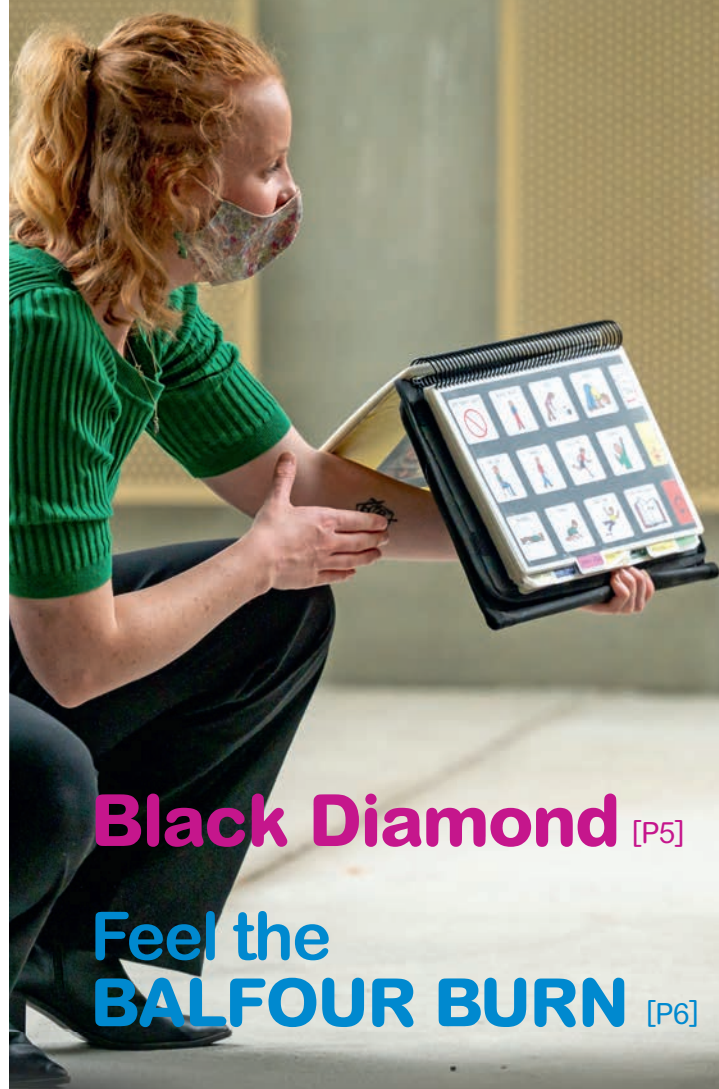


# KIDS CAN'T WAIT

Help us! St.Giles Appeal



**Black Diamond** [P5]

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# Our Resilience



by Chief Executive  
Andrew Billing



On December 13, St.Giles turns 85.

Like many 85-year-olds, we are resilient.

We are resilient because of the many thousands of people over four generations who have recognised and supported the great value that St.Giles brings to Tasmania.

As an older Tasmanian, St.Giles is also a great storyteller.

We've got many wonderful stories of those we have supported, worked with and alongside. Stories from our experience of history as well. Wars – WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan – and pandemics, polio and now COVID.

We've also seen the strength and optimism of generations of Tasmanian children and their loving families, facing the most challenging circumstances with bravery and resilience.

Today's children will have remarkable stories to tell.

Last year, Linden, pictured, helped us with the Tassie Face Mask Project. He showed children that wearing a mask was cool.

The stories Linden's generation tells will be remarkable:

"The streets were empty. New York. Paris. London. Beijing. Billions of people in 'lockdown'.

"Yes. 'Lockdown'. When we were forced to stay indoors.

"The entire population of Melbourne was locked down for more than 300 days."

Will our children also talk about the Russian invasion of Ukraine I wonder?

"We feared WW3 because Russia invaded Ukraine and threatened the safety of the planet."

I know a young man, aged 25, who, after two years in lockdown – working from home, living with his parents – decided he would pack a suitcase and hit the road.

He went from Launceston to Darwin – as far as he could from home – just like his grandfather from Belgium in 1939.

What his and Linden's generation will learn, through these very challenging times, is resilience.

As we move through this year, we hope it is within your ability to donate to St.Giles.

