

Gerard Peter JOHNSTON

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AKA ?

Late of Blackheath – formerly of Bronte, NSW

NSW Police Cadet # 2945

NSW Redfern Police Academy Class # ? ? ?

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 16??? – 17???

Rank: NSW Police Cadet – commenced 9 July 1973

Probationary Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Final Rank = Constable

Stations: ?

Service: From 9 July 1973 to 11 January 1979 = 5+ years
Service

Awards: No Find on Australian Honours

Born: ? May? ?

Died on: Thursday 11 January 1979

Age: 22

Cause: Depression – Suicide – Service weapon – Not Duty
related

Event location: at his home in Bronte, NSW

Event date: Thursday 11 January 1979

Funeral date: ? ? 1979

Funeral location: ?

Wake location: ?

Funeral Parlour: ?

Buried at: ?

Memorial located at: ?



Gerard Peter JOHNSTON – 1976
supplied by Peter Cameron

Photo

GERARD 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

RYERSON LIST.

<i>Surname</i>	<i>Given Names</i>	<i>Notice Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Other Details</i>	<i>Publication</i>	<i>Published</i>
JOHNSTON	Gerard Peter	Death notice	11JAN1979	Death	22	late of Blackheath, formerly of Bronte	Sydney Morning Herald	13JAN1979

NSW BDM: **Death**

JOHNSTON GERARD PETER **2487/1979**

Father: FRANCIS NORMAN

Mother: KATHLEEN THERESE

Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales (Sydney,
NSW : 1901 – 2001),

Friday 21 September 1979 (No.130), page 4775

ANY person having any claims upon the estate of **GERARD PETER JOHNSTON**, late of Randwick, who died on 11th January, 1979, must send particulars of his claim to the administrators, Francis Norman Johnston and Kathleen Therese Johnston, c.o.

Laurence & Laurence, 54 Carrington Street, Sydney, on or before 4th December, 1979. The administrators will distribute the assets in the estate, having regard only to the claims of which at that date they have notice. Letters of administration were granted in New South Wales on 27th June, 1979. LAURENCE & LAURENCE, Solicitors, 54 Carrington Street, Sydney, N.S.W. 2000 (D.X. 115).

1258 – \$12.50

[21 Sep 1979 – ANY person having any claims upon the estate of GERARD PETER JOHNSTON, late of Randwick, who died on 11th – Trove](#)

Robert John LANE

Robert John LANE

Victoria Police Force

Squad 7/65

Regd. # 15051

Rank: Detective Senior Constable

Stations: ?, Carlton, Russell Street HQ, Swan Hill CIB – death

Service: From ? ? 1965? to 13 July 1979 = 14? years Service

Awards: [Victoria Police Star](#) medal – granted, to Val, 2006

Born: 12 December 1946 at Kerang, Victoria

Died on: Friday 13 July 1979

Cause: Murdered – shot in back of head

Event location: [Kyalite](#), NSW

Age: 32

Funeral date: ?

