

Francis Edward WELBY

01/03/2019

Francis Edward WELBY

AKA FRANK

Husband of Madge WELBY – NSWPF # P/W 0020

Late of Concord West

NSW Redfern Police Academy Class # ? ? ?

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # ????

Rank: ?

Final Rank = Detective Constable

Stations: ?, Regent Street – Death

Service: From ? ? ? to 9 April 1954 = ? years Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: ? ? 1918 – 19 ?

Died on: Thursday 9 April 1954

Age: 35

Cause: Heart

Event location: Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney

Event date: ?

Funeral date: Saturday 10 April 1954

Funeral location: Metropolitan Funeral Home, Railway Pde,
Burwood

Wake location: ?

Funeral Parlour: ?

Buried at: Cremated – Rookwood Crematorium

Memorial located at: ?

FRANK is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance
*NEED MORE INFO

**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

Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1931 – 1954), **Friday 9 April 1954**, page 2

DEATH OF DETECTIVE

Detective Frank Welby, of Regent Street, died last night in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

Detective Welby, 35, had been receiving medical attention for heart trouble.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/248871207>

Sun (Sydney, NSW : 1910 – 1954), **Friday 9 April 1954**, page 11

Death of C.I.B. detective

Det. Frank Welby, 36, who collapsed last Tuesday, died in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital last night.

Det. Welby, who was attached to **Regent St. Division**, has left a widow.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/229418641>

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 – 1954),

Saturday 10 April 1954, page 56

WELBY, Francis Edward – April 8 1954 (detective N.S.W. Police) late of 204 Concord Road, Concord West dearly beloved husband of Madge aged 36 years.

WELBY.– The Relatives and Friends of **Mrs Madge Welby** of 204 Concord Road, Concord West, are invited to attend the Funeral of her dearly beloved Husband, **FRANCIS EDWARD**; to leave the Metropolitan Funeral Home, Railway Parade Burwood This Day, after service commencing at 11 a.m., for Rookwood Crematorium

METROPOLITAN BURIAL and CREMATION SOCIETY.

Railway Pde Burwood. UJ2178-9.

WELBY.– Lodge N. J. McDonald, No. 587 U G L of N S W

The Officers and Brethren of the above Lodge are fraternally Invited to attend the Funeral of their late esteemed Bro **FRANCIS EDWARD WELBY** For particulars see family notice.

Regalia

T CARSE W M

P C DALY P M Sec

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18419542>

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 – 1954),

Thursday 12 August 1954, page 13

IN the Estate of **FRANCIS EDWARD WELBY** late of **Concord West** in the State of New South Wales, **Constable of Police**, deceased Intestate – Application will be made after 14 days from the publication hereof that Letters of Administration of the Estate of the abovenamed deceased may be granted to **Madge Aletia Welby** the widow of the said deceased and all notices may be served at the undermentioned address.

All creditors in the Estate of the said deceased are hereby required to send in particulars of their claims to the undersigned MERVYN FINLAY & COMPANY Solicitors Newlands House 141 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18431088>

Raymond Joseph BUTTEL

01/03/2019

Raymond Joseph BUTTEL

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 6427

Rank: Constable

Stations: ?, 21 Division – death

Service: From ? ? 1928? to 13 November 1954 = ? years
Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: ? ? 1928

Died on: Saturday 13 November 1954

Age: 26

Cause: Motor vehicle accident – Off Duty – Pedestrian – Heavy rain

Event location: corner of Condamine Street and Kentwell Road, Manly

Funeral date: Tuesday 16 November 1954

Funeral location: ?

Buried at: Manly Cemetery, Hill St, Manly

Plot: N. 168 RC75 Headstone: Yes Vine Hall # 1393

Memorial at: ?



In loving memory of my dear son Raymond Joseph Buttell died 13 11 1954 aged 26. Also mother, Margaret Eyre died 7 6 1939 aged 61 R I P

**RAY is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance * NOT
JOB RELATED**

Funeral location: ?

