# Man jailed for manslaughter following fatal pub attack in Dereham



Michael O'Dwyer, known locally as Mr Spooner, was the victim of a brutal and unprovoked attack by Tyrone Busch at the Red Lion pub in Dereham on 20 July last year. The incident unfolded shortly after both men had been drinking together, leading to a violent confrontation that left Mr O'Dwyer lying motionless on the ground for approximately ten minutes.

Witnesses reported that following the assault, Busch remained calm, finishing his drink without trying to assist Mr O'Dwyer, who eventually received help from others in the vicinity. After being taken to a nearby flat for rest, Mr O'Dwyer’s health rapidly declined, prompting a call for an ambulance. He was subsequently transported to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital in the early hours of 21 July.

Despite efforts to stabilise his condition, Mr O'Dwyer sustained severe injuries, including significant trauma to the jaw and a fracture at the back of his skull. A post-mortem examination revealed that the injuries were consistent with a heavy punch and the impact of hitting the ground. Tragically, Mr O'Dwyer was placed on life support but passed away later that same day once it was switched off.

Tyrone Busch, formerly from Norwich, faced charges relating to the attack and ultimately admitted to manslaughter during a hearing at Norwich Crown Court in January. The court handed down an extended sentence of twelve years, comprising eight years of imprisonment followed by an additional four years on licence.

At a recent inquest review hearing, coroner Samantha Goward confirmed that the criminal proceedings had concluded. She stated, “We have now been notified that in relation to the investigation into the death of Mr O'Dwyer, which was previously suspended on March 28, criminal proceedings have now concluded.” As a result, she assessed the evidence and determined that there was no requirement to resume the inquest into Mr O'Dwyer’s death.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.norfolk.police.uk/news/norfolk/news/news/2025/january/man-jailed-for-manslaughter/> - This article reports on Tyrone Busch's sentencing for the manslaughter of Michael O'Dwyer, confirming the 12-year sentence comprising eight years in custody and four years on extended licence.
2. <https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2024-07-26/tributes-paid-to-kind-and-gentle-dad-who-died-after-attack-near-pub> - This piece includes tributes to Michael O'Dwyer, describing him as a 'kind and gentle' father who died after an assault outside a pub in Dereham.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cyx04g1eeyko> - This article details the assault on Michael O'Dwyer outside the Red Lion pub in Dereham, leading to his death from a traumatic head injury.
4. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cde9zrdl7w2o> - This report covers the sentencing of Tyrone Busch for the fatal one-punch attack on Michael O'Dwyer outside a pub in Dereham.
5. <https://www.norfolk.police.uk/news/norfolk/news/news/2024/december/man-admits-manslaughter---dereham/> - This article discusses Tyrone Busch's admission of manslaughter in the death of Michael O'Dwyer following an unprovoked attack outside a pub in Dereham.
6. <https://www.irishpost.com/news/man-jailed-over-manslaughter-of-michael-odwyer-who-died-in-fatal-one-punch-attack-284868> - This piece reports on the sentencing of Tyrone Busch for the manslaughter of Michael O'Dwyer, who died after a fatal one-punch attack outside a pub in Dereham.
7. <https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25140466.norfolk-coroner-suspends-dereham-pub-death-punch-inquest/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data