

# Annual Report 2015

Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited

ABN 68 108 297 945

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# Chairperson's report

#### For year ending 30 June 2015

Oh behalf of the Merbein District Financial Services Limited Board, I would like to present the Chair's report of the Merbein & District **Community Bank**® Branch's performance and activities for the 2014 /15 financial year.

Thanks to the support of **Community Bank**® branch customers and shareholders, the Australia-wide network has now returned more than \$130 million to support and strengthen local communities.

This enormous achievement comes as the **Community Bank**® network celebrated the opening of its 311th branch in Bega, New South Wales, 17 years after the **Community Bank**® concept was born in the Western Victorian farming townships of Rupanyup and Minyip in 1998. And in July last year, we ourselves celebrated a significant milestone, with our 10th birthday of the branch. I'd like to take a moment to thank all our current and past staff and all current and past volunteer Directors, for all their work they have done.

As of 30 June 2015, our **Community Bank**® branch had given back \$400,000 to the local community through our Marketing Development Fund and other contributions. Our Marketing Development Fund is not from the branch's working capital or profit; but a reward for our banking performance from our franchise partner, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank. Through the Marketing Development Fund we are able to partner with the community to deliver outcomes that will not only enhance our region but build its capacity as well.

One such example is the Mildura Strings (subsidiary of Mildura District Orchestra) who we sponsored for a workshop in December last year. A teacher from Melbourne was brought up to run a Celtic Workshop for the group. After the workshop, the group performed for the residents at Chaffey Aged Care.

A heartfelt thanks to our staff who work at the coalface of our business and execute the day-to-day operations of the business. Part of what makes **Community Bank®** concept so successful are the staff behind the counter and at the end of the phone. The Board would like to acknowledge the work and commitment of our Branch Manager Robert Libchard and our staff Tanya, Priscilla, Daniella and Haley. Haley joined our team in August 2014 and has quickly become a valued staff member.

In February our Branch Manager Rob went on Long Service Leave. This presented an exciting opportunity for Haley to expand her skill base and knowledge in Lending. She also led the team and provided support to the Board in Rob's absence. The Board would also like to thank Customer Relations Manager, Damien Goodrem from the Langtree Avenues corporate branch, who supported the branch during this time.

There have been some changes to the Board in past year. In November we welcomed new Director Gary Simpson and Kim Hubbard to the Board. The two had previously sat on Board Committees.

In February, Director Kim Hubbard resigned from the Board to return to Sydney. I'd like to thank and acknowledge her contributions. In November Director David Lim resigned. I would like to thank and acknowledge his contributions over the three and half years he was a Director.

In the past year we had one Director and one staff member attended the Victorian **Community Bank®** State Conference. These professional development opportunities are important and as a Board we will continue to commit to such professional development.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank continues to develop new products to support our customers. Since I last reported to you, we have had the release of electronic statements and the exciting launch of a mobile business app - www. bendigobank.com.au/business/mibanker

## Chairperson's report (continued)

I'd like to also acknowledge and thank my fellow volunteer Directors Marianne Glover, Raywin Jamieson, Kath Middleton (Treasurer), Paul Mulder, Gary Simpson and Jeanette Worthington (Secretary) for their work during the last 12 months on our Board and various Board committees. Their contribution and commitment as volunteers is to be commended.

I'd also like to thank Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited's team that has supported our branch in the past 12 months, this includes Regional Manager John Sirolli, Senior Community Strengthening Manager, Bill Den Hartog, Retail Operations Officers, Nina Cass and Maree Selwood, Retail Operations Manager, Graham Hartland, Business Banker Paul Hewitt and Creagh Simes, Regional Lending Manager, David Gray, Financial Planning, Jim Fahey, Customer Relations Manager, Damian Goodrem and Jim Christie (Manningham Community Enterprises Limited).

Recently we welcomed the Government's announcement that it will support almost all of the recommendations made by David Murray in his report following the Financial System Inquiry. This includes a few of the key recommendations that **Community Bank®** company's and Bendigo and Adelaide Bank's broader bank network lobbied for, to ensure greater competition and a 'fair go'. These are key wins that will be genuine game changers for our business.

Major banks must now hold additional capital, and we have already seen capital-raising activity taking place to ensure these banks can meet the new standards. Furthermore, adjustments will be made to the requirements for calculating risk weights for housing loans. This will narrow the difference between average Internal Ratings Based (the model our branch is working towards using is outlined below) and standardised risk weights (the model our branch currently uses). The Government has also left current funding arrangements in place to support the Financial Claims Scheme or Government Guarantee as it's more commonly known.

Our franchise partner Bendigo and Adelaide Bank has continued their undertaking of a review of the **Community Bank®** model. This is a collaborative effort to rigorously explore and analyse the model; an approach strongly underpinned by financial modelling and empirical analysis.

In line with a joint commitment from the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank and its **Community Bank®** partners, the 18-month comprehensive review of the **Community Bank®** model, called Project Horizon, has seen the largest single engagement process ever undertaken by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank. As a result, a focus for the next 18 months will be the implementation of 64 recommendations.

The task of implementing and further reviewing specific pillars within the model, to assist with setting the vision and strategy for a sustainable commercial model, and to create a shared vision for future long-term success regardless of changes to operational and market conditions, has now begun in earnest.

The outcome of that review is that the fundamental franchise model and community participation remain unchanged. Changes to be implemented over a three-year period reflect a number of themes, including a culture of innovation, agility and flexibility, network collaboration, Director and staff development and a sustainable financial model. This will include changes to the financial return for **Community Bank®** companies from 1 July 2016. A funds transfer pricing model will be used for the method of calculation of the cost of funds, deposit return and margin. All revenue paid on core banking products will be through margin share. Margin on core banking products will be shared on a 50/50 basis.

In line with the outcomes of the review, and as alluded to above, National Working Parties in Marketing and Director Education and Governance have been put together to address specific issues that have arisen. I was approached and have been appointed to the Director Education and Governance National Working Party. I look forward to working with fellow Directors from across Australia.

The past year has been challenging for our business but with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank's support we endeavour to move forward. The past financial year saw an increase in our footings. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank has again indicated that they will be providing and are supportive of our overdraft facility. There was a 37% decrease in the loss recorded for the financial year ended June 2015 when compared to the prior year. In light of our current financial standing, we will not be issuing any dividends this financial year.

## Chairperson's report (continued)

We can now report that we have finalised and renewed our Franchise Agreement with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank and lease agreement. Both of these are five-year agreements.

More recently, you may have noticed that we have had a new ATM (Automatic Teller Machine) installed. Feedback from customers and their experience of this new unit has been overwhelmingly positive.

Together our team of staff and Directors continues to work hard to grow the business so we can reward the support of our local shareholders by paying them a dividend.

We look forward to your continued support, and encourage you to share our story, as we continue to grow all elements of the business, including our product lines of insurance, superannuation, travel, loans and deposits, so that we can strengthen your business, and in turn, strengthening our community.

Rebecca Wells

Chair

# Manager's report

#### For year ending 30 June 2015

It gives me great pleasure to report on the progress of Merbein & District **Community Bank®** Branch, to our valued shareholders, for the year ended 30 June 2015.

