

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Commissioner welcomes registrar to Dover**

Huon Valley Commissioner Adriana Taylor has welcomed the appointment of a registrar, Dr Elizabeth Du Bois, who will train with the doctors at the Dover Medical Centre for the next 6 months. Elizabeth gained her qualifications in South Africa and in has recently worked in emergency medicine and general practice since relocating to Australia in 2007.

“We want to encourage registrars who have an interest in rural practice to spend some time in our communities and hopefully develop a passion for working in these areas,” Commissioner Taylor said.

General Practice (GP) Registrars are fully qualified doctors who have finished their initial medical studies and then have to complete the general practice component of training (3 x 6 month placements, one of which must be rural), similar to an apprenticeship model, seeing their own patients under the supervision of experienced GPs.

Commissioner Taylor says the doctors working at the Dover Medical Centre are passionate about community health.

“If the passion that our doctors have can be transferred to the registrars who train with us, we may see them return to practice in our communities in the future. There is a real need for rural doctors across the country. The registrars can see that general practice connects medicine to the community more than any other medical speciality.

“While they are with the Medical Centre the registrars will be presented with patients with a wide range of health issues. We’ve also had feedback the patients enjoy having registrars there.



Contact: Communications & Media Unit, Huon Valley Council  
Ph: (03) 6264 0314  
Email: [communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au](mailto:communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au)  
Web: [www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au](http://www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au)  
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“Having a registrar at the practice also benefits the doctors working there. The registrar’s input keep the practice’s processes fresh and current and the doctors can reinforce their own knowledge and professional development by teaching.

“Our medical centres, while already facing demanding workloads, gladly help medical students and registrars with their training, because they know that local access to health services has a direct impact on health outcomes for a community.

“If we can encourage any of the students or doctors who have training placements with us to eventually work in a rural setting (including the Huon Valley), we know they’ll have a rewarding and challenging career and a direct impact on the lives and wellbeing of their patients.

**For more information:  
Adriana Taylor  
Huon Valley Council Commissioner  
Ph: 6264 0300**



Contact: Communications & Media Unit, Huon Valley Council  
Ph: (03) 6264 0314  
Email: [communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au](mailto:communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au)  
Web: [www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au](http://www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au)  
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