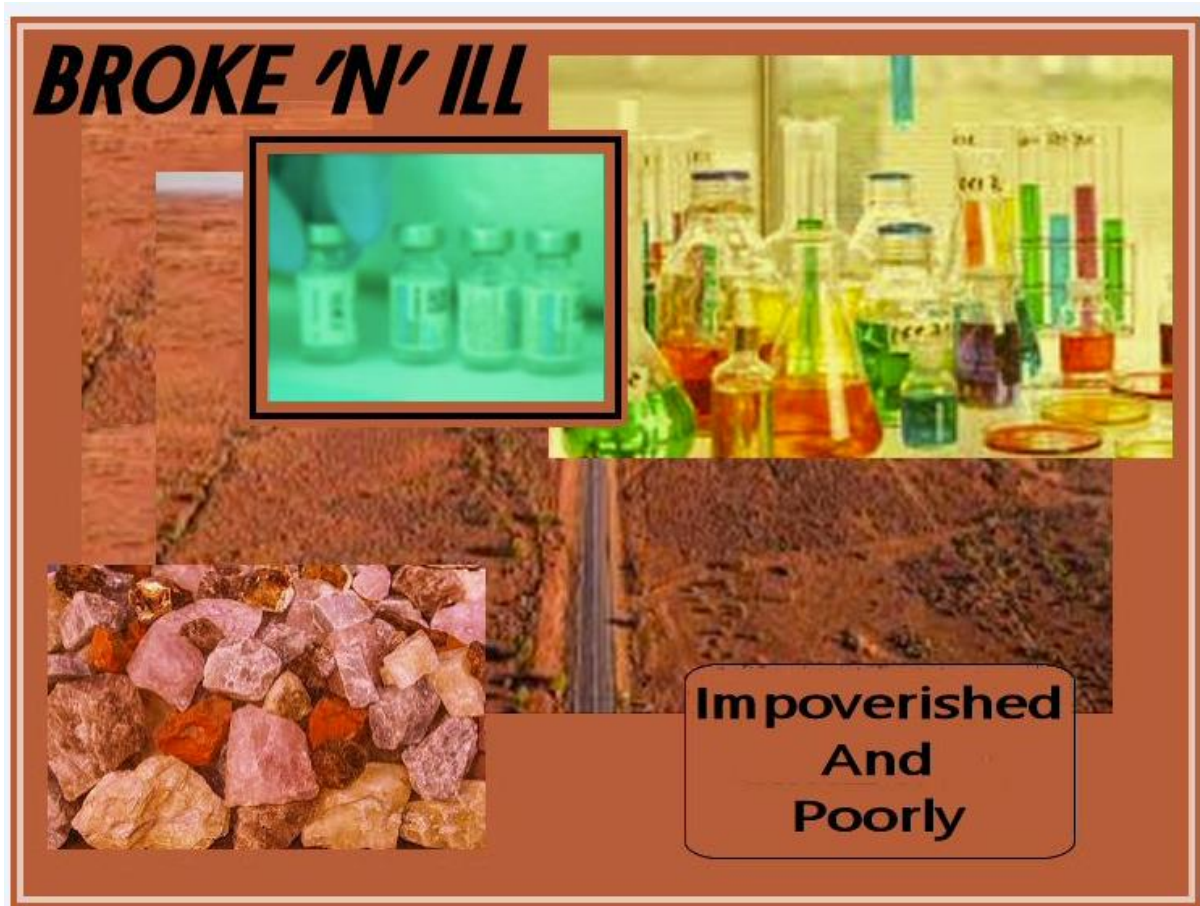




CAST whom we have already met

BE ADVISED that **ED SWAN** was a character in **TORRES STRAIT**.

Superintendent

Strong and very fit.

Ed Swan

Ex-AFL footballer now in late 40's. As a one-time footballer, he will be very tall (189 centimetres or a smidgeon over 6 feet 2 inches.) The height stricture is not a romantic confection: there is a standing joke throughout the movie that Ed teamed up with Blaike as he wanted a tall wingman.

Heads the Cold Cases Department for the NSW police.

	He is indigenous in that his maternal grandmother was a full blood Noongar woman.
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BE ADVISED that **JEREMY HURSTBRIDGE** was a major character in **CHEETAHS AND GAZELLES**.

