



2015 Croydon Community Civic Awards.

The presentation of the annual Croydon Community Civic Awards was recently held at the Croydon Bowling Club. The award presentation is held every year to acknowledge and thank some very hard working volunteers that contribute greatly to our community.

Some of the award recipients, past and present, have either single handedly lobbied and campaigned to keep an organisation afloat; turned up to tend to a garden; completed paperwork; organised scheduling; assisted with fundraising or knitted clothing for premature babies; all while conducting their own lives and raising their own families.

David Hodgett (State MLA), who has been hosting the event for the past five years, commented, "It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the selflessness, dedication, commitment and community spirit that is on display by these very worthy award recipients. They find time in their own busy schedules to work, donate and do whatever is necessary to keep our community running."

David also acknowledged and expressed his gratitude for the excellent support the Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch provides to the event.

"These people are really the backbone of our community and I am very humbled to be able to thank them and acknowledge their contribution with the assistance of the Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch," said David Hodgett.

The Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch congratulates one and all!



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Mooroolbark & District Financial Services Limited PO Box 360, Mooroolbark VIC 3138 **ABN** 45 098 234 354

Directors: Peter McGowan (Chair) Joan Drew (Sec/Treas) David Hodgett, Jean Mitchinson, Richard Nicholas, David Wright.

Branch Manager Rowan Alexander.



It is a pleasure to be able to present another newsletter for Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch.

Thank you to everyone who gave us such positive feedback on the July edition of our newsletter. Obviously a major aim of this newsletter is to highlight how our Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®]

Company Board supports the local community and in turn helps promote the various causes we assist. This edition goes a little further by way of showcasing one of our local businesses and providing an interest profile on one of our staff.

During November we held our 14th Annual General Meeting. In line with previous years we again presented our Community Grants at this meeting. Our Board would like to congratulate the following Grant recipients on their successful applications:

- Yarra Hills Secondary College
- Mooroolbark Bowls Club
- Mooroolbark East Primary School
- Caladenia Dementia Care

A real highlight of the night was presenting a Grant cheque to Caladenia Dementia Care for \$55,000 to enable them to purchase a new commuter bus they will utilise on outings as well as the daily transporting of guests to and from their centre. Caladenia expect to take delivery on the new bus early in 2016, we look forward to seeing this being driven along our local streets.

As well as providing our yearly Community Grants we are constantly working with local not for profit groups in starting up or renewing various sponsorship arrangements. We have just started a new arrangement with our local community radio station – Radio Eastern 98.1FM. Apart from hearing our adverts on their airwaves we hope to also utilise our sponsorship to help promote various other local groups we support.

As I indicated in our previous newsletter we are proud of what we are able to deliver back to the community. We also realise it is only through the support of our most valued customers we are able to make the impact we do. We are forever grateful for the support of our customers and obviously we welcome the opportunity for new customers to start and existing customers to expand on a banking relationship with our branch.

Rowan Alexander
Branch Manager

Staff profile.



Debbie

Debbie has worked for financial institutions all her working life and has been with the Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch for the past three years.

Debbie said, "I'm thoroughly enjoying my time at the branch at Mooroolbark. I think this is mostly because of the wonderful staff that we have here who care deeply about the customers. It's so nice that we're able to help them with their financial affairs and provide them with products that are relevant to their needs. They

are so appreciative of the friendliness and concern that we show for them and can see that we always have their best interest at heart."

Debbie is very impressed and appreciative of the way that the Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch helps out so many organisations in the community whether it be schools, kindergartens, sporting clubs etc. with community grants and sponsorships. Debbie lives in Lilydale and has connections through a kindergarten, a school and a netball club in the Mooroolbark area, which have benefited greatly from these funds provided.

"It's a great feeling when I'm out at a social event and people ask me who I work for and I proudly say the Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch. I only have the highest praise for our branch and everything we do not only for our customers but the local community as well," Debbie said.



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Extending technology to Bimbadeen Heights Primary School.

The Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch was pleased to support Bimbadeen Heights Primary School's wish to purchase iPads through a grant of \$13,750.

The purchase enabled students to have daily use of an iPad to complete a range of learning tasks across the curriculum. Students found that using the iPads was highly engaging and it enabled them to work at a level appropriate to their individual ability. The iPads also enable students to produce work they could not create in any other format.

"Bimbadeen Heights Primary School is proud to be associated with and supported by the Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch," said Garry Fowler (Assistant Principal). "Thanks to the generous support of

the branch we have been able to purchase a class set of iPads which have been fully utilised by our Year 5 children this year."

The iPads will of course be utilised next year with the 2016 Year 5 students.

Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch was also pleased to support Bimbadeen Heights PS through the purchase of new basketball singlet's and football jumpers to replace their old worn uniforms.

"Teams now look very smart when they represent the school in local and district competitions. We are very appreciative of this generous support and are proud to have the Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch as our number one sponsor," said Garry.

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Community spirit.



The local community spirit lives on strong at this local cake shop, Langford's Patisserie.

Since taking over the premises in December last year, owners Gilbert and Joy, undertook a major shop refit which included new ovens, a new freezer, painting, re-wiring and re-

plumbing to establish their new patisserie.

"We tried to employ local trades people and organisations' for our refit and we also buy local produce where possible," said Gilbert passionately.

"We now employ 12 people in the shop, including three apprentices and students."

Gilbert (Chef with over 30 year's experience) and Joy (Baker/Pastry Chef/Cake Decorator) are no strangers to Mooroolbark, with their children having played for the Mooroolbark Soccer Club. They now live within a stones throw away from the shop.

This demonstration of community spirit extends further with Gilbert and Joy donating goods to local churches, homeless and other needy people.

"It is also great to deal with a community focused organisation like the Mooroolbark **Community Bank**® Branch in our business," said Gilbert.

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