

CURRICULUM VITAE

*Thomas Martin STRAHAN*Home Address:

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Business Address:

Bundaberg Specialist Centre, 102 Woondooma Street, Bundaberg 4670

Phone: (07) 41530746 Fax: (07) 41530747

Place & Date of Birth:

Rockhampton, Queensland -

Family Status:Education:

1962 - 1968

Zillmere Adventist Primary School, Queensland

1969 - 1973

Mitchelton State High School, Queensland

1974 - 1979

University of Queensland Medical School, Queensland

1986 - 1988

Loma Linda University School of Public Health, California

Degrees:

1979

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MB BS Qld)

1989

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH Loma Linda)

Professional Qualifications:

1987

Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP)
specialising in Internal Medicine

1989

Fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine (FACPM)
specialising in Public Health and General Preventive Medicine

1990

Fellow of the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine (FAFPHM)
specialising in Public HealthAwards & Fellowships:

1972

Commonwealth Secondary Scholarship

1979

AMSA-Lilly Student Research Fellowship

1979

RG Silcock Bursary, University of Queensland

1987

Delta Omega, Public Health Honor Society

1988

NH&MRC Australian Applied Health Sciences Fellowship

1988

President's Award, Loma Linda University

1989

Fellow, ISFC 3rd Advanced International Teaching Seminar on
Cardiovascular Epidemiology and Prevention

1989

National Heart Foundation Travel Grant

1999

Australia Day Medal, Queensland Health

Professional Associations:

Member of Australian Medical Association

Member of Internal Medicine Society of Australia & New Zealand

Member of Gastroenterological Society of Australia

Member of International Society and Federation of Cardiology,
Section of Epidemiology and PreventionCurrent Appointments:

1994 -

Consultant Physician, Friendly Society Private Hospital, Bundaberg

1994 -

Senior Visiting Physician, Bundaberg Base Hospital

Previous Appointments:

2000 - 2003

President, Bundaberg & District Local Medical Association

2000

Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee, Bundaberg Base Hospital

1999 - 2003

Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee, Friendly Society Private Hospital

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 1996 - 1999 | Chairman, Bundaberg Health Promotions Pty Ltd |
| 1994 - 2000 | Director of Medicine, Bundaberg Base Hospital |
| 1990 - 1993 | Consultant Physician, Warburton Hospital, Victoria |
| 1993 | Director of Medical Services, Warburton Hospital |
| 1993 | Chairman, Shire of Upper Yarra Health Advisory Group |
| 1990 - 1992 | Chief Executive Officer, Warburton Hospital |
| 1990 - 1992 | Academic Associate, Department of Community Medicine, University of Melbourne |
| 1989 | NH&MRC Research Fellow, Department of Medicine, University of Western Australia, Perth |
| 1989 | Clinical Assistant, Royal Perth Hospital |
| 1988 | Research Fellow, Department of Preventive Medicine, Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Loma Linda |
| 1988 | Internist, Loma Linda University Faculty Medical Group |
| 1987 | President, School of Public Health Student Association, Loma Linda University |
| 1986 - 1987 | Resident Physician in Preventive Medicine, Loma Linda University Medical Centre |
| 1984 - 1985 | Medical Registrar, Royal Brisbane Hospital 6 months terms in Neurology, Nephrology, GE, Rheumatology |
| 1982 - 1983 | Senior Resident Medical Officer, The Prince Charles Hospital 6month term in Cardiology, 3 month terms in Oncology, Respiratory, Endocrinology, Geriatrics/Rehabilitation, General Practice |
| 1981 | Junior Resident Medical Officer, Royal Brisbane Hospital |
| 1980 | Intern, Maryborough Base Hospital |

Publications:

1. **Strahan M.** Birthweights in a rural Solomon Island population. *J Trop Paed* 1984;30:293-5.
2. Fraser GE **Strahan TM** Kissinger DG. Dietary and other risk factors for definite myocardial infarction in Seventh-day Adventists (abstract). *Am J Epid* 1988;128:916.
3. **Strahan M.** Preventive Tactics (letter). *Australian Medicine* 1989;1:143.
4. **Strahan M** Wilson M Lindbeck K. Solomon Island Foods: identification and composition. *Food Australia* 1989;41:842-5.
5. **Strahan TM** Rogers PB Rouse IL Beilin LJ. Diet and blood pressure in Seventh-day Adventists (abstract). *Community Health Studies* 1989;13(3):364.
6. Butler TL Stanton HJ **Strahan TM.** Health studies of Seventh-day Adventists: review (abstract). *Community Health Studies* 1989;13(3):369.
7. Fraser GE **Strahan TM** Sabate J Beeson WL Kissinger D. Effects of traditional coronary risk factors on rates of incident coronary events in a low-risk population – the Adventist health study. *Circulation* 1992;86:406-13.
8. Fraser GE Sabate J Beeson WL **Strahan TM.** A possible protective effect of nut consumption on risk of coronary heart disease – the Adventist health study. *Arch Intern Med* 1992;152: 1416-24.
9. Sciarrone SEG **Strahan TM** Beilin LJ Burke V Rogers P Rouse IR. Ambulatory blood pressure and heart rate responses to vegetarian meals. *Hypertension* 1993;11:277-285.
10. Sciarrone SEG **Strahan TM** Beilin LJ Burke V Rogers P Rouse IR. Biochemical and neurohormonal responses to the introduction of a lacto-ovovegetarian diet. *Hypertension* 1993;11:849-860.
11. **Trial Investigators.** Thrombin-specific anticoagulation with bivalirudin versus heparin in patients receiving fibrinolytic therapy for acute myocardial infarction: the HERO-2 randomised trial. *Lancet* 2001;358:1855-63.
12. **Strahan TM** Nuts for cardiovascular protection. *Asia Pac J Clin Nutr.* 2004;13(Suppl):S33.

Teaching Experience:

- 1994 Medical resident and medical student training in medicine,
Bundaberg Base Hospital
- 1989 Medical and dental student teaching in clinical methods,
University of Western Australia
- 1984 – 1985 Clinical Tutor, Department of Medicine,
University of Queensland

Research Experience:

- 1979- 1989 Principal Investigator: Atoifi Child Health Study. An analysis of birth records at Atoifi Adventist Hospital, Solomon Islands. A compositional analysis of Solomon Island foods and a community nutrition survey of 750 infants from birth to 5 years of age. Funded by an AMSA-Lilly Research Fellowship and an RG Silcock Bursary, University of Queensland and supervised by A/Professor AE Dugdale.
- 1987 –1988 Research Fellow: “Epidemiology of Heart Disease in Seventh-day Adventists – A Low Risk Group”. An analysis of comparative incidence of myocardial infarction in vegetarians and nonvegetarians amongst 34,198 Californian Seventh-day Adventists. An NHLBI funded study at Loma Linda University directed by Professor GE Fraser.
- 1989 Research Fellow: “Studies of the effect of vegetarian diet on blood pressure in man”. A clinical intervention trial relating plasma and urinary biochemical parameters important in the homeostasis of blood pressure to dietary changes. An NH&MRC funded study at University of Western Australia directed by Professor LJ Beilin.
- 1998 Site Investigator at Bundaberg Base Hospital for the “Opus Timi – 16 Trial”. An international multicentre drug trial investigating the efficacy of orbofiban (a IIa-IIIb platelet inhibitor) in unstable coronary syndromes. Sponsored by Searle.
- 1999 Site Investigator at Bundaberg Base Hospital for the “Hero – 2 Trial”. An international drug trial investigating the efficacy of Hirulog (a synthetic heparin analogue) in patients with myocardial infarction treated with streptokinase thrombolysis. Sponsored by Medicines.

