



STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of: Disappearance of Ross WARREN
Place: Surry Hills Police Station
Date: 5th July 2017

Name: Craig ELLIS

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 50 years of age.
3. On the 25th September 2000 I provided a six (6) page statement to Police in relation to the disappearance of Ross WARREN. This statement was the first time I had provided Police with a statement. On the 5th July 2017 I was provided with a copy of this statement, I can state that the information I provided in this statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that my signature appears at the bottom of every page.
4. On the 2nd August 2001 I participated in a videotaped interview with Police at Mackenzie's Point, Bondi. I later provided a two (2) page witness statement to Police. On the 5th July 2017 I was provided with a copy of the transcript, a viewing of the video recorded interview and the statement I provided on that day, I can state that the information I provided to Police in the videotaped interview, the corresponding transcript and statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that my signature appears on the bottom of every page of the statement.

Witness: _____

Michael CHEBL
 Detective Senior Constable
 Homicide Squad – Unsolved
 Homicide Team
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5. On the Tuesday April 2003 I attended Glebe Coroners Court and gave evidence into the disappearance of Ross WARREN before the State Coroner. On the 5th July 2017 I was provided with a copy of the transcript of the evidence I gave, I can state that the evidence I gave during this inquest was true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
6. I appeared in a Crime Investigations Australia documentary called 'Bloodsport – The Bondi Gay Murders.' This was aired on Foxtel's crime channel. I have been advised by Detective CHEBL this aired on the 26th March 2009. I cannot remember if my interview was scripted or I spoke freely. I honestly can't remember, I remember doing it but not exactly how it was done.
7. I cannot remember how or who approached me to be part of this interview. I remember I was approached by someone, possibly by phone or email.
8. In October 2016 I appeared in a further documentary on SBS titled, Deep Water – The Real Story. I was approached by a male named Benjamin LAW; he's a researcher for the production company, 'Blackfella'. I later met Benjamin and had breakfast, we spoke about the story and he said that someone from the production company would contact me.
9. I think he contacted me by phone or email. I was interviewed by a female named Amanda BLUE. She's a film director, so she interviewed me in a cafe' in Chippendale, it was in summer of 2015/2016. She spoke to me for an hour and a half or a little longer, she was questioning me but wasn't leading me. I had the impression she interviewed other people too. I think I was one of the final ones to be interviewed. This interview was recorded, I remember Benjamin was there too and all the other people involved in recording this interview.
10. At 11am on Tuesday 17th June 2017 I was contacted to Detective Senior Constable Michael CHEBL to supply a follow up statement with regard to this matter.
11. I am originally from Auckland, New Zealand, I grew up in a family with a brother and sister, and I am the youngest child. My parents are upper/middle class, Dad was a solicitor and mum was a casual teacher. Both are in there 80's now. My mum is Scottish background and immigrated to New Zealand at a young age, she attended church etc. Dad is a little more liberal and relaxed in his attitudes. Mum had her views but only saw things the way she wanted.

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12. I had a happy childhood and upbringing, both parents were great. It wasn't a very emotionally based family; it's the culture, that Anglo upbringing of being reserved. We never had drama in our lives. This upbringing didn't have an impact on my life, I am not like that, as I am more affectionate towards my partner, and my views are more liberal, being gay. I tolerate things much more than my parents would.
13. I went to the local public school, I never got bullied as I was much bigger than the other kids (I was fatter and much taller). For high school I attended Kings College, this school my grandfather, father and brother all attended this. It was an all boy's school and the higher years became co-ed when female students entered the school. I was academically successful and was quite happy.
14. I was aged about 11 or 12 when I started to see I was attracted to men and not girls, I was hoping this was a phase, as I knew it was different and I thought this may have not been right because of my upbringing. I then realised after a while my feelings hadn't changed (after a few months or so). After I realised that this was how it was for me, I didn't really feel phased by it all, although I felt it was wrong and I was different I accepted it.
15. It was around this time I started to visit this beach near where my parents lived, I thought at first it was a nudist beach but then realised it was a beach for gay men. I started going to this beach to see men nude but then started to meet men there. My first encounter with a man, despite enjoying the experience I felt so bad for doing what I did, I rode my bike home, but then the following week I was back there because I did enjoy it.
16. Throughout my high school years I would visit the beach, toilet blocks or any other place where I could meet other men to engage in sex.
17. I finished school early as I was quite accelerated in my schooling. I had just turned 17 when I finished school. I went straight from school to university. My first year at university I met a female named Angela BARNAO. Angela was a tall pretty Italian girl, she was quite engaging and personable, and I was attracted to her as a person but not sexually. We were attracted to each other and we hung out together. She was probably the first person I told I was gay. We

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continued to be friends; I had a couple of different groups of friends. I wasn't out enough to tell others about my sexuality or introduce them to my partner.

