

This interview is being tape recorded. The interview is being conducted in an Interview Room at Armagh Police Office. I am Detective Sergeant H [REDACTED] from South Region CID and the other Officer present is - Detective Constable J [REDACTED] from South Region CID - also present is

OMBUDSMAN

Darren Wright, Investigating Officer with the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland.

And the solicitor present

SOLICITOR

[REDACTED]

The date is the 10th of April 1997 and the time is 1630.

McKEE

Yeah.

And can you tell us your full name, please.

McKEE

It's 2001, you just said the 10th of April 1997.

Did I.

McKEE

Yeah.

I'm very sorry, I'm 1997 in the head today, it's 2001. I'm glad you are alert, Michael. Ehm tell us your full name.

McKEE

James Michael McKee.

And your date of birth.

McKEE

The 17th of March 1954.

OK, Michael, Michael I want to remind you that during your time here you have the right to legal advice at any time. I know your solicitor is present here at the moment but also at any other time you want to seek legal advice, OK.

McKEE

I understand.

I'm going to remind you of the nature of our enquiries, basically that you have been eh you are being questioned in relation to Conspiracy to Pervert the Course of Justice regarding the Murder of Robert Hamill including and between the following dates, OK, the 27th of April 1997 and the 25th of November 1997 and do you understand that.

McKEE

Yes, I do.

I want to caution you and the caution is, You do not have to say anything, but I must

caution you that if you do not mention when questioned, something which you later rely on in Court, it may harm your defence. If you do say anything it may be given in evidence, all right.

McKEE

Yes.

You understand everything so far.

McKEE

I do, yes.

OK and it's fair to say that you have now decided to tell the full truth about everything.

McKEE

I have, yes.

OK, Michael, Michael I showed you earlier a copy of an exhibit ehm I now want to show you the, the original which is, it's Police Identification Mark DL4 which is a copy of the Taxi Log we showed you.

McKEE

Right.

OK and now if we go to the page that's relevant to you, it starts of, Saturday the 26th of the 4th, do you remember that.

McKEE

I do, yes.

And it actually goes into the early hours of the Sunday morning

McKEE

Yes.

Do you see the 2 15, it's not highlighted on this page now

McKEE

Right.

2 15 that is 0215 hours

McKEE

Yeah.

In other words 2 15 am in the morning, [REDACTED] Smith to town and that would be driver number 9.

McKEE

Yes.

OK.

McKEE

Uh huh.

And you accept that that is most likely Rodney Smith or do you accept that is Rodney Smith.

McKEE

Yes, uh huh, because it's the only Smith I know.

OK and [REDACTED] is your house.

McKEE

Is was, yes.

[REDACTED]

McKEE

Uh huh.

So that Taxi Log is telling us what, that, and would you agree that Rodney Smith was at your house that night

McKEE

Yes.

And got a taxi from it.

McKEE

Yes.

To the town.

McKEE

Yes.

And at that time Rodney Smith lived in [REDACTED] in Portadown.

McKEE

I'm not sure what number.

OK.

McKEE

Opposite the Fire Station.

He lives in [REDACTED] in Portadown.

OMBUDSMAN

What was the street.

The Fire Station - yes, but that is up - yes, up - the Fire Station is up at the top of [REDACTED] OK, the next one I want to show you is an original phone billing which is marked MI14, all right.

McKEE

Yes.

And we want to show you on this is, this is a phone billing belonging to Robert Atkinson of [REDACTED]

McKEE

OK.

OK, you can see that OK.

McKEE

Yes.

I want to draw your attention in particular to a call that's underlined here, do you see that call there.

McKEE

One seven six two three three four three 0 seven

Yes, now can you see the date of that, Michael.

McKEE Yes.
What date's that.

McKEE The 27th of the 4th 97.
And the time

McKEE 8 37.
In the morning.

McKEE 0837.
And it was for one minute thirty-five. Do you see that.

McKEE Yeah.
Are you happy enough with that.

McKEE Yes.
That's the call that we are questioning you about.

