



**THE CROWN COURT AT SALISBURY**

**2 July 2026**

**THE KING**

**- v -**

**HELEN SHAKESPEARE and ANTHONY HILLIER**

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**SENTENCING REMARKS**

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**Introduction**

1. Anthony Hillier, you fall to be sentenced for the murder of Raymond Groves on 2 July 2024. You, Helen Shakespeare, are to be sentenced for his manslaughter.
  
2. Your respective ages and dates of birth are as follows:
  - (i) Helen Shakespeare: you were born on 9 June 1971 and you are now 55;
  - (ii) Anthony Hillier, you were born on 27 March 1991 and you are 35.

### **The Victim: Raymond Groves**

3. The victim of the murder was Raymond Groves. He was born on 30 June 1976 and so his 48<sup>th</sup> birthday was 2 days before he was killed. That death has, of course, had a huge impact on his family, described in moving terms by his sister, Samantha Thomas. In her statement dated 4 June 2026 and made on behalf of the whole family, she describes the loss of Boo, as the family always referred to Raymond, felt by herself and other members of the family. Her statement, which was read to the court, leaves no doubt how he was a much loved member of the family and how much he is missed. For example, she states:

“I know my Cousins and Uncle feel the loss of Boo greatly, as they would always pop down to see him. The hole that Boo has left behind after his death is felt by everyone who knew him. You always knew he was there, mainly because you could hear him before you could see him! He was loud, but chatty, and funny and always making jokes - and you knew he would always be there for the family.”

She also describes the devastating effect of sitting through the trial, seeing the images and hearing the details of what happened to her brother.

Maria Brown, who gave such important evidence at the trial, also describes the effect of Raymond Groves' death on her. She is the mother of his 4 children and he had been in her life from the time she was 15. She describes how she feels she has lost half of herself, saying:

“He's just always been there and now he's gone. As a result of this, I am on anti-depressants and will be reaching out to talking therapies in the future but now I am just trying to process what has happened. It's always been me and him and we have always been there for each other. Now I feel lost, I feel like my comfort blanket has been taken from me. I don't know how to navigate life without him, I feel drained.”

## **The circumstances of the Offence**

4. In describing the background and circumstances of the offence, I make it clear that this is on the basis that Letisha Goodwin has not been able to take part in this trial because of her mental illness and she has therefore had no opportunity to explain to the court her role in the offence or give an explanation for her actions. Nothing I say can therefore bind any future proceedings in which she may be involved should she recover and this description is confined to the case as presented against these two defendants.
  
5. The deceased and Helen Shakespeare entered into a relationship in 2012. You, Mrs Shakespeare, had previously been in abusive and coercive relationships with the father of your elder daughter, Toni, and with Kai Goodwin, the father of your younger daughter, Letisha. You had also been sexually abused by your stepfather from the age of about nine and the result was that you were and are suffering from complex post-traumatic stress disorder as described in the psychiatric and psychological evidence that was presented to the court. There is a conflict of evidence relating to the nature of your relationship with the deceased. On your evidence, Mrs Shakespeare, this too was abusive and coercive but the contemporaneous medical records suggest that Mr Groves was a protective factor and make no mention of sexual or other abuse on his part. I shall return to this in a moment. What is clear is that you did not receive the treatment you needed to recover from your complex PTSD and which therefore continued to permeate your relationships.
  
6. On 2 November 2023 there was an incident in respect of which, again, the evidence is conflicting but which certainly caused you to leave your home at 1 The Brambles in Bristol and take refuge with your daughter, Letisha, in Devizes. On the evidence, I consider it was likely that the deceased had built up in his mind an undeserved suspicion that you were having an affair with your neighbour, Ted Richards, which caused the deceased to lose his temper.

7. You, Mr Hillier, were in a relationship with Letisha Goodwin and although you had a room which you rented from Craig White in Royal Wotton Bassett, you would spend much of your time with Letisha and her two children at Letisha's address in Devizes. The arrival of Helen Shakespeare put an intolerable strain on that relationship, exacerbated by the fact that the two of you, Mrs Shakespeare and Mr Hillier, did not get along. Although the police found insufficient evidence to pursue allegations which Letisha had made against Raymond Groves in 2015, she continued to express mixed emotions in relation to the man she considered to be her stepfather. When her mother made allegations against Raymond Groves to the police in November 2023, she resurrected the allegations she had made in 2015 and through the first half of 2024, there was a live police investigation into those allegations. Raymond Groves was released on police bail with conditions not to contact either you, Mrs Shakespeare, or Letisha Goodwin. Despite that, you, Mrs Shakespeare, and Letisha continue to have contact with Raymond Groves and at a meeting with the assigned officer, PC Bellisio, on 17 March 2024 Letisha said that she had been constantly contacting Raymond Groves and had been threatening and abusive towards him and his former partner, Maria Brown.
  
