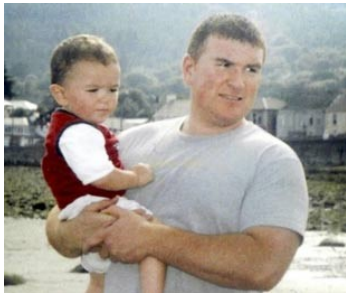


The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Robert McCartney beaten twice by IRA mob



New details about the brutal killing of Belfastman Robert McCartney by members of the IRA have recently been revealed.

The 33-year-old received two vicious beatings before being murdered by a republican mob.

Robert McCartney was himself in sympathy with the political objectives of Sinn Fein. His treatment is therefore illustrative of how vicious is the organisation that Tony Blair is determined to see in power in Ulster.

Murder victim — Robert McCartney. The murder victim's sisters have only recently been told about the development by the police.

The father-of-two died after he was stabbed and beaten outside the now-closed Magennis's Bar on January 31, 2005.

His sister Paula has said: "We couldn't believe it when the police told us that Robert was actually attacked twice by the mob on the night he was murdered. They attacked him and left him for dead and then they came back to finish him off. We think that if they had just left him the first time then he might be alive today."

It has also emerged that the police want to speak to the driver of a large blue vehicle, who is believed to have stopped at traffic lights when the 33-year-old was being attacked. It is understood the driver may have 'revved' his engine in a bid to make the mob aware that he had witnessed the attack.

The police will make a fresh appeal for the driver to come forward on the first anniversary of the murder.

Speaking from her home in south Belfast, Paula said her family will spend Robert's anniversary reflecting on the events of the last year.

She also said that she is considering an offer by police for her to make a fresh appeal for information outside Magennis's. "My sisters can't go anywhere near the bar because of all the bad memories it holds for us, but I am considering whether or not to stand outside on Robert's anniversary.

" I would plead with anyone who has been afraid to come forward to search their hearts and tell police what they know." "We are determined to see more people in court for our brother's murder."