

Lilypad is a newsletter of Lotus Place CQ.  
Lotus Place is a dedicated support service and resource centre for adults who experienced childhood abuse in an institutional setting.



[www.lotusplace.org.au](http://www.lotusplace.org.au) | Central Queensland | May – June 2021

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## Australia honours abuse survivor who fought to speak out

The awarding of Grace Tame the recognition and responsibility of Australian of the Year is likely to come as a shock to many as she was up against well-known faces who lead the response to well-publicised national crises. Her honour not only elevates the continued issue of child sexual abuse but, more importantly, her passionate acceptance speech declared **“survivors be proud, our voices are changing history”** and, in the face of being silenced by her perpetrator and shamed when she reported the repeated abuse, “when we share we heal ... lived experience informs structural and social change ... we can redefine what it means to be a survivor ... the cultures that enables child sexual abuse still exist”.



Lotus Place CQ is a drop-in centre. You are very welcome to pop in during office hours for a cuppa / time out / watch tv.

**\*\*There are times we need to close the office during our opening hours ( 8.30am – 2pm ) this may be due to staff doing outreach/home visits or giving support to participants due to an emergency\*\***

*So, it is always best to give us a call to let us know you are popping in to say hi to ensure we are here for you as we don't want you to pop in if the doors are closed.*

**Participants wanting to come in to see Redress and Disability Royal commission staff will need to make an appointment.**

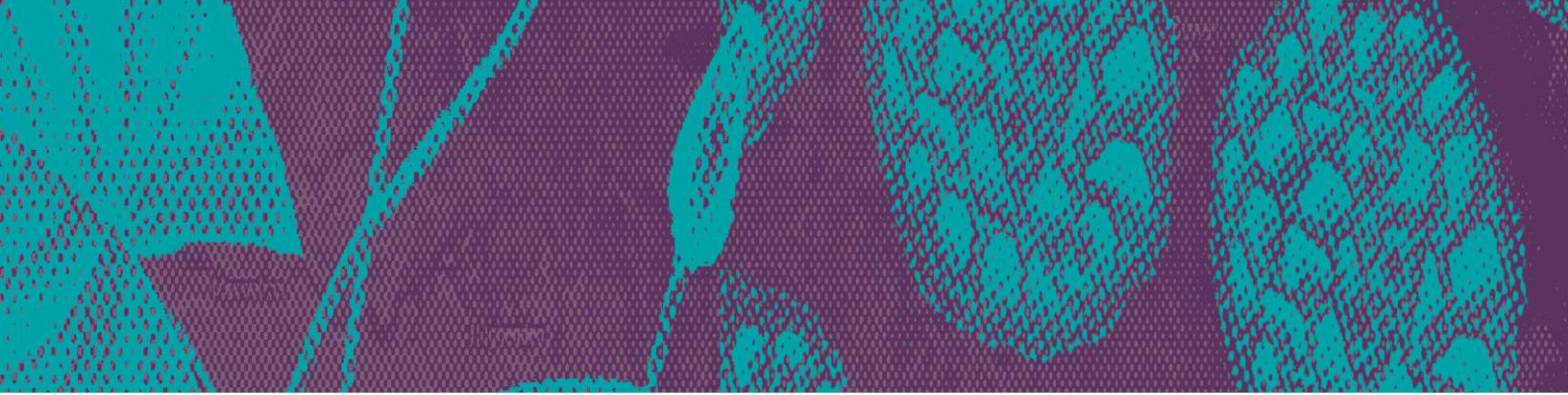
(E) [lotuscq@micahprojects.org.au](mailto:lotuscq@micahprojects.org.au) [www.lotusplace.org.au](http://www.lotusplace.org.au)

(P) 07 4999 4300



*The lotus flower* has its origins and roots in the muddy waters below the surface, yet above the water it is a beautiful resilient flower. After a consultative process the Lotus Flower was chosen as both a metaphor and image to represent the journey from adversity to hope.

Lotus Place, as part of Micah Projects Ltd, is committed to ensuring your right to privacy when accessing services. Therefore, Lotus Place always seeks your written consent to record and store your information, share your information with anyone else, unless there is immediate risk of harm to yourself or others, and to report to funding bodies information that does not identify you or your families. Similarly, Lotus Place values your feedback and we encourage you to give compliments, offer suggestion and make complaints. Complaints are dealt with in a confidential manner and only discussed with the people directly involved. You can talk to any of our staff about your feedback or speak to the Feedback and Complaints Officer if not satisfied. If still not satisfied, you can contact external agencies and seek support from an advocate.



## SUPPORT

1. Talk to someone at Lotus Place at either of our three centers or ring the Cluster Team Leader, Mark Bunting: (Ph) 07 3029 7000 from 9am – 5pm Mon to Fri
2. Request a Feedback Form or write a letter and mail to Feedback and Complaints Officer, Micah Projects, PO Box 3449, South Brisbane, Q 4101
3. Contact the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women by calling 1800 080 464 (free call), or sending an email to [feedback@csyw.qld.gov.au](mailto:feedback@csyw.qld.gov.au), or using the online form <https://www.complaints.services.qld.gov.au/>, or posting your feedback to Complaints Unit, Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women, Locked Bag 3405, Brisbane, Qld 4001
4. Contact Queensland Ombudsman on 3005 7000 or 1800 068 908 (if outside Brisbane)
5. Contact Commonwealth Department of Social Services on 1800 634 035 or use online form on [complaints@dss.gov.au](mailto:complaints@dss.gov.au)
6. Contact Queensland Office of the Health Ombudsman (regarding health services) by calling 13 36 46

# knowmore

Free Legal Help 1800 605 762

knowmore is a free, independent legal service providing advice to survivors of institutional child sexual abuse about justice and redress.

Services: Legal advice and assistance, Support services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement and Financial counselling

# UPCOMING DATES - 2021

**BUNDABERG:** MORNING TEA: *4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the Month 10.30am*

At Brothers Sports Club – Leprechaun Room 30 Takalvan St Bundaberg

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**ROCKHAMPTON:**

MORNING TEA: *10.00am each Tuesday*

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each Month : Lunch will be replaced by morning tea at 11.30

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## RECONCILING HISTORIES PROJECT

**Recollecting. Reconnecting. Reclaiming the journey.**

Through a series of six creative workshops, participants will be supported in a safe space to creatively investigate, explore and illuminate their strengths, hopes and dreams born from a history of reconciling their truth, seeking justice and healing. With a start date in Rockhampton in May and Bundaberg date to be advised.

Workshops will be lead by professional practicing artists and Participants will be guided through a process based investigation utilizing a variety of mark making techniques such as, but not limited to painting, drawing, collage, 3D printing, digital fabrication, sound, and lighting. Work produced in these creative sessions will be exhibited in a public showcase in September 2021 to coincide with Child Protection Week.

Reconciling Histories is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and through the Truth Healing and Reconciliation Grants Program (Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women).

This project was also made possible by the Australian Government’s Regional Arts Fund, an Australian Government program designed to benefit regional and remote arts practitioners, arts workers, audiences and communities. The fund is provided through Regional Arts Australia and is administered in Queensland by Flying Arts Alliance.