

BREC Presents

# *This is where...*

By Siobhan Maiden

Co-Produced by Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre

*Walk the streets you know,  
hear the stories you don't.*

**A GUIDED WALKING THEATRE EXPERIENCE**

**13 - 18 APRIL 2026**

**BUNBURY REGIONAL ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE**

**PROGRAM**

# Artist Statement from Siobhan Maiden

## **I am drawn to people who quietly hold a community together.**

Doreen from Pat's Snack bar was like the night watchwoman of Bunbury - a shrewd owl who served, listened, observed, and offered kindness. While most of the town slept, she had the privileged insight of knowing its pulse. All the great Greek dramas played out at Pat's Snack Bar. Pat's is not an isolated lighthouse, there are community compasses like this all over Australia - places shaped not by policy or funding, but by people who show up, stay open, and care.

I admire the unacknowledged labour of people like Doreen. The kind of work that connects strangers, reduces loneliness, keeps people alive, and occasionally even increases the birth rate. These acts of service are rarely recognised. They don't come with awards, plaques, or public thanks. Often, they aren't even spoken about. They live in memory, in habit, in the way a place feels safe or familiar.

The people who shared their stories for this production may never receive an Order of Australia or a council gong. However, they are a piece of the puzzle that has made other people's lives better. Women who typed men's words while their own went unheard. Mothers who apologise before offering wisdom. People who diminish themselves with "I'm just a..." before revealing something quietly profound.

I have deep respect for each person whose story appears in this work. They have taken risks, endured challenges, and may never know the ripple effects of their actions.

*This Is Where...* is a tribute to hidden courage - to ordinary places where something quietly brave once happened. The real answer to the title's unfinished sentence is probably: This is where I showed courage.

My hope is that audiences walk away seeing their town differently. That when they next pass these locations, they remember not just what happened there, but what is still possible there. Fear thrives in the unknown, but kindness grows when we recognise what - and who - is around us.

**I know that car.  
I know that cop.  
I know that kid.  
I know that burger.  
I know the woman who serves it.  
I know that surname.  
I know that place.**

