

## Case 20 - Brief Overview of ROONEY 1/2

**File Number:** 261  
**Product Type:** TEXT DOCUMENTS:Investigators Note  
**Date of Note:** 20 Sep 2016  
**Brief Description:** The Deceased William Antony ROONEY, 35 years old, died on the 20/02/1986 in the intensive care unit of Wollongong Hospital.

ROONEY was located by Harvey Thomas FINCH at 08:40am on the 14/02/1986 in Crown Lane Wollongong at the rear of the L&S Discount store. ROONEY's head was covered in blood and there was a large amount of blood located in the vicinity of ROONEY. At the time ROONEY was in a semi conscious state and conveyed to Wollongong Hospital. Massive skull fractures were detected by the treating doctor. ROONEY died on the 20/02/1986 due to his injuries (OD-329).

Coroner Warwick SODEN found the deceased on the 20/2/1986 at Wollongong Hospital died of the effects of head injuries sustained on 14/02/1986 but whether such injuries were received accidentally or otherwise the evidence does not enable me to say.(OD-328).

"After speaking to a number of people an accurate time schedule was unable to be given as to the movements of ROONEY"

On the night of the 14/02/1986." (ST-611). The last confirmed sighting of ROONEY was by his room mate Wayne DAVIS at the Tatts Hotel, Illawarra AT 10pm.(ST-609)

About 12:30am GIROY, GALVIN and NORRIS sighted a male lying in the grass just off the footpath on Crown Lane. The three tough nothing of it and presumed he was intoxicated. (IN-257)

About 11pm on the 13/02/1986 SHERRING and a few friends were talking in the vicinity of Crown lane when they sighted a male person staggering and layed down on a grass area of the footpath on the northern side of Crown Lane. "SHERRING and his mates talked for approximately 1 1/2 hours while this person laid sleeping a short distance away from them..... This person did not appeared to be injured in anyway when they saw him." (IN-253)

In an interview of DAVIS he stated ROONEY spoke to him about a person known as 'RADAR' who was "a well known poofter basher." (IN-251)

Leslie John HARRISON aka 'RADAR' was arrested and interviewed however was never charged. (IN-256)

## Case 20 - Brief Overview of ROONEY 2/2

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Peter HYDE a garbage collector was in the lane at 6am when he saw a young male person staggering out of the vicinity of where the deceased was located. This male asked HYDE if he could be taken to the hospital as he had broken his wrist. HYDE told the male to walk as it would (IN-254)

In 2008 D/SGT HOGAN stated in a COPS event Police at the time believed that SCERRI severely assaulted ROONEY and sexually assaulted him. (OD-623).

In 2012 an anonymous caller contacted Police and provided information on Mark SCERRI, Leslie John HARRISON and Michael BARBETTA. The caller stated "SCERRI and RADAR shot and raped a man behind Pips nightclub on Crown Street. They also killed another man behind the Illawarra Hotel. RADAR, SCERRI and BARBETTA were involved in bashing a man at the Harp Hotel where he was brain damaged." (OD-622).

There are no photographs of the crime scene.

No one was charged with the murder of ROONEY.