

## **Journalist Arrested For Harassing Dead Girl**

**On September 29, Surrey Police made a public appeal for information concerning the unsolved murder of Scott Wilkinson, whose body was found in the River Thames this July. The following day, five officers in a car and a van travelled to Sydenham - outside their jurisdiction - where they arrested Alexander Baron, not on suspicion of murder or committing any real crime, but for harassing a girl who had been dead for nine years.**

**Later that day, two defectives who might have been better deployed investigating an unsolved murder grilled him over an article published in July 2015, and a video that was uploaded to YouTube in July this year, a video that is still there and which no attempt has been made to remove because it is perfectly legal.**

**The two defectives concerned - DC P451558 Wilcox and DC P4540577 Poynter - did not appear to understand the difference between the criminal law and the civil law, nor that in the UK it is impossible to either harass or defame the dead.**

**Furthermore, before making this arrest they appear to have carried out no investigation at all, taking at face value the claims of a woman who had already caused his arrest twice - in 2011 and 2012 - a woman he has not seen since September 2008.**

**When he arrived home on the night of September 30, Mr Baron found his computer had been seized along with a number of memory sticks and an unspecified number of documents. This seizure was made in his absence, no notice was left as to what had been seized, and it was clearly both illegal and excessive. The incompetence of the police was such that they managed to both misspell his address *and* put the wrong date of birth on his bail sheet.**

**At 08.57 on Friday, November 25, he received a phone call from Surrey Police telling him his bail had been extended for a second time.**

**Because of restrictions on his bail he is unable to discuss the minutiae of the case, suffice it to say it is in no way either terror or sex related.**

**This is actually the sixth time since 1993 he has been the victim of this kind of harassment; the first three seizures were purely political. The 2011 arrest and seizure, which was made by City of London Police, related to an e-mail or series of e-mails sent on July 26 that year. Like Surrey Police, if the City of London Police had carried out even the most cursory of investigations they would have realised that Mr Baron's computer was not switched on at the material time as he left home that morning and did not return until late evening.**

**Something that should be of interest and perhaps cause alarm to civil libertarians is that when the police seize a computer from a suspect they back it up and do not destroy the backups after the investigation, even if the initiating complaint is shown to be groundless. They claim they destroy the backups, but they simply lie, something the British police do as a matter of course. He has documentary proof of this.**

**Something that should be of interest to other journalists and researchers - including in this age countless citizen journalists - is that the police now have the power and the arrogance to walk into your home, disrupt your life, seize your computers and phones, and hold onto them for months not because they have reasonable suspicion that you have committed a crime, but simply because you have published something in a public forum that someone finds or claims**

**is offensive. Over thirty million people in the UK have Facebook accounts - including you, no doubt - which means we can all be treated like this. If you are happy with this state of affairs, bear in mind next time you hear reports about censorship and state repression in China, Iran, Russia, or one of the Arab states, that state repression and tyranny begin at home.**

**Alexander Baron currently has limited Internet access but can be contacted at [a\\_baron@btinternet.com](mailto:a_baron@btinternet.com). He is particularly interested in hearing from overseas media outlets.**

**A researcher with a track record of close to thirty years, his recent projects include exposing the lies of the sexual grievance industry and creating an on-line archive of the now defunct anti-censorship organisation NCROPA. Last month he gave a presentation to *The Extremists Club* called *The Great Free Speech Experiment*. In the past he has appeared on both Islamic radio and Iranian television.**