

Website Coordinator's Report

David Brock

cmoa.ican.net.au continues to attract lots of visitors. Our main page had an average of 3 hits per day during 1999. Since December we have averaged over 5 hits per day. We are receiving visits from around the globe and our guestbook has recorded entries from CMOs working in far off outposts of Australian medicine, such as the Cocos islands.

Our most popular pages continue to be:

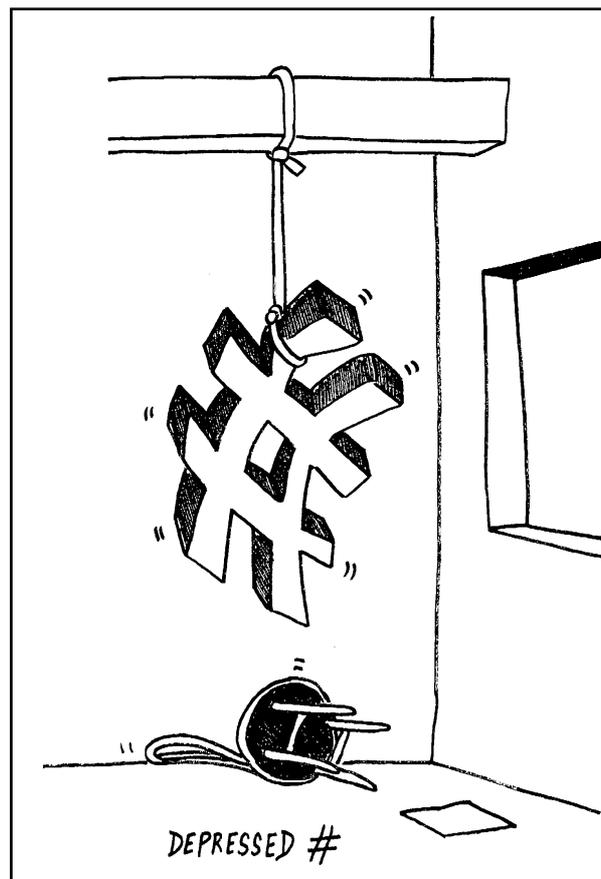
- CMOA Home page
- CMOA Medical Links Page
- What's New
- Industrial Page
- CMOA Salary Schedule page
- The President's page
- The NSW CMO Award

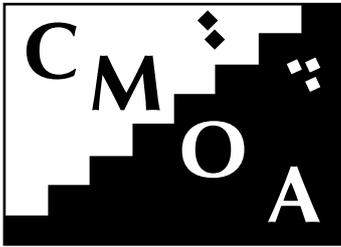
Copies of the NSW Staff Specialist Award the Qld Senior Medical Officers' and Resident Medical Officers' Award have also been frequently visited. Our copy of the NSW Nurses Award is also popular.

We continue to provide past copies of our CMO Bulletins and provide a free listing of CMO positions, and are subsidising our costs by placing banner advertisements on selected pages.

The website has attracted varied input from visitors, such as providing contact details for the 'Accident and Medical Practitioners Association of NZ'. Another visitor informed us of the existence of Auckland University's Diploma of Emergency Medicine. Medical students from UNSW have successfully approached us for sponsorship and CMO information for their annual "Medcamp" via our website.

Nonetheless, I feel the CMOA website remains under-utilised by our members. It should be a broad resource for all of us. If you have any internet links or information relevant to CMOs please email me at davbrock@ozemail.com.au or forward it onto David Brock c/- Tweed Hospital. Tweed Heads, NSW 2485.





CMO Bulletin

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Looking Forward

James Cook, Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan, Douglas Mawson, Ernest Shackleton, Matthew Flinders and Trim the cat—famous explorers boldly poking around the more obscure corners of the globe in centuries past, challenging the prevailing paradigm. How is it that in these degenerate latter days no-one is prepared to prove what all of us know to be true: there is a hole in the bottom of the world where the time runs out...

Time is an illusion, and lunchtime doubly so. May 2000—how did that happen?

The year past has offered us some opportunities, it is up to us to make more and new opportunities for the years ahead. The prospects are not too bad. The AGM went off very well, and special thanks are due to those who came from far away and those who fitted it in with difficulty between the throes of their normal lives demands. Special thanks are also due to the guest speakers: Jennifer Harlen (UQ), Gail McInerney (ASEM), Alan Thomas (AMA), Nick Barrett (AMA DIT), Peter Somerville (ASMOF), Dick Heller (University of Newcastle), who gave up their time and brought their enthusiasm with them. We definitely look forward to the chance to work with them in the future to increase opportunities for CMOs and to complete the projects we have currently in hand.

Of course opportunity is what we're all about. We've heard grapevine feedback over the year that some CMOs are concerned that we're angling towards making ourselves into another learned college with another set of hoops for the jumping through for our members to join the chosen few, and, in fact, generally aligning ourselves with the establishment. As the recently re-elected president I am here to

assure all and sundry that this is not the case. The CMOA regards itself as an inclusive organisation of disparate elements, where diversity in all its various combinations will be respected, and in fact encouraged. A glance at the database alone tells us that this needs to be true. The medical workforce fills an astonishing variety of necessary niches and choices and roles. It seems to us that the CMOs/MMOs/SHOs around the country are not actually in need of another learned college, but that an organisation that brings them into contact with each other and seeks new opportunities that are relevant to the lives and careers they choose, might actually be useful. And anyway, the concept of a college for CMOs beggars the imagination. How on earth would you organise or administer such a beast? How would you define yourself? No, we shall continue to stagger gently down the road we're on, into the murky distance, simply doing the best we can, and speaking up for ourselves as the chance is given.

Speaking of which, the chance was given recently through the MJA to speak up on behalf of the CMOs working in hospital medicine, a deeply neglected bunch, and we were able to secure publication of our opinion in the MJA. We are not permitted to reprint here but hard copy reprints are available from John Egan, if you're interested. Or the Web address for the MJA article is http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/172_07_030400/egan/egan.html — needless to say it has caused some degree of um, interest.

So, to our aspirations for the year ahead. Last year we focussed on improving our internal communications between committee members, improving our response times and looking always for new members.

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