

DARYL SHANE ELS EXPOSED

By Thomas Mollett and Calvin Mollett

The criminal trial was a brutal affair. It was well publicised and covered by at least two books – Antony Albeker's *Fruit of a Poisoned Tree* and our own *Bloody Lies*. But what few people are aware of are that some of the dirty tactics the defence had employed during the criminal trial and especially afterwards, when they potentially faced a losing battle against the Lotzes, who had launched a civil case against Fred van der Vyver who had been acquitted of Inge's murder in the criminal trial. There was an onslaught against Inge and her family. It was almost like a repeat violation of Inge that had begun on 16 March 2005, with the first unsuspecting hammer blow, and continued at the hands of many who worked diligently to deny Inge justice with their lies. Along with those who worked relentlessly to attack and taint the legacy of Inge and to hurt and intimidate her family are the despicable and hurtful actions of private investigator Daryl Els.

We will reveal here the role that Daryl Els played in putting up smokescreens to direct attention away from Fred, to taint the memory of Inge and to intimidate and hurt Inge's parents; this all in the Van der Vyvers' vendetta against a man they must have truly despised – Ian Myburgh, Inge's uncle and godfather. It must be remembered that Daryl Els was not a lone wolf – he was part of a pack – well orchestrated and with a mission – to save Fred at all costs, whatever it took.

What you are about to read is shocking, but unfortunately real. You will read about accusations of rape, incest, murder, cannibalism, abortion, dark family secrets – remember, all concocted and fabricated without a shred of corroborating evidence that would withstand a court's scrutiny.

Where does one start?

A certain Werner Carolus made a statement to the police in Springbok on 19 April 2005 – seven days after Fred's fingerprints were matched to the print on Folien 1 – that his friends had killed Inge during a burglary.

Carolus, 17 years old at the time, was a member of a tik ('crystal meth') gang and a drug dealer. His fingerprints were linked to two housebreakings in Stellenbosch on 12 March and 20 March 2005. For these crimes he was later convicted and sentenced to 11 years in Pollsmoor Prison.

In his affidavit of 19 April 2005 he stated that one Saturday evening, after selling drugs and smoking tik, they followed Inge to her flat from the students' union at the university. She was someone who regularly bought drugs from them, he said. While Carolus stayed outside to stand guard, three friends climbed into the flat through a window. A short while later Carolus heard screams. He saw Jaco Swanepoel jumping out of the window and the other two running out of the door. He then stuck his head through the window and saw Inge's body – her head was on the seat, her upper body on the couch and her legs lying off the couch. Blood, he said, was running down her arm.

There are many problems with Carolus' version. The most critical being that Inge was not murdered on a Saturday evening but on a Wednesday afternoon. Secondly, the kitchen window had burglar bars and was covered by blinds that were closed when the body was discovered. Thirdly, Inge's legs weren't on the floor and her arm wasn't in a position for blood to drip from it.

After his affidavit on 19 April 2005 in Springbok, Carolus was brought to Stellenbosch to be interviewed by the police. They quickly realised that his statement was false. However, to make certain, on 21 April 2005 the police asked Carolus to point out Inge's flat. Although he could point out the Shiraz complex, he couldn't point out Inge's flat. He was apparently so stressed that the pointing-out was stopped. He later asked for a second pointing-out the next day. This time he took the police right to the front door of Inge's flat. And he *still* talked about how they climbed through a window.

The police also questioned the people he implicated – including Jaco Swanepoel. Their fingerprints were taken but could not be matched to those found in Inge's flat. They searched the house where Jaco lived and confiscated several items, including a kitchen knife. From Jaco's car they confiscated a knife and a remote control that failed to operate the gate at the Shiraz complex. The knives and the other items were tested by the Forensic Sciences Laboratory and no evidence linking Carolus and his gang to the murder could be found.

The question must be asked – why would Carolus come forward just after Fred’s fingerprints were matched to Folien 1 and with a story so demonstrably nonsensical? Who put him up to it, perhaps even paying him to do so?

Any assertion that the police, after they discovered Fred van der Vyver’s fingerprint on the incriminating DVD cover, developed tunnel vision and focused on him exclusively has little merit. That’s another fallacy. In spite of the obvious lies told by Carolus, the police still conducted an extensive investigation of Carolus and his gang members. Time, resources and money wasted that could perhaps have been better used in avenues in the murder investigation.

During an interview by investigating officers Director Trollip and Senior Inspector De Villiers on 25 April 2005, an apologetic Carolus recanted his statement of 19 April 2005. On 20 June 2006 he signed a formal affidavit to this effect while in prison. He stated that he had made up the whole story to get back at a gang member after a drug deal had gone bad.

