

Date, time, and occurrence No.	Report of occurrence	Police in charge action taken
14/12/80	<p>MARGARET HEATHER HORWOOD NEE HOPE <u>INTERVIEWED RE BEDSER MURDER</u></p> <p>About 10.30am. on 14/12/80 as a result of information given by Shidey DRISCOLL R/S. 46/5 contacted telephone number [REDACTED]. Later, at Parramatta Police Station interviewed Margaret Heather HORWOOD nee HOPE, born [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Telephone as above. Domestic Duties. Mrs. HORWOOD is a divorcee with two children aged 10 and 13 years. She is not known at the Criminal Records Office.</p> <p>Mrs. HORWOOD stated that she first met the deceased in 1975 when she purchased various articles from him when he operated an Antique Shop in Pitt Street, Merrylands near the intersection of Merrylands Road. She continued to purchase things from him after he moved his shop to Parramatta. She once offered to help the deceased in the shop. In May 1979, the deceased contacted her and asked her to assist him with the books of the business. Mrs. HORWOOD has some experience in Book Keeping. It appears that the Police had visited the deceased shop at that time and found that his books were not in order. The deceased asked Mrs. HORWOOD to 'Cook' up a set of books for him. She declined to do that but suggested that he take the whole of his inventory to Steers Auction, Parramatta and then buy all the goods back. He did this and she commenced to keep his books. She stated that he kept separate records apart from the books that have been seized in the course of this inquiry. These books were not to be seen by the Taxation Dept. She says these 'other books' were kept in a drawer in a bench in the back room of the shop, which was locked. The key to that drawer was kept on the deceased personal key set. Mrs. HORWOOD worked at the shop on Mondays or Tuesdays of each week. She would write up the various journals from information given her by the deceased. She did say however, that the books she kept didn't represent the true situation concerning the business in that all property on consignment at the shop were not the subject of records and were strictly cash.</p>	

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	<p>MARGARET HEATHER HORWOOD NEE NOPE INTERVIEWED...CONTINUED...PAGE TWO</p> <p>Mrs. HORWOOD was being paid \$5.00/ hour to keep the books for the deceased. She last attended to the books in either August or September 1980. The decease contacted her around that time and told her that his sister Shirley wanted to work 2-3 dsys per week and that he thought that she could follow Mrs. HORWOOD's system.</p> <p>Mrs. HORWOOD last saw the deceased on Monday 1/12/80. He rang her at home that morning and asked her if she wanted to sell her Acqua Marine Ring, as he had a potential customer for it. Mrs. HORWOOD attended the shop about 3.50pm that day and handed over the ring to be sold by him on consignment.</p> <p>Mrs. HORWOOD suggests that she didn't know the deceased to be a homosexual. She denies ever having been involved with him sexually or ever having gone out with him. She states that the deceased treated her more like a sister. She says that he was aware that numerous young boys used to 'hang' around the shop and she says it seemed strange at the time. She recalls an incident where a young 'Greek' boy came into the shop and told her that he could have \$5-00 from the till which he said was authorized by the deceased. She believes that the father of this boy once came into the shop and spoke to the deceased about his son. She's unable to state who the boy was or when the incident occurred.</p> <p>Mrw. HORWOOD describes the deceased as 'ruthless' in the business. She stated that she was confronted earlier this year by a girl was complained that the deceased purchased a large cameo brooch from her for about \$6-00 stating that it was plastic. She saw the same cameo in the shop with a price tag of \$200-00.</p> <p>When questioned about the deceased having travelled to Melbourne to purchase a motor vehicle, Mrs. HORWOOD stated that she remembers the incident and recalls that his cheque book has reference to such a</p>	

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	transaction.	
	Mrs. HORWOOD considered the deceased a poor businessman in that he wouldn't keep stock that he purchased in the shop for any length of time. It appears that having purchased stock from an auction, he would keep it for about a week and then dispose of same through another auction, in many cases, making a loss.	
	Mrs. HORWOOD suggests that a very close friend of the deceased was NP58's former employer who owned a service Station on the corner of Smith and Phillip Street, Parramatta, which has since been demolished.	
	The Penry Fit Photograph of the suspect was shown Mrs. HORWOOD. She was unable to assist in that regard.	
	Mrs. HORWOOD has been divorced from her husband for some 4 years. Her former husband was Warwick Harvey HORWOOD of Horwood Motors Sorrell Street, Parramatta. Mrs. HORWOOD has a gentleman friend named Brian Kenneth BURKE who is a Director of a firm known as Celcast of Crownest. His date of birth is [REDACTED]. She has been seeing BURKE for the past 2 years.	
	Mrs. HORWOOD has indicated that she is prepared to assist in the inquiry to best of her ability.	
	<u>FESZCZUK</u>	