Transcript of the Inquest

Date: 4th July 2022

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CORONER: **Good morning everyone. Mr SANDERS, I think we are starting with three witnesses in person this morning, is that right?**

MR SANDERS QC: That is correct, sir, yes.

CORONER: **Are we starting with William EDWARDS?**

MR SANDERS QC: That is correct, yes.

CORONER: **Mr EDWARDS, are you there?**

MR EDWARDS: Yes, I am.

CORONER: **Good morning to you. Would you come forward, please?**

MR WILLIAM HENRY JUDE EDWARDS (sworn)

CORONER: **Thank you very much. Do sit down, please.**

MR EDWARDS: Thank you.

CORONER: **Good morning.**

MR EDWARDS: Good morning.

CORONER: **Can I ask you to come forward just a little bit, please? Thank you. Could you give me your full name, please?**

MR EDWARDS: William Henry Jude EDWARDS.

CORONER: **Thank you very much. Mr EDWARDS, I am going to introduce you in a moment to Mr SANDERS QC, who is going to be asking some questions on my behalf. Keep your voice up, please. You have got a nice loud voice.**

MR EDWARDS: Okay.

CORONER: **Just make sure you do your best to keep it up, if you would. Concentrate on the questions you are being asked. If we need to ask something else, one of us will. And do not rush ahead too quickly, because we will be taking notes.**

MR EDWARDS: Okay.

CORONER: **Thank you very much. Thank you.**

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you, sir. Good morning, Mr EDWARDS.

MR EDWARDS: Good morning.

MR SANDERS QC: Can we start, please, with, you don't need to give me your full home address, but where you are living now?

MR EDWARDS: I am living in a place called The Shoe, which is on, in Wiltshire, on the South Gloucestershire border.

MR SANDERS QC: Very well, thank you. And you are retired, is that correct?

MR EDWARDS: I am retired, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. I just would like to start, please, just by taking you to your statement just to confirm your signature, and so on. So it is going to come up on the screen to your left, and you don't need to do anything, it's at Caselines 10-21.

MRS NIN: Ten?

MR SANDERS QC: Yes. If we just go down, it's a witness statement, William Henry Jude EDWARDS, and then if we can just go down to the bottom, it is four pages long. There, is that your signature there?

MR EDWARDS: That is my signature, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And that is dated 30th of May 2022?

MR EDWARDS: Correct.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And can you confirm that the contents of that are true?

MR EDWARDS: To the best of my knowledge, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And it's right, isn't it, you didn't make a statement to the police at the time?

MR EDWARDS: No, no, this is the first statement I have made.

MR SANDERS QC: Do have any idea why not? 'Cause a number of ambulance drivers in attendance did.

MR EDWARDS: No.

MR SANDERS QC: No.

MR EDWARDS: In a word, no, I have no idea. I was never asked to, so I never did.

MR SANDERS QC: No, and we have also seen, I mentioned just to you before, before court started, that you were in an ITV documentary about the bombings in 1989.

MR EDWARDS: I was.

MR SANDERS QC: And so we have seen your interview in that, and you went back to the pub for that, is that correct?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah. I had forgotten about it, but when you mentioned it, it, yeah, it jogged my memory.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And how old were you? What age were you in 1974?

MR EDWARDS: I'd just turned 24.

MR SANDERS QC: 24, thank you. And what was your job and your role, at the time?

MR EDWARDS: I was employed by the Surrey Ambulance Service as a driver attendant.

MR SANDERS QC: And what did a driver attendant do? It may be obvious, but …

MR EDWARDS: Well, as it states, one day we, we drove an, drove the ambulance, the following day we, we attended. So it was, there were two of us driver attendants. On this particular night I was the driver, so …

MR SANDERS QC: And as driver attendants did you have a, what we might now call a paramedic function?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, loosely. We weren't trained in those days to the standard that they're trained today, for sure. It was more a very basic training. It was a six week course which included driver training. So it wasn't as intense as today.

MR SANDERS QC: So it was advanced first aid, but not …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, it was advanced first aid but not … I mean, we couldn't do things that when I left some years later that I was doing, but we couldn't do it in those days.

MR SANDERS QC: No, and could you just tell us. You joined, I think, October 1971, the ambulance service?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, I joined Surrey Ambulance Service, October 1971. I continued in that employment until March 2006, when I retired from frontline operational work. And then in continued until March 2013 with what had then become South East Coast Ambulance Service, in a non-operational role, part time.

MR SANDERS QC: And that was part time?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: So 34 years in ambulances?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Yeah, and then time as part time. Did you do anything before you joined the ambulance service, after school?

MR EDWARDS: I did, I worked for my father's construction company, bricklaying.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, thank you. And so Saturday, the 5th of October 1974 …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … this is the night of the Guildford Pub Bombings, you were on duty with, who was your attendant?

MR EDWARDS: A chap called Richard Pryce NICHOLLS, commonly known as Dickie NICHOLLS.

MR SANDERS QC: And you were on the late shift, is that right?

MR EDWARDS: We were on a, yeah, a three to 11, 15 to 23.00, based in Guildford, which was the end of a set of, it was the last one of a set of late shifts that we were doing that week.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and where is Guildford ambulance station? Is that on Woodbridge Road, or …?

MR EDWARDS: On, yeah, in those days it was on the corner of Woodbridge Road and Leas Road.

MR SANDERS QC: So not far from North Street?

MR EDWARDS: No, not far at all. I would think probably five to 700 yards, as the crow flies.

MR SANDERS QC: So very close?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And I'd just like to ask you if you can help with some general questions about the capacity of Surrey Ambulance Service at the time. So I understand there were four ambulance stations in the Guildford area?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah. Surrey was split into four divisions, Guildford, Redhill, Banstead and Chertsey. Each of those divisions had a main station at Guildford, Banstead, Redhill and Chertsey, and attached to those were four substations. In the Guildford division it was Godalming, Haslemere, Farnham and Cranleigh.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and so did the other divisions have similar subdivisions as well?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, yeah. Each of them had four stations attached to the main station.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and we see references to the different call signs. So you might see Chertsey 1 and Banstead 2.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: But we also see Knaphill. What was Knaphill?

MR EDWARDS: Knaphill was just outside Guildford, but it was attached to the Chertsey area and not Guildford.

MR SANDERS QC: So was Knaphill a subdivision of the Chertsey area, or …?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, they, there was, yeah, Knaphill was a fairly new station that had been built to replace one here in Woking.

MR SANDERS QC: Right.

MR EDWARDS: So Woking closed and Knaphill opened.

MR SANDERS QC: I see. And it's not meant to be a memory test …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … but if you can help with this, do you know how many ambulances were at each, were in each division?

MR EDWARDS: At the time of the explosion?

MR SANDERS QC: Yes, in '74.

MR EDWARDS: Well each, each station had one 24-hour vehicle. The main stations would have, at that time in the evening, there were two. They worked from seven in the morning till 11 at night, on a two shift seven to three, three to 11 basis. And then Guildford … do you want to know how many were available at the time, or generally?

MR SANDERS QC: Well, at the time, and if it's different, you can explain both.

MR EDWARDS: No, that, that would be, that would have been it. So each, so there were 20 stations in Surrey, each would have had one 24-hour vehicle

available at that time, and four of them, four of them at the main stations would have, would have had a 16-hour vehicle, so that, that would have been available until 11 at night. The only exception was Gatwick, which came under the Redhill Division, and because of the airport commitment they had two 24-hour vehicles stationed there.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. So do you …

MR EDWARDS: I mean, there were, there were other ambulances available during the day and during the week, but at weekends it dropped to pretty much the bare minimum.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and so at Guildford at weekends there were, there were two ambulances, one was 24-hour and one was a 16-hour?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, and then obviously during the day, the daytime, from eight, from eight in the morning till five there were two others, an eight to four and a nine to five. But they obviously had finished and, and gone.

MR SANDERS QC: And were they different types of vehicle or were they essentially the same vehicle?

MR EDWARDS: No, they were all, all, each ambulance was the same. The only thing I can say is that each of the main stations then had a, a control and equipment vehicle based there. We had one at Guildford, and that wasn't actually manned, but it was available. So if, if it was required

then it was the, normally the job of the station officer and whoever he was crewed with, to take the control and equipment vehicle. But that obviously meant that the other ambulance that they normally worked on wouldn't have been available.

MR SANDERS QC: Right.

MR EDWARDS: Am I making myself clear there? Did you understand what …?

MR SANDERS QC: Yeah, so two ambulances …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … one control and equipment vehicle.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And is that the Land Rover? There is references to a Land Rover.

MR EDWARDS: That's right, yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: So the control and equipment vehicle is a Land Rover …

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: … and then the two ambulances, I don't know what make or model they are.

MR EDWARDS: Well, yeah, they were, the one we had was a Leyland FG. I even remember the fleet number, which was 21.

MR SANDERS QC: Right.

MR EDWARDS: And the registration number, but I won't bore you with that.

MR SANDERS QC: Okay.

MR EDWARDS: It's funny the things you remember, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And each ambulance had a two-man crew, a driver and an attendant?

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And what equipment did you have on board the ambulances?

MR EDWARDS: The Leyland FG had two trolley stretchers in the back which could be converted, well obviously to two stretchers, or could, be converted into eight seats. In addition to that we had oxygen therapy. The 24-hour vehicle would have had Entonox, an analgesic gas, but they, that wasn't in, that wasn't normal equipment, that was just carried on 24-hour vehicles and not the others, in those days. And basic first aid equipment.

MR SANDERS QC: And what would have been on the control and equipment vehicle?

MR EDWARDS: Control and equipment vehicle carried, I think it was 40 Furley stretchers. Now a Furley stretchers, it was, it can be likened to an old World War One battlefield stretcher that you pulled apart and pushed the hinges down to keep it rigid. It had 40 of those on the roof. And inside there were blankets, bulk first aid equipment, like, for instance dressings and the general triangular bandages, and that type of thing. In addition to that it had a number of signs which indicated things like the parking point for vehicles, casualty loading point, that type of thing. And it had radio equipment, which was mobile radios, which

we didn't have on general ambulances in those days. There was no, once you left the ambulance you were on your own, no mobile phones, no walkie-talkies or anything like that.

MR SANDERS QC: But there was a radio in the ambulance that you could use?

MR EDWARDS: There was a fixed, a fixed radio in the ambulance, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. And on the night in question, the chief, the Area Chief Ambulance Officer was Eddie BATES.

MR EDWARDS: That's correct.

MR SANDERS QC: And do you, you remember him?

MR EDWARDS: I do.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. And he produced a report which I think you have seen, and I don't necessarily need to put it up on the screen.

MR EDWARDS: Yes, I have.

MR SANDERS QC: But he talks about the Ambulance Service Major Incident Plan had an initial action which was to deploy five ambulances, one control vehicle and one equipment vehicle to the scene.

MR EDWARDS: That's correct.

MR SANDERS QC: What would be the difference between control and equipment vehicles? Does that sound familiar?

MR EDWARDS: As compared to what?

MR SANDERS QC: Yeah, I'm not sure. So five ambulances and then one control vehicle and one equipment vehicle.

MR EDWARDS: No, it was, it was the same.

MR SANDERS QC: They were the same things?

MR EDWARDS: There was a control and equipment vehicle …

MR SANDERS QC: Control and equipment.

MR EDWARDS: … was, was one vehicle. Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: It may be that that …

MR EDWARDS: One in the same.

MR SANDERS QC: … may be a misreading of that text.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And so, and then there was also an initial action which was to deploy another ambulance and a control and equipment vehicle to the designated hospital.

MR EDWARDS: Hospital, yes, that's correct.

MR SANDERS QC: Could you help with what the designated hospital was? I mean, it might change, but what was the role of the designated hospital?

MR EDWARDS: Well it was the nearest hospital to the incident that had an accident and emergency unit. In this case it was obviously the Royal Surrey County Hospital, which, it was in Farnham Road. It's not where it is today. So that would have been where the second control vehicle was

sent. And normally the ambulance from that particular station, I think it was probably Chertsey, I think, that sent the control and equipment vehicle with the station officer on it, his, his crewmate would have taken their ambulance to the hospital for use if it was required to pick up a medical or surgical team from the hospital and take them to the incident. But I'm not sure that happened in this case.

MR SANDERS QC: No, and so five ambulances, one control and equipment vehicle to the scene.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Another ambulance and a control and equipment vehicle to the hospital.

MR EDWARDS: Designated hospital, yes, that's right.

MR SANDERS QC: We have got some various witness statements from your former colleagues, and I just want to check, you were, as I understand it, you were Guildford 2, was your call sign?

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And you were with Dickie NICHOLLS. So does that mean you were in the 16-hour ambulance or the …?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, yes, we were.

