



Banking on Wondai's bright future.

The smiles have been wide in Wondai lately.

A lot of it is to do with the town opening its very own Bendigo Bank agency. Located inside Robinsons News at 50 Mackenzie Street, Wondai the agency will service locals from Monday to Friday from 9.00am - 4.30pm.

Cutting the ribbon on 27 April, Deputy Chairman of South Burnett Community Enterprise Limited, Lionel Kerr said the agency will provide residents, traders and community groups with an alternative, locally-owned banking option.

"The South Burnett community has already seen the benefits a local banking service can bring, both in terms of easy access to banking, and the reinvestment of profits back into the local community. The Wondai agency joins the family of branches that already includes Yarraman & District and Nanango **Community Bank**[®] branches, Blackbutt branch and the Murgon agency, open since April 2016. We're here to stay and grow with our customers' needs," Mr. Kerr said.

Flanked by John and Tracy Robinson, Deputy Mayor, Cr. Kathy Duff, Cr. Ros Hait and many community group representatives, Mr. Kerr said the Wondai agency will offer transaction and lending services. It will also be able to process home and personal loans, business lending, credit cards and the opportunity to book in financial planning and business banking appointments.

"We're delighted to deliver what the Wondai community has been asking for. I think it's going to be a great addition



Left to right: Ebony, Joanne, Gayleen, John and Tracy from Robinsons News are joined by Sasha and Anne from Bendigo Bank at the Wondai agency opening.

to the business community and have significant positive long-term impact on the town. John, Tracy and the team of Joanne, Ebony and Gayleen at Robinsons News are excited and ready to assist with locals with their banking needs," he added.

The new Wondai agency is fully supported by the Nanango **Community Bank**[®] Branch and Customer Relationship Manager, Sasha Ross and Area Manager, Anne Woodrow will continue to be based in Nanango. The Robinsons News team run the agency as part of their general business during opening hours.

If you have any questions regarding the new Wondai agency, call 4168 5550 or Sasha and the team on 4163 1075 for further information.

South Burnett Community Enterprise Ltd 23 Toomey Street, Yarraman QLD 4614 **ABN** 57 113 889 768 **Directors:** Noel Strohfeld (Chairman), Lionel Kerr (Vice Chairman), Ross Begent (Secretary), Jim Beveridge (Treasurer), Laura Hobbs, Richard O'Neill, Robert Kruger, Kerry Wyvill, Louisa (Maureen) Hartley (Minutes Secretary).

Jamie-Lee's university dream is underway.

Thanks to a university scholarship provided by the South Burnett **Community Bank**® branches and agencies and company owned branches, Jamie-Lee Barron has already made her new home away from home over the last few months.

She was one of several impressive applicants of the annual South Burnett university scholarship program, now using the funds towards realising her dream of tertiary study.

Jamie-Lee is studying a Bachelor of Veterinary Science at The University of Queensland's Gatton Campus. It's the beginning of an exciting chapter for the Cooyar teen who has already found a lot of success through her hard work in recent years.

"Life at uni is going really well. It's been a big adjustment getting used to my new surroundings and the workload, but I'm on my way feel excited about all that lies ahead. My aim is to become a highly professional and well respected figure with great agricultural knowledge. I would love to work in a small rural community where I can contribute my skills and support producers with their productivity and profitability," Jamie-Lee shared.

Senior Manager for Bendigo Bank, Anne Woodrow said providing support to Jamie-Lee to further her tertiary education was part of the **Community Bank**® branches' commitment to building a stronger community.



Jamie-Lee receiving her scholarship cheque from Anne.

"The idea behind the scholarship is to assist one rural student per year from the South Burnett who planned attending university for the first time in 2017."

"Because of the high costs associated with living away, we knew many applicants would need financial assistance to help their dreams come true. We were proud to award her the 2017 scholarship," Anne said.

