

SEX & CRIME IN HANDWRITING – **BRIGITTE APPLGARTH MDIP (BIG)**

Lecture given to The British Institutes of Graphologists (quarterly meeting) at the Soroptomist Club, London on 13 June 2015

I thought it might be fun to do a “look and learn” session with other graphologists - and what is more fun in graphology than Sex and Crime? One of the best things about our meetings is that we can hear other people’s views and experiences with practical analysis. It gives us the chance to reinforce and update our separate knowledge base with both students and experienced graphologists.

Whilst giving this presentation to members of the Women’s Institutes and other interested parties, I found that almost everyone has had an experience with handwriting that caused them to analyse the authors psyche. It’s always rewarding to get an interaction with the audience and interesting points arise, even though they’re new to the concept and workings of graphology. I always include a quick analysis break. “I wish I had known about this years ago” and “Staggered” seem to be the most popular retorts, as they start to look over each other’s shoulders at their handwriting. I suppose in a few years’ time they will be saying “Amazing” and “Awesome” - if I’m still around by then!

At first, opinions range from coincidence to scepticism to predictive quality. Although as soon as anyone likens it to a fortune telling tool, I feel compelled to interject, and put them right. Somehow that does not sit easily with me and comparing graphology to astrology only subtracts from its credence.

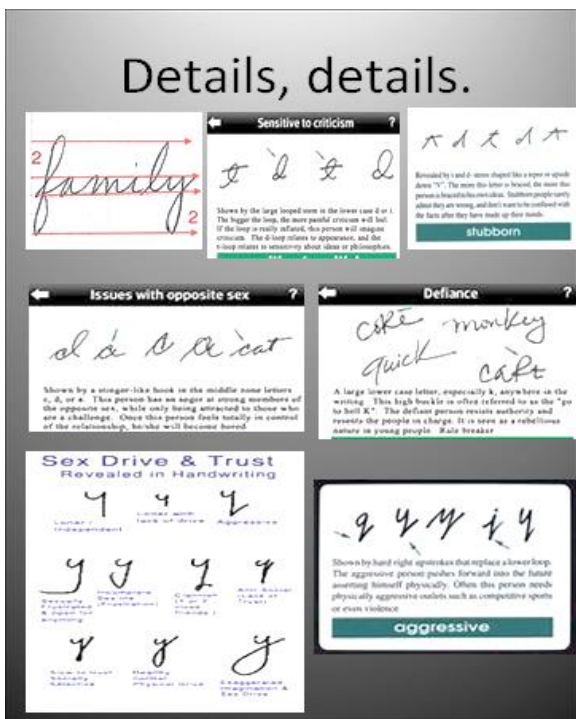
With the massive surge in Forensic Investigation, graphology straddles a middle ground, which is still to be clearly defined by the legal profession. Not everything can be quantified in a scientific way, but we still strive to find a suitable interface.

I have given *S&C in HW* a few times now. It is one of my readymade titles but was chosen before the more obvious and introductory “How Graphology Works”. Although *S&C in HW* core remains the same, audiences are more familiar with the international cases through the media. I tailor to the group, and I feel that people think they know the personality and family background of the perpetrators and victims better and understand their motives and influences. Generally this has worked well, although recently I have added Knox, Sir Spilsbury, Dr Crippen, Savile, and Pistorius to the mix. Hopefully this helps the audience to relate to the social media and cultural influences that might have played a part in the crimes. For some reason the more local the “accused” the more relaxed the audience seems, and often a few laughs have been raised.

If Sherlock had attended our meetings, would he have examined handwriting at the start of an investigation or the end? Would he have struggled with the psychology of the perpetrators handwriting or would he say “that’s the cesspool of humanity”. Would he have made a good graphologist? We will never know.

We just know that what we see as graphologists is truly - Awesome.

Firstly, some of things to look out for ...



Handwriting Features

Overview

- Zones
- Page Layout
- Size
- Slant
- Connections
- PPI
- Signature
- Pressure
- Spacing
- Rhythm
- Smoothness
- Speed
- Tension & Release
- Persona Style

Details

- Starts/Ends
- Left/Right tends
- Changes
- Size of Zones
- Type of strokes
- Pressure changes
- Consistency
- Diacritics
- Punctuations
- Corrections
- Smears, dots etc..
- Tension & Release

... followed by the mad, bad and the ugly....

