

DARK TALES

FROM THE LONG RIVER

by **DAVID PRICE**

ABOUT THE BOOK

From searches for serial killers and missing persons to the persecution of migrants and Aboriginal people, David Price takes us back to a time when the line between lawmakers and criminals was lightly drawn. Based on a wide array of contemporaneous accounts of life in the Gascoyne, these sometimes shocking, sometimes disturbing true crime stories depict an era when Australia's laws served to maintain order rather than to secure justice.

Dark Tales from the Long River offers a window into an evolving history of Western Australia that is still struggling into the light.

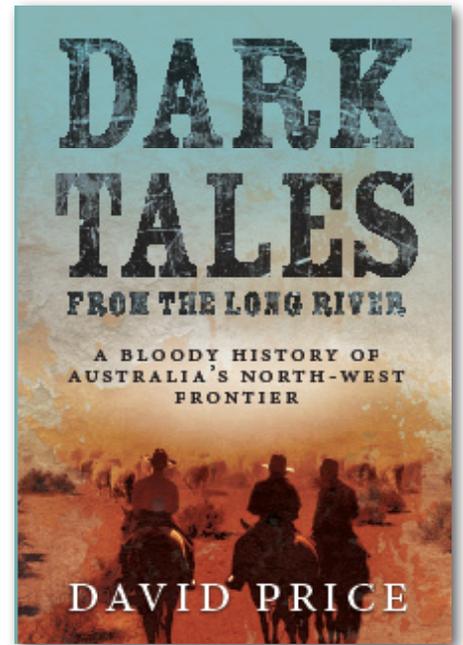
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David Price is a Western Australian educator who grew up in the small town of Carnarvon in the 1960s. He has been a teacher, principal and Director of Schools in many parts of the state. Although he now lives in Perth, David has long been intrigued by the hidden history of his hometown and its wilful amnesia about the treatment of Aboriginal people and Asian migrants by the first settlers.



KEY POINTS

- Covering the years that marked the end of the 19th Century and the beginning of the 20th Century, these self-contained stories combine to evoke an image of life and death in the far flung settlements and pastoral properties that were once isolated outposts of colonial Australia.
- The nine stories of *Dark Tales* provide a backwards glimpse at how the law was used in Western Australia's north-west to subjugate Aboriginal and Asian migrants.
- The events are based mainly around Carnarvon and Shark Bay during the thirty-year reign of the area's first magistrate, Charles D.V. Foss.
- The book uses the accounts from a wide array of newspapers, the reportage itself revealing as much about prevailing views, prejudices and values as the incidents they record.
- This is a brilliant true crime book for Father's Day 2020 and author interviews and extracts are available on request.



Pub. Date	June 2021
ISBN	9781925816631
eISBN	9781925816648
RRP	\$32.99 AU \$37.00 NZ \$19.95 US
Genre	True Crime/History
Format	C, PB
Extent	208 pp



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