

<p>1 Monday, 21 July 2014 2 (10.10 am) 3 <b>IN THE ABSENCE OF THE JURY</b> 4 MR HOUGH: Sir, may I just say something before the jury are 5 brought in? 6 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Of course. 7 MR HOUGH: Mr Tissington is the second of our witnesses 8 today. It is likely I will want to show him some 9 footage from BBC outside camera 7 from 15:19 onwards, 10 particularly the first two or three minutes of that 11 period. It is the footage showing a chain of officers 12 removing people from pen 3. Advocates will understand 13 why it is relevant to show that with Mr Tissington. 14 I raise it now, first of all, as fair warning to 15 those in the public gallery in case they want to absent 16 themselves, or simply to prepare themselves and, 17 secondly, so all can consider whether they wish to raise 18 an objection after the video is played to the video 19 being broadcast. As far as I am concerned, the jury can 20 now be brought in. 21 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Thank you very much, Mr Hough. 22 <b>IN THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY</b> 23 MR HOUGH: Sir, the first witness today is Stephen Ellis. 24 25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 1</p>	<p>1 <b>A. Yes.</b> 2 Q. That, I think, was in Rotherham? 3 <b>A. Correct.</b> 4 Q. Had you joined South Yorkshire Police in 1969? 5 <b>A. I did.</b> 6 Q. So you were 20 years in service? 7 <b>A. Yes.</b> 8 Q. And, I think, newly promoted to the rank of inspector 9 before the disaster? 10 <b>A. I think so. I can't remember when I was promoted, but</b> 11 <b>yes.</b> 12 Q. Is this right, that you later retired, in 1999? 13 <b>A. Correct.</b> 14 Q. A few questions about your training and experience at 15 the time of the disaster. In the period of 20 years or 16 so in the force before the Hillsborough disaster, had 17 you had training in public order matters? 18 <b>A. Yes. It's a little vague now, but we did receive public</b> 19 <b>order training, and I remember some parts of it.</b> 20 Q. Had you had experience before the disaster in policing 21 football matches? 22 <b>A. Yes, yes.</b> 23 Q. Where were they mainly? 24 <b>A. Mainly in my home town of Rotherham. I worked every</b> 25 <b>match that I could go to, so yes, I'd a bit of</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 3</p>
<p>1 MR STEPHEN ELLIS (sworn) 2 Examination by MR HOUGH 3 MR HOUGH: Is your name Stephen Ellis? 4 <b>A. Yes, that's correct.</b> 5 Q. I think you understand that I ask questions first on 6 behalf of the coroner and then you will be asked 7 questions by other lawyers? 8 <b>A. Yes, sir.</b> 9 Q. You, I think, made witness statements in relation to the 10 Hillsborough disaster, both in April 1989 and earlier 11 this year, in February? 12 <b>A. That's correct.</b> 13 Q. You also gave brief evidence to the Taylor Inquiry in 14 1989? 15 <b>A. Yes.</b> 16 Q. There is in front of you a white file which contains 17 those statements and transcripts of your evidence in 18 '89. You can have those to hand and make reference as 19 necessary. Also in front of you are other files which 20 have been explained to you. 21 <b>A. Yes.</b> 22 Q. First of all, background matters. In April 1989, were 23 you an inspector in the South Yorkshire Police? 24 <b>A. That's correct.</b> 25 Q. Were you based at C1 Division?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 2</p>	<p>1 <b>experience, but the smaller matches.</b> 2 Q. Did you also have experience policing at the larger 3 grounds in Sheffield? 4 <b>A. I have done one or two matches in Sheffield, both at the</b> 5 <b>United ground, I think maybe one, and maybe a couple at</b> 6 <b>Sheffield Wednesday's ground.</b> 7 Q. In addition to your practical experience, had you 8 received training from the force about policing of 9 football events or what problems you might encounter at 10 major football matches? 11 <b>A. Yes. I mean, you don't go away for training. It's</b> 12 <b>picked up as you go along and you pick it up by</b> 13 <b>experience basically.</b> 14 Q. Had you ever been shown any training videos? 15 <b>A. I don't recollect seeing any videos on football</b> 16 <b>training; only what I may have watched privately.</b> 17 Q. Did you have experience of a document the jury have 18 seen, The Association of Chief Police Officers' Guide to 19 Football Policing? 20 <b>A. I don't recollect seeing any documents of that nature,</b> 21 <b>but there may have been.</b> 22 Q. We also know that the South Yorkshire Police had some 23 standing instructions on policing football matches. Was 24 that -- 25 <b>A. Pardon?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 4</p>

<p>1 Q. The South Yorkshire Police had some standing 2 instructions on policing football matches. Was that 3 a document you recall? 4 <b>A. Again, no.</b> 5 Q. You say that you had policed Sheffield Wednesday before 6 the time of the disaster. Were you familiar with the 7 Hillsborough ground, either from that or from going 8 there in a personal capacity? 9 <b>A. I recollect taking my son to one match as a spectator 10 when he was about 10 years old. That would be 1986. 11 And I can't -- the ground was familiar to me, and 12 certainly Leppings Lane area was familiar to me, but 13 very vaguely. So maybe I'd worked one or two matches 14 prior to that.</b> 15 Q. Can I now move on to your duties on the day of 16 the disaster. You are familiar with an operational 17 order being produced for a major football match? 18 <b>A. Yes.</b> 19 Q. In advance of the match, did you, as an inspector, 20 receive a copy of the entire operational order for the 21 game? 22 <b>A. That, I can't remember. I certainly have a copy of two 23 pages relevant to my particular serials.</b> 24 Q. Perhaps we can show a document on screen now. It is 25 relevant to have the screen version. SYP000110860038.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 5</p>	<p>1 <b>A. Again, I can't recall. I suspect it would be usual 2 practice -- you would have to receive something like 3 this days/weeks before to prepare and to have time to 4 read and digest.</b> 5 Q. As we can see from these, you had responsibility for 6 serials 36, 37 and 38, and we see your name at the top 7 of the left-hand page. 8 <b>A. That's correct, sir.</b> 9 Q. If we run through, first of all, the duties of 10 serials 36 and 37 on the left, in both cases, it is 11 "Public order - train reception/Wadsley station": 12 "This serial will work in conjunction with mounted 13 officers to supervise Liverpool supporters leaving the 14 trains at Wadsley station. They will marshal the 15 supporters and only allow them to leave when all have 16 left the station premises. Where necessary, searches 17 will be carried out to ensure that items prohibited by 18 the ground rules, ie banners, missiles, weapons or 19 alcohol, are not in their possession." 20 So that is phase 1 before the match. Then phase 2, 21 during the match: 22 "Refreshments at Clay Wheels Lane." 23 Then after the match: 24 "Resume location at Wadsley station to ensure order 25 [there] ..."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 7</p>
<p>1 If we can also show up the preceding page, 37, at the 2 same time on screen? 3 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Just so it is clear, I am going to 4 look at it also on the hard copy, Mr Hough. 5 MR HOUGH: I'm sorry, it might be the next page, 39, I'm 6 sorry. We think that this is the version which actually 7 has markings by this witness, which is why we are 8 showing it on screen. 9 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Certainly, but I just would find it 10 helpful to cross-reference it. 11 MR HOUGH: Absolutely. 12 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Serial 38. 13 MR HOUGH: It will be in the black file under divider F, and 14 if the jury turn on into that, it is at suffixes 173 and 15 174. 16 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Yes. 17 MR HOUGH: These pages that you are seeing on screen, 18 Mr Ellis, are these pages from the operational order 19 with your handwritten markings on them? 20 <b>A. Yes, that's correct.</b> 21 Q. So we take it from this that these are documents which 22 you had on or before the day of the disaster? 23 <b>A. Yes.</b> 24 Q. Can you recall how far in advance of the match you 25 received these pages?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 So you were responsible for two serials who were to 2 see the supporters off the special train, or trains, 3 which came in from Liverpool to Wadsley Bridge station? 4 <b>A. Well, yes. That is in fact what happened, but looking 5 at the order, serial 37, it does say: 6 "This serial will not escort supporters to the 7 ground but remain static at this location."</b> 8 Q. Yes. 9 <b>A. Effectively, they weren't needed there. If I recall, 10 they came -- the two serials escorted the supporters.</b> 11 Q. We will deal with what they did in practice in a moment, 12 but you have pre-empted the next question. Both of 13 the serials were to be at Wadsley Bridge station, but 14 only one of them, the first, serial 36, was actually to 15 take the supporters? 16 <b>A. That's correct, sir.</b> 17 Q. The other was to remain there? 18 <b>A. Yes.</b> 19 Q. What was the reason for having that arrangement in 20 place? 21 <b>A. Well, all I can assume is that it spreads the serials 22 out in a small area because serial 3 had other duties in 23 that locality. So that's the only reason I can assume. 24 I don't know why it's there, but, as I say, we -- they 25 came with the rest of the supporters and both serials.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 8</p>