JACK THE RIPPER

This is the best known name given to an unidentified serial killer or killers generally believed to have been

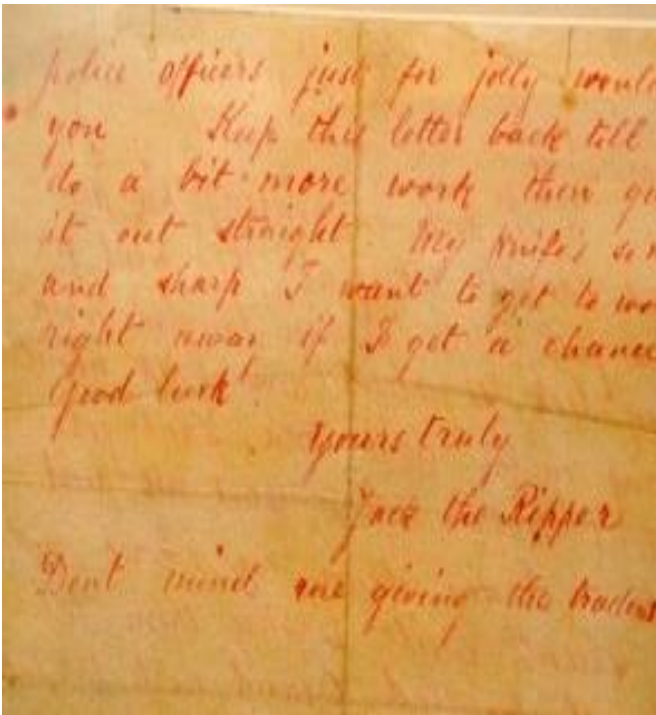


active in the largely impoverished areas in and around the Whitechapel district of London in 1888. The name "Jack the Ripper" originated in a letter written by someone claiming to be the murderer that was widely disseminated in the media. The letter is widely believed to have been a hoax, and may have been written by journalists in an attempt to heighten interest in the story and increase their newspaper's circulation.

*

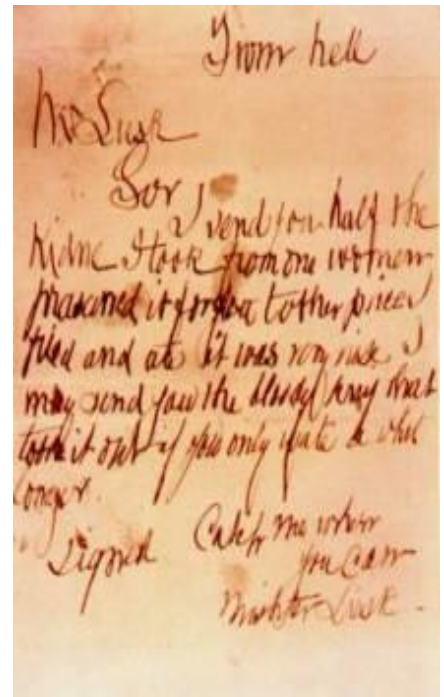
See how the page layout, spacing, clarity, mark out the differences between the authors' personalities. The first "red top" was an instant success due to the fake letter which boosted sales. Journalism - old-style. As a result, The Sun Newspaper was born.

