

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:

Place: Newtown Police Station

Death of David ROSE.

Date: 24 December, 1997.

Name: Megan Patricia BROWNLOW

Tel No.: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Radio Producer

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. The 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 which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.


2. My age is 34

3. I am a radio producer with radio station 2UE and have been there since 1990. My role at 2UE is that of the executive producer of the John LAWS program. I have been involved in the radio industry since the early 1980's. When I was at University I worked at the community radio station at the university.

4. I first met David ROSE in 1989 at radio station 2RPH. This is a radio station for the print handicapped. David had a great involvement in the station. He had a couple of announcing shifts and he also produced a couple of programs including Junior Journal and Volunteer Profile. He also trained new volunteers to use the panel. He was terrifically generous with his time there.

5. Since this time I maintained an association with David. I saw David socially throughout the years although he was the one who initiated the contact. I most recently saw David about six months ago when he came to my house for lunch. Also at that lunch was

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Sandra DURWARD. The significance of Sandra being at that lunch was that David recently increased his contact with me at both home and at work in a panic over Sandra. Sandra is an alcoholic who went into a downward spiral recently and has been staying intermittently with David.

6. About one month ago David phoned me at home and told my partner Julian that I must ring him back urgently because he thought that Sandra was coming around to my house looking for somewhere to live. I called him back and he told me that she had been kicked out of her friends' and relatives' houses and also out of various rehab centres. David said that Sandra had hit rock bottom and that she was stealing money and drinking metho. I can't recall the exact words David used but it was words to that effect. I have nothing to verify what David said as being true, only David's word.

7. About three weeks ago, I am not sure of the exact date but have it at work, David called me at work and again repeated his warning to me about Sandra. He also told me at that point that Sandra had been staying with him. I received the impression David was panicking about Sandra and quite scared of her. Sandra is a large woman, much larger than David. She had been staying with David at his apartment, but I am not sure of the exact details or nature of Sandra's stay with David. I do not know how to contact Sandra, and I don't think she has an address now. She was living in St Peters and worked in Telemarketing, for a number of companies including OPTUS and the Sydney Morning Herald.

8. A close friend of hers is Gordon SHARP who is a marriage celebrant in the Sydney metropolitan area. Sandra is a friend of mine too and I have known her for the same length of time as I have known David. She was a very talented broadcast presenter. I met her at 2RPH as well.

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9. David was not a "scene" transvestite. He would mix and match women's and men's clothes without much thought. He once told me that a television programme featuring model transvestites was the first time he had seen transvestites or heard them speak.

He did not know or socialise with other transvestites as far as I know.

He regarded me as his role model, he said. I dress and live conservatively so his aspirations of cross-dressing were not wild or grand.

10. David was a lonely man who did not have any personal relationships apart from a few friends and his parents. In the entire time I knew him he did not have one sexual relationship, with either a man or woman. If David had launched into an affair, I feel sure he would have phoned to tell me. He would confess if he ever had a "crush" on someone but during those times he would never have the confidence to instigate a relationship.


11. As far as I know, David was not a regular visitor to the Taxi Club, but may have been there on one or two occasions. We discussed, with other friends, the possibility of going there late one evening, but that excursion never eventuated.

12. David devoted a great deal of time to volunteer work and had quite a busy job at Westpac. The fact he gave up his Saturday nights, every week, to broadcast on 2SER (and at one time 2RPH) suggests his social life was bereft of activity.

13. I have never been to David's apartment, he would come to my house or we'd see each other at the radio station. My feeling is, he suffered from low self-esteem and was nervous about inviting people over for fear they would not come.

14. As far as I knew David had no enemies, he prompted feelings of annoyance rather than enmity. At 2RPH he was sacked while on air a few months ago and felt quite bitter about

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that. 2RPH has become increasingly conservative and focused on elderly people and Dave's view was he was sacked because he didn't "fit in". He may have been right.

15. As far as I know, David had no financial problems and was professionally well regarded. He was frequently on call at Westpac and would be summoned to deal with any large computer crisis. David did not spend much money but would go on expensive overseas organised tours. He did not indicate to me whether any of these holidays resulted in a romantic liaison, but I feel it's unlikely. The tours he chose were long, organised bus tours usually favoured by elderly couples. The number of photos David took suggest he spent most of his time photographing scenery. He'd return with thousands.

16. David was not a heavy drinker or a drug user. He would have a social drink but never more than a glass of wine. He didn't smoke marijuana or use illicit drugs as far as I know.

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