



Smoke Signals

Issue #11 25th October 2023



Apologies: Alan and Alma, Sam

Guests: Søren, Viktoria, Malcolm Hansford (Singing Waiter) and partner Chell.

President's Report:

Initial inquiries with GPA re golf day funding
Shelter box fundraising from DG visit
At Jan Richards today and have 3 trestle tables. Jan moves to Perth on Friday

Secretary report:

- BBQ request for the launch of Alpine Bushfires Recovery Project 23rd November - members not available.
- P-12 award inquiry. Dec 13th 7pm

Member reports:

Søren moving host families on the weekend.
Viki moving to Barton's in November
Evan - show gates discussion.

Raffle:

Viki - voucher
Carla - wine

Guest Speaker: Malcolm Hansford

Here for the seniors festival. 'Edvardo'
Father was in Rotary so understands the 'service above self' motto

Character actor that uses music to engage with people.
What do they do? In a hat the character happens.

How did I get to do that for a living? Possibly a mistake. Started with grandparents loving music. Listening to Uncle and Uunty sing in harmony when four years old.

Learnt piano from nuns in Narracourt. In high school no music, no theatre. Music became unfashionable.

Played hockey at district level. They sang songs - not appropriate for any company.

14 years of arts administration after uni.

Worked for Vic arts council for eight years.

In 1994, went to theatre school. Learnt to act at John Bolton theatre school.

18 years with Royal Melbourne show as the Howdy Cowdys - Wyalong Willy and Sassafra Sal

Recommends seeing a payback theatre performance - lots of improvisations.

Still Edvardo, Gramophone Brothers,

LWork with Dementia Australia with Memory lane Cafe, people with early stages of dementia

Quote from an eight year old in Moonee Ponds

"Look mum - that man is making happiness"

SAA - Members owned up to misdemeanours

Myrtleford
Rotary
Club

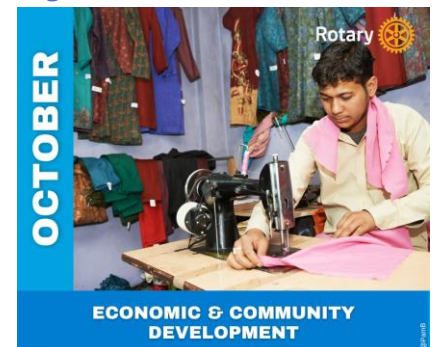


Programme

Wednesday 1 November:

Toast: Ken
Chair: Alan
Sgt. Richard
Guest Speaker:

**Wednesday 8 November:
Rotary/Lions Cup – Partner night**



Myrtleford Rotary 2023 CHOPPED & CHANGED ROTARY CLUB MYRTLEFORD

SHOW CARS, HOT RODS, RAT RODS, BIKES and MODERN ALL WELCOME!

7th Annual Show'n Shine and Swap Meet

Myrtleford : Sunday, November 5th, 2023
Gates open 8.00am (Set in from 8.00am)

Myrtleford Showgrounds
Myrtleford - Mackenzie Rd, Myrtleford, VIC 3737
ALL WELCOME ■ HOT FOOD, COFFEE, TEA
LIVE MUSIC: ATOMIC HI-TONES ■ KIDS' ENTERTAINMENT

SHOW CARS, HOT RODS, RAT RODS, BIKES & MODERN (ALL WELCOME!)
\$10 Entry Fee

ENTRY
\$0.00 for all Adults
Children under 12 - Free
NO DOGS

Competition:
Theme: S.V.A.S.'s
Prizes for the occasion!
Prizes guaranteed!

Swap Meet: Richard Dean: 0408 891 702 Alan Gavriel: 0417 259 740 email: myrtleford@rotary.org.au
Enquiries & Bookings: Facebook
Show'n Shine: Rob Vilella: 0427 802 511 Craig Mc Taggart: 0406 624 486 email: chopandchange@outlook.com

HPA Hobbies & Livestocks 414 3183 Inc. Ruby's MDB

The Rotary Club of Myrtleford

Reg No.: A0020847W • Chartered 27
 Sept. 1954

ABN 87 356 430 283 • Club # 18284

DISTRICT 9790

Meetings: Wednesdays 6.00pm for 6.30pm

Venue:Club Savoy, Myrtleford

Postal Address: PO Box 395, Myrtleford,
 Vic. 3737

2023 — 2024 BOARD of DIRECTORS

President: John Forsyth

Secretary: Helen Hunter

Treasurer: Magda Macdonald

Pres. Elect/Club Service:

Immediate Past President: Evan Jones

Rotary Foundation:

Public Relations: Vanessa & Gail

Service Projects:

OTHER OFFICERS

Community & Vocational Service: Alma
 Adams

International Service: Phil Macdonald

Youth Service: Surrey Hunter

Membership.....Carla Bau

Sergeant-at-Arms: Rotational

Fellowship:

Programme:

Public Officer:Ken Johnston

On to Conference: Evan Jones

Bulletin Vanessa Leonard & Gail Robertson

Community Bus Richard Dean

Book Fair Sarah Deas

BBQ Trailer..... Sam Crisci

Wood Raffle..... Alan Garside

District Governor:Neta Kirby

Assistant Governor.....Patrick O'Shea

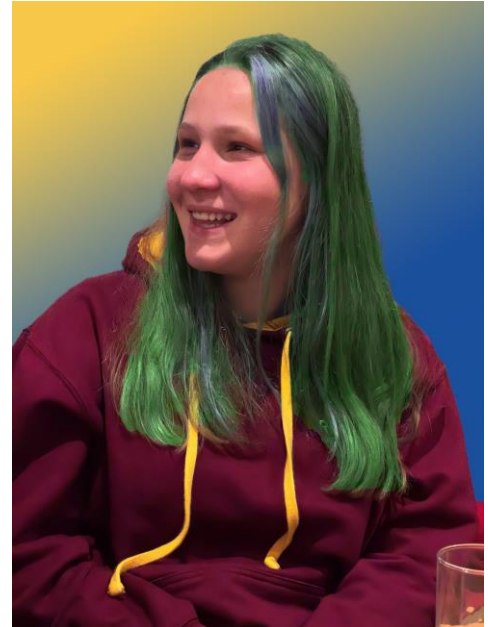
**President Rotary International
 Gordon R. McInally**



SNAPPED!



Martin as 'Eduardo'



Viki's new hair



Just a handful of the 'gate keepers' for the Myrtleford Show

Spotted (but not photographed) – Soren learning and joining in with the Nutbush Competition at the Myrtleford Show. He conveniently had a tall friend to hide behind.

A new anthology of crime fiction raises funds for polio eradication

By **Etelka Lehoczky**

Lorraine Stevens had the motive and the means. All she needed were accomplices in her plot: publishing a collection of original crime fiction to raise money for the fight to end polio.

The idea for the anthology of short stories, published in July 2023 as “An Unnecessary Assassin,” came to Stevens last year at a literary festival in Yorkshire, England. She’d recently learned about the poliovirus reappearing in Great Britain and was talking with friends about how upset she was by the news.

“I happened to mention that polio had been found in the sewers of London,” says Stevens, a member of the Rotary Club of Scunthorpe, Humberside, England. “I found that quite disturbing. I had known polio was still around, but not as much as I went on to find out. One of my author friends said, ‘Well, you know enough authors, Lorraine. Why don’t you do an anthology and sell it for charity?’”

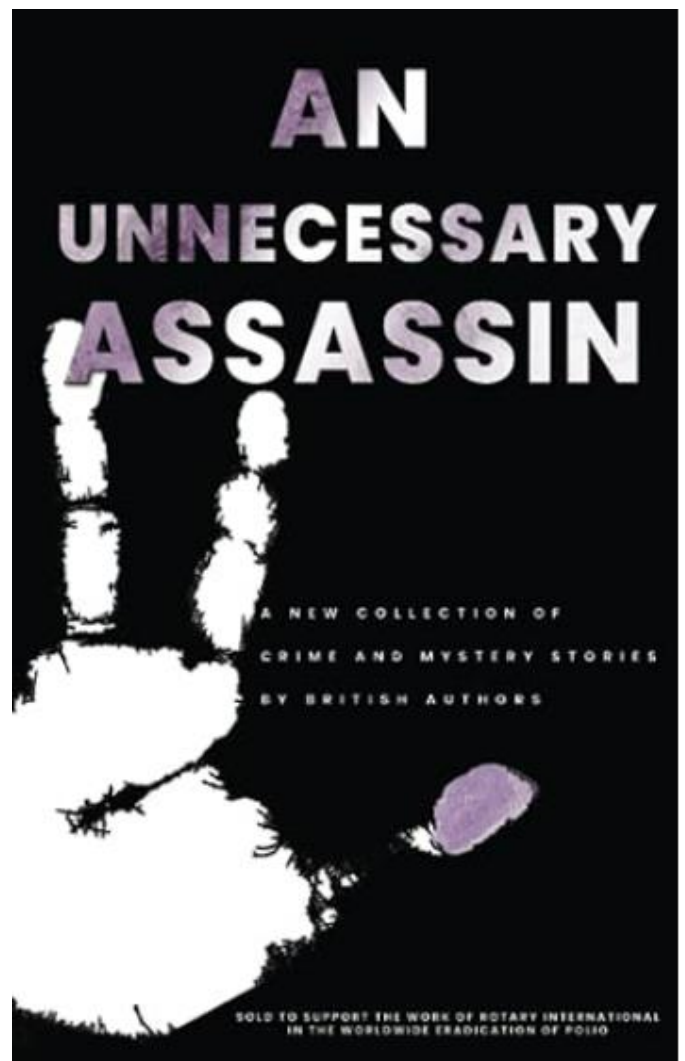
A former librarian who regularly attends crime-writing festivals, Stevens knew her friend was right. This was something she could do. She began asking authors she knew to donate stories for the book. Her first recruit was David Penny, the author of a well-regarded series of historical mysteries. He was eager to fight polio.

