needs can be addressed.”

‘PORN AND SOCIAL MEDIA HAVE A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE’

'WE NEED TO PROSECUTE MEN WHO ASSAULT'

Dr Soham Das is a consultant forensic psychiatrist who works with offenders

"Misogyny is about control, power and authority. Many misogynists model patterns from things they observe in their early years between their parents, repeating these patterns with their own partners and children. Often, they also develop deep-rooted traditional gender roles, such as that a woman's priority should be to satisfy the man sexually, or to care for them and their children, as opposed to her being independent and successful. Another venomous ideology is feeling entitled to sex, which was clearly the case with Wayne Couzens. This is also seen in the Incel movement, and speaks to deep-rooted insecurities and an inferiority complex.

As well as upbringing, social environment is impactful. People tend to congregate in social groups that have the same beliefs, so 'lads' start by making jokes and sharing misogynistic views. Sometimes,

they goad each other on to make more extreme sexist statements, exacerbating these attitudes. I also believe that awareness of consent exists in most sexual assault cases, but the perpetrators simply don't care. This prioritisation of their own needs indicates an extreme lack of empathy and respect.

In terms of what we can do, it's important to nip escalating misogynistic behaviour in the bud. This is done by calling out low-level acts that might not necessarily cross the threshold of criminal charges. We can even offer rehabilitation to decrease an offender's future



Dr Soham Das

risk profile. We also have to punish those who commit sexual assault to act as a deterrent for other potential perpetrators. As we know, the conviction rate for alleged sexual offences is now

'UPBRINGING AND OUR ENVIRONMENT ARE BOTH IMPACTFUL'

shockingly low. There needs to be a more robust system of actively prosecuting offenders. Many victims don't come forward as they don't feel confident their allegations will lead to a conviction, and this might embolden offenders to continue.

Another area that I firmly believe we need to focus on is rehabilitation. In my clinical role, I work with sex offenders in the prison population. This is a prime opportunity

to encourage rehabilitation. They need to have the motivation to change, but this can have a dramatic impact on future risk. There are tailored treatment programmes that challenge the views of these perpetrators, which would include misogyny, as well as power and control dynamics. Unfortunately, like most aspects of the prison system and social care, this is massively underfunded." ■

Dr Das runs A Psych For Sore Minds, addressing a range of issues. Visit [Youtube.com/apsychforsoreminds](https://www.youtube.com/apsychforsoreminds) to watch and subscribe



Protests have been held



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

To find out more about what can be done and make your voice heard, visit the following:

Rosauk.org: A charity that funds grassroots women's organisations working to make the UK a fairer, safer place for women and girls.

Reclaimthesestreets.com: Challenging misogyny in the way laws are written and enforced.

Everydaysexism.com: This project highlights the issue of misogyny by cataloguing instances of sexism experienced on a day to day basis.

Clickoff.org: Charity raising awareness about the harms of pornography.

Womensaid.org.uk: This campaigning charity tackles the issue of domestic abuse.



Jean's son
Michael



Jean died
in 2009

'WE NEED TO KNOW THE TRUTH'

JEAN HANLON, 53, WAS LIVING HER DREAM IN CRETE WHEN SHE DIED IN MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES

Jean Hanlon was a devoted single mum, who adored her three sons and worked hard to ensure they had everything they needed. But after Michael, Robert and David had all grown up and moved out, Jean decided it was time for a new chapter in her life. Leaving her well-paid secretarial job, 50-year-old Jean relocated from her hometown of Dumfries to the idyllic Greek island of Crete in 2005. She'd previously been there on holiday with a friend and had fallen in love with the culture, its people and the relaxed pace of life.

Over three seasons, Jean worked on the island for a travel company before making a decision to settle in Crete permanently in 2008. By that point, Jean had begun working in bars and restaurants and had

a great mixture of friends, both British and Greek. "Mum was a very strong-willed woman and a strong character," Michael said. "She was a great influence, and the life and soul of the party."

On a two-week trip to Crete, Michael was happy to see his mum had become a well-loved member of her community in the small village of Kato Gouves. But her family were also concerned that Jean was living alone so far away from home. "No matter how many friends you have, you are always vulnerable when you're on your own," Michael said.

DISAPPEARED

In March 2009, Jean, then 53, went missing. She hadn't been seen or heard from in two days, which set off alarm bells. Speaking on Crime+Investigation's *Murder In Paradise*,

David said, "Straight away, I got a feeling something was wrong. It wasn't like my mum to do that. It was horrible - and I felt too far away to help." The brothers flew to Crete to join the search party for their mum, who had seemingly vanished into thin air.

Clues were later found in her diary. On that morning, Jean wrote about waking up early because of a thunderstorm. She did her washing and then went for a walk. She popped into a local shop and spoke to a friend, where she mentioned that she was being followed by a green car. But she didn't appear scared or worried. Later that day, Jean called into a local taverna about a job for the upcoming season. She seemed relaxed and happy as she chatted to owner Yiannis Markakis. But he noticed her leave suddenly before finishing her wine. "She seemed stressed, like someone was waiting for her and that she needed to go," Yiannis said.

After that, Jean's movements are a mystery. Although it's never been officially confirmed, phone records suggest that Jean was in the town of Heraklion, 11 miles west of Kato Gouves. It's not known how she could have got

COLD CASE FILES



Jean with Michael, Robert and David as children



The family need answers about their mum's fate



She loved life in Crete

there, because she didn't drive, but at around 8.20pm, Jean phoned a friend and told him that she was calling from the Marina Café in Heraklion. She was with a man who spoke Greek, but not with a native accent. She passed the phone to the man, and he chatted with her friend. Then, at 8.50pm, Jean sent the same friend a chilling text message, which simply said, "HELP". About 20 minutes later, the friend called back, but nothing appeared to be wrong with Jean, who was still with the man. Satisfied that she was OK, her friend went to bed. At 9.45pm, Jean called her friend again, but he didn't answer. That was the last anyone has seen or heard from her since.

DEEP CONCERNS

The following morning, Jean was due to babysit for a friend, but when she didn't show up, concerns were raised to the police, who said they couldn't investigate until she'd been missing for 48 hours. That's when Michael, Robert and David were alerted, and they flew out to Crete praying she'd turn up, saying she had just lost her phone. But on 13 March,

a body was discovered. It had been found washed up in the harbour of Heraklion. When the brothers were taken to identify the deceased woman, they were still hopeful it wasn't their mum, as the coroner's report said the body was badly decomposed. But when the brothers were shown her clothes, they recognised them.

Jean's body was in a shocking state. "She looked like a shell, it was heartbreaking," Michael said. The brothers were handed a death certificate to sign, but it was in Greek, which they couldn't read, and they refused. It said Jean had died from accidental drowning, but the brothers were not convinced.

They insisted their mum was afraid of water and would never have gone near the sea in the dark. Ex-chief of police Vosilis Verykokidis told the brothers that 12mg of alcohol was found in her blood, so it was possible that while walking along the harbour, she might have fallen in due to inebriation.

But Michael, Robert and David remained convinced their mum's death was no accident and headed back to Dumfries to continue their search for the truth. Going through their mum's diary in greater detail, further clues were found about the weeks leading up to her death. On Sunday 1 March, Jean wrote about a man called Nikos. "Got clothes out to decide what to wear out to Heraklion. The doorbell rang – it was Nikos. How forward is he? Made him a coffee, but also started getting ready to go out. I can't believe it. He asked me for money."

On Wednesday 4 March, Jean wrote, "Nikos invited me out for Sunday dinner. I told him I didn't think it was a good idea." Then, on Saturday 7 March, Jean wrote, "Nikos called wanting to come round tonight, but I said no."

NEW APPEAL

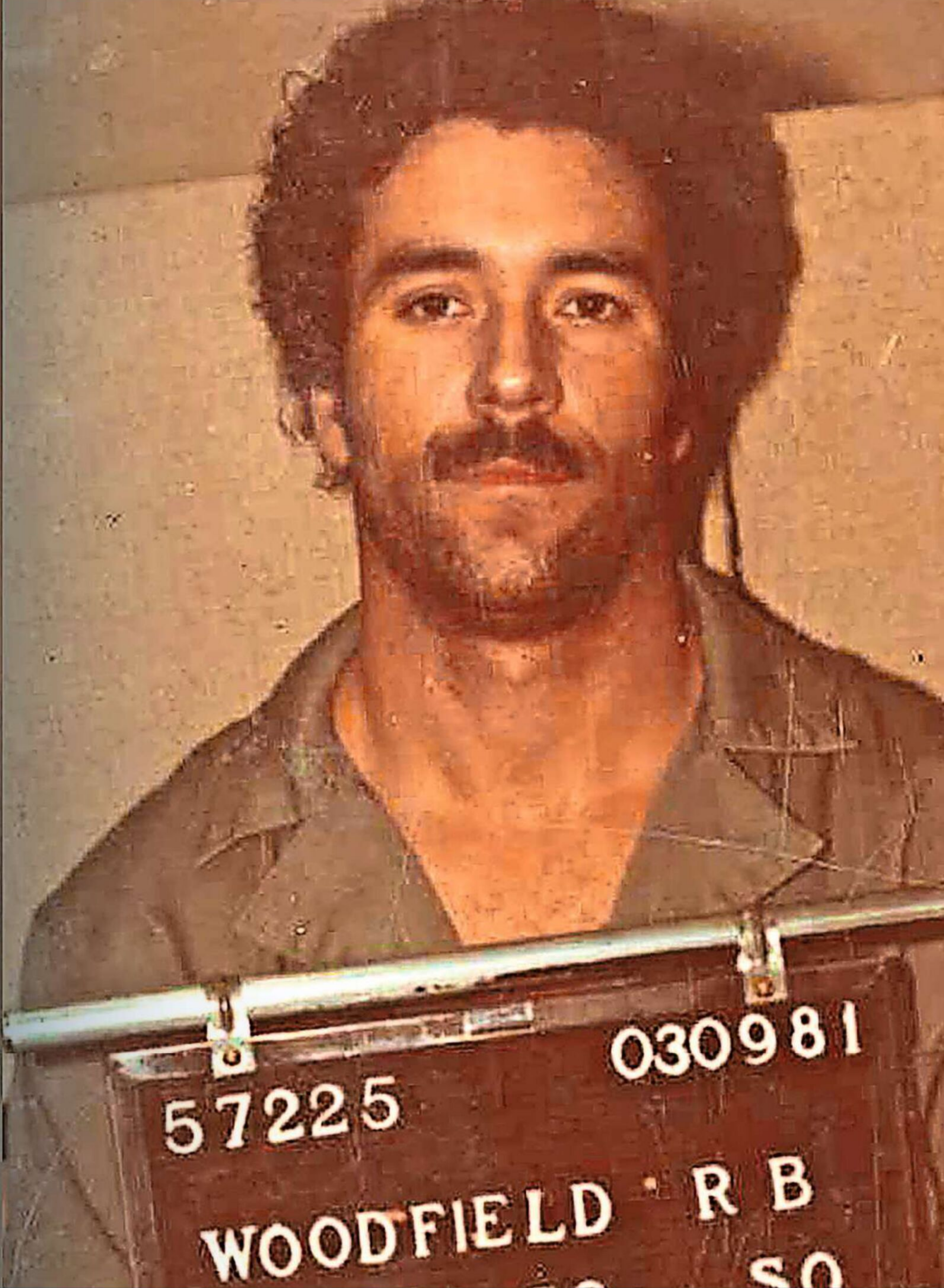
In December 2009 – nine months after Jean's death – a second post-mortem report was released by the coroner. In it, he said Jean had suffered a broken neck, a shattered coccyx and other bruises. The case was reopened, and two suspects were brought in for questioning. But despite one creating a false alibi, the brothers' hopes for answers were dashed when the suspects were released without charge. Once again, Greek authorities closed the case, concluding Jean's death was no more than a tragic accident. Still, Jean's sons refused to give up, making sure their mum's story remained in the spotlight.

Six years after Jean's death, the case was reopened, only to be closed again within a month. In 2019, following a TV documentary about Jean's case, Greek authorities

reopened the case again, but it failed to secure a breakthrough. Although the brothers were devastated by another setback, they were determined to keep fighting for answers, and in March this year – 12 years after their mother's death – the case was reopened after new evidence emerged.

"I think this is going to be a really good breakthrough, and it could possibly be ground-breaking for Mum's case," Michael told BBC Scotland. Michael has vowed that he and his brothers will never give up until they've found justice for their mum. He said, "It's not going away – we just want to find out what happened, so we can grieve for our mum." ■

'WE ALL JUST WANT TO GRIEVE FOR OUR MUM'



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WOODFIELD · R B

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RANDALL WOODFIELD

THE SPREE KILLER KNOWN AS THE I-5 BANDIT BECAME MORE AND MORE INDISCRIMINATE IN HIS ATTACKS DURING THE 1970S AND '80S

F

rom the media sensation of OJ Simpson to the trials of Aaron Hernandez, there has been no shortage of controversy in

American football. But one man few will associate with the professional sport is Randall Woodfield – because he is better known as the I-5 Bandit.

Randall Brent Woodfield was born on 26 December 1950, in the town of Salem in the western state of Oregon. He experienced a typical middle-class childhood, growing up in a well-respected family. Woodfield was popular in high school, outgoing and good-looking as a teen. His athletic gifts were quickly evident, and he became a football star at Newport High School, playing in the respected wide receiver position. But, despite his outwardly normal life and bright future, Woodfield started displaying concerning behaviour as he grew up.

Woodfield was well known as a Peeping Tom around town and

was arrested numerous times as a teen for indecent exposure, once flashing a group of girls from a bridge. Despite these disturbing patterns, his misdemeanours were swept under the rug, largely due to his standing as a football star. Knowledge of escalating sexual deviancy was also limited at the time, and his actions were viewed as harmless, rather than a foreshadowing of more violent crimes to come.

LONER

Woodfield's record was expunged when he turned 18, and he went on to graduate and continue his athletic career at Portland State University, which was only 45 minutes from his home, down the I-5 motorway. He excelled once more, and also became an active member of the Christian community on campus. He was described as something of a loner but polite when spoken to. It seemed all was back on track for Woodfield, especially when he was drafted by professional team the Green Bay Packers in 1974.

However, things soon unravelled once

again. After failing to impress, he was dropped from the squad and spent a year playing semi-pro and working. Another series of arrests for indecent exposure followed, and Woodfield was formally cut from the team. Following his failure to make a career in sport, Woodfield returned to Portland and fell into working numerous odd jobs with no particular direction.

Around this time, in early 1975, a string of sex attacks began occurring in the Portland area. A male assailant was robbing women at knifepoint, before forcing them to perform sex acts. The spree worried local police so much that they employed female officers to trap the attacker by posing as potential victims, and the perpetrator was soon caught. It was Randall Woodfield. Arrested that March, he eventually pleaded guilty to second-degree robbery, and received a ten-year sentence. Woodfield served less than half of his allotted time and was paroled in July 1979. A convicted violent offender was once more free, and unsurprisingly, a new series of

SERIAL KILLER SECRETS



Woodfield wore masks and disguises



crimes was reported almost immediately – but this time, he progressed to murder. The first victim was Cherie Ayers, found stabbed to death in her apartment on 11 October 1980. The slaying came just weeks after Woodfield and Cherie had met at their high-school reunion, and they were also known to send letters while Woodfield was incarcerated. The next deaths were those of Darcey Fix and Douglas Altig, also found in their flat and also known to have connections to Woodfield. He was questioned, but insufficient evidence meant investigators were forced to release him.

Perhaps shaken by police interest, Woodfield took to more indiscriminate crimes next. Travelling around the Pacific Northwest, he committed a number of robberies and sexual assaults throughout Oregon and Washington. The attacks were random and ranged in violence and type of assault. By 1981, the marauding attacker was known as the I-5 Bandit, due to the location of the crimes along that corridor. On 18 January that year, the Bandit entered an office building and fatally shot Shari Hull and severely injured Beth Wilmot, before escaping. Police seemed to be constantly chasing the killer, always one step behind. His frequent travel and varying crimes

made predicting where and when he would strike impossible. His reign of terror would clearly continue until he was apprehended.

DISGUISES

The I-5 Bandit nearly always left witnesses, meaning a comprehensive profile, including several sketches, was put together. Most described him as being around six feet tall, with long brown hair and an athletic build. He sometimes wore tape on the bridge of his nose, something football players often did. He also sported disguises, including fake beards, masks and hoodies to cover his features. Notably, Woodfield would carry out attacks within hours of each other, meaning law enforcement barely had time to attend a scene before another alert was radioed in. Police in Portland still viewed Woodfield as a likely suspect, but without physical evidence tying him to any crime, plus his refusal to take a polygraph



Participating in a police line-up in 1981

'HE WOULD CLEARLY CONTINUE UNTIL HE WAS CAUGHT'

test, there was not enough to arrest him. A second double homicide occurred in February 1981, when Donna Eckard was found dead in her home, alongside her 14-year-old daughter.

This brutal attack took place in California, showing the Bandit had stretched his hunting grounds to further down the West Coast. Both were shot multiple times in the head, and there was evidence of sexual assault at the scene. The very same day, in nearby Redding, a female store attendant was kidnapped and raped. The robberies and assaults continued to come thick and fast, ranging from Seattle in Washington to northern California, a distance of close to 1,000 miles. On 15 February, Julie Reitz, an 18-year-old former friend of Woodfield's, was raped and shot in her Oregon home, dying from her injuries. Police on the scene believed Julie had known her attacker, as glasses showed she had shared a drink with the killer.

Woodfield now had connections to four of the victims of the I-5 Bandit, making him the focal point of the investigation. He had a record of attacking women and call logs showed he was in the proximity of many of the areas before or after attacks took place. Although there was now evidence



Inside Woodfield's tiny apartment



Portland Police speak to the press in 2012

against him, Woodfield remained at large for a further two weeks. In this time, he was able to carry out three more assaults before finally being taken into police custody on 5 March 1981. He was positively identified by several women, including Beth Wilmot, and a search of his Oregon apartment turned up more evidence that sealed his fate. A .32 calibre shell was found, along with tape used in multiple crimes, providing law enforcement with indisputable evidence linking Woodfield to the cases.

Woodfield was tried for the murder of Shari Hull and attempted murder of Beth Wilmot in June 1981. Beth provided key details as the prosecution's star witness, and the jury delivered a guilty verdict on 26 June. Woodfield received life with an additional 90 years, meaning there was no possibility he would ever be free again. He was tried for another sexual assault in October 1981, but the majority of his crimes weren't prosecuted, as the authorities were satisfied with his life sentence.

OTHER VICTIMS

Woodfield has only two murder convictions to his name, but he is known to have committed at least five more. Some have theorised he could have killed between 40 and 60 people in total, but these numbers are unlikely to be verified. Given the speed and short cool-down periods between his attacks, it certainly seems possible that Woodfield is responsible for many of the



A recent photo of Woodfield from Oregon State Penitentiary

unsolved murders that remain in the western states. Two were attributed to him in 2001 and 2006, when DNA advances proved a forensic link between Woodfield and murders in 1980 and '81. These advances in forensic analysis could shed more light on his crimes and further unknown victims.

Due to his relatively short period of killing, some might label Woodfield a spree killer rather than a serial. But though he took a decidedly short interval between attacks, he showcases all the character traits and strategies of a typical serial killer. He also travelled vast distances to locate his victims.

