

Isa's pyramid book in Egypt

A MOUNT Isa mechanic who believes he has outsmarted the world's greatest academics by solving how the pyramids were built is about to get the attention of the people who matter most – the Egyptians.

Paul Hai is about to sign a deal that will see his book *Raising Stone One* stocked at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Museum Book Shop in Cairo.

One copy of the book is already available at the library.

The book outlines Mr Hai's theory that the 4000-year-old structures like the Great Pyramid of Giza were built using a simple system of pinion pulleys.

Popular consensus is that sand ramps were used to construct the 140 metre high pyramids but Mr Hai is adamant that wasn't the case.

He hopes that by selling the book in Cairo people will start to sit up and take notice.

"If you are going to write a book about pyramids then this is the place to have it," he said.

"That is where I really want the book to be and where I have been trying to get it in since the book was published.

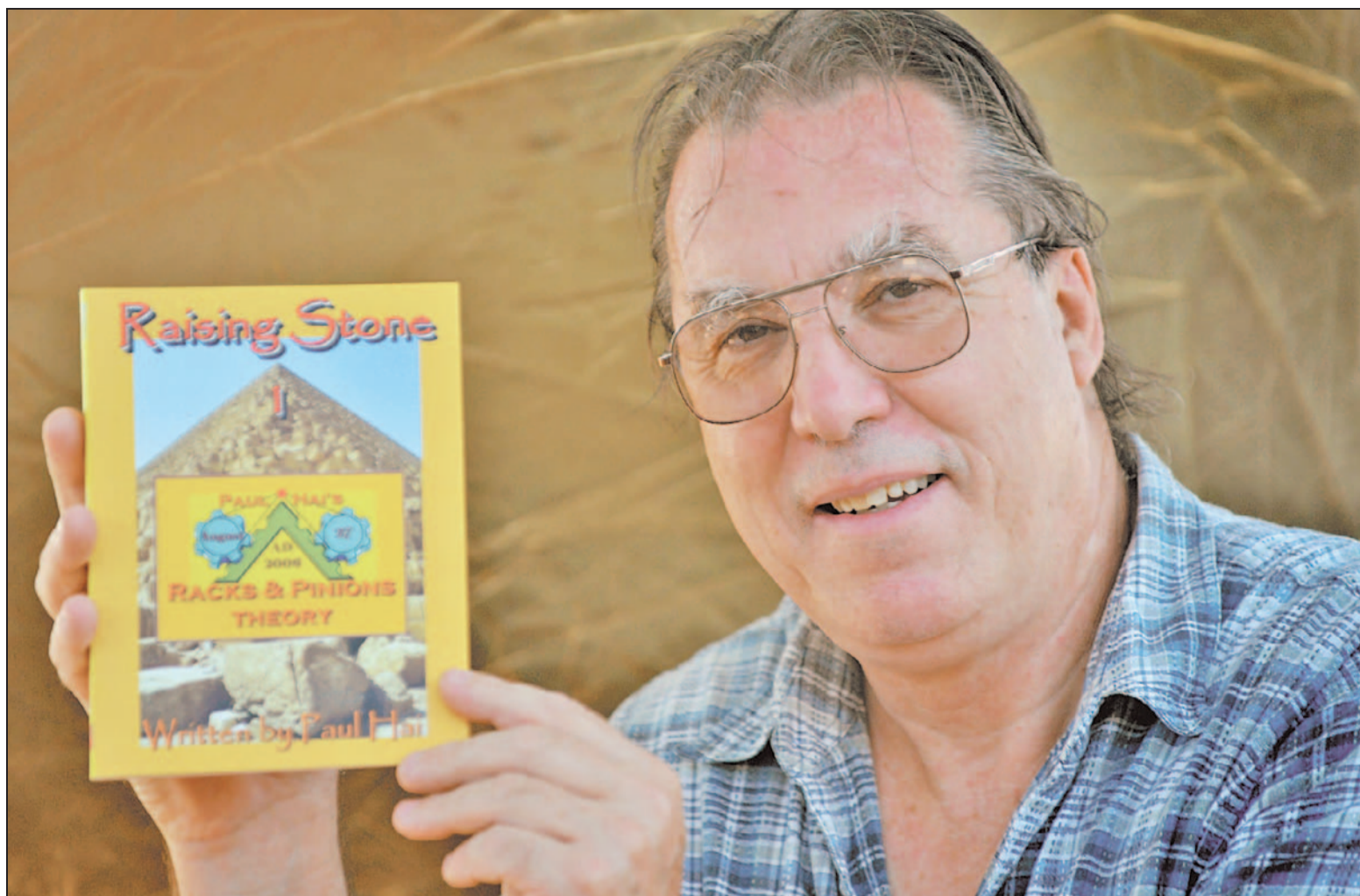
"The museum gets millions of people every year just to look at the pyramids."

