

### Chairman's report

Welcome to our first newsletter, an update which we plan to send at least six monthly or even more often if we have significant information to pass on.

Shareholders, I am sure you will share the great pleasure the Board had in awarding the recent grants to a variety of 'grass-roots' organisations across our regional community. This was possible despite the early stage of our business development due to marketing funding which is provided to us on the basis of business growth the branch has achieved to date.

The growth of the **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch's business continues at a steady upward pace which is very pleasing, however we continue to seek new opportunities and ask our shareholders to assist by promoting the placement of banking business with our branch to your colleagues, friends and family. Together and with the support of our partner in Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd, we can make this **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch one of Australia's most successful.

I also wish to ask that you pencil in the date of 11 November, which is when we are planning the Annual General Meeting.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Rob Jefferies**  
Chairman

### Manager's report

The Geraldton **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch celebrated our first birthday in late June by awarding Community Grants of \$2,000 to ten different groups & associations. This was a rewarding moment for the Directors and for the staff, who saw the first community benefits for their hard work over the preceding 12 months.

Our business has grown rapidly over the past year, and we now have nearly 800 accounts opened and close to \$70 million in business. We have also had to make some minor changes to our staffing due to Maddi Howie relocating to Perth, but have even more experience on hand now with Steve and Joy Greenwood both having prior banking knowledge from ANZ. We have also recruited another local girl, Cassandra Armstrong, as a part time Customer Service Officer.

While we know a lot of shareholders have been into the branch and opened accounts, and in some cases moved all

their banking to the Geraldton **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch, there are still some who may not have had the chance to experience the personal service we can provide. We would welcome the opportunity to speak to any shareholder, friends, or business partners about any banking or finance matter, as part of spreading the message.

We continue to welcome new clients on a weekly basis, but also have several marketing initiatives in planning to try to capture a greater share of the business available in the Mid West. There is enormous opportunity in front of us, and we hope that our business continues to grow for the benefit of the whole community.

We will provide an updated report on the business at our AGM in November, where hopefully we will have even more success stories.

**Jody Beven**  
Branch Manager



### Current branch staff

We have had several changes since we opened in June 2009, so this is an opportune time to let you know of our current staff members, especially for those who are not regular visitors to the branch.

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Jody Beven          | Branch Manager                          |
| Steve Greenwood     | Business Relationship Manager           |
| Bev Davidson        | Customer Relationship Manager           |
| Mandy Woodman       | Customer Relationship Officer           |
| Arnika Lloyd-Stein  | Customer Service Officer                |
| Joy Greenwood       | Customer Service Officer<br>(Part time) |
| Cassandra Armstrong | Customer Service Officer<br>(Part time) |

## In the community

As part of our first birthday celebrations, the Geraldton **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch awarded our first community grants of \$2,000 each to ten recipients.



| Community group                                | Grant awarded                      |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Aidan's Place Inc                              | Services to children with Autism.  |
| QEII Centre Crochet Group                      | Clothing for worthwhile groups.    |
| Geraldton Regional Junior Cricket Board        | Assist participation in sport.     |
| English Second Language Class for New Migrants | Resources.                         |
| St John of God Hospital Auxiliary              | Competition Prize for Weight Loss. |
| Geraldton Cemetery Board                       | Facilities at Crematorium.         |
| Chapman Valley Playgroup                       | Facilities at centre.              |
| Step Up Foundation                             | Youth Empowerment Event.           |
| Geraldton Netball Association                  | Assist participation in sport.     |
| Geraldton Basketball Association               | Assist participation in sport.     |

We are in the process of working with each group to release the funds, and we are sure there will be significant coverage as we present our BIG Cheque to the groups over coming months.

We hope that this will become an annual event, or maybe even more frequent depending on the availability of funding. Hopefully the success of this year's program will generate even more interest and business for the Bank, which in turn will enable us to generate more profits for distribution.

## Calendar of upcoming events

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 2 September 2010  | Advance notice of AGM and request for Director Nominations to be posted. |
| 29 September 2010 | Window for nominations of Directors closes.                              |
| 21 October 2010   | Posting of AGM Notice and Annual Report.                                 |
| 11 November 2010  | Annual General Meeting to be held.                                       |

## Geraldton Community Bank<sup>®</sup> Branch

79 Forrest Street, Geraldton WA 6531

Phone: 9921 2335

Website: [www.bendigobank.com.au/geraldton](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/geraldton)

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

Manager: Jody Beven



Board of Directors: Midwest Community Enterprises Ltd  
PO Box 2995, Geraldton WA 6531

Rob Jefferies (Chairman), Paul McKenzie (Deputy Chairman), Paul Adam, Gary Clark, Wayne Clarkson,  
Martin De Haas, Karen Godfrey, Rob Houwen, Harold McCashney.