



SU News

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More Lives Transformed By Jesus



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Welcome

As we approach the middle of the year, I'm encouraged by both the strength of our current ministries and the clarity God is giving us for the season ahead.

Following a time of listening, reflection and prayerful planning, we are preparing to launch our new Strategic Plan (2026–2029) on July 1. This plan builds on the rich foundations of Scripture Union while setting a clear and focused direction for the future. At its heart, our vision and mission remain unchanged: to see children, young people and families encounter Jesus, grow in faith, and live for him.

In shaping this plan, I've often reflected on Paul's words in

1 Corinthians 3: "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow."

This image captures the nature of our ministry so well. Across camps, schools and missions, we each play different roles—planting, watering, nurturing—but ultimately it is God who brings growth.

Our strategic priorities reflect this shared work.

We are seeking to **grow our movement** by raising up more volunteers and deepening partnerships with churches and communities.

We are committed to **strengthening our movement** by investing in people, structures and systems that support long-term sustainability.

And we are aiming to **increase our impact** by expanding our reach—particularly through ISCF and SUPA Clubs in state schools.

We will continue to grow our camps and missions as well as innovating new ways to continue engaging young people where they are.

These goals are ambitious, but they are grounded in a simple truth: faithfulness in the small things matters. Every conversation, every relationship, every moment of care or encouragement is a seed sown.



And as we each play our part, we trust God to bring growth in ways we may not immediately see.

As we prepare to launch this plan, I want to thank you for your part in this shared work. Whether you are planting seeds, watering faithfully, or supporting behind the scenes, you are part of what God is doing through Scripture Union.

My prayer is that we will continue to serve with humility, unity and expectancy—trusting that in his timing, God will bring a harvest.

Thank you for your continued partnership.



Jim Wackett
Chief Executive Officer
Scripture Union NSW



The Word Doesn't Stay Within Boundaries



Written by: Leanne Gim,
SU NSW Marketing Assistant

Walking back into the Collaroy Centre after five years away felt incredibly nostalgic. As a former member of Highlite – the lunchtime group at Hornsby Girls High School – and a Normsby ISCF regular, I knew this place. What I didn't expect was how much God had continued to work here long after I'd left school, with my faith taking me in new directions.

The welcome was immediate. And once people realised I was an ex-Hornsby girl, something settled – a shared history, a shared group, and underneath it all, a shared foundation in Christ. That connection made it easy to sit down with students and ask the real questions:

How's school, how's faith, what has ISCF meant for you?

For many of them, the lunchtime group is simply a safe place. Somewhere to bring your faith out into the open, play games, and build friendships across year groups. It wasn't so different from my own experience – which was quietly encouraging in itself.

What did surprise me was the reach of it. Despite the camp carrying the Normsby name (combining Normanhurst Boys High and Hornsby Girls High), students from other schools also came.

The gospel, it turns out, doesn't respect school boundaries.

I saw that confirmed when I later attended the Normsby ISCF meeting at St Peter's Anglican Church in Hornsby and those same students walked through the door again, ready to worship, listen, and discuss.

Equally moving was seeing ex-students – now juggling university and everything that comes with it – give up their time to plan and lead the camp with genuine joy. Older brothers and sisters in Christ make an immeasurable difference. One Year 12 student pulled me aside to ask how I'd navigated faith at university. To speak truth and love into a moment like that is both a privilege and a responsibility I don't take lightly.

And then there was the moment that makes everything – every hour of planning, every sacrificed weekend, every lunchtime group – completely worth it.

One student put their trust in Jesus for the first time. One life, one eternal decision.



And Normsby wasn't alone that weekend. Across town, North Sydney Boys and Girls were gathered at their own ISCF camp, the same Spirit moving through an entirely different group of young people at the very same time.

Refuel camp also passed by in May - bringing together students from Epping Boys High, Cheltenham Girls High and Carlingford High. We don't know exactly what God has planned for all the students who attended - but if these camps are anything to go by, we have every reason to expect him to work in amazing ways.



Train & Plan 2 x



In collaboration with Alpha Youth, Aywan, Dani and Bella led students through the Life Essentials course - practical, grounded guidance on how to run a lunchtime group well at their own school. The students arrived curious and left motivated, filling even their free time with questions for the Alpha Youth team and the SU NSW staff who were there alongside them.

But it wasn't just about what they learned. The connections first formed at Train and Plan 1 deepened over the course of the day - not only between leaders and students, but between the students themselves, building friendships across schools that will quietly strengthen the work each of them goes back to do in their own school.

One student went home and told his father about it. His father emailed us.

