

Organisations Involved in the “Bite-Back” Dental Campaign

Victorian Farmers Federation
Council On the Ageing (Vic)
Council To Homeless Persons
Uniting Church (Vic)
Brotherhood of St Laurence
Healthsharing Women
Health Issues Centre
Dental Health Services Victoria
Australian Dental Association (Vic)
Victorian Council of Social Services
Association for the Study of Community Dentistry
Whittlesea Family Resource Centre
Victorian Council of Churches
Australian Nursing Federation (Vic)

The membership of “Bite-Back” is non-political and extremely broadly based. The activities of the campaign to date include a packed public meeting at the Box Hill Town Hall on September 30. The room seated about 150 and there were probably 100-150 more standing. The meeting was addressed by a broad range of representative organisations involved in the campaign.

There have been numerous media reports including talk-back radio e.g. Gael Jennings, articles in the Age, Herald Sun and just about all the local papers. There has also been lobbying of Canberra politicians and letter-writing asking them to reinstate the programme.

Bite-Back members attended the People’s Picnic last weekend (6th October) where a petition was circulated.

Flyers and leaflets have been produced and we are currently in the process of producing posters and postcards.

On October 29th, about 200 people held a peaceful demonstration outside Michael Wooldridge’s office in Box Hill.

Bite-back has addressed questions to the candidates in the Lindsey by-election in NSW. The Pensioners and Superannuants Federation is taking up the issue there as are some of the community health centres. In South Australia SACOSS is preparing a lobbying kit on the budget measures, including dental health. They are prepared to join any national campaign and are organising a “fax-in” to support the national day of action.

Mandy Leveratt
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