<p>1 Q. Might it also have been to ensure that one serial 2 remained while another escorted one batch of supporters 3 from a train so that there was a serial present if 4 another train arrived while the first serial was doing 5 escort duties? 6 <b>A. That's possible; yes.</b> 7 Q. Then we look at serial 38. It had a different area of 8 duty, minibus reception at Wardsend Road North. We will 9 look at where these places are in a moment, but that 10 serial responsible for supervising the unloading of 11 Liverpool minibuses in Wardsend Road North, again, 12 ensuring the supporters aren't carrying prohibited 13 items; yes? 14 <b>A. That's correct, sir.</b> 15 Q. And, again, during the match, refreshments at 16 Clay Wheels Lane? 17 <b>A. Yes.</b> 18 Q. If we deal with these other matters while the document 19 is on screen, do we see at the top of the left-hand in 20 handwriting the words in brackets "Only one train. 21 550" -- 22 <b>A. "Passengers".</b> 23 Q. -- "passengers". Is that your writing? 24 <b>A. That is, sir.</b> 25 Q. Can you remember at what point you wrote that? Page 9</p>	<p>1 confirm, the last thing we need these pages for, is that 2 for serial 36 you have written 3.00 to 3.45 as the 3 timings for phase 2? 4 <b>A. Yes, sir.</b> 5 Q. That is indicating the time at which refreshments are 6 expected to be taken at Clay Wheels Lane. Is that 7 right? 8 <b>A. Yes, sir.</b> 9 Q. If we can take those pages off screen, we can bring up 10 the relevant part of the operational order that the jury 11 are now looking at in their black file, INQ000234710198. 12 This is a part of the operational order dealing with 13 special trains. If you look at the bottom part of 14 the page, "Liverpool": 15 "3 special trains carrying Liverpool supporters will 16 arrive at Wadsley Bridge Station at times yet to be 17 arranged; these will be made available at briefing. 18 "Each train has a capacity of 550. 19 "Departure times will also be given at the 20 briefing." 21 And then recording also that some Liverpool 22 supporters may be travelling from all parts of 23 the country to the main Sheffield railway station. So 24 that indicates, doesn't it, that when the operational 25 order was being drafted and produced three special Page 11</p>
<p>1 <b>A. I can only assume that would be before the match, at 2 some stage before the match, when I got the order. 3 Maybe it was intelligence information that 550 were 4 expected, so I made the note.</b> 5 Q. Can we keep those on screen, if possible, for the 6 moment? 7 Does that indicate that before the match you became 8 aware there was only going to be one train, rather than 9 any more? 10 <b>A. Yes, that's correct.</b> 11 Q. In terms of the officers who were above you in the chain 12 of command, you were in sector 2, I think, the Liverpool 13 sector? 14 <b>A. Yes.</b> 15 Q. That was under the overall command of 16 Superintendent Marshall? 17 <b>A. That's correct, sir.</b> 18 Q. And his chief inspectors, who were Purdy and Waring? 19 <b>A. That's correct.</b> 20 Q. If the jury keep their operational order file to hand, 21 or their black file, which contains the operational 22 order, and at tab F -- I know the screen has broken 23 down, which is why I am dealing with it in this way. If 24 the jury turn on to suffix 198, under divider F, and 25 just before they look at that page, Mr Ellis, can you Page 10</p>	<p>1 trains were expected? 2 <b>A. Well, I don't know about that, sir. All I know is, of 3 those two pages, that's all I can remember.</b> 4 Q. And that at some point you became aware that it was only 5 going to be one -- 6 <b>A. There was only going to be one train, yes.</b> 7 Q. And you wrote it down? 8 <b>A. Yes.</b> 9 Q. Can we now look at the geography, please, and if the 10 jury can turn on in the operational order to suffix 210, 11 and if we have on screen INQ000234710210, this is a part 12 of the operational order that gives a plan of where the 13 serials under your command were going to be before the 14 match, I think; is that right? 15 <b>A. Yes. Yes.</b> 16 Q. If we can put an arrow on screen, can we see just below 17 the large words "Wadsley Bridge" the words "Wadsley 18 station. Liverpool trains"? Does that locate the 19 position of the Wadsley Bridge station where the special 20 trains were coming in? 21 <b>A. That's correct, sir.</b> 22 Q. Then if we move to the right and down a little, do we 23 see "Liverpool minibus/van parking - Wardsend Road 24 North"? 25 <b>A. That's correct.</b> Page 12</p>

