



Made possible by the customers of Pyrmont **Community Bank**® Branch

Bendi-go run for fun!



The Bendi-go runners set out to “run Pyrmont” undeterred by the January heat. Bendi-go Run Club is an initiative created by local running enthusiasts Karie and Michael Parker. Each Thursday evening, a small group of runners gets together at the Pyrmont **Community Bank**® Branch marquee (located outside the branch in Union Square) for a beautiful run around Pyrmont. Karie and Michael do their best to accommodate all runners, so don't be shy to show up if you are new to running, we've all been there. Because our group is fairly new, the courses vary each week. So far, the runners choose between a slower, flat 5km course and a faster 7km alternative. As numbers continue to grow, we hope to be adding longer courses during the year.

The run club is free of charge and runners are able to take advantage of a bag drop and hydration station at the **Community Bank**® branch marquee. The Bendi-go Run Club is in the process of acquiring new purpose designed running singlets. These singlets will be made available without charge to those runners who open an account with our Pyrmont **Community Bank**® Branch. So far, the indications are very positive in terms of demand for our new Pyrmont **Community Bank**® Branch singlets.

Just show up in front of the bank from 5.30pm to register. The two runs start promptly at 6.00pm.

If you would like to know more about the running club, either drop into the branch or contact Karie Parker via Facebook (Karie Runs Pyrmont).



Deputy Lord Mayor Robyn Kemmis cuts the cake with help from Chairman Robert Gavagna.

We turn four!

On 11 December 2013, on a perfect summer's day, we celebrated four years of operation by sharing a birthday cake with customers and those visiting beautiful Union Square. After some uplifting entertainment by the Pyrmont Singers, our birthday cake was cut by Deputy Lord Mayor Robyn Kemmis, accompanied by the Pyrmont singers with a superb rendition of “Happy Birthday”.



Pyrmont sings! entertained the gathering before and after the cutting of the cake.

City West Community Financial Services Limited 148 Harris Street, Pyrmont **ABN** 34 134 051 219

Directors: Robert Gavagna (Chairman), Margaret Broadbent, Michael Parker, John Hoff, Ashley Limbury, John Marsden, Charles Perry, Ian Bullus (Secretary) and Patricia Strong (Treasurer).



Business profile

New Pymont real estate office

Hunter Thomas Property Group has just opened an office in the iconic 'Goldsbrough Mort' building in Pymont Street. Director Bryn Hancock said it was an area he knew well as he and his wife owned a unit in the same building for some 14 years. During this time they discovered the wonders that this secret inner city suburb has to offer.

"Pymont is a vibrant community with a small village feel to it," Bryn said.

"The architecture is diverse and interesting, and everything you need in a community is right here or close by."

Bryn grew up in Young, NSW, and started his career in real estate in 1989 at the age of 19 with Raine and Horne in Canberra. He moved on to work for Raine and Horne in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, before moving to London where he worked for 'Chesterton's' of Mayfair and the 'Countrywide Property Group'.

"Hunter Thomas is a company based on experience, innovation and integrity. With a strong focus on service and results, the success of our business is built on customer satisfaction. We work closely with our clients to provide the best possible real estate advice supported by the most effective real estate marketing solutions and latest technology," Bryn said.

Why does Bryn bank with Pymont **Community Bank**® Branch?

"Having a local bank is vital for an estate agent. Having access to one with knowledgeable and personal service and one that opens on Saturday mornings is a winner. By banking with a branch that gives back so much to the local community, it is a real investment in the place I live and work," Bryn said.

We wish Bryn every success with his new venture.

Awards focus on youth at AGM



CSO Emma Kauter hands Kathy Horan a cheque for the Harris Scholarship Foundation.

The focus was firmly on the young people in our community when the annual grants were given out at the Pymont **Community Bank**® Branch AGM, held at the Pymont Community Centre on 7 November last year.

President of the Harris Scholarship Foundation, Margaret Wood, had a minor accident on the way to the event. Consequently, Kathy Horan accepted a cheque for \$1,000 to support the work of the fund. Kathy said the grant would enable continuation of supporting needy Ultimo Primary School students with the cost of ongoing studies post primary school. Kathy informed the

gathering that a number of past recipients had gone on to become high achievers, noting ex-scholarship holders who have become teachers, lawyers and school principals. One past award recipient is doing research into Molecular Biology at Macquarie University.

Ultimo Primary School Principal, Nick Acaria, received a cheque for \$750 to help with the cost of providing a wireless internet connection at the school. This improvement in quality of the school's internet connection will contribute significantly to enhancing the children's computing skills.



Emma Kauter presents a cheque to Nick Acaria of the Ultimo Primary School to improve the internet connection at the school.