**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

Manning River Times and Advocate for the Northern Coast
Districts of New South Wales (Taree, NSW : 1898 – 1954),
Monday 15 November 1954, page 2

Obituary

An off-duty police constable was fatally injured when hit by a car at the corner of Condamine Street and Kentwell Road Manly, on Saturday night (during heavy rain). He was **Constable Raymond Joseph Buttel**, 26, married, of **Ocean View Road Harbord**, who was attached to No. **21 Division**.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/rendition/nla.news-article175595843.txt>

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 – 1954),

Monday 15 November 1954, page 5

POLICEMAN HIT BY CAR, DIES

-<>-

An **off-duty police constable** was fatally injured when hit by a car at the corner of Condamine Street and Kentwell Road, Manly, on Saturday night.

He was **Constable Raymond Joseph Buttel**, 26, married, of Ocean View Road, Harbord, who was attached to No. **21 Division**.

Police said the accident occurred during a heavy down-pour.

Sergeant J. Laird, of Manly is in charge of inquiries.

Sun (Sydney, NSW : 1910 – 1954),

Tuesday 7 December 1954, page 5

Constable under influence'

A police constable was "well under the influence" when knocked down and killed by a car at Manly, City Coroner F. McNamara said today.

Rollo Keith Glassop, driver of the car that killed the constable, had not been criminally negligent, he added.

Mr. McNamara held an inquest on **Raymond Joseph Buttell**, 26, of Ocean View Rd., Harbord, who was killed **near the Warringah-Manly Golf Club** on November 14.

Buttell was attached to **21 Division**.

A Government Analyst's report produced by police today showed the **content of alcohol** in the dead man's blood was **.215 pc**.

Const. Maurice Jones (# 8503 ?)(Darlinghurst) said he was at the clubhouse with **Buttell** that afternoon. He saw him have four middies of beer.

The coroner said there was scientific proof **Buttell** had consumed equivalent of 12 to 13 middies of beer.

Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1931 – 1954),

Wednesday 8 December 1954, page 35

Road death "accidental"

The City Coroner (Mr. F. McNamara) yesterday found no evidence of criminal negligence against a motorist whose car killed a police constable.

Mr. McNamara said that on the evidence the constable had been very much under the influence of liquor.

Mr. McNamara was inquiring into the death of **Raymond Joseph Buttel**, 26, of Ocean View Road, Harbord.

Buttel was struck by a car driven by **Rollo Keith Glassop**, insurance ' agent, of Balgowlah, on November 13.

The accident occurred in Condamine Street, North Manly, near the Manly-Warringah Golf Club.

Constable Angus Gray (# 6814 ?), of **Manly**, said Glassop told him; . "I saw a pedestrian commencing to walk across; the road. He hesitated, so I continued on. "I was almost on him when he began to lope across the road at an angle of 30 degrees away from me. "I swung away from him, but some part of the car struck him."

Constable Maurice Jones (# 8503 ?), of **Darlinghurst**, said he and **Buttel** were at the **Manly – Warringah Golf Club** house for three hours drinking beer.

A report by the Government Medical Officer (Dr. S. Sheldon) said there was **.215 per cent**, alcohol in Buttels body. Mr. McNamara said there was scientific proof Buttel had consumed 12 or 13 middies of beer and was very much under the influence of liquor.

Mr. McNamara' returned a finding of accidental death.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/248937571>

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 – 1954),

Saturday 27 November 1954, page 56

MRS. EDNA GRACE BUTTEL and MRS. AGNES BUTTEL, wife and mother of the late loved **Raymond Joseph Buttel**, wish to express their GRATITUDE to relatives, friends and neighbours for their sympathy cards, letters and telegrams, and beautiful floral tributes brought in the tragic loss of their husband and son. Please accept this as our personal thanks.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18443588>

NSWBDM – Death = 28485/1954 Father = Herbert Victor. Mother = Agnes

No find in NSW for a Marriage.

Edward Henry DILKS

01/03/2019

Edward Henry DILKS

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 6252

Rank: Constable

Stations: Narrandera, Corowa

Service: From 18 October 1948 to 21
October 1954 = 6 years Service

Awards: ?

Born: ? ? 1926

Died on: 21 October 1954

Cause: Motor Vehicle Accident – ejected

Location of Event: north of the
Hopefield Silose, Hopefield Rd, Corowa

Age: 28

Funeral date: Monday 25 October 1954 @

3pm

Funeral location: Woronora Crematorium

Buried at: Cremated at Woronora Cemetery



National Police Wall of Remembrance touch pad for Constable Edward Henry DILKS.

