

I ♥  
Mowbray!

**Mowbray**  
ABCDE Learning Site  
Report  
2019-2020

*Learning Sites enable a community to identify their assets, build connections, and create change in the heart of the community.*

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# Mayor's Message



I am pleased to deliver the City of Launceston's Mowbray ABCDE Learning Site Report. The report is reflective of the City of Launceston's commitment to the northern suburbs region alongside the My Place My Future plan as part of the Launceston City Deal.

The City of Launceston is dedicated to ensuring members of our community are respected, listened to, bring new perspectives and know they all play a meaningful role in our community. Council commends the work of the Mowbray community in participating in and identifying initiatives and projects. Their contribution has been influential in informing and advising both local government and the broader community about what is important to them, and this information is utilised to create future prosperity in their suburb.

The ABCDE Learning Sites have provided the approach and resources to work collaboratively over the past several years with the suburbs of Rocherlea, Ravenswood and most recently Mowbray. In future, Council aims to continue this approach working in different suburbs across Launceston.

I hope you enjoy reading this report.

**Albert van Zetten**  
Mayor  
City of Launceston

# From Peter Kenyon



It was a week in late July 2019 when I had the opportunity of spending time in the great community of Mowbray. That week entailed three community workshops-

a full day Café Conversation with 40 passionate residents and community members at the Tasmanian Turf Club facility and two school based workshops with over 100 energetic and creative students at Mowbray Heights Primary School and Launceston Church Grammar School. All three events illustrated the passion and civic commitment of Mowbray residents, their pride in their neighbourhood, and their aspirations for positive futures that could be created for all community members.

Utilising the oldest tool known in community building, namely 'conversation', those community dialogue gatherings generated both an identification of the community's rich array of assets - physical, cultural, economic, organisational and above all, people - and so many practical aspirations and tangible ideas about what they wanted to retain, change and start in their neighbourhood. What excited me the most, was the consistent message that change needed to be 'an inside job' - local leadership, collaboration and community driven initiatives combining to make things happen, rather than any dependence on the 'Calvary from outside'. Subsequently, as this publication illustrates, the community of Mowbray over the last nine months has converted those aspirations and assets into a set of exciting development initiatives

that has strengthened community life.

Their motivation and actions provide a wonderful role model for other communities across the country.

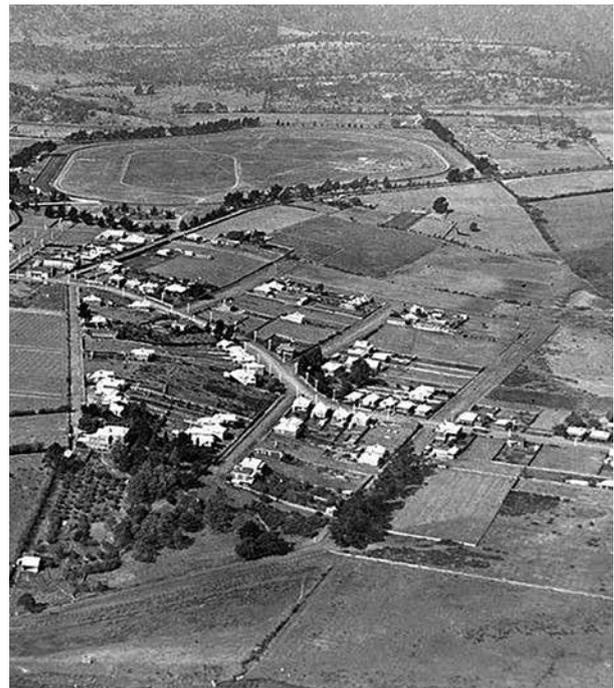
Congratulations to the City of Launceston and their committed and energetic Community Development staff for believing in, and supporting citizen inspired and driven initiatives.

To Mowbray residents - both young and old - can I thank your creativity, motivation and actions which I know are providing inspiration and a role model for other communities across Australia.

Well done!

**Peter Kenyon | Director**  
Bank of I.D.E.A.S

*(Initiatives for the Development of Enterprising Action & Strategies)*



*Image of Mowbray pre 1927*

# About the Learning Sites



The City of Launceston has collaborated with the Bank of I.D.E.A.S to deliver three Asset Based Community Driven Effort (ABCDE) Learning Sites in the northern suburbs of Rocherlea, Ravenswood and Mowbray.

The Learning Sites enable a community to identify their assets, build connections, and create change in the heart of the community to benefit those living within the area. The approach is about focusing on 'what's strong, not what's wrong' and empowering local citizens to make change.

As one of the first local governments to embrace this approach, the City of Launceston has worked with local leaders within the suburbs to identify, connect and mobilise their assets in order to take action, make positive change and directly shape their own community's future.

