



Editor's Note

In this issue, we would like to remember Julian Winston who passed away on June 12th after a long illness. Julian's passing will be a huge loss to homeopaths in New Zealand and worldwide. He touched many with his special brand of humour, his fierce intelligence and his dedication to homeopathic principles. Thankfully he leaves behind a legacy of knowledge in the many books and articles on homeopathy he has published.

Our sympathies to Gwyneth Evans, Julian's wife - Kia kaha, Gwyneth.

This month, we publish the second in a series of articles about plant families by Julia Schiller, a recent graduate of ACCH. This week she looks at the Poaceae, or grass, Family.

We'd love some feedback on what you think about the newsletter – both style and content. We'd also like contributions: articles, advertising, letters to the editor. What about dropping us a line with your suggestions and comments? Email ideas to me, Kathy Thomas, at pukekahu@xtra.co.nz.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Have a happy and prosperous couple of months.



Kathy

RAJAN SANKARAN VIDEO COURSE



The ACCH is thrilled to offer homeopaths the unique opportunity to participate in Dr Rajan Sankaran's latest training course.

Presented by Dr Pratibha Dalvi on behalf of the College,

the course, presented in video format, is designed to impart a clear, simple and accurate method of case-taking, analysis and prescribing.

The course consists primarily of viewing Rajan treating and managing live patients from initial consultation through follow-ups.

Valuable commentary and analysis is interspersed throughout each case.

You will learn how to build a case on the chief complaint in order to connect the disturbed vital force and the Simillimum. You will become familiar with using vital sensations to precisely identify the kingdom, family and miasm. Rajan also explains the seven levels of experience, his latest development in homeopathy.

The course is structured as individual modules of nine course days (one day a week for three weeks a month, for three months).

Course dates are: 10th, 17th, 24th August; 7th, 14th, 21st September and 12th, 19th, 26th October. Each day runs from 9am to 3pm with an hour for lunch.

Paid in advance, the package of nine modules costs \$1125. You may pay by module at \$150 per module for a minimum of three days of any month. Early bird discounts and discounts for ACCH graduates and students apply.

Contact the office at 09 846 5100 for more details or to reserve your place.

SEMINAR NEWS

The next senior seminar is on Sunday 14th August (9am – 4pm). We are experimenting with a one-day format as part of our commitment to accommodating the busy lives of homeopaths.

To register in advance, please contact our office administrator, Cherry Parker.

In the morning, Farid Ahmed from Christchurch will be summarizing, by video, the recent Nicola Henriques' seminar. Kathy Thomas will present the proving of Koala Bear.

In the afternoon, Julia Schiller will be running a workshop session looking at the case of John Nash, the mathematician on which the movie *A Beautiful Mind* was based.



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ACCH
NEWSLETTER

The Prickling Poaceae Family

By Julia Schiller

The Poaceae, also called Gramineae or grass family, is composed of about 9000 species distributed worldwide. It is one of the largest, most familiar and most economically important groupings of plants. Wheat, rice, corn, oats, barley, sugar cane, rye, bamboo, Kentucky bluegrass—all are Poaceae. Frans Vermeulen states that 22 grass species have been made into homeopathic remedies (Prisma, P. 208), but grass remedies do not seem to be particularly well known, either individually or as a group.

The Poaceae appear only recently in the fossil record, no earlier than 65 million years ago, but grasslands now comprise about 20% of the Earth's vegetative cover. Drying of continental interiors during the Miocene epoch, just 5-14 million years ago, enabled grasslands to spread rapidly on several continents, replacing forests. Features that have promoted the survival of grasses include their ability to recover from fires and to spread vegetatively via creeping stems. The spread of grasslands favored the evolution of fast-running grazers and small burrowing animals.

Grasses are monocotyledonous flowering plants, but they lack showy petals to attract animal pollinators; rather they make use of the wind, so they produce large quantities of pollen, which can trigger hay fever. In fact, some grass species (e.g. *Arundo mauritanica*) were introduced into the *Materia Medica* with the hope that they would remedy hay fever, and several of them do have an affinity for the mucus membranes.

Rajan Sankaran and his colleagues have evidently confirmed that prickling sensations are common to this family (Mahesh Gandhi via personal communication).

A cursory study of five Poaceae remedies (*Anatherum muricatum*, *Arundo*, *Bambusa*, *Lolium temulentum*, *Saccharum officinarum*) reveals that four of them share burning pains or sensations as well as chilliness. Itching, thirst, and increased libido, especially in the male, appear in at least three. Three of the remedies include curious hair symptoms: eyebrows and beard fall off (*Anath*); hair falls off in children; hair is painful at the roots (*Arund*); and hair grows rapidly (*Sacch*).

Lolium pathology seemed more serious than the others, possibly because, as in *Secale* and *Ustilago*, our remedy came from a sample infected with a fungus. *Bambusa* was noteworthy for its midwifery applications.

Remedies from species most closely related to the Poaceae family include especially *Juncus effusus* and also *Ananas comosus* (pineapple) and *Lachnanthes*



Bamboo Forest in Hawaii
Photo courtesy of Joseph Masiero

caroliniana. These plants share the same taxonomic subclass, the Commelinidae (Glumiflorae), which encompasses cattails, grasses, sedges and rushes.

References:

Crescent Bloom:

www.crescentbloom.com/1/B/B/default.htm

Digital Flowers:

www.life.uiuc.edu/plantbio/digitalflowers/index.htm

University of California, Berkeley, Museum of Paleontology:

www.ucmp.berkeley.edu

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poaceae>


Homeopathic remedies:

Information comes from *Clarke's Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica*

and from Vermeulen's *Prisma* and *Synoptic II*.



Julia, a graduate of ACCH, has a practice in Auckland, Glendowie Homeopathy; phone (09) 585 2285.



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Medical Science Course

The Medical Science course will be delayed until next year. Later this year, Ann Gulley, the course coordinator, will be working with representatives from NZ's other homeopathic colleges to review the NZQA core health standards needed for the Homeopathic National Diploma. ACCH intends to incorporate the new standards into its course for next year. If you have any queries, please contact Ann Gulley on (09) 820 3630.

College Representatives

Each year, ACCH appoints representatives from the students and from interested parties in the community to attend management and advisory group meetings. This year's student rep is Alicia Lee; and the community rep is Julia Schiller.