



# Branch of the Year

## Melbourne - Bayside Region

Summer  
2025-26

# Community News

Community Bank · Parkdale

## From the Manager



As the seasons change and we head into the final stretch of the year, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support of Community Bank Parkdale. It's been a year of growth, connection, and collaboration — and none of it would have been possible without you.

Coming off another strong financial year, we recently attended our regional awards, where once again Community Bank Parkdale

was named Branch of the Year — for the second year in a row! This recognition is awarded to the top branch in the region and reflects our team's commitment and dedication to supporting our customers and our local community.

Beyond the branch, we've been active in the community, supporting local initiatives that you'll read about throughout this newsletter. With winter sports wrapping up and summer sports beginning, our involvement has been bigger than ever. We're proud to continue supporting over 50 local groups through sponsorships and grants, and this past financial year we were thrilled to give a record amount of funds back to the community — something made possible only through the loyal support of our customers.

At the heart of our bank is the belief that banking should serve people, not just numbers. We're proud to remain local, personal, and focused on helping our community thrive. Whether you're a long-time customer or new to the area, we're here to support your financial journey with services tailored to your needs — and a team that knows your name.

As always, if you have feedback, questions, or simply want to say hello, our doors are open. We're here to listen and to help.

Wishing you and your family a safe and prosperous season ahead.

Warm regards,

**Rob Tracey**  
Branch Manager

## Did you know?



We're moving to two rounds of application funding.

To better support our community partners and provide more flexibility, Community Bank - Parkdale will move to offering only **TWO rounds of sponsorship funding each year**.

This change means more opportunities to plan, apply for support, and bring your community projects to life when it suits you best.

### What does this mean for my community group / club?

- Grant or sponsorship applications for 2025 are now **CLOSED**.
- The first round will open **1 February** and close on **28 February 2026**.
- The second round will open **1 September** and close on **30 September 2026**.
- You will no longer be able to apply for funding in between or outside of these rounds.
- You will be eligible to apply **ONCE** per year.
- You will need to choose either the February or September round based on your club / organisation / event needs.

If you're unsure which program best fits your needs, feel free to reach out to Anna or Kirra at [info@communitybankparkdale.com.au](mailto:info@communitybankparkdale.com.au)



## Strengthening our community through cricket at Mentone CC

We're proud to continue our partnership with Mentone Cricket Club, supporting participation and development across the whole club — juniors, seniors and girls' programs. Our recent funding is helping to deliver a community "Intro to Cricket" clinic, new equipment for the Blast Program, upgraded club gear and uniforms, and reduced registration barriers for families.

This ongoing partnership reflects our shared commitment to creating an inclusive, welcoming club environment where players of all ages and skill levels can get involved, have fun and thrive.

## Empowering fierce girls and women at Parkdale United CC

We're proud to support Parkdale United Cricket Club in strengthening female participation across the club. Our recent funding has helped deliver custom-designed uniforms for the Girl's and Women's teams from 'Fierce Girls Cricket' giving players gear that fits well, feels great and reflects their identity on the field.

This initiative supports the club's commitment to providing a welcoming pathway for girls and women to play, grow and compete with confidence — together, building a strong and united future for female cricket in our community.

## Backing community connection at Parkdale CC

Our partnership with Parkdale Cricket Club continues to support initiatives that bring the club and local community together. This year, we're proud to be the major sponsor of the Community Movie Night — a great event for families and supporters to enjoy. We've also helped provide new co-branded gazebos and stumps for use across club games and events, along with support for the ongoing growth of the Women's Cricket Program.

Together, we're helping create a strong, welcoming club environment that's about more than cricket — it's about community.



**B** Bendigo Bank



# Supporting Mentone Athletics across all ages and abilities

We're proud to announce our continued partnership with Mentone Athletics for another fantastic year of participation, development and community connection. Our support is helping the club enhance the experience for athletes at every level — from Little Athletics through to Senior and Masters competitors.

