



PRESS KIT



Worshipped as Jesus Christ reincarnated

Investigated for stealing children to create a master race

She is Anne Hamilton-Byrne

leader of Australia's most infamous sect

THE FAMILY

SCREEN AUSTRALIA & BIG STORIES CO PRESENT "THE FAMILY"
CINEMATOGRAPHER JAEMS GRANT ACS COMPOSER AMANDA BROWN EDITOR JANE USHER SOUND DESIGN LIVIA RUZIC & KEITH THOMAS
PRODUCER ANNA GRIEVE WRITER/DIRECTOR/CO-PRODUCER ROSIE JONES

www.thefamilysect.com



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One Line Synopsis

An incendiary, heartbreaking investigation into one of Australia's most notorious cults, and the scars its survivors still bear today.

Short Synopsis

Anne Hamilton-Byrne was beautiful, charismatic and delusional. She was also incredibly dangerous. Convinced she was a living god, Hamilton-Byrne headed an apocalyptic sect called The Family, which was prominent in Melbourne from the 1960s to the 1990s. With her husband Bill, she acquired numerous children – some through adoption scams, some born to cult members – and raised them as her own. Isolated from the outside world, the children were dressed in matching outfits, had identically dyed blonde hair, and were allegedly beaten, starved and injected with LSD. Taught that Hamilton-Byrne was both their mother and the messiah, the children were eventually rescued during a police raid in 1987, but their trauma had only just begun.

With survivors and cult members telling their stories alongside the Australian and international detectives who worked the case, this confronting feature documentary exposes not just what happened within the still-operating sect but also within the conservative Melbourne community that allowed The Family to flourish.



Long Synopsis

This true story about Australia's most infamous cult, The Family, and their guru Anne Hamilton-Byrne, one of very few female cult leaders, captured international headlines through the 1980s and 90s.

In 1987 police dramatically rescued six traumatised children with bleached blonde hair from the sect property "Kai Lama" at Lake Eildon in Victoria. They were part of Hamilton-Byrne's future master race of 28 children.

In 1993, under the direction of the Victoria Police, the FBI executed a warrant for the arrest of Anne and her husband Bill at her property in The Catskill Mountains, Upstate New York.

Today Hamilton-Byrne lives with dementia in a Melbourne nursing home with only one minor criminal charge to her name. Confronting interviews with those inside The Family, survivors of her experiment and the detectives who pursued her to justice reveal what really occurred.

The Family stole children. Hamilton-Byrne was the archetypal cult leader - charismatic and controlling. She said she was a higher power but the truth of her troubled origins is revealing.

This bizarre, compelling story has its roots deep in Melbourne's medical, psychiatric, political, legal and academic circles, and a ready supply of LSD. It raises timeless questions around morality and family.

Anne Hamilton-Byrne formed The Family in 1963 with Dr Raynor Johnson, a renowned physicist who was the Master of Queen's College at the University of Melbourne. She recruited wealthy professionals who changed their names, left their marriages, signed over land and had children with new partners at her behest. What was driving this woman? Was it control, revenge or just a grand delusion?

Some cult members gave their babies to her while others adopted babies stolen from public hospitals. The children were isolated at Lake Eildon where discipline was perverted and violent. Dozens of children grew up in The Family not knowing who they really were.

So how did she get away with it?

The Story

In August 1987, Police and Community Services swoop on an isolated rural property on the shores of Lake Eildon and stage a dramatic rescue of six children. They are children of The Family, an apocalyptic sect with the motto — *unseen, unheard, unknown*. The leader of The Family is yoga teacher and self styled guru, Anne Hamilton-Byrne, a beautiful Kim Novak blonde with an obsession for cosmetic surgery.

For 15 years before the raid, the police had received occasional reports of a strange family of home-schooled bleach-blond children living in a remote compound on the shores of Lake Eildon. But the property was registered as a school and there was little to disturb the authorities. It was only when Sarah and Leeanne escaped from the Lake Eildon property and contacted police that the raid went ahead.

At the time it is considered a welfare issue, not a criminal investigation. But when Detective Lex de Man learns that children as young as 13 had been injected with LSD in a terrifying sect initiation ritual, he persuades the Victoria Police hierarchy to set up a Task Force, Operation Forest, to investigate the sect.

In 1963, Anne founded The Family with Dr Raynor Johnson, an eminent English physicist in charge of Queen's College at the University of Melbourne. It was not a commune of counter-culture hippies but a group of professionals from Melbourne's medical and intellectual establishment who operated under the direction of Hamilton-Byrne. Raynor Johnson provided respectability and status and he recruited many members from Melbourne's elite for the group. The sect purchased a property named Santiniketan Park and in 1968, constructed a meeting hall, Santiniketan Lodge in Ferny Creek. This was (and still is) The Family's place of worship.

Under Anne Hamilton-Byrne the teachings of The Family were a mixture of Christianity and Hinduism and material gleaned from the books Raynor Johnson had published on mysticism and psychic phenomena. At the heart of The Family was the knowledge that Anne Hamilton-Byrne was the reincarnation of Jesus Christ, the one true master. Devotees were convinced she was an enlightened being, along with Buddha and Krishna.

