# Sexual violence and fraud dominate latest court cases in Scotland



# Recent Court Round-Up: Unfolding Tales of Crime in Scotland

In a series of troubling court cases in Scotland, community safety has been thrust into the spotlight, revealing the alarming behaviours of a few individuals whose actions have left a lasting impact on victims and communities alike.

One of the most severe cases involved Kyle Kernachan, a 28-year-old man from Dewar Street in Lochgelly, who was sentenced to eight years in prison for his horrifying crimes against two women. Kernachan was found guilty of using a crowbar to sexually assault a woman between February 2015 and October 2016. Additionally, he raped another woman in January 2017 while she was intoxicated and asleep, thus unable to provide consent. Following his trial at the High Court in Edinburgh, he was also placed on the sex offenders register for life. These appalling acts underline a concerning trend of sexual violence in Scotland, emphasised by growing calls from advocacy groups for more robust measures to protect potential victims.

In a separate incident, Ivan Georgiev, a first-time offender aged 33, appeared before Forfar Sheriff Court after admitting to a violent assault on a father and son on Arbroath’s High Street. The court heard that on July 27, 2024, Georgiev brandished a wooden stick, injuring both victims. The court proceedings revealed not only the immediate consequences of his actions but also raised questions about underlying social issues contributing to such behaviours, particularly among young males. Sheriff James Hastie has deferred sentencing until June 19, allowing time for background reports, a common practice aimed at assessing the offender's circumstances and potential for rehabilitation.

Shifting focus to the world of amateur sports, Andrew Stevenson, a goalkeeper for Kinrossie AFC, became embroiled in chaos during a particularly disastrous league match resulting in a staggering 21-0 defeat. Frustration boiled over as Stevenson physically attacked two of his teammates, raising concerns about sportsmanship and the pressures athletes face at all levels. Such incidents arguably highlight a troubling culture in certain amateur sports where emotions can frequently lead to violent outbursts.

In another troubling development, Alistair Baxter, a conman and joiner, has been sentenced for scamming over 60 victims across Scotland. He deceived people by promising to build sheds and summer houses, gaining more than £100,000 in deposits without completing any work. This case exemplifies the impact of fraud on communities, where trusting individuals have suffered financial ruin due to dubious operators. The sheriff’s pointed remarks, noting that “the public is fed up with bogus workmen”, reflect a broader discontent with fraud that undermines trust in skilled trades.

In further bizarre incidents, disqualified driver Leon Eccles was caught in a precarious situation after getting stuck in a river during a dangerous drive in Angus. Having a history of reckless driving, Eccles’ actions have drawn attention to the dangers posed by habitual offenders. His reckless journey, which included excessive speeds and erratic driving, ended abruptly when he attempted to navigate a flooded ford. His upcoming sentencing on June 12 will likely focus on the ongoing challenge of managing repeat offenders in dangerous driving cases.

These recent court cases are a stark reminder of the multifaceted issues facing Scottish society, where violent crime, fraud, and reckless behaviour have become concerning motifs. As officials continue to grapple with prevention and enforcement, communities across Scotland are watching closely, hoping for stronger measures to deter such offences in the future.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/), [[2]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/), [[5]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/), [[3]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/)
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* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/), [[4]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5237888/wednesday-court-round-up-predator-jailed/> - An article detailing recent court cases in Scotland, including the sentencing of a man for sexually assaulting a woman with a crowbar and raping another while she slept. The piece also covers other cases, such as a conman joiner who scammed people across Scotland with fake promises to build sheds and summer houses, and a disqualified dangerous driver who got stuck in a river in Angus.
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