

June Devaney

Blackburn, 1948

June Devaney in hospital due to pneumonia



Recovering

15 May 1:15 AM



Nurses noticed her
cot was empty

Blackburn, 1948

Empty sterile bottle found under her cot

Prints from adult feet wearing socks



From her cot to the door

Blackburn, 1948

Hospital grounds searched

3:15 AM



Body found in hospital grounds



Head smashed against the wall

Evidence

Footprints



Pattern of the weave

DNA

Fingerprints

Fibre Analysis

Poison

Blood

Evidence

Fingerprints on the bottle

1

First eliminate the innocent



Doctors, nurses, hospital staff



Patients, visitors, ambulance drivers

Evidence

642 sets of prints eliminated in three days



Done by fingerprint examiners



No electronic databases available

Evidence

Fingerprints on the bottle

- 1 First eliminate the innocent
- 2 Eliminate anyone familiar with the hospital



200 sets of prints



No match

Evidence

Fingerprint every male in town over the age of 14



50 000 sets of prints

How do you know who lives in town?

Evidence

1 Visit every house



May not be home

2 Tax records



Not everyone pays tax

3 Electoral register



Not everyone is
registered to vote

1948

Post war



Food rationing



Food coupons from ration books

Police obtained a list of names
of people issued ration books

1948

Peter Griffiths



Fingerprinted



Fingerprints matched those on the bottle



Found guilty and hanged