

livingtoday

Issue 94 // Autumn 2026

Good news. Locally.

Mooroolbark & surrounds.



Welcome Armita

Our new Mooroolbark Traders Marketing Coordinator | Page 6

Inside:

Your guide to the

celebrate
mooroolbark²⁰²⁶
festival

Hello from the Living Today team



Happy New Year and welcome to the latest issue of Living Today.

I write this welcome in late January and by the time this issue is published we will be well into 2026. School will be back, university classes will have recently started, and the working year will be well underway. However, in mid-January the civic unrest at home and abroad seemed overwhelming, maybe even out of control. We've probably already let slide the 'New Year, New Me' resolutions.

As local citizens we can't control what is beyond us and we can't do everything, but we can show up and we can do something – staying engaged in the small and steady. This is why we here at Living Today Magazine do what we do.

This year the team at Living Today will continue to highlight the good people and places in our local area. And, in particular at this time of year, that means partnering with and highlighting the local autumn festivals in Mooroolbark – Celebrate Mooroolbark and the Wool Show. It is a joyful gift that we can gather in these small ways to support our community. In this issue we also look back at the previous incarnation of Celebrate Mooroolbark, the Red Earth Festival, and people and their stories who have been involved over the years.

So, please find and use the lift-out and information in this issue for Celebrate Mooroolbark and the Wool Show, and if you have any, feel free to let us know of more stories and people who are worth highlighting for 2026.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

Matthew Gudze, Lead Pastor, Grace Communion Mooroolbark (sponsors of Living Today) on behalf of the Living Today Editorial Team

livingtoday

Issue 94 // Autumn 2026



Production: Living Today is produced by Grace Communion Mooroolbark, with the assistance of local volunteers.

Editorial Support: Matthew Gudze, Randall Bouchier, Ross MacKay, Terry Villiers

Copy Editor: Dawn Volz

Publication: Published quarterly as a service to our community by Grace Communion Mooroolbark

Contact: 0474 365 804
PO Box 228 Mooroolbark VIC 3138
editor@livingtoday.org.au

Distribution: 11,000 copies distributed throughout Mooroolbark in March and 1,200 copies distributed in June, September and December. Also available online at livingtoday.org.au

Contributing Writers for this issue: Matthew Gudze, Randall Bouchier, Ross MacKay, Joseph Tkach, Justine Toh.

Photographs: Matthew Gudze, Ron Cahill, Ross MacKay, Randall Bouchier, Lois Clarke, Tracey De Feber, freepik.com, thenounproject.com, guardian.com

Cover Photograph: Matthew Gudze

Graphic Design: Ross MacKay

Printing: Fishprint, Croydon, Vic

Like to contribute?

If you have a good news story about people or groups who are an inspiration to the community, contact us via the details above.

This and all past issues of Living Today can be accessed at: livingtoday.org.au

To join the email distribution list please send a request to editor@livingtoday.org.au

Our Sponsors: Living Today greatly appreciates the valuable contributions made by several businesses which partner with us in serving our local community through this magazine. Their financial sponsorship makes the magazine possible, and we gratefully acknowledge those partners in each issue.



**Proudly supporting
Living Today Magazine**

9726 7284

Image: Red Earth Festival 1990

Contents | Autumn 2026



04
Festival Sounds



06
Welcome Armita



07 - 11
Celebrate Mooroolbark 2026



14
The best beer in the world

12
Kids story

15
Playing God
at Bondi

15
Church services

16
Upcoming events

Mission statement To contribute towards and help to foster a growing community spirit within our neighbourhood. We seek to achieve this by:

- Highlighting the many positives within our community
- Encouraging partnership in community initiatives
- Contributing to the process of identifying and addressing community needs and concerns

 **GRACE COMMUNION MOOROOLBARK**

Proud Supporters of Living Today

mooroolbark.gci.org.au

We meet every Sunday at 10.30am at the Mooroolbark Community Centre. Come along and enjoy a service and stay for a chat, with delicious tea, coffee and biscuits.

Green Printing Credentials

Living Today is printed on Spicers Pacesetter uncoated paper. This paper is sourced from a mix of paper from managed forests and 30% recycled paper.



