

Pharmacy DAILY

Thursday 27 Jan 2011

PHARMACYDAILY.COM.AU

Gong for Bronger

FORMER National President of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, John Bronger, was named in the Australia Day honours list yesterday as

receiving a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM).

The citation was for Bronger's "service to the pharmaceutical industry through roles with professional organisations".

Based in Sydney, he's also been a community pharmacist for 40 years, is a director of the Chemist Works group of pharmacies and is the adjunct professor of Pharmacy Management at the University of Sydney.

Other pharmacists named in the Honours List included Stephen Shaddock from the Australian Defence Force, awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross for "outstanding achievement as the Staff Officer Grade One Health Materiel Logistics and Pharmacy within the Joint Health Command".

WA Senator Michael Beahan was also granted an AM for a range of achievements including service to the pharmacy profession.

APP is still on!

THE Pharmacy Guild is reassuring the industry that APP2011 will still be held on the weekend of 17-20 March at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The assurance comes on the back of a number of calls to the Guild regarding the conference's status in light of the recent Queensland flooding situation.

See www.appconference.com.

End for renewals looming

HEALTH professionals across Australia are being warned that they will be unable to practice after next Monday unless they urgently renew their registration.

A communiqué from the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency issued this week reminds pharmacists and other practitioners that if they were due to renew by 31 Dec 2010 or 01 Jan 2011 they only have until the expiration of a one-month grace period on 31 Jan to lodge an application for renewal.

"Under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act...once the 'late period' ends, registration lapses and AHPRA must remove practitioners from the National Register.

"AHPRA has no discretion about this," the agency warned.

"Lapsed registrants may not practice in Australia without making a new application for registration."

However under guidelines issued earlier this month (PD 19 Jan) practitioners whose registration application has been received by AHPRA can continue to practice while their application is being processed, even if it is one month after their registration expiry date.

"While it is up to practitioners to make sure they are registered, AHPRA is doing everything it can to support the registration renewal process," said AHPRA ceo Martin Fletcher.

He said that pharmacists can check that their application has been received online at www.ahpra.gov.au.

A fast track application process has been established to assist with the transition to the National Scheme, with applicants under this system not required to provide proof of identity, verification of qualifications, English language skills, registration history or work history – but new applications after

registration lapses will require all of these details making the process significantly more complicated.

The registration renewal date for pharmacists will eventually be aligned nationally to 30 Nov following a transition period.

Aged care submissions

THE Department of Health (DoH) is inviting submissions to the Productivity Commission regarding aged care reform, following the release of the Commission's draft report 'Caring for Older Australians'.

According to the DoH, the draft report will provide the Federal Government with key advice on the direction of aged care in Australia.

To view the report visit www.pc.gov.au.

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Allegra approval

THE US Food and Drug Administration has approved a new allergy medicine, Allegra, for over-the-counter use.

Manufactured by Sanofi-Aventis, Allegra has been approved for the treatment of persons aged over two years, and will be available in its prescription strength without a prescription in US pharmacies from March this year.

MEANWHILE the FDA has also announced a possible association between saline and silicone gel-filled breast implants and anaplastic large cell lymphoma.

The warning comes on the heels of data collected by the FDA which suggests that patients with breast implants "may have a very small but significant risk of ALCL in the scar capsule adjacent to the implant."

WIN AN A'KIN ANTI-OXIDANT COMPLEX



Pharmacy Daily has teamed up with **A'kin** this week and is giving 5 lucky readers the chance to win an A'kin Rosehip & Shea Intensive Moisture Anti-oxidant Complex valued at \$39.95.

Reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles with the help of A'kin Rosehip & Shea Intensive Moisture Anti-oxidant Complex, ideal for dry or

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Hint: Visit: www.purist.com

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, **Carmel Brown** from **Priceline Pharmacy Ballarat, VIC.**



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Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature.

Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals which we're sure will be of interest to everyone in the pharmacy industry.

SKIMAX has an earlybird offer at the Oaks Shores Queenstown, priced from \$625pp, on sale until 31 Mar for travel between 15 Jun and 30 Sep. The package includes seven nights accommodation in a two bedroom apartment, three day lift tickets to The Remarkables and Coronet Peak ski areas, seven day's car hire, and free night skiing on Coronet Peak - phone 1300 136 997.

CREATIVE Cruising is selling a 16 night cruise onboard Cunard's *Queen Victoria* from Athens to Venice until 31 Jan, for the 08 November departure.

The special package priced from \$5549pp includes Qantas Airways flights ex Australia, two nights pre cruise accom and breakfast at the Plaka Hotel in Athens, a 12 night Egypt and Greek Isles cruise, and two nights post cruise accom at the Palazzo Schiavoni Hotel in Venice.

