

## **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** announces first shareholder dividend

**Deloraine, 10 August 2009:** Over 350 Deloraine district residents, who have supported Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** Branch since its inception in 2005, will receive their first dividend in September.

Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** Chairman Lynn Hayward said the locally owned branch has been a win-win situation for our entire community.

“Our community began reaping a social dividend on the day we opened our doors and our sponsorships and support of the local community has enabled us to extend that to provide tangible support for various community activities,” Ms Hayward said.

“Having achieved those goals, we are now able to reward those people who had the faith to invest in the enterprise.

”It is appropriate that we continue to recognise the fantastic support of our shareholders; I am sure they will appreciate such a reasonable dividend given the global economic circumstances of the past 12 months,” Ms Hayward said.

Ms Hayward said branch business is continuing to grow, with banking business nearing \$53 million and account numbers in excess of 2820.

As the branch continues to grow its profits, it will also continue to increase financial benefits to local community groups and projects.

Tasmanian Regional Manager Rob Hanley congratulated the Deloraine & Districts **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** Branch on its achievements.

“Today’s announcement embodies the spirit of the **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** project,” Mr Hanley said.

“The profit distribution has placed community benefit first, with shareholder success following.

“The **Community Bank<sup>®</sup>** model works in that order — a successful community creates a successful bank.

“Deloraine is proving that co-operative spirit can sit hand-in-hand with commercial reality to benefit all parties.” Mr Hanley said.

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