



Spring/
Summer
2022

Newsletter

Community Bank · Pinewood



Welcome to our Spring/Summer 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 October to December 2022.



A message from our Chairman

To Our Valued Community,

I'd like to wish everyone in our community a very Happy New Year for 2023. Welcome to our Spring/Summer Newsletter where we reflect on the months of October to December 2022.

As we worked towards the end of 2022 there was still much to do in terms of sponsorships and events, most importantly we were able to hold our sixth 'Pitch It Community Bank Pinewood Grants Night'.

As we worked towards the end of 2022 there was still much to do in terms of sponsorships and events, most importantly we were able to hold our sixth 'Pitch It Community Bank Pinewood Grants Night'. This night held in November, was a huge success with our finalists receiving a share in over \$50,000 in funds with the help of our Pitch Partner businesses. The money has now been distributed to these twelve community groups within the City of Monash and will be used towards their very worthy projects - you can read more about this further on in our newsletter.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Pitch Partners, our MC Danielle Cain, all members of the community groups, Community Bank Pinewood staff, Directors and our Marketing and Sponsorship Coordinator - Louise for their efforts in making this a huge success!

I'd also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Director Debby Chiang who was officially elected as a Director of the Board at our October Annual General meeting along with Jamie Bedelis, Sharyn Cowley, Bronson Justus and Anna Lane who were all officially re-elected as Directors of the Board. I extend my thanks to Jason Dong who stepped away as Director of the Board at the end of December due to other work commitments. I would like to warmly welcome Jeremy Zhang to the branch staff team and extend my best wishes to Emily Cheng who has moved to Corporate Lending within Bendigo Bank.

In the meantime I hope you enjoy this newsletter and I encourage you to tell your friends and colleagues about our local bank, as the more you bank with Community Bank Pinewood, the more we are able to give back and support our wonderful community!

Regards,

Robert Davies
Chairman

A message from our Community Bank



To all our valued customers and supporters,

Happy New Year to you all and welcome to our Spring/Summer Newsletter looking back on the last three months of 2022. We are loving the new look of our Community Bank Pinewood branch and we were so happy to finish the year having had our refurbishment completed.

Our proudest achievement these last three months has to be our 'Pitch It 2022 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program'. We held our in-person event at the Mulgrave Country Club in November and it was a real privilege to watch our twelve finalist community groups 'pitch' their projects and then receive their well earned funds. The groups received a share in over \$50,000 from Community Bank Pinewood and our Pitch Partner businesses. Thank you to everyone who attended and we look forward to hearing about how the money made a difference as the groups complete their projects.

We would like to welcome Jeremy Zhang to the team who started with us in December, we're so happy with how well he is doing and how eager he is to learn - welcome to the team Jeremy! We'd also really like to wish Emily Cheng all the very best in her new role with Bendigo Bank in Corporate Lending, we are going to miss Emily and thank her for her wonderful work in the years she were here. We are looking forward to welcoming a new team member in the next couple of months - watch this space!

We have, as always continued to attend events and provide sponsorship to local sporting clubs and groups, and we really value the relationships we are continually building throughout the community. We encourage you to tell all of your friends and family about us so that we can continue our profit for a purpose model and provide much needed funding!

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and please don't hesitate to pop into the branch or arrange an appointment for all of your banking needs - we are here for you!

Indu Dehipola
Branch Manager

Suraj Ranaraja
Senior Business
Development
Manager

Pinewood Community Financial Services Limited Board members



**Robert
Davies**



**Stephen
Pewtress**



**Peter
Pan**



**Sharyn
Cowley**



**Susane
Cornelissen**



**Annabelle
Lane**



**Jamie
Bedelis**



**Debby
Chiang**



**Bronson
Justus**



**Dwayne
Wathen**

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. Behind the scenes of Community Bank Pinewood we have a very professional and highly skilled Board of Directors.

Pinewood Community Financial Services Ltd Board and Community Bank Pinewood held our Annual General Meeting in October and the following resolutions were passed unanimously. Debby Chiang was officially elected as a Director of the Board, Jamie Bedelis, Sharyn Cowley, Bronson Justus and Anna Lane were also officially re-elected as Directors of the Board. We extend our congratulations to them all!

We'd like to extend our thanks to Director Jason Dong who left us at the end of December 2022 due to work commitments particularly overseas, we wish him every success in his professional endeavours going forward.

If you would like to view our Annual Report 2022 please visit our website: www.bendigobank.com.au/pinewood

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Bendigo Bank

Community Bank - Pinewood

Staff news

Our branch staff continue to give professional, informative and fantastic service to our customers and we encourage you to come into the branch Monday to Thursday 9.30am - 4pm or Friday 9.30am - 5pm to meet with them and discuss all of your banking needs - we know you'll be in very good hands!



