

**Account Login**

Username:  
 Password:  
  
 Create an account Why register?  
 My Links:



# Otago Daily Times

Online Edition | Tuesday, 17 February 2009 | 12:53:47

**ODT**/directory

- News
- Sport
- Entertainment
- Lifestyle
- On Campus
- Opinion
- Your Town
- Jobs
- Drivesouth

Search odt.co.nz ...

## Queen's High pupils join push to stub out tobacco displays in shops

Home » Your Town » Dunedin  
 By Brenda Harwood on Fri, 13 Feb 2009  
 Your Town: Dunedin

The Queen's High School health committee has pledged its support for a Cancer Society campaign to lobby Members of Parliament and Health Minister Tony Ryall on the issue of tobacco displays in shops.

This week, representatives of the group signed a Cancer Society banner calling for tobacco products to be placed "Out of Sight - Out of Mind" to protect children from tobacco marketing.

"We put in a lot of effort last year to raise MPs' awareness of the issue, collecting signatures and sending in postcards, so it would be great for the ban to be imposed," committee member Emma Taylor (17) said.

"Why should something that is so harmful be allowed to be on display in shops, where anyone can see it?" she asked.

The Cancer Society in Otago has put out a call for Dunedin people to put pen to paper and lobby MPs as part of a nationwide campaign to ban tobacco displays in shops.

"It is a matter of some urgency that we keep this issue in front of MPs now," Cancer Society Otago health promotion co-ordinator Penelope Scott said.

Late last year, after an intensive public campaign, the Labour-dominated Health Select Committee recommended a total ban on tobacco displays. However, the national members of the committee opposed the ban, putting forth the "minority view" that there was a need for "more international evidence that banning tobacco displays would bring about a significant decrease in smoking".

Now that National is in government, the Cancer Society is concerned that the original recommendation could be overturned.

Cabinet is due to discuss the recommendation on about February 24, and the deadline for the government's response is March 4.

"A ban is about safeguarding our children's future and removing visual cues for those trying to quit smoking," Mrs Scott said.

"We need to prevent children from being influenced to start smoking by seeing tobacco products nestled benignly between the bread and milk."

Contacted by The Star, a spokesman for Health Minister Tony Ryall said the minister was considering the issue before taking his recommendation to Cabinet later this month.

• Concerned Dunedin people can contribute to the campaign by filling in the The Out of Sight - Out of Mind "postcard", published on page 6 of this issue of The Star and then posting it to parliament.



CLICK PHOTO TO ENLARGE  
 Keep it out of sight: Queen's High School Health Committee members (from left) Rebecca Webb (17), Emma Taylor (17) and Liana Wheeler-Gibbons (16) add their signatures to a banner urging the government to keep tobacco displays "Out of Sight, Out of Mind" as part of a Cancer Society push to lobby the government.

### THE STAR

Read *The Star* for comprehensive local news and events as well as the latest local advertising deals.



### DUNEDIN PHOTOS

#### YOUR NEWS DUNEDIN

#### LATEST THE REGIONS

- Police name Invercargill teen killed in crash
- Clutha mill staff sent home as timber demand falls
- Fonterra expansion levy provides \$226,000 boost
- Meridian's wind farm site analysis 'woeful'
- Polarised views on project summarised
- Waitaki mayor leads bike challenge
- Doc 'got Project Hayes hush-money'
- NZ Windfarms to ponder project's fate

[more regions >>](#)

# The Star

Proudly supporting Your Town Dunedin

For all your essential local news, visit the [thestar.co.nz](http://thestar.co.nz)  
 Advertise in **The Star** to 43,500 homes weekly  
 Phone: +64 3 479 3560  
 Fax: +64 3 474 7426  
 Email: [star@alliedpress.co.nz](mailto:star@alliedpress.co.nz)

**Bonus Hair Cut at Aart on London**

1/2 Price Pilates

**Current Ltd deals**

Bonus Car Groom worth \$50

Away with the Fairies Tee

\$1 Scuba Dive experience

[www.ltd.co.nz](http://www.ltd.co.nz)

**ODT**/directory



**Drivesouth** News • Reviews • Cars for Sale

- 20 Big broad beamer impresses
  - 20 Audi's new entry is a capable addition
  - 20 Holden Sportwagon focuses on popular lifestyle market
  - 20 Toyota: Large Aurion packs punch but lacks style
- [more](#)

