



The University of Sydney

Alumni

MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

e-Newsletter # 8 – August 2009

1. Events in September

Wednesday-Saturday, 2-5 September: Med Revue – *Slumdog Medicare* (see 5.3.2)

Saturday, 5 September: Open Day at Quarantine Station, North Head (see 7.2)

Monday, 7 September: *The history of paediatrics in Sydney* RACP Education Centre (see 7.1)

Tuesday, 8 September: Lambie-Dew Oration, Great Hall (see 5.3.1)

Friday and Saturday, 11-12 September: History of Medicine Symposium (see 2)

Saturday, 12 September: Plague Walk, Dawes Point to Darling Harbour (see 2)

Tuesday, 15 September: Victor Coppleson CME Seminar (see 3)

Saturday, 19 September: Spring Back to Sydney annual alumni reunion at the University of Sydney (see 6.1)

Monday, 21 September: Medical Humanities Film Night – *The hospital* (see 5.1)

Sunday, 27 September: Open Day, The Great Hall, University of Sydney (see 6.2)

More details of each event are given below – refer to the section indicated by the number in brackets after each event.

2. History of Medicine Symposium – 11-12 September 2009

This Symposium on the History of Medicine will be held in the University in Lecture Theatre N104 on 11-12 September during History Week. Even if you are unable to attend the two full days of the program, you may register for either day (\$50 per day), or for the Plague Walk from Dawes Point to Darling Harbour (no cost).

Please complete the attached registration form, or notify Diana Lovegrove if you wish to take the Plague Walk: d.lovegrove@usyd.edu.au .

Program

Friday, 11 September

9.30-11am:

- Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, *Lachlan Macquarie – 5th Governor of New South Wales – his influence and legacy*
- John Carmody, *Sydney's early colonial medicine*

11am-12.30pm

- Sydney Nade, *Upward social mobility – the training of a surgeon in the pre-anaesthetic era*
- John Harris, *Nicholson, Sydney and surgery - under the knife: then and now*
- Julia Horne, *Researching the first students at the University of Sydney in the 1850s*

12.30-1.30pm Lunch

1.30-3.30pm

- Louise Marshall, *Religion and plague in Renaissance Italy; the role of the plague saints*
- Peter Paisley, *The sixth century epidemic; the crucible of modern Europe*
- Robert Clancy, *Light on the Black Death: plague and politics in Federation Australia*
- Stephen Corbett, *Ashburton Thompson: the right man in the right place*

3.30-4.00pm Afternoon tea in Rare Books, Fisher Library

4.00-6.00pm

- Yvonne Cossart, *Plague doctors: reconciling theory and practice*
- Christopher Dickman, *Rats!*
- Peter Reeves, *Evolution of Yersinia pestis*
- Peter Curson, *Plague: past, present and future*

6.00-7.30pm: *Pepys plague* – an entertainment! This performance will be accompanied by drinks in the Anderson Stuart Common Room.

Saturday, 12 September

Early morning: 7.30am

Stephen Corbett will take us on '*The Plague Walk – Dawes Point to Darling Harbour*', which complements 'Plague: rats in the realm', the current exhibition in the Anderson Stuart Common Room.

9.30am–11.00am

- Julia Mant, *Archival sources for the history of the University of Sydney*
- Lise Mellor, *Sydney Medical School's Online Museum and Archive*
- Elisabeth Edwards, *Medical history of Orange*

11.30am-1.00pm

- Bruce Storey, *The threshold of modern paediatrics in Sydney: a tale of two professors and the Institute of Child Health. 1849-1981*
- Mark Ferson, *Australian bookplates with reference to some Sydney medical graduates*
- Milton Lewis, *Individual and collective biographies in the history of public health in Australia*

1.00-2.00pm Lunch

2.00-3.30pm

- Barry Baker *Mark Lidwill: RPAH's founder of anaesthesia and cardiology*
- Paul Lancaster, *Early leaders from Sydney Medical School*
- Panel discussion: *Ideas for future research on the history of Sydney Medical School and its alumni.*

Speakers

Her Excellency, Professor **Marie Bashir**, Chancellor, University of Sydney

Barry Baker, Emeritus Professor of Anaesthesia, Sydney Medical School

John Carmody, Emeritus Professor, School of Physiology, University of New South Wales

Robert Clancy, Emeritus Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Newcastle

Stephen Corbett, School of Public Health, University of Sydney

Yvonne Cossart, Department of Infectious Diseases, University of Sydney

Peter Curson, Centre for International Security Studies, University of Sydney

Christopher Dickman, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Sydney

Elisabeth Edwards, Local Historian, Orange

Mark Ferson, Public Health Physician, Chair, RACP History of Medicine Library Committee, President, New Australian Bookplate Society

John Harris, Professor of Vascular Surgery, Sydney Medical School

Julia Horne, University Historian, School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney

Paul Lancaster, Menzies Centre for Health Policy, University of Sydney

Milton Lewis, Historian, Menzies Centre for Health Policy, University of Sydney

Julia Mant, Reference Archivist, University of Sydney

Louise Marshall, Department of History, University of Sydney

Lise Mellor, Research Manager, History Projects and Publications, Sydney Medical School

Sydney Nade, Clinical Professor, Discipline of Surgery, University of Sydney

Peter Paisley, Independent Scholar (previously University of New South Wales)

Peter Reeves, Department of Microbiology, University of Sydney

Bruce Storey, Paediatrician

Venue: Lecture Theatre N104, New Law School, University of Sydney

Registration: \$100 for two days, or \$50 for either Friday or Saturday – includes drinks on arrival, morning and afternoon teas, and light lunches. Please contact Diana Lovegrove (d.lovegrove@usyd.edu.au), tel. 02 9114 1163, for more information.

Please inform interested colleagues about this two-day History of Medicine Symposium, especially those who do not receive MAA e-Newsletters!

3. Victor Coppleson Continuing Medical Education Seminars

As well as medical alumni, we are keen to see academic and research members of Sydney Medical School at these Victor Coppleson Seminars.

Tuesday, 15 September: 5.30-7.30pm: “Are we there yet? Where is Postgraduate Education heading?” Associate Professor Tessa Ho, Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching)

Tuesday, 13 October: “Writing for the media”, Professor Stephen Leeder

Tuesday, 17 November: Professor Michael Field.

Venue: Lecture Theatre 24, New Law School, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney, at 6.00-7.30pm, preceded by refreshments in the Law School Foyer (Level 0), outside Lecture Theatre 24 at 5.30pm.

Parking: Since the opening of parking for the New Law School Building, congestion in the evening has eased somewhat. Parking is available under the New Law School Building (turn left at the first lane after entering the University from Parramatta Road).

Please confirm your attendance by contacting Jacqueline Wells, Office of Postgraduate Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, tel. (02) 9351 4551; fax (02) 9351 6646; email j.wells@usyd.edu.au ; <http://www.opme.med.usyd.edu.au> .

4. Alumni news

4.1 AlumniOnline

AlumniOnline is the new University of Sydney alumni online networking community. It was launched by Dr Michael Spence, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, on 17 August. This is a major initiative by the University that will eventually provide many benefits to our alumni. It is waiting for you to log in! [Click here to activate your account.](#)

AlumniOnline allows you to:

- Update your contact details
- Search for alumni colleagues and friends
- Post your personal and professional profile, résumé and photos

- Search, join and establish social and professional networks, including our alumni associations worldwide
- Import your Facebook profile and other web content
- Post or look for a job in the Careers Centre
- Use the online discussion forums, noticeboards, blogs and online chat
- Mentor a student and many other activities.

All you require to activate your account is your Student Identification Number (SID) - which appears on your Alumni Card. If you have not received your Alumni Card, [please click here](#). For more information, go to:
<http://www.alumni.sydney.edu.au/s/965/index.aspx>

4.2 University of Sydney Senate and Alumni Council elections

An election of five Graduate Fellows of the Senate by and from the graduates of the University of Sydney will be held on 11 November 2009. For the notice of election and the nomination form, [visit the Senate elections website](#):

http://www.usyd.edu.au/senate/Elections_semester2.shtml

An election of the Alumni Council will also be held on 11 November 2009. Please note that nomination forms and candidate information statements must be received by the Returning Officer no later than 5.00pm on Tuesday, 29 September 2009.

Further details and forms are available on the Alumni Council website at:
www.usyd.edu.au/convocation/

4.3 Medical alumni in North America

More than 80 alumni and friends, including about 20 medical alumni, were treated to a diverse program of talks and cultural events at the SUGUNA meeting in Los Angeles on 20-23 August. We warmly thank Trish Harrison (1975), Gerry Bassell (1973), Rhonda Soricelli (1972) and others who assisted in contacting our alumni and organising the meeting. Once we have more information about the meeting in 2010, we will keep you informed.

