

National Rural Health Alliance E-forum - 2 March 2001

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6TH NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

The ten days from 1-9 March will see an unprecedented number of national activities in Canberra related to the health and wellbeing of people living in rural and remote areas. The 6th National Rural Health Conference (4-7 March) is the centrepiece of a number of other important activities, including:

- ? 1-3 March: the National Rural Health Network (of undergraduate medical and health clubs).
- ? Friday 2 March: the Board of the Council of Remote Area Nurses of Australia (CRANA).
- ? 2-4 March, Rydges Canberra: "The Face of Rural Nursing", National Conference of the Association for Australian Rural Nurses (AARN). Contact RCNA, (02) 6283 3423 or conf@rcna.org.au
- ? 3-4 March, University House: Annual Conference of the Remote and Isolated Pharmacists' Association. Contact: Carmel Brophy, (02) 6285 4660.
- ? Sunday 4 March, 9.00-4.00: "2nd NACCHO/NRHA Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Showcase", at the NCC. Contact: NACCHO on (02) 6282 7513 or lee-anne@naccho.org.au
- ? Sunday 4 March, 2.30-4.30: "Remote Health Service Managers - Networking and Discussion Group". Contact: John Wilson, (08) 8954 9041 (or c/o the NRHA).
- ? 4-7 March, National Convention Centre: 6th National Rural Health Conference. Commencing at 4.30pm on Sunday 4 March. Contact: conference@ruralhealth.org.au or (02) 6285 4660 or see the full program at www.ruralhealth.org.au/sixthconf/
- ? 8 March is International Women's Day. Celebrations will include RIRDC's Rural Women's Award. (Note: RIRDC, the Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation, is a sponsor of the 6th Conference.)
- ? 8-9 March, National Convention Centre: "Cancer in the Bush - Optimising Clinical Services". Contact: Lawrie Wright, Australian Cancer Society, (02) 9380 9022 or lawrie.wright@cancer.org.au
- ? Thursday 8 March, University House: "Rural Health and Aged Care Seminar" (Multipurpose Services, Regional Health Services, the Aged Care Rural Review). Contact: Office of Rural Health (02) 6289 8032 or ruralhealth@health.gov.au

? Thursday 8 March: a Chronic Disease Alliance workshop. Contact:
nerida@naccho.org.au

During the week there will also be meetings of the Editorial Board of the Australian Journal of Rural Health, of the Directors of the University Departments of Rural Health, and of a number of other national organisations involved in rural and/or remote health.

"It's as if there is a de facto `National Rural Health Week', rather like the successful one at the State level in Victoria", according to Gordon Gregory, Executive Director of the NRHA.
"This level of national activity will help to ensure health gains for people who live and work in rural and remote Australia - both immediately and in the longer term."

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WINNERS OF DES MURRAY SCHOLARSHIP

The winners of the inaugural Des Murray Scholarship have been announced. They are Hayley Gilbert from St Marys in Tasmania, and Ian Harvey from Broken Hill in Western NSW. The Text of the Alliance statement announcing the winners is at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au/25201.htm> and reprinted below.

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NEWS ON THE JOHN FLYNN SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

There is a piece on the JFSS page <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au/jfssnews.htm> with some of the recent feedback on the Scheme. Some of the quotations were collected by the National Rural Health Network (NRHN) and sent with an accompanying letter to Minister Dr Michael Wooldridge in December 2000. The National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) JFSS Project Team has received additional comments which have also been included.

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From: Kathey Meleady <alliedschol@doh.health.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: NSW Rural Allied Health Scholarship and Grants Program

As part of its ongoing commitment to maintain and improve the health status of rural communities, NSW Health Department continues to support the Rural Allied Health Scholarship and Grants Program.

I am pleased to advise that applications are now open for 2001 Rural Allied Health Scholarships and 2001 Rural Allied Health Clinical Placement Grants.

Students are able to obtain Application Forms and Guidelines by:

- * Emailing alliedschol@doh.health.nsw.gov.au
- * Downloading from www.health.nsw.gov.au/policy/ssdb/rural/allied_health
- * Calling (02) 9391 9363

Kathy Meleady
Director

Statewide Services Development Branch

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From: Nick Stone <n.stone@unimelb.edu.au>
Subject: Interprofessional project

The University of Melbourne is seeking suitable student preceptors and placement sites that include at least one community nurse practitioner and a local GP who exemplify active interprofessional collaboration in primary health care. We are managing a project funded by the Department of Human Services (Victoria) involving a consortium of eight university departments who are committed to developing, for the first time, interprofessional undergraduate education for nursing, medical and allied health students.

2001 will involve two-week placements between May and October in rural primary health care services such as a general practices, community health agencies, Healthstreams, Bush Nursing and Multipurpose Services. There will be eight students in each of four regions across the state. Third and fourth year volunteer students will be selected and placed in mixed pairs (one nursing and one medical) and involved in patient consultations, information gathering, case conferences, observation and a community-based project. Preceptorship will be shared by health professionals from each field. Each pair of preceptors will be paid an honorarium of \$500 for supervising each pair of students. In future years the program is likely to extend to allied health students and urban primary health care settings.

