



Banksia

Palliative

Care

Service

OUR VALUES: RESPECT—COMPASSION—PARTNERSHIP—EXCELLENCE—INNOVATION—INTEGRITY



472 Lower Heidelberg Road

Heidelberg 3084

Phone: 94550822

Website:
www.banksiapalliative.com.au

Bequests:

Banksia is a government funded, not for profit organisation and registered charity. Each year Banksia provides "Free 24 hour", specialist health care and practical support to approximately 550 children and adult patients.

We also provide education, counselling and support to carers, partners and family members. Our patients and carers 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 Community Liaison Coordinator.

Message from Executive Officer, Julie Paul

Banksia welcomes your passion, ideas, energy and assistance!

We welcome community support to engage in "awareness activities" to raise Banksia's profile across the municipalities of Banyule, Whittlesea and Nillumbik. Awareness activities will help patients, carers and families to know about Banksia's free 24 hour services in the most timely manner.

Banksia provides specialist health care and practical support to approximately 570 children and adults each year. Our anecdotal evidence shows we are known by approximately 5-10 per cent of members of community groups we speak to.

It is an ongoing challenge for us to raise awareness and we welcome your help to do this. More awareness means more ready access to services. It enables us to empower our patients and carers to choose where possible, the type of care and support, "they want". Family members often convey to our staff, "If I only knew of your services earlier".

This year National Palliative Care Week is being held between 25 - 31 May 2014 and the theme is;

Palliative Care
everyone's business

You can make it your business to promote your local home based community specialist palliative care service, within your community. Banksia embraces the community's instinct to help others. For all inquiries please phone Banksia on **94550822**.

You can browse Banksia's website at:
www.banksiapalliative.com.au

This Newsletter is kindly sponsored by the

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Donations: Banksia is extremely grateful for all donations. Every cent donated to Banksia assists our services and programs. All donations of or above two dollars are tax deductible. Many families donate to Banksia via our donation envelopes at funerals in lieu of flowers, in appreciation of the care and support provided to them and their loved ones. Each financial year Banksia's budget includes donations as part of projected income to deliver our core services.



Andrea McGee has recently joined the Banksia team as the Manager of Clinical Services and Learning Centre. Andrea trained as a Nurse in order to emigrate from England as she did not like the cold, wet weather.

She moved to New Zealand in 1998 where she became a Pain Nurse Consultant. She also established the first nurse-led pain management clinic for her local hospital.

Six years ago she relocated to Melbourne. Andrea has a Masters qualification in Nursing and Project Management, with experience in applying 'lean-thinking' improvement and change management, to service planning.

In her spare time, she likes to keep fit, loves going to Melbourne coffee shops, or she can be found singing in her band or watching other musicians perform. Banksia welcomes Andrea to the team and wishes her the very best in this new path of her career journey.

Best Wishes to Bev, Joan and Denise

On the 26 February, Banksia said farewell to three long term volunteers; Bev Allan, Joan O'Loughlin and Denise Edwards. These volunteers have dedicated themselves to running our street stalls and film nights. Banksia held a morning tea to farewell Bev, Joan and Denise and also thanked Wayne and Fay Young from Plenty Valley Freemasons Lodge, who have been fantastic in transporting items and setting up stalls on the volunteers behalf. Our Executive Officer Julie Paul was able to present Bev with her 10 year Volunteer Service Award and also presented flowers to Joan, Denise and Fay. On behalf of the organisation we would like to thank Bev, Joan, Denise, Wayne and Fay for their commitment to supporting Banksia.



Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Project

Our Learning Centre Educator, Nerida Morton attended the Multicultural Centre for Women's Health in Collingwood in January to train bilingual Peer Educators from the Italian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Turkish and Maltese communities as part of a project led by Palliative Care Victoria.

The Peer Educators are learning about palliative care services as part of a Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) project. The purpose of the project is to support the Peer Educators to reach out to members of their communities, to increase awareness of palliative care and to increase referrals from these cultural groups to community palliative care.

