

1990-1999

- 14 May 1990 Roseanne Catt and Peter Bridge Committal: Sergeant G Gilday for the Informant (Peter Thomas) in the Local Taree Court before Magistrate Evans commenced and went through until 25 May 1990.
- 21 May 1990 Letter from Peter Thomas questioning the directions of his superiors to remove him from the Roseanne Catt case (**DOC 830**).
- 21-22 May 1990 Adrian Newell gives evidence at Roseanne Catt's Committal proceedings. **Vol 4 Page 1463**.
- 25 May 1990 There was a break in the Committal of Roseanne Catt and Peter Bridge while Internal Security conducted a series of interviews into the arrest of Roseanne Catt and Peter Bridge.
- 10 Jul 1990 Detective Sergeant Peter Thomas went to Wagga Wagga with Detective Senior Constable Carl Paget (**R.C. Trial, p. 2048**).
- 24-27 Jul 1990 The Committal of Roseanne Catt and Peter Bridge resumed. Both were committed for trial.
- 27 Jul 1990 Roseanne was locked up in Taree police station after Thomas had the magistrate Wayne Cleary increase Rose's bail from \$50,000 bail was increased to \$100,000. **Vol 8 Page 2737**.
- 28 Jul 1990 At 2 p.m. someone yelled "Roseanne" "...I saw Peter Thomas standing at the door and he had hold of the bars.." He threatened to kill Roseanne. She ended up in a coronary care unit. **Vol 8 Page 2739-2740**.
- 7 Aug 1990 Detective Inspector W R Chapman conducts an Record Of Interview with Barry Catt. (**DOC 212**).
- 7 Aug 1990 Detective Inspector W R Chapman conducts an ROI with Clifford Adrian Newell (**DOC 213**).
- 8 Aug 1990 Detective Inspector W R Chapman conducts an ROI with Detective W Hore of the Regional Crime Squad about Peter Thomas (**DOC 215**).

- 10 Oct 1990 Marie Whalen charged with murder of her husband, Tom, appeared before Judge James Woods. Adrian Newell appeared to testify re her character as did her Aunty Shirley Hegarty (**Doc 457**).
- 10 Oct 1990 Marie Whalen Trial held in Newcastle before Justice James Wood. Her husband was axed and stabbed. She pleaded guilty of manslaughter and sentenced on 12 October 1990. Clifford Adrian Newell appeared as a character witness. At the Inquiry 2003 Marie Whalen revealed Peter Thomas, Barry Catt, Carl Paget and Adrian Newell said they would be there for her and that she would 'walk'.
- 12 Oct 1990 Marie Whalen sentenced to 8 years with a minimum to serve, 5 years (**Doc 557**)
- 30 Nov 1990 Barry Catt Trial: Roseanne Catt says Pam Stein would visit the children on a weekly basis (**B. C. Trial, p 291-292**).
- 26 Nov 1990 Chris Catt confused Lithium with a type of paper used in science experiments (**B.C. Trial, p. 54**).
- Nov-Dec 1990 Det Sgt Peter Thomas gives evidence in favour of Barry Catt. His last act as a serving NSW Detective. He arrested Roseanne Catt on 24 August 1989.
- 22 May 1991 IN THE ABSENCE OF THE JURY:
(Mr O'Loughlin made a formal application that the jury be discharged on the basis that the witness made a gratuitous comment which, he submitted, was done for the sole purpose of making the jury think that people were in danger of their lives. He said he was making the application in order to cover himself.)
HER HONOUR: I formally decline your application.
(**R.C.Trial, p.156**)
- 29 Jul 1991 FIFTY-FOURTH DAY: Monday 29 July 1991
IN THE ABSENCE OF THE JURY
(Mr O'Loughlin made application that her Honour take count 5 away from the jury on the basis that there is no evidence to

justify that count going to them. He submitted there is evidence of motive and evidence of opportunity but there is evidence of opportunity by a large number of other people and in his submission her Honour should take that count away from the jury.) (R.C.Trial, p.2642. See also Exhibit 4A) (Doc448).

01 Aug 1991

IN THE ABSENCE OF THE JURY

(Mr O'Loughlin made an application for a discharge of the jury on the basis that the Crown Prosecutor behaved in a grossly unfair fashion in relation to the introduction of an alleged statement by the child, Tony Catt in respect to him making a false allegation of sexual misconduct by his natural mother. Her Honour stated that there was nothing before the jury on that matter.

