



BACK TO WORK: Geoff Goodfellow's writing career evolved out of a workplace injury. Picture: Roger Wyman 58179

Building a new career

GEOFF Goodfellow is a construction worker turned successful writer, and owes it all to the day he injured his back at work.

Goodfellow's ninth and most recently released book, *Punch on Punch off* is a 72-page collection of poems about work and workers.

"I injured my back at work some years ago. While I was recovering, I began to read and I realised I had stories myself to write," Goodfellow says.

The Semaphore author,

who has lived in the area for most of his adult life, says he hopes his book will make readers think more deeply about workplace-related issues.

"There's a strong correlation between the workplace and private lives, especially with relation to stress."

The book is aimed at the secondary school audience and Goodfellow hopes the poems will educate students about work but also inspire them to pick up a pen.

"You can't be a writer without being a reader. It's about being aware that there are so many different styles of writing out there, but there are bad books about."

The cover of *Punch on Punch off* features an old punch card found at the Port Adelaide Dockyards from the mechanical workshops.

SA unions have allocated funding to give less affluent schools the chance to buy class sets of the book at a reduced price.

CELIA BACK