
ABC COMMERCIAL
MARK OF A MURDERER
Artemis Media
AN ARTEMIS MEDIA PRODUCTION
Nothing is as it first appears

TWO MEN
TWO CONTINENTS
TWO DECADES IN THE MAKING

Mark of a Murderer raises the bar on true crime genre, showing how investigative journalism can challenge injustice, hold authorities to account, spark cold case reviews, and unearth devastating truths.



MARK OF A MURDERER

In 1994, two Australian women are murdered seven weeks apart.

Two men are convicted. One is innocent.

A journalist's fight to expose the miscarriage of justice results in the innocent man's release after twelve years in prison. Then forensic testing reveals a new suspect - a convicted murderer, believed to be a psychopath.

Now the journalist retraces the new suspect's movements, uncovering a trail of unsolved crimes in the United Kingdom including arson, theft and murder. With authorities pressured to act, three cold cases are reinvestigated.

This gripping five-star true crime series follows award winning journalist, now member of Parliament Colleen Egan, as she exposes police failures, gross miscarriages of justice and unmasks a suspected serial killer.

GENRE
FACTUAL | TRUE CRIME

EPISODES & DURATION
4 x 60'

PRODUCTION COMPANY
ARTEMIS MEDIA

TX DATE
16 NOV 2026

EPISODE 1

Former journalist now MP Colleen Egan investigates the killing of two Australian women, exposing a charming psychopath who got away with murder and police and judicial failings on two continents. Nothing is, as it first appears.



Andrew Mallard's family, 2006

THE STORM

Could an unsolved murder in UK's picturesque Cotswolds be linked to deadly assaults, a world away, in Western Australia?

Former award-winning journalist, now Member of Parliament, Colleen Egan, who spearheaded a campaign revealing one of Australia's worst miscarriages of justice, brings her experience to a new international investigation.

In May 1994, West Australian store owner Pamela Lawrence is attacked, dying soon after. Detectives zero in on 31-year-old British born Andrew Mallard who is unemployed, smoking marijuana and committing petty crimes. Mallard's arrest coincides with the charging of another Brit, over an equally brutal murder.

26-year-old Simon Rochford hailed from Gloucestershire UK. He'd been using an alias, calling himself Mac Donald, claiming to be a zoologist and part owner of a yacht. When his girlfriend, Brigitta Dickens goes missing, her family mount a search, finding her dead in her own car boot. The killings occurred 7 weeks apart, with the same detectives and pathologist investigating. Mallard and Rochford both face trial in late 1995. Rochford alleges self-defence but is found guilty. Andrew Mallard denies murdering Pamela Lawrence, but the prosecutor states he drew a sketch of the murder weapon and knew 15 things that only the killer could know. He's also convicted.

> "...if you are going to lie then you want a big lie and an uncheckable lie"
>
> – MIKEWARREN
> SIMON ROCHFORD'S STEPFATHER





Mallard's desperate family mount unsuccessful legal appeals, before approaching Colleen Egan for help. Egan discovers much of Mallard's "confession" doesn't match the facts, but she remains unsure about his innocence. That's until Mallard sits a lie detector test.

Then startling details of Rochford's behaviour emerge – is he a psychopath and has he killed before?



> Was he a psychopath? I would have to say yes."
>
> – GUYHALL
> CRIMINOLOGIST AND DICKENS' FAMILY FRIEND

> "You can't get hold of the concept they think your brother could have done this terrible murder"
>
> – JACQUI MALLARD
> ANDREW MALLARD'S SISTER

"The fact that Andrew had been in Graylands Hospital which I had visited as a child. My older sister lived in Graylands for quite a long time. I think that probably was part of why I got enraged about the treatment of somebody who was so psychiatrically vulnerable."

– COLLEENEGAN

EPISODE 1 SUMMARY

Former journalist now MP Colleen Egan investigates the 1994 killings of two Australian women and exposes a charming UK psychopath. Nothing is, as it first appears.

EPISODE 2

Colleen Egan's fight to clear Andrew Mallard results in a police cold case review which uncovers a palm print and the real killer of Pamela Lawrence. But is this offender also responsible for other unsolved murders in the UK?

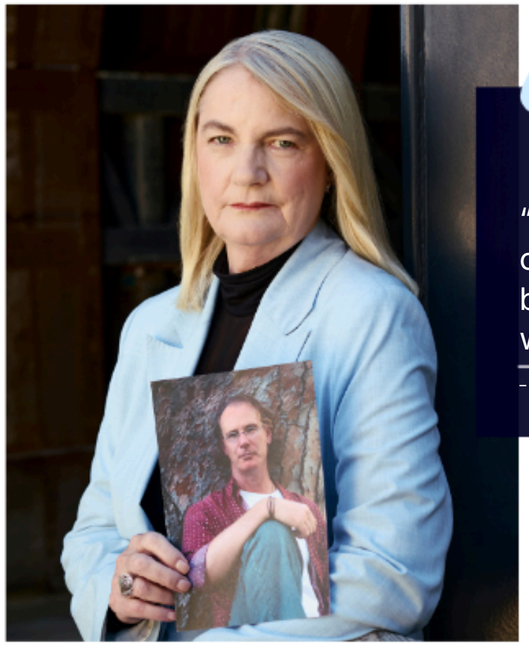
THE PALM PRINT

In 2002, journalist Colleen Egan convinces West Australian backbencher John Quigley of Andrew Mallard's innocence and recruits him to her team.

Quigley discovers a hidden report which proves the jury had been told a wrench, drawn by Mallard, was the murder weapon, when evidence showed it couldn't have caused Pamela Lawrence's injuries. This non-disclosure triggers a fresh appeal, but the appeal fails.

Mallard's last hope is the High Court. On the 15th of November 2005, 5 High Court justices unanimously quash Andrew Mallard's conviction and in early 2006, having served nearly 12 years in jail, he is released. As he walks free, WA's Director of Public Prosecutions announces that Andrew Mallard remains the prime suspect.



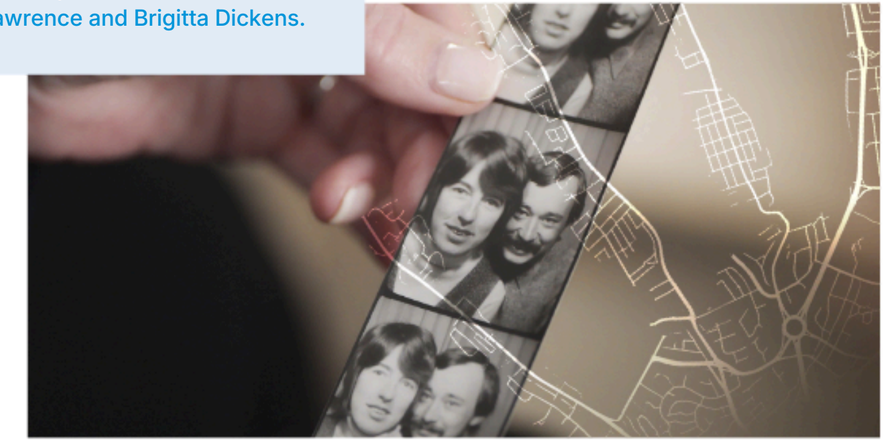


> "It became something of an obsession, but it also became something that weighed heavily in my life"
>
> – COLLEEN EGAN

But there's another sinister twist. It's revealed Rochford is suspected of a third deadly assault in London. Colleen Egan embarks on a fresh investigation, finding locals in Rochford's hometown of Stroud, Gloucestershire, who suspect he may have also been responsible for one of the town's most perplexing unsolved murders. Carmel Gamble was brutally bashed in November 1989. Egan meets Carmel's husband David, who was arrested for her murder, and who has never been officially cleared.

Egan reveals Simon Rochford was living close by.

Further tests show that the same handmade weapon was used to kill Pamela Lawrence and Brigitta Dickens.



Everything changes when UK forensic expert, Professor Dave Barclay, is employed to head a cold case review of the initial investigation.

A mystery palm print, lifted from the shop's glass cabinet on the night of the crime, is digitally uploaded. It matches to Simon Rochford.

EPISODE 2 SUMMARY

A police cold case review uncovers a palm print proving Andrew Mallard wasn't Pamela Lawrence's killer. Is this offender also guilty of other murders?

EPISODE 3

Former journalist, now MP, Colleen Egan joins with international experts to investigate whether Simon Rochford is connected to unsolved UK murders, pressing police to have cases re-opened.

THE BLOODHOUND

In London, former journalist Colleen Egan discusses the 1992 murder of Wilfried Zuschlag with forensic expert Professor Dave Barclay.

Rochford was staying at the same hotel and former detective Ian Horrocks confirms he was the Met's only suspect.

