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From the director

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2024!

I have had a busy start in my new role and I am enjoying travelling this beautiful State, meeting our Registrars and the wonderful teams in which they work. I've been to Dover in the south, Queenstown in the West and as far as Wynyard in the North West. Next on the agenda is the East Coast and then visiting locations in the North.

The Single Employer Model (SEM) trial continues to expand with 12 Registrars joining this year (there were 5 in the initial round). Applications will open in April/May for the second Registrar intake of the year.

In conjunction with the Rural Doctors Association of Tasmania (RDAT), we have been doing a lot of work on the Tasmanian Rural Health Conference. Based on feedback from previous conferences, we have adapted the content and believe there is enough diversity that it will appeal to everyone, from medical students to seasoned rural practitioners. Please join us in Devonport on 25 and 26 May and also consider booking into our pre and post conference workshops. Business for Doctors will be hosting a pre-conference workshop on Friday 24 May with a full



day MBS education session for GP's, and ACRRM are bringing their Advanced Life Support (ALS2) course to the North West on Monday 27 May.

I am still on a steep learning curve and would like to thank all the team for their support, particularly Dr Allison Turnock, Ashley Galvin and Maddi Fordham. I also need to acknowledge my predecessor Prof Lizzi Shires for the excellent work she has done and the wonderful handover she has provided, not to mention her ongoing support.

TRCH24 tickets on sale now!

TASMANIAN RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE 2024

RURAL DOCTORS ASSOCIATION TASMANIA

TASMANIAN RURAL GENERALIST PATHWAY

Looking Forward

25-26 MAY 2024 PARANAPLE CENTRE DEVONPORT

REGISTER NOW!

Join us again in 2024

for the Tasmanian Rural Health Conference, with leading national and local speakers for a program for Rural GP's and Rural Generalists

- Full CPD program for GP's with topical updates, practical workshops and case-based discussions
- Includes rural workshops on artificial intelligence in health, women's health & paediatrics, emergency management and dermatology
- Sessions for trainees, registrars, and supervisors
- Children's and partner's programs

Book your tickets [here](#) today or scan the QR code

Pre-Conference Workshop
Friday 24 May 2024
Business for Doctors
Full day MBS Workshop
paranaple centre, Devonport
Tickets on sale soon

Post-Conference Workshop
Monday 27 May 2024
Advanced Life Support Level 2 (ALS2)
Devonport
Book directly via the [ACRRM website](#)

Nominations for RDAT Awards now open!

Do you know a Tasmanian Rural Doctor, Doctor in Training or Medical Student who has demonstrated an outstanding interest in, and commitment to, rural Practice in Tasmania? Nominate them now for RDAT 2024 Awards!



There are 3 categories

- Rural Doctor of the Year
- Rural Doctor in Training of Year
- Rural Student of Year

The successful recipient will be officially announced at the Tasmanian Rural Health Conference in May 2024. The award winner's registration costs for the conference will be paid by RDAT. Please email office@rdaa.com.au or Aaron Hawkins directly at aa.m.hawkins@gmail.com for more information on the selection criteria and to submit your nomination. Please note the nominations close on Monday 8th of April.

Single Employer Model Update

The start of 2024 saw twelve new registrars join the SEM pilot, along with four registrars signing contract renewals to continue employment under SEM. Across the state we now employ three registrars in the North West, six in the North and six in the South.

We congratulate Dr Sooriya on completing his fellowship in 2023, while employed under SEM, and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavours.

Unfortunately, capital Infrastructure grants have been delayed due to the election period. We will provide more information as soon as we can.

AGPT Applications now open

Express your interest to train on the RACGP Australian General Practice Training Program. Applications close on 15 April.

RACGP will deliver AGPT hospital information sessions at the Royal Hobart Hospital and North West Regional Hospital during March.

North West Regional Hospital - 14 March at 1pm

Royal Hobart Hospital - 25 March at 1pm

[More information on the RACGP website](#)

Primary Health Events Calendar

Keep up to date with events happening near you with Primary Health Tasmania's new events calendar! These calendars will be in addition to direct invites and listings on the [PHT website](#).

