

Dead woman may be victim of drunken payback

By ALISON BEVEGE

A WOMAN found dead beside a remote Territory highway yesterday may have been murdered in a drunken payback killing.

The body of the 27-year-old

woman was found by the side of the Buntine Highway near the remote town of Kalkarindji about 7.30am.

Sources told the *Sunday Territorian* her head was bashed in with a rock and she might have been the victim

of payback. The settlement has a population of about 340 people and lies 800km south of Darwin.

A source, who asked not to be named, said a large group of people came from nearby Lajamanu to the Aboriginal

community Friday night, carrying with them hard alcohol.

"They brought strong grog, whisky and rum," the source said. The alcohol escalated the situation, they said.

It is not known whether

the woman was from Kalkarindji or Lajamanu. "It will be a very volatile time around here for quite some time," the source said.

NT Police said they suspected foul play but did not reveal how the woman died.

Police, including detectives, from Katherine drove to the remote scene to investigate yesterday.

Detective Senior Sergeant Clint Sims has asked the public to call police with information on 131 444.



Hells Angels were escorted by police as they made their way in to Darwin for their annual bike run yesterday

Hells Angels hit the road, much to delight of police

OUTLAW motorcycle gang the Hells Angels are starting to leave Darwin after their annual run yesterday.

About 40 bikies received a police escort as they did a lap of the Territory capital, in a much slimmer version of the expected 200-strong ride.

More were reportedly seen heading south along the Stuart Highway from the

club's headquarters in Howard Springs.

The gathering of an estimated 200 gang members was relatively quiet.

Operation Sitara commander Wayne Harris said NT Police made two arrests.

Two 25-year-old NSW bikies were taken into custody after allegedly bashing a man at a nightspot on Mitchell St.

Police would not say where it was but it is believed to be the Hunypot strip club.

Witnesses said there had been a fight at the club, with at least one man king hit and knocked out cold.

A 27-year-old man was taken to hospital but paramedics were not called.

Cdr Harris would not say what the man's injuries were

but said he had been released from hospital.

"It was a particularly cowardly and low assault," Cdr Harris said.

He said one of the bikies, weighing 120kg, had assaulted a man weighing 70kg.

Bail was refused and the two Hells Angels were still in custody yesterday afternoon.

The arrests are the only

two known since the gang hit town. They are expected to start leaving today.

"I'm extremely happy to see them go," he said.

NT Police have repeatedly refused to say how much the massive police operation has cost, leaving some Territorians scratching their heads.

One such resident James Delgiacco said: "John

McRoberts (Territory commissioner), can I meet with you Monday morning?"

"Can I ask as to why police are 'escorting' big kids on bikes? Why are you and your team spending our hard-earned taxpayers' cash on the 81s."

But Cdr Harris said the arrests showed why police provided their response.

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'Barbie' tan addicts pay the price

By BRITTANY VONOW

AN ILLEGAL drug that gives the perfect tan and boosts libido, yet causes horrifying side-effects, is increasingly being shipped to Australia, a medical expert says.

Melanotan II has been nicknamed the "Barbie drug", with tan addicts injecting it into their stomach or thighs to gain the perfect tan.

The peptide works by

stimulating the production of skin-darkening pigments.

While creating an all-over tan and increasing sexual drive, the drug can cause depression, suppressed appetite, nausea, high blood pressure, facial flushing and panic attacks.

It has never undergone regulated testing to determine its long-term effects.

Despite this, the nation's Customs and Border Protection has continued to see a slow in-

crease in amounts of the drug being shipped to our shores.

Some 135 consignments of Melanotan-type products have been seized since 2010, peaking at 48 seizures last year.

But Australian Medical Association Queensland president Alex Markwell said that the real number of consignments that could be squeezing through the gaps or trafficked within the country were worryingly unknown.

Teenage hitchhikers 'car-jacked good Samaritan'

TWO teenage girls allegedly car-jacked a kind-hearted, elderly woman at knifepoint in Tennant Creek.

NT Police said the 64-year-old woman gave the two 15-year-old teens a lift in her Mazda hatch-

back. But they allegedly turned on their benefactor with a knife and stole her car.

The woman received minor injuries in the attack, a police spokesman said.

Superintendent Craig Bar-

rett said the youths were caught yesterday afternoon when police stopped the hatchback near the Tennant Creek speedway.

They were last night being questioned in custody.

Rider injured in quad bike fence smash

A MAN has been left with serious head injuries after his quad bike hit a fence yesterday afternoon.

The 24-year-old man came off his quad bike after the crash at the Howard Springs shops just before 4.30pm.

St John Ambulance operations manager Craig Garraway said the man had serious head injuries.

Two ambulances attended and paramedics took the victim to hospital in a serious condition.

"He had a nasty laceration to his head and cuts to the body," Mr Garraway said.

"His head will definitely need a lot of stitches."