

THE NSCC NEWS

Meet some of the faces of our community



FIND US ON GOOGLE MAPS

NSCC Newnham: 49 Georgetown Rd, Newnham

63 265506 admin@nscctas.org.au

NSCC Mowbray: Dover St, Mowbray

63 266776 adminm@nscctas.org.au

The Shed: 12 Kingbilly Crescent, Rocherlea



The heart of our community

Hi Everyone



As we reach the end of another busy year, it's hard to believe how quickly 2025 has flown by. Once again, we've heard the same sentiment from staff, volunteers, and community members alike—where did the year go? It's true that time really does fly when you're connected, engaged, and enjoying meaningful moments together. At NSCC, there has certainly been no shortage of laughter, learning, and shared experiences.

2025 has been a year of growth, creativity, and connection across our centres. We were delighted to introduce a range of new programs, including the Bicycle Repair Café, Breakfast Club, and Your Space at the Shed, alongside Keep Fit for Seniors and Silk Knitting with Glenys at Newnham. Over at Mowbray, Pingo with a Twist, Make a Friend Club, and Dance Fit with Caz brought energy, fun, and new friendships to the community. These programs—and many others featured throughout this newsletter—have helped people connect, learn new skills, and feel a true sense of belonging. We also enjoyed many special celebrations throughout the year, most recently the Children's University Graduation and of course our recent team xmas lunch for staff and volunteers. These celebrations are a wonderful reminder of the achievements, pride, and potential within our community.

One of the most exciting milestones of 2025 has been the extension of our FaRM (Food and Resilience Movement) Project in Mowbray. Our thanks to City of Launceston Council for leasing the land to us at the Dover Street Reserve. This new community garden and shared space is a place to grow food, skills, and connections—and we are thrilled to see it come to life for the benefit of our local community. We can't wait to see how it continues to flourish in the years ahead and we are excited for our community to join with us in making this social enterprise a success.

Looking ahead, we're already planning for 2026, including the launch of our Bike Lending Library—more details will be shared via our website soon. We are taking expressions of interest for our Ride Safe, Life Well program that will commence in February 2026. We are incredibly grateful to Cape Hope Foundation and Dept of State Growth for funding. Their generosity means that eligible community members can work towards gaining their motorcycle licence and receive motorcycle safety gear at no cost. This support is valued at approximately \$1,100 per person, with motorcycle licence and pre-course fees alone costing up to \$750 alone. Participants will attend a fun, engaging and informative program for one hour per week for 12 weeks. There's a different topic each week and the program is facilitated by our wonderful friendly project officers Carl and Mark. In the past when we ran this program many participants gained more than their licence - they made new friends and connections. For more information and to register your interest, please visit our website or contact our centre on 6326 5506.

As we reflect on the year that's been, we want to express our heartfelt thanks to our volunteers, staff, and management committee. Your time, care, and commitment make everything we do possible. It is truly a privilege to work alongside so many passionate people who care deeply about making a positive difference.

From all of us at Northern Suburbs Community Centre, we thank you for being part of our community. We wish you a safe, joyful festive season and look forward to welcoming you back in 2026 for another year of connection, learning, and shared moments.

Trish O'Duffy and the team
General Manager, NSCC



Funded by the Crown through the Department of Premier and Cabinet



LEARNER DRIVER MENTOR PROGRAM

Our L2P program gives learner drivers the opportunity to gain their 80 hours driving experience under the guidance of one of our valued, professional volunteer driver mentors. We do this by providing a vehicle and matching up eligible people with volunteer mentor drivers who provide supervised on road driving experience.



Nathaniel was another of the successful participants in the L2P program. He was so thrilled to pass his driving test with ease and receive his licence.



A BIG warm *Welcome* to **Mark** who joins our L2P program. Mani and Mark are the program co-ordinators. Together they support our wonderful driver Mentors. Their workdays are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and are available to answer any questions you have about the program.

Mani Rai & Mark Dover L2P Co-Ordinators
Phone: 0456 891344
Email: l2p@nscctas.org.au

BECOME A DRIVER MENTOR AND MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONES LIFE

By becoming an L2P Driving Mentor you will play a valuable role in supporting learner drivers. If you have two hours per week and would like to make a real difference in another person's life then please come along and chat to us today.

- Mentors are provided with full training and support.
- Mentors do not need to teach learners how to drive.
- Driving practice takes place in a dual control vehicle provided by L2P program
- Volunteering hours are 7 days per week from 7 am until 8 pm

Requirements for mentor volunteers:

- Ability to commit to a minimum of 2 hours per week for up to 12 months.
- Genuine interest in the wellbeing of all people.
- A current driver's licence issued in Australia.
- Willingness to undergo Volunteer processes, including a Working with Vulnerable People check.
- Ability to communicate in (basic) English.

The Landscape Art group meets on Thursday mornings at Dover Street NSCC Mowbray site. In July we had a visit from Chris who is an artist and one of the cultural arts program co-ordinators of the NSCC's Meenah Neenah [Me and You] arts-based program supporting local Aboriginal children. Chris had been engaged to work on a wind chime art piece as part of the Peace Garden Project at NSCC Newnham site.

The wind chime he has designed and constructed is about three metres in width. Beneath it will lie the large sandstone paving stones upon which various community groups have been invited to leave their mark.

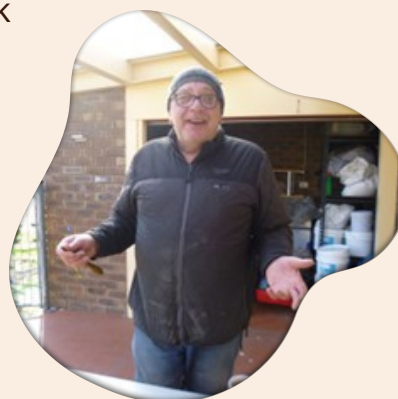
Chris brought the paving stones in for us to look at and have a go at carving into them while he talked to us about the project, about his work as an artist, about examples he had brought with him of sandstone carvings and about his approach to a group project like this one. He got started with a design of his own and invited group members to get going with carving out their own designs into the stone slabs.

Chris explained that his approach to a group project like was to encourage people to get started on it with their own ideas. He then would contribute designs which would bring everybody else's work together.

He said he didn't like to make a big distinction between two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. He said, 'Look close enough, and you will find three-dimensional depth in most two-dimensional artwork'. He showed us abstract painting he had done and talked about the dimensions of the giant wind chime he had designed.

Members of the group enjoyed getting to know Chris and listening to him talk about his work and also talk to him about what they were doing. It was beneficial having somebody with extensive experience in visual art talk about their different approaches to doing art. It was also good working with him on the stone pavers. There was plenty of good humour as members of the group got busy with chiselling sandstone for the first time.

**Written by Pippa
Landscape Art Volunteer Facilitator**



***Look close enough and you
will find three- dimensional
depth in most
two- dimensional work***

Mentors Make A Difference

Become a Mentor Today!

The NSCC mentoring program commenced with 8 mentors volunteering a minimum of an hour a week to support a student at East Tamar Primary School in terms 3 and 4 this year.

During their sessions, mentors and students spent time on activities such as kicking a soccer ball around and having a chat, drawing, playing basketball, Lego, cards and board games. Two students even taught their mentors to play chess! Others spent time in the veggie garden or playing with Bitlink technology kits, rock painting or doing fun science experiments. But one of the most popular activities was spending time in the kitchen making shakes or cooking cupcakes, chocolate truffles, pikelets or decorating biscuits for Halloween.

One of the challenges mentors faced was disappointment if their student was absent from school!

The mentors reflected that what prompted them to become a mentor was to make a difference in a young person's life; give back to the community; feel a sense of purpose and help a student feel better about themselves. They enjoyed the activities and making a positive change or just being there for their student.



All the mentors are looking forward to returning in 2026 to continue in their role. The school has provided positive feedback that the students are feeling a sense of support, belonging and anticipation for their weekly sessions, with most not missing school on mentor days, and being engaged in the program whilst making meaningful connections with their mentors.

If you think you might be interested in becoming a volunteer mentor or would like to learn more about it, come and chat to Barb. Mentors are provided with training and ongoing support throughout their mentoring journey.

MENTOR:

learning from
someone who
wants you to grow



Written by Barb
Mentoring Program Co-Ordinator



26TEN

Get the tools for life

Every day, people in our community are building the skills they need to live more independently, speak up with confidence, and take steps toward work or study—with a little support from the 26TEN team.



Literacy is more than reading and writing. It's about being able to take part in community life, find work, and feel confident in everyday situations. At Northern Suburbs Community Centre, literacy support has for instance opened doors for mothers building practical skills, learner drivers navigating road rules, and community members learning to use technology. These supports make a real difference in people's lives.

The 26Ten Northern Suburbs team have achieved so much by working together. Each brings their own skills and energy, creating a program that supports learners in practical and meaningful ways. From tailored resources to digital support sessions, the team has helped people grow in confidence, solve everyday challenges, and take steps toward new opportunities.

Sharon and Sarah work together to give their learners the best support possible, combining their strengths to build both literacy and digital skills for daily life.

Sharon has had the privilege of witnessing many learners achieve their reading, writing and numeracy goals, then set fresh ones to keep extending their skills. Even after moving into paid or volunteer roles, many learners continue their desire to keep learning.

One of Sharon's proudest achievements has been teaching a man to read and write for the very first time. He couldn't read or write in his own language, so learning English literacy has been a huge milestone. Each week his joy grows as his skills improve, showing how powerful learning can be.

Sarah is excited to announce that a student she has been working with has recently completed digital training in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Canva.

"The training helped me with many questions and changes that I had struggled with due to lack of use. Also, the knowledge of the programs helped me where I struggled with learning challenges. Learning is something that most of us need to keep up with to stay in current times, with new ways appearing every day." – Richard.

***Each week his joy
grows as his skills
improve***

Sarah would like to say a huge **thank you** to Richard for his commitment and dedication in learning new digital skills, and for the wonderful knowledge and resources he has also shared with her.

This year's 26TEN Week in October was a time of reflection and celebration. A highlight of 26Ten week was the opportunity for Sharon and her learner, Rebecca Bye, to attend the 26Ten celebration at Government House, a proud moment that recognised their dedication to the lifelong journey of learning.

Literacy is about confidence, opportunity, and connection. With the 26Ten team leading the way, learners are achieving goals, setting new ones, and transforming their lives.

At Northern Suburbs Community Centre, we're proud to celebrate every step taken on this lifelong journey.

Want to help?

We're always looking for passionate locals to support adult literacy.

If you're interested in becoming a 26TEN volunteer, reach out to the 26Ten Community Coordinator Taylor to learn about free training to teach adults!

26ten@ravenswoodnh.org - 0475 889 382

CONGRATULATIONS



"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." — B.B. King

Written by Taylor
26 Ten Community Coordinator

Get Digital Ready – Free Tech Help!

Need help with your phone, tablet, or laptop?
Want to build your confidence online or just get started?
Nikki offers one-on-one digital help support every
Monday, 9 AM–12 Noon at NSCC Newnham.

Digital Ready
/ FOR DAILY LIFE

You can learn how to:

- 📱 Use voice-to-text and text-to-speech tools
- 🛠️ Adjust settings to make your device easier to use
- 🌐 Navigate apps, emails, and websites with confidence

No tech experience needed—just bring your device and your questions for a relaxed chat!
Call Nikki on 0418 543261 to make an appointment

COMMUNITY CONNECTOR



Hi I am Caz and I am the Community Connector.

This year has been an absolute blast meeting new people and welcoming old friends to our program. Below is a snapshot of what the programs are about. Next year we have a heap of new programs that we believe will have something for everyone - all ages from 0 - 99+. I would love for you to come along and join in on one of our programs. so many of our community tell us that they have loved the new friends they have made.

"I love coming each week, I have a fun thing to do"

"It is terrific to come in here and feel welcomed"

"I now have friends here"

***I now have
friends here***

I also provide referral service and information about a wide variety of supports. With my colleague Carl we also run a weekly Your Space which has proved so popular that there will be one at each of our centres in 2026.



Make a New Friend Club is for all adults who are looking for a welcoming fun time. We read jokes, laugh a lot, have fun !

Great chance to meet new people and maybe even make a new friends.



Dance Fit Classes

This is a dance group that dances like no-one is watching! We grove to tunes of Abba, Bee Gees & many more. It is for adults who feel like dancing with other people & dance at your own speed. We have a laugh while shaking our booties off!

**Written by Caz
NSCC Community Connector**

ALL STITCHED UP

All Stitched Up group meet every Tuesday 10am-2pm at our NSCC Newnham site. Our program is FREE and all are welcome to join us.

We Create to Donate

- Fabric Bags
- Santa Sacks
- Happy Hearts
- Friendly Flowers
- Winter Warmers



Donations of material are gratefully accepted !



Call our friendly team on 63 265506 to find out more or email admin@nscctas.org.au



**Launceston Grow Group
meet Wednesday's 1-3pm
at NSCC Newnham site**

GROW is a community- based organisation that has helped thousands of Australians with their mental health, through a unique program of mutual peer to peer support and personal development.

What makes GROW special is that the practical support and lived experiences shared are underpinned with the twelve step GROW program.

GROW group is **free** and there is no need to have a referral or a doctors diagnosis. All groups are confidential and anonymous.

For more info or to register contact Linda
linda.allen@grow.org.au
0417 7370203



Deb is one of our Community Family Workers here to support families with children 0-12 years.

Our Community Family Workers have connected so many children to local schools and helped prepare them for their learning journey.

They also provide parenting programs to support mums, dads, carers, grandparents.



They run fun playgroups for families at both Mowbray and Newnham centres. They also provide a host of fun activities and picnic and play in local schools and parks.

*All of Deb's programs operate from our
NSCC Dover St, Mowbray site*

GRADUATION 2025



Children's University Tasmania collaborates with schools and the community learning destinations to inspire children and young people aged 7-14, fostering their confidence and nurturing curiosity through a wide range of informal learning opportunities.

Caz and Carl are the Co-Ordinators of our NSCC Learning Hub for Children's University. They were so proud to be a part of such a dynamic celebration of the culmination of the students achievements for 2025.

The graduation ceremony acknowledged the incredible efforts of the students who attend our learning destination here at NSCC. Each graduating student proudly walked on stage and received their certificate from the UTAS Chancellor.



WELL DONE Jingling and Savannah, two of our graduating students who were invited to write and deliver a speech to all assembled, highlighting their learning journey.

*Proud
of you*



MEET OUR COMMITTEE



Neighbourhood Houses are places where people come together and find support, belonging and purpose as they work together to support their local community and make a real difference in people's lives.

There are 35 Neighbourhood Houses in Tasmania. They are run by the community for the community. Each year at our Annual General Meeting local people put their hands up to become Committee Members. By undertaking this responsibility they ensure that Northern Suburbs Community Centre can continue to provide much needed services and activities to our community.

On behalf of the NSCC team we wish to say THANK YOU to our committee for their contribution and dedication to the Centre and our community.

Chair

Deputy Chair

Secretary

Asst Secretary

Treasurer

Asst Treasurer

Public Officer

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

NSCC Patron

Greg Mallett

Hugh McKenzie

Stephen Jones

Kathryn Adkins

John Streeter

Syed Haider Raza

Stephen Jones

Leanne Newson

Irene Olsen

Dom Geraghty

Jan Chaplin

Dr Frank Madill



**AGM
2025**



If you would like to know more about becoming a board member then call in and chat with our GM Trish or our chair Greg Mallett.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING ?

If you have a few spare hours in your week and want to be part of our dynamic team then give us a call on 63 265506 and ask to speak to Trish or Mary.

We would love to welcome you to our garden, kitchen, admin or van driver teams.

You might have a skill that you would like to share as a volunteer, all you have to do is take that first step and call us.



**"Volunteers
do not
necessarily
have the time;
they have
the heart."**



The Buzz from the

FARM



OUR WHY

WHY THE FARM PROJECT MATTERS

- Grow and share healthy food
- Build skills and pathways to employment
- Foster community, connection, and resilience

OUR IMPACT SO FAR

Growing Skills, Nourishing Communities



Since launching, The FaRM Project has become a place where people can learn, connect, and grow - both food and confidence.

PRACTICAL SKILLS

Created a safe, supportive space to develop practical skills in gardening, cooking, and sustainability.

FRESH PRODUCE

Contributed fresh seasonal produce to the community, improving food access and nutrition.

255 WORKSHOPS

Delivered and supported **255 workshops** and events across multiple locations, engaging **612 participants**.

HANDS-ON TRAINING

Provided hands-on training for volunteers and Work for the Dole participants, helping people build confidence and gain experience.

25 COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Supported **25 community members** through formal training pathways.

52 ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

Welcomed **52 active volunteers** across our Newnham, Mowbray and Ravenswood gardens, aged from 10 to 75.

4 VOLUNTEERS EMPLOYED

Helped 4 volunteers secure paid employment in horticulture, while another two are undertaking formal qualifications to expand their skills and career opportunities.

STRONG NETWORK

Built a strong network of partners, volunteers, and supporters working together for food security and community wellbeing.





Gen's Story

Finding Confidence and Community



Gen first joined The FaRM Project as a garden volunteer. At the time, she was looking for a way to contribute and learn, but what she found was much more: a place that valued her, supported her, and gave her confidence.

Over time, Gen became an essential part of the team. Today, she also helps with our food programs - working with the Northern Suburbs Community Centre to distribute food from Oz Harvest activities and Loaves & Fishes to local families in need.

For Gen, The FaRM Project has become more than a volunteer role. It's a daily source of connection, purpose, and belonging.

"Being here every day gives me a sense of self and a place in the community." – Gen

Her journey is a reminder of what The FaRM Project is all about: creating opportunities for people to grow skills, contribute to their community, and discover their own value.



WAYS TO DONATE

Supporting The FaRM Project is simple:

- Scan the QR Code to donate online instantly.
- In-kind donations: Seeds, compost, tools, fencing, timber — every bit helps.
- Volunteer time: Join us in the garden and see your impact first-hand



Scan the QR code to learn how your business can support or donate to The FaRM Project.

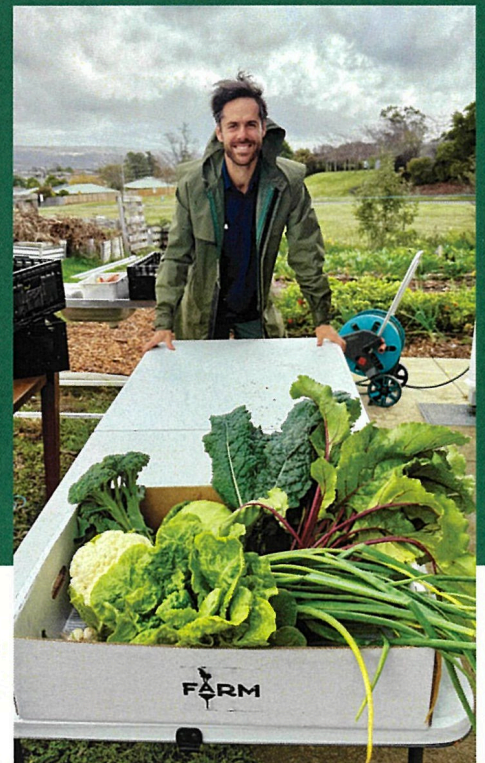


All donations \$2 or more are 100% tax deductible.

THANK YOU!

When you support The FaRM Project, you're not just donating — you're part of something bigger. You're helping people thrive, strengthening our community, and planting the seeds of a brighter future.

Thank you for helping us grow.



Contact Details:

🌐 thefarmproject.org.au
✉ manager@nscctas.org.au
☎ (03) 6326 5506
📘 Facebook | 📷 Instagram

Project Co-Owner



Project Co-Owner



Funding Partner



HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS

EVERY CONTRIBUTION MAKES A REAL DIFFERENCE



\$25

Seeds and soil for a new garden bed



\$50

Fresh produce for our FaRM program



\$100

Supports a participant through a training module



\$250

Provides tools, compost, or irrigation upgrades



\$500

Maintains infrastructure and community programs



All donations \$2 or more are 100% tax deductible.



It's not just about dollars — there are many ways to support The FaRM Project:

- ✓ **Volunteer your time** – Join us in the garden or help at events
- ✓ **In-kind donations** – Seeds, compost, timber, or tools all make a difference
- ✓ **Buy local produce** – Every veggie box or purchase supports the project
- ✓ **Partner with us** – Businesses and organisations can provide sponsorship, services, or team volunteering days

OUR FUTURE VISION

GOALS AND GROWTH PLANS

The FaRM Project is still young — but our vision is bold. With your support, we aim to:

- Expand our gardens to grow more produce for the community.
- Increasing the community involvement, building resilience, the well being of the community beyond the life of this project.
- Create spaces for cooking, learning, and workshops.
- Strengthen partnerships with schools, councils, and local organisations.

DID YOU KNOW?

NSCC ALSO OFFER PROGRAMS FROM OUR ROCHERLEA SITE THE SHED



12 KINGBILLY CRESCENT, ROCHERLEA

We welcome outside participants to join in our workshop activities.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9.30 am-2.30 pm

Call in to The Shed and chat with Carl and find out details of how you can join.

The team also take orders for custom made projects for individuals and organisations.



We were very lucky to welcome Tas Bash to The Shed. NSCC proudly donated \$400 to this worthy cause on behalf of the Community of the Northern Suburbs



PEEPS

Weekly 3.00-4.15 pm

After School Youth Program

For young people aged 10-17 Years
A safe space to hangout each week
Activities, Games, BBQ

Thank You

We would like to give a huge shout out of thanks to the team at

ADRA Op-Shop

for their kind monetary donation and awesome support for PEEPS.

Thanks to their generosity we are able to provide delicious healthy after school snacks to our young participants.

Monday's @The Shed

Third Monday of every month

BREAKFAST CLUB

9-11am

Call in and enjoy a snag and a chat with Carl



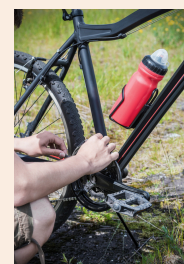
Second Monday of every month

BICYCLE REPAIR &

SERVICING 12.30-2.30 pm

Call in and learn how to service your bike with Carl

- Gear Tuning
- Tire Replacements
- Servicing





Wednesday's @ The Shed

COFFEE & CHATS 10-11.30 am

Get out of the house and come along and grab a coffee and meet some new people in your neighbourhood.



Thursday's @ The Shed

YOUR SPACE 10am-2pm

Come along and be part of our community crew with Caz and Carl

- Fine out who the "go to" services are in your area.
- Connect with others and have a laugh together.
- Meet new friends and share hot drinks and snacks
- Also includes fun activities for children 0-5 yrs



The crew at The Shed recently cut out some amazing pirate chest style jewellery boxes for the Goldies group to assemble and decorate

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

Margaret J. Wheatley



Loans available up to \$2000



Household Essentials like fridges, washers, furniture, bond and rent in advance



Car Care Essentials like registration, tyres and repairs



Education Essentials like computers, school trips, text books and school uniforms



Medical and Dental Essentials like mobility equipment, dentures and treatment costs



Family Violence Support like removal costs and security equipment



Refugee Family Reunion like visa fees and airfares

To register

www.nilstasmania.org.au or call 1300 301650



What is NILS ?

NILS is the No Interest Loan Scheme. They help low income Tasmanians get safe, fair and affordable loans No Interest. No Fees or Charges.



NSSC are a delivery partner for NILS so once you have registered we can help you complete your application with a confidential interview.



WE DON'T:

- Lend money for food or bills
- Give you cash
- Lend money for second hand goods



The team at NSCC would like to wish everyone a safe and peaceful Christmas time and Happy New Year.



Our sites at Newnham & Mowbray will close for Christmas Break on Wednesday 24th December at 12 Noon.



We will re-open Monday 19th January 2026



Keep updated with all our NSCC activities by checking out our website or Facebook page.

www.nscctas.org.au

If you would like to receive our Newsletter via email contact Mary on am@nscctas.org.au