



■ Hounslow police officers ask park users for help in tracking down the rapist that never was

# Hanworth rape never happened

**H**OUNSLOW detectives have revealed the woman who claimed she was raped in Hanworth Air Park 'made the whole thing up'.

Detective Inspector Sue Hill, who lead the investigation, confirmed that the 22-year-old admitted to officers on Wednesday last week the allegation was totally false.

DI Hill said: "She also alleged the same man had attempted to rape her in Twickenham, before the Hanworth rape. She has now formally withdrawn both of these allegations.

"She will now see a psychiatrist, because she is obviously a very sick woman. And, although we have wasted about 100 man hours on this case, we will not be charging her for wasting police time. There is little point with someone who is so sick."

The woman, who lives in Manchester and had been visiting her Hanworth boyfriend, told police she had been walking her dog in Hanworth Air Park on July 16, when a man began talking to her.

She claimed the man grabbed her, pushed her into a tree, cut her with a sharp object, then raped and sexually assaulted her.

A passer-by found the woman in a distraught state and took her to Feltham Airparks Leisure Centre, in Uxbridge Road. 999 crews

by PAUL EDWARDS

then took her to Ashford, then Hillingdon Hospital. Her cuts were not serious, and she was later released.

DI Hill, who lead the case which brought about Hounslow's first successful conviction of rape on an Asian woman, added: "The night it happened I had some reservations, there was something about her I could feel wasn't right.

"The cuts were very superficial - and there were none on the backs of her hands as if she had attempted to defend herself. These were in fact self-inflicted.

"And although the attack happened in broad daylight, no one saw anything, it was very strange.

"We took her to the scene of the alleged crime, and she even pointed out the tree she was pushed against.

"There were floods of tears. She is a very convincing actress. She probably even convinced herself this happened.

"At one stage she said she'd lost a baby, and a previous boyfriend had been killed. It was all lies. In a sense she is a victim - not a victim of rape, but of life."

DI Hill said the woman's boyfriend, who was completely taken in by the story, has since disowned her.



■ Detective Inspector Sue Hill

She added that this kind of false allegation is very rare, and there have only been two 'stranger attack' rapes in Hounslow over the past four years.

DI Hill, whose work was recently featured in the BBC series Law Women, added: "Most rapes and attempted rapes are by someone the victim knows. In this case the allegation of rape was a smokescreen for psychiatric problems. But our policy is that we will believe a victim, and go through all lines of enquiry, until we prove otherwise."