

Doncaster East Community Bank™ Steering Committee

RAISING SUPPORT FOR A COMMUNITY BANK™ BRANCH OF BENDIGO BANK



Bendigo Bank

10 Feb 2005

Community Bank® on a Roll

Two years ago next month the Doncaster East Community Bank® Branch of Bendigo Bank opened its doors for the first time. During the first few months excited locals flocked to open accounts and the Branch quickly became one of the fastest growing branches in the Community Bank® network.

Two years on nothing has changed. The branch continues to grow at a phenomenal rate. In the six months to December 2004 the Branch once again led the way in terms of business growth in Victoria and now has in excess of \$50m in total banking business. On an Australia wide basis it was in the top five highest growth branches in the network, which now comprises 143 branches.

Commenting on the reasons for the success, Branch Manager, Paul Thompson said, "We're providing both personal and business customers with a full range of competitive products and services but most importantly we're providing our customers with the sort of service they want. It's efficient, friendly and personal and people enjoy coming in here to do their banking.

The community focus of the branch and the benefit it brings to the local community is also beginning to become evident. The branch has now allocated several thousand dollars to a range of local not-for-profit organisations. Deputy Chairman of the Bank and Manningham Mayor, Cr. Bill Larkin said, "Community Banks across Australia are now putting hundreds of thousand of dollars back into their local communities and as our business continues to grow so will our community support."

Cr. Larkin also indicated that the Bank confidently expected to make its first operating profit this financial year.

Enquiries: Jim Christie 9842 0598 or 0408 345184

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