

Annual Report 2023

Grampians Regional
Community Enterprises
Limited

Community Bank
Dunkeld & District

ABN 29 139 414 234



Annual Reports

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Chairman's Report

For year ending 30 June 2023

Community Bank Dunkeld & District has had another strong year with our total business at the end of June 30 2023 being \$138.2 million. The business profit generated for 2022/23 was \$259,152 (before tax), in addition to providing \$96,807 in community sponsorships.

The success of the Community Bank brings our total community contributions of \$474,580 since 2010. Benefits also include having a bank which employs locals who live and contribute to our communities, and you can be confident they are ready to help when you need them. It is simple, supporting your Community Bank does make a difference.

After 12 plus years of service to Community Bank Dunkeld & District, Anna Watson our original Branch Manager resigned in July 2023. Anna has been the driving force behind the success of our branch and whilst we are sad to see her go, we sincerely thank her for leading our team and the commitment she made from starting from scratch to the success our branch is today. (Winning "Branch of the Year- Regional Victoria & Tasmania in consecutive years).

Anna has remained part of the Bendigo Bank team taking on a role with business banking and we wish her every success in the future.

Carly Behncke also resigned during the year in January 2023, we thank Carly for her services to the branch team.

To our dedicated staff Louise Field, Robyn Ackland, Bec Hill and Ella Price the board would like to acknowledge your commitment to our communities and business and the great support you provide to our customers. We welcome Jack Oswald as our new Branch Manager, who joins us with experience as a Community Bank Branch Manager from Community Bank Willaura and Lake Bolac. Jack is already part of our community being involved at the Glenthompson Dunkeld FNC, we look forward to Jack continuing on where Anna has left off.

The Board would also like to acknowledge the support of Regional Manager Jason Chuck for his insight and support of our branch.

Since the last AGM we welcome Catherine Loria, Mick Alderman, Paul Carrazzo and Carly Behncke (back for a second term) to the board and we farewell Craig Oliver, Sherryn Jennings, Chris Murphy, Sue Morse & Matt Nettleton. Thanks to all the outgoing board members for your contribution to Community Bank Dunkeld & District. Special mention to Craig Oliver who was a founding member of our Board and past Treasurer and Chairman. The Board thanks Craig for his outstanding contribution and sage council over the 12 plus years he was on the Board.

Thanks to Anthony Page, Simon Macgugan, Jodie Young, Joanna Heard and Jock Whiting who remain as directors contributing their time and energy to the success of Community Bank Dunkeld & District.

In closing it is a simple formula, the more you support the Community Bank, the more we can invest back into the community. So please give our Community Bank branch team the opportunity to help you, to ensure your financial future and to be part of your community's future prosperity.



Brendan Kelly
Chairman

Manager's Report

For year ending 30 June 2023

It is with pleasure & sadness that I submit my final annual report to the Board and shareholders for the 2022/23 financial year.

I would like to thank the staff, their commitment and passion to our branch, the Bank and our community is remarkable. Robyn Ackland, Louise Field, Carly Behncke, Bec Hill & Ella Price have yet again done an amazing job. Carly resigned in January 2023, however, she was and continues to be invested in the branch and our community being involved in the Board and the branch for many years and we hope to see her back on the Board at some stage.

Thanks to our customers, our Board of Directors, and our shareholders for their ongoing support. I would also like to thank our Bendigo and Adelaide Bank representatives, especially our Regional Manager Jason Chuck for his support this year.

We only had moderate growth during the last year of our business "footings" (loans and deposits) of \$2.8 million to \$138.2 million, as at 30 June 2023.

Community Bank Dunkeld & District has contributed \$474,580 to the local community as at 30 June 2023. To date, more than \$320 million in profits from Community Bank partnerships have been reinvested in Australian communities since 1998 via Bendigo Bank's Community Bank network.

Banking is an everyday function for every single person in the community.

The difference with the Community Bank model is that every time people bank with their local Community Bank branch, the bottom line increases and as such, community contributions and dividends increase as well.

Lastly, I have enjoyed the last 12 & ½ years with Community Bank Dunkeld & District, it has been an incredible journey. I was given a great opportunity by the Board and will always treasure the faith they had in me to start this venture. I don't think I will ever volunteer for public speaking, but I have a lot more confidence when I must do it and it has given us all a laugh along the way. Although I am thrilled about my new position in Business Banking, making the decision to move on was difficult and I am sad to leave the branch. Thank you again to the Board & Staff, I will still see you around, but I will also miss you all tremendously.

Regards



Anna Watson
Branch Manager

BEN Message

For year ending 30 June 2023

Community and customer will always be at the heart of what we do at Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.

Together, we're setting up Community Banking for the future - growing our impact as a leading social impact movement to transform communities across Australia.

As we continue to evolve to meet the needs of our customers, we should feel proud that more Australians are choosing to do their banking with us and trust us with their financial goals. Our position as Australia's most trusted bank (Roy Morgan) reflects the esteem we are held in by our customers, and communities.

This year has been particularly significant for us. After five years apart, we had the opportunity to come together in person and connect through our State Connect program and in Bendigo at our National Conference in September. It has also been a record-breaking year for Community Bank with more than \$32 million invested into local communities nationwide. This is our highest year on record and underscores our ongoing commitment to our customers and communities.

Reflecting on the 25 years since we opened our first Community Bank, I'm so grateful to the hard work of many passionate Directors (past and present). Everything we have done and continue to do is focused on our purpose to feed into the prosperity of our customers and communities, not off it.

On behalf of the Bank, thank you for continuing to play an essential role in supporting your community. I look forward to seeing us grow together and make a positive impact for generations to come.

Warmest regards,



Justine Minne
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank

CBNC Message

For year ending 30 June 2023

As a shareholder in your local Community Bank, you belong to an incredible social enterprise network that to date has reinvested more than \$300 million in our local communities.

And now, as we celebrate our 25th anniversary milestone, we are evolving even further by sharpening our focus on our community enterprises – separate to the banking side of the business. We are uniting our Community Bank companies through a shared vision of being the most influential network of social enterprises in Australia. This means we'll have a bigger and better story to tell about how we collectively deliver impact.

Our future is together because of our extraordinary strength and aligned partnership with each other, and with our partner, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank. Our partnership with the Bank has been fashioned out of shared effort, risk and reward and it continues to serve us well.

And now even with the digital evolution upon us, the foundation of our future still relies on the guiding principles of the Community Bank model. We are community enterprises and the custodians of this incredible model that collaborates with local communities for social good. The objective of our Community Bank network remains the same. Our evolution will be evidenced by the channels that we use to connect with our customers and communities, digital by design and human where it matters.

The Community Bank network was a first mover in Australia with its unique social enterprise model. The first Community Bank opened its doors in 1998, and since then, the network has grown to 307 Community Bank branches. The network represents a diverse cross-section of Australia with 240 social enterprises, 70,000+ shareholders, 1600+ volunteer directors, 1600+ staff and 905,000 customers located in metro, regional, rural and remote locations across the country.

The Community Bank network creates impact through grants, donations and sponsorships that connect with and care for generations of Australians. Network investment ranges from sport, scholarships and school programs, through to community groups, cultural organisations and local councils. We also facilitate and attract partnerships to help support much needed community projects.

The Community Bank National Council (CBNC) is the voice of the Community Bank network. The role of the CBNC is to advocate and influence on behalf of the 240 community enterprises with its partner. It has also been the role of the CBNC to oversee the development of the Community Network Strategy which exists to ensure the ongoing sustainability of this unique collective of social enterprises.

