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Book launch starts with sirens blaring

The launch for Jeff Pages' book, *Cry of the Bunyips* was held at the Made Brus Mexican restaurant in Woy Woy, and got off to a shaky start when the alarm on a nearby dress shop began blaring just as the guests were arriving. The security company, blissfully unaware that anything was wrong, eventually contacted the owner who came and turned it off, much to everyone's relief.

Jeff opened his reading with a passage from the epilogue of his previous book, *The Mind of the Dolphins*, telling how that hint of the Cornipean bunyip's deep but alien intelligence evolved into the main storyline of *Cry of the Bunyips*. The reading proper came from the chapter entitled, *The City of Books* where the heroes venture into the Great Library of Cornipus, described as a city bisected by a broad river with non-fiction on the north side and fiction on the south. Hoping to find answers to the bunyip



riddle, they are instead bamboozled by the neurotic librarians running the place.

Sixteen-year-old Jashank Jeremy, a keen fan of the series, bravely sampled some of the author's illicit Frizian honey, described in the book as tasting like sugar-coated aluminium mixed with spoiled oyster.

Afterwards the twenty-two well-fed guests showed their appreciation by eagerly grabbing copies of the book, while several of the other restaurant patrons also expressed an interest. An audio recording of the reading is on the book launch page of the blog at

<http://cryofthebunyips.wordpress.com/>.

Also by Jeff Pages:
Barefoot Times (Zeus, 2004), *Call of the Delphinidae* (Zeus, 2006),
The Mind of the Dolphins (Zeus, 2008)

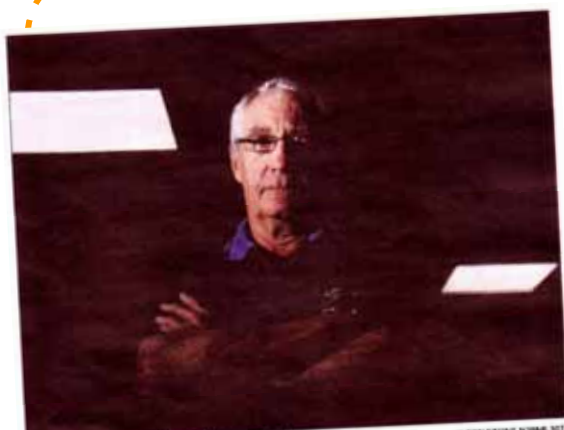


Crime and mystery on the Mornington Peninsular

Hard-working Victorian author, **Geoff Dryden** has been garnering press interest for the second book in his successful Mornington Peninsular Mystery series, *A Dozen Reasons*.

“When the body of Benny Hardy is found on the Flinders Golf course with what appears to be a small bullet hole in his chest Senior Inspector Adam Baron heads the investigation. Benny is the owner of the European Jewellers, a shop in South Melbourne far away from the Mornington Peninsula. Evidence suggests a few possible reasons one of which seems outrageous until more is revealed. With powers that could end his career Baron digs his heels in and follows it through to a bitter end that leaves no winners, only victims.”

Geoff Dryden was born in a coal mining and steel town in the north of England. As a young man of twenty-three, he left England for Australia as a ten-pound migrant to settle in Melbourne. Although maintaining a holiday house on the beautiful Mornington Peninsula since 1985, it was not until 1999 that he settled there permanently with his wife, Julienne.



Author Geoff Dryden has published his second book.

Picture: MILTON STONE NINRA/317

He's got time to write crime

People | Toni Brient

THE body of Benny Hardy has been found on the golf course at Flinders. Golfers shouldn't be alarmed — it's the story that unfolds in Flinders author Geoff Dryden's latest book *A Dozen Reasons*, a crime thriller that was recently launched at Flinders Yacht Club. In the book Mr Hardy owned a Melbourne jewellery store and lived in South Melbourne and the tale unravels what was he doing in Flinders. Insp Baron gathers evidence that suggests

Dryden settled in Flinders in 1989 and has pursued his passion for writing crime novels set on the peninsula. “I have always read crime fiction and retirement gave me the opportunity to try writing,” he said. “The diversity of lifestyles and environment gives (me) more than enough material to continue working on this theme.” *A Dozen Reasons* is Dryden's second book. The Inspector Baron character began in *Launch to Die For*, which was published in 2009. *A Dozen Reasons* is available at selected peninsula book stores for \$25.95.

Mornington Peninsular Leader—2012

The Muswellbrook Chronicle recently ran an article where the Upper Hunter Library Network held a regional launch for the National Year of Reading. Star attraction was Zeus author, **Simone Bailey** talented writer of *Calumny While Reading Irvine Welsh* (Zeus, 2009) and the coming-of-age tale, *Abernethy* (Zeus, 2010). Simone officially launched the event for the Upper Hunter region. Simone, who has a magical way with words, was reported as eloquently describing books as ‘tactile pleasures that are being taken for granted in the technology-driven world.’ The Muswellbrook library is launching exciting new programs during the year to celebrate books and reading such as book clubs and story times.



Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him.
Maya Angelou



What a life...what a story!

Born into an affluent and highly intelligent family, Ursula Widawska's life in Poland before WWII was privileged. After Hitler's invasion all that changed. Problems, difficulties, mistrust and fear dominated Ursula's family and the lives of all Poles. After the war life under the Communists became worse, Ursula's family suffered great losses under the mistreatment of the Communists. Through necessity, Ursula found herself involved in black marketeering which led to her being caught and thrown into a KGB gaol.

Known to be eccentric and outspoken, Ursula rejected many marriage proposals to keep her independence and later in life became a qualified accountant after settling in Australia. In her book, *The Story of My Life*, Ursula has truly captured the harshness and desperation of the times under Hitler as well as under the Soviet regime in Poland.

Not to be beaten, recently Ursula overcame a host of problems, including a broken leg to host her book launch for her autobiographical tale. The launch was held in an elegant venue and received good rapport from the local papers, Trevar Langlands from Radio 2MCR - poet, writer, broadcaster and long-time supporter of Australian writers and authors gave an inspiring speech and a fabulous time was had by all.

Ursula, not one to stay quiet for long, is already penning a murder mystery; *Murders in Berrima*. We here at Zeus can't wait to see the first preview.



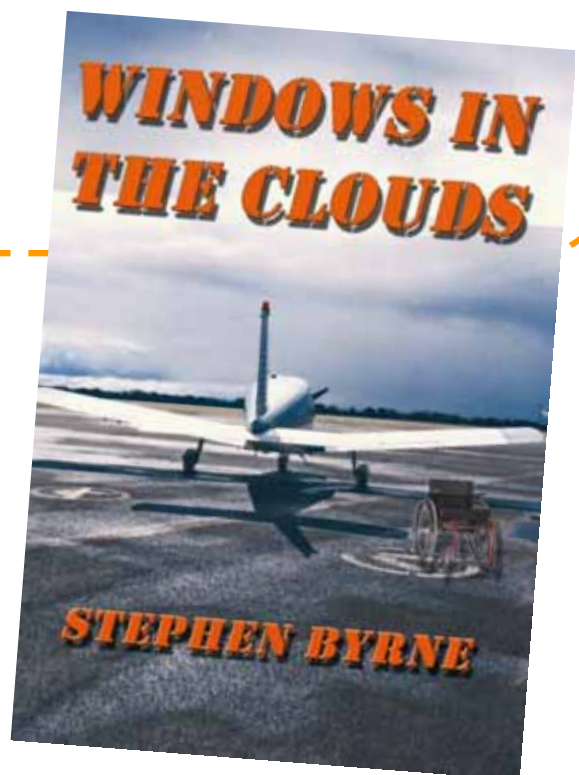
**The
profession of
book writing
makes horse
racing seem
like a solid,
stable
business.**

John Steinbeck



“Don’t be afraid that your life will end ... be afraid that it will never begin.”

An inspirational autobiography from an amazing man. After breaking his back at the age of 23 years and becoming a paraplegic, author Stephen Byrne looks back on his life before and after the terrible accident. The result? *Windows in the Clouds*. Instead of having all his dreams shattered he was determined to make them come true and overcome this most devastating experience. Not only did Stephen achieve flying a plane solo and gaining his pilot’s license, he went on a solo trip to America and travelled through 22 states and drove around 5,500 miles on his own; an amazing life-changing adventure.