18. By this stage in my life I was still visiting beaches and toilets but I was more visiting gay saunas.
19. I can't remember if I met Amanda EVANS at high school or university but I met her through her then boyfriend Bruce McKENZIE. Amanda and I weren't particularly close friends in New Zealand, we were more acquaintances, but I knew her. I would say she comes across a bit ditzy, with her big red hair. She didn't seem shy, would come across flirtatious and extraverted. She knows how to enjoy herself but isn't a big party goer.
20. I was at Auckland University between 1984 and 1986; I was studying a bachelor of commerce. I worked for a year in 1987 for a finance company.
21. I did visit Sydney, Australia during a summer, maybe at the end of 1985; I did some casual accounting work for a clothing company. I spent 3 months in Australia and enjoyed it. I loved the fact the gay scene was better, with Oxford street. During my stay in Sydney I rented a studio apartment in Darlinghurst. It was during this stay that I found out about Marks Park being a gay beat, I can't remember how but it would have been through word of mouth.
22. I remember visiting Centennial Park; I remember hearing about a gay beats at Moore Park, Rushcutters Bay and Rose Bay. I found Marks Park to be the most attractive option as it appeared safer than being caught in a toilet block. To me it seemed more conservative to conceal myself in a park behind bushes then in a toilet block. I think using a public toilet is disrespectful to people wanting to use the toilet.
23. I did hear about Police busting men engaging in sex, again this was through the gay community. I would hear about men being arrested or warned for doing this. I never heard of Police bashing men if they were caught having sex.
24. During my stay in Sydney for 3 months the only people that knew I was gay were the men I met with to have sex, I did not tell anyone at work or had told my family.
25. I could not see the benefit of telling my family at this stage about my sexuality.

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26. During 1987 while working in New Zealand, I decided to go to Sydney first, work there and then move on to the UK later after saving enough money. Essentially I was using Sydney as a stepping stone.
27. In January 1988 I moved to Sydney. I remember for the first month I shared a place in Darlinghurst with a girl and her boyfriend. It was a little transient; it was too unsettled for me. I then moved into another place and shared this place with 2 females (both lawyers); this was at [REDACTED], Darlinghurst. I was there for about a year or so, for most of 1988 through to 1989. During this time I was employed and working in the accounting industry. I remember the ladies were named, Namoi DOUGALL and Liz (Elizabeth) GAVEY, I no longer am in contact with these two ladies.
28. It was around 1989 I moved into [REDACTED] Redfern. Amanda and I moved there together. I don't remember the exact sequence but she arrived in the country and established contact with me, she had an aunt who she lived with initially but then we decided to look for places together and so we moved into the terrace. It was rented privately, because I remember the owner would come around to repair things. I remember the name on the lease would have been me and I think Amanda was on it. No one else lived at this address.
29. At this time I was working for Kimberly Clark as an accountant and Amanda was studying at Randwick. I didn't own a car at the time so I was catching the train to and from work. Amanda owned a car, it was a lemon coloured Gemini. She owned this car at the time we were living at [REDACTED].
30. In describing [REDACTED], Redfern I have drawn a floor plan of the terrace I lived in.

I have been asked by Detective Senior Constable CHEBL about Marks Park

31. From January 1988 I would have gone to Marks Park every two months or every 6 to 8 weeks. To the best of my knowledge I did not see the same people there, bearing in my when I did visit Marks Park it was dark. I would go to Marks Park between 8.30pm and 10.30pm.
32. The times I visited Marks Park I did engage in sex with men, I went there a lot less in the winter time. I also didn't go to Marks Park when I was in a relationship. I commenced my relationship

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with Ross in Easter 1988, which lasted 6 to 8 weeks. I met Paul in September 1988 and this lasted 12 years. I would have gone to Marks Park for the purposes of sex with men for about 3 to 4 months around 1988/1989. This would have been 2 or 3 times. In saying this when I visited Sydney for the 3 months I was there a lot.

33. When I went there I would catch the bus out there. I wouldn't visit in winter as it was too cold, the times I went it would have been the warmer months. I'd say that it wouldn't be many men cruising for sex in the colder months, this is only my interpretation. I haven't visited gay beats in a while.
34. When I would meet someone at Marks Park we would have sex in the bushes in the park or go for a walk down the cliff a little bit. Not all the way down just off the walking track out of site, where there was no other people and also you want it safe and not to treacherous when you're walking. Although it was night time the light from the moon and Bondi allowed you to see your whereabouts.
35. During the day the walking path had more people, I didn't see a lot of people in the park itself. When I was there I wouldn't see a lot of people; but when you are in the area and you meet someone you don't look around for others. If you were there for an hour you would see about 30 people, I'd say half were men looking for sex the others walking around.
36. You would either walk or sit, but generally you would make eye contact with you if they are interested in sex. It would generally be more visual then verbal.
37. The nature of sex wasn't very hardcore, for me it was more oral sex than anything else.

I have been asked by Detective Senior Constable CHEBL about my friends and associates in 1988 and 1989

38. Around this time my friends before meeting Paul (September 1988), I didn't have many friends. I had a good friend of mine Victoria McNEIL; we were close friends from New Zealand. She moved to Australia a year before I did. I had Ross who I meet in Easter 1988.
39. There was a guy a met when I first got here John DIXON, we initially had a relationship when I first came to Sydney in 1985/1986 and we maintained friendship. When I arrived in the country

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I didn't know anyone, I would visit Oxford Street, and I would go to bars, clubs and Saunas. I didn't have a lot of friends. Other than the people I mentioned I didn't know many people.

40. After I met Paul I started to get to know Paul's friends as he was from Sydney.
41. I would describe myself as being more introverted, although I learnt a lot more extraverted behaviour I would prefer one on one conversations than being in groups.
42. Some of the places I visited were the Albury Hotel, The Oxford and The Midnight Shift. I would visit the Sauna '253' and the Roman Bar. I would visit clubs called '45', DTM, the Exchange, the unicorn, The Flinders, the Green Park hotel and the Newtown Hotel. There were lots of places.
43. As I stated before I was working at Kimberly Clark, I worked from 8.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. They were based out of Milson Point; I would catch a train to and from work.