In September this year our Community Bank network celebrates 25 years. It's a tremendous milestone and one which we're hugely proud of achieving. We have never been stronger and we look forward to continuing to serve our shareholders, customers and communities as we embrace our exciting future.

Warm regards,

Sarah Franklyn
CBNC Chair

Dividend payment history

Dividend to shareholders			
Financial Year	Amount Per Share	Franking Level	Date Paid
2017/2018	.03	Unfranked	1 December 2018
2018/2019	.04	Unfranked	1 December 2019
2019/2020	.05	Unfranked	1 December 2020
2020/2021	.06	Fully Franked	1 December 2021
2021/2022	.05	Fully Franked	1 December 2022
2022/2023	.05	Fully Franked	1 December 2023

Community Investment Report

For year ending 30 June 2023

Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Pty Ltd (GRCEL) operates the Community Bank Dunkeld & District and is proud to invest in our communities through the Community Investment Program. Our main aim of the program is to promote positive change in the community.

Growing our customer base enables this unique banking model to thrive and prosper, thereby allowing us to continue to invest in the community.

During 2022 -2023 we invested \$96,807.00 in our communities. Since opening the Community Bank Dunkeld & District we've invested \$474,580.00 directly into Dunkeld, Peshurst, Cavendish, Glenthompson, Hamilton and other communities.

We are proud to have supported the following Community groups and activities over the year:

Community Group	Amount	Purpose
Western District Health Service	\$62,500	MRI - donation
Dunkeld Consolidated Primary School	\$240	Community Newsletter donation
Branxholme Wallacedale School	\$240	Community Newsletter donation
Glenthompson Newsletter	\$240	Community Newsletter donation
Peshurst Mens Shed	\$240	Community Newsletter donation
Grampians Golf Club Inc	\$500	Annual Tournament
Glenthompson Art Show	\$1,000	Art Show
3 Peaks Festival	\$2,000	Radio commercials for event (2 years)
Hamilton Running Club	\$2,000	New equipment for Hamilton Little Athletics
Cavendish Primary School	\$572	New Basketball Tops
Dunkeld Bowling Club Inc	\$5000	Towards new Greens
Dunkeld Consolidated Primary School	\$5500	Driveway Project
Peshurst Bowls Club	\$250	Sign Sponsorship
Peshurst & District Racing Club	\$825	Races Sponsorship
Branxholme Wallacedale Football Netball Club	\$1,000	Rodeo
Cavendish & District Tennis Association	\$500	Trophies
Hamilton Darts	\$500	Tournament
Peshurst Creative Arts	\$500	Art Show
Serra Terror	\$1,000	Assist with Event
Glenthompson Dunkeld Football Netball Club	\$3,000	Annual Sponsorship
Glenelg & Southern Grampians Local Learning & Employment Network	\$1,000	Youth Leadership Program
Dunkeld Community Centre	\$1,500	Writers Festival
Cavendish Football Netball Club	\$1,000	Annual Sponsorship
Glenelg Regional Hockey Assoc	\$1,500	Electronic Scoreboard
Peshurst Football Netball Club	\$3,000	Annual Sponsorship
Peaks & Trails	\$1,000	Radio commercials for event

Directors’ Report

For year ending 30 June 2023

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Directors

The following persons were directors of the company during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Brendan John Kelly

Non-executive director

Experience and expertise: Brendan is the managing director of Kellys which is a rural merchandise, fertiliser and hardware business located in both Penshurst & Dunkeld. Brendan established Kellys in Penshurst in 1988, then in Dunkeld in 2005. In recent years Brendan has commenced selling real estate working with Charles Stewart & Co, this is somewhat a family tradition with previous generation being involved in real estate valuations and sales. Brendan is the fourth generation of the Kelly family to live and work in Penshurst and district. Brendan and his wife Liz have three children Brooke, Shannon and Laine. They are active in the local community being involved in the football netball club, race club and Monivae college.

Special responsibilities: Chair

Jock Travers Melville Whiting

Non-executive director

Experience and expertise: Grazier, AFL Football Development Manager, South West Coast Suicide Prevention Trial - Leadership Executive, Pedrina Park - Hamilton Strategic Development Plan Member, Program Manager - AFL Victoria Country Football Academy.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Anthony John Page

Non-executive director

Experience and expertise: Anthony has lived in Penshurst all his life. Anthony started his working life as an Electrical Apprentice in 1981 before purchasing his current Electrical Contracting Business & Fuel Station business in 1986. He is married with adult children. Currently the Captain of Penshurst Fire Brigade, member of Penshurst Football Netball Club. Past Penshurst Apex member.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Jodie Louise Young

Non-executive director

Experience and expertise: Bachelor of Nursing, Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program, Cavendish Red Gum Festival committee member. Jodie is from a family farming operation running a commercial Angus herd in Western Victoria. A registered nurse currently employed part time at Casterton, Victoria. Jodie lives with her husband and children at Cavendish running sheep and cattle and plans to improve the liveability and amenities of Cavendish and within our region by becoming a Bendigo Community Bank director. Jodie brings attributes including; different workplace exposure, practical, enjoys challenges and seeking out improvements, community minded, volunteering and gardening.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Donald Simon Macgugan

Non-executive director

Experience and expertise: Simon has had a career in Farm Management, specifically pigs. He has been the Company CEO and Chair of the Board of a Private Company, where he has been the Director for 28 years and is currently Chair of the farm's Operations Sub Committee. Simon is the President of the Dunkeld Lions Club, Treasurer of the Grampians Golf Club, Member of the Dunkeld Public Lands Committee and Dunkeld CFA.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Director’s Report (continued)

Joanna Wallace Heard

Non-executive director

Experience and expertise: Past/present occupations include Research Scientist: Animal Nutrition, Research Scientist: Farm Systems Economist. Tertiary qualifications: Ba. Agricultural Science (Hons.). Currently Secretary at Strathmore Brigade CFA and Glenthompson Memorial Hill Inc. Committee.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Catherine Mary Loria

Non-executive director (appointed 26 April 2023)

Experience and expertise: Current occupation is Director of Nursing/Manager Penshurst & District Health Service, a campus of Western District Health Service. Have been working in health for over 40 years with experience in management across different health services over the past 30 years. Have been involved in community groups in the Penshurst Community -Advance Penshurst, Penshurst Football Netball Club.

Special responsibilities: Company secretary

Michael Peter Alderman

Non-executive director (appointed 28 June 2023)

Experience and expertise: Michael is currently a self-employed farmer. He previously worked at NAB as an Agribusiness and business Banker. Michael is involved in Glenthompson Dunkeld Football Netball Club, Grampians Cricket Club and the CFA. Michael holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science from Melbourne University.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Paul Carrazzo

Non-executive director (appointed 26 July 2023)

Experience and expertise: Is the principal of Carrazzo Consulting CAs with over 25 years experience in taxation and business consulting. Carrazzo Consulting is a leading horse tax advisor, providing comprehensive horse accounting services to the thoroughbreds industry for more than 30 years. Currently on the Dunkeld Lands Committee and has a residence in Dunkeld and Melbourne.

Special responsibilities: Treasurer

Carly Renee Behncke

Non-executive director (appointed 30 August 2023)

Experience and expertise: Carly Behncke grew up on a farm in Bulart. Carly was a previous director of GRCE, leaving the board to work in the branch as a Customer Service Officer.