Leading UK Criminologist Professor David Wilson says people believe psychopathic killers are devil-like and easy to spot, but in fact, most appear charming and seductive, even as their victim toll mounts.

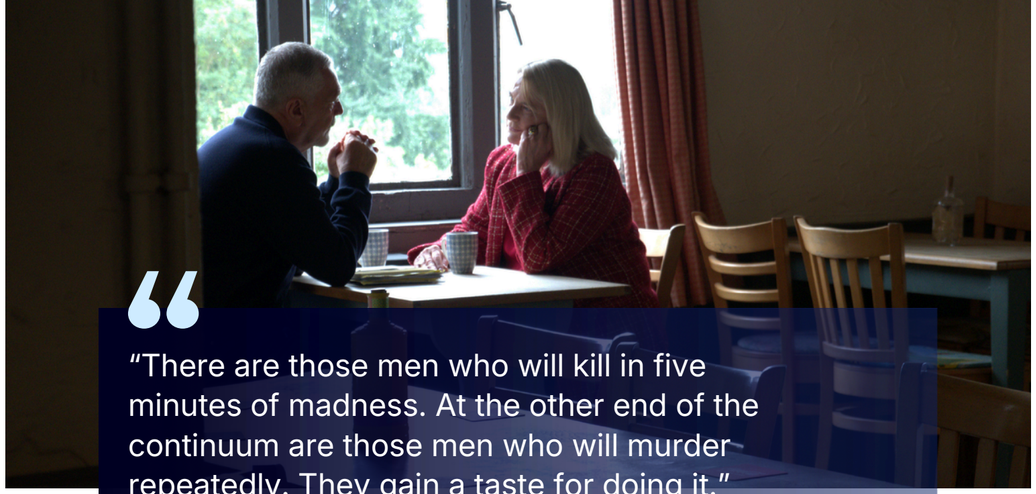
In Rochford's hometown, former journalist Mandy Pellatt reveals that following the 1989 killing of Carmel Gamble, Rochford's behaviour was highly erratic, fuelling speculation he may have committed this unsolved crime.

Egan meets Carmel's widower David Gamble who first heard of his wife's death when police arrested him. He lives with a double grief of losing his soul mate and being suspected of her murder. Colleen knows the toll of being wrongfully accused from Andrew Mallard's case.



"Simon Rochford was the only credible suspect that they had."

– IANHORROCKS
FORMER MET DETECTIVE



"There are those men who will kill in five minutes of madness. At the other end of the continuum are those men who will murder repeatedly. They gain a taste for doing it."

– PROFESSORDAVID WILSON
UK CRIMINOLOGIST

Pellatt explains Rochford also lived on the same road in Stroud as 20 year old Marc Jeffery who died in suspicious circumstances in a barn fire, in 1992.

The Jefferys' lawyer Shawn Williams believes the inquiry was botched by investigators who consistently maintained it was a suicide despite contrary evidence. Gloucestershire Police then destroyed their own file complicating the chance of any future breakthrough.

It's nothing new for Egan. In Perth, she faced resistance as she battled to free Mallard.

Ultimately the West Australian Corruption and Crime Commission ruled detectives and the prosecutor failed in their duties, but it took over a decade and an independent review, for the truth to surface.

After weeks of sustained pressure, Gloucestershire Police meet Egan. She's desperate to convince them to re-open these cold cases, with the focus on Rochford.

And then, a witness comes forward. She was told the name of a man linked to murders in Stroud.



EPISODE 3 SUMMARY

Former journalist, now MP, Colleen Egan works with international experts to investigate Simon Rochford's links to unsolved murders, and pressures police to reopen cases.

EPISODE 4

Simon Rochford and Andrew Mallard's final chapters play out in unexpected ways, with extraordinary twists as UK police open 3 cold cases resulting in a surprising lifechanging outcome for one man.

TUNNEL VISION

Formerjournalist, now MP Colleen Egan, receives great news. Gloucestershire Constabulary has agreed to investigate Simon Rochford and his possible connection to unsolved murders and suspicious deaths in the region.

The news is particularly important for David Gamble, who has been living under a cloud of suspicion since being publicly arrested for his wife's murder. Will the new investigation clear him? Or will it renew the Gloucestershire police's interest in him?

In another breakthrough, a woman close to 20-year-old barn fire victim Marc Jeffery also agrees to speak.

She shares her journal, which details conversations she had in 1992 and 1993 with witnesses and locals concerning Marc's death. It reveals the identity of a man, believed to be implicated in deadly assaults in the area, and his name is 'Simon'. While no surname was offered up this 'Simon' had friends sharing the same names as Rochford's closest mates.





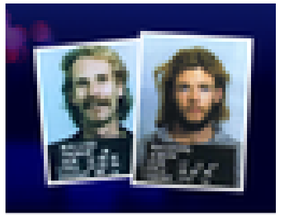
This man was also said to be linked to another death - that of 29-year-old Richard Miles, who was discovered in his back garden with a knife in his chest in March 1993. Gloucestershire Police agree to initiate a review into this cold case as well.

The devastating last chapters of Simon Rochford and Andrew Mallard's lives' play out, and *Mark of a Murderer* ends with Colleen Egan playing an unexpected role in the freeing of another man.

> "It's all been culminating to this, this opportunity to get the police to seriously look at these crimes."
>
> – COLLEEN EGAN

"I have had this burden lifted from me that's been there all these years. I'm not fearful anymore."





EPISODE 4 SUMMARY

Circumstantial evidence mounts against killer Simon Rochford with cold case reviews ordered into 3 UK deaths resulting in an unexpected, lifechanging outcome for one man.

KEY PARTICIPANTS

PRESENTER | CO-WRITER



COLLEEN EGAN

MP AND FORMER JOURNALIST

Colleen Egan is a former investigative journalist and was elected as the Member for Thornlie in the West Australian Parliament in March 2025. Colleen Egan is the conduit through which viewers discover the lives of British born men Andrew Mallard and Simon Rochford, who were both found guilty of separate 1994 murders. Andrew Mallard was given a life sentence for the killing of Pamela Lawrence. Colleen's interest in this story began in 1998 and together with others she helped to uncover new evidence that led to Andrew Mallard's release after 12 years imprisonment. She publicly called for an independent police review into the 1994 murder of Pamela Lawrence, which ultimately revealed the real killer. Colleen is a Walkley Award-winner who has worked for *The Australian, The Sunday Times* and was both a journalist then assistant editor of *The West Australian*. She remains close with key figures who helped in Andrew Mallard's release. In 2010 she published Murderer No More which told Andrew Mallard's story.

SPEAKING PUBLICLY FOR THE FIRST TIME



DAVID GAMBLE

HUSBAND OF CARMEL GAMBLE

David Gamble is speaking for the first time about the events following his wife's murder. David is a former London civil servant who had been happily married to his wife Carmel when she was killed in their holiday home in Stroud, Gloucestershire in November 1989. Unaware of his wife's death David, who had no history of violence, was traumatised when police arrested and interviewed him about her murder. He has lived his life under a cloud, unable to return to Stroud because locals believe he murdered his wife.

He says prior to *Mark of a Murderer*, he has never been treated as Carmel's next of kin by police or updated on any reviews into her unsolved murder.



LLOYD PEIRCE

EYEWITNESS ON THE NIGHT OF PAMELA LAWRENCE MURDER

Lloyd Peirce's unit was next door to Pamela Lawrence's shop Flora Metallica in Mosman Park. On the night of the murder Lloyd witnessed a suspicious male run from the alley behind Pamela Lawrence's jewellery store and board a train for Fremantle. He reported this to police. Later he realised he'd actually seen the same man, close up, about an hour earlier, while he was collecting mail from his letterbox, just steps from Flora Metallica. The man had acted strangely and not responded to his greetings. Lloyd was planning to tell police about his close interaction but then detectives raided his unit, accusing him of the murder.

In 2006 he saw Simon Rochford's image on TV news and immediately recognised him as the man he had seen in 1994. Lloyd is speaking for the first time publicly in *Mark of a Murderer*.

SPEAKING PUBLICLY FOR THE FIRST TIME

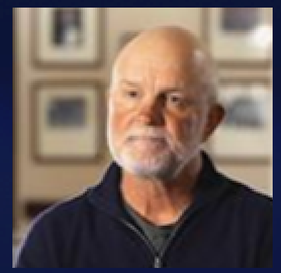


MIKE WARREN

STEP FATHER OF SIMON ROCHFORD

Mike Warren moved to Australia in 1987, six months after marrying Simon Rochford's mother. When Mike Warren realised that his stepson was lying and using an alias, going by the name Mac Donald he called a meeting with Brigitta Dickens's family and showed them Rochford's passport.

