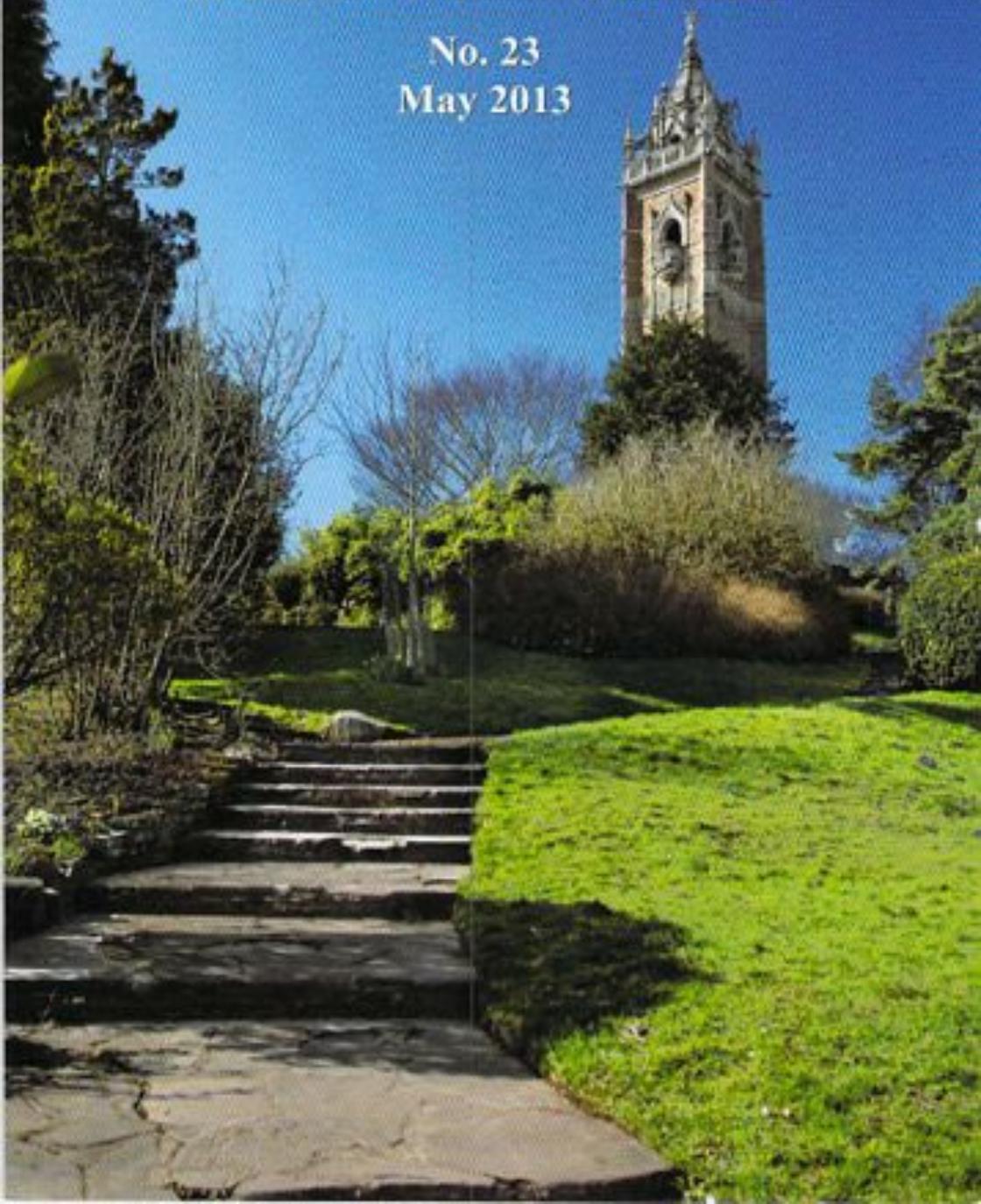


**Newsletter of the  
Bristol Dental Alumni Association**

**No. 23  
May 2013**



# BDAA

## BRISTOL DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**The aims of the BDAA are:**

- **to promote continued contact between graduates and the Dental School**
- **to encourage and support reunions of alumni**
- **to support worthy causes associated with the Dental School**

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# CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
From the Chairman/Editor	2
The Dental School Year <i>Lisa McNally</i>	5
The Students' Year <i>John Murphy</i>	9
Student Electives	
• University students' utilization of dental services <i>Lee Feinberg and James Grandfield</i>	11
• Dentistry in a remote rural community in Nepal <i>Emily Hooper</i>	13
• Orthodontics: extract or not to extract <i>Saadia Syed and Vanisha Patel</i>	19
Bristol BDS Centenary meeting	22
Reports of Reunions – 1964, 1968, 1972, 1977, 1982 1987, 1997, 2002, 2007	26
Forthcoming Reunions	32
Alumni News	34
Income and Expenditure	36

## *From the Chairman/Editor*

Reg Andlaw



I was hoping to open this year's report with a fanfare announcing that our membership has passed the 1000 mark, but Membership Secretary Ken Marshall has put a damper on that by telling me that we'll get very close but the mark may not be crossed until next year. Nevertheless, our rising membership is good news, and is down to the efforts of successive UBDSS presidents who have been entrusted to encourage fellow students, by fair means or foul, to sign up. Their success rate has varied, but last year's president, Shadi El-Basyuni, set a standard that Lee Feinberg this year and all future presidents will find hard to match: he signed up all of the 72 students in his year.

Last year I raised the question of whether our newsletter should, or could, continue to be produced in its present form. This issue is being sent to all members by post as in the past, but we may in the future move towards sending electronic copies to those whose email addresses we hold, while offering to send them a hard copy if they request one. It does seem wasteful to continue sending hard copies to all members when many might be perfectly satisfied with an electronic copy. If any of you have strong views about this please let me know.

This year's cover photograph, again kindly provided by Tony Cropper (74), is of another Bristol icon, following those featured in previous issues. The Cabot Tower was built in 1898 to commemorate John Cabot (Giovanni Caboto) who sailed the *Matthew* (which appeared on last year's cover) across the Atlantic in 1497. Following extensive repair and refurbishment the tower is now

safe again to climb, to enjoy the magnificent views across the harbour and city.

Gordon Gray, Dental Clinical Dean for the last 10 years, took early retirement last September. Gordon came to Bristol from Glasgow in 1995 to take up an appointment as a lecturer in Restorative Dentistry. He was appointed Senior Lecturer, and also Dental Clinical Dean, in 2002, and joined our BDAA committee. His support has been greatly appreciated, and many alumni reunion groups have been grateful to him for giving up his Saturday mornings to lead them on tours of the School. Since he is not leaving Bristol he has agreed to remain on our committee, and he will also continue teaching part time in the clinical skills laboratory. He filled very many roles in the School, so many in fact that it is not surprising he has taken early retirement.

We have been pleased to welcome two new members to our committee: Lisa McNally, who succeeded Gordon Gray as Dental Clinical Dean, and John Murphy, the new president of the University of Bristol Dental Students' Society (UBDSS). Lisa McNally graduated in Liverpool in 1993, gained an MSc in Manchester in 2000 and a PhD in Bristol in 2010. John Murphy succeeded Lee Feinberg as UBDSS President last autumn. He hails from Portsmouth where he went to Portsmouth Grammar School. He enjoys many outdoor activities - walking, running, cycling and, especially, climbing. He has been a member of the University climbing club for 3 years and has climbed all over the UK. He has also travelled to Europe and beyond on climbing and cycling expeditions, and recently, as a member of an expedition to South America researching hypoxia at high altitudes, he climbed Sajama, Bolivia's highest mountain.

Many of you (of a certain age) will remember Sister (later Matron) and be delighted that she was awarded a British Empire Medal in last summer's Birthday Honours "for services to the NHS and charity". Sybil (as is she now less formally known) was highly respected in the dental school, strict but fair not only in maintaining high standards with her student DSAs but also in keeping an eye on dental students - too much hair and untidy dress were quickly dealt with. She is now in her 98th year, still living in Bristol and keen to keep in touch with former dental students and staff, and especially with former student DSAs (her "girls" as she calls them) who have organised wonderful parties for her 90th and 95th birthdays. We now await the next, very special, party.

A highlight last year was the meeting held on 17th November to celebrate the centenary of the award of the first Bristol BDS degree. Ken Marshall describes in this issue the background to the

decision to hold a meeting and the hurdles that had to be overcome before and during it. We could not have anticipated the great response from alumni. I contacted the organisers of 'years' who might hold a reunion in 2012 suggesting that they might arrange theirs to coincide with the centenary meeting - to my amazement seven of the eight did so (the other year had already booked theirs on a different date). The unexpected (but welcome) response caused problems, but Chris Stephens, Ken Marshall and Iain Hathorn rose to the challenge and deserve great credit for organising a very successful meeting. The booking fee for the meeting included a copy of Chris Stephens's recently published book; members who did not collect their copy at the meeting, or others who might like to buy a copy, should contact Chris at [c.d.stephens@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:c.d.stephens@blueyonder.co.uk).

Portraits of our first three professors (Arthur Darling, David Berry and Eric Bradford) have been displayed on a wall of the library (now the CAL Centre) for many years. Last year we presented the School with



portraits of the more recent retired professors: Christopher Stephens, Crispian Scully, Martin Addy and Alan Harrison. Chris Stephens had photographs printed and framed and, with Iain Hathorn's help, hung them alongside their professorial predecessors, adding brass plaques to identify them for posterity. Although the CAL Centre is now the main study area and computers the main source of information, library books, especially key textbooks, are still in demand by students and our annual £1000 donation in support of the library was, as usual, greatly appreciated.

Finally, on a sad note, I report the death of two former professors: Jim Fletcher on 8th of January aged 85, and Eric Bradford on 21st of March aged 93.

My thanks to all contributors to this Newsletter, to Dominic Alder who composed it and to Tony Cropper (74) for the cover photograph.

## *The Dental School Year*

Lisa McNally, Dental Clinical Dean



Following the retirement of Gordon Gray, I have taken over the role of Dental Clinical Dean. Dr Gray has been an outstanding dean and will be an extremely hard act to follow, but I am going to do my utmost to ensure that the students continue to have the same fantastic level of support that he provided. My position will intermesh with my roles as Personal Tutor Lead and Unit Organiser for Primary Care Dentistry Year 2.

We were very pleased with the results of the National Student Survey held in 2012. The results placed Bristol very firmly within the highest ranks of UK dental schools. Indeed, 100% of Bristol students who responded indicated they were 'satisfied overall with the quality of the BDS programme' - only one other dental school attained this level of approval. These results may be viewed and compared with those of other dental schools on the Unistats website - [unistats.direct.gov.uk](http://unistats.direct.gov.uk). We very much hope that the high level of satisfaction with the BDS course in 2012 will continue in the future.

Dental clinics at the new South Bristol NHS Community Hospital (SBCH) have opened and Clinical Lead, Louise Nash, reports a steady stream of patients. Year 4 students are spending full days treating patients, supported by Year 3 students and the nursing team. Many of the patients seen so far have not received any dental care for many years but some are now dropping in for a routine check-up. Louise reports the facilities to be "fantastic", and that students are experiencing "real coalface primary care". Dental Care Professional students are also treating patients at SBCH and this provides additional opportunities for an enhanced teamwork approach to oral healthcare.

Several students are to be congratulated on gaining awards. Jonathan Davies and Simon Crutchlow (both 2012 Bristol graduates) won third place at the prestigious BDA/Dentsply Student Clinician Awards last year with a project entitled 'An Evaluation of Cuspal Displacement with Varying Restorative Methods'. Thanks to links made through the Bristol-Hannover exchange, they were able to

spend a month in the Medical University Hannover gathering data. Their project was selected to represent Bristol in the competition.

Katie Bishton and Ruth Lambeth (year 5 students) received Convocation Awards this year - these are given in recognition of "outstanding service to the University, the Students' Union, the general community or the environment". Their work in Uganda is based in Mwenya which is a dental NGO - Mwenya means 'smile' in Luganda, the major language in Uganda. Ruth is the UK programme's co-ordinator and Katie the secretary; the venture was established in 2010 to provide mobile medical and dental clinics in rural areas for communities that do not have adequate access to health care.

Rebecca Ng (Year 5) received the 'Outstanding Contribution to Bristol Life Award' given by the University of Bristol students in recognition of the volunteering work she does with the University, including her role as Chair of the Volunteering Executive Committee, her involvement in organising events within the Bristol community and helping to deliver training for student volunteers.

Lee Feinberg, who was President of our students' association last year, was elected President of the national society (BDSA) at their conference in Bristol last March, and his fellow 5th year colleague Paul Davies was elected Communications Officer.

Several staff members have also gained awards. Tony Ireland, has been honoured with a personal Chair, and we are delighted with his success. Professor Ireland took on his new role as Professor of Orthodontics and Related Biomaterials from 1st August 2012.

The School congratulates two members of staff on winning prestigious teaching awards. Dr Michele Barbour has been awarded a 2012-13 University of Bristol Teaching Fellowship. She is the Admissions Tutor for the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and has introduced Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs) for admissions to the School, an innovative system that assesses each applicant on a wide range of attributes relevant to a career in dentistry. Michele will spend her Fellowship examining the relationship between a candidate's performance in the MMIs and their strengths and weaknesses through the BDS programme, and will use this to further improve the admissions model. Dr David Dymock, Faculty Undergraduate Education Director and our Head of Teaching, has received an Association of Dental Education in Europe (ADEE) Mature Educator Excellence in Dental Education Award. The award with certificate was presented to him in August at the General Assembly of ADEE during the annual Scientific Meeting in Lyon, France.

