

Coventry Telegraph

Teenager cleared of Warwick rape

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Paul Bowen, now aged 18, had denied raping the girl in 2006 – and the jury at the crown court in Leamington found him not guilty by a unanimous verdict.

Bowen was living in Desdemona Avenue, Warwick, at the time, but now lives in Daventry near Rugby.

Prosecutor Stefan Koldynski said although the case did not come to the attention of the police until September 2009, it was alleged to have taken place three years earlier.

One day during the school summer holiday the girl had spent the afternoon in a Warwick park with other youngsters including the defendant, and the group then went to her home.

There was some horseplay, and it was alleged that when the girl went upstairs to the bathroom, Bowen followed her and poured shampoo on her head as a joke and then went back down.

But he was said to have returned after the girl had partially stripped and got into the shower to wash the shampoo out, and two other girls were said to have found him using a coin to try to open the bathroom door from the outside.

Mr Koldynski said: “There was a bit of horseplay and the girls, thinking nothing serious was going to happen, went back down.”

It was alleged that Bowen then went into the bathroom, pushed the girl against the wall and raped her.

But Bowen, now of Harrow Road, Daventry, insisted that although he went to the house and there was some horseplay, nothing inappropriate happened.

He said he could not remember any incident involving pouring shampoo on her hair and denied ever having gone upstairs in the house or having intercourse with her – and he maintained the girl had made up the allegation against him.

<http://www.coventrytelegraph.net/news/coventry-news/teenager-cleared-of-warwick-rape-3039725>