



## The Very Round Robin in Willaura.

The Willaura & District Community Development Group in October organised a night of live music in Willaura, with \$1000 financial assistance from the Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch an important element of the event's success. An appreciative crowd listened with pleasure to Rosey, Gallie and Lucie Thorn perform in 'The Very Round Robin'. The trio's original songs and stories were entertaining, and it was a treat for the crowd to be able to enjoy live music in their own local hall. The Willaura Primary School Parents and the Willaura Cricket Club did an excellent job with the catering and the bar, and their support was also much appreciated.

Pictured above are (left to right) CSO Donna Gannon, with The Very Round Robin performers Lucie, Gallie, Rosey and CSO Jo Byron.

## Changes to the **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> company Board.

Robert Fraser has stepped down from the Board recently. Robert has been involved with our **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> company from its very origins being part of the original Steering Committee some 14 years ago. Robert has made an outstanding contribution in building and promoting local banking services within the community and we would like to take this opportunity to thank him on his years of service to our **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch.

We welcome Andrea Armytage to the Board. Andi is a local farmer and lawyer who hails from Willaura and is Secretary of the Upper Hopkins Land Management Group.

## Community Grants Program 2017 - Banking locally benefits the local community.

The Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch has launched the 2017 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**<sup>®</sup> branches.

Last year a very successful Community Grants information session was held in Lake Bolac. This year we will be holding the information session in Willaura in mid February, date to be confirmed, and all community groups will be contacted. Notices will be posted in branches and on township noticeboards. Representatives from the Community Enterprise Foundation™ and Ararat Rural City Council have been invited.

Proposed timeline is as follows:

- 15 February – Grants open / Information Session (to be confirmed)
- 22 March – Grants close
- Late April – applications assessed and advised of outcome.

## **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> branch award for Citizenship and Numeracy award.

The Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> 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 Emma Vallance at the College's Senior Presentation evening held in December. A Grade 6 Numeracy Award for \$50 was also presented to Georgiana Gray at the Willaura Primary School during their end of year concert.

Right: Emma Receiving her award from Customer Relationship Officer Simone McDonald.



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, Rowley Patterson, Colleen White, David Hucker, Lisa Wills.

## The Yarn, Wickliffe.



Above: Locals enjoying The Yarn Day and talking about their local knowledge of the area.

After the wonderful success of the Yarn in Willaura in 2015, the natural progression was to host another event

to draw together former and current residents of the community to digitally record the precious stories of characters and events that shaped the surrounding towns as we know them.

Braving cold, blustery wet and muddy conditions on Friday 21 October 2016 at the Wickliffe Recreation Reserve community room, the hamlet of Wickliffe hosted The 2016 Yarn. Over the course of the day, 40 community members, old friends and four generations gathered to listen to the Yarns that brought old characters back to life and regaled stories of childhood and times we will never know and see again. The spirit and heart of community, much laughter and fond memories were shared and recorded. Over the coming months photographs will be collected to compliment the audio recording to bring the yarn to life in a visual DVD format. The Wickliffe Yarn will be available to those who wish to have a copy for their family and for future generations to appreciate. The community of Wickliffe and the Wickliffe Action Group was most grateful for the generous support of \$200 the Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**® Branch for assisting them to create a very rare and special event.

## Community Bank® Barefoot Bowls.

The Lake Bolac and District Bowling Club held a very successful barefoot bowls competition over a six-week period from 10 November to 15 December 2016. The Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**® Branch was proud naming rights sponsor and contributed \$500 to enable the club to put on a free bbq tea throughout the duration of the competition. The half time meal break catered for 42 players who participated each week and proved to be a most pleasant and social feature of each evening. The club intends to run another six-week barefoot bowls commencing on 23 February 2017 and we hope to have a branch team participate!



Above: George Murray, Jim Fitzpatrick, Judy Black and Damian Phillips enjoying a game at the Barefoot Bowls Competition.

## School and Kindergarten banking contributions.

As part of our ongoing commitment to support the local schools and kindergartens we are pleased to donate \$185 to the Lake Bolac College, \$50 to the Lake Bolac & District Kindergarten, \$50 to the Willaura Primary School and \$10 and a book to the 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.

## Shop Local - December Promotion.

Thank you to everyone who supported the December Shop Local Promotion. Congratulations to Suzanne Neumann, who won a \$200 voucher donated by the Willaura/Lake Bolac **Community Bank**® Branch. The winning ticket was drawn by Mel Evans. Suzanne chose to redeem her voucher at Gorst Rural and thanked all the local businesses for this promotion and also for some great shopping opportunities saying "you don't know what you'll find unless you have a look".



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## Willaura/Lake Bolac Community Bank® Branch

### Willaura

70 Main Street, Willaura VIC 3379

Phone: 5354 1170

Website: [www.bendigobank.com.au/willaura](http://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](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/lake-bolac)

Opening hours: Monday and Wednesday 11.00am – 4.00pm,  
Friday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

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