



NSW POLICE FORCE

P190A

Version 4.5 (05/2015)

STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of: Disappearance of Ross WARREN

Place: [REDACTED]

Date: 28th June 2017

Name: Kay WARREN

STATES:

1. 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 78 years of age.
3. I am the mother of Ross Warren. I have previously made two other statements to Police about Ross. Detective Tierney showed me these statements. I identify the statements are dated 15/7/1991 and 26/8/2001 and the signatures are mine. These statements must have been taken by Police in Queensland because Alan and I haven't been back to Sydney or Wollongong since Ross went missing.
4. In 1989 I was living at [REDACTED] Surfers Paradise. I was married to my husband Alan and we had three children. Ross Bradley was the oldest, then Kelli-Maree our daughter and Craig Alan is the youngest. There was three years between Ross and Kelli, and a year between Kelli and Craig. We moved to that home around 1986. It was a duplex, three bedroom house.

5. [REDACTED]

Witness:

[REDACTED]
Katherine TIERNEY
Detective Senior Constable
Homicide Squad

28/6/17

Signature:

Kay Warren

Kay WARREN
28th June 2017

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[Redacted]

6. [Redacted]

7. [Redacted]

8. [Redacted]

9. [Redacted]. The kids were close growing up. When they got to school sometimes there was some animosity between Kelli and Craig but they got over that.

10. I have a sister Nancy and a brother Darrell. Darrell is deceased. They have always lived in Queensland. Nancy had three boys. Darrell had four boys. All those children lived in Queensland, my family never lived anywhere outside the Queensland state. Alan had two brothers, Neil and Ian. Neil doesn't have any children but Ian's got two girls. All Alan's extended family have always lived in Queensland.

11. Ross went to Miami High School. Kelli had one year at Merrimack High School then transferred to Miami and Craig also went to Miami High School.

12. Alan was a builder and I was a stay at home mum. In terms of our wealth we were an average family, we weren't struggling with money but we weren't wealthy either.

13. Ross and I were close. We always got along well. We could confide in each other. When Ross lived in Wollongong Ross called me and Alan every Sunday night after he read the news. I think when he called he would mostly call from work as he had his own desk and phone.

Witness: [Redacted]
Katherine TIERNEY ✓
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Signature: *Kay Warren*
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14. Ross went to year 12 in high school and got the highest mark you could get in year 12. He did a year at Queensland University in St Lucia in Brisbane, he was studying law but decided it wasn't for him. When he was in year 12 he did a radio/TV announcer's course somewhere in Brisbane. It was a privately run thing, an old TV announcer ran it, his name was Jim ILIFFE he was married to Melody WELSH. We used to drive him up to the course which ran for a couple of hours once a week. Ross was in the top six of that course.
15. Ross wrote to a lot of TV stations in Australia and he ended up getting a job at Lismore at NRTV (Northern Rivers TV). He got his first media position in Lismore. He was an assistant cameraman. He was doing radio announcing and being a gofer for the TV people. He hated this but had to do it to get a foot in the door. I'm unsure how long he worked there for. I think he went there in 1983, I think he was there only about 18 months.
16. He then got transferred from Lismore to the Gold Coast still with NRTV as a cameraman. He was living in Alstonville where the TV station was. They originally didn't have a studio on the Gold Coast but they opened up a studio and he started working there. When he was transferred to the Gold Coast he moved back home with us. We were then living at 16 Delungra Street Broadbeach.
17. He then got a job at Mount Isa as a newsreader with the local TV station. He was in Mount Isa when he was 21. That would have been 1985. I'm unsure where he was living in Mount Isa. He flew up before he started the job and Alan and I drove his car up and found a flat for him. We then flew home. That car was the same car he used until his disappeared. It was a Nissan Pulsar, gold/bronze colour. We bought the car for him. Prior to this car Ross had an old Gemini. I can't recall how long he worked in Mount Isa for.
18. After Mount Isa he got a job at Wagga Wagga. I can't recall much about that but I think he was there maybe a year. His position there was a newsreader for a local TV station. I don't recall where he lived there. I don't think he was very impressed with the job there, probably because it was a country town and tucked away.
19. After Wagga was when he got the job at WIN at Wollongong. I can't recall what year that was. Ross was rapt when he got that job because it was a city and it was more responsibility and more advancement with his career. It was also so close to Sydney which was where he wanted

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to get into. He was friendly with some of the more experienced newsreaders in Sydney. He got to know them through being at WIN.

