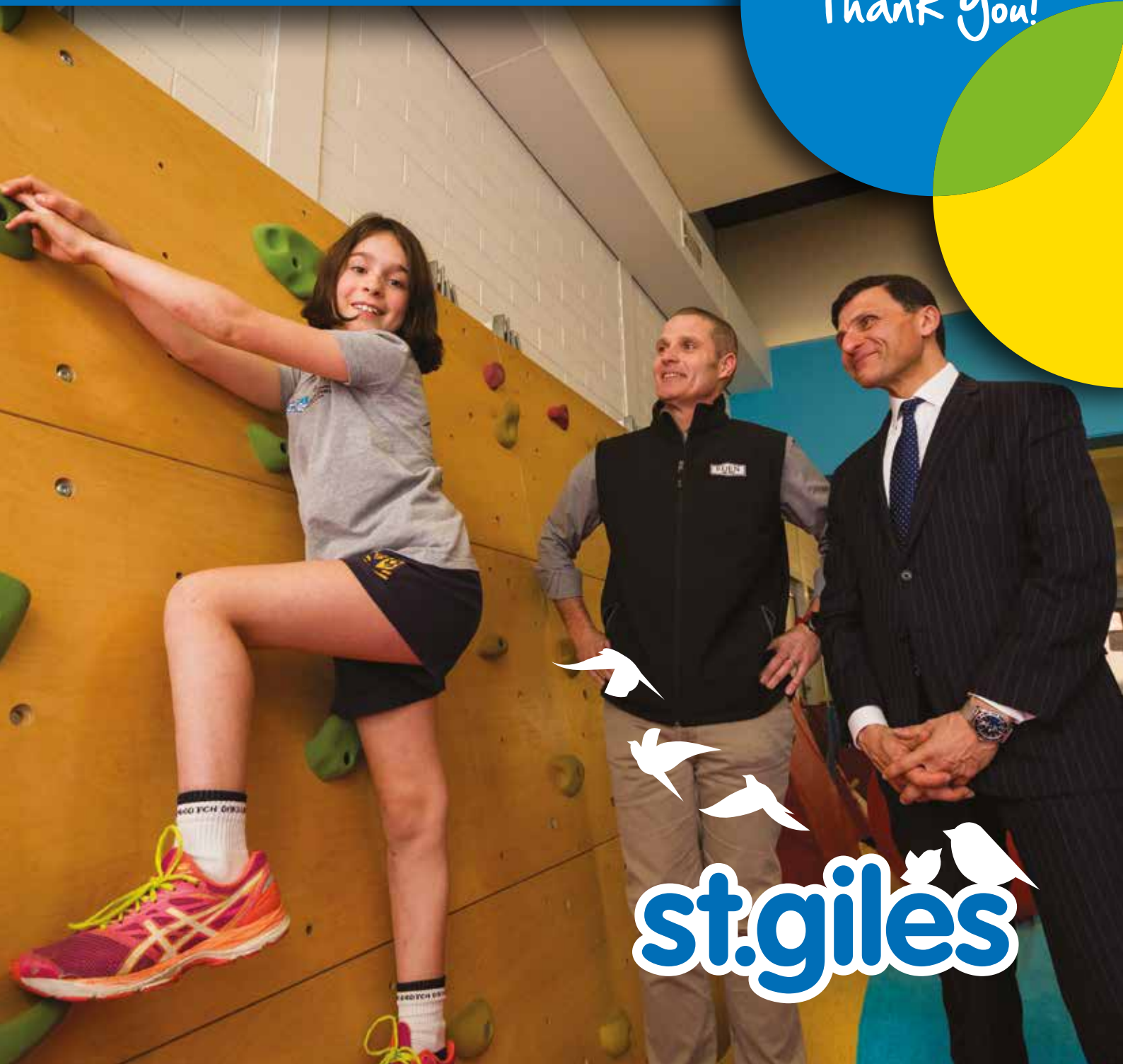


# KIDS CAN'T WAIT!

## StGiles Christmas Appeal

Donate on  
back page.  
Thank You!



  
**st.giles**

# The board of StGiles announced the appointment of Andrew Billing as chief executive officer in May.



Andrew Billing, Chief Executive

Andrew takes over from Ian Wright who retired after 10 years transforming StGiles into a contemporary disability model based on inclusivity.

