



## Chairperson's report

Welcome to our second newsletter. We have had such positive feedback on our first edition. Thank you for taking the time to read, what your Board and branch staff have been involved with, in our communities.

The end of the financial year is upon us, and despite it being a tough year with a difficult lending environment, the team at the branches led by David and Leanne, have grown the business by \$6 million in the last three months. An incredible achievement to be congratulated, indeed. Figures at the end of May are showing sales for Mount Evelyn to be above budget, while expenses are below. Although, sales for Montrose are slightly down, expenses are well under budget. The consolidated figures till end of May have resulted in a net profit that is above budget. When the end of year figures are finalised and audited, preparation will be underway in the next couple of months for our 2012 Annual Report.

As part of the leasing arrangements for Montrose, settlement on our branch building is approaching on 1 September. This is very exciting and we will now have two solid property assets on our balance sheet.

Our web-site development is progressing well, and hopefully will be completed soon. We are very excited by how it is looking and we hope that you will like it, too.

We have launched a photo competition for a 2013 calendar for both branches. Please see details in this newsletter.

Our annual Community Grants Program is almost upon us, with applications open between 1 – 31 August. We look forward to seeing what exciting projects are put forward. Please see details in this newsletter.

It has been a busy time lately with the Board and staff attending many sporting events, Mount Evelyn's Biggest Morning Tea (for Cancer Council Victoria), Montrose Pre-school's 50th anniversary, Fernhill Pre-school's opening of their new all-weather play area, Rotary functions, networking events and many others.

Mount Evelyn was visited by Minister for Youth Affairs, Ryan Smith MP, to see the Youth Enterprise Shed, Animal Aid had its official launch of the capital raising campaign in May, (partnered by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd), which was covered by TV and radio on the day.

We are finalising our celebration plans for our 10th anniversary and invitations will be sent out with the Company's 2012 Annual Report. We hope you can come along to celebrate this marvellous milestone with our Board and staff, that you have been a huge contributor towards achieving.

Looking forward to seeing you all there,

**Jill Rule**  
Chairperson

*We're celebrating!*

AGM 10th anniversary  
celebration on 25 October 2012

## Rotary President's Changeover



Margi Sank, our Company Secretary and Treasurer, was recently appointed as President of the Rotary Club of Lilydale.

A special luncheon for the occasion was held for the President's Changeover, at Wild Cattle Creek Estate, Seville.

Margi, supported by her husband Peter, has been a devoted Rotarian since April 2005.

Margi has always recognised a strong synergy with the work of Rotary, and the work of our **Community Bank®** branches in communities, on activities unrelated to banking.

The Rotary Club of Lilydale has been involved in many meaningful ventures over the years, sponsored international exchange students and awarded outstanding achievements by individuals.

The club has recently successfully completed an incredible off-shore project to bore for water for the village of Darasula, East Timor. The Water for Hungry Months project aims to provide water at a village level during the dry season.

Margi has also played an active role in the development and tasks relating to the monthly running of the Lilydale Farmers' Produce Market. (A jointly run event of the Rotary Clubs of Montrose & Districts and Chirnside Park)

## Lilydale Farmers' Produce Market

Held on the 1st Sunday of every month, at Bellbird Park, Swansea Road (next to Lilydale Lake, Lilydale).  
Melways Reference - 38 G8.

### Mt Evelyn & Districts Financial Services Limited

37 Wray Crescent, Mt Evelyn Vic 3796 **ABN:** 93 096 782 240

**Directors:** Jillian Rule (Chairperson), Gai Williams (Deputy Chairperson), Margaret Sank (Treasurer/Company Secretary), Georgia Donovan, Iain Fraser, Craig Keithley, Gareth Little-Hales and Janette Simmons.



# Animal Aid campaign launch

## “Give Them a Voice”

As mentioned in our first newsletter, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd has partnered with animal welfare organisation, Animal Aid to help raise funds for a new state-of-the art centre at Coldstream.



Animal Aid, established in 1938, provides a range of services for animals from right across Victoria. They are the only organisation in Australia – and one of only a few in the world that provides an all inclusive shelter, training facility, education centre, boarding, veterinary service and emergency response. Animal Aid has an open shelter policy and never refuses an animal. They also don't believe in euthanizing animals, preferring to match animals up with suitable adopting owners. Animal Aid also plays a major role assisting companion animals and their owners during emergencies such as bushfires and floods.

The “Give Them a Voice” appeal was launched on 22 May, with radio personality Meshel Laurie MC for the day. The new centre will enable the not-for-profit organisation to more than double the number of animals it cares for each year.

Chairing the campaign is former Federal Minister Fran Bailey, whom when asked if she would assist, was not fully aware

of the extent of Animal Aid's work, although having lived in the area for 35 years.

Speaking in front of a crowd of hundreds, Animal Aid acting CEO

Dr Linda Marston, said the organisation was determined to reach out to more Victorians through the massive re-development.

