

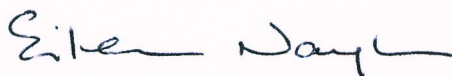
29 October 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO THE MARKET

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Herewith, please find attached a copy of the address by the Chairman of Rye & District Community Financial Services Limited, Mr Peter Van Duren, to be delivered at the Annual General Meeting of the company, being held on Wednesday 29th October at the Rye Civic Hall, Napier Street, Rye VIC 3941 at 7.00pm.

By order of the Board



Eileen Naylor
Company Secretary

CHAIRMANS ADDRESS 2008 A.G.M.

WELL, WHAT MORE CAN I SAY THAT HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN SAID IN THE ANNUAL REPORT; OUR FIGURES ARE LOOKING GREAT AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR WITH A PROFIT OF \$94,257 AND COMBINED BALANCES AT JUST OVER \$250 MILLION.

THIS BALANCE AMOUNT REFLECTED A GROWTH OVERALL OF 30% IN BOTH BRANCHES FOR 2007/2008, WHICH IS OUTSTANDING CONSIDERING THE CURRENT FINANCIAL CLIMATE.

TO JULIE AND THE RYE BRANCH STAFF, A WONDERFUL EFFORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR IN KEEPING THE RYE BRANCH UP THERE AT THE TOP OF THE COMMUNITY BANK BRANCH NETWORK. JULIE AND HER TEAM IN RYE ACHIEVED SOLID GROWTH RESULTS OVERALL TO KEEP THEM IN THE SPOT OF THE LARGEST INDIVIDUAL BRANCH IN VICTORIA AND ARE WELL ON THE WAY TO HITTING BUDGET FOR THIS YEAR ALSO. GREAT WORK, KEEP IT UP.

TO NEIL AND THE STAFF AT DROMANA, CONGRATULATIONS ON AN OUTSTANDING YEAR.

BEING ABLE TO SURPASS ALL EXPECTATIONS IN ALL AREAS OF OUR BUSINESS IN THE FIRST YEAR IS A WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENT AND I'M SURE THAT WHEN WE STAND HERE IN ANOTHER TWELVE MONTHS TIME WE'LL BE COMMENTING ON YOUR EFFORTS AGAIN.

JUST TO GIVE OUR SHARHOLDERS AN IDEA OF HOW HARD NEIL AND JULIE AND THEIR TEAMS HAVE BEEN WORKING, THEY HAVE ACHIEVED RECOGNITION FROM THEIR PEERS AS WELL AS OTHER COMMUNITY GROUPS.

AS WAS MENTIONED IN THE ANNUAL REPORT, BOTH VAL JARMAN AND TIM LING RECEIVED THE ROTARY CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU BOTH - WELL DESERVED.

IN ADDITION TO THESE AWARDS, OUR CORPORATE PARTNER, BENDIGO AND ADELAIDE BANK, HAS ALSO RECOGNISED THE HARD WORK CARRIED OUT IN THE BRANCHES BY AWARDING BOTH OF THE BRANCHES, "THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA REGION OUTSTANDING RESULTS IN LENDING AWARD" AND THE DROMANA BRANCH, THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA REGION "RISING STAR AWARD" FOR THE FASTEST GROWING BRANCH.

ONE OF THE MOST PLEASING AWARDS, I THINK, FOR OUR COMPANY WAS WON THIS YEAR BY A NEW PERSON TO THE INDUSTRY WHO STARTED WITH

US IN DROMANA WHEN WE OPENED. CHRIS BRODERICK RECEIVED THE SALES & SERVICE AWARD. THIS AWARD COVERS ALL OF VICTORIA. CONGRATULATION CHRIS. WELL DONE.

WORKING HARD BEHIND THE SCENES AND KEEPING A WATCHING BRIEF OVER BOTH BRANCHES IS OUR C.E.O, GARY SANDFORD. THANKS GO TO GARY FOR HIS SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR OF JULIE AND NEIL AND FOR HIS INPUT INTO THE OPERATION OF BOTH BRANCHES.

GARY'S INVOLVEMENT IN BOTH COMMUNITIES HAS NOT SLOWED EVEN THOUGH HE IS NOW SITUATED AT OUR DROMANA CORPORATE OFFICE.

HE IS CONTINUALLY WORKING WITH BOTH MANAGERS AND ATTENDING MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS AS WELL AS GIVING ADVICE TO OUR COPORATE CLIENTS ON THEIR BANKING NEEDS.

HE ATTENDS THE BOARD MEETINGS AND GIVES US THE INFORMATION WE NEED TO MAKE SOME OF THE DESCISIONS WE TAKE IN ORDER TO KEEP OUR COMPANY BOTH PROFITABLE AND COMMUNITY FOCUSED.