8. At the beginning of March, you, Mr Hillier, temporarily separated from Letisha because of your frustration at the contact between her and Raymond Groves to which she admitted in the meeting with PC Bellisio. Rather than allow the police to get on with their investigation, you Mrs Shakespeare together with Letisha Goodwin conducted a campaign against Raymond Groves and Maria Brown which included the two of you exchanging messages in January 2024 to the effect that you would get him, Letisha expressing an intention to slash the tyres of his car, having an altercation with Maria Brown at her address on 25 January 2024, and Letisha making arrangements with her father, Kai Goodwin, for him to travel down from Lancashire to Bristol to attack Raymond Groves. At the same time, however, you, Mrs Shakespeare, harboured residual affection towards Raymond Groves and had conflicting emotions as to whether you wanted

to return to him or whether you wanted him out of your life. That caused frustration and anger on the part of Letisha and Anthony Hillier. In an argument conducted by text messages on 1 March 2024 you Mr Hillier said to Letisha “I fucking told you I would get rid of him” and I have no doubt that you were already at that stage thinking in terms of killing Raymond Groves.

9. The expedition by Kai Goodwin was unsuccessful and a significant event occurred in June 2024 when the police informed Letisha that her complaint was to be filed, that is, there was to be no further action. That avenue of getting rid of Raymond Groves was therefore closed. In the meantime, you Mrs Shakespeare were rekindling your relationship with Raymond Groves whereby he would come to Letisha’s address at 19 Strawberry Fields, Devizes, take you out in whichever car he was using and the two of you would indulge in sexual relations. However, you Mrs Shakespeare were not willing to resolve the situation by leaving 19 Strawberry Fields and returning to live with Raymond Groves particularly given that your allegations against him remained under active consideration by the police. The situation became more and more unbearable for Letisha and Anthony Hillier, through June 2024 with Raymond Groves coming to the house and conducting his affair with you Mrs Shakespeare.

10. I find that the solution lit upon by Letisha and you, Anthony Hillier, was to plan to kill Raymond Groves, let Mrs Shakespeare take the blame and for Mrs Shakespeare to allege self-defence. The plan is evidenced by messages sent by Letisha on 18 June 2024. On that day she messaged her ex-partner, the father of her two children, Eric Carr-Paul, “my dad said I have to stab him” and “my dad says I won’t be in trouble”. On the same day you, Mr Hillier, sent Letisha a message “you’re playing with fire babe if you stab him no matter what with your record you get in trouble, your mum can stab him, I’m not having you get in trouble”. You offered to stab Raymond Groves yourself, Mr Hillier, but Letisha responded “I don’t need anyone to do my dirty work for me I’m a grown ass woman.”

11. It would appear from their messages to each other that Letisha and you, Mr Hillier, hoped and expected that you, Mrs Shakespeare, would stab Raymond Groves on one of the occasions he came to take you out. However, there is little evidence that this was in your mind, Mrs Shakespeare, and it may be that Letisha and Mr Hillier were being told one thing by you, Mrs Shakespeare, whilst you had a different, and more amorous intent towards Mr Groves. 30 June 2024 was Raymond Groves' birthday and he came to 19 Strawberry Fields and the two of you drove to a nearby beauty spot where you could be intimate. You, Mrs Shakespeare, claimed that Raymond Groves orally raped you on that occasion but the circumstances you describe are highly implausible. Thus, you got out of the front seat of the car and got into the back seat with him in circumstances where you knew he had come to visit you for sex which he described as his birthday present. You knew perfectly well what he wanted when you got into the back seat of that car and were prepared to give it to him. However, you, Letisha and Mr Hillier invented a tale of rape in order to justify what was to happen two days later.

12. I find that you, Mr Hillier together with Letisha gave up on the idea that Mrs Shakespeare would kill Raymond Groves without your help. You therefore hatched a plan to lure Raymond Groves to 19 Strawberry Fields on 2 July 2024 pretending that Mrs Shakespeare would be alone in the house so that Raymond Groves would enter the house thinking that he and you, Mrs Shakespeare, would be able to have undisturbed sex there. However, you Mr Hillier were in the house and I have no doubt at all that you had brought with you the knife which has been described as the 'Hunter's knife' (JHL/4) and you used this to murder Mr Groves in a brutal fashion.