One thing for sure is that Randall Woodfield was an extremely dangerous and cruel man, who inflicted misery and suffering on whoever he crossed paths with. ■

FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION

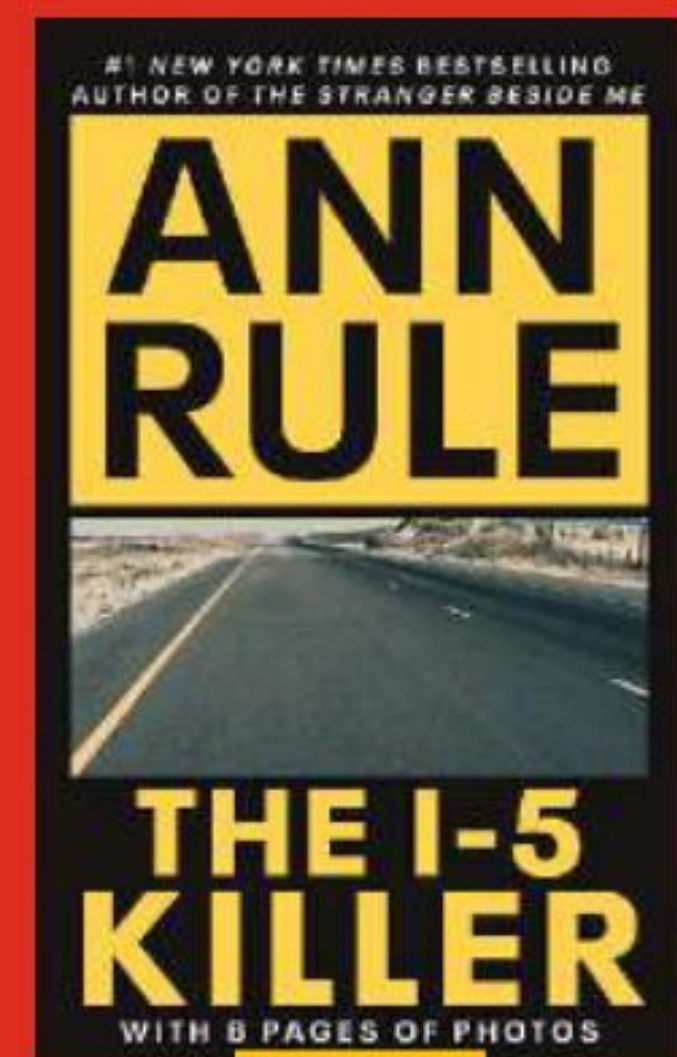


PODCAST

Murderific

Series Three, Episode 24

The episode looks at how the former football player used a 500-mile stretch of Interstate 5 to commit multiple sexual assaults, rapes and murders.



BOOK

The I-5 Killer

Ann Rule

The author famous for writing about her personal relationship with Ted Bundy turns her attention to Woodfield's story of abuse and murder.

WORDS: DYLAN SPRAGG. PHOTOS: AP

COLD CASE FILES

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Dannette & Jo
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WHERE ARE THE MISSING MILLBROOK TW

**THE DISAPPEARANCE
OF DANNETTE AND
JEANNETTE MILLBROOK
MORE THAN THREE
DECADES AGO HAS
HAUNTED THEIR
FAMILY EVER SINCE**

Twins Dannette and Jeannette Millbrook were two weeks short of their 16th birthday when they left the family home in Augusta, Georgia, on Sunday 18 March 1990. The teenagers walked to their godfather's house to borrow money for their bus fares to school, before visiting relatives and heading to a shop to buy snacks. The girls were then heading home, but never arrived. Shockingly, despite the sisters never having been found – dead or alive – the Augusta

Police Department dismissed them as runaways and the case was closed after just a year. Many suspect that the case was shelved because of the black family's socioeconomic background. "The police department at the time didn't help because of where we lived," said their younger sister Shanta Sturgis, who has spearheaded the family's desperate search for answers for the past 17 years. "Nobody's going to make me believe that they ran away from home. I have been trying for years to get the police to help us look for them and I was always told there was nothing they could do."

WARD

for info resolving the
persons case of
Jeannette Millbrook
en 03-18-90



ANONYMOUS TIP LINE: 866-939-5050



MYSTERY MAN

The day the girls went missing began like any other Sunday, with the family heading for a morning church service. The twins were later sent out to get takeaway for lunch, and when they returned, they told their mother, Mary Sturgis, that a man in a white van had followed them home. After going to visit their godfather, they called in at their cousin's house and asked if she would walk home with them, but her mother insisted it was too late. The twins then visited an older sister and again asked for company walking home, but their sibling had



PILOT **TV** *podcast*

TV news and reviews every Monday



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The family lived in a deprived neighbourhood in Augusta, Georgia

'NO ONE HAS BEEN DISCIPLINED FOR POLICE FAILINGS'

recently given birth and did not want to leave the house. No one knows why the sisters were so eager not to complete their journey alone, but they may have been scared of something.

When they failed to return home, their worried mother called the police, but was informed that she would have to wait 24 hours before filing a report. The following day, she phoned the station again and a case file was opened. However, before any investigation had even begun, the local sheriff told Mary that he believed the teenagers had simply run away, setting the tone of the investigation to follow.

The police did interview the girls' godfather and the family friend who had served them at the convenience store, but failed to speak to their cousin or older sister, and were unable to unearth any clues as to their whereabouts. More than a year after their disappearance, with no progress of any kind, an officer told the family that, because the girls' 17th birthday had passed, state law dictated that they could no longer be compelled to come home, even if they were found. From the police perspective,

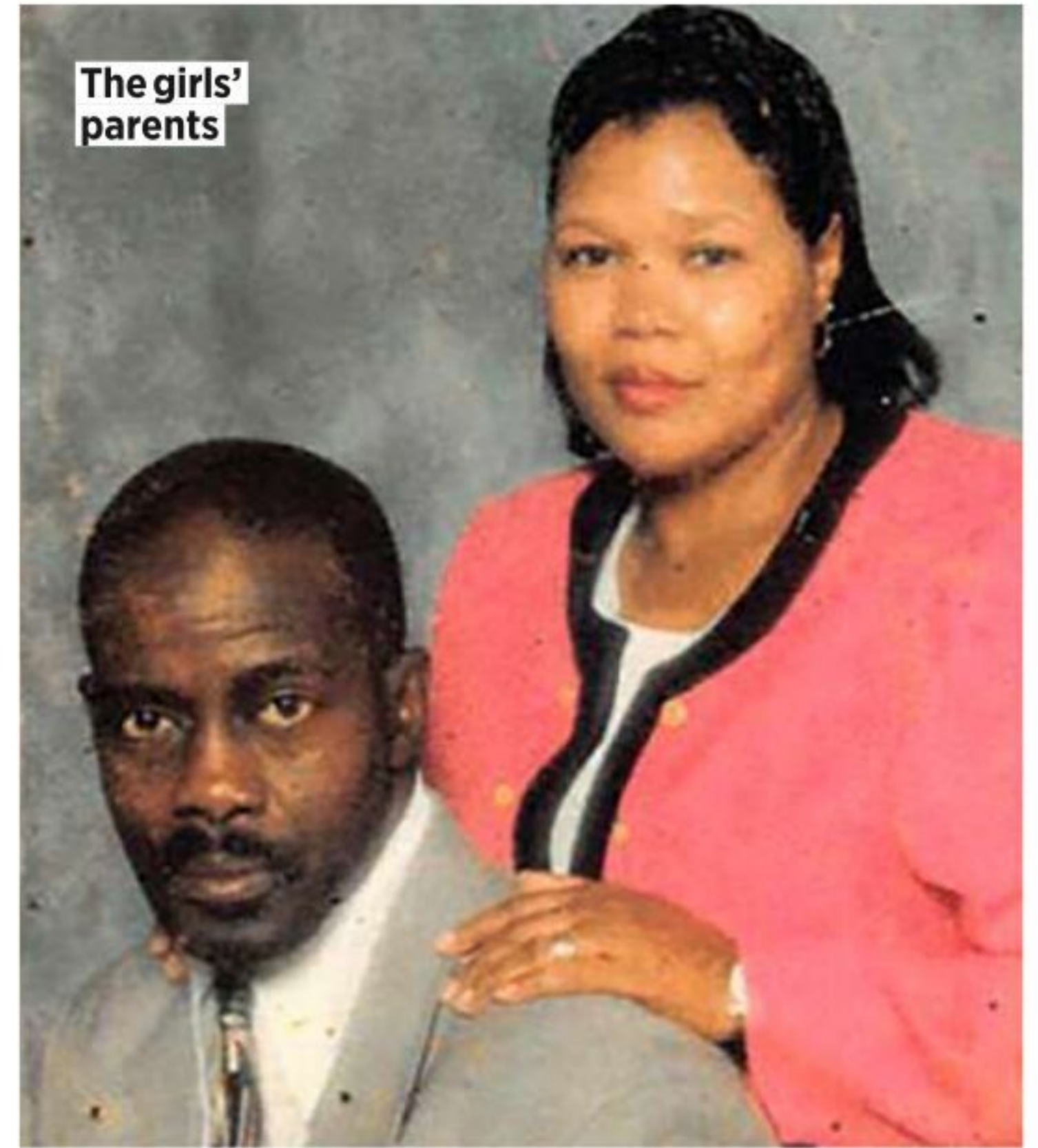
the case had effectively reached its end. And worse was to follow in 1993, when the family contacted the National Centre for Missing & Exploited Children, who had helped them print and distribute

flyers during the initial search for the girls. The organisation told them that their database showed the siblings had been found, so their file had been closed. Further digging revealed the police system indicated the girls had been adopted. It emerged that two members of the wider Millbrook family had been placed in foster care, and the police had mistaken these two children for Dannette and Jeannette, officially closing the case as a result. The police failures in the handling of the investigation did not see any officers disciplined.

LOCAL PREDATOR

The girls' case was finally reopened in 2013, when Richmond County appointed a new sheriff. "We believe a terrible injustice has been done for the past 20 years," said Sheriff Richard Roundtree. Sadly, though, the last eight years have failed to produce any significant new information.

One theory is that the sisters could have fallen victim to a man named Joseph Patrick Washington, a convicted rapist and suspected serial killer who lived and worked in the same area of Augusta. Washington received 17 consecutive life sentences in 1995 for a string of abductions and five sexual assaults between 1991 and 1993. He shot the women he attacked in the stomach, though three survived. He had been due to stand trial for the murders of two more women, but died behind bars in 1999 before the cases could be heard in



The girls' parents



The twins' mother is still searching

court. He was also suspected of killing a third woman, but was never charged. According to the *Unresolved* podcast, most of Washington's victims were young black women aged up to 30 with short hair, a description that matches with Dannette and Jeannette.

Whatever their fate, the family continue to try to generate publicity about the girls in the hope they will still be found. In 2019, a feature-length documentary called *The Disappearance Of The Millbrook Twins* saw a former prosecutor and a retired detective reassessing the case. But, yet again, they were met with law enforcement obstacles and dismissal.

This June, the family hired a private investigator, funded by private donors from a non-profit group. The family were also able to put up a billboard detailing the case and offer a \$11,000 reward for information. Shanta said, "Somebody knows something somewhere. We're hoping that with more money now donated to the reward, somebody will just come out and say even a little something." Tips can be left anonymously at the website: Themillbrooktwins.com.

For now, though, the family remain in purgatory, wondering if there will ever be news of Dannette and Jeannette. ■

Joseph Patrick Washington



CRIME
FILE

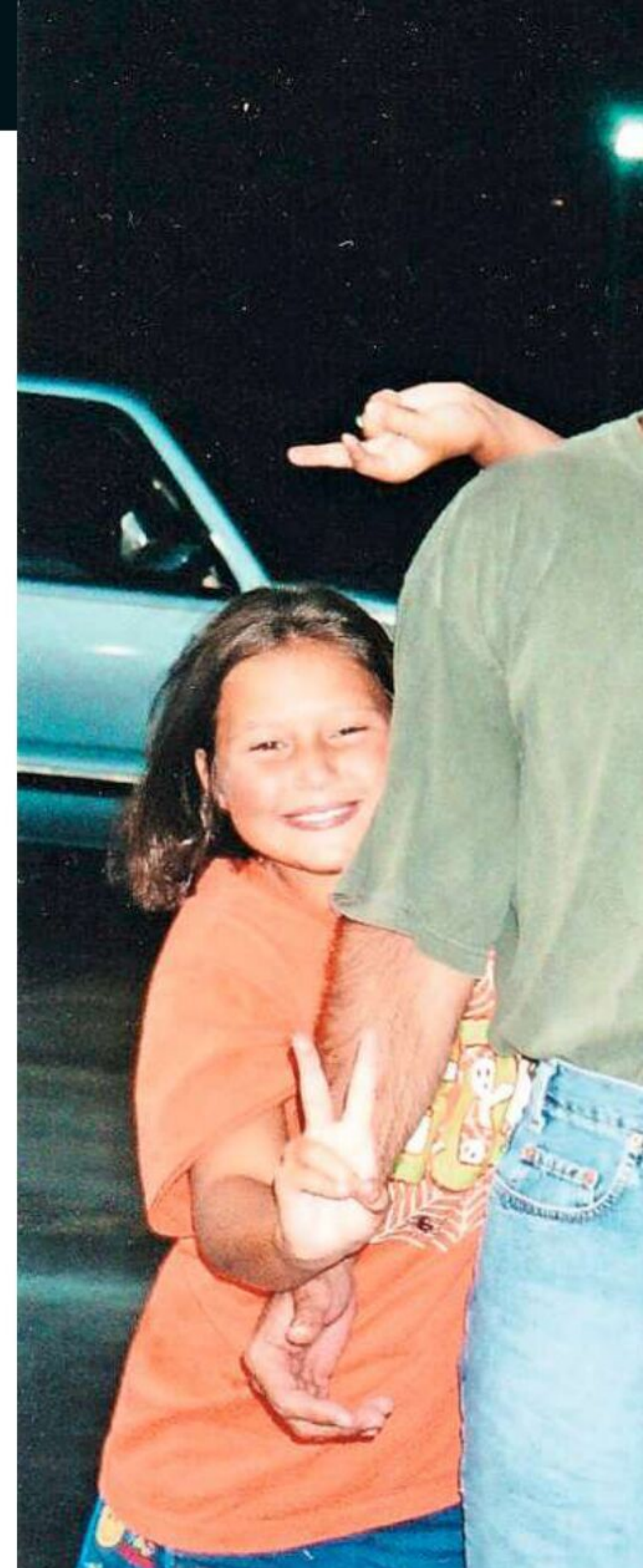
LIFE ON
DE

ATHROW

There are over 2,500 prisoners on Death Row in the US, spending their lives awaiting execution. We look at the issue of capital punishment in America



Jones maintains he is not guilty



THE CURRENT CASE

Paul Howell's two young daughters were on the backseat of his SUV when he pulled into the driveway of his parents' house in Oklahoma on a summer's evening in 1999. The family had just bought ice cream after a shopping trip when the 45-year-old businessman was gunned down in a carjacking. His murderer shot him twice in the head before running over his body as he sped away. Paul's sister, who witnessed the fatal moment, was able to rescue the children before the killer escaped, but Howell was pronounced dead at the scene.

Two days later, police found the car outside a local store. They questioned a nearby garage owner with a reputation for receiving stolen vehicles and he gave them the name of a man he claimed had tried to sell him the car. That man was Ladell King, who told police that Julius Jones and Christopher Jordan were the carjackers. Jones, a 19-year-old student, was arrested and a search of his home unearthed a handgun wrapped in a bandana hidden in the attic.

The ballistic report presented at his trial in 2002 confirmed the gun was the murder weapon. The court also heard damning testimony from Jordan, who confessed to driving to the house and witnessing Jones fire the fatal shots. Jones maintained his innocence throughout the 12-day trial, claiming he was not at the scene, but was convicted and sentenced to death. Nearly two decades later, he is still on Death Row, incarcerated in solitary confinement in Oklahoma State Penitentiary. He has lodged a series of unsuccessful appeals over the years, but after exhausting all legal avenues, he is now hoping to escape execution if the state agrees with a recent Pardon and Parole Board recommendation to commute his sentence to life imprisonment.

MISINFORMATION

Controversy has surrounded Jones' case ever since the jury delivered their verdict. The vocal "Justice for Julius" campaign has attracted high-profile supporters – Kim Kardashian visited him in prison last year to make a public appeal for clemency – while three episodes of ABC's *The Last Defense* docuseries, broadcast in 2018, raised doubts about the conviction. More than six million people have signed an online petition calling for his execution to be cancelled. The Howell family have been equally vociferous in arguing that Jones is guilty, rebutting claims of his innocence in what they say is a campaign of misinformation designed to sway public opinion.

Separating fact from fiction here is not straightforward. Jones told police he was having dinner with his parents and sister at the time of the murder, but his alibi was never presented in court and his family members were never called to testify. Jones himself did not testify in his own defence, but court papers prove he waived this right. Paul's sister Megan described the shooter as wearing a white T-shirt, red bandana and black stocking cap.



Kim Kardashian lent her support



Paul Howell and his girls



Many believe Julius Jones is innocent

CRIME FILE

'JONES HAS BEEN ON DEATH ROW FOR TWO DECADES'

The DNA results from analysis of the bandana with the gun gave only a partial match for Jones. However, forensic experts maintain that even with an incomplete sample, the possibility of it belonging to an unrelated individual was one in 110 million. But supporters of Jones have pointed out that two eyewitness accounts of the man in the bandana, including Megan's, describe him as having inch-long hair. At the time of the murder, Jones' head was shaven while Jordan had cornrows, prompting the Jones camp to claim Jordan was the gunman. Paul's family have argued that Megan's testimony referred to how much hair was visible between the killer's cap and ear, not how long it was.

The Jones family have claimed Jordan planted the gun, which is unproven, and they believe he struck a secret deal with the state in return for fabricated evidence. Jordan received a 30-year term for first-degree murder, admitting he acted as the

driver, but served only half his sentence before being released in 2014. Advocates for Jones believe this is proof of a deal between the star witness and the state, but his early release was in fact sanctioned by the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, an

independent body. He was freed as a result of good behaviour and a revised way of calculating how much of their sentences inmates should serve. While in prison, Jordan is alleged to have told cellmates that he was responsible for the shooting, but they have

been dismissed as unreliable witnesses in light of their own convictions.