Dr Glenn Wakley, a senior lecturer in Anatomy, was co-winner

of Bristol University's 2012 e-learning award at this year's Bristol University Teaching and Learning Exhibition for his podcasts on basic anatomy for the dental, veterinary, medical and science students. The award was presented by Professor Nick Lieven, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Education.

Several trainees have successfully presented at national meetings, among them two Bristol graduates who won prizes: Rachel Cowie (2004), a specialist registrar in oral medicine, at the British Society of Oral Medicine meeting Liverpool, and George Bourne (2010), SHO in restorative dentistry, at the British Society of Restorative Dentistry meeting in Cambridge.

Among new appointments we welcome James Tubman to the role of School Manager, coming from the NHS as the Performance & Operations Manager for Bristol Dental Hospital and Head & Neck Services, and we are pleased to announce the appointment of a new consultant in Oral Medicine, Konrad Staines, who is joining us in April 2013. He is currently a consultant in oral medicine at Newcastle Dental Hospital & School. His appointment will allow us to provide both an increased oral medicine clinical service and improved exposure of students to oral medicine.

We are also pleased to announce several lecturer appointments over the past year. James Puryer qualified in Bristol (1993), completed vocational training in Taunton in 1994, was awarded DPDS in 1998 and worked in general practice for 19 years. He has been a part-time Clinical Teacher (Restorative) for 14 years and a part-time Specialty Dentist (Restorative) for 3 years. Tanya Cerajewska qualified from the University of Dundee in 2002. After a spell in the Royal Army Dental Corps, she was awarded a Masters in Primary Dental Care by the University of Edinburgh in 2011 and recently moved to Bristol to take up a lectureship in restorative dentistry, as has Mojtaba Dorri who has Masters and PhD degrees from University College London. Ansa Akram was recently appointed as an academic clinical lecturer in orthodontics based in Bristol and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust.

On the research front, the MRC/NHS (NIHR) Biomedical Research Unit (BRU) in nutrition is a major award (£4.5 million) and involves all three schools in the Faculty of Medicine. The Principal Investigator is Professor Andy Ness and the award reflects the ambition of the Faculty to attain Academic Health Sciences Network or Centre status. Richard Hocking is the BRU Project Manager and a large number of staff and PhD students have been recruited. The total number of researchers and students will comprise nearly a third of the staff in the School, which represents a huge step forward in research ambitions. It is an exceptional achievement by Professor

Ness to have this BRU initiative in place some six years after moving to the School.

The BRU will attract significant further research and one of the first tenders to succeed is an initiative led by Dr Andrea Waylen, whose research into childhood weight management will attempt to understand what motivates families to attend (or not) weight management interventions and to find out more about what kind of service they would find useful, easy to engage with and accessible. She has also initiated a forum for patients, relatives and carers to understand and contribute to research ideas in the Dental School and Hospital. This is an excellent initiative and places the public at the centre of research.

We have also seen further success in obtaining research training fellowships. Barry Main, a lecturer and specialist registrar in oral and maxillofacial surgery, has been awarded a doctoral research fellowship funded by the NIHR and his project is on the development, piloting and initial evaluation of an intervention to improve exchange in surgical consultations for complex head and neck cancer surgery. This is the fourth doctoral research fellowship to be awarded to either clinical lecturers or academic clinical fellows in the Dental School in the last five years and is part of a wider strategy to develop clinical academics for the future. The BRU has recently recruited three PhD students, welcoming Vaneesha Short, Vanessa Er and Laura Brocklebank. Dr Jim Middleton has also secured funding from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council for a PhD student.

Ansa Akram, Senior StR in Orthodontics has been awarded a research grant of £36,000 by the British Orthodontic Society Foundation for continuation of her research on hypodontia which she started during her Doctorate in Dental Surgery from Bristol University. Howard Jenkinson, Professor of Oral Microbiology has been awarded a five-year programme renewal from NIH for \$2.1 m to develop further research into yeast infections and better ways to control them, and Angela Nobbs received an award from the Royal Society for a project grant to study the molecular basis of Group A streptococcal disease.

## *The Students' Year*

John Murphy, UBDSS President



It was last July that our new University of Bristol Dental Students Society (UBDSS) committee was elected at our annual slave auction and the time has flown by. After becoming president of the British Dental Students Association (BDSA), Lee Feinberg left big footsteps for us to follow, but everyone is working hard and we've had events of all kinds over the past six months, so nothing has gone too wrong!

The dental (Hathorn) bar is still going strong and has been at its most popular on the 'late bar' evenings where students from all years gather for a themed party. We had Alice in Wonderland and our staple Halloween to begin the year, which really set the trend. There were fantastic costumes and the decoration down to a 'T' with painstaking hours painting giant playing cards and chess pieces.

October also saw the annual BDSA sports day hosted by Manchester, which provided a brilliant opportunity to mix with other dental students from all over the country. We unfortunately narrowly missed out on winning the football and netball, but if some of the boys learnt the rules I'm sure we could win the mixed netball next year! More than 1000 dental students on a night out in Manchester was an amazing atmosphere with a huge sea of coloured T-shirts everywhere you looked.

The centenary weekend celebrating 100 years since the first Bristol BDS was awarded had a very big turnout of alumni for the weekend. We were very grateful to Professor Chris Stephens who kindly came to give us his talk on the history of the dental school, covering the first settlements to the present day in a whistle-stop tour. Plenty of pictures really made it come alive and I personally thoroughly enjoyed seeing how the dental school we work and socialise in has developed. The Bristol Dental Alumni Association (BDAA) also generously paid for drinks and pizza after the talk, which made a lively evening with a mix of students and staff. The students also gave tours of the dental school on the Saturday morning for all the delegates, which we all came to enjoy once people had

fully woken up! One or two students showed round groups who had qualified over a variety of decades, which again was really quite interesting to have such different perspectives on the same building.

A new addition this year was the clinical years' Christmas dinner, attended by more than 100 students and staff - this was a lively evening with fancy dress and a raffle and a nice end to a busy term in the run up to Christmas. Our most recent event, and the highlight of the year, was the Dental Ball organised by the 5th year with a roaring 1920s theme. It's definitely the most civilised event of the year and saw dancers, a casino and live jazz band at the Grand Hotel in the city centre.

On an academic side, the new South Bristol outreach clinics are in full swing with Bristol students visiting every four weeks to experience dentistry in the community. There has been a lot of positive feedback so far with students appreciating the change from BDH and the opportunity to carry out more treatment with greater freedom.

Finally, many thanks to the BDAA who have supported us throughout the year and provided money for events such as the Ball, electives and final year dinner; it is really appreciated.

## *STUDENT ELECTIVES*

### **A survey of university students' access to and utilization of dental services**

Lee Feinberg and James Grandfield



Regular dental attendance is one of the common messages in oral health education and, as stated in the 2004 NICE guidelines, the interval for dental check-ups for adults should be between 3 and 24 months. The benefits of attending the dentist at regular intervals are important for all age groups.

Attending university is a time of great change for young adults: students may live independently; develop new social groups; experience behavioural changes as well as a newfound freedom and decreased parental influence. The Adult Dental Health Survey (2009) showed that of the participants in the 16-24 age group, 51% attended the dentist regularly.

The frequency of dental attendance has a direct correlation to oral health. Patients that present less frequently to the dental profession have been shown to have a higher frequency of decayed missing and filled teeth (DMFT) as well as performing poorly in Oral Health-related Quality of Life indices such as the Oral Health Impact Profile (OHIP).

Enrolment to university brings many changes in a person's lifestyle; changes can cause a negative effect on health behaviours. Smoking and binge drinking among higher education students is commonplace. It is well documented that smoking and alcohol consumption separately and synergistically increase the chance of a person suffering from oral cancer as well as other dental disease. Oral cancer is not a high risk to this age group, but as oral cancers are on the increase the dentist can identify these risk factors in an individual and provide appropriate advice. A recent NHS report supports the viewpoint that every healthcare professional has a role to play in

improving patients' physical health and wellbeing where possible, which is unfortunately not possible if groups of people are not presenting.

Research has shown that various barriers exist with regards to accessing services. Some are patient-centred such as anxiety; 16-24 year-olds are the most likely age group to be affected by dental anxiety, with 42% reporting being very/extremely anxious about having a tooth drilled (ADHS, 2009). Another is affordability; students live on a very limited budget and with increasing living costs perhaps dental care is something that slips from the foreground. Other barriers include accessibility; most students do not have the use of a car and have little knowledge of the area in which they live. Availability of services and the accommodation of the dental practices are other factors; for example the receptionist's attitude and the atmosphere of the practice will affect attendance. Of these patient-centred barriers it is cost and anxiety that are the greatest in regards to accessing care.

To our knowledge no investigations of the access, barriers and utilization of services by university students in the UK has been conducted. The primary care trust is responsible for providing care under the NHS in the local area it serves and so it is important to understand what the population's needs are and, more importantly, to evaluate if they have been met. The Adult Dental Health Survey (ADHS) has been conducted every 10 years since 1968 with the most recent survey conducted in 2009. The access and barriers to care are investigated in detail in ADHS, but it does not look at the student population as a separate group of individuals who may actually have different needs and requirements. If the student population does not conform to the trends set by the rest of the population then appropriate services cannot be planned and current services may be inappropriate.

For our survey, halls of residence were visited and students asked to complete a questionnaire; 594 responses were received. The majority of these students were from catered halls of residence. The majority were of a white ethnicity with just over half having attended an independent secondary school. Seventy three percent of the students had increased their consumption of alcohol since enrolling at the university. Around one fifth are current smokers and a similar proportion were identified as high risk for dental disease, based upon their weekly consumption of cariogenic food or drink.

Most of the students had been to a dentist since enrolling at the university. A major reason for not having been was the lack of perceived need for dental care. Most students expressed some anxiety about having a tooth drilled, whereas the affordability of dental care

seemed to be less of an issue. Most students had gone back home to receive dental care, nearly 50% of them having seen a private dentist; however, nearly 70% percent said that they would wish to seek NHS dental care in Bristol if they were in pain and needed urgent treatment.

Students do not utilize services in Bristol for their routine care. However, there is no specific need that is not currently provided by the primary care trust, but better information on accessing emergency services and advice regarding risk factors would improve the care for students.

## **Dentistry in a remote rural community in Nepal**

Emily Hooper



Choosing what I wanted from my elective was simple: to experience dentistry in an overseas country. I was very grateful for the financial support that the BDAA were able to provide towards my trip to Nepal. James Bird and I, both 4th year dental students, embarked on a trip of a lifetime to a remote mountainous village in Nepal, to participate in the services provided by *Work the World*, a Non Governmental Organisation (NGO).

There are a number of international organisations offering dental volunteering opportunities to both students and professionals alike, enabling them to experience the different healthcare services provided in less economically developed countries. *Work the World* offered a project that allowed us to fulfil the criteria for the elective project.

For two weeks a temporary dental clinic was set up in Dhital, a rural farming community approximately 25km from the city of Pokhara. This was a remote location accessed only by foot or 4x4, the latter being something that the local villagers would not have had access to. This community was identified as being in need of dental care and as a result the local governing council permitted *Work the*



*The basic but serviceable clinic*

*World* to run the clinic in its healthcare building. The team comprised nine dental students, one hygienist, one dentist and several support members.

The dental clinic was situated in a Healthcare post which had a prime village location. There was a lot of interest from the villagers and we were given a warm welcome. Word soon spread

that we were offering free treatment and soon we were inundated with patients of all ages. Patients would be registered, assessed and then treated over the course of the day. It was fairly common to hear that patients had walked for six or seven hours to reach the clinic. Services which were provided included screening and assessment, fillings, extractions and oral hygiene education.



*Patients waiting for treatment*

A basic two-roomed building was used for the duration of the camp. It had its own electricity and water supply, and a generator was installed outside the clinic to use when the electricity supply was not reliable. *Work the World* provided the dental chairs and units, and they were transported by jeep from Pokhara to the village. These chairs were very basic, as they only allowed the operator to recline the patient manually. Each of the dental units had a triple syringe and high-speed handpiece but no slow-speed handpiece or suction, so therefore less effective moisture control methods had to be relied upon, for example the use of multiple cotton wool rolls. The cleaning and disinfection of dirty instruments was done by hand in a glutaraldehyde solution and then subsequently laid out to dry on a clean sheet.

The amount of oral surgery experience that I gained over the two-week period was invaluable. Many of the older patients presented to the clinic requiring extraction of multiple retained roots. As dental services were not readily available in the area many patients presented in pain which had been ongoing for several years.



*The scene from the clinic*

The supervisor asked for antibiotics and analgesics to be given to each patient after the extraction as the rural nature of the location and basic set-up of the clinic meant that the risk of infection was deemed to be higher than normal.

In general, most of the restorations carried out were Class I or II and were mainly restored with Fuji IX reinforced glass ionomer cement. Occasionally hand-triturated amalgam was used when glass ionomer cement was not deemed suitable. Anterior fillings such as Class IIIs were restored with light-cured acid-etch composite providing that adequate



*Emily and James at the opening ceremony*

moisture control could be achieved. Local anaesthetic was not used prior to restorations, which often led to some patient discomfort and proved especially difficult with anxious or young patients. Many of the restorations were placed following the ART (Atraumatic Restorative Treatment) principles of removing soft necrotic dentine ensuring a clean margin and subsequently filled with glass ionomer cement.