About 5.15pm on 21 October, 1954 Constable Dilks and District Licensing Inspector Sergeant Michael Joseph Whelan were returning to Corowa from an inspection at Brocklesby. Just north of the Hopefield Silos the rear, offside tyre on their vehicle blew out, causing the vehicle to swerve, leave the roadway and overturn several times. Both occupants were thrown from the vehicle. Constable Dilks was killed instantly while Sergeant Whelan sustained severe injuries. The constable left a wife and two children behind.

The constable was born in 1926 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 18 October, 1948. At the time of his death he was stationed at Corowa.

South Coast Times & Wollongong Argus **Thursday 29 April**
1948 page 9 of 20

WEDDINGS

PHIPPS – DILKS

On Saturday, 28th February, at Wollongong Methodist – Church, the marriage was solemnised by the Rev. D. F. Almond between Lorna Ellen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V.B. Dilks of Wollongong, and Henry Thomas, only son of the late Mr.R. Phipps and Mrs Phipps, also of Wollongong.

The bride entered the church on the arm of her father wearing a classical cut gown of white crepe featuring a sweetheart neckline daintily hand embroidered and set in train with embroidery similar to that of the gown. The effect was

enhanced by the two-tiered veil of tulle worn over an embroidered veil which was kindly lent by a friend of the bride, held in place by a coronet of orange blossoms while white carnations, tuber roses and stephanotis made up the charming bouquet.

The Matron of Honour, Mrs. Doug Williams (of Nowra) and the bridesmaid, Miss Jean Phipps, sister of the groom, wore identical frocks of shell pink and silver matching picture hats of crinolin straw. The bouquets consisted of blue delphiniums and pink carnations which toned in beautifully with the colour scheme.

Mr. Doug Williams, of Nowra, was bestman, and Mr. **Edward Dilks, brother of the bride**, groomsman.

The church had been tastefully decorated by friends.

During the signing of the register, Miss Olive Waters rendered "I Did Not Know" and "Because"; Mrs E. Tripp presided at the organ.

The reception held at the Methodist School Hall was attended by over seventy guests who were received by the bride's mother wearing a suit of burgundy crepe with black accessories and a shoulder spray of pink carnations, assisted by the bridegroom's mother wearing a royal blue dress with navy accessories and a shoulder spray of red roses.

With Mr. Les Redman presiding the customary toasts were honoured. Then the bride assisted by the groom, cut the beautifully decorated three tier cake made by the bride's mother. The young couple received numerous telegrams of good wishes and congratulations.

The happy couple left for the Blue Mountains with the bride looking charming in cinamon crepe and matching accessories.

The future home of Mr. and Mrs. Phipps will be at Wollongong.

The Sydney Morning Herald **Friday 22 October 1954** page
1 of 36

Policeman Dies In Smash

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A police constable was killed yesterday when the police car he was driving overturned **three times** on the **Hopefield Road**, near Corowa, southern N.S.W.

He was **Edward Henry Dilks**, 28, married, of Corowa. He died instantly from severe head injuries.

Sergeant Michael Joseph Whelan, 41, who also was in the car, suffered a probable broken rib, a broken arm, severe shock, and slight concussion.

Police said the two men were returning to Corowa about 5.15 p.m. yesterday when the car got out of control.

It ran off the road and overturned three times, hurling the men to the ground.

A Corowa District Ambulance took Sergeant Whelan to the Corowa District Hospital.

TWO CHILDREN

Doctors admitted him and his condition late last night was satisfactory.

Constable **Dilks** had been in the Police Force **about six years**.

He left Narrandera two years ago for Corowa.

He lived there with his wife and two children, Leonie Christine, 5, and Kevin John, 12 months, in police premises next to the station.

Sergeant Whelan was former police prosecutor at Narrandera and went to Corowa about a month ago.

Inspector L. L. Moore travelled from Albury yesterday to take charge of inquiries into the accident.

Detectives R. Rangott and C. Shenele and Constables D. Cassidy and R. Hunt are helping Inspector Moore.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/18457005>

Newcastle Morning Herald & Miners' Advocate **Saturday 23**
October 1954 page 2 of 20

DILKS. – The Relatives and Friends of Mr. and Mrs. V. B. DILKS, HARRY, LORNA and FAMILY, and GRAN are invited to attend the Funeral of their son, brother, Uncle and grandson, EDWARD HENRY DILKS, to take place at the Woronora Crematorium at 3 p.m. Monday.