I have been asked by Detective Senior Constable CHEBL about my relationship with Ross WARREN

44. As I had previously mentioned, I met Ross in Easter of 1988. The night I met Ross I decided to take him back to my place. I can't recall the conversation I had with Ross on that night. I remember Ross drove back to my place at [REDACTED], Darlinghurst, I remember he had the brown pulsar the same one he had when he died. I can't remember how long we were together that night. I can't remember how it evolved into a relationship but we kept in touch, we would have exchanged phone numbers (work numbers too). I remember at the time Ross was living in Wollongong with a guy and girl. I remember visiting this house once; Ross didn't seem happy living in that house. I didn't think he got on too well with the people in the house. I got the impression Ross didn't feel comfortable there as it wasn't his home, I don't remember going there and staying overnight but I can't exactly remember. I can definitely say that he wasn't happy with that living situation. I think the housemates were a male and I think a girl. I think the guy living there's name was Peter and I think he was gay too. I think he may have been older than Ross and a bit to bitchy for Ross.

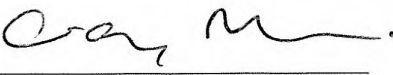
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[REDACTED]
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45. In relation to why I decided to take Ross back to my place I felt the risk of getting caught and the comfort of being at home was better than having sex in the bushes and looking over your shoulder. The logic was he was a good looking guy and very attractive to me, on the scale of guys you would meet there he was a 'good catch', so I thought rather than have an experience in the bush I thought to make the most of it.
46. I hadn't done this with anyone else I met at Marks Park or a gay beat. I wasn't concerned about my safety as I think it's the same as if I had met someone at a club or something.
47. In relation to the night I met Ross I have marked on an aerial map of the location of where I met Ross.
48. The relationship evolved from being an intimate sexual relationship into a friendship, this was more from Ross, I was happy to continue with the relationship but Ross didn't. Being younger at the time I took it harder. Ross was more reserved than me, he wasn't open with his feels. It was hard to get to know more about Ross. I only got to know him a little more than the superficial level. Ross wasn't the sort of person, to specifically speak with me about relationships or if something was bothering him. I don't think he would have shared this with me, he would talk about work and his career but anything personal Ross wouldn't speak about.
49. In relation to his career, Ross wanted to progress through to reading the news in Sydney or Melbourne. Ross was very dedicated to his work and quite ambitious.
50. In terms as a friend he was very generous and caring. In terms if he was happy or depressed, at the time I wasn't emotionally mature enough to think about it more. Looking back, I think there was a possibility that he presented an image of being happy, but I don't think he was always happy. I really only saw him in Sydney when he was having a good time. I didn't see him in Wollongong, so didn't know what he was like down there. He was apprehensive of people at work finding out that he was gay and he felt the pressure of this and how it may have affected his career in a negative way. Ross was only in Wollongong for his career. So, I don't think it was a happy existence. He didn't talk to me about it in any great detail.
51. It was only about two months into the relationship when Ross told me that he only wanted to be friends and not boyfriends. I was quite hurt. He told me that that's how he felt. It took me a few

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days to get over it, but I knew we could still be friends and I was happy with this. Our sexual relationship pretty much ceased from this point. We remained close friends. I would say that he was one of my better friends. We would call and see each other frequently. In December 1988, Ross invited me to go with him to his parent's place in Queensland, so we very close. Ross, himself, didn't have many close friends.

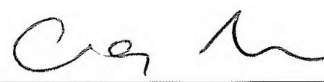
52. Ross would come and stay with me in Sydney on a regular basis. At least once a month. He would generally arrive on the Friday and leave on the Sunday. I can't recall where Ross slept when he came over. Possibly on the couch. On a few occasions, Ross may have spent the night at someone else's home. I assume Ross knew other people as he would only arrange to come to my place once a month. I don't think Ross was very promiscuous.
53. I have given it some thought about where Ross would have slept when staying over but I honestly can't come up with an answer. I don't think he could sleep on the couch because it wasn't comfortable; the only thing that comes to mind is that Ross would share my bed and Paul wouldn't sleep over my place. In previous visits by Ross when he did stay over he would share my bed, we wouldn't have sex because we weren't in a relationship.
54. Amanda would be home when Ross would visit. She didn't really have a lot of friends, so she didn't go out that much. She would do her course work in the living room, so just by default, we would remain and talk in the same room. Amanda really liked Ross. They got on really well. They didn't go out together. Ross would spend most of his time in the gay scene when he was in Sydney; so obviously, his time spent with Amanda was limited.
55. Ross met a few other people in the period we were friends. One of these men was a guy called Ken. He still lives in Sydney. I can't remember if they were only friends or if they were having sex. I think Ross saw him on a regular basis. I think Ross knew other people. Maybe two or three others, but I don't know who they were. I wasn't the jealous type at all.
56. In September of 1988, I met Paul SAUCIS. I met Paul at Ken's Karate Klub at Kensington (KKK). Gay met would meet there to have a spa, sauna, steam room, watch gay porn, have sex in cubicles or have group sex in large rooms. Drugs weren't really a big thing back then. A few used amyl nitrate. I didn't really see them being used, nor did I hear of people using them.

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Maybe I was little young and naive, so didn't really know what was going on. This was my observations of the gay scene in general at the time.