Funeral location: ? – Swan Hill, Victoria

Buried at: Swan Hill Cemetery, Coronation Ave, Swan Hill

Memorial at: Robert Lane Resuscitation Unit at Swan Hill District Health

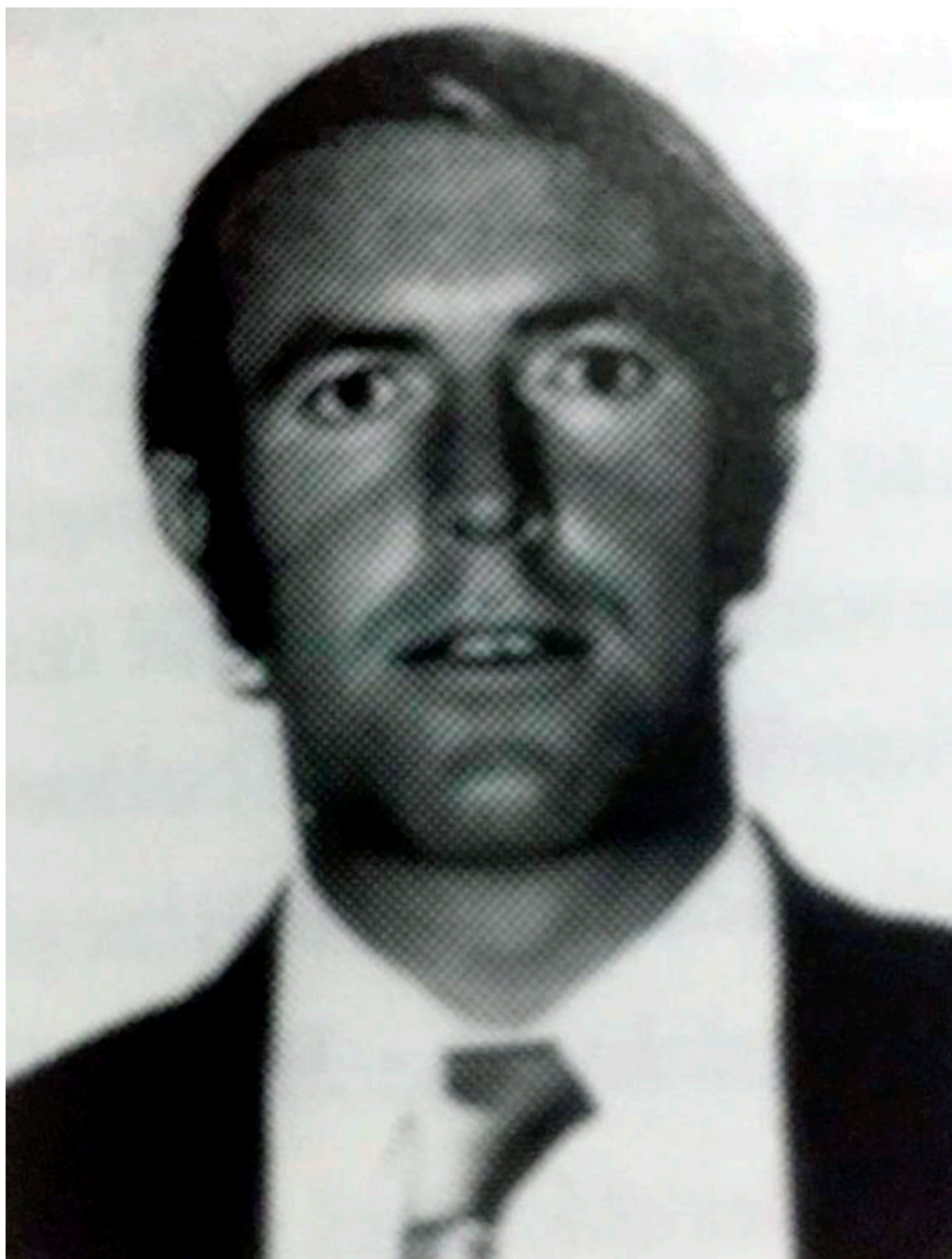
Dedication Ceremony was held on 28th November 2008 to open the **Robert Lane Resuscitation Unit**

Equipment purchased for the **Robert Lane Resuscitation Unit**

- June 2008 – Patient Monitoring Equipment – \$60,000 (\$40,000 donated by Blue Ribbon Foundation)
- May 2010 – Cardiac Arrhythmia Software – \$5778.00
- May 2011 – Portable Ventilator \$30,999 (Included \$11,000 raised from SHDH Charity Golf Day)
- May 2012 – External Pacing Machine \$12,950 (\$7,000 donated by Blue Ribbon Foundation)
- June 2013 – Diathermy Equipment \$22,119.90 (\$10,000

donated by Blue Ribbon Foundation)





ROBERT IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance

Funeral location: ?

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

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO [Cal](#)

About 11.30 a.m. **Friday 13 July 1979** Detective **Lane** accompanied **David Bernard Chapman** an **18 year old** car theft **suspect**, to a disused bus parked in a **camp site** at **Kyalite Southern New South Wales**.

Chapman had been living there for a short time and had told the Detective he had a receipt amongst his possessions which would exonerate him of the theft.

Whilst **Lane** searched the bus **Chapman** took out a **.22 calibre rifle** and **shot** the Detective **in the head**. The **policeman** fell to the floor and **Chapman** then **walked up and again shot him in the head**. He then **dragged** the **corpse** to a nearby **pit** where he dumped it. He then **escaped** in the **police car** in company with his **17 year old girlfriend Kerry Anne Bonser**. He later **dumped** the police car in the **Edwards River** 5 kilometres away and took to the bush.

