

BSkyB  
J H Ryley  
First  
19 April 2012  
Exhibits JHR1-2

**IN THE LEVESON INQUIRY INTO THE CULTURE, PRACTICES AND  
ETHICS OF THE PRESS**

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**EXHIBIT JHR1**

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This is the exhibit JHR1 referred to in the first witness statement of John Hamilton Ryley dated 19 April 2012.



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Kim Brudenell  
Solicitor to the Leveson Inquiry  
c/o Royal Courts of Justice  
Strand  
London  
WC2A 2LL

4 April 2011

By email only

Dear Ms Brudenell

*The Leveson Inquiry (the "Inquiry") into the culture, practices and ethics of the press: Notice under section 21(2) of the Inquiries Act 2005 dated 11 August 2011 (the "Notice")*

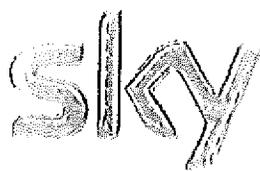
I refer to Sky News' letter of 16 September 2011 to the Inquiry, sent in response to the Notice.

In our response, we set out comprehensive answers to the questions put to us by the Inquiry in the Notice. We were asked, amongst other things, to provide any current or past training materials, guidance, practices, codes of practice, codes of conduct, handbooks or policies on or bearing upon, amongst other things, the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 ("RIPA 2000"). We informed the Inquiry that Sky News had no written guidance and also said that *"The Sky News editorial and reporting staff to whom we have spoken have never intercepted communications and any proposal to do so would not be countenanced."*

At the time of responding to the Notice we were also aware of two separate stories which were outside the scope of the questions in the Notice. These stories involved a journalist potentially committing offences under the Computer Misuse Act 1990 by accessing emails of individuals suspected in criminal activity. No material in connection with either incident was directly relevant to the Notice.

As part of our ongoing commitment to acting responsibly and maintaining rigorous editorial practices within Sky News, we have, since responding to the Notice:





- o commissioned, under the auspices of the Audit Committee of the BSkyB Board, an external review of email records at Sky News, which has found no evidence of wrongdoing or cause for concern;
- o undertaken a comprehensive internal investigation into the two stories referred to above, including in relation to the process by which the accessing of emails was determined to be justified by reference to the public interest. We set out in the attached Annex details of the facts of each case. As set out in the Annex we remain satisfied that the editorial decisions taken were justified in the public interest.

However, following this investigation, supplemental information relating to both stories has recently come to light which bears upon the answer we provided regarding RIPA 2000, in particular that some of the emails accessed by the Journalist in both cases had not been read by their intended recipient prior to the Journalist accessing them himself (and thus involved potential offences under RIPA 2000 as well as under the Computer Misuse Act 1990).

We are writing to you to update our letter of 16 September 2011 in the light of this development.

We should emphasise that these two incidents are the only incidents of potential breaches of RIPA 2000 of which Sky News editorial staff, lawyers and Journalists to whom we have spoken are aware, and neither we nor they are aware of any incidents at all involving telephone hacking.

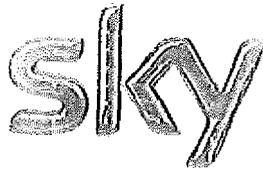
We remain satisfied that the editorial decisions taken in each case were justified in the public interest. Nevertheless, should the Inquiry have any questions in relation to the above, it should feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Hibbert

Senior Legal Advisor, Legal and Business Affairs





## Annex

### Darwin

In 2008, Sky News provided the Cleveland Police with emails that helped them to successfully prosecute Anne Darwin. The emails in question had been obtained from John Darwin's email account. The journalist involved, Sky News' North of England Correspondent, had been following the Darwin story from its beginning. After John pleaded guilty to deception but before Anne's trial, the journalist ascertained from internet searches that John Darwin had assumed the identity of a childhood friend, John Jones, and that a Yahoo email account existed in that name. The journalist knew that Yahoo email accounts had weak security, and he sought, and obtained, permission from the then Managing Editor of Sky News to access the email accounts. The Managing Editor agreed on the basis that the investigation was in the public interest. After the journalist gained access, he obtained and provided a number of emails, which he believed would assist Anne Darwin's prosecution, to the police. Sky News made clear in its coverage of Anne Darwin's conviction in summer 2008 that it had supplied emails passing between the Darwins to the police.

