FACULTY OF PHARMACY



# FIAT Mist

THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE OF THE FACULTY OF PHARMACY

AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS FOR PHARMACY ALUMNI

ISSUE 11 MARCH 2013

RARE PHARMACY ARTEFACTS ON DISPLAY THE MAKING OF SOUL PATTINSON CHEMIST

#### IN THIS ISSUE

#### 02 DEAN'S WELCOME

#### 03 RARE PHARMACY ARTEFACTS ON DISPLAY

Dozens of unique historical items, including specie jars, inhalers, ear trumpets, spittoons and poison bottles, are on loan to the Faculty of Pharmacy from the Pharmaceutical Defence Limited's historic collection.

- 04 FACULTY LEADERS MEET WITH KIM CARR
- 05 FROM THE PRESIDENT
- 05 SUPA UPDATE
- **06 CHARLES PERKINS CENTRE**
- 07 REMEMBERING AN INSPIRATIONAL ALUMNUS
- 08 SOUL PATTINSON CHEMIST: AN EARLY HISTORY
- 11 PRESTIGIOUS APPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- 12 ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDALS FOR PHARMACY ALUMNI
- 12 CONTACT DETAILS

#### **DIARY DATES**

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 2013
GOLDEN GRADUATES LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2013

SYDNEY IDEAS: EARLY STUTTERING INTERVENTION

**MONDAY 27 MAY 2013** 

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2013

### **DEAN'S WELCOME**



Welcome to the first edition of *FIAT Mist* for 2013. The first semester is already underway and the new cohort of students has the first several weeks under their belts. Once again the demand for our programs remains very strong with both the B Pharm and M Pharm programs being fully subscribed.

Another pleasing observation is the robust demand from international students for both these programs; this is a very encouraging sign of our Faculty's international reputation for academic excellence. We continue to also attract graduates into our Intern Training Program (ITP) as well as the Graduate Certificate in Pharmacy Practice.

We celebrated the success of our 2012 graduates at our two graduation ceremonies on March 15; a highlight was seven of our students receiving their doctorates and we saluted about 300 B Pharm and M Pharm graduates who will enter the pharmacy workforce. Ms Lee Ausburn, a Pharmacy alumnus of ours and the Vice-President of our Faculty Foundation, gave an inspiring occasional address to the graduates.

The Faculty's research expertise also continues to grow strongly, and we welcome new staff to our research leadership team. I am pleased to welcome Professor Kim Chan as the incoming Associate Dean of Research. Leading the Faculty research themes are Dr Nial Wheate for Cancer; Associate Professor Thomas Grewal for Cardiovascular/ Diabetes; Professor Mary Collins in Mental Health; Professor Andrew McLachlan, who now leads the re-named Health Services and Patient Safety theme; and Associate Professor Alaina Ammit, who heads the Respiratory theme.

As you will see in this edition of *FIAT Mist*, the new year is already turning out to be another productive one for our Faculty and our alumni, and I expect this trend to continue for what I'm sure will be a great year for the University of Sydney Pharmacy community.

Our reputation is built upon the quality of our degree programs, the quality of our staff and students and not the least on the quality of

our graduates, that is, our alumni community. How well our alumni serve our community and our profession once they leave us is probably the greatest measure of our worth and reputation. We have enjoyed an unenviable privileged position in this respect.

As more Schools of Pharmacy mushroom and produce more pharmacists, this will mean that we will need to work harder to ensure we guard our reputation since we now produce almost 20 percent of the pharmacy workforce in Australia. So we need this partnership with you, our graduates, the alumni community to maintain our privileged place in pharmacy in Australia. I am very pleased to acknowledge the exemplary work our alumni community does on our behalf.

We have many events and activities for our alumni and friends in the year

ahead and I look forward as always to seeing you back on campus and to receiving feedback from you on the Faculty's activities.

Professor Iqbal Ramzan Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy

# RARE PHARMACY ARTEFACTS ON DISPLAY

A fascinating showcase of rare pharmaceutical artefacts is now on display in the Faculty of Pharmacy Building.

