



Spring - Summer
2024/25

Newsletter

Community Bank · Pinewood

A message from our Chairman



To our valued community, We are very proud to announce that since 2010 we have now given back over \$2.3 million in Donations, Grants, Sponsorships, and Scholarships to our local community!

In recent months we have seen many of our major capital investment projects be completed.

These projects include:

- A \$50,000 grant to Monash SES to assist in the purchase of a new truck with further funding for new laptops which will positively impact their ability to service and support our community!
- A \$50,000 grant for the Waverley Blues Football Club to purchase a brand new digital scoreboard that has been installed at the newly named Community Bank Pinewood Reserve!
- We were invited to the Monash Children's Hospital to see the new state of the art Ultrasound machine that we provided a \$70,000 funding grant for. The machine is already in use and making a huge difference to the children having it used in their diagnosis and treatment plans.

- Ronald McDonald House have now completed their roof restoration with a \$25,000 grant we provided. The repairs were needed after severe storm damage last year.
- Finally, Mount Waverley Secondary College have completed their Outdoor Classroom project with our \$50,000 grant!

We have more projects in the works and will bring you details in the next newsletter as they complete. Thank you to all our shareholders, customers and supporters for making the work we do possible.

I want to extend my congratulations to the staff for winning the 'Deposits Award' in our region, this is an outstanding achievement and a testament to their hard work. Our staff members are committed to providing excellent service to our customers, under the expert guidance of our Branch Manager, Indu Dehipola. Please feel free to contact them on 9886 6477 or visit our branch for all your banking needs. We are focused to giving back to our local community, and the more you bank with us, the more we can achieve together. Thank you for your continued support.

Regards,

Robert Davies
Chairman



A message from our Community Bank Pinewood



To our valued customers and supporters,

We hope you're doing well and enjoy our latest newsletter, which covers the months of November to February 2025.

The team has been very busy over the past few months, and I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their hard work and dedication to delivering excellent service to our customers every day. Our branch was awarded the 'Deposits Award' for the region in the middle of 2024, and we received our certificate to commemorate our success, which is now proudly displayed in the branch and demonstrates the effort and success of the team!

During the past few months, we continued to support and attend local events in our community, and along with our eighth Pitch It Community Grants Program, we also provided funding through sponsorships, grants, scholarships, and donations to community groups and sporting clubs throughout the City of Monash.

It's been very exciting to see many of our major projects completed, such as the purchase of a new Ultrasound Machine by Monash Children's Hospital, Monash Health Foundation, with \$70,000 we provided. To be making such a huge impact on children and their families is something I am particularly passionate about and so proud to be part of. We are looking forward to seeing the new Monash SES truck we funded, driving around the area complete with our logo, this is a resource that will allow greater efficiency for the team to provide much-needed services to our residents. You can read more about these projects in the newsletter - we may be a small branch at Pinewood, but we are making a huge difference!

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and share it with your friends and colleagues, so we can continue to make a difference in the community we care about. Remember, we're more than just an ordinary bank, and we're committed to giving back to the community that supports us.

Warm regards,

Indu Dehipola
Branch Manager

Pitch It 2024 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program - Recap

We wanted to take another opportunity to congratulate all of our finalists for their success at our Pitch It 2024 event last November, which seems so long ago now! We have been so happy to see some these projects be completed over the last few months and to know that the money we provided together with our Pitch Partner businesses has made such a positive impact in our community. With \$20,000 in Pitch Partner



contributions, we were able to give \$70,000 in funds to these groups and their community-changing projects listed below.

Many thanks to Rotary Club of Monash Glen Waverley for inviting us to their 'Community Pantry' cheque presentation. With the \$4,450 earned at Pitch It 2024, and \$5,550 of their own fundraising, the Club were able to give \$5,000 each to Monash Waverley Community and Support (MWCIS) & Monash Oakleigh Community Support and Information Service (MOCSIS) to complete fill food pantries for those in need in our community. Pictured are Sue Mills, Community Chair - Rotary Club of Monash Glen Waverley, Chris Brassington from MWCIS and Indu Dehipola, Branch Manager helping your community!

