

Anthony Graham BACKHOUSE

08/12/2021

Anthony Graham BACKHOUSE

AKA Abs, Tone, Tony, The Wookie

Late of Gibson St, Goulburn, NSW

NSW Goulburn Police Academy – **Class # 246A**

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 27696

Service: From 29 July 1990 to ? August 2020 = 30 years
Service

Rank: Commenced Training at Goulburn Police Academy on Monday
30 July 1990 (aged 31 years, 8 months, 26 days)

Probationary Constable- appointed Friday 25 January 1991 (aged 32 years, 2 months, 22 days)

Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Constable 1st Class – appointed ? ? ?

Detective – appointed ? ? ?

Senior Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Leading Senior Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Sergeant 3rd Class – appointed ? ? 2004

Sergeant 2nd Class – appointed ? ? ?

Sergeant 1st Class – appointed ? ? ? (YES)

Final Rank = Senior Sergeant

Stations: (1991 –) Rockdale GDs, Hurstville, St George, Kogarah GDs (– 1997), Sutherland **District Anti Theft Squad (DATS)**, Liverpool GDs & Beats Unit & Brief Handling Manager (22 Division)(1997 – 2004), Burwood (2004)(Sgt), Education & Training (Leadership & Capability Unit)(2007), NSW Police Academy – Goulburn (2010) (**Constable Education Program CEP**)(Policing Practices) for the Associate Degree in Policing – NSW Police College – Goulburn (Sgt) – Retirement – August 2020

Retirement / Leaving age: = ?

Time in Retirement from Police: ?

Awards: No Find on Australian Honours system – however

National Medal – granted

1st Clasp to National Medal – granted

National Police Medal – granted

NSW Police Medal – granted

1st Clasp to NSW Police Medal – granted

2nd Clasp to NSW Police Medal – granted

3rd Clasp to NSW Police Medal – granted

Commissioners Emergency Service Commendation – granted
posthumously

Born: Monday 3 November 1958 in Leeds, Yorkshire, England

Emigrated to Sydney, NSW, Au in 1983

Died on: Thursday 2 December 2021

Age: 63 years, 0 months, 29 days

Cause: Kidney disease?

Event location: Canberra Hospital, ACT

Event date: illness since 2015 & had been in Canberra Hospital for the past 10 months. He was on Dialysis and Chemo Therapy.

Funeral date: Saturday 11 December 2021 @ 11am

Funeral location: Goulburn Police Academy, McDermott Dve,
Goulburn, NSW

([click here to see Coronan19 Virus Pandemic rules – this will be a limited numbers Funeral](#))

any Future Wake location: ??? TBA

any Future Wake date: ??? TBA

(Due to current Govt. restrictions on 'Gatherings' due to Coronan19 Virus Pandemic, some families may wish to have a Memorial Service / Wake with friends and family at a later date)

Funeral Parlour: R J Sidney Craig, Goulburn, NSW

Buried at: Cremation at Craig's Hill Crematorium, 63 Middle Arm Rd, Goulburn, NSW

Memorial / Plaque / Monument located at: ?

Dedication date of Memorial / Plaque / Monument: Nil – at this time (December 2021)

TONY is mentioned on the NSW Police Wall of Remembrance, SPC
(2022)

**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

25 October 2022

This afternoon, in a quiet and deeply-felt ceremony at the Sydney Police Centre, another thirteen names were added, and the memories of another thirteen dedicated NSW Police Force employees were honoured, at the NSW Police Force Service Memorial:

Sergeant Anthony Graham Backhouse

Detective Senior Constable Vaughan Anthony Hau

Detective Senior Constable Gregory Joseph Jensen

Senior Sergeant John Kelly

Senior Constable David John Koen (Ret'd)

Ms Angela Wai Sun Lee

Constable Joseph Lees

Inspector Anthony Peter William McCann


Constable James Liam O'Toole

Sergeant Christina Fraser Rees

Senior Constable Matthew Joseph Rees

Senior Constable Caroline Roberts

Sergeant Kevin William Smith



ANTHONY GRAHAM BACKHOUSE

2nd December 2021 at Canberra Hospital,
Late of Gibson Street Goulburn.

Dearly loved father of Liam, Kelsey and Lauren.
Loved brother of Jan. Loved uncle of John & David.
Aged 63 years.


'Forever In Our Hearts'

MOT

Anthony's family and friends are invited to attend his
funeral service commencing at
11am Saturday 11th December 2021 at
The Goulburn Police Academy, McDermott Drive
Goulburn. A cremation will follow at Craig's Hill
Crematorium, 63 Middle Arm Road Goulburn.

Please contact the family directly for the
live stream link for the service.

"In accordance with NSW Government regulation, only fully (double) COVID-19
Vaccinated persons may attend and follow current distancing regulations."



RJ SIDNEY CRAIG
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Funeral Notice – Goulburn Post newspaper



2010



2009

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

8 December 2021

Lisa Ann CAMWELL

08/12/2021

Lisa Ann CAMWELL nee PARRISH

the First Full Time Female Rescue Operator at Zetland Rescue
Squad

AKA ?

Late of ?

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 26988

Rank: Commenced Training at Goulburn Police Academy on 30 July 1989 (aged 20 years, 9 months, 26 days) (spent 5 months, 26 days at the Academy)

Probationary Constable- appointed Thursday 25 January 1990 (aged 21 years, 6 months, 23 days)

Constable – appointed 27 April 1991

Constable 1st Class – appointed ? ? ?