Mr O'Loughlin stated that the Crown had put questions he was entitled to put and it was exacerbated by the fact that the Crown, in its other capacity as Crown versus Barry Catt, saw fit to charge him with sexual offences and to put him on trial. He submitted that this Crown had interviewed each of the four children and then refused to call them and now, in a back door method the Crown Prosecutor was introducing into this case something which could only be described as horrendous the fact that the child would make an allegation of sexual impropriety against his mother. He submitted that this had been done for the purpose of smearing the accused by innuendo.

.CATT01/08/1991 P-2879 ACCUSED XX

01 Aug 1991

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IN THE ABSENCE OF THE JURY

CROWN PROSECUTOR: I refer to page 123 of the evidence of Barry Catt.

.CATT01/08/1991 P-2920 ACCUSED XX

O'LOUGHLIN: I make a further application for a discharge of the jury in this matter.
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02 Aug 1991

Mr O'Loughlin informed her Honour that he did not wish her to say anything to the jury giving Mr O'Loughlin any consideration because at this stage her Honour could not do anything to assist him to rectify the damage done by the Crown. Her Honour stated that she will say, as far as she is

concerned the defence will be accommodated as much as possible. Her Honour stated that the trial has now gone for 12 weeks and to discharge the jury on the basis of something like this would be unthinkable.)

(Mr O'Loughlin stated that he believed it was too late for this situation to be rectified and he was concerned about justice to his client. He stated it was his obligation that his client had a fair trial and in his opinion this type of conduct by the Crown has deprived her of a fair trial and could not see how anything could be done at this stage.) (Further discussion ensued.) **(R.C. Trial, p.2950)**

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06 Aug 1991

IN THE ABSENCE OF THE JURY:

(Crown Prosecutor indicated that when he asked the question, he had instructions relating to a professor who he had been informed had been in the trial of Barry Catt when the children gave certain evidence. He stated that it appeared that his instructions in that particular regard were not accurate.)

(Mr O'Loughlin made an application for a discharge of the jury.)

(Mr O'Loughlin asked her Honour to inform the jury that the Crown had asked the question without instructions to mislead the jury and smear the accused.) **(R.C. Trial, p.3070)**

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.21 Aug 1991

Then, the following page, your Honour, and this is fairly and squarely put at page 3070, "I suggest to you that as far as the children are concerned, that you suggested to them what they should tell people when it comes to sexual complaints". There he is, coupled with Barry Catt's manipulation - that is the Crown case - you manipulated the children, told them to make false case histories, you hypnotised them and that is what it has done.

In my submission the only way to cure this is, one, discharge the jury or allow me to call evidence to show what sort of proposition that is, it is not of any scientific, factual situation at all in this case.

HER HONOUR: Mr Crown, I certainly did allow it.

CROWN PROSECUTOR: I am certainly entitled to do it. It was objected to in terms of evidence in chief in the Crown case and I was certainly entitled to put that and that information was fully available to my learned friend, it came out of Barry Catt's trial, was part of the statement made by Barry Catt in his trial

21 Aug 1991

so my learned friend was on notice of that particular matter, your Honour, in terms of what Barry Catt said in his trial and he made a specific reference to that particular issue, your Honour, and my friend was on notice of that before he called the witness and he further was on notice of it in the Crown case prior to --

HER HONOUR: Does a suggestion which is put in cross-examination in the defence case and which is denied --

CROWN PROSECUTOR: That is not a matter in terms of evidence, your Honour.

HER HONOUR: On an issue.

CROWN PROSECUTOR: Number one, is it an issue. The Crown has said it is not an issue but the Crown equally says the accused, having made - the children, having made certain statements --

HER HONOUR: How does it go to credibility?

CROWN PROSECUTOR: How does it go to an issue?

HER HONOUR: It has to go to one or the other?

CROWN PROSECUTOR: Yes, your Honour.

HER HONOUR: If it is not an issue, it is credibility.

CROWN PROSECUTOR: Yes, your Honour.

HER HONOUR: How does it go to credibility?

CROWN PROSECUTOR: How does it go to an issue?

HER HONOUR: It still has to be one or the other. If you say it does not go to an issue, then it has to go to credit.

CROWN PROSECUTOR: It goes to the credit that touches the evidence of the children.

HER HONOUR: She cannot be asked that.

CROWN PROSECUTOR: No. She can be asked if she did something, if she denies it, that is the end of that matter.

HER HONOUR: Yes, but --

CROWN PROSECUTOR: And the Crown certainly could not have called evidence of hypnosis in the Crown case. The Crown had no basis for calling evidence such as that.

HER HONOUR: You are saying it goes only to credibility. Mr O'Loughlin told me this, as you can tell I am really very severely troubled by this evidence --

O'LOUGHLIN: So am I.

