

STATEMENT in the matter of:  
Death of John DEAN

Place: Watsons Bay

Date : 7 August 1999

Name: Penelope DEAN

Address: 7 Robertson Place, Watsons Bay

Tel. No.: 02 9337 6571

Occupation: Home duties

STATES:-

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, 

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

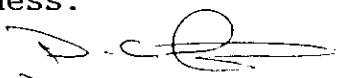
2. I am 44 years of age.

3. I have live at the above address for the past 10 years with my late husband John. We have known each other for 26 years and have been married for 21 years. We have two sons, Nathan 17 and Peter 15. Since I known John he has had no major illnesses and was a very fit person.

4. He loved snow skiing and we took the children skiing every year. Sailing was Johns predominant hobby, he was Commodore at the Vaucluse 12' Sailing Club and held that position for 3 years. He had just recently purchased a 14' skiff that he and Peter were sailing most weekends. He loved his children and spent every moment that he could with them, he was a good father. In the Winter the boys played rugby and John was always the manager of the teams. John was financially sound and provided well for his family.

5. John started sailing when he was six and sailed every type of

Witness:

  
D.C. MPSTON

Signature:



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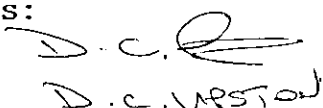
skiff built. Over the years John sailed on many yachts and competed in numerous races on Sydney Harbour and along the coast. He on several occasions transferred vessel of varying types up and down the coast for friends. He was regarded as a competent boat hand. This was Johns third Sydney to Hobart.

6. I was in Hospital for two weeks prior to the this years race and John would come to see me and constantly talk about the race. At every opportunity John was out practicing on the 'Winston Churchill' which was owned by Richard Winning. Richard would ring John and he couldn't get out the door quick enough to be on the boat. John knew Richard since they were kids.

7. I was out of Hospital for Christmas and in fact John mentioned to me that he would stay with me and not go in the race as the boys would both be away. I insisted that he went. I went back to Hospital Christmas night and the next morning the boys went down to Rushcutters Bay to see John off. I spoke with him that morning on the phone. He was in good spirits and in fact our neighbour James Rofe came in on Boxing Day morning and was with John when he was packing his bag and made comment to me later that John was like a little kid packing his bag for the first time.

8. The night of the 27th I was watching the news on T.V. and heard that the 'Winston Churchill' had gone down and a nurse rang the CYCA for me and they had no news as yet and then I heard on the news that the ship Young Endeavour had picked them up. I then rang John Winning who was talking to somebody who told him that they were not in fact on the Endeavour and he kept me posted all night. Kerry Winning the wife of John came into the Hospital with a lot of other friends. We were all watching the news and then we would ring John for further information. I discharged my self

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D.C. Upstall

Signature:

  
Penelope Dean

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from Hospital that night because I had heard that they were all safe I stayed with John and Kerry Winning. I flew my boys back from holidays and they insisted that we stay at John Winnings house he wouldn't tell us any bull shit as we could no longer believe what we were hearing from the media.

9. We all arrived at John's house together. I was there John made several phone calls and found out the crew were not safe and that media news was not correct. This continued for many hours and the uncertain of what was happening was almost unbearable. After some time we heard that a life raft had been picked up. John Winning then confirmed that for us and it was then that we were told that John Dean was not in that life raft. He also told me that they had also found the second life raft and that they were going back for it. It was about 11.15pm when I went back in to the room and saw that John was on the phone and I could see that something was wrong. John hung up the phone and told me that they had taken persons off the life raft and had also recovered two bodies and that John was still missing. It was then I realised that there was little hope for John and also that the authorities were calling off the search.

10. On Tuesday night at the Winnings I had a call from Bega Detectives Office and the person there stated that they have located my husband and were going to move his body to Sydney. I wanted to know when so that my boys could view him and what condition was he in. About 10 minutes later I received another call from Bega and the person then told me that they were sorry that a mistake had been made John has not yet been found.

11. After that I returned home with my boys and Kerry Winning stayed the night as well. The following Monday a memorial service

Witness:

  
D.C. WESTON

Signature:



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was held Wentworth Church, Vacluse. Some time later I was contacted by Senior Constable Upston of the Sydney Water Police who attended my address and a statement was obtained.

Witness:

Signature: *Penelope Dean*

*D. C. [Signature]*  
*D. C. UPSTON*

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