

Summer  
2022

# Newsletter

Community Bank · Mount Martha



## Community Bank Mt Martha passes \$200 million milestone

When in 2009 another financial institution announced that it was closing its Mount Martha branch the Mount Martha community, and in particular its traders, were concerned the village would be left without a bank.

Very quickly a Steering Committee was formed and by the beginning of 2010, the Steering Committee approached Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited for its support in establishing Community Bank Mount Martha.

The task which faced the Steering Committee was to raise \$1.1 million as the seed capital for a new bank. To do that it sought the support of the wider Mount Martha community.

By late 2010 the \$1.1 million had been raised and with the support of the Mount Martha Traders Association, who took a lease on two shops in Bay Road that had formerly been occupied by another bank which closed, the Steering Committee was able to register a company to trade as Community Bank Mount Martha and take a franchise from Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited.

With the support of Mr Fergus Nutt of Warlimont & Nutt during 2010 the bank traded from Warlimont & Nutt in Lochiel Avenue as a sub-branch and the support of the Mount Martha community persuaded the Steering Committee and Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited that Mount Martha was ready for a Community Bank.

Early 2011 the fit out of the bank's premises in Bay Road was completed and on 7 April 2011, with

much fanfare, CEO of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, Mike Hirst and Chairman of Community Bank Mount Martha Nick Roberts OAM declared the bank open for business.

The first Manager Greg Hilton and his team worked tirelessly to build the bank from its small beginnings into what became within three years a Community Bank that had real prospect of success. The initial aim of the bank was to achieve footings of \$50 million and that hurdle was passed by the end of year three, however due to changing economic conditions that did not bring the bank into profit.

For the next three years, and with a change of Manager, the footings increased to \$80 million. Management of the bank passed into the hands of Kerry Debernardi who had formerly been the Bendigo Mornington Branch Manager.

Kerry and his team guided the bank into profit with footings rising to just over \$120 million and community contributions from the bank passing \$200,000.

By mid-2019 Kerry decided that it was time to retire, and the Board went searching for a successor. In November 2019 Chairman Nick Roberts OAM announced that Gary Sanford, formerly the Senior Manager of the Community Bank Rye Group had agreed to step into Kerry's shoes and take over management at Mount Martha. ►

## ◀ Community Bank Mt Martha passes \$200 million milestone (continued)

Gary commenced in December 2019 and brought with him a level of enthusiasm that reinvigorated the bank and its staff which enabled the bank's footings to rapidly rise.

The leases of the bank's premises in Bay Road were due for renewal in February 2021 and as 2020 moved slowly through the pandemic, new premises in the Clock Tower building in Lochiel Avenue became available. The bank readily accepted the challenge to move into new premises and commenced trading from its new Lochiel Avenue premises in mid-December 2020. It is now a well-established part of the very active shopping precinct.

During a time when the COVID-19 pandemic created so much uncertainty and created an ever-changing landscape, Gary and his team were able to grow Community Bank Mount Martha's footings to just over \$177 million in the 18 months to 30 June 2021.

With this increase in footings the annual community fundings had increased from \$35,000 in 2020 to \$80,000 in 2021 and it was very exciting that the 2022 budget was increased to \$130,000.

It is with great excitement and satisfaction that as of 31 January 2022, Mount Martha Community Bank has passed the \$200 million milestone in footings.

After nearly 11 years since opening, Community Bank Mount Martha has established itself as a very viable and profitable local business, which will enable continued community fundings in our local area.

All of this could not have been achieved without the hard work of past and present Directors of the Board who have given their time to ensure this outcome. Also, this would not have been possible without the customers of Community Bank Mount Martha who are doing more than just their banking, they are helping fund much needed community projects.

If you wish to find out more about how the Community Bank model works and what Community Bank Mount Martha are doing, please ring Gary Sanford, Manager Community Bank Mount Martha on 0409 194 314.



**\$200 million**

Community Bank  
Mount Martha footings  
as at 31 January 2022



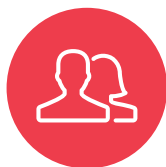
**\$80,000**

Reinvested to Mount  
Martha in 2020/2021



**3,098**

Local Mount Martha  
customers at 30 June 2021



**7**

Volunteer Directors  
working for Mount Martha

## Board news

Chairman Nick Roberts has announced two changes to the Mount Martha Community Enterprises Ltd Board.

Chris Keen a local builder who joined the Board at the start of 2020 has relocated his business to Queensland and as a consequence reluctantly resigned effective 2 January. The Board wishes him well with his new venture and thanks him for his service to the bank.

Martyn Baker former proprietor of Mount Martha Fine Foods and long time supporter of the bank joined the Board in January. Martyn brings with him a wealth of knowledge of Mount Martha and its community and 25 plus years experience as a small business proprietor in the village.

