

Denis Robert WARE

27/11/2024

Denis Robert WARE

AKA Denis WARE

* Nickname: ?

Late of ?

Relations in 'the job':

"possible" relation in 'the job': ?

NSW Police Training Centre – Redfern – **1st Employment: Class # 086A**

2nd Employment: Class # 104

New South Wales Police Force

Rejoinee

(1st Employment) Regd. # 98 – 99****

1st Class to ever be Sworn In whilst wearing Summer Uniform. Also had the shortest Initial Training of 1 month. Sworn In on Monday. Started work at their stations on Tuesday.

(2nd Employment) Regd. # 11542

Rank (1st Employment): Commenced Training at Redfern Police Academy on Monday 27 February 1961 (aged 23 years, 3 months, 6 days)

Probationary Constable – appointed 27 March 1961 (aged

Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Constable 1st Class – appointed ? ? ?

Detective – appointed ? ? ?

Senior Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Final Rank (1st Employment): = ?

Stations (1st Employment): ?, – Resignation

Time employed (Paid) with NSW Police (1st Employment):

From: 27 February 1961 to ? ? ? = ? years,

Service (From Training Date) period (1st Employment): From

27 February 1961 to ? ? ? = ? years, Service

Retirement / Leaving age (1st Employment): = ?

Time in Retirement from Police (1st Employment): ?

Rank (2nd Employment): Commenced Training at Redfern Police Academy on Monday 16 August 1965 (aged 27 years, 8 months, 26 days)

Probationary Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Constable – appointed 17 October 1965

Constable 1st Class – appointed ? ? ?

Detective – appointed ? ? ? (YES)

Final Rank (2nd Employment): = Detective Constable 1st Class

Stations (2nd Employment): ?, Cronulla (Detectives) – Death

Time employed (Paid) with NSW Police (2nd Employment):
From: 16 August 1965 to 2 October 1970 = 5 years, 1 month, 16 days

Service (From Training Date) period (2nd Employment):
From 16 August 1965 to 2 October 1970 = 5 years, 1 month, 16 days Service

Grand total of Time Employed with NSWPF over 2 Employment periods: ? ? ?

Retirement / Leaving age (2nd Employment): = 32 years, 10 months, 11 days

Time in Retirement from Police (2nd Employment): 0

Awards: No Find on the Australian Honours system

Born: Sunday 21 November 1937

Died on: Friday 2 October 1970

Age: 32 years, 10 months, 11 days

Organ Donor: Y / N / ?

Cause: Accidentally Shot – by another – Friendly fire

Event location: Loftus Oval, Farnell Ave, Sutherland, NSW

Event / Diagnosis date: Friday 2 October 1970

Funeral date: Wednesday 7 October 1970

Funeral location: Woronora Cemetery, Linden St, Sutherland, NSW

LIVE STREAM ? N/A

Wake location: ???

Wake date: ???

Funeral Parlour: ?

Buried at: Woronora Cemetery, 121 Linden St, Sutherland, NSW

Grave Location: Section: RC Plaque Lawn Row: 3
Plot: 0339

Grave GPS: ?, ?

Memorial / Plaque / Monument located at: ?

Dedication date of Memorial / Plaque / Monument: Nil – at this
time (November 2024)

DENIS IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance

**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

May they forever Rest In Peace

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AustralianPolice.com.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NSWFallenPolice/>

Australian Police YouTube Channel

On 2 October, 1970 **Detective Constable Ware** was part of a specially formed squad attempting to apprehend an armed and dangerous rapist who had been operating in the Sutherland area.

A decoy car was set up at **Loftus Oval** with a number of police both inside it and surrounding it in the darkness. During the stakeout one of the police could not be contacted on his portable radio and when the decoy vehicle left the oval for a short time **Detective Ware** went to find out what had happened.

As he neared the man with the **faulty radio** he was mistaken for the rapist and shot. **Detective Ware** had not answered when challenged and almost walked over the man on the ground. Visibility and conditions were extremely poor at the time. The detective constable was conveyed to the Sutherland District Hospital where he died a short time later.

The constable was born in 1937 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 16 August, 1965.

Source: Beyond Courage

From the 3 October 1970 until 12 October 1970, **Detective Constable 1st Class Jan. (John) STANIOCH (# 11333)** was on loan to the "Revesby Rapist Task Force" to replace Detective Denis WARE.

Denis initially joined the NSW Police Force on 27 February 1961 and after Resigning, re-joined again on the 16 August 1965.

Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 – 1995),

Tuesday 6 October 1970, page 13

Detective killing: police are silent

SYDNEY, Monday. – A high-level inquiry into the fatal shooting of a young detective continued today, but senior officers refused to say what progress had been made.

Detective Constable Denis Robert Ware, 24, a special duties officer, of **Sutherland police station**, was shot dead during a “stake-out” last Friday night.

It is believed **Detective Ware** was shot by another detective who had seen movement in the bushes, where Ware was hiding.

Surrounding ‘decoy’ car

The police were surrounding a “decoy” car in bush land in an attempt to catch a rapist who has recently attacked courting couples in the area.

A young policeman and a policewoman sat in the decoy car pretending to be lovers.

A CIB riot squad detective with an automatic pump-action shotgun crouched behind them in the back seat.

Within minutes of the shooting **Police Commissioner Allan** had ordered **CIB Superintendent Lendrum** to the scene to start an immediate investigation.

Today the investigation was still continuing under **Detective Inspector W. G. Clyne**.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/110464411>

Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 – 1995),

Wednesday 7 October 1970, page 12

Funeral of shot policeman held

SYDNEY, Tuesday.

Detective Constable Denis Robert Ware was buried at Woronora Cemetery today.

Detective Ware died last Friday night during a police attempt to catch a rapist at Loftus in a lover's lane, known as "Mad Mile".

A police officer fired three shots, one of which hit Detective Ware in the chest.

A departmental inquiry is under way and a coroner's court hearing is to be conducted.

The Police Commissioner, Mr Allan, the Metropolitan Superintendent, Mr. E. Lynch, and the chief of the CIB, Detective Superintendent R. Lendrum, were among those at the funeral.

Many of Detective Ware's police friends and private friends attended.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/110464614>

* Story behind any Nickname:

Nothing further, than what is recorded above, is known about this person at the time of publication and further information and photos would be appreciated.

Cal

Updated 27 November 2024

John Redman HERBERT

27/11/2024

John Redman HERBERT

AKA ?

* Nickname: ?

Late of ?

Relations in 'the job':

"possible" relation in 'the job': ?

NSW Police Training College – Penrith / Belmore Barracks
Class # ? ? ?

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # ???

Rank: Commenced Training at ? Police Academy on Thursday 1
September 1859 (22 – 23 years of age)

Probationary Constable- appointed ? ? ?

Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Constable 1st Class – appointed ? ? ?

Detective – appointed ? ? ? (NO)

Senior Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Final Rank: = Senior Constable

Stations: ?, Canowindra – Death

Time employed (Paid) with NSW Police: From: 1 September
1859 to 13 April 1865 = 5 years, 7 months, 12 days

Service (From Training Date) period: From 1 September 1859
to 13 April 1865 = 5 years, 7 months, 12 days, Service

Retirement / Leaving age: = 27 – 28 years

Time in Retirement from Police: 0

Awards: No Find on Australian Honours system



Born: ? ? 1837

Died on: Saturday 13 April 1865

Age: 27 – 28 years,

Organ Donor: No

Cause: Shot – Accidentally shot – Friendly fire

Event location: along the Mogong creek near Mogong, NSW

Event date: Friday 29 March 1865

Funeral date: ? ? ?

Funeral location: ?

