



*We are grounded in country and driven by connection - a safe space for
diverse ideas, shared action, and deep belonging*

Annual Report 2025-26



OKINES COMMUNITY HOUSE INC – 540 OLD FORCETT ROAD, DODGES FERRY TAS 7173
WWW.OKINESCOMMUNITYHOUSE.ORG.AU

President's Report 2025-26

By Christine Woodcock



Okines Board Members

I have just completed my third year as President of Okines Community House which in fact is my last year. I am not re-nominating for a position on the Board at this Annual General Meeting.

Also not nominating for a future position on the Board are Martin Bishop, Jessie Fitzgibbon and Lucy McLelland.

Martin joined the Board twelve years ago and has held the position of Treasurer for many years. Martin has worked tirelessly to maintain a high standard on the financial side of the organisation as well as being Okines' IT expert. Martin has contributed to Okines successes over the years and is a valued member of the team. Marty you will be sorely missed by the Board and also Management and Staff at Okines.

Lucy joined the Board in September 2024. Lucy came with a wealth of knowledge and a keenness to share that with others. Lucy always amazes me when she researches a particular issue and delivers insight into solutions available to be followed.

Jessie joined the Board in 2025 and contributed many useful insights and suggestions over the past year.

I would like to thank all of the current members of the Board who have supported me in my role as President. I believe the Board of Okines Community House is well founded and will continue to provide leadership to the House in future years.

An amended Constitution for Okines has been developed with lots of assistance from Liz Gillam. Thank you Liz for your input!

The new Constitution will need to be adopted by the members of Okines at this AGM. I would encourage everyone to please read the Constitution and also the list of amendments so that you can vote accordingly.

I have really enjoyed working alongside Lissa and am amazed at the number of programs and activities that are now on offer at Okines. Lissa, you are an inspiration to everyone and I congratulate you on your leadership capabilities. You have a great staff and volunteer team supporting the work here at Okines Community House.

There have been some challenges over the past 12 months but I am happy to say that by the Board and Management working together, we have managed to reduce any noticeable impact on the House.

I am confident that Okines will go from strength to strength in the future and I wish the new Board, the staff and volunteers all the best.

I am sure I will see some of you around the House as I don't intend to become a stranger to this environment.

Treasurer's Report 2025-26

By Martin Bishop

It is a great privilege to present the audited Financial Statements of Okines Community House Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

The 2026 Financial Statements have been prepared and audited by our appointed auditor, Mr Michael Ian Derbyshire of Bentleys Tasmania Audit Pty Ltd.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including providing a true and fair view of the organisation's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and its financial performance for the year ended on that date.

The team at Okines Community House continues to work diligently to ensure that the organisation's financial resources are managed responsibly and within budgetary constraints, while continuing to provide valuable services and support to our local community.

I am pleased to report that the organisation achieved an operating surplus of \$39,998.46 for the financial year, with net assets of \$212,419.79 as at 30 June 2026.

These results reflect the ongoing commitment of the staff, volunteers and Committee to maintaining the financial sustainability of Okines Community House while continuing to deliver services that benefit our community.

Well done to the entire team, and thank you for your continued hard work and commitment to Okines Community House.

Looking Back – 12 Years as Treasurer

As I come to the end of my 12 years as Treasurer of Okines Community House, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a very rewarding and enjoyable experience.

When I first took on the role, I certainly didn't imagine that I would still be here 12 years later. What started as a commitment to help the organisation has turned into a very rewarding part of my life, and I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved.

Over those 12 years, there have been plenty of budgets, bills, receipts and financial reports — and probably more than a few occasions when I wondered where a particular receipt had disappeared to! But amongst all the numbers and paperwork, what has really made the role worthwhile has been the people.

I have had the pleasure of working with many wonderful Committee members, staff and volunteers over the years. I have seen changes in the organisation, faced challenges together and, most importantly, watched Okines Community House continue to make a valuable contribution to our local community.

I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has supported me during my time as Treasurer. The encouragement, cooperation and friendship I have received have made the role so much easier and, more importantly, enjoyable.

While I won't miss chasing up receipts quite so much, I will certainly miss being part of the Committee and the camaraderie that comes with it.

After 12 years, I feel the time is right to step aside and give someone else the opportunity to take on the role. I leave with many great memories and a real sense of satisfaction in having played a small part in the ongoing success of Okines Community House.