In response to the testimonies of De Villiers and Trollip about their dealings with Carolus, the criminal trial judge ordered that the police investigate Carolus for obstructing and defeating the ends of justice by purposefully supplying the police with false information. The police also registered a docket in Stellenbosch to pave the way for these charges. It is a pity that these were never pursued as then the origins of his fairy tale could have been uncovered.

There are many, including author Antony Albeker, who believe that the police should have taken Carolus more seriously, in spite of his lies, because he revealed information that could only have been known by someone who had witnessed the crime and seen the crime scene. In his statements and dealings with police, Carolus mentioned that Inge’s flat was open-plan, that she had a handbag, and that part of her body was on a couch. He also knew where Inge’s flat was. However, most modern flats are open-plan, most women have a handbag, and on 2 April 2005 private investigator Niel van Heerden spoke to a number of gang leaders in Inge’s flat who all must have seen the bloodied couch. People talk. The fact remains that during the first pointing-out, Carolus could not pinpoint Inge’s flat. He did so only on the second pointing-out. He claims he saw police tape and got clues to the flat’s location by listening in on police conversations. It is also equally likely that someone sympathetic to Fred van der Vyver could have passed this information on to him, possibly

the same person who got him to make his 19 April affidavit. Making a false statement to police to get back at another gang member is hardly how gangs resolve grievances and settle scores.

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Then, in June 2005, shortly after the arrest of his son, Louis van der Vyver mandated two private investigators from East London, Christiaan Botha and Daryl Els, to “investigate” the murder of Inge Lotz. After “a preliminary investigation”, they identified Inge’s uncle Ian Myburgh as someone “who had possibly facilitated/promoted the murder of his niece”.

At that time, the only reasons for Els’ suspicion were that Myburgh had “immediately created an alibi for himself” (just like Fred did on the morning of the 17th) and also “aligned himself with the investigating team of Director Trollip and Inspector De Villiers”. For example, a newspaper article (*The Cape Times*, 23 March 2005) that requested information from the public contained Myburgh’s cellphone number in addition to the number of the Serious and Violent Crimes Unit. Els believed that Myburgh got his number included in order to screen the calls and to filter information before sharing it with the police.

Ian Myburgh insisted that he testify at the trial to underline certain areas he thought were played down or otherwise overlooked during the testimony of his sister, Juanita Lotz, Inge’s mother. Under cross-examination, Ian Myburgh – it is claimed – wasn’t honest about his whereabouts on the night of the murder. The defence subsequently put it to him that it was he, and not their client, who had a case to answer in the brutal killing of Inge Lotz. Ian Myburgh’s cellphone records, however, place him in the vicinity he claimed to be – at a Tukkies Rugby Club dinner function. The calls registered on the Hillcrest and Duxbury towers. These towers are in the area of the Tukkies campus, Pretoria, about 1 500 kilometres from Stellenbosch.

During the criminal trial no further attempts were made to implicate Ian Myburgh for the murder of Inge Lotz. No defence witnesses were called or evidence presented to implicate Myburgh as the murderer.

Then, 18 months later, in December 2007, about two weeks after the end of the criminal trial, Daryl Els and associate Christiaan Botha made an appearance again – supposedly to investigate Carolus “in the interest of justice”. After receiving Carolus’ recantation statement of June 2006 from Advocate Dup de Bruyn (Fred van der Vyver’s lawyer), they visited Carolus in Pollsmoor Prison. They left with a sworn statement in which Carolus recanted his recantation of June 2006 and in which he claimed that he had been threatened and intimidated by Trollip and De Villiers to recant his first statement of 19 April 2005.

Armed with this, in a sworn statement dated 20 December 2007, shortly after his interview with Carolus, Els went to great lengths, without evidence, to accuse De Villiers and Trollip of corruption and criminality in their dealings with Carolus. For example, he accused them of removing from the case docket a sketch plan of Inge’s flat that Carolus said he made during a police interview in April 2005. No evidence was presented that the sketch plan ever existed, and even if it did the mere absence from the case docket is hardly sufficient evidence to make such serious allegations. His affidavit reads in part as follows:

This ‘EXHIBIT’ is however no longer available and due to the FACT that Trollip and/or De Villiers removed the said SKETCH PLAN from the Inge Lotz Murder docket he/they have DEFEATED THE ENDS OF JUSTICE and are GUILTY OF a CRIMINAL OFFENCE!