## How it works

The core strength of the ABCDE Learning Site approach is that it enables people to change practice, by practising the change. In essence, the approach operates around the following principles:

- Every context is different, the challenge being to learn what works best for each unique location. It is not a defined 'cookie-cutter' model – it is place-based, adaptive, responsive, and innovative in a way that closed models cannot be.
- The wisdom of local people always exceeds the knowledge of the experts.
- Relationship building is viewed as the fundamental activity of community building.
- The starting point for community building is 'what's strong, not wrong', thus the focus on

assets, capacities, abilities and possibilities, rather than needs, deficiencies, disabilities, and problems.

- The challenge is for community members to move from being treated as customers, consumers, clients, and patients in others' programs and services, to co-owners, co-producers, and citizens in the design and implementation of actions that build their communities as healthy, caring and inclusive places and groups.

The City of Launceston Learning Sites occur over a 12 month period based on the recommended eight touchstones then the work continues beyond the time frame. Council engages a Community Connector for this period to guide the community through the process.

## The 8 Touchstones...

- Recruiting a community connector
- Finding a community builder team
- Hosting conversations to discover assets and what people care about
- Engaging local groups and associations
- Building connections through social interaction activities and shareable community opportunities
- Visioning and planning by asking 3 key questions
  1. What can we do?
  2. What do we need outside help with?
  3. What do we need outside agencies to do for us?
- Implementing change (doing and reviewing)
- Foster celebration.



# Mowbray

A Launceston Learning Site suburb is made up of people who live, work, and visit the suburb. Participation in the Mowbray Learning Site was open for anyone to be involved in and totally inclusive.

Mowbray is a suburb of Launceston with a population of 3,733. Mowbray has the highest proportion of multicultural residents in Launceston from communities such as Bhutanese, Nepalese, Chinese, and Myanmar. There is a far larger business district and diverse population in Mowbray including many UTAS students. Alongside Rocherlea and Ravenswood, Mowbray also rates one of the highest proportions of unemployment in Launceston.

Mowbray is another completely unique, vibrant, compact, well-connected suburb. It has two large schools, a racecourse, a branch of the Northern Suburbs Community Centre, and many organisations and businesses. It's a hub, a main thoroughfare to the city and a place where people from diverse backgrounds meet.

The following statistics from the 2016 Census about Mowbray deviate significantly from the overall Tasmanian and national figures:

Category	Mowbray	Tasmania
Population never married	47.4%	33.7%
Aged between 20 - 24	13.6%	5.9%
Bachelor degree or higher	10%	16.2%
Bhutanese residents	4.2%	0.1%
Nepalese	3.2%	0.2%
Chinese	2.8%	0.6%
Myanmar	2.3%	0.1%
Unemployment rate	14.8%	7.0%

- The population never married may be due to the high proportion of young people living in Mowbray.
- University students residing in the suburb may make up the amount of young people between the ages of 20 and 24.
- People who obtain a degree may move out of the suburb after going to University.
- Mowbray is a place where people from different cultures live and feel connected to their community.
- The northern suburbs is a place of high unemployment.

## 2016 Census QuickStats



<b>People</b>	<b>3,733</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>Median age</b>	<b>31</b>



<b>Families</b>	<b>311</b>
<b>Average children per family for families with children</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>for all families</b>	<b>0.6</b>



<b>All private dwellings</b>	<b>1,653</b>
<b>Average people per house</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Median weekly household income</b>	<b>\$783</b>
<b>Median monthly mortgage repayments</b>	<b>\$1,083</b>
<b>Median weekly rent</b>	<b>\$240</b>
<b>Average motor vehicles per dwelling</b>	<b>1.5</b>

# Community Connector Reflections



The role of the Community Connector has evolved significantly over the past three Learning Sites, with the City of Launceston increasing its commitment to resourcing the role full time. In 2017 the role was

facilitated by the Northern Suburbs Community Centre and Council's Community Development staff as this was the most appropriate for the Rocherlea community. The City of Launceston engaged a Community Connector through a contract with Community Housing Limited (CHL) for the Ravenswood Learning Site in 2018.

The impact of a full-time Community Connector cannot be underestimated with the increased capacity to support, facilitate, and drive the community through a Learning Site. I took on this role in Mowbray and was supported by a small Council project team that met regularly throughout the year. I was predominately based at Community Housing Ltd Mowbray which was perfect for experiencing life in the suburb and forming connections.

It's important to begin a Learning Site with respect for the existing community work. Through hundreds of conversations, my role is to find out what people care about, assist the community to spark initiatives and produce their own projects.

My purpose was to build a stronger, more resilient, and supportive community through facilitation and mentoring, without telling a community what they should do. I was an introducer, bringing people together who have never met to form new connections. This process took time to research, make contact, meet people, and guide the community on the journey. I was an investigator, on the hunt for

what exists and what could eventuate. I never stopped connecting and providing the community with a flexible model through consultation in workshops, meetings, gatherings, and projects. I was a leader with a clear vision to empower people to create the change they want and to guide and support where needed.