W. SQUIRES & SON, Undertaker, Corowa.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/134090577>

Illawarra Daily Mercury (Wollongong) **Monday 25 October**
1954 page 4 of 12

Funeral Notices **DILKS**. – The officers and brethren of Lodge Aubrey Holloran No. 643 U.G.L. of N.S.W. and sister lodges are requested to attend the funeral service of their esteemed brother **Edward Henry Dilks** at **Woronora Crematorium** this Monday at **3 p.m.** Regalia.

A bus for brethren will leave Parsons' Funeral Parlour, Wollongong, at 1.15 p.m. J. S. Skillen, W.M. and E. L. Boyle, Secretary.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/133672324>

The Riverine Grazier (Hay) **Tuesday 26 October 1954**
page 2 of 4

SGT. WHELAN INJURED

Former police prosecutor for this district, Sgt. 1st Class, M. Whelan, was injured in an accident near Corowa last week. He was a passenger in a police car which skidded and overturned after a tyre had blown. The car's driver, Const. **Edward Henry Dilks**, of Corowa police (formerly of Narrandera), was killed.

Sgt. Whelan who has a broken arm, is at present in Corowa District Hospital.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/137218221>

Cecil Edwin SEWELL

01/03/2019

Cecil Edwin SEWELL

Late of Wycombe Rd, Yagoona, NSW

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # **????**

Rank: Constable

Stations: **?**, Parramatta – Public Safety Bureau – Death

Service: From 3 August 1948 to 2 June 1954 = 5+ years
Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: **??** 1927 at Werris Creek, NSW

Died on: Wednesday 2 June 1954

Death location: Parramatta District Hospital

Age: 27

Cause: Motor Vehicle Collision – Rider – Pursuit

Event location: Woodville Rd, near Farnell St, Merrylands

Event date: Tuesday 1 June 1954

Funeral date: Thursday 3 June 1954

Funeral location: **Baptist Church, Harrow Road, Auburn**

Buried at: Rookwood Cemetery, Rookwood

Area: Zone F, Sect: Independent General K, Grave 2643

Memorial located at: ?





at the base of Cecils grave



Here are some amazing photos for you,
I have attached some photos of dad in uniform also a few of
funeral procession that I found. Dad was also one of the
officers who escorted the Queen on her Coronation Tour in
Sydney May 1954. I think that might be the photo of him on his
bike. After Sydney tour he was to escort the Queen & Duke to
Canberra but his bike broke down at Liverpool. A couple of
weeks later he lost his life.
Thanks again.

Ron



Cecil SEWELL







Cecil SEWELL funeral



Cecil SEWELL funeral



Cecil SEWELL funeral



Cecil SEWELL funeral

CECIL is mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance

(*NEED TO OBTAIN PHOTO OF TOUCH PLATE IN 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

On 1 June, 1954 Constable Sewell was riding a police solo motor cycle in Woodville Road, Merrylands.

About 4.45pm the constable became involved in the pursuit of a motor vehicle. As the pursuit neared the intersection of Farnell Street, an elderly man alighted from a bus, ran out

onto the roadway and was struck by Constable Sewell's motor cycle.

Both men sustained severe injuries and were conveyed to the Parramatta District Hospital.

The pedestrian was found to be dead on arrival and Constable Sewell died the following morning.

The constable was born in 1927 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 3 August, 1948.

At the time of his death he was stationed at Parramatta.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/18427216>

Deadly toll

By Jonathan Pearlman

November 6, 2004

Alone in his patrol car, **Chris Thornton** had the police siren flashing as he chased a white sedan through **Woy Woy**.

Thornton, 35, a highway patrolman, had been in the force for 15 years. He was, his mother says, "the best driver I have ever seen".

The reason for the chase that night in April 2002 is unknown. Both cars were seen travelling at high speed. Thornton was about 50 metres behind.

Meanwhile, Leonard Rowley, 56, an unlicensed driver, was driving to his local KFC to pick up dinner. He saw the first car flash past and judged – wrongly – that he had time to turn out in front of the patrol car. Thornton tried to avoid

Rowley's car but clipped the back, veered onto the wrong side of the road and hit a power pole.

Thornton died on the spot, which is marked by a permanent stainless-steel cross. Rowley later received a suspended two-year sentence.