Liane Langdon and Amy Wong accepted a cheque for \$500 to help with a much needed playground refurbishment at the Maybanke Kindergarten, something that hasn't happened for more than 10 years. Liane and Amy said how delighted they were that the **Community Bank**® branch had recognised their fundraising efforts and boosted them with this grant.

Chairman Robert Gavagna commented in his address on the positive trend our business is taking. Encouraging those present to help in swelling the number of branch customers, he noted that future grants would be more generous once we achieve profitability and the signs of profitability continue to be favourable. Robert emphasised the value and importance of retaining some of our community wealth in our community.

State Manager, Philip Jones, spoke briefly, stating that the **Community Bank**® network had now given back more than \$100 million to the communities it operated in.

John Hoff, the only Director due to retire, was re-elected unanimously to the Board and all office bearers were similarly re-elected to their respective positions on the Board.



Liane Langdon and Amy Wong, with children Koko and Hunter, display the cheque that will assist with new playground equipment at the Maybanke Kindergarten.

Culture at Work

Lilian Lai was the winner of last year's Pymont Art award at the annual Pymont Art, Wine & Food Festival which is sponsored by both Culture at Work and Pymont **Community Bank**[®] Branch. Lilian's work 'Australia through Chinese Windows', will be featured at Culture at Work, in Scott Street, Pymont, to mark Chinese New Year. The paintings on rice paper reflect her experience as an immigrant in Australia, where she now feels very much at home since arriving here in 1988. This exhibition forms part of Lilian's prize from the Pymont Festival and her work will be exhibited at the Culture at Work's Accelerator Gallery from 1-7 February, 11.00am-3.00pm, excluding Sunday 2 February.



A young artist creates a masterpiece at the Art Think & Play workshop at Scott Street in Pymont.

Christmas in Pymont is a day to remember.

On the first day of summer, Pymont was blessed with perfect weather for the first "Christmas In Pymont" event. Locals and visitors alike enjoyed the entertainment, activities and stalls arranged around John Street, John Street Square and the Pymont Community Centre.

Your **Community Bank**[®] branch Directors were kept especially busy serving their "world famous" barbecue sausage sandwiches. Donations to the charities being supported by the day's event were encouraged. An amazing \$63,000 was raised by the Christmas in Pymont event and was distributed to the selected charities. Most important of all, a sense of community abounded and everyone appeared to have a great time. Congratulations to the highly successful organising committee!

Director John Marsden serves our famous sausage sandwiches to the St. John's Ambulance volunteers at Christmas in Pymont.



Staff profile



Have you met Emma Kauter, our effervescent Customer Service Officer?

Emma has been with us for a number of months now after moving across from the Bendigo Bank branch in the CBD.

Emma grew up in Croydon Park and attended Burwood Girls High School. She was a youth worker in the community sector before starting with Bendigo Bank, a job she wanted because she had heard so many good things about it.

"A bank that gives back to the community seemed like a pretty special concept to me," she said.

Emma said Pymont **Community Bank**[®] Branch's extensive community involvement was the initial drawcard and she wanted to work in a field that meant something special to her.

Emma decided to transfer to the branch as she wanted to be able to inform potential new customers that a solid portion of our profit would feed directly back into their local community. She had also met the team that worked here and heard good things about them – therefore it seemed like a good fit all around.

Emma loves to travel and learn about different cultures (particularly Indonesia, having studied it at school). She is looking forward to a trip to Europe later this year.

Thought for the day

"And now let us welcome the new year, full of things that have never been."

– Rainer Maria Rilke, poet, born Dec. 4, 1875, Prague (died 1926).

Watch the Bendigo Bank story at www.bendigobank.com.au/snapshots



Mike Velicanski is on a winning roll!

Pymont **Community Bank**® Branch Manager Garry Noel hands Mike, one of our Customer Service Officers, won two awards for his outstanding commitment to customer service.



 **Bendigo Bank**
insurance

the **Upside**
of being



Home and contents insurance for people over 50

With Bendigo Life Rewards Home and Contents Insurance there are some very real financial advantages to turning 50 and beyond.

Our feature-packed insurance comes with everything you expect of a great quality, competitively priced home and contents policy, plus a whole lot more. We've even included cover for broken bones, funeral expenses and much more.

So, if you've hit that magic age, make sure you're getting everything you're entitled to. Drop into your nearest branch at 148 Harris Street, Pymont or phone 9518 9866 and find out more about Life Rewards.

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Pymont Community Bank® Branch

148 Harris Street, Pymont

Phone: 9518 9866

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

Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/pymont

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 **Bendigo Bank**