



Homeopathy urged for GPs

By Belinda Connolly and Emma Ralph

HOMEOPATH Antonietta Natoli wanted to form a working relationship with

Natural approach: Antonietta Natoli. *Picture: Jane Dyson*

doctors but said she was often dismissed as a snake oil pedlar.

The Rockdale-based natural medicine practitioner said she recently approached nine or 10 GPs in the area but was turned away.

Ms Natoli said homeopathy was based on the principle that "like cures like", meaning a substance that caused symptoms when taken in large doses could be used in small amounts to treat those same symptoms.

The idea of a collaborative relationship came after she worked alongside doctors in South America.

"I was buoyed by that experience," Ms Natoli said.

"Many GPs [here] have a narrow view." She said many of her clients visited GPs but told her their

doctors were reluctant to discuss homeopathy.

Ms Natoli said medical practitioners were scathing in their attitude towards complementary medicines throughout history and had sought to disprove them.

"We don't know how lots of things work but we take them for granted and still use them," she said.

She questioned society's need to "pump more drugs in" rather than examine natural medicine options.

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) released a position paper on complementary medicines in 2002. The association found 80 per cent of surveyed GPs had referred patients for a complementary therapy at least a few times a year.

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Leg broken during fight

A MAN was bashed near Wollli Creek on Sunday after he tried to stop a fight on a train. The Carlton man, 36, was returning home from a dinner in the CBD at about 1.30am when he witnessed an assault in his carriage.

A relative of the man, who did not want to be named, said he "intervened to help" and suffered a broken leg for his trouble.

"The trains aren't safe at night," she said. "He's going to be laid up for eight weeks. It's just not fair."

Police said there was an "altercation involving a number of people on the train at the time, which spilled out onto the platform".

St George police are investigating. No one has been charged in relation to the assault.

Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000.

Units approved

ROCKDALE Council approved a four-storey residential development at Stanley Street, Arncliffe, last week, despite objections from residents.

The proposal includes 13 units and a basement car park for 21 vehicles with access via Coronation Lane. Council officers recommended the application be approved after it was deferred last month for a meeting with residents and the owner.

The proposal did not comply with the council's three-storey height limit and there were other minor non-compliances.

Residents objected to the proposal because of concerns about height, overshadowing, parking and privacy.

One objector said the streets were already congested and it was an over-development in a small street.

She said the development would overlook surrounding properties, obstruct sunlight and impact on the character of the street.

The application was approved 11 votes to 3.

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