This year, our sponsorship is contributing to several key initiatives, including:

- Brand new club marquees to provide shade and a strong presence at meets and carnivals
- Plyometric jump boxes to support safe and effective strength and conditioning training
- Proud sponsorship of the annual Mentone Relay Day, one of the region's flagship community athletics events.



Our partnership reflects a shared commitment to encouraging active, healthy lifestyles, building confidence through sport, and creating a welcoming club environment where everyone — regardless of age, stage or ability — can strive, progress and belong.

We look forward to another exciting year on and off the track with Mentone Athletics.

## Carols at the Club – Fireworks Spectacular is sold out!

We were delighted to support this year's Carols at the Club – Fireworks Spectacular, at Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron which has now officially sold out – a fantastic reflection of the community's enthusiasm and support. The event brought local families, friends and neighbours together to share festive cheer, enjoy live entertainment and experience an exciting fireworks display to close out the evening.

Importantly, all funds raised on the night will go directly to support BayCISS (Bayside Community Information & Support Service Inc.), helping provide essential assistance to individuals and families in need across our local area.

We're proud to be part of events that strengthen community connection, celebrate local spirit, and give back to those who need it most.

## Supporting your community

When you choose to bank with Bendigo Bank, good things happen in your community.

Like our sponsorship of the BMYS Community Christmas Carols event.

And when you belong to one of Australia's biggest banks, good things happen with your banking too.

Feel good about who you bank with.

**Find out more. Call 9587 6500 or search Bendigo Bank Parkdale.**



**Bendigo Bank**

Community Bank · Parkdale



## Branch of the Year

Community Bank Parkdale is proud to announce that we have been named **Branch of the Year** in our region for the second consecutive year, while also receiving the **Operational Excellence Award**!

We're also thrilled to acknowledge **Anthony** for his nomination as **Regional Manager's Award** and **Jen** for her **Rising Star nomination** – congratulations to them!

The Board extends its heartfelt gratitude for the unwavering dedication, commitment, and hard work of our incredible staff.

We also wish to express our sincere appreciation to our loyal customers and community groups for their continued support. Your contributions have been instrumental to our ongoing success.

The Board's ongoing involvement and dedication to our community remain invaluable, and together we have achieved something truly special – not just once, but twice!

Thank you for being part of our journey

## Need help with the costs of study?

### Community Bank Parkdale Scholarship Program

Our Scholarship program is providing financial support to contribute to your costs of studying, including accommodation, course materials, travel study, equipment and tutoring.

#### What do I need to know?

Let's get started by looking at the things you need to know now.

- Both University & TAFE Scholarships are available.
- Students must reside in or attend school in the Parkdale (and surrounds) area
- You must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Only first-time, first year university or TAFE students wishing to study full time in 2026 can apply.
- You can demonstrate community involvement.
- You can demonstrate a desire to support your local community both now and into the future.
- You must attach a reference from your school in the application (Principal / Teacher / Careers Counsellor)

As a successful recipient you agree to be involved in attending Community events, social media profiling and community newsletters

Applications are invited from eligible students who require assistance with Tertiary education costs in 2026. **Applications now open.**

<http://communitybankparkdale.smartygrants.com.au/>

Community Bank Scholarships will be funded from management accounts of the Community Enterprise Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968 (the Fund), The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. Sandhurst Trustees Limited ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879, is the trustee of the Fund. 1409006-1409008 OUT\_47748573

APPLY  
NOW



FUN  
FACTS

- The TAFE Scholarship value is \$2,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years/the duration of the successful recipient's course (whichever is lesser).
- The University Scholarship value is \$4,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years.

# Light of Hope

Community Bank Parkdale was proud to partner with Dare to Hope for their inaugural Light of Hope vigil.

Our funding supported this year's event production costs, helping Dare to Hope create a meaningful experience for all those affected by pancreatic cancer.

Congratulations to Cherie and everyone involved for your dedication and passion. Thank you for continuing to raise awareness and bringing hope for a brighter future for anyone facing this disease.



