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## MEDIA RELEASE

### RFDS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT ADDRESSES SCOTCH OAKBURN STUDENTS

Henry Nowlan, medical student from the University of Tasmania has won a prestigious scholarship to work with the Royal Flying Doctor Service in Broken Hill and Launceston.

The Fred McKay Scholarship now in its 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive year is sponsored by the Tasmanian Section of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and reflects the Tasmanian Section's commitment to the importance of rural practice. In 2009 the Scholarship was generously supported by the students from Fox House, Scotch Oakburn College who raised \$2,500 by holding a fashion parade, raffle and collection.

Henry will visit Scotch Oakburn College to address the Fox House students at their Chapel Service on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm to thank them for their support and share his experiences with them.

The Fred McKay Scholarship was established by the RFDS Tasmanian council to give medical students in their final year at the University of Tasmania the opportunity to work and live in rural and remote areas. It was named in honour of Rev. Dr. J. Fred McKay, the successor to Rev. John Flynn as the spiritual leader of the RFDS.

Scholarship recipient Henry Nowlan recently spent four weeks with the RFDS in Broken Hill and Launceston. A diverse mix of clinic flights and medical emergencies kept him busy as an observer during his two weeks in Broken Hill, and at his second placement in Tasmania, Henry was assigned to a flight paramedic for retrieval and inter-hospital transfers. He also spent time with an ambulance crew from Ambulance Tasmania, giving him a wide variety of clinical situations.

The rotation surpassed his expectations. "My experience with the RFDS has given me a greater appreciation of the service and opened my eyes to the exciting field of retrieval medicine. I would like to thank the RFDS for providing the scholarship. The opportunity has been truly incredible," said Henry. "I'm hoping to work in either Procedural General Practice or emergency and retrieval medicine."

RFDS Tasmanian Section acknowledges the generous assistance given each year by RFDS South Eastern Section in Broken Hill, and the support given in Tasmania by the RFDS pilots and Ambulance Tasmania paramedics.

The event will be held in the Scotch Oakburn Chapel located on the Penquite Road Campus.

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