



# bordertrust

the community foundation for the Albury Wodonga region

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## Welcome to the first newsletter of Border Trust

In this issue we introduce our members, talk a bit about the work that we do, and some of the recent events we have sponsored to raise awareness of our work. We hope this is the start of a regular newsletter, keeping the community informed about what projects we are tackling, current fundraising, distribution activities, and to invite comment and input about the goals and focus of Border Trust.

## Welcome from the Joint Chairs

Border Trust is the Community Foundation for our local region, covering Albury, Wodonga, Greater Hume, Indigo, Towong, Alpine and Corowa Shires. As the joint Chairs, we are supported by a board of ten members who come from a range of backgrounds and bring with them significant skills and business acumen. Board members not only set the goals and long range ambitions of the trust, but provide their expertise to the Trust, ensuring that the Trust is administered and operates effectively and responsibly.

In the two years since Border Trust came into existence, we have spread our energies into both raising money ourselves, to be used for charitable and philanthropic purposes, and also trying to develop a philanthropic base, whereby local people can elect to donate or bequest money for a particular aim or purpose, and allow us to manage and administer those funds for them.

Our main funds management priority is to ensure that any monies raised or donated go directly back into projects which require further community help and support. Related to this is a focus on developing a philanthropic culture within our community to support goals both large and small with a primarily educational focus. One of the ways these goals are to be supported is through the development of our Community Leaders Network project – a large group of interested individuals to advise on areas of need and focus.

We hope that by sharing the role of Chair, we can bring complementing skills to this demanding but greatly rewarding role. We want to develop within our region, a thriving foundation that brings real support and benefits to local groups and individuals, allowing them to grow and reach their full potential, thus making the whole region stronger, prouder and even more resilient.

*Judy Brewer and Chris Horton*

## Introducing the Board

The Board includes: Chris Horton, Judy Brewer, David Bartram, Stuart Baker, Prue Smith, Sue Cain, Bert Eastoe, Anna Speedie, John Walker, Charles Parkinson (retiring), Tim Frazer and Denise Osborne. The Board is supported on a part-time basis by Traci Harper and Janet Osborne and by systems kindly provided by Hume Building Society.

**HUME Building Society**

## Community Leaders Network announced

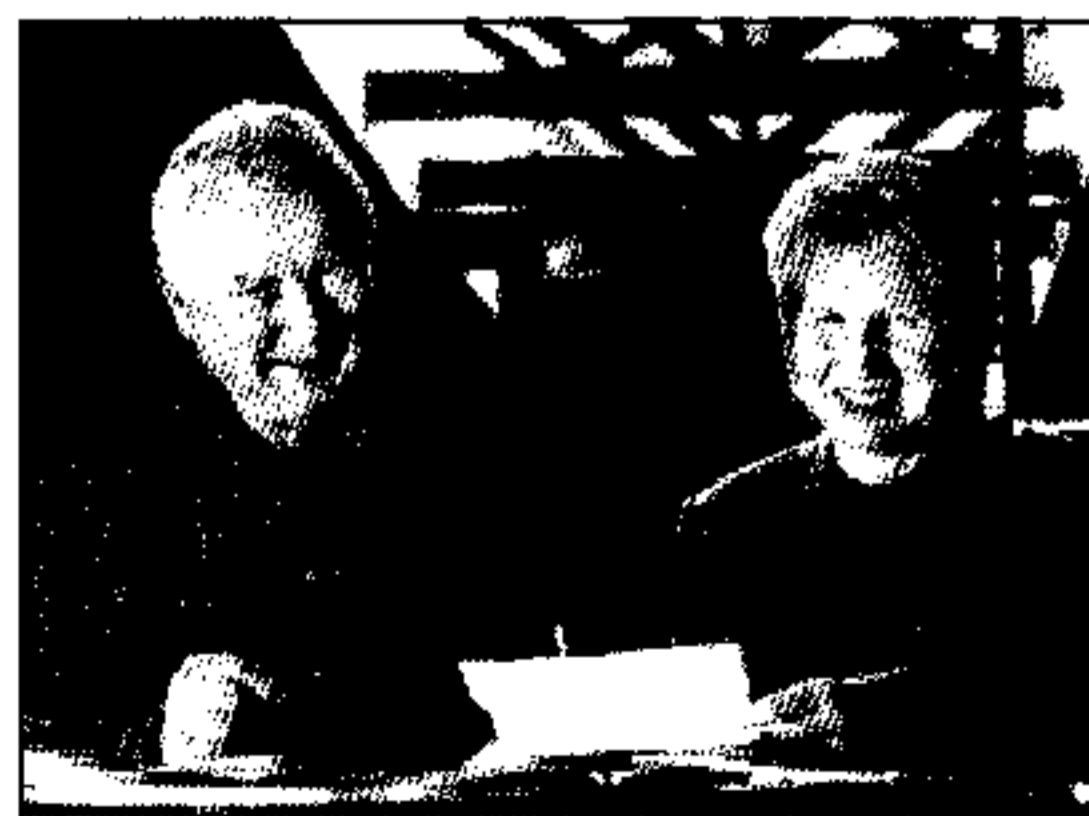
Following a very successful formation period, Border Trust is now set to broaden its scope and draw deeper for inspiration and impact. The **Border Trust Community Leaders Network** aims to capture a whole range of people from diverse backgrounds and experiences who share the common goal of wanting to strengthen and develop their local community.

The network will not require substantial time or resource commitment from participants – rather it aims to create opportunities to share ideas and develop goals for the network, by bringing leaders together at particular times in the funding cycle to advise on areas of need within the community.

These goals will be derived from educational, business, social and arts perspectives.

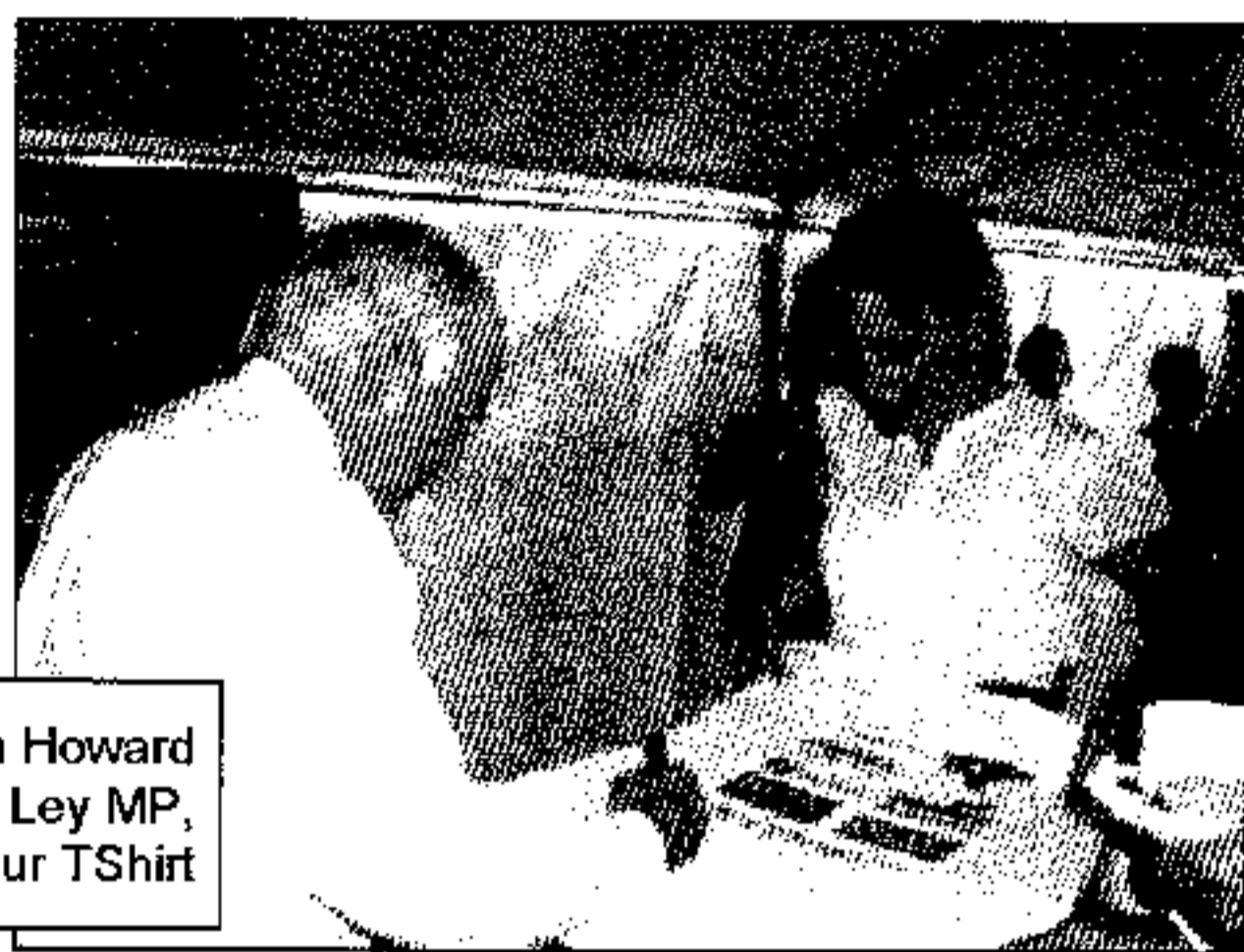
*“The network recognises that the biggest asset any community has is its people and their passion,”* comments Co-chair Judy Brewer, adding that *“the program is designed to harness the experience and dedication of our extended community network both to enhance the ongoing work of Border Trust and to assist in decision making for the future of our local communities”*.

