

Summer  
2024-25

# Hello, Fleurieu!

Community Bank · Fleurieu

Welcome to this Summer edition of our newsletter! In this issue we showcase how Community Bank Fleurieu is supporting our customers and communities throughout the Fleurieu to thrive. These stories are made possible as we return 80% of our profit to organisations, clubs and schools in the Fleurieu – now that's profit with a purpose! \$1.8 million and counting!



## Sun, fun, and festivals: Helping to bring the community together

As we look ahead to the festive season, Community Bank Fleurieu is excited to support and bring together our local community with some fantastic upcoming events. From Christmas cheer to family-friendly fun, here are a few activities we're proud to sponsor—each one promising wonderful memories and community spirit.



### Community Bank Fleurieu Family Fun Day

Mark your calendars for the Community Bank Fleurieu Family Fun Day – a perfect summer outing for the whole family! Head to Strathalbyn Racing Club on Wednesday, 15 January, and enjoy a range of exciting games and activities, delicious food trucks, live music, and more. From Fairy Belle face painting to Darcy's Farm and horse racing, there's something for everyone. It's our way of celebrating the best of what the Fleurieu community has to offer—come along and join in the fun!



### South Coast Camera Club Festival of Photography

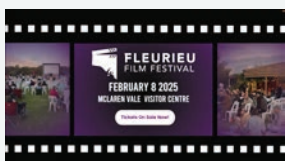
We are proud to support the Bendigo Bank Fleurieu Festival of Photography Exhibition, opening in Victor Harbor on Friday, 17 January 2025.

All the details can be found on their website:  
[www.southcoastcameraclub.com](http://www.southcoastcameraclub.com)

### Fleurieu Film Festival

The Fleurieu Film Festival is on again Saturday, 8 February! Come for the short films, big stories, under the stars at McLaren Vale and Fleurieu Coast Visitor Centre lawns. It's a great night out.

All the details can be found on their website  
[www.fleurieufilmfestival.com.au](http://www.fleurieufilmfestival.com.au)



## Fleurieu Living Magazine

We were pleased to be featured in the spring issue of Fleurieu Living Magazine, which showcased Community Bank Fleurieu and our commitment to empowering communities through genuine investment. The article highlighted the positive impact we're making across the Fleurieu Peninsula – work made possible thanks to our dedicated customers and community partners.



If you haven't seen it yet, grab a copy and read about the incredible efforts happening right here in our local community. Together, let's continue celebrating the spirit and strength of the Fleurieu.

# Better banking experience. Big impact.



## Driving local impact

Our commitment to community support goes beyond words – we take action by partnering with initiatives that create meaningful change. One shining example of this is the Driving the Future program in the City of Victor Harbor.



This initiative provides young people with a dedicated vehicle, funded by Community Bank Fleurieu, to help them achieve their provisional driver's licences. Many youths do not have access to a supervising driver, which often limits their ability to reach independence, employment, and future opportunities. The Driving the Future program fills this vital gap, giving eligible young people free access to a roadworthy vehicle and qualified supervision.

What we love about this program is that it is more than just driving lessons; it builds lasting relationships, creates community connections, and empowers young people to achieve their goals.

Program coordinator Daniel Western highlighted the importance of Community Bank Fleurieu's support, saying, "Without the \$35,000 from Community Bank Fleurieu, this program wouldn't have been possible." The impact of the bank's contribution goes beyond the monetary value; it is changing lives and building community cohesion.

As Tianni Cameron, one of the learner drivers, put it, "Without this program, I don't know how I would have gotten my supervised hours." We are so proud to play a part in this meaningful journey – empowering young people and supporting community growth, one drive at a time.

## Supporting our community: The Fleurieu Accommodation Project

The Fleurieu Accommodation Project is a powerful testament to our commitment to creating meaningful change in the community. This groundbreaking \$70,000 initiative, in collaboration with the Fleurieu Community Foundation, Zonta Club of the Fleurieu Peninsula, Elders Real Estate Victor Harbor and Junction Australia, is helping secure much-needed relief for those facing homelessness across the Fleurieu Peninsula.

The project, spearheaded by Junction, focuses on addressing the urgent need for safe and accessible housing. As the head leaseholder, Junction leases private rental properties and sub-lets them to individuals experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness. This approach provides both immediate support and a pathway to stability for vulnerable members of our community.

Our role has been integral in bringing this project to life, with key members of our team – Alison Burr, Julie Zeiting, and Natalie Stevenson – actively participating over the past year. Their dedication and our Goolwa branch's commitment, utilising staff investment grants, have played a crucial part in seeing this vision become a reality.

The Fleurieu Accommodation Project is more than providing a roof – it's about building resilience, dignity, and community connections. As Brad Butler, CEO of Fleurieu Community Foundation, put it, "Together, we are making a profound difference and building a stronger, more resilient Fleurieu."

We are incredibly proud to be part of this transformative project, working side by side with local partners to uplift those in need. This is what community banking is all about – making a positive impact right here, where we live and work.

