



Innocence Network UK (INUK)

DOSSIER OF CASES

The dossier contains 44 cases of alleged innocent victims of wrongful conviction which have been refused a referral back to the Court of Appeal by the Criminal Cases Review Commission at least once despite doubts about the evidence that led to their convictions.



Innocence Network UK (INUK)

Cases for Concern

(1) BOURKE, Thomas



Thomas Bourke was convicted of the murders of Alan Singleton and Simon Bruno in 1993. Mr Singleton and Mr Bruno were Department of Transport Inspectors who were shot and killed at a garage in Stockport. The prosecution claimed that a failed MOT licensing application was the motive for Mr Bourke to commit the murders. Mr Bourke was convicted largely on witness testimonies. In addition, his car was claimed to match the description of the car driven by the shooter(s). However, two of the witnesses who testified against Mr Bourke were criminals who admitted to being accomplices to the murders. Their sentences were reduced for giving evidence against Mr Bourke. The witnesses repeatedly changed their statements and admitted to initially lying. One of the witnesses claimed to have seen the actual murder. However, forensic evidence not used at trial proved he could not have been in the room where the murders took place. Forensic tests for fire arms residue carried out in Mr Bourke's car, and attempts to match the tyres to marks left in the garage, failed to link the vehicle to the murders or corroborate witness statements. Following Mr Bourke's conviction, it was discovered that there was another car of the same make and colour as Mr Bourke's car in the vicinity of the garage where the murder took place. At the time of Bourke's trial, a gun was found at Strangeways prison where Bourke was being held on remand. Bourke was initially suspected of having the gun smuggled in an attempt to escape from prison. He was escorted to his trial with several armed police officers and security was heightened within the area of the courthouse. It later emerged that Bourke had nothing to do with the gun, which was planted by two other criminals in an attempt to secure early release. Mr Bourke claims that this was a deliberate attempt by the prosecution to negatively influence the jury by depicting him as a highly dangerous criminal at his trial. Bourke's application for leave to appeal was refused in 2007. A subsequent application to the CCRC had also failed. Mr Bourke has spent nearly two decades in prison and continues to maintain his innocence. His case is currently being investigated by the University of Bradford Innocence Project.

(2) CAINES, Timothy



Timothy Caines was convicted on the 24th May 1995 of "joint-enterprise murder with an unknown" in Coventry. The victim, Colin Hickman, was a solicitor and a friend of Caines. Prior to his death, Mr Hickman had experienced threats from several people believed to have been related to disputes over money. Caines maintain that on the

day of the murder he visited Mr Hickman's house. He tried to break up a fight between Mr Hickman and some unknown men and was forced to leave after being threatened at gunpoint by one of the men. The evidence against Caines consists mainly of his watch and cap found at Mr Hickman's house, which Caines maintains, was left behind during his visit to the house. There was also eyewitness sightings not heard at trial which pointed to a white intruder at the scene. Caines is black. In 2007, the CCRC rejected Mr Caines application despite the tenuous nature of the evidence against him. His case is currently being investigated by the University of the West of England Innocence Project.

(3) CHOWDARY, Jamil

Jamil Chowdhary was convicted in 1992 of robbery and murder that took place on the 1 February 1991 at the Phoenix Green Filling Station, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire. The victim, Raymond Kelly, died after being shot in the course of the robbery. Chowdhary came to the attention of the police after accusations made against him by his co-accused, Mohammed Womiq Nazir, who admitted to being one of the two robbers. Nazir testified that Chowdhary was the gunman who accompanied him on the robbery and shot the victim. The prosecution alleged that Chowdhary and Nazir were 'partners in crime' despite the fact that Nazir was facing 12 counts of unrelated criminal charges at the time of trial that did not involve Chowdhary. More significantly, Nazir named three others as the gunman before finally accusing Chowdhary. The witnesses relied on by the prosecution at trial were identified as vulnerable and unreliable. One of the witnesses admitted to lying, being helped by the police to remember details and under the pressure by the police, even wrongly admitted to the murder herself. In addition, descriptions of two other witnesses who were in the Filling Station when the shooting took place described both attackers as White. However, Chowdhary, who is of Pakistani descent, has a dark complexion. Analyses of CCTV footages by Channel 4's 'Trial and Error' showed that the gunman was shorter than the robber (Nazir). However, Chowdhary is taller than Nazir, which suggests that he could not have been the gunman. This evidence was submitted to the CCRC, which rejected it as being insufficient to render his conviction unsafe. Chowdhary has served 20 years in prison. His case is currently being investigated by the University of the West of England Innocence Project.

(4) CLARK, Christopher

Christopher Clark was convicted in May 1997 for an indecent assault that took place in Bath, for which he received a life sentence. Clark was convicted on the basis of D.N.A. and fibre evidence as well as testimonies taken from a number of people acquainted with him and the victim herself. At trial, Clark's defence team postulated that despite living in the area, he was elsewhere at the time the crime occurred. The description of the aggressor given by the victim has extremely limited similarities with the appearance of Clark. His defence claimed that the evidence submitted by the prosecution had been tampered with, including a blood phial from which some of the DNA evidence was taken. A request for further testing, ordered by the Judge, failed to be carried out. The fibre evidence taken from the victim's clothes resembled the t-shirt that was wearing at the time when the crime occurred. However, further fibre analyses suggest the fibre evidence given at court was of limited evidential value. Since Clark's conviction, 4 police officers believed to have been involved in the investigation were charged (although not convicted) with perverting the course of justice. Assaults of a similar nature also continued to occur in the area after Clark's conviction. Clark is still seeking disclosure of CCTV evidence which might prove that he was elsewhere at the time of the crime and therefore could not have been the attacker. In 2001, Clark submitted an application to the CCRC. All 72 grounds submitted by Clark to the CCRC were rejected,

mainly on the basis that they were either 'irrelevant' to his conviction or could have been available at the time of the trial. Clark's case is currently being investigated by the BPP Law School Innocence Project.

(5) COLLETT, Mark

On 6th May 2005, Mark Collett was convicted of joint-enterprise murder along with three other co-defendants. The victim, John Hancock, died after being severely assaulted at St Ronans Road, Southsea. It was accepted at trial that Collett was not part of the gang who committed the assault. However, it was alleged that he had procured and instructed his co-defendants to carry out the attack. The evidence against Collett consisted of highly circumstantial evidence, comprising mainly of phone records indicating that he had corresponded with the co-defendants on the day of the murder. Collett maintains that he had no knowledge of the attack and the calls were nothing to do with the murder. Collett's application to the CCRC was recently refused. He has served 6 years of his life sentence.

