



New Headquarters for the PSSA National Office

Some three years ago the decision was taken by the PSSA to purchase a residential property in Flinders Lane, Lynnwood, Pretoria, with the view to create its own home to accommodate the national office.

After the inevitable delays in meeting local authority requirements, having plans passed, applying for rezoning and all the other business that needed attention, work began in earnest on renovating the property to meet the standards required for the PSSA's own purposes early last year.

The renovations were completed on time and the staff took occupation in November. This property is not your conventional corporate office block, but one of the currently trendy and very popular residential conversions. The result is affordable, comfortable, aesthetically pleasing office accommodation with ease of access and adequate parking which is rather difficult to achieve in this day and age.



Sinah Modibedi welcomes visitors to the PSSA national office



The national office welcomes Mariet Eksteen, chair of the PSSA Young Pharmacists' Group, who recently joined the staff



Note the SAPJ banner on the right of the photograph!

PSSA Conference 2017

6 – 8 July 2017

Indaba Hotel, Fourways

Wild Water – Navigating the Next Phase



The theme of the PSSA 2017 Conference is *Wild Water – Navigating the Next Phase*. No country attempting to introduce universal health coverage can expect this to be simply a case of smooth sailing. The way forward involves navigating between treacherous shoals and jagged rocks – wild water indeed!

In NHI terms, 2017 represents the beginning of phase 2, moving away from an exclusive focus on the public sector to the creation of a transitional NHI Fund. Not only will this require registration of the entire population, but the start of procuring non-specialist Primary Health Care (PHC) services from certified and accredited public and private providers. Amendments to the Medical Schemes Act are also anticipated.

The PSSA 2017 conference will explore these concepts, and identify ways in which pharmacists can prepare themselves to participate fully in the provision of healthcare under universal access.

So, don't just bob along, hoping for the best. Get active, get prepared, and plot your own course through the wild water that lies ahead!

Where: The Indaba Hotel in Fourways, Johannesburg

When: 6 to 8 July 2017

For more information, go to the PSSA website, www.pssa.org.za.

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm distance learning programme 2017

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm Distance Learning Programme continues to offer pharmacists useful, practical, up-to-date information that enables them to provide optimal pharmaceutical care to their patients.

Module 1/2017 – Acne – An update for pharmacists

Acne is the most common skin disorder affecting adolescents and young adults. It presents in a variety of clinical forms depending on the type, number and severity of the predominant lesions.

While many health professionals and a substantial proportion of the lay public dismiss acne as a natural part of growing up with

few long-term consequences, there is now considerable evidence that acne can be a psychologically damaging condition that may last for many years.

The impact of acne on quality of life is significant. Acne has a greater negative effect on the emotions and social functioning of teenagers than diseases like asthma or epilepsy. Acne is also often associated with anxiety, depression and unemployment.

Medical treatment of acne may clear the condition completely or result in substantial improvement in those patients who do not achieve complete clearance. Effective treatments are available to

treat existing acne lesions and prevent new ones from developing. This Module discusses acne and its management and is based on new insights into the management of acne from the American Academy of Dermatology (2016) and the South African acne

guidelines (which are based on the Global Alliance to Improve Outcomes in Acne 2003 recommendations).

For more information about this programme contact Gill or Glynis at Insight Medicine Information on 011 706 6939 or email: cpdalphapharm@insightmed.co.za.

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm clinical education programme 2017 for pharmacy staff

Recognising that consumers frequently encounter front-shop assistants or pharmacist's assistants before they speak to the pharmacist, the PSSA and Alpha Pharm have launched a clinical education programme for pharmacy staff. All pharmacy staff need to be familiar with the use of unscheduled medicines and should be reminded of when it is necessary to refer the patient to the pharmacist.

Module 1/2017 – Acne and pimples

Acne is a common skin condition that causes pimples to develop on the face, chest, shoulders or back. It usually starts in puberty and varies in severity from a few spots on the face, to severe acne which may cause permanent scarring and have long-term effects on a person's self-confidence.

Acne treatment depends on the severity of the condition. Good skin care routines are important for all severities of acne. Mild acne requires the simplest treatment that poses the fewest risks of side effects while severe acne may require referral to a skin specialist.

This module discusses basic skin care and management of mild acne with products available over-the-counter in the pharmacy. A treatment plan should always include education and support as most treatments may take several weeks to produce their maximum effect. The front shop staff member can play a vital role in helping adolescents take good care of their skin, especially during their acne-prone years.

If you would like to participate in the 2017 PSSA/Alpha Pharm Pharmacy Staff Clinical Education Programme please contact Gill or Glynis for further information at 011 706 6939 or email cpdalphapharm@insightmed.co.za.

Malaria newsflash

The information below was contained in a communication received from the South African Society of Travel Medicine (SASTM), quoting a News24 report dated 14 March 2017. Lee Baker, founder of the Amayeza Info Centre, is the current President of the SASTM.

Limpopo on high alert as Botswana issues a malaria warning

Travellers heading to Botswana or those who find themselves in Limpopo need to ensure that they take the correct preventative measures for malaria, as a warning has been issued that there are reports of a high incidence of malaria in both regions.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness for Botswana has issued a warning that the country is experiencing high levels of malaria, following the recent heavy rains. According to the Ministry, there

have been increases in the number of cases in Okavango, Ngami, Chobe, Boteti, Tutume and Bobirwa. He goes on to say that travel agents are advised to warn their clients to seek medical advice 2 weeks before travelling to malarial areas.

The Limpopo Health Department has also announced an increase in the number of reported malaria cases in the province, particularly around Lephalale and Thabazimbi. There have also been reports of an increased number of cases in Northern Namibia, as well as three reported deaths in Gauteng.

By 14 March 2017, the Limpopo health department had confirmed that at least 46 cases of malaria, but no fatalities, had been reported in the western Waterberg district around Lephalale and Thabazimbi. The department's spokesperson Thabiso Teffo stated, "It is an area that does not normally have malaria mosquitoes. We are also worried that 70 percent of the cases reported were people

who had not travelled." This means that they had contracted malaria in the area in which they stay.

Professor Lucille Blumberg, of the National Institute for Communicable Diseases, was quoted in News24 as having said that residents had been informed about malaria symptoms

and health facilities in the area had enough supplies of malaria diagnostic tests and medication.

The health department says that this is not an outbreak, because it is the malaria season. The concern is that the cases are uncommon because they occur in an area where malaria is not expected.

Welcoming new members

The Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA) welcomes the following pharmacists who joined the Society in January and February 2017. We trust that you will be welcomed into your branches and sectors, and that you will find great value in your membership.

Maria Arends, Endashw Fekadu Assefa, Jessice Thiene Aucamp, Louwrens Badenhorst, Ahmed Bayat, Stacy Christy Beckmann, Aaqilah Benjamin, Tom Bissett, Elri Boeyens, Mathilda Johanna Botha, Hettie Brandt, Johann Brummer, Mary Nyasha Chidanyika, Sandra Combrinck, Quentin Trevor Crafford, Candice Csongradi, Dinesh Dalla, Danielle Catherine de Lange, Shireé Denellé du Preez, Sifelani Dube, Caz Duffield, Natasha Erasmus, Megan Leigh Fish, Amy Robyne Frösler, Lindie Geldenhuys, Tesha Hiralal, Henriette Samantha Hitchcock, Belinda Sharon Jacobson, Es-Marie Jonker, Jamilah Karreem, Bronwynne Romelia Kelly, Yasmine Michelle Khan, Nomachina Theopatra Kubashe, Deenesh Mawalall Mahabeer, Neema Maharaj, Steyn Makwala, Saba Marzban, Helene Mathee, Aseza Momelezi Matolengwe, Jonathan James McCrindle, Theodora Ntombekhongo Mdunge, Chelé Anne Meissenheimer, Nondi Metuse, Hanje Miller, Thandanani Mkhize, Margaret Mosibudi Modiba, Diedericks Nkuke Montwedi, Hawa Bibi Moosa, Lerato Sydwell Motsware, Sajid Mohammed Mulla, Anlie Muller, Tatenda Munedzimwe, Husna Muraid, Mlondolozu Talent Ndwandwe, Sekutunyane Ezekiel Nkere, Wandisile Ndoda Nkwalase, Makgabo Eric Nyaka, Ezna Odendaal, Susanna Olckers, Karmini Padayachee, Nicholas Pieterse, Tay Ramela, Amitha Ramlal, Eva Ngawanakgano Ratau, Stuart James Findlay Reid, Debbie Rogers, Tersia Roth, Jayshree Rughoonandan, Antheleen Elizabeth Sangerhaus, Martha Deborah Savrda, Fathima Sayed, Nico Scheepers, Johann Christiaan Schmidt, Khowela Bohlale Sedibeng, Junaid Ahmed Seedat, Sedzani Engedzani Sikhwari, Angwayne Lucian Singh, John Carstairs Spiers, Lana Strydom, Mahomed Iqbal Tarmahomed, Mahomed Siddiq Tayob, Andrecia Timothy, Thabo Aubrey Tlou, Janneke Karen Tomlinson, Tertius Uebel, Shaun David Francis Umali, Christelle van Aswegen, Heloise van der Hoven, Andries Jacobus van der Walt, Carlo Walters, Luna Yekani, Ester Zonnestein

