

# Newsletter!

## Community Bank · Trafalgar & District

### \$57,900 reasons to celebrate

In November, we held our Community Investments Awards Night in conjunction with our AGM, and what a successful evening it was! The night brought together community members from across our catchment, as the Community Bank proudly distributed a massive \$57,900 back into our community.

The event received fantastic feedback from shareholders, who expressed their excitement about being part of the awards that followed the official AGM. It was a great opportunity to celebrate with the people who make our Community Bank what it is today.



We also took the opportunity to formally celebrate our successful 2024 Scholarship Recipients during the evening. Recognising their achievements in person was truly heartwarming. We are proud to support these outstanding young individuals and look forward to following their progress over the next few years.

Congratulations to everyone who was successful in this round of sponsorships! Our next round will open in March. For more information, visit our website or contact our Community Engagement Advisor, Moriah Taylor, on 0402 106 088 or email [marketing@tdfs.com.au](mailto:marketing@tdfs.com.au).



**Congratulations to Our 2024 Scholarship Recipients**

# Trafalgar Playgroup

We had a joyful morning at Trafalgar Playgroup's final session of the year, featuring a special visit from Santa!

Proudly supporting this important group, we cover costs of the hall to ensure they keep running during school terms. Exciting news—new toys and activities are coming this year thanks to our sponsorship!



## A Message from our Chair, Debbie Di Sisto

As we start the year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible impact our Community Bank has had on the Trafalgar & District community in 2024. It's been a year of growth, connection, and giving back. Our success is only made possible by the ongoing support from our Customers, Shareholders, Staff, and our Board of Directors.

At our AGM in November, we proudly distributed \$57,900 into the community, supporting local not-for-profits, organisations, and events. These contributions support a thriving, vibrant community, and we are grateful to play a part in its growth. Thank you to all who attended and contributed to making this AGM a successful and impactful occasion.

We are also excited to welcome two new directors to our Board, Konrad Kucianski and Kevin McLaren. With their wealth of experience and fresh perspectives, I am confident they will help guide our future success.

As we look ahead to 2025, our mission remains clear: to operate a successful Community Bank branch that provides our community with customer focused, local banking services and plays a key role in contributing to the growth of our community. I encourage you to stay involved, reach out for support, and continue to work together to create positive change.

Here's to another year of collaboration and growth for our community!

**Debbie Di Sisto**  
Chair, Community Bank Trafalgar & District

## Where Did You Hear About Us?

Did you know that by sharing how you discovered us, you can help shape the future of our community support? Every piece of feedback helps us identify where we can best direct our investment efforts and continue making a meaningful impact.

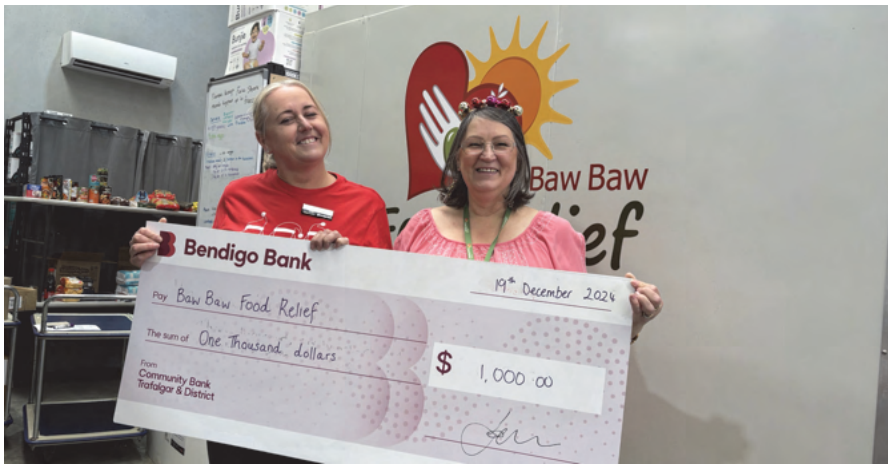
If you're part of a local community group or organisation, we'd love to know! Whether you're a member or simply know someone who is, sharing this information with our branch staff helps us connect with the groups and initiatives that matter most to our customers.

Your input could help influence our next round of sponsorships and strengthen our ties with the community—let's work together to make a difference!



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## Team Donations Are Back

At Community Bank Trafalgar & District, we're excited to continue our team donations initiative, starting with incredible choices from our team members.

### December 2024

Our Branch Manager, Torina, kicked off the giving season by selecting **Baw Baw Food Relief** for her \$1000 donation. This remarkable organisation provides vital support to those in need, particularly during December—a time when a little extra help can make all the difference. We are proud to back an initiative that positively impacts so many lives in our community.

### January 2025

Emily Morton began the New Year with her \$1000 donation to **The Little Village Project**, a community-led initiative supporting vulnerable primary school children. By raising funds for timely, evidence-based interventions, this project helps disadvantaged students flourish. We are thrilled to support such an impactful organisation making a difference in young lives.

