

# Grants newsletter

December 2011

## Community grants

This year the Drouin and District Grants program received 31 applications for support of their projects and \$154,000 was distributed to the successful applicants.

This newsletter shows the successful applicants and their projects.

## Baw Baw District Police Senior Citizens Register

**\$1,500 to assist with venue hire**

The Baw Baw District Police Senior Citizens Register ensures that senior citizens feel safe at home and in the community through a network of volunteers visitors. This program is run in conjunction with the local Victoria Police using the Drouin Station.

This grant will assist with venue hire of a venue for the police band's senior's day out.

## Country Fire Authority – Hallora & District Fire Brigade

**\$2,600 to purchase equipment**

The Country Fire Authority provides an outstanding service to our community. This application is made in conjunction with the Hallora & District Fire Brigade and will aid Drouin South and Lardner brigades as well.

This grant will assist with the purchase needed fire prevention equipment.

## Drouin Music and Movement Playgroup

**\$500 for a stereo upgrade**

The playgroup provides an opportunity to support families with young children to develop motor skills through interaction and play. The group has a safe, inclusive environment and also engages members in singing and dancing activities.

This grant will provide the group with a new stereo system for these activities.



## Longwarry and District Lions Club

### \$2,668 to purchase a new barbeque

Among the various things undertaken by Lions Clubs, they help as emergency volunteers and in particular, they support other volunteers with food, drink and a chance to take a break, as well as catering for community events. The club was particularly active during the recent fires.

This grant will enable the club to update its appliances to assist during these times.

## Drouin West Rural fire Brigade

### \$20,000 to complete a new shed to purchase a new vehicle

This is another of our active brigades who assist our community with fire prevention and fire fighting services. To continue their valuable work, the brigade needs a new Forward Command Vehicle and a suitable shed to house such a vehicle.

The total cost of this project is \$73,900 and a \$20,000 has been made to enable the brigade to complete this project.



▲ Members of the Drouin West Rural Fire Brigade Graeme Higgs and Bruce Jewell with Bruno Persico (Chairman).

## Habitat for Humanity

### \$30,000 over the next 3 years to assist in constructing three new homes

Habitat for Humanity provides safe and affordable houses for families facing housing difficulties and who would otherwise never share in house ownership. The organisation has a motto of 'a hand up, not a hand out', and calls on the homeowners to contribute to the project and payback the cost over time. The houses are built predominantly through volunteer labour.

This project is to build three homes in Monica Drive, Drouin in collaboration with the community over the next three years.

The total cost of these homes will be \$550,000. Drouin & District Community Financial Services Limited has committed \$10,000 per year for three years to this project.



▲ Car 141 - Variety Bash 2011 supported by Drouin & District **Community Bank**® Branch.

## Variety Club Victoria – Car 141

### \$3,000 to assist in running costs of Car 141

Variety provided support and services for disadvantaged and disabled children to give them a better quality of life.

Each car is required to raise a level of funds to meet all participants' costs. Car 141 has raised more than \$15,000 each year that it has participated in the Variety Bash.

This grant will directly meet the continued demand for equipment.

## St Vincent De Paul Victoria Inc.

### \$4,500 to assist in costs associated with producing Christmas Hampers

St Vincent De Paul assists the poor and disadvantaged in the community.

One of their projects providing Christmas Hampers to help those in need to share in the spirit of the festive season.

These hampers include food and non-perishable items, including movie tickets and other vouchers.

This grant has been provided to assist with the production and distribution of these hampers to people in need in the Drouin and District area.

## Drouin Playgroup

### \$1,556 Soft Fall Mulch in the outdoor play area

### \$1,539.90 to replace vinyl in the foyer

Playgroup provides an opportunity for the growth of social, motor and development skill for children from a young age and support for their families. Currently the program supports 60 families, with eight sessions per week.

This grant will replace flooring in the foyer and replace the mulch in the playground.



▲ Warragul Special School – receiving grant for purchase of iPads.

## Scots Presbyterian Church – Drouin

### \$1,000 to run a school holiday program

Scots Presbyterian Church operates many programs to assist families and children in the Drouin area. One of these is the Winter School Holiday Program that is conducted by volunteers and is open to all young people in our community.

The program engages young people to develop social, motor and other development skills through craft activities, games and other activities for young people. This grant will help cover program costs to deliver the program at a minimal cost to participants.

