P190A



STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

NSW POLICE FORGE

Colin CHESHIRE

In the matter of:	Death of Anthony CAWSEY	
Place:	Centennial Park	
Date:	24 June 2015	

Name:

STATES:

- This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that 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 will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything that I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
- 2. I am 57 years old.

Background

- I am a Park Ranger for the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust. I have been in this role since 1993. I have a Bachelors Degree in Leisure Studies from the University of Technology Sydney.
- My duties include: I patrol the parklands enforcing the Centennial Park regulations, attending incidents, looking after wildlife.

Homeless Persons:

- Thinking back to when I first started at Centennial Park, I estimate that there were approximately 10 homeless persons living rough throughout the park.
- 6. When I first started as a Park Ranger there was no policy in relation to homeless people. We generally just let them be. One of the main reasons for that was the park had no Rangers patrolling at night, so we couldn't prove they were living there.

Witness Ben WHITEHOUSE 24 June 2015

Poli Man Signature:

Colin CHESHIRE 24 June 2015

Page 1 of 6

- I cannot remember when but years before 2009, the management of the park directed the Rangers to remove the homeless people. We would arrange alternative accommodation for them at places like the Salvation Army. After a while some of them would come back.
- Its very hard to say, but at a guess there would have been somewhere between one to five homeless people living in the park prior to, and around the time of Anthony CAWSEY'S death in 2009.

'Mudman'

- There was a homeless person known as 'Mudman' who lived in and frequented Centennial Park from at least the mid 1980's until his death on 11 August 2012.
- In approximately 2007, 'Mudman' moved from his original campsite near McKay Field 4, to the area north of the Education Centre, Centennial Park. 'Mudmans' body was found just south of the Model Yacht Pond.
- 11. After his death we learned that 'Mudmans' name was Bernard TRIVES, born in 1953. His family had reported him missing in 1982. I cannot recall exactly where that information came from; however I expect it was combination of the Police telling me, from incident reports and missing persons websites.
- 12. I am aware that Mudman was involved in an incident in October 1997. Mudman allegedly jabbed a Centennial Park contractor in the arm with a safety pin as the contractor worked in the Mission Fields. I heard something to the effect that Mudman felt the contractor was getting too close to his camp.
- 13. I interacted with 'Mudman' only a few times over the years. In my experience 'Mudman' would always just turn his back. He was uncommunicative and antisocial.
- 14. I would describe 'Mudman' as Caucasian, the appearance of 50 to 60 years old, large build, with long grey matted hair down the back but balding on top. Later in Mudman's life I saw that when he was reading he held the paper very close to his face, as if he needed glasses.

Witness: Ben WHITEHOUSE 24 June 2015

Jon Clarm Signature:

Colin CHESHIRE 24 June 2015

Page 2 of 6

Death of Anthony Cawsey

- 15. On the day Anthony CAWSEY died I started work at Centennial Park about 8.00am. I was told by the Senior Ranger David CAPLE that the Police were at an area called the Snake Bank due to a suspected murder. I went to the scene, where a senior Police officer showed me the general area of where Anthony CAWSEY'S body was.
- 16. There was no mention of homeless people that day.
- 17. I remember David CAPLE saying to me later that day, words to the effect of: "I did a spotlight tour last night of the area where the body was found". David indicated that he had not seen or heard anything out of the ordinary.

Homeless black African male

- 18. My first encounter with the homeless black African male was when I found him in some bushes in the South West Corner during the day, three or four weeks prior to the death of Anthony CAWSEY.
- 19. Based on information I received in the weeks following this incident I formed an opinion that the homeless black African male could have been a person named Moses KELLIE.
- 20. This African male appeared to have possessions in the bush which indicated he was homeless. There was a brief conversation where I told the African male that he was not allowed to camp in the park. He understood me and said he was not camping, he was just passing through. I didn't believe him so I repeated myself and left him. I noticed an African accent, possibly Sub-Saharan. This occurred three or four weeks before the murder. This was the only occasion I ever interacted with this African male. I spent the first 13 years of my life in Kenya, so I am familiar with the accents.
- 21. Detective Ben WHITEHOUSE told me that Moses KELLIE is from Sierra Leone. I cannot say whether the accent I heard is from there, but I do know his accent is certainly Sub-Saharan.
- 22. I would describe the African male as black skinned, short frizzy hair, 25 to 35 years old, medium height, medium build. He was shorter than me.