Sect members appeared to willingly change their names, leave their marriages, sign over their title deeds and produce children with new partners selected by Anne. Some gave their babies to her care; others agreed to adopt babies stolen from teenage mothers under her direction.

At least 28 children were collected to fulfill Anne's dream of raising a master race that would survive the apocalypse. Many of the children were brutally disciplined, dosed with a cornucopia of tranquilisers and LSD and almost starved.

At the time of the raid in 1987 Anne was overseas. She did not return to Australia until her extradition from the USA in 1993. Her husband Bill was at Lake Eildon during the raid but soon after his first appearance in the Children's Court he left Australia to be with Anne. For four years they moved between their 17th century Manor Farm in Kent, a tropical retreat in Hawaii and 30 acres in the Catskill Mountains in upstate New York, until they were finally extradited to face justice.

But what was Anne's ultimate purpose? De Man and Operation Forest focus the enquiry on Newhaven, a psychiatric hospital in Kew, one of Melbourne's wealthiest suburbs. It specialises in the use of LSD, psilocybin and Deep Sleep Therapy for private and usually professional patients. It turns out to be a major recruiting ground for The Family and Hamilton-Byrne is a Director.

De Man makes a telling discovery. Though Hamilton-Byrne claims to be descended from European royalty, he learns that she is in fact Evelyn Edwards, daughter of a railway worker from Sale a small country town in Victoria. Her mother was known for bizarre activities including setting fire to her hair and conversing with the dead. She spent nearly 30 years in an asylum, classified as a paranoid schizophrenic. The oldest of seven children, Anne's childhood was spent in poverty and for a time she was sent to an orphanage.

For four years Operation Forest and de Man doggedly pursue their inquiries and collect the evidence needed to get Anne and Bill back to Australia. De Man takes DNA samples from the natural parents of the stolen children and works with the Task Force to compile 35,000 pages of evidence detailing criminal activity – illegal adoptions, multiple identities, false land transfers and social security fraud.

When the sect solicitor, Peter Kibby finally turns witness, de Man has the proof he needs to trigger an international arrest. The Hamilton-Byrnes are charged with perjury and conspiracy to defraud. These are considered the most 'water tight' charges to secure the extradition. In June 1993, the FBI raids the Catskills property and Anne and Bill are extradited to Australia.

But back in Australia, Anne hires a team of legal experts to battle the charges and avoid giving evidence on the public record. She and her husband Bill plead guilty to just one offence — falsifying a statutory declaration. They avoid jail and are fined \$5000 each. The children who had endured beatings, drugging and starvation are never given the chance to testify against her.

Now 95 years old and with dementia, Hamilton-Byrne lives out her final days in a suburban nursing home. Will she or the sect she founded ever be called to account?

Set against an international landscape of child abuse, this confronting, suspenseful documentary follows Lex de Man's quest to uncover what really happened and

why. It interviews those who were raised at Lake Eildon and are still dealing with the emotional scars of their stolen identities, and former sect members who tell of the destructive role Anne played in their private lives.

How could The Family thrive within establishment Melbourne for so many years? The film inquires not just into the life of The Family but also into a community. It asks, what is it in our human nature that allows people to act against what they know is right? And what separates them from us?

This provocative feature documentary unfolds layer by layer, an archetypal tale of trust and betrayal. Blending past and present, the real and the imagined, *The Family* draws from all the sources to reveal a brave and sensitive story of pain, incredible resilience and a determination to get to the truth whatever the cost.



Characters

Key Characters

ANNE HAMILTON-BYRNE (1921-)

Charismatic guru, yoga teacher and a devotee of cosmetic surgery, Anne Hamilton-Byrne established an apocalyptic sect called The Family in 1963 with Dr Raynor Johnson. She wielded absolute control over her members. She set out to create 'a master race' of children who would save the world. To the sect she was Jesus Christ reincarnated in a female form. Through The Family she amassed an extensive property portfolio travelling between homes in Kent, England, the Catskill Mountains, and Lake Eildon and Ferny Creek in Victoria. She is now 95 with dementia and lives in a suburban Melbourne nursing home.

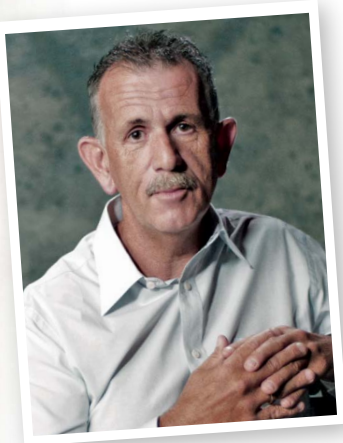


LEX DE MAN AFSM

Consultant. Former Senior Sergeant with Victoria Police.

Now in his mid 50s, Lex de Man was an ambitious 29-year old newly promoted uniformed Police Sergeant, having been promoted from the arson squad where he had served as a Senior Detective for a number of years, when he was seconded to Operation Forest, a Victoria Police task force set up to investigate The Family. He worked for five years on Operation Forest, investigating the cult. He uncovered details of illegal adoptions, multiple identities, false land transfers and social

security fraud. De Man was the only detective who worked with Forest from beginning to end. After Anne's conviction, he left the Force. He joined the Country Fire Authority for two decades becoming Executive Director Operational Training and Volunteerism. In June 2016 he was appointed to lead Victoria Police Legacy, a caring organisation helping families of deceased police members.



