

Autumn
2023

Newsletter

Community Bank · Altona, Laverton and Point Cook



Important information

For the latest health information and advice visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

If you are concerned you may have coronavirus (COVID-19), call the coronavirus hotline **1800 675 398** (24 hours).

Hobsons Bay City Council are offering counselling for young people through Hobsons Bay UP. You can contact them on phone **9932 4000** or via email – adminys@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Wyndham Council are offering help also. Visit www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/covid19 or call **9742 0777** for more information.

Our 2023 Scholarship recipients

We are delighted to extend our warmest congratulations to our Laverton P-12 College scholarship recipients for 2023. To Kate, Soundoss and Faustina – this is a significant achievement that recognizes your academic excellence, leadership potential, and commitment to your community.

Your hard work, dedication, and achievements have not gone unnoticed, and we are thrilled to support you. We are confident that you will make a significant impact in your chosen fields and contribute to making the world a better place.

We recognize that the past two years have been challenging for many students, and we want to commend you for your resilience and perseverance. Your determination to succeed despite the obstacles is admirable, and we are honoured to be part of your journey.

We hope that this scholarship will provide you with the necessary resources and support to continue pursuing your dreams. We look forward to hearing about your future accomplishments and successes.



Board member, Madeleine with Kate, Soundoss and Faustina.

Message from the Chairman



I am honoured to serve as your Chairperson for the year 2023. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to welcome you to the first edition of our newsletter for this year.

As a Community Bank, we strive to make a positive impact in the lives of our members and the wider community. Our commitment to providing excellent customer service and tailored financial solutions remains unwavering. We understand that the past two years have been challenging for many of our members, and we want to assure you that we are here to support you in any way we can.


Autumn is here, but we are still thinking about what an amazing summer we have had as a community! With a return to in-person events, we were so thrilled to be in attendance at Christmas at the Lakes in December and the Laverton Festival in February. To be able to be back celebrating with the very people that make our work so meaningful – you!

This newsletter will fill you in on what we have been up to, and spread the word about upcoming community initiatives, and events. We will also share some tips and advice on avoiding scams – much needed in this current climate.

We encourage you to engage with us and provide feedback on how we can better serve you. Your input is invaluable to us as we strive to improve our services and meet your needs.

To stay connected and for regular updates on what is happening at your local branches and around the community, you might like to follow us:

 /communitybankAltonaLavertonPointCook

 /bendigocb_altlavpcook

Thank you for your continued support of the Community Bank Altona and Laverton. We look forward to serving you in 2023 and beyond.

Stay safe and look out for each other.

Yours sincerely,

Henry Da Silva
Chairperson

A summer of fun

We have been so busy over the past few months, with event after event, filling our calendar. There is really nothing we love more than getting out into our community and meeting the people. With Christmas at the Lakes, the Laverton Festival, charity golf days and more, we have had a blast this summer. Thanks for hanging out with us!



Top to bottom: Catching up with the Inserras. Raising funds with our friends from Altona City Rotary. Making new friends at the Laverton Festival. The amazing women's team from Gellibrand Cricket Club. Hanging with Michael Clemente at Christmas at the Lakes.



Branch Manager's Message

Altona, Laverton & Point Cook – spotting scams

We take your financial safety and security seriously. As we continue to navigate the digital age, it is crucial to remain vigilant and informed about potential scams and fraudulent activities that may threaten your finances.

I would like to draw your attention to the issue of spotting scams. Scammers are becoming increasingly sophisticated in their techniques, and it is essential to be aware of the warning signs and to know how to protect yourself.



5 tips for spotting scams

1. If something looks too good to be true, it probably is

Scammers target victims with advertisements for popular products at huge discounts and sell products through websites with no intention of fulfilling your order. Anything from iPhones to puppies can be advertised by scammers. Research retailers in detail, and if something doesn't feel right, trust your instincts. The same goes for business opportunities or 'get rich quick' schemes, including cryptocurrency trading.

2. Look out for unusual tone or behaviour

When receiving text, phone or email communications, check phone numbers and email addresses to ensure they're legitimate – and don't ever click links. New advanced scams mean hackers can even send fraudulent emails from legitimate email addresses. For this reason, identifying a scam can come down to much smaller details. If the tone or style of the email feels different, or if the person is asking you to transfer money or execute a financial transaction, this could be a sign of a scam.

