

New Australian Author Book Release

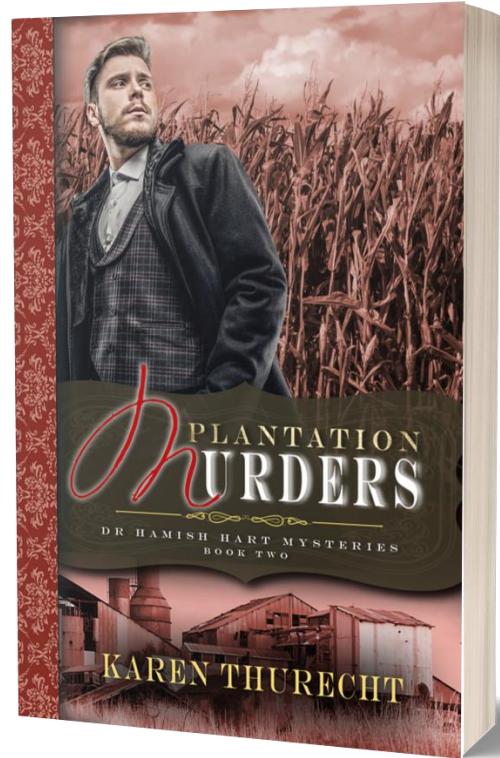
# PLANTATION MURDERS

KAREN THURECHT

***WHEN ANOTHER SUSPICIOUS MURDER TAKES PLACE, HAMISH IS IN A RACE AGAINST TIME TO IDENTIFY THE KILLER...***

It's 1885 and a South Sea Island labourer, Kaelo, is the primary suspect in the murder of a Logan sugar plantation manager and the citizens of Brisbane are outraged, and none want to know when Dr Hamish Hart discovers that Kaelo could not have been responsible for the manager's death. Public sentiment is running high against political turmoil and the citizens are looking for a scapegoat.

Driven by his commitment to social justice, Hamish is convinced the answer to the mystery lies within the fraught relationships between the members of the Daniels family who own the Cloverton Plantation. It is when another suspicious murder occurs, and a crazed mob attempt to lynch the terrified Kaelo, that Hamish realises he is in a race against time to unravel the family's dark secrets and to identify the killer before anyone else dies at the hand of a murderer...



***Love the Series so far? Keep an eye out for the next exciting mystery to come for Dr Hamish Hart in Murder in Frog's Hollow.***

Visit [shawlinepublishing.com.au](http://shawlinepublishing.com.au) for more details on the author, Karen Thurecht.

Price available on our site

ISBN: 9781922594693

Genre: Fiction, Mystery

Format: Paperback

Audience: General

Location: Dunwich QLD

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Also in the  
DR HAMISH HART MYSTERIES SERIES  
BOOK ONE

