

Beaufort reaps \$1M reward for banking on itself



Beaufort, VIC:

Wednesday 29 July 2016

The Beaufort and district community is today celebrating \$1 million of grants, sponsorships and dividends made from its **Community Bank**[®] Branch, since it was established in 2002.

The branch reached its \$1 million milestone on 29 July handing a \$10,000 donation to Beaufort Historical Society for refurbishment of Camp Hill reserve. The \$1 million project was selected by community vote with more than 450 votes received.

Beaufort **Community Bank**[®] Branch Chairman Tim Chandler, said the branch was committed to supporting a thriving Beaufort community.

“Reaching the \$1 million mark is such a fantastic achievement for a community enterprise that many perceived as a far off dream 13 years ago,” Mr Chandler said.

“For many small regional communities retaining basic services like banking and providing ongoing local employment is essential for survival. We have taken this dream for a locally-owned and operated bank and turned it into a reality, financially supporting hundreds of community initiatives in the process.”

“\$1 million contributed to our little community is a phenomenal achievement and makes a big difference. Thanks to the support of our shareholders, branch staff, volunteer board and customers, we have grown into be one of the biggest sources of community funding in Beaufort.”

Funding granted from Beaufort **Community Bank**[®] Branch and Skipton Agency has supported a range of community groups, projects and events including:

- Beaufort Community Bank Complex
- Beaufort Youth Foundation
- Driver Education Program
- Pyrenees Art Show
- Burrumbeet Race Club
- Carngham Bush fire appeal
- Waubra Community Hub
- Skipton Football Netball Club

Tim Chandler said he hoped \$1 million in donations would be just the start for Beaufort **Community Bank**[®] Branch. The **Community Bank**[®] branch’s next grant round will be open for applications from 3 – 28 August. “With the ongoing support of the Beaufort and district community we can continue to grow our business and, most importantly, our community,” he said.

For more information about the Beaufort **Community Bank**[®] Branch or grant applications contact Company Secretary Jayne Briody on 5349 1515.

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