



**Hello to all the clubs, groups and schools receiving this newsletter direct.  
Together we can be the change!**

## Back in the Game

## A new innings for Yarra Valley Veteran's Cricket Club

By Lindy Schneider

**N**ow in its third year, The Yarra Valley Veteran's Cricket Club, based in Yarra Junction, is keen to advance their membership base, expand to two teams and take home the Grand Final trophy when the season ends in February 2018.

*'The Community Bank was the only place I knew we had a chance to get funding from.'*

Graeme LeBrocq joined the team, the only one in the Yarra Valley, because it provided him with an opportunity to play a much-loved sport with his own age group, and to enjoy the health benefits of keeping active. 'Cricket is ageless, you're never too old,' he says. 'Veteran's Cricket—the over 50s, 60s and even 70s—is the fastest growing category for Cricket Australia. It's a great way to connect with others and enjoy sport again.' In fact, one team member joined again after 32 years away from the game!

Twenty plus players have now made a 'comeback' to the baggy whites and whether the goal is social or competitive, the training sessions and competition is suitable for anyone over 50.

'The season is only 7 games plus finals and we play fortnightly on Sunday afternoons,' says Graeme. 'It's a great way to keep on playing, play more, or make a return to cricket, and it's a terrific alternative to other activities.'

The team have received sponsorship funding for their uniform, a shirt and cap, featuring their new logo. 'The Community Bank® was the only place I knew we had a chance to get funding from. It's important the team has a sense of belonging and unity and can play in quality conditions. And it's more enjoyable too!'

New players are always welcome. Training starts July 2018. Call Graeme on 0407 811 813 for more information.

Facebook: Glen-Waverley-and-Yarra-Valley-Veterans-Cricket-Teams



## Rachel Lee and Alyssa Parkins win Youth Initiative 2017 Award

The Youth Initiative award recognises young people who have a commitment to making our community a better place. Congratulations Rachel and Alyssa.



**Rachel Lee**  
Nominated by  
Scott Tully, Principal of Upper Yarra  
Secondary College.

Rachel displays a genuine desire to make our community a better place. She is College Captain and Student representative Council President, and has led open conversations regarding mental health. She has been a junior basketball and netball coach and basketball referee. She is employed part time with the Yarra Ranges Council as a youth ambassador, and takes risks that challenge her and others.



**Alyssa Parkins**  
Nominated by Fiona  
Gilsenan, The Redwood Community  
Centre and Heather  
Sayer, Interchange  
Outer East.

Alyssa has mentored at Redwood Community Centre for five years supporting primary school children, and helping with the transition to high school. A volunteer with Interchange Outer East for eighteen months, she has volunteered more than 600 hours supporting young children with a disability. She is a terrific role model and has a genuine ability to care for others.



# A very sharing Christmas

By Lindy Schneider

**C**hristmas is a welcomed time in the valley. Children finish school, we enjoy summer days by the river, and celebrations and gift giving with family and friends fill our diaries.

But this time of the year is also a difficult one for some in our community. Feelings of loneliness and isolation can peak at this time of year, with the absence of loved ones being felt more acutely. Pressures on budgets can be overwhelming, especially if just getting by day-to-day is challenging enough without the added expenditure of gifts or activities.

Local services, such as The Redwood Centre/ADRA, River Valley Church, Vinnies and countless other organisations, do a magnificent job every day of the year, but at Christmas this need is even more profound. We acknowledge the care these services provide to people and are proud to support their activities. And we acknowledge

the local CFA who send Santa out on a firetruck every year (regardless of the temperature!), the Warburton Advancement League for the Warburton carols (December 22 behind the Waterwheel) and the markets and local traders that enable us to shop local.

As a Community Bank®, we are about sharing the prosperity so that money can be invested into our community and our Sponsorships program is a fundamental way we 'share to care' in the community. But we can all, always do more for those in need.

You can donate presents to the Redwood Community Centre at our branches. Wishing trees, direct donations to your favourite charity and donating some time to a local service all provide hope and a sense of belonging.

Rod, Kerry and Libby at the Redwood Centre



Let's 'share to care' this Christmas. Surprise a stranger with how much you care. That's what community is.

**See the change your banking can make.**

You need a bank you can trust to give you the products and services you need.

We need you to help us make a difference.

At Bendigo Bank, our customers create change every day. A change for good. A change for the better.

**Drop into your nearest branch at 3399 Warburton Highway, Warburton - 5966 2122 or 2452 Warburton Highway, Yarra Junction - 5967 1919 and see the change your banking can make.**

**Bendigo Bank**

Warburton and Yarra Junction District **Community Bank®** branches



\*Mozo People's Choice Award Winner 2017 for Highly Trusted, Excellent Customer Service, Staff Friendliness and Most Recommended bank. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879. A265317-4 (380309\_v1) (4/12/2017)

[bendigobank.com.au/bethechange](http://bendigobank.com.au/bethechange)





## Directors on a mission

We wish you and your families well-ness and prosperity in the year ahead! The Upper Yarra Community Enterprise board of directors is a diverse group of local people who volunteer their time to support the much-appreciated activities of this community company. We thank Sarah Ward, Geoff Vickers, Sally Brennan, Chris Brown, Joy McConachy (acting chair), Elizabeth Fox, Michael Janssen and Jaqui Hall (pictured L to R at the Annual General Meeting) for another year of service and acknowledge the contribution of Jim Child, who for a total of 6 years, has served as a director (including time as deputy chair) and who recently retired.



