

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

WHAT'S BREWING ACROSS SOUTH EAST TASMANIA – 2026



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Department of Social Services

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

WHAT'S BREWING ACROSS SOUTH EAST TASMANIA

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We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands where these conversations took place. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and to the children and young people who carry hope and possibility for the future. We recognise the enduring strength, resilience and wisdom of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to meet, listen and learn on Country.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

A cuppa, a biscuit and a conversation about what matters most



How it all started

For almost 20 years, Communities for Children South East Tasmania, facilitated by The Salvation Army, has worked alongside local families, schools, services and community organisations across Brighton, Derwent Valley, Central Highlands and Southern Midlands. Along the way we've learned something important – communities know what they need, if someone takes the time to ask and really listen.

When the Department of Social Services announced a new approach to supporting children and families, we saw it as an exciting chapter. We also saw it as the perfect opportunity to pause, pull up a chair and tell our communities about these changes and to ask what they thought should come next.

In times of
uncertainTEA &
possibiliTEA it makes
sense to have a cup
of TEA!

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

A cuppa, a biscuit and a conversation about what matters most

So, what exactly is a Travelling Tea Party?

Imagine less “formal consultation” and more “chatting around the kitchen table”.

With tea, coffee, biscuits and plenty of curiosiTEA, we hit the road and visited community halls, Child and Family Learning Centres, schools, community hubs, local events and gathering places across the region. Some conversations involved a handful of people around a table. Others happened in busy community spaces filled with families, children and service providers.

The idea was simple: create welcoming spaces where people could talk openly about what helps children and families thrive, what challenges they're facing and what they'd like to see in the future.



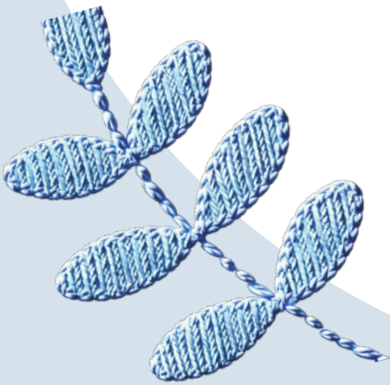
As one tea party friend put it:

"Connection is the biggest thing - to be connected to people who are about you and your child."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Not just for adults

We had a pleasant surprise at the Ouse Family Fun Day (April 2026), when children quickly decided they wanted to be part of the conversation too. Armed with textas, butcher's paper and toy tea sets, they shared their ideas about their communities, their experiences and what would make life better for children and young people. It was a timely reminder that children are experts in being children – and often have insights adults might miss. And if we don't listen to carefully, we can miss the point as we tend to adultify their conversations.



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What did we want to know?

We entered the Tea Parties with a specific list of research questions, but to be perfectly honest, the script went out the window for almost every tea party! Instead, the Travelling Tea Parties focused on a more natural conversation and people sharing ideas and stories about what helps children, young people and families thrive?

Through conversation, stories and shared experiences, we explored what empowers parents and caregivers, what helps children grow into healthy and resilient adults, the challenges families face, and the programs, services and community support that make the biggest difference. The insights shared shaped the themes and stories captured throughout this report.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What did we hear?

Although every community had its own unique stories and experiences, some common themes emerged again and again. People talked about the importance of belonging, trust and relationships. Many described the impact of local services, schools, volunteers and community spaces that take the time to build connections with families.



As one Tea Mate captured this perfectly:

"Workers need to work with community, not for community."

Another reflected:

"Trust is slow to build; people will only share with those they trust."

Our Tea Party friends repeatedly highlighted the importance of listening to families and working alongside them rather than making assumptions about what they need.

"Families need to be listened to, not done to."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Tea Party by the numbers

Between February and May 2026, the Travelling Tea Party made its way across South East Tasmania.

