

Newsletter

Community Bank · Pinewood



Welcome to our Autumn/Winter Newsletter for Community Bank Pinewood! We hope you find it informative as we keep you up to date with what's been happening here at the branch and with our Board Directors from March to June 2022.

A message from our Chairman



To our Valued Community.

Welcome to our Newsletter which covers the Autumn months of March through to May as we enter into Winter with June news. There has been a lot happening with events continuing into 2022 and it's been great to be able to attend so many and support our community groups and

sporting clubs in person. You can read more in detail as you scroll through the newsletter.

I would like to congratulate this year's Ericson Community Service Award winner - Shashi Kochhar. The Award was launched last year and named after our inaugural Branch Manager - Merv Ericson. Shashi has worked tirelessly in the community for years and is a very worthy recipient - he nominated Nottingham Neighbourhood House to be the recipient of the \$1,000 grant.

We are getting very close to launching our sixth Pitch It 2022 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program where we will be giving away over \$50,000 in funds to selected finalist community groups. These groups will 'pitch' their project at a face-to-face event to be held in November and we can't wait to see what they come up with! It was great to be able to finally catch up with our 2021 finalists at our Cocktail party event in April and present them with their certificates, we really enjoyed meeting everyone and thank everyone that attended.

We've had some milestone moments recently with our Executive Officer/Marketing & Sponsorship Coordinator - Louise celebrating 10 years with us - congratulations

and thank you to Louise for all her work over the past ten years, we don't know what we would do without her! We have also had to say goodbye to one of our most valued members of staff, as Cathy has semi-retired to spend more time with her family. Cathy has been an invaluable member of staff and we want to sincerely thank her for her incredible contribution during her 15 years of service with Community Bank Pinewood. We're very happy that Cathy has since accepted a casual position with us and so you might see her at the branch now and then when we have staff shortages. We warmly welcome our newest member of staff; Marina we wish her every success in her role with us.

Finally, we are about to celebrate our birthday and we'll be able to tell you how the celebrations went in our next Newsletter. We are holding a branch celebration on 16 August and this will mark 20 years since we first opened! We have given away more than \$1.3 million to our community in the form of sponsorships, grants and donations since we opened. On behalf of the Board of Directors I want to thank all of our staff for their hard work over the years and to everyone who has supported Community Bank Pinewood would not be here without all of you.

Regards,



Robert Davies
Chairman

A message from our Community Bank



To all our valued customers and supporters,

We'd like to take this opportunity to reflect on the Autumn months here at Community Bank Pinewood and slowly step into Winter covering the month of June.

There has been a lot happening over the past few months and it's been so pleasing to see the branch busy and for us to be able to continue to support local community and sporting clubs with sponsorships and donations. We are also very grateful for all of the invitations to attend community events and meet people face-to-face.

Our Pitch It 2021 finalists attended a cocktail party back in April which was well overdue and the first community event held by the branch in a very long time. We encourage all local not-for-profit community groups in City of Monash to look into our Pitch It 2022 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program. This year we hope to give more than \$50,000 in funds to selected finalist groups! You can find further details on our Facebook page and in this newsletter.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Shashi Kochhar on being the recipient of the Ericson Community Service Award for 2022 - Shashi is a valued member of our community and we are so happy to be able to recognise his community work in this way.

At the branch we have had to get used to a big change with our beloved team member Cathy leaving us! Cathy has been with us for just under 15 years and we have been so fortunate to have her expertise, patience, kindness and friendship throughout that time. Although we are missing her, we are thrilled she has decided to stay with us on a casual basis and assist during staff shortages. We warmly welcome Marina to our team; we think she is doing a terrific job learning the ropes and we know our customers will enjoy her friendly service.

We are very proud to be part of this community and so excited to be able to celebrate our 20th birthday in August! We are the last remaining bank in the Pinewood Shopping Village and we hope you have time to drop by on the day and join in the organised party which will take place in the median strip and 'parklet' area. Thank you in advance to the Pinewood Primary School Choir, Rotary Club of Monash and the Oakleigh Brass Band for their time in making this such a special occasion. Thank you also to Mayor of Monash - Stuart James who will join us and speak of our contribution to the local community.

