



SU News

SPRING EDITION 2026

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A
GENERATION
on the move



Welcome

Some of the most encouraging moments of my time with SU NSW over the last 13 months has been meeting the young people who volunteer and lead in our various gospel ministries. Their love for sharing Jesus, and their passion, creativity and energy is inspiring.

It is young people like this who have always been at the forefront throughout history, when God has chosen to renew His church and advance His mission.

The Great Awakening in the eighteenth century was fuelled by young leaders such as George Whitefield, who began preaching in his early twenties. The Welsh Revival of 1904-05 was sparked by a 26-year-old coal miner named Evan Roberts. In the twentieth century, student movements and university revivals ignited renewed passion for Christ, global mission and evangelism. **Time and again, young people have not simply participated in movements of renewal. They have helped lead them.**

This pattern should not surprise us. Young people often bring a willingness to dream, courage to act and openness to God's leading.

They ask fresh questions, challenge complacency and inspire others to step out in faith.

Today, there are encouraging signs that God may be stirring a new generation. Across parts of the Western world, churches are reporting growing numbers of young adults exploring faith, attending church and seeking answers to life's deepest questions. While every generation faces its own challenges, there is also fresh opportunity.

At Scripture Union NSW, we have the privilege of investing in that opportunity every day.

Through our schools ministry, camps, Beach Missions, leadership development initiatives and partnerships with local churches, we are helping children and young people encounter Jesus, grow in Christian maturity and discover how God can use them in His service.

Our aim is not just to develop the emerging leaders of tomorrow. It is to encourage and equip the leaders God has already raised up today. **And we do this knowing we stand on the strong shoulders of Scripture Union leaders from previous generations over the last 140 years.**

As we look to the future, let us continue praying for the young people of NSW. The next generation of Christian leaders, evangelists, disciple-makers, missionaries and faithful servants is already among us. And if history teaches us anything, it is that God often chooses the young to help lead His church into a new season of mission and renewal.



Jim Wackett
Chief Executive Officer
Scripture Union NSW



REFUEL Camp 2026



From Delegates to Leaders:



THE LASTING IMPACT OF LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

What happens when you invest in a young person's faith during the most formative years of their life? According to Harry Pallett, Co-Director of Leadership Conference (LC) Tamworth, the fruit can last a lifetime — and ripple far beyond the camp itself.

Harry first attended LC Tamworth in 2021, drawn in through connections made at Hunter Boys Ag Camp while working as a ministry assistant at Stockton Anglican Church.

What does Leadership Conference actually do in the life of a young person?

"LC Tamworth equips driven youth to be servant-hearted leaders wherever God may call them. It proclaims the good news of Jesus to struggling or unsure youth in what can be a very difficult season of life. LC Tamworth warns graduating youth about the dangers of the world and helps them develop stronger patterns of prayer and Bible reading."

Those patterns don't stay at camp. Harry has watched delegate after delegate carry what they received at LC Tamworth into schools, churches, missions, and ministry contexts across NSW. One story in particular captures the quiet, steady power of what God does through a week at camp.

Can you share a story of a delegate whose growth has encouraged you?

"One delegate who has now graduated had a great story in that he was very shy and wouldn't stay on site his first year. The following year he grew more confident to be on his own, and to even do some things in front of others. Eventually we found out that he had been leading a Bible study with non-Christians from his quite hostile public school. John was a great encouragement to see a shy young person stepping into evangelism and the service of others despite the risk."*

Stories like John's* are exactly why the SU NSW community is now prayerfully considering a second LC site. But for Harry, the growth seen in delegates is never something LC can take credit for.



PRAY FOR LC TAMWORTH

For succession planning, for growing contingents from Dubbo, the Mid North Coast, and the Hunter, and for the Lord's guidance as SU NSW discerns the possibility of a second site.

Why do you think LC continues to produce leaders who give back year after year?

"LC Tamworth is at the mercy of God. We simply continue on in faith and prayer that he will bless its fruit. I suspect that ongoing commitment comes from a desire to give back in such a way that others can receive what we've received. LC Tamworth is a place where youth can deeply think about, live out, and grow in their faith."

The fruit of Leadership Conference doesn't stay in

Tamworth. As you'll read in our next story, one former LC delegate has taken what he learned and carried it all the way to the beach – stepping up as a mission leader and serving the next generation with the same servant heart God and LC helped shape in him.

*pseudonym



Read the full
interview online



Co-Directors of LC Tamworth:
Nick (Left) and Harry (Right)

Winter Camp Highlights

Check out what we got up to on our recent camps and some encouraging messages from the community! We thank everyone who served, prayed and attended.

"I don't know what the future holds but I know that God will be in my future."

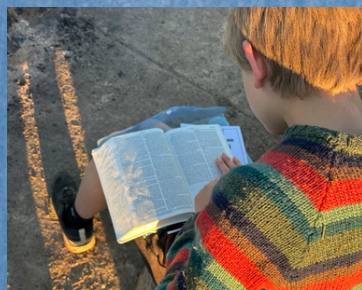
– Pins & Needles Camper

"Girls in the small groups were so excited to share and ask questions about God. They were so thankful to all the leaders for running a camp like this."

– Create & Connect Port Macquarie Team Member

"My two highlights were the new leaders and their input and the testimonies from three leaders that were entirely different, quiet, subdued on Friday and then Saturday they were a buzz, open, chatty, interacting with each other."

