

From: ROBERT HARVEY, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mrs Griffiths,
Pentre Cwn
Llansilin,
Nr.Oswestry.

11th July 1985

Dear Mrs Griffiths,

Your letter has been forwarded to me by the Lord Privy Seal and by Tam Dalyell MP as you are resident in my constituency.

If you would like me to take this matter up on your behalf I would be only too pleased to help and perhaps you would let me know if you would like me to do this.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Harvey

Robert Harvey MP

A.W. BROWN & CO

Solicitors

THE ALBANY
37-39 WILLOW STREET
OSWESTRY
SHROPSHIRE SY11 1AQ

Telephone Oswestry (0691) 659194

A.W. BROWN
E. R. LLOYD LL.B.

Your Ref

Our Ref AWB SEH G104

Date 13 February 1986

The Right Honourable Robert Harvey M.P.
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

Dear Sir,

Re: Philip Gareth Taylor (otherwise Griffith)

We refer to our previous correspondence in this matter.

We are enclosing a copy of a letter that we have today written to Sussex Police answering their letter of 29th October 1985.

You will appreciate from our letter to the police that Mrs Griffith is far from satisfied. She would very clearly like your assistance in bringing pressure to bear on the police in Sussex to reopen their enquiry and to make proper investigations to ascertain how he died, where and why.

We are not certain that we can do anything further for Mrs Griffith and feel confident that you will be prepared to use all your influence to bear on this case.

Yours faithfully

A W Brown & Co.,

Enc.

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Your Ref

Our Ref AWB SEH G104

Date 13 February 1986

Mrs E Griffith
Pentre Cwm
Llansilin
Nr Oswestry
Shropshire

Dear Mrs Griffith,

Further to your visit to the office yesterday, I am enclosing a copy of the letter that I have written to Sussex Police and a copy of the letter that I have written to the Right Honourable Robert Harvey M.P. I will let you know when I have any response.

Yours sincerely

A W Brown

Enc.

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E.R. LLOYD LL.B.

Your Ref HQ/DISC/MISC/118/85
DEP/CO

Our Ref AWB SEH G104

Date 13 February 1986

The Assistant Chief Constable
Sussex Police
Police Headquarters
Malling House
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2DZ

Dear Sirs,

Re: Philip Gareth Taylor (Griffith)

We refer to your letter of 29th October 1985, upon which we have now been able to obtain full instructions. We have in fact been waiting to receive a transcript of the evidence given at the inquest.

There are a number of points upon which we must take issue as follows:-

1. In your numbered paragraph 1 you state that the scene was protected and guarded until the enquiry clearly established that it was not a case of murder or manslaughter. For the reasons given below we cannot understand how you could possibly come to that conclusion, particularly since the inquest has not returned a verdict of suicide but an open verdict.
2. In numbered paragraph 6 of your letter you have totally misrepresented the evidence of Mr Searle, in that you have stated that Taylor had admitted to him that he used drugs by injection, in other words that he was still using drugs by injection. On referring to the transcript of Mr Searle's evidence, we see that he stated that "I wasn't aware that he was currently taking drugs. When he talked about it, it was always in the past tense and I presumed that he stopped. I never saw him taking or under the influence of drugs." It therefore appears that Mr Searle's evidence was that he was aware that Mr Taylor had taken drugs in the past but was not taking them around the time of death.
3. The pathologist's evidence showed that there was no drug in the victim's body apart from the morphine, and that the victim was otherwise a healthy individual.
4. As we understand it morphine is not a drug commonly taken by addicts in the way that heroin or cannabis or similar drugs are, and indeed our client's doctor has informed her that morphine is taken for two purposes, and two purposes only, namely either as a pain killer or to kill.

Continued . . .

Continued . . .

5. You do not mention in your letter, nor was evidence called at the inquest, to the effect that, at 6.30pm on the date of death the victim's sister received a telephone call from the victim in which she felt that he sounded strange in the sense of fear, that, when she asked whether he was alright he replied that he was not, that he said that he would ring her from France when he arrived which was something that he had never done before, that he did not sound in any way drunk, and that, after he had apparently put the phone down, it was picked up by someone who informed her that he was 'Sim' (whom we assume is well known to the police as a drug dealer). Furthermore that telephone conversation was only approximately 90 minutes prior to the likely time of death, so that it seems highly unlikely that he would be in a position to consume voluntarily as much alcohol as was found in his body.