Referees:

1. Dr Brian Thiele, Vascular Surgeon
(Director of Medical Services at Bundaberg Base Hospital 1994-1999)
Friendly Society Private Hospital, 19-23 Bingera Street, Bundaberg 4670
Phone: (07) 4153 0760 BH
2. Dr Peter Miach, Renal Physician
Director of Medicine, Bundaberg Base Hospital
Bundaberg Base Hospital, 273-303 Bourbong Street, Bundaberg 4670
Phone: (07) 4152 1222
3. Dr David McEvoy, Respiratory Physician
Mater Private Medical Centre, 293 Vulture Street, South Brisbane 4101
Phone: (07) 3844 2463

TMS 2

ATTN DR

STRAHAN

LMA

PROFILE

Bundaberg

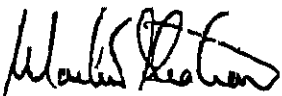
Opening Address

As Secretary of the Bundaberg & District Local Medical Association (BDLMA), I am delighted to present our first AMAQ News Profile and take this opportunity to outline an issue of major concern to the BDLMA – the workforce situation at Bundaberg Base Hospital.

For many years Bundaberg Base Hospital has been regarded as the most efficient regional hospital in Queensland. This of course is an administrative euphemism for referring to the least resourced hospital. Because of the historical basis used for ascertaining hospital funding the logic dictates that if a hospital managed without a service last year (and nobody complained too loudly) then it can manage without it again this year. Our LMA would be pleased to see evidence of equitable and realistic funding of comparable hospitals across Queensland.

The "efficiency" of Bundaberg Base Hospital has taken a toll in recent months on senior medical staff with the resignation of 5 of the 8 clinical directors. Specialist medical staff morale in the hospital is at a low ebb with many positions filled by temporary and locum staff. Local sources consider that the hospital requires funding for an additional 11.65 specialist FTEs to provide a satisfactory level of specialist medical services, in line with those of comparable regional hospitals.

At our most recent meeting, held on 16 August, LMA members met with AMAQ Industrial Relations Officer, Joanna Minchinton and Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation Qld (ASMOFQ) Industrial Officer, Rupert Tidmarsh, and discussed the recruitment and retention of appropriately qualified medical staff to regional centers and potential implications for community health care. Both Joanna and Rupert will be attending future Bundaberg LMA meetings to provide ongoing support regarding these issues and to filter local concerns to AMAQ.


DR MARTIN STRAHAN

Secretary, Bundaberg & District Local Medical Association
Committee.

President Dr Howard Kingston
Vice President Dr David Merefield
Secretary Dr Martin Strahan
Treasurer Dr John Branson

Objectives

Medical practitioners in Bundaberg associated for decades as a sub-branch of the British Medical Association, then as a sub-branch of the Australian Medical Association and for the past four years as a Local Medical Association. The BDLMA has relinquished its former role in medical education. Its objectives now are to promote the medical profession in the Bundaberg area and represent its members regarding professional, health and medico-political issues at a local level. Our LMA also strives to provide an appropriate forum to focus on the general and social interests of its members.

Membership and Committee

The BDLMA is inclusive in its membership considering every medical practitioner within the District to be a member unless they request otherwise. Thus there are currently approximately 120 members of whom about 45 make an annual financial contribution to the Association.

Meetings/Functions

Meetings of members are held second monthly for discussion of Association business and the minutes of these meetings are distributed to all members. An Annual Meeting is held each October and an Annual Dinner, to which the AMAQ President is always invited, is held in the middle of winter. A Presidents Function has been held each February in conjunction with Bundaberg Base Hospital medical staff and a Christmas function concludes the annual social program.

Recent Significant Event

BDLMA recently sponsored a CPR training course for local medical receptionists/nurses, which proved very successful. Because of greater than anticipated demand the 4 hour course had to be offered in 4 sessions attracting a total of 60 participants.

Why is it important to form part of a regional group of doctors?

LMAs have the potential to command considerable influence in their local area and often play a pivotal role in shaping health policies that affect their regions. Input is constantly sought from LMAs by local media outlets seeking comment on health matters. Our LMA has a direct link to AMAQ, which facilitates communication of grass root issues to AMAQ, the state's only independent medical representative organisation.

