

# MEDIA RELEASE

11 September 2018



## School kids publish their first book

A group of Darling Downs school children have become the region's newest published authors.

The 16 children, aged from eight to 14, took part in a four-day intensive workshop during the Easter holidays run by local not-for-profit organisation, YellowBridge QLD, who provides disability support services in the Toowoomba region.

The workshop was facilitated by award-winning children's book publisher Emma Mactaggart from Child Writes with artistic input from Toowoomba artists Tarn McLean and London Heir.

The result was a beautifully illustrated story book, *Rachel's Quest*, to help increase understanding of people living with a disability.

Its storyline aims to reinforce that everyone has worth and is able to contribute no matter what their abilities are.

*Rachel's Quest*, which was funded through the We Are Queensland small grants program, was officially launched on 11 September during Disability Action Week.

"The book's storyline aims to reinforce that everyone has worth and value no matter what their abilities or how different they are," said Penny Hamilton, YellowBridge QLD chief executive officer.

"It is a positive and uplifting story about everyone's abilities rather than some people's disabilities," she said.

"The Toowoomba community loves a good book and because this book is written, illustrated and produced by local young people we hope it will have great appeal amongst the wider community."

*Rachel's Quest* is available from YellowBridge office or Collectables boutique op shop in Station Street. The book is free with any donation.

All proceeds will help to fund a second print edition of the book.

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Heather Smith, 0403 462 686, [heather@wishbone.com.au](mailto:heather@wishbone.com.au)