THE PATSY

PSYCHO-POLITICAL TERROR
Port Arthur, Tasmania, AUSTRALIA; 28-29 April 1996
35 killed, 23 wounded

GUNMEN
highly trained right-handed shooter/psychopath – said
to be Benjamin Overbeeke (see Internet); 2nd gunman
at Seascape said to be Michael Charles Dyson (ex-SOG)

INVESTIGATIONS
NO public inquiry; NO coronial autopsies; NO trial

OUTCOME
possessing auto & semi-auto long-firearms legislated illegal

INNOCENT PATSY
Martin Bryant; IQ of 66 (lowest 1-2% of population);
intellect of 11-year-old (grade 6); imprisoned FOREVER;
now being tortured to death in Risdon Prison, Tasmania
not a single shred of proof links this left-handed shooter
to the alleged firearms, to the shooting, or to the victims;
several eyewitnesses have said Bryant was not the gunman

BOOK (forthcoming; international)
MASS MURDER: Official Killing in Tasmania, Australia
no copyright; 500 pp; dozens of investigator articles;
destroy official narrative (corrupt unproved nonsense)

AVAILABILITY
abebooks, amazon, bookdepository, bookfinder, vialibri, etc.
free pdf from editor

EDITOR
Keith Allan Noble, PhD
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has no involvement with firearms or any firearms group

WHAT YOU CAN DO
email, link, website all information about this official killing

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PLEASE PRAY FOR MARTIN BRYANT THE 36th VICTIM
CONCERN
The incident in April 1996 at and near Port Arthur, Tasmania, was so big and complicated (many actions both planned and spontaneous), it was beyond Martin Bryant’s mental, physical, and emotional limits.

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FORETHOUGHTS

“Martin Bryant was the patsy. Never in a million years could he have organized and carried out this complex horrendous event. The public should know ALL the facts...this was the mass murder that had to happen to disarm the Australian public.” (original capitals)

Farmgirl of South Burnett
Mum tells of life with Port Arthur gunman Martin Bryant
couriermail.com.au
5 December 2010

“MARTIN IS INNOCENT. AUSTRALIANS – What are YOU DOING TO HELP MARTIN?? Tell your friends, GET ANGRY, Ask your local crooked POLITICIAN – DEMAND ANSWERS. Martin Bryant is AN INNOCENT AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL PRISONER! THREATEN ACTION – MARCH, SHOUT, DEMAND AN INQUIRY NOW! MILITARY VETS – CALL TO ACTION – We need the RSL’s SUPPORT on this NOW!”

FreeMartinBryant
Port Arthur massacre BA Cafe shooter?
youtube.com
28 November 2012

“[P]eople just wanted Martin Bryant to ‘rot in hell’ because they read it in the paper and saw it in the news that he was the killer and that was that. I would not be surprised that, if asked, most people at that time couldn’t have cared less if he had a trial or not, they just wanted him dead or behind bars for the rest of his life.”

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The expression ‘innocent until proven guilty’ never applied to Martin Bryant at any time. He was never ‘the alleged killer’ but instead, as every Murdoch and Packer medium in the country described him before his hearing, ‘the killer,’ ‘the murderer,’ ‘the sadistic slayer of 35 people.’ Only one day after Bryant was captured his face was on all the major newspaper front pages in the country in every state under the headings ‘FACE OF A KILLER’ and ‘THIS IS THE MAN’...he was in custody at the time but not found guilty by any court of law.”

“Anyone with half a working braincell knows that Bryant could never have carried out this atrocity.... The fact that there was NEVER any investigation or trial of this event...is a blatant travesty and indictment of our country’s justice system. The number of unanswered questions from Port Arthur are just astounding.... John Howard’s call for no trial to save further grief to relatives was a disgraceful abuse of the process....”

1 see DEFINITIONS

2 The Returned Services League (RSL) is a conservative association of former military people and their supporters who frequently take a stand on matters which it believes service personnel fought/died for.

3 The same behavior that was/is exhibited in relation to Bryant was exhibited during the dingo-baby case. In that case, which began in August 1980, Lindy Chamberlain was vilified and viciously cruel statements were made about her by Australians. But several years after she was imprisoned for killing her 9-week-old baby (Azaria) near Uluru, NT, evidence was found which proved the baby had been taken by a dingo as described by Chamberlain. Although her whole story was not then known, officials and members of the public bayed for her blood. The same behaviour has occurred and continues to occur now toward Martin Bryant. People make similar ill-informed and cruel statements about him, even though evidence confirms and suggests that he is entirely innocent in relation to all deaths and woundings associated with the Port Arthur incident.

4 There is no system of justice in Australia. What exists there is a legal system, which was set up by lawyers for the benefit of lawyers. Seeking the Truth is not the primary focus, thus Justice is not guaranteed. The Australian record of miscarriages of justice is long and terribly tragic.

5 John Howard was the prime minister of Australia at the time of the incident. He had no authority to interfere in matters of Tasmanian law. However, it seems that Howard did not make a public call for no trial. What he did say publicly was this: “...at Hobart on the 3rd May 1996, after the special church service for the Port Arthur Victims, of which the Port Arthur survivors were inexcusably not invited...the Prime Minister, that man of steel, who is a lawyer by trade, interfered with both the State of Tasmania’s constitutional rights and the judiciary’s when he stated, ‘Now that the perpetrator has been apprehended there is no reason to hold a Coronerial inquiry into the matter.”

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“Martin Bryant never fired a shot. Guaranteed. How is it possible that our special forces failed to take out 1 lone simple gunman whilst he talked on the phone and cooked up bacon and egg sandwiches?”

“During all the amiable conversations Bryant had with the police negotiator Terry McCarthy, Bryant said he was preparing a meal or snacks for those inside Seascape cottage. So while the SOG siege of the cottage was full on, Martin was cooking up bacon and egg sandwiches or whatever it was he prepared. Bryant says this on the negotiation audiotape. Officials want you to believe that what happened at Seascape was an authentic full-on siege by the SOG (Tasmania Police) against a heavily armed short-order chef.

“Bryant’s girlfriend before and at the time of the incident. Several spelling variations of her name exist.

“This actually happened. Images of Martin Bryant with manipulated demonic eyes were used and are still being used by ignorant editors, publishers, writers, etc.: see Insert SOME WORDS ON BOOKS in Part 2)

The number of weapons allegedly found in Martin Bryant’s house is totally unbelievable. (see Part 6)

It took the cops several visits to his house in Hobart before they just happened to find (set up) the colossal arsenal which they alleged, with no proof whatsoever (they lied), belonged to Bryant.

“[O]utrage against this [boy-]man was akin to the old wild west lynch mobs. I just couldn’t forget the trouble that the media went to profile Bryant, from enhancing of his photograph to make him look like a wild-eyed Manson maniac to the innuendoes that his house was an arsenal for military weapons. The number of weapons allegedly found in Martin Bryant’s house is totally unbelievable. (see Part 6) All of this made finding an impartial jury almost impossible – perhaps that was the idea.... Martin Bryant’s trial was not by jury but rather by media. When he pleaded ‘not guilty’ at his [plea] hearing, the commotion that this caused indicated to me that this was not what the judicial system had in mind. In fact his plea was refused. He was, in actual fact, refused a trial.” (amended; added emphasis)
INTRODUCTION

If you search the internet you will find comments like those above are not few and far between. Deplorably, you will also find the brainless and vindictive words of those who have not thought, or who are unable to think analytically about the case. And worse, you will find words from those who are unqualified to make the claims they have. Claims not supported with any credible reference. (see Insert DEMONIZING ARTICLE....) It is obvious the State and media have aided and abetted the demonization of Martin Bryant. And they have discouraged doubt about the Port Arthur incident. Unthinkingly, they keep propagating a corrupt official narrative – never seriously and openly investigating any of the long-standing major concerns.

Those who reveal disturbing facts of the case are said to be callous toward the families of victims. But nothing is further from the truth. This editor has not found one seriously negative comment about victims, or about their families. But he has found many disturbing comments attacking Bryant and his dear mother Carleen Bryant who now endures the torment of watching her innocent son being killed slowly in Risdon prison for crimes it has never been proved he committed.

This appalling injustice is ignored by unthinking people. Because the crime is heinous, it seems that to most people the whole concept of proof can be disregarded because, well, everyone knows he did it. They just know. And because of this, officials gave themselves the right to take the most punitive steps and put the alleged perpetrator in prison for life. This is what has been done. If capital punishment was still on the books in Tasmania, Martin Bryant would have been taken to the gallows years ago – because everyone knows he did it. For those now annoyed who raise the issue of the guilty plea, such pleas can be dangerously inaccurate and unreliable. Given the seriousness and complexity of the crime, and given the manner in which the so-called guilty plea came into being, no person who thinks objectively dismisses the life of Martin Bryant when there are so many unanswered questions, troubling concerns, unproved assertions, etc.

That there was a process in the supreme court of Tasmania does not prove that a right and proper process played out. It proves the entire legal system of Tasmania is complicit in setting up Martin Bryant. This editor has not been able to find one public document from a member of the judiciary, Tasmanian or Australian, which presents or raises an alternate argument in relation to Bryant’s alleged guilt. In relation to the Port Arthur incident, Australia’s legal thinkers went dumb the day (29 April 1996) he was apprehended. It seems that because everyone knows he did it, the judiciary and the legal profession think they are not bound to speak out against the charade presented in a supreme court as a legal process. But ethically, they are.

More people are now speaking out. Justice has not been done and it has been seen not to be done. And there are those like Kathy of Victoria (see Part 9) who say that the judiciary and legal profession in Australia have failed to address, over the last 17 years, the case of Martin Bryant – the ‘greatest injustice in Australian history.” (moot; see Insert MASSACRES IN AUSTRALIA in Part 3)

10 In Law Reports King’s Bench Division vol. 1; 1924: p. 259, these wise words from the lawyer Gordon Hewart (1870-1943) appear: “A long line of cases shows that it is not merely of some importance that justice should not only be done, but should manifestly and undoubtedly be seen to be done.” (added emphasis) In the case of Martin Bryant, the opposite occurred – justice was not done and it is seen not to be done. The State actually took steps to ensure justice was not done because the outcome of justice being done would have been detrimental to the State.
Two things related to the incident which are raised in the manner of evidence is Martin Bryant’s hair and his Volvo sedan. His hair, which is blond and which at the time of the incident was long, is taken, not as a similarity but as proof he was the gunman because the gunman also had long blond hair (or might have worn a wig). All essential cautions about similarities being misinterpreted as certainties are ignored. A blond long-haired man became Bryant because everyone knows that he did it. Written statements by eyewitnesses are ignored to keep this similarity the sham certainty it is said to be. (see Part 7)

Then we have that Volvo sedan. It is referred to as if it was the only Volvo at the Port Arthur Historic Site. Again with total certainty, the only one of a defined colour with a surfboard attached to roof racks on it. But, that there was a Volvo of a certain colour at the site, does not prove it was the vehicle belonging to Martin Bryant. Nor does it prove he drove it there. Nor does the fact there was a surfboard on racks on the roof prove it was Bryant’s car and that he, and no other person, had driven it into the site. Logic might suggest to you that it was Bryant’s Volvo sedan and that he was there because everyone knows that he did it. But Martin says he was never at the site. He said that persistently to several people. Martin has an IQ of 66 and it is doubted he could fool many people. He would not know how to.

And he himself said he carjacked the BMW at Fortescue Bay which is north of Seascape cottage. This is in writing. He told it to the cops. Now why would he say that? Officials tell you that Bryant carjacked the BMW near the site tollgate. So how did Martin conduct the carjacking of a BMW in two places? Were there two Martin Bryants? No, you say because it was his Volvo that was driven out of the site and abandoned at the tollgate. But this still does not prove it was Martin Bryant at the wheel. Recall that an eyewitness, who personally knew Martin, and who saw the gunman at Port Arthur General store said in writing that the gunman was not Martin Bryant. And do you know there was another similar Volvo at the site on that day? (see INDEX)

What is it that makes people lose all sense of their own ignorance of the facts surrounding any case? What is that makes people condemn another person even when they themselves know little or nothing about her/him? What is it that leads people to react in the most unintelligent way taking their lead from unthinking people and other sources filled with false facts, fiction, and foolishness? What is it?

What we have learnt from Martin Bryant are not the details of the Port Arthur incident. He is not aware of those details, contrary to what stupid officials insist. What we learn again from Martin is that the worst of human behaviour arises when people cease to think and thus are absorbed into the dull and deadening mass of humanity in which subjectivity and belonging are everything. Martin Luther King said this about that mass: “Success, recognition, and conformity are the bywords of the modern world where everyone seems to crave the anesthetizing security of being identified with the majority.”

So, there is a clear choice. Either it is the ignorant mass, or thinking. With the latter, you will conclude Martin Bryant is innocent. ■ – ed.
AUSTRALIANS reacted with horror and outrage when, on the evening of Sunday 28 April 1996, they learned that over 30 people had been murdered and many others injured in an orgy of violence at the Port Arthur Historic Site (PAHS), Tasmania, one of the nation’s most venerable historic sites, and at adjacent locations.

I. NO EVIDENCE
The alleged perpetrator – a young Caucasian male with long blond hair [then], named Martin Bryant – was apprehended by police the following morning after he emerged from a burning tourist guest house, Seascape cottage, which was just a short distance from PAHS.

Bryant instantly became the most vilified individual in Australian history and was rapidly enlisted in the serial killers’ hall of infamy as the world’s second-most-lethal gunman. However, the case – which never went to trial – is full of clues, direct and indirect, which suggest Bryant, a 29-year-old [intellectually handicapped] man with an IQ of only 66, was framed. However, even today, the case is regarded by most people as so delicate that it is considered insensitive to discuss it at all – the perfect means of perpetuating a cover-up, if ever there was one.

Strikingly absent from the recent media coverage of the 10th anniversary of the most traumatic event in modern Australian history was evidence to support the official claim that Martin Bryant had been responsible for the massacre. The matter of whether Bryant had really been the perpetrator was only touched upon in an interview with Bryant’s mother, Carleen Bryant, which was published in The Bulletin: “She likes to talk about her boy’s hair. It’s another reason she thinks he has been framed. ‘He had beautiful, shampooed soft hair.’ Carleen wants to set the record straight. ‘The guy who did it had dark, greasy hair and pocked skin. My Martin has lovely soft baby skin’.”

The writer of the magazine article, Julie-Anne Davies, of course does not raise the subject of whether Carleen Bryant has any evidence to support her claims, simply observing patronisingly that

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12 Opening lines of this article by Carl Wernerhoff: loveforlife.com.au.
13 It is uncertain who Wernerhoff believes the most lethal gunman is/ was. According to The Independent, 29 April 1996: “In April 1982 an off-duty South Korean police officer, Woo Bum Kong, went on a drunken rampage in Sang-Namdo killing 57 people and wounding 38 before blowing himself up. The death toll was so high because he used grenades as well as automatic weapons.” (added emphasis) But regardless, Martin Bryant should not be on any such list as there is no hard evidence he shot any person at/near Port Arthur in Tasmania.
14 Julie-Anne Davies. Making of a monster; The Bulletin; 4 April 2006.
Mrs Bryant "lives in a state of denial." As I will show in this report, however, it is Julie-Anne Davies who is living in a state of denial – as are all Australians who think that Martin Bryant was responsible for the tragedy. There is simply no hard evidence to support this belief.

Most Australians, when confronted by the heretical idea that Bryant might not have been the gunman, respond in knee-jerk fashion: "Of course he was! People saw him do it!" In fact, it has never been proven that Bryant was the man who people saw do it. It was the police and the media, not the eyewitnesses, who identified Bryant as the gunman. As we shall see, only two eyewitnesses have ever specifically identified Bryant as the perpetrator, and both of them gave their statements a month later – after they had been influenced by the publicity given to Bryant in the media.

If you ignore the media propaganda and study the details of the case, what becomes readily apparent is that there is no evidence that Martin Bryant – alone and to the exclusion of all other young men with long blond hair – executed the massacre. What’s more, there are compelling reasons to believe that Bryant could not have done it. As Carleen Bryant told The Bulletin: “He didn’t have the brains.” Above all, he didn’t possess the shooting ability.

AGE
Of the 40-odd persons who survived the shootings inside the Broad Arrow Café, only a few provided physical descriptions of the gunman. In these, his estimated age is 20 or less. Karen Atkins of Sydney told the national newspaper that, very soon after the shootings, she had spoken to a woman who had met the gunman in the café. According to this woman – who can be identified as Rebecca McKenna, on account of the conversation she had with the gunman – he was: "...a young fellow, about 18 or 19. He looked like a surfer. He arrived in a Volkswagen and he walked into the cafeteria carrying a tennis bag."

This description could perhaps be dismissed on the grounds that it is second-hand. However, it tallies with the description given by Carol Pearce. According to Pearce, the gunman, whom she passed on her way into the Broad Arrow Café, was: "...between 18-20 years of age; he had really blonde [sic] hair which was collar length; it was fairly straight with a bit of a wave in it. He was clean-shaven, he was average in height and build." 16

Pearce’s description is invaluable, as it was given on 28 April 1996, the day of the massacre. Like the woman to whom Atkins spoke – Rebecca McKenna, as mentioned above – Pearce therefore could not have been influenced by the media campaign of vilification against Martin Bryant. No picture of him had at that time been published.

The same age-range is specified by former Royal Air Force (UK) officer Graham Collyer, who was shot in the throat inside the café. In his untainted witness statement taken on 7 May 1996, Collyer described the gunman thus: "He seemed somewhere about 20. He had long blonde [sic] bedraggled hair, about 3-4 [inches] long." 17
below the shoulder. He looked like he might have had a lot of acne. A pitted face. He had scraggly trousers; I don’t remember what colour.” Collyer is a valuable witness because, in his statement from a second interview on 8 May, he noted: “I still haven’t seen anything in the media about the person who shot me. I have been sedated or sleeping since the shooting.”

On 10 May, Jim Laycock, who was the co-owner of the Port Arthur Motor Inn at the entrance to the PAHS, told police that the man was in his “low twenties.” Another witness, Joyce Maloney, told the police: “I thought he was about 18-22 years old, only a young lad.” Betty Davies described him as a “young male person.”

Of the individuals who gave their statements to the police before the barrage of images of Martin Bryant appeared in the media, Carmel Edwards, who held the door open for the gunman as he left the café to eat his lunch on the balcony, and Justin Noble, a member of the New South Wales police force who said he saw the gunman exiting the café after the shooting, gave the oldest age estimates. Edwards described him as “22-23 years old.” Noble described him as “20-25 years of age.”

Thus no actual witness to the shootings at Port Arthur cited an age above twenty-five. The only witness who did so (Justin Noble) cited the figure as the top end of the range, and would be equally comfortable with twenty. It would therefore be accurate to say that all actual witnesses said that the man was in his late teens or early twenties.

Yet at the time of the massacre, Bryant was a few days away from his 29th birthday and could not reasonably have been mistaken for anyone under about twenty-seven.

This much is clear from a photograph which shows Bryant together with the woman we have been told was his girlfriend: Petra Willmott. Since the pair reportedly only became romantically involved in February 1996, the photograph had to have been taken within three months of the massacre. Despite its poor quality, it shows Bryant’s face unframed by hair, and so gives a very good idea of what he looked like at the time. It’s obvious from this picture that Bryant was by no means “a young lad.”

It is also obvious that those who saw the gunman at close distance and who gave their descriptions before anything about Bryant’s appearance had been made public are to be considered by far the most reliable. The only eyewitnesses who estimated the gunman’s age in the upper 20s are witnesses like Yannis Kateros, who only saw him from a considerable distance, and most of them gave statements to the police a week or more after the shootings when the matter of Bryant’s age had already been established by the media.

Kateros, who gave his statement on 10 May, estimated the shooter’s age as 28. Is it only a coincidence that this is the same age the media were citing for Bryant?

18 This mongrel who seems to have willingly participated in the official plan associated with the killing at and near Port Arthur is no relation of the editor. See comments related to his Witness Statement at Part 7.
Martin Bryant is the patsy on whom the State lays the blame for the entire incident at and near Port Arthur – no thinking is required.

FACIAL FEATURES
But there were more than years separating Bryant and the Port Arthur gunman. Only one witness, Rebecca McKenna, got a good look at the man’s face. (Most witnesses saw very little on account of the long blond hair.) Although there are major problems with her statement – what kind of physical description omits a reference to the person’s age? – McKenna’s Witness Statement (28 April 1996) description of the gunman’s appearance makes disturbing reading for anyone who thinks the gunman was Bryant: “I would describe this male as follows:– Approximately 173 cm tall. Slim build. Blonde [sic] hair, past his ears, wavy with a part in the middle. Unshaven dirty looking.” and, “His eyes appeared to be blue…. He appeared to be German looking. His eyebrows appeared to be blonde [sic] and bushy. He appeared ‘dopey’ looking, his eyes appeared to be blood-shot. His facial skin appeared to be freckley [sic] and he was pale. His face seemed skinny and withdrawn. His ears were fairly large.”

It is interesting that while McKenna’s account of the man’s conversation was widely quoted – he talked about European WASPs and Japanese tourists – her description of his face was not. Perhaps this is because in no photo [image] does Bryant seem to have bushy eyebrows or prominent ears…. Bryant’s most memorable facial characteristic is, in fact, a broad nose with a somewhat bulbous tip – a feature which is obvious from the photos, but never mentioned by any witnesses.

Although McKenna’s description is uniquely detailed, it is at least partly corroborated by that of Graham Collyer who, as we saw, said that the shooter’s complexion was acne-scarred. However, Bryant’s complexion is perfectly smooth, as all available photographs show. In particular, the photos taken at Richmond by Petra Willmott before the massacre show a healthy, ruddy face.

McKenna’s description of the gunman’s height is certainly odd: she makes an estimate of the gunman’s height that gives an exact figure (“approximately 173 cm”). It would be interesting to compare this most precise estimate with Bryant’s real height, except that nowhere on record can one find his height specified. If McKenna’s figure of 173 cm is correct, though, this would surely raise questions about whether McKenna had been influenced by police during the course of giving her statement.

HAIR
Another problem for the official story is raised by Bryant’s hair. The photos taken at Richmond show it was wavy throughout, not “fairly straight with a bit of a wave in it” as Pearce stated. Yet most witnesses said that the gunman’s hair was straight, with a wave only at the bottom. Witness statements fluctuate between those that said his hair was collar-length and those that stated that it went down to his shoulders.

The aforementioned photos of Bryant taken at Richmond raise questions about his hair colour. According to one witness, a Mr. Woods, the gunman stood out by virtue of his “white surfi hair and clothes.”
Yet in the 25 April 1996 portrait of Bryant that was featured on the cover of Who Weekly magazine on 2 November 1996, Bryant’s hair is very clearly brownish with blond highlights and streaks. Further doubts about the whiteness of Bryant’s hair are raised by the news footage showing Bryant arriving at the Royal Hobart Hospital. In frames from this video footage – the last images of the accused man ever captured – it is apparent that he had brownish hair with blond streaks, rather than white or “really blond” hair. (It is also obviously collar length.) One possibility is that the real gunman had simply peroxided his hair in an effort to emulate Bryant’s hair, which may have looked white or blond in very strong sunlight.

**IDENTIFICATION**

In terms of the allegation that the witnesses have identified Bryant as the man they saw shooting at the PAHS, the most serious difficulties are raised by Jim Laycock in his statement. Laycock is of outstanding importance in this case. **He is the one and only witness who observed the gunman in the act and who actually knew Bryant.** In his police statement [10 May 1996], Laycock – who got a good enough look at the man to be able to estimate his age (“low twenties”) – said that he “did not recognise the male as Martin Bryant.” [added emphasis] He stated only that he saw “a blonde [sic] headed person” shoot Zoe Hall and take Glenn Pears captive.

Another witness, Yannis Kateros, said he had **never seen the gunman before.** Yet Kateros had lived at Port Arthur since 1991, and, according to Laycock, Bryant had visited the PAHS on about a dozen occasions in the five-year period between about 1991 and 1995.

At least two other witnesses have also stated that Bryant was not the gunman. These are PAHS information centre employee Wendy Scurr, who, according to one report, saw the gunman inside the centre immediately prior to the attack, and Vietnam War veteran John Godfrey, who was waiting outside the centre when the shooting commenced. Godfrey viewed the gunman twice. He saw him drive by and saw him put a [sports] bag into the boot of his car. “In my opinion the picture I saw in the newspapers was **not the same person,**” [added emphasis] he stated in his police statement of 7 June 1996. Wendy Scurr has changed her mind on the subject; she no longer believes that Bryant was the man she saw that day [28 April 1996].

So when people tell me that everyone knows that Bryant “did it” because people saw him doing it, I tend to wonder which witnesses they can possibly be referring to. To my knowledge, the only witnesses who positively identified Bryant as the gunman were Linda White and Michael Wanders, both persons whose statements were **taken a full month after the shooting,** after they had been exposed to plenty of media coverage about the case.

On 27 May 1996, White viewed the 14 May police photoboard and decided: “Photograph no. 5 in this folder [i.e., Bryant] is the male who shot us near Port Arthur.” However, White’s only reason for selecting the person as Bryant was that he had “a blonde [sic] head.” [added emphasis] He stated only that he saw “a blonde [sic] headed person” shoot Zoe Hall and take Glenn Pears captive.

19 “I noticed it was said I saw the shooter inside the centre prior to the shooting, this is not correct. As I walked toward the café after leaving the ferry Bundeena to buy my lunch in the Broad Arrow Café, I noticed a chap with long blond hair looking at me as I approached the outside balcony of the café. He was sitting at a table. As I drew closer to him he was watching me intently. I did not take any notice of this person, but thought he may have known my son who was a keen surfer and always had young men at home who were surfers. I nodded at him just in case I was supposed to know him and proceeded inside the café to get my lunch. It wasn’t too long after that he arrived in there and started shooting. By then I had left via the side exit door of the café. I really didn’t make any definite decision as to who it was I saw, in fact this person was doing nothing, to me he was just another visitor and I do believe he was interested in me because I was in uniform. I first suspected that Bryant was not the shooter when I saw the photo in the newspaper 2 days later. He was much better looking than the shooter and had nice hair. Really all I can remember of the shooter was that his hair looked like he didn’t look after it and in general looked a **lot different** to what Martin Bryant’s did. [Michael] Beekman and [Rebecca] McKenna told me in the motel that evening that they were talking to the gunman before he went into the café. From that time on I thought that I had actually viewed the Port Arthur gunman on the balcony. This made me determined to get a seat in court for the 30th September plea hearing. There were only about 3 staff allowed in the courtroom and I had to win a vote of my fellow workers to get there. I would say that when I saw Bryant in the flesh I immediately knew this was NOT the man I saw on the day of the shooting. He wore an open necked white shirt and a beautiful light grey suit. A very nice face.” (original capitals; amended; added emphasis; Wendy Scurr. email to editor; 2 January 2013)
photo no. 5 seems to have been because of the fact that, in this
photo, Bryant appeared to be wearing a top that was “very similar”
to that worn by the gunman. “It could even be the same top,” she
said.

Unfortunately, White’s statement is of no value whatsoever. An
identification can scarcely be based upon an item of clothing, which
can obviously be worn by another person. (Indeed, someone seek-
ing to impersonate Bryant would have taken care to acquire an item
of his clothing, or at least a very similar item.) What’s more, no
previous witness recalled the gunman wearing the same top as that
worn by Bryant in photo no. 5. White was clearly basing her identi-
fication entirely upon a photo she had seen in the media.

As for Michael Wanders, in his statement taken the same day as
White’s, he picked Bryant out on the police photoboard as “the per-
son who shot at Linda and I on 28/4/96.” Unfortunately, Wanders’s
identification is also of no value. On 28 April 1996, he told the
police: “I would not be able to identify the person who shot at us.”
In his statement a month later, he admitted that he hadn’t been
able to “get a good enough look at the male to see how old he was
or what he was wearing.” His statement suggests that, really, all he
had seen was a male with long blond hair. Yet, somehow, his orig-
inal statement did not deter him from picking Bryant out from the
police photoboard a month later as the man who had shot at him.
It is hard to credit the positive identification of Bryant a month after
the attack by a witness who, on the day of the attack itself, told the
police explicitly that he would not be able to identify the gunman.

White’s and Wanders’s statements prove that the laws prohibiting
media organisations from publishing photos of accused persons be-
fore they have been tried are sensible ones which ought always to
be rigorously enforced.

In view of the fact that no serious efforts were ever made to pre-
vent the media from publishing photos of Bryant, the question has
to be asked whether the police ever wanted the gunman properly
identified, or whether they colluded with the media in the release
of these photos in a deliberate effort to taint the pool of wit-
ness testimony. Certainly, they seem to have done their best to
avoid placing Bryant together with eyewitnesses in the same room.
Graham Collyer, who was on the same floor as Bryant in the Royal
Hobart Hospital on the day his witness statement was taken, was
never given the opportunity to look at him. On this occasion, a
positive ID\(^\text{20}\) could have been obtained in a matter of minutes, if
the police officers taking his statement had really wanted one.

In this regard, it is striking that none of the witnesses who showed
a tendency not to identify Bryant as the gunman was given the op-
portunity to pick him out from the police identity board – not even
NSW police officer Justin Noble, who said that he thought he could
identify the man if shown a photo of him taken from the appro-
priate angle. The fact that Noble was never asked to view the photo-
board implies that Tasmania police anticipated a negative response.

\(^{20}\) By positive ID, Wernerhoff means an accurate identification. He does
not mean Bryant would have been positively identified as the gunman.
A related issue is the uncertainty that surrounds the matter of the gunman’s clothing. In no context of which I am aware did the allegations against Bryant ever raise the matter of the items of clothing that the gunman had been seen wearing. It is striking that there is no consistent evidence as to the colour of the gunman’s clothing; one can only wonder whether witness statements were tampered with to prevent a clear picture from emerging, for fear that it would raise the question of whether there was any proof that Bryant had ever owned the items.

It is only when one realises that Bryant has never been positively identified as the PAHS shooter that one begins to understand why a court trial was never held. If a trial had been held, the authorities would have been in an extremely awkward position if some witnesses had either denied that Bryant was the man or expressed serious doubts about the identification. That a trial was avoided means that such problems were never permitted to arise. It is hard not to see why the legal strategy took the form of coercing Bryant into pleading guilty to all 72 charges against him – a process that took seven months – rather than risk the case going to trial.

**ABSENCE OF FINGERPRINT & DNA EVIDENCE**

Martin Bryant is adamant that he never visited the PAHS on the day of the massacre. Most Australians – if they knew of this denial at all – would probably dismiss it as a lie. One fact that should deeply unsettle them is that neither Bryant’s fingerprints nor his DNA has ever been found at the PAHS. This much has effectively been conceded by sergeant Gerard Dutton, officer in charge of the ballistics section of Tasmania Police, in an article he wrote about the case which was published in the Australian Police Journal (December 1998).

There is no good reason why no evidence of this kind exists. An obvious source of fingerprints and DNA would have been the food tray (with a can of Solo soft drink, a plastic Schweppes cup, food items and eating utensils) that Rebecca McKenna saw the gunman eating from immediately prior to the shooting. We know that the tray was recovered by the police, because it is shown in a police training video that turned up in a second-hand shop in September 2004. Although the tray would have contained fingerprints, thumb prints, palm prints, saliva, sweat, skin and possibly hair from the shooter, there is no evidence that it yielded anything that came from Martin Bryant. The only reason we have heard nothing about forensic evidence of this kind, surely, is that none of it incriminated him.

It is true that Damian Bugg is on record as giving the impression that a sample of Bryant’s DNA was found on a large knife that is suspected of having been used to murder David Martin at Seascape, a few kilometres from the PAHS. Bugg said the knife was subjected to a “very refined test” which allegedly yielded “a DNA sample which was unable to be identified initially but it has now been identified as being consistent with that of Martin Bryant.” The public has never been told what the source of the DNA was – whether it was blood, for example, or some other substance. If it was Bryant’s blood, this would imply that Bryant was a victim rather than a villain.
JOHN AVERY’S PLEA OF GUILTY

Last week, I had an intellectually challenged twit (obviously influenced by the media) tell me “but Bryant admitted he did it!” I asked the mental whiz how he came to that conclusion and the reply was “in court, he said he was guilty.”

Perhaps I was a bit too harsh on that individual, after all most of the Australian population have fallen for that argument. In any case, the fellow can’t be any more intellectually challenged than Bryant himself. Bryant’s intelligence places him in the lower 1-2 percent of the population. He is so slow that this bit of conversation took place during the Seascapes siege:

McCarthy: Now if you don’t want to tell me your name that’s fine but how about giving me your passport number and we can do a check on that?
Jamie: I think it’s H02 4967 if I can remember it cause I travelled quite a lot overseas an most an um travel agencies know me around town me around Hobart I should say so.