13. Whether I can be sure that you brought the knife with you is, of course, critically important to the starting point which I am to adopt in sentencing you Mr Hillier, and I have considered with care your counsel's submissions, both in writing and orally today, urging me to find that I cannot be sure to the criminal standard that you brought the knife with you. Reliance is placed upon the role of Mrs Shakespeare and her evidence in court, but as I shall

explain in due course, in order to be true to the jury's verdict in her case, I reject the notion that she had any knowledge of the knife or a plan to use it in advance. I also reject the story that Raymond Groves attacked her at knifepoint: I am sure that he came to Strawberry Fields believing that Mrs Shakespeare would be there alone, and compliant in having sex: why should he have felt the need to bring or brandish a knife? He had been invited there by Mrs Shakespeare in the earlier telephone conversations and he was expecting her to drop the charges against him. Their relationship had been repairing itself over the previous weeks, with Mr Groves coming to the address and taking Mrs Shakespeare out, to Mr Hillier's fury. Yes, it was Mrs Shakespeare's account that Raymond Groves arrived with a knife and attacked her, but I consider that the jury, by their verdicts, did reject that account. They did not find that she acted in self-defence.

14. And so, what of your role, Mrs Shakespeare? We have a clue as to the jury's findings in relation to this from their final note when they were deliberating. They asked what the position would be in law if you, Mrs Shakespeare were being coerced and, further, where you would stand in law if you didn't stab Raymond Groves yourself and did not intend him to be murdered. They were directed that coercion – or duress – is no defence to murder and that if you were a joint participant, but only intended some harm but not really serious bodily harm, then you would be guilty of manslaughter rather than murder. That is then the verdict they returned fairly promptly after that. I therefore interpret this to mean that their findings were that you were prevailed upon by Letisha and Mr Hillier to be part of the plan to lure Mr Groves to 19 Strawberry Fields, but, for your part, you only intended this to be a warning to Raymond Groves, whereby he would be caused some harm, but not really serious harm. This would be consistent with the lack of any messages from you showing that you wanted Raymond Groves dead or seriously harmed, in contradistinction to the position of Letisha and Mr Hillier. You probably brandished the kitchen knife, JHL/3, and believed that Mr Hillier would only cause Raymond Groves some harm, perhaps to warn him off and persuade him not to come to Letisha's house any more. But in fact, Mr Hillier intended much more than that and he then launched a brutal

attack on Raymond Groves soon after his arrival at 18:16 hours whereby he was fatally stabbed in the neck, severing his jugular vein, and fatally stabbed in the abdomen, twice piercing his kidney. He attempted to defend himself from the attack and there were characteristic defensive injuries on his right hand as described by Dr Patricia Cook in her evidence.

15. Mr Hillier, having killed Raymond Groves, both of you then set in train an elaborate plan: first for you, Mr Hillier, to cover your traces, and then for you, Mrs Shakespeare, to take fully responsibility for the stabbing of Raymond Groves and plead you were acting in self-defence. I am sure you were principally motivated in this by your wish to protect your daughter, Letisha, who was otherwise deeply implicated in the plan with Mr Hillier to kill Raymond Groves. This involved telling an elaborate set of lies to the police. You, Anthony Hillier, set about attempting to destroy evidence of your presence. You wiped the footprints that you could see in the pooled blood of Mr Groves in the hallway. You change your clothes having brought a spare set of clothes in preparation for the murder. You took Raymond Groves' phone and Mrs Shakespeare's phone so that Mrs Shakespeare could pretend that she had not had a phone and that she had had no contact with Raymond Groves on that day. Letisha and the children had absented themselves and were in town with Letisha's friend, Lucy Ingram. The plan was that once the cleaning up process was complete, you, Mr Hillier, would pick Letisha up from the town centre and drive her back to 19 Strawberry Fields on the pretext of delivering her mother some cigarettes and discover the murder scene unexpectedly whilst you, Mr Hillier, would drive back to Royal Wootton Bassett, wash your clothes and trainers in case they had blood on them and, en route, dispose of the mobile phones of Mrs Shakespeare and Mr Groves.