## Annual General Meeting

We held our Annual General Meeting in November; thank you to Goolwa RSL for hosting us and to our Shareholders who attended.

We would like to recognise our resigning Director Markus Bucy and acknowledge his contribution. Thank you, Markus, for your passion and enthusiasm you brought to the Board.



## Heard a familiar voice on the radio?

We're so excited that our new radio ads are now live on Fleurieu FM, running daily every few hours from breakfast time onwards. A huge thanks to the station for being an incredible partner and helping us create something truly special. You might recognise the voices of some of our own – like Julie, Natalie, Tom, and Bec – bringing their passion for community banking right to your ears. We're proud to work with a station that truly embodies the spirit of the Fleurieu!

## Supporting community connections: Yankalilla Men's Shed



For nine years, the Yankalilla Men's Shed has been a vital hub for nearly 50 members, providing a welcoming space for men to connect, share stories, and engage in meaningful interactions.

We are proud to have invested in this amazing initiative, providing \$3,500 to help purchase a new trailer – an essential tool that significantly enhances their fundraising efforts. Barbecues are key to their fundraising, and with the new trailer, transporting equipment for these events has become much easier. This improvement not only streamlines their efforts but also allows the Shed to assist community members who cannot afford repairs, from churches to household items.

As President George Adler expressed, "This initiative allows us to give back and make a real difference in our community."

The Yankalilla Men's Shed continues to thrive, providing support to those in need. We are fortunate to have such an organisation in our community and knowing that by supporting them, we are also supporting even more of the community.



## Making good things happen

### Sports

23 Sporting groups

1 Grandstand

3 Sets of soccer goal posts

1 Resurface of cricket pitch

### Supporting Community

1 Community vehicle

Emergency Housing Project

Clothing for vulnerable children

### Leadership

3 Leadership programs

8th year of supporting the Fleurieu Future Leaders Program

1st year of supporting the Kangaroo Island Future Leaders Program

### Events

23 Events across the Fleurieu

2025 Wooden Boat Festival

### Community Assistance

4 Trailers

4 Programs to assist health across the Fleurieu

### Youth

3 Youth programs, including a driver education program

## Supporting growth at Southern Breakers Soccer Club

Our partnership with the Southern Breakers Soccer Club is a great example of our commitment to supporting organisations that uplift our community.

Led by President Colin O'Donnell, the club has seen remarkable growth over the years, expanding from just 65 young players to 140 players, with an incredible influx of new women's teams and senior men's teams.

Our partnership helped the club purchase new goals on wheels, making a significant difference in safety and convenience for both coaches and players. Colin highlighted the impact, explaining how the new goals are much easier and safer to move compared to the old equipment.

We also invested in coaching courses for the club, helping twelve dedicated coaches enhance their skills and make a lasting impact on the players they mentor. As Colin noted, "Community Bank Fleurieu is amazing – what they've done for our club and the entire community is simply outstanding."

The Southern Breakers Soccer Club is a thriving community organisation that embodies the spirit of connection, inclusion, and growth—values we hold close at Community Bank Fleurieu. We're proud to support their journey and continue to make a positive impact on the Fleurieu Peninsula.





## Grants, bears, and auctions: A celebration of community spirit



On Thursday, 14 November, the spirit of community filled the air at Connect Victor as over 100 people gathered to celebrate and support local initiatives. Hosted by Community Bank Fleurieu, the Community Investment Evening was more than just an event – it was a celebration of collaboration, generosity, and community spirit.

A highlight of the night was the announcement of \$133,000 in Community Grants awarded to 14 different local organisations by Community Bank Fleurieu. From supporting grassroots initiatives to empowering regional programs, the grants will bring tangible benefits to the people of the Fleurieu Peninsula, enabled by those who bank with Community Bank Fleurieu.

Among the recipients was a special grant of \$50,000 dedicated to the 2025 Kangaroo Island Future Leaders Program. Supported through the Bendigo Bank 2019/2020 Adelaide Hills & Kangaroo Island Bushfire Appeal, this investment signifies a commitment to future growth and resilience on the Island, and further connects the Kangaroo Island community with that of the Fleurieu.

But the evening wasn't just about grants – it was also about conversation, laughter and a sense of fun. Buttoned Up Co took centre stage with an impromptu auction, sparking friendly bidding, particularly between the Mayor of the City of Victor Harbor and the new CEO of Alexandrina Council.



Thanks to their generosity, \$440 was raised – matched by Community Bank Fleurieu, making the final amount \$880. These funds will support Buttoned Up Co, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing bedding comforts like pyjamas and blankets for those in need, helping to bring warmth and comfort to those in difficult circumstances.

Every customer of Community Bank Fleurieu helps change lives and save lives. By investing 80% of their profits into local initiatives, the bank's commitment to giving back remains unwavering. It was mentioned more than once how grateful the community is to have four branches across the locality (Aldinga, Victor Harbor, Goolwa, and Willunga). This night stood as proof of what can be achieved when a community comes together, and great excitement for what can be achieved in the future.

### Talk to us today

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#### Community Bank · Aldinga Beach

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