



## **MCG Newsletter – December Edition**

**“Spring is nature’s way of saying, ‘Let’s party!’**

Robin Williams

As we are all now busy preparing for the holiday season, we wish you all some joy and happiness. But most of all take a moment to relax and breathe in your garden or ours.

We are very grateful to have received the support and grant funding from the Mooroolbark Community Bank. These funds will help us with some much needed projects.

We would like to acknowledge Aaron Violi, Federal Member for Casey and Bridget Vallence, State Member for Eveyln for kindly printing documents for the Mooroolbark Community Garden. We are very appreciative of your support.

### **What’s on - Opportunities to volunteer -**

Our market is coming up:

- 21 December - Christmas is here!

Would you like to help cooking sausages? You don't have to have a green thumb to be involved.

As the warm days change to hot ones, we will have a roster watering the garden. If you feel like helping in this relaxing chore come and talk to us.

The next Newsletter will be in February 2026.

Have a Merry Christmas and a happy new year from all of us at the garden.

## 30th November - Monthly Market

### November Market Madness: A Whimsical Wrap-Up! 🌂

Our November market was a wild and wonderful ride!

- **Elves Gone Wild!** We had pint-sized mischief-makers—yes, those sneaky Elves on the Shelf—playing a spirited game of hide-and-seek among the stalls! They weren't just loafing; these little guys were either being hilariously naughty (sneaking samples?) or surprisingly helpful, occasionally even becoming impromptu (and tiny) sales assistants!
- **The Sky Couldn't Decide!** Our weather was having a total mood swing! One minute it was bright, sunny, and begging for sunglasses; the next, it was spitting rainy showers! Shoppers were caught in a perpetual loop of confusion, merrily skipping one minute, and then frantically trying to perform the 'Umbrella Hokey-Pokey' (open, close, open, close!) the next!
- **Stallholder Superstars!** Our fantastic stallholders were the shining stars, offering up delightful goodies and some genuinely luscious sale items.



## December 21st Market 9am - 1pm

Get your jingle bells on because we're cooking up a Happy, Merry, and absolutely magical event for everyone! It's the perfect place to nab those last-minute gifts and soak up some holiday cheer!

## **The Ultimate Gift Stash!**

Our wonderful stalls are brimming with treasures that will make gift-giving a breeze (and maybe treat yourself, too!):

- **Edible Delights:** Sweeten the season with delicious goodies! Think golden honey, fresh-baked bread, yummy jams, and irresistible cookies that practically shout "Merry Christmas!"
- **Handmade & Unique Gems:** Score one-of-a-kind presents, crafted with love! You'll find cozy crochets, charming aprons, stylish bags, dazzling earrings, beautiful wooden boards, soothing scented candles, heartfelt greeting cards, and a whole lot more bespoke brilliance!
- **Perfect Stocking Stuffers:** We've got loads of brilliant bits and bobs like funky bookmarks, handy keyrings, cool magnets, shimmering crystals, packets of seeds, cheerful plants & seedlings, and even a dive into the past with Mooroolbark History books!

## **Fun & Festivities on the Fly!**

While you shop, keep the fun meter on high with our on-the-spot delights:

- **Face Painting Magic:** Transform into a shimmering fairy or a grumpy Grinch (we don't judge!).
- **Indulge Yourself:** Grab a cup of glorious coffee to fuel your festive spirit!
- **The Sizzle of Joy:** Get a classic Aussie treat with our legendary sausage sizzle!

It truly wouldn't be Christmas without some heartwarming, free community joy!

- 10 AM - Caroling Extravaganza!
- Mrs. Claus Pop-Up!
- Kiddo Christmas Corner
- Early Learning Fun: interactive fun games!

## From the Gardeners Gate

Tomatoes are popping up everywhere as the days get warmer. we have a few varieties. try and spot them and the basil underneath.



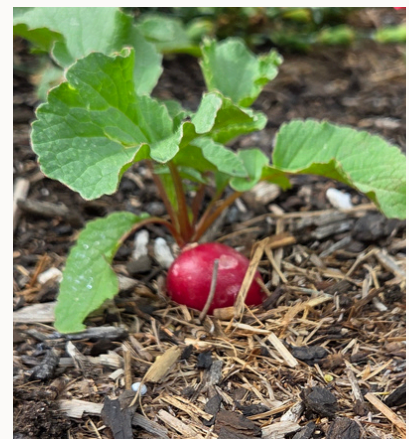
Kohlrabi is making a come-back... with purple and white varieties this vegetable.

Also called German turnip or turnip cabbage, a low, stout cultivar of wild cabbage. It is a cultivar of the same species as cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kale. It can be eaten raw or cooked.

Why not give it a try



And the old favorite Radish. It grows quickly and picked quickly so you have to be quick before they are all gone.



And remember to follow the Red/Yellow/Green signage in the garden.

Green means you can pick/harvest for yourself but Red and Yellow means you should give it more time to mature.



## Garden Projects

This time in the season we work to tie up and stake Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Capsicums and Eggplants. We have Squash, Zucchini and Pumpkins that got some covers to protect from birds and other animals that keep munching on them.

But, if you see a **Green** tag that would mean that you can carefully open the bird netting and harvest those vegetables if they are large enough. And don't forget to cover back the net - There are small hooks on the inside of the sleepers

And did you see the Chickpeas ?!





## Follow us or get in touch

WEB - [www.mooroolbarkcg.org](http://www.mooroolbarkcg.org) is our website.

Check out our **12 Garden beds plan** on the website. Your feedback is welcome.

Facebook: [Mooroolbark Community Garden](https://www.facebook.com/MooroolbarkCommunityGarden)

Email: [Mooroolbarkcg@gmail.com](mailto:Mooroolbarkcg@gmail.com)

And our new phone number: 0406 085 044



**Happy gardening everyone, please come down and get involved in whatever capacity.**

**All the best from the team at MCG.**