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Hello all, once again!

Welcome to the October Spring Edition of Eyedeology. Thank you to everyone who submitted articles, advertisements, pictures, cartoons and so forth. It's much appreciated. If you would like to contribute to Eyedeology please email me (preferably in a Word document format) at:

eyedeology.oa@gmail.com

The next deadline is:

20th January 2012

Contents

Presidents Report	4
Workplace Report	6
Employment Vacancies	22
Upcoming Events	27
Contacts	34

President's Report

Nhung Nguyen

Dear Members

In my very first president's report, it is with pleasure and excitement that I welcome you to a new council term for NSW Branch (2011-2012). I'm confident that together with the dedicated council members, representatives and you, we will continue to support each other and achieve the goals and plans towards furthering our profession in the ophthalmic and general community.

I would like to sincerely thank and congratulate Liane Wilcox as president, council members and representatives of 2010 - 2011 for their hard work in achieving a lot of milestones during this time.

August 2011 was a busy one with our AGM and continuing ed Day sponsored by Optimized with an excellent program by Michelle Courtney Harris. Federal Upskill

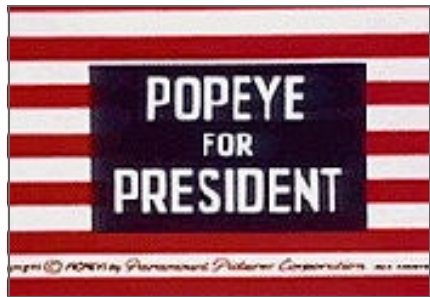
Module 8 for NSW was also held this month lead by Mara Giribaldi. The same course is to be repeated in QLD, VIC and WA towards the end of 2011 and beginning of 2012.

Our first council meeting on 10th September 2011 focused on marketing and development of our profession and how we can utilize our specialty as trained Orthoptists to increase our value and worth. Council came away with a lot fresh new ideas and we look forward to develop these into workshops and programs for member's benefits in the near future...so stay tuned.

On behalf of the new council and representatives, we welcome you to have an open dialogue with us in the coming year. As volunteers and passionate Orthoptists alone we can only do so much but if every one of us spares a moment and contributes as a whole, you'll be amazed how much we can achieve.

I hope to see as many as you as possible at our national conference in Canberra in November 2011.

Till soon, Nhung



68th Annual
Scientific Conference
20th – 22nd
November 2011

Have you registered for the Conference yet?

Come to Canberra!

- to share your knowledge and ideas with colleagues in the professions of Orthoptics and Ophthalmology.
- to discover new knowledge
- to catch up with old friends and make new ones.
- to enjoy two wonderful social events – Sunday night drinks at the Bookplate Restaurant, with views over Lake Burley griffin from the national Library of Australia, and the conference dinner at the picturesque Boat House by the Lake.

Conference delegates receive reciprocal registration entitlement with the concurrent RANZCO conference.

A diverse and interesting conference program.

Please visit the OA website for more details:

<http://www.orthoptics.org.au/OAA07/>

Hope to see you there!

Workplace Report

Liane Wilcox

Just as I think I understand the new modern award Health Professionals and Support Staff Award 2010 which covers privately employed orthoptists the goal posts move.

In July 2011 the Fair Work Ombudsman derived a set of pay scale **for Orthoptists employed in NSW** that provide for the phasing in of the new federal modern award under the new transitional arrangements. This phasing in of the new modern award takes into account that the previous wages for NSW employed orthoptists were at a much higher level under the state based award. The transitional wage scales are available on the fair work website, but are not easy to find. As such I have included a link to the current transitional wage scale here:

[https://extranet.deewr.gov.au/ccmsv8/
CiLiteKnowledgeDetailsFrameset.htm?
DatabaseName=CCMS_v8&ID=01531176896512635888
89912894&DOCUMENT_URL=https%3A//
extranet.deewr.gov.au/ccmsv8/ExternalDocument.aspx/
BYID/0153117689651263588889912894/1/4814/
SUMMARY--1/
&RELATED_INFO_PAGE=1&RELATED_INFO_TITLE=Linke
d%20Document%20MA000027](https://extranet.deewr.gov.au/ccmsv8/CiLiteKnowledgeDetailsFrameset.htm?DatabaseName=CCMS_v8&ID=0153117689651263588889912894&DOCUMENT_URL=https%3A//extranet.deewr.gov.au/ccmsv8/ExternalDocument.aspx/BYID/0153117689651263588889912894/1/4814/SUMMARY--1/&RELATED_INFO_PAGE=1&RELATED_INFO_TITLE=Linked%20Document%20MA000027)

IF you find this website a bit arduous to type into your web browser. Go to www.fairwork.gov.au, go to **awards**, go to **award finder** click on "**Launch award finder**", use the code function and enter **AN120397** (no spaces). Click **view** (to view award), now click on the far right side "**summaries**". Click on the first award shown which is **PCG MA 000027**. The transitional award will now be shown. (They try and make it as hard as possible to find!!!)

