

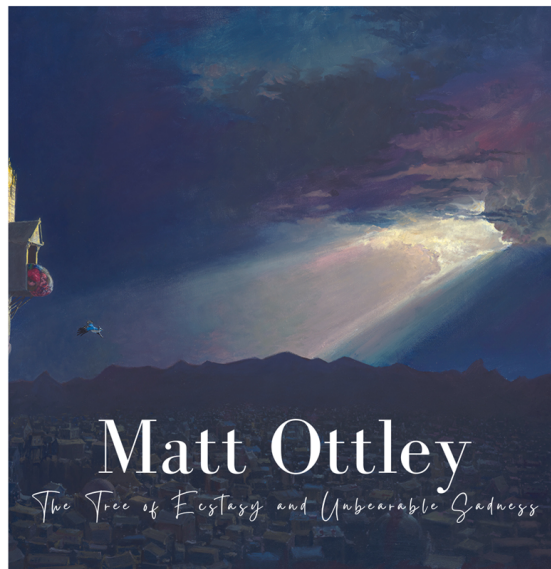
**Subject:** Newsletter The Beacon #41

**Date:** Thursday, 25 January 2024 at 12:43:42 pm Australian Eastern Standard Time

**From:** The Lighthouse Toowoomba

**To:** Emma | Child Writes

2024 - Beginning as we  
mean to finish!



The Write Gallery - The Lighthouse Toowoomba  
126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba CBD

1 - 29 February 2024

exhibitions : workshops : functions : exhibitions : workshops : functions : exhibitions : workshops : functions

## Welcome to Week 1 for 2024 at The Lighthouse Toowoomba

And now it begins...

The Lighthouse Toowoomba is merely weeks away from its 2nd birthday. Having opened with a whisper of an idea on the 22nd of February 2022 to hurtle frantically towards our first birthday in 2023, it is fascinating to measure our maturity by the volume of free workshops we can continue to

deliver, as well as events and opportunities for the whole community.

These newsletters are also a reminder to ourselves where we have been and the direction we are heading, as much as they are designed to inform you about all that this creative hub is capable of offering (and receiving) from our wonderful community.

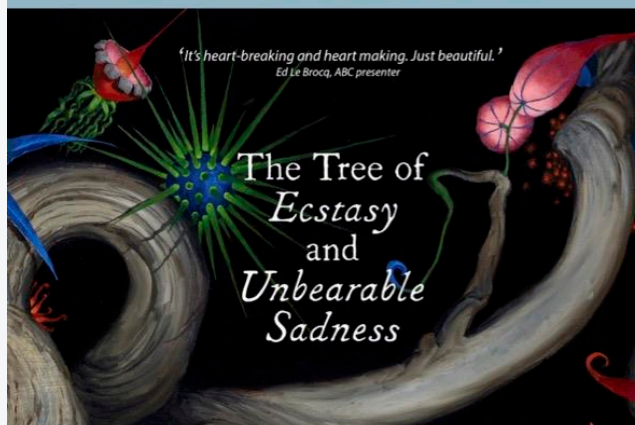
We start 2024 with workshops for all ages for Term 1 and our very first event is a *world premiere* of a multi-modal exhibition by artist, author and composer Matt Ottley. The opening night includes an opportunity to see a film, be involved with a Q+A and book signing with Mat AND the official opening of the exhibition! We really are beginning the year as we mean to finish the year - with wonder!

The Write Gallery is actually fully booked for the year, with exhibitions focused on literacy, creativity, and wellbeing. Again we will be celebrating the writers and illustrators and creators amongst us.

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## SPECIAL EVENT

THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2024, 5:30PM



FILM SCREENING/EXHIBITION OPENING  
AND Q&A WITH MATT OTTLEY

**MATT OTTLEY** has just won the World Fantasy Book Award, is Australia's illustrator nominee for the 2024 \* Hans Christian Anderson Awards, and is bringing his remarkable work to Toowoomba for what will be the *world premiere* of his exhibition 'The Tree of Ecstasy and Unbearable Sadness'. It is a multi-modal exhibition conceived to show each of us what mental illness feels like using music, art, and film, and you are invited.