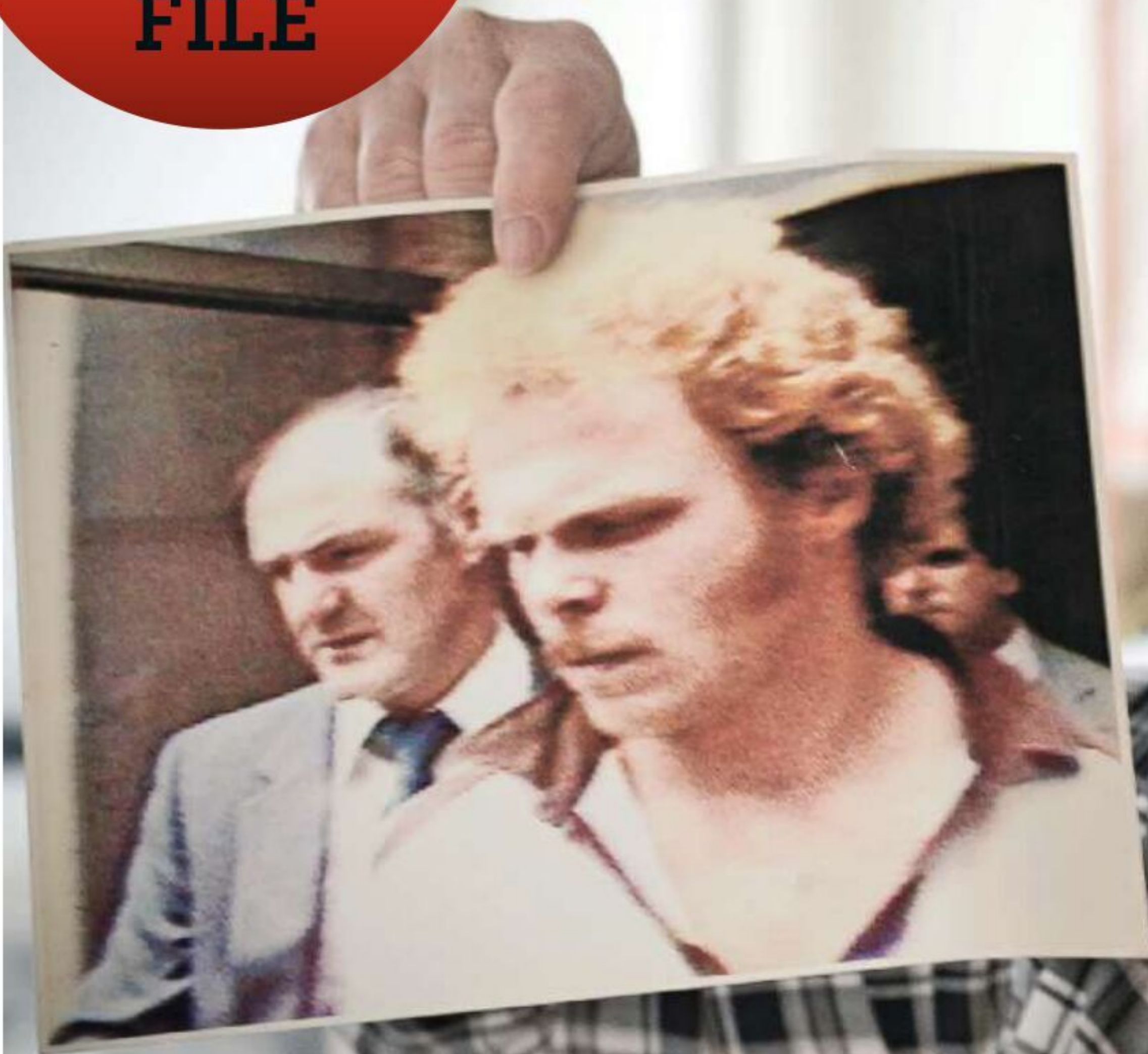
Race has also been raised as an issue. According to a 2017 study, defendants of colour in Oklahoma accused of killing white victims were more than twice as likely to receive the death penalty, compared to those accused of white-on-white murders, and Jones' supporters argue he was the victim of prejudice. Eleven of the 12 jurors were white – one of whom was reported to have used a racial slur and suggested Jones should be taken out of the courthouse and shot – while the police officer who arrested him also used racially-motivated language.

With his execution date scheduled for 28 October, by the time this magazine hits the shelf, Julius Jones will either now be serving life – or he may be dead.

DEATH ROW FACTS & FIGURES

- Capital punishment was outlawed by the US Supreme Court in 1972 (the last having taken place in 1967), but brought back four years later. In 2019, a convicted murderer in Georgia was executed by lethal injection, becoming the 1,500th inmate to be executed in the US since the ban was lifted in 1976.
- Out of the 50 American states, 27 still have the death penalty. Although the number of prisoners on Death Row fluctuates, there were 2,504 inmates awaiting execution in April 2021. California had the most (704), followed by Florida (343) and Texas (205). New Hampshire, South Dakota and Wyoming came bottom with one condemned prisoner in each state. The Death Row population has decreased for the last 18 years, as more states have abolished capital punishment – Virginia became the latest in March 2021.
- According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, at the end of 2019, 56 per cent of Death Row prisoners were white or Latino, 41 per cent were black and the remaining three per cent Asian, native Hawaiian, Hispanic or American Indian. Men made up 98 per cent; and nearly 30 per cent were aged 25 to 44, while 55 per cent were 50 or older. Almost ten per cent of Death Row inmates had a previous conviction for murder, while 68 per cent had other prior felony convictions.
- The total Death Row population peaked in 2000 at 3,601. Nationally, 17 people were put to death in 2020, the lowest number since 1991. The peak year for executions in the modern US was 1999, when 98 inmates lost their lives.

Kirk Bloodsworth shows a picture of himself during the time of his arrest



MISCARRIAGES OF JUSTICE

Since 1973, more than 8,700 people in the US have been sent to Death Row. At least 182 of them subsequently had their convictions overturned or commuted. That equates to around two per cent of the prison population awaiting execution who should never have faced such a fate. The rate of reversal has accelerated significantly since the 1990s, and can in part be attributed to the case of Kirk Bloodsworth, who was the first person in American history to be exonerated following the use of DNA evidence.

The former Marine was found guilty of the rape and murder of a nine-year-old girl in Maryland in 1984, primarily on the testimony of five eyewitnesses who said they had seen him with the victim. While on Death Row, Bloodsworth read how revolutionary DNA profiling in the UK had led to the conviction of Colin Pitchfork in his infamous double-murder trial, and he lobbied to have similar techniques applied to his case. The tests were conducted and

proved that Bloodsworth was not the killer. He was released from prison in 1993, after eight years behind bars.

It was, however, more than a decade before he received a full exoneration, when prisoner DNA records were added to state databases. The upload produced a match between an existing inmate and the crime, and the police turned their attention to Kimberly Shay Ruffner, who was already serving 45 years for burglary, attempted rape and assault with intent to murder. Ruffner confessed and was sentenced to life, while Bloodsworth was officially cleared in 2004.

In the same year that Bloodsworth was found guilty, Earl Washington Jr also found himself in prison for a crime he didn't commit, and came within just nine days of being executed. His alleged crime was rape and murder, and he was only saved thanks to the tenacity of his lawyer and developments in forensic technology.

Washington was initially arrested in Virginia on unrelated charges of burglary and malicious wounding,

but once in custody, he was questioned about the killing of a 19-year-old mother of three, who had been stabbed 38 times in her apartment in 1984. In his early twenties, Washington had an IQ of just 69 – comparable with a ten year old – and after two days of questioning, he confessed. The police ignored the fact he did not know the race of the victim, the location of the crime or how many wounds she had suffered.

The date for his execution was set for September 1985, but a little over 200 hours before he was due to be strapped into the electric chair, his attorney petitioned for a delay. Washington spent the next eight years on Death Row until new DNA analysis of the crime scene revealed he was not the rapist. Virginia law,

however, only allows defendants to submit new evidence within 21 days of their trial verdict, so he had his sentence commuted to life. He was finally released from prison in 2001, and six years later, belatedly received an absolute pardon after another prisoner pleaded guilty to the 23-year-old crime.

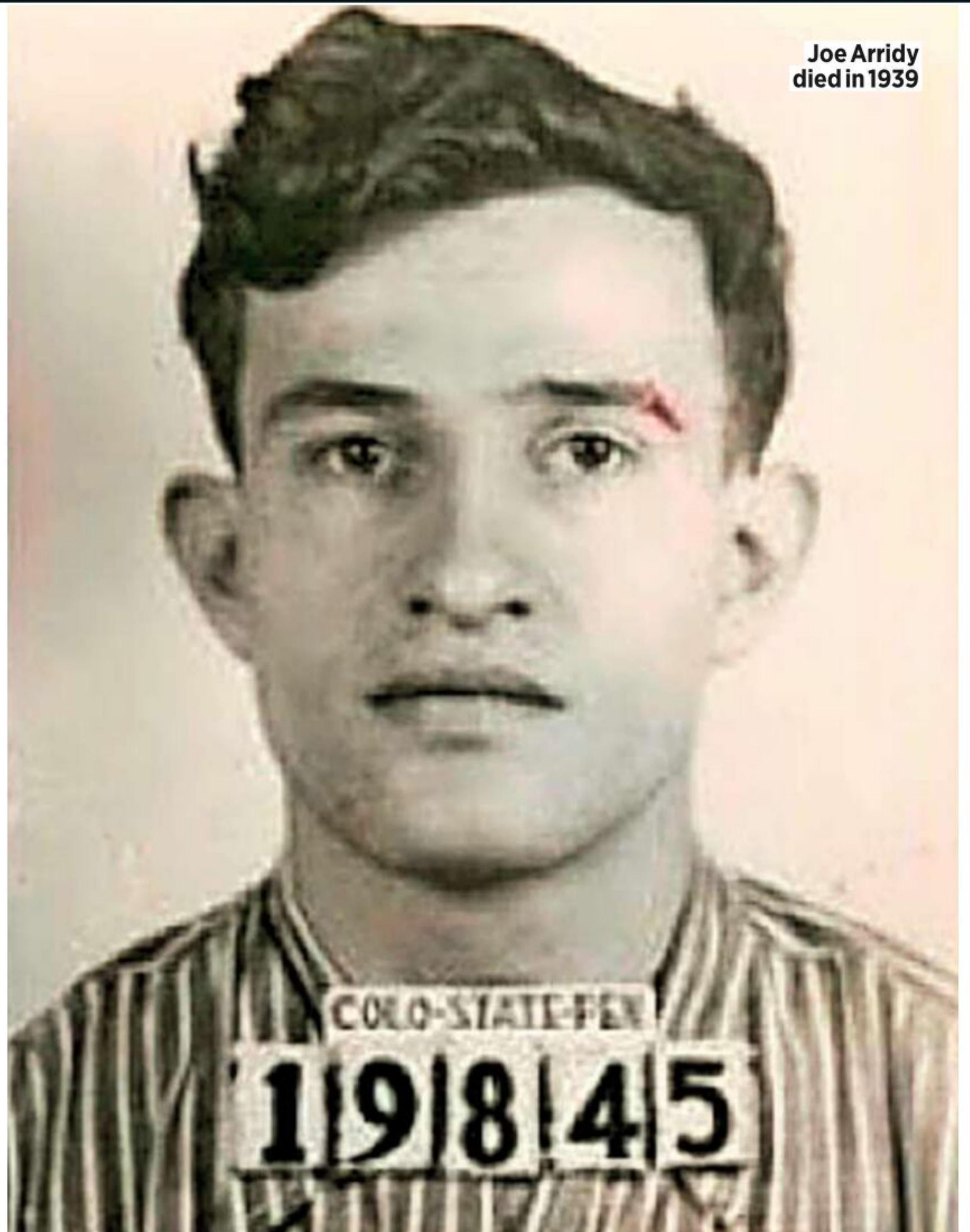
'TWO PER CENT OF THE INMATES ARE ACTUALLY INNOCENT'



Earl Washington Jr was exonerated

THE APPEALS PROCESS

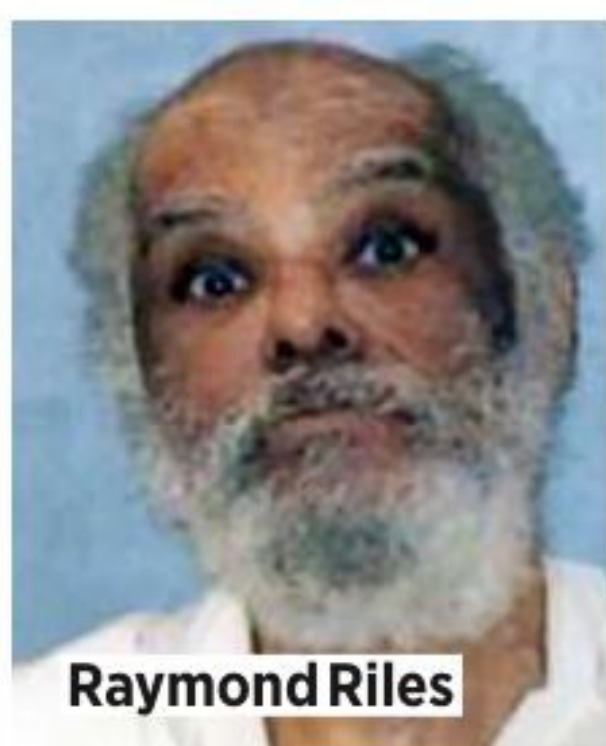
There is no limit to the number of times a convict can appeal against their death sentence. An automatic appeal to a state's highest court is granted to every inmate, but can only relate to issues connected to the trial, for example, procedural errors. The second stage is an appeal based on any issues that are "outside of the record", such as ineffective legal counsel, juror misconduct, new evidence or "Brady Violations" – incidences of the state withholding evidence. Defendants can also make representations to the Court of Appeals, but need permission from the District Court. The Supreme Court is the last legal resort for those on Death Row. Few cases ever reach this stage. If all avenues are exhausted, prisoners can apply for Executive Clemency in a bid to have their death sentences commuted to life without parole. The gift of clemency lies with the President in federal cases and the Governor in state cases. Between 1976 and 2020, 294 Death Row prisoners were recipients of Executive Clemency.



Joe Arridy died in 1939

WATCHING THE CLOCK

In 1984, Death Row prisoners spent on average six years and two months behind bars before execution. By 2019, this had risen to 22 years and three months. Most inmates serve their time in solitary, and the Department of Justice admits nearly a quarter of the Death Row population dies of natural causes. The longest-serving prisoner awaiting execution was Raymond Riles. He was convicted of the 1974 shooting of John Thomas Henry after an argument in a Houston car park and spent 45 years on Death Row. In July 2021, the 71 year old had his sentence commuted to life, due to his history of mental



Raymond Riles

illness. The oldest man on Death Row was Leroy Nash, 94. He was sentenced to death in 1983, aged 67, but died of natural causes in 2010.

POSTHUMOUS PARDON

It is impossible to say how many Americans have been the victims of a miscarriage of justice – and only a handful of executed prisoners have ever received official pardons. One such person was Joe Arridy, who was killed by lethal gas in the Colorado State Penitentiary in 1939, aged 23. Arridy had spent 18 months on Death Row after his conviction for murdering teenager Dorothy Drain in her home with a hatchet, but the prosecution case was riddled with flaws and falsehoods.

Only the local sheriff heard Arridy's alleged confession, in which he erroneously said he had killed Dorothy with a blunt, rather than bladed, weapon. And, according to his testimony, he had acted alone. Damningly, though,

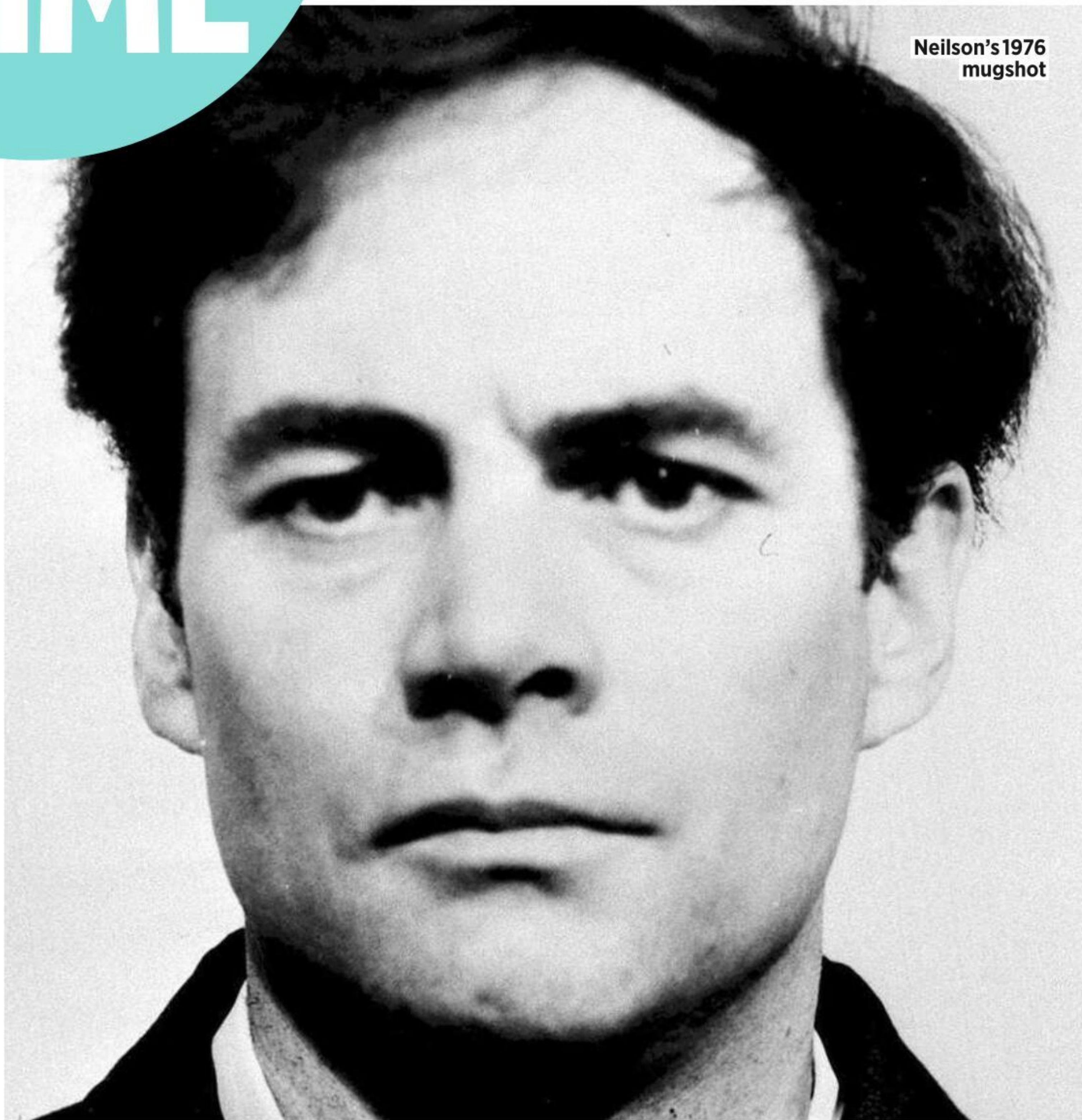
the police also arrested another man – Frank Aguilar – for the killing. A small axe with distinctive notches that matched Dorothy's wounds was later found at Aguilar's home. He was found guilty and executed two years before Arridy. To explain the sudden emergence of a second suspect, Arridy was forced to change his statement and say the two men had acted together, but Aguilar always denied any relationship with Arridy.

Over the years, pressure grew to clear Arridy, but it was not until 2011 that he was finally pardoned. "This cannot undo this tragic event in Colorado history," said Governor Bill Ritter. "It is in the interest of simple decency, however, to restore his good name." ■

HISTORIC CRIME

POLICE

Neilson's 1976
mugshot



FROM BURGLAR TO KILLER

HOW 'BLACK PANTHER' INTRUDER
DONALD NEILSON TURNED MURDERER

A portrait of Lesley Whittle being posted at a police station in 1975



The media twice played a significant role in the bloody story of serial killer Donald Neilson. It was a local TV reporter who first coined his infamous moniker of the “Black Panther”, after Neilson fatally shot a Lancashire sub-postmaster in 1974 during a robbery. And it was an article in the *Daily Express* that was the inadvertent catalyst for the kidnap and murder of 17-year-old heiress Lesley Whittle in 1975.

Married father-of-one Neilson made the transition from petty criminal to repeat murderer in less than a decade. It was a well-publicised journey, driven by financial gain – and one which ultimately led Britain’s then-most wanted man to a life in

prison. Now, as a My5 documentary hits our screens, we look at the story.