## Who is Andrew?

With more than 20 years in senior leadership roles, including 11 as a CEO, Andrew brings to StGiles an extensive array of senior leadership skills, knowledge and practical know-how with a strong focus on people management and community engagement.

Our Chairman Ben Coull said the board was delighted to have secured someone of Andrew's background and expertise to continue the great work StGiles does in the community.

"Andrew is well known to the Tasmanian not-for-profit sector for his time as CEO of the O Group, a group of companies established in Devonport in 1990," he said.

After leaving the O Group in 2015,

Mr Billing developed his own consultancy business, Nearsources, and worked as a contract executive, most recently as Interim General Manager - Mission and Strategy at Baptcare, a substantial not-for-profit organisation delivering services in aged care, housing and community services in Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania.

Andrew said: "The quality and scope of StGiles' work in the Tasmanian community is a direct reflection of the great work done by outgoing CEO Ian Wright and the dedicated and passionate board, staff, volunteers and supporters."

"I'm very much looking forward to working with the StGiles team in continuing and growing our service impact."

Mr Coull paid tribute to Mr Wright's

long association with StGiles, which included more than a decade on the board, including time as chairman, and 10 years as CEO.

"Ian's legacy is an inspirational, innovative transformation of StGiles that included more than \$20 million of Commonwealth-funded infrastructure and the philanthropic development of state-wide programs that have transformed 80-year-old StGiles into a contemporary, client-led provider of all-ages disability services," Mr Coull said.

"There is no doubt that Ian's great passion for social inclusion, combined with his vision and talent as a chief executive, has made StGiles (and Tasmania) a model of how innovation can be achieved, even during a time of great upheaval – that is – the implementation of the NDIS."



Current chair Ben Coull, former chairs: John Dent OAM, Dr Felicity Wivell, retired chief executive Ian Wright, former chairs Don Stewart, Gail Bendall and Justice Robert Pearce.



# The President of the Law Council of Australia paid StGiles a visit in August.

Arthur Moses SC spent two hours at Amy Road with State President of the Law Society Evan Hughes and Law Society executive director Luke Rheinberger.

Mr Moses' visit was arranged by Mr Hughes, whose mother-in-law Kathy Douglas lived at StGiles as a child with polio during the 50s.

Mr Moses met with StGiles board chairman Ben Coull and learned about the concerns of families whose children do not qualify for StGiles services within the NDIS, particularly children diagnosed with milder forms of cerebral palsy (CP).

Children with mild CP benefit from intensive early intervention physiotherapy and occupational therapy which are currently not funded within the NDIS.

That means families or carers need to self-fund or go onto lengthy public health waiting lists for limited access to therapies that really do make a difference, especially to mobility outcomes.

Mr Moses agreed to investigate the NDIS Act and raise StGiles concerns with Prime Minister Scott Morrison.



StGiles Chairman Ben Coull (left) with Arthur Moses SC. Photo courtesy The Examiner, Phil Biggs



The Balfour Burn has achieved its sponsorship goal and will be back for a twilight event on Friday evening, March 20 5pm till 8pm.

Since we announced its return, the 2020 Twilight Balfour Burn has received some wonderful corporate sponsors including Routley's Menswear, Calvary Health Care, Eden Foods, CBA, Motors, the City of Launceston, the Examiner, Channel 7, Chilli FM, Ye Olde

Greengrocer, St Patrick's College, Café Mondello and Elaia Café. StGiles had to stall the Balfour Burn for two years during its implementation of the NDIS and credits sponsorship strength for the event's revival.

"We have significant sponsorship support that has taken the edge off the cost of staging the event. The event will be richer for the involvement of the wonderful businesses who've thrown their support behind StGiles," StGiles, Danielle Blewett said.

There will be medals for all participants, a special Balfour Beer from Van Diemen Brewing, Balfour Eskies, an outside broadcast to a giant screen in front of Sporties and the fabulous pets and prams, teams, walk, elite and cycle divisions.

# StGiles used a record breaking donation



Andrew Billing, Headmaster Richard Ford and students of LCGS - Photo courtesy of The Examiner

StGiles used a record breaking donation of nearly \$37,000 by the students of Launceston Church Grammar School to purchase advanced, assistive communication technology.