HER HONOUR: It is a most significant matter of evidence that has arisen in this trial as far as I am concerned. Now, is it a
.21/08/1991 P-3653
matter which is put in cross-examination to a defence witness and denied by that witness, so there is no actual evidence of it, and I would have to tell the jury that, that there is no evidence of it, does that entitle the defence to reinforce a denial of a matter only if it goes to an issue. If it goes to credibility the answer must be no. If it goes to an issue, the answer has to be yes and so it really gets back to the question of whether this line of questioning went to an issue.

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21 Aug 1991

(Mr O'Loughlin foreshadowed if her Honour ruled against him in not allowing the evidence, he would be asking for a discharge of the jury on the basis that he is not in a position to rebut the evidence of manipulation. Her Honour stated that he had rebutted it by calling the children and therefore the application would be rejected.)
(Her Honour deferred judgment until tomorrow morning.)
(R.C. Trial, p.3657)

22 Aug 1991

O'LOUGHLIN: What I am saying is this. This is why I am asking for a discharge because I say that the case is now so clouded --
HER HONOUR: You are changing your tack?

O'LOUGHLIN: I am not, because what I am saying is, I cannot present a fair balanced case to the jury in the way the Crown has presented this case.

HER HONOUR: Upon what basis do you say you should get a discharge?

O'LOUGHLIN: I say on the basis of this, the Crown case has been put on the basis, inter alia, by the accused influencing, manipulating, brainwashing, whatever, hypnotising the children to make false allegations against Barry Catt; that is one of the factors that he led evidence - the only evidence that he led it on is, by saying, No 1 Barry Catt has told the truth; No 2 the children have lied, because he has put that the children --

(R.C. Trial, p.3679)

IN THE PRESENCE OF ELEVEN JURORS

23 Aug 1991

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(Mr O'Loughlin renewed his application that the jury be discharged and also asked his Honour to direct the jury that there was no evidence to substantiate any suggestion that the accused had manipulated the children, that there was absolutely no evidence and that they should take that into consideration in their deliberations. (R.C. Trial, p.3706)
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11 Sept 1991

COUNT 5: Guilty in accordance with option number 5. Jane Mathews gave the jury five options on which to find Roseanne Catt guilty. The jury came back with the weakest of the five. Pg 220 Summing Up. (R.C. Trial, p.SU p. 220)

11 Sept 1991

HER HONOUR: Just to make it clear, when you say the fifth option that is that she attempted to cause Barry Catt to take a noxious thing with intent to injure him?

FOREMAN: That is correct, your Honour.

(Her Honour formally discharged the jury and thanked them for their attentiveness to this long trial.)

(Her Honour formally excused the jury from any further jury service for life if at any time they are called up and do not wish to serve.)

(For proceedings after conviction see separate transcript.) (R.C. Trial, p.SU p. 220) .11/09/1991 P-220

- 18 Jan 1991 Les O'Brien Committal in Taree Local Court before Magistrate G P O'Keeffe. The witnesses at this one day committal were Barry Catt, Bruce Walsh Peter Thomas, Carl Paget, Adrian Newell. The police who signed statements in this matter never appeared to give evidence. This was the most planned of the conspiracies. Les O'Brien was illiterate. It was thrown out at the Roseanne Catt Committal and resurrected by Jane Mathews at the Roseanne Catt Trial.
- Jan 1991 Thomas resigns from police-force **(R.C. Trial, p. 9 / 1778)**.
- Apr 1991 Judge Jane Matthews resurrected the charge with Les O'Brien and re named it a suggestion to murder.
- 7 May 1991 Roseanne Catt's Court case begins Darlinghurst Supreme Court **(R.C. Trial, p. 1)**.
- 8 May 1991 Under oath it was put to Peter Thomas:
O'LOUGHLIN: Q. You went to the Supreme Court at Taree to give evidence on behalf of Barry Catt to blacken the character and reputation of Roseanne Catt, the accused. Isn't that right? (No answer).
Q. You do not have to smile --
OBJECTION
(Her Honour stated that this witness' evidence given in the trial at Taree should be tendered. The Crown Prosecutor undertook to obtain a copy of the witness' evidence and Mr O'Loughlin deferred his cross-examination on this aspect until he had time to peruse the transcript.)
(R.C. Trial, p. 16)
- 13 May 1991 Roseanne Catt Trial: Judge Matthews agreed the Crown case was opened with 'evil and manipulative'p.98 There was no evidence to back up this claim.
- 15 May 1991 (Mr O'Loughlin made application for a discharge of the jury due to an unresponsive answer by the witness in relation to the mention of a rifle together with ammunition in the boot of the accused's car. He stated that it introduces a new matter and is highly prejudicial to the accused..**(R.C.Trial, p.179B)**)

