Community Bank[®] branch donations.

Since our last newsletter the Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] Branch was pleased to provide the following donations:

Wickliffe/Lake Bolac Football Netball Club	\$214	2017 Membership Cards
Willaura Golf Club	\$200	Annual Tournament Sponsorship
Mininera & District Netball Association	\$280	Trophies and Medallions
Streatham & District Historical Society	\$200	Vintage Rally Sponsorship
Lake Bolac & District Historical Society	\$200	Historical Plaques for town
Lake Bolac & District Bowling Club	\$600	Barefoot Bowls Sponsorship
Lake Bolac Tennis Club	\$200	Junior Tennis Program



Above: Game, Set, Match! Lake Bolac Junior Tennis Players ready to hit the courts to learn some more tennis skills.

Community Enterprise Foundation™ Grants Program 2018 - Banking locally benefits the local community.

The Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] Branch has launched the 2018 Community Grants Program. It provides grants to local groups for modest but worthwhile projects to enhance their community. Guidelines and application forms are available from your local Willaura or Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] branch.

Last year a very successful Community Grants information session was held in Lake Bolac. This year we will be holding another information session to be held at the Lake Bolac Information Centre Thursday 22 March at 7.30pm, all community groups intending on applying for a grant are encouraged to attend.

Applications will open 23 March and close 5.00pm 20 April 2018. Applicants will be notified of outcome in May.

Community Bank® Branch Award for Citizenship.

The Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] Branch is proud to support the Lake Bolac P-12 College by providing a \$50 voucher for the Award for Citizenship and involvement in the local community. This award has helped acknowledge and encourage many young

students over the years. The award was presented to Kyla Bilson at the College's Senior Presentation evening held in December. No Numeracy Award was given to a Grade 6 student at Willaura Primary school last year due to student numbers, but we look forward to presenting this award again in 2018

Right: CSO Staff Member Suzanne Neumann presenting the Citizenship Award Kyla Bilson.



Willaura/Lake Bolac Financial Services Limited 70 Main Street, Willaura VIC 3379 **ABN** 83 108 159 422 **Directors:** Colin McKenzie (Chairman), Lyn Webster (Secretary), Davina Stacy (Treasurer), Andrea Armytage, Jane Blackburn, Robert Fraser, David Hucker, Rowley Paterson, Colleen White and Lisa Wills.



Hello and goodbye - staff update.

After a short time working for Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] Branch we say farewell to Maree Michell. We wish her all the best in the future and thank her for contribution to the **Community Bank**[®] branch. We also farewell Donna Gannon who is now on maternity leave and we wish her and Brendan all the best on the arrival of their new baby.

Branch Manager - We are extremely pleased to announce the appointment of Lynsey Deer. Lynsey has an extensive background in banking and is a very welcome addition to our team. Lynsey is available for consultations, either in branch or on farm. To make an appointment, please contact the branch. We also invite you to call into a branch to say hello. There will be an official meet and greet, so please call in for a cuppa, slice and chat on Friday 9 March at Willaura between 9.00am-12noon and Lake Bolac 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

Also, next time you visit one of the branches you may notice a new face to our team. Lia Slattery started

with the Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] Branch team in February as our new casual Customer Service Officer staff member and she is in the midst of her teller training. We appreciate your patience while she settles into her new role.



Congratulations to the MDFL and MDNA winners!

The Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] branches along with Dunkeld & District **Community Bank**[®] Branch are proud to have been the 2017 major naming rights sponsor for the MDFL and congratulates all last year's winners. Staff members Lauren Givhan and Suzanne Neumann attended the grand final and were kept busy all day presenting the medals to the winners and runners-up football teams and the A Grade Netball players. Our communities may be small but they're important. Like our **Community Bank**[®] branch, hard work and plenty of support reaps rewards that are wide reaching for us all. Good for you and your community!



Above: Winners are Grinners – Lismore/Derrinallum Senior players receiving their medals and Bendigo Bank Caps. Photo courtesy of Peter Pickering.

Faulty Towers the Dining Experience.

The sell-out show at the Willaura Memorial Hall was a huge success and very much enjoyed by the large number who attended. The night was organized by volunteers from the Willaura & District Community Development Group in conjunction with the Willaura Hospital Auxiliary and the Willaura Recreation Reserve Committee of Management. Much needed funds were raised for the Aged Care Facility and the Recreation Reserve through the generous and willing participation of a crowd that had managed to get in early and secure seats for this popular event. The evening was supported by funding through the Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] Branch and Ararat Performing Arts Centre. Event organisers said that without the **Community Bank**[®] branch's assistance the Development Group would not have had the wherewithal for such an undertaking. The laughter in the hall on the night, and the positive comments that have steadily come in to the organisers since, all indicated that the entire effort was well and truly worthwhile.

Staff member Jo Byron attended the evening and reported that diners felt they were truly at Basil and Sybil's restaurant, and no suspension of disbelief was needed. The tone was set early in the night as guests were ushered through a foyer complete with an Elk head on the wall, heavy black telephone and pigeon holes with keys dangling. Development group committee member Heather Fleming said gales of laughter were heard throughout the dinner as the Faulty's and the hapless Manuel bumbled their way through the evening.

Said one long-time resident; 'It's the best evening I've ever been to in the Willaura Hall." Another cheerfully remarked that he'd go again, even though Manuel did pick him up and try to cart him off the floor. Yet another said that one of the best parts was watching her fellow diners' reaction to the trio's outlandish efforts at hospitality.