It has been 12 months since our last Annual General Meeting and I am still impressed by the strong sense of community engagement around Merbein and district and the goodwill towards our branch since its opening ten years ago. Our customers and shareholders have once again been great ambassadors for your **Community Bank**® branch

Some of the highlights attributed to the branch to June 30, 2015, include:

- Total business held at the branch in excess of \$69.0 million, an increase in the last 12 months of \$6.9 million;
- More than 3,500 accounts and nearly 2,200 account holders;
- Over \$400,000 donated or pledged back to the community through various sponsorships, grants and donations to this date through our Marketing Development Fund.

The Marketing Development Fund is an additional source of income that is given to our company under our Franchise Agreement with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank for grants, sponsorships or donations and is unable to be held as working capital.

Some of our sponsorships to June 30 2015, have included:

\$6,000	Breakfast program at Merbein P-10 College
\$6,000	Major Sponsorship of Mallee Sports Assembly – Sports Star of the Year Award
\$3,000	Sunraysia Gang Show sponsorship
\$3,000	Carport / Pergola construction at The Christie Centre
\$2,150	Foster Care Program with Sunraysia Animal Rehousing Group

It is also pleasing to advise that Merbein & District **Community Bank**® Branch is continuing with its scholarships and awards program for our local school children:

\$10,000	2 x \$5,000 university scholarships for students with a 3505 postcode
\$1,000	4 x \$250 school scholarships to Merbein P-10 College
\$500	1 x \$500 school scholarship to Mildura Senior College
\$300	3 x \$100 bursaries to our local primary school students
\$100	2 x \$50 Community Involvement Awards to junior section of Merbein P-10 College

As I have stated before, the prime objective of Merbein & District **Community Bank®** Branch is to continue recording profits that enable us to make a financial return to our community and by simply doing your banking with us you can make this happen.

## Manager's report (continued)

We need your maximum support and the support of others to enable us to continue to expand our current funds under management to help us further enhance the business. If you haven't already considered banking with us or know of someone who could benefit, I urge you to call into the branch and talk to myself about how I can assist you with transferring your banking business. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited have been recognised as 'Business Bank of the Year' for 2012, 2013 and 2014. Remember, everyone needs to bank somewhere, why not bank with us where we can make a difference to our community. If you have already started banking with us, thank you – you are the greatest advocates of the Merbein & District **Community Bank**® Branch.

August 2014 saw us welcome our newest staff member, Haley Hlasny, to the branch in the role of Part-time Customer Service Officer. Whilst I was on Annual / Long Service Leave from February – June, 2015, Haley and Customer Relations Manager, Damian Goodrem, from Bendigo and Adelaide Bank – Langtree branch, both did an amazing job covering loans and I thank them very much. I'd also like to thank Haley for her work she did in servicing the Board in my absence.

I would like to thank my staff members Tanya, Priscilla, Daniella and Haley for their dedication and continued great work. It truly is a great pleasure to come to work every day and be greeted by such a devoted group of people who only have your **Community Bank**® branch at heart.

I would also like to thank our Board for their continued great work. It is sometimes a thankless job that has been guided brilliantly by Rebecca Wells as Chairman, so credit must go out to her and the rest of the Board of Directors for their continued commitment to our branch.

**Rob Libchard** 

**Branch Manager** 

# Directors' report

#### For the financial year ended 30 June 2015

Your directors submit the financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.

#### **Directors**

The names and details of the company's directors who held office during or since the end of the financial year:

#### **Rebecca Claire Wells**

Chairman

Occupation: Administration

Qualifications, experience and expertise: Rebecca has a Bachelor of Arts, Masters Media Production (Hons), MBA and AICD Company Director's Course. She is also Chair - Northern Mallee Leaders Advisory Committee and Committee Member - The Merbein Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph. Past Senior Marketing & Development Officer LaTrobe University Dec 2014.

Special responsibilities: Member of the Marketing and Business Development Committee until 30 April 2015. Interest in shares: 1

#### **Kathleen Anne Middleton**

Treasurer

Occupation: Unemployed

Qualifications, experience and expertise: Associate Diploma Business (Accounting) - Bachelor of Business (Accounting). 20 years experience bookkeeping/accounting. Girl Guides Victoria, Leader - 24 years, Treasurer at Guides 12 years. Sunraysia Gang Show 24 years, Treasurer at Gang Show 8 years. Cardross Football Club Inc (Treasurer, Secretary, President, Sports Trainer).

Special responsibilities: Member of the Finance Committee

Interest in shares: 1

#### Jeanette Ellen Worthington

Secretary

Occupation: Administration

Qualifications, experience and expertise: Administration/Project Officer with Mallee Sports Assembly. Partner in family Electrical Contracting business. Have been associated with the administration of Community and Sporting clubs across Sunraysia.

Special responsibilities: Member of the Marketing and Business Development Committee

Interests in shares: 5,001

#### **Marianne Dawn Glover**

**Deputy Chairman** 

Occupation: Hairdresser

Qualifications, experience and expertise: Qualified Hairdresser for over 40 years, Chairperson of Merbein Uniting Church, President of Merbein Development Association Inc, Committee Member of The Merbein Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph.

Special responsibilities: Deputy Chairman; Member of the Marketing and Business Development Committee Interest in shares: 1

#### **Directors (continued)**

#### **Raywin Mary Jamieson**

Director

Occupation: Hairdresser

Qualifications, experience and expertise: Business owner for 40 years, 30 years involvement with Girl Guides. Chairperson of Mildura City Markets, State Council Member, Vice-President Merbein Development Association

Inc, Regional Manager Loddon Mallee and Events Coordinator Mildura Show Society Inc.

Special responsibilities: Member of the Governance Committee

Interest in shares: 1

#### **Paul Matthew Mulder**

Director

Occupation: Employment Provider / Case Manager

Qualifications, experience and expertise: Self-employed for the past 10 years in the employment services industry. Diploma in OH&S, experience in management, HR, education and employment, public relations, computer/IT. Life Member of Merbein Junior Football Club and past committee member including 7 years as secretary.

Special responsibilities: Chairman of the Marketing and Business Development Committee

Interest in shares: 1

#### **Gary Wayne Simpson**

Director (Appointed 25 November 2014)

Occupation: General Manager

Qualifications, experience and expertise: General Manager Service Support at Sunraysia Community Health Services. Past CFO Cycling SA, General Manager Jobs Statewide, CEO SMGT Australia. Chair Sunraysia

Academy of Sport, Member Road Safe Mildura Committee.

Special responsibilities: Nil Interest in shares: Nil

#### **Kimberly Alexandra Hubbard**

Director (Appointed 25 November 2014, Resigned 23 March 2015)

Occupation: Solicitor

Qualifications, experience and expertise: Currently employed as a Solicitor. Bachelor of Law (Hons), Bachelor Forensic Science. Event Manager Mildura Young Professionals Network. President Mildura Young Professionals Network (2013-2015).

Special responsibilities: Member Governance Committee and HR Committee

Interest in shares: Nil

#### **David Kim Swee Lim**

Director (Resigned 13 November 2014)

Occupation: CPA

Qualifications, experience and expertise: Bachelor of Arts in Accountancy, Member of CPA Australia. Held

Senior Accounting roles in publicly listed companies.

Special responsibilities: Member of the Finance Committee

Interest in shares: 1

Directors were in office for this entire year unless otherwise stated.

No directors have material interests in contracts or proposed contracts with the company.

#### **Company Secretary**

The Company Secretary is Jeanette Ellen Worthington. Jeanette was appointed as secretary on 10 March 2004. She has prior experience as a secretary with numerous not-for-profit organisations.

#### **Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the company during the financial year were facilitating **Community Bank®** services under management rights to operate a franchised branch of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited.

There have been no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

#### **Operating results**

Operations have continued to perform in line with expectations. The loss of the company for the financial year after provision for income tax was:

Year ended 30 June 2015	Year ended 30 June 2014		
\$	\$		
(20,259)	(32,225)		

#### **Remuneration report**

Directors' remuneration

All directors of the company are on a voluntary basis, therefore no remuneration guidelines have been prepared.

Transactions with directors

	\$
Jeanette Worthington is one of the Partners in her family electrical contracting business.  During the year the business received \$88 (2014: Nil) for electrical work completed at the branch.	88

#### Directors' shareholdings

	Balance at start of the year	Changes during the year	Balance at end of the year
Rebecca Claire Wells	1	-	1
Kathleen Anne Middleton	1	-	1
Jeanette Ellen Worthington	5,001	-	5,001
Marianne Dawn Glover	1	-	1
Raywin Mary Jamieson	1	-	1
Paul Matthew Mulder	1	-	1
Gary Simpson (Appointed 25 November 2014)	-	-	-

#### Remuneration report (continued)

Directors' shareholdings (continued)

	Balance at start of the year	Changes during the year	Balance at end of the year
Kimberley Hubbard (Appointed 25 November 2014, Resigned 23 March 2015)	-	-	-
David Kim Swee Lim (Resigned 30 October 2014)	1	-	1

Remuneration of Area and Branch Managers

The Board is responsible for the determination of remuneration packages and policies applicable all the staff.

The Branch Manager is seconded from Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, with their wage being dictated by BEN. The Branch Manager is invited to the Board meetings as required to discuss and report back on staff performance. The Board and BEN is responsible for the determination of policies applicable to the Branch Manager.

There are no executives who are directly accountable and responsible for the strategic direction and operational management of the entity. This is wholly a board role.

There are therefore no Specified Executives.

#### **Dividends**

No dividends were declared or paid for the previous year and the directors recommend that no dividend be paid for the current year.

#### Significant changes in the state of affairs

In the opinion of the directors there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the company that occurred during the financial year under review not otherwise disclosed in this report or the financial statements.

#### Events since the end of the financial year

There are no matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the company, in future years.

#### Likely developments

The company will continue its policy of facilitating banking services to the community.

#### **Environmental regulation**

The company is not subject to any significant environmental regulation.

#### Indemnification and insurance of directors and officers

The company has indemnified all directors and the manager in respect of liabilities to other persons (other than the company or related body corporate) that may arise from their position as directors or manager of the company except where the liability arises out of conduct involving the lack of good faith.

Disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium is prohibited by the confidentiality clause of the contract of insurance. The company has not provided any insurance for an auditor of the company or a related body corporate.

#### **Directors' meetings**

The number of directors' meetings attended by each of the directors of the company during the year were:

	Board Meetings Attended		Committee Meetings Attended Marketing	
	Eligible	Attended	Eligible	Attended
Rebecca Claire Wells*	12	10	3	2
Kathleen Anne Middleton	12	11	-	-
Jeanette Ellen Worthington	12	11	4	4
Marianne Dawn Glover	12	12	4	4
Raywin Mary Jamieson	12	7	3	-
Paul Matthew Mulder	12	12	4	4
Gary Simpson (Appointed 25 November 2014)	7	5	-	-
Kimberley Hubbard (Appointed 25 November 2014, Resigned 23 March 2015)	4	2	-	-
David Kim Swee Lim (Resigned 30 October 2014)	3	2	-	-

<sup>\*</sup> Rebecca Wells was granted a Leave of Absence from 29 April to 6 July 2015.

#### Proceedings on behalf of the company

No person has applied to the Court under section 237 of the Corporations Act 2001 for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of the company, or to intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party, for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or part of those proceedings.

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the Corporations Act 2001.

#### Non audit services

The company may decide to employ the auditor on assignments additional to their statutory duties where the auditor's expertise and experience with the company are important. Details of the amounts paid or payable to the auditor (Andrew Frewin Stewart) for audit and non audit services provided during the year are set out in the notes to the accounts.

The board of directors has considered the position, and is satisfied that the provision of the non-audit services is compatible with the general standard of independence for auditors imposed by the Corporations Act 2001.

The directors are satisfied that the provision of non-audit services by the auditor, as set out in the notes did not compromise the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 for the following reasons:

• all non-audit services have been reviewed to ensure they do not impact on the impartiality and objectivity of the auditor

#### Non audit services (continued)

none of the services undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in APES 110
Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, including reviewing or auditing the auditor's own work, acting in
a management or a decision-making capacity for the company, acting as advocate for the company or jointly
sharing economic risk and rewards.

#### Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 13.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the board of directors at Merbein, Victoria on 29 September 2015.

Rebecca Claire Wells,

Chairman

# Auditor's independence declaration



Lead auditor's independence declaration under section 307C of the *Corporations*Act 2001 to the directors of Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited

As lead auditor for the audit of Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited for the year ended 30 June 2015, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Andrew Frewin Stewart 61 Bull Street, Bendigo Vic 3550

Dated: 29 September 2015

David Hutchings Lead Auditor

Liability Simbed by a scheme approved under Professional Scandards Legislation. ASNE 51 061 795 337.

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# Financial statements

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	4	504,994	530,556
Employee benefits expense		(277,029)	(337,808)
Charitable donations, sponsorship, advertising and promotion	5	(91,291)	(74,367)
Occupancy and associated costs		(38,309)	(40,061)
Systems costs		(17,686)	(17,541)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	5	(21,897)	(22,373)
Finance costs	5	(5,029)	(5,509)
General administration expenses		(71,500)	(78,932)
Loss before income tax		(17,747)	(46,035)
Income tax (expense)/credit	6	(2,512)	13,810
Loss after income tax		(20,259)	(32,225)
Total comprehensive income for the year		(20,259)	(32,225)
Earnings per share for loss attributable to the ordinary			
shareholders of the company:		¢	¢
Basic earnings per share	21	(3.73)	(5.94)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Financial statements (continued)

## **Balance Sheet** as at 30 June 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	938	2,057
Trade and other receivables	8	37,058	32,956
Total Current Assets		37,996	35,013
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	84,988	93,143
Intangible assets	10	54,970	-
Deferred tax asset	11	148,464	150,976
Total Non-Current Assets		288,422	244,119
Total Assets		326,418	279,132
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	12	105,264	36,575
Borrowings	13	100,714	100,417
Provisions	14	21,677	15,749
Total Current Liabilities		227,655	152,741
Non-Current Liabilities			
Borrowings	13	1,967	9,501
Provisions	14	1,363	1,198
Total Non-Current Liabilities		3,330	10,699
Total Liabilities		230,985	163,440
Net Assets		95,433	115,692
Equity			
Issued capital	15	490,005	490,005
Accumulated losses	16	(394,572)	(374,313)
Total Equity		95,433	115,692

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Financial statements (continued)

# Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Issued capital \$	Accumulated losses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2013	490,005	(342,088)	147,917
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	(32,225)	(32,225)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:			
Shares issued during period	-	-	_
Costs of issuing shares	-	-	-
Dividends provided for or paid	-	-	_
Balance at 30 June 2014	490,005	(374,313)	115,692
Balance at 1 July 2014	490,005	(374,313)	115,692
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	(20,259)	(20,259)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:			
Shares issued during period	-	-	-
Costs of issuing shares	-	-	_
Dividends provided for or paid	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2015	490,005	(394,572)	95,433

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Financial statements (continued)

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		555,890	582,463
Payments to suppliers and employees		(533,479)	(600,393)
Interest paid		(5,029)	(5,509)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17	17,382	(23,439)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		-	(16,917)
Payments for intangible assets		(11,264)	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(11,264)	(16,917)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of borrowings		(7,028)	(6,725)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		(7,028)	(6,725)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(910)	(47,081)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		(91,332)	(44,251)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	7(a)	(92,242)	(91,332)

# Notes to the financial statements

#### For year ended 30 June 2015

#### Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies

#### a) Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standard Boards and the Corporations Act 2001. The company is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

#### Compliance with IFRS

These financial statements and notes comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

#### Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the company's accounting policies. These areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexities, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in note 3.

#### Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on an accruals basis as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss and where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

#### Comparative figures

Where required by Australian Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

#### Application of new and amended accounting standards

The following amendments to accounting standards and a new interpretation issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) became mandatorily effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014, and are therefore relevant for the current financial year.

- AASB 2012-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (AASB 132) Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities.
- AASB 2013-3 Amendments to AASB 136 Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets.
- AASB 2013-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (AASB 139) Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting.
- · AASB 2013-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (AASB 10) Investment Entities.
- AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Part A: Annual Improvements 2010-2012 and 2011-2013 Cycles).
- AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Part B: Defined Benefit Plans: Employee Contributions Amendments to AASB 119).

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### a) Basis of preparation (continued)

Application of new and amended accounting standards (continued)

- · Interpretation 21 Levies.
- AASB 1031 Materiality, AASB 2013-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments (Part B: Materiality), AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Part C: Materiality).

None of the amendments to accounting standards or the new interpretation issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that became mandatorily effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014, materially affected any of the amounts recognised in the current period or any prior period and are not likely to affect future periods.

The following accounting standards and interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) become effective in future accounting periods.

	Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after
AASB 9 Financial Instruments, and the relevant amending standards.	1 January 2018
AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 2014-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15.	1 January 2017
AASB 2014-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations.	1 January 2016
AASB 2014-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation.	1 January 2016
AASB 2014-6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Agriculture: Bearer Plants.	1 January 2016
AASB 2014-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements.	1 January 2016
AASB 2014-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture.	1 January 2016
AASB 2015-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements to Australian Accounting Standards 2012-2014 Cycle.	1 January 2016
AASB 2015-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101.	1 January 2016
AASB 2015-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Withdrawal of AASB 1031 Materiality.	1 July 2015
AASB 2015-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Financial Reporting Requirements for Australian Groups with a Foreign Parent.	1 July 2015
AASB 2015-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Investment Entities: Applying the Consolidation Exception.	1 January 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### a) Basis of preparation (continued)

Application of new and amended accounting standards (continued)

The company has not elected to apply any accounting standards or interpretations before their mandatory operative date for the annual reporting period beginning 1 July 2014. Therefore the abovementioned accounting standards or interpretations have no impact on amounts recognised in the current period or any prior period.

Economic dependency - Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited

The company has entered into a franchise agreement with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited that governs the management of the **Community Bank®** branch at Merbein, Victoria.

The branch operates as a franchise of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, using the name "Bendigo Bank" and the logo and system of operations of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited. The company manages the **Community Bank**® branch on behalf of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, however all transactions with customers conducted through the **Community Bank**® branch are effectively conducted between the customers and Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited.

All deposits are made with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, and all personal and investment products are products of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, with the company facilitating the provision of those products. All loans, leases or hire purchase transactions, issues of new credit or debit cards, temporary or bridging finance and any other transaction that involves creating a new debt, or increasing or changing the terms of an existing debt owed to Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, must be approved by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited. All credit transactions are made with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, and all credit products are products of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited.

The company promotes and sells the products and services, but is not a party to the transaction.

The credit risk (i.e. the risk that a customer will not make repayments) is for the relevant Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited entity to bear as long as the company has complied with the appropriate procedures and relevant obligations and has not exercised a discretion in granting or extending credit.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited provides significant assistance in establishing and maintaining the **Community Bank®** branch franchise operations. It also continues to provide ongoing management and operational support and other assistance and guidance in relation to all aspects of the franchise operation, including advice in relation to:

- advice and assistance in relation to the design, layout and fit out of the  $\textbf{Community Bank}^{\texttt{@}}$  branch
- training for the branch manager and other employees in banking, management systems and interface protocol
- methods and procedures for the sale of products and provision of services
- · security and cash logistic controls
- · calculation of company revenue and payment of many operating and administrative expenses
- the formulation and implementation of advertising and promotional programs
- sales techniques and proper customer relations.

#### Going concern

The net assets of the company as at 30 June 2015 were \$95,433 and the loss made for the year was \$20,259, bringing accumulated losses to \$394,572.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### a) Basis of preparation (continued)

Going concern (continued)

In addition:	\$
Total assets were	326,418
Total liabilities were	230,985
Operating cash flows were	17,382

There was a 37% decrease in the loss recorded for the financial year ended 30 June 2015 when compared to the prior year.

The company meets its day to day working capital requirements through an overdraft facility that is due for renewal on 30 September 2015. The overdraft has an approved limit of \$100,000 and was drawn to \$93,180 as at 30 June 2015.

\$5,029 of interest expense was incurred during the 2015 financial year.

The company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the directors' report on pages 7 to 12. The financial position of the company, its cash flows, liquidity position and borrowing facilities are described in the financial statements.

The current economic environment is difficult and while revenue continues to increase the company has again reported an operating loss for the year. The directors consider that the outlook presents significant challenges in terms of banking business volume and pricing as well as for operating costs. Whilst the directors have instituted measures to preserve cash and secure additional finance, these circumstances create material uncertainties over future trading results and cash flows.

The company's forecasts and projections, taking account of reasonably possible changes in trading performance, show that the company will be required to seek an increase in its overdraft facility.

The company has held discussions with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited about its future borrowing needs. It is likely that these discussions will not be completed for some time but no matters have been drawn to its attention to suggest that renewal may not be forthcoming on acceptable terms. The company has also obtained an undertaking of support from Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited that it will continue to support the company and its operations for the 2015/16 financial year. This support is provided on the basis that the company continues to fulfil its obligations under the franchise agreement and continues to work closely with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited to further develop its business.

The directors have concluded that the combination of the circumstances above represents a material uncertainty that casts doubt upon the company's ability to continue as a going concern and that, therefore, the company may be unable to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business.

Nevertheless, after making enquiries and considering the uncertainties described above, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For these reasons, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation of the financial statements. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### b) Revenue

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the company and any specific criteria have been met. Interest and fee revenue is recognised when earned. The gain or loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment is recognised on a net basis and is classified as income rather than revenue. All revenue is stated net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

#### Revenue calculation

Over the period from September 2013 to February 2015, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited conducted a review of the **Community Bank**® model, known as 'Project Horizon'. This was conducted in consultation with the **Community Bank**® network. The objective of the review was to develop a shared vision of the **Community Bank**® model that positions it for success now and for the future.

