

May 20, 1997, Tuesday

**HEADLINE: MARION KILLED 'WITH A PAIR OF SCISSORS';  
Court hears how Marion Ross was stabbed in the throat and eye with a pair of scissors**

Tragic Marion Ross was stabbed in the throat and eye with a pair of scissors, a court heard yesterday.

The spinster, 51, also had a knife plunged into her throat, according to a pathologist.

Professor Peter Vanezis said marks on Marion's hand and chest showed she tried to fight off her killer but had been pinned down during the attack in her bungalow.

He believed Marion had been stabbed with the knife first and then attacked with the scissors, which were embedded in her throat up to the handles.

Prof Vanezis said the wound in her eye had penetrated the base of her skull and had gone into the brain.

In addition there were marks on Marion's neck and face indicating how she had been gripped.

At the High Court in Glasgow, David Asbury, 21, of Kilbirnie, Ayrshire, denies murdering Marion in her bungalow at Irvine Road, Kilmarnock, between January 6 and 8 this year.

Asbury also denies robbing her of a tin containing a sum of money.

He has lodged a special defence claiming he was in Kilbirnie during the attack.

Earlier, a next-door neighbour of Marion's told the court that her dogs had gone berserk on the night of January 8.

Marion Gemmell got up and found a bin bag had been knocked over.

The trial before Lord Dawson continues.