

Spring
2024

Better Banking. Big Impact

Community Bank · Avoca, Maryborough and St Arnaud

Supporting our community

Being part of a Community Bank means being part of something bigger. While we provide excellent banking and financial services, we aim to give back to our community. By banking with us, our customers also help to support their communities through our Community Impact Program.

We provide the majority of profits back to local community organisations, forming ongoing partnerships and collaboration opportunities.



\$2.4 million

Reinvested from
1999 to now



\$439,180

Contribution to the
community in 2023/24



83

Organisations
supported in 2023/24

2023/24 Highlights

Our latest newsletter highlights key moments from the 2023/24 year, with a focus on the positive impact we've made together.

This year, we proudly supported 83 projects, contributing a total of \$439,180 to initiatives that strengthen our community. Your support has been instrumental in empowering these local organisations.

Keep reading to see the difference you've helped create!



Stuart Mill Progress Association – Defib Grant

2023/24 Sponsorship recipients

Avoca Football Netball Club

Avoca Primary School

Avoca Riverside Market Inc

Avoca Shire Turf Club

Best Lamb Best Wool - Pyrenees Group

Buloke Grampians Landcare Network

Carisbrook Bowling Club

Carisbrook Football Netball Club

Carisbrook Primary School

Highview College

Maryborough Basketball Association

Maryborough Castlemaine District
Football Netball League

Maryborough Cricket Club

Maryborough District Health Services

Maryborough Education Centre

Maryborough Harness Racing Club

Maryborough Highland Gathering

Maryborough Theatre Company

Maryborough Volunteer Resource
Centre

Natte Bealiba Football Netball Club

Pyrenees Grapegrowers & Winemakers

Pyrenees Petanque

Sambo Federation of Victoria

St Arnaud Football Club

St Arnaud Lawn Tennis Club

St Arnaud Lions Club

St Arnaud Netball Club

St Arnaud Primary School

St Arnaud Secondary College

St Arnaud Turf Club

St Arnaud Young Farmers

St Augustines Primary School

St Patricks Primary School St Arnaud

Talbot Football Netball Club

Talbot Primary School

Timor Primary School



Carisbrook Bowling Club



Kooreh Hall



St Arnaud Harvest Festival



Local Food Pantries



Carisbrook FNC



St Arnaud Neighbourhood House



Castlemaine Maryborough Rail Trail



Stuart Mill Racecourse Riding Club



Central Goldfields Bushwalking Group



St Arnaud Community Kitchen



Pyrenees Unearthed



Talbot Kitchen

Energy Breakthrough



Liesbeth EBT Partnership Announcement

Local schools supported

Avoca Primary School

Carisbrook Primary School

Highview College

Maryborough Education Centre

St Arnaud Primary School

St Arnaud Secondary College

St Augustines Primary School

St Patricks Primary School

Talbot Primary School

Timor Primary School

We are excited to sign on as the Energy Breakthrough Official Volunteer Sponsor for the second consecutive year.

Central Goldfields Shire Councillor and Energy Breakthrough's Management Group Committee Chair, Cr Liesbeth Long said the organising team were excited to continue the partnership.

"This partnership is a perfect fit – with such a strong collaboration between the 700+ volunteers who make the Energy Breakthrough event possible and the community focus of the Community Bank.

"We are stoked and grateful to the Community Bank Avoca, Maryborough and St Arnaud for their investment for the second year and specifically their commitment to supporting the hundreds of volunteers who play such a critical role in the event's success.

"The Community Bank have generously supported numerous of our local schools for many years. This partnership builds that solid commitment even further.

"The Community Bank's dedication to investing back into our local community is admirable and we are fortunate they recognise the value and significance of the Energy Breakthrough to our local community."

The sponsorship will assist Energy Breakthrough in attracting potential new volunteers, supporting current volunteers and recognising the efforts of long-standing EB volunteers. It will also assist in providing uniforms, training and catering at the event.

Volunteers play a critical role in the success of Energy Breakthrough. They work across a range of areas including communications, social media, judges for display and presentations, design and construction and track marshals.

The upcoming Energy Breakthrough event is scheduled for Wednesday 20 to Sunday 24 November, 2024, at Princes Park, Maryborough, Victoria.



From top: Avoca Primary School, Carisbrook Primary School, Highview College



The ability to move around easily within our community is something that many of us take for granted. It is a key factor in our wellbeing.

And with the CSIRO citing more than 180,000 Australians using wheelchairs and another 25,000 using electric or power wheelchairs, transport options can be severely limited.

As part of the Community Bank's \$250,000 Community Grant Program, Asteria received \$82,617 to acquire a wheelchair-accessible vehicle, equipped with a ramp and other necessary features.

This vehicle has significantly improved opportunities for wheelchair users, allowing them to participate in previously inaccessible programs.

According to Asteria CEO Annie Constable, Asteria wouldn't have been able to offer their current services without the grant funding provided by the Community Bank.

"Having a vehicle readily available has enabled our clients to engage in their community in a more meaningful way," she said.

"We have also been able to introduce new programs that would not have been achievable previously."

