

Newsletter

October 2007

New Director appointment



Meet Rodney McKail

Rodney has been a resident of Warburton for over 45 years. His parents ran the milk bar at the La La end of Warburton for many years. His wife Karen has been a teacher at the Warburton Primary School for the past 27 years, apart from time off to raise the couple's two children Brooke and Tim.

Rodney has been employed in Local Government for over 30 years. He

worked at the Upper Yarra Shire and Lilydale Shire (now Yarra Ranges) before joining the Knox City Council 12 years ago where he is currently Manager - Governance.

Rodney has enjoyed involvement with a range of local community groups including the Warburton Primary School Council, Warburton Advancement League, Warburton Golf Club, Warburton Millgrove Sports Club and Wesburn Junior Football Club.

He is currently a Director of the Yarra Valley Cricket Association, a life member of the Warburton Millgrove Football Club and Warburton Millgrove Cricket Club and an active committee member of both clubs. He has coached the Warburton Millgrove Football Club's under 18s for the past three years, prior to which he coached and managed a range of junior football and cricket teams at Warburton and Wesburn.

Rodney has been a Justice of the Peace for 15 years and more recently has taken on the role of a Bail Justice.

Warburton **Community Bank**® Branch Directors are very pleased to have a colleague of Rodney's calibre on the Board. Rodney has embraced the Community Banking ethos with energy and enthusiasm. Since his election to Chairman in July he has demonstrated a great capacity to manage the duality of this unique community/commercial organisation.

Welcome aboard Rodney!

Director retirements



Bob Murray

Unlike other notable leadership duos, Bob Murray, as deputy Chairman, harboured no aspirations to oust Ian De La Rue, who had led the Company in his unique style since the doors opened for business in February 2000.

Ian's tragic and untimely passing in June 2005 launched the unsuspecting Bob into an unsolicited leadership gig to which he admirably

stepped up. At the July 2005 Board meeting, Bob humbly accepted the nomination as Chairman and was unanimously elected. Whilst the Board had not formally adopted a succession plan during its first five years, the experience Bob had gained from working closely with Ian was immediately evident and reassuring.

All the Directors of Warburton Community Financial Services perform their role on a voluntary basis. As a number of Directors before him, particularly those who had been part of the steering committee stage, Bob reluctantly made the decision to prioritise family and personal considerations and

indicated his intention to resign at the November 2006 AGM.

Bob has been an integral part of our Company since joining as a core member of the Steering Committee in 1998. He acted as Treasurer for that committee, no mean feat remembering the job involved the collection of contributions for the feasibility study and later the Company's start-up capital through the public share offer.

In 1999 he signed all the dotted lines to become an inaugural Director of the new Company and to continue his role as Treasurer.

This was a vastly different task back then. For more than a year, the business was running at a loss. Although this was anticipated in the business plan, it weighed heavily on the minds of the Directors, perhaps even more prominent in the mind of the Treasurer. Keeping costs to a minimum was essential. The fortnightly salaries, superannuation payments, the regular monthly accounts and the accurate recording of the monthly income were all Bob's responsibility, diligently and selflessly undertaken as a volunteer. At the same time, Bob was managing his own business at the Warburton Newsagency, an extremely demanding occupation in itself.

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**Board of Directors, Warburton Community Financial Services Limited,
3399 Warburton Highway, Warburton, VIC 3799**

Rodney McKail, Catherine Aulich, Elizabeth Fox, Barry Marshall, Maxwell McGee, Rodney Woods, Geoffrey Vickers.

Director retirements continued

The business found its feet, ahead of plan, due to the unselfish hard work of all the Directors but a particular debt of gratitude is owed to Bob for his many long hours at the coal face to give the Company the sound basis from which it continues to grow.

The Directors extend their sincere thanks to you Bob for more than six years of diligent contribution, triumph, often tinged with tribulation but never without commitment and a willingness to put-in.



Baden Berry

Baden joined the Company in November 2002. His business acumen immediately surfaced to produce the Company's first business plan. The plan has since proven an invaluable tool in guiding the Board's decision making, but was at the time an integral part of the Board's transition from a loss-making enterprise to one of profit and significant potential.

Baden's experienced guidance through the process of establishing the Company's policies and procedures offered immeasurable assurance, particularly as Directors of

community companies are valued for their broad range of skills that may not necessarily include business management.

In 2006, when Bob Murray announced his retirement as Director and Chairman, general consensus hoped that Baden would move into the Chair. Whilst Baden expressed his appreciation of being nominated, he didn't wish to create any false hope that he could take-on the role on a long term basis. Having been a Board member for sufficient time to appreciate the demands of the Chairman's position, he was aware that might conflict with his ultimate goal to enjoy travel and a more relaxed lifestyle in retirement. Baden accepted the role of Chairman based on the clear understanding that it would be for a 12 month period only, allowing sufficient time for the Board to implement succession planning.

That 12 month period has quickly transpired and we have regrettably farewelled yet another valuable contributor to Warburton **Community Bank**® Branch.

