

Operation "Tam" Base
Friday, 9 January 1998
1330 hours

Guy WALLACE states:

My full name is Guy WALLACE. I live at (DELETION) . I am 32 years old and was born on 1 November 1965. I am currently unemployed. I was previously employed as a barman at the Furneaux Lodge.

I am talking to Detective FITZGERALD in relation to New Year's Eve at Furneaux Lodge. I have made a previous statement but since that time I have remembered more details about the evening.

On New Year's Eve I started work at about 8.00 am doing general bar duties. I continued working in the bar for the whole day, more or less, apart from generally helping out around the Lodge.

At about 7.30 - 8.00 pm I was working behind the bar with Roz, Shae, Karen and Jackie. I don't know their last names.

I was serving down the restaurant end of the bar a lot of the time but because it was so busy we had to cover everywhere. The bar got busy from about 8.00 pm. I first noticed the male who I described in my first statement at about 9.00 pm. He was down the end of the bar known as "Reg's Corner". "Reg's Corner" is named after one of the locals, Reg McMANAWAY. Reg McMANAWAY was in the bar early in the night, drinking in his corner. I'm not sure when he left.

The male I described was drinking by himself most of the night. I remember thinking to myself that he must have been bored just standing there.

He did speak to the odd person but not for any length of time. He was drinking Bourbon. I served him on a number of occasions. He wasn't drinking heavily but

Guy WALLACE further states:

more steadily. He appeared to me to be a fisherman or a tradesman by the way he dressed and his manner.

When he paid for his drink he would just pull out a fistful of money out of his jeans pocket. The money was just screwed up in a bundle. I remember that because it really pisses you off when you're working behind the bar and people just put screwed up notes on the bar.

That's about all I remember of him earlier in the night. He was just another punter in the bar.

At about 2.05 am I called "last drinks" and rang the bell in the bar. I'm pretty sure the guy was still there then but he didn't come up for a last drink. Rick McLEOD came in and told me to keep the bar open which really pissed me off. I had been up early that morning and I was feeling really tired.

At about 3.00 to 3.30 am I was picking up rubbish. I initially thought it was about 4.00 - 4.20 am but I don't think I carried on working in the bar for that long after I was told to keep it open.

I was picking up rubbish outside the toilets in the garden bar when I saw a young guy and his girlfriend. They asked me for a ride to the Solitude Jetty. I said I couldn't go there because the jetty is in bad repair and might damage the Naiad but I would take them to the doctor's jetty which is close. I was annoyed that they had been told they couldn't get a ride and it wasn't my job to take them.

I walked down to the jetty with this guy and his girlfriend. She was blonde and young - about 16 years old, short - about 5'6". He was about 6 foot, slim build, with dark, wavy hair. I can't remember exactly what they were wearing but she had a short skirt

Guy WALLACE further states:

with a see-through top, with a camisole underneath. He had tan trousers and a white t-shirt.

On the way down to the jetty, we were just by the entrance into the treeline on the way to the boat shed when I saw the male I described earlier. He was standing by the Hoby Cat. I don't know what he was doing. He asked me for a light. I said, "No I haven't got one".

We carried on down to the jetty and I remember turning around because I heard someone walking behind me. It was the same guy. This was in the tree area before the jetty.

We got down to the end of the jetty. I'm pretty sure there was no-one else down there at that stage. I jumped in the Naiad. It was parked on the starboard side of the jetty - right behind the "Foam", Reg McMANAWAY's boat.

I got the Naiad, started it and the guy and his girlfriend got in. I thought on my first statement that I had taken these people to the doctor's jetty by themselves but now I think there were others in the boat before I dropped them off. I have no idea what these people looked like but I know they asked to go to the Tamarack and that the unknown male got on with them. I know that because he was there when the two persons who I now know as Ben SMART and Olivia HOPE got on the Naiad when the other two people got off on to the "Tamarack".

The guy and his girlfriend that had asked me for the ride were sitting on the port side at the bow. Two of the others - they were a male and a female - I remember he had his arm around her - were sitting on the starboard side at the bow. The unknown male was sitting close to me on the starboard side.

