

Chillenden murderer Michael Stone demands ‘justice’ in new letter from prison

Stone's letter claims he is “condemned to life in prison because of a lie”

BY **Andy Gardner**

Dan Warburton

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Michael Stone shouts as he departs from a court in September 2005 (Image: Getty)

Hammer attacker Michael Stone says he is willing to take a lie detector test in the latest bid to clear his name.

He has accepted the sick challenge from a fellow monster to 'prove' who battered Lin Russell and daughter Megan to death 14 years ago in Chillenden.

Stone vows to take the test - if serial killer Levi Bellfield provides the DNA he claims would clear his name, the Mirror reports exclusively.

Stone, 57 – jailed after a fellow lag said he confessed to the crime while awaiting trial – whines in a prison letter to the Sunday Mirror: “I want justice with the real murderer exposed.

“I’m condemned to life in prison because of a lie.”

Stone’s DNA was never found at the scene of the savage attack in Chillenden, in 1996.

And his legal team now wants samples from Bellfield, 52, to test against exhibits.

The row between the two fiends, both held in HMP Frankland, Durham, blew up three years ago.

Stone claimed DNA from Bellfield would prove he killed doctor Lin, 45, and Megan, six, as they walked home from a swimming gala.



Michael Stone was jailed for the murder of a mum and her daughter

Wheel-clamper Bellfield – serving life for killing Milly Dowler, 13, Marsha McDonnell, 19, and Amelie Delagrang, 22, in South West London between 2002 and 2004 – denied the accusation. And he said he would only give DNA if Stone took an advanced polygraph test – which Bellfield claimed would prove his guilt.

Now, Stone writes: “Levi Bellfield may well deny doing it but even he knows he is far from eliminated as a suspect. I would take him up on his challenge if he would

provide a DNA sample. I am condemned to life in prison because one desperate liar claimed I confessed.”

Drug addict Damian Daley told police Stone confessed as they were held in adjoining cells at Canterbury jail.

But the Mirror last month revealed letters from ex-lags casting doubt on his testimony amid claims he was a paid police informant.

Daley is now serving life for the murder of a drug dealer.



Serial killer Levi Bellfield is currently in prison for several murders (Image: Metropolitan Police)

Stone is serving three life sentences over the Chillenden murders. He lost a retrial in 2001 and an appeal in 2005.

Josie, then nine, was the only survivor of the assault. She was left for dead with catastrophic head injuries but recovered and now works as an artist.

Stone’s lawyers want tests on a string bag of Lin’s containing six strips of torn towel found near the bodies; Lin’s right shoe lace, which was tied around her wrist; a hair found on her T-shirt; and two of four hairs found on Josie’s shoes that were not linked to the victims.



Lin Russell and her daughters Megan (left) and Josie (right)

Bellfield's DNA is held on the national database, compiled from samples at crime scenes. It has 5.8million profiles but cops are not compelled to share.

Bellfield is also protected under privacy laws, which means he does not have to give a sample. Previous checks revealed "partial" DNA at the scene which could narrow suspects.

Stone's barrister, Mark McDonald, said: "I am told we know from Bellfield's familial history he will have some unique DNA markers. A sample would help show whether somebody like him was at the scene."

'There is no evidence to support these claims'

But Det Supt Paul Fotheringham of Kent Police said: "Following two trials and an unsuccessful appeal, Michael Stone remains convicted of the murders of Lin and Megan and the attempted murder of Josie.

"Furthermore, [an] investigation was carried out by the Met into allegations concerning Levi Bellfield and concluded there is no evidence to support those claims.

"Since Stone's conviction, there have been allegations and statements set against what has already been disclosed and they have not provided information that changes the position of Kent Police."

Conversation

All Comments



Goodboybadman 8 OCTOBER 2020

No DNA of Stone at the scene, that in itself seems just cause for further investigation



missred1954 7 OCTOBER 2020

o and by the way Kent police take people's voluntary statements and weave them into the court as evidence, since when did a volunteer statement be used in court? so be very careful of what you say to them.



missred1954 7 OCTOBER 2020

kent police could not hold a piss-up in a brewery

MA

maninthestreet2 5 OCTOBER 2020

I am a bit confused. I thought that if a crime was committed, the police could search the complete DNA database to see if any known person's DNA was there too. Why can't they check these items against Bellfield's DNA? If Michael Stone is the wrong person, he deserves justice.

<https://www.kentlive.news/news/kent-news/chillenden-murderer-michael-stone-demands-4573981>