



Australian Chinese Medical Association (Victoria) Inc.
澳洲維省中華醫學會

ACMAV INC. NEWS

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Insert - Application Form for Renewal of Membership

Editor's Comment

Dear All,

Happy New Year. In this edition of the newsletter, you will find articles from president – Frank Thien and out-going secretary – David Lam.

Just a gentle reminder to those who have not renewed their ACMAV membership yet – an application for renewal of ACMAV membership form is included as an insert for all those who require it. May I draw your attention to the requirement that all members supply an **e-mail** address. In 2005, ACMAV aims to send newsletters and notices by e-mail whenever possible.

In addition you will find an invitation to our Chinese New Year Yum Cha and next update seminar.

The registration details for ACMAV annual conference are included in this edition – please note the substantial early bird savings !

Finally, there are some important notices from Benny Foo, for those who like to travel and regarding a practical opportunity to help out in Tsunami affected regions.

Mee Yoke Ling
(ACMAV News Editor)

All ACMAV Inc. members are welcome to contribute to this newsletter. Please send all newsletter items to Mee Yoke directly at meeyoke.ling@med.monash.edu.au or via ACMAV House.



Australian Chinese Medical Association (Victoria) Inc.

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From the President

The utter devastation caused by the Indian Ocean tsunami, with the massive loss of life and desperate situation of the survivors, has sharpened the focus on our interconnectedness as a human family. It is a stark reminder of the fragility and preciousness of life, as well as an unrelenting challenge to the depth of our compassion. It is a challenge which demands a response of equal measure. The Australian government has responded with a massive aid package, and I am sure many of you have also responded personally with donations to the aid organisations. Your committee has made an immediate donation of \$5000 from the ACMAV to the relief effort, but much more is needed. We will endeavour to fundraise at our various functions this year for this effort. I encourage you to make your own personal contributions to the relief.

2005 is a very important year for the ACMAV. Not only is it our 20th year as an Association, but we will have the opportunity to display our maturity and coming of age by hosting the national meeting of the Australasian Council of Chinese Medical Associations. Under the able chairmanship of Kevin Siu, the conference subcommittee has worked hard to put together a superlative program educationally and socially. As a sign of our maturity, we will also present

some of our activities focusing on Community and Aid projects. I encourage you to set aside the 11-13th of June for the opportunity to interact with your colleagues, and learn both about advances in medicine, as well as new directions for the ACMAV.

Due to work and family commitments, it is with regret that we accept the resignation of David Lam (as Secretary) and Fiona Chan from the committee. Fiona and David have been very busy with their 5 month old daughter Sarah, as well as Fiona's PhD research and David's anaesthetic training. I am very grateful for their contributions to the Committee and ACMAV, and wish them the very best as a family and in their work. I am also grateful to David for agreeing to remain as webmaster in the interim. We are looking for new committee members for 2005, and I challenge all members to seriously consider joining the committee. It is up to you to ensure the ACMAV remains a dynamic and vibrant organisation.

We will kick off this Year of the Rooster with our annual Yum Cha on February 20th, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Kind regards,
Frank Thien president@acma.net.au

Reflections (by our outgoing secretary – Dr David Lam)

From my experience working at the major public hospitals, there is a statement that is often made. From residents to social workers to aged care workers, it usually goes something like “Isn’t it nice Mr/Mrs X has such a supportive family, you know, these Chinese really respect their elderly”. Now, I know that is very much a generalization, and that many other cultures are the same, but because I am Chinese, that is what is usually said to me.

And then the conversation would generally turn to how the young are respecting the elderly less and less as the years go by, how children let their parents languish on a hospital bed waiting for a nursing home, without even the effort of visiting or inspecting nursing homes themselves. And how more of the baby boomers are spending their savings on themselves as opposed to building up an inheritance for the children ? At time point I would just politely nod and smile, as it is a difficult topic to dwell on.

But surely this is an important area? Is it really true that “respect your elders” is dying in Australia? Is it already dead? What about other countries? I was quite alarmed the other day, when on the tram, the only person who would willingly give up his seat was a European tourist. I wondered whether he was especially nice or whether it was standard behavior for where he came from.

Is the crux of the problem compassion (or lack thereof)? That we are now too busy in our individual lives, minding our own mini crises, to care about other people? I was asked quite recently, why there were so many elderly beggars in Hong Kong. Do they not have family? Where do they sleep at night? I was not able to reply, because I realized that I, like many others, had turned a blind eye to the problem.

The recent tsunami disaster was accompanied with a massive tragic loss of life, as well as hardship for millions. The many acts of compassion that followed show us that compassion is still well and alive, amongst young and old, and amongst peoples of all cultures. But it is something that we must continue to teach to our children.