The Board welcomes Martyn and looks forward to a long a productive association.

There are still vacancies on the Board and a genuine desire on the part of all Directors to achieve an equal gender balance as new Directors join the Board.

## Director profile

Martyn Baker moved to the Mornington Peninsula in 1995 from London with his Bride to be Lisa, a Melbourne nurse and midwife. They met while travelling in Los Angeles in 1992 and Lisa moved to London later that year. Martyn decided



to change his career from communications engineer to hospitality and worked in and managed several venues in Sorrento and Portsea. They purchased Mount Martha Fine Foods in the village in 1997 and two years later moved from McCrae to Mount Martha. They successfully ran the business for 21 years before selling to two staff members one of which was their eldest son Ned who has carried on the tradition of great food and coffee. Over his time here Martyn has been involved with the Mount Martha Tennis Club for 16 years and his two sons Ned and Tom have played cricket, footy, tennis and soccer locally. So many years were spent on the sidelines at Ferrero Reserve and the Tennis Club.

Martyn was involved in helping to get the bank off the ground by procuring the original premises along with several other concerned traders in Mount Martha. Now retired Martyn looks forward to assisting the Board in any way he can and giving back to the local community that has supported him in life and business.





Pictured above are Lachlan Flynn, SMJFC President, and Paul Lamble SMJFC Sponsorship Co-ordinator, Colin O'Neill, SMFC President Colin O'Neill, Alan "Sudsy" Sutherland, Football Operations Manager, Shane Pope, Committee member and Gary Sanford Manager Community Bank Mount Martha, at Citation Oval.

Pictured right are Adam Taylor, MMJFC President, Andrew Gill, MMCC President, Rob Dillon MMCC Vice President and Gary Sanford Manager Community Bank Mount Martha at Ferrero Reserve.

## Local clubs working together

Over recent years both Mount Martha Junior Football Club (MMJFC) and South Mornington Junior Football Club (SMJFC) have been able to fund the construction of Electronic Scoreboards at both Ferrero Reserve and Citation Oval respectively. The one at Citation Oval being completed in 2021 and now ready for use.

Community Bank Mount Martha have been able to facilitate two Heads of Agreements – one between Mount Martha Junior Football Club and Mount Martha Cricket Club (MMCC) (Ferrero Reserve Agreement), and the other between, South Mornington Junior Football Club and South Mornington Football Club (SMFC) (Citation Oval Agreement).

Both Heads of Agreement now provide joint ownership and usage of the Scoreboards for at least the next 10 years.

Community Bank Mount Martha has committed to total funding of approximately \$80,000 over the next three years, between both junior clubs to reimburse them for their initial fundings of the scoreboards.

This has been a great outcome with the two clubs connected with both reserves working closely together.



## BUMP on the way

Sarah has now left us on maternity leave to her second child. We wish her well.

Her position is yet to be filled. Watch this space.







## Hot and sunny for Petanque Tournament

### Petanque Tournament on Sunday 30 January.

We had 19 teams competing with us here at Mount Martha. We thank Community Bank Mount Martha for lending us the marquees yet again. As you can see, they really stood out and provided wonderful shade on a hot day.

Thank you for your support.

**Mt Martha Bowls, Petanque & Social Club**

## 150th Art Show

As a proud sponsor of the Mornington Rotary 50th Mornington Art Show, Community Bank Mount Martha Manager, Gary Sanford attended the official opening on Thursday 20 January 2022. The Art Show was held at The Studio, Mornington Community House, corner Nepean Highway and Wilsons Road Mornington from 21-26 January 2022.



## Talk to us today

### Community Bank - Mount Martha

Shop 6, 34-38 Lochiel Avenue,  
Mount Martha VIC 3934

**P** 5974 4518

**E** [mountmarthamailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au](mailto:mountmarthamailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au)

[bendigobank.com.au/mount-martha](http://bendigobank.com.au/mount-martha)

**f** /communitybankmountmartha

### We're open:

9.30am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday

### Directors

Nick Roberts (Chairman), Matt Forsyth (Treasurer),  
John Schubert (Secretary), Bruce Rankin, Colin Forsyth,  
Martyn Baker, Dan Force

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



## Part of the team

Mount Martha Community Enterprises Ltd is a franchisee of Bendigo Bank and operates the locally owned Community Bank of Mount Martha.

Expressions of interest are now being accepted for the voluntary position of Director.

As a director you will be motivated, well organised, self-directed and community orientated. You'll support and drive the company's strategic direction, goals and objectives to have a real say in the future direction of the branch and community.

**For more information or to apply, call Nick on 0438 115 230 or email [njr3934@yahoo.com.au](mailto:njr3934@yahoo.com.au).**

### Mount Martha Community Enterprises Ltd

Mount Martha Community Enterprises Ltd ABN 25 142 190 949 A1511569 OUT\_11987555, 25/02/2022