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# Cairns Post

## News

## Cairns Post's commitment to readers: We're for you



Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison (centre) answers questions about Cairns and Far North Queensland from Cairns Post editor Jennifer Spilsbury and Cairns Post political reporter Chris Calcino. PICTURE: BRENDAN RADKE.

The Cairns Post

February 27, 2019 6:30am

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# Cairns Post

**Lifestyle**

## Why no love, Mr Abbott?



Briony Pratt and her girlfriend Samantha Foster have been in a relationship for seven years and want to know why Prime Minister Tony Abbott won't let them marry. PICTURE: SUPPLIED

**SCOTT FORBES**

The Cairns Post

May 10, 2015 10:33am

BRIONY Pratt had one simple question



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"We are a wedding capital, we should be capitalising on that.

"And since most gays don't have kids, they tend to spend more money on weddings and holidays.

"The thing that really fired us up was that 'marriage at first show' where they get married without even meeting, that makes a mockery of the institution."

The couple has been engaged for five of the seven years they've been together.



Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott visiting the office of The Cairns Post newspaper.

PICTURE: MARC McCORMACK





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News > CAIRNS

## Leichhardt MP Warren Entsch expected could introduce gay marriage bill into parliament today

JIM CAMPBELL

The Cairns Post

August 11, 2015 6:30am

CAIRNS MP Warren Entsch looks set to lead the charge for marriage equality in Australia with his private member's Bill predicted to enter parliament as early as today.

Mr Entsch has been a long-time supporter of marriage equality, riding against the views of many in his party room – in particular Prime Minister Tony Abbott.

A spokeswoman for Mr Entsch said the Member for Leichhardt did not want to play

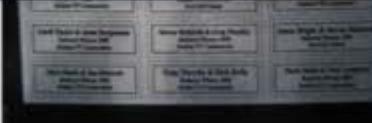


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Cairns LGBT Alliance spokesman Ben Woodward said it had been “a long journey and a long battle” to get to this point.

“This year around the world we’ve seen the progression of marriage equality,” he said.

“It really is the time for Australia to accept marriage equality.”



AT ODDS: Warren Entsch has been a long-time supporter of marriage equality, riding against the views of many in his party room – in particular Prime Minister Tony Abbott. PICTURE: MARC MCCORMACK



