

Autumn
2025

Newsletter

Community Bank · Mount Martha



The Bays Hospital Cancer Support Centre – Opening Ceremony

Five years after the Bays Hospital Cancer Support Centre planning began, the official opening of the first level was held on Monday 3 February 2025. This includes the Community Bank Mount Martha Wellness Centre, which we have committed \$600,000 over the next five years for the Wellness Centre fit out and running costs.

This partnership with the Bays Hospital is huge for us, and a true testament to the power of our local community banking at Community Bank Mount Martha, and how their banking can improve the prosperity of our community.

Every customer and anyone who has been involved with Community Bank Mount Martha since we opened on 11 April 2011, should feel very proud.



Fusion Gala

On 19 October 2024 staff and guests had the pleasure of attending Fusion Mornington Peninsula's annual gala event. The room was buzzing, from story's about young people to a behind the scenes account from support workers.

The monies raised from the night go towards young people and young families in their journey towards stable housing and a brighter future. Fusion raised an incredible \$80,865 on the night. Congratulations to all those involved.





Moorooduc CFA Fundraising Dinner

On Saturday 19 October 2024, Moorooduc Fire Brigade held its annual fundraising dinner at its Moorooduc Fire Station. Our Community Liaison Officer, Gary Sanford and his wife Bronwyn, along with John Schubert our Marketing Chair and Company Secretary with his wife Judy attended.

Several local and regional Brigades attended in particular our local Mt Martha and Mornington Brigades.

Gary was invited to speak to the room about our support of Moorooduc Fire Brigade. Gary said, "coming to this event is one of the most humbling events I have been too. Looking around the room, several times, and seeing all the Fire Brigade uniforms with service medals and other medals, along with hearing awards for 5, 10, 15, 25, 35, 45 and 55 years service medals reflects members commitment to our community. Thank you for what you do for protecting me and my family and our community".

Gary mentioned previous support of this fundraising event and providing \$11,000 in funding for new floor lino for the fire station.

The funds raised from the night will be put towards a new tanker, as well as capital items like a pole saw, electronic doors, security system for station doors and a washing machine for CFA gear.

Thank you to members of every Fire brigade for what you do day in day out to protect our community.

Mount Martha Life Saving Club Patrol Team

With Summer officially starting on Sunday 1 December 2024 the Patrol Team at Mount Martha Life Saving Club (MMLSC) were at the MMLSC and on the beach gearing up for the coming summer season.

John Schubert, Marketing Committee Chair and Gary Sanford, our Community Liaison Officer were on hand with some patrol members for a photo under the new jointly branded marquee we gave them, which will be used for various activities MMLSC will be engaged in.

Thank you to all the volunteers connected with MMLSC who ensure our community will be kept safe in the coming months.



Mornington Art Show

Our Branch Manager Stacey, along with Jen, our Customer Relationship Officer went to the opening night of the Mornington Art Show on 16 January 2025.

So much talent displayed across two rooms and growing year on year.

Nick Roberts OAM – 50 Year Anniversary In Rotary

On Monday 24 March 2025, Rotary Club of Mount Martha held its dinner meeting at Alexander Park Pavilion, Mornington, and honoured Nick Roberts OAM with a surprise celebration of his 50 year's service to Rotary.

Nick joined Mornington South/Mount Martha Rotary Club in March 1975, having just moved to Mornington and starting a legal practice.

50 Years on, Nick reflected on the relationships he had developed in his time as a Rotarian. He talked about connections being made to Mt Martha CFA, and The Bays Hospital where he was on the Bays Hospital Board for 36 years. Nick has served on several other committees in his time as a Rotarian.

Gary Sanford, Community Bank Mount Martha, spoke about Nick being instrumental in getting the Mount Martha Branch of Bendigo Bank open as a Community Bank. When the last of the Big Banks closed its doors in 2009, Nick was part of the original steering committee that worked with Bendigo Bank to establish a Franchise Agreement to operate a Bank in Mount Martha as a Community Bank.

Following a period of establishing a Public Company, raising share capital, and forming a Board of Directors, Nick became the inaugural Chair of the Board, a position which he held for 12 years until 2023. A further year as a Director saw Nick retire from the Board in 2024.

