

Suzy Lamplugh: Cast of Characters

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Family

Diana Lamplugh, mother. Founded the Suzy Lamplugh Trust.

Paul Lamplugh, father.

Richard Lamplugh, brother. Richard appeared in the Channel 5 documentary.

Suzy Lamplugh was younger than Richard but the eldest of three sisters.

Tamsin Lamplugh, younger sister of Suzy.

Lizzie Lamplugh, the youngest sibling.

Uncle believes Suzy had a relationship with a married man from Bristol.

Colleagues at Sturgis

David Craddock was a fee-earner, a negotiator like Suzy. He was on holiday when she disappeared.

Mark Gurdon, the manager of Sturgis Fulham and Suzy's manager.

Nigel Hindle, a negotiator who had a memorable and quite intense argument with Suzy in the office on the morning of the day she went missing. He dated Stephanie Flower for around 4 years at this time.

Stephanie Flower, receptionist. In a relationship with Nigel Hindle.

James Calvert, work colleague at Sturgis. He claims Suzy asked him for the keys to 37 Shorrolds Road to do her viewing with "Mr Kipper" in the Channel 5 documentary but this claim is questioned by subsequent events.

Australian Temp Receptionist

Keith Perry led the residential division of Sturgis, a very senior figure who interviewed Suzy for her job.

Martin Sturgis, owner of the estate agency.

Others

Harry Riglin, lived in Shorrolds Road and provided the photofit of the man seen in that street on the Monday afternoon Suzy disappeared. He also stated the man had a dark-coloured 1970s BMW car. The car was remembered specifically because it had been double parked, blocking the road.

Nicholas Doyle is the man who was walking to North End Road market on 28th June at lunch time and claims to have seen Suzy and a man with champagne outside 37 Shorrolds Road at around 1pm.

Barbara Whitfield is the friend of Suzy's who thinks she saw Suzy driving her Fiesta in Fulham Palace Road on the day of the disappearance.

John Herring knew Suzy and incredibly, was sometimes known as Kipper. He lived in Wardo Avenue but moved out around 6 months before the disappearance... into a house in Shorrolds Road. In Suzy's work diary for 28 July, above the Kipper entry, she had written "142 Wardo". This led some people to suggest that Mr Kipper was a word-association fiction thought up by Suzy when she invented the Kipper entry to cover her lunchtime errands.

Peter Herring, brother of John.

John Cannan, a rapist convicted for the murder of Shirley Banks. He has been repeatedly linked to the Suzy Lamplugh investigation. He made a dating video after he relocated to Bristol as John Peterson. He pretended to be a successful businessman in the video. John Cannan is also a suspect in the unsolved murder of Sandra Court who was found dead in a stream in Bournemouth in May 1986. This was during Cannan's day release. He used to drive a red Sierra to Bournemouth at this time. The Lamplugh reinvestigation team tracked down the Sierra and found hairs that were a partial match for Sandra. The match was not close enough to justify a charge.

Ali Lenk was a former colleague of John Cannan. He had no idea Cannan was violent.

Gilly Paige, girlfriend of John Cannan. On a drive up the M5 one day with John, she remembers they drove to the remote Norton Barracks. Cannan gave her the impression that this is where Suzy was buried by saying something like "This is where it happened" or "Do you want to see where Suzy is?" These statements were made to the press, and were not mentioned in her original police interviews. When the police revisited her to check these new claims, she retracted all of them. She is not a reliable witness.

Wendy Jones lived in Stevenage Road and her house was being sold through Sturgis. Suzy's car was found opposite Wendy's house on 28th July 1986.

Unnamed Male Witness claims that he was out jogging when he saw John Cannan's black BMW in Stevenage Road with a blonde female passenger who was either laughing or

screaming. Testimony from the reinvestigation started in 2000 and shown on Channel 5 documentary.

Unnamed Female Witness describes how her (now dead) friend Dave saw a man Dave believed to be John Cannan dumping a black bag, large enough to hold a body, in the Grand Union Canal. Dave witnessed this from the towpath. The bag was on wheels and looked "very heavy". Dave had to step aside to let the man past, and got a good look at him at this moment. Dave was so alarmed that he reported it to the Met police after work that day. The information was lost and was not acted upon. When Dave saw John Cannan in the paper in relation to the Shirley Banks case, he went to the trial to see John Cannan in person. Dave firmly believes the man on the towpath was John Cannan and he could not get the Met to take his report seriously.