So this is the so-called mastermind of the Port Arthur Massacre, how brilliant! When Bryant is asked to give his name in order that airline tickets can be purchased for him – he refuses to give his name, but he gives his passport number. Like I said, a bit slow.

So let’s look at this “guilty plea” a bit more. In the record of interview, Martin Bryant does not admit to the Port Arthur massacre, nor did he in court say “I did it.” What he said was “guilty,” a formal pleading in the artificial environment known as the law. Other legal jurisdictions have other pleas and other verdicts – in Australia we are stuck with just “guilty” and “not-guilty.” Since Bryant pleaded “guilty,” we need to look at why he pleaded guilty.

Bryant’s first lawyer was David Gunson QC. You may recall when Bryant made his first appearance to plea to the charges, he pleaded “Not Guilty.” Shortly thereafter Mr. Gunson withdrew from the case. There had been lots of speculation about why he withdrew, but that is all it is – speculation. However, it is curious. (* second; Deborah Rigby was first – ed.)

Now let us look at what Martin Bryant’s second lawyer has to say about how he proceeded with Bryant’s “defence.” Mr. John Avery was the new lawyer and he has been quoted many times about “having to do right by the community, as well as Martin Bryant.” (* third – ed.)

However, it is in a Hobart newspaper The Mercury clipping of 22 November 1996 that we get a much better inside view of what was going on in the cell block. I quote from that article and the underlines are mine [Schulze]:

1. “I am not at liberty to divulge that, of course, without his express instructions but, yes, he’s potentially aware of what he did.”

2. “The one different thing about this case to any other, if one puts aside the magnitude of what the conduct was, was getting into this man’s head to a degree that he would feel confident that you could do something for him, and that wasn’t easy.”

3. “There were days obviously where I came away frustrated but it was simply a case of continuing to talk at his level, and try to have him see, given the overwhelming weight of evidence against him, that the proper course was one he ultimately embarked upon, namely a plea of guilty.”

4. Speaking on ABC radio’s AM program, Mr. Avery said Bryant came to a gradual realisation over a few weeks that this course was the course for him to adapt, and it would have been worthless to bully or coerce him into pleading guilty.
Now let’s go back and dissect the comments in those four paragraphs. The first one is that Bryant was “potentially” aware of what he did. “Potentially”? What the hell does that mean? The impression I get from that statement is that Avery is saying that Bryant was still denying he did it, but because of Bryant’s mental incapacity he just didn’t “understand” that he did it.

The next paragraph shows the confidence game that Avery was acting out. Avery talks about “getting into his head” and making Bryant “feel confident that you could do something for him” and that the task of getting Bryant’s confidence “wasn’t easy.”

The third paragraph refers to the constant wearing down of Bryant. Initially, Bryant refused, day after day, which frustrated Avery with the task of “try(ing) to have him see” “that the proper course” was “a plea of guilty.”

Finally, in the last paragraph Mr. Avery states that it took him a few weeks of gradual work for Bryant to “adapt” the course of the guilty plea. (Which is a bit ambiguous and I expect the article meant “adopt,” however the word “adapt” does mean to modify or alter.) However, the last sentence is a beauty - “and it would have been worthless to bully or coerce him into pleading guilty.” Yeah right – can’t use thumbscrews, so we will have to be a bit more subtle about it.

If anyone can take those statements from the lawyer who represented Bryant as being an admission that Bryant did it, then they would have to have a lower IQ than Bryant himself. I do have to hand it to Avery though, during the Lindy Chamberlain case, nobody was able to wear her down and get her to plea guilty to killing just one little baby – heck, Avery managed to get Bryant to plea guilty to killing 35 people. The guy’s just got to be good.

The Police thought he was good too, and that was well before he “defended” Bryant. In May 1996 the gun dealer Terry Hill had volunteered information to Police about Bryant bringing the AR-10 (.308) into his shop and how he [Hill] had retained possession of the firearm. By June, the Police and the same solicitor, John Avery, were trying to coerce Terry Hill into admitting he sold firearms to Martin Bryant. (You do remember the stuff-up with the AR-10 and the substitution of the SLR for the massacre don’t you?) Well, here was Avery drafting up an “indemnity against prosecution” if Terry Hill would just say he sold the firearms to Bryant that were used in the massacre. You see, the prosecution had a big problem with where the SLR came from and Terry Hill was going to be the patsy.

Terry Hill resisted the intimidation and refused to cooperate – which then resulted in him being put out of business. Avery on the other hand continued to work with the Police (at the same time he was visiting Bryant in prison) right up until 31 October, at which time it was announced that one week later, on 7 November, Bryant’s pre-trial hearing would be heard – it was then, with John Avery looking on, that Bryant pleaded guilty.

Read again the words in the newspaper article [above], see what Avery said; then imagine someone with an IQ of 66 and a psychological age of 11 (and who was in solitary confinement for more than 6 months) sitting there listening to the soothing words of "his" smooth-talking lawyer. Bryant never admitted that he did it, he just did what his lawyer wanted.

Terry Schulze
retired barrister
Sydney, NSW
email to editor
3 October 2012

(amended; original underlining; added emphasis)
It is, however, a mystery how Tasmania Police came by this knife. According to the official story, the knife was found inside a Prince sports bag that was discarded by the gunman inside the Broad Arrow Café. However, after the gunman exited the café, several witnesses looked inside the bag and none of them observed a large knife there.

What’s more, Jamie, the perpetrator of the subsequent siege at Seascape cottage (by the way, the official claim is that Bryant was Jamie), mentioned having a large combat knife in his possession during the course of a phone call with police interrogator Terry McCarthy on the evening of 28 April. If this is the knife Bugg is referring to, then it could only have emerged from the Seascape fire in a condition that rendered it useless for forensic purposes.

The mystery over the knife may explain why Bugg’s terminology verges on the devious. The DNA on the knife, he tells us, is “consistent with” that of Martin Bryant. However, DNA either is or is not a match. If the DNA matched Bryant’s, Bugg should have been able to say so. The term “consistent with” is semantic sleight-of-hand designed to encourage the misperception among those who know nothing about DNA testing that the DNA had been Bryant’s. In fact, the term “consistent with” means little in this instance. It could plausibly refer to DNA sequences found in every one of us. It is entirely possible that the DNA sample to which Bugg is referring is also “consistent with” both your DNA and mine!

In any case, it is obvious that the presence of Bryant’s DNA on the knife would do nothing to prove that he was the Port Arthur shooter. Even if his DNA had been found on the knife, and we were so rash as to draw the conclusion that the presence of his DNA proved that he had killed David Martin (which of course it doesn’t), this does not constitute evidence that Bryant was the Port Arthur shooter. The man who did stab David Martin could have been party to a conspiracy to frame Bryant. He could have stabbed both David Martin and Martin Bryant with the same knife, for instance. If so, the relevant question is whether anyone else’s DNA was on the knife, in addition to that of David Martin and Bryant. The real killer’s DNA could have been all over the knife, but we will never know because Tasmania’s director of public prosecutions was only interested in telling the public about a sample that was “consistent with” Bryant’s DNA.

Everything to do with the knife is extremely suspicious indeed. Since David Martin was murdered by being shot twice rather than by being stabbed, the sole point of stabbing him would seem to have been to plant a sample of his blood on the knife. The only reason for Jamie at Seascape to specifically inform sergeant McCarthy that he had a large combat knife in his possession, would have been to link Bryant to the murder of David Martin. So Jamie appears to have been trying to frame Bryant. This is very hard to explain if we believe that Bryant was himself Jamie. Why would Bryant have wanted to incriminate himself? And even if Bryant had been perverse enough to want to incriminate himself by leaving the knife he had used to stab David Martin some place where the police would be able to find it later, why did he subsequently deny murdering him?
Abundant examples of Bryant’s fingerprints and DNA should have been retrieved from the Volvo driven by the gunman into the Port Arthur Historic Site, but no such evidence was recovered from the vehicle – a circumstance that seems most difficult to explain. Nonetheless, there is an explanation – one that, understood in its true light, amounts to evidence that the yellow Volvo used by the Port Arthur shooter was not Bryant’s.

A little-known fact about the case is that the Volvo was left in the open air, at the tollgate, for the night of 28-29 April. It was still there at the tollgate at 9.00 a.m. on 29 April, when Peninsula resident Michael Copping, a witness to movements of the Volvo on 28 April, saw it while on his way to collect PAHS worker Steven Howard from Port Arthur.

By the way, Copping didn’t identify Bryant as the driver, although he said in his statement (10 May) that he had known him “through casual contact.” With the vehicle’s rear passenger-side window missing (the gunman presumably removed it as a means of minimising the noise/blast effect of shooting from the driver’s seat), fingerprints and DNA inside the vehicle would have been vulnerable to the effects of night dew/moisture. In fact, according to police, the overnight moisture eliminated all traces of fingerprints and DNA.

The question inevitably has to be asked of why the police did not take due care to ensure the preservation of whatever fingerprints and DNA were inside the car. At this stage – and recall here that Bryant was not taken into custody until the morning of 29 April – fingerprints and DNA inside the car represented essential proof of the perpetrator’s identity.

As darkness descended on the Tasman Peninsula on 28 April 1996, the only reason to connect the massacre to Bryant was a passport which reportedly was found inside the Volvo at around 4:30 p.m. by a detective. At this time, the fingerprints and DNA from the Volvo therefore represented the most reliable means of determining whether the greatest homicidal maniac in Australian history had really been Bryant, as the presence of the passport suggested, or someone else. [Note it does not prove anything significant – ed.] It would have been absolutely critical to preserve them in as perfect condition as possible for use during future criminal proceedings.

The fact that a major portion of the evidence required for the purpose of identifying the perpetrator vanished overnight invites only one sound conclusion: the police wanted it to vanish.

Unless the police had a reason not to want the massacre connected to Bryant (I know of no evidence that would invite such a possibility), the outcome is consistent with only one conclusion: Tasmania Police did not want evidence to survive that would have proven that Martin Bryant had not been the person using the car that afternoon. The Port Arthur shooter therefore has to have been someone other than Bryant whose identity the police were anxious to protect....
CONCERNS

The lack of evidence for the identification of Martin Bryant as the Port Arthur shooter is a matter that should concern all Australians today. Only a few determined individuals have been brave enough to raise the matter in public. At a meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society held at Griffith University in Queensland in November 2002, Ian McNiven raised the subject of the lack of forensic evidence incriminating Martin Bryant. The presenter, who was apparently sergeant Gerard Dutton, of the ballistics section of Tasmania Police, grew angry and had university security threaten McNiven and effectively evict him from the meeting. McNiven was not wrong to raise the question of the lack of hard evidence against Bryant.

Tony Rundle, who became premier of Tasmania six weeks before the massacre, has effectively admitted that the evidence in the public domain is insufficient to support the official determination that Bryant had been the gunman, except that Rundle tries to explain the fact away: "Rundle still wonders whether the recovery might have been hastened if Bryant had stood trial. At the time the view was a trial could do no good for the victims and their families. 'Now I think maybe that wasn’t the case. If all the evidence was heard, then maybe it would have provided some closure and stopped the proliferation of conspiracy theories that sprang up over the years,' he says."

A question to Mr Rundle: given that a great many Australians are sceptical of the claim that Bryant was responsible for the Port Arthur tragedy, can it ever be too late to release "all the evidence"? If he is so concerned by the proliferation of "conspiracy theories," perhaps he should contact Fiona Baker, executive producer of the popular TV program Forensic Investigators, which deals precisely with the subject of how the police use evidence to identify suspects. So far, Baker has not done a program on Port Arthur. I'm sure she would be delighted to make her program a vehicle for the first public presentation of the evidence for which Australia has been waiting for 10 years.

[said in 2006; now people of Australia has been waiting 17 years]

Author’s Note

I thank Noel McDonald (now deceased), author of A Presentation of the Port Arthur Incident (2001), for his valuable work in scrutinising the case and, in particular, for culling some extremely significant information from the witness statements. Most of the unattributed information in this article is sourced from his book. — Carl Wernerhoff

II. POLICE INTERROGATION

On 4 July 1996, two Tasmania Police officers were appointed by superintendent Jack Johnston to handle the Port Arthur investigation. Those detective-inspectors, Ross Paine and John Warren, interviewed Martin Bryant about the case at some length. Despite the extreme seriousness of the crimes for which he was being held responsible, Bryant was interrogated without legal counsel present. This outrageous circumstance is exposed in the interview record which begins with Bryant being told that his lawyer (David Gunson) had “no problem” with the interview taking place without his participation.
Paine: Look Martin, you’ve obviously got a, a, an interest in firearms as well?

Bryant: Well, I have had an interest in firearms.

Paine: How many guns do you own?

Bryant: I own, umm, a shotgun and a semi-automatic and another semi-automatic. Three altogether.\(^{30}\)

Paine: Where’d you get those guns?

Bryant: Oh, umm, I can’t really say, I haven’t got my lawyer here, so.

Paine: Well, we have spoken to your lawyer and he knows that we’re talking to you.

Bryant: He knows, he knows.

Paine: And aah, has no problem with that so, aah.

As we shall see, this was an extremely devious means of approaching the Port Arthur issue because, at this stage, Bryant still had no idea of the charges that were about to be foisted upon him and therefore had no idea that the interview concerned the subject that would determine his entire future.

In fact, on 5 July, the very day following the interview, Bryant was officially charged in the Hobart supreme court with 69 criminal charges arising from the Port Arthur incident. Prior to that, the only crime with which he had been charged was the murder of Kate Elizabeth Scott, who had been a victim of the shootings in the Broad Arrow Café. According to the official record, Bryant was charged with her death in a bedside hearing on 30 April 1996:

Paine: Do you know why you’re here?

Bryant: Know why I’m here, well inspector Warren was saying in the Royal [Hobart Hospital] that I was on one murder count.

Given the incredible magnitude of the allegations that were presented to Bryant for the first time during the 4 July interrogation, a lawyer should certainly have been in the room. In such circumstances, the intellectually challenged Bryant was obviously no good judge of his own interests. Furthermore, Bryant had been placed under a guardianship order in 1994 and was therefore not competent to decide whether a lawyer ought to have been present or not. Only a legally appointed guardian had the right to make that call.

To compound the sins of the Tasmanian criminal justice system,\(^{32}\) the interview was most unprofessionally conducted. The equipment frequently malfunctioned and the conversation was constantly interrupted. The result is said to be \textit{atrocious}. However, there was no necessity to conduct the interview on 4 July and it could easily have been – indeed, should have been – postponed to such a time as the equipment was working properly. After all, the Port Arthur massacre was the biggest murder case in Australian history. Such adverse conditions therefore had to have been created deliberately. The unprofessional conduct of the interview also suggests that both Paine and Warren knew that Bryant would never be properly defended and even that the case would never go to trial. As a Tasmania Police
officer has admitted in an email to researcher Noel McDonald, the videotape was of such poor quality that “the defence would have had a field day if it had been presented” in court.\textsuperscript{33}

Why would Paine and Warren have persisted in such a long interview if there was a high risk of Bryant’s lawyer objecting to the tape’s presentation in court?

On account of the deliberate negligence by which the videotape was made and the fact that the tape itself has never been released, we cannot be certain that anything attributed to Bryant in the printed record of the interrogation matches what he said. The transcript also omits a great deal of what he did say, as a very substantial portion of the conversation has been withheld: pages 1–9, 18, 23, 32–35, 40, 44–46, 79–81, 92–97 and 116–41 were deleted in their entirety, while most of pages 10, 91, 142 and 145 and parts of pages 17, 31, 36, 39, 41, 43, 47, 74, 78, 98, and 115 were also deleted.\textsuperscript{34}

Even the pages that were released cannot be trusted entirely. No less than 80 of Bryant’s comments have been rendered as “inaudible.” Since there is a suspicious tendency for “inaudible” responses to appear in crucial parts of the conversation – particularly parts where Bryant’s version of events contradicts that of his interrogators – it is hard to resist the conclusion that the material was excised as a means of withholding exculpatory material, e.g., references to potential alibi witnesses. In addition, it may have contained important clues as to how his movements and actions were manipulated prior to the massacre as a means of making him the scapegoat for it. If the official account of the massacre is true and the killings were perpetrated by a lone nut inexplicably run amok, there can be no good reason to withhold any sections of the transcript from the public at all.

Despite its massive shortcomings, the interrogation transcript remains invaluable as a record of Martin Bryant’s side of the story. It is a great pity that Australians have condemned him without ever taking on board what he had to say on the very first occasion on which he was confronted with the accusation of having perpetrated the Port Arthur massacre.

For those convinced of Bryant’s innocence, the transcript also sheds a great deal of light on the devious processes by which he was framed. A careful reading of the transcript establishes beyond doubt that the police manipulated him into a situation in which the most heinous allegations could be raised against him, and he had absolutely no means of challenging them – no means, that is to say, other than his own extremely limited intelligence, which psychiatrist Ian Joblin states is roughly equal to that of an 11-year-old.

Most Australians will be astounded to discover that in this interview Bryant not only denied carrying out the massacre but also related an entirely different narrative of the events of 28 April 1996 than that which has been presented to the public by the authorities.
According to the official story put to the Hobart supreme court by Tasmania’s director of public prosecutions, Damian Bugg, Bryant had set his alarm clock for 6 a.m., left his house in Clare Street, New Town, Hobart, at 9:47 a.m. precisely (the time he allegedly activated his house alarm), and drove to Seascape guest house, making stops at Midway Point (to buy a cigarette lighter), Sorell (to buy a bottle of tomato sauce), Forcett (to buy a cup of coffee) and Taranna (to buy petrol).

[According to the official story], when he arrived at Seascape, he murdered the two owners, David Martin and his wife Sally, and loaded the building with firearms and ammunition that he had presumably brought with him in his car from Hobart. Bryant then proceeded to the Port Arthur Historic Site (PAHS), stopping to chat for five or 10 minutes with a neighbour of the Martins, Roger Larner, and to buy a small amount of marijuana on the way.

Bryant, on the other hand, told inspectors Warren and Paine that he did not set his alarm clock at all that morning and that he rose at 7 or 8 a.m. He left the house around 11 a.m. – “when the sun came up and it got a bit warm” – without turning on his house alarm, which he had last done on the previous occasion he went to Melbourne. He then drove to Roaring Beach on the western side of the Tasman Peninsula, stopping only once along the way – at the Sorell Bakery, where he bought a cappuccino. He emphatically denied having stopped at Midway Point to buy a cigarette lighter, and at the Sorell service station supermarket to buy a bottle of tomato sauce – “Why would I want tomato sauce for?” he asked inspector Warren – or at Taranna to buy petrol (he says the Volvo’s tank was already full when he left Hobart).

Bryant says that after stopping at Sorell he proceeded via Taranna to Roaring Beach, where he surfed for about 20 minutes and noticed two other people bodysurfing in short wetsuits at the other end of the beach. After drying off in the sun, he went to Nubeena where he stopped for coffee and a toasted sandwich at “a little shop near the school.” After this, he says he drove past the PAHS to visit the Martins at Seascape cottage.

Everything that happened after he set out for Seascape is extremely obscure. Indeed, after Nubeena, Bryant’s narrative of the day’s events dissolves into what seems more of a nightmare sequence than anything else, for Bryant implicates himself in criminal acts which, as we shall see, he cannot possibly have carried out in reality, including an act that we know was actually perpetrated by someone else.

As we have already seen, Bryant's recollections of his doings on the morning of 28 April 1996 are not implausible; what’s more, they are almost certainly true. There are no witness statements from staff at either the Sorell Bakery or the “little shop” in Nubeena contradicting Bryant’s claim to have been there that day. It is also difficult to envisage a motive for Bryant to lie about the stops he made between Hobart and Roaring Beach. What would he have had to gain by...
That the State case against Martin Bryant is a bald-faced lie did not matter to his criminal lawyer John Avery who did not raise any objection on behalf of his client who had complete (misplaced) trust in him.

denying that he had stopped at Midway Point, Forcett and Taranna? Whether he made four stops or just the one at Sorell made no difference to the allegations against him. Why would he lie about where he stopped to buy a coffee? His statement contradicts that of Gary King, a casual employee of the Shell service station at Forcett, who told police that he sold a coffee to “a young bloke” with “long blonde [sic] curly hair” who was driving a Volvo with “a surf board on top.” But what does it matter whether Bryant bought a coffee at Sorell or Forcett? No matter where he bought it, it sheds no light on his alleged responsibility for the massacre.

Bryant also told inspector Warren that he had paid for his coffee with gold coins from the glove compartment of his car. Yet Gary King says the man paid in five- and ten-cent coins. Another discrepancy is that Bryant told Warren that he had had no more than $10 to $15 with him that day, and all the money was in gold [coloured] coins in the glove box of his car. Yet according to service station attendant Christopher Hammond, the “Bryant” who bought petrol at Taranna paid $15 in two notes. Why would Bryant lie about these trivial matters?

But if it is hard to see what Bryant had to gain by lying about his trip from Hobart, it is easy to see what a Bryant impersonator would have stood to gain by making four stops along the way to Port Arthur. While Bryant stopped just once, which is not at all unusual for a trip that would only have taken an hour and a quarter, the impersonator would have wanted to attract as much attention to himself as possible within this short period. Thus he made pointless purchases [such as the tomato sauce] – items that he could easily have brought with him from Hobart if he needed them – and paid for three out of four of them with small change in order to increase the likelihood that shopkeepers would recall the incidents afterwards.

The multiple stops were necessary to ensure that after the massacre, a body of evidence existed that seemed to confirm that Bryant had travelled to Port Arthur that morning. The theory that an impersonator made four stops on the way to Port Arthur makes a good deal more sense than the idea that it was necessary for Bryant to conceal having made those [four] stops.

Two further circumstances invite the conclusion that the stops were those of a Bryant impersonator. First, one of the four witnesses, Angelo Kessarios, who sold Bryant a cigarette lighter at Midway Point, recalled being perplexed that Bryant did not recognise him. The most plausible explanation is that Kessarios had encountered an impersonator. Clearly, Kessarios did not know Bryant so well that he could avoid being taken in by a double, while the double did not know Bryant’s background so well that he knew he ought to behave more familiarly. Second, Gary King said in his statement that the Bryant he encountered on the Sunday morning commented that he [King] served him “a nice cup of coffee” the previous Tuesday. King did not confirm that he’d had a previous encounter with Bryant. Whether or not this is a memory lapse on King’s part, there is nothing on record to suggest that the real Bryant visited Forcett on that Tuesday [23 April 1996].
GENIUS OR PERFECT PATSY?

If one accepts the official Tasmania Police and DPP line Martin Bryant can only be regarded as a GENIUS – displaying the skill and cunning of a criminal mastermind unparalleled in world history.

1. He got the Tasmanian authorities to have a 22-body morgue truck available for his handiwork; 2. He organised for senior Port Arthur staff to go away on a work seminar so they wouldn’t get hurt; 3. He managed to get Royal Hobart Hospital to have their emergency plan in place two days before the massacre so things would run smoothly; 4. He managed to get that hospital to have a trauma seminar timed to end at the exact moment he started shooting so they could patch up all the wounded quickly; 5. He arranged for helicopter pilots – usually unavailable – to be available that Sunday; 6. He managed to kill the Martins of Seascape with a firearm when he was at a service station 57 kilometres away; 7. He decoyed the local police to be at the opposite end of the peninsula [Saltwater River; see Map] at the exact moment the shooting began; 8. He managed to fool staff at the historic site into believing he arrived at 1:15 p.m. when in fact he was there at 12:45 p.m.; 9. He managed not to look like himself by wearing a wig, 10; He wore a face mask making his face look pockmarked when shooting in the café; 11. He arranged for a suspect black van to appear outside the Broad Arrow Café afterwards so people wouldn’t think it was him who did it; 12. He managed to get Sally Martin to run around Seascape naked that afternoon and make it appear she had been killed that morning; 13. He managed to shoot a rifle from upstairs at Seascape when he was downstairs talking to police on the phone; 14. He had infrared night vision eyes; 15. He managed to shoot from two Seascape buildings at once during the night of the siege; 16. He managed to stay in a heavily burning building shooting and yelling at police and get severe burns only on his back; 17. He managed to have the world press to have a convention in Hobart on the 30th April so there were plenty of reporters on hand so he would get better than usual media coverage; 18. He managed to make it appear ASIO was behind the incident; 19. He managed to make it appear Tasmania Police had fabricated and tampered with evidence; 20. He managed to get the Tasmanian DPP to lie about his activities; 21. He arranged for the media nationwide to display his photo to witnesses to influence them; and to print false stories about him and get Channel Nine to fabricate a video – all while in custody; 22. He fired three shots at 6:30 p.m. at the historic site while he was under siege by police at Seascape; etc.

It is impossible for any reasonable person to come to the conclusion Bryant was behind this incident - that it was him doing the shooting and that others weren’t involved and that a set-up and cover-up hasn’t occurred. Bryant is the Perfect Patsy.

Lloyd T. Vance & Steve Johnson
The OzBoy File The Truth About Port Arthur Massacre Part 1
8 December 2012
(amended; added emphasis)
A bizarre twist in Bryant’s narrative begins: “At the Fortescue Bay turnoff, just, ohh, about three or four minutes away from the Martins’ farm” on the Hobart side of Seascape. Bryant confessed: “unfortunately I held up a car, I took ahh, I saw this car I liked and got, umm, held up the person in the car and kidnapped him.” The car was “a nice-looking BMW” occupied by three people, a male, a female and a child. Bryant says he ordered the man inside the boot of the car and made the female and the child get inside his Volvo. Why did he take the man hostage? “I was a bit worried that if he didn’t go, he’d go off in my car,” Bryant explained. After commandeering the BMW solely because he “liked” it (he states that his intention was simply to take it for a drive), Bryant sped off towards Seascape at 140 km/h.

What is striking about this story is that it combines elements from two different events that took place shortly after the massacre inside the Broad Arrow Café: the PAHS gunman’s hijacking of a gold-coloured BMW sedan belonging to Sidmey Kenneth and Mary Rose Nixon and his subsequent taking of a hostage, Glenn Pears, who had been the driver of a white Corolla with a female passenger, Zoe Hall, outside the Port Arthur General Store. Bryant is not simply being forgetful here:

Warren: Do you remember seeing a white, ahh, small Japanese car, like a Corolla?
Bryant: Corolla, no. Not at all.

But if Bryant’s story about hijacking a car at the Fortescue Bay turnoff does not resemble any one incident in the official narrative of the massacre, it matches perfectly an incident discussed by Jamie – protagonist of the Seascape siege – in a telephone conversation with police negotiator sergeant Terry McCarthy which took place shortly after 5 p.m. on 28 April:

McCarthy: Now you were talking just a little bit about the, um, Rick having come from Fortescue Bay. Can you just enlighten me as to what happened there?
Jamie: Yeah, yeah, I got him and managed to get him, his wife, she, he wanted to participate, um, in the kidnapping in, instead of his wife. I thought alright, quick...get in, get into the car and I’ve got him as a hostage.

McCarthy: Okay, okay, now you were in your, your car there, were you?
Jamie: Yes.

McCarthy: Right. You’re in your car and you wha, what, pulled them up? They were driving along in a car, is that correct?

Jamie: That’s correct.

McCarthy: Alright, and and what, how did you stop them, Jamie?
Jamie: Had to get a rifle.

McCarthy: Oh I see, right, so you, you, you were standing on the road, they drove up and you pointed...
Jamie: Yeah.
McCarthy: ...the rifle at them and they stopped.

37 Since Bryant’s intention after he left Nubeena was to visit David & Sally Martin at Seascape, there was no reason for him to go [farther north] past Seascape as far as the Fortescue Bay turnoff. This means that Bryant must have driven from Nubeena to the Fortescue Bay turnoff via Taranna. But this contradicts Bryant’s recollections elsewhere in the same interview of having driven past Port Arthur without stopping. This contradiction is the first clue to the fact that the whole story is imaginary. (Wernerhoff)
Jamie: Oh yes.
McCarthy: Is that right?
Jamie: Yes, that’s correct.
McCarthy: Okay, an, and what did you...you were planning on tak-
ing these people hostage?
Jamie: That’s right.
McCarthy: Right. Why, why Jamie? Do you want to tell me why?
Jamie: Oh man, ya [inaudible]... You, that’s what you’re
getting paid for, I me...
McCarthy: Well, I’d like to hear it from you.
Jamie: No, na, na, no.
McCarthy: Is there any...reason why you took these particular
people?

Although we never learn the reason, it is subsequently established
that the name of the male hostage was Rick, a 34-year-old man
from (Fort) Lauderdale, Florida, United States of America, that his
wife was a very highly educated woman with a good job, and that
the child was only a year old:

McCarthy: Now Jamie, we were talking earlier on about, ar, Rick
and the fact that you kidnapped him from Fortescue
Bay.
 Jamie: That’s correct. Yeah.
McCarthy: Do you want to tell me about that?
Jamie: Not really, no.
McCarthy: Well, you talked about, you talked about, ah, his wife
and, er, his child and, um, we’re having difficulties loca-
ting his wife and child.
Jamie: Yes, she’s only 12 months old, the little child, I found
out from him.
McCarthy: Right. What, from him?
Jamie: Umm.
McCarthy: Right. What about his wife? Do you know anything
about his wife?
Jamie: Um, sh, yeah, I do.
McCarthy: Right.
Jamie: I know...
McCarthy: Can you tell me something about it?
Jamie: I know how high up in things she is. Yeah.
McCarthy: I’m sorry?
Jamie: I know how high up she is in the different areas.
McCarthy: How, how high up? What do you mean by that, Jamie?
Jamie: In work, higher than what you are...
McCarthy: The...
Jamie: ...the intelligence and everything, university and every-
thing.
McCarthy: Oh right, is she, she’s only, she, er, a university, er...
Jamie: Oh, she’s passed that; she’s got full-time work, but I’m
not going to let you know.

When the conversation returned to Rick – who Jamie told McCarthy
was a lawyer – Jamie launched into the **most bizarre statements**, one of which implies that Jamie actually knew Rick’s wife:

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38 Police prepare these transcripts. So whenever the word *inaudible* appears, or any other word confirming an omission, note there is every likelihood the cops do not want anyone to know what exactly was said. The only way to be certain is for the original audiotape/ videotape to be obtained and examined. But, even doing that does not always lead to the determination of the true words spoken on the tape. Once a freedom-of-information is received, corrupt cops will manipulate the tape(s) or misplace (lose) them to stop you from learning what they do not want you to know. **Perverting the course of justice** is a common police practice. There is a substantial body of literature on this subject – some of which is written by former police.
McCarthy: we’re having problems locating Rick’s wife.
Jamie: Where is she?
McCarthy: Well, we don’t know because we’re not real sure who Rick is.
Jamie: Oh I don’t know, she went round to, um, to Fortescue Bay.
McCarthy: How do you know that, er, Jamie?
Jamie: She headed round that way.
McCarthy: She headed around that way?
Jamie: Yeah. Couldn’t get...
McCarthy: Right. Well (cough)
Jamie: ...away quick enough.
McCarthy: Well (cough), if, if, um, if Rick’s there, would you mind asking...
Jamie: Well...
McCarthy: ...him what his surname is if you don’t know?
Jamie: ...apparently, um, she’s had a pretty hard life until she met, um, thingamabob...
McCarthy: She...
Jamie: ...here.
McCarthy: Yeah.
Jamie: Rick and, um, he’s great, she’s a great lady, they’re both professional people.
McCarthy: Right. What do, what does, ah, what does she do?
Jamie: Um, well, I can’t tell you that.
McCarthy: Why not?
Jamie: Cause I don’t know.

Whatever we think about the astounding number of bizarre things Jamie told McCarthy over the phone on the evening of 28 April, the above excerpts establish that the incident cannot be connected with the massacre at Port Arthur. For Jamie – whether he was Bryant or not – clearly cannot have been hijacking the Nixons’ gold BMW or taking Glenn Pears hostage near the Port Arthur General Store at the same time that he was hijacking a BMW and taking Rick hostage at the Fortescue Bay turnoff.

Did the Fortescue Bay turnoff carjacking really take place? Given that the incident at the Fortescue Bay turnoff is described by both Jamie (on 28 April) and Martin Bryant (on 4 July), it is striking that there is no record anywhere of a 34-year-old man from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and his family being the victims of a carjacking that day. The likelihood, therefore, is that the incident never took place and that Bryant very largely imagined his own participation in a scenario whose outlines he could only have learned about from others. Most people are aware, due to the unprecedented wave of false accusations of rape and child abuse that swept the United States in the 1980s, of the existence of false memory syndrome. Elizabeth Loftus, professor of psychology then at the University of Washington, writes in The Myth of Repressed Memory (1994): “We can easily distort memories for the details of an event that you did experience. And we can also go so far as to plant entirely false memories – we call them rich false memories because they are so detailed and so big.”

This quotation is actually from: Laura Spinney. We can plant entirely false memories; The Guardian; 4 December 2003. The book referred to by Wernerhoff – The Myth of Repressed Memory – was co-authored by Katherine Ketcham.