Detective – appointed ? ? ? (NO)

Senior Constable – appointed 30 June 1995

Leading Senior Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Final Rank = Senior Constable

Retirement / Leaving age: = 49 years, 6 months, 15 days

Stations: Sutherland, Menai GDs, State Protection Group – Police Rescue Squad – Zetland (4 July 1993 – ?), Engadine Police Rescue Squad, ?, Monaro District, Police Rescue Squad – Cooma & GDs & Lock Up Keeper (12 July 1998 – 5 January 2004), Queanbeyan GDs (6 January 2004 – 18 September 2010), Queanbeyan had a name change to Monaro / Cooma District (12 January 2004), Blue Mountains GDs & Police Rescue (19 September 2010 – 19 April 2018)

Service: From 29 October 1989 to 19 April 2018 = 28
years, 8 months, 20 days Service

Awards: No Find on Australian Honours system although –
NSW Police Medal (10 years) granted on 30 September 2004
1st Clasp to NSW Police Medal (15 years) granted on 30 March
2005

National Medal (15 years) granted on 28 April 2005

2nd Clasp to NSW Police Medal (20 years) granted on 11
October 2010

NSW Police Commissioners Sesquicentenary Citation granted on
4 October 2012

1st Clasp to National Medal (20 years) granted on 10
September 2018

3rd Clasp to NSW Police Medal (25 years) granted on 10
September 2018

NSW Police National Service Medal granted on 10 September 2018

Born: Friday 4 October 1968

Died on: Saturday 2 January 2021

Age: 52 years, 2 months, 29 days

Cause: PTSD – Liver and Kidney failure

Event location: Blacktown Hospital, NSW

Event date: Saturday 2 January 2021

Funeral date: Tuesday 12 January 2021 @ 2pm

Funeral location: Pinegrove Memorial Park, North Chapel,
Kington St, Minchinbury, NSW 02 9625 8066

(**click here to see Corona19 Virus Pandemic rules – this will
be a limited numbers Funeral**)

any Future Wake location: **??? TBA**

any Future Wake date: **??? TBA**

(Due to current Govt. restrictions on 'Gatherings' due to
Corona19 Virus Pandemic, some families may wish to have a
Memorial Service / Wake with friends and family at a later
date)

Funeral Parlour: Guardian Funerals

Buried at: **? TBA**

Memorial / Plaque / Monument located at: **?**

Dedication date of Memorial / Plaque / Monument: Nil – at this
time (**January 2021**)



LISA 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

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

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

Australian Police YouTube Channel

Condolences to her partner, Grant Gibson & his two children, family and friends.

Lisa was the eldest child of parents, Ian Roderick Parrish and Marilyn Ann Gibson and Stepmom Judith Parrish.

Sister to Jody and Amanda and Aunty to their children.

Mother of Dayna, Hunter, Kade and Tamsyn.



THE NSW POLICE FORCE MAGAZINE

JULY 2015

PoliceMonthly

CHALLENGING CAREER

**All terrain
hero**







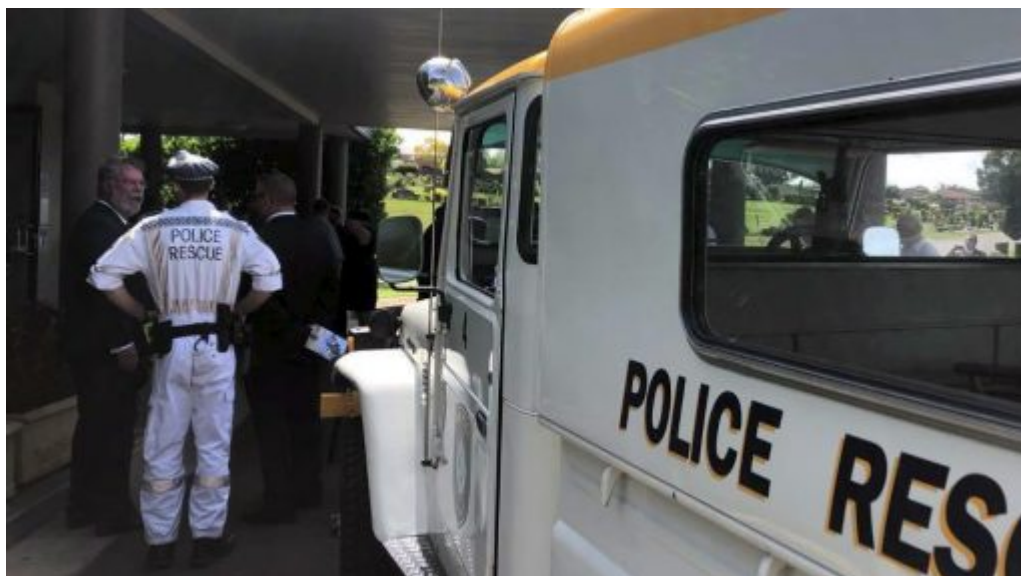
















This was published 13 years ago

Officer who found Byrne's body grilled

June 14, 2007 – 7.40pm

The policeman who found **Caroline Byrne** dead at **The Gap** has told a Sydney court that in almost 20 years of rescue work, he had not seen any other bodies so far out from the cliff face.

Senior Sergeant Mark Powderly (# 14425) gave evidence at the committal hearing for **Gordon Wood**, who is defending the charge that he murdered his former girlfriend.

The body of the 24-year-old model was found wedged head-first in rocks at the bottom of **The Gap** at **Watsons Bay**, in Sydney's east, on **June 8, 1995**.

Wood, who was stockbroker **Rene Rivkin's chauffeur** at the time, is accused of throwing her from the 29-metre high cliff.

Exactly where **Ms Byrne** landed is central to the case, but her death was initially treated as suicide and no photographs were taken of her body at the scene.

