

October 2026

Community talk!

Community Bank · West Beach

A message from our Chair

2026 has been another successful and busy year for our branch, filled with opportunities to connect with our community, build relationships and support the wonderful people, clubs, organisations and businesses that make our area so special.

Over the past 25 years, we've proudly given back more than **$2.6 million** to local clubs, organisations and community groups and we're incredibly proud of the difference this support has made.

To thank our wonderful community for its ongoing support and celebrate our 25th birthday, we're hosting a **FREE Community Family Fun Day**! There'll be plenty to enjoy, including information stalls from local clubs, demonstrations, locally made products, food trucks and family entertainment at Apex Park.

Everyone's invited! Come along, bring the family and join us for a fantastic day of fun, connection and community spirit as we celebrate 25 years of Community Bank West Beach. We can't wait to celebrate this special milestone with you!

Rae Lawson, Chair

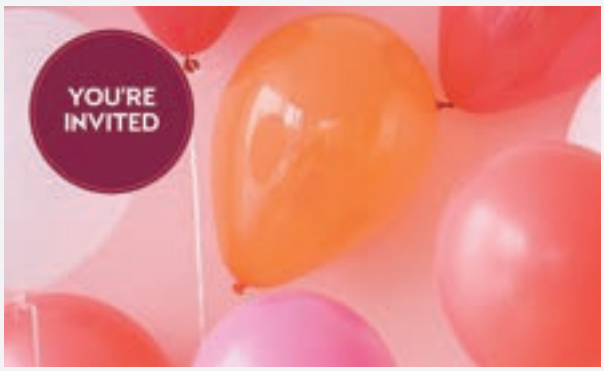
FREE Family Fun Day

IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY! LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!

Join us for the Community Bank West Beach 25th Birthday - FREE Community Family Fun Day!

- Apex Park, West Beach
- Saturday 21 November
- 9.30am–1.00pm

Come along and celebrate with us! Bring the family, discover what's happening in our local community and help us celebrate 25 amazing years of Community Bank West Beach!



Have you met our friendly team?



Have you visited our West Beach branch lately? We have some wonderful new faces!

Meet Robyn, Mel, Magda and Danielle - bringing a wealth of experience, friendly smiles and a genuine passion for helping our community.

Whether you need a hand with your banking, have questions about your finances or simply want to say hello, we're here to help.

Pop in, meet the team and say hi - we'd love to see you.

Robyn's new chapter - connecting our community

Join us in congratulating Robyn Hefford on her exciting new role as Community Engagement and Marketing Lead at Community Bank West Beach.

For the past eight years, Robyn has been the driving force behind so much of our community support, helping local clubs, groups and organisations thrive.

Now it's Robyn's turn to shine. Her passion, energy and genuine love for our community make her the perfect fit for this role.

You'll be seeing Robyn out and about even more, connecting with our wonderful community, building relationships and helping our local clubs and groups grow and thrive.



Alison took the plunge for charity

On Saturday, our volunteer director Alison took on the challenge of abseiling down the InterContinental in the city to help raise funds for Puddle Jumpers Incorporated and she absolutely smashed it.

With perfect weather, an incredible view and plenty of courage, Alison represented our West Beach branch with pride and took on this amazing challenge for a fantastic cause.

A huge thank you, Alison, for your bravery, enthusiasm and for getting involved. We're so proud of you and even happier that you had an absolute blast.

A big thank you to Puddle Jumpers and all the organisers and volunteers for creating such a fun, exciting and safe event.

And finally, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who kindly donated and supported Alison. Your generosity is very much appreciated and helps make a real difference.



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Little stars & a whole lot of netball love



Community Bank West Beach is proud to support SMAA Netball Club and the wonderful opportunities they create for players of all ages. From celebrating the little ones at the Little SMAArt Start Clinic to sharing in the club's Presentation Night and attending the 2026 CANA National Netball Carnival Opening Ceremony, we've loved being part of their journey. It's inspiring to see the club's commitment to inclusion, confidence, friendship and community through sport. Thank you to SMAA for welcoming us and for the incredible work you do to bring players, families and the wider community together.

Warming little hearts for winter

We're incredibly grateful to donate these essential gift bags to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union - South Australian Branch (WCTU) at Cowandilla. Filled with a hand-knitted jumper, toothbrush and toothpaste and a storybook, each backpack is designed to bring comfort, warmth and care to children doing it tough.

A very special thank you to Lorraine Koch for lovingly knitting each jumper - your kindness and generosity will make such a meaningful difference to the children receiving them.

Through WCTU's wonderful community connections, these gift bags will reach families who need a little extra support, warmth and kindness this winter. We're so proud to play a small part in helping make a difference in the lives of little people who need some extra support right now.



