

- (d) There had been no immediate arrests, which in my opinion was crucial. I had only been briefed approximately 38 hours after the assault and I was concerned whether there was to be any later reliance on forensic findings, especially hair and fibres.
- (e) There were only minor external injuries to Robert Hamill and D therefore limiting the possibilities of obtaining a forensic link through blood transfer between victim and assailants. This fact is evidenced through the statements of Mr David Morrow S20, Professor Crane's Autopsy Report D510, Photo Album ARN2 (injuries to D ) and Photo Album JMcC1 (Post Mortem of Robert Hamill). Although the Forensic Scientist, Lawrence Marshall initially thought there was heavy blood staining on Robert Hamill's clothing. He later confirmed that the vast majority of this was in fact wine stains. A broken wine bottle having been located close to Robert Hamill's head (Statement of Reserve Constable Silcock S7 refers).
- (f) The scene of the crime had been contaminated by the amount of people located in the area at the time and therefore any resulting forensic findings would be weakened.
- (g) The clothing being worn by Robert Hamill and D , ie three-quarter length leather coat/jeans and striped shirt/jeans and the clothes identified as being worn by persons potentially involved in altercations or aggressive behaviour, did not lend themselves to single or cross transfer of fibres because leather and denim material do not, in my experience, easily catch or shed fibres.
- (h) The fact that the injured parties' clothing had not been immediately obtained would again have an impact on any potential forensic findings.

### **Initial Arrest Strategy**