The South Burnett Group Scholarship will support Jamie Lee with study related costs for the next two years at \$5,000 per year. For more information about the scholarship program and how you may be able can apply for the 2018 scholarship, call the Nanango **Community Bank**® Branch on 4163 1075.

Murgon's own bank is growing nicely.

Just over a year ago, Murgon locals didn't quite know what they were in for. Now it appears they have no intention of looking back.

Recently, Bendigo Bank Senior Manager, Anne Woodrow was joined by Customer Relationship Manager, Sasha Ross and Struddy's Sports' Amber Dudgeon and Jenni

Braithwaite as they celebrated the Murgon agency's strong start.

Having opened in April 2016, the agency is continues to build on strong footings. It's located right in the middle of town on Lamb Street and, in time, the agency will give Murgon a real say in its own financial future.



Anne said the agency is here to stay and will grow with customers' needs.

"The Murgon agency is part of Australia's fifth largest retail banking network in Bendigo Bank and joins the family of branches including Yarraman and Nanango **Community Bank**® branches and Blackbutt branch," she shared.

Agencies represent about 20 percent of Bendigo Bank's retail outlets and the Murgon agency is headed by Leigh, Dee, Amber and Jenni at Struddy's and the fully supported by the Nanango **Community Bank**® Branch staff.

Left to right: Sasha, Jenni, Amber and Anne are all smiles in front of the Bendigo Bank agency at Struddy's Sports, Murgon.



It was smiles all round at Yarraman Community Hall when the latest round of community grants were handed out.

Banking locally is benefitting everyone.

September 2005 doesn't really seem that long ago.

In a little over a decade a lot of things have changed in the South Burnett. It was on 16 September of that year when the Yarraman & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch opened its doors. Since then, the Blackbutt branch, Nanango **Community Bank**[®] Branch and Murgon and Wondai agencies have done the same, creating the South Burnett Group.

Recently, community groups and staff members held a function their latest community grants evening at Yarraman Hall to present five South Burnett community groups with some much needed funds for local projects.

There were smiles all round as the following groups benefitted from their **Community Bank**[®] branches whose very reason for existing is to feed into our communities, not from them:

- Yarraman Bowls Club - \$8,030 for their new community BBQ area.
- Maclagan Windermere Kindergarten - \$5,720 for their new modular play equipment.

- Yarraman Hall Committee - \$4,100 for new fans to be installed throughout the hall.
- Nanango and District Kindergarten Association - \$579 for their sandpit renewal project
- Yarraman Heritage House - \$1,769 for the new catering project in Yarraman museum.

Amazingly, more than \$900,000 has now been returned to similar community groups, schools and organisations and the **Community Bank**[®] branches have never been stronger. Senior Manager, Anne Woodrow, Chairman Noel Strohfeld and some Directors from the South Burnett Community Enterprises Limited (SBCEL) Board took the opportunity to remind those in attendance the importance of banking locally and the difference it can make to communities just like ours.

"It's simple really. I work here because I see the difference we're making in our own backyard. It was really special to share with our team in giving out this latest round of grants. We say that by banking with us everyone benefits," Anne concluded.

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Murgon zooming in for a crime blitz.

Federal member for Wide Bay, Llew O'Brien made a very welcome visit to Murgon in May.

In the Visitor Information Centre on Lamb Street, he announced \$400,000 of the Coalition's Safer Streets Programme will soon fund closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras in Murgon.

Getting support for this project has been years in the making, but Margaret Long from Murgon Business and Development Association said the wait has been worth it.

"Murgon is open for business and closed for crime. We have a wonderful town with some great businesses who support our community. Businesses who see the future of our town, like Bendigo Bank who moved in when others were moving out. They, along with our Murgon Police work very closely with us. This funding will complement the great work that our police already do and will be strong deterrent to criminals ensuring that Murgon continues to be a wonderful place to live and work," Mrs. Long said.

She added the business group are excited that after a seemingly long wait we can now forge ahead with this project.



