

# Eye surgeon sees need for service in Ipswich

ANDREW KORNER  
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AN experienced eye surgeon has moved to Ipswich to fill the void left by two retiring ophthalmologists.

Dr Andrew Apel said he wanted to ensure people requiring eye operations would not have to travel to Brisbane.

After only three months in his new surroundings, Dr Apel has already tended to dozens of patients.

"We are attracting people from the Toowoomba foothills, down to Beaudesert, Kilcoy, Esk and Toogoolawah, even the western suburbs of Brisbane," Dr Apel said.

"You find people don't want to go to Brisbane. People from Kalbar and Boonah in particular don't want to go past Ipswich."

Dr Apel did all his training in Brisbane, before going to University of Toronto, Canada, to focus on his specialty training between 1992 and 1994.

He had a practice in Bundaberg for many years and also worked in Brisbane, where he ran a practice in Spring Hill and a regular appointment at the Princess Alexandra Hospital where he does corneal transplants.

He anticipates being in Ipswich for the long haul.

"There's an increase in demand for the services that I offer, which I think in the past



**SEEING IS BELIEVING:** Andrew Apel brings a new specialised skill in eye surgery to Ipswich. Photo: Damian Dunlop SE0909GK

haven't been available," he said.

"My expertise is a little different in that it is specifically in surgery to the front half of the eye.

"My specialty training is in

cataract surgery - I was one of the first doctors to put in the special lenses to treat stigmatism associated with cataracts."

Dr Apel's practice is in Gordon Street, Ipswich.

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## Multicultural Assistance Program Grants 2009-10

Multicultural Assistance Program Grants 2009-10 are now open. The Department of Communities through Multicultural Affairs Queensland has \$700 000 available to support community and local government organisations to progress multiculturalism in Queensland.

Funding is available for community events and projects that promote positive community relations and support multiculturalism.

Information packages including funding guidelines and application forms are available from [www.multicultural.qld.gov.au](http://www.multicultural.qld.gov.au) or by phoning Multicultural Affairs Queensland on 13 13 04.

Applications must be lodged by **4pm on Friday 6 November 2009.**

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## WIN a double pass to see MAO'S LAST DANCER at Reading Cinemas Redbank

From internationally acclaimed Australian film director Bruce Beresford comes the inspirational true story of a small boy's extraordinary journey from poverty to international stardom. From a gruelling apprenticeship as a classical dancer in communist China, to the glory of creative freedom in America. But, there is a painful price to be paid for his quest for self expression. Mao's Last Dancer captures the intoxicating effects of first love and celebrity, the pain of exile, and ultimately the triumph of individual endeavour over ideology. Filmed in China, the US and Australia and with a brilliant performance from Chi Cao as Li Cunxin, Mao's Last Dancer is an exhilarating exploration of what it means to be free.

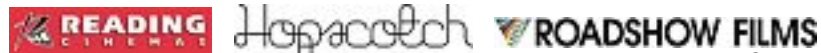
Thanks to our friends at Reading Cinemas Redbank, the QT have 100 double passes to be won to their preview screening of MAO'S LAST DANCER on Wednesday September 30 at 7.00pm

To go into the draw simply complete your details and send to:

MAO'S LAST DANCER COMPETITION, 260 Brisbane Street, West Ipswich QLD 4305 or drop into the entry box in QT reception.

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[www.readingcinemas.com.au](http://www.readingcinemas.com.au) [www.maoslastdancermovie.com](http://www.maoslastdancermovie.com)

Close and draw will be 12pm Friday September 25, 2009. Winners will be published in the QT public notices Saturday September 26 & Monday September 28, 2009. All passes must be collected by 4pm Wednesday September 30, 2009 or they become the property of the QT.