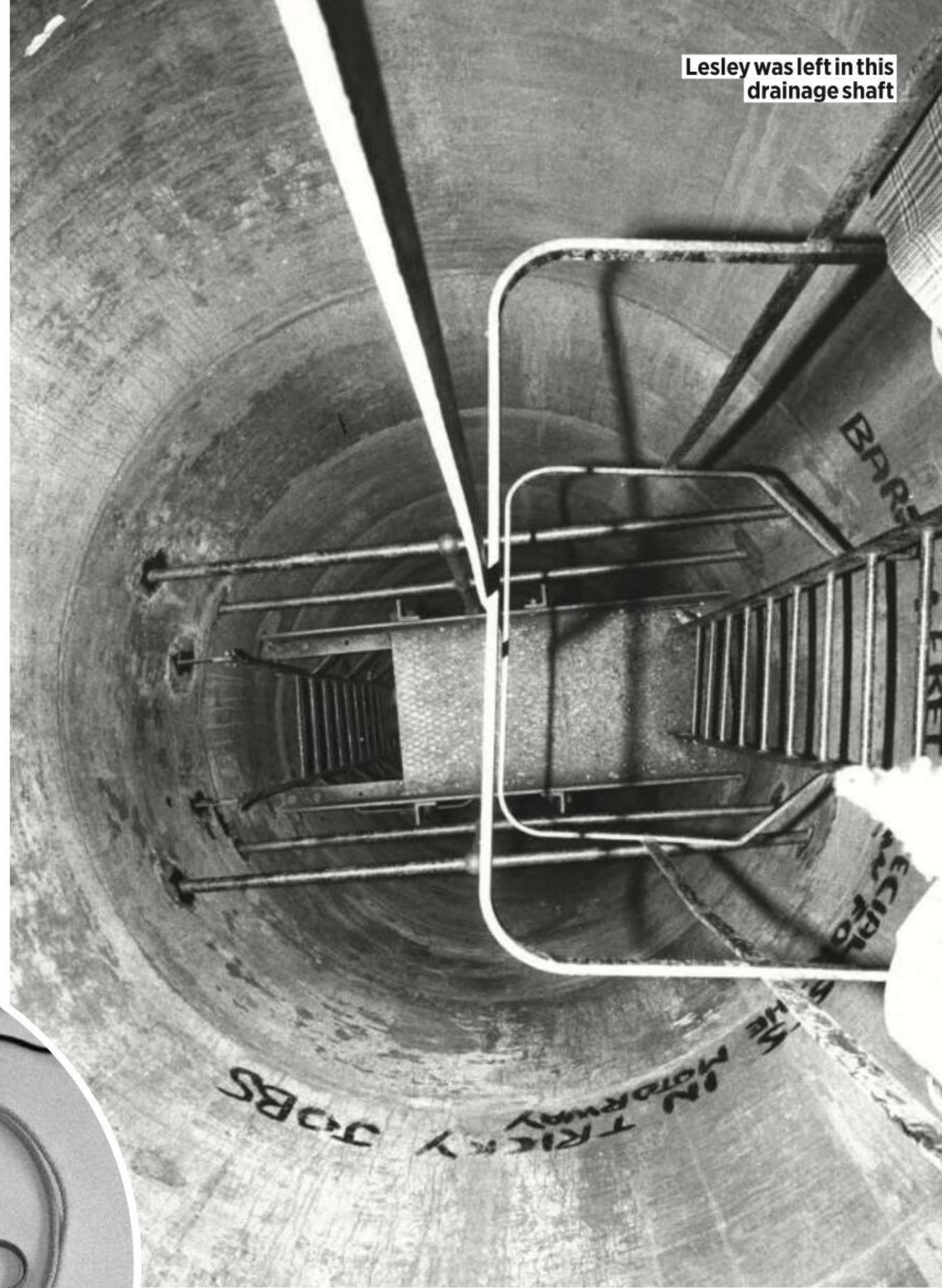
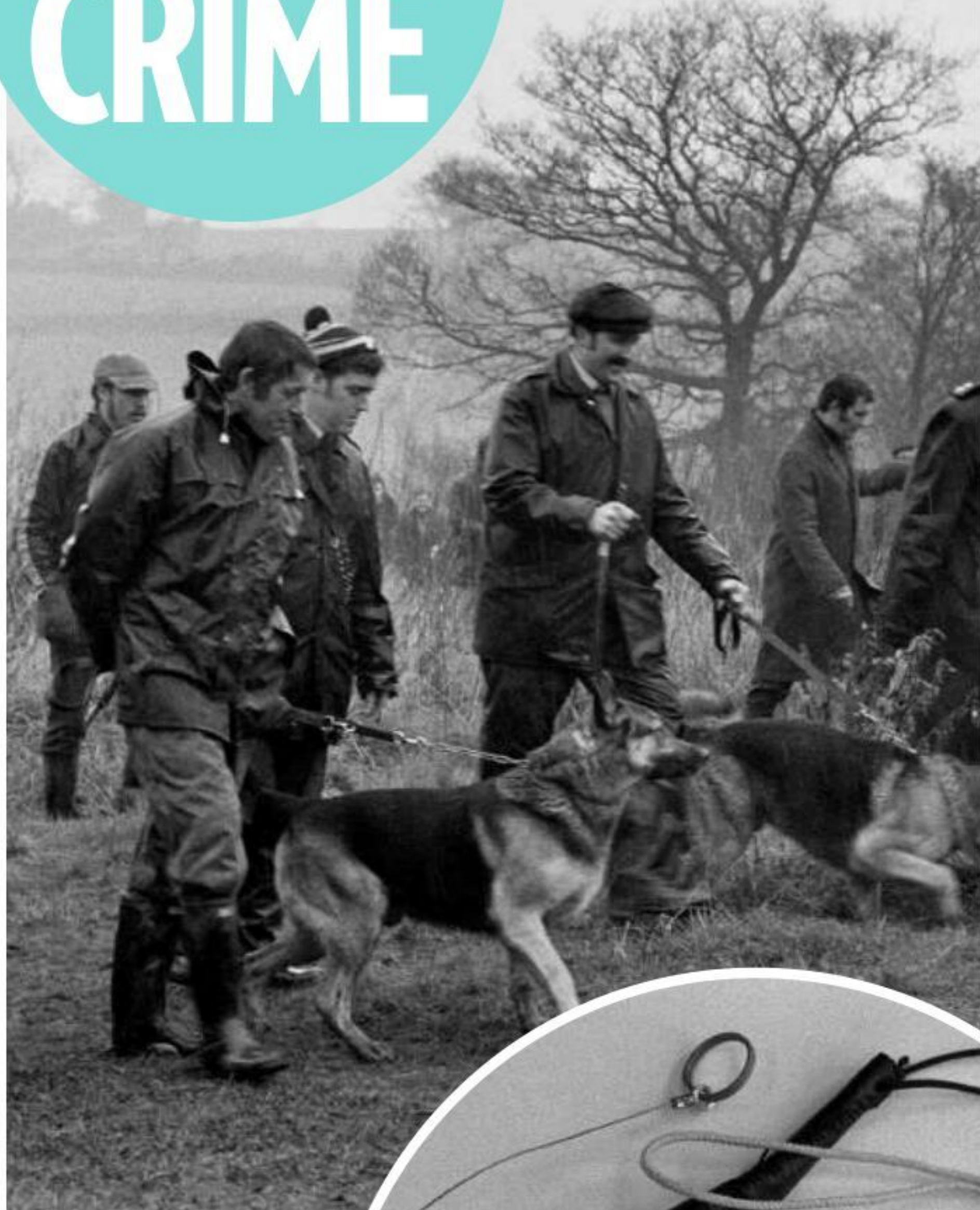
FINANCIAL TROUBLE

Born in 1936, Neilson lost his mother to cancer when he was ten years old. He was a troubled child, relentlessly bullied at school because his real surname was Nappey. A year after his mother’s death, when he was 11, Neilson was arrested after he broke into a shop. Due to his age, he was let off with a warning, but it ignited something in the little boy, who would one day make his living – and change the course of his life – by breaking and entering.

When he was just 18, he married Irene Tate, who was two years his senior, and they went on to have a daughter, Kathryn. In the late 1950s, Irene convinced her husband to leave his work as a national

HISTORIC CRIME

Police searching for Lesley in 1975



Lesley was left in this drainage shaft

serviceman with the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, but he struggled to adapt to civilian life and found it difficult to hold down a job.

He initially worked as a carpenter, then started up a taxi firm and a security guard business. By the mid-1960s, both had failed, and the family were living hand to mouth. So, Neilson returned to what he was good at – he became a burglar. He was prolific and is believed to have broken into over 400 houses. It's been reported Neilson changed his method every few weeks in order to throw the police off the scent that just one man was responsible. Neilson continued undetected until he broke into premises in Cheshire and found something that would alter his trajectory once again.

Neilson had escaped with a haul of guns and ammunition. Now in possession of the tools of a much more lucrative trade, he graduated to armed robbery – putting him on a path to his ultimate fate.

VIOLENT WAYS

Between 1971 and '74, Neilson focused on robbing small sub-post offices, predominantly in Yorkshire and Lancashire, and managed to pull off



More of Neilson's robbery kit

almost 20 raids. But unlike his burglary days, when he got in and out undetected, Neilson now didn't care about being seen.

In February 1972, dressed in black and with his face masked, he broke into a post office located below the home of Leslie Richardson and his wife. The couple woke up to find Neilson looming over their bed, clutching a sawn-off shotgun. Leslie's terrified wife managed to run and phone the police, as Leslie jumped from the bed and tackled the armed raider. A struggle ensued – during which the

people were badly beaten during the robberies – and it was only a matter of time before someone got seriously hurt, or worse. Sure enough, two years later, Neilson would commit his first murder, swiftly followed by two more.

In February 1974, postmaster Donald Skepper disturbed Neilson during a raid on his sub-post office in Harrogate and was shot to death. That September, Derek Astin suffered the same fate in a robbery near Accrington. Derek's wife described her husband's dark-clothed killer as "so quick, he was like a panther", prompting one journalist to end his report on the attack asking, "Where is this Black Panther?"

It isn't known if this second shooting was an accident, or if Neilson had developed a taste for murder, but that November, he gunned down Sidney Grayland while stealing £800 in cash and postal orders from his post office in the West Midlands. But even though he was getting away with serious cash, Neilson wanted more, and his crime spree was about to escalate yet again.

KIDNAP

In 1970, transport magnate George Whittle died, leaving his vast fortune to his daughter Lesley. In 1972,

'THE SHOCK OF THE FALL WAS WHAT KILLED HER'

gun went off – and Leslie was injured, but Neilson escaped. Although Neilson had been unmasked during the altercation, Leslie wasn't able to provide much of a description of his assailant, and Neilson was free to continue his reign of terror. However, he was becoming increasingly violent – at least two



A police reconstruction of what the 'Black Panther' raider looked like



Neilson's kit contained masks, guns and knives



The ransom was meant to be left here in Bathpool Park

Neilson had read about the generous inheritance George had left the teenager and resolved that he would work out a way to get his hands on some of her wealth. Three years later, Neilson had masterminded a scheme to kidnap 17-year-old Lesley. He snatched her from the bedroom of her Shropshire home under cover of darkness, leaving a note demanding a £50,000 ransom, as well as a warning not to involve the police. But Lesley's family did inform law enforcement, and a plan was hatched for Lesley's brother to deliver the ransom.

In the meantime, Neilson was keeping Lesley hostage. He placed her on a mattress on a ledge near the bottom of a drainage shaft 50 feet below ground, with a wire noose looped around her neck. It does appear that he intended Lesley to survive her ordeal, as he provided her with a sleeping bag and survival blanket to ward off the risk of hypothermia, as well as brandy, books and magazines. He also later claimed that he fed her regularly. However, the attempt to deliver the ransom was bungled. Both the local police and Scotland Yard were involved, and at some point, news of

Lesley's kidnap found its way to the media. Once the story broke, the police believed Neilson would be scared off and disappear, so when he called the designated phone box to speak to Lesley's brother Ronald, no one was there to take the call and Neilson was left empty-handed. He tried twice more to get the money, but both attempts failed, and Neilson disappeared.

When police finally found Lesley in the drainage ditch eight weeks after she had been snatched, she was hanging lifeless from her wire tether. It was later revealed she had died as a result of "vagal inhibition", rather than strangulation, with experts surmising that it was the shock of the fall that had killed her.

It was never concluded whether Neilson had killed Lesley as revenge for the bungled ransom drops or had returned to the drainage shaft to find her already dead. A postmortem found she had no food in her stomach when she died, so it's possible Neilson had abandoned her to her fate after he failed to get the ransom money. Others believe he did go back, but found she had rolled over the edge of the ledge and died. Tragically, it was also discovered that Lesley would have survived the fall if the wire hadn't snagged on something on the way down, as it was longer than the drop to the bottom of the shaft.

But Lesley did die, and the police were hunting her killer, who they had just discovered was already on their Most Wanted list. On the same night of the last ransom drop attempt, a freight train terminal was robbed and a guard shot. Evidence left at the scene was matched to the notorious Black Panther raids, and then police got another shock. When they found the robber's getaway car, inside were the ransom demands

recorded by Lesley. Their kidnapper was the Black Panther and he was on the run.

CAUGHT AT LAST

Neilson eluded capture for nine months, until he was spotted acting suspiciously by two police officers near a post office in Nottinghamshire in December 1975. When they began to question him, Neilson produced a double-barrelled shotgun from a bag. After jumping into their panda car, he forced them to drive off at gunpoint. The officer behind the wheel rescued the situation by driving so erratically, Neilson lost focus. When the car came to a juddering halt outside a fish and chip shop, customers Roy Morris and Keith Wood jumped in to help disarm Neilson. Eventually, after the robber was violently beaten by members of the crowd, the officers managed to handcuff him to railings and call for support.

There was no dispute at his 1976 trial at Oxford Crown Court that he was responsible for the three post-office murders, but it was debated whether he was culpable for the murder or manslaughter of Lesley. His defence argued she had fallen accidentally, while the prosecution was adamant he pushed her to her grisly death. The jury agreed with the prosecution, and convicted Neilson on all four murder charges. He was sentenced to life without parole, and died behind bars in 2011, aged 75.

But there was a fifth Neilson victim, security guard Gerald Smith. At work at a railway freight depot on the night of the unfulfilled ransom drop, he was in the wrong place at the wrong time and was shot six times. He died from his injuries a year later, but it wasn't judged in the public interest to prosecute, although the charge was placed on file. ■

WORDS: LISA HOWELLS; DYLAN SPRAGG; PHOTOS: SHUTTERSTOCK; PA

Donal MacIntyre

YOUR NEW TRUE-CRIME TRIO

DON'T MISS CBS REALITY'S THREE NEW SERIES

With autumn well and truly here, you'll want to slip under a blanket and tune into some top true-crime TV. So, look no further than CBS Reality, premiering three essential series.

Donal MacIntyre's Released To Kill

The renowned investigative journalist is joined by a panel of experts for the ultimate exploration into a shocking crime statistic: one in five murders in the UK are committed by an ex-prisoner. Each episode of the series focuses on a different case, weaving original archive footage and dramatic reconstructions to tell the full story. In episode one, the team examine the crimes of serial killer Theodore Johnson. Along with interviews from friends and family, in every episode, the team attempt to answer one question: could the killer have been stopped? *Wednesdays, 10pm, from 3 November.*

Medical Detectives

Catch a weekly double dose of thrilling

investigations as the brand-new, sixteenth season of the legendary series hits screens. Produced as *Forensic Files* in the US, *Medical Detectives* once again brings together a host of crime investigators, including coroners, medical examiners and legal experts, working to piece together an unsolved crime. During this series, the mysterious murder of teaching assistant Lisa Ziegart sends shockwaves through a small community – but will a dramatic scientific breakthrough allow the killer to be caught? And when single mum Lori Leonard's body is discovered inside a toolbox, forensic detectives need to connect scattered evidence to unmask her murderer. *Thursdays and Fridays at 10pm and 10.30pm, from 4 November.*

Murder: First On Scene

Get an eyewitness view of how a murder investigation unfolds in yet another brand-new show. From the moment someone calls the emergency services right up to the day of conviction, viewers will witness every step of the vital collaboration between law enforcement professionals as they solve



these cases. Each gripping episode follows one murder, and offers a never-before-seen insight into the impact of everyone involved with the case. With the clock ticking, every second counts in the pursuit of justice. You won't want to miss it. *Tuesdays, 10pm, from 16 November.*

Tune in on Sky 146, Freeview 66, Virgin 148 and Freesat 135

CBS reality

CRIMEscreen



YOUR 17-PAGE GUIDE TO THE MONTH'S UNMISSABLE ENTERTAINMENT



PLUS!
ALL THE
MUST-SEE
NEW TV

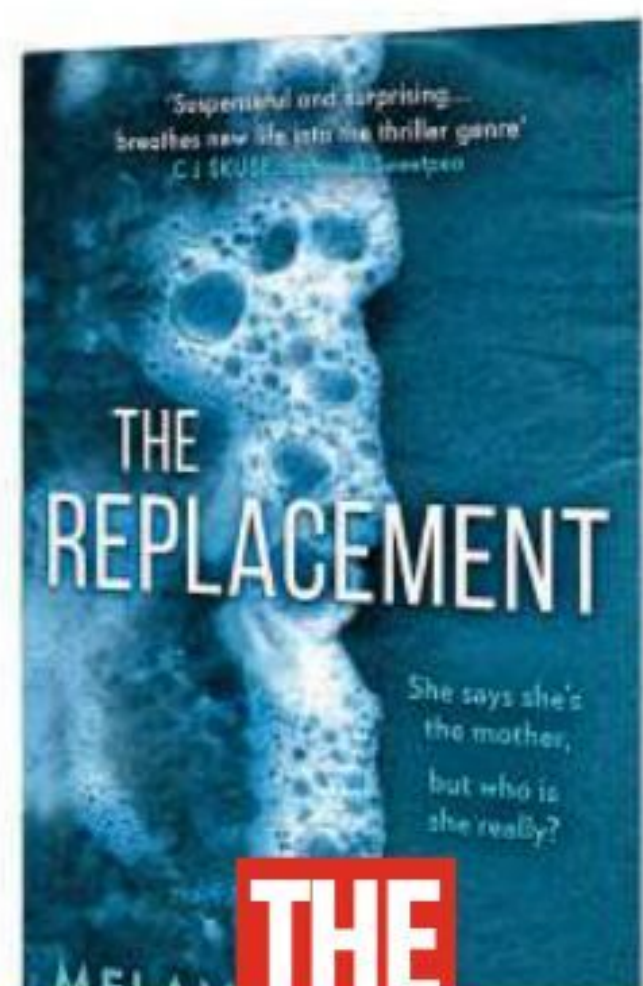
TIGER KING 2

THE CLAWS ARE OUT AS JOE EXOTIC AND CO RETURN **PAGE 60**



CHASING GHISLAINE

EXPLOSIVE NEW DOCU **PAGE 71**



THE REPLACEMENT

ALL THE BEST BOOKS **PAGE 64**



THE TOWER

WE CHAT TO THE CAST **PAGE 58**



SHOWTRIAL

GRIPPING NEW LEGAL DRAMA **PAGE 73**

FIRST
LOOK
TV

BASED ON TRUE EVENTS

DOPESICK

DISNEY+, FROM 12 NOVEMBER

Rosario
Dawson stars

Truth, as we know, is often stranger than fiction – and makes a great basis for an electrifying drama. On the heels of *Dr Death* comes another thrilling fictional medical exposé, this time of the origins of the US opioid crisis.

The figures make for grim reading. It's been estimated that, in 2017, 72,000 Americans died from drug overdoses, most of which involved not street drugs like meth, but prescription medications. In 2018, journalist Beth Macy released the book *Dopesick*, which exposed the corruption at the heart of the burgeoning crisis. Macy revealed how this national addiction started in the Midwestern Rust Belt and rural Maine, before spreading across the US. She was unequivocal in blaming one source in particular: Purdue Pharma, the company responsible for the drug OxyContin, a slow-release form of oxycodone. She explained how the company not only encouraged doctors to start prescribing the powerful

painkiller for all manner of ailments, from back pain to cancer, they also targeted doctors who prescribed rival drugs such as Vicodin, persuading them to buy into OxyC instead.

To do that, they marketed the drug as non-addictive, which wasn't true. Because oxycodone has the same molecular structure as heroin, users soon discovered that if they stopped taking the drug, they would feel "dopesick" – experiencing anxiety, nausea and diarrhoea. To stave off these feelings, they needed more Oxy, but at some point, legitimate doctors would stop prescribing it, leaving the user to either buy it off the black market, or switch to actual heroin.

