

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Summer 2018

YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING US

LOVE OUR NEIGHBOURS



How can we love our neighbours in a culture which is so resistant to the gospel? Below, Ruth Pinkerton explains how SU Tas is doing just that, and how your support is vital in helping us continue reaching out with the gospel.

Having been asked to speak at the CMS Summerview Conference on "Mission at Home" I have been reflecting on what mission looks like in our post-modern culture – a culture in which many children and young people, and indeed many adults, have no idea what the Good News of the gospel is. How do we help them understand?

Jesus summed up the law and the prophets by saying that we must love God fully and he said it was an equally important commandment to love our neighbour as ourselves (Matt 22: 37-40). So what does loving our neighbour look like and how does that help us share our faith?

From the perspective of SU Tas, loving our neighbour in Tasmania involves running missions, which are at the least, wholesome child care and at best, opportunities for children and young people to hear and explore for themselves what the Good News of Jesus is. Increasingly we want to connect with families so we invite parents and carers to coffee or a BBQ while their children are involved in our activities.

Yes, we want to share our faith with them but in our cultural setting we must first help people to see that we care about them, in order for them to discover that God cares about them.

Family camps are another great way of loving our neighbours. The team serves people who need a holiday, giving them some structure to their days including some time for children and adults to be together and apart. As one mum told me with tears in her eyes, "This camp has been a literal Godsend, I don't know what I would have done without it".

Through the year we run other kinds of camps and we also run school chaplaincy which is not a directly evangelistic ministry but is a really great way of letting schools, communities, children and adults know that we love them, because God loves them.

Continue reading to find out more about how SU Tas have reached out with God's love to our community this summer. Thank you for your support in helping us love our neighbours!



Participants enjoying East Devonport Holiday Happening

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A SUMMER OF SHARING GOD'S LOVE

THANKS TO YOU!

SU Global Assembly

The inaugural meeting of Scripture Union's Global Assembly was held in Putrajaya, Kuala Lumpur in November 2017. It was attended by more than 350 people from around 100 countries. The theme of the gathering was 'Fuel the Future'. SU Tas was represented by CEO, Ruth Pinkerton and Communications Manager, Alan George, who were able to share some of the exciting SU activities and programs happening in Tasmania.

The Assembly and new Global Board signalled a major change in structure in SU's 150th year, giving each SU Movement around the world a voice at a global level. This will enable wider collaboration and ensure a more effective use of resources to build ministry.

Of the event, Alan George says, "I was amazed and encouraged by the depth of history and breadth of people of all cultures involved in Scripture Union ministry across the globe. It was the ultimate celebration of what God has done and is doing through his people and the ministry of Scripture Union around the world." Thank you for your prayers!



Above: New SU International Director Monika Kushmierz (middle) with Alan George and Ruth Pinkerton.



CMS SummerView



Westbury

STANLEY

The very first Stanley 'Seaside Rock' Beach Mission kicked off at Stanley Caravan Park in early January. With an experienced and enthusiastic team, they were able to connect well and reach out with the love of God to children and families at the campsite. Laser tag, a sandcastle competition, and water fights ensured there was a lot of fun and those involved were enthusiastic about making the mission even better next year.



Stanley

FAMILY CAMP SOUTH

The greatest commandment is to love God with our heart, mind, soul and strength. At Family Camp South at the Blue Lagoon campsite, participants learnt what this commandment means today under the theme of 'Journey of a Lifetime'. It was one of the larger camps that has been held with 60 participants. There was plenty to be thankful for, including using the completed recreation hall for the kids' program, opportunities for sharing and fun (including a morning tea for mums and grand-mums), while experiencing the loving support of a caring community.

FAMILY CAMP NORTH

Despite some early setbacks, Family Camp North went ahead in a 'mini-format' over the January long weekend. Some of the highlights including time for relaxation, swimming and joining in with the Boots N All group to hike St Patrick's Head.



Family Camp North / Boots N All

EAST DEVONPORT

At East Devonport Holiday Happening, 13 leaders and 29 children from Kindergarten to Year 6 had lots of fun with a space-based theme entitled 'Out of this World', along with some great teaching from the book of Daniel. Each of the participants enjoyed a mix of fun activities, including making and launching rockets, and opportunities to explore the Bible. Team leader James says, "The highlight of the event for me was the Thursday night with a concert and family meal. This was a great time to connect and celebrate together, being excited by what the young people had been doing with us through the week.

