# Man accused of murdering dog walker planted phone to frame innocent suspect, court hears



A troubling case of murder and deception is unfolding in a courtroom in Suffolk, where 56-year-old Roy Barclay stands accused of brutally attacking and killing dog walker Anita Rose. The prosecution alleges that Barclay not only committed the murder but also engineered an elaborate scheme to mislead police into arresting an innocent man. According to testimony, after killing the 57-year-old mother of six on a quiet path in Brantham, Barclay reportedly discarded Rose’s phone to create a false lead for the authorities.

Barclay's alleged crime occurred during the early hours of July 24, 2024, when Ms Rose was walking her Springer Spaniel, Bruce, along familiar routes she typically frequented. Prosecutor Chris Paxton KC described the murder as "vicious and brutal," indicating that Rose suffered numerous kicks and blows that resulted in serious head injuries. By the time she was found unconscious later that morning, it was too late; she succumbed to her injuries four days later in a Cambridge hospital.

In a bid to evade capture, court proceedings reveal that Barclay has lived "off-grid" for the past two years, attempting to avoid recall to prison for prior offences. His calculated move to plant Ms Rose’s mobile phone in a public area was described as a cunning tactic to mislead detectives. After reading reports suggesting the phone was crucial to the investigation, he was allegedly observed on CCTV dumping the device, apparently checking if someone would pick it up, all the while evading apprehension.

Barclay's actions not only reflect a desire to distort the investigation but demonstrate his apparent forethought in navigating the legal system. The investigator’s findings, including how he reportedly conducted internet searches related to DNA evidence and the police’s investigative methods, paint a portrait of a man who is acutely aware of the scrutiny he faces. Such searches included queries about how long DNA can persist at a crime scene—a particular detail that raises unsettling questions about his intent and state of mind surrounding the incident.

Further complicating the case, the prosecution claims to have found evidence linking Barclay directly to the scene. Forensic analysis revealed that his semen was discovered on Rose's jacket, which also had been retrieved from a makeshift camp nearby. The presence of walking boots, described as a potential "murder weapon," adds a chilling aspect to the narrative, with DNA tests supporting the theory that these boots were involved in her fatal assault.

Despite the overwhelming evidence laid before them, including video footage and forensic findings, Barclay maintains his innocence. Denying the murder charge, he appeared in Ipswich Crown Court, and while the prosecution's case paints him as both a violent criminal and cunning deceiver, the trial continues to unfold. A provisional trial date has been scheduled for later this year, with additional hearings planned to manage the case further.

This harrowing incident has not only resounded in the courtroom but has also attracted significant attention on social media platforms, where discussions have sometimes skewed toward misinformation. The tragic circumstances of Ms Rose’s death have been misrepresented by various online narratives, further complicating public perception and response to the ongoing investigation.

As the legal proceedings progress, the community grapples with the loss of a mother, friend, and advocate in her local area, underscoring the wider implications of violence against women and the ripple effects of judicial mishaps in the face of calculated deception. The outcome of this case may not only determine Barclay’s fate but also highlight critical needs for community safety and the integrity of investigative processes moving forward.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14764949/Fugitive-accused-murdering-dog-walker-planted-phone-detectives-arrested-wrong-man-court-told.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c334mmnd833o)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14764949/Fugitive-accused-murdering-dog-walker-planted-phone-detectives-arrested-wrong-man-court-told.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[3]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c98y8660le7o), [[5]](https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/crime/suffolk-ipswich-crown-court-suffolk-police-cambridge-b2634311.html)
* Paragraph 3 – [[6]](https://www.suffolk.police.uk/news/suffolk/news/news/2024/july/Branthammurderinvestigationarrest/), [[4]](https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2024-10-23/man-accused-of-murder-of-mum-of-six-dog-walker-appears-in-court)
* Paragraph 4 – [[7]](https://www.ipswich.co.uk/articles/how-the-murder-of-anita-rose-was-weaponised-by-the-far-right-on-elon-musks-x), [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14764949/Fugitive-accused-murdering-dog-walker-planted-phone-detectives-arrested-wrong-man-court-told.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14764949/Fugitive-accused-murdering-dog-walker-planted-phone-detectives-arrested-wrong-man-court-told.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2024-10-23/man-accused-of-murder-of-mum-of-six-dog-walker-appears-in-court)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14764949/Fugitive-accused-murdering-dog-walker-planted-phone-detectives-arrested-wrong-man-court-told.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c334mmnd833o> - A man has pleaded not guilty to the murder of 57-year-old Anita Rose, who was attacked while walking her dog in Suffolk. Ms Rose was found unconscious in Brantham on 24 July and died in hospital four days later. Roy Barclay, 55, was charged with murder and appeared at Ipswich Crown Court, where a trial date was set for 27 May. He was remanded in custody until then.
3. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c98y8660le7o> - A man has been charged with murder after the death of 57-year-old Anita Rose, who was found seriously injured while walking her dog in Brantham, Suffolk, on 24 July. Roy Barclay, 55, of no fixed abode, was arrested and charged with murder. Ms Rose was taken to hospital with serious head injuries and died four days later. Barclay appeared before Ipswich Magistrates’ Court and was remanded in custody.
4. <https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2024-10-23/man-accused-of-murder-of-mum-of-six-dog-walker-appears-in-court> - Roy Barclay, 55, appeared in court charged with the murder of Anita Rose, 57, who was found unconscious after taking her dog for a walk in Brantham, Suffolk. Ms Rose was discovered with serious injuries on 24 July and died four days later. Barclay was remanded in custody, with a provisional trial date set for 27 May 2025. The case has been adjourned until 31 January 2025 for a further case management hearing.
5. <https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/crime/suffolk-ipswich-crown-court-suffolk-police-cambridge-b2634311.html> - A man has appeared in court charged with the murder of Anita Rose, 57, who was found unconscious after taking her dog for a walk in Brantham, Suffolk. Ms Rose was discovered with serious head injuries on 24 July and died four days later. Roy Barclay, 55, was charged with murder and appeared at Ipswich Crown Court, where a provisional trial date was set for 27 May 2025. He was remanded in custody until a further case management hearing on 31 January 2025.
6. <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/news/suffolk/news/news/2024/july/Branthammurderinvestigationarrest/> - A 55-year-old man has appeared in court charged with the murder of Anita Rose in Brantham. Roy Barclay, of no fixed abode, appeared at Ipswich Magistrates’ Court and was remanded in custody to appear at Ipswich Crown Court. Anita, 57, had left her house at around 5am on 24 July to take her springer spaniel dog, Bruce, for a walk but was found critically injured by a member of the public at approximately 6:25am. She died four days later in hospital.
7. <https://www.ipswich.co.uk/articles/how-the-murder-of-anita-rose-was-weaponised-by-the-far-right-on-elon-musks-x> - The murder of Anita Rose, a 57-year-old mother of six, in Brantham, Suffolk, on 24 July 2024, became a focal point for far-right hate on Elon Musk's X platform. A verified news account falsely claimed that she was stalked, robbed, and murdered by two Somali immigrants. The post spread rapidly, accumulating over 1.2 million views and amplifying anti-immigration rhetoric. The article discusses how such misinformation can manipulate public opinion and the challenges in countering false narratives online.