The scorecard looked something like this:

- More than 240 people joined the conversation.
- 14 Tea Parties, community conversations and stakeholder gatherings were held.
- Conversations took place across Brighton, Southern Midlands, Central Highlands, Derwent Valley and Sorell.
- Approximately 100 cups of tea and coffee were consumed.
- Somewhere in the vicinity of 200 biscuits were gratefully devoured.
- Countless stories, ideas, challenges, hopes and opportunities were shared.
- We saw new connections and friendships blossom.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY



A recurring message throughout the Tea Parties was that children need more than their basic needs met. They also need opportunities to dream, belong and aspire.

As one tea party friend put it:

"Children need aspiration, dreaming pathways."

And another:

"They don't know how to dream, they don't feel like they have permission to dream."

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Families told us they are experiencing significant challenges. Rising living costs, housing insecurity, limited transport options, and difficulties accessing services were common themes across nearly all communities. Both adults and children spoke about the impact these issues are having on their daily lives.

Many conversations spoke about the pressure families are currently under.

"Cost of living is putting huge pressure on families."

"Some are forced to go back to work because they can't afford not to work."

"Affordable housing draws people, but then there is no services."



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

"If families are empowered and workers work alongside each other, better outcomes occur."



"Stong Communities for Strong Families!"

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What makes a difference?

Across every community, our Tea Party Friends shared examples of what is working well. They highlighted trusted local workers, Child and Family Learning Centres, community events, early intervention programs, and local services that stay long enough to build strong relationships and trust.

Participants also expressed a desire for similar hub-based support for children aged 6-12 and young people aged 12-17, and their families. Families in communities with a Child and Family Learning Centre spoke about the significant positive impact these centres have and saw value in extending this successful model to support older children and young people.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

"It takes a village to raise a child."

"Children need aspiration, dreaming pathways."



"Being given time – parents and children always remember the gift of time."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Three of the communities visited have a State Government funded Child and Family Learning Centre, providing a clear example of the benefits of sustained, place-based support for families.

Many participants echoed the idea that resilience isn't about simply getting by.



As one Tea Mate told us:

"Resilience is more than survival mode."

Another reflected on the role communities play in helping families thrive:

"If families are empowered and workers work alongside each other, better outcomes occur."

And perhaps one of the most memorable observations from the entire Tea Party journey was:

"If you contribute, you might help us steep the tea or percolate the coffee."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

The biggest takeaway

The communities were different.

The venues were different.

The biscuits were different (in a good way).

And some folks were very clear that they would prefer a Coffee, Lemonade, or Can of V, to a cup of tea, but the message was remarkably consistent.

People want children to feel safe, loved and connected. They want parents and caregivers to have support when they need it. They want communities where people know each other, services that work together, and opportunities for children and young people to thrive.



Or, as Participants told us time and time again:
"It takes a village to raise a child."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What we heard along the way

The insights shared in this report reflect the conversations our Tea Party Friends had with community members during the Travelling Tea Party journey. They provide a snapshot of what people shared with us at that point in time.

While we heard many valuable experiences, perspectives and ideas, this report is not intended to be a comprehensive list of every strength, challenge or opportunity within each community. Rather, it captures the themes that were most commonly raised and the stories people chose to share with us.

Every community has many stories to tell, and these conversations represent just one part of that broader story.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

"Families need to be listened to, not done to."

"Resilience is more than survival mode."

"If you contribute you might help us steep the tea or percolate the coffee."

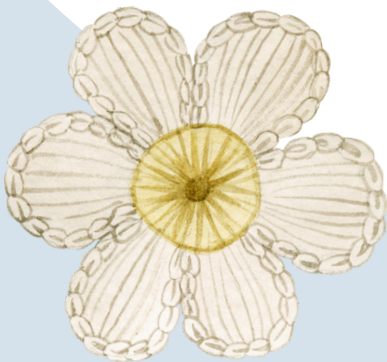


THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Brighton Snapshot

Children and families in Brighton talked a lot about the importance of connection, support and having places where families feel welcome. The Child and Family Learning Centre was seen as a key strength, helping parents meet other families, access support and reduce isolation.