She along with her husband and daughters are running their sheep farming property in partnership in Bulart. She is an active member of the community, plays netball for Cavendish Football Netball Club, sits on many local committees; Cavendish Primary School Council and Parents Club, Cavendish Kindergarten, Cavendish Red Gum Festival as well as Western District Health Service Fundraising Committee. Carly has over 15 years of Marketing experience and has a passion for all things community.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Susan Mary Morse

Non-executive director (resigned 26 July 2023)

Experience and expertise: Sue Morse is married to Derek and they have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. Sue grew up and attended Teacher's College in Adelaide but has lived in Dunkeld for over 40 years. Beginning her working career as a Teacher and finishing as a Real Estate Agent, Sue is now enjoying retirement. Over the years, she has been involved in many community organisations, has held many official positions in the local and district golf associations, and volunteers at the Dunkeld Visitor Information Centre as well as helping run the family business.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Director’s Report (continued)

Craig Gordon Oliver

Non-executive director (resigned 30 June 2023)

Experience and expertise: Craig has an Associate Diploma of Farm Management and a Graduate Diploma of Business Studies (Finance and Management). Living at Dunkeld since 1991 with his wife and children, he worked for several national and multi national agribusiness companies before pursuing a full time farming career. Craig has served on various industry and community committees, and is currently the President of the Pannyabyr Landcare Group, and a member of the Dunkeld CFA and the Dunkeld Progress Association.

Special responsibilities: Former Chairman

Sherryn Lesley Jennings

Non-executive director (resigned 2 June 2023)

Experience and expertise: Sherryn is a Chartered Accountant and brings her financial management and accounting skills along with her knowledge of Dunkeld and District to the board. She is currently the Finance Manager of her family’s business, C.I.T.S. Training Australia. Sherryn is studying online to complete the Masters of Science in Agriculture through the University of New England.

Special responsibilities: Former Treasurer

Mathew Stevens Nettleton

Non-executive director (resigned 2 June 2023)

Experience and expertise: Owner of the Bunyip Hotel Cavendish for four years to current. General manager of Corex Recycling for 12 years. Recently have started Sustainable Plastic Solutions Pty Ltd, a state-of-the-art recycling company specialising in processing agricultural plastics. Manage a large number of staff at all levels in multiple industries.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Christopher Robert Murphy

Non-executive director (resigned 22 February 2023)

Experience and expertise: Formerly Chief Financial Officer at Downer Infrastructure. Associate Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ), Fellow Governance Institute of Australia. Over 20 years experience as a Finance and Accounting Executive with public companies. I hope to bring to the Community Bank my skills and experience to ensure its continued success. Current volunteer member of Woodhouse CFA. Former committee member and Treasurer of Hamilton and District Gymnastics Club Inc. Coach Hamilton College U10 boys basketball team. Current member of Western District Better Beef Group.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Helen Nielsen

Non-executive director (resigned 14 December 2022)

Experience and expertise: Helen has had a life passion for agriculture and the environment and her career and interests have followed that path. Helen has worked with State government in a range of roles delivering agriculture services to Victorian farmers for over 30 years. Her current role is Investment and Planning Manager for Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions. She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Agriculture), Diploma of Business and Diploma of Project Management. Helen enjoys working with youth and spent 12 years as a Guide leader in Hamilton. She is currently a member of the following Community Groups: Pannyabyr Landcare Group and South West Holistic Farmers.

Special responsibilities: Nil

Company secretary

There have been three company secretaries holding the position during the financial year:

- Catherine Mary Loria was appointed company secretary on 26 April 2023.
- Donald Simon Macgugan was appointed company secretary on 14 December 2022 and ceased on 26 April 2023.
- Helen Nielsen was appointed company secretary on 31 August 2016 and ceased on 14 December 2022.

Director’s Report (continued)

Principal activity

The principal activity of the company during the financial year was facilitating Community Bank services under management rights of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited (Bendigo Bank).

There have been no significant changes in the nature of this activity during the financial year.

Review of operations

The profit for the company after providing for income tax amounted to \$194,593 (30 June 2022: \$120,253).

The company has seen a significant increase in its revenue during the financial year. This is a result of the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) increasing the cash rate by 3.25% during the financial year moving from 0.85% to 4.10% as at 30 June 2023. The increased cash rate has had a direct impact on the revenue received by the company, increasing the net interest margin income received under the revenue share arrangement the company has with Bendigo Bank.

Dividends

During the financial year, the following dividends were provided for and paid. The dividends have been provided for in the financial statements.

	2023 \$
Fully franked dividend of 5 cents per share (2022: 6 cents)	31,170

Significant changes in the state of affairs

There were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the company during the financial year.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2023 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company’s operations, the results of those operations, or the company’s state of affairs in future financial years.

Likely developments

The company will continue its policy of facilitating banking services to the community.

Environmental regulation

The company is not subject to any significant environmental regulation under Australian Commonwealth or State law.

Director's Report (continued)

Meetings of directors

The number of directors meetings attended by each of the directors of the company during the financial year were:

	Board	
	Eligible	Attended
Brendan John Kelly	10	8
Jock Travers Melville Whiting	10	9
Anthony John Page	10	7
Jodie Louise Young	10	8
Donald Simon Macgugan	10	8
Joanna Wallace Heard	10	3
Michael Peter Alderman	-	-
Catherine Mary Loria	2	2
Susan Mary Morse	10	9
Craig Gordon Oliver	10	8
Sherryn Lesley Jennings	9	4
Mathew Stevens Nettleton	8	3
Christopher Robert Murphy	6	1
Helen Nielsen	5	1
Paul Carrazzo	-	-
Carly Renee Behncke	-	-

Directors' benefits

No director has received or become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the company, controlled entity or related body corporate with a director, a firm which a director is a member or an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest.

Directors' interests

The interest in company shareholdings for each director are:

Director name	Fully paid ordinary shares		
	Balance at start of the year \$	Changes \$	Balance at end of the year \$
Brendan John Kelly	10,000	-	10,000
Jock Travers Melville Whiting	-	-	-
Anthony John Page	100	-	100
Jodie Louise Young	-	-	-
Donald Simon Macgugan	5,000	-	5,000
Joanna Wallace Heard	-	-	-
Michael Peter Alderman	-	-	-
Catherine Mary Loria	-	-	-
Susan Mary Morse	10,000	-	10,000
Craig Gordon Oliver	3,400	-	3,400
Sherryn Lesley Jennings	-	-	-
Mathew Stevens Nettleton	-	-	-
Christopher Robert Murphy	1,000	(500)	500
Helen Nielsen	100	-	100
Paul Carrazzo	-	-	-
Carly Renee Behncke	-	-	-

Director's Report (continued)

Indemnity and insurance of directors and officers

The company has indemnified all directors and the manager in respect of liabilities to other persons (other than the company or related body corporate) that may arise from their position as directors or manager of the company except where the liability arises out of conduct involving the lack of good faith.

Disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium is prohibited by the confidentiality clause of the contract of insurance.

Proceedings on behalf of the company

No person has applied to the Court under section 237 of the Corporations Act 2001 for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of the company, or to intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or part of those proceedings.

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Indemnity and insurance of auditor

The company has not, during or since the end of the financial year, indemnified or agreed to indemnify the auditor of the company or any related entity against a liability incurred by the auditor.

During the financial year, the company has not paid a premium in respect of a contract to insure the auditor of the company or any related entity.

Non-audit services

The company may decide to employ the auditor on assignments additional to their statutory duties where the auditor's expertise and experience with the company are important. Details of the amounts paid or payable to the auditor (Andrew Frewin Stewart) for audit and non-audit services provided during the year are set out in note 25 to the accounts.