It is crucial that the Community Connector is geographically based in the Learning Site location in order to experience the specific culture of how people live, interact, and understand what they care about. This provided me with a deep insight into Mowbray where I could share the community's aspirations within the suburb and with Council.

While implementing the Learning Site there were some key achievements: the Local Government Professionals Australia, 2019 Tasmanian Regional Awards in Excellence in Community Development and Service Delivery Award to Claudia Taylor and Sarah McCormack for the past two Learning Sites and the City of Launceston new Cultural Strategy in which the ABCDE Learning Sites feature as an example of a program related to Insight.

It is a fulfilling, creative and stimulating experience to work alongside the community as the Community Connector. The Mowbray community was embracing and the project certainly did move at the speed of trust.

**Sarah McCormack**  
Community Connector  
City of Launceston

# Reflections from the Northern Suburbs Project Officer

Although the intent to develop a plan for the revitalisation of Launceston's Northern Suburbs had been stated several times, the project kicked off in February 2018. Myself, and the other staff members involved, set out on an ambitious journey to create a plan built around the aspirations of the seven suburbs that make up Launceston's Northern Suburbs. We also recognised that we were in a unique position to initiate change at a strategic level, as we already had captive audiences in the State and Federal Governments.

The development and initial implementation of the My Place My Future Plan occurred alongside the roll-out of two Learning Sites. It also kicked off within months of wrapping up the City of Launceston's first Learning Site. The benefits of the two projects operating alongside were immediately clear and are summarised below.

- a) The learnings from both projects were shared across teams. The knowledge that the team now has of the communities, their assets and their ambitions is much deeper than ever before, and has created a rich foundation for future works.
- b) The My Place My Future Plan was built around the strong connections the Learning Sites establish within the communities. Many of the conversations that took place for the development of the My Place My Future Plan were only possible because of the trust that had previously been established.
- c) The Mowbray Learning Site identified the aspirations of community members. Some of these aspirations were then able to be addressed by the work undertaken as part of the implementation of the My Place My Future Plan.

When I reflect on the benefit of these two projects working so closely together, several examples stand out.

## 1. Paddock to Plate Initiative

Through the Learning Site, a number of community members were brought together to talk about

current, and potential future, paddock to plate initiatives. The Community Connector recognised the opportunities for future growth, so invited me along to participate. Through this, a further number of exciting opportunities were identified and will be implemented. This includes the development of a Social Enterprise Toolkit for Launceston's Northern Suburbs, to be built around the experiences of the Paddock to Plate group.

## 2. Future development opportunities

It has always been obvious to me that the information obtained through the Learning Sites is extremely rich. This was particularly obvious when the Community Connector was able to provide valuable information to potential developers on what the community has to say about their local needs.

## 3. Northern Suburbs Wi-Fi program

Lack of access to internet services was something that we were exploring through the My Place My Future Plan; when we brought the Community Connector into this conversation, we were able to have a conversation about Mowbray that included local knowledge not just about place, but people. The outcome of this will be the roll-out of free public Wi-Fi in Mowbray that is built around how people use, and more importantly, want to use the space.

To summarise, the impact of this Learning Site has been felt not just by the community itself, but by the staff that work alongside the Community Connector, and the projects she is working on. Congratulations to the Community Connector, the people of Mowbray, and in particular, the Community Builders, for achieving such fantastic outcomes.

**Nicole Lucas**

Northern Suburbs Project Officer  
City of Launceston

# Consultation and Engagement



Peter Kenyon with Launceston Church Grammar school student leaders in the community Learning Site workshop.

## Engage local groups and associations

To kick start the Mowbray Learning Site, a free community workshop was held with Peter Kenyon from Bank of I.D.E.A.S in July 2019 at the Mowbray Tas Turf Club. Over 40 community members from a diverse background came together and identified Mowbray's assets, shared their big ideas for Mowbray and learnt new ways to work together to make positive change throughout the community.

After the community workshop, Mowbray continued to come together to participate in more ABCDE Learning Site workshops. Over 200 people participated in eight free workshops and information sessions with people aged between 11 - 80 years. The workshop program consisted of:

- Mowbray Heights Primary School with 85 grade 5 students
- Launceston Church Grammar School with 25 year 10 students
- Launceston Church Grammar School with 25 year 5/6 students

- Migrant Resource Centre THRIVE English Speaking Class with 20 participants
- UTAS with 20 student leaders and staff
- AVEO Mowbray Links Retirement Community with 8 residents
- Australian Red Cross with 5 Bi-Cultural Health workers and residents

Participants were invited to share what they would keep, change, drop and start in Mowbray in 12 months. Each person voted on their favourites from each category with the most popular ideas. Inviting community members to have a direct say in these four categories reflects the important message that Council values what people want their future to look like. By gaining this information we can work together to focus on the top priorities. Activity in the suburb can then be focused on the key trends in the keep, change, drop and start in their community. This work can also continue to guide organisations and businesses working in Mowbray.