Through these 85 years we've been able to be resilient, to continue to offer the supports and expertise needed by generations of children because people like you know who we are and believe in what we do.

Stay safe and as always, thank you.



# Keyworker therapy model

St.Giles keyworker therapy model is giving our teams the chance to build trusted therapeutic outcomes for children with developmental delays or disability.

The model brings trans-disciplinary teams together, co-ordinated through a single point of contact – the keyworker – to benefit the child.

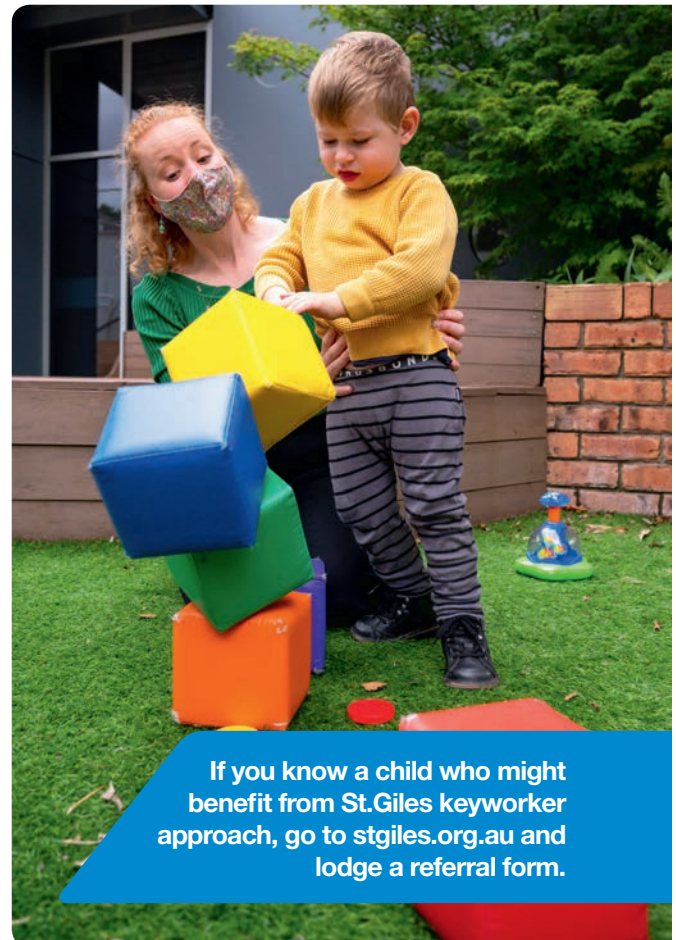
“It’s about establishing a trusting relationship and co-ordinating what used to be disparate services,” St.Giles manager allied health, Nadine Davies said.

## THIS IS HOW:

- The child and family can engage, participate, learn, and practice skills in their familiar, everyday environments.
- The child and the family feel accepted in their community and feel welcomed and supported to engage in their activities/environments of interest.
- The child and family develop a positive view of self and feel connected and contribute to their community.

## THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS:

- The child is supported to engage in everyday family routines, participate in the family’s natural environments and are included in community activities and settings.
- Families and the client experience improved wellbeing and connectedness and reduced stress.
- The child’s health and development is supported and/or enhanced.
- Families feel a sense of hope and purpose regarding their child’s future.



## What we value

Our values are at the core of everything we do. They form the foundation of our shared beliefs and inform the culture of St.Giles. They are enduring. Believing in them leads to a better workplace.

### And most importantly...

They are what lead us to being at our best.

**Intentional:** We choose to engage in our work with purpose and presence, putting people first.

**Optimistic:** We choose to see the opportunity in every challenge, supporting each other to find understanding and learning.

**Collaborative:** We commit to partnering at all times with those we serve and work alongside.

**Accountable:** We choose to follow through with actions, taking pride and ownership as we strive for collective results.

**Uncomplicated:** We make things simple, enabling people to achieve success efficiently, effectively and safely.

# Future Fund

**Q: Who will develop future disability technology?**

**A: St.Giles Future Fund**

**Necessity has always been the mother of invention.**

**Today, the freedom Rohan Eastley enjoys is because of innovation and invention.**

People living with disability have the right to communicate and be mobile; to be properly included in society.

