

# Meander Valley Financial Services Ltd. Newsletter March 2010

## Manager's report



Despite the tough economic environment, it's been pleasing to watch our branch continue to grow. Confidence in lending has increased but the continued battle in our marketplace is for depositors funds and all institutions are competing for their slice of the pie. However the customer base and number of accounts at Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch have continued to increase - which are both indicators of confidence in our branch.

I am also pleased with our branch's performance over the last three months. Our staff have contributed strongly to that performance.

We have implemented a staff development strategy that allows all staff an opportunity to express an interest in an area of the business, develop skills in those areas and then put them into practice. Professional development has always been incredibly important for both Bendigo and Adelaide Bank and Meander Valley Financial Services.

Next time you come into the branch, please take the opportunity to meet our professional and dedicated staff. Our staff provide great customer service and can help you with a range of services such as loans, deposits, insurance and making an appointment with our financial planner.

I am passionate about my community and banking. Whatever your financial requirements, please consider us when next you have a decision to make about banking.

Our bank branch is owned by the local community and in partnership with Bendigo Bank we use the profits generated by the branch to fund important projects in our community.

There are currently more than 250 **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branches across Australia that have returned more than \$39 million to support local communities.

These are huge figures, and behind those numbers are hundreds of stories of **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branches making a real difference to the lives of local people.

Ultimately, the more business our **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch can generate, equally as much profit can be ploughed straight back into supporting local community project.

I Look forward to seeing you soon.

**Darren Rumble**  
Branch Manager

## Chairman's editorial



The economic climate has shown signs of improving over the past four to five months, but I'm sure most of you will agree that we are not out of the woods yet.

Recent difficulties in the dairy, horticulture and forestry industries seem likely to continue over the next six to 12 months, which makes predicting the course of the local business economy uncertain. The underlying strength of our Australian economy has seen us do better than

many other countries but while this is a positive it shouldn't be taken for granted.

I believe our challenge as a community is to continue to build local resilience and long-term sustainability. We can do this by focusing on our community's strengths and capabilities, working together and promoting our region's assets. The result will be recognition of the opportunities our Company can provide to potential businesses, investors and new residents. The on-flow is a better lifestyle for all living here.

In pursuit of this activity, an important first step has been taken by Richard Millen; CEO of the Meander Valley Enterprise Centre Incorporated (MVEC). Richard has followed up the actions identified

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P.O. Box 423, Deloraine TAS 7304 ABN: 27 111 858 078

## Chairman's editorial (continued)

at the community forums co-sponsored by your **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch conducted last August in Westbury and Deloraine.

MVEC has facilitated a group of local people to identify key issues and a long term strategy for promoting sustainable business and lifestyle in our community. Some of you will have been invited to participate in this process. I urge you to put your ideas forward. The need to plan for the future is vital and should be embraced. If you are interested in assisting this group, contact MVEC on 6362 3456, or 0419 623 455 or email [mvecinc@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mvecinc@bigpond.net.au)

Meander Valley Financial Services is delighted to support Westbury Working Together's project to reopen the Westbury Medical Centre. Our Branch Manager, Darren and several of our Directors attended the Westbury Rotary breakfast on Australia Day to present our contribution of \$5,000. The Medical Centre is once again fully operational.

This is a striking example of how Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch can support local initiatives building vital infrastructure.

The **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> model is growing rapidly in Tasmania. We have steering committees working towards establishing **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branches in Sorell, Nubeena, Georgetown, East Devonport, and Sheffield/Railton. There have been preliminary enquiries from other regions in our state too.

On behalf of the Meander Valley Financial Services Board, I'd like to thank you for your continuing support. I'd also like to thank our staff, Darren, Kelly, Kim, Kim, Kelly and Judy for the great work they do. I would also like to offer a word of appreciation for the Meander Valley Financial Services volunteer Directors, who generously contribute their time and expertise with the sole purpose of seeing profits given back to the community.

