

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in the matter of:

Death of John Gordon HUGHES.

Place: Kings Cross Police
Station.

Date; 4 October, 1989.

Name: J O N E S Ian Stuart

Address: [REDACTED]

Phn No: [REDACTED] hm.

Occupation:

STATES : [REDACTED] wk.

1. This statement, made by me, accurately sets out the evidence I would be prepared, if necessary, to give at Court as a witness.


2. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and I make it knowing that if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

3. My date of birth is the [REDACTED]

4. I am Ian Stuart JONES, I am a single man and I presently reside at the above address. I am currently employed with CPL Civil engineering of Epping, as a plant operator. I have been so employed for the past 3 weeks.

5. I am an associate of the person John HUGHES, and I had known him for about 10 years. To my knowledge HUGHES was an active homosexual, who was a user of heroin, although at the time of his death he was on the methadone programme. Although I had never seen John HUGHES sell drugs, I am aware, through conversations with John that he did at some stage sell heroin.

6. Prior to Christmas last year, (1988) I used to reside a house in Carlton, I think in [REDACTED]. This was a private residence which I shared with three

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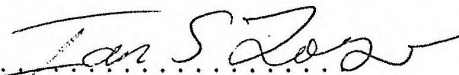
people by the names of Leone BALLSTONE, Greg LAWRENCE and a guy named Stewart (I don't recall his last name). On New Years night this year, I was stabbed in the back by some Lebonese males, whom I don't know. As a result of this I was admitted to the St. Vincents Hospital. I believe the reason I was attacked was to be robbed, and I reported the matter to Police that night.

7. As a result of this attack I was to remain in hospital until the 27 January, 1989. Upon my discharge from hospital I went to live at a boarding house in Hill Street, Carlton. I remained here for about 2 to 3 weeks. Prior to this attack and for this period I was unemployed. Prior to the knife attack, I was a casual user of heroin and on occasion amphetamine. Due to my injuries I did not take heroin or any other drugs for about a month after my discharge from the hospital.

8. About the 15 February, 1989, I met John HUGHES at Kings Cross and I told him I was having a hard time finding a place to live. John then offered to let me stay at his flat, which was situated behind the Rex Hotel, in Greenknowe Avenue. I think the name of the unit block is "Tara Court". I then moved in with John for about 2 or 3 weeks, after which I left and moved to Bathurst.

9. During the time that I resided with John there was another person who lived with him, this person was named [151], I do not know his last name. [151] was, I assume a young homosexual, who I understood to be John boyfriend. [151] was living with John when I moved in, and during the time I was there, [151] did use heroin. I am aware of this because I recall seeing [151] shooting up on these occasions.

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At the time I was at Johns', he was on the Methodome program and I never saw him use heroin.

10. John used to talk to me about the times he sold heroin with Gavin SCOBIE, an old friend of his, who he had known since primary school. SCOBIE was a regular visitor to the flat while I was there. From what John told me he had been arrested and was facing charges for dealing and as a result had stopped selling drugs, since this arrest. My only function in living with John, was purely as a residence, although in the first week I did have to keep an watch on [151], at Johns' request. John had realized that [151] was using heroin and was afraid of him getting a habit. He was also scared of loosing him to another man.

11. There was another person who was a regular visitor to the flat, this was a person whose name I cannot remember. He said he had lived in Darwin, however he also told me he had a mother who lived up the coast. He was also a homosexual, and used to be accompanied by various boys when he came to visit. He was 40 old, about 183cm tall, white Australian male, grey/blonde hair, with a thin build. I do not know where this person lives, I believe he was just a friend. He did tell me that he used to score heroin from John when he was dealing and that John had sold the best heroin around.

12. While I was living with John, he told me he had \$5000-00 snookered away for solicitors fees, in either the National Australia Bank or the St. George Building Society. John never kept large quantities of cash at home and to my knowledge he never kept drugs in the flat.

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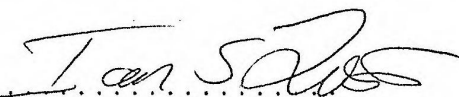
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Whilst I was living with John he worked the night shift at the Merlin Plaza Hotel, as the night manager. I recall when I was at Johns', being told by him that he had previously purchased a video player, within seven days of me moving in and that it had been stolen.