So, on the basis of Carolus’ and Els’ unsubstantiated allegations, Els laid charges of intimidation and obstruction of justice against Trollip and De Villiers.

It is clear that Els wanted people to believe that Carolus’ version was true. It is hard to understand how Els rationalised all the inconsistencies in Carolus’ previous statements. However, it seems typical of Els not to bother about actual evidence. The truth was simply too inconvenient.

Importantly, nothing came of these charges.

But this was not the end of Els’ efforts. Three months later, in March 2008, he took another statement from Carolus. Carolus admitted that he was in a group of six people (not five as before) involved in Inge’s murder and that he was prepared to testify against the others. Els then handed the statement over to the police and told *Die Burger* that “a suspect could be arrested soon”.

Strangely, by March 2008, Ian Myburgh was clearly no longer a suspect, at least in Els' eyes. He had two affidavits from Carolus that Inge was murdered during a burglary in which he had been involved. And Els was so confident that Carolus wasn't telling him lies as well, that he didn't hesitate to lay charges against the investigating officers for intimidation and obstruction of justice.

But then, on 14 March 2008, everything changed. On this day Professor Lotz launched an R8-million civil damages suit against Fred van der Vyver. One can only imagine how concerned and angry the Van der Vyvers must have been about this – especially considering that this time their front man, Dup de Bruyn, would likely be up against a formidable team of top-notch litigators, forensic experts and scientists. All handpicked. It could have been a different ball game compared to the criminal case; also in a civil case the benchmark is only “scale of probability” and not “beyond reasonable doubt”.

To prepare for the civil trial, one of the strategies the defence adopted was to compile a dossier to prove that Ian Myburgh was the killer. Daryl Els was a leading member of this team to “conclusively prove” that Ian Myburgh was the killer. So here again a desperate reversion to plan B after plan A (Carolus) just couldn't work out. Would a plan C have been cooked up if the civil case had proceeded? Given Els' imagination, anything seems possible.

Professor Lotz soon found out that the defence was investigating his bother-in-law. Louis van der Vyver apparently had “irrefutable proof” that Myburgh killed Inge. Professor Lotz wanted his legal team to eliminate Myburgh as a suspect first before spending further millions on the civil case. Professor Lotz was asked to formulate a hypothetical scenario about how Myburgh could have committed the murder – and he, in fact, did and e-mailed it to his legal team. In a shocking breach of privacy, a person on his legal team passed this e-mail to the defence and, via private investigator Boet Claassen, to Louis van der Vyver. Daryl Els also saw this e-mail.

Daryl Els, in an unsigned affidavit dated 28 May 2009, gives insight into his investigation of Ian Myburgh.

On 4 May 2009 he claims to have had a telephone interview with Myburgh's ex-wife, Ms Caro Sykes, and then made the following allegations:

1. Myburgh called his ex-wife sometime between 21:00 and 22:00 to tell her that Inge had been murdered. Els took this as proof that Myburgh killed Inge because he knew about the murder even before the discovery of Inge's body. However, the objective fact, proven by telephone records, is that this call was made at 00:09 – just past midnight on the 17th – an hour and a half after the discovery of the body.
2. Myburgh told his ex-wife that he was calling from Bloemfontein, while in court Myburgh said he was in Pretoria on the 16th and the early hours of the 17th. Els took this to mean that Myburgh had lied in court. The truth is that Myburgh's phone records (of actual calls made and received) show that he was in Pretoria and not in Bloemfontein. Period.
3. Els further alleged that Myburgh's ex-wife once discovered him and Inge Lotz in a *compromising position*. Here follows an extract from Daryl Els' affidavit:

The FOLLOWING information would be requested from CARO SYKES during our PERSONAL interview:

DESCRIPTION of "compromising position" in which CARO SYKES discovered IAN MYBURGH and INGE LOTZ and WHERE and WHEN this had occurred.

DETAIL MYBURGH's RELATIONSHIP with INGE LOTZ.

Els is clearly implying, or trying to state as a fact, that there was inappropriate sexual contact between Inge Lotz and Ian Myburgh.

However, Ms Sykes signed the following sworn affidavit in Pretoria on 27 January 2011:

This affidavit has specific relevance to an affidavit written by Daryl Shane Els and dated Cape Town 27/05/2009. Specific reference is found in paragraph 1 page 3 and I quote:

DESCRIPTION of "compromising position" in which CARO SYKES discovered IAN MYBURGH and INGE LOTZ and WHERE and WHEN this had occurred.

DETAIL MYBURGH's RELATIONSHIP with INGE LOTZ.