StGiles chief executive Andrew Billing

thanked the school community and Grade 12 students for their efforts.

The \$36,929.10 was raised during the school's annual 80km Walkathon, before Easter and is believed to be the largest sum raised in the walk's 56-year history.

"Your gift will be enduring and will change lives," Mr Billing said.

"Communication is a basic human right and the students' donation will allow young Tasmanians the chance to be heard."

StGiles bought the latest version of a Tobii Eye Gaze valued at \$23,500, where computer assisted eye tracking and eye control are combined with speech generating devices for communication and environmental control.

The students were motivated to raise

awareness and funds for people living with Cerebral Palsy by fellow grade 12 student, Lachie Moore.

Lachlan Moore, who has Cerebral Palsy, believes it is important to raise awareness of Cerebral Palsy as a condition.

"Throughout my life, I have noticed how much of a difference it makes when people have an understanding of what Cerebral Palsy is, and equally, an understanding of how to treat those with the condition in daily life," Lachie said.

Launceston Grammar Headmaster Richard Ford said the school was immensely proud of its Grade 12 students.

"Their courage and genuine desire to look beyond themselves is truly inspiring," Mr Ford said. 🐦

## Foundation for the Future



Kathy Douglas with Evan Hughes (President of the Law Society of Tasmania) and Andrew Billing - Photo courtesy of The Examiner

We want to keep StGiles as a place of innovation where caring teams are alive with ideas that enrich the lives of the people we serve.

It's not easy, especially when goal posts are often shifted and circumstances are out of our control.

In May, the President of the Law Society of Tasmania Evan Hughes met with StGiles chief executive Andrew Billing to discuss establishing a StGiles Future Foundation.

**The Future Foundation will not replace existing fundraising**

**appeals, which StGiles relies on to meet annual funding shortfalls.**

StGiles is asking supporters to consider making a bequest, to the Foundation.

The Foundation will be a focused destination for bequests or significant allocations to allow StGiles to continue to innovate.

It's StGiles ability to be innovative and problem solve that makes us a sector leader and one of the most well-regarded disability services in Australia. We know Tasmanians want us to

continue to innovate so we can help provide the best possible opportunities for people living with disability.

The Law Society of Tasmania will work with the profession to encourage people to consider StGiles as beneficiaries of their Will.

For 80 years StGiles has successfully and prudently risen to challenges faced by Government changes to its funding, including the ongoing implementation of the NDIS.

Any donations or bequests made to the StGiles Future Foundation will be set aside to future proof StGiles so that Tasmanians can be assured that the organisation they have helped build for more than 80 years will continue.

Mr Hughes' mother-in-law Kathy Douglas (nee Lynd) attended school and lived at StGiles as a child with polio between the ages of six and 12. "StGiles gave me a good start," Mrs Douglas said.

Mr Hughes said it was important to protect StGiles as a trusted and expert provider of disability services to Tasmanians from all backgrounds.

**Contact Danielle Blewett at StGiles for more information about how you can make a significant donation or bequest to the Future Foundation. Call 6345 7333** 🐦



# Niche MARKET BAZAAR



## Nichemas comes around again

**Launceston Nichemas  
Saturday, November 30,  
Albert Hall, Launceston**

**NW Nichemas  
Saturday December 7,  
Burnie Arts and Function Centre**

November and December will be all about Niche with Christmas markets in Launceston and Burnie.

Niche is a StGiles enterprise where stallholders donate 20 per cent of their day's takings to our services.

Our biggest market each year is Nichemas and this year's Launceston Nichemas is set for November 30 at the Albert Hall.

For the first time our annual NW market will be held in time for Christmas at the Burnie Arts and Function Centre on Saturday December 7.

Each market will have more than 60 stallholders.

Niche 2020 dates will see four Niche Markets in Launceston and a Christmas market in Burnie.



## Harmony Makers Powered by Niche

**Where: Tramsheds Launceston  
When: March 21, 2020  
From: 10am till 3pm**

StGiles has partnered with the Migrant Resource Centre to create a market event to encourage entrepreneurship among people from cultural and linguistically diverse background.