<p>1 Q. So Wardsend Road North is just off the A61 on the 2 opposite side from Wadsley Station? 3 <b>A. That's correct, sir.</b> 4 Q. The A61 starts in the north as the Halifax Road and at 5 some point further down it turns into Penistone Road; 6 yes? 7 <b>A. Yes.</b> 8 Q. So in order to escort the fans from Wadsley Station to 9 the ground, do we see on this plan that the officers 10 would take them down Penistone Road, if we can move the 11 arrow? 12 <b>A. That's correct.</b> 13 Q. To what I think we know is a roundabout junction? 14 <b>A. I think so.</b> 15 Q. Then turning to the right into Leppings Lane, past the 16 streets of terraced houses, the last of which is 17 Vere Road, and then to the turnstile entrance to the 18 ground? 19 <b>A. That's correct, sir.</b> 20 Q. The special train you have told us you became aware of 21 was bringing the supporters into the city. Can you 22 recall when that train was anticipated to arrive? 23 <b>A. I'd have to refer to one of my -- the original 24 statement, I think. It was --</b> 25 Q. If you can be shown --</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 13</p>	<p>1 course of that briefing? 2 <b>A. Not really, I'm afraid. It was just a general briefing 3 to the whole structure of command and the officers that 4 were at the ground.</b> 5 Q. What did you then do about giving instructions to your 6 own serials? 7 <b>A. Well, after the briefing was over, we went a short 8 distance away, still inside the ground, and I briefed my 9 own three serials as to their respective duties, just to 10 make sure they knew what to do.</b> 11 Q. How long did that take? 12 <b>A. Just a few minutes.</b> 13 Q. You had the operational order by that point? 14 <b>A. Yes.</b> 15 Q. Or your bit of it, rather. 16 <b>A. Yes.</b> 17 Q. Did you use that as the basis for the briefing? 18 <b>A. Yes.</b> 19 Q. What did you do immediately after you delivered that 20 briefing? 21 <b>A. It would be about 11 am by this time. As I recall, we 22 made our way over towards the station and just performed 23 general duties advising fans and the like that were 24 arriving by road and just generally patrolling the area 25 of Penistone Road North.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 15</p>
<p>1 <b>A. Around 2.30.</b> 2 Q. If you can be shown page 2 of your 1989 statement. 3 I think somebody may need to help you, because it is 4 quite a large file. Do you see the second paragraph 5 says: 6 "My original orders indicated that during this 7 phase, phase 1, serial 37 was to remain static at the 8 railway station, was not to escort supporters to the 9 ground. I established that in fact only one train was 10 expected, commonly referred to as the service train, and 11 this was anticipated to arrive at 14:02 hours." 12 <b>A. That's correct, sir.</b> 13 Q. Just after 2 o'clock? 14 <b>A. Yes.</b> 15 Q. Can we now move on from the planning to the briefings in 16 the early period on 15 April 1989. We know that a main 17 briefing was delivered by Chief Superintendent 18 Duckenfield and some other senior officers between about 19 10 o'clock and 10.15 at the ground? 20 <b>A. That's correct.</b> 21 Q. Were you present for that? 22 <b>A. I was.</b> 23 Q. Were your serials present for it? 24 <b>A. Yes.</b> 25 Q. Do you remember anything in particular being said in the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 14</p>	<p>1 Q. Now, I'd like us now just to look at a couple of 2 the slides which were used by Mr Malkin, the senior 3 investigating officer of Operation Resolve, just to 4 locate some main parking areas and parking restricted 5 areas. Can we first look at INQ000236720071. We can 6 rotate that. Do we see here, Mr Ellis, a plan which has 7 been produced showing the main parking areas, first of 8 all for Nottingham Forest coaches, circled, and then, 9 further out, the Liverpool coaches and minibuses? 10 <b>A. Yes. But I must admit, I wasn't familiar with the 11 Nottingham Forest coach areas and parking. It's a bit 12 further north than I was patrolling.</b> 13 Q. The reason I show you this, Mr Ellis, is just to obtain 14 your confirmation that there was one major area of 15 Liverpool coach parking to the north of where you were 16 stationed with your serials? 17 <b>A. Yes.</b> 18 Q. If we can now have another slide, INQ000236720069. If 19 we rotate that, this has been again prepared by 20 Operation Resolve. It indicates that there were 21 substantial parking restrictions on the major arterial 22 routes, including Penistone Road, Halifax Road going 23 north and other routes immediately around the stadium. 24 Do you see that? 25 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 16</p>

4 (Pages 13 to 16)

<p>1 Q. Do you recall there being substantial parking 2 restrictions in that sort of configuration? 3 <b>A. I'm afraid not. Parking facilities and the like would 4 have been someone else's responsibility.</b> 5 Q. Certainly. But do you remember in general terms that 6 there were substantial parking restrictions on that day? 7 <b>A. I'm sure there were, but I don't recall.</b> 8 Q. We can take that off the screen. At what time did you 9 reach Wadsley Bridge station, very roughly? 10 <b>A. Well, we'd be there from 11 o'clock, patrolling that 11 area, and then, as the train was due to arrive, we'd 12 make our way to the station. I can't remember what 13 time. But I have it here recorded that I made my way to 14 the Wadsley Station at approximately 11 am. We'd just 15 go and have a general look at that time. If there's no 16 supporters around, we'd patrol the main road.</b> 17 Q. That's what I was going to ask you next. Your serials 18 had three hours until the one special train was due to 19 arrive? 20 <b>A. Yes.</b> 21 Q. What were the two serials responsible for the 22 Wadsley Bridge Station doing in that period of time? 23 <b>A. They'd be just patrolling up and down and around in the 24 vicinity and responding to any incidents or anything 25 that they might see.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 17</p>	<p>1 <b>A. I do know that two were closed that were nearby.</b> 2 <b>Effectively, all the pubs around the ground were closed,</b> 3 <b>as far as I was aware. This is what I was telling them.</b> 4 <b>I established that there was in fact one open called the</b> 5 <b>White Horse.</b> 6 Q. Just pause there, because we can show the jury where 7 that was. INQ000031890004. Sorry, that is a bad 8 reference. It is in the jury's red file, and it is just 9 before tab A, at page 3. I will have the reference in 10 a moment. It is INQ000231890004. If we can rotate that 11 and maximise the top section, please. It is a slightly 12 stylised map, Mr Ellis, but do we see there 13 Wadsley Bridge Train Station? 14 <b>A. Yes.</b> 15 Q. And then, off to the right and further up, so to the 16 north-east, the White Horse Public House? 17 <b>A. Yes.</b> 18 Q. You say in your statement that was about 600 yards up 19 Halifax Road. Is that right by way of location? 20 <b>A. Yes, that's correct.</b> 21 Q. Having established that there was a public within that 22 distance of where you were, what did you do? 23 <b>A. Well, basically, my area of patrol was below that, but 24 just out of curiosity, to see where they were all going 25 and where they were all ending up, I walked up that road</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 19</p>
<p>1 Q. Your position was with serials which were either side of 2 that main Halifax/Penistone Road? 3 <b>A. Yes.</b> 4 Q. In the early period, so from 11 o'clock onwards, what 5 was the situation in those roads in terms of pedestrians 6 and supporters approaching the ground? 7 <b>A. Well, there were quite a few supporters all milling 8 around. As I recall, it was a nice day. I remember 9 many supporters going away from the ground, up 10 Penistone Road, and for two or three hours I was 11 continually advising them -- they were wanting to look 12 for somewhere to go for a drink, and I was telling them 13 that the pubs were shut and there's no point going up 14 there, there's no drink, and they just took no notice, 15 just kept walking, so -- away from the ground.</b> 16 Q. These supporters whom you say you noticed walking in the 17 opposite direction from the ground, apparently looking 18 for somewhere to have a drink, can you remember what 19 team they were supporting? Try to remember yourself, 20 and we will take you back to the statement if you -- 21 <b>A. To be quite honest, I don't remember seeing or meeting 22 a Nottingham Forest fan, so I assume they must have all 23 been Liverpool supporters, in the main.</b> 24 Q. Were there any pubs or places to drink near where you 25 were stationed?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 18</p>	<p>1 <b>and went and had a look at the White Horse Public House.</b> 2 <b>I satisfied myself that there were officers in that</b> 3 <b>vicinity and then I came back down to where my serials</b> 4 <b>were.</b> 5 Q. Were there supporters in the pub? 6 <b>A. I think it was probably full to capacity. You've just</b> 7 <b>reminded me that I have a recollection of doing that</b> 8 <b>once before, so I must have worked Hillsborough once</b> 9 <b>before and it was the same scenario.</b> 10 Q. Was there any trouble? 11 <b>A. No trouble, no, just lots of people milling around in</b> 12 <b>and outside the pub.</b> 13 Q. Did you then go back to Wadsley Bridge Station? 14 <b>A. Yes.</b> 15 Q. Between that time and just before 2 o'clock, were you 16 still doing as you had been before, patrolling around 17 and talking to fans? 18 <b>A. That's correct, sir. There were just a couple of minor</b> 19 <b>incidents that I felt it necessary to send officers to,</b> 20 <b>just to generalise, just to keep an eye on things. But</b> 21 <b>there was about 100 supporters sat across the road</b> 22 <b>between Leppings Lane and the station. I saw a couple</b> 23 <b>of mounted police officers and --</b> 24 Q. Just before we get to them, over this period in general, 25 between, say, 12 noon and 2 pm, what was the flow of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 20</p>

