

Farewell Judith Liauw

YESTERDAY saw the passing of Judith Liauw, community pharmacist, President of the Tasmanian Branch of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and PSA member.

"Judith was at the forefront of modern community pharmacy in Australia," a statement from the Guild said.

"She was an intelligent, gracious and committed woman who made an enduring contribution to pharmacy and the broader health system," the Guild added.

In addition to her official industry functions, Judy, a community pharmacist with 30 years experience, had been the director and manager of the Westside Pharmacy in Ulverstone, Tasmania since 1985.

"Judy was unstinting in supporting and promoting rural pharmacy as well as doing everything she could to help early career pharmacists become established," said PSA president, Warwick Plunkett.

Throughout her distinguished career, Judy also held positions including National Councillor at the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, the Chair of the Guild's Women and Young Pharmacists Committee, the Chair of the Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy, Chair of the Guild's Government Relations and Policy Committee, as well as being the only pharmacist on the 13-person External Resource Group for the Department of Health and Ageing's National Primary Health Care Strategy.

Last week the Guild National Council voted unanimously to elect Judy as an honorary life member - making her only the third woman to be honoured as such in the organisation's 80 year history.

In her resignation letter to the Guild, written earlier in the month, Judy said "I hope I have left a legacy of participation by the women and young pharmacists in the rural regions to excel in spite of the apparent barriers faced."

PSA support presentations

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has released a new range of presentation packs for members, which promote greater community interaction and support.

Developed by the PSAs Practice Support Unit, the health promotion presentations cover a range of topics including 'Asthma: managing your child's medicines', 'Dose Administration Aids', 'Home Medicines Review', 'Head Lice' and 'Weight Management'.

The presentations are designed as an easy-to-use tool for community

pharmacists who wish to run local information sessions to ensure the quality use of medications and better consumer health outcomes.

Each downloadable presentation comes with its own ready-made kit, and includes a Powerpoint presentation, presenter guide with notes and a participant hand out.

Pharmacists will also score one CPD point for each hour spent reviewing the material.

PSA members can download the kits from the Nationally-Developed Materials link in the Professional Development Materials section of the PSA members-only website, see www.psa.org.au.

Calling NSW Assistants

THE Pharmacy Guild is reminding the industry that its NSW Pharmacy Assistants' Conference is set to kick-off on 28 Aug in Bondi.

The one-day intensive canvasses topics including 'The Choice of Formula Matters', 'Understanding Incontinence', 'Optimising your performance', 'Change the Way You Sell', 'The Importance of Reducing Tummy Fat', 'Optimising Instore Promotions', and 'Management of Dentine Hypersensitivity'.

The conference is also a chance for assistants to network with fellow colleagues and industry members.

Priced at \$105pp, the Guild has advised that places are filling up.

For more info or to register visit www.nswpharmacyassistant.com.au.

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Today's PD issue

TODAY'S Pharmacy Daily has two pages of news, plus two full pages from the Guild on its 2010 Offshore Business Conference, as well as its consultation and membership opportunities- See **pages three** and **four** for details.

GSK forced to settle

GLAXOSMITHKLINE has advised that it has now settled a "substantial majority of product liability cases relating to Avandia".

Estimated to have cost around US\$460m, the announcement comes one day after the FDA agreed to keep the product on the shelves, but with stricter labelling warnings (**PD** yesterday).

WIN A KOHL PENCIL



Every day this week, **Pharmacy Daily** is giving readers the chance to win a kohl pencil from the latest Honey Comb pencil display, courtesy of Total Beauty Network.

Exclusive to Designer Brands is a range of makeup pencils for eyes and lips offering the hottest fashion colours in creamy, yet defining formulas.

Designer Brands Lip Pencils are luxuriously soft, offering incredible definition without bleeding.

Designer Brands Kohl Pencils glide on gently, allowing great eye definition or easy blending for sexy, smoky looks.

For your chance to win your very own kohl pencil this week, simply send through the correct answer to the daily question below:

Name 3 other lip products in the Designer Brands range?

Send entry to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

The first correct entry received each day will win.

Hint! Visit www.tbn.com.au.

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner: **Fiona Fahey** from **Impact Organisation**.



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 Guild

Oral MS treatment

THE Russian Federal Service on Surveillance in Healthcare and Social Development has become the first agency to approve Merck Serono's Movectro (oral cladribine) for the treatment of relapse-remitting MS (RRMS) patients.

The world's first oral disease-modifying MS therapy, the drug is set to take on the market leading interferon betas and Copaxone (glatiramer acetate, Teva) MS treatments.

In the US, Novartis' own oral disease-modifying MS therapy Gilenia (fingolimod) is set to beat Movectro to the market, having already received unanimous backing by the FDA advisory panel for the treatment of relapse-remitting MS (RRMS) patients, back in June.

At present Movectro has not yet received the US FDA advisory panel nod.

CPD Calendar

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's*

Continuing Professional Development Calendar, featuring upcoming events and opportunities to earn CPE and CPD points.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email info@pharmacydaily.com.au.