McKEE Yes.
That number there [REDACTED] is Harvey's home at OK.

McKEE Yes.
Did you make that call.

McKEE I did not.
And in fact to go further he'll say that you weren't even staying

McKEE At Robbie Atkinson's house.
Overnight.

McKEE Overnight.
If we can just go back, Michael and you'll probably have had time to think about this from we last spoke to you.

McKEE Uh huh.
In relation to ehm how this all came about; can you tell us anything more that.

McKEE From my recollection obviously I was into heavy drinking then and didn't actually give a crap about anything
Right.

- McKEE Ehm I don't know whether Robbie phoned our house or asked me in the gym to come to his house and obviously ask, ask you know, ask me would I say I had made the phone call and me being in the state I was, probably said yes, I'll agree to that.
- Why did he tell you he wanted to someone to cover for this phone call.
- McKEE I honestly can't remember.
- Uh huh but it must have been, he must have told you that he was in trouble about this phone call.
- McKEE He probably did, you know, you know ehm I don't know how much, if he told me he was in big trouble or little trouble or deep shit or whatever and I have obviously, he said, I remember he said you don't have to do it if you don't want to, you know ehm but sort of me being a friend and him being a friend of mine I said aye, yeah, I'll cover for you.
- What, you talked about youse all got together in Atkinson's house
- McKEE Yes.
- And all of youse is who.
- McKEE Well there would've been myself, Andrea my ex-wife, Robbie and Eleanor.
- Uh huh - and who, whose arrangement was that, whose idea.
- McKEE That's what I mean, that's what I'm saying, I don't know who arranged it.
- Whose instigation would it have been at.
- McKEE Well it wouldn't have been mine to start with.
- Right.
- McKEE Because obviously I didn't know what the hell was going on.
- Yeah, so it was either
- McKEE It was either Robbie or Eleanor.
- Yeah - and what did youse discuss.
- McKEE I honestly can't say, I can't, you know I can't remember.
- Well the story that you gave the Police back then in 1997 was that you phoned Hanvey's

McKEE Yes.
Looking Tracey Clarke.

McKEE Yeah, to, to see if the niece was all right, yeah.
Yeah and you remember that.

McKEE Yeah.
Well who decided on that story. Well who thought of that story

McKEE I don't know.
You came up with it.

McKEE I don't know.
Was it you or Atkinson.

McKEE It might've been me, I don't know.
Right - and we asked you earlier on about this business of Atkinson phoning Hanvey and telling him to get rid of his clothing

McKEE Ehm
And what did you say about that.

McKEE I can't remember anything about that.
Did you not tell us that, that that was, was the chat in Portadown.

McKEE That was, that was the chat in Portadown, yeah.
Yeah.

McKEE I didn't say Robbie had actually said it, I, I don't know, that was only sort of people saying things because there was a lot of people come in and out of the gym, you know.
Uh huh, do you ever remember Atkinson saying anything to Tracey Clarke about it all.

McKEE No.
Yet and all everybody was able to go away to the Tai Kwando outings to Lanzarote and that and the Atkinsons were there and Tracey Clarke was there and there was never any, any animosity shown towards her by the Atkinsons.

McKEE There was, there was, there was about fourteen people on that

Uh huh.

McKEE On that eh when I took them for the exams out there.

Right.

McKEE Ehm I thought everybody spoke to everybody else because they were from different clubs eh Tracey was going out with eh her boyfriend and they were doing their own thing at night time and during the day.

OK ehm to go back to this, the planning in the house

McKEE Uh huh.

Youse obviously all got together as you said

McKEE Yes.

The four of youse, do you remember when that was.

McKEE You mean date wise.

Yeah.

McKEE No.

Month even.

McKEE No.

Right, and then how you presented yourself at the Police Station, do you remember how that came about.

McKEE What do you mean.

Did he tell you to go down to the Police Station or did the Police come to you to say look

McKEE The Police come to the house.

Right.

McKEE And they interviewed me in the kitchen. I made a statement which is now knowingly wrong and I shouldn't have done it but

You - that's the one we read to you this morning, in the earlier interview.