Celebrating the great news after the launch was (l-r) Bendigo Bank's Anne Woodrow, Llew Brien MP, Snr Sgt Lance Guteridge and CCTV consultant Douglas Grant.

Further information on the Safer Streets Programme is available at www.ag.gov.au and to learn more about the Murgon CCTV cameras network, contact Margaret Long on 4168 2922.

Meet the staff.



Above: Lorraine Wyvill, Anne Woodrow and Rural Bank's Ian Herd.

Below: Our Yarraman team June, Nerrida, Anne, Cheryl and Joanne.



Above: Our Blackbutt team (left to right) Carley, Lorraine and Nerrida.

Right: Our Nanango team Sasha, Dan, Anne and Kerrie.



Local students daring their dreams and giving back.

One local teacher has continued her amazing work alongside some young high school students to help them reach their potential. But it's the fact that each of them are young women who want to build a life in the country is what should be music to the ears of South Burnett locals.

Nanango State High School teacher, Kayleen Freeman has been living and teaching in the South Burnett for 27 years. After spending time with students from Murgon, Kingaroy and Nanango High Schools again this year, she saw young people who needed guidance to help develop some confidence in order to dare their dreams. Kayleen was also determined to show a career and life outside the city could be rewarding.

Through sponsorship from local businesses including our own Nanango **Community Bank**[®] Branch, Kayleen took eight senior girls to the Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network (QRRRWN) conference in Roma late last year. Workshops, mentoring, gala dinners and trade displays kept the eight girls busy during their three nights away.

"The conference has lit a fire in our young delegates. It was themed 'Cultivating Confident Women' and keeping women in rural, regional and remote communities. The hope is the girls complete their necessary studies and return to our communities with their talents," she said.

It was in 2015 that Kayleen brought the Women Inspiring Women program to Anne's attention.

"To be around these young women and listen to how they're using their experiences to help energise their dreams is awesome. I'm delighted we've been able to play



Left to right: Kayleen Freeman is joined by our Anne Woodrow, Meg Roberts, Brooke Barron, Chelsea Bowden and Kathryn Kidman.

an ongoing role in funding this project and look forward to working more with Kayleen in the future. She's an amazing role model and continuing to make such positive impact in these young ladies' lives," Anne said.

If you would like to know more about the Cultivating Confident Women program, call Nanango State High School on 4171 6444 or email kfree36@eq.edu.au for further information.

Local bank support keeps bowls club rolling.

As many sports compete for the Aussie public's attention, few are as classy as lawn bowls.

Yarraman Bowls Club has around 60 bowling members and more than 20 social members, and has been in operation since 1963. It's a club that is well known for its friendly atmosphere and welcomes both young and old bowlers of all ability levels.

One thing the club prides itself on is its connection with the Yarraman community. So, it only seems natural that one of the club's sponsors is the Yarraman & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch. More and more locals are learning the value of good, old fashioned service from Lorraine Wyvill and her team. Most importantly, locals' banking choices continue to give the community a real say in its own future.

Life member, Kev Profke and his wife, Bev met with Lorraine at the club recently to thank her for the partnership between the two organisations.



Kev and Bev Profke catching up with Lorraine Wyvill outside Yarraman Bowls Club.

"We're a club pretty rich in tradition and passionate about our bowls. We greatly appreciate the support of Bendigo Bank and we're excited to be sponsored by a bank that is continually giving back to its community," Kev said.

If you would like to know more about Yarraman Bowls Club, call 4163 8269 or 4692 6273.

Craftsmanship and community connect in Blackbutt.

There's an old Chinese proverb which says 'A closed mind is like a closed book, just a block of wood'.

As one of the famed Timbertowns, Blackbutt is filled with locals who know a thing or two about bringing their vision to life in every piece of wood they work with.

One such group is the towns' Timbertowns Woodworking Group. They collectively work out of a shed in the Blackbutt Showgrounds on Bowman Road and produce the most



Lorraine Wyvill (right) enjoying her tour of the Timbertowns Woodworking Group facility at the Blackbutt Showgrounds.

beautiful array of wood turned items. They produce many handiworks, with bread boards, children's toys, names of loved ones or loved places and even boot pullers on show and for sale, just to name a few.