(6) CRITCHLEY, Gary



In 1980, Gary Critchley went to stay in Campbell Buildings, a notorious London Squat, with a friend, for two weeks. On the tenth day of that two week visit, he was found severely injured on the concrete pavement four floors below the squat. He had a broken back, ankle and wrist, and was subsequently found to have suffered brain damage from a hammer blow to the front of his skull. Drug traces in his blood showed he had taken large quantities of sleeping pills as well as alcohol, and he was suffering with hypothermia when found. When police investigated the circumstances, they found a Mr Edward McNeill dead in the squat and the room covered in blood. Most of the blood was Mr McNeill's, who had been bludgeoned with a hammer almost 30 times. Some of it was Gary's. Gary's blood was also found on a car crook lock inside the flat. A bloodstained hammer – described as the murder weapon- was found inside the flat, and was found to have no prints or any other links to Gary. Bloodstained clothing bundled up close to Mr McNeill's body included jeans which had traces of both men's blood and a t-shirt with only Gary's blood on it. Despite the fact that Mr McNeill's blood had been spattered all over the room, not one speck of his blood was found on either Gary Critchley's clothing inside the room or on himself, when he was found on the concrete pavement some 50 feet below the squat. Gary Critchley was subsequently charged and convicted of Mr McNeill's murder. In 2005, the CCRC refused to refer Gary Critchley's case back to the Court of Appeal primarily on the basis that evidence supporting his claim of innocence could have been available at the time of his trial. Although the then Lord Chief Justice recommended that he should serve 'no more than 8-9 years', he served more than 30 years before achieving parole in 2012. Mr Critchley's case is being worked on by White and Case LLP Innocence Project.

(7) CUTTS, John

John Cutts was convicted of murder in May 2001, and sentenced to life imprisonment with a fourteen year tariff. It was alleged that Cutts killed his partner, Dawn Berntsen, by striking her to the head with a wine bottle. While Cutts admits his presence at the time of the incident, he denies carrying out this act, claiming it to instead have been done by his friend, James Murphy, whose Nottingham home the deceased was found in. Dawn Berntsen was an insulin dependent diabetic, yet had not been taking insulin for several months prior to the incident. The prosecution argued that although the injuries inflicted would not have caused death usually, they accelerated the onset of ketoacidosis – a condition known to cause death in insulin deprived diabetics. The evidence used at trial to convict Cutts included the testimony of Murphy, blood stains on his clothing and finger prints on the wine bottle. However, Murphy had his charge reduced in return for his testimony against Cutts. The blood stains and fingerprints matched Cutts' account of trying to wrestle the wine bottle for Murphy. Most importantly, Bernstein's cause of death been disputed by three leading experts, who unanimously stated that the physical assault would not have caused the death although for different reasons. Professor Tattersall denounced the Crown's hypothesis as incapable of scientific verification, arguing that the injuries would not have caused the fatal ketoacidosis. Another expert Al-Sarraj claimed that the deceased could have suffered from viral encephalitis, and Dr Cary proposed that the cause of death may have in fact been the presence of active tuberculosis. Indeed, police officers who called upon Dawn Berntsen on the week of her death advised her to seek medical assistance when they saw her condition. Despite adducing expert evidence concurring that Bernstein did not die from the assault, John Cutts application to the CCRC was rejected in February 2002. Mr Cutt's case is being investigated by the University of Plymouth Innocence Project.

(8) GILBERT, Ray



Ray Gilbert was convicted in 1981 of the murder of Liverpool bookmaker John Suffield. He was convicted on his own confessions and his guilty plea, which he claimed, was coerced out of him by police officers and criminals who were on remand with him. His interrogation took place over two days without the presence of a solicitor. In 2001, his co-accused Johnny Kamara overturned his conviction due to over 200 witness statements supporting his defence that were not disclosed by the police. Although the statements also support Gilbert by pointing to other suspects, the CCRC refused to accept that his confessions and guilty plea were made falsely and refer his conviction. Gilbert has to date served 30 years in prison, 15 years past his tariff, and continues to maintain his innocence. The University of Bristol Innocence Project is currently trying to locate the exhibits from the crime scene for possible DNA testing said by Merseyside Police to have been lost.

(9) GRAY, Steven

Steven Gray was convicted of robbing Isabella Brown, a 94 year old woman, of £30 in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne in 2002. He was sentenced to seven years in prison and was

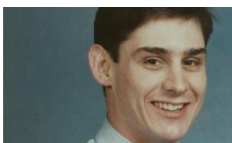
released in 2005, after serving three and a half years. The prosecution alleged that Gray fitted the description of the robber given by the victim. She claimed he had been wearing religious garments, items which were later found in Gray's flat. These garments were not necessary to his work at the Cathedral. Furthermore, Gray was linked to the victim through the church, where he worked and had access to a database of names and addresses of the congregation (Gray denies having such access). Gray was also aware that volunteers from the church visited the elderly in the area, so it is possible he could have committed the crime while using this as cover-up. In addition, Gray was seen arriving at the prayer group meeting unusually early flushed and out of breath. Finally, the prosecution claimed that Gray had a financial motive for robbery, having borrowed money for lunch on that same day. However, computer records indicate that Gray did not log out of his computer at work until 18.05 when the crime was supposed to have happened at 17.30. After work, Gray claims he went to the pub, then went to the Cathedral and then headed home at 19.50. Furthermore, Gray was not caught on CCTV cameras around the time the crime happened. There are also issues around how Gray was identified by the victim. As suitable identity parade foils could not be found, a group identification procedure was not used. Instead, the police conducted a confrontation identification, where the victim confirmed Gray as the perpetrator immediately. Gray submitted two applications to the CCRC in 2004 and 2005 primarily on grounds of the problems with the identification evidence, the alibi evidence presented by the security record, expert analysis of the CCTV footage, both of which were unsuccessful.

(10) IAQUANIELLO, Gina



In December 2004, Gina Iaquaniello was sentenced to two and a half years imprisonment for perverting the course of justice. As a member of the Metropolitan Police, she reported to her superiors that she was being harassed after a long period of receiving silent phone calls, finding maggots in her food, a burglary at her home and her brake pipes being cut causing her to crash her car. It was subsequently alleged that Ms Iaquaniello had perverted the course of justice by making up these allegations. She was accused of having planted male DNA on the threatening letters which she claimed to have received and staging the burglary. Ms Iaquaniello claims that she was consistently lied to by senior officers who sought to reassure her that she was being treated as a victim when she was, in fact, already a suspect under investigation. Additionally, the investigation did not fully look into the harassment which she suffered at work and at home and evidence from other officers stating that they had heard Ms Iaquaniello being threatened by another officer. Her appeal to the CCRC resulted in her sentence being reduced to 12 months. She is continuing to seek assistance in overturning her conviction.

