

STATEMENT in the matter of:  
Rescue of a Crew Member - BOWERING  
During 1998 Sydney to Hobart Race.

Place: Eden  
Police Station  
Date : 6 August 1999

Name: Bradley Jay ROSS  
Address: Eden Police Station  
Occupation: Senior Constable of Police

Tel. No.: 0264 961444

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, 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 28 years of age.

3. On Monday the 28th of December 1998, I was performing duties at Eden Station in regards to the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. With Sergeant TILLMAN and Senior Constable BAKER, I was assisting in the co ordination of rescues of numerous vessels situated east and south east of Eden.

4. About 3am information was received the yacht 'Renegade' was making way to Eden and were very close to the bay area. This vessel had two injured crew members on board, one crew requiring urgent medical treatment for emersion and major chest pain. The yacht could not give us an exact location because their equipment was failing.

5. Senior Constable BAKER had a conversation with Sergeant TILLMAN who was situated at the Eden Coastal Patrol building. It was decided that a medical team would be assembled and the

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Bradley Jay Ross*  
6/8/99  
s/csr

STATEMENT (continued) in the matter of: Rescue of a Crew Member -  
BOWERING During 1998 Sydney to Hobart Race.

Name: Bradley Jay ROSS

Police Launch Eden, would be used to locate the yacht and attend to the injured crew.

6. Ambulance officers from Eden were contacted and informed of the situation and they attended the station. Senior Constable O'BRIEN from Merimbula Police Station also attended Eden Police Station. When Senior Constable O'BRIEN arrived I briefed them on the situation.

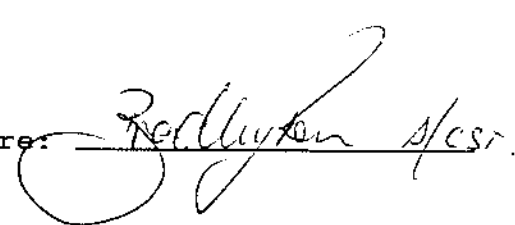
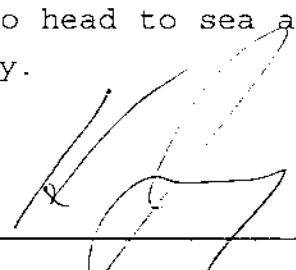
7. About 4am I attended the Police Launch with Senior Constable O'BRIEN as my crew and the Ambulance Officers as the medical team. I left the wharf and drove the launch to the vicinity of Edrom Lodge which is situated on the southern side of Twofold Bay. I had been informed from Eden Coastal Patrol that a number of yachts from the race were using that area to shelter from the weather.

8. We made a search of that area for the yacht 'Renegade' but we were unsuccessful. The wind was gusting to around 20 knots at times with seas in the bay to around 1 to 1.5 metres. Because of the conditions we made a search of the southern shoreline. Most of the yachts entering Eden were going to sheltered parts of the bay so these areas were checked first.

9. After the southern and western shoreline had been searched I attended Quarantine Bay pontoon where Senior Constable Kerrienne MARKULIN exchanged places with Senior Constable O'BRIEN and became my crew. I then searched the fishermans wharf area around snug cove and we could not locate the yacht. I then decided to head to sea and search the areas outside the opening to the Bay.

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Bradley Jay Ross

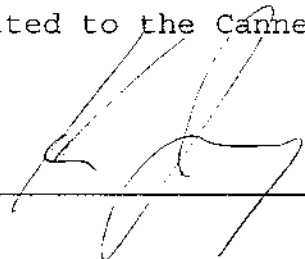
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10. Whilst making our way out of the bay the yacht 'Renegade' was sighted in the north eastern part of the bay between Aslings Beach and North head. These waters were open to the weather conditions and the yacht was pitching badly as we approached. Senior Constable MARKULIN prepared lines and fenders and I approached the vessel on the leeward side. The lines were attached and I positioned the launch to face both of our vessels into the wind. This stabilised the vessels enough so the medical team could board safely.

11. Ambulance Officers HARDY and GATES boarded the vessel and administered first aid. The whilst this happened I spoke to one of the crew members aboard the yacht. He told me that the crew member we were treating had died on deck but they got him back. I asked him what happened and he said he was in the cabin resting when they were hit by a massive wave which he thought had rolled them over 360 degrees. Two people were on deck at the time, when the vessel had become upright they got out of the cabin and went onto the deck where they found Jesper BOWERING in the water being dragged by his safety line. The Safety line had wrapped around his neck. He was blue and wasn't breathing. They unwrapped the line and cleared the airway by pumping out the water. They commenced CPR and he started breathing. He was not breathing for about four to five minutes.

12. I passed this information onto the Ambulance Officers and the crew member BOWERING was carried onto the Police Launch. I could see he had a cut to the right of his forehead and appeared to be in discomfort. He was a blue/green colour in the face. Once on board Senior Constable MARKULIN released the lines and we expedited to the Cannery Wharf where an Ambulance Officer and

Witness: 

Signature:  6/5/99 /CSF

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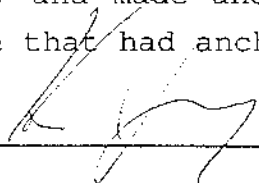
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I carried the injured crew member a waiting Ambulance. He was then transported to Pambula District Hospital and admitted for treatment.

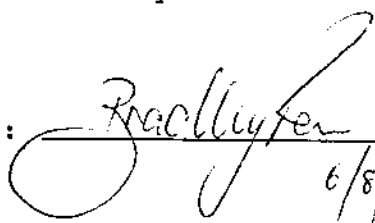
13. Senior Constable MARKULIN and I returned to the Launch and went back to the yacht. Most of the crew were ill and the yacht had a number of mechanical problems. The yacht 'Renegade' was taken into tow and I took them to the Fishermans Wharf in Snug cove and secured the yacht to a mooring at the wharf.

14. Senior Constable MARKULIN and I then made a full patrol of Twofold Bay and made an extensive list of the yachts involved in the race that had anchored in Eden.

Witness:



Signature:



6/8/99