



*Celebrating the good things in our community*

LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!



## Your Community Bank® turns twenty in 2020!

**Y**our Community Bank® does more than banking. Your Community Bank® creates big opportunities, builds infrastructure and supports the projects the people of our towns decide have merit. Through day-to-day banking activities and the Sponsorships program, the Community Bank® answers the question: What type of community do we want to live in?

On 25 February 2020, the Warburton Community Bank® branch celebrates an important milestone – so important we're talking about it now! Twenty years since the branch first opened its doors – an incredible achievement and a point at which we pause and reflect on what has been created, what we love and what we couldn't do without.

The Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches have contributed:

- More than \$4 million to the community in sponsorships.
- Funding for more than 200 community groups to do more in their community - from sport, schools, arts, festivals and health services.
- Countless loans to support new homes, new families and new businesses.
- Employment for more than 50 local staff members.
- Dividends to more than 700 shareholders.
- Board positions for locals and leadership opportunities.
- Support for major infrastructure including the development of the Yarra Junction branch, AdventCare development, The Waterwheel precinct, Warburton Community Hydro scheme, the proposed Mountain Bike Hub and more.

We've always said 'together we achieve more' so we thank every customer who has opened an account at Warburton or Yarra Junction for their support. Every dollar has a multiplier effect making it so much more valuable for everyone.

The Community Banking model is a unique one, and if you love grassroot causes, helping a neighbour and being part of something bigger than you are, then you're part of our celebrations!

Two decades ago, a group of local people had a vision to make our towns lively, prosperous and delightful places to be. Twenty years on, those people that formed the first group of board members, together with our founding shareholders and customers, have been part of bringing that vision to life.



### 8th Annual Calendar competition and exhibition

The popular 'Upper Yarra – My Place, My Community' photo competition is back for its eighth year. Twelve local photographers will have their winning images featured in the 2020 local Community Bank® Calendar.

Last year, more than 80 photos were part of an exhibition at the Warburton Arts Centre. This year's exhibition will run between 12 July and 3 September. Pop in and decide your favourites – you can place your vote at the exhibition or online at [upperyarra.net.au](http://upperyarra.net.au)



# Sponsorships around the towns...

**H**ighlights of the Sponsorship rounds this year prove what a dynamic, supportive and helpful community we live in. With projects funded from the arts, education, sports, and health, every dollar contributes to our Local Life. There isn't a person in town that won't feel that benefit somewhere!

While Yarra Junction and Warburton are the locations of our branches, Sponsorship support ripples out within the post-codes 3799 and 3797 including: Reefton, McMahons Creek, Gladysdale, Millgrove, Powelltown, Wesburn, East Warburton and everywhere in between.

These projects are now happening in your community:

## Yarra Valley Friendship Group – Yarra Junction

This group will provide a weekly meeting point in Yarra Junction for isolated older people in the Upper Yarra Valley who may be experiencing loneliness, depression and mental illness, providing support, companionship and helping them enjoy life again.



## Toy Library – Yarra Junction

In a much needed upgrade of equipment and modernisation of systems, the Toy Library will purchase specialised sensory toys supporting children with special needs, and a diverse and appealing range of quality educational toys and equipment for new families moving into the area. This is the only toy library of its type in the area.



## Wesburn Junior Football Club – Wesburn

This club provides players with skills and a strong team network, building healthy



Dan Mathers, Louise Wigg (Project Leader, Upper Yarra Body Image Group), Sarah Cromie, EACH; Jacqui from EDVOS; Lara Clark, Inspiro) and Aaron Hogan.

children who feel supported and strive for success with mentoring from the coaches. With a strong community approach, the club uses funding to subsidise memberships fees and uniforms to help families who may struggle to stay engaged and participate fully.

## Upper Yarra Body Image Group – Upper Yarra

'Weight Paradigms of Health' seminar will introduce community members, policy makers and health advocates to the importance of 'weight inclusive' actions that focus on self-care, health enhancing behaviours and celebrate body diversity – an important topic for the Yarra Valley where admissions to hospital for eating disorders are 30% above the state average. The seminar will be held in September.

Book the Symposium <http://www.bodyof-wellbeing.com.au/symposium-2019-2>



## CIRE Kids Therapeutic Services

An 8-week therapeutic after-school program that supports children to increase their ability to understand and manage 'big feelings', self-esteem and relationships through arts/craft, games and a supportive group environment. This program will foster engagement with CIRE Community House as a safe place and fill a much needed gap for therapeutic groups for primary school children in the Upper Yarra.

*"We are so grateful to Upper Yarra Community Enterprise for their extremely generous sponsorship of our symposium about weight stigma, health and the weight inclusive approach in action. This sponsorship combined with our community development grant from Yarra Ranges Council means we can offer stakeholders, including interested community members, a quality event that we hope will make significant contributions to conversations about the benefits of the weight inclusive approach to public health policy, practice and outcomes."* Louise Wigg

## Upper Yarra Community Enterprise Register your Interest Members of the Board

Upper Yarra Community Enterprise Ltd (UYCE) are keen to recruit new Directors with a number of positions recently becoming vacant.

UYCE was originally formed in October 1999 for the purpose of opening a Bank Branch in Warburton under a franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank. Since its early days the organisation has grown substantially. In 2008 it opened a second branch in Yarra Junction.

UYCE welcome applications for a director position at any time. The competencies and experience that are desirable include: formal board training or previous experience in finance, governance, audit, business operations, community capacity building, and the preparedness to contribute volunteer time to the ongoing success of the enterprise.

Interested people should email a resume to [rnkmckail@outlook.com](mailto:rnkmckail@outlook.com) or contact the chairperson Rod McKail on 0437 373 752.



