

## TGA history book

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has announced the publication of a new book outlining the history of therapeutic goods regulation in Australia.

Written by former TGA Principal Medical Advisor Dr John McEwen, who's also a graduate of the Victorian College of Pharmacy, the book covers the period from the early 1900s to the present and is available as a free PDF download from the TGA website.

It can also be purchased for \$25 including postage in Australia, with the TGA saying the publication aims to capture the evolutionary process of regulation "not only as an interesting example of the development and role of a regulator but also to understand the directions for the future".

## Guild welcomes new govt

THE Pharmacy Guild this morning issued a statement congratulating PM-elect Kevin Rudd and his colleagues on their "emphatic victory at Saturday's Federal Election".

Guild President Kos Sclavos said he looked forward to further developing relationships with Rudd and his new cabinet.

"I am very fortunate to live in Kevin Rudd's Griffith electorate and as a result already have a strong working relationship with him," Sclavos said.

"I know he will be an excellent Prime Minister and is committed to ensuring all Australians have access to the best possible health services," he added.

Sclavos emphasised the "many times" Mr Rudd had gone on the

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## DISPENSARY CORNER

HE should have tried Rogaine.

A man has been badly beaten by his fiance and her parents after they discovered he was wearing a wig.

The UK *Daily Telegraph* reported that Prabir Das of Assam was eating dinner with his in-laws when they discovered he was actually bald.

His wife-to-be pulled off his hairpiece, with her parents joining in to rip the rug to bits and then reportedly taking his wallet, mobile phone and motorbike as a "penalty for his deception".

The wedding, which was planned for 12 Dec, now appears to be off.

A STUDY to be published this month in the *British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* shows significant reduction in back pain in pregnant women who wear a special "bra" around their stomachs.

The camisole-like BellyBra is described as an "intelligent full torso support garment" with the makers saying they "support pregnant women all over the world, one belly at a time".

A DINER at a Shanghai seafood restaurant needed a bit more than a band-aid after his tongue became impaled on a fishhook.

At first Edward Pei thought he'd come across a fishbone, but said when he tried to take it out "I felt metal with my tongue and had blood all over my hand".

A 1cm-long hook was removed from his tongue at a nearby hospital, with a spokesman saying "he should recover soon, but his eating will be restricted for the next few days".

## ASMI award winners!



ABOVE: Procter & Gamble's Vicks First Defence won the award for *Best new consumer healthcare product launch* at last week's Australian Self Medication Industry annual conference in Sydney (PD Thu).

Pictured at the award ceremony from left are Nicholas Hall, who spoke on OTC trends at the conference with Anupam Martins, Doug Anderson and Matthew Pilkington, all of Procter & Gamble.

record expressing support for the role of community pharmacy.

He also pointed out commitments made by shadow health spokesperson Nicola Roxon during the election campaign which promised to maintain the current pharmacy ownership rules.

"The Guild is excited for the future of community pharmacy under the Rudd Labor Government," Sclavos concluded.

## Prize for PharmBiz

THE Dept of Health and Ageing's PharmBiz program won a silver award in last week's Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Sector Management.

PharmBiz was formed to implement recommendations of a 2005/06 review of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee process, with key achievements including the online PBS schedule updated monthly.

## Symbion on hold

SYMBION Health and its suitor Healthscope are both still in suspension on the Australian Stock Exchange as they await a ruling from the tax office on the status of their proposed deal.

Shareholders are expected to vote on the matter at a meeting on Fri, with rival Primary Health Care still opposing the deal.

## Pharmacy e-bulletin

THIS week's edition of the Repatriation General Hospital Pharmacy e-Bulletin deals with Statins and the Lung, reviewing recent studies linking statin use with benefits for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Copies available at no charge via [chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au](mailto:chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au).

## Stop snoring ruining your life

It's long been considered a joke in the bedroom but snoring can have serious consequences if left unchecked, affecting bedroom intimacy, work performance and general wellbeing. Snoring deprives sufferers of the sleep that experts say is vital to our physical and mental health, and essential for the normal functioning of all the systems of our body. Now a unique, patented anti-snoring device offers an easy-to-use solution that requires no specialist intervention.

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