(11) LANE, Kevin



Kevin Lane convicted in 1996 of the murder of Robert Magill in Chorleywood, Hertfordshire. Magill was shot dead while out walking his dog by two men who fled in a BMW. Lane was later arrested and stood trial with another man, Roger Vincent, who was cleared. Vincent and another man have since been convicted of another unconnected

contract killing. The main evidence against Lane was a fingerprint found on a binliner in the boot of the getaway car. Lane explained that he had borrowed a BMW from a friend and used it to take his girlfriend and the sons to see his mother and returned it on Sunday evening. Four days later it was used by the killers as their getaway vehicle. The jury could not reach a decision in his first trial, but he was convicted by a 10-2 majority at a subsequent trial. Since Lane's conviction at his second trial, evidence has emerged showing Roger Vincent had lengthy discussions with police officers shortly after his arrest. Vincent also claimed that detective sergeant Christopher Spackman offered him a deal to drop the case against him and pay him a reward if he became a prosecution witness against Lane. Spackman himself was subsequently jailed for conspiring with others to steal £160,000 from Hertfordshire police. Logs later released by the police showed that during the original Magill murder inquiry they had received more than 20 tip-offs claiming Vincent and another man called David Smith had been responsible. They were well known in the criminal world and were suspected of having carried out several killings. Despite several doubts in the reliability of Lane's conviction, the CCRC has on three occasions refused to refer his case back to the Court of Appeal, with the latest review initiated three years ago and still to be completed. In 2011, a 70-page document, supposedly detailing aspects of the case against Lane and containing details on informants, was sent to his lawyers. As a result of the information contained within, and other unresolved aspects of the case, an application has been made directly to the Court of Appeal for the case to be heard. The CCRC's current review has been suspended.

(12) LIN, Liqing

On 12th July 2000, Mr Liqing Lin, who was employed as a chef in a Chinese takeaway in Dudley, was convicted of murder of Kevin Fung and sentenced to life imprisonment with a tariff of 14 years. Although it was the prosecution's case that Mr Lin committed the murder with another male, Jason Kwok, the charge against Kwok was dropped due to the lack of forensic evidence placing him at the scene. Lin maintains that on the day of the murder, he was invited by Kwok to go to the casino. Whilst in the car, Kwok announced that they would both go and see his friend. Whilst in the deceased's house, Lin claims that Kwok unexpectedly attacked the deceased from behind with a hammer. Lin has never denied that he was present at the deceased's house but maintains that Kwok alone carried out the attack. He says that he was an innocent and unwilling witness and had no knowledge that Kwok was planning an attack on the deceased. Although Lin's fingerprints proved his presence at the deceased's house there is no DNA or other forensic evidence linking Lin to the murder itself. The prosecution also adduced the evidence of Andy Lau, who was a friend of Lin and claimed that Lin had confessed to him. Lin claims that the conversation was not in the manner remembered by Lau. Instead, what was told to Lau was that his boss (Kwok) might have killed somebody. Lin claims that after his arrest, he discovered that Kwok had been running a prostitution ring with the deceased. In 2002, after a failed appeal, Lin applied to the CCRC primarily on the basis that he had difficulties understanding the trial proceedings and was not even aware, at the time of his arrest, that he was being accused of murder. He was provided a mandarin interpreter although he spoke a different dialect. In addition, it is likely that Lau had misunderstood the conversation as he, too, did not speak in Lin's dialect. In 2006, the CCRC arrived at its decision not to refer Lin's case to the Court of Appeal. His case is currently investigated by the University of East London Innocence Project.

(13) MAJOR, Danny



Danny Major was a uniformed patrol police officer in Leeds. In November 2006, after two trials, Danny was convicted of ABH and common assault and sentenced to 15 months imprisonment. He was acquitted of a further charge of common assault. It was alleged that on the 6 September 2003, Major arrested Sean Rimmington for being drunk and disorderly whilst on duty in Leeds City Centre. The prosecution claimed that Major kicked Rimmington twice on the ribs whilst he was handcuffed in the rear of a police van outside Millgarth Police Station. Upon reaching the cell area at Leeds Bridewell, Major was alleged to have removed Rimmington from the van by launching him head first into a concrete floor and punching him in the head on at least 4 occasions. Finally, upon placing Rimmington in the police cell, the prosecution claimed that he assaulted Rimmington by punching him 5 to 6 times to the face, causing injuries to his nose. Major claims that he had committed none of the alleged assaults which were instead committed by other police officers. An expert witness gave evidence at trial that Rimmington's memory was unreliable due to the amount he had to drink that night. At the second trial the jury at Bradford Crown Court heard that officers at Bridewell failed to follow basic procedures. Judge Roger Scott called the custody suite 'a shambles'. He criticised senior officers and called Rimmington's custody record 'a document of fiction'. Another police officer who was a key prosecution witness had also been under investigation for matters including perverting the course of justice and sexual assault of a female, which was dealt with at such a low level that it did not warrant disclosure in court. Significantly, the police failed to disclose crucial CCTV footages that could help the defence, which were discovered by accident in the final days of the trial when it was too late to be used in court. These were subsequently presented to the CCRC which refused to refer Major's case back to the Court of Appeal on the basis that they do not materially enhance the defence's case at trial and would not be seen as new evidence or argument.

(14) MAWHINNEY, Jake and Keith



(Photograph of Jake Mawhinney) Jake Mawhinney and his son Keith were both convicted on 6th December 1999 of the murder of Tony Clarke in Hartlepool. They were jointly charged with Michael Casey who was acquitted of murder but convicted of conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm. The prosecution claimed that the Mawhinneys had arranged with Casey that Casey would lure Tony Clarke's partner, Shirley Clarke out of their house so that they could conduct a 'punishment beating' on Tony Clarke, each with a pick axe handle. In addition to records of telephone calls between Jake Mawhinney and Casey, the prosecution relied on the testimony of a registered police informer Zieff Payne who gave evidence that the Mawhinneys confessed to him that they had assaulted Clarke with pick-axe handles. Both Jake and Keith Mawhinney gave a positive defence of alibi at trial, maintaining that at the time that the murder, they had been at home. Payne had called on them at about 2 am and stayed with them for about half an hour. In addition, a large car battery charger was

found next to Clarke but was not forensically tested as it was overlooked by the police. Subsequent tests showed that it contained hair and blood spatters belonging to Clarke inside the vent, suggesting that it was likely to be the murder weapon. During the trial, the judge warned the jury about Payne's unreliability, mental difficulties and large illegal debts arising from drug dealing. Payne also accused the police of offering him massive inducements to give evidence against the Mawhinneys. In April 2000, leave to appeal was granted by a Single Judge but was dismissed in 2004. A subsequent application to the CCRC also failed due to lack of fresh evidence.

