

Subject: The Beacon #27 The Lighthouse Toowoomba Newsletter

Date: Friday, 2 June 2023 at 1:03:05 pm Australian Eastern Standard Time

From: The Lighthouse Toowoomba

To: Emma | Child Writes



**Welcome to Week 17 for 2023 at The
Lighthouse Toowoomba.**

Winter already and almost halfway through 2023 -
glory be! Time sure flies when you're having fun
and getting it done...

We revelled in all the creative joy of the Sydney
Writers Festival live and local series held at the
Empire Theatre. The Lighthouse received

numerous wonderful book donations from our community including a very generous drop off from The Glennie School to bundle up and re-home.

We have been inspired by the power of manifestation with the tale of a former Emerge employee and Write Friday participant who has realised their dream in a new profession; and Emma and Emily recognised National Sorry Day by attending the Yumin Bah Conference.

A raft of new workshops have been in the pipeline and we are thrilled to be able to announce further details. There is so much more about this so keep reading, as we are also gearing up for the fabulous Birds of a Feather Exhibition in the Write Gallery - opening Friday 9 June.



Flock to it!

There is only 7 sleeps until the next fabulous exhibition at The Write Gallery.

Artist, illustrator, and author Terese Eglinton shares a veritable feast of work spanning over seven books in her Birds of a Feather exhibition. The keystone ideal is acknowledgement of the incredible diversity and beauty of the environment and how human's impact is realised. "We are so lucky to be given talents to develop and gifts to share. There is always something new to learn and pass on to our children and I never tire of doing so."

Benny Bin Chicken and his feathered friends feature in more than 20 artworks emanating from Terese's appreciation of bird life and the characters she has conjured from it.

The fascinating individual personalities of these significantly symbolic creatures are captured in a variety of art media to enhance our appreciation of the bird culture.

A wonderful exhibition for all ages to be inspired by the fancy of feathered friends!

The exhibition opens next Friday 9 June at 5.30pm and continues for two weeks. For more information or to book tickets click [here](#).

Psssss... a little bird tells me there are also FREE WORKSHOPS available to school groups! Swoop in [HERE](#) to book.



Yumin Bah Conference...

The conference was organised by a diverse group of First Nations Leaders, Elders, Non-First Nations and Multicultural people seeking education on the referendum and what it means for our First Nations people, how we can support them and how can we make the right decisions for our families, allies and Australia. So we can come Altogether, yarn and understand the complexities and layers to the topics of constitutional change, A 'YES' or 'NO', even 'I don't know'!

The intention was to clear the smoke and cover the mirrors so that we can understand the future better. And become better at planning and knowing more about our truth, Karulbo!
(Altogether)

Artist and committee member Kim Walmsley (pictured above) was understandably excited to get the day started!



Sydney Writers Festival "Live + Local"



Sydney Writers Festival Live and Local - 2023

After the wild success of Live & Local in 2022, Sydney Writers' Festival returned to the Empire Theatre in 2023 to bring the best of the Festival direct to Toowoomba and the Downs region.

One of Australia's most loved forums for literature, ideas and storytelling, Sydney Writers' Festival live-streamed its headline events from Sydney to the Empire Theatre on Thursday 25th, Friday 26th, Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th May.

Audiences were invigorated and engaged by conversations, debates and discussions featuring some of the world's finest writers and thinkers.

It all began with local authors Nikki Mottram and Jade Symonds took to the stage with QWC 'Write Friday' coordinator Brett Coster for an intimate discussion on their work and the process behind it.

Fan favourite and radio presenter / author Richard Fidler joined with Peter Frankopan to discuss their richly rendered workds of historical non-fiction with interviewer Clare Wright.

Other featured authors included Jane Harper, George Monibot, Eleanor Catton, Daniel Lavery, Pip Williams and local motivational and brand expert Jessica Ritchie.

It really was a veritable literary feast and The Lighthouse was immensely proud to assist in corralling the local talent.



Local author triumphs with memoir!

It has indeed been a week of celebrating local authors. The God Of No Good author Sita Walker dropped in to The Lighthouse to share her success of being a published author! The God Of No Good is a gentle and moving memoir that will shift the way you think of family. Enormous congratulations to this locally grown author.