How to participate in the BDLMA?

If you would like to inquire about membership of the BDLMA or ensure you are on the mailing list to receive advice about Association activities, please contact me directly on telephone (07) 4153 0746.

If you have further LMA information you would like to share with AMAQ News, please contact Rachel Lutan @ the AMAQ Secretariat:

AMAQ,

PO Box 123, RED HILL QLD 4059

Tel: (07) 3872 2209

Fax: (07) 3856 4727

Email: r.lutan@amaq.com.au



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Doctors want straight answers

By Tanya Moore

MORALE at Bundaberg Base Hospital is at an all-time low because staff feel the state government is being dishonest with them, a local medical spokesman said.

Bundaberg District Local Medical Association president Martin Strahan's comments came after Health Minister Wendy Edmond insisted yesterday the hospital was being used as a "political football".

Ms Edmond, in town for the state government's community forum, said the Base was suffering from negative publicity in its effort to attract and sustain doctors and nurses.

Recently two surgeons from the hospital resigned, stating huge workloads as a major factor.

"There is a shortage of doctors around Australia and in particular in the public system and those hospitals copping a lot of negative media comment are those where it is hardest to recruit," Mrs Edmond said.

"Bundaberg happens to be one of those which seems to have been used as a political football more than most, which makes it very difficult."

CONTINUED - page 3



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Photo: TANYA MOORE acc112

Oddler in le escape

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Queensland Fire and Rescue Authority Bundaberg station officer Kevin Lucas said he had never seen a tree press so far into the middle of a car without anybody being seriously injured.

"When we approached the vehicle I thought somebody was

Ambulance officers were able to remove the driver from the car without any metal being cut and he was taken to the Bundaberg Base Hospital with suspected spinal, neck and internal injuries.

Bundaberg District Health med-





Public forum chaired by Premier Peter Beattie.

Photos: JODIE NOLAN for 1612

Doctors keen to air polities

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Most were impressed with their opportunity to talk straight to the ministers but many also expressed concern that 15 minutes wasn't long enough.

Bundaberg REIQ branch president Brian Porra said he and other business representatives were aware 15 minutes was just a token but that they were using it to check in with the ministers and provide their latest business brief.

"Five hours wouldn't be

way to let them know we are still here," Mr Porra said.

Mr Beattie said the forum was a unique chance for Queenslanders to participate in democracy as a democracy was originally meant to be.

He said all inquiries made to ministers were either answered straight away or were looked into further as a result of the issues being raised.

The state government will hold its cabinet meeting in the Burnett Shire Council cham-

Doctors seek frank answers

FROM page 1

DR Strahan agreed perceptions played a large part in the role of resignations at the hospital but felt the government did equally little to improve them.

"We are just not getting straightforward answers to straightforward questions," Dr Strahan said.

"The Bundaberg Base Hospital is unhappy — in the last eight years that I have worked there morale has never been so low.

"There is a widespread perception that we are underfunded and I think that it would be a helpful thing for the health department to sit down and have a discussion with the medical staff and show us what the facts really are.

"Doctors aren't silly — if you show us a good argument we can agree to it."

The Local Medical Association would sit down with Mrs Edmond this morning to talk about the medical problems at the hospital, with a particular emphasis on the surgeons' resignation.

Mrs Edmond pointed out yesterday the two surgeons who resigned had not left Queensland Health but had simply been transferred to other locations or had reduced their work availability.

But Dr Strahan said the administration's lack of attention to the doctors' concerns were largely responsible for their exit.

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NOKIA 3330

news-mail

Tackle cause

IT seems like an easy answer to blame the woes of Bundaberg Base Hospital on negative media coverage.

The media often are scapegoats of politicians, who seem more intent to tackle effects rather than root causes.

Health Minister Wendy Edmond no doubt has a point that a hospital's bad image will make it difficult to attract doctors from an already-depleted pool of staff nationwide.

