

Our Community Impact 2023-24



We aim to develop long-term prosperity by supporting programs that help empower local individuals and groups within the local community. We are committed to investing in the growth of a strong, connected and vibrant community.



\$6.7m

provided to
empower the local
community to
date

\$2.9m

invested for
future local
community
funding

62

Organisations
supported in
2023-24

21

years providing a
community
banking service



Goulburn's 100th Anniversary Motorcycle Grand Prix Sponsorship

The Community Bank Bungendore provided a \$5,000 sponsorship to the Goulburn Motorcycle Grand Prix Association for the 100th anniversary celebration of the 1924 Motorcycle Grand Prix. This three-day event commemorated the historic race and was organised by a committee including Mulwaree Council, Goulburn Chamber of Commerce, and local motorcycle clubs. Proceeds from the event supported Goulburn's motorcycle clubs, which provide rider training and make donations to local charities.

Generously supported by our Community Bank the ride was unlike the first in that it mirrored the difference of our time, but was identical of heart, and our opportunity to recognise those young riders of 1924.

Tom Rudd

2024 Community Bank Bungendore Scholarship Recipient



Tom Rudd, a passionate student of Rural Science, was recently awarded a merit-based scholarship of \$3,500 by the Community Bank Bungendore. Tom has embarked on his journey at the University of New England, pursuing a degree in Agriculture, Environment, and Related Studies. His dedication to learning about the sustainable future of our rural landscapes impressed us, and we're proud to support his academic journey. This scholarship will help ease the financial burden of his studies, allowing him to focus on making a positive impact in the field of rural science. We wish Tom every success in his studies and look forward to seeing the difference he will make in the future of agriculture.

The education sponsorship from the Bendigo Community Bank was instrumental in advancing my academic journey whilst living away from home. It not only eased the financial burden of my studies but also motivated me to excel and give back to my community that supported me. I appreciate this opportunity.



Lions Club of Bungendore High School Breakfast Club Sponsorship



The Community Bank Bungendore is pleased to sponsor the Lions Club of Bungendore with \$2,000 for their High School Breakfast Club, which provides nutritious breakfasts to students at Bungendore High School on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. This initiative aligns with the NSW Department of Education's efforts to encourage regular school attendance and punctuality. Providing breakfast has proven health and educational benefits, especially for students who may travel to school or lack breakfast at home. Attendance is growing daily, demonstrating the program's positive impact on our community's youth.



Hoskingtown-Rossi Community Donation

The Community Bank Bungendore has donated \$6,000 to the Hoskingtown-Rossi Community for the purchase of a Ride-on mower. This mower will help volunteers maintain the grounds of the fire station, as well as nearby St. Mark's Anglican Church and the War Memorial Hall. By supporting this initiative, the bank is helping to ease the workload of the volunteers who dedicate their time to keeping these important community spaces in great condition.

The donation from the Community Bank has been a tremendous benefit to the community. No longer will volunteers have to lug their ground maintenance equipment to various locations, now that we have one, very capable resource.



Braidwood & District Education Foundation (BDEF) Donation

Community Bank Braidwood donated \$15,000 to support the Braidwood & District Education Foundation (BDEF) for the Class of 2024-25 Grants. BDEF provides grants to local students aged 16–25, assisting them with further education after high school.

These grants help cover expenses like textbooks, accommodation, and travel, reducing the financial burden for students, especially those living away from home. In 2024, BDEF awarded \$71,000 to 24 students pursuing diverse fields such as Nursing, Engineering, Social Work, and Apprenticeships.

Thanks to the generous grant, BDEF can now assist even more young students to reach their educational goals. Without the bank's support, we would not have the capacity to help as many students as we do.

Rotary Club of Bungendore Monopoly Bungendore Edition Sponsorship



Community Bank Bungendore proudly sponsored \$10,000 towards the Rotary Club's ambitious Monopoly Bungendore Edition project. This unique initiative not only highlights local businesses and organisations but also puts Bungendore on the global Monopoly map. The game was launched through an online auction, giving businesses the chance to secure a spot on this limited-edition board. With strong community support and the final details submitted, the game is set to be available by the end of the year, bringing both fun and tourism opportunities to the village.