## Parkdale Christmas Giving

Our wonderful community came together to celebrate the gift of giving.

The singing elves joined us and filled the evening with festive Christmas cheer while everyone placed pantry items that will be donated to Parkdale Pantry and Ronald McDonald House.

Community Bank Parkdale generously donating \$300 worth of pantry items.



## Rose garden visit

On Thursday 13 November 2025, 24 members of Parkdale Probus and 16 ladies and gentlemen from a local Gardening club set off for Yarragon, Lunch at Morwell RSL and a visit to the Morwell Centennial Rose Garden.

The weather was spectacular and there was plenty of chatting going on in the bus. A perfect start to what was a great outing.

Morning Tea/Coffee was at various cafes in Yarragon. What a beautiful little town with plenty of boutique and gift shops to browse. A few dollars were spent here as many members picked up a bargain or two at the sales.

Back on the bus to Morwell for Lunch at the RSL. We were all very relaxed over the beautiful lunch and able to take our time. no rushing around as we then visited the Morwell Centennial Rose Gardens. Time to stop and smell the roses! Many beautiful roses were in full bloom. We realised why it was called the Garden Town of the area.

Back on the bus by 3.15pm for our trip back to Mordialloc. Everyone had a fabulous day and visited an area they had never expected to be so beautiful. Lot's of ooh's and aah's and plenty of smiles. Everyone asking, "When's the next trip".

Thank you once again Bendigo Bank Parkdale for making this possible for our Senior Citizens.

**Margaret  
President, Parktone Probus**



## In the community

### City of Kingston – Sustainable Business Awards

Kingston's business community shone brightly at the 2025 Sustainable Business Awards, with six outstanding winners recognised for their innovation, leadership and commitment to creating a sustainable future.

Supported by major sponsor Community Bank Parkdale, the awards recognised 27 finalists across six categories, from waste reduction to product innovation, diversity and inclusion, business leadership, young changemakers and the journey towards net zero.

### Charity golf days

We were pleased to invite community members to a few special charity golf days we supported.

Peter McCallum House of Golf charity golf day at Kingston Heath Golf Club raised \$80,000

Very Special Kids Charity Golf Day at Capital Golf Club.

The Finian Foundation Charity Golf Day at Rosedale Golf Club money raised support kids during hardship at St Bede's College.

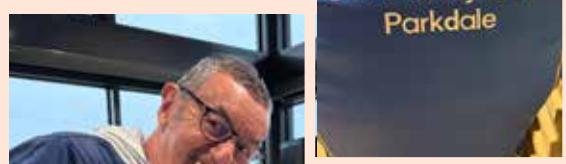


### Beaumaris Soccer Club

Thank you to the Beaumaris Soccer Club for a magnificent sponsors' luncheon.

Congratulations to Joe on 17 outstanding years as President—years that saw enormous growth in player participation, the establishment of a strong female football program, and the development of a new pavilion and scoreboard. We wish you all the very best in your next adventures.

We also wish Emily every success as she steps into the role of President.



### Rotary Club of Mordialloc Mentone Community Market

1st Sunday of every month  
9-2pm



# In the community

## Eisteddfod by the Bay

We are proud to continue our long-standing partnership with Eisteddfod by the Bay as they celebrate an incredible 70 years. Congratulations on the wonderful work you do to support and showcase artists within our community.



## Mordialloc Bowling Club

New shade sails will provide excellent sun protection for members and visitors playing on the green.



## Life Saving Clubs

We recently joined our Life Saving Clubs Open Days. Both Clubs got to showcase their beautiful facilities and services they provide for our community and invite families to join.



## Halloween in Parkdale

What a delightful Halloween celebration held in the Parkdale shops and amphitheater area.

Numerous children and parents dressed up in wonderful costumes and enjoyed face painting, sausage sizzle while supporting the local traders.

We are honoured to provide funding to the Parkdale Traders and contributing to the organisation of events that enrich our community.