Please support our Pitch Partner businesses who made a big difference and help us to ensure these community projects become a reality. They are listed here:

Pitch Partners

Mulgrave Country Club	Showbiz Cinemas Waverley
Waverley Mazda	Garry and Warren Smith Springvale - Honda and Kia Dealership
Rogerson Kenny Business Accountants	Garry and Warren Smith Chadstone - Kia and Mitsubishi Dealership

Pitch It 2024 recipients

Rotary Club of Monash Glen Waverley - Community Pantry #2	\$4,450
Wavecare Counselling Inc - Keep on Moving	\$4,700
Notting Hill Neighbourhood House- Morning Mingle	\$6,500
Mount Waverley Rotary- Homeless Shelter Bags	\$6,550
Rotary Club of Waverley- Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA)	\$5,250
Waverley Salvation Army- Coffee Station Project	\$3,150
Clayton Church of Christ- Love Loud - Meal Delivery	\$4,050
My Room Children's Cancer Charity- My Room Monash Children's Family Support	\$5,350
Waverley Music Eisteddfod Inc - Monash Youth Music Festival	\$4,600
Players Theatre Company - Frozen Junior	\$8,000
Hudson Institute of Medical Research - Young Women in Science - Careers Mentoring program	\$5,650
Soundfair - Soundfair Hearing Bank	\$5,200
Waverley Woodworkers Inc. - Supporting Children's Education & Wellbeing through Woodcraft	\$6,550

Staff News

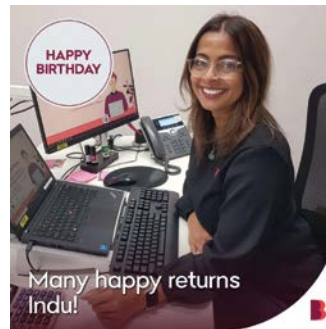


Our branch staff continued to provide top-notch service to our customers, professional, informative, and fantastic as always, and we are so grateful for the work they do here in Pinewood. Our customers can always rely on our staff to help them with all their banking needs. For anyone needing assistance, the branch is open on weekdays, Monday to Thursday from 9.30am to 4pm, and on Friday from 9.30am to 5pm. you can find us at the Pinewood Shopping Village, 65 Centreway, Mount Waverley.

This year sees the branch turn 23 years old and we wanted to share that we can officially announce that, since 2010 we can confirm we have given \$2.3 million in the form of sponsorships, grants, scholarships, and donations back to our City of Monash community and beyond! Being able to make such a positive impact is something we never take for granted, and we thank Bendigo Bank, all of our shareholders, customers, and supporters over the years - you are the difference we are able to make!

We gratefully received the certificate to celebrate the 'Deposits Award' we were awarded in 2024 which is now proudly on display in the branch, we are very proud of the team and their efforts and thankful to all of our customers who chose us to bank with!

We celebrated the birthdays of Indu Dehipola, Branch Manager and Paul Tyson, Customer Relationship Officer during the end of the year and we extend our best wishes to them!



Ericson Community Service Award 2025



The Board has increased the Ericson Community Service Award (ECSA) Grant to \$2,500! If you know someone who is a remarkable community-focused individual in the City of Monash and deserves recognition for all they do, please use

this link to nominate them:
<https://forms.gle/9Fa1KjsKsgrQ9n4G8>

This will be the fifth year of our community grant initiative, and the recipient will earn a certificate of recognition and a \$2,500 grant to be given to their chosen not-for-profit organisation (also within the City of Monash).

The 'ECSA' is named after our inaugural Branch Manager of over 11 years, Merv Ericson. Merv was dedicated to the branch and our community here in the City of Monash, continuing as a

Director until 2020, when he retired.

We can't wait to read about the nominees this year! Nominations close on 1 May.

Sponsorships & Donations - November to February

It's been another busy period of giving back to our local community and as ever, we are very proud of all the sponsorships, grants, and donations we were able to give during this time! We have listed some of these below, and we're sure you will agree that it is an impressive list. We are happy to be able to add an update on some of our major funding projects in this edition. There will be more to add very soon with the Pinewood Playground construction currently underway. We can't wait to see this space completed and for families in the neighbourhood to benefit from this brand new space. Community Bank Pinewood has contributed \$50,000 towards the project with the City of Monash, and it is going to be fantastic!