McKEE And said I had sort of covered for him, yeah.

Yeah.

McKEE Yeah.

But you knew at the time you made that that it was wrong sure.

McKEE

Yes, I know that.

Right, OK. Well what did you go to Portadown or Lurgan Police Station for then, do you remember that.

McKEE

I can't remember. I remember Sean Hagan being there because he had his feet up on the desk.

You see just, the Police interviewed you about several things in 1997, there is a couple of other statements here ehm that maybe you are getting slightly confused about Michael, they came out to see, that was in October that one I read to you but they also talked to you on the 29th of September on two occasions, all right and really that was asking you about Atkinson and what his role was.

McKEE

Uh huh.

OK.

McKEE

And I, the sort of

I'll read them to you, OK.

McKEE

Yeah, yeah.

I'll read the first one. I am the above-named and my address is known to Police. I am a fifth degree Black Belt Master in Martial Art with Tai Kwando. I have ran a club in the Portadown area for the last eight years. I have one pupil who has been a member of the club for the last five years. Her name is [REDACTED] Atkinson and her father is a Police Officer, who until recently was attached to Portadown RUC Station. [REDACTED] father's name is Robert, however, he is not a member of my club and has no role in my day to day running of the club. Robert has, however, on occasions assisted me to organise travel arrangements to competitions both here and on the mainland.

McKEE

Yeah.

Is that correct.

McKEE

Yes.

Well did you not say earlier that he was the Secretary of your club.

McKEE

He, he wasn't actually the Secretary he was ehm one of the signatories on the bank

account.

For the club or for the recreation club.

McKEE Yes, for the club.

Right.

McKEE You know when we did like sponsor kick-a-thons, you know and all the money went to the bank and there was two out of three signatures had to be on a cheque.

Uh huh, it's

McKEE For anything to happen and he didn't actually say, you know, he didn't stand up and teach a class or anything, you know or he had no say in the actual club.

But he actually assisted you organise some travel arrangements.

McKEE Ehm not that I recall, no, because I used to phone up the Hotel or, or maybe there was a couple of times he phoned up somebody who booked the boat, so that's

You say, you say here that he has, however, on occasions assisted me to organise travel arrangements to competitions both here and on the mainland.

McKEE Well I suppose in a way it could be true because well you know he's made the phone call to whoever and saying book us on a Stena Line for thirty people.

Do you want to read the other statement out - yeah - these are both, I think dated the 29th of September - yeah, dated the 29th of September - they're, they're, they're both taken on the same day and sorry

McKEE Yeah.

You would agree that both of those are your signatures.

McKEE Yes, yeah.

Right - now this one says I am the above-named person and my address is known to Police. I am a fifth degree Black Belt Master in Tai Kwando and have ran a club in the Portadown area for the last eight years. I have known Alistair Hanvey, [REDACTED] for the last seven years or so. Alistair Hanvey has been a student of mine for that time and I have given him instruction in the Martial Art of Tai Kwando and he is currently a second degree Black Belt. I haven't seen Alistair at the club

since Christmas 1996. I can state that at no time was Alistair expelled from my club for misuse of his Martial Art skills.

McKEE

Uh huh.

Do you remember making that.

McKEE

Yes.

Yeah.

McKEE

Uh huh, I remember now anyway.

Right - are those the ones that you made in the house.

McKEE

Ehm I have must have done, I must have done

And when you went to the Police Station do you remember then making a statement.

McKEE

I remember going to the Police Station with Sean Hagan or being asked to go but I can't remember if I made a statement there or not, you know.

OK, so that other statement is made on the 9th of October, you don't know where you made it.

McKEE

Which one is that.

That's that one there I read to you this morning, which really is the one where you covered for making that phone call.

McKEE

I think that was actually in the house, I think.

Right, now this is the one where you say that you stayed in Eleanor Atkinson's and Robert Atkinson's overnight

McKEE

Right.

It's the one you, you have admitted to being untrue.

McKEE

Yes but I can't remember if it was in the Police Station or at home I done that.

