Chair's Update and Christmas Greeting

As 2019 comes to an end it is great to see our community-owned bank keeps going from strength to strength. Last month we held our 8th AGM, the first time we've all met for this event in Myrniong. We were pleased to announce our largest dividend to date. We are well positioned to reinvest some serious funds back to our local communities over the next few years and it's important to stress that this is only possible with the continued support from you, our local customers, who continue to bank with us. Thank you.



Ballan Chamber of Commerce Business Awards

We are proud to be the major sponsor of this gala event, held on 25 October 2019. We are also grateful for being recognised with the Community Services Business Award on the night. Congratulations to all of the award recipients especially the 2019 Business of the Year Award which went to Ballan Local Butcher.

Ballan Cup

We were proud once again to be the major sponsor of Ballan Jockey Club's 2019 Ballan Community Bank Cup, held in Geelong on 9th November.



2020 Scholarship Program Now Open

We have expanded this program to two recipients for 2020. Each student will receive \$2,000 to assist with their studies. Applications are invited from eligible students in the local district attending university for the first time in 2020. Applications are now being accepted and will close on **28 January 2020**. For more information about this great program, please call into our branch at 135 Inglis Street, Ballan or visit https://www.bendigobank.com.au/community/scholarships/

Our Story

A big thank you to our Community Engagement & Investment Committee for organising our new promotional video through Patrick Bonello at Genesis FX. The inaugural screening was at the AGM. Please have a look at https://youtu.be/3vQ2ZnfLuXk

Community Investments

For the 2019/2020 financial year, to date we have distributed just over \$50,700. Ten of the seventeen recipient groups attended our presentation night at our AGM. It is always great to listen to the stories about their club or group and what they intend to do with the money. The grants nights have become important for the other community groups as they get to see and listen to what is going on in the towns of West Moorabool. Our next Community Investment Program funding round will open Monday 27th January 2020 and close Friday 21st February 2020.

Finally, another big thanks to Luke and the team for a fantastic year of solid growth for our branch. Thank you to our volunteer directors and our board support officer for all they do for us.



Darren Rix Chair

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