

# STATEMENT OF I34

**Product Type:** TEXT DOCUMENTS:Statement

**Completed Date:** 27 Nov 2001

**Brief Description:** Statement of I34 homosexual who was sexually assaulted at Marks Park, Tamarama in 1990.

**Summary:**

- Para 3:** Has full blown aids. Has life expectancy of six months
- Para 6 & 7:** Performs as a drag queen at Kennedy's Nightclub in Wollongong in early 1980's. Meets Ross WARREN and other WINTV personalities through this club
- Paras 8 & 9:** Lives in ██████████ Sydney in 1988-1990. Starts to frequent 'gay beat' in Marks Park Tamarama during this period.
- Para 10:** Describes Marks Park area
- Para 11:** Describes routine used by homosexual men at Marks Park
- Paras 12 to 15:** Describes being assaulted and robbed in Bondi after leaving bank in January 1990
- Paras 16 to 20.:** Details attending Marks Park in March 1990. Describes how meets a male on park bench, who he describes as white, about 25 old, dark hair.
- Paras 21 to 23:** States how he voluntarily gives oral sex to this man. During this joined by two other males, who he believes are totally naked.
- Paras 24 to 35:** Describes how he is orally and anally sexually assaulted and tortured over what he believes was a period of an hour to an hour and a half. Says he is sexually assaulted by all three men continually during this time, both orally and anally.
- Paras 36 to 37.:** After conclusion of assault is left in the bushes by all three. Makes his way home and eventually to St. Vincent's Hospital where he is treated for injuries.
- Para 40:** Suffers four broken ribs, green stick fracture to right forearm, two cracked vertebrae to back of neck, a laceration to back of head which required four stitches and bruising and soreness to rest of body.
- Para 41:** States did not report incident to police as was afraid of attackers. Has not been to a 'gay beat' since attack
- Para 42:** Cannot describe his attackers in detail. Only really got to see the first male with whom he initially consented to have sex with.
- Para 44:** Becomes aware of disappearance of Ross WARREN through the media in mid 1990.
- Para 45 & 46:** Contacted by Det Sgt Page in April 2001. Taken to where WARREN's keys found in Marks Park. Says this is part of area gay men go to to have sex
- Para 47:** Is of the opinion that WARREN went there to meet someone he knew. Does not believe that WARREN would go there to meet total strangers.
- Paras 48 to 49:** Does not know what happened to WARREN. Does not know anybody who does. Says that gossip in gay community is that WARREN was murdered. Thinks this rumour is because of attacks on gay men at Marks Park in the past
- Paras 49 to 51:** Has not seen WARREN since his disappearance in 1990. Does not believe he was suicidal or that he disappeared of his own accord. Last time he was WARREN was in 1987 or 1988.
- Para 52:** Has heard about attacks on gay men at Marks Park in the past. Believes that most attacks were not reported. Believes that most of the victims of these attacks would be dead now.

## New South Wales Police

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v4.0

## STATEMENT in the matter of:

Ross WARREN

Suspected death

Place: Paddington

Police Station

Date : 10 April 2001

Name:

134

Address: Known to police

Tel. No.: Known to police

Occupation: Charity Worker

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 for prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

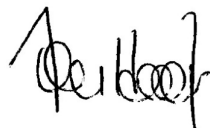
2. I am 47 years of age.

3. I currently live in the Wollongong area. I am living on a pension. I have full blown AIDS, I do not have an immune system anymore and my doctor has given me only six months to live. I perform a lot of charity work with the "AIDS Council of NSW", "Our Pathways Incorporated" and the "Bobby Goldsmith Foundation".

4. I am also known as "Sadie" which is my "drag" name. When I perform charity duties I work and dress as "Sadie."

5. I have always known that I was gay. I tried to be straight in my younger years and I had girlfriends and was engaged to be married three times. I finally accepted my sexual orientation when I was about twenty one years old and I officially "came out" publicly as being gay. I am not a bisexual.

