

January  
2025

# Hello, Bendigo!

Community Bank · Wollongong

## A message from our Chair

Dear Community Members,

At Community Bank Wollongong, we're more than just a bank; we're a part of your local community. This year we are proud to have reinvested profits to key local organisations that will be shared in this newsletter.

Our focus remains steadfast on contributing to a resilient and thriving local landscape. Whether through sponsorships or grants, we aim to create a positive community impact. We are proud of the \$366 million reinvested nationally, a testament to the strength and commitment of community banking.

Together, we can continue to "Do good. Do more. And do well."

Visit our branch today to learn more about how we can support your financial needs.

Warm regards,

**Bobbi Brodie**

**Chair, Community Bank Wollongong**

## It's time to say thank you!

We love celebrating all the great things your better banking has done for our community.

One of the highlights this year has been partnering **Woonona Football Club** in taking out the All Age Men's Team on their Grand Final against Kiama.

Supporting such a great club is just one of many reasons why we do what we do, which is deliver exceptional banking to you that creates positive impact in our community – it's a win-win for everyone!

**We are proud to announce in 2025 we will be supporting this great club again.**





“We are proud to announce that with the help of our members and Wollongong community, Community Bank Wollongong has paid for a bladder scanner and syringe drivers for the ‘Community Cancer Link’. These will benefit many in our community.”  
**- Marija Murray, Board Member**



## UOW HEALTH & SCIENCES BALL

A snippet into the University of Wollongong (UOW)’s “Health & Sciences Charity Ball”, organised by the UOW Medical and Health Society, Chemistry Society, Physics Society, Exercise Science Society, and Illawarra Public Health Society. This was such a great opportunity for our local community to get together, support and raise awareness for charities making a major impact.

Last year’s ball was held on 15 November 2024, with the theme ‘Starry Night’. It was a night filled with lots of laughs, dancing, photos and art, which raised much needed funds for the ‘Kind Hearts Illawarra Foundation’, who assist those experiencing homelessness.

## About Community Cancer Link

**CCL was established in 2009 with the following aims:**

To conduct fundraising to provide assistance for patients, their families, relevant health professionals and other related organisations dealing with the impact of cancer.

To provide assistance and work cooperatively with other groups and organisations dealing with the impact of cancer so that services are comprehensive and coordinated. To achieve our aims CCL gratefully acknowledges the contributions of our corporate members.

If you are interested in assisting Community Cancer Link in anyway please visit their website  
<https://www.communitycancerlink.org.au>

### How is Community Cancer Link helping?

CCL fund raising has enabled purchases of equipment for healthcare facilities in the Illawarra. Since conception these funds have allowed CCL to receive “wish lists” from healthcare staff and provide equipment to local wards, units and departments.

## New Operating Hours

From November 2024, as other banks in the local area are closing their doors, Community Bank Wollongong have extended their commitment to serving you better by extending opening hours.

Pop in to book an appointment for a home loan health check today, or to discuss any banking needs.

Now open every week day

Monday to Friday 9:30am - 4pm

(excluding public holidays).

## The Barstool Brothers - Monthly Catch Ups

Let's talk about men's mental health, and where community truly matters the absolute most. Community Bank Wollongong has been a proud sponsor of the Barstool Brothers 'Raising the Bar Monthly Catch Ups'. Which typically involves a free burger at 'His Boy Elroy' and a comfortable place for men to connect within our local community.

A positive story includes someone who saw posts about the event on social media, and started to attend the monthly catch ups. They were able to connect with others, from those in similar situations, they were able to be vulnerable and realise that everyone goes through their own individual struggles, but they don't necessarily need to go through these alone. This individual then gave feedback about the event and how "it's the best he has ever felt about himself" in a long time.

Community Bank Wollongong is so grateful to support local initiatives who are making major contributions to our Illawarra community. We would like to thank the Barstool Brothers for welcoming men in our community with open arms, and for allowing us to be a part of their life-changing work.

If you or someone you know would benefit, please share with them.

When: Second Tuesday of the month.

Time: 6pm - 9pm

Where: His Boy Elroy, Wollongong

The next few dates are:

- 11 March 2025
- 8 April 2025
- 13th May 2025



## \$366m in Community Investment since 1998!

It's a win-win when you bank with us. Your better banking has helped support the clubs, projects and organisations at the heart of our local community.

Where else can great banking create such a positive impact -

### Supporting Our Community Together

At Community Bank Wollongong, your banking choice makes a significant difference. Every transaction, account, and loan contributes to the community, ensuring that your finances work towards a greater cause.

By choosing us, you help create a resilient, sustainable, and thriving community. Join us in building a brighter future. Let's continue to "Do good. Do more. And do well."

**Discover how your banking choices can make a difference today! Visit our branch or call us to learn more about our community initiatives.**

## Who do we support?

\$9.2m in Sport

\$8.8m in Infrastructure

\$7.5m in Education

\$7.8m in Health

\$4.3m in Arts

\$900k in Environment

Find out more about how the Bendigo Bank group has supported their communities by visiting <https://www.bendigobank.com.au/community/community-bank/>



## Crunch and Sip at Towradgi Public School

For the future leaders of our community, healthy eating and building good relationships with food has become a priority.

Throughout 2024, Community Bank Wollongong provided on-going support of 'Crunch and Sip' which promotes the eating of healthy fruits and vegetables, for Towradgi Public School. We have donated fresh fruit boxes from local stores to make this great initiative accessible to every student.

With research showing "half a million Australians are struggling to afford food on any given day" children are going without recess or lunch. We have been providing cheese toasties for their students who have gone to school without a packed lunch or anything substantial.

***This is just one of the great initiatives made possible when you choose to bank with the better big bank.***



### Talk to us today

#### Community Bank Wollongong

39 Princes Highway Fairy Meadow NSW 2519

P 4284 8277

E [WollongongMailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au](mailto:WollongongMailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au)  
wollongong

#### We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday

#### Directors

Bobbi Brodie, Tony Connor, Teagan Curtain, Amy Lewis, Marija Murray and Marie Russo.

Fairy Meadow Community Financial Services  
Limited  
16 104 140 641

## Our Christmas Drive 2024 benefited Bellambi Neighbourhood Centre

This year's Xmas Drive was dedicated to Bellambi Neighbourhood Centre and the wonderful support they provide to our community all year round.

We asked our Community Bank members, Fairy Meadow locals and surrounding Wollongong community to pitch in - so together we can make a difference! We received generous donations of all sizes and items, from toys to non-perishable goods and toiletries.

We cannot thank our local community enough.



## A Magical Fruit Salad Tree for Bally's Patch!

Thanks to our donation, Bally's Patch now have a new tree! It's a Fruit Salad Tree which grows lime 🍋, mandarins 🍊 and lemons 🍋!

During a group effort one of the youngest members enjoyed planting this fabulous tree.

