

# Evidence

# Bundle

# 5

Evidence relating to  
**Paginated page 24:**

Emails Dated:  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2016  
x 2

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July  
2016

3 x Emails

Referenced in statement  
of PS Vokins (2)

PC Rush (3)

## **Rush Hannah DR403**

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**From:** Daniel James CD327  
**Sent:** 24 July 2016 04:25  
**To:** Rush Hannah DR403  
**Subject:** The Trek

Hello Hannah,

Another one for you. Please can you have a look at CAD 170 of 24 July.

Basically it refers to a large fight which broke out outside The Trek just after it closed.

There was talk of weapons like screwdrivers, knives and a baseball bat. There was definitely a baseball bat involved but we can't confirm the other things.

It took us over two hours to disperse the crowd from outside the trek. There was talk of organised fights between feuding gangs who then decided to give us the run-around the town centre until they tried to have another fight just after 4am resulting in us finally dragging people away.

Even the youngsters from The Trek were coming up to us and asking how someone got a weapon into the club. We don't know that there was a weapon actually in the club (the assault took place outside the club) but someone obviously had a weapon close at hand.

Linked CADs include (all of 24/07):-

171  
172  
173  
174  
177  
198  
227

I hope you find this information useful.

Thanks,

James

**JAMES DANIEL**  
Police Constable CD327

**Lewes Police Station**  
**East Sussex Division**  
**NRT 'D' Lewes District**

**Telephone 101 Ext. 563007**  
[www.sussex.police.uk](http://www.sussex.police.uk)

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## **Rush Hannah DR403**

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**From:** Pittman-Charlotte DP211  
**Sent:** 24 July 2016 05:32  
**To:** Rush Hannah DR403  
**Subject:** Trek

Hannah

Please see CAD 170 (and related CAD's) 24/07/2016 FYA.

This was a fight at the Trek with a knife, baseball bat and screwdriver reported but not seen / found by Police. The assault itself was a punch, albeit the victim won't support.

Regards

Charlie Pittman

## **Rush Hannah DR403**

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**From:** Daniel James CD327  
**Sent:** 27 July 2016 07:04  
**To:** Rush Hannah DR403  
**Subject:** RE: The Trek

I was more dealing with the drunk idiots who were going around the town trying to fight each other. Your best bet is to speak to Charlie Pittman about that but my understanding is that a number of witnesses saw the baseball bat first hand.

It was like the entire contents of the night club came out on to the street, split 50/50 and then wanted to fight each other.

There's no way they came from anywhere else. And when you say 'overly intoxicated', there was no-one falling about but they were definitely all drunk by their demeanour.

I hope that helps,

James

**JAMES DANIEL**  
Police Constable CD327

**Lewes Police Station**  
**East Sussex Division**  
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Evidence relating to  
**Paginated page 25:**

Email Dated:

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016

1 X Email

Referenced in statement  
of PC Rush (3)

## Rush Hannah DR403

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**From:** The Trek Club <thetrekclub@btinternet.com>  
**Sent:** 25 July 2016 12:34  
**To:** Rush Hannah DR403  
**Cc:** Wolfe Catherine 60498; Sue Lindsey  
**Subject:** The Trek Club

Dear PC Hannah Rush and Sergeant Vokins,

Re: The assault on [REDACTED] Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July

2016.

I have copied to a file the half an hour, prior to the assault, of the people in the car park so you can see for yourself there was no-one drunk or behaving aggressively prior to the incident. We also have footage of the time of the incident of the part of the road that is covered by camera which unfortunately does not really show very much. I will drop them down to Seaford Police Station for you to examine. We are not sure if the person assaulted or the person who assaulted him were actually in the club prior to the incident. Everyone was cleared from the car park by 2.15 a.m. and there were about 20-25 people outside in a group. The next thing we knew someone had punched someone and had run off. He was punched in the mouth, fell to the ground and grazed the top of his face which then proceeded to bleed. Unfortunately where the incident happened was under the lamp post where Broad Street and Blatchington Road join and we do not have camera coverage there. [REDACTED] and his two doormen from the [REDACTED] myself, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were all working and were near to the incident when it happened but none of us actually saw who did it. What happened next was extremely worrying as two men [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] went to a Range Rover Evoque [REDACTED] which was parked on double yellow lines near the twittten and took a baseball bat and a long screwdriver and were going to attack or defend someone in the crowd-we don't know who. They eventually ran off along Blatchington Road and later came back when the Police were there. They were questioned but there was no further action as they didn't have the items on them.