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<p>1 people like towards or away from the ground, as best you 2 can recall?</p> <p>3 <b>A. My recollections are that, in the main, they were going 4 away from the ground. Just generally -- I'm sure there 5 were some supporters going to the ground, but I seemed 6 to be, for an hour or two at least, advising people all 7 the time, "There's no point going up there". That's how 8 I remember it.</b></p> <p>9 Q. Did you see fans carrying anything to drink with them?</p> <p>10 <b>A. On the way back, yes. I was advising them, "It's no 11 good taking that. You can't take it in the ground, 12 so ..." But you had no power to take it off them, and 13 they're not doing anything wrong, and that's how it was.</b></p> <p>14 Q. You were telling us that there were some fans on a grass 15 verge on the road heading towards the ground; is that 16 right?</p> <p>17 <b>A. Yes. The geography of the place is a little vague, but 18 as I understand it, there was a Halfords across the road 19 from the station and a little lower down towards 20 Leppings Lane. About 100 youths sat on the grass or 21 just hanging around. I think I established there was 22 a Gateway supermarket behind Halfords, and then I heard 23 a request for assistance or something of that nature, or 24 there were a couple of mounted officers there. There 25 was something brewing, and I saw Superintendent Marshall</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 21</p>	<p>1 memory, that you sent six of your own men to assist the 2 mounted police. Would that accord with your 3 recollection?</p> <p>4 <b>A. Yes, that's correct.</b></p> <p>5 Q. In the period before the special train was due to 6 arrive, so 2 minutes past 2, did you have, yourself, any 7 experience of significant trouble from the fans?</p> <p>8 <b>A. No, no trouble. No.</b></p> <p>9 Q. Can we now move on to the arrival of that train. Did it 10 arrive on time?</p> <p>11 <b>A. Yes, it did.</b></p> <p>12 Q. How many people were on board?</p> <p>13 <b>A. 430 supporters actually on board.</b></p> <p>14 Q. After you had seen them off the train, what did you do 15 with them?</p> <p>16 <b>A. Well, we marshalled them all together, made sure there 17 was no-one remaining on the station. It is only 18 a small, private station. Then we escort them down to 19 the turnstiles at Leppings Lane.</b></p> <p>20 Q. We know that no drink was allowed on the special trains?</p> <p>21 <b>A. Uh-huh.</b></p> <p>22 Q. And you were escorting them down. What was their mood 23 and behaviour, these 430 people?</p> <p>24 <b>A. Quite amicable. No evidence of weapons or drink or 25 anything, and no problems. We simply escorted them to</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 23</p>
<p>1 <b>go across the road towards this crowd. I think I may 2 have even sent some officers myself, but I never saw any 3 trouble, but it all stemmed from some sort of request 4 for assistance, and I don't know -- I can't remember 5 where that came from.</b></p> <p>6 Q. So you saw a group of lads, 100 young supporters --</p> <p>7 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>8 Q. -- on the grass verge. As we know, a nice day. You 9 weren't aware of particular trouble, but you were aware 10 at some point being aware of some problem brewing?</p> <p>11 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>12 Q. You heard a request for assistance?</p> <p>13 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>14 Q. And you saw that there had been some mounted police sent 15 to that?</p> <p>16 <b>A. Yes. I saw two mounted officers, and then, whether 17 they'd gone around the back of the premises, I don't 18 know, but they weren't there at the same time and it 19 needed looking at. It was just an incident that needed 20 looking at.</b></p> <p>21 Q. You say that Superintendent Marshall was on the scene?</p> <p>22 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>23 Q. And he was involved in the response to that as well?</p> <p>24 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>25 Q. You say in your witness statement, just to fill in your</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 <b>the ground.</b></p> <p>2 Q. We know that your route to the ground, which we looked 3 at a little earlier, would have taken you down the A61, 4 Halifax/Penistone Road, and then into the Leppings Lane 5 at its north end, which I think was by a garage?</p> <p>6 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>7 Q. At this point, what were the conditions like in the 8 road?</p> <p>9 <b>A. Hardly any traffic, as I recall, just a nice, normal 10 day; a simple walk and an easy duty to perform, just 11 marshalling them to the turnstiles.</b></p> <p>12 Q. How many people did you encounter as you came down, 13 because obviously, you were having to escort a large 14 group of people down the lane and that was being used by 15 others?</p> <p>16 <b>A. Yeah, and there was still supporters going in the 17 opposite direction. I don't know whether one or two of 18 the people off the train may have squeezed through the 19 cordon, as it were, as we're marshalling them down 20 there. I don't think there was any problem with the 21 train supporters, but, again, if they wanted to leave 22 the line, we had no powers to stop them. We were just 23 encouraging them, if you like, to go straight to the 24 turnstiles.</b></p> <p>25 Q. If we can take up another plan briefly, it's under the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 24</p>

6 (Pages 21 to 24)