It was a devastating crisis, but in 2007, young US attorney John L Brownlee stepped into the frame. He sued Purdue, and the ensuing David and Goliath battle ended with the pharma company paying millions in fines

and changing their formulation.

Now, the book forms the basis of this new eight-part series, starring Michael Keaton, Peter Sarsgaard, Will Poulter and Rosario Dawson. Examining how that one company triggered the worst drug epidemic in American history, it takes us from the boardrooms of big pharma to a distressed Virginia mining community to the hallways of the DEA. And, defying all the odds, heroes emerge to take down the corporate forces behind the terrifying crisis. It's a thrilling take on a national shame. ★★★★★ **Lisa Howells**

Will Poulter
as Billy Cutler



Michael Keaton
also exec produces

NEW DOCUSERIES



Shrien
Dewani

REAL-LIFE CRIME

Anni: The Honeymoon Murder

DISCOVERY+, STREAMING NOW

A honeymoon in Cape Town should be the trip of a lifetime, but for Anni Dewani, it ended her life. In November 2010, newlyweds Shrien Dewani – a British millionaire – and Anni were held at gunpoint during a taxi ride, which resulted in Anni's death. The case became one of the world's most talked-about, but for years, the truth about what happened remained unclear. This new docuseries follows the investigation, showcasing CCTV and archive footage, as well as interviews with the people involved, to look back at the tragedy. ★★★★★ Amber Connolly



Real events
are recounted

HARROWING DOCU

The Priest & The Paedophile Hunter

NOW, STREAMING NOW

Crystal Hunnisett's story is truly shocking, involving two gruesome murders. This series explores the case, which involves love, vengeance, extreme violence, acquittal and conviction. It's a highly complex story that's haunted British detectives, lawyers, and the victims' families for over 20 years. The series hears from those closest to the case, who have never spoken publicly until now, including Crystal herself. Interesting and compelling, this is a great watch. ★★★★★ Caitlin Butler



CAST INTERVIEW

THE TOWER

WE CHAT TO THE STARS OF THE NEW ITV POLICE DRAMA

If you're a fan of Kate London's Metropolitan novels, you'll be delighted to see this adaptation of *Post Mortem*. Starring Gemma Whelan as DS Sarah Collins, the three-parter also stars Jimmy Akingbola, Emmett J. Scanlan and Tahirah Sharif, and it's a twisty tale. When DS Collins arrives at Portland Tower, she finds the bodies of a 52-year-old policeman and a teenage Muslim girl at the bottom. And, on the roof of the tower, young police officer Lizzie Adama is there with a five-year-old boy. Why were they

all up on the roof – and why did two of them fall? We caught up with the cast to find out more...

Gemma, how does DS Collins react when she gets called to the incident at the Tower?

Sarah's an everyday detective and nothing like this has ever happened on her watch before. This is a shock to her. We find her on a normal day, then things change quite dramatically.

Did you know anything about being a detective?

Not a lot! I spoke to Kate London

[she is a former Met Police officer] about it, and there was a detective on set we could talk to. We also had a lot of extras who were ex-police and ex-paramedics, so it was great to nibble their minds. For instance, I didn't know what happens when you take a forensic suit off, so we were doing something wrong and one of the coppers said, "We wouldn't have done that." I learned a lot about the correct way to do things.

What are the questions at the heart of this story?

It's about language and attitudes,

and the consequences of those. What I love about this script is that there are very small pieces of unacceptable behaviour that would, several years ago, maybe have been brushed off. We can't escape the fact that this is not acceptable anymore, people are passionate about that. And we see everyone's side here – the refugee has a point of view, the detective has a point of view, the mum next door has a point of view.

Tahirah, you play young PC Lizzie Adama. What was your reaction when you



Jimmy Akingbola, Gemma Whelan, Tahirah Sharif and Emmett J. Scanlan

first read the script for this?

Just that it was such good writing. Most of the time, when I read crime or police scripts, I get a bit confused because there are so many different characters. Everyone is a DC or a DS or a PC, and I get lost trying to connect the dots. Whereas in this script, each character's personality was so clear. I knew exactly who everybody was. I could picture everyone.

How was it going head-to-head with Gemma for your big interview scene?



Running away from it all?



A terrible tragedy occurs



PC Adama has some explaining to do

I was terrified! It was just so daunting – 12 pages of dialogue of just you and someone else. And they are hard scenes. I was being interrogated and broken. It was extremely draining. I was knackered by the end of the day, but I felt such relief and proud of us for getting through it and doing a really good job. It was fantastic because it's such a journey within those pages. It's fantastic writing, which makes your job so much easier.

Jimmy, you play DC Steve Bradshaw. Was he a character that you got as soon as you read him?

No, but he slowly grew on me. I read the first episode and was trying to understand who he was, but I flew through the first episode so quickly. What stuck out to me was how nuanced it was, how there was a lot going on and how authentic it was. I really believed the characters.

What is he like?

Steve is very sharp, he is very smart, and he sees everything. He has got a great relationship with Sarah. What she has had to overcome to get where she is and

what he's had to overcome – that's what brings those two together. I think him and Sarah were not necessarily the cool kids at school. They were a little bit slightly off-centre. I think they can see a bit of themselves in each other. The difference with Steve is that he has got a button to go, "I need to switch off and live a bit". For Sarah, when the work is there in front of her, she has to devour it completely.

Emmett, you're DI Kieran Shaw. He's not the most likeable character, is he?

Well, there are aspects of people that you like and dislike, it's part of being human. He's indifferent, in that he does not allow damage to affect him. He has to allow himself to survive, he has to compartmentalise things. It's almost not his job to be sad, to be angry, to be outraged, to even have an opinion on

anything. For him to have an opinion is almost self-indulgent. His only job is to catch the bad guy by any means.

What were your favourite scenes to play?

There's a place in Knutsford called Tatton Park, where you can see wild animals walking around –

deer, all sorts of stuff. There is this crazy scene that

me and Tahirah had there and the weather that day was insane. We got rain, we got gale-force winds, we got sun – all in any one take. It was pure chaos, but in a way, all that weather took us out

of our thinking brains into whatever moments we were in.

You add on top of that we also had Buddy the dog in that scene. To be fair, the dog was a star. He smashed all his takes. I can't say the same for me. ■

The Tower is on ITV this November

'WE SEE EVERYONE'S POINT OF VIEW - MUM, COP, REFUGEE'

Joe is back on screen



NEXT INSTALMENT

TIGER KING 2

NETFLIX, FROM 17 NOVEMBER

If you're not aware of the story of outlandish zoo owner Joseph Allen Maldonado-Passage – aka Joe Exotic – and his journey from charismatic eccentric to being imprisoned for the attempted murder of his nemesis Carole Baskin, then you've probably picked this magazine up by mistake. The original Netflix series was a lockdown phenomenon, which has been viewed by 64 million people and counting, and captivated people's imaginations so much, a TV drama series was immediately commissioned. It's currently being filmed in Australia and stars *SNL*'s Kate MacKinnon and John Cameron Mitchell as the warring pair. Perhaps aware of rivals capitalising on one of their biggest hits, Netflix have got in quickly with this second series, exploring whether

Joe has more scandals than just attempted homicide under his diamanté trucker hat. Rocking an even more off-kilter mullet, Joe holds court from his prison cell. It's clear he's loving his celebrity/notoriety as much as ever, and important to remember to take whatever he says with a large pinch of salt. We'll hopefully also get an update on Joe's sleazy former business partner Jeff Lowe and the polyamorous big-cat guru/huckster Mahamayavi Bhagavan "Doc" Antle. ★★★★★ **Matthew Hurrell**



Donal is on the case



DEEP DIVE

Donal MacIntyre's Released To Kill

CBS REALITY, STREAMING NOW

The investigative journalist looks at murders that were committed days after a perpetrator was released from prison. Each week, Donal will explore a new case, consulting with criminal psychologists, probation officers and prison governors; examining the perpetrators' backgrounds and possible motives; and asking whether prison and their experience of the British criminal justice system affected their decision to commit their terrible crimes. Cases covered include Joanna Dennehy,

a young woman whose life spiralled out of control, leading her to kill three men and seriously injure two – becoming one of Britain's most notorious female serial killers in the process. Another episode looks at the case of Matthew Williams, who stabbed 22-year-old Cerys Yemm in a hostel in Wales just two weeks after being released from prison. According to one of his ex-girlfriends, she had warned people that he was dangerous and would probably kill. ★★★★★ **James Walford**

Is all fair in war?



MORAL QUESTIONS

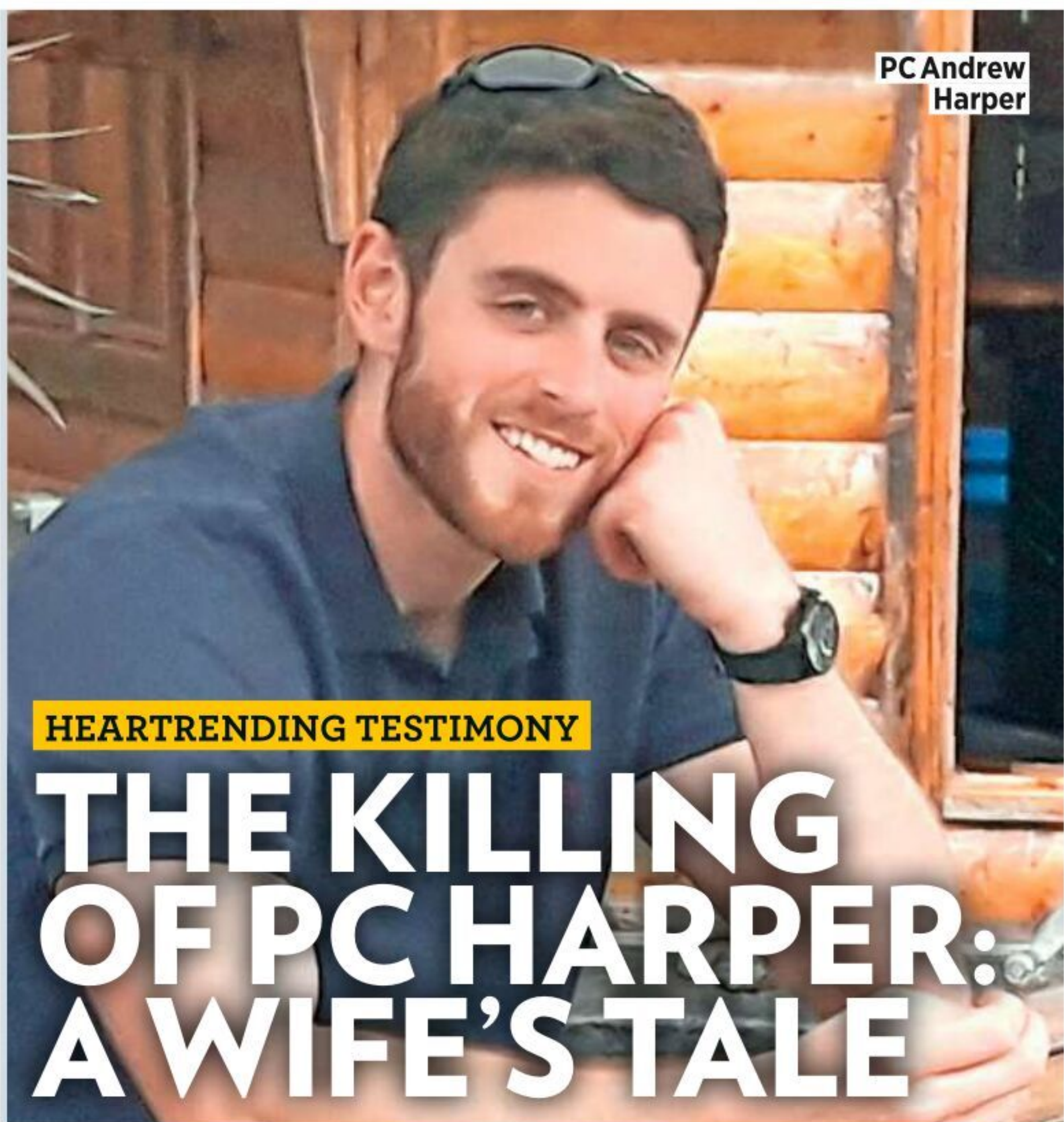
The Line: The War Within

APPLE+ TV, STREAMING FROM 5 NOV

In war, when people will kill to defend their side, is it always possible to tell the difference between right and wrong? Apple's new four-part docuseries is set to examine these ambiguities as embodied by a 2018 case, in which a US Navy SEAL platoon accused its chief, Eddie Gallagher, of war crimes after he posed with a photo of a dead body in Iraq. A court acquitted Gallagher on all

but one charge, and he received a pardon from then-President Trump on that in 2019, but there are many who believe he got off too lightly. The series includes never-before-seen footage and takes a deep dive into the US' counterterrorism efforts in the Middle East, an especially hot topic in the wake of President Biden's decision to pull out of Afghanistan. ★★★★★ Daisy Hall

PC Andrew Harper



HEARTRENDING TESTIMONY

THE KILLING OF PC HARPER: A WIFE'S TALE

ITV, EARLY NOVEMBER

On 15 August 2019, just one month after marrying his partner of 13 years, 28-year-old police constable Andrew Harper was killed near Sulhamstead, Berkshire, while on duty. He and his partner had responded to the theft of a quad bike in the area and spotted the suspects fleeing the scene in their car. Andrew chased after the vehicle on foot and, in doing so, was caught in a strap that had been used to tow the quad bike and dragged approximately one mile behind the moving car. Here, Andrew's widow Lissie speaks to veteran

broadcaster Sir Trevor McDonald about the profound effect that her husband's horrific and much-publicised killing has had on her life. Lissie shares her memories of the relationship she had with Andrew, and how her grief evolved into a refusal to be a victim. Instead, it drove her current campaign for the introduction of "Harper's Law", whereby a person found guilty of killing a police officer, firefighter, nurse, doctor, paramedic or prison officer would be jailed for life as a direct result of their crime.

★★★★★ Daisy Hall

Andrew's widow Lissie



MICHAEL CONNELLY:

'BOSCH WILL STAND WHEN I'M GONE'

THE SMASH-HIT AUTHOR TELLS US ABOUT HIS GREAT DETECTIVE AND WHY HE LOVES CRIME



TV detectives Harry Bosch and Jerry Edgar

In the canon of troubled fictional cops, one man stands head and shoulders above the rest: Hieronymus "Harry" Bosch. The hardboiled LAPD detective first appeared in *The Black Echo* in 1992, and he's still going strong in new novel *The Dark Hours*. His creator is Michael Connelly, who's written 36 novels and sold 80 million books worldwide, making him one of the most successful writers of all time. We caught up with him to talk all things crime – and find out what's next for his leading man...

What can you tell us about your new novel?

It's a Renée Ballard and Harry Bosch novel, in which they investigate a pair of homicides – one recent and one old. I also hope it's a look at how the pandemic and the George Floyd case have changed policing in the US.

The TV show *Bosch* was a big hit. How involved were you in the making of it?

I was very involved. From day one, the producers and studios wanted my voice in the mix. I have been in the writing room

and on the set and on location scouts. I've been fully involved, but the writing room – where we map out the seasons and the episodes – is where I like to be most, and where I think I am most valuable to the production.

Are you allowed to tell us anything about the eagerly-anticipated new spin-off?

I can tell you that we are staying aligned with the books. In the last eight years or so, I have been writing about Harry Bosch as an outsider – that's Bosch without a badge – and that's where we are in the spin-off. Harry is out of the police department and acting as a private eye. *The Wrong Side Of Goodbye* is the book we are using

as the backbone of the first season. We are also bringing along his daughter Madeline, who's now a police officer, and the lawyer Honey "Money" Chandler. It's really exciting.

What attracts you most about writing crime?

High stakes and moral choices – I read crime fiction for these reasons. It's real-world problems and sometimes real-world solutions. What could be better?

You have written some of crime fiction's most iconic characters – do you have a favourite among them?

I favour them all for different reasons but, at the end of the day, Harry Bosch is my favourite. He

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW



Michael on set with Titus Welliver and Jamie Hector



Titus Welliver plays Harry



Michael also wrote *The Lincoln Lawyer*, starring Matthew McConaughey

was there at the beginning and now, 30 years later, I am still writing about him and revealing new angles on him. He'll be the one who stands for me when I am finished, I think.

Where do you get your inspiration from?
Basically, wherever I can get it, and it does come from many different directions. Primarily, though, I spend time with the kind of people I write about – detectives and lawyers. I listen to their stories and often find inspiration.

Has anyone particularly influenced your writing?
Many. You learn to write by reading, so there are many

influences. But in the early years, when I knew I wanted to write but hadn't started, the big three for me were Raymond Chandler, Ross Macdonald and Joseph Wambaugh. Their stuff was huge for me.

Does writing get easier or harder when you have so many books under your belt?
Your confidence in terms of "I can do this" certainly grows and that makes aspects of it easier, but you still have to stare down the blank screen and dig out a

'I READ CRIME FICTION FOR HIGH STAKES AND MORAL CHOICES'

story that can carry momentum and character for 400 pages. That never seems to get easier.

You've been writing for years – have the things you write about had to evolve to keep up with the times?

Absolutely, yes. I have chosen to age my characters and evolve them while the world and society evolve. That allows me to reflect on the real world and that aspect of it keeps me plugged in and interested, so I am constantly noticing the change and seek ways to get it into the stories. *The Dark Hours* is an example of that. Policing has hugely changed in the last 18 months, and I think – or at least hope – that the book captures at least some of that. It might be detective genre fiction, but I fervently believe

I need to capture societal change in my stories.

Any advice for budding authors?
Read first. Read to be inspired. Reading keeps fuel in the creative gas tank. Don't read to mimic, read to be inspired to go your own way. Oh, and never end a writing day at the end of a chapter. It's too hard to get going the next day.