Nerida delivered a session to the Peer Educators explaining how community palliative care services operate and what support they can offer to patients and carers with a progressive terminal illness.

Banksia embraces the initiatives being made by Palliative Care Victoria and looks forward to being actively involved in this project as it is applied to groups within the municipalities of Banyule, Nillumbik and Whittlesea.

Picture insert: Nerida Morton is pictured far left corner.



Banksia honoured to visit Japan and to host Japanese Nurses in Melbourne

In November 2013 our Executive Officer Julie Paul visited the Japanese Educational Clinical Cardiology Society (JECCS) in Osaka and presented to large audiences at the Hokusetsu General Hospital and Osaka Health/Welfare Vocational School. Julie also presented at the prestigious Myagi University in Sendai, where she was the first international speaker to be given that privilege within the nursing faculty. The presentation was to an audience in excess of 250 students, academics, health professionals and community members.

A rewarding part of the short visit to Sendai involved meeting with many tsunami survivors from Onagawa, at a community hall and nursing home.

Banksia Palliative Care Service has been able to strengthen partnerships with Japanese organisations such as JECCS and its sister organisation Pallium in Tokyo, by building upon many years of earning reciprocal trust and respect.

Two of Banksia trips to Japan have been previously sponsored by generous grants from the Australian Japan Foundation (AJF).

In February this year Banksia was again honoured to have five visiting nurses from Japan visit Banksia. The nurses completed a tailored education course in community palliative care, involving education sessions, visits to patients homes, hospices and aged care facilities.

In the past five years, different nursing groups have visited Banksia annually on behalf of JECCS. The nurses come from various prefectures across Japan.

The Japanese nurses have provided JECCS with glowing testimonials of Banksia's approach to community palliative care. JECCS and Banksia have a unique, strong partnership which Banksia is very proud of.



Pictured above left: Julie Paul Banksia EO with Professor Naomi Hiraki (rear) and Professor Sachiko Ono, Head of School of Nursing, Myagi University, (front). Pictured above middle and right: visiting Japanese nurses representing JECCS at Banksia in February 2014.

Acknowledgment of Community Grant

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In February 2014, Banksia fitted out the large ground floor meeting room with visual equipment, to enhance presentations and learning facilities for staff, volunteers, carers and visitors. The modifications were funded by the receipt of a generous community grant in 2013 from the East Ivanhoe and Heidelberg Community Bank Branches of the Bendigo Bank.

Great result — December 2013 Sausage Sizzle at Northland Bunnings

Banksia wishes to thank our staff, volunteers, supporters, staff from Bunnings Northland and a special thank you to members of the Rotaract Club of Diamond Valley, for their wonderful support on the 21 December, 2014, at our annual Sausage Sizzle. The total clear profit of \$2,180 was an exceptional result. The event enabled great exposure for Banksia which resulted in more awareness of our services.

Paddy's Market & Arden Crescent Rosanna Concert Series

Significant support has been received from two community groups who are very dedicated to the communities of the north east. The Eltham Rural Group and the Arden Crescent Rosanna Uniting Church Concert Series, continue to support Banksia. We thank both groups for their ongoing loyal support and wish them the very best for their activities throughout the year.

You can support the Eltham Rural Group by putting in your diary, the date of the famous annual Paddy's Market. Paddy's is always held on the first Saturday in May.

The next Paddy's Market will be held on 3rd May 2014. Have a browse of their website, www.paddysmarketeltham.com.au

The Arden Crescent Concert Series is held on the first Sunday of each month throughout 2014 and includes very well known artists. Examples are Simon Gallaher (4 May) and Phillip Gould (3 August).

You can support the concert series by phoning 9457 2595 for tickets.

Have a browse of their website, www.ardenccs.wordpress.com

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and Cape Streets, Heidelberg.**

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