<p>1 jury's tab A, page 6. It is the one with the coloured 2 lines drawn onto the photograph, INQ000191320007. 3 Somebody has changed the reference. Do you see there 4 the green line shows Leppings Lane, where you would have 5 been escorting those supporters down towards the 6 turnstile entrance? 7 <b>A. Yes, sir.</b> 8 Q. Where precisely did you take those 430 people to? 9 <b>A. Right to the turnstiles, basically, and show them in.</b> 10 Q. We can see, and the jury know, that there is a bank of 11 turnstiles within the yellow circle, which is on the 12 left, which is turnstiles 1 to 16, if we can show that 13 with an arrow, please. It is a sort of crescent-shaped 14 set of turnstiles within the yellow circle. Then there 15 is another set of turnstiles A to G. Did you take the 16 supporters as far as the turnstiles themselves or just 17 to the outer area? 18 <b>A. I would think -- I can't remember, to be quite honest,</b> 19 <b>but I would think to the outer area and just -- once</b> 20 <b>they're inside that yellow circle, inside the -- between</b> 21 <b>the perimeter gates and the turnstiles, then we'd just</b> 22 <b>let them go into the turnstiles.</b> 23 Q. Keeping this photograph on screen, please, where did you 24 go from here, after you'd seen those fans to the 25 turnstiles?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 25</p>	<p>1 <b>it probably got a little busier. I mean, I don't know</b> 2 <b>how far you want me to go. If you want me to keep going</b> 3 <b>up to about 2.40, 2.50 --</b> 4 Q. If you tell us in general terms how the build-up 5 progressed? 6 <b>A. Well, from 2.30, it was just a normal football match,</b> 7 <b>people asking all sorts of questions, directions, "Which</b> 8 <b>turnstile do we go to?", "Is this Leppings Lane?",</b> 9 <b>general questions, and everything is normal. A lot of</b> 10 <b>supporters coming down, but all milling about on both</b> 11 <b>pavements and up in the road, just casually walking</b> 12 <b>down.</b> 13 <b>I remember we had a cordon across Leppings Lane</b> 14 <b>filtering supporters onto the pavement just before they</b> 15 <b>entered the turnstiles.</b> 16 Q. Let's ask about that in a little more detail. You say 17 that "we had a cordon". Who was forming that cordon? 18 <b>A. Well, I can't remember exactly. It could have been my</b> 19 <b>serial, it could have been someone else's serial. There</b> 20 <b>were a lot of officers in the vicinity also, some just</b> 21 <b>helping with general directions, but obviously there was</b> 22 <b>a serial, maybe two, forming a cordon filtering people</b> 23 <b>to start with onto the pavement.</b> 24 Q. Just pausing there, you say it may have been your 25 serial. As you came down Leppings Lane yourself, just</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 27</p>
<p>1 <b>A. As far as I recollect, I remained there for the</b> 2 <b>remainder of the time, until the build-up started and</b> 3 <b>after kick-off.</b> 4 Q. As you say, the build-up was taking place over this 5 period of time. Where did you position yourself in the 6 lane over that period, from the time you got the 7 supporters down to Leppings Lane, up until the start of 8 the match? 9 <b>A. I was right inside the middle of it all, if you like.</b> 10 <b>How can I explain? Sort of there.</b> 11 Q. So near the outer blue gates? 12 <b>A. Yes. Outside the perimeter gates, sort of inside -- in</b> 13 <b>Leppings Lane itself, in the centre of the road, where</b> 14 <b>I could see everything: the turnstiles, Leppings Lane</b> 15 <b>and the opposite direction, up towards the River Don and</b> 16 <b>over the bridge.</b> 17 Q. In your witness statement, you say that you got the 18 supporters to this area by about 20 past 2; is that 19 right? 20 <b>A. That's correct.</b> 21 Q. By 2.30, so about 10 minutes after this, what was the 22 situation like in Leppings Lane? 23 <b>A. It was building up gradually. Vehicular traffic, to</b> 24 <b>start with, could get through, although there wasn't</b> 25 <b>much traffic, not much vehicular traffic, and gradually</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 26</p>	<p>1 before 20 past 2, were there any cordons in place as you 2 walked down the road? 3 <b>A. Not that I recall, no.</b> 4 Q. Were there any ticket-checking arrangements in place as 5 you took the people down towards Leppings Lane? 6 <b>A. Not that I recall.</b> 7 Q. You say a time came after that that a cordon was 8 established you say filtering people onto a pavement? 9 <b>A. Yes.</b> 10 Q. You say your serials might have been involved with it. 11 Were you involved in any way with setting it up? 12 <b>A. No.</b> 13 Q. So whoever did it did it without you giving 14 instructions? 15 <b>A. Yes.</b> 16 Q. Where was the cordon down Leppings Lane, using this 17 plan, if you can? 18 <b>A. Right on the edge of the -- if you like, the last</b> 19 <b>terraced house.</b> 20 Q. So if we see the red line marking Vere Road and we see 21 a terraced house near that and I think there is a sweet 22 shop -- 23 <b>A. Oh, no, no, I beg your pardon, it is near where the</b> 24 <b>yellow line starts, the last house, yes. Sort of using</b> 25 <b>the house as a natural barrier, the cordon starts from</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 28</p>

7 (Pages 25 to 28)

<p>1 <b>the corner of that house and comes out this way, that's</b>  2 <b>correct, to form a natural funnel for the people coming</b>  3 <b>down Leppings Lane.</b>  4 Q. So you are describing a cordon of police officers?  5 <b>A. Yes.</b>  6 Q. Starting around the area of the sweet shop, or  7 newsagents, on the corner by the turnstiles.  8 <b>A. That's correct.</b>  9 Q. Then there is a diagonal?  10 <b>A. That's correct.</b>  11 Q. Into Leppings Lane?  12 <b>A. Yes.</b>  13 Q. You say funnelling people towards the turnstiles?  14 <b>A. That's correct.</b>  15 Q. Did the cordon cross Leppings Lane -- go right across  16 Leppings Lane?  17 <b>A. I don't think it did. I think it didn't need to. It</b>  18 <b>just maybe went half the width of Leppings Lane, but the</b>  19 <b>supporters, as I recall -- it was light enough traffic</b>  20 <b>then for them to just see the line of police officers</b>  21 <b>and simply funnel onto the pavement. It was more of</b>  22 <b>a traffic control, really, you know, "Get off the road.</b>  23 <b>The turnstiles are here now. This way".</b>  24 Q. How many officers were involved?  25 <b>A. I would think 8 to 12.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 29</p>	<p>1 Q. Mr Ellis, take your time. If you need a break --  2 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Are you all right, Mr Ellis? Would  3 you like a break?  4 <b>A. No, thanks, sir. I'm okay. I get emotional when</b>  5 <b>I start to think about it. But it will pass. I'll be</b>  6 <b>fine.</b>  7 MR HOUGH: I have spoken to Mr Ellis about this. He would,  8 in general, prefer to carry on.  9 <b>A. Yes. About 2.40, I recall a woman driver in a black</b>  10 <b>Capri inching her way along Leppings Lane towards me.</b>  11 <b>It might sound degrading to women drivers, and</b>  12 <b>I apologise for that, but I remember it because</b>  13 <b>I thought, "It'd have to be a woman trying to get</b>  14 <b>through here". So the crowd has obviously significantly</b>  15 <b>built up now. Hardly any traffic can get through.</b>  16 <b>I was surprised she got through with all the number of</b>  17 <b>supporters. And that's the first indication that I get</b>  18 <b>of a build-up of pedestrian traffic. If I recall, by</b>  19 <b>that time, my serial, or this serial that I referred to</b>  20 <b>that was forming a cordon, has gone. It's been pushed</b>  21 <b>away, and there are policemen all over that were all,</b>  22 <b>like, sort of starting now to get encompassed by</b>  23 <b>spectators -- supporters.</b>  24 Q. While you were in Leppings Lane, did a time come when  25 you were approached by fans about a ticket problem?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 31</p>
<p>1 Q. You have described it as a traffic control measure.  2 Were they, as far as you could see, checking tickets or  3 doing anything systematic like that?  4 <b>A. Not that I could see.</b>  5 Q. Was there any similar cordon on the other side, so the  6 route towards the Leppings Lane turnstiles over the  7 River Don?  8 <b>A. No, not that I recall. Supporters were coming from that</b>  9 <b>direction also, of course, but I think that side of</b>  10 <b>the River Don, Catch Bar Lane side, is -- it doesn't get</b>  11 <b>as busy as Leppings Lane. But still some supporters</b>  12 <b>coming down there.</b>  13 Q. Mr Ellis, I don't think that you referred to the cordon  14 in your 1989 witness statement. But you did refer in  15 your evidence to the Taylor Inquiry to your officers  16 giving supporters directions and funnelling them into  17 the turnstiles. Is this what you were referring to when  18 you were describing --  19 <b>A. That is what I'm referring to, yes, sir.</b>  20 Q. Over this period, what was happening to the number of  21 supporters in Leppings Lane? So from 2.20/2.30/2.40?  22 <b>A. Well, there were no problems, just getting inundated</b>  23 <b>with enquiries, and general requests, "Which</b>  24 <b>turnstiles?" and "Where are we?", and then it starts to</b>  25 <b>get a little busier. About 2.40 pm -- excuse me.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 30</p>	<p>1 <b>A. Yes. This would be about the same time. Maybe 2.45.</b>  2 <b>I'm able to move around, but there are people now all</b>  3 <b>around me. I'm still relatively in the same position,</b>  4 <b>in the middle of Leppings Lane, and three gentlemen came</b>  5 <b>to me a bit concerned, saying they'd bought some tickets</b>  6 <b>which were just up the road off a 9- or 10-year-old boy.</b>  7 <b>They were apparently forgeries.</b>  8 Q. Did you look at them?  9 <b>A. I did.</b>  10 Q. What did they look like?  11 <b>A. They looked like they'd been copied on a photostat</b>  12 <b>machine, hastily coloured in yellow, crayon or</b>  13 <b>highlighter pen, and simply -- the boy had simply done</b>  14 <b>a squiggle on it. He'd not even filled it in properly</b>  15 <b>in colour. There were six colour-coded schemes for</b>  16 <b>tickets, as I recall, and yellow wasn't one of them.</b>  17 <b>They told me they had spent every penny they'd got</b>  18 <b>buying these tickets and that the young boy couldn't</b>  19 <b>sell them fast enough. He were obviously selling others</b>  20 <b>as well. And they wanted to know what I was going to do</b>  21 <b>about it. I politely told them I was busy. They didn't</b>  22 <b>know where the boy was. He was somewhere up towards the</b>  23 <b>Catch Bar Lane area. I said, "I can't leave here. Go</b>  24 <b>find him if you can and give him to a policeman and then</b>  25 <b>we can perhaps do something about it".</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 32</p>