His son, he said, had come back inspired - more determined than ever to keep going with his lunchtime group, even when it's hard. That email said more than any debrief could.

With two more Train and Plan events still ahead this year, we're excited! God has used this space before. We have no doubt he'll use it again.

Register for our next *Train & Plan*: Monday 20th July 2026





Through the Lens

Stories from a volunteer on the field.



This Autumn, 400 campers and leaders connected across 10 camps – fishing trips, rugby fields, kitchen tables, horse riding trails – and at the centre of every single one, the Word of God. We were lucky enough to have SU NSW volunteer Rowan there to capture some of it.

Camera in hand across Rugby League Camp, GENTS, and Ride Like A Girl, Rowan moved through moments that are hard to manufacture.

At Rugby League Camp in Tamworth, the days ran to a rhythm of sport drills and Bible study, led in part by ex-Canberra Raiders player Alan Tongue – a local boy whose faithful presence brought an easy authenticity to the whole week.

The activities filled the days, but it was the quieter moments – kids leaning into Scripture, conversations with leaders that clearly meant something – that Rowan kept coming back to.

Young leader Tim, once a camper himself, was a living picture of what happens when the gospel takes root in a young life.

“

I've decided to follow Jesus because I've learnt how much he loves me.

- Judy*, camper

GENTS camp was gloriously chaotic – tribes, laser tag, competition – and somewhere inside all that noise, God was doing something real.

One boy, having recently put his trust in Jesus, asked the leaders if he could share his testimony with everyone. They helped him shape it, and when he stood up and spoke, it landed.

Another moment Rowan couldn't shake was a boy with a disability being genuinely, unselfconsciously embraced by the other kids. The kind of community, he said, that only makes sense when you understand that every person is made in the image of God.

Ride Like A Girl was new territory for Rowan—he'd never photographed the camp before. But amidst these confident riders, he witnessed girls finding their identity not in performance, but in who God says they are. They were becoming confident in faith as much as in riding.

“

Camp was so much fun! I enjoyed every part of it.

- Max*, camper

Different camps. Different kids. Different activities drawing them through the door. But one message, faithfully spoken, all Autumn long.

*pseudonym used



A Family, a Beach, and the Boundless Reach of God's Word

Last summer, God used Scripture Union NSW missions to help 73 people make first-time commitments to Jesus or to recommit their lives to Him.

But the seeds sown on mission continue to bear fruit long after the tents have been packed up, and teams have returned home.

What does it look like when God's Word travels beyond the boundaries of a mission site? Ask the SU Beach Mission team who served in Port Macquarie this past summer — because one family's story is a beautiful reminder of exactly why we do what we do.

A Berowra family, with no Christian background, happened to be holidaying in Port Macquarie over Christmas when they came across the Port Macquarie SUMMERLIFE team led by Emily and Ethan Williamson. The team welcomed them with such genuine warmth and

kindness that the family was deeply moved. As they spent time with the team, they learned that many of them attended a church in Sydney — a small detail that God had already purposed to use.

Every day brought fruitful gospel conversations. And it was incredible partnering again with the local church.

– Sarah*, volunteer

Back home in Berowra, something stirred. The family decided to visit the local church they had driven past countless times but never entered. At St. Marks Anglican Church in Berowra, they were met with the same open arms. They felt at home. They kept returning — every single Sunday — and even joined the church's weekend away at Lake Macquarie in March.

From last-minute challenges to a larger team than ever — God went before us in every detail.

– Jack*, volunteer

The father and his adult stepson then completed a five-week evangelistic course, and in late March, both men gave their lives to Jesus.

A beautiful beach. A warm welcome. An authentic conversation. And two lives transformed — exactly the kind of fruit every SU NSW volunteer prays for and works towards.

This is the boundless nature of God's Word — it travels further than we can see and works deeper than we can measure. Thank you, SU NSW community, for being faithful instruments of that grace.



Register for Winter Camps

This winter, camps across NSW invite young people to grow, connect, and be challenged! Whether it's creativity and craft, farm life and shearing, rugby skills and competition, or leadership training—each camp creates an environment where students can encounter Jesus alongside peers who share their journey.

Express your interest & find out more about upcoming camps:
sunsw.org.au/camps




Right now, young people across NSW are searching for meaning, purpose, and hope. And there is a growing opportunity to help answer their questions about Jesus

**MORE SCHOOLS. MORE STUDENTS.
MORE LIVES TRANSFORMED BY**

JESUS

Will you partner with us today to reach more schools, more students, and see more lives transformed by Jesus?

Ways to Give:

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