(15) MAY, Susan



Susan May was convicted in 1993 of the murder of her 89-year-old aunt, Hilda Marchback in her home in Tandle Hill Road, Royton, Greater Manchester. She was convicted on the flimsiest of evidence, comprising mainly of three alleged fingerprint marks claimed to be hers that were said to contain the victim's blood. However, there are doubts about the testing method and whether the marks are indeed Susan's fingerprints and even whether they did contain human blood. Another piece of evidence against Susan was a remark she allegedly made to a police officer relating to scratches found on her aunt's face, which the prosecution claimed she could not have known about unless she had caused them. Susan has always denied making the remark and the notebook in which the police say the words were logged has gone missing. Susan May's case was referred to the Court of Appeal by the CCRC in 1999 on the basis of police impropriety, but the appeal was dismissed in 2001. Two subsequent applications to the CCRC detailing new evidence that casts further doubts on her conviction have also failed on the basis that the CCRC does not think that there is a real possibility that the Court of Appeal will quash her conviction. Susan May's case is currently being investigated by the University of Sheffield Innocence Project.

(16) MCAFEE, John



John McAfee was convicted of the murder of 76 year old Benjamin Jones in Tipton, West Midlands, on 3rd November 2005. His co-accused Graham Ellis was also found guilty. The prosecution alleged that on the 7 April 2004, McAfee and Ellis burgled the home of Benjamin Jones and murdered him in the course of the burglary. They were alleged to have taken some property, including two televisions. At around 3 am, the prosecution case was that one of them returned and set fire to Jones's body and his house. McAfee admits that he had handled one of the televisions from the premises a few days after

the murder. He maintains, however, that he received the television from Ellis and his younger brother and did not know, at that point, that the television was obtained from Jones' premises until Ellis confessed to him about the burglary some time after, following which McAfee reported the confession to the police. The prosecution also relied on the identification evidence given by four children who identified McAfee as the man who was walking through a cut at the rear of Jones' house carrying bin liners full of items. In addition, Ellis' then partner gave evidence that she overheard McAfee saying to Ellis on the morning after the murder that a man had been stabbed. However, of the four eyewitnesses, three admitted at trial that they either had reservations that the man they saw was McAfee or were unable to give a firm description of the man they saw. Whilst the fourth witness was certain that she saw McAfee, her descriptions were inconsistent. Moreover, although Ellis claimed at trial that it was McAfee who committed the murder, evidence strongly points to Ellis having committed the murder either with his brother or someone else. Ellis admitted to hiding the murder weapon, which was subsequently discovered by the police. He had washed his clothing, burned his training shoes, and cleaned a soot-covered television which he subsequently sold on to someone else. Hair and DNA of an estranged friend of the deceased were also found on a paraffin container cap and from another discarded paraffin container found in a cupboard amongst many others. This estranged friend was the police's primary suspect until McAfee went to the police on the 18 August 2004 to report on Ellis' admission. In addition, two prisoners were purported to have overheard a conversation whereby Ellis asserted that he was claiming that McAfee was involved in the killing because he had put his (Ellis) name forward to the police and was therefore going to bring him down for that reason. Following his failed appeal, McAfee submitted an application to the CCRC who refused his application on the basis that the grounds put forward had already been dismissed on his appeal. His case is currently investigated by the University of Portsmouth Innocence Project.

(17) MIRZA, Waseem

Waseem Mirza was convicted of murdering his pregnant ex-girlfriend Christine Askey at her home in Nevett Street, on the Callon Estate, Preston, in January 2001. On the face of it, the prosecution's case against Mr Mirza appeared to be strong. His semen was found on her top and on a piece of rag in the victim's house. His saliva was found also found on a cigarette butt. Mr Mirza's claim is that he visited the victim's house upon her invitation on the day of the incident, where he shared a cigarette with her and received oral sex; this would explain and semen and saliva found. In addition, there was overwhelming evidence of other men having been in the victim's house, including male hairs were found in the bath, male saliva found on a glass and unidentified semen found on a shirt. The victim's injuries had in all probability been caused by a right-handed person. This is significant as Mr Mirza is naturally left-handed and has previously sustained injuries to his right hand which would have made it difficult for him to inflict the injuries found on the victim. Furthermore, woollen fibres were found on the victim's face and nails and Mr Mirza has taken tests which prove he is allergic to wool, which could potentially suggest his lack of involvement in the crime. Finally, Mr Mirza claims that he has an alibi for the time the murder was committed as he was at home with his mother, sister and girlfriend. Since Mr Mirza's conviction, an unsigned letter was sent from India to a local newspaper where the anonymous writer had confessed to the murder. Mirza's application to the CCRC was refused in 2005. His case is currently investigated by the University of Gloucestershire Innocence Project.

(18) MOODY, Christopher

Christopher Moody was convicted in June 1998 of the murder of Maureen Comfort who was found dead in her flat in Leeds in January 1996. As a friend of the Maureen Comfort, Moody had the key to her flat. He voluntarily went to the police station after hearing the news of her death. However, he was not charged with the murder until more than two years later when he was in prison for a separate offence. There was no physical evidence linking him to the murder. He was convicted mainly on two alleged confessions. The first was to a close family friend of the deceased who was 14 years old at the time of trial. She claimed that Mr Moody had confessed to her in the summer of 1996 when she was 12 years old. However, she did not tell anyone about the confession until over a year after it allegedly took place. The second was to a fellow cell mate whose testimony was admitted in court despite his mental instability and contradictions in his evidence. To date, Mr Moody continues to protest his innocence of the murder and maintains that none of the confessions ever took place. The CCRC refused Mr Moody's application on two occasions after minimal investigations. No attempt was made to re-interview the witnesses despite the apparent inconsistencies in their evidence. The CCRC also failed to look at the police files, stating that "it seems that they may have accidentally been destroyed in a flood". In 2010, in what is thought to be an unprecedented move, the Parole Board acknowledged that they are "in no doubt that Mr Moody has solid grounds for maintaining his denial of involvement in this offence". His case is currently being investigated by the University of Bristol Innocence Project.

