

Darebin Defend & Extend Medicare Group

President: Gary Harper
Email: ddemg@tpg.com.au

Phone: 0415103375

Address: 11 Acacia Ct. Bundoora 3083
Web: <http://users.tpg.com/ads136b9>

Bulletin No.1

October 2003



(Hardworking volunteers Jack, Vera, Karen and Graham helping our cause at the recent Darebin Music Festival)

Dear Friends,

This is an update for all those people who may have attended the first public meeting on June 20th or our earlier meetings in July and have not had a chance to follow up the issue.

Since the meeting that was held on June 20th at the Darebin Town Hall the Darebin group that was formed from that meeting has met eight times (at fortnightly intervals). At least 20 people have been turning up to every meeting at Darebin City Council Chambers, High Street Preston.

Current and future plans;

“Kentucky Fried Medicine” Film and Discussion Night – Watch out for advertising. This documentary demonstrates how things can go horribly wrong when the national health system is allowed to become two tiered.

November 11 rally – As part of the “Fair Go Australia” campaign, we will rally and march with other community groups from Trades Hall on Tuesday 11 November at 10am. The aim of the campaign is to stop Howard’s attacks on **Medicare**, Higher Education and workers entitlements. Don’t let Howard take away your right to live in a decent society with universal health care.

Assisting other electorates

such as Deakin and Jaga Jaga to form groups around the Medicare issue

Contacting Tony Abbott - with letters, faxes, e-mails regarding the proposed changes to Medicare

(Please Turn Over)

To keep you informed:

Contact us at ddemg@tpg.com.au if you wish to be sent information via e-mail.

What the group has achieved so far;

- developed a pamphlet for distribution
- Information sheets translated into the following languages: Arabic, Greek, Italian, Macedonian and Vietnamese
- A web page at <http://users.tpg.com.au/ads136b9/>
- Several media releases
- Ads in the What's On Section of the Preston and Northcote Leader and one media release in Melbourne Times
- An interview published in the Green Left Weekly
- Attended, publicised and assisted in the organisation of the "Defend and Extend Medicare" rally held September 5th at State Library in Swanston Street, Melbourne
- Designed, produced over 500 badges
- To date we have sold over \$200 in badges
- Held stalls at Reservoir, Preston, Fairfield and Northcote in July, August and September distributing material
- Held a stall at Darebin Music Festival on 28/9/03
- Collected 8000 signatures that have been presented to parliament
- Distributed over 3000 pamphlets

If you would like to participate in the following activities please e-mail us at ddemg@tpg.com.au , or **please tick the boxes** and return this bulletin to;

Darebin Defend (and Extend) Medicare,
C-/ 11 Acacia Court
Bundoora 3083.

Activities

Street stalls

Film nights

Rallies

REMEMBER: Our meetings are held fortnightly on Tuesdays at 6.30pm at Darebin City Council Chambers, High Street Preston. All are welcome.

THE CAMPAIGN HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN!

If you want to know about any activities of the group and what we stand for you can go to our website at <http://users.tpg.com.au/ads136b9/> or ring 0415 103375 for a chat.