Sgt Powderley told **Burwood Local Court** he and **Constable Lisa Camwell** retrieved **Ms Byrne's** body from a crevice next to a pyramid-shaped rock.

The officer, who spent **19 years in the Police Rescue Squad**, said he had **recovered up to 20 bodies from The Gap** but had never found anyone **that far out** from the cliff.

Research by **physics expert Rodney Cross** allegedly shows that **Ms Byrne** could only have landed at this point, **11.8 metres from the cliff face**, if she was hurled using a **spear throw**.

But a different place was nominated as the point of impact in a **1996 police video**, which was played to the court.

In the video, **Sgt Powderley** narrates from the **cliff top** as **Constable Camwell** indicates a place several metres from the pyramid rock.

Sgt Powderley said he “wasn’t really concentrating” when the video – intended to publicise the **Byrne case** – was recorded.

He had only realised in 2004 that it showed the wrong place.

“If we were there to do a **Forensic Services assessment** of the scene and pinpoint the exact location ... things would have been done differently,” he said.

Sgt Powderley said he saw the video for the first time at the 1997 inquest into **Ms Byrne’s** death, but did not notice the position was wrong because he “just wasn’t paying the attention to it that I should have”.

Police initially gave **Prof Cross** the wrong information about where **Ms Byrne** landed and he concluded she probably jumped, the court has been told.

Defence barrister **Winston Terracini SC** suggested measurements of the location had been “wrong for ages”, but were changed when police received a report “that doesn’t suit their purposes”.

Sgt Powderley denied having been asked by the **detective heading** the investigation, **Paul Jacob (# 18752)**, to reconsider the body’s location.

Earlier, **Prof Cross** told the court he had not considered information from 1994 about **Ms Byrne’s** sporting ability when concluding she could not have jumped so far from the cliff.

Instead, he used reports from **Ms Byrne’s** high school teachers that she had no athletic ability.

Mr Terracini asked why he had not taken into account the more recent information which, he said, showed **Ms Byrne** “excelled at a whole range of different sports” including basketball, swimming and aerobics.

“I presumed that that material was provided by **Caroline Byrne** herself,” **Prof Cross** said.

The hearing continues on Friday.

Officer who found Byrne’s body grilled

On **9 September 2008** the Daily Telegraph / AAP reported “Exact spot of model’s body ‘forgotten’”

It said a police officer who recovered the body of model **Caroline Byrne** has told a Sydney court **she will never remember** the exact location of the body. **Senior Constable Lisa Camwell** told the **New South Wales Supreme Court** a controversial 1996 video re-enactment was her best memory of the recovery operation.

Ms Byrne, 24, was found wedged head first in rocks at the base of cliffs at The Gap, in Sydney’s east on **June 8, 1995**. Her live-in boyfriend **Gordon Wood** is on trial for her murder. **Sen Const Camwell** was **one of two police** involved in **retrieving Ms Byrne’s body**. She was tasked with carrying a body bag and stretcher across to the recovery site.

The officer today told the jury her recollection of the morning was based solely on her own actions “which was carrying equipment and looking at the ground”. When she took part in a video re-enactment about a year after **Ms Byrne’s** death, **Sen Const Camwell** said she determined the place she believed the body found was based upon an estimate of how long it had taken her to reach it that night. “Most of those large

rocks found down the bottom there are mostly just large rocks to me,” she said. “I wouldn’t ever say I know exactly where her body was.”

Sen Const Camwell said she had no further involvement in the case until she was contacted about the video in 2004. She told the court the officer then in charge of the murder investigation said the position of **Ms Byrne**’s body had become a “ significant issue ”, and where she had indicated on the video appeared to be incorrect. She agreed with Wood’s barrister **Winston Terracini SC** that her best memory of events was as recorded on the video.

The location of the body is essential to the Crown case that **Ms Byrne** was not pushed nor jumped, but was forcefully thrown to her death. **Sen Const Camwell**’s partner **Mark Powderly** has told the jury the body was recovered from a different location which is consistent with the theory that **Ms Byrne** was murdered. The location indicated by **Sen Const Camwell** supports the hypothesis that **Ms Byrne** took her own life. The trial continues.

NSW reports: Exact spot of model’s body ‘forgotten’ – 9
September 2008

This was published 12 years ago

Murder trial hears of ‘freakish scream’

By Kate McClymont

September 10, 2008 – 10.00am

MICK BRUNETTA had heard a lot of screams during his 17 years of fishing at The Gap, but he had never heard anything like the one he heard on the night of June 7, 1995, he told a

murder trial yesterday.

Mr Brunetta and his brother-in-law Norm Wano were not having much luck as they cast their lines into the darkness from the clifftop. About 11pm they heard what they variously described as a woman's "freakish scream" and that she sounded "like someone who was panicked or scared".

Mr Wano turned and said, "F— man, what was that?" and the pair continued fishing.

Gordon Wood, 45, has pleaded not guilty to throwing his girlfriend, Caroline Byrne, a 24-year-old model, from the cliffs at the notorious suicide spot in Sydney's east.

Mr Wano said that he contacted the police 11 months later after seeing a re-enactment on television where police asked the two fishermen, who were potential witnesses, to come forward.

Wearing an olive-green bandanna over his dreadlocks and his sunglasses perched on top of his head, Mr Wano said that although he was not a keen fisherman, he often accompanied his brother-in-law.

He said he had heard the scream about 11pm and, "It wasn't a scream of happiness. It was like a scared scream."

He said that later three men had come by calling out the name "Caroline". Upon being told of the scream, Mr Wano said, one of the men had said, "On no, she's done it, she's done it."