BILL HAMILTON-BYRNE (1922-2001)

A wealthy, handsome English born earthmoving contractor and former Councillor in Traralgon, Victoria. Bill met Anne Hamilton through Newhaven Private Psychiatric Hospital. He left his wife May to marry Anne and stayed loyal to her until his death in 2001.





DR RAYNOR JOHNSON (1901–1987)

A highly respected English physicist who came to Australia in 1934 as Master of Queen's College at the University of Melbourne. He established The Family with Anne Hamilton-Byrne in 1963, having already tried LSD for the first time at Queen's College with Professor Huston Smith (MIT). He was a trailblazer whose quest to link religion and science put him in contact with psychedelic luminaries like Aldous Huxley, Stan Grof and Timothy Leary. At the end of his life, Raynor was deeply disillusioned with the Sect he co-founded.

ADAM LANCASTER (formerly Roland Whitaker)

Now in his mid 40s, Adam is the adopted son of two prominent members of The Family. His mother Elizabeth Whitaker had a reputation as the cruelest of the 'Aunties' who looked after the blonde children at Lake Eildon. Since Elizabeth Whitaker's death, Adam has made contact with his birth family.



DR SARAH MOORE 1969 – 2016

Sarah Moore was one of the first children to be adopted and taken to Lake Eildon by The Family. As a teenager, she reported The Family to the police. Until then, she believed Anne and Bill Hamilton-Byrne were her biological parents. She was part of the police raid on the sect property at Lake Eildon that removed the children held there. She became a doctor and wrote a book *Unseen, Unknown, Unheard: my life inside The Family*.

BEN SHENTON

Ben was raised at Lake Eildon from the age of 18 months until he was freed in the raid at the age of 15. Ben is the husband of Rajes and father to teenagers, Ellie and Callum. After 23 years in Ballarat - Victoria, of which the last six and half years were spent pastoring the Ballarat Potters House church, he moved to Perth where he continues to work as a project manager for IBM. His abiding relationship with the real Jesus Christ underpins his successful raising of a family and membership in the church community at the Beechboro Potters House Christian Fellowship.





DAVID WHITAKER

A farmer and son of Howard Whitaker, a psychiatrist in The Family, and Elizabeth Whitaker, one of the 'aunties'. He's fifteen years older than his adopted brother, Adam Lancaster (formerly Roland Whitaker).

BARBARA KIBBY

As a young nurse, Barbara was given LSD by Howard Whitaker to treat depression and he recruited her into The Family. She married the sect solicitor, Peter Kibby, whose evidence helped Operation Forest finally arrest Anne and Bill Hamilton-Byrne.



PETER SPENCE

A Former Detective Senior Sergeant who served 21 years with the Victoria Police. He was transferred from the major crime squad to head up Operation Forest Task Force. After leaving the Police service, he continues in investigative roles with corporations and various other government agencies.

HILDA KOGUT

The FBI agent who was charged with arresting Anne and Bill Hamilton-Byrne in the Catskill Mountains, in upstate New York, USA. She put in 24 years with the FBI and held the rank of special agent. She was the FBI's second-in-command in its Hudson Valley office at the time of her retirement.



PHILIPPE DE MONTIGNIE

A television journalist who produced a story about the sect in 1971, when suspicions were first raised about their activities.

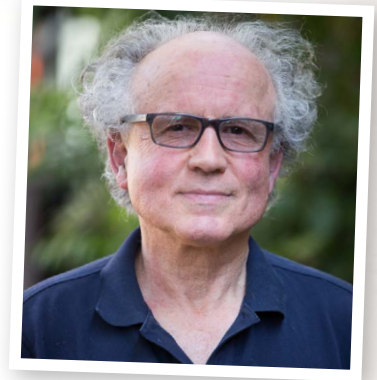
ANOUREE TREENA-BYRNE

Anouree was handed over to Anne and Bill when she was between three and four years old. She grew up at Lake Eildon not knowing that Bill was actually her biological grandfather, rather than the father she believed him to be. After she was rescued from Lake Eildon, she studied film at RMIT and taught English in Japan. She now lives in country Victoria with her partner David and two young children.



MICHAEL STEVENSON-HELMER

Michael was a 19-year-old law student when he first became interested in eastern religion and joined The Family. He comes from a prominent Jewish family of high achievers including Sir Zelman Cowen, Governor General of Australia from 1977 - 1982. Michael remains a devoted follower of Anne Hamilton-Byrne and visits her almost daily in the suburban Melbourne nursing home where she now lives.



LEEANNE CREESE

Leeanne was the oldest child at Lake Eildon and lived there for 16 years. She was the first to escape and together with Sarah initiated the rescue of her siblings. She has two beautiful children who are both now studying at University. Leeanne studied at RMIT and recently received a scholarship to study Construction Management which is the industry she works in as a Contracts administrator.



