

SUNBURY

Grow Up Smiling gleams

TWO NEW DENTISTS APPOINTED AT SUNBURY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Barry Kennedy

FEDERAL Health Minister Tanya Plibersek visited Sunbury Community Health Centre last Wednesday to meet with community dental specialists.

Ms Plibersek was joined by McEwen federal Labor MP Rob Mitchell as the centre celebrated the arrival of two new community dentists.

The additions are set to

target local waiting lists, with 100,000 Victorians currently waiting for dental care.

Ms Plibersek said that \$35.4 million in federal funding had been assigned to tackle the problem.

In January 2014, the Grow Up Smiling dental scheme for children will begin.

Ms Plibersek said that it would make it easier for

children to see a dentist than a GP.

The program will entitle families to up to \$1000 in dental treatment, per child, every two years.

"We know that if you have good dental health as a child, you're far more likely to have good dental health as an adult — that's why Grow Up Smiling is so important," Ms Plibersek said.

Organisations such as Sunbury Community Health Centre are leading the way in preventive health, in turn lowering demands on the health system, she said.

Ms Plibersek also visited the Sunbury Medical Clinic which is one of six Sunbury clinics soon to become a Medicare Local centre.

"It's very important in

places like Sunbury to avoid lengthy travel for basic medical care such as a leg break or stitches," she said.

"If you have pneumonia, you can have treatment, go home, get some sleep and come in to your local medical centre again tomorrow if you need it."

Ms Plibersek praised the medical centre for its commitment to training and re-

tention of GPs which has led the consolidation of medical expertise in the area.

For more information on the Grow Up Smiling dental scheme, visit health.vic.gov.au

What health service do you think Sunbury needs?
Email sunbury@leadernewspapers.com.au

ROMSEY

Candidates face off in big debate

FIVE candidates for the federal seat of McEwen will battle it out in a debate next Friday.

Incumbent Labor MP Rob Mitchell squares off with his opponents at The Great McEwen Breakfast Debate in Romsey.

Participants include Liberal candidate Donna Petrovich, Greens candidate Neil Baker, Katter's Australia Party candidate Bruce Stevens and Palmer United Australia's Trevor Dance.

Other parties with as yet unendorsed candidates have been invited.

The Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association is running the debate which will accommodate pre-submitted questions.

RRBATA president Jemmy Stillman said her organisation was excited to set-up the event.

The Great McEwen Breakfast Debate is on August 9 from 7.30am at Cope-Williams Winery, 160 Glenfern Rd, Romsey.

Tickets are \$50 a person from election13mcewen.eventbrite.com.au

SUNBURY



Shane Nicholson, Sam Riggio and Chris Rae from Sunbury Autobarn are taking a healthy approach in the workplace.

Fresh approach keeps staff feeling good

SUNBURY Autobarn management is committed to building a healthy culture in its workshop, office and shopfront.

The 13 managers and staff are making good on their collective commitment by taking part in the Achievement Program for work-

places, part of the Healthy Together Hume initiative.

Staff trainer Sam Riggio said his company has already had health promoters come in to consult on how to attain health goals.

Mr Riggio said fresh fruit and vegetables were now a regular and freely provided

part of the staffroom while staff meetings have begun to have more of a focus on exploring the well-being of staff.

Family-themed events such as movies and go-karting are also planned.

"The well-being of staff and the health of staff is

absolutely essential to our success," he said.

A mission statement and action plan will soon be formulated to keep track of health goals.

Healthy Together Hume is run by Hume Council, Sunbury Community Health Centre and Dianella Health.

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News, views & competitions



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COTS FOR TOTS
THE costs of baby essentials can be impossible to meet, especially for poor parents. Leader's Cots for Tots campaign aims to raise money to buy 200 cots. Donate: LeaderNews.com.au