



**Fortnightly  
eNews  
AMATasmania  
JUNE 2016**



Seen here AMA Tasmania President A/Prof Tim Greenaway working continuously in advocating the rights and issues on behalf of all AMA Tasmania members.

**THE BMW EOFY SALES FESTIVAL AT  
HOBART AUTOHAUS AND LAUNCESTON BMW.**

CELEBRATE WITH SAVINGS  
EQUAL TO THE GST.\*



\*Terms, conditions & exclusions apply.

Hobart Autohaus  
Launceston BMW



The Ultimate  
Driving Machine

Tasmanian **Health** Conference

**30 JULY 2016** Medical Sciences Precinct, University of Tasmania, HOBART



**AMA Family  
Doctor Week 2016**

**YOUR FAMILY DOCTOR:  
INVALUABLE TO YOUR HEALTH**

## Dr Michael Gannon elected new AMA President

## Dr Tony Bartone elected new AMA Vice President

Western Australian obstetrician and gynaecologist, Dr Michael Gannon, was recently elected new President of the Federal AMA, replacing Professor Brian Owler whose two-year term has come to an end. Dr Gannon, the AMA WA President and former AMA WA Vice President, is the head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the St John of God Subiaco Hospital, where he was born. He has been passionately involved with the AMA since he was a medical student and has been Chair of the AMA's Ethics and Medico-legal Committee for the past two years. He was inducted into the AMA Roll of Fellows at this year's National Conference.



Dr Gannon said the Australian health system was at a crossroads, making the role of the AMA and its relationship with Government more important than it has ever been. "The AMA needs strong leadership with an appetite to engage constructively with Government, whichever political party is in power," Dr Gannon said. "There are currently reviews into the Medicare Benefits Schedule, private health insurance, and primary health care underway. "It is vital that the profession has a strong voice in Canberra, and is willing to embark on constructive interaction with Government in responding to the recommendations that these reports will inevitably include. "If the Government does not talk to the AMA, and vice versa, we are both poorer, and it is our patients who suffer most."

Victorian GP, Dr Tony Bartone, was elected Vice President. Dr Bartone is the outgoing President of AMA Victoria. He is a member of the AMA Federal Council and was inducted into the AMA Roll of Fellows on Friday. Both were elected at the AMA National Conference, which concluded in Canberra today. Their two-year terms commence immediately.

## Seniors Drivers Licences

Last year the Tasmania Government made the decision to cease the compulsory annual 85 years and older on-road driving test and the regular 75 years and the older fitness to drive medical examinations.

This was done for many reasons, but the main explanations were it represented age discrimination and could be challenged in court, and the sheer number of Tasmanian's over 75 was overloading the licensing section.

Additional minor reasons were at 75 years and 85 years' drivers were passing their licenses in rather than have to subject themselves to an assessment. This behaviour was starting to overload volunteer services and the community cars as well as draining resources through the subsidised taxi fare scheme.

Due to doctor concerns the AMA had meetings with the Transport and negotiated some changes to the current medical fitness to drive form. The major decisions were all made by the government, and the AMA was only able to achieve some practical changes to the new form. The decision to abandon the old form and cease sending out the attached questionnaire were government decisions. Transport did give the undertaking to educate doctors and the public of the changes, but their efforts have been underwhelming.

We would now seek member feedback about the impact of the changes and would appreciate if you could complete the survey - [SURVEY LINK](#).

For those doctors who liked the old forms, they are still available on Transport's website [http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/fees\\_forms/licence\\_forms](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/fees_forms/licence_forms)

Rd. Donald Rose (Hon Secretary)

## Tasmanian Wax Removal Survey Follow Up

AMA Tasmania helped proliferate a survey earlier this year asking GPs about their experiences with wax removal in the surgery and whether they thought a dedicated micro-suction ear wax removal service would make a positive impact on their daily practice here in Tasmania. The response was overwhelmingly positive and has been one of the driving motivators behind getting a dedicated micro-suction ear wax removal clinic off the ground. Following on from this survey, Comfort Clean Ear, a new dedicated professional ear wax removal service that has started operating in the North-West Tasmania. Comfort Clean Ear removes ear wax using gentle micro-suction technology under direct observation. This is the same safe, gentle and dry technique used and preferred by ENTs and is much more effective at removing impacted wax. An excellent result all round.

