

[Transcript] Casefile True Crime / Casefile Presents: The Frankston Murders

During the winter of 1993, the Melbourne suburb of Frankston was terrorised by a vicious serial killer named Paul Danyer.

Following his arrest, Danyer was sentenced to life in prison, which was later changed to a 30-year minimum sentence.

Three decades later, Danyer has applied for parole.

Case file previously covered Paul Danyer's crimes back in 2016.

Now, to coincide with Danyer's bid for parole, case file presents is launching a long-form series about the case as a reminder that Danyer must never be released.

Researched, written and hosted by award-winning crime writer Vicky Betraydis, the Frankston Murders podcast uncovers new material and new victims stalked by Danyer in the lead-up to the killings.

Vicky interviews prison guards, police officers, family members and people caught in the periphery of a serial killer.

All 11 episodes of the Frankston Murders are available to listen to right now.

Stay tuned to hear the trailer and be sure to follow the Frankston Murders wherever you get your podcasts.

In June 1993, Elizabeth Stevens, 18, was murdered on her way home from the bus stop.

Her death began a seven-week reign of terror for the people of Frankston.

I remember thinking, like, how can it happen to someone that's fought so hard to get away and have a good life?

A serial killer was on the loose. No one was safe, not young mother Debbie Freem, 22, taken on a trip to the shops, nor Natalie Russell, 17, murdered on her way home from school.

Then two detectives came in and they just said to Brian and myself, can we go somewhere private? We went into the bedroom and they said, I'm sorry to tell you, it's Natalie.

The serial killer, Paul Denier, was captured and sentenced to life in prison.

On appeal, he was granted a 30-year minimum sentence.

And I guess I saw in his face that, yeah, I'm a spy of the new sort of thing. He was proud of what he had done.

Fast forward 30 years and Denier has applied for parole.

Award-winning crime writer Vicki Petraitis was on patrol with police the night the final murder took place.

Through crime author, I found myself right in the heart of Frankston doing ride-alongs with the local police when the murders were happening.

She wrote the best-selling book, The Frankston Murders, which has never been out of print.

Vicki has revisited the case in a long-form podcast to remind the world why Denier must never be released.

Denier isn't just dangerous where young women are concerned. He is dangerous to all women, babies, schoolgirls, friends, strangers, older women, everyone.

The Frankston Murders podcast uncovers new material and new victims stalked by Denier in the lead-up to the killings.

The woman policeman turned to me and said, you should take a ticket in tax as much as to say I was the luckiest person around.

Vicki interviews prison guards, police officers, family members and people caught in the periphery of a serial killer.

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He has not learnt his lesson. He has not changed. He has not become remorseful. He has not repented or even apologised.

From a scale of 1 to 10, I'd easily put him as a 20. It's that far off the scale.

The Frankston Murders is the latest podcast from Case File Presents, available now, wherever you get your podcasts.