

April 2026

Community talk!

Community Bank · West Beach

A message from our Chair

Welcome to our first edition of *Community Talk* for 2026.

This year marks an exciting milestone for our branch at West Beach as we celebrate 25 years of community banking.

It's an impressive milestone that's seen over \$2.4 million returned to our community since opening our doors in March 2001.

We are also incredibly proud that we've stayed true to what matters most - creating banking as it should be, born out of community, for community and that same passion is still driving us today.

We've loved connecting with our community over the summer, getting involved in more local events and supporting our clubs in fun and inspiring ways.

As we celebrate this milestone year, we're excited for what's ahead, welcoming our new team members Robyn and Cameron, and looking forward to continuing to support and strengthen our community together.

Rae Lawson, Chairperson

Community Bank West Beach

Happy Birthday to us!

We're incredibly proud to celebrate 25 years of community banking - with over \$2.4 million returned to our local community since opening in 2001.

Our West Beach branch was bubbling with balloons, cookies, cake, lots of laughs and good memories during March.

We're grateful to our Board, our staff, shareholders and especially our loyal customers & club partners - this milestone belongs to you. Thank you for being part of our journey.

Here's to a year of celebrations and continuing to support our community into the future!



Exciting new date!

Save the date and come and celebrate our 25th birthday at Apex Park

When: Saturday 21 November 2026

Where: Apex Park, West Beach

Time: 9.30am-1pm

To celebrate 25-years of banking service to the local community, we are hosting a Community Family Fun Day at Apex Park in November 2026.

There will be entertainment, jumping castle, music, food, stalls and much more for all the family to enjoy.

We are inviting our partners, like yourselves, to hold a stall at the event. This is a great opportunity for you to showcase your club/organisation and share your services with the broader community and hopefully find some new members too.

For details on how to be involved email: communitybankwestbeach@gmail.com



25 years, two legends

We're incredibly proud to celebrate two special milestones in our birthday year.

Leanna's remarkable 25 years of service is an outstanding achievement - made even more special as she's only the 7th staff member across Australia to reach this milestone, and the 1st in SA and NT.

Andrew "Fazz" Farran, for his outstanding contribution as a volunteer director for 25 years. Fazz is a true community champion, always finding ways to connect and make a real difference.

Congratulations to you both!

Community events for 2026

ANZAC Day Service

- Saturday 25 April
- Henley & Grange RSL
- Start time: 6.30am
- Breaky served by our branch team & board directors

SALA Festival Display

- Monday 3rd August to Friday 28th August
- West Beach branch
Everyone welcome

25th Birthday Family Fun Day

- Saturday 21 November
- Apex Park, West Beach
- Everyone welcome



Meet our new Home Loan Specialist

Say hello to Cameron, a friendly face here at Community Bank West Beach. Born in Singapore and moving to Australia in 2006, Cameron brings a wonderful mix of cultures, with family roots in both Singapore and Adelaide.

With nearly 7 years of experience in banking, Cameron has worked across lending and retail banking and is our go-to person for home loans.

He loves helping customers navigate their options and find the right solutions to achieve their goals. He's also passionate about health, fitness, and financial wellbeing.

Be sure to say hi next time you're in branch!

Dancing, Eating, Celebrating

We were thrilled to once again support and be part of the Zdravei Bulgarian Festival.

It was a fantastic day filled with fun, colour, and community spirit! We were proud to be involved and to support the wonderful work of BEFS Adelaide in bringing people together through culture, food, music, and dance.

Congratulations to everyone involved on another successful and fabulous event!



Community in the Fast Lane

We were thrilled to partner for the first time with the Camden Athletic Club at this year's Camden Classic Carnival.

It was a joy to present awards and witness the incredible effort of all the runners.

The energy on the day was fantastic, made even more special by the amazing volunteers, families and friends who came along to support.

More than just athletics, Camden is known for its strong team culture - where friendships are formed, achievements are celebrated together and support is always there. It's all about staying active, enjoying the outdoors and being part of a positive, connected community.

This spirit was on full display at the Camden Classic - congratulations to all involved for delivering such a fun and vibrant event!



Connecting with Friends of Rotary

We were grateful to the West Beach Rotary Club for inviting us to their recent 'Friends of Rotary' event.

West Beach Rotary is all about making a difference - while having a bit of fun along the way. Bringing together passionate community leaders, they work to turn ideas into action, support local initiatives, and create meaningful impact both locally and globally. With a strong focus on collaboration, appreciation of volunteers, and lasting change, Rotary continues to play a vital role in strengthening communities and helping others thrive.

It was a wonderful opportunity for our Chair, Rae Lawson, to connect with other community clubs and local businesses and to hear the inspiring presentation by Stephen Pallasas KC on the connection between laws and their impact on our communities.

It was a brilliant evening and we look forward to attending many more events in the future.



West Beach
Rotary 

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FREE Road Safety session at your club

If your club would be interested in hosting a free "Parent Session" on Road Safety, presented by the Get Home Safe Foundation, please contact Robyn via email communitybankwestbeach@gmail.com

There are 2 spots remaining for 2026 - so be quick to register now and help your club members stay safe on our roads!



Making waves for a cause

We were proud to once again support the Pink & Blue Swim/Walk or Run this year.

It was incredible to see our community come together in such strong numbers for an event that means so much to so many.

The Pink & Blue Swim/Walk again raised funds for the St Andrew's Hospital Foundation and Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia to fight breast and prostate cancers.

These funds help continue to make a meaningful difference to countless families, and we were honoured to play a small part in supporting those affected.

A special highlight this year was being recognised for 10 years of support from Community Bank West Beach - an achievement we are incredibly proud of.

