



## Clinic talk of the town

Speech pathologist Ruth Glanville has started her own speech pathology practice after receiving government funding.

Miss Glanville applied for a grant from the Department of Health and Ageing's national rural and remote health infrastructure program in September last year, and had her application approved in April.

The program helps fund health care and medical facilities in rural areas.

The grant of around \$18,000 is for equipment and resources that are unique to speech pathology.

The private practice will be part of N8 Health in Nish St, and will be open to anyone in the community.

Miss Glanville, who has worked at Echuca Regional Health for eight years, said there was a need for the service in the town.

"It's exciting to be able to provide this service for the community and increase choices and accessibility," she said.

Miss Glanville will continue to work part time at Echuca Regional Health as well as at the new practice.

Speech pathology deals with a range of different communication disabilities, at all stages of life.

Miss Glanville said more than 2.5 million Australians, or about one in seven, had a communication disability.

Some of the health issues that speech pathologists work with are speech delays, hearing impairments, stuttering and with people who have acquired a brain injury.

Miss Glanville said she had thought about opening her own practice for some years, and the funding had allowed her to do so.

"It's an incredibly rewarding profession because you get to make a positive difference in people's lives."

"It can be really isolating when you're not able to communicate as effectively as you'd like to," Miss Glanville said.



**Thrilled:** a grant has helped speech pathologist Ruth Glanville start her own practice.