During Nick's 13 years on the Board, he was the 'rock' that held the Board together during some pretty challenging times in the first six years, when serious questions were being asked on the viability of Mount Martha having its own bank.

Thankfully for our local Mount Martha and Mornington communities, Nick lead the Board to where it stands today, one of the most influential local businesses in our community. The last two financial years have seen funding



to our local community in excess of \$900,000. Recently a partnership was announced with The Bays Hospital to assist with the running costs associated with the Community Bank Mount Martha Wellness Centre at The Bays Cancer Support Centre of \$600,000 over the next five years.

Jade Phelan, CEO of The Bays hospital was the guest speaker on the night and also acknowledged Nick's tenure on the Bays Board and the importance of its partnership with Community Bank Mount Martha.

Nick Roberts OAM contribution to our community over the last 50 years, through Rotary, The Bays hospital, Community Bank Mount Martha, Mt Martha CFA and several other local groups has left a legacy he and his family can be very proud of.

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New Season opens

Mornington Little Aths – Season Opening Day

On Saturday 5 October 2024 a huge number of little athletes gathered with their parents at Civic Reserve, Mornington for the season opening and the first day of events. Volunteer parents were given their last-minute instructions before breaking off to take the age groups they were helping with.

Stacey, our Branch Manager and Gary, our Community Liaison Officer were given the opportunity to say a few words as major sponsors of the club. Gary acknowledged how proud we are to have been able to provide three jointly branded



marquees in last years sponsorship, which were on display, and provide every age group with brand new age group trolleys. One of these can be seen in the photo.

The 2023/24 financial year has seen just over 55 local community groups, like Mornington Little

Athletic share in over \$500,000 in funding, basically from the local community customers who currently bank at Community Bank Mount Martha. Thank you to all the community groups and customers who bank with us, this is an example how you are helping make our local community more prosperous.



Mount Martha Bowls Club 2024/25 Season Opening

On Saturday 14 September 2024 Mount Martha Bowls Club held its season opening, which included some morning bowls followed by a lunch. Gary Sanford, our Community Liaison Officer attended and spoke at the lunch as well as putting down one of the firsts bowls of the Season after the official flag raising ceremony. MPSC Councilors Steve Holland and Anthony Marsh, both of Briars Ward also attended and each put down a bowl.

Gary thanked the Mount Martha Bowls Club for its support over many years and its members who have moved their banking to Community Bank Mount Martha. Gary advised having funded just over \$500,000 to the local community in the 2024/25 financial year. Some of the larger amounts included \$40,000 to Mt Martha Fire Brigade for new communication equipment and \$40,000 to Mornington Community Support Centre for its fresh food program. Also, the new Community Funding Booklet is currently being printed, which includes 17 new groups from the last booklet, which takes the total number of groups supported to over 55.

Thank you to all our customers whose banking make this possible.

Mornington Croquet Club host South East Metro Croquet Association Season Opening

Gary Sanford, our Community Liaison Officer attended Mornington Croquet Club on Friday 30 August 2024, who hosted the Season Opening for the South East Metro Croquet Association season opening day.

Community Bank Mount Martha recently funded the purchase of three sets of Croquet Championship Balls which were on display and officially presented to the Club. The cost of each set of croquet balls is \$1,000 (\$3,300 in total for the three sets).

Several photos were taken with members from clubs located on the Mornington Peninsula.

That you to Mornington Croquet Club for supporting our Community Bank Mount Martha, which in turn has allowed us to support you with this purchase. Good luck to everyone in the coming season.



Mornington Yacht Club – Season Opening

On Saturday 26 October 2024 Mornington Yacht Club held its Season Opening at its club house with the sound of bag pipes playing with beautiful weather and amazing views of the Mornington Pier and Bay.

A large crowd gathered as Commodore, Andrew Young spoke about the achievements of the Club and its continued success over the past 12 months before the blessing of the boats, Club, and all that sail within it. This was followed by a sail past and three cheers for the Commodore.

Our Community Liaison Officer, Gary Sanford was invited to address the crowd and spoke about our engagement with Mornington Yacht Club and a \$15,000 sponsorship of its Twilight Series Events for the next three years, and supplying a 3m x 3m jointly branded marquee for the Club.