(19) MORGAN, Roger



Roger Morgan and his co-accused Stanley Hale were convicted on the 26th June 1998 of the murders of brothers Kraig (aged 10) and Graham Trickett (aged 14). He was sentenced to life imprisonment with a 15-year tariff. The brothers died as a result of a fire at their home in Woodrow estate, Redditch. The prosecution alleged that Mr Morgan assisted Mr Hale in setting the fire by driving him to and from the brothers' home. The alleged motive was a feud involving a bicycle theft shortly before the fire. The evidence against Mr Morgan was tenuous, with the eyewitness only claiming to have seen "two figures in the darkness". In addition, the prosecution claimed that Mr Morgan confessed to an ex-cell mate who was later alleged to have admitted that he lied because he heard that the victims were children. Mr Morgan maintains that he was with his partner and daughter at the time of the incident and his neighbours can testify to this. There is also a possibility that the fire was started due to an electrical fault.

(20) MORRIS, David



David Morris was convicted on 29 June 2001 for the murders of three generations of a family, two children, Katie Power (10), Emily Power (8), their mother, Mandy Power (34), and the children's grandmother, Doris Dawson (80) who were discovered

battered to death in their own home in Clydach, South Wales, on 27 June 1999. The crux of the prosecution case was that he was witnessed to have had an argument with one of the victims, Mandy Power, with whom he was having an affair, in a pub earlier in the evening. It was claimed that he later went to her address and murdered all 4 victims, before setting the house alight in an attempt to destroy any incriminating evidence. The evidence against Morris was circumstantial, comprising witnesses who gave bad character evidence and a gold bracelet that belonged to Morris which was discovered at the scene of crime covered in blood. His previous criminal record of violent offences was also deemed admissible by the trial judge. His original conviction was quashed at The Court of Appeal in 2005, however he was found guilty again on a retrial in 2006. Three other suspects were arrested in connection with the Clydach murders, including Mandy Power's lesbian lover, her husband, and his brother, both of whom were serving officers of South Wales Police. David Morris, who is currently 7 years into his 32-year sentence continues to protest his innocence, and is hoping new forensic evidence can be uncovered, which will exonerate him. His solicitor, assisted by the University of Winchester Innocence Project, is currently putting together a case to take to the CCRC.

(21) PLUMMER, Justin

On 16 December 1998, Justin Plummer was convicted of the murder of Janice Cartwright-Gilbert in Bedfordshire. Plummer was also convicted of six counts of burglary on 17 December 1998. The deceased was found in her caravan with multiple stab wounds to her chest and neck. Her face had been stamped on repeatedly, leaving a visible shoeprint. Two months later, Plummer was apprehended for a series of burglaries, to which he confessed. The police matched a pattern of shoeprint evidence from the burglaries to the murder scene. The prosecution expert witnesses determined that the sole of Plummer's trainer matched marks and indentations found on the victim's face. However, defence expert contradicted these findings. In addition, Mr Plummer also had an alibi at the time of the murder. There were no signs of forced entry in the caravan, which suggests that the deceased knew her assailant. The panic alarm had not been triggered and the dogs in the premises did not sound off. An eyewitness also claimed to have seen a "dark olive-skinned man" at the murder scene, who does not match the description of Plummer. Plummer appealed against his conviction on the basis that the judge had unfairly disclosed his confession to the burglaries, allowing the jury to infer that the murder was a burglary gone wrong. Following his unsuccessful appeal in 2000, Plummer applied to the CCRC which was also unsuccessful.

(22) ROSE, Nick



Nick Rose was convicted of the murder of Charlotte Pinkney, in Devon, in February 2005 and was sentenced to life imprisonment with a 20 year tariff. Ms Pinkney was last seen by her mother on the 27 February 2004. It was not until the 4 March 2004 that that her family reported her missing. Despite a large scale search by the police, Ms Pinkney's body was never found. The prosecution alleged that Mr Rose had murdered Ms Pinkney in his car on the morning of the 28 February 2004, after they had both been out on a party. Evidence used against Mr Rose include, spots of blood on his trainers and in his car; a button and thread identical to those on the trousers that Ms Pinkney was wearing on the

night in question found in a vacuum he used to clean his car with; Ms Pinkney's bag found along a track that Mr Rose's car was alleged to have driven passed; and, her boot found on wasteland close to Mr Rose's house. Mr Rose claims that the physical evidence could be explained by the fact that Ms Pinkney had been in his car on several occasions. On the morning in question, he had dropped Ms Pinkney off at the community centre after the party. As his car was running out of petrol and was not taxed or insured, he decided to dump the car at the reservoir. Mr Rose was seen carrying "something heavy" in a black bag, which he maintains was a shovel to dig the car out at the reservoir. Further, it was initially thought that Ms Pinkney had run away as she was in a violent relationship with a 41-year-old drug dealer. Most significantly, several witnesses gave evidence at trial and appeal claiming that they had all seen Ms Pinkney alive between 28 February and 7 March 2004, after the prosecution claimed that she had allegedly been murdered. In January 2008, Mr Rose made an application to the CCRC which was refused in February 2010 on the basis of lack of fresh evidence. His case is currently investigated by the University of Durham Innocence Project.

(23) SLANEY, Warren



For over two decades, Warren Slaney has been maintaining innocence of the infamous 'hot dog' murders that took place in 1990 Oadby in Leicestershire. He and another man, Terence Burke, were both convicted of the murder of fast food tycoon Gary Thompson and his associate John Weston. The two victims were found shot dead in Mr Thompson's front garden and sixty thousand pounds had been stolen. His death was claimed to have been a result of a botched robbery. Slaney was convicted after Burke and another man who admitted to conspiracy to rob, gave evidence for the prosecution that Slaney was the one who committed the shootings. In addition, another witness also claimed to have seen Slaney with Burke shortly before the shootings and claimed that he had boasted to others about the attack. However, claims have emerged that the shootings were committed by Iraqi night club owner Ramzy Khachik, whose car was spotted near the crime scene 2 hours prior to the shooting. Khachik is currently serving a sentence for drugs and firearms offences. Slaney had cast-iron alibi. He was seen by several friends and family at a party at the time of the murders. Further, he does not match the descriptions of the original accounts by eyewitnesses, who described the attackers as over 6 ft and heavily built (over 20 stones). Slaney is 5 ft 8 and weighed 9-10 stones at the time. The man who disposed of the gun admitted that Warren had nothing to do with the murders. This statement was not used in court. There was no forensic evidence linking Slaney to the murders despite his flat being searched 4 times by the police. In 2010, the CCRC refused Slaney's applications. His case is currently investigated by the University of Winchester Innocence Project.