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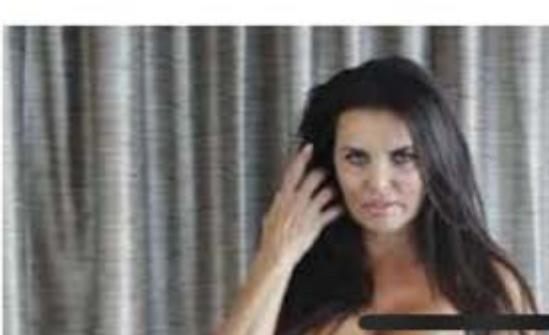
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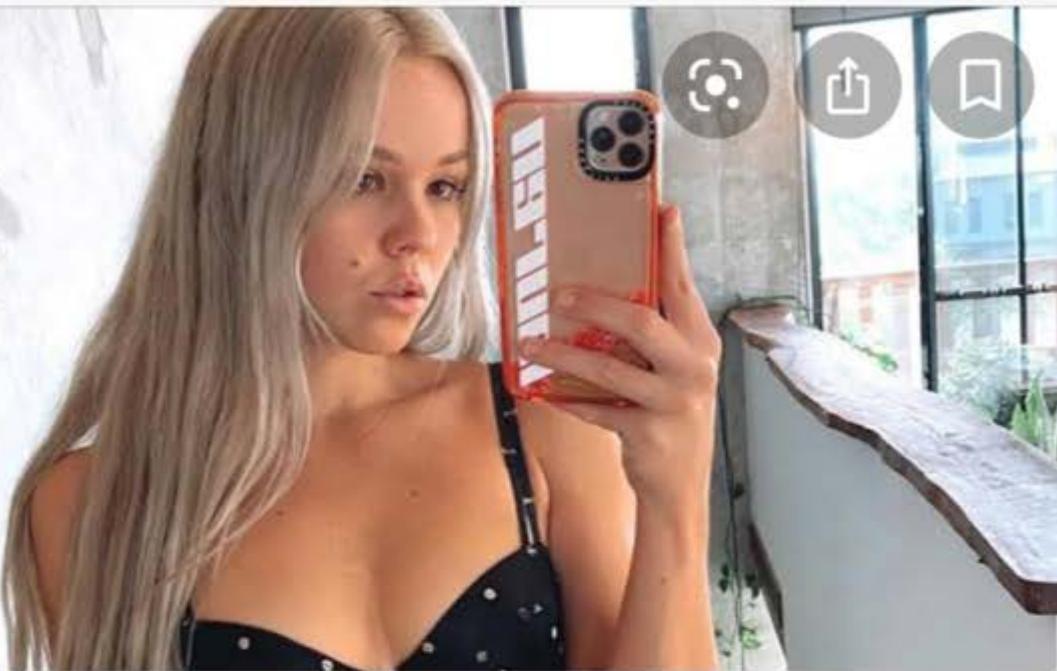
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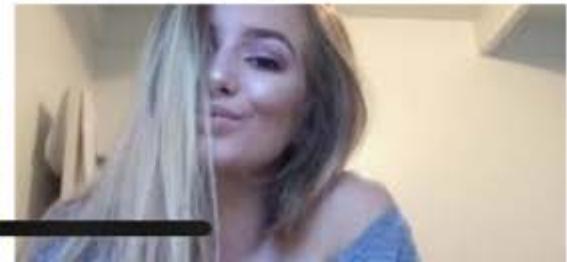
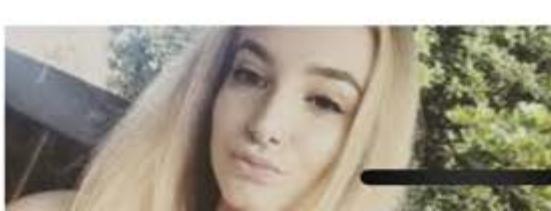
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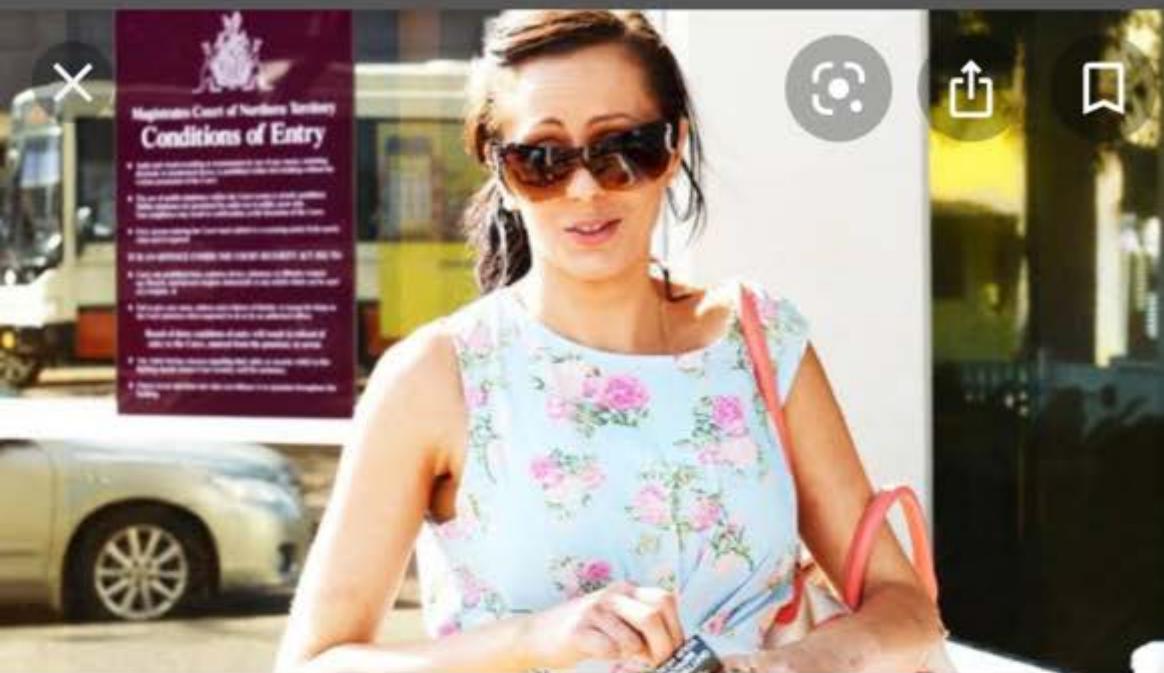