"His life from the age of 12 was about helping people," says Thornton's mother, **Freada Thornton**. "He was in the surf club and he was there to rescue people and then he went into the force and he was doing the same thing." His father, **Barry Thornton**, says: "He loved life. He had been in Gosford for 15 years and was so popular with the community there."

Police pursuits are, says Barry, a necessary evil: "If they don't catch the criminals there will be more deaths on the roads. The ones that they're in pursuit of are the idiots that have done the wrong thing to start with."

But pursuits have come at a cost to the NSW Police Department. Fifteen officers have died as a result of high-speed chases, beginning with the death of Constable George Boore in 1937.

Details provided by the NSW Police Association show a steady stream of fatalities involving cars and motorcycles. The full list of casualties is as follows:

April 2, 1937: Constable George Boore;

June 2, 1954: Constable Cecil Sewell;

November 14, 1958: Constable Brian Boaden;

December 23, 1958: Constable William Lord;

October 14, 1961: Constable James Kinnane;

September 7, 1963: Constable Colin Robb;

December 2, 1976: Constable Terry Moncur;

January 3, 1985: Constable Wayne Rixon;
July 25, 1985: Detective-Constable Steven Tier;
October 20, 1987: Constable Themelis Macarounas;
August 24, 1988: Constable Peter Carter;
June 13, 1989: Constable Peter Figtree;
June 14, 1989: Senior Constable Glenn Rampling;
January 14, 2001: Senior Constable James Affleck;
April 13, 2002: Senior Constable Christopher Thornton.
<http://www.smh.com.au/news/Police-Pursuits/Deadly-toll/2004/11/05/1099547386960.html>

Cumberland Argus (Parramatta, NSW : 1950 – 1962),

Wednesday 1 September 1954, page 1

SEWELL FUND IS CLOSED

The fund for the dependants of the late **Constable Cecil Sewell**, is now closed.

Previously acknowledged, -£386/0/6, – **Parramatta Police functions etc.**, £519/14/7 ; total, £905/15/1.

A donation of £5/5/- In the list published last week, should have been credited to **Parramatta Musical Comedy Company**.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/132143069>

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 – 1954),

Friday 4 June 1954, page 4

Funeral Of Policeman

More than 200 plain-clothes and uniformed police attended the **funeral yesterday of Constable Cecil Sewell, 27, of the Public Safety Bureau.**

Constable Sewell was fatally injured on **Tuesday** when his **police motor cycle** crashed after hitting and killing a pedestrian in Woodville Road, Merrylands.

Constable Sewell was chasing a speeding motor cyclist when he hit the pedestrian – **John Thomas Nivens, 60, of Paton Street, Merrylands.**

The **Police Pipe Band** led the funeral procession to **Rookwood Cemetery** after a **service** at the **Baptist Church, Harrow Road, Auburn.**

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/27517645>

Constable Cecil Edwin SEWELL

Parramatta Police

Motor Vehicle Pursuit

2 June, 1954

Resting Place – Rookwood Cemetery, Rookwood

On 1 June, 1954 Constable Sewell was riding a police solo motor cycle in Woodville Road, Merrylands. About 4.45pm the constable became involved in the pursuit of a motor vehicle. As the pursuit neared the intersection of Farnell Street, an elderly man alighted from a bus, ran out onto the roadway and was struck by Constable Sewell's motor cycle. Both men

sustained severe injuries and were conveyed to the Parramatta District Hospital. The pedestrian was found to be dead on arrival and Constable Sewell died the following morning. The Sydney Morning Herald of 3 June, 1954 printed the following article, and funeral notices.

CONSTABLE'S DEATH FROM INJURIES IN CYCLE CHASE CRASH

Constable Cecil Sewell, 27, of the Public Safety Bureau, who knocked down and fatally injured a civilian while chasing a speeding motor cyclist on Tuesday, died yesterday from injuries he received in the accident. He will be buried at Rookwood Cemetery today with full police honours. Constable Sewell was chasing the motor cyclist along Woodville Road, Merrylands, at 70 m.p.h. about 4.45 p.m. when he struck **John Thomas Nivens**, 60, who had stepped from a bus. **Nivens**, of Patons Street, Merrylands, died later from his injuries. Constable Sewell, who was thrown from the cycle after it had skidded along the road for 60 yards, died in **Parramatta Hospital** at **6.30 a.m.** yesterday without regaining consciousness. He suffered a fractured skull and internal injuries. Doctors said his condition was too serious to operate. He was married with two children.