### Case B

In a separate incident some eighteen months later, the same journalist was following a story involving a child protection case. He believed that the children concerned were at severe risk of abuse at the hands of a suspected paedophile and his wife, and that there may have been a failure by the relevant authorities in attempting to ensure their welfare. Again, the journalist sought permission from the then Managing Editor to access the email account of the suspected paedophile's wife, which he located through internet searches in the same way as in the Darwin case. As in the Darwin case, he was given permission on public interest grounds. However, the information obtained from the activity was never published or broadcast.



**Chronology – Darwins**

- March 2002 John Darwin disappears off coast of Hartlepool.
- December 2007 Darwin walks into police station claiming to have no memory of previous 5 years. He is arrested around a week later. Gerard Tubb (Sky News North of England Correspondent) carries out a number of exclusive reports into the story. Police release information about Darwin using John Jones pseudonym. Tubb establishes e-mail address used by Darwin under the Jones pseudonym.
- March 2008 John Darwin pleads guilty to numerous counts of deception. Anne Darwin pleads not guilty.
- 12 May 2008 Tubb and Simon Cole, then Deputy Head and Managing Editor of Sky News, have discussion about the Darwin e-mail accounts and their potential to assist with Anne Darwin prosecution. Cole authorises access to the accounts on the basis that any relevant information may assist the police.
- 14 May 2008 Email between Tubb and Cole (page 6 of JHR1) in which Tubb says that this time in a year the Darwins will have been brought to justice.
- Early June 2008 Tubb's sources make clear to him that the prosecution will not be accessing the Darwins' e-mail accounts.
- 13 June 2008 Tubb accesses John Jones e-mail account for the first time. He speaks to Cole and is authorised to access related accounts of Anne and John Darwin revealed by e-mails in the first account.
- 18-19 June 2008 Further e-mails between Cole and Tubb (pages 7-8 of JHR1) – the latter indicating that he has accessed a number of e-mail accounts.
- 23 June 2008 Meeting between Cole, Tubb and Mark Evans, Head of Home News at Sky News. Evans is appraised for the first time of the activities. It is agreed that the information located should be passed to the police, and that Tubb should first put the e-mails into a database and analyse them.
- 27 June 2008 Tubb accesses remaining Anne Darwin e-mail account. He updates Cole and Evans with his findings by e-mail (page 10 of JHR1). Cole refers to John Ryley, Head of News at Sky News, wanting an update on the story.
- 30 June 2008 Tubb asks Cole by e-mail if Ryley has been briefed yet (page 11 of JHR1).
- 1 July 2008 Ryley is briefed by Tubb and Evans and receives an e-mail summary of the background on the same day (page 12 of JHR1).

9 July 2008 Evans and BSKyB lawyer (Tom Turton) meet with Cleveland Police to hand them select e-mails and details of log-ins and passwords for the e-mail accounts.

14 July 2008 Trial starts.

23 July 2008 Anne Darwin convicted. Sky News runs its story exposing its work in obtaining e-mails passing between the Darwins. Cleveland Police acknowledge the "pivotal role" played by Sky News in the conviction of Anne Darwin.

August/September Tubb obtains permission from Cole to access previously unaccessed e-mail account of John Darwin with a view to obtaining information which might help ascertain where funds from fraud had been placed. On 11 September accesses it but discovers it contains nothing (pages 15-16 of JHR1).

