



Open to possibilities

Welcome to the Warburton Community Space



Volunteers at the opening celebration



Ian De La Rue Award

Skye Johnston, a Year 10 student at Upper Yarra Secondary College, has been awarded the Youth Initiative Award for 2013. Skye excels as a leader in both her basketball and school activities and is well regarded for her humanitarian work. Congratulations Skye.

What does it mean to a community to have a cheerful, minimal cost space to meet? How central is a community space to the vibrancy of community life? What can be done to help community groups meet and prosper? These questions were asked at the Community Forum program more than eighteen months ago and the response was clear – our towns needed a dedicated community place that was inclusive, inexpensive and an accessible place to meet.

A few months ago, the perfect space – with indoor and outdoor areas, a garden and commercial kitchen – became available and a steering group, auspiced by Koha Community Cafe, leased the site with start-up funds provided by the Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches. Warburton Community Space opened at the beginning of October with much



The space will be run by volunteers – by our community, for our community.

goodwill and big plans – despite its small façade. (Some have likened it to the tardis!)

As a not-for-profit endeavour, Warburton Community Space has devel-

oped a fee structure that supports other not-for-profits, and also caters for private and commercial use at very affordable rates. The onsite commercial kitchen is a bonus for local producers who need a registered kitchen – there is even a cool store.

The aim is for the space to be self-sufficient and donations, fundraising activities such as major quarterly raffles, sausage sizzles and space hire income will be relied on to cover everyday expenses.

The space will be run by volunteers – by our community, for our community. Warburton Community Space is a place to bring people together to create, plan and advance the community and whatever else the space can be used for! More info is available on the Warburton Community Space Facebook page or visit www.upperyarra.net.au

Recent sponsorship highlights



Julie Ricketts wins 'People's Choice'

Arts - Visage 2014

One of the premier art prizes in the region, Visage features portraits of people who live, work or play in the Yarra Valley. Now in its fourth year, Visage provides a chance for everyone to participate in this increasingly popular exhibition.

The Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® again provided sponsorship funding for this event, contributing \$3500 toward the prize pool and marketing activities. A walk of the gallery revealed many of our shareholders, customers and members of the local community as both talented artists and interesting subjects. Pictured is the People's Choice prize winner, Julie Ricketts from Wesburn, with her entry 'Billy turns two' a stunning pastel featuring her nephew – who is the great-great grandson of renowned Australian artist and sculptor William Ricketts.

Sports & Recreation

The Warburton-Millgrove Football Club used their Bali end-of-season players trip to pay forward the benefits of sponsorship to a local orphanage. Fifteen YVMDFL players took 25 footballs, pumps and carry bags with them to donate to an orphanage that provides a home for 68 Balinese street kids, and while they were there enjoyed a game of kick-to-kick with the children and staff.

Players also donated money to help pay for valuable resources. Now this relationship has been established, the players plan to provide ongoing support to the orphanage and return next year to fun footy clinics and contribute more schooling resources and, of course, more footballs.



YVMDFL pay it forward



Summer fun at kids camp

Children's Services

Every year more than 4500 children enjoy a school camping experience at the ADANAC camp facility in Hoddle St, Yarra Junction. In 2009, your Community Bank® provided initial funding for a summer school holiday program, TURBO KIDS, that met the specific needs of our local community, and five years on continue to support this very special camp. Now over 220 local children every summer have a fantastic time at the TURBO camps (this year there are three camps!) – and the best thing is they don't have to travel too far from home to enjoy the fun facilities, which include a lake with canoeing and swimming, outdoor activities such as the flying fox, ropes and a water-slide, and a range of sporting activities and other outdoor adventures. For more information see: www.turbo.cyc.org.au

Community resources

Digital noticeboard

Our digital noticeboard network offers free advertising opportunities to community groups and sponsorship recipients. Located at the Warburton Newsagency, Warburton Community Bank® branch, Yarra Junction Community Bank® branch and at the Optometrist in the Yarra Junction arcade, the noticeboards are updated regularly and are also posted on our Facebook page and website. Send your layout (as a JPEG or PDF) or send logos, images and text to admin@upperyarra.net.au and we can create a slide on your behalf.



Bring your accounts home

Your banking with Bendigo Bank will only benefit the Upper Yarra community if your account is based at either the Warburton or Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches. So, it doesn't matter if your accounts were originally set up at Alphington or Timbuktu, it just takes a simple signature on one form to move your accounts 'home' to one of these branches. (And you can still visit any branch to do your banking.) Just pop in to either the Warburton or Yarra Junction branch to arrange. It only takes a minute but the benefits to your community can last forever. Why? Because every time you bank local, the amount of money given to the community in sponsorships increases. Bank local – benefit local.



The towns that **grow together**

When a Victorian study in 2008 indicated that one in twenty people in a twelve month period had run out of food (that's almost 10 people a week in Warburton and Yarra Junction), a group of community-minded people decided to make a difference to 'food security' in our towns. With the goal of ensuring there was accessible, affordable and sustainable food options available to every member of our community, several key initiatives have been funded and a real difference is being made.

The Second Bite food service visits twice a week to redistribute excess perishable foods free of charge to those who need it. Anecdotally, since this service commenced the demand for crisis food parcels has eased, and Chewsday, at the Redwood Community Centre, also provides a point of connection and social interaction for many people.

Koha Community Cafe, a pay-what-you-can-afford community café (at the Yarra Burn Centre every Thursday) was established in 2009 and provides approximately 80 vegetarian meals a week.

The Yarra Valley Bee Group recently received sponsorship funding. Their mission is to educate and resource our towns to support healthy bee colonies, a vital link in the pollination and growing of fruits and vegetables. And the habitats and food sources of our river reserve wildlife also benefit from community tree planting and revegetation days, such as those organised by the Upper Yarra River Reserves group.

In Yarra Junction, ECOSS has established community garden boxes in the main street and in Warburton community gardens have been established on the main street and riverside at the rear of the Community Bank® branch. Volunteers regularly donate their time, skills and resources to ensure the productivity of these spaces, which are accessible 24/7. This means fresh nutritious food is available, free of charge, any time to anyone in need.

Whether it be through the seed funding provided to Koha Community Cafe, or the projects we support at ECOSS, including the Bee Group, the Community Bank® branches see real value in supporting the endeavours of our hardworking locals to help provide fresh and nutritious food. And your help is also welcome, so connect with these wonderful community groups and see how a little effort can sustain whole communities.



Chewsday volunteers



Ruby and friends at river planting day



ECOSS community garden boxes



Ruben and Lydia Roberts suit up



Your Home
*Choose a home loan
that's right for you*

Whether you are purchasing your first home or your next home, refinancing or investing in property, Bendigo Bank offers you the freedom and flexibility to make your home loan work for you.

Drop in or call your nearest branch at Warburton, phone 5966 2122, or Yarra Junction, phone 5967 1919 and find out more about choosing the home loan that's right for you.

Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. All loans subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879. HL18 (190490_v8) (16/07/2013)

Warburton & Yarra Junction **Community Bank®** Branches



Supporting your Community Bank®

The Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches are operated by the community and for the community under franchise by the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise (UYCE).

The core purpose of our Community Bank® is the advancement of the Upper Yarra community. This is achieved through the allocation of sponsorship funding that is generated via a

profit-for-purpose business model. The Community Bank® prospers because of the support of local people doing their everyday banking at the Warburton or Yarra Junction branches. Staying local is essential to our local economy.

More than \$2 million has been invested in worthy local community-based projects and organisations since our Community Bank® was established in February 2000.

Supporting your community through Sponsorships and Donations

Your Community Bank®, in conjunction with UYCE, distributes funds 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.

