

Balerno attack to feature on Crimewatch UK



Police investigating a serious sexual assault that occurred in a field at Newmills Road, Balerno earlier this year have revealed they have a full DNA profile of the suspect.

Details of the investigation are going to feature on the webpage of BBC's Crimewatch programme after tonight's programme.

In addition, officers are looking to trace the occupants of a light coloured five-door saloon car seen near to the scene around the time of the attack

At around 12:30am on Thursday 27th August, a 19-year-old woman was walking home when she was attacked, taken into a field and subjected to a serious sexual assault.

The suspect is described as white with a slim build. He is around 6ft tall and possibly has long hair. At the time, he was wearing a grey hoodie and dark jeans. He may also speak with an Edinburgh or English accent.

The officer in charge of the investigation, Detective Inspector Grant Johnston said: "We are hopeful that tonight's Crimewatch appeal will help jog people's memories and result in a vital piece of information.

"Anyone who believes they have information that could assist with our ongoing enquiries is asked to come forward immediately."

DI Johnston also revealed that police are looking to trace the occupants of a light coloured five door saloon car seen a short time before the incident near the railway line further

down Newmills Road towards Gowanhill Farm Road. He stressed that the people in this car are potential witnesses and appealed for them to come forward.

Only a description of the driver is available and he is said to be in his 20s and around 5'7". There were also thought to be two or three passengers in the vehicle and anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively, the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555