

# Moranbah Dental



## Welcome to the first Newsletter from Moranbah Dental



**Dr Murray Ploetz**  
Founding Dentist

It seems quite some time ago since I arrived in October to set up the surgery and people started knocking on the door for treatment while we were still unpacking! We were able to treat them but we had no phone computer or Eftpos system, however they all seemed very thankful and understanding.

When I first arrived I was living in the Coalfields Caravan Park which was certainly an adventure, after a week or so I was able to find a house in Leichhardt Drive just in time for when

my wife arrived (relief all round!). We have also just recently bought a house in town which is very exciting. We are now officially permanent residents. I am hoping to become a local soon but I can't find anyone who can tell me how long that takes!

Kim Dodds is the newest member of our fantastic team and is available to see patients it would seem that not a lot of people quite are aware that she is back, dentists are like hair dressers, it takes a while to feel comfortable with them then you don't want to change.

## So a Little About Me...

I am originally from Brisbane but more recently I have worked in Biloela before I came up this way to Moranbah. I really enjoy my job, it's so rewarding especially when the patient leaves happy. I particularly enjoy cosmetic dentistry and have completed several courses with the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry. Everyone always asks me 'Why did you move to Moranbah?' Well there are lots of reasons. Mainly that although I loved living in the city it was very hectic and fast paced. I fancied a change of scene and a more relaxing way of life so a move away from the city was on the cards. I spent a lot of time trying to find a nice town to move to one where everyone was friendly and with a good sense of community. I visited Moranbah in 1988 when I came to visit my friend Kerry

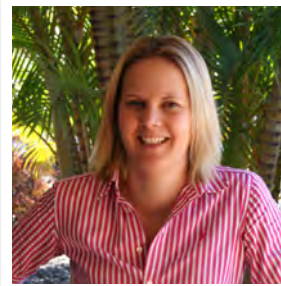
Milne and his wife Lorraine he was the local dentist at the time. Some of you may even remember him? It was very different back then a much smaller town than now. I revisited Moranbah in early 2012 and was shocked to see that there was no dentist in town. So I wanted to get out of the city and Moranbah had no dentist seemed like 2 very good reasons to look into moving here. I wanted a town with a good community spirit (something you rarely get in cities) and Moranbah did not fail in that everyone was so friendly and nothing was too much trouble. The Dawn Service on Anzac Day only confirmed my beliefs further. My business partner David Cox has dental practices in Biloela and a larger practice in Milton, Brisbane. Through his contacts we have been able to bring to Moranbah specialist services not available in the rural Coalfields area before.

## Introducing the Team



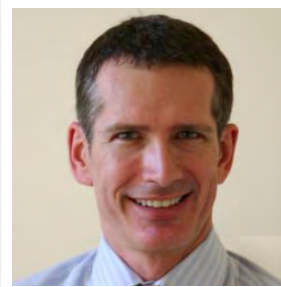
### Dr Kim Dodds

Kim Dodds is the newest member of our fantastic team and is available to see patients. It would seem that not a lot of people quite are aware that she is back. Kim has lived and practiced in town for over 9 years and has a keen interest in oral surgery. Dentists are like hair dressers, it takes a while to feel comfortable with them then you don't want to change.



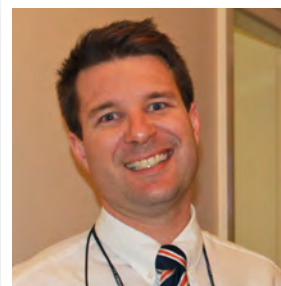
### Anna Willis

Anna Willis is our dental therapist who mainly deals with kids and adolescents for all their dental treatment. Anna is also a Hygienist who can do scales and cleans for adults as well. She is very thorough, great with kids and has visited the local primary schools to talk about oral health and hygiene with the children. She is also our best kept secret as Anna is trained and uses the laser – a painless drill without a need for needles too! More information can be found on our website or just call our friendly team to find out more.



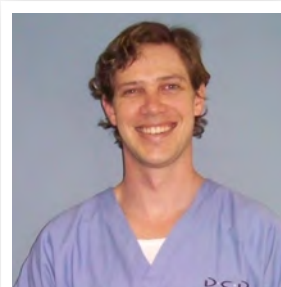
### Dr Michael Whyte

We have Dr Michael Whyte who is a fully accredited orthodontist (the only in town) of considerable experience and a genuinely nice guy as well. His prices are very competitive and as a registered orthodontist he attracts higher rebates for people in health funds.