Participants said that when parents are well supported, children do better too. Early intervention, parenting support, community events and affordable activities were all seen as important for helping families thrive.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Brighton Snapshot

Our Tea Party Friends highlighted the importance of services being visible, accessible, and connected to their communities. In some areas, families and local providers were unaware of services funded to provide outreach support or had experienced changes in how those services were delivered, without being provided with updates. These discussions reinforced the value of clear communication, strong local relationships and a consistent community presence so families know where and how to access support when they need it.

There was also strong concern about the challenges families are facing. Cost of living pressures, long waitlists for services and ongoing disadvantage were common issues. Participants felt there are not enough programs and opportunities for children once they move beyond the early years, particularly for young people aged 6-17 years. More arts, recreation, youth programs and community spaces were identified as key needs.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in Brighton?

WHAT HELPS FAMILIES THRIVE?

- Strong community connections & social support
- Child and Family Learning Centre (CFLC) as a trusted hub.
- Parenting programs, playgroups & peer support.
- Early intervention and access to paediatricians & specialist services.
- Practical support such as volunteering pathways, childcare & opportunities for parent respite.
- Free community events and affordable family activities.

WHAT HELPS CHILDREN THRIVE?

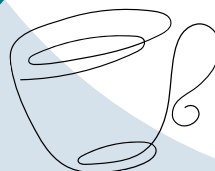
- **Early socialisation.**
- **Early assessment, diagnosis and support.**
- **Trusted local workers.**
- **Strong parent-child relationships.**
- **Access to inclusive schools and support services.**

WHAT MAKES LIFE HARDER FOR FAMILIES?

- Cost of living pressures.
- Long waitlists and poor access to services.
- Lack of support for fathers.
- Social isolation.
- Schools perceived as less welcoming for families.
- Lack of services and community infrastructure, particularly in Gagebrook.

WHAT GETS IN THE WAY FOR CHILDREN?

- Intergenerational disadvantage.
- Social isolation.
- Poor service access, i.e. transport.
- Unsupportive or non inclusive school environments.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in Brighton?

WHAT'S WORKING WELL?

- HIPPY program.
- LIFT literacy program.
- Live Wires program.
- Under One Rainbow events.
- Community events.
- Workers who live locally.
- Parent-to-parent support models.

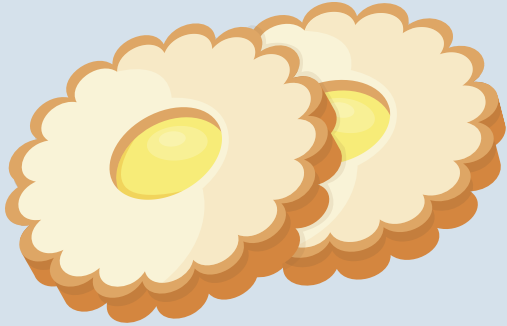


WHAT WOULD MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE?

- More services for 6-17 year olds.
- More arts and music opportunities.
- Better support for young mothers.
- Improved school capacity for complex needs.
- More community facilities and service locations.
- Greater inclusion and reduced stigma between communities in the Brighton LGA.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in Brighton?



Youth Service Gaps

- "There are still gaps in service delivery for the middle years, once they are over 5 - there is little on offer."
- "We've lost lives out here because kids felt lost."

Challenges Facing Families

- "Intergenerational disadvantage, it just keeps going down through the generations and the cycle keeps going."
- "Parents and children both end up feeling unwelcome at school."

Service Access and Trust

- "Workers need to work with community, not for community."
- "Please workers - don't wear stilettos and take off your lanyard!"