4.4 Medical alumni in Melbourne

Gordon Whyte (1967) has suggested that he and other Sydney alumni living in Melbourne would be interested in setting up an alumni group there. He is keen to hear from you now if you would like to join this group!

Gordon is Professor and Head of the School of Rural Health at Monash University. He is also exploring the development of the Western and Islamic medical traditions and their relationship in the high medieval period. He trained at St George, Prince Henry and Prince of Wales Hospitals in Sydney, then at Hammersmith. He specialised as a physician and in laboratory haematology. After working in haematology and oncology in New Zealand, he became Director of the Victorian Blood Transfusion Service in 1988 'at an exciting time of challenge and change'. Gordon's wife, Kerry

Roberts (Whyte) graduated from the University of Sydney in 1969 and specialised in radiology.

Tracey Beck, Director of the University's Alumni Relations Office, has informed me that the University now has an annual alumni event in Melbourne. The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Michael Spence, will visit Melbourne later this year for this event.

Please contact Gordon (Gordon.Whyte@med.monash.edu.au) if you are interested in discussing his proposal for a Melbourne medical alumni group.

4.5 Plaque for David Rutledge (1888), Sutton Forest, Southern Highlands

Linda Emery, a historian working in the Southern Highlands of NSW, has requested assistance from medical alumni in placing a small plaque on the unmarked grave of David Rutledge, who graduated in 1888.

'Among my interests has been the early settlement of Sutton Forest and the church and cemetery of All Saints in the village. I act as honorary historian for the parish of Sutton Forest. One of the early rectors of the church, Dr David Rutledge, is buried in an unmarked grave in the churchyard. He was quite a remarkable man. As one of the first cohort of graduates from Sydney University medical school, it seemed sad that his grave has no marker or memorial. Later this year, the anniversary service of All Saints is to be attended by the Governor of NSW and at this time, it is hoped that she will unveil a small plaque on Dr Rutledge's grave.'

Linda has provided a brief biography of David Rutledge and the text of the plaque, which has just been ordered at a cost of \$300. She has requested assistance from medical alumni in contributing to the cost of the plaque.

Please contact Diana Lovegrove (d.lovegrove@usyd.edu.au) or Paul Lancaster (pallancaster@gmail.com) if you would like to have more information or to make a contribution.

5. Seminars, lectures and activities linked to Sydney Medical School

5.1 Medical Humanities Nights (6-8pm)

Monday, 21 September: Film night with Dr Claire Hooker and Dr Michael Robertson: *The Hospital*

Monday, 26 October: Demonstration and Walk: *The labyrinth: medicine and spirituality*, Prof Michael Stevens

Monday, 16 November: Special Lecture: Prof John Rasko, *Did regenerative medicine begin with the myth of Prometheus?*

Please meet at 6 pm at the Medical Foundation Building K25, cnr Missenden and Parramatta Roads, Camperdown, where there will be coffee, tea, biscuits and wine. You will need to get buzzed in to CVELiM. Call Claire on 0430 116 117 if you need

directions. For further information about future seminars, or to be placed on the email list for their newsletter, please contact: Claire Hooker at claireh@med.usyd.edu.au .

5.2 School of Public Health

Wednesday, 9 September: Controversies in Public Health Lecture Four - *Is the genetic revolution overhyped?*

Professor Wayne Hall, NHMRC Australia Fellow and Professor of Public Health Policy, School of Population Health, University of Queensland

"Genomic medicine" was the phrase used by Francis Collins to describe what he predicted would be the transformation of medicine by the use of genomic knowledge to increase our ability to prevent and treat human disease. In 1999 he predicted that within 10 years "predictive genomic medicine" and personalised medicine or "pharmacogenomics" would be a routine part of medical practice. The predictions about predictive genomic medicine have yet to come to pass; personalised medicine is with us but primarily based on the genetics of cancer cells than on the genomes of their hosts, the patients. New genetic discoveries are regularly featured in the media. We are also being exposed to a new form of DNA knowledge called Much is promised about the benefits of genetic knowledge but is it all hype or is there real potential for health benefits?

Time: 5.30pm Refreshments, 6-7.00pm Lecture

Location: [Eastern Avenue Auditorium, Camperdown campus](#)

Cost: Free. Online registration essential

Contact: Felicity Barry; **Tel.** 9036 7552; **Email:** controversies@health.usyd.edu.au

More information: <http://www.usyd.edu.au> <http://www.health.usyd.edu.au>

5.3 Medical Society

5.3.1 Lambie-Dew Oration – 8 September, The Great Hall, University of Sydney

Since its inauguration in 1958, the Lambie Dew Oration has been the most prestigious event in the Sydney University Medical Society's academic calendar, commemorating the first Professors of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Sydney. This annual public lecture presents a forum for a speaker of significant national or international standing to speak on a topic representative of their personal endeavour and achievement. Past speakers have included distinguished persons such as Ian Frazer, Fred Hollows, Justice Michael Kirby, and the late Dr. Chris O'Brien.

This year, the University of Sydney Medical Society is honoured to present Dr. Rowan Gillies as the 2009 orator. Dr. Gillies is currently completing surgical training in Sydney in the speciality of plastic surgery. He was previously the youngest ever

International President of Medecins Sans Frontieres and worked in the field in Sudan, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Liberia and many other places of conflict.

We are looking forward to hearing Dr. Gillies share his experiences and warmly invite alumni and members of the public to attend what will be a most memorable evening.

Time: 7:00pm **Location:** [The Great Hall, University of Sydney, Camperdown](#)

Cost: Free Admission but RSVP is required as seats are limited

Contact: Genevieve Peek **Tel.** 0438609216 **Email:** gpee0487@med.usyd.edu.au

5.3.2 Slumdog Medicare – Med Revue, 2-5 September

A celebration of medical culture and humour, the Medical Revue exhibits the jibing and gyrating of the stunningly fit first year medicine cohort. One of the largest revues, The Medical Revue is unique, run entirely by first years who bring both the freshness of a new year group and the owl-like wisdom gained in their undergraduate study to the table. Shows will run on the 2, 3, 4 and 5 September, commencing at 7.30pm each night.

To purchase tickets, contact the Seymour Centre Box office on 9351 7940 or visit www.slumdogmedicare.com. Tickets are \$25 and \$22 for concession.

5.3.3 Alumni opinions on sponsorship of the Medical Society

The Medical Society is keenly seeking the views of alumni on the review process for sponsorship.

‘MedSoc has created an Ethical Guidelines for Sponsorship Sub-Committee (EGSSC) to investigate the issue of pharmaceutical sponsorship of our academic and social events. The considered approach to this controversial issue is as follows:

- A submissions period of 3 months will allow any current students, alumni, Faculty staff members and relevant parties to make a submission on the issue of pharmaceutical sponsorship of MedSoc. This period ends on 10 September. Submissions can be made by email to egssc.submissions@gmail.com
- A review period where the EGSSC will consider the submissions received and write a recommendation, summarising these submissions.
- The written recommendation will then be circulated to the entire cohort of current medical students and an electronic vote will be taken on the issue.

MedSoc would like to invite any alumni who would like to contribute to make a submission into this review process. If you would like to know more about the process, please email the Co-Chairs, Steve Bartnik and Kaveh Darabian egssc.general@gmail.com or contact Ineke Wever, MedSoc President iwev6767@uni.sydney.edu.au.

6. Other University of Sydney alumni events in 2009

6.1 Spring Back to Sydney annual alumni reunion at the University of Sydney

Spring Back to Sydney is now open to ALL alumni, irrespective of graduating year.

Date and location: 19 September – 9am to 3pm at The Quadrangle and surrounding areas.

Contact: Eve Simons Tel. 9036 9278 Email: rsvp@usyd.edu.au

6.2 The Great Hall 150 years Celebration – Sunday, 27 September 2009

The University of Sydney's Great Hall will be open to the public between 10am and 3pm on **Sunday 27 September 2009** for self-guided tours of the Great Hall and Quadrangle. Between 2pm and 3pm the Carillon will be playing a special recital, with a tour of The Belfry afterwards.

Location: [Quadrangle and Great Hall, The University of Sydney](#) **Cost:** Free

Contact: Katie Lusinovska Tel. 02 9036 9504 Email: katie.l@usyd.edu.au

7. History of health and medicine

7.1 RACP Library Lecture Series

On Monday, 7 September Dr Bruce Storey will examine ‘The history of paediatrics in Sydney’. On Monday 23 November, there will be a lecture on ‘Wine and health’ by Dr Phil Norrie.