I would like to wish the incoming Treasurer, the Committee, staff and volunteers all the very best for the future. I have every confidence that Okines Community House will continue to go from strength to strength.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has made the past 12 years such an enjoyable experience. It has been a privilege to serve as Treasurer, and I am very grateful for the friendships and memories I take with me.

Thank you.



Manager's Report 2025-26

By Lissa Villeneuve

Reflections

It's been a busy year at Okines Community House! I am still blown away by all of the wonderful people who make this place the thriving community hub that it is! We are so lucky to have a team of passionate people (paid and unpaid) who are driven by our values – Open, Kind, Resilient, Resourceful and Fun. We strive to be a caring, inclusive and supportive space and have gotten a lot of positive feedback over the past year about how welcome people feel.

A place where this has been particularly noticeable is in our community pantry (aka food assistance), where under the leadership of Maura and then Tahana, a beautiful group of volunteers (Tracey, Rhonda, Annette, Vicki & Katrina) have transformed this important community service into a space of connection and affirmation, where people come not just for some free food, but to share a meal with friends and connect in to some of the other services and supports available in our community. Where people used to come in and out as quickly as possible, hardly making eye contact, we now have groups of people sitting together enjoying a healthy meal and talking animatedly.

We started this year with a strategic planning session, facilitated by the wonderful Julia Curtis. This important foundational work allowed us to explore what's important and come to a consensus on how Okines can best contribute to the Southern Beaches Community. It was really heartening to see staff and board come together to grapple with big issues and work together to bring our dreams into an inspiring and practical strategic vision and plan for the organisation. Once we had the plan, we turned our sights on how to operationalise it and identifying ways that we can monitor and assess how we are tracking against it over time. This is often tedious work, but the team really came together and



created something of real value that will allow us to track our progress and measure success over time.

Another highlight was our Southern Beaches 2040 project (funded through a grant from FRRR), which started with a storytelling event, where we heard personal stories of resilience from several inspiring locals, including Aunty Cheryl who shared stories of place and culture and sang a beautiful song that she wrote about this country and DFPS Principal Matt Kenny sharing his experience of the 2013 bushfires that ravaged the Dunalley community and school that he was then principal of. The next phase of the project saw interested community members come together over a series of facilitated workshops to create a vision for our what we'd like our community to look like by 2040 and then plan how we can make that happen. After brainstorming heaps of ideas, we narrowed the focus down to 4 key areas with action groups formed to progress them (Food Resilience, Energy Security, Connecting our Community Spaces, and Knowledge Hub). Okines will continue to support these groups as they evolve and we are always looking for more people to get involved.



Acknowledgments

We currently have over 130 active volunteers!! These stellar humans do so much and are the backbone of Okines Community House! Here is just a small sample of the activities our volunteers do regularly:

- cooking up delicious lunches and setting up the community pantry for people experiencing food insecurity
- turning compost, feeding chickens and maintaining a beautiful and productive garden
- keeping the bulk wholefoods in the co-op stocked up
- repairing bicycles and mentoring students on bike repair and maintenance

- running monthly film screenings
- coordinating quarterly repair cafes
- running events
- curating our library
- hosting regular social & wellbeing activities like book club; knitting; cards; choir; volleyball; badminton; pilates; meditation; crafts; painting and more
- toasting and adding spreads to almost 1000 slices of bread each week of school term
- coordinating our monthly eating with friends lunches
- doing reception cover and admin tasks
- providing governance oversight & financial management through serving on the Board
- and SO MUCH MORE!!



We also get support from local people and organisations who contribute funds or in-kind services to support our work. Over the past year, our breakfast club program was supported by Richmond Bakery, Banjos Sorell, Homelands Property and the Dodges Ferry Primary School Association. Our community pantry and emergency relief programs are made possible by generous community donations; Loaves and Fishes; Foodbank; Richmond Bakery; Sorell Lions Club and Bendigo Community Bank Sorell & District. Park Café keeps us stocked with locally roasted coffee beans and Brian Mitchell MP prints our quarterly newsletter for free.

There have been some challenging issues over the past year and I want to thank our volunteer Board members, who have worked through tricky situations with care and integrity. I am so grateful for their support! We will sadly see Christine, Marty, Jessie and Lucy not re-nominating at the AGM, so we will be losing some great supporters of Okines and people with lots of valuable institutional knowledge. Combined, they have served over 20 years on the Okines Board, which is an amazing contribution to our community! Huge thank you to each of you!