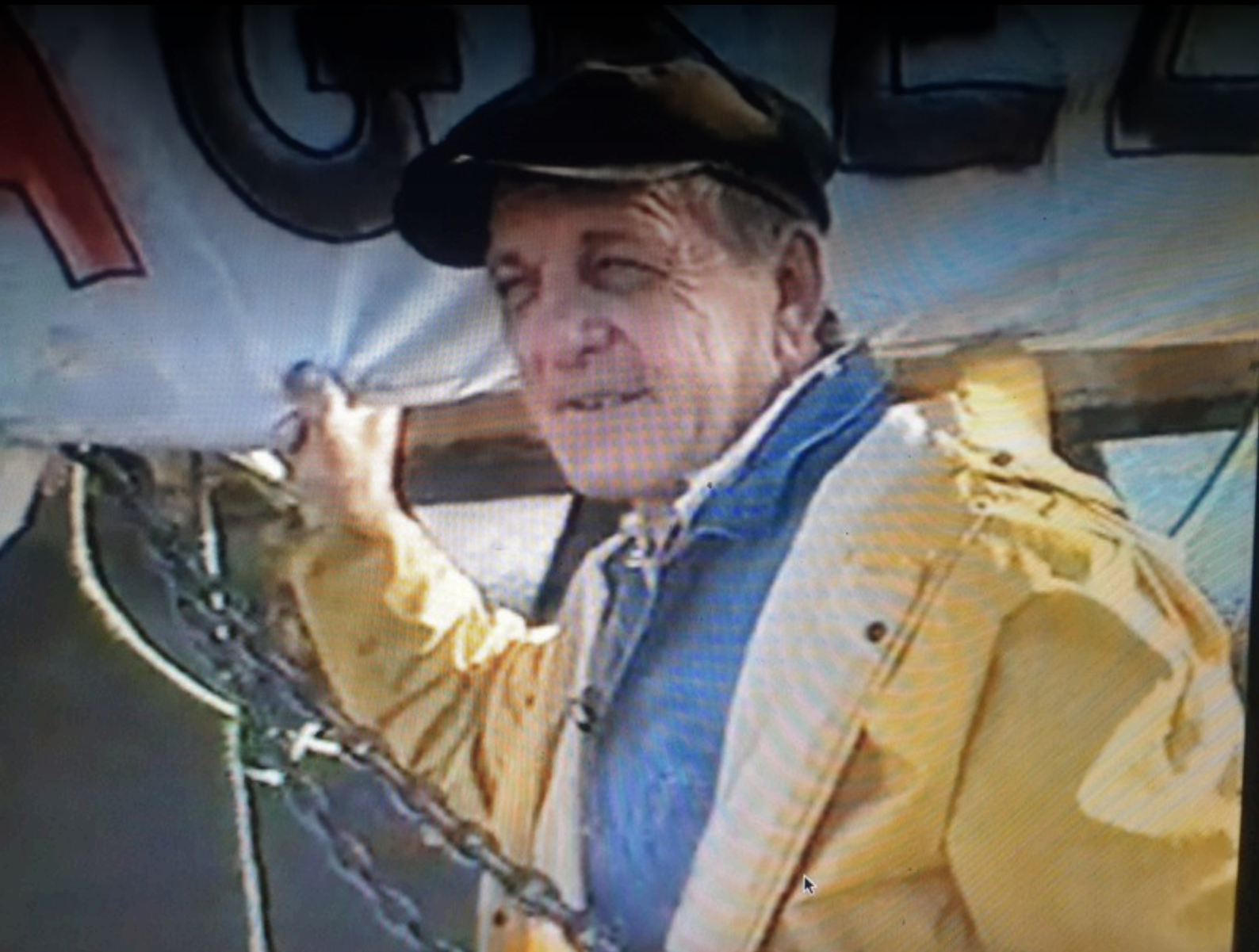
Scale matters. A town the size of Bunbury makes familiarity possible, but curiosity is still a choice.

This work is an invitation to choose it - to look again at the people and places we think we know and discover that we only ever knew a little.



## *The Story Givers*

Immense gratitude to the many brave local people who shared their stories in the creation of this project



# *The Company*

<b>Writer, Director, Producer</b>	Siobhan Maiden
<b>Executive Producer</b>	Fiona de Garis
<b>Dramaturgy</b>	James Berlyn, Michelle Hall, Vahri McKenzie, David Richardson, Kim Crotty
<b>Sound Design</b>	David Richardson
<b>Production Design</b>	Siobhan Maiden
<b>Core Devisors</b>	Siobhan Maiden, Michelle Hall
<b>Devising Team</b>	Kim Crotty, Sam Gomme, Michelle Hall, Clara Kotai, Pavan Kumar Hari, Aoife McGreal, Vahri McKenzie, David Richardson, Talya Rubin, Katelyn Rudolphy, Russell Thorpe, Rachel Woodward
<b>Movement Direction</b>	James Berlyn (One to a Million), Michelle Hall (Cooking Bunny), Janine Oxenham (Bog Laps)
<b>Cast</b>	Karen Ball, Nathan Gardiner, Karrak Gregory, Michelle Hall, Millie Kitchener, Chrissy Maddison, Andrew Robinson, Katelyn Rudolphy, Shakiba Valizadeh
<b>Recording Artists</b>	Aunty Phyllis Bennell, Charmaine Councillor, Sam Gomme, David Richardson, Steve McCall, Renato Fabretti, Siobhan Maiden, Amanda Yip, Wally Yip
<b>Technical Manager</b>	Niko Wajon
<b>Lighting Design</b>	Logan Turner, Jeff Andersen, Jarvis Russell
<b>Production Support</b>	Codee Lee Down, Linda Guinness, Katelyn Rudolphy, Kim Crotty, Felix, Mieke, and Gus Sketcher, Ella Hetherington (City of Cockburn), Rory Stemp, Izaac Robinson, Kathy O'Shaunessy, John Smith
<b>Gommes windows displays</b>	Siobhan Maiden, Julie Rusell-Krebs, Nathan Gardiner, Sam Gomme, Dee Mosca, Cassandra Smith
<b>Pat's Snack Bar</b>	Suzanne Clark, Katrina Potter, Doreen and Jim Roney, Emma Bird, BREC Volunteers, Community Volunteers, Sarah Whitby, Dean Curkovic, Alex Stemp, John Smith, Felix Sketcher
<b>Costumes</b>	Lauren Wroth, Siobhan Maiden
<b>Marketing &amp; Design</b>	Sarah Whitby, Eddie Scown, Jessie Mitchell
<b>Mission Control</b>	Niko Wajon, Sam Curkovic
<b>Guide training &amp; Coordination</b>	Sam Curkovic, James Berlyn
<b>Guides</b>	Rory Stemp, Rebecca Dellaca, Jenny Elson, Cheryl Cunnington, Rosemary Smith, Tammie Reid, Cherie Fielder, John Smith, Dan Depiazzi, Marianne de Vries, Leanne Dunne
<b>Meet and Greet</b>	Robyn Forrest, Robyn Stavrou, Dominic Frisina
<b>Site Stage Managers</b>	Jarvis Russell, Arlen Crotty, Izaac Robinson, Madison Payne, Chrissy Madison, Lauren Wroth, Jess Page
<b>Front of House Managers</b>	Emma Bird, Suzanne Clark, Katrina Potter
<b>Fire Pit &amp; External Site Support</b>	Jeff Andersen, Logan Turner

# Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre

**Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre (BREC) is the cultural heart of the South West, bringing people together to share exceptional experiences.**

Through a diverse program of live performance, international film, conferences and events, BREC connects audiences with outstanding artists, stories and ideas.

With a strong focus on community connection, creative collaboration and supporting local voices alongside the best of touring work, BREC continues to play a vital role in the cultural life of the region. This includes introducing young people to live performance and creativity, with more than 2,800 school students attending shows each year through BREC's creative learning program, and many others experiencing the full range of what BREC offers with their families.

## BREC Board of Management

Amanda Yip (Board Chair), Paul Springate (Deputy Chair), Jacqueline Ross, Angelique Fransen, Michelle Doake, Craig Holland, Cassidy McGuire, Robbie Potter, Parthasarathy Ramesh, Ben Talbot, Saira Zahiruddin

## BREC Team

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**Executive Director**

Fiona de Garis

**Finance Manager**

Veronica Young

**Technical Manager**

Nikolaas Wajon

**BREC Experience Manager**

Suzanne Clark

**Deputy BREC Experience Manager**

Katrina Potter

**Finance Administrator**

Susan Hart

**Finance Assistant**

Catherine Sheridan

**Artistic Administrator**

Stephanie Reeve

**Senior Marketing Coordinator**

Sarah Whitby

**Communications Coordinator**

Eddie Scown

**Venues Coordinator**

Nerida Mangano

**Creative Learning Coordinator**

Siobhan Maiden

**Senior Production Technician**

Jeff Andersen

**Production Technician**

Logan Turner

**Production Technician**

Lauren Wroth

**BREC Experience Coordinator**

Karen Clarke

**Box Office Coordinator**

Sam Curkovic

**Volunteer Coordinator**

Emma Bird

**BREC Experience Assistant**

Katelin Oakley

**BREC Cleaner**

Warren Capp



BREC Presents

# *This is where...*

By Siobhan Maiden

Co-Produced by Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre

## ***Walk the streets you know, hear the stories you don't.*** **A GUIDED WALKING THEATRE EXPERIENCE.**

For one week only, BREC presents *This is where...* an original theatre production by Bunbury artist Siobhan Maiden, crafted from stories shared by locals, for locals.