* marks references taken from Wikipedia, correct as of August 2015



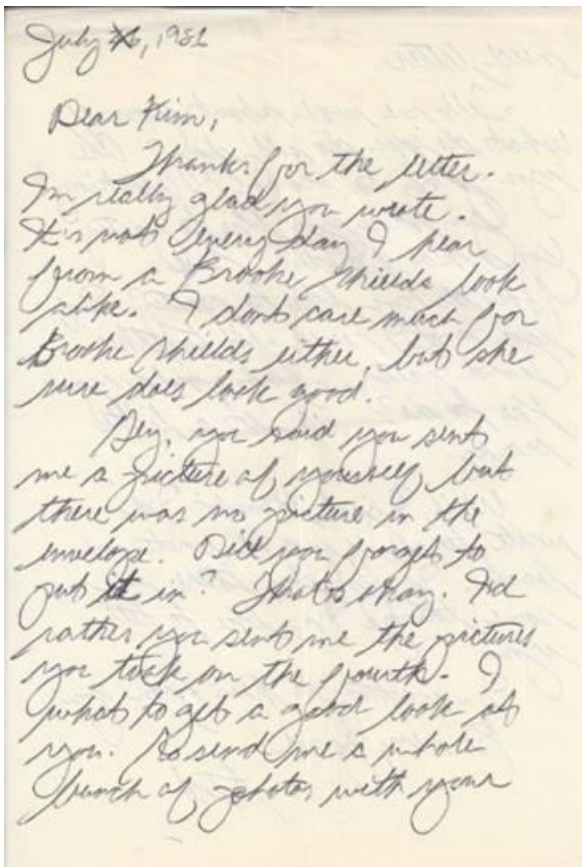
Forensics and forensic graphology was in its infancy. When one letter turned up, it is known that another letter was devised by an employee at newspaper to sell more copies! These two writers had very little in common.

Sample 2.
Written in blood,
Pasty Stroke,
Stroke,
crowded layout,
heavy blunt, down strokes,
misshaped letterform,



misspellings = excessive personality, possibly drunk at time of writing, overbearing, clumsy, combustible temper, brutality/lack of gentleness. A twisted outlook.

TED BUNDY



Theodore Robert Bundy was an American serial killer, kidnapper, rapist, and necrophile who assaulted and

murdered numerous young women and girls during the 1970s and possibly earlier.*

Resentment starting stroke (seen in some European copy models as normal). Mr Bundy learned to write in the USA - yet this handwriting feature is present on almost every word on the page = obsessional. Strong right slant.

Bubble lower zone. Very organized layout, on left of page. Mingling lines, starting stroke start below line. Narrow letters. Personal pronoun inflated loop in upper part, lower zone intermingles and clashes. Large loops in lower zone, aerated writing = thoughts and visualizations from his subconscious, dominate and influence his day to day actions.

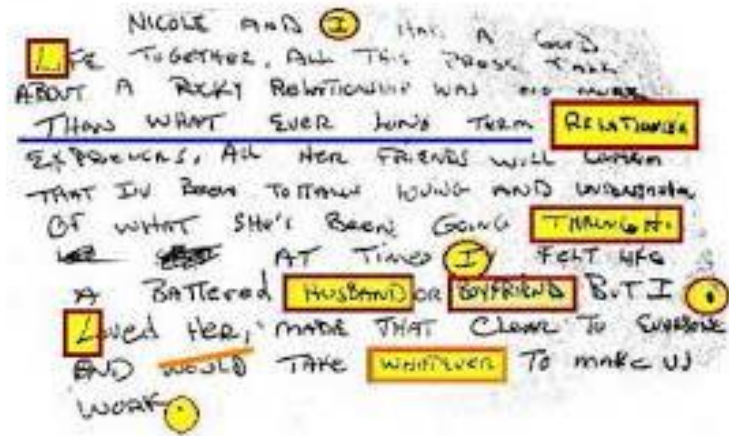
O.J. SIMPSON



Accused of murdering his wife with whom he'd had a stormy and violent marriage. Currently serving time for another crime. Even after they separated, he continued to bully and control her. The trial was televised. He was found innocent..

The first letter of his name is O misshapen = sees the world differently, ego being bent out of shape. 2+3: Attention seeking i- dots. 4: malformed m and n (relationship issues, 2nd hump -no room for the other person). 5: descending

underline-negative support of ego. 6: Keeps people at arm's length, extends, never gives up, persistent. Ink-filled ovals. Unstable base line. Explosive temper. Secretive, forthright/demanding, need for attention, slowly made m humps: slow witted and clumsy.



Ink filled loops, underunderline = Dominating. N drawn out, defensive watch out! A personal space



invader.

