



Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

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

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 1 August 2011

MINISTER ANNOUNCES REWARD FOR AN UNSOLVED MURDER

Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Michael Gallacher has today announced a \$100,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the death of Danuta Bilski.

The 38-year-old mother of two was killed while she worked in her Disposal store in Queanbeyan on June 29, 1979.

“Ms Bilski’s family has lived for more than 32 years not knowing why this happened to her,” Minister Gallacher said.

“It’s a tragedy that her two sons have had to grow up without their mother.”

Officers from the Southern Region Unsolved Homicide Team are committed to investigating this case, to bring justice to Ms Bilski’s family.

“I hope that by offering this reward of \$100,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of an offender or the offenders of this crime, it will encourage someone with information to come forward to Police,” Minister Gallacher said.

Detective Sergeant Steve Morgan from the Southern Region Unsolved Homicide Team welcomed the reward announcement.

“Ms Bilski had migrated to Australia in the hope of starting a new life; she was by all accounts a hardworking, loving, wife and mother.

“We do not know the reason why she was killed and we are appealing to anyone with information to come forward and assist Police.

Detectives have today issued a COMFIT image of a man seen at a Disposal Store on Crawford Street at Queanbeyan, about 11.45am on June 29, 1979.”

“He is described as being about 40 years of age, with brown collar-length hair, wearing a dark coloured, heavy woollen ‘Battle style jacket’ at the time (close fitting to the waist, open at the front).

“A male of similar description was reportedly seen to leave the vicinity of the store about 11.55am on June 29, 1979, carrying a long thin object wrapped in cloth,” Detective Sergeant Morgan said.

Police would like to speak with the man depicted in the COMFIT image in relation to this matter.

“One of the hardest things a family can go through is not knowing the reason this happened to their loved one, so I’d urge anyone who may have information that could close this case, to come forward, so Ms Bilski’s family can move forward,” Minister Gallacher concluded.

ENDS

MEDIA: Tess Salmon 0467 740 017

****Note;** The COMFIT image and an image of the jacket will be available via email by contacting the NSW Police Media Unit on (02) 8263 6100.