By Dr David Lam

Calender of Events

Date	Event	Venue
February 20th	Chinese New Year Yum Cha	Fu Long Restaurant
March 16th	Neurology Seminar – Multiple Sclerosis	Shark’s Fin House
April 29th	AGM	TBA
June 11th – 13th	ACMAV & ACCMA Annual conference	Park Hyatt



Australian Chinese Medical Association (Victoria) Inc.
澳洲維省中華醫學會

ACMAV Cordially invites you our

**CHINESE NEW YEAR
CELEBRATION**

Sunday Yum Cha 20th February 2005
At 1.45pm
Venue : Fu Long Restaurant
942-946 Whitehorse Road
Box Hill

Please RSVP by Monday 14th February

ACMA House Fax : **9899 6389** (dial carefully) OR e-mail **secretary@acma.net.au**

Full name (ACMAV member) _____

Telephone Number _____

Guest Numbers:

Members Free _____

Adult Partner \$20 _____

Child (aged 4-12) \$12 _____

Child (under 4 yrs) Free _____

Total Amount enclosed _____

Full Name on Credit Card

Credit Card No:

Expiry Date : ___/___

Circle : Mastercard / Visa / Bankcard

For catering purposes, please inform ACMAV if you are unable to attend after RSVP. Thank you.



ACMAV cordially invites you to an
Education Seminar

Topic: ***“Update on Multiple Sclerosis”***

***Dr Helmut Butzkueven
Royal Melbourne Hospital***

Time & Date: 7 pm for 7.30pm

Wednesday, 16th March 2005

***Venue: Shark’s Fin House
131 Little Bourke Street , Melbourne***

RSVP: 10th March 2005

Fax: 9899 6389 (please dial carefully)

Email: office@acmav.org

Or post including payment to ACMA House
862A Canterbury Rd, Box Hill South 3128

Full Name: _____ Cheque No: _____ OR

Tel No: _____ Full Name on Credit Card

Members Free _____

Associate Members: \$30 Credit Card No:

Adult Guests: \$60 _____

Total amount enclosed _____ Expiry Date ___/___

*Numbers are limited so please RSVP early to reserve your seats.

Sponsor : Schering

Preliminary Announcement
ACMAV and ACCMA Annual Conference 2005
Queen's Birthday Weekend on 11th – 13th June 2005
Park Hyatt Hotel

Beyond Medicine Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of ACMAV

The 2005 Conference will be held at Park Hyatt Hotel, it is located at the top end of Collins Street in what is undoubtedly one of Melbourne's treasured historic precincts. Opposite Melbourne's oldest cathedral, St Patrick's, and bordered by century-old elm trees and the botanical expanse of the Fitzroy Gardens, Park Hyatt Melbourne provides a serene sanctuary from the bustling business district just a walk away. An ideal location to celebrate the 20th anniversary of ACMA (Victoria).

Programme:

The ACCMA and ACMAV conference will start at 2.30 pm with afternoon tea at the Windsor Hotel with its luxurious Victorian ambience. The education programme will start on Sunday at Park Hyatt followed by dinner in the evening. The next day, we will start off with a short education programme at Shark Fin House and conclude the long weekend with Yum Cha lunch.

Saturday, 11th June 2005

2.30 pm	Registration
2.30 pm – 4.30 pm	Afternoon Tea
	Grand Ballroom, Windsor Hotel

Sunday, 12th June 2005

Education Programme (Programme is subject to change)	The Ballroom, Park Hyatt Hotel
9.00 am – 9.50 am	Registration and Morning Tea
9.50 am – 12.00 pm	Session 1
12.00 pm – 1.00 pm	Lunch
1.00 pm – 3.00 pm	Session 2
3.00 pm – 3.30 pm	Afternoon Tea
3.30 pm – 5.00 pm	Session 3
7.30 pm	Conference Dinner The Ballroom, Park Hyatt Hotel

Monday, 13th June 2005

Venue: Shark Fin House, 131 Little Bourke St, Melbourne 3000	
9.30 am – 10.50 pm	Session 4
11.00 pm – 1.00 pm	Yum Cha Lunch, Shark Fin House

Accommodation:

Special accommodation rates have been negotiated for the Queen's Birthday weekend (Friday 10th June 2005 to Monday 13th June 2005), from Park Hyatt and the Windsor Hotel. Accommodations are subject to availability. Hotel accommodation may be booked directly with the conference hotel, **Park Hyatt** (1 Parliament Place, Melbourne) on 13 1234 (reservations) and quote the "**BAN3 rate**" which is \$255 per night. The Park Room features fantastic wood paneling, walk-in robe and a luxurious large Italian marble bathroom. Park Hyatt is built to impress with its fabulous Art-Deco interior and the finest marble, glass and wood paneling.

