

*Funded by the Crown through the DEPARTMENT of PREMIER AND CABINET TASMANIA
Servicing the Southern Beaches including Lewisham - Forcett - Carlton - Dodges Ferry - Primrose Sands*

Welcome to 2026!

**Highlights of 2025, What's coming up, News & Updates from the Board, House,
Garden, Co-op, Bike Shed, Events and more!**



**A summer of Soirees, Repair Cafe & Car Boot Sale, Community Resilience Project,
Seed Bomb Making Workshop, New Regular Activities & more!**

2025 HIGHLIGHTS



2025 WAS AN AMAZING YEAR AT OKINES!

We had a brand-new team welcomed into the House, with Lissa Villeneuve as Manager (middle left), Events Coordinator Jess Payne (left), Maura Bedloe (middle right) and Diana Shaw (right) sharing the new Community Connection and Admin role. The Community Connector Program has been initiated across all neighbourhood houses in Tasmania to help houses expand support to the local community by connecting people to a range of support programs, services and resources.



25 YEARS OF OKINES COMMUNITY HOUSE

We celebrated Okines 25th anniversary at a fantastic community event in April with live music, palawa dance, feasting & more. We also shared and captured wonderful stories of Okines' rich 25-year history with Helene Thomas of Wayfinder Studio at this event.



THE LANTERN PARADE & RETURN OF THE SOIREE

We celebrated a massive and beautiful Lantern Parade in June – with a theme of Natural Wonders. The progressive play, choral performance and bonfire were truly magical! Word has it that this year's theme is Enchanted Forest!!! We're so excited!!



SOME BIG GRANTS & FUNDING SECURED!

We sought and acquired lots of grant funding to expand, improve and create more important and beautiful offerings to the community.



Community Pantry expansions!

Our longstanding Food Assistance Program had a rebirth as the Okines Community Pantry – providing much needed food support, cups of tea, chats, friendship, and connection to community members throughout the Southern Beaches region. Thanks to some short-term funding we also held a 10-week trial pop-up community pantry at Primrose Sands Community Hall.

This proved so successful it continued beyond the grant period, thanks to generous community donations and support from the Lions Club of Sorell. The program will continue in 2026, under new leadership with the Primrose Sands Hall Committee now managing this important weekly service.



20,000 SLICES OF TOAST!

Our incredible volunteers cooked and spread deliciousness on almost 20,000 slices of toast for the hungry Dodges Ferry Primary school students attending our bi-weekly breakfast club mornings.



133 VOLUNTEERS!

133 amazing people from our community actively volunteered here at Okines helping make the garden, events, bike shed, food co-op, community pantry food assistance programs and many more parts of our community house thrive! And more joined the team!




1,483 BIKES!

The Bike Shed team saw 1,483 bikes come through! 741 bikes were donated, 494 bikes repaired, they serviced 248 bikes and 26 ebikes!



179KG SAVED FROM LANDFILL BY THE REPAIR CAFE

The 20+ dedicated Repair Café volunteers repaired 80+ items and saved 179kg of waste from going into landfill by repairing and reviving everything from clothes and knits to appliances, knives, jewellery and more!



2025 THINGS WORTH CELEBRATING!



\$202,353 SECURED IN GRANTS

From Mental Health First Aid Training and improving accessibility in our garden to the Lantern Parade and creating an outdoor stage and gathering area, we have received 13 grants in the past year, which have enabled us to run events, programs and make physical improvement to our spaces.



FUNDING FOR THE CO-OP EXPANSION

That's right, part of this includes funding to expand and improve the Food Co-op in 2026!

NEW EVENTS & ACTIVITIES!

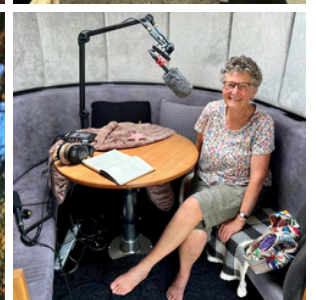
We hosted lots of special events in 2025, including the return of the Soirée! Some fabulous new activities included the guitar circle, dance club, alongside the painting and craft groups, knitting, sewing, spinning, tai chi, yoga, choir, card group, book club, 11 films screened by D'Ferry Flicks and more!

A NEW 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

We embarked on a brand new 5-year Strategic Plan and developed an operational plan working towards the vision of 'A connected people and place' working by the values of 'Open, Kind, Resilient, Resourceful & fun!'

OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN

On top of all the planting, weeding, seed saving and harvesting, the Garden team uncovered and revived the beautiful Labyrinth and cleaned and rejuvenated the lovely children's garden area so young families in the community can enjoy a safe and welcoming play space.



The Power of Community



There are many big issues impacting the world at the moment, from bushfires and pandemics to economic pressures and human rights violations.

While the Southern Beaches often feels like a beautiful sanctuary, we have had our share of crisis and know that it's through the power of community, that we are able to survive challenging times. We know that there are things that we can do now to help us cope with crises and grow through them, so we are keen to get as many local residents together as possible to discuss and dream together about how we could make our community even stronger, more connected and resilient.

Helpful Resources

It's bushfire season and we wanted to share some helpful resources so we can all be better prepared, so here's a few things you can do today:

- Sign up for TasAlert (alert.tas.gov.au)
- Create or Review your Bushfire Plan (bushfire.tas.gov.au/my-bushfire-plan)
- Have a Go Bag/Emergency Kit Packed and ready. Check out this ABC Article (abc.net.au/emergency/plan-for-emergency-survival-kit/12412048)



If you have ideas of things you would like to see happen or enthusiasm for creating a positive vision for our community's future, we would love for you to be involved!