MR SANDERS QC: And Guildford 1 was Clive MORRIS and Dave BARNETT?

MR EDWARDS: BARNETT, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And so they were in the 24-hour vehicle. Do you know who would have taken the control and equipment vehicle from Guildford to the, to the scene?

MR EDWARDS: Well they both went in that vehicle. I don't know why that was, but Dave BARNETT drove it and Clive MORRIS was with him. Now why that happened, I, I don't know. Normally what would have happened is Clive would have either taken the ambulance so that we had, you know, another vehicle there, but I don't know what, what, the reason that he didn't do that.

MR SANDERS QC: Oh, so the 24-hour ambulance stayed behind at the station?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, it wasn't used, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and then from, tell me if you recognise any of these names from, we have Knaphill 1, which was Michael LAWRENCE and Dennis LYONS?

MR EDWARDS: I didn't know, I, I knew Den LYONS, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Right and …

MR EDWARDS: But I didn't, I don't, I didn't know Mick LAWRENCE.

MR SANDERS QC: And they, so they would have come from the Chertsey area?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, they would have been, well I assume they were in the station, they would have come from Knaphill, which, from Guildford, I would have thought, would have taken them less than 15 minutes.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and then Chertsey 2 was Maureen OSBORNE and Philip WHITE?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, I remember Maureen, but not Philip.

MR SANDERS QC: And Camberley 1 was Richard GRIFFITHS and Richard STYLES?

MR EDWARDS: Oh, Nobby STYLES, yeah, I remember, I remember, yeah, STYLES, for sure. Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. Just before we, we turn to the events in question and the bombing itself, what, could you just tell me generally, what was Saturday nights like in Guildford, were they busy?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah. Normally on a late shift on that particular, what was then Guildford 2, you could normally guarantee we would get somewhere in the region, in an eight hour shift, at least eight, possibly nine 999 calls. So it was a busy … because they didn't, they didn't alternate the calls between … if a call came in and that vehicle was available we did it. They didn't use the station officer's vehicle unless they absolutely had to, if there was nobody else, because obviously he, his job was to run the division 24 hours a day, seven days a week. So he was left, left alone to do that, unless there was no other alternative, that they had to use him. So any calls that came in, in the Guildford area, or wherever we were, then we would do it on that vehicle.

MR SANDERS QC: And so the station officer's vehicle would be the 24-hour ambulance?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, it would be, yeah. Obviously after 11 o'clock …

MR SANDERS QC: And …

MR EDWARDS: … sorry, after 11 o'clock at night it then became the only vehicle available, so whatever came in he would have to do. But up until 11, if there was an alternative, they would use the alternative and not the station officer's vehicle.

MR SANDERS QC: And what were your typical call-outs at that time?

MR EDWARDS: To be honest, anything. Guildford, as is today, I would imagine, it was, you know, it's a big area, and you get, there's, you know, all sorts of estates, and the town centre is lively. We would get just anything from falls to whatever came in. It was, it was varied. That, that's why, why I liked working Guildford, you never knew what was going to happen, or when.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. And in Guildford town centre there were obviously a lot of pubs. Was it your understanding that some of them were, quote-unquote, army pubs?

MR EDWARDS: Not particularly, no. I mean, I didn't live in Guildford in those days so I didn't, apart from working it, I didn't frequent the pubs in Guildford. We tended to get lots of calls to pubs, but normally they were outside pubs where people had either, I mean obviously drink and whatever, and then come out, and when the cold air or whatever

hits you, that's when you fall over and trip off curbs and start fights, or whatever. I, so we didn't normally go into pubs for, but we did attend a lot of pubs. But I didn't really know any that were particularly frequented by the army.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. Had you ever been in the Horse and Groom?

MR EDWARDS: No.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And so the night of the bombings …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … you are in, you're, when you get the call you are in the station?

MR EDWARDS: We were, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Had you already had call-outs on that shift by that time?

MR EDWARDS: Oh, yeah, yeah, we'd been pretty busy since three o'clock, but, I mean, if you were to ask me to what, I couldn't tell you.

MR SANDERS QC: No, no, that's perfectly understandable. You say in your statement that it was approximately 8.50 …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … a call comes in, a report of an explosion, and that came in on the teleprinter?

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Where would that message have come from?

MR EDWARDS: To alert us?

MR SANDERS QC: Yes.

MR EDWARDS: It would have come from ambulance control at Banstead.

MR SANDERS QC: At Banstead.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And so if someone dialled 999 and said they wanted the ambulance service, would they have then been connected with Banstead?

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And then it would have been farmed out to the relevant division?

MR EDWARDS: Correct, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And were you, did you get any more details about what the explosions was suspected of, the cause being?

MR EDWARDS: Not at all, no. No, it came over as, as obviously to attend the Horse and Groom in North Street, where there were. I think it actually did say on the teleprinter slip, although I couldn't, there was reports of an explosion. Which, to be honest, wasn't unusual in those days. We tended to get a lot of calls to places like the, the Women's Royal Army Corps camp in Stoughton, where, where there were bomb hoaxes, and Debenhams, Marks and Spencer's, Sainsbury's, you name it. You know, people, for whatever reason, would ring up and say there was a bomb there. I don't know, but we always reacted to it. So

we, but it normally came across as 'bomb hoax call' and not an explosion.

MR SANDERS QC: Right.

MR EDWARDS: So we, although I think we both thought, "Oh, this is just another …" you know, but I mean, I remember Dickie NICHOLLS saying, "That's unusual," you know, to put, and then we saw, as we were turning out of Leas Road, I had to stop 'cause there was a police car coming across Woodbridge Road at speed, and I stopped to let him through, and I thought, "Oh, he knows something we don't." So I just followed the, well it had obviously gone, but it only took us probably a minute or so to get to the scene.

MR SANDERS QC: And had you, you were quite close to the Horse and Groom, had you heard anything?

MR EDWARDS: We didn't, no.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Were you involved, there was a, was … let me step back. Was the Pirbright Barracks within your area?

MR EDWARDS: Pirbright, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Were you involved the year before, the IRA attacked some Household Cavalry camp at Pirbright, in September '73?

MR EDWARDS: I vaguely remember it, but I wasn't involved in it.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. So you had had some experience of, an awareness of incidents like that occurring in Surrey?

MR EDWARDS: Oh yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And you, so you arrived very quickly. Do you have to do anything to get ready to go, or do you just jump in the ambulance and drive out?

MR EDWARDS: No, just climb in and away.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. And the timings that you have given, is that, where do they come from? Is that just your recollection, or …?

MR EDWARDS: It's my recollection. And I don't want to be sort of frivolous about it, but I remember the timings because we hadn't been back in the station very long, and we were both fans of a particular television programme that started at nine o'clock on a Friday night, and we thought, "Oh …" you know, ten to nine, we might get up there and back before it started. So I knew it was around ten to nine. And the time we took to get there, allowing for the, you know, the 20.50 and 59 seconds, it might have just clicked over as the teleprinter message, but we were there within probably a minute, just over. But allowing for the, the changeover of the clock, we, I think we, you know, we probably 20.53 we booked, booked on scene, but that's just my recollection. That's not, not, you know, a firm fact.

MR SANDERS QC: Well your recollection fits with, Dickie NICHOLLS did make a statement at the time and he …

MR EDWARDS: Did he? Oh.

MR SANDERS QC: … and he noted the time of the call as 20.53, the incoming call.

MR EDWARDS: Right, okay.

MR SANDERS QC: So very close to that. And Eddie BATES' report at the time refers to a call from a member of the public coming in at 8.50, to Banstead.

MR EDWARDS: Right.

MR SANDERS QC: And then at 8.51 a call from Police Headquarters as well.

MR EDWARDS: Okay.

MR SANDERS QC: So that all fits.

MR EDWARDS: Okay.

MR SANDERS QC: I won't ask you your favourite programme.

MR EDWARDS: No, thank you.

MR SANDERS QC: So who drove?

MR EDWARDS: I was the driver.

MR SANDERS QC: You were the driver?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: But that was just something you took turns in …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … in doing?

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you alternate by call-out or by shift? Were you the driver that night, or …?

MR EDWARDS: No, for the day, for the shift.

MR SANDERS QC: For the shift.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, yeah. We did one day you attended, the next day you, you drove.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And could you just describe, please, what you saw when you got to the Horse and Groom?

MR EDWARDS: We turned out of … well Woodbridge Road leads in Leapale Lane, and then that, that's a T-junction with North Street, and we turned left, and just as I turned left, the, the whole road was just crowded with people, so I couldn't get right up to the, to the actual pub itself, so we stopped a few yards short of, of the actual pub. But the, the whole front of the building was sort of, had been, well I don't know, the windows were blown out, the door was, and, you know, the place was at an angle. Oh, and, and there was a lot of rubble and debris across the pavement and into the road. So, I mean, is that, do you want me to go on?

MR SANDERS QC: Yes, I mean, whatever you remember.

MR EDWARDS: Oh right.

MR SANDERS QC: This is, it's very helpful, thank you.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, so what, what I did is, is we had, we had set tasks as the driver and the attendant at, at these sort of, you know, and I suppose just, everything just kicks in when you see what, see what happened, and my, my role at that point was to contact the ambulance control and give as best as I could, a situation report of what, what I could see. And, and that's what I did via the radio, just to say that obviously there had been an explosion of some description. And I didn't know, at that point, that it had been a bomb. Although, you know, it obviously looked like it had been, but I didn't know, it could have been gas or anything else, I suppose. And to give just what I could see and what I needed, and that's what I did, and then it was, it was Dickie, it was his job to sort of go and see what he could, you know, see from being outside, and what, and then come back to the ambulance and give his report, which would have been numbers of casualties, the type of injuries, where, where would be the best place for more vehicles to park, that type of thing. But I …

MR SANDERS QC: And so your first, your first job is to relay that information to Banstead?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, to make sure that there is now help on the way, more resources to be deployed. But knowing full well that an explosion, if that's what

it had come in, and that's what we'd, we'd been told it was, that that action, well, should have been, and I'm sure it was, taken that at least five ambulances were on the way, and the control and equipment vehicle was being deployed as well.

MR SANDERS QC: And was there a point at which it gets, it was declared a major incident, or was it a major incident throughout, do you know?

MR EDWARDS: I think it was probably initiated as a major incident and I just confirmed it when I, when we arrived.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and were you the first ambulance on the scene?

MR EDWARDS: We were, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And was the control and equipment vehicle ahead of you or behind you?

MR EDWARDS: It was behind us, but it, I gave my, my situation report, but the door, we had sliding doors on the ambulance in those days, and those, the doors had been opened and I, I remember Dickie, he, he was just pulled out of, of the vehicle, and just people panicking, and in fact tore the sleeve off his jacket. But I never saw him again for a while. I managed to get out, although the crowds, I mean they just saw an ambulance and just descended on it.

MR SANDERS QC: So you describe, I think you describe in your statement almost being mobbed …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … and then people piling into the ambulance and filling it up?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, when, when I got round to the back of the ambulance the doors had been opened, people were just crowded in there, and it was, yeah, quite a sight.

MR SANDERS QC: And did you form an impression as to the type of people, or did you, did you immediately think these were soldiers or military personnel?

MR EDWARDS: I didn't, I had never, it never sort of crossed my mind that they were military, they were just people who obviously were injured and needed some assistance.

MR SANDERS QC: Mostly young people?

MR EDWARDS: They were mostly young people, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: So you send the call back to Banstead, the situation report, and you say that Dickie, you don't see him for a bit. Has he given you his report and you have relayed that?

MR EDWARDS: No, no. I don't think he got back to the ambulance at all. I wasn't sure where he'd gone. But I got into the back of the ambulance and saw, and tried to figure out who, who should be there and who shouldn't. Because there were people that were just coming in to be nosey, really, which I asked to leave. And there was a chap sitting on the right hand side at the front of the saloon of the vehicle who had,

well it looked like his clothes had just been blasted off, and so I just treated his, he had some burns on his arms, face and legs, so I just treated those, and sat a few other people down on, on the trolleys. You know, 'cause you, as I said earlier you could convert them into seats. So we more or less were full. And then I well, well I'd, I'd better go and try and find where Dickie had gone. So I, I went to the, I went to the front of the pub, but it was very dark.

MR SANDERS QC: Can I just pause you there?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you have any idea of how long it would have taken to clear the ambulance, treat the burns injury and get the ambulance ready before you then went to the front of the pub?

MR EDWARDS: Well it didn't take me long to clear the people out that shouldn't have been there, for sure. And then it probably took me four or five minutes to, to get some wet dressings on to this, this guy's burns. The others were, although they were in shock and obviously had what I would call soft tissue injuries, but not live threatening, so, that's, I sort of left them, told them to sit still, stay there, and I'd, you know, and I'd be back. And that's when I went to look for, for Dickie.

