



Robe & Districts Community Bank® Newsletter.

From the Chair.

The 2016/17 financial year was an exciting year for the Robe & Districts **Community Bank®** Branch.

After a strong finish to the 2015/16 financial year, we were able to maintain the momentum throughout the 2016/17 financial year and turn a small loss of \$4,200 into a net profit of \$77,187 for 2016/17. This has been a great achievement by the team at Robe & Districts **Community Bank®** Branch.

We have had some significant changes within our team in the branch. Paul Bobridge departed to further his career with Bendigo Bank and we appointed Tracey Long as the new Manager.

Tracey has excelled in the role, not only maintaining the business development momentum that had been built up by previous Managers, but also finding and implementing efficiencies in the management of the Robe & Districts **Community Bank®** Branch. We look forward to her continued enthusiasm and energy that she brings to the **Community Bank®** branch.

We have had some staff changes in the 2016/17 financial year with Lauren Walters leaving to pursue a new direction in her career, and the appointment of Katie Anne Agnew to the team at Robe & Districts **Community Bank®** Branch in the role of Customer Service Officer.

During the 2016/17 financial year we also welcomed two new Board members Andrew Brown and Tom Davidson, who were elected to the Board at the Annual General Meeting last November. Both Andrew and Tom have presented themselves

extremely well at the Board meetings and have shown that they will be a great asset to Robe & Districts **Community Bank®** Branch.

Tracey and the staff have been very active in the community over the past 12 months. Tracey has been heavily involved in organising the Robe Mayoral Christmas Parade, and Tracey and staff have held community BBQ's throughout January with donations going to various local community groups. Tracey has also made numerous presentations at community events resulting in a generous support of \$19,000 going back into the communities of Robe and Kingston.

The Kingston agency has shown itself as a valuable asset in the district enabling Tracey to make contact with people in that area. We would like to thank Pauline and Ken Williams for their continued support. With various bank closures and reductions in trading hours, the agency is maintaining easy access to Bendigo Bank services with 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday and Saturday morning trading hours in the Kingston District.

The 2016/17 financial year has been a very good year. The team have made some great community and business connections across the district and have set up the Robe & Districts **Community Bank®** Branch for a great start to the 2017/18 financial year. Thank you to the staff, Board members, and local community for the support and enthusiasm in building a great and sustainable community asset.

Mark Baker
Chair

Robe & Districts Community Bank® Branch's 14th Birthday.

We had almost 100 customers visit the Kingston agency and Robe & Districts **Community Bank®** Branch to nominate local community groups for the \$500 prize and share in the birthday cake.

At the end of the day a winner was drawn and it was Mark Ramsey from Robe Auto & Marine who nominated the local Robe Town CFS Brigade.

Mark and the crew from the CFS were both as thrilled as each other and I really don't think it could get any more community orientated than the CFS.



Above: Vic Dawson with the birthday cake.

Top right: Angela Tymmons and Tracey Long at the start of the day.

Right: Mark Ramsey with CFS volunteer Nev Cullen.

Staff update.



In May 2017 Katie Anne Agnew was appointed to the position of Customer Service Officer after branch staff member Lauren Walters left to pursue a new direction in her career. Katie Anne has previous banking experience within the Robe community and we are delighted to welcome Katie

Anne to the team at Robe & Districts **Community Bank®** Branch.

Kingston and Lucindale.

Kingston.

Kingston agency – The Bendigo Bank Kingston agency is located at Williams Newsagency in Agnes Street, and is open Monday – Friday and Saturday mornings.

Kingston office – The Bendigo Bank Kingston office is open every Wednesday from 9.00am – 5.00pm with either Tracey Long or Sharon Hondow in the office.

Lucindale.

Branch Manager Tracey Long is now available for appointments in our Lucindale Office at 21 Musgrave Avenue (right next door to Lucindale Café) every Tuesday.

Scholarships.

In 2018 the **Community Bank®** company once again combined with the Lions Clubs of Robe, Kingston and Lucindale to offer scholarships to local students.

From Robe we were pleased to award \$2,000 to Kieran Smith to assist him with his tertiary studies this year. Kieran was presented with his award at the annual Australia Day ceremony in Robe.

Two scholarships were awarded from Lucindale to Georgina Thompson and Duncan Leake, of \$2,000 each to assist them in their studies.