The invention of assistive technology – like digital communication for non-verbal people or power wheelchairs that provide real freedom – has never been funded by Government.

Technology, like Rohan's power chair (below) is an example of innovation and invention at its most awesome.

The 18-year-old from Deloraine is familiar with powered mobility.

His first power wheelchair gave him playground freedom.

It was a bright yellow beast of a chair that he called Bumble Bee, named after his favourite Transformers' cartoon character.

Rohan's Bumble Bee was robust and powerful, and it put him 'out' in the world. Rohan became included.

The very first power chair was built in the 1950s by Canadian inventor George Klein, for WWII veterans.

Contemporary power chairs are sophisticated and give children and adults freedom never imagined.

St.Giles wants to build a financial resource that funds invention and innovation – St.Giles Future Fund. The fund will be managed independently.

St.Giles Chief Executive Andrew Billing said:

"We believe that investing in innovation is the key to unlocking meaningful social inclusion for

people living with disability.

"While the NDIS has created new opportunities, it isn't designed to fund innovation or infrastructure.

"The NDIS will fund some assistive technology, but not its invention.

"The NDIS is about the here and now, rather than the future."

St.Giles is asking individuals of 'high-net-worth' to invest in our Future Fund to make Tasmania a leader in assistive technology, innovation and invention that will unlock the exciting potential of young people like Rohan.

Visionary Tasmanians established St.Giles.

It is our hope that people of vision with the financial means, will be excited by their potential to change lives by investing in St.Giles Future Fund.



**To learn more please contact [andrewbilling@stgiles.org.au](mailto:andrewbilling@stgiles.org.au) or, [danielleblewett@stgiles.org.au](mailto:danielleblewett@stgiles.org.au) to arrange an appointment.**

# Black Diamond

**Discussions have started to bring Black Diamond dinner back to St. John's Church Launceston.**

If agreed, St. Giles hopes to host the dinner to start its 85th year on Friday, September 9.

Black Diamond was last held in St. Johns in 2016 and 2017 with black-tie guests seated within the spectacular nave.

Guests will be encouraged to wear Venice Carnival inspired masks. Tickets will be \$190 per person and include a five-course dinner and matching wines.

"The masks, especially within the Regency-Gothic space, will be a stunning sight and will be a little tongue in cheek reference to these years of COVID," event organiser Danielle Blewett said.

**If you'd like to register your interest in attending the dinner please email [danielleblewett@stgiles.org.au](mailto:danielleblewett@stgiles.org.au) tickets will go quickly once the event is confirmed.**



## New Niche Manager



St.Giles Niche Market has a new manager.

Bridget Sullivan Arkless, former curator of Fine Art at Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, took over from Niche manager Victoria Bayes in March.

"Victoria's more than five years managing Niche was a season of consolidating the event as a highlight at the top end of Tasmania's events calendar," St.Giles General Manager Profile and Engagement Danielle Blewett said.

"Bridget brings another dynamic skill set – she is one of Tasmania's most highly-respected arts administrators with an eye for design that has been honed from working with many of our island's finest visual art practitioners."

Mrs. Sullivan Arkless' first Niche was May 7 at the Tramsheds.

"I will be doing everything I can to grow the quality and sustainability of Niche," she said.

"It is an honour to apply my experience to such a worthwhile institution as St.Giles and a unique Tasmanian event, Niche."

Niche will maintain its high quality, health-safe model, developed since 2020.

"We will stay capped at 30 stallholders," Mrs Sullivan Arkless said.

"Visitors will certainly find their old favourites alongside innovators."

**st:giles** BECAUSE - KIDS CAN'T WAIT

**PLEASE donate to our Mid-Year Appeal.**

65 Amy Road, Newstead, 7250  
[www.stgiles.org.au/fundraising/please-donate/](http://www.stgiles.org.au/fundraising/please-donate/)



# Balfour Burn becomes annual event

**In March, 347 people ran up Balfour Street and raised a staggering \$12,651.**

We have to say a loud and very clear thank you to the event's major sponsors, Routleys Menswear and Paneltec.

Their support means every dollar goes to disability equipment.

As any community group understands, the costs of events often overtake profitability.

Between them, Routleys and

Paneltec have taken the event out of struggle street. It is now a viable fundraiser for children with disability.