Mr Brunetta, who gave evidence with the assistance of an Italian interpreter, said that he recalled seeing a lone man calling out "Caroline" and that later that night that same man, who had blond hair, had come back with two other men. After telling the group of the scream, they asked to borrow his torch.

Mr Brunetta said his torch was not very good because the

battery "was a bit flat".

He agreed that in his 2004 statement he had said that when he saw the men trying to shine the torch to illuminate the bottom of the cliff, he had said, "There's no way that man will be able to see anything because the torch is not strong enough."

The two fishermen stayed on until dawn watching the police recover Ms Byrne's body. Mr Brunetta said no one had ever taken him back to The Gap to try to pinpoint the exact location of where Ms Byrne had landed.

Also yesterday, a police witness contradicted another on critical evidence against Wood.

One officer told the jury that she would never be able to pinpoint the exact location of the body, which is vital to proving that Ms Byrne's death was murder.

The jury has heard conflicting evidence about where the body was found, with senior retrieval officer Mark Powderly testifying Ms Byrne was some 10 metres from the cliff face.

But his partner, Senior Constable Lisa Camwell, yesterday told the court she believed Ms Byrne was in a crevice closer to the shore.

No measurements or photographs were taken on the night of her death.

A 1996 video re-enactment of the rescue operation shows Senior Constable Camwell pointing to a spot, which is referred to as the "exact location" of Ms Byrne's body.

The officer yesterday said she had estimated the site based upon how long it took her to reach the body on the night of the retrieval, and the video showed her best recollection of events.

"Most of those large rocks found down the bottom there are

mostly just large rocks to me,” she said.

“I wouldn’t ever say I know exactly where her body was.”

Murder trial hears of ‘freakish scream’

During the trial the court was told of some

During the trial, the Court was told of some uncertainty regarding the actual location where the body was found. **Senior Constable Lisa Camwell**, one of the officers who retrieved Byrne’s body in 1995 gave evidence that she had in 1996 participated in a video re-enactment in which she indicated the body’s location. She gave evidence that in 2004 she was contacted by an officer in charge of the murder investigation (Sergeant Powderly) and told that the position of Ms Byrne’s body had become a significant issue. She was told that the body position she had indicated on the video now appeared to be incorrect. Media reports during the second trial suggested the location of the body was an essential component to the Crown case that Ms Byrne was not pushed nor jumped, but was forcefully thrown to her death [The12]

2.4.3.3

Deliberation and verdict After five full days of deliberation on 21 November 2008 they found Wood guilty. On 3 December 2008 Wood was sentenced to a custodial sentence of 17 years, with a minimum time in prison of 13 years. Wood lodged an appeal to the conviction. **2.4.4 Inquests, Investigations and Trials** Two inquests were held into Byrne’s death by New South Wales State coroner John Abernethy, with Wood claiming it was suicide. The second inquest in 1998 delivered an open finding. That same year, Wood left Australia. Police investigations continued

from 2000 onwards as **“Strikeforce Irondale”** with hundreds of witnesses interviewed and resulting in a brief of evidence running to more than 350 pages. Caroline’s father Tony Byrne continued to press for action from the investigation eventually enrolling the assistance of New South Wales politician Fred Nile who raised questions about the investigation in State Parliament up till 2004. In 2004 scientific reports relating to the physics of a body falling/jumping/being projected from the cliff produced by Professor Rod Cross were the principal elements of new evidence which encouraged the Crown to push for a trial of Gordon Wood. In March 2006 the New South Wales Director of Public Prosecutions Nicholas Cowdery QC agreed with police that there was enough evidence to charge Wood with Byrne’s murder. Wood was detained in London in April 2006, extradited to Australia and released on bail by a Sydney court on 4 May. On 6 July 2007, Wood was committed to stand trial for the murder of Byrne. The first trial started on 21 July 2008 with Mark Tedeschi QC appearing for the Crown and Winston Terracini QC defending Wood. On 6 August 2008, Justice Graham Barr declared a mistrial because of the alleged contact that a member of the jury had with 2GB radio host Jason Morrison. The juror, who remained anonymous, claimed that some of the jurors were planning a secret night visit to the crime scene (the Gap) being organised by a particular juror who was a “bully” and who had “already decided that Wood was guilty.” Justice Barr ruled “I had to discharge the jury ... because some jurors disobeyed my instructions and misconducted themselves.” The second trial commenced on 25 August 2008 and for the first time in New South Wales court history a panel of 15 jurors was sworn in instead of the usual 12 to provide some contingency.

Death of Caroline Byrne

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
[Jump to navigation](#) [Jump to search](#)

Death of Caroline Byrne



Date	7 June 1995
Location	The Gap, Watsons Bay, New South Wales, Australia
Coordinates	 33.843803°S 151.284998°E﻿Coordinates: 33.843803°S 151.284998°E
Cause	Death by falling
Deaths	Caroline Byrne
Coroner	John Abernethy
Suspects	Gordon Wood
Charges	Murder
Verdict	Guilty, overturned on appeal

Caroline Byrne (8 October 1970 – 7 June 1995), an Australian model, was found at the bottom of a cliff at The Gap in Sydney in the early hours of 8 June 1995. Her then boyfriend Gordon Eric Wood (b. 1962), who at the time of her death was chauffeur and personal assistant to businessman Rene Rivkin, was convicted of her murder on 21 November 2008 and spent three years in Goulburn jail. He was acquitted of the conviction in February 2012.^{[1][2]}

Events of 7 June 1995



The Gap at Watsons Bay, location of Byrne's death.