No award was made from Kingston this year. All three will again be offered at the end of this year.

We would like to thank these Lions Clubs for their support in this enterprise, enabling some of our local students to further their studies.



Above: Robe Lions Club Margie Thomas, Kieran Smith, and Branch Manager Tracey Long.

Save a Life Australia – Driver education for local students and parents.

Bendigo Bank have recently partnered up with Save a Life Australia to help deliver safe driving practices to young drivers throughout Australia. The program is run by Principal Trainer Darren Davis from Save a Life Australia and is targeted at year 10 students prior to them obtaining their drivers licence as they use Australia's first state-of-the-art virtual reality educational driving simulator that is connected to a real car.

Points covered include:

- Perspective of the Police regarding keeping young drivers safe
- Experience of losing a friend
- Consequences of not wearing seatbelts
- Positive Driving - The art of advanced defensive mindsets for drivers
- View from the driver's seat - a look at how so many dangers are hard to see
- Inattention - Driving while using mobile phones etc
- Looking after your mates
- How to be intelligent passengers.

Bendigo Bank and Save a Life Australia recognise that young drivers are the most vulnerable road users and the risk in regional communities can sometimes be higher than metropolitan areas. Students will learn about road risks in regional areas as well as learning about risks that they may not immediately encounter such as traffic lights, busy right turns, large roundabouts until they are in built up town and city areas.

The program also goes beyond the students as each school will host a parent information night prior to the student program.

According to Save a Life Australia, research shows that many Learner drivers develop bad habits and gain incorrect road law knowledge from parents. With this in mind we have developed an information session for all parents and



supervising drivers. The session addresses many areas of the Learner process including how to look for the right Driving Instructor, how to be a better supervising driver and changes in road law. We also discuss choosing the right vehicle and strategies to keep safe on the road once the Learner gains his/her P Plates. The parents' session is delivered in the evening to allow working parents to attend.

All costs for the road safety programs have been covered by Bendigo Bank as we recognise the importance of offering these types of programs to young children in regional communities, and it's all made possible by local banking. The structure, content and quality of the program is exceptional and I'm really proud that we have partnered up with Save a Life Australia to present something that really is invaluable to our communities.

Information nights were held at Kingston Community School, Kangaroo Inn Area School and Lucindale Area School in November 2017, and were well attended by students and parents. A big thank you goes out to all of our customers, as your banking helps our branch fund programs like the Save a Life Australia program.

Making great things happen.

When you choose to bank with us, great outcomes – as determined by your local community – are the result.

That's the power of community banking

Drop into your nearest branch at 9 Victoria Street, Robe or phone 8768 1855.

Bendigo Bank
Bigger than a bank.

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Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The AGM was held on 14 November 2017 at the Robe Golf Club and was attended by shareholders and staff as well as recipients of sponsorships throughout the year who gave brief reports on how the sponsorship had been or would be used to assist in the community.

Over \$19,000 was injected back into the Robe, Kingston and surrounding community by way of sponsorship through the Robe & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch in 2016/17.

At the AGM a fully franked dividend was also announced for shareholders with payments made in November.

The Board members currently are: Mark Baker, Chairman, Annie Matthews, Secretary, Lyn Schinckel, Geoff Saunders, Adrian Johns, Andrew Brown and Tom Davidson.



Community awareness BBQ's.

After the success of the 'Summer Sausage Sizzles' in 2017, branch staff once again held a weekly sausage sizzle on the foreshore throughout January in the lead up to Australia Day. The branch staff increased community awareness by providing sausages for a gold coin donation, and sharing information about the **Community Bank**[®] model with many visitors to Robe and locals alike. This year funds were raised for SA Ambulance Robe, SA Ambulance Kingston SE and the Lucindale Historical Society. Thank you to all involved, it's a wonderful way for us to support the community and share our story.



Robe & Districts **Community Bank**[®] Branch

9 Victoria Street, Robe SA 5276 Phone: 8768 1855 Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/robe facebook.com/RobeDistrictsCommunityBankBranch twitter.com/bendigobank

Kingston agency 26 Agnes Street, Kingston SE SA 5275 Phone: 8767 2403

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm and Saturday mornings 9.00am – 12 noon

Lucindale office 21 Musgrave Avenue, Lucindale SA 5272 Phone: 0400 403 771

Opening hours: Tuesday 9.00am – 5.00pm



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