The transitional wage scales apply to most employers who are under a company structure or , partnership of sole trader employed in NSW. Different arrangements apply to employers who operate under a trust structure. For clarification and further information please contact Fairwork Australia 13 13 94.

The AMA have also pay calculator available on their website www.ama.com.au which can calculate the level of award wages using the transitional wages scale that an orthoptists should be paid under the modern award. Using the calculator is fairly easy, however I have found some discrepancies using this calculator and comparing to the fair work scales. IF you find a discrepancy you may need to contact Fair Work Australia for clarification as many ophthalmic practices are relying on this calculator to determine wage levels for orthoptists.

Many ophthalmic practices are trying to do the right thing by their orthoptists and find this area as confusing as most of us do at the association. Please refer all ophthalmic practices to the Fairwork phone number for any clarification. 13 13 94.

Rural Report

Lyn Butler

This report will focus on the three Rs. . .

R ural Recruitment and Retention!

I recently attended a workshop organised by Health Workforce Australia (HWA) which is a national organisation, based in Adelaide, planning how to maintain the health workforce throughout Australia. Part of this planning is specifically looking at the needs of rural and remote areas. The workshops were designed to provide opportunity to share creative ideas on strategies that are working and new ideas that can be developed.

A number of issues for health workers in rural and remote areas were noted including:

- Longer working hours, professional isolation and increased stress without relief options.
- Uneven distribution of workers and limited access to many services.
- Need for workers with more general skills rather than the increased specialisation that occurs in metropolitan areas.
- Need for systems that provide more flexibility and broadening of roles.
- Consideration of the time and resources needed for travel and transporting of equipment.
- Limited access to local CPD opportunities and the extra expense involved in travel and accommodation to attend metropolitan training.
- Ageing of the rural health workforce
- Need for collaboration and cooperation with other health workers and services in sharing of resources

Creative solutions to some of these problems may involve increased use of technology and the internet for teaching of students in rural areas, CPD and consultation. Use of allied health professionals in collaborative public and private health roles may provide more efficient use of professional expertise.

Most areas of health are now looking to incorporate training opportunities in rural areas with many rural universities offering allied health courses and rural medical schools becoming common. Opportunities for student placements in rural areas are seen as a way of encouraging students to consider work in rural areas in the future. With orthoptic education centred in metropolitan areas and increased difficulty in attracting orthoptists to work in rural areas it needs to be acknowledged that we face a potential crisis in maintaining a presence for orthoptists working in rural areas. Increased funding to enable student experience in a rural area to be more financially equitable and incentives to workers, could assist in making rural experience more attractive. One alternative is having other allied health workers such as nurses, trained to take on specific roles in ocular health. To a certain extent that is already happening in many ophthalmic practices. Another option is to have orthoptists providing expertise in a consultancy role from a more centralised location.

If you would like to provide some input to the discussion and promote the specific needs of orthoptists in rural areas then consider making a submission or contacting me to have your comments included in a collaborative effort (email: ruralnsw@orthoptics.org.au). Further information is available at www.hwa.gov.au/wir/ruralandremote Closing date for submissions is **28 October 2011**.



Continuing Ed

Michelle Courtney Harris

On August 13th NSW OA branch held its annual AGM and continuing education day. Rob Sparkes a fellow orthoptist and General Manager of Optimed was our gracious host for the event. There were 43 attendees for the day and it was great to see many new faces in the crowd including current students and recent new grads. I hope that everyone present found the day educational and interesting. For those who were unable to make the event hopefully we will see you and the next continuing education day.

A very big thank you to all the continuing education team and invited speakers, as without you the day would not have been a success. As Nhung has now taken on the role of NSW branch president I shall be covering as the continuing education coordinator. I would like to thank Nhung for all the hard work she had done in coordinating continuing education events thus far.

The Next NSW branch continuing education event will be held over the weekend of March 10 & 11 2012 at the Hawkesbury Sebel resort. The plan is to mix education with some relaxation and a little fun on the side. Hope to see you there.