Finally, what do you love most about your job?
There are probably too many things to count, but a big one is that what you do for a living comes out of your head. You create it. You don't buy something and change it or cook it or fix it or resell it. It comes from inside. I love that and sometimes I hate it, when it is stalling a bit or not happening. But when it does, when it flows, it is a pretty amazing feeling. And the fact that you can do it at home and you don't have to get dressed up or put on a tie is pretty nice, too. ■

Read our review on page 64

WORDS: LISA HOWELLS. PHOTOS: AMAZON STUDIOS/FABRIK ENTERTAINMENT; SHUTTERSTOCK

CRIMEbooks

HOT
NEW
PICKS

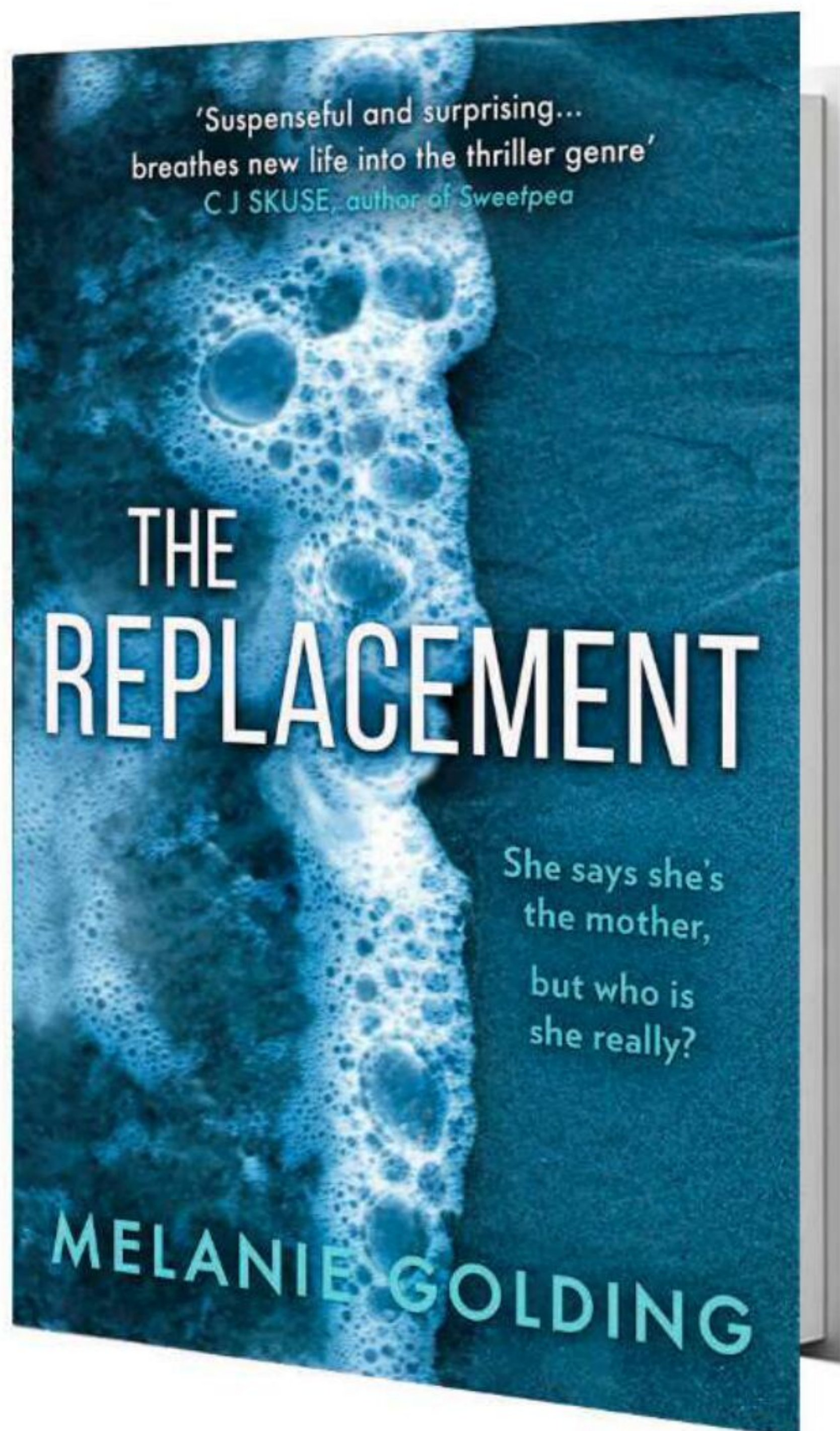
STARTLING THRILLER

The Replacement

MELANIE GOLDING (HQ, £14.99)

This has got to be the most original book you'll read this year. The action starts with the discovery of a barely alive man in a bath, the apparent victim of a brutal attack, while at the same time, a small child is found wandering the seafront. Her mother arrives to claim her just as the police show up, but she manages to persuade them nothing untoward is happening. Rewind several months and we witness a growing friendship between handsome millionaire Gregor and music teacher Ruby. Falling under his spell, she agrees to help him take care of both his little girl and his agoraphobic ex – until events take a very dark turn and Ruby realises she really doesn't know him at all. This is equal parts detective novel, psychological thriller and family drama. Full of twists, turns and atmosphere, make sure you don't accidentally stay up all night devouring it.

★★★★★ **Caroline Robb**

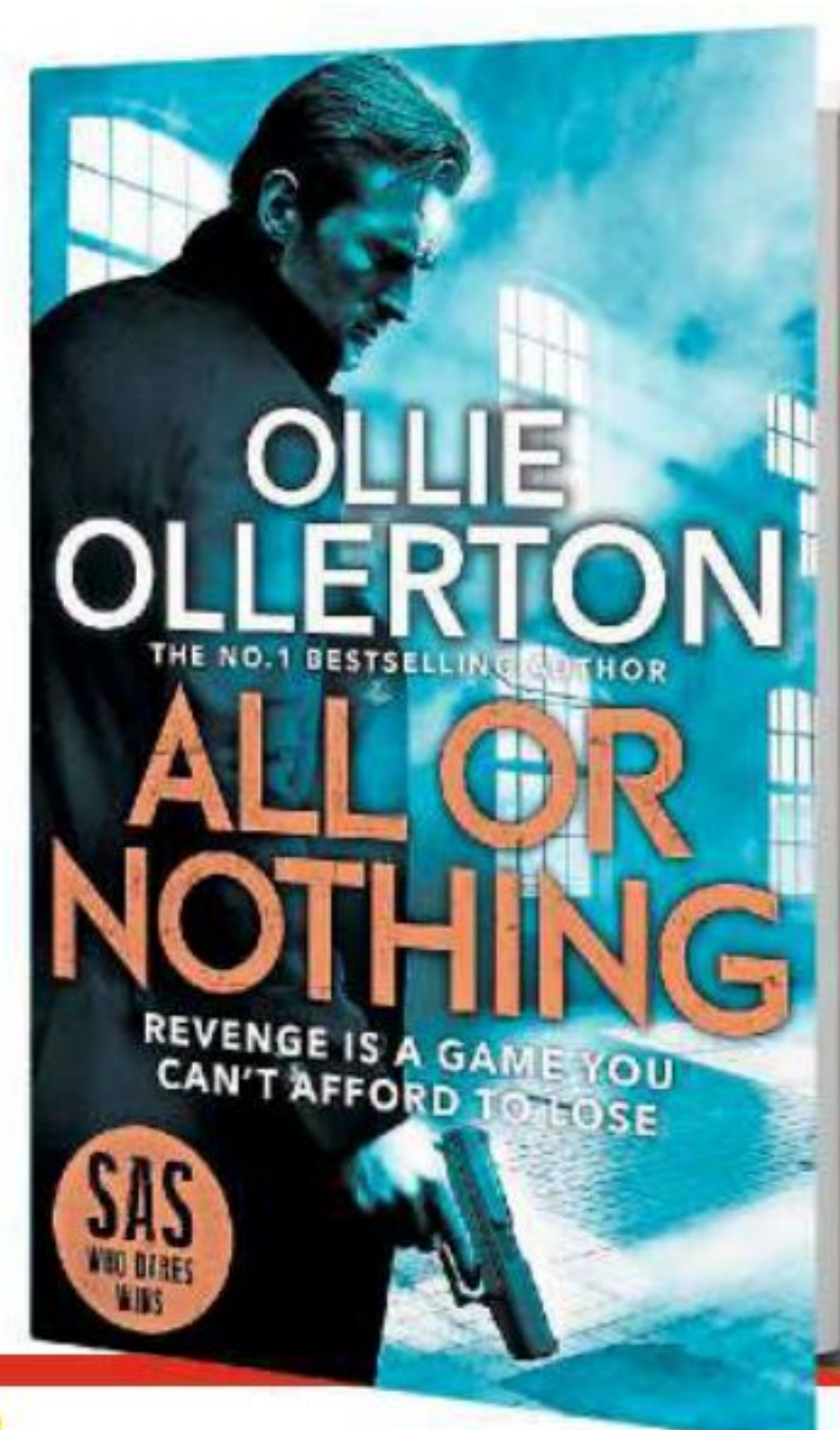


PULSE POUNDER

All Or Nothing

OLLIE OLLERTON (BLINK PUBLISHING, £16.99)

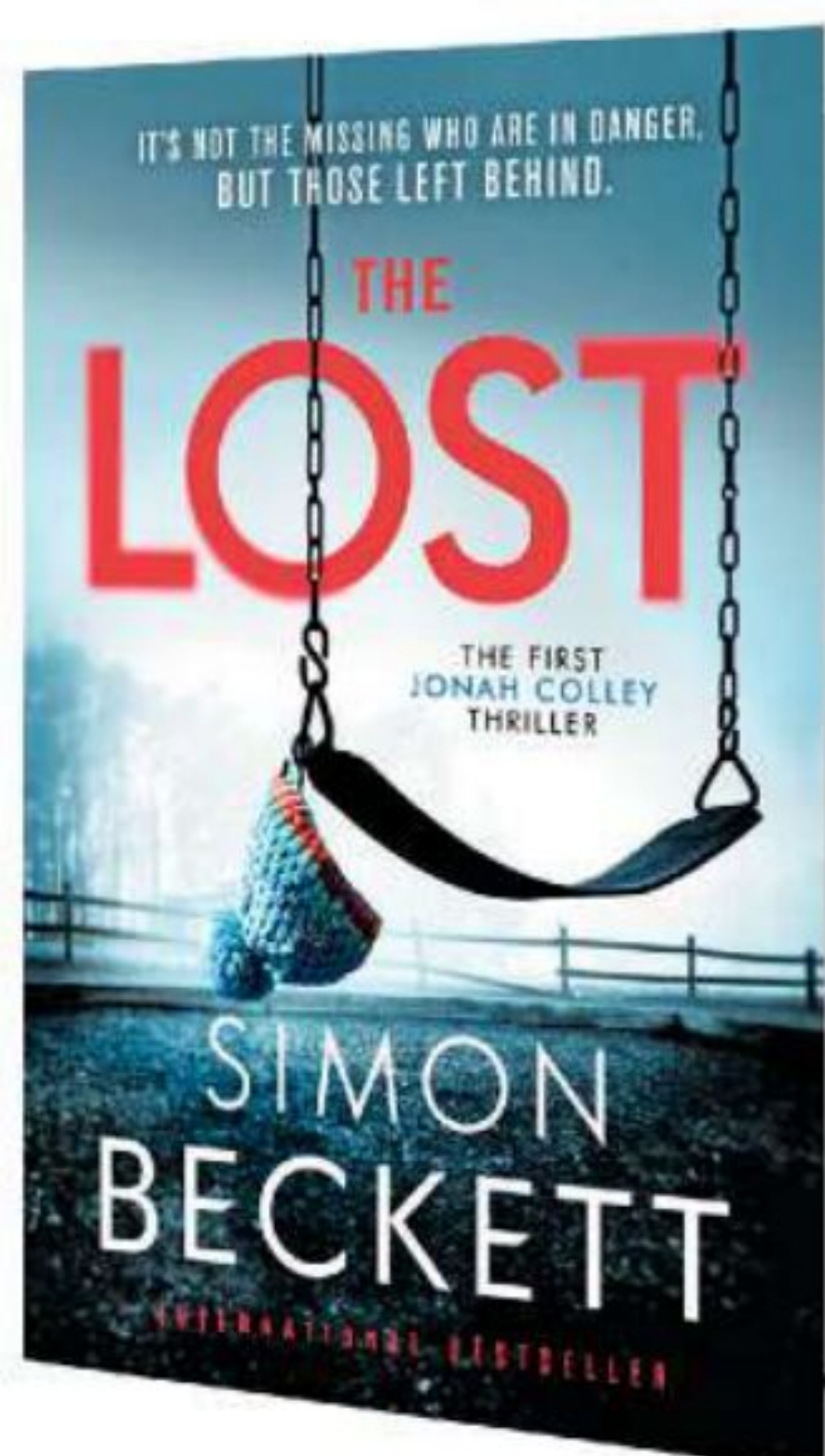
Ex special-forces soldier Alex Abbott returns in a blistering new adventure. He's on the hunt for the person who killed his brother – all he has to do is stay sober long enough to follow up his latest lead. The thread he pulls sends him to the North of England, where he infiltrates a local criminal gang. But they are into all sorts of nasty business, and Alex finds himself on the trail of traffickers in Eastern Europe. ★★★★★ **Andrea Martin**



GRITTY NOIR

The Lost

SIMON BECKETT (TRAPEZE, £14.99)

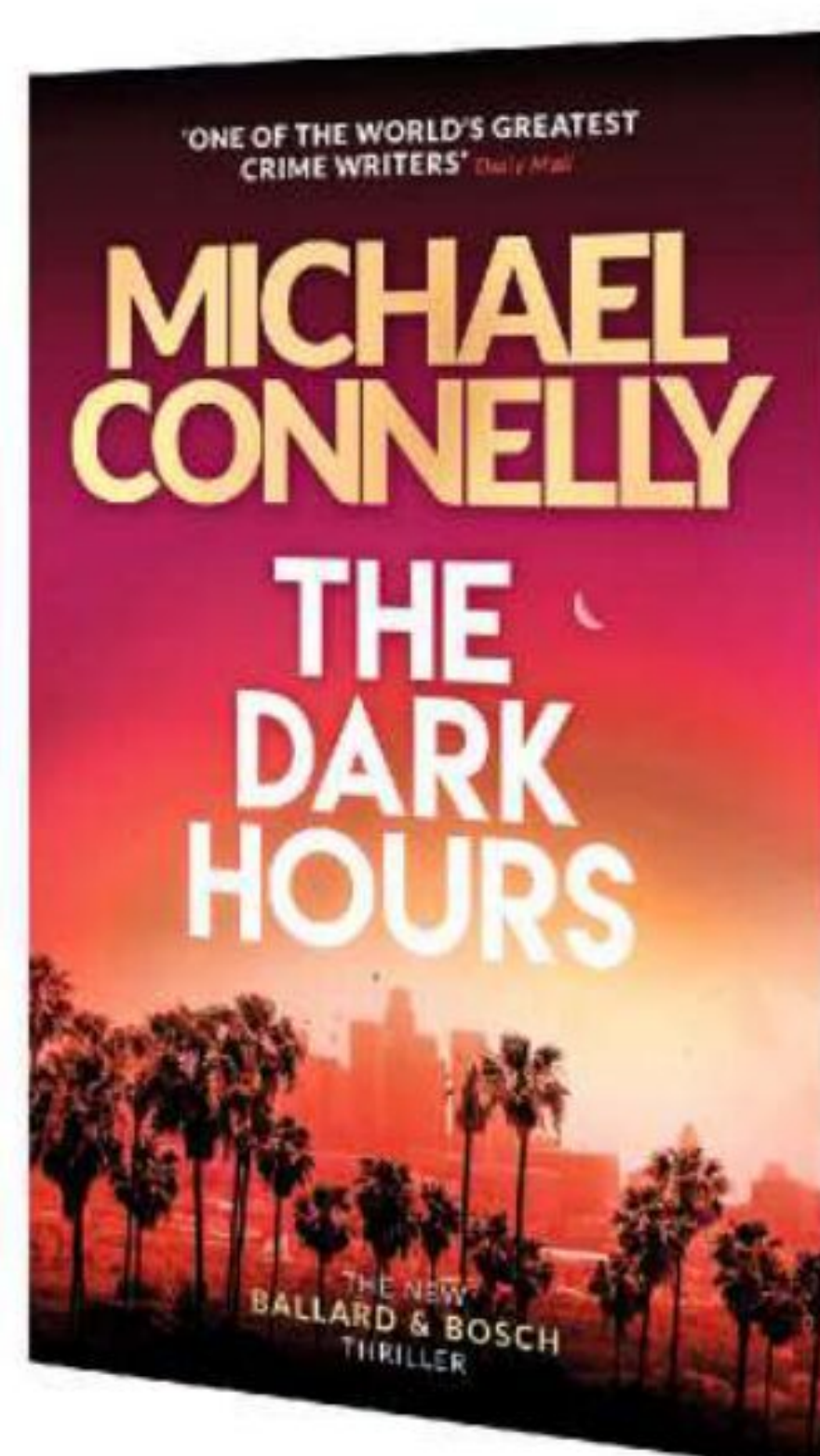


When police firearms officer Jonah Colley goes to Slaughter Quay in the dead of night to help someone he hasn't heard from in a decade, things go very wrong, very fast. After a brutal attack, he just about escapes with his life, but three others were not so lucky. As he finds himself under suspicion from his own colleagues, he needs to work out what he's been dropped into the middle of – and how it's connected to the disappearance of his own son ten years ago. But turning over old stones puts him back in harm's way. A brutal, kinetic thrill ride. ★★★★★ **Lisa Howells**

DETECTIVE CLASSIC

The Dark Hours

MICHAEL CONNELLY (ORION, £20)

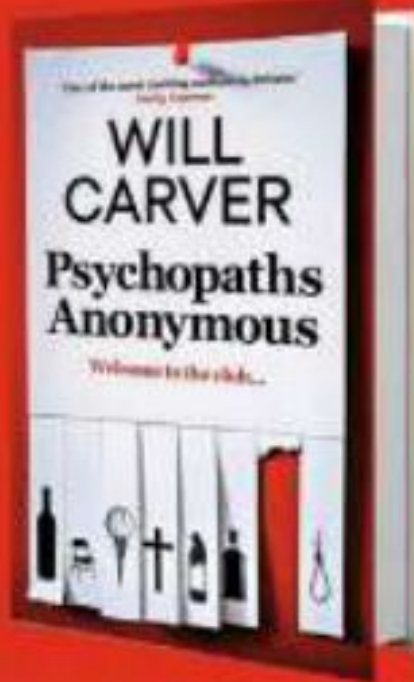


Harry Bosch may not be the man he once was, but he's still a very welcome addition to a Connelly crime novel. Equally arresting is Detective Renée Ballard, who takes centre stage in this tale. The beleaguered LA police are in turmoil, with most officers dialling it in rather than actively pursuing cases. Ballard, however, is juggling two: the death of a man shot on New Year's Eve and a brutal pair of tag-team rapists called the Midnight Men. Left out on a limb by the people meant to have her back, she enlists the help of the one-and-only Bosch. ★★★★★ **Lisa Howells**

Top
5KILLER
THRILLERS

Psychopaths Anonymous

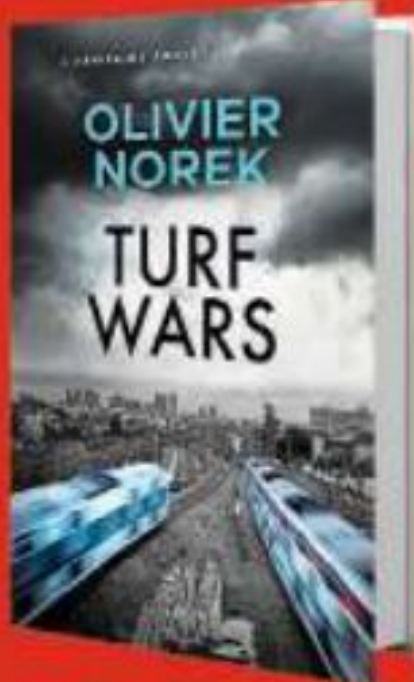
WILL CARVER (ORENDA, £8.99)



On the surface, Maeve is a successful high flyer playing by her own rules. Underneath, she's a functioning alcoholic with a habit of murdering people. So, she sets up a group for like-minded souls, that soon spirals. Wickedly fun.

Turf Wars

OLIVIER NOREK (MACLEHOSE PRESS, £16.99)



Book two in the Banlieues Trilogy sees Capitaine Coste and his team facing hell when three drug dealers are murdered in one of France's most notorious suburbs. Can they save themselves when it all goes up in flames? Gritty.

The Russian Doll

MARINA PALMER (HODDER & STOUGHTON, £16.99)



Ruth finds herself thrust into the lap of luxury when she becomes assistant to Elena Shilkov. But it isn't long before she finds out that the high life comes with a hefty price when she's plunged into a dangerous world. Electrifying.

The Red Monarch

BELLA ELLIS (HODDER & STOUGHTON, £14.99)



The sleuthing Brontë sisters return with a new dastardly mystery to solve. Family friend Lydia finds herself in trouble when her husband becomes involved with a dangerous gang, but stepping in to help puts the women in grave danger. Captivating.

The Dinner Lady Detectives

HANNAH HENDY (CANELO, £8.99)



Clementine and Margery are looking forward to the day they can retire from serving up meals to thankless students. But their cosy life is shattered when their manager is found dead in the walk-in freezer – and the pair decide to investigate. Delightful.

A CRIMINALLY
GOOD READBESTSELLING AUTHOR
DOMINIC NOLAN TELLS
CRIME MONTHLY
WHAT INFLUENCES HIM

What was the inspiration behind your new novel?