To kick start the appeal, Mt Evelyn **Community Bank®** Branch united with six other **Community Bank®** branches in the Yarra Ranges region to donate \$50,000 to the cause. This sum has been matched by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd's philanthropic arm, the Community Enterprise Foundation™, to take the day one tally to \$100,000.

Please donate to this wonderful appeal at either of our branches, or at any Bendigo Bank branch. Even if it is only loose change – every bit will help to see this important and iconic organisation realise their vision for our animals.

## A cuppa for cancer research

Despite the chilly morning on 17 May, locals joined in for morning tea that raised over \$3,000 for Cancer Council Victoria.

Devonshire tea was available for purchase and raffles tickets were sold for many special prizes that were generously donated by local businesses and private individuals.

The Hon Tony Smith MP for Casey attended the event, and congratulated the organisers and all of the community involved. Tony acknowledged the wonderful contribution of our branches to the community, and in the following week also made mention of the event and Mt Evelyn **Community Bank®** Branch, praising all involved, in his parliamentary address to the House of Representatives, in Canberra.

Shire of Yarra Ranges Mayor Graham Warren, and Ward Councillor Tim Heenan also attended the morning. In his address to the crowd,



Tim extolled the wide and varied support that our branches give to our communities.

The event, which has been running now for about five or six years, is jointly run by the Yarra Ranges Shire Council, Morrisons, Mount Evelyn Chamber of Commerce, and Mt Evelyn **Community Bank®** Branch (as the major sponsor).

Special thanks must go to Meagan Grace of the Functional Beverage Company, for providing all of the tea and coffee on the day. Thanks also to the committee of Kathie Freeman and Chris Monaghan, respective President and Secretary of the Mount Evelyn Chamber of Commerce, Leanne Vaytauer, Mt Evelyn **Community Bank®** Branch Manager, Meagan Grace and staff from Morrisons, for their help on the day.

To cap off the morning, the Mount Evelyn Primary School choir sang for the crowd, of what was a wonderful community event.



## A new safe all-weather outdoor play area for Fernhill Pre-school



Fernhill Pre-school, built in the 1970's, is an iconic early learning establishment in Mount Evelyn. In recent times it has been struggling with a tired building and facilities in urgent need of up-grading. In fact, the future of the pre-school was actually looking quite bleak.

But, with the formation of a new committee and

Morrison's taking the pre-school under its wing in its management, in the kinder cluster arrangement, things have been looking up. This has taken the stress of managing a complicated business and compliance responsibilities away from the committee, and freed them up to enjoy the year with their child and work on fundraising.

In our last year's annual Community Grants Program, Fernhill Pre-school applied for funding to build a safer outdoor play area for the children. On 24 October 2011 at the Pre-school's AGM, Mt Evelyn **Community Bank**® Branch was delighted to present them with a cheque for \$10,000.

After months of planning by the pre-school committee and finally completing the project, we were invited back to officiate in the grand opening of the new play area. The committee had created a collage of photos of before and after shots as well as the stages of the project, so that everyone could see how this project was achieved.

The Hon Tony Smith MP for Casey, and Billanook Ward Councillor Tim Heenan, also attended the opening. Tony spoke of Mt Evelyn **Community Bank**® Branch's financial support to the committee to bring the project to fruition, and Tim mused that his family had enjoyed their time at Fernhill in earlier years. Tim also acknowledged our branches' ongoing contributions to the community in general. We were delighted when the children presented us with a beautiful collage made of their cut out and decorated handprints.

Fernhill president, Rochelle Mansfield said, "this is a great asset that will help make our kinder safer, and provide a great place for all children to have outdoor play time as a part of their program here at Fernhill."

## Montrose pre-school's golden anniversary



On 21 April 2012, the sun shone brightly over Montrose Pre-school, just as it did in April 1962, when the Infant Welfare Centre and Pre-school building was officially opened by Lady Brooks.

Montrose **Community Bank**® Branch was delighted to co-sponsor, what was an historical event for Montrose, that saw both past and present pre-school families and teachers, local residents and visitors gather to participate in the celebrations.

David Hodgett MP and Cr Len Cox were also in attendance, to officiate in the ceremony held next door in the Montrose Public Hall, which was packed to standing room only. Both the Montrose and Billanook Primary School choirs performed and many stories were shared by inaugural committee members Lorna Maasdyk and Jean Tilley, who were special guests on the day. Len and David both made congratulatory speeches, after which David assisted with the cutting of the cake with the current teachers and special guests, Lorna and Jean.

A 50th anniversary plaque in the front garden of the Montrose Pre-school to commemorate the milestone event, was later unveiled by Cr Cox and special guests joined inside the building for refreshments and a slice of birthday cake.

A memorabilia display, showcasing old photographs of the centre's opening, along with past group photos from the last 50 years were on display in the Pre-school building. The memorabilia display has now moved to the Montrose Library to share the memories with the local community.



## Annual Community Grants Program

Part of our re-investment back into the local community of the profits we generate, is structured via our charitable annual Community Grants Program.