Born on 8 October 1970,^[3] Byrne had been in a relationship with Wood since 1992. She was a model but principally worked as a modelling instructor for Sydney department and etiquette educator June Dally-Watkins. On 7 June 1995, she failed to turn up for work and for an appointment with a psychiatrist. There were three claimed sightings of her near The Gap at Watsons Bay that afternoon and evening, in the company of two men, one of whom matched Wood's description. Two of the sightings – at 1 pm and 3 pm – were by local cafe owners, Craig Martin and Lance Melbourne. In 1998 John Doherty, an Irish artist who had been out of the country in the intervening years, came forward to say that around 8.30pm that evening he too had seen Byrne outside his studio window arguing with one man while another man stood nearby.^[4]

Wood denied being present at Watsons Bay that afternoon. Evidence was sworn at both inquests by Wood's friends Brett Cochrane and Nic Samartis that they lunched with him briefly around 1:15 pm in Potts Point before he was called away after a call from Rivkin.^{[5]:206} Wood claimed that he was asked by Rivkin to chauffeur prominent lobbyist and ex-federal minister Graham Richardson to an appointment and then spent the afternoon doing regular chores for Rivkin before going home around 7 pm. The Richardson alibi was compromised by Richardson when he was interviewed by police in 2001, when he advised that he had lunched that day with rugby league administrator Peter Moore.^[4]

Wood's movements in the afternoon have never been reported prior to the late evening, when Wood said he awoke on his couch having fallen asleep in front of the television and was immediately alarmed that Byrne was still not home. Wood has said he did not know Byrne's whereabouts but was led by what he termed "telepathic communication" to The Gap. He had first driven to the beachfront car-park at Bondi Beach where he and Byrne had spent much time and then to a favourite park at Camp Cove where they had often picnicked. Heading back from Camp Cove he spotted Byrne's white Suzuki Vitara parked in a lane at The Gap. It was when running about the cliff-top and shouting her name that Wood encountered two rock fishermen who verified his appearance around midnight.

Wood then rang Tony Byrne and Caroline's brother Peter. He drove back into Sydney city and collected them and all three then went to the Gap and scoured the cliff-top. Peter Byrne later gave evidence that at about 1am Wood claimed to have spotted her body at the base of the cliff using torchlight. Byrne himself said he could see nothing and nor could the police who arrived soon after with police torches. The night was dark and the cliff misty. Peter Byrne claimed it was difficult to see the rocks below the cliff, let alone a body. The contention whether Wood had claimed he could see something in the darkness figured in much media speculation over the years and formed a key part of Crown evidence in the 2008 trial. In 2011 the Appeal Court felt that the Crown had presented speculation in this area posing as evidence. This was one of the grounds resulting in Wood's 2011 appeal being upheld.

The identity of the second man supposedly sighted by Melbourne and Martin with Wood in Watsons Bay earlier in the day has remained unclear. With evidence contradicting the likelihood that the man was either of those whom the police considered in investigation (Byrne's modelling agent Adam Leigh or Rivkin associate Gary Redding) the Crown chose to pose speculation

without evidence on either during the trial and drew criticism from the trial judge and later the appellant judges.

Media interest

Byrne's death was accepted as a suicide by local Rose Bay Police and others. No photographs were taken of the location of her body's landing point.

In 1996, Byrne's father began to agitate against the notion of suicide such that from 1997 onwards the case and circumstances of Byrne's death were regularly examined in Australia's national newspapers and reported as "one of Sydney's unsolved crimes". The death of a beautiful model at one of Sydney's notorious suicide spots, the connection to the flamboyant and newsworthy Rivkin, and a net of witnesses and commentators which included some prominent Sydney identities all added to the intrigue of the case.

Offset Alpine speculation

Attention was particularly heightened by the still unproven speculation of a connection with Rene Rivkin's financial activities. The day before Byrne's death, Wood and Rivkin were interviewed by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission about the Offset Alpine fire of 1993 and the true ownership of share parcels traded in Offset Alpine owned by nominees related to Swiss bank accounts.^{[5]:203} Tony Byrne claimed that Wood had indicated to his daughter that the fire was a set-up for insurance purposes.

Ultimately in 2001 Rivkin was charged with insider trading (of Qantas shares) and his eventual conviction in 2003 had a devastating effect on his mental stability, culminating in his 2005 suicide.^[6] However the ASIC investigation into share trading in Offset Alpine and the true beneficiaries proved an epic that outlived Rivkin, commencing in 1995 and continuing

from 2005 with a focus shifted to Graham Richardson and Trevor Kennedy until eventually closed without outcome by ASIC in 2010.^[7]

Peripheral celebrities

Adding to this intrigue was a list of celebrities with a peripheral involvement in the case. Byrne's medical doctor who had referred her to the psychiatric appointment she did not keep on 7 June was television celebrity physician, Dr Cindy Pan.^{[5]:205} Graham Richardson's diarised luncheon appointment that day (which caused him to question whether he may have been chauffeured anywhere by Wood) was with rugby league identity Peter Bullfrog Moore at Sydney's Hilton Hotel and was set up to broker a peace deal in the Super League war which deeply divided Australian rugby league at that time. Wood always claimed that he had driven Moore from a noon meeting with Rivkin to what may well have been a lunch, though the press and (later) the Crown ignored this possibility. Moore died in July 2000 a year prior to the Strikeforce Irondale interview with Richardson, thus preventing corroboration of the luncheon timings and Rivkin too was dead before the trial.^[8]

Byrne's close friends included entertainer Tania Zaetta and actress Kylie Watson, a *Home and Away* cast member. It was the amateur sleuthing around Watsons Bay armed with photographs of Byrne in the weeks after her death which had Dally-Watkins and Watson uncover the Martin/Melbourne sighting lead.^{[5]:206} Other celebrity witnesses who figured in the case at some point included businessman John Singleton, journalist Paul Barry and paparazzo Jamie Fawcett.