Warm regards

**Lynn Hayward**  
**MFVS Ltd. Chairman**

## Meet Russell Carrick

### Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd's new State Manager in Tasmania



Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd's Tasmanian State Manager position has been taken up by Russell Carrick, who has moved to Launceston from his role as South East Victoria Area Manager.

Russ has more than 20 years experience in finance and is no stranger to 'the Bendigo' style of banking, with previous roles as Branch Manager, Business

Banking Manager, **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Development Manager, Regional Manager, and Area Manager.

As the new dedicated State Manager, Russ is focused on opening more branches, deepening existing customer relationships and continuing the bank's support of local communities.

## New Director, Brad Swain, welcomed to the Board



Brad Swain has joined us as a Director of Meander Valley Financial Services.

Brad grew up on a dairy farm in Liffey and is now a Recreation Development Officer with the Meander Valley Council. Brad has a degree in Commerce, specialising in Human Resources, Marketing and International Business and has a passion for community sport as is evident through his roles as Chairman of the Westbury Shamrocks Cricket Club and Head Coach of the Prospect Sharks Football Club.

His past employment has included statewide sporting club liaison with the Drug Education Network and then in marketing with the Australian Technical College Northern Tasmania.

Occasionally Brad can be seen making an appearance on the mixed netball court in Deloraine or riding his road bike around the valley.

Brad describes the main reason for joining the Board is the **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch's capacity to have a real impact in the Meander Valley area and to learn more about himself, the banking sector and his community.

The Board of Directors welcomes Brad, whose appointment was confirmed in December 2009.

## School Banking Program gets underway

Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch will introduce its School Banking Program to Meander Primary School, Mole Creek Primary School and the Toddle Inn Child Care Centre.

Participants in the program will use a Bendigo Piggy Bank Passbook Account and receive a moneybox to learn about the process and benefits of regular saving.

Letters posted to parents at the three schools will announce the features of Bendigo School Banking and branch staff will visit the schools to introduce themselves to the students.

Piggy Bank Accounts attract no account keeping fees, no transaction or government fees and no penalties or deposit restrictions. Children participating will receive a host of fun games and rewards for being regular savers.

Children who already have a Piggy Bank Passbook Account will be able to starting saving through the school banking straight away. It is anticipated that school banking days will be held on a weekly basis.

# Support for Meander Valley Community FM Radio

Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch has given support to local radio station Meander Valley Community FM Radio by becoming a foundation sponsor for the project. The **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch will also be showing support through regular advertising in Community FM's newsletter and by providing space for the station to set up an information stall in our shade tent at the local agricultural shows. The Community FM's aim is to secure major funding for the broadcast unit and have begun building their studio in the newly opened "Creative Studios" complex, located in the former Mitre Ten building on Emu Bay Road.

Community FM's Chairman, Rod Willey, said the group was confident they would raise the funding for their transmission equipment by mid-year.

Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch believes community radio as an excellent resource for public communication within the Meander Valley.

The community broadcaster's FM frequency will be 96.9FM. Broadcasting will be facilitated by transmission through a tower on Gardiner's Hill at Chudleigh.

You can visit Community FM's offices at the "Creative Studios" complex and new subscriber members are always welcome.



▲ Community FM Radio, Studio with Rod Willey.

# Support for Westbury Doctors Surgery

Meander Valley Financial Services is proud to support the re-opening of the Westbury Doctors Surgery, a local initiative spearheaded by the Westbury Working Together group, Chaired by Graham Dent.

\$5,000 was contributed towards the \$30,000 required for primary medical equipment at the centre which will be locally managed and the assets remain the property of the Westbury community.

Grants from the Meander Valley Council, Westbury Rotary and funds raised by Westbury Working Together have met the costs involved in re-establishing the surgery.

Meander Valley Financial Services Director and Business Development Convener, Steve Blakeney, is shown welcoming Dr Janet Briddon, on the steps of the newly re-opened clinic. Janet's husband, Dr Phillip Briddon, will join the practice once his commitments in Queensland are finalised.