A snapshot of local creativity

There's something special about seeing our local community come together through art. Our SALA Festival display at West Beach was a beautiful reminder that creativity has no age limit and that everyone has a unique story to tell.

'Embracing Youthful Creativity' brought together the striking photography of local artists Bobbi Devine and Gavin Karjalainen, alongside the thoughtful and imaginative artwork of students from Henley High School and Nazareth Catholic College.

Each photograph offered a glimpse into a different perspective, inviting us to pause, look a little closer and appreciate the talent, curiosity and fresh ideas within our community. It was a lovely opportunity to celebrate established local artists while shining a light on the next generation of creative voices.

We're proud to provide a space where these talents can be shared, discovered and enjoyed by our community. Thank you to all the artists and students who helped make this exhibition so special!



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Saluting our Sea Rescue heroes



Our Chair, Rae Lawson, enjoyed a wonderful evening representing West Beach at the SA Sea Rescue Squadron Annual Dinner. A highlight was congratulating Gary Brown on receiving his well-deserved Life Membership. Rae also enjoyed meeting Commodore Nick Cundell and Councillor George Demetriou, who has proudly served the community for an incredible 52 years!

Thank you to the SA Sea Rescue Squadron for keeping our seas safe.

A whole lot of community spirit

Our **Your Community Corner** has proudly showcased a wonderful variety of local groups and organisations, each making a positive difference in our community.

From the long-standing sporting spirit of West Torrens Baseball Club to the community service and friendship of the Rotary Club of Henley Beach, we've celebrated the people who bring our community together. We've also explored South Australia's fascinating marine life with the Marine Discovery Centre and discovered the joy of handcrafted wooden toys with The Toy Boys, whose volunteers generously donate toys to local charities each Christmas.

These displays have been a wonderful opportunity to learn about local initiatives, discover ways to get involved and celebrate the people who make our community such a special place. Thank you to all the groups who have shared their stories with us.



Driving change & saving lives

Congratulations to our community partner, Get Home Safe Foundation, on being recognised by the Governor of South Australia at Government House in June.

We are proud to support Darren, the team, volunteers and ambassadors in their important work promoting road safety and saving lives.

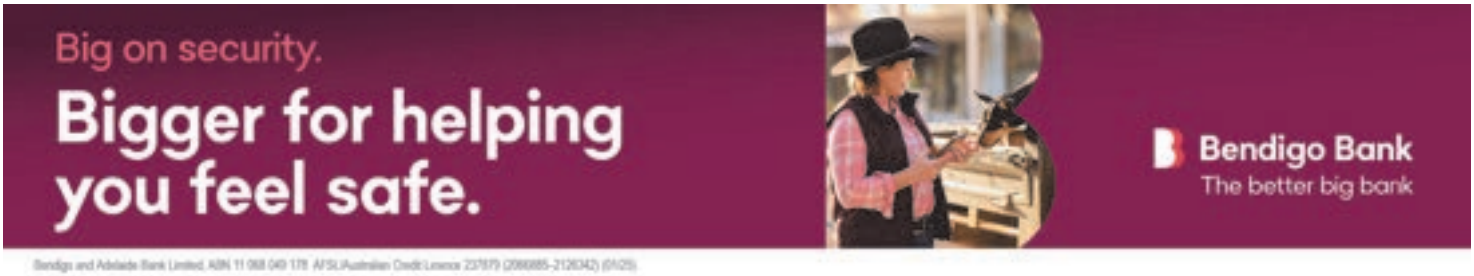
We're excited to share that the next Year 10 Driver Safety Course will be held at Henley High School in November. This fantastic initiative helps educate young drivers and encourage safer choices on our roads and we are incredibly proud to sponsor such a meaningful program.

We encourage everyone to support the Foundation's upcoming Women Against Road Toll High Tea on Sunday, 8 November at the Stamford Grand Glenelg. Featuring guest speaker Professor Nicola Spurrier, live music, raffles and a silent auction, it promises to be a wonderful afternoon supporting an important cause.

 Book your tickets: www.trybooking.com/DOINH

Every life matters. Every journey matters.







Congratulations to **West Beach Surf Life Saving Club**, named Surf Life Saving SA's 2026 Club of the Year for the second consecutive year. A fantastic achievement recognising their commitment to lifesaving, inclusion and community.

We also wish **Henley & Grange RSL** the best of luck as finalists in two categories at the Clubs SA Clubs & Community Awards: Best Licensed RSL and/or Services Club and Club of the Year – Medium.

We're proud to support these wonderful local clubs and celebrate their contributions to our community.



The buzz from the Woodville Wasps

Our partnership with Woodville Wasps Rugby Club continues to grow through shared experiences, community spirit and a passion for supporting local sport.

