

Sci-fi story a success for first-time author



PUBLISHED: Robert Auty with a copy of his latest book.

A HEYSHAM author has recently seen his first book in a sci-fi series published.

Robert Auty began writing part time in 1986, but following the success of his first novel, *Trance Warriors: The Siege of Scarn*, he now hopes to become a full time writer.

The first novel in the saga is set in a fantasy world beset with chaos and warfare and inhabited by both good and malevolent characters, including elves and dwarves.

It follows the struggles of outlaw Connor, as he becomes drawn into a battle between good and evil - part of his destiny from which there is no escape.

Robert is currently the manager at a Lancaster distribution company but would love to fulfil his lifetime ambition and become a writer.

"I always wanted to write," says Robert. "I started to write a different novel around 1997 but halfway through I stopped, and wrote instead, a two page premise which was basically the first chapter of *The Siege of Scarn*."

"From that moment I wanted to know what happened to Connor and company, and so two years of intense writing led to a rough bundle of 200 pages and 60,000 words of unreadable gobbledy - gook."



by
Lauren Holden

Trance Warriors eventually emerged after Robert had presented the completed novel to a number of publishers and the sequel will hopefully be published within the next year. Asked if Robert has any tips for would-be writers, he offers this advice: "Enjoy it, it's a great experience even if it never sees publication."

Robert says it is the positive feedback he receives from readers that makes writing a book so fulfilling.

He says: "I recently got a phone call from a reader - the first reader I didn't know personally."

"He'd read the book in less than three days and really enjoyed it, asking when the sequel was due and comparing my work favourably with many prominent authors in the genre. That's when I realised it had all been worthwhile."

You can purchase Robert's book online at www.amazon.co.uk or www.play.com, or in Ottakar's shop.