LIVE STREAM ? N/A

Wake location: ???

Wake date: ???

Funeral Parlour: ?

Buried at: ?

Grave Location: Section: Row: ? Plot: ?

Grave GPS: ?, ?

Memorial / Plaque / Monument located at: ?

Dedication date of Memorial / Plaque / Monument: Nil – at this time (June 2024)

JOHN IS mentioned on the National Police Wall of Remembrance,
Canberra

**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

May they forever Rest In Peace

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AustralianPolice.com.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NSWFallenPolice/>

Australian Police YouTube Channel

Senior Constable John HERBERT
Accidentally Shot
Mogong

13 April, 1865

On the evening of **28 / 29 March 1865** Senior Constable HERBERT, along with **Constables (Trooper) James COOK** and **Edward AMBROSE** and **Tracker Peter HOGAN**, were searching for the **Hall Gang** of bushrangers in the bush between **Forbes and Canowindra**. The bushrangers had earlier robbed a store at Forbes and information had been obtained indicating that they were headed for Canowindra.

The police party made camp *in the bush on the creek near Mogong, a small roadside settlement close to Canowindra.*

Senior Constable Herbert announced that he and **Constable Ambrose** would be leaving the camp to keep watch on a hut where

they suspected the gang might be hiding. It was arranged that should either he or **Ambrose** return during the night they would whistle to alert the camp of their approach.

Unfortunately, **Herbert** and **Ambrose** did return during the night but, after losing their way in the darkness, they approached the police camp from a different direction than expected.

Being closer than they believed to the camp, they also did not whistle to signal their arrival.

Believing the approaching riders to be the bushrangers **Constable Cook** issued a challenge on two occasions without receiving a reply, so on the second occasion both he and **Peter** fired into the darkness, unfortunately hitting **Constable Herbert** in the groin, neck and shoulder. He **died about a week later**.

The Sydney Morning Herald dated **29 May, 1865** indicates that **Constable Cook** was charged with a criminal offence following the shooting, reporting that "**Constable Cook** was placed on his trial to-day, at the Quarter Sessions, for shooting **Constable Herbert**, and was acquitted... The Court has concluded its sittings."

The **senior constable** was born in **1837** and joined the police force on **1 September, 1859**.

In **1862** he became a member of the **newly-formed New South Wales Police Force**.

At the time of his death he was **probably** stationed at **Canowindra**.

Source: Beyond Courage

In Memory of Senior Constable John Herbert, 1837–1865

The bushranger raids of Canowindra in 1863 are well known. Lesser known is the bushranger related death of Senior Constable John Herbert on 13 April 1865. He was born in 1837, joined the police force on 1 September 1859 and married Mary Ann Walsh in 1861 in Victoria. Their two children were Ann, born 1862, registered Balranald, and Florence, born 1864, registered Carcoar.

In the final days of Ben Hall and his diminished gang in 1865, there was a big reward for their capture and extra police were stationed at Canowindra. On the night of 28/29 March 1865, Senior Constable John Herbert, with Constables James Cook, Edward Ambrose and Aboriginal tracker, Peter Hogan, responded to a message that, after robbing Jones' store in Forbes, the gang had headed for Canowindra.

The police made camp in the bush on the creek near Mogong, a small roadside settlement close to Canowindra. When Herbert decided that he and Ambrose would leave camp to keep watch on a hut where they suspected the gang might be hiding, he arranged a special warning whistle to be given if they returned during the night. Herbert and Ambrose did return but after losing their way in the dark, they approached the camp from a different direction and did not give the whistle. Hearing movements, Cook twice issued a challenge. Hearing no reply and presuming the sounds came from bushrangers, he and tracker Hogan both fired at a figure in the darkness, learning only too late that they had shot Senior Constable Herbert.

Herbert was brought to Canowindra and Dr Hugh Rowland from Carcoar was called. He removed a bullet that had passed through Herbert's liver and lodged in his groin. On 4 April, Charles Lydiard, Western Police Superintendent and Mr W M Rothery JP, visited and took a statement from Herbert, who died in Canowindra on 13 April. *The Maitland Mercury*, 19/04/1865, reported that he was buried 'in the same place' the next day. The burial ground then was on Grant's *Belubula* station. The incident and trial were widely



Artist's impression of the shooting of Snr Constable John Herbert, mistaken at night for a bushranger, in a police stake out in the bush near Mogong. By David Isbester

reported in the press. Dr Rowland gave his account at the trial in Bathurst and produced the bullet he had extracted.

I am a duly qualified medical practitioner: on the 29th March I attended Senior Constable Herbert: he was suffering from two gunshot wounds; one of the balls had entered the flank, passed through the kidney, and lodged in the loins, from which I extracted it; this wound was sufficient to cause death; the other wound was in the neck and shoulder. I saw him (again) ... when he was dying: I have since heard that he was dead.

Constable Cook was charged with manslaughter but acquitted after a hung jury. A pension of 40 pounds a year for 10 years was awarded to Herbert's widow and two children. Ben Hall was finally captured and killed near Forbes on 5 May 1865.



Map of early Canowindra in 1862 marked with locations of Police Station (1), Belubula Cemetery (2), and Mogong (3)



Mogong Creek near site of shooting of Snr Constable Herbert - on night of 28/29 March 1865. Photo: David Isbester

Unveiled on National Police Remembrance Day 29 September 2015



centralnswmuseums.com.au

Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser (NSW :
1856 – 1861; 1863 – 1889; 1891 – 1954),

Saturday 6 May 1865, page 3

Trooper Cook has been acquitted on a charge of wounding Sen. Constable **John Redman Herbert**, near Canowindra, but was severely reprimanded by the Carcoar Bench.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/188135164>

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 – 1954),

Tuesday 23 May 1865, page 5

THE SHOOTING OF CONSTABLE HERBERT.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

AT the **Police Office, Carcoar**, before Mr. L. V. Dulhunty, P.M., the fatal shooting case was reopened this morning, by order of the hon. the Attorney-General.

James Cook was charged by **Thomas Roberts**, sub-inspector of police of the **Carcoar district**, with **firing at and wounding senior constable Herbert**, while on duty in the bush, of which wounds the said **J. R. Herbert** died.

Charles Lydiard, superintendent of the **Western police**, swore that he accompanied Mr. W. M. Rothery, J.P., on the 4th April last, to Canowindra, for the purpose of taking the sworn statement of **constable Herbert**, who was **lying dangerously wounded at the police station there** ; it was taken in the presence of the **prisoner, James Cook** ; saw **Herbert** make his

mark to the statement, and I witnessed it. Statement put in and read, as follows :-

“I, **John Redman Herbert**, went out on the 28th of March to look for bushrangers, in company with **constable Ambrose, Cook, and Peter the black tracker**.

We went to Molong (sic), then to the **Nyrang Creek**, and then went into camp, at dusk, on the **Mogong Creek**.

We had some tea, when I proposed to visit a certain place in company with **constable Ambrose**.

I told **Cook** to short-hobble the horses, and take care that they did not get away, and be careful not to fire or shoot any person that he did not know. I took the top off my powder flask, and showed him how I would blow on it as a signal, if we came back before morning.

We then left the camp on foot, and returned about 12 or 1 o'clock.

As we were returning, to the camp, and as I was putting the top of the powder flask to my mouth to whistle, I saw something suddenly jump up before me, and, before I could whistle, I received a shot on the hip, and I had hardly spoken before a second shot struck me on the shoulder ; I fell ; the first shot was fired by **Cook**, the second by **Peter** ; **Ambrose** was a yard or two behind me.