The digital scoreboard we gave \$50,000 for at the newly named 'Community Bank Pinewood Reserve' is now in use and a welcome addition to the venue. Please read on for more details about our funding of \$70,000 for Monash Children's Hospital, \$50,000 for Victorian SES - Monash Division, \$25,000 for Ronald McDonald House-Monash Roof Restoration project and \$50,000 for Mount Waverley Secondary College's Outdoor Classroom Project.

Mount Waverley Bowls Club

Maliyadeva Old Boys Club

Monash Business Association

Waverley Blues Football Club

Pinewood Netball Club

Mount Waverley Uniting Cricket Club

Waverley Softball Association

Rotary Club of Glen Waverley

Monash University

Waverley Baseball Club

Escabags Escape Bags

Wheeler Hill Primary School

Scouts Victoria

Lions Club of Wheeler Hill

Monash Biomed Society

Chinese New Year and Lantern Festival

Mount Waverley Secondary College - Dux

Mulgrave Football Club

If your club or community group would benefit from sponsorship please

head to www.communitybankpinewood.smartygrants.com.au to apply, or for further information contact Louise our Marketing & Sponsorship Coordinator by emailing marketing@pinewoodcb.com.au

Photos top to bottom:

Escabags AWEARness Day: Eraj, Lai, Paul and Angela
 Mount Waverley Bowls Club: Howard Rose - Sponsorship Coordinator
 Mount Waverley Bowls Club and Robert Davies, Chairman
 Maliyadeva College Old Boys Association: Eraj Rajapakse, Customer Relationship Officer and Gold Sponsor Award recipient Vihan Periyapperuma



Events - November to February



Waverley Social Enterprises 40th Anniversary Event: Robert Davies, Chairman, Nick Williamson, CEO, Bronson Justus, Director

We attended many events from November to February and we want to thank all the sporting clubs, community groups, and local businesses for extending invitations to us.

Amongst the events we attended was Waverley Social Enterprises 40th anniversary celebration, and we were thrilled to be part of this incredible achievement. They provide employment opportunities for people with a disability and have grown significantly since early 2000 when it employed around 80 people with a disability to now employing more than 300! It currently employs 330+ adults with disability.

Once again we were Naming Rights sponsors at the Glen Waverley Chinese New Year and Lantern Festival, we met with thousands of locals and enjoyed this vibrant community event bringing our community together in celebration.

For the first time we were part of Monash University's 'O' Week and worked together with our neighbours Showbiz Cinemas Waverley to engage with new and existing students, giving away free popcorn and providing the opportunity for the students to discuss their banking needs.



Glen Waverley Chinese New Year and Lantern Festival: Louise Gracey - Marketing & Sponsorship Coordinator, Rose Yang - Customer Liaison Officer, Paul Tyson - Customer Relationship Officer, Bronson Justus - Director, Thomas Pewtress - Director and Robert Davies - Chairman



Monash 'O' Week: Jeremy Zhang, Customer Services Officer and Indu Dehipola, Branch Manager

We were also in attendance at end of year presentation award nights for Ashwood High School, Mount Waverley Secondary College and Wheelers Hill Secondary School to present the Year 11 Community Bank Pinewood Scholarship.

Thank you to all of the Groups and Clubs who extended invitations to us! We are always happy to support our local community and we feel that meeting face-to-face is a wonderful way to strengthen our bond.

We were also proud sponsors of the annual Monash Carols by Candlelight Concert held in Jells Park, and were so pleased to see such a huge turnout for the event with perfect weather conditions! We also attended many sporting club events and community group Christmas socials. Indu was able to attend the cheque presentation of the money raised at the Mayor of Monash Golf Day event, pictured below.



Mulgrave Cricket Club - T20 Semi-final: Paul Tyson - Customer Relationship Officer, Anthony Leach - Treasurer, Eden Foster MP Member for Mulgrave and Eray Rajapakse - Customer Relationship Officer



Mayor of Monash Golf Day Cheque Presentation: Left to Right: Christian Tanner, General Manager, Riversdale Golf Club, newly elected Mayor of Monash Cr Paul Klisaris, former Mayor Nicky Luo, Chris Fagan; partner SCM Financial Group, Barry Muldoon, Chairman of the Mayor of Monash Charity Golf Day Committee, Craig Walden; CEO - APS Benefits Group, Claire Cotter, CEO of Cerebral Palsy Education Centre - CPEC and Indu Dehipola; Branch Manager

Major Project Updates

We wanted to update you with some fantastic news as some of our more major funding projects have completed.