Festival sounds

by Randall Bouchier

You've heard of the Moomba festival, right? Probably Australia's largest community festival, which is professionally organised by the City of Melbourne, the four-to-five day Moomba event began in 1955.

Beginning in 1980 and coinciding with our Community Centre opening, Mooroolbark's Red Earth festival took place a week after Moomba. As a result, many Moomba stallholders and ride-operators relocated to Mooroolbark for the following weekend.

Unlike Moomba, the Red Earth was grassroots, volunteer-organised. In its heyday thousands of people attended. Graeme Barnett, who I briefly wrote about in the previous edition of *Living Today*, served on early organising committees as secretary and later as treasurer.

Graeme (who'd worked for years as a projectionist and also as a designer of purpose-built sound systems which he then installed in theatres and shopping centres) also designed and built a sound system for the Red Earth following early years of contracted sound delivery.

The parade was a central feature of the festival, which took an hour and a half to wend its way through the centre of Mooroolbark, with dozens of service and community groups, businesses, schools, churches and sporting clubs taking part with imaginative floats accompanied by up to three marching bands.

Graeme recalls: "We had four locations along the parade route where a commentator would sit in their car and, using a prepared script, describe the parade as it passed them. At each location was an independent stand-alone amplifier with attached horn speakers. Once the parade concluded, all the equipment could be used flexibly as needed throughout the festival location."

There were displays and performances throughout the weekend. Saturday night was devoted to the hugely popular talent quest. Sunday saw the festival conclude with a combined church service in the Community Centre, followed in the evening by a fireworks display sponsored by the local chemist.

And of course, there were stalls and the large carnival where ride-operators plied their business.



"When Red earth was jumping, it was jumping! It was brilliant - thousands and thousands of people would visit."



As I reported in a 2008 article, in its latter years the Red Earth struggled to maintain its momentum and, despite the valiant attempts of the organising committee, "a combination of circumstances (a run of bad weather over 3-4 years, mounting insurance costs, financial constraints resulting from the 'user pays' government policies of the day, mounting pressures to discontinue the carnival, and a decline in Shire support) contributed to the demise of the Red Earth"¹.

One committee member recalls, "When Red Earth was jumping, it was jumping! It was brilliant – thousands and thousands of people would visit over the weekend, but sadly in later years, it all got too hard."

Celebrate Mooroolbark began very humbly in 2002!

This year you're invited to enjoy this year's version of Celebrate Mooroolbark at Hookey Park on Sunday 12 March from 10am-4pm.

Check through the magazine for more information. It'll be a beaut day! See you there!

¹ <https://mooroolbark.gci.org.au/livingtoday/uploads/LivingTodayIssue24.pdf> p.3





**Welcome
Armita!**

Mooroolbark's New Traders Marketing Coordinator by Matthew Gudze

The Mooroolbark Traders and Community Group (MTCCG) has welcomed a fresh face – Armita, the newly-appointed Marketing Coordinator. With local roots in the suburb and a passion for community connection, Armita is here to support local businesses and to bring vibrancy to the town's events and promotions.

Armita's connection to Mooroolbark runs deep. She grew up in the area, completed all her schooling locally, and worked in the local cafe. Her familiarity with the community gives her a unique insight into the town's character and needs. Alongside her role with the Traders and Community Group, Armita is a Clinical Nutrition Consultant and founder of Gut Nutrition and Wellness, supporting individuals and communities through personalised nutrition and wellbeing programs.



As Marketing Coordinator for the MTCCG, Armita dedicates four hours a week to her role – though during festive seasons like Christmas and Easter, her workload ramps up as she is responsible for organising seasonal events and decorations that bring the community together and add a festive spark to Brice Avenue and surrounds.

Armita also plays a vital role in promoting Mooroolbark's traders through social media and the Mooroolbark Community Facebook page. She keeps the community informed about new developments and new businesses, and also any events happening in the area. (View a full directory of Mooroolbark businesses at mooroolbark.vic.au.)

One of Armita's favourite discoveries in her new role has been the renewed energy within the old Mooroolbark Terrace Shopping Centre. Once home to the local IGA, the centre is now home to the welcoming Shop 16 Community Connect, and Shop 16 Food Relief. Armita has been inspired by the dedication of the volunteers and their ongoing commitment to supporting those in need, particularly during the busy Christmas period, where their support helped bring community events to life and reinforced the strong sense of connection within Mooroolbark.