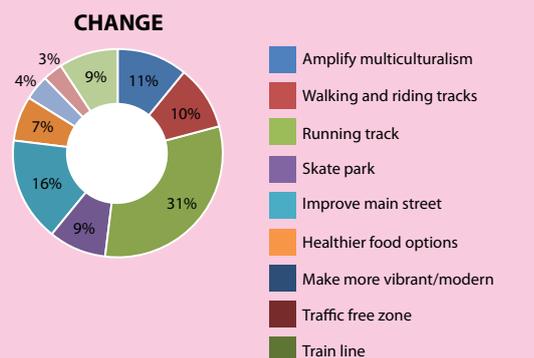
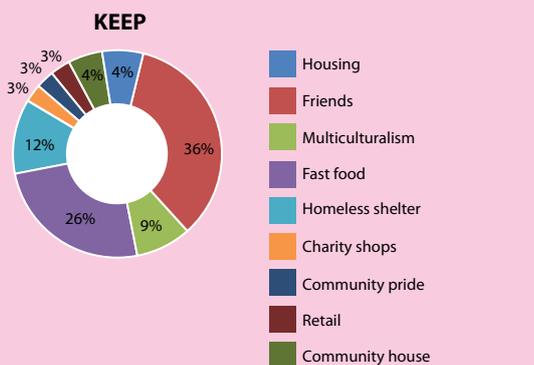
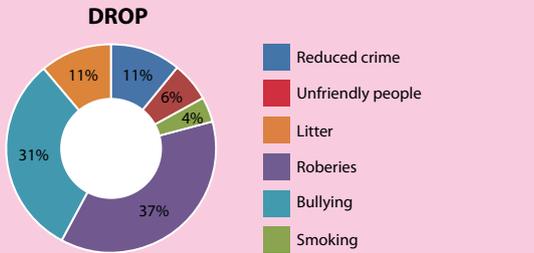
Through numerous community conversations and workshops in Mowbray, rich data was collected. The community members identified their assets and new ideas for Mowbray. So many passionate locals love Mowbray and care about the growth of the suburb.

*"I have worked in Mowbray for 3.5 years but we only know the groups/businesses we collaborate with. It was great to learn about the bigger picture and how we fit."*

Community workshop participant

*"It is beneficial to see how the Council is engaging members of the community to drive projects. This level of authentic engagement and immersion will result in meaningful change."*  
Community workshop participant.

### What we heard from workshop participants



L to R: Launceston Church Grammar School grade 5 and 6 students and Mowbray Heights Primary School grade 5 students participating in Learning Site workshops.

### Learning in the Learning Site

The Learning Sites are a hothouse for learning, shifting ways of thinking from a deficit to strength approach and providing mechanisms to do this. This occurred informally through conversations and formally through workshops the year.

The Community Connector mentored TasTAFE CHC42015 Certificate IV in Community Services students, Erin Stone and Lola Olawoagbo in a practical placement. The students learnt how to plan an event with the community for Dover Open Oval. These learnings were part of their assessment process and contributed to their qualification.

Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) invited the City of Launceston to present at a state-wide forum on the Learning Site process and the My Place My Future plan as leading examples of community development practice.

Throughout the Learning Sites, the Community Connector and project team regularly engaged with City of Launceston staff to update and share skills working from an asset-based approach.

*“This assisted my personal and professional growth through learning about the framework for community development/engagement that Launceston adopts.”*

Community workshop participant

*“It has been fantastic for New Horizons staff and members to meet neighbours as well as neighbouring businesses and organisations, and to learn of the sheer number of community assets within this thriving community. We have so many more people, potential partners and assets to work alongside - which in turn strengthens our organisation.”*

Edwina Dick Acting CEO New Horizons Tasmania

# Mowbray Asset Map



## PEOPLE'S PASSIONS, SKILLS, WISDOM AND EXPERIENCE

Angela Cantten, **Best friends**, Bilingual opportunities, **Breakfast Club LCGS**, Builders, **Bus drivers**, Butcher, **Carers**, Charity, **Chinese food workers**, Corin Bryce, **Cousins**, Dad, **Daniel Geale**, David Boon, **David Warren**, Denise Delphin, **Doccy Rogers (Plane)**, Doctors, **Dr.Harry**, Ebony J, **Family**, Fast food workers, **Fire man**, Friends, **Game shop staff**, George Bailey, **Government**, Health food shop guy, **Hungry Jacks workers**, International students, **Isaiah Corin**, Ivan Dean, **Jodie Jacobs**, John Kedy, **Kids**, Kim, **Leanna V**, Lily L, **Lucy**, Belinda, **Wendy**, Cilla, **Mayor**, Mindy, **Miss.Atkins**, Mowbray coffee, **Mr.Geale**, Mr.Hall, **Mrs Glachan**, Mrs.Ainey, **Mrs.Charmes**, Mrs.Robison, **Mrs.Sheedy**, Mrs.Symes, **Multicultural community**, Mum, **My brother**, Myself, **Nan and Pop**, Ned Maynard, **New students that we welcome**, North Launceston, **Eagles**, Parents, **Paster**, Peter B James, **Faulkner**, Police, **Principal**, Rev. Grayston (breakfast club), **Richard Soule**, Ricky, Ponting, **Rosella**, Ross, **Salvation Army**, Sarah McCormack, **Shop employees**, Shop owners, **Siblings**, Sports teacher, **Surya**, Teachers, **Vet**, Volunteers and staff of organisations and businesses, **Young people**