PART 10

The Patsy
Less well known is the fact that pseudomemories can emerge in self-incriminating forms. The textbook case is that of Paul Ingram, an American accused of sexual abuse by his two daughters, who in the late 1980s “produced an astonishing series of self-incriminating ‘memories’” relating to his alleged membership of a satanic cult which had supposedly sacrificed 25 babies.  

According to John Frow, what is striking about the Ingram case is the “breathtaking readiness on the part of its major players to form lasting ‘memories’ on very slight provocation”: not only Ingram and his daughters but a son, his wife and two of his colleagues implicated in the supposed satanic cult and in ongoing abuse of the daughters, either at some time recalled major and almost certainly non-existent crimes or at least suspected their own complicity even if not remembering it; and Ingram remembered, and came firmly to believe in, a pseudomemory suggested to him by a sociologist working as a consultant for the prosecution.

People of extremely low intelligence – as well as those with certain types of mental illness – are probably even more capable of persuading themselves to believe that they have done terrible things which in fact they have not done, than people of average intelligence. According to Richard Ofshe, a sociologist at the University of California, Berkeley, obtaining confessions from mentally disabled people "is like taking candy from a baby."

That such persons have generated false, self-incriminating memories that have led to their being imprisoned or even executed is a documented fact. Two examples are given in Bob Woffinden’s 1987 book Miscarriages of Justice, including those of Timothy Evans, who confessed to killing his wife, and Margaret Livesey, who confessed to the murder of her son. Neither was guilty. Thus, with respect to Bryant’s admissions regarding the Fortescue Bay turnoff carjacking, we would seem to be looking at a classic case of the mentally deficient person confessing to a crime that he believes he must have committed, even if he doesn’t actually remember doing so or know why he would have done such a thing.

It is possible to reconstruct the laborious mental process that would have led the hapless Bryant to believe that he had actually perpetrated the Fortescue Bay turnoff carjacking. When the interview with inspectors Warren and Paine began, Bryant knew no more than that he was being detained on a single charge of murder. He had no idea what had happened, who had died or why he was being held responsible. Building an explanation on the basis of certain facts that must have been leaked to him about the case, presumably by a doctor and security guards (who may in fact have been intelligence agents feeding him carefully selected tidbits of information), he finally believed himself to have commandeered a BMW at gunpoint and taken the male driver hostage. Although Bryant knew that the man he thinks he took hostage had subsequently died, he did not admit having killed him intentionally. He stated that, as he was knocking on the door of Seascape cottage, he heard the vehicle explode. His assumption was that his hostage had died in the explosion.
DRAFT  
April 2013  
MASS MURDER  
Official Killing in Tasmania, Australia

Warren: Do you, you’ve already said that you remembered me going to see you at the hospital?
Bryant: Ohh yes. Mmm.
Warren: And that I told you that you were being charged with...
Bryant: A murder count.
Warren: A murder.
Bryant: Yeah.
Warren: What recollection have you got of that?
Bryant: Must’ve been the hostage, the bloke in the BMW must’ve died.

Although Bryant did not recall having set the vehicle on fire, he realised that the explosion had to have started somehow. After concluding (erroneously, as we shall see) that only he could have started the fire, he tried to imagine what he would have to have done to have caused it. He decided that he must have transferred “two or three” plastic drums of petrol from the Volvo to the BMW, tipped the petrol all over the car, and then lit it using a match (or a lighter) that he must have found inside his jacket pocket.

Having decided that this is how he had set fire to the car, Bryant seized upon the fire as an explanation for his burns: “I must’ve been in the car when it went up, ’cos I got burnt.” He reasoned that the whole mess that had landed him in gaol had been the result of “a bad thing,” by which he meant “playing with fire” as he had done when he was 10 years old. [see Images]

The problems with Bryant’s story are immediately apparent. First, there is the matter of where he was when the explosion took place. If the vehicle exploded while he was knocking on the door of Seascap, how can the explanation for his burns be that he was in the car when it ignited? How can he possibly not remember where he was when he “got burnt”? Second, there is the problem of how the explosion started. Bryant told inspectors Warren and Paine that he had not been carrying anything with him that he could have used to start a fire. So how could this non-smoker happen to find himself carrying something in his shirt pocket that proved useful for precisely this purpose? And how can he possibly not recall whether the object was a set of matches or a cigarette lighter?

Clearly, Bryant was foundering for an explanation that would account for the burns to his body and his subsequent loss of liberty. Since he was not trying to evade responsibility for the carjacking and the subsequent explosion, he found himself in the dilemma of a person who accepts that he is guilty but is having great difficulty envisaging the precise circumstances in which he committed the offences. Thus Bryant’s recurring use of must have: he “must’ve” played with fire, he “must’ve” transferred petrol drums into the BMW, the hostage “must’ve” still been in the car when it exploded. In short, Bryant was desperately hypothesising. If he had really been responsible for the explosion and not seeking to deny it, how can he possibly not remember what he had done to cause it? If he was suffering from post-traumatic amnesia, how is it that he was able to recall everything clearly enough that had happened prior to the carjacking?
Between his arrest on 29 April and his interrogation on 4 July, therefore, Bryant seems to have performed mental cartwheels in an effort to devise a scenario that would explain how his misfortunes had come about. By this date, he had confabulated a scenario in which he had commandeered a BMW and set it alight. As we saw, the scenario bears only superficial similarities to the gunman’s actual capture of the Nixons’ vehicle – an event that was viewed by several witnesses including Jim Laycock, who knew Bryant but did not recognise the gunman as Bryant.

Although the real gunman seized the Nixons’ BMW near the PAHS tollbooth, Bryant believes he hijacked a BMW at the Fortescue Bay turnoff. Since he cannot even get the location right, his confession to having captured the vehicle and taken a hostage has to be dismissed as sheer fantasy. However, on account of its resemblance to the scenario recounted to McCarthy by Jamie, its key elements (the BMW, the hostage, the petrol drums, the explosion) had to have been suggested to him somehow. The question is: How?

What I propose is that, once they were in total control of Bryant’s environment – and after his arrest, Bryant was subjected to weeks of virtual solitary confinement – government agents specialising in mind control convinced Bryant that, due to the traumatic nature of the events in which they alleged he had been involved, he was suffering from psychogenic amnesia (memory blockages). They would have offered to help him recover his lost memories.

Psychiatrists known to have worked with Bryant who may have been involved in such a memory recovery program would include doctor Fred E. Emery, of the notorious brainwashing specialists at the Tavistock Institute, who died on 10 April 1997, that is, only a year after Port Arthur – a fact that might well be regarded as suspicious – and professor emeritus Ivor Jones of the University of Hobart, who headed the two floors of Royal Hobart Hospital which were devoted to psychiatric studies at the time Bryant was being detained there.

The best explanation, therefore, is that we are looking at a case of artificially induced memories. Bryant would have been subjected to the whole arsenal of coercive psychological techniques that are used to break down resistance and enhance suggestibility. Techniques likely to have been employed for the purpose of making him receptive to pseudo-memories would include sleep deprivation, electric shock treatment, hypnosis, deep-sleep therapy, torture and the administration of beta-blockers like Propranolol. By such methods, Bryant’s suggestibility would have been elevated to the point that he was fully capable of mistaking a mere narrative for authentic memories. Such a program would probably have been supplemented by a short video portraying the events themselves. I conjecture that an individual disguised as Bryant – presumably the Port Arthur gunman himself – perpetrated the Fortescue Bay turnoff carjacking, but that the episode was a mere charade performed for the benefit of a video camera.

44 As used here, confabulate means to relate imagined experiences to fill in gaps within the memory. (Taber’s Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary; 1977: p. C-103.) Bryant was not deliberately lying. He was struggling honestly to answer questions for which he did not have a complete answer. Between the facts he knew, he confabulated by relating actions/events which he thought must have taken place. Note that confabulation, if not recognized as such, can be accepted as the truth and be very misleading.

45 Also sold under the brand name Inderal.
The entire sequence of events would have been filmed for the purpose of brainwashing Bryant into believing that he had been the actual perpetrator, that he was the man shown in the film. The video camera was then taken by the gunman to the PAHS, where it was abandoned in the Broad Arrow Café as a means of ensuring that it reached the police.

If Bryant was subjected to repeated viewings of such footage while under the influence of the appropriate psychoactive drugs, he would have wound up believing quite sincerely that what he had seen portrayed so vividly on the screen had in fact been his own memories. This theory helps explain a hitherto obscure circumstance: the fact that the Port Arthur gunman, despite being sufficiently burdened already with a heavily stuffed sports bag, was also lugging around with him a large black video camera. Although the camera was discarded at the café and is known to have been recovered by police, it has not been heard of since.⁴⁶

As it is most unlikely that the gunman would have encumbered himself with this object for no reason, the camera had to have played a role in the drama. Although I cannot prove that the camera contained footage of the Fortescue Bay turnoff incident, it might well have contained footage of some kind. If it didn’t, it’s hard to see why the official narrative of the case entirely glosses over the matter of whether there was anything on the camera.⁴⁷

Although Bryant’s confabulated scenario failed to match the official account of his alleged deeds, it was serviceable enough for the purpose of forging a link with the sinister activities of the real gunman. Inspectors Paine and Warren would have felt gratified that, for all its logical problems, Martin Bryant’s scenario contained four episodes that feature in the official account of the Port Arthur massacre: (i) arriving at Seascape; (ii) in a stolen BMW; (iii) with a male hostage in the boot; and, (iv) setting the BMW alight.

Nonetheless, Bryant’s scenario can be rejected as false because at least three known facts about the case directly contradict it. First, the BMW was actually set on fire by constable Andrew M. Fogarty of the Special Operations Group (SOG), who was the first police officer to arrive at Seascape. According to a police insider – apparently the superintendent Bob Fielding, who arrived at the police operations centre at Taranna about half an hour after the incident occurred – Fogarty fired a phosphorus grenade at the vehicle in order to prevent it from being used as an escape vehicle. (The drums of petrol which Bryant had allegedly brought with him from Hobart that morning, but which no eyewitness actually reported seeing, may therefore be completely fictitious.⁴⁸)

Second, while Bryant believes that the BMW driver was still in the boot when the explosion occurred, the body of the hostage – Glenn Pears – was [allegedly] discovered inside Seascape, not inside the BMW, suggesting that the gunman had freed him from the boot of the BMW and escorted him into the house.

⁴⁶ One of the items the gunman visibly carried to (but not from) the Broad Arrow Café was this large video camera. Allegedly, it belonged to Martin Bryant. But given Bryant was not the gunman, that camera was either not his, or it had been taken from his home by the cops to be used as a prop by the gunman. (It helped to set up Bryant.) In the police training video, this camera is visible on top of a café table. What images, if any, it contained could have been extremely useful. And if Bryant had been the gunman, his fingerprints would have been all over it. But this camera disappeared. The same thing happened to the handgun which was reported* being fired the same thing happened to the hand.

⁴⁷ The idea that videotapes were used to persuade Bryant to accept responsibility for the Port Arthur massacre and the murders at Seascape is not a far-fetched one. Later in this article, I examine a videotape which seems to have been fabricated months after the massacre for the purpose of convincing Bryant that he had been present at Port Arthur that day. (Wernerhoff)

⁴⁸ No empty fuel drums or containers were reported in or near the burnt BMW vehicle, by the police. Note there is also no hard evidence that Martin Bryant ever purchased petrol in drums which he then took with him on Sunday 29 April 1996. Petrol was purchased that Sunday morning. It was pumped into the fuel tank of a Volvo, not into fuel drums. Whether that was Bryant’s vehicle and whether he was the driver (or was it his double?) has never been made know in a credible way to the public.
Third, the burns to Bryant’s body were in reality sustained the next day during the Seascape fire. (He emerged from Seascape on the morning of 29 April 1996 with his back in flames.)

In short, although Bryant’s story constitutes an admission of criminal acts, it does not add up to an admission of responsibility for any events that actually took place that day. Damian Bugg was therefore misleading the Court when, on 19 November 1996, he declared that Jamie – who he assumed to have been Bryant – had admitted stealing the Nixons’ BMW and taking Glenn Pears hostage. In fact, Jamie, as we’ve seen, had only related a parallel event involving Rick from Florida. Bryant did no more than confess to the same episode.

When his police interrogation began, the only significant information Bryant knew about the events of 28-29 April is that Seascape had burned down and a number of people had died in the fire. He said he obtained the information not from inspectors Paine and Warren (who seem to have been surprised to learn that he knew this), but from “a doctor, and security guards.” What few Australians know is that Bryant was saddened to hear about Seascape’s destruction and expressed sorrow for the Martins’ loss: ”Worked hard all their lives, renovating; took them years to build it, renovate it and to start it all up, and it’s just so sad to see; apparently it’s burnt down, it’s so sad to see it burnt down,” he lamented.

Before we recount the process by which Bryant was first made aware of his alleged responsibility for the Port Arthur massacre, it is necessary to remind the reader once again that neither forensic nor eyewitness evidence exists to link him to it. The case against him depends entirely upon two circumstantial factors: 1. The distinctiveness of his personal appearance: and, 2. The distinctiveness of his 1979-model yellow Volvo.

The police framing of Bryant for the massacre therefore included obtaining concessions from him as to the distinctiveness of his appearance and that of his Volvo.

The matter of his appearance was raised spontaneously by Bryant himself, but was instantly capitalised upon by inspector Warren, who deviously connected it to “Port Arthur,” even though Bryant hadn’t mentioned that location himself:

Warren: Martin, getting back to that point about the hostage, you taking the hostage because you didn’t want him telling the police. What didn’t you want him telling the police?

Bryant: That I took his, umm, car.

Warren: But I mean, if you’d have left him on the side of the road, he wouldn’t have known where you could’ve driven.

Bryant: Yeah, but he could’ve let them know that there was a chap with blonde [sic] hair, took me car, stole me car. So I sort of put him in the boot to be safe.

49 In his book A Presentation of the Port Arthur Incident; 2001: pp. 119-27, the author Noel McDonald discusses several other problems associated with this. (Wernerhoff)

50 When Martin Bryant was first told about the incident at the Port Arthur Historic Site, he asked if anyone had been hurt. The following is an excerpt from the transcript made of the audio-tape conversation between Martin Bryant (one of the Janies) and Terry McCarthy the police negotiator:

Jamie: Yeah what what went on at Port Arthur? [sic]

McCarthy: Well I was hoping that you might be able to tell me a little bit about what happened at Port Arthur you being down there.

Jamie: Was there anyone hurt?

McCarthy: Well, I understand there’s been er er a number of people hurt at Port Arthur.

Jamie: Oh they weren’t killed?

McCarthy: Well, I don’t know what....

Bryant was not attempting to fool the negotiator. Bryant did not have the intellect to do that as McCarthy was experienced. Bryant expressed genuine concern for people, as he did for the loss of Seascape cottage for which there is not one shred of evidence he destroyed by fire.
DRAFT
April 2013
Official Killing in Tasmania, Australia

A review of what is left of the hacked and redacted transcript reveals the two police detectives were not questioning Bryant to get at the truth, but were trying to implicate Bryant in the incident at Port Arthur.

Warren: So you thought your looks that day were distinctive, and if someone said they saw a chap with blonde hair...
Bryant: Mmm.
Warren: ...at Port Arthur on that particular day?

Second, the distinctiveness of the Volvo:

Warren: We have lots of people who are telling us that they saw you at Port Arthur and your car.
Bryant: Well, it must’ve been another, there’s other Volvos...
Warren: With surfboards on the top? With someone with long blonde hair driving them or getting out of them?
Bryant: There’s not many with surfboards on top.

As we shall see below, these concessions left Bryant little wiggle room when police confronted him with a photograph of what seemed to be his yellow Volvo parked at Port Arthur. Once they had succeeded in having Bryant admit the distinctiveness of his appearance and that of his Volvo, inspectors Paine and Warren had to do one more thing before they could confront him with the accusation that he had perpetrated the massacre inside the Broad Arrow Café: they had to convince him that he had entered the PAHS that day.

To do so, Warren confronted Bryant with generalised references to eyewitness sightings of himself which he was ill-placed to contest, having already conceded the distinctiveness of his appearance and of his Volvo:

Warren: Well, what would you say if I told you that you were seen going into Port Arthur and in fact you were at the toll gate?
Bryant: I couldn’t ‘ve been.
Warren: And more than that, that you did complain about the price of admission.
Bryant: Umm, I don’t remember going in, into Port Arthur or going through the toll gate at all.
Warren: Well, as you said a minute ago, you, your description of the long blonde hair does make you, umm, stand out from the crowd.
Bryant: Mmm, exactly.
Warren: What about your yellow Volvo?
Bryant: That would, wouldn’t it? That would stand out.

Later in the interview, Warren showed him a photograph of a vehicle that Bryant conceded looked like his own Volvo:

Warren: Martin, I want you to have a look at this photo. It’s photo number zero one two. In it is a car I believe to be yours and it’s depicted adjacent to the toll booth.
Bryant: Couldn’t be mine. Where’d you get that? I don’t remember being stationary [inaudible]...
Warren: Do you agree that that could be a surfboard on the top?
Bryant: Yes, I think it probably is.
Warren: And it’s certainly similar to your, ahh, your car?
Bryant: Mmm.

Warren: The registration number of this vehicle I think is CG two eight three five.

Bryant: I don’t remember the registration.

Warren: Well that’s your car. So that certainly suggests it because that’s the exit road at the toll booth, that your car had been.

Bryant: How could the car be there when I didn’t go, go there in the first place [inaudible]...

Warren: As I said, sorry, as I’ve said, we have, there are lots of people saying that they saw you in the Port Arthur site and your car in the Port Arthur site. 51

Bryant: Mmm, I can’t recall that.

That inspector Warren twice told Bryant that “lots of people” had seen him at Port Arthur is a clear-cut case of police mendacity. Police witness statements show that the eyewitnesses had seen a man with long blond hair – who, on account of numerous discrepancies, could not have been Bryant. Furthermore, as we saw in the previous article, only one person who actually knew Bryant observed the Port Arthur shooter in action. That person, Jim Laycock, got a good enough look at the gunman to estimate his age but told police that he *did not recognise the male as Martin Bryant.* 52

Another witness, Michael Copping, who knew Bryant “by casual contact,” saw the gunman driving the Volvo but did not indicate in his police statement that the man had been Bryant.

In addition, it should be noted that Warren claimed Bryant had complained about the price of admission to the PAHS. Although he made this statement twice during the interview, both PAHS employees who said that they accepted money from the Volvo driver, Aileen Kingston and Steven Howard, stated the exact opposite in their respective witness statements. Kingston related: “I was expecting an argument about the entrance fee from the Volvo driver as he looked to me that he didn’t have a lot of money. This didn’t eventuate, and the driver produced $50.00 and I gave him the change with the tickets as well as a briefing, and he then drove off towards the site.” **Inspector Warren seems to have been so determined to stick to a prefabricated script that he felt free to disregard information supplied by actual eyewitnesses.**

And what about the Port Arthur massacre itself? Towards the end of the interrogation, inspectors Warren and Paine finally broached the subject for which they had spent several hours laying the groundwork. After again denying that he had even been at Port Arthur on 28 April, Bryant reacted as any reasonable person would when charged with crimes as heinous as the Broad Arrow Café shootings:

Warren: We believe you went into Port Arthur. Had a slight argument with the toll gate person about the price on entry. We believe you then went to park your car and an attendant or someone...

Bryant: Park the car?

51 Note all the devious statements made by Warren during this part of the dialog. They are good examples of how corrupt cops set up innocent people. Martin told the cops that he did not go to PAHS. But they had a photograph of a Volvo, which they said was photographed inside PAHS. And the cops also claimed Martin had driven the Volvo inside PAHS. But we (and the cops) know that some other person could have driven that Volvo, and any other similar Volvos into PAHS on the day of the incident. So to fix the official accusation that Martin was the gunman, Warren told Martin that: “there are lots of people saying that they saw you in the Port Arthur site.” Warren was using that *everybody knows he did it* line to set up incompetent Martin, who must have then convinced himself that he was there but he just could not remember being there. (He probably blamed himself even though he had absolutely nothing to do with PAHS.) As for Warren, he could not then, or now, produce one credible witness who knew Martin Bryant and who had seen him at PAHS on 28 April 1996. The minds/memories of everyone were contaminated, because within 24 hours of Martin being burnt and apprehended at Seascape, the media was flooding Australia with banner headlines and (stolen) images of Martin Bryant – *GUNMAN! KILLER! SHOOTER!* they screamed.

52 These are the words spoken by a person who knew Martin Bryant. Similar negative words were spoken by Graham Collyer who, before he was shot at the Broad Arrow Café, looked the gunman right in the face – it was NOT Martin Bryant. Yet the State wants you to believe people who gave statements weeks after the incident and thus after their memory had been influenced by the media’s demonization of Bryant.
Warren: ...said you couldn’t park in a certain spot, so you didn’t and sometime later you did move your car to that spot. We believe you went to the Broad Arrow Café with that bag over there, containing some guns and your video camera. You purchased a meal, you went outside, sat down, and then went back into the café. Took one.

Bryant: But you might’ve. That’s like me saying to you, that you were down there.

Warren: But the difference is, Martin, my car wasn’t down there and I haven’t been identified as being down there and I wasn’t down there. And then you took one of the guns out of your bag and opened fire in the café.

Bryant: Why would I do that? I mean...

Warren: I don’t know, you tell me.

Bryant: Why, why would anyone do a thing like that, what?

Warren: Well, you tell us.

Bryant: [inaudible]

Warren: That’s what we want to know Martin, why.

Bryant: What, what, would, I wouldn’t hurt a person in my life.

Inspector Warren then reminded Bryant that he had already admitted having done someone some harm that day:

Warren: Well, you’ve already said you’d put the man in your boot of the car.

Bryant: Only, yes, yes.

Warren: Then you’ve set fire to the car and you thought that he was in the boot.

Bryant: [inaudible]

Warren: So how do you explain that?

Bryant: It was a bad thing...

[something missing here? or a pause? – ed.]

Bryant: Well, I shouldn’t ’ve gone and kidnapped him and the BMW. It’s the wrong thing. That and, that, and in the, being caught with not having a driver’s licence. So they’re the two things I’ve done wrong. I don’t know why I stole the BMW in the first place. I wish I’d [inaudible].

Bryant found himself checkmated. By having him admit that he had done one bad deed that day, inspector Warren effectively deprived him of a case for asserting that he would not be the kind of person who would murder 35 people! Although the taking of a hostage is clearly not a crime of the same magnitude as mass murder, most readers will think that Bryant has been caught up in his own lies and that the truth will unravel, inch by inch.

The problem with the case inspectors Paine and Warren presented to Bryant, however, is that it relied upon assertions, not evidence. Apart from the aforementioned image of some yellow Volvo – not necessarily his – parked at the Port Arthur toll gate, they showed
Bryant no visual evidence – no photographs, not even the video allegedly made by American tourist James Balasko which purports to show the gunman at the scene – that would decide the matter. What’s more, they showed the accused man nothing of a forensic nature – fingerprints or DNA – which could substantiate their extraordinary allegations.

In other words, when it came to convincing Bryant that he had been responsible for the most appalling crime in recent Australian history, as late as 4 July 1996, inspectors Paine and Warren still had nothing to fall back on except the distinctiveness of his appearance and that of his car. However, it is not hard to see that both are things that could easily have been imitated by someone involved in a plot to set up Bryant. Indeed, the conspicuous absence of any other kind of evidence against him renders such a scenario a virtual certainty.

Unfortunately, Bryant’s intellectual limitations are such that he was incapable of graduating to the relatively complex idea that someone had emulated his appearance in order to set him up. His low IQ, in a nutshell, is the real reason why he seems destined to spend the rest of his life in prison.55

III. THE SET-UP

In the first section of this article, it was shown that Martin Bryant could not have been the perpetrator of the horrendous massacre at Port Arthur on 28 April 1996 because his fingerprints and/or DNA were never found at the crime scene. Eyewitnesses also described a man who was not only much younger than but who also differed from Bryant in several significant respects.

The popular idea that eyewitnesses identified Bryant as the gunman is therefore a complete misrepresentation of the facts, as is the theory that he was a mind-controlled patsy. Quite simply, he wasn’t even there. Given that Bryant eventually [under documented duress] pleaded guilty to all charges arising from the massacre, the question inevitably arises as to how this came about. Three factors made it possible for the Tasmanian government to manipulate Bryant into pleading guilty.

First, Bryant is an individual of extremely low intelligence, with a mental age estimated to be that of an 11-year-old. He was therefore much less capable of realising that he was being set up than a person of average intelligence. This circumstance alone helps explain why Bryant, rather than someone else, was selected as the patsy.

Second, after being deprived of his liberty, Bryant was maintained in a condition of virtual solitary confinement for months on end. During this period, he was at the absolute mercy of his captors and their agents: police; lawyers; psychiatrists; doctors; nurses; and, security personnel. They could do with him whatever they wanted because very few members of the public, if any, cared what happened to him: the media had successfully persuaded them to believe that he was a monster,56 not worth an ounce of their pity.
ROLE OF THE JAMIES

THERE is so much confirmatory and suggestive evidence, the Port Arthur incident cannot be anything else but planned. That on one day some person secretly loaded a sedan vehicle with an armoury then drove to Seascape cottage, then drove on to Port Arthur Historic Site, then went back to Seascape causing murder and mayhem along the way, and then held off a team of well-trained police killers is ludicrous. No one who thinks could believe a person having a 66 IQ could have done all that. No one who thinks believes a man with a mind of an 11-year-old-boy kept the Tasmania Police SOG at bay over night. SOG is armed with the best killing (day & night) equipment tax-money can buy.

Facts say there were at least two active people/shooters with Martin Bryant inside the cottage on 28 & 29 April 1996. Bryant was manipulated by the planner of the incident who it is believed was one of those people/shooters inside Seascape. It seems that person was Michael Dyson of Tasmania Police who has admitted a passion for being involved with violent incidents. The other person with Dyson and Bryant was the gunman himself, who the literature says is Benjamin Overbeeke.

Dyson had to have a closed (not open like a radio) line of communications with the outside to plan the exit of the real gunman who had arrived from the Broad Arrow Café with the hapless hostage in the BMW, which was soon fired to destroy all evidence therein – including poor Mr. Pears. There is not a shred of evidence Martin Bryant had anything to do with that BMW sedan, the hostage taking, or that incineration.

You are to believe Martin Bryant was alone inside Seascape and that he decided to use the telephone and identify himself as Jamie the gunman who just murdered 32 people up the road and injured another 22. What for? Martin Bryant never tried to disguise himself in any other way during all the calls he is alleged to have made. If he was responsible for leaving the Volvo near the Port Arthur Historic Site, and if he was seen taking Mr. Pears and the BMW and driving of to Seascape cottage, there was no reason on earth why Bryant had to identify himself as Jamie. Unless he had agreed to, wittingly or unwittingly, help play out a hostage-taking exercise with the cops. And that is exactly what the police negotiator Terry McCarthy implied when he admitted that he thought Bryant was acting out a pre-planned script of an exercise.

Not once did Jamie make any of the usual hostage-taker demands to the police negotiator. But he did tell McCarthy that he (Jamie) was preparing a snack for those with him inside the cottage. Think about it. Bryant had, allegedly, just killed 32 men, women, and children, but now he was busying himself with preparing his fellow cottagers something to eat. And all the while he chats away amiably with McCarthy, shots being fired inside the cottage can be heard on the audio tape. But you are not supposed to know this, because on the transcript those shots are identified as coughs. And there are dozens of them on the transcript.

57 Numerous websites display an image of the person believed to be Benjamin Overbeeke. In that image, he is dressed in camouflage clothing and is seated on the front passenger seat of what seems to be a Tasmania ambulance vehicle. And if officials of the State deny this person is Overbeeke and/or deny he was the shooter, then who is he and what was he doing in that vehicle? Unless the State provides an exposé detailing everything about this person, which can then be studied, it is reasonable to conclude the State is perpetrating a serious cover-up.
Then we had a Jamie speaking with a news reporter from the ABC after Alison Smith unexpectedly telephoned Seascape on Saturday (28th) afternoon. There are two different stories about that call. The public does not know which story is correct. According to the reporter, Jamie told her that he had to have a shower – this was while the police siege of Seascape was underway. Imagine that. This Jamie was probably the gunman Benjamin Overbeeke.

Then we had one Jamie speaking with the female partner of the police constable Paul Hyland who was stationed at Nubeena. That Jamie made several suggestive comments and accused that woman of masturbating herself. All of this confirms the telephone calls attributed to Jamie were inconsistent and that the stated actions were not reasonably in accordance with the alleged situation – the situation being a high-powered police siege of a cottage in which there was only one gunman with an IQ of 66.

The truth is, we do not know everything about those telephone calls and Jamie because the only evidence related to them was provided by the cops. And no one in their right mind trusts cops. Whether all the Jamie conversations were audio recorded by the cops is not known by the public. Whether all those recordings were transcribed accurately and provided to the public is also not known. And, it seems that officials did not have all the audio tapes examined by a forensic sound analyst/engineer. A recorded third voice would clearly expose the officially-planned scam.

So before, during, and after the conversations between Bryant and McCarthy, that phone could have been used by anyone who was inside the cottage to call anyone about anything. That person would have also identified himself as Jamie. The cops are not going to reveal the details. In fact, the cops who were not part of Dyson’s game plan for the incident would not have been told.

The Jamie conversations prove Martin Bryant was inside Seascape cottage, which, officials want you to believe proves Bryant is the lone gunman. But it does not prove this. When in continuous conversation with McCarthy, the sound of weapons being fired inside the cottage has been detected on those audio-taped Jamie conversations, which investigators now have. This proves conclusively that Bryant was not alone. The Jamie part of the plan actually confirms the whole incident at Port Arthur was a set-up in which Bryant was framed.

Once you stop unthinkingly believing Bryant was the planner of the whole Port Arthur incident, was the gunman, was Jamie, was the sole person involved, the whole case changes. The test of interocular significance applies with the facts hitting you right between the eyes. The use of the name Jamie was a cover for closed communication to and from Seascape. When that communication was no longer needed, one Jamie disappeared leaving the other Jamie (the patsy) to burn to death inside the cottage. A top cop said the telephone batteries were depleted. But like most everything else official in the Port Arthur case, that was a lie – because the Jamies had a land-line phone in the cottage. – ed.
Fatally shot at the Broad Arrow Café on 28 April 1996.

An extremely serious point raised by Carl Wernerhoff. Bryant was charged with the murder of Kate Elizabeth Scott. He was charged on Monday, 29 April 1996, at 11:00 almost immediately he arrived at the Royal Hobart Hospital after being sent there by ambulance from Seascape cottage with severe burns on his back which required skin grafts. The major newspaper in northern Tasmania, The Examiner, wrote this on 1 May 1996 about that process: “No family members or friends of Mr Bryant were present when he was charged.” Alone, confused, drugged, without anyone to speak for him and with his IQ of 66, this boy-man was charged with a crime he knew nothing about. So while the country was stunned, families and relatives were devastated, and victims were receiving life-saving surgery, bureaucrats were preparing the official papers to charge Bryant with murder. So Reader, Martin Bryant was going nowhere. He was in too much pain to move. But the State had to tell the public that action had been taken quickly: before a thorough investigation; before any hard evidence was obtained; before all witnesses had been contacted and their statements taken; before any objective conclusions could be made; before the results of any forensic test could be completed and replicated; etc. It was not until 10 May 1996, which was 11 days after Bryant had been charged with the murder of Kate Elizabeth Scott, that the cops contacted James Laycock, and this is what he revealed in his Witness Statement: “On this Sunday the 28th April 1996, I did not recognise the male as Martin BRYANT.” The only person in the whole incident who saw the gunman in action and who knew Martin Bryant said the gunman was NOT Bryant. And witness Graham Collyer said the same thing. But the State did not give a damn about witnesses, because 11 days earlier Martin Bryant had been charged with murder. He was set up and charged before any proper investigation was undertaken. And once the legal wheels had begun to turn, no exculpatory evidence was allowed to get in the way of a conviction.

As late as 4 July 1995, Bryant was under the impression that the only charge against him was a single count of murder arising from the abduction of a male hostage: a lawyer from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, whom he knew only as Rick. This is simply astonishing because, by 4 July, at least officially, Bryant had been informed on no fewer than three prior occasions (1 May, 22 May, & 14 June) that he had been charged with the murder of Kate Elizabeth Scott.58 Yet the transcript of the 4 July police interrogation makes it abundantly clear that this was the first occasion on which he grasped the fact that the murder charge had arisen from the death of a female. This finding inevitably raises questions as to whether Bryant was present (or, if he was present, whether he was conscious) during the three initial indictments.59

In the second section of this article, the hypothesis was advanced that in the weeks prior to his 4 July interrogation, a concerted effort was made to implant false memories in Bryant’s mind that would represent a first step towards having him accept responsibility for the Port Arthur murders. According to my hypothesis, psychiatrists would have told Bryant that he needed their help to reconstruct memories of his actions that he had blotted out due to trauma. The anticipated outcome was that Bryant would finally grow convinced that he had committed the crimes, even if he would have no idea why he would have done so. Fortunately for the Tasmanian director of public prosecutions (DPP), motive was irrelevant. In order to forestall a court trial, Bryant only needed to accept that he had committed the crimes; he did not also need to furnish a motive for having committed them.

