



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE



# MURDER OF DEBORAH ANNE SMYKALLA ON 6 SEPTEMBER 1981

## \$500,000 REWARD

**REWARD:** The Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services has approved a reward of \$500,000 offered for information leading to the identification and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the murder of Deborah Anne Smykalla, 22 years, at Capalaba on 6 September 1981.

**INDEMNITY FROM PROSECUTION:** In the case of an offence being identified, an appropriate indemnity from prosecution will be recommended for any accomplice, not being the person who actually committed the crime, who first gives such information.

The allocation of the \$500,000 reward will be at the sole discretion of the Commissioner of the Police Service.

**CIRCUMSTANCES:** At about 9.45pm on Sunday 6 September 1981 Deborah Anne Smykalla, dob: 24 April 1959 was found deceased inside her Howlett Rd home at Capalaba. A house mate located Deborah lying face down on the kitchen floor with her head inside an open gas oven. The gas knob on the oven was in the on position and two small fires had been set in the kitchen and lounge room. A post-mortem examination found strangulation to be the cause of death.

A Coronial Inquest concluded Deborah to have been murdered by a person or persons unknown. Deborah's murder has remained unsolved for the past 40 years.

Any member of the public with information which could assist Police is asked to contact.

- Homicide Investigation Unit, Brisbane, Phone (07) 3364 4150;
- Any Police Station; or
- Crime Stoppers, Phone 1800 333 000

Commissioner's Office  
BRISBANE

KATARINA CARROLL APM  
COMMISSIONER