

Celebrating a Year of New Beginnings

December 2025

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It's hard to believe that another year is quickly coming to an end. At Fusion it's been a year of new beginnings, fresh challenges and plenty of waiting. The waiting time is often the hardest part, and we find ourselves tempted to push ahead, to get things done even when we don't quite know which path we're meant to take. Keeping moving seems to be our default setting.

But it's in the waiting that we see God at work. Whether as we wait for the seeds to germinate, the seedlings to take root, the crops to grow, the young people to learn, or for decisions to be made, in that space we learn to stop, listen and trust.

This year we've seen what happens when we walk rather than run into the next thing. After the waiting, new things have grown. The Mob Days have continued to bring young people together in healthy, outdoor activity, drawing on their creativity and building teamwork. Fusion Mentoring is providing a space where students who struggle in the classroom can thrive as they learn practical skills and grow in self-belief and renewed purpose. Even in the last weeks after many months of planning and waiting for the rain to stop, we finally tilled the soil in the paddock adjacent to the Food Relief Veggie Garden ready for our first crop of potatoes to be planted.

And with more than six months of waiting behind us, we were excited to hear recently that our grant application to renovate the kitchen at Forest Glen was successful. When the renovation is complete, we'll establish the *Giving Kitchen*.

This project will provide hands-on training in cooking, budgeting, and independent living skills, to young people, youth carers, single parents and others needing extra support and role modelling. Our aim will be to build long-term food resilience and reduce reliance on emergency food relief with participants gaining practical skills in a safe, supportive environment—empowering them to break the cycle of food insecurity.

Does this sound familiar to you? To us it's a continuation of an age-old story; a story of what is possible when God's people come together to care for the vulnerable; a story of the kingdom coming on earth as it is in heaven.

After a long period of waiting, in the new year we'll embark on this next adventure. Will you join us? Come and be part of the new season that God has in store. We have a range of vital volunteer positions ready for you to find your place.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." – Ecclesiastes 3:1

Thank you for being a part of what is happening here in 2025

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.

Outdoor Action Reflection

What do campfires, drainpipes, eggs and kayaks have in common? They've all featured in our Mob Days this year. Starting off at Kingston Beach for water sports, we've navigated the Kingston CBD for a scavenger hunt, tackled the ropes course at Forest Glen, played Storm the Fort at Kangaroo Bluff and done orienteering at the Waterworks Reserve. Plus, there's been plenty of circus skills, campfires, BBQs and Gaga Ball.

In the context of the safe, inclusive space created, on each Mob Day we've taken time to stop and reflect on the bigger questions of life too.

On our final Mob Day, following a commando course with a difference, involving each team keeping their 5 eggs safe throughout, the group was led by Chris in a reflection on the preciousness of life.

"In life, there can be ups, downs and struggles. We can get bruised along the way, but God loves and cares for us as his precious children." - Chris D



Above: Decorating our eggs for the commando course

Getting outside, taking on a new challenge, meeting new people and opening up to new ways of thinking are all part of what Mob Days are about. If you know a young person who would like to *Get Out There* with us, send us an email at discoveradventure@fusion.org.au and we'll get all the latest info to you about what's on the way in 2026.

What's Growing in the Garden

It was with great excitement that we prepared the soil in the Garden this month, ready to plant our first potatoes. We're looking forward to this new crop, as we continue to plant and harvest our regular growers including zucchini, beetroot, leeks, broad beans and squash.



Testament to the efforts of our volunteer team, our garden produce and products made in the Mentoring Programs have been award-winning at the recent Huon Show and even at the Junee Show in NSW.

At the Huon Show, we were awarded 1st Prizes for Rhubarb, Leeks, Tomato Sauce, Worcestershire Sauce, Zucchini Pickles, Rhododendrons and Lilies.

2nd Prizes for Radishes, Snow Peas, Strawberry Jam, Plum Jam, Tomato Relish, Beetroot Chutney and Rhododendrons.

At the Junee Show, 1st Prizes for Plum Jam, Beetroot Relish, Worcestershire Sauce, and Champion Exhibit Prize and 1st Prize for Zucchini Pickles.

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Left : Champion Exhibit at the Junee Show in October awarded to Fusion Mentoring

In the Garden Cont.

If you'd like to come and see the Garden for yourself, join us on Saturday 14 February for our Annual Fundraising Garden Party.

Come and tour the Food Relief Veggie Garden, enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea, buy your award-winning jams, sauces and fresh produce, and meet the team behind the Garden.

Together we can raise much needed funds to keep the Garden serving the Kingborough community throughout 2026.

Tickets on sale SOON!



Mentoring Brings Life

This year we've seen students learn, grow and take hold of challenges as they've emerged. These included learning how to fit a Roll Over Protection System to the newly donated tractor, repairing and building sheep shelters, constructing wicking beds in the hothouse and servicing the Forest Glen ute and lawnmowers.

Cooking has brought out students' creativity, with their growing skills resulting in caramel cake, chocolate mudcake, macaroons, slices, melting moments and more.

In Term 3, they also worked with their mentors to make their own camp chairs just in time for school camp.

While the projects are practical in nature, students are both growing their hands-on skills plus their capacity to self-reflect and grow. Discussions allow space for each student to bring their thoughtful ideas and perspectives as they work through each challenge.

As we mark the end of the year with a family BBQ at Forest Glen, we're celebrating the growth in each student who has been part of Mentoring and look forward to seeing them take their next steps in 2026.

There are plenty of ways that you can help grow Mentoring in the new year. Email us at southtas@fusion.org.au now to find out how you can get involved.

Top to Bottom: Cooking has been a highlight of the program; one on one mentoring in the workshop with a volunteer mentor; working on the lawnmowers

Celebrating 20 Years of Prayer

It was a thrill to be part of the organising team for the 20th Annual Tasmanian Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday 26 November. Held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, the event brought together over 500 people from across the state to pray and reflect in unity.

Thanks go to Guest Speaker John Dickson, the Hutchins School Vocal Ensemble and local musicians the Eastie Boys for sharing their gifts, making the event a true celebration of two decades of fellowship across church, business, community and educational spheres. Hyland and our own Sophie Rowe, outgoing School Captains at Southern Christian College did a stellar job leading the prayers for *Good Leadership Across our State at All Levels*.



Our team has been part of the Prayer Breakfast since its inception in 2006, and we've seen the positive impact of bringing the Christian community together in visible support of our State and its leaders over the years.

In a world that is becoming increasingly familiar with disunity, long may we continue to walk this road less travelled together.



Top: John Dickson
Bottom: The Eastie Boys
Left: Hyland and Sophie



BOOK NOW FOR 2026

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

Talk to us now and start planning your visit today.

discoveradventure.fusion.org.au



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