MR SANDERS QC: And so would it be fair to say this is just coming up now to nine o'clock, if you've …?

MR EDWARDS: I would have thought so, just after nine, yeah, perhaps, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. And then what did, when you went to, did you go to the front of the pub or the side?

MR EDWARDS: I went towards the front of the pub where the door was, because I wasn't sure if that's where, where Dickie had, had gone. And I thought, I didn't go in because I didn't like the look of the place, it looked pretty dangerous to, to go in. We didn't have any sort of protective equipment in those days, no hard hats or helmets, or whatever. So I, I remember looking in and thinking, "God, there's no floor."

MR SANDERS QC: And was that something you saw through the door or through the, where the window had been?

MR EDWARDS: Well, I think I, I looked through the, the door, but I may have looked through the window. I'm, I'm not … or I may have done both. But I was really looking, looking for, for Dickie to see where he was. So I didn't go in and I didn't venture further. The fire service were then on scene, and so I thought, well if there's anybody still in there they'll, they'll get them out 'cause they've got the expertise and equipment to do it.

MR SANDERS QC: Did the fire engines arrive after you, or were they already there when you got there?

MR EDWARDS: No, they were after us. There were police on scene, certainly at least one car, and there were several what I assumed were police officers on foot that had obviously been in and around North Street, the High Street, at that time of night, and they were there before us.

MR SANDERS QC: And one car …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … that you described going along North Street just ahead of you as well?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And did, presumably more arrived while you were there?

MR EDWARDS: I would assume so, yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Could you smell gas at all, or any strange smell?

MR EDWARDS: I don't recall that, no.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you, were there lights on in the pub?

MR EDWARDS: No, it was very dark.

MR SANDERS QC: But you could see a hole in the …?

MR EDWARDS: Well I thought, yeah, as I looked I thought, yeah, it just seemed to be no floor. But I didn't go in.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And then you do then find Dickie NICHOLLS treating someone?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, just, just to the, as you're standing in North Street and look at, look at the front of the pub, to the left was a bus shelter which was

sort of into the, it wasn't a standalone one, it was sort of set into the back of a building, front of a building, with a small rook and some, you know, a bench seat in there. And he was there with a chap on the, on the ground, that he was, he was treating. And I, I just put my hand on his shoulder and he said, "Oh," he said, "we need to get this guy into the ambulance as, you know, now." He said, "He's, he's not good."

MR SANDERS QC: And he, this man, was he lying on the ground or sitting up?

MR EDWARDS: No, he was lying on the ground.

MR SANDERS QC: On a stretcher or just on the pavement?

MR EDWARDS: No, no, we managed to get a stretcher from the control and equipment vehicle, one of the old, as I've described …

MR SANDERS QC: The Furley.

MR EDWARDS: The Furley. And we got him onto that and got him into the back of our vehicle, but because we had obviously people sitting on the trolleys, we, we had to slide him on the floor.

MR SANDERS QC: And this was a man, a male?

MR EDWARDS: It was a male, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And could you describe his injuries?

MR EDWARDS: No, I couldn't. Once we'd got him onto the stretcher and put into the back of the ambulance, Dickie got in at the head end. I mean, they

were quite big vehicles, the FG, so you had quite a, you know, a lot of room to get at the head end and the foot end. So he got to the head end and was, just carried on treating, but I don't know what his injuries were. I just closed the doors and, and we left.

MR SANDERS QC: To go to Royal Surrey?

MR EDWARDS: Royal Surrey. Which, again, was probably no more than two, perhaps three minutes away.

MR SANDERS QC: And I think in Dickie's statement he describes the man having a four-inch gash to his neck, and that it was a life threatening injury.

MR EDWARDS: Right.

MR SANDERS QC: Does that sound …?

MR EDWARDS: I wouldn't argue with that, but I didn't see it.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you understand it to be potentially life threatening, a very serious injury?

MR EDWARDS: Well, and from what, from what Dickie told me, that if he said, I mean he was a very experienced, older guy that had, you know, seen it and done it. He, if he told me it was serious and he needed to get, get him to hospital, then I wouldn't have argued with him.

MR SANDERS QC: And am I right in understanding, this wasn't one of the, one of the victims who had died, this was someone who was then …?

MR EDWARDS: I don't know, I couldn't, I couldn't say.

MR SANDERS QC: Could you, could you describe the man, the casualty in any way?

MR EDWARDS: Not really, no.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And by this time other ambulances were on the scene?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you have any recollection of how many or which ones?

MR EDWARDS: I don't. I remember, as I was climbing back into the cab, I think it was, I think it was Nobby STYLES from, from Camberley, that came up to me and sort of said, "Are you leaving now?" and I said, "Yeah, we've got, you know, a full load." And I said, "You need to try and find Dave BARNETT," who, who was the incident officer, who I hadn't seen at all, so I wasn't sure where he, where he was. But I said, "He's the incident officer, he'll, he'll, you know, put you right as to what you need to do." And I got in and off we went.

MR SANDERS QC: And I just want to show you the Eddie BATES report. So this is at Caselines 1-73. Yeah, just stay there. So operation, see the first vehicle from Guildford main ambulance station arrived at the scene at 20.53, three minutes after the first call. So that's probably you.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: The control and equipment vehicle manned by the local officer arrived at 20.55. So that's the Clive MORRIS vehicle …

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: … coming after you.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: They commenced operations by establishing the ambulance incident control and rendering aid to the injured. At 20.56 hours the ambulance incident officer made his situation report, in which he requested the total of ten ambulances. That wouldn't have been you, that was …?

MR EDWARDS: No, that wasn't me, no.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And then, can we just down, the build up of ambulances, there. By 21.13 hours, 23 minutes after the first call, the five ambulances responding to the initial action had arrived at the scene and by 21.31 hours a total of 11 Surrey ambulances were in attendance. By 21.25 hours all known casualties from this incident had been cleared. So the transporting people to Surrey Hospital is very, takes place very quickly.

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And I just, can you just go down a bit further, please, I just want to find … a bit further. Further down, sorry. There. Designated hospital, the Royal Surrey County Hospital was alerted by the ambulance control at 20.51. Confirmation was passed to them 20.57.

The first casualties arrived at 21.05 hours, 15 minutes after the first call. Were you the first ambulance to get to Surrey?

MR EDWARDS: Yes, we were.

MR SANDERS QC: So that tells us that you were getting there around five past nine?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: So everything you have described happens within 15 …

MR EDWARDS: 15 minutes.

MR SANDERS QC: … in 15 minutes space of time? So, very quickly. Then you, you offload at Royal Surrey …

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: … and do you go into the hospital at all, or the casualty is just taken away?

MR EDWARDS: No, there were reception teams. At the A and E there was a ramp that ran up and then you turned into the, well the major casualty, like the resus rooms were, were in front of you, and then for minor injuries you used to turn right and go down to a number of cubicles. But there were reception teams at the hospital at the bottom of the ramp waiting for us. So as I backed up to the and opened the doors, the reception team was there, took, took those that, well we obviously offloaded the guy that was on the stretcher and put him on a hospital … He then went with a, with the awaiting medical team. And the so-called

walking wounded, if you like, then filed out and they were taken off. So I didn't actually … I think perhaps Dickie NICHOLLS went, went off with the guy that he was worried about, but we just cleared the back of the ambulance of the so-called walking wounded. And I pulled out of the way ready for the, you know, to clear the bay for the next ambulance coming in. So I turned round and just parked up. Dickie NICHOLLS came back out and we got, went back to the scene.

MR SANDERS QC: And the time at Royal Surrey, about how long do you think you were there for offloading and turning round?

MR EDWARDS: Oh, not, not too long at all. Perhaps, just a few minutes really, perhaps five minutes.

MR SANDERS QC: And how, what was the, in those days what was the system for handing over the patients or telling the hospital what treatment had been given, or …?

MR EDWARDS: Well, on a normal day you, on, on the way to hospital you would have, Dickie would have made, filled in a report form, patient report form. That would have been handed over with the patient with a verbal handover of just whatever needed to be handed over. And that would, that would have been the, the extent of it. Obviously we took seven, seven injured people on the first run, he, he certainly wouldn't have had time to do paperwork, I wouldn't have thought. But that

may well have been done when we went back to the hospital with the second batch of casualties.

MR SANDERS QC: And you think that you, the first time you had transported seven people?

MR EDWARDS: Seven.

MR SANDERS QC: Including the man on the stretcher?

MR EDWARDS: Mmm.

MR SANDERS QC: And then you returned to the scene and you collected more casualties?

MR EDWARDS: Five, five more.

MR SANDERS QC: Five more.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, but these, these were minor injuries.

MR SANDERS QC: Minor injuries. And Dickie NICHOLLS, in his statement, he says when you went back you collected two girls?

MR EDWARDS: Oh, I couldn't, I couldn't remember, no.

MR SANDERS QC: That's not your recollection. And at that point, well let me just ask this, how, how long were you back at the Horse and Groom for picking up before you returned?

MR EDWARDS: Not, not long at all. There was, there was an area, I think it was actually the same bus stop that I spoke of earlier that had been used as a casualty collecting point, and we just pulled up and, so we got five more walking wounded in, and off we went again.

MR SANDERS QC: And at that point were there many casualties left to be transported …

MR EDWARDS: No.

MR SANDERS QC: … or was it, was the site clear by then?

MR EDWARDS: No, I, I would imagine we, we may well have taken the last five, but I, I'm not sure about that. Because we could have, we could have got more in had they been there. So I think that's probably the last five, perhaps, that we, we conveyed.

MR SANDERS QC: And you, you returned then to drop them off at Royal Surrey?

MR EDWARDS: Royal Surrey, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And what happened next?

MR EDWARDS: Well, we handed those, those five over. We didn't, we didn't go back to the scene because obviously, you know, we weren't required to do that. So we, we contacted our control and said, you know, we, we were now clear, and were told that, to stand by there for the time being. But it wasn't long after that that we actually heard the other explosion.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you hear the explosion or just get a call that there had been one?

MR EDWARDS: No, we heard it. We heard it. 'Cause we were, there, there were several other ambulances there, obviously, and we were sort of just chatting. I mean, I, I didn't smoke in those, well I never smoked, but some of the guys did and they were obviously having a cigarette and

standing outside the ambulances and chatting, and there was, yeah we heard it, and we thought, we just headed back straightaway. But on the way we were contacted by the control room and said that there had been another explosion in Swan Lane at the Seven Stars.

MR SANDERS QC: And just immediately prior to hearing the second explosion, had the thinking around what the cause of the explosion at the Horse and Groom had been, had that evolved, or had there been any talk about a bomb?

MR EDWARDS: I think the guys were, yeah, the guys were just chatting saying that they all thought it was a bomb. But that hadn't been confirmed, as far as I know.

MR SANDERS QC: And presumably a second explosion at another pub very close by reinforced that view?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And so you went to the Seven Stars?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And what, just very briefly, 'cause none of the deceased were at the Seven Stars, but what happened next? What did you do next?

MR EDWARDS: We, we pulled up at the end of Swan Lane. It's a very narrow lane that runs between North Street and the High Street in Guildford. Part of it is accessible, but it's, it's quite narrow, and then it narrows into

just a footpath. So we didn't, we didn't attempt to drive up there because obviously we didn't want to get stuck where, where you couldn't get through. So I think a police … oh, God, I think we were told by the police that there's, that the pub had already been cleared, because of the fear of another device. So there was nobody in the pub, but I think several people either walking by or just standing around outside had been injured by flying debris. And we, we loaded up I think five people just with minor cuts and abrasions, and we ended up taking those to Farnham Hospital, which was the next nearest A and E unit. This was before Frimley Park Hospital had been built. So we took them there and offloaded them. There was one of the divisional officers there, a chap called Bill 'CRAWLT' (?), who was acting as the hospital liaison, but he had come in from home. He lived in Farnham. He had come in from home and in his own car.

MR SANDERS QC: And I think Dickie NICHOLLS, in his statement at the time, said you took two male patients to Farnham?

MR EDWARDS: Did he. I'll, well I wouldn't argue with Dickie. I thought it was five, but it, if he says it was two.

MR SANDERS QC: But they were relatively minor injuries?

MR EDWARDS: They were minor, but yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And then just in terms of what happened next, is it right that you attended a debrief meeting at the headquarters at Banstead soon after?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: When was that?

MR EDWARDS: We, our next shift following this one was an eight, eight till four shift on the Monday, and we, we reported for that. And we got a, a 999 call pretty much on, on eight o'clock, which we, which we attended and dealt with. And then we got a radio message to say, to report to Banstead headquarters. We didn't really know why, but we assumed it was something to do with the previous Saturday evening. And that's, that's where, we, we drove up to Banstead and, yeah, attended this meeting.