*Continued on page 19*



### ***1968 reunion***

*Ken Jones, Geoff Daddy, Rod Barrington-Smith, Lisa Jones (West), Yvonne Wilcox, Chris Barton, Frank Holloway, Jane Lynn, Jill Gorham, Pete Keeton, Terry Wilcox, Bob Miller, Rosemary Henderson (Chapman), Tony Lynn, Pete Easton, Tony Miles*



### ***1977 reunion***

*Back Row: Steve Pearce, Dave Westley, Bob Paice, Rod Kent, Martin Jeremy  
 Third Row: Steve Gooda, Jeremy Bloomer, Peter Bateman, Tony Smith, John Smalley, Geoff Curnock, Peter Gordon, Dennis Pearce, Joe Neal  
 Second Row: Gill Hardy (Butterworth), Julie Mitchell (Chang), Maxine Partridge (Armstrong), Gill Roberts (Collard), Joan Davidson (Errington), Helen Falcon (Bott), Mary Robson (Delaney), Maureen Mlotshwa (Stephens), Al Miller  
 Front Row: Alex Evans (Williams), Gill Smalley (Voice), Liz Clarke (Bailey), Annabel Watkinson (Clarke), Fran Pitts-Crick (Dowler), Steve Preston*



### ***1982 reunion***

*Back row: Steve Wood, Claire Adams (Woodhouse), Guy Atherton, Steve Preddy, Richard Jones, John Cantwell, Ken Hemmings, Richard Drage, Andy Marshall, Pete Huntley, Graham Cockcroft, Henry Clover, Brant Chapman, Steve Fayle, Steve Pardoe, Alison Williams, Karen Drage (Glover)*  
*Front row: Heather Totten, Helen John (Morris), Janette Robinson (Walker), Diana Gould (Barratt), Janice Boswell, Caroline Southall, Penny Hambly (Gadd), Chris Ackland*



### ***1987 reunion***

*Mike Lowdell, Kevin Durrant, Celia Mills, Richard Stephenson, Margaret Leonard, Jamie Hustler, Simon Lewis, Pete Saund, John Bowden, Caroline Downer, Dave Lee, James Spencer, Maurice Trotter, Cathy Bigwood, Dave Ashcroft, Malvin Smith, Sarah Williams, Jo Soszko, Darren Wilkin, Helen Harvey, Louis Wong, Simon Martin*



### ***1997 reunion***

*Back row: Scott Deacon, Christian Day, Jonathan Janson, Victoria Donohoe (Edwards), Paul Bucknell, Andrew Bain, Josephine Corbett, Adam Thorne*

*Front row: Peter Day, Amanda Trowhill (Close), Sarah Blake (McNally), Celia Wilson (Theocharides), Karen Seaman (Davies), Amelia Jerreat (Smith), Annemarie Kinsella (Ayling), Rachel Mears (Hope), Harriet Anstey (Sawyer), Olivia Alderson (Millington), Alison Bucknell, Fiona Baird (Au)*

*Continued from page 15*

Outside of the dental clinic, the local villagers warmly welcomed the group into their community. We were able to appreciate their way of life and participate in some of their village activities such as communal meals and traditional dancing. It gave us an insight into a completely different way of life and created a mutual respect between locals and volunteers.

I had two personal aims of the trip: to experience the approach to dentistry in a less developed country and to gain confidence in my own clinical skills, both of which I'm pleased to say I achieved. To add to this I have been able to appreciate a new and very different culture, as well as discover an amazingly beautiful country.

## **Orthodontics: to extract or not to extract**

Vanisha Patel & Saadia Syed



A controversy has existed for over a 100 years regarding the decision to extract or not to extract teeth in orthodontic treatment planning. Orthodontists often fall into 'camps' of extractionist and non-extractionists. Both treatment modalities demonstrate there is a debate when effects, consequences and indications come into the question. One reason for extraction is dental crowding. Crossbites are usually treated by arch expansion, which effectively is also a treatment method for the non-extraction orthodontist to alleviate crowding.

The aim of this study was to determine if the presence of a crossbite will influence an orthodontist's decision to extract in cases with dental crowding, and to compare findings between orthodontists in Bristol, UK and Edmonton, Canada.

In this pilot study, 20 orthodontists working at Bristol Dental Hospital and 24 orthodontists in Edmonton were approached and asked to complete nine questionnaires based on treatment planning

for nine corresponding study models. The nine study models were constructed from a typodont, and each varied in the amount of dental crowding and presence of crossbites. The questionnaires investigated extraction choices, appliance types and other treatment mechanics.

In Edmonton, we approached orthodontists working at the Dental Hospital of the University of Alberta and orthodontists in practice to carry out our research. During this time, we were also able to observe orthodontic treatment being carried out. We had the opportunity to speak to orthodontists and dental students and to view their dental teaching facilities and equipment.

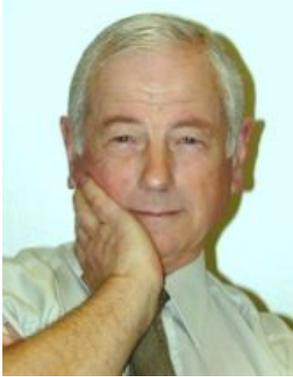
We were able to do some sightseeing during the two weeks there, which included a weekend trip to Calgary and Banff. We went on a lake cruise and cable cars to see the spectacular views of the Rocky Mountains. Overall we found Edmonton to be a friendly, vibrant city and we thoroughly enjoyed our time out there.

Results showed that in the presence of dental crowding, the addition of a posterior crossbite did not influence extraction choices made by orthodontists. However, overall, it was noted that there was a greater proportion of orthodontists that would extract in Bristol compared to Edmonton. Differences were observed in choice of appliance type and method between clinicians in Bristol and Edmonton. In conclusion, treatment decisions could vary between clinicians due to subjective assessment and country of teaching. To date we have been unable to find any other published work in this area and therefore this project provided a novel insight into the relationship between expansion and extraction treatments.

We would like to thank Professor Anthony Ireland, Professor Jonathan Sandy, Dr Goldie Songra, Dr Carlos Flores-Mir and Mr Rob Edge for their guidance and support with this project. We would also like to thank the Bristol Dental Alumni Association for their encouragement and financial support towards our elective project.

## **BRISTOL BDS CENTENARY MEETING**

Ken Marshall



November 17<sup>th</sup> 2012 came and went and, despite the winter trend of almost perpetual rain, the skies were set fair for the day that was chosen by the BDAA to celebrate the centenary of the first BDS degree awarded by the University of Bristol. It had been one of the worries for the organizing committee, having chosen to hold the event on the Dental School and Hospital site, that the buildings did not offer the facilities that might be required to store and retrieve the large number of coats and umbrellas of those attending should it rain, so the absence of downpour on the day was a welcome sight and, it was hoped, a portent of good things to come!