Despite a massive man hunt **Chapman** was not located until **19 July 1980** at a property in the **Kyalite District**.

He admitted his guilt and appeared before **Parramatta Supreme Court** charged with the **murder**.

On **1 July 1980** he was sentenced to **life imprisonment**.

Bob Lane: Blues Honour Policeman

By: Anthony De Bolfo on: Thu 11 of Sep., 2008 23:52 AEST (7352 Reads)

(6630 bytes)

<i>First published: 2006</i>

ROBERT Lane was not yet 20 when his clearance to Carlton came through. It was May 27, 1966, five rounds into the VFL season, and for an aspiring league footballer, Princes Park was a great place to be.

Eighteen months earlier, George Harris had wrested control of Carlton after it had plummeted to its worst placing – 10th – in its centenary season, 1964.

In late 1964, Harris completed one of the game's most audacious coups when he landed Ron Barassi as captain-coach. The Blues then entered what would be arguably their greatest era.

These were glory days for Lane, who in November 1965 earned an on-the-record endorsement from Superintendent Gilbert Trainor after graduating as a policeman. Superintendent Trainor described Lane as a "sound, reliable type who applied himself diligently and obtained good results".



When St Kilda and Hawthorn footballers play at Telstra Dome this afternoon wearing blue-and-white chequered armbands to denote their part in the Silk-Miller Cup, the annual match in honour of two murdered policemen, thoughts will turn to the 141 men and women of the Victoria Police who have died upholding the law, and to all the loved ones they have left behind.

Among the fallen is Detective Senior Constable Lane, today survived by his wife Valerie, daughters Dana and Chelsea, and grandson Charlie Robert.

Lane's senseless murder on the morning of Friday, July 13, 1979, made front-page news, which resulted in the swift apprehension of the perpetrator. But what appears to have been lost in time is Lane's standing as the only league footballer to have died representing the Victoria Police.

Robert John Lane was born at Kerang on December 12, 1946, one of five sons and five daughters reared by George and Jean

Lane. The Lane siblings would be blessed with strong sporting genes, with Robert excelling in football and basketball and younger twin sisters Jeanette and Helen each captaining Victorian basketball teams.

Retired policeman Gomer Davies, who lives in Lalbert, near Swan Hill, said Lane was stationed in Carlton when he embarked on his league football career. "Carlton (Football Club) got Bob down at the time he joined the police force and he played a couple of games there," Davies said.

Ian Collins, the former Carlton president, chief executive and premiership player, remembers well his brief moments playing alongside Lane in 1966.

"He was a handy, but not great, footballer and he seemed to be a fairly quiet type," Collins said. "I remember that he used to turn up to training in his police uniform.

"He was solidly built, but not overly tall. He was a key-position player and I played with him in both of his games in 1966 – round 13 versus St Kilda at Princes Park and the following round against Fitzroy there."

It's just on 40 years since Lane took the field for the Blues. He was the first to carry No. 46 into a Carlton senior game. In his first game, Lane was named 19th man, with Jim Pleydell joining him on the pine, while Richard Vandenberg (a distant cousin of the current Hawthorn captain), made his senior debut that day starting in a forward pocket and exchanging roving duties with Adrian Gallagher.

Lane and the likes of fellow country recruits Ian Nankervis, a namesake of the former Geelong player who hailed from Mildura Imperials, and Gil Lockhart, from Mansfield, were turned over by Barassi during the 1966 season. According to Vandenberg, who is now a chartered accountant in Swan Hill, the die might have been cast for Lane with the arrival of the lanky Tasmanian ruckman Peter "Percy" Jones.

In April the following year, in 1967, Lane was cleared to Williamstown. Not long after, he opted to combine his policing duties with a stint as captain-coach of Lake Boga, just south of Swan Hill, in the then Mid-Murray Football League.

Then in 1973, Lane returned to the big smoke, renewing acquaintances with Davies at Russell Street. "He was a senior detective at that stage and he was also playing for 'Willy' at centre half-forward in the old Channel 0 days," Davies said.