We look forward to continued engagement with Mornington Yacht Club and its members and if anyone wants to find out more about Community Bank Mount Martha and its Community Bank model, please contact Gary Sanford at gary.sanford2@bendigoadelaide.com.au or on 0409 194 314.

Mount Martha Yacht Club Season Opener

Our Branch Manager Stacey attended this 2024/25 season opener at the Mount Martha Yacht Club on 17 November. It was no ordinary season opener – it was the opening of their 65th year, such a wonderful milestone! Rhett Gowans (2024 Australian Sailing Coach of the year) entertained us all as he spoke about his long sailing career from his commencement as a youngster and the shift he made to coaching in later years.

It was not the most auspicious day to hold the event as the weather was not up for the task, with 40k gusts no sailing was able to take place, but it was an enjoyable day none the less.



Director's Donation

Colin Forsyth is one of those community minded people that goes along quietly doing amazing things for his community. For over 10 years Colin has been a Director on the Board for Community Bank Mount Martha, most of that time as Treasurer and currently Chair of the Finance Committee.

Not only that, for the last 7 years he has been a Director on the Board of the Dromana Football and Netball Club (DFNC) with the prime responsibility of applying for grants on behalf of the Club.

The DFNC Social Room is used by the Senior and Junior Football and the Senior and Junior Netball Clubs during the winter and during summer it is used by both Senior and Junior Cricket Clubs.

The Social Room forms an integral part of the running of sporting clubs, and not only facilities, the feeding of players, members, volunteers and

spectators, across a wide demographic (including but not limited to men, women, boys, girls, retirees and LGBTQ community) but also generates income to help pay the costs in running these clubs.

Colin donated his Director \$1,000 for the 2024/25 financial year to assist with the purchase of a fridge and freezer (all-in-one unit) behind the Bar section. The old unit itself was very noisy, which also was an issue when holding meetings in the room in terms of hearing the speaker out front.

The DFNC are very appreciative to be able to gain access to the "Directors \$1,000 Community Donation" as this then allows the Club to purchase the Bar-Fridge and Freezer.

Well done Colin and thank you for everything you do for Community Bank Mount Martha as a long serving Director.



Mount Martha Cricket Club Women's Team – 2024/25 Premiers

On Sunday 9 March 2025, MMCC Women's Team hosted Tyabb CC Women's Team at Ferrero Reserve Mount Martha for their Premiership match.

Losing the toss Mount Martha were sent into bat and finished their 30 overs with 3/189. Player of the Match Katherine Laemmie retiring with 103, other run makers were A Dunn 20, K Donald 6, B Storr 19, T Tonizzo 16no, and B Raymond 13no.

Mount Martha bowled Tyabb out for 91 off 26.5 overs, with the best of the bowlers, Mia Keating 4/26, B Raymond 1/17, K Laemmie 1/14, T Tonizzo 1/5, and J Ridgeway 1/5.

As proud sponsors of Mount Martha Cricket Club and also Team sponsors of the Women's Team, Community Bank Mount Martha congratulate the Club and Women's Team on this Premiership, and acknowledge the hard work and leadership by Michelle Hall (better known as Beamer) as Captain and Coach this year. The also received a staff donation of \$250 from Gary, our Community Liaison Officer.



Mental Health Safety Net Golf Day

Mental Health Safety Net (MHSN) held its annual fundraising Golf Day at Mornington Golf Club on Friday 22 November 2024, which was another great success.

Our Marketing Committee Chair John Schubert played golf on the day and addressed those attending after the golf and spoke about the great work MHSN do in our schools and our community and how proud we are to be a major sponsor. John also provided details on our Community Bank Mount Martha Funding Booklet, which includes 55 local community groups who received just over \$500,000 last financial year.



If you haven't already seen a copy of this booklet, please drop into our Community Bank Mount Martha branch to collect one.

Staff award



We are proud to announce, Amye our home lending specialist was tonight awarded the Pride of Workmanship award from Rotary Club of Mount Martha – congratulations Amye! Amye was recognised alongside other nominees from within our community. We send our congratulations to the other worthy recipients!