Step into the streets and connect with Bunbury in a way you never imagined. See your city from another perspective. Hear untold tales. Be surprised by unexpected points of view. Real Bunbury moments, performed in the places they happened.

This is a rare chance to see Bunbury differently - and feel more connected to the place you call home.

Your journey begins at BREC inside The Cube.

A series of short scenes bring Bunbury's past and present to life - blending local stories and glimpses of the city you thought you knew.

Then the show spills out into the city.

The audience divides into small, guided groups and heads out on foot. Across seven locations in the Bunbury CBD, you'll encounter ordinary places that hold extraordinary layers of meaning - spaces where private moments linger, shaping who we are and how we belong.

Before or after your experience, visit our homage to Pat's Snack Bar right outside BREC's front doors, where burgers, hot dogs and crumpets are available for purchase.

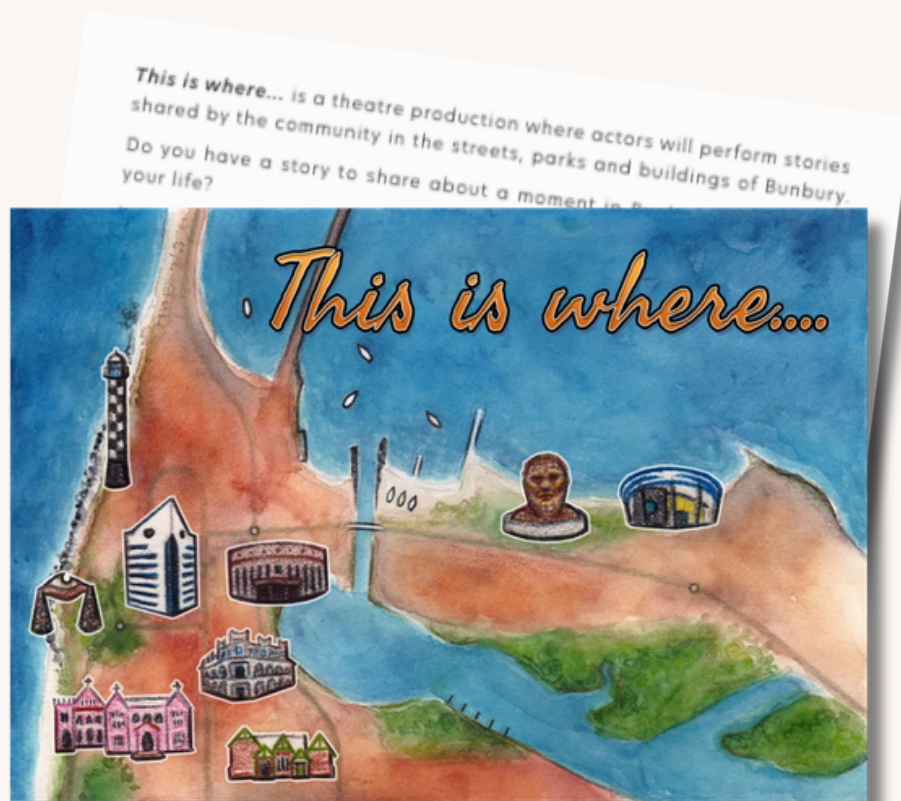
This is a guided walking theatre experience (approximately 1.7km) and is best suited to patrons who are comfortable walking.



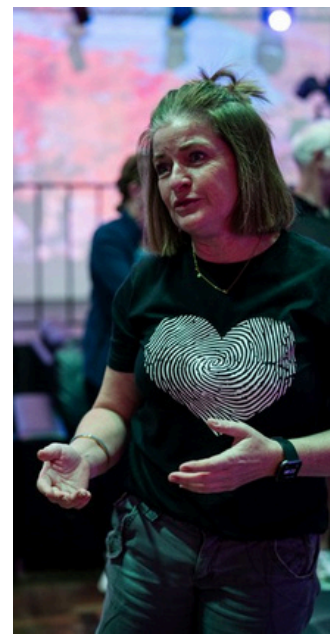
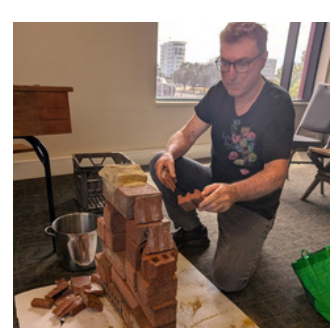
Proudly supported by the WA Government

