

Media Release

25 August, 2017

‘Covering all the bits’ – for Women’s Health Week

The Royal Flying Doctor Service Victoria is hosting free community events in Robinvale, Corryong, Hopetoun and Charlton, from 6.30pm – 8.30pm, Thursday 7 September.

Supported by local health services, ‘Covering all the bits’ invites members of the community to attend local events to hear from Dr Elizabeth Farrell AM via a simulcast presentation through the Flying Doctor Telehealth platform. Royal Flying Doctor Service staff will be on site to assist and answer any questions.

Through the platform, similar to skype, Dr Farrell will address concerns and questions about women’s health which are often neglected.

Margaret Kuhne, General Manager Primary Health Care RFDS Victoria, says “Two of the biggest barriers for women not maintaining a healthy lifestyle are lack of time and health not being a priority.”

“We are proud to partner with local health services and Jean Hailes to overcome barriers in accessing health care and address health issues before they become chronic.”

The towns of Robinvale, Corryong, Hopetoun and Charlton have been selected as sites that do not have a permanent female GP. The Royal Flying Doctor Service works with these communities to provide a Rural Women’s GP service on a rotational basis and aims to reinforce the importance of prioritising health.

Members of the community are invited to submit questions to Dr Farrell prior to the event, which she will address anonymously on the night. Email: health@rfdsvic.com.au.

Dr Farrell is a gynaecologist and a founding member of Jean Hailes for Women’s Health.

As part of the Jean Hailes Education Unit (TEC), Dr Farrell has been involved with health professional and community education throughout Australia, both face to face and through video conferencing.

Following the talk, participants will be invited to take part in an activity, creating craft with the theme of women’s health. Though this approach, members of the community are encouraged to make their health a priority.

To register to attend an event in your community, call the Royal Flying Doctor Service (03) 8412 0400.

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ABOUT THE RFDS:

The Flying Doctors has been voted as Australia's most reputable charity for six years in a row and has been providing aero-medical assistance and primary health care services since 1928. RFDS Victoria delivers air and road patient transport, primary health care programs such as diabetes, mobile eye and dental care and rural women's GP services, as well as raising funds for emergency retrieval across Australia.

Nationally the RFDS comes into contact with over 290,000 patients annually, or more than 800 every day, performs around 37,000 aeromedical evacuations and conducts about 15,000 healthcare clinics per year.

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