

Some people have selective memory of that tragic night

By [This is Somerset](#) | Posted: April 22, 2010

It appears some people have a selective memory of the events of the night in Wells when Vince Francis was attacked and murdered by Stacey Hyde.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind Julie Hyde (letter, April 8) that Stacey was also screaming when she initiated the attack on Vince.

She charged at him, jumping on his back and punching him repeatedly.

As Holly Banwell recalled in court, Stacey was "going mental".

The coroner's report clearly stated that Vince had extensive swelling and bruising to the head and face.

Stacey Hyde had no injuries needing medical attention. Her broken hand was a self-inflicted injury she obtained from punching a wall on a previous occasion in another violent outburst.

I would also like to remind her that Stacey was not screaming when she went into the kitchen and calmly selected a 10-inch carving knife.

Court evidence proved it was the largest knife from the whole collection and, on returning to the outer hallway, she stabbed Vince twice in the back – while he was walking away from her, trying to leave the building to avoid more conflict. She continued to stab him a further 15 times.

The questions I put to you, Julie Hyde, are these:

If Vince was a violent and aggressive man, which you have labelled him to be, why was he walking away, trying to avoid the situation when he was violently attacked by Stacey from behind?

Why did Stacey have no injuries needing medical attention from him?

Are these the acts of a violent man? I think not.

You stated in your letter to the *Journal* that Vince was known to the police. I ask you what for, as there is no police record of him ever being violent.

I am sure you will be informed of my letter in Greece; I will be waiting for your reply.

My view is only the slightest degree of justice has been served by convicting Stacey Hyde of murder, and that is that she has been removed from society for a minimum of nine years to protect the safety of other innocent people.

Hayley Carey Shepton Mallet

In reply to Julie Hyde's letter of last week, I would like to comment on the 999 call that was made by Holly Banwell to the police, which was played in court.

You can indeed hear the drunken, violent screams of Stacey Hyde – in Holly Banwell's words "going mental" – as she is attacking Vince.

The injuries she caused – bruising, scratches, cuts and 17 stab wounds – resulted in his death. No doubt Vince was trying to defend himself.

The injuries caused to Stacey Hyde were bruising and scratches that needed no medical attention – enough said.

I would also like to add that Vince never had any criminal convictions.

I am amazed that 12 members of the jury who were complete strangers could see Stacey Hyde for the person she really is, when you have known her a very long time and cannot.

I think this is indeed the problem – once you can admit to yourself that Stacey Hyde is a murderer, then perhaps you can stop making excuses for her actions and blaming everything and everybody other than Stacey for the events of that tragic night.

You state that Stacey is paying the ultimate price – I think Vince Francis is doing that.

Deb Webber Bridgwater