Dozens of unique historical items are on loan to the Faculty from the Pharmaceutical Defence Limited's (PDL) historic collection, courtesy of a donation from Mr Ross Brown AM and efforts by PDL curator Ralph Tapping. Included in the display are examples of specie jars, inhalers, ear trumpets, spittoons, poison bottles, urinals,

military field kits, leech jars and many more. One of the items, a glass babyfeeder, dates back to the 1830s.

The artefacts featured in the Pharmacy Bank Building entrance are some of the rarest in the country and are part of a significant collection belonging to Sydney alumnus, Brian Hill (MatMed). The Pharmaceutical Defence Limited has similar displays in universities in Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania.

According to the curator, Ralph Tapping, "All of these items are becoming quite rare and PDL is performing a very important role in preserving them ... it is not possible



The PDL Collection cabinet at the University of Sydney Faculty of Pharmacy (L-R) Ross Brown AM, Brian Hill and Ralph Tapping.

### PHARMACY ARTEFACTS CONT

to have the whole range of artefacts on display in every location, but scattered all over Australia we have an excellent variety."

The objects, originating mostly from England, represent an age of pharmaceutical science and practice virtually unrecognisable from modern-day pharmacy.

Craftsmanship and elegance are notable trademarks of such items, which, unlike today's tools of the trade, were as importantly decorative as they were functional; huge, impressive specie jars and carboys, for instance, were placed in shop windows to clearly identify the place as a chemist.

"Pharmacy in those days and up to the mid-20th century was totally different to the present time and was more like the 'compounding' pharmacies that are dotted around today," says Tapping. "Pharmacies took pride in having elegant jars and bottles, usually in sets on the dispensary shelves, holding the

dry and liquid drug and ointment stocks ready for dispensing."

Dean of Pharmacy, Iqbal Ramzan, praised the collection as a welcome addition for a Faculty with its own rich historical tradition and thanked Messrs Brown, Tapping and Hill for their efforts in bringing the display to the University.

# FACULTY LEADERS MEET WITH SENATOR THE HON KIM CARR

Senator the Hon Kim Carr has met with researchers from various faculties to discuss strengthening the collaboration between the government and academics.

Dean of Pharmacy, Professor Iqbal Ramzan, hosted the visit and Associate Professor Sallie Pearson, Head of Pharmacy's Pharmacoeopidemiology and Pharmaceutical Policy Research Group, chaired the discussions, which were also attended by Vice-Chancellor Dr Michael Spence, the University's Director of Research Development, Dr Andrew Black, and senior researchers from the Faculties of Medicine, Arts and Social Sciences, Health

Sciences and Science.

The meeting was part of Senator Carr's desire for the Department of Human Services to improve its collaborative relationship with researchers at the University to develop a deeper understanding of issues relating to public health and wellbeing.

Senator Carr said such collaboration could enable the type of projects that are normally off the table, such as longitudinal studies of people from birth to death, modelling of poverty through the generations, and research that provides sophisticated, modern and robust evidence that could be used to improve people's lives.

Professor Iqbal Ramzan said, "This meeting was an important step to bring government and academia closer for the benefit of the public health sphere. Publicly-funded

agencies rely on robust evidence to measure their effectiveness and that is what our Faculty and others at the University provide. It is pleasing to know the work of our researchers will be put to good use, in a multidisciplinary effort to improve the lives of Australians."



(L-R) Vice-Chancellor Dr Michael Spence, Senator Kim Carr and Associate Professor Sallie Pearson from the Faculty of Pharmacy.

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope the New Year is treating you well. When I bump into alumni at university events, work functions or continuing education events, we often talk about the good old days at uni – the friends, the faculty staff, the grounds and the parties! Yet despite these strong and positive memories, many alumni have not returned to Sydney University since the day of graduation.

The University is constantly evolving and I find that there is always something new going on every time I visit. What better way of returning to the 'scene of the crime' than by attending a reunion? It could be a 10 year, 20 year or

whatever year reunion and the staff at the Alumni section of the University will help it happen. Chat to some friends then talk to us.

