



TOWN OF  
VICTORIA PARK

# LOCAL HISTORY AWARDS

• 2025 •

## Fact or Fiction

Leslie Stevens

Category

Original Poetry or Performance Work

# Fact or Fiction

By Les Stevens

Families are such a funny thing  
As are memories to which they cling  
Each person tells a different tale  
That puts real truth on a sliding scale

For lots will believe the hearsay told  
About anecdotes from days of old  
Though some may have a true foundation  
Stories can change with each oration

Original facts are distorted  
Sometimes the truth has been deported  
Often hard to know just what is what  
When a story has been changed a lot

So one must then sort the  
sheep from goats  
And realise that there are misquotes  
For one must reach an understanding  
That as it's told it keeps expanding

Everyone adds their little bit  
All hoping it makes the story fit  
Though truth may be there in tiny crumbs  
But like Chinese Whispers it becomes

So then others get a biased view  
Of all the events that did ensue  
It really is not anyone's fault  
With what you hear, take a grain of salt

About anecdotes mystery remains  
Nothing the content simply explains  
A wise man once asked "Why is it so?  
To tell the truth I don't really know

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