



Can history repeat itself in Mt Martha?

The question being asked is “can history repeat itself in Mt Martha” with the appointment of Gary Sanford as Mount Martha Community Bank Branch Manager?

With the pending retirement of Kerry Debenardi, the current Mount Martha Community Bank Branch Manager on 31 December, Gary has accepted the Branch Manager position and will officially start his induction on Monday 16 January 2020.

In March 2001 Gary became the inaugural Branch Manager of the Rye & District Community Bank Branch, which expanded to open the Dromana Community Bank Branch in 2007 and the Rosebud Community Bank Branch in 2013, all under Gary’s management. This has been a success story within the Community Bank network that saw this Group become one of the largest Community Bank companies in Australia.

With over \$10 million funded back to local not-for-profit community groups and its shareholders, we can only hope that similar success can be achieved with Gary’s engagement with the local Mt Martha community.

Gary said, “The last 18 years of my 43 year banking career have increased my enjoyment of being involved in looking after customers’ finance and banking needs to a very high level of satisfaction. I am very passionate about the Community Bank model and how it works to provide a win-win for everyone, particularly the local community.”

Gary has lived on the Mornington Peninsula for over 55 years and is well known through his engagements with many community groups and sporting clubs. He has resided in Mt Martha for the last 29 years, where he has raised his four daughters with his also well-known supporting wife Bronwyn. They now have two grandchildren and are both enjoying this stage of their lives.

Gary said, “I am really looking forward to building on the foundations that have been established with the Mount Martha Community Bank Branch, which opened in 2011. The local company, a franchisee of the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited operates the Mount Martha Community Bank Branch and is ready for me to really engage with the local community and to work with it to support and grow it’s community contribution.”

Even with the success of the Rye, Dromana and Rosebud Community Bank Group it is surprising that the community does not fully understand how the Community Bank model works. Gary said, “Not many people know that the Franchise agreements Community Bank branches operate under have 80% of the profits they each make going back in community fundings. Also, they don’t seem to know or believe that Community Bank branches can look after ‘all’ levels of banking, including larger Business Banking customers.”

Nick Roberts the Chairman of Mount Martha Community Bank Branch Board said, “I welcome Gary as the new Manager of our branch and look forward with confidence to him building on the solid foundation that has been established by retiring Manager Kerry Debenardi.”

Anyone wishing to contact Gary about their banking needs or how the Community Bank model works can contact the Mount Martha Community Bank Branch on 5974 2483.

Mount Martha Community Enterprises Ltd 5a Bay Road, Mount Martha VIC 3934 ABN 25 142 190 949

Directors: Nick Roberts (Chairman), Colin Forsyth (Treasurer), Geoffrey Kidd (Secretary) Lisa Gould, John Schubert, John Forsyth.

Sponsorships.

Our last sponsorships of 2019 totalling \$15,750 back to your local Mount Martha community!

Mount Martha Bowls Club

Mornington Civic Bowls & Social Club

BERG

Combine Churches of Mt Martha

Mornington Community Christmas Lunch

Mornington Peninsula Cricket Umpires

Mount Martha Cricket Club

Mount Martha Golf Club

Mount Martha House Historical Collection

Mount Martha Primary School

Rotary Club of Mount Martha

Story Dogs

Sunshine Reserve Conservation & Fireguard

From the Branch Manager's desk.

Dear shareholders,

That time of the year has come around again, so it is Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all, family and friends.

This year is a little different for me as I retire on 31 December and would like to take the opportunity to say it has been a delight to serve the community of Mount Martha. Many thanks to the Board for giving me the opportunity to work with my community, local organisations, and our many customers.

A very special thank you to the staff, being Stacey, Sarah, Narelle and Julie for their efforts, and support over the past three plus years. It is this team that has not only made it a delight to work at Mount Martha, but also made it a successful time for the branch.

May I wish incoming Manager, Mr Gary Sanford continued success in his already illustrious career. Gary has previously led the Rye, Dromana and Rosebud Group to be a most successful Community Bank Group for Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited.

Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Kerry Debernardi
Branch Manager

Welcome Gary.

Nick Roberts, Chair of the Mount Martha Community Bank Branch welcomes Gary Sanford as the Bank's new Manager and says "he looks forward to a strong and vibrant future for the branch and it's community contributions."



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Mount Martha Community Bank Branch

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Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am – 5.00pm

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