Don't forget that we have a Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni website page at sydney.edu.au/pharmacy/alumni, where you can find Pharmacy news and connect with other alumni at our Facebook page.

I look forward to catching up at the next alumni event.

Lachlan Rose | President



Lachlan Rose

### SUPA UPDATE

I hope you all had a great break over Christmas and on behalf of SUPA, and I wish you all the best for 2013.

SUPA finished 2012 off with our biggest event, the Annual Ball, which was held at Sydney's GPO. It was a great way for 4th year and 2nd year Master's students to finish off their degree with all their fellow classmates.

We have a big year planned for 2013 and with half a year left in our term as Office Bearers, we want to finish off with a bang. As mentioned in the last *FIAT Mist*, SUPA was in the process of organising a celebration of SUPA.

Unfortunately this event will not be happening, however, our committee wish to hold a SUPA Trade Hall. There will be stalls from different pharmacy organisations and companies to expose, educate and engage all Pharmacy students to a range of different products and services available.

With over 1000 students undertaking the Pharmacy degree, it is a wonderful opportunity for Alumni who own or work for various companies to contribute to



The SUPA team

this event as they are to promote their brand or products to future pharmacists.

The tentative date for this event is Friday 3 May and it will be held in MacLaurin Hall. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Elizabeth Kim | President
E elizabethking91@gmail.com

**P** 0415 066 777

### **CHARLES PERKINS CENTRE**

Tackling obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.



Artist's impression of the Charles Perkins Centre at sunset

The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney has a vision – to change the way obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease are managed and treated.

The global epidemics of these diseases are impacting the lives of millions and the economies of developing and developed nations. In Australia over 50% of us are overweight or obese; 1.7 million have diabetes and millions suffer cardiovascular disease - together the leading causes of mortality and disease burden in Australia. Finding health and fitness solutions are a national health priority and a current priority of this university and this Faculty.

The University of Sydney's Charles
Perkins Centre aims to turn research
and scientific discoveries into solutions
that transform lives around the world.
Our people share a determination to
ease the burden of obesity, diabetes
and cardiovascular disease and
improve the prevention, treatment and

health outcomes from these conditions worldwide. The Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Professor Iqbal Ramzan, is a governance leader of this new centre, driving change for a healthier Australia.

The cutting-edge \$385 million research and education hub will inspire new ideas among the next generation of researchers through innovative, multidisciplinary teaching and research programs. Construction is well underway and completion is expected early next year.

The centre's approach reflects the philosophy of the inspirational person it is named after – Charles Perkins. He was one of the first Aboriginal graduates from an Australian university, demonstrating that challenging old ideas can change the way Australians think and act.

To contribute to this centre, Professor lqbal Ramzan is undertaking a global search to secure an outstanding professorial candidate who is both an inspirational teacher and a leading

researcher with an internationally recognised reputation in the broad area of Medicines Use and Health Outcomes.

As many of you already know, the University of Sydney is a member of the distinguished "group of eight" universities in Australia and is ranked in the top one percent of research universities in the world. Sydney is also the most successful university in Australia for securing ARC Discovery Grants (20% of grant applications securing funding, whilst the national average is 12%). It is new appointments such as this Chair that will keep the Faculty of Pharmacy at the forefront of discovery and teaching and amongst elite educational institutions.

To secure and maintain top ranking amongst world-class universities requires additional funding – funding beyond the usual operating costs.

Although a public university, in the 21 century, the University of Sydney has to compete for over 80% of its income

through fees, competitive grants and donations.

The decline in government funding has been happening, slowly, for decades and continues still. We have lost more than \$60 million in future income over 2013–15 through cuts to the Sustainable Research Excellence (SRE) scheme, and a further \$30 million over the next two years as a result of other government funding cuts. This is just one reason why it is important for the University to seek financial support from its alumni community.

Put simply, most of the income of the university is already allocated, leaving little or no funds to undertake extra activities and commit to new initiatives. A new position such as the Chair in Medicines Use and Health Outcomes requires a new source of funds. This year the Dean will be seeking your

financial support as a member of our alumni and pharmacy profession.