The board has considered the non-audit services provided during the year by the auditor and is satisfied that the provision of the non-audit services is compatible with, and did not compromise, the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* for the following reasons:

- all non-audit services have been reviewed by the board to ensure they do not impact on the impartiality, integrity and objectivity of the auditor
- the non-audit services provided do not undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*, as they did not involve reviewing or auditing the auditor's own work, acting in a management or decision making capacity for the company, acting as an advocate for the company or jointly sharing risks and rewards.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out immediately after this directors' report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors, pursuant to section 298(2)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

On behalf of the directors



Brendan John Kelly
Chairman

27 September 2023

Auditor's Independence Declaration



Andrew Frewin Stewart
61 Bull Street Bendigo VIC 3550
ABN: 65 684 604 390
afs@afsbendigo.com.au
(03) 5443 0344

Independent auditor's independence declaration under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* to the Directors of Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Limited

As lead auditor for the audit of Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Limited for the year ended 30 June 2023, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Andrew Frewin Stewart
61 Bull Street, Bendigo, Vic, 3550
Dated: 27 September 2023

Joshua Griffin
Lead Auditor



afsbendigo.com.au

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Financial statements

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue from contracts with customers	6	971,043	708,864
Other revenue		10,488	15,622
Finance revenue		967	1,585
Total revenue		982,498	726,071
Employee benefits expense	7	-322,040	-318,806
Advertising and marketing costs		-5,662	-5,324
Occupancy and associated costs		-7,736	-6,875
System costs		-26,058	-31,051
Depreciation and amortisation expense	7	-36,660	-33,904
Finance costs	7	-11,553	-10,232
General administration expenses		-65,229	-67,678
Total expenses before community contributions and income tax expense		-474,938	-473,870
Profit before community contributions and income tax expense		507,560	252,201
Charitable donations, sponsorships and grants expense	7	-248,408	-91,864
Profit before income tax expense		259,152	160,337
Income tax expense	8	-64,559	-40,084
Profit after income tax expense for the year	19	194,593	120,253
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		194,593	120,253

		Cents	Cents
Basic earnings per share	27	31.21	19.29
Diluted earnings per share	27	31.21	19.29

Financial statements (continued)

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	690,774	615,574
Trade and other receivables	10	93,239	69,903
Total current assets		784,013	685,477
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	11	69,454	37,360
Right-of-use assets	12	153,815	159,032
Intangible assets	13	40,137	46,592
Deferred tax assets	8	15,789	28,746
Total non-current assets		279,195	271,730
Total assets		1,063,208	957,207
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	14	10,699	35,618
Lease liabilities	15	20,246	17,767
Current tax liabilities	8	11,595	14,129
Employee benefits	16	46,233	50,815
Total current liabilities		88,773	118,329
Non-current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	14	14,521	29,042
Lease liabilities	15	164,275	170,871
Employee benefits	16	277	8,468
Lease make good provision	17	27,535	26,093
Total non-current liabilities		206,608	234,474
Total liabilities		295,381	352,803
Net assets		767,827	604,404
Equity			
Issued capital	18	612,891	612,891
Retained earnings/(accumulated losses)	19	154,936	-8,487
Total equity		767,827	604,404

Financial statements (continued)

Statement of Changes in Equity For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Issued capital \$	Retained earnings \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2021		612,891	-91,336	521,555
Profit after income tax expense		-	120,253	120,253
Other comprehensive income, net of tax		-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	120,253	120,253
<i>Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:</i>				
Dividends provided for	21	-	-37,404	-37,404
Balance at 30 June 2022		612,891	-8,487	604,404
Balance at 1 July 2022		612,891	-8,487	604,404
Profit after income tax expense		-	194,593	194,593
Other comprehensive income, net of tax		-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	194,593	194,593
<i>Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:</i>				
Dividends provided for	21	-	-31,170	-31,170
Balance at 30 June 2023		612,891	154,936	767,827

Financial statements (continued)

Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)		1,056,298	780,651
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		-812,248	-576,204
Interest received		967	1,585
Income taxes paid		-54,136	-38,713
Net cash provided by operating activities	26	190,881	167,319
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment	11	-53,198	-20,022
Payments for intangibles assets		-13,201	-13,201
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		10,305	-
Net cash used in investing activities		-56,094	-33,223
Cash flows from financing activities			
Dividends paid	21	-31,170	-37,404
Repayment of lease liabilities	15	-28,417	-23,646
Net cash used in financing activities		-59,587	-61,050
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		75,200	73,046
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		615,574	542,528
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	9	690,774	615,574

Notes to the Financial Statements

For year ending 30 June 2023

Note 1. Reporting entity

The financial statements cover Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Limited (the company) as an individual entity, which is a for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The company is an unlisted public company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is 92 Parker Street, Dunkeld, Victoria 3294.

A description of the nature of the company's operations and its principal activity is included in the directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

Note 2. Basis of preparation and statement of compliance

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. The financial statements comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual and historical cost basis and are presented in Australian dollars, which is the company's functional and presentation currency.

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of directors, on 27 September 2023. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Note 3. Significant accounting policies

The company has consistently applied the following accounting policies to all periods presented in these financial statements.

Changes in accounting policies, standards and interpretations

There are a number of amendments to accounting standards issued by the AASB that became mandatorily effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2022, and are therefore relevant for the current financial year. The amendments did not have any impact on the amounts recognised in prior periods and are not expected to significantly affect the current or future periods.

Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when, it is expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the company's normal operating cycle, it is held primarily for the purpose of trading, it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when, it is either expected to be settled in the company's normal operating cycle, it is held primarily for the purpose of trading, it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are always classified as non-current.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Impairment

Non-derivative financial assets

Expected credit losses (ECL) are the probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of a financial instrument. A credit loss is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due and all cash flows expected to be received. At each reporting date, the entity recognises the movement in the ECL (if any) as an impairment gain or loss in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

The company's trade receivables are limited to the monthly profit share distribution from Bendigo Bank, which is received 10 business days post month end. Due to the reliance on Bendigo Bank the company has reviewed credit ratings provided by Standard & Poors, Moody's and Fitch Ratings to determine the level of credit exposure to the company. The company also performed a historical assessment of receivables from Bendigo Bank and found no instances of default. As a result no ECL has been made in relation to trade receivables as at 30 June 2023.

Non-financial assets

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of any impairment loss.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except when the amount of GST incurred on a sale or purchase of assets or services is not payable to or recoverable from the taxation authority. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the revenue or expense item.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as part of operating cash flows.

Note 4. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events that it believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. Differences between the accounting judgements and estimates and actual results and outcomes are accounted for in future reporting periods. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

Estimation of useful lives of assets

The company determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives or assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 4. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions (continued)

Impairment of non-financial assets

The company assesses impairment of non-financial assets at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the company and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined as the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal or value-in-use, each of which incorporate a number of key estimates and assumptions.

Recovery of deferred tax assets

Deferred tax assets are recognised for deductible temporary differences only if the company considers it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

Lease term

The lease term is a significant component in the measurement of both the right-of-use asset and lease liability. Judgement is exercised in determining whether there is reasonable certainty that an option to extend the lease will be exercised, or an option to terminate the lease will not be exercised, when ascertaining the periods to be included in the lease term. In determining the lease term, all facts and circumstances that create an economical incentive to exercise an extension option, or not to exercise a termination option, are considered at the lease commencement date. Factors considered may include the importance of the asset to the company's operations, comparison of terms and conditions to prevailing market rates, incurrence of significant penalties, existence of significant leasehold improvements and the costs and disruption to replace the asset. The company reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, or not exercise a termination option, if there is a significant event or significant change in circumstances.

