



Community Funding Partnership.

The 2017/18 round of our Community Funding Partnership program will be launched on 1 June at the Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club.

We invite local community organisations to submit applications for funding for local projects, activities and events that will help benefit the community and the Paynesville & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch.

The funding, provided by the **Community Bank**[®] branch, will support a wide range of community groups and activities, including sporting clubs, community service providers and popular local community events.

“The 2016 calendar year was our first year of the Community Funding Partnership Program and we were very impressed with the quality of applications received and we were pleased to be able to support a range of projects, many of which may not have

been financially viable without the support of our **Community Bank**[®] branch,” Chairman Andrew Quirke said.

Since opening in 2005, Paynesville & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch has returned almost \$500,000 to the community of Paynesville and district.

The **Community Bank**[®] branch is the major sponsor of the Paynesville Music Festival and Carols by the Straits, as well as a supporter of local sporting clubs such as the Paynesville Football & Netball Club, the Paynesville Bowling Club and the Bairnsdale Golf Club.

Applications for funding will close on 30 June, with presentations to be made at the Awards Night in August.

Customer survey and promotion.

We recently conducted a survey of Paynesville residents to find out what we could do better to service the community. We received around 250 completed surveys back which gave us an indication of why locals do and don't bank with the local **Community Bank**[®] branch.

It was interesting to find out what locals thought about the branch being open Saturday mornings (many didn't realise this), and many non-customers were impressed with the funds that we had put back into the community through sponsorship, grants and donations over the last 11 years. We hope, that through the information included in the survey, more locals will be encouraged to transfer their banking to Paynesville & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch so we can continually support our local community.



Branch Manager Ken Mutton presenting a sponsorship cheque to President of the Bairnsdale Golf Club, Stephen Mann.

Paynesville & District Financial Services Ltd PO Box 335, Paynesville VIC 3880 **ABN** 80 115 308 015 **Directors:** Andrew Quirke, Martin Richardson, Janet McLeod, Sarah Johnston, Peter Blackie, Matthew Butler, Peter Markwell, Lyn Wallace, Jennifer Ward, Tom Ponting.

Community forum.

In November, we hosted a community forum, attended by about 45 local people, where we worked through what we could do to improve, empower, strengthen, connect, and support our community in the future. Mayor of East Gippsland Shire Council, Cr. Joe Rettino, addressed the forum about working together to improve services and facilities in the community, then CEO, Gary Gaffney gave a presentation about the Shire, our economy, our advantages, and the role and importance of East Gippsland Shire in local service provision, employment, customer service, and balancing the many challenges of the region.

Kathryn McDonald, Community Development Officer, gave an informative presentation about the Shire's community grants program and we saw plenty of opportunities for small community grants to be sought for worthy projects. Martin Richardson outlined the **Community Bank**[®] branch Community Partnership program where funds are allocated every year to the community.

We wanted to identify improvements for the community that could be achieved by us working together and seeking support of others for practical, achievable results. We acknowledged that big projects are also important, but we might not be able to achieve those quickly or easily.

We wanted to focus on what could be done with our existing assets, resources and people and a little help from local, State or Commonwealth Government where required.

Through brainstorming and "voting" via stickers, we identified a number of worthy community projects that locals were interested in developing, improving and/or implementing. These ideas will be examined and projects identified and we will look for ways that they can be implemented, through either:

- The **Community Bank**[®] Branch Community Partnership Program
- East Gippsland Shire grants program
- Possible future funding from the Shire through its capital works program
- Partnerships and collaborations with local groups – Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre, AJ Freeman Reserve Committee, Paynesville BTA
- Further project development and funding applications to State Government
- Advocacy on behalf of the community

We look forward to pursuing these important initiatives for our community.



Paynesville Music Festival.

We are also proud to be involved as sponsors of the annual Paynesville Music Festival. This event takes place in February and grows bigger and better each year, bringing locals and visitors together to enjoy the free music on the foreshore from Friday evening to Sunday evening.

The Music Festival is a major event for our community and showcases many young musicians and bands in our area, as well as giving local school bands the opportunity to play for the community. The event also promotes Paynesville's natural beauty, the waterways and gives the local economy a huge boost over the weekend.



Farewell to board members.

Sadly, we have recently seen the departure of two Board members Nick Murray and Dean Boyd who have each been volunteer members of the Board over the past three years. Nick and Dean both contributed their business experience, local knowledge and personal skills to the Board over this time and they will be sadly missed.

We welcome two new Directors, Matthew Butler and Peter Blackie as new Board members. Matt and Peter are both Paynesville locals who are interested in the community and bring business skills, knowledge and local experience to the Board.

We would also like to emphasise and remind shareholders and customers that the Board members are not involved in the day to day banking operations of the branch, and as such, they do not have any knowledge or information about any branch customers' personal banking accounts.



Australia Day Awards.

This year, the **Community Bank**[®] branch again supported the annual Australia Day Awards in Paynesville. The “Citizen of the Year” was awarded to President of the Lions Club, Mr Jim Nightingale for his tireless work volunteering in the community. The ‘Event of the Year’ was awarded to the Paynesville Classic Boat Rally which was the first event of its kind and attracted thousands of visitors to Paynesville. This event will now become a biennial event on the local boating calendar.



The Paynesville & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch is proud to support the local Australia Day Awards in our community.



Official party – L-R Deputy Mayor East Gippsland Cr Colin Toohey, Branch Manager Ken Mutton, MC James Frecheville, Singer Yvonne van Delden, Guest Speaker from the “PS Curlip” Gary Plumley.



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Our branch.

Paynesville & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch delivers all our customers' banking and insurance needs and is a strong part of the local business community.

Our branch and our volunteer Board work closely with our community, supporting local clubs and organisations. We work for the benefit of our customers to help improve local employment, provide opportunities and contribute to our economy.

Paynesville & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch takes pride in our position in Paynesville and district and we are proud of our friendly staff, who are passionate about our community.



L-R : Back - Angela Fleischer, Ken Mutton, Karen Newman,
Front - Jack van Reyk, Brod Murdoch.

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Paynesville & District Community Bank[®] Branch

61 The Esplanade, Paynesville VIC 3880 Phone: 5156 6655 Email: paynesvillemailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm and Saturday mornings 9.00am – 12 noon

Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/paynesville facebook.com/PaynesvilleDistrictCommunityBankBranch twitter.com/bendigobank

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