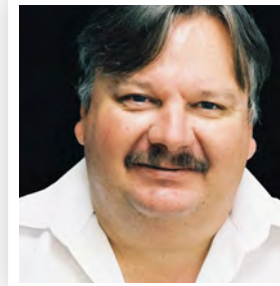
### Dr Chris Barker

We also have a Coalfield's first with Chris Barker who started with us in May, he is currently completing his doctorate training in Periodontics. He deals with gum problems such as advanced gum disease, periodontitis and implants to replace missing teeth.



### Dr Andrew Thomson

Andrew Thomson has also started visiting, he is our Endodontist and specialises in complex root canals therapy. He graduated with honours from the University of Queensland in 2000. Working in both government and private general practice he then returned to full time study and was awarded his Doctorate in Clinical Dentistry in Endodontics from the University of Queensland in 2008. Andrew currently divides his time between working in specialist private practice at Endodontics and teaching at the University of Queensland's School of Dentistry where he is the Discipline Lead and Senior Lecturer of Endodontics. Andrew is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons and a Fellow of the International College of Dentists. Until his visit we used to have to refer to Mackay or Brisbane.



### Vesa Leinonen

Last but by no means least, we are happy to introduce Vesa Leinonen who our Prosthodontist (repairs and makes dentures and mini implants). Vesa has now been up a few visits and has so far helped several people get their smile back. Vesa is very up to date with the latest injection moulding and Kevlar techniques along with implant fixation of denture and brings a field of experience to our team and comfort to our patients. Vesa is also the 1st registered BPS (Biofunctional Prosthetic system) Prosthetist in Queensland!



### Coming Soon

We will have an oral surgeon to visit and who will be able to offer twilight sedation for wisdom teeth and for anyone who is just too phobic for normal treatment. When I was in Brisbane I used to get people flying down from this region to see me as their oral surgeon had an 8 month wait. Now people come up from Brisbane to see us at the practice and I hope to see a time where people from surrounding towns and Mackay will also be able to come to Moranbah for specialist treatment.

## Enough about people, what about the toys!

We have brought in some significant equipment including the new laser drill (mentioned earlier with Anna) which can be used in certain situations, particularly with new decay on children as a painless drill to remove the decay. Affectionately called Larry- yes we put a face on him.

We also have another laser for used on soft tissue and gums. This is used to enhance your smile by giving you a better gum line and is a much more effective system than the older ways of doing this.

3 LT Smart bleach, a system which promises to be 25 %brighter and whiter than any other system and all results reached in 1 single visit. All bar non of our patients so far that have had this treatment have been over the moon with the results.

We have even found a way to make root canals more pleasurable with the Tri-auto Endodontic system that makes root canals faster and more pleasant.





RECOMMEND A FRIEND  
TO MORANBAH DENTAL

& RECEIVE  
**\$15** OFF YOUR  
NEXT  
APPOINTMENT  
• Multiple referrals accepted



How do  
you make  
dentistry  
pain free?

I'm glad you asked that question! It's long been a subject of great interest to me ever since I found myself on the wrong end of lengthy dental procedures following a largely unsuccessful attempt to ride go karts in my youth!

**1)** We use quite a strong numbing paste prior to injection it is 20% Benzocaine as opposed to the 2% mostly used. I get this paste in specially and its great for kids and adults. We have a bubble-gum one especially for children and various flavours for the adults including a Pina Colada. My daughter had a wobbly tooth once and I left this numbing paste on for a short while until the area went numb and the tooth just wiggled out it is that good. However we usually just use it to numb the area before an injection to insure as little pain as possible.

**2)** We also have a laser affectionately called Larry. The laser is largely used for pain free fillings. When we use it we will hold it on the tooth and a low frequency laser pulse removed the decay in the tooth. This process is a little longer than the standard drill and injection way but if your phobic it may be just up your street.

**3)** It would seem like common sense to use as fine a needle as possible to make all injections less painful. It is also a common misconception that all doctors use the same size needle. However if you where to take one of our and compare it to a doctors you would be shocked. Ours are super fine in comparison which results in a more tolerable experience.

**4)** Inject slowly. We have a machine called The Wand which is a slow injection machine. Due to the speed of the injection there is less of the feel of pressure which is what most people don't like when having injections. It looks less like the traditional syringe and more like a wand so can be less scary for children and so far we have had some good results however a normal injection done slowly will have the same effect.

**5)** Happy Gas. This is suitable for children and anxious patients and whilst the patient remains conscious of what is going on they become more relaxed and have a diminished perception. People in this state tend to have a more enjoyable experience.

**6)** Twilight sedation is similar to general anaesthetic as the patient is not aware of the procedure. This is especially effective for either patients with chronic phobias or for those people who need extensive procedures. These include full surgical removal of multiple wisdom teeth.

**Moranbah Dental**



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