Incremental borrowing rate

Where the interest rate implicit in a lease cannot be readily determined, an incremental borrowing rate is estimated to discount future lease payments to measure the present value of the lease liability at the lease commencement date. Such a rate is based on what the company estimates it would have to pay a third party to borrow the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use asset, with similar terms, security and economic environment.

Employee benefits provision

The liability for employee benefits expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date are recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and inflation have been taken into account.

The company uses historical employee attrition rates in determining the probability of an employee, at a given date, achieving continuous employment eligible for entitlement in accordance with long service leave legislation.

In the absence of sufficient historical employee attrition rates, the company applies a benchmark probability rate from across the Community Bank network to factor in estimating the probability of an employee, at a given date, achieving continuous employment eligible for entitlement in accordance with legislation.

Lease make good provision

A provision has been made for the present value of anticipated costs for future restoration of leased premises. The provision includes future cost estimates associated with closure of the premises. The calculation of this provision requires assumptions such as application of closure dates and cost estimates. The provision recognised for each site is periodically reviewed and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time. Changes to the estimated future costs for sites are recognised in the statement of financial position by adjusting the asset and the provision. Reductions in the provision that exceed the carrying amount of the asset will be recognised in profit or loss.

Note 5. Economic dependency

The company has entered into a franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank that governs the management of the Community Bank. The company is economically dependent on the ongoing receipt of income under the franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank. The directors have no reason to believe a new franchise arrangement under mutually acceptable terms will not be forthcoming following expiry in February 2026.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 5. Economic dependency (continued)

The company operates as a franchise of Bendigo Bank, using the name “Bendigo Bank” and the logo and system of operations of Bendigo Bank. The company manages the Community Bank on behalf of Bendigo Bank, however all transactions with customers conducted through the Community Bank are effectively conducted between the customers and Bendigo Bank.

All deposits are made with Bendigo Bank, and all personal and investment products are products of Bendigo Bank, with the company facilitating the provision of those products. All loans, leases or hire purchase transactions, issues of new credit or debit cards, temporary or bridging finance and any other transaction that involves creating a new debt, or increasing or changing the terms of an existing debt owed to Bendigo Bank, must be approved by Bendigo Bank. All credit transactions are made with Bendigo Bank, and all credit products are products of Bendigo Bank.

The company promotes and sells the products and services, but is not a party to the transaction.

The credit risk (i.e. the risk that a customer will not make repayments) is for Bendigo Bank to bear as long as the company has complied with the appropriate procedures and relevant obligations and has not exercised a discretion in granting or extending credit.

Bendigo Bank provides significant assistance in establishing and maintaining the Community Bank franchise operations. It also continues to provide ongoing management and operational support and other assistance and guidance in relation to all aspects of the franchise operation, including advice and assistance in relation to:

- the design, layout and fit out of the Community Bank premises
- training for the branch manager and other employees in banking, management systems and interface protocol
- methods and procedures for the sale of products and provision of services
- security and cash logistic controls
- calculation of company revenue and payment of many operating and administrative expenses
- the formulation and implementation of advertising and promotional programs
- sales techniques and proper customer relations
- providing payroll services.

Note 6. Revenue from contracts with customers

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Margin income	729,224	437,901
Fee income	36,025	35,364
Commission income	205,794	235,599
	971,043	708,864

The company has entered into a franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank. The company delivers banking and financial services of Bendigo Bank to its community. The franchise agreement provides for a share of interest, fee, and commission revenue earned by the company. Interest margin share is based on a funds transfer pricing methodology which recognises that income is derived from deposits held, and that loans granted incur a funding cost. Fees are based on the company’s current fee schedule and commissions are based on the agreements in place. All margin revenue is recorded as non-interest income when the company’s right to receive the payment is established.

The company acts as an agent under the franchise agreement and revenue arises from the rendering of services through its franchise agreement.

Revenue is recognised on an accruals basis, at the fair value of consideration specified in the franchise agreement. Under AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15), revenue recognition for the company’s revenue stream is as follows:

Revenue stream	Includes	Performance obligation	Timing of recognition
Franchise agreement profit share	Margin, commission, and fee income	When the company satisfies its obligation to arrange for the services to be provided to the customer by the supplier (Bendigo Bank as franchisor).	On completion of the provision of the relevant service. Revenue is accrued monthly and paid within 10 business days after the end of each month.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 6. Revenue from contracts with customers (continued)

All revenue is stated net of the amount of GST. There was no revenue from contracts with customers recognised over time during the financial year.

Revenue calculation

The franchise agreement provides that three forms of revenue may be earned by the company which are margin, commission and fee income. Bendigo Bank decides the form of revenue the company earns on different types of products and services. The revenue earned by the company is dependent on the business that it generates, interest rates and funds transfer pricing and other factors, such as economic and local conditions.

Margin

Margin is arrived at through the following calculation:

Interest paid by customers on loans less interest paid to customers on deposits
plus: any deposit returns i.e. interest return applied by Bendigo Bank for a deposit
minus: any costs of funds i.e. interest applied by Bendigo Bank to fund a loan.

The company is entitled to a share of the margin earned by Bendigo Bank. If this reflects a loss, the company incurs a share of that loss.

Commission income

Commission income is in the form of commission generated for products and services sold. This commission is recognised at a point in time which reflects when the company has fulfilled its performance obligation.

The company receives trailing commission for products and services sold. Ongoing trailing commission payments are recognised on receipt as there is insufficient detail readily available to estimate the most likely amount of income without a high probability of significant reversal in a subsequent reporting period. The receipt of ongoing trailing commission income is outside the control of the company, and is a significant judgement area.

Fee income

Fee income is a share of what is commonly referred to as ‘bank fees and charges’ charged to customers by Bendigo Bank including fees for loan applications and account transactions.

Core banking products

Bendigo Bank has identified some products and services as ‘core banking products’. It may change the products and services which are identified as core banking products by giving the company at least 30 days notice. Core banking products currently include Bendigo Bank branded home loans, term deposits and at call deposits.

Ability to change financial return

Under the franchise agreement, Bendigo Bank may change the form and amount of financial return the company receives. The reasons it may make a change include changes in industry or economic conditions or changes in the way Bendigo Bank earns revenue.

The change may be to the method of calculation of margin, the amount of margin, commission and fee income or a change of a margin to a commission or vice versa. This may affect the amount of revenue the company receives on a particular product or service.

Bendigo Bank must not reduce the margin and commission the company receives on core banking products and services to less than 50% (on an aggregate basis) of Bendigo Bank’s margin at that time. For other products and services, there is no restriction on the change Bendigo Bank may make.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 7. Expenses

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Employee benefits expense		
Wages and salaries	296,160	270,911
Non-cash benefits	-	7,730
Superannuation contributions	29,609	22,931
Expenses related to long service leave	(12,499)	7,345
Other expenses	8,770	9,889
	<u>322,040</u>	<u>318,806</u>

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Depreciation and amortisation expense		
<i>Depreciation of non-current assets</i>		
Furniture and fittings	6,756	1,885
Motor vehicles	4,043	4,305
	<u>10,799</u>	<u>6,190</u>

<i>Depreciation of right-of-use assets</i>		
Leased land and buildings	19,406	14,755

<i>Amortisation of intangible assets</i>		
Franchise fee	1,076	2,151
Franchise renewal process fee	5,379	10,808
	<u>6,455</u>	<u>12,959</u>
	<u>36,660</u>	<u>33,904</u>

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Finance costs		
Lease interest expense	10,111	8,866
Unwinding of make-good provision	1,442	1,366
	<u>11,553</u>	<u>10,232</u>

Finance costs are recognised as expenses when incurred using the effective interest rate.

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Leases recognition exemption		
Expenses relating to low-value leases	<u>9,361</u>	<u>13,624</u>

The company pays for the right to use information technology equipment. The underlying assets have been assessed as low value and exempted from recognition under AASB 16 Leases. Expenses relating to low-value exempt leases are included in system costs expenses.

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Charitable donations, sponsorships and grants expense		
Direct donation, sponsorship and grant payments	<u>248,408</u>	<u>91,864</u>

The overarching philosophy of the Community Bank model, is to support the local community in which the company operates. This is achieved by circulating the flow of financial capital into the local economy through community contributions (such as donations, sponsorships and grants).

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 8. Income tax

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Income tax expense</i>		
Current tax	52,161	40,643
Movement in deferred tax	12,957	(559)
Under/over adjustment	<u>(559)</u>	<u>-</u>

Aggregate income tax expense	<u>64,559</u>	<u>40,084</u>
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<i>Prima facie income tax reconciliation</i>		
Profit before income tax expense	<u>259,152</u>	<u>160,337</u>

Tax at the statutory tax rate of 25%	64,788	40,084
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Tax effect of:		
Non-deductible expenses	<u>330</u>	<u>-</u>

	65,118	40,084
Under/over adjustment	<u>(559)</u>	<u>-</u>

Income tax expense	<u>64,559</u>	<u>40,084</u>
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	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Deferred tax assets/(liabilities)</i>		
Property, plant and equipment	(10,400)	-
Employee benefits	11,628	14,821
Provision for lease make good	6,884	6,523
Lease liabilities	46,131	47,160
Right-of-use assets	<u>(38,454)</u>	<u>(39,758)</u>

Deferred tax asset	<u>15,789</u>	<u>28,746</u>
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	2022 \$	2021 \$
Provision for income tax	<u>11,595</u>	<u>14,129</u>

Accounting policy for income tax

The income tax expense or benefit for the period is the tax payable on that period's taxable income based on the applicable income tax rate adjusted by the changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences, unused tax losses and the adjustment recognised for prior periods, where applicable.

Accounting policy for current tax

Current tax assets and liabilities are measured at amounts expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. It is calculated using tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 8. Income tax (continued)

Accounting policy for deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, carried-forward tax losses, and unused tax credits to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which they can be used.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised.

Deferred tax is measured at the rates that are expected to be applied to temporary differences when they reverse, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date, and reflects uncertainty related to income taxes, if any.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax and when the balances relate to taxes levied by the same taxation authority and the entity intends to settle its tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

Note 9. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash at bank and on hand	358,592	284,360
Term deposits	332,182	331,214
	690,774	615,574

Accounting policy for cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and deposits held with banks.

Note 10. Trade and other receivables

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Trade receivables	88,450	65,114
Prepayments	4,789	4,789
	93,239	69,903

Accounting policy for trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 11. Property, plant and equipment

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Fixtures and fittings - at cost	62,287	52,121
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(34,431)	(27,675)
	27,856	24,446
Motor vehicles - at cost	43,032	30,673
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,434)	(17,759)
	41,598	12,914
	69,454	37,360

Reconciliations of the carrying values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

	Furniture and fittings \$	Motor vehicles \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2021	6,309	17,219	23,528
Additions	20,022	-	20,022
Depreciation	(1,885)	(4,305)	(6,190)
Balance at 30 June 2022	24,446	12,914	37,360
Additions	10,166	43,032	53,198
Disposals	-	(10,305)	(10,305)
Depreciation	(6,756)	(4,043)	(10,799)
Balance at 30 June 2023	27,856	41,598	69,454

Additions

During the financial year the company purchased a new motor vehicle.

Accounting policy for property, plant and equipment

Items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost or fair value as applicable, less accumulated depreciation. Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in profit or loss.

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value and straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives as follows:

Furniture, fixtures and fittings	2 to 20 years
Motor vehicles	4 years

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the company. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

Changes in estimates

During the financial year, the company assessed estimates used for property, plant and equipment including useful lives, residual values, and depreciation methods. There were no changes in estimates for the current reporting period.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 12. Right-of-use assets

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Land and buildings - right-of-use	338,102	323,914
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(184,287)	(164,882)
	153,815	159,032

Reconciliations of the carrying values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

	Land and buildings \$
Balance at 1 July 2021	138,117
Remeasurement adjustments	35,670
Depreciation expense	(14,755)
Balance at 30 June 2022	159,032
Remeasurement adjustments	14,189
Depreciation expense	(19,406)
Balance at 30 June 2023	153,815

Accounting policy for right-of-use assets

A right-of-use asset is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located, less any lease incentives received.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the asset, whichever is the shorter. Right-of-use assets are subject to impairment or adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities.

Refer to note 15 for more information on lease arrangements.

Note 13. Intangibles assets

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Franchise fee	32,053	32,053
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(25,355)	(24,279)
	6,698	7,774
Franchise renewal fee	110,266	110,266
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(76,827)	(71,448)
	33,439	38,818
	40,137	46,592

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 13. Intangibles assets (continued)

Reconciliations of the carrying values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

	Franchise fee \$	Franchise renewal fee \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2021	9,925	49,626	59,551
Amortisation expense	(2,151)	(10,808)	(12,959)
Balance at 30 June 2022	7,774	38,818	46,592
Amortisation expense	(1,076)	(5,379)	(6,455)
Balance at 30 June 2023	6,698	33,439	40,137

Accounting policy for intangible assets

Intangible assets of the company relate to the franchise fees paid to Bendigo Bank which conveys the right to operate the Community Bank franchise.

Intangible assets are measured on initial recognition at cost. Subsequent expenditure is capitalised only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the specific asset to which it relates.

The franchise fees paid by the company are amortised over their useful life and assessed for impairment whenever impairment indicators are present.

The estimated useful life and amortisation method for the current and comparative periods are as follows:

Asset class	Method	Useful life	Expiry/renewal date
Franchise fee	Straight-line	Over the franchise term (5 years)	February 2026
Franchise renewal fee	Straight-line	Over the franchise term (5 years)	February 2026

Amortisation methods, useful life, and residual values are reviewed. Amortisation methods, useful life, and residual values are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Change in estimates

During the financial year, the company assessed estimates used for intangible assets including useful lives, residual values, and amortisation methods. There were no changes in estimates for the current reporting period.

Note 14. Trade and other payables

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Other payables and accruals	10,699	35,618
<i>Non-current liabilities</i>		
Other payables and accruals	14,521	29,042

Accounting policy for trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the company prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Where the company is liable to settle the amount within 12 months of the reporting date, the liability is classified as current. All other obligations are classified as non-current.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 15. Lease liabilities

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Land and buildings lease liabilities	29,697	27,500
Unexpired interest	(9,451)	(9,733)
	20,246	17,767
	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Non-current liabilities</i>		
Land and buildings lease liabilities	195,507	208,542
Unexpired interest	(31,232)	(37,671)
	164,275	170,871
	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Reconciliation of lease liabilities</i>		
Opening balance	188,638	167,748
Remeasurement adjustments	14,189	35,670
Lease interest expense	10,111	8,866
Lease payments - total cash outflow	(28,417)	(23,646)
	184,521	188,638
	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Maturity analysis</i>		
Not later than 12 months	29,697	27,500
Between 12 months and 5 years	118,789	110,000
Greater than 5 years	76,718	98,542
	225,204	236,042

Accounting policy for lease liabilities

Lease liabilities were measured at amounts equal to the present value of enforceable future payments of the term reasonably expected to be exercised, discounted at the appropriate incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate and lease payments in a renewal option if the company is reasonably certain to exercise that option. For leases of property the company has elected to separate lease and non-lease components when calculating the lease liability.

