



HAPPY 40th BANKSIA GARDENS

What a wonderful 40th birthday party we had at the Hume Global Learning Centre last Thursday 22nd August! Generously hosted by the Mayor of Hume, Cr Carly Moore, we were honoured by special guest speakers, the Hon Richard Wynne, Minister for Planning, Housing and Multicultural Affairs; the Hon Ben Carroll, Minister for Crime Prevention, Corrections, Youth Justice and Victim Support; and Maria Vamvakinou MP, Federal Member for Calwell. Of course our own Gina Dougall (CEO) and Jaime de Loma-Osorio Ricon (Deputy CEO) gave great speeches, as did the very eloquent Sumeya and Achmed Yussuf.

We enjoyed a stunning musical performance by 'Divine Favour', a talented trio recommended to us by Outer Urban Projects, and a delicious morning tea.

Among our many guests were our local state MPs, Frank McGuire (Broadmeadows) and Ros Spence (Yuroke), Councillors Karen Sherry and Jack Medcraft, Magistrate Carolyn Burnside, Don Tidbury (CEO DPV Health), Nicole Battle (CEO, Neighbourhood Houses Victoria), Rob Hulls (Director of the Centre for Innovative Justice at RMIT), Peter Donlan (CEO of Sunbury Health), Banksia Gardens Patrons Mr Robert Kumar and Father Bob McGuire, and our ambassador, Abdi Aden.

We were also delighted to welcome back former staff and board members. Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate this special occasion.