If you see Armita out and about – walking the pavement, chatting with shop owners, or snapping photos for social media – don't hesitate to say hello. She's always keen to hear the stories behind local businesses and to help pass on their voices.

So whether you're a business owner or a passionate local, consider joining the Mooroolbark Traders and Community Group as a supporter so that together we can strengthen the local economy and celebrate the unique spirit that makes Mooroolbark a special place to live and work.

celebrate mooroolbark 2026 festival



What's on?

Sunday 15 March 2026, 10am-4pm

Hookey Park, Station Street, Mooroolbark

Competitions!
Activity tent!
Active living hub!
Go karting!
Lucky Jars!
Library!
Gymbaroo!
Animal farm!
Colouring!
Amazing Mooroolbark Trail!
Garden activities!
+ MORE!
Library Fun!



Celebrate Mooroolbark 2026



The Celebrate Mooroolbark Festival returns once again on Sunday 15 March 2026 10am to 4pm with a dazzling array of stalls, activities, entertainment, food offerings and plenty of fun for kids. Held in the centre of town at Hookey Park this festival brings the community together to highlight what makes Mooroolbark a great place to be *living today* (see what I did there?)

We present here a taster of what will be on offer at the Festival. Check out celebratemooroolbark.com and their social pages to keep up to date on other activities and entertainment as they are announced. Note that activities etc are subject to change.

Entertainment!

Street Dance Studios are Australia's leading hip hop dance crews – dynamic, fearless and always unbelievably entertaining!

O'Connor School of Irish Dance are a crowd fave with the Festival falling on or near St Patrick's Day!

Josies Live Zumba always has the festival goers joining in, with her fast pace. She is often seen revving up crowds at many festivals

Kofi Drumming brings a multicultural African flavour to our festival. All are welcome to join with Kofi and lately his daughter has joined him on a regular basis!

Kids activities!

Celebrate Mooroolbark might just make you wish you were a kid again. With roving entertainment, the Amazing Mooroolbark Trail, go karts (paid), activity tent and lawn games, kids are well catered for.

Steve the Magician will return with his usual blend of magic and mayhem, the library will be open with activities planned throughout the day and emergency services will be on hand- to show you their equipment and vehicles that is – hopefully they won't *actually* be needed!

Competitions!

Let the kids loose with paints, pencils, crayons or chalk with this years colouring competition which you will find in two pages time, or you can pick up a copy at the library or Community Centre if you don't want to destroy this beautiful publication. By which I mean the tearing out of the page- not your child's art which would surely enhance the magazine!

On the day, why not test your skill with Lucky Jar Toss. This new contest taking the place of Lucky Straws allows you, for a small donation to the Festival, to toss a ball into a jar and see if you are lucky enough to win! Despite it's name, you are not tossing jars, lucky or not.

...and more!

Really, that's not all? I hear you say! Indeed not, for when you celebrate a place as special as Mooroolbark there will always be more!

Throughout Hookey Park on the day you will find a huge variety of stalls from local community groups, sports clubs, local businesses, arty and crafty people, local MPs and other interesting community offerings.

And of course there will be food. You can't have a festival without food! Well you can, but let's face it no-one would turn up. Come along and check out what's on offer to fill your tummies and satisfy caffeine cravings!

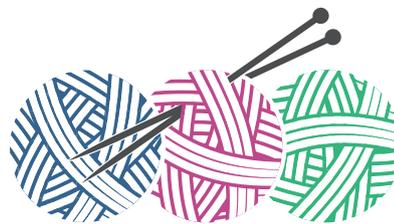
Celebrate Mooroolbark 2026
Sunday 15 March 2026, 10am-4pm
Hookey Park, Mooroolbark

2026 Sponsors

We'd like to thank our sponsors in 2026: Jellis Craig, Croydon-Mooroolbark Lions, Bendigo Bank, Ross MacKay, Yarra Ranges, David Hodgett, Sonja Terpstra, Aaron Violi, Living Today, Comprehensive Tagging Services, Curly Spuds and Mr. Whippy.

YARRA VALLEY

Wool and Handicrafts SHOW



10am - 4pm, Sunday 3 May 2026
Mooroolbark Community Centre

Whether you're a seasoned maker or a curious beginner, join us for a vibrant showcase of artisan goods, hands-on workshops, and a warm, welcoming community.

- Woolshow
- Wool sales
- Huge Makers market (not just wool!)
- Make-along (see box)
- Fashion parade
- CWA scones
- Sausage sizzle
- Food trucks
- Demonstrations



First ever Make-along!

Create your own version of Debra Kinsey's Roundabout Cowl or Beanie and celebrate your love of knitting with the yarn community. It's fun, inclusive, and designed for all skill levels.

Design: Roundabout Cowl and Beanie
by Debra Kinsey

Dates: From now and up until 3 May 2026
(Event Day)

For further information and competition details visit bit.ly/3XLqCHW

Barbara Austin Community Spirit Award



Entries are open – it's time to nominate!

A huge **congratulations** to Daniel Chalmers, winner of the 2025 award for his amazing contribution to the 1st Mooroolbark Scout Group and his ongoing involvement in our community.

Now it's your turn – we're looking for those who truly embody Barb's spirit.

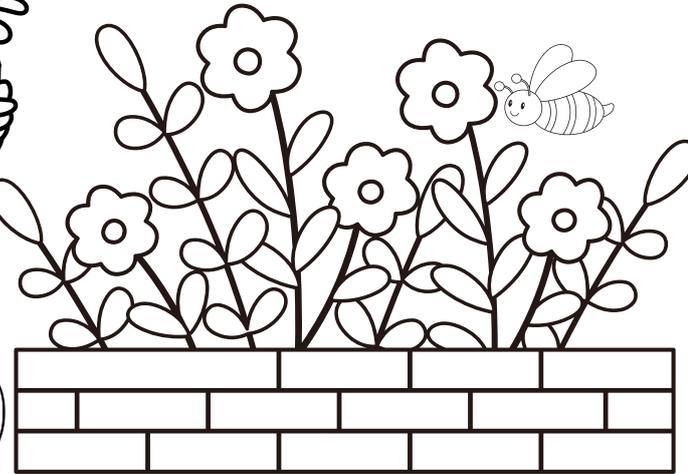
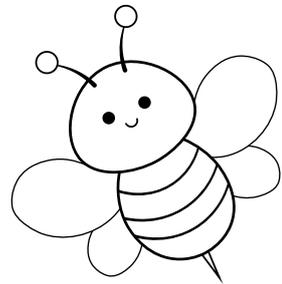
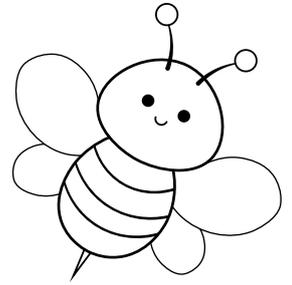
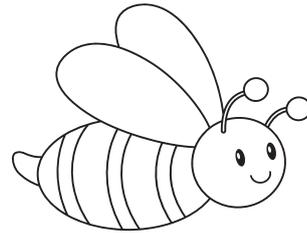
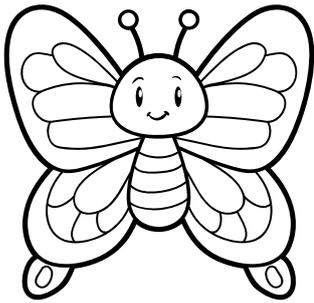
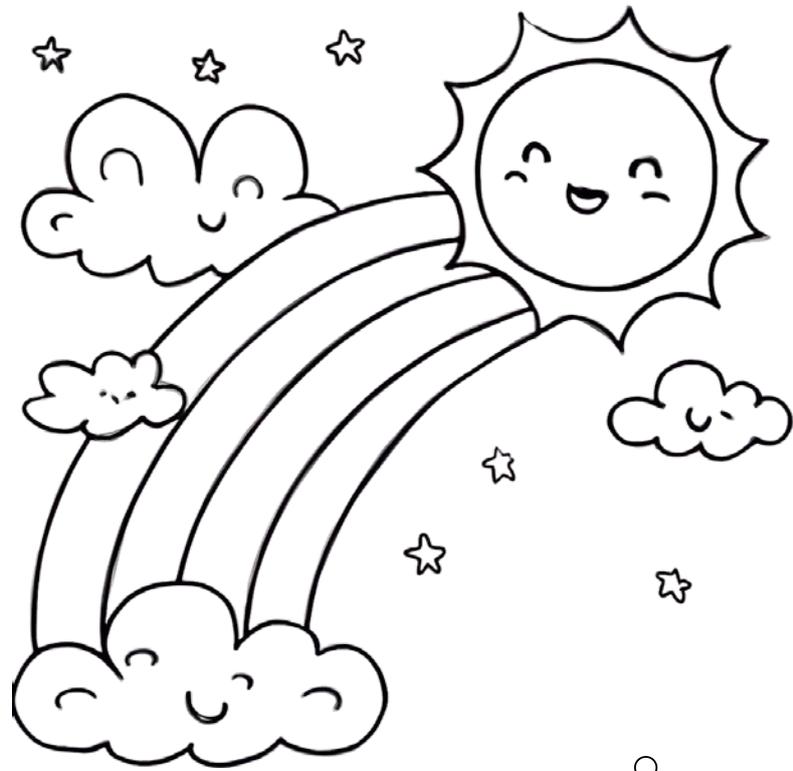
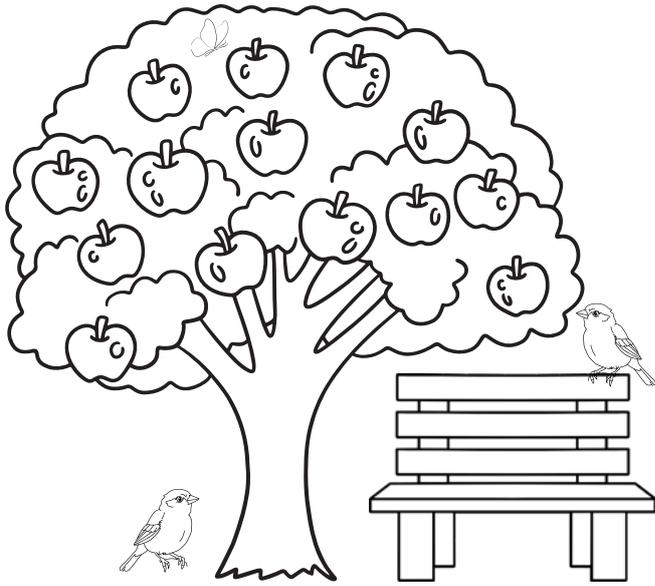
- The quiet achievers
- The behind-the-scenes legends
- The reluctant leaders
- The ones who don't do it for praise but show up every time