28 Jul, 30 Jul: One day intensive conference on Pharmaceutical Law - Melbourne (28th) and Sydney (30th) - 02 9224 6011.

28 Aug-02 Sep: 70th FIP World Congress, Lisbon, Portugal - www.fip.org/lisbon2010.

11-12 Sep: Australasian Conference for Compounding Pharmacists - www.accp.net.au.

15-18 Sep: Pharmacy 2010, the Pharmacy Management Conference on Hamilton Island - www.pharmacyconference.com.au.

28-31 Oct: PSA's Pharmacy Australia Congress in Melbourne - details www.pac10.com.au.

11-14 Nov: The 36th National SHPA Conference, Medicines Management 2010 in Melbourne - mm2010shpa.com.

01-10 May 2011: The PSA's 2011 Offshore Conference in Venice, Italy and Salzburg, Austria - expressions of interest at www.psa.org.au.

Indigenous health group

TODAY marks the commencement of a new national body titled, the 'Indigenous Allied Health Australia Incorporated' (IAHA).

Launched by the Minister for Indigenous Health, Rural and Regional Health and Regional Service Delivery, Warren Snowdon,

Infusion pump recall

THE US Food and Drug Administration has ordered the recall of Baxter Healthcare's Colleague Volumetric Infusion Pumps (CVIP).

The recall comes after years of reported product flaws including battery failures, inadvertent powering off, service data errors, and "other issues".

The recall order includes the requirement for Baxter to provide customers with a refund, a replacement, or lease termination.

PSA walk-a-thon

THIS week the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia launched its very own staff walk-a-thon.

Designed as a "lead by example" health improvement exercise, the walk-a-thon aims to calculate how many times PSA staffers can walk the distance around Australia before PAC10 in Oct.

The walk-a-thon also aims to increase awareness of the need for office workers to fit exercise into their daily routine.

As part of the initiative, staff are being encouraged to weigh and measure themselves so that they can track their total losses at the conclusion of the program.

Staff are aiming to walk a minimum of 8km a day (or 10,000 steps).

GSK has jumped on the bandwagon, donating 50 pedometers to the PSA so that staff can track their steps.

"We are delighted to be part of this initiative and know that pedometers are important as many people are surprised at just how few steps they take during the normal course of their daily routine," said GSK marketing manager, Rod Stosic.

The results of the walk-a-thon are set to be revealed at PAC10, but if you want to track staff progress **CLICK HERE**.

the IAHA will represent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health professionals and students, and is tasked with helping to improve the health of indigenous Australians.

As part of the launch, community pharmacist Faye McMillan has been appointed to the IAHA board of directors as its pharmacy representative.

The PSA has welcomed the IAHA inception, saying for the first time ever an industry body would bring indigenous allied healthcare workers from across the country together.

"Over the many years of the Rural Pharmacy program there has been a concerted effort to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to choose pharmacy as a career," said Chair of the PSA's Rural Special Interest Group, Karalyn Huxhagen.

"However, there have been many barriers to achieving these goals and pharmacy has worked very hard to overcome them.

"But many issues were out of the scope of what pharmacy organisations alone could rectify so PSA welcomes the opportunity to work with the Indigenous Allied Health Australia Incorporated partnership on achieving the goals of the National Indigenous Health Workforce Training Package," she added.

To view the IAHA website go to www.indigenouslyalliedhealth.com.au.

Measles watch

AN avid soccer fan has returned from South Africa with measles, prompting health officials at The International Society for Infectious Diseases to urge healthcare practitioners to be on the lookout for measles symptoms in persons having returned from FIFA.

The 24-year old man presented to a Darwin doctors surgery with a fever, rash, respiratory symptoms, conjunctivitis and Koplick's spots, and tests soon after proved he had contracted measles whilst in South Africa (where at present there is a mass outbreak of the virus).

It is most likely the man contracted the condition whilst cheering along in one of SA's domed soccer venues.



DISPENSARY CORNER

TASTY afternoon snack?

An Indian man, Zaver Rathod, recently had a near death experience after ingesting a poisonous snake to win a bet.

Rathod had initially killed the reptile after it had struck one of his friends, and upon telling his work mates of his conquest a bet was made that he could not eat his own kill.

Rathod accepted the bet of approx AU\$1.75, and chowed down on the snake's cold, raw body.

Not surprisingly, only hours later he was rushed to an emergency room suffering severe nausea and vomiting.

Fortunately doctors were able to remove the contents of his stomach before the snake's still-active poison entered his system, which would have killed him in a matter of hours.

GET in quick for a cheap iPad.

An email currently doing the rounds of healthcare professionals Australia-wide is offering recipients the amazing chance to scoop themselves a brand new iPad for just \$1.50.

Now to the cynical eye, one may be suspicious of an email that arrived and contained a subject line that made such grand promises.

Nonetheless, the email delivers on its bold promise, directing readers as to the method with which to obtain an iPad for under two dollars.

Unfortunately for all you tech savvy Mac aficionados out there, the iPad is in fact produced by Kendall Curity, and its humble design pre-dates the iPad by many, many, many years.



Not quite as jam packed with apps!

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