

14 February 2012

Suncorp Bank celebrates 110th anniversary

Queensland's greatest banking success story will celebrate its 110th anniversary with a gala event to be held at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame in Longreach tomorrow night, 15 February 2012.

Suncorp Bank CEO David Foster said the anniversary was a significant milestone and a proud moment for the Bank.

"It's more than a century since we provided our first loan of £60 to a Wallumbilla farmer and while a great deal has changed since that day, I'm incredibly proud of the fact that we're just as committed to growing rural and regional communities and economies as we were back then," Mr Foster said.

"From humble beginnings in 1902 as the Queensland Agricultural Bank we've grown to become Australia's fifth largest listed bank and the country's leading regional bank with a national network of 240 branches," he said.

"We'll never lose sight of our Queensland roots but we're incredibly proud of how far we've come and the strong presence we're establishing outside the Sunshine State.

"Suncorp Bank is currently the fastest growing bank in New South Wales and our personal, small business and agribusiness customer base in Western Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia is increasing by the day."

Mr Foster said the Bank had recently reached another important milestone – one million customers.

"We're delighted to have our millionth customer join us at the gala event to celebrate both milestones. Robert and Glynis Herrod, cattle graziers from outside of Longreach, typify the hardworking, aspirational Australians who have grown with us over the past 110 years.

"As we celebrate our own rich rural heritage in 2012, we're also proud to play a part in recognising our nation's producers, celebrating the agricultural industry and highlighting its role in our future as a Foundation Partner of the Australian Year of the Farmer.

"We've been part of the fabric of regional and rural Australian communities for more than a century and this partnership demonstrates our ongoing commitment to these communities."

Suncorp Bank Regional General Manager Central Queensland Troy Constance said he and the Longreach team were proud to be hosting the gala event in the Central Queensland region.

"Longreach is an iconic Australian town and I think it's fitting such an iconic Queensland organisation celebrate this significant milestone here, particularly given our strong rural heritage in Queensland and our deep connections with the communities in the region."

Suncorp Bank's 110 year anniversary gala event will be hosted by Suncorp Group CEO Patrick Snowball and Suncorp Bank CEO David Foster at the Stockman's Australian Hall of Fame in Longreach, commencing at 5pm. Australian cricketing legend and Australian Year of the Farmer Ambassador Glenn McGrath is attending as a special guest.

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