

RECORD OF INTERVIEW

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Person interviewed: **NOBLE, ROBERT JOHN JAMES**
Place of interview: Belgravia Police Station – Interview Room
Date of interview: 01/02/2003
Time commenced: 7.14pm Time concluded: 7.35pm
Duration of interview: 19 Minutes Tape reference nos. (→)
Interviewing Officer(s): DS DEVLIN, DS DICKINSON
Other persons present: App.Adult Ayse ERGEN

Police Exhibit No: DLD/1 Number of Pages: 18

Signature of interviewing officer producing exhibit

Tape counter times(→)	Person speaking	Text
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DS DICKINSON This interview is being tape recorded, I am Deborah DICKINSON DS attached to the Serious Crime Group at Hendon, the other officer present is...

DS DEVLIN Peter DEVLIN Detective Sergeant from the same squad.

DS DICKINSON We're in an interview room at Belgravia Police Station, this is the third interview of Robert NOBLE, Robert can you just give us your full name for the benefit of the tape.

NOBLE Robert John James David NOBLE.

DS DICKINSON Also present is.

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App.Adult Ayse ERGEN the appropriate adult.

DS DICKINSON I've got to remind you've got the right to free and independent legal advice, you can speak to a solicitor at any time day or night as we've told you at the start of each interview, this legal advice is free and you can speak to a solicitor as you know in person or on the phone. Would you like a solicitor to be present during this interview?

NOBLE No.

DS DICKINSON If you change your mind as we keep telling you at any time just let us know, the interview can be stopped and you can have a solicitor, do you understand that?

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Ayse as we keep telling you as well, you're not here to simply act as an observer and the purpose of you being here is obviously to assist the person being questioned, advise them and to observe whether or the interview has been conducted fairly and secondly to facilitate communication between myself and Bob here who is being interviewed, but up to now we obviously haven't needed that. Right it's still Saturday 1st February 2003 and the time by my watch is 7.14pm, this interview as you know has been tape recorded and it can be given in evidence if your case is brought to trial, got to tell you as you know you don't have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something you later rely on in court, and as you know anything you do say may be given in evidence. Do you understand that?

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NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Okay Bob what I'd like to do is cover a few things in this interview, the first one is at the end of the last interview Pete my colleague here DS DEVLIN took off you a tissue that you had, which has just as you can see wound round and tied.

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON It's just to let you know that we're going to seal this as an exhibit as we were going to do with the tie okay, just to let you know just cover that one.

NOBLE That's what I did it for anyway saves him using his tie.

DS DICKINSON Saves him using the tie yeah. Right put that away, okay what I'd like to just go through with you in this interview is just a little bit about your family background and where you've been recently and where you've living and what you do for a living and what you have been doing up to you coming to London. I know from what you're saying earlier you originate from Gretna yeah?

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON When did you move down here from there?

NOBLE When did I move?

DS DICKINSON Yeah.

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NOBLE I left Gretna, I flew on September 11th that year when the planes crashed in America from Glasgow to Tenerife, in Tenerife from then until May. Came back May and stayed at my dad in Scunthorpe for a couple of months, then I went up to back up the Highlands travelling with the funfairs until just start of December, well end of November start of December. I left there went down to Plymouth, I was in Plymouth from...I can't remember the date, then I left there and I've only been here in London about three week, four week, three and a half weeks.

DS DICKINSON What made you leave Gretna?

NOBLE Well I ripped...the people that I've worked for ripped them off for some money so I couldn't really go back.

DS DICKINSON What was all that about in brief?

NOBLE Well I use to go to Tenerife two or three times a week tobacco runs and that, he sent us over myself one time like eighteen hundred pounds but I never came back.

DS DICKINSON Eighteen hundred.

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Right okay and that's when you went off to Tenerife and stayed in Tenerife for a bit.

NOBLE Yeah.

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DS DICKINSON Were you working in Tenerife?

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Doing what?

NOBLE Bar work, PR work for bars that's it.

DS DICKINSON And what made you come back?

NOBLE Just got sick of it over there it was getting a little bit to heavy and all that, some of the people I was getting to know, so I came back.

DS DICKINSON Am I right in thinking you came back from there and went to your dad's in Scunthorpe.

NOBLE Scunthorpe.