**THURSDAY 1ST FEBRUARY**  
**5:00pm for 5:30pm screening of the film at The Strand Cinema, followed by official opening of his exhibition and book-signing at The Write Gallery 7:00pm to 8:00pm**

**[BOOK NOW!](#)**

The exhibition will be open Tuesday - Saturday 10am to 3pm, or by appointment, until the 29th February.

If you are curious to discover more:

- **[ABC Podcast](#)** All in the Mind 30min podcast – “What Psychosis feels like: The Tree of Ecstasy and Unbearable Sadness”
- And the **[Film trailer](#)**

As well as the exhibition being open to the public **1-29 February**, it is also awesome to share that we have already made contact with every single secondary school in the region offering dedicated opening times for students 15+ to visit so they can immerse themselves in the work. Given the sensitive nature of the exhibition, we suggest it will be an opportunity for quiet introspective viewing, allowing time for the students to write their personal response to the topic.

With the generous support of the Toowoomba Regional Council, we also have three additional sessions available with [Tanya Vessey](#) (utilising narrative therapy techniques) to lead workshops for student groups who wish to be more actively engaged. Please send us an email at [hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org) if you are keen to book this for your student group.

It is exciting to be starting the year as we intend to finish the year – using the platforms of art, literacy, and creativity to promote the wellbeing of all children in our region – is incredible for us. Given we can also promote the normalisation of conversations about mental health, well, hopefully you will appreciate how important this event is and we are grateful for your support.

Matt and Tina's drive is to de-stigmatise mental illness, to increase empathy and compassion for anyone in a dark place, and to open our hearts to

goodwill of others. With free teacher resources available, a stunningly beautiful homage to benefactors with the Silipo Variations, and intentional multi-modal work, this is not to be missed.

- The Hans Christian Andersen Award is the highest international distinction given to authors and illustrators of children's books. Given every other year by IBBY, the Hans Christian Andersen Awards recognise lifelong achievement and are given to an author and an illustrator whose complete works have made an important, lasting contribution to children's literature.

*This project was made possible by the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund, provided through Regional Arts Australia, administered in Queensland by Flying Arts Alliance.*

