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MEDIA RELEASE

IMMEDIATE

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Bendigo Bank gets on board with The Buzz.

A new local community newspaper in Bayswater will be more sustainable after receiving a grant from the Bendigo Bank Bayswater, Boronia & Ringwood Lending & Investment Centres.

The Bayswater Buzz newspaper is an initiative driven by local community groups that responded to a need to increase connectedness and provide residents with a space to share information.

As Publishers community organisation Interchange Outer East recognised the need to improve the sustainability of the project and applied to Bendigo Bank for support.

Bayswater Buzz Project Worker and Formatter Rebecca Gallaher said "It can be difficult to find projects that all community groups and residents can contribute to and we are so glad that Bendigo Bank sees the value in *The Buzz* and the opportunities it provides. Bendigo Bank has been supportive of the project from the start and their ongoing commitment through this grant is fantastic.

Interchange Outer East, on behalf of *The Buzz*, applied to Bendigo Bank for a computer and associated software. The computer will be available for use by the volunteers and community groups who are involved in the project, enabling them to write articles, conduct research and format the paper.

Rob Wood, Bendigo Bank Bayswater Branch Manager, said "We are proud to support this project that brings together people from the community to create and share."

Over 4,000 papers are printed and distributed each quarter to the Bayswater community. Bayswater residents and businesses can expect the fourth edition of the Bayswater Buzz in their letterboxes from June 27, 2011. Others can access it online at www.ioe.org.au under the Bayswater Buzz latest news article.

The paper takes 255 hours to produce each edition and relies on the support of community groups, volunteers and advertisers. All Bayswater community members are welcome to contribute or volunteer their time. Volunteer roles vary from photography and writing articles to delivering newspapers.

An official cheque presentation will be held will at Interchange Outer East Bayswater shopfront at 31 Macauley Place, Bayswater on Friday July 1st at 10am.

If you would like more information or are interested in volunteering or advertising in the Bayswater Buzz please contact Rebecca Gallaher on 9758 5522 or rebecca.gallaher@ioe.org.au

FOR MORE INFORMATION, INTERVIEW OR TO ARRANGE PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES please contact Sandra Leehy

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