



Winter  
2021

# Newsletter

Community Bank · Robe & Districts



## Farewell Lonny



In September we said a big farewell and thank you to our Customer Service Supervisor Lonny Peel. Lonny "...thoroughly enjoyed my time with the staff, customers and community groups that I have worked with."

Lonny has taken on a new community centred role with the Robe Library and Visitor Information Centre. Her knowledge and dedication will be sadly missed from the branch but without a doubt will be just as valued in her new job. From there, Lonny will proudly continue to serve our community. We thank Lonny so much for her support and role in our company and wish her all the best in her new venture.

## Avenue Tree Planting Group

Your Community Bank supported the Lucindale community by sponsoring the Avenue Tree Group in their quest to help landowners replace trees lost in the recent Blackford fires. Co-ordinator and passionate ecologist Abby Goodman tells us how it all came about: "This is a project that was coordinated by the Avenue Tree Group with support from the Community Bank."

The funds helped to plant new trees for fire affected landholders by means of supplying new tree guards and 'Trees for Life' (tube stock for fire affected communities).

The work couldn't have happened without the support and input from many businesses and organisations, including the Community Bank. Close to 5,000 trees were planted, supporting seven landowners in the area.

Branch Manager Robbie Chappel and then staff member Lonny Peel ventured out to the Savage farm to help the Year 7 Lucindale students plant 400 trees.

Once again, a great Lucindale community initiative. Well done to all involved.







## Welcome acting Branch Manager, Robbie Chappel

Most of our customers will already know Robbie since beginning his role as Customer Relationship Officer in January this year. Robbie recently stepped into the Branch Manager role when we farewelled Tracey Bainger, who left the branch on maternity leave to spend time with her new family. Robbie has done great things in his new role, and the customers of Community Bank Robe & Districts have continued to feel supported.

## Kingston SE Small Steps

Community Bank Robe & Districts continues to support Kingston SE Small Steps in their passion to strive towards no plastic bags for the town of Kingston. This small but high achieving community group has now made a staggering 12,000 shopping bags and 8,000 produce bags. What an incredible milestone! Liz Wingard thanks the Board of the Community Bank for supporting them with the purchase of their next 10,000 labels for the bags. "We are determined to continue indefinitely," says Liz. If you would like to help by donating fabric or cotton, please let the group know, by phoning 8768 1855 – donations are welcome at Kingston District Council office. And, if you are a bit handy in the sewing department, why not lend them a hand?



## Lucindale Campdraft

The Lucindale Campdraft was again a big success, with the event being held in April of this year. Your Community Bank has been a sponsor of this event for 12 years. The COVIDSafe event had a catering van offering breakfasts and lunches and encouraged event-goers to visit the newly renovated pub in Lucindale.

## Save a life

The Community Banks of the South East have once again sponsored the Save A Life Driver Campaign at local schools, teaching young people to drive and learn our all important road rules.



## Lions Club Scholarships

There was one deserving winner in Robe, one in Kingston and two deserving winners in Lucindale for this year's Lions Club / Community Bank Scholarships. Awards will be presented at the 2022 Australia Day Ceremony on the lawns of the Robe Institute.

The scholarships open each year in October, and Year 12 students from Robe, Kingston and Lucindale who are planning for tertiary education are eligible, as are Year 10 students at Lucindale Area School who are Boarding at the agricultural-based school.

The awards have been long running and are a collaboration between the Community Bank Robe & Districts and the Lions Clubs of Kingston, Robe and Lucindale.

**Robe 2022 winner:** Geordie Pryde

**Kingston 2022 winner:** William Edwards

**Lucindale 2022 winners:** Aaron Materne and Madeline Redden

Well done to these students; we wish you all the best for your future.

## Meet Lyn Schinckel



Pictured is Lyn with her granddaughters, Sienna and Ellie.

If you haven't already, today we meet one of the long-time Directors of the your Community Bank, Lyn Schinckel. Lyn was born in Whyalla, and moved to a small village in Western Victoria called Noorat when she was four. She attended Hamilton College for the last two years of secondary school where she met her future husband's sister Kate, and then continued her studies at Geelong Teachers College. Her future husband Alan was attending Marcus Oldham College to study agriculture, and to cut a long story short, Lyn tells, "we connected and married in December 1972."

Lyn taught at Naracoorte South Primary School for a short time, before having children Kristabel and

Matthew, returning to work at Naracoorte Child Care Centre. After 16 and a half years employment, she came home to work on the farm with Alan, where they ran a successful Poll Dorset Stud for many years.

"Our small farm is north-east of Naracoorte near Kybybolite. We are currently running a prime lamb enterprise but in the past have run the stud, fattened cattle and grown sub-clover pasture seed as well as some grain - a pretty mixed bag!"

Like most in the country, Lyn was strongly involved within her community.