The dollars raised from the Balfour Burn will go towards mobility options like frames, and other devices to help children move in physiotherapy and occupational therapy sessions.

Another element that made this year's Balfour Burn the best (so far) was offering people the chance to pay a single \$20 registration and run or walk as often as they wish.

We were amazed that so many people, especially children, ran three, four and up to six times!

The Balfour Burn is finally sustainable. It delivers loads of fun as well as focused benefits to children with disability.

**The next Balfour Burn will be held on March 19, 2023**

**BTW the fastest dog, Max the border collie. The slowest dog... a greyhound.**



# THANK YOU



# New chair of St.Giles' Board – Christine Arnott

A life journey of service to social justice was unavoidable for the new chair of St.Giles Board, Christine Arnott.

Growing up in Sidmouth the youngest of three daughters, free-ranging across apple orchards, she was raised real and confident: Real because she noticed not everyone in her surrounding community was as fortunate as she and confident because her parents, Mary and Bruce Hewitt, made it clear she would be educated. Well educated.

That meant that in grade six she joined her sisters Jillian and Joscelyn as a boarder at Oakburn College.

At Oakburn she was paired with legendary educators and feminists; Mollie Campbell-Smith and Caryl McQuestin.

Young Sydney academic Germaine Greer was in Britain, and feminism was on the rise.

"I soaked it all up – my parents believed girls needed an education and an occupation. Mum and Dad said, you can be and do anything you like, girls," Mrs Arnott said.

"I wanted to do social work – I knew of people who were hungry, I knew of people who were doing it tough – those less fortunate than ourselves."

Social work study became Family Law and Mrs Arnott graduated from the Tasmanian School of Law in 1984.

Married to lawyer, Geoff, the pair returned home to Launceston.

"I was doing a lot of work with young mothers and in Child Protection ... I was comfortable with feminism, and I believed in what feminists were trying to achieve – fairness and equity in the way women were treated and equality I felt all people deserved."



The couple first encountered St.Giles when their son, Robbie – a prominent Australian writer with a flair for magic realism – was in kindergarten.

He was throwing his pencil to the floor – frustrated.

"He could not get his ideas from pencil to page."

His teacher Annette Mead suggested he come to St.Giles to test his fine motor skills.

St.Giles occupational therapy provided Robbie with one-on-one fine motor skills therapy, including Lego, and with a pencil grip.

In three months, he started to take those ideas from his imagination to the page.

"It was amazing," she said.

Mrs Arnott felt she had more to give and in 2019 approached St.Giles General Manager Profile and Engagement, Danielle Blewett.

"I joined (St.Giles Board) because I had finished up at Scotch Oakburn and wanted to volunteer again with a worthwhile organisation," Mrs Arnott said.

After three years' service, Mrs Arnott was elected as chair of St.Giles board in late 2021.

## Maglia Nera Cycle Tour of Tasmania's East Coast

More than \$2000 was raised by a group of interstate cyclists who toured Tasmania's East Coast for a week in February.

After a two-year COVID break a group of 11 riders struggled with wind, rain and ultimately sunshine when they arrived in Hobart.

The ride's organiser, Yvette Fuser, is friends with a family who used St.Giles services and for five years she has been organising rides where a portion of revenue is donated. Yvette's energy has contributed more than \$10,000 to our services.





# From Fromelles to ANU – Lachlan Moore’s resilient life:

Lachlan Moore’s is a great story of resilience.

Extract from his interview with Bridget Sullivan Arkless, Heart to Heart is about his trip to Fromelles:



*“In year 9 a few classmates and I were encouraged to enter The Frank McDonald Essay Prize.*

*“I won that and my friend, probably my best friend, he won too. My teacher, Dr Clements, was one of the teachers to go overseas with us. So that was probably the highlight of my life so far and I’ve had an amazing life!*

*“I researched a relative who served in Gallipoli who was injured and then died in the Battle of Fromelles. I got to drill into his story and write the story of his life. It was so rewarding. We went to the memorial at Fromelles, and I got to read out the letter I had written on my reflections. On top of that, the cohort on the trip all bonded and got along so well.*

