

# Shareholder Newsletter



April 2022

## Trentham Energy Security Project.

Cool Country Community Enterprises Ltd (CCCE) and Trentham Sustainability Group (TSG) have partnered for the Energy & Climate Resilient Trentham project. CCCE is excited about this important joint initiative with TSG, as we share similar passions for climate change and supporting our community.

*Our first project is a feasibility study to explore renewable energy solutions and a microgrid for our community. "This is the way of the future, with proactive regional communities leading the way so we can be less reliant on networked grids and power outages", said Jane Williams, CCCE Co-Chair*

*"The project vision for the Energy & Climate Resilient Trentham project is to provide a secure, local backup energy supply. By actively taking leadership to address the impact of climate change and the challenges in our community, we can responsibly mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change for the betterment of our community. We are committed to developing projects that will strengthen the resilience of Trentham and its Districts."*

The "Energy & Climate Resilient Trentham Project" feasibility phase is funded by Community Bank Trentham & Districts and Hepburn Shire Council, a grant obtained through the Towards Zero Community Grants Program in 2021. A consultant is developing a cohesive and comprehensive Feasibility Phase report with recommendations supporting our vision.



**Community Bank  
Trentham & Districts**



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*says Jane Williams.*



"Our investment is made possible because of the Community Bank model which is a 'profit with purpose' model. We are hopeful that projects such as the energy project with TSG will have an impact for many generations to come" Jane added.

The Projects purpose is to examine the feasibility of:

1. Implementing renewable energy supplies for our community.
2. A backup electricity supply to essential services sites.
3. A community-scale microgrid for the wider community.
4. Increasing the proportion of renewable energy produced in Trentham.
5. Providing a "white label" retail energy product.



# SPUDFEST



## A town that celebrates the humble potato.

Spudfest is one of Trentham's most significant local annual events and was true to its word, with over 3000 people attending this year.

The Trentham weather, including rain, mist and bitter cold, didn't dampen anyone's spirits. As soggy as the day was, there was a warm heart of activity centred around the Historical Trentham Railway Station and Market Street, which came alive with a host of vendors, musicians, tours and activities. All tastes were catered for all day long.

*It was beautiful to see the town bursting at the seams and embracing the Spud culture. "Spudfest resonates with the rich history of potato farming which is at the very heart of this town", said Helen Mac, Convenor of the festival for the past five years.*



### **Volunteers & Sponsorship**

The new Spudfest committee and volunteer team did an excellent job bringing it all together. There was so much work behind the scenes, which wouldn't have happened without them. The Spudfest team expressed gratitude to its major sponsors Hepburn Shire and Community Bank Trentham & Districts for making this a viable venture based on long-term partnerships.

Not only are they supported financially by Community Bank Trentham & Districts but our Marquee came to the rescue when there was a shortage for the Information Tent and our CommunityPOS system (mobile EFTPOS facility) made taking payments easier.



Mr Potatoe, a massive paper-mache sculpture and hand-painted friends, was showcased in our Community Bank branch window and was decorated by the 3- and 4-year-old kindergarten students.





# Community Bank supports local festivals and events.

Community Bank Trentham & Districts supported, sponsored and assisted with some great festivals and events this April.



## **Blackwood Woodchop & Easter Carnival**

Blackwood put on a fantastic festival, celebrating its 120th anniversary, with a host of festivities, activities and live music that went all day into the night.

This is a great partnership story, working with the Blackwood Progress Committee to ensure the Blackwood Woodchop & Easter Carnival was a great success. Our sponsorship purchased high-vis vests for the volunteers and awarded the major prize money for the '300mm Open Underhand' Woodchop event. Our Community EFTPOS system was a great asset that helped process transactions and managed the crowds upon entry into the event.



Success is the direct response to the partnerships we build together in this community.



## **WaterBug Project Kit - Landcare Group**

It was great to partner with the Blackwood & Barry's Reef Landcare Group to showcase their 'WaterBug Project' at the Blackwood Easter Carnival. The Bendigo Bank Marquee was set up to demonstrate the kits, where kids could find and identify different types of river bugs.

The 'WaterBug Kits' will be used to monitor the health of the Lerderderg River by checking what waterbugs are living in the waterways.

## **Bullarto Vintage Tractor Pull & Car Show**

This year's Bullarto Vintage Tractor Pull & Car Show was set in Trentham as Bullarto town hall undergoes a major upgrade that is sure to be spectacular when it's complete.

