

Lambrini poisoner misspelt

husband's 'suicide note'

By Lucy Clarke-Billings

A WIFE who tried to kill her husband by spiking his Christmas cherry Lambrini was caught after she misspelt a fake suicide note which claimed he wanted to "die with dignaty".

Jacqueline Patrick, 54, attempted to poison her husband, Douglas, to whom she had been married for 26 years, with the help of their daughter, Katherine, 21, by putting antifreeze into his drink at least twice during 2013.

Inner London Crown Court was told

Mr Patrick, 70, went to bed feeling "particularly drunk" after two glasses of cherry Lambrini on Christmas Day.

He was found collapsed at home in Crystal Palace, south-east London, the following day and his wife called an ambulance. On the way to Kings College Hospital, she handed a typed note to the paramedics stating that her husband did not wish to be revived and claimed it was from him.

Police who later analysed the "do not revive" note noticed a misspelling of the word dignity and when asked to



Katherine, left, and Jacqueline Patrick exchanged text messages on poison plot

write the word, Patrick misspelt it in the same way, "dignaty". Mobile phone

messages disclosed that the mother and daughter had plotted his murder together, discussing how much antifreeze to use and sending each other text message updates.

One message, sent on Oct 26, read: "I got the stuff I will give him some later delete txt tell no one OK." Another on Nov 17 said: "He feels sick again I gave him more delete this."

On arrival at hospital Mr Patrick was put into an induced coma. Blood tests showed he was suffering from antifreeze poisoning. When doctors told

Patrick, she replied that he might have drunk a blue liquid by mistake - however, doctors decided to call police. Officers went to the couple's home and took bottles of antifreeze and a bottle of cherry Lambrini.

Mr Patrick regained consciousness on Jan 8, 2014, and told the police he was not suicidal and had not bought or drunk antifreeze to try to kill himself.

Jacqueline and Katherine Patrick were arrested the following day.

Mr Patrick also told police he had suffered a similar collapse in October

2013, which he and his wife had put down to drinking "bootleg" lager.

Paul Morgan, the barrister for Jacqueline Patrick, told the court she had suffered years of domestic abuse at the hands of her husband. Julia Flanagan, the barrister for Katherine Patrick, said the 21-year-old had also "been subject to the years of abuse".

Patrick admitted two counts of attempted murder. Her daughter admitted one count of inciting another to administer a noxious substance. Both will be sentenced on Nov 2.

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