1-5 January 2009 Tubb and Mark Evans exchange e-mails on accessing an e-mail account connected to John Darwin and on retaining a journalist to check Panamanian immigration records (page 17-18 of JHR1).

c. January 2009 Tubb ceases his searches through the Darwins' e-mail accounts for information relating to any funds that might not have been traced.

February 2009 Tubb's work nominated for Royal Television Society Scoop of The Year.

April 2009 Tubb's work nominated for a BAFTA.

Print

[Redacted]

Subject: Re: Gerard Tubb PDP

From: Gerard Tubb [Redacted]

To: Simon.Cole [Redacted]

Date: Wednesday, 14 May 2008, 7:24

Thanks Simon - looks good to me. And thanks for the meal on Monday, it was a good evening out. Next year we can all celebrate being awarded the Queen's Police Medal for bringing the Darwins to justice ...

"Cole, Simon" <Simon.Cole@[Redacted]> wrote:

Here is the written up form - if you like it do nothing. If you disagree then get in touch.  
Enjoyed seeing you all yday - it was fun.

Keep in touch re [Redacted]

Coley

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Gerard Tubb  
North of England Correspondent  
Sky News  
[Redacted]

Sent from Yahoo! Mail.  
A Smarter Email.

6

Print

[Redacted]

**Subject:** Re: Darwin

**From:** Gerard Tubb [Redacted]

**To:** Simon.Cole [Redacted]

**Date:** Thursday, 19 June 2008, 13:44

Excellent. I've got enough to make her put her hands up for sure.

Sent from my BlackBerry® wireless device

---

**From:** "Cole, Simon" <Simon.Cole@[Redacted]>  
**Date:** Thu, 19 Jun 2008 13:40:36 +0100  
**To:** Tubb, Gerard <gtubb@[Redacted]>  
**Subject:** RE: Darwin

Maude will cover you on Monday – let's meet for chat with Mark and myself then.

---

**From:** Tubb, Gerard  
**Sent:** 19 June 2008 10:54  
**To:** Cole, Simon  
**Subject:** Re: Darwin

Can't make meeting this afternoon - Newsdesk V short in North so I'm heading to Manchester now for an interview. Do you want to meet on Monday when I'm back from Gibraltar ? Trouble is, that would mean me not being up here, obviously.

Gerard

----- Original Message -----  
**From:** "Cole, Simon" <Simon.Cole@[Redacted]>  
**To:** " Tubb, Gerard " <[Redacted]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 June, 2008 9:09:26 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Darwin

I can see you at 1700 for half an hour – is that enough?

---

**From:** Tubb, Gerard  
**Sent:** 19 June 2008 08:58  
**To:** Cole, Simon

7

16/04/2012 20:36

MOD100062480

Print

**Subject:** Re: Darwin

Simon

Are you around at 4 or 5 tonight? I'm tracing the IP addresses of the emails to and from Panama - to show who was where and when - it takes time.

have told me the info I have (which they think I am still looking for) is very important

I've also found 5 voicemail messages from her trying to contact him last October - "Where are you? I've been ringing and ringing ...". She sounds a right drip.

Gerard

----- Original Message -----

**From:** "Cole, Simon" <Simon.Cole@>  
**To:** "Tubb, Gerard" <>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 June, 2008 7:57:50 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Darwin

I'm here

---

**From:** Tubb, Gerard  
**Sent:** 18 June 2008 15:49  
**To:** Cole, Simon  
**Subject:** Darwin

Hi Simon

I can't get into two remaining email accounts (as yet) - it could take a few days. I've got to come down tomorrow for an early flight on Friday to Gibraltar for the doco filming. Shall I call in to show you what I've got so far?

