



Newsletter

Community Bank · Altona and Laverton



Chairman's message



To all our valued customers and community, welcome to our Spring Newsletter.

We are so proud to celebrate and announce that we have given back more than \$7.2 million directly to our communities through grants, sponsorships, scholarships, donations and community investments.

Community Bank Altona and Laverton is more than just a local bank – we are part of the local community. Since opening our doors in 2000, we have reinvested our profits into projects, events and programs that make a real difference across Hobsons Bay, Wyndham and surrounding communities.



Our company and our community bank branches in Altona and Laverton have supported so many local organisations in areas such as sport and recreation, youth development, education, health and wellbeing, arts and culture, environmental projects, emergency services, food relief and community services. This combined effort helps local organisations make an even greater positive difference to our community.

What makes our Community Bank Altona and Laverton so special is that the success of the bank directly benefits the people and organisations in our own backyard. Our commitment has always extended beyond banking, and we are proud to support those who help build a stronger, more connected and resilient community.

Nationally we have given back to our communities in excess of \$416 million - what a magnificent achievement. This reflects the power of community banking and the positive impact our customers continue to make, simply by choosing to bank with us. It is an incredible achievement and one that everyone involved with Community Bank Altona and Laverton can be proud of.

Every customer who banks with us helps create lasting benefits for our local community. Together, we're making a difference.

Thank you to all for your valued and continued support. Remember, when banking with our community banks in Altona and Laverton great things happen in our community.

Henry Da Silva
Chairman

Top: Community Partner' Grant Night 2025.
Left: Community Bank Altona and Laverton proudly supports Altona Hockey Club.

Ray is a community legend

To celebrate his 80th, 81st and 82nd birthdays, local legend Ray (pictured below, middle) took on an extraordinary challenge each year – riding his bike more than 100 kilometres in a single day to raise funds for the Lost Dogs Home. Over the past three years, Ray's dedication and determination have raised more than \$30,000 for this wonderful cause. What an incredible achievement and a fantastic example of community spirit in action.



Grants for plants and rare ants



Here's two community grants to support local biodiversity, which helps provide a healthy environment and community wellbeing.

Friends of Skeleton Creek have been busy planting over 750 trees to increase the biodiversity of native plants and improving this prime community resource.

Meanwhile, who would have imagined that there would be a rare grassland specialist bull ant found only in our region.



Myrmecia nobilis. The ants live in small colonies of some 20 individuals and are popular with poachers. The Grassy Plains Network set about a quest to learn more about the ants and how to protect them.

Meet our new team members

Please join us in welcoming Kate, our new Community Bank Liaison Officer.

A local with strong ties to the Hobsons Bay and Wyndham communities, Kate brings some 10 years' experience in sales and business development, along with a genuine passion for community engagement.

She's looking forward to connecting with our local groups and getting to know more about the projects supported by Community Bank Altona and Laverton.

Welcome to the team, Kate.

Jayden joined the team at Community Bank Altona and Laverton as a Customer Service Officer in June, bringing three years of real estate experience helping people through one of the biggest purchases of their lives.

Helping people achieve their financial and life goals is what inspired him to join the Community Bank team.

He also enjoys the fact that Community Banking gives back by supporting local sporting clubs, events, education opportunities and community organisations through sponsorships and grants.

As he gets to know the Altona and Laverton area, Jayden is looking forward to meeting the local groups, businesses and customers that make the community so welcoming.

Welcome aboard Jayden.



Fundraising together

The Altona City Rotary and Community Bank Altona & Laverton Charity Golf Day was a fantastic success, raising \$12,000 for Very Special Kids and a further \$12,000 for local Rotary community projects. Congratulations to Altona City Rotary for organising another outstanding event that brings our community together while making a real difference.



Youth in our community

Supporting young people is an important commitment for Community Bank Altona and Laverton. Here are a few highlights from the year so far.

Right: Altona Life Saving Club Future Leaders Dexter, Miles, Dexter, Taya and Isabelle – medals presented by Community Bank Director Madeleine Serle.

Below left: Congratulations Michael Apps, Senior Winner of the 2026 Wynspeak youth public speaking competition. Pictured with Peter Shephard.

Below middle: Community Bank scholarships for 2026 year 11 or 12 studies were awarded to: Pauleen, See Poh, Nylleve, Violet, Bilal (pictured) and Bradley (pictured).

Below right: CALD Beach safety programs run by Life Saving Victoria and funded by Community Bank Altona and Laverton.



2025/26 Sponsorship and Grant recipients

Altona College
Altona East Phoenix Soccer Club
Altona Hockey Club Inc
Altona Life Saving Club
Altona Meadows Community Association
Australian Sports Foundation
Australian Telangana Association Inc
Country Fire Authority (CFA)
Essendon Baseball Club
Friends of Skeleton Creek
Gellibrand Cricket Club
Greek Orthodox Parish of North Altona
Hobsons Bay Chess Club
Hobsons Bay Mens Shed
Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre Inc
Hoppers Crossing Netball Association
Latitude Directions for Young People
Laverton Community Choir
Laverton Community Integrated Services
Laverton Cricket Club
Laverton P-12 College
Life Saving Victoria
Lions Club of Altona

Lions Club of Point Cook
Lost Dogs Home - Rays Bike Ride
Neighbourhood Watch Hobsons Bay
Newport Baseball Club
Newport Community Garden
Outlets Co-operative
Neighbourhood House
Rotary Club of Altona
Rotary Club of Altona City
Rotary Club of Werribee
Sanctuary Lakes Club
The Pines Scout Camp
Victoria Police Legacy
SES Hobsons Bay Unit
Westbourne Grammarians Football Club
Western Emergency Relief
Network Foundation
Western Region All Abilities Cricket Inc
Williamstown Community and
Education Centre
Williamstown Seagulls FIDA
Football Club Inc

Annual events

Greek Festival (Altona Nth)
Fri 15-Sat 16 Aug 2026
Community Partner Grants Evening
Wed 2 Sep 2026
Altona Film Festival
Sat 19 Sept 2026
Hobsons Bay Art Show
Thu 8- Sun 11 Oct 2026
Christmas at the Lakes
Sat 12 Dec 2026
Altona Community Christmas Carols
Thu 17 Dec 2026
Laverton Festival
Sun 21 Feb 2027
Altona City Rotary Charity Golf Day
Fri 30 April 2027

Community programs

Adult Beginner Swimming Lessons
Beach and Water Safety Programs
Altona College Breakfast Program
Defibrillators
Food Relief Programs
Youth Homelessness
Scholarships
WynBay L2P
WynSpeak
Young Achievers

Branch Manager's message



A great banking experience can also support the community you care about. It's why we are Australia's better big bank. And it's all thanks to you.

Download the Bendigo Bank app and open an Everyday Account in minutes. Then link your banking to Community Bank Altona and Laverton.

Feel good knowing that your banking is also supporting local projects, not for profit organisations, and initiatives.

Join us today, and start banking with purpose.

Daniela Guertler
Senior Branch Manager

P: 0402 609 502

E: daniela.guertler@bendigoadelaide.com.au

NB: If you need help with the app, you can drop into either Community Bank Altona or Community Bank Laverton and our staff will help you.

Link your banking to the community you care about.

Download the app
or talk to us today.

Bendigo Bank
The better big bank



Talk to us today

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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), Mr M Fischer, Ms M Serle,
Ms Anna Storti

Hobsons Bay Community Financial Services Limited
PO Box 139, Altona VIC 3018
ABN 39 091 661 166

Community Bank • Altona and Laverton



You're invited

Community Partners Grant Evening

We'll be launching our new Community Grant and Sponsorship round and sharing information on how to apply using our SmartyGrants portal. Local impact stories will be shared with speakers from SES and Altona Hockey Club

When Wednesday 2nd of September, 2026

Time 6.30pm to 8.30pm - Presentations
commence at 7pm

Where Altona Hockey Club, Sugar Gum Dve, Altona

RSVP to Kate Wheeler by 26th Aug
cblo@hobsonsbaycfs.com.au 0448 993 441
Please advise of any dietary requirements
Light refreshments provided. Drinks at bar
prices.

Special Guest -

Amy ContentCo will be sharing tips on how
to create reels for social media. Please have
CapCut downloaded on your phone.