"I'm a member of the Naracoorte Community Care Network, the Naracoorte Suicide Prevention Network, Hynam Heritage Group (we have been restoring the old Hynam Cemetery), Naracoorte Singers, Les Femmes Wine and Food Group, Circle of Volunteers (where we have English Conversation sessions with some of the migrant members of our community), and a couple of book clubs. I recently resigned from Naracoorte Soroptimists (a worldwide volunteer service organisation for women who work for peace, and in particular to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world).

How did you hear about the Community Bank we asked Lyn? "Alan has been holidaying at Robe all his life, and so have I since we married, so I was always interested in what was going on. We supported the concept of the bank when it was first thought of, and bought some shares to help things along."

"We wanted to help the Bank become the success it is today. Alan spent more than four years on the Board and I joined after he left. I joined in 2012 and have been Vice Chairman for several years."

One of your passions is the Lions Club / Community Bank Youth Scholarships. How did that come about and what does this involve?

"Because of my interest in children and education, it was easy for me to take on this project. We offer scholarships in conjunction with Robe and Kingston Lions Clubs for school leavers, and Lucindale Lions Club for Year 10 students to attend Lucindale school in Year 11. I liaise with the Community Enterprise Foundation™ of Bendigo Bank who run the programs."

It is absolutely clear that a country girl from near Kyby is passionate about the Community Bank, shown by her obvious dedication to the Board. Lyn explains that the things she likes most about her role is to "...provide a banking service for the community and the vast number of visitors, but more especially the opportunity to assist so many groups in the area - Naracoorte, Lucindale, Kingston and Robe; and more recently Beachport, with so many different projects."

Lyn is definitely a community-minded person who balances her life on the farm with her dedication in giving to others and her zest for the coastal town of Robe. She enjoys living in a rural area. It gives her "the freedom and space and more relaxed lifestyle, and I love the farm - animals etc., currently bottle feeding eight lambs!" I am not sure that the lamb feeding is very relaxing Lyn...

**"Community is much more than belonging to something; it's about doing something together that makes belonging matter." (Anon)**

## Inaugural auction



This was a very exciting new event for Lucindale! The inaugural Lucindale Working Dog Auction was held on 26 September; the first of its kind in South Australia.

It was held at Yakka Park - the home of the SE Field Days. This not-for-profit event raised funds that were distributed back into the community.

There were live dog demonstrations, followed by an auction in the Lions Shed. Your Community Bank Robe & Districts was proud to be a Platinum Sponsor of this community event, and have entered a sponsorship deal, which has seen the purchase of the sheep race for the event.

## Robe Cricket Club

There will be a brand new pitch at the Robe Cricket Club this season, thanks to the support and sponsorship of the your Community Bank Robe & Districts. The sponsorship relationship is valued at up to \$10,000 and follows hot on the heels of a recent \$500 sponsorship for new team playing tops. The Robe Cricket Club has a young committee whom are eager to see cricket continue in the seaside town, and we are proud to be part of that drive. They welcome the community to attend their games to cheer them on!





## Southern Ocean Arts Prize

This year this community group was lucky to have the Robetown Brewery, SE Plumbing and Mike's Beef Jerky join the Art Trail. The event featured new works by artists Hamish and Jo Edwards pottery. We hope you were able to drop in for a brew and a view! As always, it was fantastic to see the quality and individual artwork that is produced in our region.



## Lucindale Area School – Aquaculture

Our Assistant Branch Manager Sharon Hondow was recently invited to the Lucindale Area School to have a look at their aquaculture facilities. This rural school is well known for their agricultural program, which includes aquaculture and viticulture, and they are in the process of revitalising infrastructure of all things fishy!

Community Bank Robe & Districts was able to provide sponsorship funds to the value of \$2,000 to go towards this large aquaculture project. Thank you to the Lucindale Area School students who showed Sharon around the ponds and hatching facility.

Community Bank Robe & Districts visits Lucindale each Tuesday. Appointments are available by phoning 8768 1855, if you would like to visit one of our staff. Come and find out what community banking is all about.



## Kingston SE Table Tennis Association

The Kingston SE Table Tennis Association received good news recently, that the Board approved their application for sponsorship to purchase two new table tennis tables. These new tables are welcome pieces of equipment for the group, as they have been requiring some upgrades for some time now. Community Bank Robe & Districts is proud to support this local community group.



## Southern Ports Vehicle & Motor Restorers Club of Kingston



Community Bank Robe & Districts was a proud sponsor of the Southern Ports Vehicle & Motor Restorers Club of Kingston.

On 30 - 31 October this year, this group held their 4 Club Tour, hosting clubs from Kingston, Naracoorte, Meningie, Bordertown and other non-members as they did a tour of our region. You will probably recall seeing the multitude of classic and vintage cars around Robe!



## Veteran support

Community Bank Robe & Districts sponsored the Screenshot LED Big Screen at the ANZAC 2021 Mid South East football match that was held at the Robe Football grounds, between Robe & Hatherleigh. The event was organised by Robe 2 Recovery to showcase their veteran respite program.

The Board are proud to assist in raising awareness of the program, which was made possible via the generosity and community spirit of our Community Bank customers.