"Three years later, he returned to take on the job as captain-coach of Lalbert. He got Lalbert to a premiership in his first year, (in) 1976, when they beat Woorinen by a point."

Davies said Lane eventually relinquished the coaching role at Lalbert to Chris Drum, the brother of former Fremantle coach Damian Drum. "Bob just wanted to continue as a player in 1979, but unfortunately he was killed that July."

On that Friday morning, Lane made a routine trip across the border, to Kyalite, to question a man suspected of stealing a car. Tragically, the move would cost Lane his life, as the suspect turned a rifle on him and fired three times. Lane was 32.

Davies was then left with the terrible task of recovering his mate's body from a roadside camp by the Wakool River.

"Bob went out to do a little job which would normally have taken him about half an hour," Davies said. "He left Swan Hill station at half-past 10 in the morning and by half-past 11, he was dead. Val was waiting for him back at the station. One of their girls was not quite three at the time and the other girl was six or seven."

Lane was laid to rest at the Swan Hill cemetery after a service attended by more than 1200 mourners.

Yesterday, during a graduation ceremony at the Victoria Police

Academy in Glen Waverley, chief commissioner Christine Nixon presented the Victoria Police Star medal to Val in memory of her late husband. The medal, introduced last year, recognises members killed or seriously injured in the line of duty.

While Val Lane preferred not to be quoted for this article, she retains a fervour for the fortunes of the team that her late husband represented.

It has not been lost on the club, either, with chief executive Michael Malouf confirming this week that Carlton would work with Victoria Police and the Blue Ribbon Foundation to honour Lane's memory.

Such endorsement is in keeping with those in the Mallee who remember Robert Lane as a champion, on and off the field.

Richard Vandenberg said: "A lot of former players who didn't make it went on and contributed to local communities because of the league football brushwork on them. Bob was a great leader in bush football – hard but fair, and dedicated to the sides that he coached – and the country people with whom Bob spent most of his time always appreciated it.

"He was a popular fellow, a terrific policeman."

Anthony De Bolfo

http://www.blueseum.org/tiki-read_article.php?articleId=16

Murder made his career



Nick Soon

11 Sep 2012

BRETT Bellis, who retired from Quakers Hill police after 41 years of service, is a walking encyclopaedia of major crimes in NSW and Victoria.

He rose to the rank of inspector and was involved in most of the major cases that made headlines from 1971 to 2011.

They included the murder of anti-drug campaigner Don MacKay in Griffith in 1978, the kidnap and murder of Renee Aitken, 5, in Narooma in 1986, and the arrests of **Daniel Bernard Chapman** for the killing of **Detective Robert John Lane** in 1980 and of Andrew Mark Norrie, who killed two men in 1986.

Mr Bellis said that among the worst cases was the killing of Michael Lewis and his wife.

He said the killer left their children, who were aged two and three, near their badly decomposed bodies and that they were

there for several days until they were found.

Mr Bellis said he would never forget hearing one of them: "Mummy is turning green." He said: "We got our man by tracking him to a special rifle that was lent to him."

Mr Bellis, who is now a grandfather of one with another on the way, said he could never completely forget some of the other cases either.

"But retirement helps, because it allows me to spend more time travelling with my family and playing golf at Stonecutters Ridge," he said.

Mr Bellis was one of about 100 retired police officers and their wives and husbands at Retired Police Day at Quakers Hills and Blacktown on the 150th anniversary celebrations of the NSW Police Force.

The officers received commemorative pins at Quakers Hill police station from Superintendent Gary Merryweather and at Blacktown Workers Club from Superintendent Mark Wright.

Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione said the day enabled citizens and the current crop of police to recognise and commend the work of former officers.

<http://www.blacktownsun.com.au/story/314551/murder-made-his-career/>

Compensation for police widow

Mr MACLELLAN (Minister of Transport)—I move:

That the House do now adjourn.

Mr CRELLIN (Sandringham)—I regret to have to do this but I want to bring a matter to the attention of the Minister of Labour and Industry in the absence of the Treasurer and the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. The matter is the subject of some publicity in an article in the *Age*

of 7 December headed "No Compo for Police Widow". The article details the apparent wrangle that is occurring between the State Insurance Office and the Victoria Police Force in relation to the payment of compensation for the widow of Senior Detective Robert Lane who was killed in the line of duty in New South Wales earlier this year.

