



**Welcome to Week 31 for 2023 at The  
Lighthouse Toowoomba.**

Books and Beyond! We spent a huge amount of time out of office as schools around the community celebrated Book (Book-Book-Book) Week.

It was also a week of big numbers! (Aside from our weekly workshops)

**599 children** - participated in workshops, received books, or joined a parade from the following schools:

- St Francis de Sales
- Clifton State School
- Greenmount State School
- Pilton State School
- Leyburn State School
- Back Plains State School
- Holy Name School
- Harlaxton State School
- Toowoomba Anglican School

And that doesn't count the 524 guests attending: Dreamscapes and Elementals!

Not to mention the number of guests at the Variety Qld Dinner which Emily attended. There were over 300 there!

Plus, we cannot forget the terrific mid-week turnout for Gabbie Stroud's book launch at The Write Gallery with 33 guests!

**People and programs and books oh my! Read on for more details of the fortnight that was.**



## Glorious Gabbie Stroud

Gabbie Stroud is the bestselling author of 'Teacher' and 'Dear Parents'. Her latest book is called 'The Things That Matter Most' and it explores this idea of: 'If it takes a village to raise a child, why are we relying solely on schools?'.

We were thrilled to help launch The Things That Matter Most at The Write Gallery on Wednesday 16 August.

Thank you to Ellie McLiesh from PLACE as the most wonderful lead for the 'in conversation' with Gabbie.

With over 33 people in attendance the launch was an enormous success and Gabbie was very gracious with her praise for The Lighthouse Toowoomba and what we aim to achieve.

*"It's a place that builds community, fosters growth in the arts and provides a safe space for all manner of learning. Just as every town in Australia has a sporting field, every town should have a centre like this - and an advocate like Emma Mactaggart." Gabbie Stroud*

Literacy lighthouses across the country, we like the sound of that!



Secret Life of Seedpods Bumping In



A big warm welcome to the spectacular 'The Secret Life of Seedpods' by botanical artist and Toowoomba local Chelsea Baker, the creative behind [Hello Chelsart](#).

The Secret Life of Seedpods showcases Chelsea's passion for discovering overlooked Australian flora, namely seedpods, and transcending nature's architectural miniatures into original artworks. As a result of her art practice, she breathes new life into seedpods, giving them a second 'bloom' and allowing the observer to be in awe and surprise of the creation before them.

The Secret Life of Seedpods is coming to The Write Gallery and will run the whole month of September.



## Bush Kindy Day for Book Week

Emma spent the morning with 40 kindy students at Toowoomba Anglican School as they had a bush kindy day in Queenie's Paddock.

The kids ate their morning tea as Emma regaled with a tale in the sunshine! A great kick-off activity

for Book Week and wonderful change of scenery to learn in.



Birds of a feather DO flock together!

We have news for all Eglington enthusiasts - on a wing and a prayer - Terese Eglington will be retuning in Term 4 with her '[Beyond Illustration and Art Basics](#)' workshop series! We all know her class will book out faster than an ibis opening the lid on a council bin, so get in quick.



Collaboration at its best

Emma photobombed with Susy Blue and Adam Wenitog from Adapt Mentorship, and Nat and Tiff Spary from BASE Services in The Write Gallery on the eve of the 'Homeless for a Week' campaign! A great moment captured before the buzz of the event.



## Podcast Pals

Rawah and Samah were on the mic again with David Iliffe for their podcast. This time around they had Kelly Hogan Buckingham as their guest.





## Plotting and Planning

Emma tracked down two amazing local illustrators at Toowoomba Grammar School's Book Week event and she plotted and planned showcasing their talents at The Write Gallery!

Lucia Muscillo is exhibiting next year, and Yvonne Mes just needs to be talked into it! ;)



Here we are!

Sometimes the little things can make the biggest impact. How did we not think to do this earlier! Everyone is constantly perplexed and puzzled as to the location of The Lighthouse Toowoomba and how to find The Write Gallery in-situ...

So the lovely Chelsea from Hello Chelsart created this for us. Confusion no more, clear as crystal that it's really just next door!