Harmony Makers Powered by Niche will be held at the Launceston

Tramsheds as a focal point of 2020 Harmony Day celebrations in Launceston.

The event will start with a Flag Parade to the Tramsheds and once inside visitors will find elements of Niche, with ethical makers from the Niche Tasmanian made and designed community, working alongside migrant makers looking to find a place in Tasmania's business community.

It is hoped that the event will be self-sustaining and ongoing.

Niche manager Victoria Bayes said Niche was at its heart a place of great quality, integrity and ethic.

"We see opportunities for migrants to learn how to make their way in a commercial, handmade landscape," Mrs Bayes said. 🐦

## Generous donation



*Andrew Billing with Harrison Humphreys Jess Denholm and Tom Harrison*

Each year the team from Harrison Humphreys allocates a portion of their commission to StGiles. This year they gave \$5000 towards early intervention. Pictured are Harrison Humphreys Jess Denholm and Tom Harrison with StGiles chief executive Andrew Billing. 🐦

# NW News from StGiles

## We Can in Burnie

**By Jane Mignot**

Ms Mignot was a participant in *We Can at Devonport*, she wants to use her writing skills in the business world.

**AMAZING : EXHILARATING  
EXPERIENCE : What an Opportunity.**

The program was delivered by Chris and Adam, who were there for the participants.

They were engaging, enthusiastic and had a positive outlook and vision for people with disabilities.

The program was compiled through a series of questions to participants and was well pre-sented in a booklet.

The program went for five days.

Our group would collaborate and listen, support and discuss.

We received great encouragement to excel and get our business established.

We were all grateful and had pride in our achievements. We are so fortunate and grateful to be part of a successful and fulfilling program.

In time, we all discovered and developed our own unique ideas, passions and strengths.

We were only a small group of only three from the North West Coast of Tasmania.

The program was supported by StGiles and government funded.

The *We Can* program was based on useful and relevant information, had business content and knowledge to (help us) establish and to excel and start our business.

The program was effective, basic and achievable.

It was well delivered in only five days.

As participants we all found pride and achievement and a great opportunity.

I hope there is more funding in the future to take part as a participant.

My own experience: I discovered a focus, a direction, confidence and courage and self-awareness.

I hope there are more opportunities.

The program was uplifting, inspiring and I hope it becomes more available.

You may consider being self-employed or start a business and not be sure where to start. I was.

In the *We Can* program we can truly shine. 🐦



CarolAnn Fletcher, Monique Crowden and Jane Mignot with Christopher Bryg and Adam Mostogl. Photo courtesy of The Advocate



# Autism Conference



In June, Kathryn Fordyce (General Manager – DAT & ASELCC) undertook a whirlwind tour of international conferences to present research conducted by the Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centre in conjunction with the University of Tasmania. Kathryn presented at the Asia Pacific Autism Conference (APAC) in Singapore and at the International Society for Early Intervention (ISEI) Conference in Sydney on 2 aspects of the work being conducted by the ASLECC and UTas.

The research is focused on exploring the effective delivery of autism early intervention within mainstream early childhood education and care settings. The ASELCC uses a hub and spoke model to deliver autism-specific early intervention (ASEI) in regional and remote locations where access to early childhood intervention (ECI) professionals is limited. The model builds capacity of early childhood educators under the supervision of ECI specialists.

At the APAC Kathryn presented on a photo interview with educators and at ISEI Kathryn presented on a scoping review, but in both presentations she highlighted the importance of an inclusive culture and service leadership on the readiness of a mainstream ECEC to make the necessary adjustments to their program, built environment, staffing arrangements, policies and practices to allow for child care service to embed ASEI in their service. Kathryn also highlighted the importance of

access to support from specialist staff (like those at the ASELCC) to develop the knowledge and skills of mainstream educators, to support reflective practice, to increase the understanding of the needs of the families of children with autism, to provide coaching and suggestions to adjust teaching and behaviour support strategies, and in guiding the adjustment of the sensory and built environment to be more autism friendly.

The findings of these studies have culminated in the development of the Autism early childhood Intervention in Mainstream centres (AIM) Assessment Tool that helps mainstream ECEC services identify strengths and areas to improve in order to deliver ASI in their service. The tool is currently being tested in mainstream centres across Australia.

