



Suzie Ewart appointed new Chair of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd.

The Board of the company that operates the **Community Bank**[®] branches in Lancefield and Romsey has a new Chair. Suzie Ewart has been elected and is thrilled to lead the company into its exciting next phase.



We welcome Suzie (left) as our new company Chair, and thank Dave for the time and expertise he contributed to the role.

"I have been a local resident with an active interest in the region since 1999, when my husband and I purchased an 80-acre property just outside Romsey. We love living in the Macedon Ranges and I've been a big fan of the **Community Bank**[®] model for a long time," Suzie said.

An economist and CPA, Suzie has extensive experience at senior levels in large Australian corporations, including in the brewing, mining, banking, communication and commodity industries. She currently runs an advisory business and serves on several other Boards either as Chair or as a non-Executive Director.

Suzie's connection with the **Community Bank**[®] concept began while serving on a Board with Rob Hunt AM, the architect of the Bendigo Bank's **Community Bank**[®] model.

In taking up her role as Chair, Suzie paid great tribute to David (Dave) Plunkett, a practicing lawyer who has performed with distinction as voluntary Director since 2011 and as Chair since 2016.

"Dave has done a wonderful job as Chair," she said, "and I have big shoes to fill. He has been instrumental in leading the organisation in its revised strategic plan and the refurbishment of the Lancefield **Community Bank**[®] Branch, so really setting the company up for the future."

Top of page: 'Nulla Vale Dawn' – first prize in the inaugural 2017 NVPWLG Landcare Photoprize. (C) 2018 Toni Pusterla.

Saluting their contribution – a fond farewell to two **Community Bank**[®] champions.

When Graeme 'Charlie' Walker resigned as a voluntary Director on the Board of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited in March 2018, it marked the end of an era.



A fond farewell to Charlie (left) and Michael, who have both made significant contributions to our company and the local community.

Charlie grew up in Lancefield and was an enthusiastic member of the steering committee to establish **Community Bank**[®] branches in Lancefield and Romsey in the late 1990s.

As a member of the inaugural Board in 2000, Charlie brought his considerable experience as a journalist to the role. His contribution included membership of the Marketing & Community Investment Panel, responsible for allocating funds to hundreds of local groups and organisations.

As an esteemed and highly experienced journalist, Charlie was the unofficial 'wordsmith' of the **Community Bank**[®] company, writing press releases, articles and speeches for nearly 20 years. His contribution is without parallel and will be sorely missed.

At the same time, after dedicating five years as a Director, Michael Meehan has also resigned from the Board. With an enduring interest in the literary world, Michael is a novelist, former chair of Adelaide Writers Week and has worked in London as an editor. He is Emeritus Professor of Communication and Creative Arts, Deakin University.

Michael played an active role in key areas of the company, including Chair of the Governance & Risk Panel and member of the Marketing & Community Investment Panel.

Michael was instrumental in getting the 'Lancefield Megafauna Festival' on the map with the strong support of the **Community Bank**[®] branches. He brought a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role of Director and made a wonderful contribution to the community.

Future-proofing the Lancefield Community Bank® Branch.

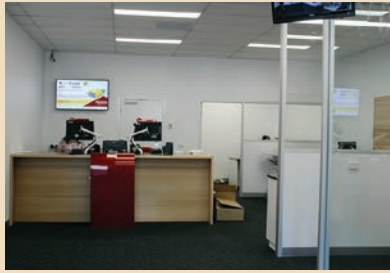
The Lancefield **Community Bank®** Branch has undergone extensive renovations to make it more inviting and comfortable for both customers and the branch team.

Redesigned under Bendigo Bank's 'Network of the Future' concept, the layout incorporates technology to make transactions more efficient and allows staff more time to spend with customers.

At the new look branch, customers can talk one-on-one with specialist members of the branch team in a comfortable sit-down environment.

Senior Manager of the Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank®** branches, Michael O'Gorman, said the branch reopened with its new look on 25 January. Customers were able to use the facilities at the Romsey **Community Bank®** Branch during the days Lancefield was closed.

"The branch's design promotes a welcoming and engaging environment that allows customers to choose how they interact with the bank," Michael said.



The new open plan layout of the Lancefield **Community Bank®** Branch.



The official re-opening of the refurbished Lancefield branch on 12 February 2018. From L-R: Maureen Wiltshire, Michael O'Gorman, Russell Pattinson and Dave Plunkett.

New program to benefit local events.

The Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank®** branches are continuing to help our community to thrive, with the announcement of 13 event sponsorships worth more than \$16,000.

Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank®** Chair, Suzie Ewart, said more than \$1.3 million had now been given to community groups and clubs around the district over the past 17 years.

"This funding will be given back to the community via our new Event Sponsorship Program," she said.

"Each year, we benefit local groups with significant funding via our Community Investment Program. However, we acknowledge that not all funding requests will sit within our Program's timeline. In response to this, we have developed a second funding program as a coordinated way to help support events of a more ad hoc nature."