Parent and Caregiver Support

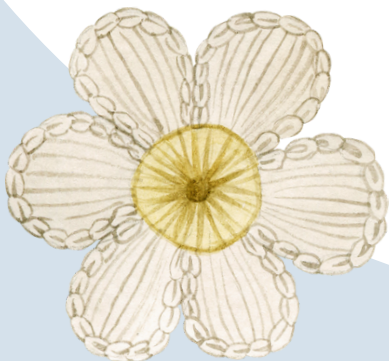
- "Connection is the biggest thing - to be connected to people who care about you and your child."
- "If you have strong healthy parents you will see strong healthy kids, it's as simple as that."
- "Parents need a break in order to be good parents."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Central Highlands Snapshot

Central Highlands Participants spoke positively about living in a close-knit rural community. They valued the natural environment, community spirit and the way people support each other. Local events, community activities and practical services were all seen as important for helping families feel connected and supported.

At the same time, people spoke about the challenges of living in a remote area. Limited access to services, transport difficulties, mental health, domestic and family violence and health supports, housing and recreation opportunities were all raised. Participants wanted more activities for children and families, better facilities and stronger support for people experiencing hardship or isolation.



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What was shared over a cuppa in The Central Highlands?

WHAT HELPS FAMILIES THRIVE?

- Safe play spaces and free community activities.
- Word-of-mouth support and community networks.
- Childcare and babysitting.
- Practical community supports.
- Strong local services such as pharmacy, GP and Police.

WHAT HELPS CHILDREN THRIVE?

- Community participation.
- Access to healthcare and early intervention support.
- Recreational opportunities.
- Safe environments.
- Social connectedness.

WHAT MAKES LIFE HARDER FOR FAMILIES?

- Lack of accessible local play equipment and activities.
- Poor promotion and communication, ie just reliant on social media.
- Cost of living pressures.
- Limited ambulance coverage.
- Housing & workforce shortages.
- Limited access to services and long travel times.
- Lack of public transport.
- Family and domestic violence without adequate support services.

WHAT GETS IN THE WAY FOR CHILDREN?

- Isolation.
- Dangerous roads and travel challenges.
- Limited mental health support.
- Lack of affordable local activities.
- Reduced outreach services.
- Long travel distances to access support.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in the Central Highlands?

WHAT'S WORKING WELL?

- Rural Alive and Well.
- Area Connect transport.
- Community fundraising.
- Local champions and volunteers (including the local hairdresser).
- Free community events.

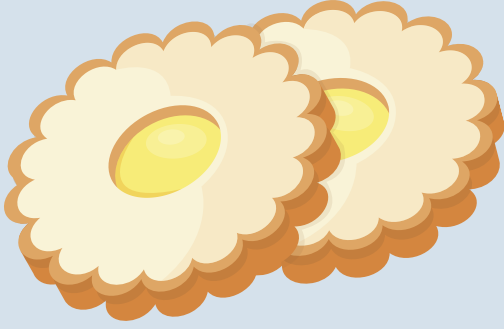


WHAT WOULD MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE?

- More accessible sport and recreation facilities.
- Better playgrounds.
- More childcare and after school care.
- Improved local infrastructure.
- Greater Council responsiveness.
- More youth activities.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in The Central Highlands?



Community Aspirations

- "Community wants a walking group and an exercise class where kids can come too."

Community Connection

- "Love the country."
- "Beautiful natural environments."

Service Gaps

- "Family and domestic violence - and no services to address this or transport available if needing to escape quickly."

Frustration with Infrastructure

- "Dangerous playgrounds"
- "Sport and recreation - there's nothing."

Rural Barriers

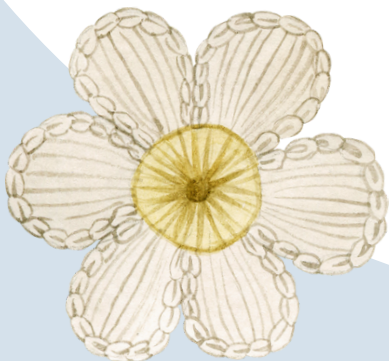
- "Some are forced to go back to work as they can't afford not to work."
- "Affordable housing draws people, but then there is no services."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Derwent Valley Snapshot

People in the Derwent Valley spoke strongly about the importance of community, belonging and feeling connected. Participants said families do best when they know where to go for help, feel supported by their community, and have access to trusted services. Community events, parent support programs, and local services that build relationships over time were all seen as important strengths.

