



**Our Values: Respect Compassion Partnership Excellence Innovation Integrity**

Message from Julie Paul, Executive Officer  
**Heading in the right direction**

We are very pleased to report that our 6 monthly review from the National Clinical Benchmarking Program (PCOC) demonstrated excellent outcomes related to client care.

As a result of these achievements we were invited to present at the National PCOC Workshop held in NSW in May.

A member of our clinical team Amanda Petricola presented on behalf of Banksia. (pictured below)

These results are a credit to the team and have occurred due to a number of improvement strategies implemented in the past 12 months.

Our aim is always continue to look for opportunities to enhance the care we provide to our community.

During May we celebrated both National Volunteer and National Palliative Care Weeks.

I would especially like to acknowledge all of our Volunteers and Staff for their commitment and contribution to enable us to work towards achieving our Vision:

*"To provide and promote specialist home based palliative care, which is accessible, responsive and in partnership with the community."*



**TAX TIME**

June is a good time for us to bring to the attention of our supporters that it is tax time. Banksia is a registered charity, not for profit organisation.

Our donations of \$2 or above are tax deductible. Donations can be made via credit cards by phoning our administration staff direct on 9455 0822 or you can download a form on our website at [www.banksiapalliative.com.au](http://www.banksiapalliative.com.au)

You can always visit us at 472 Lower Heidelberg Road, Heidelberg or send cheques by mail to that address.

This year Banksia will have provided specialist health care and support to approximately 600 patients, carers, and their families. Our staff and volunteers are there for our families, who in caring for their loved ones are dealing with what can be an overwhelming period in their lives.

We encourage our readers to browse our website at [www.banksiapalliative.com.au](http://www.banksiapalliative.com.au) to familiarise themselves with the vast array of services and equipment offered to our patients, carers and families.

It doesn't matter how large or small a donation is. All donations go directly to Banksia to provide free, 24 hour home services for children and adults, who are living within the municipalities of Banyule, Whittlesea and Nillumbik.

## Engaging with our Community



Pictured above are members of The Patchwork Gallery Quilt Group who held an exhibition in Lower Plenty in March. All profits have been pledged to Banksia. Banksia is very appreciative of the members for choosing Banksia as the charity of their choice for many years. The group proudly displayed the Banksia Banner in a prominent position to create community awareness. The Patchwork Gallery Quilt Group continue to assist Banksia by also making items for different projects, such as gift bags for our multi-cultural communities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander welcome packs.

### East Ivanhoe & Heidelberg Branches of Bendigo Community Bank supporting Banyule Festival



Pictured above is Banksia volunteer Bev Boulter with the Bendigo Bank mascot, at the parade for the Banyule Community Festival held on 19 March. Bev's role was to create community awareness of Banksia and of the support provided to us by the East Ivanhoe and Heidelberg Community Bank Branches.

### Arden Crescent Concert Series

The Arden Crescent Concert Series take place in the Uniting Church Hall at 21 Arden Crescent, Rosanna. They have gained an excellent reputation for having quality entertainment.

Banksia is one of the many charities supported from proceeds of these concerts.

Banksia is very grateful for the support of the Rosanna Uniting Church Committee who organise the events.

Bookings may be made by phoning 03 9457 2595.



## Engaging with our Community



Banksia has been awarded a Banyule Watsonia RSL Trust Fund Grant to extend its community engagement program. Community groups to be included are of Chinese, Macedonian, Indian and Somalian cultures. On the 7 June, Banksia held an awareness session with the Whittlesea Chinese Association (WCA). A respected WCA Life Member, Mr. Zhou, 87 years of age, made the following remarks via a mandarin interpreter;

*“My wife died of cancer in hospital, had I known about home palliative care I would have cared for my wife at home. It is important for Chinese people to know they can get help to keep their family at home.”*

Banksia has found there is a limited knowledge of community palliative care within multi-cultural groups we have spoken to. The WCA members showed great interest in the type of support which can be provided. Working together will assist us to ensure we are providing culturally appropriate palliative care. Banksia is very appreciative of being the recipient of a Banyule Watsonia RSL Trust Fund Grant.

*(pictured above are WCA members participating in the awareness session and performing a tai chi dance)*



Pictured above is Banksia's Music Therapist Erin Crighton presenting to the Eltham Rural Group (ERG) in May. Erin spoke about her role and played a guitar which was purchased from a ERG donation. Banksia is most appreciative for the ongoing support of the ERG.

## Appreciating our Volunteers

National Volunteer Week was held in May and Banksia hosted a breakfast to show appreciation for our dedicated volunteers. Our volunteers were presented with certificates to acknowledge National Volunteer Week, and also a special gift donated by Proteaflora whom Banksia has a long association with.

*Pictured below are some of Banksia's volunteers with Staff. From left; Bev Boulter Volunteer, Cherrie Chong Administration Coordinator, Jill Simeoni Volunteer, Erin Crighton Acting Coordinator of Volunteers, Jill Smith Volunteer, Kylie Johnson Clinical Operations Manager and Lorraine Taylor Volunteer.*



## Engaging with our Community



In April this year Banksia sought the assistance of Eltham Rotary, to support one of our clients. The situation was very unique and Eltham Rotary responded immediately.

We are very appreciative of the support on this occasion by Eltham Rotary.

Banksia embraces any opportunity to speak to Rotary and other service clubs or community groups. Please contact our Community Liaison Coordinator Tim Paul on 03 94550822.

Banksia has again received an annual donation from the Freemasons Masters Lodge, Comets Number 6. The donation is made in honour of the memory of a former Lodge Member and Banksia volunteer Alby Collis. Banksia remembers Alby very fondly and we thank Comets Number 6 members for their ongoing support over many years.



We are seeking a sponsor of our newsletter.

All inquiries to our Community Liaison Coordinator, email [timp@banksiapalliative.com.au](mailto:timp@banksiapalliative.com.au)



**Directly opposite Banksia**

**Thankyou to our Major Donors**



**The intersection of Burgundy and Cape Streets, Heidelberg.**

**Banksia Palliative Care Service Inc.  
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