

## Businessman who had denied attacking wheel clamber with a child's scooter loses appeal

West Briton [Follow](#)

Thursday, January 05, 2012

AN ANGRY businessman armed with a child's scooter attacked a wheel clamber who swooped on his car when his ticket ran out.

David Arthur, 64, called the police to settle the row, but instead they pulled him from his car and handcuffed him.

Conceding he said wheel clampers should be eliminated, Arthur denied threatening to beat clamber Matthew Courtney to death.

Arthur claimed Mr Courtney invented the tale of being hit on the leg with a child's scooter that Arthur had pulled from the boot of his car to cover up the "illegal" clamping.

Arthur, who runs a holiday cottage business in Truro, was clamped after parking at Dean Clark House in Southernhay Gardens, Exeter while he was at a civil hearing in the Crown Court building next door.

He said he had a valid ticket and was clamped illegally by Premier Parking Solutions.

Arthur, of Kennal Vale, Ponsanooth, denied common assault but was found guilty earlier this year by Exeter Magistrates. His appeal to Exeter Crown Court was rejected.

After clamping the Alfa Romeo, Mr Courtney said: "He (Arthur) picked up the scooter from the boot and swung it at me and caught me on the upper leg. He picked up a bottle from the boot and held it as if he was going to throw it.

"I shouted to him to stop and not to be stupid and he put it down. He told me he was going to beat me to death."

Describing Arthur as erratic, unhelpful, obstructive and aggressive, PC Sarah Payne said Arthur kept waving his expired tickets at her.

Officers removed him from the car, handcuffed and detained him.

Arthur told the court the clamber had invented the assault to shift the blame onto him after he went to call the police.

Admitting he had shouted at the clamber Arthur added: "I have a very serious back problem which meant I could not have swung the scooter. I did not lose my temper. I abhor violence."

Dismissing the appeal, Judge Erik Salomonsen said in a "momentary lapse of self-control" Arthur, "incensed by what he regarded as unlawful clamping", hit the clamber on the thigh with the scooter.

He added: "Our findings have nothing to do with the rights and wrongs of wheel clamping."

Arthur was ordered to do 220 hours' unpaid community work and pay £100 compensation and the £1,195 costs of his original trial and the appeal.



0



Like



Tweet



Share



Meet like-minded people in your local area today. Join & search our dating site for free.  
[Click here >](#)



The Suzuki Swift  
Now VAT free  
From just £8,888  
[Click here >](#)



Get a quote from over 100 UK insurers today  
[Get a quote >>](#)



£100,000 of Life Insurance from £2.89 a week. Provide your family with security.  
[Click here >](#)

### Most popular

[Latest](#) [Commented](#) [Read](#)



1. Group summons 16th century law to fight border change



2. Public safety will be 'at risk' - stadium plan is under...



3. Tourism hit as Westcountry jobless figures soar



4. Cameron pledges action on drink



5. Police inquiry into care home abuse claims

LAURA ASHLEY

25% Off  
Women's  
and Girls'  
Knitwear



[Shop Now >](#)