



Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 16 November 2011

REWARD ANNOUNCED OVER THE 1987 SUSPICIOUS DEATH OF A SOUTH COAST GRANDMOTHER

Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Michael Gallacher, is urging members of the public to come forward with information that could help solve what happened to a 66-year-old South Coast grandmother almost 25 years ago.

Lillian Rigby's body was found in a dam adjacent to the ninth hole at a golf course at Sanctuary Point, on the NSW South Coast on January 15, 1987, the day after she was reported missing.

Medical examinations revealed Ms Rigby had suffered severe head injuries and subsequently drowned in the dam.

The matter is being investigated by the Southern Region Unsolved Homicide Team.

Minister Gallacher said Ms Rigby had only been in Australia for a short time before her death.

"Ms Rigby had migrated here from England to live with her son's family at Sanctuary Point in September 1986, less than 12 months before the incident," Minister Gallacher said.

"Initial investigations by the Homicide Squad have been unable to identify anyone responsible for Ms Rigby's death, but it is hoped the doubling of the reward from \$50,000 to \$100,000 will provide incentive for someone to come forward.

"I urge anyone with any information, no matter how insignificant it might seem, to provide that information to police and give the family the closure they require.

"This family has been grieving for almost 25 years, not knowing exactly what happened to Ms Rigby. They deserve to know the truth," Minister Gallacher concluded.

Anyone with information to assist detectives should call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. All information will be treated with the strictest confidence and callers can remain anonymous if they wish.

ENDS

MEDIA: Tess Salmon 0467 740 017