



Bendigo Bank

Summer/
Autumn
2023

Newsletter

Community Bank · Pinewood



Welcome to our Summer/Autumn 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 January to March 2023.

A message from our Chairman



To Our Valued Community,

Welcome to our latest newsletter which covers January to March 2023. It's been a very busy first part of the year with Community Bank Pinewood continuing to serve our new and existing customers and providing support to our local community groups and sporting clubs.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Eraj Rajapakse our new Customer Relationship Officer, he is doing an excellent job and is a great asset to the team. We are also fortunate to have had Rose Yang join the Chinatown Office as part-time Marketing Coordinator.

As well as our sponsorships and donations we attend many local events and are always grateful to be able to interact with the community. Personally, I have really enjoyed attending the Monash Business Awards events, lunch with members of Monash Interfaith Group and our involvement at the Chinese New Year Festival in Glen Waverley in February.

Over the last few months, we have proudly supported many community groups and clubs, notably our Chinatown Office has extended sponsorship and support to the Chinese Museum in Melbourne's CBD, and we were thrilled to have a conference room with our brand. We encourage you to visit this important cultural museum when you can. As well as our sponsorships and donations we attend many local events and are always grateful to be able to interact with the community. Personally, I have really enjoyed attending the Monash Business Awards events, lunch with members of Monash Interfaith Group and our involvement at the Chinese New Year Festival in Glen Waverley in February.

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,

We hope you enjoy reading our Summer/Autumn Newsletter looking back on the first three months of 2023, it's hard to believe how quickly time is passing!

Here at the branch we are continuing to work hard to deliver excellent service to our new and existing customers and it has been lovely to see the branch and the local Pinewood Shopping Village bustling over the warmer months. We would like to welcome Eraj Rajapakse to the team, he joins us with a wealth of experience as our Customer Relationship Officer and we are so happy with his ability to learn quickly and deal professionally with our customers. We also warmly welcome Rose Yang to our Chinatown team in the role of Marketing Coordinator.

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. These last few months saw us support South

East Community Links by purchasing a much needed car for their 'L2P' program. The program, run in conjunction with the TAC is for learner drivers who do not have access to a car or driving supervisor to gain the hours needed to pass their test. You might see the Community Bank Pinewood car in our community – we are so happy to be able to make such a huge impact as so many new learner drivers will now be able to achieve their license safely on our roads. 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

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.

Before we know it our financial year will be over and preparations will begin for our Annual Report for 2023. Did you know you can check out our newsletters, balance sheets, share trading information and Annual Reports online? Why not visit www.bendigobank.com.au/pinewood for more information.



A better banking experience.

Right on your doorstep

Find out more. Call 9886 6477 or search Bendigo Bank Pinewood.

**BANK
LOCAL**



Bendigo Bank

Community Bank · Pinewood

Ericson Community Award 2023 - Announcement Soon!

Thank you to everyone who took time to nominate a community focussed individual for the Ericson Community Service Award 2023 – nominations have now closed.

We will announce the worthy recipient on 15 June - watch this space! The recipient will be given a grant of \$1,000 to be awarded to their chosen not-for-profit organisation in the City of Monash.



Community Bank Pinewood - Chinatown News - January to March 2023

Did you know that Community Bank Pinewood have a Chinatown Office in Melbourne's CBD who support many different organisations and community groups? This arm of our business enables us to do even more good in the community and Customer Relationship Manager Paul Lai works tirelessly to strengthen these connections and promote inclusiveness and diversity.



Our Chinatown Office staff took part in the Melbourne Property Expo which extended over two days in March at the Melbourne Convention Centre. In addition to having a stand at the event and speaking with hundreds of attendees, the team held an information session on buying your own home with Bendigo Bank.

We are a major supporter of the Chinese Museum 澳華歷史博物館 in Melbourne and have the naming rights to

their conference room! Our Chairman - Robert Davies and Executive Business Director - Peter Pan are pictured with CEO of the Museum - Mark Wang at the newly named 'Community Bank Pinewood - Bendigo Bank Conference Room'. We hope the Museum benefits from this excellent space and we thank you for having us be part of it. For more information on the Museum head to their website: www.chinesemuseum.com.au we highly recommend you visit if you can.

Wearing his other hat as President of Lions Club of Melbourne Chinese, Lai organized a multicultural costume show in March to promote Australian multiculturalism whilst fundraising for Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne. Community Bank Pinewood - Chinatown Office supported the event which aimed to enhance environmental awareness and remind people of the similarities and differences between cultures. Pictured is Lai in a panel discussion on multiculturalism with Baston Insights manager Isabel Zhang, Chinese Museum CEO Mr. Mark Wang, and PDG Lion Frankie Tang.



Congratulations to Lai and the team on all your work and success in our Chinatown Office, with the addition of Rose as Marketing Coordinator we know you will be very successful going forward.



Sponsorships & Donations - January to March 2023

As always, we have continued our great work giving back to the community in the form of sponsorships, grants and donations. From January to March 2023 we were able to support many clubs and community groups, here are a few we'd like to tell you about. We were proud to form a new sponsorship relationship with Waverley Life Activities who provide a wide range of activities for those close to or in retirement. We renewed our sponsorship with the Waverley Bonsai Club with our funds being used to purchase a register and EFTPOS equipment for their club meetings and exhibitions. We were grateful to receive our very own Bonsai tree from the Club which is now on display in the branch.



Left to Right: Indu Dehipola; Branch Manager, Bruce Wensor; President and John Hasell; Treasurer.

