

**INQUIRY INTO UNSOLVED MURDERS AND LONG-TERM
MISSING PERSONS CASES IN NEW SOUTH WALES
BETWEEN 1965 AND 2010**

Name: Mr Kevin Docherty

Date Received: 11 March 2026

I Kevin Docherty am the twin brother of Kay Docherty who disappeared with a so called friend Toni Cavanha on 27th July 1979, a date that is embedded in my brain without even thinking about it.

My twin sister was apparently last seen at a bus stop in our home town of Warilla NSW 2 hrs south of Sydney.

There were reports that they were seen hitchhiking which i found hard to believe as I never knew my twin sister to hitch hike, though the girl she was with had done so before.

At the time of their disappearance Serial Killer Ivan Milat was working on the road gang in a town called Kiama which is only 15minutes drive from Warilla where we live, and apparently frequented the main road that went through our suburb which would link to Wollongong then easy to get onto the highway to Sydney.

Back in 1979 no one knew of Ivan Milat, though recently i have been contacted by Two eye witnesses who were only kids at the time crossed paths with Milat but had no idea who he was at the time, until he Milat was revealed via the media to the public, by this time the Two young boys, Now grown men One being a local businessman has come forward after crossing paths with the original constable who my mum first reported my sister missing in 1979.

That constable Jeff Dakers now retired was on a mission to find me to inform me of his findings, this was in 2020, 41 years after my sisters disappearance.

Since this time the retired Jeff Dakers, myself & the witness along with Sydney search dogs have met on 3 occasions at the location where Milat was seen back in 1979 to scour the area that everyone thinks my sisters body is buried, this is on sand hill just off the main road where Milat frequently travelled only 6 minutes' drive from my home town, the area is overgrown with Latana bush with some tracks still visible & accessible, we along with Sydney search dogs sent drones up to map the area, and the witness who owns a excavator business was willing to bring machines in at his own expense to start a dig for my sisters body, this is how desperate we are and confident there would be more than One body found here, it is on crown land, which we have all agreed a controlled back burn could give us access to the exact area where the witness as a kid was chased by Milat out of the area, the witness often road his push bike over the sand hills as he only lived virtually across the main road.

We really need government approval and help to get a back burn happening, the whole community has offered any assistance possibly needed as they have followed our case now for 47 years, unfortunately our family has become popular for all the wrong reasons, which put my Mother & Father into an early grave without any answers, I promised my mum who died in my arms that I would continue the search for her daughter , my twin sister.

I will finish on the fact that back in 1979 when my mum reported my sister missing, she was told they were runaways. My Mum & Dad searched on their own with friends high & low travelling to Sydney Darlinghurst as that's where we received Two letters from 1 & 2 weeks apart after their disappearance, which coincidentally one of the letters was lost by police, I will never forget the day they knock on our door to tell my mum what had happened ,, totally devastating & unacceptable to say the least, but we didn't say anything as there was nothing we could do about it.

They contacted every charity, cult, & other organizations you could think of.

In saying that we had to do our own detective work for the next 30 YEARS until we were finally contacted by detectives, who in our mind was absolutely appalling & embarrassing 30years to late, but in saying that we welcomed them with open arms as we were desperate for help and wanted some answers.

I guess the detectives done the best with what they had at the time but it was 30yrs to late, our family was slowly dying of broken hearts as we were a very close nit family with true values & respect for the authorities, but in the end it didn't do us any justice sitting waiting in hope & trust that the police were doing their job, at the end of the day we were under the illusion that all this was just a cover up to close this unsolved murder case as the coroner tried in 2009/10 only to keep it open until we returned to the court in September 2013 where the coroner virtually declared my sister was dead but no evidence was provided to support this, so the case was judged to be an open finding, which as we know can be reopened if any evidence comes to hand, which has had many people come forward with evidence of some degree which was totally ignored by police also crime stoppers.

Our family has been let down not only by the police but also by the judiciary system, we suffered in silence for 47 years, which has destroyed our good faith in humanity.

i could write a novel on this how it has destroyed our family & so many others families who have suffered the same fate along with 2 nurses who were rescued by another neighbour in the same vicinity by Milat as where my sister could be buried.

So many people have stories to tell regarding our case but have been totally ignored by police & crime stoppers, how do I know this because they have all reluctantly contacted me with their information, which they didn't want to do for the simple fact it would be very difficult for our family to deal with or hear what they wanted to say but they felt obligated to try to help us.

There is much more I could say there is so many more people who want their story told regarding our cold case, but it keeps falling on deaf ears, so they turn to me, this is not easy for me to deal with year after year after year, some of these people have passed away, I think this is what police are hoping over years this will go away but for us families

living this constant nightmare of not knowing is slowly killing us of broken hearts, never goes away.

i always stood up for the police saying they didn't have the resources of finances to conduct further findings into our case,, but enough is enough, I can't continue to make excuses for police as I have felt so alone and abandoned.

If it wasn't for the media keeping our stories alive over 47 years we would have no hope, & unfortunately hope is all we have to put this case to rest & find my sisters body as I would love nothing more than being able to put my twin sister to rest with mum & dad who's ashes I have kept at home hoping everyone can be put to rest together.

I virtually put my life on hold, quit my job to be my parents carer, give up a relationship & a chance to have a family of my own as this case consumed our lives, i would not wish this on my worst enemy, only those in the same predicament as us could realize the destruction it causes families, you only have to walk a day in our shoes to see the devastating & destruction it has caused, the anger we have hidden built up inside us is unimaginable, recently listening to missing podcasts of families similar to us exposed the truths of what we are suffering especially with our loved ones people who are closest to us as this is a daily event & never goes away it really disrupts peoples lives to the fullest.

apology for talking in riddles but once we start it just opens up so many bad memories, no wonder the parents & siblings die before their time mostly of broken hearts.