Friday’s comp winner
THE winner of the Pharmacy Daily Friday competition was Malie Ung from Barone Pharmacy in Fairfield. Ung wins a Designer Brands pack including a Mineral Eye Shadow Palette and a Paw Paw Plus kit.

App bridges barrier
A NEW app for smart phones has been developed by an intensive care specialist to bridge the language barrier between clinician and non-English speaking patients. Dr Janet Liang from Auckland has developed ‘Listen Please’ which translates the five main non-English languages in the Waitamata district: Samoan, Tongan, Cantonese, Korean and Mandarin. Liang won the Health Informatics New Zealand Clinician’s Challenge prize in 2011 with her concept.

Face to face consultation
PHARMACY Guild of Australia national president George Tambassis has said face to face consultation is better for consumers than online suppliers of prescription drugs.
Jon Faine of 774 ABC Melbourne said “traditional style pharmacies” had warned that online suppliers were putting patients’ health at risk and asked whether this was self interest or public interest.
Faine said having to go back to a doctor and pharmacist for a repeat prescription seemed like a waste of time and money and online portals undercut pharmacies on cost.
Tambassis said he believed it was not appropriate to “go online, answer a questionnaire, and work out what your issues are,” when it came to talking about health.
Tambassis said there was legislation that allowed pharmacies to continue dispensing medications even if a patient had run out of their prescription.
“Those online portals don’t know who you are, you don’t know who’s taking the information off you.”
Tambassis said local pharmacies were used to being price-competitive as well as providing high value information services.
Tambassis said face to face consultation is better for consumers than online suppliers of prescription drugs.

MA on pholcodine
FOLLOWING an article in the Australian Prescriber calling for pholcodine to be re-classified to prescription only, Medicines Australia ceo Dr Brendan Shaw said calls to restrict the availability of medicines could cause undue alarm and confusion among consumers and healthcare professionals.

EMA clears Ranbaxy
ALTHOUGH some Good Manufacturing Process (GMP) deficiencies were found at the Ranbaxy Toansa site in India, the European Union has assessed that there has been no resultant risk to public health.
European regulators also considered the corrective measures put in place and were satisfied they were sufficient to ensure GMP-compliant manufacture of products at the site.
Mothball mothballs
THE NZ Ministry of Health has asked retailers selling mothballs to remove them from sale and is urging consumers who have any such ‘mothball’ products at home to dispose of them safely subsequent to them being identified as a toxic risk, especially for children.
The Ministry said the Environmental Protection Agency had advised that chemicals used in all currently available mothball products were not approved for use as a pesticide.
The New Zealand Pharmacy Guild posted the Ministry’s directive on its Facebook page.
The Ministry said on average every three years two people required hospital treatment for eating mothballs or flakes, with 80% of these cases being children under the age of four.
To read more, CLICK HERE.

WIN A CANCER COUNCIL PACK
This week Pharmacy Daily is giving four readers the chance to win a Cancer Council BB Crème and Body Lotion, valued at $33.90.
Cancer Council BB Crème is a 3 in 1 formula that corrects skin tone and offers SPF 30 protection. The crème is made with ingredients including grape seed extract to help reduce signs of ageing, vitamin E to increase moisture, mushroom extract to fight bacteria build up and mica to help reflect light, giving skin a flawless finish. The BB Crème is available in light and medium tint.
Cancer Council Body Moisturiser with SPF 30 is a rich crème with aloe vera to soothe dry skin, and vitamin E to nourish, hydrate and protect skin.
To win, be the first person to send in the correct answer to the question below to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Pharm defence award
STEVE Flavel’s Woody Point Pharmacy is the winner of the National Employer Support Awards 2014 in the small business category, presented at a dinner hosted by the Defence Reserves Support Council in Canberra.
Presented by Assistant Minister for Defence Stuart Robert, the award recognised Flavel’s support of his employee, Army Reservist Luke Wale, during his posting to the Solomon Islands.
Wale had since finished his preregistration training, Flavel said. This support included providing military service leave and visiting Wale in the Solomon Islands to see how the training would benefit his career, where Commander of the Eighth Brigade Brigadier Allan Murray said Flavel reassured other reservists that employers were behind them.
Flavel said it was “vitally important” for pharmacy to be recognised in the community as being responsible and desired employers who were active contributors.
This was a further example of how pharmacy contributed to its communities in a far broader perspective than “many politicians would have the public believe,” Flavel said.

Guild Update
PPI claims due Saturday 14 June
If you have not yet claimed for the 01 Apr to 31 May 2014 PPI Clinical Interventions and/ or DAAs claiming period, simply log in to the 5CPA Registration and Claiming Portal and click on the ‘NEW CLAIM’ Tab. The claiming period is available until 14 Jun 2014 as detailed in the PPI Programme Specific Guidelines.
To assist you when completing your PPI claim a ‘Calculating your PPI claim for DAAs’ worksheet and a ‘How to claim for PPI in the 5CPA Registration and Claiming Portal’ user guide are available under the ‘Resources’ Tab at www.gcpa.com.au.
When claiming you may notice a reference to the last claiming period on the portal; this is an IT configuration glitch, therefore we ask that you please disregard it and continue with your claim for the current claiming period.