**If any service is interested in participating in the trial they can contact Kathryn Fordyce on 6454 1222 or [kathrynfordyce@stgiles.org.au](mailto:kathrynfordyce@stgiles.org.au)**



## Bee Me program

In March this year, StGiles commenced delivering the *Bee Me* program in collaboration with Devonport Child Care Centres (DCCC) at Malangenna. The *Bee Me* program is based on the highly successful and researched Autism Specific Early Learning and Care (ASELCC) model that has run since 2010, in Burnie and sites around Australia, where autism specific early intervention is embedded into child care.

From the moment this collaborative venture was announced, we had loads of interest and we very quickly filled to six children per day. The children (and staff) have lots of fun while learning to communicate, improving their social interaction skills (e.g. asking for help, turn taking, waiting), expanding their diets, learning to self-regulate (e.g. using



zones of regulation), and building independence skills for life (e.g. toileting, asking for help) and school (e.g. tolerating hats, prewriting).

The children have come so far in a short time. We have seen amazing improvements in their eating. We have also included children from the mainstream classrooms in our food play and provided training for

educators and families. There have been fantastic gains in the children's communication skills too – one mum reported how impressed she was that her child could now independently gain the attention of others to ask for help. Teachers from local schools have also visited the program to learn about the autism specific supports being used with the children.

The program is a credit to the committed team of Jessie, Lucy, Makayela, Pam and the greater ASELCC and DCCC team. We are sad to say goodbye to Pam Johns as she ventures one step closer to retirement but are grateful to her contribution to *Bee Me*, the ASELCC and StGiles more generally.

We are thrilled about expanding our intensive early intervention model and can't wait to be able to deliver the service to more children in Devonport and other parts of the state. Big thanks to Devonport Child Care Centres for their commitment to this special program! 🐝

# Crazy Italians are Back

The cycling Italians are back to circumnavigate Tasmania AGAIN. This time for the first week in December, culminating with a return to Launceston the day of StGiles annual Christmas Party in City Park, Saturday December 7.

The team is once again looking for cyclists to join them at any stage of the event.

**If you're keen, contact Yvette Fuser on 0404 679 146 or email: [info@maglianeratours.com](mailto:info@maglianeratours.com)**

## BRIEF ITINERARY

### Thu 28th Nov:

Launceston to Gowrie Park | 108km

### Fri 29th Nov:

Gowrie Park to Tullah | 87km

### Sat 30th Nov:

Tullah to Queenstown | 125km

### Sun 1st Dec:

Queenstown to Tarraleah | 135km

### Mon 2nd Dec:

Tarraleah to Hobart | 128km

### Tues 3rd Dec:

Rest Day in Hobart (this day allow people to join second half or leave first half)

### Wed 4th Dec:

Hobart to Orford | 78km

### Thurs 5th Dec:

Orford to Four Mile Creek| 138km

### Fri 6th Dec:

Four Mile creek to Scottsdale| 140km

### Sat 7th Dec:

Scottsdale to Launceston | 60km  
finish in Launceston's City Park

### Sun 8th Dec:

VIP Guests to Launceston Cycling Festival

### New Route: some changes

1. Rest Day in Hobart
2. Full Option
3. Half West Coast option: Launceston to Hobart
4. Half East Coast option: Hobart to Launceston

## Hobart & Launceston teams came together for Christmas in Winter luncheons.

In Hobart the event was a fundraiser for Jeans for Genes, where in Launceston the team went the whole ham with team members contributing everything from plum puddings, to legs of ham, pavlovas and even ginger beer! 🍷





# WildSpace

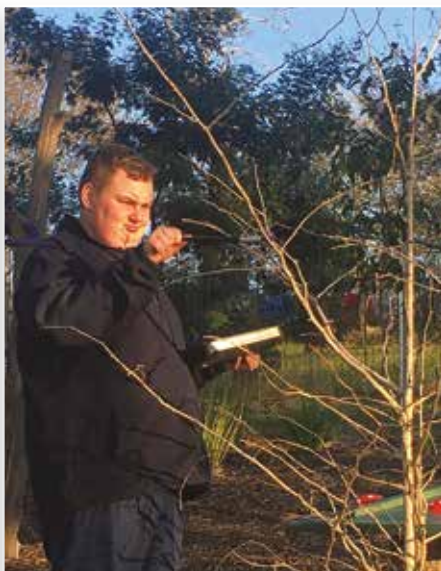
Do you know a community group – adults or children – of all abilities who might benefit from some Wild Play in our new WildSpace at Amy Road?