16. In the meantime, Letisha called the police and you, Helen Shakespeare, pretended to the police that you had been alone in the house, that Raymond Groves had attempted to rape you and that you had stabbed him in self-defence. The knife which Anthony Hillier had brought and had been used to kill Raymond Groves was placed by one of you in the left hand of Raymond

Groves's lifeless body to support the fiction that Raymond Groves had arrived with that knife and threatened to rape you at knifepoint. You, Mrs Shakespeare, pretended that Raymond Groves had arrived unexpectedly, that you had answered the door thinking it was Letisha with her cigarettes, that he had barged his way into the house and immediately attacked you at knifepoint. Letisha, who played a full part in formulating the plan and encouraging you, Mr Hillier, to carry out the murder, put on an act of hyperventilating and pretending that she was shocked at what she had found. The police were initially convinced. Although you, Mrs Shakespeare, were initially arrested for attempted murder and then, when it was confirmed that Raymond Groves was dead, murder, you maintained the fiction through the first five interviews you had with the police.

17. Unfortunately, there were a number of fatal flaws in your plan. Firstly, and crucially, there was CCTV from a neighbour's house which showed the front door of 19 Strawberry Fields and the driveway that showed you, Anthony Hillier, were at the property at the time of Raymond Groves' death. I have no doubt that you were unaware of the CCTV coverage, despite what you said in your evidence. In addition, when you, Anthony Hillier cleaned up, you missed one of your footprints which was underneath the body of Raymond Groves and which the police were able to marry up with your trainers which they recovered from the house at Royal Wotton Bassett although you had attempted to get your landlord, Craig White, to throw them out. Not only did the CCTV show that you, Mr Hillier, were at the premises but it also showed that you, Mrs Shakespeare, had been waiting outside the house for the arrival of Raymond Groves and had let him in: the story that he had forced his way in was untrue. Furthermore, the knife found in the left hand of Raymond Groves had on it his own flesh and blood and you, Mrs Shakespeare, had no explanation for how that could have happened when, on your account, he had arrived with the knife in order to attack you. The plan was fast unravelling. Telephone evidence showed that there had been extensive contact between you, Mrs Shakespeare, and Raymond Groves in the course of 2 July including a 48 minute call from you Mrs Shakespeare to Mr Groves starting at 9:13 AM and a further call between the two of you

lasting 2 ½ hours starting at 10:42 AM. In her evidence, Maria Brown told the court that she was able to hear much of the conversation including hearing you, Mrs Shakespeare, inviting Raymond Groves to come to 19 Strawberry Fields and saying that if he did you would drop your allegations against him. I have no doubt that Maria Brown's evidence was true. Furthermore, when Letisha made her 999 call to the police, she told them: "my mum was in here and oh my god I can't breathe my mum was in here she said she thought the door was me, it wasn't me". However, that was untrue and the only way she could have known to say this to the police was if it was part of the plan for you, Mrs Shakespeare and Letisha to give this story to the police.. You ran a huge risk, Mrs Shakespeare in agreeing to admit to the stabbing of Raymond Groves and in pleading self-defence and loss of control but, as you told your friend, Shamara Philpott, it was worth it for your daughter towards whom you harboured enormous feelings of guilt, not just because you had sided with Raymond Groves over the 2015 allegations but generally because you had been unable to give her the care and attention which she had needed growing up whereby she had been in foster care for much of her teenage life. You may have felt that, this way, you could give to Letisha the life she deserved even if that life was with Mr Hillier, whom you hated, because it would get both Raymond Groves and your self out of their lives.

18. The police investigation, as it progressed, revealed that the accounts given by you Mrs Shakespeare to the police in your interviews were fundamentally untrue as were Letisha's accounts. You, Mr Hillier, had given a "no comment" interview but before your arrest you had provided a witness statement which although inadmissible before the jury can also be taken into consideration by me and which, again, was a pack of lies. You have both maintained your untruthful accounts in your evidence before this court but the jury have seen through your lies as evidenced by their verdicts.

19. Having heard the evidence, and in the light of the jury's verdicts, I have no doubt that this was a brutal, planned attack by you, Mr Hillier, on an unsuspecting Raymond Groves. I find that you, Mrs Shakespeare, wanted

a lesson teaching to Raymond Groves but you were genuinely shocked by what Mr Hillier did to him. You did not want him to be killed or seriously injured. That having happened, though, you were willing to go along with the plan for you to take the blame, allege you were acting in self-defence, and hope that you would all thereby get away with it, and in particular that Letisha would be exonerated. By that time, you knew that Raymond Groves was dead, that you had no future with him and that this was the best way for you to help your daughter. However, the plan was deeply flawed, it soon unravelled and has led to the position you now both find yourselves in.