Police / Justice

Mick Jones, Detective Constable. Mr Lamplugh showed Mick Jones to Suzy's house around 19:30 on 28th July 1986, the day she vanished.

Peter Johnstone, CID investigating officer, receives a call at home at 21:00 on the day of the disappearance. He decided that evening to treat the disappearance as a murder enquiry, based on what he knew of Suzy's character and the discovery of her abandoned car.

Mike Barley, Detective Sergeant, later Inspector. Was called by Johnstone soon after Johnstone had returned to work to deal with the case personally. Barley is tasked with setting up the incident room. The disappearance is already being treated very seriously.

Nick Carter, Detective Superintendent, took charge of the case 7am on the day after the disappearance and led the case until his retirement that winter. He appears in the BBC Crimewatch of October 1986. Sue Cook suggests to Nick Carter during Crimewatch that Carter is happier with Nicholas Doyle's description of Kipper than the Riglin description. Carter suggests the man is 25-30 with a dark complexion and something like a broken nose.

Malcolm Hackett, Detective Superintendent, is assigned to lead the investigation as SIO, 9th January 1987 after the retirement of Carter. Hackett refuses to consider John Cannan as a suspect for many months, and did not like the Lamplughs getting too involved in the investigation.

Graeme Gwyn, Detective Chief Inspector.

Barry Webb, Detective Chief Superintendent Reading CID. He contacts Hackett to suggest he investigates rapist John Cannan in connection with the Lamplugh investigation. From 1999 - 2002 he heads the Met's Murder Review Group.

Gill Durman, Family Liaison Officer, Lamplugh Reinvestigation 2000 - 2002.

Jim Dickie took charge of the Lamplugh reinvestigation as SIO at the start of 2000. He was responsible for organising the digitisation of the 26,000 index cards.

Stewart Ault, Investigating Officer at the reinvestigation, 2000 - 2003. He says the Cannan alibi for the Lamplugh disappearance is flawed. The witness providing the alibi was mistaken about dates.

Brian Edwards, Detective Superintendent interviewed Gilly Paige when she retracted all of her outlandish statements about John Cannan burying Suzy Lamplugh near Norton Barracks.

Clive Mole, Detective Inspector, West Midlands Police, Sutton Coldfield. He was involved in the 1981 arrest of John Cannan for the rape of a pregnant woman in front of her toddler.

Brock Harrison, Detective Constable, Sutton Coldfield was also involved in the 1981 Cannan investigation.

Stuart Sampson, CPS Special Casework Lawyer who was involved in reviewing the police file linking Cannan to the Lamplugh case. He supports the CPS view that there was no chance of a conviction without direct evidence and without a body. Nevertheless the police held a press conference with Paul and Diana Lamplugh in which they named John Cannan.

Dr Donna Youngs, Investigative Psychologist who profiled John Cannan in the Channel 5 documentary.

Journalists / Writers

Peter Wilson, crime writer, London Evening Standard. Wilson suggests that female estate agents were comparatively unusual at the time, and Sturgis put Suzy in the window of its corner office at 654 Fulham Road to attract business.

Sarah Baxter, Deputy Editor, Sunday Times.

Joan Smith, Journalist and author.

Andrew Alderson, Sunday Express.

Prince of Wales Pub, Putney

Michael Hutchings, licensee and landlord.

Zoe Hutchings, married to Michael.

Clive Vole was the stand-in manager when Michael and Zoe went to visit Zoe's sister's newborn baby on 28th July 1986.

Karen Furness was Clive's partner and looked after the pub with him the week that Michael and Zoe were away in Wales.

Locations

49 Disraeli Road, Suzy's home was in a flat at the top of the property in Putney.

37 Shorrolds Road is the Sturgis property noted in Suzy's diary for the Mr Kipper meeting.

654 Fulham Road is the address of the Sturgis office where Suzy worked.

138 Upper Richmond Road, Prince of Wales pub, Putney.

Stevenage Road is where Suzy's car was found at 10pm on the day she vanished. It was left opposite Wendy Jones's house at a property that was listed with Sturgis and had a board outside.

Sources

Book: ***Finding Suzy*** by David Videcette, 2021.

The Vanishing of Suzy Lamplugh, UK, Channel 5 documentary made by Turquoise TV, aired Wednesday 16th December 2020 and available to stream on My5.

BBC Crimewatch, October 1986, 12 weeks after Suzy disappeared.