

The dot.rural MIME Project – Managing Information in Medical Emergencies

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3.30 – 4.30 pm

MacRobert MR051

Remote and rural healthcare policy is changing. Individual citizens will be expected to assume greater responsibility for basic health provision and, together with professionals of varying levels of training, will participate in teams to deliver acute and chronic care. Thus, when an individual in a rural area requires acute medical assistance, the first person on scene may be a "first responder" (a lay person with some basic first aid training and limited equipment), a nurse, a paramedic or a doctor. That person will assess the patient and their situation, will carry out initial measures and seek additional help as appropriate.

The MIME project examines how digital technologies can assist community first responders. This includes exploring the potential of lightweight, wireless health monitors harnessed with novel software approaches including Natural Language Generation and decision-support. This seminar will provide an overview of MIME, including its staff, key aims and challenges.

Alasdair studied at the University of Glasgow and then at King's College London. He was then employed by QinetiQ as an altitude physiologist, rapidly decompressing equipment, and sometimes willing volunteers, to altitudes over 50,000 ft in hypobaric chambers. Post-QinetiQ he conducted his PhD research at the University of Aberdeen, exploring casualty health monitoring during remote and rural search and rescue. He began work as a research fellow with dot.rural in January 2010.