

Shire of Broome
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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

***The Lighthouse Girl* heading to Broome**

“The Expeditionary Force is on its way! I spent the whole time waving and wondering if Charlie could see me from his ship.”- Fay

The Lighthouse Girl is the courageous story that inspired the roaming spectacular of *The Giants* and is coming to Broome Civic Centre on Saturday 5 May, presented by Black Swan Theatre Company and the Shire of Broome.

A free Community Writers' Workshop will also be hosted in conjunction with the production on the morning of 5 May with playwright Hellie Turner.

The Lighthouse Girl is the story of Fay, a sweet young girl living an isolated life with her lighthouse-keeper father on the bleak, windswept Breaksea Island in the Great Southern region of WA.

With the outbreak of war in 1914, Fay finds purpose in transcribing Morse code messages from soldiers stationed offshore, becoming their last hope of getting messages to their loved ones before heading to the frontline.

On the other side of the country in rural Victoria, Charlie and his best mate Jim abandon the outback for the excitement and adventure of seeing the world, but as soldiers in the Light Horse Brigade, they quickly discover the brutal realities of life on the frontline.

This gentle play entwines the lives of Fay and Charlie and brings to life the stories of those left at home during the war waiting, wondering, hoping ... and the struggles of the young men who valiantly enlisted to help defend their country.

Based on Albany author Dianne Wolfer's wonderful novels *Lighthouse Girl* and *Light Horse Boy*, this evocatively written play embodies a powerful and truthful sense of a pivotal time in Australia's development as a nation.

The world premiere of *The Lighthouse Girl* took place in Albany, the birthplace of the Anzac story, in April 2017 before its premiere season in Perth.

The Lighthouse Girl is at the Broome Civic Centre on Saturday 5 May with doors open at 7pm for an 8pm show. Tickets are available at www.broomeciviccentre.com.au.

The Community Writers' Workshop runs from 9.30am to noon on 5 May also at the Broome Civic Centre. Places are limited and to book email broomeciviccentre@broome.wa.gov.au.

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