

2026

Hello Robe

Community Bank · Robe & Districts



1 Million Dollar Celebration



Hosted by the branch and team of directors, in November 2025 we held a party at Drift (Robe), marking an incredible milestone in the history of Community Bank Robe & Districts. This milestone was a huge cause for celebration; with the branch reaching one million dollars in donations, all poured into our Beachport, Kingston, Lucindale, and Robe communities. Since opening its doors 22 years ago, our team has dedicated themselves to serving our customers and community – offering donations in the form of grants, sponsorships and scholarships. This is rewarding work, and on top of offering great products to our customers, it's what makes our team tick. Thank you so much for the support of our communities, because while we are so proud of what we have achieved, we honestly could not have done it without you. Help us help you, our wonderful customers, as it's your support of our business that allows us to give back in the huge way that we do.



Comments from our loyal supporters:

"Congratulations and a wonderful achievement in a small town"

"We are so lucky to have you here in Robe"

"Congratulations to the team at Robe on an outstanding event and achievement for the local community"

We've supported almost 150 local groups over the years, through the support of their countless projects, events and initiatives, and we hope to keep doing the same for the next 22 years and beyond. A very sincere thank you to all of our shareholders, directors, and staff for your support along the way. Most importantly, thank you to our customers who chose to support local and bank with our branch. Without you, we wouldn't be able to keep doing the rewarding work we do.

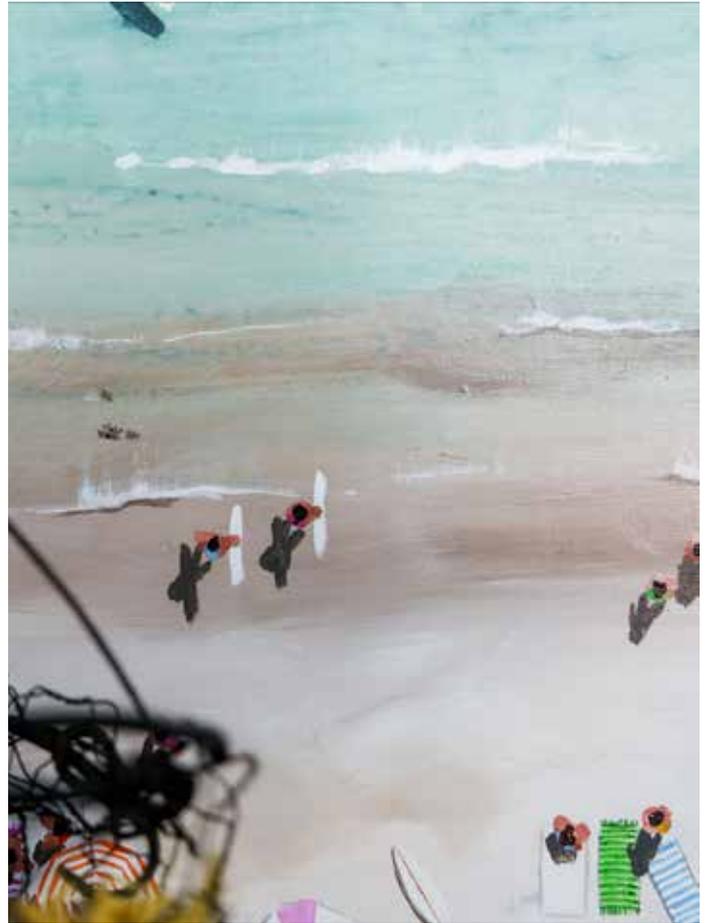
Southern Ocean Arts Prize



The Southern Ocean Arts Prize, affectionately known as 'SOAP' in our communities, is a wonderful collection of art, creativity and community on show in Robe. Organisers of this not-for-profit group should be proud of another successful event held in late October 2025. This year again did not disappoint, with loads of amazing entries. Branch Manager, Robbie, was proud to present this year's Community Bank Robe & Districts 'student awards'. We are so proud to again back the next generation of artists through our ongoing Major Sponsorship to the SOAP group.

SOAP is proudly volunteer led, and is passionate about creating opportunities to present art and culture to the local Robe and surrounding region's communities. Community Bank Robe & Districts are again proud to be Major Sponsors of the group, which represents everything we love about keeping local events alive. Our \$3,500 donation not only sponsors the Student & Peoples Choice Awards, but also helps pay for the conduction of Artist workshops at the Robe Primary School.

