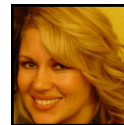


Banksia Palliative Care Service

Newsletter — July 2011

Patron *Krista Vendy*



OUR VALUES: RESPECT COMPASSION PARTNERSHIP EXCELLENCE INNOVATION INTEGRITY



Message from the Executive Officer

It is just over 10 months since we have moved to our new premises in Heidelberg. We are all starting to settle in, with our old office being a distant memory in the past. If you are interested in having a tour of the office please contact me, to arrange a suitable time.

The last few months have been busy with the development of our new strategic plan for the period 2011 – 2013.

The strategic plan has five main objectives:

- ◆ continue to improve client services and meet demand
- ◆ increase community awareness of palliative care
- ◆ improve continuity of care
- ◆ strengthen the learning centre
- ◆ maintain an innovative and sustainable workforce

In the establishment of the strategic plan, there have been a number of forums to ensure that the strategic

plan is representative of the best way forward, to ensure the communities of Banyule, Nillumbik and Whittlesea receive the best possible specialist palliative care from Banksia.

Forums have included Banksia's Committee of Management, Staff, Consumer Reference Group and a presentation to a new working group at Banksia, consisting of our main referral sources. It is pleasing to see that the plan has been endorsed by all as an appropriate way forward for the service.

The Department of Health will be launching the Strengthening Palliative Care: Policy and Strategic Directions 2011 – 2015 on the 26 August. The policy will provide further direction for Banksia.

If you would like a full copy of Banksia's new strategic plan please contact Kellie-Ann Blackman, Executive Assistant / Administration Coordinator at Banksia on 94550822.

Julie Paul
Executive Officer

Bequests

Banksia is a government funded, not for profit organisation and a registered charity. Each year Banksia provides free 24 hour specialist health care and practical support to approximately 500 children and adults who have been diagnosed with a progressive terminal illness, and are living at home, in the municipalities of Banyule, Whittlesea and Nillumbik.

If you would like to know more about becoming a "Bequest Donor" please contact our Executive Officer.

Donations

Banksia is extremely grateful for all donations. Every cent donated assists Banksias' services and programs.

East Ivanhoe and Heidelberg
Community Bank® branches



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We appreciate the support of our
Major Annual Sponsor:
Danaher's Timber and Hardware
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NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK

National Palliative Care Week was held between the 22—28 May 2011. Over a three day period, five Banksia Volunteers provided an opportunity for the community to talk about the theme “Lets Talk about Dying”. Advance Care Planning was an integral part of the conversation.

The volunteers were situated in the three major shopping centres of Northland, Greensborough and Epping Plaza.

To learn more about any aspect of Community Palliative Care, you are invited to contact Banksia’s Community Liaison Coordinator to arrange an information package, or a guest speaker.



Pictured above are Volunteers Margaret Rentoul and Lei Chen at the Northland Shopping Centre, displaying brochures and the Banksia Banner prominently displayed at the rear.

STREET STALL BACK ON TRACK — THANKS TO PLENTY VALLEY FREEMASONS

Thank you to all of the community who have donated to our Street Stall. We are pleased to announce that a representative of the Plenty Valley Freemasons Lodge and his family, who are residents of the City of Whittlesea are helping Banksia to transport the items to and from the stall. Fort Knox Storage of Eltham continue to sponsor the street stall by providing a storage locker. The Street Stall is being held on the morning of the third Saturday of each month, in Main Street, Greensborough, situated north of the shopping centre main entrance.

Our volunteers welcome the receipt of any new, or as new, quality items for sale. Hand Knitted items, in particular baby clothes, are always in demand. Street Stalls are of so much more value than just the money raised. These activities help Banksia to raise its community profile and are an important component of Banksia’s Health Promotion strategy.

To donate to the Street Stall, you can attend personally and say “hello” to our Volunteers, drop the items in at Banksia, or contact our Community Liaison Coordinator on 94550822.



Pictured: Above Bev Allan and left Joan O'Loughlin, two of Banksia’s Fundraising Support Volunteers who operate the Street Stall.

BANKSIA FILM NIGHT A GREAT SUCCESS

Volunteer Denise Edwards was the coordinator of a recent film night, for the movie "Oranges and Sunshine" at the Westgarth Cinema Centre. The event which was held on the 16th June was an outstanding success, raising in excess of \$600 profit. Banksia, and especially Denise, would like to thank everyone who helped to sell tickets and/or attended the event. Banksia has limited fundraising opportunities and we are very appreciative of the support shown.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

National Volunteer Week was celebrated between the 9 -15 May 2011. A celebratory luncheon for Volunteers and Staff was held on a Saturday to accommodate those who worked part time. Volunteers were presented with a Certificate acknowledging their service to Banksia by the President of the Committee of Management, Paul Adcock.

Pictured Left: Banksia Staff and Volunteers celebrating National Volunteer Week, with President Paul Adcock (pictured far right, with his son).

JEAN SING TURNS 90

Banksia Fundraising Support Volunteer Jean Sing turned 90 on the 2nd July. Jean's family provided a lovely birthday for her at the Watsonia RSL, where she was surrounded by her family and friends.

Jean has recently moved into a Nursing Home but is still very keen, health permitting, to help her friends out at the Banksia Street Stall.

Banksia wishes Jean the very best.

Pictured from rear left, fellow fundraising support volunteers and friends, Denise Edwards, Bev Allan Joan O'Loughlin, with the Birthday girl, Jean Sing, front centre.



MAKING MUSIC BEING WELL WEEK

May 16th - 22nd 2011 was "Making Music Being Well" week. This initiative of the Australian Music Therapy Association and Music Play for Life saw events, large and small, around the country, promoting the positive relationship between music and physical, spiritual and emotional health. Events at Banksia were run by our Music Therapist Antonia Hardy.



They included song-writing and improvisation workshops for staff, a staffroom question box and musical afternoon tea and discussion. Participants had fun, learnt more about the practical application of music therapy, and created some impressive original music.

Pictured Left, biscuits made in the shape of guitars and cup cakes with music note decorations made by Music Therapist Antonia Hardy.

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITY HOME BASED PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICE!



Pictured above, Plenty Valley Freemason Lodge Members , on left Wally Dower and to right, Don Austin, with the Banksia and Freemason Banners displayed at a BBQ Fundraising / Information activity, held at Bunning's Thomastown on Sunday 12 June. Plenty Valley Lodge is always looking for new members. please phone Don Austin on 94594971.

Pictured above, on left Rotary Club of Rosanna President Roger Fletcher with Tim Paul Community Liaison Coordinator, receiving a kind donation, on the 29 June. Rosanna Rotary welcomes new members, please phone Mr. Kel Cocking on 94581070.



BANKSIA VOLUNTEER PROUD TO BECOME AN AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN

Banksia Volunteer, Lei Chen proudly became an Australian citizen at a ceremony held at the City of Whittlesea Plenty Arts Centre on 6 June, 2011. Lei was presented with her Certificate of Australian Citizenship by the Mayor Mr. Rex Griffin. Lei is of Chinese descent and is a very active volunteer.

Pictured from left, daughter Yufeng, niece Jie, Mayor Rex Griffin, a proud Lei and her husband Zheng.

Banksia Palliative Care Service
472 Lower Heidelberg Road

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