1 Q. After you had dealt with this problem of the amateur  
 2 forgeries, so about 2.45 onwards, what was the situation  
 3 at the turnstiles?  
 4 **A. Well, by this time -- as I recall, I looked up, maybe**  
 5 **I started getting repeated requests to -- "People are**  
 6 **getting crushed, get the match delayed". It gets a bit**  
 7 **vague, but it's all around 2.45/2.50 pm, and I look up**  
 8 **and there's, like -- it looks like we're starting to get**  
 9 **a problem. The build-up of supporters is now**  
 10 **considerable, and --**  
 11 Q. Just pausing there, you describe in your witness  
 12 statement the comments of the fans that you have just  
 13 been telling us about being frantic with worry and  
 14 concern. Is that right?  
 15 **A. Yes. They were anxious, they were running towards me,**  
 16 **away from the turnstiles, pushing their way through,**  
 17 **shouting, screaming, "Get the match delayed", that sort**  
 18 **of comment, and then -- so I start now thinking, "What**  
 19 **on earth's happened? What's all this about?" I'm still**  
 20 **able to move. In actual fact, this is when -- about**  
 21 **2.50 pm is when the -- a Land Rover arrives, a police**  
 22 **vehicle Land Rover, driven by PC Buxton.**  
 23 Q. Just before we get to the Land Rover arriving, did you  
 24 do anything about the situation, in terms of crowd  
 25 control, at that point, before the Land Rover arrives?

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1 **A. Yes. There were horses there as well. I remember sort**  
 2 **of pushing my way five metres towards the turnstiles,**  
 3 **towards the perimeter gates, where the horses -- the**  
 4 **mounted inspector was, telling him, "Try and get your**  
 5 **men -- your horses across here". It all starts to**  
 6 **happen so fast then.**  
 7 Q. Let's take it in stages, if we can. You speak to an  
 8 inspector in charge of the mounted police?  
 9 **A. Yes.**  
 10 Q. You ask him to get his horses across?  
 11 **A. Yes.**  
 12 Q. Across where?  
 13 **A. Across the area of the perimeter gates. Of course the**  
 14 **perimeter gates are open, so ...**  
 15 Q. It may be obvious, but what was the purpose of getting  
 16 the horses across that area?  
 17 **A. Basically, to try and stop the crushing. We're now**  
 18 **starting to see that there's a problem developing. To**  
 19 **try and stop the crushing at the turnstiles. Give them**  
 20 **a bit of breathing space. There are still, well,**  
 21 **hundreds of supporters coming down Leppings Lane and**  
 22 **from the Catch Bar Lane area also. And, effectively,**  
 23 **I think -- you know, to start with, the horses became**  
 24 **effective, for a short while, a very short while.**  
 25 Q. Were any announcements being made? We know that there

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1 were various PA systems in this part of the --  
 2 **A. Yes. There were tannoys above the turnstiles, and**  
 3 **I'm -- I may be corrected with the distance, but maybe**  
 4 **I'm 40 metres -- 40 yards from the turnstiles, stood in**  
 5 **Leppings Lane, and I can hear them appealing to the**  
 6 **crowd to stop pushing, and so on.**  
 7 Q. Were those announcements having any effect?  
 8 **A. No, they weren't.**  
 9 Q. As an inspector, you would have had a radio?  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 Q. As far as you were aware, both from what you heard in  
 12 the area and from your radio communications, had there  
 13 been any messages about delaying the kick-off by this  
 14 point?  
 15 **A. Not that I recall. I mean, it starts to get noisy, the**  
 16 **radio traffic increases, it all becomes as one. When**  
 17 **you're listening to a radio, if you hear your own call**  
 18 **sign, then your ears pick up on it and you bring it**  
 19 **a little closer maybe, but in general terms, you know**  
 20 **something's happening, there's becoming a problem, radio**  
 21 **traffic is increasing, the crowd are becoming anxious,**  
 22 **the noise of the crowd is increasing, you start to get**  
 23 **numerous enquiries and remarks and you have to assess it**  
 24 **all and deal with it.**  
 25 Q. You told us that a Land Rover then arrived.

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1 **A. The Land Rover came from the direction of Penistone Road**  
 2 **towards me, sort of crawling pace, going at the same**  
 3 **speed as the crowd. It was completely engulfed as well.**  
 4 **I'm surprised it wasn't running over people's feet, they**  
 5 **were so close to him.**  
 6 Q. Who was the driver?  
 7 **A. PC Buxton.**  
 8 Q. The jury have seen footage of his Land Rover arriving,  
 9 and that's been timed at 2.46 pm?  
 10 **A. Okay.**  
 11 Q. The jury has also seen that that Land Rover positioned  
 12 itself opposite those outer perimeter gates. Do you  
 13 remember that --  
 14 **A. That's correct.**  
 15 Q. What did PC Buxton and those -- anyone with him do once  
 16 he'd arrived?  
 17 **A. Well, I heard -- I think maybe I was speaking to the**  
 18 **mounted inspector or I was -- I saw him arrive, anyway,**  
 19 **I saw the Land Rover arrive, and I made my way towards**  
 20 **him. He was already making appeals on his loudhailer,**  
 21 **the public address system on the roof of the Land Rover.**  
 22 **He was also making -- or started to make appeals to stop**  
 23 **pushing. And then I went and spoke to him. And then**  
 24 **I thought, maybe if I got on the roof of this**  
 25 **Land Rover -- there was obviously a problem at the**