AMANDA MARIE KNOX



(born July 9, 1987) is an American woman who spent almost four years in an Italian prison accused of the 2007 murder of Meredith Kercher, one of the women who shared her apartment, before being definitively acquitted by the Supreme Court of Cassation. Knox had raised the alarm after returning from spending the night with her boyfriend, Raffaele Sollecito. Police initially thought a faked burglary at the apartment indicated a single male known to Kercher, but investigations began to focus on Knox, although she was officially a witness.*

I wanted to demonstrate how the female bubble writing seems to have been adopted by young women today. Was she a leader or a follower or just someone who allowed things happen? Did she get out of her depth? The sample shows slow methodical & deliberate handwriting. Evidently feeling low at her predicament (with the falling line-endings). Crowded spacing between words, wants to be in the thick of things. Narrow left margin – jumps in without preparation but slowness show caution.

the female bubble writing seems to have been adopted by

all... I told the police of my doubts but they said not to worry, little by little, I would remember. I tried writing what I could remember for the police, because I've always been better at thinking when I was writing. They gave me time to do this. In this message I wrote about my doubts, my questions, and what I knew to be true. During this time I was checked out by medics, I had my picture taken as well as more copies of my finger prints. They took my shoes and my phone. I wanted to go home but they told me to wait and then eventually that I was to be arrested, then I was taken here, to the prison, in the last car of three who I named Patrick, then Raffaele, and then me to prison.

DR HAROLD FREDERICK SHIPMAN

Doctor's statement 4

Do not use this form for people claiming Statutory Sick Pay

To the doctor We are assessing your patient's eligibility for Incapacity Benefit and other state benefits under the all work test. Please fill in the following statements.

In confidence to Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms Sydney Hannah

Main diagnosis (be as precise as possible) Hiatus Hernia

Other diagnoses chronic acute ulcers
w/l. circumcised

Doctor's remarks (including comments on the disabling effects of the condition, treatment and progress. Accuracy and detail will assist requests for completion of a medical report.)

Hiatus hernia on w/l.
circumcised on w/l.
Ulcers has adhered to self
admits if needed.

To the doctor While the all work test is carried out, we need some evidence that your patient should refrain from their usual occupation. The information you give here will not be part of the all work test. I am issuing the following statement based upon the current guidance to certifying medical practitioners. I examined you today / yesterday and advise you

that you need not refrain from your usual occupation.

that you should refrain from your usual occupation for 13 weeks (period).

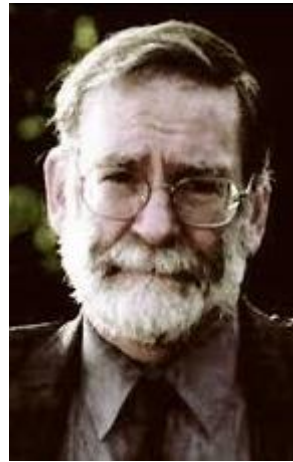
or until _____

Doctor's signature H.F.S. Date 14.7.95

Stamp

Med 4

DR. H. F. SHIPMAN
21 MARKET STREET
HYDE
CHESHIRE SK14 2AF
TEL : 0161 367 9777



A British doctor and one of the most prolific serial killers in recorded history. On 31 January 2000, a jury found Shipman guilty of 15 murders.*

Everyone who worked with him thought him such a lovely man. His patient death rate was spotted by the local undertaker. As a youngster, he took care of his terminally ill mother and that prompted him to become a doctor. Early in his career he was known to have a drug habit.

Plenty of curves (kindness and charm), felons' claw lower zone, illegible signature, left tending, thread form.

Charm and perverse twisted logic, hide his true self. Refers to himself for answers. Able to gauge people and tell them what they wanted to hear.