Inquests, investigation and trials

Two inquests were held into Byrne's death by New South Wales State coroner John Abernethy, with Wood claiming it was suicide. The second inquest in 1998 delivered an open finding. That same year, Wood left Australia.

Police investigations continued from 2000 onwards as "**Strikeforce Irondale**" with hundreds of witnesses interviewed and resulting in a brief of evidence running to more than 350 pages. Caroline's father Tony Byrne continued to press for action from the investigation eventually enrolling the assistance of New South Wales politician Fred Nile who raised questions about the investigation in State Parliament up till 2004.^[9]

In 2004 scientific reports relating to the physics of a body falling/jumping/being projected from the cliff produced by Professor Rod Cross were the principal elements of new evidence which encouraged the Crown to push for a trial of Gordon Wood.^[10] In March 2006 the New South Wales Director of Public Prosecutions Nicholas Cowdery QC agreed with police that there was enough evidence to charge Wood with Byrne's murder.^[11] Wood was detained in London in April 2006, extradited to Australia and released on bail by a Sydney court on 4 May. On 6 July 2007, Wood was committed to stand trial for the murder of Byrne.

The first trial started on 21 July 2008 with Mark Tedeschi QC appearing for the Crown and Winston Terracini QC defending Wood. On 6 August 2008, Justice Graham Barr declared a mistrial because of the alleged contact that a member of the jury had with 2GB radio host Jason Morrison. The juror, who remained anonymous, claimed that some of the jurors were planning a secret night visit to the crime scene (the Gap) being organised by a particular juror who was a "bully" and

who had “already decided that Wood was guilty.” Justice Barr ruled “I had to discharge the jury ... because some jurors disobeyed my instructions and misconducted themselves.”^[12]

The second trial commenced on 25 August 2008 and for the first time in New South Wales court history a panel of 15 jurors was sworn in instead of the usual 12 to provide some contingency.

[12]

Trial evidence

Presentation of the Crown case

Following the aborted first trial Tedeschi, as Crown Prosecutor, presented the Crown case over a nine-week period from 26 August until 24 October 2008. Over 70 witnesses were called and the jury heard hours of audio and video evidence including taped interviews with Rivkin and Wood.^[13]

Witnesses called by the prosecution included Pan, Richardson, Watson, Zaetta, Singleton, Fawcett, Bob Hagan and sports journalist Phil Rothfield. Tony Byrne, Peter Byrne, Dally-Watkins and her daughter Carol Clifford appeared. Doherty and Cochrane gave evidence via video link up from overseas. **Police witnesses included** Tracey Smit (*ProCst # 61020*) and Paul Griffiths (*# 23770 ?*) (officers on scene), Sgt Mark Powderly (*# 14425*), Sgt Neville Greateorex (*# 16136*) (who gave evidence on police procedures), Snr Const Lisa Camwell (*# ?????*) (who retrieved the body) and the first investigating officer of the case Sgt Craig Woods (*#22599 ?*) of Rose Bay who had first dismissed the death as suicide and who gave evidence that in the first weeks Tony Byrne too accepted the suicide verdict and was explicitly against the idea of an inquest. Another **ex-policeman** to appear was Byrne’s former boyfriend **Andrew Blanchette** (*# ?????*). At one stage **Justice Barr** counselled **Blanchette** that he ought consider taking legal

advice before answering a particular question. Sensationally on his second day in the witness box, **Blanchette** admitted that early that morning he had phoned another witness – **Melinda Medich**, his girlfriend and a minor at the time of Byrne's death – before she was due to give evidence later that day. **Blanchette** was reported to police by **Medich** who had not heard from him for a number of years. **Blanchette** denied that he had been attempting to influence her evidence.

Location of the body

Retired University of Sydney physicist Associate Professor Rod Cross spent two days in the witness box. Over a six-year period Cross had produced six reports on the case – with his initial findings being quite different to the later findings presented in the trial.^[10] Although formally qualified in the field of plasma physics, Cross had experience working with biomechanists regarding sports research and had published and refereed many papers on biomechanics;^[14] he was therefore proposed by police investigators as a forensic expert in fall dynamics. Between 1998 and 2004 Cross' reports all concluded that Byrne could have jumped to her death, as he was told that Byrne's body had been found at a distance of 9 metres (30 ft) from the cliff.^[15] In 2005, when he was recontacted by the police that the position of the body was in fact farther away (11.8 metres (39 ft)), he conducted experiments which informed his speculation that Byrne could not have jumped that far and must have been thrown.^{[5]:210[16]} The required launch speed, from the top of the 29 metres (95 ft) high cliff, was 4.5 m/s (see range of a projectile^{[17][18]}), and the available runup distance was only 4 metres (13 ft) – although appeal submissions in 2011 called this into question. Cross tested eleven females from the New South Wales Police Academy and found that they could dive and land head first (in a swimming pool) at about 3.5 m/s after a 4 metres (13 ft) runup. A strong male could

throw a 61 kilograms (134 lb) female at 4.8 m/s after a runup of only 2 metres (6 ft 7 in) or 3 metres (9.8 ft).