OK, OK and whenever youse all agreed, the four of youse, it's right that the four of youse agreed for this story.

McKEE

Uh huh.

And why did youse not include Andrea, why did you and Eleanor go first to make your statements.

McKEE

I don't know maybe I, I would, you know.

Were youse told to leave Andrea out.

McKEE I honestly can't remember, I don't know.

Ehm

McKEE I don't know.

And to go back to the phone call

McKEE Right.

Do you remember we mentioned the phone call

McKEE Yes.

That Andrea says you made or at some stage the Atkinsons saying if you done that there you are an idiot. Have you remembered anything about that.

McKEE No, I haven't.

Well it's possible it did happen.

McKEE It's possible.

Why did you do it, Michael.

McKEE Well I suppose, you know ehm I was, my marriage was going down the drain very quickly and I was drinking maybe eighteen, twenty pints a day from half seven in the morning till drinking lunch time, going home for an hours kip, going and getting up and going to teach class, getting pissed, sleeping down in the club eh and I just thought I was going, helping a friend which I now know is wrong or was wrong or is wrong. Ehm could you excuse, excuse the french ah just being fucking stupid.

Did you realise at the time how serious it was.

McKEE No, probably not, probably not.

But you did realise that Atkinson was in trouble because he needed someone to cover for that phone call.

McKEE Well probably, yes, uh huh.

Like it's obvious that he had to get you on board to cover for him

McKEE Uh huh.

Because the Police were asking him about, questions about it.

McKEE Yes.

So he needed someone to cover for him.

McKEE

Right.

Would you agree with that.

McKEE

I agree with it now, yes.

Yeah and that is the reason why youse got together in his kitchen or he got youse together or however it came about.

McKEE

Yeah.

But youse got together specifically to talk about this.

McKEE

Yeah.

And when youse were together, did he tell you what he had done.

McKEE

Not as far as I can remember, no.

And through all of this time Michael you decided not to tell the truth about it until today.

McKEE

Yeah, well as you know last, was it November, I got a bullet in the post saying if I open my gub, the next one will be for my head.

Uh huh December

McKEE

December, was it.

The 5th of December

McKEE

Right, and to this day it's still quite worrying.

Was there any chat around anywhere at that time about the enquiry.

McKEE

Not that I know, I don't, I don't even go into Portadown any more.

Well after that happened, did you phone anybody or contact anybody about this.

McKEE

No, I actually phoned, I phoned Robbie up one day to ask him ehm whether it was actually him that sent it but Eleanor put the phone down on me and that's was all I, that's all ever happened.

What about the Hanveys in this, did you contact them.

McKEE

No, I don't, I can't even remember their telephone number.

Did you think about contacting them.

McKEE

No.

Have you talked to them about this.

McKEE

No.

Whenever you went down to see
Alistair Hanvey in Prison, what was
discussed.

McKEE

Ehm what he done during the day ehm what he
done at night time, sort of general chit
chat really.

What in Prison are you talking about.

McKEE

Yeah.

What he done in Prison.

McKEE

Uh huh, and he was allowed to steak there
was no doors in the, on the cells and he
made tea.

Did youse talk about the Murder of
Robert Hamill.

McKEE

Pardon.

Did youse talk about the Murder of
Robert Hamill.

McKEE

Probably not.

Did youse talk about Atkinson phoning him.

McKEE

No, I don't think so.

To go to the phone call that was made on the
2nd of May, right, Atkinson got you to cover
for one made on the 27th morning

McKEE

Yeah.

At 8 37

McKEE

Right.

That's the one that you says you slept over
in the house (inaudible)

McKEE

That's correct.

Right, but there is one then on the 2nd of
May at 1624, again from Atkinson's house to
the home of Alistair Hanvey, right

McKEE

Right.

And what we're saying about that is that was

another phone call where he was keeping him updated in how the Police investigation was going. Did he mention that to you.

McKEE

No.

Did he not say anything along the lines of I need you to cover for the one in the morning of the 27th but I'm OK for the one later on in the 2nd of May.