The outcome of that review is that the fundamental franchise model and community participation remain unchanged. Changes to be implemented over a three year period reflect a number of themes, including a culture of innovation, agility and flexibility, network collaboration, director and staff development and a sustainable financial model. This will include changes to the financial return for **Community Bank®** companies from 1 July 2016. A funds transfer pricing model will be used for the method of calculation of the cost of funds, deposit return and margin. All revenue paid on core banking products will be through margin share. Margin on core banking products will be shared on a 50/50 basis.

The franchise agreement provides that three forms of revenue may be earned by the company – margin, commission and fee income. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited decides the form of revenue the company earns on different types of products and services.

The revenue earned by the company is dependent on the business that it generates. It may also be affected by other factors, such as economic and local conditions, for example, interest rates.

#### Core banking products

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited has identified some Bendigo Bank Group products and services as 'core banking products'. It may change the products and services which are identified as core banking products by giving the company at least 30 days' notice. Core banking products currently include Bendigo Bank branded home loans, term deposits and at call deposits.

#### Margin

Margin is arrived at through the following calculation:

- · Interest paid by customers on loans less interest paid to customers on deposits,
- plus any deposit returns i.e. interest return applied by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited for a deposit,
- · minus any costs of funds i.e. interest applied by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited to fund a loan.

Note: In very simplified terms, currently, deposit return means the interest Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited gets when it invests the money the customer deposits with it. The cost of funds means the interest Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited pays when it borrows the money to give a customer a loan. From 1 July 2016, both will mean the cost for Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited to borrow the money in the market.

Products and services on which margin is paid include variable rate deposits and variable rate home loans. From 1 July 2016, examples include Bendigo Bank branded at call deposits, term deposits and home loans.

#### Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### b) Revenue (continued)

#### Margin (continued)

For those products and services on which margin is paid, the company is entitled to a share of the margin earned by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited (i.e. income adjusted for Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited's interest expense and interest income return). However, if this reflects a loss, the company incurs a share of that loss.

#### Commission

Commission is a fee paid for products and services sold. It may be paid on the initial sale or on an ongoing basis. Commission is payable on the sale of an insurance product such as home contents. Examples of products and services on which ongoing commissions are paid include leasing and Sandhurst Trustees Limited products. This currently also includes Bendigo Bank branded fixed rate home loans and term deposits of more than 90 days, but these will become margin products from 1 July 2016.

#### Fee income

Fee income is a share of what is commonly referred to as 'bank fees and charges' charged to customers by Bendigo Bank Group entities including fees for loan applications and account transactions.

#### Ability to change financial return

Under the franchise agreement, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited may change the form and amount of financial return that the company receives. The reasons it may make a change include changes in industry or economic conditions or changes in the way Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited earns revenue.

The change may be to the method of calculation of margin, the amount of margin, commission and fee income or a change of a margin to a commission or vice versa. This may affect the amount of revenue the company receives on a particular product or service. The effect of the change on the revenue earned by the company is entirely dependent on the change.

The change may be to the method of calculation of margin, the amount of margin, commission and fee income or a change of a margin to a commission or vice versa. This may affect the amount of revenue the company receives on a particular product or service. The effect of the change on the revenue earned by the company is entirely dependent on the change.

If Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited makes a change to the margin or commission on core banking products and services, it must not reduce the margin and commission the company receives on core banking products and services Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited attributes to the company to less than 50% (on an aggregate basis) of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited's margin at that time. For other products and services, there is no restriction on the change Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited may make.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited must give the company 30 days' notice before it changes the products and services on which margin, commission or fee income is paid, the method of calculation of margin and the amount of margin, commission or fee income.

#### Monitoring and changing financial return

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited monitors the distribution of financial return between **Community Bank®** companies and Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited on an ongoing basis.

Overall, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited has made it clear that the **Community Bank®** model is based on the principle of shared reward for shared effort. In particular, in relation to core banking products and services, the aim is to achieve an equal share of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited's margin.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### b) Revenue (continued)

Monitoring and changing financial return (continued)

As discussed above in relation to Project Horizon, among other things, there will be changes in the financial return for **Community Bank**® companies from 1 July 2016. This includes 50% share of margin on core banking products, all core banking products become margin products and a funds transfer pricing model will be used for the method of calculation of the cost of funds, deposit return and margin.

#### c) Income tax

#### Current tax

Current tax is calculated by reference to the amount of income taxes payable or recoverable in respect of the taxable profit or loss for the period. It is calculated using tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by reporting date. Current tax for current and prior periods is recognised as a liability (or asset) to the extent that it is unpaid (or refundable).

#### Deferred tax

Deferred tax is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method on temporary differences arising from differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax base of those items.

In principle, deferred tax liabilities are recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that sufficient taxable amounts will be available against which deductible temporary differences or unused tax losses and tax offsets can be utilised. However, deferred tax assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary differences giving rise to them arise from the initial recognition of assets and liabilities (other than as a result of a business combination) which affects neither taxable income nor accounting profit. Furthermore, a deferred tax liability is not recognised in relation to taxable temporary differences arising from goodwill.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period(s) when the asset and liability giving rise to them are realised or settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by reporting date. The measurement of deferred tax liabilities reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the consolidated entity expects, at the reporting date, to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax and when the balances relate to taxes levied by the same taxation authority and the company entity intends to settle its tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

#### Current and deferred tax for the period

Current and deferred tax is recognised as an expense or income in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, except when it relates to items credited or debited to equity, in which case the deferred tax is also recognised directly in equity, or where it arises from initial accounting for a business combination, in which case it is taken into account in the determination of goodwill or excess.

#### Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### d) Employee entitlements

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

The company contributes to a defined contribution plan. Contributions to employee superannuation funds are charged against income as incurred.

#### e) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the Balance Sheet.

#### f) Trade receivables and payables

Receivables are carried at their amounts due. The collectability of debts is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts. Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost that is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the company.

#### g) Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment, leasehold improvements and equipment under finance lease are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the item. In the event that settlement of all or part of the purchase consideration is deferred, cost is determined by discounting the amounts payable in the future to their present value as at the date of acquisition.

Depreciation is provided on property, plant and equipment, including freehold buildings but excluding land. Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis so as to write off the net cost of each asset over its expected useful life to its estimated residual value. Leasehold improvements are depreciated at the rate equivalent to the available building allowance using the straight line method. The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period.

The following estimated useful lives are used in the calculation of depreciation:

leasehold improvements	40 years
plant and equipment	2.5 - 40 years
furniture and fittings	4 - 40 years

#### h) Intangibles

The franchise fee paid to Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited has been recorded at cost and is amortised on a straight line basis over the life of the franchise agreement.

The renewal processing fee paid to Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited when renewing the franchise agreement has also been recorded at cost and is amortised on a straight line basis over the life of the franchise agreement.

#### Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### i) Payment terms

Receivables and payables are non interest bearing and generally have payment terms of between 30 and 90 days.

#### j) Borrowings

All loans are initially measured at the principal amount. Interest is recognised as an expense as it accrues.

#### k) Financial instruments

Recognition and initial measurement

Financial instruments, incorporating financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs. Financial instruments are classified and measured as set out below.

#### Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset.