I herewith declare under oath that I had NEVER seen such an incident. That I had NEVER suggested such a possibility and that I had NEVER said such a thing to anyone and more specifically not to Daryl Shane Els.

Daryl Shane Els' affidavit is false and only he will know why he is spreading such a shockingly false rumour in my name. [our emphasis]

After faking an admission from Caro Sykes, Els also alleges that an acquaintance of Myburgh, a Gerard S, whom he, Myburgh, called at 00:23 on the 17th supplied an ex-police officer, Christo D, with an affidavit in which he implicated Myburgh in the murder. The problem is that Gerard S confirmed to us by e-mail recently that he has never, at any time, accused his “old friend of anything”. Christo D also told Els that he has never received an affidavit from Gerard S.

Then, on 26 May 2009, Daryl Els conducted an interview with Jaco Swanepoel at his home in Krige Street, Stellenbosch. Jaco’s uncle was also in attendance.

Jaco supposedly told Daryl Els how one night he was visited by a man who claimed to be Swedish and spoke with a “strange accent”. The man asked several questions, which apparently gave Jaco the impression that he was trying to find out if Jaco saw him commit the murder. Apparently, Jaco then “positively identified” the man who had visited him from a photo shown to him by Els as Ian Myburgh.

The truth is that someone did in fact visit Jaco Swanepoel – but it was not Ian Myburgh. It was investigative writer Michael Day! At the time, Michael Day was doing research into the murder and it is common knowledge that he was planning to write a book about the tragedy. Day is a UK citizen and has a heavy English accent and will testify that he visited Swanepoel. (Swanepoel’s uncle also confirmed to us that the visitor was not an Afrikaans-speaking man trying to speak English, but a first-language English-speaker with an authentic accent. That rules Myburgh, as an Afrikaans-speaker, out.)

This immediately destroys Els’ so called “identification” of Ian Myburgh by Swanepoel. Typical of his slapdash methods, Els shoved a picture of Myburgh under Swanepoel’s nose to get an

identification from him, the process failing all reasonable steps to ensure a proper identification. And then on top of that, it was he who typed up Swanepoel's statement.

One can only wonder whether Els was acting under clear instructions or is a fantasist of major proportions. Until someone in the Van der Vyver camp repudiates all that Els has concocted, the implications are clear.

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In an unfortunate turn of events, in May 2009 Professor Lotz, due to health concerns, was advised by a physician and psychiatrist to drop the civil suit against Fred van der Vyver.

One would think that with Fred finally free of the civil suit, further investigation into Myburgh would stop there – it didn't. It was time for retribution. Possibly because of Myburgh's unflattering words and testimony about Fred's questionable behaviour the week after the murder when Fred practically moved into Inge's room in her family home.

Things then become quite fantastical – and would be funny if not for the tragedy of the situation.

The next month, in June 2009, Daryl Els again met Carolus in prison and took a new affidavit from him. In this affidavit he recanted all previous statements and came up with a new version. Apparently, when he had looked through the kitchen window of Inge's flat he had seen the murderer – a white man – bite a piece of flesh from Inge's chest. With the piece of flesh in his mouth, the man turned around and saw him where he stood outside the kitchen window. Carolus then fled.

Carolus gave three explanations for making all the previous false statements. First, he had apparently thought that because he had seen the murder and hadn't prevented it, that made him guilty of the murder too. Secondly, he implicated his friends because he would rather be in prison with them than with this vicious white man he claimed to have seen. Thirdly, Carolus wanted to get Jaco Swanepoel into trouble because he felt that it was Swanepoel's fault that he, Carolus, was serving time in prison.

It doesn't take much to realise that these explanations make no logical sense whatsoever. How could he have prevented the murder? When he looked through the window the murder had already been committed. Afraid of just one man and not of several gang members he had falsely incriminated? Since when do gangs settle scores by using the police to falsely imprison someone?

Whose fertile imagination really concocted these bizarre explanations?

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But the viciousness didn't stop there. In October 2009, five months after Professor Lotz had dropped the civil suit, a man (apparently with financial troubles) by the name of Carl Grigor from Tarkastad (about 30 minutes away from Queenstown where the Van der Vyvers lived) sent numerous malicious text messages to Mrs Lotz. This harassment of Mrs Lotz lasted for 13 months and was particularly severe over the Christmas and New Year period. Grigor, who appears to know a lot of very personal information about Mrs Lotz, such as her manner of dress and movements, apparently didn't know that the Van der Vyvers lived so close to him. He claims he found it out quite by accident.