[REDACTED] was taken to hospital in an ambulance which we had called to be checked out.

I have to say that we have been reluctant to cover too much of the street because of the Data Protection Act- Code of Practice- but in the light of the controversy about our jurisdiction and keeping control of the area outside the club we have now proceeded to put more camera coverage on the front by adding another four cameras to our system. I can only hope this meets with your approval.

On a different note [REDACTED] and I have now been to see our solicitor [REDACTED] Seaford. It was completely coincidental that we have the same solicitor and so it made good sense (especially economically) to go together to try and sort out all our issues. One thing that was raised- is there a Code of Good Practice for Licensed Premises for the South of England? I was given one in 2005 and have used that for the running of the club ever since but from the clashes between the licensees and the Police it might be a good starting point to sorting things out and creating a level playing field from which to operate.

Our solicitor is raising with Counsel some of the items which are in dispute for clarification i.e. how far we can be held responsible in time and distance for events that happen in, near or further away from the licensed premises and also what can be changed under a minor variation etc. I think this will be of great benefit. Then we will all know where we stand and we can proceed knowing we are completely following the law and licencing guidelines in all respects.

Perhaps we could arrange a meeting of licensees in Seaford or even in the whole of Cathie's area where all licensing implications could be discussed so everyone is aware of their duties and responsibilities.

Yours Sincerely,

Yvonne Newton-Turner



Evidence relating to  
**Paginated page 26:**

Incident No 42 Dated:

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August  
2016

1 x Police Statement  
Referenced in statement  
of PS Vokins (2)

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

**\*Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B**

URN

Occurrence Number: 47160113741

Statement of: THOMAS DUNN

Age if under 18: Over 18 *(if over 18 insert 'over 18')* Occupation: Police Constable CD425

This statement (consisting of 1 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature:  #CD425 DUNN, T. Date: 21/08/2016 03:28

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐

At about 02:15 hours on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2016, I was on duty in uniform with PC SAUNDERS DS229 when we attended The Trek nightclub, Blatchington Road, Seaford for a report of man being restrained.

On arrival I was informed that a man had been detained for headbutting his girlfriend and that it had been witnessed by a customer in the club. The man gave his name as [REDACTED]

After speaking to witnesses and to PC SAUNDERS who had spoken to the victim, I arrested [REDACTED] on suspicion of common assault on his partner and cautioned him to which he made no reply. I told him that he was being arrested to prevent injury and protect a vulnerable victim.

PC SAUNDERS and I then took [REDACTED] to Eastbourne Custody where his detention was authorised.

Evidence relating to  
**Paginated page 27:**

Incident No 43 Dated:  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>  
September 2016

2 x Police Statements

(when complete)

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B: Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1)

URN

Statement of: Mark EDMANDS

Age if under 18: O18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Police Officer

This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature:

Date 16/9/16

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

On the morning of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016 I was on duty in full uniform with PC O'CONNOR CO348 in a marked police vehicle EO59. At around 01:50 hours we parked on the A259 on the high street to observe patrons leaving the Trek night club and walking into town. As we were parked in a layby we were approached by a taxi driver. I wound down the window to the vehicle and he stated something like "YOU'D BETTER GET DOWN TO THE TREK, ITS ALL KICKING OFF DOWN THERE". At this point we were advised over our PR that there was a large fight in progress outside the Trek Night Club, Blatchington Road, Seaford.

We made our way to the club and parked near to the entrance, there were a number of people in the road as we approached which is normal as it was nearing turning out time at the club, however as we got nearer I saw 3 or four 4 fights in the street between 20 or more people.