Please don't hesitate to pop into the branch or give us a call for all of your banking needs, we're here for you!

Indu Dehipola
Branch Manager

Suraj Ranaraja
Senior Business
Development Manager

Board news



Our Board of Directors continue to meet monthly where an extensive agenda is followed to ensure all business is attended to. The Board aims to compliment the work our incredible management and staff do within the branch. We'd like to warmly welcome and introduce you to Debby Chiang, our newest Director to the Board of Community Bank Pinewood.

Debby has over 20 years of community work experience and has been supporting the local community since moving to Melbourne in 2010. Not only is she an accomplished businesswoman with her own company Joy Stationary, she also volunteers at her children's school and is a member of School Council. Debby is also an active volunteer of Pinewood Traders Association and with Rotary Club of Monash. We wish Debby all the very best in her director role with us.

Events - March to June



There were many events to attend during the months of March to June and we want to thank all of the sporting clubs, community groups and local businesses for extending invitations to us.

Community Bank Pinewood together with Smarter Property Investing held a free seminar (pictured above) for members and friends of Mulgrave Football Club which we hope they found to be informative and helpful particularly in today's climate. We were happy to attend and support the belated International Women's Day Breakfast held by Rotary Club of Monash and Rotary Club of Mount Waverley with all proceeds raised going towards new crisis accommodation in City of Monash by Kara Family Violence Service. Directors Stephen Pewtress and Sharyn Cowley attended Monash Business Women's Network lunch with guest speaker

Olivia Carr from 'Shhh Silk' - pictured here left to right are Stephen Pewtress - Director Community Bank Pinewood Board, Olivia Carr - Founder & Managing Director - Shhh Silk and City of Monash Mayor Stuart James. Our branch staff members Emily and Amit attended Gallery openings at the Mount Waverley Track Gallery and our Directors supported the golfing events held by Mulgrave Football

Club and Mulgrave Cricket Club with all proceeds from that going to the Rosies Youth Mission. Indu also popped down to the local Waverley Woodworkers workroom where they donated beautifully handcrafted toys to some Preschools. Our Chairman - Robert Davies was presented as the 'number one ticket holder' with Waverley Blues Football Club - he was delighted.

If we have missed anything we do apologise but please know that we are very grateful to have been able to support all wonderful community events.



Pitch It 2021 / 2022 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program

Well it was a long time in the making but at last in April we were able to have a face-to-face get together at Mulgrave Country Club to celebrate the achievements of our Pitch It 2021 finalist groups and present them with their certificates. Pitch It 2021 saw us give away \$55,000 in grants to 12 community groups with the help of our local Pitch Partner businesses Mulgrave Country Club, Ryman Healthcare, Sharrock Pitman Legal, Garry Warren Smith Group and Connect Advisors.

Thank you to everyone who attended and made this such a great celebration of our local community. Our Branch Manager - Indu Dehipola, Chairman - Robert Davies and Community Engagement Chair and Director - Stephen Pewtress presented the groups and are pictured with members along with former MP Gladys Lui who spoke at the event about the wonderful work we do in our community.

We are launching our Pitch It 2022 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program very soon with applications opening on 8 August 2022. If your community group would benefit from funding

for a project within the City of Monash please contact marketing@pinewoodcb.com.au. We will be giving away over \$50,000 in grants with the help of our Pitch Partners and will send out more details via our Newsletters and social media pages as soon as we can!



Staff news

We celebrated both Lai's and Rhiannon's birthdays during Autumn and extend our very best to both for the year ahead. Lai is always willing to assist us and our customers whenever he can! Rhiannon is such an enormous help when we have staff absences and we're so grateful to her for her flexibility and happy disposition.

Our Executive Officer and Marketing & Sponsorship Coordinator - Louise celebrated 10 years with us in June and we extend a huge thank you to her for her service! Louise has a unique position working closely with the branch staff, Board of Directors, head office, shareholders, sporting and community groups and wider community. We feel very fortunate to have her on our team and don't know what we would do without her!

We have had to say a fond and very sad farewell to a treasured member of staff in Cathy as she takes a step back to take care of her family and spend some well-deserved time for herself. You'll see Cathy around the branch now and then as she has happily accepted a role as a casual Customer Service Assistant. Cathy started working at the bank almost 15 years ago and during her time with us she has always been a dedicated worker, a wonderful colleague and friend. On behalf of all the staff and Board who worked with Cathy over the years we wish her the very best for her future endeavours.

