

offence. You will always get someone going up the street shouting and roaring, but that is either just high spirits or them perhaps shouting at their mates a couple of hundred yards up their street to get their attention. I do not recall seeing any in-fighting or fights between any of the crowd and police officers. With me carrying the baton gun, it was a bit hard for me to try to arrest anyone anyway. If it had warranted it and I had had to fire the baton gun, other officers would have gone forward to attempt to make an arrest. With the number of police that we had – approximately 10 or 11 officers in the crowd – to make an arrest would have straightaway diminished our numbers. If we had wanted to arrest someone, we would have needed to have taken them back to the police vehicle then back to the station. If the crowd had decided to turn nasty and there were only 2 or 3 officers left on the ground to deal with the situation because there was somebody being arrested, then the odds would not have been good.

28. The police started to move the crowd after I came back from collecting the baton gun. By this stage, if I remember correctly, Sergeant **P89** was at the scene, but I do not recall when he arrived. I do not recall seeing Inspector McCrum there. People were drifting away. The odd 1 or 2 were just standing about, not saying anything; I suppose you could say that they were “sightseers”. Then the police started slowly moving forward telling people to move back and go home. We were pushing the crowd up Market Street towards St. Mark’s Church. Some of those would have gone into Church Street. The rest mostly went up West Street. We were moving them nice and slowly to gain ground. I suppose it was like herding cattle. There were perhaps some people still shouting at this stage, but the crowd were all moving until it finally dispersed at 3.00am.
29. My notebook entry for 27 April 1997 containing pages **09971** to **09972** states, “0300 crowd finally disperse. 0330, signed H&K riot gun No. 3 + 25 rounds back to armoury”. So between 3.00am and 3.30am, we must have been making sure the crowd had completely dispersed and that no one else wanted to come down into the town before leaving West Street. Before leaving the scene, Sergeant **P89** did