

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 15 June 2026

Partially
Confidential

**SCOTT HAYDEN MISSING PERSON
OVER VIEW OF SCOTT'S LIFE AND TIMELINE OF EVENTS LEADING UP TO HIS
DISAPPEARANCE.-**

Scott was born on 20th May, 1979, and was a normal happy child and did quite well at School where he had lots of friends. He enjoyed his sports receiving coaching for tennis and subsequently played in competitions. He also loved his motorbikes from the age of 4. We were lucky enough to live on a few acres and on the edge of a forest where he would ride his motorbike regularly.

He is an adored son to my husband and I, a loving brother to his three sisters and nephew and nieces and also a loving grandson to his Nan who is almost 93 years old.

Scott attended the local High School and was achieving really well but in about year 9 I noticed his grades begin to fall due to the fact that he began to use cannabis which he got from a school mate. My husband and I strongly disapproved of this and had many battles with him about it over the years.

Scott went on to do an apprenticeship in Fitting and Turning and worked in that field for quite some years.

He did attend a rehabilitation centre in Newcastle for quite some time and finally was free of all drugs. But as happens quite often he fell back into his old habits. He did try over the years to stay off everything but sadly kept on going back to his old ways. During this time he mostly held down a job. He was very helpful around the house doing chores for me and was more than happy to do them. In the days leading up to his disappearance he became quite selfish and outspoken about Christian matters and was at times difficult to deal with.

In September of 2024 Scott spend a week in Mental Health where he received treatment for his psychosis, he was released into our care and was fine for a while but then decided to stop taking his medication.

Thursday, 29th May, 2025-6 p.m: Scott has a psychotic episode which results in my husband and myself leaving our home to go to our daughter and her husband's house, this was to give Scott some space and for us to discuss what to do next.

Friday, 30th May, 2025-1.30 p.m.: Our daughter Angela attends Taree Police Station to request a welfare check on Scott, she was told they would phone her which they did at 2.07 p.m. , Angela was told by police they would not conduct a welfare check until a statement was provided. No action was taken by Police. Why?

Friday, 30th May, 2025-3.30 p.m.: My two daughter's Christine, Angela and myself attend Taree Police Station and stated that we were concerned for Scott's welfare and that he was driving around in a psychotic state, they then put the Thursday night event down to domestic violence even though there was no violence involved. Scott was still at home at this stage because my daughter's passed him on the road at about 3.05 p.m. Again no action was taken by the Police and due to Police staffing they did not attend the house until 8pm and by this time Scott had left .

Saturday, 31st May, 2025: Our youngest daughter Merrilyn and her partner go to our house where Scott resides with us and there is no sign of him. Our TV has been smashed and put

in the back yard along with two of Scott's TV's, childrens books and some toys, in general things are moved around in the house

Saturday, 31st May, 2025, 10.50 p.m.: Our daughter Christine phones Taree Police and they come to her house which is in Taree to gather more information and put alerts out that Scott is now a missing person. Those officer's took my house keys and attended our house at 8 Rosedale Place, Tinonee to inspect damage.

We have since found out from Police that Scott was seen parked in a farmer's driveway on thunderbolts Way on that Friday evening that he went missing and got his car stuck in the mud, he was apparently there for quite some time and then an Origin energy worker came along to repair a circuit breaker and apparently told Scott he couldn't stay there. Scott just wanted somewhere to sleep the night. Scott took off erratically and hit the front fence of the farmer's property and drove down the road a little way and parked his car.

We were on the understanding that the farmer and the Origin Energy worker both reported Scott on that Friday night as another farmer told both of our son-in-laws that the Gloucester Police were at Thunderbolts Way on the Saturday asking questions, the Police now say that this is incorrect.

Scott's footprints were found along the creek bed and across the other side of the creek and around a couple's house and further up thunderbolts Way but Police never investigated those other footprints, why? We believe that he swam the creek walked around the house and swam back across the creek and slept in his car that night as the drivers seat was reclined right back.

A young couple had spotted Scott's car on the Saturday but didn't think anything of it because we had just had a huge flood the week before and they thought that it was left there by a local.

Scott's car was left with his wallet, car keys, shoes, clothing and food in it, the Police have had it in their possession since Wednesday, 5th June, 2025. His headlights and hazard lights were left on as was his heater with his driver seat reclined. The bonnet of his car had been left open with the battery bracket undone and the bolts sitting on top of the battery which indicates to us that someone has tried to help him. No forensics were carried out on the car and surrounds before it was taken to Taree Police Station, why?

Monday, 2nd June, 2025 Scott's car is reported to the Police and a search begins for him using a helicopter, drone, SES, Fire Brigade and Police dog with no sign of him, they search for some 4-5 days and then the search is ceased. Our daughter's partner Tyson has been to the area approximately 17 more times searching for Scott and talked to the farmers there, we've also had Search dogs Sydney come up to the area twice now and do a search with no sign of Scott, they have also used their drone and mapped out the area thoroughly.

Our daughter Merrilyn has set up a Face book page 'Can you Help find Scott Hayden' and our family have been sharing this to different groups up and down the coast. There was a possible sighting at Dungog on either the Saturday, 31st May or Sunday 1st June by a local store owner who says that a guy came in fitting Scott's description, bare footed and paid cash for some lunch.

There have been other possible sightings at Buladelah, (a guy recognised Scott's tattoos), Halliday's Point, Wauchope and Coffs Harbour and Grafton but nothing confirmed due to no cctv footage. The family have offered a small reward for information that leads to Scott's location.

With very little help from Taree or Gloucester Police our family are left to try and investigate Scott's disappearance ourselves although there is only so much we can do. We have given the Police names of Scott's associates but haven't really had any feedback from any interviews with them. Did Police just talk to them over the phone or in person, we believe some know more than they are saying. Our family feel a huge lack of empathy from Police and a huge lack of proper investigating which has put pressure on our family in an already stressful situation, we are so disappointed that the Police won't listen to the family that know Scott better than anyone and feel that more could have, and should be done to locate Scott. We have so many unanswered questions with Police not willing to investigate properly so that we have the answers we so desperately need.