



From the Chairman.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) 19 October 2016.

Thank you to those who attended our first AGM since the Board of Directors were appointed in 2014. All serving Directors were returned for the next 12 months.

Texas now shares the **Community Bank**® spirit.

All Stanthorpians know where the real Texas is, about 100 kmls west of Stanthorpe. An opportunity has arisen for our **Community Bank**® company to open a bank agency in the town. Early last month we were approached by Raymond Scott, the owner of Ron Morris Real Estate in Texas to consider opening an agency in his business. He said that there was an opportunity to open as other financial institutions were abandoning their town.

A fact finding mission was undertaken by our Board, and the financial benefits to the **Community Bank**® company combined with the provision of banking services to Texas, were weighed up and the Board decided to push ahead with the agency proposal. All the information has been forwarded to Bendigo Bank and they have approved the opening of the Texas agency. An agency number has been issued, which means we can start opening accounts for Texas residents.

When the original surveys were being conducted for the formation of the Stanthorpe **Community Bank**® branch, towns in our region were noted as being in the possible catchment areas. Texas was one of those towns. Thus the name Stanthorpe Regional Community Financial Services Limited.

This opportunity has presented itself early in our business life but is too good an opportunity to miss, plus it fulfils one of our business objectives; "To have a community working together to achieve common objectives."

Raymond and his family are long-time residents of Texas and they together with the other 900 plus residents of Texas will now have a real banking alternative.

Bendigo Conference - Hobart September.

Our company sent our Branch Manager Katy McKenzie and Director Jean Hallas to this **Community Bank**® Conference which covered many interesting and useful topics for us as a new **Community Bank**® company. Director Jean Hallas reports, "I found that talking to other Directors was very beneficial. Passion for what we are doing and how it will benefit the community as a whole is the key to being a successful **Community Bank**® company."

Don Gaske Chairman

Photo top of page: Board of Directors and Staff. L-R Back Row – Don Gaske, Leeanne Gangemi, Jean Hallas, Mary Rofe, Denise Harslett, Kurt Empen. Front Row – Cheryl Pearson, Kirsten Spencer, Kylie Linton, Katy McKenzie, Tania Cobon, Nev Winter. (Absent- Barbara McLean, Alex Kurschinsky, Luke Hilton).

Stanthorpe Regional Community Financial Services 139 High Street, Stanthorpe QLD 4380 **ABN** 48 605 478 680

Directors: Leeanne Gangemi, Don Gaske, Jean Hallas, Denise Harslett, Luke Hilton, Alex Kurschinsky, Barbara McLean, Mary Rofe, Nev Winter.

Sponsorship process – Community Forum.

Stanthorpe **Community Bank**® Branch greatly values the work of the community in organising, participating in and managing many of the important events and activities which make our community an outstanding place to live.

We have responded to various ad hoc requests to date and now invite the community to take part in our preferred process. Our first community forum will take place at 7.00pm 29 November at the Stanthorpe RSL Club. At that meeting we will outline the procedure required and answer questions. Determinations on sponsorship will occur in the new year and we will announce the successful recipients to coincide with our first birthday at the end of February 2017. Forms are available now in the branch.

Opening hours.

Our aim is to provide the most convenient banking service for this community and for this reason we trialled Saturday opening; however, you did not appear to need this so it will cease for the time being.

We are open from Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 5.00pm

Our ATM is available 24 hours a day.

Date claimer.

**Community Forum –
7.00pm 29 November at Stanthorpe RSL.**

Katy McKenzie - Our Manager - a homecoming.



"I first came to Stanthorpe in 1988 but this is not my family's first time in the region. My Great Grandfather was the principal at Wallangarra from 1945-1948, so this is not my family's first time coming home.

I bought my first house in Wallangarra and started a family which would grow to five amazing daughters. We did move away for seven years as I wanted to inspire my girls and show them what a single mum can achieve, so I opened a mortgage broking franchise. After five years of dealing with 17 different lenders, I sold my business and decided to work with just one, Bendigo Bank. I started at a corporate site in Indooroopilly. It was a year later that I learned of the plan to open a **Community Bank**® branch in Stanthorpe.

I wanted to come home.

I had recently married a man with two kids of his own and to my surprise when I mentioned the opportunity to him, he got onto the real estate website to find us a new home. I was here within a month.

Now I'm living in a great town, working with local people to make a difference in a community I love."

Katy McKenzie was appointed as Manager to our Stanthorpe **Community Bank**® Branch in July of this year and since appointment has made a significant impact on our banking success in the region. Katy comes to us from the Bendigo Bank branch at Indooroopilly, and boasts a solid history in lending and finance. Katy's engaging personality and slightly quirky good humour has spread the **Community Bank**® branch 'love' rapidly within the branch and the community at large.

Katy is pro-active in all areas of banking business. School banking has now commenced with Ballandean School joining the community spirit Stanthorpe **Community Bank**® Branch has to share. Welcome Katy!

Stanthorpe Community Bank® Branch local business promotion.

Each month we will promote one of our local businesses and share the Stanthorpe **Community Bank**® spirit for this community. You will see business cards in the branch and on our facebook site. Remember to like us on facebook and share the messages to your followers to keep the **Community Bank**® spirit going!



Mural competition.

We asked the question "What does Stanthorpe mean to you?" and photographers from across the Granite Belt responded with entries in our mural competition. We have now chosen the finalists and they are displayed in our branch. You get to vote for your favourite and the winning image will be enlarged to fill the blank wall behind the tellers. Come on in and vote now!



Community focus - The 2016 Ballandean Billy Cart Bash - support for local School.

The Stanthorpe **Community Bank**® Branch proudly supported the Ballandean Billy Cart Bash for the second year in a row, and what a day it was. With the spectacular setting of the Ballandean Pyramid Hill, the Ballandean Billy Cart bash was ready and set to go early in the morning.

With eager "bashers" checking their carts and contemplating their racing techniques, the air was thick with anticipation.

The Billy Cart Bash is the main fundraising event for the Ballandean P&C and the Stanthorpe **Community Bank**® branch has proudly sponsored the event with the category winners winning a bank account.

"This is just what the **Community Bank**® concept is all about," says Director Leeanne Gangemi.

"We strive to support events around the district that assist the community, and the Bash is a fantastic family friendly event that ticks all the boxes for us," she said.

Leeanne played the star role as MC for the entire day entertaining the crowd with her usual banter and giving us plenty of mentions in the sponsors list. A great effort by the Ballandean community and one which our **Community Bank**® branch was pleased to partner and support.



Directors at Billy Cart Bash
Leeanne Gangemi & Mary Rofe.



Stanthorpe Community Bank® Branch

139 High Street, Stanthorpe QLD 4380 Phone: 4681 3362 Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm

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