(24) SPECK, Philip



Philip Speck was convicted of the murder of his neighbour, 82-year-old Rosie Smith, in Dagenham, Essex, in December 2001. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with

a tariff of 14 years. On the day the victim died, the defendant admitted to being in the victim's flat to use her telephone at 10.47am, during which the victim spoke to Speck's grandmother. CCTV evidence then showed Speck leaving the block of flats at 10.54am, where he proceeded to run errands and go to several public houses where he was seen by a number of witnesses. At 2.15pm Speck had a meeting with his solicitor regarding a child custody battle with his former wife. Upon arriving at the solicitors he was told that his solicitor had been called away on urgent business and could not see him. Upon returning to the block of flats, Speck came across two neighbours worried about the victim as they had not seen her, and then gained admittance to her flat to find her dead. The police initially held that the victim's death was not suspicious. As a result, the crime scene was not sealed, no exhibits were taken and her possessions were destroyed. Speck came to the police's attention due to his nervous and sweaty demeanour and his disposal of a piece of garment shortly after the victim's death. At trial, the prosecution adduced a witness – the secretary in the solicitors' office – who claimed that Speck said to her "I could kill a little old lady". Speck, however, maintains that he in fact stated, "I could kill my old lady" in reference to his wife over the custody battle. In addition, his sweatiness was due to his mental condition and secondly, the garment was disposed of due to an iron mark and no DNA belonging to the victim was found on it. CCTV evidence also showed Speck walking around at the approximate time of murder. Most significantly, there are major disputes over how the victim had actually died. Two pathologists had substantially different accounts of how the victim's neck injuries were sustained. One argued that they were caused by a fall over furniture and another held they were caused by throttling from behind. Speck's application to the CCRC in January 2007 was unsuccessful due to lack of substantial fresh evidence. His case is currently investigated by the Nottingham Trent University Innocence Project.

(25) SWINSCOE, Roy

Roy Swinscoe was convicted of armed robbery in Banbury, Oxfordshire, in October 2003, for which he received a life sentence with a tariff of seven years. The prosecution's case relied on identification by those working at the bank that was robbed, witnesses at a nearby car park, as well as by the police. There was also CCTV image of the armed robber, which the prosecution's facial mapping expert claimed, is Swinscoe. The defendant's appeal in April 2005 was on the grounds that the identification evidence is not him and should not have been used in the trial, but this was refused by the judge as it was deemed that the evidence was safe. His application to the CCRC in August 2005 was similarly unsuccessful. Swinscoe's case is currently investigated by the University of Portsmouth Innocence Project.

(26) TUCKER, Nicholas

On the evening of the 21 July 1995, Nicholas Tucker was driving home from the pub with his wife, Carol Burch, when their car veered off the road and plunged into the River Lark near Lackford in Suffolk. Tucker claims that what originally started as a tragic road-traffic accident soon became a murder inquiry that led to his conviction for murder in 1997. The prosecution alleged that Tucker murdered his wife so that he could move abroad to live with his lover and her children. They claimed that he had intentionally driven into the river, dragged Carol Burch from the car after it had entered the river, where he then partially strangled her before holding her under the water to drown her. Tucker has always maintained that his car swerved when he tried to avoid two deers on the road. There was a recognised fault with the passenger-side seat belt and pathologist reports indicated that there was no evidence of forced drowning. The prosecution changed its case several times and did not mention the forced drowning until the summing up of the trial. Also, due to the fact that the case was initially treated as not being suspicious, the car was left for several

months before it was forensically tested leading to potential contamination. Tucker served eleven years in prison before being released on parole. Following a failed appeal, Tucker made two applications to the CCRC on grounds of expert evidence supporting his contention that Burch's death was wholly accidental. Both applications were refused. Tucker's case is currently under investigation by the University of Cambridge Innocence Project.

(27) DA

DA was convicted in 2000 of the murder by strangulation of a 15-year-old schoolgirl in August 1995. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with a tariff of 16 years. The main evidence against DA comprised of DNA evidence obtained from a cigarette butt that was allegedly found at the crime scene. However, there is no photographic evidence to prove that the cigarette butt was indeed recovered from the crime scene. The cigarette butt was also destroyed following forensic testing and records of the chain of custody have been lost. There are also concerns that the cigarette butt may have, instead, been recovered outside DA's house rather than the crime scene as alleged. In November 2003, DA appealed to the CCRC on the basis of the unreliability of the DNA evidence against him. His application was refused primarily because arguments relating to the unreliability of the DNA evidence do not constitute new evidence required for a referral to the Court of Appeal. DA's case is currently being investigated by the University of Southampton Innocence Project.

(28) AB

On the 21st December 2000, AB was convicted of the murder and sentenced to life imprisonment, with a minimum term of 17 years. AB was convicted on the basis of handwriting analysis of a threatening letter sent to a person who knew the deceased and mixed DNA evidence from the stamp used on the letter. However, the prosecution failed to establish a clear motive for AB to have killed the victim. Research and cases in the United States have also demonstrated the inherent unreliability of mixed-DNA evidence. Furthermore, eye witness descriptions do not match AB and the prosecution relied upon evidence from drug dealers who had been granted immunity from prosecution in return for their testimonies. Despite these issues with the evidence against AB, the CCRC rejected his application, stating that there were "no grounds" for the case to be referred to the Court of Appeal. AB has served 11 years in prison to date, maintaining his innocence throughout.

(29) AF

AF was convicted on 28 July 2006 of 2 counts of common assault and 3 counts of assault occasioning actual bodily harm. It was alleged that he had assaulted the 5 victims and robbed one of them of his sandwich. He was convicted after being identified on a video identification parade. There is no physical evidence linking AF to the crimes. AF claims that he was mistakenly identified in the video identification procedure which was conducted in breach of statutory safeguards. There are also inconsistencies between the witness statements and the evidence furnished in court regarding the height, appearance and clothing of the assailant. In fact, one witness had failed to identify AF in the video identification procedure and two other witnesses were uncertain as to whether they had picked out the right person. AF's case is currently investigated by the University of the West of England Innocence Project.