One of the sponsors of the Timbertowns Woodworking Group is the Blackbutt branch. Their sponsorship has led to purchase of machinery to help create some of the wonderful items and Manager, Lorraine Wyvill said the sponsorship is one the branch has loved being part of.

"We're delighted to see so many in our community taking part in a craft that reflects Blackbutt and our rich history in timber. This is just the latest opportunity to support the community who supports us," Lorraine said.

The whole Timbertowns Woodworking Group gathers at their regular Wednesday and Sunday morning meetings at the showgrounds from 8.30am until around 12.00 noon. Any new members who are interested in learning woodwork are always welcome and you can obtain more details by phoning Marcia on 0413 775 246.

Kids are just crazy about their kindy.

For any parent, knowing your child is safe and happy is everything.

So, for close-knit locals knowing their local kindy has such a great reputation is a great comfort. In 1970, it opened as a community kindergarten and has done since.

Director and teacher, Lisa Strohfeld said it's always been about children coming first.

"We pride ourselves as being part of our community. Our children come from approximately a 30km radius - Maclagan, Malling, Quinalow, Bowenville, Brymaroo, Kulpi, Cooyar, Kaimkillenbun and as far away as Bell. Francine Ryan teaches with me and we're both passionate about educating young children and inspiring them to develop a lifelong love of learning. We're lucky to combine years of experience working in early childhood services with a love for what we do," Lisa said.

Partially government funded, the kindy raises funds through its community and by sponsors who look to support where they can, like the Yarraman & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch.

The **Community Bank**[®] branch has donated more than \$5,000 in recent years and in turn, the funds have gone towards shade sails, new flooring and even a new sign now on display in front of the kindy.



Maclagan Windermere Community Kindergarten.

Senior Manager, Anne Woodrow said she is delighted the Yarraman & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch has been able to support the kindy.

"We're able to do this because our community supports us. We certainly hope we can do more to support the kindy in the future," Anne said.

If you would like to find out more information about the kindy, access the website www.candk.asn.au.

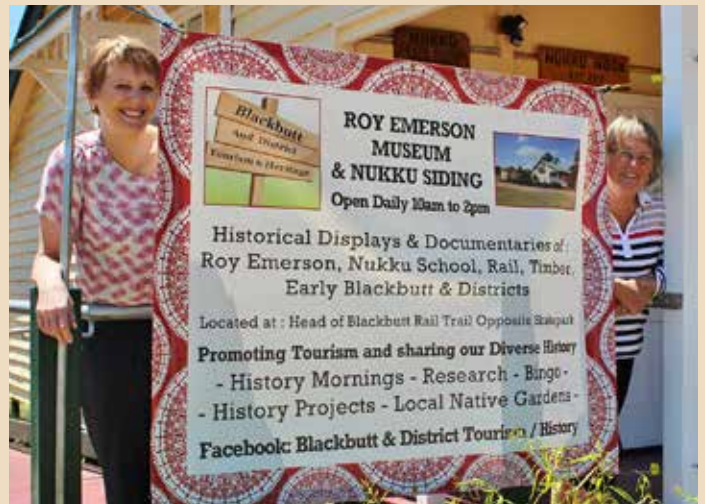
A little piece of history is a big part of Blackbutt.

For those who haven't been to the Nukku Nook (the old Nukku State School) in Blackbutt recently, you're in for a treat. Not only can you take in a rich piece of Blackbutt history by looking through the fully restored Nukku Siding positioned at the rail head adjacent to the Roy Emerson Museum, but marvel at what a community continues to do to honour its past.

The Blackbutt and District Tourism and Heritage Association (BADTHA) was fortunate to be gifted the original school in 2011. BADTHA members continue to work to preserve the history of the district and liaise with government and community agencies to raise funds to renovate the building that also honours one of its successful sons.