# In the community

## STEM Formula 1 in Schools

### STEM – Parkdale Secondary College

We are pleased to announce a new partnership with Parkdale Secondary College STEM program. The team achieved third place in the recent State Finals, a testament to their dedication and hard work. (photo)



### STEM St Bede's College Team Vitality

Thank you Thomas and Jasper for presenting Rob and Anna with a Nationals top and certificate of appreciation.

We are pleased to announce our continued partnership with Team Vitality.



## Mordialloc Motor Yacht Club

Congratulations Mordialloc Motor Yacht Club for its remarkable 100th anniversary!

The celebration was truly exceptional, and we are immensely proud of our partnership in fostering community engagement and connections within the club.



## Parkdale Bowling Club

Bowls season is here, and it's a great way to show our appreciation to the Parkdale members for their continued support. We're so grateful for our partnership and we're excited to announce our sponsorship to help the club bring in a new green in the new year.



## Story Dogs

Georgi and Bertie our story dogs engage with students at St Brigid's Mordialloc and Aspendale Primary School during their reading sessions.

We are proud to support this initiative and believe in the transformative power of reading with the companionship of a story dog. Thanks for the visit Georgi and Bertie.



# Support families with seriously ill and injured children this Christmas



Ronald McDonald House Charities®  
VIC & TAS

## FOOD ITEMS NEEDED

- Cup noodles & cup soups
- Muesli bars & snack bars
- Individual cereal packs
- Breakfast drinks (individual packs)
- Chips & crackers
- Long life milk (cow, soy & almond)
- Cake box mix
- Shake & pour pancake mixes
- Long life re-heatable meals
- Ready-to-use stir fry sauces
- Long life side dishes
- Juice boxes
- Canned foods
- Cookies & biscuits
- Sugar & icing sugar
- Instant porridge
- Olive oil & vegetable oil
- Cacao powder
- Maple Syrup & Honey
- Tinned fruit
- Mayonnaise, tomato sauce, BBQ sauce
- Rice, lentils, couscous



## TOILETRY ITEMS NEEDED

- Face wipes
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Tissue box and mini packs
- small moisturisers
- Nappies and wet wipes
- Combs and hair ties

## KITCHEN UTENSILS NEEDED

- Cutlery sets
- Reusable water bottles
- Reusable coffee cups
- Room spray
- Kitchen knives
- Wooden and plastic spoons
- Spatulas and tongs
- Measuring cups



Christmas Giving for Ronald McDonald House

Pantry items can be donated in the branch by Friday 12th December.

9:30am-4:00pm

# In the community

## Parkdale Yacht Club

For a blustery chilly Melbourne Sunday we had a good fleet for opening day. Thank you to Rob, Alan and Jo for taking time out of their Sunday to attend. Hopefully the Bendigo Bank Pacer, Hewie's Express, will hit the water today, unfortunately it was too windy last week!

- **Commodore, Tamara**



## Mordialloc Sailing Club

Proud to announce our partnership to support boat marine radios, shade umbrellas, hoist maintenance, picnic tables and other improvements for the club. This partnership marks another successful collaboration for the 25/26 seasons.



## Mordialloc Theatre Company

Our funding will support the production of the play "Broadway Bound".

Broadway Bound is a classic comedy penned by acclaimed playwright, Neil Simon and held at Shirley Burke Theatre.



## SALT

### Bendigo Banks contribute to \$500,000 funding to boost youth wellbeing

Community Bank Parkdale is one of seven Victorian Community Banks to partner with leading not-for-profit health education group Sport and Life Training (SALT), helping fund a \$500,000 commitment to enhance player wellbeing and resilience.

SALT works with junior and senior players - plus their coaches and managers - in local sporting clubs, running targeted sessions designed to foster a positive culture and also promote wellbeing within the broader community. The new funding, to be rolled out over five years, will allow the organisation to expand the number of sessions it runs and also enable the hiring of several key roles.