The [incomplete] transcript of Bryant’s 4 July police interrogation shows that the initial effort was successful enough: on this occasion, Bryant produced a narrative of participation in the carjacking of a BMW at the Fortescue Bay turnoff that was uncannily similar to that related over the phone to police negotiator Terry McCarthy by the enigmatic Jamie, the spokesperson for the bizarre events at Seascape guest house that followed on the heels of the massacre.

Although the crime to which Bryant confessed was unconnected to the events at Port Arthur and almost certainly never took place in reality, Bryant’s yarn was interpreted by the DPP as a confession to acts actually perpetrated at a different location by the real Port Arthur gunman, i.e., the carjacking and abduction of a male hostage that took place outside the Port Arthur General Store. By ignoring the details of Bryant’s confession, the DPP, Damian Bugg, deceived Tasmania’s supreme court by telling it that Bryant had confessed to the acts perpetrated by the real gunman.
However, at this early stage of the game, Bryant vehemently resisted the idea that he had perpetrated the murders at Port Arthur. He maintained that he had not even visited the Port Arthur Historic Site (PAHS) on the day in question, and he had difficulty understanding how the police had obtained a picture of a vehicle that seemed to be his own yellow Volvo parked at the PAHS toll gate when he only recalled driving past it. Clearly, a great deal of work remained to be done before Bryant could be made to confess to the shootings.

AVERY CAPERS

Bryant’s second lawyer, David Gunson, failed to make any headway in this respect, and on 30 September 1996 Bryant pleaded “not guilty” to all of the 72 charges against him. He did so “clearly and coolly.”60 Gunson resigned as Bryant’s lawyer the very next day and refused to clarify his reasons to the media. The individual who rose to the task was John Avery, who had already been involved in the case as part of the police effort to frame Hobart gun dealer Terry Hill for allegedly supplying Bryant with the weapons and ammunition used at Port Arthur. That Avery was waiting in the wings, ready to take over from Gunson, can be inferred from his presence in the courtroom when Bryant pleaded “not guilty.” Avery met with Bryant for the first time the following day – the day that Gunson retired from the case.

Avery did in one month what Gunson had failed to do in five. On 7 November 1996, Bryant reversed his “not guilty” pleas and finally, on 22 November 1996, pleaded “guilty” 72 times. The fact that on the latter occasion Bryant tittered between his “guilty” pleas is a baffling circumstance that begs comparison with his experience on 30 September. On that occasion, Bryant entered “not guilty” pleas without any inappropriate noises, so it is extremely strange that he apparently tittered while pleading “guilty.” Since one would expect the opposite – that a mass murderer declaring himself “not guilty” might do so with some self-amusement – it is striking that Bryant apparently was more amused by the idea of pleading “guilty.”

Alternatively, he may have been trying to send the public a message: the sounds he made to accompany his “guilty” pleas may have been intended to help convey the message that his pleas were insincere and not to be taken at face value. A further circumstance that invites concern is that, having pleaded “guilty” to all charges, Bryant was never escorted over the crime scene to verify that he had perpetrated the criminal acts to which he had allegedly confessed. Such walk-thrus are a staple of modern crime investigations and are invariably videotaped. Footage of this nature is often used in TV crime programs, such as Forensic Investigators and similar American programs (Body of Evidence). In short, Bryant has never corroborated his “guilty” pleas – a fact that makes them virtually worthless.

How did the turnaround come about in the space of about a month? Until recently, it has been impossible to do more than guess how Bryant was finally persuaded to plead “guilty” to all charges against him. All we have had to go by is a sequence of events that looks extremely suspicious: (i). Bryant stunned the Tasmanian legal
Mass Murder

Establishment by refusing to plead “guilty”; (ii). Bryant’s lawyer [David Gunson; the second] abandoned his client; (iii). Bryant was given yet another [the third] lawyer, John Avery; and, (iv). Bryant pleaded “guilty” a month later. Three transcripts of conversations between Bryant and Avery, published by The Bulletin on 4 April 2006, shed a great deal of light on the sudden transformation.

Threat of a Trial

However, before we discuss what can be learned from The Bulletin-published transcripts, it is important to emphasise that the first transcript supports the conclusion that the DPP was extraordinarily anxious to prevent a trial from being held:

Bryant: ...Mr B., do you know Mr B.?
Avery: I know Mr B, yes, and Mr D.

Bryant: Well, they are trying to brainwash me to not having a trial. [added emphasis]

It is intriguing that The Bulletin has suppressed the names of the two individuals who, unacknowledged in any public source concerning the Port Arthur case, were clearly part of some irregular or extra-legal form of pressure being exerted on Bryant. (I know of no one involved with Bryant’s case whose surname begins with “D.” However, ”Mr. B” might well be Damian Bugg)

Michael Charles Dyson

Although Dyson’s eyes in this image on an Internet poster seem demonic, the image has not in any way been manipulated. – ed.

If Bryant were really guilty, there would seem no reason why a trial should not have been held. On the other hand, it would be consistent with the case of Bryant being set up that a trial be averted at all costs. Bryant clearly raised the stakes by pleading “not guilty” to all charges on 30 September 1996. At this stage, the DPP at least went through [ostensibly] the motions of preparing for the possibility there would be a trial. A first-session provisional date was set for 18 November 1996. Throughout October 1996, the DPP’s focus was on strategies for controlling such a trial. One strategy was clearly to sift through the body of witness testimony and eliminate witnesses who posed a problem for the prosecution – for example, Mrs. Scurr.
One witness scrubbed at this point was Wendy Scurr. Despite her status as one of the more high-profile witnesses, Scurr was sent a letter by the office of the DPP, dated 15 October 1996, informing her that her witness testimony “will not be necessary in the trial of Martin Bryant.” By far the most interesting part of this letter – which does not even consider the possibility that Avery might call her as a witness for the defence – is a passage in which Scurr was warned against speaking to the media prior to the trial: “Because you are not called as a witness it does not mean that you can freely discuss issues in a public way. We would be most concerned if there was any inappropriate pre-trial publicity about this matter. We would ask that you exercise caution if you are approached by any representative of the Media as it would be unfortunate indeed if the trial process was in any way delayed or complicated through inappropriate pre-trial discussions.”65 The intimidating tone of this letter defies belief.

By 15 October 1996, Bryant was already the victim of the most prejudicial pre-trial publicity in Australian history. Given that there is virtually nothing Scurr could have said to foster a more anti-Bryant climate than that which already existed, it would be difficult to interpret this letter as a warning to her not to contribute in any way to the further demonisation of the accused. Virtually the only way Scurr could have “delayed” or “complicated” the trial was if she had thrown a spanner into the works by publicly declaring that the man she saw at the PAHS that day had not been Bryant – which we now know is her position – or if she had reported the existence of hitherto unsuspected accomplices.

This letter could therefore be regarded as a deliberate attempt by the prosecution to pervert the course of justice by ordering a witness to shut up. It is the authors of this letter – Damian Bugg, and DPP clerk Nick Perks – who should therefore be under scrutiny.66 A further insight into the deviousness of the DPP’s strategies derives from Bryant himself. On 3 October 1996, Bryant told Avery that he was not allowed to cut his hair, which by that stage was so long and unruly as to resemble dreadlocks:

Bryant: ...I can’t have a haircut until after the Court case.
Avery: Who said that?
Bryant: I mentioned that to one of the officers.
Avery: Oh, did you?
Bryant: He said to me the other day, “You can’t till after the court case.” I’ll have to try and brush my hair a bit and keep it tidy.67

Given that the only thing Bryant had in common with the Port Arthur gunman – other than being male and under 30 – was his long blond hair, it is hardly surprising that he was denied a haircut. The DPP would have wanted Bryant to preserve the image of a blond Rambo in case his distinctive appearance became a factor during a trial. In any event, Avery’s successful interventions in the case soon spared the DPP the immense trauma of orchestrating a trial, and when Bryant appeared in court in November he had in fact had a haircut.

65 in Noel McDonald. A Presentation of the Port Arthur Incident: 2001: p. 264. (Wernerhoff)
66 In fact, Bugg has done well out of Port Arthur. On 19 October 1996, The Mercury newspaper revealed that during the year Bugg’s income had risen from a regular annual salary of A$107,638 to c.A$221,836, including the value of a private-plated car. Soon afterwards, Bugg was promoted to Federal Director of Public Prosecutions. (Wernerhoff)
67 These words of Martin Bryant are significant in two ways: i. It is obvious Martin believed there would be a “court case” (a trial) during which he knew he should look presentable. He had been raised by good parents who had taught him to be clean and tidy and neat in his appearance. (It is strange that he usually had his hair short, but a few months before the Port Arthur incident he had let it grow long. Why? Was he encouraged to do this? By whom?) So to Martin, his hair should have been cut and he mentioned this to Avery in association with the phrase “court case.”

Avery was told Martin was expecting to appear at court in a trial related to the Port Arthur incident, which he was concerned about. For that trial, Martin wanted his hair cut, but he had concluded he would have to “brush my hair a bit and keep it tidy”; and ii. During one of the phone calls made by one of the Jamies inside Seascape, the following was stated to Merrin Craig who was living at the Nubeena police station residence: “Playing with yourself, are we?” (appears in Part 2, see INDEX) Now, do you believe Martin Bryant, who had an IQ of 66, would phone that police station looking for the cop there (Why? Where would Bryant have got that phone number from?), then ask the woman who answered the phone if she was masturbating? It is completely out of character for Bryant. He thought more about things like keeping his hair “tidy.” It seems the Jamie who made that phone call – Benjamin Overbeeke who it is said is the Port Arthur gunman – must have had the telephone number of the Nubeena police station. Bryant had no reason to look for constable Hyland, but it seems Overbeeke did – which is highly suggestive.
AVERY TRANSCRIPTS

During October 1996, John Avery engaged in untold hours of discussions with Martin Bryant at Risdon Prison Hospital. Of the 20 meetings the pair had during that period, only the transcripts for parts of three have been made public. (Whether these transcripts are accurate verbatim records of the conversations must remain in doubt. Their accuracy clearly cannot be firmed without having access to the original recordings.) The first transcript, which preserves part of a conversation that took place on 3 October 1996, is from most points of view the most important. The second and third present a Bryant echoing the police tune like a trained parrot.

How Avery got Bryant to the point that only five days later he would casually discuss the massacre as if he had really perpetrated it is a subject that is ignored in the published transcripts; only unedited transcripts of all the conversations would provide the necessary clues.

Avery’s major concern was apparently to persuade Bryant away from persisting with his “not guilty” pleas, as doing so would force a trial. As he told The Bulletin: “That was the hardest thing, because if Bryant wanted to be the ringmaster, it was going to be difficult to stop him.” When Avery met Bryant on 3 October 1996, Bryant clearly still regarded himself as the ringmaster and was anticipating a trial in the not-too-distant future. Only five days later, according to the second transcript (8 October 1996), Bryant was apparently prepared to accept responsibility for literally any acts Avery wanted him to, no matter how heinous, meaning a trial would no longer be necessary.

Two factors seem to have contributed to the transformation. The first was Avery’s success in convincing Bryant that, without an alibi for his whereabouts at the time of the massacre, he had no viable defence strategy. “I can’t magically find a defence that you were in Hong Kong or somewhere else,” he told Bryant.

The second factor was Avery’s use of evidence allegedly putting Bryant at Port Arthur on 28 April 1996. In addition to the old chestnut that lots of people saw him at Port Arthur – “Heaps and heaps of people [say] you’re it, you were there” – Bryant was given an undisclosed number of witness statements to study. Since his low IQ would have rendered him unable to consider the possibility that the statements he was given had been faked or were being presented to him in a misleading way – matters concerning the integrity of the evidence are, of course, normally the responsibility of the defence; but Avery was not seeking to defend Bryant, only persuade him to plead guilty. Bryant was left in the position of being forced to conclude that the man they referred to could only have been him.

THE BALASKO VIDEO

Avery told Bryant that the evidence against him, in addition to the witness statements, included a video image: “…they’ve even got a photograph of you off the video walking round with a gun at Port Arthur shooting everyone. So you’re pretty distinctive.” The video to which Avery was referring can only have been that allegedly made by American tourist James Balasko. It is a fake. It was reportedly
filmed from behind a campervan as the gunman returned to his vehicle. However, the actual circumstances in which the video came to light are highly suspicious and militate strongly against its authenticity.

The official story is that Tasmania Police only became aware of the video’s existence after a follow-up interview with Balasko on 1 August 1996, two weeks before the police investigation concluded. To be sure, Balasko did not mention having filmed the gunman in the police witness statement he gave on the day following the massacre. The best explanation for Balasko’s failure to mention the video on that occasion is, quite simply, that he hadn’t made one. It is, after all, extremely improbable that he would have tried filming the gunman. Like most of the latter’s other potential victims, the American’s priority at that stage would have been to remain as inconspicuous as possible. Yet seven months later, Damian Bugg, told the supreme court that Balasko had “placed himself in a position of danger” in order to make the film, and furthermore that the risk had become a reality because the gunman noticed Balasko filming and fired a shot at him. Can we really believe that Balasko would have risked his life to make a video?

The two contradictory statements Balasko made regarding the circumstances in which he allegedly made the video are proof of the hoax. In his 29 April statement, he said that he ducked behind the campervan precisely because he saw the gunman take aim at him. He made no mention of either possessing a video camera or filming the gunman. In his statement of 1 August, however, Balasko said: “As I was filming the shooter, he noticed me sticking out behind the van with my camera....” Not only are the two statements irreconcilable, but if Balasko really had made a video of the gunman it beggars belief that he would not have mentioned it to the police at the first opportunity. At this stage, the footage would have been of immense value to both the police and the Australian media. What’s more, failing to declare the existence of footage pertaining to the commission of a crime would probably have constituted a felony. There can be little doubt, therefore, that Balasko and Tasmania Police are lying and the video was actually concocted after the event. Balasko, who is rumoured to be an American CIA operative, would readily have agreed to help the police out by vouching for the spurious footage. He also agreed to overdub some corny commentary for the video’s first public presentation on Channel 9.68

The spuriousness of the video becomes readily apparent upon close examination. Particularly suspicious is the fact that the images of the shooter captured in the video entirely lack facial detail. The facial area looks unnaturally washed out, which can only have been the result of digital tampering. The only discernible facial feature, in fact, is the outline of the actor’s nose, which looks pert and feminine – in clear contrast to Bryant’s extremely full nose.

In this regard, Ian McNiven, a critic of the official Port Arthur story, made an interesting observation that towards the end of the footage:

68 A Current Affair; 24 November 1996.
FOR a nicely presented pitch of lies, go to portarthur.org.au where you will find a small (six-panel; gate-fold) brochure entitled: A brief outline of events, which refers to the day of official killing at and near Port Arthur, Tasmania, Sunday 28 April 1996.

You are to believe this subject is so sensitive, you are not even to ask any employee at the Port Arthur Historic Site (PAHS) about it. Can you imagine what would happen to any employee if he/she told the truth to some visitors? Though this is most unlikely to happen. No doubt all the employees there now are more concerned about their jobs than they are about the truth, or about poor innocent Martin Bryant. This is what readers of the brochure are told:

"Please understand that for many people, including staff members at Port Arthur, answering questions about the events of 28 April 1996 can be very disturbing. [Yes, the truth is disturbing.] We prefer not even to use the name of the person responsible. [Benjamin Overbeeke?] We want to explain to visitors what happened, but we also want to protect our people from distress. [So they have been told lies, and now you will be lied to.] This account is intended to outline the facts with clarity and simplicity." (original emphasis)

Of course it is disturbing to people (includes staff) if they know or suspect the official narrative is a big lie, which clearly it is. This is what a former PAHS supervisor says: "I am very disillusioned with the present system which is denying survivors of this tragedy the opportunity of presenting their testimony in the cause of truth and justice." (Robyn Cooper) This is what a former information officer of PAHS has stated: "A hell of a cover-up." (Wendy Scurr) This is what a female commentator on the official killing at PAHS has said: "The relatives of the [35] people gunned down on that day are entitled to know who really did kill their loved ones!" (Helen Laxton) And this is what a male commentator on the official killings has stated: "What appalls me is that no-one seems to answer the important questions they raise about the Port Arthur killings – questions that cry out for real answers." (Michael Moore)

Normal decent people do not accept the sham pretense that people must be sensitive. People who think are sick of the deception, are sick of the cover-up. They have said that not only do the relatives of the 35 shot to death at and near Port Arthur 17 years ago deserve to know the whole truth about officials who killed their loved ones, EVERYONE IN AUSTRALIA deserves to know.

This official cover-up brochure then goes on with its deceptive tripe and lies. (Italicized comments of the editor follow each extract from the brochure.):

"On the morning of Sunday 28 April 1996, a young Hobart man armed himself with three high-powered automatic firearms and a large quantity of ammunition, then drove to Port Arthur." Martin Bryant never owned any automatic firearms. Not one. At the time of the shooting, one semi-automatic rifle he did own had been left for repairs at a licensed gunshop in Hobart. That leaves two semi-automatic weapons. There is no evidence Martin Bryant took either of those weapons to Port Arthur that Sunday. Police say he did, but have not produced anything to prove it. There is no evidence that those two weapons were fired at or near Port Arthur. There is no evidence proving the "shitloads" of ammunition alleged to be in Martin Bryant’s possession belonged to him. (cont.)
“Just north of the township he entered the home of a local couple he knew. Inside, he shot and killed them both. He drove to the Historic Site and ate a meal on the deck of the Broad Arrow Café. He re-entered the café, which was crowded with lunchtime customers, took a rifle from his bag and began shooting. In the first 90 seconds, 20 people died and 12 were injured.” There is no evidence Martin Bryant ever went voluntarily inside Seascape cottage. There is no evidence he shot and killed anyone, certainly not David and Sally Martin the two co-owners. In their Witness Statements, neighbours reported shots possibly emanating from Seascape long before Martin Bryant was anywhere near it. And of course there is no mention of the naked black-haired woman running and screaming in the yard that afternoon, a fact reported by several cops. No. Everything has to fit with the corrupt official narrative. Which is why there are more unproved lies about 20 people dying and 12 being injured in 90 seconds. Several witnesses have written that this did not happen. Of course there is no mention of the seven people who died because they could not exit the café because of the inoperable emergency door which PAHS officials knew about. And there is no mention of a second sports bag being left behind in the café to incriminate Martin Bryant. It’s right in the police training video.

“After shooting indiscriminately at people in the grounds of the Historic Site, he got into his car and drove up the former main entrance road to the original toll booth. In this area, seven more people were killed in two separate incidents, during which he stole a victim’s car and abandoned his own.” No mention of the fact that in the police training video the body of one of the children is moved to reveal a spent cartridge beneath the body – an impossibility, the result of some official placing that spent cartridge beneath the body. And no mention at all of the fact that at the tollbooth four people in a gold-coloured BMW were waiting for the gunman – WAITING FOR HIM. Two of those people even got into the (Volvo) vehicle which the gunman was driving and spoke confidentially with him. No. You won’t find such details in this memorial garden brochure.

“At the house, the man set fire to the stolen car, then took his hostage inside. Through the afternoon and night, shots were fired at police officers on the scene. At some point during this time, the gunman killed the hostage and was captured by police as he fled from the burning building.” The lies get richer and richer. There is no evidence the gunman who took the BMW set fire to it. Everything suggests it was burnt by a member of Tasmania Police. There is no evidence the gunman took his hostage inside Seascape. Officials want people to believe this, so they will not raise the belief that Glenn Pears was incinerated alive while locked in the BMW boot. Officials never did present any handcuffs which they allege were on Pears inside Seascape. Officials never did present any handcuffs which they allege were on Pears inside Seascape. Again, there is no evidence Martin Bryant fired a shot at Seascape. He staggered out unarmed with his back on fire and in a mentally abnormal state. Everything suggests he had been drugged and left to burn to death in Seascape cottage which evidence suggests the cops set on fire. Readers of the brochure will not find details in it about Benjamin Overbeeke or Michael Charles Dyson. Nor are they told that none of the firearms allegedly found at the cottage belonged to Martin Bryant.

At PAHS, you are expected to go weepy and never ask intelligent questions. Be a good visitor and do as you’re told by the sensitive officials. Go and look at the memorial garden plaque – but don’t ask why the name of the victim Raymond Sharp (brother of Kevin Sharp) is missing, or why. Sssssh.... And never ask any PAHS employee about how Martin Bryant (the 36th victim) could be imprisoned until he dies, WITHOUT A TRIAL. Never ask about this. – ed.
“...just as the gunman turns to face Balasko’s camera showing the gunman’s face, the head of the gunman disappears having been clearly fuzzed out when the remainder [of] him is quite clear.... The dazzling gold hair also has disappeared.... This fact is clear evidence someone didn’t want the gunman’s face seen and the reason is because it wasn’t that of Martin Bryant. What they wanted the public to see was the blond-haired man....”

ABDUCTED THEN DRUGGED?
Now that it’s been established that Bryant appears to have been persuaded to plead “guilty” to the massacre because he had no alibi, the question that arises is this: if Bryant was not guilty of the crimes at the PAHS, where was he when they took place? Why is it that no one can provide him with an alibi for his whereabouts between 12:50 p.m. and 1:50 p.m. on 28 April 1996? There are, as we should expect, very few clues as to what happened. All that can be said with confidence is that something happened to Bryant shortly after he stopped for coffee and a toasted sandwich at Nubeena, since that is when his pseudo-memories began.

The baffling gap that appears in Bryant’s recollections after Nubeena can probably best be explained by a scenario in which Bryant was intercepted, abducted and drugged into unconsciousness after he left Nubeena. If Bryant had any genuine memories of that period, he would probably have been far less suggestible than he turned out to be. Around lunchtime on 28 April, therefore, Bryant must have been administered a drug that literally knocked him out until he woke up, with his back on fire, in Seascape the following morning. (The lingering effects of the drug may explain why Bryant retained no memory of the bedside hearing on 30 April at which time he was formally charged with the murder of Kate Elizabeth Scott.) Thus, with no memory of where he was at the time of the massacre because by then he was already unconscious; accordingly, no one can provide him with an alibi for his whereabouts in the crucial time period because by that stage he was already in police custody. The interception and abduction of Bryant can be deduced from a number of intriguing facts.

First of all, in his 4 July police interrogation, Bryant lamented that one of the only two things he had done wrong was “being caught with not having a driver’s licence.” However, there is nothing on the public record about Bryant’s apprehension for driving without a licence. This otherwise overlooked incident probably suggests that, after he left Nubeena, Bryant was intercepted by the police, the pretext for taking him into custody being his lack of a driver’s licence. His Volvo would have been taken into custody at the same time. One of the policemen could have drugged Bryant – probably at Nubeena Police Station – then delivered him unconscious to Seascape in the boot of his police vehicle, while the other would have dropped Bryant’s car off at the PAHS before the massacre began.

This scenario presupposes that there were police in the area tailing him. Strikingly, three policemen were present in the area that day, any or all of whom could have been involved in the abduction effort.
According to the official story, sometime around midday the only two policemen on the Tasman Peninsula, Paul Hyland of Nubeena police station and Garry Whittle of Dunalley police station, were summoned away to a remote location at Saltwater River – the farthest point on the peninsula – by an anonymous caller reporting a large stash of heroin. About an hour later, the policemen allegedly rang in to report that it was a hoax call and that nothing had been found at Saltwater River other than a sample of ordinary soap powder. It is generally assumed that the perpetrators of the massacre decoyed the two policemen to this remote location in order to retard the police response to the massacre. This story could well be bogus and have been invented to provide an alibi for police doings in the crucial hours beforehand. At the time the policemen were allegedly decoyed on a wild goose chase, they could well have been actually engaged in abducting Martin Bryant and commandeering his Volvo.

A third policeman, constable Chris Iles from Sorell Police Station, was also present in the area at the time of the massacre. According to eyewitness Kyle Spruce, Iles appeared in front of Port Arthur General Store within a minute or two of the gunman’s departure. He then sped off towards Seascape. No explanation has ever been given for Iles being out of his own district that afternoon, just as there has been no explanation for what he did after he reached Seascape, which he would have done within five or 10 minutes.

The scenario described above would account for several interesting circumstances:

1. Bryant told his interrogators that while surfing at Roaring Beach he noticed two people bodysurfing in short wetsuits at the other end of the beach. It is interesting that Bryant should recall such a trivial detail. That he chose to mention it may indicate that he assigned the men some significance – significance which has been expunged from the interrogation transcript. Could the men have been Hyland and Whittle? If so, how did they know they could commence tailing Bryant from there? Did Bryant’s girlfriend Petra Willmott, after she left his house that morning, alert them to the fact that Bryant planned to go surfing at Roaring Beach?

2. According to Michael Beekman and Rebecca McKenna – two persons who had been sitting near the gunman on the front deck area of the Broad Arrow Café – the Port Arthur gunman was watching the carpark anxiously in the period between about 1:10 and 1:15 p.m. According to PAHS employee Aileen Kingston, a yellow Volvo arrived at the Port Arthur toll gate at around the same time. The vehicle could therefore have entered the Port Arthur carpark a minute or two later. After a few minutes of inane chatter, the gunman suddenly rose from his table on the front deck and entered the café proper. Chronologically, the two events are so closely tied that they must represent cause and effect.

The Volvo’s arrival in the carpark appears to have been a signal to the gunman that the massacre was to go ahead as planned. (The use of such a signalling device seems obvious enough when you consider that the decision as to whether the massacre was to go...
Those asking this type of question have not thought about reality, or they have, then chose not to assist. Their underlying assumption is that as soon as a witness speaks out, the whole official narrative will unravel and whatever wrong that exists will be quickly righted. But unfortunately, life does not function that way. Around the world there are innocent people in prison. Getting them out is not just a simple matter of someone presenting exculpatory evidence and the prison gates are opened wide. Good lawyers – there are some moral ones – have to fight long debilitating and expensive battles to overcome resistance put up by the State. (see Clive Stafford Smith. Injustice; 2012)

Next thing, because it seems no one has spoken out does not mean many witnesses have not already gone to officials and raised exculpatory evidence. But if this fact does not get into the media, the public will never know. Media channels are regulated by the State, and controlled by their owners. Information does not get into the media if it will create turmoil for the State and embarrassment and/or litigation against the media owners. It’s called censorship and it comes in two types: State censorship; & self-censorship. And with reference to any case in which there is some injustice, it would be rare not to find words of people speaking out on the Internet. People do speak out (look at the Martin Bryant case), but States which control all levers of official power just deny, denigrate, and/or dismiss all evidence which conflicts with their official narratives. The people who ask this why has no one come forward question are either clueless or deceitful. Decent people do speak out about injustices in the world, but their good efforts do not always bring about immediate positive outcomes.

3. At around 1:50 p.m., in circumstances that remain extremely obscure, two things seem to have happened at Seascape. A hostage was taken out of the boot of a vehicle and taken inside Seascape cottage. At more or less the same time, an explosion occurred which destroyed the BMW that had been hijacked by the gunman. It is entirely possible that the hostage who was taken by the gunman – Glenn Pears – was still inside the boot of the vehicle when it ignited, and that the hostage who was taken inside the cottage was none other than Martin Bryant. In short, the gunman might have taken Glenn Pears hostage for no other reason than to provide a cover story for witness sightings of a hostage being bundled into Seascape. Although the official story is that Pears’ body was found inside Seascape, only the officers who first opened the BMW’s boot after the siege was over the following morning – and the media were not allowed to visit the location until 11:00 a.m., giving the police a period of approximately two hours in which to tamper with the crime scene – would be in a position to know the truth.

WHERE ARE THE WITNESSES?

All researchers of the Port Arthur Massacre (PAM) face essentially the same obstacle when they seek to show that the official narrative cannot be true. If that story is not true, people ask, then why haven’t eyewitnesses come forward to denounce it as a hoax and tell us what they saw? In my opinion, it is impossible to answer this question satisfactorily without presenting an overarching theory of the case.

In this three-part article I have concerned myself with only a part of the whole: the issue of Bryant’s framing. A great many aspects of the case have not been dealt with for reasons of space, and these aspects include evidence that would convince anyone that the massacre involved elements of the Australian federal government.

In the wake of John Howard’s emergence as opposition leader in January 1995 and police forensic expert sergeant Gerard Dutton’s move from Sydney to Hobart soon afterwards, the year preceding the events of 28 April 1996 also saw a staggering number of personnel changes within the Tasmanian government, including premier Ray Groom’s baffling exchange of the state’s top job for a swag of ministerial portfolios six weeks before the massacre. Also, in June 1995, Jim Laycock sold the Broad Arrow Café to the Tasmanian government. This, in an age of privatisation, seems to have been an extremely unusual case of acquisition by government of the kind of business normally considered the preserve of private enterprise. The government, which took over the building on 1 July 1995, then proceeded to refurbish it – presumably to create the perfect environment for the kind of massacre being planned. The work included the insertion of a new door to the rear of the building – the very door which infamously failed to operate on the day of the massacre.
A particularly damning piece of evidence is the fact that in 1995 the Tasmanian government ordered a mortuary vehicle that was capable of carrying 16 bodies at once.\textsuperscript{73} It is impossible to account for the government’s decision to buy such a vehicle when Tasmania – which had been the most peaceful in Australia for over 100 years – had an average murder rate of \textbf{one every two months}. No other state, not even New South Wales and Victoria – the states in which all previous gun rampages had taken place – possessed a vehicle with such substantial capacity. So why did the Tasmanian government decide it needed such a vehicle in 1995? And why did it subsequently decide that the vehicle, having proved its worth at Port Arthur in 1996, would not be needed in future and, in September 1998, offer it for sale? Someone with remarkable abilities of prediction seems to have been steering the course of Tasmanian government policy in the 1990s.

The mortuary ambulance remains just one small piece of the puzzle. It takes looking at only a few such pieces before it becomes impossible to avoid the conclusion that the massacre had to have been organised by elements within the Tasmanian government (albeit presumably at the instigation of the federal government). It is only as a government conspiracy that the carnage makes any sense.

The most important clue perhaps is that, when the shooting began at 1:27 p.m. that day, the café was crowded with in excess of 60 people. It was “chockers” (crammed full), to quote witness Michael Beekman. This is because, in addition to the regular numbers of tourists, there was a sizeable contingent of members of the Australian security (police/military) and intelligence establishments – including many individuals who appear to have been agents of covert government organisations such as ASIO and the even more secretive ASIS.

Among the dead, there is considerable certainty regarding the intelligence affiliations of Tony Kistan, Andrew Mills, and Anthony Nightingale.\textsuperscript{74} Of the survivors, those who have been tentatively identified as spooks include Rob Atkins, Karen Atkins, Lyn Beavis, Justin Noble, and Hans Overbeeke....

Intelligence agents from abroad may also have been involved. In addition to two suspicious Americans – James Balasko, whose role in the production of a \textbf{fake video} was mentioned above, and \textbf{gun-control advocate} Dennis Olson – there is the intriguing case of a Taiwanese man injured in the shooting who would not tell anyone his name, and whose identity in fact has been suppressed by the DPP, even to the point that Bugg referred to an “Asian gentleman” rather than a “Taiwanese gentleman.”\textsuperscript{75} It seems that planning for the massacre drew upon the expertise of intelligence agents from around the world.

The most plausible explanation for the presence of so many agents in the café at the same time is that their work had brought them there: their job was to pose as members of the public and help manage the aftermath of the slaughter. Some may have been tasked with scooping up evidence afterwards; others may have been coached to talk

\textsuperscript{73} This vehicle was built for the incident at Port Arthur. It was later sold and the notice appeared on the Internet in September 1999. (Interested parties were asked to contact: cwright@trump.net.au) In that notice, the vehicle is described as a \textbf{22-body vehicle}: “Yellow Chevrolet 350 V8 truck with refrigerated body, holds 22, this vehicle was primarily used as the disaster vehicle in the Port Arthur Massacre. This vehicle is currently for sale....” (see Part 6)

\textsuperscript{74} Anthony Nightingale, who was ostensibly an employee of the Commonwealth Bank at Noble Park, Victoria, is particularly interesting. According to one researcher, Nightingale’s beneficiary received a six-figure payout from his employer in compensation for his death – a fact that implies that, far from being on holiday, he was on active duty at the time. (Wernerhoff; added emphasis; see Christine Caulfield. \textit{Big compo for Port Arthur massacre nurse}; The Mercury; 10 August 2004: compo is Australian slang for the word compensation) For a more detailed insight into the presence of these intelligence agents, see newsletter number 227 (November 2004) of the Adelaide Institute: adelaidenicnstitute.org/newsletters/n227.htm.