HAWLEY HARVEY CRIPPEN



26 October 1908.

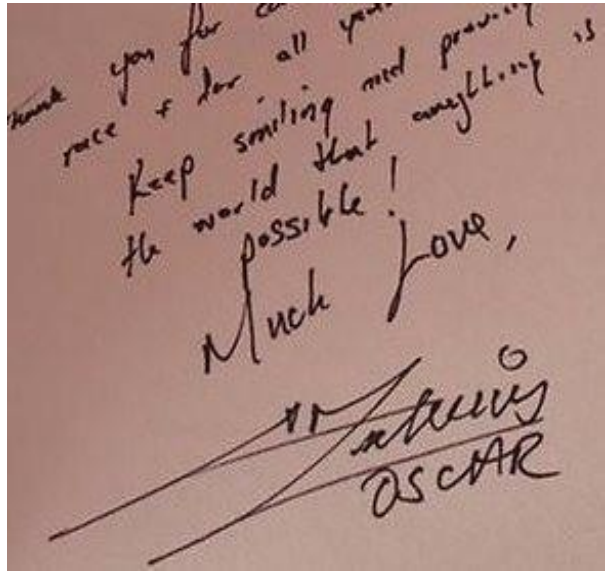
Dear Lady Somerset,

Your very kind letters have not come until I had permission to have also applied for a visit from your house. I shall only be allowed to write one letter and to receive the one visit. I will send you a note at once after I and I had two letters from you and two from Brook & Mr Brook all advice that, besides a little solace to you, you are going to appeal to the Home Secretary's help to get me the same time until that time was not to see me but I had a long one from her as I am expecting here today. You may be to imagine the state I was in yesterday, waiting in suspense the whole day, waiting, waiting as you kindly told me in the Home Secretary's name and said he had given me "acquittal". Thank God for such a regard to your visit to me, please see Mrs B and arrange with them so that you will only the possibility of coming on the same day. I have a letter from Mr Brook saying to take away with her sister to a safe place. He is writing you so possible you may have to help me know this I have already told of it. It may have a little advantage but I write by Mr Newton but until I see

(September 11, 1862 – November 23, 1910), usually known as Dr. Crippen, was an American homeopath, ear and eye specialist and medicine dispenser. He was hanged in Pentonville Prison for the murder of his wife Cora Henrietta Crippen, and was the first criminal to be captured with the aid of wireless telegraphy.

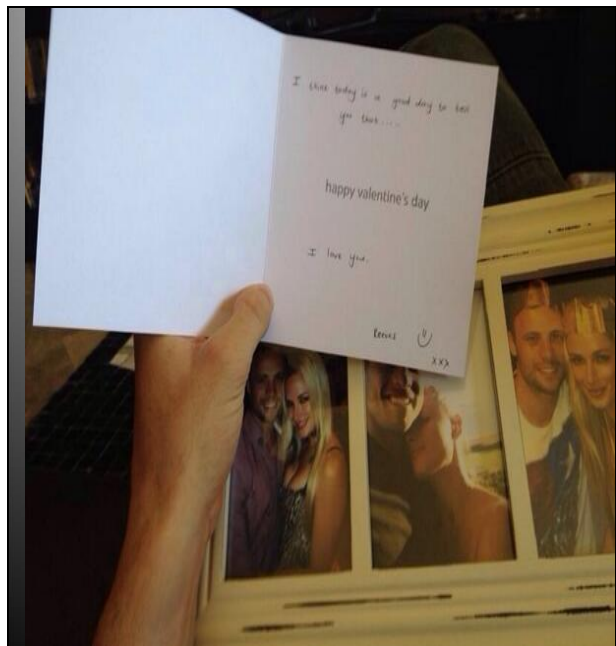
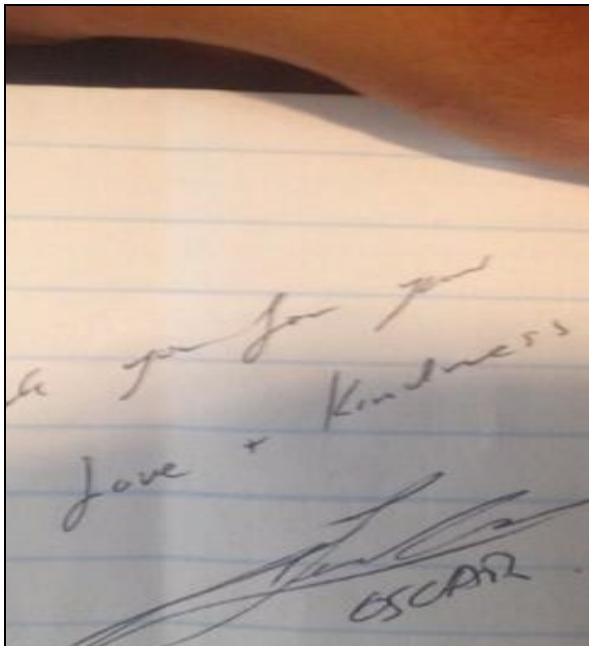
In 2007, DNA evidence questioned the guilt of Crippen by suggesting that the remains discovered in his cellar were, in fact, those of a male person. These conclusions are disputed.*

OSCAR PISTORIUS



At an angle, narrowing margins. Smiley faces and need to be seen and noticed. Motif of legs.

