

Man arrested by senior policeman for performing sex act in front of officer's daughter on bus

Bus pervert avoids jail term



By **THOM AIRS**

news@oxfordtimes.co.uk

A MAN who performed a sex act in front of a senior police officer's daughter has avoided being sent to jail, despite having two previous sex convictions.

Hugh White, *pictured left*, from Littleworth, near Wheatley, exposed himself to the schoolgirl on a bus travelling from Oxford city centre to Wheatley in July 2008.

In 2002, White was convicted of indecent assault after assaulting a woman in the High Street, Wheatley.

He also admitted sexual assault in 2006 after assaulting a woman in Wheatley's Asda car park.

Having been convicted of a

charge of indecent exposure last November in relation to the most recent offence, the 48-year-old was sentenced last week at Oxford Crown Court.

Judge Bruce McIntyre gave him a three-year community punishment, despite earlier stating: "This was a nasty piece of sexual offending aimed at a young girl, on her own, on her way home at night."

The incident occurred at about 9.20pm on July 17, 2008, when the girl, who was sitting opposite White and cannot be named for legal reasons, noticed his flies and top button were undone.

As she stood up to get off the double-decker to be collected by her off-duty policeman father she saw White perform the sex act.

Having alerted the driver, the victim made her way to her father's car and burst into tears.

White said his flies came undone when the bus braked sharply and the victim misinterpreted his nervous hand-wringing

The off-duty officer then boarded the bus and called for uniformed back-up to arrest White.

During the two-day trial last year, White said his flies had come undone when the bus braked sharply, throwing him off his seat.

He also claimed that the victim had "misinterpreted" his nervous hand-wringing for what she said she saw.

In a transcript of his police interview which was read to the jury, a police officer said the victim

claimed he was performing a sex act. White replied: "In her dreams."

In a statement read to the trial, the victim's father said: "When she got in the passenger seat she was so upset she could not tell me what had happened for several seconds."

White was initially set to be punished last December, but Judge McIntyre deferred sentencing for six months and ordered White be kept under supervision, attend all appointments and engage with any treatment advised by his supervisor.

Last week, prosecutor Tim Boswell and defence barrister Timothy Bowden confirmed White had complied with these requirements.

Judge McIntyre ordered White to comply with a three-year supervision order and told him to attend a sex-offender programme