The text messages attacked Mrs Lotz's character and accused her of telling lies during her testimony in court in 2007. "Lies were told in court, that is why I'm SMSing her." In one of his most absurd allegations, Grigor insinuated that Professor Lotz was not Inge's real father, but that her brother Ian Myburgh was Inge's father! During an interview with Marlene Malan from *Rapport*, Carl Grigor – without being asked – vehemently protested that he didn't know the Van der Vyver family. "I don't know Alfons, Fred or Louis!"

Accusations that Mrs Lotz lied is nothing new. It is known that Fred's brother, Alfons, took great exception to Mrs Lotz's court testimony that Inge was very security conscious and he openly accused her of perjury. (Fred later stated that he could not refute that Inge was security conscious.)

So who had supplied Grigor with Mrs Lotz's cellphone number?

It would be easy to suspect that Grigor was simply stalking Mrs Lotz. But whether as a result of some paranoid anger or whether directed by someone with an agenda remains the question.

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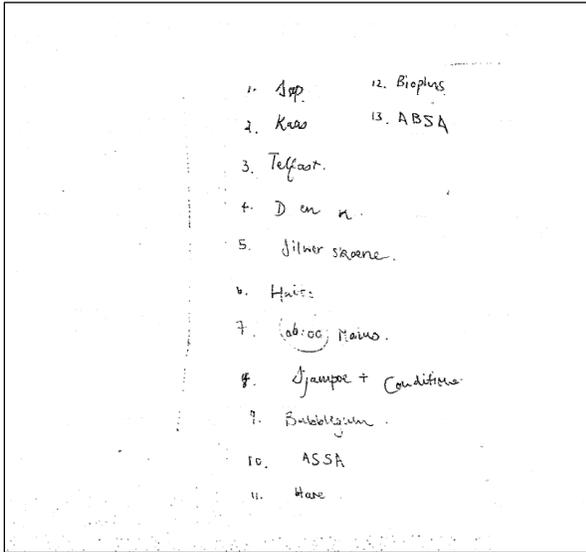
But it gets worse. In the preparation of the civil trial, Advocate Dup de Bruyn made the allegation that they had conclusive evidence that Ian Myburgh murdered Inge because he had made her pregnant and that she had then had an abortion.

It all started when private investigators from the firm George Fivaz & Associates, hired by Professor Lotz, found an old “to do” list in Inge’s car. Instead of giving it to the police or his client (Professor Lotz) at the time, Boet Claasens, an old acquaintance of Louis van der Vyver, gave it to Dup de Bruyn. There were a number of items on the list – “Juice”, “Cheese”, “Telfast”, “D en K”, “Silver shoes”, “Hair”, “06:00 Marius”, “Shampoo and Conditioner”, etcetera.

An acquaintance of Dup de Bruyn suggested to him that “D en K” possibly stood for “*dilatatie en kurettasie*” – dilation and curettage (D&C) – the process of an abortion. In an incredible attempt to dramatise the list even further, the item “06:00 Marius” supposedly meant that it had been Marius who had taken Inge to have the abortion! After Professor Lotz dropped the civil suit, Dup de Bruyn admitted to him that they had no other evidence to support this allegation other than the “D en K” on the “to do” list. It was at this meeting that Dup de Bruyn gave Professor Lotz a copy of an affidavit by Daryl Els, wherein he claims that Myburgh’s ex-wife once found Myburgh and Inge in a “compromising position”.

Naturally, Professor and Mrs Lotz found these allegations extremely upsetting. During one sleepless night, Mrs Lotz decided to study the list in detail. Within minutes she found an explanation for each item on the list and could even pinpoint the date of the shopping list – 5 December 2004. Some of the items were for Inge preparing for her graduation ceremony on 8 December and Dawie’s (Fred’s brother) wedding on 11 December. The “D en K” stands for “**D**awie and **K**arla” – a reminder to buy Fred’s brother and future sister-in-law a wedding gift! The very next item on the list was “Silver shoes” – shoes she wanted to buy to wear to the wedding.

Is an abortion really something that you would remind yourself of on a shopping list tucked in between “Telfast” and “Silver shoes”, as if it were just another chore to be ticked off at the end of the day? This just shows how desperate the defence was that they had to grab at straws of this nature. What happened to the Fred’s “rock-solid” alibi?



Above: The shopping list that Dup de Bruyn felt was adequate proof that Inge had had an abortion. His allegation relied only on this list and nothing more.