McKEE

Well I didn't know there was another phone call made.

You're sure about that.

McKEE

I'm positive.

And apart from you and Andrea and Robert and Eleanor, was there anybody else present in that room when you discussed this.

McKEE

No, I don't even think the kids, his, Robbie's kids were in the house that day or at that time I don't know.

OK, since then have you discussed this with anybody.

McKEE

No.

Does [REDACTED] know about it.

McKEE

She knows a little bit about it.

You've told her obviously the ins and outs of it.

McKEE

Bits and pieces, yes.

What have you told her.

McKEE

Eh probably just enough so that she'll just be satisfied that nothing went on.

Did you tell her that you done it.

McKEE

Eh that I had made the phone call.

Yeah.

McKEE

No, no.

Did you tell her that no, did you tell her then that you made a statement to cover for Atkinson.

McKEE

Yes.

Right, and did you tell her who all knew about it.

McKEE

Probably, yes.

Can you remember specifically what you told her.

McKEE No, no. I know she hates Robbie, Robbie Atkinson's guts I know that.

Does she know him.

McKEE Eh yeah because she was obviously training as well.

Oh in the Tai Kwando.

McKEE Yeah.

Right, well apart from [REDACTED] then and Andrea and Robert and Eleanor Atkinson who else knows about it.

McKEE Nobody.

Well it's obvious that Kenny Hanvey and Elizabeth Hanvey know because they are the ones who Atkinson phoned

McKEE Well fair enough, but I, I have never spoke

And Alistair Hanvey

McKEE I have never spoke to them about it.

Right, and Alistair Hanvey and obviously Tracey Clarke

McKEE Uh huh.

Since this happened has anybody mentioned it.

McKEE To me

Uh huh.

McKEE No.

Go back from 1997 right through.

McKEE Not that I can recall, no.

At some stage youse all never got together to look, say look for goodness sake now everybody make sure they keep to the same story.

McKEE I don't think so, no.

Is it possible.

McKEE It may be, it's maybe possible, yes but over the past now two and a half years I've had no contact with Robbie.

OK.

McKEE So I don't know what's been said or what's going on.

Right, but that takes us back to the middle of 1998 probably, two and a half years ago.

McKEE Uh huh.

Or in 1999 even ehm up until you've split up your contact with Atkinson

McKEE Uh huh.

Did youse get together and say look, whatever you do everybody make sure they keep to the same story.

McKEE I don't actually think it was talked about after that because you know if we did go out there was other things to talk about, you know because there, there was nothing happening probably so nothing was ever talked about.

OK, are you sure about that now.

McKEE As far as I can remember, yes.

One thing I want to ask you about

McKEE Uh huh.

When you visited him, Alistair Hanvey in Prison

McKEE Yes.

My feeling would be you must have talked about the case, you know because here we have Atkinson giving Hanvey warning

McKEE Uh huh.

If you like to, to do a certain act which will be in his benefit as far as the case goes, right.

McKEE Yeah.

And Hanvey knowing that you're also involved in that to the extent that you're covering that phone call, you're taking that responsibility for that phone call to take the blame from Atkinson so is it not logic, logical that that would be discussed at Prison that the case

McKEE Probably, probably not because there was two other people there that didn't know about it.

And who was that.

McKEE Eh [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

Are they both from the, the Club.

McKEE They were from the Club, yes.

So you were going up in the capacity as members of the club to visit

McKEE Alistair.

Yeah.

McKEE Yeah.

And the case wasn't discussed or how do you think it's going to go, do you think you'll beat it, do you think

McKEE Oh it probably, it probably was discussed like this, you know things that but there was, you know it was just general, general chit chat and, and how, how he was having steak and no door on the bloody cell and eh they could come and go as they wanted and that sort of thing and as far as I know that's all I can remember talking about.

And he didn't say listen, thanks for doing that for me.

McKEE Not, not as far as I recall.

Appreciate what you did.

McKEE No because I, I wasn't helping him, was I, I was helping Robbie.