We trust that many of you share the Vice-Chancellor's and Dean's vision and, in principle, support the aims of the Charles Perkins Centre and the appointment of this new professor. Some of you have already experienced the joy of giving, as I have heard first-hand your enjoyment and satisfaction, and for this we thank you.

We are now inviting all alumni to contribute in whatever way you can. The Dean and I encourage you to take a moment, right now, to consider what is it that is important to you and what you would like to achieve with a donation.

The Dean's priorities in 2013 are to support world-class research and teaching and learning through two appeals: the Tom Watson Memorial Scholarship, to support a talented 4th year student to complete their honours year in pharmaceutical sciences, and secondly the Professor of Medicines Use and Health Outcomes.

If you would like to make a tax deductible donation or a bequest, to these or any other Faculty projects please contact the Associate Director of Development at the Faculty, Rebecca Palser, via email at rebecca.palser@sydney.edu.au or telephone (02) 9351 7828.

Every donation, regardless of the dollar amount, contributes to the success of our Faculty staff and students and the pharmacy profession.

### REMEBERING AN INSPIRATIONAL ALUMNUS

Former University of Sydney alumnus and CEO of St Vincent's Hospital, Mr Maurice Patrick Cleary OAM, passed away last month.

Mr Cleary, 95, graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Science in 1938, and completed two years of his Medical Practice degree before the interruption of World War Two.

Mr Cleary enlisted in the Australian Infantry Force in 1940, where he served as Pharmaceutical Officer aboard the hospital ship Manunda for five years. Following the war, he returned to his occupation as a self-employed pharmacist and in 1958 completed his degree from the Faculty of Medicine.

Mr Cleary was appointed General Superintendent and Chief Executive

Officer of St Vincent's hospital in 1961, a position he held for 22 years. His tenure brought about much-needed reform for St Vincent's, including improved funding, building development and medical education.

He retired from the post in 1983, leaving behind a grand legacy that earned him an Order of Australia Medal in 1985 for service to the public hospital system. He subsequently took up part-time work as a medical officer with Qantas Airways before returning to work for the Australian defence services, this time for the Royal Australian Air Force and the Royal Australian Navy.

My Cleary officially retired from medical practice in 2002, aged 84. He was active outside the medical field, publishing two books about his life and St Vincent's Hospital, and owned an orchard farm on the Central Coast of NSW.

The Faculty of Pharmacy pays tribute to Mr Cleary, a respected and inspirational University of Sydney alumnus.

# SOUL PATTINSON CHEMIST: AN EARLY HISTORY

Soul Pattinson Chemist and the men behind its success.



Lewy Pattinson (1), James Millner (2) and Dr 'Fred' Pattinson (3), pictured with family

James 'Jim' Millner AM was a graduate in MateriaMedica (Pharmacy) at the University of Sydney in the late 1940s. He was Chairman of Washington H. Soul Pattinson (WHSP) business for some 30 years.

#### **EARLY HISTORY**

Jim's grandfather, Lewy Pattinson, was an engineer. In the 1860s Lewy joined his brother, William, an apothecary, in establishing a chemist in Hexam, England.

Meanwhile, in 1863, Caleb Soul, also an Englishman, came to Sydney having spent some years working in the drug industry in both England and the US. He quickly realised the opportunity for a retail chemist to import his own drugs and patent medicines direct from the United Kingdom and the US. Practically everything in the

pharmaceutical field in those days was imported by wholesalers and retail prices were very high.

In 1872 Soul Pattinson Chemist was established and through innovative product lines, it became an immediate success. Drawing on his global experience, Caleb modelled the business on American drug stores and included a large soda fountain and milk bar, the first in Australia, complete with its own alcoholic concoction that included essential minerals and salts, for example Spartan Tonic. Caleb also opened a separate Ladies Department under the control of a trained nurse, another first in Australia. Starting with just a one-room shop, within a year larger premises were needed and the pharmacy moved down the road to 158-160 Pitt Street, where it remains in operation today as the company's head office.