Suggestions for topics are always welcome so if there is anything particular would like to hear about please let me know.

THE SEBEL
RESORT & SPA



HAWKESBURY VALLEY

▸ Conferences & Meetings



ORTHOPTICS AUSTRALIA NSW BRANCH

AGM and Continuing Education Day

Optimed Head Office

Unit 1a, 7-9 Orion Road, Lane Cove West 2066



Saturday 13th August 2011

Program:

9.00 am Registration and Welcome

A Surgeon's View –

This segment will be dedicated to having invited Surgeons presenting the surgical techniques in Vitreo-retinal, Glaucoma and Strabismus. Orthoptists predominantly are involved in the pre & post operative component of the above but rarely do we have the chance to see the actual surgical part. Surgeons will talk through and show us videos of the surgeries.

9.10 am Vitreoretinal Surgery - State of the art microincisional techniques (Retina)
Dr David McKay

9.40 am The Surgical management of Adult Exotropia (Strabismus)
Dr Loren Rose

10.10 am Indications for & post operative management of Trabeculectomy (Glaucoma)
Dr Brian Chua

10.40 am Morning Tea

11.00 Anesthesiology and Ocular Surgery
Dr Peter Cox

11.30am Annual General Meeting

12.30pm Lunch

1.30pm Debate forum– Amblyopia and current treatments
Moderator Liane Wilcox

2.15pm Stroke Panel (quest speakers from various allied health personnel)
Chair: Ann MacFarlane, Kate Vickers (Speech pathologist), Hannah Munro
(Occupational therapist), Sue Brunner (Orthoptist)

3.15pm Afternoon Tea

3.30pm Workshop - Optimed sponsored – Rob Sparkes

4.45pm Close

*Our sincere thanks to our sponsor
Optimed for their support in the Orthoptic Profession*



University News

Kathryn Rose & Michelle Courtney Harris

In May this year Gabi Hollows who graduated from the Cumberland of Health Sciences, was announced as the recipient of the Health Sciences Alumni Award for Community Achievement in recognition of her work alongside her late husband Fred Hollows and for her passion and dedication in continuing the work of the Foundation. Congratulations Gabi.

The Discipline is busily preparing for the end of year exams for our students and in particular, the final year clinical exams for the 48 students enrolled in either the Master of Clinical Vision Science or the Master of Orthoptics. Thanks go to all those orthoptists who have had orthoptic students in their clinics and a special thanks to those clinical supervisors who are participating in our designated clinical placements for the student's major final exam and who recently attended an evening workshop to help them prepare for this task.

We have been working on various clinical projects funded by Health Workforce Australia (HWA), see item below from Michelle. In addition, the University of Sydney undertook a consultancy to look at the potential for use of simulated learning environment (SLE) in orthoptic clinical education programs. An example of a SLE would be the use of computer animation to teach ocular movements and to simulate various nerve palsies. This consultancy was conducted in conjunction with representatives from La Trobe University, Orthoptics Australia and the Australian Orthoptic Board and a final report will be submitted to HWA.



As part of the Faculty's plan for improving clinical education infrastructure, we have been able to plan for replacement of some of our older clinical teaching equipment, including the recent purchase of an A-scan. Also our clinical spaces and waiting area are undergoing refurbishment, which I think will enhance the professional appearance of the clinical and tutorial rooms.

Kathryn Rose

Head of Discipline (Orthoptics)

What's new in Clinical Placement for Orthoptic Student's

Mad max Outback New South Wales Mining town

How do these words fit with clinical education?

Second semester saw the introduction of Broken Hill to the clinical placement portfolio. A health workforce Australia (HWA) grant to the Faculty of Health Sciences and the University of Sydney's Department of Rural health in Broken Hill, helped establish Orthoptic clinical placements to provide vision screening in Primary schools in Broken Hill and surrounds. Six final year students bravely took up the challenge to spend 4 weeks navigating the perils of school screening.

In 2012 we hope to have 2 groups of students take up the challenge, we hope to continue with the school screening program as well as introduce a screening service for those in aged care.

Michelle Courtney Harris

Clinical Educator

Health Services

Ann Macfarlane

Health Services Union

The current issue is the pegging of pay increases for public servants to 2.5% per annum unless productivity is increased. Concurrently, the powers of the Industrial Commission have been removed from the wage fixing role. This has caused great concern to all public servants with rallies etc. and the teachers' strike.