Back in March 2023 Community Bank Pinewood were very excited to fund a new car for the TAC L2P program for the City of Monash area. Later that month we welcomed learner driver Kiana and her mentor John along with staff from the Southeast Community Links (SECL) to the branch. Community Bank Pinewood are proud supporters of the L2P program and love the look of the new car which will now be used to help learner drivers like Kiana obtain their required minimum of 120 hours of supervised driving experience. Only two weeks after the car was being used in the community, we had our first probationary licence success! The learner in question got his last 20 hours of practice in the Suzuki which was crucial for him to obtain enough hours to be eligible to sit his test.



Pictured left to right: John (mentor) Kiana (learner driver), Junior Melo (SECL), Monica Bakowski (SECL), Indu Dehipola - Branch Manager, Paul Lai - Customer Relationship Manager.

Southeast Community Links are currently looking for volunteer driving mentors who are over 21 years old, hold a full Australian driver's license and can commit to around two to three hours per week of learner driver support. John told us he has been a mentor for almost eight years now and finds it such a fulfilling role – we commend him on all the work he has done! If this sounds like you - please contact 9547 0511 or email youth@secl.org.au for more information. The L2P program is funded by the TAC and administered by the Department of Transport.



Left to right: Amit, Eraj, Marina, Indu and Paul.

We were proud to donate to Escabags and join them in their 'AWEARness Day' by wearing yellow and raising funds on the day along with our own donation. Community Bank Pinewood are proud stockists of the Escape Bags which are full of essential supplies needed if you need to leave a domestic violence situation quickly.



We renewed our sponsorship of Glen Waverley Tennis Club and paid a visit to the club and met with President, Paul Bowman (pictured above with Indu) to give him the good news. We also visited Mount Waverley Bowls club to look at the new signage we provided and as

always were welcomed by the many members there. Our community support extends to groups outside of the City of Monash from our Chinatown Office and you can read more in that section of the newsletter.

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

Events - January to March 2023

There were many events to attend during the months of January to March and we want to thank all of the sporting clubs, community groups and local businesses for extending invitations to us. Among the events we attended was the Museum of Australian Photography (MAPh) 'Dark Room Dinner' (formerly known as Monash Gallery of Art). Our attendees were treated to incredible insight from the photographers themselves during a Q & A and shared the room with VIP's such as Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews and Mayor of Monash Tina Samardzija. We were also proud to be part of the official launch of MAPH later in March and congratulate the MAPH committee on their commitment to making this media space accessible for everyone in City of Monash.

In February we were proud supporters of the Glen Waverley Chinese Lantern Festival in conjunction with our Chinatown Office and it was great to have this event back in person and see so many people there! Pictured are Paul Lai - Customer Relationship Manager and Executive Business Director - Peter Pan at the festival. We worked alongside the Xin Jin Shan Chinese Language and Culture School who had great activities for the children attending. Thank you to everyone who stopped by on the day.



Pictured left to right are: Bronson Justus - Board Director, Robert Davies - Board Chair, Suraj Ranaraja - Business Development Manager, Director & Company Secretary - Sharyn Cowley and Director - Debby Chiang.



Together with Smarter Property Investing we held an Investment and First Home Buyers Seminar for the Mount Waverley Cricket Club's members and families. Suraj can be seen below talking to the group. We have sponsored the club for many years now and enjoy being able to give back in this way to make an impact. Staff and Directors attended and took part in the Mulgrave Football Club Golf Day which we supported by sponsoring a hole, another successful event for the Club. As proud sponsors of Monash Business Awards we attended their informative breakfast meeting event and also had representatives attend Monash Women's Business Network lunch for International Women's Day. We thank 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!



Better banking. Big impact.

It's a win-win when you bank with us.

Community Banks returns profits to the people and communities that generate them.

Find out more. Search Bendigo Bank near me.

📍 Pinewood, Mt Waverley 9886 6477





Pitch It 2023 Community Bank Pinewood Grants Program - Coming Soon!

If you are part of a community group in the City of Monash we encourage you to register your details with Louise; our Marketing & Sponsorship Coordinator by clicking [here:marketing@pinewoodcb.com.au](mailto:marketing@pinewoodcb.com.au)

We are getting ready to launch our next Pitch It 2023 Community Grants Program with a FREE information session in July and applications opening in August.

Over the last six years we have given almost \$290,000 in funds to our Pitch finalists with help from our Pitch Partner businesses! We can't wait to make a huge difference with this program again this year and really hope to hear from new groups in our local community who need funds for their projects.

Talk to us today



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



Suraj Ranaraja
Senior Business Development Manager
0413 104 409
Suraj.Ranaraja@bendigoadelaide.com.au



Community Bank · Pinewood

65 Centreway, Mt Waverley VIC 3149

P 9886 6477

E pinewoodmailbox@bendigobank.com.au

bendigobank.com.au/pinewood



/communitybankpinewood



/communitybankpinewood

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

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 - 4.00pm or Friday 9.30am - 5.00pm 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 at Community Bank Pinewood, Eraj Rajapakse joined us in February to replace the lovely Emily as Customer Relationship Officer. He has been hard at work learning as much as possible and is doing such an amazing job! Eraj has close to 20 years of banking experience in both treasury and global markets sectors, so we know he is very well-equipped to assist and support our customers.



We also welcomed Rose Yang, who will be working part-time as Marketing Coordinator for our Chinatown Office. Rose will be supporting the team with marketing, and events, she has a wealth of experience, is extremely efficient, speaks Mandarin and is already making a difference! We wish you the very best in your new role Rose!



Lastly, we celebrated our lovely Branch Manager, Indu's birthday in March - we are so lucky to have Indu leading our team here at Community Bank Pinewood, her expertise, wealth of knowledge and professionalism are key to our success.