Those of us who had the pleasure of being members of staff at the Dental School and Hospital during the years of its greatest expansion (1964 – 1995) became very aware of the history that was being discovered and then lost during the various phases of building work and this provided the spur for a few enthusiasts to investigate further into the early evolution of the site. Principal amongst those who had the desire to see this history properly researched and recorded were, firstly, Robin Matthews and then Chris Stephens. Since retiring, Chris has continued his interest in the history of dental teaching at Bristol and has become a valued member of the committee of the BDAA as the Association website manager and unofficial archivist. It was, thus, no surprise that realization of the significance of 2012 was brought initially to the attention of the BDAA, which embraced the idea of an event to celebrate this milestone in the Dental School's history.

A small sub-committee consisting of Chris, Iain Hathorn and Ken Marshall was formed to carry the matter forward on behalf of the Association and to liaise with other interested groups. Meetings with the Dental School and the University followed and, although there was a general enthusiasm for the concept, the usual stumbling blocks of finance and human resource left the ball ultimately in the Association's court. Not to be deterred, the working party decided to

work with the good will of the other groups and to take it upon itself to organize the event with the general support of the full BDAA committee.

The initial task was to settle on the programme for the day. The thought was to have a keynote lecture given by someone of national eminence as this would give the event the appropriate kudos and attraction to encourage attendance. It was also seen that the event should be used as a platform to highlight the Dental School's research and teaching strengths. Despite University of Bristol having amongst its senior teaching staff individuals of national repute both in archaeology and history it soon became obvious that previously arranged commitment was going to rule them out of consideration and the decision was ultimately taken that, to keep the management and finance simply controllable, the event had the potential to be successful by being kept 'in house'. The meeting would have a leisurely start with a get together and coffee before small groups would be given the opportunity to have a conducted tour of the main School and Hospital facilities. This would be followed by a lecture on the history and development of the site which Chris Stephens had agreed to do. Incorporated into Chris's lecture slot would be short presentations by Jonathan Sandy and Nigel Robb on the recent academic history of the Dental School and the BUOLD postgraduate programme respectively. The meeting would conclude with a communal buffet lunch.

The number likely to attend such an event was always going to be totally unpredictable from the start and, given this and to keep advance financial commitment to a minimum, the Dental School and Hospital site was chosen as the venue. The BDAA committee was in agreement that one way to encourage participation was to couple the timing to that of the likely year reunions that should be taking place



*Audience at UBHT Theatre*

in 2012. It was for this reason that a November date was set and year representatives contacted. The end result of this strategy was that there was much more interest shown than had been anticipated and a revised scheme to accommodate everyone was put into place using not only the Dental School and Hospital site but also the adjacent UBHT

Education Centre.

Once these matters had been decided, the working party's main function was to adjust the meeting arrangements in line with the ever increasing number of applications received and it soon became obvious that the lecture theatre and catering facilities in both centres would be required. Simple enough it might be thought but, given that the same lecturer couldn't be in both lecture theatres at the same time and there were too many attending to have them all touring the Dental School and Hospital simultaneously, a dovetailed flow of three main groups was arranged. The paper exercise of achieving this was not too difficult but making it work on the day was the real challenge! Apart from the members of the working party, help had been enlisted from the School's current staff and students who, along with the odd selfless BDAA committee member on the day, were invaluable in dealing with the intricacies of the organizational task ahead.

It was good to see graduates from years ranging from 1956 to 2011 at the meeting. The larger year groups came from 1964, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1975, 1982 and 2002 and there was only one year between 1956 and 1990 (1957) without representation. It was particularly pleasing to see older generations of graduates from as far afield as Tasmania and Ghana renewing long lost acquaintanceships as the Chapter House cafeteria gradually filled with the hubbub of recognition and reminiscences that was bound to accompany the reunion aspect of the meeting. When the time came, however, to set the meeting proper in motion the noise level was such that attention had to be gained with the help of a very large spoon borrowed from the caterers and the planned timetable was then put to the test.

As with any event of this kind, the inevitable last minute hitch arises to test the resourcefulness of the organizers and this meeting was no exception. Those who have visited the Hospital and School over the last few years will be aware that security has become a high priority and thus precautions had to be taken to ensure that the meeting had access to all of the areas necessary for the tours. Information about the meeting, however, had not been passed on to the cleaners and, although this was not generally a problem since the swipe card system had been de-activated for the day, there was one critical area that was manually operated. The main door to the Clinical Skills Laboratory was locked by key and the cleaners had secured this when they left the building the previous evening. Discovery of the problem, fortunately, was made within an hour of the tours commencing. The Hospital security department was contacted but was unable to help and it was left to the new Clinical Dean, Lisa McNally, to save the day by managing to locate the

appropriate key as the tours were just about to begin.

The tours had to be strictly timed and the student guides received general praise from the participants for the efficient, friendly and informative manner in which they were conducted. The members of the working party were similarly impressed by their enthusiasm for the tasks they were given and for the proactive way that they anticipated and resolved some of the other minor hitches that occurred. In particular, one of the dentists attending had given notice of the requirement for wheelchair access but, on arrival was found to be minus his wheelchair. There was no need to worry as the student on hand knew exactly where to find one and this was done with speedy efficiency.

The primary focus of the morning, however, was the lecture by Chris Stephens and he did not disappoint. It was a hard weekend's lecturing for Chris and the other speakers as they not only had to do separate presentations on the day but also performed for current members of the Dental School and Hospital on the preceding evening. It could have been said that the keynote lecture was actually covered by Chris's book\* on the topic, which was available for collection at the meeting, but the general consensus was that his presentation had a vitality and humour that could not be achieved in the written word and, also, had additional material that enhanced the interest. It was during the final lecture in the UBHT Education Centre that 1964 graduate from Ghana, Francis Poku, made a presentation to the Dental School of an example of African tribal art representing the "Tree of Knowledge".



*Tree of Knowledge*

The

occasion also provided the opportunity for the BDAA Chairman Reg Andlaw to make a presentation to Alun Jones who had recently retired as the Association's long serving Treasurer.

The numbers (over 250 including the organizers and volunteer helpers) dictated that the concluding buffet lunch had to be split between the two centres, with the more recent graduates being hosted in the Chapter House. This gave an additional opportunity for the reunion aspect of the meeting to resume, albeit in two halves, and for more photographs to be taken. The only slight downside of the lunch was the usual buffet problem of where to find a place to rest a plate to wield a knife and fork but this seemed to diminish in importance as the general party mood took over, signalling the end of a very enjoyable and successful occasion.