OF COURSE KEEPING SOMEONE WHO WORKS AT GARY'S PACE ON TIME AND ORGANIZED IS NOT EASY AND OUR THANKS GO TO BRONWYN RALPH WHO ALSO WORKS WITH GARY AT DROMANA WHEN SHE IS NOT FILLING IN AS A C.S.O. OR ASSISTING THE BOARD IN SOME WAY OR ANOTHER; THANK YOU BRONWYN.

ONCE AGAIN, DUE TO THE EFFORTS OF THE GREAT TEAMS WE HAVE IN BOTH BRANCHES AND EFFORT OF THE BOARD IN KEEPING CONTROL OF THE FINANCES OF THE COMPANY, WE HAVE DECLARED A DIVIDEND OF 0.02 CENTS PER SHARE FOR SHAREHOLDINGS HELD AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON 31ST OCTOBER AND THIS WILL BE PAID ON 20TH NOVEMBER.

THIS DIVIDEND IS A GREAT RESULT CONSIDERING THAT THE INCREASED EXPENSES SINCE THE OPENING OF DROMANA IN JUNE LAST YEAR WERE FELT FOR THE FIRST TIME DURING THE 2007 / 2008 FINANCIAL PERIOD.

I AM SURE THAT AS OUR BUSINESS GROWS IN DROMANA AND THAT RYE CONTINUES ON ITS STEADY GROWTH PATH, OUR DIVIDENDS SHOULD CONTINUE TO GROW AS EACH YEAR GOES BY.

GIVEN THE FACT THAT WE HAVE A DIVIDEND TO SHARE, IT ALSO MEANS OF COURSE THAT OUR COMMUNITY HAS BENEFITED DURING THE YEAR.

DURING THE YEAR, WE GAVE OUT ALMOST \$230,000 TO APPROX. 58 VARIOUS GROUPS IN THE COMMUNITY, GIVING THEM THE SUPPORT THEY NEED TO CONTINUE TO GIVE THEIR SERVICES BACK OUR COMMUNITIES.

THIS IS A GREAT EFFORT.

OUR CORPORATE PARTNER, BENDIGO & ADELAIDE BANK LIMITED ARE ALWAYS THERE WHEN NEEDED FOR ADVICE OR TRAINING. OUR THANKS GO TO MICHAEL PETERING AND HIS STAFF FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN KEEPING THE BOARD IN TOUCH WITH BENDIGO & ADELAIDE BANK'S DECISIONS AND CHANGES IN POLICY WHICH MAY OCCUR.

OVERALL, YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS VERY PLEASED WITH THE YEAR'S RESULT AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUED PROFITABILITY AND GROWTH, NOW THAT WE HAVE THE FIRST YEAR OF OUR NEW BRANCH UNDER OUR BELT.

WE CAN SEE HOW THE TWO BRANCHES ARE PROFITABLE AND FINANCIALLY STABLE WHICH GIVES US CONFIDENCE TO TAKE ON NEW CHALLENGES AND POSSIBLY NEW CORPORATE OPPORTUNITIES.

IN CLOSING MY ADDRESS FOR THIS YEAR, I'D LIKE TO THANK TONY HARFORD, OUR BOARD ASSISTANT, FOR HIS VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO OUR MEETINGS AND HIS ACTIVITIES BEHIND THE SCENES IN THEIR PREPARATION.

AS I MENTIONED IN MY ANNUAL REPORT, THIS WILL BE MY LAST A.G.M. AS CHAIRMAN AND BOARD MEMBER AS I HAVE DECIDED TO STEP DOWN AND SPEND SOME TIME TRAVELLING WITH MY WIFE WHO HAS BEEN A GREAT SUPPORT TO ME OVER THE YEARS OF MY COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

THANK YOU, DAWN, FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND PATIENCE.

THANKS ONCE AGAIN TO OUR BOARD MEMBERS FOR THEIR TIME AND EFFORT IN MAKING OUR COMMUNITY BANK THE SUCCESS THAT IT IS TODAY. I AM SURE THAT FROM THE CLOSURE OF THIS MEETING, I LEAVE THE BOARD IN VERY GOOD HANDS, KNOWING THE DEPTH OF EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND PROFESSIONALISM OF THE PEOPLE LEFT BEHIND WILL CONTINUE TO DRIVE THE COMPANY TO ONGOING SUCCESSFUL RESULTS.

THANKS ALSO TO ALL OF YOU, OUR SHAREHOLDERS, FOR YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE CONTINUE TO SPREAD THE WORD OF HOW MUCH WE ARE DOING IN THE COMMUNITIES AND ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND GROUPS TO JOIN "OUR COMMUNITY BANK" SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO GIVE BACK TO OUR COMMUNITIES THROUGH THIS FANTASTIC PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENT.

THANK YOU.