Eforum Newsletter: NRHA eforum 27 August 2004

National Rural Health Alliance E-forum – 27 August 2004

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From: Leah Busby
Subject: Rural and Remote Health e-Journal

I would like to introduce you to Rural and Remote Health, an international electronic journal. RRH is committed to providing an easily accessible peer-reviewed evidence base for rural and remote health, and is the only international journal in this field. Subscription to RRH is FREE.

RRH also invites you to submit an article on the interesting research and project work you are conducting within your office and community for possible publication to an international audience. You can access full-text articles on-line. All articles are subject to peer-review.

Please feel free to contact me or for further information, including free registration, please visit http://rrh.deakin.edu.au (Click on FREE Registration at the top of the home page)

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From: Samantha.Diplock@health.gov.au
Subject: Draft National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Safety Promotion Strategy

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Injury Prevention Action Committee (ATSIIPAC) is pleased to present the Draft National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Safety Promotion Strategy (the Draft Strategy). Feedback is invited on the Draft Strategy.

The Draft Strategy is available on the Department of Health and Ageing's Injury Prevention webpage at http://www.health.gov.au/pubhlth/strateg/injury/

Should you require further information on the public consultation process for the Draft Strategy please contact myself via email or telephone on (02) 6289 7021. If you are aware of other individuals or organisations who may wish to participate in the public consultation process please forward this information to them.

Regards
Samantha Diplock
ATSIIPAC Secretariat

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From: Lea Andric@unsw.edu.au
Subject: Play about personality disorder

Personality Games

The play has been written by Gordon Parker (Professor of Psychiatry at the University of New South Wales) and Neil Cole (Lawyer and former Victorian Shadow Attorney-General). It is play about being a psychiatrist and about being a patient; about Borderline Personality and about testing the borders.

The three-week season will commence on the 21st September (running to the 9th October, 2004) at the Carlton Court House, 349 Drummond Street, Carlton, Victoria. Bookings can be made by email (bookings@lamama.com.au) or via the La Mama booking line (03 9347 6142). The play is formerly part of the Melbourne Fringe Festival and is also on during Mental Health Week.

This is a play for professionals to see and to contemplate.

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8th NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

"Central to health: sustaining well-being in remote and rural Australia", 10-13 March 2005, Alice Springs, Northern Territory

The Conference website is at http://www.nrha.net.au/nrhapublic/publicdocs/conferences/8thNRHC/home.htm

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HEALTH OF RURAL WOMEN AN ISSUE

The National Rural Women's Coalition (NRWC) has identified the health and well being of rural women as a major issue of concern.

NRWC Chair, Sandra Gillanders, said the NRWC has received feedback from rural women indicating that the health and well being of their families and themselves is key to their ability to live happily in rural areas.

The NRWC will host a national two-day forum to discuss issues affecting the health and wellbeing of women in rural areas and develop community-based solutions to the issues raised. 'Healthy Women - Healthy Communities' will be held in Melbourne on 18 - 19 October 2004. The forum is free to attend and rural women are welcome.

Further information is at http://www.ruralwomen.org.au or contact Judy Swann, NRWC Executive Officer on 02 6162 0430 or judy.swann@ruralwomen.org.au.

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From: Pauline Curtis
Subject: Old dreaming - new future workshop

The RACGP and NACCHO are jointly convening a national workshop for GPs and other health professionals working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Health. This one-day workshop will be held on 4th October at the Grand Hyatt in Melbourne. We are also exploring the possibility of linking people in via video conference.

A program for the workshop is available at http://www.racgp.org.au/document.asp?id=14360

If you are unable to attend the workshop but may be interested in being linked through a videoconferencing facility, please complete the form at the same website address and fax to Pauline Curtis on 08 8267 8359. To register for the workshop or to obtain further information please contact: RACGP Pauline Curtis on Phone 08 8267 8351 or email pauline.curtis@racgp.org.au

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From: Myra Read
Subject: Forum on E-Health - What are the Legal and Management Imperatives

There are rapid developments in E-Health which have significant legal and management ramifications. What are the issues, how can you identify them & understand the potential solutions to address them? A panel of experts in their field will address the legal and management issues emerging from E-Health 'cyberspace' in a facilitated forum.

