

Appeal over killer's term

THE Queensland Attorney-General is considering an appeal to lengthen the 13-year jail sentence of a man who brutally killed an elderly woman and raped her body.

Brisbane Supreme Court Justice James Douglas sentenced Maurizio Perini, 38, yesterday to 13 years' jail for the horrific attack on Carmel Wuth, 76, at her Southport unit on March 29, 2008.

As a serious violent offender, Perini must serve 80 per cent of the sentence before he is eligible for parole.

Anger over sentence for elderly woman's death

Ms Wuth's family said they would appeal the sentence, and Queensland Attorney-General Cameron Dick said yesterday he might do the same.

"This case is greatly disturbing," Mr Dick said.

"It also involves very serious and complex matters,

including a ruling by the Mental Health Court that the offender had 'an abnormality of mind'."

An appeal can be lodged within 28 days of sentencing.

Ms Wuth died in her retirement village unit after being repeatedly bashed and stabbed by Perini, who

also lived at the complex.

The court was told Perini had been furious about being handed an eviction notice after residents, including Ms Wuth, had complained about his antisocial behaviour, which included putting knives in their rooms.

Prosecutor Sal Vasta said Perini entered Ms Wuth's room through an unlocked door and attacked her as she lay sleeping in her bed.

Perini returned to the room hours after her death and raped her, later coming back a

third time to ransack her belongings.

He was originally charged with Ms Wuth's murder, but the charge was reduced to manslaughter after the Mental Health Court in Brisbane ruled he was suffering from diminished responsibility due to an abnormality of mind.

Perini pleaded guilty to one count each of manslaughter and burglary and stealing, two of misconduct with a corpse, and two of entering a dwelling with intent and circum-

stances of aggravation.

Mr Vasta urged Justice Douglas to impose the maximum sentence of life for the manslaughter charge, saying it was in the worst category.

He said life imprisonment would provide vital protection to the community.

Justice Douglas disagreed, citing evidence from a psychiatrist that suggested Perini could learn valuable life and coping skills in jail, which could enable him to reintegrate with society on his release.

AAP

Recycled fashions on racks

LADIES, on your marks, get set-shop.

After the spectacular success of the first event, Raid My Wardrobe is back tomorrow from 10am to 2pm at Newcastle Basketball Stadium to provide great buys for smart shoppers.

Organiser Rachel Prest said the event offered women the chance to recycle clothes as well as find a bargain.

"There's no real use for clothing just sitting in the wardrobe," Ms Prest said.

"I got rid of all my unwanted clothes at the first event; it's really a chance for women to reinvent themselves."

Ms Prest said she was motivated by concerns about commercialism and unnecessary waste.

Big crowds are expected, with hundreds of nearly new designer and vintage garments at low prices on offer. Entry is \$3.



BARGAINS: Raid My Wardrobe organiser Rachel Prest holding accessories dear to most women. - Picture by Simone De Peak

Thai court sets protester free

A WEST Australian man who pleaded guilty yesterday to breaching Thailand's emergency decree during this year's anti-government protests has been freed by a Thai court.

Conor David Purcell had a three-month sentence reduced to 45 days in view of his plea, but he has spent more than that time in custody.

He was arrested for addressing supporters of former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

AAP

Funeral held for fire victim

BELA Molnar, who died in a Hunter house fire, was laid to rest yesterday.

The 97-year-old was caught in a fire at his Woodberry home on August 8.

It was one of three fatal house fires in the Hunter that weekend.

Mr Molnar's funeral was held at Newcastle Memorial Park, Beresfield.

**SUNKEN FLOORS?
WALLS CRACKED?
WE SAVE YOU
TIME & MONEY**

URETEK

We raise, re-level & re-support sunken houses!

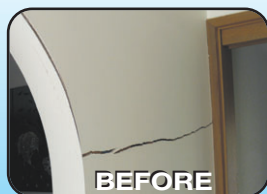
- ✓ 27 years' international experience.
- ✓ Fast! Most jobs take only a day or two!
- ✓ Building cracks generally close up.
- ✓ Absolutely minimal disturbance.
- ✓ Permanent structural resin injection.
- ✓ Reduces costs substantially!

9958 0079

Tom Bailey 0418 288 277

tbailey@uretek.com.au www.uretek.com.au
Uretek Ground Engineering

The Mainmark Corporation Pty Ltd. NSW Building Licence 41231. Using Uretek.



**a-z on nz
new zealand
roadshow
coming to you**

Wednesday 25th August 4-8pm
FREE ENTRY Charlestown Bowling Club

**Experience the best New Zealand
has to offer at this exclusive Expo...**

New Zealand Experts

Over 20 specialist New Zealand operators and consultants available to answer all your questions and help you style and book your New Zealand holiday.

Inspiring Travel Seminars

A variety of travel presentations by expert speakers with first hand experience.

Exclusive Special Offers

Amazing selection of offers available on coach, independent and adventure travel. Only available on the night.

Join the team at Travelworld Hunter Travel Group on Wed 25th August
Charlestown Bowling Club, 5 Lincoln St, Charlestown from 4 - 8pm

Register now at www.kirraholidays.com or call Vicki Rae

travelworld

Ph: 4940 2222

**KIRRA
HOLIDAYS**