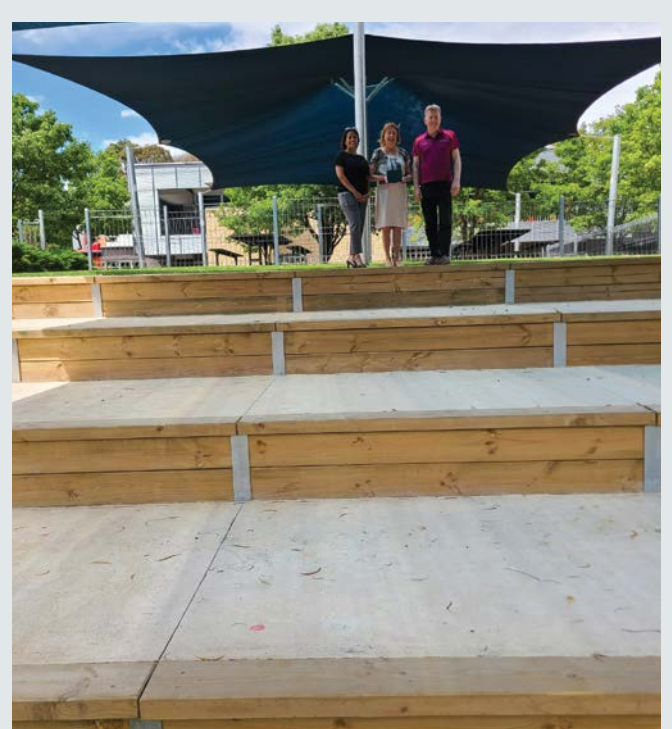
Monash Children's Hospital

Community Bank Pinewood provided \$70,000 in funding to Monash Children's Hospital to purchase a new ultrasound machine, which will improve how they care for and treat children with serious and chronic conditions. The team invited us to the hospital to see the machine and place our plaque in pride of place upon it.

The Monash Children's Hospital Gastroenterology team will use the equipment to monitor children with inflammatory bowel disease, and the Dietetics team will use it to care for children at risk of developing malnutrition as a complication of their condition. The ultrasound machine provides pain-free, quick, real-time information creating a much better hospital experience for their young patients, fewer hospital appointments, and better management of their condition. Both programs are the first of their kind in Victoria and will also provide valuable research insights that will benefit children around Australia.



Top Left: Liz Mount, Profession Lead - Nutrition and Dietetics, Dr. Rupert Hinds, Head of Unit, Gastroenterology, Robert Davies, Chairman Community Bank Pinewood and Dr Vered Schildkraut, Gastroenterologist
Bottom left: Robert Davies, Chairman places our plaque on the machine
Top Right: Indu Dehipola - Branch Manager, Karen Wade - Principal and Robert Davies - Chairman
Bottom Right: Robert Davies - Chairman and Karen Wade - Principal



Mount Waverley Secondary College

We provided a \$50,000 grant to Mount Waverley Secondary College for their outdoor classroom, and we visited recently to see the finished results - we think it looks fabulous! It has been an absolute pleasure to work with the school on this, in particular with Principal - Karen Wade and Marketing & Events Manager - Narda McLennan. The classroom will provide an additional outdoor space for all students and the teaching staff are very excited to make use of it in 2025.

Pictured above: The classroom will have a plaque installed with Community Bank Pinewood proudly inscribed on it recognising our support. To see what an incredible transformation this is - check out the last photo taken before work began!

Major Project Updates - continued

Ronald McDonald House - Monash

We were delighted to return to Ronald McDonald House Charities Victoria & Tasmania - Monash House to celebrate the completion of their outdoor roof restoration. Community Bank Pinewood provided funds of \$25,000 towards the works when the roof was destroyed by storm damage in early 2024. Step forward 12 months, and work is completed with families being able to use the outdoor space during their stay.