20. I think he was just at the one place in Wollongong. I don't recall the address but it was a unit, a one bedroom unit, it was a fair way from the station. I don't remember exactly where it was.
21. He wasn't struggling with money, he could support himself, pay rent and buy food. Occasionally he would borrow money from us, perhaps a couple of hundred dollars but he didn't have any outstanding loans, or debts to anyone. He had enough money to go to concerts with friends I recall him going to concerts at the Hordern Pavilion with friends.
22. Ross never had any health problems growing up just the normal things like tonsillitis. He had black measles when he was little when he was three and he was in a really bad way with that, sometimes that can affect the brain but luckily his brain wasn't affected. When he was 16 he got glandular fever and it took him a long time to get over that. Other than that he didn't have any other health problems. Ross wasn't on any medication either.
23. Ross was very personable and presented himself well. He had a fantastic memory like a photographic memory and he read encyclopedia's instead of story books. He wanted to live somewhere near the beach because he loved the beach. Ross was always happy, he had lots of friends and was popular at school. He was a smartass sometimes. He had a wicked sense of humour. He had a lot of confidence and I would never have called him shy. When he was young he spent a lot of time reading and he wasn't boisterous like the other two. He wasn't a mad sports person. He played a bit of soccer and he also refereed soccer. As an adult he played waterpolo and he was a very strong swimmer. Ross didn't surf. He liked Wollongong because it was near the beach. He was pretty outgoing and would get along with everybody.
24. Ross wouldn't have been into drugs, if he had a drink it would only be one or two. He wasn't into gambling. He wasn't a smoker.
25. In terms of family holidays when the kids were young we used to have a caravan and travel around Australia, we went to Perth, north Queensland and out west in Queensland. I think he went to New Zealand once. This was when he was an adult. He either went with a friend or met a friend over there. I think it was with someone he met who was from New Zealand.

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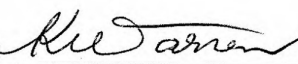
26. When he was living in Wollongong he would come back home for Christmas, he would have one or two weeks here with us but other than that I don't recall him taking any other holidays.
27. I recall there was something in Sydney like a job opportunity with another TV station before he disappeared. I know he was hoping for something, like a foot in the door there. I don't think he got to the interview stage. I think he was disappointed because the main newsreader at WIN left and he thought he might have got that position but he was overlooked. There was a female newsreader who got the job, her name was Mary.
28. I'm not aware of Ross having any plans or appointments upcoming before he disappeared. He used to go and have a regular AIDS checks, there were never any problems it was always clear.
29. Ross's friend Craig ELLIS came up for Christmas one year. When I met him I thought he was a nice young guy, very easy to get along with. I recall they went to the beach together while they were here. I think they stayed here a week in the house with us. I don't think they were partners. I recall when Ross asked if Craig could come up he said "He's not my boyfriend."
30. I don't think he would have brought anyone home that he was involved with. We had no indication that Ross was gay he'd had girlfriends all along. He came home one night and told us he'd been caught in a toilet block and that's how we found out. This might have been when he was 17 or 18. It was a hell of a shock but we had to accept it and get on with things. I took him to Doctors and things like that to seek some professional advice. He was quite willing and he said "I'll do whatever you want me to do to see if I can change." He wanted to see if he could change. He said he'd tried it both ways but being gay was the way he wanted to go.
31. I remember taking him to Peter Dow on the Gold Coast and he gave him an examination and he talked to him but there was no action taken. There was no medication that would help. Our first reaction was that maybe he could be changed but I know he didn't think he could change.
32. I don't really think Ross struggled to accept it himself, I think maybe he felt bad by disappointing us but we just had to accept it and we didn't try and force him into anything in particular. We accepted it once we got over the initial shock of it all and so he accepted it. I

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think he coped with it very well, he didn't publicise the fact he was gay. He wasn't flamboyant he was very outright masculine.

