



### **Our Vision**

A thriving, resilient and inclusive Buninyong and district.

### **Our Purpose**

We exist to build connections, facilitate conversations and leverage the resources of our community partners.

#### Welcome from The Chair

- Ian Corcoran

Our Board operates a locally-owned franchise of Bendigo Bank, known more commonly as Community Bank Buninyong.

While we exist for the purpose of distributing profit back into meaningful community projects, we are driven by connecting people and organisations. This is to facilitate constructive conversations around leveraging resources in our local community and helps us fulfill our vision.

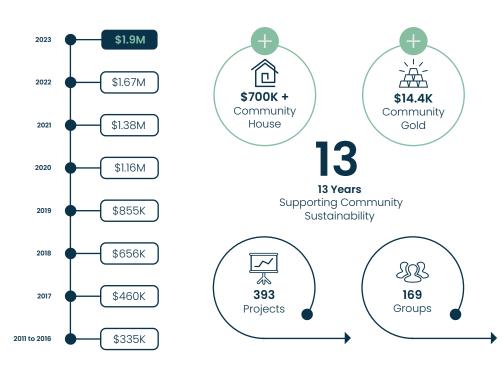
This year we celebrated being a finalist in the Federation University Commerce Ballarat Business Excellence Awards (nbn Professional Services Award). This was a significant highlight after winning two awards in 2022.

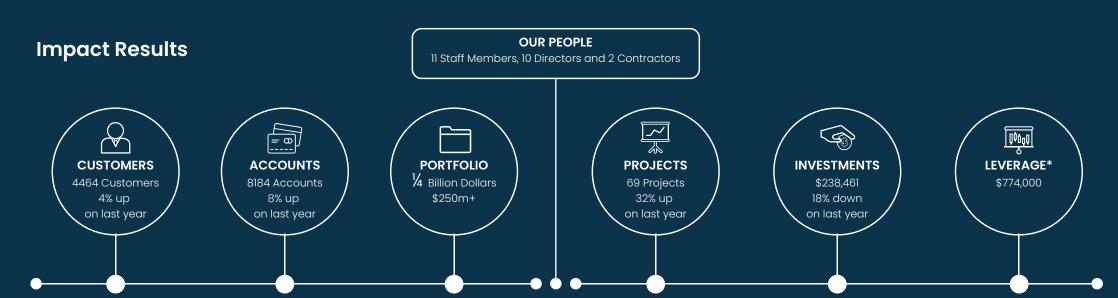
We focused on Community Investment projects that created deep and meaningful local impact. As an example, we supported the Nallei Jerring Youth Leadership Program where young indigenous members of our community had the chance to grow and learn under the strong tutelage of community leaders.

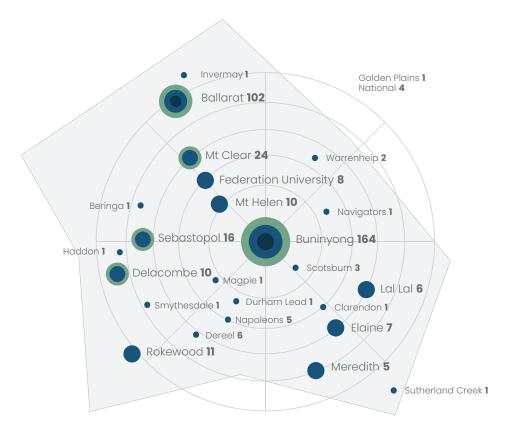
Similarly, we supported the community of Warrenheip independently design their own Community Action Plan which includes a future project to develop the recreation reserve complete with wetlands and walking tracks.

If your community group or organisation is interested in applying for Community Investment project funding, visit communitygrowshere.com.au/investment

#### **Cumulative Investment and Distribution**







## **Empowering our Community**

The Community Bank model creates shared value for all stakeholders – community, customers, shareholders, employees and the environment. As such, our Community Bank is a franchisee of Bendigo Bank and is owned by members of the local community.

Directors of our community-owned company are volunteers, working in the interests of their community.

Community investment is the visible demonstration of our company's purpose. When profits are invested into communities we see transformation, growth, a flourishing of hope and opportunity.

#### **Community Investment Recipients**

View the full list of 2022 / 2023 community investment recipients here. www.communitygrowshere.com.au/investment



# **Community Impact Story**

Our Chair Ian Corcoran with students from Phoenix College who came third in the national FI in Schools Competition in Sydney. Their specifically designed and engineered miniature FI car was powered by a CO2 canister and put through its paces on a 20m track. Team Nexus took out the Knockout Racing and Innovation Award.

We supported Team Nexus simply because we know how important STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) is in promoting career paths for primary and secondary students. This event is the largest STEM competition in the world and our local heros will head to Singapore to represent Australia.

The team are not only required to design and build their vehicles, but manage an enterprise including budgeting, securing sponsorship and event management.







Above:

Community Gold Program (Yao, from The Buninyong Post Office) Scan here to learn how we support local businesses communitygrowshere.com.au/gold

Cover:

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Friends of Canadian Corridor (Rob, Jeff and Hayley)
Scan here to read the full story and many more
communitygrowshere.com.au/story-bank

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land we live and work on, the Wadawurrung. We acknowledge the Wadawurrung elders, past, present and emerging and their culture which has nurtured this land for tens of thousands of years.

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