Applications for sponsorships and donations are accepted four times a year. Submission dates are: **February 9, May 11, August 11 and November 14 every year.**

Sponsorship is the purchase of an association with an event, activity or organisation. Applications are accepted based on their ability to increase Community Bank®

awareness and patronage, and communicate key messages regarding community development. They must also benefit the community in some way. Proposals cannot be submitted for past events.

Find helpful information and application forms on our website: upperyarra.net.au

For friendly assistance with your sponsorship proposal, please call in to one of our Community Bank® branches or phone 5966 9028.

You can support the continued prosperity of your community everyday by simply doing your banking at your Community Bank® in Warburton or Yarra Junction.

The Launch of Warburton Highway A-Z



The Warburton Highway A-Z is a brand new website information service that connects people living along the Warburton Highway with businesses, products and services in the area. Our sponsorship of this service is important in developing a unified voice and increasing economic prosperity for the towns that thrive along this highway.

Find a business, list a business.

See www.warburtonhighway.com.au – too easy.

International Crochet Day

Warburton's second Annual International Crochet Day was held at the Upper Yarra Arts Centre on 12 September. Our funding ensured free admission and purchased yarn and crochet hooks so that everyone could have a go. The event attracted more than 50



locals including a group of cultural and linguistically diverse women who bought handcrafts from war-time Europe. The Crochet Group meets Friday afternoons at the Warburton Community Space.

Wesburn PS undercover

Children at Wesburn Primary School returned to school for term 4 to a brand new undercover Sports and Physical Education Facility made possible through a Community Bank sponsorship of \$40,000. The covered arena now provides shelter for outdoor activities regardless of the weather or time of year.

Promoting your Sponsorship Guide

Need help planning your sponsorship marketing? We have developed a comprehensive guide to local marketing and communications that can help you identify the best opportunities for promotions. Available on request at your favourite branch.

Shares Available

There are currently interested parties looking to sell shares in the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise Limited through the company's low volume market. To register your interest in purchasing shares, please contact Geoff Vickers, Executive Officer, on 5966 9028.

Handmade for Business



Kirsty Chalmers



Angie from Our Little Farm – Handmade was a springboard to being stocked in main street retailers

Warburton Valley Handmade has celebrated its first year of operation and more than \$30,000 in sales. Located in the Waterwheel complex, Handmade is one of several unique sustainable businesses that seeks to support local artists, craft makers and the local economy. A joint initiative with the Community Bank®, the Waterwheel precinct is a central point of connection between members of the community and the tourists who visit.

Kirsty Chalmers, Handmade organiser, is proud of how the Handmade model is supporting the development of craft industries in town with more than 50 makers (from postcodes 3799, 3797, 3139) selling their wares. 'The shop, which is open seven days, provides an opportunity for main street sales and has encouraged people to explore their talents,' she says. For a minimal outlay – rent starts at \$5 per week – makers self-manage their own 'space within the space' and receive 100% of the proceeds from every sale that is made. Staffing for the centre is generously provided by a wonderful group of volunteers so overheads are minimal.

'The range of products is as diverse as our community and the shop has become a first point of call for anyone locally who is looking for a uniquely

charming or special gift,' says Kirsty, herself an artist with products on display. 'And keeping our spending local means we are supporting the local economy in sustainable ways, while also enjoying the delights of our neighbours and friends.'

Beyond beautiful things to buy, Handmade is also providing local makers with the opportunity to grow their business by promoting extended ser-

The range of products is as diverse as our community

vices, encouraging online and custom orders or simply by having a public place to showcase their wares. And there is more to come with a Christmas Night Market on November 29, a website in development and an open invitation for new makers to join.

HOMETOWN ADVANTAGE

As the holiday season approaches, it's timely to think about how where we shop and bank affects the prosperity of our community. Here's a challenge – can you do all your Christmas shopping locally this year? Could you go an entire week buying essentials within 20 kilometres of your home?