## Lunchtime Creatives Lifts Off

Lunchtime Creatives had a successful start this week when members of the community joined artist Lily Halton and discovered their inner artist. If you want to connect with the right side of your brain, you can come along next week and spend an hour with Lily all for FREE! [Book directly here!](#)

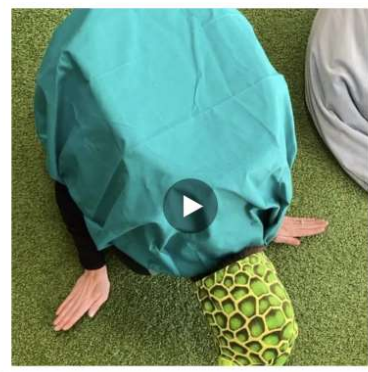




## Emily thanks Variety Qld

Emily attended a Variety Dinner for the first day of their famous Big Bash car rally and had the chance to thank [Variety Qld](#) personally, as The Lighthouse were recent recipients of a community grant.

The \$2500 we were awarded will benefit the community as we look to deliver a series of writing workshops using narrative therapy techniques. Thank you again to the Variety team and well done on another bonza Big Bash!



## Book Week 2023 Book Reviews

Adding the element of danger by filming directly to Facebook Live, our (very) unofficial book reviews once again hit social media. Not sure what the general public thought but we 'cracked' ourselves up.





## Farewell Dreamscapes and Elementals

What do you call a group of strong, artistic, generous women? **INSPIRATIONAL!** What a joy it was to have Dreamscapes and Elementals in The Write Gallery, we miss the exhibition already!







## Write Your Story, Own Your Strength

Explore Narrative Therapy Techniques with Tanya Vessey

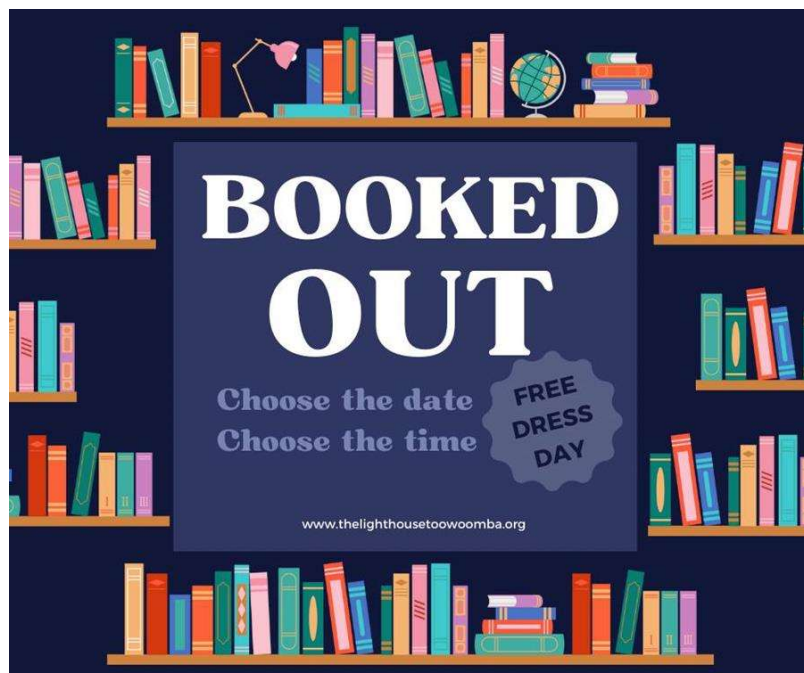
We have rescheduled these special writing workshops to Term 4, to allow enough time for the word to get around. This 4 workshop series is open to ALL children in the upper primary/ early secondary years. This is a pilot program made possible by Variety Qld, for which we are incredibly grateful

- Participants will learn techniques to navigate change and tap into creativity with story-telling activities across four workshops.

- Creativity and change happen consciously or unconsciously. Our response to creativity or change is the result of personal beliefs; this means that our beliefs create our response to change.
- The ability to adapt to change requires self-awareness and techniques to navigate what is beyond our control.
- By using the structure of story to tap into creativity, these workshops address creating change to navigate challenges with a positive mindset and self-knowledge.

