



# national science week

## Gabby Brown, Menzies Research Institute

### *Why do Devils get DFTD?*

Hey, my name is Gabby, and I'm a PhD student at the Menzies Research Institute in Hobart.

I'm working with a group of scientists who are studying Tasmanian devils to work out why the devils can't resist the deadly Devil Facial Tumour Disease that is sweeping through the population.

I started working with the devils when I did my honours project in 2008 and have continued research this year. Most of my work is done in the lab, but I do get to go out in the field and work with the devils!

For me, doing research that may help understand this terrible disease is extremely rewarding.

I did a Biotechnology degree at the University of Tasmania because it offered opportunities to work in an interesting and fast-moving area of science.

I find research in biology and genetics fascinating and have had opportunities to learn skills in many different areas, from health science to botany.

**Find out more** about the Tassie Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD) at <http://tassiedevil.com.au/disease.html>



[www.youngtassiescientists.com](http://www.youngtassiescientists.com)