

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:
 Death of Graham PAYNTER

Place: Bega Police Station

Date: 3 November, 1989

Name: CASTLE Ian John
 (Surname in capitals)
 Address: Police Station Bega Tel. No.
 Occupation: Constable of Police STATES:-

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief 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 I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
2. My date of birth is [REDACTED] 1965.
3. About 7.30pm on Thursday 12 October 1989, Constable Ochs and myself attended Bega Liquorland. Upon arrival Constable Ochs and I spoke to Graham Paynter about the alleged theft of a bottle of Bunderberg Rum. Whilst speaking to Paynter I formed the opinion that he was well effected by intoxicating liquor as he had difficulty in speaking and was unsteady on his feet, his face was flushed and he smelt strongly of intoxicating liquor.
4. He was subsequently arrested and conveyed to Bega Police Station where he was charged with shop lifting. He appeared to understand why he was being charged and understood his bail undertaking. He was released from Police custody at 8.05pm Thursday 12 October, 1989. As he left the Police Station he was talking to his friend about going to the Tathra Hotel.
5. Paynter did not seem depressed or upset when he left the Police Station. I had the opinion that he was going to continue drinking further on in the evening with his friend.
6. About 5.30pm Friday 13 October, 1989 in company with Constable Ochs I attended Tathra Beach Surf Club where I spoke to [REDACTED] 150 and his father.

Witness: _____

Signature: *Castle*

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STATEMENT (continued) in matter of: Death of Graham PAYNTER
 Name: CASTLE Ian
 (Surname in capitals)

150 then showed us the body of a deceased male lying at the bottom of a cliff at an area known as Shelley's Beach which is approximately 500 metres from the Surf Club. I recognised the deceased person as Graham Paynter. He was lying on his right hand side, his jumper was pulled up over his head and his jeans were pulled down around the middle of his thighs. There were abrasions on his body and some blood on his face.

7. The deceased was subsequently photographed and conveyed to Bega District Hospital by Ambulance where life was pronounced extinct by Doctor Bonny at 7.55pm Friday 13 October, 1989.

8. The top of the cliff area directly above the deceased's location has a pedestrian walkway 10 metres from the edge of the cliff there was no fencing or signs near the cliff edge. This walkway leads to the vicinity of the Tathra hotel towards the base of the cliff near the Tathra Surf Club.

9. Russell Longmore was interviewed by Police he had been drinking with Paynter at the Tathra Hotel and had left by himself. Paynter remained at the Hotel until requested to leave between 11.30pm and 12 Midnight. He then left the Hotel by himself in a very intoxicated state. It appears that whilst walking Paynter may have attempted to urinate over the side of the cliff and subsequently fallen over the cliff.

I. Castle
 I. CASTLE
 Constable

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Witness: Signature: