

# Celebration for end of Ramadan

## RELIGION

MORE than 60 members of the local Muslim community gathered at Koshigaya Park last Wednesday to celebrate the end of Ramadan - also known as Eid.

There were drums, children playing soccer and riding bikes, and the unmistakable smell of lamb kofta wafting through the air as those in attendance marked the end of 30 consecutive days of fasting from sunrise to sunset.

"We fast from everything," Ghofran Abumustafa, one of the ladies at the event said.

"Not just particular foods - everything."

Rihab Ibrahim said Ramadan was challenging but her faith helped ease any fasting pains.

"Obviously we look forward to the the food and the family gatherings (at the end of each day)," she said.

"But you feel a real sense of devotion."

Heba Abumustafa said weather and the time of year made Ramadan in Australia a bit easier compared to oth-

“

We fast from everything. Not just particular foods - everything.

**Ghofran Abumustafa**

er parts of the world.

"Fasting in Australia is easier because the days aren't as long," she said.

Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative hosts the Koshigaya Park event every year.

MDSI settlement work Sana al-Ahmar said the annual get together was a vital date on the organisation's calendar for those in the local community.

"It's open to everyone," she said.

"There were women here (this year) that I hadn't seen in years.

"We'd love to make it bigger and better."

- BEN CHENOWETH



**GATHERING:** Ghofran Abumustafa, Rihab Ibrahim and Heba Abumustafa celebrate the end of Ramadan. **Picture: Chris Lane**



**CELEBRATE:** One of many activities. **Picture: Chris Lane**



**BIG GET TOGETHER:** There were dozens of kids at the Eid celebration at Koshigaya Park. **Picture: Chris Lane**