From the team at SOAP, "Thank you so much to Bendigo Bank for their generous sponsorship. The team at the bank go above and beyond in their service and are so supportive of local events. Without the sponsors, SOAP wouldn't go ahead, so we really appreciate the encouragement of the arts in our community."



\$500 Senior Student Award (Years 11 - 12):
Dexter Pryde "Deck view"

\$300 Middle Student Award (Years 7 - 10):
Zoe Moore "Surrealism House Perspective"

\$100 Primary Student Award (Reception - Year 6):
Isabell Hall "The Rusty Gate"

Robe Christmas Parade

What more to say about this event, but WOW. What a fantastic little arvo for the kids (and adults!) to get amongst the music, the colours, and of course, the lollies! With so many fun floats to see parading up the main street of Robe, and so many smiling faces, this event sure knows how to draw a crowd. Add in a huge jumping castle, face painting, a marching band and of course, the man in red; kids remember this event for years to come. Nothing beats supporting local groups and initiatives and watching them thrive.



Learn to Sail 2026



Another fully booked 2026 'Learn to Sail' program was again hosted by the Robe Yacht Club this year, making it another standout summer for club. The waitlist for 2027 is already filling up, so if you or your family are looking to learn a new skill, meet some new friends or simply be part of a great team building activity next year, get your names down. Your local community bank branch has supported this event for many years now, which is run by expert Australian sailing instructors. The group provides local communities like ours the chance to learn vital sea awareness and sailing skills, not to mention the fun they have along the way. It was great to see how many participants from our local communities participated again this year. Ali Mudge, secretary for the group stated, "Congratulations to our sailors, we hope to see you again next year."

Lions Club Scholarships

Congratulations to our 2025 Community Bank & Lions Club Scholarships, which are available to students from Robe, Lucindale, Kingston & Beachport. These scholarships are aimed to encourage and assist students financially whilst completing tertiary studies in their chosen field in 2026.

The latest winners are: Georgie Wirth (Robe), Charles Moore (Robe), Olivia Holmes (Kingston), Sienna Sutherland (Beachport).

Mark it in your calendar to apply for our next round of scholarships. Contact the branch for more information and how to apply.



Photo: Ace Coote Photography

Local Sport

Congratulations to the Robe Netball Club and Kingston Saints Netball Club for their efforts during the 2025 season. We enjoyed watching on from the sidelines and supporting your clubs as major sponsors. Bring on season 2026!



Lucindale Working Dog Auction

"Community Bank Robe & Districts has been a valued Platinum Sponsor of the Lucindale Working Dog Auction since its launch in 2021. The funding of a \$5,000 grant helped cover the cost of hosting @ Auctionsplus - a premium live streaming bidding service that helps us reach buyers across Australia. We were also able to complete the construction of our sheep race - an essential piece of infrastructure that continues to benefit handlers and dogs today. A huge shout out to committee member, Alan McGurk, who led the charge in securing this support - making all the tough calls and pushing through the paperwork. We're incredibly grateful for their ongoing commitment to supporting rural communities and agricultural events like ours. Thank you for backing our community and helping us grow." Kylie Ware, Lucindale Working Dog Auction

It was another incredible effort by the team behind the Lucindale Working Dog Auction, and we are proud to again support this rural event that helps bring communities together. Get down there next year to witness or be a part of all the action.



Photo: @heidiware1

Snapshot Auction Results:

- The 5th Annual LWDA, 28 of 31 dogs sold.
- Sale total of \$161,900 with an average of \$5,222.
- Locals Jamie Weaver, Alan McGurk, Travis Ware and Darren Jenke sold 8 dogs between them contributing \$56,300 towards the overall sale
- Top price: \$14,000, 2yo 8m, GameOn Chugg
- Top priced pup: \$9,000, 6mths, Beloka Annie

Farewell Antony

All the best to Antony who finished up with the team here at Community Bank Robe & Districts in September 2025.

Antony has been an important piece to the puzzle over the past three and a half years, quickly moving up through the ranks and having a real impact on our success. His last contribution to our branch was as Business Development Manager, where he led the charge in finding new business and nurturing current relationships.