He told them that Rochford was a liar and couldn't be trusted. Mike Warren and Simon Rochford's mother have since divorced. Mike Warren is speaking for the first time publicly.



BRETT BOYS

FORMER OWNER OF HOTEL FREMANTLE AND EMPLOYER OF BRIGITTA DICKENS

Brett Boys owned Hotel Fremantle for 14 years and lived for a time on the premises with his wife. He employed Brigitta Dickens as a barmaid in October 1993. Brett met Mac aka Simon Rochford through Brigitta.

During this time Brett was also aware of Andrew Mallard who he remembers as a very tall, strange man who wore a kilt and appeared to be a drug affected. In June 1994 Simon Rochford's stepfather met family members of Brigitta Dickens at Hotel Fremantle and revealed that Simon had been lying about his name and background. Around the same time the hotel was used by West Australian police in an undercover operation on Andrew Mallard. Brett is speaking for the first time publicly.



CHRISTINE WILLIAMS

Christine Williams was an employer of Simon Rochford at a Stroud pub that she owned in the early 1990's. During this time there were burglary's in Stroud and at her own home – all of which pointed to Rochford.

In 1995 she wrote to the West Australian prosecutor hoping that her information about Rochford's theft and potential link to arson would inform any decision that was made about his future parole. The Metropolitan Police contacted her about Rochford in connection with the Zuschlag murder. And in 2007 Western Australian police interviewed her about Rochford in connection with their re-investigation of the murder of Pamela Lawrence.

PARTICIPANTS: UK & USA



PROF DAVE BARCLAY

FORENSIC SCIENTIST

Professor Dave Barclay is one of the UK's most respected forensic scientists and cold case specialists. An Honorary Professor at the University of Hull, Barclay spent 9 years as head of physical evidence at the National Crime and Operations Faculty reviewing approximately 235 unsolved murders worldwide. Professor Barclay has published and lectured extensively and was a scientific advisor to the 2005 UK Parliamentary Select Committee on Forensic Science. The Western Australian Police sought out Prof Barclay to conduct the independent review of the Pamela Lawrence murder investigation in 2006. Barclay's insistence that all the original crime scene forensics needed to be found and uploaded to the current national database, resulted in a previously unidentified palm print being matched to Simon Rochford. Professor Barclay has come out of retirement to help Colleen Egan investigate Simon Rochford's criminal conduct prior to his arrival in Australia.



PROF DAVID WILSON

CRIMINOLOGIST

David Wilson is Emeritus Professor of Criminology at Birmingham City University and a former prison governor who is a key expert in Mark of a Murderer. A member of the British Society of Criminology (1997-2024), his research covers aspects of prisons and imprisonment, murder and serial murder and he is a high profile commentator on the criminal justice system.

He has written for *The Guardian, Daily Mail* and *Daily Mirror* and has a regular column in *The Herald* (Glasgow) and has authored over twenty books. Wilson is an award winning television and radio presenter and podcaster. His credits include *Interview with a Murderer* on Channel 4, BBC Scotland's *David Wilson's Crime Files*, Channel 4's *In the Footsteps of Killers* and he is a regular on ITV's *This Morning*.



MANDY PELLATT

FORMER GLOUCESTERSHIRE JOURNALIST

Mandy Pellatt is a fomer UK journalist living in Gloucestershire who has been trying to uncover the truth about Simon Rochford since 2006. Her husband socialised with Simon Rochford as a teenager and attended Rochford's 1989 wedding. Mandy previously spoke with Rochford's ex-wife about his behaviour and to former friends who revealed his lies, and that they suspected him of arson and theft. She also spoke to London Met Police in 2007 who revealed that Rochford was the prime suspect in the murder of a German tourist. Mandy has shared invaluable local knowledge and contacts throughout research for Mark of a Murderer and is an on air participant.



IAN HORROCKS

FOMER METROPOLITAN POLICE DETECTIVE

Ian Horrocks is a 30 year veteran of London's Metropolitan Police. His former colleagues worked on Wilfried Zuchslag's murder case and travelled to Perth to interview Rochford while he was on remand, awaiting trial, for the July 1994 murder of Brigitta Dickens.

Ian Horrocks recently met with one of those officers and was told that Rochford was considered the only credible suspect in the 1992 murder of Wilfried Zuschlag. The case remains unsolved.



SHAWN WILLIAMS

LAWYER FOR JEFFERY FAMILY AT THE CORONIAL INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF MARC JEFFERY IN 1992

Shawn Williams entered law in 1979 in the UK and qualified as a solicitor in 1989. Shawn Williams represented the Jeffery family at the Coronial Inquest into their son's death in September 1992. He feels deeply about the case and remains committed to finding justice for the family. In April 1994 Shawn became one of the country's first ever solicitor advocates allowing him to represent clients in higher courts.



DR SIMON OPHER

MBE MP. LABOR MP, MEMBER FOR STROUD

Simon Opher MBE is a British Labour party politician who has served as a Member of Parliament for Stroud since 2024. He studied medicine and has been a full-time GP for three decades.

He spoke on camera with Colleen Egan during the filming of *Mark of a Murderer* and also met with families seeking answers about the deaths of their loved ones in Stroud in the late 80's and early 90's. He remains committed to finding the truth about what happened in unsolved murder cases and suspicious deaths within his electorate.



RICHARD OCONE

ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Richard Ocone became a police officer in 1997. In 2003, he was accredited as a detective and worked in the Criminal Investigation Department. He moved to the Major Crime Investigation Team in 2014 as a nationally accredited homicide senior investigating officer, working on different murders, a number of which were highly complex and attracted national media attention. In 2016 Richard moved to Gloucestershire as a Detective Chief Inspector and became the head of CID. In 2019, as a Superintendent, he became the Head of Investigations before moving on to become the Head of Criminal Justice.



JUDGE CRAIG MITCHELL

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE USA

The Hon Craig Mitchell is a retired Californian judge who served as a prosecutor before applying for a judicial appointment. In 2005, he was appointed to the Los Angeles County Superior Court bench by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and during his tenure he prosecuted more murder cases than any other L.A prosecutor.

In 2012 he founded the Skid Row Running Club, offering weekly consistent support for individuals recovering from alcohol and drug addiction in LA.

He was appointed as judge for the sentencing of Kristopher Smith who pleaded guilty to the hit and run on Sunset Boulevard LA in April 2019 in which Andrew Mallard died. He stepped down from the bench in January 2025.

PARTICIPANTS: AUSTRALIA



ANDREW MALLARD

WRONGFULLY CONVICTED

In May 1994, 31 year old Andrew Mallard was unemployed, near homeless and staying in Mosman Park, streets away from Pamela Lawrence's jewellery store. Andrew Mallard was smoking marijuana and delusional – telling people he was a police officer who could speak seven languages. In July 1994 he was charged with Pamela Lawrence's murder and in November 1995 he was found guilty and given a life sentence.

His appeals failed. Andrew Mallard's mental state deteriorated further when he was in prison - he was convinced that he was in a brainwashing facility rather than a jail. In 1998 Colleen Egan began investigating the case. Once Andrew received psychological help he emerged from his psychosis and agreed to meet her. He also sat a lie detector test which he passed. Colleen Egan brought together a team that fought for Andrew's release. Andrew Mallard was freed in 2006 and the subsequent police review linked a mystery palm print from the crime scene to Simon Rochford. Andrew died in 2019.



GRACE MALLARD

MOTHER TO ANDREW MALLARD

Grace Mallard was Andrew Mallard's mother and along with her husband Roy and daughter Jacqui, she fought to prove Andrew's innocence. In the years after his conviction she witnessed her son's spiral into extreme mental illness while in prison and the death of her husband. In 1998 she contacted Collleen Egan and asked for her help to find evidence that could trigger a new appeal. She lived to see Andrew's release from prison in 2006. Grace died in 2023.



GUY HALL

NEIGHBOUR / FRIEND OF BRIGITTA DICKENS' FAMILY AND CRIMINOLOGIST

Guy Hall is a criminologist. Prior to his retirement he was an Associate Professor within the School of Law and Criminology at Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia with 40 years of experience studying prison systems, offender rehabilitation, and criminal behaviour. He worked as a Forensic Psychologist and served on Western Australia's parole board. He is also a Fremantle local and a neighbour of the Dickens family. He knew Brigitta and as an experienced rock 'n' roll dancer he taught her and Simon Rochford how to dance. Guy is of the opinion that Rochford met the criteria for psychopathy.



KATIE LAWRENCE

KATIE LAWRENCE IS THE ELDEST OF PAMELA LAWRENCE'S TWO DAUGHTERS

She has been fully supportive of *Mark of a Murderer* and believes police and prosecutors need to learn from the errors exposed in the wrongful conviction of Andrew Mallard.