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<p>1 <b>turnstiles with the crowd not knowing where they were</b>                  2 <b>going or maybe, when they got there, they couldn't turn</b>                  3 <b>around and go to the correct turnstile, so I thought, if</b>                  4 <b>I get on the roof of this Land Rover, then I can</b>                  5 <b>visually direct them, I can see what's happening, I'll</b>                  6 <b>have a good vantage point, and I can direct them with</b>                  7 <b>the public address system. So with no more to do,</b>                  8 <b>that's what I did.</b>                  9 Q. I think you took the speaker out of the cab -- I think                  10 it had a wire on it, and you climbed onto the Land Rover                  11 with that?                  12 <b>A. It's like a telephone cord, and I stretched it up onto</b>                  13 <b>the Land Rover. It wasn't long enough for me to stand</b>                  14 <b>on the roof. I had to kneel down at all times, using</b>                  15 <b>the public address system.</b>                  16 Q. What could you see from this elevated position?                  17 <b>A. Basically, it was mayhem. All I could see were heads of</b>                  18 <b>hair, people getting crushed at the turnstiles, and down</b>                  19 <b>Leppings Lane, as far as I could see, which was maybe</b>                  20 <b>400 metres before the road bent out of sight, was</b>                  21 <b>wall-to-wall supporters coming towards me, coming</b>                  22 <b>towards people in the turnstile area that were getting</b>                  23 <b>crushed, and the horses were there, they're having</b>                  24 <b>difficulty, there's no space between the horses and the</b>                  25 <b>turnstile, there's no space behind the horses and into</b>                  Page 37</p>	<p>1 Q. Your purpose in being on the Land Rover was to give                  2 directions and assistance. What sort of directions and                  3 comments were you making?                  4 <b>A. Well, I will stand to be corrected, but -- because</b>                  5 <b>I can't remember now, but I was giving directions which</b>                  6 <b>turnstile to go to, like -- is it west stand to the</b>                  7 <b>left and Leppings Lane and south stand to the right;</b>                  8 <b>general directions. I knew at that time where I was</b>                  9 <b>sending them. I'm also pointing and I'm shouting down</b>                  10 <b>this loudhailer so loud that my throat hurts, I start</b>                  11 <b>coughing, I have to stop for a few seconds or</b>                  12 <b>10 or 20 seconds, then try again, I'm appealing to them</b>                  13 <b>to stop pushing, be patient.</b>                  14 I can see people down below me near to my                  15 Land Rover. They have managed to turn around and are                  16 shouting at me, "Get the match delayed. Why don't you                  17 get the match delayed?"                  18 Q. Pausing there, so you have got people shouting at you in                  19 words that you can hear asking you to get the match                  20 delayed?                  21 <b>A. Yes.</b>                  22 Q. Did you respond to that request specifically?                  23 <b>A. I did not ask for the match to be delayed, but I told</b>                  24 <b>the spectators over the loudhailer that we were taking</b>                  25 <b>steps to get the match delayed. I told them several</b>                  Page 39</p>
<p>1 <b>Leppings Lane. I'm probably the safest person there,</b>                  2 <b>because I'm on the roof of this Land Rover.</b>                  3 I saw a man near the turnstiles protecting his                  4 daughter. He'd got his feet up against the wall four                  5 foot off the ground, and he's pushing back with his                  6 shoulders and his daughter is stood between his legs.                  7 There's a bobby near to him, cannot do anything. He's                  8 stood like this, arms down by his side, unable to move,                  9 pinned up against the wall near the turnstiles, and --                  10 do you want me to carry on?                  11 There were people lined up on the railings that                  12 divided the turnstiles, like pigeons on a wire.                  13 Q. Pause there. You have told us that the fans were very                  14 heavily packed so that you could only see their heads.                  15 You have told us about the distress and the congestion.                  16 You have told us that the barrier of horses wasn't                  17 holding people back.                  18 <b>A. They were trying under difficult circumstances. I think</b>                  19 <b>at one stage they actually formed a V with three horses</b>                  20 <b>this side, three horses that side and a small gap in</b>                  21 <b>between to try and relieve the pressure, but still</b>                  22 <b>allowing access and controlling access through the</b>                  23 <b>horses. But I should suspect the horses were getting</b>                  24 <b>pushed as well. They didn't hold that V shape long,</b>                  25 <b>maybe seconds, and then they all start jumping about.</b>                  Page 38</p>	<p>1 <b>times. Whatever I said, it made no effect whatsoever,</b>                  2 <b>and still there are hundreds of supporters coming down</b>                  3 <b>Leppings Lane.</b>                  4 Q. Just pausing there, you have told us that you hadn't                  5 heard that any steps were being taken to have the match                  6 delayed?                  7 <b>A. I didn't know, quite honestly, whether the match was</b>                  8 <b>being delayed, whether it had been delayed. I wasn't</b>                  9 <b>aware of it. But, to be quite honest, I would have told</b>                  10 <b>the crowd anything, if I'd thought it would have helped,</b>                  11 <b>and I did in fact tell them that we were taking steps</b>                  12 <b>for it to be delayed.</b>                  13 Q. So you said that, even though you didn't know that it                  14 was happening?                  15 <b>A. Yes.</b>                  16 Q. Because you thought it would help in some way?                  17 <b>A. Yes. I might add that I later established from</b>                  18 <b>PC Buxton, if I'm allowed to say what he said to me?</b>                  19 Q. The jury will hear evidence that there were some                  20 requests to have kick-off delayed.                  21 <b>A. Yes.</b>                  22 Q. So there is no mystery about it.                  23 <b>A. Right.</b>                  24 Q. But as far as you knew at the time --                  25 <b>A. I didn't know at the time, no.</b>                  Page 40</p>

