



## Vital Signs.

Mirboo North & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch has formed a partnership with Mirboo North & District Community Foundation to deliver Mirboo North & District's Vital Signs. In collaboration with our communities, the project will take the pulse of our district to see how it is faring in key areas.

Vital Signs is a framework developed by Community Foundations of Canada and used world-wide to measure the vitality of communities; to build knowledge and understanding of what is happening in the community and why it is happening.

The Mirboo North & District's Vital Signs is the first in rural Australia. It will use credible data, local knowledge and expertise, to build our understanding of what is going well and where the community might turn its efforts. It will help the two partners in setting priorities for their grant funding and strategic planning.

"Mirboo North & District's Vital Signs will help the community connect the dots between existing data and locally meaningful issues such as education, health and environment. This gives us all a deeper understanding of key areas and the ongoing impact in our communities," noted Marg Lynn, Chair, Mirboo North & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch.

A key element of Mirboo North & District's Vital Signs will be to engage the community in a conversation around the data gathered during the course of the project. The findings will be published in a reader-friendly Vital Signs Report which will identify significant social and economic trends and emerging issues, and which presents a picture of our communities.

"Ultimately, Mirboo North & District's Vital Signs will give our communities the evidence-based research from which to



determine our local priorities and opportunities for action," said Paul Pratt, Chair of Mirboo North & District Community Foundation. "It will also ensure that the Community Foundation and the **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch can target resources towards these priorities, enabling a vibrant and resilient district."

In the coming months the Mirboo North & District's Vital Signs team will put out calls for input and involvement in gathering and discussing knowledge.

In the meantime, if you are interested to find out more, we would love to hear from you at [mirboonorthdistrict@vitalsignsaustralia.org.au](mailto:mirboonorthdistrict@vitalsignsaustralia.org.au)

Strzelecki Ranges Community Enterprises Limited 88 Ridgway, Mirboo North VIC 3871 **ABN** 76 139 013 095

**Directors:** Margaret Lynn, Anne Marie Dieperink, Kerry Peachey, Cliff Hammond, Matt Gleeson, Janette Head, Thomasin Bales, John Butler, Colin Brick, Marg Thomas.

## Our staff.

For all your banking needs call in and see us at 88 Ridgway, Mirboo North, Phone 5668 1231 or shop 3, 42-44 Main Street Yinnar (Wednesday afternoons) and you will receive the friendly informed service for which Bendigo Bank is renowned, we welcome your enquiry.

The branch is staffed by the following team members:

**Branch Manager** Alan Bannister

**Customer Relationship Officer** Samantha Gardiner, Adriana Waller

**Customer Service Supervisor** Kim Farquharson

**Customer Service Officer** Susan Clark, Sarah Lawson, Nicole Smith



## Banking is our business – community is our purpose.

We hope you like our new motto (thank you Lara District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch). We think it says better than ever why we exist and how we work.

It expresses the two sides of the **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> concept. We run a **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch with all the benefits and products of a great, longstanding Australian bank, provided locally and owned locally by our shareholders. Profits go back to the community as grants, sponsorships, donations and dividends to shareholders.

You can see elsewhere in this newsletter the great community projects where we've shared value and invested those profits locally. All of them have helped build and sustain the prosperity and amenity of our communities.

Because we put the community first, shareholders' dividends can only comprise 20% of our profits. We have paid dividends for six of our eight years at better than bank interest and the dividend announced at last year's AGM was 4 cents or 4% of the standard price of our **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> shares.

The more people bank with us - and the more of your banking that you do with us, the faster the branch's profits can grow. We provide loans, term deposits, a great range of insurances, superannuation, investments and financial planning. You can always ask our friendly branch staff for a quote, so if you are not yet banking with us, perhaps you should drop in to our branch soon and find out how we can help with your banking, business banking and other financial services.

Bendigo Loans and Credit Cards are subject to terms and conditions, fees and charges apply. All loans are subject to Bendigo Bank's normal lending criteria. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879.

Bendigo Bank offers financial planning and advice through representatives of its subsidiary, Bendigo Financial Planning Limited, ABN 81 087 585 073 AFSL 237898, Level 5, 120 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands, VIC, 3008. A member of the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Group, ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879.