Ms Ewart said the local events will benefit thanks to the unique profit-sharing arrangements under the Bendigo Bank's **Community Bank®** model.

"This latest funding allocation illustrates that local residents and businesses who bank with us are helping make a direct contribution to funding worthwhile initiatives in the community," she said.

"The banking service we provide is a significant contribution to the prosperity of Lancefield, Romsey and the surrounding areas, but this is an added benefit that sets our **Community Bank®** branches apart."

As part of the 2018 Event Sponsorship Program, the Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank®** branches are proud to support the following events:

- Romsey Blue Light Disco
- Book launch of A Pictorial Guide to Long Lost Lancefield and Kilmore Railway, coordinated by the Romsey Lancefield & Districts Historical Society
- Launch of 'Feed it Forward' – a Lancefield and Romsey Community Lunch Program
- Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association's annual Business Breakfast
- Romsey Bowling Club's Annual Fours Tournament
- Community Walk at Woodend Children's Park, organised by the Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group
- Open Day for the Lancefield Romsey Little Athletics Centre
- 2018 Landcare Photoprize, coordinated by the Nulla Vale Pyalong West Landcare Group
- 2018 Macedon Ranges Wine Exhibition
- Dog high jump event at the Lancefield Show
- Romsey Kennel Club Shows
- Extinct! Lancefield Megafauna Festival
- Romsey Primary School Comedy Night.

Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank®** branches

Making great things happen.

When you bank with Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank®** branches great things happen in your community.

So, if you're not banking with us already, drop by and be part of something bigger.

Drop into your nearest branch at 20A High Street, Lancefield - 5429 1977 or 105 Main Street, Romsey - 5429 5526 to find out more.

Bendigo Bank
Bigger than a bank.

bendigobank.com.au



COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS
\$1.3 million

Making great things happen in Lancefield and Romsey.

When you choose to bank with us, great outcomes – as determined by your local community – are the result. That's the power of the **Community Bank**[®] concept.

Here's how it works.



Here's the proof.

We're part of an active **Community Bank**[®] branch network that has invested more than \$183 million in communities Australia wide. Here are some of our local success stories.

Sponsorship giving kids more opportunities.

Our 2018 school sponsorship has allowed St Mary's Primary School to install a community noticeboard and to allocate extra funds towards bus trips for students.

The bus trips will give students the opportunity to be involved in community activities, such as the Deep Creek River Detectives Program and Mini Vinnies. The noticeboard will help to keep parents and relatives informed as to what's going on at the school.

Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay for Life.

Each year, we proudly support the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay for Life – a wonderful weekend spent celebrating survivors, remembering loved ones and continuing the fight against cancer. The 16th Relay for Life was held on 3 and 4 March, and 324 people walked the track and raised vital funds for Cancer Council Victoria's life-saving work in cancer research, prevention and support.

Over \$84,000 was raised to help the 269 people diagnosed with cancer in the Macedon Ranges Shire each year.



Romsey Antiques Fair.

This event is a major annual fundraiser for the Romsey Mechanics Institute (RMI) and the Romsey Neighbourhood House.

We supported the 2018 Fair, held at the RMI on Saturday 17 March. 15 stall holders – a full contingent – displayed glassware, furniture, jewellery, books, prints, china and much more. Romsey CWA ran the canteen as a fundraiser, and the Romsey Lancefield RSL opened their rooms for people to visit and to sell ANZAC Day memorabilia.

Over 300 people attended from far and wide.



Cemetery's new option.

A \$4,000 grant has helped to support an important addition to Lancefield Cemetery.

A large red granite niche wall has been installed near the front entrance. The wall can accommodate the ashes of 35 deceased, with provision for permanent plaques.

Our Senior Manager, Michael O'Gorman, was present to see a truck crane lift the heavy granite wall into place. Cemetery trustees Anthony Chisholm and Gordon Thrum were also present, as was stonemason Adam Jones, of DP Jones & Co in Kyabram, and Cr Bill West representing Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

Cremations are becoming more popular and the wall is an alternative option to having ashes buried in the cemetery's rose garden or beside special trees. The new wall will also serve as a space saver in contrast to the area taken up by individual graves.



Upgrading the Romsey Mechanics Institute (RMI) chimneys.

The RMI received a \$4,000 grant towards Stage 2 of the chimneys, flues and heaters project.

While difficult to see the work carried out to chimneys and flues, improvements to the fireplaces are more obvious. Loose bricks were replaced or secured and the chimneys were capped, stopping birds and insects flying down. Low energy lighting, large fans and a large gas heater were also installed.

Originally, Supper Room fireplaces had cream gloss paint on the wooden mantles and surrounds, and the fireplaces were blocked off. The hearths were in varying states of disrepair. This project saw the mantle pieces and surrounds stripped back and polished to bring back their natural timber look. The fireplaces were cleaned out and levelled. Once this work was complete, cast iron fireplaces were installed and the hearths were tiled. A wooden surround was also put in place at the edge of the hearths.



