



**Rabobank**

*Media Release  
February 22, 2013*

## ***Rabobank celebrates new branch location in Launceston***

Agricultural banking specialist Rabobank celebrated the formal opening of its new Launceston branch, joined by more than 130 local guests at the Josef Chromy Vineyard last night.

Located at 15 St John Street in central Launceston, the new Rabobank branch has state-of-the-art facilities after revamping the former, heritage-listed, Roberts merchandising and real estate building.

Rabobank's general manager for Country Banking Australia Peter Knoblanche said the opening of the new premises was a tremendous success, reflected by the number of clients and connections who attended the celebration.

"The event marks an important occasion for Rabobank Launceston, celebrating the long-standing history of the bank here, which established its original branch here in 1998," Mr Knoblanche said.

"It's fantastic to see how we've grown with our clients over the years and we look forward to continued growth in the future."

Rabobank chose Launceston as a logical place to first open an office in Tasmania, with the original branch located in Elizabeth Street. Over the years, the bank has moved locations twice, as its business has grown.

Rabobank branch manager Launceston Shane Good said he had witnessed great transformation of the bank's business and client base, since commencing with Rabobank in 2002.

"Our new premises is in a prime location, just near the Seaport precinct making it an accessible place for clients to visit," Mr Good said.

"Our branch services a wide range of farmers – from dairy, sheep, beef and cropping – and by us opening these new premises in town, it's a sign of commitment to the region as we're here for the long-term."

The new premises will house the current Launceston branch team – finance officer Shannon Barwick, rural officer Helene Gunn, rural manager Chris Badcock, senior finance officer Tina Zanon, senior finance manager Petrina Healey, and branch manager Shane Good. Rabobank's state manager for Tasmania Greg Bott is also part of the Launceston line-up.

The celebration concluded with a cutting of a special cake to commemorate the new building.



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Rabobank state manager Greg Bott said it brought him great pleasure to see the immense support of the clients' who attended the event to celebrate the new branch, truly representing the strength of the relationships that have grown in previous decades.

Rabobank was once a newcomer to Australian agriculture circles, but today – more than 20 years later – it has become one of the country's largest rural lenders and a significant provider of corporate financial services to the food and agribusiness sector. With 61 branches across Australia, four strategically situated throughout Tasmania, Rabobank is the world's leading food and agribusiness bank.

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**Rabobank Australia & New Zealand is a part of the international Rabobank Group, the world's leading specialist in food and agribusiness banking. Rabobank has more than 110 years' experience providing customised banking and finance solutions to businesses involved in all aspects of food and agribusiness. Rabobank is structured as a cooperative and operates in 47 countries, servicing the needs of approximately 10 million clients worldwide through a network of more than 1600 offices and branches. Rabobank Australia & New Zealand is one of Australasia's leading rural lenders and a significant provider of business and corporate banking and financial services to the region's food and agribusiness sector. The bank has 93 branches throughout Australia and New Zealand.**

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