Upon reading about the pharmacy business success of Caleb Soul in Australia, Jim's grandfather Lewy came in 1881 to have a look around and assess the commercial pharmacy and business landscape. In 1886 Lewy returned, settled and opened his own pharmacy in Balmain. Not long after arriving in Australia, Lewy Pattinson and Caleb Soul became good friends, and although establishing pharmacies in the colony, never opened in direct competition to one another.

Pattinson's business also grew rapidly in the late 1880s, and his brother William came to Australia in 1890 to join Lewy's booming business. Like Caleb Soul, Lewy Pattinson quickly established his own warehouse and pharmaceutical laboratories and he invested in discovering new remedies and marketing these effectively. Two of the very successful patent lines were



James Millner - as a young lad at Cheltenham

Dr Scott's Compound of Glycerine and Linseed and Thorburn Ointment, which both became national sellers.

Also joining the business was an English pharmacist John Spence. Having heard of Pattinson's success story, Spence introduced himself to William in the 1890s. Together with Lewy, the three became great friends. John Spence was later invited to join the partnership, which he did.

Later Washington Soul, son of Caleb, who had no sons of his own, asked Lewy Pattinson if he could buy him out. In 1902 Pattinson & Co. had 16 shops, a warehouse and factory at Camperdown and a glass company, which enabled them to manufacture all their own bottles.

Due to a large mortgage over 160 Pitt Street, it was decided to form a public company. Lewy Pattinson was meticulous in who he selected as company directors – ultimately he secured the services of both the Premier of New South Wales, Sir John See and the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Sir Thomas Hughes!

Out of respect to his old friend, Lewy Pattinson named the new company Washington H. Soul Pattinson and Co. Ltd (WHSP), which was incorporated in January 1903. In 1911 William Pattinson sold out and returned to England.

In 1920, Dr William Frederick 'Fred' Pattinson, son of Lewy, joined the business. Under his energetic business management, the pharmacy company enjoyed rapid expansion which continued until 1936, and many new shops opened and new product lines were selling well. A hard worker even into his last days, Lewy Pattinson was actively involved in the business until 1944, coming into the office until the day before he died. He lived to 96 years of age.

### ALUMNUS JAMES MILLNER (MateriaMedica)

During WWII, James 'Jim' Millner AM served in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF), and there he was captured by the Japanese and endured three and a half years as a prisoner of war. This experience had a lasting impact on his life and taught him the art of survival, endurance and the courage to improvise and innovate. These were attributes and skills that would assist in his continuation of the Soul Pattinson Chemist's success.

After the war Jim returned home, and completed his Materia Medica (Pharmacy) course in 1947 at the University of Sydney, and soon joined the company.

Jim showed business acumen from the outset and in 1957, when John Spence died, he was appointed a director of the company, and his uncle 'Fred', Dr W F Pattinson, was Chairman.

During the 1950s and until 1960, the Pharmacy industry saw significant changes. Resale price maintenance operated throughout Australia, meaning manufacturers fixed the price of their product and would not supply to those who discounted. Many, such as Reckitt & Colman and Parke Davis, also restricted product lines to pharmacies only. In 1961 a couple of the large manufacturers such as Bristol Myers ceased this policy of chemist-only products, selling for example, Ipana toothpaste into



A newspaper advertisement for Dr Scott's Compound.

# SOUL PATTINSON CHEMIST: AN EARLY HISTORY CONT

supermarkets and chain stores. This trend accelerated and caused a major crisis for pharmacy, including WHSP.

James Millner persuaded the WHSP Board that the only suitable response was to fight back and undercut the supermarkets and chain stores. Using wire baskets placed at the front of shops, as suggested by his wife Jean, WHSP would sell two or three 'specials' which were sold at the lowest price available to the public. This tactic of discounting proved very successful, yet it was strongly disapproved of by the Pharmacy Guild, eventually resulting in legal proceedings, which were eventually settled out of court.