Participants also reflected on the positive impact that sustained, place-based approaches can have over time. In a community that has benefited from a Child and Family Learning Centre for more than 15 years, many spoke about the value of collaborative approaches that empower children, families and services to work together, and the positive ripple effects this can have across the community.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Derwent Valley Snapshot

Our Tea Mates talked about the challenges facing local families, including cost of living pressures, housing stress, family violence, poor transport and long standing cycles of disadvantage.

Trust was a strong theme throughout the conversations, with people saying families are more likely to seek help when services are local, consistent and take the time to build genuine relationships. Participants also spoke about the importance of helping children and young people feel hopeful, valued and able to imagine a positive future.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in The Derwent Valley??

WHAT HELPS FAMILIES THRIVE?

- Community connection and belonging.
- Knowledge of services and how to access them.
- Trusted relationships and long term engagement.
- Safe, non judgemental spaces.
- Transport and practical support.
- Community pride and identity.
- Child and Family Learning Centre.

WHAT HELPS CHILDREN THRIVE?

- Feeling safe and connected.
- School attendance and educational engagement.
- Positive role models.
- Strong community networks.
- Aspirations and opportunities.
- Being listened to and understood.

WHAT MAKES LIFE HARDER FOR FAMILIES?

- Cost of living pressures.
- Housing insecurity.
- Transport barriers.
- Employment pressures and multiple jobs.
- Social isolation.
- Intergenerational disadvantage and trauma.
- Adult literacy challenges.
- Misogyny and cultural barriers.
- Mental health concerns.
- Absence of safe, welcoming places where children aged 6-12 and young people aged 13-17 can connect, learn and access support with their families.

WHAT GETS IN THE WAY FOR CHILDREN?

- Poverty and housing stress.
- Family violence.
- Intergenerational trauma.
- Lack of aspiration and opportunity.
- Young people feeling unheard or negatively perceived.
- Social exclusion and disengagement.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in the Derwent Valley?

WHAT'S WORKING WELL?

- Child and Family Learning Centre.
- Kids and Teens in the Valley programs.
- School holiday activities.
- Tuning into Teens/Kids.
- Community events and festivals.
- Long term trusted local services.
- Collaborative community networks.

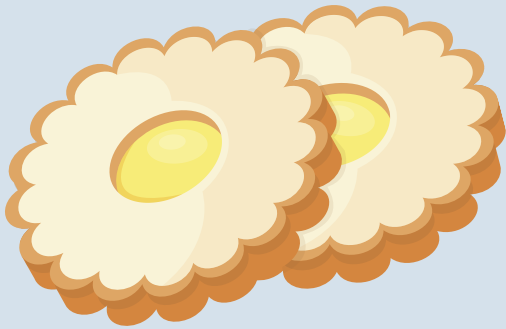


WHAT WOULD MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE?

- Better promotion of services.
- More face to face outreach.
- Increased long term funding.
- Reduced siloed service delivery.
- More youth-led programs.
- Stronger trust-building approaches.
- More locally based services rather than outreach only models.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in The Derwent Valley?



Education and Opportunity

- "Children value education and attend school/are happy to attend school."

Community Culture

- "There is an attitude that we don't deserve good things here."
- "Tall poppy syndrome - don't get above your station, know your place, or you will be cut down."

Community Connection & Belonging

- "Connected families - Connected communities."
- "Being part of a community & feeling it."
- "Knowing people and being known."

Trust and Relationships

- "Trust is slow to build; people will only share with those they trust."
- "Services need to develop relationships and trust with families first."