The three men came and picked me up and put some blankets round me ; they went for assistance ; **Cook** remained with me ; he told me he thought it was the two men that were after the horses, that he was tired of watching, and lay down, but did not go to sleep.

I make this statement, knowing that I have been **dangerously wounded**, **Constable Cook**, now in the room, is the man that I allude to as having fired the piece that shot me.

his mark: X. **JOHN HERBERT.**

Witness – **Charles Lydiard.** mark.

Edward Ambrose, swore that he was a **constable**, and stationed at **Canowindra** ; on the 28th of March, **Herbert, Cook, myself, and Peter**, the black tracker, went out in search of the bushrangers ; at dusk, we camped on the **Mogong Creek**, about a **mile and a half from Mogong** ; after tea, **Herbert** proposed that he and I should go and watch a certain place, and told **Cook** to look after the horses, and not let them go away, and not to fire at, or shoot any person unless he knew who it was ; he then took off the top of his powder-flask and blew on it, and said, if we return before daylight, that will be the signal we shall give on nearing the camp, we then left on foot, and returned about 12 or 1 o'clock ; the camp was in a sapling scrub, the night was dark, and we missed our way, and came upon it unawares ; when we were about fifteen yards from the camp two shots were fired, when **Herbert** called out "Don't, don't, you have shot **Herbert**;" I did not hear **Cook** call out before the firing, but he might have done so, as I slipped down just as the firing commenced, which caused me to be several yards behind **Herbert**, when he was shot he staggered a few paces and then fell, **Cook** appeared very sorry, and said that he thought it was the bushrangers, as two men had been and disturbed the horses; he said he challenged them, but they did not answer; I went to **Mogong** for assistance, and **Cook** remained with **Herbert**; **Cook** was sober, and I never knew him to quarrel with **Herbert**; the night was dark; we did not return to the camp the same way we left, we could just see some person at the camp, but could not tell who it was; I did not measure the distance, from the camp to where **Herbert** fell, **Herbert, Cook**, and myself were armed with breech-loading rifles, **Peter** had a carbine.

By **Cook**: I did not hear **Herbert** tell you that we should be back at the camp that night, I do not know what orders **Herbert** gave you when you and he were on the other side of the ridge.

Peter Hogan, an **aboriginal**, born in New England, and christened by a priest at Darling Downs, stated that he was a **tracker in the police**, and was out with **Herbert**, **Ambrose**, and **Cook**, looking for the bushrangers when **Herbert** was shot; we camped at night some distance from **Mogong**, after tea ... **Cook** to short hobble the horses, and not let them go away, he also blew into the top of a powder-flask, and said that he would give that signal when they came back to the camp ; **Herbert** and **Ambrose** then went away on foot, and **Cook** and myself went to look after the horses, after which I made the bed, and went to sleep ; after some time **Cook** woke me by knocking me on the knee, and said here they are ; we heard something move, but could not see what it was ; I saw two men on horseback ; we could not tell who they were ; **Cook** challenged them, but got no answer ; I again laid down, and went to sleep, when **Cook** woke me again by saying here they are ; we saw two men coming towards the camp ; **Cook** called out who comes here, but got no answer ; **Cook** and I then fired, **Cook** first ; after the shots were fired, heard **Herbert** call out " you have shot **Herbert**."

Hugh M Rowland, sworn : I am a duly **qualified medical practitioner** ; on the 29th of March I attended **senior-constable Herbert** ; he was suffering from **two gunshot wounds** ; one of the balls had **entered the flank**, passed through the **kidney**, and lodged in the **loins**, from which I extracted it ; this wound **was sufficient to cause death** ; the **other wound** was in the **neck and shoulder** ; I saw him on the **14th of April**, when he was dying ; I have since heard that he was dead.

Constable Casey proved **senior-constable Herbert** died from the effects of the wound.

Committed for trial at the Bathurst Quarter Sessions.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/13113342#>

* Story behind any Nickname:

Nothing further, than what is recorded above, is known about this person at the time of publication and further information and photos would be appreciated.

Cal

2 June 2024

Juan Carlos HERNANDEZ

27/11/2024

Juan Carlos HERNANDEZ

AKA CARL, CARLOS, BOMBHEAD & ROCKY

Late of ?

NSW Goulburn Academy Class # 226

New South Wales Police Force

Probationary Constable # 98201

Regd. # 23642

Uniform # 1583

Rank: Commenced Training at the Goulburn Police Academy on 18 February 1987

Probationary Constable – appointed 15 May 1987

Constable – appointed 15 May 1988

Constable 1st Class – appointed

Final Rank = Constable 1st Class

Stations: ?, Paddington (10 Division), State Protection Group Sydney (SPG) – Death

Service: From 18 February 1987 to 1 December 1992 = 5+ years Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: 28 July 1959

Died on: Tuesday 1 December 1992 @ St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst

Age: 33 years, 4 months, 3 days

Cause: **Accidentally Shot at Redfern SPG**

Event location: Redfern Police Academy

Event date: Tuesday 1 December 1992

Funeral date: 4 December 1992

Funeral location: ?

Wake location: ?

Funeral Parlour: ?

Buried at: Cremated. Ashes collected. Eastern Suburbs
Memorial Park, Matraville

Memorial located at: ?