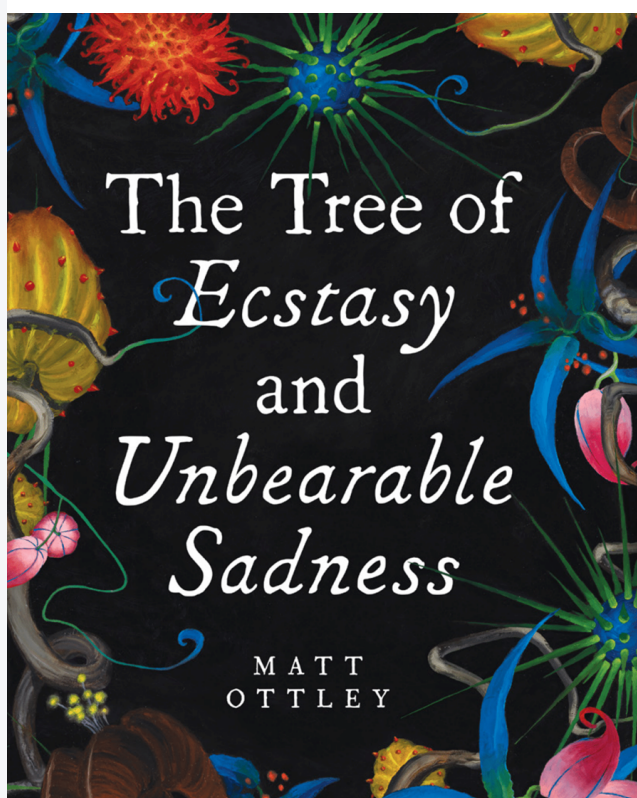
**FLYING ARTS**  
ALLIANCE INC

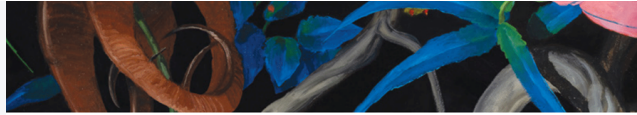


**REGIONAL**  
**arts**  
**AUSTRALIA**



Australian Government  
Regional Arts Fund

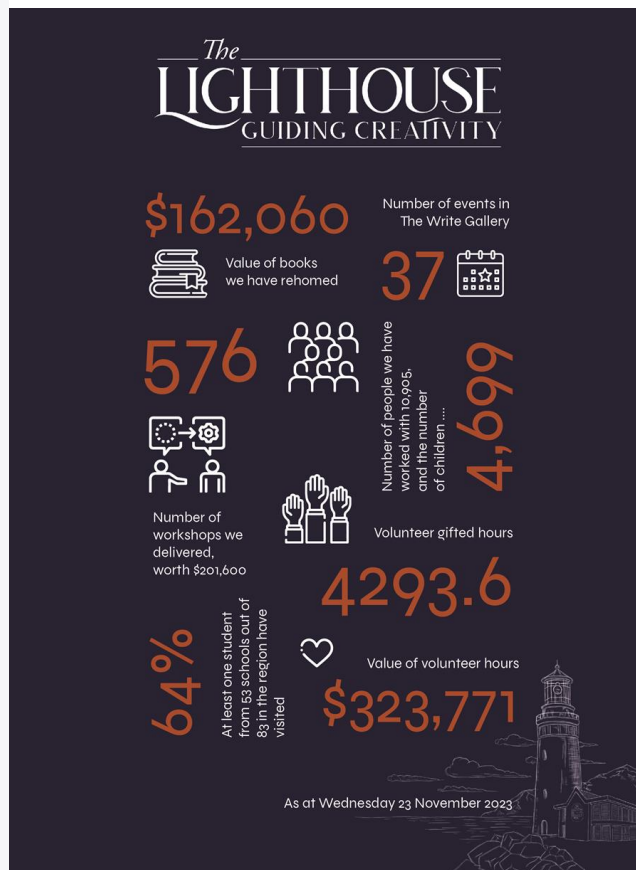




## Did you know...

THE CHILD WRITES FUND is the registered charity supporting The Lighthouse and it has been included on the on the Register of Cultural Organisations, so we no have our own DGR status, and can give you a tax-deductible receipt for every donation over \$2.

To even consider a 2025, we will have to seek substantial funding, from grants and philanthropists, and we are very open to ideas and suggestions so please email [hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org)





## Beyond Illustration and Art Basics

Are you aged 8-12 and interested in illustrations?

This workshop develops art skills with the use of colour, design and perspective. Illustrating characters, designing background and settings, using a variety of art media will assist in developing individual style in illustration, drawing and painting for many applications.

Are you keen to improve your drawing skills, create characters with personality and appeal, or simply increase your confidence in your art abilities? Step inside the world of an illustrator and receive step-by-step guidance in drawing and illustration techniques in a fun and supportive environment.

**Term Fees: \$175 and includes 7 full comprehensive 1.5hr workshops and ALL materials. To book simply click this [LINK](#)**

Workshops start on Tuesday 6 February 2024 3:45-5:15pm and runs for 7 weeks until Tuesday 19 March 2024.

**\*\*Early bird special of an extra free lesson on the 30th January if booked before Monday 29th of Jan 2024.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS FEBRUARY 2024

<b>1-29</b> The Write Gallery 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	<b>THE TREE OF ECSTASY AND UNBEARABLE SADNESS</b> The exhibition, featuring more than 70 artworks, is a masterful allegorical tale that weaves together literature, music, and visual art, presenting a poignant story centred around mental health and self-discovery. Open Tues - Sat 10am to 3pm or by appointment
<b>MONDAYS</b> FREE starting Monday 5th 3:30PM TO 5:00PM	<b>HELLO CLUB</b> For children aged between 7 and 15. Supervised and supported sessions using tablets to access the award-winning Literacy for Kids! Program.
<b>FRIDAYS</b> For little book lovers 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>TWINKLES...</b> Volunteer readers each week share stories with toddlers in our One-Way Library. Share a book, take books home - creating a love of reading.

**INFORMATION ABOUT MORE FREE WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS**  
[www.thelighthouseotoowoomba.org](http://www.thelighthouseotoowoomba.org)  
126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba CBD



**GET YOUR STORY STARTED  
KEEP YOUR STORY GOING**

*It was a ~~dark and~~  
the first time ~~that~~  
they'd have ever  
~~gone enrolled~~  
attended a writing  
~~group~~ workshop.  
The room was empty  
except for ~~the~~*

**CREATIVE WRITING SESSIONS  
FOR ADULTS**  
With Tanya Vessey  
**REGISTER TO SECURE YOUR SPOT**  
4X SESSIONS FOR \$100  
**\*\*Limited Places\*\***



We do genuinely support adult writers as well! Not only do we host Write Mondays - an initiative of the Queensland Writers Centre, we have workshops designed to inspire and ignite your inner writer. Often for adults it is about discovering you do indeed have the courage to share your story.

## Get Your Story Started | Keep Your Story Going

With the astute facilitation by Tanya Vessey, participants will learn:

- To tap into their creativity with writing activities.
- Transform thoughts into action with story-telling elements across four sessions.
- Identify the foundation of the creative process including strengths and areas for development.
- Address how to navigate writing challenges with a positive mindset and self-knowledge.

Click the image above for the booking link!

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## HELLO CLUB!

Homework | Education | Literacy |  
Learning | Outcomes

*Free access to LITERACY FOR KIDS  
here at The Lighthouse.*

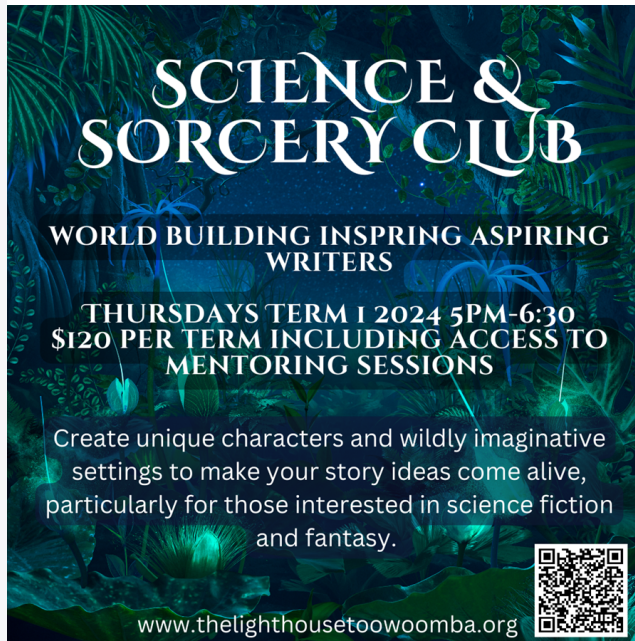
Attendees will be able to work through  
the program from Levels 3 to 15 at  
their own pace, with the guidance and  
support from our fabulous volunteers.

**We have 10 subscriptions to 10  
tablets, and for 8 weeks, 10 children  
aged between 7 and 15 can come to  
The Lighthouse Toowoomba on  
Monday afternoons to work through  
the program.**

Literacy For Kids is an online  
interactive program making it fun for  
kids to learn to read and write. LFK  
aligns with the Australian curriculum  
and provides every teacher with  
powerful analytics to support students  
on their learning journey.

With more than 1400 activities featuring video, music and imagery, LFK is the ideal classroom program that captures interest and supports student learning.

