

Family

Experience new-age nirvana

Set to make his debut at the festival, Brisbane naturopath Peter Webb says he will be one of the more conservative ex-

hibitors, speaking on chronic fatigue syndrome.

Formerly a psychologist, Mr Webb, 39, says a personal experience sparked his interest in natural or alternative therapy 15 years ago.

"My wife was very sick — she had an infection in her fallopian tubes and she was getting sicker and sicker on antibiotics," he said.

"I took her to a naturopath and I was fascinated to watch him stick acupuncture needles into her belly. She's now fine and we have four children to prove it."

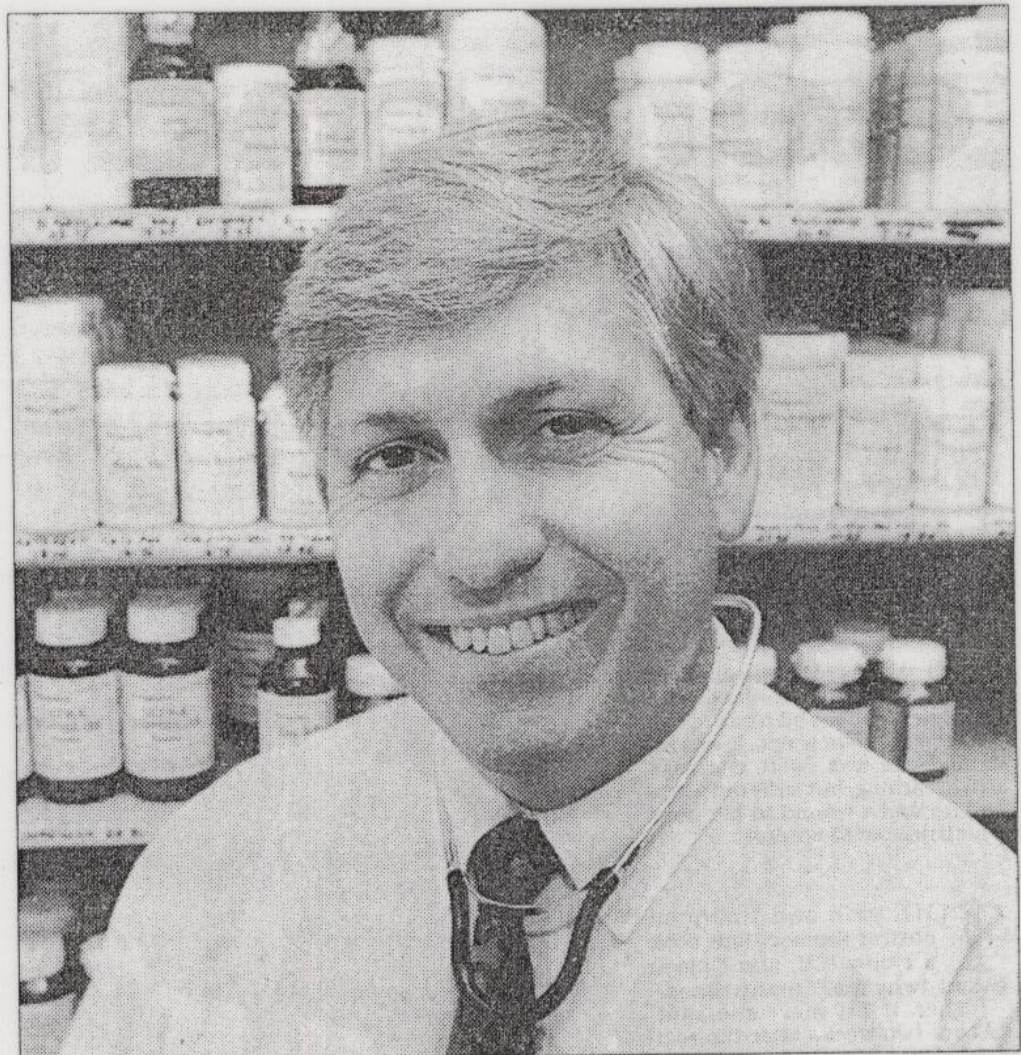
Running a private practice, Brisbane Livewell Clinic, at Clayfield, Mr Webb says he became involved in the treatment of chronic fatigue syndrome after realising so many of his patients were suffering the disease — wrongly referred to as "yuppie flu".

He says CFS is a clear example of an area in which conventional medicine failed.

It could not be determined by a single diagnosis, nor cured with a single treatment.

Mr Webb says the victim appears to look normal but "can barely get out of bed". Symptoms included depression, disturbed sleep, excessive irritability, confusion, an inability to concentrate, forgetfulness, chills or mild fever, sore throat, painful or swollen lymph glands, unexplained general muscle weakness, or fatigue 24 hours after previously tolerable exercise.

He will speak at the festival on Saturday at 11am.



NATUROPATH Peter Webb ... believes there is no single diagnosis or treatment for chronic fatigue syndrome.