57. I used to go to KKK's about once a month. I'd say the first time I went there was when I came to Sydney in 1985/1986. I would usually go there at night and on a Sunday. I can't remember if I met Paul on a Sunday night. Paul and I had sex at KKK on the night we met. From memory, Paul drove me home and we swapped numbers. Paul was driving a yellow Mazda 808 at the time. Within that week, Paul and I saw each other and from that point onwards we commenced a relationship that lasted until June 2000, so almost 12 years.
58. My relationship with Paul was my first long term relationship. Paul loved me a lot. Generally it was happy relationship but we had differences of opinion as to whether we wanted it to be an open or closed relationship. In the first two years, I was happy to have a monogamous relationship. After this I floated the idea of having an open relationship to Paul.
59. Paul was older than me by five years and I felt that I wanted to experience having sex with other men. Open relationships in the gay community were considered common, especially for guys that had been together for a few years. It wasn't that I had fallen out of love with Paul; it was just that I thought it was natural progression in our relationship.
60. Paul wasn't very receptive of that idea. Paul was a little disappointed at my suggestion and I didn't push it too much and I didn't raise it again too often. Paul felt a little insecure during our relationship and I think it was due to this that he didn't want me seeing other people. Paul is/was a jealous type of person and was quite emotionally dependant on me. He was fearful that opening up the relationship would have led to our relationship ending. I don't like conflict, so I accepted things how they were. Having said that, I wasn't completely faithful to Paul and he never found out.
61. Paul knew about my previous sexual relationship with Ross and our strong friendship. He was fine with that. Paul knew that Ross and I were only in a short relationship, so he wasn't too threatened by our friendship. When we were all together, Paul would be fine and didn't show any animosity towards Ross. Paul got on with Ross well.

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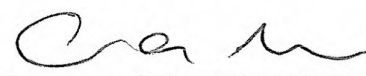
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62. Our relationship was pretty equal. I was more successful work and career wise than Paul. This didn't seem to bother him too much. However, looking back on it, I probably shouldn't have started a relationship with Paul. We were quite different. At the end of 1990, I travelled to the UK for about nine months. At the same time, Paul travelled to Hong Kong to work. At the end of my travels, I went to Hong Kong and spent a little bit of time there. We then returned to Sydney together at the end of 1991.
63. Paul found out he was [REDACTED] in 1994. This shocked Paul. There wasn't any real treatment for it and it got Paul down. Prior to both of us travelling, we agreed that we could sleep with other men while we were away. Paul and I realised that he would have contracted HIV while he was Hong Kong. About a year after, Paul became very sick. At this time, new drugs came out and Paul started taking them. He eventually went back to normal. This was period was hard for me as I became his primary carer. Paul hadn't come out and he had no support. I believe that he is still healthy.
64. In about 1990, Paul and I moved to home in Edgecliff. On one occasion we had an argument over something. I can't remember what exactly. If I can't remember, I'm thinking it was over something quite trivial. Paul went into a rage, grabbed a knife from the kitchen and threatened me with it. He didn't come towards me with the knife and he didn't injure me. I can't recall the exact words he used; however, I do remember he was shouting. This is the only time that I remember him going off that specifically. However, there were definitely more times during our relationship that Paul would shout and threaten me. I was young and didn't know what was normal. In hindsight, if I knew what I know today, I would have seen the signs and left Paul. I never saw, nor did I ever hear of Paul being physically violent towards anyone.
65. Paul was jealous of mine and Amanda's relationship. He was jealous that she lived with me, and he couldn't. Paul hadn't told his family and couldn't move out of home with his boyfriend. This was impossible for Paul. Amanda and Paul didn't really get on and I think this was the reason for that. In contrast, Paul and Ross had a good relationship. Ross didn't live me and when he would visit, Paul was always there, and didn't feel left out.
66. Our relationship gradually went downhill and I ended it in 2000. We were okay, but being complacent about the reality of it all. I don't like confrontation and I remained in the relationship

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because of this. I eventually met a man named Tom in June 2000. I really liked Tom and within a few weeks I became confident enough to tell Paul that I believed we couldn't stay together. Paul was a bit of a drama queen and quite emotional. Paul took the break up really badly and became depressed to the point where he told me that he actually went to The Gap to commit suicide, but had a change of mind. I never told Paul about Tom.

67. I saw Paul for about three months after we broke up. Once the dust settled, we went our separate ways and I didn't see Paul again. I did, however, bump into Paul on Crown Street, Surry Hills, by chance in January 2017. We spoke for about 10 minutes and then went our separate ways. Paul gave me his number. To be polite, I also gave him mine. We haven't spoken again.

68. As I stated, Ross stayed with me at Redfern numerous times. In the week leading up to the weekend Ross went missing, Ross contacted me to stay the weekend. Ross was usually the one that would initiate this. I don't think he was using me for accommodation while in Sydney. I was always happy to see him. When Ross would stay, it wasn't expected that he would spend the entire time with me. There were times where Ross would come to Sydney and spend most of his time seeing other people that I didn't know.

69. **Friday 21 July 1989**

70. I remember Ross arrived at my place on the Friday. I know there were two days between Ross arriving and us (Paul and I) agreeing that I should call Ross's work on Sunday night. To the best of my recollection, Ross arrived at our place about 7:00pm. I would have finished work at Milson's Point around 5:30pm. It took me about half an hour to get home from there. I would have got home around 6:00pm. It was normal that Ross would finish work around 5:00pm at Wollongong and then come to Sydney. It was normal, if Ross was spending the weekend, he would arrive at my place after I had gotten home. It was common that when Ross stayed with me, that I'd give him a spare key to get in.

71. Ross arrived at my place with a bag of clothes and a brown leather jacket. The bag was brown in colour, leather and had one handle on either side of the zip. Ross either left this bag on the floor in the living room or in my bedroom. I can't recall what the sleeping arrangements were

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going to be. I can't recall if Ross was expected to sleep on the old orange couch in the living room or in my room. The couch was a small two seater and quite uncomfortable to sleep on, so I'm a bit perplexed to remember exactly where he was going to sleep.

