

**Gregg Dreise** is an author and illustrator and is a descendent of the Kamilaroi tribe, from south-west Queensland and north-west New South Wales. Gregg was born and raised in St George, Queensland, and was lucky enough to be raised in a family that loved sport, music and poetry. He is currently a teacher on the sunshine coast. *Silly Birds* (Magabala, 2014) was **WINNER** – *Speech Pathology Australia's Indigenous Children's Book of the Year 2015*. *Kookoo Kookaburra* was released in 2015, and another book is in progress. *I have been drawing and enjoying art for as long as I remember. I have many family members that paint. I love my father Rod's art work, especially knowing the retired mechanic started late in life. I still have my first painting I did (outside of school art projects). I have painted boomerangs and didgeridoos for many years. Canvas work and murals helped me to get extra (much needed) money throughout university. I have sold paintings to every continent of the world (except Africa).* Gregg's work was included in the *Hello Australia!* Exhibition curated by Books Illustrated and the Australian Publishers Association for the Bologna International Children's Book Fair in 2015, and at Bologna again this year with the Australian Children's Laureate, Leigh Hobbs' *The Guardian UK* Australian Illustrations collection. In 2016, he will release two new books *Mad Magpie* (Magabala Books) and *Tiddalik the Frog* (Pearson).