Transcript Microbusiness Series – Freya

[Microbusiness Series - Freya (YouTube)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMWQVSq8vaM)

Description: Light-hearted piano and guitar music playing in the background throughout the video. Freya is holding a paper gift bag while someone places a gift in the bag. Freya and her mother Donna, and another woman are standing behind a counter at Queensland Children’s Hospital. The counter has a rack of cards. Text on screen reads Freya – Thinking of You Gift, Queensland Children’s Hospital. A photo of Freya and Donna at Freya’s gift stand, it is covered in colourful toys, baskets, cards, books and jewellery. They are both smiling.

Donna: I'm Donna, Freya's mother and business partner at ‘Thinking of You Gift’, our shop runs out of the Queensland Children's Hospital.

Description: Freya, Donna and another woman walking into the front entrance of Queensland Children’s Hospital. Cut to Freya and another woman working at the gift stand. There are colourful books, one called “Big Book of the Body”, and a red paper lantern that looks like a fish. Cut to a table with a calculator and a pile of Australian one dollar coins. Freya is counting the coins.

Donna: The dream to make meaningful work started in 2015 when Freya was only 15 herself.

Description: A photo of Freya holding a large wrapped gift box in front on table with other wrapped gifts. Text across the photo reads: “A little gift shop making a big difference”. Freya has a large smile on her face.

Donna: She's now 26. Just sitting down looking at what Freya and I both knew. I knew gift giving from a retail perspective and I've also worked in community development and the arts.

Description: Freya handing Donna a red strawberry shaped paper lantern attached to a stick with string. There are reams of colourful wrapping paper, books and snacks on the wall. They are both laughing. Donna is speaking to the camera, behind her are a row of colorful books.

Donna: Freya has a love of performing and meeting and greeting and she likes people, she loves parties and she likes gifts.

Description: Freya is smiling, standing against a black background with multi-colour paper lanterns down are falling gently around her in slow motion.

Donna: So we put all of those things together on the table. Our business is a small bespoke gift business and also offers a personalised handmade range of products that are fair trade and locally sourced.

Description: A montage of Freya working at her shop: tucking away baskets, drawers full of plush toys of lizards and an octopus, screen printing a colourful flower pattern on material then hanging it up on racks to dry.

Donna: The delivering of the gifts is one of Freya's favourite parts of the job.

Description: Freya stepping off the top of an escalator in a red and white dress and yellow cardigan. Freya is holding a white paper lantern attached to a stick. Freya is smiling.

Donna: We did start with that idea early on and when you're trying to dream and imagine what kind of meaningful occupation somebody with a disability can have.

Description: Freya and Donna and two other women holding up multicoloured bunting. The bunting has letters on it which spell out Freya and Donna. Montage of Freya and another woman gesturing towards books in Freya’s shop. Freya and another woman sitting in a classroom full of children – Freya is gesturing a hand signal and the children are mirroring her gesture.

Donna: I looked to the traits and interests and how Freya engaged in the community already and somebody at 15 is just developing who they are. So at 26 we've got a very different picture of who Freya is.

Description: Woman in white top hanging up bunting. The bunting has the letters spelling Bunting Order.

Donna: We make bunting as an offshoot. We also have a greeting card range that Freya works on with three of her friends.

Description: Freya picking up and sorting greeting cards with various designs including houses, flowers, a lion and a firetruck.

Donna: So within our micro business there are also two micro businesses that Freya's involved in.

Description: Woman in white top (Angela) working with Freya at Freya’s store.

Angela:I'm Angela, I work at thinking of you gift with Freya as her business coach. Basically I just help her with the day-to-day tasks of running this retail store.

Description: Freya counting money and writing the number 13 in a box on a sheet of paper.

Angela: Each day when we come in to when we leave we have set tasks that we need to get through such as with opening, we'll have certain cabinets or during the day pricing. Those kind of tasks she is fantastic with.

Description: Freya puts a small plush mouse toy wearing a nurse outfit in a woven basket. Freya is stacking woven baskets on top of a cabinet.

Donna: She probably is working on her occupation 15 hours a week. Sometimes it's five hours depending on her emotional well-being and our business has the flexibility to encompass her moods and her health needs and the other interests she has in life.

Description: A photo of Donna, Freya and Angela smiling together at Freya’s store. The store is full of colourful baskets, bunting, toys, books and cards. Freya and Donna taking inventory at her store, Freya is using a large bright orange calculator.

Donna:The learning and growing and strength of the business has been slow and gradual from a very organic process of starting small, both of us learning some routines and how we can work together as business partners rather than mother and daughter and what strengths we brought individually to the business.

Description: Freya and Donna attaching a pink paper lantern to a stick with string. The lantern is a round cartoon penguin. Freya, Donna and another person offscreen are playing with the paper lanterns, each a different coloured penguin, pink, blue and black.

Donna: We are partners, I don't do this business for Freya, we both bring skills. It's very exciting, I've found both of us learning and being challenged with new skills and tasks.

Description: Freya and Angela in Freya’s store. Freya is stacking books in a holder. They are laughing. Freya, Donna and another woman playing with small paper lanterns shaped like beach balls. They are all laughing.

Donna: Occupation for people with disabilities, any kind of employment is very very difficult because I think sometimes you really need to think way outside of the box.

Description: Group of people outside dressed in black. They are dancing with different coloured umbrellas. Cut to Freya stacking a stack of different sized and coloured wrapped presents, in slow-motion she pushes them over playfully.

Donna: Brainstorm together and start big and wild and walk backwards from the biggest dream you can imagine.

Description: White screen with Queensland Government logo. Title across the bottom of the screen: For more information visit qld.gov.au/qld-disability-plan