Bendigo Bank issues insurance on behalf of a number of insurance providers. Please consider your situation and the relevant Product Disclosure Statement available at [bendigobank.com.au](http://bendigobank.com.au) before making a decision. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879.

## Our community contributions since 2010.

Donations	\$13,417
Education Support Fund	\$83,316
Grants	\$392,059
Sponsorship	\$287,875
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$776,768</b>

## U3A Mirboo North & District.

U3A Mirboo North & District Inc received a \$3,300 grant from Mirboo North & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch to



foster new members for U3A and therefore greater community participation in U3A activities. The focus is on Mirboo North and surrounding communities.

In just six months, U3A MND has recorded a huge 30% increase in members! The grant has allowed us to promote our upcoming activities and each term's agenda in the target communities. We have also been able to create effective marketing tools which enable greater publicity, such as customised displays and a dedicated laptop and printer to produce our own material and to allow printing of more brochures and placement of advertisements in relevant community newsletters and newspapers.

Thanks to the grant, we are planning for several public events which will raise the profile of U3A and attract new members. These include a trivia night and a program we are calling Ready, Set, Go to Retirement. This will be targeted at Mirboo North and district residents preparing for retirement and will put involvement in U3A in their future activities, ensuring a good flow of new members into U3A MND. It will feature relevant guest speakers and discussions on issues like taxation and superannuation, Centrelink, health, active community participation, emotional issues surrounding leaving the workforce and similar.

U3A MND is extremely grateful for the ongoing support of the Mirboo North & District **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch, we are a proud customer, receiving excellent service from the staff and we are delighted to see U3A realising its potential as a result of this grant.

Any questions or comments can be directed to our President Cheryl Miscamble on 0402 207 272 or email to [president@u3amnd.org.au](mailto:president@u3amnd.org.au).

**U3A MND Committee**



## Historic tourist bushland reserve in Mirboo North gets a facelift.

### Thanks to funding from the Mirboo North & District Community Bank® Branch.

On Thursday 16 November 2017, a launch of new signage, a new logo and revised map of the Reserve took place at Baths Road Reserve Mirboo North. This was all made possible by a grant of \$4,000 from the Community Enterprise Foundation™.

The launch was organised by "The Friends of Baths Road Reserve – a Project of the Mardan Mirboo North Landcare Group" to thank the Mirboo North & District **Community Bank®** Branch especially and also those who have helped in the maintenance and care of the Reserve. The Friends' Group are a local group of volunteers who help maintain, preserve and enhance it for all.

The grant enabled the purchase of attractive new sustainable signage made of recycled plastic which is long lasting with few maintenance needs. The previous signage had deteriorated almost completely. It complemented a reorganisation and reduction of the old track routes to improve visitor access. The Reserve is part of the Land for Wildlife scheme with its primary purpose being to provide a refuge and safe habitat for the fauna and flora of this area. It provides a place for visitors and

townsfolk alike to take time out in its native bushland and fern gullies to refresh the mind, spirit and body. Visitors can experience a little of what it was once like in the original forests of the Strzelecki's in this locality.

Marg Lynn and Jan Head from the Mirboo North & District **Community Bank®** Branch cut a symbolic ribbon at the entry to the Reserve and then Marg spoke to the beauty of the Reserve and congratulated the volunteers in the Friends' Group for their ongoing work. South Gippsland Shire Council also provided some financial and staff support to enable the update, as it is Crown Land managed by the Shire. Viki Sinclair, who coordinates the Friends Group, then thanked the Mirboo North & District **Community Bank®** Branch especially for their generous contribution to this work.

Viki also thanked Mirboo North Secondary College Year 9 students who help every year. Also attending and thanked were the Wednesday Warriors who have repaired the old wooden seats and picnic tables plus the sign in the Indigenous Garden.



Chris Rankin, Biodiversity Officer from the Shire, then spoke of the value of such a unique Reserve right in the heart of the town which although only 13 hectares, contains five distinctive ecosystems with some areas of the Reserve being almost pristine bushland.

Everyone joined in a morning tea afterwards with many local people attending as well. In all, a successful day with much to be thankful for and to celebrate!

