



Interface

Newsletter of the Gardiner Library Service

www.gardinerlibrary.com



NEWS 'n' VIEWS

RNH move Postponed

Have you noticed we're not packing books and journals into boxes, and the only heavy construction zone is next door at the Nexus unit?

Our move to the Royal Newcastle Hospital, set down for December, has been postponed with no firm timeframe for a re-scheduled move set down. We have been busy putting the finishing touches to plans for the library's new 'Information Commons'. You can view these on our website at www.gardinerlibrary.com

More on the Merger

A Clinical Librarians User Group has been meeting regularly to begin planning for the future of library services within the newly merged Area health structure. A statewide co-operative response is sought to achieve some immediate efficiencies. A collaborative approach seeks to be more responsive to new and developing professional directions, enhancing the services we provide to our clientele. For the Gardiner Library Service, the way forward might be to maintain our local identity as well as to offer our expertise to colleagues in other Area Library Services for the benefit of health professionals across NSW Health. At a recent Health Librarians' Forum, held in Sydney, discussions centred around the establishment of a consortium, sharing expertise in training, education, e-collection development and shared warehousing of a single print collection for the state/nation.

Journal Price Crisis

We explore a disturbing trend and a critical issue facing libraries worldwide in our story on journal price increases on page 2. A recent UK survey of about 6,000 journal titles has tracked a median price increase for biomedical journals from 80% to 352% over the last 11 years. Publisher price hikes are hitting us hard; in the case of some titles, we pay for print and electronic subscriptions to support our 'hybrid' system and equitable access for all users across our health service. We may seek your assistance in the coming months as we strive for better ways to manage our serial collections.

Thank You

2004 has been an eventful and exciting year. We have celebrated 12 months on the web, and have vigorously planned an extension to our John Hunter branch. We have made it through two accreditations and have been recognised by surveyors on our achievements. We are facing the challenges of merged Area health services headlong with greater collaboration and plans for new services and enhancements to existing ones. Phew!! 2005 looks set to be just as challenging. The staff of the Gardiner Library Service thank you for your support this year. Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. We look forward to assisting you with all of your information needs in 2005.

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Hear! Hear!

“We need more librarians in more places, on the ward and in the manager’s office. Librarians can improve the value of healthcare for patients and society, but their own value needs better recognition and reward.”

So said Dr Muir Gray, the founding director of the UK’s National Electronic Library for Health (NeLH) launching the new NeLH which aims to become the UK’s centralised point of contact for local, national and specialised library services, whether online or paper-based.

*Excerpt from E-Health Insider
www.e-health-insider.com/news/item.cfm?ID=933*

Pass the peas please...

An insight into the culinary delights served to enlisted men and women during WWII was recently discovered inside the cover of a book donated to the Gardiner Library. Dated 30th April 1942, the anonymous ‘Amended schedule of daily menus for guidance of small units, sub-sections etc’ lists five daily servings for each week. Tuesday’s meals may have been the low gastronomic point of the week for many: curried mutton for lunch and roast or boiled mutton for dinner. The latter could be anticipated on Thursday night as well, followed by rice and stewed prunes for those feeling the lower GIT consequences.

“All cooked unconsumed vegetables should be included in the next day’s Fried Vegetables,” the menu author wrote.

A tip for cooks was also included in a clipping from the wartime publication *Ration*. ‘Blue boiler’ peas which were dried peas low in vitamin C, could be revived by soaking in water and allowing to germinate. After 24 hours, they were hung in a bag in the shade; drained; returned to water for a minute then drained again. This process was repeated every two hours at the change of guard for the next two days until the peas had germinated roots about 2cm long. This process also increased vitamin C concentration.



Five stages in germinating “Blue Boiler” peas.
Excerpt: From *Rations* found in a book donated to the Gardiner Library Service

Journal price crisis

Libraries around the world are facing a ‘serials crisis’ as the increasing cost of scholarly journals outpaces inflation and budgets. As a result, many libraries are being forced to cut subscriptions and increase interlibrary loan services. The most recent study on journal pricing trends shows that average journal prices increased from 27% to a massive 94% from 2000 to 2004. The study by LISU, a consultancy and information centre at Loughborough University in the UK, analysed costs of about 6000 journals spanning all subject areas. Other findings include:

- An increase in the median price of biomedical journals from 80% to 352% over an 11-year period from 1993 to 2004.
- The per-page cost of biomedical journals ranged from 79c to \$2.49 during 2004.

In response to the crisis, publishing groups that support free access to scientific and medical research are clashing head-to-head with existing publishers by making new journals freely available on the Internet. One of these open-access publishers, Public Library of Science (PloS), launched its second journal in October. *PloS Medicine* is “immediately freely available online throughout the world, with no restrictions on distribution, copying, printing, or legitimate use”, according to an editorial by its founders, Harold Varmus, Michael Eisen and Patrick Brown. To cover publishing costs, authors are charged \$1500. It is envisaged this sum may be obtained through sponsorship from government agencies, companies, foundations, research institutions, hospitals, or universities that sponsor the research. However, the fee will be waived for authors who are unable to pay.

Although open-access publishing is generally not the first preference for researchers wishing to publish their best papers, its potential is nevertheless sending shivers through the commercial publishing industry.

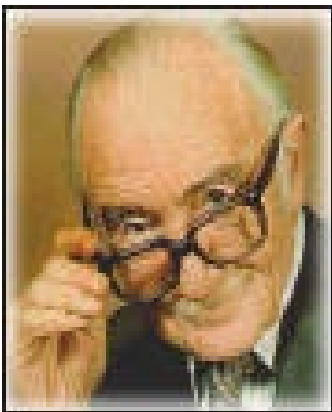
As we go to print *The Chronicle of Higher Education* has reported that the British Government has rejected most of the recommendations by a parliamentary committee that favours making the results of state supported scientific research freely available.

In its original report, “Scientific Publications Free for All?” the Science and Technology Committee of the House of Commons recommended that all research papers be made freely available in digital archives and that the government continue to experiment with an author – pays publishing model.

The publishers have welcomed the Government’s position. The Government is expected to release a second response in January to address statements from the research councils, library associations, and private sources of research funds that have endorsed open access. We’ll keep you posted.

Cochrane Collaboration celebrates 10 years on

With more than 2000 systematic reviews in its hard drives, the Cochrane Collaboration is celebrating its 10th birthday among an army of 7000 volunteer reviewers and countless users worldwide. The Cochrane Collaboration was named after Professor Archibald Cochrane, an epidemiologist who was the inspiration for evidence-based medicine. Archie Cochrane said that most of his experience in patient care occurred during the four years he was a German prisoner of war. An excerpt from his essay, *Effectiveness and Efficiency* (1971), illustrates his recognition that some vital aspects of patient care cannot be readily measured:



“I was faced by a ghastly medical problem. I had a young Soviet POW patient dying in great pain. He was making a fearful noise in a large ward. I had no drugs or side ward. No-one could talk Russian. In despair, and purely instinctively, I sat on his bed and took him in my arms. The effect was almost magical; he quietened at once and died peacefully a few hours later. I was still with him, half asleep and very stiff. I believe that by personal intervention I improved the quality of care dramatically in this case, and I know it was based on instinct and not on reason.”

According to an article in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, the Cochrane library is accessed every 37 seconds by users wanting to search its databases of 415,000 references to completed and ongoing RCTs; 5600 references to methodological papers; and other lists of systematic reviews, health technology assessment reports and economic evaluations.

The Gardiner Library has acquired a copy of *Archie Cochrane: Back to the Front* by Spanish epidemiologist, Xavier Bosch. The impetus for the biography came from Archie's journey to Spain in 1978 when Dr Bosch accompanied him on a search for the wartime hospital where he worked during the Spanish Civil War in 1938. The book includes accounts of his work at the MRC Pneumoconiosis Research Unit in South Wales where he worked after the war to his latter years when his reputation as a critical thinker and inspiring epidemiologist led him to be in constant demand as a speaker at meetings of professional societies.

CMAJ Sept 28, 2004; 171 (7)



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‘Our’ John Hunter

Recent publicity in the *Newcastle Herald* about the Region’s John Hunters has sparked increased interest in the hospital’s Australian namesake. John Irvine Hunter was born in Bendigo, Victoria in 1898. His early childhood was interrupted by several operations for congenital bilateral club foot for which he required walking irons. However, John made a good recovery and was later able to join in normal activities with his peers. The family moved to Sydney, where he completed his schooling at Fort Street Boys High. He was an outstanding medical student at Sydney University and graduated first in his year with first class honours.

He excelled in anatomy and had a particular interest in muscle innervation and paralysis, notably transverse lesions of the spinal cord and their effect on spastic paralysis. John worked in England and Europe before returning to take up duties as the Challis Professor Anatomy at the University of Sydney in 1923. During a lecture trip to England the following year he contracted typhus and died at the age of twenty-six.

The Gardiner Library’s John Hunter Branch has a museum dedicated to the hospital’s namesake. It includes John’s own texts and workbooks donated by his son, Dr Irvine John Hunter, as well as items collected by the late John Algie who also attended Fort Street Boys High School and spent many years researching the life of John Hunter.



John Irvine Hunter, M.D.Ch.M.(Syd)

Spin doctor



Fourth-year medical student, Kim Noremark, is the lucky recipient of a GLS gift pack for correctly identifying the electromagnetic device (above) in the April issue of *Interface*. Patented in 1854, the Davis & Kidder magnet machine was used to treat nervous disorders. An electric current generated from the spinning magnets transferred an electric shock to patients via metal handles. The device was kindly donated by Dr Richard Addinall and is on display at the John Hunter branch. The GLS gift pack contains ideal study accessories for Kim: a GLS mouse pad, thermal mug and pens; a brain-squeeze anti-stress toy; and chocolates – for energy.

What is PICO?

PICO is Patient/Problem, Intervention, Compared to, and Outcome and is a method used for structuring clinical questions. PICO can also be helpful in formulating literature searches. A PICO search feature is available from PubMed for Handhelds at <http://pubmedhh.nlm.nih.gov>

Austhealth

Wanting access to Australian health information? Austhealth is a resource made up of a number of databases, including the Australasian Medical Index (AMI). AMI indexes over 160 Australian health and medical serials, most of which are not indexed in Medline. AMI also sources the hard-to-find ‘grey’ literature via conference proceedings, government reports and NHMRC reports. Databases covering rural and remote health issues as well as Aboriginal health resources are included in AustHealth.

Access AustHealth via the Gardiner Library’s webpage at www.gardinerlibrary.com/finding.aspx?id=41

Bookmark – Health Care Quality

Undertaking a quality project? Interested in quality resources? Looking for inspiration for your next quality initiative? The Gardiner Library's select links are sure to assist.

National Quality Measures Clearinghouse

<http://www.qualitymeasures.ahrq.gov>

A public repository for evidence-based quality measures and measure sets.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

<http://www.ahrq.gov>

AHRQ sponsors, conducts and disseminates evidence based information on health care outcomes; quality; cost; use and access.

ARCHI

<http://www.archi.net.au>

Supporting and increasing the implementation of effective and quality innovations in clinical care. This year's key topic areas include: Measuring and improving quality, safety and efficiency in hospitals; Improving patient flows through hospitals; Improving continuity of care for older people and the chronically ill.

Contact the library for passwords.

Institute of Healthcare Improvement

<http://www.ihp.org>

Topics including chronic conditions, critical care, End stage renal disease, HIV/Aids and more. Each topic features best available knowledge for improvement in that area, including interactive improvement tools and literature.

National Electronic Library for Health – Quality

<http://www.nelh.nhs.uk/quality>

Information on the quality cycle, finding good quality, establishing current practice, creating a change environment, and making the change, as well as links to useful websites.

Full-text Electronic Journals

Follow the e-journals link on www.gardinerlibrary.com to access the following titles in full-text.

Health Care Management Review

HSR

Nursing Management

Quality and Safety in Health Care

Seasons Greetings from the Gardiner Library

Summer Hours

JHH Monday - Friday 8.30am - 6.00pm.
Open Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm until
close of business 18 December 2004

Festive Holiday Closure

JHH branch will close at 5.00pm on
Friday 24 December 2004 and will reopen
Tuesday 4 January 2005. Branches to reopen
Branches to reopen mid January 2005

Ho Ho Ho
Ho Ho Ho
Ho Ho Ho

Alternative and Complementary Medicine

Herbs and Natural Supplements: An Evidence Based Guide

Lesley Braun, Marc Cohen
Sydney; Elsevier Churchill Livingstone,
2004.

One of the library's latest acquisitions, this text presents evidence-based information on the 100 most popular herbs, nutrients and food supplements used across Australia. Organised alphabetically by common name, each herb or nutrient listed includes information such as recommended daily intake, main actions/indications, adverse reactions, contraindications and precautions, safety in pregnancy and more.

