



commUnity Snapshot



May 2012

Made possible by the customers of
Drouin & District **Community Bank®** Branch



Technology in education

Warragul Special School recently introduced iPads to the school pupils as a new and exciting education aide.

The iPads that were offered to the school at a discounted rate by Apple and have additional programming designed to assist children with learning or other disabilities.

Drouin & District **Community Bank®** Branch was able to assist with the purchase of the equipment via a donation to the school with a \$5,000 grant.

Community grants 2010/11

In conjunction with the Community Enterprise Foundation™, the grants for the last financial year were presented at a morning gathering at Lyrebird Village for the Aged in Drouin.

More than \$120,000 was granted to various groups and organisations in the Drouin and district. This takes the total amount returned to the community for the year to more than \$300,000.

The grants program for the current financial year will be open in August/September and the grants will be presented a month or so later.



Drouin & District Community Financial Services Ltd

26 Main Street, Pakenham VIC 3810

ABN 37 096 687 240

Directors: Bruno Persico, Chris Arnup, Deborah Brown, Rodney Dunlop, Kim Rees, Kenneth Roberts, Terry Williamson, Lyn Arnup.

Support for our local hospital continues

In late 2011 the West Gippsland Hospital was the recipient of an equipment grant to enable vital services to be continued at the Cooinda Lodge Unit.

The unit was asked to supply a list of the most essential equipment needed and following the discussions, the Board approved a grant of \$20,000.

The healthcare group purchased a new portable bath chair and a mobility chair for clients to use.

The Board is currently in discussions with hospital management around other opportunities to assist them.

We are expecting to make an exciting announcement about our ongoing partnership in the near future.

Watch this space!



Making a difference

Drouin & District **Community Bank**® Branch has become involved with the roll out of defibrillators for various sporting clubs and recreation reserves.

The value of such equipment to the clubs and reserves has been well documented in the media over the past 12 months throughout Australia, with many instances of use to save both the young and elderly alike.

So far we have placed eight of the units in the district at a cost of over \$24,000.



Two million reasons to bank locally



Over the past 10 years, Drouin & District **Community Bank**® Branch has contributed more than \$2 million to our community by way of grants, sponsorships and donations.

We are very proud of this achievement given that the reason that our **Community Bank**® branch exists is because of our community.

Healthy eating

As part of our continuing support of local schools and the general health message, St Ida's primary school was assisted with the development of the Kid's Garden at the school.

The garden enables the school to promote healthy eating, outdoor activity and agricultural lessons to its students in an interactive way.

Our **Community Bank**® branch assisted with a \$1,500 grant to go toward the establishment of the elevated garden beds and fencing for the garden.



The **Community Bank**® concept is simple; the more banking done locally, the more profit generated and therefore a larger financial contribution can be passed on to the community.

Please help us continue to do this by spreading the **Community Bank**® message to your family and friends.

We invite you to introduce yourself to our manager, Chris Harrison to discuss your banking requirements.

Communities helping communities

During each year we have requests from charitable groups to assist them raise needed funds for those less fortunate in our community. One such group is the Lions Club of Drouin.

In recent times we have supported Drouin Lions with the purchase and repair of trailers used to collect and distribute firewood within the district. Also we supported them with the local Garden Expo and Home Show, an event we have supported since 2004.

This event enables the Lions Club to raise more than \$20,000 each year and it is then donated to worthy causes in our area.



Staff changes

After 10 years with the Company, and as announced at the AGM, Elaine Johnson has resigned.

Elaine's contribution to the establishment of our business and Company and her commitment to our **Community Bank®** branch could not be over estimated. We will miss her dedication and friendly manner and we wish her well in her future.

We have been very lucky to have been able to find a ready made replacement in Lauren Eastwell.

Lauren has been employed with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd for six years and has recently returned from maternity leave.

We are looking forward to Lauren's contribution.

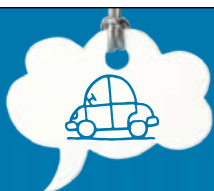
New boardroom and office

As the business of the **Community Bank®** Company and branch continues to grow, it became clear that the Company was in need of additional working space for the Board and staff.

The Board was able to secure a small office space at 37 Princes Way, Drouin and this has been converted and fitted out as a boardroom and office.

The Board has also secured the services of a part-time administration officer, Julieanne Palankis who will work from the site as required.

The day-to-day activity of the branch has not changed and all banking facilities and services are still available at the normal branch site at 42 princes Way, Drouin.



THE 'I WANT' PERSONAL LOAN

Are you dreaming about a new car or big screen TV?
Do you fancy an overseas vacation?

Getting what you want is now fast and easy with an 'I Want' Personal Loan from Bendigo Bank.

All you need to do is decide what you want, provide a few key details, complete a short application form and your dream could be a reality.

Applying is fast, simple and no fuss.

If you know what you want, but need help to get it:

Visit Drouin & District **Community Bank®** Branch
Call 5625 4544

www.bendigobank.com.au

Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. All loans subject to the bank's normal lending criteria.
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879. (S38998) (02/12)

Message from Branch Manager



The Company and the branch have been very busy since the Annual General Meeting with many of our annual community events being completed.

We have continued our involvement with the Carols by Candlelight and this year the event was conducted in fine weather for a change. We must thank the combined churches of Drouin for their continued commitment to this worthwhile event.

We have also completed our involvement with the Ficifolia Festival for 2012. The festival was extended this year for an extra three days and the new committee showed enthusiasm and excellent planning to stage a successful festival.

The Drouin Lions Garden & Home Expo was well attended over the two-day event and many positive comments were heard concerning our involvement as the major sponsor of the event.

The Drouin Lions Club not only raised funds for charities in this area from this event but enable other clubs in the area to participate and raise much need funds as well.

This year we will chalk up our 10th year in business. This is a marvellous achievement for the Company, the staff and the community of Drouin and district.

During these 10 years we have been able to return more than \$2 million in direct sponsorships, donations or grants to worthwhile community groups.

We have been able to have the local facilities upgraded and created, we have supported charities in their work in the community, helped the local youth and the elderly with programs and sporting bodies continue to provide events.

The Company is in a sound financial position and the branch continues to grow strongly.

This is in no small part due to the excellent support we have had from our initial and ongoing shareholders and the community members who has supported us with their banking over the journey.

\$2 million
in community
contributions and
it all starts with **U**

Going forward the Board of Directors are continuing with existing partnerships and are looking forward to developing others. We are currently in discussions with Habitat for Humanity concerning housing for the disadvantaged in Drouin, the West Gippsland Hospital to providing equipment and the local school communities to provide ongoing support for the youth of the district. We have also recommitted to our partnership with Lyrebird Village for the Aged.

We recommend banking with a **Community Bank®** branch to you all and hope to see you in the branch in the near future.

Chris Harrison
Branch Manager

Good for **U**
AND your
community

With every product or service Bendigo Bank offers, money goes back into the community to support local projects and initiatives.

It means that as a customer you benefit from competitive products and great service and get the satisfaction of knowing your banking is contributing to your community.

So make a difference. To your own banking. And to your community. Call into Drouin & District Community Bank® Branch or phone 5625 4544.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879. (U028B) (03/12)

Drouin & District **Community Bank®** Branch



Watch the **Community Bank®** story at
www.bendigobank.com.au/snapshots

U can find our branch at...

Drouin – 42 Princess Way, Drouin VIC 3818 Phone: 5625 4544 Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/drouin

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm and Saturday mornings 9.00am – 12 noon.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879. BMPNL0428 (23/05/12)