The space, built with donations from

Rotary, philanthropists and local Trusts, encourages people to take risks in a safe 'play' environment.

Groups, including playgroups, day groups, children or adults can learn more about WildSpace by contacting

[LizzyWest@stgiles.org.au](mailto:LizzyWest@stgiles.org.au) 🐦



# Mark Shelton to Walk to Hobart for StGiles in January

## Change the date!

Lyons MHR Mark Shelton's ministerial responsibilities means he has had to change the date for his massive walk from Longford to Hobart to fundraise for StGiles.

The good news is he's still walking and it will be summer!

Tasmania's Police Minister will start his walk on Thursday, January 9, arriving in Hobart on Monday, January 13.

Minister Shelton raised more than \$20,000 on his last walk for StGiles in October 2017, when unseasonal snow saw him walking through blizzards and torrential rain before arriving in sunny Hobart. 🐦

To find out how you can sponsor Mark contact [society@stgiles.org.au](mailto:society@stgiles.org.au)



Mark Shelton 2017

# Studio Space Showcase

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Sunday 24 November 2pm**

Horton Auditorium

Scotch Oakburn College

Senior Campus

[enquiries@](mailto:enquiries@studiospacetheatreco.org.au)

[studiospacetheatreco.org.au](mailto:studiospacetheatreco.org.au)



**TASMANIA  
CIRCUMNAVIGATION  
CHARITY RIDE 2019**  
NATURE - WILDERNESS - IMMERSION

**st.giles**

**MATES 4 MATES**

Supporting Injured  
Defence Force Mates.

**PROUD SUPPORTER OF  
SOLDIER  
SON**

## RIDE OPTIONS

**FULL VERSION:** 10 days including rest day in Hobart

**WEST COAST:** First 5 days (Launceston to Hobart)

**EAST COAST:** Last 4 days (Hobart to Launceston)

**1 DAY RIDES:** For those who wish to join us for the day

**REGISTER  
NOW  
28th Nov -  
7th Dec**





## Hobart celebrates milestone

How quickly 10 years has flown since StGiles successfully began its paediatric allied health services in Hobart.

We started with a list of 500 children and today that list has grown to more than 2000 each year with more than 20,000 children through our services in the past decade.

To start, we were in buildings at Tower Road, which we leased from the previous provider of services, Calvary Health Care.

The buildings, owned by the Catholic Church, were past their best years and then Chief Executive Ian Wright and our Board concluded a move into our own premises would be cost effective and give us a site that was fit for purpose.

A search began for an appropriate space which led us to Lenah Valley's

Gant Street and a '70s brick building that was a Brethren Church.

It was a generous, flat site and with a grant from the Commonwealth's Regional Development Fund, we worked with architects ARTAS and builders Vos Building and Construction to transform the '70s church into a light-filled, allied health service.

At about the same time (2011), StGiles became aware that the NDIS would be our future, we participated in the Premier's Advisory Group and the NDIS Taskforce – a significant challenge for all of our teams.

We wanted to be ahead of the curve and lead, rather than be passive observers to momentous change. Such philosophy served us well.

The effort required to roll into the NDIS didn't stop us innovating with

projects like the *Little Car Yard* toddler mobility project and *Birst* multi-age and multi-disciplinary fitness, social and therapy group for young people after Botox treatment.

In August, our 10 years culminated with a small celebration for past and present staff at Hamlet in South Hobart.

Through momentous change our teams have always looked for solutions to the challenges faced by the children (and increasing number of adults) who rely on our services.

Our most recent Hobart collaboration sees the clever crew from TADTAS, led by Paul Duncombe, working from a converted container at Gant Street, to create mobility and lifestyle adaptations for all people living with disability.

We are grateful for our 10 years in Hobart and look forward to consolidating our learnings during the next decades. 🐾