[Bookings open now](#)

A poster for the Science & Sorcery Club. The background is a dark, lush forest scene with glowing green plants and a starry night sky. The text is in white and green. At the top, 'SCIENCE & SORCERY CLUB' is written in a large, white, serif font. Below that, 'WORLD BUILDING INSPIRING ASPIRING WRITERS' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Then, 'THURSDAYS TERM 1 2024 5PM-6:30' and '\$120 PER TERM INCLUDING ACCESS TO MENTORING SESSIONS' are written in a white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text and a QR code.


**SCIENCE & SORCERY CLUB**

**WORLD BUILDING INSPIRING ASPIRING WRITERS**

**THURSDAYS TERM 1 2024 5PM-6:30**  
**\$120 PER TERM INCLUDING ACCESS TO MENTORING SESSIONS**

Create unique characters and wildly imaginative settings to make your story ideas come alive, particularly for those interested in science fiction and fantasy.

[www.thelighthouse-toowoomba.org](http://www.thelighthouse-toowoomba.org)



## Science + Sorcery Club

Tim Hunter is a qualified editor, has published his first novel AND spent all of last year facilitating the World Building workshops. Now, for 2024 he has devised a really clever version of workshops whereby the Science + Sorcery Club is open to all for only \$120 per term and as the young aspiring writers develop their manuscripts, they can option mentoring sessions for FREE. This is a generous and thoughtful format, and is best suited to secondary school students.

Students will be guided in creating unique characters and wildly imaginative settings to make story ideas come alive, particularly for those interested in science fiction and fantasy. These genres give us a chance to imagine stories, alternatives, speculate on the impossible, or simply ask: what if? Untangle the ideas to create great backdrops for stories, homes for heroes and villains, or exciting settings for role playing games, like Dungeons & Dragons.

All members of the Sorcery + Science' Writers Club are welcome to access Tim's mentoring sessions FREE. These sessions are held on the same day as Club, 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Students are welcome to use a hot desk to write more after the mentoring session and then attend Club 5:00pm to 6:30pm.

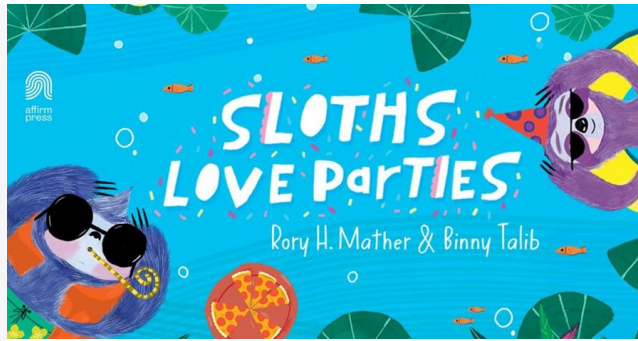
Interested? [Book directly to secure your spot!](#)

**'Science + Sorcery' Writers Club starts on Thursday 1st February, 5:00 to 6:30pm, for 8 weeks (until Thursday 21st March) with mentoring available 3:30pm to 4:30pm on the same day as Club!**

**The cost is \$120 per person per term and includes access to the FREE mentoring sessions.**

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**Book launches,  
events, and more**



Rory H Mather is quickly becoming a true superstar in the children's book world, and we are so excited to celebrate his 10th book launch with an event at The Lighthouse Toowoomba as he introduces 'Sloths Love Parties'.

**Saturday 10th February 10:00 to  
11:00am**

There will be:

- Storytime
- Craft
- Author Q&A
- and CAKE!!!!

Click the image to roll straight to Facebook events for more information.

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## **Writer's Workshop Highfields**

**10 February 2024  
Highfields Cultural  
Centre 8:30 - 4:30**

**Pre-booking  
essential**

**Email  
heather@heatherreburn  
for bookings and further  
details.**

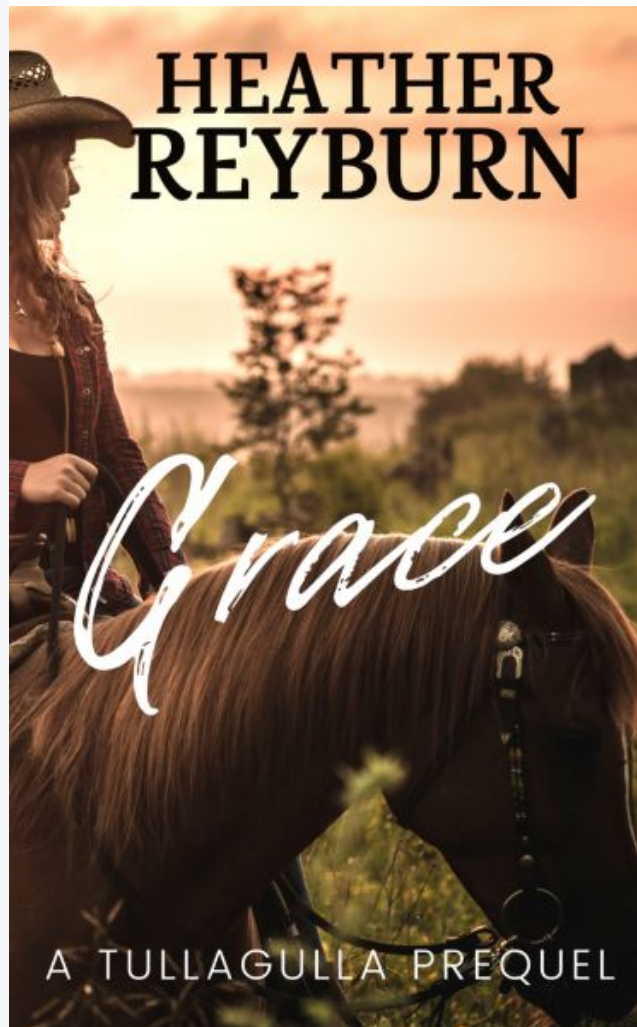


Writer Heather Reburn is giving back

in great style, and has organised a day long workshop for aspiring writers at Highfields.

Email [heather@heatherreyburn.com](mailto:heather@heatherreyburn.com) for more information.

If you can't make it to the workshop and you are curious about Heather's books, dive into her lovely website and download a free copy of 'Grace'.



Very happy to pop this under your noses! Emma constantly raves about Words Out West, and next year's program looks fabulous:

### **Books & Bubbles**

*With Wendy Harmer*

Friday 8 March

Dalby Events Centre

6.30–10pm

From \$90, packages available

*Hear Wendy's frank, fearless and funny reflection on her unlikely and enduring success story.*

[Find out more...](#)

### **Festival Day**

Saturday 9 March

Dalby Events Centre

9am–6pm

From \$115, packages available

*Featuring kingpin true crime novelist Michael Robotham, Everyone In My Family Has Killed Someone's Benjamin Stevenson, and more, this is one Words Out West event you don't want to miss.*

[Find out more...](#)



Kat Lynn's EMPOWERING WOMEN exhibition in March celebrates inspirational women in our community who demonstrate that formidable mix of composure, steely determination, and still manage to wear their 'hearts on their sleeves'.

As Kat is in The Write Gallery for the month, hosting a number of workshops (more about those later) she is also setting aside time to work with *you* as the masterpiece, so are you ready to step into your own spotlight and embrace your creativity? ✨

Join us for an unforgettable experience where you become the masterpiece. [Our Empowered Art Photography Sessions](#) are designed exclusively for you, where you can feel empowered, express yourself, and celebrate your unique beauty.

#### ✨ **What's**

**Included:** ✨ 🎨 Professional Makeup to enhance your natural beauty. 🍷 A glass of bubbles to toast to your creativity. 🕒 A 40-minute session where you shine, and Kat will capture your essence. 🖼️ A stunning 20x30in print of your favourite shot to adorn your home.