The program is run over 4 weeks, and participants attend all four sessions. Starting Monday 9th October and runs after school from 3:30pm-5:30pm

[Register Here](#)



## Free Dress Day at school - Raise money!

A donation started this malarky, and now we are so happy our first batch of library bags have arrived and we are ready to go! Here is a challenge for you... Please consider organising a

free dress day at your school - or a PJ-day at your workplace - and asking everyone who participates for a gold coin donation. Think about being so incredibly comfortable whilst helping us get books to children in our community!

Let us know if you want to help literacy in your loungewear by emailing us [hello@thelighthouseoowoomba.org.au](mailto:hello@thelighthouseoowoomba.org.au) We can provide you with posters and marketing material to promote your Free Dress / PJ-day!

**THE SECRET LIFE OF SEEDPODS**

OFFICIAL OPENING  
THURSDAY 31 AUGUST  
5:30PM TO 7:00PM

THE WRITE GALLERY  
126 MARGARET STREET TOOWOOMBA

EXHIBITION OPEN UNTIL SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER  
10AM - 3PM  
OR BY APPOINTMENT



LEE FULLARTON + BOOK LINKS

OFFICIAL OPENING  
FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER  
5:30PM TO 7:00PM

THE WRITE GALLERY  
126 MARGARET STREET TOOWOOMBA

EXHIBITION CONTINUES UNTIL  
WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 3:00PM

*Mr Chippa*







# RUN WITH DAD TOOWOOMBA

## Frogs Hollow, Queens Park

Fundraising for Prostate Cancer Research and Awareness

Sunday 3rd September 2023 from 6am

(Run starts at 7:30am)



### MEET BLUEY AND HER LITTLE SISTER BINGO AT RUN WITH DAD!

## FREE BREAKFAST FOR PARTICIPANTS



Register at Eventbrite or [www.runwithdad.com.au](http://www.runwithdad.com.au)



# HOLIDAY WRITING WORKSHOP

Learn the **secrets** of writing great stories from an **award-winning author**

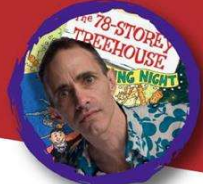
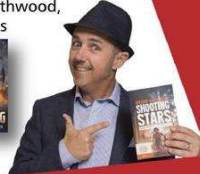
- 3 day writing camp for ages 9-14
- 1 day workshop for ages 7-10



Meet your presenter:

## Brian Falkner

The award-winning author of 21 novels including Brainjack, Northwood, and the Katipo Joe series



"I loved meeting other young authors and learning awesome techniques that will help my writing."  
Gabriella (14)

"It made writing easier for me and explained aspects of stories I didn't really understand."  
Anna (12)