\textsuperscript{75} Noel McDonald. \textit{A Presentation of the Port Arthur Incident}; 2001: pp. 185, 225. (Wernerhoff) On the list of injured (23) which this editor has seen, there is no person with an Asian, Chinese, or Taiwanese name. It seems that this injured person was able to keep his name off the list of people injured at or near PAHS. This is highly suspicious.
to the press, perhaps to offer detailed descriptions of a gunman who would, at least in their accounts, bear an uncanny resemblance to Bryant and to provide other sundry pieces of disinformation. Other operatives may have been present only because they wanted to see for themselves how everything went down, perhaps out of curiosity or out of career development motives.

Obviously, they cannot have expected the massacre to take place inside the café. The expectation seems to have been that it would be carried out some distance away, on the Isle of the Dead. At least four witnesses – Rob Atkins, Michael Beekman, Gaye Lynd, Rebecca McKenna – claimed to have heard the gunman make remarks about going to the Isle of the Dead to kill wasps. After the shootings, the idea that the gunman’s original destination was the Isle of the Dead was expressed by several people including PAHS employee Ian Kingston and assistant police commissioner Lupo Prins.

Prins told The Mercury newspaper of Hobart: “At one stage we thought he was trying to get on a boat which a lot of people were on, to go to the Isle of the Dead. Had he got on the vessel he could have shot everybody on board, so the potential was there for it to be a lot worse than it was.” I have always been highly sceptical about the idea that the police were able to read the gunman’s mind – to claim to know what he intended to do – when there are no indications, other than a few vague references to the island, that he planned to do anything other than what he finally did do. What we are supposed to believe, apparently, is that the gunman only entered the Broad Arrow Café after he had learned that the Bundeena ferry service was taking tourists out to the Isle of the Dead at 2:00 p.m. that day, not at 1:30 p.m. as he had supposed. (The ferry timetable had been changed two weeks earlier.)

This theory has the advantage of explaining why a café brimming with intelligence agents became the target. Unfortunately, the theory also asks us to accept two highly unlikely things: (i) that the gunman (or anyone working with him) never bothered to check the ferry timetable carefully before he came up with his plan; and, (ii) that at more or less the last minute the gunman, on his own initiative, made a radical change of plan and fixed on the café as the location, even though it was “chockers” with agents involved in the exact same plot.

Yet according to Rebecca McKenna’s Witness Statement of 28 April 1996, the gunman went from chatting idly about European wasps to entering the café in the space of a few minutes. As far as I can tell, nothing significant happened in the interval – although the gunman was watching the carpark anxiously and must have had a reason for being fixated on that area. It is possible, therefore, although I think not highly likely, that someone signalled to him from the carpark that the café, rather than the Isle of the Dead, was to become the massacre scene. (My view [Wernerhoff] is that what he observed was, rather, the delivery of the Volvo to the carpark, and that the presence of the real Bryant vehicle was the signal for the massacre to begin.)
EYES THAT SHAME AUSTRALIAN JOURNALISM

If you’re an Australian journalist who earns a living from writing, reporting and commentating, imagine these eyes from time to time, staring at you hopelessly. They’re the eyes of a fellow human being. **They cry out for justice.** Have you been looking the other way? [This image] was before his indefinite incarceration in a prison from which he’s been denied any hope of eventual release. Reports suggest he’s become a despondent overweight zombie. He doesn’t even watch television. Letters are left unopened. His condition is described as an example of a living death sentence. His name is Martin Bryant. Yet doubts persist. It’s partly the improbability of the official narrative of the atrocity, partly the unseemly lack of due process. At the behest of newly-elected prime minister John Howard, **no** coronial inquiry was ever held into the 1996 Port Arthur Massacre. There was **no** inquest. **Nor was the evidence against Bryant ever tested in court.**

Initially Martin Bryant signalled his intention to plead not guilty. Then another lawyer, John Avery, was retained on his behalf. Mr Avery advised Bryant to plead guilty and avoid a painful trial. By that time, Martin Bryant had been locked up for several months. He was isolated and probably very confused. Bryant’s IQ is apparently quite low. Eventually, the prisoner acquiesced and pled guilty on all charges. After the trial, he refused to see Avery again. In the late 1990s, John Avery was a successful and respected Tasmanian barrister. When later he waxed lyrical on numerous occasions in the media about Bryant’s guilt – and excoriated **conspiracy theories** that suggested otherwise – Avery’s voice was authoritative and persuasive. That was until 2006. Now Avery is also in jail. **Avery is a convicted fraudster.**

The lack of judicial due process in the case of the Port Arthur massacre is a scandal of national proportions. The complicity of Australia’s mass media is equally malodorous – as is the silence of leading politicians within all the major parties.

**A foul smell hangs over the Port Arthur massacre.** Was an innocent man sacrificed as a patsy? Is this an unsolved mass murder? It follows that if the **lone-nut** theory of Bryant’s sole guilt is incorrect, the massacre and subsequent cover-up were carried out by people with extremely good connections. Does no-one in the Australian mass media **have the guts** to raise concerns openly about Port Arthur? Will no-one **call for the long-overdue inquest and/or public inquiry into the atrocity?**

Syd Walker (sydwalker.info)

*Eyes that shame Australian journalism*

14 April 2009

(amended; added emphasis)

71 Avery was paroled from prison in 2012. An absolute disgrace to his profession and a blot on humanity, this thief stole from his clients and his colleagues. Martin Bryant never had a chance with this foul bit of human excrement. (a POS)
I part ways with most other PAM researchers, therefore, when I reject the theory of the Homer-Simpson-like gunman so daft as to forget to check the ferry timetable ahead of time (doh!) and argue that the eventual outcome was far from being an accident: the gunman was a skilled professional who did exactly what he had been trained to do. The view that the massacre went off according to plan is buttressed by the footage that was released to the media of faked images of the gunman’s blue sports bag sitting on top of a table inside the entirely pristine café.

Referring to a frame taken from the footage that appears on his website, McNiven writes that since it is “inconceivable” that the police “would have cleaned up the crime scene to take this picture,” it must have been taken before the massacre – perhaps, I would suggest, before the café opened for business that day. This seems strong evidence that the massacre unfolded in the café exactly as planned.

The key to understanding the massacre is thus that it contained at its heart a double-cross mechanism enabling it to eliminate a substantial part of the personnel who had actually been involved in planning it. It is certainly hard not to believe that Anthony Nightingale was involved in the plot: as soon as the shooting started, he leapt up from his seat to cry out: “No, no, not here!” Clearly, Nightingale knew, or thought he knew, where the massacre was supposed to take place. Yet the gunman fired on regardless.

The best answer, therefore, to the question of why no survivors have come forward is that many, if not most, were intelligence operatives. Those who knew about the massacre were expecting to be able to observe it from a safe distance. Those at the highest levels of the plot had in mind a quite different development: the massacre would lead to the elimination of most of the people who knew anything about it. This was easily done – only a handful needed to know that the carnage would really take place inside the café – and would ensure that afterwards there were very few left who actually knew what had happened and so there could be few leaks. The survivors, having been duped in this way, would have been left in an extremely awkward position. They could hardly have gone public with what they knew, for to do so would oblige them to admit that they had been involved in a plot to murder tourists on the Isle of the Dead.

If my theory is correct, there is a silver lining to the horrendously dark cloud that was the Port Arthur massacre. At least some of the dead had themselves been party to a conspiracy to murder dozens of innocent people. Maybe there is some justice in their becoming victims of their own planning.80

Author’s Note:
Some transcript extracts used in this article have been slightly modified in the interests of readability. – Wernerhoff

(amended; added emphasis)
BRYANT has no memory of the crimes he confessed to. He was never tried even though he was under a court order that legally prohibited him from pleading guilty. The only eye-witness to see the shooter and who knew Bryant before the shootings did not identify the shooter as Bryant. The FN-FAL murder weapon cannot be linked to Bryant at all. Despite applications by family members, not one of the 35 victims has had a coronial inquest held into their death. Everyone who knew Bryant described him as gentle, kind and courteous. He lived independently from an inheritance he received in addition to his disability pension and everyone who knew him described him as happy, and always nice to everyone he encountered.

So why would someone who’s described as being nice to everyone, who essentially has no enemies and who is happy, commit mass-murder? Mental impairment is not an excuse. Bryant’s girlfriend – Petra Willmott said that he wouldn’t hurt a fly.

ABC’s Kerry O’Brien reported that Wendy Scurr and Stephen Howard (both tour guides at the time for the Port Arthur Historic Site) were calling for a coronial inquest. Howard was a survivor of the massacre but lost his wife in the shootings. He made this written statement:

"My wife Elizabeth and I were both employees at the Port Arthur historic site management authority and were both working there the day of the massacre. My wife Elizabeth was murdered inside the gift-shop section of the Broad Arrow Cafe. One of 20 victims murdered thereabouts. I know that Martin Bryant was not the gunman at the Port Arthur. How do I know? The coroner Ian Matterson wrote a letter to a number of the survivors of the massacre informing us that Martin Bryant was not the gunman at Port Arthur. In the letter dated the 31 January 1997 (Stephen then quotes the letter that I’ve copied in its entirety below – Baxter), well I thought long and hard about this statement and discussed the point with friends, you must understand that there were many other facts of the shootings inside the Broad Arrow Cafe that begged a proper open investigation including workplace safety issues and especially the issue of the emergency exit that were totally outside the issues of the gunman. It was the simple fact that a coroner Mr. Ian Matterson believed that..."
he could not make any finding that was inconsistent with the findings of the Hobart Supreme Court that really stirred me. The Supreme Court can only make the finding of Guilty or Not Guilty in the matter brought before it. It follows that for Mr. Ian Matterson’s inquest into the massacre of Port Arthur to make a finding inconsistent with the Hobart Supreme Court, then the finding could have only been that Martin Bryant was Not Guilty of the charges brought before him. For the coroner Mr. Ian Matterson to arrive at this decision not to resume the inquest, into the death of the 35 people who were murdered at the Port Arthur massacre, due to this reason which he himself provided, then the coroner must have been aware that Martin Bryant was Not Guilty of the serious offences which produced 72 charges police brought against him that day.”

**MATTerson’S LETTER – BRYANT NOT GUILTY**

31 January 1997

PORT ARTHUR

As a result of the outcome of the charges preferred against Martin Bryant in the Supreme Court of Tasmania, I write to advise I do not intend to resume the inquest that I opened on the 29th April 1996. I believe it is not in the interests of family, friends or witnesses to again traverse the factual situation to a public hearing, particularly when any finding I make must not be inconsistent with the decision of the Supreme Court.

I have today written to the Attorney General advising of my decision.

May I take this opportunity on behalf of the staff of my office to extend our condolences for your sad loss.

Yours sincerely,

Ian R. Matterson
Chief Coroner’s Delegate
Southern Tasmania

Please note this is a survivor and eyewitness who says categorically: “I know that Martin Bryant was not the gunman at Port Arthur.”

Howard was interviewed on A Current Affair and said that he believed important issues surrounding what happened on that day, and what could have been prevented needed to be addressed. The statement he made above was written after the fact that Bryant had pleaded Guilty – clearly showing he had a very firm belief that justice had not been served if he was still to contend that Bryant couldn’t have been guilty after a plea of Guilty made by Bryant.

And Wendy Scurr is as genuine as they come. She is an eyewitness who is not only vocally against the “official story” but who has been actively demanding a coronial inquest for a long time. She was a nurse and tour guide at the time and [she entered] the café [soon] after the massacre. She was the first person to phone the police, and
she is a very well trained emergency personnel (first aid instructor, etc). She saw the crime scene hours before police did, she went in and searched for survivors with her colleagues and she helped save many lives that day. On top of all of that, she has spoken in front of public audiences about her experiences, and if you have any doubts whatsoever about her, watch the videos. 83

This was a conference which was held in 2001 and there for the first time Wendy spoke publicly about the massacre. Wendy insists that if the fire door was not inoperable, seven lives would have been saved. This is just one of many facts that demonstrate that a coronial inquest would have been very valuable even if it had not made any findings exonerating Bryant or contradicting his role as the gunman. Stephen Howard referred to it as “workplace safety issues,” and faced with the allegation made by Wendy that the inoperability of the fire door cost seven lives I cannot reason why a coronial inquest would not take place. After all it is breaking standard practice in Australia not to hold one.

Wendy Scurr was amongst the first on the scene to start treating the wounded, and she was also the first person to lodge a 000 call about the incident. What is totally amazing is that one would think Wendy’s statement and version of events would be treated as very important by police, but she believes it was not and she is vocally against the official version of events. Wendy’s eyewitness report says that the shootings inside the Broad Arrow Café lasted between 4-5 minutes – more than double the official 90-second timeline.

She is not the only person to report this. [The investigator] Andrew MacGregor contends that the timeline is a fabrication intended to cover up the mishap about the broken fire door. 85 Wendy’s story is detailed and complete, it is not erratic or missing details. She states that the official version is a massive cover-up. She has been so traumatized by the event and has felt so unheard by the government and authorities that it drove her to depression and she attempted suicide.

MacGregor is a retired Victorian policeman who has investigated this case with the assistance of Wendy Scurr and others. MacGregor has some very highly developed theories (most of which he presents as fact) which I’m not including here because it is not independently verifiable; however his corroboration for some very important facts are duly noted....

We know as an incontrovertible fact that the fire door was broken. [If it had not been], it would have saved lives. Withholding a coronial inquest prevented anyone from ever being held accountable for it. An investigation [should have been held] into how such a thing could happen, so appropriate changes can be made to ensure that there is never again a risk of lives being lost to other broken fire doors. Not to mention it would have formally confirmed the number of lives that were lost due to the door being inoperable. The best estimate for the number of lives potentially saved if the door was in operation is Wendy Scurr’s estimate of seven lives.

83 See the many videos related to the Port Arthur incident posted on youtube.com.
84 Triple 0 is the public telephone number for emergencies.
85 See article THAT BLOODY DOOR in Part 8.
There is strong, recorded evidence that Bryant was not alone at Seascape. Shots are heard on a number of separate occasions while he is calmly speaking to the negotiator Terry McCarthy, some of those shots were believed to be an SKK (remember this point). The negotiator himself has reservations. He even said that Bryant sounded like he was “reading from a script” and for those and other comments that were not in line with the official story (or so it is contended) McCarthy lost his job. Furthermore Bryant references several times to an accomplice (puppet-master?) Rick.

Media Watch slammed the [media] coverage, attesting that showing Bryant’s face would prejudice potential jurors, and that the photos of Bryant were obtained illegally. They publicised the Police statement that the policeman guarding the house was distracted while another person entered.

...[The lawyer John Avery] represented Terry Hill, a gun dealer alleged to have sold Bryant his guns. Avery attempted to convince Hills to testify against Bryant and ultimately represented Bryant and had him plead Guilty to the charges. Hills was put out of business it is contended as a direct result of refusing to testify against Bryant. It should be noted that according to Hills, Bryant showed Hills a licence that day he presented one of his rifles to a Hobart gunshop owner Terry Hill (he kept it for repairs), an Internet article says Bryant showed a licence to Hill when asked: “Martin Bryant presented a licence that day in the name of ‘Martin’ Ryan correctly endorsed for prohibited and fully automatic weapons. Where Martin Bryant obtained this highly unusual licence has never been properly investigated.” (added emphasis; despatch.cth.com.au/Misc/martinbryant/PortArthur_detail2.htm) This raises very serious questions: Who issued Bryant with this licence with the false surname of Ryan? (He could never have possessed any such weapon.)

Isn’t it interesting – or should we say unprofessional – that Bryant’s lawyer John Avery himself stated that he felt he had a responsibility to Australians to get his client to plead guilty? Isn’t it interesting that John Avery, Martin Bryant’s defence lawyer himself publicly stated that Bryant didn’t want to plead guilty and it wasn’t easy to get him to and he even declares how many visits it took him to convince Bryant to do so (about 13).

Isn’t it interesting that Bryant was denied his sovereign right to be tried by a jury? Prior to that, Bryant had pleaded Not Guilty and had maintained that he was innocent for months. Was he made to plead guilty because of the lack of evidence against him? Isn’t it interesting that from interview transcripts released by Avery himself it is now known that Avery firmly believed his client to have no memory of the events and yet he still made him plead guilty? (remember this)

The way that Andrew MacGregor puts it is this: Bryant was under a court mandated guardianship – meaning that in the eyes of the law he was a child, and needed a guardian present at all times whenever legal affairs were brought before him. So not only was his request to his lawyer ignored, he was interviewed without a guardian present to begin with.

Let me state this in plain English: his civil rights were violated. He had the right to have a lawyer present, and legally he had to have a guardian present – yet neither was present in the interview with police that took his so-called confession. Here’s another question – why risk the integrity of an investigation by violating his rights when
interviewing him? Why risk losing the case against him? I could quote the entire interview (which as far as I can tell doesn’t contain a confession to killing a single person anywhere in it), but this is my favourite part:

Q.  How many guns do you own?
A.  I own umm, a shotgun and a semi-automatic and another semiautomatic. Three altogether.
Q.  Where’d you get those guns?
A.  Oh, umm, I can’t really say, I haven’t got my lawyer here so.
Q.  Well we have spoken to your lawyer and he knows that we’re talking to you.
A.  He knows, he knows.
Q.  And aah, has no problem with that so aah.
A.  Yeah I got umm, one ooh, off a gun dealer and also I got two of ‘em umm, got two off … (inaudible)\textsuperscript{87}

...When Bryant says he can’t answer that question without his lawyer, they inform him that they already asked his lawyer and everything’s ok??? You have to be kidding me!

A clear violation of his rights (on top of the fact that he didn’t have his guardian present). Remember that Bryant actually had no memory of any of the crimes. This is revealed in the recorded interviews between Bryant and his lawyer, and this was reported by in the mainstream media by Kerry O’Brien in his 7.30 Report segment and is therefore an incontrovertible fact.\textsuperscript{88} What’s also interesting is that since Bryant’s incarceration he’s not said a word about any of his crimes, the best psychiatrists Australia has to offer have seen him and gotten nothing.

Following the Port Arthur massacre, unconstitutional uniform gun laws were passed. The theory of uniform gun laws in Australia is rather simple. Unless a referendum was held the only way for the federal government to gain the power to enforce uniform firearm laws was if every state and territory in Australia would agree to surrender their powers, but that had never happened. Following the massacre at the Broad Arrow Café it did happen. Think about that for a moment, dwell on it. Unconstitutional firearm restrictions were legislated.

However, I’m not going to talk about the conspiracy theories but rather the facts of this case that stand out. There are enough Vials fans out there as it is, and besides conspiracies are very confusing without fully understanding the facts first (for instance what if I told you that the theory holds that the Broad Arrow Café was not the intended target for the massacre, but rather improvised?) The facts themselves tell a very serious story that was never fully investigated, this is on public record.\textsuperscript{89}

If the confession were to be true, somehow Bryant has managed to tell the story of how he saw the deceased people when they were alive without alluding to any details as to how they died, let alone the fact that they had died at all:

\textsuperscript{87} A transcript of the police interview with Martin Bryant: “Read the following transcript and then decide for yourself if you think this slow moving and slow thinking individual was the same one who acted like a combat assassin to execute an operation as efficient as the Port Arthur massacre.” (see: loveforlife.com.au/content/07/10/30/transcript-police-interview-martin-bryant) Note again that when the word “inaudible” (or “cough” or any similar wording that is not dialogue) appears, there is a great likelihood that the police do not want you to know what the interviewer or interviewee said. Manipulating and mishandling evidence is what State officials do.

Hi there,

Yours is the only Port Arthur site I could find on the net. Here is an article I wrote one week after it happened. I submitted it to various newspapers, but it wasn’t published. Maybe they found it too controversial or opinionated or they found the whole thing disagreeable or unsuitable. Maybe you will too, but you may find it interesting enough to put on your site.

Julian

The day after the shooting of 35 people at Port Arthur, his picture was on the front page of every major Australian newspaper. He was a young man, with long blonde hair and blue eyes. On the newsstand every photo of him looked different; each in different sizes and color separations. One one front page his eyes looked like that of one of those cutout 19th men in Monty Python cartoons. He was looking indifferently at the camera and his head was tilted curiously to one side with empty eyes. This showed a clear sign that he was a schizoid personality type.

A person who with a schizoid personality disorder does not feel. [sic] They are usually pale and quiet people who seem a little strange to others. Their head is usually tilted to one side, so it looks like that person is continually being hung by a noose. Their life is usually traumatic and strange; a series of fantasies and failures. They usually display inappropriate emotional reactions to events. They have difficulty in forming relationships with others. They are usually reasonably intelligent. But the overwhelming factor in their life is that they do not feel; they have little capacity for pleasure. They do not experience emotion; they have no heart. A person such as this is usually acutely sensitive and vulnerable to their environment, so they are shaped very easily. They often feel a pain so great they block it off along with the rest of their life.

Martin Bryant is a classic schizoid personality type; he is not “paranoid” or “schizophrenic” in the way that most other people are diagnosed as. His case is very unusual and complex. After the event, nobody knew what to make of Martin Bryant. People who knew him described him as a lovely, gentle and kind person. One said that she couldn’t imagine how the Martin Bryant she knew could have killed all those people. Others said he was strange, with steely cold blue eyes.

Martin Bryant was set adrift in this culture with nothing to do and nowhere to go. He had plenty of money and big house, but he was very lonely. He once joked to someone that all he needed was a girlfriend and then his life would be complete. At the time of the shooting he had been involved with a girl for two months. There was nothing in this culture for him. There was nothing he wanted. He didn’t have an occupation; who knows how he spent his days? He jumped up and down in joy at the first day of a TAFE course. He thought perhaps that would give him an opportunity to express himself in some productive occupation. He lied to people about being a carpenter. He once went to Disneyland, but came back after three days because it was raining. He travelled to London and spent a week there shopping and taking high tea. Perhaps the only thing that excited him or interested at all him were guns. Martin Bryant wasn’t angry at anyone in particular. Who could he blame for his empty life? Who was responsible for shaping him the way he was? His father who beat him had recently died in mysterious circumstances and his mentor and virtual mother Miss Harvey had also died recently in car accident. He had nobody to blame for who he had become. He only expressed strange throwaway lines of “I’ll kill you” to various people. He was angry at life more than anything else. He was angry at all people for how he was; a useless and nonliving creature.

(cont.)
And so he struck back; choosing Port Arthur as the site of his revenge. [sic] It was here that he was brought up and it was here that he believed that he became what he was. People have said that he was sometimes like a silly child and at other times like a rational adult. Seemingly split between two characters. On the one hand he was a normal, adult, rational member of society who could appear as sane as anybody. People said he was angry become a different person; capable of anything. [sic] But he never allowed himself to fully express the anger deep inside him; even when shooting those people. He shot each person in a calculated and deliberate way. His anger was frozen within him and was expressed mutely. The gun expressed it for him because he didn’t know how to do it for himself. For him, shooting those people was the thrill of his life. It was pleasurable to destroy life in itself; it was fun to have the power and the expression he felt denied to him before. To him it was a huge creative expression.

By all accounts Martin Bryant was a very passive and subservient young man; following Miss Harvey around, and doing all the chores for her. He appeared to most people as a very pleasant young man, perhaps a little odd. It seems his only real interest was guns. As static objects they are cold, steely and characterless. Like Martin Bryant, they have no soul. Yet guns can be very aggressive and powerful. A gun makes a person very powerful. And power was something that he didn’t have; no power over his own life or over the lives of others. He had no power in himself, no power to do or be anything in his life.

Martin Bryant is not evil. He is not a bad person. He is not a representation of societies’ evil. He represents something more common and therefore perhaps more sinister. Because it is nothing so easy to define as evil. [sic] Martin Bryant has no heart; he has no soul. He is a representation of soullessness, insensitivity, repression and powerlessness. Through those characteristics Martin Bryant created pain and suffering. He created pain and suffering from powerlessness; from his own worthless life. It wasn’t the availability of guns that allowed Martin Bryant to kill those people. A person who is obsessed with guns would find an appropriate gun, if it was legal or not. It is not the violence on television or videos that motivated Martin Bryant to kill those people. Martin Bryant was fascinated by the horror movie “Child’s Play 2” because it empowered him. He is just like “Chucky”; a seemingly friendly, harmless, childish, inert and powerless character. He enjoyed the fact that a thing with these characteristics can get its own back and take revenge and express itself. In the end, what killed those people was a human being who had no power or ability to express himself appropriately either emotionally, physically and mentally. His act had arisen from that and nothing else.

The young Australian male has one of the highest suicide rates in the world. The Australian male is stereotypically not meant to express emotion, he is not meant to have needs and he is always supposed to present a tough exterior. When Martin Bryant killed each of those people he displayed these characteristics; but he killed people, with a complete lack of sensitivity or moral intelligence as if he were performing a routine chore. It was as if he was acting out the sensibilities of those whom he killed and all the people he lived among.

Julian Palmer

1240 words, copyright, 1996
(includes all original errors; added emphasis)
original title of article:
The motivation of Martin Bryant
gienic.net/portarthur/jpalmer.htm

Julian Palmer did not know and never met Martin Bryant. His asinine unqualified opinions are examples of the blind hatred toward Martin Bryant which was encouraged by State officials and the media. – ed.
Q. I mean do you think that people should accept the consequences of what they do?
A. Yeah I do. I s’pose I should for a little while for what I’ve done. Just a little while and let me out, let me live my own life. I’m missing my Mum. I really miss her actually, what she cooks up for me, her rabbit stews and everything. She’s not even allowed to bring a little bit of food for me, that, that’s a bit upsetting. Mmm.

Q. Martin, unless there’s anything else that you want to tell us, we’re going to ahh, stop the interview now.
A. Just that.
Q. ... And approximately twenty attempted murders and several wounding charges as well.
A. Attempted murders?  
Q. And also.
A. You mean attempted, they weren’t hurt?

Joe Vialls never concerned himself much with Seascape, which is typical for any conspiracist mixing a cocktail of truth and fiction, but it’s important to understand Seascape nonetheless. Firstly it was the location at which earlier in the day the Martins had been murdered (according to the official police timeline), and it was the Martins’ property. Someone inside Seascape was firing at police (Bryant, or so it is claimed), but from a point inside where he could not be seen – and he moved room-to-room. It is uncharacteristic for someone of low intelligence to be moving in such stealth.

The police also claimed that Bryant had put a gun in every room of the cottage. Police did not fully reveal how many weapons were actually loaded. This theory that Bryant went room-to-room and gun-to-gun returning fire is absurd. There was a Norinco semi-automatic rifle (SKK) found without its magazine inside the cottage that Bryant could have fired. Shots of an SKK are heard being fired while Bryant talks to the police negotiator Terry McCarthy (as mentioned earlier). Where did the magazine go? Did Bryant make it evaporate? Did it grow legs and walk out of the building? What other possible way was there for it to leave?

There isn’t any evidence that most of the other guns were fired at Seascape, most appeared to be inoperable, most were found without ammo and three of the 14 guns found at seascape belonged to the owners (two of which were inoperable antiques), not to mention that one of the working guns was a non-deadly air-rifle and so we can safely assume that there isn’t sufficient evidence for official police version of events that Bryant was going gun-to-gun and room-to-room. Besides, Bryant only owned three guns – so where did all the other ones come from?

Now we have the interesting part of Seascape – Bryant used, so it is said in the official story, two main weapons during his killing spree: a Colt AR-15 and an FN-FAL. Most of the “guns” found in Seascape

89 Here, Martin Bryant clearly replied in a manner indicating he had no idea that people died at Broad Arrow Cafe. He asked about whether they were hurt. Now, does that sound like the pathological gunman who went to that cafe and there at close range shot 20 people killing them outright and wounded another 10? Of course it doesn’t.

90 Evidence strongly suggests that this Joe Vialls was/is an evil professional deceiver. Be warned.
were burnt, some were inoperable before the fire, and most were not found with their ammunition. Yet the FN-FAL "murder weapon" was found on the grass outside Seascape, as a gift to police. Despite surviving the fire, it had been damaged so that it no longer worked (preventing forensic testing) and it was incomplete – and those parts (with the exception of the scope) have never been recovered. Did they also grow legs and walk away from the crime scene?

Witnesses testified that the gunman fired the FN-FAL [alleged] murder weapon in the Broad Arrow Café with its telescopic site attached. When found on the grass outside Seascape cottage the weapon had no sight attached to it. A telescopic site (unattached from any gun) is listed on the list of weapon-related items recovered at Seascape, but the problem remains: why did Bryant remove that site? Furthermore, the telescopic site was not damaged (before the fire), which means that it could not have been attached to the FN-FAL when the damage to it occurred. Very strange indeed.

Was evidence planted? Here is a summary of how empty ammunition cartridges were found as described by Andrew MacGregor:

"Constable Browning states: 'A search was conducted by Sergeant FOGARTY, Sergeant HARWOOD and myself from the bridge over the creek on the western side, around the cottage to the waterfront on the eastern side, including a boat shed. No weapons, ammunition or other relevant items were located by us.' 91 And yet, in this very area we get: 'Sixteen 7.62 x 39mm calibre cartridges. (In good condition, from paving immediately to the west side of the burnt building in an area approximately 6m x 5m.)' 92 In other words, either Tasmania's finest were blind, or this ammunition was placed in that position after the SOGs searched the area." 93

The AR-15 [alleged] murder weapon was also recovered in far better condition than any of the other burnt weapons inside the house, despite being found in burnt condition. It suffered only minimal damage in the fire. It was still recognizable and had it been in working condition before the fire it would have remained in working condition after the fire. This presents another coincidence; both of the main [alleged] murder weapons were found in damaged condition; the damage preventing them from being forensically tested however this damage did not occur in the fire. Was the AR-15 planted? If it wasn’t, why was it in "singed" condition instead of "burnt to a crisp" condition? The weapons recovered at Seascape were never forensically linked to any of the shootings. Coincidence?

[Allegedly] inside Seascape during the siege before the fire, there were four known people: Martin Bryant, Mr. & Mrs. Martin, and Glenn Pears. 94 Police believed Bryant was holding these hostages, yet all three people besides Bryant were already dead. How could low-intelligence Bryant have kept up a 12-hour standoff with police keeping them convinced he had hostages if he had not been aided?

There was no motive. To commit such a crime would have required planning, there isn’t any evidence for this. To commit such a crime someone would be expected to be very very angry, and otherwise very

91 Hedley George Browning (Tasmania Police). Witness Statement; not dated.
94 There is a strong possibility that Glenn Pears did not go into nor was he ever taken into Seascape cottage – which means he died in the BMW. That he died in the cottage is the official story, but as it is with so many of the official claims, no evidence to prove this has ever been presented. Even the handcuffs (2 pair) which cops suggested belonged to Martin Bryant were never presented as evidence, nor do they appear on the list of evidence. No where in the coroner’s notes is there a description of the body of Glenn Pears being attached by handcuffs to an object in Seascape as is claimed in the official narrative. It seems that Mr. Pears was killed by SOG member Michael Fogarty, possibly inadvertently. Recall it was the SOG member Michael Fogarty who killed Joe Gilewicz. (see Part 3)
emotionally unstable; Bryant’s girlfriend, Petra Willmott, did not describe any of the characteristics. Not to mention that the police negotiator who spoke to Bryant [Jamie] at Seascapes, Terry McCarthy, also did not find these characteristics and he made a point to note it. I question how could Bryant commit not just one murder that day (say, the Martins) – but then continuously move on killing in several locations? Surely not for someone who has never killed someone before!95

Even more questionable is why weren’t the people in the crowded café able to overpower the low-intelligence gunman Bryant? This is a point that needs to be addressed. In the official version of events the vast majority of Bryant’s bullets either killed or wounded (as opposed to just shooting up the place). However the crime scene was highly contaminated, and eyewitness testimony disagrees with the official timeline. What we’re left with – according to Kerry O’Brien – is the worst killing spree ever committed by a single gunman anywhere in the world. And even more amazing is that one of the guns used in the massacre – the FN-FAL rifle – was a weapon that Bryant has no proven experience with!

What was the motive to steal the BMW? Take a moment to dwell on this. Bryant was a wealthy man, he did not have a driver’s license (remember) but that wasn’t a big deal for him in a secluded town with only one police officer. Is the scenario presented by MacGregor more plausible: the occupants of the BMW were a part of the operation, they all willingly got in the car with the gunman intending to leave with him. But the gunman had determined that it had to look like a carjacking and killed them instead? Well maybe, but let me ask this: The official version is that Bryant pulled up to the BMW that was stopped there...[and at the tollgate, the gunman killed the four people96 who had travelled in that BMW, which the gunman then carjacked and drove to the Port Arthur General Store. There he shot Zoe Hall, then took Glenn Pears hostage him in the boot of the BMW then drove off to Seascapes] What’s the motive? It doesn’t make any sense!... Why did he [Martin Bryant] tell police this: “No. I mean I let the lady go into the Volvo, I didn’t hurt her or anything. No I don’t register, it doesn’t register”?