Gerard

8

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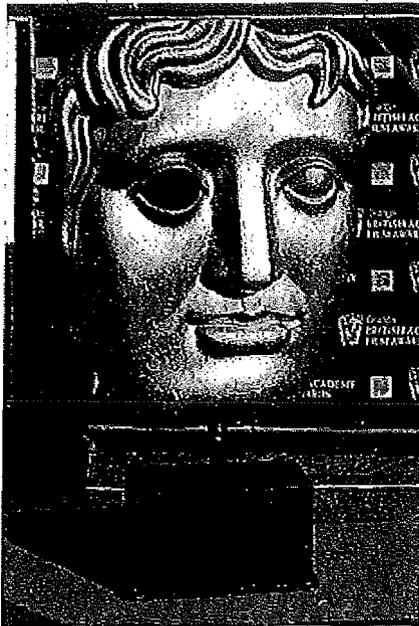
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### Hull drama graduate nominated for BAFTA award

27 April 2009

Sky News correspondent Gerard Tubb was nominated for a BAFTA Award at the recent ceremony, in recognition of his exclusive coverage of the back-from-the-dead canoeist story in which John and Anne Darwin were found guilty of fraud.



Gerard, who studied drama at the University of Hull, uncovered evidence such as emails, voice mails, photographs and even a spreadsheet put together by John Darwin that detailed the couple's plans.

Anne Darwin had claimed that her husband had forced her to take part in the insurance scam, but the evidence uncovered by Gerard Tubb helped to convict her.

Detective Inspector Andy Greenwood of Cleveland Police said that the compelling evidence, including a photograph of the couple together in Panama, was "pivotal to the case".

The couple claimed more than £250,000 in insurance payments and pension payouts after pretending Mr Darwin had died at sea as part of a plot to avoid bankruptcy. Mr Darwin had travelled to the Central American country under a new identity and his wife joined him in October last year.

On being nominated for a prestigious BAFTA Award, Gerard Tubb said, "It is a huge honour to be nominated and recognised by the Academy for this piece of investigative journalism. The case really was a fascinating one to cover and it was immensely satisfying to uncover conclusive evidence that led to the sentencing of the Darwins."

Gerard has also been short-listed for the Royal Television Society Scoop of the Year for the canoe man story. He has previously investigated topics such as illegal trading and animal cruelty in the food industry, leading, respectively, to the retirement of a government minister and a change in industry regulations. His work has also earned him a nomination for a New York Festivals Award.

Page last updated by Sophie Ottaway on 04/02/2010



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#### Notes to editors

For press enquiries and for a copy of the paper, please contact [Claire Mulley](#) on 01482 466943 or 07809 585965.

Gerard Tubb graduated with a BA (Hons) Drama from the University of Hull, he was taught by the late Anthony Mighella.

For more information on the John Darwin case visit [the Sky news website](#).

Image courtesy of [Chloe](#) from Reading, England.

Print

**Subject:** RE: Darwin update – almost done

**From:** Cole, Simon (Simon.Cole@ [redacted])

**To:** gtubb@[redacted] mark.evans@[redacted] [redacted]

**Date:** Friday, 27 June 2008, 9:27

Excellent – Ryley is keen for an update so when all the secret squirreling is complete is the time to brief him.

---

**From:** Tubb, Gerard  
**Sent:** 27 June 2008 09:26  
**To:** Cole, Simon; Evans, Mark; [redacted]  
**Subject:** Darwin update - almost done

I've got into the last of the email accounts - we now have most of her correspondence with her kids and friends - up to and after he turned up here. None of them knew anything.

I've found two good pictures of her in Panama and Costa Rica, and details of their last romantic holiday together in Costa Rica just before he came back (including hotel, route taken and holiday pictures)

I'll send a precis of everything we have by the end of today. Mark Evans is trying to arrange a meeting to discuss legal way forward for Tuesday July 1.