The company has applied judgement in estimating the remaining lease term including the effects of any extension options reasonably expected to be exercised, applying hindsight where appropriate.

The lease liability is remeasured when there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate, if the company changes its assessment of whether it will exercise an extension option, or if there is a revised in-substance fixed lease payment.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 15. Lease liabilities (continued)

The company assesses at the lease commencement date whether it is reasonably certain to exercise extension options. The company reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise the options if there is a significant event or significant change in circumstances within its control.

Where the company is a lessee for the premises to conduct its business, extension options are included in the lease term except when the company is reasonably certain not to exercise the extension option. This is due to the significant disruption of relocating premises and the loss on disposal of leasehold improvements fitted out in the leased premises.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to nil.

The company's lease portfolio includes:

Lease	Discount rate	Non-cancellable term	Renewal options available	Reasonably certain to exercise options	Lease term end date used in calculations
Dunkeld Branch	5.39%	5 years	1 x 5 years	Yes	January 2031

Note 16. Employee benefits

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Annual leave	17,789	18,063
Long service leave	28,444	32,752
	46,233	50,815
<i>Non-current liabilities</i>		
Long service leave	277	8,468

Accounting policy for employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for salary and wages where the employee has provided the service but payment has not yet occurred at the reporting date. They are measured at amounts expected to be paid, plus related on-costs. Non-accumulating sick leave is expensed when the leave is taken and measured at the rates paid or payable.

An annual leave liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid if the company has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be reliably estimated. The company's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as salaries and wages are recognised as part of current trade and other payables in the statement of financial position. The company's obligations for employees' annual leave and long service leave entitlements are recognised in employee benefits in the statement of financial position.

Superannuation contributions

Contributions to superannuation plans are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

Short-term employee benefits

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Other long-term employee benefits

The company's net obligation in respect of long-term employee benefits is the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior reporting periods.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 16. Employee benefits (continued)

That benefit is discounted to determine its present value. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels plus related on-costs, experience of employee departures, and years of service achieved. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on high quality corporate bonds with terms to maturity and currencies that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Remeasurements are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

Note 17. Lease make good provision

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Lease make good	27,535	26,093

Lease make good

In accordance with the branch lease agreement, the company must restore the leased premises to the original condition before the expiry of the lease term. The company has estimated the provision to be \$41,400 for the Dunkeld Branch lease, based on experience and consideration of the expected future costs to remove all fittings and the ATM as well as the cost to remedy any damages caused during the removal process. The lease is due to expire on February 2031 at which time it is expected the face-value costs to restore the premises will fall due.

Accounting policy for provisions

Provisions are recognised when the company has a present (legal or constructive) obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable the company will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. The provisions are discounted using a current pre-tax rate specific to the liability. The increase in the provision resulting from the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost.

Note 18. Issued capital

	2023 Shares	2022 Shares	2023 \$	2022 \$
Ordinary shares - fully paid	623,400	623,400	623,400	623,400
Less: Equity raising costs	-	-	(10,509)	(10,509)
	623,400	623,400	612,891	612,891

Accounting policy for issued capital

Ordinary shares are recognised at the fair value of the consideration received by the company being \$1 per share. Any transaction costs arising on the issue of ordinary shares are recognised directly in equity as a reduction of the share proceeds received.

Rights attached to issued capital

Ordinary shares

Voting rights

Subject to some limited exceptions, each member has the right to vote at a general meeting.

On a show of hands or a poll, each member attending the meeting (whether they are attending the meeting in person or by attorney, corporate representative or proxy) has one vote, regardless of the number of shares held. However, where a person attends a meeting in person and is entitled to vote in more than one capacity (for example, the person is a member and has also been appointed as proxy for another member) that person may only exercise one vote on a show of hands. On a poll, that person may exercise one vote as a member and one vote for each other member that person represents as duly appointed attorney, corporate representative or proxy.

The purpose of giving each member only one vote, regardless of the number of shares held, is to reflect the nature of the company as a community based company, by providing that all members of the community who have contributed to the establishment and ongoing operation of the Community Bank branch have the same ability to influence the operation of the company.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 18. Issued capital (continued)

Dividends

Generally, dividends are payable to members in proportion to the amount of the share capital paid up on the shares held by them, subject to any special rights and restrictions for the time being attaching to shares. The franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank contains a limit on the level of profits or funds that may be distributed to shareholders. There is also a restriction on the payment of dividends to certain shareholders if they have a prohibited shareholding interest (see below).

Transfer

Generally, ordinary shares are freely transferable. However, the directors have a discretion to refuse to register a transfer of shares.

Subject to the foregoing, shareholders may transfer shares by a proper transfer effected in accordance with the company's constitution and the Corporations Act 2001.

Prohibited shareholding interest

A person must not have a prohibited shareholding interest in the company.

In summary, a person has a prohibited shareholding interest if any of the following applies:

- They control or own 10% or more of the shares in the company (the "10% limit").
- In the opinion of the board they do not have a close connection to the community or communities in which the company predominantly carries on business (the "close connection test").
- Where the person is a shareholder, after the transfer of shares in the company to that person the number of shareholders in the company is (or would be) lower than the base number (the "base number test"). The base number is 322. As at the date of this report, the company had 322 shareholders (2022: 322 shareholders).

As with voting rights, the purpose of this prohibited shareholding provision is to reflect the community-based nature of the company.

Where a person has a prohibited shareholding interest, the voting and dividend rights attaching to the shares in which the person (and their associates) has a prohibited shareholding interest in are suspended.

The board has the power to request information from a person who has (or is suspected by the board of having) a legal or beneficial interest in any shares in the company or any voting power in the company, for the purpose of determining whether a person has a prohibited shareholding interest. If the board becomes aware that a member has a prohibited shareholding interest, it must serve a notice requiring the member (or the member's associate) to dispose of the number of shares the board considers necessary to remedy the breach. If a person fails to comply with such a notice within a specified period (that must be between three and six months), the board is authorised to sell the specified shares on behalf of that person. The holder will be entitled to the consideration from the sale of the shares, less any expenses incurred by the board in selling or otherwise dealing with those shares.

In the constitution, members acknowledge and recognise that the exercise of the powers given to the board may cause considerable disadvantage to individual members, but that such a result may be necessary to enforce the prohibition.

Note 19. Retained earnings/(accumulated losses)

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Accumulated losses at the beginning of the financial year	(8,487)	(91,336)
Profit after income tax expense for the year	194,593	120,253
Dividends paid (note 21)	(31,170)	(37,404)
Retained earnings/(accumulated losses) at the end of the financial year	154,936	(8,487)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 20. Capital management

The board's policy is to maintain a strong capital base so as to sustain future development of the company. The board monitor the return on capital and the level of distributions to shareholders. Capital is represented by total equity as recorded in the statement of financial position.

In accordance with the franchise agreement, in any 12 month period the funds distributed to shareholders shall not exceed the distribution limit.

The distribution limit is the greater of:

- 20% of the profit or funds of the company otherwise available for distribution to shareholders in that 12 month period; and
- subject to the availability of distributable profits, the relevant rate of return multiplied by the average level of share capital of the company over that 12 month period where the relevant rate of return is equal to the weighted average interest rate on 90 day bank bills over that 12 month period plus 5%.