MR SANDERS QC: And this was a debrief that was chaired by Eddie BATES?

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And so it was just a general collection of experiences?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, I think it, I think it was as many people that were involved from the control room and operational staff, that he could, he could gather together. And there were quite a few there, as I recall, but, yeah, I'm a bit sketchy with what actually happened.

MR SANDERS QC: Yes, understandable.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: I just want to just, I'm not sure what page we're on, just scroll down a bit. Yeah, onto the next page. Just where it says 'casualties moved by the service'. There. So we've got, the hospital is the Royal Surrey County Hospital. The time of arrival of first casualties at the Royal Surrey was 9.05. And the total taken there by you and your colleagues was 52. Does that accord with your recollection of the size of the incident?

MR EDWARDS: Pretty much, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And I just want to ask this, totals for BID, is that 'brought in dead'?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And then 59 were injured, and there's an asterisk, one of these casualties died later in hospital. All casualties from both incidents were in hospital by 22.42. That sounds right to you?

MR EDWARDS: That sounds about right, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: All right, and do you have any other, any other recollections of the night that you can help us with? Anything else to say?

MR EDWARDS: No, not, not concerning the, the actual incident, no. I mean, a few things happened on the way home, but, I mean, that's not relevant, I suppose, but …

MR SANDERS QC: Right. But you mention in your statement that there was obviously a major incident plan in place with the ambulance service …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … and the other services.

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And had you had training on how that worked and how that was, would be implemented?

MR EDWARDS: From an operational point of view, yes, we all had, it was part of our basic training, and indeed towards the end of the basic training we did, you know, a major incident exercise. But we all had little prompt cards that we used to stick in our caps, so you could take your cap off and read what you were supposed to do. A sort of aide memoire to, to what we needed. But it was drilled into us pretty much, we knew what, what we needed to do, in exercises that we did. It pretty, pretty much worked well, because you knew what was, you knew it was coming, you knew what you had to do, you had time to rehearse it. But it's not always quite that easy at a, you know, an actual incident, when you've got lots of people that think their injuries are worse than somebody else's, and they want your attention, and it's a bit overwhelming, to say the least.

MR SANDERS QC: Particularly if they're in shock, and …

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Yeah. You describe it as a 'tried and tested' major incident plan?

MR EDWARDS: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: In his report, Eddie BATES says that the size of the incident wasn't unusual in terms of what you might be responding to normally.

MR EDWARDS: All right.

MR SANDERS QC: So 50 casualties or so was not, not unusual for the ambulance service.

MR EDWARDS: Okay.

MR SANDERS QC: Does that sound …?

MR EDWARDS: Well I had never dealt with anything like that before, but then I'd only been, you know, with the service for three years. But I'd, I'd never faced anything like that before.

CORONER: **I mean, that is quite a sizeable incident, is it not?**

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, well to me.

CORONER: **52 casualties.**

MR EDWARDS: To me it is.

CORONER: **Yes.**

MR EDWARDS: But, I mean, if Eddie BATES, in his wisdom, and I admired the man greatly …

CORONER: **Yes.**

MR EDWARDS: … if he says it wasn't, then I'm sure he's … you know, he's sadly no longer with us.

MR SANDERS QC: Yeah, I think he also, he goes on to say that Surrey Ambulance Service, particularly because of covering Gatwick, needed to have plans in place to deal with up to 250 casualties in a major incident. Does that sound right to you in terms of the training that you had, or the things you were ready for?

MR EDWARDS: I don't, I'm not sure that anything prepares you for that. Something will obviously take over if you're faced with it, and you do the best you can, but an incident with 50-plus casualties, to me, is sizeable, and I, I never had to deal with anything like it after, and hopefully never will.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Well, I don't have any further questions for you. Your evidence has been very helpful.

MR EDWARDS: Thank you.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you for coming all this way. If you just wait there, there may be some other questions.

MR EDWARDS: Thank you.

CORONER: **Mr EDWARDS, thank you, that is very helpful. Can I just clarify one point? The location of the Royal Surrey, this was the old location on Farnham Road.**

MR EDWARDS: Yes.

CORONER: **That is the location now of the Surrey and Borders, is it? It is that site?**

MR EDWARDS: Yeah, it's Farnham Road Hospital, yeah.

CORONER: **Yes, so it is sort of across the railway bridge from the station, up on the right-hand side?**

MR EDWARDS: That's right, that's correct, yeah, yeah.

CORONER: **Yes. Ms BARTON, anything?**

MS BARTON QC: Mr EDWARDS, I ask questions on behalf of Surrey Police and I just want to clarify something with you. You are not able to give any more detail, are you, about the person that you put into the ambulance that your colleague had been treating in the pub?

MR EDWARDS: Sadly not, no.

MS BARTON QC: But what we do know about him is that he had a serious gash to his neck, is that right?

CORONER: **Do you remember that?**

MR EDWARDS: I don't remember that, no. But I didn't really get too involved with him …

CORONER: **No, do not worry, if you do not remember, you do not remember.**

MR EDWARDS: … I just acted on what my crewmate was saying, that we needed to get him into the ambulance, and that's what we did.

MS BARTON QC: What did your crewmate tell you about the nature of his injuries, if anything?

MR EDWARDS: I don't recall him telling me anything, apart from the fact we needed to get him to hospital.

MS BARTON QC: All right, thank you.

CORONER: **Thank you very much, Mr EDWARDS. That concludes your evidence. I am very grateful to you. That is very helpful to have that sort of firsthand account.**

MR EDWARDS: Thank you.

CORONER: **I know you have come quite a way, so I am very grateful that you have come to give evidence. Safe journey back.**

MR EDWARDS: Okay, thank you very much.

CORONER: **Thank you. You are free to stay or to go, it is entirely up to you.**

MR EDWARDS: Okay, thank you.

(The witness withdrew)

MR SANDERS QC: So it is Jennifer WARE next.

CORONER: **Yes, thank you very much.**

MRS JENNIFER CAROL WARE (sworn)

CORONER: **Thank you, do come and sit down, please.**

MRS WARE: Thank you.

CORONER: **Good morning to you.**

MRS WARE: Morning.

CORONER: **Could you give me your full name, please?**

MRS WARE: Jennifer Carol WARE.

CORONER: **Thank you. Ms WARE, you heard me speak to the previous witness about giving your evidence. Keep your voice up, please. Not too quickly. Concentrate on the questions. I will pass you over to Mr SANDERS.**

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you, sir. Good morning Mrs WARE.

MRS WARE: Morning.

MR SANDERS QC: I would just like to start, please, if you could just confirm your maiden name?

MRS WARE: My maiden name was AUSTIN.

MR SANDERS QC: And so at the time of the Guildford Pub Bombings you were Jennifer AUSTIN?

MRS WARE: I was Miss AUSTIN, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Miss AUSTIN. And you recently retired, is that correct?

MRS WARE: That's correct, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Congratulations. You don't have to tell us your full home address, but could you just tell us where you are living at the moment?

MRS WARE: Wittering, West Sussex.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, thank you. I want to start just by taking you to the statement that you made at the time of the pub bombing, just to verify it's yours and the signature. It will come up on the screen. It is 20-84 on Caselines. You see there, there's a … stop, go back up to the top, sorry. So it is 8th of October at the top and 8th of October just above a signature. Is that your signature there?

MRS WARE: Yes, it is.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And we will just go down to the end, as well. It is signed at the bottom, there. Is that your signature? 'JC Austin'. See the arrow?

CORONER: **You see where the cursor is moving up and down.**

MRS WARE: Oh, yes, sorry. Yes, it is.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And am I right that you have been sent a typed up version of this statement to re-read?

MRS WARE: Yes, I have.

MR SANDERS QC: To refresh your memory. Thank you. And can you confirm that the contents of the statement are true?

MRS WARE: From what I remember, I believe it to be true.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you very much. At the time of the Guildford Pub Bombings, the 5th of October '74, you were 20 years old, is that correct?

MRS WARE: Yes, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Just coming up to 21?

MRS WARE: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: There is a photo of you at the scene. It's difficult to make out if it was you, but it would just help to confirm if it was you. So I am going to ask for that to be shown. It is in an album of photos which does include some, quote-unquote, distressing images. So I will just let Heather try and find it. It should be at A88. If you, take your time finding that. (pause) If you open it in a separate tab so that you can zoom in before it goes on the … So it's the top one. If we zoom into that, and then zoom in further. Can you see where there is an arrow marked 'N AUSTIN' for Nurse AUSTIN, and there's a nurse in uniform standing there? Do you think that could be you?

MRS WARE: (pause) I cannot definitely confirm that.

MR SANDERS QC: No. No, so that's fine, just it would have been helpful just to know if you thought it was, but never mind. Can we start, please, with your job, your role at the time?

MRS WARE: I was a student nurse, just coming up to my finals.

MR SANDERS QC: And so how long had you been a student nurse for, three years?

MRS WARE: Two and a half, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Two and a half. And was this, had you started nurses training straight after school, or had you done any other work?

MRS WARE: I started a day team, before that I worked in Waitrose in Godalming, just to fill in between the two.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and you were coming towards the end of your, your training, and you were working in hospitals, is that correct?

MRS WARE: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Had you had any training in responding to major incidents or emergencies like this in the community?

MRS WARE: No.

MR SANDERS QC: And you were working that night at St Luke's, is that correct?

MRS WARE: That's correct.

MR SANDERS QC: And where, how far out of Guildford was St Luke's?

MRS WARE: I don't … a mile or so.

MR SANDERS QC: So not far?

MRS WARE: Not very far, no.

MR SANDERS QC: And you were driving home, I think, is that right?

MRS WARE: That's correct, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: So what time would you have finished your shift at St Luke's?

MRS WARE: I can't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: I think you say in your statement you left St Luke's about 8.45pm.

MRS WARE: That did sound about right, yes, it was a late shift.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. And as it happened, your route home took you along North Street, is that right?

MRS WARE: Yes, Epsom Road, down the top of the High Street, into North Street, then round the one-way system.

MR SANDERS QC: Were you familiar with the Horse and Groom pub at all?

MRS WARE: No.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you ever go out socialising in Guildford town centre?

MRS WARE: Oh yes.

MR SANDERS QC: But not to the Horse and Groom?

MRS WARE: Not to the Horse and Groom, no, we tended to go to the Row Barge by the river.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. Did any of the pubs in Guildford have a reputation as being more army pubs? Was that something you were familiar with?

MRS WARE: Not that I recall, particularly.

MR SANDERS QC: And you were still in uniform, was that right?

MRS WARE: That's correct, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And so can you tell us what happened when you got into North Street, so far as you remember?

MRS WARE: I remember a man appearing … I had to stop, stop the car, and, and a man said, "There's been an incident and your help's needed."

MR SANDERS QC: "Your help's needed"?

MRS WARE: Yeah. Or, those were …

MR SANDERS QC: And so did you, did you just get straight out of the car, or did you have to park? What happened next?

MRS WARE: I put the car on the end, opposite Messenger's, out of the way.

MR SANDERS QC: Was that in front of the, is that in front of the car showroom, there was a parking area there, is that right?

MRS WARE: No. I can't, I can't remember (inaudible) …

CORONER: **You had come down the High Street, had you? From the Odeon, you had come down …**

MRS WARE: Come down from the Odeon.

CORONER: **… and you had turned right immediately before, it is Messenger's? Messenger's was a tool shop, was it not, on the corner?**

MRS WARE: That's it, yes, yes.

CORONER: **So the very, very top of North Street, effectively?**

MRS WARE: Yes.

CORONER: **Yes.**

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. So you parked up there, and then you, had you seen the Horse and Groom, or seen the damage, or where the source of the problem was?

MRS WARE: I don't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: Could you, well tell us what you can remember, from getting out of the car?

MRS WARE: I remember going down the High Street, going down the top of North Street. And it's, I, I can't remember much after that, through the mist. I spent a long time trying not to remember.

MR SANDERS QC: I understand. So you went to the Horse and Groom. Do you remember seeing that the pub was damaged?

MRS WARE: I do remember seeing it was damaged, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And we can see in the picture there …

MRS WARE: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: … the nature of the damage, and there is debris on the street. Do you remember there being many people in the road who had come out of the pub or were injured?

MRS WARE: I don't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Do you remember anything about other, other emergency services, police, ambulance, fire brigades, being there?

MRS WARE: There was a lot of activity further down North Street. I remember a lot of flashing lights, but that was further down south, in North Street.

MR SANDERS QC: And do you remember that at the time you arrived at the pub, or is that just a general recollection from the evening?

