

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:

Place: Randwick Police StationDeath of Peter John SHEILDate: 30 April, 1983Name: William Arthur STRANGE

(Surname in capitals)

Address: Randwick Police Station. 2031.

Tel. No. [REDACTED]

Occupation: Constable of Police

STATES:—

1. About 11.00am on Friday 29 April, 1983 with Constable Karskens I attended Cliffbrook Parade, Clovelly and there saw and spoke to Donald McDonald ROSS and he informed me that about 10.00am he had been walking along rocks at the foreshore on the northern side of Thompsons Bay when he found the body of a male person.
2. With Ross I went to a position about 150 metres from the car park of the Clovelly Beach and about 5 metres from the waters edge and there saw the body of a male person lying in a prone position between two large rocks. An investigation of the immediate area revealed an area about 6 metres from the body with blood stains on the rocks and an amount of loose change. A closer inspection revealed a trail of blood stains from this position to where the Deceased lay.
3. Some time later Scientific Squad Police attended the scene and photographs were taken of the Deceased and the scene. A closer inspection of the Deceased at this time revealed that he had a laceration at the rear of his skull. It was further noted that the Deceased was dressed in a blue short sleeve shirt which was opened, he was wearing blue corduroy slacks and the fly on these was open and the pants were around the Deceased's hips, it was also noticed that the belt of the trousers was undone, he was also wearing a pair of turquoise underpants which were also down below the line of his pubic hair.
4. An inspection of the area above the rocks revealed that on a rock outcrop about 20 metres above the rocks there was a very mossy surface of a highly slippery nature, just below this area was found a magazine of a sexual nature. In the shirt pocket I found an N.S.W. Permanent Pass Book in the name of Peter Sheil with an address of [REDACTED] Park Street, Clovelly. A short time later the Government Contractors removed the body of the Deceased and conveyed it to the Prince of Wales Hospital where life was pronounced extinct, he was then conveyed to the City Morgue.
5. Later that day I attended [REDACTED] Park Street, Clovelly and

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



STATEMENT (continued) in matter of: Death of Peter John SHEILName: William Arthur STRANGE

(Surname in capitals)

there spoke to Patricia Marlene CAMPBELL, the supervisor of those premises and informed her that a male person had been found on the rocks at Thompsons Bay and we believed that person to be Peter Sheil. With her I went to Peter Sheil's room and there located an address and telephone number of his parents. Whilst at these premises I ascertained that Peter Sheil was receiving psychiatric treatment and was an outpatient of the Prince of Wales Hospital Psychiatric Unit.

6. Some time later at the Randwick Police Station I received a phone call from Mr Peter Barry SHEIL of [REDACTED], Mount Ousley, who told me that he was Peter' John Seil's father and had been informed of his son's death by telephone by Mrs Campbell.

7. About 1.00pm on Saturday 30 April, 1983 Peter Barry Sheil attended the Randwick Police Station and then accompanied me to the City Morgue where at 1.50pm that date he identified to me the body of a male person as that of his son Peter John Sheil.

8. During the period of the following week I made enquiries in the immediate area of the death as to any person who may have witnessed anything to no avail and I also made further investigation of the surrounding area.

9. From the investigation carried out and the prevailing area in which the Deceased met his demise I have formed the opinion that the Deceased had ventured onto a rock ledge about 20 metres above the shoreline rock base of Thompsons Bay and then lost his footing on the slippery undergrowth, causing him to fall to the rocks below and apparently striking his head. It then appears that he dragged himself a distance of about 6 metres and lay in a more comfortable position between rocks. I am also of the opinion that the reason that the Deceased's clothing was in a state of disarray was caused by the fact that he had presumably been masterbating before his fall.

*W A Strange*  
 .....  
 W A Strange  
 Constable 1/c  
 Police Station, Randwick. 2031.  
 23 August, 1983

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_