DS DICKINSON Did you work up at Scunthorpe?

NOBLE Yeah, I went through two employment agencies, I got a job at B & Q forklift driver there a place called Derby Glass forklift driver there as well, part time.

DS DICKINSON How long did that last up there?

NOBLE That was for about five/six weeks something like that.

DS DICKINSON And what made you move from Scunthorpe?

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NOBLE I got sick, my dad he's like a born again Christian, proper bible thumping and that and I couldn't be done with all his shit all the time.

DS DICKINSON And so you moved from there.

NOBLE It's like a good time of the year for where the fairs start, you know it's like summer time in Scotland, got some good gaffs up there so I phoned them up and asked if they need any help, he said aye, so I just went up finished the end of the season with them, went to the yard, Broxbourne, in Edinburgh, stayed there for about a fortnight, got a job there, what was it Halls Country Club was there for a couple of days, didn't like it.

DS DICKINSON What were you doing there?

NOBLE It was like packing sausages and things like that. I got another job up in Semichem Kwiksave Warehouse Distribution, it's like order picking, I was there for about a week, I got sick of that and I left went out to Plymouth.

DS DICKINSON What made you go to Plymouth?

NOBLE I'd never been there before, I just literally got on the train at Edinburgh and first train when I got to the station it was going to Plymouth, so I just thought I'd go to Plymouth. When I got down there I only had about sixty pound on us, I couldn't find a B & B, I got B & B the next day like a backpackers, 72 Citadel Road and i was there for like about a week, and I started work at the Noah's Ark and I got a live in job there because it worked out the rent was cheaper.

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DS DICKINSON That was at the Noah's Ark you were telling us about before?

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Okay and what happened then?

NOBLE I worked there for about four – four/five weeks and like as I said earlier on they cut my hours down to so I missed a shift, so give us about two days so it worked out about 12/13 hours, I thought that was there way like saying, don't want you anymore so I just left, taking the cash bag with us, change bag, something like £400 in it, and came to London.

DS DICKINSON And that was about three weeks ago.

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Where did you go when you first got to London?

NOBLE I'd just been staying round Victoria by the cathedral and that, been staying round there, sleeping rough. They got us into a B & B, first one they got us into was Belgrave House Hotel, I was there for two nights and they got us into a hostel at the Kings Cross, St Mungo's, I was in there a couple of nights, just didn't like it, it was full of smack heads and that so I told the CAT worker I didn't like, so they put us in that B & B the Rama.

DS DICKINSON So was it the CAT worker that's found you the three locations?

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NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON In each of these have you managed to get a room for yourself or have you had to share with someone?

NOBLE I shared at the hostel.

DS DICKINSON Right.

NOBLE A coloured lad, I can't remember his name I think it was Mohammed or something.

DS DICKINSON It obviously didn't work out too well which is why you got this other one is it? Did anything happen at any of these locations that caused you to move on at any of these hotels?

NOBLE No.

DS DICKINSON With regard to your family, what's your family setup?

NOBLE My mum and my dad, they split up like when I was a baby, mum got a new fella he's my step-dad he brought us up until I was about 14 and they split up, I was like with my mum then, that's about it. My real dad when I was nineteen, I found out I had two step brothers and a step sister. Went like back and forward from their's and that.

DS DICKINSON You mentioned earlier that you...about the age of 14, that was when you had to go and see the psychiatrist is that around the time...

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NOBLE What it was, I was...mum and dad they were like proper...I wouldn't say alcoholics but like a drink and that you know and literally I just came and gone wherever I pleased and I done whatever I want, you know I skived school, I skived school for like six months.

DS DICKINSON Right.

NOBLE Never went for six months and I got taken to a children's panel and like they like, I had to do like background reports and all that, I had to see one of them shrinks but that was just like...well it was like one of the things that had to be done, it was like part of the report and I got put away in a home for six to eight months.

DS DICKINSON Right.

NOBLE A children's home.

DS DICKINSON How old were you when you left home?

NOBLE Fifteen.

DS DICKINSON And that was left your mum's.

NOBLE Yeah, mum was living at Annar it's like seven miles away from Gretna.

DS DICKINSON Right.

NOBLE She had moved in with her new boyfriend, yeah I got on with him you know he was okay and that but the fair was in

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town, I just came back from school one day, walked in the house and said I've got a job in the fair because it was like... I was due to like finish, I had about another three months to go at school but I said oh fuck it, I just gone off with the fair like, my mum wasn't bothered she knew I'd be okay because she knew the people that I worked for.

DS DICKINSON Right.

NOBLE You know so I just done that for a while, off and on with the fairs, few jobs here and there, met this lass when I was nineteen, got a kid to her, got another one in Lancaster he'd be five this year, the oldest one he's about eight/nine this year.

DS DICKINSON Do you see either of them?

NOBLE No I've not seen the oldest one since he's about six months, the other one in Lancaster when I'm down that way my girlfriend lets me see him, the ex to see him.

DS DICKINSON You got a lot of contact with the one in Lancaster then?

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Have you got contact with the first one.

NOBLE No, like my mum phones up, like she will ask how he is and all that but I don't phone up because they just don't speak to me.

DS DICKINSON Yeah.

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NOBLE Heavy break-up so.

DS DICKINSON You just got the two little ones?

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Have you got any other brother and sisters?

NOBLE Two step brothers and a step sister.

DS DICKINSON Do you see either of them?

NOBLE When I was in Scunthorpe yeah, they stayed with my dad.

DS DICKINSON So they're still up in Scunthorpe?

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DICKINSON Any family round London that you see?

NOBLE Got an uncle, auntie a few cousins in Mitcham.

DS DICKINSON Do you see any of them or not?

NOBLE I've seen them when I got back from Tenerife because I landed at Gatwick, when I came from Gatwick stopped off because I never seen them for a couple of years.

DS DICKINSON Yeah.

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- NOBLE Like spent the day there, the day after I went up to Scunthorpe, I haven't seen them since.
- DS DICKINSON Would you keep in contact with any of them by phone?
- NOBLE Not really, the only person that I phone when I'm away is like my mum or gran.
- DS DICKINSON Right.
- NOBLE Just to like let them know that I'm okay and that, like my mum knows if she never gets a phone call she knows I'm okay.
- DS DICKINSON Yeah.
- NOBLE If the police comes to the door she knows there's something the matter.
- DS DICKINSON Unless there's a problem.
- NOBLE But she knows unless she's going to get a phone call and police don't come she knows I'm okay. I've been on my own now like thirteen years, out of home for thirteen years so look after myself.
- DS DICKINSON Yeah, so you also got a couple of kids, have you got a current girlfriend?
- NOBLE No, well I had one in Plymouth when I left, I never split up with her when I left, I didn't even tell her I was going, I was going to split up with her but I never had the balls to do it,

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because her little daughter got attached to us and all that, I didn't have the balls to do it.

DS DICKINSON Right, how long did you say you've seen her.

NOBLE I'd seen her a week and a half two weeks, couple of weeks.

DS DICKINSON Right and you said earlier she was a local at the pub was she?

NOBLE Yeah, yeah trying to remember her second name but I can't remember it.

DS DEVLIN I want to go back to a few things that we spoke about earlier which are not quite to do with your background, one of the things from the people who went to the scene is that they tell me there were two scarves?

NOBLE Yeah she had a scarf and I had a scarf.

DS DEVLIN Around her neck when she was found.

NOBLE No it was only mine.

DS DEVLIN You say there was, well it's obvious it was described as your scarf tied around her neck.

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DEVLIN The other scarf which is a dark coloured scarf was loose around her neck.

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NOBLE It might have been thrown over when I was throwing the clothes about but I never, there wasn't another scarf when I left.

DS DEVLIN Okay, are you sure about that?

NOBLE I'm certain.

DS DEVLIN Okay, also it appears there might be an earring missing?

NOBLE No.

DS DEVLIN No.

NOBLE No, only had my earring but you got that in bags.

DS DEVLIN Okay, we'll like to work out whether or not this is the first time you've done something like this, the easiest way is to ask you.

NOBLE It is the first time.

DS DEVLIN Have you done anything which is remotely...

NOBLE This is the worse crime I've ever committed like apart from that it's been like stupid petty little things, car crimes, couple of breaks ins, few little bits and bobs but nothing...nothing...anything like that.

DS DEVLIN Any minor assaults?

NOBLE No assaults, I've never been done for assault before.

