

cost millions, Jame has stuck to his guns, stayed with the family on the family block and taken part in one of the greatest conflicts with the harsh surroundings that we on the land can possibly imagine.

To a certain degree perhaps it's been the escaping to the world of fiction and imagination that has helped to keep Jame going when everything around seems to be saying 'give up'.

Jame is the youngest son of Lyn and Roger Kemshead and grandson of the late Bob Sommerfield.

Like so many others, he has been carrying on the good fight against the longest drought in living memory at 'Lantana' station south of Cheepie, all the while edging forward with his private goal in life.

The writing was something that kicked off almost 15 years ago while at school and appears to have never let go, if anything, the story telling, articles in papers and writing poems and passages for people at everything from fun nights to

been filled with a range of amazing times and some even more challenging times.

These are nothing however, compared to the drought for an all time low and undoubtedly there'll be no greater high than seeing the heavens open and all of us soaked to the bone.

Married now for almost two years to local girl Dianne Kneipp, daughter of Greg and Sue Kneipp formally of glorious 'Gooyea' from the real country north of Adavale, Jame has found the life on the land to be a pure inspiration for creativity and credits the endless hours swinging off a chainsaw, falling off a motor bike or climbing off an old truck in a bulldozer to push scrub as time to build a story.

With the help of the rest of the family he has spent many a late night at the computer and lunch hours with a pen and pad putting together what he hopes will be the first of many novels to come. This is the fourth novel completed by the young author and of those

crutching maggot wagons for Joe and Jen south of Cunnamulla or Smithco at Wambin, there's probably too many to mention, but there have been a bunch of new experiences and exposure to some fantastic operations and some truly great characters.

It's been the writing though, and the drought toil of course, that has filled the last half a decade with the bloody great hope that only one of those will dominate the next half.

With wife Dianne working some 700 kilometres away in Chinchilla to help cover the bills at home, and Roger and Lyn feeling the strain of such a long slog against the elements, Jame too has struggled to stay the course, but with the seemingly endless support and good will of those around him at Lantana, the local graziers, the town's folk and all the friends of the pre-drought era there's every chance that this attempt at a new career may well be just what the doctor ordered, short of a dirty great

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bucket load of rain that is.

'The Greatest Life' is an easy to read drama about the world of 'what if's' and 'maybes' that has already been quoted by one editor as a story that would be at home on the big screen.

The novel is now on sale all over south western Queensland with an ever widening circle of business houses stocking it that now stretches from Eromanga to Redcliffe and a couple of dozen places in between.

Few copies are already on the way to the United Kingdom and America and also to as many interested people as can be found including John

Laws, Alan Jones and Ian Macnamarra.

Jame's website www.jamemclean.com offers a greater insight into the author and another avenue to purchase his very first offering, call it drought relief or just supporting one of your own, a copy or two of 'The Greatest Life' would make a perfect Christmas gift for all involved.

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