More members are needed for the Orthoptic Professional Vocational Committee, which meets every three months to discuss such things as wages and conditions and the reasonable workload. Please contact me if you could possibly be interested.

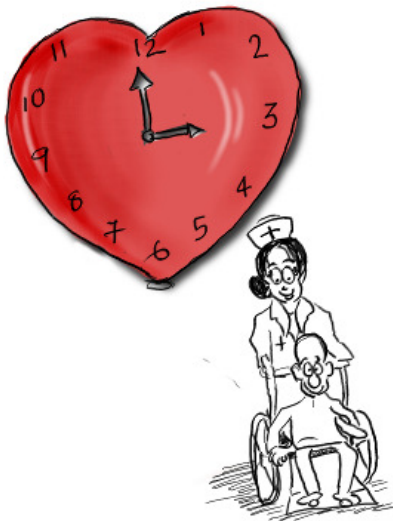
Association of Health Professions

A panel of speakers was arranged for the Orthoptic Association (NSW Branch) AGM and Continuing Education Day held on 13th August, 2011. The topic for the panel was "The Orthoptist's Involvement in the Care of Stroke Patients". Experts from Physiotherapy, Speech pathology, Occupational therapy and Orthoptics discussed the importance of having visual information available for other rehabilitation team members and the difference the orthoptic management of eye defects made to the patient's outcome in the rehabilitation of stroke patients. The level of visual acuity, the presence of an oculo-motor defect and the state of the visual field and presence of visual neglect were discussed.

The Pharmacy Association held a continuing Education weekend on 17th and 18th of September with the subject of the clinical day being Diabetes. The panel discussion included a chiropractor , an exercise physiologist , a dietitian and an orthoptist (who was me) . I spoke on Diabetic Retinopathy.

Regarding the two presentations, may I please ask orthoptists , no matter where they work , to provide information to patients which could be vital in the case of rehabilitation.

CARING FOR YOU WITH OUR HEARTS... ROUND THE CLOCK



Have you visited the VI Family Network yet?

Located at: www.vifamilynetwork.org.au

The website provides public access to a large list of low vision resources including:

- Government reports, e.g. Better Start for Children with Disability
- Newsletters from low vision service providers
- The latest news on technology, e.g. apps, free audio books, online games and resources for kids with VI

The website is hosted by the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children, and supported by Vision Australia, Guide Dogs, Cando4kids and the Senses Foundation. Information is provided for each of these support groups with a link through to their website & contact details.

Upcoming low vision events held anywhere in Australia are also advertised on this website.

Families can use the website to join the Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register, and then become a member of a secure online parent forum. Families use this forum to exchange their inspiring stories, provide support and share their great ideas in tackling the day to day challenges they face.

Please visit the VI Family Network at www.vifamilynetwork.org.au. We are very happy for feedback and inclusion of any resources you might know of that would interest families. You can email the web designers at: ac-vir@ridbc.org.au.



[vifamilynetwork.org.au](http://www.vifamilynetwork.org.au)

Upskill

Module 8

Ophthalmic Imaging Techniques

This course will cover imaging techniques are being used in a clinical practice and in research studies for a variety of retinal conditions, uveitis, glaucoma and refractive surgery

investigations. They include:

- Slit-lamp photography
- Stereo fundus photography
- Indocyanine green (ICG) angiography and fundus

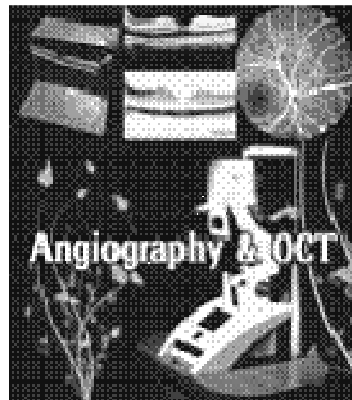
autofluorescence imaging

- Basic interpretation of fundus fluorescein angiogram
- Optical coherence tomography (OCT) – anterior/ fundus/ disc

The course is designed to enable the attendee to discuss the aim of the imaging investigations with the patient, to interpret and explore likely results and possible treatment options.

There will be interactive practical component to the course during which industry leaders will be available to instruction and answer any technical questions.