The board is managing the growth of the business in line with this requirement. There are no other externally imposed capital requirements, although the nature of the company is such that amounts will be paid in the form of charitable donations and sponsorship. Charitable donations and sponsorship paid for the financial year can be seen in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive Income.

There were no changes in the company's approach to capital management during the year.

Note 21. Dividends

Dividends provided for and paid during the period

The following dividends were provided for and paid to shareholders during the financial year as presented in the Statement of changes in equity and Statement of cash flows.

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Fully franked dividend of 5 cents per share (2022: 6 cents)	31,170	37,404

Franking credits

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Franking account balance at the beginning of the financial year	26,245	-
Franking credits (debits) arising from income taxes paid (refunded)	54,136	38,713
Franking debits from the payment of franked distributions	(10,390)	(12,468)
	69,991	26,245

Franking transactions that will arise subsequent to the financial year end:

Balance at the end of the financial year	69,991	26,245
Franking credits (debits) that will arise from payment (refund) of income tax	11,595	14,129
Franking credits available for future reporting periods	81,586	40,374

The ability to utilise franking credits is dependent upon the company's ability to declare dividends. The tax rate at which future dividends will be franked is 25%.

Accounting policy for dividends

Dividends are recognised in the financial year they are declared.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 22. Financial instruments

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Financial assets		
Trade and other receivables	88,450	65,114
Cash and cash equivalents	690,774	615,574
	779,224	680,688
Financial liabilities		
Trade and other payables	25,220	64,660
Lease liabilities	184,521	188,638
	209,741	253,298

Accounting policy for financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. The company's financial instruments include trade debtors and creditors, cash and cash equivalents and lease liabilities.

Trade receivables are initially recognised at the transaction price when they originated. All other financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value plus, transaction costs (where applicable) when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. These assets and liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expires or the rights are transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and rewards associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or expire. Any gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the company currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the amounts and intends either to settle them on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial risk management

The company has exposure to credit, liquidity and market risk arising from financial instruments. The company's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the company. The company does not use derivative instruments. Risk management is carried out directly by the board.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices - e.g. foreign exchange rates, interest rates, and equity prices - will affect the company's income or the value of its holdings in financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return. The company has no exposure to any transactions denominated in a currency other than Australian dollars.

Interest-bearing rates assets and liabilities are held with Bendigo Bank and earnings on those are subject to movements in market interest. The company held cash and cash equivalents of \$690,774 at 30 June 2023 (2022: \$615,574).

Price risk

The company is not exposed to equity securities price risk as it does not hold investments for sale or at fair value. The company is not exposed to commodity price risk.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the company if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from the company's receivables from customers.

The company's franchise agreement limits the company's credit exposure to one financial institution, being Bendigo Bank. The company monitors credit worthiness through review of credit ratings, Bendigo Bank is rated BBB+ on Standard & Poor's credit ratings.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 22. Financial instruments (continued)

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the company will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. The company's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they are due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the company's reputation.

Exposure to liquidity risk

The following are the remaining contractual maturities of financial liabilities. The contractual cash flow amounts are gross and undiscounted and therefore may differ from their carrying amount in the statement of financial position.

	1 year or less \$	Between 1 and 5 years \$	Over 5 years \$	Remaining contractual maturities \$
2023				
Trade and other payables	10,699	14,521	-	25,220
Lease liabilities	29,697	118,789	76,718	225,204
Total non-derivatives	40,396	133,310	76,718	250,424
	1 year or less \$	Between 1 and 5 years \$	Over 5 years \$	Remaining contractual maturities \$
2022				
Trade and other payables	35,618	29,042	-	64,660
Lease liabilities	27,500	110,000	98,542	236,042
Total non-derivatives	63,118	139,042	98,542	300,702

Note 23. Key management personnel disclosures

The following persons were directors of Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Limited during the financial year and/or up to the date of signing of these Financial Statements

Brendan John Kelly	Catherine Mary Loria
Jock Travers Melville Whiting	Susan Mary Morse
Anthony John Page	Craig Gordon Oliver
Jodie Louise Young	Sherryn Lesley Jennings
Donald Simon Macgugan	Mathew Stevens Nettleton
Joanna Wallace Heard	Christopher Robert Murphy
Michael Peter Alderman	Helen Nielsen
Paul Carrazzo	Carly Renee Behncke

No director of the company receives remuneration for services as a company director or committee member.

There are no executives within the company whose remuneration is required to be disclosed.

Note 24. Related party transactions

The following transactions occurred with related parties:

	2023 \$	2022 \$
The company purchased hardware items from a company Brendan Kelly is the owner of.	-	10
Anthony Page completed repair works on the branch. The total benefit received was:	-	155

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 25. Remuneration of auditors

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by Andrew Frewin Stewart, the auditor of the company:

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Audit services</i>		
Audit or review of the financial statements	5,400	5,200
<i>Other services</i>		
Taxation advice and tax compliance services	773	725
General advisory services	4,030	3,180
Share registry services	4,303	5,569
	9,106	9,474
	14,506	14,674

Note 26. Reconciliation of profit after income tax to net cash provided by operating activities

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Profit after income tax expense for the year	194,593	120,253
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	78,258	33,904
Lease liabilities interest	10,111	8,866
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Increase in trade and other receivables	(23,336)	(9,463)
Decrease/(increase) in deferred tax assets	12,957	(559)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(67,837)	10,127
Increase/(decrease) in provision for income tax	(2,534)	1,930
Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	(12,773)	895
Increase in other provisions	1,442	1,366
Net cash provided by operating activities	190,881	167,319

Note 27. Earnings per share

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Profit after income tax	194,593	120,253
	Number	Number
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating basic earnings per share	623,400	623,400
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating diluted earnings per share	623,400	623,400
	Cents	Cents
Basic earnings per share	31.21	19.29
Diluted earnings per share	31.21	19.29

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 27. Earnings per share (continued)

Accounting policy for earnings per share

Basic and diluted earnings per share is calculated by dividing the profit attributable to the owners of Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Limited, by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the financial year.

Note 28. Commitments

The company has no commitments contracted for which would be provided for in future reporting periods.

Note 29. Contingencies

There were no contingent liabilities or contingent assets at the date of this report.

Note 30. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2023 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.

Directors' Declaration

In the directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Corporations Act 2001, the Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board as described in the notes to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to section 295(5)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

On behalf of the directors



Brendan John Kelly
Chairman

27 September 2023



Andrew Frewin Stewart
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Independent auditor’s report to the Directors of Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Limited (the company), which comprises:

- Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023
- Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income
- Statement of changes in equity
- Statement of cash flows
- Notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies
- The directors' declaration of the company.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Grampians Regional Community Enterprises Limited, is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the company’s financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report.

We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board’s *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



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Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the company’s annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023, but does not include the financial report and our auditor’s report thereon. The annual report may also include “other information” on the company’s operations and financial results and financial position as set out in the financial report, typically in a Chairman’s report and Manager’s report, and reports covering governance and shareholder matters.

The directors are responsible for the other information. The annual report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditor’s report.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If we identify that a material inconsistency appears to exist when we read the annual report (or become aware that the other information appears to be materially misstated), we will discuss the matter with the directors and where we believe that a material misstatement of the other information exists, we will request management to correct the other information. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that it gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the company’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are responsible for overseeing the company’s financial reporting process.

Auditor’s responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.



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Misstatement can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Andrew Frewin Stewart
61 Bull Street, Bendigo, Vic, 3550
Dated: 27 September 2023

Joshua Griffin
Lead Auditor

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This Annual Report has been printed on 100% Recycled Paper