But a bad image doesn't stem from media coverage — it stems from systemic problems the media cannot ignore for the sake of the public's right to know.

Highly-esteemed surgeons do not resign because of a hospital's bad public image — they resign because of the intolerable working conditions behind the scenes.

Maybe Mrs Edmond should stop the "football" games and tackle the problem from the inside — where it started.

CHRISTINA ONGLEY
News editor

George HARRIS
1943-20

SOMETHING
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COMES
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WHILE MY
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ABBAY
ROAD
GEORGE
MARTI

Burning adds to land problems

ONE more depressing factor can be added to the latest data on the high rate of land clearing in Australia by bulldozing, and that is the degradation of the remaining bushland by deliberate, frequent burning.

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service deliberately burns one million hectares of our national estate every year. In the Northern Territory the fire authorities deliberately burn 30 million hectares of rangeland per year, they even boast about the tens of thousands of incendiaries they drop on the land from aeroplanes. The community has panicked as a result of constant bombardment with propaganda about "the fire season", vegetation has become an enemy and landholders are burning every stick of vegetation in sight.

In the majority of situations there is no logic behind this burning. That is, either there is no danger to houses or there are other, less destructive, ways of hazard reduction. Through frequent burning, trees become weakened and die, the understory is changed which upsets the insect balance, the soil with its micro-organisms is degraded.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

PO Box 3006,
Bundaberg DC 46
Fax: (07) 4151 299
E-mail: editorial@news

through senseless burning
DR MI

Turn your back on dishonest d

OUR society is riddled with many kinds. We have while crime gets worse. tend they are doing something can't leave it in the too- they organise a panel of experts to look into the problem, cause, effect and obvious. After lengthy de advice from the experts body do something."

Advertisers use many to induce gullible people

TMSH.

Notes of Meeting – 5 Nov 04

Present :

Dr Martin Strahan – VMO Gen Medicine - BBH
Mr Peter Leck – DM BHSD
Dr Darren Keating – DMS BHSD

Context :

Ms Toni Hoffman NUM ICU/CCU has made a number of allegations against Dr Jayant Patel, Director of Surgery BBH, including some allegations about his clinical competence. Dr Strahan was asked to provide any comment in relation to these allegations because Ms Hoffman had named him as one doctor who shared similar concerns.

Response :

Dr Strahan outlined a case where a woman from Biggenden was referred to him for investigation of abdominal pain. He performed a gastroscopy on the woman finding obstruction in the 2nd part of the duodenum and was unable to advance the scope any further, despite multiple attempts. After the procedure the woman experienced ongoing abdominal pain (? perforation), so was referred to BBH and seen by Dr Patel. A CT scan was performed and reported to Dr Strahan as showing dye in the abdominal cavity. He reviewed the films and believed the dye showed a nephrogram. Nevertheless Dr Patel operated and found carcinoma of the pancreas (which was confirmed as adenocarcinoma by biopsies taken at time of endoscopy). Dr Strahan believed this case showed Dr Patel was rigid in his thinking and judgement being unwilling to be flexible as new evidence came to hand. This lady was sent home and returned for a Whipples operation. Unfortunately she died several days after the operation. He also questioned whether the Whipples operation should be done in Bundaberg, whilst acknowledging most specialists (inc himself) in regional areas may have kept patients too long before referring to metropolitan hospitals.

Dr Strahan believed that Dr Patel had an aggressive and assertive personality, but had he had kept his distance from Dr Patel. Dr Strahan noted that the local specialists felt Dr Patel had arrived from the US, been appointed as Director of Surgery and given appropriate authority supported by management, which he had used to reduce surgical waiting lists. However he appeared to operate without some form of peer review. He was seen as a self declared expert from the 1st world here to help the 3rd world of Bundaberg. The local specialists saw him as 'a Johnny come lately' who had been given the 'inside running by management' with concerns held by the specialists over his university appointment and appointment to the local Oncology committee.



Dr Darren Keating
DMS