CARL IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance

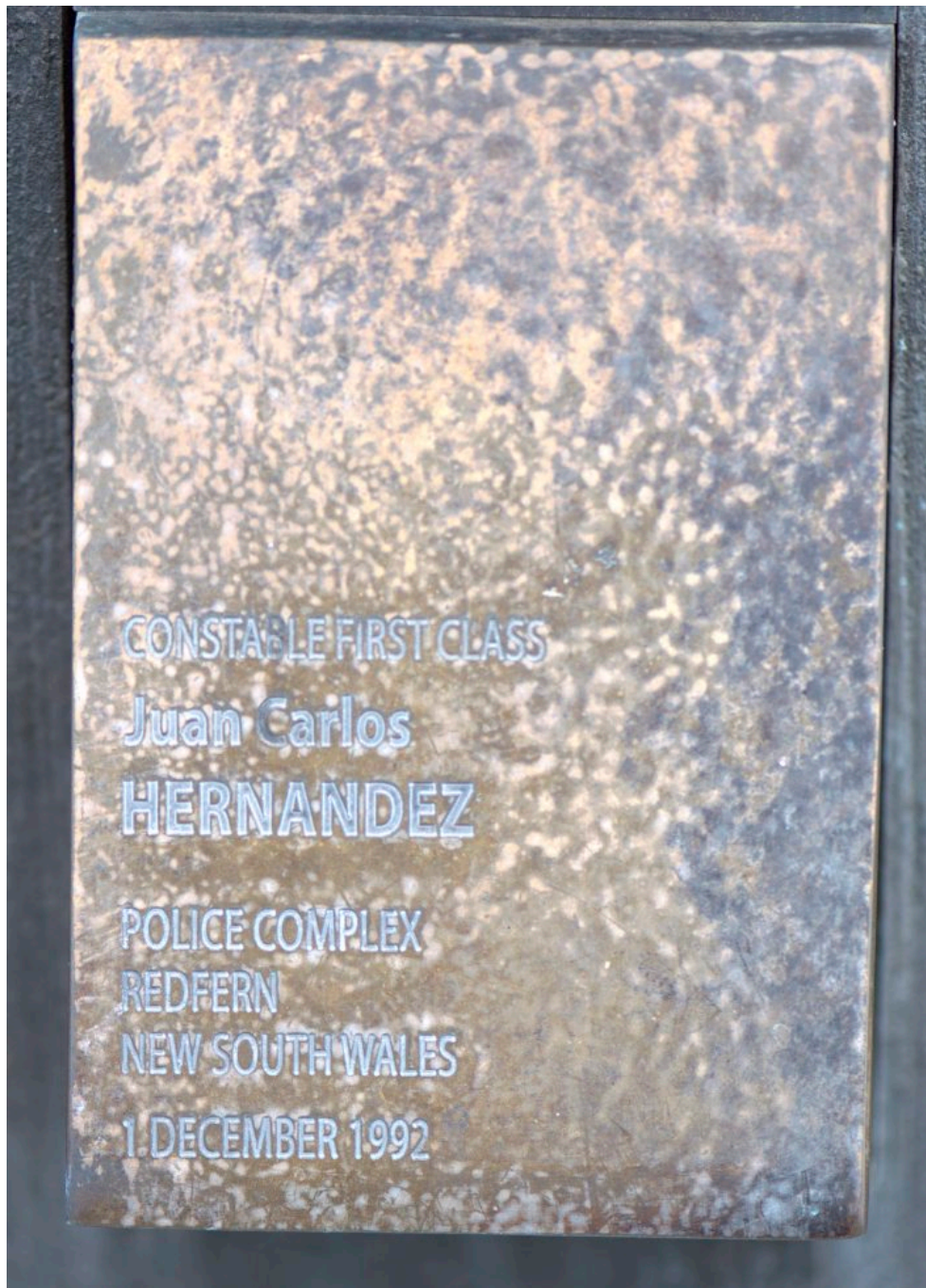
Funeral location: TBA

**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

In 1992 Constable Hernandez was a member of the **State Protection Group** and a qualified firearms instructor. He was accidentally shot in the chest while testing police in their annual firearms proficiency tests at the Redfern Police Complex. Following emergency surgery Constable Hernandez died at St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst the same day as the accident.

The constable was born in 1959 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 18 February, 1987. At the time of his death he was attached to the State Protection Group.



Touch Plate at the National Police Wall of Remembrance, Canberra



Photo credit: Kelvin Harband □ NSW Fallen Police New Member . **Juan Hernandez** was accidentally shot in the chest while doing firearms training as an Instructor at the Redfern Police Academy on 1 December 1992. Emergency surgery was unable to save his life and he passed on that same day. Juan and I went through the Academy together in 1987 and he will always be remembered and a great bloke whose life was cut way to short by the tragic accident. Juan is in the middle squatting down in this photo which was taken on the day of our attestation (15 May 1987).

Carl is also credited with designing the **TOU insignia** – which was maintained in respect to his.

Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 – 1995),

Tuesday 1 December 1992, page 4

IN BRIEF

Policeman shot dead

SYDNEY: A police weapons training instructor was fatally wounded by another officer during a gun training session yesterday.

Constable Juan Carlos Hernandez, 33, an instructor with the elite **State Protection Group**, died in hospital several hours after being shot in the chest at the **old Police Academy at Redfern**.

Constable Hernandez was supervising about 15 officers at a training session when a **.38 calibre police-issue revolver** discharged, wounding him in the chest.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/126959025>

[blockquote]

Carl.

Juan Carlos Hernandez,
Carl was how I knew you,
I will never forget,
What you helped me through.

To walk into a room,
When I was very young,
My first days in the job,
To see death, just wrong.

I was only 19 years old,
In the job for a few weeks,
In morbid fascination,
What no one really seeks.

I stood in disbelief,
Waiting for him to breath,
But he did not move,
It was hard for me to believe.

As we left the room,
You stopped me for a while,
And asked if I was ok,
Then you gave me a smile.

A smile because you knew,
It was not one of joy,
To tell me it would be ok,
I was no longer just a boy.

Death I had just seen,
Even if for the first time,
With the strength you showed me,
I would be just fine.

In shock a few years later,
I heard you had been lost,
In a twisted circumstance,
Your family paid the cost.

You were loyal to the end,
That is what I heard,
You were the ultimate Man,
So to deny your last words, absurd.

You died loving what you did,
A Policeman you will always be,
Did not matter your end,
You are now free.

I can't believe,
It's over 20 years,
Since I sat with you,
Had a few beers.

For years you have rested,
In the ultimate peace,
Having died in the line of duty,
But your memory does not cease.

You will never be forgotten,
Not while I still stand,
I will never ever forget,
When as a 19 year old you held my hand.

Thank you
Brother in Blue.

Died in the line of duty
1st December 1992.

[/blockquote]

Penned by Brendo Greysie (2014)

-
1. Legislative Council by date
 2. 27 August 2013

Police Attestation Ceremony

Speakers	Cusack The Hon Catherine; Gallacher The Hon Michael
Business	Questions Without Notice, QWN

POLICE ATTESTATION CEREMONY

Page: 22733

The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK: My question is addressed to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. Will the Minister inform the House about the newest recruits to the New South Wales Police Force?

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: I thank the honourable member for her question. Last Friday, 23 August 2013, it was my great pleasure to attend the attestation ceremony for class 319 at the Goulburn Police Academy. I assure members that the calibre of probationary constables coming through the doors of the academy to pursue challenging and rewarding careers as police officers in this State remains very high indeed. They passed the stringent physical and academic tests, and have demonstrated the commitment and character befitting their new role. These qualities were no more visible than when the **commissioner's valour award** was presented to **Senior Constable Justin Knight** on the parade ground last Friday. The award was conferred for conspicuous merit and exceptional bravery when an offender armed with a sawn-off rifle fired at Senior Constable Knight with intent to murder on **20 January 2007** at Eveleigh Street, Redfern—the Block.

In the course of pursuing a suspect, Constable Knight alighted from his vehicle and pursued an offender on foot, calling for him to stop. The offender produced a sawn-off rifle and, despite the risk, Constable Knight continued to follow him. The offender fired a number of shots at Constable Knight, narrowly missing him. The constable felt one of the projectiles go past his arm and thought that he had been shot. Being aware of the sensitivity of the local community towards police and despite the escalated danger, Constable Knight did

not respond by firing his service firearm. The offender fled the scene, but was later identified and charged with attempted murder of a police officer. The offender was subsequently convicted.

I ask members to reflect on those circumstances and whether we would have acted with the same level of commitment, bravery and judgement as Constable Knight on that occasion. Too often the community reacts to instances where police officers have been accused of wrongdoing, but the events of that night in 2007 remind us of the challenges and risks faced by officers of the NSW Police Force, in this case potentially quite deadly. I am confident that Senior Constable Knight's example will flow through to the 161 probationary constables who attested and have joined a force with record authorised strength in this State.

A number of the new police officers deserve special mention. The winner of the **Robert Brotherson award** for the [highest level of academic achievement](#) was **Probationary Constable Natalie Martin**. The winners of the **Steven Roser memorial award** for the [highest male and female achievers in physical training](#) were **Probationary Constable Mitchell Thompson** and **Probationary Constable Guilhermina El-Mir**. The **Juan Carlos Hernandez award**, given to the student with the [highest marksmanship score](#), went to **probationary constables David Edwards, Anton Sahyoun and Shanahan Toering**—all three tied for that award. **Probationary Constable Toering** also received the award for the highest achiever in the [Simulated Policing Acquiring Competence program](#).

One of the many proud parents at the attestation was **Detective Superintendent Arthur Katsogiannis**, whose son **Daniel** is now a probationary constable and commences his career at **City Central Local Area Command**. It was terrific to see 23 members of the attestation of class 319 identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, of which 16 were graduates of the Indigenous Police Recruiting Our Way [IPROWD] program that I

have spoken about in this forum. Congratulations to them. I had the pleasure of witnessing the graduation of 13 dog teams from the State Protection Group Dog Unit. Some were general purpose dogs and others, obviously, were sniffer dogs. That is good news for Byron Bay and its former mayor, the Hon. Jan Barham. The attestation parades provide an opportunity— [*Time expired.*]

The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK: I ask a supplementary question. Will the Minister elucidate his answer?