It was sloshing around the back of my mind for so many years, it's difficult to pinpoint its exact origin. Somewhere along the way, the early jazz scene became the catalyst for how I ultimately wrote it – how the dive bars and bottle parties were a nexus for so many different worlds: immigrant and local communities; black and white; queer and straight; men and women. I could see that subterranean culture so vividly and wanted to drag readers into it.

It's different from your first two novels, *Past Life* and *After Dark*...

It seems that way, but before those Abigail Boone novels, I spent years writing unpublished (and unpublishable?) novels, which were big, baggy, period things. So, to me, *Vine Street* feels more like a homecoming, a return to the kind of book I used to write, and always thought I would publish.

Will we see Boone again?

Not before she sees you.

What attracts you most about writing crime?

It is vast and contains multitudes. Crime isn't genre, it's subject matter. The history of crime is the history of the world, and as such, it provides endless possibilities to explore how the world feels, which is all any writer wants.

How much of what you write is based on real life?

For *Vine Street*, the murders of 1935-36 were real cases, and many of the large supporting cast were real people. But I take wild fictional digressions from history. If a fact was bad for me, I changed it. My aim was to create a Soho that unquestionably could have existed, whether it actually did or not. I value authenticity over fidelity to any particular historical data.

Has anyone particularly influenced your writing?

I suspect I bear lousy witness to what has influenced me, in contrast to what I like. My favourite writers include Elizabeth Taylor (not that one), Jerome



Charyn, Ted Lewis, Bette Howland, Walter Mosley, and Barbara Comyns. I've probably stolen from them all.

How easy do you find writing?

Art is difficult in the same way training to be an elite athlete is – it is hard graft born of love. When I'm deep into a draft, I get a writer's high. I love every second of that juice and really miss it when I'm

between books. I miss it right now.

What would your advice be for aspiring writers?

Don't do it. It's an endeavour for the foolish and the mad.

But if you absolutely must, then remember what John

Gardner said: "The writer captures in language a vivid

and continuous dream, so that other people may, whenever they feel like it, open their book and dream that dream again". Keeping the dream vivid and continuous is the most important thing you need to worry about.

Finally, what do you love most about your job?

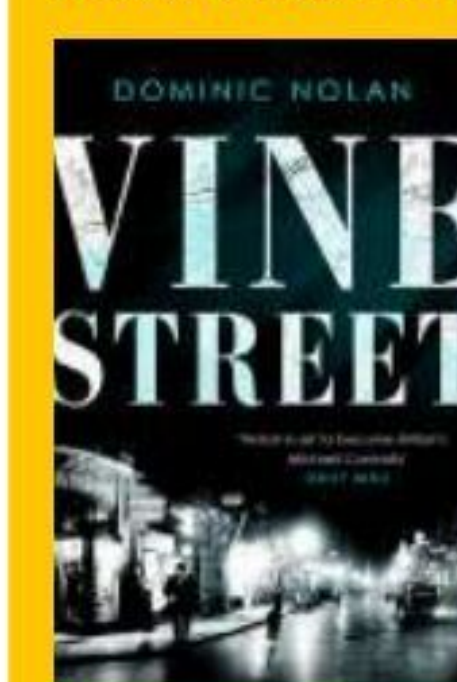
That most of the time it's a joke thinking of it as a job. Of course, that is also true when I do my tax returns.

'WRITING IS HARD GRAFT BORN OF LOVE'

Vine Street

DOMINIC NOLAN (HEADLINE, £18.99)

Soho, 1935. In a world of dive bars, jazz and nefarious nighttime dealings, Sergeant Leon Geats keeps a watchful eye. When the body of a woman is found above the notorious Windmill Club, the local detectives aren't interested in investigating. But



Geats knows there is a killer out there, and makes it his mission to find him – a mission that will change him forever.

Blistering. ★★★★★


Marie Warren

AVAILABLE NOW

DEATH IN DENMARK

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Lindy Chamberlain

MAJOR MEDIA CASES

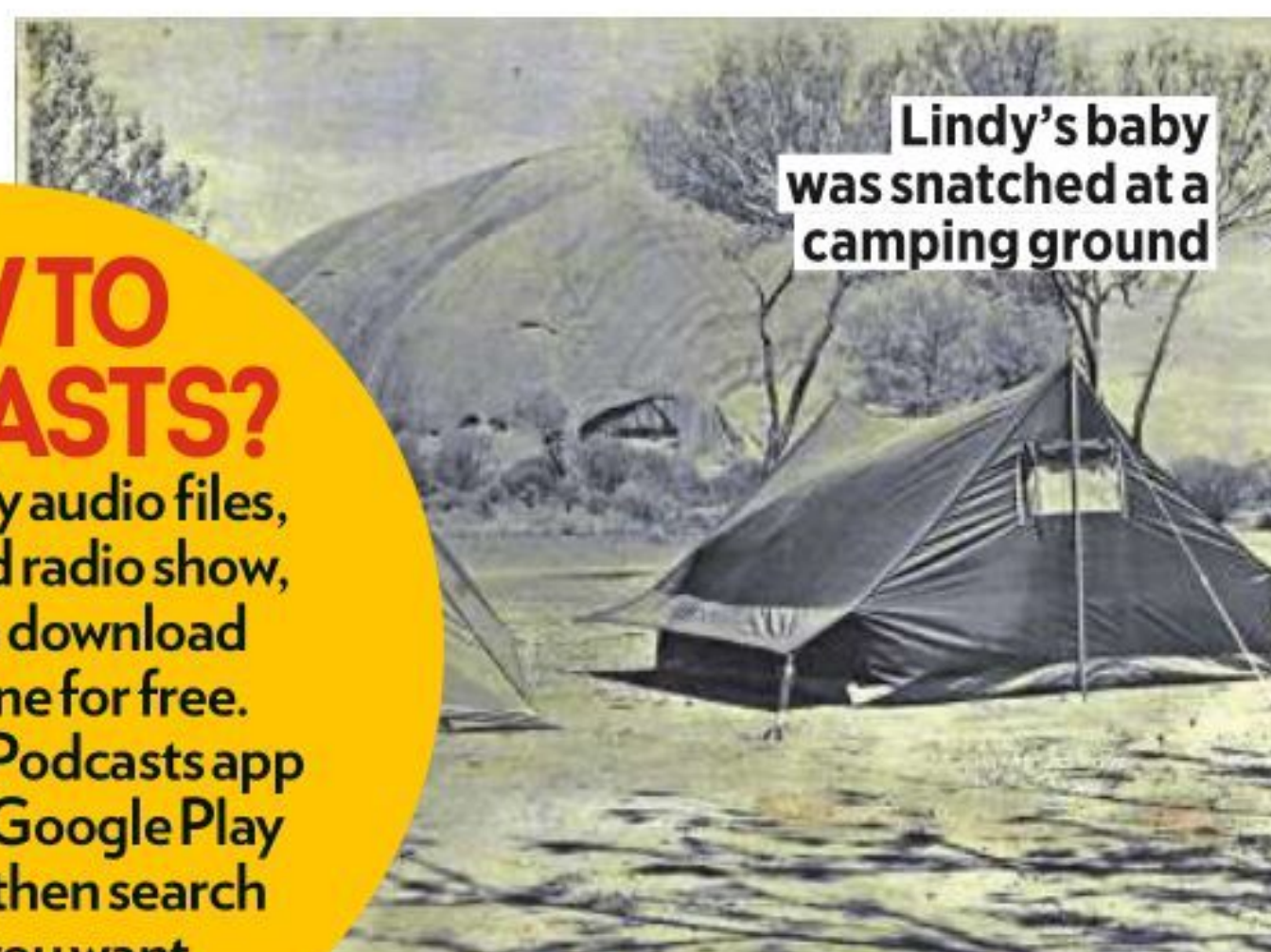
ACCIDENTAL CELEBRITY

ACCIDENTALCELEBRITY.COM.AU

When you're the victim of a major crime or tragedy, there's a chance that your personal life – and trauma – will be discussed by the media and public, often globally. It's bad enough coping with the event itself, but what's often forgotten is the media storm that occurs around these victims. Hence, "accidental celebrities" – people who become household names due to unfortunate circumstances. This Australian series is hosted by journalist Fiona Reynolds, who grapples with her own role in the spotlighting of these victims. She speaks directly to people affected by some of the most well-known calamities in the country, including Lindy Chamberlain of the infamous "A dingo took my baby" case. That episode is a particularly affecting listen as Lindy details how journalists descended on her home minutes after she arrived back, clogging up her phone line and preventing her from getting information about her lost daughter, and the frenzy that spun her from being the victim to incorrectly portraying her as a murderer.

Also interesting is the monetary aspect. These cases can cause a huge spike in newspaper sales, so who should profit from these stories – the papers or the victims themselves? In Lindy's case, she needed the money she made from media interviews to pay her huge legal fees, which caused people to question her motives even further. And even after the interest dies down, your face and name are still recognisable, making it hard to find a job or continue living your normal life in any real way. It's a thought-provoking new angle, which will really make you think about how we consume true crime.

★★★★ Rhiannon Derbyshire



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PODchart

This month's podcast picks



Power: The Maxwells
(Somethin' Else)

Ghislaine Maxwell will go on trial this month for allegedly procuring teenage girls for the late financier Jeffrey Epstein to sexually abuse. But she isn't the only controversial figure in her family. Her father, media mogul Robert Maxwell, dealt in dodgy businesses and his untimely death – he drowned after falling from his £15m yacht, aged 68 – was shrouded in mystery. This nine-part series, hosted by investigative journalist Tara Palmeri, is packed with candid interviews and riveting accounts of the Maxwells. It aims to shine a new light on Ghislaine's background and her shadowy father's fall from grace. As you'd expect from the makers of *The Immaculate Deception* and *The Fault Line: Bush, Blair And Iraq*, this is a detailed pod, focusing on the incredible true story of a man whose legacy is still felt today.

★★★★ Bella Evennett-Watts



The Doodler
(TheDoodlerpod.com)

Jumping right into the action from the first ep, reporter Kevin Fagan and lead investigator Dan Cunningham know a lot about a monster that terrorised America in the mid-1970s. No, not the Golden State Killer or Ted Bundy, but The Doodler. Chances are you haven't heard of him, despite the fact that he is responsible for as many victims as the Zodiac Killer. That's because all his victims were gay men, and in San Francisco in the 1970s, the LGBTQ+ community was seen as criminal and their deaths often overlooked. Now, nearly 50 years later, there is a renewed effort to catch the man responsible, if he's still alive. This podcast focuses on the victims of this horrific serial killer, speaking to friends and family members in order to gain a better understanding of them, and finally get some justice.

★★★★ Daisy Hall

INFORMER

CRIME ENTS NEWS
THAT KEEPS YOU
IN THE KNOW

MORE SUBVERSIVE GEMS



American Psycho

Christian Bale is thrilling and terrifying as psychotic banker/serial killer Patrick Bateman in this adaptation of Bret Easton Ellis' classic novel.



Natural Born Killers

Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis are captivating as a killer couple in Oliver Stone's flawed but stylish film.



Kalifornia

Brad Pitt and Juliette Lewis (again) play a killer couple (also again) on a road trip. Pitt is superbly creepy.



Jennifer Tilly and Joe Pantoliano

CLASSIC CRIME FILM

BOUND

AMAZON PRIME VIDEO

Back in 1996, this neo-noir crime thriller was released with little fanfare. Made by sibling directing duo the Wachowskis on a tight budget of \$7 million, on the surface, it was a far cry from *The Matrix*, the ground-breaking, effects-laden sci-fi blockbuster they would go on to complete three years later. But it was partially the modest commercial success of *Bound* – combined with a favourable critical response, including a nomination for the prestigious Grand Prix of the Belgian Syndicate of Cinema Critics – that would allow them to make the latter movie.

At first glance, *Bound* presents as B-movie, albeit a slick one with a cast of above-average talent. Gina Gershon (*Showgirls*) plays Corky, a lesbian ex-con working as a plumber and decorator, who's living in an apartment she's renovating next door to a couple called Violet (Jennifer Tilly, *Bullets Over Broadway*) and Caesar (*The Sopranos*' Joe Pantoliano). While

Caesar is out, Corky drops an earring down a sink, giving her an excuse to visit Violet with the pretext of recovering it from her drain, but with the intent of seducing her – which she does – and the next morning, Violet reveals that Caesar is a money launderer for the Mafia. Later, Violet overhears Caesar and his associates torturing a man they think has been skimming cash, and she flees to Corky's place, breaking down and confessing that she wants a new life away from Caesar. So, Corky devises an audacious plan to steal a suitcase of money from Caesar, so she and Violet can run away together.

Bound was ahead of its time in many ways, and much of its acclaim was derived from its accurate portrayal of a female same-sex relationship.

And although there were sex scenes, they were choreographed by feminist writer and sex educator Susie Bright.

But, most importantly, *Bound* is a tightly plotted heist thriller that manages to quietly subvert the genre without being boring.



Gina Gershon as Corky

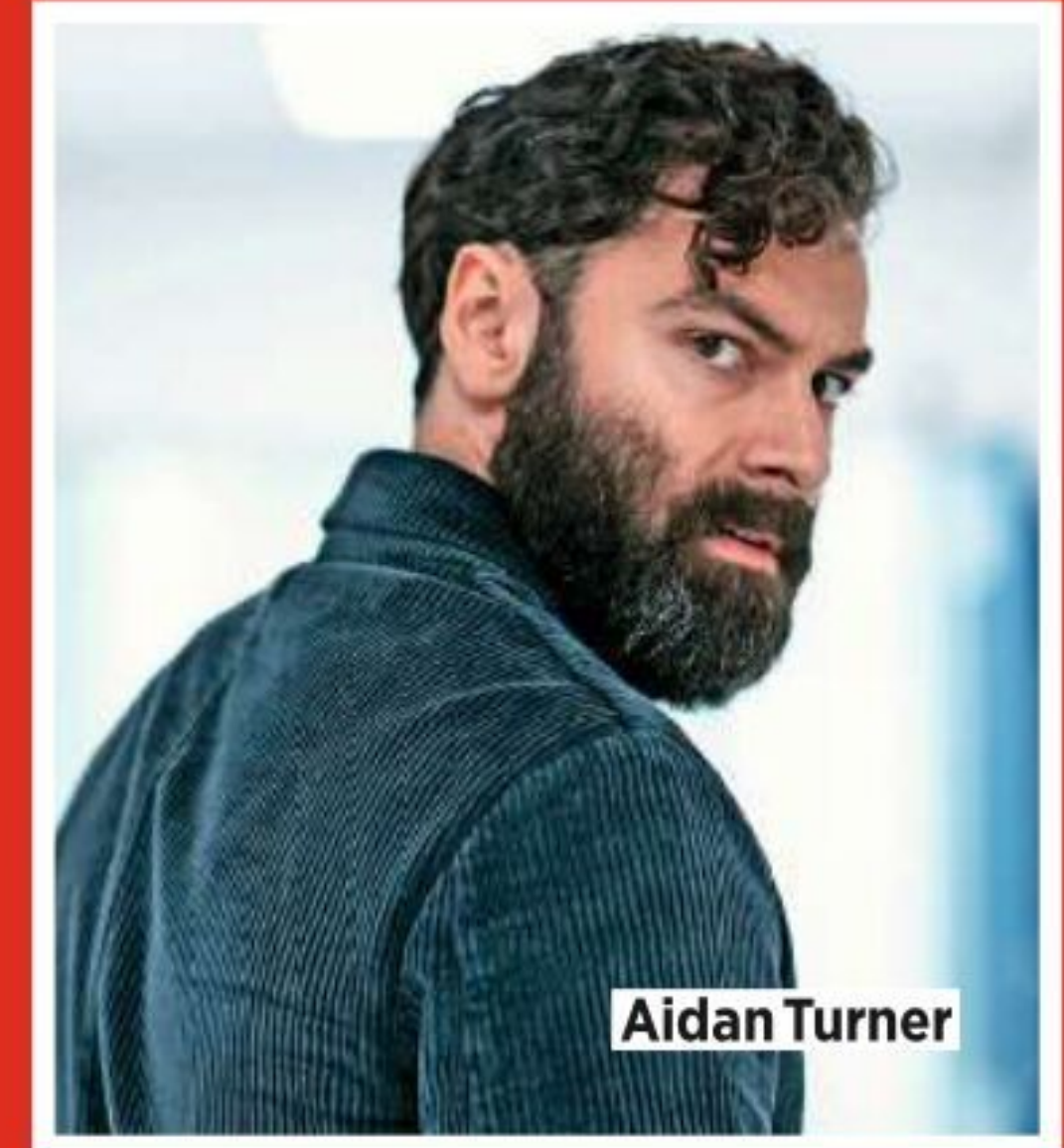
WORDS: MATTHEW HURRELL. PHOTOS: GETTY; SHUTTERSTOCK



Dougray Scott and Joanna Vanderham

IRVINE TURNS TO CRIME

Trainspotting author Irvine Welsh has turned his attention to TV for the first time, adapting his novel *Crime* into a six-part series for BritBox. Dougray Scott plays DI Ray Lennox, a troubled Edinburgh cop battling drink and drug addictions while investigating the disappearance of a young schoolgirl. The series also stars Angela Griffin (*Harlots*) and veteran Scottish actor Ken Stott, and will stream later this month.



Aidan Turner

Aidan is suspect

Poldark's Aidan Turner will play the lead in ITV's upcoming adaptation of Michael Robotham's *The Suspect*. Turner will star as Dr Joseph O'Laughlin, a psychiatrist recently diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, who becomes a suspect in a brutal murder case that he is advising the police about. Written for the screen by Peter Berry (*Gangs Of London*), the series will air sometime next year.



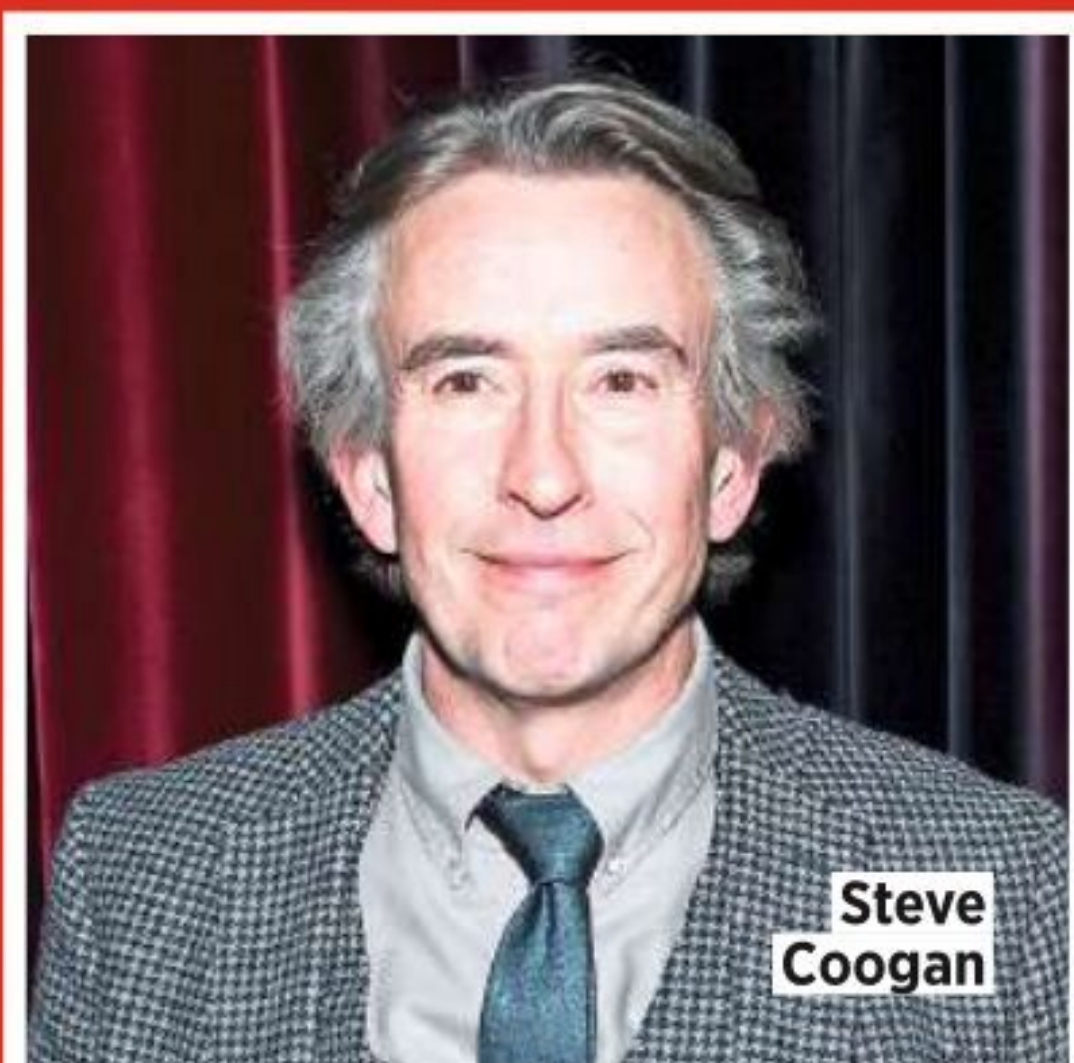
Lesley Manville stars

Steve plays Savile

Crime fans are awaiting the first glimpse of Steve Coogan as Jimmy Savile, after it was revealed he will play the deceased paedophile in upcoming BBC drama *The Reckoning*. Coogan said, "To play Jimmy Savile was not a decision I took lightly. Neil McKay has written an intelligent script tackling sensitively a horrific story, which – however harrowing – needs to be told."



