



Sunbury Community Health workers Matt Gleeson and Maria Bowman enjoy a cup of tea outside the CommuniTEA van. Picture: IAN CURRIE

SUNBURY

# Let's eat and catch up

Initiative for get-togethers and a meal with people at risk of homelessness help those in need

Barry Kennedy

HELPING those at risk of homelessness avert the worst and connect with agencies that can support them is the aim of new initiative Sunbury Health Time.

The catch-ups over meals with people who may be couch surfing or staying in their cars involves partner agencies Vincentcare, Sunbury Community Health, Sunbury Neighbourhood

House, CareWorks SunRan- ges and more.

Led by the Glenroy-based Vincentcare, the get-togethers have occurred every fourth Monday of the month since March at Sunbury Community Health and involved its CommuniTEA van.

A breakfast version of Sunbury Health Time will be held from 9am to 10am on Wednesday, June 28. Vincentcare outreach case

manager Jenny Gregory said having agencies on the ground gave the opportunity for those at risk of homelessness to speak to primary care providers.

Participants can be referred to financial counsellors, foodbanks and other services as needed, while haircuts will also be provided if sought.

"It can be really hard to think about your health or wellbeing needs when you're

in crisis," Ms Gregory said. "Being healthy and well connected actually helps us have the emotional and physical capacity to make difficult decisions and respond to the crisis positively and move forward more quickly.

"Having a chat over breakfast and a cuppa can help keep you motivated, and remind you that you are doing well, despite the difficulties.

"Sometimes a friendly face can help encourage you to try

something new, or have another go."

Sunbury Community Health building healthier communities director Bernadette Hetherington said getting Vincentcare to Sunbury to speak to people directly was important as it found homes for those in need.

Details: 9304 0823 or [jenny.gregory@vincentcare.org.au](mailto:jenny.gregory@vincentcare.org.au)

DIGGERS REST



## Car clues sought

THE brother of the prime suspect in Karen Risteovski's murder has been spotted in bushland close to where her body was found in Mt Macedon.

Vasko Risteovski, brother of Mrs Risteovski's husband Borce, was seen metres away from where the 47-year-old's body was found in a shallow grave on February 20. Mr Risteovski was confronted by *A Current Affair* journalist Martin King as he left the site and got into his car.

The revelation comes after News Corp revealed on Friday CCTV footage showing what police believe was Ms Risteovski's distinctive black Mercedes-Benz SLK coupe being driven through Diggers Rest (above) on June 29 last year.

Police have urged anyone who may have seen the car to phone Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

### Leader grants

Leader Local Grants are back, celebrating initiatives that help our communities by giving away thousands of dollars to projects across Melbourne. We want to hear from community groups and organisations with inspirational ideas that just need a \$1000 grant to get going. Applications can be made now and close July 14. For more information and to apply go to [leaderlocalgrants.com.au](http://leaderlocalgrants.com.au)

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