[The last two sentences quoted by Baxter above are extremely important in the case. On 4 July 1996, Martin was interrogated by Tasmania Police. Martin made bizarre statements which it seem he thought were true. He said he carjacked the BMW at Fortescue Bay – but it was exchanged at the tollgate for the Volvo. He said he “let the lady go into the Volvo. I didn’t hurt her or anything” – Zoe Hall was already in the Toyota at the Port Arthur General Store where she was shot by the gunman who an eyewitness said was not Bryant. Bryant’s sentences have characteristics of confabulation and of suggestion. Martin was trying to tell the story as he thought it had happened. Or, he was relating what he had been told had happened. Martin was not relating the official narrative. There are blanks in his story – “No I don’t register, it doesn’t register.” Martin spoke in a way which reflected he did not know what had actually taken place. And if he was not there, he would not have known that. – ed.]
Dear Mr. Commissioner,

In late March 2004, I received anonymously through the post, two (2) individual, unlabeled video tapes in total, delivered consecutively, which upon my viewing, I found contained several sections, all of which indicated to me the tape had been produced by the Tasmania Police. The second of these two tapes was of such poor quality it would not run properly, and hence at the time, I disabled the cassette and disposed of it in the regular garbage pick-up.

The subject matter contained on my video tape I currently possess, has been the subject of much media attention in recent days. The Daily Advertiser newspaper of Thursday last, 2 September, 2004, and at pp.1-2, there is published an article – “Massacre On Tape” by Paul Enever. In that article I was the person referred to as having received two such tapes. When your crime manager for this jurisdiction, acting Inspector Rod Smith, was approached by The Daily Advertiser, he was quoted as suggesting that if I have evidence that hasn’t been disclosed to the Tasmania coroner, I should “present it to the relevant authorities.”

After considering that advice, I now am complying. However, I have studied very carefully the content, especially of the last track, which demonstrates clearly what I seriously consider to be disturbing evidence of probable serious crimes having been committed which directly affect certain people of the state of New South Wales (NSW), who died there in the area known as Port Arthur on or about the 28th April, 1996.

I have therefore today, Wednesday the eighth day of September 2004, handed to a Police Officer of the NSW Police, at my home, the sole video tape copy in my possession. As I have already stated publicly, I have not made copies of this video tape. Also I now formally request your agent, the aforementioned Police Officer, on your behalf to receive this video, and forward it with all due care and haste to you, so that you can hold this tape as evidence in safe keeping, in a manner that shall protect the quality of the sound and vision of the tape, until such time as a formerly constituted open coronial inquest can be held in NSW to inquire into all relevant matters surrounding the deaths of the six persons then residing in the state of NSW, listed as follows:–

Zoe Anne Hall, 28 yrs, then of Kangaroo Point; Glenn Roy Pears, 35 yrs, then of Sydney; Russell James “Jim” Pollard, 72 yrs, then of Brunswick Heads; Tony Kistan, 51 yrs, then of Summerhill; Robert Salzmann, 58 yrs, then of Ocean Shores; Helene Salzmann, 50 yrs, then of Ocean Shores. There has not been a coronial inquest conducted in the state of Tasmania into the deaths of any of the 35 people who died in the area of Port Arthur in the massacre that occurred there on the 28-29th April 1996. Hence I am formally asking that this unacceptable situation now be addressed for those 6 deceased persons I mention above.

Also, for the past six years, I have been engaged in investigating, researching, speaking publicly of my findings, and writing about the Port Arthur massacre and associated events. As a result of these activates, I now formally raise the following questions that I require answers to: – Since there has never been a coronial inquiry, into the deaths of the six (6) persons all then resident in the state of NSW, is there any reason why an open, coronial inquest into their deaths cannot be held in NSW?

(cont.)
Documented evidence show the NSW Forensic Police were given the duty of covering the Broad Arrow Café. The Forensic Sketch Plan that was presented to the Hobart Supreme Court was lacking in certain detail one of which was the presence of at least one .308W spent cartridge case as is shown on the Tasmania Police Training Video. Were the NSW Police remiss in detailing such vital evidence, or was the Forensic Sketch of the NSW forensic team?

This altering of evidence is a felony, and the question now is, which Police Force was responsible for misleading the Supreme Court of Tasmania, and was there a conspiracy between the two State Police Forces to mislead the Supreme Court? In his report regarding the fire exit door to the Broad Arrow Café, the then DPP, Mr Damian Bugg QC, states that the Port Arthur Historic Site employee who was nailing all the doors and windows shut, with the assistance of a forensic policeman, tested the door lock, and found it to be inoperative.

The questions are: Why did the NSW Police permit the interference with a murder scene of the acts of nailing the particular door which was involved with the death of about six persons? Why did the NSW Police not make any report into the matter of the fire exit door that couldn’t be opened? And was this particular door nailed shut prior to the arrival of the NSW forensic team? There is a large amount of carpet damage evident within the area of the Broad Arrow Café, near the Fire Exit Door, that appears to have been caused by bullets having been fired from a high powered rifle. None of this damage was listed within the NSW Police Forensic Sketch. Again, which Police Force was responsible for this information being withheld from the Tasmania Supreme Court?

In the Court transcript the Tasmanian DPP, Mr Damian Bugg QC, refers to live cartridge cases that were found within the Broad Arrow Café. The size of these live rounds has been stated by witnesses to have been of .308W calibre. Why was this important evidence not listed or shown in the NSW Forensic Police Sketch Plan? In the Tasmania Police Training Video there is shown a large blue sports bag, which appears rather empty, save for a white jumper, but according to several witnesses who saw the gunman carrying this bag, the bag appeared to be very heavy. What happened to the very heavy contents of this bag, bearing in mind that an AR15 is not that heavy. Beside the same blue sports bag and resting on the table, there was a tray with a soft drink can on it and other food items. This tray and its contents match those witnesses state they saw the gunman carry, and drink from. What happened to this empirical evidence that was under the control of the NSW Police forensic team? Who permitted this evidence to be lost?

Also the Tasmania Police Training Video shows clearly beside the bag and the food tray on the same table, there is resting a large, all black video camera, with an integral, external microphone visible. In the Court Document and at p.160 for instance, the DPP’s assistant Mr Perks talks about a “grey video camera bag.” At p.71 the DPP Mr Damien Bugg QC, mentions the gunman carrying a video camera. However in a report by Chip Le Grand, in The Australian newspaper of 4 May 1996, it reports that Mr David Gunson had just been briefed to defend Martin Bryant. In that report, the first concern raised by Mr Gunson was the eyewitness reports of the gunman carrying a large video camera, which he is reported to have stated had not been recovered. Was this important empirical evidence lost, and if so was it loss due to any remiss on the part of NSW police, or Tasmania police?

In relation yet again to the sports bag left inside the Broad Arrow Café: We have evidence that a bag was left inside the café but we also have five witness statements saying that the gunman left the Broad Arrow Café carrying a bag, and then placing the bag into the boot of the Volvo. The James Balasko video shows the gunman picking up the bag he departed the café with, and placing the carry strap on his shoulder. Can the NSW Police forensic team give us a proper explanation of why two bags were used by the gunman at the Port Arthur Massacre?
In relation to the crime scene on Jetty Road: The Tasmania Police Training Video shows someone pick up the arm of the eldest Mikac child, and display a .223Rem fired cartridge case. When considering the manner in which this child was murdered, and the firearm alleged to have been employed, there is no way that a fired cartridge case could end up under the body of this victim. The question is who picked up the fired cartridge case, thus interfering with the evidence at a major crime scene and then placed it under the body of the child? How did the person picking up the arm of the murdered child know that the fired cartridge case was there at that instance?

In the boot of the yellow Volvo sedan allegedly abandoned by the gunman at the tollbooth of the Port Arthur Historic Site, we are shown a fired cartridge case of .223Rem calibre, and the Daewoo shotgun, and what was later described as hand drawn cardboard targets. However the Daewoo is shown sitting on top of a striped blouse or material, in a very neat arrangement, and the targets are placed neatly at the back of the boot. Now considering that the Volvo has completed various driving manoeuvres, just how were the targets able to remain in a neat position at the rear of the boot? Who placed the blouse under the shotgun to better illustrate that firearm?

Again with the Volvo sedan as shown in the Tasmania Police Training Video, you can see where a person’s hand suddenly comes from within the back seat area of the Volvo and clasps the rear right window of the Volvo demonstrating that there was a person in that compartment of the Volvo. We are told by the Coroner that when he viewed the Volvo there were several petrol containers therein. The Coroner apparently didn’t see the box of ammunition in the Volvo at Port Arthur, the policeman inside the rear passenger compartment wasn’t impeded in any manner by a box of bullets, or at least one container of petrol, and the photographer certainly didn't take any photographs of that major piece of evidence until the Volvo was placed under police guard at Police Headquarters in Hobart. Would the NSW Police consider the act of embellishing evidence an ethical practice? Would the NSW Police consider such acts of interfering with evidence as perverting the course of justice?

Lastly we have the Tasmania Police Supt. Bob Fielding state that he made the right decision in forcing the gunman to come to us. Considering that the only way in which the gunman vacated Seascape Cottage, was that that building was set on fire, then we can only conclude that Seascape Cottage was set on fire by the Tasmania Police under the command of Supt. Fielding. In other words, Fielding has confessed to crimes including arson and the destruction of evidence. Of course there is also the numerous charges of perverting the course of justice that must be levelled against numerous members of the Tasmania Police, and one must also consider the involvement of the NSW police within these matters.

Sir, the matters I have raised with you here, are I believe of the gravest nature possible. I do not take such steps lightly. In raising these grave questions, I also realize that once raised, I could well be the target of retribution by those persons who may subsequently be found responsible for these unlawful acts. I therefore request that the NSW Police Service afford my family and I due care and consideration for our continued well-being.

I do expect, that you will give all of the matters I raise your immediate consideration and attention. I also ask you to note, that as this correspondence is an open letter, I will today, simultaneously with it being served on your Police Officer, be furnishing all major news media, and Daryl Maguire MP, Member for Wagga, with a copy of my letter.

I await your reply at your earliest convenience, and until then,

I Remain, Yours Faithfully,

Stewart K. Beattie

Of course this commissioner of NSW police did not reply in a substantive way, which makes him complicit. – ed.

(amoended; added emphasis)
Gary King gave a Witness Statement to the cops on 17 May 1996. There are several significant things to note about his statement: i. It was given three weeks after the Port Arthur incident. King’s recall could have been influenced by the large volume of negative media coverage about Martin Bryant; ii. The distance from the Shell store at Forcett, where the coffee was purchased, to Port Arthur is c.58 kilometres. Based on the time given by King, it is reasonable to conclude Bryant drove away from that store at 8–10 minutes past 11:30 a.m. (midway “Between 11 am and 12 midday”); iii. Bryant said he was going to Roaring Beach, which is near Nubeena (see Map) and is c.76 or c.97 kilometres from Forcett depending on the route taken; iv. King said Bryant drove off in the direction of Port Arthur. But Bryant had told King he was going to Roaring Beach not Port Arthur. It seems the cop who took the statement might have encouraged King to state the place name Port Arthur. On 28 April 1996 and south of Port Arthur, a Roger Larner spoke with Bryant after 1:05 p.m. In Larner’s statement (28 April 1996), he does not give the duration of that conversation, but it is reasonable to conclude it lasted 10–15 minutes. So at c.1:15-20 on that afternoon, Bryant was south of Port Arthur. There is no possible way he could have driven north past Port Arthur to the Seascape cottage and there killed Mr. & Mrs. Martin, then unloaded an armoury of ammo and weapons, then driven south back to Port Arthur, then entered the historic site after paying the entrance fee, then driven to the parking area and parked his vehicle, then walked to the Broad Arrow Café, then ordered a meal, then spoke with people, then started shooting all by 1:27 p.m. which is when the shooting commenced. No person on earth could have done all this in the declared timeframe.

In her Witness Statement of 28 April 1996, Petra Willmott said this about Martin Bryant: “He doesn’t remember a lot of things that I say to him and he forgets what he’s doing sometimes.” [added emphasis] So does that sound like the mastermind who, entirely on his own, planned and executed the Port Arthur incident?

What does make sense is that if the shooter had accomplices then they would enter the vehicle with him at a rendezvous point. Is this unexplainable behaviour also coincidence? Why did Bryant leave his shotgun behind? MacGregor contends that witness statements say the version of events that actually unfolded were that first the occupants of the BMW entered willingly into the Volvo with the shooter [gunman], and that they then got into an argument and the shooter got out of the car, went to the boot, got the gun, shot and killed the [four people from the BMW. Then the gunman carjacked the BMW and drove to the Port Arthur General Store where he shot Zoe Hall – she did not have a child with her – in a Toyota then took Glen Pears hostage. He then put Pears] into the boot of the BMW and drove off.

Bryant could not have acted alone in this massacre, this isn’t just an opinion it is a certainty. Why is it certain? Because at the time that he allegedly killed David Martin he was 58 kilometres away having a coffee at a petrol station and Gary King attests to this in the statement he made to police. That means Bryant has a reliable alibi for when the Martins were (believed to be) murdered.

Isn’t it funny that the idea that Bryant was not the shooter at the Broad Arrow Café is scorned; while the mainstream media has often referred to the suicide of Bryant’s father as “supposed” inferring Bryant may have had a hand in killing his father; and then present the fact that his father’s head was weighted down while ignoring the facts that: i. His father left a suicide note; and, ii. His father had taken care of some business for his wife which involved transferring accounts into only her name. Isn’t it interesting that people think they can question something without any evidence at all, while frowning on following something with a stack of evidence behind it?

Why was Bryant’s guilty plea accepted when it’s on record that he didn’t understand the charges brought against him, nor have any memory of them?

Why did Bryant’s lawyer convince his client to plead guilty when Bryant had maintained his innocence and never said a word to anyone confessing to a single murder; what right did John Avery have to determine that his client Martin Bryant was guilty? Shouldn’t he have listened to his client, rather than decide himself the issue of guilt or innocence?

According to recorded interviews between John Avery and Martin Bryant, Bryant had no memory of the massacre or any of the killings that day. These interviews have been released by John Avery. Again, how did John Averd determine that his client was guilty, given the fact that Bryant not only professed his innocence, but that his lawyer firmly believed he had no memory of the events? Since the Port Arthur Massacre was pre-planned, even without remembering the events that took place if Bryant was guilty he should have memory of planning it, but he does not.

Bryant [was coerced then] pleaded guilty to the crimes without any memory of the crimes.
It is standard procedure for police to get a full statement from a defendant following a guilty plea to assist in any further investigation, the location of other potential victims, and to have a valid confession to the crimes on record that shows the defendant understands the crimes he is confessing to. Why is there no such statement in existence?

If Bryant is guilty, why is it that he pleaded guilty and yet the best shrinks in the world can’t get a word out of him? Why plead guilty and then refuse to give a single tangible detail about a single one of the 35 murders that day? Why was the killer shooting from the right hand when Bryant was a left handed shooter?

The guns used in the massacre in the café included a Colt AR-15 and an FN-FAL. Martin Bryant’s guns that he owned before the massacre were: a Colt AR-10 (in the possession of Terry Hill at the time of the massacre), Colt AR-15 and a Daewoo Shotgun (which Bryant said he was afraid to fire). The Daewoo Shotgun was found in the boot of his Volvo. Why did he leave only that gun behind, why didn’t he take it with him inside Seascape cottage? The FN-FAL rifle was responsible, according to police, for the deaths of 8 victims. Where did this gun come from? Who owned the gun? How could Bryant have been in possession of it?

Why was there no coronial inquest, when there is usually always a coronial inquest for every death that is not accompanied by a certificate of death from a doctor? Not to mention that a coronial inquest would have been important in finding out whether Bryant had acted alone (as it is contended), since Bryant never answered that question. It’s easy to dismiss a conspiracy theory, but it’s important to remember that no private investigation done on a shoe-string budget relying on the good-will of others can ever hope to be as thorough as a proper police investigation.

But a proper police investigation is not evidence of guilt; that has to be proven in court and that is the separation of powers. However Bryant was never tried because his lawyer convinced him to plead guilty. A plea that is contested should not have been allowed due to his mental state. If he had not pleaded guilty there would have been very little evidence on which to convict him, and that’s a fact.

Why were some parts of the guns found at Seascape and that are claimed to be the murder weapons never found? How could Bryant have made parts of the guns used in the massacre vanish? Was it a coincidence that Bryant returned to the scene of the Martins’ murder for the siege? Had he chosen a different location he would only have had one potential hostage. As far as I’ve been able to research only two eyewitnesses identify Bryant as the killer. Why did the only eyewitness to know Bryant before the massacre fail to identify him as the murderer? Why do all other witness statements (excluding the two identifying Bryant) estimate the age of the killer between 18-25 when Bryant was almost 29 and could not be confused as being any younger than 26-27?

99 There is nothing linking this firearm to Martin Bryant: no witnesses; no receipt of purchase; no images; no fingerprints; no forensic evidence; no ballistic test; no admission; etc. All there is, is a police accusation that the firearm belonged to Martin Bryant – a baseless accusation for which not one shred of evidence has been presented as proof. What cops say is not the law and too often is not the truth. Cops lie glibly, destructively, and often. Read from the increasing volume of literature on the criminal lack of police integrity.
When Bryant was “captured” at Seascape he was unarmed, and fled the building with his back on fire. Before Bryant was captured, while on the phone to the negotiator, Terry McCarthy, another person was shooting at police; shots were heard that were not fired by Bryant. Terry McCarthy believed that Martin Bryant had an accomplice. McCarthy also states that Bryant’s state of mind in his conversation was not what he expected from someone who just committed mass-murder. [But] according to Kerry O’Brien earlier this year, the Port Arthur massacre remains the worst killing spree ever committed by a single gunman anywhere in the world.\footnote{Kerry O’Brien. Martin Bryant Port Arthur killer; 7.30 Report – ABC, 28 April 2009.}

Why were Bryant’s rights violated? His court-mandated guardianship meant that he was not competent to handle his own legal proceedings; and it is on full public record that Bryant would use his lawyer to handle these things for him. The court had to accept that Martin Bryant was incompetent to plea. Why then was a plea of guilty accepted by the court?\footnote{For months Martin Bryant kept saying he was innocent. So he had to be worked on. And he was. Tough incarcerating and badgering by the criminal lawyer John Avery screwed what little intellect Martin had and he went along with a guilty plea. It seems he was under the impression there was going to be a trial regardless of what the plea was. During one of Avery’s conversion meetings (pressure-sessions) with Martin at the Risdon prison, Martin mentioned to Avery that he wanted to have his hair cut for the “court case.” Avery must have made the necessary arrangements because at the sentencing hearing, Martin’s hair had been cut. The only thing that was missing was the trial – the “court case” Martin was expecting. Avery added to his con by getting a haircut for Martin, then watching happily as he was sent down for life with a tidy trim – NEVER TO BE RELEASED.}

Martin Bryant’s lawyer John Avery previously represented Terry Hill. Terry Hill maintained that he never sold any guns to Martin Bryant; even when faced with the threat of police prosecution and the offer of indemnity if he agreed to testify against Bryant. Hill’s business was later shut down as the threats levelled by police were carried out (although he was never charged with illegally selling firearms to Bryant). This is evidence of attempted police cohesion [collusion?] against Hill. It would also appear to me that this would have been the link between Bryant and the FN-FAL murder weapon that the police were looking for; as there is no evidence whatsoever that Bryant ever owned the FN-FAL....

Stephen Howard who lost...his wife...states that he knows Bryant to be innocent. Wendy Scurr attests that someone should have been held accountable for the inoperability of the fire door exit. Gun dealer Terry Hill was threatened by police in what appears to be an attempt to extort a false statement out of him to connect the FN-FAL murder weapon to Bryant. Despite there usually being a coronial inquest held for every death in Australia not accompanied by a doctor’s certificate, and despite requests by some family members for coronial inquests to be held for their relatives, not a single coronial inquest was held for any of the victims....

Bryant was never subjected to a public trial despite pleading not guilty for months. Although he changed his plea, he did not remember committing any of the crimes he confessed to, and to this day he remains silent. And because we can be 100 percent certain that he has no memory of the events, we can also be 100 percent certain that his police “confession” is nothing of the sort....
WE FORCED THE GUNMAN TO COME TO US
Andrew S. MacGregor
Speech; Launceston, Tasmania; 29 September 2004

At the end of the day, I’m satisfied that we made the right decision in fact waiting and forcing him to come to us as opposed to vice versa.102

NOW what exactly has superintendent Bob Fielding told us above? He has just told us that the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Tasmania Police forced the gunman to come to them. But how did the police do that as the only thing that forced Martin Bryant out of Seascape cottage was the fact that the building was on fire? This being the case, then the only conclusion that can be made is this: Bob Fielding has admitted that Seascape cottage was set on fire by the SOG.

Think about this for a moment. Setting fire to a building to drive a terrorist out into the open with no consideration for the hostages whatsoever, last occurred in Australia on 29 June 1880 in Victoria. It was on the orders of the police chief commissioner, Captain [Frederick Charles] Standish, who ordered the inn at Glenrowan to be torched in an attempt to apprehend members of the Kelly gang. Also killed in that deliberately-lit fire was a 16-year-old youth. In the subsequent Royal Commission, Standish got the sack.103

Superintendent Fielding’s statement corroborates what we had already been told by witnesses that the police had openly stated that Seascape cottage was set on fire by the SOG to force the gunman out. It also explains the time difficulties in that white smoke was first reported coming out of that cottage at 07:47 hours and yet it was 37 minutes later, at 08:24 hours, that Martin Bryant was reported to have left Seascape.104 Now that is a very long time for an old pine-board building to burn, especially one that had most of the upper windows smashed, which allowed the fire to feed on fresh air.

But we have one major consideration – the hostages. Fielding goes to great length to inform us of the problems involved in rescuing the hostages and about the discourse on whether the hostages were alive or dead. In such cases there is no choice but to consider the hostages alive, until such time as it can be confirmed that they are dead.

So consider this. Once Martin Bryant was seen to emerge from the burning Seascape cottage, with his clothes alight, the SOG went immediately into action with one of their much rehearsed drills, and arrested Martin Bryant at 08:35 hours105 – 11 minutes after he was seen to emerge from the burning building. By this time, Seascape

102 Stated by the superintendent Bob Fielding on a Tasmania Police training video. This audio-visual tape came to public attention in 2004. In newsletter number 227 published November 2004 by the Adelaide Institute, it states this: “On a particular day she [Olga Scully] bought at the Hobart rubbish tip a cart-load (literally hundreds) of used video tapes. Once home, she cleaned them of dust, and she also briefly glanced at the titles. Mrs Scully noticed that she had a Tasmania Police Training tape in her hands. It was from the Tasmanian Police training unit that, using original scenes shot on the day of the Port Arthur massacre, 28 April 1996, a video was produced that offered the official version of events.” The video viewed by this editor is undated, but it clearly reveals places as well as people and their comments made in relation to the Port Arthur incident, as well as dead bodies in and outside the café. Note there are other videos on the Internet which can be mistaken for the original. All might have been posted intentionally to deceive viewers. Be warned.

103 Australian colloquialism meaning to be terminated from a position or place of employment.

104 White smoke is also produced when incendiary devices containing phosphorous are ignited.

cottage had been reportedly burning for 48 minutes, and there was no longer any chance to rescue the hostages. In fact in the film taken of this event, you can see the roof of the cottage collapsing.\textsuperscript{106} Eleven minutes into a major life-threatening event, but even then the local fire brigade which had been called out at 06:00 hours, and was on standby at the nearby Fox and Hounds Hotel was still not permitted on the scene, until Martin Bryant had been physically restrained and the area secured. In this event, the hostages were superfluous. At Glenrowan, at least the police were allowed to drag the body of young Joe Byrne from the burning building.

In any police action where hostages are involved, the safety and welfare of the hostages are paramount. One of the primary tasks of the police in a hostage situation is to rescue the hostages and remove them from danger. If there was not a viable situation for the hostages to be removed with safety, then it would be the police task to create such an opportunity. Fielding tells us that the police did have plans, most of which he signed off by about 07:00 hours,\textsuperscript{107} but still there was no move to rescue the hostages. This tells me that the Port Arthur Massacre was an exercise.

In an article printed in the Australian Police Journal, Gerard Dutton then a sergeant with the police in Tasmania makes this statement: “It wasn’t until the following day, after Bryant was captured, that police realised the elderly couple that owned Seascape and the man taken captive and placed in the boot\textsuperscript{108} of the BMW were missing.”\textsuperscript{109} In other words, the hostages didn’t count. Again, the only time that hostages don’t count is in an exercise.

Now consider this quote from Geoff Easton who at the time of the shooting was the media liaison officer with the Tasmania Police: “A young man called at the Public Enquiries counter and asked for me. He was to tell me that he was a relative of the Martins (David and Sally), the owners of SeaScape \textsuperscript{sic} and that he had a cache of weapons stored there, and, in his words, ‘Shitloads of ammo mate!’ I immediately took him to be interviewed by detectives.”\textsuperscript{110} Glen Martin’s response was as per the Herald Sun article: “Mr Martin said there was no truth in reports that guns used in the massacre may have belonged to him or were stored in the Seascape owned by his parents.”\textsuperscript{111} This article continues with: “Mr. Martin said he was appalled by reports that he had an arsenal of 43 guns stored in his parent’s pretty cottage on Fortescue Bay.” In fact, Glen Martin totally denies these reports of their being 43 guns at Seascape.

But note this is the only time we are given any indication of the number of firearms allegedly burnt at that cottage. Forty-three firearms, all supposedly purchased and/or collected by Martin Bryant over some unstated period of time, then stored somewhere, then at some unstated time put in his Volvo sedan, then driven to Seascape, then unloaded there, all without anyone noticing anything unusual. Nowhere in the official documentation are there any credible reports or statements by witnesses which detail the history of these 43 firearms.

\textbf{All the allegations about them stem from the police.}
Now on Monday morning on the Channel 9 Today programme, at approximately 7:45 am, the female presenter stated: "We are told, this is yet to be confirmed, that the gunman has something like two and a half thousand rounds of ammunition." But Bryant was not arrested until 8:35 am. So where did the media get the figure of 2500 rounds of ammunition so early that morning? The only persons who would have known the quantity of ammo at Seascape cottage would be those who put it there.

It is interesting to note in the court transcript that when the police initially searched the yellow Volvo at the tollbooth of the historic site, they didn’t photograph a box of ammunition that was supposedly left on the rear seat. But a box of ammunition (.439 rounds of .308 calibre) was photographed at police headquarters in Hobart, and allegedly another 1737 rounds found in the passageway and in a spare room during the second search of Bryant’s residence at 30 Clare Street. Suggestively, the police didn’t even trip over them during their first search. Altogether, that’s over 4000 rounds of ammunition supposedly belonging to Martin Bryant. Yet, Tasmania Police never identified any place where Bryant obtained all this alleged ammo.

The son of David and Sally Martin has denied emphatically the claims made by Easton. Glen Martin says there was only a .22 rifle and two antique shotguns with their firing pins filed off. The witness Donald Cameron and a half thousand rounds of ammunition. This is yet to be confirmed, that the gunman has something like two approximately 2,500 rounds of ammunition; etc. And mindless members of the media broadcast and published, early and late, news of a murderous massacre at Port Arthur in Tassie with updates and anything else to tell every stunned Australian that Martin Bryant was the monster who had done it.

Now who might have planted them in the house? It sure was not Martin Bryant as he was in hospital between 29 April and 3 May.

Now here’s another point of interest. We know that Martin Bryant hadn’t seen the Martins for years. So, if Bryant had all this ammo found in his car and at his home, why did he leave it in his car and at his home? Did he trust in providence? Was he aware of all the ammo that was supposedly lying about in the Tasman Peninsula’s premier bed-and-breakfast residence? How would Martin Bryant be aware of the "Shitloads of ammo" that Easton says Glen Martin told him he was at Seascape but which Glen Martin has emphatically denied as being not true. Why is Geoff Easton trying to compete with the Brothers Grimm, those authors of delightful fairy tales?

Just where did these firearms and ammunition come from? The police make no mention of them!!!

On Monday morning (29 April 1996), the deputy commissioner of Tasmania Police, Richard McCreadie, held a media conference. Many attendees were already in Hobart to participate in the Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers Association conference which was to begin that day. McCreadie told the media this: "[A] person has been taken into police custody, conveyed to the Royal Hobart Hospital suffering from burns, no gunshot wounds. He will we expect appear before the court later today [29TH; see Insert BRYANT CHARGED WITH MURDER] or
tomorrow [30th] so we obviously can’t comment on motive or anything else like that, but I’m happy to make Mr. Fielding, who was the Forward Commander in Charge of the operation down here, available to answer your questions about how the situation unfolded, and then we’ll talk about how we’ll facilitate the opportunity as media to get a look at the house, which has been destroyed by fire, burnt to the ground, and then to progress on to some of the other sites that will obviously be of interest to you.”

Then after McCredie’s presentation, superintendent Jack Johnston gives us some of the reasons why and how the media were to be given a tour of the crime scenes before they had even been properly examined by the police forensic squads: “It became necessary during the course of the morning to identify the fact that the media were expressing such considerable interest in attending the scenes that we should facilitate that, so it became imperative that as soon as the crime scenes were cleared from a scientific perspective and an evidentiary perspective that we allowed them access and we did that by making two coaches available to transport them through the scenes in a very ordered way. They were given access to each of the sites at which the various murders occurred, and under very strict guidelines were entitled to film the sites where the bodies had been located.”

Now were the media not fortunate?

Richard McCreadie, had left Hobart after doing an early interview with Steve Lieberman of the Today show. Then this commissioner traveled to Taranna where he had his media conference and informed the media of their reward – a guided tour of the Port Arthur massacre site. Then we had superintendent Jack Johnston informing us that it was a necessity to placate the media. If that was the case, the question was/is: When would it be proper for such an exercise in media control be expected to take place? The answer was/is at the end of the media conference, when the last of the bodies had been located and the fate of the hostages properly established.

The coroner Ian Matterson states this in his report to Emergency Management Australia (EMA). "Prior to 08:00 I received a telephone call indicating there was a desire by a government Minister to allow a bus load of press personnel on site around 09:00. I indicated this was neither possible nor desirable because of the stage of investigations and that they ought not to be allowed on site until the bodies had been removed. I indicated that at this stage that could be several hours into the future. I advised that at the time of this telephone call potential exhibits were still being located, identified and marked for photographing and that I had no desire for the press to be present whilst bodies were still in situ and while investigators were attending to their duties with the further distinct possibility of exhibits being trampled upon, moved or even destroyed (albeit accidentally) by having extra personnel in the form of press on the site.”

And the coroner continued: “A little later in the morning I was in discussion with senior police officers whereby it was agreed that, provided we could complete our investigation of the bodies on the tollgate road, once they were removed the press could be brought on site in

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117 Tasmania Police training video; see note 102.
118 Tasmania Police training video; see note 102.
MARTIN BRYANT IMAGES (4)
1972-1992

MARTIN BRYANT
Birthdate 1967 May 7 Queen Alexander Hospital, Battery Point, Tasmania (My Story)
Top Left 1972 5 years of age; family photograph (My Story)
Top Right 1977 10 years of age; family photograph (My Story)
Base Left 1979? c.12 years of age; location – Royal Hobart Hospital?
Base Right 1987-1992 c.20-25 years of age; location?

Images of Martin Bryant on the Internet are usually without dates, locations, and/or sources. Thus, all images of him must be questioned. A number of these images have the sole purpose of demonization him. On some, the eyes have been deliberately manipulated and accentuated: "Newspaper coverage immediately after the massacre raised serious questions about journalistic practices. Photographs of Martin Bryant had been digitally manipulated with the effect of making Bryant appear deranged." (wikipedia.org) Editors continue to use these manipulated images. – ed.
buses, corralled in the Port Arthur Motor Inn where they would be briefed before being allowed to walk along a set route across to the historic church and up the road to the tollgate. It was agreed this would not occur before 13:00 and no press member was to stray from the designated route nor would they be taken within 300 metres of the Broad Arrow Café. This was a perfectly acceptable compromise that enabled the forensic team sufficient time to properly complete their investigations of bodies in the open.\textsuperscript{120}

So, according to the coroner Ian Matterson, the request came from a government minister \textit{prior to 08:00 hours}, which was before Bryant emerged from Seascape, and well before his arrest. Matterson then tells us that he spoke a little later to senior police officers in regard to this matter, and plans to bus in the media were finalised.

