



Message from the Chairman.



Chairman, Hurtle Lupton.

In these times of very low interest rates and generally slow business growth it is very pleasing to be able to report that March 2015 was a very important time in the history of our company. It was in March that the footings of the branch exceeded \$250 million, which is a great result.

Footings are the dollar amount of the total of business held by the company.

This result has been achieved because willingness of our staff to look outside the square and go looking for business. It doesn't matter if a customer wants to discuss their financial situation after business hours or even if they are located outside our catchment area, a member of our staff will be willing and able to meet them to discuss their requirements.

It is the staff being prepared to go this extra distance that has resulted in a growth in our business of \$35 million since the start of this calendar year.

Congratulations and a very sincere thank you must go to all staff that combined to reach this very important milestone.

Hurtle Lupton
Chairman

Knox Community Financial Services Ltd 67 Station Street Ferntree Gully VIC 3156 ABN 88 093 823 708

Directors: Hurtle Lupton (Chairman), Etienne Clauw, Des Higginbotham, Tony Holland, Jeff Somers, Phillip Reibelt (Secretary), Darren Pearce (Treasurer).

Calendar competition now open.

Knox **Community Bank**® Group is planning a calendar for 2016 and would like entries of photos, drawings, poems, short sayings etc to include in it. For more information, check out our website www.kcbg.com.au for all of the details and application forms. Multiple prizes to be won!



Young at Art.

The Knox **Community Bank**® Group has again been involved with the annual art competition for youth run by The Hut Art Gallery on Underwood Road. The Knox **Community Bank**® Group provided prizes for first and second place winners in both the senior and junior categories with artists from 12 - 19 years eligible for entry. This is the third year Knox **Community Bank**® Group has supported this local competition. The level of expertise was again exceptionally high according to **Community Bank**® company Director Des Higginbotham who presented the winners with their prizes. Congratulations to the winners. The senior section was won by Jeremy Swan with second prize going to Keirah Hall. The junior section winners were Renee Riotto and Lucy Farah in first and second places respectively.



Annual Community Grants and \$250 million in footings celebration.

In late May the **Community Bank**® Group held its annual Community Grants presentation evening and this year it was combined with a celebration of the **Community Bank**® Group achieving footings of \$250 million.

The celebration was held at the Wally Tew Reserve club rooms and was attended by local dignitaries Kim Wells MP and Nick Wakeling MP, Board members, staff, shareholders and grant recipients.

The format for the evening was a little different this year with a number of previous grant recipients speaking on the benefit their organisation had from receiving a community grant. Previous recipients included representatives from the following organisations: Swags for the Homeless, Equiknox, Golden Memories Karaoke, Knox U3A, Knox Historical Society, SPANeast, Mountain District Learning Centre and Glengollan.

It was heartwarming to hear the difference that sometimes only a modest community grant had made to these organisations. The **Community Bank**® Group has made a big difference in the startup phases of Swags for the Homeless, Golden Memories Karaoke and SPANeast. All of these not-for-profit groups noted that a Community Grant from this

Community Bank® Group had been their first grant funding and that it gave them impetus for further work in these organisations and future growth. Swags for the Homeless has now expanded not just throughout Australia but into the USA as well, providing back pack swags for those who for one reason or another find themselves without a roof over their head. Golden Memories Karaoke has also expanded throughout Australia and into New Zealand nursing homes providing entertainment for the elderly. SPANeast is an organisation that runs an annual community walk to support those who have a friend or family member who have died from suicide. They also provide support and information via their website. For more information on these groups, head to <http://swags.org.au>, www.goldenmemories.org.au, www.spaneast.org.au

As well as the monetary grants, three more defibrillators were given to: Knox United Soccer Club, Ferntree Gully Tennis Club and Stamford Park Men's Shed. These life saving devices are an asset for any club in the event of a cardiac collapse.

More details on the way these grant monies are to be used will be included in future newsletters.

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Grant recipients this year were:

Chuchill Park Golf Club	\$1,439
Coonara Community House	\$2,000
Mountain District Learning Centre	\$2,100
Peace & Loyalty Lodge	\$1,000
U3A Knox	\$1,000
UFTG Playgroup	\$500
Introfish	\$1,500
Wally Tew Reserve Committee	\$4,000
Berrabri Pre-school	\$650
Foothills Community Care	\$4,000
Knox Historical Society	\$2,000
UFTG Junior Football Club	\$1,090
UFTG Senior Football Club	\$1,000
The Gully Men's Shed	\$1,436
8th Knox Scout Group	\$1,500
UFTG CFA	\$2,000
Equiknox Inc	\$2,000
SPANeast	\$1,020

Knox Community Bank® Group

Ferntree Gully & Districts Community Bank® Branch – 67 Station Street, Ferntree Gully Phone: 9756 0332

Website: kcbg.com.au www.bendigobank.com.au/ferntree_gully

Rowville Community Bank® Branch –

Shop G7, 1090 Wellington Road, Rowville Phone: 9755 8611

Website: kcbg.com.au www.bendigobank.com.au/rowville

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm and Saturday mornings 9.00am – 12 noon

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