During the trial the Court was told of some uncertainty regarding the actual location where the body was found. **Senior Constable Lisa Camwell**, one of the officers who retrieved Byrne's body in 1995 gave evidence that she had in 1996 participated in a video re-enactment in which she indicated the body's location. She gave evidence that in 2004 she was contacted by an officer in charge of the murder investigation (Sergeant Powderly) and told that the position of Ms Byrne's body had become a significant issue. She was told that the body position she had indicated on the video now appeared to be incorrect. Media reports during the second trial suggested the location of the body was an essential component to the Crown case that Ms Byrne was not pushed nor jumped, but was forcefully thrown to her death.^[19]

Suicide history

The court heard that Caroline's mother Andrea Byrne had committed suicide in March 1991 after she became depressed following a breast enlargement operation that went wrong.^[20] Terracini also read to the court a letter Tony Byrne had previously provided to police in which he claimed that Caroline had made an attempt on her own life via overdose in 1992. In court Tony Byrne denied that Caroline had on that occasion intended to kill herself and instead was making "a cry for help". At another stage of the cross examination, he claimed to suppose that had Caroline wanted to kill herself she would have copied her mother's method rather than jumping from a cliff.^[21]

Byrne's doctor, author and television personality Cindy Pan, gave evidence that she had seen Byrne for two years before her death and had specifically discussed Byrne's depression with her in the weeks leading up to her death. Dr. Pan told the

court Byrne said she had felt depressed for about a month and the condition had worsened in the week leading up to their appointment on 5 June 1995. Pan said the model told her she could not put a finger on what she was unhappy about.

“I was trying to explore with her what she might be depressed about, but she was not really able to identify any one specific thing,” Pan told the court. She said Byrne told her she “had the same thing three years ago” and had been put on medication, which had helped. Pan said Byrne denied having thoughts of self-harm and she referred her to a psychiatrist, obtaining an appointment for 4 pm on 7 June.^[22]

Presentation of the defence

One defence witness, Prof John Hilton, a forensic pathologist, was called during the Prosecution case, due to his later unavailability. Otherwise Terracini commenced the defence case on 27 October 2008 calling another physics expert Prof Marcus Pandy, a electromechanical engineer who conducted experiments on running and jumping speeds of two females. Only a handful of defence witnesses were called – two forensic pathologists, one psychiatrist, Prof Pandy, a stunt diver, and Wood’s sister Jacqueline Schmidt – and the defence case concluded within a week.

With the trial drawing to a close, the jury made a number of requests of Justice Barr that included a visit the Gap for a third time; for a transcript of Doherty’s evidence; and for video footage of Pandy’s running experiments.^[23]

Deliberation and verdict

For the first time in New South Wales court history, a ballot was used to select the three jurors who would stand down so that twelve of the sitting fifteen would deliberate to a verdict. After five full days of deliberation on 21 November

2008 they found Wood guilty.^{[24][25]} On 3 December 2008 Wood was sentenced to a custodial sentence of 17 years, with a minimum time in prison of 13 years. Wood lodged an appeal to the conviction.^[26]

Appeal

Wood's appeal hearing commenced on 22 August 2011 in the Criminal Court of Appeal before Chief Judge at Common Law Peter McClellan, Justice Megan Latham, and Justice Stephen Rothman. Wood's barrister Tim Game SC submitted that the jury's verdict was unreasonable and not supported by the evidence. His submission spoke of nine grounds for appeal. One was that the trial miscarried by reason of the prejudice occasioned by the Tedeschi's closing address. Others related to criticisms of Barr's directions to the jury.

Early media reporting of the appeal focused on Game's submission that the scientific evidence used to convict Wood and presented by Associate Professor Cross was flawed. A photograph was presented in the trial and purported to be taken in 1996 showing that scrub near the fence line had limited Byrne's possible run-up to the jump, supporting an argument that she would have needed to have been thrown to achieve the horizontal distance from the cliff wall that her body travelled. The appeal judges heard and the Crown acknowledged that the photo was in fact taken in 2003 and that photo's quality meant that a shadow might have appeared to be scrub. The appeal judges heard that a 1996 colour photo which showed that there was no scrub limiting the run-up was available to the Crown during the trial but that the Crown had chosen to introduce the blurrier, non-contemporaneous, more ambiguous image.^[27]

Game's submission, consistent with so much of the trial evidence, concerned matters relating to the exact positioning

of Byrne's body at the base of the rocks and the orientation of her legs and torso and leading to questions regarding the contended launch point and the assumptions and assertions made by Cross in his pre-trial studies and reports and his trial evidence. Day two of Game's submission focused on the police's changed view between 1996 and 2005 as to Byrne's landing spot and specifically trial evidence given by Sergeant Mark Powderly used to justify the reconstruction.^[28]

The Criminal Court of Appeal delivered their opinion on 24 February 2012 acquitting Wood of Byrne's murder and ordering his release from jail.^[1] The appellate judges delivered a unanimous decision that there was insufficient evidence beyond reasonable doubt that Wood murdered Byrne and that the jury's verdict was not supported. They dismissed the Crown evidence as being critically flawed and ruled that the possibility of her suicide ought not have been excluded.^{[1][2]}