Gerard

Gerard Tubb  
North of England Correspondent  
Sky News  
[redacted]

Print



Subject: Re: darwin

From: Gerard Tubb ( [redacted] )

To: Simon.Cole ( [redacted] )

Date: Monday, 30 June 2008, 16:26

thanks. brevity will be my watchword

Gerard Tubb  
North of England Correspondent  
Sky News  
[redacted]

----- Original Message -----

From: "Cole, Simon" <Simon.Cole [redacted]>  
To: "Tubb, Gerard" < [redacted]>  
Sent: Monday, 30 June, 2008 4:03:52 PM  
Subject: RE: darwin

No you're briefing him tomorrow with Mark. He's been told you've nailed the missus and cleared the boys. Keep the presentation brief as he has a low boredom threshold. He's very keen as he loves original journalism. I've given you a good springboard.

Good luck

Coley

---

**From:** Tubb, Gerard  
**Sent:** 30 June 2008 15:52  
**To:** Cole, Simon  
**Subject:** darwin

Hi. Did you get a chance to brief John Ryley about what I've uncovered? If so, how were his enthusiasm levels? Gerard

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11

[Redacted]

**From:**  
**Sent:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:**

[Redacted]

---

**From:** Evans, Mark  
**Sent:** 01 July 2008 18:20  
**To:** Ryley, John  
**Subject:** Tubb and canoe man

John,

Gerard Tubb has uncovered startling and exclusive evidence in his investigation into the John and Anne Darwin backgrounder.

He has evidence that the two were colluding, that her defence of acting under coercion is a sham and that further financial crime appears to have been committed. This evidence is not known to the police.

It was obtained by Gerard hacking an email account and there is a possibility that this may have contravened the law.

[Redacted]

I will, of course, let you have that advice in full when it appears to aid your decision on whether to proceed.

Let me know if I can help further,

Mark

Mark Evans | Head of Home News

[Redacted]

Sky News | Unit 1 | Grant Way | Isleworth | London | TW7 5QD

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## Why Darwin Came Back From Dead

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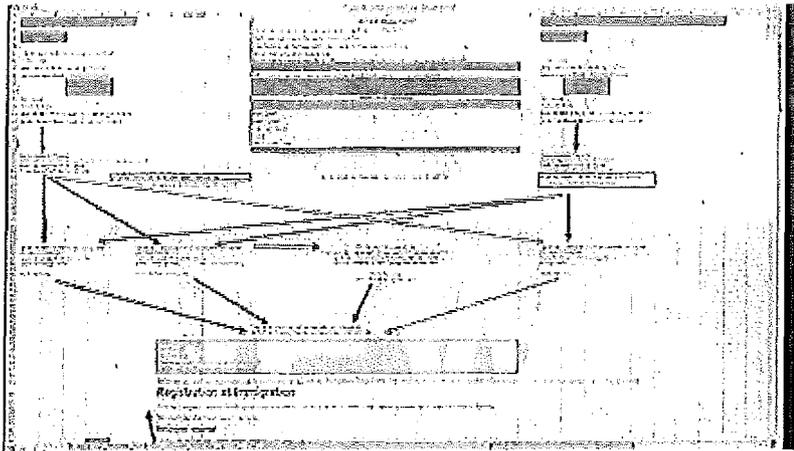
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5:21pm UK, Monday July 21, 2008

Gerard Tubb, North of England correspondent

**Sky News has uncovered documentary evidence which demonstrates conclusively why John Darwin came back to Britain.**



Revealed: John and Anne Darwin's master plan

We discovered an email from John to Anne dated 31 May 2007 in which he tells her that planned changes to visa regulations will prevent him from continuing to live in Panama with a tourist visa.

John researched the requirements for an 'investors' visa and discovered you need \$200,000 in a 'term deposit' account in Panama.

On 14 June he emailed Anne to say their identities would have to be verified by the police in Britain. He knew his John Jones alias would not pass such close scrutiny.

In an email exchange with a Panama City lawyer he discovered the police check is valid for six months. By early July they had agreed his best option was to turn John Jones back into John Darwin.

Anne was inviting her friends and her sons to stay with her once she had built a house on her new land. She knew that by the time visitors arrived she would have been 'reunited' with John.