Mr Hai said he had fears the curators at the Bibliotheca would ignore him as he has copped a lot of flack about his lavish theory.

"I thought they would just tell me to get stuffed," he said.

"This book goes against world consensus completely.

"But the people at the Bibliotheca have put the book on



BOOKED . . . Paul Hai's book on the pyramids is now being sold in Egypt

Photo: MEGAN BRAYLEY

the shelf and it is available for the public to read.

"It is important now to make that book available for those who want to take it away to read."

The book has sparked little interest in Australia. Only 300

copies have been sold and about 200 given away.

Mr Hai hopes exposure in Egypt will generate a media frenzy.

"I'm quite sure the book will take off in Egypt," he said.

"It will get a lot more attention

now, the attention that it deserves.

"The people in Egypt will make more profit out of it than me but that is not what this is all about.

"This is about letting people know that the racks and pinions

mechanic that we use today in the modern world and depend on was forthcoming out of Egypt nearly 5000 years ago."

Mr Hai stumbled upon the theory during history studies at the University of New England.

Dominance tested



MP Betty Kiernan says Labor will face a tough battle. Photo: MEGAN BRAYLEY

By LENDL RYAN

MOUNT Isa MP Betty Kiernan says next year's State election will be one of the toughest her party faces with a rejuvenated Opposition.

The Labor MP has held the seat since 2006 when she took over from fellow Labor MP Tony McGrady who was in the position for 17 years.

But Ms Kiernan said the party's dominance of the mining town would be tested come election 09.

"It's a seat that you don't take anything for granted," she said.

"We know both the opposition parties in the Liberals and Nationals have held the seat at some time.

"The reality now is because they are a combined political party it is going to make it doubly hard for us.

"It's going to be a very challenging campaign."

The newly formed Liberal National Party will hold pre-

MP expects election will be tough time for Labor

selections for candidates for the Mount Isa seat on November 2.

The jostling for votes will start almost immediately and gain momentum ahead of the election which is expected to be called late next year.

Health will no doubt be the biggest issues.

It's expected to be an auction of beds, beds and more beds from the Government and Opposition.

Premier Anna Bligh last week announced a \$100 million upgrade of the crowded Townsville Hospital and LNP Leader Lawrence Springborg promised to buy vital land for the hospital's expansion.

Ms Kiernan, the first female to hold the seat of Mount Isa,

said health would attract similar attention in Mount Isa.

"Health is always a key issue; it was at the last election," she said.

"This health district services to the Gulf, to Mornington Island and to the south to Dajarra and right across to Julia Creek.

"To me it is imperative that we get a strong central hub being Mount Isa.

"I have convinced the Health MP, Premier and Cabinet for a \$65 million redevelopment of our hospital in the coming years.

"For us here, and we have been building up and working up to get services back out here, particularly specialist services."

Ms Kiernan said stimulating

growth in the private building sector was also vital with the region gripped by an accommodation and affordable housing crisis.

"Public housing we are constantly building units and houses, we are constantly buying available properties but we have to attract the public sector in," she said.


"What I'd like to see and I'd hope in the next 12 months that we can really attract a serious developer in to come and look.

"Building one or two houses here and there is not going to ease the housing shortage we have at the moment."

Energy and water will also draw debate.

Ms Kiernan said if she had Treasurer Andrew Fraser's chequebook she would be throwing money at the latter.

"I certainly want to see our water addressed because water is life, it is our priority," she said.




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