

# The Ghost Of John Worboys

By **Alexander Baron** - Apr 2, 2015

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In March 2009, London taxi driver John Worboys was convicted of attacking 12 women. His *modus operandi* was to pick up a woman who had been out drinking, tell her he had won the lottery – a claim backed up by a wad of cash on the front seat – then invite her to share a celebration drink with him. The next thing the victim would remember was...not remembering anything.

Worboys was given a life sentence, and is unlikely to see daylight again; it is believed he may have claimed many more victims. The police came in for a great deal of criticism at the time, but they appear to have upped their game since, because on March 30 it was reported that another black cab driver had been gaoled for rape. Unlike Worboys, John

Perry **pleaded guilty**, which might account for why he received a relatively lenient sentence for sexually assaulting two vulnerable women. He faced a total of four charges dating from January 2013 and May last year, but clearly there remains the possibility that there were other victims.



*Black cab rapist John Worboys was gaoled for life in 2009 (Image Credits: Metropolitan Police)*

North of the border, another taxi driver was **recently convicted** of raping a young woman. Arshad Mohammed has yet to be sentenced; he raped a 19 year old woman in November 2010, was arrested months later, and in spite of feeding the police a cock and bull story, he was granted bail. He would be arrested in Norway and extradited only in August of last year. He too can expect a substantial sentence, and like Perry it may be that he attacked or at least tried it on with other victims.

Finally, in Northern Ireland, the nine year sentence on former taxi driver Muhammed Akbar Nabi was upheld last month when the Court of Appeal ruled the defence case **lacked any plausibility**.

Although black cab drivers are vetted carefully, it has to be asked if incidents like these could not be largely averted in an age in which people routinely carry around cameras in their pockets.