The Border Trust Community Leaders Network will be officially launched at a function on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August, coinciding with the Australian Community Foundation Forum.



## Border Trust "talks the talk and Walks the Walk"

The first steps taken on the new Albury Wodonga freeway by-pass were taken in support of Border Trust, with commemorative fund raising t-shirts being sold prior to and during the event, held in March of this year. To make the event even more noteworthy, on the day, Prime Minister John Howard kindly agreed to sign a "walk the walk" t-shirt which was later auctioned and added to the proceeds gained from the t-shirt sales. All sales from the event t-shirt have been used for distribution in the latest round of Border Trust grants, announced in July.



Prime Minister John Howard  
with Sussan Ley MP,  
signing our TShirt

A total of over \$12000 in Grants from this project were made to the following organisations:

**Diabetes Australia Albury Wodonga** to assist with the cost of a camp and education program for children living with diabetes on the border region.

**Radio Upper Murray**, a Community Radio Station based in Walwa for the purchase of a new computer system

**Albury Toy Library**, towards the launch of a 'Parents At Play' program.

**Lavington East Public School** to enable them to support a student with special needs to attend the school camp

**Albury Wodonga Multiple Birth Association** for purchase of specialised nursing equipment

**Uniting Care Wodonga** for emergency relief program and a cooking and nutrition program for disadvantaged families

**Upper Murray Family Care** to support a weekend camp for local Foster Carers

**Montessori School in Beechworth** to purchase educational material to assist in the education of students with special needs

**Trudewind Road Playgroup** in Wodonga for educational resources.



## Named Funds and Foundations

The **Bobby Garratt Foundation** was launched last year by Bobby's family, to commemorate Bobby's life. The aim was to develop a scholarship which reflected Bobby's own dreams and ambitions. Bobby was a student at Catholic College Wodonga and aspired to attend the Australian Defence Force Academy to undertake officer training, following his Year 12 studies. While his illness meant that he was unable to achieve this goal, Bobby's family have worked with Border Trust to develop an annual \$1000 scholarship to assist a local student to undertake defence force training, and so honour Bobby's life and special qualities.

The first awards event was held at Xavier College, and attended by personnel from the Australian Defence Force Academy, who arrived by helicopter. Border Trust assists endeavors such as the Bobby Garratt Foundation, by providing support in the raising and administration of funds and in selection of recipients.

Recently, Border Trust has been working with the insurance firm **Austbrokers** to develop a named fund to be supported by a dedicated percentage of Austbrokers turnover. This money will be directed back into our local region to a specific purpose program. Stay tuned for more details.

## Back to Reality – new funding recipients announced

The *Back to Reality* funds, administered and auspiced by Border Trust, are aimed at supporting preventative and innovative local projects for youth at risk.

These four local organisations were successful in this year's funding round:

- \$5000 YES Youth & Family Services to establish a 'Skills 4 Life' program
- \$2750 for North East Local Learning (NELLEN) for a mentoring program
- \$5000 for Coinda Family Support Group to develop a 'bullying' prevention program
- \$5000 for Somebody's Daughter Theatre for youth programs

## School start made easier

The burden of getting children to school in winter can become even greater for some families when they struggle to afford warm clothing for their children. Border Trust has been able to ease that burden a little by providing back to school clothing vouchers to schools. These vouchers, kindly donated by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal and the Sidney Myer Foundation, are provided to schools who are then able to pass them on to families in need during winter. This very practical assistance ensures that children are able to continue the important process of learning.

## News

## Bites

Our *pre-Christmas newsletter* will bring you:

- **Christmas fundraiser** – the 2007 Foundation Dozen, with selected wines from Warrabilla, Pfeiffers & Cofields, gives you a tippie to enjoy during the festive season, and us an injection of funds for our work. Great value at \$160 dozen.
- How to become a **Border Trust Foundation Builder**