



Summer
2020/21

Newsletter

Community Bank · Rye, Rosebud and Dromana



Looking ahead to 2021

The COVID-19 global pandemic has created a year that none of us is likely to forget. There have been huge challenges for many individuals, businesses and community groups. But the Board of Rye and District Community Financial Services Ltd are all incredibly proud of how everyone has worked together to help create so many positive outcomes for our community. Special thanks must go to our frontline staff, who with friendliness and professionalism, have kept all our branches open and fully functioning throughout lockdown. We also of course want to thank our customers. Without your ongoing support and involvement, we could not continue to support our community in the wide variety of ways that we do. Many sports teams and other groups have unfortunately had really limited or even cancelled seasons this year, and we look forward to seeing you bounce back in the new Covid-safe ways in the future. In the meantime, this seemed like the perfect opportunity to share with you some of the inspiring work that is going on with other amazing groups that you may not know we are involved with. We hope you enjoy this newsletter, and have a wonderful Christmas with the friends and family we have all missed so much this year. And may you have a healthy and happy 2021.

Annual Report

Rye and District Community Financial Services Ltd 2020 Annual Report was published in October and we held our virtual AGM in November. The company finished the year strongly, with a profit after tax of \$564,115. We've declared a fully franked dividend of 5-cents per share. We are glad to be in a position to pay this dividend especially in the current challenging climate when many companies are re-assessing their dividend policies.

You can access our Annual Report here:
<https://bit.ly/319BBOM>

Community contributions

We are also thrilled to have returned close to \$385,000 back into the community in donations, sponsorships and grants throughout 2020.

Follow us on Facebook to learn more about the many community groups we support.

www.facebook.com/rye.dromana.rosebud.BBL/

Community Bank supports The Arts

During the long lockdown this year, one of the worst effected industries were The Arts. We all know what an essential role The Arts play within our community, so Community Bank Rye, Rosebud and Dromana are proud to support some of our most valuable Arts groups as they have pivoted to provide great performances with the tight restrictions placed upon them. Their creativity, resilience and perseverance in such a challenging time are inspirational to us all!

Dreamhouse Theatre Company – received \$5,000

Dreamhouse is a not-for-profit theatre company for Peninsula based young people aged 5-21. They aim to empower and inspire a love of the performing arts in young members, and to celebrate the artistic contribution that they make to our community. In normal years, Dreamhouse would offer workshops, live improvisation activities, intergenerational story sharing events, training from professional teaching artists, and culminate in a big live production. In lockdown, Artistic Director Carole Patullo was able to keep the group going with zoom workshops. This helped provide not only the creative expression for the teens involved, but also a critical social connection to help them through what could have been a very lonely and disorientating time. Dreamhouse even managed to create an innovative final production, 'Darker' filmed on iPhones and shared as split screen live performance. A great example of collaboration and innovative solutions. Thanks to the



lessening of restrictions, Dreamhouse has been able to hold the final workshops for the year, outdoors in real life, and will be offering summer holiday theatre skills workshops in late January for school aged children.

Find out more here: www.dreamhousetc.com.au/

Carols by Headlight – received \$2,000



Perhaps one of the most missed events this Christmas season will be the many gatherings for Christmas Carols. Thankfully, due to the dedication of many hard workers supported by Robyn Clancy, there

is still an event we can all attend for our Christmas cheer, as the Rosebud Christmas Carols has become 'Carols by Headlight' at the Dromana Drive-in. The ever busy Steve Bastoni and Cheryl Beattie from 'The Music Industry' music school have helped to film musical performances to screen during the evening. Onscreen besides the carols there will be a welcome to country, a message from the mayor, a nativity and celebrity shout outs. There will also be virtual fireworks (to respect our local wildlife), a best dressed car competition and a gold coin collection for 'Food For All' and 'Fusion' the youth homeless service. A Lions Club Christmas Cake will be available to order and be delivered to your car as will the food items from the canteen. Santa will be on the fire truck to wave everyone goodnight as they leave in their cars. Everyone is encouraged to come dressed up and all volunteers will be in Christmas outfits.