You were helping him in a roundabout sort of way maybe you didn't know about it, you know I'm not saying you knew about it but - did you hear how, how they actually did get rid of his clothes.

McKEE No.

Do you ever remember him wearing a silver grey jacket, a track suit top with orange stripes down it.

McKEE No, he always had, God when you seen him he was always in something different, it could've been anything.

Well do you remember ehm anyone saying goodness he had to burn his good coat

McKEE No.

Anything like that.

McKEE No.

Is there any chat of that about the town. Did you hear, I mean you say there, you made a comment earlier on about it being the chat (inaudible)

McKEE Well people would say, you know but

Sorry, all the talk in the town about eh excuse me, about the phone call from Atkinson. Was there any chat about what happened to the clothing. Did you hear any talk about the club about that or

McKEE No.

Nothing.

McKEE Nothing, because I know Alistair had really, had really stopped going to the club then so, you know ehm you know not many people talked about him very often, you know it's once people leave the club they're sort of, you are just forgot about, you know what I mean.

Is there anything else you have thought about since we last spoke to you in relation to this.

McKEE No, I think I have told you everything I can remember.

If youse had been going to the Atkinsons

McKEE Sorry.

If youse had been going to stay over at some other occasion obviously

McKEE Yeah.

How would youse have travelled.

McKEE Sometimes by car and stay overnight and sometimes by car and get a taxi home and sometimes get a taxi down and get a lift back in the morning.

Would it always have been pre-arranged.

McKEE Not all the time, no.

But you would have called unannounced.

McKEE Uh huh, uh huh, there was some nights we just finished training and I went down there for a cup of tea and Robbie would get a couple of beers out and we just sit and drink all night, you know, it's all according to what, what he working and

whatever, you know.

When was the last time you spoke to him.

McKEE Ehm maybe very early eh last year or maybe 99.

What was that about, Michael.

McKEE Ehm because I had got a letter of Andrea saying she changed her statement so I phoned Robbie and Eleanor up and I told Robbie that she had changed her statement and I said to Robbie, what the fuck was I going to do and he said, I don't give a shit, what am I going to do and that was the last I spoke to him.

When was that.

McKEE Maybe very early last year.

That's 2000.

McKEE Yes.

Right, but she didn't change her statement until June of last year.

McKEE Well it was, it was in the dark nights anyway.

Could it have been late on last year, after June you know, could it have been into August, September, October.

McKEE No, because we had moved into eh moved into the other house then.

Where were you when you got this letter, Michael, living.

McKEE



McKEE Yes.

And when did you move out of, out of there.

McKEE In the middle of September.

OK, so you phoned Robbie and told him and said to his home.

McKEE Yes.

What were youse going to do.

McKEE I wasn't going to do anything, I just told him exactly what was going on.

Though you, you said to him what are we

going to do or what about me or something like that, did you not say.

McKEE

Aye and he said and he pointed to himself, what, what about me he said and I said well, well that was it and that was all that was said and he went.

This was a face to face meeting, was it.

McKEE

This was a face to face meeting.

Where was that at.

McKEE

[REDACTED]

What, your house.

McKEE

Yes.

How did you get him round there.

McKEE

I told him I needed to speak to him.

Did you phone him like.

McKEE

Yes.

From [REDACTED]

McKEE

Eh no from a telephone box in Gilford.

Had you no phone.

McKEE

Ehm we did have a phone all the time in [REDACTED] yeah.

OK, have you ever spoken to Kenny Hanvey or, or Elizabeth Hanvey

McKEE

Since

At any time.

McKEE

Probably not, no, the last four or five years anyway not since Alistair left the club.

Were you talking to him in 1997.

McKEE

Who the Hanveys

Uh huh.

McKEE

What Kenny or Eleanor

Elizabeth

McKEE

Not as far as I can remember.

Was the Atkinsons very friendly with Alistair Hanvey.

McKEE Ehm God knows, I'm, I'm not sure how far their sort of friendly relationship went

How far what - when

McKEE I don't know how far sort of deep their relationship was now.

