

# Celebrating the official opening of The Bendigo Centre



Doug Laity, Rob Hunt and John Perrow

## Laity Lane

A teller with a following



When 15-year-old Doug Laity started work at the Bendigo Building Society head office in Bull Street, his keen bike riding skills were a handy asset.

Doug would ride around Bendigo delivering documents to local solicitors and continue up View Street to the home of chairman Sir George Lansell to collect his signature on loan papers for young couples purchasing or building a home.

In 48 years with Australia's premier regionally-based financial institution, Doug grew a keen following among customers as he progressed to the role of No 1 teller.

Clients would queue to seek his assistance, happy to wait their turn while other customers received faster services from other tellers. When Doug moved from Bull Street to Fountain Court head office, they followed.

Farmers appreciated Doug's skills, particularly when managing overdrafts while waiting for wool and grain cheques.

On numerous occasions customers asked for Mr Laity "because he always gave us good advice on investments". He also applied knowledge to helping customers complete pension applications.

Cricket was Doug's game and his skill and fairness further consolidated his business reputation and brought additional clients from sports organisations to the Bank.

And when Bendigo Country Week cricket and other sporting events were being played in town, the families came to do business at the Bank with Doug.

Doug had high praise for Rob Hunt and he remembered Harold Davey, a 37-year veteran employee at the Bank telling him that Rob Hunt would "go places" and that eventually the three building societies in Bendigo would amalgamate to form a major organisation.

Little did they realise that Rob Hunt would guide the Building Society to becoming a Bank and along the way be the first financial institute in Australia to issue Visa cards.



## FLOORING YOU CAN BANK ON.

**CARPET CHOICE**

THE RIGHT CHOICE

**BENDIGO BULK CARPET CHOICE**  
71 Williamson Street, Bendigo. 5443 0144  
[www.carpetchoice.com.au](http://www.carpetchoice.com.au)