Preparing for his return as John Darwin, John Jones went to the Banco General in Panama City at the end of August to enquire about the paperwork required to open an account as a married couple.

By September 28 they had finalised the master plan. It shows how she will take her police check and their marriage certificate to Panama and then stay there while he returns to England.

He thought he could convince Cleveland Police that he had lost his memory and rejoin her by April 2008 with his new passport, police check and driving licence.

Anne had already opened the required term deposit account and they planned to apply for resident visas as a married couple.

Her final email - sent to him on November 30 and handed to the police by Sky News - was not, as was suggested in court, evidence of a "massive row". Her phrase "don't leave me" is a favourite saying of the couple, being used by John on two other occasions in light-hearted correspondence.

John Darwin used his skills as a former maths teacher to prepare detailed accounts which have been exclusively obtained by Sky News. They prove that the Darwins planned to live off the \$539,000 located by the police in Panamanian bank accounts.

This money came from the sale of number 3, The Cliff, Seaton Carew. The proceeds from the sale of number 4, The Cliff, and from pension payouts had already been spent on property and land in Panama.

If they intended to pay back the money obtained from the fraud - as Anne claimed in court - there must be more money in bank accounts that have not been disclosed.

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59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68

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[Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Step closer to the next Darwin exclusive

**From:** Cole, Simon (Simon.Cole [Redacted])

**To:** gtubb [Redacted]

**Date:** Thursday, 4 September 2008, 15:07

Good luck

---

**From:** Tubb, Gerard  
**Sent:** 04 September 2008 12:26  
**To:** Cole, Simon  
**Subject:** Step closer to the next Darwin exclusive

Thought you might like to know we're a significant step closer to discovering the purpose of Darwin's secret alias - after two months of trying I've got through to the final security barrier on his 'Peter Fenwick' email account. The cops say they 'don't have the resources' to investigate it - despite thinking he might have used it to hide cash. I'll keep you posted ...

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15

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Subject: RE: Peter Fenwick aka John Darwin

From: Cole, Simon (Simon.Cole@)

To: gtubb@

Date: Thursday, 11 September 2008, 7:34

Bad luck Inspector

---

**From:** Tubb, Gerard  
**Sent:** 11 September 2008 07:32  
**To:** Cole, Simon  
**Subject:** Peter Fenwick aka John Darwin

After trying every day since his trial, I've finally hacked Darwin 's secret ID. Unfortunately the emails have all been wiped. The contacts list contains just Anne and a Panama lawyer. Oh well ...

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16

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[Redacted]

Subject: RE: Canoe Man's son

From: Evans, Mark [Redacted]

To: gtubb@[Redacted]

Date: Monday, 5 January 2009, 8:33

Shall we have a conference call with the lawyer alongside me?

Just to make sure we're doing everything by the book?

A stitch in timer and all that.

Happy new year,

Mark

---

From: Tubb, Gerard  
Sent: 01 January 2009 11:53  
To: Evans, Mark  
Subject: Canoe [Redacted]

Mark

As discussed, I'm planning to get a private eye in Panama to surreptitiously check immigration records for [Redacted] after discovering that [Redacted] has used that name. We used him to check immigration records last year for \$500.

[Redacted] was the one who acted most strangely following [Redacted] reappearance on the Saturday – starting a new job on the Monday morning as normal and briefly vanishing a few days later.

I've accessed an email account on a Russian server which [Redacted] has used and which was set up in a very similar way to [Redacted] bogus 'John Jones' account: [Redacted]

[Redacted] In [Redacted] case the account was set up using the [Redacted]

17

Print

<http://uk.mg40.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=4g5kpg41561s2>

name [redacted] - the only person born in the UK in [redacted] with that name died in the same year. I have no evidence that he passed himself off as [redacted] but the immigration check might give it to us.

I have also found a database that appears to show that [redacted] was playing an online fantasy roleplay game with [redacted] in 2005. I'll keep you posted.