MRS WARE: I suppose it's a general recollection, and I remember looking down at some point and there were lots of, lots of lights further down.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. Do you remember anything about a smell of gas at the pub?

MRS WARE: I don't recall.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you recall being told what might have happened, or having any understanding about what the nature of the incident was?

MRS WARE: No.

MR SANDERS QC: And had you ever been in the Horse and Groom?

MRS WARE: Not to my recollection, no, it wasn't, it wasn't one of our local haunts.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. Were you from the Guildford area growing up, or …?

MRS WARE: I was born in Godalming.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. You say in your statement that you made at the time that you, when you got to the Horse and Groom you went inside. Do you remember that?

MRS WARE: Not clearly. There were people there. If that's what I said at the time, then that was the statement I made to the police when they came to see me at home.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and I think the first thing you described encountering inside is a WPC, a woman police officer, bending over a girl. Do you remember that?

MRS WARE: I don't.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And then a huge man comes along and carries the girl out of the pub. Does that ring any bells to you?

MRS WARE: No.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Don't worry, it's no problem at all, it's just to find out what you can remember and what you can help with. Inside the pub do you remember seeing that the floor had collapsed into the cellar and there was a large hole?

MRS WARE: I do remember a hole, yes, a big hole.

MR SANDERS QC: I am just going to, just to try and help jog your memory, I am just going to show you a floor plan of the pub first. This is at 1-3 of Caselines. So that's, you see the front doors at the bottom of the picture, in the middle, on North Street. And there's the bar directly ahead. And can you see, there's one alcove on the left, and then higher up a larger alcove also on the left, and you can see it's marked. If we just zoom in, you can see where it's marked 'fireplace'. Do you see there where it says 'fireplace'?

MRS WARE: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: So the hole is just in front of the fireplace. Does that accord with your recollection of where the hole was, just in front of the door and to the left, more in the middle of the pub?

MRS WARE: I don't remember. I remember the hole.

MR SANDERS QC: Can I just show you two photos of the hole? Obviously taken after the event. The first is at 7-1345. You can see the beer barrels down inside the cellar. And then 7-1360. There you see just in front of the fireplace, you can see the hole going down into the cellar.

MRS WARE: The first picture, I do remember. The second one, no.

MR SANDERS QC: No. You go into the pub and up to the edge of the holes, what you say in your statement, and you hear someone shout, "There's a nurse up here," and also, "The doctor needs a sucker." Do you remember that?

MRS WARE: I don't remember that.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Obviously if you said it in your statement at the time, that would have been …?

MRS WARE: If I said it, then I stand by the statement I made at the time.

MR SANDERS QC: Yes. Do you remember anything about how you ended up down in the cellar?

MRS WARE: I don't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: No. So I think you say in your statement that you collect a sucker from an ambulance outside and then hand it down the hole, and then you find the steps into the cellar and go down. Do you remember being in the cellar?

MRS WARE: Not clearly. There was, it was … not clearly, no.

MR SANDERS QC: But do you have, when you say 'not clearly', do you have a vague recollection that you were in the cellar?

MRS WARE: A vague recollection, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Or put it this way, it doesn't surprise you to hear that a number of people saw a nurse in the cellar?

MRS WARE: No, it doesn't.

MR SANDERS QC: No. I just want to ask you about, you, I think you have been sent this as well, this was a sketch you took, you helped the police draw up at the time that was attached to your statement. This is at 3-127. If we could open it separately so that we can get it to fill the screen? So you describe when you go down into the cellar that there is a pile of rubble, and where it says 'Nurse AUSTIN', that is where you approached the pile of rubble and that's what you see on the pile of rubble. Do you remember seeing the pile of rubble at all?

MRS WARE: I remember the hole. I don't remember clearly what was in it. But again, if that's what I said at the time, then …

MR SANDERS QC: Do you remember the doctor who was on the scene? Do you remember which doctor it was?

MRS WARE: I do remember Mr NOTLEY turning up.

MR SANDERS QC: Right.

MRS WARE: He was, well he still is, a surgeon that I had seen in theatres at St Luke's.

MR SANDERS QC: I think he arrives on the scene a bit later and the doctor in the cellar is Dr Daniel STEWART, do you remember him?

MRS WARE: No, I don't.

MR SANDERS QC: No. So you say that, that the far side of the rubble, so if you are there, 'Nurse AUSTIN' at the bottom, and then on the opposite side, at the top, it's Dr STEWART, and he is treating someone on the far side of the rubble. Do you remember anything about what's happening with Dr STEWART and that patient?

MRS WARE: No.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And then between, so coming from the top of the plan down towards you, there is Dr STEWART treating one casualty. There is another casualty where there is an arrow saying 'up first', and it's marked 'HUNTER'. Then there's a third casualty, which says 'male', and the 'small of his back and his feet', and then a fourth casualty, where it just says 'small of back and thigh'. So there were four casualties in the rubble that you described at the time of your, in your statement.

MRS WARE: It's what I said at the time.

MR SANDERS QC: But no recollection of that?

MRS WARE: No, no.

MR SANDERS QC: All right. Well, it is no problem that you can't remember, but just so that we can get your evidence, I am going to ask you some questions, and it is going to get a bit repetitive, I think, but I will say to you what you said in your statement so that we can have heard it in court. So you, in terms of the casualties, there is the one Dr STEWART is treating, then there is a male lying across the rubble, just about on top. Then there's the lower half, from the waist downwards, of a male, the upper half being buried by the rubble. And then there is just, you can just see some buttocks and the back of someone else, nearest to you. You describe going round and on to the rubble to help the person who is labelled 'up first'. And I am right, am I, that you don't remember anything about that person?

MRS WARE: (no audible reply)

MR SANDERS QC: You say in your statement that you felt for a pulse, and you thought the doctor shook his head at you, but then you did feel there was a pulse, and the doctor passed you a stethoscope and you could hear a faint murmur of heartbeat. Does that ring any bells to you at all?

MRS WARE: Not really.

MR SANDERS QC: Not really.

CORONER: **But if it is in your statement, I mean…**

MRS WARE: If it is in my statement then that, that must be what happened.

CORONER: **That is the account you have given, yes.**

MRS WARE: Because I made this statement at the time. And it's so long ago.

MR SANDERS QC: It's, yes, it's 48 years ago and it was …

MRS WARE: I know.

MR SANDERS QC: … these, these are events from a very traumatic incident that would have obviously been quite shocking.

MRS WARE: Yeah, it's, it's, it was, but I think your brain just tries to tuck it away in a corner.

MR SANDERS QC: Yes, that's understandable. So that person was passed up on a stretcher, and you went upstairs to meet that person, or to attend to the person when they were lifted out, and the stretcher was placed on the road and you requested a sucker to help treat them, and then another doctor arrived and started to assist. Do you remember a doctor called Dr Patrick JOHNSTON?

MRS WARE: No, I didn't, no.

MR SANDERS QC: No. So he is the doctor who then comes to help you treat the man on the stretcher who is marked 'up first' and also 'HUNTER'. And then you say in your statement that someone pointed out that he already had a bandage on his chest, a large dressing on his torso. Does that ring any bells to you?

MRS WARE: I don't remember that.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And that the doctor who had arrived suggested raising his feet, someone put his feet on a breeze block to get more blood down into his body. Does that, do you remember that?

MRS WARE: I don't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And then Mr NOTLEY arrives. What do you remember about Mr NOTLEY being there?

MRS WARE: I remember, I remember being relieved that he was there, because I, I knew him. Well I didn't know him, he was, he was known to me as a surgeon. And that's about it.

MR SANDERS QC: You can't remember anything he said to you or what he did when he got there?

MRS WARE: No.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And then you got in the ambulance, I think, with that patient and went to Royal Surrey County Hospital. Does that, do you remember going to Royal Surrey that night?

MRS WARE: I did go to the Royal Surrey, but I took my car.

MR SANDERS QC: So you … oh yes, you drove to Royal Surrey in your, you went and picked up your …

MRS WARE: Yeah, I wouldn't have left my car there.

MR SANDERS QC: … you picked up your Austin and went to the Royal Surrey. And was that a hospital you had worked in before as part of your training? Was that somewhere you had been?

MRS WARE: Yes, I had done a stint in ITU. I hadn't actually worked in A and E at all.

MR SANDERS QC: All right, and I just want to ask you, as well, I suspect you won't remember, and that is fine, but do you remember also helping with a, a young woman with very badly injured legs, had the bottom of one leg and also the other foot blown off in the bomb?

MRS WARE: I don't remember her. I don't remember her.

MR SANDERS QC: No. It might have been at the edge of the hole, so of the ground floor level, or it might have been in the cellar itself.

MRS WARE: I don't remember her.

MR SANDERS QC: No. A number of witnesses at the time, and also who have given evidence, remember a nurse in uniform tying a tourniquet on the young lady and also taking her pulse.

MRS WARE: Tourniquet? I don't remember doing any of that, and I don't believe I would have put a tourniquet on anything, unless … I don't, no, I don't remember that.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Do you remember if there were any other nurses in uniform there?

MRS WARE: I can't recall any.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Would there, ordinarily if there was a 999 call to an incident like that, there presumably wouldn't be nurses attending?

MRS WARE: No.

MR SANDERS QC: No.

MRS WARE: Particularly students.

MR SANDERS QC: Sorry?

MRS WARE: Particularly students.

MR SANDERS QC: Yes, indeed. But just nurses in uniform generally, you wouldn't find them at …

MRS WARE: No.

MR SANDERS QC: … deployed in ambulances? No.

MRS WARE: Not in those days, no.

MR SANDERS QC: So if someone did see a young nurse doing something, there's a chance it was you? But you don't remember?

MRS WARE: I don't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: All right, well thank you very much, Mrs WARE. Even the limited amount of information, just being able to confirm your statement is very helpful, so thank you for coming. I don't have any further questions.

MRS WARE: Thank you.

CORONER: **Ms BARTON.**

MS BARTON QC: No, thank you, sir.

CORONER: **Thank you very much, Mrs WARE. I am grateful to you, for doing your best to remember what you can. It is very helpful. That concludes your evidence, and so you are free to stay or to go as you choose, but I am very grateful to you.**

MRS WARE: Thank you.

(The witness withdrew)

CORONER: **Mr SANDERS, I think we will take our mid-morning break. Then we can come back and we deal with the final live witness for today, and that is Robin YOUNG. Is Mr YOUNG here?**

MR SANDERS QC: He is here.

MS KUZMENKO: Yes, he's here.

CORONER: **He is here. Good.**

MR SANDERS QC: Sir, just before we rise …

CORONER: **Yes.**

MR SANDERS QC: … it may be, I think, that Ms GALLAND and Ms PENDREICH, aren't here when we come back, 'cause they are only in attendance when their witness is.

CORONER: **All right. Thank you very much. Ms GALLAND, nice to see you.**

MS GALLAND: Thank you, sir, I am grateful for Mr SANDERS for pre-empting what I was about to raise to you.

MS PENDREICH: Likewise, thank you.

CORONER: **Thank you.**

CLERK: Court please rise.

(A short adjournment)

CORONER: **Good morning to you. Is it the oath or the affirmation?**

MR YOUNG: The oath.

MR ROBIN ALVIN YOUNG (sworn)

CORONER: **Thank you very much. Do sit down. Thank you. Could you give me your full name, please?**

MR YOUNG: Robin Alvin YOUNG.

CORONER: **Thank you. Mr YOUNG, I suspect you are well versed in giving evidence, and so you heard me speak to the others. Just keep your voice up, please. Do not rush ahead too quickly, because we are going to take a note. And I will pass you over to Mr SANDERS who is going to ask you some questions.**

MR YOUNG: Yes, all right.

CORONER: **Thank you.**

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you, sir. Good afternoon, Mr YOUNG.

MR YOUNG: Good afternoon.

MR SANDERS QC: Can we start, please, you don't have to give us your full home address, but where are you living at the moment?

MR YOUNG: Sorry?

MR SANDERS QC: You don't have to give your full home address, but where are you living at the moment?

MR YOUNG: Milford.

MR SANDERS QC: Milford, thank you.

MR YOUNG: (inaudible)

MR SANDERS QC: And you are retired now?

MR YOUNG: Yes, I am.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. I just want to start by taking you to the statement that you made at the time of the Guildford Pub Bombings. It is going to come up on the screen to your left. It's at 20-119. That's the statement of Robin Alvin YOUNG, over 21.

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Is that your signature there?

MR YOUNG: Definitely is, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And if we just go down to the bottom, please.

MR YOUNG: That is also my signature.

MR SANDERS QC: And is it right that you have had an opportunity to re-read a typed version of that statement to refresh your memory?

