



New South Wales

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

Statement of Glen Lehman

8 May 2023

1. My name is Glen Stuart Lehman. My address is known to the Special Commission of Inquiry ("the Inquiry").
2. I am 77 years old. My date of birth is [REDACTED].
3. Prior to my retirement about four years ago, I worked in event production as the Managing Director of Lehman and Associates, which was my own business. That role primarily involved running international meetings, parties and conferences and product launches for corporations. I would arrange guest speakers, lighting, sound, entertainment and similar matters for those events. I set up that business in 1982, at which time I was working primarily in public relations for theatre companies and organisations like the Australian Opera and Australian Ballet. The company initially covered both that work and event production, but eventually became more focused on event production.
4. On 30 November 2022, I was contacted by telephone by a Principal Investigator for the Inquiry in relation to my recollection of the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of Gilles Mattaini in September 1985. I was not aware of the Inquiry until that conversation. This statement sets out my memory of those events.
5. I knew Gilles Mattaini as a friend. I also knew him as Gilleau and others have called him Gil. His partner at the time of his disappearance was Jacques Musy.
6. I first met Gilleau and Jacques sometime after 1980 through my partner Vincent Simon Ottaviani. Vincent and I were living in a house in [REDACTED]. I recall that Gilles and Jacques lived next door to us, and we came to know them as neighbours. Vincent, Gilles and Jacques were all part of a group of French men living in Sydney who all knew one another. Other members of that group were Jean-Marc (whose surname I do not recall), Tony (I believe Antony Wyszynski), Didiere Fargus and Marc Hubert. They mainly met through the Menzies Hotel. At least Vincent, Gilleau, Jacques and Marc Hubert worked there. I recall Jean-Marc was a waiter, and he might also have worked at the Menzies Hotel.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Glen Lehman', written in a cursive style.

7. Around that time my company had started doing some event production and I recall that I once arranged for an end-of-conference dinner to be held at the Menzies Hotel. However, I don't recall, in particular, who else worked there. I recall that all the French men working there, including Vincent, worked for the Head of Banquets, Robert Parsons, who I kept in touch with afterwards. Unfortunately, he passed away last year. I do not retain any notebooks or diaries from my company.
8. I recall that Jean-Marc was the lynchpin of that social group and often organised social gatherings. He had no partner but was good friends with Tony and Didiere. Didiere did not have a partner, I cannot recall if Tony had a partner. Marc Hubert had a partner whose name I can't remember but who used to share a place with Vincent and I in Surry Hills. The partner's siblings were called Susie and Stephen and they also worked at the Menzies Hotel.
9. Altogether I knew that group for approximately 9 years, both before and after Gilleau disappeared. There was probably a 20 or 30-year age difference between me and them, so I mainly knew them through Vincent. Vincent passed away in 1991.
10. In the early 1980s I purchased a house at [REDACTED] in North Bondi and Vincent and I moved there. Sometime after Vincent and I moved to Bondi, Gilleau and Jacques moved to a nearby apartment at [REDACTED] in Bondi, on the western side of Bondi Beach public school and down towards the main shopping area. I believe they initially moved to another apartment by themselves elsewhere in North Bondi before they came to [REDACTED]. Annexed to this statement and marked with the letter "A" is a current Google Maps image on which I have marked the locations of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to my memory.
11. I believe that Tony and Jean-Marc had also moved nearby, in the street behind the public school, and that is the reason Gilleau and Jacques also moved to Bondi, but I can't be entirely sure. I recall that I was visiting Jean-Marc when I came across [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for sale, so he had already been living in Bondi. Didiere also lived at the end of [REDACTED] in an apartment by himself. Part of the reason Vincent and I moved there was to be near friends.
12. Gilleau and Jacques would sometimes come over for drinks and coffee. I would see them maybe twice a month, often through Jean-Marc organising Saturday morning coffee or similar gatherings.
13. I am not aware of anyone by the name of Terry or Thierry that lived in the apartment complex near Gilleau and Jacques.
14. There were no real issues or trouble spots in the Bondi area when I lived there. I wasn't aware of any issues with gangs of youth or the Police. When at home, I usually stayed in the North Bondi area, as to walk from North Bondi to South Bondi was a bit of a hike. I would usually take my two dogs (Dobermanns) out to a particular headland (Ben Buckler) and let them off their leashes. Marks Park was



- known as a bit of a beat, but I never participated in that. It was well known in that friendship group that Marks Park was a beat, and that it was dangerous to go there at night. I believe Gilleau would have known that. However, I did not regard it as dangerous in daylight and thought it was a great place to walk the dogs during the day. I didn't know anyone that had been assaulted there.
15. I recall Gilleau as a bubbly, outgoing guy, who reminded me of "Mickey Mouse". He loved living in Australia and did not express any thoughts of suicide in the period I knew him. I do not believe he would have committed suicide as I remember him being "full of beans" and always enjoying himself. His only concern was the AIDS epidemic that we all discussed as a group. He would often frequent the beach, but I am unaware of him having a routine of going for walks in the area. To my knowledge, he was a good swimmer.
 16. One night, I can't remember the date, Vincent told me that he had spoken with Jacques over the phone about how Gilleau hadn't come home. Jacques wasn't home at the time, I don't know if he was working. Vincent told me that Gilleau had gone out and left his passport and other personal effects and never came back. Gilleau would normally take his passport with him as he was in Australia on a visa. I don't remember if I heard what other personal effects Gilleau had left, or the time or date. Vincent relayed the story to me in English, as I do not speak French fluently. I don't think I had seen Gilleau myself for some months before he vanished.
 17. I didn't conduct any enquiries with the hospitals or the police. I believe that Jacques was doing this. I do not recall Vincent doing this but he easily could have during the day while I was working, as he worked at night.
 18. As far as I can recall, it wasn't until much later that it was even suggested Gilleau had been killed. Over a period of time, there were questions asked as to where he had gone and what happened to him as his body has never been found, so there was speculation that he was chucked off a cliff but there was never any proof of that. I have been told that Gilleau's name is now on a plaque on a bench at Marks Park.
 19. After Gilleau disappeared the rest of the group continued to socialise. We would have coffees and go for a swim. I know that Jean-Marc eventually became sick with AIDS and left the area, and has since passed away. Tony also became sick and moved back to Bordeaux. Marc Hubert went to work at Qantas after the Menzies Hotel and I believe he still does. I do not know what happened to Didiere or Jacques. Robert Parsons may have known others who worked at the Menzies, but as mentioned he has since passed away. I cannot recall any other persons that might know anything about Gilleau or his disappearance.
 20. I can recall one night, around 10:30pm when I took the dogs for a walk directly out the front of the house in North Bondi, I went through the kids park and below that is the esplanade or the walkway and below that was the rock pool. It was a really hot night, so I took the dogs down to the beach. As I came back up the stairs through the park. I noticed young kids. I had a funny feeling about one of the kids who followed



me up to the kids swings area. One of my dogs became quite aggressive which was incredibly unusual. I noticed the other two kids at the bottom of the stairs. I can't recall much, only they were around fourteen years of age and not built-up or 'muscle boys'. They didn't say anything to me, it was just an uneasy feeling I had.

21. I have never been spoken to and have not provided a statement to the New South Wales Police force in relation to Gilleau and his disappearance that I can remember.

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 as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature:



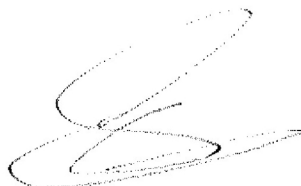
Name:

GLENN KENNAN

Date:

17/8/23

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Annexure 'A'



5/4/23

