

## Homes of our past, home of our future

Throughout its history, Bendigo Bank has constructed two new substantial buildings, both in Charing Cross. But our longest connection was with Bull Street in Bendigo, where the first building society opened its doors, writes Manager of Corporate Real Estate, Len Holland.

Our new headquarters is still under construction and due for completion in mid-September this year. It will connect with the Fountain Court building on the corner of Mitchell Street, which was designed to accommodate the rapid expansion of the bank in the latter half of the 20th Century.

The complex will ultimately house more than 1000 workers, bringing together people who have been scattered working in premises around the central business district.

Through the use of ecologically sustainable principles in the design and construction of the building, we are demonstrating our ongoing commitment to the local community and the environment.

We have delivered a world class working environment for our staff, created a world class building regarding its environmental performance, and enhanced the Bath Lane precinct.

Our head office, known as The Bendigo Centre, will be officially opened on 11 December 2008.

Nineteen years earlier, in June 1989, we moved into Fountain Court, which had a capacity to accommodate 250 staff members.



Unprecedented growth meant that within three years of the move, staff were moving to other locations, including the old Lyric building, Hargreaves Street, Mundy Street and the Beehive.

Bull Street was where we started. It was our head office for more than 120 years, except for a short period from 1871 when the office briefly moved to Charing Cross. Fire damaged parts of the building in 1961 but we didn't move until after we start growing by merging or acquiring other financial institutions in Bendigo. In 1989 we departed Bull Street for good.

We acquired Sandhurst Trustees in 1991 and inherited the stately building in View Street that had been the business' home for more than a century. It remains one of the finest buildings in Bendigo.



The Bendigo's last reincarnation of its office in Bull Street.



The Bendigo Centre.



**Our home**