

Newsletter

December
2021

Community Bank · Balnarring & District

Celebrating \$2 million Community Investment

In 1998 a new type of bank came onto the scene. Bendigo Bank's Community Bank branches were a bold move by a regional bank.

Today there are over 300 Community Bank branches which not only provide banking and financial services, they have a unique point of difference – they share their profit with their community.



To date more than \$250 million has been pumped back into Australian communities by Community Bank branches.

"Here in Balnarring we have taken the vision for a locally-owned and operated bank and turned it into a reality, financially supporting hundreds of community groups, organisations and initiatives over the past 13 years," said Community Bank Chair, Heather Goddard.

"Thanks to the support of our shareholders, branch staff, company board and customers, we are now one of the biggest sources of community funding in the district."

Community Bank Balnarring & District has now donated more than \$2 million to local community initiatives like:

- Balnarring Civic Court Development (\$50,000)
- Point Leo Surf Life Saving Club Kitchen Refurbishment (\$47,000)
- Merricks Coolart Catchment Landcare Group Balnarring to the Bay Biolink & Koala Corridor (\$20,000)
- Western Port Community Support Centre Housing & Homelessness Program (\$30,000), plus hundreds of other local projects and contributions.

You may not think who you bank with matters. But it does. Our customers are making a real difference by choosing us.

Their home loans are helping to build community infrastructure. Personal loans, business banking and credit cards are funding rescue boats, defibrillators, environmental projects and sports facilities.

So if you need help with your banking, speak to Branch Manager, Greg Hood.

Together you can talk about your goals and how to make them happen.



Welcome to our Christmas newsletter

What a year it has been! Just when we thought we had seen it all in 2020, 2021 hit us with more COVID 19 lockdowns and restrictions. Thankfully, after many challenges we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel and I'm sure that like me, everyone is looking forward to spending time with family and friends and celebrating the festive season.

Given the day to day challenges we have experienced during 2021, it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the dedication of our branch staff Delwyn Rayner, Glenys Wandmaker, Milly May and Joanne Terry, who continued to support both customers and community groups throughout the year. Constantly adapting, they ensured each individual banking experience was both positive and enjoyable and was done with a smile (albeit behind a mask!) and I cannot thank them enough for their positivity and professionalism.

One of the biggest highlights for the branch during the year was announcing an amazing milestone of \$2 million returned to our community since opening. This figure shows how successful our branch has been because of the support of our customers and community groups. Together, we have been able to grow our Community Bank, generating profits that enable us to further support our local community.

Our branch enjoys valuable support from our volunteer Board of Directors, led by Heather Goddard. Our Board dedicates their time to ensuring our business continues to grow and is able to give back.

The Community Bank model is based on a profit-with-purpose philosophy, which means profits from customer banking are returned to the communities that generated them. To increase our support for local projects and programs, it is vital that we continue to grow our business, so we need even more members of the community and their families to bank with us. Remember, switching your banking is not as difficult as you may think and my skilled staff can show you just how easy it is.



With restrictions lifting, it's time to reconnect with our loyal customers and community groups. If you are a member of a community group that needs some support, please contact the branch to discuss how we can help.

Thank you to our many wonderful community partners, who have continued to support us. Without your commitment to your community and the groups to which you belong, none of us would have been as successful as we have.

Lastly, on behalf of my team I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Greg Hood

Branch Manager

Who do we support?

Westernport Secondary College

Merricks Yacht Club

Crib Point Football Netball Club

Balnarring Community Childcare

Presentation Family Centre

Friends of Coolart

Somers Primary School Arts Fair

Shoreham Community Association

Flinders District Lions Club

St Marks Flinders Recital Series

Point Leo SLSC

Balnarring Primary School

Merricks Coolart Catchment Landcare Group

Flinders & Balnarring Cricket Clubs

Balnarring District Netball Club

Red Hill Show

Balnarring Junior Football Club



Lockdown Local Heroes

Julie Saunders, and her team of volunteers at Crib Point Community Support Group have been working together since March 2020 to provide meals for those in need in their community during lockdown.

Each week since the start of lockdown, they have cooked and delivered approximately 50 meals to elderly members of the Crib Point RSL and the local community who have been vulnerable.

Their good work has extended beyond lockdown in presenting a 'High Tea' and Care Bag for those in need this festive season.

We feel privileged to have been able to support Julie and her teams incredibly kind efforts during these recent hard times.

Calling all Shareholders

If you are a current Community Bank Balnarring & District Shareholder, now is a great time to check that your details are up to date with our Share Registry Manager AFS & Associates. Call (03) 5443 0344.

Are you also a customer of the branch? If not, why not consider making your switch to bank with us today and make a real difference to the local community.



Local Biz Love

Introducing Westernport Bicycle Centre. They're on a mission to bring convenient and cost effective bike sales, servicing, parts, accessories and apparel to the Western Port region.

Family owned and operated, Balnarring Bicycle Repairs has become known for accessible, and affordable, bike maintenance on the Mornington Peninsula.

What began as an independent mobile service centre and passion for all things two-wheeled, has evolved into Westernport Bicycle Centre. Dan, Nellie, Lani and Kiera (pictured left) are excited to share it with you!

Visit them at 89 High Street, Hastings or call 5979 3791.

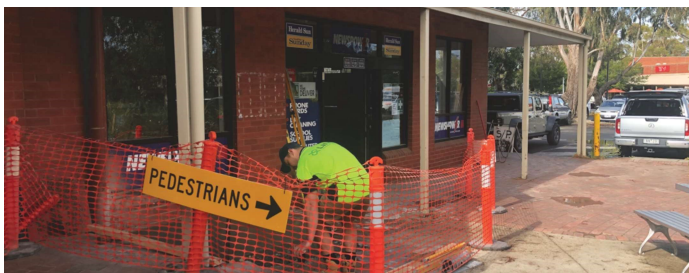
The worst kept secret in Balnarring is official!

Now it is all official, we can share the worst kept secret in Balnarring!

Due to the expansion of Ritchies IGA we will be relocating to the former newsagent's site, with relocation works continuing through December and January.

This is a very exciting time for us and we will be creating a wonderful new branch that will reflect both our amazing community and the future of banking.

Work has already started at the new site, and we can't wait to share the progress. Stay tuned for regular updates and exciting snippets!



Talk to us today

Community Bank Balnarring & District

Balnarring Shopping Centre Balnarring VIC 3926
P 5983 5543
E balnarringmailbox@bendigobank.com.au
www.bendigobank.com.au/balnarring

We're open:

9:00am - 5:00pm Monday to Friday

 [communitybankbalnarringanddistrict](https://www.facebook.com/communitybankbalnarringanddistrict)

 [communitybankbalnarring](https://www.instagram.com/communitybankbalnarring)

Directors

Heather Goddard (Chair), Chris Gurney (Treasurer), Mark Laughton, Ron Kempster, Stuart Whiteley, Pam Ford, Kym Bridgford, Michael Treadwell, Sarah Moran, Susan Beanland. Company Secretary - Ken Brown

Balnarring & District Community Services Limited
84 127 842 059

We are on the move!

Exciting new branch opening early February 2022 in Balnarring village.



New defibrillator unit in Bittern

We recently funded a new defibrillator unit for Bittern.

With the help of Ambulance Victoria Heartsafe Communities, the defibrillator can be found and accessed in Bittern village, next door to the Medical clinic.

For more information about Heartsafe Communities, the important work they are doing and where to access defibrillator units, visit the Ambulance Victoria website.



MERRY CHRISTMAS, ALWAYS