The Mowbray community discovered hundreds of resources to utilise to make a positive change in their suburb throughout the workshops. The Mowbray Learning Site Asset Map was designed into a big heart symbol to represent the strong bonds and deep love from the community for their suburb. This asset map demonstrates Mowbray's rich cultural community and is a wonderful resource for collaborating.

The Mowbray community told us their most popular assets are:

- Multicultural community
- Local businesses - small and large
- Not for profit organisations
- Sports clubs and facilities
- Schools
- Open space
- Family/friends and the local community
- Teachers
- Fast food/take away to eat and spend time at

## SOCIAL NETWORKS

**After school care**, Anglicare CFC Mowbray, **Basketball**, BMX, **Bowls Club**, Breakfast Club, **Bus service**, Capital Chemist Mowbray, **Church**, City Mission, **Community garden**, Community house, **Cricket**, Croquet Club, **Dance Fever**, Dancing schools, **Darts club**, Dog walking group, **Drama club**, Duke of Edinburgh (LCGS), **Eagles Soccer Club**, Football, **Friend's place**, Girl Guides, **Golf club**, Grammar, **Gymnastics**, Hockey Club, **Horse racing**, Japara Basketball Club, **Jockeys/horses**, KFC, **Lawn Bowls Club**, LCGS sport teams, **Little athletics**, Mowbray Cricket Club, **Mowbray Eagles**, MRC Hall, **Music - orchestra**, Netball, **New Horizons**, Northern Bombers Club, **Optus and Telstra (online contact)**, Park run, **Race Course**, Recycling Centre and Tip, **Red Cross**, Roller derby, **Rowing**, SCFC, **Schools**, Scouts, **The Shed**, Soccer, Soccer at UTAS, Sports, **Swimming**, Turf Club, **Uni Mowbray footy club**, UTAS, **Vinnies**, Youth club

## PHYSICAL ASSETS

AFL, **Amazing views**, Bank Club, **Basketball courts**, Bike lanes, **tracks**, trails, **Birdsview Avenue** (popular insta spot), Board walk, **Boat club**, Bridge linking LCGS and the rowing shed, **Bus stops and network**, Bush, **Church**, Coles façade, **Community garden - Dover St**, Cricket shield, **Dominos**, Food, **Golf club**, Grammar oval and pool, **Greyhound racing**, Gun club, **Gym**, Haig Street green strip, **Heritage buildings**, Heritage Forest, **Home**, Horse race track, **Hungry Jacks**, Invermay road, **James Nelson Buildings**, Mountain bike trail (schools), **Mowbray pub**, Mowbray Sport n Skate, **Nature strips**, New community hub, **New Horizons space**, Oval, **Parks**, Playground, **Race cars**, Race course, **Railway Line**, River, **Running tracks**, School, **Shops**, Soccer ground, **Sports club**, Sports ovals, **Subway**, Takeaway shop, **Target complex**, Tip, **Unique trees**, UTAS gym/oval, **Veggie gardens in back yards**, Walking track linking LCGS and UTAS, **Walking trails**, Zap gym



*"You don't know what you need, until you know what you've got"*

Peter Kenyon

## CULTURAL ASSETS, STORIES, TRADITIONS, ROOTS AND HERITAGE

Aboriginal Childcare Centre, Aboriginal dance group, **Afghanistan community**, Anglican school, **Asian grocer**, Australia, **Bento**, Bhutanese, **Chinese**, Coles faces, **Community lunches**, Daves Noodles, **David Boon**, Different cultures, **Dr.Love Joy**, Fairs, **Family fun day**, Food, **Food shops – Indian and Chinese fusion**, Gallery, private home, **Grammar**, Harmony Days, **Hawthorn**, Heritage Park, **High level migrant community**, History (trams, post war migration), **Holi/Nepali cultural festival**, India, **Indian grocer**, Indonesian, **James Faulkner**, Japan, **Korean**, Launceston Cup, **Launceston Grammar – uniforms/history**, Migrant Centre, **Migrant community bringing flair**, knowledge and skills, **Mowbray grandstand**, Mowbray Heights Primary School, **MRC**, Museum, **Nepal people and food**, New Horizons Inclusion Leaders, **New Zealand**, Off season – rides/circus, **Parents n Friends at Schools**, Philippines, **Poimena Art Gallery**, Readers theatre, **Restaurants**, Ricky Ponting, **Ricky Ponting Oval**, School assembly, **School fair**, South Korean, **Star Theatre**, The cricket meme "nice one Gary!", **The Gingerbread Man**, Tonga, **Visitors from other cultures**, Walkathon