With support from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal, we are hosting a series of interactive workshops to dream the future we want to see, identify priorities and then support practical action to create positive change. Come and be a part of the change you want to see in the world, starting right here at home!

COMMUNITY VISION & ACTION PLANNING WORKSHOPS

SOUTHERN BEACHES 2036

The world is facing many issues ahead, from bushfires and pandemics and economic pressures. We know that our strong & connected community is what has helped us to grow & thrive through these times in the past, so come and be a part of strengthening our community for the future!

Dream the Vision

Saturday April 11th - 12pm - 3:30pm (with Lunch)

Bring your ideas & join us for lunch as we work together in this fun afternoon workshop! Be a part of dreaming a vision for our community's future.

Plan the Action

Saturday May 2nd - 12pm - 3:30pm (with Lunch)

Join us for the 2nd phase of this workshop series as we transform those ideas into action plans to strengthen our communities resilience.

FREE to attend & all members of the Southern Beaches Community welcome
Registrations encouraged to assist with catering
email info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au
or call 03 6265 7016 to register

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

MEET ELEANOR STANCOMBE

Okines is made up of an amazing team of staff & volunteers, so in each newsletter we want to introduce some of them to you!



When did you start volunteering at Okines?

I started volunteering with the Food Co-op when I moved to Dodges in the summer of 2017.

What inspired you to get involved?

I was previously an active member of the Blue Mountains Food Co-op in NSW and had been seeking a food co-op to join when I moved to Tassie. It was a huge bonus that Dodges Ferry has one, not to mention it's a fantastic one! I love being able to contribute to something in the community in order to bring home discounted bulk food without all the packaging.

What roles have you taken on with the Food Co-op?

I started off helping Jill with some administrative tasks, before spending many years as a Sunday cashier. I loved cashiering as I met wonderful community members and I instantly felt part of the Dodges community. I've also met some very close friends through the co-op, for which I'm incredibly grateful. About two years ago, I moved from cashiering to putting the newsletter together, which involves reaching out to a small collective of contributors for content and editing it all together. I quite enjoy formatting all the text and images so it fits together nicely, it's a pretty satisfying task!

What's your favourite aspect of volunteering at Okines?

I love the ethos of a food co-op. I think when you give up time to help a not-for-profit initiative run, you generate purpose through strengthening communities and social change. I also like the way the co-op also helps you to slow down, whether you're volunteering, shopping, or just hanging out chatting.

Any advice to new volunteers?

There are so many different ways you can be involved and you can always shuffle around as you find different things you want to try. The Food Co-op is an incredibly generous place and no matter what you do, you'll feel connected and get something positive out of it.

INTRODUCING: THESE NEW VOLUNTEER LED REGULAR ACTIVITIES THIS TERM

Did you know, that many of the regular activities here at Okines are thanks to people in our community who volunteer their time to be a key contact for a community group or have a skill, passion or interest that they'd like to share.



This term we have 3 new activities thanks to new volunteers! So a special thanks to our volunteers Lisa, Toni & Liam! We hope you can come along and try out these new community activities. (Bigger posters below!)



Words from *lissa*

Happy 2026,

I hope that everyone is enjoying the warmer weather and long days of summer in the Southern Beaches! After a couple of weeks break for the Okines crew over the new year, we are back and excited about what this year has in store. A few of the things that we are looking forward to include:

- An extension to the food co-op and renovated kitchen thanks to a grant from the Tasmanian Government
- Working with you to explore what could make our community more resilient in a changing climate and then taking action to actually do that work together
- At least 2 more Soirees. This was something that has been on our list to bring back to Okines after a few year break. We had a brilliant first run in December, utilising our new stage, feasting on delicious food and drinks, enjoying the sweet, sweet tunes and soaking up the beauty of the garden.
- Collaborating with external services to bring more support and resources into our community
- Supporting all of the existing social and activity based groups that gather here and helping new groups to get started
- Listening to you and understanding what other priorities you think we should focus on and what else you would like to see here

Finally, I just want to say a huge thank you to the amazing team of staff and volunteers that choose to spend their time here at Okines! We really have the most exceptional people and I am so grateful for all of the laughs, collaboration and moments when we get to glimpse the positive impact that Okines has on so many. Here are some photos from our recent staff togetherness day and end of year volunteer celebration, both beautiful celebrations of our people.



Meet the Garden Team
Mon, Wed & Fri 8am - 1pm

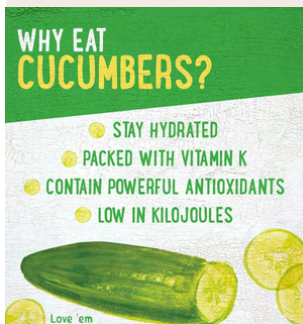
Happy New Year & Welcome Back to The Okines Community Garden in 2026

Wind and heat keep challenging the gardening patch along with the small amount of rain fall, however, it continues to provide produce for harvest as well as many garden tasks for our super team of garden volunteers.

There has been lots of compost cooking over the last few months allowing the beds to be rejuvenated and enriched ready for planting. We have also been busy making lots of liquid fertiliser from organic matter from the garden for future liquid feeding. It was great to see so many of our community visiting the garden over the holiday period, enjoying a mulberry or two as they passed through and it was a joy to hear children excitedly searching for the black ones which ensured they were ripe for immediate consumption. A bumper crop.