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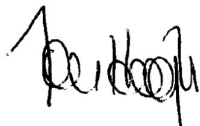
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6. I grew up in the Wollongong area. I became well known in the Wollongong area because I have been doing drag since 1968. In 1983 I was contracted in "Les Girls" at the "Carousel" in Kings Cross. Living in Wollongong I became associated with various television personalities, including a number of people from WIN TV, which is the local Wollongong television station. My association with WIN staff was through "Kennedy's night club" which has always been a straight club where drag shows are performed. Gay people attended this night club to watch these shows. There were not a lot of officially known gay venues in Wollongong at this time. When I performed in these shows I performed as "Sadie" at Kennedy's night club.

7. People I met from WIN TV included Susie ELLEMEN, [177] [177] Ross WARREN and Robert TYLER. I knew Ross WARREN socially because we went to the same parties and knew the same friends. Even though I would not consider us to have been extremely close friends, I knew that Ross was gay and we all sort of looked out for each other around the traps. Ross was "in the closet" and had not publicly stated his sexuality. Ross was good friends with [177] who I also knew as being gay, but like Ross WARREN was "in the closet".

8. From 1987-1990 I lived in Forbes. From 1988 to 1990 I was residing between addresses at Forbes and [REDACTED], Sydney. When in Sydney I was living with two people, Meagen WICKS and Chris PURSE. I don't know where either of these people live or are now situated.

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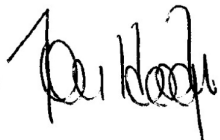
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9. During that period of time I got to know the Bondi and Tamarama areas quite well and therefore the gay "beat" areas. I have known about Marks Park, Tamarama since about 1966 since I was about twelve years of age. Tamarama is a gay beat. Men go to this area to meet and each other and have sex.

10. When living in Sydney I would frequent Marks Park nearly every night, although not necessarily to have sex. It was often the case that I would meet a guy at the park and we would have sex. Marks Park is a park which is situated on the point or headland from Tamarama Beach to Bondi Beach. There is a walkway or footpath which goes around the edge of the park and there is quite a lot of honey comb caverns or sandstone caverns around the rocky edges of the walkway.

11. Gay and bisexual men were known to have sex in the honeycomb caverns and the bushes surrounding the walkway and in Marks Park. A lot of people think that men meet and have sex in the toilets there at the southern end of Mark's Park. This is necessarily is not necessarily the case as the toilets are too open and people can always walk in on you. It's also the case that most of the time gay men go to Mark's Park to pick up men who are termed "straight" because they might have female partners or be closet homosexuals. In any case the rock area around the outside of Marks Park and the bushes on top of the flat area of the park are where people go to have sex because it is not as open to the public and therefore a lesser chance of being accidental discovered or disturbed.

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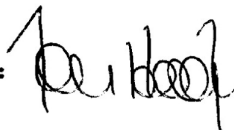
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12. In the beginning of January, 1990 I went to the ANZ Bank in Bondi Road, Bondi about 10.00am-10.45am in the morning. It was a pay day so it must have been a Thursday. I withdrew approximately one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) in cash. My land lord used to collect my rent from my home so I made my way home to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] because I had taken the money out of the bank for my rent. [REDACTED] was a culdesac street that ran parallel to Fletcher Street and in between Fletcher Street. [REDACTED] was a laneway that also ran parallel to [REDACTED] and Fletcher Streets. I can not recall the name of that lane way. I used to take a short cut through this lane way as my house backed on to the lane way and there was a gate that gave access to my house.

13. Just as I reached the gate to my house I felt a blow to the my back around my neck and shoulder area. After I was hit I fell to the ground on my stomach. The next thing I remember seeing is three pairs of feet standing around me as I layed on the ground. One pair of feet was wearing Red Jim Boot type shoes which were made of a canvassy and rubber material. The other two pairs of feet had white runners on. I can not describe these people any further than that because all I saw was there feet.

