Presentation title:

Get in a knife fight and other considerations for experimental criminologists

Speaker: Jerry Ratcliffe (Temple University in Philadelphia, USA)

With much gratitude to Jerry Lee and the Jerry Lee Foundation, I decided to take the opportunity of the lecture to cast an eye back over nearly 40 years' involvement in policing and evidence-based crime policy. This has been from the perspective of not just a street cop, but also as an academic researcher. I hope to highlight some of the lessons I have learned, often through naivety and failure, about working with practitioners and criminal justice professionals to advance evidence-based policy. In the process I will briefly discuss ten considerations; get in a knife fight, Groundhog Day, the disappointed idealist, kill all the lawyers, phrenology, academic Friday afternoons, seven dirty words, Ryan Reynolds, just a small prick, and reading the tea leaves. If that description of the main topics of the lecture leaves you confused, I hope it will encourage you to attend the last lecture of the symposium.