

## Police blame mum over teen party ruckus

Police attacked at MySpace riot partyPolice have branded a Victorian mother "irresponsible" after officers were attacked at her teenage son's birthday party, which had been promoted on MySpace.

The weekend party, in the Geelong suburb of Belmont, saw officers pelted with beer bottles and doused with alcohol as about 80 teenagers partied the night away, supervised only by the boy's allegedly drunk mother.

Three teenage guests were arrested, a police van was damaged, and one youth swung a punch at a female officer. Sergeant Mick Ryan was called to the home on Saturday night to help other police who were struggling to control the party, details of which had been shared on the MySpace social networking site.

"There were young people in the backyard of the house, drinking, partying on, people coming and going, there was drinks everywhere, broken bottles, rubbish, kids all through the street," Sgt Ryan said. Asked what he thought of the mother's actions, he said: "The only thing I could call her is irresponsible."

Police allege the mother was heavily intoxicated when they arrived at the party. A fight broke out among partygoers, culminating in a teenager taking "a swing" at a police-woman, Sgt Ryan said.

He said it was only a certain section of the partygoers who became "aggressive and volatile". "There's no laws against drinking in a private property with adult supervision, it's just commonsense. There's no doubt one adult can't control 80-plus teenagers," he said. But the teenage boy said it was the presence of police that caused the party to get out of hand. "The party was all good. Everything was fine until the police came," he told the Nine Network on Tuesday.

"It was controlled. It was, until the police came and forced people out and started hitting people with batons, and that's when bottles were thrown." A neighbour of the teenager said it wasn't the first time police had been called to the address.

"But it's getting pretty crook when teenagers are getting drunk like they were," the man, who did not want to be named for fear of retaliation, told AAP. "This used to be a very pleasant place to live and now things have changed. All I can say is there are a few rotten apples here now and it's just not what it used to be." He said the lack of adult supervision at the party was terrible.

But another neighbour, Rena Mensinga, 86, said the boy's mother was a good mother. "We have no troubles with our neighbours and the boys are friendly," she told the Age.

"I like the woman, she's a good mother and keeps the boys under control." Notorious teenage party boy Corey Worthington became an international cult figure in January after up to 500 youths, 30 police, a police helicopter and the dog squad turned up to a MySpace promoted party at his parents' house in Melbourne while they were away on holiday.

## Greek hospital honours Aussie bashing victim

A RED Cross hospital in Athens has named one of its intensive care units after Doujon Zammit, the young Australian tourist who died there after a fatal beating on the island of Mykonos. "The wing will now bear the name of the unjustly lost Doujon Zammit in tribute to the young Australian," Henry Dunant hospital said. Mr Zammit's parents attended the naming ceremony on

Monday, the hospital said.

The 20-year-old from Sydney was badly beaten outside the Tropicana Club on the popular holiday island on July 28. A 25-year-old club bouncer has been charged with voluntary homicide and three other staff have been charged as accessories.

Mr Zammit was taken to hospital in a critical condition and died when his life support was turned off with his father Oliver's approval. Mr Zammit donated his son's heart, kidneys, liver and lungs to four people, including a 30-year-old Greek Australian in hospital in Athens. Mr Zammit was one of six Australians caught up in the incident.

They were suspected by bouncers of having stolen bags and wallets in the nightclub, an accusation later dismissed by police. The case shocked Greece, both over the brutality of the attack and over the subsequent stance of Oliver Zammit who praised Greeks as "good people". Hundreds of Mykonos residents later gathered at the island's harbour to denounce the killing.

Article from the Melbourne Herald Sun



## Tragic British holidaymaker 'sleepwalks' to his death from Greek hotel balcony

*A holidaymaker may have been sleepwalking when he plunged to his death from a hotel balcony, an inquest heard yesterday.*

Christopher Peck, 25, had flown to the Greek island of Rhodes for his sister's wedding when he fell from his second floor room as his wife lay sleeping. His body was found by a clerk working on the reception desk who described hearing a 'thud' at around 5.30am.

His sister Wendy's marriage, which was due to be held 48 hours later in front of 70 family and friends, was cancelled by his distraught family, who flew back to Britain to make arrangements for his funeral.

The inquest heard that Mr Peck, who had been out on the stag-do the night before the tragedy, had been known to sleepwalk after drinking.

Hertfordshire coroner Edward Thomas, sitting in St Albans yesterday, told the family: 'I am satisfied on the evidence I have heard this was an accident.'

The inquest heard that Mr Peck, who is believed to have been a mechanic, and his wife Gemma, 24,



The two-star Hotel Daniel in Rhodes, Greece, where the tragedy happened

travelled to Rhodes in May last year.

They were staying in a room at the two-star Hotel Daniel in the resort of Kalathos in the south of the island.

Mr Peck joined the stag party on the night of May 20 while his wife went out with a group of women including the bride-to-be for hen night celebrations.

He returned home at around 10.30pm and is believed to have carried on drinking on the hotel veranda with friends before eventually going to bed at 2am.

His wife saw him sleeping in bed when she returned to the room at 3.30am on what was the morning of their first wedding anniversary.

The inquest heard that the desk clerk thought he heard a door banging two hours later and went upstairs to check the rooms.

It was almost 6am when he carried out a routine inspection of the hotel and discovered Mr Peck's body outside on the ground below his balcony.

He is believed to have died instantly from massive head injuries.

Mr Peck, who lived in St Albans, wrote about his upcoming marriage

in 2006 on the Friends Reunited social networking site.

'Got a mortgage and getting married in May 2006 so definitely feel like I'm getting older fast. Having a great time though,' he wrote.

Greek police were told by the family during their investigation that Mr Peck had not been drinking 'excessively'.

The 15-minute hearing yesterday was told that tests had shown he was the equivalent of being twice the legal alcohol limit for driving.

Mr Thomas said he could have been 'sadly disorientated' and 'sleepwalking before he died'.

'Evidence was given by the family that it was known that if Christopher had had some alcohol he might sleepwalk,' he added.

'This was given by two members of the family to Greek police. The evidence indicates a history of sleepwalking.'

Mr Peck's family, including his parents Greg and Valerie, his 28-year-old sister, and brother Robert, 24, were too upset to comment afterwards.

## More child sex charges for chaplain

A school chaplain from a Bathurst college who is already facing allegations of child sex abuse has been charged with a further 60 offences relating to alleged sexual assaults. Police from Strike Force Hedor, set up to investigate allegations of a paedophile ring at St Stanislaus Catholic College in Bathurst, yesterday arrested 65-year-old Brian Spillane at his Narwee home.

He was charged with 60 matters relating to "historic sexual assaults" and bailed to appear at Bathurst Local Court on September 15. News Limited reports eight more former students have come forward and police suspect dozens of boys may have been abused during alleged hypnotic prayer sessions at the boarding school in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The names of at least three former staffers of the college appeared on a police search warrant when detectives turned up at the school in July to search its archives.