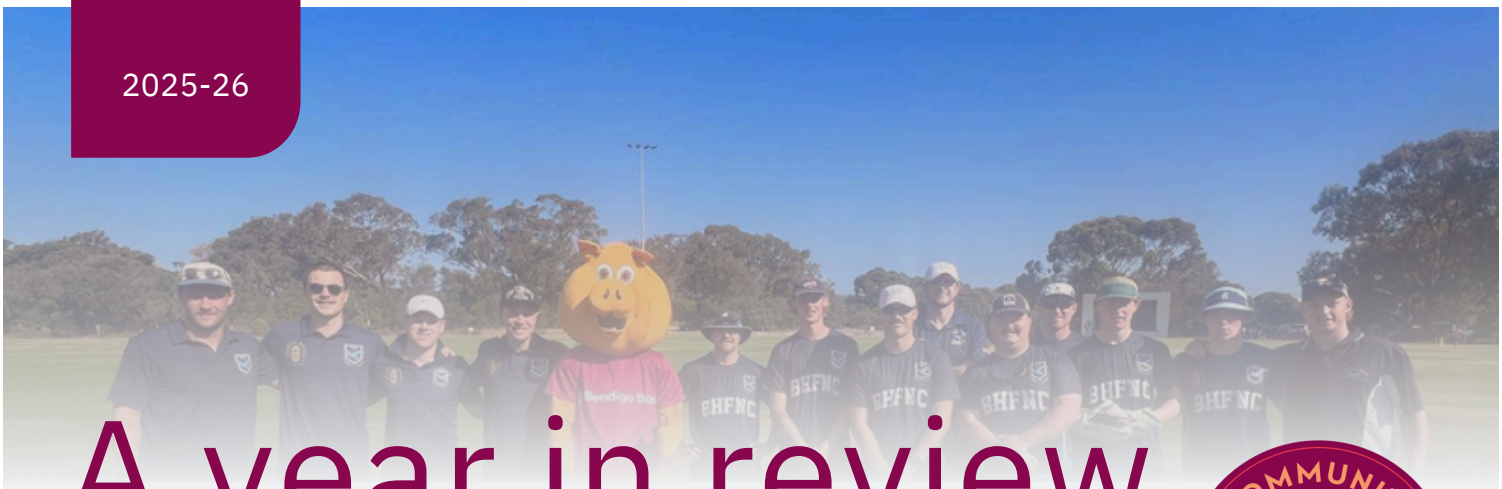
2025-26



A year in review

Community Impact FY25-26

COMMUNITY $154,285 INVESTMENT

Community Bank • Barwon Heads

What a year it has been!

Community Bank Barwon Heads is proud to announce that we reinvested more than $150,000 into our local community this past financial year, bringing our total contribution to over $1.4 million since opening in 2012!

And what a busy year it's been! We're lucky to be part of such a wonderful community, and we always enjoy attending local events, supporting clubs and celebrating the achievements of the people and groups who make it so special.

Looking back over the past year, it's incredibly rewarding to see the difference our contributions have made across Barwon Heads, Armstrong Creek and our surrounding communities. From sporting clubs and schools to the arts, emergency services and local community groups, we're proud to play a small part in so many wonderful initiatives.

I recently stopped to think about how many ways our Community Bank supports my own family. Between the kids' sporting clubs, school and community activities, I counted more than 10! And that's just one family. When you think about the hundreds of families across our community, you begin to appreciate just how far our community investment reaches.

Of course, none of this would be possible without our wonderful customers. Every person, family and business that chooses to bank with us helps us give back to the community we all love. And to the many volunteers who give so much of their time to our local clubs and organisations, thank you for everything you do.

As we reflect on another fantastic year, we're also looking ahead to a very special milestone. Next year marks 15 years of Community Bank Barwon Heads. We're already starting to plan how we'll celebrate, and we look forward to sharing this milestone with the community that has supported us from the very beginning.

Thank you for being part of our story. We can't wait to see what we can achieve together in the year ahead.

Katie Hedley
Acting Chair
Community Bank Barwon Heads

Building community with you



Annual Charity T20 Double Header

Australia Day in Barwon Heads wouldn't be the same without the Charity T20 Double Header, and this year's showdown between our long-time partners, Barwon Heads Cricket Club and Barwon Heads Football Netball Club, was a fantastic celebration of community spirit. Nearly the whole town turned up to soak in the atmosphere, featuring local marquee players CJ Amini and Sema Kamea alongside AFL legend Joel Selwood and media personality Mark Howard. Energy stayed high throughout the day, with DJ entertainment, the Melbourne Renegades mascot, our own Piggy mascot, food trucks, raffles and prizes. The Lions Club even used our Community Bank BBQ trailer to keep everyone fed.

When the dust settled, the honours were shared, with BHFNC taking out the men's match and BHCC claiming the women's. We were proud to present the winning cheques on the day, with the funds going to the Barwon Heads Fire Brigade.

Bellarine Arts Trail

Last year's Bellarine Arts Trail was a great success, showcasing artists across four locations in the region over the Melbourne Cup weekend. Visitors enjoyed discovering local talent, exploring a wonderful range of artwork and meeting the artists behind it.

The arts play such an important role in our community, bringing people together, encouraging creativity and celebrating the incredible talent on our doorstep. Events like the Bellarine Arts Trail require months of planning, countless volunteer hours and enormous dedication from the passionate locals who bring it all together.

We were proud to be the major sponsor of this much-loved event, supporting the Barwon Heads Arts Council and the wonderful work they do to keep the arts thriving in our community.

We're delighted to be partnering with them again as major sponsor of the 2026 Bellarine Arts Trail on 31 October–1 November. Pop into the branch to collect an Arts Trail map and plan your weekend!







Building community with you



Community Cups

We're proud to continue supporting Community Cups across football, cricket and soccer, bringing local clubs together for some friendly competition and a shared commitment to giving back.

We've also strengthened our relationships with other Community Banks across the region, working together to make these events possible. It's a win for everyone, with local clubs and charities benefiting from the prize money, while building stronger connections across our communities.

Mental Health Forum and Barefoot Bowls

More than 80 people rolled up to Barwon Heads Bowling Club for the Mental Health Forum and Barefoot Bowls event, kicking things off with a friendly game on the green. From there, an incredible line-up of local speakers shared their heartfelt stories and practical steps for personal growth. A big congratulations to Mick Cummins for organising such a warm and worthwhile event.



Business Lunches

We continued to build on our local Business Lunches this year, including a fantastic lunch at the recently awarded Tommy Gunns Barwon Heads in May. It was a great opportunity to bring local business owners together, enjoy some delicious food and connect over good conversation.

Our Business Banking team, led by Regional Manager Tim Clarke, plays an important role in bringing these events to life, giving local business owners the chance to meet the team, build relationships and learn more about how we can support their business banking needs.



AGM and Great Debate 2

Our AGM and Great Debate at The Tin Shed has become a real highlight on the community calendar. For Great Debate 2, a lively lineup of local personalities — Claire Gemes, Stella Kinsella, Kim Wilson, Vicki Strachan, Ted Mithen, Warren ‘Wow’ Mitchell, Matt ‘Teddy’ Dunnell and Tim Clarke — went head-to-head over the proposition: “It’s nonsense, not cents, that makes the world go round.”

Ian Cover kept the teams in check as moderator, with Team Cents narrowly claiming victory over Team Nonsense!



Our community impact

Thanks to our wonderful customers who choose to bank with us, we've been able to give back more than $1.4 million to our local community. Every person, family and business that banks with us helps make this possible!