We wish you all the very best in your future pursuits Baden, and extend our sincere thanks for your generous contribution, your professionalism and a healthy measure of unique humour.

Bendigo Bank and Adelaide Bank announce plans to merge.

The Boards of Bendigo Bank and Adelaide Bank recently announced their intention to merge.

There are a number of advantages in bringing these two strongly performing Australian companies together.

But most importantly for you and your community, this merger secures the unique Bendigo style of banking, including the **Community Bank**® model.

The merger will bring together two banks with different but proven strategies, to create a unique customer and partner focused financial services organisation.

It will maintain Bendigo's community focused banking model and introduce Adelaide's wholesale banking strategy to form a more robust and diversified business.

Under the merged group, the unique **Community Bank**® model will continue to grow and prosper, and new Company-owned and **Community Bank**® branches will continue to open.

The Bendigo Bank brand will be retained, customers' accounts will not change and the same friendly faces will be at your local branch to provide for your banking needs.

Nationally, the merger would increase Bendigo Bank's network, delivering our customers access to 24 branches in South Australia and 90 ATMs. Over time, new products and services will follow.

The merger is still subject to Adelaide shareholder approval, in November, as well as a number of regulatory and court approvals and other conditions. Implementation is expected to take a number of months.

In the meantime, Bendigo Bank welcomes your views as a **Community Bank**® shareholder.

To share your views, or to find out more information, you can visit www.bendigobank.com.au and follow the merger link to the feedback form.

Or you can phone Bendigo Bank's merger hotline on 1800 730 426, or write to Bendigo Bank Share Registry, PO Box 480, Bendigo, Victoria 3552.

We are excited by the prospects for this merger.

The Bendigo Bank brand has inherent value built up over many years. This merger secures that and improves future growth opportunities. We look forward to bringing you more news.

Russell Jenkins
Chief General Manager Retail & Distribution
Bendigo Bank

Community payments

So far this financial year, the following organisations have received community payments from the branch:

- Limelight Songwriters Event - Songwriters Event 2008
- Moonlight on the Mountains Festival - 2008 Event
- Upper Yarra Secondary College - Maths Awards (2007)
- Warburton Advancement League - Street furniture plaques
- Warburton Advancement League - Up & Running 2008
- Warburton Christian School - Play Group
- Warburton Harmony Festival - Harmony Festival 2008
- Warburton Highway Tourism - Printed Town Map second print run
- Cerini Centre - Driveway upgrade
- Eastern Access Community Health - Yarra Junction Men's Shed
- Upper Yarra Forest Walks Inc - Interpretive Shelter
- Upper Yarra Community Hub Project - Feasibility Study
- Warburton Advancement League - Main Street Park Development

Director profile



Barry Marshall, AFSM

I was born in Warburton and have lived here all my life. No matter where I travel, coming home to Warburton is always a pleasure, and I think this is one of the most beautiful and peaceful places to live.

In 2002 I retired from my job as maintenance Manager for Martyrs Bus Service after more than 48 interesting and

progressive years with the Company.

I'm a volunteer firefighter with the Warburton Fire Brigade, having given more than 51 years as a volunteer. During this time I served as captain of the Brigade for 22 years, from 1978 to 2000, and am still an active fireman.

A highlight for me was being presented with an AFSM (Australian Fire Service Medal) at Government House in 2000 in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

I have also been involved with local sport, playing cricket and football for Warburton from 1953 to 1965.

My wife Sue and I have made our home in Warburton, raised our family here, and we are now enjoying our retirement years.

We have a married son who lives on the NSW Central Coast, north of Sydney, and a married daughter who lives locally. We are blessed with three grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

Warburton has a good future, especially with the new focus on tourism going ahead, and I think the **Community Bank®** branch's position will continue to grow in strength as the town progresses.

Serving the community as one of the Company's Directors is a pleasure and an honour for me, and I feel I can make a contribution with my local knowledge and experience.

Warburton Community Financial Services Ltd ABN 54 090 252 627

Have a say in the
future of your community

Warburton Community Financial Services Ltd Director

Expressions of interest are now being invited for the position of Director of Warburton Community Financial Services Ltd, operators of Warburton **Community Bank®** Branch of Bendigo Bank. As a Director you will act as an ambassador for Warburton **Community Bank®** Branch, actively building its customer base. You will also provide the leadership and management skills at a Board level to support and drive the Company's strategic direction, goals and objectives.

The position is voluntary, however, as a Director of Warburton Community Financial Services Ltd you will have a real say in the future direction of your **Community Bank®** branch and your community.

Warburton **Community Bank®** Branch is keeping local money and local business in the community.

Further information and a position description can be obtained from Geoffrey Vickers, Director - Warburton Community Financial Services Limited, on 5966 9028.

Applications close Friday 26 October 2007

Please forward to: PO Box 434, Warburton VIC 3799

Warburton
Community Bank® Branch **Bendigo Bank**



bendigobank.com.au Bendigo Bank Limited, The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo Vic 3550. ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879. (42682-v2) 19/09/2007

Youth Foundations Victoria

The State Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs James Merlino launched the Youth Foundations Victoria - Upper Yarra initiative at the Yarra Centre on 15 August.