As I parked and rapidly exited the van a couple of door staff who were outside trying to control the melee shouted something like "THEY'VE GONE THAT WAY" pointing up the hill towards the high street. I assumed that they meant that the instigators of the fights had fled the scene on our arrival however I could see no one running up the road and I was immediately required to break up a number of fights happening right in front of me. There were no many people in the street it was impossible to identify any of those involved in the fracas and I was moving from group to group along with PC O'CONNOR and the door staff trying to break up scuffles. We eventually managed to calm the scene and I sought out one of the door staff to establish what had occurred. The door staff stated to me that one of his colleagues had been assaulted and was injured and that the suspect for the assault was a male called [REDACTED] who was described as a white male wearing a red top, he pointed to the other side of the road and stated that the assault had occurred by the pavement on the opposite side of the road from the club itself. The door staff then ran off to another fight and I called up over the radio requesting that the first unit to scene try and detain this male as it was likely he had [REDACTED]

Continuation of statement of

PC EDWARDS CEMS

gone up to the high street. I then walked over the where the door staff had pointed and saw a pool of blood on the floor. At 02:02 hours I took three digital images of the blood in situ with my work phone. The blood consisted of one large pool about 12 inches in size with 2 or 3 smaller spots of blood.

I tried to go into the club to find the victim but was unable to because of the problems outside. I was advised that the first unit to arrive as back up had come from Eastbourne and had arrested the male suspect. I left PC OCONNOR in the road to try and control the group while I walked into the club court yard to try and find the victim of the assault. I was directed to a male sat at the side of the building who had a bloody face, at this point an ambulance first responder arrived and I left the yard to escort the paramedic to the victim. The victim was engaged with the paramedic so I spoke to staff to obtain his name which I was advised was [REDACTED]. I then tried to ascertain who had witnessed the assault and identified the suspect [REDACTED]. I was unable to find anyone who could name the suspect but one of the door staff stood by [REDACTED] stated that he had witnessed the whole incident. He identified himself as [REDACTED]. I advised [REDACTED] to remain at the scene as I would require a statement from him. I then entered the nightclub and spoke to staff advising them that I would need to see their CCTV.

At this point I was joined by PS LARDNER and PC PITTMAN. I updated PS LARDNER that staff were getting the CCTV to view and that the victim was sat outside and needed to be spoken to. I then went to speak to [REDACTED] and requested he attend Seaford Police Station to provide a statement. Enroute back to the van I requested PC OCONNOR speak to the victim [REDACTED] to confirm his injuries and obtain full details from him. I then drove to Seaford Police Station with [REDACTED].

Upon arrival at scene I would estimate that there were at least 20 people outside the club fighting but many more in the road watching, or occasionally getting involved. There were a number of door staff present and there would have been no way myself or PC OCONNOR could have controlled the scene on our own without them. They were very forth coming assisting us with the CCTV and statements. The fights took place in the street directly outside of the Trek itself, I did not observe anyone leaving the yard to get involved in the fights but it appeared like most if not all involved had been in the club earlier that evening. I did not speak to anyone long enough to form any opinions on whether they were drunk, most appeared to have been drinking that evening. I was not directly threatened by anyone at scene, it appeared like there were generally two groups who were aggressive towards each other but I have no idea who the groups where or what the fights were over. I was not frightened at scene as I have had to deal with incidents like this on division numerous times since I have work on Lewes district. The fact it took so long for any police back up to arrive meant that I


Signature

[REDACTED] PC EDWARDS

Signature witnessed by:

PTO

*PC COMMANDS GWS*  
Continuation of statement of  
really did appreciate the assistance the door staff were able to offer.

Whilst at Seaford Police station I printed off the images of the blood at scene. I can produce these images as  
evidence marked ME/01 (exhibit no. *PC GWS* ).

