

National Rural Health Alliance E-forum – 29 August 2003

In this issue:

- \* Rural Health Information Paper No 6 – Weaving Healthy Communities: The Story of the 7th National Rural Health Conference
- \* Rural and Remote Health Papers 1991-2003
- \* National Health Summit Communiqué
- \* BMJ Theme Issue on Indigenous Health
- \* Extract from ABC Health-Updates
- \* \$1.2 million for Satellite Technology in Aged Care Homes
- \* Regional Business Action Plan
- \* Seminars etc
- \* Contribution and subscription information and disclaimer

+++++

### RURAL HEALTH INFORMATION PAPER NO 6 – WEAVING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: THE STORY OF THE 7TH NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

RHIP 6, “Weaving Healthy Communities: The Story of the 7th National Rural Health Conference” is now available from the National Rural Health Alliance. For an electronic version, go to the NRHA website <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au> and see “rural health information papers” under “publications & news”.

+++++

### RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH PAPERS 1991-2003

The NRHA’s new Rural and Remote Health Papers 1991-2003, CD-Rom is now available. It includes full proceedings from the 7th National Rural Health Conference. For further information, see the NRHA website at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>

+++++

PARTYline Issue No.15 - OUT NOW. PARTYline is the official newsletter of the National Rural Health Alliance. Keep up to date with rural health policy information and good news stories on living and working in the rural health community. Available online on <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au> or receive a hard copy by emailing [michele@ruralhealth.org.au](mailto:michele@ruralhealth.org.au)

+++++

### NATIONAL HEALTH SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE

Notwithstanding the criticisms of the Federal Health Minister, Senator Patterson, a bipartisan and independent group of more than 250 leading consumers, doctors, nurses, allied health and other health professionals representing the entire health sector met in Canberra to discuss ways in which to improve Australia’s health system. Clinicians, health managers, economists, politicians and consumers contributed to the development of these conclusions, which represent a consensus.

The Summit communiqué is available from the front page of the NRHA website (<http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>).

+++++

### BUSH CRISIS LINE - 1800 805 391

Bush Crisis Line is a twenty-four hour confidential telephone support and debriefing service for multi-disciplinary remote and rural health practitioners and their families. It is staffed by qualified psychologists with remote and cross-cultural experience, is toll free and available from anywhere in Australia. For more information [http://www.crana.org.au/pandp\\_bcl.html](http://www.crana.org.au/pandp_bcl.html)

+++++

### BMJ THEME ISSUE ON INDIGENOUS HEALTH

The BMJ edition of 23 August 2003 is a 'theme issue' on Indigenous Health. Information is available at <http://bmj.com/collections/specials.shtml>

+++++

Interested in becoming a "friend" of the Alliance? Become more involved with the work of the Alliance by becoming a "friend". "friends" support the Alliance by being an integral part of the Alliance's policy and evaluation process. They also receive other benefits. For more information on membership see <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>

+++++

Extract from ABC Health-Updates  
(Health-Updates is a weekly alert about recent ABC health coverage now available online. Information on how to subscribe can be found at <http://www.abc.net.au/health/maillinglist.htm>)

**MIDDLE EAR INFECTION IN ABORIGINAL CHILDREN** (Health Report: 18/08/2003)  
Chronic middle ear infection is a major cause of hearing impairment among Australian Indigenous children living in remote communities. Research undertaken by the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation raises new hope for helping these children.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/8.30/helthrpt/stories/s924348.htm>

+++++

### \$1.2 MILLION FOR SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY IN AGED CARE HOMES

Aged care homes across Australia will have access to satellite technology under a new \$1.2 million project announced by the Federal Minister for Ageing Kevin Andrews. Satellite technology will be used to provide education and training to aged care workers in smaller metropolitan, regional and rural aged care homes. Mr Andrews statement is available at <http://www.health.gov.au/mediarel/yr2003/ka/ka03207.htm>

+++++

## REGIONAL BUSINESS ACTION PLAN

An independent report on the growth of regional business was released today by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Regional Services, John Anderson.

The Panel provided the Government with a range of recommendations on how to further spur the growth of regional businesses. These include actions aimed at improving the environment for business in regional Australia, including access to finance, infrastructure, skilled employees, and better regional planning between business and all levels of government. The Government is now examining the report and its recommended actions.

Mr Anderson's statement is available at [http://www.ministers.dotars.gov.au/ja/releases/2003/august/a98\\_2003.htm](http://www.ministers.dotars.gov.au/ja/releases/2003/august/a98_2003.htm) and the Regional Business Development Analysis website is at <http://www.rbda.gov.au/>

+++++

The "Australian Journal of Rural Health" is a refereed journal with a national and international reputation for quality scholarship. Its focus is multi-disciplinary and it includes articles of interest to general practitioners, nurses, allied health professionals, pharmacists, health administrators, universities and rural health units. Reduced rates apply to members of some organisations. For more information see <http://www.blackwell-science.com/ajr>

+++++

## SEMINARS etc

ARCHI Toolkit Seminar, Innovations in Skill Mix and Rostering in Hospitals, 27-28 November 2003, Stamford Sydney Airport. This seminar will:

1. Showcase innovative models of work organisation and job redesign in hospitals and particularly practices that enhance medical, nursing and allied health workforce recruitment and retention.
2. Highlight strategic approaches to staff management
3. Showcase innovative projects focussing on skill mix and/or rostering that have successfully impacted on workforce efficiency, safety and or patient outcomes

Call for abstracts closes 15 September 2003. Draft program available 20 September 2003 and downloadable from <http://www.archi.net.au>. Registration fees: 2 days \$330 inc GST early bird; 2 days \$440 inc GST standard. For further information contact ARCHI at [admin@archi.net.au](mailto:admin@archi.net.au) or phone 02-4985-3165.

ACHSE Evening Forum: Riding the Technology Wave, Tuesday 9 September 2003, Northern Sydney Education Centre, North Ryde. Don't miss this opportunity to find out how you can strategically make the most of Information Technology in your organisation at this informative and entertaining forum. Speaker - A/Prof Steven Boyages, CEO, Western Sydney Area Health. Contact 02 9878 5088

+++++

CONTRIBUTION AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER

The NRHA e-forum is edited by a third party moderator, Jim Groves. Contributions are sought on any topic relevant to rural health concerns. Please send contributions to the moderator at grovesc@winshop.com.au or use the eforum contribution box at the NRHA website, <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>

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.

This issue is going to 2,250 email addresses. Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, use the “sign up” box at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>. The archive of the newsletter is available at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au> under “Publications & News”.