“I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book.”
Groucho Marx

“BORN IN COOTAMUNDRA and growing up I expected that my future lay on the land. After becoming a paraplegic from a tree-felling accident my life changed in more



ways that I could ever have imagined.

I have tried to take something so negative and turn it around. Despite what has happened to me I am forever thankful that I survived and was given a second chance.”

Stephen Byrne

Memoirs of a Pilgrim - Footprints on the Road to Santiago

by Brad Kyle

Review by Jaisal Sonale

So you are after adventure, a little mystery and a whole lot of experience. Brad Kyle's memoir is just that. It talks of his journey along the road to Santiago and what impact it had on him. A life-changing experience filled with great highs and lows.

It is uniquely told through a conversational style. It is like you can see inside the author's head and live every experience as he did.

What is shown is the human element of his experience as he meets human nature through rain, snow or whatever is thrown at him. He described his fears, hopes and dreams and strengths and weaknesses throughout the trip and how it was giving him life just by being part of the magical land of Spain. It was also teaching him a lot about who he was as a person and how this life-changing experience was opening his eyes to the history of the place as well as the experiences of his days.



“Of all the diversions of life, there is none so proper to fill up its empty spaces as the reading of useful and entertaining authors.”

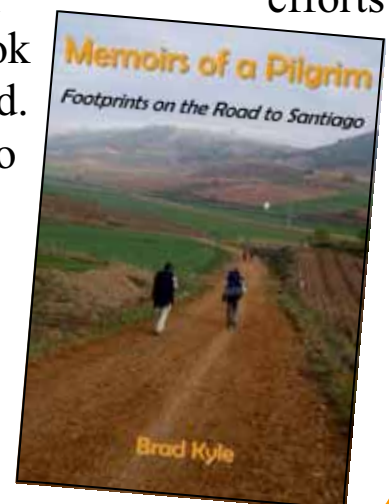
Joseph Addison



Heartiest congratulations

FROM US ALL here at Zeus Publications must go to author, Brad Kyle. His travel book, *Memoirs of a Pilgrim* has been listed as a finalist in the 2012 Independent Publisher Book Awards. Brad's endearing memoir and his own efforts

in promoting his book are to be commended. If you ever wanted to travel the famous Spanish walk, the Camino trail, your own voyage can begin with this honest, challenging and human tale.





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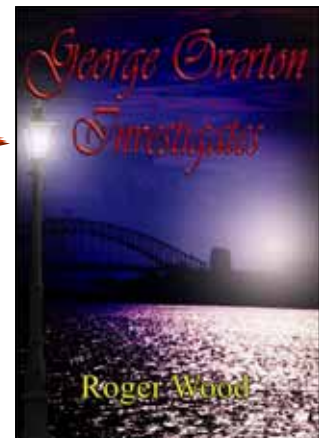
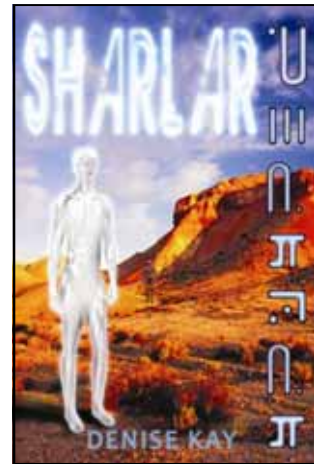
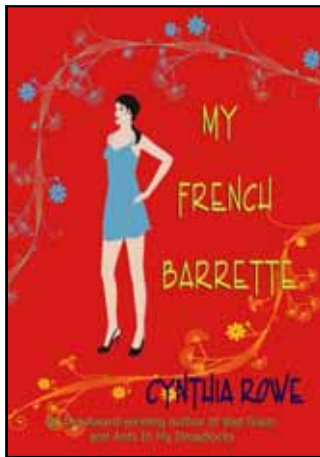
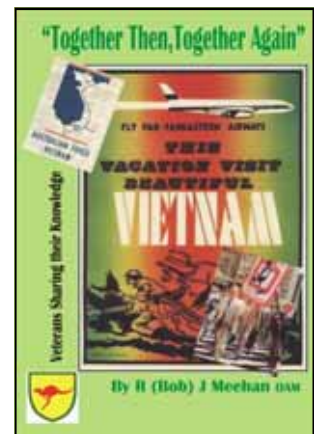


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