For further information on dates for Victoria and Western Australia please contact nhung.nguyen@marsdeneye.com



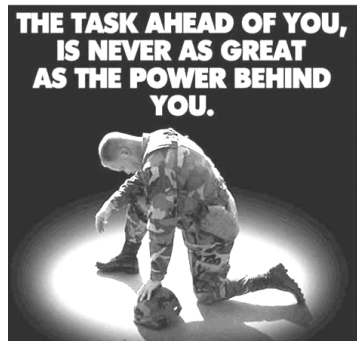
Orthoptist....

....doing it for themselves....

At the last council meeting, we had a great brainstorming session on the issue that we all know and have talked of many times before and that was....*“What is an Orthoptist?”*

The brainstorm session lead us to thinking that in order for the Orthoptic profession to be better known in the ophthalmic world, the health care industry as well as the general public, we as practicing Orthoptists should first and foremost change our mind set and believe **we can do more** than vision, pressure, dilate....there are opportunities that are waiting for us and they will open doors to enhance our job satisfaction and possibly salary satisfaction.

We on council understand that in order change this mind set we must provide members with the essentials in the form of workshops, upskillings, professional and business development tools. Council believe that a new brand for Orthoptics is necessary and as we continue to explore this further, we encourage you to join us with your ideas and suggestions on how we can do this. Pro-active measures are required to allow this to occur and it will take time but we believe it can happen because below are examples some members who have already been “doing it for themselves” in one way or another.



Chris Hodge:

“My current work involves facilitating research within our practices. The work varies wildly and may represent securing studies for our sites to the preparation and writing of publications for submission. The route to this role was an extended one and began by taking over small roles within my orthoptic position over time. The practical experience gained as an orthoptist was, and remains, a significant part of the ability to conduct my role.”

Kristen Saba:

“I started working for Marsden Eye Specialists in 2005, working with Dr Ross Fitzsimons who specializes in adult and pediatric strabismus. Working in a private practice, I thought I would just have to work whenever there was a doctor’s clinics to cover and that was that. I was very fortunate and pleased to discover this was not the case. With the help and encouragement of my workplace, I was able to set up my own orthoptic clinic.

On days when Dr Fitzsimons is operating or on leave, I am able to book patients in to come and see me for amblyopia treatment, convergence exercises, prism fitting, pre-op strabismus surgery assessments, post op cataract patients, diabetic screening, Plaquenil screening and many other things that clog up clinics and make days unbearably busy. The patients prefer it, as they don’t have to be caught up in a 2 hour wait in the middle of a busy clinic, and with half hour appointment slots, I am able to spend more time with them or the parents, explaining their condition and potential treatment.

All you need is permission from your employer (they will love it! More patients = happy doctors), a provider number, registration with the Australian Orthoptic Board, register yourself with the health funds, check you are covered by your practice indemnity insurance/certificate of currency...and voila...you are on your way to having your very own patients. It really is a great feeling.”

If you would like advice or to ask me any questions, please don’t hesitate to email me [kris-ten.saba@marsdeneye.com](mailto:kristen.saba@marsdeneye.com)



Pierre Elmurr:

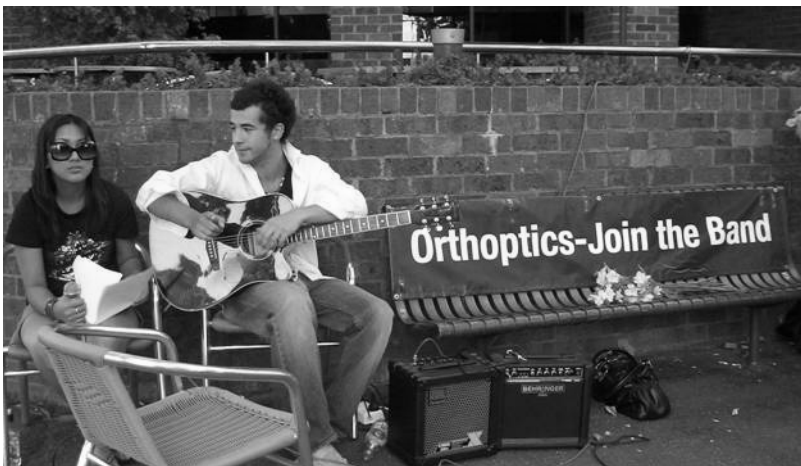
“After graduating in 1992 I spent 10 years working in refractive surgery and maintained a part-time private Orthoptic clinic. In 2003 in conjunction with Troy Rutz (Orthoptist) and Allan Ared (Optometrist) we set up Primary Eye Care. 8 years later we have 3 clinics that vertically integrates Optometry, Orthoptics and Optical Dispensing. The 3 clinics are located in Burwood, Kogarah and Mona Vale. This business model has allowed me to continue to provide full Orthoptic services to patients. I am also fortunate enough to have developed a niche interest in vision and sports performance and act as a sports vision consultant to the New South Wales Institute of Sport.”