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: I pay respect to the following five officers who retired from the NSW Police Force, taking with them collectively 190-plus years: **Superintendent Ben Feszczuk, Detective Superintendent Col Dyson, APM, Superintendent Ray Filewood, Detective Inspector Dennis Clarke, APM, and Inspector Leslie Dickens.** All five officers led the parade on Friday. It was an incredibly proud moment for them, their families and the communities they have represented in just short of 200 years of policing. As I said to the graduating class, “If you want to look for role models, look at these five as a classic example of what you can give back to a community that will give you so much more.”

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlment/hansart.nsf/V3Key/LC20130827015>

-
1. Legislative Council by date
 2. 7 May 2013

NSW Police Force Newly Attested Officers

Speakers	Cusack The Hon Catherine; Gallacher The Hon Michael
Business	Questions Without Notice, QWN

NSW POLICE FORCE NEWLY ATTESTED OFFICERS

Page: 20006

The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK: My question is addressed to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. Will the Minister inform the House about the newest recruits to the NSW Police Force? **The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER:** On 3 May it was a great pleasure to attend the attestation ceremony for class 318 at the Goulburn Police Academy, and I can assure the House that the calibre of probationary constables coming through the academy to pursue a challenging and rewarding career as a New South Wales police officer remains high. All attesting officers have made it through physical and academic tests, and, most importantly, they have demonstrated the commitment and character of people prepared to ensure the safety and security of the community they will serve. The 202 probationary constables who attested have joined a police force now boasting a record authorised strength of 16,176. As members opposite know full well, we have been increasing the authorised strength of the NSW Police Force since we took office. After the further increase this month of 80 positions from the May class, we have boosted the authorised strength by 370, and we are on our way to increasing the force by a total of 859 positions, to a record authorised strength of 16,665 officers in August 2015. This month 50 additional positions were added to the Police Transport Command, bringing its authorised strength to 401. We have also added 30 positions to the authorised strength of the Traffic and Highway Patrol Command, bringing it to 1,295. That makes an increase of 50 new authorised positions to this command, and that is halfway to our commitment to increase the strength of the command by 100. While another 202 probationary constables have been drawn to this career, I am equally pleased with how many officers stay in this exciting and rewarding profession. Indeed, there is such demand for a career in policing that the NSW Police Force has implemented a freeze on new applications. Members opposite have mischievously tried to claim that this is a sign of cuts to the Police Force. That is as far from the truth as

members opposite could possibly get. Thanks to the Government making the necessary reforms to the Death and Disability Scheme set up by members opposite and restoring the confidence of serving police officers by ensuring that they will have the back-up they need, I am advised that attrition within the Police Force is currently averaging about 40 officers a month, down from the average of 70 under the previous administration. Therefore, it stands to reason that if fewer officers are leaving the force, fewer replacements are needed. Under Labor, the NSW Police Force was faced with more than 800 officers on long-term sick leave and officers leaving the force at such a rate that police could not recruit fast enough to plug the holes. Placing a temporary freeze on new applications will ensure that potential applicants do not need to spend application fees, which easily total \$500, including on such items as medical certificates, when there is a substantial wait before their application can be considered. We are getting on with the job of ensuring that the NSW Police Force is better resourced, better equipped and better supported than ever before. Members opposite are peddling misinformation and seeking to undermine the community's confidence in a police force experiencing record numbers. A number of the new police officers deserve special mention. The winner of the **Robert Brotherson Award** for the [highest level of academic achievement](#) was **Probationary Constable Thomas Stillwell**. The winners of the **Steven Roser Memorial Award** for the [highest male and female achievers in physical training](#) were **Probationary Constable Adam Splithof** and **Probationary Constable Caitlin Billingham**. The **Juan Carlos Hernandez Award**, given to the student with the [highest marksmanship score](#), went to **Probationary Constable Matthew Skellern**. [*Time expired.*]

The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK: I ask a supplementary question. Will the Minister elucidate his answer?

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: I am sure that all members would like to hear about these outstanding young probationary constables, including **Probationary Constable Nathan**

Dechaufepie, who was the recipient of the [Simulated Policing Acquiring Confidence Award](#). These officers can be proud of their achievements. Their families can be proud of them and, most importantly, their communities are proud of them. I am sure that the House will join me in wishing our newest police officers all the very best for their careers in the NSW Police Force.

- Legislative Council by date
- 9 May 2011

Speakers	MacDonald Mr Scot; Gallacher The Hon Michael
Business	Questions Without Notice, QWN

POLICE GRADUATIONS

Page: 416

The Hon. SCOT MacDONALD: My question is addressed to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. Will the Minister inform the House of the results of the latest police attestation?

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: I apologise to the House for my inability to be here last Friday. I had a very important role to fulfil as the Minister for Police and Emergency Services at the graduation of class 312 at the Police Academy in Goulburn. It was my first in my new role as Minister for Police and Emergency Services. One of the first things I had an opportunity to announce down there was clarification of the uncertainty that exists around the name of the organisation.

The Hon. Duncan Gay: It was well received.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: It was well received. It will now return to its former name of the New South Wales Police

Academy, not the police college. That announcement was very well received by the sworn officers. The attestation certainly brought back memories of when I was in a similar position, standing on the parade ground at Redfern more than 30 years ago. Whilst a lot of things have changed in policing, a lot of things have not. Obviously the equipment, the cars and the uniform have changed, but certainly one thing that has not changed is the high calibre of probationary constables coming through the academy. They are required to pass through a tough course, both physically and academically, to prove they can cut the mustard as officers in the New South Wales Police Force. Who knows, even Eric Roozendaal might apply to join the New South Wales Police Force—although he may not pass the integrity test.

They are men and women who are prepared to do their best for the people of this State and who will undertake this job on a daily basis, often in the most difficult of circumstances. The 111 probationary constables who attested at the ceremony have joined more than 15,000 officers in the Police Force. They come from all walks of life. Over 22 per cent of those who attested are women. Forty per cent come from outside metropolitan Sydney. Sixteen were born overseas, in countries such as Russia, Germany, Malaysia, China and even Botswana. They speak Arabic, Greek, Cantonese, Armenian, Dari, and Khmer. They will be posted to 59 local area commands across the State, from Albury in the south, to Richmond in the north, from Barrier in the west to the heart of Sydney. Forty-four of the officers have been assigned to non-metropolitan or rural regions.

Irrespective of where they have been posted they are on the front line. They stand between the community and the dangers of crime and other antisocial behaviour. A number of these new police officers deserve special mention. Firstly, the winner of the **Robert Brotherson Award** for the **highest level of academic achievement** was **Probationary Constable Stephanie**

Hill. The winners of the **Steven Roser Memorial Award** for the **highest male and female achievers in physical training** were **Probationary Constable John Feuerstein** and **Probationary Constable Sandra Chaban**. The **Juan Carlos Hernandez Award**, given to the student with the **highest marksmanship score**, was **Probationary Constable James Patrick**. **Probationary Constable Jessica Agland** was the recipient of the **Simulated Policing Acquiring Confidence Award**.