72. I remember we just hung out on that Friday night. When I say we, I mean Paul, Amanda, Ross and I. We may have had a few drinks and some food. Ross was getting ready to go out that night. He tried to convince Paul and me to go out with him to a local gay bar. Paul and I decided not to go. As I stated, there was no obligation to go out with him when he stayed. Ross had told me that he was planning to meet with another WIN TV employee named Phillip. Ross told me that he was going to a gay bar with him, so I assumed that Phillip was also gay. I never met with Phillip. I think he may have been a little younger than me. I'd say that Ross left about 10 or 10:30pm. I don't remember what Ross was wearing, but he always dressed to high standard. I know that Ross left our place and drove in his car to Oxford Street as he had arranged with Phillip. I recall he said he was going to the Oxford Hotel. Ross either told me or I can strongly assume that he took his own car.

73. I remember that Ross had several keys on his key ring. I would say that he had between 10 and 15 keys on his key ring. There were only keys and no accessory on this ring.

74. All three of us stayed home that night. Paul and I would have gone to bed about 11:00pm. When we did, Amanda was still awake doing design drawings on her easel. When we (Paul and I) went to bed we slept in my bedroom in my bed.

75. Saturday 22 July 1989

76. It was normal for me to wake up around 8:00am. When I woke up on the Saturday morning, I noticed that Ross wasn't there. I can't remember if anyone else was awake. Everything appeared to be as it had been before I went to bed.

77. I remember Amanda would wake up late because she stayed up late. From memory she would usually go to bed after me. I certainly remember Paul waking up and we spoke about Ross not being there. We thought it was strange and odd but thought he may have met someone and spent the night there. It was very mild in the sense of our curiosity and worry but again we thought he may have met someone. It was basically agreed to just see how the day goes.

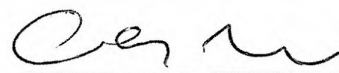
Witness:

Michael CHEBL
Detective Senior Constable
Homicide Squad – Unsolved
Homicide Team
5th July 2017

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M.C.

Signature:



Craig ELLIS
19th July 2017

Statement of Craig ELLIS
In the matter of Disappearance of Ross WARREN

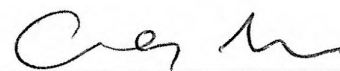
78. We had made plans to go to the movies on the Saturday night, so we agreed if there was no contact by mid to late afternoon we would have reason to be concerned. I can't remember whether we made specific plans of movie location and times but we agreed to go to the movies on the Saturday night.
79. At some stage, I don't know if it was mid to late afternoon, but we had become concerned, when I say we, I mean Paul and I. I don't recall Amanda being part of the discussion; it was more Paul and I discussing our concerns.
80. For this particular weekend and for a period of time around that time Paul was house sitting for his brother, Nicholas. I only know the house being on [REDACTED], Paddington. I remember over the course of the week I remember us spending time at Paul's brother's house. I can't remember how long this lasted for but it was for a short period of time. So we would have spent some time at Nicholas' house over the weekend.
81. I believe we spent some time over this weekend we were at Paul's brother's house when we called the local Police to relay our concerns about Ross not being around. We would have made sure Ross wasn't at the house in Redfern by speaking to Amanda or going around the house to see if Ross was there. Because I can't be sure I can only say that if we were at Redfern we would have contacted Redfern Police and if we were at Paddington we would have gone to Paddington.
82. I honestly don't remember if we called or went around to the local Police station on the Saturday. When we made contact we explained to the Police the concerns Paul and I had about Ross not turning back up, I remember the Police saying not to worry and to give it time as it was too early for the Police to get involved. The contact with the Police would have been late afternoon at this stage; I believe it would have been around 5pm because it was winter and dark. I remember accepting what the Police said but there was an element of being mildly frustrated, because it sounded rational what the Police were saying we accepted it. I think I was more accepting of the Police response than Paul. I put this down to our personalities as Paul is a little bit more fiery whereas I'm more laid back. I have a memory of us going to Redfern Police station.

Witness:

[REDACTED]

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83. I don't remember Paul and me going to the movies after this. This was because at this stage we were worried about Ross not turning up.
84. We didn't think about contacting Ross' family because they were up in QLD and we didn't really know his friends well enough to contact them.
85. I remember looking through some pieces of paper Ross had left on the dining table or upstairs in my bedroom at my house. Paul and I started looking through these pieces of paper. I can't remember at what stage Ross left these at my house, but it would have been on the Friday night, but the papers didn't belong to me or Paul. I describe these pieces of paper as being 5 or 6 items of paper, lolly wrappers, chewing gum, tissue, coins and bits of paper. I believe Ross' nature was messy so he was emptying his pockets before going out on the Friday night. I can't remember seeing Ross emptying his pockets on the Friday night, but it was on the Saturday that we (Paul and I) decided to look through them.
86. I remember seeing bits of paper but can't remember what or if a name and phone number was on them. I do remember one piece of paper had a phone number on it. I think I called the number on the piece of paper but I can't be completely sure.
87. I do remember at some point over the weekend or the following we I spoke with Phillip (Ross' workmate who he went out with on the Friday night); Phillip said the last time he saw Ross was when the pair of them left the Oxford.
88. I did not know of any of Ross' movements over that weekend, I don't believe he had tickets to a concert or any other arrangements during the time he was to stay over my house.
89. I don't remember ever seeing Ross' car in front of or around my house after he left on the Friday night.
90. I don't remember if we stayed at Redfern or Paddington but we still had our concerns about Ross. If Ross did turn up to Redfern and we weren't there Amanda would have been home and she would have told us that Ross had returned. There would have been some type of communication. If I had to be sure I believe we would have stayed at Redfern because we were concerned for Ross and awaiting his return.