During the mid-1960s restrictions on advertising by pharmacists was introduced. WHSP protested vigorously. To the contrary, WHSP pointed out that a large company pharmacy meant lower prices for the public and even produced a hard hitting booklet called "You Pay Too Much for Drugs". In order to bring lower prices to as many homes as possible, Soul Pattinson appointed the leading pharmacy in a suburb or country town as an agent for selling Souls Own Brand products; another successful business strategy which led to over 300 'own brand' products.

James' wife of some 50 years, Jean, explained, "He had a knack for knowing a good business when he saw it, and predicting the next big thing – but he worked hard too. Some might say he was stubborn minded and he would say, 'Well, you have to be!'"

James Millner always appreciated the importance of business skills for pharmacy graduates. Sharing their own business acumen, WHSP company directors, John Spence and Dr W Pattinson, established a course for the company's first year apprentices; this would supplement their University education, many of whom were at the University of Sydney.

James was recorded as saying, "Soul Pattinson always took its full quota of apprentices and went to great lengths to train them, not only academically, but businesswise as well... It was widely recognised that the boys and girls entering pharmacy got by far the best training through Soul Pattinson".

In this way, Jim pre-empted aspects of education of pharmacists today. The Faculty of Pharmacy currently offers units of study in Pharmacy Management, which are integrated into the BPharm and MPharm degrees and, until recently offered an optional business skills course, thanks to the foresight and support from the late John Sidgreaves OAM (Materia Medica) and Blooms The Chemist. "The Pharmacy Management curriculum is very practical to our Pharmacy students," explains Dean Professor Ramzan. "It prepares our graduates for the realities of community pharmacy", and covers financial management, marketing and human resources and includes topics like 'how to purchase a pharmacy'.

Jim was also one to seek out the best. During the late 1960s James was actively assessing better and more efficient accounting, warehouse delivery and ordering systems. He and Jean travelled the world to procure what the Millners believed to be the most advanced and efficient ordering system in pharmacy in the world. Again, Jim was at the forefront of trends, this time the information revolution.

"Jim was firm and tough - his word was his bond. Jim always had a reputation for being scrupulously honest and I think that was one of the reasons why he didn't experience the troubles that some other businessmen did," recalls friend and alumnus Chester Porter QC (LLB 1947), who met Jim through his wife, who was a school friend of Jean.

Reportedly, the WHSP & Co. Ltd has had over 40 people who had worked for the company for more than 50



James Millner AM

years. Jim's reputation for looking after his staff was well recognised.

Jim was also known for being someone to find a creative solution to a practical problem. As a way around legislative restrictions that prevented one owner from having too many pharmacies, he created branches and franchises and successfully expanded the business.

The Soul Pattinson business empire continued to grow and diversify under the stewardship of James Millner, Chairman for some 30 years. After Jim's passing in 2007, the family remained actively involved, and today the business is led by family members. Jim's nephew, Robert Millner, and other family members of this fourth generation business have made Washington H Soul a \$3 billion empire encompassing telecommunications, coal mining and a pharmacy chain.

Article adapted from an interview with Jean Millner and the book by Jim Millner entitled, A Brief History of Washington H. Soul Pattinson and Company Limited: 1872 – 1983 and articles by the Sydney Morning Herald.

# PRESTIGEOUS APPOINTMENT TO NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Associate Professor Jane Hanrahan has been appointed to the federal government's Advisory Committee on Prescription Medicines (ACPM), to provide expert advice on matters concerning prescription medications.

The ACPM is a senior body that advises and makes recommendations to the Department of Health and Ageing's Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) on which prescription medicines should appear on the Australian Therapeutic Good Register.

The prestigious Committee consists of 30 senior professionals in the Australian healthcare community, including mostly doctors, academics and specialists.

Associate Professor Hanrahan, an expert in pharmaceutical chemistry, was appointed specifically to analyse information supplied by pharmaceutical companies about a drug's pharmaceutical properties, and provide advice to the committee on its quality and whether their claims are appropriate based on the evidence.

Her selection to the ACPM was a particularly distinctive achievement as she became one of the very few non-clinical committee members, providing insight from her experience in the field of research.

It is the first time a non-clinical academic from the Faculty of Pharmacy has sat on the Committee.