MR YOUNG: Yes, that's right, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And you have also made, more recently …

MR YOUNG: I have, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: … a further statement?

MR YOUNG: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And that is the 20 … sorry, the 5th of April 2022. And can you confirm that the contents of both statements are true?

MR YOUNG: Yes, of course.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you.

MR YOUNG: I have taken the oath, so I know.

MR SANDERS QC: Very good. In your statement, as at the time of the bombing, which was the 5th of October '74, you were over 21.

MR YOUNG: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: How old were you, do you know?

MR YOUNG: '74, I was 24.

MR SANDERS QC: 24, very good, thank you.

MR YOUNG: No, I wasn't, 34, sorry. '40 I was born. 34.

MR SANDERS QC: 34, good. I am just going to show you one photograph, just that is, there's an arrow pointing to somewhere, and it says it's PC YOUNG, and I just want to see if you can recognise …

MR YOUNG: Yeah, that's right, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: … if it's you?

MR YOUNG: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: It's at A93, there on the screen. Is that you there?

MR YOUNG: Yes, that's, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Just facing the camera, just with the drainpipe behind you, the downpipe, correct?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Yes? Thank you. At the time of the bombing you were a PC with Surrey Police?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: When had you joined the police?

MR YOUNG: 1960.

MR SANDERS QC: 1960, so you joined when you were 20?

MR YOUNG: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Had you done anything before joining the police?

MR YOUNG: Yes, I was a stock auditor.

MR SANDERS QC: A stock auditor?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you. And how long did you serve in the police force for?

MR YOUNG: 30 years.

MR SANDERS QC: 30 years.

MR YOUNG: No, well 28, something like that.

MR SANDERS QC: Yeah.

MR YOUNG: I can't remember now.

MR SANDERS QC: And so around when did you retire from the police?

MR YOUNG: Oh, well, Eighties, Nineties.

MR SANDERS QC: And did you, have you been retired since then, or did you do anything else after retiring?

MR YOUNG: Oh, I've done, done a lot, yes. I was a marketing manager, international, for a company. Had to arrange conferences and exhibitions all over the world. And then I decided to start my own driving school, professional driving school, teaching defence driving, and I was, went to Guernsey and did five years over there, and then retired from that completely.

MR SANDERS QC: So how long have you been retired for?

MR YOUNG: Sorry?

MR SANDERS QC: When did you retire?

MR YOUNG: When I was about … where are we? 65, 70.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, so fairly recently?

MR YOUNG: Well, 11 years ago, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: All right. At the time of the bombing in 1974, had you had any training in responding to major incidents?

MR YOUNG: No, nothing at all.

MR SANDERS QC: Had you had any experience of major incidents?

MR YOUNG: No.

MR SANDERS QC: Had you had any training in relation to the IRA or the threat from the IRA?

MR YOUNG: Yes, we had been, we had a lecture on it at one stage, because the town is known for its army personnel.

MR SANDERS QC: And was this before the pub bombing that you had the lecture?

MR YOUNG: Oh yes, this was, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you have any involvement in responding to the bombing at Pirbright in 1973?

MR YOUNG: No, no.

MR SANDERS QC: No. And just, had you had any first aid training? Was that something…?

MR YOUNG: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And what sort of level was that to?

MR YOUNG: Just basic level, basic, really.

MR SANDERS QC: Basic level.

MR YOUNG: Well CPR as well, of course, in those days.

MR SANDERS QC: Yeah. And you were obviously familiar with Guildford town centre. Did you have an understand that some of the pubs were popular with military personnel?

MR YOUNG: Oh yes, of course.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you remember which ones those were?

MR YOUNG: Well, obviously the Horse and Groom, Seven Stars, the Three Pigeons, and so on. Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Any others?

MR YOUNG: I can't remember the names of them, but yes, there were a couple of others.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. On the night of the bombing, the Saturday, 5th of October, you said in your statement that you were on a late shift from two in the afternoon to ten in the evening, would that be correct?

MR YOUNG: That's right.

MR SANDERS QC: And you were on a panda patrol?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: What was a panda patrol?

MR YOUNG: The old days of panda cars, which was literally just a, driving around local areas.

MR SANDERS QC: Just responding to incidents as and when they happened?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, and you'd be sent out to all sorts of places.

MR SANDERS QC: And would you be in a car by yourself or with a colleague?

MR YOUNG: That I can't remember. If I was with a colleague, it would have been PC SCULLY, but I don't think, I don't think he's been around, so I don't know.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, you don't, so you don't remember who you were with on the night in question, if you were with anyone?

MR YOUNG: I can't remember, no.

MR SANDERS QC: No. What would you have been wearing? What were you wearing?

MR YOUNG: Full uniform, with a flat cap.

MR SANDERS QC: With a flat cap?

MR YOUNG: As you see in the picture.

MR SANDERS QC: And so would you have been carrying a truncheon and handcuff, and so on?

MR YOUNG: Oh yes, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you have a radio?

MR YOUNG: Yes. A brick radio.

MR SANDERS QC: Say again?

MR YOUNG: The brick radio.

MR SANDERS QC: A brick radio. And what, what did that connect you to? Who did that connect you to?

MR YOUNG: The Guildford Police Station.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. Did you have a torch?

MR YOUNG: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: A first aid kit?

MR YOUNG: There was one in the car, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Anything else in the car?

MR YOUNG: I don't think so, no.

MR SANDERS QC: You say in your statement that there were an exceptional number of army personnel in Guildford, in the town that night?

MR YOUNG: That's right.

MR SANDERS QC: What do you remember about that?

MR YOUNG: It was the, 'cause it was the WRAC passing out parade, so we were expecting a lot to come in. And we were expecting a lot of soldiers to come over, and the local yobs, of course.

MR SANDERS QC: And was that something that sort of emerged on the night? Or were you aware that this was happening in advance?

MR YOUNG: We knew it was going to happen.

MR SANDERS QC: And so do you remember there being additional personnel deployed?

MR YOUNG: There was, yes, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Extra police in the town?

MR YOUNG: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: How unusual was the level of army personnel in the town?

MR YOUNG: Not that unusual, but it was quite high. No higher that we … well, yes, higher than we've seen before, but not exceptionally high at that moment.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, so it wasn't a typical Saturday, but equally it wasn't …?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, slightly busier than a typical Saturday, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and you talk about gathering together with your colleagues at the, in front of the car showroom next to the Horse and Groom?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you, what do you remember about that?

MR YOUNG: Well, as I said, they were all standing there and I stopped my car and went over and joined them, and we were just chatting away about what we should do and what we shouldn't do. And then we heard that senior inspector was coming along, so we thought we'd better scatter.

MR SANDERS QC: So you dispersed.

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And then where did, you got into your car and where did you head for?

MR YOUNG: Round Chertsey Street and that's when it went, when I heard it, and I, I thought it was a car crash or something, so I immediately turned round and came back and that's when I saw it.

MR SANDERS QC: And what did you hear?

MR YOUNG: What did I hear?

MR SANDERS QC: Mmm.

MR YOUNG: A huge bang. Literally.

MR SANDERS QC: And you, so you must have got there, back to the Horse and Groom within seconds, is that right?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And where did you park?

MR YOUNG: Opposite.

MR SANDERS QC: Opposite. And what did you see when you got in front of the pub?

MR YOUNG: And that's when I saw the windows were all blown out and things, and that was it. And the others had got back there as well, so we started to look around and see what we could do.

MR SANDERS QC: And the others, you mean your colleagues?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you remember which colleagues, who was there?

MR YOUNG: No, I don't, not off hand. I know Malcolm KEEFE was one, but I can't remember any others.

MR SANDERS QC: So you remember PC KEEFE but no others?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you remember roughly how many officers were there?

MR YOUNG: Probably about four or five.

MR SANDERS QC: And that's at the very beginning of the incident?

MR YOUNG: Sorry?

MR SANDERS QC: That's at the very beginning of …?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Presumably when you, you got there before any ambulances or fire engines?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And you have described the damage to the pub. What did you see in terms of casualties, in terms of the pub customers?

MR YOUNG: Well we didn't know at the time, of course, so we had to get in and have a look.

MR SANDERS QC: But I mean, were there people in the road, on, in the street?

MR YOUNG: Oh yeah, there was people running, trying to get out, yes. The door had come off and they were all barging, trying to barge out, and some were coming out the side of the building where the wall had come down. So we had to try and take control.

MR SANDERS QC: You say in your statement that, the description you use is 'utter confusion and mass hysteria'.

MR YOUNG: Sorry?

MR SANDERS QC: You say in your statement 'utter confusion and mass hysteria'.

MR YOUNG: Yeah, absolutely, yes, yes. That's why we, I said we had to take control somehow.

MR SANDERS QC: And could you smell any gas?

MR YOUNG: I can't recall if there was any, no.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you recall …

MR YOUNG: There was a lot of smoke, obviously.

MR SANDERS QC: Smoke, and dust as well?

MR YOUNG: Yes, oh yes, hell of a lot of dust and debris.

MR SANDERS QC: Was there any fire inside the pub?

MR YOUNG: I didn't notice any at that time.

MR SANDERS QC: You said in your second statement, your statement from earlier this year, that you stood outside for a while before trying to go inside?

MR YOUNG: Yeah. Just in case anything else happened, you see. In case there was a second bomb, or an explosion, or whatever. 'Cause we didn't know what it was then, of course. So there could have been another explosion, so we all kept outside and kept trying to control the crowds.

MR SANDERS QC: And were you concerned that the building might collapse?

MR YOUNG: Sorry?

MR SANDERS QC: Were you concerned that the building might collapse?

MR YOUNG: Well we weren't sure, so we had to be, we had to make sure we were safe before we did anything, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And do you have any idea how long the time was that you were waiting before you went in?

MR YOUNG: Oh, just minutes, basically.

MR SANDERS QC: Had most of the people come out of the pub by that point?

MR YOUNG: Yes, yeah, and still coming out, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Had you ever been inside?

MR YOUNG: Yes, I had, yeah. Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: In an official capacity or as a customer?

MR YOUNG: Customer.

MR SANDERS QC: How many times had you been in the Horse and Groom, do you know?

MR YOUNG: Oh, gosh, four, five, six, something like that. I knew it quite well.

MR SANDERS QC: So you, you knew it well. What, so you went inside. Did you have your torch with you?

MR YOUNG: No, I didn't at that time.

MR SANDERS QC: Was it dark inside?

MR YOUNG: Yes, it was.

MR SANDERS QC: What do you remember seeing in there?

MR YOUNG: Well, as I said, I, I went round the side and the Friends' Meeting House was where the hole was, so I looked through there and that's where I saw the floor had collapsed, I saw, so I immediately called for

help. And people came along and we realised there were bodies or people down there and we had to get them out. So we did, and that's when torches have arrived, of course, by other people. So that's what we did. We did what we could.

MR SANDERS QC: And so you went in via the hole in the wall …

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … under the, the passageway to the Friends' Meeting House?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And you say in your statement that when you went inside the first people you saw were WPC PARRISH and WPC GIBSON?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you remember them?

MR YOUNG: Yes, I do.

MR SANDERS QC: And do you remember them being there?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And whereabouts were they?

MR YOUNG: They were looking down the hole.

MR SANDERS QC: Standing or kneeling?

MR YOUNG: Standing.

MR SANDERS QC: Standing.

MR YOUNG: At that time, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And what could you see down the hole?

MR YOUNG: Bodies. That was it, basically, and a lot of debris and mess.

MR SANDERS QC: I just, we have already looked at these photos today, but if I can just show you one photo of the hole, which is 7-1345.

MR YOUNG: Yes, that's, that's right, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: So the floor had fallen in and also the hearth from the fireplace had fallen in.

MR YOUNG: Yes, yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And that was the rubble. This is a photo that's taken that the cameraman is either standing in or has the hole in the wall behind them. When you look down there, do you have an idea of how many bodies you could see?

MR YOUNG: No, not at that time, no. We just knew there was a load.

MR SANDERS QC: And did you, was it your impression that they were people who were alive or people who were already dead?

MR YOUNG: Oh yeah, there, there were some alive and screaming and shouting, obviously.

MR SANDERS QC: Down in the hole?

MR YOUNG: In the hole, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: But you've no idea how many?

MR YOUNG: No, I can't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: But could we say more than two?

MR YOUNG: Oh yes, probably half a dozen, I should thing.

MR SANDERS QC: Around …

MR YOUNG: Oh no, I'm not sure.

MR SANDERS QC: So more than a couple …

MR YOUNG: 'Cause the first thing we did was to get all the ones that could get out, get out, got them out, so we, we, each, each of us did one or two, so …

MR SANDERS QC: Were some of the people who were in the hole and who were got out of the hole, were they relatively uninjured, not seriously injured?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: So there were people down there who you were able to help out?