Peninsula Region Awards night

The branch team and Board members attended the Peninsula Region Awards night on 31 October 2024 and were lucky to be awarded with two awards (Deposits and Wealth). Congratulations to all the award winners on the night.

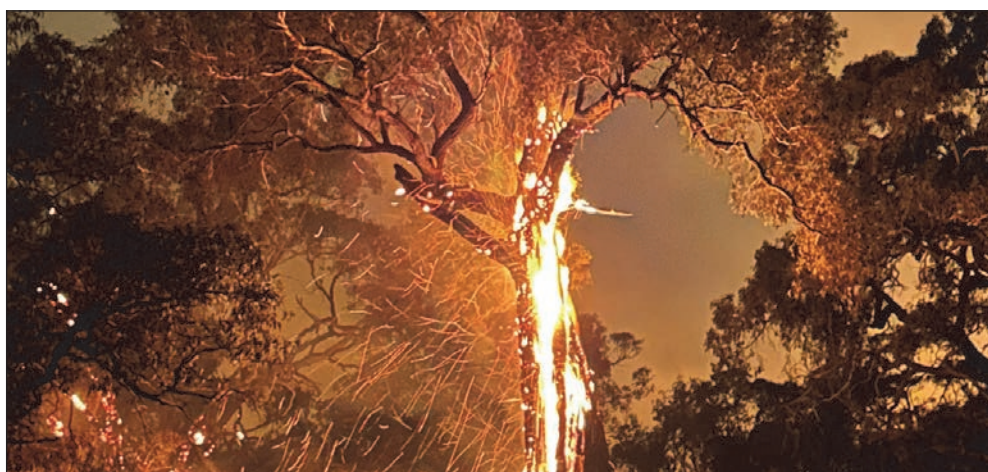


Mount Martha Carols by the Bay

Mount Martha Carol by the Bay was held 23 December and not even a cold and windy night could stop our community from enjoying this annual event. The tradition of young children sliding down the hill in front of the stage continues.

Gary Sanford spoke about our funding of this event each year and introduced Anne Shaw, President of the Rotary Club of Mount Martha to announce two of the winners of this years Christmas Baubles decorations they initiated, along with the Christmas Giving Tree, which we also assisted with.

Congratulations to everyone involved in making the Mount Martha Carols by the Bay happen again this year, it is truly a great local tradition.



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Community impact



\$245.74 million

Community Bank
Mount Martha footings as
at 30 June 2024



3,788

Local Mount Martha
customers at 30 June 2024



\$427,525

Reinvested to Mount Martha
in 2023/24.



9

Volunteer Directors working
for Mount Martha

Community Bank · Mount Martha

Meet Amye

Your local customer relationship manager

Introduce yourself

If you need help with your banking,
call Amye on 03 5974 4518 or
search Bendigo Bank Mount Martha

 **Bendigo Bank**



Talk to us today



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We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Thursday

9.30am - 5.00pm Friday

Directors

Bruce Ranken (Chair), Matt Forsyth (Treasurer),
John Schubert (Secretary), Colin Forsyth, Martyn Baker,
Shane Pope, Charles Smitheram, Philip Fitzpatrick,
Jennifer Spicer, Tammy Coady.

Mount Martha Community Enterprises Ltd
Shop 6, 34-38 Lochiel Avenue,
Mount Martha VIC 3934
ABN 25 142 190 949

Meet Nic – our new Customer Service Officer

Why did you apply?

I Applied for the job at Community Bank Mount Martha to further progress my career in banking and I saw the opportunity at Mount Martha to do this. I started my Career at Bendigo Bank three years ago. So far, I have loved meeting some of the members in the community and seeing their bright smiles as they leave the branch, makes me happy.

What do you love about Mount Martha?

There are many things I love about Mount Martha, from the food to the beach and the small, cute village. Prior to starting here at Community Bank Mount Martha, I had previously met Jen, Stacey, Amye and Narelle at a bank event in Mornington where I got to know each of them. To think I would become apart of their team was not where my head was at the time, but it has certainly been an exciting adventure so far and I can't wait to see what's ahead.

What do you do outside of work?

Outside of work, I love a random spontaneous trip, whether that be camping, clubbing in the city or a simple lunch at a winery with some friends.

I also love spending quality time with my family, and going on a Sunday drive in my car.