## Lyrebird Village for the Aged

### \$75,000 to redevelop the aged complex

Lyrebird Village is well known for its care and attention to the elderly of our community. They are leaders in their industry and have embarked on an ambitious and successful re-building of the community-owned facility.

Our assistance to Lyrebird Village has gone into its 6th year and it certainly has achieved the **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch aim of using funds to build and enhance the balance sheet of the community in which it operates.

This year we will assist the village to rebuild the Boronia Lower Wing with resident and public toilet facilities as well as five macerators (hospital standard human waste disposal units).

## Warragul and District Special School

### \$10,000 to implement the Challenge 2012 Program

The Warragul and District Special School supports more than 100 students aged 6 to 18 years with an intellectual disability.

This grant will support a unique program that will assist in educating those who struggle with the classroom learning environment, by offering them activities that challenge and stimulate them.

## Longwarry Public Hall

### \$15,000 to purchase tables and chairs for the hall

The Longwarry Public Hall is a social point for the community of Longwarry with about 13 different user groups regularly using the facility. The hall has also been used in times of emergency as a food and rest depot or a coordination centre.

The hall has undergone improvements over the past few years with a view of establishing a town hub, which would further enhance its ongoing use.

With this grant, the Longwarry Hall Committee will purchase new tables and chairs that can easily be used by all groups.

## Blackwood Youth Foundation

### \$5,000 to support a Nutritional Cooking and Breakfast Program

The Blackwood Foundation was established to assist the Blackwood Centre for Adolescent Development. The centre provides early intervention for programs for at risk young children.

Many of the youth who attend the Blackwood Centre have poor nutrition, and this grant will enable the foundation to equip them with nutritional and cooking skills, as well as funding a breakfast program, providing nourishing meals to participants.



▲ Anthony Gillett (Regional Manager), Bruno Persico (Chairman), Chris Harrison (Branch Manager) and Bill Baker (CEO Lyrebird Villages for the Aged)

The Board and staff of Drouin & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch would like to thank all of its customers and shareholders for their continued support. Without this, we simply would not be able to achieve the level of granting that has taken place over the past six years.

Sponsorships and donations granted in 2011 bring the total returns to the Drouin and District community to more than \$2 million.

A further \$260,215 has been returned to shareholders in dividends.

## A new joint venture with West Gippsland Hospital

The Board of Drouin & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch recently approached the West Gippsland Hospital (WGH) to offer financial support to a project that would benefit the whole community and that would not receive government funding.

Following meetings with WGH management and your **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Board, it was determined that one of the most pressing needs was an upgrade and replacement of major equipment in the hospital's operating theatre.

This piece of equipment, which is known as a Laparoscopic Tower Operating Theatre, will enable staff and visiting surgeons to operate using state of the art equipment. Furthermore, this equipment will encourage specialist surgeons to travel to the WGH to attend to community members. We will also expect that this will save many members of the community from travelling to Melbourne to have procedures performed.

More information concerning this partnership will be available in the new year. The Board has committed to a five year partnership of more than \$230,000.

## Meet our staff



▲ Bruce Sorrell.



▲ Nicole Friar.

Bruce has been the Customer Relationship Manager at Drouin & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch for the past four years and brings with him knowledge and experience from 25 years in the banking industry. He can help meet your personal and home loan needs.

Nicole has been the Customer Relationship Officer at Drouin & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch for the past two years and brings with her a broad range of skills to assist you with your personal account and loan needs, general insurance, as well as limited personal advice relating to superannuation, managed funds, and personal insurance.

## Drouin & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch

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Opening hours:

Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm and  
Saturday mornings 9.00am - 12noon.

The staff at Drouin & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch are;

Chris Harrison	Branch Manager
Bruce Sorrell	Customer Relationship Manager
Nicole Friar	Customer Relationship Officer
Helen Cobbledick	Customer Service Supervisor
Elaine Johnson	Customer Service Officer
Tania Allchin	Customer Service Officer
Kim Kovacevic	Customer Service Officer
Jade Dance	Customer Service Officer

For all your banking needs call into Drouin & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch.

We look forward to your enquiry.



Board of Directors: Drouin and District Financial Services Limited  
ABN 37 096 687 240 26 Main Street, Pakenham VIC 3810

Directors: Bruno Persico (Chairman), Lyn Arnup (Treasurer), Chris Arnup, Terry Williamson (Vice Chairman), Ken Roberts, Rodney Dunlop, Deborah Brown, Kim Rees.