

**SOLICITING TO MURDER –
VERNON TAYLOR**

1. Vernon Taylor had known Barry Catt for many years, since he was a teenager (T 2559). He said that he first met Roseanne Catt in March/April 1988, and had started calling in to her office to talk after meeting her in the street some six months later (T 2558).
2. He said that one afternoon in August 1989, Roseanne Catt had asked him "Will you do a job?" He asked what it was, and she said "I want you to bump him off for me because if he is out of the road it is all finished and there will be no more problems" (T 2561). She said it was worth \$20,000, and that he might be able to find somebody else to do it and still make money out of it himself (T 2562).
3. He said that he went back the next week – "I just wanted to see what the situation was to see if it had changed". (T 2563). She asked if he had thought about bumping Barry Catt off for her, he said he didn't know, to which she said the offer was still there (T 2563).
4. Roseanne Catt denied the periodic meetings which Vernon Taylor claimed they had. She said that she used to see him walking past to visit Barry Catt, when he would just say "hello" (T 2713).
5. A strange theme runs through Taylor's evidence of just wanting to see what happened. He said that Roseanne Catt told him about Barry molesting the children and ... "the more that I learned

about the rift, you know, like the things that was going on, I got more interested, just wanting to find out what was really happening" (T 2559). Having been invited to earn \$20,000 by committing a murder, he returned the next week to see if the situation had changed.

6. The reason he gave for his initial visit was a desire to take a photo of Roseanne Catt's Corvette car (T 2558). He always carried a camera with him (T 2589). He never took a photo of the car. He said he used wanting to do so as the excuse for his visits (T 2588).
7. Taylor's statement was taken on 20 August 1989 by Thomas and Paget (T 2579). He had been asked by Adrian Newell if he would make a statement. Newell, Thomas and Paget arrived at his home the following day (T 2579). Newell was present for some of the interview (T 2580, 2593).
8. A suspicious and highly unusual aspect of Taylor's involvement in the matter is that at the instigation of Sergeant Thomas he approached Lucy Parkinson. He said "they asked me if I could find out where she moved to and just ask her if she was prepared to make a statement" (T 1594). He said that he did not know that she was a friend of Roseanne Catt, or a potential witness for her.
9. Taylor went to see Lucy Parkinson, and spoke at length to her. He said "I just asked her if she wanted to see them, but I didn't know what about". If he did not know what about, it is difficult to see how she could be expected to know. While it is understandable that police might ask someone to find out another person's address,

it is scarcely orthodox to ask one person to enquire whether another will make a statement. The contrast with the approach to Mrs Whalen is strong.

10. Not content with one visit, Taylor phoned her and visited her again. "She told me she was prepared to make a statement, but it wasn't in my favour, and that was it. I just left". (T 2595).

There is deep nonsense in this.

Unless told what it was about, Lucy Parkinson could not take a position as to who would benefit from her potential statement.

11. Behind whatever was going on, the police must have known that they were asking a person who claimed that Roseanne Catt had invited him to kill Barry Catt to approach someone who was a potential witness to another such occasion. Yet there is no explanation for how the police at this time could have known of any role at all of Lucy Parkinson in events, as neither Morris nor his sister knew the name of the woman with Roseanne Catt.
12. There is a very strong suggestion that the full and true story behind Taylor's approach has not been told.
13. Lucy Parkinson gave some elemental evidence on this question at the trial, but was not asked, it seems in the belief that it was not admissible, what Taylor had said (T 3544, 3545). At the current hearing, she said that he wanted her to change her statement

supporting Roseanne Catt that she did not speak to Morris, to say that she was talking to him (H 2354, 2355). This makes sense, where Taylor's account does not.

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Taylor.stm