

**Ian Sheppard: Diary Transcript** (this entry was reconstructed day between 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2006, when Nicola and Ian recalled about Graham's birthday card comments, and 17<sup>th</sup> March 2007, when Margaret and her solicitor revealed their 'story' that attempted to place Graham Sheppard with Margaret all day on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2004).

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**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024.**

*Nicola went to Weybridge in the morning to get pyjamas for the boys at Mothercare World. She picked Freddie up from Preschool before returning home for lunch. She knew I needed the car to go to see Dad at Norrie's later on. After lunch I worked a bit more on the feature for the Royal Aeronautical Society, in my makeshift garage office, before heading off to see Dad in Horsham. I don't get to see Dad much now he lives in Teignmouth, so I take every opportunity.*

*When I got to Norrie's, at about 3pm, Dad was having a doze. Norrie made me a cup of tea. I sat in the armchair, and when Dad emerged he sat gingerly on the sofa. With such an enlarged liver, he found it hard to get comfortable, or sit down for too long.*

*He said he'd been to the Harry Edwards Sanctuary, and to Inkpen to see the builders about the pyramid in the field, and that they [he and Margaret] would be flying to Rome the next day, which In of course knew although I hadn't appreciated how early they were flying. I said I had to be at Heathrow at 10am for a tour of Terminal 5, with the Aviation Club, so I could give them a lift. I had to insist, as it made good sense!*

*We talked about the Mondeo, which he had got MOT'd before he left. I had been concerned about its poor state of maintenance, and it had gathered some dents since I gave it to Dad – and hadn't had a clean!*

*He also said Margaret was concerned about him flying, but he thought he'd be fine. He seemed agitated that she had spoken with Dr Roberts, his consultant.*

*I'd hoped he would have the sponsorship form for the New York Marathon [7<sup>th</sup> November] I had given him to get family donations. He didn't, and said he'd forgotten it but would give it to me next time I saw him. We also talked about a plane crash of a 747 cargo aircraft.*

*I left gone 4, had dinner at home and went to college. Called Nanna quickly before the 6.15 tutorial and told her about Dad's appearance. Discussed it with Julie (Rowe) too. Returned home just gone 10, and Nic said Dad called – they had booked a cab! I was furious. It was clear that Margaret had changed the plan when she arrived from Teignmouth. She had had to stay in Teignmouth waiting for the BA tickets, which had evidently arrived that morning.*

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Note: As the car had failed its MOT and needed work (see invoice in Timeline), and they only had one car by then, Margaret also had to wait for the car to be ready while Graham had been keen to get to Hungerford on the train on 11<sup>th</sup>, to see the builders and cut the grass by hiring a tractor-mower, as a weather system was coming in overnight. Ian also remembers why he was struggling to sit down at Norrie's as he had done the mowing and had had an op that summer to remove abscesses from his buttocks, his immune system being very poor. Ian at the time of writing this 'diary' was still waiting for mower records from A4 Hire as he was convinced Graham had mentioned hiring a tractor mower as the grass had got too long and Aston was away – Aston later confirmed he's been in Zambia for 6 weeks, returning 4<sup>th</sup> November).