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## Suspected dog attack kills woman



Suspected deadly dog attack ... forensics officers examine the scene last night and, inset, two dogs are caged and taken away.

Photos: *Sky News*

Jano Gibson  
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Those dogs should not have been there. They were aggressive dogs.

A "lovely lady" who kept 14 dogs as pets has died after being found with bite wounds over much of her body at her property in Sydney's north-west.

Police were called to the 61-year-old woman's property on [Neich Road, Maraylya](#), near Windsor, after a relative discovered her lying seriously injured in the backyard.

When ambulance and police officers arrived at 3.20pm, they found her dead.

She had suffered bite wounds to much of her body, police said.

A local resident, who asked not to be identified, said the dogs were often "howling, snarling and growling".

"Those dogs should not have been there. They were aggressive dogs," she said.

"At all times of the night, all times of the day, the dogs would be aggressive, fighting.

"Sadly enough you hear her yelling at the dogs, or somebody yelling at the dogs, to shut up."

The local resident said the dogs had been separated from each other in the woman's large backyard to stop them from fighting.

She could not recall hearing anything out of the ordinary yesterday afternoon.

"All through the day you hear them [barking] but you don't sort of recollect that something's wrong.

"It's like when you live by the train line, you get used to the trains."

She said the dead woman was "just a lovely lady" who lived with her husband and son.

"She was very quiet, very friendly."

Another neighbour, who declined to give her name, described the woman as very quiet and reserved.

"They had the whole backyard surrounded in some very high Colorbond fencing and she had a number of dogs that no one really saw," she said.

"They were all cross-bred dogs. She didn't actually breed dogs as such."

She said neighbours were horrified by the apparent dog attack.

"It still hasn't hit everyone yet. A lot of people are very upset about it.

"Someone's been killed in their backyard and we didn't know it was going on."

A crime scene was established and forensics officers examined the area.

A post mortem will be carried out in the coming days to determine the exact cause of death and police will prepare a report for the coroner.

A Hawkesbury Council spokeswoman said the woman kept 14 dogs on the property.

Eleven of them have been seized by the council.

She could not confirm the breeds of the dogs but said none of them were pit bull or pit bull-cross breeds.

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