Its now time to get more seed raising mix made up ready to sow seeds to then plant out our autumn and winter crops so that will see us busy over the next few weeks. The garden is also excited to be getting a new watering system installed into our propagation and green houses that has been funded through a successful Quick Wins Drought Resilience grant from the Tasmanian Government.

ALERT: Please be mindful and ensure that dogs are under control when walking through the garden as there are several Blue Tongue Lizards and their young out and about enjoying some sunshine and a drink from one of the many water stations scattered though out the garden.



Veggie of the Month - Cucumber

Both Lebanese and apple cucumbers have been planted out this season. After a very slow start, the gardens cucumbers have perked up and are enjoying the warmer weather and looking like they will provide a good crop.

Cucumbers are easy to grow, liking the sunshine and are happy to climb or wander in the garden and can also be grown in pots.

Herbs, herbs and more herbs: The garden has a large variety of herbs that have been flourishing, providing lots of produce for use in the kitchen, along with providing lots of seed heads that look great before being collected, dried and stored for future planting.

Autumn Workshop: Making Seed Bombs – Monday 16 March, 9.30-11.00am. Then you're invited to join the garden team for a morning tea cuppa and make your own seed bombs.

Garden Tucker: continues on the first Monday of every month 10am-1pm, see attached flyer. Old and new gardeners are always welcomed. Each session includes a working bee followed by shared lunch and cake.

As Always: We would like to thank all of our dedicated volunteers for their continued support in the garden making it the space it is, along with our ongoing sponsors and community members for their varied donations that assist with maintaining Okines Community Garden. Thanks so much.

Enjoy your gardening during Autumn
Donna and Janet.



GROW & LEARN - HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2025

The students were so enthusiastic - learning map reading skills to find hidden clues in the garden, revegetating native species in the school grounds, learning how to build compost and how to grow food from seed, creating gardens for food security and resilience.

It was an incredible year with students from Grades 3-5 from Dodges Ferry Primary School getting stuck into all sorts of adventures in the Okines Community Garden as part of the Grow & Learn program.

They gained an understanding of the healing properties of herbal teas harvested from the garden while enjoying a tea party, they created nature mandalas and took time for walking meditations through the labyrinth.

Students explored the important functions of our local wetlands, learned about the life cycle of plants, identified different insects, and cooked up delicious healthy treats using ingredients from the Food Co-op and the garden.



Thank you to the fabulous facilitators Sonja and Nicola, and everyone involved behind the scenes to help keep the program running smoothly.

The students also put on their science hats, running experiments testing soil structure and pH in different areas of the garden, testing water quality in the wetlands and they explored many aspects of the garden at the cellular level, using microscopes.

The Grow & Learn program uses our community garden as an outdoor classroom and is part of an ongoing partnership between Okines Community House and Dodges Ferry Primary School. Linked with the national curriculum,

the program covers topics that enhance the educational outcomes for children, appealing to a diverse range of learning styles.

The program was boosted in 2025 with the help of a Community Action Grant from the Tasmanian Community Fund, run by the Dodges Ferry Primary School Association.



Dawn Green, volunteer grant project coordinator, says feedback from the teachers and students has been overwhelmingly positive. "Students are naturally curious about the world around them and they've been very engaged in the Grow & Learn program.

"There's something special about learning in an outdoor environment, outside of the classroom, which leaves a lasting impression on the students. Hands always shoot up when the educators call-out for volunteers to grab a shovel or wheelbarrow during Grow & Learn sessions in the Okines Community Garden."



CO-OP NEWS

A SNAPSHOT

Okines Food Co-op is a non-for-profit group in Dodges Ferry.
We give members access to bulk, largely organic wholefoods, and support Tasmanian producers.

CO-OP MEMBERSHIPS DUE

A new year brings another round of membership renewals

Members pay \$20 / \$15 concession per year
Life-time membership \$100

FOOD CO-OP MEMBERSHIP

Become an **active** or **non-active member!** Active members volunteer 4-6 hours / month and receive a 10% discount on most goods. Regular volunteers in the Community House or Garden receive a 5% discount.

Membership fees:

\$20 per year / \$15 concession
\$100 lifetime membership

OPENING TIMES

TUESDAY 10AM-5PM
FRIDAY 9:30AM-1:30PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM-1.30PM

LOCATION

**540 OLD FORCETT ROAD,
DODGES FERRY, OKINES
COMMUNITY HOUSE**

CONTACT

okines.food.coop@gmail.com
03 6265 7016

Full [stock list](#) and [prices](#)
available on our website:



[okinescommunityhouse.com.au/
wpms/foodcoop/](http://okinescommunityhouse.com.au/wpms/foodcoop/)



[@okinesfoodcoop](https://www.facebook.com/okinesfoodcoop)

GIFT VOUCHERS NOW AVAILABLE!

Gift the gift of local, ethical & eco-friendly!

Give someone **co-op store credit** with physical gift vouchers available to purchase at the co-op counter during opening hours.



GIFT VOUCHER

To spend at the Okines Food Co-op

TO:

FROM:

VALUE: DATE:

OPENING TIMES: TUE 10 - 5 | FRI 9.30 - 1.30 | SUN 9.30 - 1.30
okines.food.coop@gmail.com | Okines Community House, 540 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry 7173



CO-OP COFFEE SHOP

Open Mic:

Now held on the 1st Sunday of the Month.