*Alun Jones presentation*

*\* Copies still available at £10 plus postage from Chris Stephens at [c.d.stephens@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:c.d.stephens@blueyonder.co.uk)*

## REUNIONS

*All except one of the reunions reported below were held as part of the Bristol BDS centenary celebration on 17th November. The exception, 1977, was arranged before the meeting was announced, and held at a beautiful location in the Cotswolds.*

### 1964 REUNION

Dave Lewis

The Class of '64 turned up in force (16 of us plus partners) for the Centenary celebrations, combining it with our own reunion held at RiverStation the same evening. Time has been kinder to some than to others: Frankie Poku came all the way from Ghana, on his tin hips, and found the tour of the DH more than he'd bargained for - "too many steps" - but there were plenty of other Golden Oldies to help him up and down.

Bit of a revelation to find that we're not the Class of '64, but of '65! The Final Year Dinner was in December 1964, and results were posted next day, but graduation was in January '65. After all these years!

### 1968 REUNION

Chris Barton

The 1968 year interim reunion was held on 16th November. Fourteen of us with partners met at the Hotel Bristol bar and, as usual, after the realisation that none of us had changed conversation was easy and flowed as if we met every week.

After a minute's reflexion on the life of John Fieldhouse who sadly died in 2011, the hotel served us an excellent dinner. This was followed by a brief rée by Frank Holloway, given in his own inimitable way, of how he had been elevated to the prestigious position of BDA President. It was an honour to have the BDA President at our dinner and we congratulated him. We then retired to the bar to continue putting the dental world to rights, although many of us were retired.

On Saturday morning we were able to walk an unfamiliar route to an unfamiliar entrance to the dental hospital where we joined excellently-organised tours, reminiscing at some of the faintly familiar outlines of the hospital as we knew it.

After a fascinating and factual talk by Chris Stephens on the history of the dental hospital site we enjoyed a buffet lunch and said our farewells until next time - probably October 2014 in Bath for the 50th anniversary of our start in 1964.

*Group photograph on page 16*

## 1972 REUNION

Mick Hill

The centenary celebrations at Bristol Dental Hospital in November 2012 clashed wonderfully with the 40th anniversary of the class of 1972. I don't think any of us had realised that we graduated on the diamond anniversary of the first award of the Bristol BDS degree, but it provided a wonderful excuse to arrange a reunion and the new Holiday Inn on Bond Street - only a third of a mile from the hospital - turned out to be the perfect venue for the weekend. The most enthralling phenomenon was the response of the year in attending the event and with guests coming from as far as Norway - as well as a more than adequate supply of decent wine - a successful time for all was virtually guaranteed. The gala dinner was attended by over 50 people and featured a presentation of photos of the past from a very organised Kjell Wesnes. Some of us couldn't even recognise ourselves, others had barely changed, but with retirement now looming large for most it was a very happy memory of times past including special memories of absent friends.

## 1977 REUNION, 13/14th October 2012

John Smalley

The weekend of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> October 2012 saw another gathering of the 1977 graduates. Older? Definitely. Wiser? Maybe. Certainly looking well and with plenty of news to catch up on.

Gill Smalley was once again our prime organiser. This time she had chosen a hotel in the Cotswold Water Park – the Four Pillars. The idea was to persuade more people to make a proper weekend of it, with fewer people disappearing off home at midnight. The chats at breakfast are as good if not better than during the evening event and being sober it is easier to remember them! The hotel proved an excellent and popular choice – reasonable room rate, nice surroundings, lots of space and a bar selling ‘Doom’ (when it was ‘on’!).

Eighteen of us arrived on Friday evening and met up in an adjoining pub where we had a superb meal, consumed quantities of alcohol and made the first steps towards refreshing our memories about who had been doing what, who was still working (we're not as young as we were!) and who had the most grandchildren.

Plans were made to fill Saturday. This included a walk organised by Tony Smith; the poor city lad hadn't reckoned on the previous week's rain which left many of his chosen paths unusable without a boat! Gill had sourced maps of the Water Park for everyone and many did their own thing for the day. There were nearby golf courses to entertain some – others enjoyed spa treatments and the pool or sauna. There was a trip to Swindon's 'Steam' museum in the old railway works which, fortunately for the wives, was next to the large Retail Outlet complex (sexist but true!). Some observant gent noticed that the £1 parking ticket fee could be negated if £100 worth of goods were bought in the outlet; yes, the ladies rose to the challenge and the car park got no money from us! I thought the Steam museum was awesome – we walked under a huge locomotive and drove a virtual engine!

So, to the Saturday evening. Everyone was in their glad-rags; well, except Bob Paice who had come straight from the golf course! Forty-six of us enjoyed a buffet style meal which seemed to last all evening and gave us a chance to swap seats between courses and circulate. Gill had nominated me to propose a toast to absent friends. I told them the tale of how hard it was for us all surviving as children of the '50s, an account I found on the internet but which struck chords with many of us! Our two postgraduate dental deans, Al Miller and Helen Falcon (nee Bott), did a stand-up double act trying to explain how dentistry has changed since we all qualified. Conversations and anecdotes continued well into the small hours.... BUT we all surfaced for breakfast looking in much better shape than the young wedding party-goers who were sharing our hotel!

We remembered the tragic loss of one of our own earlier this year. Each had their own memories of Jane Fielder (nee Spark) to share; she was the most sociable person and loved the reunion weekends. She will be missed so much, particularly by those who knew her best.

The overall view of the weekend was of a huge success, enjoyed by all who came, including the non-dental partners, many of whom have been regular reunion attendees and rightly feel that they are now a part of all the excitement. Moving to a venue away from Bristol was approved by all. Gill basked in praise for her organisational skills!

The group photograph shows a turnout of 29 out of the original

group of 44 – not bad after 35 years! All want to meet up again in 5 years, and many were keen for ‘mini-reunions’ in as little as a year.

*Group photograph on page 16*

#### 1982 REUNION

John Cantwell

To coincide with the Bristol BDS Centenary, our reunion was held at the Thistle Grand.

About half our number attended the morning event at BDH, then convened in the evening for a little quiet libation and meal. We were about 23 in number plus partners, so 50% of the year got there. Special mention to Heather (Totten) who made it back from Dubai. We reminisced and chatted to a backing track of early 80’s tunes supplied by 'Rocker' Wood. Thirty years on, it’s wonderful how we still get on, and from the messages I got everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Hope number 35 will be just as good.

*Group photograph on page 17*

#### 1987 REUNION

Caroline Drugan

We held the 25th reunion of the 1987 graduating dentists on the evening of the centenary celebrations at Bristol Dental School along with a number of other years. Our evening meal was held at the Royal Marriot Hotel. We had a good turnout with 22 of the year attending. One of our number (Maurice Trotter and his wife) came over from Australia for the event. Many couldn’t make it on the day but have pledged to come to the next one, and two in particular who were hoping to come but had to cancel at the last minute were Siamack Hadj-Bagheri and Lynne Waller who were thwarted at the last minute due to illness. We also had many partners come along which was great.