**Andy Griffiths says...**  
"I wish this camp had been around when I was a young writer!"

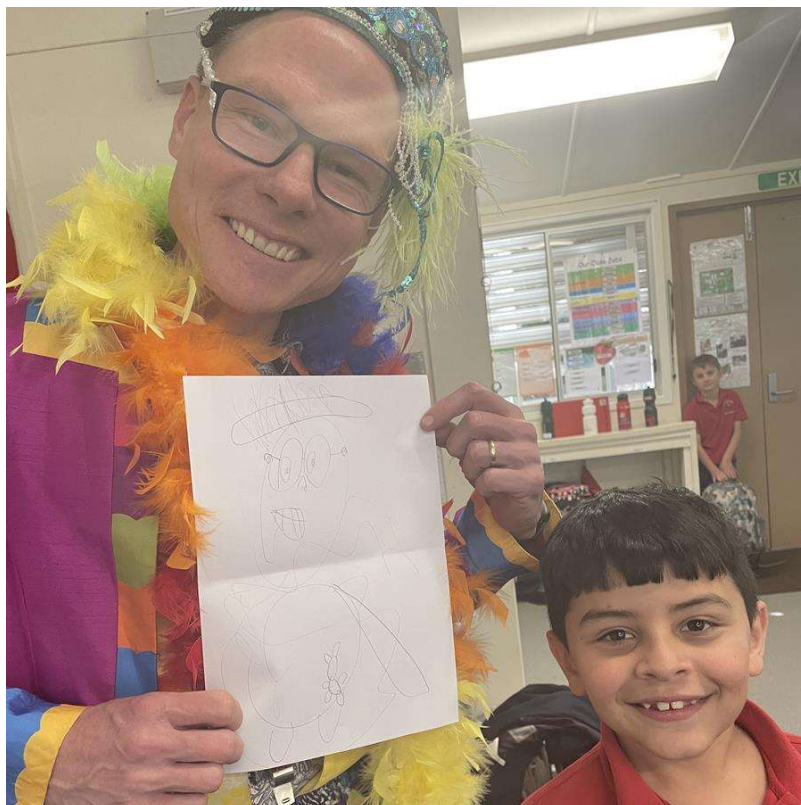


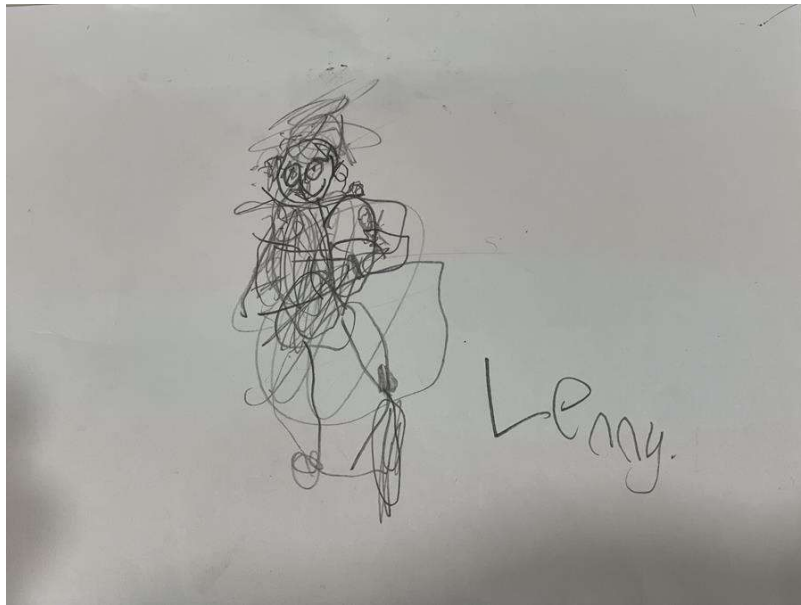
Where: **The Lighthouse**  
126 Margaret Street  
When: **19 Sep to 21 Sep 2023**

Register now at:  
**WriteLikeanAuthor.com**



**WRITE**  
like an  
**AUTHOR**





## Thank you!

Thank you Mr Mark at Harlaxton State School for booking Emma for her author visit AND being such a good sport in dress up.

And thank you to Lenny for this drawing of Mr M at Harlaxton SS. It does go a little way to show the energy and passion MR M brings to teaching!

**BIG THANKS TO Janelle from Dymocks.** Janelle was in the middle of stocktake yet generously accepted to be our favoured bookseller for the Gabbie Stroud event. She whipped in, set up, sold books, packed up, and disappeared... all without fuss! Always agreeable and personable and endlessly supportive of all events we are lucky enough to hold here for Authors.



Volunteers



We have a dedicated band of volunteers who help us sort out and bundle books that have already been donated, and Readers who take our 'Twinkles Book Club' to schools. Of course, the more the merrier, so if any of this inspires you to volunteer, and you have a Blue Card, please contact us [hello@thelighthousewoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthousewoomba.org) or directly via our website application form: <https://www.thelighthousewoomba.org/volunteer>



Off to homes they go!

Our fabulous new library bags accompanying books as they head to their new homes to be loved and enjoyed.



## One Last Thing

Board books are not bored books (see what we did there)! If you have any board books, or any other kids books that need a new home, we always have children they can be passed onto! Send us an email [hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org) or drop in and see us at 126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba City.



The Lighthouse Toowoomba  
126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba, 4350

We acknowledge the original Indigenous 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@thelighthousewoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthousewoomba.org)

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)