Guy WALLACE further states:

I can't remember any conversations between any of them on the Naiad. I asked the female how to get to the Tamarack. She gave me directions. We went a short distance and I realised she had given me wrong directions. I don't think she really knew where she was going which annoyed me because she said it was just over there when she first got on. We were just about upon it when she found the "Tamarack".

I pulled up to the stern of the "Tamarack". The first time I pulled up I missed the stern because of the weight in the Naiad. I did a loop to the port and came back round on to the stern.

The port side pontoon of the Naiad was touching the stern of the "Tamarack". When I pulled up there were two people who I now know to be Ben SMART and Olivia HOPE trying to get off the "Tamarack". I told them to wait because there were too many on the Naiad until the others got off. Olivia then offered to pay me. I think she misunderstood me. I said, "That won't be necessary, just wait for these others to get off".

The male and the female got off and Ben and Olivia got on. There was another girl standing with them on the "Tamarack". Olivia seemed to want her to come with her. She kept saying, "Come on, let's go" but the female said, "No, I'm staying". I can't remember what she looked like. I really only heard her voice but I said, "You're more than welcome to come". She said, "No, I'm staying".

Ben and Olivia stepped on to the Naiad. Ben got on first and sat on the port next to me at the back. Olivia got on, stumbled and fell between me and Ben. She stood up and went to sit next to Ben. The unknown male said, "No, come and sit over here" and patted the pontoon, gesturing where to sit. He looked at me and raised his eyebrows as if to say "she is very attractive". Olivia didn't say anything. She didn't acknowledge him at all.

Guy WALLACE further states:

I didn't think the unknown male was getting off at the "Tamarack". I don't know why - he must have told me where he was going because I didn't expect him to get off there.

Once Olivia and Ben had got on the boat and we had started away from the "Tamarack", Olivia asked me if I knew of any accommodation. I said, "No, this is New Year's Eve. We are fully booked".

The male said, "There is room in my boat". Olivia said, "That's nice". Then he said, "You can come but he can't". Again Olivia didn't even acknowledge him.

I asked the male where he wanted to go. He told me the name of his boat. I remember thinking "I don't want to know the name, I want directions". I can't remember what the name was but it was something like "The Manz". He told me the name two or three times I think, then he said, "It's over there" and pointed towards the end of the jetty. I started going in that direction. I remember asking one of the people up the front to put their head down or move so I could see where I was going.

It would only have taken about one to two minutes to get from the "Tamarack" which was on the right-hand side as you look from the jetty. It would have been in line with the Lodge in the second line of boats.

The ketch the unknown male pointed to was about 20 - 30 metres to the left -hand side of the jetty in about the second or third row of boats.

We were about 15 - 20 metres from the ketch when he said, "That's it there". At this time of the morning it is very dark in the inlet. When he pointed to it initially I could make out it was a yacht but I couldn't tell what it was. When the male pointed to the ketch and said, "That's it", Ben said, "Please tell me it's that one". He was looking at a boat very similar to or a Markline which was rafted next to it. I'm not sure if any of the boats which were rafted to the ketch were attached to a buoy or anchored.

Guy WALLACE further states:

He said, "No but I'm next to it if that helps".

I don't know how it came up but I know that he said he was crew on a fishing boat.

I pulled up alongside the ketch and remember thinking, "this is a nice old boat". It looked very tidy and extremely well kept. I can't add any more to the description I gave in the first statement.

The ketch did not smell of fish at all. It was very tidy. The ropes at the back made me believe it was used for fishing. I have seen ropes like that before on other fishing boats. We had one very similar at Ohope Beach where I grew up. They use the ropes for tying marker buoys to long lines.

I pulled up next to the ketch with my port side against the port side of the ketch. I would normally go to the stern to drop people because there is normally a ladder or steps to get on, which makes me think there must have been a dinghy on the back of the ketch but I can't remember.

Olivia stepped on to the ketch first. Ben was holding the boat. Once she was on the ketch, Ben handed her something. It could have been a sleeping bag or handbag. It was something similar. Ben then got off. Then the unknown male got off.