We all enjoyed ourselves immensely and it was great to catch up and compare wrinkles, although in fact we all looked remarkably similar to how we looked in 1987.

*Group photograph on page 17*

## 1997 REUNION

Amanda Trowhill

A brave few from BDS 1997 started the weekend off in style at the Hathorn Bar in the Students' Common Room on the Friday night, followed by an obligatory curry, reminiscing about the old days. A great way to start the weekend! Following on from the Bristol BDS centenary celebrations during the day, twenty graduates and their partners met at The Primrose Cafe in Clifton for an evening of fun! It was wonderful to catch up with everyone and we even managed to Facetime with Alistair Graham in Australia and made contact with Angelo Fernandes in Singapore and Noraliza Amiruddin in Malaysia. A great night was had by all, a lot of people had travelled a long way, but it was well worth the effort and we hope to see even more faces at the next reunion in 2018.

*Group photograph on page 18*

## 2002 REUNION

Simon Khoury

I was expecting it to be difficult to find people. So beginning with our yearbook, I went to Facebook and found half our year within 30 minutes. The rest I found on email or by asking around and using the GDC. I contacted a few local hotels and settled on the Hilton Garden Inn near Temple meads so it would be easy to get to. They were extremely accommodating.

Around eight of our year attended the tour of the hospital and the talk on the history of the site by Chris Stephens, both of which were informative and interesting, as was Chris's book.

Our reunion meal was great and it was amazing to catch up with everyone. Of course no one really changes - we just get older, wiser and with more offspring, but also larger and, for the men, balder. All said it was a lot of fun.

## 2007 REUNION

Jennifer Morecroft

Our first reunion and a good chance to catch-up and reminisce. We kicked-off the evening with a champagne reception at Clifton Lido followed by dinner. The group attempted to rediscover the Lizard Lounge only to realise that we no longer have the patience and determination to stick out a mammoth queue in the freezing cold! Another club offering the same mixture of drinks and cheesy music rounded off the evening.

There have been travels, gruelling hours as SHOs and even a few setting up in practice. There have been marriages and births. Nevertheless, it was reassuring that everyone has changed very little. Looking forward to the next reunion.



In attendance were Michelle Bolding, Matt Brennand Roper, Chris Brown, Cameron Currie, Arian Geder, Jasmeen Gundara Basra, Eleri Strachan (née Jones), Jennifer Madelaine (née Morecroft), Anthony Murto, Ceri Owen-Roberts, Anisha Patel, Adarsh Patel, Neil Patel, Nirmal Patel, Sajida Pirani, Sarah Savage, Sarah Taylor, Vinoshan Vaithianathan, Robert Wardle, Suzanne Westley and Emily Wright.

## *FORTHCOMING REUNIONS*

*At the time of going to print we have been notified that the following reunions are being organised. Details of these, and of others announced later, will be added to the Forthcoming Reunions page on our website: [www.bristoldentalalumni.co.uk](http://www.bristoldentalalumni.co.uk)*

1983 23 November	Shilly Sharma member@longashton55@wanadoo.co.uk
1988 11 October	Frin Mills katherine.pritchard@lineone.net
2003 21 September	Phillip Hannon geordiephil@hotmail.com

### NOTES FOR REUNION ORGANISERS

#### **Addresses**

The Data Protection Act does not allow the University to release addresses of alumni – in any case they are not all up to date because changes of address often are not reported. You can help by checking and, if necessary, updating your address on their website [www.bristol.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/alumni). We (BDAA) can give reunion organisers the names of all those who graduated in their year. We would be happy to reimburse stationery and postage expenses.

#### **Venues**

Most reunions have been centred on hotels with whom a combined fee has been negotiated for dinner and accommodation.

For full details about Bristol hotels and information about what's on in Bristol during your reunion, contact the Bristol Tourist Information Office – telephone 0117 9260767, e-mail [tiharbourside@bristol-city.gov.uk](mailto:tiharbourside@bristol-city.gov.uk), website [www.visitbristol.co.uk](http://www.visitbristol.co.uk).

#### **Students' Common Room and Hathorn Bar**

For those arriving on a Friday evening, the Hathorn Bar in the Students' Common Room is a convivial place to meet – students and staff meet there every Friday evening from 5:30pm to about 8pm in

term time. It would be advisable to check that the common room and bar will be open by contacting the student bar manager via the Dental School office.

### **Group photographs**

We can arrange for a group photograph to be taken (normally just before your dinner) which would be available for purchase at reasonable cost (Nye Fathers, of BDH, is the photographer). Please inform Reg Andlaw if you would like this to be arranged.

### **Dental Hospital tour**

A Saturday tour can be arranged by contacting the Dental School office.

### **Contacts**

Dental School office      tel: 0117 3424307

Reg Andlaw                      tel: 0117 9682653  
    e-mail: [regandlaw@talktalk.net](mailto:regandlaw@talktalk.net)

BDAA website                      [www.bristoldentalalumni.co.uk](http://www.bristoldentalalumni.co.uk)

## ALUMNI NEWS

*News from alumni for inclusion in our Newsletter is always welcome.  
Please send to [regandlaw@talktalk.net](mailto:regandlaw@talktalk.net)*

### **1963**

Douglas Lovelock was unable to attend the Bristol BDS celebration in November as he was summoned to London to attend the Premier Dental Symposium sponsored by Dental Protection and Shulke. During the symposium he was awarded a Postgraduate Premier Award for the revision of his chapter on Law and Ethics that appeared in volume 2 of Master Dentistry. The third edition is expected to be published this summer.

### **1968**

Frank Holloway is the current President of the British Dental Association but he found time to attend his year's reunion and the Bristol BDS centenary celebration in November.

### **1982**

Stephen Fayle, Consultant and Senior Lecturer in Paediatric Dentistry at Leeds Dental Institute, is teaming up with his consultant colleague Monty Duggal to present two seminars on Oral Health Care for Children. The seminars are part of the BDA Seminar Series and will be held in Leeds on 21 June and in London on 27 September.

### **1987**

James Spencer has recently completed his three-year term as Chairman of the Conference and Meetings Committee of the British Orthodontic Society. He has now taken on the chairmanship of the Consultant Orthodontic Group of the Society which represents hospital-based orthodontics. Perhaps not surprisingly, since both he and Professor Tony Ireland are members of our BDAA, the Consultant Orthodontists Symposium this year took place in Bristol.

**1993**

Farnaz Parvizi was appointed Consultant in Orthodontics in Swindon last year.

**1997**

Scott Deacon, Consultant Orthodontist, and a member of our BDAA committee in 2008-2009 when he was Senior President of the UBDSS, was married last November.

**2003/2004**

Karen Andrews (03) and Dan Beevers (04) are both on the staff of BDH. They are married and recently had a baby.