Eyal Pat:

“I started working at EyeCare Plus Optometrist in 2008. I know that most orthoptists are not working in optometry clinics however, I think the working relationship between orthoptists and optometrists is very important.

I believe the goal for all eye practitioners is to help patients. The common thinking is that only 3% of the population have strabismus condition, however, in real life there are many patient with binocular vision problem. The condition could be concomitant, from my experience strabismus operation is not automatically give the patients balance and working binocular vision. In addition, there are many children that have binocular vision problems that are not in relation to strabismus such as convergence, eye movement and other. Those children need diagnosis and treatment such as visual training.

My rule is to diagnose those conditions and provide the right training. There is no conflict with the optometrist working with me and our goal is to help patient therefore, everyone can contribute to this. In a world where we find eye practitioners treating strabismus with computer programs, we as Orthoptists should feel that it is our responsibly to speak out and give the right treatment we were trained to do for the benefit of the patients whether it in an Ophthalmic practice or Optometry practice.”



NAHRLS

Nursing & Allied Health Rural Locum Scheme

Funded by the Australian Government

NAHRLS is a component of the Australian Government's National Health and Hospital Network Reform agenda and has been established to address some of the challenges and barriers that rural and remote health professionals face when trying to access professional development activities and training. The NAHRLS supports rural and remote nurses, midwives and eligible allied health professionals to take leave for CPD activities and training by providing their employers with access to locums to back-fill positions.

The NAHRLS can provide your workplace with a suitably matched locum for up to 14 days (per request). The NAHRLS is responsible for all the administration associated with recruiting and credentialing appropriate locums. We also arrange and cover all the costs of the locum's travel, accommodation, meals and incentives payments whilst on placement. There are no agency fees, and as part of a Federal Government scheme, the hosting organisation is only responsible for covering the base locum wage for the period during which the locum is required.

Eligible Health Professions

| Registered nurse | Enrolled nurse | Midwife | Audiologist | Chiropractor | Dietitian | Exercise physiologist | Medical radiation scientist | Occupational therapist | Optometrist | Orthoptist | Osteopath | Paramedic | Physiotherapist | Podiatrist | Psychologist | Social worker | Speech pathologist | Aboriginal health worker (certificate IV) | Dental & oral health

1300 NAHRLS (62 47 57) or www.nahrls.com.au

Employment Vacancies

Current positions advertised on www.eyedecareers.com (as at 21-9-2011)

Job Title	Location	Listed by	Listing date
Ophthalmic Assistant	Blacktown, NSW	MetWest Eye Centre	15/9/2011
Orthoptist	Maroochydore, QLD	Eye Care Specialists, Sunshine Coast	14/9/2011
Orthoptist	Maroubra Junction, NSW	Eastern Eye Centre	13/9/2011
Orthoptist	Penrith, NSW	Nepean Valley Eye Surgeons	12/9/2011
Orthoptist	Brisbane, QLD	Vision Eye Institute	2/9/2011
Orthoptist	East Melbourne, VIC	Melbourne Excimer Laser Group	1/9/2011
Orthoptist	Sutherland Shire, NSW	Eye Surgeons Miranda	31/8/2011
Surgical Account Manager	Western Australia	Alcon Laboratories (Aust) Ltd.	30/8/2011
Orthoptist	Cairns, QLD	Cairns Eye & Laser Clinic	26/8/2011
Receptionist	Bondi Junction, NSW	Vision Eye Institute	24/8/2011
Orthoptist	Bondi Junction, NSW	Vision Eye Institute	24/8/2011
Orthoptist	Sydney CBD, NSW	Eye Group Pty Ltd	22/8/2011
Orthoptist	Warrnambool, VIC	South West Eye Centre	9/8/2011
Orthoptist	Chatswood, NSW	Retina Associates Pty Ltd	6/8/2011
Receptionist	East Melbourne, VIC	Laser Sight Melbourne	5/8/2011
Orthoptist	Dandenong/ Traralgon, VIC	Dandenong Eye Clinic & Day Surgery Centre	3/8/2011
Orthoptist	Forster, NSW	Forster Eye Surgery	28/7/2011
Orthoptist	Campsie, NSW	Campsie Eye Centre	22/7/2011
Territory Manager	Queensland	Ellex Medical Pty Ltd	20/7/2011

Strabismus Workshop

Please contact us for dates of the monthly Strabismus Workshops where “live” patients will be examined followed by diagnosis and discussion of management.