Challenges and Disadvantage

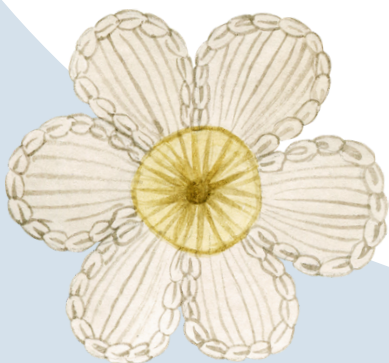
- "They don't know how to dream, they don't feel like they have permission to dream."
- "Cost of living is putting huge pressure on families."
- "Family and domestic violence is such a massive issue in this country - the impacts are so wide ranging and deep."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Southern Midlands Snapshot

People in Southern Midlands spoke about the important role schools play in supporting children and families. Schools were seen as more than just places of learning – they are often where families connect with services, health supports and community activities. Participants highlighted the value of different organisations working together to provide coordinated support for children and families.

The biggest challenges raised were linked to living in a rural area. Families often struggle with transport, housing and accessing specialist services. People also highlighted a lack of opportunities and services for teenagers and older young people. There was a strong message that communities need trusted local workers, long term programs and services that work together rather than operating separately.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in The Southern Midlands??

WHAT HELPS FAMILIES THRIVE?

- Schools as community hubs.
- Wraparound and integrated support systems.
- Early intervention.
- Childcare and after school care.
- Access to sporting and recreational opportunities.
- Local leadership and coordination.

WHAT HELPS CHILDREN THRIVE?

- School based wraparound supports.
- Positive peer connections.
- Mental health support.
- Opportunities to participate and build resilience through challenge.
- Strong school-community partnerships.

WHAT MAKES LIFE HARDER FOR FAMILIES?

- Difficulty obtaining diagnosis and specialist support.
- Housing shortages.
- Transport barriers.
- Limited access to childcare and holiday care.
- Parental mental health challenges.
- Limited service access for rural families who must travel for support.

WHAT GETS IN THE WAY FOR CHILDREN?

- Poor service access due to living in a rural area.
- Lack of transport.
- Mental health issues.
- Disconnected service systems.
- Lack of support for teenagers and older youth.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in the Southern Midlands?

WHAT'S WORKING WELL?

- Hub models, including the Oatlands Community Hub.
- Therapy dogs in schools.
- Skilled local workers.
- Collaborative service networks.

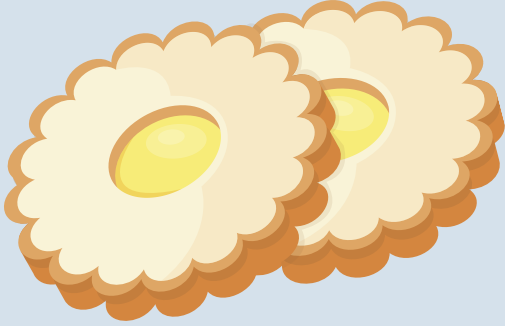


WHAT WOULD MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE?

- More services for young people aged 14 years plus.
- Better transport solutions.
- Longer funding cycles to ensure continuity of services.
- Stronger collaboration between schools and external providers.
- More consistent service delivery.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in The Southern Midlands?



Importance of Schools

- "School community/small community - school is key."
- "Wrap around approach is crucial."

Youth Support Needs

- "No services for 14+ years in Southern Midlands; they've been left out."

Community Strengths

- "Skilled local workers who know all the 'young roosters' and ask them what they want."

Rural Disadvantage

- "Many families who really need it don't access the services in the city due to their capacity, anxiety/trauma."

Funding Concerns

- "Short term funding cycles are a big problem - just get a program established and then funding ends."

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Sorell Snapshot

In Sorell, people talked about the value of trusted local services that make it easy for families to access help when they need it. The Nest Child and Family Learning Centre was highlighted as a welcoming and well used service that connects families with information, support and specialist services. Early intervention and access to assessments and diagnosis were seen as particularly important.

A major concern was the lack of support and activities for older children and teenagers.