### **Helen Shakespeare**

20. Turning, then, to sentence, I start with you, Helen Shakespeare. Given my findings as to the circumstances of your offence, the Sentencing Council guideline on Unlawful Act Manslaughter applies. However, the basis upon which I am to sentence you, and in particular assess your level of culpability, is contentious. It is submitted by the prosecution that I should attribute to you very high culpability, ie category A, on the basis that your unlawful act involved an intention to cause harm falling just short of Grievous Bodily Harm (“GBH”) and which carried a high risk of death or GBH which ought to have been obvious to you. It is submitted that your intention was for Anthony Hillier to stab Raymond Groves using a knife and that you played a key role in luring Raymond Groves to the house. It is a key part of the prosecution’s case that I should find that you knew that Anthony Hillier had a knife with him.

21. On your behalf, it is contended that when the full context is considered, all the jury questions and also the answers given in cross-examination, a different conclusion should be reached, namely that you lured Raymond Groves to the house knowing and intending that he should be beaten up by Mr Hillier, but not that he should be stabbed. I consider that if I am to be true to the jury’s verdict, I should accept the way that Mr Row puts it. It is difficult to understand how, if you intended that Raymond Groves should be

stabbed by Anthony Hillier, you could not have intended really serious harm. You wanted Raymond Groves to be taught a lesson but you did not want him to be stabbed, probably then intending to return to him in the hope that he would be more compliant and forget the nonsense about Ted Richards. I therefore sentence you on the basis that you were part of a plan to cause Raymond Groves some harm, to teach him a lesson, but not really serious harm and therefore not to stab him and that you were unaware that Anthony Hillier had armed himself with the Hunter's Knife. I find myself unable to accept that you were sexually assaulted by Raymond Groves immediately before he was killed: this was part of the story hatched afterwards: with Mr Hillier lying in wait, there was hardly time or opportunity for Raymond to have sexually assaulted you. However, I agree with Mr Row that you did not play a leading role in the killing of Raymond Groves. Your role was certainly important, but you did not want him to be killed or even seriously hurt, and for me to find that you played a leading role would be inconsistent with that.

22. I am urged by Mr Row to find that you were the victim of domestic abuse at the hands of Raymond Groves. However, my strong impression, from hearing the evidence, was that, generally, you and he had a good relationship. The contemporaneous medical and social security notes throughout the time of your relationship with him do not support your account and indeed he is described as a benign influence on you. Given the complete unreliability of your evidence in court, I reject your account except where it is corroborated by other evidence. I accept that there were isolated occasions when he was abusive and that he certainly treated you unfairly, making unjust and untrue suggestions over Ted Richards and that he was in the wrong in relation to the events of 2 November 2023. But those to whom you could have been expected to confide were unaware that your relationship was abusive – for example, your close friend and confidante, Shamara Philpott. We had glimpses of your true personality during the trial, Mrs Shakespeare, both when you gave evidence and had an outburst in the course of cross-examination by Ms Lumsdon and in the recording and videos that were played to the jury. I have no doubt that, in your relationship with Raymond Groves, you on occasions gave as good as you got.

23. I turn to the guideline on unlawful act manslaughter and I shall follow the structure of that guideline. Step 1 is to decide culpability and, consistent with the findings I have made, I determine your culpability to be Category C, giving a starting point of 6 years' custody and a category range of 3-9 years. In particular, I reject the suggestion that any of the factors indicating high culpability are present. Referring to aggravating factors, none of the statutory aggravating factors are present. Of the other aggravating factors listed in the guideline, Raymond Groves' death occurred in the context of an offence which was planned and premeditated and I also take into account your actions after the event; the attempt to cover up and conceal evidence in which I find you played a full part, the lies you told to the police which can only have been because you agreed after the event, to do so and invent a story: that must have been in the interval between Raymond Grove being killed soon after he arrived at 18:16 and Mr Hillier eventually leaving to fetch Letisha at 19:14.

24. In relation to mitigation, you have no relevant previous convictions and I accept that, at the time, you were suffering from mental disorder and in particular c-PTSD as was agreed by the medical experts. I also acknowledge the difficult background to which I have already referred: the sexual abuse when you were a child and the domestic abuse at the hands of Toni's father and then Kai Goodwin. I take into account the deterioration in your health after you were remanded in custody such that, at the time of the first, abortive trial in 2024 you were confined to a wheelchair.