**At Community Bank Trafalgar & District, we are committed to seeing our community thrive!**

## November's Sponsorship Recipients.

- **Trafalgar Farmers Market**
- **Bettermentall Australia Inc.**
- **Trafalgar Football Netball Club**
- **Traf District News**
- **The Thorpdale Mechanics Institute Reserve**
- **The Trafalgar & District Historical Society**
- **The Baw Baw Arts Alliance**
- **The Trafalgar Public Cemetery**
- **Creative Harvest Festival 2025**
- **The Yarragon Bowling Club**
- **Trafalgar Bowls Club**
- **2025 HECI Tanjil Valley Art Show**
- **The Trafalgar Primary Early Learning Centre**
- **The Trafalgar Cricket Club**
- **The Trafalgar Playgroup**
- **The Trafalgar Junior Netball Club**
- **The Trafalgar Golf Club 2024 Pro Am**
- **2025 Thorpdale Potato Festival**

## Music Performance Awards

Proud to sponsor the Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Music Performance Awards at **Trafalgar High School!**

In December, our Branch Manager presented the awards on stage. Congratulations to Bella (pictured) and all recipients!

Thank you, Trafalgar High School, for having us!



## Farewell Emily

We farewell Emily Morton, our Customer Relationship Officer. Emily has been a much-loved team member at our Trafalgar branch and finished up in late January. She has been considering relocation and has been offered an opportunity at the Bendigo Bank Albury branch, where she will continue her development as a Personal Banker. This move will allow Emily to be closer to her family.

While we are certainly disappointed to see Emily go, we are very happy for her as she advances her career in banking, now with a strong support network to help her thrive.

Thank you for everything you have done, Emily, for our branch here in Trafalgar. We wish you nothing but success for the future!



## Spreading Christmas Joy with Bettermentall!

Bettermentall Australia Inc is an important organisation, and while it supports all of Gippsland, we're fortunate to have it located in our hometown of Trafalgar.

For the past couple of years, our branch has worked closely with Bettermentall during the Christmas period. Our very own Branch Manager, Torina takes time out of her schedule to go food shopping for local residents who may not be in a position to afford the Christmas Day lunch they had hoped for. This initiative helps spread joy and keeps the festive spirit alive.

Making a difference in our community is effortless when passionate individuals and groups help lead the way. We're proud to be part of it!



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## Cool Change for Thorpdale Mechanics Hall

Thorpdale Mechanics Hall recently hosted its first Produce and Plant Market, showcasing the benefits of their newly installed ceiling fans, funded through sponsorship. The fans, paired with air conditioning, made the space cool and comfortable for all. We're proud to support our community by enhancing commonly used spaces for everyone's benefit!



## 2024 Scholarship Recipients



### Meet Beth!

Beth is one of our 2024 Scholarship recipients and a proud Trafalgar High School graduate now studying a Bachelor of Science at Monash University.

The scholarship has been a tremendous help, allowing Beth to focus more on her studies and university life by reducing her work hours.

The financial support covered essentials like transport, groceries, and course materials, making her academic journey smoother. While she's still deciding on her majors, Beth is excited about discovering her future path.



### Meet Kaylee!

Kaylee, a 2024 Scholarship recipient and Lowanna College graduate, is studying a Bachelor of Secondary Education with a Double Major in English and History. She plans to pursue a rewarding teaching career in a local school, focusing on English.

The Community Bank Trafalgar and District Scholarship has been invaluable, helping Kaylee afford textbooks, study supplies, and travel to university, enabling her to attend classes and connect with her peers

**It's a win-win when you bank with us. Banking convenience for you creates community support for all.**

## Community Bank Investment Programs

Our Investment program has two rounds

	Open	Close
Round 1	March 5	April 2
Round 2	August 3	September 6

Our customers return profits to the community, helping fund great local initiatives like yours. Learn more: [communitybanktrafalgar.smartygrants.com.au](https://communitybanktrafalgar.smartygrants.com.au)

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Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. Full details available on application. Lending criteria apply. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879. (1771408-1770886) (08/22)

## Talk to us today

### Community Bank Trafalgar & District

103a Princes Highway, Trafalgar

P 5633 2783

E [trafalgarmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au](mailto:trafalgarmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au)  
[bendigobank.com.au/trafalgar](https://bendigobank.com.au/trafalgar)

### We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Thursday

9.30am - 5.00pm Friday

📘 @communitybanktrafalgardistrict

📷 @communitybank\_\_trafalgar

### Directors

Debbie Di Sisto, Debbie Litkwoski, David Balfour, Matt Steendam, Geoff Conway, Melanie Cahani, Edwin Vandenberg, Konrad Kucianski and Kevin McLaren.

Trafalgar District Financial Services Limited  
86 102 573 222



## Branch Manager Update

As we welcome a new year, it's the perfect time to set new financial goals and get your finances in order. Whether you're planning to save for a holiday, a big purchase, or simply want to set up the best strategy for your home loan, we're here to help.

Our team offers personalized banking reviews to ensure you're saving as much as possible – from home loan options to setting up offset accounts that work for you. We also offer advice on projects coming up in the year ahead.

For students, we can help you set up the right accounts for further study, and we offer tailored banking and insurance reviews to ensure you're well-prepared for the year.

Come in today to speak with our team about how we can help you achieve your financial goals and start 2025 off on the right foot! Whether it's home lending with Gavin or goal-setting with our experts, we have you covered.

We look forward to helping you plan a prosperous year ahead!

**Bendigo Bank. The better big bank.**

🔍 [bendigobank.com.au](https://bendigobank.com.au)

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