

Autumn/
Winter
2023



Newsletter

Community Bank · Elwood

Welcome to Community Bank Elwood's Newsletter

Although the sunny warm days are a few, the Elwood community continues to have a vibrant vibe and buzz about. All the sporting clubs are getting ready to launch into season and term one for school is done and dusted.

With life back to busy and somewhat normal, it was great to host and attend many in person events over the last year. As a business we have also continued to grow and thrive, and this success has allowed us to once again, increase our Sponsorship and Grant budgets for the year. This is a fantastic time for the community as we support more projects and initiatives.

We will soon be hosting a networking breakfast, with all local traders, community groups and stakeholders to identify what our community needs. Our last Grants program was a such great success with Community Bank Elwood sponsoring many organisations for some very important causes in our community. These included Elwood College's Mental Health Program, Melbourne Women's Fund Indigenous Cultural Awareness workshop, Intergenerational Duets for Embraced Inc, Hygiene Kits for Kiwanis Club of Brighton, Elwood Toy Library's new equipment, Poets Garden Food Wall Rejuvenation and many more.

These projects are what motivates the Board, Bank staff and team to dedicate their time above and beyond expectations.

We are also excited to introduce a School Scholarship Program to our Community Contributions over the next year, more details will be provided in due course.

At our AGM in November, we farewelled Alastair Chisholm, Director and the founder of our branch. Alastair was (and will remain) an integral part of the Board and growth of Community Bank Elwood for over 20 years. We wish Alastair and his wife Pam all the very best with his retirement and sincerely thank him for his dedication, knowledge and vision that see's us where we are today.

We also would like to warmly welcome new members Ariane Vincent (Board Director and Community Connections Committee member) and Liam Ashbrook-Haley (CSO – Customer Service Officer) to our team and community.

As the Autumn leaves are changing, it is a reminder to health check your home loans for a refresh, come into our branch to enquire about our current campaigns and see how our team can help you.

Don't forget you can also support us by following and sharing with your networks our Facebook page (Elwood Community Bank Branch) for updates, events and interesting stories.

We always welcome your feedback.

Take care and stay safe.

The Team at Community Bank Elwood



Congratulations to Justene Boit, our lovely customer for winning the Easter Hamper Raffle, we hope you enjoyed all the chocolate!

Melbourne Women's Fund - 2023 Annual Awards Celebration

The Melbourne Women's Fund was established in 2014 (Charitable Fund Account in the Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund) as a giving circle that brings together members' financial, intellectual, professional, and personal resources to support non-profit organisations in Melbourne that address issues undermining the quality of life and futures of women and their families.

They are 100% volunteer-run and 100% of the donations go to non-profit organisations.

We have been fortunate enough to sponsor this amazing organisation for the Annual Awards Celebration over the last few years. It is always gratifying to witness the presentation of the Signature and Nurturing Grants and the initiatives for which they will be used for.

MWF are always so grateful and appreciative of our support, here are a few words from Gillian Hund OAM Co-Founder.

Hello Mary,

Can I please add my very grateful thanks to Bendigo Community Bank Elwood for their very generous sponsorship of our 2023 Annual Awards Celebration.

We are absolutely thrilled that we have been selected again as a worthy recipient of the sponsorship grants which the Bank makes available to support NFP organisations in the community.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Awards celebration, and of course you and Board members are always welcome to attend any of our events as they are scheduled.

With warmest thanks

Gillian Hund



Elwood College Art Show



Elwood College Art Show sponsorship funding with the Bendigo Bank to support student mental health.

Elwood College would like to say a huge thank you to our local Community Bank, the Bendigo Bank Elwood who have generously sponsored Elwood College and our art show fund raiser to support student mental health.

Elwood College is a co-educational government school with more than 700 students enrolled. We value the partnerships we make with our local community and its members and believe that those connections strengthen the learning and educational experience for our children. With the challenges our children are facing today, student mental health programs have become a vital component of our curriculum.

Our annual fund raiser will feature student visual and performance art as well as a special dining experience for our families which will be led by our students who will be guided by Ben Shewry of Attica. Ben will be working with our students to design a menu and prepare all dishes in the lead up to the event. On the night he will be working with our students in our Food Tech kitchen to deliver an amazing dining experience. The Leaf Store will be donating their produce for the menu. 100% of funds raised, including the sponsorship funding from the Bendigo Bank and the money raised from ticket sales for the dinner will go directly to support student mental health. This much needed funding will ensure all students in each year level will be supported with dedicated mental health programs.

We are so grateful for the wonderful generosity of the Bendigo Bank and look forward to sharing this experience with our local supporters and the broader community.

Kerryn Stubbs
Elwood College School Council Vice President



Part of the team

Elwood Community Financial Services Limited is a franchisee of Bendigo Bank and operates the locally owned Community Bank of Elwood.

Expressions of interest are now being accepted for the voluntary position of Director.

As a director you will be motivated, well organised, self-directed and community orientated. You'll support and drive the company's strategic direction, goals and objectives to have a real say in the future direction of the branch and community.

For more information or to apply, call Carole Mackie on 0417 359 513 or email carole@camaccounting.com.au.

Elwood Community Financial Services Limited

Anzac Day

Elwood Sailing Club

On 25 April we commemorate ANZAC day and acknowledge and honour the Anzacs who have served and died as a sacrifice and we thank them for their bravery.