33. I wasn't aware of Ross's relationships. I wasn't aware if he was dating anyone or anyone he was interested in. I'm sure had he got into a serious relationship he would have said something. I think this is because he lived away from home rather than him being reluctant to tell Alan and I.
34. In regards to when Ross was caught I think he was in the lockup overnight at the police station, we had a solicitor for him but I don't believe he had to go to court, I think he was just fined. He was quite upset and embarrassed about it. I think he was worried about coming home and telling us about it.
35. The last time Alan and I both spoke to Ross was the Sunday before he disappeared. I don't recall what we spoke about, normally it was just a catch up and an account of the week's events. Normally I was doing my ironing when Ross called.
36. I recall the first I knew of Ross going missing was when WIN called on the Monday morning. Someone called and said This is so and so from WIN TV we're a bit concerned because Ross didn't show up for work yesterday. Then it was panic stations. I recall Alan was at work and I got in touch with the person Alan was working for and he came home. I probably rang Kelli and then rang the Police in NSW after. I think somebody gave me a contact number for the local Police.
37. Alan and I flew down there on the Tuesday morning. Our friends across the road from us had parents living in Wollongong and after we went and saw the Police in Sydney we just went and probably went to their place in Wollongong.
38. When we arrived in Sydney I think we went to the closest Police Station. We spoke to Sergeant BOWDITCH. BOWDITCH came and got us and he took us down to the site, the rocks at Marks Park. BOWDITCH pointed to a spot on the rocks and told us that's where Ross's keys were found. The explanation that was given to us by BOWDITCH was that Ross had slipped and fallen into the water and dropped his keys on the way down.

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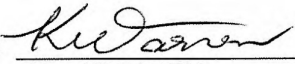
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39. We didn't meet Craig when we were in Sydney nor did we go to his house. I have a feeling Craig might have rung us when we were back at home. I think Craig rang when they held a memorial for Ross just to let us know they were having one.
40. I can recall the Police gave us Ross's keys, his wallet, I can't recall if there was anything else. Ross's car was fingerprinted and when we decided to go home we picked up his car from the police. I recall it was covered in fingerprint dust.
41. I think we were in Wollongong for two or three days. I recall going to Ross's place with the Police. The police took us there to see if there was anything out of the ordinary. I recall Ross's VCR was there when we went but gone the following day. The police were the only ones who had access to the flat.
42. The unit was very untidy but that was typical of Ross. His fridge was well stocked with food. There was nothing out of the ordinary. From his flat we took Ross's clothes and personal things, he had a stack of vinyl records – he used to make his own tapes by transferring songs from the Vinyl records onto a cassette to listen to in Wollongong. I never saw anything like a photo album in Ross's flat. He never had a camera. I never saw anything like a journal, letters or a diary.
43. When we got Ross's car back I recall there was a towel on the back seat. I still have this towel now, it's a black and white coloured towel. There was lots and lots of McDonald wrappers on the back seat. I recall there being some information that somebody said Ross stopped and got McDonalds after the pub the night he went missing. It's possible the information was that Ross had said he was hungry and he was going to get a McDonalds. I recall the information was that Ross went to the pub and they got drinks, and Ross was saying to his friend who he went with that he was going home because he had the big event the next day, a big musical thing that was on at the park. I think the information about Ross going to McDonalds and about his last movements probably would have come from the Police.
44. I recall that Ross had told me prior to the weekend that he had tickets to go to a show the weekend he disappeared, there was a few of them and he was meeting up with a female and other friends and they were going to this show. I think he was supposed to also meet Craig ELLIS at the show. I remember someone saying that he didn't show up when he was supposed

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to meet them, I think this was Craig and then he didn't come home on the Saturday night and they thought he must have gone to sleep somewhere else. I don't recall where the show was on. I don't recall what the show was.