All Monday lectures are held at the Education Centre, Level 8, 52 Phillip Street, Sydney, at 6.30pm. Entry is \$10 and wine and cheese accompany discussion afterwards. Bookings are essential on (02) 9256 5413 or racplib@racp.edu.au

7.2 Open Day at Quarantine Station, North Head – Saturday, 5 September

The historic Quarantine Station has two Open Days each year. There will be many activities available on the day and is a great opportunity for you and your family to visit the site. To see the full range of activities available on the day, go to: www.qstation.com.au/community_day.php

8. Tributes, obituaries and death notices (year of graduation or higher degree in brackets)

Since last year, we have included on the alumni website obituaries of our alumni, academics and other doctors who may be known to many colleagues. These were initially published in the Sydney Morning Herald or other newspapers, or written by colleagues or family members. Please inform us of any other alumni who died recently.

The **tributes** in recent months include: John Field Laycock (1944); Beryl Collier (1952); James Morrison Ellis (1944); Minna Shaw Smith (Golomb) (1954); Eileen Maria Collins (1977); Sir William Dudley Refshauge AC (Hon MD, 1988); Christopher John O’Brien (1976); Brian Eric Frecker (1944); Graham Douglas (Doug)

Tracy AO (1948); Max Emory Lake OAM (1946); Padraic Grattan-Smith (1944); Reginald Bowman (1951); William Joseph Quilty (1959); Emeritus Professor Ralph Beattie Blacket, AO (1941); Kevin Francis Hamilton Hume (1942); David Skeffington Johnson (1968); and Ella Spencer Donovan (1936) (see <http://www.alumni.med.usyd.edu.au/news/tributes.php>).

Obituaries: David Norrie Fleming Leake (OAM, 1932) – Med J Aust 2008; 189: 228; Geoffrey Watkins Burgess (1954) – BC Medical Journal 2008; 50: 575; Geoffrey Lance McDonald (1945) – RACP News 2008; August/September: 24.

Vale to other medical friends and colleagues. Death notices of medical alumni in the Sydney Morning Herald or elsewhere in recent months include (most recent first): William Harold Brighton (1954); Patricia Constance Sheumack (Brathwaite) (1946); Noel Brougham Docker (1967); Thomas King Hing Lee (1960); Leonard Reuben Rail (1939); Clive Frazer Allardyce (1959); Craig Angus (Bill) Horn (DDR, 1949); Joyce Ingram Russell (1944); David Bruce Lynton Williams AM (1978); Neville Albert Hinds (1951); Jayantilal (Jay) Govind (MM, Pain, 2000); David Hersch Rosenman (1946); Alwynne Dorothy Brake (1954); Brian Eric Frecker (1944); Judith Anne Empson (1962); Ian Jeffrey Isaacs (1968); Elizabeth Lloyd (1956); Anthony Carroll (1956); Eileen Collins (1977); Bruce RM Emmerson (1952); Kurt Singer (1958); Philip Blake Humphris (1952); Robert Hart (1955); Stephanie Jean Sweeny (nee Liddell) (1962); Robin (Rob) Frederick George Arnheim (1941); Judith Elderton (nee Murray-Jones) (1947); John Brock Westphalen (1950); John Neophyton (1964); Susanne Korten (1955); Kevin Maxwell Fuller (1956); Andre Haski (1962); William Horace Wolfenden (1951); and Geoffrey Watkins Burgess (1954).

Please send me details of other published obituaries in medical journals or other newspapers and the names of other colleagues who have died recently and have not been mentioned above.

9. Reunions

Planned reunions and their organisers are noted in Radius. If your graduating year has not had any reunions, please let me know and we will try to contact representatives from your year.

10. Keeping in touch

We would like to have more content from our alumni on the Medical Alumni Association website: <http://www.alumni.med.usyd.edu.au/>. Please let me have your ideas!

Update your contact details on the University's website: http://www.usyd.edu.au/alumni/in_touch/index.shtml or send an email to: alumniadmin@vcc.usyd.edu.au and Diana Lovegrove, Alumni Relations and Events Manager, Faculty of Medicine (d.lovegrove@usyd.edu.au); tel. (02) 9114 1163.

Paul Lancaster

President, Medical Alumni Association, University of Sydney

Email: pallancaster@gmail.com Tel. 02 9660 0576

31 August 2009