



Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

Statement of Joan Henderson

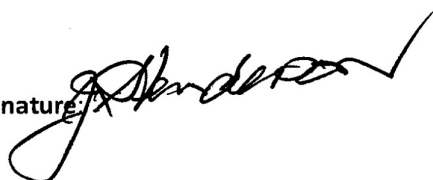
11 May 2023

This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary to give to the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes ("the Inquiry") as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. My name is Joan Edith Henderson. My date of birth is [REDACTED]
2. From about 1979 to 2006 I owned and resided at Unit [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Greenknowe Avenue, Elizabeth Bay (also known as the Onslow [REDACTED] apartment building). This apartment building is directly behind [REDACTED] Onslow Avenue, Elizabeth Bay (also known as the [REDACTED] apartment building).
3. On or about 13 June 1995, I was informed that a man who resided in the Elizabeth Bay [REDACTED] apartment building died under suspicious circumstances. I have since been informed that this man's name was Kenneth Brennan. I do not have any recollection of meeting Mr Brennan.
4. On 13 June 1995, I recall receiving a telephone call from my friend, Dr Kieran Moran, who resided on the [REDACTED] of the Onslow [REDACTED] apartment building. Dr Moran informed me that something terrible had happened in the [REDACTED] apartment building.
5. As I was making my way down to Dr Moran's apartment, I saw police officers in the staircase of the Onslow [REDACTED] apartment building. The officers asked me which apartment I resided in and whether I heard or saw anything on 11 June 1995.
6. I understand police records indicate that I told Police that I had heard screaming between 1:00am and 2:00am on 11 June 1995. Although I do not recall hearing screaming on that date now, I am confident that I must have heard screaming at the time indicated as otherwise I would not have told Police that I had. At the time, in Elizabeth Bay, it was common to hear screaming on the street late at night or early in the morning so prior to hearing about Mr Brennan's death I would not have taken much notice of it. I believe that on the evening of 10 June 1995, I was up late watching tennis on my television.
7. After speaking to police on 13 June 1995, I visited my friend, Dr Moran at his apartment. Dr Moran's apartment was directly opposite Mr Brennan's apartment. From Dr Moran's lounge room, I remember seeing forensic personnel, bright lights, and blood on the walls of Mr Brennan's apartment.

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8. I am still in touch with Dr Moran. In 2006 I sold my apartment at Unit [redacted] of [redacted] Greenknowe Avenue, Elizabeth Bay to him. Dr Moran later purchased the apartment beside my old apartment. Dr Moran now owns and resides at Unit [redacted] of [redacted] Greenknowe Avenue, Elizabeth Bay.
9. On or about 19 April 2023, I received a letter in the mail from the Inquiry inviting me to a conference at the Inquiry.
10. On 4 June 2023, I attended a conference with the Inquiry Team and provided them with the information contained in this statement.

Signature: 

Name: Joan Henderson

Date: 11 May 2023

Witness Signature: 

Witness Name: *Hermione Nicholls*

Date: 11 May 2023