Nominate now at celebratemooroolbark.com, closing Saturday 28 February 2026

We can't wait to read your nominations.

Note: CM Committee members and our their immediate family are not eligible to nominate or be nominated to ensure a fair selection process.

Sunday March 15th 2026



Please hand in to Mooroolbark Library by 4pm Friday 13th March 2026

FOLD UP AND BACK FOR DISPLAY

School or Preschool name:

Class level (please circle) Preschool Prep 1-2 3-4 Open

Student Name

Parent name and contact number

The split and the spit

Part 11 of our ongoing kids story by Ross MacKay

“Hnnnniirrgggggh...”

The look of concentration on Morag’s face could almost have been described as comical if the situation weren’t so dire. For the past few minutes she had tried multiple ways to split herself from the CFR but nothing had worked. It seemed it wasn’t as simple as waving a magic wand (the first attempt, although the ‘magic wand’ was actually just a stick), saying abracadabra (my suggestion, but it turns out that’s a rather vulgar swear word in Aquatia so that was a bit embarrassing) or scrunching your face up, eyes tight shut and going “Hnnnniirrgggggh.”

“You look like you’re trying to do a really hard...” started Nuttingale before I interrupted: “OK, thanks Nuttingale, I think we were all thinking that.”

“Well, you certainly were,” added Abythwrd, then turned to Morag. “But I still think you should try my suggestion.”