What all this tells us is that at the time these plans relating to the media being bussed in and escorted through the Site, the coroner was still considered as being in charge of the investigations. And this scenario would have continued had Martin Bryant died in the fire at Seascape. However Matterson then informs us that at 08:40 hours, he was told that Bryant had been arrested and therefore he as the coroner had ceased to have control over the investigation. In other words, the plan to bus in the media had been completed prior to 08:40 hours – \textbf{before the arrest of Martin Bryant}.

The questions now must be put as to how could such activities be planned whilst uncertainties such as the final outcome of the siege at Seascape existed. Police resources must have been stretched to the very limits, and the safety of the hostages, the public and the media could not be guaranteed until the event at Seascape was finalised. Unless, of course, someone knew what was to happen and that could only be if the \textbf{Port Arthur Massacre was an exercise}.

In this handling of the media by the Tasmania Police and Tasmania government, remember the coroner has informed us that the plan was first mooted with him by a government minister. It was a unique situation and it is worthy to consider just where this plan may have been created. Perhaps the Tasmania Police media liaison officer, the former Canberra based communications officer, Geoff Easton, learnt this containment strategy when, as he put it: “Just the fortnight before I had spent five days in Western Australia on the anti-terrorist SAC-PAV Exercise, ’Top Shelf’.\textsuperscript{121}

Let us consider another little piece of information given by Easton: “...at 08:30 I was able to fly by helicopter to the PFCP [Police Forward Command Post] with the Deputy Commissioner as news came through to us that a man had emerged from the flames of the Sea Scape Cottages [sic]. I conferred with Peter Hazelwood who had spent a chilly night at the PFCP assisting the Forward Commander to facilitate as much media inquiry to around 80 journalists as he could, with regular briefings throughout the night. We decided that journalists in Hobart would be placed on a chartered coach from there and brought to Port Arthur to join those at the PFCP, to use a chartered coach that had already arrived for other purposes.”\textsuperscript{122}
Now the coroner has already told us that he received a telephone call on behalf of a government minister prior to 08:00 hours in regard to permitting a bus load of journalists to tour the Port Arthur Historic Site around 09:00 hours. Who was this minister? It could only be the minister responsible for Port Arthur, Mr Ray Groom MHR (Member of House of Representatives).

That a government minister would interfere with an ongoing situation is preposterous. Just how could a government minister interfere with a coronial or police investigation that may in some manner jeopardise the final outcome, unless of course the government minister was aware of what the final outcome was to be. This smacks of a terrorism exercise.

The police media liaison officer is now telling us that a coach was waiting at the police forward command post at Taranna when he arrived there at approximately 08:45 hours. This corroborates the coroner’s statements of the 09:00 hours appointment for the bus-load of media at Port Arthur. So the questions are: What time was the bus, which had to travel from Hobart and it takes 90 minutes to make this journey, booked for it to be at Taranna prior to 09:00 hours?; and, For what purpose was the bus required at Taranna, especially when the bus was no longer used for that purpose?

Easton continues with these snippets: “The deputy commissioner gave a briefing to those assembled telling them of the arrangements to allow them onto the site”; “the crime scene examiner superintendent Jack Johnston gave permission, once the outside bodies had been removed, for the journalists to walk through each of the murder scenes”; “At about midday he [Johnston] took charge of this phase and a small army of 120 media personnel followed him through as he described as far as practicable what had been found and our understanding of the events”; and, “Seascape cottage was in ashes and the last rounds of ammunition had been discharged from the intense heat and the area was now considered safe.”

Clearly, some members of the police and some politicians knew in advance what would occur that Monday 29 April 1996.

Here is a time line of these events to put things into perspective –
08:00 prior to this Matterson and government minister on buses
07:47 Seascape cottage reported on fire
07:52 McCreadie interviewed by Steve Lieberman
08:10 McCreadie and Easton on route to airport
08:24 Bryant emerges from burning Seascape cottage
08:30 McCreadie and Easton board helicopter to Taranna
08:35 Bryant arrested
08:40 Matterson informed of arrest of Bryant
09:30 McCreadie informs media at Taranna of bus trip.
11:05 Walter Mikac views dead wife and daughters (2) at site
11:20 Walter Mikac comforted & escorted by Dr. Ireland from site
12:30 media buses arrive at Seascape cottage
13:00 media at Port Arthur

The reason I've mentioned the Mikac episode is to demonstrate that these bodies were still in situ at 11:20 a.m., but it appears that they were moved just prior to the media’s arrival at 13:00 hours.

Now the most telling parts here are the buses put on for the media prior to any facts that would indicate the siege at Seascape would be resolved. The deputy police commissioner McCreadie was the police spokesman at police headquarters in Hobart up to his interview with Steve Lieberman early that Monday morning. By all precedents, McCreadie should have continued performing his duties at Hobart. But after the fire was officially set off at Seascape cottage, McCreadie was travelling to Taranna with his media liaison officer.

It is McCreadie who informed the 80-odd media personnel at Taranna of the prepared bus journey to allow the media to have full access to all the various crime scenes at Port Arthur, including the burned ruins of Seascape cottage. In the process, members of the media were able to photograph one of the presumed murder weapons, the FN-FAL rifle in the gutter of the garage at Seascape.

Again we are told that a total of 120 media personnel were led through Port Arthur by superintendent Jack Johnston, which means that there were approximately 40 media personnel from Hobart who took advantage of the Tasmania Police offer for the escorted tour of the Port Arthur Historic Site and other crime scenes.

From all of this we can conclude that the media had top priority in bringing forth the message of the Port Arthur massacre. Then we are informed that the majority of media personnel were gathered in Hobart prior to the event for a seven day conference related to newspaper publishing. Even the Sydney-based John Raedler of CNN was there together with his camera man Hugh Williams then based in Berlin.

The significant point here is that the media were used to deliver the required message to the populace.

The thoughts of the Nubeena ambulance driver Gary Alexander were as follows: "Alexander’s first thought was that he had arrived at an exercise, because the bodies looked like mannequins laid out. 'If it’s a training set-up and they haven’t told someone, gee I’ll go crook'." Now why would Gary Alexander think that? Joe Paul the executive officer of the Tasmania State Disaster Committee, tells us why in his report to the EMA:

"Several exercises have been conducted since 1995 that have been designed to assess the emergency services response capability to an event on the Tasman Peninsula, which includes Port Arthur"; "On 22 and 23 April 1996, five days prior to the tragedy, an aviation seminar was held at the Police Academy. The seminar considered Tasmania’s resource capability to cope with a domestic aircraft accident and identified the support available from other states"; "Other exercises were held to test anti terrorist arrangements. These exercises practised emergency service personnel and other organis-
TWO BUS LOADS
North American Tourists

I do not believe they were ever expected to arrive at Port Arthur on that day (28 April 1996) which is very unusual as mostly all bus tours were booked for their different tours etc. many days prior. It is very hard to slot in 70 extra people. That many tourists would mean extra two guides would be needed as there was a limit of 35 people per walking tour.

I was speaking to Mrs. Ann Hillman, who was in charge of the tour office, when I arrived from the ferry trip to eat my lunch. She said that two bus loads of American tourists had arrived unexpectedly and that they wanted to do a trip on the ferry (Bundeena) at 1:30 p.m.

Prior to Easter, the ferry was going out at least every half hour doing trips (8 per day) around the harbour, as every person who purchased a ticket to tour Port Arthur Historic Site was given in the price charged this complimentary tour of the harbour.

The Isle of the Dead, which was a small island off the mainland,125 was the convict burial ground and we took a one hour tour over there between 12 and 1 p.m and 3 and 4 p.m. On this day I had returned from my trip to the island at 1 pm and the ferry was tied up until 2 p.m. These tourists were booked on a tour of the harbour at 2:30 p.m., an extra tour put on for them by Ann as they were not expected.

We believe they were to be targets on the 1:30 p.m. sailing that didn’t happen. So the shooting venue was changed to the Broad Arrow Café at 1:30 pm. It HAD to happen at 1:30 p.m. as there were so many plans in place and I believe that these people were part of the plan to be killed out on the Bundeena.

Wendy Scurr
email to editor
16 October 2012
(amended; emphasis added)

125 On goaustralia.about.com it says: “In the harbour adjacent to the Port Arthur historic site lies the Isle of the Dead which was selected as a burial place for those who died on Port Arthur. Some 1,000 burials took place on [that island] from 1833 to 1877, a majority of them of convicts and former convicts.”
ations in responding and managing an event with multiple deaths and casualties”; “Due to the small population and lack of Defence Force infrastructure, there are limited resources within the State to cope with a major emergency”; and, “On 28 April 1996, Tasmania was as well-prepared as possible to deal with expected emergency events.”

Then there was Code Brown. It was the new emergency plan of the Royal Hobart Hospital, which was implemented early in 1995 but [suggestively] finalised on the Friday (26 April 1996) just before the Port Arthur massacre, along with the 25 trauma specialist doctors from all over Australia who were in Hobart at that time.

So there were exercises aplenty going on in Tasmania to bring the local services up to scratch. There were seminars and conferences to bring in the media and the required specialist physicians, and there was even a seminar to remove the management staff of the Port Arthur Site out of harm’s way. (see Insert MY DAY, Part 4) And of course none of this was orchestrated in any way – or was it?

Now in any emergency exercise there is the need for victims. So why not the two bus loads of American tourists?

But the Yanks weren’t shot at. Again consider the words of the gunman who told Gaye Ester Lynd that he was going to get rid of some wasps.

Or Rob Atkins, the Sydney based spook told us that the gunman said: “He said there’s a lot of wasps around today, there’s not many Japs here are there, and then started muttering to himself, and then walked inside and that’s when all the gunshots started going off.”

But most of all, Lupo Prins, assistant commissioner of Tasmania Police, is quoted in the Hobart newspaper (The Mercury) as having said: “At one stage we thought he was trying to get on a boat which a lot of people were on, to go to the Isle of the Dead. Had he got on the vessel he could have shot everybody on board so the potential was there for it to be a lot worse than it was.”

The existence of this plan was corroborated by deputy commissioner of Tasmania Police, Richard McCreadie in his EMA address in which he stated: "Marine Division tasked (Van Dieman & Vigilant)." And, we also have that same information on the police training video which was found at a second-hand shop in Hobart.

Now if the Port Arthur ferry, the Bundeena, had been hijacked as Prins and McCreadie declared, the passengers slain and the ferry set alight, then the two Tasmania Police patrol boats (Van Dieman & Vigilant) would have been called to assist. But what happened to these two vessels as they never did reach Port Arthur?

Consider the thesis that the passengers on the ferry Bundeena were the original target and that something happened which stopped that attack. First, let us have a closer look at some of those who were shot on 28 April 1996 at the Broad Arrow Café.

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126 Joe Paul. Setting the scene for the event; Port Arthur Seminar Papers; 11-12 March 1997: pp. 3, 4.

127 See Insert TWO BUS LOADS. It describes the unannounced arrival of those buses at the Port Arthur Historic Site together with what arrangements were made for all those visitors on 28 April 1996.

128 Witness Statement; 30 May 1996.

129 This word wasps is spelt several ways in the case-related documents: wasps; Wasps; and, WASPS. Given what the gunman stated to Lynd, and given later that same day he killed 32 people at and near the Port Arthur Historic Site, it can be concluded the gunman was using the word acronymically not biologically. The gunman told Lynd that he was going to get rid of some White Anglo-Saxon Protestants, not wasps of the stinging kind. (uncertainty here)

130 Slang word first used in the US to define a spy. Has evolved to mean any person who, full-time or part-time, is engaged by a government or other significant entity to covertly gather information or assist with actions related to matters kept secret.

131 ABC. News; 28 April 1996.

132 The Mercury; 31 December 1996.


134 Tasmania Police training video; see note 90. See note 108.
1. Anthony Nightingale
He was the person who jumped up when the gunman started shooting and yelled out, "No, no, not here!" Allegedly, he was a loans officer at a Commonwealth Bank branch at Noble Park, Melbourne. But I have received information that he was associated with ASIO (Australian Security Intelligence Organisation);

2. Andrew Bruce Mills
Another reputed member of ASIO, he was accompanied by Tony and Sarah Kistan of Sydney;

3. Tony Kistan
Alleged to be a high-ranking activist of the African National Congress in South African; and,

4. Dennis Olson
Olson was quoted in an article (Survivor recounts shooting spree) on the internet news site, The Nando Times. He said: "upon his return, he probably will get up on a soapbox and talk in even more passionate terms about his long-held belief in gun control."

Now let us consider an article published in a major Tasmanian newspaper. A nurse, her name is suppressed, received a six-figure settlement from her employer, the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and the job agency Audiometrics of 814 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn, Victoria. Now, the only Commonwealth Bank employee killed at Port Arthur was Anthony Nightingale, and since the Commonwealth Bank does not pay its employees and is not responsible for its employees outside of working hours, or whilst on a touring holiday of Tasmania and visiting the Port Arthur Historic Site, then we can only presume that Anthony Nightingale was on active duty when he died.

If you are wondering why the nurse’s name was suppressed, kindly remember that it is still an offence to name a member of ASIO. Alright, in this article we are told that the nurse had to walk into a room full of dead people who had been shot with a high-powered weapon. That means the nurse walked into the Broad Arrow Café, and she could have only done that on the day of the massacre, and therefore this nurse was Lynne Beavis, who according to her statement was on a 10-day holiday with her sister, Jean Andrews. Again, the Commonwealth Bank does not pay for injuries to its employees (Nightingale, Beavis), a political activist and an American that occurred whilst on holidays. So what were three ASIO personnel, a communist activist, and an anti-gunner all doing at Port Arthur on that particular day?

But I have digressed from my topic, the Tasmania Police. The aims of the Tasmania Police are stated to be: maintain law and order; protect life and property; enhance community safety; and, reduce the incidence of fear of crime. Well for over six hours at Port Arthur, the whole community waited with dread whilst the Tasmania Police acted out their anti-terrorist protocols and ignored their stated aims.

Superintendent Fielding: "We put together our formulated plans for the resolution of the incident and I signed off on most of those by around about 7:00 a.m." In other words, there appears to have been a schedule with a limited time factor. But what plans were
Fielding talking about? The local fire brigade being put on stand-by? The only incident that occurred was that Seascape was set on fire, and Fielding had already admitted that this was a police action.

Superintendent Fielding: "I had further discussions with the SOG [Special Operations Group] liaison officer, the psychiatrist Dr. Sale and the head of the negotiation unit, inspector Tom Tully. I went through with them what they thought was the situation as far as the hostage being alive was concerned." The hostages must be considered alive, until such time as they are proven to be dead. It doesn’t matter what the exercise observers state.

Superintendent Fielding: “But they really thought that they were most likely deceased at that stage.” In other words, the hostages were immaterial to their plan of operations. Again this tells us that this was all an anti-terrorist exercise.

Superintendent Fielding: "We didn’t know where Pearce [sic; should be Pears] was.” This being the case, we are now told that the person inside Seascape cottage with Jamie was not Glenn Pears. So who was Jamie’s companion called Rick?

Superintendent Fielding: "The fire then started and there was a lot of discussion as to what we should or should not do.” And so they fiddled while Rome burned.

Superintendent Fielding: "There was some discussion about whether we would have to send somebody in because we might be letting people burn alive in there.” Again the hostages were immaterial. But consider just exactly what Fielding is telling us: “because we might be letting people burn alive.” That is what the police were willing to do. Not protecting the community, but rather taking out a terrorist. It was an anti-terrorist exercise.

Superintendent Fielding: "At the end of the day I weighed it up on the basis that it was better to let that occur, than to needlessly risk another nine or ten people’s lives to go in and that was what we did.” This means that Fielding was content to let whoever was alive inside the cottage to burn to death, as the police did not attempt to save any victim(s), the main duty of any police officer.

Also consider that the SOGs have been training since 1979 to battle terrorists and save hostages. Yet, Fielding considered that they would have a 30 percent casualty rate against Martin Bryant who is mentally incompetent and an untrained shooter. Heaven help them should they come across the real thing. At Glenrowan in Victoria, the police went in and did drag the body of 16-year-old Joe Byrne out of the burning building during the gun battle with Ned Kelly.

Superintendent Fielding: "Certainly from his actions, Bryant wanted us to go in while the house was burning.” Well, if you consider acting sergeant Craig Harwood’s words about Bryant, who after initially emerging from Seascape returned into the burning building, then there is the real possibility that at least Martin Bryant

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139 Jenny Fleming. Forward command at Port Arthur; Police Journal (Police Association South Australia); March 1997: p. 6.

140 In his Witness Statement dated 9 August 1996, Harwood says this: “The fire continued to engulf the cottage and spread to the bottom floor. I then heard via radio that S/Constable JAMES had seen the offender firing a handgun on the southern side of the stronghold. The offender was dressed in black. The offender then disappeared back into the burning building.” Harwood says the fire spread downward to the bottom/ground floor. This implies the fire commenced on the upper/first floor. And it was on the upper/first floor where the windows were smashed out from the inside during the siege. That would have allowed an unobstructed entry of a SOG incendiary device shot into the house on the upper/first floor. From there the fire would logically have spread downward to the floor below, just as Harwood revealed happened. Note that this Craig Harwood was a member of Victoria Police. He would have had no knowledge of what the Tasmanian SOG planned to do or actually did during the siege. What he described in his Witness Statement suggests arson took place – the SOG set fire to Seascape cottage.

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276 PART 10 The Patsy
was concerned about the safety of others inside Seascape. Or constable Malcolm Scott’s statement that Martin Bryant asked if his girlfriend had got out. It would be perfectly reasonable for Bryant wanting the police to enter the burning house and save the occupants. But as Fielding states, oh no, we can’t do that.

Superintendent Fielding: "Right up to within ten minutes of being arrested, he was well ablaze and yelling out. He was trying to goad people to come in --- he was yelling out things like come on, come and get me!” Of course it is natural for a young man to want to save his girlfriend, and when his own clothes and back are burning to yell out for someone to come to him and to help him.

Superintendent Fielding: "He came outside and his clothes were on fire or someone came outside with clothes on fire, they (the SOGs) could not see because of the smoke exactly who it was, I would not allow them to go forward because I could not be certain from what they were telling me that it was Bryant.” With every house fire that I have witnessed, the smoke rose into the sky. Only in Tasmania does the smoke drift downwards. But, again Fielding is telling us that the burning person may have been a hostage, and still the police would not attempt to save that possible victim. I guess it just was not part of any plan.

Superintendent Fielding tells of the various formulated plans that he had signed off on prior to 07:00 hours, and it is obvious that these plans had not been a spur-of-the-moment type, but rather some well rehearsed battle plans such as the use of ballistic shields to protect the SOGs from what Fielding termed "Bryant’s mutton gun.”

There is no doubt the Port Arthur Massacre was a planned event from start to finish.

The actions of the various players such as Richard McCreadie, Ray Groom, Geoffrey Easton, Sale and many others tells us that the Port Arthur massacre was a terrorist exercise from the start. Every major police member involved with the Port Arthur massacre had been trained by SAC-PAV, a federal government body from the federal attorney-general’s department and controlled by the PCSS (Protective Security Coordination Centre).

Consider these snippets of information: "A revised edition of the National Anti-Terrorist Plan endorsed by SAC-PAV in November 1995”; “the effectiveness of the National Anti-Terrorist Plan and particularly the external support provisions was demonstrated during the Port Arthur incident in April 1996”; and, “the response arrangements of the National Anti-Terrorist Plan were largely followed by the Tasmanian Authorities in successfully managing the incident.”

So, the plans that Fielding signed off on, were in fact part of the National Anti-Terrorist Plan endorsed by SAC-PAV in November 1995. The plans to accommodate the media, especially with the buses, and the organised tours then also had to be part of the National Anti-Terrorist Plan. So the next question is, who wrote these plans?

141 The name of Bryant’s girlfriend is Petra Willmott.
142 Malcolm Scott. Witness Statement; not dated. Note Scott was a member of Tasmania Police SOG during the siege of Seascape cottage.
144 mutton gun: Australian slang for penis. At this stage, over 30 people had been shot to death and Fielding knew it. An unknown number were possibly burning to death in front of him, but Fielding thought it was so humorous he used a crude phrase to get a laugh from his brave boys. This supports MacGregor’s argument. The siege at Seascape cottage near Port Arthur on 28 & 29 April 1996 was a planned police exercise.
145 This centre was established during the primeministership (1972-75) of Gough Whitlam. In 1978, it was involved with the Hilton Hotel bombing at Sydney, NSW. (see Insert STATE MURDER at Part 3)
This witness who saw the gunman is an independent citizen and is entitled to and should say exactly what he saw. Officials must never tell a witness what he/she can or can not say, verbally or in writing. This is the wording that appears in the Witness Statement (7 June 1996) of John Godfrey: “Other than hearing the firing and seeing him drive from the area I did not see any person shoot another. In my opinion the picture I saw in the newspapers was not the same person.” (added emphasis)

This bias against Martin Bryant was something Jarvis had before he arrived at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Godfrey. Jarvis could have acquired his bias from his cop colleagues, all of whom would have experienced internal organisational (police) pressure to get Bryant, as well as from the mass media onslaught which defined him – in words and images – as the evil gunman. Imagine how many biased cops went out to get witness statements and during that process influenced the content of those statements – influenced them in a way that was negative for Martin Bryant. Once having the suspect, the hunt was on solely to obtain incriminating evidence. Any evidence to the contrary was totally ignored. In fact, there was a plethora of evidence that Bryant could not possibly have been the gunman, but that evidence has always been ignored by officials – but not be decent moral people.

A police station approximately 10 kilometres east of Hobart.

Just before Pears was taken (the exact reason why Pears was taken is not public knowledge), the gunman killed four people who had been travelling in a gold-coloured BMW sedan. The gun man then drove that BMW to a small local store outside PAHS. It was there that Glen Pears was forced into the boot/trunk of the BMW after which the gunman shot Pears’ female companion who was seated in a stationary white Corolla sedan. The gunman then drove the BMW to Seascape cottage with Pears in the boot/trunk.

It was from the Vietnam veteran John Godfrey who we first gained the knowledge that the two fires at Seascape cottage were actually ignited by the Tasmania Police.

John Godfrey had been interviewed and his police statement taken by the Det/Const. T.D. Jarvis on Friday the 7th of June 1996. When shown a photograph of Martin Bryant, Godfrey was adamant that the photograph was not of the Port Arthur gunman. Det. Jarvis then spoke and implied the following: You cannot say that as everybody knows that Martin Bryant was the gunman. How about we say that in your opinion, the photographs in the newspapers was not the person you saw at Port Arthur. Godfrey permitted Det/Const. Jarvis to influence his police statement.

After taking that statement off John Godfrey, Mrs Godfrey invited Jarvis to partake in a cup of tea, which Jarvis accepted and the three of them, John and Mrs. Godfrey and the detective sat around the kitchen table. Then that detective dropped his bombshell.

Jarvis told them that he had been told, whilst in the messroom of the Bellerive Police Station, that the reason why the BMW had been set alight was to negate it as a means of escape by the gunman inside Seascape cottage. Jarvis said that he was also told [by police colleagues] that the reason why Seascape cottage was set on fire was to force the gunman from the building. I doubt it was coincidental that Det/Sgt. Andrew Mark Fogarty was stationed at the Bellerive Police Station.

Of course, the first thought that emerges from this is that Martin Bryant was charged with setting the two fires at Seascape cottage, and yet police had admitted prior to June 1996 that the acts of arson were by the police – not Martin Bryant.

What is more, photographic evidence demonstrates that the BMW was bogged up to its axles and thus couldn’t have been used as a get-away vehicle. So there had to be another reason for setting that hijacked vehicle alight.

Again, one must consider the total destruction of evidence that would have been found within these two objects – the BMW vehicle and Seascape cottage. However there is one far more sinister and horrendous fact that must be considered.

On the afternoon of 29th April 1996, after the fire at Seascape cottage had been extinguished by the local fire brigade, and police moved in to search the remnants of that building, the police located the bodies of the owners of the cottage, David and Sally Martin, and allegedly the remnants of many firearms.

But the police were unable to find the body of Glenn Pears who had been taken hostage. It was not until the following day, when the coroner Ian Matterson was on duty elsewhere, that the body was found.
Furthermore, with regard to the deaths of those three persons murdered at Seascape cottage, there were no pathology reports prepared and released. There was nothing to corroborate the statement made to the Hobart Supreme Court that Pears had been shot. Nor is there any evidence confirming that the body of Pears was found inside Seascape cottage.

Had Glen Pears been murdered by being shot (twice) whilst in the boot of the BMW, that would have presented no major problems for the coroner. However, considering all the aspects of locating the body of Pears, and the total lack of pathology evidence, it can be assumed that he was not shot. It seems Glenn Pears was burnt to death by the police whilst trapped in the boot/trunk of the hijacked BMW sedan.152

Given the hostage Glen Pears was murdered, the question is who actually did it. Was it SOG member Sgt. Andrew Mark Fogarty who had the flares and who admitted using them? Or was it Sgt. Michael Charles Dyson, who it seems played the part of Rick inside Seascape? Or was it both of them?

Andrew S. MacGregor
email to editor
19 October 2012
(amended & added emphasis)

Everything that Andrew MacGregor has stated above is credible. It is the official narrative that is incredible. That take-it-and-believe-it tale is not what Truth and Justice are about. Before Martin Bryant exited that cottage and was arrested, definitive sounding statements about him were made by officials as well as gullible others in their sway. Before he was wrongly charged, he was declared guilty and exits that cottage and was arrested, definitive sounding statements were made to the Hobart Supreme Court that Pears had been shot. The cops left no pathology reports, but they found two bodies. The cops did not find the third body inside the cottage when he set it ablaze because it was not there. It was burnt to death by the police whilst trapped in the boot/trunk of the hijacked BMW.151

On the American television network NBC, a news piece titled Port Arthur Massacre was broadcast on the Today programme at c.7.00 p.m. on 29 April 1996. It was then c.9.00 a.m. on 30 April 1996 at Port Arthur. A video of that story (7 mins 3 secs) can be viewed on youtube.com. Almost at the end (6 mins 50 secs) of that video, the following is stated: “…there were three hostages in the cottage when he set it aaah on fire and they found two bodies.” But no news reader in the United States knew with certainty there were three hostages in the cottage. That was a concocted story which was placed in the international news system by some news or police employee in Australia. No one saw Pears go into Seascape cottage – it is an unproved conclusion. That cops did find two bodies plus a large number of burnt bits and pieces of weapons and ammunition in the cottage is credible. (How all those weapons and ammunition got there is another suggestive story.) To find two bodies as well as all those bits of metal, quite a few being small, and not to find a third body tells us a lot. The cops did not find the third body inside the cottage because it was not there. It was located elsewhere as MacGregor says. Everything points to the body of Mr. Pears having been found inside the boot/trunk of the burnt BMW.

In his Witness Statement (no date), the cop Paul Hyland says this: “I could see a brown vehicle similar to a BMW sedan. This vehicle was stopped on the grass lawn beside one of the buildings, facing east. This vehicle was on fire and there was heavy black smoke coming from the vehicle. The rear half of the vehicle had not caught fire at this stage.”

Prior to driving this BMW, the gunman drove a Volvo out of PAHS. The cops did not collect fingerprints from that vehicle as they would not have matched Bryant’s. The cops left that Volvo, with one window missing, uncovered the night of 28 April 1996. This ensured the evening condensation ruined all the gunman’s fingerprints on and in that vehicle.
Consider the career of the retired Tasmania Police sergeant, Michael Charles Dyson. He joined the Tasmania Police in 1974, and the SOG in 1985. In 1990 as a senior member and the only full-time member of Tasmania Police SOG, Michael Dyson, at the time with 16 years policing experience and five of those years with the SOG, was seconded to train New Zealand police officers at the New Zealand Police College near Dunedin for their inclusion in their Armed Offenders Squad. It was reported in New Zealand, that in regard to the Aramoana massacre on 13 November 1990: "an anti-terrorist unit was in the area helping to co-ordinate the scene."\(^{155}\) Apparently Michael Dyson was part of this anti-terrorist team.

Dyson was the team commander at Pelverata, Tasmania, when the SOGs were involved in the killing of Joe Gilewicz (see Part 3) who was fatally shot by constable Michael Fogarty.\(^{156}\)

Interestingly, we learn from the inquiry transcript\(^{157}\) that when Dyson left the SOG unit in 1995\(^{158}\) – before the Port Arthur terrorist attack – he was posted to a Tasmania Police special section which was involved directly in, "counter terrorist exercises."\(^{159}\) It was in this rather covert section, that Dyson spent his remaining time in Tasmania Police, being "involved in the development of the violent incident management plan."\(^{160}\)

About his involvement, Dyson has said: "I was being given an opportunity to go to the more strategic level and become involved in the overall command of violent incidents which is my passion...."\(^{160}\)

In other words, Michael Dyson told the commission of inquiry that he was posted to a unit directly involved in "counter terrorist exercises," and that he was involved in that unit’s planning aspect for “violent incident management plan,” the plans mentioned and used by superintendent Bob Fielding, Geoff Easton, and all the other players in Australia’s worst massacre. Dyson describes his move as a "more strategic level," and then describes his involvement in regard to command of violent incidents as a passion. I would suspect that he means his passion would be in regard to the command and management of violent incidents rather than the victims thereof, so consider this aspect.

In regard to the Port Arthur massacre, the most violent incident ever to occur within Australia, let alone Tasmania, the first and only time that the plans for an anti-terrorist situation were implemented, sergeant Michael Dyson, the former SOG assault team leader, the only SOG member with any siege experience, was not available to assist the SOGs in their part of the exercise, and the required drills that had been planned by Dyson.

Dyson would have known the area around Seascape having previously been involved with the various SOG training exercises carried out in the area. He would have been aware of all the difficulties such as topography and radio communications that would beset the SOGs. But it appears that Dyson’s passion would not be fulfilled on that particular day – or was it?

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\(^{155}\) See crime.co.nz: The Aramoana Massacre. Aramoana is a small coastal settlement 27 kilometres north of Dunedin on the south island of New Zealand.

\(^{156}\) See the book Disquiet (2007) by Paul Tapp & Part 3 for details.

\(^{157}\) Commission of Inquiry relating to the Death of Joseph Gilewicz; Transcript; Hobart: Department of Justice; 7 September 2000.

\(^{158}\) On p. 409 of the Inquiry transcript – see note 43 of transcript – Dyson states this when asked about his departure from SOG: "I think it would have been around about maybe 1995. It could have been 1994."

\(^{159}\) On p. 409 of the Inquiry transcript – see note 55 of transcript.

\(^{160}\) On p. 426 of the Inquiry transcript – see note 55 of transcript.
We are aware that Martin Bryant had a mate with him at Seascape cottage, someone called Rick. When we read of the various comments made by Martin in regard to Rick, then we become aware that they were old mates, and perhaps they had even shot together at one of the various target-shooting ranges in the area. We are also aware that whoever was with Martin, that person was well aware of the various tactics and drills performed by the Tasmania Police SOGs, and had similar equipment to the SOGs such as night viewing equipment, and laser sights. This equipment was not discovered in the charred ruins of Seascape, and so presumably must have left with – been taken away by – Rick.

It is highly suggestive that Martin Bryant would have had to have changed his clothing at least three times. His clothes on the drive to Port Arthur were different to the clothes worn by the gunman at the historic site. At Seascape, acting sergeant Craig Harwood said: “The offender was dressed in black.”161 But when Bryant emerged on fire from the burning cottage, he was, according to Harwood: “dressed in blue jeans, a blue jumper and a red, white and blue striped shirt or similar.”161 It is quite possible that Rick was also dressed in black. But, back to Martin Bryant inside Seascape and talking with the police negotiator Terry McCarthy:

JAMIE: Yeah, while I’m on the phone um Rick’s wondering how did the ABC actually get in touch with me.
MCCARTHY: Rick was Rick actually wondering that?162

This little comment by Jamie does tend to demonstrate that he had an easy friendly relationship with Rick. But now consider this gem:

JAMIE: Uh well I’m well up ’til now and the past few twenty seconds. What I’ve actually found out man is that one of your boys is right outside North East I’d say. With an infra-red scope. I’ve got one up here that I’ve found from this person own um owns this property, he’s shining right towards me. If he doesn’t leave can you just ask him to move on, cause he’s gonna shoot he’s trying to shoot he’s gonna shoot your main man.162

Now the questions to be asked here are, just who was Jamie concerned about getting shot by the SOG marksman, as Jamie infers that the target inside the cottage is someone other than himself, and thus more than likely, Rick. But it is the description of the target to the Tasmania Police negotiator, in that the marksman was going to shoot the Tasmania Police’s main man. That man has to be Rick, and Jamie has just told us that Rick was a main member of the Tasmania Police.