If, as the report indicates, the matter is the subject of what can only be described as bureaucratic bungling, Mrs Lane has been put to an unnecessary degree of financial concern and hardship and ought to be treated much more favourably immediately.

If there is some legal problem which needs rectification by legislation, consideration ought to be given in the meantime to the payment of moneys owing by *ex gratia* payment so that Mrs Lane is not subjected to financial hardship. It is a matter of urgency and I ask the Government to take immediate action to overcome the problem.

I want to acknowledge the interest and involvement of the honorable member for Swan Hill who, earlier this year, gave towering support to the raising of substantial moneys in a public appeal for the Lane family. Honorable members will remember that, even in the administration of the law, Mrs Lane has had to wait whilst the matter is dealt with. I have previously raised the matter in the House. Throughout the whole unfortunate experience following the death of her husband, Mrs Lane has been subjected to financial hardship and unnecessary concern.

Mr RAMSAY (Minister of Labour and Industry)—I will take up the matter with the State Insurance Office. It is the Government's intention that, where an uncertainty arises between two or more insurance companies about which company is responsible for a specific compensation payment, that uncertainty should be resolved by the insurance industry without bringing any hardship to bear upon the person to whom the compensation applies.

The motion was agreed to.

http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/images/stories/historical_hansard/VicHansard_19791206_19791211.pdf

PUBLIC APPEAL FOR SWAN HILL POLICEMAN

Mr CRELLIN (Sandringham)—No doubt the Minister for Police and Emergency Services is aware of the public appeal conducted on behalf of the family of the late Detective Robert Lane following his unfortunate death in the course of his normal police duties. Can the Minister advise the House whether the Government can take any action, following the success of that appeal, to simplify the procedures to enable the beneficiaries of the fund to promptly receive any moneys due to them from it?

Mr THOMPSON (Minister for Police and Emergency Services)—The Government is considering whether a change in legislation is necessary. However, yesterday I did give an indication or issued a firm pronouncement that if Mrs Lane was in any way being handicapped by the need to follow a certain legal course, money would be made available to her to meet any urgent payments.

As a result of Crown Law Office advice received today, I understand that, based on the *Curson* judgment of Mr Justice Murphy in 1978, in such circumstances a widow is entitled to one-third of any money raised so the problem does not arise in the case of Mrs Lane, I am pleased to say. Even if it had arisen, the Government would have covered the position so she would not suffer. To make sure the position is assured in future, further discussions are taking place with our legal officers to ascertain whether any change in legislation is necessary.

PUBLIC APPEAL FOR SWAN HILL POLICEMAN

Mr CRELLIN (Sandringham)—I direct my question to the Treasurer, in that capacity as well as in his capacity

as Minister for Police and Emergency Services. Further to a question I asked on 9 October in relation to the public appeal for the family of the late Detective Robert Lane, is the Minister aware of a report in today's *Sun* that no moneys raised under this appeal have yet been paid to the family? Could the honorable gentleman advise the House of the exact position of this money?

Mr THOMPSON (Treasurer)—Mrs Lane, the widow of Senior Constable Lane, is at present in Queensland. Contact has been made with her legal representatives asking what liabilities she has at present that could be met from the fund.

Mr Fordham—Just give her the money.

Mr THOMPSON—Do not get over-excited. Information was received from her legal firm, Maurice Blackburn and Co., and today a cheque has been delivered to that firm to cover those liabilities outlined, to the total sum of \$26 000, and after consultation with the Solicitor-General, the Supreme Court will be requested to appoint trustees to administer the remainder of the fund to ensure that the interests of the widow and the children are fully protected.

Stephen NAYLOR

Stephen NAYLOR

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # ?

Constable 1st Class ?

Stations: Burwood

Service: From ? to ?

Awards: ?

Born: ?

Died: about 1979

Cause: Murdered

Location of event: ?

Funeral date: ?

Funeral location: ?

Grave location: ?

**[alert_red]Stephen is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of
Remembrance[/alert_red]**

Richard Baxter, FB – Support Aussie Cops, on 23 December 2011,
recalls a work mate by the name of Stephen NAYLOR being
attached to Burwood (NSW) being murdered about 1979.