MICHAEL KIRBY AC CMG

JURIST AND FORMER JUSTICE OF THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA

The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG served for 34 years in judicial roles including 13 years as a justice on the High Court of Australia, before his retirement in 2009, earning the title as Australia's longest serving judge. In 1997 Justice Kirby was amongst a High Court panel that refused Andrew Mallard's first special leave to appeal – unaware that key evidence had been hidden or altered by the police and the prosecution. In 2005 Justice Kirby was among five justices who unanimously quashed Andrew Mallard's murder conviction, ruling that the prosecution's failure to disclose crucial evidence denied him a fair trial. Michael Kirby cites the Andrew Mallard case when discussing the need for Australia to introduce a Criminal Cases Review Commission, a body which would review disputed criminal cases, with the power to send them back to the appeals court.



MALCOLM MCCUSKER AO CVO AC

FORMER WA GOVERNOR AND BARRISTER WHO WORKED PROBONO ON ANDREW MALLARD'S APPEALS

Malcolm McCusker AC CVO KC is one of Western Australia's most senior barristers. In 2001 he wrote to the WA Police Commissioner asking for Pamela Lawrence's murder case to be re-examined as he feared Andrew Mallard had been wrongfully convicted. McCusker later headed the pro bono legal team which appealed Mallard's conviction in the Supreme Court. While this was unsuccessful – he continued the legal fight through to the Australian High Court. On 15 November 2005, five High Court justices decided unanimously that Andrew Mallard's conviction should be quashed. Malcolm McCusker served as Governor of Western Australia from 2011 to 2014 and chairs his family's charitable foundation which distributes millions of dollars annually.



JOHN QUIGLEY

FORMER WA ATTORNEY GENERAL AND PART OF THE MALLARD SUPPORT TEAM

In 2001, Colleen Egan approached John Quigley regarding Andrew Mallard's case. He was a newly elected member of the Western Australia parliament but had been a lawyer and barrister, best known for representing the WA police union for over 25 years. Quigley quickly realised Andrew was innocent and publicly criticised police and the judiciary. Quigley viewed the prosecution's files and discovered key evidence had not been passed to Mallard or his lawyer – including scientific testing that had ruled out any wrench being the murder weapon. This was contrary to what had been presented at Andrew Mallard's trial. Quigley assembled a high profile pro bono legal team.

While a new appeal in the Supreme Court was unsuccessful – a later unanimous 2005 High Court judgement found Mallard had been wrongfully convicted. John Quigley assisted Andrew on his release. In 2017 Quigley became the WA Attorney General and employed Colleen Egan as his chief of staff. He retired from parliament in 2025 but remains as a consultant within the legal sector.



JACQUI MALLARD

SISTER TO ANDREW MALLARD

Jacqui Mallard is Andrew Mallard's sister and campaigned for his release alongside their mother Grace. Having grown up in a law abiding family, who believed in police and the justice system she was shocked by the behaviour of those who had carriage of Andrew's arrest and prosecution. She and Colleen Egan worked together for years to uncover evidence that would trigger a new appeal.



BRET CHRISTIAN

POST NEWSPAPER EDITOR

Bret Christian is the co-founder of the Post group of suburban newspapers in Western Australia. He began his journalism career as a cadet for Perth's *Daily News* nearly sixty years ago. He is also an author of true crime books including *Presumed Guilty* which details the miscarriage of justice which almost resulted in a wrongfully convicted man being executed for a 1959 Perth murder he didn't commit. Bret has assisted numerous prisoners as they fought to have their convictions overturned. Bret knew Pamela Lawrence and had bought her jewellery and written articles about her. He attended Andrew Mallard's trial and believed that Mallard was guilty. He says it took years for him to finally understand that Mallard was innocent and that police and the prosecution had failed to disclose important evidence.

VICTIMS WHOSE DEATHS HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATED BY UK AND AUSTRALIAN POLICE



CARMEL GAMBLE

MURDERED IN STROUD IN 1989

On 12th November 1989, 43-year-old Carmel Gamble was found dead by firemen in her holiday house in Stroud, Gloucestershire. She had died from multiple blows to her head before her cottage was set alight. Carmel was frail and weighed just 5 stone, as she suffered from Anorexia.

Police described it as one of the most brutal murders in the county's history. Despite no history of violence police suspected her husband, who was living and working in London. David Gamble was arrested and extensively questioned. While never charged, he believed he remained a suspect in his wife's unsolved murder. Official paperwork shows Simon Rochford lived 5 minutes' drive away and former friends describe Rochford's behaviour at the time as 'unhinged'.



WILFRIED ZUSCHLAG

MURDERED IN LONDON IN 1992

Wilfried Zuschlag was born in Germany in 1940. He retired from his position at IBM due to illness and had travelled to England to seek medical advice, staying in a cheap hotel in Nolfolk Square in Paddington, London. He was carrying a large sum of money to pay for medical appointments. Wilfried was found murdered in his bedroom and robbed. Simon Rochford was staying in the same hotel that night.



MARC JEFFERY

(DECEASED)

Marc Jeffery was a popular university student whose body was found in a burnt out barn in Stroud in 1992, in what police believed was a suicide. Family and friends have always believed Marc was murdered and unhappy with police inquiries they instigated their own investigations into his death including hiring a private detective and pushing for a second autopsy.

The Coroner discounted suicide but a lack of evidence meant that an Open finding was delivered. The family has been supportive of Mark of a Murderer.



RICHARD MILES

(DECEASED)

In 1993 Richard Miles's body was found lying outside his family's home in Newtown near Stroud in UK. He had a knife from his kitchen through his chest. While initially investigated as a murder, police later claimed his death may have been an accident or suicide. It is a view fiercely opposed by his family. Despite widespread media appeals including his death being featured on BBC *Crimewatch* police have been unable to shed light on how he died. The Coroner delivered an Open finding. The family has not wished to speak on air but have been supportive of *Mark of a Murderer*.



PAMELA LAWRENCE

MURDERED IN HER SHOP FLORA METALLICA IN MOSMAN PARK ON 23RD MAY 1994

Pamela Lawrence ran a small jewellery store Flora Metallica in Mosman Park, Western Australia creating bespoke items by dipping objects in gold and silver. She is remembered as a devoted wife and loving mum of two daughters. Pamela was alone in her shop when she was murdered on 23 May 1994. The shop's glass counters had been cleaned that afternoon and a mystery print was recovered from one of the counters the day after the murder. It was not matched with any suspect at the time. Andrew Mallard, who was staying nearby, was wrongly convicted and imprisoned for her murder.

He spent nearly 12 years in prison before he was finally exonerated. When the crime scene forensics were later uploaded to a digital data base, the palm print matched with prisoner Simon Rochford, who had killed his girlfriend 7 weeks after Pamela Lawrence's murder.



BRIGITTA DICKENS

MURDERED ON JULY 15TH 1994

In 1993, 27 year old Brigitta Dickens returned to her hometown of Fremantle Western Australia after two years travelling abroad and began working at Hotel Fremantle as a barmaid. Several months later Brigitta began a relationship with a man calling himself Mac Donald who claimed to be a zoologist and owner of a yacht. It was later revealed that Mac Donald was using a false identity and that his real name was Simon Rochford.

In July 1994 Rochford murdered Brigitta in his hostel room and concealed her body in her car boot. He then slept in the vehicle overnight before abandoning it in a carpark. Rochford was charged and found guilty of her murder.

CONVICTED MURDERER



SIMON ROCHFORD

British born Simon Rochford came to Fremantle, Western Australia in late 1993 to visit his mother, stepfather and sister. While socialising in Fremantle 26 year old Simon Rochford used the pseudonym 'Mac Donald', telling people he was a zoologist and that he owned a yacht in New Zealand.

Simon murdered his girlfriend Brigitta Dickens on 15 July 1994. 12 years later, in 2006, Perth police conducted a review of the 1994 Pamela Lawrence murder investigation and a mystery palm print taken from the crime scene was uploaded to the digital database and matched to Rochford. Further testing of Rochford's backpack found paint fragments that matched fragments found in Pamela Lawrence's injuries.
It was revealed that UK police had flown to Australia to question Rochford about a murder in London in 1992 of German man Wilfried Zuschlag. Rochford's time in the UK places him in close proximity to crimes including four suspicious deaths.