It is absurd and equally sad to think that a valid piece of evidence such as Folien 1 was reduced to nothing, while a rather innocuous piece of paper in Inge's car noting a mundane "to-do" list was elevated to something that would hurt Inge's legacy and her family in the way it has done.

But Els and those behind him didn't give up easily. On 20 March 2012, two days after *Rapport* reported that Professor Lotz was offering a reward of R1 million to the person who could find the killer(s) of his daughter, Daryl Els posted on a blog that he identified an eye witness to the murder and that the witness had passed a lie-detector test supposedly administered by the police.

Barely a week later, on 28 March 2012, Els followed it up with the following e-mail to Johan Jordaan, Professor Lotz's attorney:

[...]

During my investigation, I identified the ONLY EYEWITNESS of the murder on Inge Lotz!

I then took a sworn statement from the eyewitness and handed it to General Mark Magadlela. After Magadlela took notice of the content of the sworn statement, he gave instruction to (probably Colonel now) PIET VILJOEN to follow the content of the statement up and to verify it. Viljoen's first step was to put the eyewitness through a polygraph test. The eyewitness undertook the polygraph test successfully (NO DECEPTION SHOWN).

In his sworn statement the witness DESCRIBES how Inge Lotz's body sustained the open wound on the upper chest. The witness mentions that the MURDERER BIT a piece of flesh from Inge's chest. With the piece of flesh in his mouth, the MURDERER turned around and saw the EYEWITNESS where he stood outside the kitchen window. The EYEWITNESS then fled. After the MURDERER BIT Inge Lotz's body and because he was seen to have bitten the piece of flesh, he (MURDERER) cut around the wound in order to prohibit a FORENSIC INVESTIGATION because his teeth marks would now not be visible on the body!

[...]

The MURDERER FORCED himself on the State and while he (MURDERER) was in Johannesburg on his own account during the murder on INGE LOTZ, he (MURDERER) was called as a State witness by (first name) Van der Vijver, to testify against Fred van der Vyver. The MURDERER made the MISTAKE to tell his ex-wife that he (MURDERER) was in BLOEMFONTEIN when Inge was murdered.

More evidence is available against the MURDERER and if his alibi was to be followed up, it would be established that the MURDERER committed perjury while he testified in the Cape High Court, which can be used against him WHEN he is prosecuted one day.

I do not know if it is common cause but the MURDERER had sexual intercourse with Inge Lotz or RAPED her!

There is seminal fluid on her panty as well as in her vagina!

The SEMINAL FLUID was tested already and it was ESTABLISHED the MURDERER is STERILE or that he had a VASECTOMY. The way forward would be to send the panty away to America so that it can be examined for EPITHELIAL CELLS.

In a follow-up email to Jordaan, Els wrote:

Secondly, the MURDERER's ex-wife mentioned that the MURDERER informed her of Inge's murder before he (MURDERER) himself was informed of the murder. THEREFORE, the MURDERER HAD PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE of the murder.

It is quite obvious that Els is referring to Ian Myburgh.

The whole claim that Inge's chest wound was a bite mark was first put forward at an IAI (International Association for Identification) Conference in Kentucky by Michael Grimm, a forensic scientist from the US who was retained by Louis van der Vyver to investigate and to report on the head wounds and the blood marks on the bathroom floor. Grimm, the man who reckoned Inge's head wounds were made by a hand gun ("by hitting and not by shooting"), is not a forensic pathologist and he failed to take into account the multiple stab wounds through the sternum extending into the lungs and some even severing some ribs. Damage that a human bite cannot inflict. According to Grimm, the blood marks on the floor were made by pieces of flesh the murderer excised from Inge's chests. Before flushing them down the toilet the murderer had accidentally dropped them in the floor!

How is it that Carolus' affidavit obtained by Daryl Els conveniently supports Grimm's bite theory – when no biting ever took place? Also, Werner Carolus had stated that he had looked through the kitchen window – a window that was covered with blinds so that no one could look through into the flat.

And again, telephone records show that, even if Inge, for the sake of argument, was bitten by someone, it could not have been by Ian Myburgh, because he was in Pretoria at the time of the murder.

Imagine for a moment that you had lost your only daughter in such brutal fashion – and you received an e-mail from someone claiming that there was some kind of sexual interaction between your daughter and your brother (or brother-in-law) before he murdered and then cannibalised her. And Els did so without a shred of conclusive scientific evidence and with no regard for the evidence and court testimonies already at hand. What kind of man does this?

During the autopsy, rape-kit samples were taken. These swabs and Inge's underwear were submitted to the Forensic Laboratory for further testing. The laboratory report states "*Possible seminal acid phosphatase activity was detected*" on the underwear and the swabs that were tested. Some samples that tested positive were then submitted for DNA testing and no male DNA material could be found. To Daryl Els this meant that there was no DNA carrying sperm in the seminal fluid (semen) and that the depositor was therefore sterile.

Had Els done some basic research he would have found that semen contains a high concentration of Acid Phosphatase (AP). The standard industry test for detecting acid phosphatase is the Brentamine Fast Blue Test. When the Brentamine comes into contact with acid phosphatase it changes colour. Forensic scientists are trained, and learn through experience, to interpret the strength, colour and speed of the reaction to assess if they are dealing with seminal fluid or another substance.

Some of the other substances that contain acid phosphatase and would therefore react with Brentamine are vaginal secretions, urine, blood and bacteria from a yeast infection. When Brentamine reacts with high concentrations of AP, as found in semen, it turns a bright clear purple within two minutes of application. The Brentamine applied to Inge's underwear – as well as the swabs – turned brown, not purple. Laboratory staff had never seen a reaction like this before. It could have been caused by urine or the yeast infection Inge suffered from at the time – and for which she was using an ointment. Both the yeast infection and ointment are reported in the autopsy report.

That is why Sergeant Peta Davidtsz testified in court that the presence of potential seminal acid phosphatase is not indicative of the definite presence of semen as it is a presumptive test that can have reactions with other substances.

That is the reason why male DNA wasn't found – *because there was none to be found*. Inge did not have sexual interaction with anyone shortly before her death. No signs of sexual intercourse were found during the autopsy. There is no forensic evidence to support such a wild allegation, and nothing about the scene suggests any type of sexual activity prior to the murder.

So what is the picture we get of Daryl Shane Els?

1. His investigation of the Lotz case was either utterly and comprehensively incompetent and/or wilfully dishonest to deliver to his paymaster what was needed to advance the defence's agenda. One can only hope that there are no innocent people in prison today as a result of his investigative work as a police officer.
2. Whenever he met with Carolus or his accomplices, Els walked away with an affidavit that was advantageous to the defence's strategy at the time. When Carolus and his friends fell out of favour as suspects, and the focus shifted to Myburgh, he (Els) ended up with an affidavit from Carolus implicating Myburgh. From Jaco Swanepoel he got an affidavit with a false identification implicating Myburgh.
3. Sending the type of e-mail to the Lotzes that he did just shows that he doesn't have a care in this world as to how his actions and unfounded allegations would hurt Inge's devastated parents and tarnish the legacy of Inge.
4. Els concocted outlandish theories around Ian Myburgh as the murderer despite cellphone records that confirm his alibi – and did not offer a shred of proof as to whether or not the cellphone records could be relied upon.
5. He made allegations of criminality against the investigating officers without any corroborating evidence – and relied solely upon the word of a proven drug user, liar, criminal and convict, who constantly changed his version with every statement.
6. He fabricated a very incriminating false admission reputedly made by Myburgh's ex-wife, Caro Sykes, that she had discovered Inge and her (ex-husband, Inge's) uncle in a "*compromising position*". Caro Sykes made a sworn affidavit in which she denied ever having

told Els anything of the kind. Gerard S also denies a claim made by Els – that he, Gerard S, made an affidavit incriminating his friend Ian Myburgh.

7. With no conclusive proof that seminal fluid was found inside Inge, and without presenting any evidence that Ian Myburgh is sterile, he claims with certainty that Ian Myburgh had forced sexual interaction with Inge before her murder. Els has absolutely no respect and comprehension of scientific, forensic and objective facts. He simply ignores these when they do not suit his concocted versions. This while the true facts suggest that Inge was unaware of any danger, relaxing on her couch, reading a magazine and getting ready to watch a DVD, when the first fatal hammer blow fell from behind.

This is shocking investigative work – but then again, maybe not surprising because, we must remember, Daryl Shane Els is only but a pawn serving a master.

Apart from all of this and as recently as March 2015, Daryl Els grew a little tail in the form of Alan D Elsdon, a self-proclaimed friend and ex-colleague of Els. (And by now we know under whose umbrella Els operates.) Recently, while addressing the Woordfees in Stellenbosch on our book *Bloody Lies* and our ongoing investigation, Elsdon, in what was clearly a calculated attempt to promote Els' lies, stood up at question time, not to pose a question but rather to leave an innuendo hanging in the air, that after a two-year investigation, he had an “established motive” that “a dark family secret” was the basis and motive for the murder.