Date: Wednesday 1 September 2004
Time: 6.00-8.30pm
Venue: Northern Sydney Education Centre, Macquarie Hospital, Wicks Rd, North Ryde
Room: Room 2. Check the registration board upon arrival.
Refreshments: Upon arrival and registration
Cost: ACHSE & HISA Members: $30 inc GST
Non Members: $50 inc GST

Speakers on the Panel:

Dr Tim Smyth, Partner, Phillips Fox. A legal view of clinical scenarios & insights from a medico-legal perspective.

Mr Paul Fitzgerald, National Sales Manager, Cerner Corporation
Real cyberspace IT&IM application issues from an industry perspective.

Mr David Vaile, Executive Director, Baker & McKenzie Cyberspace Law and Policy Centre, UNSW
A risk management approach to addressing emerging cyberspace legal issues affecting consumers, clinicians and organisational systems.

Dr Philip Hoyle, Director of Acute Services, Northern Sydney Area Health Services
Managing the "moving feast" of e-Health initiatives while ensuring opportunities for change management are harnessed.

Contact: 02 9805 0431 or e-mail myread@doh.health.nsw.gov.au

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The Australian Journal of Rural Health has changed to a fresh new look and feel to it, with changes in content, a different format and a brand new cover - all with the same focus on advancing rural health in all disciplines. The Journal invites you to contribute to the ongoing development of rural health in Australia, and submit your manuscripts for publication. Full author instructions and guidelines can be found at www.blackwellpublishing.com/ajr, or email ajrh@newcastle.edu.au for further information. The August 2004 issue of the journal is available online now at http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/links/toc/ajr

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AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT RURAL AND REMOTE NURSE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: RE-ENTRY AND UPSKILLING SCHEME (RUS)

The Australian Government Rural and Remote Nurse Scholarship Program: Re-entry and Upskilling Scheme (RUS) is currently seeking applicants for scholarships worth up to $6000 each. Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and administered by the Royal College of Nursing, Australia (RCNA), the Scheme operates nationally and is designed to assist rural and remote nurses by removing some of the financial barriers such as childcare, to re-entering the nursing workforce and enhancing nursing practice through accredited courses.

A new initiative being offered to the scholarship recipients of the Re-entry Scheme is a Pilot Mentor Program. The aim of the Pilot Mentor Program is to support and encourage the re-entry of rural and remote nurses to the nursing workforce and to promote a nursing career in rural Australia. Each scholarship recipient will have access to a mentor with rural and remote nursing experience.

Upskilling scholarships are available for both currently registered and enrolled nurses to undertake practical / clinical training and job skill enhancement. Recently re-entered nurses are encouraged to apply under this scheme to further skill themselves for their specific workplace.

Applications are currently being sought from eligible people living in rural and remote Australia with a commitment to rural nursing. For further information contact the Freecall centre on 1800 11 22 40. Applications close at 5pm on Friday 1 October 2004.

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RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE A SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR YOUNG INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Rheumatic heart disease, a disease prevalent in developing countries, is a serious problem for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, according to a report released by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

Indigenous Australians are 20 times more likely to die from acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease than other Australians.

The AIHW statement is available at http://www.aihw.gov.au/media/2004/mr040826.html and the full report at http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10027

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AIHW REPORT: NATIONAL SUMMARY OF THE 2001 AND 2002 JURISDICTIONAL REPORTS AGAINST THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

This report is the first report against the refined set of indicators endorsed by the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) in 2000, and the fourth time that all jurisdictions have reported against a set of national performance indicators for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. The report is available at http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10013

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From: Pauline Curtis
Subject: Cultural Training Review

The report of the recently completed review of cultural training for GPs working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health can be accessed on the RACGP website at http://www.racgp.org.au/document.asp?id+13908.

Recommendations contained in the report will guide the development of a flexible, locally adaptable cultural safety training program for GPs. WAACCHO has been contracted to develop this program by the end of this year and pilot it in all states and the NT in 2005.