“Growing up in Wales in the ’50s, polio was a major issue for us,” Penny says. “This was just prior to the vaccine coming out, and it was pretty much everywhere. As a kid of six or seven, it was always on your mind. I knew people who were in leg braces or iron lungs — or who died from the disease. That stays with you. It becomes almost an embedded fear in you.”

Penny helped Stevens assemble a diverse group of short stories and arranged to self-publish the book using Amazon’s print-on-demand program. The pair were excited to receive two submissions specifically about polio. Gerralyn Ingram, who writes under the name G.L. Waring, used her story to channel her anger at both vaccine deniers and arrogant doctors. A former pediatric nurse, Ingram based the villain of “It Takes Three Drops” on doctors she’d encountered.

“They think they know everything, and their opinion is the only opinion that counts,” she says. “In the story, basically, here’s a doctor who thinks he’s God... [and] who doesn’t think that a woman can be equally as qualified and actually know better.”

Among the book’s highlights are stories by Ann Cleeves and Lee Child. Cleeves’ contribution,



“The Habit of Silence,” is a detective story set in a distinguished library. In Child’s “Safe Enough,” a contractor working on a suburban lot begins stalking the lot’s previous owner. Child interweaves his menacing tale with a critique of economic policies that hurt the working class.

Other stories feature a wide range of situations. Chris McGeorge’s “Box” is a locked-room mystery set in a glass box 820 feet (250 meters) underwater. Robert Scragg’s “Revenge is Best Served Hot” and F.D. Quinn’s “Best Served Cold” each give a culinary twist to crime. Judith O’Reilly’s “A Face for Murder” combines a whodunit with a satire of YouTube makeup tutorials.

Penny was delighted by the diversity of the stories.

“You don’t want all the same thing,” he says. “There’s some funny stories, and there’s some poignant ones in there.”

Penny’s own contribution, written as DG Penny, was based on an idea he’d been thinking about for several years: What are the consequences of trying to do the right thing? In “Drive By,” Penny’s protagonist tries to protect a victim of human trafficking and soon comes to regret it.

“An Unnecessary Assassin” also includes two poems. That’s unusual for a crime anthology, but one of them further cements the book’s link to polio. In “Surviving Relations,” Jim Taylor describes a man who had polio as a child and now embraces a succession of dangerous pastimes. “He would never run. It didn’t stop him doing what he wanted,” Taylor writes. “Look him in the eyes, and he would look straight back, unwavering.”

The anthology also references polio in its cover art, which is shaded purple, and in an afterword explaining the significance of the color. It’s what is used to tint children’s fingers at mass vaccination events to show that they’ve received the vaccine. The title refers to the fact that polio is preventable with a vaccine.

“We came up with all sorts of different ideas. There were probably over a dozen potential titles,” Penny says. “This one won because of the alliteration.”

The book is available [in paperback and Kindle formats on Amazon](#). Stevens has also sold it at Rotary club meetings and crime-writing festivals all over Great Britain. It’s raised more than US\$3,000 so far, and its proceeds will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

“The phrase ‘An Unnecessary Assassin’ kind of sums up the thing,” Penny says. “Polio is totally an avoidable disease, provided there is enough money to immunize each child.”