Student members

We are also delighted to welcome the following student members:

Ziyaad Adams, Catharina Anderson, Nicole Badenhorst, Anri Barnard, Susanna Francina Berg, Elizabeth Magdalena Bester, Andre Boers, Talya Ann Boshoff, Johanna Jacoba Boshoff, Antoinette Jacolene Botes, Hayley Bradshaw, Sarené Brits, Anne Britz, Xander Burger, Ian Carswell, Zakkiyya Cassim, Etienne Cilliers, Minette Claassen, Inale Coetzee, Sharné Corver, Ronel de Klerk, Danielle de Lange, Hestie Maret de Ridder, Liezel de Waal, Lezanne Delpont, Inge Donovan, Alexio Pedro dos Santos, Ashley dos Santos, Dané du Plessis, Charné du Preez, Barend Jacobus Engelbrecht, Jacobus Paulus Engelbrecht, Melissa Engelbrecht, Joanna Esterhuyse, Jana Eygelaar, Jo-Marié Fouché, Alicia Fourie, Alf Bernard Gericke, Marisha Gordon, Talita Kumi Gouws, Johanna Magrietha Grobler, Santie Grobler, Maurits Henning, Annelie Hugo, Melinde Jacobs, Jadine Bernice Jacobs, Sue-Anne Jacobs, Ameenah Jadwad, Carina Janse van Rensburg, Jacoba Johanna Janse van Rensburg, Thiane Jansen van Nieuwenhuizen, Carmen Jansen van Vuuren, Tayla Jenkinson, Bianca Jones, Aneesah Jooma, Johanika Jooste, Lilanie Joubert, Marilee Joubert, Janita Kantilal Jamnadas, Larissa Karsten, Dinari Kemp, Kirsten Klein, Matthys Lambertus Kleyn, Kirsten Elke Knoll, Angelique Koekemoer, Lucia Kotze, Ria Kotze, Gertruida Liane Kritzinger, Johannes Christiaan Kruger, Julene Nana Kruger, Elze-Mari Krüger, Jean-Pierre Laux, Liann le Roux, Amandrie le Roux, Barend Jacobus Lee, Johanne Lingenfelder, Matthew Brendon Llewellyn, Ané Lombaard, Erwin Loots, Lourens Johannes Lourens, Ludwig Louw, Andresia Lubbers, Rene Nicole Maas, Aaminah Malek, Lineo Portia Malie, Marnus Mare, Nicola Martins, Benjamin Erwee Marx, Minnette Marx, Nomonde Matoni, Bernadene McCloud, Almar Meiring, Helena Catherina Mienie, Marizaan Miller, Antoinette Minlah, Jennica Moller, Mellany Morkel, Boitumelo Thato Motsei, Zvikomborero Murwira, Jessey Lee Naidoo, Samara Naidoo, Johannes Christiaan Naude, Ariane Nel, Kayla Nelson, Sibahle Nosipho Ngcobo, Thembi Sharon Ngoveni, Alice Niemandt, Eleshia O'Neill, Henry Victor Oosthuizen, Mia Pawson, Marisa Pienaar, Shane Pienaar, Louise-Marie Pieterse, Cheri-Lee Pretorius, Maryke Pretorius, Leandri Prinsloo, Guné Rabie, Neilen Frederik Rademan, Aslam Ahmed Randeree, Bianca Amor Riback, Marique Roets, Chandre

Roux, Mareli Scholtz, Mallisha Sewnath, Bibi Fatima Shariff, Chante Simboya, Petro Christina Smith, Janda Snyman, Zinette Steenkamp, Dane Steenkamp, Ju-Mari Steenkamp, Monica Steyn, Marliné Stover, Marique Streicher, Jo-Anne Stroebel, Nadia Emelda Stroebel, Elisna Swanepoel, Berne Swart, Chine Swiegers, Lorencia Taljaard, Zelmare Taljaard, Louwrens Theron, Nina van der Berg, Hanri van der Merwe, Nicolaas Stephanus van der Westhuizen, Christoffel Cornelius van der Westhuizen, Riette van Rensburg, Megan van Rooyen, Monique van Tonder, Frannette van Zyl, Ane Venter, Zanté Venter, Riaan Venter, Iané Venter, Maryna Viljoen, Barendina Frederika Vosloo, Karla Watermeyer, Annemieke Young

In memoriam

The PSSA extends its sincere condolences to the family and friends of the following members who passed away in November and December 2016 and January and February 2017.

Jeffery Gerber – Cape Western Province Branch

Gavin Lionel Gordon – Cape Western Province Branch

Isidore Kotzen – North West Branch

Abe Tradonsky – Southern Gauteng Branch

MM Walters – Cape Western Province Branch