Another great year with a huge crowd gathered for the iconic Anzac Day Service at the Elwood Foreshore, supported by friends of the Elwood RSL, Elwood Sailing Club, all the partners and supporters and hosted by Gary March (Community Bank Board Director and Secretary). Many beautiful wreaths and flowers were laid by the community including Bank Founder Alastair Chisholm.

We are honoured to be a part of this very special commemoration and tradition.



Misho at Elwood Bendigo Bank has been very helpful, professional and kind to deal with. This service stands out in our world where it is so rare to receive any human response of exceptional quality.

Jason Hartcup



Support your local community

Our model is simple. You bank with us and enjoy Bendigo Bank's great rates, products and services. Your community then shares in the bank's income. Funds are distributed to local community groups. Good things happen in your community. There's never been a better time to consider changing banks.

Our branches are local, provide exceptional customer service and offer Bendigo Bank's full range of competitive products. Make an appointment today with our Mobile Relationship Manager Hiren Vadaliya on 0468 822 355 or email at Hiren.Vadaliya@bendigoadelaide.com.au

He can meet with you at a time and place convenient to you, or drop into our branch at 142 Ormond Road Elwood.

Kiwanis Hygiene packs

For many years now we, at Kiwanis Brighton Bayside, have been providing Hygiene Packs to the homeless youth of Bayside, often with the support of the Bendigo Community Bank Elwood. However, we now find that the need for such packs appears to have grown alarmingly and to a wider group, including families. And this was just as our sources of funding seemed to have dried up.

So, you can imagine our joy when we were granted the sum of \$3,500 by the Community Bank Elwood branch of the Bendigo Bank. With that grant we are now able to provide just what the wonderful organizers of the Shower Bus and the Youth Residential Program of Port Phillip have requested to help support the needs of the homeless of Bayside over the coming year.

Fiona Campbell Hicks
KIWANIS BRIGHTON BAYSIDE



New Board member

We are delighted to introduce Ariane Vincent, Director on the Board and member of the Community Connections Committee.

Ariane trained as a lawyer and has extensive commercial experience. She has led multiple marketing and business improvement projects in Australia and Europe. She is currently working as a management consultant assisting companies improve their business performance.



Ariane is passionate about the Elwood community. She has been an active member of the community for over a decade and her children attended Elwood Primary School, where they were actively involved in local community sports and activities. Ariane is also an organiser of the annual Community Shred Days, which raises funds for the Elwood Life Saving Club.

We welcome Ariane to Elwood Community Financial Services Limited.

Talk to us today

Community Bank · Elwood

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E elwood.mailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au

bendigobank.com.au/elwood



/Elwood Community Bank Branch

We're open:

9.30am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday

Branch Manager: Raj Kumar

Rajan.Kumar@bendigoadelaide.com.au

Mobile Relationship Manager: Hiren Vadaliya

Hiren.Vadaliya@bendigoadelaide.com.au

Customer Relationship Officer: Mish Sukalo

Customer Service Officer: Leanne Harb

Customer Service Officer: Karan Chawla

Customer Service Officer: Liam Ashbrook-Haley

Personal Assistant to the Board of Directors:

Mary Munafa

Directors

Carole Mackie (Chair), Chris Sargood, Liz Johnstone, Gary March, Adam Mckie and Ariane Vincent.

Elwood Community Financial Services Limited

142 Ormond Rd Elwood VIC 3184

ABN 38 087 802 775

Welcome to the branch team!

We warmly welcome to the team, Liam Ashbrook-Haley as CSO – Customer Service Officer. A few words from Liam:



“My Name is Liam, I'm the newest member at Community Bank Elwood. I finished year 12 in 2021 at Albert Park College. Outside of work I enjoy playing sports such as AFL. I play for Port Colts and basketball, I follow St Kilda in the AFL. I'm not from Elwood so I'm excited to get to know the area, try new cafes and other restaurants. I'm extremely excited to start my new career at Bendigo Bank.”

Community Grants and Sponsorships

Ripponlea Primary School – Professional Ceramics Program

Brighton Playroom Inc – Program Development

St Kilda Gatehouse Inc – Greeves St Online

Linden New Art – On Holidays

Team Sports 4 All Pty Ltd – Port Phillip Team Sports 4 All

Park Towers Tenant Management – Renewal and Enervation

Elwood St Kilda Neighbourhood Centre – Creative Craft Group

Poets Grove Family & Childrens Centre – Poets Grove Community Website

Kiwanis Club of Brighton – Hygiene Kits

Poets Garden – Poets Garden Food Wall Rejuvenation

North Brighton Kindergarten – Indigenous mural and staff cultural education

Embraced Inc – Intergenerational Duets

Theatre Works Ltd – First Stories Festival

Kidsafe Victoria – Local Community Injury Prevention Champions

Elwood Toy Library – New Toys for the Toy Library

Elwood Children's Centre – Trivia Night - New learning resources

St Kilda City Junior Football Club – Season Sponsorship

St Kilda Neighbourhood Learning Centre – Elwood Kitchen Library Upgrade

Linden New Art Inc – Postcard Show

St Kilda CFC – Season Sponsorship

St Columbas Primary School – Elwood Children's Marque Fair and new PE Equipment