

Author hopes to trap readers with novel

With Charleville being a key selling area for local author Jame Mclean Kemshead, it's fitting that his second novel should star the gateway to the great south-west from start to finish in its story line.

Jame's new release is titled *Dog Trap* and it follows quickly on the success of last year's book, *The Greatest Life*.

Jame and family like most others in the towns and on the properties in his corner of the state, are still feeling the effects of what has steadily grown into more than half a decade of very dry and drought-ravaged conditions.

While a little rain has fallen and in some areas the relief has been well received, many of the dis-

tricts are still struggling; but at least they'll have something good to read.

"If you ever break down in the outback, stay with your vehicle."

With their car broken down some hundred kilometres from the nearest town, every step the beautiful Warbaton sisters took lead them closer to a danger far greater than either could have ever expected.

Hidden in the dark earth the cold steel traps were set for wild animals and in the darkness of night they would come alive.

On this night they would claim more than just one innocent victim and before long these two young city girls would discover another side to Australia's outback - a side that is not always in

the mood to help.

After last year's epic, the young author felt the need to step up the pace of his stories and the way in which he presents them to readers, and *Dog Trap* certainly does that.

Mindful of people's need to be entertained more so than anything else, Jame has put a great amount of work into producing a new-age page turner.

His new book is a local and thrill-charged story that many people will be able to imagine happening but certainly hope doesn't happen to them.

The producing of this year's novel continues to prove the resilience of country people and bond between friends and family in outback Queensland.

With Jame's folks nearing an age of retirement and his wife Dianne working some 700 km away in Chinchilla, the family has been lucky enough to have the continuing support of those around them.

All members of both sides of the family, both here in the far west of the state and also in Chinchilla have done a great number of things to ensure the young cattle man can continue to pursue his writing aspirations; helping with everything from proof-reading to stock piling boxes of brand new books from the publishers.

"I hope it works out for all of us really," Jame said.

"There has been so much time, money and effort put in by so many people that it's just fantastic.

"It might be my dream but it has certainly turned into a team effort."

Sporting the slogan fighting back in the outback, Jame and Dianne have pushed their cause far and wide and been happily surprised by people's interest in the way that this family is trying to stave off the damage that has been done by so many tough years on the

land.

"People like a good news story," Dianne said.

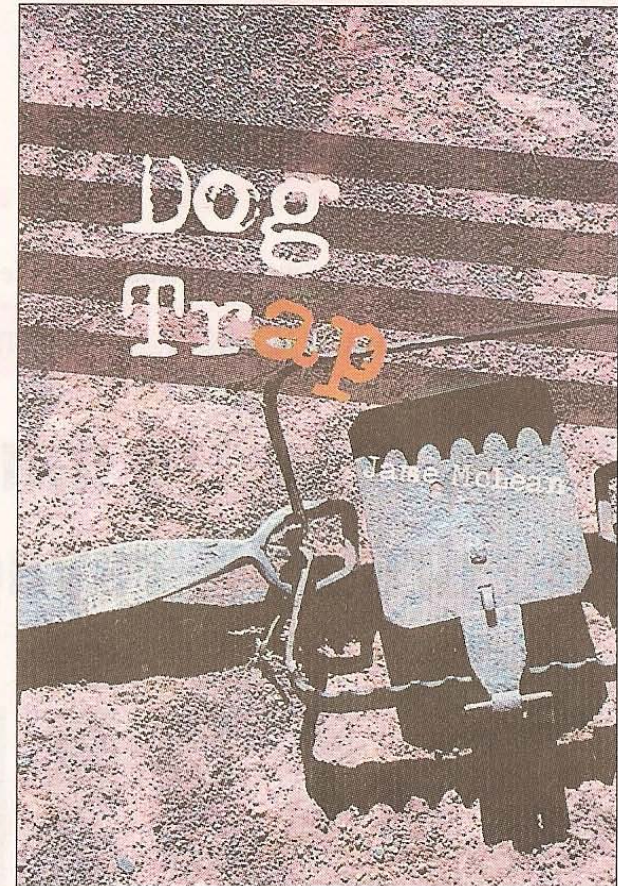
"So if we can help lift them and in turn they help lift us, then that is a fantastic outcome."

The young couple have the dream to release a new book every year and to one day have them in book stores all around Australia.

"I think it'll take some time and maybe some luck along the way," Jame said.

"But if we keep turning out good stories and keep striving not only to entertain but perhaps even challenge and confront people a little, take them somewhere new each time; we might be able to gradually build a following and in turn help out at Lantana."

Written out west, printed in Sydney and now on sale everywhere from Birdsville to Brisbane and Mount Isa in the north to Port Augusta in the south Jame's books are selling well and slowly getting a substantial



The cover of Jame's latest novel.

spread on them when it comes to outlets.

"We are trying to get them into the city book stores," Jame said.

"It takes time to convince them that the books will sell, but we're getting there.

"We have the website www.jamemclean.com and we're building our foundations first in places like Quilpie, Charle-

ville, Roma and Toowoomba and then bit by bit we're moving into the more populated areas.

"In the end it's a numbers game, more people means more sales and the more we sell the more help we can be at home.

"It's a dream and a real buzz that's for sure, but home is where the heart is and saving that is what it's all about."