Discussion Forum:

When: Friday February 20th 11am - 1pm

Where: Okines Garden outdoor kitchen

Topic: The future of the discussion forum



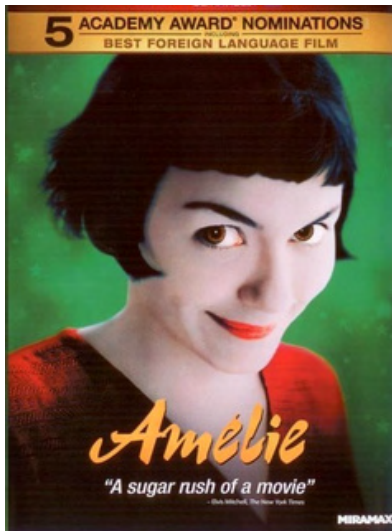
D'Ferry Flicks

Enjoy a film on the **third** Saturday of the month

6.30pm for 7.00pm

with Dodges Ferry Film Society at **Okines Community House**

— members \$35/\$25 for 12 months, or casual \$5 a month —



21 February 2026

Amelie(2001, France)

Comedy / Romance PG 122 minutes

Starring Audrey Tatou as a shy young Parisian waitress who discovers how to bring happiness to others.



21 March 2026

Knowing the Score (2023, Australia)

Biopic / Documentary M 94 minutes

Filmed over a 20-year period, recording the musical career of Simone Young, the first female to conduct the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. Produced by Janine Hoskings and Cate Blanchett.



18 April 2026

Blaze(2002,Australia)

Fantasy/crime M 101 minutes An Australian drama co-written and directed by Del Kathryn Barton and starring Julia Savage, Simon Baker, Yael

Stone and Josh Lawson. Thirteen-year-old

Blaze invokes magical thinking and fantasy following watching a violent crime.

Come at **6.30pm** for a complimentary drink before the film screens at **7.00pm** – if you can, please bring a small plate of food for our shared supper. Bring a camp chair, cushion or rug for comfort. See okinescommunityhouse.org.au or phone the Okines office 6265 7016 for details.

Keep in touch with **D'Ferry Flicks** on Facebook, Instagram or email.

BOARD UPDATE

Happy New Year everyone. I would like to take this opportunity to wish our staff and volunteers a happy and healthy 2026.

Wow, what a great year 2025 was and I am certainly looking forward to another wonderful year in 2026. Congratulations to Lissa and her Okines team for the successes last year. Lissa has introduced a number of new activities and programs for the local community to participate in. Lissa has also successfully obtained additional funding for a variety of projects. The one I am most excited about is the extension to the Food Co-op and upgrading of the Okines House kitchen.

The internal set up of the House has also changed which makes it much more welcoming to new and existing members. It is wonderful to be warmly welcomed by Maura and Diana as you enter the house and then be encompassed in Jess' wonderful personality and smile. Of course Lissa is also incredibly welcoming. There are always smiles and laughter at Okines which makes a visit all the more worthwhile.

The community garden is growing incredibly well with Donna and Janet at the helm. The Food Co-op has a wonderful group of volunteers and members and we must say thank you to Jill and Carlos for their continued support. The Bike Shed is ably led by Katrina and John and continues to provide a great service.

We will commence Board meetings from February and now have a full complement of Board members. The Board consists of the following:

Christine, President
Sharon, Vice President & Secretary
Martin, Treasurer
Bill, Public Officer
Colm, Board member
Will, Board member
Alison, Board member
Jessie, Board member
Lucy, Board member
Ashley, Board member



I personally look forward to meeting and chatting with staff, volunteers and participants of the House and am confident that 2026 will be a successful and vibrant year.

Christine Woodcock
President

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES @ OKINES

MONDAYS

Garden Tucker
10am - 1pm
(1st Monday of the month)

Knit & Natter & Sew
10:30am - 12:30pm

Volleyball
6:30pm - 8:00pm
(Dodges Ferry Rec Centre)

TUESDAYS

Tai Chi - 10am - 11am
Card Group - 1pm - 3pm

Rhythm & Beaches
Singing Group
7pm - 9pm

WEDNESDAYS

Okines Social Painting
Group
10am - 1pm

Community Pantry
Okines - 1:30pm - 4pm

THURSDAYS

Creating Communities
12pm - 2:30pm

Okines Book Club
12pm - 2:30pm (2nd Thursday of
the month)

DIG'n'Tea
11am - 1pm (3rd Thursday of
the Month)

The Gathering
7pm - 8:30pm (1st Thursday of
the month)

FRIDAYS

Eating with Friends
12pm - 2pm
(Last Friday of the month)

Southern Beaches
Spinners & Fibre Group
10am - 1pm
(2nd & 4th Friday of the
month)

SATURDAYS

Dodges Ferry Flicks
6:30pm
(3rd Saturday of the month)

SUNDAYS

Mat Pilates -
Community Class
9am-10am
(bookings required)

Co-op Coffee Shop
Open Mic
10:30pm-1pm
(1st Sun of the month)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday Night Soiree's
Feb 20th & Mar 20th

Woody's Bush Cabaret - Family Fun Concert
Feb 28th

Repair Cafe with Car Boot Sale & Open Mic
Mar 1st

Community Vision & Action Planning Workshops
April 11th & May 2nd



Okines Souree

Featuring
YACARUNA
& **BEN COOPER**



OKINES COMMUNITY HOUSE
540 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry

CAN YOU HELP?
info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au

FOOD, DRINK

LIVE MUSIC

FRIDAY
FEB 20

&

FROM
4 PM

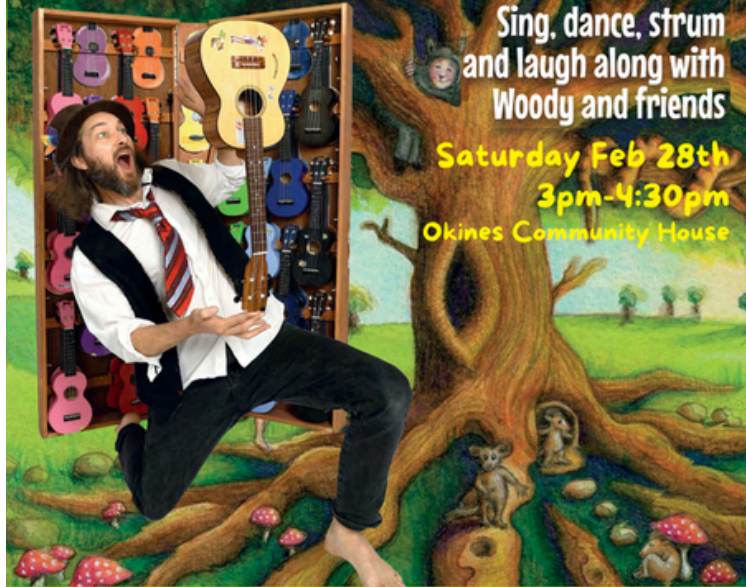
Woody's World
PRODUCTIONS

present

Woody's BUSH CABARET Family Fun Concert at Okines!

Sing, dance, strum
and laugh along with
Woody and friends

Saturday Feb 28th
3pm-4:30pm
Okines Community House



Tickets available via Humanitix with pay as you are able, to support this community event. Minimum cost per ticket is \$5 Children, \$10 Concession Adult and \$15 Non-Concession Adult. Tickets may be available for cash sales on the day, pending availability.

info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au



<https://events.humanitix.com/wood-ys-bush-cabaret-family-fun-concert-at-okines>



03 6265 7016

Don't bin it. Bring it!

OKINES REPAIR CAFE

Sunday 1 March
11 am - 1.30 pm

Okines Community House | 540 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry



Sewing, mending & darning | Computer assistance
Electrical repairs | Jewellery repairs | Bike repairs
Tool & knife sharpening | General repairs

BUT WAIT -
THERE'S
MORE!

FREE REPAIRS & SKILL SHARES | Volunteer fixers
will repair your item and show you how they do it!

Happening
at the
same time
@ Okines:



Open mic



Car boot sale



Sausage
sizzle

2026 REPAIR CAFES | (all on Sunday) 7 June, 6 September, 1 November

OKINES [REGISTRATIONS OPEN!]

Car BOOT SALE

WITH
REPAIR
CAFE
OPEN MIC
& BBQ

SUN MAR 1ST
11-1:30



\$10 PER CAR
OR PICNIC
BLANKET

EMAIL
INFO@OKINESCOMMUNITYHOUSE.ORG.AU
TO REGISTER



COMMUNITY VISION & ACTION PLANNING WORKSHOPS SOUTHERN BEACHES 2036

The world is facing many issues ahead, from bushfires and pandemics and economic pressures. We know that our strong & connected community is what has helped us to grow & thrive through these times in the past, so come and be a part of strengthening our community for the future!

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Join us for the 2nd phase of this workshop series as we transform those ideas into action plans to strengthen our communities resilience.

FREE to attend & all members of the Southern Beaches Community welcome
Registrations encouraged to assist with catering
email info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au
or call 03 6265 7016
to register

THE GATHERING

A MONTHLY STORYTELLING
OPEN MIC



1st Thursday of the Month
7PM - 8:30PM

Okines Community Garden
540 Old Forcett Rd, DODGES FERRY



Come & tell a tale (up to 6 mins), or
come along and listen. All welcome

info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au

**CO-OP
COFFEE
SHOP**

**OPEN
MIC**

First Sunday
of the Month
10:30am-1pm

Free espresso
Bring a plate
of food to
share if you
can

**Okines
Community House**

info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au

**Rhythm
&
Beaches**

Social Singing Group

**Tuesdays
7pm - 9pm**

Rhythm & Beaches is a local community singing group that meets at Okines Community House every Tuesday, except during school holidays.

Songs range from a wide variety of popular music and the group is open to all, no experience necessary.

For more info contact
Merv Haines 0417462310

Okines Community House
Free to Attend
All Welcome



Okines
GARDEN TUCKER

Join us in the Okines Community Garden on the first Monday of every month, 10am - 1pm for an interactive working bee with live music and a shared lunch!

10am - 1pm on the first Monday of the month

Everyone welcome

Gold coin donation

info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au
03 6265 7016




Seed Bombing Workshop

Come and get your hands dirty making seed bombs of wildflowers and natives! Throw them, don't plant them!

**MONDAY
MAR 16TH
10AM - 11:30AM**

**OKINES
COMMUNITY
GARDEN**



SEEDS

Gold Coin Donation
No experience necessary
All welcome

INFO@OKINESCOMMUNITYHOUSE.ORG.AU 540 OLD FORCETT ROAD, DODGES FERRY



DIG'n'TEA
Come along and connect with others in the community over a cuppa in the garden.