What about Monopoly he said! Think, discuss, consider, make a decision - Why not Monopoly! And that is how it started. Our strong relationship with the Community Bank Bungendore allows us to have good discussions and debates about opportunities and projects and so we embarked on a project to immortalise our Bungendore businesses on the worldwide Monopoly stage. With great support and encouragement from all we 'rolled the dice' and 'took a chance' and in November this year Bungendore will have its very own Monopoly game. The proceeds will go to community projects to help entice visitors to come and stay and enjoy what Bungendore has to offer to the benefit of many. Without the support of the Community Bank Bungendore this would never have happened. Thank you.



First Thursday Community Lunch Group Sponsorship

Community Bank Braidwood provided a \$5,000 sponsorship to support the Community Lunch Project. Held monthly, on the first Thursday, at the Braidwood Servicemen's Club, the initiative offers a \$10 lunch to anyone in the community helping to alleviate social isolation. With additional support from the club and Pine Garden Restaurant, the funding is primarily used for entertainment, which has proven to attract more attendees. This project fosters social connection and provides a wholesome meal for those who may be financially struggling, making it a valuable and affordable outing for the broader Braidwood community.



An average of 70 Braidwood citizens have gathered at the Braidwood Services Club on the First Thursday, of each month, for 2 years. Why? To chat, to share a meal, make new friends and renew past friendships - perhaps listen to a gifted musician, be thrilled by a tango dancer, or step back in time with our own Patsy (Pixie) Kline! Thanks to Bendigo Bank's extremely generous donation of \$5,000, we will be able to continue into the future, fostering friendships, supporting local talent, building community.

It is fantastic to receive this grant, as it enables our committee to continue providing entertainment and special event celebrations, such as Christmas and Easter. For many, community lunches are one of only a few opportunities to socialise and connect with the community. In the words of an older member: It meets a lovely need in the community to know someone and feel a local acceptance.



Imogen Dixon 2024 Community Bank Braidwood Scholarship Recipient

Imogen was awarded a \$6,000 scholarship from the Community Bank Braidwood to support her Bachelor of Nursing studies at Charles Sturt University in Wagga. Her passion for healthcare and desire to work in a regional community after graduation makes her a perfect recipient of this award. A special moment unfolded when Imogen visited the branch to thank the bank and take a photo – her grandmother, Maureen Faviell, one of the founding board members of Braidwood Community Bank, happened to be walking by and joined the photo. With deep community ties and a commitment to making a difference, we are excited to support Imogen as she embarks on her journey to becoming a nurse. We wish her the best of luck with her studies and future career.

This sponsorship has helped me so much, as I have been able to put all of my effort on studying at University, which I'm very appreciative for.

Tarago Show Society 2024 Tarago Show Sponsorship



The Community Bank Bungendore proudly sponsored the 2024 Tarago Show, held on Saturday, 2 March. The show celebrated the best of the Tarago community, with locals showcasing their home-grown vegetables, flowers, handicrafts, preserves, and artworks. On Sunday, 3 March, the event attracted around 1,144 visitors who enjoyed a range of activities including a magician, face painting, an animal nursery, jousting knights, horse rides, and performances from talented local singers.

The event was a fantastic opportunity for the community to come together, enjoy great entertainment, and catch up with friends. Thanks to the dedication of the show society committee and volunteers, the showground was in perfect condition for the event. Our sponsorship played a vital role in making the day a success, and we were pleased to help support this vibrant community event.



Braidwood Swimming Club Towels Sponsorship

The Community Bank Braidwood provided \$3,000 to the Braidwood Swimming Club to purchase embroidered towels for their members, proudly featuring the bank's logo. A chilly sea mist rolled in during the presentation of the new towels but despite the cold, the swimmers were excited, and the parents expressed their appreciation for the bank's support. This partnership is another great example of how we work together with local groups to benefit our community.

The Community Bank grant allowed the Braidwood Swim Club to purchase quality club logo towels that were distributed to swimmers, volunteers and committee members. The Braidwood Swim Club is grateful for the ongoing support of the Community Bank not only for the Braidwood Swim Club but also for all the other organisations in the Braidwood area and surrounds. The word 'community' definitely belongs in the Bank's title.

Bungendore Park Tennis Club Replacement of Tennis Clubhouse Grant



The Bungendore Park Tennis Club is excited to share that they are currently building a new, accessible clubhouse, thanks to an \$80,000 sponsorship from the Community Bank Bungendore! This new space will feature on-site toilets, showers, and a welcoming common area, making it easier for everyone—especially women, girls, and seniors—to enjoy tennis. The upgraded clubhouse will also serve as a fantastic venue for local groups to hold meetings. This project is all about bringing the community together and enhancing our tennis club as a vibrant place to play and connect!

The grant from the Community Bank will go towards the construction of a new clubhouse to be completed in time for the 2024/25 Summer of Tennis. The new clubhouse will complete the Club's vision to provide a safe, relaxed and comfortable environment for the community to enjoy tennis and pickleball. The new facility will also provide a much needed, convenient place for Bungendore sporting and other not-for-profit clubs and groups to meet.



Two Fires Festival of Arts & Activism Sponsorship

Community Bank Braidwood supported the Voices for Reconciliation 2024 project with a \$1,000 sponsorship. This initiative, part of National Reconciliation Week, invited communities to record choirs singing the Warumpi Band's song "Blackfella, Whitefella." Local groups including the Braidwood Folk Club, Braidwood Cantors, BYPAA Choir, and Total Fire Band led the community choir event. The funding helped cover audio-visual and editing equipment, enabling the creation of a high-quality video that was shared on the Reconciliation Australia website. Scan the QR code to view the final video.

The Terry Campese Foundation Donation



The Community Bank proudly donated \$5,000 to support The Terry Campese Foundation, founded by Terry Campese and Pamela Slocum in 2012. The foundation's Youth Mentor Program has positively impacted many lives, including taking five young people to Kokoda in 2019 after a 20-week mentorship. The results were life changing. In 2024, the fourth group from Braidwood embarked on this program, culminating in a nine-day hike around Uluru and on the Larapinta Trail. Terry, having worked in Braidwood as a Recovery Officer, identified the need to expand the program to regional areas, helping even more youth grow and thrive.



Bungendore Rotary Defensive Driver Training Course



The Community Bank Bungendore has proudly contributed \$1,500 to support Bungendore Rotary's Defensive Driver Training, which recently completed its 7th course. Over the years, over 110 students have attended the program free of charge, thanks to the support of the bank and other local businesses. This initiative is a great example of the community coming together to support its youth and promote safer driving.



Braidwood Life Centre Christmas Hampers and Community Gathering Donation



The Community Bank donated \$4,500 to support the annual Christmas Hampers Lunch and Community Gathering, hosted by the Braidwood Life Centre and the Vinnies Conference in Braidwood. This heartfelt event invited local community members facing hardship to a morning tea and lunch on 15 December 2023, where they received Christmas hampers and vouchers for the local butcher or general store. Around 65 people attended, with volunteers from both organisations working hard to make the day special. This event brings joy to those in need and strengthens community bonds during the festive season.

These hampers are given to people who are in financial and other crises and there are many people in our community requiring regular support. This event is beautiful. A nourishing, lovely lunch is prepared by volunteers and shared. People are welcomed around 10.30am, offered morning tea, lunch, and laughter and conversation occur. A local school collects items of food and gifts for children and the day comes to a close around 3pm. It is a happy, joyful day. So thankful this can occur, thanks to all and thank you Braidwood Community Bank for support of this event.