If you are interested in participating, or would like more information, please contact:

Nick Stone
Project Manager & Research Fellow
Department of General Practice
University of Melbourne VIC 3010
(200 Berkeley St, Carlton)
phone: 8344 5934 email: n.stone@unimelb.edu.au fax: 9347 6136

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From: Bernard Denner <man@mannot.com.au>
Subject: Canada and Mannot..... Australian Men's Health goes International

Bernard Denner and the Team at CAMH is proud to announce that the Man Model of Health Promotion is to be Developed and Adopted by a Regional Health Service in British Columbia Canada in May 01.

The Health Service wants to develop our Program to meet the needs of their communities for the issues associated with men and adolescents. Their Regional and Rural Health statistics around men and adolescents is similar to Regional Australia.

Our GP and Practitioner Program along with our "Lifeskills Program for Adolescents"

will be conducted. We may also get the chance to present our popular "Understanding Men" session for women and talk to local Aboriginal groups.

The Man Model of Health Promotion Program has been developed over 6 years commencing in Central Victoria and now being practiced across five States and Territories addressing issues of men's health. The process of the Man Model will now provide some answers for men, adolescents and women in Canada.

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Internet Pharmacies a Worry

(Reprinted from Computachem E-Newsletter, Edition #21, March 2001. The full article and subscription information is available at <http://www.computachem.com.au>)

How many clients have been telling you their prescription drugs are cheaper through the Internet? Hardly a day goes by now that this is not said to staff in a pharmacy in remote Australia. The prices being quoted do just cover cost, and that is cost, rock bottom cost price, like \$3 for Deralin 40.

Our guest columnist discusses this probably unintended problem that one sector of our profession is inflicting on the other. With the rural and isolated pharmacy communities already bleeding severely, what can be done to ensure that viability is sustained in the "bush" without hindering the right of any competitor to engage in freedom of trade and to develop new forms of business.

Would subscribers to the newsletter please help by contributing some ideas? Suggestions should be kept to 100 words in content, and all suggestions will be printed.

For more on this story, go to <http://www.computachem.com.au/enewsletter/ed21.html>.

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From: Judy Harrison <judyharrison@nwjc.org.au>
Subject: Through Our Eyes Bulletin 2: 1 March 2001

Read Bulletin 2 on the web <http://www.nwjc.org.au/avcwl/lists/public/through-our-eyes/maillist.html> or join the Through-Our-Eyes list to receive the next bulletin direct <http://www.nwjc.org.au/avcwl/lists/info/through-our-eyes.html>

Through-our-eyes is a fortnightly public news bulletin to promote information exchange and policy input about the legal needs of women in regional, rural and remote Australia. Deadline for contributions to Bulletin 3 is: 9 MARCH 2001. Project web site: <http://www.nwjc.org.au/rrr/>

WHAT'S IN BULLETIN 2: 1 MARCH 2001

1. NEWS

- ~ 1.1 More news about the Law by Telecommunications Proposal
- ~ 1.2 Behind the Farm Gate - new research on domestic violence in farming families.
- ~ 1.3 Who Speaks, Who Listens, Who Acts?
- ~ 1.4 Child focus lost in Family Law Act reforms ?

- ~ 1.5 New laws on carer discrimination in NSW
- ~ 1.6 New Women's Legal Outreach Service in Geraldton WA
- ~ 1.7 Do you have a problem with your child support (NSW)?
- ~ 1.8 Nominations open for child abuse prevention awards

2 *REGULAR FEATURES*

~ 2.1 Resources

- Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC), NSW -
- Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation booklets -
- National Association of Community Legal Centres Inc Newsletter -

~ 2.2 Training

- Leadership scholarships for indigenous women - more information

~ 2.3 Grants

- Jessie Street Trust Grant Applications 2001
- Networking the Nation
- Grants Booklet - OSW Tasmania

~ 2.4 Employment opportunities

- Bunbury Community Legal Centre - Solicitor
- Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre - Coordinator DV Court Assistance Scheme

~ 2.5 Upcoming events

- WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH - MARCH 2001 -
- INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY -
- OTHER IWD EVENTS IN RRR AREAS:

3 *END BITS*

Kaz Eaton,
 RRR Project Officer
 PO Box 107 Brompton SA 5007
 Ph: (08) 8346 2056 Fax: (08) 8346 1052
 email: kaz.eaton@nwjc.org.au

The through-our-eyes bulletin is part of the Through-Our-Eyes Follow On Project which is funded under the National Women's Non-Government Organisations Funding Programme, by the Office of the Status of Women, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The contents of the bulletin should not be taken to be endorsed by or reflect the views of Government.

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CONTRIBUTION AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER

The NRHA e-forum is a forum for the expression of YOUR views. Contributions are sought on any topic relevant to rural health concerns. Please send contributions to the moderator, Jim Groves, at grovesc@winshop.com.au.

The NRHA e-forum is edited by a third party moderator, Jim Groves. As such, the Alliance does not control postings and the contents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alliance. Nor do postings necessarily reflect the view of Jim Groves or any organisation he is associated with. Jim Groves can be contacted at grovesc@winshop.com.au.

The e-forum is sent to a mailing list of the Alliance and those have indicated interest through the subscription box at the NRHA Web site (<http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>). This issue is going to 866 recipients. Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.

To subscribe, send a message saying "subscribe NRHA eforum" to grovesc@winshop.com.au. To unsubscribe, send a message saying "unsubscribe NRHA eforum" to grovesc@winshop.com.au.