

Pinjarra



# Community Bank<sup>®</sup> Branch Bendigo Bank

## First dividend for Pinjarra shareholders

**Pinjarra, <day> <date> 2006:** Shareholders in one of Western Australia's pioneering **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** branches are about to receive the first dividend on their initial investment.

The announcement comes as the Pinjarra community company celebrates five years in business.

At its Annual General Meeting on 20 November, the branch will announce a 2005/2006 after tax profit of \$70,479.

"This bank has been a win-win situation for our entire community," said Chairman Malcolm Kentish.

"Our community began reaping a social dividend on the day we opened our doors and our sponsorships and support of the local community has enabled us to extend that to provide tangible support for various community activities," Mr Kentish said.

"And now, we have been able to reward our shareholders with their first dividend.

"As the branch continues to grow its profits, it will also continue to increase financial benefits to local community groups and projects."

Bendigo Bank's Regional Manager Frank Benaquista congratulated the Pinjarra community on its achievements.

"Today's announcement embodies the spirit of the **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** project. The profit distribution has placed community benefit first, with shareholder success following," Mr Benaquista said.

"The **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** model works in that order – a successful community and successful customers create a successful bank.

"Pinjarra is proving that co-operative spirit can sit hand in hand with commercial reality to benefit all parties."

MEDIA RELEASE