I met some of the officers on Friday and I can confidently say that the New South Wales Police Force has a strong future. These officers can be proud of their achievements. Their family and friends can be proud of them for all the hard work they have put in to get there. The people of New South Wales can be proud of these people for choosing a selfless profession, dedicating their working lives to ensuring the safety and protection of the community. I am sure all members of the House will join me in wishing our newest police officers all the very best for their careers in the New South Wales Police Force.

https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Prod/parlment/hansart.nsf/V3Key/LC20110509023?open&refNavID=HA8_1

Sharon Louise WILSON

27/11/2024

Sharon Louise WILSON

late of Uralla, NSW

New South Wales Police Force

Goulburn Academy Class # 236

Regd. # 25???

Rank: Commenced Training at Goulburn Police Academy on Sunday
8 May 1988 (aged 19 years, 7 months, 16 days)(spent 2
months, 21 days at Academy)

Probationary Constable – appointed Friday 29 July 1988 (aged
19 years, 10 months, 7 days)

Stations: Leeton

Awards: ? Nil

Born: Sunday 22 September 1968

Died: Wednesday 30 November 1988

Age: 20 years, 2 months, 8 days

Service: 8 May 1988 to 30 November 1988 = 6 months, 22 days
Service

Cause of death: Accidentally Shot – by colleague – Service
weapon

Location of incident: inside Leeton Police Station, NSW

Location of Death: Wagga Wagga Base Hospital, NSW

Funeral: Monday 5 December 1988 @ 1pm

Funeral location: ?, Uralla

Buried: ? Uralla Cemetery, Kingstown Rd, Uralla, NSW

Memorial 1: Memorial Tree planted at NSW Police Academy,
Goulburn

Memorial 2: Memorial plate on the front outside wall of
Leeton Police Station. Dedication done on 30 November 2015.
Photos below.





Sharon Louise WILSON – centre, front row. Class 215

About **2.15pm** on 30 November, 1988 Constable Wilson was on duty **at the Leeton Police Station** when she suffered a severe gunshot wound to the head when another member's service revolver discharged. Although treated at the scene by colleagues until the ambulance arrived, she passed away **at the Wagga Base Hospital** at **5.45pm** the same day.

The constable was born in 1968 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 9 May, 1988. At the time of her death she was stationed at Leeton.



Touch plate at the National Police Wall of Remembrance, Canberra

Sharon is mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance



Alan Cope (# 23769 ?) thanks guests for attending. Alan spoke about Sharon Wilson and her short time in Leeton.



Superintendent Mick Rowan # 22980 ?) with Father Robert offer kind words. – with Robert Patrick Murphy



Superintendent Mick Rowan unveiled the new memorial plaque.



Alan Cope closes the ceremony. □ Monday 30 November 2015



Dedicated: Monday 30 November 2015

2 December 1988

"CHARGES POSSIBLE OVER SHOOTING

SYDNEY: The NSW Police Commissioner, **John Avery**, will decide whether charges should be laid against a constable allegedly involved in the shooting death of her **20 year-old colleague** on Wednesday.

A police spokesman said yesterday a team of detectives was waiting to interview the young officer over the death of policewoman **Sharon Wilson** at the **Leeton Police Station**, in the state's **Riverina district**.

He said results of the investigation would be forwarded to Mr

Avery for consideration.

A police spokesman said the detectives – including two from Sydney's **Internal Affairs department**, two from **homicide**, a **ballistics expert** and a **police psychologist** – were waiting to talk to the **19-year-old constable**.

Probationary Constable Wilson was shot **in the head** by one bullet from a service revolver while **on duty at Leeton Police Station**, at **2.15pm** on Wednesday.

She was rushed to Wagga Base Hospital, but died **3 1/2 hours later**.

The policewoman awaiting questioning had been treated for shock and was being cared for by friends and welfare personnel, the spokesman said.

Detectives hoped to talk with her last night.

Miss Wilson, of **Uralla**, in the **Northern Tablelands**, was well known in the small community. She was regarded as a fine athlete and her **188cm frame** was well known in the local **basketball league**.

Miss Wilson was studying **visual arts** at the **Riverina Murray Institute of Higher Education in Wagga**.

Her body will be transported to her home at **Uralla**, where a funeral will be held at **1pm on Monday**."

02 Dec 1988 – Charges possible over shooting – Trove

Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 – 1995),

Wednesday 15 March 1989, page 22

Second death prompts gun rule review

SYDNEY: Junior police officers could be made to leave their guns at work after a young constable accidentally killed his best friend while cleaning his service revolver at home on Monday.

An internal police investigation into the shooting would look at the controls on probationary constables' possession of weapons, the **NSW Minister for Police, Ted Pickering**, said yesterday.

Constable Andrew Pearce, 20, was cleaning his **.38 service revolver** in the bedroom of his Greystanes home in Sydney's west at noon on Monday when the gun discharged and hit his friend **Andrew James McDonald** in the chest.

Mr **McDonald**, a 20-year-old bank teller from Greystanes, died an hour later in Westmead Hospital.

The incident was the second fatal shooting by a **probationary constable** in the past four months.

Last November **Probationary Constable Sheree Schneider**, 19, (**ProCst # 60370**) accidentally shot **Constable Sharon Wilson** in the head at **Leeton police station** in the **Riverina region**. The young constable now faces a manslaughter charge.

Acting Police Commissioner Angus Graham refused yesterday to comment on Monday's shooting and was unable to say whether Constable Pearce, an officer with one year's service, would be charged over the incident.

He said the fatal shooting was the subject of a full investigation by the police's **Internal Affairs Department**.

"When we have these incidents we always review our arrangements," he said.

The Sydney Morning Herald

28 July 1989 p 6 of 68

'Empty' gun killed officer

A policewoman fatally wounded a colleague with a shot from her service revolver which she believed was empty, the **Leeton Local Court**, in south-west NSW, heard yesterday.

Sheree Ann Schneider (*ProCst # 60370*), 20, of Pine Avenue, Leeton was charged with the **manslaughter of Constable Sharon Louise Wilson**, 20, at **Leeton Police Station** on **November 30** last year.

Constable Wilson died of head injuries at the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital as a result of the shooting.

Constable Harvey McRae told the court that he was sitting at a computer terminal when he heard the firing pin of a police revolver strike the empty chamber. **Constable Wilson** had said, "Oh God, don't do that. You scared the living daylights out of me".

He said **Schneider** pointed the revolver toward **Constable Wilson** and said: "No, it's empty, see?" The gun then discharged.

Schneider said she went into the sergeant's office and re-loaded her gun. The court heard that four live bullets and one spent one were later removed from the revolver.

R_27_EPILOGUE_Police

http://nswjudicialinjustice.com/Contentsfiles/R_27_EPILOGUE_Police.pdf

Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 – 1995),

Sunday 30 July 1989, page 4

Not guilty of manslaughter

ALBURY: A policewoman who **fatally shot** a colleague has been **cleared of manslaughter** after a hearing in the **Albury District Court**. **Sheree Ann Schneider**, 20, of Pine Ave, Leeton, was charged with the **manslaughter of Sharon Louise Wilson**, 20, of Leeton, who died from injuries received in the shooting.

Constable Wilson was shot in the head while speaking on the telephone in the communications room of Leeton police station on November 30 last year.

Miss Schneider gave evidence at the **committal hearing on Friday**.

She said she had gone to the sergeant's office where she had **unloaded her special issue five-shot .38 service revolver**. She told the court she was sure **five bullets** had fallen from the revolver's cylinder and into her hand.

Miss Schneider said she had left the bullets in the office and returned to the inquiry counter area.

Thinking the gun was empty, she **"dry fired"** it.

Miss Schneider said **Constable Wilson** had become frightened and said: "Oh God, don't do that. You scared the living daylights out of me."

She had said to **Constable Wilson**: "No, it's empty, see" and then pulled the trigger "to reassure her she had nothing to worry about." The gun had discharged.