MR YOUNG: Yes, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And then were able to go outside?

MR YOUNG: Well, they were panicked, in shock, so they didn't do much.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you go down inside the hole?

MR YOUNG: No, I didn't actually go down, no.

MR SANDERS QC: And did you go down …

MR YOUNG: One of my colleagues went down.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you go down the stairs into the cellar at all?

MR YOUNG: No.

MR SANDERS QC: No. So who, what, who was the colleague that you, that went down?

MR YOUNG: Well I know Malcolm KEEFE was one, I think, and the WPCs, they went down.

MR SANDERS QC: I think you say in your statement that WPC PARRISH and a special constable went down there?

MR YOUNG: That's Malcolm KEEFE, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: That's Malcolm KEEFE.

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: You describe at the side of the building, so where the hole in the wall was, there was a young, a young girl …

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … who had had both feet blown off.

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Could you help us with where she was when you saw her?

MR YOUNG: Just over the wall, literally.

MR SANDERS QC: So under the, the car port?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: So outside of the pub, under the car port.

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And was she lying down or sitting up?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, she was on the floor screaming her head off, or trying to, at that time.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you know how she got there?

MR YOUNG: I presume the blast blew her out, but I don't know.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and she was screaming?

MR YOUNG: Mmm.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you notice anything else about her? Can you remember anything else about her?

MR YOUNG: Not really, no. No, I can't, no. I mean, I took her pulse and realised it was pretty bad, and screamed for help, but an ambulance (?) came along, obviously.

MR SANDERS QC: Was anyone else attending to her before you took her pulse? Was there anyone else there?

MR YOUNG: Not that I know of, no.

MR SANDERS QC: So just to get the sequence of events clear, you wait outside the front while people come out and are involved in crown control. You then go round the side to where the hole in the wall is, and is that when you see the young girl with the …

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … with the feet missing?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: So that is before you then look down into the hole?

MR YOUNG: Yeah. From what I remember, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And you take her pulse and it's very weak, and so then what do you, you then called for help and what happened next?

MR YOUNG: Well the, by then the ambulance had arrived so a paramedic, or someone trained in first aid came along and started to treat her.

MR SANDERS QC: And they took over.

MR YOUNG: I stayed with her and then they brought a stretcher on, so I helped them put her on the stretcher and things, so …

MR SANDERS QC: And was she still conscious at that point?

MR YOUNG: Just about, literally.

MR SANDERS QC: And when you got there you also said that there was a man lying over her, or on top of her?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Can you describe him?

MR YOUNG: No, I can't. I can't remember him.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you remember there being someone else near or over her?

MR YOUNG: I do recall something like that, but I can't, I can't be exact.

MR SANDERS QC: No. I think you say in your statement it was a man, a male with severe head injuries?

MR YOUNG: Well, yeah, and that's, that's, we had the other stretcher as well for him, and I helped them put him on there. I had other colleagues around me as well, but don't ask me who they are, I couldn't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: All right, I won't ask you. And the man with the head injuries, was he conscious?

MR YOUNG: I can't remember.

MR SANDERS QC: Do you think he was breathing and still alive?

MR YOUNG: Oh yes, yes, he was alive at that stage, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And was he one of the people who then died, or do you not know?

MR YOUNG: No, no.

MR SANDERS QC: You don't know. And you don't remember anything about his clothing or …?

MR YOUNG: No, I can't remember anything on that one.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. After, after that, is that when you then looked down inside the hole and saw Malcolm KEEFE and Jacqueline PARRISH?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And what were they doing?

MR YOUNG: Trying to get the bodies up.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you see a nurse down there?

MR YOUNG: See a what?

MR SANDERS QC: A nurse.

MR YOUNG: I can't recall one, but I know there was one around somewhere.

MR SANDERS QC: A doctor down there?

MR YOUNG: I don't know.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Presumably you didn't spend long looking down in the hole?

MR YOUNG: No, because I was helping bring people up, you know, that they were passing up to me.

MR SANDERS QC: So at that point you were helping bring people up?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you help bring anyone up who was on a stretcher?

MR YOUNG: No.

MR SANDERS QC: No, you were just helping people who were …

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … clambering out?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: And did there come a point when all the, all the less seriously injured people had been taken out?

MR YOUNG: Yes, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And there were still some bodies remaining?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, and we directed them outside and they got first aid treatment if they needed it.

MR SANDERS QC: So once those people were out the hole and the more seriously injured people …

MR YOUNG: Were still there, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: … did you get an impression of how many people that was?

MR YOUNG: No, I can't remember now. Three or four, I think.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. And how much of them could you see?

MR YOUNG: Not a lot, 'cause there was a load of rubble over them and things, and that was all being cleared off.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, so at that point you, you weren't able to help lift them?

MR YOUNG: No.

MR SANDERS QC: So you went to search the toilets?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, we, we had the ambulance and fire brigade there by then, so they had virtually taken over.

MR SANDERS QC: Right, and then you went to search the toilets?

MR YOUNG: Sorry?

MR SANDERS QC: You went to search the toilets for other casualties?

MR YOUNG: Yes, yes, I had a wander around, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you go upstairs?

MR YOUNG: No.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you find anyone else?

MR YOUNG: A couple of people slightly injured, or injured enough that they weren't going anywhere, so I directed them outside for first aid.

MR SANDERS QC: And that was after you had helped put the …

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … the girl and the injured man on stretchers?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you help carry them to ambulances?

MR YOUNG: Yes.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. Both of them?

MR YOUNG: Only the girl.

MR SANDERS QC: Only the girl.

MR YOUNG: I think. One of them anyway, I am not sure which.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. Do you remember helping carry any other bodies or casualties on stretchers?

MR YOUNG: No, no.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. So the people that you helped pull out of the cellar were people who were …

MR YOUNG: Injured.

MR SANDERS QC: … then able to be taken to hospital and so on? Did there come a time when you heard the second explosion at the Seven Stars?

MR YOUNG: That's when I was carrying the stretcher into the street and we heard it.

MR SANDERS QC: With the young girl on?

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah. About 20 minutes, I think it was, something like that, half an hour. I can't remember exactly.

MR SANDERS QC: And is that before or after you searched the rest of the pub for other casualties, do you know?

MR YOUNG: It was before.

MR SANDERS QC: Before?

MR YOUNG: Mmm.

MR SANDERS QC: All right, so after …

MR YOUNG: It was when I went back after that and started getting people out.

MR SANDERS QC: Apologies, can you just, just take us from what happened after you heard the second explosion?

MR YOUNG: Sorry?

MR SANDERS QC: What happened after you heard the second explosion?

MR YOUNG: Well, we obviously radioed in and said, "Get all the pubs emptied," and shouted and screamed, and that's what they did.

MR SANDERS QC: Did you go to the Seven Stars?

MR YOUNG: No.

MR SANDERS QC: So that's when, then you went back into the Horse and Groom …

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: … and checked it was clear?

MR YOUNG: We didn't know it was the Seven Stars at that stage, just another explosion somewhere.

MR SANDERS QC: Right. And as you checked the pub were there still any, was there still anyone down inside the cellar at that point?

MR YOUNG: I can't remember that, I don't know.

MR SANDERS QC: No. Were there still ambulances …

MR YOUNG: Oh yes, ambulances and fire engines all around, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: … around? Did you see any stretchers with bodies on, on the pavement?

MR YOUNG: See what?

MR SANDERS QC: Stretchers with bodies on, on the pavement?

MR YOUNG: Yes. Yeah, of course, yes.

MR SANDERS QC: And where were they?

MR YOUNG: On the other side mainly, or on the road.

MR SANDERS QC: Right.

MR YOUNG: Yeah. This is when the chief constable came along and took charge, so there we go.

MR SANDERS QC: Was that after they second explosion?

MR YOUNG: It was just before the second explosion.

MR SANDERS QC: So the chief constable was there by then?

MR YOUNG: Mmm, mmm.

MR SANDERS QC: And then how long did you stay on duty for that night?

MR YOUNG: I think I was on till, I don't know, two o'clock in the morning, or something, helping to do everything.

MR SANDERS QC: And then you, you made your statement on the Monday?

MR YOUNG: Yeah.

MR SANDERS QC: All right. Well, I don't have any other questions for you, Mr YOUNG.

MR YOUNG: Right.

MR SANDERS QC: But if you just wait there, there may be some others.

MR YOUNG: Thank you.

MR SANDERS QC: Thank you very much.

CORONER: **Mr YOUNG, can I just clarify one point, please? The young woman who had the injuries to her legs …**

MR YOUNG: Yeah, yeah.

CORONER: **… I think you said that she was alive, albeit with a weak pulse?**

MR YOUNG: Just about, yes. Very, very weak pulse.

CORONER: **By the time you had put her on the stretcher, was she still …?**

MR YOUNG: I think she had gone.

CORONER: **You think she had died?**

MR YOUNG: I am not sure, but …

CORONER: **Yes, all right.**

MR YOUNG: She was definitely dead in the ambulance when they got her there.

CORONER: **Thank you. Ms BARTON?**

MS BARTON QC: No questions, thank you, sir.

CORONER: **No, thank you. Mr YOUNG, thank you very much. That concludes your evidence. Very helpful, thank you.**

MR YOUNG: Thank you.

CORONER: **You are free to stay or to go as you choose, but I am very grateful to you for coming along. Thank you.**

MR YOUNG: Thank you very much.

(The witness withdrew)

CORONER: **Mr SANDERS, I think we are going to have some statements read, are we?**

MR SANDERS QC: Yes, that is correct, and I don't know if we should just start by reading out a list of the statements we are going to read, 'cause we haven't announced that.

CORONER: **Yes, just so we know. Just so everyone is clear, who has a copy of the witness order. So we are going to read some statements that were due to be read tomorrow and I think two that were due to be read on Wednesday. So if I just go through them: Maureen**

OSBORNE, Richard NOTLEY, Richard NICHOLLS, Eric SNELL and Mary LE-PAGE.

MR SANDERS QC: Correct, thank you, sir.

CORONER: **Good. All right, so I think you are sharing them between you, so I will leave you to …**

MS KUZMENKO: Thank you, sir. I will start first with Maureen OSBORNE, which is found at Caselines 2-545.

(Reads statement of Maureen OSBORNE in full)

It starts as follows. "I am an ambulance driver attendant and my base of work is Chertsey Main Ambulance Station, Guildford Road, Ottershaw. On Saturday, the 5th of October 1974, I was working with Mr Philip WHITE on the 3pm to 11pm shift. The call sign of our ambulance was Chertsey 2 and the driver for this tour of duty was Mr WHITE.

"At 8.56pm that evening we received a teleprinter message from the regional control at Banstead. The substance of the message was, "Major emergency, Horse and Groom Public House, Guildford, an explosion." We went immediately to the scene, arriving at 9.13pm. The ambulance was parked immediately outside of the Horse and Groom Public House. Upon arrival, there was no other ambulance

present. Our major incident unit was parked immediately in front of us. There were also fire appliances in attendance.

"Immediately on arrival I was approached by a uniform woman police officer, who called my attention to an injured person. This person was a man and he was lying on a Furley stretcher on the road amongst a load of rubbish and debris directly outside the Horse and Groom. He was unconscious and had two open fractures on both legs below the knee. He was bleeding from the legs. The front of his face was burnt and he was also bleeding from the face. His clothes were badly burnt and torn. He was wearing a check-designed jacket and both his shoes were missing. I pulled what was left of his shirt open to see if he had any further injuries. I noticed that he had two large plasters across his chest which signified that he had recently had treatment for an injury to his chest. I attempted to administer first aid to this man, but without any response.

"With the assistance of Mr WHITE and a bystander, we placed the injured person inside our ambulance. Within minutes of placing him in the ambulance an intensive care unit arrived. This consisted of two doctors and a nurse. They attempted to resuscitate, but without success. Both doctors certified the man dead and instructed us to take the man to the Royal Surrey Hospital.

"We arrived at the hospital at 9.20pm. Upon arrival at the hospital, we contacted Mr ADAMS, our hospital incident officer, who instructed us to convey the body to an outside garage situated near the entrance of the accident centre of the hospital. Mr GRIFFITHS, an ambulance driver from a Camberley ambulance, assisted me to place the body in the garage. At the time, there was also two other bodies in the garage. These were placed by the left-hand side wall as you enter the garage. They were lying vertical to the wall, one below the other. I could not see whether they were male or female. We placed our body on the right-hand side of the wall, with his head against the top wall and vertical to the side wall.

"We were then informed by our control to remain on static outside the Royal Surrey Hospital, which we did. Shortly after then, at about 9.35pm, we were sent to another explosion at the Seven Stars Public House in Swan Lane, but did not assist in the removal of any injured persons. We remained on standby in the vicinity of North Street, and then went to Guildford Main Ambulance Depot and remained on standby. At 10.48pm we were released and returned to Chertsey.