It was truly heartwarming to be involved in such a special event. We thank the organisers and West Beach Surf Life Saving for delivering another successful and memorable day and congratulate everyone who participated in the fun and worthwhile event.



Safer roads start at home

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping young drivers stay safe.

Henley High School recently hosted a session to support them, with backing from Community Bank West Beach.

Darren Davis from the Get Home Safe Foundation shared practical tips on guiding parents on their role with their teenagers learner driving journey.

Darren spoke about choosing the right vehicle and the consequences to drivers & passengers in less safe cars. He helped parents understand the impact of their driving habits and the importance of using professional lessons to build confidence and safer driving skills.

With over 600 teenagers seriously injured on our roads each year, parental guidance can make all the difference in helping teens become responsible drivers and keeping our community safer.

This session was an amazing opportunity for parents to engage in this incredibly important topic. Thank you, Darren, for leading another impactful and honest session - your passion for driver safety is truly commendable.



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Backing those who protect us

Through our Grant Program, we supported the Royal South Australia Regiment Association, helping strengthen those who protect our community and nation.

Members balance Army Reserve duties with full-time civilian roles, including police officers, firefighters, paramedics, and other professionals.

From member gatherings to rigorous training exercises like Exercise Rhino Run 25 at Woodside and Murray Bridge, our support helps these dedicated individuals continue their vital work.



Exploring and protecting our oceans

We're lucky to have the Marine Discovery Centre right on our doorstep, giving families a unique opportunity to learn how we can all play a role in protecting our precious oceans and the impact this has on future generations.

We were delighted to support their important work, with families enjoying a hands-on ocean adventure - fun, educational, and a little magical - while exploring local marine life and learning how to care for our environment.

As we all know, protecting our oceans is vital, not just for today but for the generations to come. We're incredibly grateful to support the Marine Discovery Centre team in delivering these inspiring sessions that help build awareness and responsibility for our natural world.

It's a wonderful experience for the whole family - be sure to check it out and see the ocean come to life!



Empowering women, one kick at a time

Tracy from Chikara Budo runs self-defence workshops, creating safe, empowering spaces for women and young girls in our community.

Thanks to a recent grant from our branch, her women's martial arts group was able to support more participants to come together, learn new skills, build confidence and form strong connections; a weekend away saw incredible growth and self-belief developed in just a few days.

Congratulations, Tracy, on the life-changing work you do - proof of why investing in programs that make a real community impact is so worthwhile.



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CONGRATULATIONS to everyone at Seaside Tennis Club on one of your most successful seasons yet!

Shoutout to all the teams who made it into the finals - an incredible achievement and what an amazing experience to play at The Drive.



A night of recognition

It was a pleasure to attend the West Torrens Baseball Club presentation night recently.

Congratulations to all award winners across the senior teams - a strong reflection of the talent, commitment and dedication within the club.

A special acknowledgement to Women's Faye Perks MVP Kelsea Barker and Men's Harry Hunt MVP Sam McGarry on their outstanding achievements.

The sense of pride, loyalty and community in the room was evident and speaks volumes about the strength of the club.

Thank you for the kind invitation, and to Jamie Thomas, President for hosting the sponsors table. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to be part of the celebrations and to support such a wonderful local club.

Turning ideas into community impact since 2001

Since opening our doors in 2001, we've proudly invested over \$2.5 million back into our community and we're just getting started.

Our next Grant & Sponsorship Round is coming up, offering a valuable opportunity to support local projects and initiatives that make a real difference.

Building strong community partnerships is at the heart of what we do and we'd love to hear about the ideas your club or organisation is passionate about.

Applications open this August, so now's the time to start the conversation within your club.

ANZAC Day Service of Remembrance

Our local Henley & Grange RSL will once again be hosting their ANZAC Day Dawn Service and everyone is invited to come together to honour and remember those who have served.

- Saturday 25 April 2026
- 6:30am
- Soldiers Memorial, Seaview Road, Henley Beach

Henley SLSC & Grange SLSC junior rowers will recreate a symbolic beach landing before joining veterans in a march to the Soldiers Memorial.

Following the service, a traditional "Gunfire Breakfast" will be held at the RSL on North Street - kindly supported by volunteers from our very own West Beach branch.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Join our Board. Make a difference!

Are you connected to our community and want to help shape its future? Community Bank West Beach is looking for a voluntary Director to join our Board!

It's a fantastic opportunity to have your say in the direction of our branch and the projects we support locally - all while being part of a passionate, community-focused team.

Interested? Call Robyn on 0474 852 903 or email communitybankwestbeach@gmail.com to learn more or apply. Come be part of something that truly makes a difference!



Talk to us today

Community Bank West Beach

695b Burbridge Road, West Beach

P 8235 0208

E westbeach@bendigoadelaide.com.au

www.bendigobank.com.au/west-beach

We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday

 /communitybankwestbeachdistricts

Directors

Rae Lawson, Kosta Manning, Yasmin Spina, Alison Amber, Andrew Farran, Sue Mitchell

West Beach & Districts Community Financial
Services Limited

PO Box 18, West Beach SA 5024

8235 0208

ABN: 86 094 486 727

Saving the lives of Australian's one defibrillator at a time.

Here are locations where you'll find a defibrillator provided by Community Bank West Beach.

West Beach Primary School

Drakes Foodland, West Beach

Rowing SA

Henley South Tennis Club

Rotary Club of Kidman Park

Adelaide Sailing Club

Henley Surf Life Saving Club

Fulham Community Centre

Need a defibrillator at your club or know an area that will need one - contact Robyn on 0474 852 903 to discuss potential funding options.



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