MARIE MOHR

Marie Mohr is a TV journalist and producer who investigated The Family for a decade between 1985–95. Her reports on the sect for TV Networks 7 & 9 were crucial in bringing the story to public attention. She produced two documentaries and dozens of reports covering the sect's nefarious activities including Newhaven hospital and the use of LSD; the links in America and the UK and the fraudulent adoptions. She pushed hard to have the Hamilton-Byrne children rescued and produced many stories highlighting the systemic physical and mental abuse the children endured in an attempt to get them justice. She now works as a Series Producer and remains very close to the children from Lake Eildon.



FRAN PARKER

In the 1960s, Fran was working in acquisitions at the Baillieu Library, University of Melbourne when she started attending the lectures of Dr Raynor Johnson, Master of Queen's College. He encouraged her to join Anne's yoga classes and through the classes she was drawn into the sect. She became disillusioned with Anne's treatment of sect members and left The Family prior to the police raid in 1987.



Director's Statement

Rosie Jones

I first came across this story while I was researching an earlier film, *Westall '66: A Suburban UFO Mystery*. I discovered that one of the adult witnesses at Westall was a member of The Family and it wrecked her life. Her poignant story rekindled the fascination I've had with the sect since I first read about the police raid on Lake Eildon in 1987. I was amazed to discover that the full story of this incredible social experiment hadn't been told before.

Anne Hamilton-Byrne and Dr Raynor Johnson formed The Family in the 1960s, when people were searching for new ways to make sense of the world. LSD guru Timothy Leary was inciting people to 'turn on, tune in and drop out' and frontier psychiatrists were experimenting with LSD and electroconvulsive therapies.

In 1961 Yale University psychologist Stanley Milgram began his famous experiments into cruelty and obedience, just after the trial of Nazi war criminal Adolf ("I was just following orders") Eichmann began. Milgram found that a majority of people would inflict potentially lethal pain on others because they were told to by an authority figure.

Set against contemporary revelations of child abuse on a massive scale, it's a rich but disturbing story about belief, love and the notion of 'family'. By delving into the dark parts of our collective history, the film explores what it is to be human, capable of the best and worst behaviour.

Our story is driven by Lex de Man, a charismatic detective who dedicated five years of his life to investigating The Family. It took me a year to gain Lex's trust and permission to tell his side of the story.

He introduced me to Adam/Roland, one of the sect children, and over three years of research, other former 'children', sect members and 'insiders' began to talk to me. What they told me was moving, shocking and profound, all at the same time. Their courage and resilience is inspiring and transcends this story.

Lex discovered that Anne was sent to the Old Melbourne Orphanage when her father couldn't cope with seven children and an unstable wife, who was hospitalised for 30 years as a paranoid schizophrenic. Stories of abuse at the Orphanage are rife. Could it be that Anne suffered there, and her experiment at Lake Eildon was in some way intended to put that right?

There's an urgency for this story to be told. Surviving sect members are in their 70s and 80s, and at 95, Anne lives in a suburban nursing home behind a veil of dementia.

As we've seen with the emotional response to the Government's apology to relinquishing mothers and the Stolen Generations, it is an empowering experience to have your story told and acknowledged in the public realm.

I hope the film is a similarly positive experience for those who had the courage to speak out and reveal their stories.



Producer's Statement

Anna Grieve

As a child I grew up in the same street as the private psychiatric hospital Newhaven and always wondered what went on behind the high hedge walls of that mysterious gothic mansion. Now I know.

This story of The Family, Australia's most infamous sect, has its roots deep within leafy, conservative Melbourne. The name Anne Hamilton-Byrne and the image of the strange, blonde children will have particular resonance to Melbournians. But this story, which speaks of family and love and loss, has a much wider reverberation.

As a society we are only just acknowledging the long-term suffering experienced by so many children separated from their birth parents and damaged by those who are tasked to care for them. In a big picture sense this is a story of now, as survivors of child abuse demand justice. The Family's destructive influence continues to resonate in contemporary generations.

It has been an incredible, moving and emotional journey to bring this story to the screen.

We thank our participants who contributed so much of their heart and hard learned wisdom to this film. We dedicate our story to Sarah Moore and all the others who have been brave enough to take the journey with us.

Timeline

1963 Yoga teacher Anne Hamilton meets English physicist and writer, Dr Raynor Johnson and they found a sect known as The Family.

1968 The Family begins to 'adopt' and acquire children to create a 'master race'.

1978 Anne Hamilton marries William (Bill) Byrne and they take the surname Hamilton-Byrne.

1987 (14 August) Combined police raid on sect property, "Kai Lama" at Lake Eildon. Anne is overseas. Bill is present at the raid but is not charged. The children are removed from the sect and placed into care.

1987 (Oct/Nov) Bill flies to Hawaii to meet Anne.

1987 (12 December) Monbulk School fire – Detective Lex de Man is called to investigate. He learns about The Family.

1989 (about June) Lex de Man writes a report recommending Victoria Police commence a criminal investigation into The Family.

1989 (11 December) Operation Forest Task Force commences.

1993 (4 June) Anne & Bill are arrested in the Catskill Mountains, Upstate New York.

1993 (17 August) Anne & Bill are extradited to Australia.