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91. I think we would have gone to bed about 11pm on the Saturday night. I believe Paul would have stayed over as he shared my concerns about Ross and we needed each other for support. Amanda would have been home too and was doing her own thing.

92. **Sunday 23rd July 1989**

93. I don't remember the Sunday morning too well but I do remember the concern for Ross had grown considerably at this stage. We were very concerned but not panicking. Paul felt the same way as I. I'm sure Paul and I would have shared with Amanda our concern and thoughts about Ross. We spoke about the fact that if Ross wasn't reading the news on Sunday night we would be really concerned.

94. I don't remember by what Paul and I were doing on this day other than that we were borrowing Paul's brother's car and we were going between Redfern and Paddington.

95. I don't remember being able to get reception to be able to watch WIN4 from my house, I decided that as it got closer to Ross being at work I would call the TV station.

96. I remember it was about 15 minutes before Ross was due to go on air that I called the TV station. I don't remember who I spoke to or how I got the phone number but it would have been through the white pages.

97. I don't remember the exact words but I remember explaining to them that I was a friend of Ross' and he was staying at my house over the weekend and that I had last seen him on the Friday night. I remember the person was quite panicked, I got that sense from the sound of their voice, the person seemed to know that Ross was supposed to be at work and wasn't.

98. After that phone call Paul and I went to Paddington Police station and filed a missing person report. I remember we went to the front counter and then we were taken to a room with a desk and gave a report to the Police. I don't remember giving the Police a statement it was just a report about Ross being missing. I remember the Police officer being in uniform.

99. I remember feeling upset and helpless. I had never been in that situation before. I was certain Ross was missing and there was a good chance something bad had happened to him. I was helpless as I felt something bad had happened to my friend and I couldn't do anything.

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100. My concern was based on Ross loving his work and would never miss it, by him not turning up for work I felt that something bad had happened to him. I don't remember calling any hospitals to see if Ross was admitted.
101. Paul and I returned to Nicholas' place at Paddington. I remember Paul and I would have spoken about the frustration of not being able to help Ross and what could have happened to him.
102. I have referred to the statement I supplied to police on the 25th of September 2000 and that has assisted me to recall that Paul and I decided to go to Marks Park on the Sunday night after we got home from Paddington Police Station. I would have come up with this suggestion because that's where I had met Ross. It was the only place I could think of as to where Ross could have gone.
103. Paul and I travelled from home in Paul's brother's car to Marks Park. I remember we drove into Kenneth Street and seeing Ross' car parked there. I immediately felt something bad may have happened to Ross.
104. I remember Paul parked the car. We went to Ross' car and looked through the windows. I don't recall opening the doors. When I looked through the windows, I saw that it was messy. There were food wrappers and items of clothing on the front passenger seat.
105. Paul and I then returned to Paddington Police Station and told police that we found Ross's car at Marks Park. I can't recall if we spoke to the same police officer that took the missing person's report. I remember the police there had found out that a body had been found washed up somewhere around Dover Heights and that it was being investigated by Rose Bay Police.
106. Paul and I drove to Rose Bay Police station. We spoke with police and as result, we were asked to go to Glebe Morgue to identify the located body and determine if it was Ross. I don't recall if we went in a police car or in Paul's car. When we got there, one of the police went in and had a look at the body without us. When the police officer came back to us, and told that the body had two distinguishing features; one being that he had tattoos and that other being that he may have had a hairy chest. Ross was not hairy and didn't have tattoos, so were sure

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that it wasn't Ross without having to look at the body. I remember leaving the morgue and going back to Nicholas' place in Paddington, where we spent the rest of the night.

107. **Monday 24th July 1989**

108. Come Monday morning, I was growing even more concerned and frustrated. I was frustrated because it seemed that the police didn't appear to be doing anything about Ross. I decided to not go to not go to work. I remember speaking with my boss at the time and telling him/her that my friend was missing and I wasn't coming in to work. I don't think Paul was working at the time. He was studying architecture at New South Wales University. I don't remember if I saw Amanda on the Monday. I'm assuming that I didn't because we remained at Paddington. We felt no need to return to Redfern as Ross was now missing and wasn't likely to return to Redfern.

109. Paul and I decided to return to Mark's Park. I would say this was mid morning. Again, we drove in the Honda Prelude. We drove back into Kenneth Street. I saw that Ross's car was still parked in the exact same spot that we saw it in on the Sunday night.

110. Paul parked the car in Kenneth Street. When I got out of the car, I saw an older man outside the front of a block of units. Paul and I spoke with this man. I recall we asked him about Ross's car. The only thing I remember him saying about it was that he was unhappy with it parked slightly over the driveway. I would describe this man as aged in his 70's and of a Caucasian appearance.

111. Logically, I would presume that Paul and I would have looked at Ross's car again, however, I can't recall if we actually did. I think we knocked on at least a couple of houses across, or next to, the unit block to ask anyone if anyone had noticed the car or if they saw anyone getting in to, or out of it. I remember speaking to at least one person who didn't shed any light to what we were asking.

112. Paul and I then decided to go for a walk down towards the walking path that goes around the cliff top. We didn't see anything of any great significance along the path. I don't remember who it was that decided to do this, but we then walked away off the path and down to a rock ledge. I am not entirely sure as to the exact spot that Paul and I walked down.