Asked by **her counsel, Mr John Dailly**, what she had thought when the gun discharged, she said: "I couldn't believe it! I was sure I had counted five bullets."

It was **not until she had returned to the sergeant's office** that **she realised she had made a mistake.**

Although **Miss Wilson** had been shot, **Miss Schneider** said she was unaware at the time the gun had been pointing at her colleague.

Miss Schneider said she had returned to help **Miss Wilson**, who lay on the floor **bleeding profusely** from a wound to the **left temple.**

She said she placed both hands over the wound to try to stop the bleeding.

The court was told **Miss Schneider** had received **200 minutes pistol training** at the police academy and had been **issued** with the **smaller five-shot revolver** after **failing her first shoot** with the **larger six shot model.**

Mr Dailly said the shooting had been an accident.

"It was totally unintended, unexpected and unforeseen," he said.

In **discharging Miss Schneider**, **Magistrate Barry Wooldridge** said she had made a "**great mistake**" when counting the bullets. But the fact remained that there was no intent on **Miss Schneider's** part, no animosity between the two and no evidence

she had deliberately pointed the gun at **Constable Wilson**.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/122285837>

Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 – 1995),

Tuesday 15 August 1989, page 5

IN BRIEF

DPP reviews court ruling

SYDNEY: The Director of Public Prosecutions said yesterday he would review a **magistrate's decision to dismiss a manslaughter charge** against a police woman who shot dead a fellow officer.

The director, **Reg Blanch, QC**, said he would direct **Constable Sheree Schneider** to stand trial if he found that **Leeton Magistrate Barry Wooldridge** had made an error in judgement.

Constable Schneider, 20, shot dead **Sharon Wilson, also 20**, with a service revolver at **Leeton police station** on November 30. She said she **thought the revolver was empty**.

Mr Blanch said he would make a decision in four to eight weeks. **Constable Schneider, suspended with pay**, was to answer a charge on **August 31** of **using a firearm with disregard for safety**.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/122276423>

**The Law—From Protector To Persecutor
From ‘Signs Of Senility’ a chapter of ‘A Study Of
Our Decline’ by P Atkinson**

(7/9/2013)

Schneider Case

In New South Wales, at Leeton police station on 30-Nov-1988, a junior policewoman produced a pistol and shot dead another officer. Sheree Ann Schneider claimed it was an accident. Satisfied the pistol was unloaded, she pulled the trigger without looking where the gun was pointed. The charge of *Felonious Assault* was dismissed in the lower court on 28th July 1989 under section 41 (vi) – the presiding officer ruled that no jury would convict. *Use Of A Firearm In Disregard For Another Persons Safety* was dismissed on 27th April 1990. The female did not even lose her job, presumably her fellow officers hope she will be more careful in future.

Court Ignores Duty

It is axiomatic with all weapons training that they never be pointed at anyone unless they are intended to be used –even in jest. Deliberately pulling the trigger without looking where the .38 pistol was pointed was criminal irresponsibility. Sharon Wilson was killed as the result of criminal negligence; a failure that should not be tolerated from any citizen, much less a police officer. Not knowing the gun was loaded is no excuse for anyone, least of all a trained professional. For the courts to fail to penalise this action is to commit more crimes; the denial of the importance of duty and the magnitude of taking a life.

The Law Repeats The Role Of Indulgent Parents

Schneider escaped penalty by adopting the infantile excuse that she was merely the hapless victim of the inadequate police weapons training program; that this was accepted by the authorities is not an aberration. Trial for murder is no longer a matter of resolving fact; it has become a re-

enactment of the spoilt child caught by their indulgent parents; if the miscreant can deflect blame while generating sympathy then all is forgiven.

<http://www.ourcivilisation.com/signs/chap8.htm>

Thomas MADDEN

27/11/2024

Thomas MADDEN

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # **????**

Rank: Constable

Stations: **?** , Bathurst

Service: **From** 20 January 1864 **to** 30 April 1867 = 3+ years
Service

Awards: **?**

Born: **??** 1836 – 1837, County Mayo, Ireland

Died on: 30 April 1867

Cause: Accidentally Shot – " Friendly fire "

Event location: Pulpit Hill (near Katoomba)

Age: 30

Funeral date:

Funeral location:

Buried at: Hartley Cemetery, Great Western Hwy, Hartley, NSW

Location of Grave: a/a

Memorial location:





photo courtesy of:
<http://livonne.com.au/2013/03/02/in-the-line-of-duty/>



In the
Sacred
TO
THE MEMORY
OF
THOMAS MADDEN
CONSTABLE
WHO WAS ACCIDENTALLY
SHOT
THE 30th APRIL 1847
WHILE IN THE DISCHARGE
OF HIS DUTY AT
FELPIT HILL
A CAPTIVE OF COLONY WAR
1847-48
AGED 30 YEARS.
Erected by the members
of the
Police Force
in the Western District

Sacred to the memory of Thomas Madden Constable. Who was accidentally shot 13th April 1867 while in the discharge of his duty at Pulpit Hill. A native of County Mayo Ireland. Aged 30 years. May his soul rest in peace. Erected by the members of the Police force in the Western District.

THOMAS IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance

On the 29 April, 1867 a party of eight police led by **Sergeant Walter Casey** camped at **Pulpit Hill** (near present day **Katoomba**) with fifteen or sixteen 'heavily ironed' prisoners they were escorting from **Bathurst Court** to **Darlinghurst Gaol**.

At midnight **Constable Madden** took his turn to watch over the lockup in which the prisoners were housed. When he was relieved at 2am by **Constable Hitchcox**, **Constable Madden** went to check the prisoners. When he opened the door of the lockup, the prisoners, who had apparently been waiting for their chance to escape, rushed the constable. **Sergeant Casey**, who realised what was occurring, began firing at the prisoners. Unfortunately, **of the five shots** fired by the **sergeant**, **three accidentally** struck **Constable Madden**, inflicting **fatal wounds**. Two prisoners were also wounded.

The Sydney Morning Herald of

14 May, 1867, page 3 gave news of the inquest into the death of Constable Madden.

INQUEST ON THE BODY OF CONSTABLE MADDEN.

*At the inquest held by the District Coroner, at **Hartley**, on*

*view of the body of the unfortunate deceased **Constable Thomas Madden**, who was **accidentally shot** by **Sergeant Casey** while resisting the attempt of prisoners to escape from the lockup at **Pulpit Hill**, depositions were taken.*

Walter Cassels Casey, sergeant of police, stationed at **Sofala**, on oath saith

On the 29th April I was in charge of an escort of **fifteen prisoners** en route from Bathurst to Sydney ; that night the escort stopped at **Pulpit Hill lock-up**, I was on guard over the prisoners from 7 to 10 p m ; and was relieved by **constable Duggan**, who was on guard from 10 to 12, when he was relieved by the deceased, who remained on guard from 12 to 2a.m. of the 30th instant, **Constable Hitchcox** had to relieve him then.

