



# Neerim District Community Bank® Branch Newsletter August 2011

## 2011 Annual General Meeting

The 2011 Annual General Meeting of the Neerim District Financial Services Limited will be held on **27 October 2011 at 7:00pm** in the **Phoenix Room** Neerim South Recreation Reserve 15 Neerim East Road Neerim South 3831.

Following the meeting the **2011 Community Grants and “Bill Cumming Young Achiever Award”** will be presented

### Have a say in the future of your community Director, Neerim District Financial Services Limited

Expressions of interest are invited for the position of Director, Neerim District Financial Services Limited operators of the Neerim District Community Bank® Branch. As a volunteer Director you will act as an ambassador for our branch, actively building its customer base. You will also provide the leadership and management skills at Board level to support and drive the Company's strategic direction, goals and objectives. Although the position is voluntary, as a Director of our Company you will have a real say in the future direction of the Community Bank® Branch and your community. Further information is available from Tony Allen (03) 5628 1717

## Learning opportunities



Neerim District Secondary College students Tyler Pratt, James Johnson & Brendan Gouley pictured using their Netbooks watched by Stuart Nicholson (Assistant Principal) and Tim Gilmore (Branch Manager).

The introduction of 40 netbook computers across Neerim District Secondary College and Neerim South Primary School is promoting new learning opportunities. The netbooks are currently being used by Neerim South Primary School grade six and Neerim District Secondary College year seven students at the schools. Neerim District Secondary College Assistant Principal Stuart Nicholson said +the netbooks promoted e-learning across the curriculum and the ability to work and connect across the two schools.+

Mr Nicholson said %the Neerim District Community Bank® Branch had donated about \$37,000 towards the purchase of the 40 netbooks+which he described as %very generous. With the Bank's support we were able to introduce the netbooks at an earlier stage than might have been,+said Mr Nicholson. %it's been a really significant contribution.+

Neerim District Community Bank® Branch Manager Tim Gilmore said the donation was made outside the normal community grants program to assist learning opportunities for the local students.

%in a small school, when we get support like we have from the Bank, it makes a huge difference to us,+said Mr Nicholson. (reprinted from Warragul Gazette)

## “Bill Cumming Young Achiever Award”

The Neerim District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch is calling for nominations for the 2011 Bill Cumming Young Achiever Award.

Prior to his sudden death in 2009 Bill Cumming was an active member of the Neerim community and was particularly keen to encourage local young people to achieve their best, no matter what activity they were involved in.

The award has been instigated to acknowledge the achievements of a young person from the district. The inaugural recipient of the award was Sam Reid, who during 2010 was named the best second year apprentice in painting and decorating in Gippsland.

Nomination forms are available from the Branch and should be submitted by 30 September 2011.

The nominee needs to be between 16 and 25 years old and have achieved in one or more of the fields of Trade, Technology, the Arts, Music, Community Service, Sport or Study.

They must reside in or have a close connection to the Neerim district, and have demonstrated initiative in the pursuit of their goals.

For further information contact Branch Manager, Tim Gilmore on (03) 5628 1079.

## Neerim District Community Grants program

APPLICATIONS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS ARE SOUGHT TO DEVELOP AND ENHANCE NEERIM DISTRICT.

Applications that address the following areas will receive priority:

- Family, children and youth initiatives.
- Public health programs and services.
- Community capacity building projects.
- Public education (including tertiary education, school buildings and libraries).
- Innovative community services.
- Cultural and arts initiatives
- Aged care services.
- Disability support projects.
- Environmental projects.

### Who is eligible for support?

Organisations, clubs or community groups that apply:

- Must be recognised as an endorsed charity by the ATO with Deductible Gift Recipient Status or be a not-for-profit organisation.
- Should have an ABN.

Priority will be given to organisations based in the Neerim District area.

### How to Apply

Visit Neerim District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch

- [Email: foundation@bendigobank.com.au](mailto:foundation@bendigobank.com.au)
- Visit our website [www.bendiaobank.com.au/foundation](http://www.bendiaobank.com.au/foundation)

Applications close Wednesday 24th August 2011

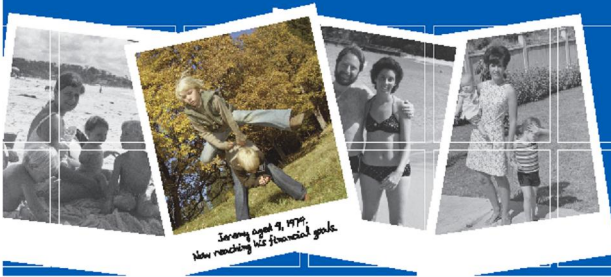


Neerim District Lions Club members pictured with Chris Jensen & Susan Allen, Directors NDFS Ltd, showing the trailer purchased with a 2010 grant.