– Bake Off! Team Member





Ready or Not

OSCAR BALDOCK ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT TO LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE.

In 2022, the then 17-year-old from Maitland had his ticket booked — until a phone call changed everything. A surgery date had opened up. The same week as conference. He cancelled his ticket.

A year later, his friends convinced him to try again. He got a ride with a youth leader, made it to Tamworth, and walked into something he wasn't quite prepared for.

"I was surprised by the loving closeness of the community at Leadership Conference. By the end of the week I had spoken to everyone and made many long-life friends from just a week."

But it was Thursday night that shifted something deeper. Testimony night — lights down, chairs in a circle, people sharing raw and honest stories of God's grace — left Oscar genuinely moved.

"It opened my eyes to how hard it is to live in the world we're in and how truly we need God's love and mercy in our lives."

What he learned at LC he carried directly into serving. Oscar first joined Stockton SUFM through his best friend Caleb — alongside mutual friends, several of whom he had met at Leadership Conference. What began as a desire to spend his holidays doing something meaningful quickly became something much more.

This January, Oscar returns to the Tamworth Country Music Mission for the third time — stepping into a bigger role, helping oversee the kids club so volunteers can focus on what matters most: connecting with the kids in front of them.

For anyone sitting on the fence about whether they're ready to serve, Oscar has a simple answer drawn from his own experience:

"Something I heard when I first started serving was 'God equips the called, not calls the equipped.' If God is calling you to it, he will provide the what, when, where, who, why. You just need to trust him and he will set you up for success."

And across NSW this summer, a whole generation of young people just like Oscar are packing their bags, showing up, and stepping into something bigger than themselves — ready or not.



FROM STUDENT TO DIRECTOR:

Gil's Journey Through Schools Ministry

Not every leader can trace their story back to a primary school lunchtime. Gil Corr can. We sat down with SU NSW's newly appointed Schools Ministry Director to hear about the journey that brought him here — and what he believes God is doing in schools across NSW right now.

Where does your story with SU NSW begin?

As a student at Matthew Pearce Public School, Gil was part of a SUPA Club that planted seeds he didn't fully understand at the time.

"I remember having fun, thinking the Pastor who volunteered was really cool and I enjoyed the songs and the games," he recalls. "I remember feeling like it was a safe environment for me to spend lunch."

And that experience stayed with you?

The safe environment became a foundation. Gil went on to volunteer as a lunchtime group leader at Asquith Girls and Boys — now Asquith High School — where he discovered what happens when students are given space to wrestle with faith on their own terms.

"I remember being really grateful that lunchtime groups provided extra space to connect with students, encourage them, pray, and explore questions of faith in a less structured and more organic environment."

Looking back, where do you see God's hand in that journey?

Those years in schools — first as a student, then as a volunteer — shaped the person now stepping into the role of SU NSW's Schools Ministry Director.

And Gil is clear about who deserves the credit.

"I think God has been really faithful in growing me through this journey to have a greater compassion and perspective for the many stakeholders Christian ministry has in public schools. I'm grateful I've been in the shoes of both these stakeholders."

What excites you most about this new role?

"The most exciting thing for me is to champion and support student leaders. To encourage, support and raise the next generation in living on mission wherever they find themselves gives me great joy."

What does a generation on the move actually look like in schools?

"Movement is active. It involves growth, change and transformation rather than standing still. Ultimately, that's what discipleship looks like: people continuing to take their next step toward becoming more like Jesus."

GIL'S PRAYER POINTS

For my family and I as we adjust to new rhythms in work and life

That there may be a new season of favour for volunteers in and looking to be in schools

That God might use Lunchtime groups to draw many young people into a saving faith in Christ Jesus



From left: Deema, Sam, Suzanne, Meredith, Gil
The amazing volunteer team at Matthew Pearce + Gil



2026 SPRING CAMPS BOOKING NOW!



**JOIN US ON CAMPS FULL OF FRIENDSHIP, FUN
ACTIVITIES AND LEARNING ABOUT GOD'S LOVE!**



Blokes at Bexhill
11 - 12 September
Men 16-90 Years

Bike Camp
26 Sep - 2 Oct
Years 9-12, Girls & Boys

Boys Ag Camp
26 Sep - 3 Oct
Years 7-12, Boys

Cricket Camp
27 - 30 September
Years 5-9, Boys (Girls day
only)

North Coast Junior Ag Camp
27 Sep - 2 Oct
Years 7-10, Girls & Boys

**REBOOT Computing and
Technology Camp**
6 - 9 October
Years 7-12, Girls & Boys

Football Camp
8 - 10 October
Years 5-9, Girls & Boys

Junior Bike Camp
8 - 11 October
Years 7-8, Girls & Boys

Boys Adventure Camp
13 - 15 November
Years 6-9, Boys

REGISTER NOW

[sunsw.org.au/camps/
upcoming-camps/](https://sunsw.org.au/camps/upcoming-camps/)



**There's more to the stories
than what fits on the page.**

Head to Latest News on our website to read Oscar and Gil's full interviews — and to discover more good news stories from across SU NSW's camps, missions, and schools. Together, their stories capture something profound about what it means to invest in the next generation and trust God with the fruit.

SCAN HERE