SERIES TIMELINE

16 AUGUST 1962	Andrew Mallard born in England.	Born to Roy and Grace Mallard, his sister Jacqui is 10 years older than him.
1967	Mallard family move to Western Australia.	
17 DECEMBER 1967	Simon Rochford born in Huddlesfield, England.	Father Peter Rochford, was a county cricketer.
19 MAY 1987	Rochford's mother marries and then later that year she, stepfather Mike Warren and Simon's young sister emigrate from the UK to Australia.	19-year-old Simon Rochford remains in Stroud, Gloucestershire. He is estranged from his father who also lives in Stroud.
12 NOVEMBER 1989	43-year-old Carmel Gamble is murdered in her holiday home in Stroud, Gloucestershire. Carmel was beaten about the head with a heavy, rounded, blunt instrument -the weapon was never found.	Carmel's widower David Gamble speaks on Mark of a Murderer about his arrest, police questioning and the unsolved murder.
25 NOVEMBER 1989	Simon Rochford marries in Stroud.	Rochford's wedding certificate shows he is living five minutes' drive from Carmel Gamble...The marriage lasts just weeks.
NOVEMBER 1990	Simon Rochford escapes from his home during a blaze at his home in Stroud UK.	Former friends tell Mark of a Murderer Rochford admitted to arson – lighting the fire for an insurance payout. Homeless, Rochford later couch surfs with friends on Slad Road, Stroud.
4 APRIL 1992	51-year-old German national Wilfried Zuschlag [born 12June 1940] is murdered in Norfolk Square, London.	Simon Rochford was staying in the same hotel on the night of the murder and evades detectives.
18 JUNE 1992	Simon Rochford's father, Peter, dies in Stroud UK.	Peter Rochford had been fighting cancer at the time of his death.
29 SEPTEMBER 1992	A body later to be identified as that of 20-year-old Marc Jeffery is found by firefighters in a burnt-out barn in Stroud. A postmortem is carried out on site with police saying they were not treating the death as suspicious.	The barn is within sight of where Simon Rochford previously lived with friends. In 1991 Rochford lived on Slad Road – the same road as the Jeffery family.
25 NOVEMBER 1992	Marc Jeffery police investigation re-opened.	
10 MARCH 1993	29-year-old Richard Miles dies at his family's home.	Richard Miles was face down and a kitchen knife was still lodged in his chest. Police investigate it as a murder but then later say it may have been an accident or suicide.
10-12 JUNE 1993	Inquest into Marc Jeffery's death at Cirencester by Coroner Lester Maddrell.	The Coroner didn't support the police suicide view and issued an Open finding. Maddrell: "This was the most difficult and complex case I have ever had to deal with. The law is clear on suicide - it has to be confirmed, not presumed - and in this case it has not been so proved."
12 AUGUST 1993	The Police Complaints Authority make its finding into a complaint about the handling of the Marc Jeffery case.	PCA found detectives mishandled the inquiry into Marc Jeffery's death & upheld his parents' complaints saying "The decision to treat death as not suspicious was "premature and ill advised.
DECEMBER 1993	Simon Rochford arrives in Fremantle Western Australia on a tourist visa to visit his mum, stepfather Mike Warren and sister.	Rochford uses the pseudonym Mac Donald, later admitting that this was an attempt to hide from UK authorities who he believed wanted to question him over the murder of Wilfried Zuschlag in 1992.
EARLY 1994	Simon Rochford meets Brigitta Dickens who works at Hotel Fremantle.	Calls himself Mac Donald and tells people he is a zoologist and part owner of a yacht in New Zealand.
MAY 1994	Andrew Mallard is homeless in Fremantle and meets a young woman who says he can sleep on the floor in her lounge at her unit in Mosman Park.	Mallard is smoking marijuana and committing petty crimes. He has no history of violence. He is acting strangely and believes he is a Viking.
22 MAY 1994	Andrew Mallard commits burglary in Mosman Park – steals bike & leather jacket from the home of his flatmate's former partner.	

SERIES TIMELINE

23 MAY 1994	Andrew Mallard arrested and charged with the break in. He is released from East Perth lock up in the afternoon.	He arrives at 5pm in Mosman Park, doing a runner and not paying for his taxi fare.
	Pamela Lawrence is working alone in her jewellery store Flora Metallica, in Mosman Park. An eyewitness saw a man bobbing down in the store, at 5.02 pm.	
6.37 PM	She is found with head injuries in her store by her husband and he rings 000. Ambulance and police attend.	7.15 pm Pamela Lawrence pronounced dead in hospital.
LATER THAT NIGHT	Flora Metallica is dusted for prints, and a palm print is found on a glass counter. Police know they were cleaned at 3pm.	This mystery print was later manually compared with Andrew Mallard and didn't match.
24 MAY 1994	Andrew Mallard is remanded for psychiatric assessment in a closed ward at Greyland Hospital.	
	Mosman Park neighbour Lloyd Peirce reports to police he saw a man running from the rear laneway behind the store to the train station on the night of the murder.	Peirce later realises he had seen the same man close up, just before 5pm, just metres from Flora Metallica. The next day police raid his unit, accusing him of murder. It means Peirce doesn't reveal his close encounter with the suspect.
26 MAY 1994	WA Police interview Andrew Mallard on various occasions while he is in Graylands Psychiatric Hospital (26th May also 27th,30th May and 2nd June.	He has no lawyer present. His clothes and shoes were taken for testing.
10 JUNE 1994	Andrew Mallard is released from Graylands Psychiatric Hospital – attends court – he is asked to return to pick up his clothes at Major crime.	Mallard interviewed for more than 8 hours. Police claim he made admissions of guilt and also bit a detective. Mallard is released.
11-16 JUNE 1994	Undisclosed police surveillance operation run by WA Police on Andrew Mallard called Operation Huntsman.	Mallard was befriended by an undercover police officer (UCO) using the code name "Gary". Part of the operation occurred at Hotel Fremantle where Brigitta Dickens worked as a barmaid.
17 JUNE 1994	Andrew Mallard arrested on bench warrant for failing to attend a court hearing – ostensibly arrested and questioned again.	After several hours Andrew Mallard takes part I'm a 20 minute recorded police interview. He is then placed back at Graylands Psychiatric Hospital by police.
8 JULY 1994	Coronial Inquest into Richard Miles death begins in UK.	Richard Miles was buying 1 kilogram of cannabis a month in Bristol for himself and friends. Prior to his death Richard said "someone is going to do me over in a big way" and asked a friend to loan him his gun.
15 JULY 1994	Open Verdict issued by Coroner Lester Maddrell concerning the death of Richard Miles at Cheltenham Magistrates Court UK.	No clear evidence to conclude whether Miles' death was an accident, suicide or unlawful killing. Det Insp Summers:"Nothing has changed our opinion that on balance it is more likely to have been murder. The case remains open."
	Brigitta Dickens killed by Simon Rochford at the hostel room he is staying in.	Rochford struck Brigitta on the head twice with a homemade weapon.
17 JULY 1994	Simon Rochford is taken into custody for overstaying his tourist visa.	In the afternoon Brigitta Dickens's family find her car in a local carpark and alert police. Her body is found in the boot.

SERIES TIMELINE

19 JULY 1994	Reporting of charges against both men on same day TV News reports Andrew Mallard has been charged with the murder of Pamela Lawrence, and a 26-year-old has been charged for Brigitta Dickens murder, Later named as Simon Rochford.	Rochford told police he and Brigitta argued, claiming he had acted in self-defence striking her with gym equipment - it was a shortened hoe handle attached to a metal clasp/ weight collar from a barbell set. The two men are sent to Canningvale Remand prison. Andrew Mallard later recalls that Rochford would stare at him all the time.
PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1995	UK Metropolitan Police travel to Perth Australia and question Simon Rochford while he is in remand.	Prior to trial, Rochford is questioned by Met detectives about Wilfried Zuschlag's 1992 London murder.
13 OCTOBER 1995	Rochford trial opens then delayed.	
16-18 OCTOBER 1995	Rochford trial continues.	
21 OCTOBER 1994	The Shervill Report arrives at the Department of Public Prosecutions with a letter & 30 page document– this includes an assessment of evidence.	This report includes information about wrench testing which discounts it as being the weapon. This Testing is never revealed to the defence, the accused, the judge or the jury.
2 NOVEMBER 1995	Opening of Mallard murder trial, Supreme Court of WA. Prosecutor Ken Bates conducts the case on the basis that the murder weapon was a wrench that matches a drawing by Mallard. The trial relied on 'confessions' of June 10 (written notes) and June 17 (written notes and 20 min videotaped interview.	Mallard is represented by the same Legal Aid lawyer who represented Rochford. Eyewitness Lloyd Peirce was subpoenaed to give evidence by Mallard's lawyer and was asked outside the court if Mallard was the man he witnessed running from the scene. Peirce said no, but wasn't called to testify.
10 NOVEMBER 1995	Simon Rochford found guilty.	
15 NOVEMBER 1995	Mallard is found guilty.	
21 NOVEMBER 1995	Simon Rochford sentenced.	He is given the minimum life sentence of 15 years.
21 DECEMBER 1995	Mallard sentenced for murder of Pamela Lawrence.	He is given a life sentence with a minimum of 20 years.
JUNE 1996	Mallard appeals against conviction.	
11 SEPTEMBER 1996	Court of Criminal Appeal dismisses Mallard appeal.	
OCTOBER 1997	First application for special leave to appeal to the High Court of Australia for Andrew Mallard was heard and dismissed.	Justice Hon Michael Kirby was on the panel that dismissed the request.
13 MAY 1998	Death of Roy Mallard (Andrew's father – from cancer).	
1998	Journalist Colleen Egan is approached by Grace Mallard for assistance.	
MARCH 2002	Colleen approaches backbencher John Quigley for assistance. He previously was the barrister used for 25 years by WA Police Union.	
MID 2002	John Quigley goes to Director of DPP's office. Cites and gets a copy of the Shervill Report.	
JUNE 2003	Andrew Mallard's case is returned to the Court of Criminal Appeal.	
DECEMBER 2003	Supreme court appeal for Andrew Mallard is unsuccessful.	
27 OCTOBER 2004	Mallard is granted special leave to appeal to the High Court.	