Info creativecruising.com.au.

SPICERS Balfour Hotel in Brisbane is offering a Valentine's Day package priced from \$659 per couple per night.

Included in the price is a three course dinner, breakfast in bed, a bottle of French Champagne on arrival and luxury accom, plus late check out to midday.

Valentine's specials are also available at other properties including Spicers Tamarind Retreat; Spicers Hidden Vale; and Spicers Clovelly Estate.

See spicersgroup.com.au.

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Vitamin sales on the rise

AUSTRALIAN vitamin sales grew last year by 3% points, with women shown to be the primary buyers, according to the latest Roy Morgan findings.

The report, covering the 12 months leading to September 2010, found that 6.6 million Aussies purchased vitamins during the period, an overall increase of 776,000 buyers over the past three years.

In general, women took the lions share of vitamin sales, clocking a whopping 44% increase 2010, compared to a 29% increase for the same period in male vitamin sales.

"Women are the most valuable consumers in the vitamin market," Roy Morgan analysts said.

The greatest market segment, according to Roy Morgan, is amongst women aged between 35 and 49 years, who in the last six months have reportedly made up 1,251,000 sales (or 31% of the total sales for the female sector).

The next largest group was found to be in women aged 50 to 64 years, who made up 24% of female sales (957,000), followed by females aged between 25-34 (728,000), women aged 65 and over at 14% (552,000), women aged 18-24 at 9% (364,000), and

SHPA CE Lecture

THE Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia has announced details of its latest CE Lecture on Palliative Care.

The lecture will be presented by palliative care physician, Dr Derek Eng, and will take place on 02 Feb between 6-7pm at Royal Perth Hospital, call (03) 9486 0177.

lastly, females aged 14-17 at 4% (143,000).

The fastest growing sector however, according to the report's findings is women aged 65 and over, with vitamin sales for this market, growing by 205,000 in the past three years.

Abbott's growth

ABBOTT Laboratories and Subsidiaries has reported double digit growth in its fourth quarter, clocking an EPS (earnings per share) increase of 10.2%.

Worldwide sales for the group also showed promise, with figures jumping 13.4% to nearly US\$10 billion, for the period ending 31 December 2010.

Abbott has said that growth in the quarter was primarily driven by pharmaceutical sales, which increased 22%, including contributions provided via its acquisition of both Solvay and Pirmal, as well as worldwide vascular products sales, which increased 13.7%.

"Despite a very challenging environment, 2010 was another productive year for Abbott, resulting in strong financial performance," said Miles White, chairman and chief executive officer, Abbott.

"We also took decisive long-term strategic actions to expand our emerging markets presence and late-stage pipeline to better position Abbott for sustainable long-term growth," he added.

Meanwhile, Abbott has said that it anticipates another year of double-digit ongoing EPS growth in 2011.

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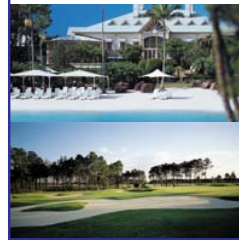
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LIVING off fat of the rich.

A recent campaign marketed by UK Harley Street cosmetic surgery practice, offering 'reverse liposuction' has been revealed as a spoof.

Claimed to be a cutting edge procedure developed by the Klaxon Institute and which could end world hunger by enabling those in third world countries to live off the excess fat of the Western world, reverse liposuction, was in fact the brainchild of a charity called Practical Action.

Watched by an estimated 38% of people living in the UK, the video marketing campaign, was designed to demonstrate how "short-term, quick fixes are no match for long-term, practical solutions that help the people of the developing world escape poverty forever".

"It's worrying that people fell for the spoof and think that imposed western solutions such as reverse liposuction would be a good, feasible, idea to help end poverty," said Margaret Gardner, a Director at Practical Action.

To watch the clip **CLICK HERE**.

THIS one doesn't need dressing.

Visitors to Cairns Botanic Gardens might be forgiven for thinking the garden contains the walking wounded, after one of the world's rarest flowers bloomed earlier in the month.

Not the most lovely Valentine's Day flower, the titan arum species is native to Sumatra, and is said to smell exactly like rotting flesh.

Rather than just being nasty for the sake of it, the scent is designed to smell like rotting flesh to attract insects for the plant to feed off.

SLIGHTLY disturbing green energy.

Local UK council members in the town of Redditch have come under fire for their push to have the local swimming pool heated by a neighbouring crematorium.

The "green energy solution" has been criticised for being "creepy", with one funeral director saying "I think trying to save money due to the death of someone's family member or friend is a bit sick".

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