What would the benefits be of staying local? Here are some local life facts:

- 🛍 Every \$1 spent is worth more than ten times that to the local community
- 🛍 50-70% of every dollar spent locally recirculates in the local economy
- 🛍 Local businesses employ local people

- 🛍 It's easier to know where things come from and how they are made
- 🛍 Fresh items will be fresher and travel fewer kilometres to get to you
- 🛍 Buying local supports the character and uniqueness of our towns, their producers, artists, innovators and small business owners
- 🛍 You'll know the people you are dealing with, and that's a good thing because they are very likely to have an interest in your community because it's theirs too!

Communities can be sustainable when everyone shops local. And it's the same for banking. See you on the main street!

Inspired by www.liveshoplocal.co.uk



Viewing the valley through a different lens

A VOICE FOR YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY



In August and September, more than 30 students from the Upper Yarra Community House VCAL program participated in Photovoice, a Community Development project initiated by UYCH and UYCE. Karen Swankie, VCAL tutor, says, 'Photovoice provided these young adults with an opportunity to express how they felt about their lives and their community. Many were able to depict important aspects of their day-to-day worlds, such as friendship, nature and love! There were many thought provoking images captured and some photographs, when combined with captions, told stories of 'asking to be given a go' and being 'free of judgement.'

Local artist Benno Poeder provided artistic and technical guidance and the results, more than 60 photos, will be exhibited at the Upper Yarra Family Centre, Yarra Junction, and then the Upper Yarra Arts Centre, Warburton. Benno says it was remarkable to see how cameras helped the participants find a way of expressing ideas and feelings that in some cases were transformed by the process. 'Many found they had skills and abilities they had not realised before they participated,' he says. 'A photo, even without a caption, can provide insight into the photographer but also comments on our community and society at large.'

Sponsorships Congratulations to:

- Yarra Junction Bowls Club \$1000 for Annual Club Sponsorship
- Harmony Festival 2014 \$8000 for festival support and presenter fees. For more information see: www.warburtonharmonyfestival.com
- Yarra Valley Bee Group \$3539 (auspiced by Koha Community Cafe) for bee keeping resources including books and equipment
- Youth Art Fund \$5000 (auspiced by Warburton Advancement League) for supporting young local artists with the costs of exhibiting and competition fees

Successful submissions for our November round of sponsorships will be announced shortly. Thank you to all those who have applied – the diversity and calibre of proposals is more inspiring with each round. Next round closes 9 February 2014. Application forms can be downloaded from our website.

Customers of the Community Bank® know their community benefits most when profits are shared locally to build vibrant, sustainable communities and local economies. Local prosperity is supported everyday by 'keeping life local'.

A great year ahead



The 'My Place, My Community' Calendar 2014 has now been

released and is a gift to our community to celebrate the beauty of our towns and the people who live in them. Each month features a photograph voted for by the community (or selected by our judges) from this year's 67 stunning entries.

Pop into the Warburton or Yarra Junction Branch for your FREE copy.

LocalLife newsletter

Thank you for your positive feedback on our refreshed newsletter. Local Life seeks to showcase the wonderful work done in and about our towns – Warburton and Yarra Junction. It's the only publication that focuses exclusively on the happenings in postcode 3797 and 3799, and the contribution made by the Community Bank® and our local customers. We're glad you like it!

Tell us

Do you have a story to tell about how sponsorship has helped your organisation or event?

Have you enjoyed attending a recent community event sponsored by the Community Bank®?

Is there a worthy community sponsorship story you'd like to see featured in this newsletter?

Tell us your story, send us photos and let us know what it means to you to recognise a local identity.

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

Like us on Facebook

upperyarra.net.au

admin@upperyarra.net.au

To subscribe to our electronic newsletter, visit our website

Published by the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise. All enquiries to Lindy Schneider e: lindy@warburtons.own.net.au

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