Thus, my question is this: What is the possibility that the person inside Seascape cottage with Martin Bryant, aka Jamie, who Jamie called Rick, was actually a Tasmania Police SOG member known by the name of Mick?163

162 Transcript (28 April 1996) of the audio-taped dialogue between police sergeant Terry McCarthy in Hobart and Jamie believed to be the pseudonym used for Bryant and at least one other person at Seascape during the siege there, 28-29 April 1996, by the Tasmania Police SOG.
163 Michael/Mick Dyson, then a member of the Tasmania Police who admitted to a commission of inquiry in 2000 that his passion was being “involved in the overall command of violent incidents”; see note 160.
CONFISCATION OF MARTIN BRYANT’S ASSETS

IN an unprecedented move Martin Bryant’s million dollar estate that was left to him by an older woman friend who apparently thought a great deal of him and wanted him to live comfortably when she died, was confiscated by the court soon after he was charged. Never had this happened before, in fact they changed the law so that they could do this.

The intention was, so we were told, to provide compensation for the victims of the massacre. Provide compensation for the victims from the estate of a man who had not yet been tried and proven guilty? To this day I have not had one survivor tell me that they saw any of this money. All this preposterous action did was to deprive a man of funds for a decent defence. Never heard of before.

This decision was made before his trial and while he should still have been considered innocent. He was relatively left penniless and unable to afford a lawyer. Because of this [enforced] impoverishment he was appointed a lawyer who was very reluctant to take the case. The lawyer later resigned himself from the case after being threatened by the public for defending a madman. Another state lawyer was appointed who obviously had little experience since none of the very convincing evidence in these pages was collected or consequently presented during the hearing.

In fact his counselling to Martin was that he was going to jail anyway and if he pleaded guilty he could have a comfortable cell with a colour TV but if he didn’t do as he was told he’d get no TV. Now to an intellectually handicapped man like Martin Bryant to live the rest of your life without television would be a very powerful motive for pleading guilty and I believe that is the only way they got him to do it.

It is without a doubt that Bryant’s estate was confiscated in order to deter some clever lawyer from earning his money and digging up the truth on the Port Arthur Massacre and declaring Bryant the patsy that he obviously was. The media had whipped up such frenzy around Martin that very few lawyers were willing to be the hated defender of a mass murderer but with a million dollar estate behind him I’m sure he would have found someone who would have been persuaded to earn a healthy fee.164

Think about this – To stop Martin Bryant from engaging a lawyer who would defend him, Tasmanian officials just went to his accounts and cleaned him out. Took everything which was legally his. Everything. So then, those mongrels had poor Martin cornered and defenceless – with: no lawyer; no money; no legally-required guardian; no political connections; and, his IQ of 66. All the while, the media and the public were yelling CRUCIFY THE BASTARD! So they did. – ed.

Ned Wood

164 Ned Wood raises another of the appalling truthful facts of the case. One way or another, the State was going to get Martin Bryant to take the blame for the entire incident at and near Port Arthur. He was not going to be permitted to engage an effective lawyer. But in addition to this is the shocking fact that in all of Australia there was not one lawyer who went and stood with Martin to protect him. The entire legal community in Australia sat on its collective arse and watched as every applicable legal precept and law was ignored and/or circumvented, all so a 66-IQ person could be set up then imprisoned until he dies of despair, dementia, and drugs forced into him at Risdon Prison. This whole abomination proves yet again that lawyers have no interest in Truth and Justice. If they did, they could not be lawyers. Theirs is a profession of money-grubbing mongrels having no higher calling. The following is attributed to Martin Luther King (1929-1968): “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.” It seems lawyers in Australia have got themselves caught in a network of greed, not one of standing up for Truth and Justice.

The Port Arthur massacre conspiracy

members.inet.net.au

2 September 2012

(amended; added emphasis)
BEING Martin’s mother, I had the experience and insight to tell when he was agitated. Over the years, if someone or something was putting pressure on him, this is how he would react: his stress would be visible in his agitation and I could clearly see when this was happening to him. After Martin returned from the last trip abroad, I noticed that he was very restless, agitated, and worrying about something, although he would not disclose what it was. I did not receive the usual pleasant welcome when I visited him. He asked how long I intended to stay, obviously not wanting company. He gave me the impression that I was imposing on his privacy. I wondered why he was behaving in this manner.

On Sunday 28 April 1996 a gunman opened fire at and around the Port Arthur Historic Site, about 100 kilometres south-east of Hobart and on the Tasman Peninsula. In total, 35 people were killed and many injured in a siege which lasted two days. The shooter moved across several crime locations. High powered semi-automatic weapons were used.

I first hear of the massacre on television as I was walking through a local Glenorchy shopping centre. It was announced that the shooter was alleged to have been driving a yellow Volvo, as Martin did at this time. The media became the messenger of scattered information to the general public, although due to poor communications on the Tasman Peninsula and a delayed police reaction to the massacre, news reports covering the events could hardly be deemed to have been accurate at that early stage.

From the back cover of the book My Story. Michael Ludeke of Ludeke Publishing is commended for giving Carleen Bryant a way of expressing her feelings and beliefs related to a terribly tragic story in which her son Martin was ensnared then persecuted and imprisoned without a trial. Carleen Bryant’s prayer for all those affected by the Port Arthur incident appears on the last page of this book. (* Hobart; ludekepublishing.com.au)

This should have been investigated as part of a trial or public inquiry. But corrupt officials do not want you to know anything about someone or something putting pressure on Martin Bryant – that would ruin their concocted lone-gunman story. Prior to the shooting, Martin had an intimate relationship with a young woman called Petra Willmott. She gave a Witness Statement, in fact she gave five such statements. This is what she said in her statement of 28 April 2012: “Martin didn’t have a lot of friends but the only enemy I know he has is a male called Tiger. This male calls Martin up. Martin doesn’t like to answer the phone as he thinks it may be this Tiger. I don’t know who Tiger is or why Martin doesn’t like him.” (added emphasis) So this person called Tiger had been phoning and intimidating Martin. But officials in Tasmania do not want you to know the real name of Tiger, or what he was saying to Martin that worried him so much that he disliked answering the phone. Might this person have been Hans Overbeeke, or Gerard Dutton, or Michael/Mick/Rick Dyson?


Martin might have had to report to Tiger and his mother being there was stopping him from doing that.
Martin Bryant was taken to that hospital from Seascape cottage on Monday, 29 April 1996. There are various descriptions of him and his clothing being ablaze when he exited that cottage. Carleen Bryant does not give the date she first saw her son. But she does say it was in the prison hospital at Risdon. Mrs. Bryant makes it clear her son was in pain as his back had been badly burnt. Regardless, Martin Bryant had been tied to a wheelchair with leather straps. That would have increased pressure on his burns and it can only be described as official torture. Martin spent six days in the Royal Hobart Hospital. So if he was in great pain when his mother saw him at the prison hospital, then it is reasonable to conclude that his pain must have been even more extreme during those first six days he spent at Royal Hobart Hospital. When the badly burnt Bryant arrived there, some people say he was under the influence of a mind-altering drug. He had made statements which were nonsensical. And it is reasonable to conclude that at the Royal Hobart Hospital he was given sedatives and pain-killers for his severely burnt back. So for the first week, Martin must have been in shock over his predicament. This would have been compounded by the effect of all the drugs that had been given to him. Colloquially, Martin was out of it not knowing exactly what was going on around him and to him. And, it also seems that anyone who knew him – his mother, his girlfriend, etc. – was cruelly not permitted to visit him. Mentally-handicapped Martin was deliberately isolated. But that never stopped questionable Paul E. Mullen getting access to Martin. And just five days after being implicated in a police siege and house fire, and being dragged with pain-killers and sedatives, and being accused of killing and wounding over 50 people, that psychiatrist said* the dimwit, drugged, and disoriented burn victim was guilty of all the killing and wound- ing at Porth Arthur Historic Site and at Seascape Cottage. Mullen also used the phrase “lengthy incarceration.”

Next day, Martin Bryant was sent to the prison at Risdon, FOREVER. *Psychiatric Report - Martin Bryant, Date of Birth 7/5/66. (Bryant was actually born in 1967.)

My initial and immediate thoughts were that this scenario was not at all possible. It was like a relentless invasion by something foreign to what I knew. My world was being attacked by information that made no sense to me. Numbness and disbelief gripped me and I was in such a distraught state that, looking back, I have no recollection of how long the questioning by the police continued. I later learned that whilst I was being questioned by the police, a man who had not spoken to Martin since he was 12 years old had “assisted” the police by identifying my son’s voice during a telephone conversation between police negotiators and the Seascape cottage. This made no sense to me as the man could not possibly know what Martin’s mature voice sounded like.

How could the world possibly acknowledge the pain and suffering of all of the families who had lost loved ones, and the grief I had to live with knowing that my son had been arrested and charged with these horrific crimes. I felt the heartache and pain of all of those people who were suffering loss. The pain had become emotionally wrenching. Martin spent a couple of days at the Royal Hobart Hospital being treated for burns before being taken to the Risdon Prison hospital. When I was finally allowed to see him I saw my son, badly burned in the Seascape fire and still in great pain, bound to his wheelchair by leather straps. Martin told me he had asked to have the painful restraints removed but his request was refused. When I asked Martin who refused, one of the prison officers leaned towards me and told me: “You cannot discuss the prison staff.”

At the time of the massacre, [my daughter] Lindy was living and working in Western Australia. Within days she had journalists knocking on her door and trying to gain information from her about our family and, especially, Martin. Lindy refused to answer the door and within a few days her friends helped her to pack her belongings and relocate to try to escape harassment from the media. Lindy requested time away from work to cope with the stress and heartache of what had occurred, but when she returned to work the media found her again and continued to hassle her. Lindy changed jobs and moved again to a new town, where she was again confronted by a journalist.
In an effort to protect her, good friends and co-workers refused to acknowledge her existence to the pestering media. At one stage the persistent harassment made Lindy physically ill to the point that she was vomiting. On one occasion, she was even chased home by a journalist. Lindy was trying to get on with her life and her job while still struggling to come to terms with the massacre. She often suffered from dark days to the point where she did not know if she was able to continue in life.

After the massacre, David Gunson QC was appointed as Martin’s defence lawyer. On 2 October 1996, Gunson stood aside, not wishing to continue in this capacity [or the conspiracy?]. John Avery was then appointed to represent Martin. Martin was held in solitary confinement at Risdon Prison for approximately 120 days and Avery visited him several times during this period. On one occasion Avery offered to take me to visit Martin. As we left home, the media were outside and he agreed to speak to them on my behalf. I hoped that they would then move on and not keep hounding me relentlessly. After arriving at the prison we were taken to Martin’s cell. I soon discovered why I was there. On his previous visits, Avery had been unsuccessful in persuading Martin to plead guilty. He thought that if I could help to encourage Martin to change his plea, perhaps something could be done for him.

The general sentiment of the time was that since the perpetrator had been apprehended it would help ease the suffering of the survivors if they did not have to experience the pain of a public criminal trial. The media followed this sentiment with their reporting and they did not have to experience the pain of a public criminal trial. The media were outside and he agreed to speak to them on my behalf. I hoped that they would then move on and not keep hounding me relentlessly. After arriving at the prison we were taken to Martin’s cell. I soon discovered why I was there. On his previous visits, Avery had been unsuccessful in persuading Martin to plead guilty. He thought that if I could help to encourage Martin to change his plea, perhaps something could be done for him.

I was wrestling with the emotions of everything that had happened. It had taken me some time to realise the enormity of the destruction that had taken place on that fateful day. I struggled, I guess as any parent would do, to cope with the thoughts of Martin being responsible for what took place at Port Arthur, the slaughter and injury of so many innocent people.

I know my son and it is difficult to imagine him being able to plan these events. Psychologists determined that Martin’s IQ was that of an 11-year-old. He could not even plan his overseas travel. He would fly to one country and then decide on the spur of the moment where to visit next. He struggled with simple things such as how to remove a wheel from a bicycle, how to construct something from a Meccano set or build a simple airplane such as young boys enjoy making. Martin could drive an automatic car but he could never sit a driver’s licence. I wondered why it was that Martin was initially questioned without having a lawyer present. These were, after all, horrendous charges and at no time should he have been questioned without legal assistance, especially given his intellectual impairment which would have been quite obvious from the start.

170 Martin Bryant seems to have had no input into this appointment. By law, a guardian ship order states emphatically this is something that the learned professor or should have been well aware of, was that the court considered Martin Bryant, due to his mental inability, was not competent to make any plea in relation to the charges he was facing in November 1996.

171 Various numbers appear in the case literature. It seems Avery visited Martin Bryant over a dozen times before he browbeat his victim into having Avery change Martin’s original innocent plea to Avery’s guilty plea.

172 Martin Bryant was doomed once Avery submitted a guilty plea. Martin got nothing (certainly not the truth in a trial) and was sentenced to prison for life because Avery - NEVER TO BE RELEASED ALIVE. It seems that Martin Bryant, who was not fully informed, had a complete understanding of what the outcome of a guilty plea. It seems Martin believed there would be a trial regardless of what plea was entered.

173 Martin Bryant, mentally handicapped and with an IQ of 66, was put into prison for life because Avery did not conduct himself ethically. Avery was only interested in appeasing the public and pleasing his paymaster, not defending Martin.
Fatally shot inside the Broad Arrow Café at Port Arthur Historic Site on 28 April 1996.

Like so much in the case, these statements are deceptive – perhaps intentionally. To say Martin Bryant “did not make any statement,” suggests he could have if he wanted to, but he did not which implies Bryant knew he was guilty. And to say that he was “awake and aware” means nothing in a legal sense. Bliss had to say this to try and stop people thinking about the possibility that Bryant was asleep, possible drugged at the time he was charged. That Bryant might have been awake and aware there were people standing near his bed, does not mean he knew what was going on, what he was charged with, why he was charged, what his rights were, what he could have said, etc. Bliss wants you to think that everything was done correctly by law – but it was not done correctly. The associated true facts prove Bryant: should not have been charged; should not have been charged as an investigation had been completed; should not be charged because his legally-required guardian was absent; etc. Also note that Bryant was forced to lie on his back – on his 3rd-degree burns. He must have been pumped full of painkillers which would have diminished his already limited capacity to think.

This gutless lawyer allowed her corrupt legal colleagues to dictate her role, which Rigby was quick to ditch fearing public condemnation. (She had to be replaced by David Gunson, who also ditched Bryant as a client because he [Bryant] insisted on pleading his innocence. Then there was the criminal lawyer John Avery. Saying Martin could converse and was coherent does not mean that this person with an IQ of 66 understood anything that was going on around him or was being legally done to him. Rigby is guilty as all the other corrupt officials who took part in the setting up of the innocent Martin Bryant.

Freeman thought this was an amusing little note in her article related to the killing of 35 people and the charging of Bryant with murder.
Yesterday, at about 11 am, Bryant was charged with one count of murdering Kate Elizabeth Scott. Now, according to facts presented at the Emergency Management Australia seminar, Martin Bryant was apprehended at 8:35 on Monday, 29 April 1997. Given the severe burns on his back, he was taken to the Royal Hobart Hospital. So Bryant’s burns were given first-aid, then he was placed into the rear of an ambulance, then he was driven to Hobart. All that would have taken about c.90 minutes, possibly longer given the uncertain situation at Seascape cottage where he was apprehended. So this means, Bryant would have been admitted to the hospital sometime between 10:00 and 10:30. Then 30 minutes later "at about 11 am," before any investigator had questioned Bryant, and before any serious investigation was completed, he was charged with a serious crime. The siege only ended at 8:35 on Monday morning. Yet, some official was on the phone to get all the legal paper work hurriedly prepared. (Or were those papers prepared waiting to be used?) Some official sent a magistrate, the prosecutor, a defence lawyer, a court clerk, the court administrator, and possibly other officials to the hospital so the bureaucratic process of charging Bryant with murder could be done, according to the corrupt legal system of Tasmania, "at about 11 am." No legally required guardian was with Bryant. No member of his family, or relative or friend, was there with him. Confused, drugged, in pain, in bed, under guard, and with an IQ of 66, he was declared the killer. It was rushed so disgustingly fast it was all another official Tasmanian crime in itself. Think about it. – ed.

This article was first published by The Sydney Morning Herald on 30 April 1996 – thus “yesterday” was the day the siege at Seascape ended. On that “yesterday” (29th), there was not a single shred of evidence that Bryant was the gunman, and there was none the following day (30th). And there still is none to this day. But there is a condemnatory phrase in the Sydney Morning Herald, which is a major newspaper in Australia: “mass murderer.” Even if there is a mistake with the date on the article, and Bryant was charged on 30th April not 29th April, it makes no significant difference – Bryant would still have been confused, drugged, in pain, in bed, under guard, and with an IQ of 66. His mind would have been clouded with a cocktail of pain-killers and other drugs, and still no thorough investigation would have been completed. The whole concocted corruption was a bang-up sham by the State to give the public the impression that the Port Arthur situation was under control, that the perpetrator was under arrest, and that he HAD BEEN CHARGED with murder. There most definitely were no words about anyone being innocent until proven guilty.

Recall Part 3 of this book. Killing is what all States do and their citizens (military & police) participate in and promote this crime. Before all the evidence is collected and examined, then presented to a jury during a sound trial, a not uncommon reaction is to urge revenge killing: “shoot the man.”

In the case literature, this editor has not been able to find any evidence of this Gerald O’Brien taking any steps to assist Martin Bryant. And if this O’Brien did not realize any steps to assist Martin Bryant. And if this O’Brien did not realize that he had the intellect of an 11-year-old boy, then as a chaplain he was unfit for purpose. (Did he ever really speak with Martin?) It seems that this incompetent cross-carry trader assisted the feeding of poor Martin Bryant into the maw of the corrupt legal system. Some chaplain.

Hospital spokesman, Mr. Gary Knight, said the switchboard had received many calls threatening Bryant, using phrases like “I know how to treat him.” However, the hospital’s pledge to “the care and comfort of all” was tested when they had to tend to a mass murderer.178

The ICU nurse said the unit was usually committed to healing “mind, body and spirit.” “In this case I don’t think anyone would be very worried about his spirit,” she said. “But if someone really doesn’t want to treat him, they are not forced to.” Ms Chris Tilyard, serving in the kiosk in the foyer, said: “I don’t understand why they just didn’t shoot the man.179 It’s very hard for the doctor treating him.” Bryant is expected to be moved to a burns unit in the hospital within a few days and may require skin grafts.

The hospital chaplain, Mr. Gerald O’Brien, said the chaplains were very busy but were willing to counsel Bryant. "We will all do as much as we can for him."180

Jane Freeman
hobartdoctor.com.au
17 December 2012
original: Sydney Morning Herald
30 April 1996

(amended; original capitals; added emphasis)

This article is one of the most revealing how criminally corrupt the Tasmanian legal system was/is. The article states the following: “Yesterday, at about 11 am, Bryant was charged with one count of murdering Kate Elizabeth Scott.” Now, according to facts presented at the Emergency Management Australia seminar, Martin Bryant was apprehended at 8:35 on Monday, 29 April 1997. Given the severe burns on his back, he was taken to the Royal Hobart Hospital. So Bryant’s burns were given first-aid, then he was placed into the rear of an ambulance, then he was driven to Hobart. All that would have taken about c.90 minutes, possibly longer given the uncertain situation at Seascape cottage where he was apprehended. So this means, Bryant would have been admitted to the hospital sometime between 10:00 and 10:30. Then 30 minutes later “at about 11 am,” before any investigator had questioned Bryant, and before any serious investigation was completed, he was charged with a serious crime. The siege only ended at 8:35 on Monday morning. Yet, some official was on the phone to get all the legal paper work hurriedly prepared. (Or were those papers prepared waiting to be used?) Some official sent a magistrate, the prosecutor, a defence lawyer, a court clerk, the court administrator, and possibly other officials to the hospital so the bureaucratic process of charging Bryant with murder could be done, according to the corrupt legal system of Tasmania, “at about 11 am.” No legally required guardian was with Bryant. No member of his family, or relative or friend, was there with him. Confused, drugged, in pain, in bed, under guard, and with an IQ of 66, he was declared the killer. It was rushed so disgustingly fast it was all another official Tasmanian crime in itself. Think about it. – ed.
I was later perplexed by one witness [James Laycock181] who had known Martin for many years and gave evidence. He stated: I did not recognise the male shooter as Martin Bryant. Another witness, an ex-RAAF serviceman [Graham Collyer182] who surviving being shot in the neck in the Broad Arrow Café, noted anomalies about the shooter. He noted that the shooter’s hair was died blonde, evidenced by dark roots, whereas Martin’s hair was naturally blonde. The witness also noted the shooter was suffering from acne, but Martin’s skin was clear and free from any markings. These accounts were in contrast to the many witnesses who identified Martin as the shooter responsible. A video which was allegedly recorded at the time showed a gunman with long blonde hair in the carpark. This video, broadcast on national television, was later identified as a cut-and-paste job.183

I did find it disappointing, and many people outside of Tasmania do not seem to understand this, that Martin never had a criminal trial.184 His eventual guilty plea meant that he was simply sentenced for the offences without a trial. A trial would have been very hard on the small Tasmanian community, reliving the horrific events of those two days, but would also have required a presentation of evidence such as fingerprints, DNA and witness accounts and statements.185

I was puzzled when, several days after the massacre, it was reported that the police had found a cache of weapons inside a piano at Martin’s house. When Martin was away on trips I cleaned his house and would poke around, as mothers tend to do. Martin knew this and also knew that I did not approve of guns. He would never have dared to keep any in the house. It was reported that soon after the massacre two journalists from a prominent newspaper illegally entered Martin’s house. They apparently searched inside the piano and found nothing irregular.186

Various theories of conspiracy have existed since 1996, including that of government organisation of the massacre; some kind of group being responsible for the events; Martin being set up as a patsy; and even Martin being completely innocent and drugged at Seascape cottage. There were also conspiracy whispers about a second yellow Volvo being seen in the area on the day. It is my understanding that both guns used in the massacre were damaged and could not be tested, and no DNA or fingerprints were taken from the Broad Arrow Café at Port Arthur or Seascape cottage, which was destroyed by fire.

Colonel Ted Serong DSO OBE, former head of Australian Forces in Vietnam and one of the world’s leading experts on counter-terrorist techniques, in an interview with Frank Robson in the Sydney Morning Herald on 10 April 1999, said of the Port Arthur gunman: “Whoever did it is better than I am, and there are not too many people around here better than I am. Whoever did it had skills way beyond anything that could reasonably be expected of this chap Bryant.” Retired police officer Andrew MacGregor with Wendy Scurr, who was working at Port Arthur and was heavily involved with the massacre, travelled the country giving talks about a cover-up. Andrew MacGregor wrote a book The Massacre at Port Arthur. [The correct title of this detailed DVD book is Deceit and Terrorism – Port Arthur.]
Stewart Beattie, a professional gunsmith, also questioned the police interpretation of events in his [DVD] book *A Gunsmith’s Notebook on Port Arthur*. In 2010 a social networking site posted a page that suggested a former Tasmania Police officer had been involved at Port Arthur. It was reported that this officer had stated that he had accompanied two detectives to my home on the night of the massacre before accompanying me to Martin’s house at 30 Clare street to deactivate the alarm. The report also stated that after we left to go to police headquarters he stayed at Martin’s house by himself. I know nothing of this and the officer publicly denied it.

These theories have always been lurking amidst calls for an enquiry into the massacre as well as Martin’s handling following the massacre. I can only say I do not know what happened at Port Arthur. I am only a mother.

There are many questions that I would love to have answered. After all that has happened, Martin is still my son. When it is your own child held responsible for such horrific events and you are desperately grasping at trying to make sense of things, you do consider everything that is presented with some slim hope that it may be a plausible alternative to the reality of the nightmare you are dealing with.  

I would certainly have suffered a complete breakdown had it not have been for my supportive friends and wonderful neighbours, the late Marian and Terry. I was never left alone and always had a loving, caring friend by my side and a shoulder to cry on. Our Anglican parish minister was so very supportive also, and he came every morning for several weeks to bring me comfort.

The events at Port Arthur generated an enormous load of information with enormous implications. My heart went out to all those innocent victims and their families for the awful trauma they were facing. But on the other hand, it seemed to me as if I was being required to answer for these terrible crimes. In effect, I was being implicated in the events at Port Arthur because I was Martin’s mother.

A number of kind people organised assistance for me in the wake of Port Arthur. There was always a friend to answer the telephone, which rang constantly, although most of the calls could go to the answering machine and were from the media. For a long time the media camped on the road opposite my home. With their huge trucks and large zoom cameras they waited for the opportunity to film me when I surfaced. I thanked the Lord that my Berriedale home was well back from the main road and very private. Even though the gate was locked, this did not stop one persistent female reporter from climbing over the fence, walking around the house, knocking on windows and calling out my name.

Late in May 1996 I decided that it was time to leave for a quieter place in the country. My neighbours made arrangements for me to leave very early one morning from their place, disguised. My friends met us in Campbell Town and took me to their cottage at Arthur River.

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**187** Carleen Bryant candidly admits that she does not understand everything she has been confronted with. She wrongly blames herself and says she is “only a mother.” But she could not possibly understand everything because so much of what she has been told is a deceptive cover-up – lie after lie after lie. It has only been through painstaking investigations by the people* Carleen Bryant names in her book that the public has been given insight into the most horrific planned mass-murder in modern Australian history. (*There are other good investigators and expository writers who have worked on the case but who have not been mentioned by Carleen Bryant. There are also devi-ous mongrels who push the official narrative through biased and inaccurate statements. Caution is required.)
in the Tarkine Wilderness of North West Tasmania. I had only my two dogs for company. After 10 days at Arthur River, a feeling of intense isolation, despair and loneliness came over me, so much so that my friend’s wife came to take me back to their home. It felt as if these were the loneliest days of my life.

After arriving home from the Tarkine, my only motivation was to hibernate from the world. I dreaded being seen in public, and was always looking over my shoulder, afraid of being recognised. I was even fearful of being seen by my parish church family. However, my wonderful and caring neighbour, Marianne, said to me: “You are going back to church, and I am going with you.”

Over the years since his death, it still felt right to talk to my Maurice, often asking him why he had left. I believe that if he had stayed, all of this may not have happened. Maurice’s guidance for Martin was such an important influence in his life.

Later in 1996, two inspectors from Tasmania Police visited my home to ask if I could recall what Martin was doing on 12 March 1993. This happened to be the date that Nancy Grunwaldt, a 26-year old German tourist cycling the east coast of Tasmania, was last seen. She, along with her bike and belongings, had disappeared without any trace.

Fortunately, I have kept a diary for many years. I know they needed to solve the crime and had thought, or even hoped, it had been Martin, and then they could proudly have said: “crime solved”. On the day that Nancy disappeared, Martin had stayed the evening in my home and the next morning, after a shower, Martin had thought that he was locked in the bathroom. He could not unlock the door and started to panic. I called the closest locksmith who arrived very quickly. The lock was OK, but Martin had been unfamiliar with it. The problem was resolved and Martin was rescued. Nancy’s case remains unsolved.

After the massacre and Martin’s conviction, legislation was changed in Tasmania to allow the seizure of assets of convicted criminals to contribute towards victims of crime funds. As a result, Martin’s assets were taken. This meant that the Clare Street house was sold and Martin’s Tattersalls income taken. I received nothing of Martin’s assets.

I received a letter from my brother [Michael John Cordwell; see Part 7] that was hateful and hurtful. Obviously angry with Martin for what had occurred, he directed this hate at me. In his letter he promised me that the only time he would see me again would be at our mother’s funeral, and that he would refuse to acknowledge my existence again. Although much anger has been directed at me since 1996, the hurt you feel when your own flesh and blood levels such an attack at you is beyond description.

Despite this, I have also received many kind and sympathetic letters since these horrific events, but there was one in particular that really touched my heart. Jane, a dear lady from Canberra, was a
gifted and intelligent lady who had been fostered out as a baby, moving from one place to another over the years in Tasmania. Jane would pray that a kind, loving family would adopt her. Unfortunately, and sadly, this never happened. Jane studied nursing and enjoyed singing, mainly Gospel music and also worked in advertising.

Jane later sent a tape of her songs and I have played it many times over the years. She sang to pay for her studies, as well as earning some extra money from modelling. Jane was lectured by the matron for modelling a bridal petticoat for a magazine, but Jane told her the money she earned from the modelling paid for the books she studied.

Jane moved to the mainland and married. The couple had a son. Jane’s husband fought in the Vietnam War before returning home a changed person. Awful physical abuse started and poor Jane would spend 12 months in hospital. Her battering and abuse meant that she would never again be the same person, being unable to write and spell words coherently thereafter. To begin with, when we started to correspond, it would take a long time for me to understand her writing, but I now have no trouble.

About four years later Jane married her Prince Charming, Frederick from Norway. They had a beautiful daughter, Marian, who grew into a lovely lady like her mother. When Jane’s son was 20, he was killed in a car accident and the family was devastated. When their daughter was 16 she met the wrong person, fell pregnant, and soon discovered that Stan was a drug user and dealer. Marian gave birth to a son. Many times Marian left this man only to be talked into going back. She worked while Stan sold all that he could, even the children’s television, to raise money. Stan was served with a domestic violence order to stay away and spent time in prison. Stan sabotaged her work and she had to leave. The staff was very sorry to see her go.

Tragedy would strike again for poor Jane. In July 2003, Marian, along with her children, disappeared, never to be found again. Only her car was found empty in Lake Burley Griffin in Canberra. They were a delightful family. On my last trip away in June 202, I met and stayed with Jane and Frederick.

This beautiful, kind young lady had sent me a white bear with gold wings and halo. It looked like an angel singing the Lord’s Prayer. She also sent a full size white and sable Shetland Collie statue, and I sat him near a window. Those who saw it thought he was a real live dog. We developed a dear friendship and Jane wanted me to know how much her son resembled Martin. One would have almost believed that the pair were twins.

Life is very strange. In September 2008, Martin’s lawyer John Avery was jailed for four and a half years with a non-parole period of two years for 130 counts of stealing and misappropriation of more than $500,000 of clients’ funds over a five year period. John Avery is now in the same prison as Martin. 

(192 It might be ironic that Avery ended up in the same Tasmanian prison into which he wilfully put Martin Bryant. But this Avery has had the last laugh – at this time – as he is now out on parole whereas Martin is still literally in a cage at Risdon Prison. But as Mrs. Bryant states, life is strange. Avery is now thinking about the pain and suffering he has inflicted on Martin and his family. The worm of guilt is crawling inside ex-lawyer Avery’s guts – and he can’t get it out.)
ENDING

HERE, there is very little that can be added to what so many people have already declared. The intellectually-handicapped Martin Bryant could not have organized and executed the incident which took place at and near Port Arthur, Tasmania, on 28 and 29 April 1996. All of it was beyond him. That he was at Seascape cottage is not denied by anyone. It is what officials claim he did there that is without proof. Jamie statements he made* over the Seascape phone are confusing and suggestive of his innocence, just as the bizarre statements he made after being apprehended when he exited Seascape cottage then in flames. (* It is believed at least one other male person who identified himself as Jamie used the same telephone at Seascape.)

Martin Bryant is the patsy for the incident at and near Port Arthur. Officially, he is the one who is solely and totally responsible for the incident. This is absolute nonsense. Not merely because his dear mother does not believe it, or because many Tasmanians and other Australians do not believe it, or because people around the world do not believe it. It is absolute nonsense because the shocking facts of the case reveal and confirm another highly disturbing story. And it is this story which officials do not want the public to know.

Primarily because of the horrific nature of the incident at Port Arthur, which resulted in the death of 35 people and another 23 being injured, the public reaction has been for revenge. Instead of there being a full determination of the facts, there was an immediate condemnation by the State which encouraged the sensation-hungry media to feed the public’s subjective need for harsh punishment. There never was a reasoned and objective assessment of everything that happened. Hate-filled accusations and threats of physical violence to Bryant were widely stated and accepted as appropriate.

Bryant was not permitted to plead innocent. The State could not allow a trial because it could not prove his guilt in a sound court. So after enforced isolation and intimidation, and without the presence of a guardian he was entitled and required to have by law, the State had Bryant worked over by a complicit criminal lawyer whose behaviour was the antithesis of ethical legal representation. John Avery condemned then coerced his client to accept Avery’s plea (guilty), which is what the corrupt State had to have. That the whole process was outside proper legal procedure is well documented. Nothing is more appalling and unacceptable than the fact that Bryant, with his very low IQ, was savaged by officials, some very senior ones, under the sham pretence of administering the law. In reality, it was another shocking kangaroo court in Australia. There was no trial.

As you read this, Martin Bryant is being killed – slowly – in Risdon Prison. He is kept alone in a cage spending long lonely days with what few memories of his freedom he retains. It is said he is a human wreck. His death by despair, dementia, and/or drugging is inevitable. Murderous officials in Tasmania want this and they will get it. Collectively, those responsible will have his death on their conscience. Then, justified public condemnations and actions will begin because hard evidence confirms that Martin Bryant is INNOCENT. ■ – ed.