

a different kind of murder mystery

A thorn in their side: the Hilda Murrell murder.

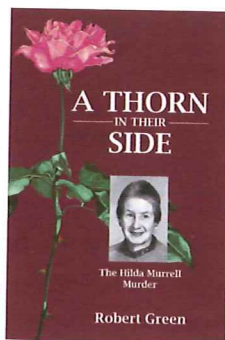
by Robert Green

Reviewer: John Gould

Meticulously researched and told from the heart this chilling story tries to uncover the truth about the brutal murder of the author's special aunt, Hilda Murrell, in a quiet rural town in Shropshire, England in 1984. Despite exhaustive police enquiries, numerous witness sightings and significant circumstantial evidence surrounding the crime, initially no one was charged. Only after two decades did West Mercia police finally arrest and charge Andrew George with the abduction and murder based on new analysis of DNA evidence. At that time he was a 16 year old truant from a local foster home. George was tried and convicted in 2005 and sentenced to a minimum 12 year term of imprisonment.

Green questions the soundness of this conviction on several counts using a wealth of new and additional evidence he has sourced over 27 years of determined investigation. This clearly demonstrates the theory proposed by the police and accepted by the jury that the crime was committed by a lone killer and the body driven, carried and dumped in local woodland the same day, to be untenable. For starters, the alleged murderer could not even drive.

Kindly, yet fearless, Hilda a nature lover and world-renowned rose grower was a woman of formidable intellect. Due to her growing concern over radioactive waste disposal and the need to protect the environment, she decided, aged 78, to take on the nuclear establishment by testifying to a planning enquiry into the new Sizewell nuclear power plant. To add to the complexity she was close to her nephew, Robert Green, a



former Royal Navy Commander who had recently resigned from a senior post in naval intelligence over concerns of the logic of nuclear deterrence as a viable security strategy. Robert had had access to sensitive and secret information relating to operations during the Falklands war. This including the controversial sinking of the Argentinian cruiser the *General Belgrano*, a political hot potato for the Thatcher government of the time. There was, therefore, good reason that both Robert and Hilda, by association, would have been individuals of special interest to the intelligence services in the early 1980s.

This is not an easy book to read. While on the one hand it is a fascinating unresolved murder mystery, it has been written not to entertain but to present explosive new evidence both to bring about the acquittal of Andrew George, as well as to expose the shadowy forces who were really

behind this terrible crime. It is also a hard read, because the implications of this case go well beyond the deliberate miscarriage of justice and incarceration of an innocent man until 2018.

Most concerning of all is that Hilda's abduction, torture and murder, is not an exceptional or isolated case. The author cites more than ten other cases where individuals who have dared to challenge the military or nuclear industry in Britain and America have either been killed or closely escaped death in very suspicious circumstances. Invariably these cases are dismissed as suicide or 'road accidents' following police investigations. Some are well known such as that of Karen Silkwood a union activist at an Oklahoma plutonium processing plant killed in 1974; and Dr David Kelly, the UN Weapon's inspector. Others are less widely known such as the case of Dr Rosalie Bertell, American Catholic nun and nuclear whistle-blower, who narrowly survived a potentially fatal 'car accident'.

If you believe in justice, this is not just a book you should read, it is a book you must read. Once read, pass it on and discuss it with friends, family, concerned citizens.

Our freedom and democracy depend on it. ■

The Action Bible

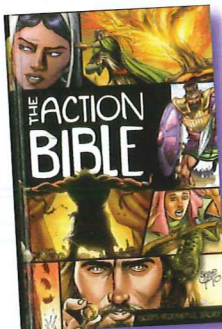
Top seller to Visual Generation

Combines clear writing with dramatic, exciting images that command attention.

Ideal for non-readers, reluctant readers and all ages who love graphic presentation.

Sturdy hardback. 750pp.

Only \$39.99 + \$6 p/pkg



Pleroma
Christian Supplies

0508 988 988
order@pleroma.org.nz
38 Higginson Street, Otane
Central Hawke's Bay
www.christiansupplies.co.nz