13. John flat was a security flat, by that I mean it had an intercom at the front door to the units and any visitor had to buzz the intercom. This visitor then could be identified over the intercom and let in via a remote door release in the flat. It is possible for someone to get in to the flats by following someone else in, however they would then need to get into the flat, which in Johns' case had two deadlocks.

14. Another associate of Johns' whom I knew was Mark LOCKE. Mark was a drug addict that used to sell Johns' drugs for him. John told me that LOCKE owed him for over \$6,000-00 worth of heroin he had obtained from him on credit. LOCKE and I had words one day, about tens days after I moved in with John. [151] and I were walking around Kings Cross, when we saw him outside Woolworths, in Darlinghurst Road. [151] pointed him out as the person who owed John money and I grabbed him by the scruff of the neck and headbutted him on the bridge of the nose. I said, "Listen arsehole, stop giving John a hard time, he doesn't deserve that." He said, "No worries." I did this because I was told LOCKE owed him a lot of money and harassed John with standover tactics. I knew John was dirty with LOCKE over these tactics and the money, although to my knowledge, John never tried to enforce the debt. I believe however John had contacts that could have enforced through violence or drugs, the collection of this money.

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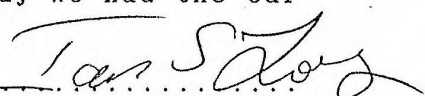
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15. I moved out from Johns' about mid March, and moved to Lithgow. I stayed at Lithgow for 4 days, and applied for a job on the prison site there, as an excavator. I recall filling in forms for this position. I then moved to Bathurst. The day after arriving in Bathurst I commenced work for Mitchell Plant Hire, in Vale Road, as a Plant operator. My first night in Bathurst I stayed at Bathurst Emergency Accommodation Service, after which I moved to the Victoria Hotel. I remained there one week and then moved into [REDACTED] Upfold Street. This was a house I shared with a person Lance DODD, who was painter for the council (and to my knowledge still lives in Bathurst), Ron and Leone FLOWER (he was the owner of the house) and later my ex-girlfriend/de-facto, Kerrie Anne STANTON.

16. After moving to Bathurst, I returned to Sydney only once, and that was in mid April, for a Court appearance at the Kogarah Local Court, for fraud and theft. I travelled down by train (the XPT) and met Kerrie STANTON. After going to Court, I returned home by train that afternoon, by train and bus.

17. Kerrie visited me in Bathurst twice, the first time staying for 24 hours. She flew up on that occasion and then flew back, I think by East-West. The second time she drove up in a hire car, from Budget, I think it was a White Commodore. I recall that she was booked for driving under the influence on the night she came up. She had gotten lost and rang me. She later stopped and asked Police at Bathurst for directions and was booked for drink driving then, after which she was escorted home by Police to Upfold Street. This was a Thursday night I recall. She kept the car one day and returned it on a Saturday, I think in the afternoon. On the one day we had the car

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together, I drove Kerrie around the town. On this occasion when Kerrie came up, she stayed with me for 2 weeks. About this time the house was sold and I moved into a caravan park with Kerrie. This park was the Gold Panner, at Bathurst. I returned to Sydney with Kerrie about a week after this, in mid June.

18. Whilst living in Bathurst, I brought a green Mini panel van, I do not recall the registration number. This was about three days before Kerrie came up the second time (on the occasion she was booked). I brought the car from a bloke named Brian TOWNSEND, of [REDACTED] Bathurst. I sold the car within 10 to 14 days of owning it, as it was unreliable and running out of rego. At this time I was working at Eastment, at Lucknow. Whilst in Bathurst I did operate my passbook account, which is listed at my Carlton address. This is a Commonwealth Bank account, No. [REDACTED]. I don't have a card with this account and have to conduct my transactions over the counter.

19. The first time I was aware that John HUGHES was dead was when Police told me at the Sutherland Police Station in late June/early July. I cannot think of any person who would have done this, nor can I think of any enemies John may of had.

Witness:

M. PLOTECKI

Detective Constable First Class.

RCS South, Homicide Squad.

4 October, 1989.

Signed:

Ian S. JONES