This shows an insight into his personality, when things were going well for him. Visible & dominant features: rising baseline, dominant signature style and size, unusual placement of text. Meagre and small middle zone. Lack of roundness. Interpretation: Demands adoration by showing uncontrollable enthusiasm, actions & hysteria. Presents his performance with a good degree of calculation and planning. Inferiority complex. Below left: middle zone compressed, wide spacing. No “legs” but still underlining. Signed twice.



Above Right: this is the victim's Valentines card to Oscar. Fairly wide word spacing, Personal Pronoun is very small, tension. Name? Unusually noncommittal and inexpressive for a Valentines' card. Simple and unsophisticated. No passion shown in that sample. Maybe the front of the card said it all? Maybe that was the mood she was in when she went to meet him for Valentines' evening. We will never know.

ROSEMARY PAULINE "ROSE" WEST is a British serial killer, now an inmate at HMP Low Newton, Braxside, Durham, after being convicted of 10 murders in 1995.



16/3/97.

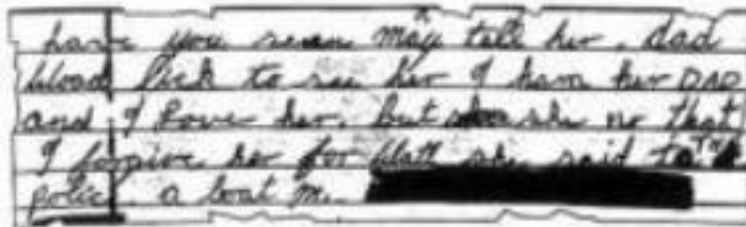
Rosemary West,
G50017, H' Wing
H.M. Prison
Old Elvet
DURHAM,
DH1 3HU.

Hello Sean,
Surprise, surprise!! It's me! I let you give up on me didn't you? SORRY! But the cheerfulness didn't last very long! Once the news of Jack Straw's decision hit home, I'm afraid it landed me

Arcade letter formations. No borders, round and slow speed, with mixed slant. Arcade formation, slow speed, over-punctuation. Mingling lines, with dovetailings. Childish formations. Slow thinker, immaturity, inner conflicts, cunning, careful.

FREDERICK WEST was an English serial killer.

Between 1967 and 1987, West – alone and later with his second wife, serial killer Rosemary West – tortured and raped numerous young women.



Both Rosemary and Fred West suffered head injuries in the past before adulthood.

MYRA HINDLEY AND IAN BRADY - TWO PEOPLE WHO HAD SOMETHING IN COMMON

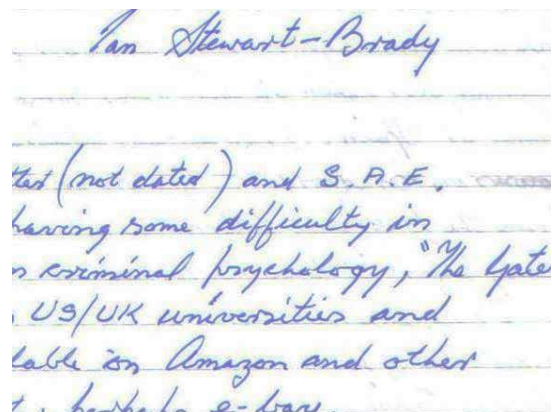
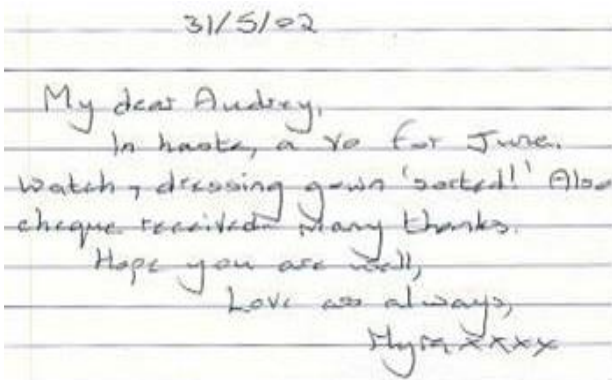


Myra Hindley: Upright and passive, strangely joined letter formations, writes under line. Passive-aggressive, unable to relate in a normal way, underhanded methods routinely employed as the norm.