Abythwrd’s suggestion was that Morag should stare into space, one finger to her cheek, tongue poking out of the side of her mouth while going “uhhhmmm”. Apparently that had worked for him on many occasions when trying to work out a particularly hard problem. Nuttingale said that it made him look like his brains had fallen out.

“Oh, for the last time,” Nuttingale said, “we’re dealing with a multidimensional being that feeds on reality and spews out chaos. What we really need to do is focus on the power of the un-real, try to harness what normally wouldn’t happen, lean into the confusion. Morag has to... has to... um, Morag what are you doing?”

“Uhhhhmmm,” uhhhhmmmed Morag with one finger to her cheek, tongue poking out of the side of her mouth.

There was a funny pop sound, followed by a squelch then inexplicably the sound of a toilet flushing. At this stage Morag split in two. Not literally – that would have

been gross – but one second there was a single Morag and in the next there were two. One Morag said “That’s better” and the other turned into a small grey metal box – much more akin to what I had expected the CFR to be. Then it dinged.

“So, as I was saying, that’s exactly what Morag should do,” said Nuttingale as we all stared at the small grey box with bits sticking out like TV antennae, egg whisks and jellied eels.

“OK, let’s get this over with!” I said, then really shouldn’t have added, “That was easier than I thought it’d be.”

“Oh Allan, really?” said Nuttingale.

“Great, thanks,” said Abythwrd in the most sarcastic voice I’d heard him use.

“What? Let’s just grab the CFR thingy and toss it...”

“NOT SO FAST,” came an evil, loud and gravelly voice. It was coming from the little grey box... which had, while I was speaking, transformed into a giant grey box, with giant grey chunky arms, giant grey chunky legs and – I guess for a little variety – a pink blobby head with a yellow emoji smiley face. It didn’t really work with the voice. “I AM CRUNFR, AND I WILL CRUNF YOU BEFORE YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO...”

“Crunfr?” interrupted Morag. “Really? Why?”

“I DON’T EXPLAIN MYSELF... I CALL MYSELF WHAT I LIKE... plus it sounds a bit like ‘cruncher’ and that’s menacing sounding and you know CFR, C-run-FR, it’s like a play on words and... I CRUNF YOU NOW!”

“Do you really need to talk in caps so much – it’s kind of irritating” I said, determined not to let Crunfr menace me. Admittedly the pink blobby head was helping with this.

“CRUNFR DO! CRUNFR NOW CRUNF!” Crunfr started to advance on Morag and I while Abythwrd screamed

through the phone. Nuttingale told him to be quiet as, in her words, "it's getting good now."

"Morag, do something – use your powers to send him through the door."

"Um, I'm not sure I have any left... I think I left them all in the CFR when we split. I didn't want to risk leaving any of the confusion-generating power in me, it seemed too dangerous."

"Oh. Nothing? Not even a smidge of chaos you could conjure up?"

"We have popcorn," said Nuttingale, "it appeared out of nowhere!"

"That's not entirely accurate, you did say that this was popcorn-worthy viewing..." added Abythwrđ.

"DAT WAS ME! CRUNFR STILL CAUSING CHAOS! AND POPCORN."

"Uhhmmmm..." Morag was once again trying out Abythwrđ's problem-solving technique. She looked at me and shrugged, "Well, worth a try! What? Why are you looking at me like...? Oh..."

Morag's arm had grown to about 10 times its usual size and was now as muscly as an unnaturally muscly bodybuilder's arm. It also had a tattoo that said "I luv my mum".

"Hey, I guess I do have some unreality left in me! I was just thinking how handy it would be if I could grab that machine and throw it through the door!"

"Well, what's stopping you? Do it!"

"Yeah, only problem is that this arm is now far too heavy to lift." Morag strained to lift her arm but it stubbornly refused to move; it sat on the ground like a lead weight. "I think I've got even less control over my power now!"

Thankfully due to its size it had taken Crunfr all this time to reach us, but reach us it had. Given that it had all the power of unreality to harness, it struck me as odd that it had chosen to lumber over so slowly. It kind of seemed that in the split, Morag had got the brains and Crunfr had got the majority of the power of unreality. It now loomed over us, a 10-foot tall monolith of metal box and blobby head. It almost reminded me of something... pink blobby head... 10-foot tall... something with gnashing teeth...?