Signature 

Signature witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_

PTO

**(when complete)****WITNESS STATEMENT**

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B: Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1)

URN

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Statement of: Kevin O'CONNOR

Age if under 18: 018

(if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: Police Constable CO348

This statement (consisting of 2 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature:

Date 15/09/2016

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded

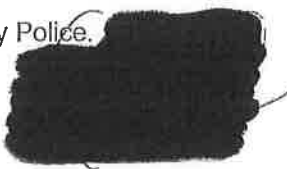
☐

(supply witness details on rear)

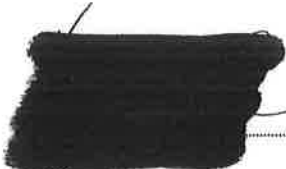
On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016 I was on duty in uniform working with PC Edmands CE103 under call sign EO59. At approximately 01.50hrs we were parked and stationary on the A259 in a bus stop outside Tesco Express. This is a position that gives a good view of customers leaving the Trek Nightclub and moving off through the town. Our vehicle was approached by a taxi driver in his vehicle who basically said to us "YOU HAD BEST GET DOWN THERE, ITS ALL KICKING OFF" Literally as he finished speaking I heard a grade 1 incident get called in at the Trek Nightclub, Blatchington Road, Seaford where approximately 50 persons were reported as fighting. PC Edmands and I immediately attended the scene, I was aware of numerous other units call up and assign themselves as well. As we approached along Blatchington Road, I could see a large amount of people in the road. From this early view, this is not uncommon around closing time as high number of people leaving the Trek normally congregate in the road outside the boundary of the Trek. As we got closer however, things changed. I could see what I can only describe as a scene from the wild west. There were at least 5 or 6 different fights going on between groups of people. It was absolute chaos. As I got out of the vehicle a couple of door staff ran towards me and shouted words to the effect of "THE WORST OFFENDERS ARE UP THERE!" I turned and briefly looked up the road but could not see anything. I could still see numerous fights in front of me so I decided to stay and deal with that instead. I could see numerous door staff in and amongst the fights doing their best to break them up. The presence of the large, bright coloured Police Vehicle made no difference and it was largely ignored. I immediately dragged a male away from another who were squaring up to fight, and then split up another. I do not know who these males were and did not get any details. I then moved forward and grabbed hold of another male who appeared angry and aggressive towards a male stood in front of him. I moved him to the side of the road, and told him to chill out. The unknown male told me that his friend had been hit which is why he was angry. I asked him to

Continuation of statement of KEVIN O'CONNOR  
identify his friend to me and he pointed and called out to an unknown male. I beckoned for him to join me but he just dismissed me with a wave of his hand. He clearly was not interested in speaking with me, and quite frankly there was enough going on to keep my attention elsewhere. I would describe most of the people in the street as intoxicated. I formed this opinion from the loud aggressive nature of most of them, who were shouting and swearing. The atmosphere felt incredibly hostile. I saw PC Edmands go into the grounds of the Trek, but I genuinely felt that I could not move from my location. I was concerned that further disorder would break out if I left the road. I maintained my position in the street for a good 15 minutes keeping an eye on the people that remained. I had a number of issues with a highly intoxicated female in her 50's I would guess who would not leave my van alone and was constantly laying and leaning on it. She was very very drunk and by far in the worst state of all people outside. I finally caught her drawing on the windscreen with some sort of beauty product which I promptly rubbed off with her own jacket before giving it back and finally shooing her off down the road. I did not initially see any injured parties, until I later entered the compound of the trek and saw the victim sitting down waiting for an ambulance.

Upon arrival, and due to the sheer volume of people fighting which I would estimate to be between 15-20 people fighting but many more present, I was extremely thankful that there appeared to be a lot of door staff present. I was fully aware that Police backup was miles away as is normal these days. I can have no complaints about the behaviour and actions of the door staff who had been involved in the incident from the start and seen a colleague get seriously hurt. I felt fully supported and had no doubt they would have stepped in to assist if required, as they have done in the past. CCTV was requested from the club which was provided on the night within a suitable timeframe. A member of door staff also stayed late to complete witness/victim statement as requested by Police.



Signature



Signature witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_

PTO