

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

DATE: FRIDAY 22 AUGUST 2008

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

---



## **Expect the unexpected – rescue and medical interventions**

UTAS Medicine students will experience simulated medical emergencies when they undertake a Wilderness Medicine Weekend this weekend.

The two-day event at Dover will provide hands-on experience in rescue and medical intervention in a wilderness setting.

The students will experience a series of emergency scenarios which will require them to use leadership, team work, improvisation, initiative, communication as well as medical and rescue skills.

On Saturday morning, students will rescue people from a mock car crash, with the assistance of the State Emergency Service and their “jaws of life”.

Other emergency scenario exercises include two water-based and two land-based exercises, one involving a snake bit and the other a light aircraft crash.

Senior lecturer at the UTAS School of Medicine, Dr Bryan Walpole, said community involvement and real rural experience is critical to the learning experience of students.

“We aim to graduate the best health professionals who can deal with any crisis situation and still deliver excellent health outcomes,” Dr Walpole said.

Each exercise will be supervised by experienced search and rescue clinical staff, including staff from the Australian Antarctic Division.

Sunday will include discussion sessions with clinicians, paramedics and a pilot. These sessions will focus on the management of search and rescue events in remote and wilderness settings.

Location: Far South Wilderness Backpacker Lodge, Dover

Time: Saturday 9.15 – 10.15am or 3.30 – 5.30 pm

**Information Released by:**

**The Media Office, University of Tasmania**

**Phone: 6226 2124 Mobile: 0417 517 291**

**Email: [Media.Office@utas.edu.au](mailto:Media.Office@utas.edu.au)**