## Our community videos

Have you seen our new series of Community activity videos? We're highlighting some of the great work you do with sponsorship funds so people see how their banking makes a difference. You can watch them on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. And check out the 'Be the change' video from Bendigo Bank, which also shows the impact community banking has on real people.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgjVint1boQ>

## Scholarships

Our 2018 Scholarship program is now open for applications. Available to local people entering tertiary or TAFE education for the first time to assist with expenses such as fees, travel and accommodation. Selection criteria applies. Closes 29 January 2018. Apply online via our website [upperyarra.net.au/youth/scholarships](http://upperyarra.net.au/youth/scholarships)

## 'My Place, My Community' Calendar

Drop into our branches to collect your complimentary 'My Place, My Community' Calendar featuring the twelve winning entries from our photo competition. A feast for the eyes every month with lovely insights into how we live in the Upper Yarra via some talented local photographers. The Judge's Choice (on the cover) is by local Paul Colcheedas.



## LocalLife newsletter

**f** Like us on Facebook

**w** [upperyarra.net.au](http://upperyarra.net.au)

**e** [geoff@upperyarra.net.au](mailto:geoff@upperyarra.net.au)

**n** To subscribe to our electronic newsletter, visit our website

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## Local Life Digital – doing our bit

Minimise your eco-footprint and receive Local Life via email instead of hard copy. Join our mailing list and be first to know about the great things happening in your community and reduce waste at the same time. Let's do our bit together! Subscribe online [www.upperyarra.net.au/about/contact-us/](http://www.upperyarra.net.au/about/contact-us/)

Request more copies of **LocalLife** at your Community Bank®

## The Community Bank® story

## Supporting your Community Bank®

**S**ince 2000, the Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches have been operated under franchise by the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise (UYCE) with the core purpose of advancing the Upper Yarra community.

Almost \$4 million has been invested in worthy local community-based projects through the allocation of sponsorship funding that is generated via the profit-for-purpose business model. The Community Bank® prospers because local people do their everyday banking at the Warburton or Yarra Junction branches.

Funds are distributed to community projects through Sponsorships and

Donations. Every year, important investments are made in areas as diverse as sports and recreation, education, arts and culture and civic organisations that support the successful operation and growth of essential community initiatives.

Sponsorship is the purchase of an association with an event, entrant, activity or organisation. Applications are accepted based on their ability to increase Community Bank® awareness and patronage, and communicate key messages regarding community development.

Find helpful information and application forms on our website [www.upperyarra.net.au](http://www.upperyarra.net.au).

# AdventCare - saving aged care

By Lindy Schneider

**W**hen an announcement was made in 2016 that the Aged Care facility in Warburton was facing an uncertain future, the town's reaction was immediate and resolute. Preserving aged care services and accommodation was vital to the community and the residents who called the centre home.

An interest group formed to 'Save Warburton Aged Care' and two years on, it's a point of pride for the community that success was had in not only saving AdventCare but also in achieving a commitment for refurbishment that now provides an even better standard of service and amenity.

The Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches, in committing \$152,600 to expand and refurbish the facility, have played an important role making one of our most significant community investments to date.

Acting Chair Joy McConachy said during her opening address that 'It shows what a small community banding

together can do. We are proud of the ongoing commitment from everyone.'

Colleen Hilbert, Manager of AdventCare, is proud 'to have such a beautiful refurbishment of our facility' with money going to important items such as new beds and cupboards, but also to a major redevelopment of an entire wing.

And it is the delight on the resident's faces that brings home what it means to provide continuity of care for our older generation and their families, and the opportunity for all Upper Yarra residents to know they have a place to go as they age. At home, by the river.

Watch Video:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkc\\_AkDkJXs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkc_AkDkJXs)



Left Sue in her room, and Marnie, Ron and Colleen in the new lounge

*'It shows what a small community banding together can do.'*

## Latest Sponsorships November Quarter 2017

- Variety Victoria for Yarra Junction Police Variety Bash Car
- St Vincent de Paul for Christmas Toys
- Upper Yarra Netball Association for Netball Clinic
- Bear and Moon Productions for Music, Arts and Cultural Festival
- Warburton & District Anglers Inc for Family Fishing Days
- Yarra Junction Cricket Club for Veteran's Shirts and Caps
- LinC Church Services Network for MEDI SURE program
- Woods Point Gun Club Inc for Annual Club sponsorship
- Warburton-Millgrove Football Netball Club for 'A Day on the Hill'
- Catprint Theatre Productions for Two Major Performances 2018
- Yarra Valley ECOS for Ecotopia 2018
- Tour de Trails for Warburton Trail Fest

**Total this quarter: \$32,643**

**TOTAL since 2000: Almost \$4 million**

**Next Sponsorship Round closes 11 February 2018**  
**Apply online: [www.upperyarra.net.au/sponsorships](http://www.upperyarra.net.au/sponsorships)**