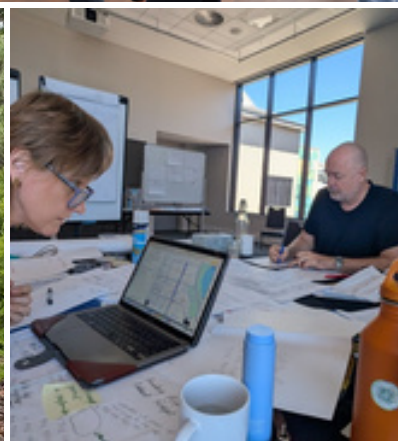
## How the project began and the process

- In 2021 Siobhan put a call out for locals to share a moment that happened in Bunbury that shaped them. Over the next two years she gathered over 100 stories. Sharing cups of tea and hearing about moments that were significant to people was a humbling and time-consuming process. Listening takes time. Most of the stories shared by the generous storytellers, had never shared with anyone before.
- The experience of being heard was empowering and validating. Most contributors did not mind if their story was used in the performance but were just keen to have someone interested in them and their experiences.
- Siobhan wanted to honour each of the delicate, bold, surprising yarns, but the show would be longer than the Mahabharata, so the process of editing began.
- As she was not seeking a particular type of story and location, the scope of stories and locations was vast. The process of selecting which stories would be the most suitable for the work was challenging. Some locations were not available or accessible and other stories were better served with a larger ensemble. A unifying theme became clear as the edit evolved.
- The stories that rose to the top all reflected a micro act of rebellion. Siobhan did not seek out this as a qualifier, but it was clear that there was a clear demonstration of courage in each of the stories that were in the final selection of 30 stories. Refining this list down to the ten stories that are presented in this production was a process that needed to consider the audience experience of the route and presenting a range of the stories that sparked joy and familiarity alongside those that were unknown and unexpected and perhaps more challenging to digest.



The original postcard for *This is where...* call out for stories





## *Reflections from performer Millie Kitchener...*

**This is where we shall all come together to share each other's stories... both behind the curtain and on stage, lit by light, both literally and metaphorically.**

Together and collectively, we create and bring life to the unspoken of the everyday, to the experiences of which make us unique, and of which form our humanity.

This performance offers a valuable place to speak and be seen in various scenes throughout Bunbury. Witnessing the formation and the collapsing and reforming of all the puzzle pieces that make this show so great and real is a wonderful privilege.

To view and partake in the dedication and collaboration...the patience...the flexibility...the compromise and determination and the overall commitment of every single person involved in gifting this project wings is truly an honour.



*This is where...*

# PAT'S SNACK BAR POP-UP

**There's nothing quite like the Bunbury icon that was Pat's Snack Bar. Open late into the night, people from across the South West enjoyed burgers, hotdogs and crumpets from this van and brick hut for over 40 years.**

We invite you to take a trip down memory lane with BREC's homage to Pat's Snack Bar, lovingly recreating a glimpse of its glory days.

More than a burger joint, Pat's was a cultural institution woven into the fabric of Bunbury. Almost all of the people who shared stories for *This is where...* referenced Pat's Snack Bar as a formative social space in their lives. It's where so many locals started and ended their nights. From the pits to Pat's, off to party, and then back to Pat's to watch the sun come up!

Pat's had many owners in its 41 years, but most people associate Pat's Snack bar with Doreen, the big-hearted night owl of Bunbury whose counsel and wit charmed locals for 20 years.

It's been 28 years since Doreen donned the red apron and kept us smiling around the firepit. Doreen and Jim won't be re-opening the business, but they have guided us with our week long 'pop-up Pat's'.