I also want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our wonderful staff members! We have tackled many arguably tedious tasks this year, including: operational planning, data collection & reporting, risk assessments, overhauling our volunteer management system and lots more. We carry a big load and accomplish a lot on VERY limited funds, which is a testament to the resourcefulness, skill and passion that everyone brings every day. It is such a privilege to get to work alongside of each of you, sharing laughter, tears and everything in between! I am so grateful for all that you do!

Finally, the Tasmanian Government provides invaluable support through providing core funding to Neighbourhood Houses. This funding enables us to cover the basic costs of keeping our doors open and allows us to leverage those funds to secure additional funds

to expand our offerings and support. We are so grateful for this support as the stability it provides enables so much more to happen.

Achievements

- Attracted nearly \$150,000 in additional grant funding for specific projects and capital works
- Upgraded our community kitchen, pantry and outdoor areas to improve function and create more welcoming and supportive spaces
- Revamped our reception, entrance and community resource area, including Fiona updating our library collection and Diana creating community service quick reference folders
- Created a 5-year Strategic Plan, which was tested with community and updated based on feedback
- Developed an operational plan, including success measures, to guide the first phase of implementing our strategic plan
- Established a comprehensive Team member handbook and induction process for new staff and volunteers
- So many incredible events and activities, led by the fabulous Jess and a fabulous team of volunteers, to bring people together, share skills, improve wellbeing and just have fun!
- Reviewed, updated and endorsed 10 new policies
- Supported 51 community members to access the No Interest Loan Scheme

Community Garden

By Janet Martin and Donna Heintz

Reflections

The past 12 months have been another productive and rewarding year for the Okines Community Garden. Volunteer involvement has remained strong, supporting the ongoing maintenance and development of the garden. Community



engagement has continued to grow, with workshop numbers doubling and increasing weekly visits from community members and visitors. The rejuvenation of the Garden Labyrinth has enhanced the garden as a place for reflection and wellbeing, while monthly Garden Tucker sessions continue to strengthen community connections through shared

gardening, learning and meals. Overall, the garden has continued to flourish as a vibrant community asset, promoting sustainability, food security, wellbeing and community participation.

Acknowledgements

The continued success of the garden is made possible through the dedication of our volunteers and the guidance of the garden team. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Drought Resilience Quick Wins Grant from the Tasmanian Government, whose funding has enabled significant water-saving and infrastructure improvements as well as the Australian Government's support for accessibility improvement through their Stronger Communities Grant Program. We also thank generous community members, local arborists, the Bike Repair Shed, local businesses and donors for their contributions of materials, equipment, food scraps, manure and other resources that support the garden's ongoing sustainability. The continued partnership with the Co-op in delivering the monthly Garden Tucker sessions is also greatly appreciated.

Achievements

- Increased annual gardening workshops from 2 to 4, with strong community participation.
- Secured Drought Resilience Grant funding to install an additional rainwater tank, weather station and automated irrigation systems for the propagation house and greenhouse.
- Improved accessibility through re-gravelled pathways and upgraded ramps with non-slip surfaces and handrails.
- Installed three new wicking garden beds, replacing ageing raised beds and improved water efficiency and climate resilience.
- Completed the rejuvenation of the Garden Labyrinth, with plans to install a seating area for reflection.
- Enhanced pathways and playground safety through mulching and tree pruning.
- Constructed permanent crop-support frames using donated materials, improving vegetable production.
- Continued to produce compost and liquid fertilisers using donated manure and food scraps.
- Maintained successful monthly Garden Tucker sessions, supporting gardening skills, social connection and community wellbeing.



Events & Engagement

By Jess Payne

Reflections

The last 12 months in this role has been really wonderful as I've settled more in to the role & flow of organising & hosting events alongside the newsletters and regular social media presence.

After much demand we brought back the Soirees, running 3 across the summer, utilising the new stage! We also held our annual Lantern Parade, our biggest event in partnership with the Dodges Ferry Primary School & South East Arts Inc, and getting the Sorell Rotary Club involved this year as well which was really great.

We also attended the DFPS school Fair, alongside the garden team. We hosted Woody's World here for a special school holiday kids show, successfully applied and received funding to host a series of Mental Health Awareness Week events that enabled us to pay local wellbeing providers to run events here. We helped bring more attention to the Repair Café's by moving the Co-op Coffee Shop Open Mics to be on the same day, and hosting a Car boot sale alongside it. We also held a Clothes Swap and an Arts & Crafts Mini Market which helped clear out the crafts cupboard. We also held 2 Volunteer Appreciation events, an end of year celebration and Volunteer Week long table lunch.

