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# Local author has her first book published overseas

By SIAN FULLERTON

AFTER arriving in Australia in 2005, Debbie Renner had an epiphany. Having wanted to be a writer for some time but not quite finding her niche, the Emerald woman was hit by a "flash" while watching television.

"I scribbled something down and bang, it got me!" she said.

Her maiden novel, *Odyssey Bourne Force*, was published in the US in October. It's the first in a three-part series that defies categorisation into any one field, according to Ms Renner.

"It's under science fiction, romance, action, it's hard to define it in one genre," she said.

"It's a story about one woman's odyssey. She doesn't realise what's ahead of her.

"It takes her on a journey and she meets people from other worlds and she ends up on another planet.

"The story ends with a choice she has to make, so it's a bit of a cliffhanger."

For Ms Renner, writing books has been a lot easier than marketing them.

"It feels great to have it published.

"It's the marketing - that's where it is, that's the hardest part.

"Writing the story's not the problem. You've got to write what you know.

"The trouble is you've got to know when to stop.

"You don't want to bore people. My first book ended up being three.

"It is exciting but I've got to expose it, get it out there.

"Hopefully in a year or two they might make a movie out of it, that's my ultimate goal."

The novel is available through online book stores and Ms Renner's webpage.



■ **NOVEL STORY:** Published Emerald author Debbie Renner is working on the third book of her trilogy.

She said she'll have to wait a couple more months before getting a clear idea of sales.

"A new author has to give it a few months to wait for the excitement to

build up," she said.

"How soon I publish the other books depends on the sales of the first one.

"I'm relying on internet, it tends to be where people go."

## police report

Crimestoppers 1800 333 000

### Emerald drink drivers

A GOLF buggy joyride down Jeppeson Drive late on Friday has landed one Emerald birdie in court.

The 20-year-old female blew 0.146 per cent when the brakes were put on the Black Eagle buggy by police at 11.30pm.

Twenty-five minutes earlier, a 34-year-old female had a breath alcohol concentration of 0.140 per cent after her silver Hyundai sedan was pulled over for a static RBT on Hospital Road.

At 2.30am on Friday, police found a man lying spread-eagled on Clermont Street next to a silver Ford sedan.

He told police he was waiting for the driver to come back, and when she did, the 19-year-old had a BAC of 0.107 per cent. On Friday, at 12.20am, a woman driving a vehicle with Northern Territory plates blew 0.050 per cent when she was stopped in Esmond Street.

To those who noticed, there were un-

marked police vehicles patrolling Emerald last Friday. According to research, that's when most road crashes happen.

Acting Senior Sergeant Terry McCullough said the vehicles would be appearing throughout the Central Region police district.

### Immobilised

A MOBILE phone could immobilise a Gold Coast mine contractor, caught drink driving in Tieri last Monday afternoon.

Snr Const McKinlay said he was called to the Tieri caravan park at 4.10pm in relation to a reported disturbance in which a window at the accommodation camp was damaged.

As Snr Const McKinlay was taking the complaint the 45-year-old offender returned in his car to retrieve his mobile phone. He blew 0.153 per cent and was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and wilful damage.

### Memo, police have prints

EMERALD police have sent eight fire extinguishers found in the vacant Memorial Club for forensic fingerprint tests.

Five were reported stolen from the northern side of the Meteor Motel, opposite the club in Opal Street, between 11am on Saturday and 8am Monday.

Police found more than they were looking for in a search of the immediate area.

### Stolen bikes

TWO mountain bikes were reported stolen from the yard of a Borilla Street address overnight on Sunday.

The owners woke on Monday to discover the red and black Razor and a greyish black Elev8 gone. Anyone with information can call police on 4983 8100.

## We Need Loving Homes

The Central Highlands Regional Council is adopting these dogs to good homes for \$30 plus registration fee

### Pigeon Racing

Pigeon racing presents several animal welfare concerns. Racing pigeons may be susceptible to predator attack from birds of prey or other animals during the race. The races usually cover very large distances which places high physical demands on the pigeons. In order to be able to cope with such races, pigeons need to receive adequate physical training and be in excellent body condition prior to the race commencing. Migrating birds including racing pigeons pose a major biosecurity risk in relation to the spread of infectious bird diseases. As racing pigeons travel large distances, they may carry diseases from one geographical region to another. Issues of overcrowding and housing management also need to be addressed. Codes of practice for the keeping and racing of pigeons do currently exist, however these are voluntary and therefore not enforceable by state or territory governments or the RSPCA. RSPCA Australia advocates the regulation of pigeon racing competitions to prevent races from being held over excessive distances, in adverse weather conditions or over unsuitable terrain.

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