FUNERAL TO-DAY

Constable Sewell's funeral will leave for Rookwood after, a service at the **Baptist Church, Harrow Road, Auburn**, at **1.30 p.m.** The Police Pipe Band will lead the cortege, and **Public Safety Bureau** motor cyclists will escort the funeral. The **Superintendent of Traffic**, Mr. **H. E. Snowden**, will represent the **Commissioner of Police**, Mr. **C. J. Delaney**. Among other police officers present will be the **officer in charge** of the **Public Safety Bureau**, **Inspector J. J. Agnew**, and the **officer in charge** of **Parramatta Division**, **Inspector C. S. Jardine**. Police are making a wide search for the speeding motor cyclist, whom they blame for the deaths of **Nivens** and **Constable Sewell**. A senior police officer said yesterday that

the cyclist, if arrested, faced charges of manslaughter.

"FINE OFFICER".

Mr. Snowden said last night: "**Constable Sewell** was an outstanding young policeman with a particularly fine character. He was a policeman the public and the Police Force could ill afford to lose. His workmates in the **Public Safety Bureau** are stunned by his death." **Mr. Snowden** said that police would not treat reckless and thoughtless motorists and drunken drivers and speedsters with "kid glove methods". "We are determined to exert every means at our disposal to make the roads safe for everybody," he said.

SEWELL – Masonic Lodge Auburn No 404 U G L of N S W, The Officers and Members of the above Lodge are fraternally Invited to attend the Funeral of their late esteemed Brother C E SEWELL. For particulars see family notice. Regalia."

The constable was born in 1927 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 3 August, 1948. At the time of his death he was stationed at Parramatta. He is listed in the official New South Wales Police Honour Roll.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18427216>

Sun (Sydney, NSW : 1910 – 1954),

Wednesday 2 June 1954, page 1

CONSTABLE DIES



The late **Constable Sewell**

The late Constable Sewell

WIDE HUNT FOR CYCLIST

70 mph chase costs two lives

A police constable who killed a man when chasing a speeding motor cyclist last night, died at **6.30 am today**. Police are now making an intensive search for the speedster who caused two deaths.

Dead as a result of the chase are **Constable Cecil Sewell**, 27, married with two children and **John Thomas Nivens**, 60, of **Paton St., Merrylands**.

At 4.45 pm yesterday **Constable Sewell** was chasing a motor cyclist along **Woodville Rd., Merrylands**, at about **70 mph (180kph)**.

Siren's scream

His cycle siren was screaming but **Nivens** stepped out on to the road from behind a bus. The police bike crashed into **Nivens**, who was **killed instantly**.

With **Nivens** draped across the handlebars, the motor cycle skidded for **60 yards** before **Nivens** and **Constable Sewell** were catapulted from it.

Sewell, of **Wycombe Rd., Yagoona**, and attached to **Parramatta traffic squad**, was rushed to hospital. He was admitted with a fractured skull and facial injuries. **Sewell** was too badly hurt for doctors to operate on him and he died without regaining consciousness.

At present there is no clue as to the identity of the cyclist responsible for the crash.

Constable Sewell was a member of **Yagoona Baptist Church**. His two children are ; boys – **Ron, 5**, and **Noel, 2**.

Mrs. Sewell, 25, was with her parents in **Lidcombe** during the night.

Constable Sewell's father, **Mr. J. Sewell**, of **Alice St., Auburn**, said today his son had been in the police force for

six years.

“No gloves”

Traffic Supt. H. Snowden said, “Our drive throughout the State for road safety is going to be enforced with the gloves off. “Reckless motorists and road users who have no regard for the rights of other road users can expect no mercy. “Since police squads have been operating in plain-clothes and ordinary cars, there has been a noticeable decrease in the number of traffic breaches.”

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/230784689/24586984#>

Thomas Gordon REA

01/03/2019

Thomas Gordon REA

New South Wales Police

Regd. # ?

Rank: Detective Sergeant

Stations: ? , C.I.B. Vice Squad (since 1947) – death

Service: From about 11 July 1928 to 27 April 1954 = 26 years Service

Awards: No find on It's an Honour

Born: ? ? 1907

Died on: Tuesday 27 April 1954

Cause: Illness.