Photo left to right: Peter Bishop, CEO - RMCH Vic Tas, Bronson Justus, Community Bank Pinewood Director, and Joel Nicholls - Head of Fundraising and Marketing RMHC Vic Tas underneath the repaired roof

Waverley Blues Football Club

We celebrated a huge milestone with Waverley Blues Football Club when the new digital scoreboard was officially launched at Community Bank Pinewood Reserve!

We contributed a huge \$50,000 to the project and were thrilled to see it being

used for the first time at the Club's registration night. The reserve will be complemented by a brand-new playground which is currently under construction. Having contributed \$50,000 to the new playground which is being developed in conjunction with the City of Monash council - we are so proud to be making a positive and lasting impact in our local community. The ground can also enjoy more benefits in the future with Dr Katie Allen - Liberal Member for Chisolm, pledging a \$60,000 contribution for new goal nets.

The new scoreboard works perfectly, the photo is taken with a mobile phone and the LEDs tend to strobe in a still shot.

Left to right: Thomas Pewtress - Director, Eraj Rajapakse - Customer Relationship Officer, Dr. Katie Allen - Liberal Candidate for Chisolm, Robert Davies - Chairman, David Grossman - President Mount Waverley Cricket Club, Chris Hale - President Waverley Blues Football Club, Paul Lai - Customer Relationship Manager and Dwayne Wathen - Director



Time for a home loan health check!

With the current cost of living, there's never been a better time to review your home loan.

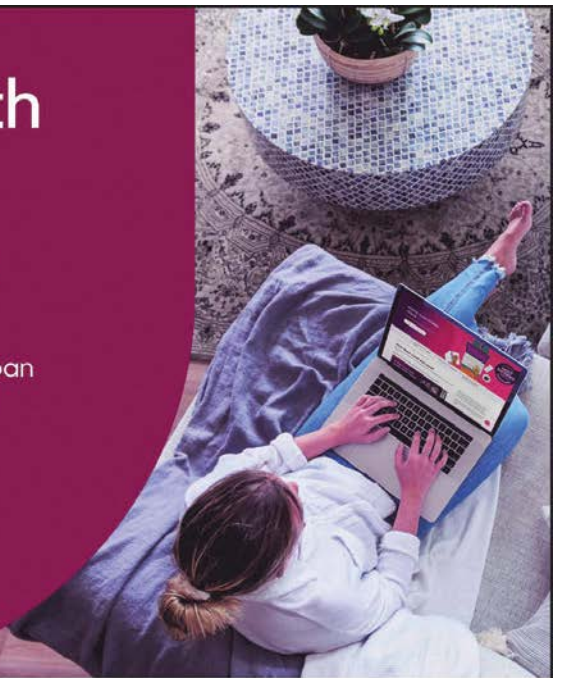
We'll look at your rate, term, repayments, and equity, giving your loan a full check-up to make sure it's still right for you and your current needs.

Enquire online at [bendigobank.com.au/healthcheck](https://www.bendigobank.com.au/healthcheck) or visit your nearest branch.

 Community Bank - Pinewood

 **Bendigo Bank**

*Source: Roy Morgan Single Source Australia, May 2023. All loans are subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply. Please consider your situation and read the Terms and Conditions, available online at www.bendigobank.com.au or upon request from any Bendigo Bank branch, before making a decision. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL 237879 A 2045547 OUT_44150112, 25/03/2025



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Indu Dehipola
Branch Manager
9886 6477
Indu.Dehipola@
bendigoadelaide.com.au

Community Bank · Pinewood

65 Centreway, Mt Waverley VIC 3149

P 9886 6477

E pinewoodmailbox@bendigobank.com.au

bendigobank.com.au/pinewood



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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

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 complement the work our incredible management and staff do within the branch.

It seems so long ago now but back in December we got together for our Christmas party, it's a rare but great occasion when both the staff and Board can come together to celebrate. The staff and Directors had a fabulous night with incredible food and great company! We were only missing Paul, Eraj, Thomas, Jenny and Philip!



Pictured here are front to back on the left: Rhiannon, Jeremy, Debby, Angela, Bronson, Rose, Louise and Indu

Front to back on the right: Dwayne, Lai, Robert, Pavla, Malwina, Sharyn and Anna