



Newsletter!

Community Bank · Trafalgar & District

A message from our Chair, Debbie Di Sisto

Hello and welcome to our Winter Edition newsletter!

The year is certainly flying by, and with the end of the 2023/2024 financial year, we have had the chance to tally our numbers.

We are extremely proud to announce Community Bank Trafalgar & District have reinvested another **\$80,000** back into our community, bringing the overall total to **\$1.9 million** since opening our doors in 2003. Thank you to our customers, shareholders, staff and Board — none of this would be possible without your support and dedication.

This year, we will be releasing a Community Impact Report, highlighting the funds that have been reinvested and the impact it is having on our community - something we should all be very proud of.

On another note, we farewelled Tony Staley from our Board. Tony has had a significant and positive impact as a volunteer Director on our Board and we wish him all the very best in his next adventure.

We trust you will enjoy this newsletter. Stay tuned as another round of Community Investments will be opening up in August, we can't wait to share the outcome with you at our AGM in November.

Debbie Di Sisto,
Chairperson



Yarragon Book Fair Success!

There was a sea of plum Community Bank Trafalgar & District bags getting around at the Yarragon Book Fair as they successfully closed another year. The Yarragon Book Fair is a special occasion not only because it raises much-needed funds for the Yarragon Fire Brigade and Yarragon Primary School, but also because our very own Director, Geoff Conway, puts in great efforts to execute the event as a member of the Yarragon Fire Brigade.

The Yarragon Book Fair is proud to announce they raised over \$24,000 this year, and it was so successful they have already announced dates for 2025. Make sure you mark 3 & 4 May in your calendars!



Welcome Mel!

You may recognise Mel as a familiar face; she is part of the Yarragon CFA, serving as the current 1st Lieutenant and Communications Officer. Adding to her list of wonderful titles, she is also our new Customer Service Officer, and we are super excited to have her join the Community Bank Trafalgar & District team!

Mel calls Yarragon home, where she resides with her husband and their 1 year old daughter, Sophie. Currently pursuing studies in Leadership & Management, Mel will be contributing to our team part-time on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. If you happen to stop by the branch, be sure to extend a warm welcome to Mel.

Welcome aboard, Mel!




The Power of 3!

In May, our Chair, Debbie Di Sisto, and Community Engagement Advisor, Moriah Taylor, were invited to the Community Bank Drouin & District's Grant Presentation evening along with Community Bank Neerim & District.

We had the honor of being part of presenting an award to the Baw Baw Group of Fire Brigades alongside our neighbouring Community Branches. This initiative showcases the power of the three Community Banks and what we can provide for the entire Baw Baw region.

The funds allocated to the Baw Baw Group of Fire Brigades will enable the purchase of equipment, including breathing apparatus dummies and laptops, which will greatly support the training activities of our local fire brigade member

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Holden Heritage Centre

We're thrilled to see construction underway at the Trafalgar Holden Museum for the extension project known as the "Holden Heritage Centre." This expansion will accommodate around 20 more heritage cars and various displays, breathing life into the project after much anticipation. Our contribution of \$30,000 will go towards this exciting development.



Life4Life Launch!

In another collaborative effort with Community Bank Drouin & District and Community Bank Neerim & District, we sponsored the Live4Life campaign launch supporting youth mental health in the Baw Baw region at the West Gippsland Art Centre back in April. We took great pride in being a part of changing the stigma surrounding youth mental health. The Live4Life crew executed the event brilliantly, with this year's theme being "Connect to Protect." Guest speaker Beau Miles delivered a wonderful speech.

Nurturing both physical and mental strength in our youth is imperative. This program holds special significance for us, as it aligns closely with our values and directly impacts our community and homes.



New Disabled-Friendly Toilet Installed at Blue Rock Lake

A new disabled-friendly toilet has been added along the Willow Grove walking track at Blue Rock Lake. Director David Balfour met with the Baw Baw Radiomodellers Association Gippsland and Cr. Michael Leaney to open this new facility.