Event location: "In a police car, Avoca St, Randwick"

Age: 47

Funeral date: Thursday 29 April 1954

Funeral location:

Buried at: Eastern Suburbs Crematorium.
Jubilee Walls, B104



[alert_green]

THOMAS IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance

[/alert_green]

Nothing is so far known of the death of Sergeant Rea, other than a brief article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* dated **28 April, 1954** which reported that “ *Detective Sergeant Thomas Gordon Rea, 46, of the Vice Squad, collapsed and died on duty yesterday. Rea had been in the police force for 26 years and had been with the Vice Squad since 1947. His is survived by a widow and two daughters.* ”

The sergeant apparently joined the New South Wales Police Force about 1928 and at the time of his death was attached to the Vice Squad, Sydney Criminal Investigation Bureau.

The Newcastle Sun **Wednesday 28 April 1954** p12

Detective's Death

SYDNEY. – **Det.-Sgt. Thomas Gordon Rea**, 46, of the **Vice Squad**, collapsed and died **on duty** yesterday. He had been in the police force for 26 years and is **survived by a widow and two daughters.**

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/161610805>

The Sydney Morning Herald **Wednesday 28 April 1954** p34

REA, Thomas Gordon – April 27 1954 of **41 Melody Street, Coogee**, dearly beloved **husband** of **Mona** and loved father of **Jill** and **Corrine.**

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18422766#>

In **1930** – possibly lived in Balmain

In the **1932 Electoral Rolls**, **Thomas Gordon REA** resided at **6 Tait St, Five Dock**, District: Martin, Sub District: Abbotsford, State: NSW. Occupation **Police Constable**.

In the **1935 Electoral Rolls**, **Thomas Gordon REA** resided at **18 Leige St, Five Dock**, District: Martin, Sub District: Abbotsford, State: NSW. Occupation **Police Constable**.

Up until the **1949** Electoral Roll, he was still living in the same District – Martin but with no street address.

In the **1954** Electoral Roll he was living in the District of Kingsford Smith, Sub District: Coogee West with no street address or occupation recorded.

NSW Police Gazettes: Constable Thomas Gordon REA. Event Type: Police Business. Publication date: 11 July 1928. Page: 453

NSWBDM: Birth: No find in NSW. No Marriage details located for Thomas & Mona.

Death: 7377/1954. Father = David Nelson. No mother details recorded.

DISTRICT COURT.

(Before Judge Thomson and a jury of four.)

ACTION AGAINST CONSTABLE

Henry v Rea

Alfred Henry, of Catherine-street, Leichhardt, sued Thomas Gordon Rea, of Macquarie-terrace, Birchgrove, for £400 damages. Plaintiff alleged that he was knocked down in Weston-road, Rozelle, on July 5, 1929, by a bicycle, negligently ridden by defendant, and received injuries. Defendant, who is a police constable, was riding behind a lorry as escort to a number of volunteer timber workers when the accident happened, it was stated. Defendant denied the allegation of negligence. The matter is part heard. Mr. Creer (instructed by Mr. H. J. Bartier) appeared for plaintiff, and defendant was represented by Mr. Hardwick (instructed by Mr. J. V. Tillett, Crown Solicitor).

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16682329>

The Sydney Morning Herald Thursday 14 August 1930 p6

DISTRICT COURT.

(Before Judge Thomson and a jury of four.)

ACTION AGAINST CONSTABLE

Henry v Rea

The hearing was continued of an action brought by **Alfred Henry**, of **Catherine-street, Leichhardt**, against **Thomas Gordon Rea**, of **Macquarie-terrace, Birchgrove**, for £400 damages. Plaintiff alleged that he was knocked down in **Weston-road, Rozelle**, on **July 6, 1929**, by a **bicycle** negligently ridden by defendant, who is a **police constable**, and received injuries. Defendant, it was stated, was riding behind a lorry as escort to a number of volunteer timber workers when the accident happened. Defendant denied the allegation of negligence. The jury awarded plaintiff £80. **Mr Creer** (instructed by **Mr. H J. Bartier**) appeared for plaintiff, and **defendant** was represented by **Mr. Hardwick** (instructed by **Mr J V Tillett, Crown Solicitor**).

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16673642#>