Thursdays
February 5th & 19th
March 5th & 19th
April 2nd & 16th
11am - 1pm

At Okines Community Garden, Dodges Ferry

All Welcome!



Okines Community House
540 Old Forcett Rd
phone 62657016
info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au




Okines invites you to join us for

Eating with friends

Join us at Okines on the last Friday of the month for a nutritious 2 course meal and meet new people.
\$10 for a 2 course meal & Bookings are required

February 27th	July 31st
March 27th	August 28th
April 24th	September 25th
May 29th	October 30th
June 26th	November 27th




To book call 03 6265 7016



Okines
Community
House



\$2 per visit



10:30AM –
12:30PM



540 Old Forcett
Road, next to the
Dodges Ferry
Primary School.

KNIT & NATTER

*A weekly group open to
all community members*

Learn to knit, sew or crochet from scratch, improve your skills or teach others what you know. From novice to expert, everybody is welcome! Bring a project you are working on or knit for a cause. Wool and needles can be provided.

Drop in anytime on a Monday between 10.30am to 12.30, tea and coffee provided, the nattering is up to you! Phone 6265 7016 for more information or email:

info@okinescommunityhouse.com.au

OKINES CREATING COMMUNITY

MAKING SESSIONS

THURSDAYS 12PM – 2:30PM

Sewing, felting, crafting, scrapbooking, textile, paper, fibre arts, all creativities welcome!

Come along to Okines every Thursday and get creative! Join a group project, bring something you're working on or perhaps try something new in a social and supportive environment!

No experience necessary.

info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au



Okines Social Painting Group

Meet some new people & spark your creativity at our fun and friendly social painting group!

All are welcome to join and no bookings are necessary!

- Every Wednesday 10am – 1pm
- Okines Community House
- Cost \$3
- BYO Supplies
- Morning Tea Provided



For more info contact:
info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au

OKINES COMMUNITY HOUSE

SPINNERS & WEAVERS

Join our friendly local members of the Handweavers, Spinners & Dyers Guild Tasmania Inc. on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month here at Okines. \$3 to attend goes towards the cost of the room.

2nd & 4th Friday of the month
10am – 1pm

HWSD
Handweavers, Spinners and Dyers Guild Tasmania Inc.

info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au





BOOK CLUB

2nd Thursday
of the Month

12PM -

1:30PM

Okines Community
House

Bring a plate to share
and come along for a
good book chat! Titles
alternate between
Library provided books
and discussing current
reads. Free to attend
and all welcome.

03 6265 7016

OKINES CARD GROUP



Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and play a game
of 500. \$2 goes towards the cost of the room

2ND TUESDAY OF
THE MONTH

1PM- 3PM

Okines Community House
540 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry
03 6265 7016

\$2 TO
PLAY

OKINES COMMUNITY PANTRY

Join us every Wednesday at Okines for Community Pantry (formerly Food Assistance Program), where members of the local community can come and get some FREE groceries. No need to call or register, just come along, grab some food and maybe stay for a cuppa. Leftovers will be put in the outdoor fridge, which is accessible 24/7.

Fresh Food

Frozen Meals

Groceries

WEDNESDAYS
Every week

STARTING
1:30pm - 4:00pm

ALL WELCOME

Okines Community House
03 6265 7016

Our Location
540 Old Forcett Road, Dodges Ferry

**STARTS
@
1:30PM**

Okines Breakfast Club

Thanks to our
volunteers!

**Tuesdays & Thursdays
8:30am - 9:00am**

The Okines Breakfast Club operates in partnership with Dodges Ferry Primary School, providing breakfast to local kids twice a week during term time.

This important program is run by our amazing volunteers and is supported by our Local Richmond Bakery, Banjo's Sorell, Homelands Property, the Tasmanian Government. Thank you all for helping to keep this important program running.

Proudly supported by

OKINES COMMUNITY VOLLEYBALL

DODGES FERRY REC CENTRE



MONDAY
6:30PM - 8:00PM
(DURING TERM TIME)

Come and join us for a good run around!
All equipment provided, no skills necessary!
First time, play for FREE then its \$8 per game or 11
games for \$80

info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au



Okines
Community House

MAT *Pilates* COMMUNITY CLASS



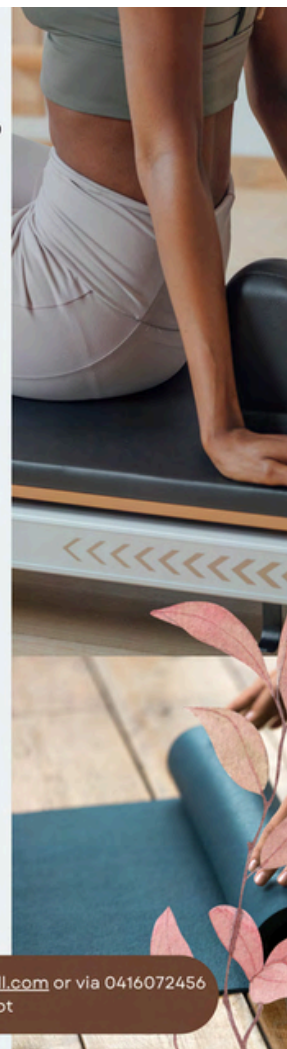
Join Lisa for a feel good movement to music mat Pilates class suitable for all fitness levels.

No cost, gold coin donations appreciated. Just bring your mat, drink bottle and comfortable clothes to move in.

- Sunday 9am - 10 am
Jan 11th, 18th, 25th & Feb 1st (2w break)
Feb 22nd, Mar 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th
- Okines Community House
Terrapin Room
- Bookings Required as
spaces are limited

Lisa will also be running paid classes at Okines on
Mondays 9am - 10am. \$10 per session
Contact Lisa for more info

Contact Lisa at TinkerPilates07@gmail.com or via 0416072456
to book your spot



Embody your inner health

MELT Method Class

Thursday 9am - 10am

Okines Community House -
in the Terrapin room



TERM 1 starts Thursday 5 February

Experience MELT: a hands-off bodywork method using specialized soft rollers and balls to build resilience, boost performance, and support a pain-free, active life – while gaining a deeper understanding of your body.

\$200 for 10 weeks or \$25 casual

(No class on March 26)



Contact Salomé 0437 405 213

fromwithin.com.au



Reclaim your movement with Mat Pilates

Tinker Pilates

February/March 2026
classes



Mat Pilates classes

Mat Pilates classes suitable for all fitness levels.

**Join Lisa to move with music and increase your fitness.
Only \$10 per class.**

**Where: Terrapin Room, Okines Community House,
540 Old Forcett Road, Dodges Ferry.**

**When: Monday - Time: 9- 10 am
February 23 - March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30,**

**Bring a mat, drink bottle and comfy clothes to move in
Email TinkerPilates07@gmail.com or text 0416072456
to book your spot.**

Dances of Universal Peace

...are simple to learn circle dances which are uplifting, meditative and joyous, combining sacred song, chants and live music



All songs & dances are fully taught, no experience necessary.

"If you can talk you can sing, if you can walk you can dance!"
Zimbabwean proverb

First Wednesday of each month (except January)

Okines - Terrapin Room

540 Old Forcett Road, Dodges Ferry

7 - 9pm

\$15 / \$10 concession Enquiries Ph 0400051963

Offered by Nicola Amina Bush, certified leader of Dances of Universal Peace



TaKeTiNa

Rhythm for Evolution

Dodges Ferry

Sunday 22nd March

10.30 am - 1.00 pm

Okines Community House
540 Old Forcett Road

TaKeTiNa is a
meditative process
that uses our innate
rhythmic knowledge
to help us deeply relax

Cost: \$25/\$20

With certified TaKeTiNa teachers Christina Giudici and Gai Anderson
For bookings contact Christina M 0437 009 792 E christina@ecopulse.com.au

Curious? Find out more at www.taketina.com or contact Christina



SSSH....

Sunday Session Sound Healing

Come and Quieten your Mind
with Sound and Relaxation
Starting with Yoga Nidra
Guided Relaxation
Absorbing the Healing
Sound Waves from
Crystal Chakra
Singing Bowls,
Steel Tongue Drum,
Shamanic Drum
and Zaphir Chimes.



Experience deep relaxation for just \$30

Join us for an immersive sound healing
session designed to clear energetic
blockages, restore inner balance and
leave you feeling refreshed and renewed

Sundays @ 10:44 - 11:55am

Okines Community House - Terrapin Room

1st February; 15 March; 21st June; 2nd August;

13th September; 1st November & 13th December

BreathingTreeYoga.com.au



Okines Chair Yoga



Fridays 1:30 - 2:30pm
at

Okines Community House,
Terrapin Room,
540 Old Forcett Rd,
Dodges Ferry

Boost your fitness, strength, flexibility,
balance, and breathing
in a gentle, fun, and supportive class
that helps you relax,
feel great and move with ease.

\$15 per class or
6 class pass for \$75

BreathingTreeYoga.com.au

elanaroseyoga@gmail.com

Elana Rose - 0412 451 192

Breathing Tree Yoga





Jazz by the Sea

COME ALONG TO DODGES FERRY LAGOON PARK OKINES
Sunday 15 February 2026 • 4PM-6PM
Featuring: Southern Lights Big Band

Join family and friends and enjoy the live music!
 Bring a picnic and BYOG BBQ onsite • soft drinks

GOLD COIN DONATION FOR CAMKIDS CHARITY

RAFFLE

Hosted by the Lions Club of Sorell

Logos: CAMKIDS The Cambodian Children's Charity, Sorell Council, Lions Club, Southern Lights Big Band



NIPAKAWA STEINER SCHOOL

Nipakawa means 'wave' in palawa kani, the language of the Tasmanian Aborigines.

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2026

**NewSteiner primaryschool
in Carlton in the Southern
Beaches of Hobart.**



Learn more:

www.nipakawa.tas.edu.au

admin@nipakawa.tas.edu.au

SOUTHERN BEACHES LANDCARE COASTCARE



COMMUNITY
CARING FOR COAST
AND COUNTRY



Our volunteers meet monthly at Okines to plan projects, working bees & other activities to protect & restore the natural values of our special coastal neighbourhood.

For more information or to get involved, visit our website, facebook page or get in touch via the details below.



CONTACT US

southernbeachescoastcare.org.au

facebook.com/sbcoastcare

southernbeaches@landcaredtas.org.au



Sorell History Society



At the east entrance of the History Rooms we acknowledge the Mumirimina and Palawa.

In the North Room we introduce the rich history of the Sorell district from deep time to today.

The South Room features a themed exhibit – opening with Transport & Toys.

See our website for opening times
www.sorellhistory.org

Sorell Memorial Hall
 47 Cole Street Sorell

History Room entrance is from the courtyard behind the CWA Rooms- look for the flags



OKINES BIKE SHED

OPEN MON & THURS

11AM - 3PM

11AM-2PM LAST SUNDAY
OF THE MONTH



BUY
FIX
REPAIR
DONATE
VOLUNTEER

*CONCESSION RATES AVAILABLE

CALL 0450 138 478 FOR MORE INFO



OKINES FOOD CO-OP ORGANIC GOODNESS



OPEN HOURS

Tuesday 10am - 5pm

Friday 9:30am - 1:30pm

Sunday 9:30am - 1:30pm



Okines Food Co-op is a non-for-profit group in Dodges Ferry.
We give members access to bulk, largely organic wholefoods,
and support Tasmanian producers.



okines.food.coop@gmail.com



<https://okinescommunityhouse.org.au/food-co-op/>



03 6265 7016



@okinesfoodcoop

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT OKINES



okinescommunityhouse.org.au

Scan the QR Code for our
online volunteer registration
form.

Keen to help out at Okines Events,
Cooking, Workshops, the Food Co-
op, Bike Shed, Community Garden or
something else!

We want to help you find your way to
support our community!

Get in touch today!



03 6265 7016



info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au



Okines
Community House

No Interest Essentials Loans

- ▶ Car repairs
- ▶ Fridges & freezers
- ▶ Computers & tablets
- ▶ Home furniture
- ▶ Medical & dental services
- ▶ Ask us!

No interest loans

up to \$1500

Now up to \$2,000

No credit checks

Minimum repayment

\$20 per fortnight

Call 1300 301 650

www.nilstasmania.org.au

Acknowledgement of Country

Okines Community House Inc. acknowledges that, as a community, it is a privilege to live, work, and meet on the land, sea, and waterways of the Mumirimina people. We pay deep respect to the traditional owners of these places, to the many Aboriginal people who did not make elder status due to the impacts of invasion and colonisation, and to those that continue to care for Country.

We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

At Okines Community House, every child has the right to be safe and feel safe. We are committed to providing a safe, welcoming, supportive and inclusive environment for children and young people.

Thanks for Your Support

Okines Community Kitchen - Thank you to our local Richmond Bakery, Foodbank, Loaves & Fishes, Lions Club & members of the local community like Greg for donating their surplus crops for helping make this weekly initiative happen.

Breakfast Club - Thank you to our local Richmond Bakery and Banjo's Sorell for helping to keep this important program running.

To all of our wonderful volunteers, who generously give their time to help our space thrive - we greatly appreciate you all!

Thank you to Brian Mitchell for kindly printing our Newsletter for us!



homelands
Sorell & Southern Beaches



Shadow Minister for TAFE, Skills & Training; Small Business

P: (03) 6212 2225 E: brian.mitchell@parliament.tas.gov.au

Submissions for the Newsletter

Have something you'd like included in the newsletter? Email it to events@okinescommunityhouse.org.au



FOR THE
By the community
COMMUNITY

Contact us

PHONE: 03 6265 7016

Email:

info@okinescommunityhouse.org.au

Address: 540 Old Forcett Road,
Dodges Ferry, 7173

Webpage:

okinescommunityhouse.org.au

Facebook:

facebook.com/okinescommunityhouse

ABN: 99433272191

OKINES COMMUNITY HOUSE HOURS:

Monday - 9am to 3pm

Tuesday - 9am to 3pm

Wednesday - 9am to 4pm

Thursday - 9am to 4pm

Friday - 9am to 3pm

OKINES COMMUNITY GARDEN:

Monday - 8am to 1pm

Wednesday - 8am to 1pm

Friday - 8am to 1pm

Email: okinesgarden@gmail.com

OKINES FOOD CO-OP:

Tuesday - 10am to 5pm

Friday - 9.30am to 1.30pm

Sunday - 9.30am to 1.30pm

Email: okines.food.coop@gmail.com

OKINES BIKE REPAIR SHED:

Monday - 11am to 3pm

Thursday - 11am to 3pm

Phone: 0450 138 478

Email: bikeshedokines@gmail.com

DODGES FERRY FILM SOCIETY:

Regular screenings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month, plus special events. Go to @dferryflicks via Facebook or on messenger to see more information about upcoming films.

INTERNET & COMPUTER ACCESS:

Computers are available for internet access during opening hours. Internet and scanning are free of charge, printing charges as below:

BLACK & WHITE PHOTOCOPYING/PRINTING:

Using our paper A4 & A3 = 20c / 40c

Using own paper A4 & A3 = 10c / 20c

*prices per side

COLOUR PHOTOCOPYING/PRINTING:

Using our paper A4 = 50c & A3 = \$1.00

Own paper A4 = 25c & A3 = 50c

*prices per side

LAMINATING: A4= \$1.00 EA A3= \$2.00 EA

VENUE HIRE:

Various rooms available at reasonable prices, contact us for further details. *Note: you must have public liability insurance to hire any of our spaces.*

TRAILER HIRE:

Okines has a small 6 x 4 box trailer for hire at \$10 per day, \$25 for weekend rental. Some conditions apply. Please contact us & book.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE:

Drop in Service available Fridays 12pm-2pm

BOOK & SEED LIBRARIES:

No cost to borrow, books are located both inside the house and in the garden. Seeds are also available at the outdoor library.

INFORMATION, SUPPORT & REFERRALS:

Okines has a range of information pamphlets and books and can listen and support you with issues of concern and refer you to other services if required.