### Welcome Suzanne Phoenix – Executive Officer

Suzanne Phoenix commenced in the role of Executive Officer in April 2019. She comes with more than 15 years experience in leadership roles in the community, not-for-profit and local government sectors in the areas of social and community services and development. She grew up in the Yarra Valley and has lived in the area for more than 5 years. Suzanne is also the EO for Victorian Community Transport Association and a photographer.



### Introducing Aaron Hogan

Aaron Hogan is our new Business Development Manager, working from both branches of the Community Bank® at Warburton and Yarra Junction. Aaron is available to assist you with your personal banking and lending requirements.

Contact Aaron on 0400 960 427.



### Thank you Chris Brown - Outgoing Director

Our thanks and best wishes go to Chris Brown who, after five years as a member of the Board, is retiring. Chris brought his enthusiasm and wise counsel to the Board and contributed a great deal to the high level decision making and financial oversight of UYCE activities. Thank you, Chris.

### Farewell Dan Mathers



Dan our Senior Customer Relationships Manger at Warburton will be taking on a new role at the Healesville Community Bank® branch. Dan will be missed very much but it's great to know he's still close by! Thanks Dan for all you brought to our customers and our team.

### Your Board of Directors

Rodney McKail (Chair), Sally Brennan (Deputy Chair), Sue Clarke, Hazel Clothier, Elizabeth Fox, Neil Jorgensen and David Schloeffel. Read more about our Board Members on our website. [upperyarra.net.au/about/the-board-of-directors](http://upperyarra.net.au/about/the-board-of-directors)

### New Customer Service Officers

A big welcome to Alexandra Reinhold, who has joined our Customer Service team at the Yarra Junction branch last March transferring from the Woori Yallock branch. Please also join us in welcoming two new casual Customer Service Officers, Melissa Harrington and Olymbia (Libby), who will work across both the Yarra Junction and Warburton branches.



Alexandra Reinhold Melissa Harrington



### New role for Emily Sharp

Emily Sharp is Senior Customer Relationships Manager at our Yarra Junction branch. She can help with lending enquiries and has worked at the Yarra Junction branch since it opened 11 years ago!



### Baby news

Congratulations to Carla Nobes from our Yarra Junction branch, and partner Joshua James who welcomed their first baby, a little girl named Summer Eily, on 30 March.

## The Community Bank® story

### Supporting your Community Bank®

Since 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.

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.

More than \$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.

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.

Funds are distributed to community projects through Sponsorships and

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





# TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE MORE Sponsorships and beyond

**T**hroughout the outer east of Melbourne, the Community Bank® network of branches sponsor an incredible range of community-based activities. Over the past year, an integrated Sponsorships and Marketing program has been established to reflect the interests and needs of this broader regional area. Warburton, Yarra Junction and surrounds are proud to be part of the Community Bank® Collaborative Marketing program and already see the benefits of being part of bigger picture initiatives that bring different services and focus into our area.

Examples of programs that are being supported by this Collaborative Marketing initiative include:

**outer east foodshare** Outer East Food Share work with emergency food relief agencies to get better produce to their clients – families in need. Funding for a reliable ‘chill zone’ vehicle means fresh and frozen foods can be easily transported from suppliers to Warburton bringing greater variety more often, while reducing the amount of food going to landfill.

**Holy Fools Inc** Holy Fools is a not-for-profit charitable organisation working to support and prevent homelessness in the Yarra Ranges. Funding was used to develop an informative flyer about services and options available to those at risk of homelessness that is distributed through rental and real estate agencies and ensures people are able to take practical action to address difficulties and seek the right support services.

Days for Girls is a community organisation that makes more than 1000 sanitary packs per year for distribution to young girls in six developing nations. Funding was used to buy fabric and equipment. These packs help remove barriers for attending school, and provide a sense of dignity and self-agency for young women across the world.

Animal Aid is a not-for-profit organisation devoted to animal welfare looking after more than 6000 unwanted and surrendered cats, dogs and livestock per year, and helping reunite and rehome lost and abandoned animals. Funding was used to provide an After Hours Contained Animal Collection service in the Yarra Ranges.

RAPA – Ranges Academy of Performing Arts is supporting kids 8-18 years of age with the opportunity to work creatively in drama, dance and filmmaking to developing their own unique vision and works. It includes the Film in Schools program at 10 local schools.

We never take our focus away from the community that is closest to our heart, where our customers live, but the opportunity to expand our viewpoint and bring community services and ideas in closer to our towns is a great way to grow new talents and resources.

Engage with these organisations and activities – they are part of our ‘bigger than a bank’ community! And, of course, this investment is over and above our local Sponsorship program, so everyone wins!



## February Sponsorships

- Yarra Ranges Council for L2P
- Upper Yarra Musicians Collective for Youth Music Mentoring Program
- 2019 The Girls Movement for Cinema Under the Stars
- Upper Yarra Body Image Group for Weight Paradigms of Health Seminar
- Yarra Ranges Film Society for Warburton Film Festival
- Upper Yarra Valley Historical Society for Crank Up 2019
- Youth Scholarship

## July Sponsorships

- CIRE Kids for Therapeutic Services
- Yarra Junction Primary School for Step Back in Time
- Seed Funding for Friendship Group
- Upper Yarra Toy Library for Upgrade
- Warburton Advancement League - Community Garden Noticeboard
- River of Light Winter Festival
- Yarra Valley Arts Open Studio
- Wesburn Junior Football Club for Subscriptions Season 2019
- Upper Yarra Basketball Association for Aussie Hoops Program

**TOTAL since 2000: more than \$4 million**

**Next Sponsorship Round closes at midnight on Sunday 13 October 2019.**

**Apply online: [www.upperyarra.net.au/sponsorships](http://www.upperyarra.net.au/sponsorships)**