We have since welcomed Marina - our newest member to the team. Marina brings with her a wealth of customer service experience and we're sure you'll find her a great asset to the branch. Marina is a local and is passionate about the community and we wish her all the very best of luck in her new position!



Ericson Community Service Award 2022



We were delighted to be able to announce the recipient of the Ericson Community Service Award 2022 (ECSA). Congratulations to Shashi Kochhar for his years of service to the City of Monash Community. Shashi is such an incredibly worthy recipient of the Award and has donated his grant to Nottingham Neighbourhood House (NHNH). Shashi has been involved with NHNH for over seven years providing food and assistance to those in need, particularly during the pandemic. To list all of Shashi's achievements would require a much lengthier post as his achievements are endless. 24 years ago he started the Friends of the Children Foundation (FOTCF) and since its inception the group have raised and contributed more than \$1 million towards the Monash Children's Hospital and \$2 million to the Melbourne Royal Children's Hospital. In 2019 Shashi was recognised on the Queens Birthday Honors list for his service to the community through charitable work. Our inaugural Branch Manager and Award namesake, Merv Ericson, joined us at the branch to present Shashi with his grant and is pictured with Shashi, Robert Davies - Chairman of the Board and Indu Dehipola - Branch Manager.



Celebrating 20 years!

Can you believe this photograph was taken 20 years ago when the branch was officially opened on 16 August 2002? We are very excited to be last remaining bank in the Pinewood Shopping Village and we want to thank all of our supporters and encourage you to tell everyone about the service we offer here at Community Bank Pinewood. The more you bank with us the more support we can offer your local community! Since our inception we have given back more than \$1.3 million to our local community in the form of sponsorships, donations and grants! Our 'profit with a purpose' model is something we are exceptionally proud of. We'd like to thank everyone in advance for supporting us at our birthday event; Monash Rotary for volunteering to run the sausage sizzle, members of Pinewood Primary School Choir and the Oakleigh Brass Band for entertainment and Mayor of Monash, Stuart James for being a part of the official proceedings. Please change to: You can find us at 65 Centreway, Mount Waverley 3149 or call us on 9886 6477. Alternatively scan the QR code below which will take you directly to our web page.

Talk to us today



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We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Thursday

9.30am - 5.00pm Friday

Pinewood Community Financial Services Limited

65 Centreway, Mt Waverley VIC 3149

ABN 26 099 420 050



Sponsorships and Donations March to June



As always, we have continued our great work giving back to the community in the form of sponsorships, grants and donations. From March through to June 2022 we were able to support many clubs and community groups. We were able to attend an event with Monash Business Awards who presented us with our sponsorship plaque which is now proudly on display at the branch. Pictured above left to right are Suraj Ranaraja - Business Development Manager, Stephen Pewtress - Director, Robert Davies - Chairman and Peter Pan - Executive Director Business Development.

We continued our sponsorship and provided signage of Glen Waverley Tennis Club, we sponsored the hotly contested Community Bank Pinewood Cup with Waverley Blues FC being the victor against Glen Waverley FC this time around. We sponsored Lions Club of Melbourne Chinese and two separate golfing events hosted by Mulgrave Football Club and Mulgrave Cricket Club. We were also proud to donate to Bendigo Bank Flood appeal to assist those devastated by flooding in Queensland and New South Wales. Pictured here are Emily and Indu in the branch with the novelty cheque.



Monash Interfaith Gathering held a long-awaited lunch to celebrate Harmony Day and Community Bank Pinewood were proud sponsors of the event. We were treated to music from the local community and some inspiring presenters embracing the message of inclusion and peace.

We presented the first ever recipient of the Community Bank Pinewood Scholarship to Jocelyn from Mount Waverley Secondary College. The Scholarship, in the amount of \$1,500 is to encourage and support Jocelyn in Year 11 and 12 with her studies and school-related expenses. Congratulations Jocelyn! Pictured are Principal Karen Wade, Jocelyn Seager and our Board Chairman - Robert Davies.