The portable disabled toilet was partially funded by our Community Investment Program, the Baw Baw Shire Council, and contributions from the Baw Baw Radiomodellers Association itself last year. This facility will be available not only to Club members but also to locals who are enjoying the lake scenery or the walking track and require disabled facilities.

The club will be running a register for locals who need access to disabled amenities. To register, you can find the link below.

<https://www.bawbawrc.com.au/i/disabled-toilet>





"One of the take home messages was that not all emails or text messages are legitimate and never click on the link provided. Be suspicious, if it sounds coercive, or too good to be true, then don't respond/click".

- Leigh, President
Trafalgar Men's Shed



Farewell Tony

Recently, we farewelled Tony Staley from our Board, Tony has been an integral part of the Community Bank Trafalgar & District Board since October 2020, his dedication and passion for his community was evident in his contributions as a volunteer Director.

We would like to thank Tony for his ongoing support, time and commitment to Community Bank Trafalgar & District and wish Tony all the best in his next chapter

Scams presentations!

Our Branch Manager, Torina, has been busy visiting some of our local community groups to present on banking safely online. Torina covered various aspects of the digital world, managing risks, the "Stop, Think & Protect" approach, and openly discussed different scenarios where you might encounter scams.

The groups were invited to ask questions and were happy to share their own experiences with scams they have faced.

Scams are costing Australians billions of dollars, so it's important to us to play an active role in keeping our community safe.

If you or someone you know would be interested in having a Scams Presentation, please reach out to us either in the branch or email marketing@tdfs.com.au.

Community Investment Program!

On 21 August, we'll hold an Information Session for our upcoming Community Investment round. Attendance by a representative is required to be eligible to apply.

- Does your community group have an idea or project that needs funding?
- Do you provide a service that meets the needs of the community?
- Is your group an incorporated body, have a DGR status, or are a not-for-profit organisation?

To find out more information, contact our Community Engagement Advisor, Moriah Taylor, at marketing@tdfs.com.au or 0402 106 088 or you can also visit the link below

<https://communitybanktrafalgar.smarty.grants.com.au/>

Our teams thoughtful choices

We introduced Team Donations, allowing the team to choose organisations that are meaningful to them. This initiative not only strengthened their connection with the community but also supported deserving organisations. We are proud of their thoughtful choices below!



Trafalgar Youth Resource Centre



\$1,000 donation nominated by our Branch Manager, Torina Johnston.

The Trafalgar Youth Resource Centre is an incredible organisation playing a pivotal role in supporting the youth in our region.

Bettermental Australia Inc



Emily, our Customer Relationship Officer, and Bec, our Customer Advisor, nominated Bettermentall Australia Inc. for a joint contribution totalling **\$1,200**. Bettermentall Australia Inc. is a drop-in service offering a safe space for everyone to engage in meaningful conversations, access resources, and receive mentoring and peer support.



Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund

Gavin, our Customer Relationship Manager, nominated the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund for his staff donation of **\$1,000**. This incredible organisation, run entirely by volunteers, supports Gippsland in times of need

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We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Thursday
9.30am - 5.00pm Friday

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 @communitybank_trafalgar

Directors

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

Trafalgar District Financial Services Limited
86 102 573 222

Are you a shareholder?

It's time to make sure your shareholder details are up to date. This can be done by emailing the Share Registry:

shares@rsdregistry.com.au

Branch Manager Update

The branch has now settled with our fantastic new team members, Mel and Thao, who have seamlessly integrated into our team. They have proven to be incredible assets, and we believe our community feels the same way.

We have been busy campaigning for our Home Loan Health Checks and continuing to share the message to bank locally for a better banking experience. It comes as a timely reminder that the majority of our profits are reinvested back into the community that helps generate them.

Scams, unfortunately, are still on the rise. We have been doing our part to protect and better educate our community on how to stay safe. If you or someone you know has any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at 5633 2783 or visit us in the branch.

As always, thank you to our valued customers, shareholders, the Board, and staff for your unwavering support.