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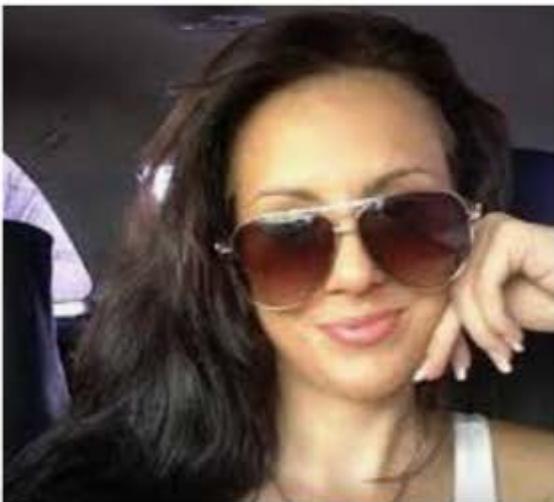
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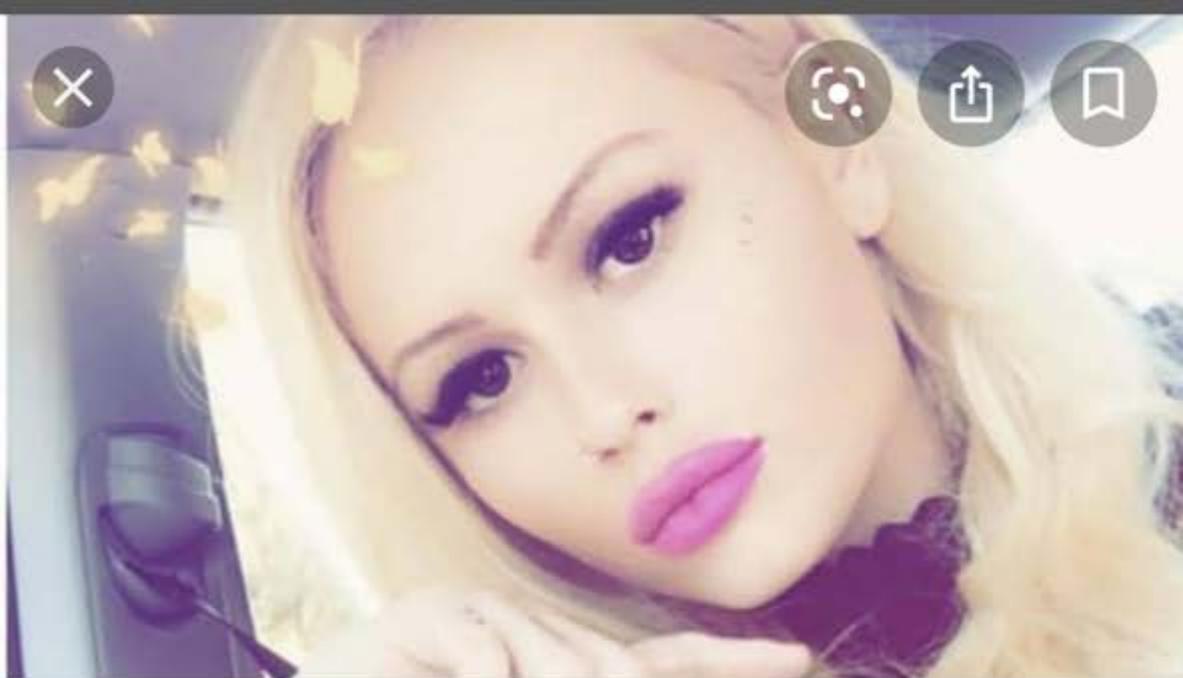
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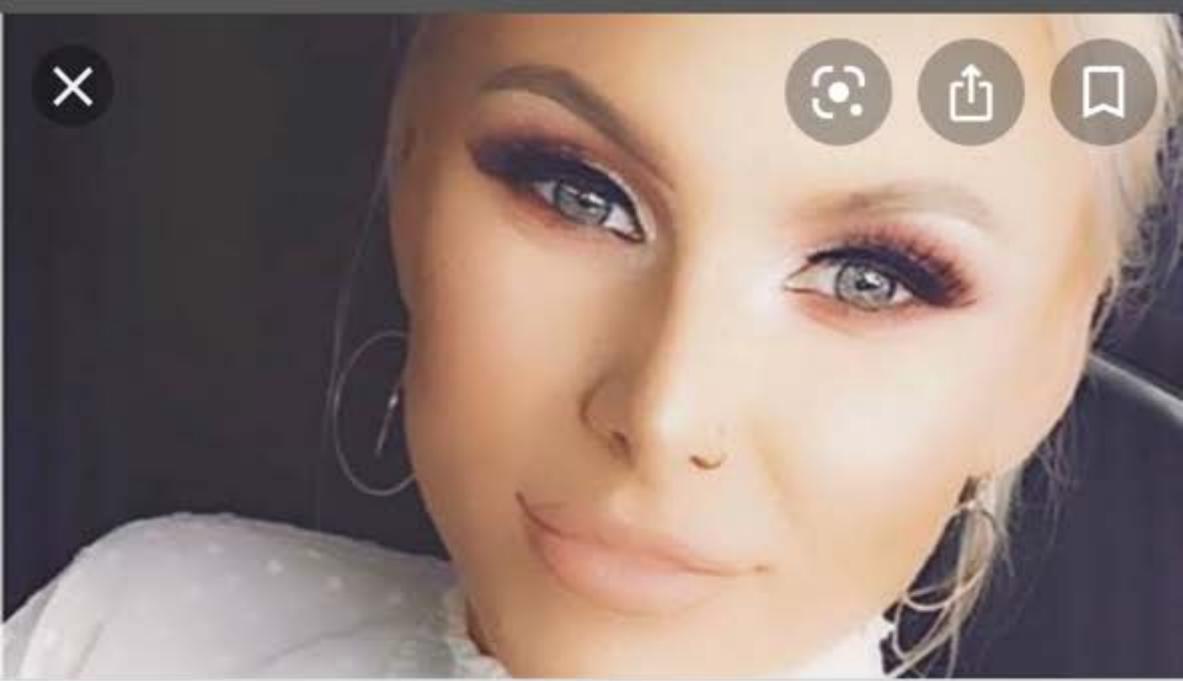
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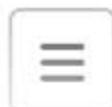
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# Glamour girl had Aladdin's cave of booty