Classification and subsequent measurement

#### (i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

#### (ii) Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets that have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments, and it is the entity's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

#### (iii) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivative financial assets that are either not suitable to be classified into other categories of financial assets due to their nature, or they are designated as such by management. They comprise investments in the equity of other entities where there is neither a fixed maturity nor fixed or determinable payments.

They are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in such fair value (i.e. gains or losses) recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. Available-for-sale financial assets are included in non-current assets except where they are expected to be sold within 12 months after the end of the reporting period. All other financial assets are classified as current assets.

#### (iv) Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities (excluding financial guarantees) are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### k) Financial instruments (continued)

Impairment

At each reporting date, the entity assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

#### I) Leases

Leases of fixed assets where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership are transferred to the company are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised by recording an asset and a liability at the lower of the amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the lease term. Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred. Lease incentives under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

#### m) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the economic entity has a legal, equitable or constructive obligation to make a future sacrifice of economic benefits to other entities as a result of past transactions of other past events, it is probable that a future sacrifice of economic benefits will be required and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

A provision for dividends is not recognised as a liability unless the dividends are declared, determined or publicly recommended on or before the reporting date.

#### n) Contributed equity

Ordinary shares are recognised at the fair value of the consideration received by the company. Any transaction costs arising on the issue of ordinary shares are recognised directly in equity as a reduction of the share proceeds received.

#### o) Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the profit attributable to equity holders of the company, excluding any costs of servicing equity other than ordinary shares, by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the financial year, adjusted for bonus elements in ordinary shares issued during the year.

#### p) Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the Balance Sheet. Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis.

The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority are classified as operating cash flows.

#### Note 2. Financial risk management

The company's activities expose it to a limited variety of financial risks: market risk (including currency risk, fair value interest risk and price risk), credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow interest rate risk. The company's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the entity. The entity does not use derivative instruments.

Risk management is carried out directly by the board of directors.

#### (i) Market risk

The company has no exposure to any transactions denominated in a currency other than Australian dollars.

#### (ii) Price risk

The company is not exposed to equity securities price risk as it does not hold investments for sale or at fair value. The company is not exposed to commodity price risk.

#### (iii) Credit risk

The company has no significant concentrations of credit risk. It has policies in place to ensure that customers have an appropriate credit history. The company's franchise agreement limits the company's credit exposure to one financial institution, being Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited.

#### (iv) Liquidity risk

Prudent liquidity management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities and the availability of funding from credit facilities. The company believes that its sound relationship with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited mitigates this risk significantly.

#### (v) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk

Interest-bearing assets are held with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited and subject to movements in market interest. Interest-rate risk could also arise from long-term borrowings. Borrowings issued at variable rates expose the company to cash flow interest-rate risk. The company believes that its sound relationship with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited mitigates this risk significantly.

#### (vi) Capital management

The board's policy is to maintain a strong capital base so as to sustain future development of the company. The board of directors monitor the return on capital and the level of dividends to shareholders. Capital is represented by total equity as recorded in the Balance Sheet.

In accordance with the franchise agreement, in any 12 month period, the funds distributed to shareholders shall not exceed the distribution limit:

The distribution limit is the greater of:

- (a) 20% of the profit or funds of the franchisee otherwise available for distribution to shareholders in that 12 month period; and
- (b) subject to the availability of distributable profits, the relevant rate of return multiplied by the average level of share capital of the franchisee over that 12 month period where the relevant rate of return is equal to the weighted average interest rate on 90 day bank bills over that 12 month period plus 5%.

#### Note 2. Financial risk management (continued)

The board is managing the growth of the business in line with this requirement. There are no other externally imposed capital requirements, although the nature of the company is such that amounts will be paid in the form of charitable donations and sponsorship. Charitable donations and sponsorship paid for the year ended 30 June 2015 can be seen in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

There were no changes in the company's approach to capital management during the year.

#### Note 3. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the entity and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

Management has identified the following critical accounting policies for which significant judgements, estimates and assumptions are made. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions and conditions and may materially affect financial results or the financial position reported in future periods.

Further details of the nature of these assumptions and conditions may be found in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

#### Taxation

Judgement is required in assessing whether deferred tax assets and certain tax liabilities are recognised on the balance sheet. Deferred tax assets, including those arising from un-recouped tax losses, capital losses and temporary differences, are recognised only where it is considered more likely than not that they will be recovered, which is dependent on the generation of sufficient future taxable profits.

Assumptions about the generation of future taxable profits depend on management's estimates of future cash flows. These depend on estimates of future sales volumes, operating costs, capital expenditure, dividends and other capital management transactions. Judgements are also required about the application of income tax legislation.

These judgements and assumptions are subject to risk and uncertainty. There is therefore a possibility that changes in circumstances will alter expectations, which may impact the amount of deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities recognised on the balance sheet and the amount of other tax losses and temporary differences not yet recognised. In such circumstances, some or all of the carrying amount of recognised deferred tax assets and liabilities may require adjustment, resulting in corresponding credit or charge to the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

#### Estimation of useful lives of assets

The estimation of the useful lives of assets has been based on historical experience and the condition of the asset is assessed at least once per year and considered against the remaining useful life. Adjustments to useful lives are made when considered necessary.

#### Note 3. Critical accounting estimates and judgements (continued)

#### Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of an acquisition over the fair value of the company's share of the net identifiable assets of the acquired branch/agency at the date of acquisition. Goodwill on acquisition is included in intangible assets. Goodwill is not amortised. Instead, goodwill is tested for impairment annually, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that it might be impaired and is carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

The calculations require the use of assumptions.

#### Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where the asset does not generate cash flows that are independent from other assets, the consolidated entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at fair value, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but only to the extent that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at fair value, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 4. Revenue from ordinary activities		
Operating activities:		
- services commissions	502,856	524,141
- other revenue	2,138	6,415
Total revenue from operating activities	504,994	530,556
Total revenues from ordinary activities	504,994	530,556

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 5. Expenses		
Depreciation of non-current assets:		
- plant and equipment	2,392	2,923
- leasehold improvements	3,506	3,489
- motor vehicle	2,256	2,506
Amortisation of non-current assets:		
- franchise agreement	2,291	2,243
- franchise renewal fee	11,452	11,212
	21,897	22,373
Finance costs:		
- interest paid	5,029	5,509
Bad debts	574	552
Charitable donations, sponsorship, advertising and promotion	91,291	74,367

Charitable donations, sponsorship, advertising and promotion is made up of sponsorships, donations and marketing and advertising expenses. Sponsorship and donation expenses are partially funded by market development fund contributions. The market development fund is an additional source of income that is given to our company by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited's contribution is wholly discretionary and not provided for under our franchise agreement with them. This payment totalled \$50,000 in the 2014/15 financial year and is paid by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited on the condition that it must be used solely for grants, sponsorships or donations. It is unable to held as working capital.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 6. Income tax expense/(credit)		
The components of tax expense/(credit) comprise:		
- Future income tax benefit attributable to losses	(2,311)	(18,006)
- Movement in deferred tax	(2,991)	4,196
- Adjustment to deferred tax to reflect change to tax rate in future periods	7,814	-
	2,512	(13,810)
The prima facie tax on loss from ordinary activities before income tax is reconciled to the income tax expense/(credit) as follows		
Operating loss	(17,747)	(46,035)
Prima facie tax on loss from ordinary activities at 30%	(5,324)	(13,810)

