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ISSN 0256-9574

Publisher Website: www.hmpg.co.za Journal Website: www.samj.org.za



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Note from the editor

Readers will be aware of the shifting landscape of publishing globally. In what is described as a stunning announcement, Jeff Bezos, owner of Amazon.com, has just purchased the Washington Post, founded in 1877, three years before the South African Medical Journal. Tech innovations, as yet undefined, are expected. (The paper and its siblings lost \$23.9 million in the first half of 2013, with revenues having declined seven years in a row.) There are analogies with our Health & Medical Publishing Group and its journals ...

Changes are necessary to secure cost-containment and to continue to ensure success. These have been set in train. We will keep our readership appraised as each is effected.



Seaslugs, or nudibranchs, are among the sea's most beautiful creatures, their gaudy colours symbolic of their unpalatable nature. One of the most unusual is the sea swallow, Glaucus atlanticus, which hangs upside-down at the surface of the sea, buoyed by air that it engulfs and by the long silvery-blue processes that radiate from its body. The sea swallow eats bluebottles; far from being repelled by the fiery stings of the latter, it is able to $extract\ the\ stinging\ cells\ and\ incorporate\ them\ into\ its\ own\ tissues,$ imparting a second-hand defence.

Photo and text: George Branch Email: mbranch@mweb.co.za

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Subscription rates Local subscriptions R1 044.00 p.a. Foreign subscriptions R2 352.00 p.a. Single copies R95.00

Members of the Association receive the SAMJ only on request, as part of their membership benefit.

Subscriptions: Tel. (012) 481-2071 E-mail: members@samedical.org

The SAMJ is published monthly by the Health and Medical Publishing Group (Pty) Ltd, Co. registration 2004/0220 32/07, $a\ subsidiary\ of\ SAMA.$

28 Main Road (Cnr Devonshire Hill Road), Rondebosch, 7700

Tel. (021) 681-7200. E-mail: publishing@hmpg.co.za Website: www.samedical.org

Please submit all letters and articles for publication online at www.samj.org.za

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