**Applications:** 1 - 31 August, 2012

**Area:** The Mt Evelyn & Districts Financial Services Ltd Community Grants Program will support programs and projects in the Mount Evelyn, Montrose and districts area.

**Audience:** Charitable and not-for-profit organisations may apply for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities and contribute to their development in building social capital, community welfare, environmental, health, and education or cultural areas.

**Details:** The Community Grants Program is administered by the Community Enterprise Foundation™ and made possible by the generous support of the Mt Evelyn & Montrose **Community Bank**® branches.

The Community Grants Program is designed to:

- Make better, targeted use of funds that are responsive to community needs
- Provide a simpler application process
- To be more responsive to the needs of communities
- Support projects that make a positive contribution to the Mt Evelyn, Montrose and districts region.

For assistance with applications please phone 1300 304 541 (select option 2 when prompted).



## Bank says Y.E.S. to supporting our youth

As part of our annual sponsorship arrangements, the well-being of the youth in our community is very much in our focus.

On invitation from Christine Fyffe MP for Evelyn, Minister for Youth Affairs Ryan Smith, made a special visit to Mount Evelyn to see the Youth Enterprise Shed (Y.E.S.) on 26 May.

Mr. Smith's visit also addressed the current higher student drop-out rate in the Yarra Ranges.

Y.E.S. co-coordinator, Brad Colling said, they welcomed the opportunity to showcase the programs in place for the youth to the Minister, and to give him a glimpse into their plans for the future.

The shed is looking to establish enterprises to hopefully assist in the funding of the programs. An op-shop for second-hand surf and skate wear and a T-shirt printing business will kick start it off.

Ryan said that he was pleased to see the Y.E.S. working so well, and looked forward to helping with plans for future enterprises.

The shed is delighted that contact has been established with Ryan, and will be looking forward to following up on his visit.

Christine Fyffe said, "It was great that Ryan got the chance to learn about the needs of the youths in the area. We have many young people in the Yarra Ranges whose lives are made more difficult by geographic isolation, mental illness or a difficult home life."

Kristen Beaton, Y.E.S. facilitator said, "One of the most important factors I believe the Y.E.S. offers to youth is that it provides an opportunity for youth to stay connected socially and partake in activities and programs in a safe environment. Y.E.S. is extremely important in this regard, as many who attend were not previously included in social groups."

Kristen has had the rewarding challenge of building positive relationships with youth and the community to bring exciting opportunities to life at the Y.E.S.

Kristen said, "I have been overwhelmed by the support and enthusiasm others have also shown toward the Y.E.S., particularly the sponsorship we receive from the Mt Evelyn **Community Bank**® Branch."

## Youth Enterprise Shed

The Youth Enterprise Shed (Y.E.S.) is designed to give young people a voice in their community. The Y.E.S. offers youth a place to come and "hang out" in a supervised environment and engage in activities and set programs that are designed to link young people and the broader community.

Activities and programs include:

- T-shirt stencil printing stall at skate events
- Murals
- A place to hang out and engage in activities
- Wii Comps
- Art Exhibitions and sales
- Community engagement
- Organising local events
- Support youth Initiatives.

The Youth Enterprise Shed is located at 68 Wray Crescent, Mt. Evelyn and is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons.

To contact for more info or details please call administration on 9736 1457, email: [bcolling@morrisons.org.au](mailto:bcolling@morrisons.org.au) or on Facebook @ Morrisons Youth Shed.

### Calling all amateur photographers

## Snap to it!



We are running a photography competition for photos that capture the essence of Mount Evelyn and Montrose for a 2013 calendar.

We are looking for photos that highlight the many great features to be found in the two towns. There are no age restrictions, so photographers young and old can take part. Cash prizes are being offered to go to the local not-for-profit organisation or club of the winner's choice. The best 13 photos overall will be featured in the calendar and the successful photographers will be credited for their work.

The winners will be announced at our AGM in October, when the calendar is unveiled. Please submit your entries via email to: [photocomp@medfsl.com.au](mailto:photocomp@medfsl.com.au)

Closing date for entries is Friday 31 August 2012.

1st prize	\$250
2nd prize	\$100
3rd prize	\$50



Watch the **Community Bank**® story at [www.bendigobank.com.au/snapshots](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/snapshots)

### U can find our branches at...

**Mt Evelyn** – Shop 2, 35-39 Wray Crescent, Mt Evelyn VIC 3796 Phone: 9737 1833 Website: [www.bendigobank.com.au/mt\\_evelyn](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/mt_evelyn)

**Montrose** – 7/926-930 Mt Dandenong Tourist Road, Montrose VIC 3765 Phone: 9728 3177 Website: [www.bendigobank.com.au/montrose](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/montrose)

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm and Saturday mornings 9.00am – 12 noon.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879. BMPNL0448 (07/12)

Mt Evelyn and Montrose **Community Bank**® branches