We're grateful that we could make it happen, at short notice, as well as sponsor the event by funding winners trophies in all events and the fundraising BBQ. Our Bendigo Bank Marquee and Community Eftpos facility (which is a service offered to all community groups) were also provided.

We are proud supporters of these type of events and will continue to partner the community groups that keep us all connected.





# Loving our local sporting clubs.

## Trentham Golf Club Sponsorship

Community Bank Trentham & Districts partnered with Drummond Golf Club as major sponsors of the first 'Annual Open Par-3 Competition' at Trentham Golf Club. We were delighted to provide and award prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners as part of our regular club sponsorship.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with the club in future events.



## Woodend Golf Club Sponsorship

As part of our district's growth strategy, we're always looking for new ways to share the community banking model and tell our story.

When Woodend Golf Club approached us for signage sponsorship for the upgrading relocation of the first tee and landscaping of the first fairway, we thought this was a great way to increase our connection to the Woodend community.

To officially celebrate the completion of the new first tee, we were invited to participate in the 42nd Annual Maurie Armstrong Memorial Event. Paul Podbury, CCCE Director and Woodend local, had the honour of teeing off on the first tee.

It was a great day of visibility for the Community Bank Trentham & Districts and an excellent rapport building relationship which will continue to build with the locals of Woodend.

## Trentham Bowling Club Scoreboard and Gate Signage

The Trentham Lawn Bowls Bowling Club is one of the best-kept secrets in this town, and whilst the season has ended, it was great to see players get back on the green without masks and a lot of playful banter.

We are pleased to grant funds of \$3000 to replace some very tired scoreboards and upgrade the front gate signage. We look forward to next summer, when we can do it all again.



**WOODEND-HESKET**  
FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB  
EST 1916

## Football Netball Club Sponsorship

Getting behind our local sporting clubs. Supporting Trentham District Football Netball Club (Saints) and Woodend Heskett Football Netball Club (Hawks) is a big deal, and every year these two teams test their rivalry with a kick-off practice match. In our minds, both clubs are winners! This year Community Bank Trentham & Districts awarded each club a \$3000 Jumper Sponsorship. We are proud of our commitment to supporting our local sporting clubs.





# Contribution that go far beyond the bottom line.

It's been an exciting first 4 months of the year with our social calendars jammed packed with events and festivals. It's hard not get involved in local community activities.

## Shareholders support our success.

Community Bank Trentham & Districts welcomes our newest shareholders and extends a warm thank you to those who have supported us along the way. As a community shareholder, you are the owners of Cool Country Community Limited Enterprises, the franchise that operates the business. Being a community shareholder means more than just financial gains; it's about looking after each other, supporting the growth of our town in a way that connects us all and continues to add value so we can thrive together.

Stan Falloon and Corina Sabo have been busy behind the scenes assisting shareholders with the process of buying and selling shares. If your circumstances have changed or you know of someone interested in being part of the bigger story, please email [trenthammailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au](mailto:trenthammailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au).



Geoff Wilson & Corina Sabo



### **TNC's Whole Town Garage Sale**

Trentham town was abuzz with the TNC's Whole Town Garage Sale, with 41 registered sites. The day was a huge success. The TNC, Rural Australians for Refugees Trentham and Community Bank Trentham & Districts were hands-on helping with the fundraising BBQ, which raised an exceptional \$1546.80 for Trentham Neighbourhood Centre.

This event was the perfect example of community groups working together and supporting each other in a joint community partnership. Our sponsorship included the supply of our food and the Bendigo Bank marquee on the day.

### **International Womens Day**

To celebrate the women of Trentham, a photographic slideshow tribute to the incredible businesswomen in our community was captured and showcased on our social pages and in-branch TV for International Women's Day.

It has been exciting to watch the business sector's growth in recent years, and having a local bank that supports the business community makes a huge difference in this town.

Community Bank Trentham & Districts values local business and will continue to celebrate and support our thriving local businesses.



### **Wearing it Yellow National aWEARness Day**

Community Bank Trentham & Districts sponsored the Escabags, a not-for-profit organisation distributing free 'Escape Bags' to families and individuals escaping domestic and family abuse nationally.

The branch staff supported and celebrated this day by "Wearing it Yellow" with iced yellow cupcakes and a big shout out & thank you to Katrina Douglas from Red House Farm, who brightened up our branch window with a beautiful display of yellow sunflowers.