The Windsor built in 1883 - 1884 was extensively restored during the 1980s and is one of the grandest historic hotel in the country. **The Windsor** offers a diverse range of superb accommodation choices in its 180 rooms and suites, each expressing its individuality and the exceptional Oberoi standard. Please contact the Reservations Department on 03 9633 6002 between business hours (Monday to Sunday) and quote the **Chinese Medical Association Delegation**. Packages start from \$225 per room for a standard Queen Room including breakfast for 2.

Other accommodation alternatives are Sofitel Hotel (25 Collins St, Melbourne Tel: 03 9653 0000, Fax: 03 9650 4261 or via www.sofitelmelbourne.com.au), Mercure Hotel Melbourne (13 Spring Street, Melbourne, Tel: 03 9205 9999, Fax: 03 9205 9905), Oakford Apartments (Gordon Place, 24 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne, Tel: 1800 818 237). These hotels are within walking distance of the conference venue.

Car Parking

Car parking is available under the Park Hyatt Hotel on Sunday.

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REGISTRATION FORM CONFERENCE 2005

Title: Name:

Address:

BH: AH:..... Fax:

Email:

Partner's Name:

Registration Fees (includes GST)

	Early Bird Till 31/3/05	After 31/3/05	Total Amount
Full registration for medical practitioners (afternoon tea on Saturday, educational programme, morning tea, conference buffet lunch, afternoon tea, conference dinner and Yum Cha for \$180 + \$18 GST for early birds)	\$ 198	\$ 250	
Partner (afternoon tea on Saturday, conference dinner and Yum Cha for \$150 + \$15 GST)	\$ 165	\$ 165	
Medical Students - conference only (includes morning and afternoon teas and buffet lunch)	\$ 55	\$ 55	
		GRAND TOTAL \$	

Please indicate for Social Events:

Afternoon Tea @ Windsor Hotel (Saturday 11th June 2005) Delegate Partner
 Conference Dinner (Sunday 12th June 2005) Delegate Partner
 Yum Cha Lunch (Monday 13th June 2005) Delegate Partner

Expression of interest for Wine Tasting Yes No
 (Monday afternoon at approx. cost approx \$50 - \$60 pp)

RSVP before Monday 6th June 2005: Conference Secretary, ACMAV House
 862 A Canterbury Road, Box Hill South 3128.
 Telephone: (03) 9899 6380 Fax: (03) 9899 6389
 Email: office@acma.net.au

Australian Chinese Medical Association (Vic) Inc (A.B.N. 43 721 970 098)

Cheque payable to ACMAV Inc.
 Mastercard Bankcard Visa
 Card No:
 Name on card:
 Expiry date:/.....
 Signature:

A Message from Dr Benny Foo – immediate past president ...

“Discover the Beauty and Diversity of Africa in 16 days”

Hello Everyone,

Happy New Year to you. Many of you have asked me to organise another tour for this year. The consensus is for us to travel to do an African Safari.

Proposed Itinerary

Day 1: Depart Melbourne on Qantas to connect South African Airway in Sydney for Johannesburg

Day 2: Depart Johannesburg for Victoria Falls

Day 3: Victoria Falls

Day 4: Depart Victoria Falls for Kilimanjaro

Day 5: Drive to Lake Manyara – Game Drive whole day.

Day 6: Drive to World Famous Serengeti, World Heritage site, Game Drive whole day

Day 7: Game Drive whole day in Serengeti

Day 8. Depart Serengeti and drive to the rim of the world’s largest perfect “Caldera”, Ngorongoro (World Heritage site).

Day 9: Arusha – Full day tour of the crater with 30,000 resident animals. (Bring a lot of films for close up shots of the animals!)

Day 10: Depart Arusha for Cape Town

Day 11-12: Cape Town

Day 13: Depart Cape Town for Sun City

Day 14: Sun City – full day to enjoy the facilities of the hotel in Sun City.

Day 15: Depart Johannesburg for Australia

Day 16: Arrive Melbourne via Perth

Propose dates of travel: Depart end of July - early August 2005

Air Lines: Qantas and South African Airways will provide us the most direct flight to our destinations.

Hotels: To keep the total cost low I have selected 3.5 to 4 stars hotels for this tour.

Tour Inclusions: Airfare, transfers, accommodation, sight seeing tours and excursions, entrance fees to sight seeing venues, local English speaker guides, most meals, twin share accommodation.

Price: \$8,170.00 per person.

Contact Person : Dr Benny Foo

Special Notice :

If there are any doctors and nurses interested in a working visit to Sri Lanka, possibly in March 2005, please contact Dr Benny Foo