Goods from Glennie!

We are beaming over books, so many books, that were generously donated to The Lighthouse from The Glennie School.

The Glennie School librarian Marie Miegel kindly dropped off the books to us last week and posed for a picture for us.

These books will be rehomed in our one-way library and will be given a new lease on life with other avid readers in the community.

Thank you for thinking of us The Glennie School, we certainly appreciate the love!

Learn new skills, connect with others and unleash your imagination with a visit to the Clifton Library.



Dream job

"Librarians are tour guides for all of knowledge..."
Patrick Ness.

This week we were thrilled to learn that a former staff member at Emerge Cafe (and Write Fridays participant!) Hayley has landed her dream job in the TRC library community. Hayley is a true bibliophile and aspiring fantasy author and it was her dream to work in a library.

After connecting with the 'write' people and believing in herself she managed to manifest her dream into a reality. Well done Hayley!





Mercy Services in The Write Gallery

Mercy Services held their Interagency CaLD Luncheon Photo Exhibition in the Write Gallery. The exhibition gently nestled in with the backdrop of Intertwined and this informal collaboration showed a perfect representation of what community looks like. Big smiles, great joy! Photo Credits: David Martinelli



Literati in the Gallery

Qld Writers Centre CEO Lori-Jay Ellis and Sandra Makarez, Publications Manager and Editor WQ Magazine in Toowoomba dropped in to the Write

Gallery and took the time to embellish what would be one of the last disks embellished for the Intertwined community weave!



Talk Like a Pirate Day

Cody Hargreaves from the Queensland Writers Centre dropped in for Write Fridays and was cajoled to join Emma with facilitator Brett Coster to say 'arrrrrghhhhhh' for talk Like a Pirate Day! It's a tough gig working at The Lighthouse!



Creativity with TAS Students

TAS Students continued their learning through the

Thrive Options workshops at The Lighthouse - using visual prompts to create pictures. Pictured is Sasi with her favourite prompt.



Sacred Heart Primary School Author Visit

Students at Sacred Heart Primary School were lucky to receive a an author visit with Emma on International Pirate Day! Thank you Jan Watkins for inviting us for the author visit.



Harlaxton State School - Wiimali's XXXXX

Have you ever wondered what a children's picture

book looks like in its early stages? There is a great deal of conversation and planning about the colours and the painterly style, and the authors and illustrators at Harlaxton State School were really focused on designing their colour charts.

This remarkable opportunity is only possible because of the generous gift from the FKG Group, and the book will be gifted to children who need a gentle reminder that finding their voice can be their superpower.

As you wade through this newsletter every fortnight you know that amplifying children's voices is our single motivator, and we simply cannot do this without you walking right beside us. Thank you x

PS - No, that wasn't a placeholder we missed in the title of this article! The authors at Harlaxton have named their main character 'Wiimali' (a Gamilaraay word for 'fire, to light', but haven't yet nailed the title of their book. Everything happens when it is meant to happen.

Loads of Wonderful Workshops



We have new workshops galore! Hooray! Want to build a world? We've got you covered! Write your own comic? Boom, kapow, wham bam you can at The Lighthouse!

Or how about learning the art of illustration? We can bring out your inner artist! We are now taking

bookings for all our workshops in Term 3. Find out more and lock in your spot [here](#)



NEW WRITING workshop

Flip flop between Writing and Editing - write, edit, repeat 😊

You know we are fans of endowing superpowers to children. Imagine how amazing their writing would be if they could self-critic, edit, resourcefully and constructively review their own work!

Sarah Bradbury is coming in hot with a wealth of experience as a writer and editor, and is offering this FREE workshop series to young aspiring writers from upper primary years aged between 9 and 12. Interested? [Book now!](#)

**Very Important Dates For Your
Diary!**



Birds of a Feather

An exhibition of beautiful bird art by
The Author and the Artist ~ Terese Eglington