SERIES TIMELINE

6–7 SEPTEMBER 2005	Mallard appeal heard by the High Court in Canberra.	
15 NOVEMBER 2005	High Court judgement- 5 justices unanimously held Andrew Mallard had not received a fair trial because of the non-disclosure of material – giving rise to doubts as to his guilt.	The justices included Hon Michael Kirby who had been on the panel in 1997 which had refused special leave to appeal.
20 FEBRUARY 2006	Andrew Mallard released.	The director of DPP stands in court and says that Andrew Mallard remains the suspect in the murder.
11 MAY 2006	Simon Rochford questioned – recorded interview by detectives about the Pamela Lawrence murder.	He denies involvement.
15 MAY 2006	Rochford had been on suicide watch since his interview but was then placed back in his cell on Monday.	He is unaware that there is a recording device – monitored by police in Perth in his cell.
18 MAY 2006	ABC news reveals his name as suspect in Pamela Lawrence murder.	Simon Rochford watches the news item. WA Police did not alert the prison service of the story even though it was aware in advance of 7pm.
19 MAY 2006	At 7.44am Simon Rochford is found dead in his cell.	Prison officers found Rochford dead on his bed. Part of a suicide letter stated: “I have nothing to do with what I am a prime suspect of, but I no longer have the will to fight”.
NOVEMBER 2006	Interim compensation payment made to Andrew Mallard.	
31 JULY 2007	The CCC hearings into whether police and/or prosecutors behaved unethically or illegally in the Mallard case begins.	
9 JULY 2008	Inquest into death of Simon Rochford begins.	Rochford used a putty knife to inflict severe cuts to his left wrist and neck.
7 OCTOBER 2008	The CCC announced its recommendations that disciplinary action be taken against two assistant police commissioners and the deputy director of public prosecution.	The two police officers and the deputy DPP subsequently resigned, leaving with their entitlements.
MAY 2009	In May 2009, Mallard was offered a payment of $3.25 million as settlement.	
2013	Audit of police exhibits finds the weapon used to kill Brigitta and Pamela Lawrence.	WA Police reveal the weight collar used in the murder of Brigitta Dickens was found in 2013 (disclosed in 2015).
18 APRIL 2019	Andrew Mallard died aged 56, victim of a hit-and-run crash on Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood, Los Angeles, USA.	
10 SEPTEMBER 2020	US basketballer Kris Smith,20 pleaded guilty to a felony hit-and-run charge regarding the death of Andrew Mallard.	He faced a possible 4 year prison term, but the Mallard family requested that he not be imprisoned. He was sentenced to 30 days behind bars (or weekend detention), 300 hours of community service, and three years of probation.



ARTEMIS MEDIA

PRODUCTION COMPANY

For over 26 years Artemis Media has focused on producing award winning, high quality entertaining factual TV for local and global audiences. Artemis sensibilities lie with culturally diverse stories that engender social change and take audiences into unknown worlds. Notable programs include Walkley nominated Saving Andrew Mallard (ABC), seven seasons of the hit history series Who Do You Think You Are? (SBS), factual series. The Dream House (ABC), Monash and Me (ABC), Don't Stop the Music (ABC), Every Family has a Secret (SBS), Walkley nominated Storm in a Teacup (ABC). Australia's Health Revolution with Dr Michael Mosley and Australia's Sleep Revolution with Dr Michael Mosley (SBS), New Leash on Life (ABC) Maggie Beer's Big Mission and Ningaloo Nyinggulu (ABC) written and narrated by Tim Winton.

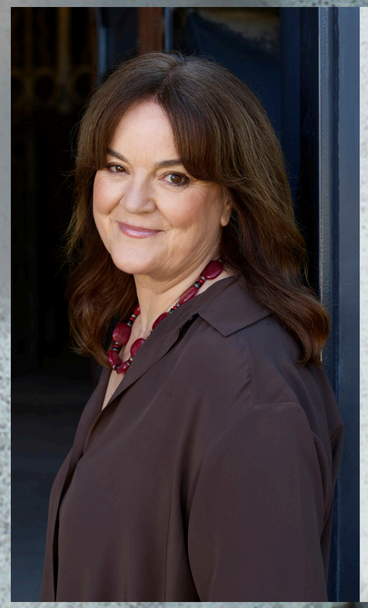
Telling stories that emotionally engage and reflect the nations rich diversity of people is our mission.

Artemis International was founded in 2000 by Celia Tait and Brian Beaton. Brian passed away in June 2012, but his passion for great television still guides us at Artemis Media.





KEY CREATIVES



CELIA TAIT | EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Celia is co-founder and Managing Director of Artemis Media, an award-winning production house specialising in unscripted TV and documentary, based in Fremantle, Western Australia.

Celia has worked as a writer, producer, director and executive producer. She was the recipient of both Australia's International Documentary Conference's 2025 Southern Light award for her outstanding contribution to Australia's nonfiction screen and media, and the Outstanding Contribution to Industry award at the Western Australian 2023 Screen Culture Awards.

Artemis has produced stand out high impact factual TV for domestic and international networks and is renowned for stories that inspire, deljght and inform. Celia and her talented team has pushed the boundaries of factual content, form and inclusivity with creative concepts that inspire audiences and help create social change including Don't Stop the Music, Maggie Beer's Big Mission, Australia's Health Revolution with Dr Michael Mosley, Australia's Sleep Revolution with Dr Michael Mosley, Who Do You Think You Are? and wildlife series Ningaloo Nyinggulu.

KEY CREATIVES



COLLEEN EGAN
PRESENTER, CO-WRITER

Colleen Egan isaformer Perth-based journalist and author who was elected to the West Australian parliament in March, 2025.

She is best known for her eight-year investigation and campaign to prove the innocence of Andrew Mallard, who served almost 12 years in prison for a murder he did not commit. In awarding her the Walkley Award for *Most Outstanding Contribution to Journalism* in 2006, the judging panel stated: "Colleen Egan is one of the true advocacy journalists of our time, willing to bare immense personal sacrifice in order to see that justice be served to the disempowered. "Egan showed what can be achieved when an individual commits herself to a worthy cause and uses the full extent of her investigative and literary skills to redress a wrongdoing. She is responsible for the overturning of a major miscarriage of justice in Australian legal history." Colleen's work also won several other awards, including *News Limited*'s Sir Keith Murdoch Award for Journalism, and her book on the case, *Murderer No More: Andrew Mallard and the Epic Fight that Proved His Innocence*, was published in 2010. Colleen first made national headlines in 2000 for her exclusive interviews with terrorist Jack Roche, and her career has taken her internationally, including covering trials at London's Old Bailey. She worked in *The Australian*'s Perth bureau, as a columnist for the *Sunday Times* and was Assistant Editor of *The West Australian*. She left journalism in 2017 to become chief of staff to the then Attorney General, John Quigley, who had worked alongside her as an MP to prove Mallard's innocence. She is now the Member for Thornlie, in Perth's south-eastern suburbs where she was born and raised.



CLAIRE FORSTER
SERIES PRODUCER, DIRECTOR, CO-WRITER

Claire Forster has established a reputation for producing television that is editorially strong, visually striking, and makes audiences think and feel.

Beginning her media career as a radio producer, Claire moved into television, working in ABC News before becoming a national nightly current affairs reporter and subsequently being appointed to the flagship weekly program Australian Story. Over the following decade, she directed 40 half-hour documentaries, became a three-time Walkley Award finalist and a Logies finalist, and received numerous other accolades, including gold and silver medals at the New York Film & Television Awards. In 2014, Claire was appointed Series Producer of *Who Do You Think You Are?* Series 7, working over the following two years with high-profile participants including actors Magda Szubanski, Toni Collette and Geoffrey Rush.

