

UNITED FRONT
Kim (Emma Booth, l-r) and
Debbie (Cheree Cassidy).



A FEARSOME FRIENDSHIP

HOOKER KIM AND COP DEBBIE JOIN FORCES, HERALDING A DRAMATIC
POWER SHIFT IN THE MEAN STREETS

Words by John Burfitt

The women of the Kings Cross Golden Mile too often find they become the victims of the men who rule the mean streets.

Whether they are prostitutes like Kim Hollingsworth (Emma Booth) who want to escape to a better life, or new detective Debbie (Cheree Cassidy) who blows the whistle on the illegal operations and then finds her career ruined, it seems the women are the ones who fall prey to the killer deals and broken promises that control the strip.

But on upcoming eps of *Underbelly: The Golden Mile*, when these beautiful young women join forces and broker an alliance all of their own, there will be a power shift along the notorious, crime-ridden strip that will change the rules forever.

The brutal realities of her life in the rent-a-body business are toughening Kim up to what is really going on in Kings Cross. Every day, she promises herself she will eventually get out of the neon-lit strip and finally make her childhood dream of donning the blue uniform and becoming a police officer come true.

She is hopeful that her romance with Sergeant Dave (Toby

has to contend with being ignored by every person she works with.

Surrounded on all sides by crooked cops, Debbie is hated for what she has done. In reporting the scam, she has threatened the moneymaking criminal ventures of some of her co-workers, and they're not happy about it.

Realising she has taken a wrong turn by trying to do the right things, all Debbie's illusions about the police force and their role in controlling the peace of society are quickly shattered.

Unable to cope with the consequences of being branded a whistleblower and the ostracism she is enduring, Debbie takes a sad slide into alcoholism.

What Debbie and Kim don't know yet, however, is that they're both on a surefire collision course with fate, and their present actions are the first vital steps in collapsing the criminal empires that rule Kings Cross.

When a surprise turn of

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Leonard Moore) will provide the breakthrough she needs to escape her seedy existence in the escort agency and help her get accepted at the police academy.

But while Dave continues to promise Kim the world, he has no intention of standing by his word. Despite all his romantic whispers during their pillow talk, he only wants the sexy woman for one thing.

When Kim finally discovers that Dave is just leading her on and is actually a waste of her time, she decides to turn the tables on him. She makes him a promise she too has no intention of keeping, but knows the very idea of what she has told him will turn Dave on and every one of his twisted sexual fetishes!

Debbie, meanwhile, has become the most unpopular cop on the local police force. She was certain she was doing the right thing by reporting the insurance company scam to the Deputy Commissioner, but has since been branded as a whistleblower and

events brings Kim and Debbie together, there's an instant rapport between the two outcasts. Kim is fascinated by Debbie, who's living her dream of being a police officer and leading a life by the law, while Debbie is intrigued by Kim's tales of life on the other side and the many secrets she knows about the players in Kings Cross.

This unlikely friendship is a union that will be feared by many of the people both women know. Between them, they have enough dirt to bring empires crashing down.

But it seems those wheels might already be turning. Debbie's initial complaint about the insurance scam has inadvertently reached the highest level of police Internal Affairs, who now wants to know everything that the honest young cop has seen and knows.

Just as it seemed everything was out of control, these two young women may have just called time on the darkest days in Kings Cross.



DOWNWARD SPIRAL
Debbie Webb (Cheree Cassidy) finds comfort with her mother Irene (Lynette Curran).



MAKING PROGRESS
Kim finally sees a way out of her dismal existence.