Fido! What better way to defeat a 10-foot tall, menacing, metal box thing intent of crunf... sorry crunching us than with a pink tulip called Fido. A ten foot tall pink tulip called Fido... with gnashing teeth.

"Morag, can you..."

"On it!" smiled Morag, clearly having picked up the Aquatians gift of reading minds. Almost immediately Morag's muscly arm twitched, then

began to... stretch? Yes, it was stretching, reaching towards the exit to the cave. It shot through the air and out of the cave, stretching further and further like an arm-sized elastic band. "Seems I might have a little more control than I first thought."

Crunfr had raised its own arms above its head and was staring down on us with what I supposed was evil intent, but was hard to decipher given its smiley face emoji. It did pause however at Morag's sudden arm extension. "UMM WHAT MORAG DO? MORAGS DON'T HAVE STRETCHY ARMS? WHAT MORAG WANT OUT THERE?"

Crunfr's (and indeed my own) question was answered seconds later when Morag's arm returned with something held in its (still rather large) hand.

"OH. MORAG WANTED BIG PINK TULIP. PRETTY. BUT CRUNFR NOT BE DISTRACTED BY PRETTY PINK THINGS. CRUNFR STILL CRUNF." Its arm began to swing down towards us. In seconds we'd be crunfed!

Fido stood by the exit to the cave and bared its gnashing teeth. Crunfr paused and looked over at Fido, puzzled by this unexpected turn of events. However, Fido just stood there looking around and didn't come any closer... Of course! Like the Aquatians', their pet tulips probably couldn't get any closer to the CFR than they could! Great, now we had a menacing 10-foot tall tulip with gnashing teeth to face off against our 10-foot tall confusion-creating metal box monster, and all it could do was stand on the other side of the cave and look ferocious. And pretty.

But then Fido spotted something on the ground by its (erm) feet? A small metal object lying next to my backpack. It must have fallen out when I was fossicking through it earlier and I hadn't noticed. It was a can. A can of baked beans. We all stared at it as if it was somehow going to save the day. Maybe Morag would unreality it into a baked bean can monster, or it would explode showering Crunfr in a flood of baked beans or...

But no – Fido just reached down and ate it.

"Argh! No! You silly big Dutch flower! Now is not the time to stop for a snack!" I screamed.

Fido looked at me and rolled its eyes, quite an achievement for a creature with no eyes. Still, its meaning was clear: "What kind of tulip do you take me for!?"

The giant tulip turned to face Crunfr, straightened itself up to its full height, drew its head back slightly, puffed up its cheeks, then with a thrrwapp sound, spat the can of baked beans at breakneck speed in the direction of Crunfr!

To be concluded!



The Best Beer in the world

Adapted from Joseph Tkach, *Speaking of Life*

Image: The Guardian (online)

Some years ago, the monks of Saint Sixtus Abbey in Belgium received a special honour: their Trappist ale was declared the Best Beer in the World. As word got out, the beer – and thus, the monastery that brewed it – exploded in popularity. Thousands of people drove hours to get there, while thousands more flooded the brewery’s phone line with orders – as many as 85,000 calls per hour! The demand for the product became so great that it was almost impossible to get a case of the ale.

But here’s the interesting part – instead of using their newfound fame to increase production or raise prices, the monks continued to make exactly the same amount of beer, and sell it for exactly the same price, as before. Why?

The answer is simple – they brew beer not as a business, but to support the operation of the monastery. Or, as their abbot said, “We brew beer to be able to afford to be monks.” In other words, they never set out to brew the best beer in the world. They simply set out to honour God with their best, and everything else just followed after that.

The apostle Paul reminds us that, “Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Think about that for a second – whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God. For his first 30 years on Earth, Christ worked with wood – shaping it into tables, chairs, or maybe even a doorframe or two. Like brewing beer, carpentry is hard work. It’s exacting and takes many hours of concentrated effort to master.

But Jesus pushed through, making each item to his Father’s glory, and he taught us a valuable lesson by doing so. God’s glory isn’t limited to great actions or moments. Sometimes it’s found in the small and mundane tasks of our daily lives.