We'd like to introduce you to our newest staff member, Jeremy Zhang. Jeremy joined us mid-December as a Customer Service Officer who will predominantly assist with our Chinatown Office but you will also see his friendly face working at Community Bank Pinewood - please say hi to him if you're in the branch, we think he is doing a terrific job so far.

In December we also were given the news that Emily - our recently promoted Customer Relationship Officer would be leaving us, Emily is staying with Bendigo Bank and will be part of their Corporate Lending Team. We will all miss Emily very much and wish her all the very best for her future career, we know she will go from strength to strength in her new role.

The last three months saw us celebrating the birthdays of Amit, Suraj, Jeremy, Paul and Cathy - who also celebrated 15 years with us that same day - congratulations Cathy!



Lastly, we wanted to give a huge shout-out to Rhiannon our Customer Service Officer and to Monash University Cheer and Dance Team of which she is a member! This incredible team of girls beat 62 - yes that's 62 other university dance groups in the 'pom' section to win the National competition in Queensland. This now means the girls go on to the USA in 2023 to compete in the World Competition and we can't wait to find out how they do!



Branch news



Have you been into the branch recently? You might have noticed we have had a refresh inside and outside and we love the cleaner look! What do you think?

The Board and branch staff got together in December to celebrate another successful year for Community Bank Pinewood. This is one of the



▲ L-R: Dwayne, Suraj, Robert, Marina, Rhiannon, Jeremy, Debby, Amit, Lai, Paul, Bronson, Indu, Sue, Sharyn, Emily and Anna.

few occasions through the year when we are all able to get together to relax and reflect. We're all (almost) pictured here and on the table you might spot some gift boxes. We each received Kenshi Candles as a gift by way of a donation Community Bank Pinewood made to this incredible organisation with all proceeds going towards Foodbank Australia.

Kenshi Candles is the story of a 14 year old boy from Melbourne who wanted to change the world. Liam started a Social Enterprise and created a "perfect" candle of the highest possible quality. Every candle funds a huge 3kg of pasta (6 packs!) for Foodbank which is the equivalent of 12 meals! Since 2019, every candle has been hand poured in Melbourne by refugees from Myanmar providing desperately needed income. We are selling Kenshi Candles in the branch and they smell beautiful with so many different scents - why not pop in and have a look - it's a simple honesty system, take your candle - scan the QR code and pay online. We bought 20 for our party meaning our donation funded 240 meals!

Chinatown news

Did you know that Community Bank Pinewood have a Chinatown Office in Melbourne's CBD who also support many different organisations and community groups? This arm of our business enables us to do even more good in the community and Paul Lai works tirelessly to strengthen these relationships and promote inclusiveness and diversity. In October to December alone Community Bank Pinewood - Chinatown Office supported the following businesses: Chinese Museum, Lion Club of Melbourne Chinese, Chinese Stroke Support Group Inc., Victoria Hongkonger Association, Guangdong General Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong Club Inc Vic, Biomed Link



▲ Pictured at the Hong Kong Club Charity Event (L-R): our own Paul Lai, Leanne Wong; Relationship Manager - Salvation Army, Maria Hui - Hong Kong Club President, Emily Tang - Vice President and community Bank Pinewood Executive Director - Peter Pan.

2022 Conference, Australia Macau General Commerce Chamber Inc.

As listed recently we became a major supporter of the Chinese Museum in Melbourne and have the naming rights to their conference room! The mission of the museum is "to enrich the understanding

of Chinese Australians through the presentation and celebration of (our) history, heritage, and culture". Why not pay the museum a visit. You can find more information on their website www.chinesemuseum.com.au.

Paul Lai attended many events representing Community Bank Pinewood including the 6th Anniversary Dinner for the Australia Macau General Commerce Chamber. The Club aims to assist Macanese Australians in



▲ L-R: Desmond Cheng Chairman of See Yup Society Inc, Jack Ao - President of Australia Macau General Commerce Chamber Inc, Paul Lai, Macy Liao; Vice President of Melbourne Guangzhou Friendship Association Inc.

Melbourne to build business and social networking by cultural and social exchanges activities.

Congratulations to Lai and the team on all your work and success in our Chinatown Office and we wish you all a prosperous and Happy Lunar New Year!

Pitch It 2022 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program - Results!

We are thrilled to announce the results of the top 12 finalist community groups for our 'Pitch It 2022 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program'! We had a wonderful community evening at Mulgrave Country Club in November and it was incredible to watch these groups 'pitch' their projects and then watch as the funds rolled in! We are pleased to announce the results of the evening below.

Congratulations to everyone involved in these groups and their projects - you are truly making a difference in our community and we look forward to hearing all about your successful projects. Thank you to all Directors and staff for the smooth running of the event and to our MC - Danielle Cain and to our host venue Mulgrave Country Club - we were so happy with how everything went and what a wonderful community evening it was.