6. It is abundantly clear that the victim was moved from the place of death. It is accepted that this can have two constructions, either that he died as a result of a voluntary drug overdose and was moved by the owner or occupier of the place at which he died, but alternatively that he was murdered and moved by the murderer or on the murderer's behalf.

We take the view that there is a very significant cause for concern, not only that the police have not looked into this case in the manner in which they should have done, but also in that the police have apparently accepted that it was a case of suicide despite the evidence that is more suggestive of homicide and despite the open verdict at the inquest.

You will appreciate from the above that Mrs Griffith is far from satisfied. We are sending a copy of this letter to the Right Honourable Robert Harvey M.P. with a request that he assist Mrs Griffith to obtain a proper enquiry and justice.

Yours faithfully

A W Brown & Co.,

HTV CYF.
Y GANOLFAN DELEDU, CROES CWRLWYS,
CAERDYDD CF5 6XJ. TELEFFON 0222 590590 TELECS 497703

HTV LIMITED
THE TELEVISION CENTRE, CULVERHOUSE CROSS,
CARDIFF CF5 6XJ. TELEPHONE 0222 590590 TELEX 497703

DEO/CWW

10 July 1986

Mrs Eileen Griffith
Pentrecwn
Llansilin
Nr. Oswestry

Dear Mrs Griffith

Thank you very much for the loan of the relevant documents regarding Philip's case. I find them very interesting and they throw up many questions about the police conduct.

I have also talked to Mr Brown, your solicitor. He also thinks that the matter is worth pursuing even if it only makes the police follow a few more lines of inquiry.

I will be going down to Brighton with a colleague next week to talk to your daughter and whoever else we can track down in the area.

Thank you again for your help and patience. I will get in touch with you as soon as we carry out more research.

Yours sincerely

Elis Owen

ELIS OWEN
Producer
Wales This Week

Cyfarwyddwyr/Directors: R. W. Wordley, Cadeirydd a Chyfarwyddwr Rheoli/Chairman and Managing Director, G. E. McWatters, I. E. Symonds, Is-Gadeiryddion/Vice-Chairmen, C. R. M. Atkinson, W. G. Beloe, Mrs. R. W. Buchanan, H. H. Davies, Yr Anrhydeddus/The Hon. J. H. Davies, T. G. R. Davies, P. S. B. F. Dromgoole, A. R. Edwards, T. R. Edwards, O.B.E., Syr/Sir Geraint Evans, C.B.E., R. S. Evans, R. A. Garrett, Mrs. M. Gwynn Jones, T. Knowles, Y Fonesig/Lady Merrison, Yr Arglwydd Oaksey/The Lord Oaksey, O.B.E., Yr Athro/Professor Glyn O. Phillips, C. D. Romaine, E. L. Thomas, M. R. Towers.

5 Finsbury Rd
Brighton
July 24th 1985

Dear Mrs Geffin

Thank you for your letter - I'm sorry that I haven't written sooner, but Phil's death came as a shock and I have found it hard to come to terms with.

I'm afraid I can't help you in the way you ask - I had seen very little of Phil for a long time before he died, and don't know of anything which would be relevant.

I'd like to say how sad I am about what happened - I shall never forget Phil, or the happiness we had together. He always spoke very highly of you, and mentioned you often.

With sympathy and best wishes, Ewen Taylor

A.W. BROWN & CO

Solicitors

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E. R. LLOYD LL.B.

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37-39 WILLOW STREET
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SHROPSHIRE SY11 1AQ

Telephone Oswestry (0691) 659194

Your Ref

Our Ref

AWB SEH G104

Date 5 November 1985

Mrs E Griffith
Pentre Cwm
Llansilin
Nr Oswestry
Shropshire

Dear Mrs Griffith,

I am enclosing a photocopy of a letter received from Sussex Police.

Perhaps you would care to contact me to discuss this.

Yours sincerely



A W Brown

Enc.



SUSSEX POLICE

POLICE HEADQUARTERS, MALLING HOUSE, LEWES, EAST SUSSEX. BN7 2DZ

Telephone : Lewes (0273) 475432 Extension : 4020

Telex : 87256

Your Ref : AWB SEH G104

My Ref : HQ /MISC /DISC/118/85 Date : 29th October, 1985.
DWC/PT

Dear Sirs,

Philip Gareth Taylor (otherwise Griffith)

I refer to your letter of the 7th October last regarding the above-named. In the letter you make a very serious allegation of murder without, I suggest, any firm evidence.

