



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

PRESS RELEASE

Release date: 11/12/2006

WOMAN'S BODY FOUND – UPDATE 1

Detectives have launched a major enquiry after a young woman's body was found yesterday (Sunday, December 10) near Ipswich.

The body of the woman was spotted by a passing motorist at about 3:20pm at Nacton, close to the Amberfield turning.

The body was naked, and located in an area of woodland.

The area was immediately cordoned off as an enquiry got underway.

Police are unable to release the dead woman's name until formal identification has taken place.

However, we believe that she is a 24-year-old woman, who was known to work as a prostitute.

She had not been reported missing to police.

The body remains at the scene but will be transferred to Ipswich Hospital, where a Home Office pathologist will conduct a post mortem examination to establish a cause of death.

Detective Chief Superintendent Stewart Gull, head of Suffolk Constabulary's Crime Management Department, said: "This is deeply disturbing development, particularly in the light of the two murder investigations which have been launched during the past fortnight.

"While we can't formally link the discovery of the body at Nacton with the two murders, the facts speak for themselves:

*Tania Nicol, aged 19, was last seen on the evening of Monday, October 30 when she left her home address in Woolvestone Close, Ipswich, at around 10:30pm. Her naked body was found in water near Copdock Mill on Friday, December 8.

*Gemma Adams, aged 25, was last seen on the evening of November 14. Her naked body was found in water at Hintlesham on December 2.

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*Now we have a third woman – again believed to be a prostitute – whose naked body has been found.”

Police are setting up a third enquiry team to investigate the latest death. This team will work closely with the other two teams investigating the murders of Tania Nicol and Gemma Adams.

The work of all three teams will be overseen by Detective Superintendent Andy Henwood and Suffolk’s Assistant Chief Constable, Jacqui Cheer.

“The key to our enquiries is information from local people,” said Det Chief Supt Gull.

“At this stage, we don’t know how long the body may have been at the location.

“But, as we have said, the body was seen by a passing motorist, meaning it was clearly visible from the road.

“We know that this road is very busy at certain times of day.

“Our appeal is to anyone who has used the road in the past week and saw anything suspicious, anything unusual or out of place, to get in touch with us immediately.

“Their information could be extremely important in moving our investigation forward.”

Assistant Chief Constable Jacqui Cheer today issued a personal appeal to prostitutes working in Suffolk.

She said: “Your welfare is my priority at this time.

“My message to you is simple: stay off the streets – if you are out alone at night, you are putting yourself in danger.

“But we also need you to talk to us. We need your help to solve these enquiries.

“I would urge you all to get in touch with the police, asking for me personally on 07764 210572.

“Your information, no matter how trivial you think it might, could be the key to moving our investigations forward.”

Anyone with information is urged to contact Suffolk Police on 01473 613500 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

ENDS

