

Newsletter

Community Bank · Mount Barker

Mountains and Murals

Mountains and Murals is a festival of painting, wine, food and activities that first started in 2019. After a delay of a couple of years due to COVID-19 we proudly sponsored the Mountains and Murals Festival for their second year running. The five-day event was held in The Shire of Plantagenet in November 2022. The festival incorporated murals painted by local and international artists, as well as a food and wine fair, workshops and finished off with a Street Fair full of fun, activities and stalls for the community and its visitors.

Over the course of the weekend six murals were painted, celebrating the unique human and geographical history of the area. The locations of the murals were carefully selected with some of the murals in alleyways that are hard to find and require some exploring.

In 2022 we were lucky enough to have our branch chosen as one of the buildings to have an iconic mural painted. Our mural depicts the late Dr Olivia Walker.

Dr Olivia Walker was a medical practitioner in Mount Barker. In November of 1936, Dr Walker identified the need for a local ambulance and in doing so, donated her own car. Her vehicle was converted into an ambulance



to transport the sick and injured in more comfort than other methods at the time.

Dr Walker continued to practice medicine and began teaching first aid, resulting in the formation of the Mount Barker-Cranbrook sub-centre of St John Ambulance.

Over the two Mountains and Murals Festivals an amazing 13 murals have been painted around Mount Barker bringing colour and life to the town.



Walk for Reason – Mental Health First Aid Workshop

You might know him as the man with the best mullet in the Great Southern, or the man who walks and rides for a reason. His reason being a passion for raising awareness and funds for mental health and other causes.

This year Community Bank Mount Barker had the opportunity to work with the man himself, Paul Anning, to bring a Mental Health First Aid workshop to Mount Barker on 16 and 17 January. Community Bank Mount Barker subsidised the enrolment cost for attendees, while the Plantagenet Sporting Club kindly donated the use of Sounness Park.

The two-day interactive workshop was run by Denmark man Keith da Silva from Right Solutions Australia. Keith did a fantastic job making the workshop fun, interactive and enjoyable while creating a safe space for others to share personal stories and views. 11 locals attended the two-day workshop which taught how to assist adults who are developing a mental health problem, experiencing a worsening case of an existing mental health problem or in a mental health crisis, until appropriate professional help is received, or the crisis resolves.

The workshop teaches a practical, evidence-based action plan based on the guidelines developed through the expert consensus of people with lived experience or mental health problems and professionals.

The Community Bank Mount Barker Board of Directors would like to thank Paul for organising this workshop and for the opportunity to get involved in such a worthwhile initiative.

Testimonials

“Great course, which creates an understanding of basic mental health issues and how to deal with situations.” - Rachel

“I found the course exactly what I needed at this time, in my life, and I now have the tools to help my friends and family with their mental health issues.” - Kirsty

“Thoroughly enjoyed it, was a brilliant couple of days and learnt a lot, Keith was an awesome instructor.” - Stacey

Would you like to join our team of dedicated Directors?

All you need is a passion for your community.

Expressions of interest are being invited for the position of Director of Plantagenet Community Financial Services Limited, operators of Community Bank Mount Barker.

As a Director you will provide leadership and management skills at a Board level to support and drive the company’s strategic direction, goals, and objectives.

The position is a voluntary one, however, as a Director of Plantagenet Community Financial Services Limited you will have a real say in the future direction of Community Bank Mount Barker and your community.

For more information contact our administrator on 0491 922 552.

Callum’s Adventures

Director Callum Gribble is on a 12 month sabbatical and has taken this time to travel Australia with partner Sandi. Each month Callum joins us via phone from a different beautiful part of Australia to participate in Board meetings. Here are a few happy snaps of Callum and Sandi lunching with Arthur Jones to exploring the Great Barrier Reef to reflecting in Port Arthur and dodging big pot holes!



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Sponsorships for 2022-23

We look forward to watching the projects of these organisations commence and grow over the coming year.



Empowering Plantagenet Seniors	Porongurup Community Association
Kendenup Primary School	Plantagenet Sporting Club
Kendenup Tennis Club	Plantagenet Village Homes
Mitchell House	Rotary Club of Mount Barker
Plantagenet Mens Shed	Mount Barker Lions Club
Mount Barker Amateur Basketball Association	Mount Barker Bowls & Sporting Club
Walk for Reason	Mount Barker RSL
Mount Barker CWA	Walpole Primary School
Mount Barker Community College	Mount Barker Junior Cricket Club
Rocky Gully CWA	YouthCARE Mount Barker
Mount Barker Golf Club	Walpole P & C
Mount Barker Rifle Club Inc	Plantagenet Games
Mount Barker Sporting Shooters (SSAA) Inc	Gate 2 Plate
Mount Barker Tourism	Walpole Tourist Bureau
Mount Barker Wildflower/ Nature Photo Competition	Walpole Community Resource Centre
Plantagenet News Inc	

Talk to us today

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We're open:

9.30am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday

Directors

John Howard, Len Handasyde, Jim Rhind, Liz Van Zeyl, Grant Cooper, Callum Gribble

Plantagenet Community Financial Services Limited

4 Short Street, Mount Barker WA 6324

ABN 89 096 387 816

Staff update

Our business continues to grow strongly to the point that we have recently appointed an additional staff member, Nola Hopper. Nola comes to us with a wealth of customer service experience, and we are very excited to have her join our family. If you haven't already done so, please pop into the branch and say hello.

Brooke and her partner welcomed a beautiful little girl to their growing family and continues maternity leave. Tamara and Rachell returned to the branch part-time sharing the Customer Service Officer role while Jenni went casual. CSO Lyn has taken on the role of horticulturalist tending to the flowerbeds out the front of the branch. Sharon, Jason and Andrew continue to provide a high level of quality friendly customer service assisting with business banking, home and personal loans, credit cards, insurance and agribusiness.