Gerard Tubb  
North of England Correspondent  
Sky News

[redacted]

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**Chronology – Smiths**

November 2007 Martin Smith arrested on suspicion of child sex offences.

7 December 2007 Smith and his wife Lianne Smith flee to Spain after Social Services issue child protection proceedings over their three year old daughter.

October 2008 Lianne Smith sets up nursery in Barcelona.

June 2009 The couple have a son.

8 May 2010 Martin Smith is arrested and extradited.

15 May 2010 Lianne Smith takes the two children from their Barcelona home to hotel in Lloret de Mar.

8-18 May 2010 (precise date unknown) Lianne Smith e-mails several media organisations saying that she is struggling to cope with two children on her own and seeking help.

18 May 2010 Bodies of two children discovered in hotel; Lianne Smith confesses to their murder.

19 May 2010 Martin Smith is charged at Cumbria Magistrates' Court – Gerard Tubb is assigned to cover story.

19-23 May 2010 Tubb researches story, discovers factors which lead him to believe failings of UK social services. Tubb discovers e-mail account used by Lianne Smith via the name of her Barcelona nursery. Tubb discusses background to story with Simon Cole and seeks and obtains permission to access the e-mail account (page 20 of JHR1).

June 2010 Tubb accesses Lianne Smith e-mail account. On 10 June 2010, Tubb reports discoveries to Cole in a meeting. Cole orally authorises access to further e-mail accounts.

December 2010 Tubb does not pursue story in earnest until December because of other commitments and pending Martin Smith trial. He then accesses further Smith e-mail accounts which show that Lianne Smith was not living a secret life in Barcelona. He sends Cole various e-mails updating him between 15 December 2010 and 4 January 2011 (pages 22-25 of JHR1). On 15 December 2010 Martin Smith was found guilty of numerous charges of child sex offences and sentencing was scheduled for 11 March 2011.

11 January 2011 Tubb e-mails Cole to ask whether they should run stories based on the information Sky News obtained (page 26 of JHR1). Mark Evans and Simon Cole decide not to do so. Tubb is orally instructed not to access further e-mail accounts.

Print



Subject: Re: Lianne Smith

From: Cole, Simon (Simon.Cole@ [redacted])

To: gtubb@[redacted]

Date: Sunday, 23 May 2010, 9:51

Yes please Gerard. Legitimate public interest enquiry. Good hunting.  
Sent from my iPhone

On 22 May 2010, at 20:46, "Gerard Tubb" <[redacted]> wrote:

- > I've found the email address Lianne Smith has been using in Barcelona since 2008 - [redacted] The nursery she set up in October 08 was called Early Performers.
- > It would be very interesting to know if she has emailed people in the UK over the past few years. If she's been turned her in, the kids would have been taken into care and would be alive now.
- > The security question she protected her account with is her favourite film. Should I try to guess it?
- > Gerard
- >
- >
- >
- >

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20

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Subject: LIANNE SMITH

From: Cole, Simon (Simon.Cole@sky.com)

To: mark.evans@sky.com; Adrian.Wells@sky.com; Clive.Kerfoot@sky.com; Robert.Cole@sky.com

Co: gtubb@sky.com

Date: Friday, 11 June 2010, 9:14

Please note that Gerard will be doing the backgrounder on the case of the above woman who murdered her two children in Spain . He has already discovered a load of information from the web, including the fact that she was asking for help on the web two weeks before she killed her kids. Remember the husband Martin Smith is in custody in UK on paedophile charges.

