

pete more fairly. This could assist in providing the consumer with a more informed choice with respect to medicines — which would allow for cost savings,” he said.

“HMO’s make it possible for consumers to negotiate a fixed, or reduced, fee on preferential terms for a range of medical services.

“PPO’s will also assist government in reducing its exposure to escalating costs, especially in the areas of drug purchase, distribution and dispensing. With the increasing emphasis on primary health care it is an ideal opportunity for the private and public sectors to work together for the ultimate benefit of the consumer, through the use of their mutual strengths.

“Contracting out some of these services to the private sector could assist health authorities to streamline the infrastructure far more rapidly than if they were to attempt to do it themselves. On the other hand, private sector could take advantage of the volumes required by public sector to negotiate with suppliers, and pass this on to consumers.”

Mr Candy said that those suppliers of services in the health care industry who rely on legislative protection and lobbying for their survival were jeopardising cost-effective health care in a resource-short society already straining to meet the health needs of its citizens.

“Consumers, who have traditionally been the real losers, must be free to have a wider and more informed choice with respect to their health care.”

Gala Lunch to Celebrate Centenary

Another centenary celebration took place on Friday 19 April at the Mount Nelson Hotel where the Women’s Bureau hosted 180 guests. A fashion parade of uniforms over the past 100 years was held. Mrs Margaret Lessing, patron of the South African Nursing Association, opened the proceedings and Mrs Judith Slabbert was the compère. The uniform show is due to go to East London, Durban and Bloemfontein later this year.



Guests at the Disa ceremony.



Professor and Mrs Cywes creators of the Disa hybrid.



Professor Cywes and Dr Bruwêr, President of SANA with a Disa.

Naming of Disa

Professor Sid and Marlene Cywes, well-known Disa growers and hybridisers in South Africa, presented a Disa which was named after Sister Henrietta Stockdale to Dr Anna-Marie Bruwêr, President of the South African Nursing Association at a function held this afternoon (April 8). This function is part of the Association’s centenary programme of the year. The South African Nursing Association is celebrating the 100th anniversary of State Registration for Nurses and Midwives. South Africa was the first country in the world to obtain State Registration.

Sister Henrietta Stockdale is regarded as the pioneer of nursing in South Africa. Her dedication played an important role in obtaining State Registration and during the centenary year members of the SANA will honour the founder of professional nursing in South Africa.

Sister Henrietta Stockdale arrived in Port Elizabeth on 12 April 1874 and from there proceeded to Bloemfontein to begin her task. From the time of her arrival in South Africa she made a significant contribution to the nursing profession and today is regarded as the founder of professional nursing in South Africa.

To honour this pioneer SANA decided to name a Disa in recognition of the enormous contribution she made to the profession. A new Disa hybrid created in 1990 by Professor Sid and Marlene Cywes of Cape Town has been named after Sister Henrietta Stockdale.

The well-known genus Disa, a South African terrestrial orchid species is found mainly along the streams of the Western Cape mountains. The most spectacular Disa uniflora is often referred to as the “Pride of Table Mountain” or the “Flower of the Gods”. One of the parents of Disa Sister Henrietta Stockdale is Disa Veitchii which was the first Disa hybrid ever made in 1891 by Veitch — exactly 100 years ago.