Witness: **Ben WHITEHOUSE** 24 June 2015

lon Valm Signature:

Colin CHESHIRE 24 June 2015

Page 3 of 6

- 23. Throughout my 23 years working at Centennial Park, this was the only black African person I am ever aware of who lived in the park. There was a lighter skinned Aboriginal female who slept in Moore Park for one night some years ago. That is the only other dark skinned homeless person I have ever seen in the parklands.
- 24. Soon after (within days) the death of CAWSEY, Police came to Centennial Park. They provided David CAPLE with an A4 sized colour photo of a black African male. At this time I cannot recall exactly how much it depicted but it was at least his face. CAPLE told me the picture was of a person called Moses KILLY but I realised later on that it was actually KELLIE. I believe I still have a copy of the photograph.
- 25. There is a resemblance between the black African male I spoke with and the photograph of KELLIE but I cannot say if it was the same person. I could be, but there is no way that I can be certain. I cannot recall if I had a particular response when I first saw the photograph. Possibly I recognised him; equally I may not have.

Recording of incidents

- 26. Each Ranger and security officer carries a notebook to record many different things we do throughout our shift.
- 27. The End of Shift Report is put together by Ranger Security officers after every shift. Certainly every significant incident would be recorded.
- 28. There is a report called a Weekly Operations Report which was put together by management. I never actually saw these reports, but I believe they were just created from the End of Shift reports.
- 29. The Weekly Operations Report completed by Pedr DANKS, covering the period of Monday 14/09/2009 to 20/09/2009 makes a number of references to a 'homeless man harassing people near the tennis center'. I have no knowledge of these incidents. Of interest there is no Tennis Centre within Centennial Park, it is in Moore Park on Lang Road.
- 30. The Weekly Operations Report covering the day of Wednesday 23/09/2009 make a reference a homeless man harassing people at the tennis centre. I have no knowledge of this incident

Witness: Ben WHITEHOUSE 24 June 2015

Com classic Signature:

Colin CHESHIRE 24 June 2015

Page 4 of 6

- 31. The End of Shift Security Summary Report for 18 October 2009 makes reference to "Rubbish from homeless man next to drain". I am of the belief this was a reference to the camp at which Moses KELLIE lived, however I have no specific knowledge of that. It was the Police who told me that a homeless man had been living in the drain under the Snake Bank.
- 32. The End of Shift Security Summary Report for 24 October 2009 makes reference to "African Homeless man from the 196/10/2009 (sic) incident witness riding dark pushbike past Robertson Rd gates follow person from distance as I requested p200 to make a call to Stewart Leggat (Homicide Squad) and advised he had returned to park P200 advised he spoke to detective who advised they may come out tomorrow but requested that we try to locate where he was sleeping". That reference was recorded by security staff David NELSON. 'P200' was Lee DOULL. I have no particular knowledge of that incident. However, I am aware of an incident of Ranger Security having an interaction with KELLIE which lasted several hours. I believe this occurred as a result of Police requesting security to keep an eye out for KELLIE. They found him, took him in the Ranger car, called the Police and waited at a gate for Police to arrive. I do not believe the Police ever arrived.

Sexual activity in park

- 33. Around 2009, I am aware that there were two areas which seemed to attract male sexual activity. I believe that the area known as Carrington Drive in the north end of the park was used by homosexual males; the Lachlan Swamp was used by a combination of bisexual and homosexual males.
- 34. Heterosexual activity seemed to be more dispersed throughout the park.
- 35. To my knowledge the 'Snake Bank' and Busby Pond are not known for male sexual activity.

Witness: Ben WHITEHOUSE 24 June 2015

Shi clame Signature:

Colin CHESHIRE 24 June 2015

Page 5 of 6

ANNEXURE: I NOW PRODUCE A MAP OF CENTENNIAL PARK WITH MARKING INDICATING:

a. AREA WHERE CAMP WAS DISCOVERED UNDER SNAKE BANK

b. AREAS OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY

c. KENSINGTON BRIDGE

d. TENNIS CENTRE

Annexure Photograph of Moses KELLIE

Signature: Witness: BER WHITEHOUSE 24 June 2015

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Colin CHESHIRE 24 June 2015

Page 6 of 6