

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

A COMMON VISION

SU TAS & TASMANIAN CHURCHES: WORKING TOGETHER



Launceston's
Easter Festival

Thanks to your support, churches are being equipped to further engage with their local community through SU's ministries of camps, missions, chaplaincy, resources, and more. This partnership is at the heart of what SU is all about. Scripture Union International's Aims and Working Principles document begins with 'Working with the churches, SU aims...' We share God's mission with local churches in Tasmania to make God's Good News known to children and families and it's only through partnerships with local churches that we can implement and sustain this mission. But just how is this partnership expressed? We have asked some of our supporting churches to share how they are positively working with SU Tas to fulfil their mission in their local contexts.

Newstead Baptist Church



Pastor Paul
Dare

At Newstead Baptist we believe in providing community, hope and friendship, whether on a daily basis or through prayer or other means of support. To this end we love the work that SU is doing in providing community, hope and friendship to the next generation, and anything that we can do to assist in this area we gladly and willingly do.

What does this look like for us? One way is we support our local school chaplain, Tracey, through prayer, finances and other ways. We stand in awe of the work of Tracey and SU as it is a unique and gifted calling to be a chaplain and we are proud that God has given us the ability to support SU, the chaplain and her schools.

We have previously run lunchtime activities and attended events at local schools. We also gladly use our jumping castle at SU events and are involved with the Easter Alive Festival in Launceston. Members of our congregation also regularly attend the SU prayer breakfast and SU fundraising events.



St Thomas Anglican, Howrah



Ven. Helen
Phillips

Howrah Anglican is a friendly and vibrant church on the eastern side of the Derwent River in Hobart, where anyone can come and find life to the full, which Jesus offers freely and graciously to us all.

We value our partnership with SU Tas as they are an organisation of integrity that works with local churches, focusing on discipling children and young people. There are a multitude of ways in which we work together: praying for the work of our local chaplain, financially supporting the local high school breakfast club and supporting the Clarence Plains chaplain through holding an annual local schools' high tea. We use Scripture Union LIGHT program material for our Sunday children's ministry and for devotions at our Girls Brigade group in Clarence Plains and have found it a great support for our team in preparing a solid, age-based, biblical program. We also promote SU Bible reading guides and SU camps and find these very helpful for our church.



Continued on page 2 ...

IN THIS ISSUE:

Winter Camp
Reports
page 2

Introducing our Dinner
Speaker: John de Bruyn
page 3

Stakeholder Research
Announcement
page 4

Riverbank Christian Church



Pastor John de Boer

Formerly called The Christian Reformed Church of Launceston, Riverbank Christian Church meets at Riverbank Place in Riverside. Our new church building was opened in 2014, and we now have approximately 370 members across a wide range of ages.

Riverbank Christian Church partners with SU Tas in a number of ways. Several of our members are involved with the mentoring program at Riverside and Exeter High Schools. We also have a family involved in beach missions in St Helens, are actively promoting the Children's and Families Easter Festival in Launceston, and support SU school chaplaincy through prayer as well as financially through two special collections each year.



Thank you for the wonderful work SU Tas does in sharing God's love and His Word and Good News. We are blessed to be able to partner with your work.

The Anglican Parish of Cressy



Rev. Alan Bulmer

The Anglican Parish of Cressy has been involved with chaplaincy at the local district high school and this has included SU Tas when it became the employing agency for our chaplaincy. We have been very fortunate to have had many excellent chaplains over the past 20 years or so and each has connected with our parish.

To further the work of chaplaincy we have organised Christmas in July dinners and sausage sizzles at the local trout expos, which raise much needed funds to help support SU in paying our chaplains. We also have a retiring collection each week for the work of mission and chaplaincy is the main beneficiary of those funds. For many years members of our parish have assisted with the breakfast club at the school. And most years we have had our chaplains visit our church on Schools Sunday to help keep our people aware of what is happening in our school. If there wasn't this partnership there would not be a chaplaincy in our school and many students would miss out on the help they so desperately need at times.



John & Louisa de Bruyn

FOR A GREATER PURPOSE

INTRODUCING OUR DINNER SPEAKER:
John de Bruyn

We are excited to have John de Bruyn speak at the SU Tas Fundraising Dinners this year. John is a prominent Tasmanian, pastor and business personality and will be sharing his personal testimony with us.

