

10/03/2015

Extraordinary Rural Doctors Awarded

Rural Health West has presented awards to 23 rural general practitioners and specialists who have been recognised for their dedication and long-term service to rural and remote Western Australian communities.

The Rural Health West Annual Doctors' Service Awards, now in its seventh year, is proudly sponsored by Wesfarmers and provides a unique opportunity to recognise general practitioners and specialists who have spent the last 20 or 30 or more years providing health services to country communities.

"These doctors make a significant contribution to rural communities by providing continuity of care," Ms Belinda Bailey, CEO of Rural Health West said.

The awards also include recognition of five doctors, who have been nominated by their patients, members of their communities, or colleagues, for their outstanding service and presentation of Life Membership of Rural Health West to a doctor who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to improving access to medical services in country Western Australia.

Dr John Boulton, a senior paediatrician based in Broome, was recognised for his outstanding contribution to the needs of children and their families in the region; Dr Randolph Spargo was awarded for his long-time commitment and service to the remote communities around Newman, in particular Jigalong; and Dr Daniel O'Donnell was acknowledged for his extraordinary contribution to outreach services, in particular his commitment to the people of the Cocos and Keeling Islands.

WA Country Health Service sponsored two Awards, with Dr Andrew Jamieson receiving the Award for Outstanding Hospital Doctor, recognising his leadership skills and dedication to both his patients and colleagues in the Midwest; and Dr Phil Reid was presented with the Above and Beyond – Community First Award for his contributions to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Dr Mal Hodsdon, a former long-term board member of Rural Health West, and long serving rural GP Obstetrician, was presented with a Life Membership by Rural Health West in recognition of his contribution to rural health throughout his career.

The Awards were presented by Her Excellency, the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO, Governor of Western of Western Australia.

"All of the award recipients were humbled to be acknowledged for the work they do," Ms Bailey said. "It is rare they are publically acknowledged for the outstanding contributions they make to rural communities. We recognise that these awards provide a unique opportunity for rural communities to publically acknowledge the difference that doctors can make to the health and well being of their community."

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Please see below for a full list of award recipients. Photos of individual doctors who attended the ceremony are available upon request.

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As the leading rural health workforce agency for Western Australia, Rural Health West is a not-for-profit organisation funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments responsible for the recruitment and retention of a highly skilled sustainable health workforce to meet the needs to rural and remote Western Australians communities.

2015 Rural Health West Doctors' Service Awards Recipients

(*denotes attendance at ceremony)

20 or more years of service

Dr Anthony Best	Busselton*
Dr Erik Hagen	Royal Flying Doctor Service*
Dr Sharon Jackson	Denmark
Dr Alison Turner	Manjimup
Dr Olga Ward	Royal Flying Doctor Service*
Dr Christine Jefferies-Stokes	Kalgoorlie*
Dr Mark Smith	Bunbury*
Dr Doreen Menezes	Geraldton*

30 or more years of service

Dr Raymond Clarke	Margaret River*
Dr Michael Eaton	Dardanup*
Dr Philip Green	Australind*
Dr Clifton Parry	Mandurah*
Dr Lorraine Smith	Bunbury*
Dr Gerard Travers	Bunbury
Dr Antonio Tropiano	Mandurah
Dr Neil Wells	Bridgetown*
Dr Gavan White	Bunbury*
Dr Lee Ming Yap	Harvey
Dr Tom Cottee	Bunbury
Dr Charles Nadin	Bunbury

Special Award Winners

Award for Outstanding Service to Rural and Remote Health

Dr John Boulton Broome*

Award for Remote and Clinically Challenging Medicine

Dr Randolph Spargo Jigalong*

Award for Extraordinary Contribution to Outreach Services

Dr Daniel O'Donnell Cocos and Keeling Islands*

Award for Above and Beyond- Community First

Dr Philip Reid Busselton and Kalgoorlie*

Award for Outstanding Hospital Doctor

Dr Andrew Jamieson Geraldton*

Rural Health West Life Membership

Dr Mal Hodsdon Kalgoorlie*