

Ready for the New Thing That's Happening

September 2025

Dear Friends and Supporters,

**See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland. - Isaiah 43:19**

How do you go when things around you are changing? For most of us change is unsettling, and we too often grasp on to the familiar rather than stretching forward to the new thing that is emerging.

From the beginning, the Fusion community has been committed to holding loosely to ways of doing and seeing, remaining open to seeing where God is working in the world and being part of his emerging story. This has taken us into diverse spaces and places ranging from youth housing to mental health support, Easter marches and vigils to youth drop-ins and day trips, even to radio shows, community festivals, and local and overseas pilgrimages.

In our local work this year, we're seeing what happens when we're open to new ways of doing things. Mob Days are going from strength to strength. Now one year on from when we launched this new style day trip, a committed group of young people is engaging each time, welcoming others in, together learning more about themselves, each other and their creator.

In Term 2, a new mentoring program began, with students from Calvin Christian School participating for the first time. Following a comprehensive induction to the property and program, plus time spent developing some practical skills, this term students are working on a new hands-on project to build their own camp chair.

And this month we're preparing the ground for our first planting of potatoes! These initiatives plus the development of the Growing Kitchen are pushing the team to think differently, foster new skills themselves, welcome others in and look ahead to see the "new thing" that is emerging.

Fusion nationally is in a time of change and growth too, with a new strategic plan launched this month reaffirming our focus on walking with young people as they find purpose and connection in supportive communities. As always this is at the heart of our work in Southern Tasmania, and we're encouraged to continue moving in this direction in unity with our brothers and sisters around the country.

As spring arrives, do you feel a call to be part of something new too? With so much opportunity, there are plenty of ways you can find your place in what God is doing here. Join us and be part of SOMETHING BIGGER. Together there's life!



David and Susan Rowe
Team Leaders, Fusion Southern Tasmania

*PS Would you prefer to receive your Fusion News by email?
Email to southtas@fusion.org.au and you'll receive the next
Fusion newsletter in your inbox.*

Fusion Mentoring Back in Action

It was a thrill to be back with Fusion Mentoring in Term 2 this year. For the first time, we welcomed students from Calvin Christian School to the program, and they rose to the challenge, working alongside our committed mentors to learn new skills and enjoy the hands-on learning.

In just one term, the students worked on building wicking beds, repairing the sprinkler system, doing maintenance on the trailer, investigating mechanical issues with the ride-on lawnmowers, baking, installing a vent, and feeding the sheep and chickens. They even found themselves rescuing a tawny frogmouth caught in the Veggie Garden.

These practical tasks were complemented by time spent developing their skills and awareness around Work Health and Safety, and strategies to reflect, learn and grow through what they were experiencing.

This term started with the students completing some bigger projects; they have now moved on to building their own camp chair. One special project just finished was fitting a roll safety system to the newly donated tractor. A big THANK YOU to Harry Diers (pictured below) for his generous donation! Above is Kim, Harry's daughter with Dave and the tractor, complete with roll bar fitted by the Mentoring students. All his life, Harry has worked to sow into the next generation, he knew donating his tractor to Fusion would continue that legacy and it's already happening!

"The Mentoring Program has the potential to empower young people with both practical skills and self-belief. Our volunteer mentors are impacting lives through their willingness to share what they know, mentoring with clear boundaries and patience each time.

We know there is incredible need for this program across other local schools, and our reach is only limited by the number of mentors and funds available. If we could raise an additional \$5000 we could immediately take on students from another school and have an even greater impact."

- Dave R, Fusion Team Leader

If you'd like to be part of getting the Mentoring Program to even more students, talk to us about becoming a Mentor or donate today by visiting our website <https://southerntasmania.fusion.org.au>

Left to Right : Harry Diers Gifted his Tractor, Mentoring in the Workshop, Learning in the Kitchen



Image Above: Kim, Dave and the Tractor



Mob Days Warming Up in Winter

Even winter can't get in the way of Mob Days. Now a year into our new-style day trips, a community is coming together, a place where young people can be themselves, expand their view of the world and explore their place in it.

