



Rabobank

**Media Release
May 2, 2013**

World-renowned Anne Frank exhibition opens in Ballarat

The world-renowned Anne Frank Travelling Exhibition will officially open in Ballarat on May 6, 2013 at the Gold Museum on Bradshaw Street.

The 11-panel exhibition, presented in a timeline, shows the history and sequence of events that unfolded throughout the Second World War, specifically through the eyes of -teenage Jewish Holocaust victim Anne Frank, whose account of her two years hiding in an attic in Nazi-occupied Holland has become one of the world's most widely read and cherished books.

The exhibition arrived in Australia in February where it spent several months on display in the Jewish Holocaust Museum in Melbourne.

Principal sponsor of the nationally-touring exhibition, Rabobank will be hosting a private event to celebrate the opening of the exhibition in Ballarat, with team members of the RaboDirect Rebels due to visit town for the special occasion.

Rabobank head of Sustainable Business Development Marc Oostdijk said he is very pleased that Rabobank is a key sponsor of the exhibition's Australian tour, which begun in Melbourne and will subsequently travel to regional Victoria – Ballarat, Portland, Casterton, Leongatha and Bonegilla.

“Rabobank has a history of supporting arts and cultural initiatives all over the world and in bringing exhibitions like these into communities,” Mr Oostdijk said.

“Given our Dutch heritage there is a strong connection with the story of Anne Frank and in particular, this is such an important piece of history that we can bring to the rest of the world in this way – it's a world-class exhibition.

“It's an opportunity for our clients and regional communities more broadly to become aware of one of the most powerful stories in history.”

The exhibition has travelled to 55 countries since its inception and more than one million people visit the Anne Frank museum in Amsterdam every year.

Seventy years after World War II, The Diary of Anne Frank is the 10th most-read book in the world.

From 2010 to 2012, Rabobank also supported the Anne Frank Travelling Exhibition during its visit to New Zealand where it toured to 25 locations in total including Invercargill, Christchurch, Nelson, Wellington, New Plymouth, Hamilton and Auckland, where client events were held in each location.

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Rabobank Australia 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 close to 1600 offices and branches. Rabobank Australia is one of the country's leading rural lenders and a significant provider of business and corporate banking and financial services to the Australian food and agribusiness sector. The bank has 61 branches throughout Australia.

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