**Viki Sinclair**  
**Coordinator**

**The Friends of Baths Road Reserve – a Project of the Mardan Mirboo Landcare Group**

## Thank you from the L2P program.

The L2P Learner Driver program assists young learners to achieve their 120 hours of required driving practice before sitting their driving test by matching them with a volunteer mentor. In the eight years since L2P commenced in South Gippsland Shire, 30 learners from the Mirboo North district have been a part of the program, many of these who have successfully gained their licence, and can now access employment and training opportunities that would not have been possible without the independence that comes with a driver's licence.

Recognising the value of the L2P Program to the local community, twelve months ago, the South Gippsland L2P Program secured a new vehicle via an incredibly generous donation of funds and time by the Mirboo North community. The car is based in Mirboo North, and reduces the travel required

to access the L2P Program for local learners and their mentors. The first anniversary was recently celebrated by many of the community members involved in raising funds for the vehicle.

Thank you again to everyone involved in raising funds for the vehicle, with particular mention to the Mirboo North & District **Community Bank®** Branch (staff, customers and volunteers) for their initiation, leadership and coordination of the local fundraising campaign, as well as being very generous donors in their own right, Lions Club of Mirboo North, Mirboo North Rotary Club, Freemasons Mirboo North, Mirboo North and District Community Foundation and Mirboo North Secondary College.

What a year it has been! The Mirboo North L2P vehicle has helped a number of local young people work towards their 120 hours of driving practice along with their dedicated



and valued local volunteer mentors. Both learners and mentors have told us how important and enriching their experience in the program has been. The example set by the Mirboo North community has been an encouragement other communities in South Gippsland and beyond to realise what can be achieved through a strong local partnership.

We have more learners and mentors about to commence in the program, and a number of exciting initiatives coming up in the next year. Training for new mentors is scheduled to be held in late July. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact Leah Bellairs, L2P Coordinator on 5662 9367.

## 2017/18 Grant recipients.

Mirboo North & District Community Bank® Branch are proud to support the following local clubs, schools and organisations.



Applicant	Project title	Amount granted
U3A Mirboo North and District	U3A MN&D Membership Growth Initiative	\$3,000
Yinnar & District Community Association	'Me Too' - Toddlers Track at Yinnar Skatepark	\$2,500
The Mirboo North Artspace Inc	Twiddle Muffs	\$950
Yinnar Preschool	Literacy and Numeracy for Life	\$2,500
Mirboo North Kindergarten	Learning for all	\$4,000
Mirboo North Secondary College	Teen Mental Health First Aid Course	\$7,150
Boolarra Community Development Group Inc	Boolarra Community Sensory Theatre	\$6,500
Yinnar & District Memorial Hall Inc	The Final Curtain	\$2,341
Boolarra Community Development Group	Boolarra BMX Track	\$5,000
Walter J Tuck Recreation Reserve COM	Upgrade of kitchen facilities	\$5,000
Mirboo North Bowling Club	Replacement of synthetic carpet bowling surface	\$5,000

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**Drop into your nearest branch at 88 Ridgway, Mirboo North or phone 5668 1231 to find out more.**

Mirboo North & District **Community Bank®** Branch

Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. All information is correct as at 1 July 2018 and is subject to change. Full details available on application. Lending criteria apply. \*Interest rate is current as at 1 July 2018. Rates and fees are subject to change. The comparison rate displayed is calculated for a Residential Variable Rate, Owner Occupied, Principal and Interest loan based on an amount of \$150,000. WARNING: This comparison rate is true only for the example given and may not include all fees and charges. Different terms, fees or other loan amounts might result in a different comparison rate. Offer is available to customers with new Owner Occupied, Principal and Interest home loans above \$150,000 with a loan to valuation ratio of up to 80%, and three additional or complimentary products taken as part of the Connect Package. Complementary products cannot be from the same product type. Offer ends on 30 September 2018. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879. (1205953-1212757-5) (408632\_v1) (9/08/2018)

## Mirboo North & District Community Bank® Branch

88 Ridgway, Mirboo North VIC 3871 Phone: 5668 1231 Website: [www.bendigobank.com.au/mirboo-north](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/mirboo-north)

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

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**Yinnar agency** Shop 3, 42-44 Main Street Yinnar VIC 3869

Opening hours: Wednesday afternoons 1.30pm – 5.00pm



[www.bendigobank.com.au](http://www.bendigobank.com.au)