The carols will be held over three nights of 21, 22 and 23 December. Tickets are free but must be booked in advance. You can book your tickets here: www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=687402&



Peninsula Film Festival – received \$5,000

We are very excited to be partnering with the Peninsula Film Festival for the third year now. This fantastic community event will be proceeding in Covid-safe conditions at the Dromana Drive-In, over the long weekend 5-7 March 2021. The screening itself will take place on Saturday 6 March. Community Bank Rye, Rosebud and Dromana are proud

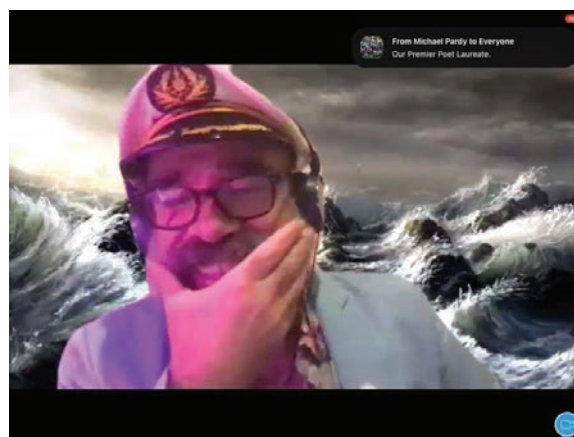
supporters of the 'Local Hero' category. This is open to everyone, but we especially encourage young people and locals to get involved. We all know somebody on the Peninsula who has a great story to tell and can be an inspiration to us all. It could be your mum or dad, a teacher, coach or someone you have worked or volunteered with. You don't need fancy equipment to enter – just a phone and a great story! Festival founder, Steve Bastoni recently visited Rosebud Secondary College to inspire and explain how to get involved to young media students.

We want to hear from you, so get filming!
Deadline is 29 January 2021.

Enter your short film here:
<https://filmfreeway.com/PeninsulaFilmFestival>



Poets Corner – received \$2,250



Sean M. Whelan, Poet Laureate of the Mornington Peninsula.

Art Red Hill – received \$1,500

This annual fundraising event for Red Hill Consolidated Primary School is normally one of the major social artistic events of the year on the Southern Peninsula. With the restrictions of lockdown it was initially feared this event could not go ahead at all. Instead, Marlo Reyneke, Chelsea Murray and the organising team were able to pivot and to run the event completely online. A specially dedicated website was created and contributions from a wide range of artists were curated, displayed and sold online. Video chats with artists, and featured works on social media helped make this event such a success.. Congratulations to all who helped bring this event to life.

Another group compromised by the lockdown was Poet's Corner. They would normally meet regularly for 'open mike' poetry readings from local community members, and also feature well known and published poets who would perform their works on the night. Heather Forbes-McKeon and Jai Thoolen worked together to continue the events via zoom meetings. These events were a great success, and continued to support connection and expression during the isolation of lockdown. Featured poets throughout the period included Kelly Van Nelson, Daragh Burn, Sean M Whelan, Ian Cameron, Jennifer Compton and Sasha Cuha. The group will be utilising the great creative output of the poets this year to produce an anthology which will be available for everyone to enjoy in 2021.

You can find more information about Poet's Corner here: www.facebook.com/groups/poetscornermp/

Your Community Banks building thriving communities

Most local people would be familiar with the role that Community Bank Rye, Rosebud and Dromana play in supporting sports groups, schools and other community groups. But you might not be aware of some of the longer term and large projects that the branches have been involved with.

Accommodation for adults with disabilities: \$275,000 Seed Funding



This purpose-built facility offers accommodation for adults with disabilities currently in the care of aging parents. Built on land donated by the Uniting Church, your Community Bank Rye, Rosebud and Dromana were the first to offer financial support to this important venture with \$275,000 seed funding. This initial contribution was

instrumental in getting the project going, and has been furthered with State and Federal government funding and volunteer contributions.

Years in the making, this project has faced numerous challenges, from adhering to strict building requirements, to slow downs associated with COVID-19. At last all the persistence of the development team is paying off, with doors opening to the first residents this December – just in time for Christmas! Accommodation such as this plays a vital role in offering adults with disabilities independence and dignity. The facility contains eight units and still has some available. Contact the Uniting Church Community Relationships Manager for further information on 0409 620 929.

Talk to us today

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We're open:

9.30am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday

Directors

Vincent Cheers, Stephen Edmund, Anthony Harford, Dorothy Mortlock, Amber Earles, Barry Irving, Gary Cain, Janet Hall, Stephen Robin, Craig Dowsing, Renee Bowker

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Rosebud Wellness Pavilion: \$250,000

Three years ago our Chairman, Treasurer and Senior Manager met with the Assistant Principal of Rosebud Secondary College to discuss



the worrying trend around mental health of local young people. From that meeting Community Bank Rye, Rosebud and Dromana pledged \$250,000 towards the building of a Wellness Pavilion at the school. This seed funding enabled the project to get started, and has been added to by Rotary, State and Federal Governments. Who could have known three years ago how even more important the wellbeing of our young people would be now? But thanks to customers like you, the seed that was planted three years ago today is now coming to fruition for a whole new generation.

www.facebook.com/Rosebud.Wellness.Pavilion/