Jeremy Hurstbridge	The actor who plays Jeremy must be a solid young man (described by Max in "Cheetahs and Gazelles" as a cruiserweight). Jeremy is the pathologist at Cadbury in Kent, England. He married Beth Pendlebury at the conclusion of the earlier film. Jeremy and Beth have two children and Beth is now 5-months pregnant. Son Adrian is 5 years old in 2022. (We don't see this child). Daughter Simone-Louise is 3 years old in 2022.
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BE ADVISED that **COOPER** (real name MAX COOPER) was a major character in the three **SLASH & BURN** movies.

Max Cooper (Cooper)	Cooper is a superb athlete. But he becomes confused by simple scenarios. It is Cooper who explains to Ed the background to the F-PROTA scandal (having been previously informed by Jeremy). The reason that Cooper was hunted by Lidyard with such vigour was that Cooper is a very keen ladies man. He would have spread F-PROTA like wildfire.
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	Cooper himself is a dag. Funny, loveable ... a dag.
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BE ADVISED that **JEPARIT NAME-YOUR-POISON** (real name JASPRIT NAMIPORS) was a major character in the three **SLASH & BURN** movies.

Jeparit	Jeparit Name-Your-Poison. Jeparit's real name is Jasprit Namipors. Well-educated and a practising solicitor, Jeparit is building up his collection of antique firearms. To that end he leaves London to fly to Sydney and from there to Broken Hill to visit Lyle Oxley. Jeparit falls in love with Winlagh.
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BE ADVISED that **GIBBO** (real name JOSH GIBSON) was a major character in the three **SLASH & BURN** movies.

Gibbo	Josh Gibson. Also called Gib. Gibbo is happiest when he is thumping on his laptop – seeing the pages and pages of his imagination spring to life on the screen. By this stage Gibbo is full of his own importance, assuming that his appearance on TV will impart a calming effect on those Australians who are scared by the spread of the F-PROTA disease.
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In ACT I we are re-acquainted with **DONNY** (Don Airlie) from the three **SLASH & BURN** movies. I guess that I felt that Donny had dominated the other films

(especially EIGHT POINT FIVE YEARS) so it was time for Donny to take a back seat.	
Donny	Donald Airlie. Donny is a really nice bloke. Great company and a good friend.

CAST -- newbies

Blaike Penfold	Excessively keen, nerdy police constable who has the amazing luck to be taken on board (at Cold Cases) by Ed Swan. He must be skinny and very tall (190.5 cm which translates to 6 feet 2 ½ inches). He is 22 years old: athletic and sports-mad.
Winlagh Hurstbridge	Younger sister of Jeremy Hurstbridge. She is working with the Connor Bend dig team when she is abducted by John Tenny. She falls in love with Jeparit.
John Tenny	Mad doomsday prepper (and one-time pharmacist) who has kidnapped three women (including Winlagh) to set them up as "hatcheries" in the F-PROTA scam.
Sergeant Warren Wendell	Long-time sergeant of the Carlingford police station. He is a robust, gutsy man: afraid of

	nothing.
Grace Glascoe and Leonie van der Oest	Policewoman at Dunbar Ridge. Both married with children and aged in their late 30's.
Nerine Langeller	Once a man who has undergone a sex change and is now a gorgeous red-head.
Liam Burrah-Shaw, Grandpa Henry Burrah and friends along with Gill	The 5 teenage indigenous boys are: Liam Burrah-Shaw, Benny, Spud, Sam and Noel. Liam's brother is Gill Burrah-Shaw (who worked at the Connor Bend dig site). Grandpa Henry Burrah provides the spiritual key for Ed.
The Oxley brothers	Lyle (dodgy dealer) 54 years old. Jake (palaeontologist) 49 years old. Trevor (thug, stand-over man) 45 years old.
Unnamed lady and young man	At the University of New England. They are only identified as a neat lady and young man. They are providing to the police the requested scholastic record for one-time pharmacist John Tenny.
Dawn Carr	Long-suffering ex-wife of Vere Desmond and one-time secretary of Oxmond Property Group.
Dorothy Morebank	Detective Inspector of Broken Hill police.
Alf Boynton	Retired manager of the ANZ bank branch at Mt Isa.
Prime Minister R H George Bentleigh	The PM appears with his staff: Gaynor and various other PM's hangers-on

