# Elderly man fatally attacked over cornflakes and shepherd’s pie in north London



An 87-year-old man was brutally attacked in the street and left for dead, tragically over a box of cornflakes and a shepherd’s pie. John Mackey's life was irrevocably altered following a disturbing incident on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 6, in north London. Having visited a local Co-op store to purchase food and a newspaper before stopping at a nearby kebab shop, Mr Mackey was allegedly followed and assaulted as he made his way along Goodchild Road in Manor House.

Eyewitness accounts painted a harrowing picture of the attack. One member of the public reported seeing Mr Mackey lying on the pavement and noticed a man shouting, “give me the bag.” Other witnesses described a violent scene where Mr Mackey was kicked and stamped on while the assailant made off with the victim's black duffel bag. Emergency services found him unconscious, suffering from severe head injuries, shortly after the attack at approximately 5:53 pm. He was rushed to hospital where he regained consciousness, but tragically succumbed to his injuries two days later. A subsequent post-mortem revealed that Mr Mackey died from bleeding on the brain and fractured ribs.

Peter Augustine, a 58-year-old resident of Green Lanes in Hornsey, was arrested in connection with the attack on May 8. He has been charged with murder and robbery. His case has been brought to the Old Bailey, where a preliminary hearing has set the stage for a trial commencing on November 3, with a plea hearing scheduled for July 29.

The attack on Mr Mackey is part of a concerning trend of violent crime that has continued to capture public and media attention in London. Reports of similar incidents, involving elderly victims, raise alarm about safety in urban areas. Just weeks prior, another tragic occurrence involved Darren Augustine, a 44-year-old man who was fatally stabbed while attempting to commit burglary. This incident underlines the unpredictable nature of crime in the city and intricately connects to broader societal concerns regarding youth violence and the desperation that drives individuals to crime.

Such attacks point toward a disconcerting reality of increasing violence in urban environments. Research and historical data have consistently shown that the demographics of violent crime victims and perpetrators can vary but often include the most vulnerable segments of society. A comprehensive dataset detailing murder victims in London from 2006 to 2011 underscores the recurring themes of violence, age, and often, the motivations that drive these heinous acts.

In light of these occurrences, the community is left grappling with difficult questions about safety, prevention, and the support systems available for the most vulnerable members of society. Public outcry for stronger measures to protect the elderly and increasingly visible community initiatives pose a potential pathway towards mitigation. However, the effectiveness of these measures remains to be seen, especially against the backdrop of escalating violent crimes in London. As the trial of Peter Augustine approaches, many are left to reflect on the fragility of life and the urgent need for societal change.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1-2
2. Paragraphs 3-4
3. Paragraph 5
4. Paragraph 6
5. Paragraphs 7-8

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

## Bibliography

* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/john-macke-peter-augustine-goodchild-b2749959.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/john-macke-peter-augustine-goodchild-b2749959.html> - An 87-year-old man, John Mackey, was attacked in the street and left for dead for the sake of a box of cornflakes and a shepherd’s pie. He had visited a Co-op store in north London, purchased food and a newspaper, and then visited a kebab shop on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 6. He was allegedly followed and attacked on Goodchild Road in Manor House. Emergency services found him unconscious and bleeding from his head at around 5:53 pm. He was taken to the hospital, regained consciousness, but died two days later. A post-mortem examination revealed the cause of death as bleeding on the brain and fractured ribs. Peter Augustine, 58, of Green Lanes, Hornsey, north London, was arrested on May 8 and charged with Mr. Mackey’s murder and robbery. His case was brought to the Old Bailey for a preliminary hearing, with a two-week trial set from November 3 and a plea hearing on July 29.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-66028159> - Police are seeking the identity of an accomplice involved in a burglary that led to the death of Darren Augustine, 44, in Brentford, west London. Augustine was stabbed to death in the early hours of April 26, 2023, after attempting to burgle a property in Brentwick Gardens. A 28-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of murder and remains on bail. Police have released an image of a man who was with Augustine during the attempted burglary and are urging the public to come forward with information.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2011/oct/05/murder-london-list> - The Guardian published a comprehensive list detailing over 800 murder victims in London from 2006 to 2011. The dataset includes information such as the date, age of the victim, and the London borough where the murder occurred. This release was part of a Freedom of Information request and provides an extensive overview of murder cases in the capital over a five-year period.
* <https://apnews.com/article/arrests-a415a998f8bdc7592d5f64ffb71be6f7> - A 78-year-old London homeowner was arrested on suspicion of murder after allegedly stabbing a man who broke into his home. The incident occurred in the Hither Green district of southeast London, where the homeowner discovered two men inside his home shortly after midnight. A struggle ensued, and the armed suspect, a 38-year-old man, was stabbed in the upper body. He later died in the hospital. The homeowner, who suffered minor injuries, was initially arrested on suspicion of grievous bodily harm and later on suspicion of murder. He remains in custody at a south London police station.
* <https://forums.hardwarezone.com.sg/threads/59-year-old-man-arrested-for-murder-in-redhill-victim-found-with-multiple-wounds.6883294/> - A 59-year-old man was arrested on March 17, 2023, for his suspected involvement in a murder in Redhill, Singapore. The police were alerted to a case of murder at a residential unit at Redhill Close at about 10:50 am. Upon arrival, they found a 61-year-old man lying motionless with multiple wounds inside the unit. The man was later pronounced dead by paramedics at the scene. The 59-year-old man, who was a co-tenant of the victim, was arrested at the scene. The suspect will be charged in court on Saturday with murder under the Penal Code, an offense that carries the death penalty. Police investigations are ongoing.
* <https://totalcrime.co.uk/murderbook-2020-2024/> - Total Crime's 'Murderbook 2020-2024' provides a detailed account of murder cases in the UK from 2020 to 2024. The dataset includes information on victims, suspects, and the outcomes of investigations. It serves as a comprehensive resource for understanding trends and patterns in violent crime over a five-year period.