Over the past decade, Claire has contributed to the development of new factual formats, including the Australian series *Every Family Has a Secret*. The international observational family history program combines two stories per hour, following two distinct research strands: investigating the past conduct of family members, or reconnecting participants with their mothers, fathers or siblings through biological discovery.
Claire was Series Producer across all four seasons of *Every Family Has a Secret,* before embarking on *Mark of a Murderer*.

KEY CREATIVE STATEMENTS

COLLEEN EGAN

MOTIVATION AND JOURNEY

Fromthe day I met Grace Mallard in 1998, the story of a mentally vulnerable man who had apparently confessed to murder became entwined with the story of my life.



Grace and her daughter Jacqui were such decent and principled people. They readily admitted the faults of Andrew Mallard – but they were certain he was not a murderer.

Having covered many court cases as a journalist, I knew that mothers often refused to believe their sons were guilty. Looking at the case files, I also discovered how bizarre this “confession” was, and how flimsy the hard evidence appeared to be.

I didn’t know if Mallard was innocent, but it was clear to me that his lawyer had failed to test the evidence properly and the objective facts did not line up with the confession. My older sister had been an inpatient at Graylands psychiatric hospital, where Andrew was held, and I was deeply troubled by the treatment of a mentally vulnerable person.

I told Grace and Jacqui I would try to help get Andrew’s case back to the courts, with a decent defence lawyer, and then see if he’s guilty or innocent at a fair trial.

I warned them that as I’d be investigating this in my spare time (knowing that a story about a guilty man’s mother thinking he’s innocent is not a story at all), “this could take a long time: perhaps 12 months”.

In 2006, as we walked with Andrew out of Casuarina Prison, following his conviction being quashed by the High Court, Jacqui jokingly reminded me of my 12-month prediction.

My plan had been to leave the story behind after Andrew’s release: I’d had my first child and was planning my second.

But just hours before Andrew walked out of prison, the Director of Public Prosecutions announced in the Supreme Court that he was still “the prime suspect” for murder.

I was incensed. By then, I was convinced of Andrew’s innocence and knew that he would never be properly free unless the real killer was found. Outside the court, Jacqui Mallard and I called for the police to hold a cold-case review into the case. To their credit, in 2006 the WA Police brought independent forensic expert Dave Barclay from the UK and discovered that an unidentified palm print, which had been collected from the murder scene in 1994, was matched to a convicted killer: Simon Rochford.

In the eight years I had been researching the case, I’d never heard that name.

Who was this man who had come from the UK and become a wrecking ball through so many lives in my hometown?

Aside from the transcript of Rochford’s trial for killing his girlfriend in 1994, and a few photographs and scraps of information, I didn’t have much about the man who had sat in the same prison system as Andrew for almost 12 years, knowing an innocent man was serving a life sentence for his crime.

In 2023, I decided to pull out the old files and try to find out who Simon Rochford was, and how he escaped responsibility for the devastating murder of Pamela Lawrence.

I spoke with Katie Lawence, Pamela’s eldest daughter: she, too, wanted to know more about Rochford and for the public to understand all of the facts involved in this miscarriage of justice.

Katie is an incredible person. Her eloquent interview in Mark of a Murderer demonstrates that it’s not just the wrongly convicted person and their family who suffer when there is a miscarriage of justice: it’s the victims’ families, too. Executive Producer Celia Tait’s incredibly talented team at Artemis Media put in an enormous effort to help find answers in the UK: who was this charming killer, and what else might he have done? I had worked with Celia on the original documentary, Saving Andrew Mallard, that aired on the ABC in 2006. I knew that Celia would ensure that the distressing facts in these awful murders would be treated with care and sensitivity. It was important to me that the crimes were not sensationalised.

Series producer/director Claire Forster and Senior Producer/Researcher Phillipa Hutchison worked tirelessly, leading the Artemis team on the new investigation and the process of putting together a long and complex story with sensitivity and skill.

I hope that the series will raise awareness and understanding of how false confessions and wrongful convictions can occur. And I hope that it can be used for advocacy towards establishing a national body, the Criminal Cases RC, or state based equivalents.

It’s estimated that 3 per cent of prisoners in Australia have been wrongfully convicted. I am particularly concerned for the most vulnerable to wrongful conviction: Aboriginal, mentally ill, intellectually disabled and neurodivergent people. The CCRC has been proven as effective in other jurisdictions. Following high-profile wrongful convictions of Irish prisoners in the UK, an independent, government-funded body was set up to receive and investigate claims from prisoners. It can request police and prosecution files and order re-testing of forensics – and later refer cases to the court of appeal.

There have been calls for a CCRC in Australia for a long time. These have increased since NZ and Canada have established them. Australia is lagging behind.

Most law societies and legal bodies support CCRCs. A key advocate is former High Court Justice Michael Kirby. Innocence projects based at universities also support them and Griffith Uni recently held a conference on establishing a CCRC in Australia.

I hope that the series will encourage anyone who has information about any of the crimes to come forward. Despite the passage of time since the deaths of victims in the UK, I remain hopeful that the truth will emerge. We would like to see a comprehensive cold case inquiry, officiated by an expert from outside each police jurisdiction, to re-look at each individual case.

I have been acutely aware of the heavy responsibility to the victims’ families in investigating and in telling this story. To say I am grateful in their cooperation is an understatement. No-one can really understand the trauma from homicide of a loved one. We have tried to honour those who have died through fair and accurate reporting and by adopting a sensitivity in the way the story has been told.

When I started this project, in 2023, I was seeking answers about a case that had become a part of my life story since 1998.

I couldn’t have known that it would also lead to an unexpected – and immensely meaningful – surprise. When I met David Gamble, who had been wrongly accused in 1989 of murdering his wife in the UK, I immediately saw similarities between him and Andrew. Being falsely blamed for a murder, living with that injustice for so many years: David, too, was in need of exoneration.

Thanks to the talented team at Artemis, and the commission of this program by the ABC, we were able to free another man.



KEY CREATIVE STATEMENTS

CELIA TAIT
PRODUCTION NOTES

MARK OF A MURDERER HAS BEEN 25 YEARS IN THE MAKING.

In 2003 a local actor and not quite minted filmmaker Michael Muntz knocked on our production office door in Fremantle – with the idea to follow the family, friends and supporters of Andrew Mallard. Andrew was in jail for the murder of Pamela Lawrence and protesting his innocence. Previous Court appeals had failed. Michael Muntz relayed the reasons why he felt that Andrew had been victim of a miscarriage of justice. At the time I'd recently experienced a personal situation where authorities failed our family badly. This personal experience made me listen. My production company Artemis was 3 years old. Business partner Brian Beaton and I were keen to focus on social impact documentaries – and so we decided to support this documentary – following Andrew Mallard's support team to get the courts to take another look at the case. It was then that we met Colleen Egan. A brilliant investigative journalist determined to help find answers for Andrew Mallard's family. And through Colleen we met John Quigley, Malcolm McCusker QC and the Mallard family. The only person we couldn't meet was Andrew himself who was 9 years into his prison sentence. For the next 3 years we documented the rescue team's efforts, including the failed WA Supreme Court appeal – and their exhausting struggle to get the High Court of Australia to hear the matter. In 2006 we were there to film Andrew's release from prison. It was a day we'll never forget.

It wasn't until 2005 that we persuaded ABC TV to come on board with a commission. This enabled us to film remaining scenes and edit the documentary.

In 2006 Saving Andrew Mallard was broadcast to an Australian audience. It was the highest rating documentaryof the year.

We kept on filming – hoping to publish a sequel – and given the dramatic events that followed Andrew's release. We filmed Andrew struggling 'on the outside' navigating a very different world that he'd left behind 12 years prior. We also filmed Colleen and Andrew's perspectives on the Cold Case inquiry into Pamela Lawrence's murder which revealed Simon Rochford as the murderer, and also the Crime and Corruption Commission which confirmed police and DPP misconduct. We hoped that ABC would come on board for a sequel but that didn't happen.

In 2007 both I and Colleen received an email from a Stroud journalist Mandy Pellatt – with information about Simon Rochford. At the time we weren't able to act on this, and not least because we couldn't get the sequel commissioned. All our footage – all 400 tapes – remained in storage until.....