The entire 'Dining Experience' was a joy, and will long be remembered by those in our small community lucky enough to be part of it.

Right: L-R Staff Member Jo Byron, Basil & Sybil Faulty, EGHS Committee Member Heather Fleming & Lesley Gibson and Faulty's waiter Manuel.



Willaura Primary School - Willaura Lights Up!

The Willaura Lights Up! Performance, proudly sponsored by the Willaura & Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] Branch, was an outstanding success for the community of Willaura. Approximately 200 members from the Willaura community and beyond came to see the show on Thursday 7 December. The school grounds were transformed into a summer fair with entertainment, jumping castle, face painting and a gourmet BBQ. With the support of the **Community Bank**[®] branch, amongst other things, the Willaura Primary School were able to create Willaura's own

"White Night" event by providing a professional PA and create a film that they were able to share with members of the community. Congratulations to all involved in making the night such a wonderful experience.

Right: Colourful images and local storytelling projected on the wall of the Willaura Primary School.



School and Kindergarten banking contributions.

As part of our ongoing commitment to support the local schools and kindergartens we are pleased to donate \$104.50 to the Lake Bolac College and \$55.38 to the Willaura Primary School. A small donation and pack of educational books was also given to the Lake Bolac & District Kindergarten and Willaura & District Kindergarten. These donations were made possible due to parents and students who utilise the Student Banking service. If you are not currently involved in Student Banking and would like to help support this service, please contact us for more information.



Left: Lake Bolac Kindergarten Teachers Petrina Williamson and Joy Grimmer with William Blackburn and Minnie McDonald holding their new books.



Right: Willaura Kindergarten Teachers Tari Jensen and Margy Keilar with Jack Menz receiving their Kinder books.

Have you BEAN quoted campaign?

Thank you to all who supported our 'Have you BEAN quoted?' Campaign. We hope those of you who received a free coffee voucher enjoyed your coffee from our lovely, local bakery and cafes. Our winner of the Christmas hamper was Ken Townsend and our January hamper winner was Laurie Hamilton. Congratulations and thanks again for supporting your local **Community Bank**[®] branches.





Above: Christmas Hamper winner Ken Townsend accepting is prize from CSO Donna Gannon.

Left: Barbara Hamilton on behalf of Laurie winner of the January Hamper accepting his prize.

Shop Local/Bank Local – September/ October campaign.



Our shop 'Local / Bank Local' campaign was well supported with many local community groups benefiting from it. Anyone opening a new account during the months of September and October with the account domiciled to the Willaura or Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] branches were able to nominate a Community Group who currently banks with our branches to receive a \$50 donation from the **Community Bank**[®] branch. The following community groups were nominated to receive a donation:

Lake Bolac College	\$150
Lake Bolac Foreshore Committee	\$100
Lake Bolac Golf Club	\$50
Lake Bolac Kindergarten	\$50
Lake Bolac Music Club	\$50
Narrapumelap Fire Brigade	\$100
Tatyoon Cricket Club	\$50
Tatyoon Football Club	\$50
Wickliffe/Lake Bolac Football Netball Club	\$50
Willaura Cricket Club	\$50
Willaura CFA	\$50
Willaura Hospital Auxiliary	\$50
Willaura Kindergarten	\$50
Willaura Primary School	\$400
Willaura Recreation Reserve	\$50
Woorndoo PS Committee of Management	\$50

Community Enterprise Foundation™ presentation night.

Our Community Enterprise Foundation[™] presentation night held at the Lake Bolac Hotel in June was a great way for our successful applicants to gather and share information about their projects. Valuable connections are made as local people are able to mutually promote each other's events and celebrate achievements. It's also a chance to share why and how the **Community Bank**[®] model in Willaura and Lake Bolac is successful as sponsorships makes a difference to everyone in our community. All this leads to an easy conclusion that banking with your Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] Branch is simply part of belonging to a great community. Can you think of any organisation that has contributed this much to our towns?

Right: Community Bank® branch staff members with Community Enterprise FoundationTM recipients accepting their awards.





Community resources – Brand your next event.



Sponsorship recipients are invited to borrow our Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**[®] branches' banners, marquee or coolroom or other items for their event or activity. These items are great ways of further promoting your sponsorship while adding colour, shade and community benefit to your day. Please call our branches to discuss what is available and for bookings.

Community Grant Fund – dividend donations.

The Willaura, Wickliffe, Lake Bolac, Woorndoo and Tatyoon Cemetery trust have each received \$294 recently thanks to the generous shareholders who chose to donate their 2017 dividend to the fund.

Right: Local Cemetery trust volunteers Jo Byron, George Murray and Jodie Leske accepting their donations from Maree Michell and Colin McKenzie.





Gear up to grow.

Equipment Finance from Rural Bank.

Rural Bank's Equipment Finance gives you the power to purchase gear to grow your business, without draining your capital.

To find out more visit your local branch at 70 Main Street, Willaura or phone 5354 1170, or 2110 Glenelg Highway, Lake Bolac or phone 5350 2374 to speak to Lynsey Deer.

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Available through **Bendigo Bank**

Willaura/Lake Bolac Community Bank® Branch

Willaura

70 Main Street, Willaura VIC 3379 Phone: 5354 1170 Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/willaura Opening hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11.00am – 4.00pm, Friday 9.00am – 12 noon

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Lake Bolac

2110 Glenelg Highway, Lake Bolac VIC 3351 Phone: 5350 2374 Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/lake-bolac Opening hours: Monday and Wednesday 11.00am – 4.00pm, Friday 2.00pm – 5.00pm



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