Once they were on the ketch I said, "Are you guys all right with this?" I just had a feeling it wasn't right. They were both facing me and said, "Yes". They walked towards the rear of the boat as if they were going to the cabin.

I backed away from the ketch, went to the bow and carried on to the doctor's jetty to drop off the other young female and male on the boat.

Guy WALLACE further states:

I didn't see whether Ben and Olivia went into the cabin or not. That was the last I saw of them.

The ketch was rafted on to the port side of the Markline or a boat similar to a Markline. I think there was another three boats rafted to the Markline. There seemed to be a big group there. I can't remember any of the other boats.

I remember a launch that kept spotlighting me as I was driving. It was yellow and brown. I thought it was called "Squadron". The people on board were still partying. I could hear the music playing and laughter. They were just behind the ketch. I'm not sure how far but the spotlight was really bright.

That was about the only boat that I remember with any life on it at that time of the morning.

It was very quiet in the inlet and on very still nights you could hear a noise from a great distance. Certainly any scream or loud noise would have been heard by most of the people in the inlet. I don't think you would hear it at the Lodge but you would definitely hear everything on the water.

I left the ketch and carried on to drop the other young male and female off at the doctor's jetty. It took me about four to five minutes to get there. I was going really slowly because the young girl was really cold. I dropped them off. They were really grateful for the lift and headed back to the jetty.

I got back to the jetty and took Charlie PROCTOR, his partner Lou and their mates to Charlie's Bonito boat. One of Charlie's mates fell in the water. Lou and I helped him back in. They were all pretty drunk. I dropped them off at the Bonito. He was anchored on the starboard side of the jetty, very close to the shore, close to the old jetty.

Guy WALLACE further states:

I remember when I was on the way out to Charlie's boat I saw the guys that had been causing trouble in the bar all night coming towards the jetty with the security guards behind them. I remember thinking, "I better get Charlie out of here". He is a real troublemaker and I thought he would start something.

When I got back to the jetty they were there - three of them waiting for a lift to their fishing boat. I took them out to their boats - three trawlers. They were moored straight out from the jetty, behind all the other boats. One of the guys, the ringleader, was bleeding. They were all drunk and very agitated.

I got rid of them on to their fishing boat and came back into the jetty.

I was standing on the jetty having a smoke, talking to the security guards when the ANDERSONs came down and asked for a lift to their boat. There was Karen ANDERSON, her father Ian ANDERSON and his wife.

I have spoken to Karen ANDERSON since and she told me it was 4.15 am when I took them to their boat. It's a launch, about 27 foot, called "Panache". It was moored next to their son's boat, "Beryl". "Beryl" is a small speed boat. They were moored about 80 metres on the left-hand side of the jetty, close to the shore.

I came back to the jetty once again. I started taking the fuel tank out of the Naiad when a guy approached me and asked me to take him to his speed boat that was moored next to the "Tamarack". It was rafted to the starboard side of the "Tamarack". I dropped him to his boat and headed back in.

Once I was back at the jetty I pulled the fuel tanks out of the Naiad. Rachel VEITCH and Rob MULLEN were there to give me a hand with the tanks. We all walked back up to the laundry, dropped the fuel tanks off, went into the bar and got a beer.

Guy WALLACE further states:

We took our beer upstairs to Jackie BAKER's room. This would have been about 5.30, just when the sun was coming up.

I went to bed about 6.00 am. I had two hours sleep, got up and started work again in the bar.

The male I dropped off at the ketch had a typical Kiwi voice - no accent. I wouldn't say he sounded educated or uneducated, just average.

I have read this statement to be true and correct.

(Sgd) Guy Wallace

Statement taken and signature witnessed by:

T J Fitzgerald
Detective D573
1559 hours

Guy WALLACE further states:

I remember when I came back from dropping the fishermen off on my last trip that the ketch was still in the inlet.

I looked over at it and there was no life on it, no lights on or anyone on deck.

When I dropped Ben and Olivia off on the ketch there were no lights on either. It would have been about 5.00 am when I last saw the ketch.

Guy WALLACE further states:

I have this statement to be true and correct.

(Sgd) Guy Wallace

T J Fitzgerald
Detective D573