

Mary Flanagan

On 31st December 1959, 16 year old Mary Flanagan left her home in Wallace Road, West Ham, East London to go to a New Year's Eve party. She never returned.

Mary was a bright and friendly girl from an Irish Catholic family, who worked part-time at the Tate & Lyle sugar factory and also at Haymes Optical Frame shop in Stratford. She attended Holbrook Road Secondary School and sometimes volunteered with the Blind Association. Mary may have had a boyfriend called Tom McGinty, who was Irish and was believed to have been in the Merchant Navy.

Mary's younger siblings Brenda, Eileen and Kevin have never stopped looking for her and are desperate to find out what happened to their sister.

Despite extensive investigative work over the years, the story of what happened to Mary has never been discovered. This June, Mary would be 70 and the Metropolitan Police Service would like to take the opportunity to issue an anniversary appeal for any information.

The disappearance of Mary Flanagan is the Met's oldest missing person case. The investigation is being completely reviewed and new enquiries undertaken, under the supervision of DCI Dave Rock at Newham Police.

Mary is 5ft 2in tall and of medium build with hazel eyes. When she was last seen, she had dark, wavy hair and a tanned complexion.

If any ex- or retired officers from East London were involved in the original investigation or know anything about the case, the Newham Police Missing Persons Unit would like to hear from you. Please call 0208 217 5728.

