



The Beaumont Children — Australia's Most Haunting Mystery (PART ONE)

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AUSTRALIA DAY ADVENTURES!



Adelaide, South Australia. January 26th, 1966. Australia Day—the height of summer, the middle of a heatwave, the kind of morning where the air is already thick with heat before most people have finished their first cup of tea. A public holiday with schools closed, shops shut, and the whole country at rest.



In a modest brick house on Harding Street, Somerton Park, three children were getting ready to go to the beach. Jane Beaumont was nine years old, her sister Arna was seven, and their little brother Grant had just turned four. They were ordinary kids in an ordinary suburb, well-behaved and independent for their ages.



In 1966 Australia, children were completely trusted by their parents to make the short trip to Glenelg Beach on their own. They had done it many times before, as it was only five minutes by bus. The beach was familiar territory where everyone in the neighborhood knew everyone else, and nobody thought twice about it.



On Australia Day morning, the children asked their mother Nancy if they could go to the beach. Nancy said yes and gave them sixpence for bus fare—enough to get there, enough to get back, and a little left over for something small. She told them to be home by noon for lunch.



At around 10 in the morning, Jane, Arnna, and Grant Beaumont walked out the front door and caught the bus to Glenelg Beach. Nancy watched them go, having no reason to feel afraid or stand at the door a moment longer than usual. She had no reason to call them back, so she didn't. Noon came, but the children didn't.



People saw the Beaumont children at multiple points throughout the morning of January 26th, 1966. They arrived at Glenelg Beach at around 10am and were seen by several people who recognized them as regulars. A local woman spotted them on the beach, and a classmate of Jane's saw them near the shops.



Then something changed. At some point during that morning, the children were seen in the company of a man. Multiple witnesses independently described the same person: tall, lean, athletic build, somewhere in his thirties, with fair or blonde hair, wearing dark swimming trunks.



The man was playing with the children on the beach, not watching from a distance. He played with them in the water and on the sand in the relaxed, familiar way of someone the children clearly knew or had quickly come to trust. One witness observed him lying on the beach while all three kids stayed close.



Another witness saw Jane, the eldest and responsible one, walk to a nearby shop and buy food with a one-pound note. This was not the sixpence her mother had given her. Someone who wasn't her parents had given Jane Beaumont money that morning, a detail that would become critical evidence.



The children were seen at the beach as late as 3pm, already three hours overdue and apparently unconcerned. Whatever comfort they felt, they were not rushing home. After 3pm, nobody saw them again; it was as if the beach had simply swallowed them whole along with whoever had been with them.