We're looking forward to this event being even bigger and better next year."

WESTBURY

Westbury Holiday Club was run at Westbury Baptist Church 'Parklands', with over 23 children attending throughout the week, along with an awesome team. The children heard Bible stories from Genesis, learnt songs and had craft activities each day. It is exciting that the club will now be regular throughout the school term and all the parents are eager for their children to continue.

CMS SUMMERVIEW

This year's CMS SummerView was a great time of fellowship and learning. Approximately 190 adults and children gathered in the beautiful beachside town of Port Sorell for four days of exceptional teaching and missionary input. Crèche and children's programs allowed parents to take time out to learn from the books of Ruth and Luke and we were challenged to keep supporting local and global mission through praying, caring, giving and going. SU Tas CEO Ruth Pinkerton was able to lead several sessions and encourage people in mission work in Tasmania.

We are thankful for your donations and support that enable these events to continue to reach out to our community in Tas.



St Helens

ST HELENS

28 Primary kids and 7 leaders took part in all the fun with a 'pirate' theme at St Helens Beach Mission. On top of games such as Cannon Ball Relay, Captain's Coming, and Non-Stop Dodge Ball, the children learnt more about Jesus through 'Finding the Treasure' from Philippians 3:8. The event culminated on the final night with the team, local church and community coming together for a BBQ. Team leader Barrie said, "The church support of the mission was phenomenal, with the provision of food, fellowship, and teaching, and the team just really gelled!"

"One of the boys came home on Wednesday so excited that he was going to be a part of the play and that they had made lighthouses. He was beaming, and his mum couldn't be any happier."

— Barrie, Team Leader St Helens Mission

SCHOOLS SUNDAY TAS
churches celebrating and supporting local schools

Be wise!

PRAY FOR AND SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS

Schools Sunday began in Tasmania in 2005 and is a Sunday specifically set aside to focus on our schools, early in the school year. On **Sunday 18 February** (or another Sunday near that date) church communities are invited to celebrate, pray for and support our schools. Congregations are encouraged to include within worship on that day a focus on schools and Christian ministry in schools, prayer for their local school(s) and the people in them, and a commissioning of those from the congregation who are involved in schools.

Schools are an important part of the life of our community and play a formative role in the lives of children. When our own schooling is finished, it is easy to forget this fact. As Christians, we need to remember that God is very interested in children and therefore, we can join him in that interest by praying for schools and their wider communities on Schools Sunday.

The theme for Schools Sunday 2018 is **Be wise!**, exploring the Bible story of Solomon, a wise king who knew God, knew himself and sought to please God.

There are a range of resources available on our website to help you plan a Schools Sunday service or a segment within your usual service with a focus on your local school. Why not invite your local school chaplain to share a story, or invite your school principal as a special guest and provide morning tea to share?

For ideas go to sutas.org.au/schools-sunday/

GIFT OF HOPE
CATALOGUE

Are you looking for unique gifts for birthdays, Easter, or celebrations, that really make a difference for the gospel? Everything in the SU Tas Gift of Hope catalogue directly supports the work of giving hope to young people and their families.

From a gift of \$40 for one hour of chaplaincy, to a gift \$500 to send a family to our SU Tas Family camps, all the items in the SU Tas catalogue directly support our work through camps, chaplaincy, school and Bible-engagement programs and more.

So whatever your budget, there's a gift in our Gift of Hope catalogue that's just right to give on behalf of each of your loved ones!

Go to www.sutas.org.au/gifts-of-hope

THANK YOU FOR MOVING MOUNTAINS SU Fundraising Dinners

A big thank you to all involved – particularly our volunteers – at our Fundraising Dinners that occurred in October and November 2017 at Hobart, Ulverstone and Trevallyn. Speaking on the theme of 'Moving Mountains', John Zeckendorf gave an exciting account of his ascent of Everest and its connection with God's call on our lives. We are keen to hold the dinners again toward the end of the year so watch this space!