Onset of *The Magpie Murders*



Steve Coogan

MAGPIE MURDERS COMES TO BRITBOX

Anthony Horowitz's *The Magpie Murders* has been adapted into a series, starring Lesley Manville. She plays a literary editor who is given an unfinished manuscript by a famous mystery novelist that ends up changing her life. The series also stars Daniel Mays, and will be available to watch in 2022.



Dastardly deeds

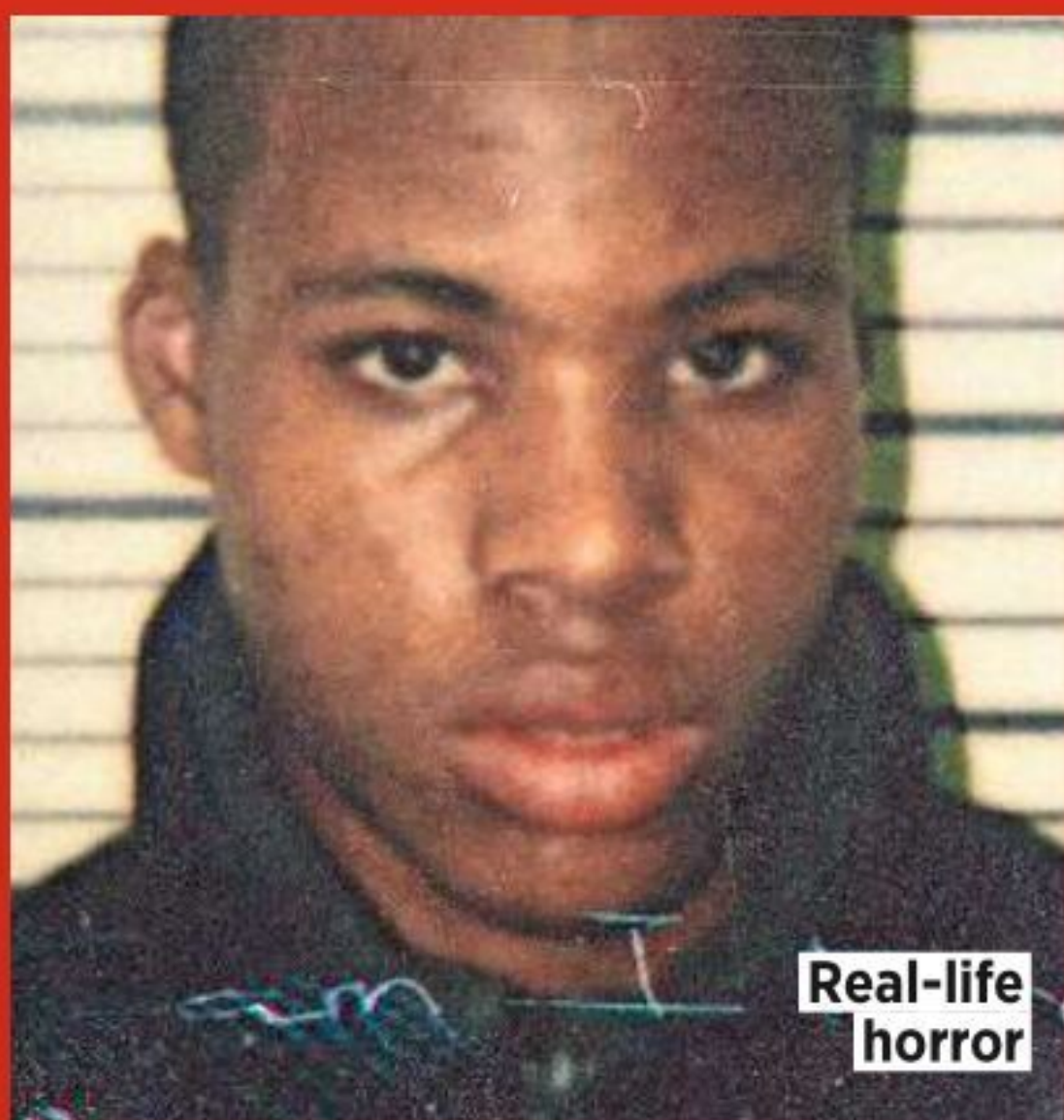
FRENCH THRILLS

Paris Police 1900

BBC iPLAYER, STREAMING NOW

Paris at the turn of the 20th century was in the middle of a golden age and the epicentre of art, literature and science in Europe – but every golden age has a dark side. The French Republic is in turmoil, and sedition and anarchy is rife. When the body of an unknown young woman is found in the Seine, ambitious young inspector Antoine Jouin sees a chance to prove himself, but it's not long before he is dragged into a world of intrigue.

★★★★ Matthew Hurrell



Real-life horror

TRUE TERROR

I, Sniper: The Washington Killers

ALL 4, STREAMING NOW

For three horrifying weeks in 2002, Washington DC and the surrounding areas in Virginia and Maryland, known as The Beltway, were terrorised by a series of shootings. They appeared to be the work of a sniper, who picked off victims at random. This documentary takes an in-depth look at those events, speaking to survivors, who relive their ordeal, and the investigators who faced an uphill struggle to bringing the perpetrator to justice. ★★★★★ James Walford



Engström is played by Robert Gustafsson

STRANGE STORY

THE UNLIKELY MURDERER

NETFLIX, FROM 5 NOVEMBER

This new series dramatises the fascinating case of Stig Engström – a graphic designer who seemingly managed to assassinate Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme on 28 February 1986. It was a baffling event, especially in a relatively peaceful and affluent country such as Sweden, and though Engström, known as the Skandia Man, has been named as the main suspect, to this day, the murder remains unsolved. Various theories have been put forward. In 1988, for example, a man named Christer Pettersson was arrested and convicted for the murder, but eventually acquitted on appeal, while another theory suggests that Olof's death could have occurred at the hands of the CIA. Unfortunately, there is no way to prove that Engström



Stig was quizzed about the murder

was the perpetrator as he died in 2000, but this series makes it clear that, for them at least, Stig Engström managed to get away with murder. ★★★★★ Daisy Hall

FINAL SERIES

Narcos: Mexico NETFLIX, STREAMING NOW

The original *Narcos* looked at the so-called War On Drugs, first dramatising the story of notorious Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar and his Medellin Cartel, and then his rivals and successors of the Cali Cartel. Now, new strand *Narcos: Mexico*

arrives and the action moves to cover the rise of that country's notoriously violent narco-

traffickers. With Diego Luna's kingpin Félix Gallardo arrested and thrown in jail at the end of the last season, he is now out of the picture. But Scoot McNairy returns as DEA operative Walt Breslin. Causing him stress this time are Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada, an independent drug trafficker, whose unassuming manner belies the fact that he is one step ahead of everyone else. Also in the mix are Andrea Nuñez, a young idealistic journalist who wants to expose corruption (of which there is plenty) and conflicted cop Victor Tapia. ★★★★★ **Matthew Hurrell**



The series is based on real events



Ghislaine with Jeffrey Epstein

SUPER-SCANDAL

CHASING GHISLAINE

DISCOVERY+, STREAMING FROM 22 NOVEMBER

Not to be confused with the hugely successful podcast *Hunting Ghislaine* from reporter John Sweeney, this new series, from best-selling authors James Patterson and Vicky Ward, focuses on the woman at the centre of the Jeffrey Epstein saga and her arrest in July 2020. Ghislaine Maxwell has been charged with multiple offences, including the enticement of minors and sex trafficking of children, as well as two counts of perjury, and

is set to face trial at the end of this month. Ahead of that, *Chasing Ghislaine* aims to uncover the full breadth of her alleged crimes and secrets. It features more than 30 interviews with key figures who could make or break the case against the fallen socialite, and the associated international elite keen to keep their own reputations intact. Virginia Giuffre, Sarah Ransome, Maria Farmer, Jennifer Araoz and many more unnamed accusers, who have filed lawsuits against both Maxwell

and Epstein, all receive airtime. Virginia Giuffre, previously known as Virginia Roberts, asserts that Maxwell introduced her to Epstein, before the two of them groomed her and facilitated Prince Andrew's alleged acts of sexual abuse. A podcast of the same name will run alongside the series, containing never-before-released transcripts of phone conversations that appear to confirm both Epstein's and Ghislaine's guilt. It's electrifying stuff. ★★★★★ **Daisy Hall**

PERIOD PIECE

VIENNA BLOOD

BBC2, FRIDAY
26 NOVEMBER, 9PM

New run of this British-Austrian co-produced period thriller. Gruff detective Oskar Rheinhardt (Austrian actor Juergen Maurer) and his sidekick, junior English doctor and student of Freud, Max Liebermann (Matthew Beard, from last year's *Dracula*), return to solve more bizarre and disturbing murders, with Max's extraordinary perception and grasp of psychology and Oskar's dogged determination proving to be a winning crime-solving combination. Yes, it's basically *Sherlock* with Austrian accents, but the characters and plots are smart and well-developed enough to set this show far enough apart from the former. That's in large part because of the writing (the screenwriter worked on *Sherlock*, too) and a strong supporting cast, which this time around includes the great Amelia Bullmore (*Scott & Bailey*) and Charlene McKenna (*Bloodlands*). Add in the dreamy Bohemian backdrop of early 20th century Vienna, and you've got an enjoyably diverting watch. ★★★ **Matthew Hurrell**



Oskar Rheinhardt and Matthew Beard star

Avon & Somerset police let cameras follow their officers



Avon and Somerset Police
Bridgwater

Reception

Operational Vehicles

Visitor Parking

SERIOUS ISSUE

Rape: Who's On Trial?

CHANNEL 4, MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER, 9PM

In the UK right now, conviction rates for rape and sexual assault are so low, the offences have effectively been decriminalised (see our feature on page 29). It's something that urgently needs to change, and now this two-parter looks at how such offences are policed. Filmed, produced and directed by an all-female team over the course of a year – and with access to officers at all levels within the Avon & Somerset police force – the series will follow cases

from initial report right through the criminal justice process, in an attempt to examine the reasons why offenders are not being convicted. As well as the work of local teams, the series looks at a national initiative, the National Police Chiefs Council Lead for Rape and Serious Sexual Offences, which is led by Avon & Somerset Deputy Chief Constable Sarah Crew. It also features powerful testimony from victims, as it asks what can be done to change the system. ★★★★★ **Lisa Howells**



Tracy Ifeachor and Celine Buckens star

LEGAL DRAMA

Showtrial BBC IPLAYER, STREAMING NOW

This six-part legal drama from the makers of *Line Of Duty* is written by Ben Richards, who wrote great police drama *The Tunnel*, and explores how prejudice, politics and the media can distort the legal process. Celine Buckens (*Bridgerton*) plays Talitha Campbell, the privileged daughter of a wealthy property owner, who is shoved into the eye of a media storm after she is arrested for conspiring to murder

fellow university student Hannah Ellis. Despite being able to access the best lawyers available, Talitha refuses her father's help and instead opts for the services of duty solicitor Cleo Roberts (Tracy Ifeachor, *Quantico*), who is working that night. With the prosecution weaponising her gender and privilege against her, the waters become muddied. Is Talitha a scapegoat or a cold-blooded murderer? ★★★★★ **Matthew Hurrell**



Can the mismatched pair solve the case?

GRITTY NOIR

WALTER PRESENTS: ANGEL OF DEATH

4OD, STREAMING NOW

Channel 4's foreign-language strand brings its Polish season to a close with this gritty detective drama. When a young girl is murdered in a sadistic and ritualistic fashion on the outskirts of the city of Opole in southern Poland, police are worried it may be the work of a serial killer. Elite Warsaw detective Agnieszka Polkowska is assigned to the case, but in a classic case of a mismatched partnership, she must work with local cop Tomasz Mrówiec, whom she considers to be

a bit provincial and backward. In an interesting twist, the identity of the murderer is revealed to us fairly early on – popular entrepreneur and lecturer Piotr, who lives an upper-class lifestyle with his picture-perfect family, is indeed a serial killer. But what is the motivation for his killing of these religious girls? Agnieszka and Tomasz are in a race against time to unravel the mystery before he strikes again.

★★★★★ **Matthew Hurrell**



To catch a killer...

FAMOUS FELONS

THE CRIMINAL SIDE OF CELEBRITY

At Macomb County Court in 2001

EMINEM

K

nown by his stage name of Eminem, Marshall Bruce Mathers III is no stranger to rapping about his brushes with the law. Indeed, many of his songs refer to criminal activities and well-publicised crimes, so

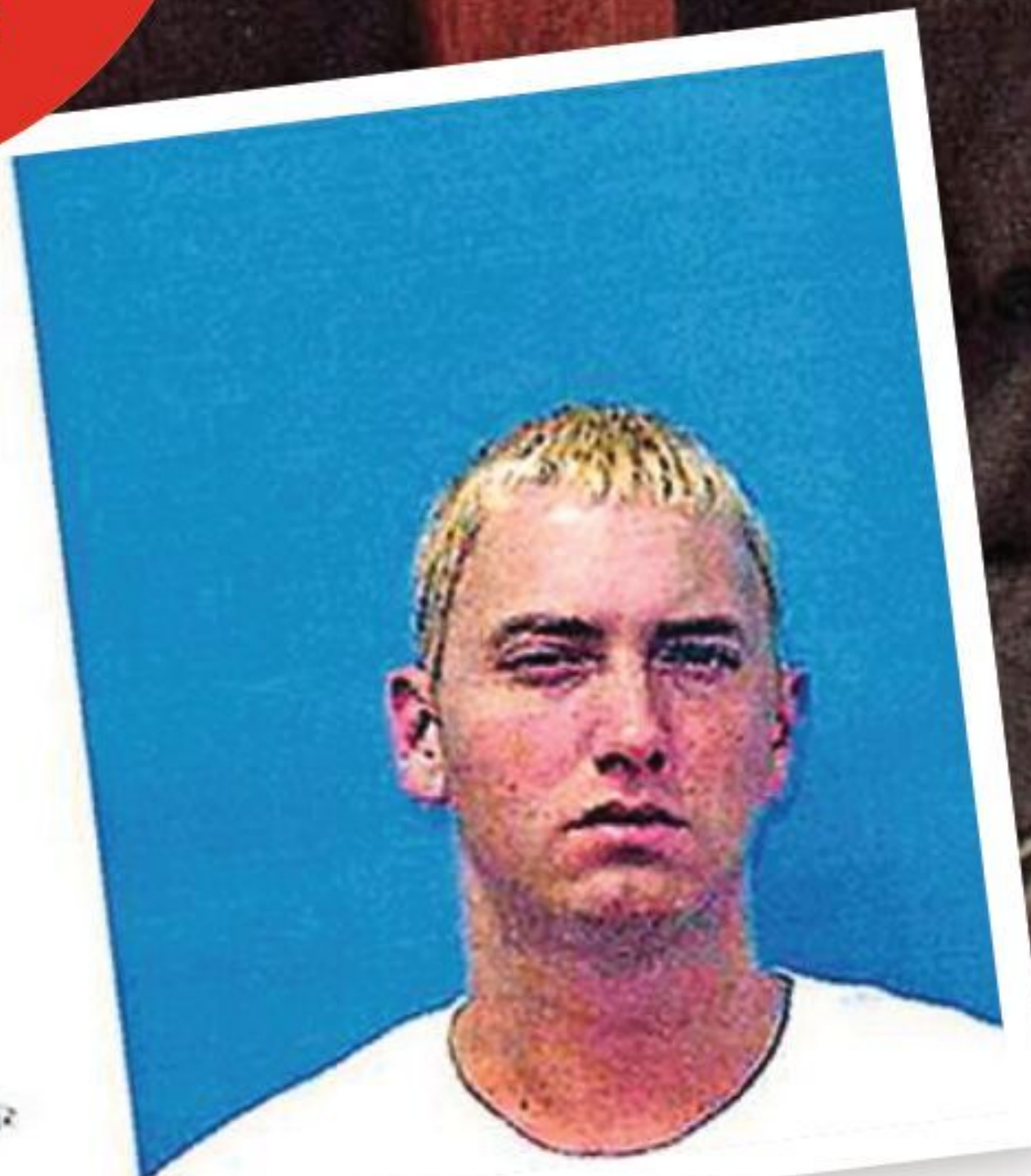
it's no surprise that the star's had a healthy dose of court appearances over the years. Aged 20, he was arrested for his part in a drive-by shooting involving a paintball gun, but when the victim failed to turn up to court, the case was dismissed. Then, on 3 June 2000, he was arrested after he pulled out an unloaded gun during an altercation with an employee of hip-hop label Psychopathic Records at a car audio shop in Michigan. The following day, he was arrested again when he assaulted a man with a pistol, who he claimed he saw kissing his then-wife Kim. In April 2001, he was sentenced to two years' probation for carrying a concealed weapon in that incident. The assault charge was dropped. In June that year, he was given another year's probation, as well as community service and a \$2,000 fine, for the incident at the audio shop. In addition to these violent crimes, a long list of people – including his mother Debbie, ex-wife Kim and a former high-school classmate – have sued the rap star for damages, citing defamation within his song lyrics. In 2003, the Secret Service conducted an investigation into allegations that he threatened then-US president George W Bush via his song *We As Americans*. And he was interviewed by them again in 2017, regarding threatening lyrics towards president Donald Trump and daughter Ivanka on his song *Framed*. The rapper is clearly far from a law-abiding citizen, but then he did warn on his 2000 song *Criminal*, "Everytime I write a rhyme, the people think it's a crime to tell 'em what's on my mind. I guess I'm a criminal." ■

'EVERY TIME I RHYME, PEOPLE THINK IT'S A CRIME'

ROYAL OAK POLICE DEPARTMENT



LAST: MATHERS
FIRST: MARSHALL
DOB: 29 / 10 / 72
SEX: MALE
RACE: WHITE
HEIGHT: 508
WEIGHT: 155
EYES: HAZEL
HAIR: BLOND OR STR
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