	And with journalists & protesters.
Dr Joy Mathieson	Curator Marsupials and Monotremes at the Museum of New South Wales.
Les Leforest	A villain who has up to now managed to stay beyond the reach of the law. Described as a geologist specializing in mining.
"Melting Glacier"	Rock band hired to play at the Broken Hill B & S Ball. They are all mid 40's. Con Bisco, Dargie, Snowie (and two others).
Muggo McCormack	Broken Hill entrepreneur who is organizing the B & S Ball.
Tisane Swan	Pretty daughter of Ed and Mala. A natural princess, Tisane leans on Blaike such that he assists her remotely with her schoolwork.
Senior Constable Laurie Aimes (Carlingford P S) Constable Jerry Gerard (Carlingford P S) Grandfather Henry Burrah The man & wife at BHQ airport A taxi driver 3 year old Simone-Louise Hurstbridge	

SYNOPSIS

The main story is about the illegal sale and export of rare monotreme fossils to a dealer in Germany: multi-billionaire Count Dresselmähr. He is an avid collector of rarities. Some of the Chinese feathered dinosaurs landed on his front porch along with many of the Connor Bend fossils.

Ed and Blaike wonder why a German tycoon would be buying antiques firearms and armour from a dealer located in Broken Hill? And why be in BROKEN HILL when the shipping costs are so prohibitive?

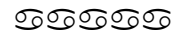
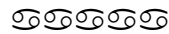
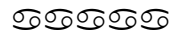
You might pay up to \$1000 for Lyle's treasures: but an opalized monotreme fossil fetches a floor of \$1 million.

So in investigating the death of Tippy Camira and thinking that it is connected to the DNA scam, Ed and Blaike discover the more sinister, more lucrative sale of the fossils.

THE THEFT AND EXPORT OF PRICELESS MONOTREME FOSSILS

Just as the Chinese feathered dinosaur fossils created a huge illegal trade, so it was in Australia. In the 1980s the Riversleigh fossils (found 200K north of Mt Isa) inspired a huge interest. Then further south at Connor Bend and Dunbar Ridge (near Broken Hill) superb fossils of the long-extinct monotreme (*Steropodon galmani*) were unearthed. The site came under the purview of the University of NSW. A dig team operated from Connor Bend. The finds were amazing: most were opalized jawbones.

The Oxley Brothers were right in the thick of the illegal trade in these fossils. This was facilitated by the fact that Jake Oxley was a palaeontologist.



THE FABRICATION OF F-PROTA AFTER THE CURE WAS FOUND (XT-95)

Swedish-Chinese scientist Professor David Ing joined forces with British entrepreneur Gareth Lidyard. They deliberately developed medicine (XT-95) which did not cure any known disease. What they then did was to come up with the disease which their patented medicine would treat.

DNA was extracted from people with broken bones. The DNA was adulterated via galenicals (natural rather than synthetic chemicals) and then injected into the patient from whom the DNA was originally extracted. The patient then developed the disease (F-PROTA). The main method of transferring F-PROTA was lip-kissing. The side-effects of contracting F-PROTA were very confronting: lurching about, screaming, cringing in fright, blabbering, excessive weeping and so on.

The symptoms of F-PROTA immediately disappeared upon consuming XT-95. So the gamble paid off.



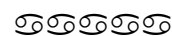
SUPERINTENDENT ED SWAN OF NSW COLD CASES

Ed Swan is universally known as "Swannie". Over a decade previously, Ed had been a magnificent AFL footballer (playing for the West Coast Eagles).

Ed's maternal grandmother had been a full-blood Aboriginal woman of the Noongar people (centred in the south-west corner of Western Australia). Although Ed performs his police work in the straight academic fashion, occasionally Ed is influenced by the secret and mystical powers extant in fire, wind and water.

Working solo is proving very difficult for Ed. He really needs a wingman with whom he can get along. Preferably a guy (a tall guy) with a few brains ...

Where can he find one of those?



CONSTABLE BLAIKE PENFOLD, CARLINGFORD P. S.

Blake is a tall young man who hero-worships Swannie. Fate drops a murder into his lap – a murder which is so like one of Ed's cold cases that it is frightening. In contacting Ed, Blake turns his life around.

