

Doctor wellbeing, medical errors and patient outcomes; time for action

will be presented by Professor Stephen Robson

**A General Meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday 24th July 2021
Melbourne Club, 36 Collins Street, Melbourne.**

**Drinks served 6.30pm, Presentation 7.00pm, followed by Dinner
Dress: Black Tie**

Professor Robson is Professor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Australian National University Medical School. He grew up in rural Queensland, and his practice now is based in Canberra. He is an advocate for reducing childbirth-associated death through his charity Send Hope (www.sendhope.org). Prof Robson put the wellbeing of medical practitioners squarely in the public eye with an article about his own battles with mental health in the Medical Journal of Australia published in 2018.

The health and wellbeing of doctors is not an abstract issue or vain professional self-indulgence. There is clear evidence that doctors who are healthy and clear-thinking provide better patient care and are less likely to make errors or be subject to complaints. However there is a long tradition among doctors to place a low priority on their own wellbeing. As an intern in a small rural town in the 1980s his attempt at suicide was interrupted purely by chance - or so he thought for 30 years. After three decades of shame during which he did not confide in anybody, Steve published an article about his own experience that drew international attention. He had always felt that the death of a patient under his care as a junior doctor was one of the contributors to his mental state at the time - but was the truth far worse?

Members may bring guests who need not be legal or medical practitioners.

Acceptances close Monday 19th July, 2021

No acceptances or refunds will be available after this date.

Members and their guests are reminded of the dress requirements. Mobile telephones may not be used inside Melbourne Club. Urgent calls may be made to the Club (9650 4941) and a message will be conveyed by Club staff.

The Committee reminds Members that the premises are to be vacated by 11.30 pm.

Host Member: Dr Glenn Howlett

**Mr Ian Rose, Hon. Legal Secretary
Tel: (03) 9645 1597 or 0419 551 362**

**Dr Raphael Kuhn, Hon. Medical Secretary
Tel: 0419 399 719**