CHAPLAINCY FUNDING UPDATE

PLEASE BE IN PRAYER

The federally-funded National School Chaplaincy Program was established in 2006, to assist Australian schools in the provision of social, emotional and spiritual support to students, families and the broader community. The current round of funding for the chaplaincy program was for 2015–18 and is scheduled for review in the Federal Budget this year.

Although there is strong support for the program from both major parties, please be in prayer for our political leaders as they make important decisions about the future of this program – as any changes will have significant implications for the current organisational model of SU in Tasmania. We need your support in sending the message that our schools and children need their chaplains to continue in 2019 and beyond.

One way you can help is by raising awareness of **Chaplaincy Week** (20–27 May) in your school, church or community. For ideas, go to sutas.org.au/chaplaincy-week. Or, you could pray for chaplaincy on **Schools Sunday** (18 February – see page 3). Your support is vital in keeping chaplains in schools, and continuing to bring hope for the future to our next generation.

GET INVOLVED

Coming Events

Contact us at admin@sutas.org.au for more details.

PRAYER BREAKFAST NORTH

17 February 2018, 8–9.30am (Phil & Helen Boughton)

SCHOOLS SUNDAY

18 February 2018

BUSH N BISCUITS CAMP: YEARS 7-9

23–25 February 2018, Cradle Mountain

AFTERNOON TEA BY THE RIVER

24 February 2018, 2–4pm, Richmond

BOOTS N ALL BUSHWALK

24 February 2018, Cradle Mountain

BOOTS N ALL BUSHWALK

10 March 2018, Bay of Fires

PRAYER BREAKFAST NORTH

17 March 2018, 8–9.30am (David and Jennifer Meadows)

'LEAD' SU LEADERS TRAINING EVENT

24 March 2018, Campbell Town

BOOTS N ALL BUSHWALK

24 March 2018, Bridport – Brid River track

CHILDREN'S AND FAMILIES' EASTER FESTIVAL

31 March 2018, 11am–2pm, City Park, Launceston

CAMP CLAYTON EASTER FESTIVAL

30 March – 2 April 2018, Ulverstone

CHILDSAFE ROADSHOW INFO SESSIONS

9,10,11 April 2018, Launceston, Ulverstone or Hobart

ST HELENS ANZAC DAY FUN RUN

21 April 2018, St Helens

CHAPLAINCY WEEK

20–27 May 2018



Family Camp South

ChildSafe ROADSHOW

Join us at our info sessions across Tasmania (9–11 April) as we seek to "Make Australia ChildSafe".

Regular Admission: \$25 (+ Booking Fee)

ChildSafe Subscribers: \$10 (+ Booking Fee)

More info: www.childsafe.org.au/events/tasmania

PRAYER POINTS

GIVE THANKS for the outreach to young people and families and through our events over the summer. Pray for there to be a lasting impact as children keep thinking about what they have heard and act on it.

GIVE THANKS for the generosity of the SU family across the state in giving at our Fundraising Dinners late last year. Pray that our supporters will continue to give generously in 2018 in support of our work with young people.

PRAY for the new chaplains taking up chaplaincy positions and that we would find the right people to fill vacancies.

PRAY for Schools Sunday (18 Feb). May God use this day to help people to acknowledge the important role of schools, and for churches to be active in praying for and supporting school communities.

GOODBYE & HELLO

SU Tas would like to express our thanks to the following chaplains who have finished up at the following schools, and welcome those who are replacing them. Our prayers are with them all as they commence this new period of transition:

Riverside HS:	Cecily Rosol replaced by TBA	
Evandale PS:	Grant Maynard (not replaced)	
Penguin DS:	James Todd (still with SU) replaced by TBA	
Exeter HS:	Nerida Green & Julia Elford replaced by Robin Shearer	 
Kings Meadows HS:	Julia Elford replaced by Will Nicholas	 
Smithton PS:	Juliana de Angulo replaced by Peta Conley	 
East Tamar PS:	Matt Laidler replaced by TBA	
Cressy DHS:	Nick McKinnon replaced by Gabi Dunn	 
Mowbray Heights PS:	Silja McIvor replaced by TBA	



Digital prayer updates are just a click away! With relevant updates just for you, it's the best way to stay in the SU loop and see the impact of your support. Simply contact us with your email address to be added to our list.