1993 (31 August) Anne & Bill appear in the Victorian Magistrates' Court, charged with conspiracy to defraud and commit perjury by falsely registering the births of triplets.

1994 In the County Court, Anne & Bill avoid prison and are fined \$5000 each.

2001 Bill dies, leaving Anne to lead a diminishing group of followers.

2016 At 95, Anne lives in the dementia wing of a suburban Melbourne nursing home.

FREE WITH THE AGE
NOT TO BE SOLD SEPARATELY

THE AGE

PART 2 WITH EMPLOYMENT AND
GOOD WEEKEND



The
Friendly
Games
Extra 3

SATURDAY
EXTRA

Melbourne
International
Festival
Extra 10, 11

Writers
in
exile
Extra 6



Where is this woman?

Anne Hamilton-Byrne is accused of manipulating minds with drugs, breaking up families and ruining lives in one of Australia's greatest scandals. Yet she has never been questioned by police.

IT WAS late 1970, and in the bustle of Melbourne Airport no one noticed a group of people awaiting the return of an 18-year-old youth who had escaped from a psychiatric hospital in England. The group included the boy's mother, his uncle and several high-ranking members of the Victorian police force.

Although the boy had threatened to kill his mother on arrival, the police were not there to protect her. Their task was to protect the boy from her. When examined later by a psychiatrist the boy was found to have "significant and permanent" brain damage caused by an overdose of the hallucinogenic drug, LSD. The drug had been administered to the youth regularly, from the age of 13, with the consent of his mother.

The incident at Tullamarine — a mother struggling to reach her son, a boy being whisked to safety by his uncle — was a taste of what would emerge over the next 20 years.

It also marked the first known police involvement in the activities of a bizarre pseudo-religious sect founded nine years earlier in Melbourne by a woman who called herself the Teacher.

Both mother and son were two of hundreds of her wealthy, well-educated followers. She by choice, he because the Teacher, Mrs Anne Hamilton-Byrne, wished it so.

Today, the Victoria Police are still investigating the activities of Mrs Hamilton-Byrne and her sect, known as the Family. She is also the subject of a Federal Police inquiry.

But neither organisation appears to

In 1987, a Federal
Police raid on
an Eildon property
threw light
on an obscure sect.
GERARD RYLE
reports.

be any closer to solving the mystery of a woman who, it seems, set out to control, absolutely, every waking and sleeping hour of those who crossed her path.

Anne Hamilton-Byrne has ruled and ruined marriages, families and lives. She and her organisation were responsible for what was described by the then shadow Attorney-General, Mr Maclellan, in State Parliament last May as "illegal medical experimentation" that he compared with the experience in Nazi Germany.

Since leaving Australia in 1986 she remains untouched, and untraceable. Now believed to be in England, she told friends she fears for her life if she returns to Australia.

Mrs Hamilton-Byrne became a public figure in 1987 when, after years of simmering press allegations, Federal Police raided Kila Loma, the sect property at Eildon. A group of children was taken into protective custody.

The property, with Department of

Education approval, had been used as a school by the sect and was known to be home to about 20 children at any one time. Mr Maclellan recently told Parliament that up to 200 children had passed through Eildon and the Family.

Mr Maclellan said that most were children of unmarried mothers who had consented to their adoption "under circumstances where they were persuaded that their children had been malformed or spastic or something like that".

At Eildon, the children claim they were given LSD, and that they had been subject to years of physical and psychological abuse. Five told police they were forced by sect members to engage in sexual intimacy while under the influence of LSD.

The children also claimed to have been regularly given the drug Largactil with their evening meals. The drug was used to combat disciplinary problems and, according to a source close to the police investigation, some of the children were "drugged out of it for months".

Largactil is used by doctors to treat patients with behavioral disturbances, particularly schizophrenia. It is primarily used in psychiatry, and therein lies one of the recurrent themes in Anne Hamilton-Byrne's sect: control through the use of psychiatric drugs.

Last December, the Victoria Police mounted a campaign, code-named Operation Forest, to get to the truth. The six-member taskforce believes its strongest hope for prosecution lies with the allegations made by the children. So far, they are the only people associ-



Anne Hamilton-Byrne.



Hamilton-Byrne, aged nine, on the right, second row from the top.

ated with the sect to have spoken publicly.

Even after 20 years, ex-sect members are reluctant to talk about the Teacher or to make any direct accusation of illegality that could be used by police. It seems her control remains absolute.

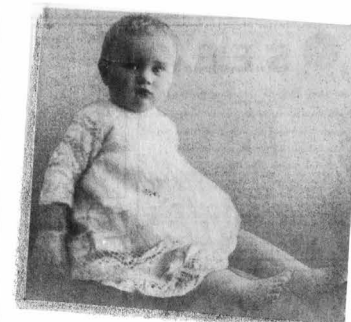
So, her organisation continues to grow. Secret post-office box addresses and unlisted telephone numbers are used to maintain regular contact with her followers in Victoria, who still meet

twice weekly at the sect headquarters in Ferny Creek.

Sources close to Operation Forest believe the only way Anne Hamilton-Byrne can be brought to justice is through a royal commission. Only then can witnesses, including Anne Hamilton-Byrne, be forced to give evidence.

