

Life by the Hornes

with Dave & Lauren Horne • October 2025



I'm not sure what you think of when you think about what life and ministry must be like down on the Southern Beaches. But there's a good chance that you're wrong!

Perhaps you think life is slow and relaxed? Wrong.

Perhaps you think it's warm and sunny all the time? Wrong. It's the Southern Beaches of Tasmania, remember!

Perhaps you think ministry is cups of tea and scones and lamingtons? Mostly wrong... but some bakeries are just too hard to drive past!

The past few months have been incredibly busy for us, both as a family and in our ministry. On top of normal ministry, Dave has been participating in a 12-month leadership course, which requires four one-week interstate trips throughout the year, plus extra meetings, tasks, and books to read and reflect on. Whilst it has made life busier, Dave has found the course to be very formative and worthwhile.

Most of our parishioners work during the day, so most meetings, training, or courses take place once the kids are in bed, which means Dave is out anywhere from two to four nights per week. We are very grateful for the use of the Hub – our mid-week ministry space! It is getting used a lot!

Lauren is juggling four university subjects this semester, with the hope of having all summer off!

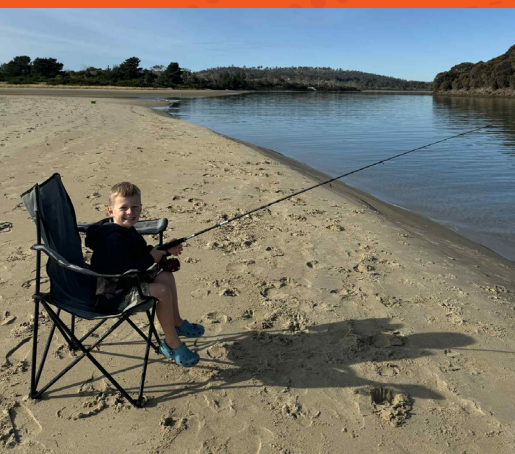
Whilst the thought of holidays is amazing, the work of juggling kids school and sport, a day of work, serving at church, and full-time study is a recipe for chaos.

The ministry calendar is seasonal, and we are grateful for that. However, the quiet seasons are often used to prepare for the busy season, so the workload remains constant, even though it is diverse.

Preparations for Christmas have already begun, as they have for our baptisms in late November. And in the coming weeks, we'll start planning for 2026.



A recent family photo



Main Image: The Southern Beaches

Circle Image: The Hornes

Middle Image: A recent 'kids' takeover' service

Bottom Image: Lenny fishing at the river

Continued from previous page...

God is faithful, and He is present even amidst the busyness; however, many of the stresses and tasks of urban and suburban ministry are also present in rural, regional, and remote ministry.

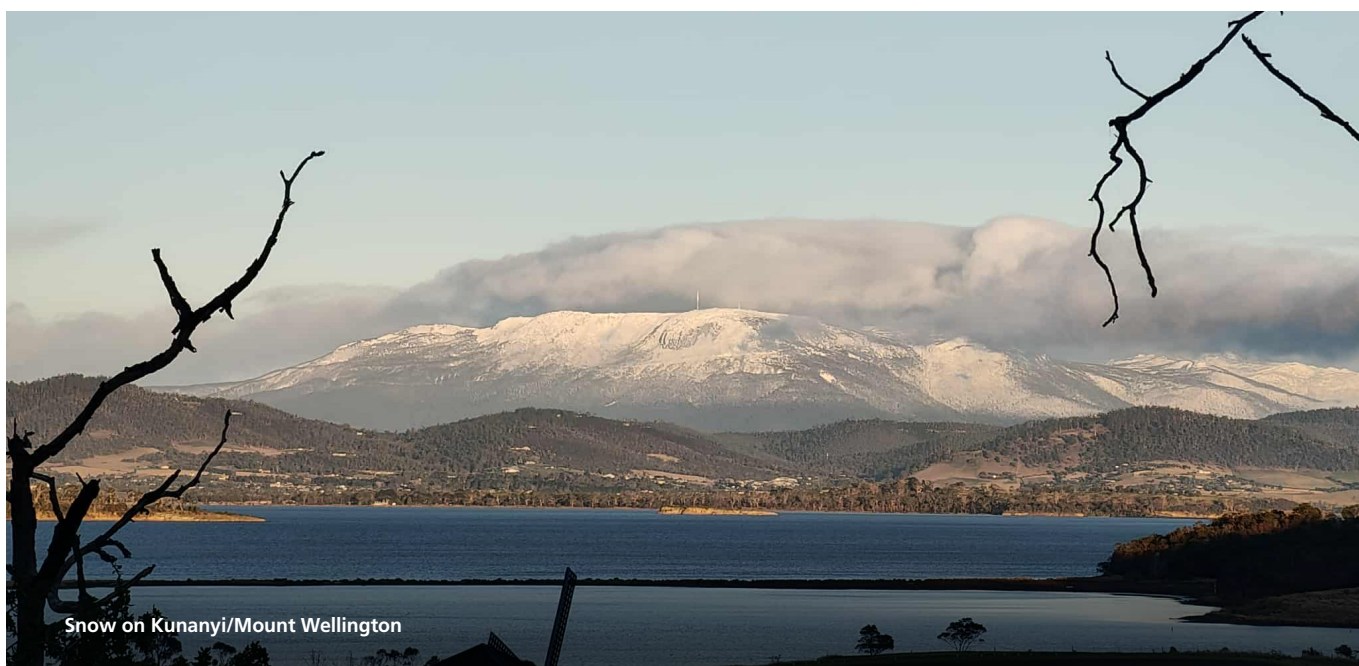
We have designated October as our 'Mission Month', and it is a blessing to have our mission partners visit and share about how they are labouring for Christ in their own contexts, as well as what our support achieves. Josh Skeat will come and share about BCA, as well as three other mission partners that our parish

supports. One of the blessings of that season is no preaching for Dave! He loves preaching, but when others offer to do it, he won't say no! That will allow him to catch up on everything else, like finishing off Alpha and preparing for the baptisms and Christmas services and events.

One of the things that has added busyness to our lives is the kids sports! We love that they get to participate in different activities, such as soccer in the winter and Nippers in the summer. However, with Elka and Posy both playing,

and Lenny getting involved next year, it often wipes out our Saturdays. They had a lot of fun this year, and we love meeting new local families and strengthening our relationships with the community, but it all comes at a cost.

Lauren finishes her exams in mid-November, so please pray for a strong finish to the year for her, which will enable Dave to focus on Christmas events and then a rejuvenating Christmas/January period for us all.



With blessings from our family to you and yours,

Dave, Lauren, Elka, Posy & Lenny

Find out more

**about Bush Church Aid who
support us on the Southern
Beaches**

Donate

**Would you consider giving to support
gospel ministry here and across rural,
regional and remote Australia?**



Reaching Australia for Christ since 1919