Radio Lollipop - Monash

Project Christmas and after covid rebuild project
Pitch It support \$5,850



Wavecare Counselling Inc

Project The Wheels on the Bus
Pitch It support \$4,800



Waverley Valley Scout Group

Project New Tandem Trailer
Pitch It support \$2,550



Rotary Club of Glen Waverley

Project Bereavement Kits for Monash Health
Pitch It support \$3,250



Waverley Music Eisteddfod

Project Monash Youth Music Festival
Pitch It support \$3,650



Rotary Club of Waverley

Project Homes for the Homeless
Pitch It support \$3,500



Players Theatre Company

Project Shrek Junior
Pitch It support \$3,650



Waverley Woodworkers

Project Timber and Tools for Toys
Pitch It support \$5,500



Rotary Club of Oakleigh Clayton Huntingdale

Project Monash Health - Going Home with Dignity - New Clothing for Patients Program
Pitch It support \$3,200



History Monash

Project Preserving the Past
Pitch It support \$4,350



Hudson Institute of Medical Research

Project Inspiring Women and Girls in Science
Pitch It support \$3,700



Xi Jin Shan Chinese Language and Culture School

Project 2022 Spring Chinese Culture Camp
Pitch It support \$7,100

Proudly supported by Major Pitch Partner



Sponsorships & Donations - October to December 2022

As always, we have continued our great work giving back to the community in the form of sponsorships, grants and donations. From October to December 2022 we were able to support many clubs and community groups, here are a few we'd like to tell you about. We were proud sponsors of the Waverley District Tennis Association event then named "Community Bank Pinewood Waverley Tennis 15K Signature Event" which lasted one week. We had representatives from Community Bank Pinewood there each day and we provided every participant with a 'showbag'.



Pictured (left) are Ladies singles finals winner - Alana Parnaby and Men's finals winner - Jeremy Taylor. Congratulations to everyone involved in organising such a successful event!

We sponsored and supported Friends Of The Children Foundation charity ball with all proceeds going towards their fund-raising. At the event a cheque was presented to the Monash Children's Hospital for \$10,000! This money will be used to fund the purchase of a motorized cot for premature babies. Congratulations to everyone involved in raising this incredible amount of money - it was a privilege to be there and to have our novelty cheque used in the presentation!



▲ Pictured at the ball are (L - R) Grace Justus, Bronson Justus (Director), Robert Cowley, Sharyn Cowley (Director), Andrew Vu and Debby Chiang (Director).



▲ L-R: Dwayne Wathen - Director, Paul Tyson - Customer Relationship Officer, Suraj Ranaraja - Business Development Manager and Bronson Justus - Director.

We also supported the combined Rotary Club of Monash Mayor of Monash Charity Golf Day where funds raised went to Cerebral Palsy Education Centre (CPEC). CPEC provides education services for children and adults living with cerebral palsy and similar conditions.

For the very first time we were sponsors of the Monash Maker Faire held at Monash University with over 10,000 ticket holders in attendance! This was an inspiring day with local makers and inventors coming together to show their technology and experience with many interactive displays and fun for all the family. Pictured (right) with the huge Maker Faire inflatable robot are left to right: Paul Lai, Paul Tyson and Rhiannon Clay from the branch.



We were also proud to donate to both Victorian Flood Appeal and Kenshi Candles - you can find out more about Kenshi in our 'Branch news' section.

If your club or community group would benefit from sponsorship contact Louise our Marketing & Sponsorship coordinator by email marketing@pinewoodcb.com.au

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Events - October to December 2022

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



▲ Club President Ray Ffrench is pictured with our Chairman - Robert Davies and members of the group.

The Waverley Woodworkers invited us to their workroom just prior to their end of year celebration so we could have a look at where the magic happens - this incredible community group make and donate hundreds of toys throughout the year. They have been regular participants in our 'Pitch It Program' and this year they earned \$5,500 for their project. This amount will be used directly to purchase timber to make toys which will be donated to local

preschools and to the Monash Children's Hospital. We thank all the other groups for their invitations throughout these months, it is wonderful to meet everyone and to see what a difference our support makes and that you make in our community!

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



▲ Marina presenting the Community Bank Pinewood Plaque to this year's winner Margaret Allen with President Kaye Molyneux in the centre.

Amongst the events we attended such as the Waverley District Tennis Association event (outlined in the 'Sponsorship' section, Marina - Customer Service Officer attended the end of year Christmas dinner presentation night for the Monash Croquet Club.

As proud sponsors of the Monash Business Awards we try to support their many informative business events throughout the year, our Business Development Manager - Suraj Ranaraja, Chairman of the Board - Robert Davies and Director - Bronson Justus attended a breakfast with TED Talk speaker and resilience expert - Brock Bastian.

► Monash Business Awards Committee Member Sadish Visvalingam, from Premier Financial Advocates with our Business Development Manager Suraj Ranaraja.