These are the facts:-

1. Following the discovery of the body at 6.02 am on Saturday, 4th May last, the matter was dealt with initially as a potential murder with the setting up of a full Major Incident Room and all that is entailed in such an enquiry with the Divisional Detective Superintendent taking overall command. The scene was protected and guarded until the enquiry clearly established that it was not a case of murder or manslaughter. ✓
2. The Police Surgeon who attended the scene and examined the body in situ, stated that from the marks on the body it was apparent that death had occurred some time previously at a location other than where found and that the body had been moved to the location where found after death. He believed the probable cause of death to have been a drug overdose.
3. A Home Office Pathologist, Dr. Purdue, carried out the post mortem and stated that:-
 - (a) "Philip Taylor was a well-nourished muscular young man who died as the result of morphine and alcohol overdosage. Natural disease played no part in his death.
 - (b) The amount of morphine detected in his body fluids was such as is often found in those who have died as the result of drug abuse. It represents a substantial dose well in excess of the therapeutic maximum, but not so great as to constitute a massive overdose.
 - (c) The presence of a very large amount of alcohol in the body would have contributed to his death but would not on its own have proved fatal in the absence of postural asphyxia or inhalation of vomit, evidence of neither of which was present.
 - (d) The presence of numerous superficial bruises and directional abrasions about the body of the deceased, especially on the limbs and trunk, suggest that the body was manhandled into

✓ Messrs. A. W. Brown and Co., /the place and position.....
Solicitors,
The Albany,
37-39 Willow Street,
OSWESTRY,
Shropshire,
SY11 1AQ.

the place and position in which it was found at about the time of death or very shortly before or after. There is no evidence of a fight or struggle and the injuries would in no way have contributed to death.

(e) I give as a cause of death:

Morphine and alcohol overdosage"

4. Apart from clothing, the only items on the body were a used hypodermic syringe, an expired twelve month British Visitors Passport in the name of Taylor, £3 cash and an empty wage packet. ✓✓
5. From the wage packet, the employer, a Mr. Keogh, was traced. It was established that Taylor had handed in his notice and finished work there the previous day having stated that he was going to France to pick fruit and grapes as he had done on previous occasions. After finishing work he had gone drinking with workmates during the midday licensing hours and had left them at about 3 pm. An address at 128 King's Road, Brighton, was given as his but it was established that he had not lived there for about three weeks or so. As it was known that Taylor frequented the Good Companion Public House in Dyke Road, Brighton, enquiries were concentrated in the vicinity of Seven Dials but no address was located. His workmates were unable to assist the enquiry further.
6. On the 7th May, 1985, at 8.20 pm, a Mr. Searle contacted the Police Station at Brighton in response to the publicised request for information and stated that Taylor had been using his address for the previous two weeks while he was away on business. Mr. Searle last saw Taylor alone on the evening of the 2nd May. He (Searle) was away for the weekend and heard of the death when he returned to Brighton on the 6th May. It was found that Taylor had left a wooden box full of clothes at Mr. Searle's address. He also was told by Taylor of his intention to travel to France to go fruit picking again and Mr. Searle says Taylor had admitted to him that he used drugs by injection. From Mr. Searle's interview the location of relatives in Oswestry (Mrs. Griffiths) and in Southwater, Sussex, Mrs. Chambers, the sister of Taylor, was established and they were notified of the death. From that point on the contact with Mrs. Chambers was maintained. ✓ There is no evidence that the death occurred at the address of Mr. Searle. ✓✓
7. I can say that the information given by Mrs. Chambers to Detective Sergeant Divall was properly followed up. Whilst there is suspicion as to who may have been present at the death and where the death occurred, there is no apparent criminal offence in relation to the moving of the body and no evidence upon which clear identification of any person or persons can be made.
8. The full facts of the enquiry were given at the subsequent Inquest and the evidence was not challenged, including that of Mr. Purdue. An "Open" verdict was recorded.

/There is no doubt.....

There is no doubt that Taylor died elsewhere than where his body was found. There was no evidence of foul play and no attempt to hide the body. There is no evidence of corruption, murder, assault or any other offence and no evidence of any injustice. The person or persons who placed the body in the park have not been traced in spite of substantial effort by police.