## Lucindale Historical Society



The Lucindale Historical Society became a first time sponsorship recipient with their application to purchase eight signs for their museum buildings. The signs will allow visitors to peruse the buildings and read all about them from the outside.

Officially opened on 3 February 1995 by Her Excellency the Honourable Dame Roma Mitchell, Governor of South Australia, the museum had its origins in the late 1980s following the closure of the railway line between Kingston and Naracoorte. Local residents gathered historical items from the district and used the old railway buildings for their storage and display.

A number of other buildings were relocated to the site and the museum now consists of a Station Parcels Office, an early railways Train Control Room, the Lucindale Telephone Exchange Porter's Room, Railway Goods Wagons, a Goods Shed displaying vintage vehicles, an Old School Room, a 1935 Cottage, the Conmurra District Hall, the Lands Department Building (tractor and large machinery shed), as well as a number of other pieces of machinery used in the early Lucindale days.

Members of the Lucindale Historical Museum rely on volunteers donating their time at the SE Field Days to generate the main source of income to maintain the museum's attractions and facilities. They are also assisted by the Naracoorte Lucindale Council and many local community groups and businesses.

A good day out – group bookings available and morning or afternoon tea can be arranged if required. Phone John McLean on 0427 486 667 for all enquiries.



### A community story

## Robe to Recovery

### We thank Mick Trevitt for this article

Robe 2 Recovery (R2R) is a community-based Veteran respite program. All our board members and crew are volunteers and comprise of both Civilians and Veterans. We are a charity / not-for-profit organisation which was conceived by Jacqui Bateman and Justin Brown in 2015. Jacqui and Justin identified the need for providing veterans and their families a unique experience as a "thank you for Service". So how does it work you may ask? Firstly the Veteran is referred via different channels eg: family, Ex service organisations and our website / social media. The application / referral is vetted by our board and approved to participate in the program. Upon arrival the participants are greeted by one of our crew with a basket of goodies. The contents of the basket may comprise of local business vouchers, flowers, a bottle of wine, home made slices, chocolates, beef jerky, a local cookbook and letters of appreciation from kids and locals informing our participants of how valuable they are to our community.

R2R wouldn't exist without the overwhelming support and generosity of our community and surrounds. The Bendigo Bank donated some funds which were utilised to supply an electronic scoreboard which displayed our local veterans, sponsors, and footage of our R2R Anzac Weekend golf day. The screen assisted immensely with awareness of our organisation.

Moving forward we intend to rollout our model nationally as we have locations in Cobden and Phillip Island in Victoria and Port Lincoln in SA. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 our other locations have suffered somewhat but we are looking forward to re-establishing them again when possible. We look forward to getting the program moving again and continuing our great relationship we have established with the Bendigo Bank.

## Women's Health Advisory Group Kingston Robe

Earlier this year, WHAG, or the Women's Health Advisory Group Kingston Robe, held a Meditation Night as part of their "Winter Wellness for Women" campaign.

This free evening of meditation aims to give women the experience of calm, peace and balance to benefit their emotional wellbeing and overall health, especially pertinent during these COVID-19 times.

Community Bank Robe & Districts is the sole sponsor of this event.

Instructor and social worker Linda Carter-Sheppard plays an integral role within this community group, particularly with their recent free event; an evening of guided meditation, helping women to switch-off and unwind.



## Talk to us today



**Robbie Chappel**  
Acting Branch Manager  
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### Community Bank - Robe & Districts

9 Victoria Street, Robe

**P 8768 1855**

**E** robemailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au

**bendigobank.com.au/robe**



/RobeDistrictsCommunityBankBranch

### We're open:

9.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday

### Kingston

30B Agnes Street, Kingston

**P 8767 2403**

### We're open:

10.00am - 5.00pm Wednesday

### Lucindale

21 Musgrave Avenue, Lucindale

**P 0400 403 771**

### We're open:

10.00am - 5.00pm Tuesday

### Directors

Lyn Schinckel, Annie Matthews, Geoff Saunders,  
Samantha Matthews, Michael Mattei, Tom White,  
Andrew Brown, Tom Davidson, An Tran

Robe Community Financial Services Ltd

9 Victoria Street, Robe SA 5276

ABN 24 101 974 887

## Robe Motorsports Club



Community Bank Robe & Districts was once again the Naming Rights Sponsor of the Robe Motor Sports Club's iconic sand event, which was held again in September. The day was another huge success, with lots of riders from around SA joining in the competition. As in the past, this was a well organised and run event. Be sure to head to the Robe motorsports track to spectate at this family friendly event next year.

## Supporting our community

**BANK  
LOCAL**

When you bank with your local Community Bank, profits pour into the community. So far, we've invested \$515,370 into the Robe, Lucindale, Kingston and Beachport communities.

\$272 million has been returned to communities and initiatives Australia wide. Behind the numbers are real stories and real branches, making a real difference for real people.

A bank giving back sounds unusual. For us, it's business as usual. Feel good about who you bank with.

Find out more. Call us on 08 8768 1855 or call in and see the friendly staff.