"I should like to add that the body we conveyed was aged about 25 years, very short, brown hair, blue eyes, slim build. I can produce an

ambulance emergency report concerning this incident if required, and will produce it as exhibit MEO/1."

And then that is signed by Maureen OSBORNE, and that is dated, sir, on the 6th of October '74.

CORONER: **Thank you very much.**

MR FLINN: Sir, the next statement to be read is from a Mr Richard Guy NOTLEY, URN S315 and Caselines page reference 2-543.

(Reads statement of Richard Guy NOTLEY in full)

He states, "I am the consultant surgeon to the South West Surrey District, Surrey Area Health Authority, with qualifications MRCS, LRCP, MB, BS, MS and FRCS.

"In the region of 9pm on Saturday, the 5th of October 1974, I was putting my car away in my garage at home when I heard a loud explosion in the town. I immediately thought it was a bomb explosion, got my car out and drove back towards the town. En route I was stopped by a person directing traffic. He saw the doctor's badge on my car and asked if I would go to the Horse and Groom to see if I could assist.

"I went to the public house, where it was obvious there had been an explosion. There was a crowd of people spread around and quite a lot of debris. I went to the ambulance, which was in the middle of North

Street, with the back open. I told the ambulance man that I was a doctor, and offered my assistance. He said that everything was under control there.

"I went back towards the public house, and then I saw a person lying on a stretcher. The head end was on the pavement and the foot end in the road. His left leg was drawn up and his head was thrown back. His chest was bare. I went to examine him. I saw that his eyes were open and were full of brick dust. His eyelashes, eyebrows and hair were burnt. I couldn't feel any pulses in his wrist or chest, but I was not certain if there was a neck pulse. At that moment, Dr Patrick JOHNSTON came and I said that the person looked dead to me, but Dr JOHNSTON said he could hear his heart. I said to a person nearby, "He needs to go to hospital fast."

"I then went into the public house, where I met a policeman and a fireman. I asked if there was anyone trapped that I could help, but I was told that there wasn't anybody.

"I then came back to the Royal Surrey County Hospital. I went to the accident centre and then into the main casualty room. I asked a sister, who seemed to be in charge, where I would be of most help. She directed me to the resuscitation room, where I immediately saw the same person who had been outside the public house, whom I had

examined. He was being attended by Dr TERREBLANCHE and some nurses. I asked if the patient was alive, and this was confirmed. I cut down on a vein on the patient's right arm in order to administer plasma. This was done and one or two pints were given. Someone, it was Mr STITZ, put a drip in the other arm. I looked at the injuries and confirmed those as seen by Dr TERREBLANCHE.

"At this point the patient began to thrash about, so I gave him 20 milligrams of Omnopon intravenously. This quietened him down. It was somewhere about this time that the patient had been endotracheal intubated, and I saw that assisted respiration was being carried out. We continued to give him plasma and dextrin in both drips as fast as it would go, and by this time we had administered about five pints of plasma and dextran, in about equal quantities, and 300 millilitres of sodium bicarbonate solution. His blood pressure was measured, which was 75 millimetres of mercury, and about this time it was noticed that fresh blood was coming up the tracheal tube, and he was sucked out a number of times, and an ECG was connected.

"At this point, the patient's condition appeared to be stable and a splint was put on his left leg. I fished his jacket out from beneath him, went through it and found a piece of foolscap paper, which was a duplicated form with the name 'William FORSYTH, Scots Guards' on

it. I removed a previous tag with the identification 'A1' on it and replaced it by one on his left wrist with 'William FORSYTH' on it. The two drips were going fast and I then went to another patient who was also in need of medication. I looked around the casualty department and the intensive care unit. I checked on FORSYTH from time to time. His condition was static and two or three people were in attendance on him all the time. I later saw Mr STYLES, who was applying external cardiac massage to FORSYTH. There was no doubt that he was dying. I pumped dextran into him, but he died. His ECG stopped and I certified death at 10.50pm. I dismantled the equipment and left the body on the stretcher for removal to the mortuary."

And, sir, that is signed and dated the 7th of October 1974.

CORONER: **Thank you.**

MR FLINN: The next statement to be read is by a Mr Richard Pryce NICHOLLS, URN S313, Caselines page reference 2-541.

(Reads statement of Richard Pryce NICHOLLS in full)

He states, "At 8.53pm on Saturday, the 5th of October 1974, I was on duty and called to attend the Horse and Groom Public House, North Street, Guildford. We attended the scene immediately. We were the first ambulance on the scene. There was a police motorcyclist already at the scene.

"When the ambulance stopped and I opened the back doors, I immediately found myself surrounded by a large number of injured people. My attention was called to a man lying among the rubble just outside the wall of the pub. I went to this man and examined him. His face was covered in blood. I saw he had a four-inch gash in the side of the neck. From my examination, I believed that a main vein had been exposed and was damaged. I applied a large wound dressing to the neck to try to stop the bleeding. I realised this man was seriously injured, and I believed that he would die if the bleeding wasn't stopped.

"Whilst I was treating this man, my sub-officer arrived. I told them that I must have room in the ambulance for this man. There were four patients in the ambulance already. I got a Furley stretcher and placed this man on it with the assistance of my driver. We loaded him into the ambulance and laid him along the gangway, on the floor.

"We went to the Royal Surrey County Hospital. We offloaded this injured man onto a trolley and ran with it to the resuscitation room. There were two doctors there. I left the man with them.

"We then unloaded the other patients, turned around and returned to the Horse and Groom, where we picked up two girls. We then went back to the Royal Surrey and offloaded the girls.

"We were then put on standby at the hospital. At about 9.35pm we were called to the scene of a second explosion at the Seven Stars Public House in Swan Lane. We arrived there within a minute. We picked up three male persons from there and conveyed them to Farnham Hospital."

And, sir, that is signed and dated the 10th of October 1974.

CORONER: **Thank you.**

MR FLINN: The penultimate statement which will be read today is from a Mr Eric Richard Simpson SNELL. The URN is S322 and the Caselines page reference is 2-556.

(Reads statement of Eric Richard Simpson SNELL in full)

He states, "I am a state registered nurse currently employed as charge nurse at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford. On Saturday, the 5th of October 1974, I was on duty at the hospital. At 9.10pm to 9.12pm that evening, following a bomb incident, I went to the accident centre at the hospital.

"A few moments later, a very seriously injured patient was brought into the resuscitation room by two ambulance men on a low stretcher. Together with Dr TERREBLANCHE and the two ambulance men, I lifted this patient onto a resuscitation trolley. Dr TERREBLANCHE quickly assessed that this patient was very seriously injured. He was

obviously a male person, aged mid-twenties. He was dressed in a grey, tweed jacket, two shirts and I think a pair of underpants. I assisted to cut his clothing away, which was then left underneath him. Dr TERREBLANCHE continued to treat the patient, and I was still present when Mr NOTLEY, the consultant surgeon, arrived and took over. I did not know the identity of this patient. I do not know the identity of the ambulance crew, but I got the impression they were not a local crew."

And, sir, that is signed and dated the 7th of October 1974.

CORONER: **Thank you very much.**

MS KUZMENKO: The last statements come from Mary LE-PAGE. There are three of them. The first one, S302, is at Caselines 2-508. It states as follows.

(Reads statements of Mary LE-PAGE in full)

"I am employed by the Surrey Group Hospital as a qualified theatre nurse and work at St Luke's Hospital, Guildford. I have worked at the Royal Surrey County Hospital and am familiar with the working structure of the theatre. I live with my husband at 82 Waterside Road, Guildford.

"At 7.35pm on Saturday, the 5th of October, I left to meet my husband at the Seven Stars Public House in Guildford, Surrey. When I got outside Currys in Swan Lane, I heard a loud bang and felt a sort of

rush from behind, which would be from the top of North Street. I went into the pub and met my husband. I was then informed that the Horse and Groom Public House at the top of North Street had been bombed. We decided to go to the Horse and Groom because my two sisters, Brenda SHUTTLE and Jean KENNEDY, both of 44 Denzil Road, Guildford, were drinking there.

"Outside the Horse and Groom were a number of injured and screaming people. There was glass and rubble over the pavement and the road. I went up to a Dr JOHNSTONE, who was attending a girl patient lying in the road outside the pub. I said to him, "Hello, Dr JOHNSTONE." He looked up and told me to go up to the Royal Surrey and prepare the theatre. I then left with my husband and went straight to the hospital.

"By the time I reached the hospital, the first of the injured had started to arrive. I went to the main operating theatre and tried to call all the call-in staff, but was unable. I got changed and took the trolleys, the drip stand and canvases down to the accident centre. I rechecked the theatre and went back to the accident centre. I then went into the resuscitation room to hold a patient called BURNS' arms, but was unable to hold him because he was too strong and kept lashing out. In the end, a technician took over from me.

"I then went over to the right-hand trolley, where a man called FORSYTH was lying. Standing around the trolley was Mr BOULTER, Mr NOTLEY and Mr STYLES. I noticed that he had a very pale complexion, nearly yellow. He had a hole approximately one inch in diameter by his left ear, his left leg from the knee down was very badly damaged, and he had a number of burns and splinters of wood and glass all over him. His body was completely uncovered, but there were remnants of a tweedy-type jacket by his head, and the remains of a pair of blue-green underpants.

"I was present when FORSYTH died at about 11pm, but cannot say who certified death. After death, I bandaged his head and his legs to stop any seepages of blood from him. I then covered his body and left it to be taken to the mortuary."

That is signed and dated on the 8th of October '74.

The addendum statement, S302A, is at 2-510 of Caselines, and it states as follows.

"I would like to make an addition to my statement which I made on Tuesday, the 8th of October 1974. Whilst we were operating on Stephen COOPER, the surgeon removed a zip from the outer part of his left upper thigh. I would describe the zip as about eight inches long with metal teeth. I was unable to tell what colour it was. The zip

would have been disposed of by now. I cannot say what type, whether trouser or bag."

That is signed and dated the 9th of October '74.

The last statement, S302B, is found at 2-512.

"I would like to make an addition to my statement which I made on Tuesday, 8th of October, 1974. Whilst we were operating on Stephen COOPER, the surgeon, Mr BOULTER, removed a zip from a wound in the flesh of the upper outer part of the left thigh, near to the buttock. It was about eight inches long and had metal teeth. I don't remember the colour of it and don't know whether it was a trouser zip or a bag zip. I do know that when we operated he had no trousers on, but these would have been removed before surgery.

"Prior to me starting work the night of the bombings, I was in the Carpenters Arms Public House in Leapale Lane. Whilst there, two girls came into the saloon bar at about 7.45pm. They walked up to the jukebox and looked over into the public bar and walked out again. I would describe the girls as follows …"

CORONER: **Does she then go on to describe those two girls?**

MS KUZMENKO: She then goes on to describe, yes.

CORONER: **I am not sure that takes me much further, does it, Mr SANDERS?**

MR SANDERS QC: I do not have it in front of me, I am afraid, sir.

CORONER: **I do not think it does. Thank you.**

MS KUZMENKO: The last, then, sentence is going back to the zip. "It was put into a bucket, together with swabs, and would have been disposed of."

CORONER: **Thank you very much.**

MS KUZMENKO: That is then signed 11th of October '74, and is the last of our statements, sir.

CORONER: **Thank you very much. Mr SANDERS, I think that concludes the evidence we are going to call today. Moving to tomorrow, I know that we have two witnesses to call, and then I think a number of witnesses, again, to read, Rule 23 witnesses?**

MR SANDERS QC: Yes, that is right. So, Mr WESTON-DAVIES is coming tomorrow, and also …

CORONER: **Hilary ALLEN.**

MR SANDERS QC: Hilary ALLEN, yes.

CORONER: **Yes. But then going forwards, on Wednesday … oh also we have, when is …?**

MR SANDERS QC: It is Mr FINDLAY is Wednesday.

CORONER: **He is coming on Wednesday, yes. And so on Wednesday we have two video-link witnesses?**

MR SANDERS QC: Correct.

CORONER: **And then a number of statements, actually quite a number of statements to be read after that.**

MR SANDERS QC: Yes, although some of those statements will have, will be read tomorrow, so that we are bringing them forward.

CORONER: **I see, all right, good. Okay, thank you very much.**

MR SANDERS QC: And then the final identification statements are mostly very, very short.

CORONER: **Very short. Good. Thank you all very much. So we will sit again tomorrow morning, please. We will sit at ten o'clock tomorrow, please.**

(Court adjourned until 10 am on Tuesday, 5th July 2022)