\$300m ice bust arrests



Aleksija Vracar, 24, is allegedly linked to the importation of \$300 million worth of ice concealed in bottles of Sriracha sauce.

## EXCLUSIVE

AVA BENNY-MORRISON  
CRIME REPORTER

THE treasures and tools of an international drug smuggling ring, including guns and hundreds of thousands in cash bursting out of bags, were allegedly found in the modest apartment of a glamourous Sydney woman.

Aleksija Vracar, 24, is today in prison, accused of helping to import \$300 million worth of the drug ice hidden inside bottles of the hot sauce, sriracha.

Police allege Vracar used a fake driver's licence to set up a business address, which was the destination for the

drugs sent from the US in October.

NSW Organised Crime Squad detectives turned up at the Bosnian-born woman's Merrilands apartment on Thursday expecting to charge her over possessing false identification to import drugs. But a search of her unit allegedly uncovered an Aladdin's cave of money, drugs and weapons.

More than \$640,000 in cash was found stashed around the home including \$472,820 in two shopping bags in the bedroom and \$12,400 bursting out of an envelope. Another \$55,000 was found stashed in a shoebox and yet more cash inside a handbag.

Hidden in a suitcase in a bedroom was a .22 calibre shortened bolt action rifle and semiautomatic pistol. In a vacuum sealed bag, officers found a second semiautomatic pistol.

In one of the bedrooms, police discovered several SIM cards, mobile phones, scales and a money counter.

Detectives also found more than 2kg of MDMA, 264g of cocaine and 337g of cannabis. Police allege the street value of the drugs seized was \$200,000.

Unemployed Vracar faces a string of serious charges, including drug supply, illegal firearm possession and possessing identification to commit an indictable offence.

She did not appear in Fairfield Local Court on Friday when her case was mentioned. The matter was adjourned to January 30.

Police allege Vracar used four fake drivers licences to open bank accounts or set up businesses to facilitate the importation of drugs.

The \$300 million ice importation that made headlines after it was intercepted by the Australian Border Force (ABF) in October was allegedly sent to an address connected to a business Vracar allegedly set up.

However, she has not been charged with drug importation. Four men have already been charged over the ice bust, including one man

who allegedly moved the consignment from Wetherill Park to Mitcham. The 36-year-old Plumpton man was charged with drug supply and importation offences.

Two Victorian men, 30 and 34, were arrested the next day in Sydney's CBD and charged with the same offences. Another man was charged with possessing identification to commit a serious offence for allegedly using fake documents to lease a property used in the syndicate.

The ABF said the methods used to conceal the drugs in the Sriracha were complex and included suspending methamphetamine in the sauce.