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113. I have marked this area on a satellite image of the area that has been supplied to me by police.
114. As Paul and I were walking along the ledge, one of us saw a set of keys. This set of keys was large in number, on a key ring and stood out as they lay on a rock. The keys were in a crevice within the rock ledge. They were at just below my eye level. I am 187cm tall. I'd estimate that the keys were about 150cm up from the walking surface of the rock ledge. From what I saw, I would suggest that these keys were placed in that position as opposed to falling and landing there. The keys would definitely have not been visible from the walkway. For someone to have seen them, they would have to have been where Paul and I were on the rock ledge.
115. Paul and I walked towards the keys. I was no more than 60cm from the keys. I immediately recognised the keys as being those belonging to Ross. I felt panicked, sick and frightened. Frightened because it confirmed to me that Ross had been down here, was missing and that something bad had happened to him.
116. Paul and I agreed that Paul would drive to Bondi Police Station, tell the police what we found and for them to come down and investigate things further. Paul left and I stayed there near the keys so we wouldn't lose the spot and no one would interfere with them.
117. As I was waiting for Paul to return, I recall seeing something floating in the water not that far from where I was. I felt sick and thought it may have been Ross. I didn't want to keep looking, but did in the event that was in fact Ross. This turned out to be a buoy.
118. Paul returned no more than an hour later. I can't recall if he had police with him when he did. I can definitely state that neither Paul nor I touched the keys. We definitely left them where they were. I did not see police actually take possession of the keys. I can only presume that they would have taken them.
119. Paul and I then left and returned to either Paddington or Redfern. I thought there was nothing more I or we could do. I thought it was now with the police and they would do what they needed to do. I can't recall if it was either that day or the following day that police planned to fly a helicopter over the area where the keys were found in order to search for Ross.

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120. Within this week, I remember Ross's parents coming to my place at Redfern. I wasn't by myself when they arrived. Either Paul or Amanda were there with me. Ross's parents spoke about Ross's disappearance and how awful it was. I remember them saying that they had either been to, or were go to Wollongong to pick up Ross's stuff from his apartment. They collected Ross's bag, from where I think was in my bedroom and his leather jacket.
121. In relation to Ross's bag, I can't be completely sure, but I think we may have looked through it after Ross disappeared to look for numbers etc that may have helped us contact people. I cannot recall finding anything of significance within Ross's bag.
122. I thought it being odd that Ross's parents had been collecting all his things with the preparation of taking it all back to Queensland within one week.
123. I saw Ross's parents out. As I was doing this, I saw Ross's car parked across the road from my front door. Ross's parents had driven Ross's car to my place and were planning on driving back to Queensland in it.
124. I didn't go to Ross's apartment after his disappearance. I can't recall how I found out, but I remember being told that Ross's place was in a really untidy state when it was looked at after he went missing.
125. Police have shown me a photograph of four framed photos featuring four men. I have been informed that these photographs were located within Ross's apartment. I have been asked if I could identify any of these men. I only recognise one. That being the islander looking man furthest to the right of these photos. I know this man to be Ken, who I mentioned earlier in my statement. I have marked this accordingly.
126. Other than speaking further with police and taking part in media interviews, I cannot provide any further information about Ross's disappearance.

Witness:



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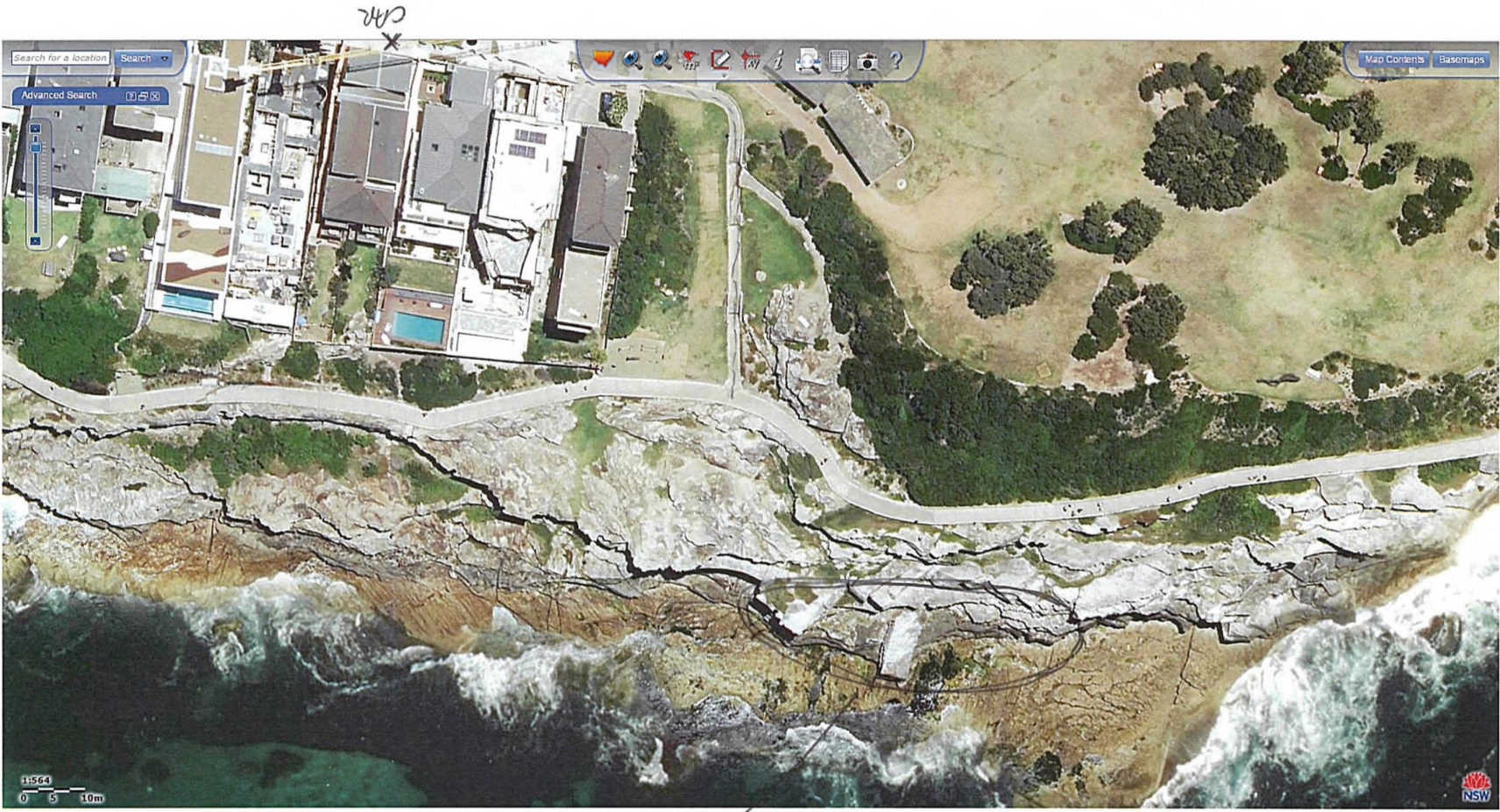
Signature:

Craig ELLIS
19th July 2017

Camp 3ms
Car

19/7/17

Michael Cribb
19/7/17



AREA WITHIN 100M FOUND



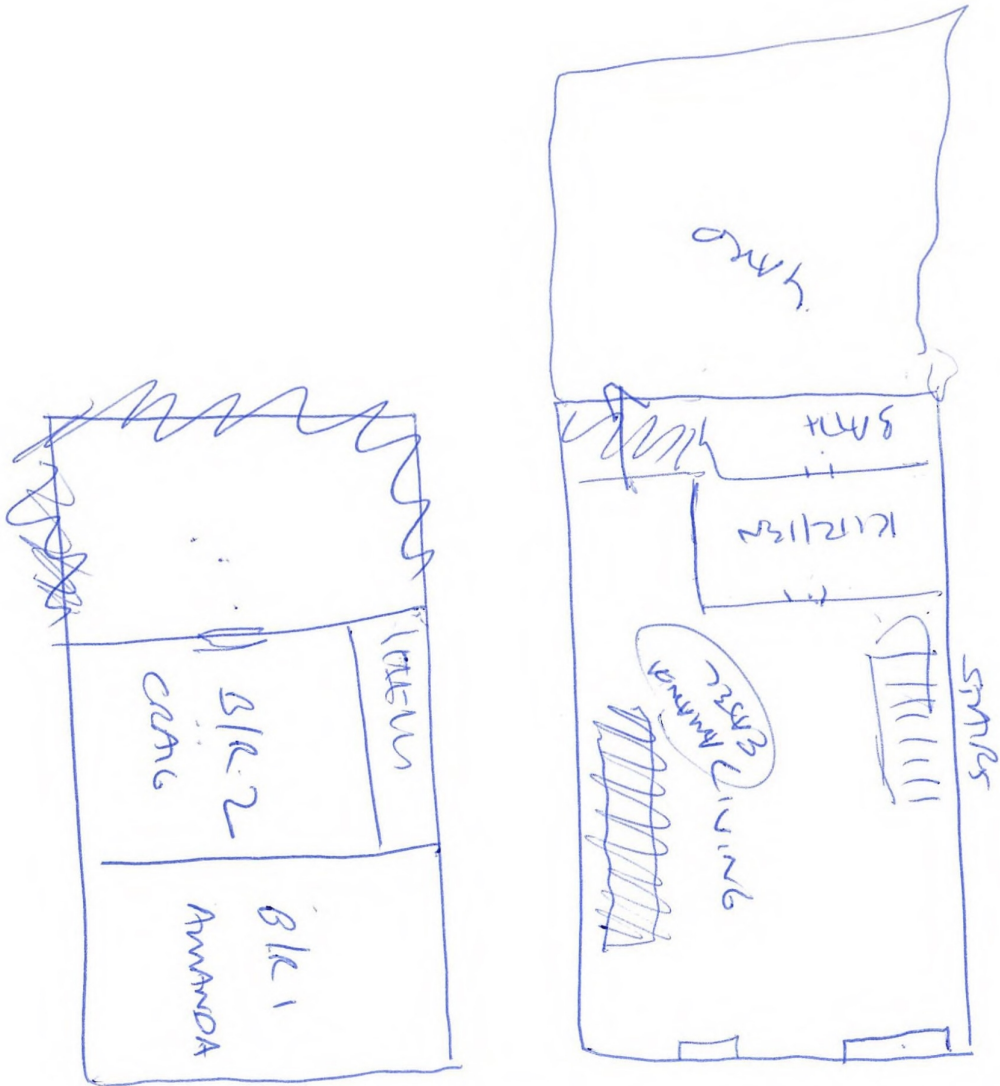
Michael Chebi
5/7/2017

AREA WHERE I MET
ROBS IN ESTER '88
COMG Ewis
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Craig plus
Craig
5/7/17.

Michael Chebl
5/7/2017



13325 ROAD

UPPER

LOWER



X
 KEN
 10/27/12