Ian Brady: Strong right slant, small mid-zone, slow writing, angle letter connections, squashed ovals.

Brady goes with the flow, wants approval, inferiority complex, deliberation, un-emotional and unable to relate in normal way. Both have spikey handwriting, meagre mid-zone and lack of curves.



SIR JAMES WILSON VINCENT "JIMMY" SAVILE, OBE

TWELVE MILES A DAY MEANS
JIM'S "DAILY DOZEN"
 (RUN - WALK - STAGGER - LIMP)
 31 TOWNS AND CITIES IN 31 DAYS
 FOR THE WHOLE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1979

START OCTOBER 1st
 PORTSMOUTH
 SOUTHAMPTON
 PLYMOUTH
 BRISTOL
 CARDIFF
 OXFORD
 DOVENTRY
 BIRMINGHAM
 STOKE
 LIVERPOOL
 BLACKPOOL
 BOLTON
 MANCHESTER
 LEEDS
 LONDON AREA
 ENFIELD
 CROYDON
 PERIVALE
 CITY CENTRE
 MIDWAY TOWNS
 PSWICH
 NORWICH
 LEICESTER
 NOTTINGHAM
 SHEFFIELD
 HULL
 MIDDLESBROUGH
 NEWCASTLE
 EDINBURGH
 ABERDEEN
 GLASGOW
 CARLISLE
 FINISH OCTOBER 31st

Flat 84,
 22 Park Crescent
 W.I.
 S80.0880.

Dear Prime Minister,
 I waited a week before
 writing to thank you for my
 lunch invitation because I had
 such a superb time I didn't want
 to be too effusive. My girl patients
 pretended to be madly jealous +
 wanted to know what you wore + what
 you ate. All the paralyzed lads
 called me 'Sir James' all week.
 They all love you!
 Me too!!

Jimmy Savile
 XXX OSE

A never-before type sponsored charity walk

(31 October 1926 – 29 October 2011) was an English DJ, television and radio personality, dance hall manager, and charity fundraiser. He hosted the BBC television show *Jim'll Fix It*, was the first and last presenter of the long-running BBC music chart show *Top of the Pops*, and raised an estimated £40 million for charities. At the time of his death he was widely praised for his personal qualities and as a fund-raiser. After his death, hundreds of allegations of sexual abuse were made against him, leading the police to believe that Savile was a predatory sex offender, and that he may have been one of Britain's most prolific sexual offenders. There had been allegations during his lifetime, but they were dismissed and accusers ignored or disbelieved; Savile took legal action against some accusers.

I added JS recently to my S&C in HW lectures, firstly because I met him in 2009 and I could not contemplate talking about it after the allegations; and secondly, because he was never charged. However I remain objective on this issue and let others judge the handwriting possibilities. It is unfortunate that any good he did, is now sullied.

When I explained that I was a graphologist, he was fascinated, but declined to give me a sample. I told him that it would show how clever he was – so he relented. He was then very happy to show his “mirror writing” proving that he likes to challenge himself and flex his cleverness.

He chose the layout of his printed stationery, and then followed the crooked margin. Variable left margin is an indicator of people who chose alternative life styles, don't stick to convention and prefer to bend the rules. They want to do it their way. Note the chaotic left margin, yet the efficient spacing between lines. Smiley faces were not the norm, he wanted to be loved. Sharp-points at top of middle zone + garland/thread = analytical and charming, iron fist in a velvet glove.

Long t-crosses, garland/string style of handwriting. He was clever and motivated to elevate others. Signature leans opposite direction to text. Highly connected – diligent and persistent.

~oOo~

After such a gory subject and on a lighter note I had the pleasure of working with the New Musical Express for my next article. 20th Century Musicians - Drumroll please...

notre patronnes

I love girls who work
 in Conservatories

SIR Jimmy Savile
 XXX