## INSTITUTIONS

Able Australia, **AFL**, Aged Care Home, **Australian Maritime College**, Bapcare, **Bowls club**, Breakfast Club (Mowbray Primary), **Charity shops**, Chemist, **Child care**, Church, **City Mission**, City of Launceston (Council), **Coles**, Cricket shield, **Defence Force**, Dentist, **Doctors**, Dog and cat shelter, **Dover St Neighbourhood House**, Dr.Hampson, **Friends**, Golf club, **Home**, Hungry Jacks, **Immunisation Clinic**, KFC, **Kindergarten**, LCGS (Launceston Church Grammar School), **Library (UTAS)**, Maccas, **Migrant Centre**, Mowbray Heights, **Primary School**, MRC Childcare, **NDIS**, Neighbourhood, **New Horizons**, Next door neighbours, **Op shops**, Oral Health Service, **Pathology**, Physio, **Police**, Race cars, **Salvation Army**, Shops, **Soccer**, Social housing, **Sport n Skate**, Subway, **Supermarket**, TACCA, Tafe, Teachers, **Tip**, Tipshop, **UTAS**, Vet, **Vinnies**, Woolies, **Youth**



## ECONOMIC ASSETS

**Two driving schools**, AFL Footy, **Andy's Salvage**, Asian Market Place, **Banks**, Bento, **Charity**, Chemist, **Child care centres**, Chinese shop, **Coles**, Cunninghams, **Daves Noodles**, Dentist, **Dogs Home**, Dominos, **Fast food places**, Food, **Gyms**, Hungry Jacks, **James Nelson Factory**, Kebab shop, **KFC**, Launceston Cup, **Launceston Waste Centre**, Mowbray Milkbar, **Mowbray Hotel**, Mowbray Pizza Hut, **Multicultural grocers**, Newsagency, **Ob Games**, Op shops, **PCYC**, Pharmacies/doctors, **Post office**, Red Cross, **Reject shop**, Shiploads, **Sport n Skate**, Sport shop, **SRC**, Subway, **Sunday market**, Take away, **Target**, Tattoo Studio, **The hotel/restaurant**, Tip shop, **Turf club**, Vernachi Contractors, **Vet**, Vinnies, **Woolworths**, Zap Fitness



*Host conversations to discover assets within the community and what people care about.*



# Community Builders



L to R: Builder Times at AVEO Mowbray Links, New Horizons Tasmania and Northern Suburbs Community Centre in Mowbray

*Find a community builder team then vision and plan by asking 3 key questions*

Community Builders are central to the operation of the ABCDE Learning Site who help shape and implement community building initiatives. Many people in Mowbray are natural Community Builders, too many to mention; business owners, not for profit organisation leaders, residents, school staff etc.

The role of Community Builders is to:

- Provide community wisdom and knowledge
- Assist with asset mapping exercises that allow residents to discover the physical assets of a place and its people and groups
- Initiate intentional learning conversations with other community members to begin discovering what people care about and are willing to join in with others to achieve positive community change
- Help with the organisation and facilitation of community events and actions

After hearing about all the project ideas from the workshops, the Community Connector re-engaged with community members to vision and plan by asking 3 key questions:

1. What can you do?
2. What do you need outside help with?
3. What do you need outside agencies to do for the community?

To reconnect with others and chat about the Learning Site projects we hosted a regular event in Mowbray called Builder Time. These social events were an opportunity for the community to hear about what's happening and to get involved. There was positive power in bringing people together to continue to chat about all the strengths of Mowbray. Thank you to New Horizons Tasmania, AVEO Mowbray Links Retirement Community and the Northern Suburbs Community Centre for hosting Builder Times.

*"It provided an additional opportunity for residents to engage in their local communities. Also an opportunity for the Village to become more familiar with the people in our community."*

David Anderson  
Community Manager, Aveo Group Community  
South Aveo Mowbray Links

# Community Projects

A key part of the Learning Site involves the community dreaming big about what they would like in Mowbray and how they can assist with making it happen. Throughout the many workshops, people shared their Big Ideas on the back of postcards.

By asking the question, what is your big idea for your community and how could you contribute to making it happen, over 135 big ideas were generated for Mowbray. These ideas could be started by individuals, clubs, groups or organisations in Mowbray now or in years to come.

For more information on the ideas please contact the Community Connector.