14. They made no conversation with me or between themselves. I felt one of them take my wallet which contained the cash I had withdrawn from the bank, out of my back pocket. I saw these men then run off down the laneway towards the beach. After I got up I went inside and I told my two flat mates what had happened. I later reported the incident to the police at Waverley Police Station. I can not recall how long after the incident I reported it.

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15. I did not give any person permission to hit me across the back of the head, nor did I give any person permission to steal my wallet from me.

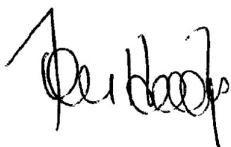
16. About a four weeks before Sydney Mardi Gras of 1990, which is always held in the first week of March, I went to Tamarama Park. I'm pretty sure it was a Friday night because I had been to the Bondi Hotel and it was pool competition night at the pub. I arrived at the pub about 10pm and I had left between 12.30am and 1am. During this time I probably had about four schooners of full strength beer.

17. I walked home via the walkway which runs from Bondi Beach around Mark's Park to Tamarama. I remember that it was a hot night and I was wearing black nylon cycle shorts with a black g-string underneath and a white "Bonds" singlet.

18. At this time I was about thirty five years old, I had long blonde hair down to the middle of my back and on that night it was out. I was very thin then and I weighed about 46kg.

19. I walked up the stairs at the north end of Marks Parks across to a chair which was on the north eastern end overlooking the ocean. I sat on the chair and I watched the moon rise. Another man came and sat beside me. He had dark hair which was parted in the middle and came down to his shoulders. I thought he was aged between 20-25. He was at least 10 years younger than me. This man was a white boy and I didn't recognise any accent so I am sure he was an aussie. He was wearing a light cotton shirt which was darkish in colour. It was open at the chest and I could see that he had chest hair. He was also wearing jeans.

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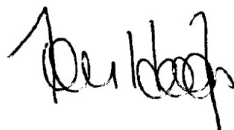
20. This man asked me if I had a light for a cigarette. I lit his cigarette for him. As I lit his cigarette he held my hand and put it on his crutch. At this point I realised that he was "on" that is he was there to have sex with another man. While he did this he also played with his crutch. This man then led me over the foot path down the hill on the northern side of the Park into some bushes so that we were under a growth of vegetation. I went with thsi man to have sex.

21. There was two openings to the growth at the east and west ends. I undressed so that I was completely naked. This man pulled his jeans and underwear down around his ankles exposing his penis. He left his shirt on. I voluntarily performed oral sex on him. We were in a position so that he was standing and I was kneeling in front of him, and his penis was in my mouth. When I was doing this I saw that his penis was circumcised and it would have been between six (6) and seven (7) inches in length. I could also see that he had a tattoo on his left outer calf. I am able to say it was his left side because I am completely blind in my left eye and I could clearly see the tattoo sticking up over his jeans which were still around his ankles.

22. I thought it must have been a fairly big tattoo because the top of it was peeking over his jeans. I can not recall what was actually pictured on the tattoo. I remember he had smooth skin which also made me think that he was quite young.

23. The next thing I remember is whilst I was giving this man oral sex two other men came from the southern entrance of the overgrown vegetation. I am certain they were both naked.

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24. The first guy, then man who I had been having oral sex with pushed my head down into the ground. As he did this he slid down on the to the ground so that he was sitting on his back side. He still had his jeans around his ankle.

25. This man then forced my head into his groin forcing me to continue oral sex on him. As he was doing this a second guy sat at the base of my feet. He must have also been sitting because he had a hold of both of my ankles with his hands so that my legs were up over each of his shoulders. He had his feet on the inside of my knees forcing my legs apart.