Only through a royal commission can the state and Federal Police and the tax office join forces.

Many people, possibly hundreds, have spoken to the Forest taskforce at



its 14th-floor headquarters in St Kilda Road. Although a source described progress as "good", the investigation is far from complete.

No one is willing to come forward to complain and Anne is ultimately responsible. What are left are more questions than answers," the source said.

Two members of the homicide squad were drafted to Forest shortly after the investigation began and a top-level directive was issued barring media contact. The taskforce is as secretive as the organisation it is up against.



Hamilton-Byrne, above, pictured circa 1950; and, below, at nine months.

For her part, Mrs Hamilton-Byrne describes the years of allegations as a witch-hunt. She has told friends she is in the process of mounting multi-million-dollar libel actions in Australia, England and the United States in a bid to clear her name, and that of the Family.

Personal opinions on Mrs Hamilton-Byrne vary from evil genius to religious guru and miracle worker.

■ CONTINUED EXTRA 4

Creative Team

ROSIE JONES – WRITER, DIRECTOR AND CO-PRODUCER

Rosie is an award-winning documentary writer, director and editor. Her most recent film is the feature doc, *The Triangle Wars* about an epic struggle over development on an iconic Australian foreshore (Best Australian Documentary, Antenna Doc. Festival 2011, Melbourne International Film Festival Premiere Fund, NZ World Cinema Showcase 2012, St Tropez Cinema Des Antipodes 2012). Previous documentaries include *Westall '66: A Suburban UFO Mystery*, an investigation of Australia's biggest mass UFO sighting (BIFF, Fantastic Planet FF, Athens International Sci-Fi FF, Globians Doc Fest) *Obsessed with Walking*, an exploration of psychogeography with Booker-nominated writer Will Self, *Holy Rollers*, a wry look at Christian pilgrimage amid the tensions of Israel (MIFF and SBS-TV) and *Visions of Yankalilla*, about an apparition of the Virgin Mary in a church in South Australia. She has edited numerous documentaries commissioned by Australian and international broadcasters with recent credits including the feature documentary - *James Cameron's Deep Sea Challenge 3D*, *Queen of the Desert*, *Suicide and Me*, *My Brother Vinnie*, *Wedding Sari Showdown 1 & 2* and *The Mascot*.

ANNA GRIEVE – PRODUCER

Anna has many years experience as an independent producer/director/scriptwriter and was Executive Producer at Film Australia. Her productions cover all genres of documentary with a particular fascination with powerful emotional stories of investigative history. Extensive production credits include large scale dramatised documentaries films with Writer/Director Peter Butt - *I, Spy*, *The Prime Minister is Missing*, *Silent Storm* and the Logie award winner *Who Killed Dr Bogle & Mrs Chandler?*. Since 2008 she has coproduced *Big Stories Small Towns*, a participatory media project gathering local stories for a global audience and winner of the best community interactive at SXSW 2012. Credits as Executive Producer include Sundance finalist, *Dhakiyarr vs the King* and *MobiDocs* an award winning anthology series with the NFB in Canada. She recently produced the Indigenous feature documentary *Croker Island Exodus* finalist in the Deadly Awards, Foxtel Prize and screened Sydney and MIFF Festivals, FIFO and Real Screen Canada. In 2015 she coproduced *Death or Liberty* an Irish Australian feature documentary and series a musical journey into the dramatic and heroic lives of convict rebels.

Crew Bios

JAEMS GRANT ACS - CINEMATOGRAPHER

Jaems started his career shooting documentaries and short films and quickly moved on to TVC, TV drama and feature films. He was accredited in 1989 by the Australian Cinematographers Society and has won various awards at international festivals. Jaems has won over thirty five ACS Awards with three National ACS Golden Tripods being awarded for *Love Letters from a War* in 2004, *Penicillin* in 2007 and in 2013 for *Australia on Trial*. His feature and television drama credits include *Head On*, *Stingers*, *The Time of Our Lives*, *Strange Fits of Passion*, *The Mystery of a Hanson Cab*, *Rush and Nowhere Boys - The Book of Shadows* Acclaimed documentaries shot by Jaems include *Revealing Gallipoli*, *The First Fagin*, *Floating Brothel*, *Breaker Morant - The Retrial* and *Uranium: Twisting the Dragon's Tail*

AMANDA BROWN - COMPOSER Amanda has been composing music for stage and screen since graduating from AFTRS in 1999. She has written scores for feature films *UnIndian*, *Son of a Lion*, *Floodhouse*, *Preservation* and *Look Both Ways* and co-composed music for *Red Obsession* and *Kings of Mykonos*. She has a long list of television music credits and has won several industry awards for her film music. Amanda is a multi-instrumentalist and was a member of The Go-Betweens, with whom she recorded two albums and toured the world. She has recorded and performed with artists including R.E.M, silverchair, The Vines, The Church, David Bridie, The Apartments and Toni Collette. Amanda is a writer director board member and ambassador for APRA.