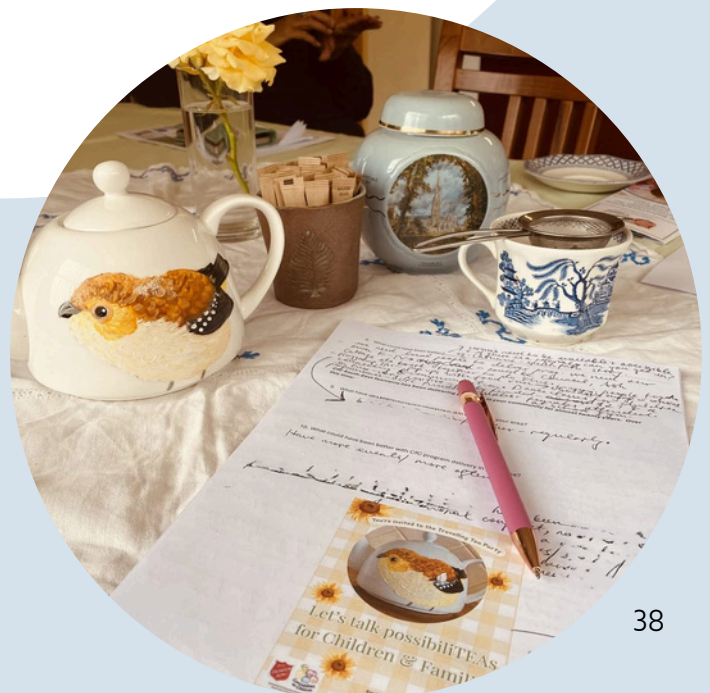
THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Sorell Snapshot

Participants identified gaps in mental health supports, psychology services, allied health services and transport.

There was a strong desire for more opportunities that help young people connect, build confidence and develop a sense of belonging. Many people spoke about challenges that can be hidden from view.

While Sorell can appear relatively advantaged on paper, community members felt that some families are experiencing significant disadvantage that isn't always visible in the data and is not picked up in the SEIFA index.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in Sorell?

WHAT HELPS FAMILIES THRIVE?

- Continued support beyond the early years.
- Access to developmental assessments and diagnosis.
- Wraparound services.
- Trusted community hubs such as The Nest Child and Family Learning Centre.

WHAT HELPS CHILDREN THRIVE?

- Early diagnosis and specialist support.
- Trusted community spaces.
- Strong social capital and support networks.
- Youth pathways and training opportunities.

WHAT MAKES LIFE HARDER FOR FAMILIES?

- Lack of psychology services.
- Shortage of paediatricians.
- Financial barriers.
- Transport issues.
- Limited activities for older children and young people.

WHAT GETS IN THE WAY FOR CHILDREN?

- Delayed diagnosis.
- Lack of youth activities.
- Poor transport access.
- Mental health challenges.
- Limited allied health and NDIS support.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in Sorell?

WHAT'S WORKING WELL?

- The Nest Child and Family Learning Centre.
- Salvation Army programs.
- Trusted local workers.
- Emerging youth and employment initiatives.

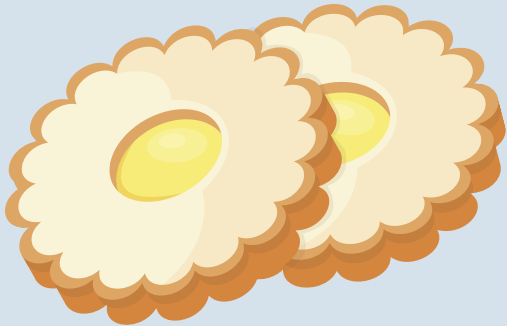
WHAT WOULD MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE?

- Programs for 6-12 and 12-17 years.
- Transport services.
- Psychology and Occupational Therapy access.
- More arts and non sport activities.
- Stronger youth mental health supports.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What was shared over a cuppa in Sorell?



Mental Health and Diagnosis

- "Parents who would benefit from psychology, knock on effect and children who carry the load when untreated."

Youth Gaps

- "What is missing? - gaps for 6-12 year olds and 12-17 year olds."
- "Little activities for upper primary and youth who are not into team sports."

Importance of Trust

- "Trusted source for both new parents and grandparents."