I am satisfied that the enquiry was correctly carried out, that all possible evidence was obtained and provided to the Coroner at the Inquest. Mrs. Griffiths, Dr. Purdue and Mr. Searle gave evidence, as did the finder of the body and Detective Sergeant Divali.

Quite clearly, there was delay in notifying the relatives. The difficulties in identification of his address as described led to this.

Although I can understand the grief of Mrs. Griffiths at the death of her son, I must say there is no evidence to substantiate the allegation of murder. Her second allegation of corrupt practice by a police officer is also serious. I am sure you will agree that such accusations should not be made lightly and that anyone making such an allegation should be prepared to supply the supporting evidence. If any such evidence were to be made known to me then, of course, the matter would be fully investigated.

If you accept the explanations I have given I hope that you will immediately write to the Members of Parliament who received your original letter withdrawing completely the allegations you have made.

Yours faithfully,



J. D. Dibley
Assistant Chief Constable "Support Services"

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Solicitors

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A.W. BROWN

E.R. LLOYD LL.B.

Your Ref

Our Ref AWB SEH G104

Date 11 March 1986

Mrs E Griffith

Pentre Cwm

Llansilin

Nr Oswestry

Shropshire

Dear Mrs Griffith,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter received from Sussex Police.

The contents of paragraph 3 on the first page have not been disclosed previously nor were they referred to in evidence at the inquest.

I am applying to the Legal Aid authority to extend my legal advice certificate to cover further work and will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

A W Brown

Enc.



SUSSEX POLICE

POLICE HEADQUARTERS, MALLING HOUSE, LEWES, EAST SUSSEX, BN7 2DZ

Telephone : Lewes (0273) 475432 Extension : 4156

Telex : 87256

Your Ref : AWB SEH G104

My Ref : CID/JMc/JMT

Date : 28 February 1986

Dear Sirs

RE: PHILIP GARETH GRIFFITH ALIAS TAYLOR

I refer to your letter dated 13 February 1986 concerning the death of the above named and enumerate below answers to the queries you have raised.

- (1) In this case the scene where the body of Mr TAYLOR was located was preserved until the Forensic Pathologist had completed his post mortem examination and was satisfied from his findings that the cause of death could not be attributed to foul play, full particulars of which were given at the inquest attended by your client.
- (2) It is accepted that when Mr SEARLE referred to the deceased's propensity to taking drugs he was speaking in retrospect.
- (3) For your information I give below the analysis of samples taken from the body of the deceased.

Blood alcohol 215mg% (right arm)
Urine alcohol 329mg%
Blood morphine 0.1mg/1 (right arm)
Bile morphine 14mg/1
Urine morphine - positive
Syringe morphine - positive (from a syringe found on the body)
No common drugs were detected in blood. All morphine levels measured as morphine and its metabolites.

I understand the alcohol content in the blood was such that the deceased had consumed the equivalent of several pints of beer. I am also advised that the level of morphine found in the bile sample taken from the deceased at the post mortem indicates that he was a regular user of heroin which is a derivative of morphine. I also understand that when heroin is injected into the bloodstream it very quickly reverts to morphine and it is rare for heroin as such to be detected.

- (4) From enquiries made it is acknowledged that weak doses of morphine are used as a pain killer.

cont ... /

Messrs A W Brown & Co
Solicitors
The Albany
37-39 Willow Street
OSWESTRY
Shropshire SY11 1AQ

(5) The evidence concerning the telephone conversation between the deceased and his sister, Mrs CHAMBERS, on the evening of Friday 3 May 1985, was given at the inquest by your client, Mrs GRIFFITHS. Details of this were also contained in the statement she made to the Coroners Officer on 24 May 1985, the relevant passage of which reads as follows:-

"My daughter told me that when Philip rang her on Friday evening 3 May he sounded as though he had been drinking. He was however quite within his senses and not drunk".

Mrs GRIFFITHS made no mention of any further conversation between her daughter and the deceased. It is acknowledged that Mrs CHAMBERS also advised one of the investigating officers of the telephone conversation and as a result the person from whose address the telephone call originated was subsequently traced and interviewed. He claimed that the deceased had arrived at his flat in Brighton at approximately 5 pm that day, apparently suffering from the effects of alcohol, but denied that neither he nor TAYLOR had taken any part in drug abuse.