So the next time you’re facing a task you don’t appreciate, remember the monks of Saint Sixtus. Remember that if their efforts at things like brewing beer can be used to reflect something of God’s creative, good, wise, skilful, perfecting work, whatever you’re doing certainly can too.

Speaking of Life is a public resource video on the Grace Communion International website: [gci.org/videos/media-speaking-of-life/](https://www.gci.org/videos/media-speaking-of-life/)

This magazine is sponsored by Grace Communion Mooroolbark (previously known as Mooroolbark Christian Fellowship), a congregation of Grace Communion International. If you would like more information or pastoral support, our local congregational contact is Matthew Gudze on (03) 9737 0126.

**Living Today is
brought to you by**



GRACE COMMUNION
MOOROOLBARK

mooroolbark.gci.org.au

Playing God at Bondi

by Justine Toh
Centre for Public Christianity.

The stories stay with me – of people risking their own safety to save others from the Bondi gunmen.

For one, the hero who wrested the rifle from one of the shooters. Also, one of the victims who shielded his wife from gunfire. He died, but she lived.

Then there was the five-months-pregnant woman who grabbed a three-year-old girl separated from her parents in the chaos. She hid the girl by lying on top of her, gently reassuring her that she was safe and that everything would be alright, while one of the gunmen stalked by metres away.

The woman couldn't guarantee anyone's safety, of course. But her ability to remain calm and be a strong and solid presence for a vulnerable child, even with screams and turmoil in the background, was incredibly moving.

If you've ever wondered about the meaning of life, surely this is part of the mix. Use whatever advantages you have for the sake of others, even if you need to put yourself in harm's way.

For me, this is "playing God" in the truest possible sense. That phrase is usually negative, connoting someone on a power trip who wants to call the shots and make everything about them.

The early Christians saw in Christ a radically different way to "play God": to serve other people, not lord it over them. To "in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others". This scrambles common perceptions about God and what it would mean to imitate him.

If this life is all there is, then to risk your life for another is madness. But it might also be the moment when heaven touches earth, when human life best channels the divine. Regardless of whether it makes earthly sense.

This article has been republished with the permission of Centre for Public Christianity.

publicchristianity.org

JOIN US FOR EASTER



HE IS RISEN

GRACE COMMUNION MOOROOLBARK

MOOROOLBARK COMMUNITY CENTRE
10.30AM SUNDAY APRIL 5

For other local Easter services please visit:

Life Ministry Church
lifeministry.church

Mooroolbark Baptist Church
mbc.org.au

Mooroolbark Salvation Army Corps
salvationarmy.org.au/locations/victoria/v330/mooroolbark-corps

Mooroolbark Uniting Church
mooroolbark.unitingchurch.org.au

St Peter Julian Eymard, Mooroolbark Parish
spje.org.au

upcoming events



Fri 6
March

World Day of Prayer

Bringing Bibles, healing, and help for Nigeria's displaced

The World Day of Prayer ecumenical service for 2026 will be held on Friday March 6, at 10.30am at St. Margaret's Church, Hull Road, followed by Morning Tea.

The focus country this year is Nigeria.



Sat 25
April

ANZAC Day Service

Saturday 25 April 2026, 12.00pm
Mooroolbark War Memorial, Hookey Park

111th Anniversary of Gallipoli, recognising 'Women in Service' especially the Nurses for their invaluable contribution and critical role they played in Australia's Military History.

Refreshments available at the conclusion.

Mooroolbark Miniature Railway (mmr.org.au)

4th Sunday each month (except December) January to May 11-4, June to August 11am-3pm, September to November 11am-4pm. Train rides are \$4.00 each, with children under four riding free.

Community Garden Market



The last Sunday of every month
9am-1pm, 8 Station Street, Mooroolbark (opposite Hookey Park)

**Jellis
Craig**

Proudly supporting
Living Today Magazine

P 9726 8888

fishprint

Proudly supporting and
printing Living Today

Tel: 1300 113 007

Community Bank
Mooroolbark

Bendigo Bank

Proudly supporting
Living Today Magazine

Tel: 9726 5388