The Dean of Pharmacy, Professor Iqbal Ramzan, congratulated Associate Professor Hanrahan on her appointment. "It is an extremely prestigious responsibility and the Faculty is proud her knowledge is being sought at this very high level," said Professor Ramzan.

"It is great recognition for not only Jane but the entire research arm of the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Sydney," he added. "We have more than 40 academics here conducting world-leading research into the science and practice of pharmacy, so it's wonderful to see that nebula of expertise being valued by highly important national authorities, such as the ACPM."

Professor Ramzan along with the Faculty's Professor of Pharmacy (Aged Care), Andrew McLachlan and Professor of Pharmaceutical Neuroscience, Professor Mary Collins, also sit on the related ACPM Pharmaceutical Subcommittee.

# UPCOMING REUNIONS

Final dates and venues for 2013 reunions are currently being decided. If you are part of the graduation class of 1993, 1983, 1973 or 1963, please email our alumni officer at pharmacy.alumni@sydney.edu.au.

We are always looking for volunteers to organise reunions and track down classmates.



# ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDALS FOR PHARMACY ALUMNI

Two University of Sydney Pharmacy alumni received Order of Australia medals last month: the late John Vincent Sidgreaves and Dr John Charles Schwarz.

Dr Schwarz, who was honoured for his service to international relations via his key involvement in the African AIDS Foundation, graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Pharmacy in 1968. He continued on to earn a degree in medicine, which helped form the platform for his vast humanitarian efforts for which he was awarded the Order of Australia.

Dr Schwarz co-founded the African AIDS Foundation in 2001, a program dedicated to supporting actions and organisations to limit the spread of HIV infection in badly-affected Africa. Following stint as a Medical Superintendant at a South African hospital and a general practitioner in Elderslie, Dr Schwartz now lectures at the University of Western Sydney's Department of Paediatrics.

The late John Vincent Sidgreaves, former University of Sydney Pharmacy Materia Medica graduate and founder of Blooms the Chemist Group, passed away on 16 December 2011, aged 75, remembered as one of the most respected and influential pharmacists in the country.

The formal honour came in recognition of Mr Sidgreaves' lifelong achievements and his immense philanthropic efforts toward the pharmacy community.

The Faculty of Pharmacy owed much to Mr Sidgreaves, who was a

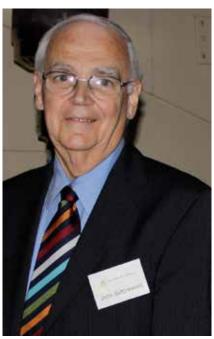
champion of pharmacy education. He supported several significant initiatives for the Faculty, including its largest fundraising campaign ever undertaken, securing more than \$1 million in donations for the Faculty's building establishment fund in 2008.

He was also instrumental in establishing a business skills education program for students; and the eponymous Blooms the Chemist: John Sidgreaves Scholarship. Sidgreaves also served on the Council of the Faculty of Pharmacy Foundation and the Dean's Community Pharmacy Reference Group.

"The Faculty of Pharmacy would not be where it is today without the incredible work and generosity of Mr Sidgreaves," said Dean of Faculty of Pharmacy, Professor Iqbal Ramzan. "He was a brilliant man and exceptional leader in the pharmacy industry. His legacy here will benefit thousands of future pharmacists and he is most deserving of this prestigious honour."

Mr Sidgreaves was also an active force outside the Faculty and his successful Blooms business. He was a life member of the NSW Pharmacy Guild, serving as President between 1980 and 1984; a former National Councillor of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia; and a key patron of the Pacific Mission Group.

"John had a brilliant mathematical mind and a passion for passing knowledge



Mr John Vincent Sidgreaves

on to young people," said son, Timothy Sidgreaves, himself a Faculty of Pharmacy alumnus. "He loved being a mentor and always encouraged young people to buy their own pharmacies as he believed pharmacy was a great profession."



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

T +61 2 9036 9644 (Wednesday to Friday) E pharmacy.alumni@sydney.edu.au sydney.edu.au/pharmacy/alumni