

# Letters to the Editor



Dear Lorraine

## Setting the record straight

Some time ago Andy Gray wrote an article in the SAPJ about how the sponsored SAAHIP Conferences came about and who were involved in organising it.

Unfortunately he was given the incorrect information and therefore I feel that this should be corrected

We were sitting in the waiting room of Jan Smuts Airport after attending a very successful conference organised by Mr Joe Cohen, when I mentioned how wonderful it would be if we could get the pharmaceutical companies to sponsor our conferences. All present agreed that I should "have a go", which I did when we got back to Durban.

I contacted a firm called Conferences and Promotions Unlimited and spoke to a very enthusiastic lady who said that she would love to assist.

I then contacted pharmaceutical reps to get their reaction, which was very positive in every case and resulted in the first sponsored SAAHIP conference in 1989.

I learned a lot from Conference Promotions and decided to tackle the next conference myself. The lady from Conference and Promotions said I would not succeed, but with the wonderful assistance of Viv Viljoen of Lennon Ltd and Lorraine Daglish, we were able to organise several very successful conferences.



*(l to r) Sue Putter, Lorraine Daglish, Robin Dale*

Lorraine and I were each awarded a certificate of merit for our efforts but credit must also go to Carol Belfort (now Jennings) and Bab Wilson for their assistance. These were the only people actively involved, but without their tremendous support of Viv Viljoen things may not have turned out as successfully as they did.

Kind regards

**Robin Dale**