You'll find Antony in his new role, working with Bendigo Agribusiness, where he works around the South East servicing our local agribusiness clients. We are happy for Antony to secure this new position, and enjoyed our time with him in our branch. We know he will do great things within his new team as well and look forward to seeing where this new chapter of his career takes him.



Community impact



\$1 million

Reinvested from 2003 to now



\$160,560

Reinvested in 2025



24

Groups supported in 2025



2,447

Local customers at 31 December 2025



7

Volunteer Directors working for Robe, Kingston, Lucindale, Beachport and surrounds

National Trust Police Stables

This State Heritage listed building was built in 1864 on Frome Street, Robe, and was designed to have stabling for three horses ridden by the Police Troopers as they carried out their duties over the entire Robe and surrounding area. In 1936 plans were drawn to convert the stables to a garage for the police vehicle. The police stables were gifted to the National Trust of South Australia in 2018 by the South Australian Government, and required extensive conservation work before being made suitable for public use. We are delighted to see that work is well underway.

The National Trust states, "Local banking is magical. It's about locals supporting locals." And we couldn't agree more. It was your local community bank's donation of just over 60 thousand dollars that really helped to get the restoration project off the ground. We are excited for a bit more life to be breathed back into the Old Police Stables with the help of this grant. We look forward to more updates from this project.



Making good things happen

When you bank with us, profits pour into the community.
\$1,000,000 so far.

A bank giving back sounds unusual. For us, it's business as usual.

Find out more. Call us on 8768 1855 or search Bendigo Bank Robe & Districts.



B Bendigo Bank

**Community Bank
Robe & Districts**

Beachport Golf Club

The Beachport Golf Club hosted a Junior Golf Clinic on Monday 19 January in the summer school holidays, which was part of the Full Throttle in Wattle School Holiday program. There were 32 kids who attended, aged between five and 12 years old, giving golf a red-hot go and learning some valuable skills along the way. The participants were both locals and visitors in town for the holidays. It was a fantastic morning at the club, where they hosted a sausage sizzle after the kids had finished up their lesson.

The club put out a "huge thanks to Community Bank Robe & Districts for their generous support." The support from the bank meant that the club was

able to offer this event for free, with sausages supplied! Professional coach Gavin Fontaine lead the session, with assistance from local club members Greg Cook, Spinner MacGregor and Cooper Walters and our branch manager, Robbie.

From the club's secretary, Lindsay Duckworth, "BGC can only provide these training opportunities to potential future players, due to the generous sponsorship provided by Community Bank Robe & Districts in conjunction with Golf Australia."

"Once again, thank you for your sponsorship of this initiative, which focussed on encouraging younger people play golf and enjoy the health and social benefits of the game."

If your kids missed out this time, keep an eye out for registrations for next year, so they can experience all that golf has to offer; a game that can be enjoyed by the whole family together.



Beachport Crayfish Festival

Get ready! The countdown to the 2026 Beachport Crayfish Festival has officially begun!

This vibrant event is a celebration of seafood, music, community, and the incredible coastal lifestyle in Beachport.

What do event organisers have to say about it all? "Expect big flavours, big entertainment, and big community energy as we bring together locals, visitors, families and festival-goers for one unforgettable day by the sea."

Tickets are available now – get yours for the 2026 event, this is one not to be missed!



Welcome Scott

Late last year we welcomed a new member to our branch team. Here's a little bit about Scott Robinson.

How long have you been in the role and what does your role involve?

I began working for the bank in November 2025 as a Customer Relationship Officer.

The role is somewhat diverse: essentially it is a role that delivers in all facets of the branch, ranging from teller duties, customer relations, customer service, sales, and all-round problem solving.

You have a background in finance. Tell us a little about this.

I began my finance career way back in 1996 where I got a start with a large financial institution, in their new Mortgage Centre. It was here that I was able to cut my teeth and wet my feet in just about every possible piece of the banking puzzle with reference to the whole mortgage process. From Origination to pre settlement to post settlement.

A year later and won a Team Leader position at the same centre and was fortunate enough to have held that role in many different teams from Defence Service Home Loans right the way through to Top Ups and Credits as well as having roles on various project teams processing mass bank migrations with some other large financial institutions.

I was then seconded to a project team where again I was fortunate enough to work with a team of team leaders and a professor from Adelaide Uni and international consultant. This team (Working Smarter) was responsible for performing process reviews/workflow analysis/ Team based Problem Solving with a view to increasing productivity and reducing service levels across each unit at the Mortgage Centre.

