



Mooroolbark Festival Celebration.

This year the Celebrate Mooroolbark Festival was held in March on a beautiful day. It was great to see so many people, especially families participating and enjoying the many displays and activities. Like many other businesses and organisations the Mooroolbark **Community Bank®** Branch was eager to participate in this annual event.

Led by Rowan Alexander, our Branch Manager, we organised our marquee and had balloons, sweets and other goodies on offer. The balloons represented a challenge in transport from our Branch to the marquee given the windy conditions in the morning. Even though many of the balloons came to an early departure there was still plenty given out to the kids.

Young children enjoyed craft activities, storytelling, an obstacle course, face painting, rides, interacting with roving performers, dancing and drumming along with stage entertainers and more. Over 80 stalls were set up which all contributed to the sights and sounds of the carnival atmosphere.



Community Grants.

We are pleased to announce the Board has approved holding another Community Grant round this year.

If your community group has a project that will help build our community or see a need in the area we will welcome a grant application.

This year's round will open to applications on Thursday 9 July and close on Thursday 6 August. Applications are lodged direct via the Community Enterprise™ website – www.bendigobank.com.au/foundation



Chairman's report.



Welcome to our Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch newsletter.

As well as personal and business banking articles, we are extremely delighted in bringing to you community stories through our newsletter. These stories exemplify the relationship of our Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch and the wonderful community spirit and commitment of local people and organisations.

Our Board trusts you will find the newsletter to be an informative and interesting read.

Our Board is immensely proud of what we have been able to provide to our local community since we first opened our doors for business 14 years ago in May 2002. Over the past 12 months we broke through providing our first \$1 million to local community groups via sponsorships and community grants. On top of this we have paid \$415,277.94 in dividends to our shareholders, most of who are local residents.

Our local support goes a lot further than just making financial contributions. Board and staff attend numerous functions as a show of our support. Many of our people are attached to local community groups and strive to be proactive within the community. I am personally enormously proud of what our Board and branch team put back into the community.

Our Board is well aware we can only achieve what we do because of our loyal and valued customers. Thank you to all our customers for your support it is because of you we can make a difference for our local community.

Finally I urge anyone who may be considering a banking change to call into our Mooroolbark **Community Bank**[®] Branch, speak to one of the capable staff members and give them the opportunity to try and gain your business. I am confident you will benefit from the wonderful banking products Bendigo Bank provide and the friendly service of our branch staff.

Peter McGowan
Chairman

Manager's report.



Welcome to this issue of our community newsletter. I cannot say this is the first edition as we did bring out a newsletter many years ago however resources did not allow for the project to continue.

In May this year our branch passed it's 14th birthday, I am proud of being the Manager over all these years. Obviously some staff have come and gone over time but I get a buzz when I reflect on the fact we still have three staff

including Julie, Rosemarie and Ann who have been with us since day one. When we first opened our doors 14 years ago we had three full time and two part time staff. We now have staffing of five full time, four part time and one casual. I think it is wonderful that in an era where businesses are trying to reduce staff numbers we have needed to grow.

Our Board has recently appointed a part time Marketing Officer, Mr David Green. David works in with the community groups we support to assist them with their endeavours and to promote us through their members and supporters. Whilst doing this work David has been compiling community storyboards of the various projects/not for profits groups we support. What David has put together not only promotes what we do in the community it also helps the community groups to promote their brand. We have been involved with many wonderful and worthwhile projects; I trust our newsletter will do them justice. The newsletter is now a natural progression of displaying these community stories and hopefully with David on board we can deliver this on a regular basis throughout the year.

All our staff are proud of how we have developed the business and our reinvestment back into the local community. We continue to grow on an almost daily basis but we also recognise this does not come without dedicated effort and the desire to keep striving for continued growth. Whilst I believe Bendigo Bank offers a wonderful array of banking products and services that are competitive within the market, it is the service provided by our staff that I trust makes banking with our branch a compelling argument. If you do not bank with us now and you are considering a change please do not hesitate to call in and speak with either myself or one of our staff.

Rowan Alexander
Branch Manager

Flexible and convenient equipment finance for your business.

Our equipment finance solutions are a competitively priced way to help you achieve those big plans for your business.

Drop into your nearest branch at Shop 19, 66-74 Brice Avenue, Mooroolbark or phone 9726 5388 to talk about the right finance solutions for your business.

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BUSINESS BANK OF THE YEAR
2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

Helping our youth to drive.

The Yarra Ranges Youth Services L2P (Learner to Probation) is an innovative volunteer program providing access for learner drivers of 16 to 20 years of age who are facing barriers in gaining necessary driving practice.

Driving mentors who volunteer their services meet for one hour per week to work to help students gain 120 hours of driving practice.

The L2P program includes training, a safe vehicle and ongoing support for the mentor. Mentors assist learners in gaining positive, trusting relationships with a caring adult who will help to build their confidence, self-esteem and support them through a life challenge. Mentors encourage young people to fulfill their driving goals and aspirations.

It cannot be underestimated the value that the program offers young learners who would have otherwise struggled to obtain their license.

Your Mooroolbark **Community Bank®** Branch is proud to support this worthy program through a \$2,500 sponsorship.



Lillydale and Yarra Valley Netball Association.

After an almost 30-year battle, Yarra Ranges' largest netball association finally has its new home and our Mooroolbark **Community Bank®** Branch was pleased to help out with a significant grant of \$50,000 towards the project.

The Lillydale and Yarra Valley Netball Association has moved its 2,000 players from the old, cracked courts at Mooroolbark's McDermott Ave to a brand new centre at Pinks Reserve, Kilsyth.

The \$6.5 million centre has 12 outdoor netball courts, a new pavilion, carpark, traffic lights and widened roads. The old courts had dangerous surfaces, a lack of change rooms and car parking issues.

A grand opening was held with all the representatives of the association, federal, state and local government representatives and officials. Of course many of the players were there to celebrate the occasion.

What a magnificent facility, one which the community should be proud of as we are at the Mooroolbark **Community Bank®** Branch for supporting this significant infrastructure project.



Caladenia.

Caladenia Dementia Care first came into being through the hard work and perseverance of a small group of committed carers and volunteers. The Centre started on a voluntary basis back in 1983, operating on borrowed premises one day a week.

The Day Centre has five days of dementia-specific programs run by qualified staff and trained volunteers. On Thursdays, an extended program is available that includes an evening meal.

The programs are designed to promote self-esteem for the person living with dementia, as well as give friends and family members a break, knowing their loved one is happy, occupied, safe and cared-for at the Centre.

Over the past few years we have provided a couple of grants to Caladenia. Last year our grant enabled them to purchase much needed new chairs. Our Board has been working with Caladenia to assist provide a substantial grant in the not too distant future, Watch this space as we are looking forward to being able to deliver on a significant future project.



Business Bank of the Year. Four years running.

At Mooroolbark **Community Bank®** Branch we make it our business to make your business better. It's why we've been awarded Business Bank of the Year by Roy Morgan for the fourth year in a row.

Drop into your nearest branch at Shop 19, 66-74 Brice Avenue, Mooroolbark or phone 9726 5388 to find out more.



Mooroolbark **Community Bank®** Branch

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Mooroolbark Community Bank® Branch

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Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm and Saturday mornings 9.00am – 12 noon

Website: www.bendigobank.com.au/mooroolbark



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