Swannie (it seems) has a beautiful teenage daughter.



SATURDAY NIGHT: THE BACHELOR AND SPINSTER DANCE

Due to the size of outback Australia it is difficult for the unmarried to find life partners. Bachelor and Spinster balls in major rural centres enable single people to come together (often travelling vast distances), meet others, dance, eat and drink

alcohol. The attendees are charged about \$100 per head which goes to defray costs. The left-over money is given to important outback charities.

Gibbo (in his "prime ministerial" speech on TV) mentions the ritual of making love in the tray of someone's ute at a B & S ball. This activity necessitated the distribution of condoms at the many "Free 4 U Frangers" kiosks.



THE PLOT

Our opening scene is set in London. This is more or less a continuation of the third movie in the "Slash and Burn" series: "Eight Point Five Years". *[There is no earthly need why the reader needs to have previously read "Eight Point Five Years".]*

Cooper has been instructed by the Notary Public that he is to surrender a DNA sample. This is in connection with a supposed pregnancy. It was all so ridiculous!

Cooper spotted the luscious redhead at the Lord Henry Scroop restaurant. Before Cooper could approach her, the British lads fronted-up and a barbaric melee ensued. Cooper's leg was broken (smashed with a chair). He was transported to hospital by ambulance. So it was virtually impossible for Cooper to have impregnated anyone.

Jeparit makes his excuses, provides a sample of his DNA and then flies out to Sydney en route to Broken Hill. Donny and Gibbo join Cooper in getting samples of their DNA taken. With Jeparit's sample, the three men confront the Notary Public. The outcome is beyond everyone's belief: the gorgeous redhead is transgender. She is a he.

Cooper is not satisfied. He tracks down the redhead (Nerine Langeller) and discovers that she was put up to the deception by one Gareth Lidyard. On trying to find this man, Cooper is directed towards Jeremy Hurstbridge (a pathologist).

The entire story of the F-PROTA scam is revealed when Jeremy talks to Cooper. Cooper then relays all the information to Ed Swan (back in Australia). The two men fly from Sydney to Broken Hill together. Cooper's excuse for wanting to be part of the show is that he loves conspiracies.

Cooper's finest hour occurs during the Bachelor & Spinster Dance (the B & S ball) when he accidentally shoots a vicar with an antique firearm and then follows-up with a disabling scrunch on the head of a wanted felon (Jake Oxley).



Jeparit has left London early in order to purchase some 18th century pieces (weaponry) from Broken Hill dealer Lyle Oxley. It is Jeparit who rescues a young woman who is severely disoriented in the bush. He takes her to the local police station. The girl (Winlagh Hurstbridge) has been missing for seven days from a University of NSW dig team. She was abducted and held captive in an underground bunker near to Blondstone (part of the Broken Hill district).

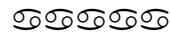
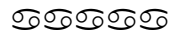
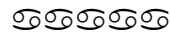
Winlagh's older brother Jeremy (the English pathologist) has flown out to Broken Hill in order to assist in the rescue of his sister. Once he knows that she has been found, he immediately returns home for professional and family reasons. However, he bumps into Ed and Blaike at BHQ. They are newly arrived from Sydney. The three men swap contact details. However, it is the Jeremy/Cooper dialogue (which Cooper then passes onto Ed and Blaike) that sews up the truth behind the F-PROTA disease – to be quickly followed by distribution of the XT-95 cure. The pharmaceutical company which invented F-PROTA could then make a packet.

The Swedish genius and the British entrepreneur are on the lam: Ed is willing to leave international crime forces to deal with them. Meanwhile, it looks like Ed's cold case is tied in with the unspeakable activities of the scamming pharmaceutical company.



A tie-in is discovered which links the F-PROTA scam with the fossil theft and smuggling operation.

No more can be said without SPOILING the ending ...



THE MUSIC

It will be very important to have no music at certain points.

But when we do have music it must lend itself to the ambience of the scene.

For instance, Ed's thinking music can be a haunting didgeridoo solo.

Another winner is harp and flute: this will be used whenever we feel that we have gone a long time without any background stimulation.

When Alf Boynton discloses the important facts in Mt Isa, this should be a super colossal shaft of orchestral music.

And at most points I want real rock 'n' roll (such as that which "Melting Glacier" will play at the B & S).