Some people at the Woordfees stated that Elsdon also suggested to them afterwards that Inge had been pregnant, before he disappeared into thin air. To the media he denied that he said that Inge was pregnant “at the time of the murder” – so he doesn't deny saying that Inge was pregnant – he only denies that she was “pregnant at the time of the murder”. When asked by Professor Lotz and the media to produce the evidence, he said, “I did not say anything about having evidence.” Just like Daryl Els, making serious claims – hurtful claims – without any basis whatsoever.

What we have witnessed is a well-orchestrated campaign to direct attention away from Fred van der Vyver and his DVD fingerprint by, first of all, portraying Inge in such a way that someone would have had a motive to kill her. Choosing her uncle Ian Myburgh as the suspect, in the absence of any solid objective evidence, was also a highly opportunistic and vindictive move to not only punish Ian Myburgh but also to inflict hurt on Professor and Mrs Lotz in retribution for Mrs Lotz's testimony putting Fred in a bad light, and them daring to sue Fred in their desire to see justice done for their beloved daughter. It is a campaign that reeks of utter desperation – with people working with an almost religious zeal to save Fred at all costs, no matter what it took to do so. Nothing was held sacred, especially not the memory of Inge, who Fred once said was like Jesus to him. *"I just want to say one word who Inge was to me. She was Jesus."* And, inexplicably, Fred allowed and stood idly by as his supporters tarnished the woman he said he loved so much. Not once in a single utterance has Fred repudiated or distanced himself from any of the bizarre and baseless allegations made by Els. What can one make of this?

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In closing, if one lifts the dark veil of lies and deception and looks at the objective facts, then it is clear that Inge was never pregnant. Not at any time before or at the time of her death. She never had an abortion. Ian Myburgh at no time had any improper relationship with Inge. Inge was not involved with drugs. She had no involvement with shady characters. She did not have an affair while dating Fred. Neither Carolus, Swanepoel, nor Ian Myburgh had anything to do with Inge's murder.

Apart from the fact that there is no evidence to suggest otherwise, Inge was a happy person with very few issues in her life (nothing more than the usual issues we all face). Every single letter she ever wrote, especially those (plus SMSes) close to the time of her death, shows a happy person, not a person with major issues or dark secrets. Nowhere therein are there any hints of trauma or "dark issues" in her life. The only disturbing letter is the last letter to Fred, which she wrote on the morning of her death. But this letter was all about her relationship with Fred and even in this letter there is no indication of any other major issues in her life.

We must also remember that Inge was very close to both her parents, with whom she had very special relationships. She told her mother just about everything that was going on in her life. Inge

would go to her parents' house every weekend, with a bunch of flowers for her mother – every weekend! She spoke to her mother on the phone about three to four times a day. Her mother would visit her during the weeks to help clean her flat. Being in such regular contact, her mother would have been aware of any problems – had there been any. Or at least would have sensed it. Nowhere in any of the many letters between mother and daughter is there any indication of any problems in Inge's life.

In 2011 an IT expert did an investigation of the hard drive in Inge's laptop and her internet history. In an e-mail to Professor Lotz on 17 February 2011, he wrote: *"Inge se internet geskiedenis is 'n getuienis van wie sy was."* ("Inge's internet history is a testimony of who she was.")

Inge excelled. She did exceptionally well in her studies and personal life. She was neat in appearance. This is not the picture of a troubled woman who was, as one vicious rumour would have us believe, involved with drug smugglers. She was popular, social and well groomed. She sang in her own church and at the time of the murder even attended Bible study classes of His People church, as encouraged by Fred.

This is the point: If you take a snapshot of Inge's life, her whole life, the environment in which she was raised and also lived, her relationships and solid family structure, and what she said and did and wrote about, there are absolutely no grounds to support *any* of the malicious rumours that have been *created* about her, created by people with an agenda and presenting them as public "facts".

Few of us can truly imagine the hell Professor and Mrs Lotz have been through. In losing their beloved daughter they lost everything. One cannot imagine having one's only child taken away from you in such a brutal way – and not knowing why – and then to be confronted with people spreading evil lies and rumours about your child who is not there to defend herself. To be harassed and intimidated in such cruel ways that Professor Lotz was compelled to once remark: "Until 16 March 2005, we lived in love and harmony together. On that day it felt like Satan walked into our house ... and since then he never left ..."

Thomas and Calvin Mollett are the authors of *Bloody Lies: Citizens reopen the Inge Lotz murder case*
Read a more about our investigation into the murder of Inge Lotz on Truth4Inge.com