We on boarded new volunteers to partner and/or run special events as well as regular activities. This includes special events like the Perimenopause talk, Therapeutic Doodling, Homemade for the Holidays & the Library bag workshops which then transformed into the Creating Communities Group. Other new regular activities that started were the Gathering, Guitar/Song Circle, Mat Pilates, Meditation, Dance Club and

more! We also developed partnerships with service providers to run events like the Hobart Clothing Hub to bring a quarterly pop up of free clothing to run alongside the Community Pantry as well as Financial Literacy workshops with Women's Legal Service Tas.

We also held a series of workshops and events as a part of the FRRR Community Resilience project, starting with the Stories of the Southern Beaches, Southern Beaches 2040 Dream the Vision & Plan the Action Workshops, that fed into the All Group Meet Ups and 4 Project Idea Groups that we are currently supporting.

We increased storytelling content across social media and the newsletter, bringing more volunteer stories as a regular feature, and had 2 of our volunteer stories featured by Volunteering Tasmania! We also began collecting stories in the Storybook, capturing these in the format of NHTs braining guide.

We fostered and developed relationships with lots of groups, businesses and organisations including; DFPS, South East Arts Inc, The Nest Child and Family Learning Centre, Sorell Rotary, Nipakawa Steiner School, Sorell Lions Club, Sorell Library, Landcare, Fitzies, Sorell Council, Salvation Army, Park Café & Beach Bums. We also started putting these in a Key Contacts list as a start on the work on Skill Register/Asset Mapping currently being continued and supported through the Knowledge Hub Group that came out of the SB2040 Project Idea groups.

We did some important foundational work around Children & Youth Safety, attending the Office of the Independent Regulator's webinar on 'Putting into Practice the Child & Youth Safe Standards'. Which led to working through the Child & Youth Safe Action Plan workbook, making a number of improvements based on that.

As a team we developed a lot of new processes & procedures most notably to me, the development & implementation of a volunteer life cycle; complete with induction, team handbook, volunteer spreadsheet, online form and new paper form and just the whole general process being unified across all of Okines, has been a really big project and something that has had really positive effects from an Events & Engagement perspective.



Acknowledgements

- The fantastic leadership of Lissa! She really is the back bone of this wonderful Community House, with vision, resourcefulness and a relentless positivity that can make anything happen!! The whole Okines team, staff, volunteers & the Board who help make this place the wonderful community space that it is!!
- Our volunteers that have helped to make everything happen! A great events crew, especially Caroline Hyland and Alison McCrindle as food & drinks leads and Sam Smets on sound and band liaison really helped bring the Soiree's back! New volunteers who have started regular activities as well; Liam, Marisol, Lisa, Toni, Janelle & Sally.
- Angela Buckley & Sam Gobbey from DFPS & Michelle Pears & Kathy Hall from South East Arts bringing the Lantern Parade together.
- We partnered with several groups to run events that also raised funds for Okines this year, Tayla & Beth ran a therapeutic doodling workshop and Woody's World brought their Kids Bush Cabaret.
- Sorell Rotary Club ran a BBQ at the lantern parade, donating \$1000 to Okines.
- Successfully applied for MHAW funding (\$900) allowing us to run 6 events across the MHAW week in Oct 2025

Achievements

Events and Activities – over the past year we have integrated 7 new regular activities into our regular weekly program and continued 12 established activities. We have also hosted 34 special events this year, catering to the diversity of our community, we have worked hard to ensure we have something on offer for everyone!

Engagement – We have continued our quarterly print newsletters and expanded the content to include more storytelling and features, which seem to be a big hit. We completed Comms & Engagement plan and consolidated all of our social media channels into the one Okines Community House page. We have seen an increase in the reach and engagement of our content on social media over the past year, as evidenced by the stats below:

- Facebook:
 - 395 new FB followers (18.6% increase, currently 3,449)
 - 70% increase in interactions over the past year (30%+ from photos)
 - 438.5k views
 - 19.9k profile visits



- Instagram:
 - Successfully re-accessed Instagram and linked to the Facebook account, to share photos, stories and reels
 - 177 new followers
 - 732 profile visits (219.7% increase)
 - 100% increase in interactions
 - 80.8k in reach



Food Co-op

By Jill Vaughn

Reflections

Firstly, on a personal note, I would like to thank all Okines staff and board members for the amazing support and understanding they have offered me since my partner's death last year. It exemplifies what a great community we have in Dodges Ferry.



