

### Chairperson's report

I trust everyone was able to spend time with family and friends over the festive season, as we did. Christmas is all about the precious time we share with those we love. May 2012 be a healthy, happy and prosperous year for us all.

Our AGM in November was the most positive we have had. I had prepared a calendar, including some photos of the events we had been involved in during 2011. It was a most impressive display. Many of our sponsors spoke after the meeting to express their thanks and to tell how our sponsorship had assisted them through the year. The Board were most appreciative of them making the time and the effort to do so. Since the AGM we have been very busy lending our marquees to numerous community groups. This is a most effective and inexpensive way of letting the community know about our **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch, and has given us some contacts to follow up with the hope of obtaining their banking.

The application for the Scholarship to assist a student going to Uni in 2012 is currently open. The student must live in the Gympie Regional Council area and be attending university for the first time in 2012. Information is available at the branch or as [www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/scholarships](http://www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/scholarships). Applications close on 27 January, so if you know of anyone who may be eligible, please forward this information.

On the artistic side we are sponsoring the inaugural 'Andrew Fisher Portrait Competition'. This will be similar

to the Archibald Competition, but this year will be limited to local artists portraying a well-known local identity. Again if you are interested please contact the branch, or the Friends of the Gallery, at the Art Gallery in Nash Street.

Most of you will know that two of our staff, Lezette and Loretta left us at the end of the year because they were both expecting. We're pleased to announce that they each welcome daughters, Lezette with baby Lydia and Loretta's with baby Brianna. Best wishes go to them both. Amanda, one of our Directors also had a daughter whom she called Cloe. While Cloe is by all accounts progressing well, Amanda is still in Brisbane and could be hospitalized for some time. We all wish her a speedy recovery. Kerrie and Jo-Anne have joined our staff so if you are in the Bank, please make them welcome.

The new Southside Shopping Centre is now open, and we are looking forward installing a Bendigo Bank ATM in the near future. After the festive season, we will be approaching a business in the centre, with the hope of opening an agency there.

Regards,

**Elaine Thomson**  
Chairperson

Gympie & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch



## Scholarship now open

*Going to Uni in 2012, but struggling to pay?*

Applications are invited until 27 January 2012 from eligible students.  
Please see [www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/scholarships](http://www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/scholarships) for eligibility criteria and further information.

The Gympie & District Community Chest is a management account of Community Enterprise Charitable Fund  
ABN 12 102 649 968 The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550 (S37373) (11/11)

**Community Enterprise Foundation**<sup>™</sup>  **Bendigo Bank**

## Staff profiles



### Kerri Gilson, Customer Service Officer

Kerri started with Gympie & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch in November 2011.

Kerri grew up on a farm at Kia Ora and attended Kia Ora primary school before graduating from

Gympie State High School. She then attended university to study a dual degree in Law and also International Business. Kerri proceeded to qualify as a solicitor and worked in the legal industry for approximately 10 years both in Brisbane and Cairns, and primarily in the fields of family law and personal injury law. Kerri left the legal profession and worked for the Public Trustee of Queensland in both Cairns and on the Sunshine Coast for 5 years before starting with the Gympie & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch.

Kerri has returned to Gympie for personal and health reasons and to be closer to her family who are currently in the region.

Kerri's primary interest is fitness and she has recently qualified as a personal trainer obtaining a Certificate 3 and 4 in Fitness.

Kerri also enjoys reading, yoga, cooking, being with her two cats and socialising with friends.



### Jo-Anne Whitley, Customer Service Officer

Jo commenced a twelve month contract with Gympie & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch on 31 October 2011.

Prior to this she worked as a Legal Secretary at Neilson Stanton &

Parkinson Solicitors in Gympie for approximately 18 months, after which she joined the Queensland Police Service. After some 8 years as a Police Officer, Jo worked at Gympie Regional Council in Administration and also as an Environmental Health Technical Officer for approximately 12 years.

She was born in Ipswich and brought up in Gympie, attending school at St Patrick's College.

Jo has two children, Ryan – 8 years and Zara – 3 years.

Jo's interest including camping, gardening and travel.

Jo is a Group Leader with the Gympie Amateur Athletics Club and is also involved with the Gympie Junior Rugby League Club (fundraising/team manager).

## Dividends

A dividend announcement was made at the AGM. 5 cents per share with payment to be made on Monday 27 February. This is your last opportunity to ensure that your bank details are correct and that your tax file number or notice of exemption is in our hands as soon as possible.

## Share parcels for sale

There are several parcels of varying sizes of shares available and the prices also vary. If you are interested in purchasing shares please visit our website [www.bendigobank.com.au/gympie](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/gympie) or email [gympieshares@bordnet.com.au](mailto:gympieshares@bordnet.com.au)

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

68 Mary Street, Gympie QLD 4570

Phone: (07) 5481 1787

Website: [www.bendigobank.com.au/gympie](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/gympie)

Opening hours:

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

Manager: Mick McCarthy



Board of Directors: Gympie & District Financial Services Ltd  
68 Mary Street, Gympie QLD 4570

Directors: Elaine Thomson (Chairperson), Will Bauer (Secretary), Rens Poels (Treasurer), Chris Hodges, Rae Gâté, Amanda LePeilbet, Tim Jensen.