

# Oxford Mail

## News

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## 999 nuisance caller in Oxford jailed

By [Will Walker](#) [@OxMailWilliamW](#) Senior court reporter



Kidlington's police call centre

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**A NUISANCE 999 caller who repeatedly phoned emergency services for no good reason has been jailed for flouting a court ban after just three days.**

Serial pest Sandra Barwick was handed a community penalty two weeks ago after calling police and falsely claiming she had been raped.

At the time, Kidlington's emergency call centre manager slammed her for being a drain on public resources after police had to go to her home.

The 63-year-old of Whitehouse Road, Oxford was jailed at Oxford Crown Court yesterday after it was revealed she had flouted her ban just days after she was sentenced.

Barwick was first handed a criminal behaviour order to stop her calling 999 unnecessarily in October last year.

As part of that court order, she was forbidden from contacting the emergency services except in the event of a 'genuine emergency.'

She earlier pleaded guilty to one count of breaching that order by calling police on 999 for a 'non emergency matter' and was given a community order on October 21.

At the same court yesterday, prosecutors said that she again rang 999 just three days later on October 24.

The court heard that she told operators 'she could not cope and needs help.'

She refused to say which emergency service she needed and was put through to a mental health service, when she hung up.

Police later went to her home and she answered the door and said 'big deal.'

In mitigation her defence team said that Barwick had felt overwhelmed at the time and found herself in rent arrears.

It was also said that while in prison she had been in receipt of medication for her mental health.

Sentencing, Judge Nigel Daly revoked the community order he had previously imposed and jailed her for a total of 18 months.

She was also ordered to pay a statutory victim surcharge.

**Andy Driver** 11 hrs ago

User ID: 1819972

2From what I hear she needs a mental health professional to help. Prison will fix absolutely nothing and will cost much more than therapy

Last Updated: 2 hrs ago

**Hugh Rynall** 10 hrs ago

User ID: 2042169

4Prison everyday of the week for people like this. It will cost about the same as professional help but will have greater benefit and the knowledge she won't be bothering the emergency services

Last Updated: 2 hrs ago

**Sausages sausages**7 hrs ago

User ID: 1876683

1Obvious nutcase. Let's hope she gets some proper psychiatric treatment while she's locked up, or she'll be just the same when she comes out.

Last Updated: 6 hrs ago

**pdn1957**4 hrs ago

User ID: 1931689

0She's not alone. There are many others whom make nuisance calls to the emergency services. I've suffered personally from a false allegation made to TVP. The officer informed this person is on record and known for making these type of calls. The person concerned demonstrates a clear serious mental health disorder. Living independently though supported with a care coordinator. Surely detaining a person under the mental health act enabling them to be placed in appropriate care is a helpful solution. I do question the court process to a stay in prison is not the solution!?!

Last Updated: 4 hrs ago

**Dr Roff**4 hrs ago

User ID: 122341

0Why not a combination of both? Treating wrongdoing as "mental illness" does not provide any deterrent. Give them the punishment AND help with the psychological problems.

**pdn1957**2 hrs ago

User ID: 1931689

0Psychosis? Paranoia? Schizophrenia? Oh dear Dr Roff I politely suggest change your profile name appropriately. How the hell do you apply a deterrent to a diagnosed mental health disorder. An ill informed bigot you are Dr Roff. Inform yourself into the meanings of the above.

**Dr Roff**1 hr ago

User ID: 122341

0Schizophrenia is a psychological state, not a physical disease. By assigning it to a medical "illness" category, you're denying agency to the person, which cannot be good for their mental health. You're effectively saying that a schizophrenic cannot help anything that he or she does, which of course is utter nonsense.

In any case, we don't know if this woman is diagnosed psychotic. More likely she has what

the quacks like to call a "personality disorder". But I couldn't care less what she's diagnosed with, as the important thing is to understand the person as an individual.

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