- **Management** - During the 2025-26 financial year Jill gradually transitioned the primary management of the co-op to Carlos. While still essentially job-sharing, Carlos was encouraged to lead in meetings and liaising with Okines management. This is still a work in progress and the balance of the roles may need to be readdressed in future. Jill worked on updating all documents and files outlining and detailing the running of the co-op with a view to retirement at the end of 2026. She also took 2 months long service leave in March & April, during which Carlos managed alone with increased paid hours. Overseeing volunteer tasks and perfecting their registration/induction process continues to be a significant part of the management role.
- **Renovations** - The Co-op shared in the funding from a larger grant obtained by Okines from the Tasmanian Government. It was initially intended for an extension and new joinery. However, repeated delays and increasing costs imposed by surveyors and engineering requirements, resulted in an adjustment to the scope to focus on restructuring the entrance area, buying a large storage

bench plus tools and equipment and labour for improvements to the shelving, compliance with environmental health regulations (sealing all timber) and sealing the concrete flooring. Ongoing tasks for this will be completed by trades people and during working bees with volunteers during the spring of 2026.

- **Operations** - Membership steadily increased during the year, with more members shopping regularly and buying more. We get referrals from other area and from the information posted on social media sites. Maintaining stock levels and managing space in the co-op is a more demanding and frequent task as a consequence. We extended our Tuesday opening hrs to 10am-5pm, due to demand. Overall streamlining of communications and promotion from Okines management has definitely enhanced our operation. Ongoing collaboration with Okines House re volunteer data will continue to improve and make our tasks easier and more accountable.

Acknowledgements

- We currently have about 40 volunteers regularly doing tasks to help run the co-op at an average of 4 hrs/month.
- Small amounts of cash are raised as donations at the open mic sessions – usually \$10 - \$30/ session.
- We also receive lots of support from the Garden crew and volunteers who are always willing to lend a hand.

Achievements

Achievements in the Co-op are a constantly evolving process of improving, refining and making more efficient the process of running the co-op, communicating with our members and volunteers, upgrading the layout of the space and looking to the best way of providing our service to the community into the future.

We often receive humbling, positive comments from our members and others about how well regarded we are as a small local outlet and what a great service we provide.

I feel proud to have been part of the co-op since it began in early 2012 and am continually appreciative of the many forms of support we have had over the years.



Bike Repair Shed

By Katrina Blyton



Reflections

A year of changes and progress has unfolded at the bike shed. We farewelled long standing volunteers and welcomed new faces. We have retained twice weekly openings and expanded the student program to include up to 20 children each week. Staff from the Dodgers Ferry Primary School accompany and remain on site during student participation and have really appreciated the program.

Infrastructural improvements include:

- a water tank of the Western side of the shed now harvests rainfall
- safety fencing has been erected behind the sheds protecting access to the spare tyre area and the platypus creek
- signage has become more visible and identifies parking areas
- an underground power cable has given us access to mains electricity

Both Dodges Ferry and Dunalley Primary Schools were visited by two volunteers for a pop-up bike check/repair morning. This will be a once yearly project and part of the donation package of bikes we negotiated with the schools. The plan is to include Sorell Primary in Term 3, 2026.

We also spoke at a Staff Meeting at DFPS in relation to the bike shed role and function, addressing how the student program fits into the bigger picture and providing more information about our offerings.

Future Projects include developing sensitive ways to manage hard waste that cannot be repurposed and a strong commitment to grow and expand in ways that enhance the services we offer to our community.

Acknowledgements

The Bike Shed operation is made possible through dedicated volunteers, past and present who give their time, expertise and enthusiasm each week. This enables us to grow and perform as a vibrant facility of Okines.

Community support and enthusiasm ensures we have not only a steady supply of cycles and parts but the custom needed to operate the services we offer.

DFPS Staff and students who participate in the programs.

The Management Team and Board of Okines for their continued support and commitment to the bike shed.

Achievements

- Student Education Program saw 48 students participate in our weekly programs over the 4 terms of school.
- Average of 14 repairs completed on each day of operation
- Volunteers averaging between 4 -6 each day of operation
- Collaborative decision making and problem solving amongst the Bike Shed team
- Bike Shed team members have completed OH&S and Child Safety Training and a newly developed Induction Procedure is in use.
- We have participated in two Repair Cafes and the annual Dodges Ferry Primary School Fair.



