

## Hillsborough

### Timeline for April 15th 1989

- 12.00 noon** Supporters start to arrive at Leppings Lane / outside the ground.
- 2.00pm** Duckenfield and Murray go to Police Control Room.
- 2.30 to 2.40pm** Large concentration of supporters bottlenecked outside the turnstile area.
- 2.38pm** Strong surge along dividing fence enclosing pens 3 and 4.
- 2.39pm** Boy carried out through Gate C.
- 2.40pm** Request sent to Police Control to send spare mounted officers to Leppings Lane End. Announcement on tannoy system asks people to move forward. Further surge in pens 3 & 4.
- 2.42pm** Radio system develops fault for several minutes.
- 2.47pm** Request from Marshall to open gates at Leppings Lane End.
- 2.48pm** Gate C opened to eject supporter. Others enter before gate C closed again.
- 2.50pm** Pens 3 & 4 are full. Inspector Sewell deploys 60 officers to the track, the West Stand and Gate A.
- 2.51pm** Football teams announced over the tannoy.
- 2.52pm** Message from Marshall that people outside might be killed if gates are not opened. Gate C opened on Duckenfield's orders, allowing 2000 supporters to enter.
- 2.54pm** Teams come on to the pitch.
- 2.57pm** Gate C closed again.
- 2.59pm** People in the pens start climbing over the perimeter fence to escape the crush.
- 3.00pm** The match kicks off. Call from Constable Waugh at SYPHQ asking if ambulances required. Answer no. Gate 1 opened to allow supporters into enclosure. Jackson sees supporters on pitch and goes up to the Police Control Room to report.
- 3.04pm** Beardsley strikes the crossbar at the Kop end. Inevitable surge in the pens.
- 3.05pm** Crush barrier towards the front of pen 3 gives way, causing supporters to fall over.
- 3.06pm** Match stopped by referee when Greenwood approaches him on the pitch. Murray radios for a fleet of ambulances.
- 3.10pm** Jackson asked to confirm Operation Support by Force Incident Room. Request to Control from perimeter fence for bolt cutters.
- 3.13pm** First ambulance (from St. John's) comes on to the pitch at the North East corner and drives to the perimeter fence close to gate 3. Requests for cutting gear and for the fire brigade made by Bichard, who is then informed that supporters had forced Gate C.
- 3.17pm** Kelly, Kirton and Mackrell go to the Control Room for information. Duckenfield says he thinks there are fatalities and the game is likely to be abandoned. He also says there has been an inrush of supporters and that Gate C had been forced open.
- 3.17pm** Ambulances begin to arrive at the Penistone Rd entrance.
- 3.20pm** Second ambulance enters the ground.
- 3.22pm** Fire Brigade turns up at both Leppings Lane & Penistone Rd and is told by a police inspector, *"I don't think we really need you."*
- 3.29pm** Requests made for doctors and nurses at the ground.
- 3.30pm** Meeting in the club boardroom with Duckenfield, Jackson, Kelly, the match referee and representatives of the three clubs. Duckenfield indicates that the match is likely to be abandoned.
- 3.35pm** Detective Chief Superintendent Addis makes contact via telephone with Control.
- 3.35-3.36pm** Edwards' ambulance enters the ground.
- 3.40pm** BBC Radio Two: *"Unconfirmed reports are that a door was broken at the end that was holding LFC supporters."*
- 4.30pm** Last casualties leave the ground.
- 5.15pm** Duckenfield and Jackson travel to SYPHQ.
- 5.45pm** Chief Constable Peter Wright and his deputy meet Duckenfield and Jackson.
- Between 4.30pm on April 15th and 9am on April 16th** Two CCTV tapes are stolen from ground's Police Control Room. The crime and motive remain unsolved.