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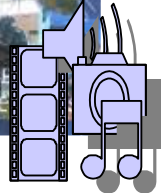
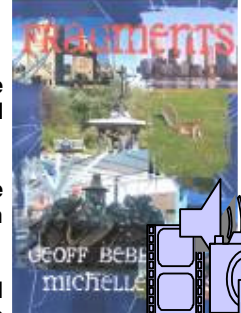


Guten Abend,

Geoff and I are learning German for a trip to Germany and Switzerland at the end of the year. The year of the Golden (metal) Tiger is starting off with all that it promises, a very eventful and powerful year. For all Tigers (1950 birth year) have a grrreat year.

On the book front that same week we were pleasantly surprised to see that the Association for the Blind has finally come up with our first audio CD talking book copy of 'Fragments'. This has been a couple of years into production.

We hope that "Gecko Deflection" will be hard on its heels as a number of older or vision impaired people have asked us when it was due. Association clients can now buy the MP3 version from the Association and also get it from their library.



On the 16th of February we held our first 'Australian Poetry Recital', featuring historical Australian Bush Poetry and contemporary Australian poetry from various award winning poets, including Geoff's, and a few of mine to finish.

On the 26th of February we held a mini 1½ hr mini co-authoring workshop at Maylands library. We had a wonderful morning with the resulting short stories a real joy to hear.

The Maylands library presentation was organised by Katherine Susannah Pritchard Writing Centre of which we are part.

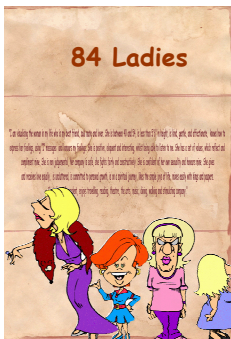
We would like to give more of these workshops so groups or libraries that didn't get a chance to hold presentation/workshops last year before Christmas please give us a call. We can easily tailor a presentation to suit your needs.

The Karrakatta Club presentation for 'Gecko Deflection' was on the 2nd of May. This was our second presentation - the first being in 2006. As several of the members had visited and even worked in PNG the discussions afterwards were very informative for both presenters and 'presentees'. Thanks Deidre. Lunch was first class as well.



We would like some country gigs this year till September when we go away. If country associations or libraries would like us to attend a function or create an event, I believe Writing WA, of which we are also part, has funding made available for country towns. From what I've seen we are not expensive anyhow, in comparison to most authors – We do workshops and presentations for the pleasure of sharing information and creativity.

Most gratifying for me this year is the fact I have been asked by National Seniors to give my first presentation on 'Genetically Modified Crops and Foods', on the 24th of March. After a solid year and a half of studying the issue I'm one of the few 'lay people' without a vested interest in GM who knows anything about it. One of the few interested MLA's recently gave me 2 hours of his valuable time to find out more on the subject after he went out into the street and found 90% of people had no idea what GM was. Our non-GM farmers need our support. We also have the biggest and best organic industry in the world with which we need to work to preserve. If your group or organisation would like to find out more about this contentious issue, which I regard as important as climate change, please give us a call. We can make a huge global difference by understanding this subject.



Enough politics back to writing. We've passed the 520 books sold mark.

We have had some time to write and we are please to tell you that we are about a third of the way into "84 Ladies"; our third co-authored novel. This one will be humorous.

With a little more time we could get it finished by the end of the year.

Cheers,
Michelle Denise and Geoff Bebb