*This is where...* recreates Pat's as a place to connect and relax, where the audience becomes part of the story. Conversations around the firepit, shared food and unexpected encounters are treated as the performance itself.

Relive your memories and share them with family and friends.

Special guest appearances from Pat's legends feature across the week, with official support to recreate the original burgers and crumpets.

Recreating Pat's Snack Bar would not have been possible without a lot of help, including the generous assistance of Doreen and Jim Roney, Tom Dillon, Brian Fisher Fabrication Services and Giovanetti Firewood.

**BREC**  
PRESENTS

  
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 **BRIAN FISHER**  
FABRICATION SERVICES

  
GIOVANETTI  
FIREWOOD

*This project was made possible by the Australian Government Regional Arts Fund, which supports the arts in regional and remote Australia.*

*Proudly supported by the WA Government*

# *Reflections from story giver Doreen Roney...*

## **I wonder what your story is...**

Coz I just love hearing people's stories...I used to lean over the counter and hear stories from everybody. Everybody, just everybody; taxi drivers, cops, drunks, sobers, men whose marriages had broken up, just...y'know, everybody.

Everybody has a story.

And I think it's because I used to poke, you know, get a bit more out of them, because I was interested.

I'm so interested in people's stories.

I can't believe it when you walk down the street and everybody's got a blank face and I just look at them and go

"I wonder what your story is..."

I was always the front person. My poor husband was out the back doing all the cooking, yes!, and I was the one leaning over the counter...chattin'...talking...

I spose you could call me "Have-A-Chat", couldn't yuh?



# *Reflections from story giver Samantha Gomme...*

## **What does it take to belong?**

Do the places we inhabit shape us or do we shape them?  
Where are our campfires today?

Pondering these huge questions Siobhan posed as we sifted through so many beautiful stories, I felt such a surge of certainty. For me, the answer lies in connection - to places and the people that inhabit those spaces.

I'm a Bunbury girl, born and bred and I'm proud of it; always have been. Bunbury has a chunk of my heart and a bit of my soul embedded in more than one place. It doesn't matter one bit that I haven't lived here in 43 years. To me it will always be home. My place. No amount of time can change that or allow the cords of connection to fray. That's why I still feel a wrench when I drive past the carpark where my beautiful school once stood. And why I still feel a rush of excitement whenever I walk into Gomme's Shoes and see familiar places, smell familiar smells and hear familiar sounds that probably wouldn't mean much to anyone else.

There is one common theme that has emerged during this process and that is the irrepressibility of the human spirit. Indeed, I felt mine rising as I delved further into the process of sifting through memories; working out what was real, what was murky and what had changed through the lens of time... Sometimes the memories were confronting, sometimes they surprised me.

The sheer goodness that has come from this experience cannot be understated. I have reconnected with my home town, my past and my family in the most unexpected and beautiful way. I have been challenged, stretched, held, reassured and, ultimately, reminded of how lucky I am that Bunbury is where my story lives; in the bones and heart of every corner, and that this is where I will always belong.

*Walk tall, shoulders back, and smile.*



## Interesting Facts

- Over 100 Bunbury locals shared stories for the project.
- Some storytellers have since reconnected with family members, formed new friendships, or embarked on new creative paths.
- Several storytellers have passed away since sharing their story, while others are now skydiving in their 90s.
- All scenes are based on first-hand living histories, not second-hand accounts.
- One prop in the production weighs between 1-2 tonnes and was originally created in 1959 as a Guinness World Record entry.
- Six artists involved in development are alumni of the BREC Artist Retreat, Donnelly River residency program.
- Five BREC Artist Retreat alumni perform in the final production.
- Two performers were formerly Siobhan's students at local Bunbury schools.
- More than 90% of storytellers referenced Pat's Snack Bar as a formative social space in their lives.
- Siobhan delivered workshops to groups of teenagers from Bunbury, introducing them to the process of devising and verbatim theatre.

## Our special thanks to



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