In December 2023, 16 years later, Colleen re-contacted me. She had just finished working as Chief of Staff for WA's Attorney General and was taking time out from full-time employment. Colleen was considering creating a podcast based on her work on Andrew Mallard and her award-winning book "A Murderer No More'. She was looking at some of the footage we'd gathered. To investigate this, we pulled out all our mutual resources to see what we had. I also brought in Series Producer Claire Forster, to help us work through editorial possibilities. Colleen had kept huge amounts of her notes and documents. And we had 400 hours of vision to wade through. Claire has a forensic instinct and is unstoppable with her commitment and dedication. She was able to see the big picture amidst the pages and pages of data. She and Colleen nutted out a narrative, with later input from drama director Alison James. It soon became clear that we had enough material for a 4-part true crime series – based on Colleen's historical investigation into Andrew Mallard and a new investigation into Simon Rochford.

ABC confirmed their funding in December 2024, alongside Screen Australia and Screen West enabling us to resource both a full-scale drama component and an observational investigative documentary component.

In January 2025 Colleen Egan was approached to serve as an MP in WA's state parliament. She was successfully elected, and in her maiden speech reminded her fellow parliamentarians of her long-term commitment to seeking justice and in particular how her work on the Andrew Mallard case had led her to advocacy – and to becoming an MP. Colleen remained committed to working with our team, in particular during breaks in parliamentary sitting. Research was a huge part of development and pre-production – over 58 weeks and the team led by Claire Forster, Senior Producer Pip Hutchison, and Investigative Researcher Carla Hildebrandt – in collaboration with Colleen. A vital consideration was to find and then consult with victims' families in Australia and in the UK. This was an important and huge task, given we were looking at 6 murders or unsolved deaths. Our team, well versed in investigative family history research, having worked on Who Do You Think You Are and Every Family has a Secret for decades, were brilliant at this sleuth work. We consulted with a psychotherapist on trauma informed approaches to victims' families of homicide to ensure that our process was ethical and considered. It was understandably slow and careful work. New relationships were forged over many months and trust built. And that consultation continues. We are so very grateful for the on- going cooperation of the many victims' families. Colleen and the team's focus was investigating Simon Rochford's life in the UK before he came to Australia. From extracting key records, we built up a timeline on Simon Rochford's movements. And eventually the patterns emerged.

We could confirm that Rochford was in close proximity to 2 murders and 2 unsolved deaths in Stroud and London. We recruited Professor Dave Barclay into our investigation team as a consultant. Dave had found Rochford's palm print when leading the Cold Case Inquiry and Colleen had met him in Perth at that time. Although now retired in the wilds of Scotland, he decided to support our efforts. We also consulted with Professor David Wilson, a highly experienced criminologist. Mandy Pellatt, now retired from journalism, continued to assist on UK research and to find locals for us to speak to and ultimately film. All 3 worked with us off and on screen. The research underpinned 'the script 'both for drama and to navigate the shoot and edit. Access to the trial records of Andrew Mallard were crucial – but Andrew's defence team had not kept their copies. The process of getting the key transcripts from the WA Supreme Court took a frustratingly long time. The cost to have the trial transcript printed off was prohibitive. In the end we were given permission to sight the document in person at the Supreme Court. We were not allowed to copy – but instead could make transcription notes.

Another arduous and costly process has been accessing the police interviews of both Simon Rochford and of Andrew Mallard. We knew that both of these records of interview would be a cornerstone of our documentary. And in order to have access to them and publish them we needed a court order from the Supreme Court of WA.



Andrew Mallard's 'confession' was a key factor leading to his guilty verdict. Back in 2005 we'd gone to the Supreme Court to request permission to include this material in Saving Andrew Mallard. This request was denied. We therefore dramatized the 'confession' with actors. Years later in 2010 ABC's Australian Story were successful in getting access to it. This was following the Corruption Crime Commission's (CCC) findings that outlined misconduct by Police officers and the Prosecution. We were therefore hopeful of a positive outcome. We were successful with obtaining a court order allowing us to be in possession of and to publish the record of interview.



But then the WA Police decided to make us submit an FOI request. This resulted in the Record of Interview being supplied to us, but with many audio redactions of key parts of the interview.

We appealed this decision and these sections were finally re-supplied to us with the audio in place.

Getting access to the Simon Rochford police interview was more straightforward. Parts of it had been previously released to the ABC during the CCC and following a WA Supreme Court Order. Once we had our court order, this material was supplied to us by the ABC.

KEY CREATIVE STATEMENTS

CLAIRE FORSTER

SERIES PRODUCER / DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



It's rare to spend two and a half years on an investigation. Even rarer to work alongside someone who has spent decades pursuing answers. But *Mark of a Murderer* has been a once in a lifetime opportunity and a story where nothing is as it first appears. It all began for me in early 2024 when I sat down for the first time with former award-winning journalist Colleen Egan to hear first-hand the story which has gripped her for a quarter of a century. In Perth in 1995 British born Andrew Mallard was given a life sentence for the murder of Mosman Park shopkeeper Pamela Lawrence. Colleen's advocacy was pivotal in the discovery of failures by police and the prosecution, including widespread non-disclosure of critical evidence which eventually led to Mallard's release. *Saving Andrew Mallard*, produced by Artemis Media, documented this campaign. It aired on ABC in 2006, with the final frames showing Andrew Mallard emerging from Casuarina Prison after nearly 12 years behind bars. But it wasn't over. Director/cameraman Michael Muntz continued to film. 400 hours of footage was captured – and which remained in Artemis archive boxes for another decade. This rare never before seen footage detailed the story's wild trajectory as police were forced to hold a review of the initial case. A palm print was discovered in their archives, which had been lifted from the murder scene on day one of the investigation. It identified a new suspect. Another British born man called Simon Rochford. He had taken the life of his girlfriend just weeks after Pamela Lawrence's murder. Despite the same detectives overseeing both inquiries, the same unusually shaped weapon being used and the same pathologist undertaking the two autopsies the link between the crimes had been missed.

After writing a book and winning Australia's premier journalism prize, a Walkley, Colleen quietly continued her research, this time chiselling away at understanding Simon Rochford.

Our first conversation at Egan's home in February 2024 spanned more than seven hours. I was like a sponge soaking it all in; the case's complexities, characters and corruption. While raised in Western Australia, I had worked interstate for decades as an investigative tv reporter and *Australian Story* producer so much of the story's detail was new to me. I was hooked. The aim was to produce a blue-chip program– entertaining, and binge worthy but also restrained, avoiding sensationalism. Like Colleen I was wary of causing further distress to victim's families. A compassionate approach was our guiding tenant influencing ever consequent decision. We also knew that beyond exposing mistakes we had to find more answers and show how systemic failures could be minimised in the future.



Hundreds of hours of painstaking fact finding by Artemis Media researchers followed. Months were spent trying to find those who could provide any piece of the puzzle. A task made more difficult given the passage of more than 3 decades since Simon Rochford's crimes. But with the aid of former Stroud Gloucestershire journalist Mandy Pellatt, we contacted previous friends of Simon Rochford and slowly pieced together his life. What emerged was a pattern of arson and thefts with the picture becoming even more sinister when we discovered Rochford's close proximity to additional suspicious deaths and unsolved murders in the UK. It led to careful and considered contact with the families of victims and heartbreaking stories of loss. Our work, handed to Gloucestershire police, resulted in action and the opening of three cold case reviews.

The documentary series evolved, bringing together a rich archive compiled over 25 years, contemporary international filming by a highly skilled empathetic crew alongside restrained reconstructions overseen by drama director Ali James.

It's stressful to produce a project when the end is a mystery. For months we worked constructing the series without knowing the outcome of the contemporary police cold case reviews. We wanted the best outcome for the victims' families and suspected the longer the re-investigations lasted, the more chance there was of answers, but it was difficult to balance this against our delivery deadlines and budgetary realities.

Holding a mirror up to police failures in both Australia and the UK has resulted in months of bureaucratic red tape, costing time, money and energy alongside uncertainty, but Artemis Executive Producer Celia Tait has remained steadfast and passionate about the importance of this story. The project has demanded a great deal, especially during our arduous postproduction schedule where the experience, skill and positivity of our post directors and editors kept me steady in the storm.

I walk away from this series immensely grateful to those who have spoken publicly, proud of the entire Artemis team who worked tirelessly, and delighted we were able to improve the life of a man central to this extraordinary story.

We also hope that the series serves as a fitting and lasting legacy to the victims and their families – and, of course, to Andrew Mallard and his mother Grace. We hope that it becomes a useful resource for the on-going campaign to introduce a Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC) in Australia. This statutory body operates in the UK, New Zealand and Canada and is responsible for investigating alleged miscarriages of justice. Retired High Court Justice Kirby – who sat on 2 of Andrew Mallard's Appeals – and has been a vocal supporter of a CCRC, cites Andrew Mallard's case as the reason to have one.


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