

CHAIRMANS ADDRESS
A.G.M. 26TH OCTOBER 2005

It's now been four years since we've been meeting here to discuss the Annual Report and the progress of Our Community Bank.

At our first year's meeting, Past Chairman David Keech spoke on how we were travelling toward getting ourselves 'In the Black' since starting up and how well we were being received in the Community.

At the second year's meeting I spoke of the several milestone goals we had achieved since opening, and that we were still growing steadily every week and were in profit as forecast in our Prospectus.

At last year's A.G.M we announced that we had combined balances in excess of **\$114 million** dollars and for the financial year 2003-04 we had put back into the Community over **\$36,000** by way of sponsorship and donations and also announced our first dividend of 10c per share.

At this years meeting, what can I say to better those previous three years of fantastic work?

On the 29th June at the 2005 Grants presentation night, Our Community Bank was described as the **'Flagship of the Fleet'** and here are some of the reasons why:

Dare I mention that as at the end of the financial year 2005 we sat with combined balances of over **\$137.6 million.**

This is an increase of 17% over the previous year's balances and the number of accounts had increased by 825, a 15% growth over the previous year.

And listen to this, there were some **27 Clubs & Organisations** who received a sponsorship or donation throughout the year and a further **25 Community Groups** who received part of the **\$101,159** in grants funding.

That's 52 local organisations who, with the help of Our Community Bank may now be able to attract more members, update facilities or offer more activities to their members or back to the Community.

All in all, throughout the 2004 – 2005 financial year, Our Community Bank has by way of Sponsorships / Donations and Grants, put back into the Rye & District Community a combined total of over **\$319,000.**

A Fantastic Effort.

We've set aside already, **\$200,000** with the Bendigo Bank's, Enterprise Foundation in readiness for our next Grant allocation, and our current sponsorship commitments are still being met. It is our vision that over the next few years, with the continued Community support of Our Community bank, we will get to the stage of putting back through Sponsorships, Donations & Grants a million dollars plus. At the rate we are growing, *it is possible* and we have you to thank for this.

Ladies & Gentlemen, your Board is moving forward. We've just completed a weekend workshop where we discussed, and were mentored in ways in which we could further increase the benefit of Our Community Bank's success in the Community of Rye and surrounding areas. Ways, such as sponsoring the **\$300,000** Tootgarook Community Hall project which will see a state of the art facility that can be used by the wider Community for various activities.

Our commitment to youth is getting stronger, with your Board wanting to take a more active part in assisting our young people cope with the pressures of today and encourage them to get involved in their Community. We are looking toward other youth organisations such as the Y.M.C.A. for advice and a possible partnership in a future project.

We are considering the expansion of Our Community Bank to other Peninsula Communities such as Dromana, who are already supporting our Rye branch and want our facilities closer to them.

You can see how this Community Bank has grown from an idea to a major business on the Peninsula, and is still growing and expanding. The hours taken in decision making at all levels regarding our day to day business and at our Board meetings is also growing and the responsibilities on each of the Board members is one of a serious nature. We are no longer a Canteen Committee, but a professionally run & organised Board of Directors operating a multi million dollar company and in the very near future you, as shareholders will be asked to support a motion of Remuneration to the members of the Board. Having said this, we are ever mindful of the bottom line and that providing a Dividend to our shareholders and putting our profits back into the Community which are the most important things we consider.

So now that I've mentioned the issue of a dividend, it brings me to the official announcement of the Dividend for the second year in a row. For those who did not read it in the Annual Report, I am pleased to announce a **fully franked dividend of 16c per share** which will be paid on shares held as at 31st October 2005 and should be received by the 14th November 2005.

This represents a huge increase of **60% over last year's dividend**, a fantastic years result all round.

This amount could only come about with the great work done by Your Community Bank's staff and of course their Manager, Gary Sanford and I thank those staff here to tonight for their attendance and support of this meeting outside their normal hours of work, it is truly appreciated.

As I close my address, I would like to thank again this year, my fellow Board members for their continued input at our meetings and their interest in Our Community, and their ongoing support of myself as Chairman.

Of course as I've mentioned, Gary and his Staff who really are the faces behind our success and thoroughly deserve all of our thanks for their hard work and commitment.

But finally, you, our shareholders for your faith and support of Our Community bank.

You regularly show your confidence in this Community Project by sharing the good news with friends, family and business acquaintances and I'm sure that whilst you continue to talk about, discuss and bank with us, this success juggernaut will sail on successfully into the future as:

'The Flagship of the Fleet'

Thank You.

I would now like to introduce you to your C.E.O. & Branch Manager, Mr. Gary Sanford who'd like to say a few words.