

LAW REFORM, DRUGS AND CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE
**Inquiry into the supply and use of methamphetamines, particularly ice,
in Victoria**

Geelong — 28 October 2013

Members

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Witnesses

Mr D. Holyroyd, Chair, Geelong Nightlife Association.

Mr T. Bongiorno, Nightclub Proprietor, Geelong Nightlife Association.

Mr M. Gregorio, Nightclub Proprietor, Geelong Nightlife Association.

The CHAIR — Welcome, Mr Holroyd, to the joint parliamentary committee of Law Reform, Drugs and Crime Prevention, and thank you for presenting to the public inquiry this afternoon in relation to our reference of inquiry into the supply and use of methamphetamines in Victoria, particularly ice. I understand you are from the organisation Geelong Nightlife Association, and we have allotted time through to 3.45 this afternoon.

Mr HOLROYD — I will have to talk very slowly, I think.

The CHAIR — No, you do not have to fill the time if you do not need to. I would like to take this opportunity to read you the conditions around which you will be providing evidence to the committee this afternoon. All evidence taken at this hearing is protected by parliamentary privilege as provided by the Constitution Act 1975 and further subject to the provisions of the Parliamentary Committees Act 2003, the Defamation Act 2005 and, where applicable, the provisions of reciprocal legislation in other Australian states and territories. However, it is important that you note that any comments that you make outside of the hearing, including effective repetition of what you have said in evidence, may not be afforded such a privilege. Have you received and read the guide for witnesses presenting evidence at parliamentary committees?

Mr HOLROYD — I have read the notes on what you have said.

The CHAIR — Yes. It is also important to note that any action which seeks to impede or hinder a witness or threaten a witness for the evidence that they would give or have given may constitute and be punishable as a contempt of parliament. We are recording the evidence and we will provide a proof version of the Hansard transcript at the earliest opportunity so that you can correct it as appropriate. Thank you, Darren, for your time this afternoon and we look forward to hearing from you.

Mr HOLROYD — Thank you. I wear a few hats in Geelong so when I am trying to have a balanced view of what I have to say, I do sit at the head of the Nightclubs Association, but I also sit on the Geelong Safety Committee. I am the owner of four licensed venues in Geelong. I have been involved in this industry for about 20 years now and I also have four children aged between 19 and 23 that socialise in this area, so I get a lot of feedback. I am on the war front every night—every Friday, Saturday, Sunday night I am around. I see what is happening in the industry so I am not just taking on board what everyone else tells me. In saying that I have over the weekend spoken to a few other owners of venues, that have been involved in the industry a long time, to get their thoughts on primarily the topic of today, the methamphetamines and the ice.

I think in particular our feedback will be more around point number 3 on the list there. In relation to number 2, we do not believe that we can see organised crime or motorcycle gangs in the Geelong area involved in this area. It seems to be more the small operators after a cheap dollar, I think, unless they are in the background somewhere that we do not see them. They are not physically involved in the clubs, as such. We do not believe that these bikie groups or other outlaw groups are infiltrating into the venues in Geelong. I would also like to point out, I think we are fortunate in Geelong that we have had a very good relationship over the last 10 years or so with the police, the liquor licensing, the City of Greater Geelong, the safety committee and the licensees. We have had a lot of issues, we see where we get success, we see where we get failures and I think the secret to it all is always having this relationship that works with everybody.

The operators that I spoke over the weekend believe drug use has rapidly increased over the last two years. A study by Dr Peter Miller—I do not know if you are talking to Peter Miller?

The CHAIR — Yes.

Mr HOLROYD — You are. He indicated that about one in four people, about 25 per cent, on a Saturday night were on some type of illicit drugs. We believe it is increasing from that at this stage of the game and we feel, particularly in that younger age bracket, the 18 to 21 area—the venues that I own tend to have a little bit of an older crowd, and I feel in those venues, although it has increased a bit over the last few years, it is not as dramatic as the younger groups. What percentage of it is ice, we do not know. We detect a lot more unprovoked aggressive behaviour

these days than there used to be, and we believe this is as a result of ice and speed being more aggressive type drugs. As I was referring to before, when you are working in the industry at night, the symptoms we see from the speed and the ice is the chewing, they seem to have trouble keeping—because I am out there I see it a lot. I guess the average person would not be able to detect it, but the more experienced staff, we pick up on it. It is definitely out there. That aggression is something we never used to see 10 or 15 years ago. It is an unprovoked aggression that is amazing to watch.

One point I would like to make is I wonder whether we are playing into the hands of the drug dealers a little bit in that we are so stringently policing liquor licensing laws these days—fines for urinating in the street or being drunk and disorderly are between \$500 to \$800. Most first time offenders for drug use are just cautions. It seems a little out of balance to us. Are we making alcohol, which is the legal drug, too difficult and too expensive, while we do not really enforce the laws in relation to the methamphetamines which are illegal. Ice, I believe, is as cheap as \$10 or \$15 a hit. It is a good cheap option, unfortunately.

The CHAIR — Can I query you on that? \$10 a hit?

Mr HOLROYD — Yes. It is funny but those of us in the room are inexperienced because we have never tried any of these things but from what I can gather, yes, for a little hit it is about \$10. It is a very cheap option for young people.

The CHAIR — It has been told to us that .1 of a gram, which is a point, as they call it, of reasonably good purity is about \$100.

Mr HOLROYD — Yes, not from what I am told.

The CHAIR — Do we assume then it is fairly contaminated or unfinished?

Mr HOLROYD — Yes, I think you are correct. From what I am told the pure stuff is very clear. I do not know what the watered-down version is called but it is certainly a brown colour and you can buy that a lot cheaper.

The CHAIR — Is that the brake fluid or whatever is in it?

Mr HOLROYD — We do not profess to be experts on that side of it. What we do say though is there should be fines in relation to the drugs that are at least, if not more, than what the alcohol fines are. We feel that it is amazing you can get cautioned on the illegal product but fined on the legal one. We feel it is not treated seriously at the moment. Up until a few months ago when the local group was talking with the police there did not seem to be any attention paid to drugs at all, we believe, because it was seen as too hard and too difficult a problem to deal with. As was reported in the paper on Saturday, the sniffer dogs—I do not know how effective they are but they are going to be using those a lot more around licensed venues in Geelong, leading up to the Christmas and New Year period. We think this is a good thing to at least make people aware that there is some action being taken.

We think there maybe should be more stringent regulations in obtaining a liquor licence. In Geelong we will always know if there is a venue that is dodgy, this is where the drugs are happening, if the security guys are doing it, the staff are doing it. I believe the fish stinks from the head. If the licensee is not aware of the problem or is involved in the problem it flows down the line. We will always know a dodgy venue in Geelong but it is not that easy for the police to do something about it. I feel there should be almost a probation period or something for licensees coming into the business. How this is done, whether it is at a council level or a liquor licensing level, I do not know, but there should be a probation. We see it time and time again where these cowboys come to town, are dodgy, and then they get out again. Whereas the good operators tend to stay here and they do the right things. The good operators virtually police the drug problem themselves. We ban anyone that is caught dealing drugs or with drugs in our venues. They are banned from there. It is virtually a self policing thing.

From a profit point of view you make less money having these guys in your venue anyhow, but from those of us who are community-minded as well, and my own kids go there, you do not want these people in your venue. Somehow we have to encourage the good operators who will self-police. It is difficult for a police officer to walk up to someone and prove whether they are on drugs or not on drugs, whereas we are eyes and ears in our venues. We know, you can tell the wrong people and you weed them out. For the most part the venues are good, safe places to be in.

Another problem is we are a little wary at the moment—if we catch a drug dealer or someone with some drugs, a lot of the venue operators are a little bit scared to be handing them over to the police because they are scared that if an LPIR or a licensed premises investigation report started.

Mr SCHEFFER — Sorry, what is an LPIR?

Mr HOLROYD — It is a licensed premises investigation report. Police use them regularly at the moment. That is how venues are rated at the moment, how many LPIRs—they are scared to be handing these people over to the police because they are afraid that will be a black mark against their venue. We need the strong relationships that always used to exist between the police and the venues and liquor licensing to be maintained, and the council, so you can feel confident handing people over saying, 'This is what this person does.' One of the things we do have in Geelong at the moment that does work really well is a ban list. It is enforced by the court. If you go to court for assaults or serious offences, they will ban you from licensed premises in the CBD for a certain amount of time, and together with our ID scanners—did you see those last time you were down here, the ID scanners? I cannot remember.

The ID scanners, as soon as you present into a venue, it will say this is a banned person. It virtually stops you getting in all over town. We have found when someone knows they cannot get into any licensed venues in town it is a real penalty to them and I think those systems where we work together work really well in the industry. As a front against the methamphetamines and the ice I think it needs to be a united front. I felt for a long time the focus has been on technical compliance issues. I do not want to sound like I am a whingeing licensee here but sometimes we feel like the police might be more interested if a security guard signed a logbook correctly rather than some drug dealers working down the back of the venue or something like that. It has been a little bit miscued, we feel, and it might be time to readjust what the focus would be.

The CHAIR — Are you telling us there is not a lot of trade going inside the clubs because we have been told that when you go to the toilet you can virtually summon up any sort of amount crystal methamphetamine.

Mr HOLROYD — I think that would be an exaggeration. Definitely some trade would go on in venues but as I say the better run venues—look, there would be one venue in town, I would suggest that would happen. I would think the other key venues that would not happen at all and they would have security guys doing regular checks. I do not know whether you are hearing the security guys are selling drugs, I think that is highly unlikely in the good venues. It could happen in one that I am referring to. As a rule the venues are well run and those activities are kept to a minimum. That is the extent of my presentation as such. If you have some questions I am happy to answer.

Mr SCHEFFER — As an observation, the strong message we are getting from almost all our witnesses is that, yes, methamphetamine and ice is very serious to the people who are involved in it and using it, and their families, extremely serious. But we are talking at this stage about very small actual numbers, even though the increase is unsettling.

Mr HOLROYD — Yes.

Mr SCHEFFER — But compared to the community harms from alcohol it is not even a factor, that alcohol is far and away the biggest issue of community harm and all the family violence and driving trauma and the health consequences. In that sense it is not unreasonable that the police would be focusing most of their attention on alcohol in the venues and the consequences of that, and other agencies. How do you respond to that?

Mr HOLROYD — That would be hard to argue it.

Mr SCHEFFER — Yes, it is pretty compelling.

Mr HOLROYD — It is.

Mr SCHEFFER — I guess the other thing is that while people in your situation are closer to what else is going on in your venues, and you are saying that most of them are fairly clean, and good licensees keep their eye on what is going on in the venues—and all compliments to you for doing that, that is an important role, and you are right it is an illegal drug—but nonetheless we are hearing evidence, as the chair indicated, that licensed premises are sites where illicit drugs like ice are bought and sold and that moves up and down in the market. It surprises me a bit that you are saying, yes, it occurs but you do not seem to think it is much of a problem.

Mr HOLROYD — I am there every night, every weekend. In our particular venues I see very little signs of this. Occasionally security will have someone in the toilets that have done something like that. As I say, ours is a little bit of an older crowd. In the younger venues I am sure it happens more consistently but I think to suggest that it is prevalent to the point—I would think that most would have their drugs before they come to the venue at night.

Mr SCHEFFER — I was interested when you asked the question—what were the words? These are my words, 'Are we playing into the hands of the drug trade,' something like that.

Mr HOLROYD — Yes, it was along that line.

Mr SCHEFFER — What do you mean by that?

Mr HOLROYD — I wonder whether we are getting to a point where we are so strict—I can see in the 20 years I have been here how far we have come in regards to the regulation of alcohol and behaviour. I think it is far better than it ever was. There is far less violence now and the streets are safer. A lot of the initiatives are really working. I sometimes wonder now whether we are that strict on some of the drunken behaviour that it is an easier option. I have had this chat with Peter Miller where we think there is 50 per cent of people that would not touch drugs, would never go there. The figures are saying that about a quarter of people are doing it at the moment. Would there be 25 per cent that are sitting on the fence that would go either way? If there is a lot of pressure and you are being asked to leave venues because you have had too much to drink, if you are getting fines and those sort of things, are we making it easier to take a drug and you do not have any of those hassles? That is a question that cannot be answered but I am wary that sometimes we may be over-regulating a little bit too much now. When you raise points that you do about the harm of alcohol and particularly the family violence and those things in the background, it is hard to argue with that. As far as venue operations go these days, it is a good, safe environment in my opinion.

The CHAIR — Can I ask Mr Tim Bongiorno and Mr Mario Gregorio to come to the table and provide you with some company, Darren.

Mr HOLROYD — I need some reinforcement.

The CHAIR — I understand they are proprietors of establishments in Geelong. Welcome to you both, Tim and Mario. I think you are familiar with the inquiry that we are conducting at the moment. One of the reasons why we are in Geelong was that there was a request for us to hold a public hearing here because of concerns raised about the increased use of methamphetamine, particularly ice. Given you are all in the entertainment industry obviously it is important for us to hear from yourselves about what your view of the world is in relation to that. Darren has provided a good insight from his perspective and we look forward to hearing from both of you. But I might ask Mr Carroll perhaps to pose a question now to three rather than one if he wishes.

Mr CARROLL — We have heard a lot of evidence that over the past 18 months to two years, use of the drug ice has skyrocketed and in that age bracket 19 to 35, generally young people, predominantly male. With licensed venues, how can we use licensed venues to get the

government's message out. Like, when we are formulating our report and we are looking at licensed venues and the use of drug ice, do you know how you see gambling ads in the urinals, a bit of a step back and think ads, do you think we could use licensed venues in a positive way to get a government message out? Do you have any views on that?

Mr GREGORIO — We have recently implemented a program called Clubs Against Drugs Campaign. We put a full-page ad recently in the local music magazine. All our organisations did. It was a simple message that said, 'Clubs against drugs, we say no.' That is a simple education program. We spoke about in the local Liquor Accord and the council wanted to try and do it properly but that would have taken months, so we put full-page ads and we do it on a fortnightly basis, try to send a message across that we do say no against drugs in clubs. I see quite a lot of—I will put it this way—degenerate type of people in our malls and they are clearly on something. They are probably more ice users. Those people would not have much of a chance getting inside our clubs anyway. If there is a high percentage of drug use in our clubs, they are probably more on amphetamines rather than crystal ice, because crystal ice users are quite degenerate and would not have much of a chance to get inside our clubs.

I run clubs that are a little bit younger in age, predominantly 18 to 25. Darren is a little bit older so he probably would not see that type of activity. We have presented a few drug dealers but mainly they have been caught with amphetamine tablets rather than crystal ice. We have not seen a high presence of crystal ice being pushed in our clubs. We are regularly checking toilets, particularly in the Home House Nightclub and we are strongly against that activity in our clubs because we have found the spend per head is down. Peter Miller from Deakin suggested there was probably 25 per cent of drug users in clubs. We believe it is probably even a little bit higher at the moment. But personally I do not have evidence but I am thinking crystal ice users, if they are addicts, I do not think they would get into our clubs anyway. They are quite degenerate. I know it is a pretty poor way to put it.

Mr CARROLL — What about police presence? Is that helpful?

Mr GREGORIO — They had the dog squad out last week and I think there were three or four people found queuing up with a small number of drugs.

Mr CARROLL — Is that unusual to have the dog squad out?

Mr GREGORIO — Yes. It has not been done for a long time.

Mr HOLROYD — As I suggested before, they are suggesting it will be a regular occurrence over the coming weeks.

Mr CARROLL — The dog squad?

Mr GREGORIO — Once every two years or so.

Mr CARROLL — Is that because it is the period of the year we are going into?

Mr GREGORIO — No, it was unexpected. They came out and had a high presence of police numbers and also had the dog squad out.

Mr HOLROYD — We have always encouraged a police presence. What we tend to find these days is you will get a blitz where you will find there are 35 to 40 police on the one night and then there is nothing after that. I would prefer personally a consistent presence. In the old days they used to walk through the venues and mingle with the crowd. I would love to see that going on. They built up a rapport. It is a good situation to have. Going back to your question before—are you aware of a lot of trading going on in the venue's toilets, that sort of thing?

Mr BONGIORNO — I have heard it happens but we regularly check our toilets and have not found it to happen. I did hear you mention it was happening at one particular venue, I think that is also true but our security, I am telling them every 10 minutes to go through the toilets constantly. We have not found anything but I do hear it happens.

The CHAIR — Can I pose a question and suggest that you might be somewhat in denial in that for young people going to a nightclub it has been suggested to us that because of cost they tend to load up prior to going to a nightclub.

Mr HOLROYD — Definitely.

The CHAIR — The issue around crystal meth, as has been said to us, is that recreational users use it for specific reasons and one is that it creates a quick fix in relation to alertness, invincibility, wellbeing, even a sexual stimulant. I assume those going to nightclubs also want to have that sort of release in relation to the enjoyment, the fulfilment and satisfaction at that particular time. I am of the view it is not always the degenerate drug user that might be using ice. I suggest to you there are a lot of young people using it now for all those reasons: one is it is cheap, it is accessible, it is a quick fix, it makes them alert, feeling good, it is a sexual stimulant and they go into that nightclub activity where it creates a favourable condition for all of that. I question what you said then in that there is a class of user that is young, mobile, able to access and get some fulfilment out of using the drug for that period of time and then it might lead on to other things—addiction, psychosis and all of those things. But to say it is not happening in the nightclubs, I find that very hard to believe.

Mr GREGORIO — We have found—and the police have done reports—three or four drug dealers within my licensed premises, Home House, and they were caught with amphetamines rather than crystal meth. All I can say is that the deals that we have caught have been caught with amphetamines, eccy tablets, I suppose you would call it. Crystal meth, I do not really know—

Mr HOLROYD — Ice is not that easy to use, is it? We are all inexperienced but I am under the impression it is not like an ecstasy tablet where you take it for—I do not believe it would be practical in a licensed venue to be using ice because it is not—

The CHAIR — I am suggesting they probably use it prior to the nightclub, like they do with alcohol—load up and then go out.

Mr HOLROYD — I think they are assumptions. The discussion is, does it happen within the venue? No, I do not think it happens in the venue because it is difficult to do but, yes, I am sure they do load up before they come up. I think, as Mario suggested, it would be easier using tablets that would be more likely to go on within a licensed premises because the ice is a difficult process.

Mr BONGIORNO — If I can go back to the drug dogs, the problem with the dogs, as soon as they hit the streets and the first couple are detected, the messages go out on Facebook and text messages nowadays, the kids know about it, it is across town very quickly. I do not know what the answer is to that. It scatters people, if you know what I mean. The ones that hear about it, you will not see them that night.

Mr CARROLL — The dogs go out from one venue to another but by the time they get to the next venue—

Mr BONGIORNO — Yes, a large group of police are with that dog. It is a bit of show, something is going on.

Mr CARROLL — I suppose in Geelong too it is a fairly close-knit community.

Mr BONGIORNO — A very concentrated area, yes.

Mr HOLROYD — The word would pass very quickly these days.

Mr GREGORIO — Simon, going back to your comment, are you suggesting that nightclubs are probably the first cursor or catalyst for ice users? You said that they first take before they go and then from there they basically enjoy the sexual stimulation and having that great euphoria inside nightclubs and that it then carries on from there to become users?

The CHAIR — In some cases I suspect that is the case. I am saying for a recreational user that wants to get that quick fix as part of their clubbing experience, I would have that—and I know it is usually smoked or injected rather than mixed with drinks from what I understand from what has been told to us. That is true, it is probably not so readily available to do that within the nightclub confines, except I am sure there is some injecting going on somewhere. I am not suggesting it is in your establishments either, I am saying, generally speaking, that for the recreational user the clubbing aspect is one of the reasons why they use the drug. Trying to understand the culture is how do we intervene on the recreational drug user before they become a long term user. One of the reasons they use it, in my understanding, they use it for all those reasons, apart from the fact it is quite accessible and quite cheap, as compared to buying alcohol till three in the morning from an establishment, obviously with the side effects it has.

Mr SCHEFFER — Also to reiterate what the chair said, I do not think anyone is suggesting your venues are complicit in generating this but because your venues are attractive to young people and are good places to be, as we understand it, the using of ice heightens the experience that is already there. The other thing too, when the chair was giving an account of the evidence that had been brought to us about what is attractive about the drug, it is also its retailing and its marketing and its smoking is cleaner somehow. Coming back to your remarks, Darren, that I am still struggling with a bit, on the one hand you were saying that there may be—and correct me if I do not get this quite right—an over-policing and over-regulation that is hard for people to be using alcohol. On the other hand you seem to be saying there were warnings given to people on drugs. I do not quite see what the nexus is there. If we were to put a recommendation up on that, given what I said about the harms of alcohol, we could not seriously say, 'Ease up on alcohol,' and whether police should maybe toughen up on the policing of drug use is open to us. But I could not quite see the connection, it seemed to be parallel phenomena.