Shannon Egan,  
our qualified  
Bendigo Financial Planner,  
is available now for  
appointments.

Financial planning services are provided by Bendigo Financial Planning Limited, ABN 91 087 595 073, AFSL 237899, 130 Harbour Esplanade, Queensland VIC 3008. A member of the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Group, AFSL 237819, www.bendigobank.com.au (1300992411) (21/03/2013)



Jeremy aged 9, 1979.  
Now reaching his financial goals.

Neerim District Community Bank® Branch

# Neerim District assists flood victims

(The following is an excerpt from a letter received by the Bank following our donation to the Lowood & Fernvale **Community Bank®** Branch in Queensland for flood relief)

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Lowood & Fernvale **Community Bank®** Branch to advise on how your generous donation was used to assist our flood affected Community.

As the clean-up progressed, it became obvious that it would take many weeks to do the job and a large number of home owners, because of the flood, were left without normal means of maintaining their house and land once it was restored.

Discussions with flood victims indicated that there was a real need to assist people with the simplest of items . lawn mowing . once their house yard was cleaned there was no means of controlling the growing grass. Their mowers etc were flood affected and there appeared to be no immediate solution.

The Board decided on using your donated funds as follows; With the input of affected residents and support of the local Lions Club, a ride on mower and a push mower were purchased from a local supplier at cost price. These were made available to flood affected people who had lost their own mowers.

Users are asked to pay for petrol and are supervised by local volunteers. The scheme is working well and has enabled people to recover pride in themselves and their properties. Once the flood aftermath is over the machines will be maintained by the Lions Club to use in their work in our district.

The disaster of the January 2011 floods has had a substantial and long lasting effect in our District. Your donation has been much appreciated by the Board and the local Community wish to thank the Neerim District **Community Bank®** Branch and customers.

Your kindness and support will long be remembered.

John Blackburn  
Chairman,  
Lowood & Fernvale **Community Bank®** Branch

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## Who's Who at the Branch Maureen Johnston Customer Relationship Manager



Maureen Johnston has been Customer Relationship Manager with the Neerim South branch for four and a half years.

Prior to joining the branch Maureen spent nearly 20 years working for various banking and financial institutions.

Maureen describes her work as *"building customer relationships"*. She assists customers with their Lending and Investments and generally provides support to customers with account enquiries.

Outside of work Maureen is on the Board of the Mawarra Centre in Warragul and has been its treasurer for over nine years.

She enjoys gardening and collecting antiques.



# Mawarra Country Kitchen Food Van



Tim Gilmore, Branch Manager, Jim Cunliffe, NDFS Ltd Director presenting the sponsorship cheque to Gordon Jamieson, Executive Officer, Mawarra Centre in front of the Country Kitchen Food Van+staff.

The Mawarra Centre is a community based, not for profit organisation based in Warragul that has been providing support to people with a disability in the West Gippsland region for over 50 years.

In early 2011 the Mararra Centre approached the Neerim District Financial Services Ltd regarding providing support for its catering service Country Kitchen+. In particular they requested sponsorship of a recently purchased Food Van+which is used to make deliveries around the Baw Baw shire including Neerim South, Jindivick & Labertouche.

The kitchen operates out of the McMillan Campus of ECG where it also manages the staff and studentscafeteria in addition to providing catering services to outside organisations.

The kitchen is currently giving six supported employees the opportunity to further develop their catering skills, but more importantly their customer service skills

The Board of the Neerim District Financial Services Ltd was pleased to provide a grant of \$5000 to the Mawarra Centre for this purpose.

## Contact

Call in and see us at Shop 3/115 Main Road, Neerim South and you will receive the friendly, informed service for which Neerim District Community Bank® Branch is renowned.

The branch is staffed by the following team members:

**Tim Gilmore**  
Branch Manager

**Maureen Johnston**  
Customer Relationship  
Manager

**Karen Johnson**  
Senior Customer Service  
Officer

**Jenny Cooper**  
Customer Service Officer

**Donna Field**  
Customer Service Officer

**Brigitte Jansen**  
Customer Service Officer

For all your banking needs  
call into Neerim District  
**Community Bank®** Branch  
at

Shop 3, 115 Main Road,  
Neerim South

or  
telephone us on 5628 1079,

**we welcome your enquiry.**