JANE USHER - EDITOR Jane is a Melbourne based film and television editor with over twenty years experience in drama, documentary and comedy. Jane is known for her narrative skills and collaborative approach. She watches far too much television in her spare time but with so much great content being made she has her professional curiosity as the perfect excuse. Recent credits include *The Will to Fly*, *Deception by Design*, *That Sugar Film*, *The Real Housewives of Melbourne (TV Series)*, *Here's to Happy Endings*, *Pooch Party*, *Nowhere Boys (TV Series) (5 episodes)* and *Rock N Roll Nerd*

KEITH THOMAS - SOUND DESIGN Keith has work in audio post for the past 25 years as a sound designer, editor, mixer and a sound post supervisor on all types of projects long and short. A number of the projects he has worked on have received AFI/AACTA nominations including two awards and a number of ASSG Awards. He was also awarded the Australian Centenary Medal in the 2001 Queen's New Years Honours List for his services to Australian society and Australian film production. Some of the projects Keith has worked on are the documentaries *Autoluminescent*, *Triangle Wars*, *Ecco Homo*, *In Bob We Trust*, *Dr Sarmast's Music School*, *Coniston*, *Then The Wind Changed* and *Sporting Nation*. Some TV shows are *Summer Heights High*, *Angry Boys*, *Ja'mie Private School Girl*, *Jonah From Tonga*, *Utopia*, *It's a Date*, *The Secret River*, *Better Man* and many more.

LIVIA RUZIC - SOUND DESIGN Livia has worked in sound for over 30 years. She has been a dialogue editor, FX editor or sound designer on close to 200 productions, from feature films to documentaries, shorts, animations, television productions and dance soundscapes. She has been part of sound teams that have been awarded over a dozen awards including nine AFI/AACTA awards, a few ASSG awards and a BAFTA. Some of the productions she has been involved with include features *Balibo*, *Muriel's Wedding*, *Shine*, *Greencard*, documentaries *Triangle Wars*, *Ecco Homo*, *In Bob We Trust*, *Dr Sarmast's Music School*, *Coniston*, animations *Small Treasures*, *Dirtgirl World* and *Good Grief*, television productions *The Secret River*, *It's A Date* and *Utopia*.

MARK TARPEY - SOUND RECORDIST Mark has been a Sound Recordist for over two decades, with twelve of those years at the ABC in Melbourne. He has worked in all areas of film and TV, from natural history to drama, however his true passion and experience lies in documentaries with over forty projects and multiple AFI nominations and awards to his credit. Films worked on include *Call Me Dad*, *Nature*, *Persons of Interest*, *Race to London*, *Visions of Yankalilla*, *Westall 66* and *Vietnam Nurses*.

DALE COCHRANE AND JOHN MANTOVANI - AERIAL CINEMATOGRAPHY Dale and John form a core part of the team at Raven Air, an aerial cinematography company that services the production industry. They collaborated closely with Rosie Jones (director) and Anna Grieve (producer) to use the aerials to create a particular visual emotion that would match the dark and unsettling world of *The Family*. Their challenge was how to use the surrounding landscapes and environments of the story to form this visual fabric. Fortunately from the epic sweep of Lake Eildon to the mountain ash forests of the Dandenong Ranges there were some extraordinary visuals to draw on.

GEORGINA CAMPBELL- ART DIRECTOR Georgina's interest with all things visual has led her from the VCA Sculpture Department to work in the theatre, and eventually to the world of film and TV. Over time Georgina has fulfilled every role in the Art Departments on TV series, short and feature films, television commercials and documentaries. Her credits include Props Buying & Set Decorating - *Death in Brunswick* and *Spotswood*, Art Direction - *Only The Brave* (dir. Anna Kokinos) and *The Good Looker* (dir. Claire Jager), and Production Design - *Road To Nhill* (dir. Sue Brooks).

Further information

Books

Coming Soon

The Family authors Chris Johnston & Rosie Jones published by Scribe in December 2016

Unseen, Unheard, Unknown: My life inside the family of Anne Hamilton-Byrne Sarah Hamilton-Byrne (1995a) (Penguin Books) ISBN 0-14-017434-6. Extract available online.

The Spiritual Path Raynor Johnson 1972 (Hodder & Stoughton: London) ISBN 0-340-15852-2

Links

To cite this article: Achia, Vivien. LSD at Newhaven Psychiatric: memoir. [A private psychiatric hospital in Kew, Melbourne. Article in the issue entitled Disorder /Dysfunction.] [online]. Overland, No. 172, Spring 2003: 58-62. Availability:<<http://search.informit.com.au/documentSummary;dn=200311313;res=IELAPA>> ISSN: 0030-7416. [cited 26 May 16].