Mr HOLROYD — I guess my statement was along the lines of, I think we are making it harder for those that are drinking alcohol. There is no regulation for those on drugs but for those on alcohol, there is a fine for urinating in the street or for being drunk and disorderly but there is nothing—

Mr BONGIORNO — I believe if you are caught with two pills there is no fine imposed. It is a one day educational program which really does not seem to be much of a penalty. To be drunk in the street is an \$800 fine. To urinate in the street is \$577. Drug users seem to be getting away with—the small amounts. I mean, if you are caught with more, of course—but there is nothing there to stop them. There is no stiff penalty. Probably 20 years ago there was no penalty for alcohol but things have moved on and it will happen with drugs eventually, I hope, but there is no deterrent, it seems.

Mr HOLROYD — We do not want to come across as overly defensive licensees here. The statements I have made regarding the toilets and the drug use and those sort of things is how I perceive it to be.

Mr BONGIORNO — A little bit about my background. I have been in the business for 13 years. When I started there was no evidence of any drugs whatsoever but I could see the start of it. I recently had a security fellow who worked with me 13 years ago. He had 10 years off, had a family, and came back into the industry and the first thing he said to me, 'Wow, what's happened? Drugs are quite evident now,' and that is just his observations.

Mr HOLROYD — He did say the violence was far better now.

Mr BONGIORNO — The violence is definitely better, yes. 12 years ago there were fights, every night there were serious fights caused by alcohol. RSAs have got a lot better in the last few years, but the drug use has definitely crept in. Violence-wise he could not believe how quiet things were. He said the kids are not prepared really to fight as much. We do have ID scanners and a lot more video surveillance now that may deter them, I am not sure.

Mr CARROLL — Were the ID scanners mandated by government or were they something you have done voluntary?

Mr HOLROYD — That was something in the Liquor Accord and in groups, came together with some two way radios. We had a two-way radio system where if we refuse entry to someone or kick someone out, and Home House is around the corner, our guys will tell those guys that these guys are not appropriate and we do not want them in the venue. The camera operator at the police station will fix the camera on them. All of a sudden everyone is watching these guys.

Mr BONGIORNO — They are not welcome.

Mr HOLROYD — We believe the system is working well. The point I was trying to make before, there does not seem to be any regulation on drugs but there is an over-compliance on many other things that we feel—I feel sometimes that society in general is over-compliant now. Maybe the focus should be on what we are here talking about today, that is all.

The CHAIR — The alcohol abuse—and if you read the Geelong Advertiser on Monday morning there will be graphic photos of fistfights and guys in the mall, and what have you, prowling around at three in the morning—and I appreciate what you are saying about the violence now which is quite contradictory to what we have been told about the user of crystal meth where coming off that drug they do become, in some cases, quite violent with paramedics or police. I know you have said that you do not see any need for more regulatory burdens in relation, but do you see or are you able to offer any sort of guide about how we could best deal with the 3 o'clock swill as we know it? From a timing point of view is shorter hours—how do we deal with it, at the end of the night, alcohol explodes out on the street?

Mr HOLROYD — I think that has been a problem ever since the 6 o'clock swill.

The CHAIR — It does not matter what time you put on it, you will get the same result.

Mr HOLROYD — I remember my father-in-law telling me that out in Moorabool Street at 6 o'clock at night there were fights at that time of night. I like what we do in Geelong in that we have 1 am, 3 am, 5 am, 7 o'clock licences. It takes the pressure off public transport. I know in just about every major city in Australia, public transport on a Saturday night at two, three, four in the morning is a problem. I think having the staggered closing times does take the pressure off that system. I think where there have been talks of lock-ins at a certain time or lock-outs, depending on what part of the state you are in, to do those things at a set time of night we create more problems. The safe taxi rank that we have in Geelong, these things where people all head to the one spot. I think Geelong is leading the way in a lot of ways. Your comments about Geelong and assaults and things, it has been a long time since we have been in that situation. I believe it is far better. The aggressive ones we seem to find now are the ones that are on some sort of drug, whether it is steroids or speed or ice. They seem to be the stimulant for some of these people.

There was an article in today's paper—it was not in town but out of town—where someone was stabbed for no apparent reason. It was random, it was not even a robbery. Those things could happen and I would not be surprised if that was drug related. I believe most of the burglaries are ice or drug related things.

The CHAIR — Thank you very much.

Mr HOLROYD — Thank you.

Witnesses withdrew.

Hearing suspended.