

# 'Support' cop was intelligence gathering

A detective appointed to be the Rayneys family support officer did not tell Lloyd Rayney he was also second in charge of the murder investigation.

Acting Justice Brian Martin ruled recordings of phone calls between them were not admissible as evidence.

Quizzed by the judge, Detective Sergeant Mark McKenzie said it might not have been entirely honest when he told Mr Rayney he was interested only in the family's welfare.

"Maybe not," Detective McKenzie told Acting Justice Martin.

"My job was to liaise with the family. Being 2IC did not affect the information I could give Mr Rayney.

"Absolutely, I was intelligence gathering.

"We were trying to get as much information as we could."

The court heard recordings of two bugged phone calls between Detective McKenzie and Mr

**Barrister Lloyd Rayney is charged with the wilful murder of his wife, Supreme Court registrar Corryn Rayney. He is also charged with her manslaughter in August 2007. He has pleaded not guilty to both charges.**

Rayney after Corryn Rayney's body had been found in a bush grave in King's Park.

In one, Detective McKenzie said: "My intention is to look after your girls and yourself."

Mr Rayney said in one recording: "I never thought realistically that Corryn wandered off or voluntarily left."

In the phone calls, Detective McKenzie repeatedly called Mr Rayney "mate".

He said he was building rapport.

"I wanted him to feel comfortable," he said.

"I am a very friendly guy, I call people 'mate' a lot."

Detective McKenzie said he had called Mr Rayney's lawyer, David Edwardson QC, "mate" earlier outside the courtroom.

"I am not being bugged, am I?" Mr Edwardson said.

"It is a bit of a worry."

During the tapped phone calls, Detective McKenzie said police had wanted to interview the couple's daughters.

Sarah and Caitlyn were 10 and 13 at the time.

Mr Rayney said the girls had already given statements.

He said that because they were sensitive and distressed he was concerned about them reliving what had happened.

"It has only been four days since their mum was cremated," he told the detective.

Mr Rayney asked if police had followed up information and contact details he had given them for three of his wife's friends.

Mr Rayney said: "I thought all that would have been followed up."

Detective McKenzie said: "We did not want to keep on wasting time when it was important to follow leads."

Mr Rayney asked if police had checked reports of his wife's car being broken into twice when she had been bootscooting in Bentley.

He also asked if they knew why she had an IGA supermarket receipt for \$50.

"I thought that was a lot, because she shops every day," he said.

He also asked about keys that had been in her bag marked with the name of an oval and was told police had them.

Detective McKenzie said he had asked Mr Rayney to expand on a previous statement he had made.

"I wish you had asked me four weeks earlier," Mr Rayney said.

State prosecutor John Agius



Lloyd Rayney

said Mr Rayney had said he would meet police, but he had not.

Questions he asked indicated he had been trying to get information about the investigation, he said.

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# Pathologists 'pushed' to close case

Pathologists said they had been told it was time to wrap up the Rayney murder investigation when Lloyd Rayney started to sue the police for defamation.

Detective Jack Lee had named barrister Mr Rayney as the prime and only suspect for the murder of his wife, Corryn, a Supreme Court registrar.

Pathologist Gerard Cadden said he was so worried about the situation he had phoned the director of public prosecutions in South



John Agius

Africa, where he was at a conference.

Dr Cadden said he had also told his boss about the conversation with Detective Carlos Correia and said: "I do

not want to be involved."

He said he had written to Detective Correia and told him he would only meet him in relation to a criminal prosecution.

Neuropathologist Victoria Fabian said at a meeting that John O'Sullivan, a lawyer for the Police Commissioner, said the investigation needed to be finished.

"John O'Sullivan indicated ... defamation was a suitable time to finalise the investigation," Dr Fabian said.

She said Dr Cadden

phoned her in November 2009 and said John Agius the prosecuting solicitor wanted to meet them in relation to a defamation case.

"I said to Dr Cadden, 'Well I don't do defamation cases, I never have; I am a neuropathologist and if someone is charged then I will meet Mr Agius'."

Dr Fabian agreed with defence lawyer David Edwardson that Mr Agius had never suggested to her that he was involved in a defamation case.

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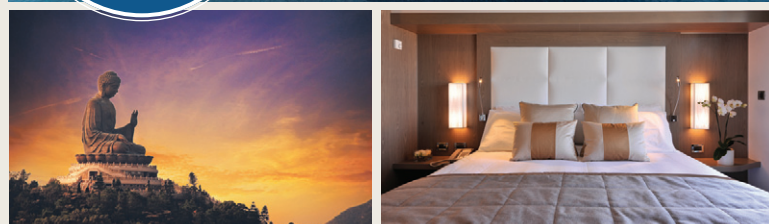
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# Lawyer drops DNA bombshell

A convicted killer accused of a sex attack in King's Park and a rapist lived together three streets away from the Rayneys.

