



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE  
STATEMENT OF WITNESS



Statement No.:	1	Date:	22/10/2003
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Statement of:

Name of witness:	Lianne ENGLAND	Date of birth:	05/09/1976	Age:	27
Occupation:	Accounts Clerk				

Police officer taking statement:

Name of police officer:	Louisa May EGERTON	Rank:	PC Senior Constable	Reg. No.:	8970
Region/ Command/ Division:	Northern Region	Station:	Townsville Criminal Investigation Branch		

Lianne ENGLAND states,

- I am a 27-year-old single woman currently on holidays in Australia. I normally live at an address at 14 Chenies Green, Bishop Stortford, Hertfordshire, England CM234HJ. I live there with my parents. My email address is neiljoslin@hotmail.com. I left England on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2003 to spend one year in Australia. I was employed in England as an Accounts Clerk with a company called Merck Sharp Dohme. I resigned from there before I came to Australia.
- I am travelling in Australia with my boyfriend, Neil JOSLIN, he is 27 years old as well. We arrived in Perth and have travelled to Darwin, Cairns and then to Townsville.
- We have been staying on Magnetic Island for the past six days at a hostel called Coconuts. This morning, on Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2003 at 7:30am, Neil and I went to the jetty on the island and caught a boat called Jazz 2. It was a small diving boat. Neil had been doing a five-day diving course on Magnetic Island and this trip was the last day. Neil was going to be diving but I wasn't. I just went along for the ride.
- There was nine civilians on board, plus our dive instructor, Rob, plus the three crew members. There was me and Neil, two Japanese people, I think that they were a couple, two English guys called Chris and Karl, a Norwegian guy, an American guy called Jay and an English guy that I know as Ash.

L. ENGLAND	<i>Lianne England</i>	Witness
	<i>Louisa May Egerton</i>	Police Officer

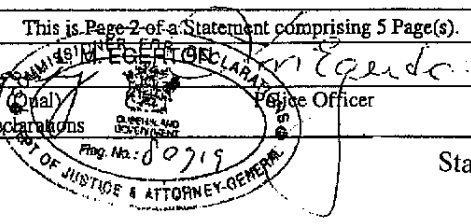
Justice of the Peace (Qualification) Commissioner of Declarations

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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: LIANNE ENGLAND

5. We went on the boat out to the Yongala Wreck. We arrived there about 10:30am. There were two other boats on the reef when we arrived. One of those was a big catamaran and other a small diving boat. I don't know what their names were.
6. The people who were diving got there dive gear on, I was the only civilian that didn't dive so I stayed on the boat. The young guy who is part of the crew, he is about 14, went diving as well. The dive instructor got in first, then the rest followed. They then left the boat and went scuba diving.
7. I was watching them from the boat and taking photos of them as they went down. Within a minute, the guy came up from under the water about four metres away from our boat and I heard him shouting out, "Help! Help!" I heard him say this a couple of times and then something like, ".....panicking." I saw that he was waving with one of his hands in the air above his head but can't remember which one. He was right next to a buoy. He was to my right as I was looking to the back of the boat.
8. One of the crew, the girl on our boat she was communicating with the guy who was driving out boat, but he was in the lifeboat, which was situated about six metres away, behind the guy with the buoy. They were yelling to each other and in the mean time, the guy in the lifeboat, drove to the guy at the buoy that was calling out. It only took a couple of seconds.
9. The guy in the lifeboat pulled the guy from the buoy into the lifeboat. The guy at the buoy had dive gear on and he looked okay. At that time I didn't know what was going on. The lifeboat driver yelled out to the girl in my boat, "Stand by for backup." In the meantime, the young kid who was diving off our boat, came up to the surface. I then saw two other divers come up to the surface about three metres from my boat and they had a woman with them and she was not moving, and she was on her back. The two people that brought her up where not from our boat and I didn't know them.

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10. When I first saw her, she had no equipment on her face, like the facemask or the breathing equipment. She was wearing a long sleeved black wetsuit and she had shoulder length long hair. She was very pale in the face and I didn't see any blood or anything like that. I did not know who she was and had not seen her before.
11. She was then dragged onto our boat, I can't remember who helped from our boat, and I was then told to go to the kitchen of the boat. I assumed that this was because they needed the room to help her.
12. I did as I was asked and I walked from the back of the boat to the kitchen and the young kid came with me and we looked at what was happening from the kitchen doorway. I saw that the girl and driver from our boat were helping out with the girl. A few people had come over from the catamaran, I heard someone say that one of them was a Canadian or American doctor. I think that there was about five of them from the other boat. I don't know where the two who brought her up to the surface went.
13. I saw that one of the guys from the other boat was on the radio and he was relaying messages to the doctor. They unzipped the girl's wetsuit and they looked to be doing CPR on her and giving her oxygen from the bottles on the boat. This went on for about half an hour and then the people who were on our boat diving came up to the surface.
14. One of the guys who was on the boat, called out to Rob the diving instructor, who was in the water, and said, "We have an emergency on the boat, keep the others from coming on board." One of the guys from our group was a doctor as well, Jay the American. He came onto our boat, as did Rob, and the rest went onto another lifeboat and they were taken to the Catamaran.
15. The first doctor was talking to Jay, relaying what he had done. I sounded to me from what he was saying that he was getting a second opinion to make sure there was nothing else they could do. At that point, I heard someone say that the Air Ambulance was going

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Witness	<i>L. M. EGERTON</i>	Police Officer
	Justice of the Peace (Qualified) Commissioner of Declarations	DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE & ATTORNEY-GENERAL PROP. No: 80919

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**CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: LIANNE ENGLAND**

to be an hour. They then finished giving her CPR. They moved her body further up towards the front of the boat and covered her up with two towels.

16. I just stayed in the kitchen and I think that the people that had come on board left. A lifeboat then came over and got me and the young kid and took us to the Catamaran. We waited about an hour to an hour and a half and then got back on our boat.

17. We then travelled back to Townsville and arrived at about 3:30pm. I was then brought to the Police Station and I provided this statement.

*L. England*

L. ENGLAND

22/10/2003

**Oaths Act Declaration**

**OATHS ACT 1867 (DECLARATION)**

I, Lianne ENGLAND... do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

- (1) This written statement by me dated 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2003 and contained in pages numbered 1 to 4 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make this statement knowing that if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything I know to be false.

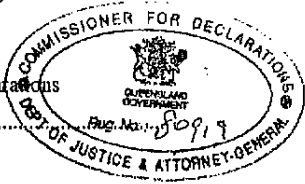
1867 and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act

*L. England* .....Signature

Taken and declared before me at .....Townsville

this....22nd...day of October 2003

Witness *[Signature]*  
Justice of the Peace /  
Commissioner of Declarations  
Other (Please State) .....



L. ENGLAND	<i>L. England</i>	This is Page 4 of a Statement comprising 8 Page(s).
Witness	Justice of the Peace (Qual) / Commissioner of Declarations	L. M. EGERTON <i>[Signature]</i> Police Officer