

## School of Rural Health

### Pre-Conference Field Excursion to Bendigo

**Purpose:**

To visit the Monash University Regional Clinical School in Bendigo and learn about the leading role Monash University is playing in rural medical education in conjunction with regional health services.

**Background:**

In order to increase the numbers of medical graduates taking up rural medical practice, the Commonwealth Government provided funding in 2000 for the establishment of regional clinical schools across Australia. Monash University, one of Australia's leading medical schools, has led the way in rural medical education. Monash University works closely with the Bendigo Health Care Group which provides ambulatory, community, medical, surgical, psychiatric and residential services to the people of the Loddon Mallee region, an area covering 25% of the landmass in Victoria.

**The program:**

- 07:45** Depart Melbourne Hotel
- 10:00** Arrival at front of Bendigo Art Gallery, brief look at Sandhurst painting and then view of city from the Lookout Tower
- 10:30** Bus to Clinical School in Mercy Street for morning tea
- 11:00** Presentations from Regional Clinical School (Chair – John Humphreys)
  - 11:00* Background to the regional clinical school program – Professor John Humphreys (Head of Research program)
  - 11:10* Rolling out the State-wide Clinical School – Infrastructure, Placements, Community Relationships – Mr Rob Clough (School Manager)
  - 11:20* The Bendigo Clinical School Perspective – Professor Peter Disler (Acting Director, Bendigo Regional Clinical School)
  - 11:30* The Mildura Clinical School Perspective – Dr John Russell (Director, Mildura Regional Clinical School)
  - 11:40* The Undergraduate Curricula – Dr Chris Holmes (Clinical Dean & Physician, Bendigo Health Care Group)
  - 11:50* The Students' Perspective – Mr Rob Mitchell & Mikhaila Lazanyi (WILDFIRE Student Rural Club)
  - 12:00* The GP Training Provider's Perspective – Dr John Togno (Medical Director/ Chief Executive Officer, Victoria Felix)
  - 12:10* The Service Providers Perspective – Ms Kathy Byrne (Chief Executive, Bendigo Health Care Group)
  - 12:20* Questions and Discussion (PANEL)
- 13:00** Lunch at Balgownie Estate Vineyard
- 15:30** Visit to Castlemaine Practice
- 15:45** Depart for Melbourne
- 17:30** Arrive Hotel