Spirits were high in June when we hit the High Ropes Course at Forest Glen. Starting with toasties and Gaga Ball*, it was then onto the challenge of the Postman's Walk, Sugar Glider and the Leap of Faith.

Using the example of the ropes and chains that the group had just relied on, Dave talked through what these are made from. Each rope is made up of thin strands that won't hold weight on their own. When put together though, they are trustworthy.

In the same way, we're called to trust in one who is bigger than us, our Creator who gives us the guidelines that together will support and care for us.

*What's Gaga Ball? A fun and fast game for up to 20 people. Imagine playing Poison Ball but in a smaller space and you're on the right track.

August's Mob Day took us to Waterworks Reserve to test our orienteering skills. Each group completed their own course, finding answers along the way to be handed in when they finished.



From her experience, Kath helped the group explore what being lost can feel like, especially when contemplating the unknown of the future, and the comfort that reliance on the Creator's guidance can be in these times.

More team activities then included, using piping and water to move balls from bucket to bucket, and an all-in crate stacking challenge to finish the day.

There are only two Mob Days left for this year, so get the next one in your diary! **NEXT MOB DAY OUT** Sunday 21 September 2025. 12:30PM to 3:30PM. Drop off and pick up from Kingston Hub Carpark.



Preparing the Garden For Something New

We're getting ready for Something New in the Veggie Garden. Following advice from our volunteer agronomist earlier this year, we're preparing to plant our first field of potatoes in spring.

If you'd like to be part of this new stage of life and growth in the Food Relief Veggie Garden, we'd love to welcome you to the team. Come and be part of our next Saturday Working Bee or talk to us about being a regular volunteer in the Garden, there are no special skills needed. Tasks as simple as watering, weeding, picking and packing all make a difference!



Poatina Village Update

Back in 1994, Fusion took the risky step of investing in the close to abandoned Village of Poatina in the heart of our State. A relic of the hydro-electric scheme, by the mid-90s Poatina was ready to be repurposed, and a transformation began. With a long-held vision to create a community that could care for the young and vulnerable, helping them to discover their potential and be empowered to embrace the future, Fusion moved in and began to make over not just the physical aspect of the town, but also the heart and soul of the community.

Members of the Fusion movement around the country committed themselves to be part of this ambitious project, either coming to live in Poatina, or visiting as part of regular conferences, training and other initiatives over the decades that followed. We know that many of you, our friends and supporters, have visited the Village on more than one occasion.

While lives have been impacted since we began this remarkable journey, there has also been plenty of change for the organisation and for Poatina in the last ten years. The Village remains a place of incredible creativity and until recently hospitality, but with Fusion's renewed focus on mentoring vulnerable young people, the organisation is looking to new ways of making this happen.

Following consultation with residents and community leaders in Poatina, Fusion has begun a process of transition out of the management of property and social enterprises in the Village. Final decisions about how this will happen and what the impact will be for the community are still emerging, and we invite you to pray with us for everyone who is involved.

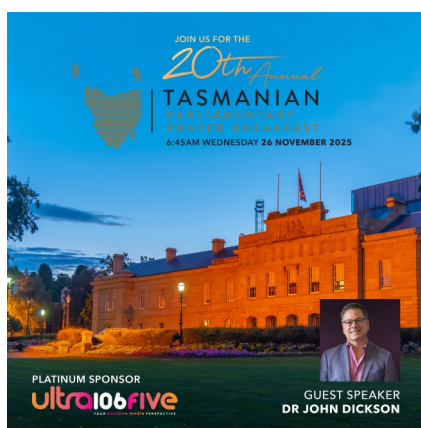


CHALLENGE YOUR TEAM

Bring your team, work colleagues, teachers, or church groups to Forest Glen and DISCOVER ADVENTURE together!

Talk to us now and start your adventure today.

discoveradventure.fusion.org.au



BOOK NOW!

20th Annual Tasmanian Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast

Join with others from across the state for a morning of connection, challenge and prayer. BOOKINGS NOW OPEN.

tasmanianprayerbreakfast.com



RECYCLE

For Fusion Mentoring

Return your 10c drink containers, scan the Fusion barcode and help raise the much-needed funds to help expand the Fusion Mentoring Program.

recyclerewards.com.au