Gerard will prob require one short hit to southern Spain

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21

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[Redacted]

Subject: Re: Spanish kid murders

From: Gerard Tubb ([Redacted])

To: Simon.Cole ([Redacted])

Date: Wednesday, 15 December 2010, 10:07

see you then

----- Original Message -----

From: "Cole, Simon" <Simon.Cole ([Redacted])>

To: "Tubb, Gerard" <([Redacted])>

Sent: Wed, 15 December, 2010 9:52:20

Subject: RE: Spanish kid murders

I am here Thursday pm after 1400

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerard Tubb [mailto:([Redacted])]

Sent: 14 December 2010 14:50

To: Cole, Simon

Subject: Spanish kid murders

Hi Simon

Have you got 10 minutes free on Thursday pm or Friday for me to pop in to discuss the Lianne Smith story? I've turned up some more stuff

Gerard

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22

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Subject: corker of a tale

From: Gerard Tubb [redacted]

To: Simon.Cole [redacted]

Date: Sunday, 19 December 2010, 18:51

Simon

I have uncovered a cracking tale which should impact on the sentencing of Martin Smith in Manchester and the trial of Leanne Smith in Spain. I need to talk to you about how we break it while protecting the source.

Martin Smith was secretly a delusional conspiracy theorist, convinced that 90% of the world's population would starve or drown in 2010, while he would be going "home" to a "lovely new world."

Lianne Smith was, like him, a member of [redacted] website forum. She spoke to him in jail 3 days before she killed the kids - did she do it because she believed his claims that they were going to die horribly anyway?

I've found scores of Internet postings by him using the name "With God", posted between December 09 and April 2010, claiming that the truth about a coming catastrophe is being hidden: "the people who are planning for this will simply escape to their bunkers while the rest of us drown."

"I would not want to stay in that world ... I never wanted to come here in the first place so I look forward to finally being able to go home."

"I have children and I'm not looking forward to seeing them die of starvation because of WW3 started by America. I have had my life but theirs has just begun."

He was displaying physical symptoms of his paranoia: "Nausea, regular now like motion sickness. Vibration under my feet. High pitched sound like white noise. Sometimes when I'm asleep I can feel my whole body vibrating."

"Once you remove yourself from a fear mentality there is nothing that can hurt you anymore, not even a fear of death."

"I have come to the conclusion that it really doesn't matter to me what anyone on this forum or anywhere else thinks of me."

"If I discussed this outside I would be met with disbelief, scorn and ridicule."

There's loads more. Can we talk Monday?

Gerard

23

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Document ID: 07263464989  
From: Gerard Tubb <[redacted]>  
To: Cole, Simon  
</o=bskyb/ou=osterley/cn=recipients/cn=colesi>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Re: NEWS CORP COMMENT ON CABLE  
Date: Tue 21 Dec 2010 16:34:32 GMT  
Attachments:

---

Hi Simon. Did you get the email about Martin Smith's death fixation? Gerard

On 21 Dec 2010, at 15:55, "Cole, Simon" <Simon.Cole@[redacted]> wrote:

A News Corporation spokesman said:

"News Corporation is shocked and dismayed by reports of Mr Cable's comments. They raise serious questions about fairness and due process."

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Subject: RE: Happy New Year

From: Cole, Simon (  )

To: gtubb@

Date: Tuesday, 4 January 2011, 16:27

Really sorry not been in touch. Manic here today. Promise will call tomorrow.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerard Tubb [mailto:  ]

Sent: 04 January 2011 09:59

To: Cole, Simon

Subject: Happy New Year

Morning

Is there a good time to call you today re Spanish kids?

Gerard

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25

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[Redacted]

Subject: Fw: Martin Smith  
From: Gerard Tubb [Redacted]  
To: Simon.Cole [Redacted]  
Date: Tuesday, 11 January 2011, 8:08

Sentencing of Martin Smith not till March 11. Two months is a long time to sit on our two exclusives. Should we just run them on two consecutive days ASAP?

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Vale, Frances" <[Redacted]>  
To: "McCarthy, Mike" <[Redacted]> "Tubb, Gerard" <[Redacted]>  
Sent: Mon, 10 January, 2011 12:46:41  
Subject: Martin Smith

Date for sentencing – 11 March  
Either at Liverpool or Manchester , tbc nearer the time

Frances Vale  
[Redacted]



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26