<http://www.leavingsiddhayoga.net/traumabusecults.pdf>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Family_\(Australian_New_Age_group\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Family_(Australian_New_Age_group))

Inside bizarre cult of *The Family*

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/law-order/read-the-secret-diary-that-reveals-the-bizarre-beliefs-of-aliens-super-human-powers-and-twisted-child-mind-control-inside-the-family-cult/news-story/d066e064f2abf6a414d0faa992df70a6>

Closing Credits

Dedicated to the brave and wise Dr Sarah Moore 1969 - 2016

Writer/Director/Co-Producer: ROSIE JONES

Producer: ANNA GRIEVE

Editor: JANE USHER

Director of Photography: JAEMS GRANT ACS

Archival Researchers: CATHERINE JARVIS, ANNA GRIEVE, LAVINIA RIACHI, ROSIE JONES

Composer: AMANDA BROWN

Sound Design: LIVIA RUZIC and KEITH THOMAS

Consultant: LEX DE MAN AFSM

With special thanks to: LEX DE MAN, LEEANNE CREESE, DR IAN WEEKS, MARIE MOHR, REBECCA, SARAH MOORE, BARBARA KIBBY, FRAN PARKER, HILDA KOGUT, BEN SHENTON, ADAM LANCASTER, PETER SPENCE, KERRY LAWRENCE, MICHAEL STEVENSON- HELMER, ANTHONY JOHN LEE, ANOUREE TREENA-BYRNE, PHILIPPE DE MONTIGNIE, DAVID WHITAKER, JOAN RADHA BRIDGES, ROBERT MACLELLAN

Young Lex: JORDAN FRASER-TRUMBLE

Executive Producer: BARBARA GHAMMASHI for WOMEN MAKE MOVIES

Sound Recordist: MARK TARPEY

Production Managers: ANNA GRIEVE, AIDA INNOCENTE

Art Director: GEORGINA CAMPBELL

Art Department Assistant: MARTIN POTTER

Script Editor: JOHN THOMSON

Graphics: THE KINGDOM OF LUDD

Aerial Cinematographer: RAVEN AIR, DALE COCHRANE

Aerial Pilot: JOHN MANTOVANI

Additional Camera: SERA DAVIES, WARWICK FIELD

Camera Assistants: JACKSON FINTER, CAMERON DUNN, MARTIN POTTER, BEN MCCULLOUGH

Additional Sound: BART BEE

Online Editor - Colourist: PETER PILLEY

Post Production Facility: BLUE POST

Facility Manager: PETER MILLINGTON

Original music composed, arranged and produced: AMANDA BROWN

Published by: INSYNC MUSIC

Guitar, keyboards, piano and vocals: AMANDA BROWN

Violin: VERONIQUE SERRET

Cello: JULIAN THOMPSON

Audio Post Production: ALCHEMY

Sound Mixer: KEITH THOMAS

Stills Photography: JACKSON FINTER, JAEMS GRANT

UK Shoot

Camera Assistant & Production Manager: PAUL DIXON, APACHE RENTAL

US Shoot CBS News 48 Hours

Senior Executive Producer: SUSAN ZIRINSKY

Senior Producer: ANTHONY BATSON

Producers: PAUL LAROSA, AIMÉE DESIMONE

Field Producer: LUCAS CORNFIELD

Production Associates: IRIS CARRERAS, AMY GARDINER

Unit Managers: PETER MARCHETTI, EDNA MCLAUGHLIN

Rights and Clearances: FRANK GONZALES

Camera: SAL MALGUARNERA

Sound: MARC HOPPE, CHARLIE MACARONE

Drone Operator: CHARLES WIMBLEY

Gaffers: CURT JENTSCH, SHAUN SULLIVAN

Transcriptions: CATHERINE JARVIS

Post Production Script: CLEVER TYPES

Production Accountant: AIDA INNOCENTE

Completion Guarantor: FIRST AUSTRALIAN COMPLETION BOND COMPANY, DAVID NOAKES

Legal Advisor: MARSHALLS+DENT, CLEMENT DUNN

Insurance: H.W. WOOD

WITH THANKS TO: VICTORIA POLICE, SERGEANT PHILL WILLIAMS, SAM GRIFFIN, for SCREEN AUSTRALIA, JENI MCMAHON for FILM VICTORIA, IDFA FORUM, SHEFFIELD MEETMARKET, GEOFFREY SMITH, SERA DAVIES, ALEXANDER BATTY, TERRY CARLYON, SIMON CHINN, DR ROBERT CHAZAN, MEG HALE, BELINDA FITHIE, CATHERINE JARVIS, PATRICIA GRAY, JAMES LARKING, GREG MARR, LUCY PAPLINSKA, CAROL AND BARRY RYAN, CHRSTINE & SYD SAVAGE, PETER TAPP, THE GILLON FAMILY, KRISTEN THOMAS, PASCALE VAN BREUGEL, JOHN THOMSON, ANGUS THOMSON, CAROLINE VERGE, PARKS VICTORIA, GOULBURN-MURRAY WATER

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FRANCES PARKER

BEN SHENTON

JOANNE SPEARS

DAVID WHITAKER

LA TRAVIATA – GUISEPPE VERDI

PERFORMER MARIA CALLAS. Licensed by SARL Pristine Classical. Recording 1953- PACO090

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'THE FAMILY'

BOOK WRITTEN BY CHRIS JOHNSTON & ROSIE JONES. PUBLISHED BY SCRIBE

SCREEN AUSTRALIA & BIG STORIES COMPANY
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THE MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL PREMIERE FUND
CBS NEWS
BBC STORYVILLE

THE FAMILY

Cinematographer JAEMS GRANT ACS Composer AMANDA BROWN
Editor JANE USHER Sound Design LIVIA RUZIC & KEITH THOMAS
Producer ANNA GRIEVE Writer/Director/Co-Producer ROSIE JONES



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