



COMMUNITY

Author with story to share

Book dedicated to terminally-ill woman from Bundaberg

By CLEMENTINE NORTON

IT was a chance meeting with a terminally ill-woman that has stuck with writer Jennifer Poulter.

After meeting in hospital about four years ago, Mrs Poulter made a connection with the woman she knows only as Judy, and decided to dedicate her latest book *Mending Lucille* to her.

"I met Judy in Royal Brisbane Hospital on the day she was told she had terminal cancer," Mrs Poulter said.

"That day I had just been told that my manuscript had

been accepted."

On discovering that Judy had lost her mother as a child, like the heroine of her story, Mrs Poulter chose to make the book a tribute to her new friend.

Although Judy got to see the manuscript, she never saw the finished book before she died of cancer about two years ago.

"We kept in touch and wrote a couple of times, but after I sent the manuscript, the next letter I had was from her husband saying Judy had passed away," Mrs Poulter said.

"I would like to contact the

family, and tell them about the release of the book, but unfortunately we have lost touch in the meantime."

She cannot remember the family's surname, although she believes it to be similar to Lindthorpe or Lindquist.

"I know she grew up and was educated in Bundaberg, and was married with two or three grown-up sons," Mrs Poulter said.

"She seems to be a person who was very involved in the community; she was a very good-hearted, caring, gentle lady."

"It's so sad she never got to see the finished product."

Although Mrs Poulter does not have a photograph of Judy, she remembers she had red hair, as does the little girl in her story.

"The family has a photo of Judy as a girl of about 12 with long red plaits," she said.

Mrs Poulter's book is about a little girl who has lost her mother.

The book was illustrated by Sarah Davis and released by Lothian last month.

Mrs Poulter hopes that someone who knew Judy or her family will get in touch with the NewsMail, so she can give the family a copy of the book.



AUTHOR: Jennifer Poulter.