# MURDER

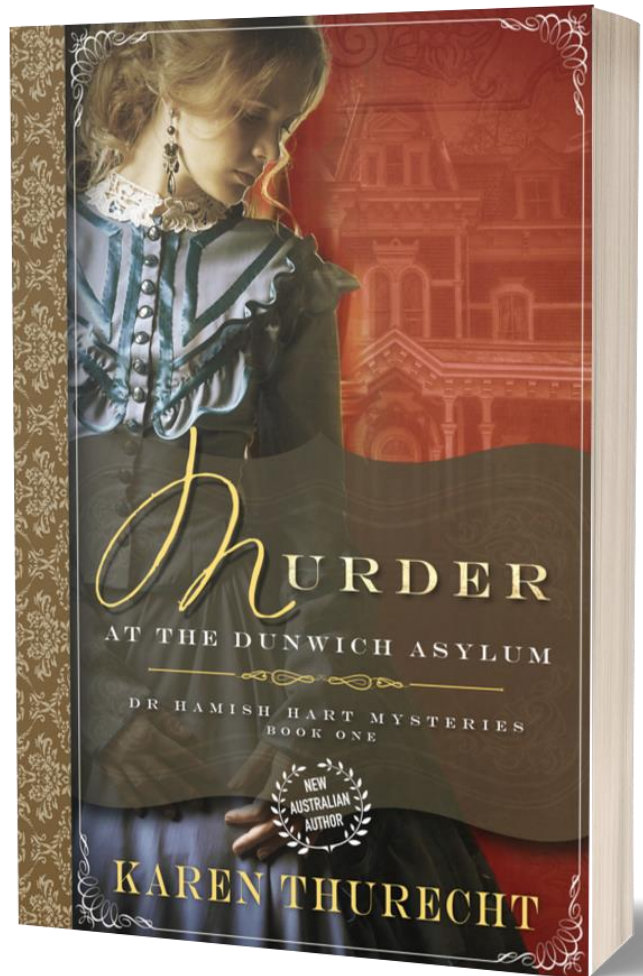
## AT THE DUNWICH ASYLUM

*In order to reach the truth about the murders, they have to uncover the asylum's darkest secrets...*

It is 1884 and the eager young Doctor Hamish Hart is drawn from his research to investigate the hanging deaths of a female inmate and her lover at the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum on Stradbroke Island. The Superintendent insists the deaths are suicide, the sad fate of star-crossed lovers.

However, Hamish suspects murder. Driven by a passionate interest in social justice, Hamish, and his friend Rita, realise there is a view of the asylum that has been obscured from the authorities.

*Step into the dark world of mystery and intrigue with one of fictions newest medical detectives...*



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Price available on our site

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## A Conversation with Karen

### **Why did you write the ‘Dr Hamish Hart Murder Mysteries’ series? What were your inspirations?**

*My concept for the series is that each book will focus on a location and an element of social/cultural inequity.*

*In the second book, ‘Plantation Murders’, the focus is on the South Sea Islander Labourers who were brought to Queensland to work in the cotton and sugar industries between 1864 and 1904. I have a passionate interest in decolonising Australia’s history and bringing past injustices into the light in story form.*

*The cosy murder mystery is a less confronting medium than others and offers the opportunity to present a narrative that enlightens as it entertains. Besides, I love a murder mystery.*

### **How had you decided on the best characters for the book?**

*My characters tend to evolve with the setting and the cultural/historical theme. They appear and start playing with me. Once they take shape, they are with me forever. Characters from previous books are like work friends I may have temporarily lost touch with, but they are still out there getting on with their lives and I think about them a lot.*

### **How do you create or model your characters to fit the requirements of the story and the expectations of the readers?**

*I don’t think about the expectations of readers prior to writing the book. I certainly listen to feedback from beta readers once I have a draft. As to the first part of the question, I usually begin with the characters, and they drive the story – not the other way around.*

### **What was the biggest challenge when writing your books?**

*Letting go of my imagined need to work as much at my day job. Making the space and energy for writing – validating that part of my life.*

### **For whom did you write the ‘Dr Hamish Hart Murder Mysteries’ series and why?**

*This book is written for people who enjoy cosy mysteries and historical mysteries set in Australia. It is specifically of interest to people living in south-east Queensland who will recognise the places and settings and learn about the history of their local area.*

### **Do you hear from your readers much? What kinds of things do they say?**

*I hear from readers on-line and in person sometimes. They are usually excited about how much historical detail they learned from the books. Because my books are set in specific locations that are historically accurate, readers say they love to learn about local areas they know.*

### **What would you say is your interesting writing quirk?**

*In winter I write in bed with the blankets pulled up under my chin and my laptop on my chest. This is made even quirkier when you consider I live on an Island in Queensland.*

### **Do you believe in writer’s block?**

*I believe in writer’s block, but fortunately I don’t suffer from it. I become stuck in plot development sometimes and need to take time to work out how the story progresses, but as soon as I do, I’m right back in writing.*

### **What are the ethics of writing?**

*My ethic is to be socially and culturally inclusive in my writing, representing individuals of diverse cultural backgrounds, sexuality, social status, and voice.*



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