The Centre will be managed by Dr Annette Douglas who has been maintaining the surgery while the Janet and Phillip have been relocating to Westbury.



▲ Director Steve Blakeney Welcomes Dr Janet Bridden to Westbury Doctors Surgery.



## Catch the savings bug.

### Bendigo School Banking.

Whether it's for the latest craze in computer games, for a new bike or just for a rainy day, we all know it's never too early for our kids to start learning about budgeting and saving.

That's why at Bendigo Bank we've introduced our School Banking Program and Piggy Bank Passbook Account – perfect for primary school aged savers.

With no account keeping fees, no transaction or government fees and no deposit restrictions – plus a host of fun games and rewards for young account holders – a Piggy Bank Passbook Account makes saving easy.

Opening an account is simple, all you need is your child's birth certificate.

Call into 49 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine or phone 6362 4801, we'd be delighted to help you and your child catch the savings bug.

The parent or guardian will need to satisfy the criteria for the 100 point identification check. The Piggy Bank Passbook Account is issued by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo, VIC 3550. This material contains general advice only. Please consider your situation and read the Terms and Conditions available from any Bendigo Bank branch, or visit [www.bendigobank.com.au](http://www.bendigobank.com.au) before making any decision. ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879. (S27636) (02/10)



Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch

## Community Saver Card

### New traders' offers list available now

All customers banking with Deloraine & Districts

**Community Bank**® Branch are entitled to a free Community Savers Card, recognised by dozens of Meander Valley businesses for special deals, bargains, offers and bonuses when you shop locally. The newly updated traders' offer list is available now (enclosed with your posted newsletter). Extra copies can be collected at the branch anytime.



Save money and support local businesses by using your card. Look for the Saver Card logo (shown here) at participating businesses around the Meander Valley.

## Your shareholder newsletter by email?

In keeping with our goal to manage paper-waste and publication costs, we encourage you to sign up to receive your Meander Valley Financial Services Shareholders Newsletter by email.

Please complete the form below and email your request to the Company secretary at meandervalleyfsl@gmail.com or send your request to Meander Valley Financial Services, P.O. Box 423, Deloraine, TAS 7304.

Meander Valley Financial Services Ltd.

### Shareholder newsletter request

Mail to: PO Box 423, Deloraine Tas 7304

Please send my shareholder newsletter by email:

Name (please print):

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Email address (please print):

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## Helping build our district

Returning profits to our community is what banking with Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank**® Branch is all about. Ultimately, the more business our **Community Bank**® branch can generate, equally as much profit can be put into supporting local community projects.

Meander Valley Financial Services Board is proud to support the following projects and groups during the past six months.

Community group	Allocated funds
Deloraine Agricultural & Pastoral Society MV 8KM Fun Run & Walk	\$2,000
Meander District Women in Agricultural First Aid Accreditation	\$500
Deloraine Junior Soccer Uniforms	\$600
Deloraine Junior Basketball, Registration Kits	\$100
Deloraine Bowls Club, Farmers Day	\$250
Deloraine Community FM Radio, Foundation Sponsor	\$1,000
Deloraine on the Move & Great Western Tiers Tourism Assoc, Highway Signage	\$1,500
Meander Art Award	\$330
Deloraine Working Sheep Dog, Open Trials	\$500
Westbury Doctors Surgery	\$5,000



▲ Our community during Australia Day celebrations.



▲ Deloraine Bowls Club on Farmers Day.

Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank**® Branch,  
49 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine TAS 7304  
Phone: 6362 4801

Website: www.bendigobank.com.au

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

**Chairman:** Lynn Hayward.

**Directors:** Laura Richardson, Jessica Leonard, Gordon Brookes, Chris Moorhouse, David Bounds, Steve Blakeney, Jan Blakeney, Barbara Harvey, Grant Ward, Ken Philpott, Brad Swain.