Calls from a public telephone box in the Rayneys' street had been made to the sister of one of the men on the day Corryn Rayney disappeared and the day after, the Supreme Court heard.

Defence lawyer David Edwardson dropped the bombshell just as the court session was closing on Wednesday in the 11th week of the trial in which Lloyd Rayney is fighting a charge of killing his wife and burying her body in King's Park.

Prosecutor John Agius QC said if the defence wanted to pursue the matter it could add weeks to the trial.

A driver called Eades – the same name as one of the men – had been pulled over by a police patrol near where Mrs Rayney had been bootscooting the night she disappeared, former police officer Darrell McLeod told the court last week.

Mr Edwardson said DNA matching Mr Eades' had been found on a cigarette butt picked up during a search of the verge outside the Rayneys' home.

"[Eades] was living with Lacco, who is particularly well known to police for sexual offending," Mr Edwardson said.

Major crime squad Detective Sergeant Mark McKenzie said police had investigated both men.

Information publicly available

shows Allon Lacco was convicted in 1989 of raping a 29-year-old woman as she lay in bed next to her two-year-old son.

In court in an aside to Mr Edwardson, Mr Agius said: "You are bringing all this information up now."

"I warn you." Then to Acting Justice Brian Martin Mr Agius said: "I do not know where my friend is going."

"I may have to ask for an adjournment to put together a considerable amount of evidence and call a considerable number of witnesses."

Mr Agius said he was due in the High Court next week for a case that had taken years to reach the bench.

Traces of two unknown men had been found in Corryn Rayney's car.

Laurance Webb, a DNA expert, told the Supreme Court the profiles had been checked against WA and national DNA registers and no links had been found.

Mr Agius said a scientist in the UK had traced a single black hair in the car to Mr Rayney through his mother's line.

Mr Webb said he had not got a DNA profile from the hair.

"This is not a surprising result in relation to very small amounts of DNA," he told the court.

He said analysis depended on what could be found on the hair root or the hair itself.

Mr Webb said there had been

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Corryn Rayney

## Lindy link in probe

Police were suspicious because Lloyd Rayney did not behave like a man whose wife was dead, a detective leading the Corryn Rayney murder investigation said.

"That is what they thought about Lindy Chamberlain isn't it?" defence lawyer David Edwardson asked.

Mrs Chamberlain was wrongly convicted of murdering her nine-week-old daughter Azaria, in the absence of a body, in 1980 despite her assertion a dingo had snatched the child from a camp site at Uluru.

Mr Edwardson was cross-examining Detective Sergeant Mark McKenzie, who was second in charge of the investigation into the murder of Supreme Court registrar Corryn Rayney in 2007.

Reading from police logs of meetings, Mr Edwardson said the major crime squad had focused on Mr Rayney as a suspect even before Mrs Rayney's body had been found.

# Report 'changed' for pedantic police

When police asked him to change his report on Corryn Rayney's autopsy, pathologist Gerard Cadden said he thought they were being pedantic and he did it.

The alteration revolved around what became known as the seed pod business.

It involved prickly liquidambar seed pods that police say form a vital link between the murder and the Rayney house in Monash Avenue, Como.

And it raised questions by the judge about morgue procedures.

Dr Cadden told the Supreme Court his report had originally said there were three seed pods.

He changed it to read that there were two seed pods in Mrs Rayney's hair and one in the body bag.

"I thought they were being pedantic and that police officer Mark Harbridge might have been going through the exhibits inventory and had one marked from the body bag and one [exhibit] marked from the hair," Dr Cadden said.

The court had earlier heard the seed pod in the body bag had been found four months after the autopsy.

Acting Justice Brian Martin asked what the procedure was during autopsies.

Dr Cadden said it depended on the police there.

"Sometimes they roll the body bag up straight away and put it in a brown bag, other times they leave it until later," he said.

Dr Cadden said bodies would be moved from body bags on

to green sheets and those that were covered in sand or dirt would be washed after an initial examination.

Morgue technicians would sweep the floor during the examination to stop it becoming slippery.

Acting Justice Martin asked if technicians were trained and what they would do with the sweepings.

"No, they simply use their own initiative. They would put it in the bin," Dr Cadden said.

On the night Mrs Rayney's body had been exhumed, Dr Cadden examined her body for gunshot or stabbing wounds and ran his hands around her scalp.

He said he had carried out the autopsy the next day.

He said he had been surprised a police officer had been at the morgue before him because he wanted to issue a warning after overhearing and then being told the night before that police knew Lloyd Rayney had committed the murder with the help of a gay lover.

Reports of Dr Cadden's evidence prompted a series of new statements sworn by police this week countering his allegations.

He said he had 700 photographs of the examination and after he had written his report they were out of sequence.

He said he did not see a police film of the preliminary examination until this week and the version he had been given did not show him examining Mrs Rayney's hair.

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