These before and after photos illustrate the vast improvements to the fireplaces.

Lancefield Long Lunch.

We supported this major fundraiser for the Lancefield Football Netball Club, Lancefield Tennis Club and Lancefield Junior Football Netball Club, held along the High Street plantation.

Money raised went towards the multipurpose courts project at Lancefield Park, an initiative to remove two old tennis courts and replace them with two new tennis/netball courts, which will be available for use by club members and the local community.



\$10,000 grant a catalyst for successful HRCV TTT CT Event.

Lancefield Equestrian Group (LEG) received a \$10,000 grant towards improving the surface of the inside of the trotting track at Lancefield Park, so it could be used for equestrian and other events.

The grant was used to level the surface of the competition area in the centre of the track and then to add stone dust as safe footing for horses and riders. This enabled LEG to host the March 2018 Horse Riding Clubs Association of Victoria (HRCV) Top Team Trophy Combined Training Event. This team event was held over two days with over 200 competitors and over 50 teams from Victoria and New South Wales.

The venue was new to many competitors and was very well received. The jumping phase was held in the centre of the trotting track and the new surface was a great success. Without our grant, this event would not have been possible and the potential benefits of the Lancefield Equestrian Reserve as a mid-size event facility would not have been showcased.



Romsey Ecotherapy Park – update.

When completed, the Romsey Ecotherapy Park will be an innovative and regionally significant destination utilising nature and culture for the advancement of health and wellness, spanning all generations.

The Park's first stage of construction, the Active Native Space, is complete with an official opening confirmed for 30 August 2018.

Funding received so far:

a) Macedon Ranges Shire Council:

- \$353,000 – purchase of the site from the Department of Education
- \$215,000 – matched funding for the Federal Government grant for the Stage 1 Active Nature Space
- \$120,000 – funding towards the Active Nature Space.

b) Federal Government:

- \$215,000 – Active Nature Space.

c) Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank® branches:

- \$80,000 – towards the Therapeutic Sensory Space.

Based on the most recent estimated costings, approximately \$1.9 million is required to complete the project in total.

Funding is now actively being sought to seamlessly implement the remaining Spaces of this regionally significant health and wellbeing resource. This includes meeting with State and Federal members of parliament from both major parties and candidates for the upcoming state election, and investigating opportunities to partner with other organisations for the benefit of attaining Designated Gift Recipient (DGR) status.



Branch birthday celebrations – 17 and 12 years on!

We opened our Lancefield **Community Bank**® Branch in 2001. We wanted residents and local businesses to always have a bank in their main shopping centre providing face to face service.

Our Romsey **Community Bank**® Branch opened five years later, in 2006.

Over the last 17 years, our Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank**® branches have given back over \$1.3 million to local community projects, events and clubs.

We're proud of our investment in the growth of Lancefield, Romsey and the surrounding areas. It's now 17 years since we started and we're stronger and more passionate than ever!

Our Board and staff would like to thank our customers and shareholders for their support.



A cake and a chat with the 12th customer of the day, to commemorate 12 years since we opened our doors in Romsey.



Our 17th customer on 17 May to commemorate 17 years as part of the Lancefield community.

Shareholder dividend declaration for 2017/18.

The company is pleased to announce that it will be paying a fully franked dividend of \$0.07 per share in relation to the 2017/18 financial year. The dividend was paid in June with an ex-dividend date of 24 May 2018. To update your contact or bank account details, please contact Georgie Davie on 0409 358 771 or at georgie@lrcfsl.com.au

Shares now available.

Shares are now available in Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited, the company which operates our locally owned Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank**® branches.

With over 450 shareholders today, visit www.bendigobank.com.au/lancefield or www.bendigobank.com.au/romsey and select 'Trading Shares (LMV)' if you're interested in learning more about buying shares in our company.

Contact Georgie Davie on 0409 358 771 to register your interest.



Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited

This is general information only. It is not intended to be relied on as advice to potential investors and does not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or needs of any particular investor. You should consider whether such an investment is appropriate for you and consult your professional advisor before making any investment decision. Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited ABN 44 093 517 714 A270881-02 (408268_v3) (7/08/2018)

Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited 20A High Street, Lancefield VIC 3435 **ABN 44 093 517 714**

Directors: Ken Allender, Rob Bryant, Tony Ede, Suzie Ewart, Donna Fabris, Tim McCarthy, Gina Morgan, Russell Pattinson, David Plunkett and Damien Tyrrell.

Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank® branches

Lancefield

20A High Street, Lancefield VIC 3435

Phone: (03) 5429 1977

Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/lancefield

Romsey

105 Main Street, Romsey VIC 3434

Phone: (03) 5429 5526

Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/romsey

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am – 5.00pm and Saturday mornings 9.00am – 12 noon

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