After I was relieved from guard by **constable Duggan**, I laid down on the sofa (marked A in the plan), and had my revolver loaded on the window sill at hand ; **anxiety kept me from sleeping**, and I conversed with every sentry ; at twelve minutes past 2 a.m, **deceased** called **Constable Hitchcox** from an adjoining room ; deceased then said, " I will look to see that they are all right," immediately after this, the **prisoners**, led by **Rutherford, Holmes, Moran, Smith, Southgate**, and **Kerr** burst into the front room, out of the cell (C), and through the door (B), I jumped up, seized my revolver, and **fired at the prisoner Moran** ; he appeared to fall, I then **fired at Kerr**, who sang out, I fired at **Kerr**, who was rushing at **deceased** ; **Kerr** fell, I then **fired at Southgate**, who had hold of **deceased** ; the pistol hung fire , **Southgate** was not hit ; I fired again at one I supposed to be prisoner **Holmes**, I believe that something was put over the lamps very soon after the rush ; I found a blanket and a prisoner's jacket on the table after all was over ; as the room seemed to get very dark after the two first shots ; it may have been caused by the smoke ; after I had **fired five shots**, the prisoners **all but two** ran into the cell, these two, who were **Holmes** and **Rutherford**, ran out of the **front door** (D), taking the direction of G and F ; I

followed **Holmes**, and snapped the pistol at him ; it did not go off ; I then ran in and shut the door on the prisoners, who were in the cell at the time **senior-constables McArthur** and **McNanamy** and other police ran up from the barracks ; **McArthur** told me that **Madden** was shot in three places, and that the prisoners must have a revolver, I said, " Than they got **Madden's**," I said three or four of the prisoners are shot. I then looked at **Hitchcox's** revolver, it was not discharged, nor was any other of the police revolvers but my own, which had been fired five times, I then said, "Oh, my God! I must have shot poor **Madden**,"

I went up to the **barracks**, and saw deceased ; he complained of pain in his bowels ; I said, " Oh, **Madden** it was I shot you," he said, " No, it was the prisoners," I said, " No, it was me, as no other revolver was discharged," he said then, "If it was, I forgive you ; I know you did not do it on purpose," and shook hands with me. **I was so overcome at the thought of shooting my comrade**, I do not know what I did, I believe I fainted.

I saw in the afternoon that prisoner **Moran** and **Kerr** were each wounded in two places – **Moran** on the breast and in the thigh, and **Kerr** having a graze on his head and a severe wound through his right arm.

When I went in, **Moran** said:, "You b— butcher, if I had a revolver I would have got away ; I would as it was but for the sergeant."

I was standing on the sofa when I fired, and the deceased was struggling with the prisoners ; my revolver has six chambers ; one chamber had **two round bullets** in it, one of which struck **Moran** on the left breast ; it is usual to see if the prisoners are all safe when changing guard ; the whole affair did not last more than five minutes ; I have been about **eleven years** in the police, I think **Kerr** had hold of deceased by the throat ; **Kerr** was shot through the right arm, and deceased on the

left side ; I believe **deceased** was trying to keep prisoner from me and the door ; the property found on deceased consisted of £7 16s 3d and a silver watch and chain.

Thomas Hitchcox sworn: " I am a **constable** stationed at **Pulpit Hill**, on the morning of the 30th April I was called shortly after 2 a m to relieve the deceased **constable Madden**, who was on duty guarding fifteen prisoners in the **Pulpit Hill watch-house**. When I came out of my **own room** **sergeant Casey** was lying on a sofa, after I had been out of my room a few moments, **constable Madden** said, "I'll see if the prisoners are all right "

He took the padlock off and drew the bolt, immediately, the prisoners rushed the door open and I believe knocked **deceased** down ; at least I lost sight of him ; prisoner **Rutherford** sprang at my throat, with, I believe the intention to get at **Sergeant Casey's** revolver, which was lying on the window ; I got away from him ; he followed me, and got hold of me a second time ; I then got away ; **sergeant Casey** jumped up and commenced to fire his revolver at the prisoners. **Rutherford** again caught me by the throat ; I had great difficulty in getting away from him ; I rushed into my bedroom ; got out of the window ; and went to the **barracks** to call the escort, who were sleeping in the **barrack room**, and to get arms, as the prisoners were between myself and my own ; I believe had not **sergeant Casey** fired as promptly as he did we should have been disarmed ; and the prisoners would have escaped ; my revolver was hanging behind the cell door ; the place where I generally keep it,

Sergeant Casey was standing on the sofa when he fired.

Daniel Murray O'Hara being duly sworn said I am a duly qualified **medical practitioner** residing at **Hassan's Walls**, I have this day made a **post mortem** examination on the body of **Thomas Madden** ; there were no external marks of violence on the body, except **three punctured wounds** ; one on the left jaw

in front of the ear, one on the left shoulder blade, and one on the left side, between the ninth and tenth ribs ; these three wounds are gunshot ; where the ball entered I found the ball that caused the wound on the jaw had passed through the lower jaw blade fracturing it and wounding parts inside the jaw, viz muscles etc, and passing through the roof of the tongue in which I found the ball lodged in its substance ; on the right side the bone had split the ball, and one small portion was found immediately inside the left jaw bone, and the principal portion on the place stated, with a small portion of bone adhering to it ; this wound would not necessarily have proved fatal ; I found that the wound on the left side was more serious ; and on opening the chest and abdomen, I found that the ball had passed through the chest and abdomen, from the left to the right side, wounding in its course the pleura, peritoneum, and spleen, liver, and stomach, I found the ball under the skin on the right side ; there had been a great deal of internal haemorrhage along the course of this ball ; I believe it was from the causes of this wound that death took place ; I was not able to discover the ball that had entered the shoulder blade but as it had not entered the chest I did not consider it necessary to make any further search for it. The round hallmarked "X" is the one which had entered the side, and was the cause of death ; the ball marked "T" I found in the substance of the tongue.

*The jury returned the following verdict – "That on the **30th day of April** last, at **Pulpit Hill**, the said **Thomas Madden** died from pistol shot wounds, fired by **Sergeant Casey** while in the execution of his duty, and not by any other violent means whatever to the knowledge of the said jurors, did die."* The jury also added that they consider **no blame attached to Sergeant Casey**.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/13138796>

The constable was born in Ireland and joined the New South Wales Police Force on **20 January, 1864** at the age of **28 years**.

He had previously served in the **Royal Irish Constabulary**. At the time of his death he was a **mounted trooper** in the **New South Wales Police Force** and was stationed at **Bathurst**.

NSW BDM – Death 5356/1867

I visited this grave today, **Saturday 29 October 2016** and it is still in great shape.

Cal

John R HERBERT

27/11/2024

John R HERBERT

Senior Constable

Accidentally Shot

Molong

13 April, 1865

In April 1865 Senior Constable Herbert, along with Constables Cook and Ambrose and Tracker Peter, were searching for the Hall Gang of bushrangers in the bush between Forbes and Canowindra. The bushrangers had earlier robbed a store at Forbes and information had been obtained indicating that they were headed for Canowindra. The police party made camp in the bush near Molong, and Senior Constable Herbert announced that he and Constable Ambrose would be leaving the camp to keep watch on a hut where they suspected the gang might be hiding. It was arranged that should either he or Ambrose return during the night they would whistle to alert the camp of their approach.

Unfortunately, Herbert and Ambrose did return during the night but, after losing their way in the darkness, they approached the police camp from a different direction than expected. Being closer than they believed to the camp, they also did not whistle to signal their arrival. Believing the approaching riders to be the bushrangers Constable Cook issued a challenge on two occasions without receiving a reply, so on the second occasion both he and Peter fired into the darkness, unfortunately hitting Constable Herbert in the groin, neck and shoulder. He died about a week later.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* dated 29 May, 1865 indicates that Constable Cook was charged with a criminal offence following the shooting, reporting that " *Constable Cook was placed on his trial to-day, at the Quarter Sessions, for shooting Constable Herbert, and was acquitted... The Court has concluded its sittings.* "

The senior constable was born in 1837 and joined the police force on 1 September, 1859. In 1862 he became a member of the newly-formed New South Wales Police Force. At the time of his death he was probably stationed at Canowindra.