

MEDIA RELEASE

4 July 2025

Long-time stalwart of rural medicine accepts “deeply personal” award

Rural Doctors have acknowledged the dedication and achievements of Queensland Rural Generalist Pathway (QRGP) Manager Deanne Bond for her outstanding contribution to rural medicine in Queensland across almost two decades.

Deanne was awarded the David Horn Medal at the Rural Doctors Association of Queensland’s (RDAQ) annual David Horn Memorial Gala Ball and Awards evening.

“Rural medicine has been in my life since literally day one,” Deanne said on accepting the award at the event which brought the RDAQ2025 conference at RACV Royal Pines Gold Coast to a close.

“I was born in Longreach with the help of a long-standing rural doctor who was also looking after my dad having done his appendectomy earlier that day, in true rural fashion.

“When I later moved to the South-west, I had the incredible privilege to be one of three generations of my family to be cared for by another long-standing rural GP.

“So, it was like the stars aligned when I got the opportunity to work on this thing called the Queensland Rural Generalist Pathway.”

The QRGP provides doctors the advanced training, skills and support they need to look after the unique health needs of rural communities.

“The David Horn Medal is named in honour of a wonderful friend of RDAQ, who wasn’t a medical practitioner but made such a huge difference and contribution to our communities, and Deanne is such a deserving recipient of his namesake honour,” said RDAQ Immediate Past-President Dr Danielle Allan who presented Deanne with her award.

“The RDAQ awards recognise outstanding contributions of medical students, rural doctors and community members who dedicate their efforts and passion to the betterment of rural healthcare,” she said.

Also recognised for his long-standing and exceptional contributions to rural communities and rural healthcare was Dr James (Jim) Eadie, a Kingaroy Rural Generalist who has ‘held together’ one of the busiest rural maternity sites in Queensland for the last 27 years.

Jim is a fierce advocate for rural birthing, focusing on access to safe and ‘close to home’ maternity care and over this time, he has worked tirelessly across every aspect of medical care for the community of Kingaroy.

conference.rdaq.com.au | conference@rdaq.com.au

He currently practices as a community GP, a private GP Anaesthetist in the local Private Hospital, a private GP Obstetrician and a public VMO providing antenatal, intrapartum and post-partum care.

Awards presented on the night include:

- Honourary Associate Membership (David Horn Medal): Deanne Bond (Toowoomba)
- Legend of the Bush: Dr James (Jim) Eadie – (Kingaroy)
- Meritorious Service Award: Dr Charles Mudimu (Goondiwindi)
- Meritorious Service Award: Dr Adam Bush (Roma/Brisbane)
- Outstanding Rural Registrar (Denis Lennox Medal): Dr Natalia Anderson (Emerald)
- Backbone of the Bush (Awarded by Health Workforce Queensland): Candida Blackwell

Download award winner bios: [HERE](#)

Download photos: [HERE](#)

Media contact: Bek Barr – 0404 836 207, media@rdaq.com.au