

Banksia Palliative Care Service Inc. - Newsletter - January 2015



Banksia

Palliative

Care

Service

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



Recruitment of Volunteers

Banksia is currently recruiting for volunteers. The decision to be a volunteer is a wonderful selfless act for people to make. Banksia provides education, support and oversight for volunteers via our Coordinator of Volunteers. There are several roles for volunteers at Banksia including supporting clients at home, administration support and community awareness. All roles are important to Banksia and underpin our community connection.

472 Lower Heidelberg Road
Heidelberg 3084
Phone: 94550822

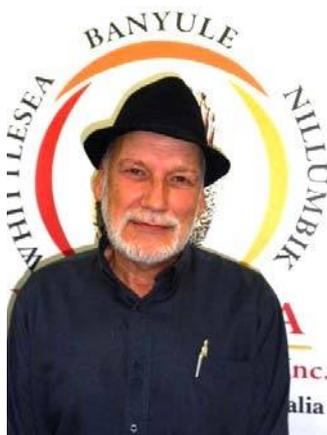
Website:
www.banksiapalliative.com.au

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 adults.

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 Executive Officer Julie Paul.



One of our volunteers is Eric Morgan. Eric visits clients at home and has volunteered at Banksia for almost one year. Eric says "I enjoy being with clients, I like to listen and take people out".

As a volunteer Eric says, "I feel it's important to have empathy and to be able to listen to the client, this helps to have an understanding of where the client is at". Generally Eric says, "I enjoy getting to know the client by spending time with them, it also provides some respite for the family. We have lots of positive talks, its rewarding for me as I learn so much".

We are keen to increase the number of volunteers including people who are of a multi cultural background or bilingual.

You can help us make a difference.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact our Coordinator of Volunteers Monique Balfour.

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 in lieu of flowers via our donation envelopes. We thank all families for thinking of Banksia and for their many kind comments, letters and cards which are greatly appreciated by our staff and volunteers.

2014 AGM



Our 2014 Annual General Meeting was a great way to commence celebrating Banksia's 25th Anniversary of serving the communities within the municipalities of Banyule, Nillumbik and Whittlesea. Banksia was honoured to have one of its original Steering Committee Members, Dr. Taffy Jones as Guest Speaker (pictured bottom right page 3). In the audience were fellow Steering Committee member Katherine Kingsbury and Life Member Ann Francis (pictured top right with Dr. Taffy Jones page 3). Unfortunately one of our very respected Life Members John Shilliday, who had a significant role in our formation, was unable to attend. It was great to see Banksia's first Executive Officer Alan Johns (1992-2007) and former Committee of Management member Cliff Picton in the audience. Students from Ivanhoe Girls Grammar (pictured bottom left) provided background music and were of great assistance.



Many community groups were represented and two special guests were Kayoko and Hiro Kinoshita (pictured left) representing the Japanese Education Clinical Cardiology Society (JECCS) of Osaka. In February this year, Banksia will host visiting nurses from Japan, sponsored by JECCS and the Australia Japan Foundation (AJF) to participate in a Banksia course in community palliative care. Banksia has a very strong relationship with JECCS which has been greatly assisted by the kind receipt of AJF grants.



Our guest speaker, Dr. Taffy Jones, former Medical Director at the Austin Hospital, provided a very entertaining overview of the history of Banksia's humble beginnings. Dr. Jones spoke about the need for Banksia to remain independent of larger institutions and was pleased Banksia had maintained our community organisation identity.

2014 AGM



One of the profound statements Dr. Jones made was when he cited a quote in part by Leo Rosten:

“There is a myth to which many of us are addicted that the purpose of life is to be happy. I know of nothing more demeaning than this narcotic pursuit of fun. Where was it ever written that life can always be easy or free of conflict or of pain. The purpose of life is not to be happy but to matter, to be productive, to be useful, to have it make some difference that we lived at all”

Dr. Jones concluded., “Banksia Palliative Care Service has certainly mattered and made a huge difference for the better in countless peoples’ lives so congratulations and I wish you every success for the future”.



Banksia’s President Paul Oppy announced that one of our long serving Committee of Management members, Damian Neylon (pictured middle top of page 2) was resigning after 20 years distinguished voluntary service. Damian and fellow Committee Member John Richardson were presented with 20 year plaques acknowledging their significant milestones. (Pictured top right page 2 Damian and John receiving their awards from President Paul Oppy - centre). We wish Damian the very best in his future endeavours.

The AGM creates an opportunity to publically thank our staff and volunteers for their work during the year. It allows us to acknowledge the many individuals and community and business groups who support Banksia.

25 years is a wonderful achievement. There is a clear challenge for us to promote our service and create awareness to ensure timely and appropriate access to our service. If you believe you can help promote Banksia please contact our Community Liaison Coordinator. (Banksia Staff are pictured top right page 2 and Banksia Volunteers below, overview of audience at AGM top left page 3 and Banksia EO Julie Paul middle right page 3)





2014 Christmas Raffle Result

Thank you to everyone who helped sell tickers for our 2014 Christmas Raffle. Pictured top left is Claudia Wilson Banksias Receptionist with Mary O'Dea of Mitre 10 Heidelberg, who conducted an independent draw of the raffle. The lucky winner was Christina Robertson (pictured 2nd from left) who is Banksia's Administration Coordinator. Second Prize (pictured top 2nd from right with her grand daughter) was Margaret Thompson, a Banksia Member. Third Prize went to Hilary Milsome (pictured far right) who is a consultant book keeper to Banksia. Banksia raised \$1,240 clear profit and did so with the generosity of donations from Fisher Paykel, Bunnings Preston, The Old England Hotel, The Good Guys Preston, Country Women's Association (CWA) and some very kind donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Thankyou to our Major Sponsors

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Banksia Palliative Care Service Inc.
472 Lower Heidelberg Road,
Heidelberg 3084 - Phone 94550822

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