

MEDIA RELEASE

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Country Universities Centre

EASTERN TASMANIA

THE COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES CENTRE (CUC) EASTERN TASMANIA OFFICIALLY OPENS TO EMPOWER REGIONAL EDUCATION.

Today the Country Universities Centre Eastern Tasmania was officially opened by the Hon Andrew Giles MP, Federal Minister for Skills and Training in the presence of the Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP, Premier of Tasmania; the Hon Felix Ellis MP, Minister for Jobs and Training; the Hon Rebecca White MP; Mayor Mick Tucker, Break O'Day.

Local students in the region have benefited from access to the CUC Eastern Tasmania since September 2025 and student numbers continue to grow. The Centre is bringing degrees closer to regional students pursuing their vocational and higher education studies in the Eastern Tasmania region.

The CUC Eastern Tasmania is one of 56 Regional University Hubs in Australia. The Australian Government has continued to invest in the Regional University Study Hub model with \$1.5M allocated to establish and operate the Centre as part of the fifth round of project funding.

The Minister for Skills and Training of Australia, the Hon Andrew Giles MP, said, "The opening of the St Helens Regional University Study Hub is a great opportunity for students in Tasmania's East Coast to pursue their university or VET course while remaining connected to family, friends and their community."

"From the cities to the regions, the Albanese Government is focused on backing Australians to get the qualifications they want – to play their part in the careers we need now and for the future."

The CUC Eastern Tasmania is affiliated with Country Universities Centre and co-located with the Regional Jobs Hub, Break O'Day Employment Connect at 48 Cecilia Street St Helens. The former office space has undergone a quality refurbishment and boasts well-appointed study areas and high-quality technology.

Local student, Mary said, "Without access to the Centre I think I would have dropped out of my studies as internet at home was totally insufficient. Access to the technology at the Centre has made it much easier."

CUC Eastern Tasmania, John Brown Chair, East Tas Education and Employment, said,
“Everyone deserves the chance to chase their dreams, no matter where they live. We’re here to provide students in Eastern Tasmania with the tools, space, and support they need to build a brighter future—for themselves and their communities.”

“We are driving an ambitious agenda through the Centre and the Jobs Hub to empower regional people and strengthen educational and employment aspirations and outcomes for a vibrant and prosperous future in Eastern Tasmania.”

Tasmanian Minister for Skills and Jobs, the Hon Felix Ellis MP said Regional Study Hubs were critical to meeting Tasmania’s skills and workforce needs.

“We are working together to move our state forward, and our Government is pleased to have been able to support this centre's business case development through our Youth Jobs Strategy.

“The CUC will make it possible for East Coast learners to access quality education and training from the place they call home, providing the resources and support they need to stay enrolled, stay motivated, and gain meaningful employment.”

Recently the Centre welcomed two Education Coordinator staff to support students with academic workshops, face-to-face tutorials, one-on-one study support, and to create programs in our community that encourage and support more people to participate in tertiary education.

The Centre provides a welcoming environment where students studying at university or a registered training organisation have space, technology and support to focus on and succeed with their studies. Our staff will work in community to help people see their educational possibilities and take advantage of opportunities.

Interested students are invited to contact CUC Eastern Tasmania via or website www.cuceasterntasmania.edu.au via email degrees@cucesterntasmania.edu.au or drop in during business hours and talk with our friendly staff.