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 6. Income tax expense/(credit) (continued)			
Add tax effect of:			
- non-deductible expenses		22	-
- timing difference expenses		2,991	(4,196)
		(2,311)	(18,006)
Movement in deferred tax		(2,991)	4,196
Adjustment to deferred tax to reflect change of tax rate in			
future periods		7,814	-
		2,512	(13,810)
Note 7. Cash and cash equivalents			
Cash at bank and on hand		938	2,057
		938	2,057
Note 7.(a) Reconciliation to cash flow statement			
The above figures reconcile to the amount of cash shown in the statement of cash flows at the end of the financial year as follows:			
Cash at bank and on hand		938	2,057
Bank overdraft	13	(93,180)	(93,389)
		(92,242)	(91,332)
Note 8. Trade and other receivables			
Trade receivables		31,853	31,529
Prepayments		5,205	1,427
i repayments			
- Trepayments		37,058	32,956
		37,058	32,956
Note 9. Property, plant and equipment		37,058	32,956
Note 9. Property, plant and equipment  Leasehold improvements			
Note 9. Property, plant and equipment  Leasehold improvements  At cost		85,998	85,998
Note 9. Property, plant and equipment  Leasehold improvements		85,998 (32,774)	85,998 (29,268)
Note 9. Property, plant and equipment  Leasehold improvements  At cost  Less accumulated depreciation		85,998	85,998 (29,268)
Note 9. Property, plant and equipment  Leasehold improvements  At cost  Less accumulated depreciation  Plant and equipment		85,998 (32,774) <b>53,224</b>	85,998 (29,268) <b>56,730</b>
Note 9. Property, plant and equipment  Leasehold improvements  At cost  Less accumulated depreciation		85,998 (32,774)	32,956 85,998 (29,268) 56,730 49,320 (35,465)

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 9. Property, plant and equipment (continued)		
Motor vehicles		
At cost	30,181	30,181
Less accumulated depreciation	(9,879)	(7,623)
	20,302	22,558
Total written down amount	84,988	93,143
Movements in carrying amounts:		
Leasehold improvements		
Carrying amount at beginning	56,730	43,302
Additions	-	16,917
Disposals	-	
Less: depreciation expense	(3,506)	(3,489)
Carrying amount at end	53,224	56,730
Plant and equipment		
Carrying amount at beginning	13,855	16,778
Additions	-	
Disposals	-	
Less: depreciation expense	(2,393)	(2,923)
Carrying amount at end	11,462	13,855
Motor vehicles		
Carrying amount at beginning	22,558	25,064
Additions	-	
Disposals	-	
Less: depreciation expense	(2,256)	(2,506)
Carrying amount at end	20,302	22,558
Total written down amount	84,988	93,143
Note 10. Intangible assets		
Franchise fee		
	82,664	71,211
Less: accumulated amortisation	(73,502)	(71,211)
	9,162	

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 10. Intangible assets (continued)			
Renewal processing fee			
At cost		113,317	56,057
Less: accumulated amortisation		(67,509)	(56,057)
		45,808	-
Total written down amount		54,970	-
Note 11. Tax			
Deferred tax assets			
- accruals		943	257
- employee provisions		6,566	5,084
- tax losses carried forward		140,955	146,063
- Lax 100000 carried forward		148,464	151,404
Deferred tax liability			
- deductible prepayments		-	428
		-	428
Net deferred tax asset		148,464	150,976
Movement in deferred tax charged to Statement of Profit or			
Loss and Other Comprehensive Income		2,512	(13,810)
Note 12. Trade and other payables			
Trade creditors		101,957	16,878
Other creditors and accruals		3,307	19,697
		105,264	36,575
Note 13. Borrowings			
Current:			
Bank overdrafts		93,180	93,389
Chattel mortgage	18	7,534	7,028
		100,714	100,417
Non-Current:			
Chattel mortgage	18	1,967	9,501
		1,967	9,501

#### Note 13. Borrowings (continued)

As at balance date the overdraft facility had an overdraft limit of \$130,000 and is charged interest at the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited's Business Solutions Non-Residential Secured Interest Rate (currently 4.695% varying from time to time). The overdraft secured by a fixed and floating charge over the company's assets.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 14. Provisions		
Current:		
Provision for annual leave	14,147	9,110
Provision for long service leave	7,530	6,639
	21,677	15,749
Non-Current:		
Provision for long service leave	1,363	1,198
Note 15. Contributed equity		
542,411 ordinary shares fully paid (2014: 542,411)	542,411	542,411
Less: equity raising expenses	(52,406)	(52,406)
	490,005	490,005

#### Rights attached to shares

#### (a) Voting rights

Subject to some limited exceptions, each member has the right to vote at a general meeting.

On a show of hands or a poll, each member attending the meeting (whether they are attending the meeting in person or by attorney, corporate representative or proxy) has one vote, regardless of the number of shares held. However, where a person attends a meeting in person and is entitled to vote in more than one capacity (for example, the person is a member and has also been appointed as proxy for another member) that person may only exercise one vote on a show of hands. On a poll, that person may exercise one vote as a member and one vote for each other member that person represents as duly appointed attorney, corporate representative or proxy.

The purpose of giving each member only one vote, regardless of the number of shares held, is to reflect the nature of the company as a community based company, by providing that all members of the community who have contributed to the establishment and ongoing operation of the **Community Bank**® branch have the same ability to influence the operation of the company.

#### (b) Dividends

Generally, dividends are payable to members in proportion to the amount of the share capital paid up on the shares held by them, subject to any special rights and restrictions for the time being attaching to shares. The franchise agreement with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited contains a limit on the level of profits or funds that may be distributed to shareholders. There is also a restriction on the payment of dividends to certain shareholders if they have a prohibited shareholding interest (see below).

#### Note 15. Contributed equity (continued)

Rights attached to shares (continued)

#### (c) Transfer

Generally, ordinary shares are freely transferable. However, the directors have a discretion to refuse to register a transfer of shares.

Subject to the foregoing, shareholders may transfer shares by a proper transfer effected in accordance with the company's constitution and the Corporations Act 2001.

#### Prohibited shareholding interest

A person must not have a prohibited shareholding interest in the company.

In summary, a person has a prohibited shareholding interest if they control or own 10% or more of the shares in the company (the "10% limit").

As with voting rights, the purpose of this prohibited shareholding provision is to reflect the community-based nature of the company.

Where a person has a prohibited shareholding interest, the voting and dividend rights attaching to the shares in which the person (and his or her associates) have a prohibited shareholding interest, are suspended.

The board has the power to request information from a person who has (or is suspected by the board of having) a legal or beneficial interest in any shares in the company or any voting power in the company, for the purpose of determining whether a person has a prohibited shareholding interest. If the board becomes aware that a member has a prohibited shareholding interest, it must serve a notice requiring the member (or the member's associate) to dispose of the number of shares the board considers necessary to remedy the breach. If a person fails to comply with such a notice within a specified period (that must be between three and six months), the board is authorised to sell the specified shares on behalf of that person. The holder will be entitled to the consideration from the sale of the shares, less any expenses incurred by the board in selling or otherwise dealing with those shares.