He maintained that the deceased, after making the telephone call, left the flat at approximately 7 pm to visit some unidentifiable friends who resided in the Elm Grove area of Brighton. He also refuted the suggestion that he was responsible for the death of the deceased, or abandoning his body in Queens Park, Brighton.

Mrs CHAMBERS and Her Majesty's Coroner was informed of the result of this interview.

(6) It is accepted that the body of the deceased had been removed after death from somewhere other than where it was discovered, but there is no evidence whatsoever to substantiate your theory that he had been murdered.

However, there is evidence which indicates that the deceased was in the habit of consuming excessive amounts of alcoholic drink and had been involved in the misuse of drugs over a period of several years.

Our records show that between 1970 and 1981 he appeared before various Courts on 10 separate occasions for a variety of offences and three of these appearances involved the unlawful possession of controlled drugs.

Enquiries also revealed that in 1979 he sought advice from a General Medical Practitioner in Brighton concerning his addiction to Brenzedrex inhalers and as a result he was referred to the Drug Dependency Clinic, but failed to attend for consultation. It is also known that he had an association with a well known member of the drugs fraternity.

At no time was it ever assumed by Police that this was a case of suicide but in view of the history of the deceased, the result of enquiries made and the findings of the Forensic Pathologist there is certainly a strong possibility that, having consumed excessive alcohol, Mr TAYLOR took a voluntary or accidental drug overdose.

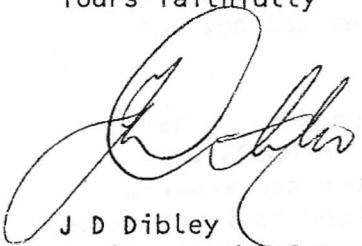
I hope the foregoing information will help alleviate some of the concern expressed by you on behalf of your client into the circumstances surrounding this tragic death.

I can only reiterate that extensive enquiries, involving a number of officers have been made in order to establish the true facts, in particular his movements

during the evening of Friday 3 May 1985. However, the file has not been closed and you will be contacted in the event of any further developments.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



J D Dibley
Assistant Chief Constable
Support Services

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A.W. BROWN

E. R. LLOYD LL.B.

Your Ref

Our Ref AWB SEH G104

Date 7 October 1985

Mrs E Griffith
Pentre Cwm
Llansilin
Nr Oswestry
Shropshire

Dear Mrs Griffith,

I refer to your visit to the office on Wednesday. I enclose a copy of a letter that I have sent to the Chief Constable of the Sussex Police. As you will see I have sent copies of that letter to the Members of Parliament for your area and of the Brighton area in the hope that they will be able to bring pressure to bear.

I will keep you informed of any developments.

Yours sincerely

A. W. Brown

A W Brown

Enc.

A.W. BROWN & CO

Solicitors

A.W. BROWN

E.R. LLOYD LL.B.

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Telephone Oswestry (0691) 659194

Your Ref

Our Ref AWB SEH G104

Date 7 October 1985

The Chief Constable
Sussex Constabulary
Police Headquarters
Malling House
Lewes
Sussex

Dear Sirs,

Re: Philip Gareth Taylor (otherwise Griffith)

We have received instructions from Mrs Eileen Griffiths of Pentre Cwm, Llansilin Nr Oswestry in connection with the death of her adopted son, Philip Gareth Taylor (otherwise known as Griffith) on the 3rd May 1985 at Brighton.

Mrs Griffith is extremely concerned at the investigation that has taken place into Philip's death. It would appear that Philip was murdered. We understand that he had been severely assaulted, but the cause of death was a large overdose of morphine with which he had been injected.

Mrs Griffith is concerned about the course of the investigation. She feels that insufficient effort is being put in to apprehend the perpetrator of the crime. This is particularly worrying in the circumstances as she learned them from her late son before his death.

Philip told his mother two matters of great importance. The first was that, because of the effect that addiction to drugs had had on two of his friends, he was intent on securing the apprehension of a major drug supplier who was a millionaire. The second is that he was aware that there was a police officer, presumably dealing with drug cases, who was corrupt and in the pay of the said supplier. On the day after his death Philip was to have moved to France to spend some time there, one reason for such movement being the fear of personal harm from the drug supplier.