$1.4 million
Reinvested in Barwon Heads and surrounds

$154,285
Reinvested in 2025/26

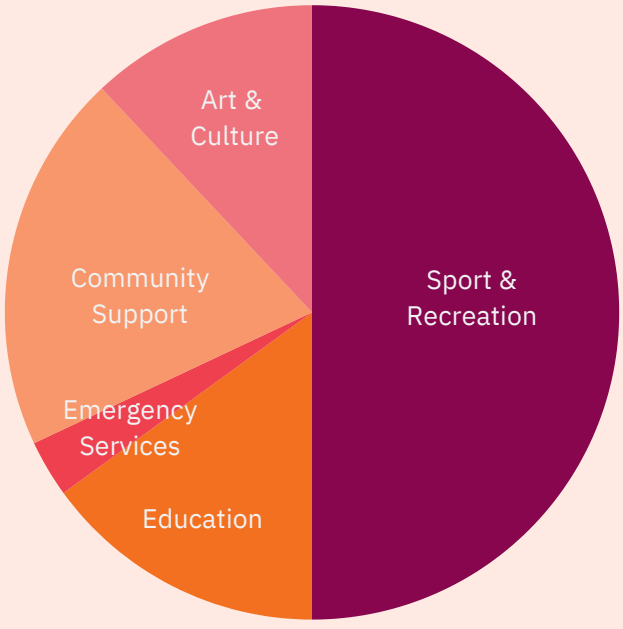
27
Groups supported in 2025/26

Groups/Initiatives supported

- 13th Beach Surf Life Saving Club
- Activate Community Leadership Scholarship
- Armstrong Creek Cricket Club
- Armstrong Creek Football Netball Club
- Armstrong United Football Club
- Barwon Heads Arts Council
- Barwon Heads Cricket Club
- Barwon Heads Cyling Club
- Barwon Heads Fine Music Society
- Barwon Heads Fire Brigade
- Barwon Heads Football Netball Club
- Barwon Heads Primary School
- Barwon Heads Seagulls Basketball Club
- Barwon Heads Soccer Club
- Barwon Heads Tennis Club
- Feed Me Bellarine
- Ocean Grove Barwon Heads Little Athletics Club
- Ocean Grove Calisthenics
- Ocean Grove Lions Club
- Rotary Club of Ocean Grove
- Shine Awards



Our local impact reaches across sport and recreation, arts and culture, education, community support and emergency services, with funding invested across each of these important areas.



Sponsorships and Grants

Through our twice-yearly Community Investment Program, we provide grants and sponsorships to local organisations, building genuine partnerships that make a lasting difference. By supporting each other and promoting the benefits of banking locally, we can continue to give back to our community. Learn more about eligibility and how to apply through our SmartyGrants platform.

In the Community

Events at The Tin Shed





Anzac Day Parade













Barwon Heads Cricket Club T20 Events













Barwon Heads Primary School
150 Year Celebrations



Community Bank Barwon Heads
Business Lunches

Bendigo Bank

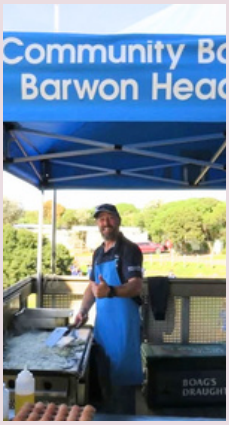
bendigobank.com.au/barwonheads

In the Community

Events at Barwon Heads Football Netball Club







Volunteers at
Feed Me Bellarine



Bendigo Bank x Geelong Cats
Grass Roots Campaign





Events at Barwon Heads
Soccer Club



Events at Armstrong United
Soccer Club













Getting involved

Shares now available



Interested in becoming a shareholder in your local Community Bank?

Community Bank Barwon Heads is operated by Barwon Heads Community Enterprise Limited, which provides a Low Volume Market (LVM) to facilitate the buying and selling of shares.

To find out more about becoming a shareholder or selling existing shares, visit our website.

Talk to us today

Branch Manager: Kellie Thomson
kellie.thomson@bendigoadelaide.com.au

70 Hitchcock Avenue
Barwon Heads VIC 3227
(03) 5254 1700

Hours: 9.30am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday
and by appointment other times

@communitybankbarwonheads





Celebrating our Team

Our team has enjoyed coming together to celebrate another strong year, from the Regional Awards Night to an end-of-year dinner at The Mex. A highlight of the dinner was the personalised awards presented by our Branch Manager, Kellie, bringing plenty of laughs and heartfelt moments as everyone's contributions were recognised.



Need some shade?

Did you know we have a range of marquees available for local clubs and community groups to borrow? Whether you're hosting an event, running a fundraiser or creating a shady spot for players and spectators, our marquees are a great way to keep everyone comfortable.

Best of all, they're free to borrow for clubs and organisations that bank with us! Simply contact the branch to arrange a booking.

