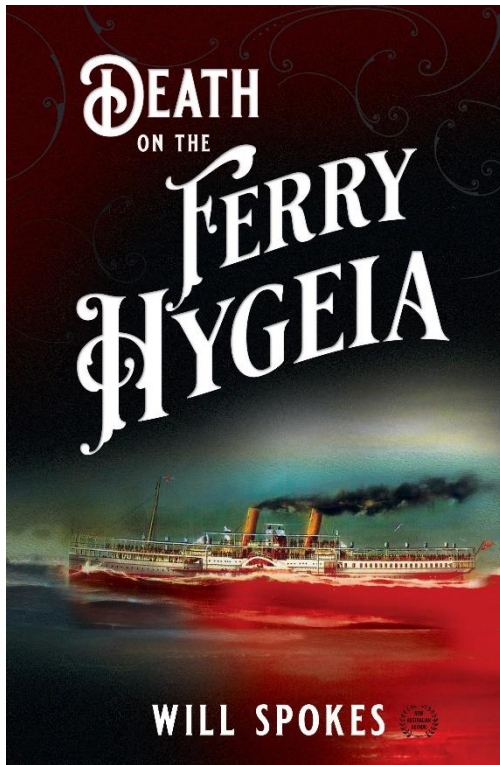


DEATH ON THE FERRY HYGEIA

WILL SPOKES



THE 1920'S.

A TIME OF EXCITEMENT AND TUMULTUOUS SOCIAL CHANGE.

The horrors of World War One have passed, receding into history and the Great Depression has yet to come.

In the bubble of relative calm, the city prospered as her citizens went about their lives.

Ineffective social welfare led to crushing poverty and low-level crime.

Defending the city from villains was an undermanned and under equipped police force experiencing great change.

A well connected but guileless young policeman begins his career in this city of contrasts, blended extreme poverty and wealthy privilege.

Constable Jim Foley's commitment and enthusiasm is put to the test under the scrutiny of his uncle a senior Officer in the force.

A major charity event is planned aboard the majestic Port Phillip Bay excursion ferry Hygeia.

But his career, and even his very life, are on the line as evil stalks the decks of this luxurious excursion ship...

AUTHOR BIO

Will lives on the Mornington Peninsula where he lives with his wife who tolerates his sense of humour and encourages his writing.

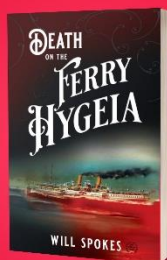
Will has been boating, sailing, fishing and flying most of his life. Working in a financial institution and more recently marketing, advertising and promotions for a number of Melbourne's leading radio stations.

Will has produced a number of titles, all of which have gained positive reviews from his readers. Will's books are notable for being well researched with a mix of drama and surprising twists, seasoned with his characteristic sardonic humour.

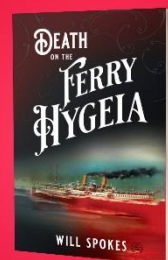
Will enjoys reading a wide spectrum of authors. Books with an historic or factual theme are favoured. Great writers write great books, life is too short to waste time reading hogwash.



AWARD NOMINATIONS



NSW PREMIER'S
LITERARY AWARDS
2023
NOMINATED TITLE
UTS GLENDA ADAMS
AWARD FOR NEW WRITING



NSW PREMIER'S
LITERARY AWARDS
2023
NOMINATED TITLE
CHRISTINA STEAD PRIZE
FOR FICTION

www.shawlinepublishing.com.au



Publisher contact: Bradley Shaw

Email: orders@shawlinepublishing.com.au

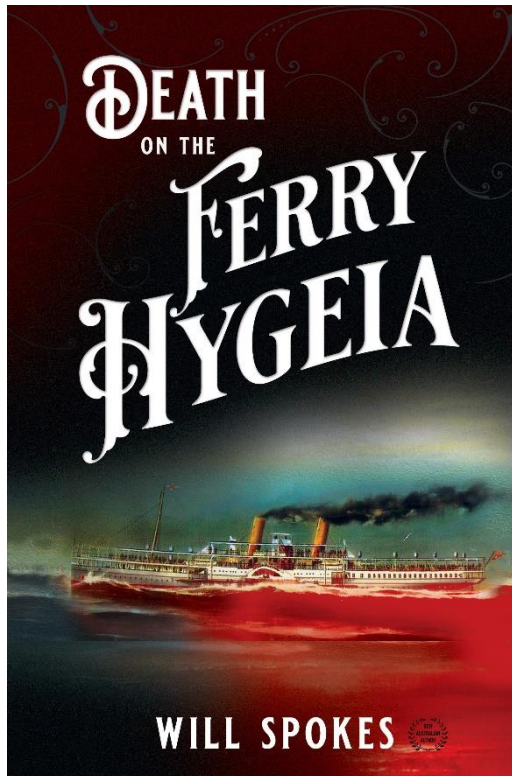
For further great titles by new Australian authors, please visit our website.

For exclusive Trade pricing and deals, please contact us to set up an account.

For international buyers, please visit our website for a link to Amazon.

DEATH ON THE FERRY HYGEIA

WILL SPOKES



A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

WHY DID YOU WRITE 'DEATH ON THE FERRY HYGEIA'? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

I'm a fan of crime and murder mysteries like most people. One of the great titles in this genre is Murder on the Orient Express. Because of my interest in the old ferries, I thought maybe I could write a mystery/ murder story based on the most famous of the old fleet Hygeia.

HOW HAD YOU DECIDED ON THE BEST CHARACTERS FOR THE BOOK?

They just evolved. I wrote the roles for them and then fitted them in. Obviously, we needed a murderer and a victim and of course a copper to bring the miscreant to heel. I couldn't make the killer or the victim/s too obvious, so the story develops around Constable Jim Foley and his colleagues.

HOW DO YOU CREATE OR MODEL YOUR CHARACTERS TO FIT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STORY AND THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE READERS?

I want someone who the reader might identify with. The policeman had to be a little fallible, subject to mistakes but still an ambitious leader who inspires those around him by his doggedness and courage. Other characters appear almost by themselves in support roles or as antagonists.

WHAT DREW YOU TO THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE BOOK AND ALSO THESE CHARACTERS WITHIN?

There is a lot of local history that younger generations know nothing about. Fascinating stuff that could and should inspire more writers. Explore the bays fortifications. Why did the USS Rattlesnake visit Melbourne during the US civil war? Who was Buckley and why did he live with the Indigenous People of the area? Who was the pirate rumoured to have hidden a vast fortune just inside the heads?

HOW LONG DO YOU SPEND RESEARCHING BEFORE BEGINNING A BOOK?

I formulate an idea and then begin to research as I develop the characters and storyline. That way, I remain flexible in my thinking. If the character needs to carry a gun, I will find out what make he might choose and if they have any faults. If the hero or villain has a cheap weapon, it might jam at a tense moment creating some edge to the tale. If he is taking the underground in New York, I will look up route numbers and timetables

ISBN	9781922594594
Publication Date	MAR 30 2022
Genre	Historical Fiction, Mystery, Crime
Format	Paperback
Audience	General
Location	Melbourne, VIC

Price available on our site

www.shawlinepublishing.com.au

SLP
SHAWLINE
PUBLISHING
GROUP

Publisher contact: Bradley Shaw
Email: orders@shawlinepublishing.com.au

For further great titles by new Australian authors, please visit our website.

For exclusive Trade pricing and deals, please contact us to set up an account.

For international buyers, please visit our website for a link to Amazon.