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LIFELINE’S JUST ASK - 1 300 13 11 14

Your Rural Mental Health Information Service
Lifeline’s Just ask is a rural mental health information service. Information provided includes: referral to services and web sites, printed material and a range of self help resources. The self-help resources focus on practical steps to help promote mental health in a range of areas. For information and copies of resources call or visit http://www.justask.org.au

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From: Alan Staines
Subject: SPA National Suicide Prevention Conference

Suicide Prevention Australia (SPA) Annual National Conference is being held in Sydney 29-31 October titled “Closing the Gap: An Extended Conversation Between Suicide Prevention Researchers and Practitioners” at the University of New South Wales.

Keynote presenters include Prof Diego De Leo, Prof Keith Hawton (UK), Assoc Prof Jane Pirkis, Prof Ian Webster, Dr Annette Beautrais (NZ), Prof Graham Martin and Karl Andriessen (Belgium).

Features of the Conference include:-
* Over 100 Presenters
* International keynote speakers from United Kingdom and Belgium
* Speakers from every State and Territory of Australia and from New Zealand
* Youth Suicide Prevention Forum Workshop
* Indigenous Workshops/Presentations – Resilience and Recovery – successful programs
* Research and Development – policy and practise
* Suicide Prevention in the Workplace
* National Strategies – are they working?
* Traumatic Loss – Responding to Suicide Bereavement
* Spirituality and Suicide Prevention
* Suicide in the Elderly – What we still need to know?
* Suicide in Men 25-44 Years – The Evidence and the Agenda

Information about the Conference is at http://www.suicidepreventionaust.org. Online registration facilities will be operational shortly.

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Annual Conference of the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses, 1-3 September 2004, at Coffs Harbour - BreakFree

Aanuka Beach Resort. Information at http://www.indiginet.com.au/catsin/

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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.bushcrisisline.org.au

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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

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RURAL HEALTH ON THE WEB
(with thanks to "Google Alert" at http://www.googlealert.com/)

The University Department of Rural Health (UDRH), Tasmania is committed to
improving access to health care resources and contributing to improved health ...
http://fcms.its.utas.edu.au/healthsci/ruralhealth/

The mission of the California Rural Health Policy Council is to formulate and establish
rural health policy for the State of California, to provide a focal ...
http://www.ruralhealth.oshpd.state.ca.us/

For more funding and information resources, visit RIC's Rural Health Issues Page. ...
Using Rural Health Networks to Address Local Needs: Five Case Studies. ...
http://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/richs/funding.htm

Ministerial rural and regional health advisory forums were established to inform the Minister for Health on issues relating to the distribution, provision ...
http://www.health.vic.gov.au/ruralhealth/news/forums.htm

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PARTYline Issue No.18 - 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

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PERSPECTIVES ON REGIONAL AUSTRALIA - WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT, CENSUS 2001

Based on results from the 2001 Census:

* Women in Major urban areas are more likely to have higher educational qualifications, have the highest labour force participation rate, are least likely to be self-employed, and are less likely to be working part-time.
* Women in Rural areas are least likely to be unemployed, and most likely to be self-employed, with almost half working in agriculture.

The Main Features of this ABS publication are available at
http://www.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/abs@.nsf/b06660592430724fca2568b5007b8619/68ccb7d8a9d3bc93ca256ef200772bb3!OpenDocument

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NEW GUIDE TO HELP STOP FARM CRIME

A new Australian Government guide will help farmers and other people living in rural and regional Australia in the battle against crime on farms, the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Chris Ellison and Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Judith Troeth, said today. The Ministers' statement is at http://www.psmaff.gov.au/releases/04/04065tj.html and the Guide is available at
http://www.crimeprevention.gov.au/www/ncpHome.nsf/Web+Pages/5B4EB4BA76075187CA256EFB000B3D15?OpenDocument

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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.

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 2,075 email addresses. Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, or to view previous newsletters, go to "eforum" at http://www.ruralhealth.org.au