

**Submission
No 94**

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

Name: Mr Chris Morison

Date Received: 14 July 2026

This was part of an email I sent to Channel 9 and they suggested I submit a submission.

In early 1980 I was 20 and on a working holiday picking potatoes near Dorrigo. My motorcycle was in Armidale being serviced and I had to get to Armidale to pick up from a dealer so I decided to hitch hike. I hadn't been waiting long near the Grafton Dorrigo turn off when a large silver? blue? Ford Galaxy? Fairlane pulled up. There were already 5 passengers plus the driver inside but the driver insisted I could fit in. I climbed in the back seat and we drove into Ebor when he stopped again and we squeezed in another young guy who lay across our legs then squatted down between the front seat and our knees as we drove into town. I can't remember who the others were and I'm guessing we were all hitch hikers. The driver, I'm pretty sure was Ivan Malat. He had a black moustache and was wearing a cowboy type of hat. A young small olive skinned South American? looking girl with dark hair sat next to Malat. I remember he was being very cutesy with her and her with him and he wasn't very interested in any of us. I asked him where he was heading and he didn't really say except that he was heading towards the Hunter Valley and around the back of the Blue Mountains. I asked her as well but I don't recall what she said. I do remember that I noted some sort of contradiction in what he said. When we got to Armidale I climbed out and as I did one of the other hitch hikers decided at the last second to get out as well. As Milat drove off this guy turned to me and said he could have used the ride because he was heading further south but there was a lot of weird shit going on in this car and he wanted out. I only remembered this about 10 years ago and I often wonder if any of the others remember what may have been too.

Regards Chris Morison