

Newsletter

May
2021

Community Bank · Bacchus Marsh



Chair's report

Later this year Bacchus Marsh Community Enterprise Limited and the Community Bank Bacchus Marsh will celebrate seven years of operation.

With thanks to you and the increasing support of the community, the branch continues to grow our customer base, our loans and our deposits. The branch managed to successfully operate every day throughout the many stages of the pandemic including the lockdowns, and the Board would like to thank the staff for their flexibility in adapting to the challenges and their continued support for our customers and the community.

The Board is still meeting virtually and even though we have missed our social interaction we have found our meetings more efficient. Many of our community groups were not able to function throughout 2020 and are just beginning to be able to meet and provide that vital connection to each other. We are pleased to be able to support that reconnection with our community reconnect grants of \$500. See our community investment update.

The banking landscape around the world and here in Bacchus Marsh is changing. There is a significant shift to online banking products and with that a restructuring of branches and services. We are committed to providing a friendly and personal local banking service and a warm welcome to all new and existing customers. All of your banking business supports our community.

Claire Sutherland
Chair

Community investment

\$750,00 has been invested in our community since opening in October 2014. A number of our grant and sponsorship investments were completed over the past year, including the resurfacing of the netball courts at Darley Park and the new chicken coop at Montessori Uniting Kindergarten (pictured). In April 2021 we donated \$5,000 on behalf of our



customers to the NSW Flood Appeal and we continue to support the local agencies that support our most vulnerable people including Soul Food and the Neighbours Place. Our Community Investment this year also includes a \$500 reconnect grant to the 80 community groups we have supported over the past six-and-a-half years. Community groups can use these funds in the local economy to get their activities started, reconnect their members or buy vouchers from local businesses to raffle and raise funds. We have also allocated funds to our performing arts community that were not able to perform throughout last year. It is great to see live music and entertainment back at local venues. If you would like to have live music or a performer at a community function, please apply through the sponsorship and grants section of our website www.bendigobank.com.au/bacchus-marsh/

Branch report

In our first Annual Report after our opening in 2014 we stated that the branch had 1,148 local customers and footings of \$35 million (Deposits and Loans). I am pleased to report that in the six years since and as at 31 March 2021, we have grown to 2,943 customers and we currently hold over \$230 million worth of footings in our branch. This is a true testament to the hard work of our staff and the continued support of our community. Our revenue has grown substantially in that time and we are able to invest considerable sums into our community each year and regularly return dividends to shareholders. We really enjoy looking after our customers, meeting new customers and finding solutions to their banking needs. We are open Monday – Friday 9.30am – 5.00pm and our friendly staff are ready and able to support you.

Ian Prince
Branch Manager

Making good things happen

When you bank with us, profits pour into the community. **\$750,000** so far.

Here's who we've supported lately:

Darley Football Netball Club – Netball Court Upgrade

Montessori Uniting Kindergarten – Chicken Coop

Horses for Hope – Mental Health Therapy Set up

Bacchus Marsh and Districts Historical Society – Digitize “The Express”

Young Street Kinder – New Fort

Balliang Primary School – New Outdoor Tables

Neighbours Place – Christmas Hampers



Scholarship recipients

In the past four years of operation, we have awarded a University Scholarship to a local community member attending university for the first time. Our inaugural recipient, Chelsea Bell is entering her final year of Speech Therapy and we are proud to be able to support her endeavours. This year the Scholarship, worth \$5,000 per year was awarded to Zavier Magill-Izzard from Bacchus Marsh College. Zavier is attending Deakin University in Burwood for a four year course in Criminology and Cyber Security. He impressed the committee with his community involvement and strong career ambition and we wish him well for his future studies.

Talk to us today

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 /communitybankbacchusmarsh

We're open:

9.30am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday

Directors

Claire Sutherland, Ian Barnett, Heather Steegstra,
Travis Bawden, Karen Hapgood, Simon Hooper,
Paula McMillan, Keith Currie, Peter Tonks

Bacchus Marsh Community Enterprise Limited

2/137A Main Street, Bacchus Marsh Vic 3340

ABN 11 164 574 832

Bendigo Bank support Ballarat Football Netball League

This year we have joined with five other Bendigo Bank branches to support the Ballarat Football Netball League netball competition. The League spans Bacchus Marsh, Sunbury, Melton and Ballarat and has a very strong junior and senior netball competition. Our Branch Manager, Ian Prince will be the spokesperson for the Bendigo Bank at various activities throughout the year and we look forward to the partnership progressing for all of the branches involved in this sponsorship.

Shareholders update

In February 2021 the company paid our third dividend to shareholders. It is pleasing to be able to consistently declare a dividend and we thank you for your initial investment and your ongoing support of the company. The company operates our share registry through an online share platform and we have approximately half of our shareholders registered through this platform. If you have an email address and would like to be able to access or update your share information online, please contact our company secretary, Heather Steegstra on bacchusmarshcelsecretary@gmail.com. We would also encourage you to attend our AGM, held in November each year to see firsthand the impact your shareholding has on our community.