### **Sentence**

25. I consider that it is appropriate to impose a determinate sentence in your case and I do not make a finding of dangerousness. The time you have spent in custody, 726 days, just under 2 years, shall be deducted from the sentence I am about to pronounce and you shall pay the statutory surcharge. Once you have served one-half of the sentence, less the time on remand, you will be released on licence but should you commit a further

offence during the time you are on licence, you will be liable to be returned to prison to serve the remainder of your term. Taking the starting point of 6 years to which I have referred, and on the basis that I consider that the mitigating features outweigh the aggravating factors, the sentence I impose is one of 5 years' imprisonment.

**Anthony Hillier**

26. I turn, then, to you, Anthony Hillier. You will appreciate, and will have been advised, that for the offence of murder, the only available sentence is one of imprisonment for life. I have to set a minimum period to be served by reference to Schedule 21 of the Sentencing Act 2020. On the basis of the finding I have made, that you brought the Hunter's knife to the scene, this case is caught by paragraph 4 of Schedule 21 being a murder involving an offender taking a knife or other weapon to the scene intending to commit any offence and using that knife or other weapon in committing the murder. Indeed, I find that you brought the knife to the scene intending to kill Raymond Groves with it. The appropriate starting point in determining the minimum term is therefore 25 years.

27. The principal aggravating factor is the one mentioned in paragraph 9 of Schedule 21 to the Sentencing Act, namely a significant degree of planning and premeditation. I find that you and Letisha had been planning this in general terms from the moment Letisha was informed that the police would be taking no further action in relation to her complaint against Raymond Groves and specifically once it became clear that Mrs Shakespeare would not be doing anything herself. Indeed, on the basis of the jury's verdict in Mrs Shakespeare's case, the planning must have involved a large measure of deceit towards her as to what you were really planning to do so as to secure her co-operation in luring Raymond Groves to the property. A further aggravating factor, albeit one closely related to the first, is the extent to which you went to conceal evidence and cover your traces, again prevailing upon Mrs Shakespeare to lie to the police by exploiting her love and affection for her daughter.

28. There is no mitigation.

29. As soon as you have served the minimum term which I am about to specify, you will be eligible for early release by the Parole Board, but you will not in fact be released unless and until the Parole Board considers it safe to do so. If you are released, you will be subject to licence for the rest of your life. If you break the terms of your licence you are liable to be returned to custody to continue serving your life sentence. You shall also pay the Statutory Surcharge.

30. Anthony Hillier, the time you have served on remand shall be deducted which I understand is 724 days. Taking into account the aggravating and mitigating factors to which I have referred, the minimum term to be served shall be 26 years less 724 days spent on remand, namely a term of 24 years and 6 days.

### **Commendations**

31. Three final matters, if I may, before these proceedings conclude. First, commendations. This has been an exemplary police investigation which was complicated from the outset by the way a false, but nonetheless convincing, narrative was presented by Mrs Shakespeare and Letisha Goodwin. In some ways, it is invidious to commend individuals when this has so clearly been a team effort involving the work of many officers and police support staff. Nevertheless, I am very happy to make the following formal commendations:

DCI Deb Hatch (Senior Investigating Officer)

DS Louise Kuklinski (Deputy Senior Investigating Officer)

DS Natalie George (Case Manager)

Major Crime Investigating Officer James Purcell (Officer in the Case)

DC Katey Watts (Disclosure)

DC Robin Barratt (Disclosure)

Katy Perett (CCTV)

Kelly Jacobs (Phones analyst)

Gabrielle Sellers (Phones analyst)

### **Counsel**

32. Secondly, could I again thank counsel for all their help throughout the trial and for their assistance in the sentencing process. The standard of advocacy has been such as to uphold the finest traditions of the Bar.

### **Words to Family of Thomas Taylor**

33. Finally, may I address a few words to the family of Raymond Groves. You have sat in court for much of this long trial and heard the sometimes harrowing evidence with dignity, you have sat and listened quietly and calmly. You have my admiration for the way you have conducted yourselves and borne this ordeal. Nothing that has happened in the course of this trial can bring Boo back, but I hope that you have seen a form of justice done and you leave with my sympathy and the sympathy of all those who have been involved in these proceedings.