## implementing change (doing and reviewing)

### The community's common big ideas:

- Connect with different cultures in Mowbray
- Increase the night-life
- Improve the look and feel of Mowbray
- Create green space for all ages
- Celebrate the multiculturalism and diverse events
- Promote and grow healthy food
- Build community spirit
- A food festival
- Reduce crime and bullying
- Protect animals
- Create a clean environment
- Reduce homelessness

### The community's common ways to help:

- Organising
- Mentoring
- Joining a committee
- Using existing organisational resources
- Volunteering
- Fundraising and contributing own funds
- Connect with the right people to help
- Advocate and show leadership
- Hands-on involvement
- Generally being charitable

# Community Projects cont'd

The next stage of the Learning Site involved the Community Connector looking through all the ideas and meeting up with the Builders who have a strong desire to lead and be involved in projects.

Here are the Mowbray Learning Site projects!

## Planter Boxes



Mowbray resident Peri Kauwhata planted tomatoes in two planter boxes along Invermay Road in Mowbray for the community to pick and enjoy.

## Paste Up – Part 2



L to R: The Paste Up bus stop before and after

Coming together to revisit the Paste Your Face project led to a creative discussion about the many faces on Coles Mowbray and future ideas. Paste Your Face was led by Kim Schneiders from Interweave Arts and Dense Delphin from Northern Suburbs Community Centre in 2012 with a lot of community support. Community members were photographed and presented in this public artwork on Coles, celebrating the multiculturalism of Mowbray. The faces on Coles represent an inclusive connection to Mowbray and as the faces have faded over the years they continue to represent memory, change and the connections in the community.

A group of passionate art and community workers decided that the natural progression from Paste Your Face would be Paste Up. Paste Up was a temporary public art project by Interweave Arts and the community including photos and text of comments, quotes and catchphrases showcasing Mowbray. The quotes and photos were pasted up on the repurposed bus stop owned by the City of Launceston along Invermay Road in Mowbray outside Shiploads. This is an accessible public artwork for everyone to enjoy and reflect on the importance of what's strong in the community.

## Light Up Mowbray



*Kris Airey and Claudia Taylor from City of Launceston with Launceston Church Grammar school students*

A Launceston Church Grammar School student group had an idea to install solar fairy lights along the streets of Mowbray on the lead up to Christmas. They wanted to brighten up Mowbray so the City of Launceston supported this project to install the shining solar lights.

## Inaugural Social Enterprise Paddock to Plate Mowbray Cafe

A team of passionate people came together in the community workshop and developed the idea to create a paddock to plate (P2P) cafe in Mowbray. The group has kept the momentum and met several times since, defining its primary purpose to focus on:

- social diversity, inclusion and enriched community cultural activities

- work experience and training
- opportunity for entrepreneurial development
- Improved food systems and nutrition

During the end of the Learning Site, COVID-19 became a key community focus. This group was able to easily adapt and consider the needs of food security for the community with extra pressure on vulnerable people.

The P2P group will continue to meet and develop beyond the Learning Site in conjunction with the City of Launceston's My Place My Future implementation plan.



## Migrant Resource Centre Celebrate Summer

The Migrant Resource Centre's THRIVE group celebrated the end of the year with over 30 families at Haig Street Community Centre in a multicultural event.

# Community Projects cont'd

## Mowbray Walking Tours



The Mowbray Learning Site and UTASLife teamed up to present the MOWBRAY WALKING TOURS. A personalised walking tour of the main area of Mowbray occurred over two weeks in February led by UTASLife Student Engagement Leaders and the Community Connector. UTAS students who had recently moved to Mowbray enjoyed the experience of taking the tour. Students learnt about discounts, all the best multicultural cuisines and the best views whilst chatting about their arrivals and how they're settling into UTAS life.

## Dover Open Oval

On Saturday 29 February 2020, Dover Reserve in Mowbray came alive for Dover Open Oval. Over 250 people attended the event which was the brainchild of Mindy Gittus and Byron Denman, residents from Mowbray. Sadly Byron passed away prior to the event and the City of Launceston pays respect to Byron and his contribution to the community. Alongside Mindy and Byron, the Mowbray Northern Suburbs Community Centre and other volunteers regularly met to plan the event for months leading up to Dover Open Oval. Everyone contributed to

organising the event with the Community Connector leading the project and mentoring residents.

People from many different communities and ages attended the event and joined in the free activities. The kite flying was a real hit and added colour in the sky for everyone to watch. Thank you so much to all the incredible people who made this event happen and let's hope this beautiful outdoor green public space can continue to be used and enjoyed by the community. New Horizons Tas ran inclusive sports activities on the day for anyone to be involved in throwing frisbee and playing soccer. This sports day was included in the Dover Open Oval event as a pilot project.

One of the great outcomes from this event has been the Northern Suburbs Community Centre in Mowbray planning to maintain the connections formed by organisations in a regular get together Snack and Catch Up.