The Write Gallery

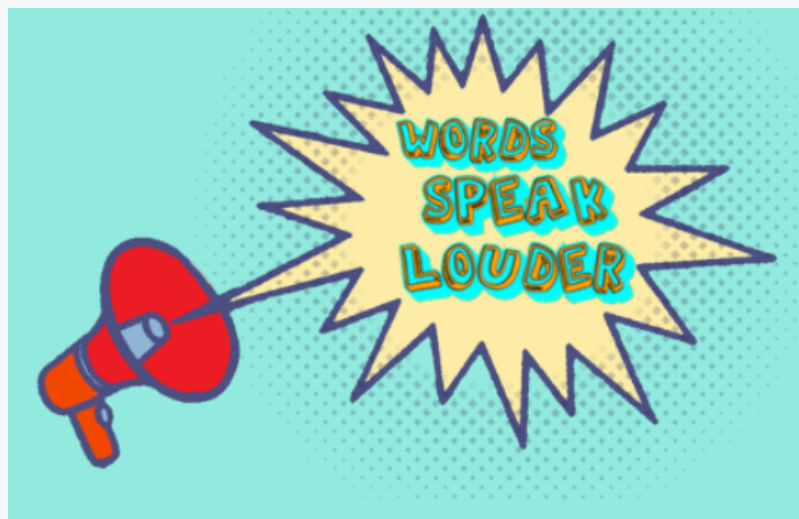
126 Margaret Street Toowoomba

Join Benny Bin Chicken and his feathered friends for
the official opening on

Friday 9 June 2023 from 5:30 - 7:00pm

Exhibition continues until 25 June 2023

See the inspiration behind Benny the Bin Chicken's curious character
and other birdlife we encounter in our daily lives.



Words Speak Louder - Youth Writers Festival

Dear aspiring young authors of Toowoomba, on
Wednesday the 28th of June the Lighthouse will

be facilitating Words Speak Louder, a youth writers festival for anyone looking to sit in on workshops run by some incredible authors. A massive thanks to both YA novelist Claire Christian, and short story writer, Thomas Alan for both helping bring this event to life!

Stay tuned for updates and information about the event on the Lighthouse's website and facebook page!

If you have any questions, or would like to be involved please email Matilda Banks at tildarose08@outlook.com

And if you would like to get to know these amazing authors and their work you can find their websites at:

Claire Christian: <https://www.claireandpearl.com/>

Thomas Alan: <https://www.bythomasalan.com/>

Writer's Critique Circle

6:30 - 8:30pm
6th July
The Lighthouse,
Toowoomba





Brisbane Children's Writers Festival (BCWF).

Queensland Writers Centre is excited to announce our third annual Brisbane Children's Writers Festival (BCWF).

This year's theme is Adventure and on Saturday 14 October (9am-4pm) we are blasting off to explore new worlds. We will build writing and illustrating skills with a one-day festival packed with workshops, competitions and activities for young writers aged 10-16.

Interested parents and students can sign up via this link: <https://events.humanitix.com/brisbane-childrens-writers-festival-23>
<<https://events.humanitix.com/brisbane-childrens-writers-festival-23>>



Thank you!

Thank you to local author and Lighthouse volunteer Kirsty Hutton (above) for organising our books as they are destined for little readers. Kirsty is also an accomplished author, having written children's books 'Why Can't I Eat Lollies All Day' and 'The Kingsley Kids and the Invisible Spray'.

And thank you to TSBE Shamus Garmany for including The Lighthouse in the Creative Industries Lunch Time expo at St Josephs. It was so cool to chat beside Jeanette Wedmaier from The Empire, and Tegan Williams from Aspect. Fingers crossed we shared enough positive insights into what a working life as a creative can be.



One Last Thing...

Tread carefully when passing the corner of Margaret and Hume...you never what might loom... Emma sprung The Speedy Sloth on unsuspecting NRG Team members as the crossed paths after Simultaneous Story Time!

Twinkles Book Club

Every Wednesday and Friday wonderful volunteers share the joy of reading to the communities youngest future leaders at Twinkles Book Club!

There is no need to book, just pop in anytime between 9:30am and 10:30am.

We would like to say a big thank you to husband and wife Carmen and Bernie for volunteering last Friday!

And if you would like to volunteer as a reader please email hello@thelighthousewoomba.org



We would love to hear your stories or reviews!

We know we live in a community of creative people. If you have any news or items, you think we may be interested in please send them through to media@thelighthousewoomba.org We love contributions from our community.



I like to read at the
Light House