Founder of SALT, David Burt said the funding will help take SALT to the next level of impact. "We would not be here were it not for our partnership with Bendigo Bank's Community Banks," Mr Burt said. "The Community Banks don't just support us; they support hundreds of clubs to access our programs."

Bendigo Bank's Community Bank model ensures a portion of the profits from each Community Bank are returned to the community, delivering a record \$50.2 million of investment for community strengthening projects in the 2025 financial year.

More than \$416 million has been returned to communities via donations, grants, scholarships and sponsorships since the inception of the Community Bank model in 1998.



## Rob and new baby

We had the absolute joy of meeting the adorable Atticus.

It was so lovely to see Rob, Charlotte, Addy and Atticus in the branch for a special visit.



## Staff footy tips

With the footy season wrapped up, we've officially crowned our Footy Tipping Champion — and of course, handed out the wooden spoon!

Rob came out of the gates flying, taking an early lead. With a background in soccer, we suspect he had some professional help with his tips! Unfortunately, a few missed rounds saw him slide down the ladder.

Anthony, our resident footy guru, kept everyone on their toes with his bold predictions, while Mary had a strong showing — when she remembered to put her tips in! Jen, always consistent, took out second place yet again. And finally, last year's champion stepped up once more, taking the lead and never letting go.

Congratulations to Anna, our Footy Tipping Winner for the second year in a row! Back-to-back wins — a true tipping dynasty in the making!



## Charity of the month



### August

#### Noosa for Neuro

Trent's Epic Challenge for a Cause! Trent set off from Parkdale VIC to Noosa QLD on a truly incredible journey — all in support of raising awareness and funds for childhood cancer.

Trent's mission? Run the equivalent of 10 marathons (approximately 45km every three days) and cycle over 1,200km.



### October

#### BCNA

We're proud to support Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA) and donate \$500 in memory of Amber Whalan to help fund world class breast cancer research.

### September

#### R U OK? Day

\$500 donation to help raise awareness for mental health and meaningful conversations.



### November

#### Curbside Coaching

Led by nationally certified coaches who live and breathe skateboarding, focusing on building confidence through safe, supportive, and seriously fun sessions.

### December

#### Baby Walk

Funding will help bolster the Babywalk community creating deep connections and offering casual strolls for mums in the local area.

Does your club or organisation have a project planned that will have a positive impact on our community?

We are currently looking for some community focused projects to support through our Community Partnership Program:

[www.communitybankparkdale.smartygrants.com.au](http://www.communitybankparkdale.smartygrants.com.au)

Contact Community Bank Parkdale to discuss how we can support your project today. For further details contact: [info@communitybankparkdale.com.au](mailto:info@communitybankparkdale.com.au)



## Talk to us today



**Rob Tracey**  
Branch Manager



**Anthony Yeates**  
Customer Relationship Manager



**Jen Hay**  
Customer Relationship Officer



**Stephen Clancy**  
Customer Relationship Officer



**Kasey Holderness**  
Customer Service Officer



**Mary Keady**  
Customer Service Officer



**Farrah Khan**  
Customer Service Officer

### Community Bank · Parkdale

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[www.bendigobank.com.au/parkdale](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/parkdale)

 /Community Bank Parkdale and Mentone East

 /communitybankparkdalementone

#### We're open:

9.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday

Evenings (by appointment)

We kindly ask you to make an appointment to discuss your banking needs.

### Parkdale Mentone East Community Branch Ltd

ABN 20 089 783 166

## Lachie's Walk raised a massive \$30,000

Michelle and Carey presented \$15,000 to the following charities:

\$15,000 Fusion Mornington Peninsula

\$15,000 Team Sports 4 All



## About Bendigo Bank

Bendigo Bank is Australia's better big bank, with 7,000 staff helping our 2.9 million customers to achieve their financial goals. Bendigo Bank's purpose is to feed into the prosperity of its customers and communities.

## For your calendars

During the festive season our branch will close on Thursday 25 and Friday 26 December, and Thursday 1 January 2026.

31 January - Beachside Gift

22 March - Gnome and Fairy Festival