#### 🎨 **Be Empowered and**

**Expressive:** 🎨 In the heart of the gallery, where artistic inspiration surrounds you, discover the confidence to let your inner creativity flow. Kat will guide you every step of the way, ensuring you look and feel your



absolute best.



EMPOWERING WOMEN  
VISUAL CONVERSATIONS  
**ART PORTRAITS**  
SUNDAY 10TH AND 17TH OF MARCH

You become the masterpiece.  
ONLY 14 exclusive sessions available  
Immersed in the exhibition to fuel your creativity.

Your session includes  
makeup artist,  
bubbles,  
20x30inch fine art print.

**\$499**

**Running against time.  
Running for their lives.**



Author Suzanne Leal is here in Toowoomba and at The Lighthouse for an author talk for one very lucky school group on Monday 18th March. If a teacher is reading this and 'bags' the FREE session, please contact us asap [hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org). Note, pop 'Suzanne Leal' in the subject!





The Write Gallery - The Lighthouse Toowoomba  
126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba CBD

3- 23 May 2024

exhibitions : workshops : functions : exhibitions : workshops : functions : exhibitions : workshops : functions

## Introducing Sarah...



If you drop by over the next few weeks you may be lucky enough to meet our fabulously friendly Administrator, Sarah. She has kindly agreed to give us a helping hand before she continues her Art degree, and will be a regular feature within these walls this year.

**THE LIGHTHOUSE WEEKLY**

<p><b>MONDAY</b> HELLO Club with Literacy for Kids 3:30pm to 5:00pm</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b> Terese's Illustration 101 Workshop 9 to 13 year olds 3:45pm to 5:15pm</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> World Building 13 to 17 years old 5:00pm to 6:30pm</p>	<p>The Write Gallery Monthly Exhibitions</p>
<p>Term 4 Exhibitions school group bookings by appointment</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b> Twinkles Book Club especially for toddlers 9:30am to 10:30am</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Art! ADAPT MENTORSHIP 1:00pm to 3:00pm</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b> Write Your Story! 9:30am to 11:30am 6 3:30pm to 5:00pm</p>
<p><b>MONDAY</b> GET YOUR STORY STARTED! 5:00pm to 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b> Write Friday Old Writers Centre Adults 10:00am to 2:00pm</p>	<p><b>MORE?</b> Our fortnightly newsletter has EVERYTHING -&gt;</p>	

Tired of being distracted working at

home? Looking for a more collegiate atmosphere with other creatives? We have offices for rent in 2024. Super generously flexible terms, two even with car parks in the CBD.

## *Internal Nook Office*



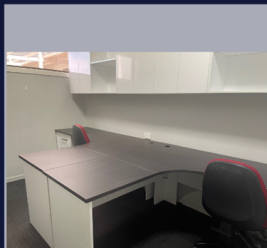
**\$240 per month**

### FACILITIES

- Air-con
- 1 desk / 1 chair
- Overhead cupboards
- Access to Kitchenette
- This is not a keyed office

@thelighthouseoowoomba

## *Internal Double Office*



**\$680 per month**

### FACILITIES

- 8.5 m2
- Air-con
- 2 desks / 2 chairs
- Filing cabinet
- Overhead cupboards
- Access to Kitchenette
- Keyed office
- 1 CBD carpark

@thelighthouseoowoomba

## Internal Single Office



\$380 per month

### FACILITIES

- 4.6 m2
- Air-con
- 1 desk / 1 chair
- Filing cabinet
- Overhead cupboards
- Access to Kitchenette
- Keyed office
- 1 CBD carpark

@thelighthouseoowoomba



The Lighthouse Toowoomba  
126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba, 4350

We acknowledge the First Nations storytellers of the land on which we work and tell our stories. We respect the ongoing relationships with water, land, and story by the people of this place, their elders, their ancestors, and their emerging leaders. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

If you wish to unsubscribe from our newsletter please use the button below or email us at [hello@thelighthouseoowoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthouseoowoomba.org)

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