Mrs Griffith must therefore view the police investigation into her son's death in the light of the apparent corruption that exists, and the fact that such investigation has not achieved any results confirms this belief. She mentions to us a number of points as follows:-

Continued . .

Continued . . .

1. Neither she nor any other member of her family were informed of the death until approximately twelve to fourteen days afterwards. Philip had on his possession when he died his passport and a wage and tax slip; although these would not have identified his family, they would have indicated both where he lived and where he worked, and Mrs Griffith is well aware that his friends and neighbours and his employer and work mates would have been able to give the police a very early indication of the whereabouts of his family. It should be appreciated that he had lived in the same area and worked for the same employer for the whole of his period of twelve to thirteen years living in Brighton.
2. Mrs Griffith's daughter at one stage attempted to give information to the police as to two telephone conversations that she had with Philip on the afternoon and evening of the murder. These telephone calls would appear to us to have been crucial since they indicated where he apparently was at 6.30pm and who else was in the flat. However it would appear that no record was made by the police inspector concerned of this information. The name of the inspector is believed to be Dyvall.
3. By the time the family were informed of the death and were able to come to Brighton they found that Philip's flat had already been completely cleared and renovation works had been commenced. It was therefore impossible for any further inspection of that flat to take place. Furthermore, apart from the items found on Philip's person, no other personal belongings have been handed to Mrs Griffith or her family, nor have they been informed that such personal belongings exist. They find this extremely irregular apart from being emotionally disturbing to them.
4. Apparently the flat of a friend, where the murder had possibly taken place, was not searched until approximately two weeks after 3rd May.

For the reasons mentioned above Mrs Griffith and her family are very concerned that justice is not being done. It may well be of course that there is simply a problem in communication, perhaps caused by the significant distance between the scene of the murder and the investigating police force on the one hand and Mrs Griffith and her family on the other. However Mrs Griffith is inclined to believe that there is a more disturbing cause for the ineffective investigation connected with the corruption referred to above. In these circumstances we would ask you to provide us with as many details as you are able, including the present state of the investigation, so that Mrs Griffith may be satisfied that a proper and full investigation is taking place and that the offender will be apprehended.

We are sending a copy of this letter to the Members of Parliament for the constituency in which the murder took place and in which Mrs Griffith's lives.

Yours faithfully

A W Brown & Co.,

DETECTIVE SERGEANT DIVALL, on Oath says:

At 6.02 a.m. on Saturday 4th May 1985, Mr. David Thomas of 65 Downs Terrace, Brighton, was walking in Queens Park, Brighton, when he saw the body of a young male (later identified as Philip Taylor) propped against a tree. There were no marks of violence.

He immediately contacted the Police and Police Officers attended. Included was the Duty Inspector, Detective Constable Alexander, Photographic and Scenes of Crime.

Dr. Isaac the Police Surgeon, attended and certified death but was unable to give a cause. There were no defensive marks.

The area was sealed with tape and cones and on the body was found a used hypodermic syringe and an expired one year Visitors Passport in the name of Taylor.

The body was subsequently removed to the Mortuary and a Home Office Pathologist, Dr. Purdue, later attended and performed a Post-Mortem. The scene where the body was found was guarded until late on the Saturday evening when the Uniformed Officers were stood down.

House to house enquiries were carried out by a team of Detective Officers but very little information was obtained.

A number of Officers carried out background enquiries into Taylor. He had been living until three weeks ago at 128 Kings Road, Brighton. He had a room in this house. At this stage he had no known relatives and it was known that he worked for Tommy Keogh as a demolition worker on the Queens Hotel site in Brighton.

Enquiries at the Queens Hotel site showed that Taylor had given in his notice and planned to leave on Friday 3rd May, when he told his workmates that he was going to France fruit picking and grape picking. They did not consider this unusual as he had done this in previous years at about this time of year. His last day on the site was Friday 3rd May and he left the

site at about 3 p.m.

Despite extensive Police enquiries no trace could be found of Taylor during the time he left the site at 3 p.m. until his body was found at just after 6 a.m. the following morning by Mr. Thomas.

Enquiries later revealed that Taylor was staying at 22 Beaconsfield Road. This is the home address of a Mr. Searle.

Through Mr. Searle we traced the relatives of Taylor to North Wales and subsequently his sister, Mrs. Chambers, who lives in Southwark near Horsham.

