

DID MURDERED WOMAN KNOW HER KILLER?

POLICE this week scrutinised more than 2,000 names and addresses found in a diary and in petitions at the Cumberland Market flat where 62-year-old Mrs Rosina Gavin (right) was found brutally murdered in her bath. And the question being asked on the terror Shicken Regent's Park Estate this week was "Did Mrs Gavin know her killer?"

Police now believe that Mrs Gavin was killed on the morning before she died. They'll be visiting all those named in her diary and on the petition organised in her recent campaign for a post office at Street, which she wanted to save the pensions of Regent Park.

John McFadzean leading the murder hunt told the "Journal" this week: "We cannot rule out the possibility that the killer was known to Mrs Gavin."



less campaigner for old age pensioners find it difficult to believe she could have let a complete stranger into her flat.

Mr Jack Jackman (73), a former caretaker on the estate who worked with Mrs Gavin in the local branch of the Camden Pensioners and Trade Union Action Association, said: "She was always warning people not to let strangers into their flats. She was well aware of the dangers and I can only think she knew whoever it was."

Mrs Rhoda Tasker of Gramere, Regent's Park

Report: Howard Hannah

Estate said: "It is difficult to believe she would let a stranger into her flat."

And the police point out that her attacker would have been taking a great risk unless he knew that Mrs Gavin lived alone in her flat at 7, Moreland, Cumberland Market. "It seems that either he had watched her, or knew her," said Supt McFadzean.

as she collected her newspapers from a shop in Albany St on Sunday at about 9.30 am.

Terror

"We would like to hear from anyone who saw her between that time and 1 pm when she was due to catch a bus from Hampstead Road to her son's hospital," said Supt McFadzean.

Parcel

A post mortem examination revealed that Mrs Gavin had been sexually assaulted and had been dead at least 48 hours before she was found on Wednesday last week by her daughter Mrs Teresa Wooton who lives in a neighbouring block of flats.

Meanwhile, old people living alone in the flats were living in terror of the doorbell this week. And the tenants association were renewing a plea that the council should provide chain locks to old age pensioners.

But a parcel containing tobacco, cigarettes and sweets, found on top of her fridge, suggests that she died between 9.30 am and 1 pm on Sunday, April 29.

Mrs Betty Collins, who helps organise the Tuesday afternoon social for the old age pensioners, said: "Chain locks are the best thing for protecting old people against this sort of attack. We have asked for these before, and hope that the council will now see how necessary they are."

The parcel was for her son whom she was to visit in hospital on the Sunday afternoon. She never arrived at the hospital in North London.

'Shock'

Mrs Hilda Taylor of Swallowfield, who sees many of the older residents at her newsagents in Albany Street, told the "Journal": "They are very, very frightened indeed, and I am too. This has come as a tremendous shock to us all."

Mrs Gavin was last seen

Mr Frank Romany, of the ironmongers in Camden High Street said that this week there had been a tremendous upsurge in the sale of chain locks and bolts since the murder.

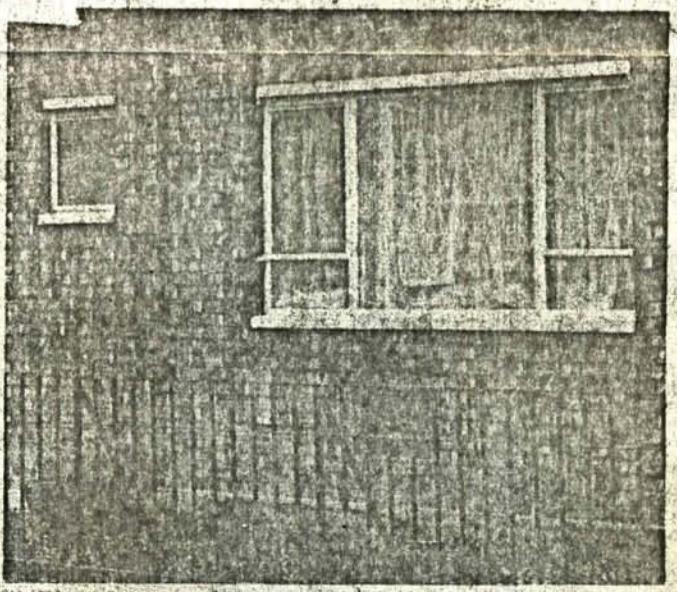
● A window of the flat where Mrs Gavin was brutally murdered.

'Aware'
Friends on the estate who knew Mrs Gavin as a tire-



(centre) was surrounded by pensioners' demonstration outside Camden Labour Centre.

Police ask: did you see Mrs Gavin between 9.30 and 1 p.m. on April 29?



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