Justice McClennan described Cross' experiments as "unsophisticated" and in the summation of his decision said that he was not satisfied by either of the two motives presented by the Crown.^[1] Regarding the motive submitted by Tedeschi that Byrne had information about Rivkin's business dealings that Wood was trying to hide, McClennan said "The exploitation of public rumour and the use of mere innuendo to compensate for inadequate evidence of motive is not consistent with the obligations of a prosecutor to press the Crown case "to its legitimate strength" by reliance upon credible evidence".^{[2]:para 305} McLennan was also troubled that the notion Byrne may have been unconscious when she left the cliff top was introduced by the Crown late in the case.^{[2]:para 277} He described Tedeschi's suggestion, first made in his closing address and mentioned at no other time in evidence, that a "shot-put" action was used to despatch Byrne as "an invention of the prosecutor...for which there was absolutely no support in

evidence”.^[29] McClennan also expressed some doubt as the reliability of evidence concerning the claimed sightings of Wood and Byrne at Watson’s Bay on 7 June 1995 noting that some of these witnesses had come forward years after the event and the initial investigations; he raised concerns that the Melbourne/Martin first identification of Wood and Byrne was based on a specific photos shown to them by Dally-Watkins rather than from being picked from a selection. Tedeschi was criticised by McClellan for presenting reasoning that was “dangerous” and “entirely without foundation”. Tedeschi contributed to the alleged miscarriage with his “50 killer questions” which took an “impermissible course” in asking the jury to consider rhetorical questions dealing with matters that had not been presented with in evidence.^[29] McClennan ruled that he was not persuaded that Sgt Powderly’s evidence regarding the changed landing position of the body was entirely reliable.^{[2]:para 317}

Wood was freed from prison on 24 February 2012; having served three years two months in Goulburn Correctional Centre, following an initial month in Parklea prison. Three weeks later the new New South Wales Director of Public Prosecutions, Lloyd Babb SC, issued a press release simply announcing that “the OPDD will not appeal the Court of Criminal Appeal’s judgement in the matter of R v Gordon Wood . No further comment will be issued”.^[30] This was 24 hours after meeting Tony Byrne and attending the Gap with him – a meeting which Byrne described as ‘fruitful’.^[31]

Post-appeal

Wood left Australia after his release from prison and spent time in the United States and Britain. In 2014 he brought defamation actions against the Sydney radio stations 2GB and 2UE, Channel Seven Sydney, and The Daily Telegraph^[32] which

were all settled out of court in his favour for undisclosed sums.^[33]

In 2016 Wood sued the state of New South Wales for millions of dollars plus costs for malicious prosecution and wrongful imprisonment, based on a number of grounds including a “hopelessly corrupted” and “ridiculous” police case against him.^[34] In a witness statement filed as part of his lawsuit against the state, Mr Wood said that during his three years in Goulburn Jail he lived in constant fear of guards who dished out “therapy” and was king-hit (a term widely used in Australia, meaning a very hard punch, usually delivered to the head, that is completely unexpected) and knocked unconscious in the prison yard by an infamous rapist and killer.^[35] The suit was dismissed on 10 August 2018, with Wood receiving no compensation.^[36]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death_of_Caroline_Byrne

Nothing further, than what is recorded above, is known about this woman at the time of publication.

Cal

3 January 2021

Alan Jude FYFE

08/12/2021

Alan Jude FYFE

AKA Barney

Late of ?

NSW Redfern Police Academy Class # 086

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 9941

Rank: Commenced Training at Redfern Police Academy on Monday
27 February 1961 (aged 19 years, 2 months, 26 days)

Probationary Constable – appointed 27 March 1961 (aged 19
years, 3 months, 26 days)

Constable – appointed 27 February 1962

Constable 1st Class – appointed 27 February 1967

Senior Constable – appointed 27 February 1971

Sergeant 3rd Class – appointed 6 June 1977

Sergeant 2nd Class – appointed 31 March 1984

Final Rank = Sergeant 2nd Class

Stations: Commenced Training at Redfern Academy,

4 Division GDs & Traffic – (28 March 1961 – 10 June 1962),
Traffic Branch – Special Solo Cyclist (11 May 1962 – 16 May
1963),

25 Division – Solo cyclist (17 May 1968 – 4 October 1971),

25 Division – Lane Cove GDs (5 October 1971 – 1 January 1973
) ,

25 Division – Chatswood GDs (2 January 1973 – 23 July 1977) ,

6 Division GDs (24 July 1977 – 20 August 1977) ,

6 Division – Mossman GDs (21 August 1977 – 4 August 1979) ,

North Sydney GDs- 6 Division – (5 August 1979 – 18 July 1981
) ,

Chatswood GDs – 25 Division (19 July 1981 – 26 August 1983) ,

Pymble – Administration (3 June 1983 – 2 June 1984) ,

Pennant Hills – Administration – 16 Division – (3 June 1984 –
1 December 1984) ,

Chatswood – Investigation – (2 December 1984 – 1 June 1985) ,

Pennant Hills General (2 June 1985 – 9 March 1992)

Service: From 27 February 1961 to 10 March 1992 = 31

years, 0 months, 11 days Service

Age at Retirement: 50 years, 3 months, 8 days

Time in Retirement: 27 years, 7 months, 1 day

Awards: National Medal – **granted** 11 December 1980 (Sgt)
1st Clasp to National Medal – **granted** 8 June 1988 (SenSgt)
‘possible’ Commendation in relation to search for Monica
SCHOFIELD in 1964

Born: Monday 1 December 1941

Died on: Thursday 10 October 2019 at Hornsby Hospital

Age: 77 yrs 10 mths 9 days

Cause: Diabetes and Kidney failure

Event location: ?

Event date: ?

Funeral date: Friday 18 October 2019 @ 1pm

Funeral location: St Patrick’s Catholic Church, Royston Pde,
Asquith, NSW

Wake location: Asquith Golf Club

Funeral Parlour: Heavenly Celebration Funerals, St Marys – 02
9623 6656

Buried at: ?

Memorial located at: ?



ALAN 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

Even back in the late '70s and early '80s, Barney was Type 1 diabetic and taking insulin jabs.

May his family know that Alan was well respected and thought of by his colleagues.