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- DS DEVLIN When you were staying at Kings Cross at the hostel, did you steal anything from there?
- NOBLE Nothing at the hostel.
- DS DEVLIN From anybody there?
- NOBLE Now you know about this anyways don't you, it's like beg outside the cathedral, there's like a couple of people I got to know, there's like a woman called Rose, she come and buys a cup of coffee at the McDonalds or something, there's a fella called Kevin, like he takes her a cup of coffee or something like that, went back stayed at his one night and like he give her some money in the morning, went back because like I had appointments, I had a doctors appointment and that. I never phoned him for about a week, I phoned him about a week later to ask how he was doing, this, that and the other. I went to see him that day, he said like a bad time to come round because he was going out.
I've left, waited until he went out, broke into his house because I knew he was on medication and that, I took the medication so I could sell that in Victoria and there was a bit of cash laying about and a phone, kept the cash, sold the phone that was about it.
- DS DEVLIN Do you know where that place was?
- NOBLE South Woodford, South Woodford.
- DS DEVLIN Anything else down that way.

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NOBLE No just that.

DS DEVLIN What about from Mohammed?

NOBLE What about Mohammed?

DS DEVLIN Did you steal anything from Mohammed?

NOBLE His bag, his bag/rucksack.

DS DEVLIN Just his bag.

NOBLE Just the rucksack.

DS DEVLIN Okay, are you sure you haven't assaulted a woman before?

NOBLE I swear on my little boys life, I haven't, never nothing like that.

DS DEVLIN (Inaudible) the napkin that you were folding, the reason I took it as an exhibit is it's, I was watching you when we were sitting and talking in the interview and you were twirling it around in your fingers and forming it into like.

NOBLE That was because you did that with your tie and I thought well rather give you that.

DS DEVLIN Yeah.

NOBLE And you hand your tie in, it's just something that I've done to show you how I tied the scarf, that was it.

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DS DEVLIN That's the way you tied the scarf around her neck. Okay I don't if there is much, I don't know if there is anything more that I want to ask you tonight except that there's this one little bit where, you know we were talking, I said to you the most important thing is that you tell the truth.

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DEVLIN I'm happy that you have given us a very very good account of what happened.

NOBLE I think I given you more than enough, you've got enough to charge us.

DS DEVLIN There's one thing I'm just a wee bit concerned about that was this night manager and you saying to him about a pregnant girlfriend, and you were asking to take her back.

NOBLE That was just an excuse to get one of my mates back into the hotel, you'll find that lad in the square, he'll vouch for it, I just said to him blag him to get in.

DS DEVLIN Did you say to him that you were going to .

NOBLE I told him that I was going back because we like cracking in the square, I said I had to go back check to see if my CAT worker had phoned, took me back and forward, because I was supposed to meet at half nine the next morning but she never turned up, so I said like I'd see if I could blag and get him in, but if you find him he'd vouch for that.

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DS DEVLIN Did you tell him you tell him you were going to represent him as a pregnant woman?

NOBLE I never said that I just I'd try and blag him in.

DS DEVLIN Again you know what I'm getting at.

NOBLE Yeah.

DS DEVLIN That you were out on the pull?

NOBLE I wasn't, whatever you say but I wasn't.

DS DEVLIN I'm not accusing you of it, I'm just asking you if that's the case.

NOBLE No.

DS DEVLIN Again I won't press on this but I would like you to think back to it, what you were thinking at the time when you asked for that ATM card.

NOBLE I just asked her for the PIN number that was it.

DS DEVLIN Right I won't ask you anything else, do you want to ask me anything? You said a minute ago we've got enough to charge you, what is going to happen is that obviously people have been carrying out investigations, I'm not totally privy to, you won't be charged tonight, the reason for that is we want to be sure we've put everything to you that we should put to you with regard to this, I'm in an office meeting at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, so we can get what's come in

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today and then we will be down here immediately when that finishes, with a decision or not we do another interview or charge you, that decision isn't mine, it's the bosses. At that note we'll end now.

DS DICKINSON Is there anything you want to say Ayse?

App.Adult No.

DS DICKINSON You've sat here very quiet for the last three interviews.

DS DEVLIN Right we'll end now and the time is we better do it by your watch we started by your watch.

DS DICKINSON The time by my watch is 7.35pm.

INTERVIEW TERMINATED