The Upper Yarra is the second of 15 communities to roll-out this unique partnership between the Victorian State Government and the Bendigo Bank Group to help young people grant funds to other young people for local social and community development activities.

Over the next four years, the three **Community Bank®** branches in the Upper Yarra - Warburton, Woori Yallock and Wandin/Seville - will contribute \$105,000 to the fund. The State Government will match these funds and the cost of a facilitator. Over this period some of the pool will be available for granting, the remainder will form a corpus for ongoing grant making on a sustainable basis.

Bridge Builders Ltd has been elected as the lead agency and will employ a facilitator on a part-time basis. The facilitator will oversee the formation of a youth forum that

will assess and make grants to other young people for local youth-led community projects. The youth forum will be supported by an adult support group, providing a mentoring opportunity.

The program hopes to increase young people's volunteering and leadership opportunities by supporting them to map needs, facilitate responses and increase young people's participation in, and connection with, their communities.

Warburton **Community Bank®** Branch extends appreciation for the generous support of those who have participated in the program's development including Bridge Builders Ltd, Upper Yarra Community House, Shire of Yarra Ranges, Eastern Access Community Health, Upper Yarra Secondary College, Victoria Police, Woori Yallock Community House, Millgrove Baptist Church, YMCA, Wandin-Seville and Woori Yallock **Community Bank®** branches and the Victorian State Government.

Generation Green™

Green Home Loans, Carbons Offsets & More

For a long time Bendigo Bank has worked with our customers to meet their financial goals. And we've worked with communities to help them generate income and build bright futures – both financially and socially.

With increasing evidence that human activity is affecting the environment, whether salinity or greenhouse gas emissions, there is a third element that's vital to long-term community wellbeing – the environment.

Through Generation Green™, and with local communities, Bendigo Bank can play a role in addressing these issues by providing customers and communities with simple, practical, straight forward solutions that add up to a cleaner, greener and more sustainable future.

Several years ago Bendigo Bank introduced Green Home and Personal Loans to encourage customers to make their homes more energy efficient. And the Bank itself has undertaken significant measures to reduce its own impact – offsetting our

vehicle emissions, reducing power usage and building one of Australia's first five-star energy rated office buildings.

With Generation Green™, and a range of new solutions to help customers care for the environment, we're making it even easier for you and your community to reduce your impact on the environment.

Bendigo Green Home and Personal Loans are part of the Generation Green™ package, along with a new carbon offset product that will help you offset the greenhouse gas (or carbon) emissions from your car or home, or all of your daily activities.

So in addition to encouraging you to reduce your carbon emissions, with Generation Green™ you can offset/reduce the impact of those you do emit through buying carbon offsets.

With a Generation Green™ Carbon Offset Certificate, you can still drive your car and use your existing electrical appliances when you need to and know you are reducing their impact on the environment.

Credit Cards, Debit Cards & Cash Cards

A Credit Card, Debit Card or Cash Card to suit your needs and lifestyle

Whatever your needs or lifestyle, Bendigo Bank has the credit card or debit card solution to suit you.

The Bendigo Red and Bendigo Gold credit cards offer a range of options for credit, while the Bendigo Blue debit card and the Bendigo Cashcard allow you to use your own funds.



Credit Cards - Bendigo Red, Bendigo Gold & Bendigo Basic Black

- Choice of Bendigo Red, Bendigo Gold or Bendigo Basic Black Credit Cards
- Choice of 0, 44 or 55 days free credit on purchases
- Earn Reward Points (not available with Bendigo Basic Black)



Debit Cards - Bendigo Blue

- Access your own funds
- Worldwide acceptance
- Earn Reward Points



Cash Cards

- Access your own funds
- Purchase at over 500,000 EFTPOS terminals
- Available to anyone over 13 years of age

Building a stronger community.

Community Youth Initiative Award. Nominations now open.

Warburton **Community Bank**® Branch is now accepting nominations for the Ian De La Rue Youth Initiative Award. This award recognises young residents of Warburton District, aged 15 to 25 years, who have displayed initiative, innovation, leadership and a commitment to themselves and their community in the fields of trade, the arts, technology, music, sport or academia.

By returning money to the local community through its Grants Program and awards, Warburton **Community Bank**® Branch is helping to build a sustainable future for our community.

Nominations close 19 October, 2007. Nomination forms are available from Warburton **Community Bank**® Branch at 3399 Warburton Highway, on our website www.bendigobank.com.au/warburton or by contacting the Board of Directors' office on 5966 9028.

Warburton
Community Bank® Branch **Bendigo Bank**



Bendigo Bank Ltd, The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo, VIC 3550.
ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879. (S16446) (09/07)

**For more information please call into
3399 Warburton Highway,
Warburton
or phone 5966 2122**

**We are open:
Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday 9.00am - 12 noon**

Warburton **Community Bank**® Branch  **Bendigo Bank**