"We Are Wamboin" Booklet Sponsorship

Community Bank Bungendore provided a \$10,020 sponsorship to the Wamboin Community Association (WCA) to produce a booklet titled "We Are Wamboin – Building a Resilient Community." Celebrating over 50 years of Wamboin, the booklet highlights the community's growth, vibrant neighbourhood, and strong connections. The funds will support the printing of 1,000 high-quality A5 booklets, featuring stories, historical insights, and community achievements. The booklet's launch is scheduled for early 2025 at a Wamboin market. The content includes segments on the community's history, natural habitat, key infrastructure developments, and profiles of local groups and individuals. The project aims to celebrate Wamboin's unique identity and showcases the strength of its community despite the absence of a central town.

The story booklet celebrates 50 years of strong community action in the Wamboin area and will be a great resource for new residents, current households and also serve as a good model for other small communities to showcase and further develop their own vibrant communities



Mongarlowe RFS Kitchen Renovation Donation

In October 2023, the Community Bank Braidwood provided a \$13,520 grant to the Mongarlowe Rural Fire Service to help renovate their kitchen. Previously too small to be used during the 2019/2020 bushfires, the new kitchen will now be able to support both volunteers and the local community. Volunteers proudly presented the Bank with a certificate of appreciation.



Bungendore United Football Club Sponsorship

Since its establishment in 2014, Bungendore United Football Club has grown rapidly, becoming one of the fastest-growing volunteer-run junior clubs in the district. Starting with just 60 players, the club now boasts more than 300 players in its tenth season. With a focus on inclusivity and promoting a healthy lifestyle, the club offers both community soccer and competitive league options through Capital Football. The annual presentation day was a highlight, bringing families together to celebrate the season. Community Bank Bungendore is proud to support this thriving club and has fostered a strong partnership with the club.



First Steps Pregnancy Support Donation

Community Bank Bungendore has donated \$10,000 to First Steps Pregnancy Support (FSPS), a not-for-profit organisation based in Queanbeyan, NSW. FSPS provides tailored support to vulnerable expectant and parenting women, particularly those facing crisis or challenging circumstances, such as teenage mums, First Nations women, and those without Medicare or strong support networks. The donation funded a Technology Package, including a handheld ultrasound device, large iPad, a TV for workshops, a new fridge/freezer, and a printer/scanner. These tools enhance FSPS's ability to offer comprehensive care, workshops, and essential services to women in need.

FSPS has been so encouraged by the team at the Community Bank Braidwood and Bungendore. Not only have they provided a very generous financial donation, but they continue to demonstrate their overwhelming interest and support for our work. This has been through initiation of media opportunities on our behalf, raising awareness in the local community about what we are doing, practical assistance with organising fundraising events, attending our Grand Opening as well as personal support, with one of the Board Members providing us with a steady supply of exquisite quilts she has made that go straight to the women we care for. The financial support provided has enabled us to upgrade technology that is vital to our service and we have made the donation go a long way with multiple items purchased. A few of the most notable items we have been able to buy include a new ultrasound machine and viewing screen that enables new Mums to see their unborn baby at each visit; a large Frame TV that displays beautiful art for the wall, enables seamless transition to presentation mode for teaching at classes and workshops, as well as interactive singing and dancing presentations for playgroup. Another essential item we have been able to buy is a large Fridge/Freezer that is essential for storing the many home cooked meals that pass through our doors, lovingly made by local women in the community to bless the families we serve. The Community Bank really do live out their mission to support and empower community groups and we are so grateful to the team for all they have done for us in this past year.



2024-25

Community Impact Strategy



Capacity Development

Investing in people, leadership and resilience



Opportunity & Innovation

Encouraging innovation and creation



Wellbeing

Nurturing our community's wellbeing and resilience



Collaborate & Connect

Working to establish, maintain and support partnerships



Liveability

Improving and sustaining our region

Palerang Financial Services Limited Community Bank branches (Braidwood, Bungendore and Crookwell) have contributed more than \$9.6 million to local community projects and initiatives over the last 21 years. Behind the numbers are real stories and real branches, making a real difference for real people.