*"Congratulations to the Mowbray community for hosting the event. It was really wonderful... the kites were a symbol of fun and creativity and just flying in the wind together"*

Melody West





### Dover Orchard

The Rocherlea Shed community made an amazing outdoor bench table for the new Dover Orchard at the Mowbray Northern Suburbs Community Centre. This project was identified as a

community need to activate a block of land right near the Mowbray Centre. The Northern Suburbs Community Centre will plant fruit trees, paint the table and celebrate the new outdoor space with the community.



### Pine Tree Reserve

Pine Tree Reserve runs parallel to Haig and Foch Streets in Mowbray and is a beautiful green space for the community to wander through. The community identified the need for a resting spot near one of the old maple trees. New Horizons Tas Bowls Club decided on the best spot for the seats.

The City of Launceston Brisbane Street Mall seats were installed in Pine Tree Reserve to provide a resting spot for people.

### Dear Mowbray Film



Evi van der Niet and David Adams from Action Crew were filmmakers in residence at Mowbray Heights Primary School. Alongside the Community Connector, grade 5 students formed pop up crews over three days in October and learnt the ropes of film making from Evi and David.

A cross-section of the Mowbray community visited the school and were interviewed by the students and the crew took to the streets along Invermay Road to film vox pops. The businesses and community members embraced the opportunity to feature on the film and share what they love about Mowbray. The students learnt the roles of the camera operator, interviewer, sound and lighting operators and were very positive about their experience. It was lots of fun!

Thank you to everyone involved especially Mowbray Heights Primary School for their generosity in hosting the film crew and providing the opportunity to the students to be involved in this learning experience.

The Dear Mowbray film was launched at a full Mowbray Heights Primary School assembly and at Builder Time on Tuesday 17 December 2020.

To access the 8 minute film visit <https://vimeo.com/371265996>

# Planning and Development

Other areas of the City of Launceston were busy developing Mowbray while the Learning Site occurred including:

- Foch Street Reseal
- Invermay Road, Foch Street to Vermont Road Reseal
- Newnham Creek Rehabilitation (UTAS Newnham Campus site)
- Levee footpath reseal - top of Mowbray levee
- Stormwater quality investigations, Mowbray Hill and Heritage Forest
- Penstock Renewals along Mowbray Levee
- The old bus stop on Invermay Road repair
- Inveresk/Rocherlea Trail - Interim on Road Route
- Mowbray interchange

# Where to next?

The ABCDE Learning Site helps a community to focus on what strong and has provided a framework for the City of Launceston to deliver three asset-based yearlong projects in Rocherlea, Ravenswood and Mowbray. The process is about empowering residents as co-creators of their future. Council is leading the way to providing confidence and reassurance to residents to make change.

Mowbray has new and stronger connections, its own Asset Map and an extensive project list. Services told us they want to be more connected and there is potential for greater collaboration. There are challenges in coming together and staying connected but Mowbray will continue to find ways to make this happen with the loyalty that locals have for their home and the rich culture.

The City of Launceston has cultivated significant relationships throughout the Learning Sites by fostering the approach of learning and collaboration. One of the most important aspects of the project is to empower people to feel like they can take action and build stronger communities. Although the Learning Sites end in a specific suburb, the relationships and work doesn't stop between the communities and Council, this continues forever.

*“We have especially loved seeing what this program gave local residents – a new authority and pride in their area – and the confirmation that the COL recognises what a dynamic community Mowbray is, and is keen to invest in the residents themselves becoming the specialists in strengthening, promoting and building their community.”*

Edwina Dick, Acting CEO New Horizons Tasmania

In summary, we ticked the boxes but more importantly, we contributed to the social, economic and overall wellbeing of Mowbray.

1. Find a community builder team	✓
2. Recruiting a community connector	✓
3. Hosting conversations to discover assets and what people care about	✓
4. Engaging local groups and associations	✓
5. Building connections through social interaction activities and shareable community opportunities	✓
6. Visioning and planning	✓
7. Implementing change (doing and reviewing)	✓
8. Fostering celebration	✓

*“The Learning Site allows for deep listening, creativity, implementation, less duplication of service delivery, increased understanding of what each other does, community enhancement in terms of participation, inclusion and grass root leading.”*

Sai Wan, Program Coordinator Mowbray, Northern Suburbs Community Centre

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 Mowbray Heights Primary School  
 Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania  
 New Horizons Tasmania  
 Northern Suburbs Community Centre  
 TasTAFE  
 UTAS

All the community members who met with Sarah and shared what they love about Mowbray.

City of Launceston Learning Site Project Team:  
 Sarah McCormack, John Davis, Claudia Taylor  
 and Racheal Wheatley

For more information about the next ABCDE Learning Site in Youngtown contact  
 Sarah McCormack  
 Community Connector  
 M 0428 109 948  
[sarah.mccormack@launceston.tas.gov.au](mailto:sarah.mccormack@launceston.tas.gov.au)

This report was prepared by  
 Sarah McCormack  
 Community Connector – Mowbray Learning Site  
 City of Launceston

