

RECEIVED  
08 JUL 2008

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF SIMON MCNALLY

DATED THIS 4<sup>th</sup> DAY OF July 2008

I, SIMON MCNALLY, declare that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that if it is tendered in evidence at the Inquiry I will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

1. The Inquiry has disclosed a number of documents to me. Where I make specific reference to a document in my statement I have given the number of the relevant page.
2. I made a statement to the Police dated 21 May 1997 which is now produced and shown to me containing page numbers **9160 to 9161**. That statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, save for one alteration as detailed below.
3. I remember that on the evening of 26 April 1997 I was listening to music in the back shed at my home with Kyle.
4. I had spent the day cleaning out the shed with Kyle and then later we were joined by **P44** and **P51**, sometime around 18:00 or 19:00 I think. I had not arranged for them to come over; they just came around. **P51** lived across the street from us at the time. I am not sure whether he and Gareth came together or separately.
5. At the time, **P51** and I were friends. I would have seen him every day. I am not still friends with him. We didn't have a falling out I just don't see him, but I would still say "hello" if I did see him.

6. At some time before 01.00, I came into the house to get permission from my mum to go get some food at the Chinese take-away on West Street. This was not something I usually did. In April 1997 I was only 14 years old and I was too young to go to the Coach Inn or to go into the town centre on a Saturday night. I spent most Saturday evenings with P44 and Kyle Woods at the stock car races.
7. I have been asked whether we were planning to meet people coming off the bus coming from the Coach Inn that night. I did not.
8. Usually it would take us ten minutes to walk from my house to the Chinese but on that night we went for a bit of a walk around the Brownstown Estate first. It took us about half an hour to walk to the town centre. We did not actually go to the Chinese. I do not remember meeting anyone along the way.
9. I have been asked whether I and my friends went for a walk around the Brownstown Estate earlier that evening, at around 20.00. I do not think that we did. I definitely do not recall seeing Heidi Reaney about in the Estate at all that evening.
10. P51 got separated from us at the footbridge on West Street just behind the Chinese when he stopped to talk to someone there and the rest of us continued walking on down into town. I honestly cannot remember who he stopped to talk to.
11. I have been asked whether P51 stopped to talk to Wayne Lunt and Lisa Hobson when he got separated from us but I am not sure. I knew Wayne Lunt because I used to work in a car wash with his brother Phillip but the name Lisa Hobson only rings a bell. However, I am certain that we did not meet Wayne Lunt and Lisa Hobson in front of my house when we first set out for our walk.

12. P44 Kyle and I walked down to Intersport. From there we continued walking down towards the church.
13. In front of the Church at the summer seats because there were people standing in the middle of the town near Thomas and Woodhouse Streets. I could not say how many people but there were a good lot of them, maybe fifteen or twenty people. I don't know if they had come off the Coach Inn bus. They were not doing anything, just standing about.
14. There were also more people, maybe fifteen or so of them, coming up the town towards the Church from Herron's Country Fried Chicken. I could not recognise any of these people even though I was close enough to see their faces.
15. I am not sure what time we would have arrived at the Church, but it is probably safe to say that it was some time between 01.30 and 02:00. We stayed at the Church for only five minutes or so. There was no one else at the Church while we were there. Then there was a bit of a rumpus, just shouting and singing but no fighting at all.
16. There was a police Land Rover at the Alliance & Leicester on the corner of Woodhouse Street facing down towards Herron's Country Fried Chicken, but I did not see any police officers while I was standing at the Church. I do not remember if the doors to the Land Rover were open. I did not see anyone next to the Land Rover.
17. I definitely did not see anyone lying on the street nor did I see or hear an ambulance. I have been told that Kyle has said in his statement [page 9133] that he saw a fight and two people lying on the ground. I did not. I cannot say where Kyle got this information from.
18. We decided to head back up the town because we knew that we should not have been there. We met my mother at around Intersport on West Street and walked

towards home with her. I believe she had seen us down at the Church. I was surprised that she had come to look for us.

19. As were heading back home [P51] met up with us near the chippy beside the Chinese take-away. He came from behind us, from the direction of the Church but I did not know where he had come from. I know that in my statement in 1997 [page 9160] I said that he had been at the summer seats. I cannot recall at this stage as to whether I did see [P51] while we were at the church. I also cannot recall seeing him in the crowd in the town centre.
20. I do not know why I said that in my statement [P51] did not ask me to say that and I would have no reason to lie for him. I was young at the time. When I saw him he did not have any injuries and he did not mention any commotion in town. At no time did I hear that [P51] might have been involved in any fighting that night.
21. We got back to my house at about 01:55. I know that [P44] came back to the house with us but I am not sure whether [P51] came all the way back with us. It is possible that he could have gone back down to the town centre that night. I do not know.
22. The first that I heard about the fight in the town centre that night was on the news and then again later when the police came to the house to interview me. I am not sure when or how my mother first would have known that there had been a fight but she did not discuss it with me.
23. I have been asked whether Wendy McBurney, a neighbour, was with my mother that evening. Wendy was at our house that evening and when we met my mother at Intersport she was also with my mother. I did not mention Wendy in my statement to the police in May 1997. I am not sure why I didn't.

24. I have also been asked about various people who are connected with this and I can say that at the time I knew Wayne Lunt, Dean Forbes, Stacey Bridgett, Marc Hobson, Allister Hanvey, and Timothy Jameson. However, I am positive that I did not see any of them in the town centre that night.
25. I did not know Rory Robinson, David Woods or Andrew Allen.
26. I cannot add anything more to my previous statement and in fact can hardly remember the detail contained within it after all this time.
27. I have been told that I was invited by letter to the police station for an interview on 2 June 1997. I wasn't aware of that meeting in the police station.

SIGNED: Simon McNally  
SIMON MCNALLY

DATED: 4/7/08