John was born in Lopik, a town in the 'Green Heart' of the Netherlands. He came to Australia as a 14-year-old with his family, settling in the township of Penguin, Tasmania. He has worked full-time in the family transport business for the past 36 years and for the last 23 years as the General Manager and owner of De Bruyn's Transport (formerly West Coast Transport Pty Ltd).

In 1995, John, along with his brother and cousin, purchased the business from his father and uncle. In those days the company had just 40 staff, 20 trucks and one transport terminal. John says, "I love business and transport, and was already keenly interested and involved from a very young age. I have mechanical qualifications, but during my career I have covered every aspect of the business: driving trucks, operating earth-moving machinery, administration, business development and more".

From those humble beginnings the business has now grown to over 230 staff, 130 trucks and four transport terminals. In addition, they now provide marine logistics for the aquaculture industry and operate a fleet of three vessels.

As a business man, John certainly has an interesting story to tell, but it is his faith which is his true passion, as he seeks to live his life 'for a greater purpose' (the theme of this year's dinners). John is involved as a board member of Empart, which exists to bring holistic and social transformation to individuals and communities in Asia. Along with his wife Louisa, John founded the Rock Community Church over 11 years ago, a prominent and growing church in Penguin which seeks to reach out to all, including the disengaged.

"The Rock Community Church is about reaching out with a message of love, kindness and purpose," says John. "As a family man with now four adult children and a grandson, I wanted a church which impacts our community, offering relevant life teaching, family friendly events and having fun walking life's journey together. Relevant and family-focused ministry is also what drives SU Tas and so I'm looking forward to sharing with you at the upcoming dinners."

Please see the attached flyer for tickets and locations for the event. The dinners are sure to be great evenings with a wonderful meal, entertainment and fellowship, so we would encourage you to come along and share this with others!

SU TAS APPEAL: you are transforming lives!

All of the camps and stories about transformed lives are made possible because of your financial support, such as through our recent financial appeal. **More than \$13,000** has been given so far towards our **\$30,000 goal** – thank you so much! Please pray that the remaining shortfall would soon be met through the generosity of other friends and supporters, so we can help many more young people in the months to come!

CAMP REPORTS



Enjoying 'challenge' activities at Grid

Bonds built at Grid Camp

GRID Camp, for grades 7–10, had an excellent increase on numbers from last year. This year there was a "survivor challenge", where participants had to work as a team through activities such as braving the outdoors, cooking their own food, and saving their 'injured' colleagues. Aspects of the challenges were unfamiliar to many of the campers but they were eager to learn new skills and overcome most of them with a smile! The theme was designed to help young people build teamwork and explore the ultimate survival guide in God's Word, and how God helps us through the greater challenges of life.

Dcypher South reaches out to Gamers

Extract from the Blue Lagoon Newsletter:

"Every July holidays the Blue Lagoon campsite are privileged to host Scripture Union's DCYPHER Camp. They are a group of teens who love to get behind the screen and battle it out in the cyber world. The Bay Room at Blue Lagoon was transformed into a hub of 31 whirring computers, all linked together to create a network of gaming pleasure for the campers. It is a good way for young people who may not be interested in other camping programs to have a chance to hear and learn about God and to form healthy and beneficial relationships. It was great to see the campers enjoying face to face time over a range of somewhat obscure board games and group activities and we are thankful that each year we get to be a part of what goes on during the DCYPHER camp".

Connecting kids to Christ at SUPA South

Fun at SUPA South

Connecting young people to Christ and to one another in fellowship is one of the goals of SU Tas camps. Your support made a big impact on the children at the SUPA South Camp with 26 campers from grades 4–6, led by a group of 20 leaders. Themed around the movie *How to Train Your Dragon*, we played themed games, constructed movie-worthy props, and dressed up as our favourite characters for the special dinner.

During our daily Bible sessions, we learnt about Jesus and all the cool things he did. We read through passages, asked questions, and filled in our JAFFA (Jesus A Friend For All!) booklets. A highlight was seeing how enthusiastic our campers were to read the Bible, with several asking to take their first Bible home.

Please pray that the seeds of the gospel planted in the hearts of our campers would grow in the weeks and months to come!



DCYPHER camp attendees

The examples above are just some of the many ways SU is working in partnership together with churches to reach out to young people and families. Flexibility is important, as all churches have different demographics, needs and passions. If you're interested in finding out more ways that your church can partner with SU Tas, contact us.

Director's Desk

Dear Friend,

I find Paul's greetings to the churches he writes to are often uplifting and encouraging. Especially the letter to the Philippians, where in verse 5 he refers to them as his "partners in spreading the good news about Christ" (NLT). That's how I feel about you!

In this edition you can read about some of the **partnerships** which SU has with local churches, where we work together to do more, or different, ministry than any of us could do alone. We plan to make these partnerships a focus of future editions too, so if you would like your church featured please get in touch with our Communications Manager, Alan George, by emailing alan.george@sutas.org.au.

Looking forward – we have our **Fundraising Dinners** coming up in November (5 Nov in Hobart, 8 Nov in Ulverstone and 9 Nov in Launceston). We are delighted to partner with John de Bruyn who will be our guest speaker, sharing his testimony and passion for reaching those disconnected from faith communities.

Because we are always looking to improve our partnership with you we will be doing some **research** with our supporters and stakeholders in October and November (see note below). We can only do this if we have your email address or phone number so if you think we only have your postal address then please contact us so that we can get your important feedback about how our communications impact you and what changes we should consider.

We are so very grateful for our partners. Churches, volunteers, prayer partners and financial supporters – we literally couldn't do our ministry without you.

Sincerely,

Ruth Pinkerton – SU Tas CEO

ANNOUNCEMENT: SU Tas Stakeholder Research



SU Tas is pleased to announce that it has contracted **EMRS**, an independent Tasmanian research provider, to collect feedback from our stakeholders through a comprehensive research program scheduled to begin in the second week of October.

Stakeholders will be asked to give feedback on their experience and perceptions of us. This will assist us to better understand our stakeholders and improve supporter engagement levels.

The survey should take only around 8 minutes to complete. Stakeholders who can be contacted by email will first receive an invitation from EMRS to complete the survey online, and those with a contact phone number will receive a call directly from the EMRS research team.

SU Tasmania and EMRS wish to provide the assurance that the information provided by all survey participants will remain confidential and anonymous, and forwarding contact details of stakeholders to EMRS will be in accordance with National Privacy Legislation requirements (See SU Tas's privacy policy at <https://sutas.org.au/privacypolicy/>).

For any further enquiries about the survey, please contact Communications Manager, Alan George, on 03 6244 8422.

PRAYER POINTS

GIVE THANKS for those who attended the SU winter camps. Pray that they will continue to read the Bible, ask questions and grow in faith.

PRAY for our fundraising dinners with speaker John de Bruyn, that they will be well attended and people will give generously. Pray that the practical details would be just right, and that we would make wise decisions in order to ensure each event is a great night and meets the goals set.

GIVE THANKS for the partnership SU shares with churches across the state. Please be in prayer for Tasmanian churches as they consider how to reach their local mission field.

PRAY for our ongoing discussions with the State Government regarding chaplaincy funding. Pray that this will lead to greater support and development of school chaplaincy.

PRAY for our upcoming SUPA North camp (29 Sep-2 Oct) and this summer's family camps and missions (Jan 2019).



FAREWELL & WELCOME

SU Tas would like to express our thanks to chaplains who have finished up at the following schools, and welcome those who are replacing them.

Australian Christian College:
new school, filled by Emily Wynhoven

Bothwell DHS:
Janna Leaman, position still vacant

Fairview PS:
Callum Poole (still at New Town HS) replaced by Sharon Nillsen

Jordan River LFSS:
Janna Leaman replaced by Christine Knight and Claire Johnstone (both chaplains still at other schools)

Port Dalrymple School:
Janine Targett (still at South George Town PS) replaced by Jen Cole

Risdon Vale PS:
Deb Bryan (still at Rose Bay HS) replaced by John McCormack (still at other schools)

Scottsdale HS:
Dave Klauber replaced by Kathryn Fitzallen

Ulverstone HS:
Joseph Robertson (reduced hours) joined by Brad Carter

Woodbridge School:
Phil Latham (still at Clarence HS) replaced by Wendy Canada