

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:
Murder of David ROSE.

Place: Manly Police Station
Date: 19 February 1998

Name: STARLING, Clive Ronald

Tel No.: Nil

Address: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Unemployed

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 47.

3. I have been attending Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous meetings on and off for a period of five years. I am not on any specific programs and attend these meeting of my own accord. I attend meetings at Manly Hospital, Neutral Bay, Stanley Street Sydney, Burwood, Glebe, and various other centres on the Manly Peninsula.

4. During the course of attending these meetings I have met a person by the name of David. I have known him for about three months. I first met him at the NA meeting at Manly Hospital. I would describe David as early or late thirties, olive complexion, about 170cm tall, thin build, and dark coloured curly hair. I think he lives at Crows Nest somewhere.

5. On Saturday the 20th of December, 1997 I went to the AA meeting at the Neutral Bay Community Centre. The meeting starts at 12.00 midday but I didn't get there till about 1.15pm.

Witness: _____

Signature: _____

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I went inside and sat at the back of the hall where the meeting was. Whilst inside I saw David and a woman I know as Sandra sitting in the meeting. She looked agitated about something and was walking in and out of the meeting. After the meeting, which finished at 1.30pm, I went outside and spoke with Sandra. I had met or seen Sandra at other meetings on about four other occasions. I would describe Sandra as mid thirties, 165cm to 170cm tall, large build, fair hair, shoulder length, fair skin.

6. I spoke with Sandra outside the hall and then we went to Maisey's Cafe which is in Military Road, Neutral Bay just around the corner from the hall. We went there basically straight after the meeting. There was just Sandra and I at the time. David came into the coffee shop some time later. She appeared very agitated and upset about something to the degree of being emotionally distressed. She tried to talk about her problems but just had difficulties about getting words out to tell me what was wrong. I can't recall what she was talking about but it was obvious she was upset about something but I don't know what.

7. I do know that she was concerned and worried about something that had happened about a friend of hers. She didn't exactly say what she was concerned about but at the time I was trying to listen to Sandra and David at the same time. At the time I was aware she was under a lot of stress with regards to her personal life and what was going down with her friend. I think she was also looking for somewhere to stay. I didn't know what she was trying to get at at the time but now I believe she was trying to get issues off her mind about the death of her friend.

9. Sandra mentioned that she was looking for somewhere to live because she had to get out of the place where she was staying

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at. She didn't say why or where she intended to look. I got the impression that she needed to find somewhere to live fairly urgently. She had a bag and a diary with her that day. I saw her flicking through the diary. She said she had to make a couple of calls but I don't know who to. I didn't see her make any phone calls while I was there.

10. The three of us left the coffee shop about 3.30pm or 3.45pm. From memory I think David took off and Sandra was waiting near the bus stop. I think the two of them had an argument but I don't know what about. I left and went to Burwood to see my sponsor.

11. I have seen David fairly regular since this day at meetings and he is on his own. We have spoken about Sandra and he has told me that she is very down and emotionally distressed especially about that Saturday at the meeting. I have seen Sandra about four times since that Saturday but not for about a month of recent.

12. I have spoken to Sandra on these occasions at meetings I've attended and she is very distressed about the death of her friend. She is in a state of mind due to her alcoholic condition that she is very frightened and concerned about the death of her friend, the death itself, and the police investigation. To me it seems that her state of mind is such that she may think she had some involvement in the death of her friend. It is not uncommon for alcoholics to have blackouts and not remember certain things. She has not specifically told me that she was involved but because of her emotional state I could see by her body language what was going through her mind.

Witness:



P. THORNTON
DET SOL GUR
19.2.98

Signature:

