LAST DAYS
Abstracts close 31 October

The Inaugural Commonwealth Nurses Conference is being held 10-11 March 2012 in London UK. The call for abstracts closes 31 October. The conference will address a number of themes:

- Meeting the health MDGs
- The regulation of nursing and midwifery
- Using information technology to improve care
- The health effects of climate change
- Developing a healthy workforce and healthy systems of work
- Innovation and excellence in clinical practice.

Email your abstracts (of no more than 300 words) to the Commonwealth Nurses Federation at: cnf@commonwealthnurses.org by 31 October 2011

Visit the CNF website for all the latest news about nursing and midwifery in Commonwealth countries:
http://www.commonwealthnurses.org

CNF VISITS ZIMBABWE

The CNF recently partnered with the Zimbabwe Nurses Association (ZINA) to conduct a safety workshop for thirty-six nurses and midwives. The workshop explored issues related to a safe patient; a safe workplace; a safe profession; and a safe nurse. The key factors to ensure patient safety were identified as the availability of competent nurses; a conducive environment; adequate resources; patients actively involved in their own care and being well informed and knowledgeable.

The nurses at the workshop recommended that ZINA advocate for adequate staffing levels and appropriate conditions of service and remuneration in all health facilities; improved infrastructure for nursing education and educational opportunities to upgrade the qualifications of nursing tutors; enhanced autonomy for the Zimbabwe Nursing Council so it has the capacity to ensure that nurses are competent and safe practitioners; and the provision of safety workshops in other provinces of Zimbabwe so the information provided can be accessible to other nurses.

The workshop was followed by a luncheon for senior nurses in Zimbabwe at the residence of the Australian Ambassador, hosted by Angela Neuhaus, CNF Treasurer.
WHO MENTAL HEALTH ATLAS 2011

The World Health Organization (WHO) has released the 2011 Mental Health Atlas which presents data from 184 countries, covering 98% of the world’s population. Worldwide, one in four people will require mental health care, yet global spending on mental health is less than US$3 per person per year and as little as US$0.25 per person per year in low-income countries.


CONGRATULATIONS TNAI

The Indian Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has released a Commemorative Postage Stamp 30 September 2011 to mark 100 years for the Trained Nurses Association of India. This is a remarkable achievement and a fitting honour for a remarkable association that works tirelessly to represent its members and to improve the quality of nursing care in India. Congratulations to the TNAI on this wonderful honour from all the members of CNF and the CNF President and Board.

SIERRA LEONE WEBSITE GOES ‘LIVE’

The second of the websites under the CNF Website Development Program has gone ‘live’. Congratulations to the Sierra Leone Nurses Association who have worked hard to achieve this outcome. Any CNF member who is interested in joining the website development program should contact jill@commonwealthnurses.org to express interest.


STRATEGIES FOR HOPE

The Strategies for Hope Trust has released two new books in its ‘Called to Care’ toolkit.

‘Parenting: A journey of love’ is designed to inform, support and encourage parents, especially in countries where family life is being undermined by the AIDS epidemic. ‘More and better food’ is an essential guide to food security in the age of climate change and the AIDS epidemic. It presents basic information about food and health, managing soil and water, and the use of particular farming methods to improve productivity. For more information, go to: http://stratshope.org

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