COUNTDOWN TO CONFERENCE
... two weeks to go

The Inaugural Commonwealth Nurses Conference is being held 10-11 March 2012 at the Royal Commonwealth Society in London UK on the eve of Commonwealth Day, Monday 12 March and Commonwealth week.

Join us for what is going to be a great conference. There is a wonderful line-up of speakers from twenty countries across the Commonwealth including Dr Deva-Marie Beck from the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health; Dr Marla Salmon from Washington University; Dr Neil Pakenham-Walsh from HIFA 2015; Ms Christine Hancock from C3 Collaborating for Health; Dr Danny Sriskandarajah from the Royal Commonwealth Society and many more. The Conference will be opened by the Commonwealth Secretary General, Mr H E Kamalesh Sharma.

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
Closing date 10 March 2012

The 4th Annual Virtual International Day of the Midwife is being held on 5 May 2012 for midwives and anyone else interested in childbirth. The Virtual International Day of the Midwife (VIDM) celebrates International Day of the Midwife by bringing midwives and others from across the world together using online electronic media. A variety of live online events are presented every hour for 24 hours on 5th May 2012 commencing at 10.00 New Zealand time. The organising committee are calling for Expressions of Interest to present at the VIDM eVent. This year’s theme is: Midwives save lives. Go to: http://internationaldayofthemidwife.wikispaces.com/ for more information and submit your EOI to: sarahstewart07@gmail.com.

JOIN HIFA 2015

HIFA2015 (Healthcare Information for All by 2015) is a global campaign and knowledge network administered by the Global Healthcare Information Network, a non-profit organisation working to improve the quality of health care in developing countries. HIFA2015 brings together more than 5000 health workers, librarians, publishers, researchers and policymakers in 2000 organisations across 158 countries worldwide, all committed to a common goal: By 2015, every person worldwide will have access to an informed health care provider. One-third of members are based in Africa, one-third in Europe, and one-third in the rest of the world. Together we are working for a future where people are no longer dying for lack of basic healthcare knowledge.

The CNF is a member of HIFA 2015 and benefits from the information provided and the email dialogue and discussion with other members. For further information and to join HIFA2015 go to: http://www.hifa2015.org. Membership is free.

For more information and for the registration form and program go to: http://www.commonwealthnurses.org.
COMING EVENTS

**The 19th Biennial World Council of Enterostomal Therapists Congress** is being held from 19 to 23 April 2012 at the Adelaide Convention Centre, Australia. The theme of the congress is: *Weaving culture, education and technology into a brilliant blend.* The congress will bring together world class speakers in ostomy, wound management and continence management. Further details can be found at: [http://www.wcetn.org](http://www.wcetn.org).

**COMMONWEALTH HEALTH MINISTERS’ MEETING**  
Sunday 20 May 2012  
Starling Geneva Hotel and Conference Centre, Switzerland  
Theme: *Linking non-communicable and communicable diseases*

**WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**  
Monday 21 May to Saturday 26 May 2012  
Geneva Switzerland  
Start lobbying your Ministry of Health now to ensure that nurses and midwives are included as part of your country’s delegation to attend the annual Commonwealth Health Ministers’ meeting and the 65th World Health Assembly.

**INTERNATIONAL NURSES’ DAY**  
Saturday 12 May  
Resources available on the ICN website: [http://www.icn.ch](http://www.icn.ch)

**JUBILEE TIME CAPSULE**  
Share your story with the Queen as she celebrates her Diamond Jubilee in 2012; 60 years as Queen and 60 years as Head of the Commonwealth.  
Taking part is easy: just pick a day in the last 60 years and tell us why it is important to you. Use photos, videos, words, songs, poems ... whatever you like. It’s up to you - it’s your story! Remember, it is a Commonwealth capsule, so stories must be about life in a Commonwealth country, or events that have impacted on the Commonwealth. The best stories will be given to her Majesty the Queen as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2012.  
Let us make sure that there are plenty of stories from nurses and midwives from across the Commonwealth.  
Go to: [http://www.jubileetimecapsule.org](http://www.jubileetimecapsule.org)

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