

RECORD OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN DETECTIVE SENIOR CONSTABLE INKSTER
AND JEFFREY MILLER AT THE NEWCASTLE DETECTIVES OFFICE ON THE
1st SEPTEMBER, 1982.

PRESENT :- Detective Senior Constable INKSTER
P.C. Senior Constable WILSON (Typist)

TIME COMMENCED :- 6.30pm

- Q. 1 As I have already explained to you I am going to ask you some further questions regarding the death of a male person named Richard SLATER who was found in the Burwood Park toilets, Newcastle on the 19th December, 1980 suffering from head injuries and he subsequently died at the Royal Newcastle Hospital on the 22nd December, 1980 as a result of these injuries occasioned to him. I intend to conduct an interview with you and my questions and any answers that you care to give to those questions will be recorded on the typewriter by Detective WILSON as this interview takes place. You are not obliged to answer any of my questions unless you wish but whatever you do say will be recorded and may be used in evidence at a later stage. Is this course satisfactory to you.
- A. Yeah, I just want to get this thing cleared up.
- Q. 2 For the purpose of this interview will you tell me your full name, date of birth and address.
- A. My full name is Jeffrey MILLER I was born on the [REDACTED] I am at present an inmate at Cessnock Corrective Centre and I am due to be released in April next year.
- Q. 3 Do you agree that prior to the commencement of this record of interview I told you I intended to ask you further questions about this matter.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 4 Do you also agree that prior to this interview I told you that at the conclusion of this interview you would be given the opportunity of reading through that interview and signing it if you wished.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 5 Do you also agree that I told you that at the completion of the interview you would be given a complete copy of that interview.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 6 Do you agree that Detective WILSON and I first spoke to you earlier this afternoon in the office section of the Cessnock Corrective Centre.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 7 Do you also agree that you said that you were prepared to accompany me from that Centre to the Newcastle Police Station so that we could continue our inquiries into this matter.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 8 Do you also agree that you indicated to me that you were prepared to be interviewed about this matter so as you could get the matter cleared up.
- A. Yes.

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- Q. 9 Do you also agree that on the way back to the Newcastle Police Station you volunteered to come with us to the area of the Burwood Park toilets and indicate certain things to us in that area.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 10 Do you agree that you were first spoken to by the Police in relation to this enquiry at the Newcastle Police Station on the 23rd December, 1980.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 11 Do you agree that you signed that statement that you made to the Police.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 12 Do you agree that you read this statement ^{5m} you made on the 23rd December, 1980 a short time ago.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 13 Is there anything in that statement that you made on the 23rd December, 1980 that you wish to add to or detract from.
- A. Yes there is something else that I would like to say that I didn't put into that statement and that is that I did go into that toilet that afternoon after [1216] [1216] came out just to make a name for myself with the others that I was with.
- Q. 14 Can you tell me what you mean by that.
- A. Well that day [1217], [1218], [1216] and myself were at [1217]'s flat in [REDACTED]. It was just on Christmas time and we decided to do some Christmas shopping. About 11.00am we went to the Commonwealth Bank in Darby Street, Cooks Hill to cash a cheque of [1217]'s. I am not to sure but as far as I can recall I think we then proceeded to a warehouse in King Street where [1217] done some shopping. While they were at the warehouse I went over to Doctor RUNDEL's Surgery, in the shopping centre near Burwood Park which is just up from the warehouse. The Surgery was closed so I then went back to the warehouse and met the others. We then proceeded to the Pink Elephant Market vide Burwood Park. As we approached Burwood Park [1216] told us that he had to go to the toilet and proceeded into the Public Toilets on his own at Burwood Park. I think we might have crossed the road onto the toilet side of the road and waited there, around the trees for [1216] to come out, but I am not to sure. Then after a while [1216] came out to where we were waiting and he said something like there was a bloke in there doing the beat. When he said that I think I said "I will go in there and crack it with him." I said this to big note myself with the others, because when [1216] was in there [1218] was yelling out and slinging off at [1216] about doing the beats.
- Q. 15 What happened then.
- A. I proceeded into the door of the men's toilets and looked around and made my way to the first cubicle and the bloke wasn't there. I stood there but I couldn't get enough courage to go to the second one. Then I came out and met up with [1216] outside and ~~pen~~ jogged up to the side entrance of the Pink Elephant where we caught up with [1217] and [1218]. Then we all went into the Pink Elephants and done some shopping. I think we had something to eat there. I think I asked [1218] for some money so that [1217] and I could go to Carrington to pick up my peg cheque.

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- Q. 16 What happened then.
 A. Me and [1217] left Pink Elephants and caught a taxi from the front of the Pink Elephant Markets and went over to my mothers place at [REDACTED] Carrington. My cheque was being sent there. We got out of the taxi on the corner and walked up to my Mothers place. I went inside to see if my cheque had come and [1217] went across the road to the shop. My cheque hadn't come yet so [1217] and I waited near the shop. We saw the Postman soon after and I picked up my cheque. We then caught another taxi to the Commonwealth Bank in Darby Street where I cashed my cheque and I don't know what happened after that until later that night. Wait on I do remember I left [1217] and I think I went to the Doctors just up from the Bank and down at the Junction and [1217] left me to go shopping somewhere. I went back to [1217]'s flat later that day and we decided to go and borrow a car because I needed to have a car to go to the Doctors at Glendale to score some Ritalin. Then [1217], [1218] and myself went out to Islington to borrow a car at Monte Christo Motors.
- Q. 17 What happened then.
 A. [1217] borrowed the car and I drove out towards Glendale and on the way out I called in to see [1219] at Wallsend. I had a yarn with him then I went out to the Doctors at Glendale and then we came back home to [1217]'s flat at Newcastle.
- Q. 18 In your answer to question 14 you said, " I will go in there and crack it with him." Can you tell me what you mean by that.
 A. Offering sex for money.
- Q. 19 Can you recall what time it was that you went into the Burwood Park toilets.
 A. About 12.30 I suppose.
- Q. 20 Can you tell me how long you remained in that toilet.
 A. Only about a minute or so.
- Q. 21 Prior to you going into the toilet after you saw [1216] come out did you see anyother person enter or leave that toilet.
 A. Not as far as I recall.
- Q. 22 When you left the toilet did you see anyother person in the vicinity of those toilets.
 A. No, I don't think so.
- Q. 23 Can you tell me what you ment in your answer to question 15 when you said, " I stood there but I couldn't get enough courage to go to the second one."
 A. I don't want to comment on that.

