

**Media Release  
26 August 2016**



**Perth kids changing the world...one brick at a time**

The world famous Lego® brick will be making a difference to the lives of dozens of WA kids thanks to a unique community fund raising scheme.

The inspiration behind Perth's "Brick Time Clubs" is 11 year old Alyssa Bolger, nine year old Lachlan Bolger and their parents, Rhona and Clay who recently have been named recipients of P&N Bank's Helping &nds program.

Alyssa and her family started Alyssa's Autism Acceptance project to promote autism acceptance throughout their community. Through their "Brick Time Clubs" the Bolgers want to make sure that every child grows up in a respectful and accepting society.

P&N Bank Maddington Branch Manager, Joy Evans said the Helping &nds program provided a unique approach to community fund raising that puts the power in the hands of P&N's members.

"In simple terms, our members nominate charitable groups who are then short listed before an online vote determines who receives the grants.

"In this case, we heard from siblings Alyssa and Lachlan, who are both autistic and want everyone to know that Autistic Kids Rock!

Their mum, Rhona said the AAA Project had two main aspects to its work.

"The first is a series of school talks where Alyssa and Lachlan travel to schools all over Western Australia, to chat to students, family and educators about life on the autism spectrum," Rhona said.

"The school talks provide an engaging and child friendly presentation that aims to make sure that kids on the spectrum know how awesome they are, and also to provide information to their peers, families and educators about autism, how autism can affect people, and the importance of autism acceptance.

"The other aspect of The AAA Project will be our 'Brick Time' clubs. These after school clubs provide a safe and fun environment for all children and young adults, to spend time developing friendships as they build Lego® sets together or play games."

P&N branch manager, Joy Evans, said they were delighted to help.

"The family donate their time for this project and are personally covering the expenses of metropolitan school visits. They are also hoping to raise funds to cover travel expenses for regional visits.

"They will use the Helping &nds grant to visit as many schools as possible and to purchase Lego® sets and games for the Brick Time Clubs."

For more information please visit [pnbank.com.au](http://pnbank.com.au)

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## P&N Bank

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- the largest locally owned and operated bank in Western Australia.
- was ranked "Bank of the Month" in the Nov, Dec 2015 and Jan, Mar, April and May 2016 Roy Morgan Customer Satisfaction Awards. (Highest customer satisfaction of all banks in Australia)
- is an Approved Deposit Taking Institution (ADI) regulated to the same high standards of security as other banks, by such government agencies as APRA, ASIC, the Reserve Bank of Australia, AUSTRAC and the ACCC.
- is run on a customer-owned banking model. Profits are reinvested into the organisation as capital for the benefit of those who bank with P&N, its members.
- has 17 branches in WA and offers a wide range of financial products and services, including home loans, personal loans, term deposits, credit cards, financial planning, insurance and foreign exchange.
- is part of the rediATM / NAB ATM network – one of Australia's largest fee free ATM networks.
- is a member of COBA (Customer Owned Banking Association) and the Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM).