

World Suicide Prevention Day on 10 September promotes worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicides. On average, almost 3000 people commit suicide daily. For every person who completes a suicide, 20 or more may attempt to end their lives.

The sponsoring International Association for Suicide Prevention, the co-sponsor WHO and other partners advocate for the prevention of suicidal behaviour, provision of adequate treatment and follow-up care for people who attempted suicide, as well as responsible reporting of suicides in the media.

For more information visit the WHO website

<http://www.who.int/en/>

Or the official World Suicide Prevention Day website

<http://www.iasp.info/wspd/>



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From the Desk of the President

Dear Colleagues

I have just returned from my annual leave in London where I was attending the Olympic games with my husband.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF GP'S

While there I took the opportunity to meet with Dr John Howard of the RCGP who is involved in the international program of the college. I visited him at his clinic which is a large group practice heavily involved in GP training – this in itself was an interesting visit. We discussed possible co-operation with the Royal College and how together, with other colleges in the region, we can move forward with our postgraduate programs. We can look forward to a visit from representatives of the college to assess our needs.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

We were also privileged to be invited to a dinner at the Royal College of Physicians which was established in the reign of King Henry the Eighth! The College is housed in an impressive

building and we were shown through their extensive libraries with walls showing the portraits of all the Presidents over hundreds of years –our college is, indeed, very young in comparison. However, there is a lot of goodwill and an offer of help to move our college forward.

MEDICAL PROTECTION SOCIETY

Finally, I met with representatives of the Medical Protection Society and we had a fruitful discussion on the indemnity needs of our doctors here.

FACULTY MEETINGS AND UPDATES

In the next month or so we will be meeting with the three faculties to discuss the programs for the coming year and to present the draft rules and regulations to you.

Once approved, these rules and regulations will provide a new foundation for the college and guide us in developing our programs for the future.

FCGP Secretariat moves into new office

The Fiji College of General Practitioners took possession of a new office space in Toorak at the beginning of August. Situated at 32 Spring Street, Toorak, Suva, the office is a small detached building with an office space, small meeting room and a kitchen.

It is envisaged that the office space will not only serve as the Secretariat but as the base of operations for the FCGP Children's Heart Foundation. The quiet location is currently occupied by the two full-time staff of FCGP, Ms Litia Savu and Mr Fatima Mario, and is open from 9am to 5pm weekdays.

In due time, the office will also have a small library with medical reference books donated over the years, which members will be welcome to peruse.

Members are encouraged to drop by the office for any queries or just to have a cup of tea. The meeting room is also available for members to utilize for College or committee meetings.

Upcoming World Health Events

- 28 September 2012
World Rabies Day
- 29 September 2012
World Heart Day
- 10 October 2012
World Mental Health Day
- 13 October 2012
World Sight Day
- 12 November 2012
World Pneumonia Day
- 14 November 2012
World Diabetes Day
- 16 November 2012
World Chronic Obstructive Disease Day

CONFERENCE UPDATES

RNZCGP 2012 CONFERENCE FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

Theme:

Through Patient's' Eyes

When:

September 21-23, 2012

Where:

The Langham, Auckland, New Zealand

For further information, please go to the official conference website:

<http://www.conference.co.nz/gp12/home>

FCGP NORTHERN FACULTY MINI-SEMINAR

When:

October 20, 2012

Where:

Takia Hotel, Labasa

All enquiries should be directed to Dr Daniel Jhinku via email at danjhinku@connect.com.fj

RACGP 2012 CONFERENCE FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

Theme:

Leading Primary Care

When:

October 25-27, 2012

Where:

Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia

For further information please go to the official conference website:

www.gpconference.com.au

HEART PATIENTS READY FOR INDIA

Excerpt from The Fiji Times Online website <http://www.fijitimes.com>

23 August, 2012

The full story may be viewed at <http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=209854>

TWELVE-year-old Sera Liku barely speaks a word but her smile speaks volumes of her happiness that she will have a new lease of life after returning from India.

One of Liku's blood vessels is not connected to her heart and she's among five children sponsored by Vodafone to undergo surgery in India.

Since 2006 Vodafone has given \$1.37million to the Children's Heart Foundation for the 66 children with heart problems sent to India's Chennai Hospital for surgery.

According to Sanita Sen, chairperson of the Children's Heart Foundation, these children go through a series of screening to ensure they send the right patients to India.

She thanked Vodafone for supporting the initiative.

The other children are Kartik Sharma, Adi Paulini Nakoro, Joseph Mama'o and Nidhish Prasad.

GP JOURNAL EDITOR NEEDED

The FCGP GP Journal has been without an editor since Dr Narendra Singh vacated the position shortly after seeing through the publication of the latest edition earlier this year.

With the next edition well overdue, members are invited to volunteer for the role of Editor or recommend someone that they feel may be suitable.

The Secretariat will provide any logistical support required with the focus of the Editor's role shifting to sourcing and ensuring the quality of relevant and informative articles.

Please contact the Secretariat for any further information.

CHANGES IN STORE FOR FCGP

In an effort to provide better, more efficient and effective service for its members, the FCGP Secretariat has been working on changes to the policies and procedures for all aspects of the organization.

One of the first changes to be implemented is a bi-monthly mailing cycle which would ensure that all members receive a regular update of College events with each member receiving copies of any publications, receipts, invoices, certificates, etc., that may have been generated in that two (2) month period.

A proper schedule of events for the year will also be produced in the near future, to allow members and other interested stakeholders to plan accordingly for events of interest to them.

Other documents to formalize changes to policies or to document current policy already in place, will be published by the end of the year, and complete the establishment of standard business practices within the Secretariat in line with the vision of the College.

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