Our evening sessions will be held at:

St Vincent’s Private Clinic *or* **Marsden Eye Specialists**

Level 1, 152 Marsden Street Parramatta

Dr Ross Fitzsimons & Kirsten Saba

Phone: 9635 7077

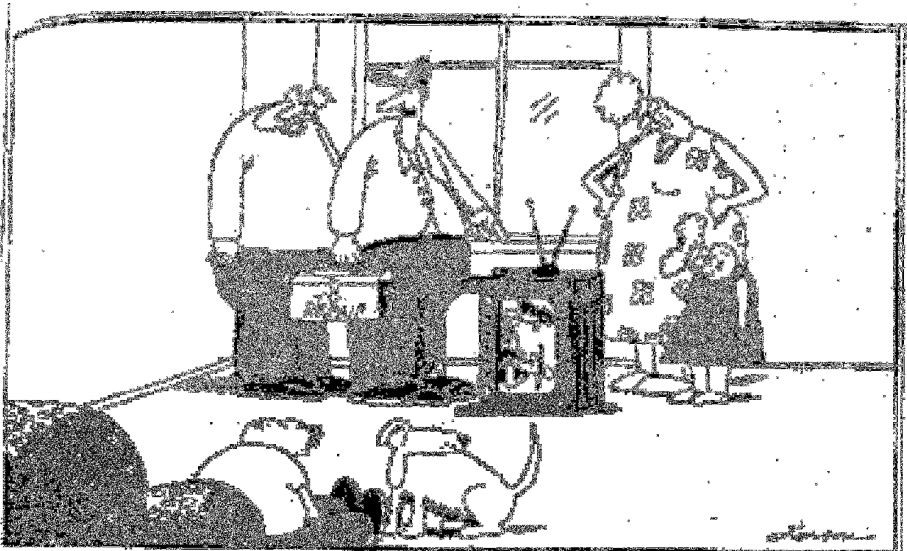
For more information please email me
at kristen.saba@marsdeneye.com

Eye Flashes

Some Eyedeology Fun!

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an
Alaskan island, but it turned out to be
an optical Aleutian

No matter how much you push the
envelope, it'll still be stationery



"Well, here's your problem, Mr. Gullible!"

Eye Flashes

An excerpt from *What's New in Ophthalmology Today*

Feel Blue? See Gray.

The visual portrayal of depression in the world of art has been through darkness; shades of grays and no bright colors. “Scientific findings now lend empirical support to this representation of depression that **everything looks gray when you feel blue**” reports *Medical News Today*. In the recent issue of *Biological Psychiatry*, Dr. Emanuel Bubl and colleagues report that patients suffering with depression actually had trouble with their contrast sensitivity. **Contrast sensitivity** testing measures one’s ability to tell light from dark; looking at black and white stripes and seeing the separate lines. Now, as black lines fade to a blur it gets more difficult to distinguish the very thin black stripes from the white stripes. People who are depressed do poorly on this test. Dr. Bubl actually tested the retina’s contrast sensitivity with an electroretinogram, “which is like an EKG for the heart”. He tested three groups of patients:

- a. normal patients,
- b. depressed patients who were being treated for their depression; and,
- c. depressed patients not receiving therapy.

“They found dramatically lower retinal contrast in the depressed patients, regardless of whether or not they were receiving antidepressant medication”. Also, those who were more severely depressed performed poorer on the tests. In fact these results can be used to distinguish depressed patients from the healthy subjects. **Depression does indeed render the visual world a place of shades of gray, with little contrast, “a less pleasurable place.”**
The eyes really are windows to the soul.