As one of the world's former number one ranked tennis player, Roy Emerson collected 12 major singles titles and 16 Grand Slam tournament men's doubles titles during his career. Emerson remains the only male player to have completed a career Grand Slam (winning titles at all four Grand Slam events) in both singles and doubles. For 49 years, Emerson was the only male player to have won six Australian Championships.

Earlier this year, Roy came back to town to officially open the Roy Emerson Museum Displays. It lives within the



Lorraine Wyvill and Noeleen Bird beside the sign that says it all.

original Nukku School and Roy and his wife, Joy were on hand to unveil a wonderful new statue of the man himself.

BADTHA secretary, Noeleen Bird recently took time to show Blackbutt branch manager, Lorraine Wyvill through the museum. Grants of more than \$4,000 from Bendigo Bank in recent years helped purchase a laptop, printer and photo boards to help BADTHA tell the stories for generations to come.



Roy Emerson statue opening.

"We sincerely thank the Blackbutt branch for their sponsorship, but also for all the other great work they do in the South Burnett," Noeleen added.

To learn more about the Roy Emerson Museum, Nukku Nook or BADTHA, e-mail royemersonmuseum@gmail.com or visit Facebook: Blackbutt & District Tourism/History.

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Staying fire safe next summer.

When next summer arrives, we won't need to be reminded the fire season will have as well.

It will mean being alert and well prepared when it comes to your home and property, but it's also about being well informed. The Bureau of Meteorology has named the North and South Burnett as one of the top four high risk activity regions for the state again.

Taromeo Rural Fire Brigade First Officer, Les Lane says it's about remaining vigilant.

"We all need to bushfire prepared. In recent years we've seen significant increase in grass and vegetation growth



Les Lane and Bendigo Bank's Lorraine Wyvill in front of the Taromeo Rural Fire Brigade.

so there's a high fuel load out there. The message is to prepare, act and survive. If we all do a little, we can save a lot," Les said.

The Rural Fire Service Queensland (RFSQ) is made up of approximately 36,000 volunteers and some 2,400 fire wardens and is the volunteer side of the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. It's these volunteers who provide fire services to 93% of Queensland.

Les was also keen to mention the station is always happy to hear from locals who are interested in joining the Rural Fire Brigade and volunteer their time.

"Taromeo Rural Fire Brigade is one of the 1,500 brigades around the state. Our 26 members of Taromeo are there to help, and we're fortunate to have four trucks to service the South Burnett community. That being said, we're all volunteers and always need more members - there's a job for everyone," Les added.

As a major sponsor of Taromeo Rural Fire Brigade, Les was keen to thank the Blackbutt branch and welcomed manager, Lorraine Wyvill to the station to show her the completion of a new training room and retaining wall around the station.

"We're so grateful for the sponsorship from the Blackbutt branch of Bendigo Bank in these past few years. Their support, combined with other grants has meant we have a new training room. It's an amazing addition to our community," Les concluded.

Yarraman & District and Nanango Community Bank® branches and Blackbutt branch

Yarraman 23 Toomey Street, Yarraman QLD 4614 Phone: 4163 8162 Fax: 4163 8377
Email: YarramanMailbox@bendigobank.com.au Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/yarraman
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Nanango 92 Drayton Street, Nanango QLD 4615 Phone: 4163 1075 Fax: 4163 1123
Email: NanangoMailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/nanango
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Blackbutt 49A Coulson Street, Blackbutt QLD 4306 Phone: 4163 0734 Fax: 4170 0093
Email: BlackbuttMailbox@bendigobank.com.au Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/blackbutt
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 10.00am – 2.30pm

Murgon agency 73 Lamb Street, Murgon QLD 4605 Phone: 4168 1994 or 4163 1075
Opening hours: Monday to Thursday 8.30am – 4.30pm and Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Wondai agency 50 Mackenzie Street, Wondai QLD 4606 Phone: 4168 5550 or 4163 1075
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm

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