And those times whenever Atkinson called at your house at [REDACTED]

McKEE Uh huh.

When was that, was it in the summer of 97 for example.

McKEE Well I remember him round in uniform a couple of times for a cup of tea eh a couple of times for a drink, once at a barbecue where he could hardly stand up.

Yes but when he was in uniform, the times he was in uniform, do you remember when they were.

McKEE No.

It was obviously after this phone call.

McKEE It could've been after or before, I don't know.

Yeah, well he only went out to [REDACTED] he was moved out of Portadown you see, he went out to [REDACTED] after the phone call.

McKEE Was it, well it must have been after the phone call then.

Uh huh, do you remember him coming out to the Landrover or anything like that.

McKEE A Landrover or a car I'm not sure.

Do you remember those things.

McKEE Ehm I, I

Tell us what you do remember.

McKEE He come, he come to the house a couple of times and had tea.

In uniform.

McKEE Yes, uh huh.

And he was either in a Landrover or a car.

McKEE Yeah, one or the other.

OK and that was a couple of times.

McKEE

Yes.

And what did youse discuss in those times.

McKEE

Jesus, I don't know, about the weather, I'm not sure, honest to God. He was never there for very long.

Did youse discuss this business about the phone call.

McKEE

Well not as far as I can remember, no.

How long are you a good friend of his.

McKEE

Maybe about five or six years.

Prior to this, prior to the phone call.

McKEE

Yes eh maybe four years before that and, and up until eh maybe two and a half, three years ago and when I wouldn't allow his daughter to go to a competition.

What happened.

McKEE

What happened, you see ehm they were, they had an organised an eighteenth birthday party for their son [REDACTED]

Uh huh.

McKEE

In Rangers Football Club in Glasgow which everybody was supposed to go to and, but on the Sunday of that weekend there was a competition in Dublin and I would rather have gone to a competition in Dublin

Uh huh.

McKEE

That go to Glasgow.

Yes.

McKEE

So they were all still going to Glasgow, you know the Atkinson family were all going to Glasgow.

Yes.

McKEE

And I had two bus loads to go to Dublin on the Sunday and he phoned me up at home on the Saturday evening after he come from the football match saying eh why is [REDACTED] name not down on, on the bus and I said Robbie, sure the bloody, you're going to Glasgow, he says no, the boat is cancelled now, her name was down on the bus and I said don't talk bloody shit

So

McKEE You were going to Glasgow, she wasn't on the bus, you know what I mean.

Uh huh.

McKEE And he sort of ranted and raved on the phone because he was pissed off with the football match as he normally was ehm and that was the end of the conversation, I wasn't letting her go to the competition because there was no room on the buses anyway so eh the conversation ended up, I told him if he wanted to go to Dublin to get in the car in the morning and go by himself, you know (inaudible) and never brought her back after that.

So did youse talk much after that then.

McKEE No.

But youse did get together in your house at [REDACTED] to talk about the fight that [REDACTED] was in it.

McKEE Well eh probably for, at the most two minutes.

Did Eleanor go in to.

McKEE Eh she sat in the car, she wouldn't come in, and [REDACTED] went into the kitchen she didn't know.

All right, is there anything you want to say or anything you want us to clarify for you.

McKEE I don't think so, no, I think I've just said about, you know, I can't, obviously I've tried to right my wrong doings and whatever and some of the questions obviously you are asking me I can't remember back but I'm obviously telling you what

OK.

McKEE I can, can remember, you know.

OK.

McKEE Because it's one such a long time ago, four years ehm and four years ago I was eh like as I said before I was pissed day and night.

Uh huh, OK, Michael we are going to finish this interview now then.

McKEE OK.

SOLICITOR OK.

OK, switching off the tape recorder, the time is 1708.

CHECKED & CERTIFIED AN ACCURATE TRANSCRIPT OF PACE TAPE NO T255555A INTERVIEW OF JAMES MICHAEL McKEE ON 10 APRIL 2001 BETWEEN 1630 HOURS AND 1708 HOURS.

[Handwritten signature]