Prisms in the Northern Lights
**The Science of
Orthoptics**

**XIIth
International
Orthoptic Congress**

June 26 - 29 / 2012
Westin Harbour Castle



Toronto
Ontario [Canada]



INTERNATIONAL
ORTHOPTIC
ASSOCIATION

www.torontoioacongress.org

Upcoming Events

2011

- Oct 7-9** Albinism Fellowship of Australia Biennial Conference ; Novotel Melbourne on Collins
- Oct 13** World Sight Day
- Oct 22– 25** AAO, Orlando County Convention Centre, Florida, USA
- Nov 19—22** RANZCO Annual General Meeting and Scientific Congress, National Convention Centre, Canberra
- Nov 20-22** 68th Annual Scientific Conference, Canberra

2012

- Feb 16—20** 34th World Ophthalmology Congress (WOC), Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- Mar 5-9** Orthoptic Awareness Week
- Mar 10—11** Tasmanian Branch Scientific Meeting, Freycinet Lodge, Freycinet, Tasmania
- Mar 22– 24** NSW Branch Meeting Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley
- June 26-29** XII International Orthoptic Congress Toronto, Canada

**IMPROVING THE OUTCOMES OF VISION
IMPAIRED STUDENTS IN MAINSTREAM
SCHOOLS**

**Monday 22nd February 2012 and
Monday 20th August 2012**

**Presented by: Staff from RIDBC Chil-
dren's Services and RIDBC Renwick
Centre**

Mainstream teachers will benefit from this one-day workshop by gaining a deeper understanding of the characteristics, expectations, and needs of students with vision impairments. They will also attain a heightened awareness of the potentially important role that they can play in improving the educational outcomes of vision impaired students. Suggested practical classroom measures will be augmented by exploration of wider perspectives that include the issues of literacy development, the use of technology and the opportunities for the students' social inclusion both in and out of class.

Intended Audience: This one day

workshop will be of value to all mainstream teachers and support staff working with students who are Blind or vision impaired in a mainstream classroom setting.

Venue RIDBC Renwick Centre, 361-365 North Rocks Road, North Rocks, Sydney NSW

Fee: \$40 for schools supported by RIDBC \$150 for schools not supported by RIDBC

Duration 8.30 - 3.30

Registration information will be available here in 2012: http://www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/courses/cpe_list.php

PAEDIATRIC VISION FORUM

Friday 18th May 2012

Presented by: Invitation

The Second Annual Paediatric Vision Forum represents a day where expertise across the profession of Orthoptics will come together to exchange information on specialised areas within paediatric eye care. This will include early identification

services - vision surveillance and vision screening; and clinical diagnostic and treatment services.

Intended Audience: Orthoptists, nurses and educators supporting children will find this an invaluable professional development opportunity.

Venue RIDBC Renwick Centre, 361-365 North Rocks Road, North Rocks, Sydney NSW

Fee: Special price for students: \$75 and presenters: \$0.

Duration 8.30 – 4pm

Registration information will be available here in 2012: http://www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/courses/cpe_list.php

LOW VISION FORUM

Friday 1st June 2012

Presented by: Invitation

The Low Vision Forum represents a day where expertise across the profession of low vision will come together to exchange information on specialised areas within paediatric eye care and education.

Intended Audience: Orthoptists,

nurses and educators supporting students who are blind or have vision impairment will find this an invaluable professional development opportunity. Support staff engaged in the production and use of dual media resources will also find this a useful workshop.

Venue RIDBC Renwick Centre, 361-365 North Rocks Road, North Rocks, Sydney NSW

Fee: Special price for students: \$75 and presenters: \$0.

Duration 8.30 – 4pm

Registration information will be available here in 2012: http://www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/courses/cpe_list.php

FRANCES MARY D'ANDREA

8th, 9th and 10th August

Frances Mary D'Andrea, M.Ed., is a teacher of students with visual impairments in the Atlanta area. She is the former Director of the National Literacy Center, American Foundation for the Blind in Atlanta, Georgia, and former editor of the DOTS for Braille Literacy newsletter.

She is the recipient of the C. Warren Bledsoe Award from the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired for her work in co-authoring *Instructional Strategies for Braille Literacy*. She is the co-editor of *Looking to Learn: Promoting Literacy for Students with Low Vision*, and *The Braille Trail*, and is a board member of the Braille Authority of North America. She has written and presented widely on literacy for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Intended Audience: Orthoptists, educators and para-professionals supporting students who are Blind or have vision impairment will find this an invaluable professional development opportunity. Families may also find this workshop useful.

Venue RIDBC Renwick Centre, 361-365 North Rocks Road, North Rocks, Sydney NSW

Fee: \$400

Duration 8.30 – 4pm each day

Registration information will be available here in 2012: http://www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/courses/cpe_list.php

DATE CLAIMERS

Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd May- Daniel Kish

Friday 28th September- CHARGE workshop

Wednesday 16th October- Adolescents with Vision Impairment

Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th November- Karen Wolffe

Thursday 15th and Friday 16th November- VISCON 2012

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16th September 2011

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