In the constitution, members acknowledge and recognise that the exercise of the powers given to the board may cause considerable disadvantage to individual members, but that such a result may be necessary to enforce the prohibition.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 16. Accumulated losses		
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	(374,313)	(342,088)
Net loss from ordinary activities after income tax	(20,259)	(32,225)
Balance at the end of the financial year	(394,572)	(374,313)

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 17. Statement of cash flows		
Reconciliation of loss from ordinary activities after tax to net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		
Loss from ordinary activities after income tax	(20,259)	(32,225)
Non cash items:		
- depreciation	8,154	8,918
- amortisation	13,743	13,455
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in receivables	(4,101)	(842)
- (increase)/decrease in other assets	2,512	(13,810)
- increase/(decrease) in payables	11,240	15,124
- increase/(decrease) in provisions	6,093	(14,059)
Net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities	17,382	(23,439)
Payable - minimum lease payments:  - not later than 12 months  - between 12 months and 5 years	7,961 1,990	7,961 9,951
- greater than 5 years	-	
Minimum lease payments	9,951	17,912
Less future finance charges	(450)	(1,383)
Present value of minimum lease payments  The finance lease, which commenced in September 2011, is a five-year lease.  Interest is recognised at an average rate of 7% (2014: 7%).	9,501	16,529
Operating lease commitments		
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements		
Payable - minimum lease payments:		
- not later than 12 months	16,364	15,012
- between 12 months and 5 years	50,454	60,048
greater than 5 years	-	-
	66,818	75,060

The rental lease agreement is a non-cancellable lease with a 5 year term, expiring on 26 July 2019. The rent payable is currently \$16,364 per annum, plus GST.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Note 19. Auditor's remuneration		
Amounts received or due and receivable by the auditor of the company for:		
- audit and review services	3,950	3,850
- share registry services	1,750	1,500
- non audit services	2,200	2,050
	7,900	7,400

### Note 20. Director and related party disclosures

No director of the company receives remuneration for services as a company director or committee member.

There are no executives within the company whose remuneration is required to be disclosed.

	2015 \$	<b>2014</b> \$
Transactions with Key Management Personnel		
Jeanette Worthington is one of the Partners in her family electrical contracting		
business, which carried out electrical works at the branch during the period.	88	-

	2015	2014
Key Management Personnel Shareholdings		
Ordinary shares fully paid	5,007	5,007

Detailed shareholding disclosures are provided in the remuneration report, included as part of the directors' report.

## Note 21. Earnings per share

		2015 \$	2014 \$
(a)	Loss attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the company used in calculating earnings per share	(20,259)	(32,225)
		Number	Number
(b)	Weighted average number of ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating basic earnings per share	542,411	542,411

#### Note 22. Events occurring after the reporting date

There have been no events after the end of the financial year that would materially affect the financial statements.

#### Note 23. Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

There were no contingent liabilities or contingent assets at the date of this report to affect the financial statements.

#### Note 24. Segment reporting

The economic entity operates in the service sector where it facilitates **Community Bank®** services in Merbein and surrounding districts pursuant to a franchise agreement with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited.

#### Note 25. Registered office/Principal place of business

The entity is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The registered office and principal place of business is:

Registered Office	Principal Place of Business				
66 Commercial Street	66 Commercial Street				
Merbein VIC 3505	Merbein VIC 3505				

#### Note 26. Financial instruments

Financial Instrument Composition and Maturity Analysis

The table below reflects the undiscounted contractual settlement terms for all financial instruments, as well as the settlement period for instruments with a fixed period of maturity and interest rate.

Financial instrument	Floating interest		Fixed interest rate maturing in						Non interest		Weighted	
			1 year or less		Over 1 to 5 years		Over 5 years		bearing		average	
	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 \$	2014 \$	2015 %	<b>2014</b> %
Financial assets												
Cash and cash equivalents	938	2,057	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	Nil
Receivables	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,853	31,529	N/A	N/A
Financial liabilities												
Interest bearing liabilities	93,180	93,389	7,534	7,028	1,967	9,501	-	-	-	-	4.41	5.55
Payables	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	101,957	16,878	N/A	N/A

#### Note 26. Financial instruments (continued)

#### Net Fair Values

The net fair values of financial assets and liabilities approximate the carrying values as disclosed in the balance sheet. The company does not have any unrecognised financial instruments at the year end.

#### Credit Risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements.

There are no material credit risk exposures to any single debtor or group of debtors under financial instruments entered into by the economic entity.

#### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk arises from the interest bearing financial assets and liabilities in place subject to variable interest rates, as outlined above.

#### Sensitivity Analysis

The company has performed sensitivity analysis relating to its exposure to interest rate risk at balance date. This sensitivity analysis demonstrates the effect on the current year results and equity which could result from a change in interest rates.

As at 30 June 2015, the effect on profit and equity as a result of changes in interest rate, with all other variables remaining constant would be as follows:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Change in profit/(loss)		
Increase in interest rate by 1%	(1,017)	(1,079)
Decrease in interest rate by 1%	(1,017)	(1,079)
Change in equity		
Increase in interest rate by 1%	(1,017)	(1,079)
Decrease in interest rate by 1%	(1,017)	(1,079)

# Directors' declaration

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited, we state that:

In the opinion of the directors:

- (a) the financial statements and notes of the company are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
  - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
  - (ii) complying with Accounting Standards, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
- (c) the audited remuneration disclosures set out in the remuneration report section of the directors' report comply with Accounting Standard AASB124 Related Party Disclosures and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the board of directors.

Rebecca Claire Wells,

Chairman

Signed on the 29th of September 2015.

# Independent audit report



# Independent auditor's report to the members of Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited

#### Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2015, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

#### Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making fair accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. In note 1, the directors also state in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements that the financial statements comply with International Financial Reporting Standards.

#### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on our judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

Our audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by directors or management.

We performed the procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and Australian Accounting Standards, a true and fair view which is consistent with our understanding of the company's financial position and of its performance.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation. ABN: 51 061 795 337.

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TAXATION

AUDIT

BUSINESS SERVICES

FINANCIAL PLANNING

## Independent audit report (continued)

#### Independence

In conducting our audit we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act* 2001. We have given to the directors of the company a written auditor's independence declaration, a copy of which is included in the directors' report.

#### Auditor's opinion on the financial report

In our opinion:

- The financial report of Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited is in accordance with the
   Corporations Act 2001 including giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30
   June 2015 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended and complying
   with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.
- 2. The financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

#### **Emphasis of matter**

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 in the financial report, which indicates that the company incurred a net loss after tax of \$20,259 during the year ended 30 June 2015, further reducing the company's net assets to \$95,433. These conditions, along with other matters as set forth in Note 1, indicate the existence of a material uncertainty that may cast doubt over the company's ability to continue as a going concern and therefore, the company may be unable to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business.

#### Report on the remuneration report

We have audited the remuneration report included in the directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2015. The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the remuneration report in accordance with section 300A of the *Corporations Act 2001*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the remuneration report, based on our audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

#### Auditor's opinion on the remuneration report

In our opinion, the remuneration report of Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited for the year ended 30 June 2015, complies with section 300A of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Andrew Frewin Stewart 61 Bull Street, Bendigo Vic 3550

Dated: 29 September 2015

David Hutchings Lead Auditor Merbein & District **Community Bank**® Branch 66 Commercial Street, Merbein VIC 3505 Phone: (03) 5025 1377 Fax: (03) 5025 1388

#### Franchisee:

Merbein District Community Financial Services Limited

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