In recent years, Asteria has received funding for other projects including a worm farm, photographic equipment, coffee machine and tennis program to enrich the lives of the organisation's participants.

This longstanding partnership highlights the positive impact that community organisations can achieve when working together.



Bendigo Bank Award



Our regional Manager, Shaun, presented the trophy for the Bendigo Bank Community Involvement Award (Regional Vic/Tas)! This was awarded to our 3 sites for 3 projects in particular:

- Our involvement with the St Arnaud Community Kitchen, including an equipment grant and support of their weekly lunch program.
- The partnership with Energy Breakthrough as Official Volunteer Sponsor.
- Our work with ASTERIA Services Inc, including the new vehicle funded with our 2023 Community Grant Program.

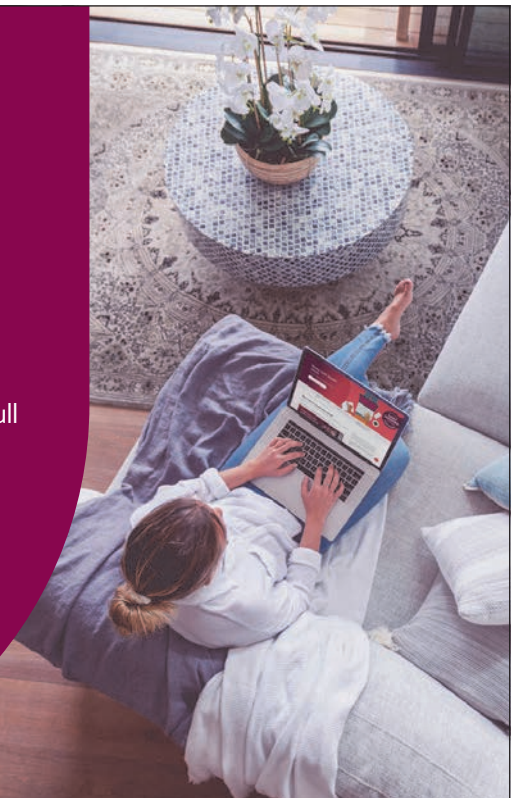
Time for a home loan health check!

With the current cost of living, there's never been a better time to review your home loan.

We'll look at your rate, term, repayments, and equity, giving your loan a full check-up to make sure it's still right for you and your current needs.

Enquire online at [bendigobank.com.au/healthcheck](https://www.bendigobank.com.au/healthcheck) or visit your nearest branch.

**📍 Community Bank · Avoca 5465 3804 ·
Maryborough 5461 4384 · St Arnaud 0448 742 059**



B Bendigo Bank

*Source: Roy Morgan Single Source Australia, May 2023. All loans are subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply. Please consider your situation and read the Terms and Conditions, available online at www.bendigobank.com.au or upon request from any Bendigo Bank branch, before making a decision. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL 237879 A 2045547 OUT_41126042, 23/10/2024

Talk to us today

If you need help with your banking, contact our lending team. They can meet you when and where it suits you; at the branch, over the phone, or via video call.



Joel
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Community Bank · Avoca

121 High Street, Avoca

P 5465 3804

E avoca@bendigoadelaide.com.au

bendigobank.com.au/avoca

We're open:

9.30am - 12.30, 1.30 - 4.00pm Monday to Thursday

9.30am - 12.30, 1.30 - 5.00pm Friday

Maryborough

52 -54 Tuaggra Street, Maryborough

P 5461 4384

E maryborough@bendigoadelaide.com.au

bendigobank.com.au/maryborough

We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Thursday

9.30am - 5.00pm Friday

St Arnaud


88 Napier Street, St Arnaud

P 5495 2587

We're open:

10.15am - 3.00pm Monday to Thursday

10.15am - 4.00pm Friday

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Avoca District Co-operative Ltd

PO Box 81, Avoca VIC 3467

ABN 82 022 501 598

Meet our new Director, Carl

Carl Leach, originally from South Australia, moved to St Arnaud in 2019 with his wife and two kids. He is the site manager at Gilmac. In his spare time, Carl enjoys fishing, staying active at the gym, and being a part of the local community. He is also an active volunteer, contributing his time to community initiatives.



Earlier in the year Carl completed the Kokoda Trail, here he is pictured at the finish line.



Keeping you safe online

Cyber security and scams have taken on a new intensity this year. Bendigo Bank has been increasing education and awareness activities to help people understand what to look for, and what to do if they suspect they've been scammed.

We encourage all our customers to visit the security section of Bendigo Bank's website to learn more:

www.bendigobank.com.au/security

The bank has also recently announced a new scam awareness education program which people and community groups can access through our branch.

Speak to our team to book it for your organisation.

Customers are encouraged to call our branch if they are suspicious of any communication. The mantra to keep in mind is:

- **STOP** – don't give money or personal information to anyone if you are unsure.
- **THINK** – Ask yourself if the call or message could be fake.
- **PROTECT** – Act quickly if something feels wrong by contacting us on 5465 3804.

We opened a bank
to grow a community

 Bendigo Bank