22 HANOVER STREET,
BRIGHTON
SUSSEX

13. JAN. 85.

Dear Mrs Griffiths,

Thank you for your card and enclosed letter, Sue and I have been intending to visit you again at Pavillion but so far have not had the opportunity. I thought I had better write to you to clear up any misunderstanding that you might have regarding what the police told you. I told the police, both when I gave my statement and in court that I had no idea that Phil was currently involved with hard drugs. I did tell the police in my statement that I knew that Phil had been involved in the past. The police constantly tried to misquote me when they were preparing the statement and I had to insist on several alterations to the statement. As you

point out the police have lied to you on several points, and I think this must be another case where they have mis-informed you. After all, if my evidence at the enquiry conflicted with my statement, I would be liable for prosecution for contempt! What I said in my statement and at the inquest was the truth and any of my friends in Brighton will bear this out. Phil is still very sadly missed by all of us in Brighton and if any of us should at any time hear anything which would help solve the mystery of his death we will let both you and the police know.

I'm glad to hear the cat has settled in and hope that we will be able to visit you in the Spring.

Regards

Chris Seark.

22. 11. 85.

On May 4th 85. at about 4-30 a.m., a man walking his dog, found the body of my son, Philip propped against a tree in a park at Seven-dials, Brighton. I was not informed of his death till almost two weeks later, and then only by a phone call to my daughter-in-law who lives near I had to identify my son but his body was not released for burial till 6th June.

At the inquest it was stated that Philip had a large quantity of alcohol in his body, but not enough to prove fatal, and no sign of vomiting. He had also been injected with a large dose of morphine three injections, and had received a blow by some object on the back of the neck. There were numerous bruises and abrasions on the body.

The Pathologist stated that Philip was an extremely healthy young man, and was not a drug addict or alcoholic. He was 31 years of age. It was stated that Philip had died about 8 p.m. on May 3rd and his body brought to the park just before or after death. An open verdict was recorded.

Before the inquest — my daughter, who lived quite near Philip, had tried to tell Inspector Divall of two phone calls that Philip had made to her the evening of his death. The first one, at about 4 p.m., Philip sounded quite himself. Said he'd been home long enough (from work) to have had a bath and feed the cats and could Rhee go with him that evening to a party and to say good-bye to various friends as he was off to France.

next morning; and leaving Brighton for good, for on returning he was coming to live with me, here in Wales. He joked about not having yet renewed his pass-port which was out of date, but intended doing that in the morning or that evening. He said he had booked his ticket and packed his bag. These, along with his other possessions were never found.

At about 6.30 p.m., to my daughter's surprise, Philip phoned again. This time he sounded very odd.

Said he was phoning from 'Chris's place' and kept repeating, 'please listen to me, I will telephone you when I get to France, about 8 p.m.'

Rhele couldn't understand this for he had never phoned from France before. He sounded frightened and unlike himself. She asked if he was alright, she could hear more voices in the background. Before Philip could answer, a voice said, "of course he's alright, his usual silly self. I'm Simon, and I've met you years ago in Suffolk." (Simon Fisk has since been arrested and is a well known drug pusher.) Philip had told me how evil he was.

Philip had spent the last six months of his life to my certain knowledge trying to get the men who had destroyed two of his friends with drugs. He told me they weren't human any more, just vegetables, and along with Fisk and others he knew of at least one crooked police-man. As he stated, huge amounts of cash were involved. He said now one day he'd tell Rhele and me all about it, but for now, the least we knew

the better, for even he was frightened.

Some time after the inquest, because we were not satisfied with the lack of interest shown by the police, my daughter and I went to Brighton police station. We were told that Inspector Divall was not there but eventually were seen by another C.I.D. Inspector and his partner. They were most kind and helpful reading out all Philip's case to us. This told us a great deal that we hadn't known before and made certain to us that Philip had been murdered. There were many more questions unanswered, such as, why wasn't Philip flat or Chris. Searles flat searched till two weeks after his death! We had also been told by I. Divall that Philip's watch, wage packet containing cash, were found in his underpants. No mention of this was in the records. In fact the watch was removed from his wrist by the pathologist at 6.30 a.m. There were various other discrepancies.

I am very dissatisfied with the way my son's case has been handled and the police are either covering up or have bungled badly but I intend to fight on for my son to get some justice and know he hasn't died for nothing.

Eileen Griffith