The text also contains a comprehensive chapter on drug-herb interactions as well as a chapter on complementary medicine and perioperative care.

Contact the library to arrange your loan 49213778

Tai Chi for RA

Patients with rheumatoid arthritis, experienced significant benefits in the lower extremity range of motion after undertaking Tai Chi-based exercise programs.

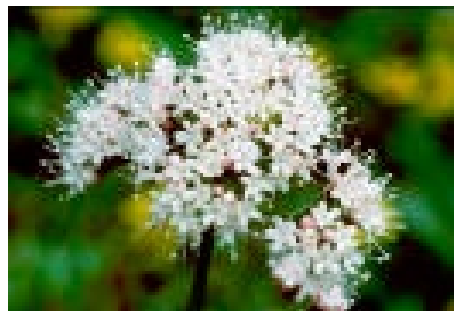


Tai Chi, a traditional martial art has been practised in China since the 13th Century and has been recognised in China as an effective therapy for arthritis for hundreds of years. The results of four trials with 206 participants are believed to be the

first systematic review of the evidence of the effectiveness of Tai Chi for rheumatic disease.

Han A, Robinson V, Judd M, Taixiang W, Wells G, Tugwell P. Tai chi for treating rheumatoid arthritis. *The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2004, Issue 3. Art. No.: CD004849. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD004849.

Image : www.bushidomass.co.za



Valerian – 1st epilepsy drug

The herbal medicine, Valerian, a popular sleeping remedy, may have been the first epilepsy drug, according to research published in the latest issue of the journal *Epilepsia*.

University of Queensland researcher Mervyn Eadie, found evidence to suggest that the herb had been used to control seizures since the 1500s. During the late 18th and early 19th centuries, valerian was regarded as one of the best treatments available for controlling seizures.

While valerian itself is not likely to be developed as an anti-epileptic, a US drug company has completed preliminary trials of isovaleramide, a form of valerian, converted to isovaleric acid in the body.

If isovaleramide proves effective, with little side-effects, it may well replace other epileptic medications.

News in Science abc.net.au/science/news accessed 8/11/04

The WHO Guidelines on
Developing Consumer
Information on Proper Use of
Traditional, Complementary and
Alternative Medicine
is now available in pdf
at [www.who.int/medicines/library/
trm/Consumer.pdf](http://www.who.int/medicines/library/trm/Consumer.pdf)

Aimed at those developing guidelines for safe consumer use of these medicines, the guidelines cover topics such as benefits and risks, development of consumer information and general principles to ensure reliable information. The guidelines should prove useful to consumers and assist with choosing an effective and safe therapy.

Searcher

Get your motor running...

A mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a classic Jag when he spotted a well-known heart surgeon in the shop waiting for the service manager to look at his E-Type.

“Hey Doc, can I ask you a question?” the mechanic shouted across the garage.

The surgeon, a bit surprised, walked over to where the mechanic was working on the Jag. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and said: “So Doc, look at this engine. I open its heart, take valves out, fix ‘em, put ‘em back in, and when I finish it works just like new. So how come I get such a small salary and you get the really big bucks when you and I are doing basically the same work?”

The surgeon paused, smiled, leaned towards the mechanic and whispered: “Try doing it with the engine running.”



Noel Whittaker's Newsletter 21 October 2004. Image: www.milcone.com

Grape residue inhibits bacteria growth.



Turkish scientists have shown that grape residue from wine-making has antibacterial properties. They applied grape pomace which comprises grape seeds, skin and stems, and is used in the manufacture of vinegar, to 14 types of common bacteria. Pomace extracts were effective in various strengths against all bacteria, including *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Yersinia enterocolitica*. The researchers said grape pomace may be considered for use as a food preservative to inhibit bacteria growth.

BBC News UK Edition 23 August, 2004. Image: www.uga.edu/fruit/grape.htm

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www.gardinerlibrary.com or email gardlib@hunter.health.nsw.gov.au*

Latest Additions...