26. As a result of being forced into this position and the fact that the original man I had been giving oral sex now forcing the issue with me to continue to oral sex I was lying flat on my stomach on the ground. The third guy lay on top of me and tried to put his penis into my anus. I remember him saying something about being in pain and blaming me saying that I was too tight. I cannot remember the words used by these men. One of them, I am sure it was the third guy who was laying on top of me, tried to loosen me up, loosen by anus, by putting his fingers inside me until he had all four fingers and his thumb up to around his wrist inside my anus.

27. I don't think he was using his hand in a fist clench but he had forced his whole hand inside my anus. The first guy continued to force my head into his crotch area forcing me to give oral sex to him. They then changed places.

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28. They changed places this systematically, the third guy who was on top of me moved to the position where the second guy was holding my feet. The guy that was holding my feet then moved to the front of me where the original guy who was pushing my head into his crutch was. He then forced my head into the ground and the second guy took the first guys placed forcing my head into his crutch, so that I was forced to give him oral sex. The first guy then got on top of me.

29. They systematically took turns at me like this changing places. At no time did they discuss how they were going to do this, they just did it. When the guy who had been complaining of pain whilst trying to penetrate me came to be in the position where he was forcing my head into his crutch to give him oral sex, I realised that he was not able to get his penis through his foreskin as the hole at this sheath was too small. He was not circumcised.

30. I have worked in the sex industry for many years and I am able to say from experience that this would cause him considerable pain when trying to penetrate me with his penis. His penis was really thick but I think it was shorter than the other two males.

31. I lost track of who was doing what to me. At one stage, one of them burned the hair off of my scrotum with a cigarette lighter. This did not cause pain to my scrotum area as the light only burned the hairs and not my skin. A guy then performed oral sex on me by raising me off the ground. I am quite well endowed and therefore he was able to place my penis in his mouth from between my legs behind me. I was still face down at this time and being forced to give the person at the head of me oral sex.

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32. They kind of lifted my stomach off the ground. When the guy with the problem foreskin was at my head one of the other two guys was saying that I was too loose for him. One of them said, "You'll be tight".

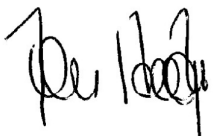
33. He then burned my nipple and the inside of my thigh which caused me to clench my buttocks, I guess to make me tighten by anus for them as the reflex reaction to being burnt. I'm not sure what they burn't me with, a lighter or cigarette. I still have a mark on the inside of my thigh from where I was burned.

34. The whole incident seemed to take an hour to an hour and a half to me. The three of them systematically took turns at penetrating my mouth and my anus. All three ejaculated more than once. They did not use condoms at any time. They continually abused me verbally, swearing at me and making threats. They said that I was a "slut" and they'd used me for what they wanted. They said "all poofers should be exterminated" and similar things to that effect. They said that they knew who I was and where I lived and if I said anything they would be back.

35. When they had finished taking turns raping me, one of them masturbated and ejaculated over my face while another urinated on my body. The other one kicked me about the torso at the same time. They punched and kicked me before leaving.

36. When they had gone, I lay there for some time. I was crying hysterically and didn't want to move.

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37. I only gave consent to perform oral sex on the first male. I did not give any of them consent to penetrate my anus with their penis. I did not give permission for them to place their penises in my mouth after the other two males turned up. I did not give consent for any of them to place my penis in their mouths. I did not give any of them permission to assault, kick, or burn me. I did not give any of them permission to burn the hair from my scrotum. I did not give permission for any of them to urinate on my body. I was scared for my life when the three men were raping me. I thought they were going to kill me.

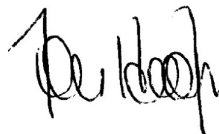
38. When I had calmed down a bit I made my way home to Carlisle Street. My mother was staying with us at the time. I told her what had happened to me. I washed up and cleaned myself up in the shower.

39. I went to St Vincent's Hospital by taxi and was treated in emergency. I didn't tell the hospital staff what had happened to me, I just said that I had been in trouble and didn't tell them any more.