*“I feel like I never really thought much about Anzac Day or about war. Winning the prize had given me a whole new perspective on war and ultimately how costly war is. It probably also gave me a lot of confidence and independence, travelling overseas without my parents. That was a big thing, I was only 15 years old. It was beyond incredible.*

*“We went to Villers-Bretonneux. That’s a feeling I will never forget. We had the dawn service there and we got to lay a wreath which was incredible. We travelled through the Western Front, so France and Belgium.*

*“It definitely gave me a much bigger appreciation for history and even politics.*

*“It was politics that proved his passion and Lachlan is now studying political science at ANU.*

*“It was scary to think about moving away, especially with a disability. There’s so many unknowns and challenges. I think Mum and Dad made me go, ‘No, I can do this. I’ve got in [to ANU]. This is what I should do. I just have to give it a go!’*

*“I guess politics is, I think, one of the most effective ways you can make change. I think I’ve always been fascinated by what drives people to get into politics.*

*“More broadly just how people think about the world, what is important to them that shapes their view of the world and of life and politics.”*

## ABLED Kitchen and Harvest



St.Giles, Sandy’s Sourdough and FermenTasmania’s idea of a sourdough social enterprise for people with disability has been expanded with pasta and pizza bases made and sold at Harvest Market in March.

*“We know people with disability can be entrepreneurs,” St.Giles Danielle Blewett said.*

*“The ABLED Kitchen products will show the very best of Tasmanian produce and social inclusion.”*

Harvest Market manager Rhys Hannan said the integrity of social inclusion and local food production was an ethical fit for the market.

He said the market was excited to offer a pathway to a successful social enterprise for Tasmanians living with disability who participated in ABLED Kitchen.

St.Giles, FermenTasmania, Sandy’s Sourdough and Harvest provided bread and pasta making skills as well as sales opportunities for six adults with sensory challenges.

ABLED Kitchen is part of the Disability Innovator Hub and funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund.

The 2022 ABLED Kitchen programs will be delivered by Josh Crisp of Sandy’s Sourdough and Lauren Brown of FermenTasmania.



# The More Things Change – St.Giles 85th

Esteemed Life Governor Emeritus and former Board Member Arthur Dobson reflects on another significant period in St.Giles history – the de-institutionalisation of people with disability:

*“The first major (disruption) one in my mind was the de-institutionalisation, when the accommodation was discouraged and people with disabilities were put out in the community, quite often without the support they needed.*

*“It seemed ridiculous to me to have people that required all sorts of aids to assist with their living that could be provided in a place like St Giles, where lifts and chairs and exercise equipment all that could be provided for a vast number of people, but you couldn’t provide that equipment in the home.*

*“It was very sad.*

*“There were so many people who fell through the gaps.*

*“And whenever there was a change in government policy there were gaps and people fell through. I found that very annoying and very frustrating.*

*“A lot of older people in the community, older than me, still can’t accept that St Giles can’t provide the services it used to.*

*“It does the best it can. It does a damn sight better than most organisations do, as far as value for dollar, but it’s just the way the world is.”*

Extract from Heart to Heart 85th Interviews by Bridget Sullivan Arkless. To be released in November 2022.



## LAUNCH

By Adam Mostogl, Illuminate Futures

LAUNCH is an entrepreneurial leadership program, developed by illuminate Futures, to build the innovative capacity of individuals and organisations within the Tasmanian disability sector.

Funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund and part of the Tasmanian Disability Innovator Hub, it is open at no cost to anybody working in the sector.

“During 2021, even with the challenges of COVID, we were

excited to help to spark and inspire entrepreneurial opportunities and innovation within the Tasmanian disability sector,” LAUNCH facilitator Adam Mostogl said.

Based on 2021’s success, little needs changing for 2022.

Everyone provided fantastic feedback about the program, both around building their own capacity but also with a focus on how they can use it to support people with disabilities. This impact will roll

out over years to come, but in the short term we have already seen Eskleigh Foundation run a car show on site in Perth in November which came directly from the LAUNCH program, and Launceston Support Services have started their social events again developed during the LAUNCH program.

**For more information contact  
illuminate Futures: 0438 810 733**



# Photographer's contacts prove useful for St.Giles

by Scott Gelston

In a previous life, I was a photographer with The Examiner newspaper. Now a digital co-ordinator with St.Giles.