Acute stroke treatment. 2nd ed. Bogousslavsky, J. Dunitz, 2003
Aids to the examination of the peripheral nervous system. 4th ed. WB Saunders, 2000.
Caring for diabetes in children and adolescents. Ambler, G. (ed). OTEN-DE, 2001
Cholesterol lowering: a practical guide to therapy. Abrams, J. Oxford Uni Press, 2003.
Clinical geriatrics. Dharmarajan, T. et al (eds) Parthenon Pub. Group, 2003.
Cognitive therapy across the lifespan. Reinecke, M. Cambridge Univ Press 2003.
Companion of the history of medicine in Australia. Proust, A, 2004.
Complementary therapies in rehabilitation. Davies, C. SLACK, 2004.
Controversies in total knee replacement. Laskin, R. (ed) Oxford Uni Press, 2001.
Dermatology core curriculum. 2nd ed. Kawzler, M. Kendall/Hunt Pub., 2002.
Downer's physical therapy procedures. Oestmann, R. Charles C Thomas, 2003.
Encyclopedia of endocrine diseases. Martini, L. Elsevier, 2004.
Essential surgical skills. 2nd ed. Sherris, D. et al. Saunders, 2004.
For fear of pain, British Surgery, 1790-1850. Stanley, P. Rodopi, 2003.
Handbook of digestive diseases. Minocha, A. Slack Inc., 2004.
Handbook of obstetric medicine. 2nd ed. Nelson-Piercy, Martin Dunitz, 2002.
Harrison's principles of internal medicine. 16th ed. Kasper, D. McGraw Hill, 2004.
Health services: policy and systems for therapists. Sandstrom, R. Prentice Hall, 2003.
Intracranial vascular malformations and aneurysms. Sartor, K. Springer, 2003.
Itch: basic mechanisms and therapy. Yosipovitch, G. Dekker, 2003.
Knee surgery: complications, pitfalls and salvage. Malek, M. Springer, 2001.
Laparoscopy in infants and children (DVD). Zachariou, Z. Springer, 2004.
Millers anesthesia. 6th ed. Miller, R. Churchill Livingstone. 2004.
Neurology and neurosurgery illustrated. 4th ed. Lindsay et al. Churchill Livingstone, 2004.
Occupation by design: building therapeutic power. Pierce, D. Davis, 2003.
Occupational therapy and multiple sclerosis. Silcox, L. Whurr, 2003.
Occupational therapy manual for evaluation of range of motion and muscle strength. Latella et al. Thomson, 2003.
Operative arthroscopy. 3rd ed. McGinty. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2003.
Operative treatment of elbow injuries. Baker, et al. Springer, 2002.
Orofacial pain: guidelines for assessment diagnosis and management. Okeson, J. et al Quintessence Pub. Co. 1996.
Osteoporosis in clinical practice. 2nd ed. Geusens, P. Springer, 2004.
Oxford textbook of orthopedics and trauma. Bulstrode, et al. Oxford University Press, 2002.
Pain medicine and management: just the facts. Wallace, M. McGraw-Hill, 2004.
Posterior cruciate ligament injuries: a practical guide to management. Fanelli, G. (ed) Springer, 2001.
Practical gastrointestinal endoscopy: the fundamentals 5th ed. Cotton, P. Blackwell Pub, 2003.
Principles and practice of clinical virology. 5th ed. Zuckerman, A. et al (eds) John Wiley & Sons, 2004.
Principles and practice of emergency neurology. Shah, S. et al (eds) Cambridge University Press. 2003.
Stroke: pathophysiology, diagnosis and management. 4th ed. Mohr, J. Churchill Livingstone, 2003.
Sudden death in infancy, childhood and adolescence. 2nd ed. Byard, R. Cambridge Univ Press, 2004.
Textbook of adult emergency medicine. 2nd ed. Cameron, P. Churchill Livingstone, 2004.
Textbook of cardiothoracic anesthesiology. Thys, D. et al McGraw-Hill, 2001.
Textbook of radiation oncology. 2nd ed. Leibel, S. et al Saunders, 2002.
Women's issues in thrombosis and hemostasis . Brenner, B. Martin Dunitz, 2002.

Hours of Operation

Please see page 5 for Summer Opening Hours

John Hunter Hospital

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Sun 1.00pm – 5.00pm

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Mater Hospital

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Fax: (02) 4921 1320

Royal Newcastle Hospital

Mon – Fri 9.00am – 5.00pm

Phone: (02) 4923 6826
Fax: (02) 4923 6764

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www.gardinerlibrary.com

Interface is produced by the Gardiner Library Service, a unit of Hunter Health, specialising in the provision of information services for medicine & health science.