45. The day that Ross was last seen when he went to a bar with the friend from work must have been a Friday night because he had that music thing on the Saturday and that's what he didn't show up for.
46. Alan and I also went to WIN. We met the manager and had a chat not that they could help in any way. He let us go down to Ross's desk, he told us if there was anything personal of Ross's to take it. He gave me a photo of Ross which they had kept on their wall at the studio. I don't think there was anything at his desk out of the ordinary. I can't recall if we took anything from his desk.
47. When Ross went missing it was insinuated to us by police that he might have just skipped town but we found out he had paid a fortnights rent and just filled his car with petrol so that didn't really make sense. Alan was in touch with the real estate agent that looked after his flat so I think the information about paying the rent may have come from them.
48. We loaded Ross's stuff up from the unit and drove his car back to Queensland. When we drove his car we noticed there was a full tank of petrol in the car.
49. When we were in Sydney and Wollongong after he disappeared we didn't see Craig ELLIS, we didn't see the friend he was last seen with. We saw and spoke to the Police in Sydney, we spoke to the manager of WIN in Wollongong and the Police in Wollongong when we went to Ross's unit. We didn't speak to or see anyone else. Alan and I haven't been near Sydney or Wollongong since.
50. During this statement Detective Tierney showed me some photographs to see if I or Alan could identify anyone.

Photo 1: I can't recognise anyone in this photo

Photo 2: I can't recognise anyone in this photo

Photo 3: I can't recognise anyone in this photo

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Photo 4: I can't recognise anyone in this photo

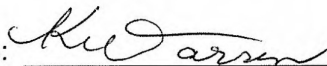
- 51. It was normal for Ross to travel from Wollongong on a Friday night to Sydney and stay at Craig's place then return to Wollongong to work on Sunday. This was unless he had something in Wollongong on a Saturday.
- 52. We don't have anything of Ross's here anymore except for his vinyl records.

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Photo 1 *Kid around*
K. WARREN 28/6/17



Photo 2. *K. Warren*
K. WARREN 28/6/17

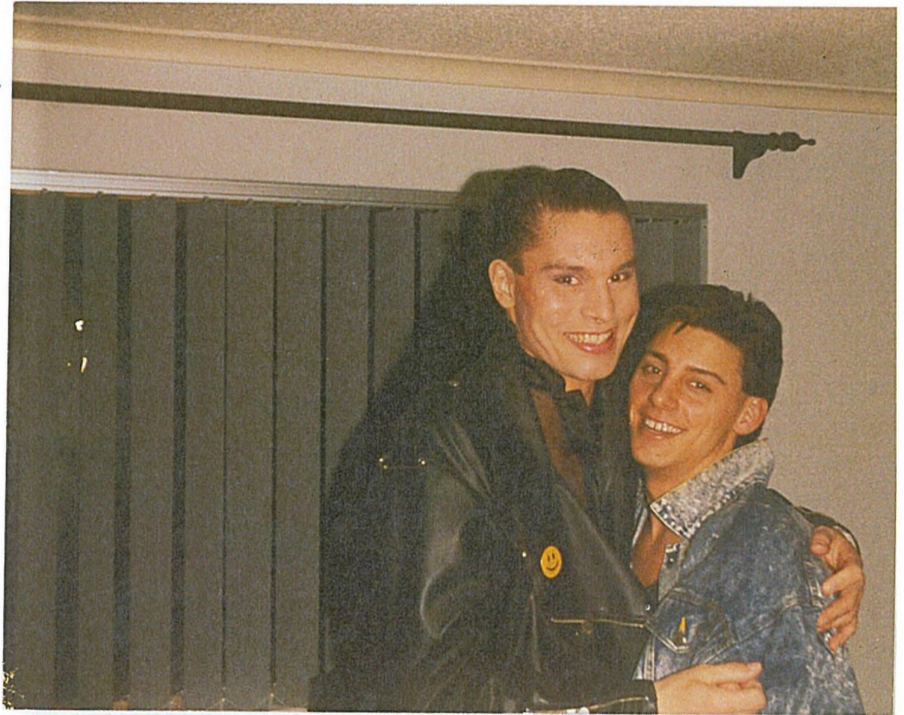


Photo 3

K. Warren
26/6/17

K. WARREN



Photo 4. *K. Warren*
K. WARREN 26/6/17

