

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of: Place: Inverell Police
Death of Russell PAYNE Station
 Date: 2.2.89

Name: John Malcolm WILLS
 (Surname in capitals)
 Address: [REDACTED] Henderson Street, Inverell, 2360. Tel. No. [REDACTED]
 Occupation: Boarding House Proprietor STATES:-

I am aware that if I sign this statement and any part of this statement is untrue to my knowledge I may be liable to punishment.

My full name is John Malcolm Wills and I was born on the [REDACTED] 1941.

About 6.15pm on Thursday the 2nd of February, 1989, I entered [REDACTED] Henderson Street Inverell. I entered through the window into the bedroom and walked through to the kitchen where I found the body of the person who I rent the flat too. I know him as Russell Payne and I have known him for about 18 months.

I believe that Mr. Payne was at one time married and has a child living in Brisbane. This is what he had told me but he only told me very sketchy details that he had had a wife and that he was divorced.

The body on the floor of the kitchen of the flat is definitely that of the person who is known to me as Russell Payne and I identified him to Constable Birchall and Constable Gibson when they arrived.

I know Mr. Payne to be a well mannered, quiet person who paid his rent punctually every Thursday fortnight. That is primary reason that I entered the flat, because he had not paid his rent and also that his friend Geno from Ibery Lodge had come to the flat about 6.00pm to see Mr. Payne but could not find him and came down to me to ask where he was.

When I found Mr. Payne I went straight out the front door by unlocking it, it was heavily locked and I had trouble undoing it. I went straight to my residence within the building and rang the Police.

I declare that no part of this statement is untrue to my knowledge. I know that it may be used in legal proceedings. It accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared if necessary, to give in Court as a witness.

Witness:

[Signature]
 Constable

Signature:

[Signature]