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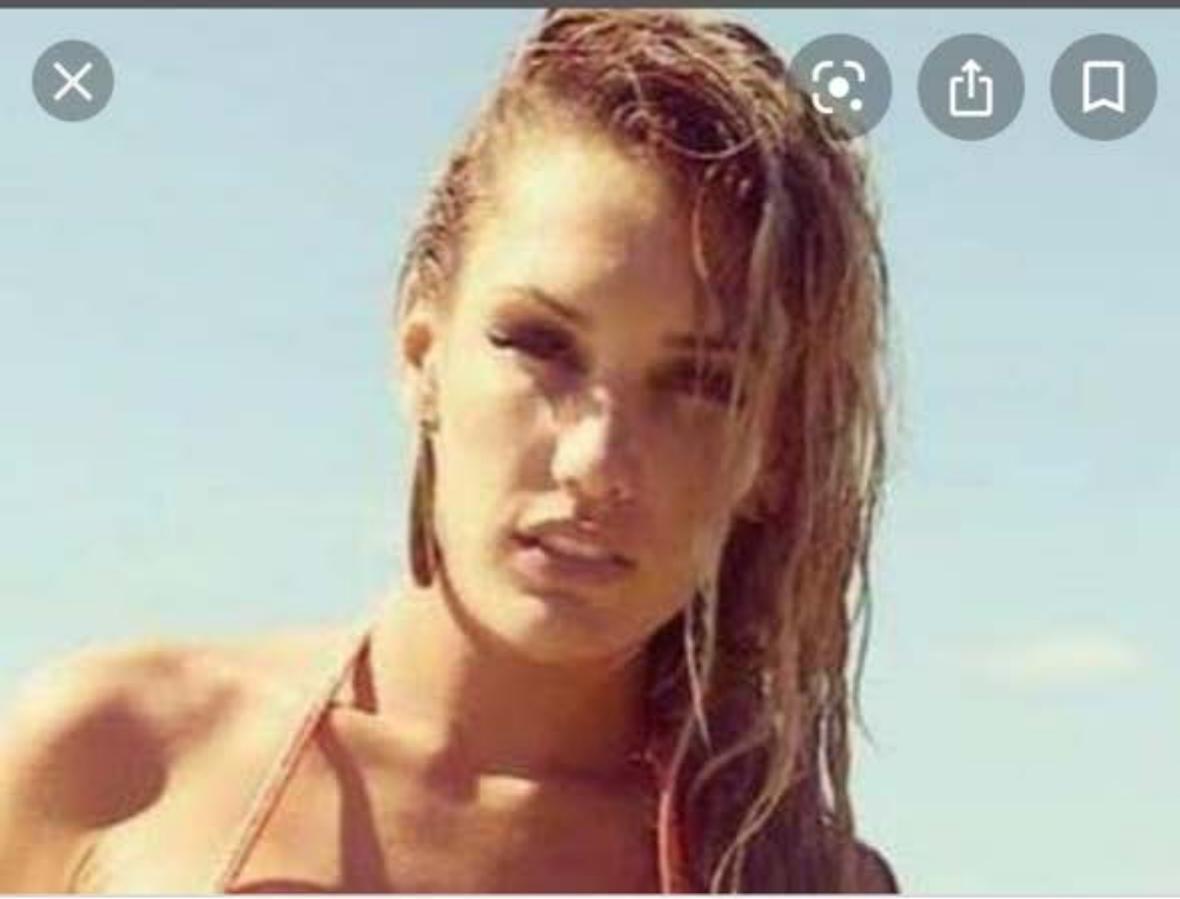
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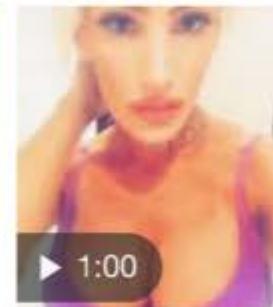
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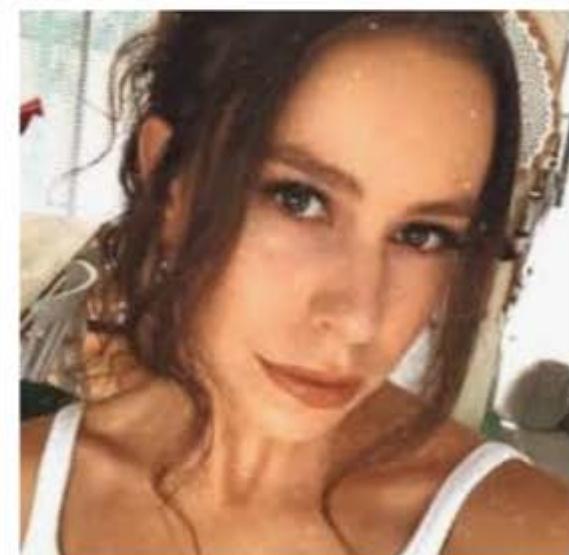
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