## Doctors in Training: AMA NatCon 2016

Dr Patrick Galloway and Dr Alistair Park, as appointed delegates of the national AMA Council of Doctors in Training (CDiT), attended the AMA National Conference held in Canberra last weekend. They worked with other council members to ensure DiTs were acknowledged and included in the plans of the incoming President and Vice-President of the Federal AMA. Dr Michael Gannon, in his acceptance speech as AMA president, identified a need to work more closely with the AMA CDiT. Alastair and Patrick are happy to share their experience and encourage any interested DiT's to get involved. They can be contacted through the AMA Tas office.

## AMA Council of Doctors in Training Coming to Hobart - Mark your Diaries

In other DiT news, the national AMA Council of Doctors in Training (CDiT)'s next meeting is in Hobart between 30-31 July. All DiTs are welcome and encouraged to attend. At the meetings, policy, engagement and specific DiT issues are discussed, and you will have the chance to meet new federal president, Dr Michael Gannon and new CDiT chair Dr John Zorbas (from the NT). We plan to have a 'meet and greet' drinks/dinner session, with the Tasmanian branch of the AMA also involved, on the night of Friday 29th July. Suggestions, involvement and questions are welcome and may be directed to Patrick Galloway through the AMA Tas office. More information on the CDiT is available at: <https://ama.com.au/article/about-ama-council-doctors-training>

**Your Membership is Expiring -  
Purchase from us Today!**

The new 2016 | 2017 Entertainment™  
Membership is now available



AMA Tasmania would like to thank you for supporting our Entertainment™ fundraiser in 2015. Your 2015 | 2016 Entertainment™ Membership will expire on 1 June, 2016. Please continue to support us by buying a new Membership today! [ORDER FROM US TODAY](#). Now is the time to purchase your NEW 2016 | 2017 Entertainment™ Book or Digital Membership. Enjoy over \$20,000 worth of valuable up to 50% OFF and 2-for-1 offers for some of the best local restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel and more, valid immediately! The more Entertainment™ Memberships we sell; the more funds we raise to support our fundraising SEE WHAT IS IN THE NEW EDITION

Please contact us for more information about our fundraising, or how to get your Entertainment™ Membership. Thank you for your kind support.

## News and Headlines

[Make vocational training the top priority: AMSA](#)

[MORE TO DO BEFORE MEDICINAL CANNABIS ROLLOUT](#)

[A Better Health Deal for Rural Australia](#)

[PLAN FOR Better Health Care for Regional, Rural, and Remote Australia](#)

[HOW BURMA INSPIRED A PROUD KAMILAROI MAN](#)

[“CATALYST EFFECT” STATINS STUDY WINS MAJOR AWARD](#)

[NEW ADDITIONS TO AMA ROLL OF FELLOWS](#)

[EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN WITH PASSION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AWARDED AMA HONOUR  
AMA WOMAN IN MEDICINE AWARD](#)

[INDIGENOUS PUBLIC HEALTH CHAMPIONS AWARDED AMA HEALTHCARE AWARD](#)

[COMMONWEALTH WINNING THE FIGHT AGAINST TOBACCO CONTROL](#)

[National Tobacco Control Scoreboard 2016](#)

[BULLYING AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT STAMPED OUT BY DOCTOR IN TRAINING AMA DOCTOR IN TRAINING OF THE YEAR AWARD](#)

[IF IN DOUBT, SIT THEM OUT – NEW RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SPORTS-RELATED CONCUSSION](#)

[Australian Institute of Sport and Australian Medical Association Concussion in Sport Position Statement](#)

*An endocrinologist, a GP and a gastroenterologist walk into a AMA National Conference 2016 Gala Dinner together and .....*



**Australian Medical Association Tasmania**

**147 Davey St Hobart TAS 7000**

**TEL +61 3 6223 2047 · FAX +61 3 6223 6469**

**EMAIL: [ama@amatas.com.au](mailto:ama@amatas.com.au)**

Follow us on Facebook 

**[AMA Tasmania President A/Prof Tim Greenaway updates members on Budget expectations live from the AMA National Conference](#)**

*AMATAS e-newsletter is compiled and distributed on a fortnightly basis to all AMA Tasmania members. We welcome contributions from members and others to make this newsletter lively, informative and successful. Contributions can be emailed to [comms@amatas.com.au](mailto:comms@amatas.com.au). All submissions require the authors name and contact details.*

*Did you know members can also subscribe to our media monitoring, a daily service provided by the AMA staff to keep members abreast of all relevant local media. Have you checked out our Facebook page yet or our new website - all excellent member resources.*

**[Unsubscribe from AMATas News](#)**