<p>1 Q. In your witness statement, you describe the crowd in 2 these terms, that the crowd was gripped -- appeared to 3 be gripped by a mania, knowing the intention appeared to 4 be to gain access to the ground at any cost before 5 kick-off. What did you mean by that set of words? 6 <b>A. They were frantic, frantic to get into the ground 7 because it was approaching 3 o'clock. I mean, it was 8 unbelievable behaviour to me. I just couldn't 9 understand it. It's mania, madness I would have called 10 it. I saw people running under police horses, diving -- 11 I saw one man, young man, actually dive under a police 12 horse. You wouldn't have thought it was possible from 13 a standing position. He cleared something like 3 metres 14 without touching the ground and landed on his hands on 15 the other side and then climbed up and started pushing 16 to try and get into the turnstiles. I saw things like 17 that all the time.</b> 18 Q. It may be obvious, but what were your concerns by this 19 point? 20 <b>A. My concerns were that somebody was going to get killed 21 or seriously injured if something wasn't done soon, and, 22 basically, I couldn't think of what could be done. You 23 could have asked for more men, you could have asked for 24 more horses, but how they would have got there, I cannot 25 imagine. It basically was too late. There were too</b> Page 41</p>	<p>1 <b>A. Yes. Obviously it must have been 3 o'clock. You hear 2 the roar of the crowd inside as the players enter the 3 field. So I knew, and I presume every other supporter 4 there inside and outside the ground knew, that the match 5 had started.</b> 6 Q. Up until that point, you say in your statement you had 7 been hoping either that the kick-off would be delayed or 8 that the attitude of the crowd would change. Is that 9 right? 10 <b>A. Yes. I think that would have been the only thing that 11 may have helped. I'm not even sure it would have helped 12 if we'd have known it had been delayed. But they would 13 obviously not have been as anxious. But obviously, with 14 supporters still coming down Leppings Lane, still going 15 into this pen, you know, obviously some were frantic to 16 get in, but I'm sure others were getting carried along 17 with the flow.</b> 18 Q. Can we move back to what you were seeing. You say that 19 after 3 o'clock it's difficult to remember things in 20 time sequence? 21 <b>A. Yes.</b> 22 Q. We understand that. But did a time come shortly after 23 3 o'clock when you looked back and the situation was 24 different? 25 <b>A. Yes. I still don't know what I was doing or how</b> Page 43</p>
<p>1 <b>many people there to have controlled by that time, and 2 still they're coming down Leppings Lane and 3 Catch Bar Lane.</b> 4 Q. Of course, those at those far extremities, and in fact 5 those a little closer to the ground, may not have been 6 able to see quite how bad the situation was. Do you 7 accept that? 8 <b>A. Yes. Obviously, they couldn't see because of 9 the terraced houses, the geographical layout of 10 the place. It just doesn't fit that sort of crowd. 11 You've got a pen, in effect, where the turnstiles 12 are that people are going into, and they don't know it's 13 even full, but the way I'd -- there were going to be 14 serious injuries or death, I'm convinced.</b> 15 Q. In the time between 10 to 3 and 3 o'clock, I think you 16 had a watch on and you were checking it regularly? 17 <b>A. Yes, for ten minutes from 2.50 until 3 o'clock, I was 18 continually looking at my watch, thinking, "How long can 19 this go on for? When is it all going to end?", and the 20 last time I looked at my watch, it was 15 seconds to 3, 21 and after that, I cannot remember chronologically any 22 other events, but that's the -- I remember that.</b> 23 Q. You say in your witness statement that during that 24 period, when the crowd was very congested, you heard 25 a sound from the pitch. Do you recall that now? Page 42</p>	<p>1 <b>I became distracted, if you like, but after 15 seconds 2 to 3, the next thing I recall is relief.</b> 3 Q. What did you see to give you this relief? 4 <b>A. Well, I didn't see anything, really, except everybody 5 had gone, almost everybody had gone. The problem had 6 been resolved. 7 The image in my mind is, there are no longer any 8 problems with crushing. There's still about five or six 9 metres of people trying to get through the turnstiles, 10 but where have all the others gone? I didn't even know 11 at this stage that this gate existed, let alone had been 12 opened. I'm talking about gate C.</b> 13 Q. So from your perspective, all you saw was that the crowd 14 had reduced dramatically, there were still about five or 15 six metres of people, but it wasn't the same congested 16 mass that you saw before? 17 <b>A. Yes. I mean, I just assumed -- well, I didn't know 18 where they'd gone. All I knew is they'd gone. My 19 problem -- as I saw it, it was my problem, the 20 turnstiles -- had been resolved. And -- well, a few 21 things happened after that, but they're still trying to 22 get through the turnstiles, because I think the 23 supporters in the immediate front of the turnstiles 24 didn't realise that everybody behind them had gone 25 around them through this gate.</b> Page 44</p>

<p>1 Q. Let's just deal with what you saw, rather than what you 2 might be speculating about now.</p> <p>3 <b>A. Okay.</b></p> <p>4 Q. Did you get down from the Land Rover after the crowd had 5 thinned out?</p> <p>6 <b>A. Yes, maybe a couple of minutes after that. I watched 7 them diving over the turnstiles for a minute or so. 8 I couldn't -- I still couldn't believe what I was 9 seeing. There's now no reason for them to behave like 10 this. They're not getting crushed. Yet, it were 11 like -- they were just diving over, scrambling over any 12 way they could, as if they'd all been let in for free, 13 and the faster they got in, the better it was. Then 14 I get down off the Land Rover.</b></p> <p>15 Q. Now, we know that some minutes later there was a message 16 delivered over the radio for all police personnel to go 17 to the pitch.</p> <p>18 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>19 Q. Do you remember receiving that?</p> <p>20 <b>A. Yes, loud and clear.</b></p> <p>21 Q. What did you do, once that instruction had been given?</p> <p>22 <b>A. Well, the message was something to the effect, "Close 23 the turnstiles. Close the turnstiles", and I heard all 24 the doors going bang, bang, bang, bang, bang.</b></p> <p>25 Q. Did you then organise some officers to close the outer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 45</p>	<p>1 from the jury to the coroner.</p> <p>2 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: I think the jury would like their 3 break now, Mr Hough.</p> <p>4 We always have a break. It is not specifically for 5 you, Mr Ellis. We always have a break, normally about 6 half past. We are going to take it a little earlier. 7 Certainly, members of the jury. The note is, "Can we 8 have our break, please?".</p> <p>9 MR HOUGH: Of course.</p> <p>10 (11.24 am)</p> <p>11 IN THE ABSENCE OF THE JURY</p> <p>12 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Mr Ellis, you obviously mustn't 13 discuss your evidence with anyone.</p> <p>14 <b>A. Yes, sir, I understand.</b></p> <p>15 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: You understand that, I'm sure. We 16 will have our break.</p> <p>17 (11.25 am)</p> <p>18 (A short break)</p> <p>19 (11.55 am)</p> <p>20 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Do sit down, Mr Ellis. We're not 21 continuing at the moment, so you are free to go.</p> <p>22 Discussion re jury</p> <p>23 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: Mr Hough, it is perfectly clear that 24 the juror in question cannot continue at the moment. In 25 fact, it is clear she couldn't continue at all today.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 47</p>
<p>1 perimeter gates?</p> <p>2 <b>A. I helped officers to close the outer perimeter gates. 3 I don't know whether we, I, ordered them or whether we 4 did it of our own volition or whether it was a message, 5 but it needed doing, because we still had supporters 6 coming down, and now I know or suspect something serious 7 has happened.</b></p> <p>8 Q. What was the response of the fans to you closing those 9 outer gates?</p> <p>10 <b>A. Again, I've been an operational officer all my life, and 11 I've dealt with drunks and violence, but this behaviour 12 was something different. We closed the perimeter gates 13 and fans start coming to us so vehemently angry that -- 14 they're demanding to be let in the ground. They cannot 15 understand what authority I have or a police officer has 16 to deny them entry when they've got a ticket. And 17 I remember telling one fan after the other, "Get away 18 from me. Get out of my face! Take your ticket back to 19 Liverpool!", and they don't -- it's beyond their 20 comprehension. I acted for a minute with one fan -- 21 I was surrounded by them, and I screamed in his face -- 22 I have never had to behave like that before or since, 23 and I have no doubt I were abusive to him. I told him 24 where to go.</b></p> <p>25 Q. Could you pause, Mr Ellis? A note has just been handed</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 46</p>	<p>1 I think a number of issues are raised in that context.</p> <p>2 I don't want to say anything about the detail in 3 open court. I think the sensible course is for you to 4 talk to the Interested Persons all together. I think 5 here in this room would be the best place, but it will 6 obviously be privately, because a number of difficult 7 issues arise. I don't want to really say much more than 8 that.</p> <p>9 MR HOUGH: What I propose is that, after you rise, the court 10 is cleared of all but legal representatives of 11 Interested Persons, and we will move to one of 12 the public gallery areas and discuss what arises there.</p> <p>13 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: I simply observe that this is by no 14 means the most harrowing evidence that we are going to 15 hear, is it?</p> <p>16 MR HOUGH: No, it isn't, sir.</p> <p>17 LORD JUSTICE GOLDRING: As I have indicated, I have in mind 18 resuming at 1 o'clock, if that turns out to be possible. 19 I shall indicate to the jury that they should take their 20 lunch early and have in mind resuming at 1 o'clock, but 21 no more than that.</p> <p>22 MR HOUGH: Yes, thank you, sir.</p> <p>23 (11.57 am)</p> <p>24 (The short adjournment)</p> <p>25 I N D E X</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 48</p>

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