- 1 Aug 1991 O'Loughlin tried to have the jury dismissed re the introduction by the Crown of a statement of Tony Catt making a false sexual assault allegations against his mother Lorraine (**R.C. Trial, p. 2879**).
- 1 Aug 1991 The Crown shows to the jury on video the arrest of Roseanne Catt. This was Exhibit 18 (**R.C. Trial, p. 2880**). NOTE: On this day Roseanne Catt gave evidence at the Barry Catt Committal, Taree Local Court. After her Trial that evidence, 10 pages, went missing.
- 6 Aug 1991 The prosecutor continued to use 'the back door' to get in defamatory material (**R.C. Trial, p. 3047**).
- 13 Aug 1991 Thomas was named by a Crown witness as accepting a bribe a \$30,000.00 bribe (**R.C. Trial, p. 3346**).
- 13 Aug 1991 Errol Taylor revealed Patrick Power was the Crown Prosecutor at the above trial (**R.C. Trial, p. 3345**). Patrick Power responded falsely denying this accusation (**R.C. Trial, p. 3345**).
- 13 Aug. 1991 Chris Warn FAC's said Thomas has been working on Rose's case for four and a half months **Vol 9 p 3372**. said again in **Vol 10 p 3388** Thomas said that children would be changing their statements **Vol 10 p 3392**. she also said was supportive of Barry Catt **Vol 9 p 3370-3371**. There is collusion between Peter Thomas and Adrian Newell **Vol 9 p 3372**
- 14 Aug 1991 Greg Baggs FAC's said at Roseanne's trial said Adrian Newell worked with Peter Thomas for nearly five months. **Vol 10 p3403** Greg Baggs also said Thomas said to him that Barry Catt will be out on a No Bill once the children are out of the situation, they will change their story if I am not mistaken. **Vol 10 p 3400**. children made crown witnesses by Thomas **Vol 10 p3404**. after three months it was obvious that they were not Crown witnesses so they then were placed with Roseanne.
- 21 Aug 1991 Barry Catt and the prosecutor consistently said Roseanne had manipulated the children (**R.C. Trial, p. 3649**).
- 21 Aug 1991 The Judge let this go on but the Crown could not back up the use of the term 'manipulate' (**R.C. Trial, p. 3651**).

- 21 Aug 1991 Roseanne Catt Trial: The judge agreed there was nothing to back this up and she allowed it. P 3651
- 21 Aug 1991 Judge Jane Mathews said: If there was to be an issue in this trial that she had put the kids up to make false allegations, then one would expect the Crown to have charged her with attempting to pervert the course of justice **(R.C. Trial, p. 3651)**.
- 21 Aug 1991 Judge Mathews says of the above: ‘I am severely troubled by this evidence’ **(R.C. Trial, p. 3653)**.
- 21/Aug 1991 Judge Jane Mathews: ‘I am very seriously...whether it went to an issue’ **(R.C. Trial, p. 3654)**.
- 21 Aug 1991 O’Loughlin says: ‘The Crown made it an issue’, ie the Accused manipulating the children **(R.C. Trial, p. 3654)**.
- 21 Aug 1991 Her Honour: ‘This is really a serious problem’ **(R.C. Trial, p. 3654)**.
- 22 Aug 1991 Roseanne Catt Trial: Judge Mathews will not allow evidence in support of the children telling the truth **(R.C. Trial, p.3674)**
- 22 Aug 1991 The Crown case is the Accused influenced the children to make false allegations against Barry Catt **(R.C. Trial, p.3678)**
- 22 Aug 1991 O’Loughlin says the Crown had nothing to back up what the claims they were making **(R.C. Trial, p.3678)**
- 22 Aug 1991 O’Loughlin says the children are the ‘linchpin’ in this matter **(R.C. Trial, p.3678)**
- 22 Aug 1991 O’Loughlin says because of the Crown he cannot present a fair and balanced case **(R.C. Trial, p.3679)**
- 22 Aug 1991 Judge Mathews refuses to allow evidence to support the fact the children named multiple abusers **(R.C. Trial, p.3680)**.
- 22 Aug 1991 Justice Matthews says it is not relevant whether or not the children have been sexually abused p.3681

