

**STATEMENT OF ANN BROWER**

1. My full name is Ann Lacey Brower.
2. I am originally from North Carolina. I arrived in New Zealand in late 2004 on a Fulbright scholarship. I am employed at Lincoln University as a senior lecturer in environmental policy.
3. On 22 February 2011, I was on a red bus travelling from Sumner to university. I was seated next to the window on the right-hand side of the bus towards the front in the fourth row of seats.
4. I do not have a clear recollection of everyone who was on the bus at that time, although I remember an elderly couple were sitting opposite me on the other side of the aisle.
5. The bus was heading north along Colombo Street towards Lichfield Street where it would have turned right into Lichfield Street to go into the the bus exchange.
6. The bus started shaking violently. It stopped at the first jolt. I looked out the window to the eastern side of Colombo Street and saw bricks falling off the buildings.
7. Within a second or two I heard bricks falling on the roof of the bus. The next thing I remember is passing out.
8. I am not sure how long I was passed out for, but when I woke up I was in pain and started screaming right away. The roof of the bus had collapsed and although I was still on my seat, I was pushed forward so that I was leaning on my legs, I was twisted around, and my left knee was wrenched around.
9. I thought I could feel more weight coming onto me, but on reflection I think at that point people would probably have been pulling bricks off the top of the bus above me.
10. I saw a man out the window in a fluorescent vest and I knocked on the window. He said they were coming for me.
11. A man who I now know to be Rob Greene crawled into the bus and grabbed my hand. I could hear the sounds of bricks being cleared away.
12. Rob looked around the bus and I thought by the look on his face that I shouldn't look around.

13. I think we were on the bus for about fifteen minutes during which time he was talking to me and telling me stories to keep me calm. I remember him talking about fishing.
14. Eventually the men on top of the bus managed to pull the roof off. I heard someone say, 'Mate get her first. He's gone.'
15. The roof of the bus had collapsed on my pelvis which I later discovered was broken. The seat in front had broken my leg and bone was sticking out through the skin.
16. A man told me to wiggle my fingers and toes which I was able to do. He extricated me from where I was and another man lifted me up.
17. They laid me down and I put my leg in a splint. A nurse was there giving directions about how this should be done.
18. Some people then lifted me into the back of a four wheel drive. They drove me to hospital. My hospital records show that I arrived there at 1:50 p.m.
19. I had operations on my leg and hand at about 9 pm that night.
20. In addition to my broken pelvis and broken leg, I had cuts on my hand and my leg and a bump on my head.
21. After I was lifted out, Rob had gone back to the bus and grabbed my bag. He returned it to me at hospital a few days later. My computer was covered in blood but it still worked.
22. Doug came to see me on the Friday. He told me that I was in a 'pocket' in the bus which meant that I had survived. Although they had tried to get others out, and done their best to do so, they had not been able to.
23. I later learned that the other people on the bus including the driver had all died.
24. I was in hospital until April and then spent a further eight weeks on crutches after that. I started back at work one day a week in July and gradually increased my hours at work after that.

  
ANN LACEY BROWER