40. As a result of the assault I suffered four broken ribs, a green stick fracture of my right forearm, two cracked vertebrae in the back of my neck, a laceration to the back of my head which required four or five stitches and bruising and soreness to the rest of my body.

41. I did not report this incident to the police as I was afraid that the men would come after me. Shortly after the incident I moved to Wollongong. I have not been to a "gay beat" since this happened to me.

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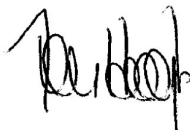
42. I am unable to describe the three men in detail. I only really got to see the first male who I had agreed to have oral sex with. I am able to say however, that they were all caucasian. I have worked in the sex industry for many years and as a result of that I have learned that coloured men, no matter how small a percentage of their original coloured heritage, always have dark coloured scrotums. Each of the three males who attacked me had white coloured scrotums. I was able to see this because it was a full moon and I could see quite clearly. The two male's who I did not see did not seem to have a lot of hair body hair and they had very smooth skin.

43. I did not notice that they had any kind of accent and this together with the fact that they all had white scrotums led me to believe that they were all aussie boys.

44. I bacame aware of the disappearance of Ross WARREN through the media in mid 1990.

45. On Monday 9th April 2001 I received a phone call from Detective Page of Paddington Detectives. We had a conversation about Ross Warren and the time I was robbed. As a result of that conversation I attended Paddington Police Station on the 10th April 2001 and I told Detectives Page and Ingram about the time when I was raped at Marks Park. I went to Mark's Park with the Detectives PAGE and INGRAM. They showed me the area where Ross's keys were located in a honeycomb pocket of rock at the base of cliffs on the southern end of Marks Park.

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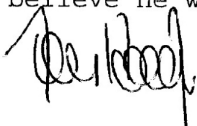
46. I am of the opinion that Ross went down to this area of his own accord because that is an area where gay men go to have sex away from the track and so that other people can't see them from the top. I have been there myself for that reason.

47. I am of the opinion that Ross had gone there with someone that he had previously met or previously arranged to meet there. I say this because I am of the opinion that Ross was not the kind of person to go to a Gay Beat to meet total strangers. I believe he may have even been lured down to that section of the rock area.  
46. I do not believe for a minute that Ross would have gone down to that area on his own. Especially since it was dark. I don't think he would have gone down to that section unless he knew someone was already down there, or they were going down there with him. I believe he put his keys in that pocket of rock so that he could collect them when he was finished doing whatever it was he was doing.

48. I do not know exactly what happened to Ross Warren. I have heard a few things about his disappearance. Some people thought that he had committed suicide, but the gossip amongst the gay community was that Ross was murdered and his body was dumped off the rocks at Bondi. I think this rumour may have come about because there has been other incidents of violence against gay men at Tamarama in the past.

49. As I have already said, this version is based on gossip, I don't know anyone who knows for a fact that Ross was murdered. I do not know if the same men who attacked me had something to do with Ross Warren's disappearance.

50. I have not seen Ross WARREN since his disappearance in 1990. I do not believe he disappeared of his own accord and I do not believe he was suicidal at the time of his disappearance.



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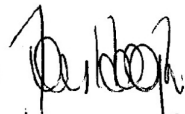
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51. The last time I saw Ross Warren was before I moved up to Forbes which was about 1987 or 1988. Sometimes friends would come to see me and I would hear gossip from them about people around the traps including Ross. No one had ever said anything about him for me to get the impression that he was depressed, or suicidal or unhappy with his life.

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52. I have heard in the past about attacks on gay men at Bondi and Tamarama including Marks Park. However, if anything does happen, people generally clam up about it because they are too scared. Nine times out of ten these type of incidents are not reported. A lot of the people who have been through his sort of thing would be dead now and so couldn't tell anyone about it anyway.

Witness:

  
JOHN HOOKER  
DET. SEN. CONST.

Signature:

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