Repair Cafe

By Virginia Allenby

Reflections

Since starting in September 2024, the Okines Repair Café has continued to grow as a valued community initiative. As a member of the International Repair Café Movement, the café is listed on the worldwide map of Repair Cafés and shares the movement's commitment to reducing waste through repair, reuse and skill sharing. Our objective is



to provide a welcoming environment where community members can have household items repaired, learn new skills, support the circular economy and reduce unnecessary landfill. Repairers provide assistance with sewing and mending, general items, jewellery, bicycles, knife and tool sharpening, technology, electrical items and leather goods.

Sadly Chris Bennett, who was one of the founding members of the Okines Repair Café, died after a short illness in March. Remaining members are Jenny Dudgeon, Deb Peacock, Judy Mills, Virginia Allanby and we have recently welcomed new member Vicki Bazan.

Acknowledgements

Behind every Repair Café is a great deal of work. Planning, organising volunteers, advertising, catering, running each event and analysing data afterwards all rely on the dedication of many people. We are fortunate to have more than 30 volunteers available who generously contribute their time and expertise. This year we welcomed additional leather, general repair and technology volunteers, further expanding the range of services available. Our sincere thanks also go to the rest of the Okines Community House team for their ongoing support, to Tabatha Badger MP for assisting with printing, and to everyone who has supported us through donations. We particularly acknowledge the South Eastern Climate Action (SECA) group for its generous contribution of \$295.

Achievements

This year successful cafes were held in September 2025, March 2026 and June 2026. Unfortunately the December 2025 café was cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances. Across the year, volunteers completed 90 successful repairs, helping to divert an estimated 113 kilograms of material from landfill. Four visitors learned new repair



skills, while volunteers contributed an impressive 263 hours of service. We also collected plastic pens and textas for recycling and hosted a mending and darning demonstration.

The committee continues to look for ways to improve the experience for visitors and volunteers. A new numbering system has been introduced to better manage repairs waiting to be assessed, while donations have enabled the purchase of items for sewing and tool-sharpening kits together with essential consumables. The Repair Café has also enjoyed increased community visibility through articles in community newsletters.

A highlight of the year was the organisation of a meeting bringing together representatives from all six Tasmanian Repair Cafés. Coordinated by Virginia and Jenny, the gathering provided an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas and learn from one another. Representatives from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment also attended to discuss the important role Repair Cafés play in Tasmania's repair and reuse network, as well as future funding opportunities through the Waste Resource and Recovery Board.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like to know more about the Okines Repair Café, please contact us at okinesrepaircafe@gmail.com.

Dodges Ferry Film Society

By Melinda Reed

Reflections

D'Ferry Flick members enjoyed our usual routine this year, hosting a film at Okines Community House on the third Saturday each month except January. Across those 11 D'Ferry Flicks film nights we screened an eclectic mix of dramas, comedies, biopics, musicals, Australian and world movies. Members shared a simple 'bring a plate' supper, enjoyed a complimentary drink and chatted together before moving to the Terrapin to see the film. The most popular was our retro Christmas film *Bridget Jones's Diary*, then in June a clash with a private event saw our smallest ever turn out for the thought provoking Australian film *Slam*.

Over the year we promoted films by email, Facebook and in the Okines newsletter, maintained a steady bank balance, membership of around 30 financial members and healthy savings in reserve from prior years. Our permanent screen in the Terrapin is working well and we're now looking at installing permanent speakers to make set up simpler.

Acknowledgements

A huge thank you to our D'Ferry Flicks volunteer crew who organise the films, film screening rights, promotion, food, drinks, set up, pack up, memberships and banking

– Melinda, Jan, Jenny, Jennifer, Ali and Mara. As a volunteer-run member-based event at Okines, our main expense is the film licencing of around \$700 in total which is covered by member fees. In April we added a credit/debit card payment option using a repurposed Okines card reader. We love Okines new dishwasher and will love it more when we remember to turn it on early! Thank you to the dedicated Tasmanian Federation of Film Societies committee who make screening low cost films possible for Tassie communities.

Achievements

Between July 2025 and June 2026 we screened: I Am Legend, This Must Be the Place, Bright Star, Frida, Out of Africa, Bridget Jones's Diary, Amelie, Knowing the Score, Blaze, The Devil Wears Prada and Slam. Most of our films are licenced by Roadshow and the DVDs are mostly borrowed from the State Library or personal collections. We have built up a collection of DVDs purchased from past years and we're considering how to make them available more widely.

We had a break for January which seems to work well and we've started planning for our 10th anniversary screening on 21 August 2027 and re-connecting with past members. In the meantime, our tenth year offers a chance to reflect on what's working well and what might benefit from a fresh approach.