[March 2024 events calendar](#)

RACGP Launceston member meet-up

Member meet-up

Date: Friday 22 March 2024

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Venue: The Star Bar Café and Hotel, 113 Charles Street, Launceston TAS
7250

Cost: Free

RACGP members please [register here](#), non-members please email rural@racgp.org.au

Join us for drinks, nibbles and networking. We'll share some of the RACGP's key achievements and provide an update for Tasmania members and stakeholders.

This event is open to RACGP members, practice staff, medical students, and rural health stakeholders.



Rural Health in Australia snapshot 2023

The Alliance's Rural Health in Australia Snapshot 2023 was released in December, providing health data and statistics from a wide range of sources in one document. It covers a wide range of information including health risk factors, health service funding and workforce distribution in rural, regional and remote areas across the country.

[Download the 2023 Snapshot from the National Rural Health Alliance website](#)

Rural Procedural Grants

The Rural Procedural Grants Program (RPGP) is a Department of Health program administered by the RACGP. It gives financial assistance to GPs who provide procedural, and/or emergency medicine services in unsupervised settings in rural and remote areas MMM3-7.

[Find out more on the RACGP website](#)

DRS4DRS

DRS4DRS is a national initiative designed to provide free and confidential medical assistance to doctors, medical students, and their families across Australia. At its core, this service offers a 24/7 call line (1300 374 377) staffed by experienced volunteer senior GPs and physicians who provide compassionate support on all health-related concerns.

DRS4DRS is actively working to change perceptions around seeking help and promoting the acknowledgement of doctors' humanity.

The service is a firm reminder that seeking assistance is an important step towards improved patient care for us. Through comprehensive training opportunities and the availability of on-call professionals, DRS4DRS aims to create a supportive environment for doctors.

DRS4DRS

TASMANIA

Doctors and medical students in
Tasmania, when you need medical
help, we are here 24/7

Call 1300 374 377



[More information on the DRS4DRS website](#)

Training Opportunities

Introduction to point-of-care ultrasound for rural GPs

Date: Saturday 23 March 2024

Time: 8.30am – 4.30pm

Venue: Launceston Clinical School, UTAS, Launceston General Hospital, 41 Charles Street, Launceston TAS 7250

Cost: \$995 for RACGP members, \$1,295 for non-members

About the course:

This full-day workshop will help increase your understanding of the applications of point-of-care ultrasound in the diagnostic process. Experts will guide you through the diverse applications of point-of-care ultrasound in rural primary care. You will be introduced to basic techniques using advanced, high-end mobile ultrasound equipment provided by our sponsor GE Healthcare.

The workshop is capped at 30 participants to allow increased hands-on experience. Participants will rotate through six ultrasound skills stations:

- eFast
- deep venous thrombosis
- heart and lung ultrasound
- intravenous line placement and foreign object retrieval
- musculoskeletal soft tissue
- first trimester transabdominal obstetric ultrasound.

CPD and grants

This workshop is an RACGP CPD Accredited Activity eligible for 10 CPD hours (5 hours Education Activity and 5 hours Reviewing Performance) and is approved for all categories of the [Rural Procedural Grants Program](#).

RACGP members please [register here](#), non-members please email rural@racgp.org.au

ACRRM Rural Emergency Obstetrics Training

Launceston, 20 April 2024

The Rural Emergency Obstetric Training (REOT) course aims to provide non-obstetric healthcare practitioners with knowledge and skills to manage normal labour and other less common obstetric emergencies that may occur in a rural practice.

Rural Emergency Obstetrics Training (REOT) is a one-day workshop designed to equip non-obstetric practitioners with vital emergency obstetric skills.

Online learning hours: 9.00
Contact hours: 7.00
Total hours: 16.00

Total hours includes:

Skills assessment hours: 6.00

Pre activity

Pre reading of REOT manual and MCQ.

Post activity

Course evaluation survey and workshop reflective scenarios.

Learning objective

- Normal vaginal delivery
- Shoulder dystocia
- Neonatal resuscitation
- Cervical assessment
- Post-partum haemorrhage
- Precipitate birth
- Cord prolapse

Assessment info

- Pre course Multiple Choice Quiz
- Attendance of full workshop
- Post course evaluation survey

[Register on the ACRRM website](#)