From enjoying the fun and friendly atmosphere of their Quiz Night to celebrating players' achievements at Presentation Evening and connecting with members and supporters on Sponsors Day, we're proud to be involved with such a fantastic club. Congratulations to the U18s on their outstanding 2026 championship season!

We're grateful for the warm welcome and proud to support a club that brings people together, builds friendships and creates opportunities within our local community.

Assessor of the Year

Huge congratulations to our Volunteer Board Director, **Sue Mitchell**, named **2026 Surf Life Saving SA Assessor of the Year.**

As Chief Assessor at Henley Surf Life Saving Club, Sue's dedication to training, assessing and supporting lifesavers across South Australia is making a real difference.

We're incredibly proud to see her passion and commitment recognised. It's a well-deserved honour.

Inspirational sporting legends

Frank and Cameron proudly attended the **2025 Sport SA Awards**, celebrating the athletes, coaches, volunteers and organisations making an outstanding contribution to South Australian sport.

Congratulations to Coach of the Year Winner, Ryan Harris – SA Cricket Association for his well-deserved recognition and to all the finalists and award recipients.

We're proud to support events that recognise sporting excellence, strengthen community connections and celebrate the people who inspire us both on and off the field.

We're grateful to support events that recognise achievement, foster community connections and celebrate the people who make a positive impact both on and off the field.



Big support, big impact for our community – $2.6 million and counting

A huge thank you to everyone who applied in our latest Grants & Sponsorship Program.

We were absolutely overwhelmed by the incredible response through Smarty Grants and are thrilled to have provided nearly $140,000 in funding to 34 very deserving local clubs and organisations – in this round alone.

Congratulations to all our successful recipients.

We're proud to support the wonderful work happening across our community and look forward to seeing how this funding makes a difference over the next 12 months, helping local clubs grow, create opportunities and continue the amazing work they do.

We're also looking forward to celebrating these partnerships and recognising our fantastic community connections at our upcoming birthday event in November at Apex Park.

Our next Grant & Sponsorship Program will open again in March 2027 – so make sure you register your interest with us soon.

Thank you for being part of our community.

Together, we're making great things happen



Cameron is here to help

You might have spotted our new Mobile Lending Manager, Cameron Nagel, out and about, visiting local clubs and saying g'day to our community.

Buying a home or refinancing doesn't have to be stressful.

Cameron brings the conversation to you – whether it's at your kitchen table, your favourite local café, the office or online, even after hours.

Cameron can help you with:

- Buying your first home
- Refinancing
- Upsizing, downsizing or buying to invest
- A friendly, obligation-free chat about your options

Call Cameron on 0404 099 640 or send him a message to get started.



Looking for new directors

West Beach & Districts Community Financial Services Limited is a franchisee of Bendigo Bank and operates the locally-owned **Community Bank West Beach.**

Expressions of interest are being accepted for the voluntary position of Director – an exciting opportunity for a person with a connection to the community to join the board to have a say in the direction of the branch and community.

For more information, or to apply, contact Gianna on 8235 0208 or email admin.cbwestbeach@gmail.com



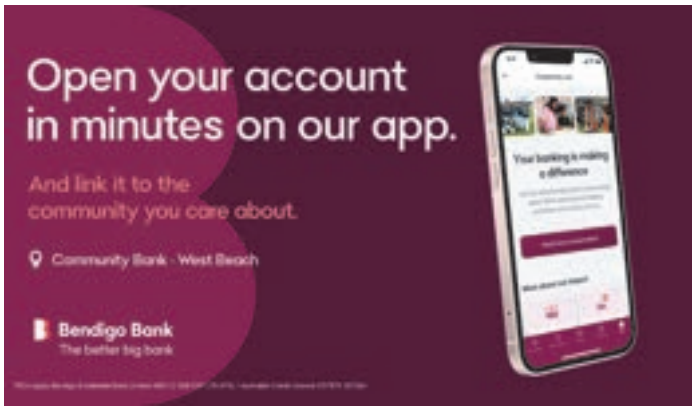
Talk to us today

Community Bank
West Beach
695 Burbridge Road West Beach SA 5024
P 8235 0208
E westbeachmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au
west-beach

We're open:
9.30am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday

Directors
Rae Lawson, Fazz (Andrew) Farran, Alison Amber, Yasmin Spina, Sue Mitchell

West Beach & Districts Community Financial Services Limited
86 094 486 727



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Download the Bendigo Bank app and open an Everyday Account in minutes. Easy!

A great banking experience can also support the community you care about. So link your new account to **Community Bank West Beach**.

That way your banking will help support local projects and not for profit organisations.

Join us today, and get started.





Bendigo Bank

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