I was also lucky enough to get some exposure to Retail Banking after securing a position as Bank Manager in a suburban branch for some years.

In addition to the above I have worked as a Mortgage Broker and Financial Planner for several years both as a sole representative but also as an AR under the AFSL of other License Holders.

What do you hope to achieve as a staff member with our team?

My goals are simple in essence, but the devil will surely lie within the details.

Customers – Community – Success.

I have a very strong belief from previous roles and experience that our wins on every front and every level are firmly cemented in the customer experience.

I believe each interaction with a person(s) is a moment of truth. It is a solid opportunity to embed the fundamentals of the customer relationship.

Through the building of strong relationships and meaningful conversations we build rapport and trust and financial success and when given back to the community it's a win all round.

Tell us your thoughts on the concept of community banking and what made you want to get involved.

To be quite straight to the point it was the number one reason I decided to apply for the position. I moved to Robe back in 2013 after having a house here for many years prior. The proverbial sea change.

I was in town for about five minutes when it hit me how the towns focus was so skewed towards community. I knew then how important it was for the town and therefore for me to jump right in and so I became involved with the Robe Footy Club, the Primary School and well with the Footy Club at least I still am!

It took a little while for me to adjust to the concept of community based banking models and hey they work. Having had other roles in Robe in both hospitality and holiday accommodation it soon became evident just how awesome Bendigo Bank was for our Robe.

Once the opportunity presented itself to contribute on a larger and professional scale I eagerly applied for the position and was fortunate enough to win it.

What do you enjoy about living and/or working Robe?

Simple – the people, the clubs, the community, and its sensational feeling of freedom!

Funny fact – when I turn right at the carwash after a trip from up town I feel a sense of safety, relief and I know I am home. I simply love Robe....

And finally...what would you do if you found a penguin in your freezer?

I have two answers for that question:

Answer 1. I am a chef by trade so the words brine and flash fry pop into my head. Not sure about the serving sauce yet...

Answer 2. I would put my whisky down and reconsider having another drink!

Keeping you safe online

Scams cost Australian consumers, businesses and the economy hundreds of millions of dollars each year. Bendigo Bank's website has information on how to spot the latest scams, keep your identify safe, and protect yourself.

bendigobank.com.au/security



Talk to us today



Robbie Chappel
Branch Manager
8768 1855 or 0400 403 771
Robbie.Chappel@
bendigoadelaide.com.au

Community Bank · Robe & Districts

9 Victoria Street, Robe
P 8768 1855
E robemailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au
bendigobank.com.au/robe

 /communitybankrobedistricts

 /communitybank_robe_districts

We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Thursday
9.30am - 4.30pm Friday

Kingston

33 Agnes Street, Kingston SE
P 8768 1855

We're open: Wednesday by appointment only

Lucindale

21 Musgrave Avenue, Lucindale
P 8768 1855

We're open: Tuesdays by appointment only

Beachport

Shop 1, 4 Railway Terrace, Beachport
P 8768 1855

We're open: Thursdays by appointment only

Directors

Geoff Saunders, Tom White, Michael Mattei,
Samantha Matthews, Julie Merrett, Peter Stock,
Anne Grayson

Robe Community Financial Services Ltd
9 Victoria Street, Robe SA 5276
ABN 24 101 974 887



Sausage Sizzle

Our annual sausage sizzle marquee continues to be a buzzing little hot spot for our locals and visitors to Robe in summer, with another successful week of cooking up a quick and easy lunch for beachgoers – especially all those little VACSwimmers who did their swimming lessons on Front Beach this year. We battled the wind on a few of the days, but it's always a good time to get out of the office, into the sunshine and amongst the people who help make our branch great!

Mount Benson Hall upgrades

Recently the Community Bank Robe & Districts donated \$1,600 to the Mount Benson hall roof upgrades. A worthy cause, Brian Ling states, "The funding we received paid for a new roof on the kitchen. This money definitely allowed us to proceed with the work - we did all the fitting ourselves. Community banking is great."

The Mount Benson hall is community owned and managed. The beautifully maintained grounds and facilities make it a perfect space to hire for community, private and business events. This is what makes Community Banking so special; helping to keep Hall's like this one alive and thriving.