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- Q. 24 Can you recall what clothing you were wearing when you went into the toilet that day.
A. Jeans, a shirt and riding boots.
- Q. 25 Can you tell me where those clothes that you were wearing at that time would be now.
A. God only knows, I would not have a clue.
- Q. 26 Did you change the clothing that you were wearing that day after you left those toilets.
A. I don't know.
- Q. 27 I have received information that when you went home to your mothers place at Carrington with [1217] after you left the Pink Elephant Markets that you went inside the house and came out with a new set of clothes on. Do you want to comment on that.
A. I don't know ~~wether~~ whether I got changed or not.
- Q. 28 I have also received information that when you went to see [1219] on the afternoon of the 19th December, 1980 you threatened him and said, "You don't want to open your mouth or you will end up like the guy in the toilet." Do you want to comment on that.
A. What I done I went out there because I read a statement that [1219] had made to the Police saying that I was involved in crimes with him that I knew nothing of. I went out there with the intention of giving him a flogging but when I got there I pushed him around a bit but didn't flog him because I knew that I could get over the top of him and beside I like him. As far as the guy in the toilet bit, that's all shit.
- Q. 299 Was anyother person with you when you spoke to [1219] [1219] outside his house at Wallsand.
A. Yes, [1217] and [1218] was in the car and [1219] s aunty came out to see what was going on.
- Q. 30 Would you care to suspend this interview for a meal.
A. Yes, I would like something to eat thanks.
INTERVIEW SUSPENDED AT 7.45pm. MILLER CONVEYED TO CELLS AND SUPPLIED WITH A MEAL.
- INTERVIEW RECOMMENCED AT 8.30pm
- Q. 31 Have you sm ~~have~~ had sm ~~sufficent~~ to eat.
A. Yes, I had a hamburger, french fries and a cup of coffee.
- Q. 32 What happened after you left [1219] 's place.
A. We just went back to [1217] 's place.
- Q. 33 I have sm received information that you told [1217] not to say anything about the bloke that you flogged in the toilet on the afternoon of the 19th December, 1980.
A. That is a lie.
- Q. 34 I have also received information that for several days after the 19th December, 1980 that you appeared to be worried and edgy over something would you care to comment on that.
A. I don't even know how I acted, It was so long ago.

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- Q. 35 Would you care to tell me why you didn't ⁱⁿ tell the Police when you were first interviewed on the 23rd December, 1980 that you did infact go into the toilet block at Burwood Park.
- A. I was freeked out and scared about what would happen to me because I was at the toilets on that day. I was frightened that the Police would charge me with it. That is why I didn't mention it.
- Q. 36 When you went into the Burwood Park toilet about 12.30pm on the 19th December, 1980 did you see anyother person in that toilet. That is after 1216 left the toilet.
- A. No comment.
- Q. 37 When you went into the toilet at Burwood Park that afternoon did you see any blood on the floor or walls of that toilet.
- A. I didn't notice any.
- Q. 38 Is there anything further that you wish to say about this matter.
- A. No.
- Q. 39 Will you now read each page of this record of interview aloud.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 40 You will be charged in relation to the death of Richard SLATER on the ~~(19th December, 1980)~~ 23rd December, 1980 at Newcastle. Do you wish to make a written statement in relation to this matter. I want you to understand that you do not have to make a statement unless you want to but whatever statement that you do make will later be tended in evidence at a Court.
- A. No, would you ring my father on [REDACTED] and tell him that I have been interviewed over a death, don't tell him it is murder but tell him to arrange for a solicitor to be at Court in the morning and ask him to bring a jumper to the Police station for me tonight.

RECORD REMOVED FROM TYPEWRITER AND HANDED TO MILLER.

- Q. 41 Do you agree that you have just read aloud each page of this record of interview.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 42 Do you agree that it is a correct of our interview.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 43 Have the answers that you have given as recorded in this interview been made of your own free will.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 44 Has any threat, promise or inducement been held out to you to give the answers which have been recorded in this interview.
- A. No.
- Q. 45 Do you agree that as you read through this interview you initialled a number of typing errors that appeared in this record of interview.
- A. Yes.

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Q. 46 Will you now read aloud these additional questions and answers.

A. Yes.

Q. 47 Will you now sign each page of this record of interview.

A. I would preferre not to at this stage until I see my Solicitor in the morning and then I will sign it when he sees it.

TIME CONCLUDED :- 9.30pm

WITNESS..... *G.R. Inkster*

G.R. INKSTER.
Detective Senior Constable
Newcastle Police Station

RECEIVED FROM DETECTIVE SENIOR CONSTABLE INKSTER AT THE
NEWCASTLE POLICE STATION A COMPLETE COPY OF THIS RECORD
OF INTERVIEW CONSISTING OF SIX PAGES.

WITNESS..... *G.R. Inkster* *S. Miller*

[Signature]
9.35pm 1/9/82

Newcastle Police station
9-30pm
1-9-82