

Winter  
2022



# Newsletter

Community Bank · Altona, Laverton and Point Cook



## Important information

For the latest health information and advice visit [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://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@hobsonsabay.vic.gov.au](mailto:adminys@hobsonsabay.vic.gov.au)

Wyndham Council are offering help also. Visit [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/covid19](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/covid19) or call **9742 0777** for more information.

## Message from the Chairman



With 2022 nearing the halfway mark, we are looking forward with optimism and enthusiasm about what lies ahead for our company and community.

With the ongoing pandemic and approaching flu season our staff continue to work hard to keep our branches operating smoothly.

Our customers remain our number one priority and our commitment to them is as strong as ever.

Our latest round of Community Grants has wrapped up and we feel honoured to have delivered vital funding to our community partners once again. It is so inspiring to see the way our sporting clubs and community groups work so tirelessly to improve our local region. This time around we have invested in young people embracing the art of public speaking; the Williamstown Community Education Centre, who are opening a new site in Altona North; and assisting the Laverton Magpies with their mission to create gender equity within their club. These

are just a handful of the worthwhile projects we have chosen to support as part of the latest funding round.

Our grants program is only possible because our shareholders and customers continue to support what we do. By choosing to bank with your local Community Bank, you are choosing to support our mission to create a prosperous and vibrant community. Banking locally ensures we can provide funding where it matters most – right here in Hobsons Bay and Wyndham.

A shining example of this model in motion is our Defib for Life initiative, which was first rolled out back in 2012. Be sure to read all about this amazing project in this edition of our newsletter. To this day, our Defib for Life initiative remains an incredibly important investment on our part, and we are proud to have had the opportunity to deliver this program for our community.

Looking ahead to the latter half of this year, we will be marking this achievement, as well as 22 years of community banking across Altona, Laverton and Point Cook. Be sure to keep an eye out for information on ►

## ◀ Message from the Chairman (continued)

this because we aim to come together with our community in celebration of what we have achieved over more than two decades.

Our Altona and Laverton branches remain open and ready to assist you with all your financial needs. Dani and the team are amazing and have shown great dedication and resilience in adapting to the many changes and challenges over the past two years.

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

 /bendigobc\_atlavpcook

Stay safe and look out for each other.

Yours sincerely,

**Henry Da Silva**  
Chairman



Left: Madeleine hanging out with the premiership winning ladies of the Gellibrand Cricket Club.

Below left: Monster Mayhem in the Meadows was a huge success.

Below right: Easter Bunny paid a visit to our Community Bank Laverton.

Bottom: Visiting our friends at the Point Cook Cricket Club.



## Kevin Sheedy came to town!

Our friends at the Rotary Club of Altona City put on a fantastic evening on Monday 9 May, to help raise funds for flood relief. 144 people showed up to the Altona RSL for a great feed, and an evening of conversation with living legend of the AFL, Mr Kevin Sheedy.

Mr Sheedy was incredibly generous with his time, regaling his audience with funny anecdotes from his long career – funny, clever and just downright entertaining. Well done to all involved for pulling this night together, after several false starts due to the pandemic.

Our Mel – a Bombers fan – couldn't wipe the smile from her face.

## Making good things happen

When you bank with us, profits pour into the community. \$5.3 million so far.

Here's who we've helped lately:

Western Region All Abilities Cricket Club

Altona City Rotary

Laverton Youth Foundation

Williamstown Community Education Centre

Altona Beach Film Festival

Laverton Magpies

COMMUNITY  
INVESTMENT  
\$5.3 million



# Celebrating 10 years of saving lives...

In early 2012, our three Community Bank branches - Altona, Laverton and Point Cook, embarked on a community project that would see us contribute more than a quarter of a million dollars to our communities through the support of the Defib Your Club for Life program.

Our aim at the time was to distribute more than 80 automated defibrillator units throughout the Hobsons Bay and Wyndham communities, covering the areas of Williamstown, Altona, Altona Meadows, Laverton and Point Cook. This significant investment would improve the safety of every resident and visitor within our two municipalities, by providing timely access to the units.

10 years on, and 105 defibrillators later, we want to take the time to acknowledge the great success of this major project.

Providing our community with access to life-saving equipment has been incredibly rewarding. When clubs reach out to notify us of lives saved, we know without a doubt, that our initial hopes for this project have been exceeded beyond anything we could have imagined.

## Our Defib journey

Just over a decade ago, in January 2012, the commencement of our phased Defib rollout saw an initial 15 Defib units placed throughout our communities at beaches, swimming pools and shopping centres. We had a great response and immediately noticed customers and the community talking about what we were doing.

The next phase saw a further 42 sites, strategically chosen for their accessibility, location, and usage. It was all about saturating all four communities - improving Defib access to every citizen in a timely manner, should the need ever arise. Schools, service stations, sporting clubs, supermarkets and community organisations – all benefiting from our rollout.

In May 2012, our branches partnered with the Western Region Football League to co-fund 15 units for all the clubs in the league – not just within our area.

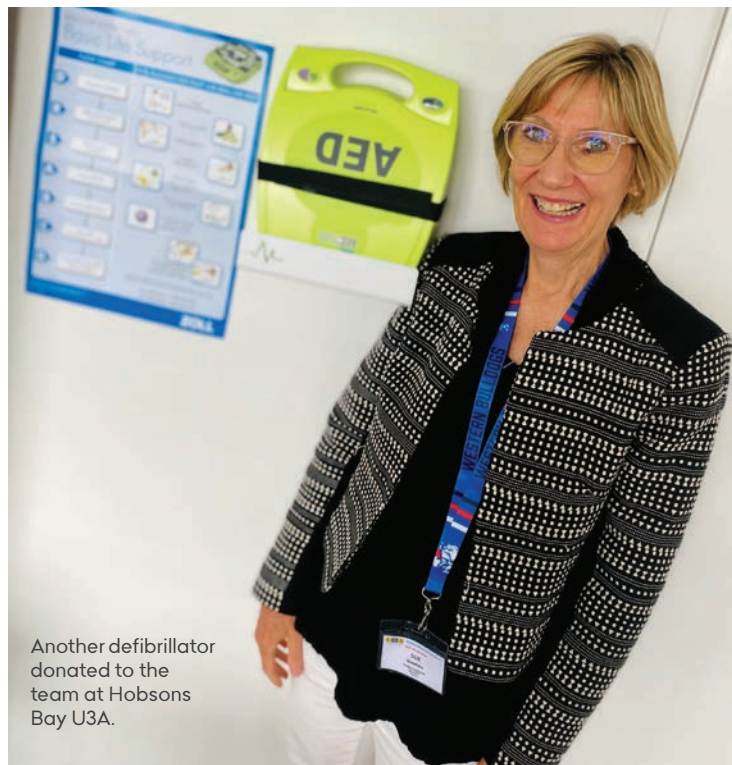
In August 2012, we extended the project even further still, by supporting the communities of Blackwood, Trentham and Daylesford. Three units were funded by us with Community Bank Trentham, highlighting that “community” doesn’t stop at our boundary lines.

In the final phase we went to our communities and asked them to identify sites through a community submissions process. Fifteen more defib units were distributed to sporting clubs, libraries, schools, retail centres and community buildings.

As the years have gone on, we have continued to provide defibrillators across our communities, as the need has arisen, ensuring our little part of the world remains one of the safest places to live. There are more defibrillators across our municipalities, than almost anywhere else in Australia – and we are very proud of this achievement.

Defib Your Club for Life was established by MICA paramedic Andrew White who, while off duty, tried to save the life of 19-year-old Stephen Buckman, a young Rupertswood footballer who collapsed during football training in May 2010. Mr. White found that without timely access to a defibrillator, he was unable to revive him. The appeal now raises funds to help clubs have access to automatic defibrillators to potentially save lives.

“A defibrillator is the most important piece of equipment any club or group can have,” Mr. White said. “The fact is, that one in 1,000 people have an underlying cardiac condition that



Another defibrillator donated to the team at Hobsons Bay U3A.



One Australian has  
a heart attack or  
stroke every 4 minutes

**You have the power to  
change this statistic.**

[DOWNLOAD YOUR INFO PACK](#)

they are unaware of and for every one minute that elapses after collapse, your chance of survival falls by 10 percent. By the 10-minute mark, your chance of survival has significantly diminished,” he added.

Our Director at the time, Michael Boyd passionately believed in this project, “This project is facilitated by community dollars that are generated by local people doing business at their local Community Bank. The more business done; the more funds are raised. It is all about the community answering community problems,” said Mr Boyd.

This profit with purpose model continues to be the driving force behind Community Bank Altona and Laverton. Henry Da Silva, our Chairperson, continues to champion the Defib for Life project, as well as the countless other projects supported over our 22 years in operation.

With over \$5.3 million put back into the communities, we appreciate that none of this would be possible without the ongoing support of our customers, shareholders and community partners. Being part of something bigger has never been quite so important.



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](mailto:altona@bendigoadelaide.com.au)

[bendigobank.com.au/altona](http://bendigobank.com.au/altona)

### Community Bank • Laverton

3/28 Aviation Road, Laverton

P 9369 8455

E [laverton@bendigoadelaide.com.au](mailto:laverton@bendigoadelaide.com.au)

[bendigobank.com.au/laverton](http://bendigobank.com.au/laverton)



/communitybankAltonaLavertonPointCook



/bendigobank\_altlavpcook

### We're open:

9.30am - 3.00pm 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

## Branch Manager's Message

Altona, Laverton and Point Cook – Helping Victorians into home ownership sooner...

It can be hard for many Victorians to save enough for a house deposit. That's why the Victorian Government has launched its new shared equity scheme which aims to accelerate the path to home ownership.

You can only access this opportunity from two banks, one of which is Bendigo Bank.

If you have a 5% deposit, the Victorian Government will contribute up to 25% of the purchase price for eligible participants and 35% for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in exchange for an equivalent share in the property, whilst removing the need for Lenders Mortgage Insurance.\*

We're proud to be a participating lender and look forward to helping even more Victorians into home ownership.

If you meet the eligibility criteria the next step is to reach out to our team who can assist with your application. Best of luck, and remember, my team and I will be here for you and ready to assist you with your finances.

**Daniela Guertler**  
Branch Manager

P: Mob: 0402 609 502

E: [daniela.guertler@bendigoadelaide.com.au](mailto:daniela.guertler@bendigoadelaide.com.au)

\* For more information regarding eligibility and the application process, head to <https://www.bendigobank.com.au/personal/home-loans/victorian-homebuyer-fund/>

## Goodbyes



We are sad to say farewell to Kellie, who has accepted a position as Manager of the Barwon Heads branch. She made a big impact while with us, and we will miss her big smile and brilliant sense of humour. We thank her for all her hard work, and wish her well for the future.

Good luck, Kellie!