3. Be cautious of changes to payment details

Some impersonation scams will request a redirection of payment to a fraudulent account. If you receive a request from a business or someone you know asking for a payment to be made to a different account, always verify it with them over the phone or face-to-face.

4. Question any request for personal information

Some scammers will use phone calls to try and get you to hand over personal information. They do this by pretending

to be your bank or financial institution, or another trusted body. If a caller starts asking you personal questions or asking to run a security check, hang up and contact the bank or business directly, on a number or email address you've used before.

5. Subscribe to the ACCC's Scamwatch alerts

Spotting scams is easier when you know what to look out for. With Scamwatch alerts, you'll be notified of the latest scams reported, be informed of what to watch out for and advised of any action you need to take. Subscribe to Scamwatch alerts.

What to do if you think you've been scammed

Please take a screenshot and email it to phishing@bendigoadelaide.com.au or forward it to 0429 557 997 and then delete the SMS text message or email.

If you have received a SMS text message or email and have clicked on the link and entered your e-banking details, please contact your local branch or call 1300 236 344 immediately.

For the latest scam alerts and information to keep yourself and your family safe online, visit www.bendigobank.com.au/security/scams/alerts/

Stay safe out there.

Daniela Guertler

Senior Branch Manager

P: Mob: 0402 609 502

E: daniela.guertler@bendigoadelaide.com.au

Congratulations to Rotary Altona – 60 years young!

We are thrilled to extend our warmest congratulations to the Rotary Club of Altona, on behalf of our Community Bank Altona and Laverton on the 60th anniversary since being chartered. This milestone represents six decades of unwavering commitment to Rotary's core values of service, fellowship, and integrity.

Your dedication to improving the lives of those in need, both locally and globally, is a testament to the passion and selflessness of Rotary Altona. Your service projects, fundraisers, and community events have had a significant impact on our community, and we have been privileged to partner with you many times over the journey.

Your unwavering commitment to Rotary's mission has been an inspiration to us all.

Congratulations and deep gratitude to all members, past and present, for their contributions to Rotary Altona's success.

Here's to another 60 years!



Above: Some familiar faces – past Board members, Denis and Graeme.

Left: Just a few of the smiling faces from Rotary Altona's 60th celebration.



Meet Daniela
your local Senior
Branch Manager

Talk to us today

Community Bank • Altona

64 Pier Street, Altona

P 9398 8922

E altona@bendigoadelaide.com.au

bendigobank.com.au/altona

Community Bank • Laverton


3/28 Aviation Road, Laverton

P 9369 8455

E laverton@bendigoadelaide.com.au

bendigobank.com.au/laverton

 /communitybankAltonaLavertonPointCook

 /bendigobank_altlavpcook

We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday

Directors

Mr H Da Silva (Chairperson), Mr M S Pernar (Secretary),
Mr G Ryan (Treasurer), Ms E Driscoll, Mr M Fischer,
Mr J Gundran, Ms M Serle, Mr T Ferreri

Hobsons Bay Community Financial Services Limited
PO Box 502, Laverton VIC 3028
ABN 39 091 661 166

Happening around town

Check out these amazing community events.



ALTONA SPORTS CENTRE

The **ALTONA SPORTS CENTRE & LANARD COPELAND**

AUTUMN HOLIDAY BASKETBALL CAMP

11-12 APRIL
9am - 3pm

Open to ALL PARTICIPANTS aged 5 - 16 | \$160 per person

LUNCH PROVIDED | PRIZES | GIVEAWAYS

REGISTER ONLINE at altonasportscentre.com.au before 4th APRIL 2023

Melbourne Jazz Jammers Inc. presents.....

JAZZ FESTIVAL NEWPORT 2023



More jazz than you can poke a stick at, quartets, quintets, big bands, sizzling soloists and hot singers, at the friendliest festival in the west.



APRIL 21st - 23rd 2023
Tickets at the Newport Bowls Club, 4 Market Street, Newport

Day Pass, Weekend Pass online at:
melbournejazzjammers.com.au
or at the Newport Bowls Club, from
\$55, Concessions available

Jazz festival.
NEWPORT • AUSTRALIA