Model of Success

- "The Nest has two paediatricians visit fortnightly."
- New parents go to The Nest and are comfortable that someone there will know and be able to support."

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Reflections from the Communities for Children South East Tasmania Steering Committee

The committee is made up of up of parents and caregivers with lived experience along with service providers and Community Partners.

What a great conversation we had – 7 cups of tea plus 2 online cuppas – no biscuits this time, just berries & bananas!

Strength was a very important topic in what helps children and families to thrive – strength in community connections – strength in attachment between child and caregiver – strength in supports and access to the ‘right tools.’



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Reflections from around the Tea Table: Salvation Army - Divisional Headquarters (DHQ) Hobart

As part of the Travelling Tea Party journey, we also gathered with Salvation Army staff and leaders at DHQ, Hobart to reflect on the themes emerging across Tasmania.

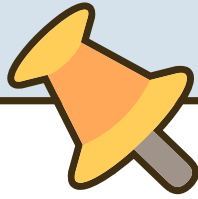
The conversation reinforced many of the messages shared by our Tea Party Friends, including the importance of trusted relationships, strong communities, and services that are visible, connected and responsive to local needs. Participants also reflected on the challenges many families face, including cost of living pressures, housing insecurity and accessing support.

There was a strong sense of optimism about the strengths within communities and the difference that long term, place based approaches can make. Participants highlighted the importance of continuing to listen to children, young people and families, and creating opportunities for their voices to shape future services and supports.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

Cross-Local Government Area Themes



The strongest themes appearing across all LGAs were:

- Cost of living and housing stress.
- Transport barriers in rural and regional communities.
- Need for trusted relationships and community connection.
- Early intervention and early diagnosis.
- Service gaps for middle years and teenagers (6-17 years).
- Importance of locally based place-based services.
- Intergenerational trauma and disadvantage.
- Need for longer term funding and sustainable programs.
- Value of Child and Family Learning Centres and hub models.
- Strong demand for coordinated wraparound services rather than siloed delivery.

THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

What Happens Next?

The conversations don't end here. Everything we heard through the Travelling Tea Parties will help shape the next chapter of The Salvation Army's work. The stories, ideas and experiences shared by our Tea Time Companions will help inform future programs and priorities under the Department of Social Services' new Child and Family Services Program.

Most importantly, the voices of local children, families and communities will remain at the centre of what comes next.

Later in 2026, we'll be hosting a series of community data parties. These conversations are a chance for local people to come together, share what they know about their community, explore what the information tells us, and what it misses. We know that statistics only tell part of the story, so we're creating space for community knowledge, lived experience and local stories to help shape a fuller picture of our communities. Together, we can help influence the services, funding and opportunities that support local children, families and communities. If this sounds like something you'd like to be part of, we'd love to hear from you. Please email the Communities for Children team cfctas@salvationarmy.org.au and we will pop you on the invite list.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY

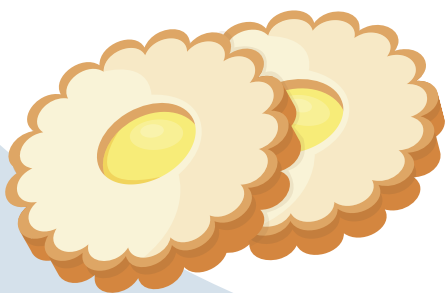
But before we put the kettle and the tea pot away, we want to say Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who joined a Travelling Tea Party, shared a story, completed a questionnaire, offered an idea, or simply sat down with us for a cuppa and a chat.

We heard stories of challenges, strengths, hopes and possibilities. We laughed, reflected, learned and gained a deeper understanding of what matters most to children, families and communities across South East Tasmania.

A special thank you to all of our Tea Time Companions for your honesty, generosity and trust. Your experiences and ideas are woven throughout this report and will help shape our future work to support children, young people and families.

To everyone who pulled up a chair, shared a biscuit, picked up a marker, or stopped by for a conversation – thank you.



THE TRAVELLING TEA PARTY



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