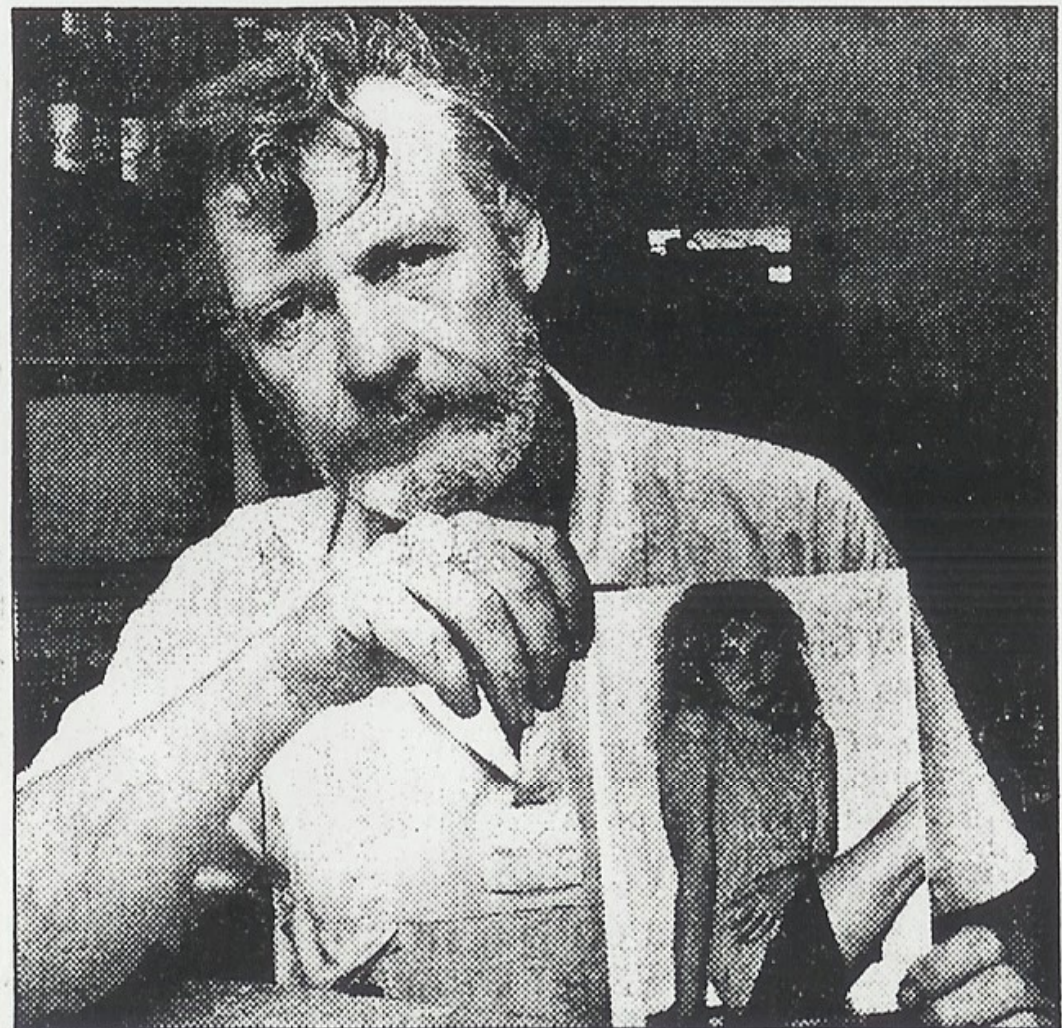


*Terry Holland*



TERRY Holland with a picture of his murdered daughter, Leanne.

# Young girl bashed to death

By JULIAN BURKE

GOODNA schoolgirl Leanne Holland was horribly bashed to death with a hammer or similar blunt object a post-mortem examination revealed yesterday.

The 12-year-old girl's injuries to the head and upper body were so extensive police had to rely on fingerprints to identify the body.

The body was decomposing after three days dumped in scrub at Redbank Plains, which also hampered identification.

Investigation co-ordinator Det Insp Wayne King described the callous killer as "certainly not the full quid".

"She was pretty badly assaulted around the head and upper body region," he said.

He refused to reveal if Leanne had been sexually assaulted and the nature of "other injuries" she suffered.

Her battered and partly naked body was found on Thursday between two tracks about 30m from busy Redbank Plains Rd.

Leanne was last seen alive about 9.30am on Monday when she set out for shops just 500m from her family home in Alice St.

Grieving father Terry Holland, a single parent, was being comforted yesterday by counselors from the Victims of Crime association.

"The family are having a pretty rough time at the moment," Insp King said.

The killer made no attempt to

conceal the body which was discovered by two police trail bike riders investigating a report of a suspicious car in the area.

"Any murder is gruesome but the fact that it is a 12-year-old child makes it 10 times as bad," Insp King said.

He said investigators were waiting for the results of forensic tests, expected on Monday, for new leads into the death.

Insp King would not reveal if current leads included a blood-stained car found in the Goodna area.

He described the public response as excellent and appealed for anyone with information to contact Goodna police on 288 2999.

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