(30) PH

In 2001, PH was sentenced to life imprisonment with a tariff of 16 years for murder. It was alleged that PH was one of a pair of masked men who shot dead the victim in May 2000. PH denies any involvement in the murder and maintains that he was dining with his fiancé and daughter at the time the crime occurred. He was implicated due to his business partnership with his co-defendant who had been a suspect in an earlier armed robbery. A prosecution witness linked PH to the aqua-green getaway car, claiming to have seen him driving a car of a similar model and colour weeks earlier. However the car which PH was test driving at the time was blue, not aqua-green in colour. PH is still seeking the CCTV evidence that could prove that he was dining in a restaurant at the time of the murder. Following rejection by the CCRC, his case is now being investigated by the University of Lancaster Innocence Project.

(31) TN

TN was convicted on the 10th of February 2010 of robbery. The prosecution alleged that TN was one of the three men who committed the robbery. On the night of the robbery, the three men attended the victim's house in relation to the sale of coins. The victim had had previous dealings with TN. During the course of the robbery, the victim was restrained and gagged by one of the robbers suffering bruising whilst TN had allegedly stole coins held in the property. He was convicted when the mobile number of one of the robbers was traced to him. TN's co-accused also claimed that he was a participant in the crime. However, the fact that two material prosecution witnesses, the victim and fellow coin dealer, had failed to identify TN as one of the robbers despite having met him on five occasions raises doubts as to the reliability of his conviction. In addition, there is no forensic or other physical evidence connecting TN. His appeal in March 2011 was dismissed and a subsequent application to the CCRC also failed on grounds of lack of fresh evidence. His case is being investigated by the University of Exeter Innocence Project.

(32) MP

MP was co-convicted of the murder of two elderly women in their home in June 1995. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with a tariff of 20 years of which he has now served 16 years, maintaining innocence throughout. The evidence against MP's co-defendant was overwhelming, comprising of fingerprint and eyewitness evidence. The evidence against MP however, consisted mainly of the testimony of another inmate who shared a cell with him whilst he was in prison on remand. The inmate who gave evidence against MP was psychologically unstable and had been witnessed by many other prisoners reading MP's case files. It was also claimed that the inmate was also hoping to strike a deal to shorten his sentence for sexual offences against children. In addition, the prosecution produced tenuous expert witness testimony that cigarette butts retrieved from the crime scene proved MP's presence due to the way the cigarettes had been extinguished. MP's first appeal took place in 2002 and on the grounds that the defence had failed to call witnesses that could have discredited the inmate's testimony. This was accepted as new evidence but dismissed. In 2010, the CCRC referred MP's case back to the Court of Appeal when DNA testing on the cigarette butts at the crime scene claimed to be MP's proved that they had been smoked by MP's co-defendant, not him. Further evidence was also produced in relation to the inmate's psychological instability. However, despite overwhelming evidence supporting MP's claim of innocence, his appeal was again dismissed on the basis that the psychological evidence had been available at the original trial; that the evidence against MP remained "compelling" despite the new forensic evidence; and it was still possible that MP had been there at the time of the murders.

(33) MS

MS was convicted in 1989 of arson and murder that occurred in a house. The prosecution alleged that following a party at the house earlier in the evening, MS returned to the house and, as the occupants slept, set fire to the house. One person died and several others were injured at the time. The prosecution relied on the evidence of a witness who went to the police six months after the incident, claiming that MS had confessed to him that he was responsible for the fire. A man of bad character, the witness claimed at trial that he had turned over a new leaf and wanted to give evidence against MS out of a sense of public duty. However, prior to the alleged confession to the witness, all evidence pointed to the cause of the fire as an electrical component fault within a faulty HiFi, and the coroner's inquest recorded a verdict of accidental death. Following an unsuccessful appeal in 1991 and a subsequent application to C3 Division, MS's case was then passed to the CCRC when it started handling cases. The CCRC was presented with a pro bono report from an electrical engineer confirming that the fault in the stereo could have been the cause of the fire. The witness that MS had allegedly confessed to was also subsequently convicted of sexually abusing his two young nieces from 1984 up until his arrest and conviction in 2000. It was during this conviction that information emerged that the witness suffered from multiple mental and personality disorders. After a four-year review, the CCRC decided not to refer his case back to the Court of Appeal. A judicial review against the CCRC's decision was made which ultimately led to a further 3-year review until 2009, when it again decided not to refer MS's case back to the Court of Appeal. MS's case is currently investigated by the Nottingham Trent University Innocence Project.

Cases 27-33 have been redacted as we have not yet received consent to discuss in the public domain.

Dossier of Convictions for Sexual Offences

Around 70 per cent of applications to the Innocence Network UK consist of convictions of sexual offences. The vast majority of these applicants were convicted solely on the allegations of the accusers. The names of these applicants have been anonymised to protect their identities and the witnesses involved.

(34) AL

AL was convicted of rape and sentenced to 8 years imprisonment. It was alleged that he went out to a red light area in Doncaster and picked up the complainant who was a prostitute. He then took her to a secluded place, where he raped her and assaulted her which left her with a black eye. The complainant alleged that she had asked for money before she would perform any sexual act but he then forced her to have sex. After the incident, she called 999 and reported that she was raped and assaulted. The complainant took the registration number of AL's car and this was then traced by the police. AL was convicted on the complainant's testimony and medical evidence to support her allegations of assault. Whilst AL did not deny having sexual intercourse with the complainant, he maintained that it was entirely consensual and did not, at any point, assault the complainant. Following AL's conviction, it emerged that the complainant had previously made another allegation of rape involving another punter in the same location. More significantly, she retracted her evidence in a statement to the CCRC, claiming that AL did not rape or assault her. This new statement to the CCRC was subsequently retracted. The complainant's ex-boyfriend, who was also a prosecution witness at trial, also made a new statement to the CCRC in which he admitted being the person who assaulted the complainant. In 2004, the CCRC took a statement from another of the complainant's boyfriend who claimed that she admitted to making a false allegation and that she felt guilty that AL was in prison for something he had not done. AL made three applications to the CCRC and all three applications had been refused.