- 22 Aug 1991 O'Loughlin refers to the Crown taking the children to interview then not calling them p.3681
- 23 Aug 1991 (Mr O'Loughlin renewed his application that the jury be discharged and also asked his Honour to direct the jury that there was no evidence to substantiate any suggestion that the accused had manipulated the children, that there was absolutely no evidence and that they should take that into consideration in their deliberations. **(R.C. Trial, p. 3706).**)
- 23 Aug 1991 Michael Jones solicitor states Marie Whalen (Mrs A) came to him frightened and reveals Thomas tactics of intimidation and his obsessions with guns. Vol 11 p3728-3732.
- 9 Sept 1991 Jury hands down a verdict of guilty in eight of nine charges. Roseanne Catt taken to Mulawa where Marie Whalen was incarcerated. In May 1995 Roseanne Catt went to the new women's jail at Emu Plains.
- 13 Sept 1991 Article: Illawarra Mercury editorial (Peter Cullen) prophetic ring! **(Doc 2384)**
- 18 Oct 1991 Roseanne sentenced to 12 years 3 months. Non-parole period 10 years 3 months.
- 18 Oct 1991 Her Honour said how an immediate bond was formed between Roseanne and the Catt children. Indeed the 3 older children gave evidence on her behalf during the trial. VOL 11 p. 3
- 16 Aug 1992 Newspaper article written by Chris Murphy about Thomas about Roseanne – one year after incarceration **(Doc. 872/881).**
- 17 Mar 1993 The DPP writes to Sharon Catt to take fresh statements for the purpose of the Appeal (1869).
- 17/ Mar 1993 The DPP writes to Christopher Catt to take fresh statements for the Appeal (1869).
- 17 Mar 1993 The DPP writes to Julie Catt to take fresh statements for the purpose of the Appeal (1869)
- 17 Mar 1993 The DPP instructs Frank Burgess on the statements to be taken for the purpose of the Appeal (1869)

- 22 Mar /1993 Fax Cover Sheet to Patrick Power re Sharon Catt's statement 'as discussed' (1869)
- 22 Mar 1993 On this day Sharon Catt made an affidavit just prior to Roseanne Catt's Appeal recanting all previous evidence (**Exhibit 28**).
- 25 Mar 1993 On this day, Christopher Catt having previously met with Patrick Power, DPP, a letter from the DPP which includes a statement made an affidavit just prior to Roseanne Catt's Appeal recanting all previous evidence . (**Doc 61/Exhibit 22**).
- 7 Apr 1993 Mr Hidden QC receives a letter from the DPP which includes a statement made by Christopher Catt in March, 1993 (**Doc 1276**)
- 19 Apr 1993 Peter Hidden presented the appeal of Roseanne Catt before Sheller, Grove and Sully in the Court of Criminal Appeal by referring to Barry Catt mistakenly as her dead husband (**Doc 1002**).
- 10 Jun 1993 Roseanne Catt's appeal against conviction and sentencing was dismissed by Sheller, Grove and Sully (**Doc 135**).
- 03Apr 1995 The DPP write to the police re the Catt sisters not wanting to give evidence at the P Bridge Trial (3094).
- 12 May 1995 Julie Catt makes a statement re not wanting to give evidence at the Peter Bridge Trial (5132).
- 12/05/1995 Sharon Catt makes a statement re not wanting to give evidence at the Peter Bridge Trial (5132)
- May 1995 Roseanne Catt went to Emu Plains, Lee Downes the Governor of the new Women's Gaol (**Doc 2006**).
- 1 Jun 1995 Peter Bridge, Roseanne's son, was found not guilty. Originally, Peter Bridge was charged by Peter Thomas with the same charges he put onto Roseanne Catt.
- 20 Aug 1997 Barry Catt appealed the Victims' Commission that he was not entitled to any compensation as he sustained no injuries that would affect his ability to work. This was supported by medical records (**Doc 126**).
- 16 Sept 1996 Barry Catt awarded statutory compensation of \$89,000.00
Facts on which the award of compensation was based

2/5/1988; 12/3/1989; 5/5/1989.

- 19 Jan 1999 Roseanne Catt working in the garden at Emu Plains was stung by an insect and became gravely ill (**Doc 2076**).
- 20 Jan 1999 9.50 pm Roseanne Catt collapses on the floor of her cell and is taken to Nepean Hospital. Treated wrongly for suspected overdose (**Doc 2076**).
- 6 Jul 1999 Needle stick injury while picking up leaves. Roseanne taken to Nepean Hospital (**Doc 2076**).
- 3 Sept 1999 Roseanne Catt is 'tipped back to Mulawa' (**Doc 2004**).