Winter 2021

## Newsletter

Community Bank · Altona, Laverton & 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 via email – **adminys@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au** or phone **9932 4000**.

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

### Message from the Chairman



Winter has arrived and we are preparing for the cooler weather ahead.

As we approach the halfway mark of 2021, it is appropriate to pause and take note of the progress we have made in achieving our key strategic goals. If you recall, a major aim for the year was to find new

ways to support our community, given that some local businesses and community groups had struggled to stay afloat and remain engaged during 2020.

We are pleased to announce that we are very much on track with this, having just assisted 16 of our local organisations with just over \$40,000 in funding!

Our March 2021 Community Partnership Program received a large number of applicants, given the growing need for

assistance across the community. It is an honour to be able to answer that call and our capacity to do so is due in large part to you – our customers.

Every day our customers help change lives simply by banking with us. Their home loans are providing defibrillators for local ambulances, food relief to families in need, and assist with teaching financial literacy to young people across our local community. Personal loans, business banking and credit cards are funding soup vans, getting young people with disabilities to their cricket matches, and providing much needed upgrades to sporting clubs across our communities.

Everyday banking is providing all this and more. In fact, \$250 million has been returned to communities and initiatives Australia-wide across the Community Bank network.



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#### Message from the Chairman (continued)

We have continued to support our local cafes and restaurants through our 'Support Local' vouchers initiative, sending our community out for a meal on us. This has been a very successful initiative, as it not only provides the recipient with a little joy but injects some much-needed revenue into our local hospitality industry, which has been among the worst affected by the events of the past year.

As we approach the second half of 2021, we do so cautiously and together with the knowledge that Covid-normal comes with a constant need to adapt. Our Autumn newsletter was created during a snap lockdown, while this newsletter sees us wearing masks once again. Our responsibility is to rise to each challenge in partnership with our community and our staff, who continue to respond to the needs of our customers safely and professionally.

If you need to visit our branches, only do so if you are well and observe the social distancing and face covering guidelines. Look for these guidelines as you enter the branch and be aware that guidelines can change.

To stay connected and for regular updates on what is happening at your local branches and around the community, you might like to follow our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ communitybankAltonaLaverton PointCook or on Instagram at www.instagram.com/bendigo cb\_altlavpcook/

Stay safe and look out for each other.

Yours sincerely,

Henry Da Silva Chairman



## Strategy Day

Last year's Strategy Day was like all things – online and simply not as brilliant as always. An opportunity each year, to come together and plan for the 12 months ahead, our Strategy Days are often filled with passion, great debates and enthusiasm for what is possible.

This year's Strategy Day was no exception, and we were all very grateful to be meeting in person! After 20 years in operation, we remain engaged with each other, to ensure the needs of our community are met. Thankfully, between our Board, our Managers and our corporate team, our community is well represented.

The beauty of having so many minds in a room, we are guaranteed a healthy and robust discussion, and a bounty of ideas for the year ahead.

Bring it on!



## TAC L2P learner driver mentor program delivering results

Learning to drive has become easier for the young people of Hobsons Bay and Wyndham Area thanks to the WynBay TAC L2P Program.

The Department of Transport stated that the TAC L2P Program assists learners under 21 years of age, who do not have access to a supervising driver or vehicle, to gain the 120 hours driving experience required to apply for a probationary licence. At any given time,



approximately 2,300 young Victorians from across the state are benefiting from the program.

For most young people, gaining the 120 hours of supervised driving that's required is easy, but for others it can be a real challenge. Some young people don't have access to a vehicle in which to practice, others don't have somebody to supervise them, some don't have either.

In the Hobsons Bay and Wyndham area, the innovative TAC L2P Program is delivered by Laverton Community Integrated Services.

Since the launch of the WynBay TAC L2P program in 2016, 70 young people have gained their 'P' plates.

"Road safety and good driving habits are something that the whole community benefits from and it's pleasing to see the results achieved by our program." Michael Pernar, CEO of Laverton Community Integrated Services (and our Board member) said. The L2P program helps disadvantaged young Victorians get the skills and support they need to become safe and responsible drivers. "Having a licence means it's easier to get to work or school, and we think every young person should have these opportunities."

"The TAC L2P program not only gives thousands of disadvantaged young Victorians the opportunity to get their licence – it also makes our roads safer," Emily Hynes, Community Services Coordinator of Laverton Community Integrated Services said.

Naheed Akhtar - program coordinator said that "It was very satisfying to see the young people of our area benefiting from this program in a tangible way. Since gaining their P plates, some of the participants have secured employment which may not have been possible if it were not for the program. The ability to drive has meant they can attend job interviews and then drive to their jobs."

The program is currently looking for volunteers with driving experience to help learner drivers gain on-the-road driving experience through the TAC L2P Program. Training is provided and anybody interested in becoming a volunteer mentor should contact the Department of Transport on 03 9854 2666 and ask for the partnerships officer in their area. Alternatively call Naheed Akhtar, program coordinator of Wyndham and Hobsons Bay area on 0487 465 687.

Disadvantaged young people having difficulty to complete their 120 hours are free to apply for the program by calling on 0487 465 687.



# Making good things happen



When you bank with us, profits pour into the community. **\$4.9 million** so far. Here's who we've helped lately:

Altona Little Athletics
Williamstown Cricket Club
Laverton Swimming Club
WYNBAY LEN
St. John Ambulance - Altona
Truganina Fire Brigade
Western Region All Abilities
Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Cooperative Ltd.
Lions Club of Altona
SES

Jamieson Way Community Centre

Dramawerkz

Williamstown Community & Education Centre

Sweeney's Swim Centre

Club Altona

Altona Meadows Community Association

Find out more. Search Bendigo Bank near me. Altona 9398 8922 · Laverton 9369 8455 · Point Cook 9395 7724





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### Community corner



## Meet the team!

It's time to welcome another new team member, and wish another well for what lies ahead.

#### Meet Lochie

Our newest recruit to Community Bank Laverton has been very well received, due to his very relaxed vibe. Our Laverton lad has a calming and confident nature, fitting right in with Holly, Eva and the team, as though he has always been there.

A Doggies supporter, Lochie has plenty to smile about these days. A big fan of tacos and crazy-printed ties, pop into our branch and say hi.

In other news, we bid a fond farewell to our Jess, as she has left us to begin her maternity leave. Excited and ready to deliver baby number two, Jess will be greatly missed, but we are very much looking forward to meeting the newest member of our Community Bank family!





## 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

#### **Point Cook Business Centre**

Shop 24 Sanctuary Lakes Shopping Centre 300 Point Cook Road, Point Cook **P** 9395 7724



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We're open: 9.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday

#### Directors

Mr H Da Silva (Chairperson), Mr M S Pernar (Secretary), Mr G Ryan (Treasurer), Ms E Driscoll, Mr A Hooper, 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



When the unexpected happens, not having to worry about how your insurance provider will take care of you, should be a given. With Bendigo Insurance it is. And not just when you need them. As people go about their everyday lives, the reassurance that they are protected every time they walk outside their

door, drive their car, or invite people into their homes instils a sense of comfort, security and calm. Bendigo Insurance really is, one less thing to worry about.

Any customer who takes out a new home and/ or contents. car or landlords insurance policy between 7 June and 6 August will enter the draw to drive home a 2021 Kia Rio.

It's as simple as that.

New protected customers will automatically be entered - once the policy is arranged, they're in.



The draw will take place on Friday 13 August 2021, with the lucky winner announced soon after!

#### See the full T&Cs on our website.

Daniela Guertler **Branch Manager** Mob: 0402 609 502 E: daniela.guertler@bendigoadelaide.com.au