A decade of covering news and sport across Tasmania led to meeting some amazing people from all walks of life, but perhaps more importantly it helped build and foster relationships within the community.

It was once said to me that people who originate from an island, identify more with their island than with their country.

The Balfour Street hill might be a world away from the French Alps, the streets of Hamburg or the pitch of the WACA, but athletes who have excelled far from home haven't forgotten Launceston's steepest street.

In 2020, Commonwealth Games gold medallist Jake Birtwhistle dropped the swimming and cycling elements of triathlon and ran up Balfour Street in a very brisk one minute twelve seconds.

Fast forward to 2022 and World Tour race and stage winning cyclist Richie Porte flew up the hill after completing one of his famous Scottsdale Loop training rides.

While current ICC match referee and legend of Australian Cricket, David Boon, took time to send a video call-out for people to enter the Boonie Burn.

Ask any of these high-profile athletes where they're from and they'll almost always answer with Tasmania rather than Australia.

When we need someone to promote what we're doing at St.Giles there are any number of Tasmanians willing to use their profile to help us get our message out; it's not just restricted to sportspeople.

Musicians, politicians, actors, chefs, entrepreneurs, wine makers – they know the power of community and they know about the value of St.Giles.



Richie Porte on Balfour Street.

## Plantation Donation

Before Christmas 2021 the Branhholm Community Plantation Committee, donated \$10,000 to St.Giles.

The donation, delivered by Tim Barrett from Scottsdale, will be used for rehab and disability equipment for children using our state-wide, Assistive Technology and Mobility Service.

The Plantation Committee was formed to grow timber for charity and since the '60s, on 15ha of donated land, pines and gums have been planted, harvested and sold with dollars donated to Tasmanian charities that help children.

[Tim Barrett with St.Giles' Andrew Billing.](#)  
PS. Tim injured his arm fishing!





# St.Giles NW Therapy Services, Burnie

St.Giles is passionate about our early childhood intervention services and we are proud of our Burnie team.

Formerly the ASELCC, the service started in 2010 out of the Commonwealth's desire to create an early childcare model with therapeutic support for children diagnosed with Autism.

On January 28, St.Giles ceased providing early childcare from its Burnie centres.

We wanted to do more and be more for NW children and their families and carers.

St.Giles NW is now available to all children with disability who could benefit from our team's therapy

expertise, including children diagnosed with Autism.

In Burnie, children are now offered therapy in groups or as individuals, just like St.Giles in Hobart and Launceston.

Children's time at Queen Street is enriched with speech pathology and occupational therapy.

As well as being more financially sustainable, the service has welcomed children of all ages into various therapy sessions.

For 85 years, early childhood intervention and therapy services have been the heart of St.Giles and we are excited about the difference we can make in the lives of children and their families on the NW Coast.



## Everyone. Loves. Niche.

Late last year we took Niche to the paranapple convention centre at Devonport.

The crowd and the beautiful venue exceeded our wildest dreams of how Niche could work on the Coast. We are so grateful to the City of Devonport for their fabulous complex.

This year we will have two Niche markets at the paranapple on Saturday, September 24 and on December 10.

And Launceston at the Tramsheds on May 7 and 26 November

### NICHE '22 DATES & VENUES

#### LAUNCESTON – TRAMSHEDS

Saturday May 7 – 9am till 3pm

Saturday November 26 – 9am till 3pm

#### DEVONPORT – PARANAPPLE

Saturday September 24 – 10am till 2pm

Saturday December 10 – 10am till 2pm

## Planned St.Giles 85th Activities

### SEPT 2022: Black Diamond Venice Carnival (TBC)

St. John's Church Launceston – black tie dinner within the nave of one of Tasmania's most glorious cathedral-like settings.

### NOV 2022: City of Hobart Heart to Heart

Waterside Pavilion, St.Giles photographic exhibition and storytelling

### DEC 2022: Heart to Heart Book Launch

With author Bridget Sullivan Arkless

### DEC 13, 2022: Simultaneous statewide 85th birthday cake celebrations

HeART to HeART Art sessions (CBA-funded) at Gant Street, Amy Road and Burnie.



Black Diamond will be a (fun) masked event – Venice Carnival style.