(35) A, John

John A was convicted of 10 counts of historical sexual offences against three of his step-children in 2004 and sentenced to 14 years imprisonment. Mr A had originally been accused of sexually abusing one of his step-daughters back in 1989 and the family was made known to the social services after concerns were raised about the children's welfare and A's suspected violent behavior. Mr A was acquitted of all guilt. In 1998, Mr A was again accused by two of his step-children of a variety of sexual assaults and inappropriate behavior. The trial was halted by the judge when evidence from a medical examination of one of the complainants when she was 12 years old was produced. The evidence concluded that she was a virgin at the time which conflicted with her evidence stating ritualistic abuse from the age of 10. A second trial was ordered, this time with evidence from Mr A's third step-child, following which he was convicted. Mr A maintains that the allegations were entirely fabricated. Since his conviction, previously undisclosed evidence involving unusual markings on his genitals were revealed. This was not described by any of the complainants in their testimonies, shedding further doubt on their credibility. Mr A's case has been reviewed by the CCRC twice and was refused on both occasions.

(36) D

Mr D was convicted on the 27th October 1993 for 3 counts of rape and 4 counts of incest against one of his daughters and two of his step-daughters. The case was brought by the complainants over 15 years after the alleged offences took place. There were major inconsistencies in their accounts, including claims that they were made pregnant and had

abortions, although no evidence was produced to substantiate their claims. One of Mr D's daughters stood as part of the defence and one of the charges was dismissed in court due to lack of evidence. Mr D's application to the CCRC was refused in 2003. He was released on parole after serving 8 years in prison and continues to seek to overturn his conviction.

(37) DH

DH was convicted of eight counts of rape, two counts of attempted rape, nine counts of indecent assault, and two counts of indecency with a child. The complainants were five young girls who were known to DH. DH was convicted on the testimonies of the complainants and that of his ex-wife. No physical or medical evidence was produced to support these allegations. The allegations were made shortly after DH's application for residence with his son had been submitted. DH claims that the allegations were perpetrated by his ex-wife out of fear that she might lose custody of their only son together. In addition, one of the complainants changed her statement on the day of the trial. DH's appeal was dismissed in 2007. A subsequent application to the CCRC also failed.

(38) E, Paul

Paul E. was convicted in 2006 following a series of allegations of sexual abuse from his stepdaughters. He was sentenced to 9 years imprisonment. The evidence of the prosecution amounted to a series of allegations made by the complainants and their mother. The abuse allegedly took place between 1970 and 1981. However, it was not until 2005 that any allegations against the accused were made. The lapse of time meant that Mr E faced added difficulties in finding evidence to disprove the allegations against him. Despite this, he successfully disproved the occurrence of 8 of the charges against him but was ultimately convicted of one count of rape and 3 counts of indecent assault. Following a failed appeal, Mr E made two applications to the CCRC, both of which were refused on grounds of lack of fresh evidence.

(39) F, Andrew

Andrew F. was convicted two counts of rape, and four counts of indecent assault of his teenage nephew. These offences were alleged to have taken place when the complainant was 13-16 years old. There was no medical evidence to support these allegations. Further, the complainant's descriptions of the events that took place were inconsistent and would not have been possible given the layout of the house at the time when the offences were said to have taken place. Andrew F had made 3 applications to the CCRC, all of which have been rejected.

(40) F, Steven

Steven F. was sentenced to nine years imprisonment in 2007 following his conviction of eight counts of indecent assault and two counts of oral rape against his step-daughter. The prosecution alleged that the abuse had occurred regularly since the age of nine. The evidence against Steven F comprised solely of the testimony of the complainant and her friend. However, DNA testing which might support or discredit the prosecution's case failed to be carried out. Additionally, Steven F's wife and young son were in the house when some of these events were alleged to have taken place. Steven F's wife gave evidence in his defence that at the time when the allegations were made, the complainant was distraught over a death in the family and was rebelling against her authority. She had also previously accused a neighbour of a similar offence. Following a recent rejection by the CCRC, his case is currently being investigated by the Nottingham Trent University Innocence Project.

(41) H, John (deceased)

Mr H was convicted of attempted buggery and indecent assault on a male in December 1999 and served 4 years in prison. The alleged offences were said to have occurred in the 1970s at a school which he worked. The allegation came amongst a batch of allegations made by ex-pupils against the ex-employees of the school. Mr H was convicted solely on the allegations of the complainant, which he had always denied took place. Due to the lapse of time – the charges being brought nearly three decades after they allegedly happened, there was no means of obtaining physical evidence to defend against the allegations. Mr H's case was investigated by the University of Bradford Innocence Project until his recent death in 2011.

(42) LB

LB was convicted of 8 counts of rape and 2 counts of cruelty to children in 2005 at Norwich Crown Court and sentenced to 11 years in prison. The offences were alleged to have occurred between 1968 and 1980. The prosecution's case against him was based on his daughter's allegations of rape. She claimed that had LB had raped her on a weekly basis between the ages of 9 to 14. His other two daughters claimed he had beaten them and tied them to the toilet and the bath. The mother of the complainants gave testimony supporting these claims. LB argued that he was not present for most of the complainant's childhood as he was working overseas. Two of his sons and his eldest daughter also gave testimonies supporting their father's claim of innocence. In 2007, LB made an application to the CCRC on the basis of new documentary evidence proving that he was not in the country during the occasions when the alleged abused took place. Despite this, his application was refused by the CCRC.

(43) MC

MC, a dentist, was convicted in 2006 of one count of indecent assault and one count of sexual activity with a child. The three complainants alleged that MC had indecently assaulted them during a routine treatment at his dental surgery. The jury found MC not guilty with respect to the charges brought by the third claimant but convicted him on charges relating to the other two complainants. Following MC's conviction, it emerged that the first complainant had previously made false allegations against her stepfather and uncle, with a police video interview showing her retracting her allegation against her uncle. The same victim gave evidence at trial of previous occasions where MC touched her inappropriately. However, records indicate that she had not visited the dental surgery during the dates in question and this was confirmed by her mother. Social Services records for the second complainant were also not disclosed to the defence at trial, depriving him of the ability to adequately assess her credibility. MC's case was dismissed at appeal and a subsequent application to the CCRC was also unsuccessful.

(44) R, Eric

Eric R. was convicted in of six counts of rape and one of indecent assault against his step-daughter and was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment. The offences were said to have occurred when the victim was aged 12-16 but allegations were not made until ten years afterwards. The only evidence against Mr R is the allegations of the victim, corroborated by her sister's testimony. However, there are significant inconsistencies between the complainant's accounts to various witnesses and the police in terms of how many rapes took place, where and when they happened. Further, the complainant had made previous similar allegations against 2 other men although no police reports were filed. Mr R's case was refused by the CCRC in 2005 due to lack of fresh evidence.