

Learning Indonesian could save Australian economy

KAHLIA BEICHERT
kbeichert@northernleader.com.au

AUSTRALIA needs to promote the Indonesian language in higher education if it's to maintain its economic future according to a leading language expert.

Murdoch University professor David Hill spoke at a conference at the University of Wollongong last month, discussing the future of the language in universities.

He said Indonesia's growing economy and large population provided an opportunity for Indonesian-speaking Australians.

"With around 400 Australian businesses operating in Indonesia, there is a growing demand for qualified Indonesian-speakers," he said.

"With a population of 250 million there is a demand for skills - this is really important for our future."

He said industries such as mining, business, construction and services were booming in Indonesia.

Prof Hill said it was vital to Australia's economy to strengthen ties with its Asian neighbours - Indonesia's



• **Educator:** Language expert professor, David Hill visited UOW to discuss the importance of speaking Indonesian for the country's economy.

growth rate is twice that of Australia's at six percent.

"There is no doubt our future relies on our ability to work positively with Asia. We will be locked out of prosperity," he said.

Earlier this year he visited 15 universities across Australia to investigate the different Indonesian language courses and in February will host the National Colloquium on the Future of Indonesian Language in Australian Universities in Perth.

The aim is to share ideas

and develop a national strategy for the future of Indonesian language in Australian universities, which will be presented to government and universities.

Prof Hill said scholarships for students, the introduction of Indonesian classes in primary schools and extra support for teachers were just some ideas he would present.

"We're hoping the government will give more support. If Australia can't relate to Indonesia we have a grave problem in the future."

Congratulations & best wishes... Margaret

Wishing Margaret Barrett all the best in her retirement after almost 40 years serving community pharmacy in the Illawarra, including 17 years at the Albion Park Pharmacy! Margaret will be missed by all the loyal customers & friends she has made in pharmacy over those 17 years.

Good luck Marg, you are on of a kind and we will miss you!

from Tim and all your friends & colleagues at Albion Park Pharmacy.

ALBION PARK PHARMACY
167 TONGARRA RD, ALBION PARK • 4256 4610

The Denture CLINIC

You don't have to Go to the Dentist to get your Dentures...

Delivering comfort, confidence and a smile

- All Types Of Dentures
- Implant Retained Dentures
- Professional Sports Mouthguards
- Repairs and Relines
- Finance Available
- No Referral Needed
- Free Consultation

www.TheDentureClinic.com.au **Call us to make an appointment 4257 6006**
SHOP 3 / 66 CENTRAL AVENUE OAK FLATS

Block Out the sun this summer

FREE Cancer Council Sunnies
with every optical purchase!

JANUARY 2011 ONLY

The EyeStore
Shop 25 Warilla Grove, Shellharbour Rd
Tel: 02 4296 4449

*Terms and conditions apply. See in store for details

ILLAWARRA AUTO SPARES

'QUALITY PARTS AT DISCOUNT PRICES!'

OPEN 7 DAYS

PHONE: 4256 3182 189 PRINCES HIGHWAY, ALBION PARK RAIL

DENTAL IMAGING **X-RAY**
CT SCANNING **ULTRASOUND**

Warilla Diagnostic Imaging is now open and serving the local Illawarra community.

- Bulk Billing* for your convenience
- Same day appointments
- Open 6 days
- Independently owned and run
- All referrals welcome

For appointments call:
4297 4449

*where medicare applicable

WARILLA DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
Sat 10am-1pm
Sun Closed

• 103 Shellharbour Rd Warilla NSW 2528
• Warrawong Accident Medical Centre Westfield Warrawong